



Temple Beth Israel
Center for Jewish Life
Winter 2021

*Feed your mind,
body, and soul*

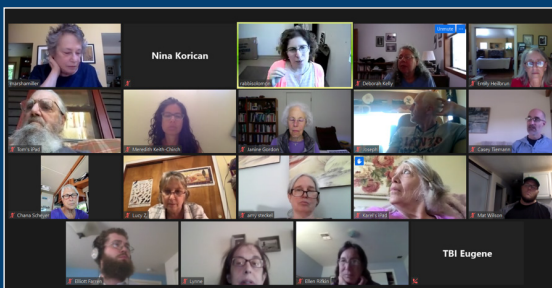




Programs and classes are open to all, and we welcome students from within TBI and from the larger community. All programs are currently online.



All of the classes and events for Winter 2021 are free of charge. However, because membership commitments do not cover the full cost of community education, we rely on donations to continue offering this diverse programming. Please donate if you are able.



Interested in joining the Community Education Committee, or have ideas for teaching or a class offering? Contact Nina Korican, nina@tbieugene.org, 541.485.7218 x104.

A Taste of Torah

Check out these cooking demos related to the Torah portion and the holidays. They'll be live on Zoom and then the TBI YouTube channel for viewing at your leisure.

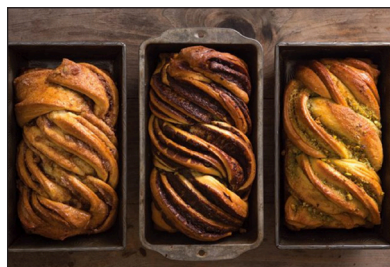
Beauty and the Yeast: Babka Workshop w/Rabbis Jonathan Rubenstein & Linda Motzkin

Sunday, December 20, via Zoom

10:30am: Dough mixing

Noon: Filling and shaping

This session doesn't tie in with a particular holiday or Torah portion. It's winter and a great time for sweet treats. In this bread making class we will learn how to make a rich, sweet yeasted dough that can be used with a variety of fillings and can be made into in a variety of shapes—chocolate and cinnamon raisin babka, sticky buns, cinnamon rolls, and other filled pastries. The babka class will feature a dough-mixing session followed, after rising, by a filling and shaping session. More details forthcoming.



Seven Species: Tastes and Texts w/Rabbis Jonathan Rubenstein & Linda Motzkin

Monday, January 25, and Tuesday, January 26

Pre-registration required. Look for link in the e-news.

The Seven Species (Shivat Haminim), derived from Deuteronomy 8:7-8, are two grains and five fruits associated with the Land of Israel and imbued with special holiness and significance. The Mishnah (Bikkurim 1:3) states that “Bikkurim (first fruits) are brought only from the seven species.” The first fruits of the seven species—wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates—were the only acceptable offerings in the Temple in Jerusalem. Kabbalists ascribe special spiritual qualities to each of the them. Customarily the first fruits are eaten on Tu B'Shevat, Shavuot, and Sukkot. The Seven Species are also a Jewish folk motif and are frequently represented in Jewish art.



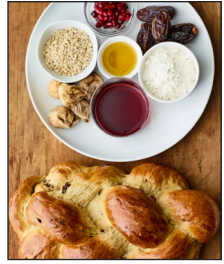
This is a three-part class—one for text study and two for making the bread. See next page for more information.

Monday, January 25, 6:30pm: A text study and discussion of a selection of biblical, rabbinic, and kabbalistic sources on the significance of the Seven Species.

Tuesday, January 26, Noon: A baking workshop featuring a special Seven Species Challah for Tu B'Shevat and other recipes using the Seven Species. This 45-minute session is on dough mixing.

Tuesday, January 26, 2:00pm: Once the dough has risen, we'll learn about braiding and shaping it.

You are welcome to sign up for any or all of the sessions. Stay tuned for details!



Showbread w/Sandy Scheetz Date TBD

In Parashat Terumah, which will be read February 20th, the Israelites are told to construct a table with “show bread” as part of the mishkan/tabernacle. The twelve loaves represent the twelve tribes. Chef Sandy Scheetz, TBI member and owner of Sandy’s Kitchen, will do a bread baking demo in mid-February. Stay tuned for date and details.



The Paschal Lamb w/Ibrahim Hamid & Rabbi Ruhi Sophia

Date in March TBD

Lamb plays an important role in the Passover story. Each Israelite family hunkered down in their homes to eat the roasted lamb, praying the blood on the doorway would keep them safe as the Angel of Death passed through. Ibrahim Hamid, owner of Cafe Soriah and longtime ally of the Jewish community, will do a lamb-cooking demo at his restaurant. You'll be able to join him virtually. Details are being finalized and will be publicized in early spring.



@The Shabbat Table w/Rabbi Solomon

January 8, and the second Friday of the month,
5:30-6:30pm

Join Rabbi Solomon on Zoom for songs, table blessings, and fun before the monthly early Shabbat service. All ages and levels of observance are welcome. You don't need to stay for the service.



Tot Time *w/Rabbi Solomon*

January 9, and the second Saturday of the month, 9:00-9:30am

Songs, stories, sharing, and Shabbat! Tots ages 0 to 5 (and parents and siblings) are welcome to join via Zoom for this fun half hour that's geared to our youngest community members.



