

2010 - 2011
5771

Adult Education



We your new Adult Education Committee Co-chairs, Beverly Katz and Helen Towers wish you a *Shanah Tovah!* We want to invite you to join us as we continue a journey of Jewish learning. For Beverly, the varied and inspiring Jewish education offered at CRS is a far cry from the rote learning of Hebrew and not much more that she remembers from her small-town background in the 1950s and for Helen, who was not raised Jewish, a continuing exploration of Jewish learning following her Adult Bat Mitzvah at Congregation Rodeph Sholom. How fortunate we are to be here.

This year our clergy will be teaching throughout the year in a new initiative, reaching out to the congregation in an unprecedented way. Our Adult Education program will inspire with new themes and teachers on Tuesday evenings, when classes in Jewish literature and history, philosophy and spirituality will be led by Rodeph Sholom congregants and others connected to the Congregation. We will continue to offer educational activities in the morning, afternoon and evening, providing opportunities for all who are interested but may have time constraints in their busy lives. Look for invited speakers as well as opportunities to share events with others in the greater Jewish community of New York. Details about Winter and Spring Shabbatons and our continuing programs are in this brochure.

Many times we think of Jewish education as something mainly for the children—to introduce them to their Jewish heritage and to prepare them for Bar and Bat Mitzvah—but really, Jewish education is for all of us, whatever our age. We encourage you to take the first step. Whether you have never taken a class or if you are a veteran, we hope you will participate in these great community opportunities. We also invite you to join our Adult Education Committee and share your new ideas with us all. May 5771 be a year of health and happiness as we learn together.

Highlights for this year include:

- **New Clergy Initiative:** An invitation to study and relationship
- Tuesday evening courses with scholars on literature (the poetry of Yehuda Amichai); history (the Jews of Renaissance Italy); spirituality (Personal and Spiritual Pathways through the Psalms); and theology (Franz Rosenzweig's *The Star of Redemption*)
- Winter Shabbaton featuring Cantor Jack Mendelson and Spring Shabbaton featuring Rabbi Michael Marmur
- Special speaker evenings, book celebrations, and dance workshops
- Hebrew, Music, and Basic Judaism
- Morning and mid-day classes on topics including gender and Judaism, the ethics of Jewish eating, and spirituality for Baby Boomers
- Study groups for parents, therapists and physicians



7 West 83rd Street
New York, NY 10024
Phone: 212.362.8800
Fax: 212.877.6526
www.rodephsholom.org

*Beverly Katz and Helen Towers,
Adult Education Committee Co-Chairs*

*Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.,
Clergy Liaison*

Debra Barnes, Editor

ADULT EDUCATION REGISTRATION



7 West 83rd Street, New York, NY 10024
Phone: 212-362-8800

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (H): _____ Phone (W): _____ Phone (cell): _____

E-mail Address: _____

To register, complete this form and mail to the attention of Debra Barnes. Make your check payable to Congregation Rodeph Sholom. There is a fee of \$36 if you wish to take one class and \$72 if you wish to take two or more classes. There will be an additional fee for each class for non-members. Please contact Debra Barnes at 646-454-3029 or dbarnes@crsnyc.org to find out costs if you are not a member.

Please check the classes you wish to take:

Tuesday Evening Courses

- Yehuda Amichai | Rabbi Cutter _____
- The Jews of Renaissance Italy | Dr. Siegmund _____
- Kol Haneshama | Rabbi Ellenson _____
- Franz Rosenzweig | Dr. Ruttenberg _____

Essentials of Judaism

- Basic Judaism | Rabbi Kaye _____
- Monday Night Beginning Hebrew Class | Sara Rosen _____
- Tuesday Morning Beginning Hebrew Class | Sara Rosen _____
- Wednesday Morning Beginning Hebrew Class | Sara Rosen _____
- Monday Night Continuing Hebrew Class | Sara Rosen _____
- Wednesday Morning Continuing Hebrew Class | Sara Rosen _____

Daytime Classes

- We Answer to a Higher Authority | Rabbi Laufer _____
- Text Out of Context | Rabbi Myers _____
- Seminar in Jewish History | Rabbi Grushcow _____
- VaYanifash | Rabbi Kaye _____

Can you help expand the Rodeph Sholom Adult Education program?

