



Shaaray Tefila Educational and Cultural Programs

2005-2006/5766

D'varim//Deuteronomy:
Putting it All Together

Shabbat Services • Shabbat Programs
• Arts & Culture Mondays • Book Club •
Mini-Series • Midtown *Torah* Study • Basic &
Intermediate Hebrew • Israel Initiative •
NASHIM • Music Programs • A Weekend With
Anat Hoffman • *Yom Tov* Study

Adult Education Committee

Paula Dvoskin Sitzer, *Chairperson*

Rabbi Jonathan A. Stein, *Advisor*

Rabbi Marci N. Bellows, *Advisor*

Michael H. Laufer, *Ex-Officio*

Lois Nyren, *Executive Committee Liaison*

Arthur Bargonetti, Jesse Berger, Jeff Caplan, Susan Friedman, Phillip Freedman,
Harvey Goldfarb, Carol Gregor, Joanne Jahr, Ben Janowski, Steven Linde,
Edie Miller, Marlene Nadel, Brigitte Sion, Rhea Tabakin, Nancy Wine

*This year's Adult Education and Cultural Program brochure is being published
by a gift from the Estate of Leo A. Shifrin, M.D.*

Rabbi Jonathan A. Stein



Our Jewish tradition views education as one of our highest values. Continuing education is a way of expressing our thanks to God for blessing us with intelligence, understanding, and insight. It is a means of deepening our connection to our Jewish past and future. It is a way to set a good example for the next generation. And it is a path to deepening our spiritual commitment by studying in a community of like-minded individuals. It is with great pride that the Adult Education Committee of our congregation presents this year's array of classes, lectures, mini-series, *Shabbat* programs, films, book reviews and study sessions. Shaaray Tefila offers you a wide variety of opportunities to expand your knowledge of the Jewish tradition, reflect on the state of our American and world-wide Jewish community, and search for your own place within tradition and God's world. Our thanks to Paula Dwoskin Sitzer, chairperson of the Adult Education Committee, and to the committee members listed on the opposite page. We know that you will enjoy participating in the great adventure of lifelong Jewish learning.

Rabbi Darren S. Levine



Studying our sacred tradition lies in the heart of the Jewish soul. It is, therefore, a pleasant surprise that, in the past few years, adult education has become one of the most significant areas of focus in the Jewish community. Shaaray Tefila is no exception. If you are looking to study Jewish prayer, philosophy, culture, holidays, music, ancient and modern literature, or Hebrew, then you are in the right place. You are like hundreds of fellow congregants who attend our wide variety of learning opportunities throughout the year.

Moses Maimonides, one of the greatest Jewish teachers postured, "Until when is a person obligated to study *Torah*? Until the day he dies, as it states in the book of Deuteronomy, 'Lest you remove it from your heart all the days of your life.'" In the *Mishneh Torah*, he goes on to say that "the greatest sages of Israel included wood choppers, water drawers, and blind men. Despite these difficulties, they were occupied with *Torah* study day and night."

In the spirit of Maimonides, whether you come to us as the symbolic wood chopper, water drawer, or sightless person, you have something to learn and to contribute at our various events. I look forward to seeing you at a *Shabbat* morning *Torah* study, at our Midtown *Torah* Study, a mini-series session, a lecture, and throughout the year. At each opportunity, we will engage ourselves *b' divrei Torah*, in the words of *Torah*.

Shabbat at Shaaray Tefila

"And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy."
Genesis 2:3

Shabbat Minyan & Torah Study

Meets every Saturday morning

Minyan Service: 10:15 am, followed by Torah Study

A warm and popular *Shabbat* morning *minyan* attracts congregants and guests of all ages. We begin with spirited *tefillah* and song, followed by *kiddush* and *motzi*. Then we continue with vigorous *Torah* study. Newcomers sit side-by-side with members who have been learning and discussing together for years. All are welcome.

This year's *Torah* study will draw from a number of interpretive sources. All in attendance will participate in discussion with congregants and members of our clergy. We will parse out the text by exploring a variety of themes in each week's *Torah* portion. We hope to consider the *Torah's* relevance to our modern lives through conversation and the use of commentaries, new and old.

Shabbat Services

First Fridays

5:15 pm Tot *Shabbat*
6:15 pm *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Second Fridays

6:00pm Family *Shabbat* Service
(families with children
in grades 1-6)
7:30pm *Erev Shabbat* Worship

Third Fridays

7:00 pm *Shabbat* Unplugged
7:30 pm *Erev Shabbat* Worship

Fourth and Fifth Fridays

7:30 pm *Erev Shabbat* Worship

Saturday Mornings

10:00 am *Shabbat* Worship/Sanctuary
10:15 am *Minyan & Torah* Study/Chapel
10:30 am Tot *Shabbat* Service (Monthly)
10:30 am Mini-*Minyan* (K-3rd Grade,
Monthly)
10:30 am Junior Congregation (4th-6th
Grade, Monthly)

Sunday Sofa Seminars

Sunday evenings at the home of Rabbi Jonathan and Susan Stein, 6:30-8:30 pm

November 13: Presbyterian-Jewish Relations

January 8: End of Life Issues

April 9: Ethics of the Workplace

To register: This series is open to the first 25 congregants (per evening). To sign up—call the clergy office at (212) 535-8008, ext. 264 to reserve your space. Please keep in mind that many people want to participate, so we request that you choose *one* of the above evenings.

Shabbat Programs

The first Saturday of each month, 9:00 am
Shaaray Shabbat: Unlocking the Gates of Shabbat

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! We find ourselves in many different prayer settings, ideally hoping to be comfortable in them all. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. You are cordially invited to go in depth into some of the most popular and perplexing prayers of the *Shabbat* morning service. Each morning will be dedicated to a specific prayer or song, and it will be translated, understood, and sung to various melodies. Best of all, the sessions, taught by Shaaray Tefila clergy, take place on Saturday morning, right before the *Shabbat Minyan* begins. You can look forward to learning something new each morning, and then immediately be able to put it to use.

