

RAK LIMUD
ADULT EDUCATION
2017-2018
5778

*See page 10 to learn about our Adult
B'nei Mitzvah experience!*



K.K. Bene Israel
Rockdale Temple
Where you are valued...
...and values matter!

2017-18/5778 OVERVIEW:

September

- 10 ...From Profane to Sacred
- 16 ...Selichot: Personal Ethics & Public Decisions; Beginning the Season of Repentance
- 30 ...Yom Kippur Afternoon Discussion: Our Prison System & Atonement

October

- 6 ...Delete, Delete, Delete with Keren Hananel
- 7 ...Recent Finds: A Multimedia Archaeology Presentation with Keren Hananel
- 8 ...Feel the Beat: Israeli Contemporary Music with Keren Hananel
- 15 ...Hebrew Marathon
- 17 ...Scribal Arts: How a Torah is Made
- 18 ...Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class Begins
- 24 ...Rockdale Book Club
- 26 ...Casting Lots: Creating a Family in a Beautiful, Broken World by Rabbi Susan Silverman
- 27 ...Women of the Wall and Beyond: Being a Feminist in Israel with Rabbi Susan Silverman

November

- 1 ...Beyond Tribalism: A Universalist Reading of the Exodus
- 5 ...From Profane to Sacred
- 8 ...Beyond Tribalism: A Universalist Reading of the Exodus
- 14 ...Understanding and Embracing Blessings: Talmud for Beginners
- 15 ...Beyond Tribalism: A Universalist Reading of the Exodus
- 17 ...Love Your Neighbor
- 19 ...Mitzvahpalooza 9

December

- 10 ...From Profane to Sacred

2017-18/5778 OVERVIEW:

- 12 ...Understanding and Embracing Blessings: Talmud for Beginners

January

- 9 ...Understanding and Embracing Blessings: Talmud for Beginners

February

- 13 ...Understanding and Embracing Blessings: Talmud for Beginners
- 21 ...More Mussar: Jewish Ethical Living
- 25 ...From Profane to Sacred

March

- 6 ...Understanding and Embracing Blessings: Talmud for Beginners
- 7 ...More Mussar: Jewish Ethical Living
- 14 ...More Mussar: Jewish Ethical Living
- 18 ...From Profane to Sacred

April

- 10 ...Understanding and Embracing Blessings: Talmud for Beginners
- 15 ...From Profane to Sacred

May

- 8 ...Understanding and Embracing Blessings: Talmud for Beginners
- 30 ...Tikkun Leyl Shavuot

Shabbat Mornings: Year-Round

- Sichat Torah (Torah Discussion)

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE: KEREN HANANEL

AN EXPLORATION OF ISRAEL: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



Spend an educational weekend with the Rockdale Temple community as we explore Israeli archaeology, culture and contemporary music with Keren Hananel! Keren was a beloved guide on Rockdale's Congregational trip to Israel, Summer 2016.

"Delete, Delete, Delete"

Friday, October 6, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Following Shabbat Sukkot services and dinner

Keren's frequent phrase, "delete, delete, delete" refers to the common tension between the myths we hold dear about Israel and the realities. In her presentation and our discussion, Keren will de-bunk our myths and lead us to some present truths. RSVP to pkaufman@rockdaletemple.org if you'll be joining us for dinner. The cost for dinner is \$14 for adults, \$6 for kids (4-12 years old), with a family maximum of \$40.

Recent Finds: A Multimedia Archaeology Presentation

Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.

Following Torah study and Shabbat Sukkot services

Keren shares her love for Biblical Archaeology and will show us some of the latest Israeli discoveries. These artifacts shed new light on our ancient story.

RSVP to pkaufman@rockdaletemple.org



Keren posing with Rockdale congregants during their trip to Israel in the summer of 2016

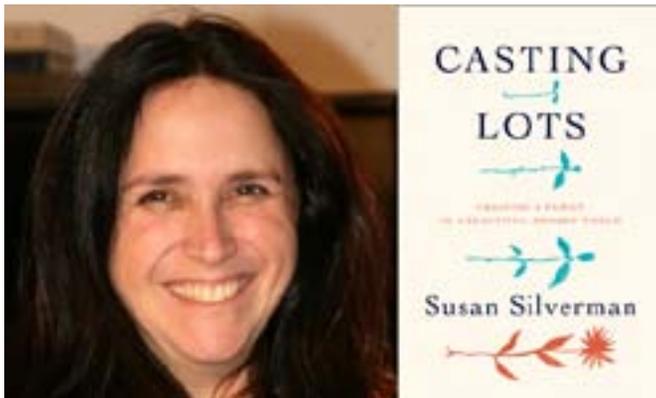


Feel the Beat: Israeli Contemporary Music **Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 10:15 a.m.**

Join with our older students in an exploration of what moves Israel. Keren will lead us to understand popular music and Israeli identity.

