

**Temple Shir Tikvah
Adult Learning
2010-2011**



Tree of Life by Karla Gudeon

FOCUS ON LEARNING

MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT

With Rabbi Rim Meirowitz

Oct 3 & 31, Nov 21, Dec 19, Jan 9, Jan 23, Feb 13, Mar 13, Apr 10, May 8; 10–11:30 AM at Vinson-Owen School, 75 Johnson Rd., Winchester.

Free to all temple members – no registration

We will look at the development of the modern Jewish world through a historical and history-of-ideas lens. Starting with Spinoza and the Enlightenment, we will move on to the beginnings of Reform, Orthodox and Conservative Judaism. We'll see how emigration to America created a unique American Judaism. The impact of the Holocaust and Birth of Israel will be explored. We will examine the recent challenge of feminism to every aspect of Jewish belief and practice. We will conclude by constructing a picture of the present post-denominational drift. While this course is a continuation of the Jewish History course started last year, it can be taken on its own. Each class will cover a specific topic and can be taken individually.

EXPLORING THE ABRAHAMIC TRADITIONS: Judaism, Christianity and Islam

With Ali Asani, Gregory Mobley and Rabbi Or Rose

Oct 24, Nov 7, Nov 14, Dec 5, Feb 6, Mar 6, May 1; 9:45-11:15 AM at Vincent-Owen School, 75 Johnson Rd, Winchester

\$84 fee – Registration required

Join us as we explore the similarities and differences among the three great Western religious traditions. This unique course offers the opportunity to study the foundational teaching of Judaism, Christianity and Islam with leading scholars from each tradition--Professors Asani (Harvard University), Mobley (Andover Newton Theological School) and Rabbi Or Rose (Hebrew College). Issues to be discussed in class include understandings of God, sacred texts, and religious praxis. The final session of the course will feature a roundtable discussion on contemporary issues.

BEYOND THE BIBLE: Explorations of the Rabbinic Tradition

With Ronit Ziv-Kreger

Oct 24, Nov 14, Nov 21, Dec 12, Jan 9, Jan 30; 7:30–9 PM at Temple Shir Tikvah.

\$72 fee – Registration required

While Jewish tradition is ultimately grounded in the Bible, the Judaism we know is a product of dramatically changing historical realities that have demanded innovation. The focus of this course will be the rabbis' legacy, marked with the tension between continuity and the need to address a changing world. We'll explore themes relevant to our lives, such as Shabbat, food, prayer, and interpersonal communications through stories and texts from the Talmud through medieval rabbinic commentators.

JEWISH MYSTICISM: Kabbalah Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

With Rabbi Natan Margalit

Feb 13, Mar 6, Mar 20, Apr 10, May 1; 7:30–9 PM at Temple Shir Tikvah.

\$60 fee – Registration required

We will introduce the basic concepts, beliefs and practices of Jewish Mysticism, concentrating on Kabbalah. This five-part series will include: “The Divine Romance: Exploring the Masculine and Feminine Within God;” “The Shattering of the Vessels: The Kabbalistic Creation Story;” “Levels of Being: The Theory of the Four (or Five) Worlds;” “Heroes, Heretics and (False) Messiahs: Tales of Jewish Mystics;” and “Kabbalah Today and Tomorrow: Where Do We Go from Here?”

INTRODUCTION TO HEBREW

With Shahar Colt

Session I: *Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov 3, 10, 17, Dec 1.*

Session II: *Dec 8, 15, 22, Jan 5, 12, 19, 26, Feb 2.*

Session III: *Feb 9, 16, Mar 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.*

6:45–8 PM at Temple Shir Tikvah.

\$12 per class – Registration required. The class is open to students in grades 8-12 and adults in the community. Interested students should contact YouthEducator@shir-tikvah.org.