October 1, 2005: Mah Tov: How Lovely are Your Tents

November 5, 2005: Eilu Dvarim: Deeds of Loving Kindness

December 3, 2005: Psalms 92 & 150: Rejoicing in Shabbat

January 7, 2006: Mi Chamocha and the Song of the Sea

February 4, 2006: Hallel: Songs of Praise

March 4, 2006: Sim Shalom & Oseh Shalom: Songs of Peace

April 1, 2006: Aleinu: We Bow in Reverence

May 6, 2006: Adon Olam/Ein Keloheinu: Concluding Songs

Friday, November 11, 7:30 pm
Eugene & Fannie Clark Memorial Social Action Erev Shabbat Service

Peter Steinfelds

Join us for our annual Social Action *Shabbat* – an evening dedicated to exploring our mandate *l'taken et ha-olam*, to repair the world around us. This year, we are honored to invite Peter Steinfelds to speak on the topic of the 40th Anniversary of *Nostra Aetate*, the Second Vatican Council, which cleared the way for better interfaith relations between Catholics and Jews. Mr. Steinfelds is a religion columnist for *The New York Times* where he had been the senior religion reporter, as well as the author of a new book, *A People Adrift*. Earlier, he was the editor of the liberal, lay Catholic magazine *Commonwealth*. Steinfelds is also a historian, who says some of the Church's current conflicts began with changes in the world around it – ideas about human sexuality, for instance, and the equality of women. Other problems, he says, grew from decisions by the Church itself, such as those coming out of the Second Vatican Council in the early '60s. Join us for this important opportunity to learn more about what has happened in the 40 years since *Nostra Aetate*.

Shabbat Programs *(continued)*

Friday, February 24, 7:30 pm
Erev Shabbat service in the Sanctuary

Saturday, February 25,
beginning at 10:15 am in the Morse Chapel

Shabbaton

Rabbi Jonathan A. Stein

Traditional Texts and the Land of Israel

A special *Shabbat* of study and celebration is offered yearly, beginning with an introduction to the year's topic on Friday night, then providing an intimate opportunity for extended Saturday morning and afternoon learning led by our senior rabbi. Lunch and a song session round out this exciting day. The day will conclude with a moving *Havdalah* service.

Cost: \$12 for lunch

To register, please call the Clergy Office at (212) 535-8008, ext. 264.

Havdalah and Renewal

Shabbat encourages us to relax and rest following a long week, bringing us a weekly occasion to recharge and refresh ourselves. *Havdalah*, the service which helps us bid adieu to *Shabbat* and re-enter the rest of the week, provides an excellent setting for prayers of healing and rejuvenation. This coming year, you will have three opportunities to join us for a light *Seudat Shlisheet* snack (the traditional "third meal" of *Shabbat*), a healing service, and then a closing *Havdalah* service.

December 3, 2005, 4:30 pm (at Shaaray Tefila)

March 11, 2006, 4:30 pm (at Shaaray Tefila)

May 13, 2006, 4:30 pm (in Central Park).

Adult B'nai Mitzvah Program

Every other year, the Shaaray Tefila clergy join together to teach a small, motivated group of adults in an intensive, one-year program of learning, culminating in a special Adult *B'nai Mitzvah* service in June.

Who: Anyone who has been a TST member more than one year, and who can comfortably read Hebrew.

When: Tuesday nights,
September, 2005 – June, 2006

Cost: FREE!

Space is limited. Please contact the Clergy Office at (212) 535-8008, ext. 264.

Arts & Culture Mondays

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Individual evening programs are offered throughout the year: perhaps the screening of a recent film of Jewish interest; a discussion of a newly published book; or another opportunity to explore some facet of the Jewish cultural scene. Registration is not necessary. All are always welcome.

Avodah Dance Ensemble: Preparing for the High Holy Days

September 19

Avodah Dance Ensemble will lead a workshop using movement to explore the tradition of the Jewish holiday of *Selichot*. Participants in the workshop are guided to gain new perspectives through interpreting text and cultural rituals through movement and dance. No dance experience is required and all ages welcome.



Jewish Views of the Afterlife

November 14

"It is essential that man should be constantly reminded that with death there is not a complete end of him..." – Moses Mendelssohn. As human beings, we naturally ask the most difficult, unknowable questions regarding life, death, and existence. As Jews, we may not be clear what our faith tells us about souls and the hereafter. Join members of your Shaaray Tefila clergy as they explore different Jewish ideas of life, immortality, and afterlife throughout our history and tradition.

The Poetry of Rachel: Writings of Israel, Love & Loss

December 12

Rabbi Ilyse Glickman

Rachel Bluwstein, known by her pen name, Rachel, was born on September 20, 1890, in Saratov, a little town in northern Russia. Her poetry is set in the pastoral countryside of *Eretz Yisrael*, although her personal struggles add a sad and nostalgic mood to their reading. Many of her poems were set to music both during her lifetime and thereafter. She died on April 16, 1931, at the age of 41, and was buried in the kibbutz Kinneret cemetery by the sea she celebrated. Many of her poems deal with aspects of love, her longing for happiness, and with her illness and poverty. Though her poems express rare moments of happiness, they mainly reflect despair, desperation, and nostalgia for those long ago days when she worked on the land in Israel. In this session, Rabbi Glickman will lead us as we read, dissect and appreciate Rachel's poetry as linguistically simple and clear, her descriptions deep and emotional.

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January 23

Seeing the World through Jewish Eyes: An Artist Looks at his Tradition

Tobi Kahn

Well-known Judaica artist, Tobi Kahn, writes, "Although Judaism has emphasized text and commentary, I have found the visual elements of the tradition equally



illuminating. For me, the life of the spirit is integrally bound to the beauty of the world. Like language, what we see can be a benediction." This special evening will allow Tobi Kahn to share his inspirations, ideas, and techniques with our congregants. We will have an opportunity to learn much from him regarding what constitutes Jewish art, and how Jewish tradition affects artistic vision.

Tobi Kahn is a painter and sculptor whose work has been shown in over 40 solo exhibitions and over 60 museum and group shows since he was selected as one of nine artists to be included in the 1985 Guggenheim Museum exhibition, New Horizons in American Art. Among his recent traveling solo museum exhibitions are Tobi Kahn: Metamorphoses, an exhibition of over a decade of his paintings and sculpture curated by Peter Selz that traveled to eight museums from 1997 to 1999; and Avoda: Objects of the Spirit, an exhibition of his Jewish ceremonial art that opened in 1999 and is continuing to travel to museums around the country. Objects of the Spirit: Ritual and the Art of Tobi Kahn, a book about Kahn's ceremonial art, was published in June 2004. Kahn was the recipient of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture's Cultural Achievement Award in the Visual Arts.

