

HAMAKOM HANDBOOK

THE PLACE FOR TEENS @ TBS

2023/2024 - 5784



HaMakom Teen Engagement Program at Temple Beth Shalom

The Place: To Learn. To Grow. To Be.





1 HaMakom - The Place

PAGE 02



2 Our Program

PAGE 03



3 Hebrew High School

(HaMakom & Keshet)
PAGE 04 & 05



4 HaMakom Social Programs

PAGE 06



5 Teen Leadership at TBS

PAGE 07



6 Climate Action & Sustainability

PAGE 08



7 Our Faculty

PAGE 09



8 Term Calendar

PAGE 10

Welcome Booklet

CONTENTS

Teen Engagement at Temple Beth Sholom

OUR PROGRAM



OUR PROGRAM

Important Upcoming Dates

**All dates are subject to change*

HaMakom Sundays

Kickoff

Sunday, September 10th
11:15am-1:00pm

Keshet Tuesdays

Kickoff

Tuesday, September 12th
6:00pm-8:00pm

Eagles Tailgate Watch

Party at Beth El

Sunday, October 15th
4:00pm

New York City Trip

Thursday, November 9th
10:00am

Welcome to HaMakom— the 7th-12th grade teen engagement program at Temple Beth Sholom! We are so excited to offer a place for teens to engage in dynamic and meaningful Jewish learning while also having memorable experiences which will last a lifetime!

At Temple Beth Sholom, we are passionate about inspiring life long learners; our HaMakom program is one of the ways we empower our youth to take Jewish education into their own hands through unique educational, social and spiritual experiences. Whether it is in the classroom, at the Shabbat table surrounded by good friends, or on the road visiting important Jewish cultural landmarks in the northeast, we aim to make meaningful memories which will last a lifetime!

The program is divided into three parts: HaMakom Hangout, HaMakom on the Road and the Hebrew High School which encompasses HaMakom Sundays and Keshet Tuesdays where students participate in a joint program with Congregation Beth El.

Take a look at what we have to offer!



JEWISH EDUCATION WITH PURPOSE

Hebrew High School Program: HaMakom & Keshet

HANDS ON - UNIQUE - EXPERIENTIAL

HAMAKOM AND KESHER HIGH SCHOOL

HaMakom Sundays

HaMakom is where our 7th-10th grade teens learn together as a TBS community. Instructors include: Rabbi Peltz, Rabbi Wexler, Alex Weinberg (Director of Congregational Learning), John Imhof (*HaMakom* Director and Teen Engagement Coordinator), and other dynamic and experienced Jewish educators. Each grade has a learning theme and students take classes each year pertaining to that theme. The themes are intended to create a narrative arc, in which each year of learning builds on past years. Students also have the opportunity to select from an exciting array of elective classes. Classroom learning and discussions are applicable to real-life topics and to the students' lives. In addition to classes, there will be regular *Hesed* projects, fun all-school programs, community service field trips and LOTS of great food!

Sundays 11:15am-1:00pm

7th-10th Grade



Keshet Tuesdays

On Tuesday evenings, students from Congregation Beth El, and TBS join to experience unique Jewish learning and a variety of elective classes. We are excited to be embarking on our third year of **Keshet**- our joint High School program with our friends at Congregation Beth El. *Keshet* is for our 7th-10th grade students. This year, the first semester will be hosted at TBS and the second semester will be hosted at Beth El. We are very excited for this growing partnership and the opportunity that it presents for our teens. Please see the *Keshet* handbook or visit our website keshetnj.org for more information.

Tuesdays 6:30pm-8:30pm

7th-10th Grade



11th-12th Grade Experience

Tuesdays 6:45pm-8:30pm at TBS

This year on Tuesday evenings our 11th and 12th Grade classes will be taught by Rabbi Peltz and will feature numerous guest speakers. They will meet at TBS all year long.

Topics will include:

- Preparing for college through a Jewish lens
- Facing Antisemitism in our world today
- Jewish ethics in the 21st century
- Deepening our relationship with Israel

COURSE OFFERINGS

OUR CURRICULUM

The *HaMakom* core curriculum is designed to be thematic and students will take courses over time which will continue to build upon those themes. This year, we will be participating in *Hesed*/community service learning field trips! Students will experience their primary, grade-based core classes on Tuesday evenings during *Kesher* and a wide array of learning topics, electives, and activities on Sunday mornings.

