

  
TEMPLE JUDEA  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL

2025-2026

*Joyous Judaism That Inspires Action*



## *We are excited to welcome you to our year of "Conversations That Matter".*

In a world where meaningful dialogue often gives way to polarization, we recognize the vital importance of creating spaces where thoughtful exchange can flourish. We acknowledge the divisions that exist in our communities and the challenges they present, but we believe that through authentic conversation, we can bridge these divides. Rather than avoiding difficult topics, we invite you to engage with respect, curiosity, and openness. These conversations matter because they help us understand perspectives different from our own, find common ground, and work toward solutions that benefit us all. Join us as we explore important ideas, challenge assumptions, and build connections that transcend our differences.

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## Vision

*WE challenge ourselves to learn, to grow, and to act guided by our traditions, teachings, and wisdom of our Torah.*

*WE create a warm and loving environment which allows soulful prayers to be heard.*

*WE build enduring relationships based on mutual respect, loving hearts, and the need for a supportive community.*

*WE strive to make Judaism accessible and relevant to all who seek to infuse meaning into their lives.*

*WE welcome, embrace, and honor the diversity of our members.*

*WE support our country, the State of Israel, and the Reform movement while recognizing and respecting differing points of view.*

## Mission

The mission of Temple Judea is to enrich lives by creating joyous Jewish experiences that inspire action.

*We have made our best effort to make the information contained in this publication as accurate as possible. However, please understand that it is subject to change.*

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Visit us on the web at [gotj.org](http://gotj.org)  
for all the latest information.  
Like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/templejudeapbc](https://facebook.com/templejudeapbc)

## History

From its inception in the spring of 1981, Temple Judea has been fortunate enough to go from strength to strength. Our history begins at St. Catherine's Greek Orthodox church when twelve families founded Temple Judea. In 1987, Temple Judea moved to its first dedicated home on Chillingworth Drive in West Palm Beach.

As Palm Beach County experienced growth and change, so did Temple Judea and we began to look for a new location to better serve our congregation and Jewish community.

In 2003, we found that home on Hood Road in Palm Beach Gardens – which we affectionately call the “miracle on Hood Road” to this day. Keeping with the dynamic energy of the Reform Judaism, we began a new journey and the current chapter of our temple's story.

Rabbi Yaron Kapitulnik began his connection to Temple Judea in 2007 when he led family services for the High Holy Days. From then until 2010 he served as a rabbinic intern and in 2010, he started as Temple Judea's Assistant Rabbi under Rabbi Joel Levine. Rabbi Levine retired in 2013 after thirty-two years of service and became Temple Judea's Rabbi Emeritus. In 2023 Rabbi Yaron became TJ's senior Rabbi and he is excited to continue building TJ's clergy team.

We are delighted to welcome Rabbi Wendy Pein as our Rabbi Educator, and Kaylene Cole as our Cantorial Soloist, both beginning July 2025. Rabbi Pein's commitment to inclusive Judaism and her warm, approachable style makes her an ideal spiritual guide for our community members as they deepen their Jewish knowledge and practice. Kaylene Cole joins us with an exceptional musical background and a profound understanding of Jewish liturgy. Her beautiful voice and skill in leading congregational singing will elevate our worship experiences and help connect us more deeply to our traditions.

Together, these talented individuals will strengthen our community's educational and spiritual foundations. We look forward to the fresh perspectives they will bring and the ways their leadership will help us grow and flourish in the coming years.

As Temple Judea continues to grow and enhance the lives of the almost 800 households in our community, we look forward to continuing the exciting blend of tradition and modernity that is part of what makes Temple Judea so unique.

## *a message from Our President*



On behalf of our Board of Trustees, I'm delighted to welcome you to Temple Judea! This yearly guide reveals something special about

us—we're not merely a congregation or a collection of programs, but a true spiritual home where meaningful connections flourish.

Our Temple Judea family has created something extraordinary together. Here, everyday interactions become opportunities for genuine connection, spiritual inspiration, and a profound sense of belonging that many of us find increasingly rare in today's fast-paced world.

I'm certainly not alone in recognizing the vibrant, dynamic community we've built. As we begin our 2025 journey together, our nearly 800 member households engage in countless ways—through soul-stirring worship services, thought-provoking adult education, energetic youth programming, impactful social action initiatives, our active Sisterhood, a comprehensive Youth Education Program, and the many committees and interest groups that reflect our diverse passions.

Having been part of Temple Judea for the past thirty-one years, I'm honored to serve in my first year as your President. I look forward to celebrating life's milestone moments with you, experiencing our moving and meaningful worship together, connecting at our various social gatherings, and building friendships that last a lifetime. I welcome every opportunity to get to know you personally, collaborate with you, and together strengthen the community that means so much to all of us.

Wishing you a year of growth, connection, and joy.

Respectfully,

*Keith Paulus*  
President





## *Conversations Matter: Growing Through Meaningful Dialogue*

We all know the saying: Two Jews, three opinions.

We've all heard the definition of a Jewish conversation: "One Jew waiting for the other to finish talking so that they can finally say what they want or need to say," and we all have a relative or two who just likes to debate... be it around a Seder table or during the Shabbat oneg. It doesn't matter what the topic is, from politics to what is indeed the best bagel shop in town—we Jews have elevated conversation to an art form—sometimes exhausting, frequently loud, but always deeply meaningful.

The most transformative moments in our lives often begin with a conversation. Think about the discussions that have shaped you: perhaps a teacher who challenged your thinking, a friend who offered a different perspective during a difficult time, or even a stranger whose story opened your eyes to a new reality. These exchanges don't just inform us—they form us.

There is something profound that happens in the space between two people when they truly engage with one another. In Judaism, we understand that the Divine presence dwells not just in sacred texts or ritual objects but in the meaningful connections we create when we engage with each other. Martin Buber called this the "I-Thou" relationship—when we move beyond seeing others as objects or means to an end and instead recognize the sacred spark within them.

But in our increasingly polarized world, the art of meaningful conversation seems as if it is dying. Many of us are naturally drawn to those who think like us, vote like us, and live like us. Social media algorithms reinforce this tendency, creating echo chambers that shield us from different perspectives. The result? We become less

adaptable, less creative, and less compassionate. We become locked in a uniformed world that does not encourage us to grow, expand, and change.

Research in social psychology shows that diverse groups consistently outperform homogeneous ones in problem-solving and innovation. Yet beyond practical benefits, there is a spiritual dimension to engaging with difference. When we encounter those who see the world differently, we are forced to examine our own assumptions and beliefs. This examination is not comfortable—it requires vulnerability and courage—but it is precisely this discomfort that leads to growth.

As Rabbi Jonathan Sacks <sup>z"l</sup> wrote, "In heaven, there is truth. On earth, there are truths." No single perspective can capture the fullness of the human experience or divine wisdom. By engaging with different viewpoints, we glimpse new facets of truth that would otherwise remain hidden to us. Or as the Mishnah succinctly puts it, "Who is wise? One who learns from all people" (Pirkei Avot 4:1).

This year, our congregation has chosen to focus on "Conversations That Matter"—dialogues that deepen our connections, challenge our thinking, and help us grow as individuals and as a community. We believe that a Reform congregation should be not just a place of comfort but a place of growth and transformation.

Some of these conversations will be difficult. They will push us beyond our comfort zones and ask us to listen with open hearts and minds. But it is precisely these challenging exchanges that can transform us into better, more compassionate human beings.

Throughout the year, we will create sacred spaces for dialogue about topics that matter deeply in our lives and in our world:

We will have conversations about **Confronting Mortality:** from how to create ethical wills to concerns regarding end-of-life decisions and the Jewish view of cremation. I believe that

*continued next page*

Judaism offers profound wisdom about life's finite nature, and that by discussing death openly and honestly, we can live more fully and authentically in the present.

We will have conversations about **Israel and Jewish Identity**. We will try to better understand the rich, complex, and complicated story of the land, state, and people of Israel. We will try to better understand how we can possibly love Israel even when not always liking it. We will ask ourselves if we should engage in conversation with or reject those who criticize it. By examining our relationship with Israel—the good, the bad, and the ugly—we will eventually strengthen our connections to Jewish peoplehood and to Israel.

We will have conversations about what it means to live in an **Interfaith World**. From our own families asking questions about raising children and grandchildren in interfaith families to trying to better understand what we have in common and where we differ from other faiths—in an increasingly interconnected world, I believe it is crucial that we find common ground while honoring our distinctive Jewish voice.

We will have conversations about **Gender and Sexuality**: We will continue to explore what it truly means to be committed to a world that embraces full inclusion, in which all people are created in the image of God. We will audit ourselves, and we will learn from the LGBTQ+ community and allies about creating truly welcoming sacred spaces.

We will have conversations about **Justice**: We will examine the responsibilities that emerge from our own historical experiences of persecution and our commitment to justice, and what we need to do when the path to justice is not clear, when different people interpret justice differently.

