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Fall 2024 | 5784-5785  
Catalog of Classes





Rabbi Yonatan Dahlen

# AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TALMUD: TURN IT AND TURN IT, FOR EVERYTHING IS IN IT

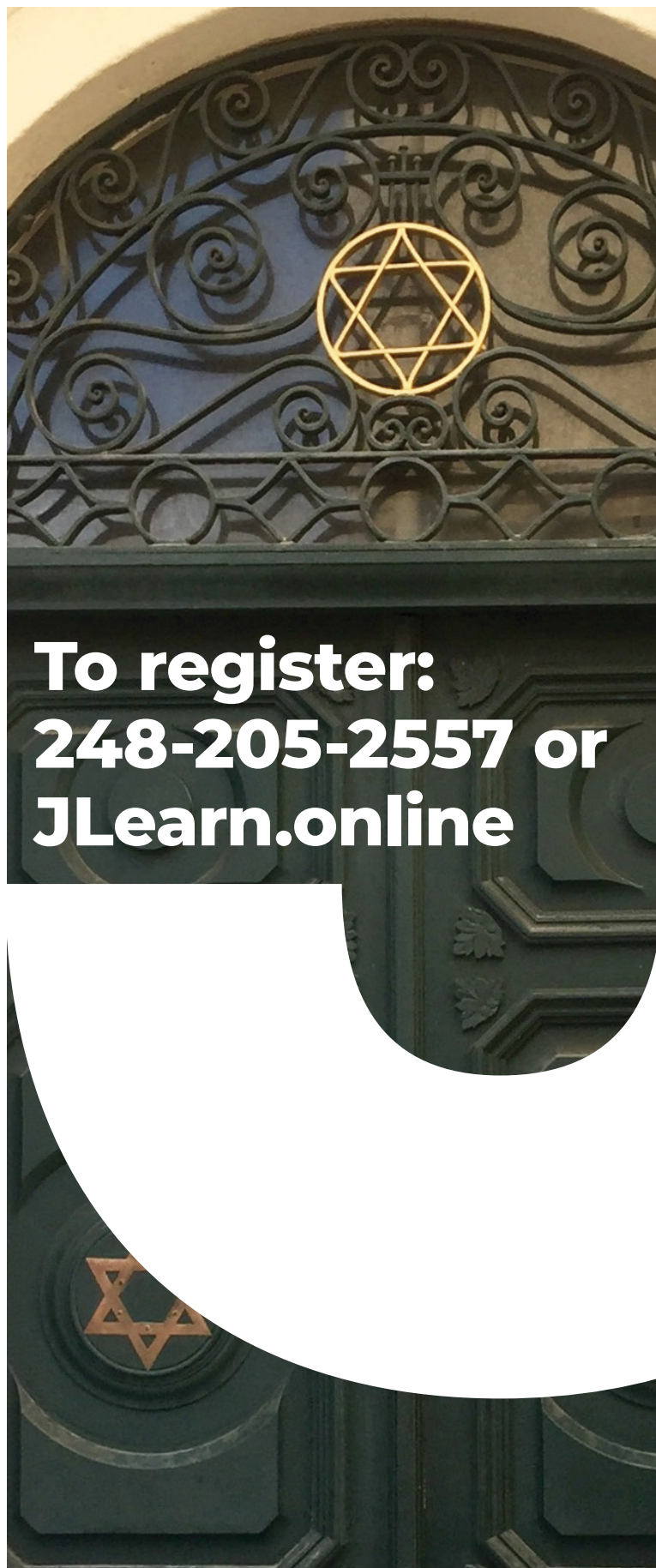
with Rabbi Yonatan Dahlen

It has been the key to Jewish survival and continuity for nearly two millennia, yet despite its immeasurable importance, the Talmud can feel intimidating to the point of being inaccessible. Break down the barriers of the Talmud and discover the tools and resources necessary to conquer, with confidence, the study of this beautiful text!

*Complete description on page 4.*

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**To register:  
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**Welcome to the  
Fall 2024 Catalog of  
Classes from JLearn,**  
where adult Jewish learning  
meets today's lifestyles. We  
are excited to offer a wide  
selection of classes on ZOOM,  
as well as expanded in-person  
opportunities. Join a community  
of learners guided by the most  
talented instructors from the  
Detroit area and across the  
world. Whatever your interests,  
wherever you are, JLearn  
has classes for you in history,  
religion, Talmud, ethics, Hebrew,  
the arts, current events and  
much more. Join us in person,  
from the comfort of your home  
or even from your travels, as we  
invite you to enter the World of  
Jewish Knowledge!

# Judaic Studies Classes

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TALMUD: TURN IT AND TURN IT, FOR EVERYTHING IS IN IT

**Rabbi Yonatan Dahlen**

**In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building**

**MONDAYS, 9:30 – 11 AM**

Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2, 9, 16

It has been the key to Jewish survival and continuity for nearly two millennia, yet despite its immeasurable importance, the Talmud can feel intimidating to the point of being inaccessible. Break down the barriers of the Talmud and discover the tools and resources necessary to conquer, with confidence, the study of this beautiful text!

