

# Adult Education 5780 (2019-20)

## *Learning through the Week*

### Monday

**11:45 AM-12:45 PM**

#### ***Talmud with Rabbi Sarra Lev, PhD***

The rabbinic prohibitions against shaming another often lie in stark contrast to stories of shaming and competition among those very same rabbis. This class asks the overarching question – what is the Talmud trying to tell us about shame/shaming?

*Rabbi Lev is an associate professor of rabbinic texts (Talmud and Midrash) at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. She has taught adult education in many contexts including synagogues, Jewish Alive & American, the Feminist Center of the American Jewish Congress, Me'ah, and Bat Kol: A Feminist House of Study, which she co-founded. She delights in teaching.*

**1:00-2:00 PM**

#### ***Getting Philosophical with Rabbi Shawn***

**(There is no class on 12/9)**

On Mondays at 1pm come study Jewish Philosophy with a great group of learners. The class is facilitated by Rabbi Shawn and together we read and discuss articles on topics of philosophy. This year our focus will be on Zionism, Messianism and Jewish Radicalism.

**HZAD - 6:30 or 7 PM - each week (see section below)**

### Tuesday

#### ***D'var T'filah with Hazzan Vogel***

**After 7 AM Minyan** – Hazzan Vogel will offer brief insights into the spiritual dynamics of prayer focusing each time on why prayer is difficult and what we can do about it. Congregants are invited to continue our exploration of this subject over breakfast in the Rudofker Library.

#### ***Experience the Joys of Yiddish with Gerry Spector***

**November 26, 10 AM; December 10, 10 AM; January 14, 10 AM and 5 PM;**

**January 28, 10 AM and 5 PM**

You do not have to be able to speak or understand Yiddish to experience the Joys of Yiddish culture. Enjoy Yiddish literature, poetry, folk songs, art songs, theater songs, opera, drama, comedy, movies, and incidentally learn the language.



***Ancestral Journeys: Ancient Biblical Myth and End-of-Life Wisdom in Torah and Midrash with Simcha Raphael***

**November 19, December 3, 17, 10-11:30 AM**

*An exploration of the themes of life, death, loss and transformation in the sacred stories of the Book of Genesis, with contemporary guidelines for living life in our times.*

**NOVEMBER 19**

**Isaac's Midlife Transition - The Akedah as a Near-Death Experience**

What really happened to Isaac when his father brought him to be sacrificed? Through an exploration of both Torah and Midrash we shall look at the Akedah as a near-death experience which led to the spiritual emergence of Isaac

**DECEMBER 3**

**Jacob's Deathbed Finale - Family Drama and Trauma at the End of Life**

The deathbed story of Jacob, at the end of Genesis, offers us wisdom for encountering the reality of death and loss. From Jacob's story we learn to deal with death and the complex family dynamics surrounding dying and mourning with integrity and equanimity.

**DECEMBER 17**

**Carrying Joseph's Bones - Sinai Procession as a Funeral Ritual**

This presentation explores the importance of bringing Joseph's bones out of Egypt, and the Jewish tradition of memory. We shall discover how a sense of connection between the world of the living and the world of the dead has been part of the Jewish experience throughout the ages.

*Simcha Raphael, Ph.D. is Founding Director of DA'AT Institute for Death Awareness, Advocacy and Training. Adjunct Professor in Religion at LaSalle University, and a psychotherapist and spiritual director, he is a Fellow of Rabbis Without Borders network, and author of the ground-breaking classic Jewish Views of the Afterlife. His website is [www.daatinstitute.net](http://www.daatinstitute.net)*

**Wednesday**

***Tisch with Rabbi Shawn***

**After 7 AM Minyan** – Join Rabbi Shawn for breakfast and inspirational learning. In this class we will engage in weekly *Halakha* (legal text) study from the Rambam's *Mishneh Torah*. *Good food, great company, and a bisseel of learning too!*

***Siddur Study with Dr. Sara H. Cohen***

**November 20, 27 and December 11 (Spring: 3/4, 11, 18, 25 and 4/1)**

**11 AM**

An in-depth, multi-faceted study of our Shabbat liturgy. By “unpacking” the many layers of meaning and commentary, by delving into the history, background and lives of the great

intellectual giants who wrote our prayers, we gain a keener understanding of their meaning and of the values and ideals inherent in them. Through this sharper knowledge and understanding, we discover what we stand for as Jews.

