

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE



Bulletin

September 2014

HIGH HOLY DAYS

PROGRAMMING GUIDE FOR 5775



High Holy Days

5775



Sat. Sept. 20 – Selichot

- Service – 9:00 pm

Wed. Sept 24 – Erev Rosh Hashanah

- First Service – 6:00 pm
- Family Service – 6:00 pm
- Second Service – 8:30 pm

Thurs. Sept. 25 – First Day Rosh Hashanah

- First Service – 8:30 am
- Early Family Service – 9:00 am
- Second Service – 11:30 am
- Late Family Service – 11:30 am
- Little Blossoms Service – 3:30 pm
(for children five and younger)
- Young Readers Service – 3:30 pm
(for children six through eight)

Fri. Sept. 26 – Second Day Rosh Hashanah

- Service – 10:00 am
- Family Service – 11:00 am (NEW this year!)
- Tashlich – 4:00 pm
(Cedarvale Park, entrance at Markdale)

**Sun. Sept. 28 – Kever Avot
Remembering our Loved Ones**

- Brimley Road Cemetery – 11:00 am
(66 Brimley Rd, Toronto, ON)

Fri. Oct. 3 – Kol Nidre

- First Service – 6:00 pm
- Family Service – 6:00 pm
- Second Service – 9:00 pm
- Teen Service – 9:00 pm

Sat. Oct. 4 – Yom Kippur

- Early Family Service – 9:00 am
- Morning Service – 10:00 am
- Generation Aleph Service – 11:00 am (for 20 & 30s)
- Late Family Service – 11:30 am
- Multiple Study Sessions – 1:30 pm
- Little Blossoms Service – 2:00 pm
(for children five and younger)
- Young Readers Service – 2:00 pm
(for children six through eight)
- Afternoon, Yizkor, and Neilah Services – 3:30 pm



www.holyblossom.org



HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE



Bulletin

CONTENTS



Fear vs. Awe	4
Reflections on my past two years as your President	5
Adult Education	6
Family Programming	7
Musical notes from the Cantor	8
Adult Education Programs	10
Family Programs	14
Our Congregational Family	22



Fear vs. Awe

Rabbi Yael Splansky
ysplansky@holyblossom.org

It has been a very trying summer for world Jewry. From the moment we learned that the three teenagers were missing until the most recent fragile truce was announced, there has been a deep kind of worry we just can't shake, like a shadow following us.

No surprise, there are many Hebrew and Yiddish words for fear. One is "*pachad*," another is "*yirah*." *Pachad* is the kind of fear that grabs hold of you and weakens you, saps your energy. *Yirah* gives you a jolt, a charge, and clarity of purpose. *Pachad* freezes you in your spot; makes you still inside and out. *Yirah* stirs something in you, so you have to move, so you are moved. *Pachad* debilitates. *Yirah* motivates. *Pachad* makes you want to retreat from life. *Yirah* drives you further into life. *Pachad* makes one feel small, diminished. *Yirah* galvanizes you to grow and stretch, to show your very best. With *pachad* we usually put our own needs first. With *yirah* we usually put others first.

When an Israeli child is too frightened to leave the bomb shelter, even when her mother says it is safe to come out – that's the face of *pachad*. When an Israeli soldier marches into Gaza, sure of his cause to defend Israel and global Jewry, that's the face of *yirah*. When a mourner takes to bed, because she cannot imagine life without her loved one, that's *pachad*. When a mourner gets up every morning, says Kaddish, and volunteers for a worthy cause in memory of her beloved, that's *yirah*. Both have fears; neither is in denial of life's risks, but the responses are altogether different.

Pachad is always translated as "fear." *Yirah*, depending on the context, is often translated as "awe" or "reverence." The High Holy Days are the *Yamim Noraim*, The Days of Awe, when we look all our fears in the eye and ask, "So what am I

going to do about this?" Now is the time we plan a response. "What do I wish to say to that fear? How ought I address this worry? What steps can I take to face it or get ahead of it or even carry it with strength and dignity?"

During the *Yamim Noraim*, the "Days of Terror," we come together like no other time of year, in order to draw strength and insight from one another. Some fears are addressed only in private prayer and meditation, but never alone. During the Holy Days we sit and stand with our people. We hear the voices of fellow congregants and we are buoyed by them.

I look forward to being with you throughout the High Holy Days. May awe and reverence be magnified; may terror and fear be diminished; and may we inspire strength and courage in one another.

L'Shanah Tovah!

This special edition of the bulletin includes many highlights for the coming season. Kol HaKavod to all the volunteers and professionals who have planned such a rich program. Life-long learning is a shared value at Holy Blossom Temple. Our Campaign for Youth Engagement has infused new creativity and flexibility for young families and teens. The breadth and depth of our offerings are second to none. Please take full advantage of these opportunities to enrich the quality of Jewish life, at every stage of life.



“...a deeply rewarding personal journey”



Reflections on my Past Two Years as Your President

Dr. Harvey Schipper
president@holyblossom.org

The arrival of this Elul, a contemplative month anticipating the New Year, has given me pause to reflect on my past two years as your President.

It has been a deeply rewarding personal journey. I am the beneficiary of new friendships, and new realizations about our synagogue, Israel, and the nuances of Reform Judaism. If I had to sum it up in two words, they would be engagement and excellence.

Holy Blossom is a congregation of many congregations. Some of us are shul-goers. Others get involved in specific programs such as Out of the Cold. Yet others are attracted by our pre-school or Torah study. In fact, it is only at the High Holy Days that even most of us come together at one time and for the same reason. What I have learned over the past two years is that no matter the reason for our attendance, the expectations are the same: excellence and engagement.

Over the past two years Holy Blossom has become engaged. Voices that had been quiet for years have come to be heard. The extraordinary breadth and depth of spirit, talent, intellect and connection that have distinguished Temple since its beginnings, have once more become manifest. Every time there was a problem to be solved, or an issue to be understood, or a linkage to be made, Holy Blossom members stepped forward. I came to understand first hand that synagogues today are about engagement more than programs.

They are about coming together to find meaning in being together, to do things that are important and which bind us, as Jews.