And finally, we will have conversations about **Ethics**. From business to medicine, from science to sport, and from leadership to our own community. We will put ourselves to the test of what role Jewish ethics play in our lives and how they do so.

For these conversations to truly help us grow, they must be conducted with kavod (respect) and kedushah (holiness). Hence, I want to share with you basic guidelines for how I expect us all to conduct ourselves. Here are principles that will guide our community dialogues:

1. **Listen to understand, not to respond.** Often, we formulate our rebuttals before others have finished speaking. True dialogue begins with deep listening. Rabbi Akiva Tatz notes, "Hearing another's words means being willing to enter their world."
2. **Speak from "I," not "you."** Share your own experiences rather than making assumptions about others. As the Hasidic master Rabbi Simcha Bunim observed, "Carry two pieces of paper with you at all times. On one, write 'I am but dust and ashes.' On the other, 'For my sake was the world created.'" Both are true.
3. **Embrace discomfort as a sign of growth.** When conversations make us uncomfortable, it often signals that we are being challenged in necessary ways. The Kotzker Rebbe taught, "Nothing is more whole than a broken heart."
4. **Remember that each person contains a spark of the Divine.** Even (perhaps especially) those with whom we most strongly disagree. In the words of the Talmud, "Whoever destroys a single life destroys an entire world, and whoever saves a single life saves an entire world" (Sanhedrin 37a).
5. **Seek not to win, but to learn.** The goal of sacred conversation is not victory but wisdom. As Hillel famously said, "The shy person cannot learn, and the impatient person cannot teach" (Pirkei Avot 2:5).

The 12th-century philosopher Maimonides taught that true repentance—true change—begins with conversation: first an honest dialogue with ourselves, then with those we may have harmed, and ultimately with the Divine. Growth always begins with words.

The rabbis of the Talmud modeled this for us. On page after page, we find vigorous debate, with multiple perspectives preserved side by side. Even rejected opinions are recorded, because our tradition understands that today's minority view might contain tomorrow's wisdom.

May our congregation be blessed this year with conversations that challenge and inspire us, that help us see with new eyes, and that ultimately bring us closer to each other and to the Divine. For it is in these sacred exchanges that we become more fully human, more fully ourselves, and more fully realized as the community we are meant to be.

*Rabbi Yaron*



## Learning in Dialogue: A Sacred Invitation

*“When I would state an idea,” Rabbi Yo’anán recalled, “my chavruta (study partner) Reish Lakish raised twenty-four challenges—only then did the matter become clear” (BT Bava Metzia 84a).*

Two towering sages, bound by friendship and spirited debate, discovered that truth shines brightest when another’s questions hone it. Their story reminds us that Torah study has never been a solo pursuit - it is, and always has been, a conversation. At Sinai, God addressed an entire people, and ever since, it has been transmitted to each generation (Pirke Avot 1:1) until it has become our inheritance. Each generation has answered in its own voice. This summer, I will join Temple Judea, eager to continue that eternal dialogue with you.

### Torah Study: An Ancient Command, a Modern Call

The public reading of Torah stretches back to Ezra and Nehemiah (444 BCE), yet the command to *teach and learn* predates even that. Moses directs, “Every seventh year... you shall read this Teaching aloud in the presence of all Israel” (Deut 31:11), and Joshua echoes, “This Book of Torah shall not depart from your mouth” (Josh 1:8). Our prayer *Eilu D’varim* lists mitzvot whose “principal remains in the world-to-come,” concluding that *talmud Torah k’neged kulam*—the study of Torah is equal to them all. Why is Torah study given such primacy? Because learning is meant to move us from page to practice, guiding our actions, refining our character, and—crucially—training us to speak and listen with care. As Pirkei Avot teaches, “Get yourself a teacher... and judge every person favorably” (1:6); thereby linking knowledge of Torah as a path to righteous behavior.

### Study as a Pathway to Spirituality

After studying Torah—either with a *chavruta* or in a group—I often rise from the table with a lightened spirit, the world appearing brighter, and my bond with God and with my study

partners feeling profoundly deepened. Rabbi David Wolpe writes that Jewish learning is “a way of finding God inside oneself.”<sup>2</sup> Through *Talmud Torah*, we relive Sinai, experiencing revelation anew by probing, arguing, and laughing together. The blessing we recite before study ends, *la-asok b’divei Torah*—“to engage with words of Torah.” Engagement implies relationship: with the text, with one another, and with the Holy One who breathes between our words. Even vigorous disagreement, the Talmud insists, is beloved when pursued for the sake of Heaven<sup>3</sup>.

### Community: The Context for Conversations that Matter

“Just as fire does not ignite of itself, so the words of Torah do not endure with one who studies alone” (BT Ta’anit 7a). Learning flourishes in community because dialogue teaches the very skills meaningful conversation requires: attentive listening, thoughtful questioning, and the courage to hold complexity without collapsing it into slogans. R. Ammi notes that when two scholars sharpen one another, they are “counted as three,”<sup>4</sup> symbolically forming a *beit din*—a miniature community empowered to pursue truth. The classroom, the sanctuary, even the Shabbat dinner table, become laboratories where we practice the art of sacred speech before carrying it into the wider world.

### Beyond “Taking a Class”

Classes, of course, are wonderful; I look forward to teaching weekly Torah study and a Lunch-and-Learn series on Contemporary Reform Responsa. But the deeper invitation is to *participate* in learning—reading a commentary

before services, discussing a sermon over coffee, challenging a friend’s idea respectfully, or sharing a favorite verse with a grandchild. Such habits cultivate an inner readiness for the “conversations that matter” about antisemitism, Israel, ethics at work, or the search for purpose in our personal lives. When we study regularly, our words gain nuance and our listening gains patience; we become, in Rabbi Yohanan’s spirit, partners who can offer twenty-four challenges without breaking a relationship.

### Joining the Circle

I am honored to plant new seeds of dialogue with you at Temple Judea:

**Weekly Torah Study** – Each Shabbat morning we will wrestle with the portion, mining ancient texts for contemporary insight. No prior experience required; curiosity is the only prerequisite.

### Lunch & Learn: Reform Responsa

**Today** – Monthly noon sessions exploring real-life questions—cremation, flags on the bimah, Friday-night Torah reading—and examining how our Movement responds.

Like Rabbi Yohanan, I am searching for partners who will press me with challenges, stories, and insights. Bring your skepticism, your lived experience, and your yearning. I hope we will discover Torah that speaks to this moment and shapes the soul of our community.

I can’t wait to see you in our circle of learners.

L’shalom,

*Rabbi Wendy*

<sup>1</sup> Based on Mishnah Peah 1:1

<sup>2</sup> *A Rationalist Looks at Spirituality*, Rabbi Rifat Sonsino, p.67

<sup>3</sup> BT Eruvin 13b

<sup>4</sup> BT Ber 47b



Dear Temple Judea,

I am honored to be joining your congregation—your temple family—as Rabbi-In-Residence. From my first Shabbat with all of you, I was able to feel the spirit and heart of Temple Judea and have felt drawn to your warmth and commitment to Jewish life.

Ever since I was young, the synagogue has been my second home. I was raised by a strong, single mother, in New Jersey, as my parents divorced when I was 18-months old. But I never felt alone, having my temple community by my side. My mother was Sisterhood President at the time, and the whole Sisterhood supported my mom, brother and me during those days. The congregation was our extended family, and I had more *bubbies* and *zadies* and aunts and uncles than I could count! With my temple family around, I understood what it meant to feel a

## Experiencing Life's Journey Together

sense of belonging, and that is what I strive to create for others today. My mother later served as the temple's Bereavement Facilitator. I remember sitting beside her as she spoke to the bereaved on the phone, lending guidance and providing consolation. As she brought me along to help prepare the homes for *shiva*, it was not long after that I found myself wanting to follow in her footsteps. Little did I know that I would go on to provide pastoral care and rabbinic guidance to others during their most challenging of times. From seeing my mother in this position, I learned the importance of ensuring that Judaism's values extend far beyond a synagogue's walls.

Currently, I serve as the Manager of the Spiritual Care Department at Holy Cross Health (Hospital) in Fort Lauderdale, where I support patients, families, and staff, and have been for the past four years. I am a Board-Certified Chaplain through the Association of Professional Chaplains with training from Johns Hopkins. Joining patients and their families at the hospital bedside has been a constant reminder of just how fragile life is. However, it is also a reminder of the obligation and opportunity we have: to strive to be God's hands here on earth, bringing light to darkness. Prior to this, I served as the Associate

Rabbi of Congregation B'nai Israel in Boca Raton, FL for four years. I have found tremendous meaning through serving others both in the congregation and in the hospital setting. When I am not on the *bimah* or at the hospital, I enjoy obstacle course racing, horseback riding, and spending time with my mother.

I was ordained from Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati (2017) where I also received my Master's in Hebrew Letters. Additionally, I hold a Master's Concentration Certificate in Israel Education through the iCenter. While living in Jerusalem for my first year of rabbinical school, I was an intern for Women of the Wall, striving for religious pluralism in Israel, and later wrote my thesis on this prayer group. Prior to this, I graduated from Brandeis University with a major in Sociology and a minor in Music.