Shabbat Yoga *w/Rabbi Solomon*

January 9, and the second Saturday of the month, 1:00-2:00pm

Join Rabbi Solomon via Zoom for chanting and gentle yoga. Ideal to have a mat, some water, and comfortable clothes. Elders, tots, and pets are all welcome!



Sisterhood Presents: Pruning Class *w/Bruce Kreitzberg*

Sunday, January 10, 2:00pm

Many of us have spent a lot more time than usual in our gardens during the pandemic, learning lots of new things and realizing all that we don't know, like how to properly prune our trees and bushes. TBI's own Bruce Kreitzberg, of Back to the Roots Landscaping, will offer a short course on the basics of pruning, via Zoom. Bruce has kindly agreed to be available for questions and answers after his presentation.



Monty Python's Life of Brian Film & Fun *w/Rabbi Ruhi Sophia*

Saturday, January 23, 6:30pm

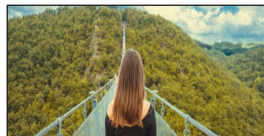
The Monty Python Boys actually knew quite a bit about Second Temple Judaism! Join Rabbi Ruhi Sophia for a brief introduction to the period in which the Life of Brian is set, then see if you can identify the realistic references in the film! Watch on your own or, if you have Netflix or Amazon Prime, you may set up a watch party to chat with friends during the movie. We'll join together on Zoom after the movie and see what we've discovered. The film is 1 hour, 33 minutes and is rated 16+.



Reconstructing Judaism Day of Learning— God?: A Reconstructionist Conversation

Sunday, January 24, 9:30am-2:00pm

The program will include interactive small group activities, workshops, and panel discussions, along with a virtual cocktail hour. Check the website and weekly e-news for links and further information.



Tu B'Shevat *w/Reconstructionist Rabbis*

Wednesday, January 27, 7:00pm

The Reconstructionist Synagogues of the Pacific Northwest collaborate again to create a regional Tu B'Shevat experience like no other. Stay tuned for details in the weekly e-news for the Zoom pre-registration link.

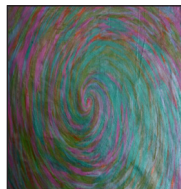


Laws of Teshuva *w/Rabbi Ruhi Sophia*

Wednesdays, February 3, 10, 17, 7:30pm

Pre-registration required. A minimum of five people needed to hold this class. Details forthcoming.

Though we often think of teshuva in conjunction with the High Holiday season, it is a process that individuals and communities can ideally engage year-round. Join Rabbi Ruhi Sophia on Zoom for an in-depth study of some key laws of teshuva, and guided journaling and discussion about how we can apply them in our individual lives. We will also explore the implications of teshuva for racial injustice as the theme that TBI's board has chosen for this year. Please plan to attend all three sessions for a depth of engagement.



Masks Then & Now *w/Rabbi Solomon*

Thursdays, February 11 & 18, 6:30pm

Come with a mask of your choosing to the Zoom gathering. We will study sources on the traditional mitzvot of Purim and their meaning for us today. Two one-hour sessions. Attendance at both is suggested but not required.



A Close Up Look at the Seder Plate *w/Rabbi Solomon*

Thursdays, March 11 & 18, 6:30pm

Passover arrives on March 27th this year. Come explore the visceral nature of the ancient home-based rite and gather tools to go deeper into your Passover experience this year. Two one-hour sessions. Attendance at both is suggested but not required.



Siyum Pesachim *w/Rabbi Ruhi Sophia & Friends*

Sunday, March 21, 4:00pm



Gather for a virtual siyum celebration completing the fourth tractate of Talmud, Pesachim, which is all about Passover, sacrifices, matzah, maror, and so much more! You do not have to have studied the Talmud in order to attend.

Ongoing (on Zoom)

Torah Study *w/Rabbi Ruhi Sophia*

Thursdays @ Noon

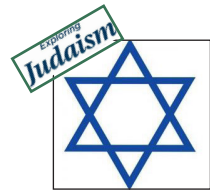
Join Rabbi Ruhi Sophia as she leads an engaging and interesting discussion of the weekly Torah portion.



Exploring Judaism

3rd Sunday of the month, 3:00pm

Join the group for a monthly discussion with the Rabbi and non-Jews, new-Jews and any-Jews interested in exploration. All are welcome, but this is an especially good opportunity for people new to Judaism in general and TBI in particular to learn more and get to know fellow explorers in a welcoming, casual setting. Questions? Contact Mark Watson (mrwatson44@comcast.net).



Learners' Services

Saturday, Feb 6, 9:00am (B)

A service for anyone who wants to better understand the flow of the Shabbat morning liturgy. Each session (A-F) focuses on a different section of the service, in rotation. You do not need to attend them in order. More will be scheduled in the spring.



The Vinkl (Yiddish Corner)

1st & 3rd Mondays of the month, 2:00pm

Yiddish, or mama-loshn, is one of several languages with which we Jews are blessed. Known for warmth and wit, it may evoke memories for you, or perhaps be the gate to new knowledge and pleasures. New learners encouraged.



Temple Beth Israel

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Winter 2021 Program Guide