



Lifelong Learning and Programming at TBZ

WINTER/SPRING 2024/5784

Welcome

Shalom Dear TBZ Community,

It is a joy to provide you with this booklet! As you will see, there are so many new and ongoing opportunities for learning and involvement at TBZ this season. There are also many sessions in the works that have not yet made it into the booklet, including our long-awaited Conversational Hebrew Group (starting soon), a clay-making workshop, and a Kiddush Talk to discover all the ways that our community supports each other through *hesed* (loving-kindness) and how you can be a part of that as well. In addition, programming to engage around the conflict in Israel and Gaza is in the works and will be shared once finalized.

New events are always added and changed, so please check *Happenings*, our weekly Monday email, to get all the “happenings!” Programming opportunities outside of TBZ that may be of interest are often shared in our various Google Groups. These are another way to build community around specific interests; we have groups for parents of children under 18, Israel, LGBTQ+ Pride, Aging in Community for 55+ (working and retired!), and many more. Contact Sarah Ott in the office at SarahOtt@tbzbrookline.org or 617-566-8171 to join any of these lists or to learn more about them.

Finally, we last surveyed the congregation in 2022, while we were still exiting from our pandemic habits. Since then, we’ve had many new families join and the world has continued to turn. As always, we want to make sure we’re offering programming that meets the needs of our current members, so expect a programming survey in your inboxes this spring!

Tze u’lamed, go and learn,

Rav Claudia
Senior Rabbi

Rav Tiferet
Rabbi of Congregational Learning
and Programming

Shabbat at TBZ

Shabbat services are all in-person and online,
unless otherwise noted.

Friday night services, 6:00pm

Saturday services, 10:00am



Torah Study: Shabbat mornings

Saturdays, 9:00am in the Meeting Room (in person)

Taught by Rav Claudia, rabbinic intern Leah Carnow, or other rabbis from our TBZ community join us to study and discuss before Shabbat services.

(No Torah Study on February 3rd, because of Adult B'Mitzvah Celebration.)

Special Shabbatot

Men's Group Shabbat: January 6

For more than 15 years, the TBZ Men's Group has engaged participants in stimulating conversations about what really matters in their lives. In the process, members have built and strengthened relationships with other men in the TBZ community and beyond. On this Shabbat, the Men's Group will take a leadership role in services, including reading Torah.

Shabbat HaDorot - Parshat Bo: January 20

Join Rav Claudia, Rav Tiferet, Noah, and Leah for a Shabbat for all *dorot*, all generations!

Schedule for the Day:

9:00-10:00am Torah Study (9:30am Play Rehearsal)

10:00-10:30am Shabbat ShaBreakfast – for all ages!

(Muffins, Coffee, Hot Chocolate, GF/vegan options available)

10:30am-12:30pm Shabbat Morning Services with Rav Claudia, Leah, and Noah

10:30-11:15am 5th-7th Graders prepare *Parsha* Study with Rav Tiferet

11:15am Torah Service begins, including our annual *Parsha* Play!

(Want to be an actor? Email Rav Tiferet: ravtiferet@tbzbrookline.org!)

1:00-2:30pm B'Mitzvah Group: "I'm Jewish AND...": Exploring Jewish Identity and Antisemitism Today"

HIAS Shabbat: Friday Night: February 2

Refugee Shabbat is a moment for congregations, organizations, and individuals in the United States and around the world to dedicate a Shabbat experience to refugees and asylum seekers. The fastest-growing European refugee crisis since World War II is still ongoing. People seeking asylum are being turned away at borders around the world. The number of forcibly displaced people has grown to over 110 million. The growing impact of climate change exacerbates the effects of violence, conflict, and economic instability on already vulnerable populations. This is a critical moment for all of us to reaffirm and redouble our support for refugees, asylum seekers, and the forcibly displaced, and an opportunity to step back, reflect, and celebrate the work we have already done. Come learn about TBZ's important work with refugees and asylum seekers.

Adult B'Mitzvah Celebration: February 3

Join us to celebrate 13 Bar and Bat Mitzvah adult students concluding a year of learning together and becoming B'Mitzvah together at TBZ. Please note: no Torah study on this Shabbat. Service will begin at 9:30am. **It is also International Ice Cream for Breakfast Day, so there will be ice cream at kiddush!**

Repro Shabbat: February 10

Repro Shabbat, an initiative started by the National Council for Jewish Women (NCJW) falls on the Shabbat when Jews read *Mishpatim*, the Torah portion with the verses that form the basis of the Jewish approach to reproductive freedom – the story of an accidental miscarriage that teaches us much about how Judaism does, and doesn't, regard the personhood of a fetus. Join us for a *dvar Torah* and kiddush learning on this very important topic, as well as learn about TBZ's support for the Women's Health Center in Brookline.

Global Shabbat of Unplugging: March 1-2

The Global Shabbat of Unplugging is an annual 24-hour period, running from sundown to sundown, of observing a communal digital detox. This day is an adaption of our Shabbat ritual of carving out one day per week to unwind, unplug, relax, reflect, get outdoors, and connect with loved ones. What will you unplug for? Get a cell phone sleeping bag and truly put your phone to bed!