This class will introduce students to Modern Hebrew through the four modes of language acquisition: reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students will develop basic

conversation skills, building vocabulary around everyday activities and encounters. At the beginning of the class we will review Hebrew reading, so some familiarity with Hebrew letters and vowels is recommended. We will use a textbook, *Let's Talk! Modern Hebrew for Teens* to practice reading, writing, and grammar skills, striving towards reading authentic Hebrew texts, possibly from Shabbat liturgy.

FOCUS ON GROWTH

NAVIGATING THE RIVER OF LIFE

With Rabbi Rim Meiowitz

The first session will be on Yom Kippur at 2:15 PM at Winchester Town Hall. The other sessions are: *Oct 4, Nov 1, Jan 3, Feb 7*; 7:30 PM at Temple Shir Tikvah

Free to all temple members – no registration

A series of five discussions with Rabbi Rim on how the Jewish tradition, wisdom and ritual can help us move through life. The themes will include: The Changing Configurations of our Companions, Rapids: Expected and Unexpected, Change: the One Constant, How to Take Pleasure in the Still Water.

USING RITUAL AS THE GLUE TO FAMILY LIFE

With Judy Elkin

Oct 3 & 31, Nov 21, Dec 19, Jan 23, Feb 13, Mar 13, Apr 10, May 8; 10–11:30 AM at Vinson-Owen School, 75 Johnson Rd., Winchester.

Free to all temple members – no registration

From bedtime to holiday celebrations and everything in between, there are many opportunities to create rituals that not only provide lasting memories but also shape a powerful family identity. In her book, *The Heart of a Family*, Meg Cox writes: “The power of ritual to comfort and heal and teach is enormous, and all parents have this power: they just need to know how it works.” Harness the power you have and explore the ways in which you can craft the rituals that create the family life you most want. The working definition of “ritual” includes embracing and adapting commonly known Jewish rituals as well as generic family rituals. We’ll reflect on readings in small and large groups as well as engage in exercises designed to clarify how rituals can help us enhance and strengthen our family life.

MUSSAR

With Lisa Goodman, Mussar Group facilitator

Oct 17 & 31, Nov 14, Dec 5 & 19, Jan 9 & 23, Feb 6 & 27, Mar 13 & 27 (snow date). 7– 9 PM at Temple Shir Tikvah.

\$120 fee (+ cost of books) – Registration required. Class size limited to 12. Contact: lsgoodman@gmail.com

The course will focus on eight traits related to Lovingkindness, including Honor, Equanimity, Compassion, Truth, and Forgiveness. With each trait, the goal is not to achieve a single "ideal" standard but to seek our own individual balance. We will use the book *The Sacred Art of Lovingkindness* by Rabbi Rami Shapiro, supplemented by texts from the Mussar tradition. We'll also refer to the book *Everyday Holiness* by Alan Morinis - a contemporary explanation and exploration of the Mussar tradition.

FOCUS ON ISRAEL

SHABBATON (a Shabbat learning experience)

Hosted by the Israel committee and the Adult Learning committee

Oct 29 regular Shabbat service

Oct 30 9 AM – 3 PM

\$15 per person. For more info contact Bruce Bell, 617-484-6302, bell.feins@verizon.net.

This Shabbaton, featuring presentations, workshops, and entertainment, will help us understand Israeli cultural and societal factors that have affected the peace process in the past and continue to influence efforts toward peace. Topics will include the wide-ranging effects of immigration; the impact of religion on political behavior; and technology and the economic future of Israel. Bagel breakfast and lunch on Saturday.

THE MODERN JEWISH SETTLEMENT OF ISRAEL

With Dr. Larry Lowenthal, National Senior Advisor to the American Jewish Committee

March 26; 7–9 PM at Temple Shir Tikvah.

\$15 at the door – no registration

The lecture will cover the History of the Zionist Movement in Palestine, including Herzl and the Dreyfus Trial in France, the five major Aliyot or waves of Jewish immigration to Palestine, the ongoing conflict with the indigenous Arab population, the struggle for Jewish independence in 1947, and the official proclamation of statehood in 1948. The lecture will outline the basic historical contours of one of the most intractable conflicts in modern history – the ongoing war between Arabs and Jews in the Middle East.