Whatever you can contribute will be invaluable in covering costs for our amazing array of classes and guest speakers. Consider adding \$10 or \$100 (or more if you are able) over and above your class fees. Your gift will be greatly appreciated and will help create many possibilities. If you have any questions or would like to discuss a Naming Opportunity, please contact Deborah Siegel, Director of Development, at 646-454-3050.

Please enclose a check for \$36 if you sign up for one class and \$72 if you sign up for two or more classes. \$ _____

Additional contribution to Adult Education programming \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

On behalf of the clergy, let me say how excited we are at the Adult Education brochure that you hold in your hands. If you are looking to engage with Jewish wisdom on anything from parenting to aging, history to spirituality, you've come to the right place. Our building is buzzing with learning at all times.

This year, the team of clergy and educators will play a new role. Keep your eyes open for a personal invitation to connect with us through study. Together, we will take on the significant questions of Judaism, and the search for meaning in our lives. Our Tuesday night classes, traditionally at the heart of our offerings, will draw on the wealth of knowledge of congregants and others connected to Rodeph Sholom. We are grateful to them for an invigorating line-up of classes.

Many thanks are due to our new adult education chairs, Beverly Katz and Helen Towers, and to Debra Barnes, for all her hard work on this brochure.

The rabbis taught: "Do not say, when I have leisure, I will study, for you may never have leisure" (Pirkei Avot 2:4). In the midst of this busy city, hundreds of Rodeph Sholom congregants make time to study, and find it profoundly worthwhile. I hope that you join us.

Warmly,

Rabbi Lisa Grushcow
Clergy Liaison, Adult Education



ROBERT N. LEVINE, D.D., SENIOR RABBI

LISA J. GRUSHCOW, D.PHIL., ASSOCIATE RABBI

SARI R. LAUFER, ASSOCIATE RABBI

BENJAMIN H. SPRATT, ASSISTANT RABBI

REBECCA GARFEIN, SENIOR CANTOR

SHAYNA DE LOWE, ASSOCIATE CANTOR

EPHRAIM BIRAN, CANTOR EMERITUS

LEORA KAYE, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, RABBI

MELANIE COOPERMAN, CANTORIAL INTERN

TUESDAY EVENING CLASSES

YEHUDA AMICHAÏ: STATIONS OF JEWISH GENIUS

Rabbi William Cutter, Ph.D.

Tuesdays at 7:15 PM
October 5, 12, 19, 26

Our course will be divided into four of the major themes of Amichai's creative life:

- 1 – Autumn Wisdom of Ecclesiastes
- 2 – Jerusalem Subversions
- 3 – The Portrait of the Poet as Young Warrior
- 4 – The New Hebrew Poet and Echoes of Europe



Rabbi William Cutter, Ph.D.

Yehuda Amichai was certainly Israel's best-known poet in foreign languages. Lionized in America, he was one of the "Literary Lions" of the New York Public Library, and Israel's best-known poet abroad. He joined a remarkable literary community of major poets and narrative writers, and created an Israel that transcended politics and society, while remaining engaged in the daily lives of Israel's people. Our task will be to situate him these many years since his death in the continuing creative life of Israel and American Jewry.

Rabbi William Cutter, Ph.D. is Steinberg Emeritus Professor of Human Relations at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, where he held the Paul and Trudy Steinberg Chair in Human Relations, and was Professor of Modern Hebrew Literature and Education. He has taught at HUC-JIR since 1965. His most recent publication is Healing and the Jewish Imagination: Spiritual and Practical Perspectives on Judaism and Health, (Jewish Lights Publishing, 2007). He is academic chairman for the Association of Reform Zionists (ARZA).

THE JEWS OF RENAISSANCE ITALY

Dr. Stefanie Siegmund

Tuesdays at 7:15 PM
November 9, 16, 30; December 7



Professor Stefanie Siegmund

Both before and after the well-known expulsion of the Jews from Spain and Portugal, there were Jews living in the Italian states. Their history and their culture during the era of the Renaissance is unique and its study brings us directly into the art, literature, statecraft, and religious developments of the times. In this class, immerse yourself into the world of archival texts and art that have been used to write the history of these Jews, and enter into the debates that surround their interpretation. Jews were a small minority in a deeply Christian world. We will focus on the image of the Jew in Christian eyes, and the nature of Jewish-Christian relations. We will look at literary, legal, and archival texts, as well as images of Jews in Christian and in Jewish art from the period of the Renaissance, 1350-1620, focusing on the cities of Rome, Florence, Perugia, Urbino, and Venice.