Recovery Shabbat with Rabbi Iggy Gurin-Malus: April 5-6

TBZ is thrilled to welcome back Rabbi Iggy Gurin-Malus, renowned Talmud teacher, spiritual counselor, artist, and educator, to teach our community. He grew up between Belgium, Israel (so expect him to be well dressed and blunt) and the United States in a traditional Jewish Orthodox home. He is a frequent author, speaker, teacher and contributor on subjects ranging from Talmud, Jewish text, and spirituality to addiction, recovery, fatherhood, and LGBTQI+ issues.

Beit Rabban Shabbat: May 31

Come celebrate a year of learning at Beit Rabban! This is a wonderful evening of a Kabbalat Shabbat service led by students and Rav Claudia, with a dinner for families following services at 7:30pm.

Graduation Shabbat: June 1

Honoring Graduates (from kindergarten to grad school and beyond!) and new rabbis including our own rabbinic intern Leah Carnow. Email your graduates to SarahOtt@tbzbrookline.org by May 23.

Kabbalat Shabbat honoring Juneteenth: June 14

Shabbat Nariya celebrating Pride @ TBZ: June 21

B'Mitzvah Celebrations

During Shabbat Morning Services (unless noted)

Ezra Katz, January 27

Adult B'Mitzvah, February 4

Shira Khaykovich, April 13

Danielle Morgenbesser, May 4

Ella Lindauer-Cohen, May 11

Ava Zarwan, June 1

Emre Zisfein-Shea (Afternoon *Mincha* Service), June 1

Miriam Bennett, June 8

JJ Kapanga Ndjibu, June 15

Shabbat Nariya: Shabbat Sing Out!

January 19, February 16, March 15, April 12, May 10, June 21

(in person and online)

Co-sponsored by Kavod Boston & BASE Boston, once a month we raise our voices, move our bodies, catch our breath, and gather strength as we create a circle of sound with voices and instruments to welcome Shabbat. Services at 6:00pm followed by community potluck dinners and more singing.



For the potluck, please bring dairy or parve food to share, serving utensils, and an ingredients label. You are also welcome to bring wine (no *hechsher* needed) to share. Water and paper goods are provided. People are welcome to sit in the community room or bring their food outside to the *sukkah* area or the front stairs. Shabbat Nariya typically meets on the 3rd Friday of the month.

Shabbat Zimrah and Hazmanah L'Zimrah with Artist-in-Residence Yoni Battat

February 8, 9, March 7, 8 and April 17, 19 (in person and online)



Shabbat Zimrah brings the mystical sounds of Arab Jewry to the TBZ sanctuary. Co-led by artist-in-residence Yoni Battat on the oud, this service will utilize traditional and original melodies to chant excerpts from *Shir Hashirim* and the psalms of Kabbalat Shabbat, followed by *Ma'ariv* with a reading of Song of Songs

(a Mizrahi Friday night tradition practiced year round - not just on Shabbat Shira!).

On Thursday night before each service, join Yoni in person or on Zoom for *Hazmanah L'Zimrah* (Invitation to Song), where Yoni will teach these melodies and about the musical traditions that they come from.

Yoni Avi Battat is a multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and composer, playing violin, viola, and oud in collaborative and interdisciplinary projects that explore both Mizrahi and Ashkenazi Jewish expression. Yoni's music has been

described as “an education for the ear and the soul,” inviting listeners to find healing, meaning, and joy in the experience of being human.

Hazmanah L’Zimrah: February 8, 7:30-9:00pm

Shabbat Zimrah: February 9, 6:00-7:30pm

Hazmanah L’Zimrah: March 7, 7:30-9:00pm

Shabbat Zimrah: March 8, 6:00-7:30pm

*Hazmanah L’Zimrah: April 17,** 7:30-9:00pm*

*(**please note the change of day: Wednesday)*

Shabbat Zimrah: April 19, 6:00-7:30pm

Community Dinner

Friday Night, March 8 (in person)

This is an opportunity to bring people together for a Shabbat Dinner.

Community Dinners are a chance to sit down with old friends (even from outside of TBZ, they’re invited too!), meet new friends, and discover shared interests. Following services at around 7:30pm. Sign up required (scan the QR code below or see *Happenings*.)



Kiddush Talks (in person)

January 6: Men's Group Shabbat (open to all genders)

Join Ammi Kohn of the TBZ Mens' Group for an exploration of American Jewish History from the perspective of four family memoirs and seven generations, from Russia and Romania in the 1850s to his bi-racial great granddaughter in Jackson, MS in 2023. He recently published his own memoir and his granddaughter's memoir will be published in 2025. His grandfather, excommunicated by "obscurantists" for early Zionism (1895) and progressive educational ideas, wrote the history of his excommunication for the New York Bureau of Education in 1914. He will also share material from his uncle who founded the Boston Hebrew Teacher's College. Ammi is a graduate of Gratz Hebrew Teacher's College in Philadelphia.

