



Dear Friends, Family, and Neighbors,

Shalom and Welcome to Congregation Etz Hayim's Adult Education Programming for 5780 (2019-20). We hope that you will find many ways to connect with your fellow learners as well as your Jewish heritage. We have developed a calendar with learning opportunities both formal and informal that will help you explore, connect, and discover the riches of your Jewish journey.

Choose a program (or several) from this brochure and join us for an exciting year! If there is a program or topic that interests you, let us know. We are constantly looking for new offerings and creating new opportunities to learn individually and in community.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Lia Bass
Laura Naide, Director of Religious Education
Deb Cohen, VP for Education
The CEH Board of Directors

***Adult Education programs are provided through
the generous support of the Jean Koshar and
Samuel Rothstein Memorial Fund.***

Worship and Learn

Sunday & Thursday Minyan Services

How long does a weekday morning service last? Two hours? Would you believe 30-45 minutes? That's how long it takes to journey through time and space with stops at the Shema, the Amidah, and other highlights of Jewish practice. Join us for a short morning service with teaching moments and song in a multi-generational setting. Sundays from 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM when Religious School is in session. Our congregational weekday minyan service is held on Thursday mornings at 7:00 AM (9:30 AM on Federal Holidays).

Friday Shabbat Services @ 6:15 PM

- 1st Friday of Each Month is Potluck Shabbat with dinner following services.
- 2nd Friday of each month is Musical Shabbat featuring CEH musicians
- All Friday night services include a group discussion of a verse of Pirke Avot (Sayings of our Ancestors)

Saturday Shabbat Services

- Every Saturday morning at 10:00 AM. Worship includes a sermon by Rabbi Bass.
- Selected Saturdays will feature book talks by congregants. These will be announced in the CEH weekly email and on our website.

Lunch and Learn

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Bass

Learn about the Book of the Prophets, a fascinating part of the Tanach that contains the story of Israel from the conquest of Canaan to the Babylonian exile. No knowledge of Hebrew is necessary, just your English reading skills and desire to learn. Bring your vegetarian/dairy lunch, and your copy of the Book of the Prophets. The lunch group meets at CEH the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 12:00 PM -1:30 PM.

Community and Learn

Saturday, October 12, 2019, 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Coming Out Shabbat: Tell That To My Maker. Rabbi Avi Strausberg

In honor of Coming Out Shabbat, we'll examine what it means to be created by God in God's image. Through the lens of Torah, rabbinic tradition, and hasidut, we'll explore whether we have a religious obligation to live authentically, in the fullness of our identities, with gratitude for the gift of our lives and the exquisite diversity around us. Discussion takes place at Kiddush lunch.



Sunday, October 27, 2019, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Between the Covers: Siddur Lev Shalem. Rabbi Lia Bass

Siddur Lev Shalem offers multiple pathways into the Jewish prayer experience and the celebration of Shabbat, reflecting the Conservative movement's commitment to authenticity and its responsiveness to the evolving concerns and needs of all Conservative Jews. Come explore our new siddur with Rabbi Bass.

Sunday, October 27, 2019, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM American Technion Society Presentation.

Tova Kantrowitz, Senior Advisor for Strategic Partnerships for the American Technion Society. 6 – 7:30 PM.

Learn about the Joan & Irwin Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute on Roosevelt Island, a graduate program centered on interdisciplinary hubs in Connective Media and Health Tech. In May, 2016, the inaugural graduating class received dual master's degrees from Cornell and the Technion, representing the first time a foreign university granted a degree in the US. A light kosher dinner will be served. RSVP to melanie@ats.org. There is no charge and there will be no solicitation of funds.

Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Justice for All? Ethics from Our Bible. Jeremiah Unterman, Resident Scholar, The Herzl Institute - Machon Herzl

The Hebrew Bible radically changed the course of ethical thought and came to exercise enormous influence on Jewish thought and law while also providing the basis for Christian ethics and the broader development of ethical thought in modern Western civilization.

Jeremiah Unterman will discuss how the ethics of the Hebrew Bible represent a significant moral advance over Ancient Near East cultures. He will elucidate how the Bible's unique conception of ethical monotheism, innovative understanding of covenantal law, and revolutionary messages from the prophets form the foundation of many Western civilization ideals. Discover how these timeless biblical texts connect to the persistent themes of our times: immigration policy, care for the less privileged, and attaining hope for the future despite destruction and exile.

