

Lifelong Learning and Programming at TBZ



FALL 2025/5786

September 2025-January 2026

WELCOME

Dear TBZ Community,

As we enter the month of *Elul*, the sacred time of preparation before the *Yamim Nora'im* (Days of Awe), we invite you to reflect on how you will nourish your Jewish self in the months ahead. This program guide is more than a list of offerings. It's a reflection of who we are becoming as a community and what we value most: meaningful connection, deep learning, spiritual growth, and joyful engagement.

Much of what happens at our synagogue is shaped by you. Rav Leah continues to meet one-on-one with community members to better understand your spiritual needs and interests, and to help connect you with others, with affinity groups, and with the events in this guide that might speak to your heart.

This fall we also celebrate the launch of our newly formed Education and Programming Committee. Their work is centered on ensuring our programs align with the ways you like to gather, learn, and grow. In the coming months, you'll hear from the committee as they seek your input. Please take a moment to share your voice: your insight helps us build a more vibrant, responsive, and inclusive community.

We're so glad you're on this journey with us.

Rav Claudia
Senior Rabbi

Rav Tiferet
Rabbi, Congregational Learning
and Programming

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ELUL PROGRAMMING

The month of *Elul* begins Saturday evening, August 23, 2025 

Preparing Your Heart: Sephardi Morning *Selichot* Services

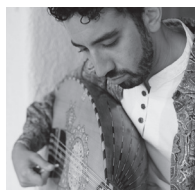
led by Rabbi Ebn Leader and

TBZ's Artist-in-Residence, Yoni Battat

co-sponsored by Hadar Boston

Thursday, September 4; Tuesday, September 9;

Thursday, September 18, 8:00am at TBZ (in person)



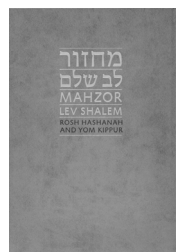
The paradoxical coexistence of joy and awe is built into the very fabric of the High Holiday season. Come prepare for it with Rabbi Ebn Leader as he leads us in the soul-searching, poetic melodies of the Syrian/Kurdish Jewish tradition, played by Yoni Battat. Sign up via *Happenings*.

Yoni Avi Battat is a multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and composer, playing violin, viola, and oud in collaborative and interdisciplinary projects exploring 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.

Getting to know TBZ's New *Mahzor Lev Shalem* with Rabbi Lenny Gordon

Kiddush Talk: September 6, (after services);

Monday, September 8, 7:00pm (online)



Join Rabbi Lenny Gordon, a member of the *Mahzor Lev Shalem* editorial team, for an introduction to our new *mahzor*!

Created to meet the diverse backgrounds and needs of our community, *Mahzor Lev Shalem* offers historical insights, meaningful translations, transliterations, and a rich array of readings—*piyyutim* (liturgical poems), Hasidic stories, reflections, and voices from across Jewish tradition. It speaks to our contemporary concerns and spiritual yearnings, making it a meaningful companion for the *Yamim Nora'im*. Join Rabbi Lenny for a *kiddush* talk on **Shabbat, September 6** after services, and online **Monday, September 8 at 7:00pm** for a deeper dive.

Choosing the God I'll Crown on Rosh Hashanah: The Power to Try Out Different Conceptions of God with Rav Tiferet

Thursdays, September 4 & 11, 7:00-8:30pm (online)

The liturgy of Rosh Hashanah is based on an ancient coronation ceremony. It is the time of year when we crown our God. In this workshop, we'll consider what we don't believe in, what we do believe, and how to live aligned with our own understanding of God (and not someone else's). No clarity on God required! Together, we will explore our personal concepts of God, experiment with some tools for practicing relationship, and create a written/reflective expression to accompany you throughout the holidays.



Brookline Community Selichot

Saturday, September 13, 6:30pm-1:00am

Join us for a soulful beginning to the High Holy Days with an evening of meditation, learning, and inspiring prayer.