February 10: Repro Shabbat (see page 4)

March 16: Louis D. Brown Walk for Peace: Reframing the Narrative, Challenging our Assumptions

Join us for the Kick-off Kiddush Talk for the Louis D Brown Peace Institute's Mothers Day Walk (May 12). We will listen and explore our own assumptions around gun violence and its effects on our communities with the guided wisdom and experiences of those with first-hand experiences. By elevating stories that have already been told but not listened to, new possible futures can be created. We will discuss how to create a new narrative that promotes cycles of healing and cycles of peace. LDBPI staff and other experts will join the conversation as we try and delve into the strategies needed to build this new narrative.

March 30: Talking to God: an Exploration of the Psalms and Our Own Spiritual Lives

Join TBZ Member Pam Greenberg for an in-depth exploration of Psalms, based on her experiences in writing and publishing a translation of the Book of Psalms. This Kiddush Talk will explore issues we encounter in talking to God. Participants will have the option of continuing in the 2-session workshop. (See page 18 for more details.)

April 6: Rabbi Iggy Gurin-Malus (see page 5)

For Younger Members and Their Families

WonderMinyan

January 6, 20, February 10, March 2, March 16, April 6, 27, June 8, 22

(in person)

At WonderMinyan, young Jews begin to learn Shabbat morning and holiday prayers, the weekly *parasha* (Torah portion) through stories and plays, as well as build a community of friends.



- 10:30-11am Shabbat Shabbreakfast in the Meeting Room
- 11:00-11:30am Age-appropriate *parasha*/Shabbat engagement:
 - Littles (babies-1st grade)** in the Meeting Room with Rachel Krause-Grosman
 - Middles (2-4 grades)** in the Community Room with Rabbinic Intern Leah Carnow
 - Olders (5-7 grades)** in Room Gimmel with Rav Tiferet
- 11:30-12:00pm *Tefillah* (prayers) with Rav Tiferet, Noah, and Leah in the Meeting Room
- 12:00-12:30pm Activity/Shmooze time (before joining the end of services in the Sanctuary as we bless the children)

Please note: Families with children of all ages are welcome to come to TBZ Shabbat services every week, even when there is no WonderMinyan! Please feel free to use the quiet play area in the sanctuary or use one of our 3rd floor rooms overlooking the sanctuary (where services can also be seen and heard) if your child would prefer.

B'Mitzvah Family Group

January 20, February 10, March 2, April 27, June 22

After Shabbat services, 1:00-2:30pm (in person)

For families of 6th and 7th graders who are registered for the b'mitzvah group. Join Rav Claudia and Rav Tiferet to prepare for becoming a b'mitzvah family! Using the Moving Traditions B'Mitzvah Family Education Program, sessions inspire connection to Jewish community by centering on human development

and the parent-child relationship. These sessions help navigate this life stage by addressing the joys and challenges of becoming and parenting a teen.

B'Mitzvah Group Movie Night - *School Ties*

February 3, 6:00-8:30pm (in person) (Location TBD)

In 1959, a star quarterback from a working-class family is given an opportunity to attend an elite New England preparatory school, but he is conflicted about whether or not to tell his Evangelical classmates that he is Jewish.

B'Mitzvah Group Visit to the Mayyim Hayyim Community Mikveh

May 5, 10:00am-12:00pm (in person)

Mayyim Hayyim is a 21st-century creation, a *mikveh* (ritual bath) rooted in ancient tradition, reinvented to serve the Jewish community of today. Come learn about the *mikveh* and how to use this ritual to add to the celebration of becoming b'mitzvah.

5th Grade Families Intro to B'Mitzvah Process

May 5, 6:00-7:30pm (in person)

Families with 5th graders, this is for you! Learn about the b'mitzvah process at TBZ with Rav Tiferet and Rav Claudia, experience the family learning from our monthly B'Mitzvah Group and begin the journey towards becoming b'mitzvah as a family. Dinner included!

Beit Rabban

Wednesday afternoons, 4:00-6:00pm:

Last Day/Graduation June 5 (in person)

In the Talmud, *beit rabban*, which literally means “house of our rabbis,” is where students would go to learn the wisdom of our tradition and prepare to engage Jewishly with the world. Beit Rabban, TBZ’s after-school Jewish education program, is for members in grades K-7. We engage our children and families in meaningful, joyful, and experiential learning. We strive to grow young Jews who will value learning, be



curious about their link in the Jewish chain of history, think critically about their role in the present moment, and be empowered to create the future.

We welcome volunteers and teachers from the TBZ community!

For more information or to register for Beit Rabban, contact Rav Tiferet.

Beit Rabban Parent Opportunities

Parents learning with Rav Claudia

January 17, 31, March 27, April 10, May 1, 15, 29, 4:20-5:20pm (in person)

Join with Rav Claudia and other Beit Rabban parents to learn together. This year, we are studying *Pirkei Avot* (Ethics of the Ancestors) and how this relates to us as parents, Jews and humans in general.