Tuesday Evening Core Classes

7th-10th Grade (*Kesher*)

7th Grade: *Humash: Making the Torah Text Come Alive*

Teachers: John Imhof & Matt Kanoff

8th Grade: *Jewish Ethics in the 21st Century*

Teacher: Alex Lapushner

9th Grade: *Hatred, History and Healing: Exploring the Holocaust and Modern Anti-Semitism.*

Teacher: Alex Weinberg

10th Grade: *Confirmation: G-d, Israel and Our Community*

Teacher: Rabbi Bryan Wexler

Sunday Morning Schedule

7th-10th Grade *HaMakom*

11:15am-12:00pm: *Beit Makom –Current Events and Jewish Ethics; taught by Rabbi Peltz, Rabbi Wexler and Alex Weinberg*

7th-10th graders will come together for a learning session led by Rabbi Peltz, Rabbi Wexler and Alex Weinberg. Topics will vary each week but will primarily deal with current events, Jewish ethics, and community service. These sessions will also include small breakout discussions with *HaMakom* faculty.

12:00pm-12:15pm: Short break time with snacks

12:15pm-1:00pm:

- 7th-9th Grades: *#TrendingJudaism*, taught by Rabbi Wexler, John Imhof, Sara Kreisman and Alex Lapushner
#TrendingJudaism will feature three-week mini courses focused on different themes including but not limited to: Israel, holidays, Jewish culture, Jewish peoplehood, prayer, G-d, social justice, mitzvot, and Jewish values.

- **10th Grade: *Five Senses of Israel*; taught by Alex Weinberg**

A deep dive into Israel using all five senses. Our 10th grade students will have an opportunity to explore many facets of Israel both before and after their December Confirmation Trip.



A few times throughout the year, in place of *HaMakom* classes, teens will be invited to participate in *Hesed* focused field trips. Past trips have included visiting the KBA Stem Lab & Booksmiles. See calendar for trip dates.

SOCIAL PROGRAMS AND FIELD TRIPS

HaMakom Hangout & HaMakom On The Road

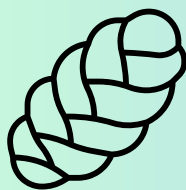
HaMakom Hangout

Teen Religious and Social Programs

HaMakom Hangout gives teens the opportunity to bond with their peers by coming together to share in unique religious and spiritual experiences. HaMakom students will participate in grade-based Shabbat dinners hosted at TBS, Saturday night programs, holiday celebrations, and more. HaMakom Hangout programs include:

Grade-Based Shabbat Dinners

A wonderful opportunity to celebrate Shabbat with your friends and peers! Throughout the year each grade will be invited for a catered Shabbat/Holiday dinner at TBS with Rabbi Wexler and John Imhof.



7th Grade: January 12

8th Grade: December 15

9th Grade: March 22

10th Grade: November 3

11th/12th Grade: February 9

Social Events

Join friends from TBS & Beth El for a variety of social programs throughout the year. From Hershey Park to Dave & Busters, these are events you won't want to miss! Save the date for the following events::

October 15: Eagles Watch Party

December 2: Dave & Busters

January 7: Keshet Collaborative Community Event

January 21: HaMakom Social Event (TBS Teens Only)

February 10: USY Prom Night

March 3: Cosmic Bowling & Purim Party

April 14: Treetop Adventures

May 19: HaMakom Social Event (TBS Teens Only)

June 2: Hershey Park



HaMakom On The Road

Teen Learning Trips

In this part of the program, HaMakom students will take to the road and get to experience Jewish education beyond the walls of the classroom. The highlight of the program is the two-week 10th grade trip to Israel. In addition to the Israel trip, we take trips throughout the year to places like NYC to visit the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC and more.

November 9: New York City

December 16 - December 31: Israel



TEEN LEADERSHIP AT TBS

HaMakom Teen Leadership Committee

At the core of our HaMakom program are teens who are passionate about Jewish education and Congregational life. The HaMakom Teen Leadership Committee was formed with them in mind as we felt it was important for our teens to have their voice heard and to give them opportunities to play a hands-on role in the program. These teens are instrumental to the growth of our youth programs and work closely with staff and clergy to help plan and promote events as well as to cultivate an environment where Jewish teens can have fun and make life-long memories.

