

2011 - 2012
5772

Adult Education



Shanah Tovah!

The Adult Education Committee wishes you and your family a peaceful and joy-filled 5772 and invites you to join us throughout the year as we continue on our journey of Jewish learning. This will be an exciting year filled with a variety of activities occurring throughout the day, and we are sure there is something for everyone. We extend a warm invitation to those who have yet to participate, and welcome back our regulars who bring so much to the conversation. As you will see in the brochure, the classes encompass literature, history, spirituality, music, and will reflect the experiences of Jews in different lands including Eastern Europe, Spain, Israel, England and here at home.

Each year the Adult Education program inspires with new themes and teachers and this year we look forward to our Tuesday evening courses in Jewish literature and history. These sessions will be taught by learned congregants and others connected to the Congregation. This year is the time to revisit the important, sensitive and often neglected topic of end-of-life decisions, and we look forward to meaningful interactions and discussions of the issues involved. Early morning activities include Brotherhood Torah Study, introductory and continuing Hebrew, discussions of rabbinical texts and classes for parents. Noontime history and spirituality seminars continue. And the many evening sessions provide opportunities for all who are interested in Jewish learning but may have time constraints in their busy lives. Invited speakers include historians, theologians and experts in the legal arena, with Continuing Legal Education credit being a bonus for those who attend that particular session. The Winter and Spring Shabbatons will provide opportunities to engage in discussion on topical subjects and provide an international perspective. Our clergy will teach and guide us throughout the year, continuing the initiative of reaching out to the congregation through personal invitations to engage in Jewish learning.

We hope you will join us in these great community opportunities and look forward to seeing you throughout the year. Don't hesitate to inquire further if something interests you and please reach out and let us know if there are particular topics you would like to learn about. We also extend an invitation to join our Adult Education Committee and share your new ideas with us all. May 5772 be a year of health and happiness as we learn together.

Beverly Katz and Helen Towers
Adult Education Committee Co-Chairs



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

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

SARI R. LAUFER, ASSOCIATE RABBI

BENJAMIN H. SPRATT, ASSOCIATE RABBI

REBECCA GARFEIN, SENIOR CANTOR

SHAYNA DE LOWE, ASSOCIATE CANTOR

EPHRAIM BIRAN, CANTOR EMERITUS

LEORA KAYE, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, RABBI

BRIAN IMMERMANN, RABBINIC INTERN

BEN ELLERIN, CANTORIAL INTERN

EVENING EVENTS & CLASSES

THE ANATOMY OF ISRAEL'S SURVIVAL: AN EVENING WITH HIRSH GOODMAN

Hirsh Goodman

Wednesday, September 21
7:00 PM



Hirsh Goodman

Hirsh Goodman, renowned Israeli journalist and security expert, will speak about his book, *The Anatomy of Israel's Survival*. The book assesses Israel's strategic situation and describes a way forward. Goodman will also be able to speak about news regarding Israel and the UN.

Hirsh Goodman is a senior research associate at the Institute for National Security Studies at Tel Aviv University. Prior to joining INSS, Goodman was the vice president of the Jerusalem Post. Between 1986 and 1989, he was the strategic fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

THE MA'ARIV SERVICE

Tuesdays, 6:30 PM

Have you ever wanted to take a moment in the middle of the week and 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 in our evening service.

Our weekly, lay-led Ma'ariv 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.

GIVING VOICE TO A GENERATION OF CHANGE: THE WRITING OF SHOLOM ALEICHEM

Jessica Kirzane

Tuesdays: 7:15 PM
October 25; November 1, 15, 22



Jessica Kirzane

Sholom Aleichem was a foundational writer of Yiddish literature whose novellas, short stories, and monologues touched thousands of readers, addressing the chaos, despair, and hope that could be found in the rapidly changing moment of the late 19th century. In our discussions, we will read from Sholom Aleichem's writing in English translation, consider its literary merit and historical contexts, and consider how it changed over time. Most of the reading will be done in class, with the exception of the November 15 discussion on *Tevye the Dairyman*, for which the text should be prepared ahead of time.

We will discuss:

October 25: *Stempenyu, The Trial of Shomer*

November 1: *Menachem Mendl, Dreyfus in Kasrilevke*

November 15: *Tevye the Dairyman*

November 22: *The Miracle of Hoshanah Rabah, The Man from Buenos Aires*

Please bring a copy of *Tevye the Dairyman and the Railroad Stories* (translated by Hillel Halkin).