February 27

A Tour of NYC Jewish Cuisine

Join us for a whirlwind tour of New York's Jewish eateries, and you don't even have to leave 79th and Second! We have invited chefs from the Upper East Side and other neighborhoods to share their wares and, even perhaps, some of their secrets. It promises to be a real taste sensation!

Please register in advance with the Clergy Office at (212) 535-8008, ext. 264.

April 10, 6:30 pm (note special time)

The Long Way Home: A Film about Displaced Persons

In preparation for the observance of *Yom HaShoah*, Holocaust Remembrance Day, we will screen *The Long Way Home*, which examines the critical post-World War II period between 1945-1948 and the struggle of the tens of thousands of displaced Jewish refugees who left one camp and found themselves in another. Learn about their efforts to find dignity and renewal in the aftermath of the Holocaust.

May 8

Israel & Me: An Interactive Evening

In honor of Shaaray Tefila's recent trip to Israel, and all of our assorted experiences over the years, we invite you to share your very own stories of encounters with *Eretz Yisrael*. This evening's program will be a night of storytelling, show & tell, and sharing, all created by you! Please feel free to bring photographs, jewelry, artifacts, and other mementos of your travels. You may also want to submit a written story in advance for future publication. Whether you visit Israel often, or have never been, the program will be filled with myriad stories of all varieties. Please watch your *Messenger* for more information in the coming months.

“From the TST Library” Book Club

“Make books your companions. Let your shelves be your treasure grounds.” (Ibn Tibbon)

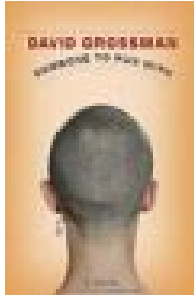
Find new “companions” with these three offerings, sure to educate and move you with their thought-provoking prose. Read the books ahead of time (and feel free to join us even if you haven’t!), then we will gather together with a leader for an enlightening discussion of the text.

Monday, November 21, 7-8:30pm

Someone to Run With

by David Grossman

A political book in the broad sense, *Someone to Run With* is passionate and heartfelt, engaging truthfully in the topic of Israel’s disenfranchised youth. The story deals with a young, middle class singer who thrusts herself into a tumultuous, drug-ridden maelstrom of a life on the Jerusalem streets. Grossman’s most popular work to date, a bestseller hailed by the Israeli press and reform politicians like Shimon Peres for its mixture of fairy-tale magic, emotional sensitivity, and gritty realism, *Someone to Run With* explores the life of Israeli street kids and the anxieties of family life in a society racked by self-doubt. But most of all, Grossman evokes the adventure of adolescence and discovery of love, as Tamar and Asaf, pushed beyond the limits of childhood, find the objects of their quests, find themselves, and find each other.



making Jews, and the Jewish state, into outsiders – challengers – to other people’s Gods, laws, or national allegiances.

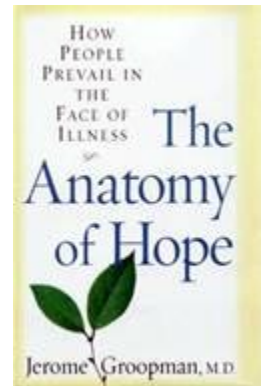
Monday, March 6, 7-8:30pm

The Anatomy of Hope

by Jerome Groopman

Discussion led by Rabbi Nancy Wiener

Why do some people find and sustain hope during difficult circumstances, while others do not? What can we learn from those who do, and how is their example applicable to our own lives? *The Anatomy of Hope* is a journey of inspiring discovery, spanning some 30 years of Dr. Jerome Groopman’s practice, during which he encountered many extraordinary people and sought to answer these questions.



This profound exploration begins when Groopman was a medical student, ignorant of the vital role of hope in patients’ lives—and it culminates in his remarkable quest to delineate a biology of hope. With appreciation for the human elements and the science, Groopman explains how to distinguish true hope from false hope—and how to gain an honest understanding of the reach and limits of this essential emotion.

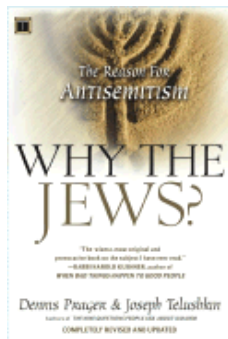
Rabbi Nancy Wiener is the Clinical Director of the Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Center for Pastoral Counseling and faculty advisor to the Student Association and Interfaith Programs at HUC-JIR/ NY. She was ordained at HUC-JIR/NY in 1990 and received a Doctor of Ministry degree in 1994, also from HUC-JIR/NY. She lectures on many topics related to creating a welcoming congregation and a variety of pastoral issues. She has published many books, including Meeting at the Well: A Jewish Spiritual Guide to Being Engaged, Beyond Breaking the Glass, and her newest, Judaism for Two.

Monday, February 6, 7-8:30pm

Why the Jews

by Joseph Telushkin and Dennis Prager

Discussion led by Rabbi Jonathan A. Stein



Why have the Jews been the object of the most enduring and universal hatred in history? Why is the Jewish state seemingly the most despised country in the world today? *Why the Jews?* discards conventional explanations of anti-Semitism to argue that its root causes are, paradoxically, the very convictions that have ensured

Jewish survival: the Jewish conceptions of God, Law and Peoplehood. Drawing on extensive historical research, the authors reveal how these distinctive Jewish values have precipitated universal anti-Semitism by

Classes with our Clergy

Tuesday, September 13, 7:00 pm

Evening on *Devarim*/Deuteronomy: “Putting it All Together”

Taught by the Shaaray Tefila clergy

Our five-year cycle concludes with this special evening dedicated to the Book of Deuteronomy. Join members of the Shaaray Tefila clergy as they approach this *Torah* text from a variety of angles and opinions. This evening is sure to be informative, stimulating, and well worth a trip to the synagogue.

