

Monthly Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Dantowitz

Bring your appetite for learning as well as your dairy lunch; beverages will be provided!

Ethics of our Ancestors (Pirkei Avot)

All are welcome for a lively discussion and exploration of Pirkei Avot. Through a close study of Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz's *Pirkei Avot: A Social Justice Commentary*, each month we will explore life's wisdom through ancient texts and modern interpretations. Each session is independent so come to one, many or all.

Thursdays, 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

October 24, November 21, December 19, 2019

January 23, February 27, March 19, April 23 & May 21, 2020

Rosh Hodesh with Rabbi Dantowitz, sponsored by Sisterhood—The Women's Connection

Rosh Hodesh is the celebration of the new Hebrew month and is a special time for women. Sisterhood—The Women's Connection welcomes all women to join in an evening of learning, warmth, and spiritual growth. The Spring Rosh Hodesh event features a Women's Seder before Passover. Join us each or any month, and feel the sisterhood connection.

Monday, November 4, 7:30 PM—Rosh Hodesh Cheshvan

Tuesday, December 10, 7:30 PM—Pre-Hanukkah Rosh Hodesh program on 13 Kislev

Tuesday, February 25, 7:30 PM—Rosh Hodesh Adar/Pre-Purim Hamentaschen baking

Thursday, March 26, 7:30 PM —Women's Seder

Tuesday, May 12, 7:30 PM—33rd day of the Omer



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Temple B'nai Abraham Congregational Learning

Highlights of the Upcoming Year 2019–2020

Congregational Learning at Temple B'nai Abraham provides opportunities for learners of all ages to explore their identities as Jews. Through spiritual, academic and social programs and courses, opportunities for learning bring people together, helping to create a special sense of family and community. Most classes are open to the community and free.

New
Year,
New
Beginnings

More information and additional programs are at www.tbanj.org. Dates and times are subject to change. To register, go to www.tbanj.org. If you have any questions before registering, please call the Temple office at 973.994.2290.

ReIntro to Judaism with Rabbi Vaisberg

This class is for all those seeking to rediscover their Judaism. It may be that you find yourself in a new chapter of life; it may be that you simply seek to learn more. Participants will help choose class topics as we explore what paths toward meaning Judaism can offer us. Topics may include Shabbat and holiday practices, life cycle events, mysticism, health, approaches to eating, teenagers, caring for aging parents, etc.

This class will be taught via **Zoom** (a video conferencing tool, meaning that you can participate from wherever you are on your phone, tablet, or desktop!). Instructions for sign-up will be available soon!

*Two meetups at Temple are planned on December 16 and May 18.

Mondays, 8:00 to 9:00 PM

October 28, November 25, December 2 & *December 16, 2019

2020: January 13, January 27, February 10, February 24, March 2, March 23, April 6, April 27, May 11 & *May 18, 2020

**Meet at the Temple*

Twelve Tremendous Talmudic Texts with Rabbi Vaisberg

This course is inaugurating Temple B'nai Abraham's new Steinsaltz Talmud set and taught in honor and memory of Rabbi Dr. Aaron D. Panken, z"l.

We will dive into twelve fantastic Talmudic texts that deal with key issues confronting Judaism today, including such topics as pluralism, disagreement, revelation, and balances of power. No background in Talmud is necessary, and this course is taught using English translations.

Steinsaltz Talmud set donated by Susan and Richard Kogan

Mondays, 12:30 to 1:30 PM (*Bring your dairy lunch; beverages will be provided!*)

**November 4, November 25, December 2 & December 16, 2019
January 13, January 27, February 10, February 24, March 2,
March 23, March 30, April 20 & May 11, 2020**

TBA Book Group 2019-2020 with Rabbi Vaisberg

The B'nai Abraham Book Group will have engaging, meaningful, and edifying conversations about different books each month. During the first session we will together develop a rich, varied, and provocative reading list for the coming year.

Wednesdays, 7:30 to 8:30 PM

November 13 & December 18, 2019

January 8, February 12, March 11, April 1 & May 13, 2020

Parashat HaShavua

Join the lively discussion of legend and lore, the ancient world and the modern one, the Jewish people's feelings about its God, and God's feelings about His people. Through our reading of the weekly portion, with the support of traditional and contemporary commentaries, we seek not only to understand the profundities of Torah, but also to understand the world and ourselves a little better. Parallel English/Hebrew texts will be used. We hope you'll stay for services, but even if you can't, stop by for a weekly dose of Torah!

Saturdays, all year before services, 9:00 to 9:45 AM.

Set a King over Us: Personal Reflections on Paradigms of Power in the Book of Samuel with Cantor Epstein

The class is designed for lay people with limited Hebraic and Biblical knowledge. All sessions will be 75 minutes. We will closely read the Book of Samuel focusing on one main character a week (Eli, Samuel, Saul, David) plus the female actors. We will gain a fresh, empathetic view of the text in terms of the corrosive effects of power upon leaders, while applying its wisdom through the prism of our lives, and internalizing its lessons vis-à-vis our own roles in society. Using Halbertal and Holme's *The Beginning of Politics: Power in the Biblical Book of Samuel* as a guide, we will be able to understand the basic narrative, identify pitfalls inherent in wielding power, discuss its effect on both the powerful and powerless, and gain new personal and contemporary political insights.

Recommended Books:

The David Story: A Translation with Commentary of 1 and 2 Samuel, by Robert Alter

The Beginning of Politics: Power in the Biblical Book of Samuel by Moshe Halbertal and Stephen Holmes

Thursdays, 7:00 to 8:15 PM

November 7, November 14, November 21, December 5 & December 12, 2019

Organ Donation: Questions and Answers from a Jewish Perspective with Cantor Epstein

This two-part class is open to the community and hopes to increase an awareness of organ donation generally and within the Jewish community specifically. We will clearly and simply explain the different kinds of donation procedures and Jewish bioethical opinions on each. We will study sources and commentaries on the overriding Jewish concept of *Pikuach Nefesh* (saving a life) as well as other Jewish ethical teachings regarding donation. We will address misinformation or myths which are prevalent among many in the community. And finally, we will explain how to become an organ donor in New Jersey.

Thursdays, 7:00 to 8:15 PM

April 30 & May 7