

Beth David Reform Congregation



Fountain of Knowledge

Adult Education Highlights Fall and Winter 5778 (2017-2018)

Torah Study with Rabbi Kalisch

Saturdays, 9:15 am

Holidays at 8:30 am: Thursday, October 5 (Sukkot),

Thursday, October 12 (Simchat Torah)



Come for the bagels and coffee... stay for the warm community and the open, intellectually engaging discussion. Who comes to Torah study at Beth David? We are longtime enthusiasts who commit to coming every week, and newbies who show up once or twice a year. We are retirees and working parents; we are fluent in

Hebrew, and we don't know a single Hebrew letter. Each week, we read a section of the weekly Torah portion in English and discuss it from a modern perspective, alongside modern, ancient, or medieval texts Rabbi Kalisch brings to help illuminate the words of Torah in new ways ... and alongside breakfast that we take turns bringing each week . We meet weekly except during the summer and on holidays. No prior knowledge is assumed or required.

Drop in any week for the first time, or contact Rabbi Kalisch at bkalisch@bdavid.org with any questions.

Cantillation: Learn to Chant Torah with Cantor Levy

Schedule TBD

Have you ever wondered how your childhood cantor came up with those melodies that were recorded on cassette tapes? Well, cassette tapes may be obsolete, but the rules of cantillation still hold true. Come to our 6 session crash course on cantillation and emerge a confident Torah chanter! Please note: While there is no prerequisite for any master vocal ability or Hebrew fluency, students must be able to read Hebrew. Classes will be scheduled based on student availability.

Contact Cantor Levy at llevy@bdavid.org to inquire.



Introduction to Judaism: A Main Line Collaboration

Mondays, beginning October 30, 7:30 pm

\$180 for Members; \$275 for Non-Members

Beth David is delighted to be hosting the Union for Reform Judaism's Introduction to Judaism Class this fall/winter, co-taught by Rabbi Kalisch, Cantor Levy, and clergy from Main Line Reform Temple and Temple Shalom. Whether you are part of an interfaith couple, considering conversion to Judaism, want to learn more about your own faith on an adult level, or are simply curious to learn about another religion, this 16-week class will offer you a basic foundation in Judaism. Partners in interfaith relationships are encouraged to enroll together. Individuals are welcome to bring a Jewish friend or family member to support their learning at no additional charge.

Introduction to Judaism

Contact Elana Shaw,
212.452.6745 eshaw@urj.org.
Or register online:
<https://tinyurl.com/y9xhhmc2>.

Women's Beit Midrash

Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

Beit Midrash is a weekly evening women's study session, currently led by Rabbi Beth Janus. Each semester, we focus on a different topic to explore in Jewish texts. For the fall semester, we are beginning with the biblical book of Proverbs. Some of the attendees at Beit Midrash have been studying together weekly for the past 18 years, and they welcome new participants. The teacher's stipend is divided equally among the students.



Contact Francine Pearlman-Storch fpstorch@yahoo.com for more information.

Chavurah Aleph-Bet

Occasional Sunday evenings

A chavurah is an informal group for friendship and discussion. We meet on Sunday evenings approximately six times per year, for discussion of Jewish topics from archeology to literature to politics. Interested in participating?

Questions? contact Ed Hoffman ehoffman@bdavid.org.

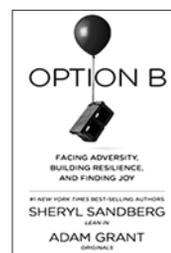
BOOK GROUP

Rabbi's Book Group

Join Rabbi Kalisch for a one-time book discussion, exploring the intersection of Jewish values and contemporary issues. The discussions are offered more than once to enable wider participation. Contact the office for details about the Center City locations.

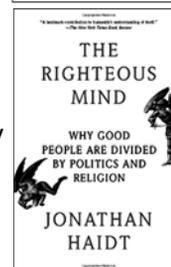
**Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience, and Finding Joy,
by Sheryl Sandberg and Adam Grant**

Monday, November 20, 1:00 pm, in Center City; Tuesday, November 21, 1:00 pm, at Beth David



**The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion,
by Jonathan Haidt**

Monday, February 5, 1:00 pm, in Center City
Friday, February 9, 1:00 pm, at Beth David