Tuesday, September 27, 7:00-8:15 pm

***Elul*: Entering the High Holy Days**

Rabbi Darren S. Levine

Jewish tradition teaches that during the month of *Elul*, people should begin preparing their hearts and minds for the process of *teshuvah* (return) that takes place during *Rosh HaShanah* and *Yom Kippur*. This class will study the *Avinu Malkeinu* and *Kol Nidre* prayers, which are central to our worship, and explore how their themes can help us prepare to enter the High Holy Days.

Tuesday, December 6, 7:00-8:15 pm

“In Memory of Abraham Isaac Kook” (1865-1935)

Rabbi Darren S. Levine

Appointed as the first Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi of Palestine in 1921, Abraham Isaac Kook was often misunderstood by secular Jews and despised by religious extremists. He was a deeply religious mystic who took an active interest in human affairs and lashed out against “any ideology that ignores the need of improving the state of the world.” He taught that our world is continually evolving toward universalism and that Jews are a nation of people chosen to further the divine goal of human perfection. This lecture will explore the life of a man whose goal was to see a Zion rebuilt in Israel through the process of political messianism.

Sunday, April 23, 9:15 am – 2:00 pm

Exploring Jewish Williamsburg

Rabbi Darren S. Levine

Join Rabbi Darren and Julia Levine on a walking tour of Williamsburg, Brooklyn. The tour will journey into the Jewish heart of the Orthodox neighborhood and include a stop at a synagogue, a yeshiva, and a kosher restaurant for lunch. Transportation provided to and from Shaaray Tefila. Space is limited and reservations are required. The tour will cost \$20, including lunch. Please contact the Clergy Office at (212) 535-8008, ext. 264 to RSVP.

Mini-Series

September 7, 21; October 19; November 2, 16;
December 7, 21; January 4, 18; February 1, 15;
March 1, 15, 30; April 5; May 3, 17;
June 7, 21

Midtown Torah Study

Rabbi Darren S. Levine

Meets every other Wednesday, 12:30-1:30 pm
Location: 521 Fifth Avenue, (between 43rd and
44th Streets) 17th Floor Conference Room

Join us as we continue our in-depth reading of
the *Torah* in English. All are welcome, beginners
and returnees alike. Bring your lunch.

September 14, 28; October 26; November 9, 23;
December 18, 28; January 11, 25; February 8, 22;
March 8, 22; April 26; May 10, 24; June 14, 28

Torah Talk

Rabbi Jonathan A. Stein

Meets biweekly on Wednesdays, 12:00-1:00 pm

This year, we continue our mid-day, mid-week
program that takes place right here at Shaaray
Tefila! Each session, we take the *Torah* portion of
the week and expand it with thought-
provoking conversation. All are welcome.
Registration is not required. Bring your lunch
and join in a lively discussion.

Tuesdays, November 1, 8, 15

7:00-8:15 pm

Literary Approach to the Bible: The Robert Alter Method

Rabbi Darren S. Levine

Professor of Literature at the University of
California, Berkeley, Robert Alter is the author
of nearly 20 books dealing with the evolution
of Near Eastern Literature and the highly
acclaimed recent translation of *The Five Books of
Moses*. He writes, "the biblical authors are, of
course, constantly, urgently conscious of telling
a story in order to reveal the truth of God's
works in history and of Israel's hopes and
failings." Our mini-series will explore the
betrothal scenes and the birth of the hero
scenes in the Bible to understand Alter's
contribution to the study of biblical
composition.

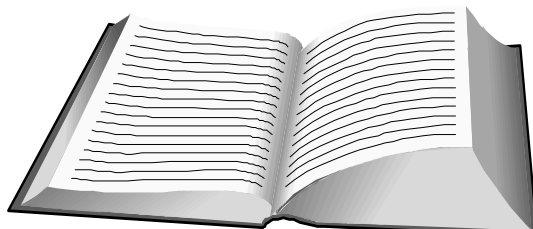
Sundays, December 4, 11, 18

11:00 am- 12:00 pm

Travel Hebrew

Rabbi Marci N. Bellows

Preparing for a trip to Israel? Always wondered
how to say "I don't speak Hebrew" or "How
much does that cost?" in Hebrew? Rabbi
Bellows will spend these sessions teaching
many common phrases and vocabulary in
conversational Hebrew. No previous Hebrew
skills required, just an enthusiastic approach to
learning the language of the Jewish people.



January 5, 7:00 pm; January 8, 11:00 am;
January 10, 7:00 pm; January 12, 7:00 pm

Borders and Boundaries: The History of Christian and Islamic Influence on Jewish Culture

Dr. Marina Rustow

It is widely recognized that Christianity and Islam bear the traces of their older monotheistic sister-religion. Less commonly understood are the profound ways in which Christianity and Islam continued to influence Judaism throughout the medieval and early modern periods. Through case-studies based on manuscripts and archives from Jewish communities in the Mediterranean basin, the Near East, and Europe, this four-session lecture series will chart how Jews' communal identities and concepts of orthodoxy, heresy, and religious difference changed along with the environments in which they lived.

Please call the Clergy Office at (212) 535-8008, ext. 264, to reserve your space in the class.

Marina Rustow is Assistant Professor of History and Jewish Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. She holds a Ph.D. in History from Columbia University and a B.A. in Literature from Yale. Her research and teaching focuses on the history of the Jews from late antiquity to the late Middle Ages with a special interest in heresy and sectarianism and the Cairo Geniza. She is author of a forthcoming book on Rabbanite-Karaite relations in the medieval Mediterranean basin; the exhibition catalogue Scripture and Schism: Samaritan and Karaite Treasures from the Jewish Theological Seminary Library (New York: Jewish Theological Seminary, 2000).

Tuesdays, January 24, 31, February 7, 14
7:00-8:30 pm

A Reform Encounter with Tradition

Rabbi Jonathan A. Stein

As Reform Jews, there are many rituals about which we have wondered: why don't we do this or that at home or in the synagogue? We wrestle with traditions such as *kashrut*, ritual

clothing, holiday observances and egalitarianism, and sometimes our decisions differ with other Jewish communities. Come learn about the history of these customs, why/how the Reform movement has chosen its path, and how to choose for yourself.

Tuesdays, March 28 and April 4
7:00-8:30 pm

Navigating the Haggadah

Cantor Bruce Ruben, Ph.D.

Cantor Ruben will guide you through the structure, history, and melodies of the rituals that make up the Passover *Seder*. The class will help you become a more knowledgeable *Seder* leader and participant, with the goal of deepening and enriching your family's Passover experience.

