



TIR (Temple Institute of Religion) 2019-2020

PreK, Sundays 9:30am – 12pm (choice of 2x per month or weekly)

Students will have lessons with faculty and madrichim that will introduce our youngest students to Judaism via connections with heart and self, home and family, and synagogue and community. They will celebrate holidays, festivals and Shabbat.

They will sing and chant Hebrew songs, prayers and blessings. Students will understand Hebrew is a different language.

Kindergarten, Sundays 9:30am– 12pm

Our students will learn the Bible stories in Genesis and Exodus, focusing on important people in those stories. They will learn the Hebrew alphabet, being able to recognize letters and sounds. They will learn a number of Jewish values. They will celebrate holidays, festivals and Shabbat. They will sing and chant Hebrew songs, prayers and blessings. Kindergarten students will participate in Consecration and understand the meaning of this important milestone.

Grades 1 through 3, Sundays 9:30am – 12pm

Machaneh (Camp) TIR! For grades 1-3, we are bringing all the things we love about camp to Sunday mornings! Students will have warm and caring madrichim (teen leaders) to play games, do community building activities, and facilitate reflections on the experiences and learning they encounter as they move through “limmud (learning)” specialties including Hebrew language through movement and games, creative arts, music and interactive Torah stories. Curricular goals for these grades include:

- Shabbat - how to help their families bring Shabbat into their homes
- Bible Stories; Parsha Shavua - why is the Torah still important in 2019-2020?
- Hebrew alphabet, Reading and Decoding Hebrew
- Jewish Values
- Celebrating holidays, festivals, Shabbat - culture and traditions
- Learning Hebrew songs, prayers, blessings - recognition and meaning of: Barchu, Sh'ma, Ha'motzi, Kiddish, Shehecheyanu, Mi Shebeirach, Modah Ani, Mah Nishtahnah, Chanukah Blessings

Grades 4 and 5, Sundays 9:30am – 12pm: Choose from two chugim (electives) for Judaics – on a first-come first-served basis.

Art - Students will study Jewish holidays, and reflect on what they learn about each holiday through the creation of visual art. All the major holidays will be explored, plus some that our students may be less familiar with, like *Lag B'omer*.

STEM - This course is a deep exploration of Jewish holidays through a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) lens. Learn about agricultural practices and crops grown in ancient Israel and how they compare to those in contemporary Florida as you explore the harvest festival of Sukkot. Find out how to turn a can of tuna into a Shabbat candle, help your hexbug survive in a plague habitat and so much more!

Grades 6 and 7, Sundays 9:30am – 12pm: Choose from three chugim (electives) for Judaics – on a first-come first-served basis.

Social Action: The Prism Project – Each six to seven week Prism (3-4 per year) begins with a mifgash, or meeting, between the class and a guest from the community. The guest shares a conundrum for students to resolve, offering a prism through which to explore issues in Jewish values, belief, and action. Ownership is placed squarely in the hands of the students. Teachers move away from center stage to work as facilitators and mentors, helping students make sense of what they discover. At the end of each Prism, students present their findings to the guest, who can then put their ideas into action.

Design a Siddur – This is a Project Based Learning (PBL) curriculum in which the students write a Siddur as a class that can then be used for Jr. Congregation or even their Bar/Bat Mitzvah service. The students examine the Hebrew text, related Midrash, and various translations for each prayer or blessing in order to develop a personal understanding and interpretation of the liturgy. In small groups, students develop a personally relevant translation for Shabbat morning prayers and blessings. In addition, liturgy is enhanced through student generated artwork, supplementary prose, and poetry. The final product gets published at the end of the school year and used by the community the following year.

All In! – This chug (elective) will put the power of learning directly in the hands of middle schoolers. Their learning space becomes home to containers, each illustrating a different theme. But much like puzzles and challenges of the popular entertainment known as an “escape room,” the students have to be engaged “all in” to crack codes and solve problems to be able to access videos, articles, websites, people and more. The students’ ultimate goal is to discover each container’s unstated theme - a Jewish value reflected by a traditional or modern text.

Grades 4 - 6 Hebrew, Sundays 12:15pm - 1pm, Virtual, or Hebrew Havruta TBA

All students in grades 4-7 will participate in t'filah at 11:30am, led by Cantor Barry and co-lead by the students themselves. Hebrew learning will consist of blessings and prayers, liturgy and music. They will review and in some cases learn Torah blessings, Haftarah blessings, V'ahavta, Amidah, Aleinu, Kaddish, Mi Chamocha, Yotzer Or, Nissim B'chol Yom, Ahavat Olam, Adon Olam, Kiddush blessings.

Grades 8-10, Sundays 11:30am - 1pm Choose from two chugim (electives) – on a first-come first-served basis. (If a teen has already taken the Comparative Religion course, they will be enrolled in Hot Topics automatically.)

Comparative Religion - The Comparative Religion class will explore multiple religious traditions, including several Christian denominations, the Muslim faith, eastern traditions (Buddhism/Hinduism), as well as different streams of Judaism. The class will include field trips to religious institutions in Jacksonville (note – these will not be on Sunday afternoon) where students can attend a service and/or meet with clergy/members of congregations. The class will also provide a component exploring Religion in Israel, including discussions on Jewish plurality.

Hot Topics: Debate and Discussion of relevant Jewish Issues - The 8th, 9th and 10th grade students will spend the year focusing on Jewish hot topics including Israel, Pluralism, Politics, Social Action initiatives, and the BDS movement. Each week, students will be given various Jewish texts describing Jewish values and ethical behavior, and students will reflect their understanding of these ideas in debates or socratic seminars. The first weeks of this class will be used to teach students how to debate.