At 1550 Beacon Street (in person)

6:30pm Early session with Hebrew Senior Life (HSL) leadership

7:30pm *Havdalah* with HSL Leadership

8:00-9:00pm Early *Selichot* with Hebrew Senior Life

At TBZ (in person and online)

9:30-10:15am Meditation Practice

10:30-11:30am Learning with Rabbi Suzanne Offit

11:30am *Selichot* with Rabbi Ebn Leader and the TBZ Davening Team

HOLIDAYS



Join us for the High Holidays,
Welcoming 5786!

Erev Rosh Hashanah: Monday, September 22

Rosh Hashanah Day 1: Tuesday, September 23

Rosh Hashanah Day 2: Wednesday, September 24

Kol Nidre: Wednesday, October 1

Yom Kippur: Thursday, October 2

Sukkot Day 1 Services: Tuesday, October 7

Shemini Atzeret Services: Tuesday, October 14

Simchat Torah Evening: Tuesday, October 14

Contemplative Simchat Torah Service: Wednesday, October 15

For more information and a schedule of services and events,
visit our website: tbzbrookline.org

Pre-Simchat Torah Outing: *The Mountaintop* at the Modern Theater at Suffolk University



Sunday, October 12, 2:00pm (in person)

Katori Hall's play, *The Mountaintop*, explores the final night in the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., portraying him as a deeply human leader standing at the edge of history, knowing his mission is nearly complete. This mirrors the story of Moses, who led the Israelites to the brink of the Promised Land but did not enter it himself. On Simchat Torah, we read this part of our narrative, completing our yearly Torah reading cycle and immediately beginning again, symbolizing both fulfillment and continuity. Similarly, King, like Moses, did not see the full realization of his dream, but passed the torch to the next generations. On Simchat Torah, as we rejoice in the ongoing

cycle of Torah and leadership, we are reminded that the work of justice, like the Torah, is eternal and carried forward by many hands.

For ticket information and gathering details, contact Ellen Krause-Grosman at ellen.krausegrosman@gmail.com.

Sukkot Cooking Demo: Pumpkins & Squash and their Importance in Sephardi Cooking

Sunday, October 12, 11:00am (in-person)



Known by Sephardi and Mizrahi Jews as *kalavasa*, *d'la'at*, *kadoo*, and *q'ar'a*, pumpkin has been an integral part of Jewish cooking in these regions for hundreds of years. We will explore when pumpkin was introduced to the Sephardic and Middle Eastern Jewish kitchens, and how it is used in a variety of sweet and savory dishes, some of which are

specifically meant for High Holiday meals, and others that can be made at any time. Join us for a cooking demonstration and tasting, featuring this wonderful seasonal, and Jewish ingredient!

Ariella Darsa Amshalem is a chef and chef instructor who teaches about Sephardic and Mizrahi communities through the lens of their food, language, songs, and customs. Ariella believes that exploring the history and traditions of Mediterranean and Middle Eastern Jewry can enrich the lives of Jews from around the globe, helping us feel more connected to our identity and to one another.

Rededicating Your Light: A Pre-Hanukkah Shabbat Yoga Retreat with Rav Claudia and Cantor Lizzie Shamash

December 4-7 (in person) at 

Enjoy a pause from your busyness and take time to rest in the spacious awareness of being that the Sabbath, and the upcoming holiday of Hanukkah, offer. This retreat will draw upon the Jewish and spiritual practices of mindfulness, prayer, chant, and study to hold the pose of Shabbat. This program is appropriate for all levels of yoga practitioners. More info and registration on Kripalu's website.



TBZ's Annual Hanukkah Party

Sunday, December 14, 4:00-6:00pm (in person)

Join us to celebrate together the first night of Hanukkah in Community! Games and activities for all ages, including adult learning, a *tzedakah* project, dreidel-making with Camp Ramah, singing, latkes, and *sufganiyot* (doughnuts). Bring your own *hanukkiah* (menorah) (and TWO candles!) to light all together. Also, bring a donation for the Brookline Community Food Pantry!



