

TEMPLE MENORAH

JEWISH LEARNING AND LIVING 2020-2021*

* Formerly known as Religious School

Jewish Learning and Living is our new model for religious education at Temple Menorah!

At Temple Menorah, we strive to make our Jewish learning program engaging for both learners and their families. Our goal is to give everyone an opportunity to not just learn about Judaism, but to live it as well. We also know that the pandemic has brought upon unprecedented challenges for both education and scheduling. We couldn't be more excited to introduce a program that strives for ultimate flexibility, as well as high engagement and camaraderie, all while ensuring that our children are not in front of a screen for extended periods of time.

Program Core Components

- Mifgash ("Gathering")** - this is your learner's main class, with weekday and weekend options
- Hebrew (grades 3-7)**— helping our learners to become confident Hebrew readers in small groups
- Enrichment** - project-based elective

SCHEDULE				
Kinder-Second	Third-Sixth			Seventh
Mifgash Options Friday, 5:30-6:15 pm Saturday, 9:15-10:15 am	Hebrew Options Wednesday, 4:30-5:45 pm Wednesday, 5:15-6:30 pm	Mifgash Options Thursday, 4:30-5:15 pm Friday, 5:30-6:15 pm Saturday, 9:15-10:15 am	Enrichment Thursday, 5:30-6:30 pm	Hebrew Options Tuesday, 4:30-6:00 pm Tuesday, 5:15-6:45 pm Shabbat (All) Saturday, 9:15 am-12:00 pm

JUDAICA: LA-BRI'UT

La-Bri'ut: To Our Health and Wellness is our new curriculum. Via five values-focused modules, learners gain a variety of tools that build resiliency and supportive strategies for better managing the challenges that life can throw their way, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learning is anchored in Jewish texts and tales of our past, offering rich understandings of Jewish values that build resiliency and guide personal and communal health and wellness.

Learners will participate in a once-weekly *mifgash* (gathering) to discover and discuss concepts relating to each module. Between sessions, learners engage with activity boxes and/or at-home challenges to enhance their learning experiences and personal growth.



SUKKAT SHALOM
SHELTER OF PEACE



OMETZ LEV
INNER STRENGTH



G'VURAH
COURAGE



K'HILLAH
COMMUNITY



CHESED
LOVING-KINDNESS

HEBREW

Learners in grades 3rd-6th will work in ability-level small pods to learn decoding skills, become confident Hebrew readers, and master Shabbat evening and morning prayers. As part of their Hebrew studies, learners will also explore the meaning and history of the liturgy, developing and deepening their personal understanding of the prayer experience. In part, this will include building a portfolio of artwork, and photographs to compile their Visual Tefilah portfolios.

Each week, all Hebrew learners also participate in all-school Tefilah and Kehilah (prayer and community) and have the option to visit our Hebrew Lab for one-on-one or small group support.

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ENRICHMENT

In addition to the core curriculum, learners who are ready for more may also choose an elective. All electives are project-based, whether that means working with a group to write and producing a play or curating a slideshow detailing the learner's family history. In addition, each elective will include exploration of Jewish history, ritual, culture, or philosophy as relates to the topic. Learners will switch electives throughout the year to expand their experiences.

Options may include cooking, Jewish immigration, book groups, graphic novels, drama and musical theater, and more.



FAQs

So how many days is Jewish Learning and Living (formerly known as Religious School) now?

K-2 students still attend once per week. For 3rd-6th grades, the schedule is flexible! All students attend on Wednesdays, but families can choose a weekday or weekend option for Mifgash.

So there's really not class on Sunday?

Nope! Enjoy a family day, no screens needed!

What if my child can't make the Enrichment session?

No problem! While we expect these classes to be fun, engaging, and popular, we understand if your family needs a break from screens.

Will sessions be recorded if my child can't make it?

While we do not record sessions due to privacy concerns, you can expect weekly emails from your Mifgash leader. The Hebrew Lab will also be open during Enrichment if your learner needs to catch up.

Is there a chance of in-person instruction?

We look forward to gathering together when it is safe to do so.

CHAVURAH AND MORE

Building community is fun and helps us connect to each other - whether in person or virtually. With guidance from Temple clergy, each Mifgash group will also come together for twice-monthly "Chavurah" sessions - Shabbat and holiday festivities, social action projects, game nights and other social activities, and other gatherings.

In addition, families can opt to work with one of our clergy as their personal "Jewish Life Coach," helping them each express and experience Judaism in a way that fits their family.