**Tuition: \$ 140**

## MODERN JEWISH MEDICAL ETHICS

**Jill Gutmann**

**ZOOM**

**MONDAYS, 10 – 11:30 AM**

Monthly: Oct. 28; Nov. 18; Dec. 16; Jan. 27; Feb. 24; Mar. 24; Apr. 28; May 19; June 16

Take a deep dive into the hot medical issues of the day with bio-ethicist Jill Gutmann. Whether the subject is public health or women's rights to their bodies, you will be guided through an engaging discussion while looking at the science, politics, Jewish commentary and other relevant sources to frame your opinion. Never knowing what the timely topic will be until class, this fun, informative and engaging class is sure to make you think and want the conversation to continue long after the class has ended.

**Tuition: \$210**

## A RABBI'S TOP TEN LIST OF FAVORITE JEWISH TEXTS

**Rabbi Robert Dobrusin**

**ZOOM**

**MONDAYS, 10 – 11:15 AM**

Sept. 16, 23; Oct. 7, 14, 21

Everyone who studies Jewish texts has their favorites - teachings that they find uniquely fascinating, challenging, inspiring or delightful. Rabbi Rob Dobrusin will present ten of his favorites for a lively discussion. Whether well-known, obscure or surprising, each text raises a critical point concerning Jewish identity, theology, ethics or religious ritual. If you have a favorite text not mentioned, be sure to bring it to class.

**Tuition: \$100**

## AN ANGEL ON YOUR BACK

**Rabbi Michele Faudem**

**In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building**

**MONDAYS, 11 – NOON**

Series 1: Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4, 11

Series 2: Nov.18; Dec. 9, 16; Jan. 6, 13, 27; Feb. 3, 10

Series 3: Mar. 3, 10, 17, 31; Apr. 28; May 5, 12, 19

Do you ever have the feeling that a departed loved one is watching over you? Perhaps you have a strange feeling that someone is trying to communicate with you. Angels are supernatural beings that appear widely throughout Jewish literature. The Hebrew word for angel, mal'ach, means messenger, and the angels in early biblical writings deliver information or carry out specific tasks. Join Rabbi Michele Faudem as we explore the mystical world of Jewish angels, the afterlife and our souls in the next world.

**Tuition: \$125 per 8-week series**

*Discount: Sign up for all three series \$360*

# Judaic Studies Classes

## GENEALOGY WORKSHOP: FINDING YOUR ROOTS

**Robbie Terman**

**In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building**

**MONDAYS, 11 AM – 12:15 PM**

Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14

Do you want to research your family history but do not know how to start? Archivist Robbie Terman will set you on the right path to understanding the basic documents, where to find them and how to decipher their meaning. Learn research techniques, discover unexpected sources of information and how to navigate through popular genealogy websites.

**Tuition: \$120**

## BETTER TOGETHER, LOVE AND KINDNESS IN JUDAISM

**Rabbi Tzvi Muller**

**In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building**

**MONDAYS, NOON – 1 PM**

Nov. 4, 11, 18; Dec. 2, 9, 16

The world is desperately in need of more kindness. As Jews, we are often the targets of the most virulent hatred and cruelty. However, we must prioritize bringing love and goodness into a world that is seriously lacking compassion. Connect back to the source of Judaism's values of love and kindness in our effort to bring about a universal healing.

We will explore the primary Jewish texts regarding the application of this mitzvah in real life.

- What are the attitudes, emotions and behaviors that love requires?
- How do we develop those attitudes, emotions and behavior tendencies?
- Can, and should, we love others equally to ourselves?
- Should we love people who do bad things?
- What is self-love and is it included in this mitzvah?
- Why is this mitzvah considered the greatest principle of Judaism?

**Tuition: \$95**



## READING BETWEEN THE LINES – FALL

Rebecca Starr

In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building

MONDAYS, NOON – 1:15 PM

Monthly: Oct 7; Nov. 4; Dec. 2

Join Rebecca Starr as we dive into a variety of genres of Jewish themed literature in this lively discussion class. Students should read books in advance of class.

**OCTOBER:** *One Hundred Saturdays* by Michael Frank: The real-life biography of Stella Levi, who as a young child from Rhodes, Greece, survives Auschwitz.

**NOVEMBER:** *An Undisturbed Peace* by Mary Glickman: Beginning in the 1830s, Abraham Bento Sassporta Nagar is a peddler in North Carolina, after traveling from London, England.

**DECEMBER:** *City of Promise: A Novel of New York's Gilded Age* by Beverly Swerling: This story begins at the end of the Civil War and winds through the evolution of New York City.

**Tuition: \$60**

## THE ORIGINAL HALACHIC DEBATES

Rabbi Michele Faudem

Series 1 and 3: In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building

Series 2: ZOOM

TUESDAYS, 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Series 1: Sept. 10, 17, 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Series 2: Nov. 12, 19; Dec 10, 17; Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28

Series 3: Feb. 4, 11; Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25; Apr. 22, 29

This class is reserved for students who were previously enrolled on this day and time.

**Tuition: \$125 per 8-week series**

*Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$360; Sign up for all six series on Tuesdays with Rabbi Michele Faudem- \$685 (See next page.)*

# Judaic Studies Classes

## CHAPTER AND VERSE: PROPHETS, PLAGUES, FISH AND FAMINE, OH MY!

**Rabbi Michele Faudem**

**Series 1 and 3: In-Person | Max M. Fisher  
Federation Building**

**Series 2: ZOOM**

**TUESDAYS, 10:45 – 11:45 AM**

Series 1: Sept. 10, 17, 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Series 2: Nov. 12, 19; Dec 10, 17; Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28

Series 3: Feb. 4, 11; Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25; Apr. 22, 29

The lesser-known prophets have nice names, but who are they? Join Rabbi Michele Faudem as we explore Joel, Malachi, Obadiah, Jonah and others as we make our way through the end of the prophetic period. Expect to ask more questions than we have answers!