Holidays

“Chai” School Dinners with Rav Claudia

6:30-7:30pm (in person)

Join Rav Claudia and other TBZ high schoolers (grades 9th-12th) for a meal, connection and exploring the holiday.

March 25, 6:30pm: Purim “Chai” School Dinner

June 10, 6:30pm: Shavuot “Chai” School Dinner

Kabbalat Shabbat of MLK Weekend

January 12

Tu BiShvat: Mussar for Spiritual Fortitude Against Climate Change

January 21

Are you a climate justice activist interested in making your work more joyful and sustainable? Are you concerned about the state of our climate and the crisis unfolding in our natural environment? For millennia, Jewish wisdom and spiritual practice have provided nourishment to our communities in an incredible array of contexts. Join TBZ Member Felicia Kazer and Kirva (formerly, IOWA) consultant Dan Gelbtuch to honor Tu BiShvat, that has become the Jewish environmental holiday, in a meaningfully relevant way. In this gathering, we will teach some of the fundamental practices of the Jewish spiritual tradition of Mussar and how you can apply these teachings to the area of climate justice. This workshop is appropriate for folks with previous Mussar practice and folks who are brand new to Mussar.

Beit Rabban-Led Tu BiShvat Seder

Wednesday, January 24, 5:15-6:00pm

Join Beit Rabban students for an exploration of the four worlds, four seasons, four questions and four qualities of being. All are welcome!

PURIM

Join the TBZ community to celebrate Purim, our people's wild, upside down, joyful celebration of our survival, commemorating the Book of Esther and the downfall of Haman (boo!).

Hamentaschen Baking, *Mishloach Manot* Packing and Purim Deliveries

March 17

Help with our annual hamentashen baking, *mishloach manot* (goodie bags) packing, and deliveries to our neighbors at 1550 Beacon Street. Every year we try to bake more than the year before! Can you help deliver? Contact Rav Tiferet: ravtiferet@tbzbrookline.org

12:00-3:00pm Baking

1:30-3:00pm Packing mishloach manot and delivering to all TBZ members

3:00-3:30pm Deliveries to 1550 apartments

3:30pm Singing at 1550 Community Room (3rd floor of 1550 Beacon)



Megillah, Spiel, and Dancing

March 23, starting at 7:45pm

This year Purim is Saturday night, a great opportunity to celebrate and dance together.

7:50pm Community Havdalah, followed by Megillah reading.

9:30pm Dance party!



Purim Carnival, Spiel, and Family-Friendly Megillah Reading

March 24

10:00am Carnival

11:00am Megillah and Spiel

PASSOVER

First Seder Monday, April 22



Passover Seder Matching, Deadline April 9

We will all have the opportunity to bring the light and joy of *Pesach* into our homes together with our TBZ friends and family. We will match guests and hosts so we can all have an opportunity to spend time and a meal with each other! This is another chance for us to sweeten and deepen our community relationships. Use the QR Code above to sign up or check *Happenings* for the link.

Deadline to sell *Hametz*, April 21



Hametz is leavened food and is forbidden on *Pesach*. Jews may not own, eat, or benefit from *hametz* during Passover. Where disposing of *hametz* will result in considerable financial loss, it is permissible to temporarily sell one's *hametz* to someone who is not Jewish, who owns the *hametz* during *Pesach* and relinquishes it after *Pesach*. Rav Claudia will sell TBZ's *hametz* to the Rector of All Saints Parish, Rev. Richard Burden on the morning of April 22. Complete the form to sell your *hametz*! <https://tinyurl.com/TBZSellHametz24>

1st Day Service: April 23, 10:00am

7th Day Service with Yizkor: April 29, 10:00am

YOM HASHOAH

Yom HaShoah Film and Discussion: *Beyond Babi Yar*

Sunday, May 5, 6:00-7:30pm

Beyond Babi Yar was inspired by the family story of TBZ Member Andy Halpert and his cousin, filmmaker John Pollick. Their grandparents' families were among the shooting victims in Ukraine. Babi Yar, or Babyn Yar, is a ravine in Kyiv, Ukraine. On September 29 and September 30, 1941, Nazis forced 33,771 Jews into it and shot them. The Nazis continued their campaign

of mass shootings of Jews well beyond Babi Yar, extending through Ukraine, Belarus, and other parts of Eastern Europe. This is how the Holocaust began. The purpose of the film is to educate viewers about these forgotten Holocaust victims and their neglected graves and inspire action regarding them. After 80 years, it is time to finally address this enormous historical and humanitarian injustice in an open and comprehensive way, and begin to restore to the millions of shooting victims the dignity and respect they have been denied for so long. The film is 32 minutes long and will be followed by a conversation with Andy and his cousin.