My own experience has taught me the power of sacred community and inspires me to ensure that no one has to experience life's journey all alone. I look forward to getting to walk alongside each one of you—to pray, celebrate, study, and grow together. Thank you for welcoming me (and my mother) into your temple family!

L'shalom,

*Rabbi Alli*





## Harmony Beyond Differences: Music as a Foundation for Meaningful Dialogue

I once had a co-worker that seemed so completely different from myself. We would chat at lunch about hobbies, interests and general world views and it felt as if we couldn't be more opposite! There were times that I was genuinely surprised at how different we were from one another. There was one subject matter however that we always spoke about with ease and unison: music! It was a medium that brought us together, gave us something to bond over and helped remind us both that we are not so different after all. In a world that seems like its divisions are increasingly greater than its unity, music is there to remind us that there is always a beautiful harmony to be enjoyed.

It has been documented that when we experience music together, amazing things happen within our own biochemistry. Our breathing can synchronize, our heart rate can match one another, and our brain waves can become linked. The Scientific American

Journal even found a study in which certain musical pieces played during a concert "resulted in synchronization of brain activity between the musician and listener". *Fascinating!*

As your new Cantorial Soloist at Temple Judea, I believe this musical dialogue that we naturally experience so often is the perfect foundation for creating meaningful conversations that we hope to foster in our community this coming year. Our Jewish community is one that has always understood the power of music. When we sing "Hinei Ma Tov", we are not only expressing praise and gratitude for the ability to gather together, we are also experiencing the physical unity that is shared when we create music together. This embodied experience of harmony prepares us to tackle difficult conversations with greater empathy and openness.

Music helps us create space for vulnerability. There have been many times (and I'm sure I'm not alone in this!) that I have been highly moved by a particular melody or niggun. Music can inspire an openness within ourselves that we can then transfer to other corners of our lives. It can help us find the courage to have a tough conversation with a loved one or tell those we love how we truly feel with

an open heart. It can provide a foundation of song that we can come together on to help us navigate complex discussions.

As we launch our "Conversations that Matter" initiative, I encourage you to ask yourself how our shared musical experiences at Temple Judea can better prepare you for dialogue. Feel how a certain melody and set of words can bypass your natural defenses and open your heart more. Notice how you feel when singing with other congregants during services and the innate connection that is a result of it. Music reminds us that dissonance itself can be beautiful when it resolves to consonance-much like the tension that we feel when engaging in meaningful dialogue that ultimately leads to a greater understanding between individuals.

I look forward to creating and sharing many musical experiences with you all that will open our hearts and minds-allowing for important conversations to take place. Together, we'll discover that when we begin in song, we'll create a resonant space in which every voice-no matter how different- can contribute to a beautiful, shared harmony.

*Kaylene*

### Eerang Ahn



is our pianist and has also served as our musical director.

Eerang currently serves as an adjunct professor at Florida Atlantic University, where she teaches piano and collaborates with students, faculty, and ensembles. An experienced

and versatile musician, Ms. Ahn has been an active part of the South Florida music scene having served as pianist for the Broward and Palm Beach County Honor Choirs, as well as accompanist for the many competitions.

She has performed internationally in South

Korea, Dominica, Haiti, Venezuela, Malaysia, and Sweden. She holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Composition and Theory from Sung-shin Women's University, a B.A. in Psychological Counseling from Hanyang University, and an M.M. in Piano Performance from Florida Atlantic University.

## Worship at Temple Judea



### YIZKOR MINYAN SERVICES

**Thursday, October 2**

Yom Kippur - Ticket Required

**Tuesday, October 14**

9:30 a.m. Minyan

**Thursday, April 9**

9:30 a.m. Minyan

**Friday, May 2**

4:00 p.m. Minyan



### **SPECIAL Healing Minyan**

**Thursday, November 20**  
at 9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, March 26**  
at 9:30 a.m.

### Kabbalat Shabbat - FRIDAYS

*In person at  
Temple Judea or via  
Livestream*

Pre-Oneg at 5:00 p.m.  
Worship at 5:30 p.m.

*\*7:30 p.m. service will be  
added in  
season only if needed*

Weekdays at Temple Judea  
**Morning Minyan**  
year-round, including holidays

Mondays by Zoom

Thursdays in person  
at Temple Judea  
or by Livestream

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**A quiet moment in time  
with music and prayer**



### TJ TOTS

For our youngest members  
birth -pre-K and the parents and  
grandparents who love them  
Sundays with Cantorial Soloist  
Kaylene Cole!

**9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.**

August 25  
October 27  
November 17  
December 15  
January 26  
February 23  
March 16  
April 27



## Holidays and Festivals



### **Tish'a B'Av**

Friday, August 1 – Contemplative Shabbat

### **Tu B'Av**

Friday, August 8 – Contemplative Shabbat

### **Selichot**

Saturday, September 13 at 7:30 p.m.

### **Rosh Hashanah**

Monday, September 22 and Tuesday, September 23

*Tickets Required*

**Worship services will be held at the  
Maltz Jupiter Theatre**

Tuesday, September 23

Tots' service 2:30 p.m. for kids 0-2nd grade  
at Temple Judea and

Tuesday, September 23 Children's service 3:45 p.m.  
for kids 3rd-7th grade at Temple Judea

Wednesday, September 24 - Second Day services, 9:30  
a.m. at Temple Judea, Hood Road

### **Tashlich and Shabbat**

Friday, September 26 at 5:30 p.m.  
at Carlin Park, Jupiter

### **Tashlich and Havdalah**

Saturday, September 27 at 5:30 p.m.  
at Carlin Park, Jupiter

### **Yom Kippur**

Wednesday, October 1 and Thursday, October 2

*Tickets Required*

**Worship services will be held at the  
Maltz Jupiter Theatre**

Thursday, October 2 Children's service  
at 2:30 p.m. for kids 0-3rd grade at the  
Maltz Jupiter Theatre

### **Sukkot**

Monday, October 6 – Monday, October 13

### **Simchat Torah**

Monday, October 13

Rejoice and Dance with the Torah!

Consecration of our youngest scholars – during YEP,  
Sunday, October 12

### **Hanukkah**

1st Candle – Sunday, December 14

Friday, December 19 – Candle lighting and Latke Oneg

### **Tu B'shevat**

Monday, February 2

### **Purim**

Monday, March 2

### **Passover**

Wednesday, April 1 – 1st Seder

Thursday, April 2 – 2nd Seder

### **Special Services**

Monday, Yom Ha'Shoah, April 13

Tuesday, April 21, Yom HaZikaron and  
Yom HaAtzma'ut – Oneg and Havdalah

### **Shavuot**

Thursday, May 21

## Special Events

**Beach Havdalah** – June 21, July 19, August 16, September 27, November 29, January 10

**Beach Shabbat** - September 26, March 13, April 3, May 8

**Pride Shabbat** – June 27

**Red, White and Blue Shabbat** – July 4

**85+ Shabbat** –September 5 and May 15

**Pet Shabbat** – November 21

**Gratitude Shabbat** – November 28

**Legacy Shabbat** – December 5

**Hanukkah Celebration** – December 19

**Naming Shabbat** – January 9

**Shabbat in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** – January 16

**Worship with Christ Family Worship Assembly in Riviera Beach**, January 18

**Shabbat Shirah / Debbie Friedman** – January 30

**Choose Hope - Celebrating Warriors and Survivors** – February 6

**Barbra Streisand Shabbat** – February 13

**Building a Temple - Honoring 10+ years of TJ membership** – February 20

**Gevurot- Honoring Members turning 80 years old** – February 27

**Freedom Shabbat** – March 27

**HaGomel Shabbat** – April 10

**Remember a Child Shabbat** – April 17

**Yom HaAtz'maut/Israeli Music Shabbat** – April 24

**YEP Shabbat** – May 1



### BEACH SHABBAT - FRIDAYS

at Carlin Park in Jupiter  
September 26, March 13, April 3, May 8

### BEACH HAVDALAH - SATURDAYS

June 21, July 19, August 16, September 27,  
November 29, January 10

**Bring your own beach chair!**



### SHABBAT DINNERS with FRIENDS & FAMILY at TJ 6:30 p.m.

*Reservations Required.*

Adults: \$37/person

Children 12 years and younger: \$20

Non-Members \$44 / adult

*Children under 5 are free*

September 12  
October 10  
November 14  
December 5

January 9  
February 6  
March 6  
May 1

## Opportunities for Spiritual and Personal Growth Leading up to Rosh Hashanah

As we approach the Jewish New Year, we invite you to join us for a special series of programs designed to nurture your spiritual journey and foster personal reflection during this sacred time. Each session offers a unique opportunity to connect with yourself, your community, and our traditions in meaningful ways.