Jessica Kirzane, a congregant of Rodeph Sholom, is a PhD student in Yiddish Studies at Columbia University. She received her BA in Jewish Studies and English Literature from the University of Virginia in 2008. Jessica currently teaches Yiddish language at Columbia University.

“As a busy professional, these were stolen hours from a busy life, but they brought me, and continue to bring me, the greatest personal satisfaction. My respect and love of Jewish traditions has deepened, as I am conscious of the generations of learners who preceded me.”

THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE IN SPAIN

Dr. Jane Gerber
Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Tuesdays, 7:15 PM
January 3, 10, 17



Dr. Jane Gerber

This three-part series will be held in advance of the congregational trip to Spain being planned for March 2012. Everyone is welcome to attend the class, whether or not you plan on coming on the trip.

Session One:

The distinctiveness of Sephardic Jewish History and the memory of Spain for contemporary Jews.

Session Two:

What is a golden age in Jewish History and what is “The Golden Age of Spain”? Muslim Spain, Andalusia and their relationship to Jewish culture.

Session Three:

The Jews of Christian Spain – from Golden Age to Expulsion. Why did the story end this way?

Dr. Jane Gerber is Professor of Jewish History and Director of the Institute for Sephardic Studies at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Dr. Gerber is the author and editor of seven books including “The Jews of Spain.” Her two forthcoming books are “Sephardic Jews in the Caribbean” and “Cities of Splendor in the Shaping of Sephardic History.”

SPAIN IN THE SPRING

March 17–25

Come experience Spain with Rodeph Sholom next spring, on a journey that will focus on the religious, cultural, and artistic aspects of the medieval Jewish experience, and the relationships between Muslims, Christians, and Jews. Visit one of the most beautiful parts of the world, and learn about one of the most fascinating periods of Jewish history.

Those interested in the trip are encouraged to attend the Jewish History Seminar on November 17 (*see page 5*), featuring *Yehuda HaLevi* by Hillel Halkin, and the January class on Spain (*see above*).

If you’re interested, please be in touch with Rabbi Lisa Grushcow at rabbigrushcow@crsnyc.org or 646-454-3025 as soon as possible.

A TIME TO PREPARE: JEWISH APPROACHES FOR THE END OF LIFE

Rabbi Sari R. Laufer

Tuesdays, 7:15 PM
January 24, 31; February 7



Rabbi Sari Laufer

B’nei Mitzvah? Check. Wedding? Check. Dinner Saturday night? Check. As Jews and busy New Yorkers, we tend to plan ahead for life’s big (and not-so-big) moments. Yet, while our tradition understands death as a part of life, we are often hesitant, or afraid, to plan for it.

As part of our ongoing End-of-Life Initiative, we will once again be offering *A Time to Prepare*, co-taught with Randy Retkin, Director, LegalHealth, New York Legal Assistance Group and Dr. Gabrielle Goldberg, MD, Medical Director, The Wiener Family Palliative Care Unit at Mount Sinai Medical Center. This is a chance to explore the logistics and business of preparing for the end of life. Topics will include: Living Wills, ethical wills, legal wills, health care proxies, purchasing cemetery plots, insurance, organ donation, as well as the spirituality and rituals of death and loss.

Religion and our tradition pass down some of the greatest wisdom about life through the rituals surrounding death. In connecting with our tradition, we can confront and prepare for death in our midst.

THE JEWS OF EARLY MODERN EASTERN EUROPE

Dr. Ira Cohen

Tuesdays, 7:15 PM
May 1, 8, 15, 22



Dr. Ira Cohen

Much of the popular understanding of the history of the Jews of Eastern Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries follows a popular view: the Anatevka model. The life of the Jews in the shtetl is viewed through a nostalgic filter. This approach is flawed in that it leaves one with the idea that the lives of our ancestors were unchanging. It ignores the changes of Jewish life in what used to be described as the Council of the Four Lands (Lithuania, Poland, Bohemia and Moravia), which from 1649 onward prepared them for a readiness to go elsewhere. The course’s operating thesis can be best stated: it isn’t Anatevka and it never was.

