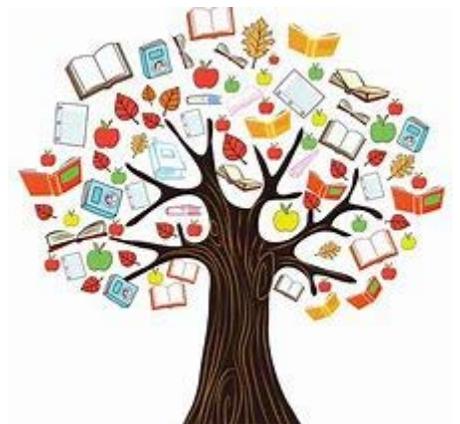




LET'S LEARN!

*SPEAKERS, CLASSES, AND OTHER
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS
@ BETH SHALOM CONGREGATION*

WINTER/SPRING 2020 (5780)



*8070 Harriet Tubman Lane
Columbia, MD 21044
410.531.5115
Beth-Shalom.net*

Classes

Conversational Hebrew

Dates: Wednesdays, January 29th through May
Time: 7:45 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.
Instructor: Ora Fisch
Fee: \$40 members; \$80 non-members

This intermediate level class, with emphasis on grammar, conversational Hebrew, and vocabulary acquisition, is led by master teacher and native Israeli Ora Fisch. This class continues previous classes, but newcomers are welcome.

Jewish God Talk: Jewish Theology and Thinking About God Through the Ages (Part 2)

Dates: Thursdays, January 30th, February 6th and 13th
Time: 7:45 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
Instructor: Rabbi Amy Scheinerman
Fee: \$15 members; \$30 non-members

In every age, Jews have enlarged our lexicon for talking about God, adding to traditional God-language as they conceived God in new and widely varying ways. Jewish ideas about the nature of God, whether and how God interacts with the material universe, and how we might relate to God have evolved with time and now offer us a long and exciting menu of possibilities for our own thinking and spirituality. We'll examine three distinctly different modern views. There is no need for you to have joined us for Part 1; Part 2 stands on its own.

Torah Trope for Beginners

Dates: Tuesday, March 17th; Mondays, March 23rd, 30th, April 6th, 13th; and Thursday, April 23rd
Times: 7:45 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.
Speaker: Cantor Rebecca Apt
Fee: \$30 members; \$60 non-members

If you have never read Torah before or if it's been a long time since you last read Torah, this is the perfect class for you. We will review the fundamentals of chanting from the Torah and a bit of Biblical Hebrew grammar. Knowledge of reading Hebrew letters and vowels is required.



Jews in America: Insiders and Outsiders – A Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning Course

Dates: Ten Thursdays beginning March 5th, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

This ten-week course, offered by the Haberman Institute for Jewish Studies with content by the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, provides students with the opportunity to consider the challenges of Jewish acculturation to American life, and the sacrifices as well as the contributions that have been made over the past 200 years. Lessons will explore education, the Three Generation Hypothesis, Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust, Zionism and the State of Israel, the Civil Rights Movement, and other issues that address American and Jewish culture and identity. Instructor: Rabbi Ilyse Kramer, Director of Lifelong Learning at Beth-El Temple (Harrisburg) and recipient of the Melton Senior Educators fellowship at Hebrew University. Please register at the Haberman Institute website: <https://www.habermaninstitute.org/>.

Special Programs



Courageous Conversations III - about Race and Religious Bias

Dates: Tuesdays, February 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th. Culminating Event: March 16th

In Courageous Conversations, we will learn from one another and hear each other's perspectives about how we are living together in our experiences of race and religious bias. The purpose of these conversations is not to persuade, debate, or convince one another of our positions, but to make space for each of us to be heard and to learn about one another, including areas in which we might disagree or hold different views.

All are welcome, regardless of whether you participated last year, and regardless of faith affiliation (including no faith affiliation at all). Participants will be assigned to one of the following four locations:

St John Baptist Church
Beth Shalom Congregation
Dar Al-Taqwa Islamic Center
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Conversation Circles meet at 7:00 p.m. Culminating event at St. John Baptist.

Please register on-line at <https://www.hococourageousconversations.com/>.