**Thursday, August 28 at 10:30 a.m.**

### Kabbalah Yoga

Explore the profound connection between body and soul through our Kabbalah Yoga session. The session will begin with an introduction to Kabbalistic concepts that relate to the High Holy Day season, including the themes of renewal, introspection, and spiritual awakening. Participants will then engage in a mindful yoga practice designed to open both body and heart in preparation for the Days of Awe.

**Thursday, September 4 at 10:30 a.m.**

### Introspective Art

Engage in creative expression as a pathway to personal reflection with our Introspective Art session. Expressing yourself through art is a powerful way to reflect on the year that has passed and the new year ahead helping to process emotions and set intentions for the coming year. No artistic experience is necessary!

**Thursday, September 11 at 10:30 a.m.**

### Sound Bath and Concert

Immerse yourself in the healing vibrations of our special Sound Bath and Concert experience. A sound bath is a meditative practice where participants are “bathed” in sound waves produced by various instruments, helping to induce a deeply relaxed state Zenful Spirit perfect for reflection and renewal.

**Thursday, September 18 at 6:45 a.m.**

### Sunrise Minyan at Carlin Park

Join us for an extraordinary spiritual experience as we welcome the dawn with prayer at our Sunrise Minyan. This special gathering takes place at Carlin Park Beach in Jupiter, where we'll pray together as the sun rises over the Atlantic Ocean, creating a powerful connection between nature, prayer, and community. This unique experience combines the power of communal prayer with the awe-inspiring backdrop of a Florida sunrise, offering a meaningful spiritual moment just days before Rosh Hashanah begins.



Elul is the last month of the Jewish year and the final month prior to Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. This is a month in which to spiritually prepare for the High Holy Day season of reflection and repentance.

Elul is traditionally a time of introspection and personal stock-taking, known in Hebrew as *cheshbon hanefesh* – literally “an accounting of the soul.” This process is conducted in preparation for Rosh Hashanah when, Jewish tradition teaches, all of humanity is called to account and a divine judgment is issued.

The customs associated with Elul are all intended to help cultivate the proper mindset for this preparation.

### Elul Minyan

Join us on August 28, September 4, September 11, and September 18 for special introspective minyan. These four gatherings are designed as a spiritual journey leading up to the High Holy Days. Each week builds upon the previous, creating a meaningful path of personal and communal introspection as we prepare our hearts and minds for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

## LUNCH & LEARN

with Rabbi Wendy  
Wednesdays  
11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Torah on Trial: When Jewish Traditions Meet Modern Life

During our Lunch & Learn series, we will dive into the fascinating world of **Reform Responsa**, where real-life questions about Jewish practice meet thoughtful inquiry. Reform Responsa is the continuation of a rich tradition of Jewish legal and ethical inquiry that has helped communities navigate changing times for centuries. Together, we'll wrestle with relevant, real-life questions such as whether chanting Torah on a Friday night truly honors Shabbat, how to respectfully fulfill a loved one's request for cremation, whether a Pride flag—or any flag—belongs on the bimah, and if Jews should embrace secular holidays with complex histories. We'll unpack the historical sources behind each case, weigh the Reform Responsa Committee's ruling, and decide whether we agree – because Reform Judaism is a living, breathing tradition shaped by every generation. Expect lively debate, fresh insight, and perhaps forming questions which we will send to the Responsa Committee! I look forward to learning and debating these real-life cases with you!

- 8/13 Unlocking the Responsa Toolbox** – A fast tour of 1,500 years of rabbinic Q & A – and why Reform answers still rewrite the script of Jewish life
- 9/10 Lineage and the Ignition Key** – Patrilineal descent and driving on Shabbat – two rulings that redrew denominational borders and everyday practice
- 10/15 Shabbat 3.0 – The Reform Upgrade** – Three teshuvot trace our movement's journey from rejecting to creatively reclaiming sacred rest
- 11/19 One Roof, Many Jews** – Real-life cases show how responsa help congregations juggle mixed practice, mixed marriages, and mixed beliefs
- 12/10 Deck the Halls? December (and beyond) Dilemmas** – Which secular holidays fit a Jewish home – and makes a celebration “kosher-enough”?
- 1/14 End of Life Responsa** – Cremation, green burials, on line memorials, how modern teshuvot navigate dignity at life's end
- 2/11 Sacred Cells and Designer Genes** – IVF, stem cells, organ swaps, CRISPR – pikuach nefesh meets 21st century medicine
- 3/4 Scrolls with Scars** – Can a Holocaust damaged Torah be made kosher again? And should it be? Responsa on memory and law collide
- 4/15 Flags on the Bimah, Faith in the Pew** – Zionism, nationalism and the Reform sanctuary; should there be a division of religion and state in the sanctuary
- 5/13 When Justice Calls the Hotline** – From climate to AI, emerging responsa ask if Halakhah can legislate Tikkun Olam for 5786 and beyond



### The Language of the Soul: Conversations with God Through Jewish Prayer With Rabbi Yaron and Cantorial Soloist Kaylene Thursdays at 10:45 a.m.

#### November 13: Foundations of Jewish Prayer

Based on “My People’s Prayerbook Vol. 1: The Sh’ma and Its Blessings”

- Understanding the Sh’ma as our declaration of faith
- The spiritual dialogue established in our most fundamental prayer
- How the framing blessings create context for divine conversation

#### December 4: Beginning the Sacred Dialogue

Based on “My People’s Prayerbook Vol. 2: The Amidah”

- The structure of the standing prayer as a personal audience with God
- Moving from praise to petition to thanksgiving
- Finding your authentic voice in the ancient words

#### January 22: The Rhythms of Time and Soul

Based on “My People’s Prayerbook Vol. 4: Seder K’riat HaTorah” and “Vol. 6: Tachanun and Concluding Prayers”

- How the Torah service creates community conversation with the divine
- The vulnerable language of supplication in Tachanun
- Concluding prayers as transitions between sacred and mundane dialogue

#### February 26: Songs of the Soul

Based on “My People’s Prayerbook Vol. 5: Birkhot Hashachar”

- Morning blessings as awakening to divine presence
- Pesukei D’zimrah - verses of song as spiritual preparation
- How praise opens channels of communication

#### March 19: Shabbat as Sacred Conversation

Based on “My People’s Prayerbook Vol. 7: Shabbat at Home” and “Vol. 8: Kabbalat Shabbat”

- Home rituals as intimate divine dialogue
- Welcoming Shabbat as inviting divine presence into conversation
- How Shabbat creates space for deeper spiritual communication

#### April 23: Life Cycles of Sacred Dialogue

Based on “My People’s Prayerbook Vol. 9: Welcoming the Night” and lifecycle volumes

- Evening prayers as reflection and transition
- How prayer carries us through life transitions
- Developing a lifelong conversation with the divine





### Sacred Transitions:

#### *Jewish Perspectives on End-of-Life Decisions*

Join Rabbi Yaron for an intimate and meaningful discussion exploring Jewish perspectives on end-of-life planning and decisions. This thoughtful session will provide a safe space to explore challenging topics through the lens of Jewish tradition, ethics, and modern considerations.

The class will address:

- **Ethical Wills:** Explore the beautiful Jewish tradition of ethical wills (tzava'ot), where individuals pass down values, wisdom, and blessings to future generations. Rabbi Yaron will share historical examples and guide participants in considering what spiritual legacies they wish to leave behind.
- **End-of-Life Medical Decisions:** Discuss the Jewish approach to medical treatment decisions, including perspectives on palliative care, life-sustaining measures, and the balance between extending life and alleviating suffering. The discussion will incorporate both traditional halachic (Jewish law) considerations and contemporary responsa.
- **Cremation and Burial Practices:** Examine traditional Jewish burial customs, the theological and practical concerns regarding cremation, and how different Jewish movements approach these questions today.

Throughout the session, Rabbi Yaron will weave together ancient wisdom with practical guidance for navigating these profound life transitions with dignity, meaning, and Jewish values. Participants will have opportunities to ask questions and discuss how these teachings might inform their own decision-making processes.

**Class size is limited.**

**August 6; November 18; February 23; April 29**

## Adult Education



As part of our year of “conversations that matter,” we want to give you, our members, a chance to ask the questions that are pressing on your mind.

Bring your burning questions about faith, tradition, or life’s challenges. Perhaps the

rabbi has questions for you – about your journey or perspectives. Or simply come and let conversation flow naturally, discovering unexpected insights together.

No agenda, no pressure – just authentic connection over coffee and cake.

Whether you’re seeking guidance, curious about Judaism, or simply craving meaningful conversation, this is your opportunity for personal engagement with Rabbi Yaron

So, join us, for an open dialogue with Rabbi Yaron and/or Rabbi Wendy over a cup of coffee and rugalach, in the Rabbi’s study.

**Mondays at 1:00 p.m.**

**July 21, August 18, September 15, November 17,  
January 5, February 9, March 9, April 13, May 18**



### Take a Tour of TJ

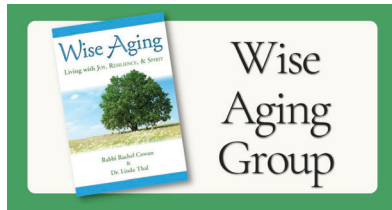
**Tuesday, December 2 and  
Monday, February 9 at 4:00 p.m.**

Join Rabbi Yaron for an intimate tour and history of Temple Judea.