Dr. Stefanie Siegmund teaches early modern Jewish history and Jewish Women's Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary. During her previous ten year career in the History Department at the University of Michigan, her book on the Jews of Florence, The Medici State and the Ghetto of Florence: The Construction of an Early Modern Jewish Community, (Stanford University Press, 2006) won two major prizes in European and Italian history. Dr. Siegmund enjoys trips to the Italian archives and art collections, her children attend the Rodeph Sholom Day School.

TUESDAY EVENING CLASSES

KOL HANESHAMA T'HALLEL YAH – PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS THROUGH THE PSALMS

Rabbi Jacqueline Koch Ellenson

Tuesdays at 7:15 PM

January 18, 25; February 1, 8



Rabbi Jacqueline Koch Ellenson

This class will engage us in a personal and spiritual journey through selected Psalms. We will study different varieties of psalms, and learn how they can support us on our spiritual and religious journeys. This ancient literature is a portal for all of human experience. In this course, we will strive for a personal and intimate exploration of the meaning of the Psalms being discussed, through prayer, contemplative practices, and discussion. Open minds and hearts are all that are needed.

Rabbi Jacqueline Koch Ellenson currently serves as the Director of the Women's Rabbinic Network, the international support and advocacy organization for women in the Reform rabbinate. Rabbi Ellenson is the immediate past Chair of the Board of the Hadassah Foundation. She also serves on the Boards of the Rodeph Sholom School in New York and the Yedidya Center for Jewish Spiritual Direction. She has participated in rabbinic enrichment programs sponsored by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality. She is a spiritual director and teaches classes in spiritual formation. Rabbi Ellenson and her extended family have been members of Congregation Rodeph Sholom since Jackie was a teenager.

FRANZ ROSENZWEIG, *THE STAR OF REDEMPTION*: ON BEING AND BEING JEWISH

Dr. Howard Rutenberg

Tuesdays at 7:15 PM

May 10, 17, 24, 31



Dr. Howard Rutenberg

Franz Rosenzweig wrote *The Star of Redemption* on postal cards in 1918 while serving at the front in the German army towards the end of World War I. As Moses Maimonides adapted Aristotelian philosophy to the interpretation of Torah in the high Middle Ages and Baruch Spinoza developed the "geometric method" to provide a scientific treatment of the relation of God to man and the world in the 17th Century, so Franz Rosenzweig developed his own version of "phenomenology." He used this new method to turn against the entire history of philosophy, from Parmenides to Hegel, in order to return to the insights of the Hebrew Bible. Dr. Rutenberg will guide the class through this classic of modern Jewish theology, making its ideas and arguments accessible to those not trained in theology or philosophy.

Dr. Howard Rutenberg has taught philosophy at York College, CUNY for over forty years, and his doctorate is from the University of Chicago. He studied psychoanalysis at the Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies to develop his teaching methods and was his department's chairperson for 16 years. He is a long-time congregant of Congregation Rodeph Sholom.

THE MA'ARIV SERVICE

Tuesdays at 6:30 PM

Have you ever wanted to take a moment in the middle of the week to pray? Whether you are looking for a spiritual break, a chance to say Kaddish, or the mitzvah of supporting others, you are warmly invited to join our Ma'ariv evening service.

Our weekly, lay-led service is held every Tuesday at 6:30 PM in the Hahn Chapel. Join us to pray and to learn, to support and to connect. If you are coming to say Kaddish and want to ensure there is a minyan, please contact Rabbi Grushcow in advance at 646-454-3025 or at rabbigrushcow@crsnyc.org.

SPEAKER SERIES

GET ME OUT: A HISTORY OF CHILDBIRTH FROM THE GARDEN OF EDEN TO THE SPERM BANK

Randi Hutter Epstein, M.D. | Tuesday, December 14, 7:15 PM
Co-sponsored by Sisterhood and One Voice to Save Choice

Physician and medical journalist Randi Hutter Epstein will speak about her book, *Get Me Out: A History of Childbirth from the Garden of Eden to the Sperm Bank*, her engrossing survey of the history of childbirth. According to Epstein, even with all of today's whiz-bang technology, "we are still in the dark about so many things that go into making babies."