Ongoing Classes

Thursday Night Hebrew Classes

October 6, 20, 27, November 3, 10, 17,
December 1, 8, 15, 6:15-7:15 pm

Beginner

Kobi Josefsberg

Fee: \$80

Join Kobi Josefsberg, a favorite teacher in our Nursery School, Religious School, and Adult Education programs, for what is sure to be a terrific introduction to the Hebrew language.

January 5, 12, 19, 26, February 19, 16, March 2, 9,
16, April 6, 6:15-7:15 pm

Intermediate

Kobi Josefsberg

Fee: \$80

This class continues the material from the fall semester, and is designed for those with basic Hebrew reading and speaking skills.

To Register: Call the Clergy office
(212) 535-8008, ext. 264.

Sundays, December 4, 11, 18, 11 am - noon

Travel Hebrew

Rabbi Marci Bellows

(see page 9 for more information).

Israel Initiative Calendar 2005-2006

"Zion wants not only the love of its people, but their wisdom, too. For there is a name to Zion's dream; its name is peace, the time of the wolf and the lamb." – Leonard Fein

Erev Shabbat, Friday, November 4, 7:30 pm
Rabbi David Forman, Guest Shabbat Speaker

Theodor Herzl and the History of Isarel

During his visit to the United States, Rabbi David Forman will be joining us for our *Erev Shabbat* Services. He will present on Theodor Herzl's role in Jewish and Israeli history, as well as his important impact on the creation of the State of Israel.

A native of Boston, Rabbi David Forman moved to Israel over 30 years ago. He is the founding and current chairperson of Israeli Rabbis for Human Rights (1988-1992, 2002-2003). Rabbi Forman has held a number of key leadership positions during his rabbinic career, including Director of the Israel Office of the UAHC, where he led the struggle for religious pluralism in Israel. Rabbi Forman holds a Doctor of Divinity degree from Hebrew Union College (1997). He received his rabbinic ordination (1972) and MA degree (1970) from Hebrew Union College.

November 11-21, 2005

Traveling Exhibit: "Herzl, Up Close and Personal – In Pursuit of the Zionist Vision"

We are pleased to showcase this special traveling exhibit here at Shaaray Tefila. "Herzl, Up Close and Personal" celebrates this visionary of the Jewish State on the 100th anniversary of his passing. Be sure to come by the synagogue, tour the exhibit, and learn more about this monumental figure in Israel's history.

Monday, November 21, 7:00 pm

Book Review: *Someone to Run With*, by David Grossman

(please see page 7 for more information)

Sundays, Dec. 4, 11, 18, 11:00 am

Travel Hebrew, with Rabbi Bellows
(please see page 9 for more information)

Tuesday, December 6, 7:00 pm

"In Memory of Abraham Isaac Kook" (1865-1935)

(please see page 8 for more information)

Monday, December 12, 7:00 pm

The Poetry of Rachel: Writings of Israel, Love & Loss

Rabbi Ilyse Glickman

(please see page 5 for more information)

Thursday, December 15, 7:00 pm

The Balfour Declaration and Palestinian-Israeli Negotiations

Joseph Rappaport

This evening's lecture will explore the impact on current Arab-Israeli negotiations of the ongoing American support of the legacy of the Balfour Declaration (1917) for the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine with defensible borders extending into the West Bank.

February 24-25

Shabbaton with Rabbi Stein: "Traditional Texts and the Land of Israel"

(please see page 4 for more information)

March 17-19

A Weekend with Anat Hoffman

(please see page 14 for more information)

Tuesday, May 2, 7:00 pm

Yom HaAtzmaut Celebration in honor of Israel's Independence Day

(please see page 15 for more information)

Monday, May 8, 7:00 pm

Israel and Me: An Interactive Event

(please see page 6 for more information)

NASHIM

NASHIM: A Women's Group for Study, Discussion and Kehillah

NASHIM programs explore and celebrate women's experiences from a Jewish perspective. Discussion leaders include group members, female clergy and special guests. Caring support from Shaaray Tefila's staff helps NASHIM thrive, encouraging study and camaraderie among our members. No reservations are needed! Refreshments are always served! Events are held on Mondays or Thursdays from 7 - 8:30 pm and open to women temple members, unless otherwise noted.

Monday, September 26, 7-8:30 pm

Lilith and Tigers and Bears, Oh My! Jewish Tales of the Supernatural

This program, led by Susan Stein, will explore werewolves, witches, demons and fantastic creatures, all of whom have a place in Jewish literature! We will be hearing stories about Lilith, who is known as a feminist symbol as well as an evil demoness.

Monday, November 6, 7-8:30 pm

At My Cousin's Bar Mitzvah ... The Addict in Us All

The Jewish Women's Foundation of New York addresses the unmet needs of Jewish women and girls through the funding of innovative programs and advocacy efforts. Come meet JWF President Betsy Landis who will introduce Sylvie Sherman-Bloch, our guest speaker from JACS (Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent Persons and Significant Others), who will tell of her own addiction and recovery.

Thursday, December 8, 7-8:30 pm

Neshamah: The Candle of Our Souls

Our busy lives often prevent us from taking time to "check in" with ourselves. It is very easy to lose touch with our bodies, hearts, and souls. This evening's program will consist of guided Jewish meditation for stress reduction, led by NASHIM advisor, Rabbi Marci Bellows.

Monday, January 30, 7-8:30 pm

The Making of a Social Entrepreneur

Julia Pimsleur is the Development Director at Echoing Green, a nonprofit organization which provides seed funding and mentorship to social entrepreneurs. Pimsleur has a long history of social action, including her work at the Committee to Protect Journalists, Big Mouth Productions (which she co-founded and where she produced the award-winning documentaries *Innocent Until Proven Guilty* and *Nuyorican Dream*). A founder of Women in Film and Television, France and served for three years on the Board of Directors of ITVS, the Independent Television Service, she is also a member of the Rockwood Jewish Social Justice Leaders. We welcomed Julia into the TST community in 2004 when her husband Rabbi Darren Levine joined our staff.