Keren Hananel was born and raised in Israel. From the age of six, her life goal was to be a tour guide. Keren served as an Education Officer in the Israeli Defense Forces. She earned her BA in the study of Israel and Geography at Bar Ilan University. She completed the Tour Guide course at Archaeology Seminars and studied Christianity at Yad Ben Zvi. Keren is the beloved guide of Israeli children, Birthright groups, Federations and Synagogue Missions as well as jeep tours in Georgia. In her free time, Keren enjoys surfing in the Mediterranean Sea, and hiking in Israel and around the world.

SUSAN SILVERMAN- RABBI, AUTHOR, ACTIVIST, MOM



Casting Lots: Creating a Family in a Beautiful, Broken World
Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Cooper Creek Event Center, Blue Ash
Rockdale is co-sponsoring this Jewish Family Service event

Rabbi Silverman's most recent book is a memoir, *Casting Lots: Creating a Family in a Beautiful, Broken World*. Susan is the sister of Laura, an actress and writer, Jodyne (Speyer), and Sarah, an actress, writer, and comedian. She and Yosi have five children by both birth and adoption and live in Israel.

Rabbi Silverman will take an irreverent and witty look at how parental love can tackle the messiness of typical family life.

This event is free and open to the public with a book signing to follow. Presented by Jewish Family Service in partnership with HUC-JIR, Rockdale Temple, and Isaac M. Wise Temple.

**Women of the Wall and Beyond:
Being a Feminist in Israel**
Friday, October 27 at 6:15 p.m.

Rabbi Silverman will speak at our annual Women of Rockdale Shabbat. Please RSVP for dinner to follow.

Rabbi Silverman will speak about her experiences as a feminist in Israel and her involvement with Women of the Wall. She will talk about the struggle to be a Zionist in a complex social and political arena.



Rabbi Coran, Rabbi Silverman and another dear classmate at Women of the Wall, summer 2016.





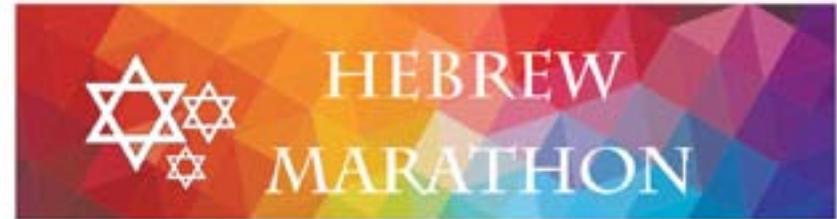
Rabbi Silverman being detained for participating with Women of the Wall

Susan Silverman was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1994. Since then, Rabbi Silverman has lived many years in Israel. In 1997 she and her husband, Yosef Abramowitz, wrote the bestselling *Jewish Family & Life: Traditions, Holidays and Values for Today's Parents and Children*,

which launched a Jewish multimedia enterprise, JewishFamily.com. Susan's current rabbinic work includes activism on behalf of asylum seekers in Israel, advocating for liberal Judaism and promoting adoption. She is a founder of KAMOT-CHA: A Jewish Response to Refugees, on the Board of Directors of Women of the Wall, on the International Council of the New Israel Fund and the Founding Director of Second Nurture: Every Child Deserves a Family--And a Community.

"Sarah and Susan Silverman spoke to Boston University students in a Department of Religion program called 'Sister Act.' Students came out in droves to hear Sarah, who was smart and funny. But Susan knocked their socks off. With wisdom and humor she dove into the heart of life's most important questions and took their breath away."

-Dr. Deanna Klepper,
Associate Professor of History and Religion,
Boston University



Sunday, October 15, 2017

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

You really can learn to read Hebrew in a day. Come join in the fun of becoming Hebrew literate. For those who are rusty or just beginning!

Class Cost:

Members: \$35; Non-Members \$50

Cost includes Lunch & Textbook.



RSVP to Paige Barker by:
Tuesday, October 8, 2017



Rockdale Temple

8501 Ridge Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45236
513.891.9900 ✪ pbarker@rockdaletemple.org ✪
www.rockdaletemple.org

Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. beginning October 18

Rabbi Sigma Faye Coran

With Rabbinic Intern Adam Bellows

If you are an adult who has never celebrated a Bar or Bat Mitzvah (or you did, but don't remember much), you are invited to join Rockdale Temple's Adult B'nei Mitzvah class. Rabbi Coran will lead the class through an intensive study of Judaism and prayer, culminating in a Shabbat morning celebration on **April 21, 2018**. Willingness to learn, or to continue to learn, Hebrew is a strong prerequisite. If you do not read Hebrew, we encourage you to start with the Hebrew Marathon. Hebrew instruction will be part of the second hour on Wednesday evenings for those who need it. Please reach out to Rabbi Coran with your interest or questions at scoran@rockdaletemple.org

Scribal Arts: How a Torah is Made

Tuesday, October 17 at 5:00 p.m.