Get an inside understanding of all the small details that make up our sacred space while getting to spend some quality time with our clergy.

Please call the office to register!

## Adult Education



### Wise Aging with Rabbi Howard Shapiro

**Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.**

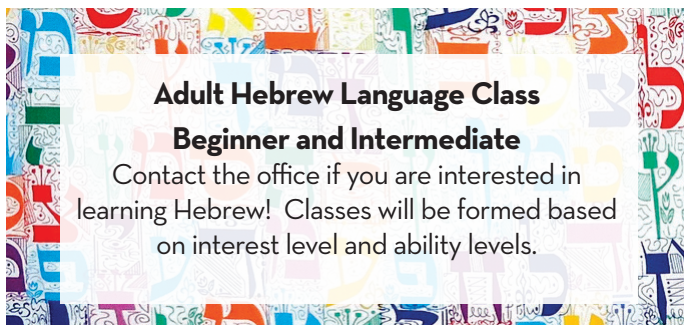
**11/5, 11/19, 12/3, 1/7, 1/21, 2/4**

For those of us who are willing to face this new stage in our life with an open heart and a curious mind, these six sessions will journey into what we call the aging process and how we can celebrate these precious days of our lives. Among the topics\* we will share and explore:

- Life Brings Change
- My Body; My Self
- Nourishing Relationships
- Living with Loss; Living with Dying
- Forgiveness
- The Spirituality of Being

*\*We will use as a text and a guide "Wise Aging"  
by Rabbi Rachel Cowan & Dr. Linda Thal*

*(This course is geared to those entering retirement or retired.)  
Class size is limited to 15 people and you must commit to attending  
all sessions.*



### Adult Hebrew Language Class

#### Beginner and Intermediate

Contact the office if you are interested in learning Hebrew! Classes will be formed based on interest level and ability levels.



### Kabbalah with Ellie Schweitzer

Mondays at 10:30 a.m.  
at Temple Judea

Contact the office  
for more information.

## Join Cantorial Soloist Kaylene Cole and fellow congregants for an open jam session at TJ!

*Do you play an instrument?  
Want to meet fellow musicians?*

This "music sharing" community is dedicated to bringing joyous Judaism alive through music and is designed for members who love to play an instrument and/or sing. Together you will play and create music.

While all levels of experience are welcome – this group will not be lesson based so some level of mastery is needed.

Looking forward to making music with you! Please call the office to register. Dates/Time TBD



### MODERN MUSSAR

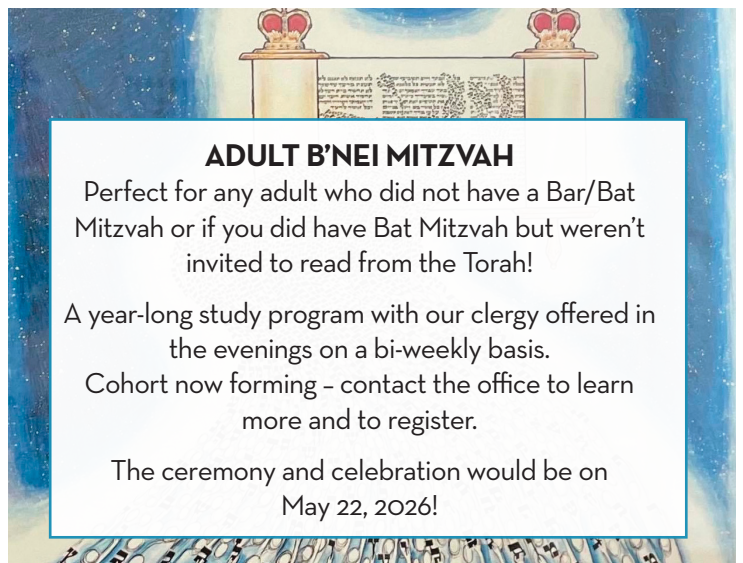
**How to be Happier, Kinder  
& More Content ...  
No Kidding!**



Mussar is the ancient Jewish practice of refining one's middot, or character traits, with origins going back to ancient texts. For many years, studying character traits and good behaviors were often ignored in the traditional yeshivas in favor of Talmud/law study.

The Modern Mussar movement was founded in Europe in response to a perception that Jews had become too focused on rote mitzvah observance at the expense of deliberate ethical behaviors.

This class is already underway. Anyone interested in joining should contact the office so we can connect you with the teachers and discuss next steps!



### ADULT B'NEI MITZVAH

Perfect for any adult who did not have a Bar/Bat Mitzvah or if you did have Bat Mitzvah but weren't invited to read from the Torah!

A year-long study program with our clergy offered in the evenings on a bi-weekly basis.

Cohort now forming – contact the office to learn more and to register.

The ceremony and celebration would be on  
May 22, 2026!





## Yonah Jeremy Bob

October 20

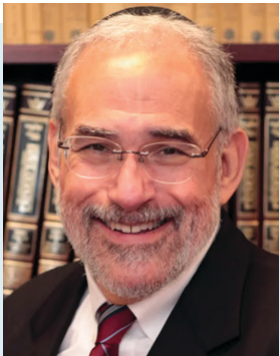
**Yonah Jeremy Bob** is an author and Israeli-based journalist who has worked at *The Jerusalem Post* since 2012 and currently serves as senior military correspondent, intelligence analyst and Literary Editor. Yonah has reported from Syria, Lebanon, Gaza, and the West Bank.

### TARGET TEHRAN AND SPY WARS

MOSSAD, CIA COMBAT IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM, AND SECRET ROLE FOR ABRAHAM ACCORDS.

TARGET TEHRAN is a riveting talk on how Israel is using cyberwarfare, espionage, sabotage, targeted assassination, and secret diplomacy to isolate Iran politically, and thwart its nuclear ambitions. This program is based on Yonah Jeremy Bob's bestselling book, published by Simon & Schuster, in fall 2023.

*Sponsored by Todd and Debbie Krasnow.*



## Rabbi Brad Hirschfield

December 8

*Pluralism: The Greatest Gift and The Hardest Lift – You Don't Have to Be Wrong for Me to Be Right*

Listed for many years in *Newsweek* as one of America's "50 Most Influential Rabbis" and recognized as one of our nation's leading

"Preachers and Teachers," by Beliefnet.com, Rabbi Brad Hirschfield serves as the President of Clal-The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, a training institute, think tank, and resource center nurturing religious and intellectual pluralism within the Jewish community, and the wider world, preparing people to meet the biggest challenges we face in our increasingly polarized world.

An ordained Orthodox rabbi who studied for his PhD and taught at The Jewish Theological Seminary, he has also taught the University of Pennsylvania, where he directs an ongoing seminar, and American Jewish University.

Hirschfield is the author and editor of numerous books, including *You Don't Have To Be Wrong For Me To Be Right: Finding Faith Without Fanaticism*, writes a column for Religion News Service, and appears regularly on TV and radio in outlets ranging from The Washington Post to Fox News Channel. He is also the founder of the Stand and See Fellowship, which brings hundreds of Christian religious leaders to Israel, preparing them to address the increasing polarization around Middle East issues – and really all currently polarizing issues at home and abroad – with six words, "It's more complicated than we know."

## Scholars in Residence

### UNDERSTANDING

#### Gender Identity

with Keshet's Florida  
Education & Training Manager,  
Tracey Labgold

**Keshet**  
קֶשֶׁת

For LGBTQ+  
equality in  
Jewish life



Thursday, January 8 at 4:00 p.m.

Do you have questions about what exactly Gender Identity is? Perhaps you would like some practice using they/them pronouns? Join us for a presentation and conversation with Tracey Labgold (she/her), Keshet's Florida Education and Training Manager. During our time with Tracey, we will look at the differences between sex assigned at birth, gender identity and sexual orientation. We will talk about how sharing pronouns is an act of allyship. And we will share tips and tools for talking with and supporting our LGBTQ+ loved ones.



## Dr. Elliott Malamet

January 20

Dr. Elliott Malamet teaches Jewish Ethics at various institutions in Jerusalem and abroad and is consulted globally about Jewish education. Dr. Malamet is a premiere discussion

moderator in the Jewish world today, having conducted over 100 interviews/panel discussions with leading Jewish luminaries.

### JEWISH ETHICS AND THE LIMITS OF FREE SPEECH

The past 18 months has seen a rise in anti-Zionist demonstrations, and social media posts that skirt the border between free speech and disturbing antisemitic rhetoric. In this session we will examine, through philosophical and Jewish sources, the relationship between freedom of expression versus the risk of incitement and harassment. We will discuss appropriate responses to hostile discourse and when it is wiser not to respond.