Randi Hutter Epstein, M.D. is a medical writer and adjunct professor at The Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University. She is also an editor of the Yale Journal of Humanities and Medicine. Her articles have appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Daily Telegraph, Parents, More, Harper's Bazaar, among other newspapers and magazines. Get Me Out is her first book.

UNDOING THE INQUISITION

Rabbi Juan Mejía | Tuesday, January 11, 8:15 PM | At the 92nd Street Y
Co-sponsored by Congregation Rodeph Sholom

Forcibly converted during The Inquisition, many Jews continued to practice their religion in secrecy for several decades, after which time some were able to escape to lands of religious tolerance, while others assimilated into the Catholic majority. Or did they? Throughout the world today, thousands of Spanish- and Portugese-speaking people maintain "family customs" that bear striking resemblance to traditional Jewish customs. Join Rabbi Juan Mejía, who discovered his Jewish ancestry at age fifteen, in exploring the world of Anusim (descendants of those converted by force or coercion) and learn about his work with Anusim communities in Latin America and the American southwest.

Presented by the 92Y Resource Center for Jewish Diversity with *Be'chol Lashon*. Congregants of Rodeph Sholom will receive a discount for this class.

Rabbi Juan Mejía was born in Bogotá, Colombia. After discovering his family's Jewish roots, he embarked on a spiritual journey that led him back to the religion and the people of his ancestors. He received rabbinic ordination from the Rabbinical School of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in New York.

HOW I HAVE CHANGED MY MIND

Rabbi Neil Gillman, Ph.D. | Tuesday, March 15, 7:15 PM

Learn how an unsophisticated, young, fundamentalist rabbinical student became, some fifty years later, a professor of Jewish philosophy and a vocal advocate of a radically liberal approach to Jewish thought and practice, by learning the hows and whys of being able to change his mind.

Rabbi Neil Gillman, Ph. D. is the author of several books and essays, his most recent book is Doing Jewish Theology: God, Torah, and Israel in Modern Judaism. In addition to being a regular contributor to the "Sabbath Week" column in The Jewish Week, Rabbi Gillman is a member of the Sh'ma Advisory Committee. He also serves as a Faculty Fellow at The Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Congregation Emanu-El in New York City.

THE CHOOSING: A RABBI'S JOURNEY FROM SILENT NIGHTS TO HIGH HOLY DAYS

Rabbi Andrea Myers | Tuesday, May 3, 7:15 PM

In *The Choosing*, Rabbi Myers tells stories about her unique path to the rabbinate: leaving behind her Lutheran upbringing on Long Island, coming out as a lesbian, discovering Judaism in college, moving to Israel, converting to Judaism, and returning to New York to become a rabbi. *The Choosing* also describes the adventures that emerge when she brings her new identity home to her German-Italian, all-American, well-intentioned suburban family, and when she marries another rabbi (our own Rabbi Grushcow) and creates a family of her own. *The Choosing* combines humor with rabbinic reflection to look at the experiences of a convert in an unprecedented way. There will be a reading and question and answer period.

Rabbi Andrea Myers has led congregations from the Rocky Mountains to the Borscht Belt, and has taught Adult Education across NYC and around the world. She has also been part of the faculty, administration, and alumni leadership of the Academy of Jewish Religion. The Choosing is her first book, and will be published by Rutgers University Press in Spring 2011.

WINTER SHABBATON

Cantor Jacob Mendelson | Friday, January 28 and Saturday, January 29
The Winter Shabbaton is generously being underwritten by the Dora and Leo Diamond Day Program Fund



Cantor Jacob Mendelson

Friday, January 28, during Erev Shabbat Services, 6:00 PM

Cantor Jacob Mendelson will lend his magnificent voice and *neshama* (soul) to our Erev Shabbat Services to be followed by his award-winning film, *A Cantor's Tale*, with a question and answer session to follow.

Saturday, January 29, during Chapel Shabbat Morning Service, 10:00 AM

Cantor Mendelson will participate in the Service.

Saturday, January 29, Lunch after Services

The Cantor will demonstrate and discuss the styles of Cantors from the Golden Age, introduce his family *zemirot* (songs) to the congregation, and explain that the DNA for *hazzanut* is contained therein.

