Upcoming Courses and Events (see page 6 for ongoing classes)

● Building Bridges: Temple Sinai and Israel (co-sponsored by Israel Committee)

Instructor: Rabbi Golan Ben-Chorin

Description: This initiative, hosted by the Israel Education and Action Committee and co-sponsored by the Adult Learning, Inclusion, Music, Prayer and Ritual, and Rainbow Committees, will be led live from Israel by Rabbi Golan-Ben Chorin of Haifa. We begin on October 4 with an introduction and words about Reform Judaism in Israel, followed on October 8 with a special session on Sukkot. Several small group meetings (maximum of 15 people per group) will be held throughout the fall dealing with specialized topics, including social justice in Israel, prayer, ritual, and Reform Judaism, Israel’s political system, LGBT and inclusion, and a topic called “In the Kishkes” - everything you want to know about Israel but have not dared to ask. This programming will allow us to experience Israel in a new way and learn about the country and Reform Judaism there. The opening session and the Sukkot program are open to all. The smaller sessions will be by early registration. 

Dates: See the chart below for the schedule and Zoom links.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Zoom Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Sunday, 10/4, 3 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88901222496?pwd=Wjl4dDZjVXFyTUc1c08zbDRDMEISUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88901222496?pwd=Wjl4dDZjVXFyTUc1c08zbDRDMEISUT09</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sukkot</td>
<td>Thursday, 10/8, 11 am</td>
<td><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85235212745?pwd=cG1yQWJtRHQvU0Fvd1FHTGt4UmnZUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85235212745?pwd=cG1yQWJtRHQvU0Fvd1FHTGt4UmnZUT09</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Discussion #1</td>
<td>Sunday, 10/25, 3 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85431899334?pwd=WDLrazFkODJhZ3M2KzRCCxXMaUNaUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85431899334?pwd=WDLrazFkODJhZ3M2KzRCCxXMaUNaUT09</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Discussion #2</td>
<td>Sunday, 11/1, 3 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85431899334?pwd=WDLrazFkODJhZ3M2KzRCCxXMaUNaUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85431899334?pwd=WDLrazFkODJhZ3M2KzRCCxXMaUNaUT09</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Discussion #3</td>
<td>Wednesday, 11/1, 3 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84714950825?pwd=TGU1bVdiMDNLNGtMRHpoZHVEODlwUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84714950825?pwd=TGU1bVdiMDNLNGtMRHpoZHVEODlwUT09</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Discussion #4</td>
<td>Sunday, 12/13, 3 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86034617123?pwd=d1BOc1JYdEg2TUSvNITDR2E1MmhyUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86034617123?pwd=d1BOc1JYdEg2TUSvNITDR2E1MmhyUT09</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*To register for any of the Group Discussions, please email Amos Lassen at alassenamos@yahoo.com

Bio: Rabbi Golan Ben-Chorin is the founding rabbi and spiritual leader of Rosh Pina Reform Congregation in Haifa, where it was established in 2011. The congregation has pioneered inclusive, egalitarian Judaism and reaches out to a spectrum of identities ranging from unaffiliated secular Israelis to traditional Jews. Rabbi Ben-Chorin was born in Philadelphia and made aliya with his family as an infant.

● What Will You Leave Your Loved Ones? Tips & Strategies for Preparing for End of Life

Instructors: Hildy Neumann, Andrew Butler, and Arza Goldstein

Description: This program, co-presented by an estate planning attorney, an end-of-life doula, and an organizing consultant, provides a framework for considering the many factors involved in preparing for life’s end. It is intended to encourage participants to think about the inevitable end of their lives, identify the scenarios they need to plan for, and understand why, when and how to get started.

Date: Sunday October 18, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82516520839?pwd=aFhXNiZjaVISb3IHHQ2PcUjrYWVjZz09
Temple Sinai Adult Learning Schedule: October 2020 – January 2021

**Bios:**

Temple member Hildy Neumann is an organizing and productivity consultant who guides clients in finding a balance between their stuff and their life. A 20+ year member of Temple Sinai, she chairs the Caring Network and the History Committee, and has previously served on the Board of Trustees and in a variety of other volunteer roles.

Andrew Butler is an attorney at Archstone Law Group in Newton focusing on estate planning, estate and trust administration, and elder law.

Arza Goldstein, a birth doula, hospice nurse, community death educator and today an end of life doula, helps clients and their families make the time that remains less stressful and more meaningful through conversations about what matters at end of life.

Hildy Neumann  
Andrew Butler  
Arza Goldstein

● “15 Years”: A new film from Israel

**Instructors:** Amos Lassen and director Yuval Hadadi

**Description:** Yoav's demons start haunting him after his best friend becomes pregnant without telling him, and after his boyfriend of 15 years starts talking about children too. His life unravels, and self-destruction seems inevitable. The film is a major award winner and depicts the Israel of today.

**Dates:** October 18 – 23: Film available for streaming on Vimeo; Tuesday October 27, 7:30 pm: discussion with director.

