

**CONGREGATION  
BETH ISRAEL**



**ADULT & YOUTH EDUCATION  
2018-2019  
5779**

We have so many opportunities to learn at Beth Israel! Yes, the Jews are the “People of the Book,” as it’s said, and our traditional texts are amazingly insightful and enriching, but there is so much more as well! The Education Committee has intentionally planned programs to provide multiple entry points for you.

You can improve your knowledge of our heritage language, Hebrew, with one new word each week or an on-going class in Modern Hebrew or Torah reading.

You can study traditional Jewish texts—the Torah and Talmud—with our dynamic and engaging teacher, Rabbi Fellman.

You can hear engaging speakers from the Worcester community at Brotherhood breakfasts, and appreciate the knowledge and skills of our own congregants at a variety of “Shabbat Plus” programs. You can even learn to play Mah Jongg and to cook delicious kosher food!

This booklet presents a brief calendar and description of many opportunities. Please come, and bring a friend, a former member, or a prospective member—all are welcome! Watch the BI weekly e-blast and web site for further updates, too.

B’shalom

Pat Bizzell  
Vice President for Education  
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**Volunteers needed!**

**Please contact the committee chairs for more info:**

Vice President of Membership: Howard Fixler

Vice President of Education: Pat Bizzell

Inclusion Committee: Alan Harris

Ritual Committee: Victor Saffrin

Social Action Committee: Michelle Cochran and Bunny Callahan

## Learning with Rabbi Aviva Fellman

- “What Does the Talmud Say?”

Starting on 10/17, Rabbi’s Wednesday 7:30 p.m. class continues through December.

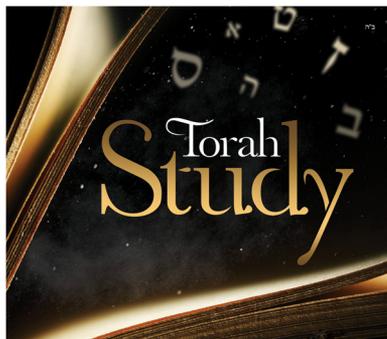
- Thank Goodness It’s Friday (TGIF) - Mid-October: Rabbi’s TGIF Torah study class at the Jewish Community Center resumes, Fridays at 10:00 a.m. Starts again 10/5.

- Rabbi’s WISE course, “Rabbinic Literature and Law from the Torah to Today,” begins Thursday 10/25; other dates: 11/1, 8, 15, 29. Time: 10-11:30 at the JCC. Please contact the Rabbi to enroll.

- “Introduction to Judaism” From Thursday 10/11 to 2/7/2019, Rabbi Fellman and other central MA rabbis will collaborate on an “Introduction to Judaism” course, 7-9 p.m., various locations.

**For more info:**

**<https://www.cbnaishalom.org/event/intro-to-judaism>**



## Yes! You CAN Learn to read Torah!

Back by popular demand, BI member Victor Saffrin makes it easy for adult learners.

**Sunday dates: 10/21, 10/28, 11/4, 11/11, 7:30-9 p.m.**  
(Only one conflict with a Patriots game!).

Contact the BI office to sign up.

## Learning Minyan

Alan Harris explains it all for you, at your own pace, whether you are a complete beginner or looking to enhance your long-time practice. Last Shabbat of the month, starting after the High Holidays. Starts 10/27.

## **“Shabbat Plus”**

invites everyone to stick around after kiddush and learn a little! Dates and themes:

- 10/13 “Rainbow Shabbat” to learn about different expressions of gender and the upcoming referendum on the November ballot.
- 11/17 “Honor our Veterans” and hear Avi Kaufman describe what it was like to be Jewish in the Army (other vets invited to chime in).
- 12/1 “Honor our Elders” as Paula Sommer leads a panel of our 90-years-plus congregants to share wisdom and memories.
- 1/5 “Yom Cholent” to feast on and learn about how different Jewish ethnicities prepare this iconic dish. Cholent lunch!
- 3/30 Get “Passover-Ready” with Dan Shertzer and Deb Martin and learn about K-P gourmet wines—back by popular demand and may even include chocolate this time!



## **Hebrew classes for all!**

Starting Wednesday 10/17, our own Ziva Rosenhand offers two ten-week courses.

Beginners, 5:00-6:00, and intermediate speakers, 6:00-7:00 (minimum enrollment, four people in each). There is a small charge for the books. Please contact the instructor at [ziva.rosenhand@gmail.com](mailto:ziva.rosenhand@gmail.com) to sign up.

## **“Hebrew Word of the Week”**

Beginning 10/6. Add to your knowledge of Hebrew and your appreciation of the weekly Torah portion. The “Word” will appear in the weekly Shabbat bulletin.

# BI Brotherhood

## **Famous Brotherhood Breakfast -**

Want a delicious breakfast? Like an interesting speaker? Then the Famous BI Brotherhood Breakfasts are for you! Beginning Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on 10/14; other dates: 10/28, 11/11, 12/2, 12/16, 1/13/19, 2/3, 3/10, 3/24, 4/7, 5/5.