Thursday, March 2, 7-8:30 pm

Topic to be announced

Monday, April 3, 6 - 9 pm

8th Annual Potluck Seder

This special event is always "Standing Room Only" so please sign up via *Messenger* and kiosk flyers. We encourage you to invite your female guests — moms, daughters, nieces, aunts, cousins, neighbors and friends — to help make this a most festive and memorable evening of learning, *kavanah*, and friendship in our extended community.

Sunday, April 30, 1-3 pm

Baby Shower

Come wrap presents and fill baskets with all sorts of gifts! The packages will be distributed to moms in need so that they can enjoy a very special Mother's Day. This program is co-sponsored with the Social Action Committee and the Shaaray Tefila Nursery School. Bring your friends and families to assist in this innovative program!

Monday, May 1, 7-8:30 pm

NASHIM season finale.

Special Music Programs

At Shaaray Tefila unless otherwise noted.

Erev Shabbat, Friday, October 28, 7:30 pm

160th Anniversary Shabbat Evening Service

Join us for this special *Shabbat* service dedicated to the 160th Anniversary of Shaaray Tefila. Music and Liturgy used will span the history of our synagogue. A festive *Oneg Shabbat* will follow in the Davis Auditorium.

Sunday, October 30, 4:00 pm

160th Anniversary Gala Cantorial Concert

In honor of Shaaray Tefila's 160th Anniversary, our cantors, adult chorale, and choir will present a Survey of the Popular American music from 1845 to today. Watch your September and October issues of the *Messenger* for more information about this gala celebration.

Tuesday, November 22, 7:30 pm

Interfaith Thanksgiving

Our annual ecumenical service with readings and musical selections based on the theme of Thanksgiving. The event, sponsored by the Yorkville Christian Jewish Council, will be led by clergy from the Yorkville area and features musical offerings by the Shaaray Tefila Chorale and choirs from local churches.

Erev Shabbat, Friday, December 23, 7:30 pm

Pre-Chanukah Shabbat Evening

As *Chanukah* approaches, our adult chorale, choir and cantors will present special holiday music to usher in the season.

Erev Shabbat, Friday, January 13, 7:30 pm

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Shabbat Evening Gospel Service

Back by popular demand, our adult chorale will be joined once again by a Gospel Choir to remember the legacy of Dr. King.

Erev Shabbat, Friday, January 27

Following Erev Shabbat Services

Jews and Jazz

Have you ever wondered about how Jews influenced the development of Jazz music? Tonight, during the *Oneg Shabbat*, prominent Jazz performer and historian Loren Schoenberg, Executive Director of The Jazz Museum in Harlem, will give a lecture/demonstration about Jews and the history of Jazz.

Erev Shabbat, Friday, March 10

Following Erev Shabbat Services

Yiddish Chamber Concert

Professional soprano and teacher Juliana Yaffe will present a program of Yiddish songs, accompanied by a chamber orchestra, during the *Oneg Shabbat*.

Erev Shabbat, Friday, April 21

Following Erev Shabbat Services

Meet the Choir/Organist

During the *Oneg Shabbat*, the quartet and Allison will perform repertoire from musical theater and opera. We will also honor Mark Rehnstrom on the occasion of 20 years of service to our Temple.

Thursday, May 25, 7:30 pm

Makhelat Hashachar

We will be treated to a performance of Jewish music by a unique Japanese choir. This remarkable group, in existence since 1971, has performed all over the world, including many times in Israel.

Erev Shabbat, Friday, June 9

Board Installation

The choir and adult chorale will be joined by our cantors and their counterparts at Rodeph Sholom, Cantors Rebecca Garfein and Jennifer Frost for a concert at the *Oneg Shabbat* following the Board Installation.

March 17-19

A Weekend with Anat Hoffman

Pluralism, Equality, and Social Change in the Land of Israel

Friday, March 17

Erev Shabbat Service, 7:30 pm

Oneg Shabbat Presentation, following services:
**"The Search for Cracks in the City of Stone:
An Anatomy of the Struggles for Pluralism
in Modern Jerusalem"**

Saturday, March 18

Shabbat Morning Minyan, 10:15 am

Text Study, 12:00 pm, **"How do you say
"Tikkun Olam" in Hebrew?"**

Lunch, 1:00 pm (To register, at a \$12 fee, please
call the Clergy office at (212) 535-8008, ext.
264).

Afternoon Lecture and Discussion, 2:00 pm
**"Women Of the Wall: A Feminist's View of
Contemporary Israeli Society"**

Sunday, March 19

Bagel Breakfast, 9:30 am

Concluding Lecture and Discussion, 10:00 am
**"Call Us When You're Right": Working for
Social Change in Israel**

Please join us for what will be a profound and
inspiring weekend of learning with Anat
Hoffman. She will examine current Israeli
society through the lens of an untiring warrior
for justice and equality. Ms. Hoffman, who has
dedicated her adult life to the Jewish principle
of *Tikkun Olam*, will be helping us to learn how
to do the same. These sessions will create an
image of where we are, where we've been, and
where we hope to go.

Anat Hoffman became
Executive Director of the
Israel Religious Action
Center in 2002. Previously,
Ms. Hoffman served as a
Jerusalem City Council
woman for 14 years. Her
life demonstrates a
commitment to social action
and justice which has
formed her career.



In a city where women are
traditionally consigned to a subordinate role, Ms.
Hoffman led in the battles for the right of women to
pray at the Western Wall and for women's equal
pay for equal work. Ms. Hoffman pushed relentlessly
for the provision of adequate municipal services for
the more than 200,000 Palestinian citizens of
Jerusalem. She has fought long and hard to see that
the powerful Orthodox bloc in the City Council does
not dictate lifestyle choices for the secular population
of Jerusalem. Significantly, too, in a city driven by
religious differences, she has fought tirelessly for
religious pluralism. Ms. Hoffman represented the
Civil Rights and Peace Movement on the Jerusalem
City Council. She specialized in attending to the
details of municipal administration, where big
decisions are often hidden away in the fine print. In
doing so, she became a familiar figure in the Supreme
Court, as she pursued her quest for information that
the bureaucracy preferred to keep secret.

In recent years, Anat has become a sought-after
lecturer, addressing audiences in Israel and in the
United States on subjects close to her heart: social
justice, religious pluralism, Jewish-Arab coexistence,
and equal rights for women and minorities.

