

Winter/Early Spring LIFELONG LEARNING 2021 Classes

A variety of interactive and thought-provoking classes have been added to the calendar for January through March 2021. Additional classes may be added. All classes will take place on Zoom. Check your weekly Chai Lights email or the website calendar for Zoom meeting links.

TO PARTICIPATE, FOLLOW THESE STEPS:

1. Go to www.bethor.org/calendar to find the class you want to take.
2. Register for the class by clicking the Zoom Registration link, entering the requested information and clicking the submit button.
3. You will receive a confirmation email with details and the Zoom meeting link for that class.
4. Note – each class has a different Zoom meeting link. Follow the above steps for each class you want to take.
5. If the class you select doesn't require registration, click on the Zoom meeting link on the calendar listing a few minutes before the class is scheduled to begin. You will be placed into a waiting room until the host is ready to start.
6. Call Barbara Murtha, 215-646-5806, ext. 220 with any questions.



HEART & SOUL SHABBAT WINTER JOURNEY

**Instructors: Rabbi Bonder
and Paul Brooks**

**Saturdays, January 2, 9 & 30
on your own or 11am**

The combination of cold weather with the inability to gather will make it challenging for us to exercise both the heart and the soul. That is why Rabbi

Bonder and Beth Or Board Member Paul Brooks are cooking up some motivation for January 2021. Stream Shabbat experiences to your device that will get your heart pumping and stir your soul as well. Listen anytime at your leisure, or plan to participate around 11am, knowing that while we can not be together as a group, other congregants will be sharing this experience at the same time. Download the podcasts at www.bethor.org/cbopodcasts.



SHALOM ALEICHAM WAS THE JEWISH MARK TWAIN

Instructor: Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

**3-session course: Tuesdays, January 5, 12 & 19
7pm - 8:30pm**

Shalom Aleichem wrote about shtetl life of the Jews in Russia and Poland during a time of anti-Semitism, seismic culture change and a crisis of Jewish meaning and faith. Join Rabbi Marx for an intimate look back on 3 short stories of this remarkable author: Visit the website calendar listing for this class to download the stories to read in advance.



VIRTUAL ISRAEL TOUR

Tour Guide: Rotem Shahar

**1st Thursday of the Month, January - May
7pm - 8:30pm**

Our popular tour through the Holy Land continues. Over the next few months, our Israeli Tour Guide will take us on an interactive journey to Ein Hod (January 7), a Kibbutz (February 4), Tel Aviv (March 4), Ramon Crater (April 1) and a return to Jerusalem (May 6).



NEWS & NOSH

Instructor: Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

Sunday, January 10 ■ 10am - 11am

Rabbi Marx will lead a discussion about the Jewish perspective on current topics in the news.



POD DRASH: A DEEP DIVE INTO T'SHUVAH (REPENTANCE)

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Bonder

6-session course: Sundays, January 10, 24, 31 & February 7, 21 & 28 ■ 9:30am - 10:30am

Join Rabbi Bonder for a deep dive into Jewish thought around the issue of T'shuvah - repentance. The "text" for this course will be a brand new Jewish podcast called Pod Drash, hosted by Rabbi Dr. Leon Wiener Dow. We will listen to the podcast before class and then join together to share reactions, discuss and grow in the process. Note: This course will run simultaneously with Rabbi Bonder's On One Foot: Exploring Judaism class. All are welcome to participate.

About Pod Drash:

Pod Drash offers a Jewish take on podcasts. Each episode is based on an issue as tackled in another podcast, on which the central guest and I Rabbi Dow riff (i.e., "drash"), allowing Jewish tradition to provide new insights and even greater depth.

Season One launched on August 22nd around the theme of teshuva and features an amazing array of guests - Rabbis Sharon Brous, Shai Held, David Ellenson, Felicia Sol, and Dianne Cohler-Esses; as well as Heavyweight host Jonathan Goldstein, my brother Professor David Dow of the Texas Innocence Network, Scott Siff of Quadrant Strategies; and Ariel Kaminer of Buzz Feed.

- Rabbi Leon Wiener Dow



SPEAKER PROGRAM: DEMOCRACY AT HOME & AROUND THE WORLD WITH MICHAEL ABRAMOWITZ

Discussion Leader: Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

**Thursday, January 21
7pm**

Join Rabbi Marx as he hosts **Michael Abramowitz, President of Freedom House**, to discuss democracy at home and around the world. The Freedom House works to defend human rights and promote democratic change, with a focus on political rights and civil liberties. Freedom House acts as a catalyst for freedom through a combination of analysis, advocacy, and action. Their analysis focuses on 13 central issues, including the rise of authoritarianism, the decline of democracy, freedom of expression and election integrity.