**Tuition: \$125 per 8-week series**

*Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$360; Sign up for all six series on Tuesdays with Rabbi Michele Faudem- \$685 (See previous page.)*

## TORAH LINE BY LINE

**Rabbi/Dr. Mitch Parker**

**Hybrid / Max M. Fisher Federation Building**

**TUESDAYS, 10 – 11:30 AM**

Monthly: Sept. 17; Oct. 15; Nov. 12; Dec. 10; Jan. 14; Feb. 4;  
Mar. 18; Apr. 22; May 20

Sacrifices, laws of purity and holiness, societal expectations, rules and rule breakers. These are just some of the topics we will explore in this third book of the Torah. Join Mitch Parker to explore how our ancestors worshipped G-d and how these 3,000 year old rules continue to impact our Jewish lives today. You don't want to miss this engaging conversation.

**Tuition: \$210**

## THE BASICS OF JUDAISM

Rabbi/Dr. Mitch Parker

**ZOOM**

**TUESDAYS, 7 – 8:30 PM**

Sept. 17, 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22

This introductory Judaism course has a focus on foundational Jewish issues and encourages discussion for those who are Jewish, considering Judaism or have an interest in learning more about the religion. Join us as we explore topics such as:

- Who wrote the Bible and why does it matter?
- What happens to us after we die?
- Where does G-d fit in?
- Doing Jewish: Shabbat
- Spirituality in a Jewish context

This is a perfect class for anyone wanting to take a more meaningful Jewish journey.

**Tuition: \$140**

## WITHIN THE WALLS: JEWISH-OWNED BUSINESSES IN DETROIT

Professor Howard Lupovitch

**ZOOM**

**TUESDAYS, 7 – 8:30 PM**

Sept. 10, 17

Detroit has been an extraordinary city for Jewish-owned companies. Who are the moguls that turned their dreams into successful businesses and contributed to the vibrancy of our city and suburbs? Why was Detroit the springboard for so many million/billionaires? Join Professor Howard Lupovitch as he unravels the history of Detroit Jewish-owned businesses and the impact they have had on Detroit, the country and the world.

**Tuition: \$45**

# Judaic Studies Classes

## THE JEWS AND ISLAM

**Professor Howard Lupovitch**

**ZOOM**

**TUESDAYS, 7 – 8:30 PM**

Nov. 12, 19; Dec. 3, 10, 17

Explore the long, tortuous relationship between Judaism and Islam, and between Jews and Muslims, in all its complexity and variations. Learn about the common “Abrahamic” elements of the two communities; why, for more than a millennium, it was better to be Jewish in a Muslim country than in a Christian country, and how the relationship became strained during the twentieth century.

**Tuition: \$120**

## WISDOM WEDNESDAYS – THE CONTINUING MORAL VOICE OF RABBI JONATHAN SACKS

**Rabbi Michele Faudem**

**ZOOM**

**WEDNESDAYS, 10:30 – 11:45 AM**

Series 1: Sept. 11, 18, 25; Oct. 9, 30; Nov. 6, 13, 20

Series 2: Dec. 11, 18; Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29; Feb. 5, 12

Series 3: Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26; Apr. 2, 23, 30; May 7

**In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building**

**WEDNESDAYS, 1 – 2:15 PM**

Series 1: Sept. 11, 18, 25; Oct. 9, 30; Nov. 6, 13, 20

Series 2: Dec. 11, 18; Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29; Feb. 5, 12

Series 3: Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26; Apr. 2, 23, 30; May 7

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks z”l (1948-2020) was a global religious leader, philosopher, author of more than 25 books and a moral voice of our time. His thinking and writings have influenced, and will continue to influence, the mindset of world Jewry for generations to come. Join us each week as we explore his teachings and discuss how they impact our connection to Judaism, Israel and each other.

**Tuition: \$125 per 8-week series**

*Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$360*

## THE JEWISH COLLECTORS OF ART

Wendy Evans

ZOOM

WEDNESDAYS, 10 – 11:30 AM

Jan. 22, 29; Feb. 5

Jewish collectors have contributed to and enriched art museums; a few have even created their own museums. This series will look at examples of the art collected by well-known families such as the Rothschilds and the Steins, and lesser-known individuals such as Ludwig and Rosy Fischer. The art will vary from Judaica to Old Master paintings, impressionists, expressionists and modern art. Join Wendy Evans for this fascinating journey through some of the best collections of art.

Tuition: \$70

## JEWISH IDENTITY: WHO IS A JEW?

Ruth Bergman

In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building

WEDNESDAYS, 10 – 11:15 AM

Sept. 11, 18, 25

Are Jewish people an ethnicity, religion or culture? The answer is yes! The evolution of Jewish identity from the Bible to today leaves us questioning not “who is a Jew?” but “what is a Jew?” Since biblical times Jewish identity - what it means to be Jewish in connection to G-d, other Jews and other peoples - has changed and changed again. Together, we will study various texts that define Jewishness as an ethnicity, religion, culture...and even a political identity!

