



SHORASHIM

Growing Jewish ROOTS Together



Temple Beth David
Religious School
2020-2021

“V’shinantam l’vanecha... And you shall teach them to your children.” – Deuteronomy 6:7

Our Torah teaches us to value learning and the joy of passing on Jewish tradition. Jewish education is a life-long journey. We look forward to engaging children, teens and adults in exciting Jewish study and experiences. Whether exploring the cycle of Jewish holidays, Torah and texts, values, culture, history, Hebrew and prayer, we encourage ongoing interpretation of our tradition and creative forms of religious expression. Students study, question and participate in Jewish life according to the principles of Reform Judaism. We hope this year will bring many meaningful moments of Jewish learning for your family and connections with your temple community.

- Rabbi Karen and Rabbi Micah Citrin



Shorashim is the name of our religious school; it means "roots." Judaism imagines that the Torah is a Tree of Life, providing nourishment, sustenance and wisdom. We hope that our educational experience will plant seeds and grow roots for life-long Jewish learning and communal connection in the minds and souls of our students.

Our Educational Mission:

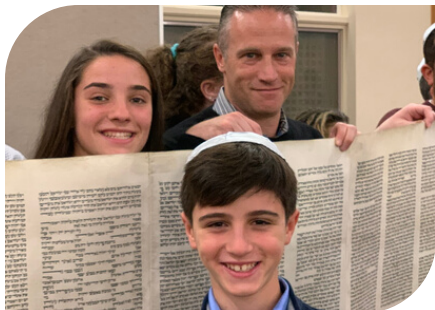
Temple Beth David's Religious School builds a foundation for Jewish learning and living, connects students to Jewish heritage, history, culture and tradition, and inspires students to add their perspective to the Jewish story, becoming active participants in Jewish community to make a difference in our world.

Our Goals:

Rabbis, educators, teachers, parents and community members are partners in supporting and guiding students:



- To ask questions and express a sense of wonder
- To engage in creative hands-on learning experiences
- To participate and be included regardless of background and ability
- To explore Torah and Jewish texts while interpreting Jewish tradition in meaningful and relevant ways
- To celebrate the joyful cycle of Shabbat and *chagim* (Jewish holidays) in the synagogue and home
- To gain understanding of the Hebrew language, experience *tefilah* (prayer), and develop a mindfulness of spirituality
- To integrate Jewish values and *mitzvot* (sacred actions) into their lives
- To pursue *tzedakah* (justice) and *tikkun olam* (care for our world)
- To see themselves as part of *Am Yisrael* and *Eretz Yisrael* (the people and land of Israel)
- To build relationships with other students and their families
- To learn with the generations of our community – *l'dor vador*
- To reflect on and appreciate their growing Jewish identity
- To continue learning into their adult years and connect with Jewish community



UNION *for*
REFORM
JUDAISM

A Proud Member of the URJ

“Kabel kol echad b'sever panim yafot (Receive every person with a pleasant countenance).” – Pirkei Avot



This synagogue welcomes, values and includes people of all abilities.

CONGREGATIONAL PARTNER



**RUDERMAN
SYNAGOGUE
INCLUSION
PROJECT**

All are welcome...

Temple Beth David aims to be a welcoming Jewish home by embracing all people and extending *kavod* – honor to people with different needs and abilities. We are committed to opening the doors of our synagogue wider to allow full participation in Jewish education, worship, life cycle and fellowship. In partnering with the Ruderman Family Foundation, we are building a holy community. Please let our rabbis know of any special learning needs.



OVERVIEW OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

Grades K-6

Our Shorashim program begins on Sunday mornings 9:30-11:30 am, when our Kindergarten through 6th grade students start together in the sanctuary for communal prayer and songs. Parents join along and there is often optional adult learning offered on Sunday mornings. Students study a variety of Judaic topics and themes. Classroom learning is enriched by elective choices for grades 3-6, music and hands-on social action experiences. Grades K-2 begin to learn Hebrew letters and vocabulary.



Grades 3-6 also participate in a weekly one-hour small group Hebrew class on either Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon.

Groups of approximately six students are arranged according to schedule preference and a positive and productive learning environment. We also offer a Hebrew tutoring option for special learning needs; please be in touch with Rabbi Karen if this option may be right for your student(s).



Our K-6 program includes many opportunities for communal connections such as holiday celebrations, Shabbat dinners and services, retreats, social gatherings, and overnights for older students. See the calendar of session dates and programs for more details.

Grades 7-12

On Wednesday evenings from 5:30-8:00 pm, 7th – 12th graders enjoy dinner together followed by core class for 7th graders and elective options for 8th-12th graders. *B'nai Mitzvah* and Post *B'nai Mitzvah* teens participate in “Double Chai,” a flexible, elective-based program that includes social action opportunities, youth group activities, and class offerings that accommodate the busy schedule of teenagers. 10th grade includes a special Confirmation experience and service.



BAR/BAT MITZVAH

We look forward to welcoming young adults into our community as *B'nai Mitzvah*. To become *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* and celebrate this significant lifecycle occasion, a student must participate in our religious school (or equivalent) for at least three years prior to and including the year of *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*.



Teens are encouraged and guided to shape their Jewish identity as they become young adults. There is relevant Jewish learning for everyone and all teens are welcome to be part of our inclusive community. Some classes and experiences are offered on Sundays. High School teens can also participate in our NAWDTY youth group, yearly travel opportunities, and our *madrichim* (teaching assistant) program.



Through meaningful and supportive preparation, students offer personal interpretation and lead our community in prayer.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT & PARENT CONNECTIONS

Parents are our partners in the education of their children. We hope you will share your time and experience, and participate in the life of the temple. We offer parallel learning and volunteer opportunities for parents and adults on Sunday mornings. Parents meet teachers and learn more about our program at the beginning of the school year. Parents receive a weekly email from the rabbis and updates from the teachers. We encourage open communication and look forward to guiding your family on your Jewish journey.

SHABBAT

At Beth David, we joyfully welcome Shabbat each week. We encourage students and families to regularly participate in Shabbat evening and morning services. Service attendance helps students apply the Hebrew skills that they are learning and gain an appreciation for Jewish prayer and being part of the community. Students participate in helping to lead prayers and songs. Children are always welcome. We offer monthly Shabbat dinners, which are a wonderful way to meet and connect with other families.



SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

It is important that our students connect and feel comfortable with one another and we help children get to know each other. Classes are enhanced with social opportunities, Shabbat celebration, outings and retreats. We hope students will make Jewish friendships for many years to come!

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

All are welcome to join in Mazel Tots, our program for preschoolers and parents on select Sunday mornings, Tot Shabbat, and other family-friendly Shabbat experiences. Holiday celebrations are great entry points to our synagogue community.



HOW DO I REGISTER:

Shorashim registration is open to members of the Temple Beth David community. Jewish education and life-long learning are central to our synagogue. If you are interested in trying out our education programs, we offer an Introductory Program where you may enroll a child in grades K-2 for one year before formally becoming members (tuition fees apply). Please contact Rabbi Karen to discuss our K-6 education or the Introductory Program. **We look forward to welcoming your family!**



Access Online Registration Here:

<https://tinyurl.com/TBDRSRegistration2020>

Registration begins in May. Please register soon, by June if possible. Registration for Grades 3-6 includes the Hebrew scheduling form.

For any questions, contact Rabbi Karen Citrin, Director of Education Grades K-6 (rabbikaren@templebethdavid.net), Rabbi Micah Citrin, Director of Education Grades 7-12 (rabbimicah@templebethdavid.net), or Vice President of Education, Wendy Berliner (wendyberliner18@gmail.com).

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