Meet the TLC Co-Chairs



MASON ROSENBAUM
Teen Leadership Co-Chair

Mason is currently a Senior at Cherry Hill East and plays Ice Hockey and Soccer. He is excited to make a difference for Jewish teens in the community. In his free time, Mason enjoys spending time with his friends, reading, and listening to music.



ASHER KREISMAN
Teen Leadership Co-Chair

Asher is a high school senior at Cherry Hill East who dedicates time to the TBS community by working in the after care program in the Eric B. Jacobs Early Childhood Education Center, working as a teen *Madrikh* in the Rabbi Albert and Sarah Lewis Religious School in addition to serving on the Teen Leadership Committee. He is excited to work collaboratively to get TBS teens engaged in fun social programs and to help create an environment where they can learn more about Judaism while having fun and making friends!

Are you interested in becoming a teen leader?

Contact John Imhof, Youth and Teen Engagement Coordinator if you are interested in taking a hands on role in the development of our teen programming while also gaining leadership skills and valuable experience.

CLIMATE ACTION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Jewish Youth Climate Movement (JYCM)

In the fall of 2021 TBS entered into a new partnership with Hazon: The Jewish Lab for Sustainability. Together with teen leaders from our community we formed a new *Kvutzah* (or chapter) of the Jewish Youth Climate Movement. JYCM is a national movement for teens who are passionate about climate change and environmental issues which gives them a platform to speak out about such issues in communities around the country as well as come together to work towards making a change. JYCM is entirely teen-led, from the national leadership board all the way down to the individual *Kvutzot* present in various Schools, Synagogues, Jewish Community Centers and more.

To learn more about JYCM please visit their website: <https://www.jewishyouthclimatemovement.org>

Kvutzat Beth Sholom

Kvutzat Beth Sholom is our Synagogue's chapter of JYCM. It is currently led by two dedicated community teens who are passionate about climate change and making a difference. They work closely with John Imhof, their staff advisor to plan programs and events open to the community that focus on environmental education, awareness, activism and more. Our teen leaders also work to organize community events such as nature clean ups, planting community gardens and more. Membership to the TBS *Kvutzah* is free and open to all teen community members in 7th-12th grade. Please contact John Imhof for more information.



OUR FACULTY & CLERGY



RABBI BRYAN WEXLER
Associate Rabbi
ravbryan@tbsonline.org

Rabbi Wexler has been a member of the TBS family for 6 years. He is a graduate of JTS and was a Rabbinic Intern at the Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City. He currently lives in Cherry Hill with his wife Rebecca and their two 7-year-old twins, Gavi and Meyer as well as the newest addition to their family, Eliana Yonah.



JOHN IMHOF

HaMakom Director and Teen Engagement Coordinator
johni@tbsonline.org

John Imhof loves being a part of the TBS Kehillah Kedoshah and is a dedicated educator teaching in both the HaMakom and Keshet High School as well as the Rabbi Albert and Sarah Religious School. John works at Temple Beth Shalom full time as the Youth and Teen Engagement Coordinator planning and facilitating social programs and congregational experiences for children and teens.

Other members of our amazing faculty include:

Rabbi Micah Peltz

Alex Weinberg

Sara Kreisman

Alex Lapushner

Gilah Lewis Sietz

Matt Kanoff

HaMakom Website

<https://www.tbsonline.org/hamakom/>



Keshet Website

<https://www.keshetnj.org/>



Connect with us!

Stay in touch and up to date with everything HaMakom! Follow us on social media, join our Remind 101 group and more!



(856) 751-6663



@hamakomtbs



www.tbsonline.org/hamakom



**Remind101: Text @hamako to 81010
or download the App (it's free!)**



**Rabbi Wexler- ravbryan@tbsonline.org
John Imhof- johni@tbsonline.org**

Temple Beth Sholom Teen Calendar

Temple Beth Sholom Teen Education Programs



Sundays
11:15AM - 1:00PM
7th - 10th Grade

Tuesdays
6:45-8:30PM
11th/12th Grade



Tuesdays
6:30PM - 8:30PM
7th - 10th Grade

HaMakom Classes

Sunday, September 10th
Sunday, September 17th
(NO CLASSES)
Sunday, September 24th
(NO CLASSES)
Sunday, October 1st
(NO CLASSES)
Sunday, October 8th
(NO CLASSES)
Sunday, October 15th
Sunday, October 22nd
Sunday, October 29th
Sunday, November 5th
Sunday, November 12th
(NO CLASSES)
Sunday, November 19th
Sunday, November 26th
(NO CLASSES)