Tuition: \$60

# Judaic Studies Classes

## JEWS IN THE THEATER

Rabbi Aaron Bergman

ZOOM

WEDNESDAYS, NOON – 1:30 PM

Oct. 30; Nov. 6, 13, 20

You may be familiar with the Jewish character Shylock from Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, or you may know that Jewish people have been involved in Broadway productions from its inception. But did you know that Jews have been involved in the theater, either as creators or characters, since the 3rd Century BCE? Join Rabbi Aaron Bergman as we look at Jewish actors, playwrights and acting coaches as well as analyzing how Jews have been portrayed in the theater by non-Jewish and Jewish writers and actors.

Tuition: \$90

## G-D TALK – RABBINIC PERSPECTIVES ON JEWISH LIFE

Rabbi Joseph Krakoff

ZOOM

WEDNESDAYS, 3 – 4 PM

Monthly: Dec 11; Jan 15; Feb. 12

Join Rabbi Joseph Krakoff for three enlightening discussions with well-established rabbis from the Detroit area. Hear the different perspectives on their personal beliefs and interpretations of G-d, Torah and Jewish tradition, as well as their heartfelt advice on living in these extremely challenging times.

Tuition: \$50

## SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS FOR A COMPLICATED LIFE

**ZOOM**

**Rabbi Michele Faudem**

**WEDNESDAYS, 7 – 8 PM**

Series 1: Sept. 11, 18, 25; Oct. 9, 30; Nov. 6, 13, 20

Series 2: Dec. 11, 18; Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29; Feb. 5, 12

Series 3: Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26; Apr. 2, 23, 30; May. 7

Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) is a valuable treasure-trove of short, moral and ethical teachings that serve as guides for Jewish living. Join in the exploration of these inspiring materials as Rabbi Michele Faudem presents these morsels of advice and insights from the leading rabbinic scholars of different generations. As relevant today as when written, they serve to help navigate our complicated lives.

**Tuition: \$125 per 8-week series**

*Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$360*

## SALON SERIES CONTINUES: A TALMUDIC EXPLORATION OF HILLEL'S TEACHINGS ON ETHICS AND KINDNESS

**Rabbi Tzvi Muller**

**ZOOM**

**THURSDAYS, 9:30 – 11 AM**

Oct. 31; Nov. 7, 14, 21; Dec. 5, 12, 19; Jan. 9, 16, 23; Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27; Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr. 3, 24; May 1, 8, 15, 22

The genius of the Talmud, and the methodology of distilling its principles toward application for Jewish ethical life, has been the hallmark of Jewish scholarship throughout the ages. In this series, we analyze the teachings of Hillel and his academy and examine them through the lens of the classic commentaries. We will enlighten ourselves through the process of translating these relevant Jewish teachings into everyday life while exploring the art of practical Talmudic investigation.

Class size is limited. Please contact the office for registration.

**Tuition: \$525**

# Judaic Studies Classes

## CONTEMPORARY HALACHIC DEBATES: EVEN MORE QUESTIONS, EVEN FEWER ANSWERS

**Rabbi Michele Faudem**

**ZOOM**

**THURSDAYS, 9:30 – 10:30 AM**

Series 1: Sept. 12, 19, 26; Oct. 10, 31; Nov. 7, 14, 21

Series 2: Dec. 12, 19; Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13

Series 3: Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr. 3, 24; May 1, 8

A lively weekly discussion and debate on current, relevant topics. How does Halacha (Jewish law) impact our everyday opinions and decisions? Participate in this round table discussion as Rabbi Michele Faudem asks: “questions, comments and concerns?”

**Tuition: \$125 per 8-week series**

*Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$360*

## ETHICAL WILLS, A LETTER FOR THE AGES

**Rabbi Michele Faudem**

**ZOOM**

**THURSDAYS, 10:45 – 11:45 AM**

Sept. 26; Oct. 10, 31; Nov. 7, 14, 21; Dec. 12, 19

When we leave this earth, what are the messages or words of advice we would like to leave behind for our loved ones? What will be your legacy? Ramban, Rabbi Moses ben Nachman, wrote a beautiful letter for his son, Nachman, guiding him to live a life of humility and ethical refinement. Explore this incredible text and see how it can impact our lives today, perhaps encouraging you to write something similar.

**Tuition: \$125**



## THE HEARTS PRAYER, EXPLORING THE BOOK OF PSALMS

Rabbi Michele Faudem

**ZOOM**

**THURSDAYS, 10:45 – 11:45 AM**

Jan. 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13; Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr. 3, 24; May 1, 8

Through the ages, Psalms have played a tremendous role in the lives of the Jewish people. It is part of our liturgy, and many have repeatedly turned to Psalms for encouragement and comfort in moments of crisis or despair. Delve into and unpack numerous Psalms and see how they can help us articulate what is occurring in our lives and how they help connect us to G-d and the centuries of Jews who came before us.