Greater Boston Hanukkah Celebration at the Museum of Fine Arts

Thursday, December 18, 5:00-10:00pm (in person)

Come together for an evening of art, music, and activities as we celebrate Hanukkah with a community gathering full of performances, art that highlights the diversity of Jewish cultures and identities, and much more! Presented in partnership with the Jewish Arts Collaborative and Combined Jewish Philanthropies.

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

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

Taught by Rav Claudia, Rav Leah, or other rabbis and teachers from our TBZ community. Join us to study and discuss before Shabbat services.

Shabbat with Commentary

November 1, December 6, January 24,

**During Shabbat morning services 10:00am, upstairs in Room Gimel
(in person)**

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. .

Special Shabbatot:

Shabbat Nariya: Shabbat Sing Out!

October 17, November 14,

December 19, January 16, 6:00pm

(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 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 Zimrah

October 31, November 21, December 5, January 23 (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* (reading Song of Songs is a Mizrahi Friday night tradition practiced year-round, not just on Shabbat Shira!). (See page 4 for Yoni's bio.)



Guest Teacher: Rabbi David Lazar

Shabbat Morning, November 22

On Shabbat, November 22 (Parshat Toldot), Rabbi David Lazar – Rav Claudia's mentor, rabbi, and teacher during her rabbinical school years and in the years following her ordination – will join us at TBZ as guest teacher. In his *d'var Torah*, he will share insights from his experience teaching New Testament texts to a Jewish-Christian group over the past five years, exploring connections to the Torah portion's portrayal of *Ya'akov* (Judaism) and *Esav* (Rome/Church). During *kiddush*, he will continue this theme with a guided text study. Earlier in the morning, he will lead Torah Study comparing the three biblical stories in which a patriarch presents his wife as his sister.



Rabbi David Lazar is a US-born rabbi and educator who has served Jewish communities in Israel, Europe, and the United States. Educated at Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh, Hebrew University, and the Schechter Institute, he has led congregations in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Stockholm, and worked extensively in Jewish education, including the TALI school system, Camp Ramah, and youth movements. He founded RIKMA: Spiritual Community Leadership Development, supporting Masorti/Conservative and Reform rabbis for over 15 years, and has been active in LGBTQ advocacy, interfaith dialogue, and nonprofit leadership. He now lives in Palm Springs, California where he serves as the spiritual leader of Or Hamidbar.

Shabbat Shalom at Home

Friday evening, December 2

Bring the warmth of Shabbat into your home – and share it with others! Shabbat Shalom at Home is a new initiative inviting members of our community to open their homes and their tables to fellow congregants for Shabbat meals. Whether you love to cook, set a beautiful table, or simply create a welcoming space, this is an opportunity to deepen connections, celebrate sacred time together, and experience the richness of *hachnasat orchim* (Jewish hospitality). Hosts and guests will be matched based on shared interests, neighborhoods, or availability. Whether you're a longtime member or newly connected, there's a seat for you at the table! Sign up to host (or be hosted) and help spread *Shabbat shalom* throughout our community.



Community Dinner

Friday Night, November 21 (following Shabbat Zimrah)

Practice for Thanksgiving dinner! 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. Sign-up required.

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B'Mitzvah Celebrations

Uma Bernstein, September 13

Nathan Meshoulam, November 22 (*Mincha*)

Aaron Golbus, December 13

Hannah Barnett, January 10

TBZ Adult B'Mitzvah Celebration, February 7

Kiddush Talks & Tables:

After Shabbat services, during kiddush

Tikkun Olam Tables

September 20, October 11, November 8, December 6, January 3

Each month, members of the Tikkun Olam Steering Committee (TOSC) host a table at *kiddush* after Shabbat Morning Services to discuss our social justice initiatives. No commitment necessary!

September 6

Getting to know TBZ's New Mahzor, *Lev Shalem*

with Rabbi Lenny Gordon (see page 4)

September 27

Shabbat Shuva learning with Rabbi Ebn Leader

Come and learn together as part of our journey of the High Holidays.

