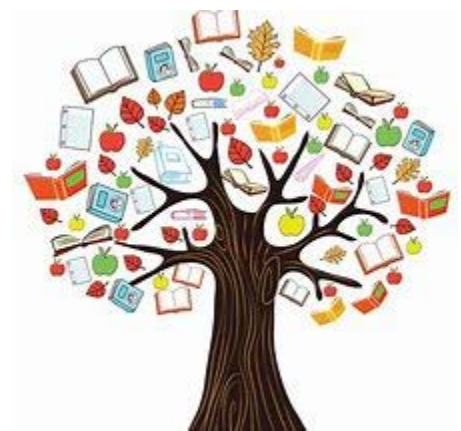




LET'S LEARN!

*SPEAKERS, CLASSES, AND OTHER
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS
@ BETH SHALOM CONGREGATION*

WINTER/SPRING 2021 (5781)



*8070 HARRIET TUBMAN LANE
COLUMBIA, MD 21044
410.531.5115
BETH-SHALOM.NET*

CLASSES



Talmud ZOOM!

Date: Wednesday evenings, beginning January 6th

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Amy Scheinerman

Come explore stories from the Talmud about courage, decency, deception, and fear. Everyone is invited to this weekly class, and you may join at any time. Rabbi Amy Scheinerman is the hospice rabbi in Howard County, Maryland. She serves on the Responsa Committee of the CCAR and as editor of the Torah Commentary column of the CCAR newsletter. She is the author of *The Talmud of Relationships: Volume One: God, Self, and Family and Volume Two: Community and Beyond*. (Available through Amazon Smile on www.beth-shalom.net).



Conversational Hebrew

Date: Tuesdays beginning February 2nd

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Instructor: Ora Fisch

This intermediate level class, with emphasis on grammar, conversational Hebrew, and vocabulary acquisition, is led by master teacher and native Israeli Ora Fisch. This class continues previous classes, but newcomers are welcome.



A Mi Shebayrach and a Pill

Dates: Thursdays, March 4th, 11th, 18th

Times: 7:45 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Philip Pohl

This course will review and discuss the traditional prayer texts Jews recite to promote spiritual healing. At least one text per class will be reviewed, and there will be a musical/meditative component to each class. If the participants agree, the course will conclude with a brief Jewish Healing service. Rabbi Philip Pohl received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Hebrew Literature, Master of Arts in Judaic Studies, and Doctorate of Divinity from the Jewish Theological Seminary. Beginning in 1978, he served as Rabbi of Congregation B'nai Shalom of Olney for 27 years. He has served as Jewish Chaplain for Montgomery General Hospital and Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, and co-founded the Washington Jewish Healing Network.



The Listening Room: Israel in the Eurovision Song Contest

Dates: Tuesdays, April 6th, 13th, 20th

Times: 7:45 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

Speaker: Cantor Rebecca Apt

Come and relax by listening to some wonderful Israeli songs—submissions for the Eurovision Song Contest. We will learn about the immensely popular and ever-changing competition and see how Israel's musical submissions have been viewed on an international stage! Cantor Rebecca Apt received degrees in Music and Midrash from Columbia University and Albert A. List College, and her Master's degree in Sacred Music from the H.L. Miller Cantorial School. Prior to joining Beth Shalom, Cantor Apt served as Hazzan of Shaare Tefila Congregation in Olney, MD.

SPECIAL EVENTS



Courageous Conversations IV

Facilitator Training: Tuesdays, January 12th, 19th, 26th, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Conversation Circles: Tuesdays, February 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Learning how to talk meaningfully and respectfully across our differences is more important than ever. This fourth year of Howard County's award winning interfaith Courageous Conversations will gather virtually via zoom to continue to explore racial and religious bias and discrimination, focusing on their implications for justice and equity. Conversations open to all adults. Facilitators should have had some experience in past conversations. Register at www.hococourageousconversations.com.

Program co-sponsored with the Social Action Committee.



Special Musical Program: Learn About Israeli Music Live

Date: Thursday, January 28th

Time: 7:45 p.m.

Learn About Israeli Music Live is a fun, interactive, audio-visual introduction to popular music in Israel today. You'll learn about the hottest singers and music styles, and the different ways in which popular music is woven into Israel's culture.

The presenters are Mairov and Josh Shron, hosts of *Israel Hour Radio* on Rutgers University's WRSU-FM for nearly 25 years. They want to make you a fan - whether or not you are fluent in Hebrew!