**Tuition: \$185**

## HAVE YOU GOT CHUTZPAH?

Rabbi Joseph Krakoff

**In-Person | Max M. Fisher Federation Building**

**THURSDAYS, 10 – 11:30 AM**

Sept. 12, 19, 26 (Last class will be held on ZOOM)

Chutzpah is a Yiddish word meaning imprudence or nerve. It also can involve an expression of audacity, effrontery, gall and temerity. It is a flagrant boldness that is often not received with positivity. If you have chutzpah, you may say what you think and not be concerned with hurting someone's feelings or getting in trouble. But chutzpah also may be a vital force in empowering people to do what is right even amid challenges, difficulties and obstacles. Having chutzpah can allow us to persevere and not be held back from realizing our greatest moments. Join Rabbi Joseph Krakoff in this soulful examination of the many faces of chutzpah.

**Tuition: \$70**

# Judaic Studies Classes

## COFFEE WITH THE RABBIS: MUSSAR MASTERS - ETHICAL LIVING

Rabbi Joshua Bennett and Rabbi Joseph Krakoff

**ZOOM**

**THURSDAYS, 10 – 11:30 AM**

Monthly: Nov. 7; Dec. 5; Jan. 9; Feb. 6; Mar. 6; Apr. 3; May 8; June 5

Mussar is a Jewish spiritual practice that offers instruction and compelling strategies for living a meaningful and ethical Jewish life. Mussar seeks to aid in self-examination and character development by presenting thoughtful strategies for becoming our best and truest selves while achieving peace of mind.

Join Rabbi Joshua Bennett and Rabbi Joseph Krakoff as they explore Mussar topics that include humility, patience, honesty, loving kindness, tolerance and purity. Come for *Coffee With The Rabbis* and leave being the best person you can be!

**Tuition: \$195**

## THE SYNAGOGUE: ITS HISTORY, CUSTOMS AND GROWTH

Dr. Michael Pytlik

**ZOOM**

**THURSDAYS, NOON – 1:30 PM**

Oct. 31; Nov. 7, 14, 21; Dec. 5, 12, 19; Jan. 9

The concept of the synagogue as a place of worship started long before the destruction of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 CE. The recent uncovering of the remains of ancient synagogues has allowed us to trace the synagogue's development, both in form and function. Join Dr. Michael Pytlik as he explores the evolution of the synagogue in Israel, the Near East and into Europe, and discover the art, archaeology, liturgy and the religious use of this important institution.

**Tuition: \$190**

## **BIBLICAL DREAMERS AND THE VISIONARIES THEY INSPIRED**

**Ariella Nadel**

**ZOOM**

**THURSDAYS, NOON – 1:15 PM**

Oct. 31; Nov. 7, 14, 21; Dec. 5, 12, 19; Jan. 9

From Joseph to Betzalel, Miriam to Judith, our national history has propelled forward by the visions of prophetic dreamers. Each week we will study the story and text of a different biblical dreamer and then travel through our history to find the leaders and movements they subsequently inspired.

**Tuition: \$155**

## **THE RESISTANCE OF WOMEN DURING THE HOLOCAUST**

**Dr. Katie Chaka Parks**

**In-Person | The Zekelman Holocaust Center -  
Zekelman Family Campus**

**THURSDAYS, 1 – 2:15 PM**

Nov. 7, 14, 21

The Holocaust was not inevitable. Rather, it was the result of choices made over time by individuals and groups of people to be perpetrators, collaborators and bystanders. However, many people resisted the Nazi regime including vast numbers of women. While women's stories of resistance are lesser known, they are vital to our understanding of how both Jews and non-Jews resisted dehumanization and hate during the Holocaust.

**Tuition: \$60**

# Judaic Studies Classes

## FIDDLER ON THE ROOF: FROM THE PALE OF SETTLEMENT TO THE BROADWAY STAGE

**Dr. Avi Blitz**

**ZOOM**

**THURSDAYS, 7:30 – 8:45 PM**

Nov 7, 14, 21; Dec. 5

Explore the world of author Sholem Aleichem, the man whose stories inspired the Broadway musical, *Fiddler on the Roof*. Begin by reading *The Railroad Stories* and consider what kind of world Sholem Aleichem inhabited. Read the tales of *Tevye the Dairyman* and consider how each of Tevye's daughters represents a different future for the Jewish people. Look at the rise of Yiddish theater in New York and reflect on the conditions that made the production of *Fiddler on the Roof* possible. Finally, we will watch *Tevya*, a 1939 Yiddish film adaptation of the stories, which we will compare with the 1971 film of the Broadway show. Dr. Avi Blitz will be our guide as we compare how the Broadway musical changed the original stories to align with Jewish-American realities and explore the ways in which the play speaks to a universal immigrant experience in the United States.

**Tuition: \$80**

## PARSHA HASHAVUAH (WEEKLY TORAH PORTION)

**Community Rabbis, Cantors and Educators**

**ZOOM**

**FRIDAYS, 10 – 11 AM**

Series 1: Sept. 13, 20, 27; Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22; Dec. 6, 13, 20

Series 2: Jan 10, 17, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar. 7, 14

Series 3: Mar. 21, 28; Apr. 4, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; June 6

Each week a different rabbi, cantor or educator will present the weekly Torah portion from their perspective. You never know who will be teaching each week, but it is always enlightening and engaging! Sign up for one ten-week series or the entire year. Students need to have a Tanakh (Bible).