Dr. Ira Cohen, a congregant of Rodeph Sholom, is emeritus professor of history, and emeritus University Honors Director from Illinois State University, and currently an Adjunct Professor of History at Hunter College. His area of specialization is U.S. History from 1790 through Reconstruction.

DAYTIME CLASSES

BROTHERHOOD TORAH STUDY

Rabbi Robert N. Levine, D.D.

All Congregants are invited

Tuesdays, 8:00 – 9:00 AM

October 25; November 15; February 28; March 20



Rabbi Robert Levine

The Brotherhood of Rodeph Sholom is proud to offer a unique learning opportunity for the men and women of our community. Brotherhood Torah Study enables the adults of our community to learn with our leader and teacher, Rabbi Robert Levine, with text study and lively discussion.

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.

Is There Any Way We Can Believe in God Today?

October 25; November 15

Many of us have our doubts. Many of us have moments of faith. In the light of science and rationalism, holy war and secularism, ethical humanism and radical religion, God-belief is often under attack. How can we find God in a world filled with both horror and hope? How can we believe in God if we're not a fundamentalist? Is atheism the only way to rationally approach Judaism? Join us as we explore faith in a modern world.

Miracle, Tragedy, and Prayer – The Search for God

February 28; March 20

A hurricane decimates an entire city. A tragedy befalls a loving family. A child's life is saved in the nick of time. A people manages to miraculously emerge from the brink of destruction. A community gathers together to pray for a new tomorrow, and it arrives. In the highs and lows of life, we often go in search of God. Like Moses long ago, we yearn to see even a glimmer of the divine in our lives. Join us as we explore this search together.

HOW TO RAISE A MENTSCH

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Tuesdays, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

September 20; October 4, 18; November 1, 15, 29; December 13; January 3, 17, 31; February 14, 28; March 13; April 3, 17; May 1, 15, 29; June 12



Rabbi Lisa Grushcow

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 begin with *The Childhood Roots of Adult Happiness: Five Steps to Help Kids Create and Sustain Lifelong Joy* by

Dr. Edward Hallowell who will be speaking at Rodeph Sholom on the evening of Tuesday, November 8th. Parents of teens, tweens, and pre-teens (broadly defined) all are welcome.

BABY MENTSCH

Rabbi Benjamin H. Spratt

Thursdays, 9:00 – 10:30 AM

November 3; December 8; January 5; February 2; March 1; April 19; May 3, 31



Rabbi Benjamin 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 Mentsch? 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? Introduced last year, as a companion to our popular "How to Raise a Mentsch" group, we are proud to continue offering a 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!



TEXT IN CONTEXT – ZOHAR, ZO GOOD: A SURVEY OF JEWISH MYSTICISM

Rabbi Andrea Myers

Thursdays: 8:00 – 9:00 AM

Session 1: Oct. 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17; Dec. 1, 8

Session 2: Jan. 26; Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; March 1

Session 3: April 5, 12, 19, 26; May 3, 10



Rabbi Andrea Myers

Start your day with study! This year, our Text in Context class turns to an exploration of Jewish mysticism. In the first session of classes, we will learn about basic texts, including the *Merkavah* (chariot) literature and the Zohar; and concepts, including the *sefirot*. In the second session, we will turn to the question of how Jewish mysticism developed in different communities over time, focusing on the contrasting interpretations of the Kabbalah in Sephardic communities and among the *Hasidei Ashkenaz*. In the third session, our focus will be on mysticism today, delving into modern applications of Jewish mysticism in the media and beyond. We will look at sophisticated ideas in an accessible way, adding depth and breadth to our Jewish knowledge. Everyone is welcome, and no previous experience is required.

Rabbi Andrea Myers, a congregant of Rodeph Sholom, is the author of "The Choosing: A Rabbi's Journey from Silent Nights to High Holy Days" (Rutgers University Press, April 2011). She was ordained at the Academy for Jewish Religion and is a president emerita of The Association of Rabbis and Cantors, the alumni association of AJR.

"ESA EYNAI EL HE'HARIM – I LIFT MY EYES TO THE MOUNTAINS" PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS THROUGH THE PSALMS

Rabbi Jacqueline Ellenson

Fridays, Noon – 1:30 PM

October 14; November 11; December 9; February 10;

March 16; April 20



Rabbi Jacqueline Ellenson

Like us, our ancestors struggled to understand life's blessings and challenges, the world's beauty and sorrow, God's presence and absence. The biblical Psalms were central to their religious life, and gave voice to their spiritual yearnings. At this Friday lunchtime class, we will walk the same path, learning how to incorporate the Psalms as a source of support on our own spiritual and religious journeys. Our contemplative and personal approach to text study will be supplemented by poetry and song. Seekers and learners of all levels are welcome!

