



TEMPLE
SINAI

TEMPLE SINAI LIFELONG LEARNING FALL 2011/5772

Rabbi Gershon and Cantor Friedman's Friday Night Teachings

Rabbi Gershon or Cantor Friedman will present a teaching as part of each of our regular services. Unless otherwise noted all services begin at 7:30pm on the indicated Friday evening. Please consult the E-bulletin for the topics and dates of both Rabbi Gershon's and Cantor Friedman's Friday night teachings.

*"The instruction of a wise man is
a fountain of life..." Prov. 13:14*

Please Save the Dates for the SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND

APRIL 27-29, 2012

Temple Sinai members will have the opportunity to come together for food, drink, and intelligent conversation and learning; to see old friends, and to make new friends.

"For learning wisdom..." Prov 1:1

"Sharing Shabbat" for Torah and Ritual Study

Sharing Shabbat, a Temple Sinai institution for many years, is a casual Saturday morning service led either by the Temple clergy or lay members. Dress is casual, as is the service.

If you want to learn why we as Reform Jews do what we do, just ask. If you want to try chanting Torah, just come and chant. If you always wanted to try giving a d'var Torah (sermon), just teach. Or leading the service? We would love to follow you. If you just want to sit back, pray and learn about Torah and Judaism, this is the right place for you.

Each week, a congregant, Rabbi Gershon or Cantor Friedman gives a d'var Torah, and we all chime in to make it an interactive learning. Being interactive, and learning, is what has made attending Sharing Shabbat three times part of the B'nei Mitzvah preparation for Grade 6 students; and, it also counts for the Shabbat service attendance requirement.

Most importantly, you are in a very friendly and supportive environment conducive to trying new things. If you want a nice place to contemplate the age-old questions of life, drop in. Or, if you want to share the age-young questions of preparing for a B'nei Mitzvah, let your candidate bring you!

Sharing Shabbat IS lifelong learning.

...but the study of Torah encompasses them all" Mishnah Peah 1:1

LUNCH & LEARN

Join Temple Sinai for this series of thought-provoking discussions this season provided by the Lifelong Learning Committee.

All 1:15pm events include a pre-lecture lunch.

A donation for lunch of \$5.00 for Temple Sinai Members (\$10.00 for non-members) is expected.

Please RSVP to office@templesinainj.org by the Wednesday before the event.



Brokering a Rock 'n' Roll International: Jewish Record Men in the US and UK Professor Jonathan Karp – October 16

*"praise God with
drum and dance"
Psalm 150*

Images of American Jewish pop music moguls have been featured in movies such as Cadillac Records and TV shows like the Sopranos. But few people are aware of the parallel phenomenon of Jews in the of Rock 'n' Roll business in Britain during 1950s and 1960s. This talk presents a comparative analysis of Jews in the music business on both sides of the Atlantic, beginning with the entrepreneurs who pioneered the American rhythm and blues market in postwar America and proceeding to the rise of Jewish music "Biz" managers in London, Liverpool and throughout the UK during the golden age of British pop. Throughout the presentation the question of the Jews' distinctive class and entrepreneurial orientation, stemming from the Eastern European background of both American and Anglo-Jews, remains in the fore.

Jonathan Karp is Executive Director of the American Jewish Historical Society in New York City and Associate Professor in the Judaic Studies and History Departments at Binghamton University, SUNY. He previously taught at Franklin & Marshall College and was Brownstone Visiting Professor at Dartmouth College in 2006. His book *The Politics of Jewish Commerce in Europe, 1638-1848* was published by Cambridge University Press in 2008. A volume entitled *Philosemitism in History*, co-edited with Adam Sutcliffe, appeared this spring (also published by Cambridge). Professor Karp has written on a range of subjects in intellectual and cultural history, including articles on Paul Robeson and Bob Dylan. He is currently completing a book on economic and musical relations between Blacks and Jews.



