

ADULT LEARNING & PROGRAMMING 5784



ADDITIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Zionism and Beyond: Ideals, Debates, and Counter-narratives

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, January 16, 23, 30, February 6
On Zoom

In this class, we will revisit the expansive debates in the Jewish world about Zionism before the founding of the state of Israel, and explore the ways in which our own lives have been shaped by Zionism and its discontents. What has Zionism meant to each of us? How has our perspective changed? What does it mean to call oneself a Zionist, anti-Zionist, post-Zionist? Starting from the assumption that there has always been complexity to the Zionist project, we will explore the ways in which American Jewish identities have interacted with this epoch-defining development in Jewish history.

God is Here: Reimagining the Divine

Sponsored by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality
Thursdays, 1:00-2:15 pm, April 18, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, June 6
On Zoom

The Institute for Jewish Spirituality (www.jewishspirituality.org) is hosting Rabbi Toba for a deep exploration of non-anthropomorphic metaphors for the Divine in Jewish tradition, such as Water, Voice, Fire, Rock, Cloud, and Becoming. Based on her book *God Is Here*, Rabbi Toba will unpack a single metaphor in each live practice session (which will be recorded and available to those who cannot attend), immersing participants in mindfulness practices designed to help you access these pathways to the sacred in your own life. For God believers, non-believers, and all those in between! Participants will receive a copy of *God Is Here* as part of their registration.

Tuition: Sliding scale, \$149/299/399, if finances are an obstacle, please contact Rabbi Toba,
rabbi@dorsheitzedek.org



www.dorsheitzedek.org

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Want to deepen your skills and your connection to Jewish wisdom and spirituality in 5784?
Join us for Shabbat programming, weekday learning, special guests, and more. For Zoom links and updated information about all of our classes and programs, please visit the CDT website, www.dorsheitzedek.org. Unless noted otherwise, programs are led by Rabbi Toba Spitzer and take place at 60 Highland Street in West Newton.



SHABBAT LEARNING & CELEBRATION

Friday Night Services, Dinner, and Song

Fridays, 6:30-9:00 pm, November 17, December 15, January 26, February 23, April 12, May 17

Join us for monthly Shabbat dinner and services, both at CDT and in members' homes. While these are adult-oriented programs, all ages are welcome. See the CDT website, www.dorsheitzedek.org/spiritual-life, for details.

Nov 17, Jan 26 and May 17 - we will gather at 60 Highland Street for dinner and erev Shabbat services featuring music and more! More details available on the CDT website.

Dec 15, Feb 23, and Apr 12 - All are welcome to join Rabbinic Intern Akiva Nelson for a home-based, Friday night gathering. Festivities will include a Shabbat evening service followed by a potluck veggie dinner and a tisch, where we'll share Jewish songs, including niggunim and zemirot, which are traditional Shabbat table songs. Interested in hosting a gathering? Let Akiva know (a.nelson@dorsheitzedek.org).

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

Saturdays, 9:00-9:45 am, Oct 21, November 18, December 16, January 6, February 10, March 16, April 13, May 18, June 15
In person only

All are invited to join Rabbi Toba for an exploration of the weekly Torah portion, through the lenses of commentary both ancient and modern. Bring your own caffeinated beverage!

www.dorsheitzedek.org

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JEWISH SKILL-BUILDING

D'var Torah Explained - You Can Do It!

Saturday, October 28, 12:45-1:45 pm

In person only

Ever wondered how to make sense of the weekly Torah portion, or how to turn a mountain of material into an interesting question to explore? All are invited to join Rabbi Toba to learn some ways into offering insights and leading a discussion on the weekly Torah portion. And if you'd like to lead a d'var Torah at CDT, we will follow up with you and give support!

Leyning Refresher Class

Sunday OR Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm, October 15/16, 29/30, November 5/6, 19/20

Format (in person or Zoom) and meeting day will be determined with participants

With Rabbi Elaine Pollack

REGISTRATION REQUIRED - please email Rabbi Elaine at elainep@icloud.com if you are interested in this class or have questions. If you have chanted Torah from a scroll (aka leyned) in the past but feel like you need a refresher or some additional support to do so again, this class is for you! Participants should have some past experience with leyning and ability to decode Hebrew. Nourish your soul and do a good deed for CDT at the same time!