Rabbi Jacqueline Koch Ellenson, a congregant of Rodeph Sholom, currently serves as the Director of the Women's Rabbinic Network, the international support and advocacy organization for women in the Reform rabbinate. She has also served on the board of the Rodeph Sholom School and of the Yedidya Center for Jewish Spiritual Direction.

SEMINAR IN JEWISH HISTORY

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Thursdays: Noon – 1:30 PM

November 17; January 19; March 15; May 17

This Jewish history seminar is intended for those looking for in-depth study. Our theme this year is the experience of Jewish communities around the world, at key moments in our history. For each session, participants will read a significant book on Jewish history. Everyone will be expected to have read the book in advance so as to allow for a substantive discussion. Join us for an intellectually engaging approach to our history and identity as Jews.

Session 1 (November 17):

Hillel Halkin, *Yehuda Halevi* (2010)

Session 2 (January 19):

Adina Hoffman and Peter Cole, *Sacred Trash: The Lost and Found World of the Cairo Geniza* (2011)

Session 3 (March 15):

Jonathan Schneer, *The Balfour Declaration: The Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (2010)

Session 4 (May 17):

Gal Beckerman, *When They Come for Us, We'll be Gone: The Epic Struggle to Save Soviet Jewry* (2010)

SHABBAT SPECIALS

WINTER SHABBATON ENCOUNTERING MODERN ISRAEL

Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3

Israel – The Future and Current Climate of Change:

Dr. Michael Oren, Israeli Ambassador

Friday, December 2, 6:00 PM, during Erev Shabbat Services

Co-sponsored by **UJA Federation**
of New York



Ambassador Michael Oren

A New York area native and a graduate of Princeton and Columbia, Dr. Oren has received fellowships from the U.S. Departments of State and Defense, and from the British and Canadian governments. He has also served as a visiting professor at Harvard, Yale, and Georgetown. Ambassador Oren is an accomplished author, and an avid historian. His two most recent books, *Six Days of War: June 1967* and *The Making of the Modern Middle East and Power, Faith, and Fantasy*, were both *New York Times* bestsellers. He currently serves as the Israeli Ambassador to the United States.

Due to the nature of the Ambassador's work, a substitute speaker may be arranged.

Shabbat Morning Chapel Service teaching and discussion will focus on Israel.

Movie Screening: "Family in Captivity"

Saturday, December 3, after Shabbat Morning Services



Ever since he was taken hostage by Hamas in 2006, Gilad Shalit has been in the news – and in our prayers – with the story of his captivity. The film is an intimate story that follows the day to day efforts of the Shalit family to cope and bring Gilad home. We exit the political realm to see the human angle of this difficult ordeal in a story that is universally relatable. This heartbreaking film gives unprecedented access to the Shalit family – and shows how private and anonymous individuals rise to become national symbols.

SPRING SHABBATON LEARNING FROM EUROPE

Friday, March 30 and Saturday, March 31, 2012

"London Calling: Does European Jewry Still Matter?"

Rabbi Deborah Kahn Harris, Principal of Leo Baeck College, London

Friday, March 30, 6:00 PM, during Erev Shabbat Services

"Searchin' for Traces of What I'm Dreamin' Of: Looking for God in the Song of Songs"

Saturday, March 30, 10:15 AM, during Shabbat Morning Chapel Service



Rabbi Deborah Kahn Harris

According to Jewish tradition, the Song of Songs is an ecstatic description of the love between God and the people of Israel. Yet where exactly do we find God in the Song of Songs? What are the implications of God's possible absence? And how exactly is Rabbi Akiva mixed up in these questions? To find out, come and study this most superlative song with us.

Lunch following Services

Rabbi Kahn Harris in conversation with Rabbi David Ellenson, President of HUC-JIR.