*Sponsored by Todd and Debbie Krasnow.*



### A Look at Women in Florida Jewish History

Lunch and Learn  
Wednesday, January 28  
With Marcia Jo Zerivit  
Founding Executive Director,  
Jewish Museum of Florida, FIU

### Charlotte Korchak

February 2

Charlotte Korchak is the founder and Senior Educator of the Jerusalem Education Institute, a non-profit organization working to transform education on Israel and the Middle East. As an accomplished educator and speaker specializing in Israeli history, effective communication, and antisemitism, Charlotte captivates audiences with her passionate speaking style and ability to break down the most challenging concepts making them accessible to a wide range of audiences. Charlotte began working at StandWithUs in 2010 where she eventually engaged over 50,000 students annually both online and on five different continents, ending her time there as the International Senior Educator. Often described as a walking encyclopedia, Charlotte's 15 years of expertise leaves audiences feeling educated, empowered, and more capable of engaging with their peers on these difficult issues. She has quickly become one of the foremost public speakers in her field.



### Concepts and Misconceptions about Israel, Zionism, and the Jews

The misconceptions about Israel in the world today are vast, commonplace, and widely accepted as truth. Together we will tackle these falsehoods by learning the essential concepts needed to understand Israel, Zionism, and the Jewish people, while also working through the core claims made against Israel's right to exist, providing the necessary knowledge and skills to challenge those arguments and ultimately show how these specific expressions of anti-Zionism are, in fact, antisemitism.

### From right to left: Modern Antisemitism

Grasping the complexities of antisemitism and its historical evolution is no simple feat. In this presentation, we will examine the modern definition of antisemitism, its historical expressions, and its manifestations in contemporary society across the political spectrum. We will also explore how anti-Zionism can intersect with antisemitism and how scapegoating has long been a driving force behind this form of hatred.

### Rabbi Leon A. Morris

President of the Pardes Institute of  
Jewish Studies in Jerusalem

Wednesday, February 18  
Lunch and Learn

### Beyond Comfort Zones: Exploring Controversial Passages in Jewish Tradition



A leading educator in the field of adult Jewish study, Rabbi Morris made Aliyah with his family in June 2014 and served as a vice president for North American programs in Israel at the Shalom Hartman Institute and as a faculty member at Hebrew Union College. Prior to his aliyah he was the founding director of the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El (now the Streicker Center) in Manhattan.

Previously, Rabbi Morris served as Director of New York Kollel: A Center for Adult Study at HUC-JIR. Ordained from Hebrew Union College in 1997 where he was a Wexner Graduate Fellow, he has worked extensively as an educator with the Jewish community of India, beginning in 1990 when he served as a Jewish Service Corps volunteer for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and returned many times for shorter volunteer work. He is an alumnus of the Pardes and was a Mandel Jerusalem Fellow.



### Beatrice Weber

March 8 - International  
Women's Day

Beatrice Weber writes and speaks about her experiences in the Hasidic community. After being married at 18 and silenced for years, she left an

abusive marriage and found her voice. A fierce advocate for women's and children's justice, Beatrice was the first parent to file a complaint against a Hasidic yeshiva in NYC for failing to provide an education, winning her case in the NYS Supreme Court.



## DONOR APPRECIATION EVENT

*Sunday, March 15*

**Yisrael Campbell** is just your average Irish, Italian, Catholic, Reform, Conservative, Unorthodox, Orthodox Jew, who was born to be funny. (The Jewish part came later.) A spiritual journey stretching across four decades, two continents, and three circumcisions. From the wildly successful off-Broadway play. Yisrael is hilarious.

A special invitation only event for any donor who gives \$1800+ to TJ above and beyond your full-dues annual commitment. Members only please. As a reminder, dues only cover 60% of our annual expenses and without YOU we couldn't continue to honor our commitment to never allow finances to stand in the way of membership to our sacred community. Thank you!

Our vision is to never turn anyone away who cannot afford to but who wants to be a member of our sacred community. But this vision is only possible when other members help offset any shortfalls.

**This event is a special thank you for YOU**

## Special Events



*Sunday, August 10 - 4:00 p.m.*

**Pre-Oneg at 3:30 p.m.**

### FREE SUMMER CONCERT WITH PAM & DAVE

An exceptional duo of musicians performing all your favorite songs, from ballads to Motown to disco to pop/rock to Island Music...Sit back & listen or dance the day away .



Israel Movement for Reform  
and Progressive Judaism

התנועה הרפורמית והפרוגרסיבית ליהדות מתקדמת בישראל

## LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

### ISRAEL GRANT

Temple Judea's Board of Trustees is honored to be able to support pluralistic Judaism in Israel. For the third year, TJ's Board has approved a \$10,000 contribution to be presented to agencies, temples, and leaders, who are working to further the value of an inclusive Israel. Each year a task force is formed to evaluate candidates and present the awards.

## Travel

### WE ARE HITTING THE ROAD!

**Travel to Israel with TJ and Rabbi Yaron**

*October 26 - November 4*

#### Proposed Itinerary:

##### **2 nights in Tel Aviv - The Jaffa Hotel**

Tel Aviv - Innovative, off beat and creative Peres Center for Peace and Innovation, Tasting Tour of Market, October 7th Public Art Eretz Yisrael - At the crossroads of cultures Anu Museum, Caesarea, Druze cooking workshop, Akko

##### **2 nights in the North - Mitzpeh Hayamim Spa**

Israel's North - Tzefat, tour upper Galilee and Lebanese border, wine tasting

Going up to Jerusalem - Beit Shearim, Mount Scopus, Machane Yehuda, Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat Dinner

##### **4 nights in Jerusalem - David Citadel**

The Desert Near the City - Masada, Ein Bokek, Dead Sea, Ein Gedi Nature Reserve - will also have another option for seasoned Israel travelers

The Horrors of October 7 - Western Negev, Assaf Siboni Overlook, visit to Kibbutz that was attacked, Sderot, Nova Festival, Tekuma Car Cemetery

Layers of Jerusalem - Tal Becker, legal advisor to Israeli Ministry Foreign Affairs, Old City of Jerusalem, Taste of Jerusalem food tour, beneath Western Wall, National Library

Memories for the Future - Dr. Rachel Korazim -Memory of Holocaust in Contemporary Israel Society, Yad Vashem, Mount Herzl, Ein Kerem, Supreme Court, Knesset, Israel Museum

Cost is \$6760 - double occupancy.

Single supplement +\$2200.

Includes: daily breakfast, six lunches, seven dinners, all site admissions.

*The cost doesn't include airfare, three lunches, two dinners, or gratuities.*



### BEREAVEMENT

Healing after the loss of a loved one is a challenging time. You are the one who is grieving and as such, each person's journey is different. The "Healing Journey" will assist with the healing process in a safe, nurturing, supportive and loving environment. Contact the office for more information.

Marcia Grobman is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and received her master's degree in social work from Barry University, Miami Shores, Florida. She is also a Certified Addiction Professional and has a great deal of experience working in the field of addiction recovery.

She was employed by Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office from 1982 - 1991. After her tenure with Palm Beach County/Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Ms. Grobman taught college courses at Palm Beach State College and South University. She also worked at Morse Geriatric Center now known as Morse Life. In 2002, Ms. Grobman moved to Aruba, Dutch Caribbean Island and began work with Aruba Police Department and local island hoteliers to develop and implement a comprehensive tourist safety program so named the Visibility Team. Ms. Grobman returned to Palm Beach County in 2006 and was employed by Alpert Jewish Family and Children's Services. She retired in 2017 from Jewish Family Services after eleven and a half years of service.

In addition to group discussions, Marcia is willing to offer Temple Judea members supportive counseling, information, and referrals on a one-on-one basis. Call the office to schedule a time.



### CANDID CONVERSATIONS FOR WOMEN

Candid Conversations for Women is an energetic, enlightening, and enjoyable women's group designed for female members of Temple Judea. Topics chosen for group participation and discussion are selected to strengthen the bond of friendship and support for all who attend. We choose topics that are topical and user friendly but not political.

Participating attendees enjoy sharing experiences and learning from one another through communication and reflection during topic discussions. Participants will enjoy sharing experiences and learning from one another through communication and reflection during topic discussions. It is friendly and cozy to be together in a comfortable and confidential space to explore relevant topical subjects that will enhance the joyful meaning of the group.

Sessions at 1:00 p.m. and dates of discussion:

<b>August 7</b>	<b>Exploring Our Lives</b>
<b>September 4</b>	<b>Are Negative Emotions Always Bad?</b>
<b>October 9</b>	<b>Keys to Living Longer!</b>
<b>November 6</b>	<b>Exploring Solitude!</b>
<b>December 4</b>	<b>Revisiting Mindfulness Meditation.</b>

Marcia Grobman received her master's degree in social work from Barry University, Miami Shores, Florida and is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW). She is also a certified addiction professional (CAP) and a certified clinical geriatric social worker (CSW-G). Marcia worked for Palm Beach County Public Safety Department, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Alpert Jewish Family Services and Morse Geriatric Center. She has been practicing for over 40 years.

Registration is required and class size is limited - contact Randi at [randi@gotj.org](mailto:randi@gotj.org).