Mysteries of Genesis: Unlocking Meanings Hidden in the First Week of Genesis Dr. Diane M. Sharon – November 20

Sometimes it seems that we know the old stories so well that there is nothing new to find in them. The creation of the universe is a children's story that kindergartners can recite; but, what are the sophisticated mysteries that are embedded in the first chapter of Genesis? Join us in reading the biblical text with adult eyes, which is sure to surprise and delight us, as we come to understand how the writers borrowed from contemporary creation texts, and then revolutionized them to begin a new relationship between people and their gods.

Dr. Diane M. Sharon is currently a member of the faculty in Bible at the Academy for Jewish Religion, and has published on the Hebrew Bible in its ancient Near Eastern context, comparative religion, literary analysis, and women's studies.

"When God began to create heaven and earth..." Gen. 1:1



**Jews, Greeks and Arabs:
The Jews in Egypt in Hellenistic and Medieval Times
Raymond Scheindlin – January 29, 2012**

Egypt had the most important diaspora Jewish community during two long periods: the Hellenistic Age, when the Bible was translated into Greek, and the Islamic Age, when Maimonides lived and wrote in Arabic. We will survey the history of these two periods and sketch the character of these communities, both of which have interesting similarities to America, the most important diaspora community of our time.

Raymond Scheindlin is professor of Medieval Hebrew Literature at The Jewish Theological Seminary and director of JTS's Shalom Spiegel Institute of Medieval Hebrew Poetry. He has been on the JTS faculty since 1974 and served as provost from 1984 to 1988. Dr. Scheindlin teaches and conducts research on the encounter of Hebrew and Arabic cultures in Spain, especially as embodied in the poetry of the two traditions. An expert on Arabic literature, Dr. Scheindlin is the author of a reference book widely used by students of Arabic titled *201 Arabic Verbs*, and reissued as *501 Arabic Verbs* in 2007. Dr. Scheindlin has been the recipient of the Cultural Achievement Award of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture (2004), a Cullman Fellow at the New York Public Library (2005–2006), and a visiting professor at Harvard University (spring 2007). A native of Philadelphia, Dr. Scheindlin received a BA in Oriental Studies from the University of Pennsylvania, an MHL and rabbinic ordination from JTS, and a PhD from Columbia University.

"And all the people...set out and went to Egypt because they were afraid of the Chaldeans." 2 Kings 25:26



**Modern Jewish Composers and
The Development of the Broadway Musical
Robert Butts – March 4, 2012**

Acclaimed conductor and music director of The Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey, Dr. Robert W. Butts will speak, and musicians from the Orchestra will accompany Dr. Butts to play works of composers about whom Dr. Butts will be speaking.

Dr. Butts has been the creative energy behind The Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey since its inception in 1996. He also serves as Music Director for New Jersey Concert Opera and Conductor for Opera at Florham. Since 2006, he has been the Artistic Director of the Summer Music Festival of Baroque Music, held in Madison/Morristown every August. Other conducting appearances have included performances featuring the New Jersey Symphony, the Plainfield Symphony, the Society of Musical Arts Orchestra, Harmonium Choral Society, the Oratorio Singers and the Masterwork Chorus. Maestro Butts has also been a regular guest conductor with orchestras and opera companies in Europe. In addition to his conducting duties, he is a well-known and favorite lecturer at Drew University, a professor at Montclair State and Fairleigh Dickinson Universities and the College of Saint Elizabeth. He has presented special talks for New Jersey State Opera, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, State Theater, NJPAC and at libraries, retirement communities and museums across the state. Combining his conducting and lecturing talents, Dr. Butts has developed a series for cable television broadcast, entitled "Concerts and Conversations." These programs include a lecture on a specific composition with audio/video excerpts, followed by a complete performance. For more information about Maestro Butts, please visit his website: <http://www.robertbutts.com>.