Are we the best that we can be? I have learned that at Holy Blossom this is an open-ended expectation. It is the institutional equivalent of the old Jewish parable about the child who comes home with 98% on an exam, and is asked what happened to the other two percent. This is our essence too. It always has been.

This congregation has reflected deeply over the past two years. We have set the stage for our future. We have new leadership; rabbis, lay, professionals and volunteers. We'll shortly ratify a new governance structure, and put shovels in the ground for our building.

As we look forward to and beyond the New Year, think about engagement and excellence as our collective responsibility. The Holy Blossom as we imagine it – joyful, inspiring, leading, relevant is what we make it, together. The events and programs at Temple are what we create. Engagement is an active process that energizes. It creates far more than it consumes. Excellence is its second name.

*Photo: "Child" from Double Reflections:
By Dr. Harvey Schipper*



Gerald Schwartz/Heather Reisman Centre for Jewish Learning at Holy Blossom Temple

We are offering an excellent and diverse array of learning opportunities

Rabbi Michael Satz and Debbie Spiegel
msatz@holyblossom.org / dspiegel@holyblossom.org



It is our honor to be the staff representatives to the Gerald Schwartz/Heather Reisman Centre for Jewish Learning at Holy Blossom Temple. This year, as always, we are offering an excellent and diverse array of learning opportunities. We hope to learn with many of you in 5775.

There are two learning programs that Rabbi Satz will be teaching that we would like to highlight. The first is a partnership between the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem and the Union for Reform Judaism call iEngage. This is a nine session monthly class where we will begin a new conversation about Israel though the study of classical, modern, and contemporary texts, and though watching presentations of some of Israel's and North American Jewry's top scholars. We will discuss such vital issues as religion and peoplehood, sovereignty and power, and war and occupation. We think the iEngage format will allow us to have the serious conversations about Israel that many of us are yearning to have.

The second program is call Chai Mitzvah. Chai Mitzvah is a unique adult engagement program that combines both personal and communal learning through five simple steps:

- Join a community learning discussion
- Learn through individualized Jewish study
- Participate in a new ritual
- Engage in social action, Tikkun Olam
- Celebrate the achievement

The Chai Mitzvah program is a wonderful framework for deepening your engagement with Judaism and Holy Blossom.

In Pirkei Avot it says: "Rabbi Chanina ben Teradion says: When two are sitting and words of Torah pass between them, the Divine Presence hovers between them." We at Holy Blossom think study is a profoundly spiritual act. It brings us closer to each other and our community, and ultimately, it raises us up to the Divine. We hope you will share with us this experience of Torah this year. L'shalom.

For the complete listing of
Adult Education Programs
available at HBT in 5775, please turn to page 9.

Family Programming:

Bringing Judaism to life at Holy Blossom Temple

Rabbi Jordan Helfman
jhelfman@holyblossom.org



There are so many new and exciting programs for families that bring Judaism to life here at Holy Blossom Temple. The key to Jewish living is to form life-long relationships with other families. Please see this as an invitation to discover one of the many communities of families that make up Holy Blossom Temple and make it your own. Opportunities for Jewish enrichment and Jewish community await inside our new Family First Friday Night community, the Havayah teen community and Grade 10 confirmation class and the parent that gather for Parent Mingles. I hope you will see this year as an opportunity to make a new connection, to find your family's clique. Holy Blossom Temple has many doors. Ask our Director of Youth Engagement Lisa Isen Baumal, our Director of Education Debbie Spiegel or me, Rabbi Jordan Helfman to help you find the entrance, the community, that is right for you.

Thank you to all of the participants and leadership in the Campaign for Youth Engagement which has created so many of these new pathways into belonging.

Looking forward to getting to know you even better and having a great year.

Rabbi Jordan Helfman

Join us at Family Camp

Thanksgiving weekend (October 10-12), many families in our community are going to spend Shabbat together at a retreat site – URJ Camp George. Rooming is by family. This provides a great opportunity to meet other families while spending a joyful weekend at a summer camp doing arts & crafts, singing music and having fun. We will be joined by the Leo Baeck Day School community, will sustain the Jewish people and enrich our world.

For more information and pricing, contact Rabbi Helfman. jhelfman@holyblossom.org

For the complete listing of
Family Programs
available at HBT in 5775, please turn to page 12.



“I consider the musical journey as an inseparable part of the culture we have created at Temple”

Cantor Benjamin Z. Maissner
bmaissner@holyblossom.org

Once again we anticipate with enthusiasm the sacred season of High Holy Days. I am always overwhelmed with the response to the beauty and inspirational quality of our High Holy Day musical experience.

I consider the musical journey as an inseparable part of the culture we have created at Temple. I am so grateful for the opportunity to create new musical experiences over the years. My musical and aesthetical judgments have enabled us to use repeatedly tunes and Niggunim as leitmotifs throughout the HH services woven between the traditional Nussach (prayer modes) that I have included in our services over the years.

We have become accustomed to new simple Nigguim as we introduce them first in unison, then apply artistic and lushes harmony to them. We have made our choir an integral part of the congregation and welcome everyone who wants to sing along, never compromising the standards for real artistic choral music. I consider our success in having planted emotional receptors in our “Kahal” (congregation), feeling the drama we create during the services while adhering to the full commitment to Nussach and the authenticity of what is devotional prayer “T’filah B’kavanah”. Over the years I have tried to instill a conscious awareness of an eclectic approach to our musical tradition and possibilities.

Once again I invite each and every one of you, my beloved congregation, to join with me in song and prayer, to lift our voices in unison to “Hashem”, the Almighty, in praise and devotional fervor and ask for a good, healthy year of peace and happiness. Shanah Tovah and G’mar Chatimah Tovah.



Musical Heritage Concert Series 2014/15

Profeti della Quinta



HEBRO: The Search for Salomone Rossi Synagogue Music of the Renaissance.

Jewish-Italian madrigals and instrumental compositions by Salomone Rossi (1570-1630)

Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 7.30 pm

Presenting the superb Israeli vocal ensemble Profeti della Quinta who in Mantua, Italy, performed the music of Jewish Renaissance composer Salomone Rossi. Founded in the Galilee by Elam Rotem, the Ensemble is currently based in Switzerland. A screening of the documentary "Hebreo: The Search for Salomone Rossi" will begin the program.