YOM HAZIKARON AND YOM HA'ATZMAUT

Yom Ha'Zikaron Joint Israeli-Palestinian Event

Sunday, May 12, 12:00-1:30pm

The Israeli-Palestinian Memorial Day reminds everyone that war is not a predetermined fate, but a human choice. The joint ceremony seeks to sow the seeds of hope among the two sides, and to bring to an end wars that have taken the lives of our cherished loved ones. The ceremony takes place every year on the eve of Memorial Day (*Yom HaZikaron*) for Israeli fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism. The ceremony was initiated by Buma Inbar, whose son was killed in Lebanon in 1995, and other peace activists, together with the Combatants For Peace movement. Since the first ceremony in 2006, the number of people who attend has gradually grown, and today counts thousands of people, bereaved Israeli and Palestinian family members. The choice to hold the event on the same day as Israel's Memorial Day aims to relay a message to both sides, calling them to recognize the joint pain and hope, and to try and prevent the next victims from this fate.

***Megillat HaAtzmaut* (Scroll of Independence) reading at the Kotel**

Monday, May 13, 11:30am

Israel's Declaration of Independence read from the Egalitarian section of the Kotel (the Western Wall) is a festive event held every year between Yom HaShoah and Yom Ha'atzmaut by the World Zionist Organization. It is broadcast live in different languages to the entire Jewish world as a way of celebrating Israel's Independence Day (Yom Ha'Atzmaut) and strengthening the sense of Jewish peoplehood in Israel and abroad.

SHAVUOT

Brookline Community Tikkun Leil Shavuot

June 11

Join teachers from around the greater Boston area for all night learning and snacks!

Special Events & Groups

Electronic Jerusalem: Ecstatic Dance Party

Saturday Nights, January 20, February 17 and March 9

When the nights get colder and darker, we can warm them up together with dance! Join Master Musician, TBZ Member and Beit Rabban teacher Zach Mayer for an Electronic Jerusalem Ecstatic Dance Party! Electronic Jerusalem is Zach's NEW project, incorporating the sounds and rhythms he collected while studying Middle Eastern classical music in Jerusalem, into modern electronic dance music. It's pulsing– it's Ecstatic Dance/Trance. Imagine a shuk– of music! Performed live with synthesizer and saxophone. Suggested donation: \$10.

Women's Retreat

March 10 (in person)

A day for women by women. If you would like to be a part of planning OR would like to offer something to nourish the *neshamot* (souls) of people who experience the world as women in our community, contact Rav Tiferet: ravtiferet@tbzbrookline.org.



Poetry in America Screening and Conversation with TBZ Member Lisa New and Tracy K. Smith

Monday, April 8, 7:00-8:30pm

Join us for a screening and discussion of the 25-minute film, *Hill Country*. *Hill Country*, written by Tracy K. Smith, is a contemplative poem that

explores connections between the divine, the natural world, and the human experience. It invites readers to reflect on the spiritual qualities of nature and the potential for witnessing the “holy” participating in ordinary moments of life. In this episode, both Rav Claudia and Rav Tiferet reflect on the meaning of Psalm 121 and its connection to this poem.

Poetry in America is an educational initiative and public television show that brings poetry into classrooms and living rooms around the world. Founded by Harvard Professor Emerita (and TBZ Member) Elisa New, this event is a platform for people of all and no faith traditions to connect and exchange insights with others who share their interests in faith, creativity, and the sacred qualities of the natural world.

TBZ Community Retreat at the Craigville Retreat Center on Cape Cod: May 17-19, 2024

We will again be gathering at the Craigville Retreat Center on Cape Cod, for a *Shabbaton* (weekend) of meaningful services, delicious meals, interesting programming, and, of course, amazing community building. The Community Retreat is a wonderful opportunity to deepen TBZ friendships, and to spend Shabbat together with the community, relaxing, breathing deeply, praying, and enjoying true Shabbat *m’nucha* (rest). All TBZ members are encouraged to attend! There will be programming and services for people of all ages!



Jewish-Adjacent Group

Do you come to TBZ and you're not Jewish? Do you look around services and assume everyone is Jewish but you? We're creating a gathering space for spouses, partners, and families of people who are in Jewish families but not Jewish themselves. Let's get together one Sunday morning, we'll provide childcare (but children are not required!). If you're interested, please contact Eva Silverman (silverman.eva@gmail.com) or Jack Cook (jackthromblycook@gmail.com).

Twelve Jewish Steps to Recovery

Sundays, February 11 & 25, 3:00-4:00 pm

Join TBZ members for a bi-weekly opportunity to explore the 12 Steps of AA from a Jewish perspective using the book *Twelve Jewish Steps to Recovery: A Personal Guide to Turning From Alcoholism and Other Addictions – Drugs, Food, Gambling, Sex...*

About the book: A rabbi, a psychiatrist, and many recovering Jewish people share their understanding of the Twelve Jewish Steps of recovery from addiction of all kinds based on conversations with each other – and with God. They present a Jewish perspective on the Twelve Steps and offer consolation, inspiration, and motivation for recovery – for people of all faiths and backgrounds – by drawing on traditional and contemporary Jewish sources and by sharing what recovering people say about their experiences. They explore why some Jews are uncomfortable with the Twelve Steps, as well as how the Jewish understanding of the Twelve Steps differs from the Christian understanding of it. Contact Peter Golbus (pgolbus@gmail.com) if you're interested and to learn more.