**Notes:** The film is available free to members of Temple Sinai and friends and will be streamed on Vimeo during the week of October 18-23. To view it, access link [https://vimeo.com/r/2T6l/eW8x5EpOYm](https://vimeo.com/r/2T6l/eW8x5EpOYm) along with the password "sinai". The link is available for only 50 uses, so please do not use it multiple times.

● Zionism Reconsidered: The Early Years

**Instructor:** Amos Lassen

**Description:** We will take a look at the philosophical approaches to the Zionist movement through three of the major proponents: Theodore Herzl, Ze’ev Jabotinsky and Achad Ha’am (Asher Ginsburg). We will cover cultural Zionism as seen in two greats of Hebrew literature (in English), Rachel Bluwstein and Chaim Nachman Bialik, the poet laureate of the Hebrew language.

**Dates:** 3 Sundays, October 25, November 1, & November 8, 9:30 am – 10:50 am

**Zoom link:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83673855815?pwd=Z2xDYnJiR2JETmZkUjJF3Q3N4RjFZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83673855815?pwd=Z2xDYnJiR2JETmZkUjJF3Q3N4RjFZz09)

**Bio:** Amos Lassen moved to Brookline in May 2012 after having spent 7 years in Arkansas when Hurricane Katrina changed his plans for a two-year visiting professorship in New Orleans. He lived in Israel for many years. Amos has taught at the Hebrew University, the University of New Orleans and the University of Central Arkansas. He grew up in the Young Judaea movement in New Orleans.
Virtual Tour of Israel: “In the Footsteps of the Zionists”

Instructor: Uri Feinberg

Description: We will journey, live from Israel, in “The Footsteps of the Zionists” from the beginnings of the State to where Israel is today. We depart from Temple Sinai and fly together to Israel to visit the tombs of Theodor Herzl, the grave of poetess Rachel, the home of Israel’s Poet Laureate Chaim Nachman Bialik, the Sea of Galilee, Kibbutzim Degania and Kinneret and the town of Zichron Ya’akov. You do not even have to leave home to go on the tour and can even wear your pajamas.

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84611739602?pwd=T0xxbE15L2p1ZGRlV3ZkN1YzK2ZMdz09

Dates: Sunday November 8, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Bio: Uri Feinberg has worked in Jewish education since 1995 and has been a licensed Tour Educator since 2000. Emigrating from the US with his family when he was 10, Uri grew up in Jerusalem, served in the IDF and traveled the world. He graduated from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 2004 with an MA in Contemporary Jewry. He also holds a BA in History and English Literature. Uri has guided teen trips in Israel, taught Jewish history at semester programs in Israel, and led tours for synagogue, adult, and family groups. He also served as the Director of Education at Temple Israel in Boston from 2007 – 2010. Currently he works for Da’at Educational Expeditions in Israel. Uri is driven by a desire to share the power of the Land of Israel with others by uncovering layers of history and finding inspiration in the sites he visits and the people with whom he visits them.

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend (November 12 – 15)

This year’s guest scholar is Rabbi Laura Geller, a leader among American Reform rabbis. Her topic will be “Getting Good at Getting Older”, and the weekend will include a variety of modes of interaction, including text study on Thursday morning, a dialogue and discussion on Sunday morning, a workshop on Sunday afternoon, and a short D’var Torah at Shabbat services. Rabbi Geller will be joined on Sunday morning by Sinai member Dori Mintzer, who works in the field of retirement coaching. Stay tuned for further details, including specific times and Zoom links.

How to Show Others You Care: Supporting Those Who Are Grieving

Instructor: Julie Johnson

Description: Temple Sinai is committed to being a Kehillah shel Hesed, a caring community based on loving-kindness. Many of us want to support fellow congregants who’ve experienced a loss, but hesitate because we aren’t sure what to do and how to do it. This program will discuss the Jewish tradition of shiva: what it is, why it’s done and what to expect when attending one. We’ll also explore other Jewish mourning traditions and discuss how to express sympathy in a phone call or note. Our goal is to help attendees become more familiar and more comfortable with being an active participant in caring for congregation members and others in our lives who are grieving.

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85247740453?pwd=Y1dqaitneFhKMGFYVnhybkxIMjBlUT09

Dates: Sunday November 22, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Bio: Julie Johnson currently serves as the co-coordinator of the Caring Network’s Grief and Mourning Committee. She and her husband Frank Smizik are long-time Temple members who have been active in climate action and other social justice committees. They live in Brookline.

Loneliness: The Other Pandemic

Instructor: Hadassah Margolis, MSW, LICSW
Description: What does it mean to be lonely, especially during COVID-10? Recognize the signs of isolation, understand its effects on our well-being, and learn how to manage it better. This is the first of a series of events that are part of Temple Sinai’s ongoing mental health initiative.

Dates: Sunday December 3, 3:00 pm – 4:20 pm
Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82803869972?pwd=Z2lJZUJkWmFBeGQ2SUhSRVdhOUJiUT09
Bio: Hadassah Margolis is a clinical social worker and the Lead Therapist at McLean’s Spirituality and Mental Health Department, where she has helped develop the hospital’s first-ever Spirituality and Treatment groups. She is also a staff clinician at the Brandeis Counseling Center. Hadassah, along with Kitty Dukakis, launched the Spirituality and Mental Health Discussion Series, which is supported by the Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Project. Hadassah is a 2020 Commonwealth Heroine and was a 2019 CJP Chai in the Hub honoree.