Cantor Jacob Mendelson of Temple Israel, a large Conservative congregation in White Plains, NY, teaches Reform and Conservative cantorial programs and is the beloved teacher of Cantors Garfein and De Lowe. Cantor Mendelson grew up in Borough Park, Brooklyn, during the 1940s and '50s, when it was a largely Jewish neighborhood and when cantors were as famous and adored as baseball players. Erik Greenberg Anjou's documentary about Cantor Mendelson, A Cantor's Tale, is both a biographical portrait and an exploration of the tradition of Jewish liturgical music in America.

SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Rabbi Sari R. Laufer

Rabbi Benjamin H. Spratt

Saturdays, throughout the year, 9:00 – 10:00 AM

"Turn it and turn it, for everything is in it." (Pirkei Avot 5:26)

In its many years of existence, our Torah Study Group has found this teaching to be true. From archaeology to theology, we use every lens to gain insight into our sacred texts, and, as the discussions around the table show, we do find everything there.

The group features a lively exchange of ideas and interpretations. No previous experience is necessary – just the desire to engage with the text. Come join us!

SPRING SHABBATON

Rabbi Michael Marmor

Friday, April 1 and Saturday, April 2



Rabbi Michael Marmor

Friday, April 1, during Erev Shabbat Services, 6:00 PM

Impurity and Opportunity: A Progressive Jew Looks at Israel

Saturday, April 2, during Chapel Shabbat Morning Service, 10:00 AM

Rhythm and Renewal: On Jewish Prayer

Saturday, April 2, Lunch after Services

The Fifth Cup: A Theology of Militant Moderation

Rabbi Michael Marmor is the Vice-President for Academic Affairs of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. He has lived in Israel since 1984 and is a graduate of HUC-JIR's Israeli Rabbinic Program. For six years he served as Rabbi of the Ohel Avraham Congregation and teacher at the Leo Baeck Education Center in Haifa. He then returned to HUC-Jerusalem to become Dean of the Jerusalem School, a position he held for twelve years until his appointment as Vice-President. His Ph.D. from the Hebrew University focused on the thinking of Abraham Joshua Heschel.

IN MEMORY'S KITCHEN: A LEGACY FROM THE WOMEN OF TEREZIN

Cara De Silva

Saturday, March 5, 12:30 PM

This haunting book, which contains a little known form of Holocaust literature, became a small phenomenon when published. Consisting largely of painfully flawed recipes set down by starving women in the Czechoslovakian concentration camp of Terezin, the "Paradise Ghetto," it is best understood as a "memoir" in food rather than a cookbook proper. The recipes "speak," and their missing steps bear witness. Powerful identity markers, food memories are central to who we are. Recording these traditional dishes can be construed as an act of psychological resistance, an attempt to defy obliteration by those interned at this way station to the lagers in the East. Certainly, nothing could demonstrate better the power of food to nourish not only the body but the spirit.

Cara De Silva is an independent scholar, a writer, and an award-winning journalist. She writes about a broad range of subjects, including food, food history, culture, and ethnicity

ESSENTIALS OF JUDAISM



Rabbi Leora Kaye

BASIC JUDAISM

Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

THE JEWISH HOME AND LIFE CYCLE

Rabbi Leora Kaye

October 13, 20, 27

November 3, 10, 17, 30

SHABBAT AND THE FESTIVALS

Rabbi Sari R. Laufer – January 12, 19, 26

Rabbi Benjamin H. Spratt – February 2, 9

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil. – February 16; March 2, 9

THE VOCABULARY OF JEWISH TEXTS

Rabbi Leora Kaye

April 6, 13, 27

May 4, 11, 18, 25

June 1

This course is open to all who want the opportunity to take a closer look at why and how Jewish rituals have developed and how these rituals create meaning in our lives.

“Basic Judaism was a fantastic introduction to Jewish history, culture and ritual. I learned to understand and appreciate the religion while I met a group of people like me who were exploring Judaism. The instructor was warm and wonderful and it felt like I was being brought into a new family.”



Sara Rosen

HEBREW

Sara Rosen

October through May

BEGINNING HEBREW

Beginning Hebrew students will need to purchase a practice book at the beginning of class for \$30. The books will be available from Sara Rosen.

Mondays, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
(first class October 18)

Wednesdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM
(first class October 20)

Tuesdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM
(first class October 19)

CONTINUING HEBREW

Mondays, 7:30 – 8:30 PM
(first class October 18)

Wednesdays, 9:00 – 10:00 AM
(first class October 20)

Which Hebrew Class Should I Take?