This program is free and open to the public. Please pre-register at Haberman Institute for Jewish Studies: <https://tinyurl.com/haberman1>

Sunday, November 24, 2019, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

What the Hell? Jewish Belief in the Afterlife. Rabbi Lia Bass

Does Judaism believe in an afterlife? Is there a heaven and a hell? Who goes there? Are Jews the only ones who have a place in the afterlife or do non-Jews merit eternal life? Do different Jewish movements have different beliefs? Let's explore answers to these questions by drawing from Jewish sources and theology.

Sunday, December 8, 2019, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

I'd Be Honored! Sharon Beth Bronheim and Ben Simon.

Have you ever turned down an honor offered by at services because you weren't comfortable? After this session, you won't have to! We'll teach you how to open the ark, recite the blessings before and after the Torah reading (have an aliyah), lift the Torah (hagbah), dress the Torah (g'lilah), and assist others coming up for honors as a gabbai. Then come to services and accept all the honors you are offered! This session will be followed with an optional field trip to a Saturday morning service.



Sunday, December 15, 2019, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Jewish Artists in the Smithsonian. SAAM Docent and CEH Member Deborah Kaplan

Spend an afternoon at a wonderful DC museum. We'll start with a few paintings and sculptures created by Jews who immigrated to the U.S. between 1880 and 1920. Then we'll move forward in time, exploring the influential work of Jewish American artists in the second half of the twentieth century. We'll do some of our looking in the elegant but often bypassed Luce Gallery on SAAM's third floor. This tour is limited to 18 attendees. RSVP to office@etzhayim.net



Sunday, January 12, 2020, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Jewish Multiracial Network. Chava Shervington

The Jewish Multiracial Network (JMN) was founded in 1997 by a group of parents who wanted to provide a community and supportive network for multiracial Jewish families. JMN's initial programming efforts sought to provide Jewish children of color and their families a space where their dual identities would not be challenged which continues to this day. As JMN has grown, it has expanded its impact to include adult Jews of Color and

members across the continental United States. A representative of JMN will talk about the organization's efforts and share ways to welcome all Jews into our communal spaces.

Sunday, January 19, 2020, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

The Jewish Community of Hong Kong. Fred Cooper

Before Fred Cooper began tutoring CEH B'nai Mitzvah students, he was a broadcast journalist for Voice of America (VOA), the U.S. government's official international broadcaster. From 1995-2000, Fred was assigned to create and run VOA's Asia newsgathering and radio/TV production center in Hong Kong. Fred and his family became active in the thriving Jewish community there (dating back to the mid-1800s) and Fred was chair of the Council of Wardens (aka, shul president) of the historic Ohel Leah synagogue. In a time when Hong Kong is part of our daily news cycle come learn about the Jewish presence there.



Sunday, January 26, 2020, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Transgender Conversation. Sponsored by Equality Virginia.

Embrace all of our neighbors by engaging in dialogue with a member of the Transgender Advocacy Speakers Bureau. Our speaker will help us build a better understanding of transgender life experiences through storytelling and open candid dialogue. Equality Virginia is the leading advocacy organization in Virginia seeking equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. EV believes in a truly inclusive Commonwealth where all are equally valued, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.



Sunday, February 2, 2020, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

What Five Books Should You Read to be An Educated Jew? Amy Schwartz.

What does it mean to be Jewishly educated? What is an educated Jew? Earlier this year, Moment Magazine came up with a novel approach to these perennial questions: It asked leading artists, intellectuals and scholars to name and describe five books they would recommend "to be an educated Jew." The lists sparked an immense reader response; it turns out that nearly everyone has a list, and no two lists are alike.

Moment Magazine book editor Amy Schwartz will lead a lively discussion and share "sports analytics" on the recommendations that have poured in: Which authors score highest? Which authors have hit doubles or triples, with more than one title picked? More seriously, what kinds of books do people value the most, and what's a Jewish education, anyway?

Bring your own suggestions, and we'll provide extra fun, surveys of congregational favorites, maybe even a bracket! After this class, you'll never run out of things to read.

Sunday, February 23, 2020, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Pesach Traditions. Rabbi Lia Bass and Congregants

Unlike many Jewish observances, Pesach is a holiday most often celebrated at home with family and friends. What is the history of the seder and what does it look like in your home? Why have Jews added items such as oranges, potatoes and cashews to their seder plates? If you are unfamiliar with the seder ritual bring your curiosity and questions. We will also host a Pesach recipe exchange for some new chametz-free meal ideas.