October 18

Bedrooms & Battlegrounds with Lori Lefkowitz

A text-based session exploring the interplay of sex and power in our Torah

October 25

By the Rivers of Babylon: Stories from the Babylonian Exile

with Céline Debourse

Several Biblical books detail the destruction of the Temple by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar and the return to Jerusalem four years later. But what was life like in those intervening years? Come discover a glimpse into Jewish life in exile.

November 15

A Taste of Wise Aging

Join us as past participants of Wise Aging at TBZ reflect on their experiences being a part of a Wise Aging cohort (from over ten years of cohorts at TBZ!). Also, learn about the new Wise Aging program beginning this spring. Wise Aging is an experiential, peer-group-based program for Jewish adults aged 55+.

January 24

Hasia Diner: The Legacy of Julius Rosenwald and Repairing the World

FOR YOUNGER MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

WonderMinyan

September 9, 20, October 11, 25, November 8, 22,

December 6, 20, January 17, 31

10:30am-12:30pm (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.

10:30-11:00am Shabbat Shabbreakfast in the Meeting Room

11:00-11:30am Age-appropriate *parasha*/Shabbat engagement throughout the building:

Littles (babies-1st grade); **Middles** (2-4 grades); **Olders** (5-7 grades)

11:30am-12:00pm *Tefillah* (prayers) and Song in the Meeting Room

12:00-12:30pm Activity/Shmooze time in the Meeting Room (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).

Beit Rabban: TBZ's Afterschool Jewish Education Program

Wednesdays starting September 10, 4:00-6:00pm (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 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.

Parents' Learning with Rav Claudia

October 22, November 5, 19, December 3, 17, January 7, 21

4:20-5:20pm (during Beit Rabban) (in person)

While your children are learning, join Rav Claudia and other Beit Rabban parents to learn together. Each week, we'll study a different Jewish concept and build a basic vocabulary of Jewish spiritual life and consider how we share these ideas with our children and families.

From a participating parent: *"Parental learning was an excellent way to connect with other parents at TBZ and discuss what it means to be Jewish in modern (turbulent) times."*

Parenting with Hope When Things Feel Hopeless:

A Workshop with Dasee Berkowitz

Wednesday, November 5, 5:00-6:00pm

Back by popular demand at TBZ! A Jewish educator, facilitator, and founder of Ayeka's "Becoming a Soulful Parent," Dasee's teaching and programs have inspired hundreds of parents nationwide to bring soulful parenting to their families.

B'Mitzvah Family Group

October 25, November 8, December 20, January 31

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

For families of 6th and 7th graders who are enrolled in TBZ's B'Mitzvah program. Join Rav Claudia, Rav Tiferet, and Rav Sara Blumenthal to prepare for becoming a b'mitzvah family! These sessions help navigate this life stage by addressing the joys and challenges of becoming and parenting a teen.

B'Mitzvah Group Havdalah, Pizza, and a Movie:

"School Ties"

December 6, 5:30-8:00pm, location TBD

(in person only)

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 Family Group Shabbat Dinner

Friday Night, January 23, after services

Gather with other TBZ b'mitzvah families for a Shabbat dinner hosted by Rav Claudia! Over dinner, adults will share memories and experiences from their own b'mitzvah experiences, and young people will have opportunities to share what's exciting for them and to experience/try Shabbat dinner practices such as full *kiddush* and singing *zemirot* (Shabbat table songs).

The Tent

Monday nights, starting September 15

TBZ is a founding partner of The Tent: A Jewish Learning Community for Greater Boston Teens at Temple Israel on Monday nights. The Tent is a pluralistic learning community made up from many Boston area congregations. Under the "tent," our teens make new friends, experience new synagogue cultures, and learn from incredible clergy and faculty from the Brookline area. The Tent begins in 8th grade and continues through high school, with many TBZ teens going on to hold leadership opportunities. The Tent is arranged on a trimester system to allow for teen sports schedules. Start in the Fall, Winter, or Spring! Learn more here: <https://www.tisrael.org/the-tent/>. TBZ offers a tuition subsidy on a first-come, first-served basis. Contact Rav Tiferet for more info.