"Praise God with lute and lyre." Psalm 150



"...a covenant people...a light unto the nations..." Isa. 42.6

The 2012 Presidential Campaign and the Jewish Vote Andrew Silow-Carroll – May 13, 2012

Many of us read Andrew Silow-Carroll's weekly op-ed article in the *New Jersey Jewish News* and appreciate his insights, his directness, and his fairness. What could be better than to have him come and talk with us about the upcoming campaign and the views of American Jews? For the 2008 campaign, he wrote, among other pieces, of a then-new survey by the Berman Jewish Policy Archive at NYU Wagner that began to deal with the question of "Jewish electoral exceptionalism," or their readiness to support the Democratic candidate far more than other Americans, particularly other white Americans. That readiness has been questioned of Jews' political leanings generally: If they are as a group so affluent, then why are they also so liberal and Democratic? He went on to note that he assumed that more Jews vote Democratic because their values are more in line with the left than the right. If there were no differences between the major parties, then you can chalk their vote up to blind loyalty or "emotion." But as long as there are clear splits on major issues, isn't it rational to vote for the party you agree with? The counterargument that Jewish Republicans would make is that the tide is shifting, and it's the Republicans — most especially the pro-Israel evangelicals — who are philo-Semitic, and the Democrats, with a Jimmy Carterish wing that is hostile to Israel, who are becoming increasingly bad for the Jews. Almost four years will have passed, and it will be good to get an update from Silow-Carroll. He will speak about the presidential candidates, Republican and Democrat, and their positions vis-à-vis Israel and American Jews; as well as an analysis of the presidential race and the issues influencing the Jewish vote.

Andrew Silow-Carroll currently is the editor-in-chief of the *New Jersey Jewish News*. Previously, he had been managing editor of *The Forward* (1999-2003), and earlier was communications director and Spielberg Fellow at CLAL, The National Center for Learning and Leadership (1996-1999). He has lectured widely on Jewish perspectives in journalism, humor, the arts, and materialism. He lives in Teaneck NJ, with his wife and three children, and sings in Tavim, an a cappella choir.

MONTHLY WOMEN'S TORAH STUDY

Come join the group of women who have been discussing Torah with master bible teacher, Sandy Schlanger, R.J.E., one Monday each month. This is a very participatory class. All ideas are gratefully accepted and processed. No previous knowledge is necessary. We provide all materials. This course is popular for good reason, so space is limited. Newcomers will be enrolled on a first come, first served basis.

Start Date: Monday, September 12;

Future monthly Monday dates tbd on 9/12

Time: 12 Noon – 1:30pm; Course Fee: Free

Instructor: Sandy Schlanger, R.J.E.

RSVP: Patti Kahn; patti@templesinainj.org; 908-273-4921, ext. 15

*"The world is sustained
by three things:
Torah, worship and
loving deeds"
Pirkei Avot 1:2*

New Lecture Series

THE HOLY LAND REVEALED

Session Dates:

Tuesday evenings

7:30 – 9pm

Oct 11, 18, 25;

Nov 1, 8, 15, 29;

Dec 6, 13

Location:

Temple Sinai

Cost: \$20

RSVP by Sept 20,

to Patti Kahn at

patti@templesinainj.

org or 908-273-4921,

ext.15

*...For this land
that you are about
to enter and
possess..."
Deut.11:10*

The Lifelong Learning Committee is pleased to offer a DVD series of lectures produced by The Teaching Company, titled "The Holy Land Revealed" and taught by Professor Jodi Magness. These lectures provide an insider's look at how archaeology helps us relive and encounter life during this formative period of human civilization. And it's a chance to see ruins, artifacts, murals, documents, and other long-buried objects that will illuminate the pages of the Bible. Understanding these and other remains discussed in The Holy Land Revealed will add new dimensions to your understanding of the millennia-long narrative of this dynamic place. Professor Magness's chronological approach is an invaluable guide to grasping this period of ancient history. She gives you an expert's look at this winding story, but makes it accessible by organizing the course around three major periods:

- Old Testament and Post-Exilic period (c. 3000–1st century B.C.E.): This period served as the backdrop for some of the most fascinating stories in the Hebrew Bible and early Jewish history. Gain a greater understanding of events such as the reign of King Solomon, the destruction of the First Temple, the Babylonian exile, the birth of sects such as the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the rise and fall of the Hasmonean Kingdom.
- New Testament period (1st century B.C.E. – 1st century C.E.): Spanning the rule of King Herod to the life of Jesus through the destruction of the Second Jewish Temple in 70 C.E., this era forms the core of the New Testament. Delve into everything from life in Herod's impressive palaces to archaeological finds from the villages around Galilee.
- Post-Second Temple period (70–640 C.E.): After the destruction of the Second Jewish Temple by the Romans, the Holy Land was the site of political and spiritual turmoil. Examine the two major Jewish revolts against Roman rule, Jewish and Christian life under the early Byzantine Empire, the conquest of the region by the emerging Islamic empire, and more.

In this series, you'll visualize walking through ancient water systems and tombs, combing through the ruins of early synagogues and sacred temples, and touring the remains of stables, scriptoriums, and cave dwellings. For example:

- the Temple Mount, the veritable center of Jerusalem and a sacred site of powerful importance for the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faiths;
- Caesarea Maritima, a marvel of ancient architecture and engineering, and also the Roman harbor where Paul was imprisoned, as recounted in the book of Acts; and
- Masada, one of the most famous fortresses in the Holy Land and the site of a dramatic last stand by Jewish rebels against the Roman Empire.

Every lecture is also enlivened by archaeological discoveries frequently tied to related depictions in religious and historical texts. For example:

- the Merneptah Stele, an ancient Egyptian stone slab from 1209 B.C.E. inscribed with history's earliest mention of Israel;
- the Cyrus Cylinder, a cuneiform edict from the 6th century B.C.E. Persian king announcing the repatriation of exiled peoples; and
- the James Ossuary, a controversial burial container with the mysterious inscription that identifies the remains as belonging to "James son of Joseph brother of Jesus."

(continued on next page)

The entire course consists of 36 half-hour lectures, with two lectures presented each weekly session. The first 18 lectures (nine evenings) will be given during this Fall, 2011, and the second 18 lectures in the Spring, 2012. The cost will be just enough to cover the expense of running the facility, \$20 per person for each of the 9-week sessions.

The content of the first nine-week series is:

1. **The Land of Canaan - The Arrival of the Israelites**
2. **Jerusalem—An Introduction to the City - The Jerusalem of David and Solomon**
3. **Biblical Jerusalem's Ancient Water Systems - Samaria and the Northern Kingdom of Israel**
4. **Fortifications and Cult Practices - Babylonian Exile and the Persian Restoration**
5. **Alexander the Great and His Successors - The Hellenization of Palestine**
6. **The Maccabean Revolt - The Hasmonean Kingdom**
7. **Pharisees and Sadducees - Discovery and Site of the Dead Sea Scrolls**
8. **The Sectarian Settlement at Qumran - The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Essenes**
9. **The Life of the Essenes - From Roman Annexation to Herod the Great**

The lectures are delivered by archaeologist and award-winning Professor Jodi Magness of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who has spent her career excavating at sites in and around Israel. Dr. Magness is the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism in the Department of Religious Studies at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She earned her B.A. in Archaeology and History from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and her Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania. For her engaging teaching, Professor Magness won the Archaeological Institute of America's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Her other honors include a Fulbright Lecturing Award from the United States-Israel Educational Foundation, and fellowships from institutions including the American Council of Learned Societies and the National Endowment for the Humanities. A trained archaeologist with more than 20 years of field experience, Professor Magness has excavated throughout Israel and in Greece and has codirected excavations of the Roman siege works at Masada and a Roman fort at Yotvata. She is the author of numerous scholarly books on the archaeology of the Holy Land. Among them are *The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls*, which won the 2003 Biblical Archaeology Society's Award for Best Popular Book in Archaeology, and *The Archaeology of the Early Islamic Settlement in Palestine*, which won the Irene Levi-Sala Book Prize.