Saturday, March 7, 2020, 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

The Jews of American Jazz. Seth Kibel

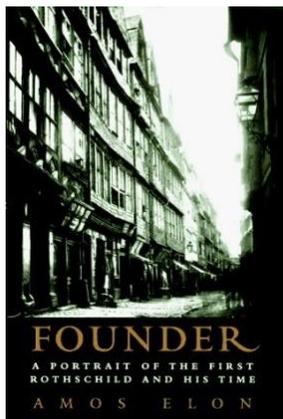
The Jews of American Jazz: An examination of the personalities, lives and careers of Jewish-American musicians -- including George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Benny Goodman, Artie Shaw and others -- whose pioneering contributions shaped the uniquely American genre of jazz music. Join us for live music, snacks, and lots of fun. No charge, but donations welcome.

Seth Kibel is the leader, clarinetist, and composer for The Alexandria Kleztet, a genre-bending klezmer band he founded in the Baltimore/Washington area. The band's four albums, *Peace, Love and Coffee* (2009), *Close Enough for Klezmer* (2005), *Delusions of Klezmer* (2002) and *Y2Klezmer* (1999) are all available nationwide. All four recordings received the Washington Area Music Association's (WAMA) award for Best World Music Recording following their release. Additionally, Seth was named "Best World Music Instrumentalist" by WAMA every year from 2003 through 2010. In 2005, 2007, and 2008, he was also named "Best Jazz Instrumentalist."

Sunday, March 15, 2020, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Book Talk – *Founder: A Portrait of the First Rothschild and His Time.* CEH Member Ken Ackerman

Join us for a fascinating book discussion. A layer of world history is stripped away, revealing both the life of the great banking dynasty's founding father and a rich glimpse into 18th-century Europe. This first biography of Meyer Amschel Rothschild is a rich, detailed, intimate portrait of a man and his times. Copies of this book are available for loan from the CEH Library.



Sunday, March 22, 2020, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

To Be of Use. Liz London, AVODAH. Co-Sponsored by CEH Social Action Committee.

This session will explore the importance of connecting social justice work to one's own personal vision and passion. Participants will examine several different methods of social change, including direct service, advocacy, and community organizing, and discuss the pros and cons of each method. They will look at how Jewish organizations have used these methods alone and in combination with one another. With this expansive understanding of what "activism" can be, and how that activism connects to Jewish values, participants will investigate their own passions and talents, and begin to develop a personal vision for their own ongoing social justice work.

Sunday, March 29, 2020, 10:15 AM – 11:45 AM

Cookbooks: A Roadmap Through American Jewish History. Laura Kumin

This tasty discussion will cover cookbooks from the early wave of Eastern European Jewish immigration to the US (late 19th-20th Century), the mid-20th Century Holocaust-related wave of immigration, the current popularity of Israeli food cookbooks, and the trend of American Jews seeking to connect with their cultural roots through cookbooks. Bring your favorite Jewish cookbook to share!

Sunday, April 19, 2020 *Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) Speaker. Details to follow.*

Sunday, April 26, 2020, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Walking Tour of Jewish Washington. Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington.

Learn about the vibrant Jewish history of H Street NE, from the early immigrant community in the early 1900's, through the devastation of the civil disturbances in 1968, to today's bustling scene with new businesses, theaters, and restaurants. This tour starts at the corner of 7th & H St. NE (outside the CVS) and ends at 14th & H St. NE. Tour limited to 20 registrants. RSVP to office@etzhayim.net.

Sunday, May 3, 2020, 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

JTS Evening of Learning: Times of Crisis: Trying Moments and Great Possibilities. Congregation Kol Shalom, 9110 Darnestown Rd, Rockville, MD 20850

What does Judaism say about responding to crisis — on an individual, communal and global level? What lessons can we find in Jewish texts and the history of the Jewish experience? More information to follow.



Sunday, May 17, 2020, 10:15 AM – 12:15 PM

Israeli Dance Performance & Instruction with AVIRAH.

Celebrate the end of the Religious School year with a dance performance and community dance lessons. Avirah is the University of Maryland's Israeli Dance Company. Avirah performs at cultural events on campus and annually at the D.C. Israeli Dance Festival and various other Israeli folk dance festivals along the East Coast.

Read and Learn (Saturday Book Talks)

To celebrate the rededication of Congregation Etz Hayim's library, the Adult Education program is sponsoring several books talks by congregants at Saturday Kiddush lunch. Watch for notices in the CEH Weekly Email. If you would like to lead a book talk, contact Laura Naide at school@etzhayim.net.

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