Events for the Whole Family!

Apples & Honey: Apple Picking at HoneyPot Orchards in Stow, MA

Sunday, October 5, 10:00am-1:00pm

Join TBZ for a Farm Fun Adventure! Each participant will get a Farm Fun Adventure Pack, which includes a ½ peck picking bag (10-12 apples), a hayride, Monster and Small hedge maze admissions, a caramel apple, a cider donut, and a 16 oz cider guzzler. \$25 per package. (Ages 3 and under are free to accompany the group with activities but will not receive a Farm Fun Adventure Pack.)



Community Dinner

Friday Night, November 21 (See page 11)

GROUPS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Gen X Beit Midrash with Rav Leah: Psalms

October 11, November 8, December 20, January 24,

After *kiddush* on the 3rd floor (in person)

Looking for a space to reconnect with your Jewish soul in the midst of life's many demands? Join our new Gen X Beit Midrash, where we'll dive into the poetry, power, and timeless relevance of *Tehillim* (Psalms). Together, we'll explore how these ancient words speak to the joys and struggles of our lives today – parenting, purpose, aging, work, spiritual longing, and resilience. No prior text study experience required, just bring your curiosity and your lived experience. This is a space for learning, honest conversation, and connection with fellow Gen Xers navigating the middle chapters of life with depth and heart. Attendance at all sessions expected.

Recollections of a Survivor: Presentation by Joel Fabian

Wednesday, November 12, 5:30pm

TBZ is honored to welcome Joel Fabian, a U.S. Army veteran, Holocaust survivor, and a dear friend of Rav Tiferet, to share the captivating story of his family's unlikely survival "hiding out in plain sight" within the larger picture of the Holocaust. He takes pains to ensure that his audience understands that Jews were not the only targets for annihilation during the dark war years, speaking about LGBTQ, black, intellectually disabled, and other victims. Doing so, he says, helps today's students grasp the universal lessons he wants them to take away from his presentations. "We Holocaust survivors were given a mandate by those who didn't survive ... They told us that if you talk about us, people will know we were alive." At 86 years of age, this is one of our last opportunities to witness and to learn.

Delving Deep: A Theatrical Adventure into Plays focused on the Jewish Family, with TBZ member Judy Epstein-Fisher

Thursdays, October 23, 30, November 6, 13, 20

7:00-9:00pm (in person)

Step into the actors' shoes with director Judy Epstein-Fisher (aka Judy Braha), investigating and enlivening plays that focus on the Jewish family.

Together we'll discuss how theatrical storytelling uniquely captures the human condition and enables us to view the present differently. Plays to explore include *Bad Jews*, *Awake and Sing*, *A Shayna Maidel*, and *We All Fall Down*. Our work will culminate in a reading of one of the plays, open to the TBZ community. Sign-up is required, and no prior theater experience is needed; attendance at all sessions and the final reading is required.

What Actually Is Zionism? With Prof. Adam Teller

Thursdays, November 13 & 20, 7:00-8:30pm

What is Zionism? The answer might seem obvious. After all, we are constantly bombarded both in the media and on social media with people telling us what Zionism is and what should be done about it. In their opinion. This aims to move beyond pundits to help us reach a more genuine understanding of Zionism by reading what early Zionist thinkers actually wrote. We will study texts together, unpacking the different visions each presents and each of us holds, deciding for ourselves what we view as Zionism's strengths, weaknesses, promises and pitfalls.

DRIO *Va'ad* Gathering

November 6, 7:00-8:30pm (online)

Join us for a gathering of TBZ's *Dismantling Racism from the Inside Out* (DRIO) *va'ad* (committee) as we bring together participants from both cohorts for connection, reflection, and renewal. Grounded in the *middah* (soul-trait) of *rachamim* (compassion), we will explore how this essential quality can guide and sustain our antiracism work, both individually and collectively. Whether you've stayed close to the practice or have been walking your path quietly, this is a chance to reconnect with each other, re-engage with the DRIO Balance of Care framework, and reaffirm our shared commitment to healing and justice from the inside out.

