

ADULT LEARNING LAB & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS 2024-2025 (5785)

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 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 email, 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

WEDNESDAY COURSE OFFERINGS

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Day/Time: Wednesdays, 5:30p-7p, beginning August 28
Facilitator: Rabbi Jason Gwasdoff

Whether you have been a Jew your whole life, are considering conversion, or parenting Jewish children/grandchildren, this course will give you insights into Jewish thought, practice, ritual, and rhythm. Attend in person or via Zoom.

ADULT B'NAI MITZVAH

Day/Time: Wednesdays, 5:30p-6:50p, beginning August 28
Facilitator: Karma Fordis Lindner

Did you miss out on celebrating becoming Bar/Bat mitzvah as a child? Have you recently converted (or plan to convert) to Judaism and are looking for your next learning opportunity? Are you interested in learning Judaism's basic tenants and skills to participate in services?

In this two-year course, we engage in a wide variety of Jewish topics, from liturgy to history to theology and beyond. No need to worry about your current level of knowledge or participation in synagogue life. Come as you are, and we will all move forward together.

Our experience concludes with a B'nai Mitzvah ceremony, where each participant will read from the Torah, reaffirm a commitment to the Jewish people, and celebrate with our community.

The ability to read Hebrew or concurrent enrollment in a Beginning Hebrew class is required for this course.

BEGINNING HEBREW (Section 1)

Day/Time: Wednesdays, 7p-7:25p beginning August 29
Facilitator: 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 companion course for those enrolled in "Why We Do What We Do" or "Adult B'nai Mitzvah."

ISRAELI DANCING

Day/time: Wednesdays, 6p-7p beginning August 28
Facilitator: Lindy Passer

Israeli Dancing is great fun and awesome exercise! Dancers will enjoy both classic Israeli folkdances and Israeli folkdances that are just hitting the scene. We'll be meeting regularly on Wednesdays, but often dance at other days and times as well. For more info or to be added to the Israeli Dancing group email, please contact Lindy at lpasserart2@yahoo.com

KOLOT CHOIR

Day/Time: Wednesdays, 7:30p-8:30p beginning August 28*
Facilitators: Lindy Passer & Rabbi Jason Gwasdoff

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.

**We might start High Holyday rehearsals one week earlier (August 21). Please watch our e-newsletter for details. If you haven't been in Kolot before, please email Lindy at lpasserart2@yahoo.com to be added to our Kolot email list.*

THURSDAY COURSE OFFERINGS

JUDAISM'S LIFE CHANGING IDEAS

Day/Time: Thursdays, 10:30a-11:45a, beginning August 29
Facilitator: Karma Fordis Lindner
Textbook: Judaism's Life Changing Ideas by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks.

Explore Judaism's great ideas through studying and discussing one Life-Changing Idea from each weekly Torah portion. Rabbi Sacks writes, "If we change the way we think, we can change the way we feel, which changes the way we act, which changes the people we become. Ideas change lives, and great ideas help us attain courage, happiness, and lives filled with blessing." Join us on this journey of exploration. Attend in-person or via Zoom.

SUNDAY COURSE OFFERINGS

BEGINNING HEBREW (Section 2)

Day/Time: Sundays, 10:30a-11:20a, beginning September 8

Facilitator: Alyssa Buonocore

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 as a companion course for those enrolled in “Why We Do What We Do” or “Adult B’nai Mitzvah.”

OTHER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

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.

LOVE ISRAELI DANCING, BUT CAN'T COME ON WEDNESDAY?

Our Israeli Dance group meets regularly on Wednesdays, but often gets together at other days and times as well. For more info or to be added to the Israeli Dancing group email, please contact Lindy at lpasserart2@yahoo.com

I CAN ALREADY READ HEBREW

If you can already read Hebrew and would like to learn more, please contact Karma at office@templeisraelstockton.com to explore options.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

SIGs are social groups that connect temple members to others in our community with shared interests. SIGs are a benefit of temple membership and participation is generally limited to temple members.

The SIGs listed below are currently active. Please contact SIG leaders directly for more information.

We would love to add more SIGs to the list! How about movies, museums, walking, biking, or board games? If there's something you love to do and are interested in connecting with others who love it too, please contact Steve Jacobs at Tistevejacobs@gmail.com

Boating on the Delta – Enrique Schcolnik - dre@pdscows.com

Bridge for Beginners – Steve Jacobs – Tistevejacobs@gmail.com

Bunco – Donna Baker – donna@donnabaker.com

Day Hikes – Steve Schermerhorn - sschermerhorn36@gmail.com

Kayaking on the Mokelumne – Beth Sanders - lizboxermom@gmail.com

Marksmanship & Trap - Beth Sanders - lizboxermom@gmail.com

Wine Tasting - Beth Sanders - lizboxermom@gmail.com

Zoom Shabbat Dinner – Karma Lindner – office@templeisraelstockton.com

REGISTRATION

To register for courses, please visit the “giving” tab on our website at <https://www.templeisraelstockton.com/>