### B'NEI MITZVAH

One of the most meaningful aspects of Judaism is its ability to mark sacred moments and lifecycle events. A child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah is such a moment.

But this passage is not only theirs, but for the parents and grandparents as well. As they begin this sacred journey, so too are families beginning their own journey—that of seeing your child grow into a responsible young Jewish adult. A journey of letting them start spreading their own wings as they search for their own sense of identity. This is why we invite the entire family to take an active role in this process, seeing this period as an opportunity to take to heart your own sense of Jewish practice, growth, self-realization, and fulfillment.

#### What does it mean to become a Jewish adult?

Students do not “have” a Bar/ Bat Mitzvah; they “become” a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. The Talmud teaches that a young person is ready at the age of 13 to understand and accept adult responsibility for mitzvot (commandments/sacred responsibilities).

#### We, the clergy, and leadership of Temple Judea understand that:

every child becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah is special and unique, and that every family comes from a different background, a different level of observance and has different needs, goals, and expectations

Therefore, we are offering you three different tracks to choose how you wish to celebrate your Simcha (joyous occasion). We will review these tracks with you during our first meeting which typically occurs one year prior to the scheduled Bar/ Bat Mitzvah date.

While the approach varies – the goal remains the same - we want your child to love their Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience, and for your family to feel it was meaningful, relevant, and accessible!

Our prayer for your child is that through the process of becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, they will grow in love with Jewish tradition and appreciate their unique Jewish identity.

Our hope is that while you guide and support your child in the process, they learn to “own” it and feel a strong sense of accomplishment and ownership.

We are honored to be a part of their and your journey. Thank you for making Temple Judea your spiritual home.



### BABY NAMINGS/ B'RIT MILAH

We invite all parents, or grandparents for their non-member children and grandbabies, to schedule a naming ceremony at Temple Judea. This ceremony is an opportunity for parents of the new baby to explain their choice of Hebrew name, its significance, and for the new baby to receive a special blessing.

This blessing acknowledges that the child has entered a brit, or covenant, with God. Blessings are also recited for the baby's well-being. The traditional wish is offered – that the child may grow into a life of study of Torah, of loving relationships, and the performance of good deeds. This ceremony can take place privately or at Temple Judea as part of our worship service.

### WEDDINGS/VOW RENEWALS



It is our clergy's honor to be a part of a couple's wedding day or vow renewal. Even though Reform Jewish weddings draw much inspiration from history and tradition, they also tend to reflect a more modern, egalitarian, and flexible sensibility. The couple will work with our clergy to design a ceremony that is meaningful to both the bride and the groom. In general, Reform Jewish weddings typically include a chuppah, a ketubah, a ring ceremony, and the breaking of the glass. One major difference between a Reform and a traditional Jewish wedding is

the role of the woman. In a Reform Jewish wedding ceremony, the woman shares in all the roles a man would traditionally do. Additionally, for first time marriages, our clergy will also meet with the couple for several pre-marriage sessions prior to their ceremony. Weddings can take place at either a private location or at Temple Judea. For smaller ceremonies, or vow renewals, we are happy to create an intimate sacred experience in our clergy's study under our temple's chuppah.

## Marking Life's Sacred Moments

### CONVERSION

Temple Judea and the Reform movement welcome and support those who chose to explore Judaism. Jews by Choice are a gift to our people and to our communities. While each person's path into Jewish life is unique, there are shared questions and experiences that are common to many. We welcome the opportunity to introduce you to Judaism and an opportunity to help guide those on a spiritual journey. If you are interested in studying with us, please contact the office. Cohorts / Classes are scheduled once there is a cohort.

### FUNERAL/MEMORIAL

Jewish tradition teaches that humans are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26). This is the underpinning of all the rituals and customs that make up a Jewish funeral. This concept extends both to the deceased and to the mourners. It is our hope to provide love and support during what can be

### CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a year-long process of study, culminating in a beautiful ceremony for boys and girls that is tied to the Jewish holiday of Shavuot. Confirmation class is offered for 9th and 10th grade students.

### AUFUF

An aufuf, which in Yiddish means "calling up", is an opportunity for an engaged couple to be called to the bimah for an Aliyah before the wedding. Our clergy are happy to perform this ceremony on a Thursday during minyan or as part of a Friday night service.

the most difficult of times. Our clergy will coordinate all aspects of a funeral or memorial service - including the details of the service, meeting with the family, leading the funeral prayers, and delivery a eulogy. They will also help coordinate the observance of shiva, sloshim, and are available to families in mourning throughout their process.



### HANGING A MEZUZAH

A Jewish household is created by the people who live in it and by the way they act and the things they do and don't do and the beliefs they hold. To a great extent, a Jewish way of life is a portable faith: you can take it with you anywhere you go. It is generally accepted that Judaism is a religion more oriented to the holiness of time vs. the holiness of place. There are many occasions we sanctify, but very few places we call holy. Our homes are an exception - and we do this through the ritual of hanging a mezuzah in your home - be it on the front door or on any other door. If you have recently moved, or do not currently have a mezuzah on your door, please call the office to schedule this sacred ritual with one of our clergy who will happily come to your home!

## Youth Programs

### MADRICHIM

Our YEP program features Madrichim (teachers' helpers) who assist in each classroom.

TJ Madrichim are in 9th-12th grade and are vital to helping with our YEP program. Not only do they add a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to our school, but our students often look up to them as role models. Madrichim either receive community service hours or payment for their work.

If you have a teen who is interested in being a madrich or madricha, please contact Morli Fidler at [morli@gotj.org](mailto:morli@gotj.org).

Our Youth Education Program ("YEP") strives to educate, be welcoming, and most importantly be joyous - for both our students as well as their families.

We offer a Sunday program for children in grades kindergarten through sixth grade. We offer a "block" schedule each Sunday which includes time for Jewish studies, Hebrew language, "Tarbut"/Electives which change every week to include music, art, dance, cooking, time with our rabbis etc., and of course, recess / snack time so our students can form their own age-appropriate community. At the end of every Sunday, the school gathers for an assembly led by our clergy. Together we celebrate all the joys - like birthdays, accomplishments, milestones. We sing songs related to

holidays, Shabbat, and being Jewish. And we add "ruach" - energy to our young community.

5th and 6th graders also attend one-on-one virtual Hebrew language sessions during the week. These are scheduled on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays after school. We have found that these one-on-one sessions have been very impactful in student's language mastery.

Finally, we have several special programs where parents are invited to participate. These include events like Sukkot, Simchat Torah, Hanukkah, Purim and special class specific events.

We are grateful to our families for allowing us to be their partners in their children's Jewish journey!



## SAVE THE DATES

June 18  
Tea and Card Party

October 8  
Happy Hour at a  
member's home

November 12  
Membership Dinner

December 10  
Hanukkah in Margaritaville

January 28  
A Look at Women in Florida's  
Jewish History

February 25  
Card Party

March 8  
International Women's Day  
Speaker - Beatrice Weber

March 18  
Women's Seder

April 30  
Jaffe Center Book Art  
Road Show

## SISTERHOOD

### THE WHO, WHAT, WHY OF SISTERHOOD

#### What is Sisterhood?

Sisterhood is the temple's women's organization that unites for programs to benefit the temple and the community, for social activities, for study, and for friendship.

#### Why Sisterhood?

Sisterhood is the place where women can meet and work together for the benefit of the congregation. Here, women can initiate and develop projects in which they are interested, and Sisterhood can initiate cooperative programs with other groups both within and outside the temple.

#### Why do you need Sisterhood?

Sisterhood provides a collective identity for the women of the congregation while providing an outlet for the creative energy, talent, and leadership potential for the individual Jewish woman.

#### Why does Sisterhood need you?

Sisterhood needs the support of all the women of the congregation - whether you are a mother, daughter, sister, aunt, or wife - you are a critical part of our community, our voice, and our work.

#### What does Sisterhood do for our congregation?

Did you know that Sisterhood funds all our temple's B'Nei Mitzvah gifts, scholarships for families that cannot afford a B'Nei Mitzvah, camp scholarship to overnight Jewish camps, and capital improvements.

Please join us!

Sincerely,  
Marilyn Schwartz, President



## BOOK GROUP

### Mondays at 10:30 AM. Everyone is Welcome!

The Book Group meets in person as well as by Zoom.

#### Dates for 2025 -2026

6/9; 7/7; 8/4; 9/8; 10/6; 11/3; 12/1; 1/5; 2/9; 3/2; 4/6; 5/4

**June** Brave the Wild River  
by Melissa Sevigny

**July** The Only Woman in the Room  
by Marie Benedict

**August** Garlic and Sapphires  
by Rachel Reichel

**September** An Unfinished Love Story  
by Doris Kearns Goodwin

**October** Inheritance A Memoir of Genealogy,  
Paternity, and Love

**Future books TBD**

Meeting ID: 863 2152 4611 • Passcode: 910340

Please contact Beth Baker, Chairperson, for the zoom link and questions at [bethloves@gmail.com](mailto:bethloves@gmail.com).