Dismantling Racism From the Inside Out (DRIO) Kickoff Event

Sunday, January 25, 10:00am-4:00pm (in person)

Open to everyone! This one-day gathering offers an introduction to Dismantling Racism from the Inside Out (DRIO), a course and community of practice rooted in the Jewish spiritual tradition of Mussar. Through accessible daily practices, DRIO invites us to gently uncover and heal implicit and internalized biases we carry, both as individuals and within our

communities, so that we come to know ourselves deeper and can more fully support collective efforts to bring about justice and systemic change. Led by Rav Tiferet and Ellen Krause-Grosman, both trained by Rabbi David Jaffe through the Kirva Institute, this session will introduce the Balance of Care paradigm and offer practical, spiritually grounded tools. Together, we will begin to strengthen our inner capacities to show up with courage, clarity, and compassion in a world that asks more of us every day.

Brookline Interfaith Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 23, 3:00-4:00pm

at TBZ (in person)

Join TBZ and many other Brookline houses of worship for our annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service for all Ages. With readings, music and prayer, we will honor our blessings and share them with the Brookline Food Pantry.

Chinese Food and a Movie

Thursday, December 25, late afternoon (in person)

After great success last year, join us for the traditional Jewish observance of the Christmas holiday with Chinese food and a movie!

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

Dismantling Racism From the Inside Out

with Rav Tiferet and Ellen Krause-Grosman

Alternating Thursdays, Starting January 29

A continuation of the Kickoff Session (see p. 17) Dismantling Racism From the Inside Out (DRIO), a course and community of practice rooted in the Jewish spiritual tradition of Mussar. Through accessible daily practices, DRIO invites us to gently uncover and heal implicit and internalized biases we carry, both as individuals and within our communities, so that we come to know ourselves deeper and can more fully support collective efforts to bring about justice and systemic change. (See page 17 for more information.)

Words & Music through the Generations:

Explore the Works of Israel's Popular Singer-Songwriters with TBZ member Dr. Miriam Diamond

**Monthly, 4th Mondays: October 27, November 24, December 22, January 26
7:30-9:15pm (online)**

From Naomi Shemer to Nunu, Arik Einstein and David Broza to Harel Skaat – Israeli songwriters have hit the charts and won over fans by performing their own compositions. Join us to discuss and enjoy the lyrics and tunes of Israel's decades-long soundtrack. Texts will be provided in Hebrew and English. To register and receive the link, email Sarah in the office:

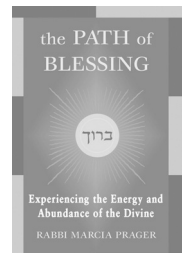
SarahOtt@tbzbrookline.org.

The Path of Blessing:

A Journey Through the First Six Words with Reb Moshe

**Wednesdays: October 22, 29, November 5, 12
7:00-8:30pm (online)**

Join us for a transformative four-session online course based on Rabbi Marcia Prager's book, *The Path of Blessing*. Together we will explore the spiritual depth and sacred potential within the first six words of every Hebrew blessing. Through reflection, discussion, and practice, participants will deepen their understanding of Jewish prayer and cultivate greater awareness and gratitude in daily life. Pre-registration is required. Please obtain a copy of *The Path of Blessing* before the first session.



Poetry Across the Divide: Exploring Israeli and Palestinian Voices with Rav Claudia

November 17, 24, December 1, 7:00-8:30pm (online)

Join Rav Claudia for a powerful and tender exploration of poetry written in response to the war in Gaza. Drawing from the work of educator and author Rachel Korazim, including her new project that curates Israeli and Palestinian poems side by side, this class invites us into the deep emotional, moral, and spiritual terrain of this painful moment. Through close reading and reflection, we will engage with the human stories, questions, and longings that live in these poems, creating space for honest conversation, connection, and compassionate witness.

