



Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center

3055 Porter Gulch Rd.

Aptos, CA 95003

831-479-3444 www.tbeaptos.org

Torah Study

Community Text Study

with Rabbi Paula Marcus

The Torah has guided the Jewish people throughout our history, transmitting the wisdom and values of our tradition. Along with the portion for each week is the Haftarah. Please join us to discuss the week's portion. Beginners welcome. Free, open to the public.

Oct. 15 - June 10th

12 - 1 p.m. Thursdays

Ten Minutes of Torah: Online Torah Study

with Rabbi Richard Litvak

The study of the Torah portion of the week has been a time-honored focus of Jewish learning. This 21st century version will bring Torah to your desktop. Rabbi Litvak will send a stimulating email with commentary on the week's portion. Past portions are at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TBE Torah Study in the Files section>. For questions or to register, please email Rabbi Litvak at rlitvak@tbeaptos.org Free. For TBE members only.

Conversion Study

In the Biblical tradition of Ruth, the Rabbis of Temple Beth El work with students interested in conversion to Judaism. Requirements include the three quarterly Thursday night Basic Judaism and Hebrew courses. These include holidays and life cycle rituals, Jewish beliefs, and the Jewish way of studying the Torah. There are additional readings, journaling, and individual meetings with the student's sponsoring rabbi.

Students explore the Sabbath and Holidays of the year, while attending Friday night services at least once a month. Each candidate will have the support of a mentor to help them learn the basic practices of Judaism. Upon completion of these requirements, candidates write three essays on their own Jewish views of G-d, Torah, and Jewish identity. The conversion process concludes with a trip to the *mikveh* (ritual bath), a meeting with the *bet din* (the three rabbis authorizing the conversion), and a conversion ceremony before the Ark in the Temple Sanctuary.

In addition to the cost of the books and courses, there is a contribution to the Temple of \$360 or 20 x Chai (18) in appreciation of the time and guidance of the rabbis. Students begin the process by scheduling an appointment with Rabbi Litvak.

Adult Education Programs and Classes 2009-2010

Basic Judaism

If you want to learn more about your Jewish heritage, are a non-Jewish member of a Jewish household, or are considering conversion to Judaism, these classes are for you.

The Holidays and Life Cycles: Traditional and Contemporary Practice

Learn about the Jewish holiday cycle and life cycle events, its connection to agriculture in ancient Israel, and how we mark Jewish time and significant life events such as brit milah, bar/bat mitzvah and weddings.

Instructor: Rabbi Paula Marcus

October 15 - December 17

Thursdays 7 - 8 p.m.

Jewish Beliefs about G-d

Develop your own theology in light of traditional and modern views.

Instructor: Rabbi Richard Litvak

January 7 - March 4

Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m.

The Bible through Jewish Eyes

Become familiar with the 5 Books of Moses and the many traditional and modern approaches to their interpretation.

Instructor: Rabbi Shifra Weiss-Penzias

March 18 - May 20

Thursdays, 7 - 8 p.m.

Per quarter: \$60 TBE members, \$75 public

Classes are free for members of 3 years or less

Beginning Hebrew

This class is for those preparing for their adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah and for those who just wish to learn or brush up on Hebrew. This class focuses on basic Hebrew reading of Shabbat and festival blessings.

Hebrew I: October 15 - December 17

Instructor: Rabbi Paula Marcus

Hebrew II: January 7 - March 4

Instructor: Rabbi Richard Litvak

Hebrew III: March 18 - May 20

Instructor: Rabbi Paula Marcus

Thursdays 8 - 9 p.m.

Per quarter: \$60 TBE members, \$75 public

Classes are free for members of 3 years or less

For all updated and current information, please visit our website: www.tbeaptos.org

Our Teachers

Rabbi Richard Litvak is the Senior Rabbi of Temple Beth El. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa in Religious Studies from Vassar College. Rabbi Litvak was ordained by the Hebrew Union College Jewish Institute of Religion and is a licensed Marriage and Family Counselor. He also received the Doctor of Divinity degree. During the 30 years that he has served as Rabbi of Temple Beth El, he has been known for his commitment to social justice causes and interfaith activities.



Rabbi and Congregational Cantor Paula Marcus has served Temple Beth El since 1979 as a teacher in the religious school and the preschool, as a co-principal of the religious school, and as congregational cantor. In 2004, Rabbi Paula was ordained by the Academy for Jewish Religion/CA. She has apprenticed with cantors in the U.S. and Israel, and she received her BA in Judaic studies from SUNY Binghamton. Rabbi Paula sees Jewish practice as an ongoing, joyous celebration of G-d and ourselves.



Rabbi Shifra Weiss-Penzias is our rabbi-educator. She comes from eight generations of rabbis. Rabbi Shifra has a BA in Sociology from Brandeis University, and her rabbinic ordination and M. A. in Hebrew Literature from Hebrew Union College in New York. Rabbi Shifra loves to teach adults and children, sing, talk about G-d, and enjoys all things Jewish. She and her husband Peter are the proud parents of two children.



Senior Connections

A lively and eclectic program linking Jewish seniors through bi-monthly lectures, cultural presentations, discussions, classes, and the occasional outing. Meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month throughout the year from 1:30 - 4 p.m. Please see TBE website, weekly emails or *Shofar* for monthly listing of programs.

Yiddishkeit and Mamalushen: The Yiddish Circle continues

Held Thursdays from 2 - 3:30 p.m. Runs throughout the year.

Weekly Meditation Circle

Ongoing meditation group led by Etel Herring. Held in TBE's Sanctuary every Tuesday 7 - 8 p.m.

Rosh Chodesh

All women are welcome to join us for a celebration of the New Moon. Each month we gather to share our stories, sing and learn about the New Moon, 7:30 - 9 p.m. Refer to Temple website, weekly emails or *Shofar* for dates.

Adult Education Registration Form 2009-2010

Participant's Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Email: _____
 Member of Temple Beth El? Yes No If not, check here if you like membership information

Instructor	Class Title	Starting Date	Fee

Total Fees \$

Payment for class fees must be enclosed with your registration. We will not be sending confirmation; you are automatically enrolled when payment/registration is received. Locations and start times vary. Please check your class schedule or call the TBE office at 479-3444. **Make checks payable to Temple Beth El with 'Adult Education' in memo.**

Refund Policy: All refunds requested by the enrollee will have a \$15 or 20% (whichever is greater) processing charge deducted for each course. If the course is cancelled by TBE, a full refund will be issued.