Rabbi Menachem Bialo, Sofer on Site

Through the generosity of the Alan Rosenberg Fund, we will be restoring several of our Torah scrolls. Join with our Hebrew School students to witness our scribe demonstrate his work.

Understanding and Embracing Blessings: Talmud for Beginners

Lunch and Learn

The Second Tuesday of Each Month at Noon*:

**Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, Mar. 6*, Apr. 10,
May 8**

*except March

At Temple or via Google Hang-Out

Rabbi Sigma Faye Coran

(You need not have studied with us last year, or commit to every month!)

We will continue to learn together how to maneuver through the twists and turns of Talmudic literature and look at the Tractate of *Berachot*. When and how do we pray? With whom do we pray? The answers to these questions will inform the way we look at life as a blessing, ultimately understanding why we might pray (or not!).

Do you want to join the class from your home or office? If you have a computer with a camera or a smartphone, please join our lunch and learn via Google Hang-Outs. You will need to set up a Google Plus account and then download Hangouts or install the app on your phone. Let Rabbi Coran know you will be joining in, and she will send you the email invite! RSVP to scoran@rockdaletemple.org.

Love Your Neighbor

Friday, November 17 at 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Services followed by dinner and discussion with members of the Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati.



From Profane to Sacred

Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m.

(Religious School Parent Shmooze with coffee and treats at 10:00 a.m. - all are welcome)

Sept. 10, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Feb. 25, Mar. 18, Apr. 15

Rabbinic Intern Adam Bellows

Find meaning in living Jewishly throughout the year. This is an opportunity to learn from master teachers and with our community to deepen your understanding of Jewish traditions, from the everyday to the holy days. We will interact with one another, with Jewish texts and music. Our Rabbinic Intern will engage your mind and spirit. Feel free to join our Religious School parents for a schmooze at 10:00 am and stay to learn.

Beyond Tribalism: A Universalist Reading of the Exodus

Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

November 1, 8, and 15

Rabbi Matthew Kraus

Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies, University of Cincinnati

The Exodus is conventionally understood as the paradigmatic event generating a uniquely Jewish national identity. According to the Torah, the Israelites, in their first collective experience as a people, escape their Egyptian overlords through a divinely delivered miraculous redemption. "The Wisdom of Solomon," a Jewish Greek work preserved in the Apocrypha, ingeniously retells the Exodus from a different angle: a story of humanity's redemption rather than a conflict between Egyptians and Israelites that justifies an ethnocentric triumphalism. This course utilizes this ancient Jewish Greek text (in English translation) to understand the Exodus in a new light.

More Mussar: Jewish Ethical Living

Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

February 21, March 7, and 14, 2018

*Rabbi Kan Katzew, PhD, Director of Service-Learning
Associate Professor of Education and Jewish Thought
HUC-JIR Cincinnati*

For those who studied with us last spring and those who did not. Rabbi Katzew will lead us through a study that is both personal and public. We will engage in the timeless and timely question of what it means to imitate God. In this sacred discussion, we will focus on repairing the world inside us so that we can repair the world around us.

Rockdale Book Club

Tuesday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. *The Weight of Ink*

by Rachel Kadish

Other dates and books to be determined by the group

Facilitated by Rockdale Librarian, Karen Zanger

This growing group of men and women chooses and reads a Jewish fiction or non-fiction book (alternating) about every six weeks. Meet-ups to discuss and nosh a bit usually occur on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m., around a very large and friendly table up in the Rockdale library. This group is for folks who like having a little structure and company around reading interesting Jewish books. It's also for getting to know other Rockdale book lovers better! We choose our next book at each successive meet-up instead of far in advance, so that we're free to entertain whims and new books. If enough copies of a book we choose to read together are not available from libraries, and if covering purchase cost would be difficult for a group member, the purchase can be reimbursed through a generous "In the Beginning" grant from Rockdale Temple Sisterhood. Contact person for the Book Club is Karen Zanger. Write to her at solsearch@aol.com or call her at 513.919.1271.

A YEAR FULL OF OPPORTUNITIES

Selichot: September 16 at 8:00 p.m.

Personal Ethics & Public Decisions: Beginning the Season of Repentance

Join the Rockdale Temple community on Selichot as we welcome Rabbi Jonathan Cohen, Dean of the Cincinnati campus, HUC-JIR. Rabbi Cohen is an authority in the fields of human rights and religion, and Halachah and ethics as they relate to modernity. We are grateful to have this local Jewish authority helping to usher us into a reflective mindset in preparation for the sacred journey ahead. Our congregation is invited to once again enter that holy space as we welcome the arrival of the High Holy Day season with sacred study. Together, we will engage with tradition and innovation as we prepare for the Days of Awe.