## Social Action



**Quantum House** is a caring and supportive home that lessens the burden for families whose children are receiving treatment in Palm Beach County for a serious medical condition. Mealtimes are a really big deal here as they have 30 families to feed daily. Join your fellow TJ congregants to become Chef for a Day! **Sundays at 3:00 p.m.**



### To benefit St. George's Food Kitchen.

PLEASE CONSIDER making sandwiches at home - on any bread with PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY or TURKEY AND CHEESE or 3 slices of ANY CHEESE and small amount of mustard. No need to cut the sandwiches. Put each one in a baggie. One loaf of bread makes 10 sandwiches. They distribute 300 sandwiches a day - so any amount is greatly appreciated.

DROP OFF YOUR SANDWICHES AT TEMPLE - MAIN DOOR on second Tuesday of every month any time from 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.



**Feeding Hope Village** is a community resource hub for the local population in Riviera Beach, Florida, where the needy can obtain access to free healthy food, assistance to help them from becoming homeless, employment referrals, social service and health information. Feeding Hope Village was created by Faith Deliverance Church of God Center to be a social services outreach entity. The church currently serves 750 families - around 3,000 individuals - on a monthly basis and recognized the need for additional services. Join Rabbi Rose at Feeding Hope Village in Riviera Beach to pack food for the food insecure on the first Wednesday of the month.



**Help pack food to ensure no child goes hungry!** Together we will prepare weekend backpacks for school aged children. Dates TBD from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



### Blankets of Love

Knit or crochet blankets at home for donation to children's hospitals, women's shelters, and homeless shelters. For more information contact Isabel Berg at [izzyberg2@gmail.com](mailto:izzyberg2@gmail.com).



### Glean with your children and grandchildren - Sunday, February 1

"When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God" (Leviticus 19:9-10).



### Food Packing for Haiti

Work alongside our friends at St. Mark's Church and Good Shepherd Church to pack over 75,000 meals for the food insecure in Bondeau, Haiti. March 2025



Throughout the year we support various collections that we encourage our community to support including:

- Back to School Backpacks
- High Holy Day Food Drive
- Thanksgiving Baskets for the VA hospital
- Holiday Toy Drive for Nicklaus Children's Hospital
- Noah's Ark Pet Supply Drive for Furry Friends
- Plastic Bag Collection for Feeding Hope Village
- Eyeglasses for Lions Club
- Gleaning
- Passover Chametz Food Drive
- Food Packing for Haiti

## Weingrow Endowment

Created by Terry and Frank Vaccaro, in loving memory of Terry's parents, Howard and Muriel Weingrow, the Weingrow Endowment Fund, annually supports organizations and individuals in our community who embody the value of loving your neighbor as you love yourself. This grant is presented every year during the Shabbat service of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. weekend.

### Calvin M. Schwartz and Gloria Hay Schwartz Caring Community

The Caring Community's mission is to care for and support Temple Judea's congregants in times of joy, sorrow, illness, and transition. We serve congregants who are ill, coping with a loss, or other life problems, or who simply need support. We call, write notes, provide meals, deliver food, visit, and celebrate joyous life cycle events such as marriage or welcoming new babies with a gift from the temple. As a congregation, and sacred family, it is our vision to never be too busy to reach out to one another.

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Chairperson, Ruth Gonzalez, at [ruthabramsgonzalez@gmail.com](mailto:ruthabramsgonzalez@gmail.com)



Our sages teach that Talmud Torah, the story of Torah is the most important mitzvah because study leads to action. Our volunteer and advocacy efforts at TJ are inspired by the wisdom of our tradition, which teaches, "It is not your responsibility to

finish the work of perfecting the world, but you are not free to desist from it." Together, let us put our study into action through acts of tzedakah- acts of righteousness- so that together, as a community, we can do our part towards tikkun olam, healing our world.

Our work is focused on four pillars: Advocacy, Hands-On Volunteering, Teaching our Children, and Giving Back. We strive to provide opportunities for members to engage in

regular activities as well as many "pop in" individual volunteer events. Let this be the year you find the best way for you to live your Jewish values and give back- do you want to try rolling up your sleeves and diving into direct service? Are you an advocate, ready to march into your legislators' offices to speak truth to power? Are you a parent, striving to inspire tzedakah in the next generation? Check out our offerings and jump in- we can't wait for you to join us in this sacred work!

It takes a village, and we cannot make the impact in our community we would like without YOU!

**DO YOU HAVE TIME TO VOLUNTEER?** A little, or a lot, it doesn't matter.... JOIN US!

For questions about all the programs, or how to get involved, contact the office at 561-624-4633.

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at [morli@gotj.org](mailto:morli@gotj.org)



"I did not find the world desolate when I entered it.  
And as my parents planted for me before I was born,  
so do I plant for those who will come after me."

– Talmud

### BECAUSE WE ARE YOUR FAMILY

After all, you have loved this congregation and poured your heart into it. This congregation is an enduring part of your Jewish legacy, just like your family. Make a gift to help Temple Judea continue to transform lives and inspire action, to ensure that your values and goals live on and to make a significant difference in our community.

As you plan for the future, think about what that legacy means to you.... and please consider the congregation in your will or estate plan.

To learn more about how to create your Jewish legacy, please contact Morli Fidler at 561-624-4633 or [morli@gotj.org](mailto:morli@gotj.org).

### 5 Reasons You Should Make a Commitment to Temple Judea's L'Dor VaDor Society and the Life & Legacy efforts:

#### 1. Support the Future:

By committing a legacy gift to any of the participating organizations, you will be showing your support of building endowment funds that generate annual funding to benefit the organization(s) you love.

#### 2. Support the Present:

At the conclusion of year two of the program, each organization participating in LIFE & LEGACY receives an incentive bonus of up to \$5,000 for securing enough new commitments to meet its goals.

#### 3. Create Your Legacy:

When you establish a legacy gift, whether it's through a bequest in your will, or a portion of your IRA, or another giving vehicle, you are leaving your last lesson for your children, grandchildren, and even the community as a whole. With your legacy gift, you will be telling one and all that being generous, caring about others, and thinking about the future are important moral values. These are profound messages for Jewish community members of all ages.

#### 4. Lead by Example:

By signing a legacy commitment, you are leading the community by stepping up and showing your dedication to your beloved organization(s). There is no monetary gift that must be made now, just your commitment, your leadership.

#### 5. Save on Taxes:

While Temple Judea does not provide tax, legal, or financial advice, we do encourage you to contact your trusted advisor to talk about how a prospective legacy gift can save you on capital gains taxes, estate taxes, and/or income taxes, because these savings can be significant.



## Annual High Holy Day Appeal:

Each year during the High Holy Day season we ask for your generosity and help. Gifts to the High Holy Day Appeal help offset the difference between the cost of running the temple and the 62% of expenses covered by dues. Monies raised go directly to help members in need, our youth education program, and teens.

## Chai Society and Golden Chai Society:

The Chai Society and Golden Chai Society are about "people helping people." The Chai Society is \$436 above regular dues and the Golden Chai is \$1,360 above regular dues. Funds raised go directly towards providing dues assistance to members in need.

## General Fund Donations:

Each month members elect to make donations in honor of or in memory of a loved one. These donations go towards our operating budget and help Temple Judea enhance its offerings to all members.

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Your gift to Temple Judea truly makes a difference - both for our members in need and to our sacred community! Each year Temple Judea has annual campaigns which raise funds to help sustain us and keep us financially and fiscally responsible. Your gift helps ensure our present and future and says, "I believe in Temple Judea!"

Each and every gift is important—no matter the amount—because each and every member is important. We are all partners in the future of our synagogue; whatever you give will have a significant impact for years to come. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## HOW TO GIVE?

There are many ways you can make a 100% tax-deductible gift in support of Temple Judea.

## Specific Designated Funds:

*Designated funds are another way to support Temple Judea.*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund  
Cantor's Discretionary Fund  
Rabbi Joel and Susan Levine Hope & Healing Fund  
Adult Education  
Religious School  
Youth Group  
Camp  
Social Action  
Gloria Hay & Calvin M. Schwartz Caring Community Fund  
Renovation Fund

## Capital Gifts:

Temple Judea has many naming opportunities in our main building and in our school building. Monies raised for capital gifts are used to enhance the temple's facilities and equipment.

## Dedicable Items:

Tree of Life.....\$250/Leaf  
Pavers .....\$360/Paver  
Memorial Plaques.....\$750/Plaque

## Sponsorships:

Shabbat Sponsor.....\$500  
High Holy Day Music.....\$540  
High Holy Day Flowers.....\$360  
Event Sponsorship.....Contact Morli Fidler,  
Executive Director

## L'Dor VaDor Endowment Fund:

Gifts to the endowment fund are an investment in the future of Temple Judea. Consider leaving your own legacy by supporting our fund and ensuring the long, successful future of TJ!



TEMPLE JUDEA

Palm Beach Gardens, FL

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Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

[www.gotj.org](http://www.gotj.org)

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