**Tuition: \$150 per 10-week series**

*Discount: Sign up for all three series - \$430*

## READING THE BOOK OF GENESIS AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME

Rabbi Joseph Klein

**ZOOM**

**FRIDAYS, 11:30 AM – 1 PM**

Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22; Dec. 6, 13, 20; Jan. 3

The Book of Genesis has for too long been wrongly transmitted as Sunday School stories. And, because we tell these stories to children, we assume that they were meant for children. But the truth is that these are sophisticated and extremely well-written narratives. The course will introduce the Documentary Hypothesis, recognizing that the final version was meant to be read as a unified text.

**Tuition: \$190**

## THE BOOK OF EXODUS: TEXT AND TEXTURE

Rabbi Joseph Klein

**ZOOM**

**FRIDAYS, 11:30 AM – 1 PM**

Jan. 17, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar. 7

This course will be a close and careful reading of the better-known Exodus narratives and their rabbinic and modern commentaries. The class will incorporate a discussion of the Documentary Hypothesis as a means of better understanding the purpose and intention of this foundation text of Torah, as well as presentation of what archaeology and Egyptology can teach about its historicity.

**Tuition: \$190**



Join JLearn  
as we find  
healing  
for the  
world and  
ourselves  
within our  
community.



Rabbi Tzvi Muller

## **BETTER TOGETHER, LOVE AND KINDNESS IN JUDAISM** with Rabbi Tzvi Muller

The world is desperately in need of more kindness. As Jews, we are often the targets of the most virulent hatred and cruelty. However, we must prioritize bringing love and goodness into a world that is seriously lacking compassion. Connect back to the source of Judaism's values of love and kindness, in our effort to bring about a universal healing.

***Complete description on page 6.***

# READING THE PROPHETS

Rabbi Joseph Klein

**ZOOM**

**FRIDAYS, 11:30 AM – 1 PM**

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; June 6

We know their names and many of their quotations. This course will examine the best known of the Biblical Prophets, their histories, the context of their messages and who in fact they really were. Rabbi Klein will place them within the historical reality of the Biblical narrative, suggest how their messages would have been received then and what they can mean for us today.

**Tuition: \$140**



**To register:  
248-205-2557 or  
JLearn.online**

# Hebrew Language & Literature Classes

with Dorit Warfman - all classes will be on ZOOM

## LEARN TO READ HEBREW

**TUESDAYS, 7 – 8:15 PM**

If you ever wanted to learn the Hebrew letters, follow prayers in Hebrew or read signs in Israel, then this is the course for you. This may be a stand alone class or advance into the “Hebrew 1” class to learn conversational Hebrew.

Series 1: Sept. 10, 17, 24; Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 12, 19

Series 2: Jan. 7, 14, 28; Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25; Mar. 4, 11, 18

**Tuition: \$170 per series**

## HEBREW 3

**MONDAYS, 9:30 – 10:45 AM**

Series 1: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 11, 18

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17

**Tuition: \$170 per series**

## HEBREW 5

**MONDAYS, 11 – 12:15 PM**

Series 1: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 11, 18

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17

**Tuition: \$170 per series**

## HEBREW 9

**MONDAYS, 12:30 – 1:45 PM**

Series 1: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 11, 18

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17

**Tuition: \$170 per series**

## HEBREW 7

**MONDAYS, 7 – 8:15 PM**

Series 1: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 11, 18

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17

**Tuition: \$170 per series**

For more information about Hebrew classes or to discuss placement of new students, contact **Nira Lev, Director of Hebrew Programs, 248-330-3601 or [amnira@ameritech.net](mailto:amnira@ameritech.net)**



**with Nira Lev** - all classes will be on ZOOM

## **ADVANCED HEBREW LANGUAGE & LITERATURE**

**SUNDAYS, 10 – NOON**

Series 1: Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29;  
Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17

Series 2: Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26;  
Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; Mar. 2, 9, 16

**Tuition: \$265 per series**

## **ADVANCED HEBREW**

**MONDAYS, 10:30 – NOON**

Series 1: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30;  
Oct. 7, 14, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 27; Feb. 3,  
10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24

**Tuition: \$265 per series**

## **INTERMEDIATE HEBREW**

**MONDAYS, 12:30 – 1:45 PM**

Series 1: Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30;  
Oct. 7, 14, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 27; Feb. 3,  
10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24

**Tuition: \$175 per series**

## **ADVANCED HEBREW**

**MONDAYS, 6:15 – 8:15 PM**

Series 1: Sept 9, 16, 23, 30;  
Oct. 7, 14, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25

Series 2: Jan. 6, 13, 27; Feb. 3,  
10, 17, 24; Mar. 3, 10, 17, 24

**Tuition: \$265 per series**

## **ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE HEBREW**

**TUESDAYS, 11:00 – NOON**

Series 1: Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24;  
Oct. 1, 8, 15, 29; Nov. 5, 12, 19

Series 2: Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28; Feb.  
4, 11, 18, 25; Mar. 4, 11, 18

**Tuition: \$140 per series**

## **ADVANCED HEBREW LANGUAGE & LITERATURE**

**WEDNESDAYS,  
10:00 – NOON**

Series 1: Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25;  
Oct. 9, 16, 30; Nov. 6, 13, 20;  
Dec. 4

Series 2: Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29;  
Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26; Mar. 5, 12, 19

**Tuition: \$265 per series**

**Supported by the Harold Wade Hebrew Literacy Fund.**  
Scholarships for Hebrew classes available upon request.

## The Instructors

**RABBI JOSHUA BENNETT** is a rabbi at Temple Israel of West Bloomfield. Ordained at Hebrew Union College in 1994, he holds a Masters Degree of Hebrew Letters as well as a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology from the University of Illinois at Champaign. He has served the Jewish community in many roles including Michigan Jewish AIDS Coalition, Salvation Army Legal Aid Clinic, Young Adult Division of the Allied Jewish Federation and the ADL. Social justice is a primary concern of his.