In prior years, we covered the *Birchot HaShachar*, *P'sukei D'Zimrah*, the *Shma* and its Blessings and the *Amidah (Shmoneh Esrai)*. We begin this semester with *Kreeat HaTorah* (Torah Reading service) and Haftarah, the Musaf service (additional service) and the concluding prayers for Shabbat morning

Join us, learn and study with us so that you can connect more readily and easily to our heritage and keep our legacy alive and thriving.

### ***Parshat Hashavua for the Sandwich Generation with Rabbi Shawn***

**11 AM**

**(There is no class on 11/27)**

What is the The Sandwich Generation? It typically refers to those of us that are sandwiched between the needs of their children and those of their aging parents. If you are between the ages of 45ish and 65ish, together, we will focus on topics that are relevant today. Are you dealing with, aging parents, the loss of your parents, family illness, and their health, adult children, and dating just to name a few? What does the Torah teach us about our responsibilities in these areas? If you want to be a part of a study group to discuss contemporary issues, please join us!

## **Thursday**

### ***Popular Commentaries on Genesis with Rabbi Ira Flax***

**10 AM**

**(There will be no class on November 28)**

We will study the commentaries found in the Hertz Chumash, the Etz Hayim Chumash, and the commentaries of modern biblical scholars to deepen our understanding of the first book of the Bible.

### ***Holiday Learning Series with Rabbi Ira Flax***

**11:15 AM - 12:15 PM**

**12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 12/26 - Hanukkah and winter**

**2/6 - Tu B'Shevat**

**3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26 - Passover**

**5/7 - Israel Holidays**

**5/14 - Shavuot**

### ***Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh Group***

**Thursdays (unless otherwise indicated), 7:30 PM - 9 PM**

**Held in the home of congregants**

**11/21, 12/19, 1/23, 2/27, 3/26, 4/30**

**November 21 meeting with Judy Shrager: *Psalms***

Warm, interactive, and challenging discussions related to the holidays and themes of each month are led by group members. For more information, please contact Meryl Littman, [merylitt@vet.upenn.edu](mailto:merylitt@vet.upenn.edu) or Janice Katz, [rhk101@hotmail.com](mailto:rhk101@hotmail.com).

## **Friday**

***Men's Club Minyannaires with Rabbi Seth Haaz***

**After 7 AM Minyan** – Men's Club-sponsored study with Rabbi Haaz in his office. Learn new insights to the Torah through wrestling with Rashi's interpretations and our understanding of his reasoning.

## ***Shabbat Learning***

***Joy of Shabbat Speaker Series***

**Friday Night - 8:15pm**



**Friday, December 13**

**Dr. Ely Levine**

**Scholar-in-Residence**

**Archaeology and the Bible: What do we know? What can we do?**

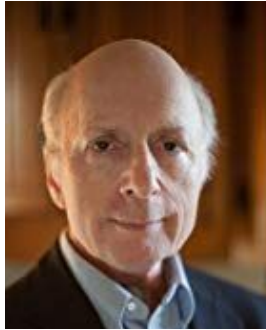
Archaeology has the potential to teach us a lot about people who lived long ago. It also has the potential to be misused to confirm preconceived notions about the past. Since the Bible is such a polarizing document, archaeology has been mustered by some seeking to "prove" the Bible and by others seeking to discredit the Bible. Dr. Ely Levine, who earned his doctorate in Biblical studies and archaeology, will speak about his experience in the field, and how it informs conversations between these two fields.



**Friday, January 10**

**Allyson Zacharoff**

**Interfaith**



**Friday, March 13**  
**Author - Itzhak Brook**

Author of the book *"In the Sands of Sinai, a Physician's Account of the Yom Kippur War"*

A presentation to your Jewish community about the historical perspectives of the 1973 Yom Kippur War, and its long-term effects on the Israeli society and the peace process, as well as my personal experiences as a medic in the Six-Day War and a battalion physician in Yom Kippur War. My lecture includes discussion of the challenges of preserving one's humanity and ethical values during wartime; caring for wounded enemy soldiers; dealing with fear, anxiety and PTSD; religious beliefs' effects on coping with the war; and experiencing the painful cost of war. Dr. Brook is a speaker for the Israeli embassy in DC (<http://www.israelemb.org/washington/Speakers-Guide/Society-and-Politics/Pages/Itzhak-Brook.aspx> )

***Teen Dinner, Dessert and Discussion with Rabbi Shawn and Norman Einhorn***

**Friday evenings, 12/6, 1/3, 2/7, 3/6, 4/3, 5/1, 6/5**

**6:30-8:45 PM**

**For our Post Bar/Bat Mitzvah Students**

Join us for stimulating conversation and delicious desserts. Held in a congregant's home. Please contact the school office, [jfgrs@harziontemple.org](mailto:jfgrs@harziontemple.org), for the address. Refreshments provided.

