

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education has been busy at OZ this winter, and so have all of you attending many of the exciting class offerings that have been provided. Thanks to Rabbi Amy and Rabbi Edleson for the informative class on Jewish Customs on Death and Mourning attended by more than 40 people from OZ and Temple Sinai. Cantor Steve serenaded all of us and shared such interesting information in his A Night on Broadway classes. Barbara McGrew facilitated an engaging book group on White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism.

The offerings for the next two months are just as exciting:

Including Jews of Color: A Conversation

Thursday, March 4 5:00 – 6:45pm

Nancy Sugarman and Zoe Hecht will lead a discussion on Including Jews of Color. Hopefully you had a chance to watch the Webinars from Temple Emanu-El Streicker Center during February on the personal stories of four prominent Jews of color. But if not, there is still time to watch the presentation by Ilana Kaufman (Ilana Kaufman, Jews of Color Initiative) and then join this exciting conversation with members of OZ on March 4 to share what you have learned and pose your questions.

Please sign up with Sarah@ohavizedek.com

Making Your Tallit

Thursdays, March 11 and 18 4:00 – 5:30pm

Leslie Dolin will teach a two-part class where you can learn about the requirements and history of tallit, how to decide what size tallit you like, how to choose fabric and how to get started with designing your tallit. The class will emphasize making the tallit meaningful by incorporating fabrics with personal meaning, such as a father's ties, a grandmother's crocheted doilies or a favorite t-shirt. You will then make your tallit outside of class time... and Leslie can help if you get stuck! Mark your calendars and register with Sarah@ohavizedek.org (limit 20 people)

American History's Most Despicable Lie: Racial Superiority and its Costs

Tuesdays, March 9 and 16 7:30pm

Unfortunately, UVM Professor Emeritus Dr. Howard Ball was unable to speak at Lunch & Learn on February 18, when he was to introduce his new book, Taking the Fight South: Chronicle of a Jew's Battle for Civil Rights in Mississippi, from Notre Dame Press. Please join us on March 9, when Dr. Ball will be discussing his essay, After 400 Years, How Does it Still Feel to be a Problem in America? about Dubois, Baldwin and the costs of activism in civil rights. You can find the link to the essay on the OZ website (adult education). On March 16 there will be a discussion of his book, Taking the Fight South. Both events will be over Zoom and the link is on the website.

Making Prayer Real

Class Preview/Havdallah Saturday, March 6 6:00pm

First Class Sunday, March 24 4:00 – 6:00pm

Rabbi Amy, Cantor Steve and Rabbi Edleson (Temple Sinai) are kicking off a bi-weekly series on making prayer real. Do you find prayer challenging? Does Hebrew or God language get in your way while trying to pray? “Making Prayer Real” is a curriculum by Rabbi Mike Comins and HUC College Commons, and taught by Rabbi Amy, Rabbi Edleson and Cantor Steve. Using interviews with Jewish leaders from a variety of movements, the course gives us the opportunity to talk openly about the challenges of prayer, while at the same time learning new ways into the prayers we have always heard in synagogue. No matter if you have lots of experience with Jewish prayer or you are new or rusty, this is a great class to engage your spiritual life in the context of Jewish prayer.

Who was Mark Rothko?

Tuesdays, April 6 and 13 7:30 – 9:00pm

Linda Finklestein will be teaching a class on Marcus Rothkovich, otherwise known as Mark Rothko, a famous painter of Latvian-Jewish descent (1903-1970). Linda will lead us through his journey from Russia to New York City, his color aesthetic and spiritual search. At each session we will both learn about Rothko and respond creatively with our own work (poem, drawing, or whatever). **Session 1:** Please have materials for drawing or writing, such as sketch or drawing paper, pen/pencil, markers, or colored pencils.

Session 2: In this session we explore color, so please have watercolor or mixed media pad, paintbrushes thin and thick, and three colors of paint (watercolor or acrylic). Please sign up in advance with Sarah@ohavizedek.org.

Beautifying your Shabbat and Holiday Table

Tuesdays, April 6, 13, 20, 27 10:30am – noon

Leslie Dolin will be teaching this interesting class on Ikebana, the Japanese art of arranging flowers and branches that can beautify your Shabbat and holiday table, even if you have no special vases or other Ikebana equipment! Leslie, who has been teaching Sogetsu Ikebana for over 30 years, will show you how in this four-week, hands-on class. Everything you need, except perhaps for a few flowers, should be found in your house or on a walk outside. This process will bring you calm and beauty, even in difficult times. After you sign up a supply list will be sent to you. (limit 8 people)

Find out about all of these classes (and maybe more!) by clicking on this link:

<http://ohavizedek.org/education/adult-education/> or you can click on the (new!) second slider header on top of the OZ home page.

And finally, the Adult Ed Committee is working with the Social Justice Committee to help OZ become a more inclusive community. We seek to recognize all the ways we are diverse and how we can identify and better address the gaps in our learning about, acceptance of and engagement with each other and our broader community. **Look for a survey coming around Passover to the entire congregation, to help us learn more about your thoughts and experiences at OZ.**

*~ Submitted by Lynda Siegel
Adult Ed Committee Member*