Portrait of a Southern Jewish Family

Instructors: Rob and Pam Cooper
Description: What was it like for the Southern Jewish families who generally arrived in New Orleans or Natchez with nothing but the clothes on their backs? How did they go from being peddlers to owners of stores that sometimes became the Filene’s of their communities? Rob and Pam will describe these experiences using the story of Rob’s own family. He and Pam will present audio memoirs from Rob’s grandfather as well as ancillary historic materials that in total cover over 150 years.

Dates: 2 Sundays, January 24 & 31, 9:30 am – 10:50 am
Bios: Rob Cooper has been a writer, producer, videographer and editor for major market television, historical documentaries, educational and corporate communications for over three decades. He has developed the technical and aesthetic capabilities to deliver stories with elegance and integrity. Pam Pacelli Cooper knows the power stories have to inform and sustain, and the research and interviewing skills to treat stories with the nuance and context that will make them come to life. Pam is an experienced family therapist, oral historian, and a Guided Autobiography instructor.
Temple Sinai Adult Learning Schedule: October 2020 – January 2021

● Lessons for Living: Readings from Aggada

**Instructor:** Rabbi Frank Waldorf

**Description:** In English, we will read and discuss passages of aggada, non-legal texts from the Talmud that reveal the humanity of our sages. The selections are taken from *The Book of Legends*, selected by Hayim Nachman Bialik and Yehoshua Hana Ravnitzky around 1910 and translated into English around 1990 by Rabbi William Braude of Providence.

**Dates:** 3 Sundays, December 6, 7, & 13, 9:30 am – 10:50 am

**Zoom link:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81433273036?pwd=c2ZNaDgrZFpyWHdDakFva0E2Uk5JZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81433273036?pwd=c2ZNaDgrZFpyWHdDakFva0E2Uk5JZz09)

**Bio**

Rabbi Frank Waldorf served Temple Sinai for over 30 years as our spiritual leader from 1974, and he became our Rabbi Emeritus in 2004.
Ongoing Classes

- **Shabbat Morning Torah Study**  
  *with Rabbi Andy Vogel*
  Twice a month on Shabbat mornings, Temple Sinai members gather to discuss the ideas presented by the week’s Torah portion. We begin with a bit of singing and then study the text in English. You need not have any prior study of the Torah or Hebrew knowledge, simply an interest in considering the Torah portion as it relates to our contemporary experiences or those of Jews in previous generations. All are welcome for this friendly exchange of Jewish ideas! Come just once to try it out.
  
  *2nd & 4th Saturday mornings of each month, 9:00 a.m.* Zoom link is publicized a few days in advance.

- **Thursday Morning Study**  
  *with Rabbi Andy Vogel and Rabbi Talia Stein*
  Join us each Thursday for a lively and friendly class with Rabbi Vogel and Rabbi Talia Stein. We study a wide variety of topics, rotating to a new field of study about every six weeks or so. Thursday Study includes discussions, museum trips, films, and text study. In 2020–2021, topics may include current events in Israeli politics, literature and culture, further explorations in the Bible, and topics in American Jewish history. Join us each Thursday or feel free to drop in just once! All are welcome.
  
  *Every Thursday, 10:15-11:45 a.m.* Call or email the temple office to be added to the distribution list for information about the session and each week’s Zoom link.

- **Mindfulness and Jewish Values**  
  **Instructor:** Neil Motenko  
  **Description:** This monthly class will explore mindfulness and its relationship to Jewish meditation, prayer, and the cultivation of Jewish values. Mindfulness practice can enhance well-being, our ability to meet life’s challenges, and enable us to live through truth, kindness, wise discernment.
  
  *Dates:* 1 Sunday a month at 11:10 am starting September 13.  
  *Zoom link:* [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88622857871?pwd=Y2dPMXc2VkhBTjFFOUFZclFZQzVmZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88622857871?pwd=Y2dPMXc2VkhBTjFFOUFZclFZQzVmZz09)  
  **Bio:** Neil Motenko is a certified mindfulness instructor at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Retired from law practice, he offers mindfulness-based programs, with guided meditations, at our Temple and to seniors, hospice patients, and other interested individuals and groups.

- **Supporting Mindful Practice**  
  **Instructor:** Alex Borns-Weil  
  **Description:** This group focuses on developing mindfulness practice, sharing experiences, exploring questions, and discussing how mindfulness practices can help us live our Jewish values and develop as human beings. Each session includes time to meditate together.
  
  *Dates:* 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:30 am, starting October 17.  
  *Zoom link:* [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84336872989?pwd=RnFDOERVZG9jd0VWcjZLU0o0bmJndz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84336872989?pwd=RnFDOERVZG9jd0VWcjZLU0o0bmJndz09)  
  **Bio:** Alex Borns-Weil is a Temple member who is an experienced leader of mindfulness groups.