Shabbat Shira

Sing a Joyful Song Young and Old

Friday, January 30, 2015

Don't miss two generations of the Gershon family as they lead our congregation in song! The Gershons will lead us in a sing-along night of haimish harmony Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner and program

Saturday: Sermon in Song – Antiquity: ancient Jewish manuscripts
Cantor B. Maissner

Ricky Pen AN EVENING PURIM CABARET



Wednesday, March 4, 2015 After Megillah Reading

Israeli-born Ricky Pen is well known internationally as a singer, actress, dancer and comedienne. She is versatile in several languages and plays a variety of exotic instruments.

A charismatic, funny and, multi-talented entertainer, Ricky is the ultimate Purim experience!

Klezmer Conservatory Band



Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7.30 pm

During the past thirty years Hankus Netsky, a world famous musician and composer, has led the Klezmer Conservatory Band (KCB) in becoming the voice of Klezmer and Yiddish songs. From Yiddish standards to rousing dance medleys and little known gems, KCB musicians have served as important ambassadors in promoting the universal appeal of Jewish music. Over the years KCB has appeared at many major venues across the U.S.A, Europe and Australia. The band has worked with Robin Williams, Joel Grey and Itzhak Perlman on many occasions.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION & TICKETS CONTACT
MARI LYNN RUSAK AT 416.789.3291 x 224**

Adult Education

Schwartz / Reisman Centre for Jewish Learning at Holy Blossom Temple

September

The Archive of Chaim Grade, Rabbi Edward Goldfarb

Thursday, September 11, 2014 - 7:30 pm

A first glimpse at the literary legacy of one of the giants of Yiddish literature, Chaim Grade (pronounced Grah'de).

Get your Rosh (head) Ready; prayer of Rosh Hashanah

Rabbi Jordan Helfman

Tuesday, September 16, 2014 - 7:30 pm

The High Holy Day prayer book is like a mirror, showing us reflections of different parts of our being throughout this season of renewal. "On Rosh Hashanah we say," according to the Unetaneh Tokef piyyut. Before we say these words, come to get a glimpse of their deeper meaning and reflect on the modern interpretations of the words which appear in the Gates of Repentance.

The Real Israel – Without the Hype, Slogans or Spin.

Jim Lederman, senior Middle East analyst for Oxford Analytica

September 17, 2014 – 7:30 pm

Jim Lederman is the longest-serving foreign correspondent in Jerusalem. In a career stretching over four decades, he has been a reporter for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, National Public Radio, and The New York Post.



Sisterhood Treasures Sale 2014

REFORM JEWISH THOUGHT LEADERSHIP AT HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE

Scholar in Residence

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

D'Var Torah by Rabbi Jacqueline Koch Ellenson, Director of the Women's Rabbinic Network of the CCAR

Friday, September 19, 2014 – 6:00 pm

Shabbat Morning Service

When Does Redemption Occur? A Talmudic Debate and Its Meaning as We Prepare for the High Holidays

Rabbi David Ellenson, Chancellor of Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion. **September 20, 2014 – 10:30 am**

What Don't We Talk about When We Focus on Israel's Security

Anat Hoffman, Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center

Wednesday, October 22, 2014 - 7:30 pm

Officials representing the state of Israel often focus on the Israeli-Arab conflict. Focusing on the conflict with Israel's neighbors distracts people from exploring some of the conflicts that rock Israeli society from within such as women's rights, religious pluralism, racism against minorities and struggles for freedom of conscience. Sponsored by Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood and the GTA Reform Sisterhoods.

Pluralism in Israel: From Strength to Strength

Rabbi Gilad Kariv, Executive Director of the Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism (IMPJ)

Thursday, October 30, 2014 – 7:30 pm

Rabbi Kariv has advanced legal and social activism on behalf of religious pluralism and social justice in Israeli society.

Scholar in Residence

Save the Date

Rabbi Danny Frelander, President of the World Union for Progressive Judaism

December 5-6, 2014

Selichot

Roots and Renewal

Rabbi David Ellenson

September 20, 2014 – 9:00 pm

Yom Kippur: finding meaning in prayer

Rabbi Jordan Helfman

Tuesday, September 30, 2014 - 7:30 pm

When our cantors intone "Kol Nidrei," will you be prepared to hear the liturgy of Yom Kippur resonate deep within your heart? Our prayerbook

offers an Aleph Bet of our woes and prayers for our redemption. "Let all our vows and oaths..." , we say, but what do we mean? We will discuss a brief mapping of the contours of Yom Kippur liturgy, and why these words hold so much power for us and thoughts we wish to add for ourselves this Yom Kippur.

October

Multiple Yom Kippur Study Sessions

October 4, 2014 – 1:30 pm

1:30 – 3:00 pm

including Evan Solomon, CBC

Breakfast with Brotherhood

Men and women are invited to join our monthly Sunday morning programs. We will meet on the following dates:

Sunday Oct 19, 2014 – following Shacharit services, 9:30 am

November 16, 2014 and **December 14, 2014** where our guest speaker is Mike Fegelman from Honest Reporting Canada

January 11, 2015

More information to follow.

Beyond Intelligence

Joanne Foster, EdD

Joanne is co-author of the award-winning *Being Smart about Gifted Education*. She is a leading authority on high-level development with over 30 years experience. She teaches educational psychology, and is gifted education liaison at the University of Toronto. She consults to teachers, conducts parent forums, serves on advisory committees, and speaks at conferences across North America.

October 27, 2014 - 7:00 pm

Learn to Read Hebrew: Hebrew for Beginners

Dalia Alalouf, Hebrew Supervisor

Mondays, October 27-November 17, 2014 - 7:00 pm

Do you finally want to learn to read Hebrew in order to be more comfortable in services, at your Shabbat table, for those special Hebrew moments? Join Dalia! She is our master Hebrew specialist. This will be a pain-free course.

The Lost Matriarch: Finding Leah in the Bible and Midrash

Tuesday, October 28, 2014 - 7:30 pm

Jerry Rabow, author

What Really Happened on Leah's Wedding Night? promises a provocative and entertaining experience in reading Torah as literature and participating in the midrashic process. We'll be exploring the techniques and disputes of 2,000 years of commentary to discover innovative interpretations of what first appears to be a simple text. No special background or preparation is needed.