Save the Dates:

Spring Fundraiser: Thursday, May 30

Community Meeting: June 17, 6:30pm

Minyanim: Come and pray every day with TBZ!

Boker Tov TBZ: Weekday Mornings

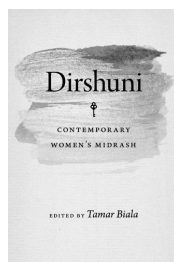
Weekdays, 8-8:45am (online)

Boker Tov (Good Morning) TBZ is a daily morning prayer group, led by TBZ rabbis, rabbinic interns, and the Boker Tov community. It started from a desire for daily connection during the pandemic and has persisted and grown into a supportive community for members saying kaddish, as well as an opportunity to learn and grow in prayer practice and develop a community of friends. Join us on Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/BokerTovTBZ>

Eat, Pray, and Learn: *Davening* and learning together

Wednesdays, 8:00am *Shacharit* prayers, 8:45am breakfast and learning, Over by 9:45am or 10:00am (in person)

Join Rav Claudia and members of our community for a spirited beginning to your day! We begin the day with joyful and intentional *davening* (praying), followed by breakfast and text learning. We will learn from the book *Dirshuni*, a unique compilation of contemporary women's *midrashim*. Email Rochelle to be included in the Eat, Pray, and Learn list. Let Rochelle know (rkelman@tbzbrookline.org) if you want to be added to the email list.



Classes

Talking to God: an Exploration of the Psalms and Our Own Spiritual Lives

March 30, 31 and April 13

Following the success of her workshop last year, join TBZ Member Pam Greenberg for a more in-depth exploration of Psalms, based on her experiences in writing and publishing a translation of the Book of Psalms. This three-part class (Kiddush talk, see page 8; and 2 sessions) will begin with an exploration of issues we encounter in talking to God, through a presentation on some issues we encounter in translating the Psalms. The second session will involve participants either translating their own psalm

(from Hebrew to English or English to English) or crafting their own psalm through words or visual medium, and the third part will involve a communal reading/show with a time for discussion with all community members who attend. The intention is to reawaken our relationship with God and our ability to approach God honestly and authentically.

“Black Lives Matter To Us!” What does that even mean!?

4 Thursdays in March, 7:00-9:00pm (in person and online)

Love the banner? Hate the banner? “What banner?” This workshop is for you! Join Rav Tiferet to critically examine the banner, its language, and its significance, with the goal of constructing a communal understanding of it. Each session will focus on a phrase of the banner and include text study and mussar practice. The desired outcomes are to provide an opportunity for critical discourse and to fuel motivation for continued learning.

Jewish Life and Thought in Medieval Spain (Al Andalus) with TBZ Member, Rabbi Lenny Gordon

10 Wednesdays, Winter/Spring 2024:

**February 7, 14, 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10 & 17, 7:00-9:00pm
(online)**

Cost: \$450 (financial aid is available through Hebrew College)

*Offered in conjunction with Me'ah: During the Middle Ages in Spain – Jews, Christians, and Muslims shared a common home and interacted in the realms of medicine, government, philosophy and mysticism. For us, Al Andalus (Spain) offers a model for a pluralistic society where diverse religious communities co-existed, shared space, built institutions, and learned from one another. In this way, the Jewish men and women of medieval Spain were, in some centrally important ways, the first “modern” Jews. They were a religious minority, constantly renegotiating their religious and cultural identities in the face of two vast, overwhelmingly powerful religious empires. We will explore diverse strategies of leading figures who produced lasting achievements in the arts, in religious life, and in Jewish thought, including Maimonides (*Code of Jewish Law, Guide for the Perplexed*), Nahmonides (*Commentary to Genesis and the Barcelona disputation*), Bahya (*Duties of the Heart*), Rabbenu Yonah (*Gates of Repentance*) and Yehuda Halevi (*Kuzari*). Their legacy continues to have an impact today as we re-imagine*

Jewish life and identity in America. No prior background is assumed.

Register here: <http://tinyurl.com/MeahSpain>

Suggested Background Readings: *The Jews of Spain*, by Jane Gerber and *The Ornament of the World: How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain* by Maria Menocal

NOTE: This course is designed for people interested in learning more about the Jewish experience in Spain **and/or** interested in joining our Hebrew College Jewish Discovery Tour of Spain in May 2024. This May, in conjunction with Keshet Educational Tours, ME'AH will offer a trip to explore Jewish Spain. Check out the tour details at: <https://www.keshetisrael.co.il/meah>

Well of Living Insight – Siddur Commentary with Rabbi Ebn Leader

Two Mondays March 4 and 11, 7:00-8:30 pm, (in person)



My teacher, Arthur Green, has recently published his commentary on the *siddur* (prayer book) – “*Well of Living Insight* – באר לחי ראי”. In this commentary, he attempts to bridge the gap between the words of the *siddur* and the experience of praying as a contemporary spiritual seeker for whom the old images of God might feel foreign. Almost all of these “comments on the *siddur*” are based both in form and in content on insights of classical hassidism, which went through its own revivalist phase in the 18th century.