Rabbi Deborah Kahn Harris is the Principal of Leo Baeck College, the Liberal and Reform rabbinical school in London. She was ordained in 1996 from Leo Baeck College and subsequently worked for the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain. Her PhD, from the University of Sheffield, is entitled "A Hammer for Shattering Rock: Employing Classical Rabbinic Hermeneutics to Fashion Contemporary Feminist Commentary on the Bible."

SHABBAT SPECIALS

THE BOOK OF RUTH – LUNCH AND LEARN

Dr. Carl Mankowitz

Saturday, May 19, after Shabbat Morning Services



Dr. Carl Mankowitz

The Book of Ruth is one of the most beautiful and textually complex books in Jewish liturgy. It is typically read around the time of Shavuot, in celebration of the receiving of the Torah. Ruth, the quintessential convert, is most famously known for her royal descendant, King David. Join us as we will do a close textual reading of the Book of Ruth, with attention to the historical and thematic issues raised.

Dr. Carl Mankowitz, a congregant at Rodeph Sholom, received a Masters of Arts in Judaic Studies last year from HUC-JIR.

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

Open to all

“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. Join us as we study Genesis this year. 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. Genesis is one of the most rich texts, filled with famous, infamous, and obscure characters. Review some of the classics and learn about those that are often overlooked.

New members are welcome!

MUSIC, CULTURE, & ISSUES

HERE ONE DAY, WITH FILMMAKER KATHY LEICHTER

Wednesday, April 18

7:00 PM

Sponsored by the Mental Health Initiative of the Caring Community

Here One Day, a documentary by award-winning filmmaker, Kathy Leichter, tells the story of Leichter’s mother, Nina, who lived with bipolar disorder for over twenty years and died by suicide. Shot by the 2010 winner for Best Cinematography at The Sundance Film Festival, the film takes audiences on an intimate, exceptionally beautiful journey through Nina’s life and her family’s experience of living with her mental illness and death. As *Here One Day* paints a captivating portrait of this family attempting to make sense of what happened and go on with their lives, the film reminds us that mental illness and suicide are all too common experiences which remain alarmingly taboo and desperately require more public discussion.

Kathy Leichter is a documentary film producer and director, media activist, and the founder of Two Suns Media and Mint Leaf Productions, both based in New York City.

For more resources on the CRS Mental Health Initiative, go to rodephsholom.org/engage/committees/#caring

“*I have attended diverse Adult Education events over the past years, all of which have enriched an aspect of my life, religious engagement, which lay dormant for many years. Now I wonder why it took me so long to get started.*”

MUSIC, CULTURE, & ISSUES

THE JOYOUS SOUNDS OF MUSIC AT RODEPH SHOLOM

Adult Volunteer Choir
Cantor Rebecca Garfein



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! New members are welcome!

Participate in the **Second Day of Rosh Hashanah** under the direction of Cantor Garfein and J. David Williams, organist

Friday, September 30, 2011

Rehearsal: Monday, September 19, 2011 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Final rehearsal: Friday, September 30 at 8:15 AM

Service at 9:30 AM

CELEBRATE CHANUKAH AT CRS!

Friday, December 9, 2011 during Erev Shabbat Services

In anticipation of the celebration of Chanukah, our Cantors, choirs and musicians will celebrate with our congregation the Festival of Lights through song.

Rehearsals:

Mondays from 6:30 – 7:30 PM

Nov. 14, 21, 28; Dec. 5

The Adult Choir also participates in the monthly Shabbat B'Shir service on the second Friday of each month October through June.

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

THE ART OF CHANTING TORAH



Cantor Shayna De Lowe

Cantor Shayna De Lowe

Wednesdays 6:00 PM

January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 8, 15

We will learn how to chant the *ta'amei hamikra*, the trope symbols used in the chanting of sacred texts. This year we will focus on the trope of the Torah. A basic reading knowledge of Hebrew is required, but students do not need

to know how to chant Torah or read music. The textbook for the class will be *The Art of Cantillation, Vol. 1: A Step-By-Step Guide to Chanting Torah* by Cantors Marshall Portnoy and Josée Wolff. This is a wonderful way to become familiar with chanting Torah, whether you have never chanted or chanted many times before!

LUNCH TOGETHER

Tuesdays: 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

September 20; October 11; November 15; December 13; January 17; February 14; March 13; April 3; May 15; June 12

Co-sponsored by Adult Ed, Caring Community and Sisterhood.