**RABBI AARON BERGMAN** is a Detroit native and a graduate of the University of Michigan. He was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary and pursued additional graduate work in Jewish Folklore at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He was part of the educators' program at the Shalom Hartman Institute. Rabbi Bergman is the Past President of the Michigan Board of Rabbis and represents local rabbis throughout the state in various interfaith initiatives. Rabbi Bergman served as a rabbi at Congregation Beth Ahm and was Rabbi-in-Residence at Hillel Day School. He was the founding Director of Jewish Studies at the Frankel Jewish Academy and has been a Melton instructor. Rabbi Bergman joined the Adat Shalom Synagogue clergy in 2008 and became Mara d'Atra of the Synagogue in May 2009.

**RUTH BERGMAN** is the Director of Education at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills, Michigan. She earned her Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University and did graduate work at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Ruth completed a certificate in Jewish Leadership for Educators from Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership and is currently working on a certificate on nonprofit leadership from the Kellogg School of Management. She was an instructor for Melton, Limud Michigan and has taught for Detroit's Jewish adult education programs for many years, including courses in antisemitism and Holocaust studies.

**DR. AVI BLITZ** is a graduate of Oxford University and Indiana University, has a PhD in Comparative Literature and is an experienced Jewish educator. He has taught Yiddish, Hebrew and Jewish Studies at undergraduate and graduate levels in the United States, Israel and in Argentina, where he teaches through the Buenos Aires branch of YIVO. Avi enjoys writing about Yiddish and has published his work in *Geveb*, the online journal of Yiddish Studies.

**RABBI YONATAN DAHLEN** is a rabbi at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield. Originally from Sioux City, Iowa, Rabbi Dahlen received his M.A. in Jewish philosophy from Brandeis University and was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. As a rabbi, he is dedicated to a pursuit of lifelong Jewish learning, wrestling with the challenges of text and tradition, and engaging with holiness in its many forms.

**RABBI ROBERT DOBRUSIN** is Rabbi Emeritus of Beth Israel Congregation in Ann Arbor where he served as Rabbi from 1988-2018. Originally from Boston, Rabbi Dobrusin received his Bachelor's degree from Brandeis University and was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 1982. In addition to teaching with JLearn, he hosts a podcast called Wrestling and Dreaming: Engaging Discussions on Judaism and writes a blog on his website at robdobrusin.com. He is the author of many articles and essays and a book entitled *The Long Way Around: Stories and Sermons from a Life's Journey*. Rabbi Dobrusin was named one of the 33 most inspiring rabbis in America by the Forward in 2015.

**WENDY EVANS** was raised among the museums of London, England. She has advanced degrees from Oxford University in England and Wayne State University in Detroit. She taught art history at Wayne State University and elsewhere and is a long-time volunteer at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Ms. Evans gives presentations on a wide variety of art subjects throughout Michigan.

**RABBI MICHELE FAUDEM** was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 1995 where she also earned her M.A. in Education. She was the Coordinator of Adult Jewish Education at the Houston JCC and the Melton Director of Houston. Rabbi Faudem was a popular Melton instructor and teaches numerous JLearn classes. She is the Rabbi Educator for Hillel of Metropolitan Detroit.

**JILL GUTMANN** has experiences in Jewish ethics, alackha, medical ethics and public health. She holds an AB summa cum laude from Smith College, Fulbright Grantee to South Korea, a Masters of Public Health from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, and a Masters of Arts in Jewish law and ethics from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. She has served on hospital ethics boards and worked as an ethicist for the CDC and the Israeli Ministry of Health. She served on faculty at the Melton School in Auckland, New Zealand.

## The Instructors

**RABBI JOSEPH KLEIN** was the Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El of Oak Park for 16 years before becoming Rabbi Emeritus in 2013. He holds a Master of Hebrew Letters and received his ordination from Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, Ohio. Rabbi Klein has been Adjunct Professor at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Indiana State University and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He currently is Adjunct Professor at Oakland University and Rochester University and Visiting Rabbi with the Grosse Pointe Jewish Council.

**RABBI JOSEPH H. KRAKOFF** is the Chief Executive Officer of Jewish Hospice and Chaplaincy Network (JHCN). He is the author of the book *“Never Long Enough: Finding Comfort and Hope Amidst Grief and Loss”*. He also wrote the *“What Is Hospice Care?”* chapter in *“Now What? A Guide to the Gifts and Challenges of Aging”*. Rabbi Krakoff earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, a Masters from the University of Judaism in Los Angeles, California, and was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, New York.

**NIRA LEV** holds two M.A. degrees from Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University and is a graduate of the Post Graduate Leadership Training Program from NYU. For over 30 years, she has been teaching Hebrew, Bible and Literature; training teachers and presenting workshops nationwide. Ms. Lev is the author of several Hebrew textbooks and of several other publications and was the editor of the Hebrew monthly *Ivriton*. She currently teaches at Oakland University. She is a recipient of the Berman Outstanding Professional Service Award and of the Schochet Outstanding Teacher Award.