LANDSCAPE, PEOPLE, AND CULTURE: an audiovisual exploration of contemporary Israel

With Ornit Barkai, Research Associate, Brandeis Hadassah Institute

April 9; 7– 9 PM at Temple Shir Tikvah

\$15 at the door – no registration

Israeli documentary filmmaker Ornit Barkai will present artistic photography of contemporary Israel, depicting both locations and people, along with related Israeli popular music. In its exploration of contemporary Israeli culture and society, the presentation will include assorted images from Ms. Barkai's private collection and photos by professional and semi-

professional photographers, as well as music from a variety of sources.

ISRAELI FILM FESTIVAL

Dec 4, Jan 8, Feb 5, Mar 12; 7:30 PM at Temple Shir Tikvah

Free to all temple members – no registration

Movie Night is Back! Spend a cold winter's evening watching some lively and thought-provoking movies with Jewish and/or Israeli themes.

In addition:

ADULT BAR/BAT MITZVAH

With Rabbi Rim Meiowitz and Cantor Beth Levin

An adult bar/bat mitzvah class leading to a ceremony, including Torah reading and d'var Torah, in the spring of 2012. Will meet twice-a-month for two-hours for approximately 18 months; will involve some outside reading. Knowledge of Hebrew is not a pre-requisite, but must be gained concurrently with the class. Please contact Rim or Beth if you are interested in this life-changing experience.

About the Instructors/Speakers:

Ali S. Asani, Professor of the Practice of Indo-Muslim Languages and Culture at Harvard University. After the 9/11 incidents, Professor Asani conducted workshops and presentations at various public forums, aimed at improving the understanding of Islam and its role in Muslim societies. More recently, he has been active at the Islamic Cultural Studies Initiative, an international professional development program for secondary school teachers in Kenya, Pakistan and Texas intended to promote a culturally based approach to the study of Islam and Muslim societies. In 2002, Asani was awarded the Harvard Foundation medal for his outstanding contributions to improving intercultural and race relations at Harvard and in the nation

Ornit Barkai has worked in the newsrooms of WGBH-TV, WBZ-TV, IBA-TV, Monitor Cable News and broadcasted news, interviews and music programs on WERS-FM, WTPP-AM, WUNR-AM and IDF radio. Nowadays an independent documentary filmmaker, she produces, directs, videotapes and edits documentaries and multimedia projects for educational organizations and private clients. Barkai's film credits include the documentaries *From Anne Frank's Window*, *A Day in Poland*, *Past Forward* (work-in-progress) which all explore post-Holocaust narratives from multi-generational perspectives, *A Moment of Silence* and *Manhattan Moments* which highlight 9/11 themes, and *Let Them Fly* which documents Jewish youth leadership in New England and is part of the media curriculum of the Boston Bureau of Jewish Education. Ornit holds an M.A. in Mass Communications/TV Production from Emerson College.

Shahar Colt, Assistant Youth & Education Director, Temple Shir Tikvah Shahar grew up in the Boston area. She belonged to Temple Israel as a child and has taught and worked with youth there as an adult. She has also worked at other area schools including the Winsor School, the Keshet Community Hebrew School/After School program, and the Tisch School of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University.

Judy Elkin, M.Ed, Certified Professional and Personal Coach Judy Elkin is a long-time Jewish educator and a certified personal and professional coach, working with individuals, couples, and professional teams. As a Jewish educator Judy has worked with adolescents, parents, parent educators, teachers, graduate students and was the founding Director of Ramah Family Camp. To learn more about Judy as a coach, visit www.judyelkin.com.