Facilitators needed. Training will be held January 7th, 14th, and 21st and will be geared both for first time and returning facilitators. Please contact Rabbi Grossman ASAP if interested at Rabbi.Grossman@beth-shalom.net.

New or Recent Empty Nesters of College Age Child(ren)

Are you a new or recent Empty Nester with college age child(ren)? Do you want to get together with others in a similar situation for meals and activities? Contact the office for information of the newly formed group at Rabbi.assistant@beth-shalom.net. This group is separate from the Vatikim Group.



Jewish Authors Series

Join us for one or all of these amazing authors:

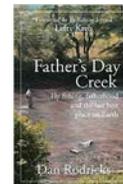
✧**Sunday, March 15th, 11:00 a.m.:** **Ellen Scolnic and Joyce Eisenberg, a.k.a. the Word Mavens**, authors of *Dictionary of Jewish Words* and *The Whole Spiel: Funny essays about digital nudniks, seder selfies and chicken soup memories*

From kvetching about work to constructing a kugel, Jewish words describe every aspect of our daily lives. Through their humorous and fact-filled talk, The Word Mavens --- Ellen Scolnic and Joyce Eisenberg -- will share funny stories and new information that they uncovered while writing their best-selling *Dictionary of Jewish Words*. The Word Mavens will also read from their second book of essays, tell some jokes and see how our group measures up when it comes to obscure Yiddish words. This author talk is co-sponsored by Sisterhood, Men's Club and individual donors.

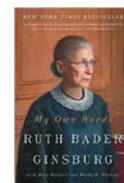


✧**Sunday May 17th, 9:30 a.m.:** **Dan Rodricks**, author of *Father's Day Creek*

Dan Rodricks is an award-winning columnist for the *Baltimore Sun*, writing commentary on local, regional and national news three days a week since January 1979. He is also the host of the "Roughly Speaking" podcast. He was previously the host of *Midday*, a two-hour, daily talk show on WYPR, the NPR affiliate in Baltimore. Earlier, he was host of a talk show on WBAL Radio, contributed feature stories and commentary to WBAL-TV News, the NBC affiliate in Baltimore, and he produced and served as host of a live television show, "Rodricks For Breakfast," on WMAR-TV, the ABC affiliate in Baltimore. He is the winner of several national and regional journalism awards, and the author of two other books.



✧**Date and Time TBD:** **Mary Hartnett**, co-author with Ruth Bader Ginsberg of *My Own Words*



Mary Hartnett is an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown Law, focusing on international women's human rights. *My Own Words* "showcases Ruth Ginsburg's astonishing intellectual range" (*The New Republic*). This book's sampling is selected by Justice Ginsburg and her authorized biographers Mary Hartnett and Wendy W. Williams, who introduce each chapter and provide biographical context and quotes gleaned from hundreds of interviews they have conducted.

Fee: Members: 3 sessions for \$25.00; 2 sessions for \$18.00; 1 session for \$10.00;
Non-Members: 3 sessions for \$50.00; 2 sessions for \$36.00; 1 session for \$20.00

Shabbat and Holiday Programs



Shabbat Across Howard County and Across America

Date: Friday, March 20th

Dinner: 5:45 p.m.

Invited Speaker: To Be Determined

Shabbat Across America celebrates everything Shabbat! Join us for a festive dinner, followed by an adult education lecture and special Spirited Sabbath service that will raise our spirits!

Please watch your email for further details. Registration required for Dinner.



Yom Ha'atzmaut Movie

Featuring: *Heading Home*

Date: Sunday, April 26th

Time: 7:30 p.m.



A stirring story of sports, patriotism and personal growth, *Heading Home* charts the underdog journey of Israel's national baseball team competing for the first time in the World Baseball Classic. After years of defeat, Team Israel is finally ranked among the world's best in 2017, eligible to compete in the prestigious international tournament. Their line-up included several Jewish American Major League players, most with a tenuous relationship to Judaism, let alone having ever set foot in Israel. Their odyssey takes them from Tel Aviv and Jerusalem where they are greeted as heroes, to Seoul where they must debunk their has-been, wannabe reputations. With their Mensch on the Bench mascot by their side, the team laughs, cries, and does much soul-searching, discovering the pride of representing Israel on the world stage. Winner of multiple awards including the Audience Award at the 2018 Washington DC Jewish Film Festival.