Stolen Art of the Holocaust

Sara Angel, Trudeau Doctoral Scholar at the University of Toronto in the Department of Art

Wednesday, October 29, 2014 - 7:30 pm

In 1937 the Nazis forced art dealer Max Stern to put over 200 of his

family's paintings up for sale, a secret kept despite becoming Canada's leading art dealer from the mid 1940's through the 1960's. In 2002, Stern's heirs, discovering his story, founded the Max Stern Restitution Project, which quickly became one of the world's leading advocates in the reclamation of lost art. This talk will focus on the amazing story of Max Stern and how twenty years after his death he is redefining the rules of restitution.

November

Great Jewish Books

Cynthia Good, Professor Emeritus, Humber College

Tuesdays, November 4-25, 2014 - 9:30 am

We will look at two of Cynthia's favourite books.

In The Afterlife of Stars, Joe Kertes, provides an intriguing sequel to his novel *Gratitude*. The Beck family flees Hungary in 1956, escaping to the Paris, for a seeming journey of adventure, but minefields both real and imagined confront them. The darkness of life is balanced with an awareness of life's wonders. *Second Person Singular* by Sayed Kashua (Israel) is our second book.

A Palestinian who writes in Hebrew, Sayed Kashua defies classification and breaks through cultural barriers. He communicates, with enormous emotional power and a keen sense of the absurd. This book is a deliciously complex psychological mystery and a searing dissection of the individuals that comprise a divided society.

Holocaust Education Week

Collaboration and the Jews in Wartime France: the Myth of laFrance éternelle'

Michael Marrus, , PhD, MSL, FRSC, FRHistS, Massey College in the University of Toronto

Wednesday, November 5, 2014 - 7:30 pm

In 1981 Robert Paxton and I published the French edition of *Vichy France and the Jews*, the first academic treatment of the policy of the collaborationist regime of that country toward the Jews during the Second World War. This lecture will reflect upon the French reception of our book, the ways in which it broke with previous interpretations, and how it appears to me now, three and a half decades later.

The Sweet Sound of Music: High Holy Day Trope

Lindi Rivers, Cantorial soloist

Wednesdays, November 12-26, 2014 - 7:30 pm

Come and learn High Holy Cantillation! Perhaps you can become one of our chanters on the High Holy Days. Bring your friends and let's enjoy this beautiful trope together. RSVP to Lindi ext. 252



Four Modern Religious Thinkers You Never Heard Of

Rabbi Michael Stroh, rabbi emeritus Temple Har Zion

November 13-December 4, 2014 - 10:30 am

We will discuss four modern thinkers, three Jewish, one Catholic, - Lev Shestov -Yeshayahu Leibovitz Teilhard de Chardin and Hermann Cohen They are not as well-known as some others, but important, and a little out of the box.

JEWISH COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD SPONSORED BY SISTEROOD

The Jews of Ethiopia

Judie Oron, journalist, lecturer and award-winning author

November 20, 2014 - 7:30 pm

Join us for a fascinating view of the Jewish community of Ethiopia Her award-winning novel, Cry of the Giraffe, is based on the true story of her daughter Wuditu's experience as a slave in Ethiopia and tells the story in Wuditu's voice. This lecture falls during the holiday of Sigd, a festival celebrated by the Jews in Ethiopia and now a national holiday for the State of Israel.

The Jews of Italy

Rabbi Leigh Lerner, rabbi emeritus Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, volunteer rabbi at two Italian Reform Jewish congregations

Thursday, December 4, 2014 - 7:30 pm

Rabbi Lerner, has a vast understanding of the Italian Jewish community. He carries a plethora of knowledge and experience. Here are only a few of his experiences: preparing the adult children of converso families for conversion to Judaism, the new Inquisition Museum in Palermo and its unique walls of graffiti scrawled by Jewish prisoners, remembering the Shoah with the Milan community at its brand new Shoah memorial -- Binario 21 -- the secret, underground, hidden track at Milan's huge railway central station where Jews were sent to Auschwitz, dealing with the legacy of Mussolini in a country, visiting ghettos across Italy, working with Reform congregations that find themselves excluded from the mainstream of Italian Judaism but supply answers the mainstream won't give, etc. etc.

The Jews of Cochin

Bala Menon, Editor, Tamarind Tree Books and Kenny Salem

Thursday, January 15, 2015 - 7:30 pm

Jews from Kochi, as Cochin is now called, where a once thriving Orthodox Jewish community verges on extinction.

Jewish Film: Before the Blacklist

Stuart Hands, Film scholar and Toronto Jewish Film Festival programmer

Mondays, November 24 and December 8, 2014 - 7:30 pm

Hollywood in 1930s and 40s. The spirit of anti-fascism and FDR's New Deal mobilizes the Hollywood community and influences the output of the studio system. A host of progressive film artists – including many children of Jewish immigrants – contribute to gangster films,

melodramas, war films and romantic comedies that champion the value of social collectivity and question the human cost of the American social and economic system. Soon after, the infamous Cold War blacklist puts an end to this fascinating and short-lived era in Hollywood history.

Both film nights will include introductions and post-screening Q&A sessions.

Week 1: **Marked Woman** (1937) starring Bette Davis

Week 2: **Body and Soul** (1947) starring John Garfield



Living Below the Line 2014

Torah Stitch By Stitch

Temma Gentles, artist-in-residence at Holy Blossom Temple

Tuesdays, November 25 - December 2, 2014 - 7:30 pm

We will combine learning about this amazing international project, viewing completed panels and exhibition design, hands-on work on either your own verses or embellishing existing panels.

Those who wish to begin stitching their own panels need to register and purchase a kit (\$18) before the first session.

All are invited to view the website for more information and inspiration.

Coming SOON!

Our Brotherhood presents...

Rabbi Michael Stroh

January 22, 29 February 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 2015

More information to follow.