Join us in learning a few teachings from the book in community, to help you make the most out of studying/reading/practicing on your own!

Shabbat with Commentary During Shabbat morning services,

February 24, March 16, April 20

Once a month, join TBZ community members and rabbis to answer questions about services while services are happening! Learn how *tefillah* (prayer) works, get insights into the structure and meaning of various elements of the service, and get to know how services can be a meaningful tool for increased spiritual living.

Tikkun Olam

AAAG TLC Kit Packing

May 5, 10-12pm (in person)

Please join the Abortion Access Action Group in person to support the Women's Health Services (WHS) Brookline. We will assemble the items the community collects into attractive "TLC kits" for patients. Each will include a hand-written note-card expressing our support which we will write and decorate collectively. In addition, we will share about our ride-offering initiative and translator recruitment, decide whether we wish to engage in counter-protesting at WHS to support patients...and continue to brainstorm new avenues of engagement. Stay tuned for items to donate.



27th Annual Louis D. Brown Mother's Day Walk for Peace

May 12

Join Team TBZ for The Mother's Day Walk for Peace (MDW4P), a beloved 27-year-long Boston tradition and celebration of our potential to create more peaceful communities. The 4.3-mile walk will raise visibility on the issue and generate much-needed support for the important work of the Peace Institute in their goal to empower survivors and communities impacted by murder, trauma grief, and loss and to cultivate cycles of peace. *Join us for an introduction to the walk during Kiddush on Shabbat, March 16th, after services.*



21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge

TBZ members and friends are invited to join the 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge! It is a dynamic and thought-provoking program that will give participants a deeper understanding of the intersections of race, power, privilege, supremacy, and oppression.

We will assist you in connecting with a group of 4-6 people. Your group will decide how you want to participate. It was conceived to be completed in 21 days. However, the TBZ members who have done the Challenge usually meet on a weekly basis.

The 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge © was initially developed by The American Bar Association (ABA) using the concepts of diversity expert Eddie Moore, Jr. and has been used and adapted by a wide range of organizations.

To learn more about the program and/or be connected with a group contact: Barrie Keller barrie.keller@gmail.com

Ongoing

SUNDAYS

Family Table

Monthly, see *Happenings* for upcoming dates

TBZ partners with Family Table, through Jewish Family & Children Services (JF&CS), volunteering to pack and deliver groceries each month. Packing takes 30-45 minutes and deliveries are convenient to the volunteer's hometown. Young children are welcome to participate and learn the value of helping others! The volunteer location is JF&CS (2430 Main Street, Waltham). Find out more and sign up using the QR code above.



Hebrew with Rabbi Sam

Sundays, 10:15am-12:00pm (online only)

Deepen your knowledge of the Hebrew of the *Tana"kh* (Jewish Bible) as well as our prayers and blessings. These sessions use Hebrew text with English translation provided to all members of the group. Knowledge of the aleph-bet and a basic ability to read Hebrew is suggested but not required. There is a 6-session basic Hebrew primer available on TBZ's YouTube page to help you feel prepared to join this class! Sessions will explore vocabulary, grammar, and evidence for variant world views and social structures in the text.

TBZ Book Club

For TBZ members only. Monthly meetings on Sunday evenings feature lively discussions of books by or about Jewish people, alternating fiction and non-fiction selections. New members are welcome! You may find yourself reading books you never knew about or thought to read and meeting other book lovers! Please join us at any time during the year by contacting the coordinators at tbzbookclub@tbzbrookline.org.

January 7: *Racing Against History* by Rick Richman

February 4: *Dineh: An Autobiographical Novel* by Ida Maze

March 10: *Woke Antisemitism: How a Progressive Ideology Harms Jews* by David Bernstein

April 14: *God Knows* by Joseph Heller

May 5: *Burning Lights: A Unique Double Portrait of Russia* by Bella Chagall

June 9: *All the Rivers* by Dorit Rabinyan

Dayenu Circle for Climate Action: Monthly

Monthly on Sundays (online only)

When we think about the climate crisis, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by the scale of the challenge, and skeptical of our capacity as individuals to make a meaningful difference. Dayenu Circles (small groups of people working on climate action) are a way for you to make powerful, positive change with a Jewish voice. Together with just a few fellow community members, you can join a Dayenu Circle that can be your home base for climate action. Whether you've arrived at this moment with more questions

than answers, or have spent years advocating for climate action, a Dayenu Circle is a way for you to channel your passion and concern together with others. Working in concert with other Dayenu Circles across the country, you can advance significant national climate policy while also working locally within your community. We do this work together not only to take effective action to confront the climate crisis but to sustain ourselves and our spirits as we act. A Dayenu Circle can provide a center of gravity, enabling us to align Jewish values with the change we seek to make in the world. Rooted in community and drawing on Jewish wisdom and experience supports us as we move from fear and anxiety to courageous action.