Leyn Like a Legend

Timing: Winter '24, exact dates TBD

In person only

With Chayim Herzig-Marx

Do you love hearing Torah chanted at Shabbat services? Do you wish you could enhance the beauty of Shabbat services by leyning? CDT founder and leyning master Chayim Herzig-Marx is offering a beginners Torah trope class that will occur over the Winter and/or early Spring 2024. The only requirement is that you are a relatively strong reader/decoder of Hebrew (comprehension not required). The class will consist of 7-9 sessions where you'll learn trope marks, their sounds, and other essential leyning skills. If you are interested in the class or have questions, please contact Akiva Nelson a.nelson@dorsheitzedek.org.

Aleph-Bet, No Sweat

Sunday, 11:00 am-12:00 pm, March 3, 10, 24, 31, April 7

The Cabot School - 229 Cabot St, Newton, In person only

With Akiva Nelson

Join Akiva for an opportunity to learn the Hebrew alphabet. You'll improve your confidence, self-esteem, and comfort-level recognizing, reading, and writing Hebrew letters, which is a big step toward more deeply engaging with Judaism. We'll be starting from the beginning and building our way toward the goal of learning all of Hebrew's consonants and vowels. Participants will be asked to purchase a workbook, but if purchase of the workbook is a financial barrier, we will happily cover it. Although this class will take place during Sunday Religious School hours, it is open to the broader CDT community, not just religious school parents.

ZOOM LUNCH & LEARNS

Lunchtime Study with Rabbi Toba

Wednesdays, 12:30-1:30 pm on Zoom

October 25, November 1, 8, 15, 29, December 6

Our rabbinic forebears were no strangers to experiences of communal and individual crisis, and they turned to fasting, prayer, and other practices to get them through. In this weekly study, we will explore fascinating stories and discussions from the Talmudic tractate Taanit ("Fasting") for wisdom about how we might respond to the times we find ourselves in. No experience with reading Talmud necessary! Come to one session or come to all.

Lunch and Learn with Akiva Nelson

Mondays, 1:15-2:15 pm on Zoom

January 29, February 5, 12, 26, March 4, 11

Join Akiva for an exploration of Jewish liturgy and other texts from our tradition that inform how and why we pray. For those who enjoyed last year's Learner's Minyan and those who want to engage more deeply in studying Jewish prayer, liturgy, and spiritual practice, this class is for you!

LEARNING FOR THE SAKE OF ACTION

Beyond the Two-State Solution

Co-sponsored by Boston Workers Circle, Temple Beth Zion, and Temple Sinai Brookline Israel Committee

Wednesday, October 4, 7:30-9:00 pm

CDT Sanctuary and on Zoom

With Dr. Jonathan Kuttab

Human rights lawyer and peace activist Jonathan Kuttab will share with us his vision for peace in Israel-Palestine that he advances in his short book *Beyond the Two-State Solution*. Dr. Kuttab challenges the assumptions of both Zionism and Palestinian nationalism in his transformative vision of a homeland for both the Jewish and Palestinian peoples that meets the existential needs of both people. Please join us for what promises to be a thought-provoking conversation! *Beyond the Two-State Solution* is available to download for no charge; visit www.nonviolenceinternational.net/beyond2states. Jonathan Kuttab is a renowned Palestinian human rights lawyer, cofounder of the independent NGO Al Haq, the premier human rights organization in the West Bank, and cofounder of Nonviolence International, which seeks to realize the worth and dignity of all people through the nonviolent resolution of conflicts around the globe.

Reparations: Where Do We Go From Here?

Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 pm, November 2, 9, 16, 30, December 14, on Zoom

With Rabbi Toba and members of CDT's Undoing Racism project

In the wake of Reconstructing Judaism's adoption of a resolution supporting reparations for historical and ongoing harms done to African Americans and Native Americans, we will review the case for reparations, and explore historical examples of reparations and current proposals and actions for reparations in the U.S. today. What in Jewish tradition supports the case for reparations? What are our personal connections to this issue? How might we as a congregation begin to take action in this realm? The class will combine reading, conversation, and presentations from activists as we move from study to action on reparations.

We invite all who are interested in this topic to join us for exploration and conversation. We will assume some basic understanding of the issues; if this topic is new to you or you'd like more grounding, please visit www.dorsheitzedek.org/adult-education for a variety of resources that you are encouraged to explore before the class begins.