WRJ Monday Book Group

Meets monthly, 7:30pm at members' homes

- Nov. 6: Lucy Barton/Anything is Possible by Elizabeth Strout
- Dec. 4: Waking Lions by Ayelet Gundan-Goshes
- Jan. 8: Moonglow by Michael Chabon
- Feb. 5: Man in the High Castle by Philip Dick
- Mar. 5: Girls of Atomic City by Denise Kieman
- May 7: Last Laugh by Lynn Freed
- June 4: Strange Death of Europe by Douglas Murray

Wish to join? Contact: Sue Endy beakayaker@comcast.net or Terri Lustick terri.lustick@gmail.com

WRJ Thursday Daytime Book Group

Third Thursday of each month at Beth David, 10am to 12 noon

Please join us and invite a friend. Questions? Contact Barbara Weiner, hbweiner@verizon.net

BOOK GROUP

WRJ Wednesday Book Group

Meets the third Wednesday monthly in members' homes:

October - Claire of the Sea Light by E. Danticat
November - Anything Is Possible by E. Stroudt
December - The Dry by Jan Harper
January - Moonglow by M. Chabon
February - The Sympathizer by Nguyen
March - Everybody's Son by Thrity Umrigar
April - No Man's Land by Simon Tolkien
May - The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf by Mohja Kahf
June - Pachinko by Min Jin Lee

Wish to join? Contact Bobby Epstein; Epsteir@gmail.com

Co-ed Book Group

Meets roughly quarterly at Beth David on Sunday afternoons.
Contact Jodi Sussman, jodiwebersussman@gmail.com

Why Israel – Now More than Ever?

Rabbi Neal Gold

Friday, October 20, 6:30 pm (During Shabbat Services)



The Israel Committee welcomes Rabbi Neal Gold, a scholar, social activist, and once upon a time, Rabbi Kalisch's favorite Religious School teacher. His teaching is inspired by of the beauty of Jewish texts and uses the text and tradition as a means of transforming the world. Rabbi Gold has lived, worked and taught in Israel, served as a congregational rabbi in New Jersey and Massachusetts, and directed programming for ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America, which is dedicated to strengthening the Reform movement in Israel and strengthening Zionism within the US community of Reform Jews.

Courageous Conversations: Race in America

Anita Friday

Sunday, October 29, 11:00 am



Jewish values compel us to stand up to hate, discrimination, and racism in all its forms. Join us for an open and honest conversation to better understand racism in our own community, and learn how we can become a part of the change. Anita Friday, a member of the Anti-Racism Commission of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, and a former Human Rights Commissioner for the City of Stamford, CT, is a local attorney and educator.

Transgender Equality: How to Make a Difference

Saturday, November 4, 9:30 am (Part of Community Shabbat)

The Reform Movement recently passed a sweeping resolution committing to work for the inclusion and equality of transgender individuals in our synagogues and in our country. Join local activist, parent, and friend of Beth David, Candice Chaplin, as well as other local educators, to learn about local efforts to protect transgender children and adults.



Out of the Darkness: Suicide Prevention

Dr. Jill Harkavy-Friedman

Sunday, November 12, 11:00 am



More than six months after the tragic death of our beloved Cantor Emerita, Lilia Kazansky, our congregation will come together to learn how we can play in a role in raising awareness about suicide prevention and saving lives. A pioneer in suicide research, Dr. Jill Harkavy-Friedman serves as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Vice President of Research. She was the first researcher to ask high school students about suicidal ideation and behavior, and she works with over 150 scientific advisors to evaluate progress in the field and chart the next areas of inquiry to yield impactful insights and strategies for suicide prevention.

Standing Up to Hate: A Conversation with the ADL, Anti-Defamation League

Nancy Baron-Baer

Tuesday, November 28, 7:30pm



What do the terms white supremacists, racist skinheads, neo-Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan, the alt-right and Antifa mean? What do they stand for and what is their relevance in our nation and region post Charlottesville? Nancy Baron-Baer is the Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League for Eastern Pennsylvania/Southern New Jersey/Delaware. In her role as Regional Director, Ms. Baron-Baer provides guidance and leadership to individuals, groups

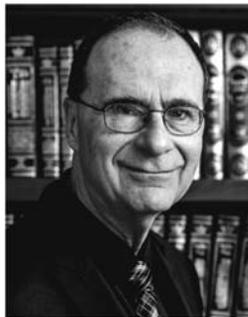
and institutions in fighting anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry and discrimination