Beginning Hebrew. This course, for those with little or no knowledge of Hebrew, begins with the aleph-bet and moves on to reading the *siddur* (prayer book).

Continuing Hebrew. Continuing students will extend their Hebrew knowledge, learn more about the prayers and sharpen their ability to read. Participants should have completed Beginning Hebrew Level I or have a basic knowledge of the Hebrew aleph-bet.

ADULT B'NEI MITZVAH

Rabbi Sari R. Laufer

Classes will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 PM beginning October 12.

The Adult B'nei Mitzvah Service will be held on June 4, 2011.

Chant from the Torah. Engage with Jewish questions. Connect with your community.

Become an Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

This program is designed for adults who want to renew their commitment to Judaism and Jewish learning, whether or not they became Bar/Bat Mitzvah at the age of thirteen. Students will have the opportunity to study with our clergy, educators, and fellow congregants, and will consider Jewish traditions and texts from an adult perspective. We will ask what it means to be part of the *brit*, or covenant, between God and Israel; how the study of Torah can speak to our lives; how to pray; how to be a "religious" Reform Jew; and much, much more. The Adult B'nei Mitzvah class offers a profound opportunity to enrich your Jewish life.

If you are interested, you can still join in. Please contact Rabbi Laufer as soon as possible at 646-454-3026.

THE JOYOUS SOUNDS OF MUSIC AT RODEPH SHOLOM



Adult Volunteer Choir
Cantor Rebecca Garfein

No experience necessary, just a basic knowledge of Hebrew and a desire to sing, enjoy, and learn about our Jewish musical heritage!

Cantor Rebecca Garfein

PARTICIPATE IN THE SECOND DAY OF ROSH HASHANAH



Under the direction of Cantor Shayna De Lowe
and J. David Williams, organist

Friday, September 10

Rehearsal: Tuesday, August 24 at 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Final Rehearsal: Friday, September 10 at 8:15 AM

Service at 9:30 AM

Cantor Shayna De Lowe

CELEBRATE CHANUKAH AT CRS!

Friday, December 3 during Erev Shabbat Services

Rehearsals: Mondays at 6:30 – 7:30 PM

November 8, 15, 22, 29

On the third night of Chanukah, our Cantors, choirs, and musicians will celebrate The Festival of Lights through song.

Questions: please contact the Cantors' Study at 646-454-3039

2010–2011 ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE: ALICIA SVIGALS, STEVE WEINTRAUB AND THE CENTER FOR TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE

BEYOND HORA: REINTRODUCING JEWISH MUSIC AND DANCE TRADITIONS

Rodeph Sholom is pleased to welcome as our guests Alicia Svigals, Steven Weintraub, and members of the Center for Traditional Music and Dance. Alicia and Steve will illustrate how we can revive a rich and beautiful Jewish dance tradition. These dances bring joy and fun to a *simcha* and create a sense of community togetherness. They reflect the Jewish values of *koved* (respect) and *mentschlekhkeit* (being a good person).

Religious School students and parents will be invited to attend special workshops and Shabbat dinners throughout the year. The entire congregation is also invited to experience the joy and rich historical tradition of Jewish music and dance on the following dates:

Wednesday, September 29	Simchat Torah
Saturday, March 19	Purim
Friday, May 13	Yom Ha'atzmaut: Israel's Independence Day

Center for Traditional Music and Dance: One of the nation's pioneering folk arts organizations has helped New York City's immigrant communities maintain the vibrancy of their unique cultural heritage since 1968.

Alicia Svigals: The world's leading Klezmer fiddler and founder of the Grammy-winning Klezmatics, which she co-led for seventeen years.

Steve Weintraub: A choreographer, performer, and teacher, he is an internationally recognized authority on authentic Eastern European dance.

DAYTIME CLASSES

BROTHERHOOD TORAH STUDY

Rabbi Robert N. Levine, D.D.

Tuesdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM
October 12; November 9; March 8; April 12
All congregants are invited



Rabbi Robert N. Levine, D.D.

This year the Brotherhood of Rodeph Sholom is proud to offer a new model of Torah Study experience that allows us to explore answers and questions about what it means to be men and women in the modern Jewish world.

The Sessions will be organized in sets of two: the first will introduce the topic in detail; the second will include a panel of men and women who will react and respond to the initial session. Attendance at both sessions per topic is encouraged but not required.

Join us for this breakfast learning opportunity as we weave the wisdom of our tradition with our experiences. For more information, please email brotherhood@crsnyc.org.