Among the programs planned for this year are a Judaica Trivia Bowl, a musical presentation, a reading by Rabbi Andrea Myers from her newly published book *The Choosing*, and an exploration of the Greek Romaniote Jewish community, still practicing traditions dating back to Roman times! Great socializing and engaging presentations – join us!

Contact rabbistudy@crsnyc.org to make sure you're on our mailing list.

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

CRS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

October 6; November 3; December 1; January 5; February 2; March 1; April 5; May 3; June 7

We are pleased to announce the reemergence of The CRS Book Club. The group meets on the first Thursday of every month. Meetings are self-moderated, with one person doing a bit of background work to present at each meeting. If you are interested in joining us or have any questions, please email bookgroup@crsnyc.org. We look forward to the discussion!

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 meaningful experiences is the Women of Rodeph Sholom Torah Study. This offers the women of the congregation a unique experience throughout the year to explore text and identity in an intimate evening of Torah study and friendship, using *The Torah: A Women's Commentary* as our guide. Sisterhood also offers popular programs such as The Prominent Women Luncheon, a highlight of the congregational year.

Sisterhood Torah Study

Friday, November 4, 8:30 AM

Monday, April 30, 7:00 PM

Prominent Women Luncheon

Saturday, February 4



Rabbi Leora Kaye

BASIC JUDAISM

Wednesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

THE JEWISH HOME AND LIFE CYCLE

Rabbi Leora Kaye

October 26;
November 2, 9, 16, 30;
December 7, 14



Brian Immerman

SHABBAT AND THE FESTIVALS

Rabbi Sari R. Laufer
Brian Immerman, *Rabbinic Intern*

January 11, 18, 25;
February 1, 8, 15, 22;
March 28

THE VOCABULARY OF JEWISH TEXTS

Rabbi Leora Kaye

April 4, 18, 25;
May 2, 9, 16

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.

ADULT B'NEI MITZVAH 5773 INTRODUCTORY MEETING

Tuesday, May 29, 7:15 PM

If you are interested in finding out about the Adult B'nei Mitzvah program for 2012/13, join this introductory meeting. 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 to study 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. We hope you'll join us.



Sara Rosen

HEBREW

Sara Rosen
September through May

See details below

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 6:15 – 7:15 PM
(first class September 12)

Thursdays 9:00 – 10:00 AM
(first class September 15)

CONTINUING HEBREW

Mondays 7:30 – 8:30 PM
(first class September 12)

Tuesdays 9:15 – 10:15 AM
(first class September 13)

UNDERSTANDING LITURGY

Tuesdays 8:15 – 9:15 AM
(first class September 13)

Which Hebrew Class Should I Take?

Beginning Hebrew. This class is for those with little or no knowledge of Hebrew and begins with the aleph-bet, moving on to reading the Siddur (prayer book). By the end of this class you will be able to follow the Service.

This class is recommended for those attending conversion classes or anyone thinking of becoming an adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah who has not taken Hebrew in the past.

Continuing Hebrew. Continuing students will build reading fluency through the prayers and will achieve some understanding of the prayers and key vocabulary. This class is for participants who have completed Beginning Hebrew Level I or have a basic knowledge of reading Hebrew.

Understanding Liturgy. Students who have mastered basic reading and comprehension will be introduced to a more in-depth interpretation of texts. With emphasis on the structure and flow of the evening and morning Services one will become a more active participant in the Service. This class will be for those who have completed Continuing Hebrew or have prior knowledge of Hebrew reading.

*If you are not sure which Hebrew class to take please contact Sara Rosen at rosensara@yahoo.com. If there is sufficient interest (4 or more people) in **Modern Hebrew**, a class can be arranged. Please email rosensara@yahoo.com immediately if interested.*

CLASSES FOR PROFESSIONALS

MUSLIM AND JEWISH LEGAL TRADITIONS

Amin Kassam, Esq. and Rabbi Debra Goldstein, Esq.

Tuesday, March 13
7:00 PM



Amin Kassam, Esq.



Rabbi Debra Goldstein, Esq.

A discussion on conflict resolution within the Jewish and Ismaili Muslim traditions – their religious and cultural backgrounds, structure, and the sometimes complicated connection to state civil law. The class will explore the role of mediation and alternative judicial systems within these two Abrahamic civilizations. The two speakers will discuss the different approaches towards law outside a courtroom – and will talk about how religious beliefs can influence legal practice.