## **Hearing Men's Voices -**

Want to discuss ideas and reflect in a small-group, all-male setting? Then please come when BI Brotherhood members host "Hearing Men's Voices" in their homes. First session, Thursday 10/18 at 7:30 p.m.; other dates (locations TBA): 10/18, 11/15, 12/13, 1/17/19, 3/14, 4/11.

## **World Wide Wrap & Souper Sunday**

Always wondered exactly how and why to put on tefillin? Then join our cheerful BI Brotherhood instructors on World-Wide Wrap Sunday, 2/3, and help with our Souper Sunday social action event the same day.

## **Stay Tuned ...**

### **Shabbat-in-Shul -**

Special Event! Watch for further information on Shabbat-in-Shul, 1/18-19/2019. Sure to be packed with good food, learning, and fun!

### **Bishul "cooking" at BI**

We will continue our exciting cooking lessons. Three additional classes will be offered in January, March and May. Watch the weekly e-blast for more details

### **Mikvah - What is It?**

Have you ever wondered about the Mikvah? Why we use it? Coming this Spring, BI, JCC and Federation will have a joint program. More details to follow.



**Rimon**, a twice-weekly religious school hosted by Congregation Beth Israel, is open to the Jewish community throughout Central Massachusetts. We seek to bring Jewish learning alive with a hands-on, discovery-oriented experience that centers on the child, engages the family, and treasures the community. Our vision is one of children who question, learn, and grow, creating a vibrant Jewish identity and future arising from the love and knowledge of our rituals, history, and tradition.

Rimon is open to children in kindergarten through seventh grade. Students in kindergarten and first grade attend school on Saturday mornings from 9:30 - noon. Those in second through seventh grade come to Rimon both on Shabbat mornings and Wednesday afternoons from 4:15-6:15. Monthly family learning sessions on Mondays with Rabbi Aviva Fellman are also offered as a supplemental program for Rimon students and their parents.

**Rimon Pre-School:** Children ages 3-5 who are not yet in kindergarten are eligible for Rimon Pre-school. It meets once a month on Saturdays (generally the first Saturday of the month) from 9:45-10:45 a.m. Children can be dropped off in their classroom. If they are staying for Tot Shabbat at 11:00, they will be supervised by a madrich (teaching assistant) during the interim period.

**Tot Shabbat:** Tot Shabbat is a monthly program for children birth to age 5, accompanied by an adult. It meets on the same day as Rimon pre-school, from 11:00-11:45 a.m. Children and their parents experience Shabbat through singing, storytelling, play, and puppetry. At the end of the session, the tots and their adults join Rimon for grape juice and challah and then finish in the sanctuary, joining the whole congregation in singing Adon Olam, and Kiddush lunch after services.

For more information about Rimon, contact Rimon Director Dale Rosenberg by emailing her at [dale.rosenberg@bethisraelworc.org](mailto:dale.rosenberg@bethisraelworc.org) or by calling the Beth Israel office at 508-756-6204.

# Teen Education

**BI BITES, or “BI Teen Engagement Series”:** An ongoing series taught by Rabbi Fellman that helps teens, grades 9-12, deal with pressing social issues informed by Jewish values and perspectives. One Monday a month from 6-7pm.\*\* (Dates are on the Rimon schedule)

**Madrichim program:** Teens work with the Rimon Director, Dale Rosenberg, and Rimon students, learning how to be learning assistants with our younger Rimon students. This is a post-b’nei mitzvah program: Teens in grade 8 and 9 can be trained while they volunteer for one year. Starting in Grade 10, teens who have successfully completed volunteer/training time of one year can receive a stipend for regular work with Rimon as madrichim.

**USY (United Synagogue Youth):** Our youth group for teens from grade 6 through 12. They plan at least 2 events per month, and membership in BI’s chapter of USY entitles the participant to be involved in our regional chapter (NERUSY, or New England Region USY) events.

**Family Monday:** All Rimon Families will gather with Rabbi Fellman monthly to discuss issues in social justice. This program is appropriate for all Rimon youth and teens. Parents are encouraged to attend.\*\* (Dates are on the Rimon schedule)

**Kehillah High:** Integrates the teen programming at BI with six Sunday programs throughout the year facilitated by the Federation. The six programs are open for all teens at BI and TES who sign up for at least one teen education program (or what the Federation calls “tracks”) at either synagogue.

For more information: <https://jewishcentralmass.org/programs/youth/kehillah-high>

## Other Goings-On:

### Mah Jongg

Do you play Mah Jongg? Would you like to learn? Unlock the secrets of Bams, Cracks, Dots and Jokers. Typically we play Mondays at 7:30 p.m.. Contact Lydia Borenstein @ 508-688-7926. Suggested donation: \$5

### Meditation

Calm your soul before evening minyan with Alan Harris, every Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Starting after the High Holidays

### Shelter Meals

Enjoy great company while helping the community. BI Social Action makes meals for community shelters. Sponsored by Rachel's Table. 10/21, 11/4, 12/8, 1/20, 2/3 (Souper Bowl Sunday), 3/3, & 5/19



For more Information:  
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