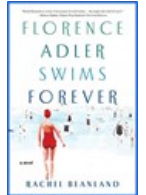


Jewish Authors Series

Join us for one or all of these amazing authors:

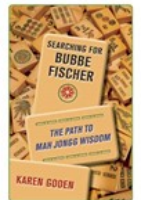
Sunday, January 10th at 7:45 p.m.: Rachel Beanland, author of *Florence Adler Swims Forever: A Novel*

Rachel Beanland has an MFA in creative writing from Virginia Commonwealth University. USA TODAY lists this novel as one of the "Best Books of 2020." Good Morning America refers to the novel in "25 Novels You'll Want to Read This Summer." This compelling debut novel, set in Atlantic City, 1934, is about a multigenerational Jewish family whose summer starts with a tragic accident. This book has many discussable elements including relatable characters, historical events, and family traditions. You are in for treat!



Sunday, February 7th at 10:00 a.m.: Karen Gooen, author of *Searching for Bubbe Fischer: The Path to Mah Jongg Wisdom*

Mah Jongg instructor and writer Karen Gooen from Randolph, NJ delights us with her engaging stories about her passion. Part Mah Jongg manual, part memoir, this book tells the story of how the author search for the ultimate mentor, learned to play the game, and eventually became a Mah Jongg aficionado.



Sunday, March 14th at 11:00 a.m.: Kristin Harmel, author of *The Book of Lost Names*

NY Times Best Selling Author Kristin Harmel has been writing professionally since age 16 beginning with sports writing covering Major League Baseball and NHL hockey for a local magazine in Tampa Bay, FL, a former reporter for People magazine, and stints writing for many other magazines, including covering everything from the Super Bowl to high-profile murders to celebrity interviews. She contributed to numerous TV shows and has appeared on Good Morning America. Kristin currently lives in Orlando, FL.



This book tells the story of a young Jewish woman who is recruited to forge documents to assist in the escape of Jewish children, giving them a chance to live under a new identity. This heart-wrenching, well researched novel goes into great detail to answer the mystifying question of how will the young ever regain their original identity while taking readers into Nazi occupied France on a journey which includes many twists and turns.

*This series is co-sponsored with Shaare Tefila Congregation.

Fee: Members: 3 sessions for \$25.00; 2 sessions for \$18.00; 1 session for \$10.00

Non-Members: 3 sessions for \$38.00; 2 sessions for \$27.00; 1 session for \$15.00

(Please see Beth Shalom website www.beth-shalom.net for electronic registration and links to purchase these books.)

SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



Shabbat Across America with Mazon – a Jewish Response to Hunger

Date: Friday, March 5th

Time: 7:00 p.m. (immediately following Shabbat services at 6:00 p.m.)

Title: Beyond the Food Pantry - Ending Hunger Together

Please join us for a very special presentation from **Mazon**, a Jewish Response to Hunger. Samuel M. Chu is the National Synagogue Organizer for Mazon, guiding synagogue partners in leading local and regional advocacy campaigns around issues of food insecurity. In addition to his work at Mazon, Samuel is a fellow at the Center for Religion and Civic Culture at University of Southern California and teaches at the Episcopal School at Claremont School of Theology. He is a frequent speaker and presenter at conferences and training institutes hosted at the Hebrew Union College, American Jewish University, the American Muslim Civic Leadership Institute, and the United States Student Association, among others.



Sermon in Song with Cantor Rebecca Apt

Date: Saturday, March 13th during Sabbath services

Cantor Apt will lead an in-depth exploration of the meaning and music of a particular prayer, during Sabbath morning services.



Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israeli Independence Day) Movie

Featuring: *Heading Home*

Date: Sunday, April 11th

Time: 8:00 p.m.

A stirring story of sports, patriotism and personal growth, *Heading Home* charts the underdog journey of Israel's national baseball team competing for the first time in the World Baseball Classic. After years of defeat, Team Israel is finally ranked among the world's best in 2017, eligible to compete in the prestigious international tournament. Their line-up included several Jewish American Major League players, most with a tenuous relationship to Judaism, let alone having ever set foot in Israel. Their odyssey takes them from Tel Aviv and Jerusalem where they are greeted as heroes, to Seoul where they must debunk their has-been, wannabe reputations. With their Mensch on the Bench mascot by their side, the team laughs, cries, and does much soul-searching, discovering the pride of representing Israel on the world stage. Winner of multiple awards including the Audience Award at the 2018 Washington DC Jewish Film Festival.

