

ADULT LEARNING LAB & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS 2026-2027 (5787)

Welcome to the Adult Learning LAB. LAB stands for Learning, Actualizing, and Belonging. We invite you to experiment with one or more of our educational opportunities in an effort to learn more, to put what you learn into action, and to strengthen your bonds with our community and with the Jewish people.

Participation in the LAB is a benefit of temple membership. College students are also welcome to attend free of charge.

Non-members are asked to make a donation of \$180 to our Adult Education Fund. Your one-time donation gives you access to all courses for one year.

All participants are asked to purchase their own textbooks in their preferred format (hardback, paperback, Kindle, Audible, etc.) or to check with their local lending library, Libby, or other app.

Finances should not be a barrier to learning. If a donation of \$180 or purchasing a textbook will cause you financial hardship, please donate whatever you can to support our program and reach out to me for assistance with purchasing textbooks.

The majority of our community communication is done electronically, via our weekly e-newsletter. The newsletter includes meeting days & times, vacations and holidays, updates on Special Interest Groups, and other events and celebrations. If you are not currently receiving our weekly e-newsletter, please be sure to check “add me to the mailing list” when registering for classes. Registration forms can be found under the “giving” tab on our website at templeisraelstockton.com.

Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to learning with you.

Karma

Karma Fordis Lindner
Director of Education/Administrator
office@templeisraelstockton.com

**Members and non-members are asked to register for classes.
To register, please visit the Learning page on our website:
<https://www.templeisraelstockton.com/learning-1-1>**

COURSE OFFERINGS 5787 (2026-27)

AFTERLIFE: A JEWISH PERSPECTIVE

Day/Time: Thursdays @ 6:30pm on Jan 7 & 21, Feb 11 & 25

Facilitator: Rabbi Steven Chester

Do Jews believe in heaven and hell? Resurrection? Reincarnation? Explore Jewish answers to the question, “What happens after we die?”

JEWISH BOOK CLUB

Our Book Club meets one Sunday per month, year round, to discuss a variety of books, both fiction and non-fiction. The Book Club prefers to meet in-person, but does frequently offer a Zoom option. Watch our e-newsletter for the current read or contact Deborah Mendoza for more information at dmendoza1075@gmail.com. Readers are welcome to join the group at any time during the year.

BEGINNING HEBREW & PRAYERBOOK HEBREW

Day/Time: TBD

Facilitator: TBD

Textbook: TBD

This course is for those learning to read Hebrew for the first time and for those who need a refresher course. This is a great course for parents who wish to support and learn side-by-side with their children or for any who wishes to participate more fully in Jewish life through the lens of language.

Class times will be determined based on the availability and preference of those who enroll. If you have questions, please reach out to Karma.

HISTORY OF REFORM JUDAISM

Day/Time: Thursdays @ 6:30pm on May 6 & 13

Facilitator: Rabbi Steven Chester

Throughout our history, Judaism has evolved as the world and our place in it has changed. Enjoy the fascinating story of how and why the Reform Jewish movement came to be.

ISRAELI DANCING

Day/time: Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 9:00am – already in progress! Join us now!
Facilitator: Deborah Blinder

Israeli Dancing is great fun and awesome exercise! Dancers will enjoy both classic Israeli folkdances and Israeli folkdances that are just hitting the scene. Beginning, Intermediate, and Advance level dancers are all welcome. Come on Tuesday, on Thursday, or both!

KOLOT ADULT CHOIR

Day/Time: Wednesdays @ 7:30pm beginning August 19
Facilitators: A Vibrant Mix of Jewish Music Lovers

You don't need to know how to read music or have a great voice to be a part of Kolot. We are a group of people who love to sing, laugh, and enjoy each other's company. Kolot will be participating in High Holyday and Shabbat services throughout the year – come be part of the fun.

MEDICAL ETHICS

Day/Time: Thursdays @ 6:30pm on Oct 8 & 22, Nov 5 & 19, and Dec 3
Facilitator: Rabbi Steven Chester

Our tradition teaches that human life has infinite value and views preserving our physical health as a religious mandate. Examine how Jewish law, thought, and practice address modern health issues such as end-of-life care, reproductive technology, and organ donation through case studies and historical sources found in Torah, Talmud, and modern responsa.

RITUALES Y ÉTICAS

Día/hora: Shabat @ 10:30am, a partir del 24 de octubre
Maestra: Karma Fordis Lindner - con mucha ayuda de los estudiantes ☺

Cada clase incluirá un segmento práctico centrado en las realización de diversos rituales - como ser llamado a la Torá para una aliya (No solo vamos a hablar sobre estos temas, vamos a practicarlos.) – y una conversación sobre ética judía guiada por las escrituras del rabino Jonathan Sacks. Este curso está abierto a judíos de nacimiento, judíos por elección o personas que simplemente sienten curiosidad por la fe judía.

SHABBAT MORNING LEARNERS MINYAN

Day/Time: Shabbat (Saturday), 10:30am-Noon on the following dates:
Aug 22, Oct 17, Nov 21, Dec 12, Jan 16, Feb 20, Mar 20, Apr 17 and May 22
Facilitator: Karma Fordis Lindner

Have you ever wondered why we say the second line of the Sh'ma in a whisper? Or why we bow during some prayers and not others? Or why we light two Shabbat candles on Friday night? Have you ever just wanted to raise your hand during services to ask a question about what you're

seeing or saying? This is your chance! Each Learners Minyan will focus on a different part of the service and you'll be able to interrupt mid-stream to ask your questions. Learners Minyan will also include the recitation of the Mourners Kaddish so that those who are in mourning or have a yahrzeit can say Kaddish in the warm embrace of our community.

TORAH STUDY

Day/Time: Thursdays, 10:30a-11:45a – already in progress – join us now!
Facilitator: Rabbi Steven Chester
Textbook: Students should have a Tanach or Torah translation on hand. If you don't have one, the temple is happy to lend you one.

The study of Torah is a lifelong adventure encouraging us to remember our past, act in the present, and dream for the future. It is a path that leads to moral, ethical, and spiritual growth for the individual and the community. **This year offers our community the opportunity to study with Rabbi Chester who is both a scholar and a mensch. Take advantage of this time!** This course is offered in-person and via Zoom.

If you have questions or would like more information, reach out to our Educator, Karma Fordis Lindner at office@templeisraelstockton.com or (209) 477-9306, x302

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