The HBT Centre for Contemporary Jewish Literature, Cynthia Good, Professor Emeritus Humber College, coordinator

The Centre for Jewish Literature will be a combination of book Clubs, classes on contemporary fiction, (including various genres of fiction), viewing films based on literature, talks and readings from international authors, and specific workshops for writers. This new venture through the Schwartz Reisman Centre for Jewish Learning will open doors for those who are truly committed to reading the best of Jewish literature

and expressing themselves through the written word.

Jewish Leadership Institute

Rabbi Yael Splansky and Lisa Taylor

3 out of 4 Wednesday evenings each month, January to May

For congregants in their 20s, 30s, and 40s.

How can Jewish values deepen my leadership style? How can Jewish wisdom help to shape my leading role in work and family life? What personal contributions of leadership might I bring to strengthen the Jewish People?

Ongoing programs

Mondays @ the Temple

Begins, Monday, September 8, 2014 - December 22, 2014 – 10:00 am

There will be no program on October 13, 2014 – Thanksgiving.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

Rabbi Yael Splansky

Every Saturday, 9 – 10 am

We begin each Shabbat with the original Torah text, adding layers of Rabbinic commentaries – ancient, medieval, and modern. The questions we bring draw out eternal wisdom and new relevance to help us live with greater insight and sacred purpose.

iEngage Israel

Rabbi Michael Satz

3rd Wednesday of every month starting October 22, 2014 through June 2015 – 7:30 pm

iEngage is a partnership between the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem and the Union for Reform Judaism to help create a new conversation on Israel through engaging speakers, text study, and discussion. Rabbi Satz will lead nine monthly sessions on such topics as religion and peoplehood, sovereignty and power, and war and occupation.

Let Your Judaism Blossom with Chai Mitzvah; a course in Jewish Literacy

Rabbi Michael Satz

3rd Sunday of every month October to May – 9:30 am

Starting: October 19, 2014

Chai Mitzvah is a unique adult engagement program that combines both personal and communal learning through five simple steps

- Join a community learning discussion
- Learn through individualized Jewish study
- Participate in a new ritual
- Engage in social action, Tikkun Olam
- Celebrate the achievement.

The Chai Mitzvah program is a wonderful framework for deepening your engagement with Judaism and Holy Blossom.

Sisterhood Torah Study

Mark Goodman

Wednesdays - 9:30 am

Join us parse through each parashat haShavua – the weekly Torah portion – with thoughtful discussion.

Thursday morning Talmud

Mark Goodman

Thursdays - 8:30 am

Beit Midrash Shabbat learning

Marla Powers, facilitator

Shabbat after Kiddush, October 25, Nov 22, Dec 20, 2014

Please join us for an extension to our Shabbat morning service as we gather for Beit Midrash style learning after Kiddush lunch. We look at the weekly portion, Contemporary Reflections, Post-biblical Interpretations and Other Voices (poetry). We also look at the Plaut Commentary and other sources. Join us on each of these Shabbat dates as we explore, ponder and speculate about our Ancient beginnings and its relevancy in today's modern world. We are guided by the Women of Reform Judaism Torah Commentary.

Yiddish Novel

Rabbi Edward Goldfarb

Thursdays - 9:30 am

Advanced Hebrew Grammar

Rabbi Edward Goldfarb

Thursdays - 11:00 am

Jewish information class (Meets at Holy Blossom Temple)

The Jewish Information Class (JIC) was created by the Reform Rabbis of Greater Toronto to enable those who wish to learn more about Judaism and the Jewish People an opportunity to study in depth. In addition to transmitting Jewish knowledge, the Jewish Information Class also affords the opportunity to acquire Jewish life skills and to experience Jewish religious and communal life.

Our classes, taught by the rabbis and master teachers of our community, also serve as a prerequisite for those who wish to convert to Judaism under the auspices of the Bet Din (rabbinical court) of the Reform Rabbis of Greater Toronto.

The program runs for approximately 30 weeks. All students in the Jewish Information Class participate in the program under the sponsorship of a rabbi who is a member of the Bet Din. For more information on the Jewish Information Class, please contact: Karen Goldstein, JIC Coordinator, kgoldsteinjic@hotmail.com



Family Programs

The Lifecycle of HBT Family Programming **Stages and Celebrations:**

Early Childhood (Birth-4)

Birth: Baby Naming and Covenant Ceremonies

During our Shabbat or weekday services, babies are joyfully welcomed into the congregation and into the covenant between God and the Jewish People. A hand-knit gift comes from the Temple Sisterhood for each baby.

Contact Elana Fehler for details. efehler@holyblossom.org

Welcoming of New Babies on Shavuot

We welcome all new babies born into our community in the past year onto the bimah with parents and grandparents for a Shehechiyanu.

Join us on **Sunday, May 24 2015 at 10:00 am**. Please direct questions to Elana Fehler. efehler@holyblossom.org

Early Religious Education (4-11)

Consecration

Our members' Grade 1 children are called on **Thursday, October 16 at 6 pm** to the Youth Chapel for an evening of memories as we mark the beginning of their formal Jewish education. We will have an opportunity to share together all of our dreams and hopes for our adorable Grade 1 children, written down in a way they and you can look back to in the future.

Each Grade 1 child will receive their own little Torah. Our celebration will be followed by our community Simchat Torah celebration **at 7 pm** in the Main Sanctuary, which includes a special hakafah (parade with the Torah) for all Grade 1 students and their family. Contact Debbie Spiegel with any questions. dspiegel@holyblossom.org

Becoming a Jewish Adult (12-13)

Becoming Bat / Bar Mitzvah

We are very proud of our Bar/Bat Mitzvah program, which creates an outlook, a Jewish identity, and a foundation of Jewish learning and action that will last a lifetime. We are even more proud of the women and men who have completed this program and are active members of our community and Jewish communities around the world. We look forward to celebrating the beginning of adult Jewish life with you and your family. Contact Elissa Hermolin with any questions. ehermolin@holyblossom.org

Havayah - The Jewish Teen Experience (14-16)