Yom Tov Study Opportunities

Saturday, September 24
8:30 p.m. Dessert/Discussion
10:00 pm Selichot Service

Selichot: Dessert, Discussion and Service

Traditionally, the Hebrew month of *Elul* is a time of preparation for the High Holidays. As *Elul* draws to a close, the growing mood of repentance becomes more urgent. Part of our spiritual preparation takes place at a special service called "*Selichot*" (forgiveness). *Selichot* is designed to help us direct our hearts and minds to the process of *teshuvaah*, repentance. Held before *Rosh HaShanah*, *Selichot* gives people a chance to reflect on the changes that they wish to make in the coming year. It also offers us a preview of some of our favorite High Holy Day melodies. Join us as we begin to examine our deeds of the past year, seek forgiveness from God, and promise to improve our behavior in the New Year.

Wednesday, October 5
9:30 am Service; 11:15 am Bagel Breakfast; 11:45 am Study Session; 12:45 pm Concluding Remarks

Second Day Rosh HaShanah Lay-led Service, Breakfast, and Study

Please join a wonderful cross section of Shaaray Tefila members on the second day of *Rosh HaShanah* 5766 for a warm and inspiring morning of lay-led prayers, singing, study, noshing and community.

After *tefillah* and breakfast, we will have an intriguing study session and discussion focused on a key aspect of *Rosh HaShanah Torah* readings. These study sessions always offer essential lessons about our own religious practice and ethical traditions.

Open to Shaaray Tefila members and their guests. (You will be asked to show your High Holy Day Tickets.).

Sunday, February 12, 7:00 pm
Tu B'Shevat Seder

The *Kabbalists* believed that the New Year of the Trees was also the New Year of the Tree of Life. At a celebratory *Tu B'Shevat Seder* we will mark the New Year of the Trees with a festive meal filled with study, song, and an appreciation of the miracles of nature.

Tradition claims that when we eat of the fruit of the trees on *Tu B'Shevat* we are filled with Divine nourishment, thus we will taste fifteen different types of fruit, recite blessings, and examine Jewish poetry and texts regarding nature, agriculture, and the land of Israel.

There will be a fee of \$10 for the *Seder* and dinner. Please register in advance by calling the Clergy Office at (212) 535-8008, ext. 264.



Erev Purim, Monday, March 13, 6:00-7:15pm
Purim: Text Study of Megillat Esther
New! Join fellow congregants in a "pre-spiel" text study of *Megillat Esther*, the Book of Esther. Take advantage of this special opportunity to delve into the story, characters, and dynamics in the *Purim* tale. Then stay around for the outlandish, outrageous fun of the annual *Purim* Spiel.

Tuesday, May 2, 7:00 pm
Yom HaAtzmaut Celebration

Israel Independence Day is both a celebratory and a solemn event, as we mark the varied history of our Jewish homeland. We invite you to commemorate *Yom HaAtzmaut* with us! An evening of fun, food, music, dancing and learning will enable us all to come together as a community and to feel like true Israelis.

Thursday, June 1, 7:00 pm

Tikkun Layl Shavuot/Supper and Study Sessions

Cost: \$12 for dinner

In the tradition of all night study on *Shavuot*, we present our 8th annual *Tikkun Layl Shavuot*. At the conclusion of our *Shavuot* service a light supper and various learning opportunities will be offered. Look for details on the study topics in the May 2005 *Messenger*.

Please call the assistant to the clergy (212-535-8008, ext. 264) to make your reservation.

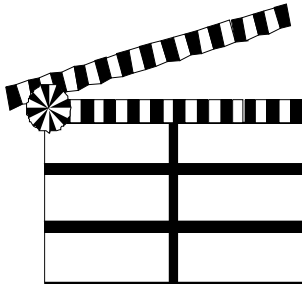
Thursday, August 3, 7:00 pm

Tisha B'av: A Service with Study

The 9th day of *Av* commemorates the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem, as well as other persecutions and national tragedies throughout our history. It is marked with a solemn service, a reading of the book of Lamentations, and time to consider how contemporary Jews might find the place for lamenting in our own lives and seasons.

Social Action Program Calendar 2005-2006

Our Social Action Committee is pleased to present the following educational programs for the coming year. All will be interesting, and are sure to motivate us to perform more acts of *tikkun olam*, repairing the brokenness in our world. Please watch your mailbox for our brand-new Social Action Opportunity brochure. Please call the Clergy Office at (212) 535-8008, ext. 264, for more information.



Social Action Film Series

Begun just last spring with the successful screening of *Columbia Unbecoming*, the Social Action Film Series continues this year with the following dates. All films begin at 7:00 pm:

Thursday, November 3;

Tuesday, January 17; Thursday, April 27.

Clark Memorial Shabbat

(see page 3 for more information)

Friday, November 11, 7:30 pm

Spring Social Action Shabbat

Please watch your *Messenger* for more information on a special guest speaker event.

Friday, March 31, 7:30 pm

Shabbat Lunch and Speaker

We hope to enrich your *Shabbat* afternoon experience with a selection of fine, inspirational speakers. Following *Minyan* and *Torah* study, please join us for lunch and a special learning experience. Lunch reservations are required (RSVP at 212-535-8008, ext. 264), but all are invited to the speaker's presentation.

Saturday, December 10, 1:00-3:00 pm

Saturday, May 6, 1:00-3:00 pm

Shaaray Tefila Calendar

5766 2005-2006

Visit our webpage for the latest information: www.shaaraytefilanyc.org

September:

- 7 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 13 *Devarim*/Deuteronomy: Putting it All Together (7 pm)
- 14 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 19 Avodah Dance Ensemble: Preparing for the High Holy Days (7:00 pm)
- 21 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 24 *Selichot*: Dessert, Discussion and Service (8:30 pm)
- 26 *NASHIM*: Lilith and Tigers and Bears, Oh My! (7:00 pm)
- 27 *Elul*: Entering the High Holy Days (7:00 pm)
- 28 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)

October:

- 1 Shaaray *Shabbat* (9:00 am)
- 5 2nd Day *Rosh HaShanah* Service, Breakfast, Study (9:30 am)
- 15 *NASHIM*: Sandwich Saturday, Havdalah, Dinner & a Movie! (3:00 pm)
- 19 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 26 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 28 TST 160th Anniversary Shabbat Evening Service (7:30 pm)
- 30 TST 160th Anniversary Gala Cantorial Concert