From the Dust, From the Rib – Creating the Jewish Man and Jewish Woman

October 12; November 9

What is the meaning of gender in Judaism? What do our texts and traditions offer about the understanding of gender? What does it mean to be a man or a woman today?

The Disappearing Jewish Man

March 8; April 12

We finally live in a generation when Jewish women can have full access to a religious and spiritual life. But many researchers note that liberal temples also experience a decline in men's participation. What does this mean for synagogue life? What are the challenges facing Jewish men? Are there unique roles for men and women, or is this truly a "post-gender" era?

PRAY, LOVE, EAT! KASHRUT, ETHICS, AND JEWISH EATING IN MODERN AMERICA

Rabbi Sari R. Laufer

Mondays, Noon – 1:30 PM
November 1; February 7; April 4; June 6



Rabbi Sari R. Laufer

You know the old joke about the Jewish holidays, right? They tried to kill us, we won; let's eat! Well, between macro, organic, locavore, vegan, low-carb, high fiber, wheat-free, gluten-free, Atkins, South Beach, Jenny Craig, kosher-style, kosher, eco-kosher... it's hard to know what we should eat and how. This four-session class will examine *kashrut* and Jewish eating, from its legal and historical underpinnings to modern day questions of environmental sustainability and ethics, and how our tradition teaches us to sanctify the everyday act of eating. Bring lunch and your questions. You might even get some good recipes!

SEMINAR IN JEWISH HISTORY

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Thursdays, Noon – 1:30 PM
November 18; January 20; March 17; May 19



Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

This year's Jewish history seminar will feature books about the Jewish experience in New York City. From the founding of the Eldridge Street Synagogue in 1887 to the Depression and beyond, we will learn about the Jewish New York that our ancestors inhabited.

For each session, participants will read a significant book on Jewish history. Everyone will be expected to have read the book in advance so we can have a substantive discussion. Join us for an intellectually sophisticated and engaging approach to our history and identity as Jews.

Session 1 (November 18):

Landmark of the Spirit: The Eldridge Street Synagogue, by Annie Polland, (2009).

Session 2 (January 20):

Our Crowd: The Great Jewish Families of New York, by Stephen Birmingham (1967).

Session 3 (March 17):

New York Jews and the Great Depression: Uncertain Promise, by Beth S. Wenger (1996).

Session 4 (May 19):

The Rebbe: The Life and Afterlife of Menachem Mendel Schneerson, by Samuel Heilman and Menachem Friedman (2010).

TEXT OUT OF CONTEXT

Rabbi Andrea Myers

Thursdays: 8:00 – 9:00 AM

Session 1: October 14, 21, 28; November 4, 11, 18

Session 2: February 3, 10, 17; March 3, 10, 17

Session 3: April 28; May 5, 12, 19, 26; June 2



Rabbi Andrea Myers

Join this early morning series and start your day with study! This year we will look at central Jewish texts and how their content and meaning has changed in the hands of various Jewish denominations, and communities of other faiths. Examples include the story of Isaac in the Quran, Michelangelo's portrayal of Moses, and the Vatican's redaction of the Talmud.

We will also explore the use of biblical passages in Jewish liturgy where they are used to vastly different ends than in their original context. Add depth and breadth to your Jewish knowledge with this fascinating class.

VAYINAFASH: CAN YOU REALLY "RE-SOUL" YOURSELF?

Rabbi Leora Kaye

Fridays, Noon – 1:15 PM (A light lunch will be served at 11:30 AM)

October 15; November 5; February 4; April 8

If you consider yourself to be a Baby Boomer have you wondered what Judaism has to say about the next chapter of your life? Join in conversation with teachers Rabbi Rachael Cowan, Rabbi Jackie Ellenson, and Rabbi Robert Levine as they share their knowledge about how to add meaning to the Baby Boomer years. What is "re-souling?" It might be taking new risks, adding significant experiences to your day-to-day life, or even wrestling with questions like whether or not ritual can play a role in your life. Discuss these and other provocative questions with others who share your experience, and maybe some who don't.

HOW TO RAISE A MENTSCH

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Tuesdays, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

October 5, 19; November 2, 16, 30; December 14; January 4, 18; February 1, 15; March 1, 15, 29; April 12; May 3, 17, 31; June 14

Parenting raises profound questions, and we find better answers – and better questions – when we come together. This group offers an opportunity to ask the big questions of parenting in an intimate environment, informed by Jewish wisdom and inspired by real life.