Confirmation

This life-cycle event is a long-standing Holy Blossom tradition. Having completed our weekly education program, our Grade 10 students will

be celebrated by the congregation for completing their formal Jewish education on **May 23, 2015 at 10:00 am**. Their confirmation present from parents and congregation is a trip to Israel over March Break and their confirmation ceremony is the centerpiece of the Shabbat morning service just before Shavuot. An added bonus, in addition to their picture on the wall, Confirmands have the privilege of inscribing their name in Jacob's Tower for perpetuity. dspiegel@holyblossom.org

Bagrut – Student Teaching and Ongoing Education (17-18)

Graduation

As our students head off to university, we thank them for their achievements and how much they have already given back to our community through student teaching, volunteering, helping in the religious life our community. This group Aliyah on **June 13, 2015 at 10:30 am** in the Family Service gives us the opportunity to give them our blessing and thanks as they continue on their own path, which we know will sustain the Jewish people and enrich our world. msatz@holyblossom.org

Early Childhood Centre 2014



Family Service

For Families of All Ages

One of the core communities of Holy Blossom Temple meets nearly **every Saturday morning at 10:30 am** in our Youth Chapel for Family Service, followed by a lunch. If you are looking for a meaningful musical Saturday activity, to make fast friends and have your children play with great role models, this is the place for you.

For more information and dates, contact Rabbi Helfmanat: jhelfman@holyblossom.org



Aboriginal Seder 2014

Tot Shabbat

For Infants – 5 Year Olds

October to June - 5:30 pm on the third Friday of nearly every month. New this year, we will be following our musical service and storytelling with an optional vegetarian potluck dinner. This service is a great way to meet other Jewish parents with newborn to 5 year old children. There is no better way to learn about the warm feeling, the sweet melodies and the delicious challah on Shabbat than to celebrate the holiday with family and community!

First Tot Shabbat is **October 10 - 5:30 pm** in the congregational Sukkah. If you are staying for the potluck, please coordinate dishes with Elana Fehler. efehler@holyblossom.org

Family Havdalah Nights

For Children 2-8 Years Old

Four times a year, our community of families with young children gathers to separate Shabbat from the rest of the week with a Havdalah ceremony full of light, spices and music. We start with a fun activity starting at 5:30 pm (this year including drumming, Sportball and sledding) and end with a pizza dinner.

The community first gathers for Music and Motion with Joshua Skye Engle of Ozzakazzo on **November 15**. For pricing and to RSVP, contact JoAnne Polito. jpolito@holyblossom.org

Early Childhood Centre¹

Little Blossoms

For Infants – 3 Year Olds

Come get in the mood for Shabbat with music, movement and more! This program is for our youngest congregants accompanied by their parents or grandparents. Please join 2013 Juno Nominee Marlowe and the MiX for singing and dancing. Each week, participants will take home a fresh challah for their own Shabbat tables.

The music and motion **starts October 10**. Please contact Elana Fehler for details: efehler@holyblossom.org

Pre-Nursery and Nursery School

Pre-Nursery School children must be 2 years of age by December 31 of the year in which they begin.

Nursery School children must be 3 by December 31 of the year in which they begin.

With a reputation of excellence, morning and extended day classes will provide your child with opportunities to learn and grow, all in a nurturing Jewish environment.

The loving education starts September 8.

Please contact Early Childhood Centre Director Pam Hamovitch for details: phamovitch@holyblossom.org

Early Childhood Parent Mingles

Parents, you are welcome to join us at **9:15 am on the first Tuesday morning of each month** during the school year to talk about issues on your minds regarding early childhood. Some dates will include either an outside expert speaker or a conversation with one of our professionals at Holy Blossom. These thirtyminute chats (including plenty of time for Q&A and schmoozing) will include coffee and bagels.

First Early Childhood Mingle is October 7: "Meet the Staff and Clergy, Meet other Parents". Please email Rabbi Helfman to reserve your bagel. jhelfman@holyblossom.org

¹ To make sure you are on the ECC mailing list, please send an e-mail to efehler@holyblossom.org with the subject "ECC e-mail list"

JK – 7: Dayschool and/or Religious School, Your Shul Community is Here at HBT! ²

Holy Blossom Religious School & Project Tikvah

Grades JK-5 / 6-7 / 8-12

Our school provides the foundations of Jewish learning and Jewish living. Through a combination of creative and traditional teaching styles we provide our children with measureable skills in Hebrew and the immeasurable acquisition of Jewish identity, values, memories, and friendships. Where Jewish Life comes to life for your child!

Project Tikvah is our Hebrew language program for children in grades 3-6 with identified learning challenges. Experts and tutors, trained in special education, design a learning program specifically for each child's individual needs.

JK-5 Religious School is either on Sundays or Wednesdays. The intermediate years, Grades 6 and 7, are on Monday nights. Hebrew instruction has many options to meet families' schedules. Our Grade 8-12 programs, meet mainly on Monday nights with many options to fit teen schedules. Our Director of Education Debbie Spiegel is eager to answer your questions. dspiegel@holyblossom.org

Leo Baeck Day School

Our sister institution, the Leo Baeck Day School, is the only Reform Jewish day school in Canada and the largest in North America. It is the only Jewish school in North America designated as an International Baccalaureate ("IB") World School. It is a school that teaches students how to integrate their strong Reform Jewish identity into every aspect of life.

For more information, contact our member, Head of School Eric Petersiel. epetersiel@leobaeck.ca



we have enough nosh. To RSVP and for the list of further dates, please contact JoAnne Polito. jpolito@holyblossom.org

Becoming a Jewish Adult Program

Grades 6+7

Our dayschool and religious school students join together into one community as they both begin their preparations towards life as a Jewish adult, reaching towards our teen community programming. The two groups formally join together in grade 7 as they receive tutoring, begin one-on-one meetings with our clergy, and mark the start of their lives as responsible Jewish adults in a way that brings them and their families much pride. Our students are expected to stay on for Grade 8 and onwards as they begin to wrestle with what it really means to live as a Jew in Canada today.

URJ Camp George and URJ Six Points Academies

Campers Ages 7-16

URJ Camp George, another Reform sister institution, offers campers opportunities to learn new skills, meet new friends, and develop their own Jewish identity. Camp offers a wide range of activities which focus on recreation, fun, cooperation and skill building. Many Holy Blossom Temple clergy and teachers spend seven to ten days at camp deepening relationships and providing a friendly face to our children each summer. The UJA and our Temple Brotherhood offer a significant amount of assistance to new campers at URJ Camp George.