Sisterhood Book Group

Tuesday, October 18, 2011, 7:30pm, planned for the Temple Lounge
Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay

A New York Times Best Seller

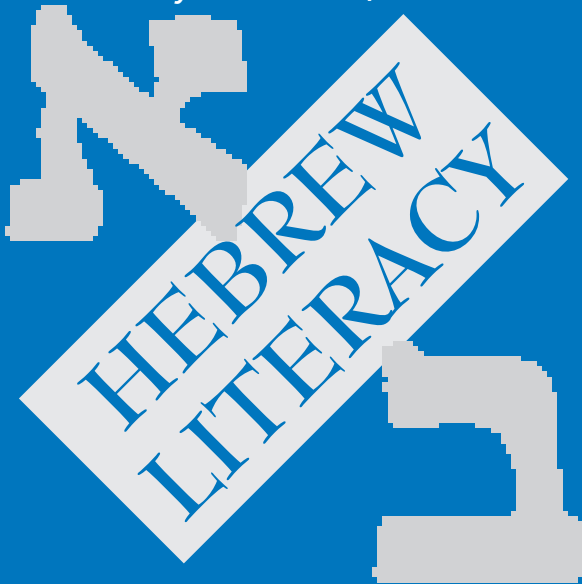
Paris, July 1942: Sarah, a ten-year-old girl is brutally arrested with her family by the French police in the Vel' d'Hiv roundup, but not before she locks her younger brother in a cupboard in the Family's apartment, thinking that she will be back within a few hours.

Paris, May 2002: On Vel' d'Hiv's 60th anniversary, journalist Julia Jamond is asked to write an article about this black day in France's past. Through her contemporary investigation, she stumbles onto a trail of long-hidden family secrets that connect her to Sarah.

Questions? Contact Selma Rossen or Laura Harper or RSVP to bookgroup@templesinainj.org

*"Her infants have
gone into captivity
before the enemy"
Lamentations 1:5*

"..commanding us to engage with words of Torah." Babylonian Talmud, Berakhot 11b



RSVP to patti@templesinainj.org
Sundays not good for you? Help us to form a class group for a preferable day/time. Write to patti@templesinainj.org with your Hebrew level and session preference.

LIFELONG LEARNING COMMITTEE

Helene Berg	Anne Plaut
Marvin Chasek	Aaron Rosenberg
Eric Friedman	Jack Rossen
Harvey Feuer	R Malcolm Schwartz,
Ian Feuer	Chairman
Rabbi Stuart W. Gershon	Lennard Wharton
Patti Kahn	

ALEF BET IS EASY – LEARN TO “SEE AND SAY” HEBREW SYLLABLES

On Sundays, 9 – 10:15am, take these steps toward becoming a Hebrew reader:

1. Learn and practice the sound of each letter and vowel
2. Read letter/vowel syllables
3. Learn the basic rules of syllabification
4. Practice syllabifying Hebrew words
5. “See and Say” aloud each syllable in Hebrew words
6. “See and Say” words from simple Hebrew blessings and prayers

**Session Dates: September 18, 25; October 2, 16, 23, 30;
November 6, 20; December 4, 11**

Instructor: Mal Schwartz

Course Fee: Free

SHABBAT PRAYER WORDS & MELODIES ARE FUN TO MASTER – WANT TO GO BEYOND BASIC READING SKILLS?

On Sundays, 9 – 10:15am, take these steps toward Shabbat prayer fluency:

1. Strengthen Hebrew reading skills using the “See and Say” syllable method
2. “Say and Sing” Friday evening Shabbat prayers
3. Discuss prayer ideas, meaning and personal interpretations

**Session Dates: September 18, 25; October 2, 16, 23, 30;
November 6, 20; December 4, 11**

Instructor: Bruce Stein

Course Fee: Free

JEWISH MINDFULNESS MEDITATION CLASSES Mindfulness meditation is about transformation

It is a practice that lets us look at our lives through a non-judgmental lens, to look at loving-kindness, compassion, and love. It is learning to see our relationship with self and others in a new way. It leads to equanimity and freedom. Jewish texts and ethical values are used as a way into opening ourselves to sacred transformation.

Classes begin Tuesday, September 6.