If you would like to host this program, please contact Rabbi Shawn, [rabbishawn@harziontemple.org](mailto:rabbishawn@harziontemple.org).

***Parashat Hashavuah with Rabbi Moriah SimonHazani***

**Saturdays, 11/23, 12/7, 21, 1/11, 2/1, 29, 3/14, 28, 4/18, 5/2, 9, 6/6**

**10-11 AM**

Join Rabbi Moriah as she helps to unpack the biblical text using literary methods and rabbinic interpretations.

***Milton Pomerantz Interactive Torah Study and the Rosh Hodesh Lecture***

**Saturdays at 1 PM**

This participant-led and organized study group wrestles with the meaning of the weekly portion. On the Shabbat of Rosh Hodesh it is led by Rabbi Shawn.

### ***Parents and Kids Together***

**Saturdays, once a month, one hour before Mincha**

**12/7, 1/11, 2/1, 2/29, 3/28, 5/2, 6/6**

**For 5th Graders and Above**

Are your children looking for a way to do Shabbat but sleep in on Saturday morning? This new Shabbat afternoon program is for parents and children to learn together. We will gather to sit around a table to eat a light Seudah Shlishit (late Shabbat meal), read and discuss some wisdom from rabbinic narrative sources, and enjoy each other's company. We will then join the congregation for Mincha through Havdalah. All are welcome!

### ***Talmud Study with Rabbi Gary Charlestein***

**Every Shabbat, one hour before Mincha**

## ***Har Zion After Dark***

Join us **MONDAY NIGHTS** this year, as HZT will be the place for Jewish learning. Check out all of our offerings!

### ***Dr. Ely Levine***

#### ***Reel Torah***

*The Ten Commandments! Noah! Monty Python's Life of Brian! The Prince of Egypt!* These blockbuster movies have little in common other than that they are Bible movies. Come see how these movies and others use the Bible as a vehicle to communicate a message, and how the way of doing so has changed over the 120 years of the movie biz. You'll laugh, you'll cry; we'll serve popcorn!

**11/18 – Ten Commandments (1956)**

**12/16 – Prince of Egypt (1998)**

**1/20 – Story of Ruth (1960)**

**2/24 – One Night with the King (2006)**

**3/23 – Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (1999)**

**4/6 – King of Kings (1927)**

**5/18 – Life of Brian (1979)**

### ***Open Studio with Ariela Barlas***

#### ***Creative Space***

**11/25**

**1/27**

**3/30**

**5/4**

## **Rabbi Moriah SimonHazani and Ariela Barlas**

*What's Cookin'?*

12/9

1/6 – Tu B'Shevat

2/10 – Purim

3/16 – Passover

5/11 – Shavuot

### **“Open A Book, Open Your Mind”**

*Sponsored by Sisterhood and the JFGRS'*

**Admission is \$18 unless otherwise noted**

To make a reservation: <https://harziontemple.ticketleap.com/>

### **Monday, December 2, 7 PM**

TBD

### **Monday, January 13, 7 PM**

Edward Berenson, “The Accusation”

### **Monday, February 3, 7 PM**

Jack Fairweather, “The Volunteer”

### **Monday March 2, 7 PM at JFCS Brodsky Center**

Dorice Horenstein, “Moments of the Heart”

### **Tuesday, March 17, 4 PM with the JFGRS (Free)**

Jordan Gorfinkel, “Passover Haggadah: Graphic Novel”

### **Monday, April 20, 11:30 AM - Sisterhood Luncheon (\$25)**

Jenna Blum, “The Lost Family”

Susan Jane Gilman, “Donna Has Left the Building”

### **Wednesday, April 22, 7 PM**

Barry S. Wimpfheimer, “The Talmud”

### **Thursday, April 23, 7 PM**

TBD