November:

- 1 Mini-Series: Literary Approach to the Bible, with Rabbi Levine (7 pm)
- 2 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 3 Social Action Film (7:00 pm)
- 4 *Kabbalat Shabbat* Service, with Guest: Rabbi David Forman (6:15 pm)
- 5 Shaaray *Shabbat* (9:00 am)
- 7 *NASHIM*: Jewish Women's Foundation Event
- 8 Mini-Series: Literary Approach to the Bible, with Rabbi Levine (7 pm)
- 9 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 11 Clark Memorial Social Action *Shabbat*, with Peter Steinfelds (7:30 pm)
- 11 Traveling Exhibit: Herzl – Up Close and Personal
- 13 Sunday Sofa Seminar (6:30 pm)
- 14 Jewish Views of the Afterlife (7:00 pm)
- 15 Mini-Series: Literary Approach to the Bible, with Rabbi Levine (7 pm)
- 16 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 20 Temple-Wide Book Fair (10:00 am)
- 21 Book Review: *Someone to Run With* (7:00 pm)
- 22 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service (7:00 pm)
- 23 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)

December:

- 3 Shaaray *Shabbat* (9:00 am)
- 3 *Havdalah* and Renewal (4:00 pm)
- 4 Travel Hebrew, with Rabbi Bellows (11:00 am)
- 6 Memorial Lecture: Rav Kook (7:00 pm)
- 7 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 8 *NASHIM*: *Neshamah*, the Candle of our Souls (7:00 pm)
- 10 Social Action *Shabbat* Lunch and Speaker (1:00 pm)
- 11 Travel Hebrew, with Rabbi Bellows (11:00 am)
- 12 The Poetry of Rachel: Writings of Israel, Love & Loss (7:00 pm)
- 14 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 15 The Balfour Declaration and Palestinian-Israeli Relations (7:00 pm)
- 18 Travel Hebrew, with Rabbi Bellows (11:00 am)
- 21 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 22 Israel Trip Departure
- 23 Pre-*Chanukah* Shabbat Evening (7:30 pm)
- 28 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)

January:

- 2 Israel Trip Returns
- 4 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 5 Borders and Boundaries (7:00 pm)
- 7 Shaaray *Shabbat* (9:00 am)
- 8 Borders and Boundaries (11:00 am)
- 8 Sunday Sofa Seminar (6:30 pm)
- 10 Borders and Boundaries (7:00 pm)
- 11 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 12 Borders and Boundaries (7:00 pm)
- 13 Gospel Choir in Honor of MLK, Jr. Day (7:30 pm)
- 18 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 23 Seeing the World Through Jewish Eyes (7:00 pm)

- 24 Mini-Series: A Reform Encounter with Tradition, with Rabbi Stein (7 pm)
- 25 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 27 Jews and Jazz (7:30 pm)
- 30 *NASHIM* Event (7:00 pm)
- 31 Mini-Series: A Reform Encounter with Tradition, with Rabbi Stein (7 pm)

February:

- 1 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 4 Shaaray *Shabbat* (9:00 am)
- 6 Book Review: *Why the Jews?* (7:00 pm)
- 7 Mini-Series: A Reform Encounter with Tradition, with Rabbi Stein (7:00 pm)
- 8 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 12 *Tu B'Shevat Seder* (7:00 pm)
- 14 Mini-Series: A Reform Encounter with Tradition, with Rabbi Stein (7:00 pm)
- 15 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 24 *Shabbaton* with Rabbi Stein: Traditional Texts and the Land of Israel (7:30 pm)
- 25 *Shabbaton* with Rabbi Stein: Traditional Texts and the Land of Israel (10:15 am)
- 27 A Tour of NYC Jewish Cuisine (7:00 pm)

March:

- 2 *NASHIM* Event (7:00 pm)
- 4 Shaaray *Shabbat* (9:00 am)
- 6 Book Review: *The Anatomy of Hope* (7:00 pm)
- 8 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 10 Yiddish Chamber Concert (7:30 pm)
- 11 *Havdalah* and Renewal (4:00 pm)
- 13 *Purim*: Text Study of *Megillat Esther* (6:00 pm)
- 15 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 17 A Weekend with Anat Hoffman (7:30 pm)
- 18 A Weekend with Anat Hoffman (10:15 am)
- 19 A Weekend with Anat Hoffman (9:30 am)
- 22 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 28 Mini-Series: Navigating the Haggadah, with Cantor Ruben (7:00 pm)

April:

- 1 Shaaray *Shabbat* (9:00 am)
- 3 *NASHIM*: 8th Annual Potluck *Seder* (6:00 pm)
- 4 Mini-Series: Navigating the *Haggadah*, with Cantor Ruben (7:00 pm)
- 5 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 9 Sunday Sofa Seminar (6:30 pm)
- 10 *The Long Way Home*: A Film about Displaced Persons (6:30 pm)
- 11 Meet the Choir/Organist (7:30 pm)
- 23 Exploring Jewish Williamsburg (9:15 am)
- 24 *Yom HaShoah* Service (7:00 pm)
- 26 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 27 Social Action Film (7:00 pm)
- 28 Special *Shabbat* Speaker in honor of *Yom HaAtzmaut*
- 30 *NASHIM*/Social Action Event: Mother's Day Baby Shower (1:00 pm)

May:

- 1 *NASHIM* Event (7:00 pm)
- 2 *Yom HaAtzmaut* Celebration (7:00 pm)
- 3 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 6 Shaaray *Shabbat* (9:00 am)
- 6 Social Action *Shabbat* Lunch and Speaker (1:00 pm)
- 8 Israel and Me: An Interactive Evening (7:00 pm)
- 10 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 13 *Havdalah* and Renewal (4:00 pm)
- 17 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 24 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 25 *Makhelet Hashachar* (7:30 pm)

June:

- 1 *Tikkun Layl Shavuot* (6:00 pm)
- 7 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 9 Board Installation – Special Concert (7:30 pm)
- 14 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)
- 21 Midtown *Torah* Study (12:30 pm)
- 28 *Torah* Talk (12:00 pm)

August:

- 3 *Tisha B'Av*: A Service with Study (7:00 pm)

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