**Check Temple Sinai’s monthly calendar
for all scheduled Tuesday sessions.**

Use <http://tsinairedirect.no-ip.org/VirtualEMS/>

Tuesdays, 12:45-1:45PM, Chapel

Instructor: Cantor Friedman

Course Fee: Free

*“One needs to make oneself as open and still
as the wilderness in order to receive the Torah.”
Babylonian Talmud, Nedarim 55a*

Here are participants’ comments about the positive effects of these mindfulness meditation sessions:

“The sessions at the Temple are an oasis....It has given me insights into myself, and tools to deal with them (issues of daily life)...”

“I am filled with a sense of peace and a hope in a loving God.”

“What I like about the meditation class is that I am in a place where there are no distractions...”

“I look forward to my one hour of peaceful thoughts and reflection each week.”

“I just wanted to let you know what a great experience the meditation program is...it felt like a massage for the soul.”

“I look forward to the meditation class each week. I find that it centers and calms me.”

No experience is necessary. If you would like to be put on the class email list or have questions, please contact Cantor Friedman: cantor@templesinainj.org

FIELD TRIPS

Jewish Communities of Manhattan and Brooklyn FAMILY FIELD TRIP, GRADES 4-6

Sunday, October 16, 2011, 9am-3:45pm

**With Expert Jewish Tour Guide,
Oscar Israelowitz**

Seeking to provide lifelong Jewish learning opportunities for Temple Sinai families, the family of LLC member and former chair Jack Rossen has commissioned a field trip to Jewish New York. Tour guide Oscar Israelowitz will teach about the diverse Jewish communities of New York and Brooklyn to the first 55 lifelong learners to register. One highlight of the trip will take participants to visit Williamsburg and Borough

Park, where EVERYONE has a sukkah!

Participants will experience, and learn about:

- Jewish Plymouth Rock
- Archaeological dig
- The first Jewish settlement and first synagogue in North America
- Fraunces Tavern and its Jewish connection to Federal Hall
- U.S. Ground Zero Jerusalem Grove Castle Garden
- Lunch at Green & Ackerman's dairy restaurant
- A walking tour & description of Chasidic Williamsburg, attire and way of life
- The only Reform Temple in Borough Park
- Free time to walk along the main Borough Park shopping area of 13th Ave.
- A visit to the Munkatch Chasidim and their great Sukkah
- A visit to the Bobov Sect's Sukkah

Eligible Participants: The first-to-register Grade 4, 5 and 6 parents/students to fill the bus
RSVP to Patti@templesinainj.org

Participants' Attire: Modest dress (long skirt & sleeves for girls/women; long pants for boys/men)

With our thanks, this Lifelong Learning Opportunity is FREE to eligible participants, courtesy of the Jack Rossen Lifelong Learning Grant.

"Impress (these instructions) upon your children..." Deut. 10:1

Visit the National Museum of Jewish History

Philadelphia PA

November 12, 2011

The Renaissance Group is organizing this trip, which includes a private tour at 10:30, followed by a box lunch. The Museum's collections connect Jewish constituents to their cultural heritage by encouraging them to reflect on their shared past. Artifacts devoted to the social world of everyday relationships and popular culture make the collection highly accessible to both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences. A social history approach has guided collecting, giving priority to artifacts that relate to the daily occupational, domestic, religious and communal aspects of American Jewish life. If enough people sign up, we will rent a bus, and we already are halfway to enough for this rental! **For more information, or to participate, contact Bert Model no later than September 30, 908-277-2141, or museumtrip@templesinainj.org**

"Learn discernment..." Prov. 4:1

Brotherhood's Second Annual Health and Longevity Seminar

Sunday, October 23, 2011, 11am – 1pm

Don't miss this opportunity for men of all ages to learn about living a long, healthy and vibrant life. Temple Sinai Brotherhood is presenting a workshop on Sunday, October 23 in the Social Hall from 11:30 to 1:30. Five top experts will share their views and secrets during informative and interactive sessions.

RSVP to healthseminar@templesinainj.org

"...my teachings,,, are life to him who finds them, healing for his whole body." Prov. 4:22