TORAH STUDY

Instructors: Rabbi Gregory S. Marx & Rabbi Jason Bonder

Every Saturday morning ■ 9:30am - 10:45am

Uncover the wisdom, relevance and beauty of the Torah. Join our family of Torah learners who meet every week on Zoom to study, schmooze and learn together. On Saturday mornings where there is no 11am B'nai Mitzvah, we will recite Mourner's Kaddish at the end of the Torah Study session - all are welcome to join us on Zoom to recite Kaddish together at 10:45am.

ART WITH ALLISON

Instructor: Allison Levin

Spend some creative time and unwind with your Beth Or friends this winter with a once-a-month hands-on art activity on Zoom! A list of supplies for each project will be provided in advance.

Painting on Glassware

Wednesday, January 20 ■ 7:30pm

Create your own personalized wine glasses, or choose your own glass/mug/plate to paint on with glass pens. With Tu B'shevat the following week, you can make your own personalized glassware.

Painting on Canvas

Monday, February 22 ■ 7:30pm

Create a beautiful masterpiece on a canvas! Allison will lead the group in creating a beautiful painting on a canvas, teaching step by step with an easy-to-follow process.

Painting on Fabric

Monday, March 22 ■ 7:30pm

Create your own Matzah cover to use on your Seder table or give as a gift or you can learn to paint on any other fabric - a tote, sweatshirt, jean jacket and more.

COOKING WITH GASS: COMFORT FOOD

Instructor: Alyson Gass

Monday, January 25 ■ 7pm - 8pm

Alyson Gass and her assistant Allison Levin are back with an inspired virtual cooking class! It's cold outside, so we'll warm-up together with some delicious comfort food. Get cozy on your couch by the fire and join us for a fun night!

PINNACLE OF CREATION

Instructor: Aaron Nienshultz

3-session course: Tuesdays, January 26 & February 2 & 9 ■ 7 pm - 8pm

The pinnacle of creation, or the cause of all its problems? Is humanity God's favorite creation? Are we the root of all the world's problems? The answer might surprise you! Let's see what our sacred texts tell us about our role in the world and how we can learn to love our place in it, no matter which one we are.



PB&J - EATING JEWISH, HEALTHY CHOICES & HELPING THE PLANET

Instructor: Aaron Nienshultz

Tuesday, March 9 ■ 7pm - 8pm

PB&J - Plant Based & Jewish. Learn about what Judaism says about food and how our food choices can be good for us and the world. We'll explore healthy eating, sustainable food, and even plant-based eating choices.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
BEIT SEFER

Café – Virtually!

Tuesday, March 16 • 6:30pm – 9pm

Rabbi Marx and the Lifelong Learning committee are working on a variety of topics to choose from for this special night of learning. Look for an on-line brochure with full details to come soon!

Early Session Topics/Instructors:

- **Rabbi Jason Bonder** – Matriarchs, a Prophetess, and A Judge Walk into a Café in Tel Aviv...
- **Larry Silver (UPenn emeritis Art History Professor)** - What is Jewish Art?
- **Tyi Marx & Moriah Amit (Reference & Genealogy Librarians, Center for Jewish History)** - Genealogy Basics
- **Alyson Gass** – Cooking Class Theme to Come Soon!

Late Session Topics/Instructors:

- **Rabbi Gregory S. Marx** – Good Religion/ Bad Religion
- **John Ghazvinian (Exec. Dir., UPenn Middle East Center)** - Iran, Israel and the United States: A View from History
- **Tyi Marx & Sara Belasco (Reference Librarians, Center for Jewish History)** - Preserving Your Family Photos and Documents at Home



2ND NIGHT COMMUNITY SEDER WITH RABBI BONDER

Sunday, March 28 ■ 6pm

Rabbi Bonder will lead the community through a Seder from his home. Join the Bonder family on Facebook Live.

Lifelong Learning Classes are free for Beth Or members; \$50 recommended donation for non-members. If you would like to support our effort to bring enhanced educational programs to all, please make a donation to the Allan Apter Lifelong Learning Endowment, one of the clergy discretionary funds or any fund of your choosing, www.bethor.org/give-now.



Lighting the path for all generations