This movie will be streamed via the Amazon Prime Watch Party function - please see Beth Shalom website www.beth-shalom.net for full details as it gets closer.



Virtual Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Date: Sunday, May 16th, 7:00 p.m.

A Shavuot tradition is to stay up all night and study. At Beth Shalom, our evening of learning ends a lot earlier! You'll have a choice of exciting workshops on a variety of subjects. Services will be held after the workshops. Watch your e-mail for program descriptions and Zoom links.



Are We What We Eat? Jewish Views on Veg-ism and Healthy Living

Date: Saturday, May 22nd during and after Shabbat Sabbath services

Join us during services for a D'var Torah and a discussion after services with our guests Sara Eifler and Jodi Graber as they address the Jewish basis for a plant-based diet. Hear about what our texts and rabbinic traditions tell us, what the leading nutrition studies say about the benefits of a plant-based diet, and what steps we, as individuals and collectively, can take to adopt healthy habits and embody compassion for all living beings.

Jewish Veg, founded in 1975, educates Jews about the highest ideals of our religion, especially as they relate to our relationship with animals, our physical and spiritual health, and the environment. Sara Eifler, Jewish Veg Program Director, has been vegan since she was 14 years old and is dedicated to activism and social change in both her personal and professional life. She is currently a rabbinic student at ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal. Jodi Graber, Jewish Veg East Coast Engagement Manager, combines her passion for health, well-being and her Jewish heritage through her work as a health coach and her role at Jewish Veg.

Continuing Shabbat Programming



Shabbat Unplugged

Time and Dates: Friday nights January 8th, February 5th, March 5th, April 9th, May 7th, June 11th

Modern and traditional melodies accompanied on piano by Cantor Apt and commentary of the prayer service with Rabbi Grossman move the spirit. Interested in joining the Adult Choir? Contact Cantor Apt at Cantor.Apt@beth-shalom.net. Services begin at 6:00 p.m.



Torah Talks

Dates: Saturdays during Sabbath services on January 9th, March 6th, April 10th, May 8th, June 19th

Rabbi Amy Scheinerman leads us in this participatory Torah study on the weekly parsha (Torah reading) occurs during regular Saturday morning services.



Torah Ethics for our Times: A Monthly Mini-Lecture Series with Rabbi Grossman

Friday nights during Sabbath Services on February 12th, March 12th, April 23rd, May 14th, June 18th

When faced with difficult choices, how do we determine the right course of action for ourselves, our families, our community? As Jews, we begin by understanding the ethical values that appear in our foundational document, the Torah, upon which all Jewish values ultimately derive. **Rabbi Grossman**, co-editor of *Etz Hayim Torah and Commentary*, will explore the Torah source for a different Jewish ethical value each month and how such ethics can continue to guide us, especially through challenging times.



Ask the Rabbi –Passover Edition!

Dates: Friday nights on March 19th and 26th and Saturday March 27th during Sabbath services

Rabbi Grossman answers all your Passover questions in this annual Ask the Rabbi event. Because Passover begins Saturday night, March 27th, there will be two weeks of Ask the Rabbi, to allow people to prepare based on the answers received.

Ask your questions during services or submit them ahead of time to rabbi.grossman@beth-shalom.net. (Questions submitted by e-mail must be received by Wednesday, March 17th.)

The Seders Are Over, Now What?

Date: Friday night April 2nd during Sabbath services

There is a lot more to Passover than the first two nights' seders! Join Rabbi Grossman for an exploration of well-known and little-known traditions for the last days of Passover and the beyond.

STUDY GROUPS



The **Virtual Study Group**: A wide range of (mostly Jewish) topics picked by the group members is discussed. No preparation is needed. Contact Barbara Pollack (blpsacct@gmail.com) for more information.



The **Talmud Study Group** reads and analyzes Mishna and Gemara. They have studied tractates Berachot (blessings), Pesachim (Passover), Taanit (public fast days), Bava Kamma (damages), and Avodah Zarah (Idolatry and superstitions), and are now studying the second volume of Sanhedrin (judiciary and capital punishment). No Hebrew background is required, but one must be comfortable learning a limited Hebrew and Aramaic vocabulary to understand recurring phrases that are not easily translatable. Because the group is not entirely local, sessions are conducted by conference call. Contact Lisa Hemmendinger (lhemmendinger@gmail.com) for more information.



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