This year we will read Wendy Mogel's new book, *The Blessing of a B Minus: Using Jewish Teachings to Raise Resilient Teenagers*. Parents of teens, tweens, and pre-teens (broadly defined) are all welcome.

"There are some very special things that happen in this discussion group... We represent large families, families with one child, adopted children, children with special needs, divorce, two moms, two dads, converts to Judaism, those raised as Orthodox, and everything in between. Parenting is not easy and can be a bit scary – so having this wonderful community to help guide our instincts is a real gift."

BABY MENTSCH

Rabbi Benjamin H. Spratt

Thursdays, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

October 7; November 4; December 2; January 6; February 3; March 3; April 7; May 5; June 16



Rabbi Benjamin H. Spratt

Hoping to raise a *Baby Einstein* or *Baby Mozart*? There's a brand for that. But what does it take to raise a "Baby Mensch"? How do we teach resilience and creativity? How do we balance safety with experience? How do we find the best parenting path for us and our children? Now, as a companion to our popular *How to Raise a Mensch* group, we offer a new

parenting group for early childhood! We invite you to join us as we explore the early years of parenting, the questions we face with our own children, and discuss how we can create the best environments for them. Connect with others, share questions and experiences, as we explore the wisdom of Judaism, early childhood research, and our resident parenting experts: you!

DAYTIME CLASSES

LUNCH TOGETHER

Co-sponsored by Adult Ed, the Caring Community Committee and Sisterhood

Tuesdays: 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

October 12; November 9; December 7; January 11; February 8; March 8; April 5; May 17; June 14

A dairy lunch will be served. A minimum contribution of \$8 per person is suggested.

The first program on October 12 will feature Jane Ziegelman, who will speak about her book, *97 Orchard*. In this book, Ms. Ziegelman examines five immigrant families from five different ethnic backgrounds and talks about how food helps people to maintain tradition, adapt to a new country, find comfort, and build community.

“Lunch Together is a delight for all to meet, greet and enjoy topics and speakers who present subjects we would otherwise not hear about during the normal course of the day. A unique time.”

SISTERHOOD

Through a variety of spiritual, educational, social, cultural and philanthropic activities, women of different ages, backgrounds and interests strengthen their ties to each other, deepen their connection to Judaism, and extend their influence in the world beyond. One of the most compelling experiences is the *Women of Rodeph Sholom Torah Study*. These gatherings, usually held in members' homes, offer women of the congregation a unique experience throughout the year. We explore text and identity in an intimate environment of Torah study and friendship, using the new *Women's Torah Commentary* as our guide. Sisterhood also offers popular programs such as The Prominent Women in the Congregation Luncheon and a cooking evening – highlights of the congregational year.

CLASSES FOR PROFESSIONALS

PHYSICIANS' STUDY GROUP

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Thursdays at 7:00 PM

November 4; December 16; February 17; May 5

How does your Judaism shape you, as a physician and as a person, and how might it be a resource in your life? The Physicians' Study Group aims to combine study about Jews and medicine with conversation about the lived experience of being a Jewish physician. Each session will be an opportunity to reflect on your practice, and emerge with insights that will be helpful in your professional and personal lives.

This year our discussions will be guided by selections from a new book by Rabbi William Cutter, Ph.D., *Midrash and Medicine: Healing Body and Soul in the Jewish Interpretive Tradition* (Jewish Lights, 2010). **We are fortunate that Rabbi Cutter will be with us for our first session on November 4.**

For physicians only.

THERAPISTS' STUDY GROUP

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Thursdays, 2:00 PM

October 14; November 18; December 9; January 13; February 10; March 17; April 14; May 12

Gathering monthly for conversation and connection, the Therapists' Study Group uses Jewish sources to explore key themes in the human experience. This year our focus will be on the lifecycle. Together, we will read biblical and rabbinic stories and study Jewish rituals related to conception and birth, coming of age, marriage, divorce, aging and death. We will look to discover how insights and perspectives from our tradition might be relevant to contemporary therapeutic practice. Along the way, we will share our own experiences as therapists and as Jews.

For therapists only.

For more information about the above two classes, contact Rabbi Grushcow at 646-454-3025, or rabbigrushcow@crsnyc.org.