

## ADULT EDUCATION

Spring is finally here and Adult Education has some new offerings!

**Find Zoom links to classes in the weekly email ANNOUNCEMENTS or the UPCOMING EVENTS page on the OZ website <https://ohavizedek.org/about/virtual-upcoming-events/> a week or so before the event begins.**

**NEW! May Book discussion series**—This 3-part book discussion of Daniel Sokatch's book, *Can We Talk About Israel? A guide for the Curious, Confused and Conflicted* will meet **weekly on Thursday evenings on May 12, 19 and 26 by Zoom from 7:30 until 9:00 pm**. Participants read part of the book each week.

*Can We Talk About Israel?* is the story of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, grappling with a century-long struggle between two peoples who both perceive themselves as (and indeed are) victims. The book is an easy-to-read yet penetrating and original look at the history and basic contours of one of the most complicated conflicts in the world.

The synagogue has bought 10 copies of the book for people to borrow. **Please register with Lynda Siegel at [zebras.2@me.com](mailto:zebras.2@me.com) to sign up for the book discussion and arrange to pick up a copy of the book to borrow. LIMIT of 12 participants.**

**The Wednesday night OZ Book Club** continues meeting this spring and summer, **the second Wednesday each month from 8:00 - 9:00 pm via Zoom**. Join us anytime. Questions? Contact Kathy at [kathrynkernoff@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynkernoff@gmail.com).

### **Wednesday, May 11**

*Horodno Burning* by Michael Freed-Thall (Vermont author)

"In the Russian Empire's Pale of Settlement, Esther Leving, a brilliant young bibliophile, chafes at male dominance, religious dogma, and antisemitism. Bernard Garfinkle, a religious Jew and the son of a vodka distiller, hides a shameful secret-in a culture that worships books, he can't read. Despite their differences, they fall in love. Esther teaches Bernard to read and he in turn builds her a bookshop. They start a family, but when ferocious pogroms target Russian Jews, they must confront violent oppression. Exploring the turbulent history which led to the great migration, when one-and-a-half million Jews emigrated to America between 1881 and 1914, *Horodno Burning* is a love letter to literature, freedom, and Jewish survival"

### **Wednesday, June 8**

*Disengagement* by Daniella Levy

"In other times, they would never have met. They come from different corners of Israeli society, rooted in their own beliefs, busy with their own troubles. Farmers and fishermen, skeptics and believers, immigrants and natives, children and grandparents struggle with faith, loss, jealousy, hope — and the turmoil around them only deepens the rifts that divide them. But when the Israeli government orders all Jewish communities in the Gaza Strip destroyed, Neve Adva — the settlement some of them call home — becomes the unlikely crossroads where all their worlds collide and all their lives are changed forever."

### **Wednesday, July 13**

*The Hare with Amber Eyes* by Edmund De Waal

"Traces the parallel stories of nineteenth-century art patron Charles Ephrussi and his unique collection of 360 miniature netsuke Japanese ivory carvings, documenting Ephrussi's relationship with Marcel Proust and the impact of the Holocaust on his cosmopolitan family."

### **Wednesday, August 10**

*Hope Valley* by Haviva Ner-David

"Hope Valley is the story of two women, one Jewish-Israeli and one Palestinian-Israeli, who come together to form the unlikeliest of friendships. Tikvah and Ruby meet one summer day right before the outbreak of the second intifada, in the Galilean valley that separates the segregated villages in which they live. The valley Ruby's father had called Hope came to symbolize the political enmity that has defined the history of two nations in this troubled land and which has led to parallel cultures with little meaningful interaction between them."

**May 18, June 15, July 13 and August 17**

**A Grandparents' Conversation** continues to meet monthly on the **third Wednesday of the month. We will meet May 18 and June 15 and will continue in July 13 and August 17 from 1:30 - 2:30 pm by Zoom.** This group is for *any older folks*, not just grandparents, and is open to new attendees! *Find the Zoom link in the weekly email ANNOUNCEMENTS*

*or the UPCOMING EVENTS page on the OZ website a week or so before the event begins.*

To learn more about this Conversation group, contact Judy Chalmer at

[judyburlington@gmail.com](mailto:judyburlington@gmail.com)

**Exciting news! Mah Jongg** classes have been happening at the synagogue. Sixteen new players have learned or are learning how to play the game. If you are interested in learning to play, **email Lynda Siegel** at [zebras.2@me.com](mailto:zebras.2@me.com) to add your name to a list to find out about future sessions!

**iEngage course on Ethics** led by Rabbi Amy continues each **Sunday from 1:00 - 3:00 pm** on Zoom. The class will take a summer pause starting in July. Anyone is welcome to hop in even if you haven't attended in the past. *Look for the Zoom link on the OZ weekly announcements or Upcoming Events on the website, a week or so before each session.*

**Making Prayer Real** continues to meet **most Sundays, from 4:00 - 6:00 pm** via Zoom.

This is a curriculum that builds on past classes but if you want to join, please contact Rabbi Amy or Cantor Steve.

~ Lynda Siegel  
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