Lisa Goodman, LCSW

Goodman facilitated “A Season of Mussar” (Spring 2009) and “The Jewish Spiritual Path of Mussar” (Spring 2010) at Temple Shir Tikvah. Lisa is a 2009 graduate of the Manchim program of The Mussar Institute, which trains Mussar group facilitators. She has studied Mussar with Alan Morinis, author of *Climbing Jacob's Ladder* and *Everyday Holiness*, and continues to learn with Rabbi David Jaffe, who teaches Mussar in the Boston area.

Dr. Lawrence D. Lowenthal is the National Senior Advisor to the American Jewish Committee. He was the Executive Director of the Greater Boston Chapter of the American Jewish Committee, the pioneer Human Relations agency in the United States, for the last 17 years. He is also a visiting professor at Northeastern University. Dr. Lowenthal has been involved in interfaith and intergroup activities, written extensively about human rights issues for the local press, appeared frequently on radio and TV, hosted a local radio interview program, and taught courses on Jewish history, film, literature, and humor. Dr. Lowenthal moved to Israel with his family in 1970. From 1970-1975, he taught English and American Literature at Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University. Drafted into a new immigrant unit of the Israeli Army in 1974, he went through basic training on the West Bank, anti-aircraft training in Herzilya, and served a tour of duty in Sharm el-Sheik at the southern tip of the Sinai Desert. Dr. Lowenthal received his B.A. in English from Northwestern University, and his Ph.D. in English from New York University.

Rabbi Natan Margalit has written on and taught innovative approaches to Jewish texts, Jewish spirituality, gender and Judaism and the environment. In 2003 he conceived and directed a conference on Neo Hasidism. He has been affiliated with Jewish Renewal since 1999 and has taught at Elat

Chayyim, the Aleph Kallah, Ohalah as well as in many synagogues across the county. He studied for many years in Israel and received rabbinic ordination at The Jerusalem Seminary in 1990. He earned a Ph.D. from U.C. Berkeley in 2001 in Near Eastern Studies. He has taught at Pardes Institute, the Yakar Learning Center, Bard College, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and currently teaches at the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College in Boston.

Gregory Mobley, Professor of Old Testament, Andover Newton Theological School. He has done archaeological fieldwork in Israel and editorial work for the Dead Sea Scrolls project. In 2000 he received the Society of Biblical Literature Regional Scholar award. Mobley is an ordained American Baptist minister. He is active in Christian-Jewish relations both in Massachusetts and, especially, through a partnership with Hebrew College.

Rabbi Or Rose, Associate Dean, Rabbinical School, Hebrew College. He is the author of two books, *God in All Moments: Spiritual and Practical Wisdom from the Hasidic Masters* (Jewish Lights), and *Abraham Joshua Heschel: Man of Spirit, Man of Action* (JPS). Rabbi Rose was recently selected as a member of the Shalom Hartman Institute's Inaugural North American Scholar's Circle.

Ronit Ziv-Kreger, PhD, Judaic Studies and Family Education Consultant, and a native of Israel. She has a passion for building bridges between contemporary life and Jewish texts. While living in Israel, Ronit created and directed an empowerment program in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, which continues to run in 50 schools. Currently, she teaches *Ikkarim*, a course on Jewish values and the journey of Jewish parenting and *Me'ah*. Ronit will also serve on the faculty of Boston's Jewish Community Day School (JCDS) this year. Dr. Ziv-Kreger is a graduate of a two year intensive Jewish education program at Pardes Institute in Jerusalem, as well as a cantorial program at Jerusalem's Hebrew Union College.

ADULT LEARNING REGISTRATION: due prior to first class meeting. Make checks out to Temple Shir Tikvah, 34 Vine St., Winchester, MA, 01890. No refunds due to missed classes. Scholarships available for all fee classes – contact rabbirim@gmail.com.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone/Cell: _____

E-Mail: _____

Exploring the Abrahamic Traditions \$84

Jewish Mysticism \$60

Beyond the Bible \$72

Mussar \$120

Intro to Hebrew \$96 per session

Shabbaton \$15