For more information on URJ Camp George, contact our member, Associate Director Karen Kollins. For information on subsidies for camp, contact Rabbi Helfman in confidence. kkollins@urj.org jhelfman@holyblossom.org

URJ's Six Points Sci-Tech and Sports Academies are summer specialty camps that match our children with leading coaches, scientists and coders in a Reform Jewish learning environment. For more information, contact Rabbi Helfman. jhelfman@holyblossom.org

Kef Katan and Kef Gadol

Children Grades JK-5

What is KEF?? (KEF = fun in Hebrew) KEF is HBT's 'afterschool program', right here at Temple! Each program is active and hands on, allowing children to take part in creative, skill-building activities with an added Jewish and/or Hebrew twist! It's KEF!!! KEF now comes in two sizes, on three days:

Judaica Shop 2014

Parent Mingles

Join us to meet other HBT parents and discuss topics of interest and concern. Some dates will include either an outside expert speaker or a conversation with one of our professionals at Holy Blossom. These thirty-minute chats (including plenty of time for Q&A and schmoozing) will include coffee and a nosh. These mingles are open to all parents, including dayschool and religious school parents.

The first mingles, themed, "Meet the Parents, Meet the Clergy" are scheduled for **Sunday, September 14, 9:30 am** and **Monday, September 29, 8:00 pm**

The first Wednesday mingle, "Learn More about the Upcoming Temple Renovation" is **Wednesday, October 29, 5:45 pm** RSVP to make sure



² To make sure you are on the Family Life at Holy Blossom mailing list, please send an e-mail to rcarnevale@holyblossom.org with the subject "Family Life e-mail list"

Kef Katan – Sundays 11:30 am – 12:30 pmIN THE MIX DANCE (www.inthemixprogram.com)A combination of dance, music and technology. Children learn hip-hop dancing, and together, create unique music videos using supplied iPads. Session 1: **Sept 14 - Nov 16, 2014**and Session 3: **Feb 22 – May 3, 2015****ARTISTIC WAY** (www.artisticway.ca)

A variety of artist's tools, media and techniques. Develop artistic skills and expand your imagination while a professional artist guides you!

(Materials included) Session 1: **Sept 14 - Nov 16, 2014**and Session 3: **Feb 22 – May 3, 2015****WHIMZ Live Animal Programs** (www.wimzonine.com)

Hands-on, interactive, safe, fun and educational program. Weekly themes introduce children to different animals while exploring wonders of our world through trusting WHIMZ animals!

Session 1: **Sept 14 - Nov 16, 2014****SUPERSCIENCE** (www.supersciencetoronto.com)Hands-on science programs for children that will foster a fascination and curiosity for science. Session 2: **Nov 23, 2014 – Feb 8, 2015****JEWNIOR CHEFS - MINI**

Learn basic kitchen skills as we create Jewish delicacies. Your child will bring home a prepared dish each week, to share with your family. At the end of the session, each Jewnior chef will have a personally designed recipe book to take home! All products are nut-free.

Jewnior Chefs has an additional \$6 material fee.

Session 2: **Nov 23, 2014 – Feb 8, 2015**and Session 3: **Feb 22 – May 3, 2015****Kef Gadol – Tuesdays and/or Thursdays 4-5:00 pm****JEWNIOR CHEFS**

Learn basic kitchen skills as we create Jewish delicacies. Your child will bring home a prepared dish each week, to share with your family.

At the end of the session, each Jewnior chef will have a personally designed recipe book to take home! All products are nut-free. Jewnior Chefs has an additional \$6 material fee.

Tuesdays: Jan 13 – Mar 10, 2015**ART ON WHEELS** (www.art-on-wheels.com)

Mobile Visual Art and Arts & Crafts School, brings Art Everywhere to Everyone. Encourages experiment with self-expression through a variety of hands-on art and craft activities.

Session 1: **Thursdays: Oct 23 – Dec 18, 2014****HEBREW b'KEF**

Students will get an extra charge of Hebrew language through games, conversation and more using tablets and technology, and fun!

Session 1: **Tuesdays: Oct 21 – Dec 16, 2014**For more information and pricing, contact our Director of Youth Engagement Lisa Isen Baomal. lbaomal@holyblossom.org**Family First Fridays**

Families with Children 6-12 Years of Age

Give Bubby a Break! Join our community of families that gather monthly for a joyful service with David Gershon, followed by the option of staying for a Friday night dinner complete with (kosher) chicken.

Nearly every 'first' Friday night during the school year - 6:00**pm** we will be gathering for this family friendly service. This is a low-cost semi-potluck dinner, paid either by subscription to all eight dinners, or up to the Wednesday of the week before.For information on the service or for dinner prices, contact Elana Fehler. efehler@holyblossom.org**Family Havdalah Nights**

Children 2-8 Years Old

Four times a year, our community of families with young children gathers to separate Shabbat from the rest of the week with a Havdalah ceremony full of light, spices and music. We start with a fun activity **starting at 5:30 pm** (this year including drumming, Sportball and sledding) and end with a pizza dinner.The community first gathers for Music and Motion with Joshua Skye Engle of Ozzakazzo on **November 15**. For pricing and to RSVP, contact JoAnne Polito. jpolito@holyblossom.org**Kids' Mitzvah Club**

Families with Children Grades JK-6

The HBT Kids' Mitzvah Club offers our children the opportunity to perform hands-on community mitzvot. These activities, **11:30 am - 1:30 pm Sundays**, give HBT children and families a chance to get to know each other while giving back. Last year was a great success. A pizza lunch will be served at all events.The first program, "Soup Kitchen Creation" involving planting garlic with Shores Jewish Environment Programs is scheduled for November 9th. For questions or if you would like to help out, contact our parent volunteers. kidsmitzvah@holyblossom.org**Chai Mitzvah Parenting Group**

Parents interested in deepening their family's relationship with Social Justice.

The Chai Mitzvah program is a unique adult engagement program that combines both personal and communal learning through five simple steps: join a community learning discussion; learn through individualized Jewish study; participate in a new ritual; engage in social action, in Tikkun Olam; celebrate the achievement.