After watching the movie, join in a discussion of the movie, facilitated by Rabbi Grossman. Yummy snacks provided!



Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Date: Thursday, May 28th, 7:30 p.m.

A Shavuot tradition is to stay up all night and study. At Beth Shalom, our evening of learning ends a lot earlier! You'll have a choice of exciting workshops on a variety of subjects. Afterwards, enjoy delicious refreshments, including cheesecake and ice cream. Services will be held after the workshops. Watch your e-mail for program descriptions.



Shabbat Unplugged

Time and Dates: First Friday of each month through June at 7:30 p.m.

Modern and traditional melodies accompanied on piano by Cantor Apt and commentary of the prayer service with Rabbi Grossman move the spirit. Interested in joining the Adult Choir? Contact Cantor Apt at Cantor.Apt@beth-shalom.net. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. followed by refreshments.



Hot Topics in Jewish Law and Ethics

Be part of history in the making. Join Rabbi Grossman for a stimulating discussion about current issues before the Committee on Jewish Law and Standard and have your views become part of the conversation that decides Jewish Law for the Conservative Movement.

March 13: Topic -- Live Streaming of Services

May 8: Topic -- A New Decision on Women and Head covering
Vatikim Dinners precede Hot Topics. See details below.



Vatikim Dinners

Time and Dates: Second Friday of the month (except April).

Mature empty nesters, singles, and couples join together for a potluck dinner at members' houses. RSVP to the office: Rabbi.assistant@beth-shalom.net



Koleinu Shabbat

Times and Dates: Third Friday of each month through June at 7:30 p.m.

Student Choir members add ruach (spirit) in this enthusiastic service the third Friday night of the month that includes a special treat for attending students. Services begin 7:30 p.m. followed by refreshments.



Torah Talks

Dates: Saturdays, January 11th, February 8th, March 7th, and June 13th

This participatory Torah study on the weekly parsha (Torah reading) led by Rabbi Amy Scheinerman, occurs during regular Saturday morning services. Rabbi Scheinerman, currently the Hospice Rabbi for Howard County, is author of the two-volume book, *The Talmud of Relationships*. (Available through Amazon Smile on www.beth-shalom.net).



Sermon in Song with Cantor Rebecca Apt

Dates: Saturdays, January 25th, March 14th, and May 2nd

Cantor Apt will lead an in-depth exploration of the meaning and music of a particular prayer, during Sabbath morning services.



Ask the Rabbi –Shabbat Mornings!

Dates: Saturdays February 22nd, March 21st, May 23rd, and June 20th
Special Passover Ask the Rabbi: Bring your Passover questions Sat. April 4th

Bring your questions about Jewish belief, custom, history and current events for a spirited discussion with Rabbi Grossman. Special treat for students who can “stump the Rabbi” with a legitimate question.

Study Groups



The **Daytime Study Group**: A wide range of topics picked by the group members is discussed. No preparation is needed. Contact Barbara Pollack (blpsacct@gmail.com) for more information.



The **Talmud Study Group** reads and analyzes Mishna and Gemara. They have studied tractates Berachot (blessings), Pesachim (Passover), Taanit (public fast days), Bava Kamma (damages), and Avodah Zarah (Idolatry and superstitions), and are now studying the second volume of Sanhedrin (judiciary and capital punishment). No Hebrew background is required, but one must be comfortable learning a limited Hebrew and Aramaic vocabulary to understand recurring phrases that are not easily translatable. Because the group is not entirely local, some sessions are in-person, others are conducted by conference call. Contact Lisa Hemmendinger (lhemmendinger@gmail.com) for more information.



Are you interested in starting a study group? We can publicize it to help you find others who would be interested in joining you.

Little Lending Library - Want a good book to read or learn from? Check out the books on the shelf in the lobby!

Registering for Adult Education Programs

To sign up, either use the enclosed form or register online (using the link that will be provided in e-Scroll emails). Though walk-ins are always welcome, it is helpful when people sign up in advance. The office staff then knows how many tables and chairs to set up and how many copies of the material to print and can notify you of changes.





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