Teen Social Events

Sunday, October 15th
(Eagles Tailgate kickoff Party)
Friday, November 3rd
(10th Grade Shabbat Dinner)
Thursday, November 9th
(Trip to NYC)

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 K	13	14	15	16
17 Rosh Hashanah	18	19 K	20	21	22	23
24 Erev Yom Kippur	25 Yom Kippur	26 K	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Sukkot	2	3 K	4	5	6	7
8 Simchat Torah	9	10 K	11	12	13	14
15 Eagles Watch Party at Beth El	16	17 K	18	19	20	21
22 Guest Speaker	23	24 Keshet Teen Summit	25	26	27	28
29 Field Trip	30	31 No Keshet				

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 10th Grade Shabbat Dinner	4
5	6	7 K	8	9 NYC TRIP	10	11
12 NJEA	13	14 K	15	16	17	18
19 Guest speaker	20	21 No Keshet	22	23	24	25
26 Thanksgiving	27	28 K	29	30		

Temple Beth Sholom Teen Calendar

HaMakom Classes

Sunday, December 3rd
 Sunday, December 10th
 Sunday, December 17th
 Sunday, January 7th
 Sunday, January 14th
 (NO CLASSES, Mitzvah Day)
 Sunday, January 21st
 Sunday, January 28th
 Sunday, February 4th
 Sunday, February 11th
 Sunday, February 18th
 (NO CLASSES)
 Sunday, February 25th

Teen Social Events

Saturday, December 2nd
 (Havdalah/Dave&Buster's Trip)
 Friday, December 15th
 (8th Grade Shabbat Dinner)
 Sunday, January 7th
 (Keshar Community Collaborative Event)
 Friday, January 12th
 (7th Grade Shabbat Dinner)
 Sunday, January 21st
 (HaMakom Hangout)
 Friday, February 9th
 (11th/12th Grade Shabbat)
 Saturday, February 10th
 (USY Prom Night)

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Dave&Busters
3	4	5 K	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 K	13	14	15 8th Grade Shabbat Dinner	16
17	18	19 No Keshar	20	21	22	23
24 Winter Break	25	26 No Keshar	27	28	29	30

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 DEC Winter Break	1	2 No Keshar	3	4	5	6
7 Keshar Event	8	9 K	10	11	12 7th Grade Shabbat Dinner	13
14 Mitzvah Day	15	16 K	17	18	19	20
21 HaMakom Hangout	22	23 Summit at Kol Ami	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Keshar at Beth El	31			

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 Guest Speaker	5	6 K	7	8	9 11th/12th Grade Shabbat Dinner	10 USY Prom Night
11	12	13 K	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 K	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 K	28	29		

Temple Beth Sholom Teen Calendar

HaMakom Classes

Sunday, March 3rd
 Sunday, March 10th
 Sunday, March 17
 Sunday, March 24th
 (No classes, Purim Extravaganza)
 Sunday, March 31st
 (No Classes)
 Sunday, April 7th
 Sunday, April 14th
 Sunday, May 5th
 (Last day of Classes)

Teen Social Events

Sunday, March 3rd
 (Cosmic Bowling/Purim Costume Party)
 Friday, March 22nd
 (9th Grade Shabbat Dinner)
 Sunday, April 14th
 (Trip to Tree Top Adventures)
 Sunday, May 19th
 (HaMakom Hangout)
 Sunday, June 2nd
 (Trip to Hershey Park)

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Cosmic Bowling/ Purim Party	4	5 K	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Summit at Beth El	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 K	20	21	22 9th Grade Shabbat Dinner	23
24 Purim Extravaganza	25	26 K	27	28	29	30

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
March 31	1	2 K	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 K	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 K	17	18	19	20
21 Spring Break	22	23 No Keshet	24	25	26	27
28 Spring Break	29	30 No Keshet				

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 Last day of Classes	6	7 Keshet Last Day	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday, June 2nd: End of Year Trip to Hershey Park