Knitzvah

Sundays 7:00-8:30pm, January 14, February 4, March 10, April 7, May 5, June 2

The Knitzvah Group is a subgroup of the Hesed Committee at TBZ.

Our mission is to contribute to the sense of warmth, of being cared about and known within the Community by knitting together! We meet about once a month,



from late Fall through Spring, at members' homes or virtually – and spend the evening knitting and crocheting (we teach/support from beginners to advanced) or doing any handiwork people choose to bring along with them. We make baby hats when there's a new baby in a TBZ member's family, and we make Caring Wraps (lap blankets and shawls) to bring to members who are ill or going through particularly challenging times. At meetings, we enjoy catching up with each other, as well as letting the group know of Community news and who might need something from us, the Hesed Committee, or the rabbis. We're a drop-in group – come once or as often as you'd like. Meetings are announced in *Happenings*. If you would like to be on our mailing list, email knitzvah@tbzbrookline.org.

Men's Group Weekly Meetings

Sundays, 7:00pm (online only)

For more than 15 years, the TBZ Men's Group has engaged participants in stimulating conversations about what really matters in their lives. In the process, members have built and strengthened relationships with other men in the TBZ community and beyond. For more information, contact Mark Dinaburg through the TBZ office.

MONDAYS

Poetry "Potluck" with Rabbi Suzanne Offit

1st and 3rd Mondays (check *Happenings* for dates) at noon

Bring your own dairy/pareve lunch so we can learn and eat together! In addition, our souls also need nourishment, so bring your favorite poem to share for a "poetry pot-luck." Please bring poems that are meaningful to you. Come prepared to share a little about the poet. You will need 15 copies (this is the potluck part!).

To share 15 copies you may 1) come at least 15 minutes early to class and photocopy in the TBZ office OR, 2) email your poem the Sunday night before class to suzanneaoffit@gmail.com 3) If your poem is in a book, simply take a photo of the poem and email it to Suzanne.

Sponsored by Aging in Community, everyone is most welcome!

Poogy Tales – The Music and Stars of Israel's Legendary Band

Fourth Monday, 7:30pm (online)

Explore the songs of one of Israel's most beloved pop groups! Join TBZ Member Dr. Miriam Rosalyn Diamond for a monthly online discussion about the character "Poogy," the meaning of hits such as "Yoya," and the successful musical careers of its multi-talented group members. Anyone who enjoys Israeli music is welcome (whether or not you're familiar with Hebrew and/or the group). RSVP to Sarah at SarahOtt@tbzbrookline.org for the Zoom link.

WEDNESDAYS

Aging In Community: Informal Coffee Meet-Up

Wednesdays, 2:30pm

at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel Lobby, 40 Webster St., Brookline

If you are looking for some informal camaraderie within the Aging in Community at TBZ, please join us Wednesday afternoons at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Coolidge Corner for coffee (you need to bring your own beverage!) and a nice, casual chat. In nice weather, we will meet outside in the courtyard. NO NEED TO RSVP, just come!



THURSDAYS

TBZ Therapists' Connection

Alternate Thursdays, 1:00pm (online only)

TBZ members who are mental health professionals are welcome to join this every-other-Thursday online support group to come into community to discuss current societal and mental health topics and how these may affect our work. This group began in March 2020 and has been ongoing and well-attended. Our conversations are group-generated and informal, we operate on a “come when you can” basis, and we welcome regulars and newcomers alike! It’s a wonderfully supportive community and we hope you’ll join us! Please contact Jenny Berz at jbbberz@gmail.com for more information.

**For up-to-date information about all of these events,
please visit www.tbzbrookline.org/calendar**

**Also, please note that the next issue of *Koleinu* (TBZ’s
Newsletter) will be available in April 2024.**

FRIDAYS

Friday Morning Meditation

Fridays, 9:30-11:00am (online only)

Nishmat Hayyim: The Breath of Life Project presents weekly sessions to help deepen and continue the meditative discipline together, cultivating wisdom, compassion, happiness, and the ability to respond to this complex life and world. All levels of meditators, beginners and experienced, who want support for starting or deepening a regular practice are welcome! The 90-minute sessions, led by Nishmat Hayyim leaders, include chant; a 45-minute silent sit; teachings from Jewish, Buddhist, and other mindfulness texts; discussion; and check-ins about our practice.

SATURDAYS

Men's Group Monthly Meetings

Shabbat Afternoons, 1:00pm (in person)

January 13, February 3, March 2, March 30, April 20, May 4, June 1

For more information, contact Mark Dinaburg through the TBZ office.

HIGH HOLY DAYS 2024 SAVE THE DATES

Erev Rosh Hashanah: October 2

Kol Nidre: October 11

Yom Kippur: October 12



TBZ

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