Yom Kippur Afternoon Discussion

September 30 at 1:00 p.m.

Our Prison System & Atonement

A partial viewing of the movie "13th" followed by a discussion. We will try to understand the racial inequalities in our prisons and what might be a more restorative justice for all. Can reflecting on these issues bring us closer to a greater understanding of repentance? Is true *teshuvah* (atonement) a possibility?

Mitzvahpalooza 9

November 19 at 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

An opportunity to learn about some advocacy issues in the morning and to participate in Tikkun Olam in the afternoon.

Tikkun Leyl Shavuot

May 30

Late night study and discussion as we celebrate receiving the Torah at Mt. Sinai.

Every Saturday Morning:

Join in a lively Torah discussion on Shabbat morning at 9:30 a.m. Learn, laugh and be transformed by the community and the weekly portion.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE COMMUNITY

Global Day of Jewish Learning

Mayerson Jewish Community Center

Sunday, November 20, 2017

Ugliness and Beauty: From the Aesthetic to the Ethical

Dr. Michal Raucher of UC Judaic Studies will deliver the keynote talk that will be the anchor of the day. Her talk (at 1:00 p.m.) will frame the concepts of Beauty and Ugliness and set the stage for the workshops to follow.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE COMMUNITY

Introduction to Judaism

Sponsored by the Union for Reform Judaism and the Reform rabbis and congregations of Cincinnati.

An eight-week course covering topics about living Jewishly, including: practice and observance, beliefs, creating a Jewish home, life cycle observances, synagogue and prayer, history, Shabbat and holidays, and choosing Judaism. A sponsoring rabbi is required.

Classes will be held at:

Hebrew Union College, Herman Learning Center
3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45220

Start date to be determined.

Please contact Rabbi Coran or Rabbi Kahan if interested!

Tuesday evenings, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Rabbi Matthew Kraus

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Department of Jewish Studies, University of Cincinnati

Registration Fee: \$200 per individual, \$235 per couple. *Students will be asked to purchase books for the class.*

For more information contact Steve Sorkin, at ssorkin@urj.org or 314.983.0229

ISRAEL AT 70: FALL EVENTS



Celebrate 70 years of Israeli independence!
Join the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati and the
Mayerson JCC as we mark this momentous anniversary
and look toward the future with a season-long
community celebration including special events,
dialogue, and gatherings.

KICK-OFF EVENT:
COMMUNITY-WIDE SHOFAR BLOWING

of the Mayerson JCC, Former's Market
September 10, 1pm

Calling all shofar blowers! Help kick off the celebration of Israel at 70. We'll blow 70 shofars for 70 seconds, one shofar and one second for each year of Israel's independence. All community agencies and individuals are invited to sign up to participate.





BELLY LAUGHS:
JOEL CHASNOFF AND EINAT ADMONY

September 13, 4-5:30pm | Tickets starting at \$18!

Comedian Joel Chasnoff and Chef Einat Admony join forces for the hilarious show, Belly Laughs. The new comic/chef collaboration began when the two co-wrote *Shabbosha*, a cookbook featuring 140 of Einat's recipes infused with Joel's comedic touches.

ISRAELITY IN FICTION: CONTEMPORARY ISRAEL
IN THE WORK OF ESHKOL NEVO

October 30, 7pm

Provocative and timely, critically-acclaimed Israeli author Eshkol Nevo uses fiction to navigate the complexities of Israel's social and political landscape. Politics runs in the family, as he is the grandson of former Israeli Prime Minister Levi Eshkol. Community members are encouraged to read his latest work, *Three Rooms Up*, which examines the interconnected lives of its characters, whose humor, secrets, unreliable confessions, and problematic decisions reveal a society in the midst of an identity crisis. Join him for a discussion of the novel and how his work reflects contemporary Israel.



Available in English and Hebrew available October 19.
Advance reading is not required.



RE-ART: THE MANY FACES OF ISRAEL

at the Skirball Museum of Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion

Exhibition Opening: November 14, 5:30pm

On Display: November 14 - December 10

Five artists each from Netanyahu, Israel and Cincinnati have collaborated to create this unique exhibition that explores the theme, The Many Faces of Israel.

This exhibition is a Partnership2gether (P2G) program of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati presented in collaboration with Cincinnati Skirball Museum.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR OUR BROCHURE WITH ALL ISRAEL AT 70 EVENTS COMING SOON!
VISIT MAYERSONJCC.ORG TO LEARN MORE AND RSVP



8501 Ridge Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45236
513-891-9900 fax: 513-891-0515

www.rockdaletemple.org