Rabbi Henry Cohen Scholar-in-Residence Lecture

Transforming Synagogues as Spiritual and Moral Centers for the 21st Century

Rabbi Larry Hoffman

Sunday, December 3, 11:00 am



Dr. Lawrence A. Hoffman teaches at the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in liturgy, ritual, spirituality, theology and synagogue leadership, where both Rabbi Kalisch and Cantor Levy were privileged to be his students. For almost forty years, he has combined research, teaching, and a passion for the spiritual renewal of North American Judaism. In 2011, he received a second National Jewish Book Award for co-

authoring *Sacred Strategies: Transforming Synagogues from Functional to Visionary*. As a Co-founder of Synagogue 3000, he has launched Next Dor, a national initiative to engage the next generation through a relational approach featuring strong communities with transformed synagogues at their center.

American Values, Religious Voices

Rabbi Andrea Weiss, Ph.D.

Saturday, January 20, 9:30 am (Part of Community Shabbat)



How can does faith inform morality? How can Americans of diverse religious views and political ideologies come together around shared values? Rabbi Andrea Weiss, Associate Professor of Bible at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and Associate Editor of *The Torah: A Women's Commentary*, will explore with us relevant writings from "American Values, Religious Voices: 100 Days. 100 Letters," a campaign she coordinated that

sent letters from scholars of religion to our elected officials in Washington for the first 100 days of the Trump administration. The political will give way to the personal as we read passages of these letters that can guide us toward shared aspirations for our country.

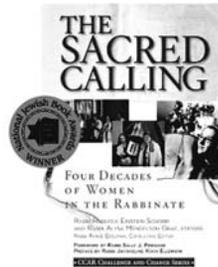
The Sacred Calling: 40 Years of Women in the Rabbinate

Rabbis Sue Levi Elwell and Rebecca Einstein Schorr

Sunday, February 11, 11:00 am



Join Rabbi Kalisch in conversation with an editor and contributors to *The Sacred Calling*, winner of a 2016 National Jewish Book Award. In this pioneering anthology, rabbis and scholars from across the Jewish world reflect back on the historic significance of



women in the rabbinate and explore issues related to both the professional and personal lives of women rabbis. This collection examines the ways in which the reality of women in the rabbinate has impacted on all aspects of Jewish life, including congregational culture, liturgical development, life cycle ritual, the Jewish healing movement, spirituality, theology, and more.

Cantor Lilia Kazansky Musician-in-Residence Shabbat
Shabbat Services featuring artist Michelle Citrin
Friday, March 16, 6:30 pm



Honoring our beloved Cantor Emerita's first yahrzeit, artist Michelle Citrin will be joining us for Community Shabbat to add extra spiritual music to our prayers for Cantor Kazansky, z"l. There is a reason why Time.com listed Michelle in their Top Ten list of Jewish rock stars. Michelle is best known as a pioneer of celebrating Jewish culture on YouTube with viral videos reaching millions of hits. Armed with a deep love for conveying ancient wisdom through a modern lens and a soulfully rich voice, Michelle's captivating presence has won the hearts of audiences worldwide. From deeply introspective moments of prayer to encouraging conga lines down the aisles, Michelle enjoys "taking what's old and making it new and holy" with her innovative Shabbat residency program, "Eat.Pray.Sing."

Conversations for Life and Legacy
Rabbi David Levin
Friday, December 8, 1:00 pm



From our life experiences, we make memories and create wisdom. Through this process, we produce meaning and connection for ourselves and to others. Join Rabbi David Levin, founder of the Jewish Relationships Initiative, to explore a new approach to ethical wills that uses video to help us share aspirations and wisdom with the next generation.

The Silent Killer: Women's Heart Health
Sunday, March 18, 11:00 am

Join Beth David's Women of Reform Judaism for a special discussion to learn more about how to protect yourself and your loved ones from heart disease, the #1 killer of women.



Beth David in Center City!

Shabbat in the City

7:00 pm

Location TBD, near Rittenhouse Square

Our members and friends who live in Center City – or those who just like to visit – are invited for a special Shabbat at a member's home in Center City. Join us for Shabbat singing, Torah study, and dinner. Contact the office for the location and more information.

Downtown Chanukah Lunch-and-Learn

Tuesday, December 12, 12:30 pm

Location TBD, near Logan Circle

Escape from the office to celebrate Chanukah with Beth David! Latkes and lunch, some thought-provoking study with Rabbi Kalisch, and an opportunity to delve a little deeper into this beloved holiday.

*More information on Spring
and Summer Adult Education
coming soon!*