**PROFESSOR HOWARD LUPOVITCH** received a PhD in Jewish History from Columbia University. He has taught at Cornell University, Colby College, the University of Western Ontario and the University of Michigan, where he was also a fellow at the Frankel Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies. He is currently Associate Professor of History and the Director of the Cohn Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University. Professor Lupovitch is the 2009 winner of the Benard L. Maas Prize for Achievement in Jewish Culture and Continuity in the Area of Humanities.

**RABBI TZVI MULLER** specializes in teaching Judaism's guidelines for treating others with love, respect and kindness – Mitzvot Bein Adam Lechavero. Through his widely attended classes, award-winning programs and innovative educational leadership, Rabbi Muller has brought the values, teachings and practices of kindness to Jews in Michigan and all over the world. He serves as Rabbi of the Birmingham Bloomfield Shul and directs the Jewish Values Institute.

**ARIELLA NADEL** has been a longtime community educator and recently retired from teaching at Farber Hebrew Day School - Yeshivat Akiva. She has taught adult Tanakh classes at Limmud, community centers, synagogues and schools. Ms. Nadel holds degrees in Judaic Studies and Political Science from Yeshiva University and a Law Degree from the Cardozo School of Law.

**RABBI/DR. MITCH PARKER** has been teaching Torah in the Detroit area for more than two decades. He is a child psychologist working with families of children with developmental and learning challenges. Mitch has worked previously in a Children's Hospital and both a secular and a Jewish school for children with developmental disabilities in Buffalo and Toronto. He developed the Parent Education Program for the Florence Melton School and was the Special Needs Director at Hillel Day School of Metropolitan Detroit. Mitch has just retired as the Rabbi of B'nai Israel Synagogue in West Bloomfield.

**DR. KATIE CHAKA PARKS** holds a Ph.d. in European History from Wayne State University. She has taught courses for the History Department and Gender, Sexuality, and Women Studies Program at WSU. Her dissertation research addresses the intersectionality of experiences of gender and sexuality during the Holocaust and the inclusion/exclusion of women's experiences within museum exhibits across the United States. Katie is also the Manager of Adult Education at The Zekelman Holocaust Center.

**DR. MICHAEL PYTLIK** is Adjunct Assistant Professor in Anthropology and Religion and the Director of Jewish Studies at Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan. He has excavated a number of biblical and more recent sites in Israel and takes students from Oakland to Israel each year on excavations. Dr. Pytlik has a Bachelor's degree in History and Philosophy, a Masters in Jewish Studies and a Doctorate in Jewish Studies from Spertus College of Judaic Studies and Leadership, Chicago. His area of study was historical and theological questions relating to the early Israelite monarchy at the time of King David.

## The Instructors

**REBECCA STARR** is the Director of Regional Programs for the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America. Rebecca is a respected Jewish educator and community organizer. She served as an assistant director at Federation's Alliance for Jewish Education at the Jewish Federation of Detroit and as Education Director at Northern Hills Synagogue in Cincinnati. Raised on a sheep farm in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Rebecca is a proud product of the University of Michigan where she earned undergraduate degrees in Education and Judaic Studies, as well as a Master's degree in Social Work and a certificate in Jewish Communal Service.

**ROBBIE TERMAN** is the Director of the Leonard N. Simons Jewish Community Archives. She holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science and a certification in Archival Administration from Wayne State University. As an archivist, she uses her research skills to uncover stories of the past. She has performed extensive genealogy research for herself and others and has taught workshops for beginning genealogists.

**DORIT WARFMAN** was a public educator in Israel from 1998 - 2006. She was a superintendent for a kibbutz school, responsible for the programming of children ages 1 - 18. She holds both a teaching certificate and an Industrial Engineering degree. Ms. Warfman and her husband recently moved from Israel to Michigan to be close to her sons and their families.

# How to Register

## Web

**JLearn.online**  
(pay by credit card)

## Call

**248-205-2557**  
(pay by credit card)

## Mail

Mail the registration form below with checks payable to:

**The J-Detroit: JLearn**  
6735 Telegraph Road,  
Suite 105  
Bloomfield Hills, MI  
48301



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Year you were born \_\_\_\_\_

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Tuition \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Tuition \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Tuition \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**By joining Friends of Adult Jewish Learning Scholarship Fund, you will receive 40% off of your tuitions, once you exceed \$650, as our thanks. (Hebrew classes are excluded.)**

\_\_\_ **Yes, I would like to join Detroit Friends of Adult Jewish Learning, 2024.**

\_\_\_ **\$54** (Friend) \_\_\_ **\$72** (Supporter) \_\_\_ **\$180** (Sustainer) \_\_\_ **\$360** (Backer)

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**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Through a generous grant from the family and friends of Susan Robin, the Susan R. Robin Memorial Scholarship is available to students in need of financial assistance. Additional scholarships also are available through the Detroit Friends of Adult Jewish Learning and The J. Please call the office at 248-205-2557 for scholarship information.

**CANCELLATIONS:** All courses are subject to cancellation due to insufficient enrollment. Classes are limited and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Refunds will be given after first class, no refunds thereafter.