MINYANIM

Come and pray every day with TBZ!

Boker Tov TBZ

Weekday Mornings, 8:00-8:45am (online)

Boker Tov (Good Morning) TBZ is a daily morning prayer group, led by TBZ rabbis 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. Email Sarah (sarahott@tbzbrookline.org) to be included in the Boker Tov email group.

Eat, Pray, & Learn

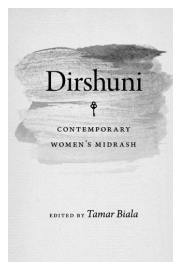
Wednesdays davening and learning together

Resumes September 10, 8:00am (*Shacharit* prayers),

8:45am (breakfast and learning), over by 9:45 or 10:00.

(in person)

Join Rav Claudia and members of our community for a spirited beginning to your day! We begin 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 (rkelman@tbzbrookline.org) to be included in the Eat, Pray, & Learn list.



(No Eat, Pray, & Learn: September 24, October 1, 8, 15, 22, November 26,

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

ONGOING PROGRAMMING

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.

The volunteer location is JF&CS (2430 Main Street, Waltham). Find out more and sign up here using this QR code:



Hebrew with Rabbi Sam Seicol

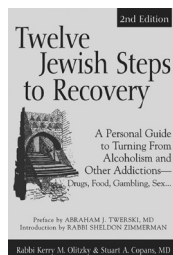
Sundays, 10:15am-12:00pm (online)

Deepen your knowledge of the Hebrew of the Tana"kh (Jewish Bible) as well as our prayers and blessings. Knowledge of the aleph-bet and a basic ability to read Hebrew is suggested but not required. Sessions will explore vocabulary, grammar, and evidence for variant worldviews and social structures in the text.

Twelve Jewish Steps to Recovery

Sundays at 10:30am (online)

A 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...* Contact Peter Golbus pgolbus@gmail.com if you're interested and to learn more, and email jewish12Steps@tzbzbrookline.org to join the mailing list!



Knitzvah

Sundays, 6:00-7:30pm

The Knitzvah Group meets about once a month, from late Fall through Spring, at members' homes or virtually, knitting and crocheting (we welcome beginners to advanced) baby hats for new TBZ babies or Caring Wraps (lap blankets and shawls) to bring to members who are ill or going through

particularly challenging times. 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)

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.

TBZ Book Club

For TBZ members only. Our monthly meetings on Sunday evenings feature lively discussions of books by or about Jewish people, alternating fiction (F) and non-fiction (NF) selections. New members are welcome! Please join us at any time during the year by contacting the coordinators at tbzbookclub@tbzbrookline.org.

September 14: *Storyteller* by Jodi Picoult (F)

October 12: *Lemon Tree* by Sandy Tolan (NF)

November 9: *Leaving Eastern Parkway* by Matthew Daub (F)

December 7: *One Hundred Saturdays: Stella Levi and the Search for a Lost World* by Michael Frank (NF)

January 11: *The Lover* by A.B. Yehoshua (F)

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 potluck." Please bring poems that are meaningful to you. Sponsored by Aging in Community, everyone is most welcome!

Wednesdays

TBZ Therapists' Connection

Alternate Wednesdays, 1:00pm (online)

TBZ members who are mental health professionals are welcome to join this every-other-Wednesday online support group to come into community to discuss current societal and mental health topics and how these may affect our work. Please contact Paula Fuchs at pafuchs@comcast.net for more information.

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 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, look for Jenni Seicol!

Fridays

Friday Morning Nishmat Hayyim Meditation Practice

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

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 Reb Moshe and 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.

Be on the lookout—Meditation Practice will be returning in person soon!

Save the Dates

February 1: TBZ Goes Bowling!

February: Men's Group Shabbat

March 2: Purim Megillah & Spiel

March 22: Women's Retreat

May 2: Beit Rabban Shabbat

May 15-17: Community Retreat on Cape Cod



1566 Beacon Street
Brookline, MA 02446