Continuing Legal Education Credit Requested

Amin Kassam is a lawyer and mediator in private practice in New York. For the past six years he has served as a member of the Ismaili National Conciliation and Arbitration Board.

Rabbi Debra Goldstein, a congregant of Rodeph Shalom, has practiced law in New York as marketing, advertising, and intellectual property in-house senior legal counsel for both the Ogilvy and then Bates advertising agencies. She was ordained from HUC-JIR and is working both as an attorney and a rabbi on a freelance basis.

“We have all made some close and unexpected friendships with people we likely would never have otherwise met.”

THE LANGUAGE OF DOCTORS AND THE WORDS OF PATIENTS

Rabbi Bill Cutter

Tuesday, December 13
7:00 PM



Rabbi Bill Cutter

This event will be an exploration of the way we talk to each other. The evening class will consider the essays contained in Rabbi Cutter's book *Midrash and Medicine* (Jewish Lights, 2010), and take up issues like mental illness, aging, and the anxiety of doctor-patient relationships. *For physicians only.*

*William Cutter is Steinberg Emeritus Professor of Human Relations HUC-JIR, 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 *Midrash and Medicine* (2010), Jewish Lights Publishing.*

THERAPISTS' STUDY GROUP

Rabbi Lisa J. Grushcow, D.Phil.

Thursdays, 3:00 – 4:00 PM
November 3; December 1; January 5; February 2; March 1; April 5;
May 3; June 7

This initiative is intended to bring therapists together for conversation and connection. We will use Jewish sources to explore key themes in the human experience, including family, love, conflict, and freedom. The group will also provide an opportunity to discuss ethical and clinical issues unique to therapeutic work, focusing on how Jewish insights and perspectives might be relevant to your practice. *For therapists only.*

For more information, contact Rabbi Grushcow at 646-454-3025, or rabbigrushcow@crsnyc.org.

ADULT EDUCATION REGISTRATION



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

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

E-mail Address: _____

To register, complete this form and mail to the attention of the Rabbis' Study. 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. Each Hebrew class is \$60 and will be billed separately. There is an additional fee for each class for non-members. Please contact the Rabbis' Study to find out costs if you are not a member at 646-454-3029 (rabbistudy@crsnyc.org). If a class is not listed below, there is no fee, but RSVP's to the Rabbis' Study are appreciated.

Please check the classes you wish to take:

Evening Courses

- The Jewish Experience in Spain | Dr. Jane Gerber _____
- Giving Voice to a Generation of Change | Jessica Kirzane _____
- A Time to Prepare | Rabbi Sari Laufer _____
- The Jews of Early Modern Eastern Europe | Dr. Ira Cohen _____
- Basic Judaism | Rabbi Leora Kaye _____

Daytime Courses

- Text in Context | Rabbi Andrea Myers _____
- Seminar in Jewish History | Rabbi Lisa Grushcow _____
- Personal and Spiritual Pathways Through the Psalms | Rabbi Jackie Ellenson _____

Hebrew

- Monday night Beginning Hebrew class | Sara Rosen _____
- Thursday morning Beginning Hebrew class | Sara Rosen _____
- Monday evening Continuing Hebrew class | Sara Rosen _____
- Tuesday morning Continuing Hebrew class | Sara Rosen _____
- Tuesday morning Understanding Liturgy class | Sara Rosen _____

Please enclose a check for \$36 if you have signed up for one class and \$72 if you have signed up for two or more classes. Hebrew classes are \$60.

Additional contribution to Adult Ed programming _____

Total amount enclosed: _____

Around the World and Into Your Soul: Adult Education 5772

Highlights of this year's curriculum:

Search for God with Rabbi Levine
Jewish Life in Eastern Europe, Spain, England and Israel
Special Opportunities for Doctors, Lawyers, and Therapists
The Joyous Sounds of Music at Rodeph Sholom
Expanded Hebrew Classes
Ambassador Michael Oren comes to Rodeph Sholom
Return of "Mentsch" and "Baby Mentsch"
Congregational Trip to Spain in the Spring
And much, much more...

**Continue your spiritual and intellectual growth • Strengthen your connection to your community
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Congregation Rodeph Sholom
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*Beverly Katz and Dr. Helen Towers,
Adult Education Committee Co-Chairs*

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.