The Chai Mitzvah program is a wonderful framework for deepening your engagement with Judaism and Holy Blossom being run by Rabbi Satz. Please contact him for details and to sign up to be in the first cohort at HBT. msatz@holyblossom.org**Shabbat Family Community Building Programs**

Children Ages 4 (or younger siblings) to 12.

Shabbat Family programs are geared towards ALL families in our congregation, and are designed for children who attend public school, private school, Jewish day school, and our Religious school. Everyone is welcome! Parents will have an opportunity to meet with Rabbi

Helfman and meet each other to have an adult discussion, while students will have an opportunity to discuss and do activities in age appropriate groupings. The program flows directly into our Shabbat Family Service where children participate alongside their parents in a fun, guitar-led, interactive Shabbat service. Break out groups and snacks compliment the service, and all are invited to join the pot-luck kiddush lunch following services. It is a great way to spend a Shabbat morning together as a family!

We hope to see you! The first Shabbat morning Family Community Building Program is **November 1**: Jewish Journeys; Family Road Trip. Contact Debbie Spiegel for details. dspiegel@holyblossom.org

Holy Chag!

Highly Recommended for JK - Grade 6, whether in Religious School or Jewish Dayschool (Dayschools do not hold class on these days.)

Join us for lunch and nosh, creative learning games, music, crafts, and a goody bag to take home! Professional performers, teen volunteer counsellors, and our Temple Staff make the holy days fun.

Holy Chag! Sukkot is priced at \$18 per child and will take place on **Thursday, October 9. Service is at 10:00 am.** with kids-only fun starting at noon. Registration through Director of Youth Engagement Lisa Isen Baumal is required. Lisa Isen Baumal can also give information on Holy Chag!

Pesach and Shavuot. lbaumal@holyblossom.org

Day School Communities @ HBT

This year we have parent volunteers from nearly all of the various schools our members belong to, that are working on developing a feeling of parent community here at Holy Blossom Temple. We hope that these communities can provide support in times of trouble, and enhance the joy when things are going well in the lives of our families. If you want more information on these school communities, please contact our Director of Education Debbie Spiegel. dspiegel@holyblossom.org

Youth Groups at Holy Blossom Temple

YEAH (Youth Educational Activities At Holy Blossom) Grades 3-5

YEAH provides monthly activities for our students both in and out of our building, as well as opportunities to take part in Temple events together. YEAH is a great way to spend time with your Holy Blossom friends, and make new friends! Have an idea for an activity you'd like to do? Let us know, and we'll make it happen! Join the mailing list at yeah@holyblossom.org to get information about monthly events and Temple activities in which YEAH takes part. Non-member friends are welcome.

Save the following dates on your calendar for the first YEAH event: **Sunday, September 28**: Afternoon@the Farm. Questions? Contact Director of Youth Engagement Lisa Isen Baumal. lbaumal@holyblossom.org

JVC (JUNIOR TEEN VOLUNTEER CORPS) Grades 6-8

JVC offers a combination of age-appropriate social events, as well as an opportunity for students to participate in monthly Social Action/ Hands-on Mitzvah programs: HOME (hands on mitzvah experiences). HOME events take place on the **first Monday of each month, at 5:00 pm**, prior to Senior School. These are opportunities for students to get a hands on 'taste' of what doing mitzvot is all about, and these experiences can count towards their Shaarei Kehillah B'nei Mitzvah program. Join the mailing list at teenvolunteersjr@holyblossom.org to get information about upcoming events, or contact us if you have an idea for a great Mitzvah project! Non-member friends are welcome. JVC students are also eligible to participate in some high school events.

The first JVC event is **Sunday, September 28**: Afternoon at the Farm, and the first JVC HOME (Hands on Mitzvah Experience) is **Monday, October 6**. Questions? Contact Director of Youth Engagement Lisa Isen Baumal. lbaumal@holyblossom.org

Havayah – The Jewish Teen Experience at Holy Blossom Temple Grades 8-10

Havayah means Experience; creating a teen community that opens many doors to Jewish identity, Jewish community and a deep connection to Jewish life.

We hope each teen will find a meaningful engagement in Jewish life through HBT's vibrant Youth Community and engagement in the broader Jewish Community.

Choose your own way of participating – You can participate on the *Path to Confirmation*, which means choosing a few options from each of the below categories, or you can participate in our vibrant teen community *à la carte*, participating as your way of finding community, doing *Tikkun Olam*, and living a Jewish life. All participants of the right grades can participate in our Israel trips and trips around North America to learn about Jewish life and bond together as an HBT community.

Our Havayah team is here to help each teen design the Jewish experience that will work best for him/her: Director of Youth Engagement Lisa Isen Baumal, Education Director Debbie Spiegel and Rabbi Jordan Helfman. lbaumal@holyblossom.org, dspiegel@holyblossom.org, jhelfman@holyblossom.org. Email one of us to make sure you are on the Havayah update list.

Torah

Torah presents many options for exploring what it means to be a modern Canadian Reform Jew. Torah consists of Core Jewish Education (Jewish Day School, CHAI School for-credit courses and HBT Senior School) and a range of Experiential Education electives, including drama, songleading, teen philanthropy, and hadracha (teen leadership).

Electives – Mondays after September 22, 7:30-8:30 pm. and/or Wednesdays 5:45-7:00 pm.

Drama: O' Chanukah O' Chanukah, with Suzanne Hersh - Mondays
Working together on an original Chanukah rhyming play, students will work on additional music, songs, monologues and/or design elements of the script. All aspiring actors are invited to join this team.

Session 1 **begins September 22.**

Hadracha – Teen Leadership with Karen Kollins - Mondays
Being a leader is a skill. It is something that need cultivation. Join Karen Kollins, Associate Director of Camp George, and HBT Senior School teacher, as she works through the pathways toward leadership development, and help plan and lead some youth programming right here at Holy Blossom! Sessions 1 and 2 **begin September 22 and January 12.**

Jewish Ritual Art with Sandra Merovic - Mondays
Are you a talented artist, or enjoy making art? Join Sandra for some new exciting projects in Jewish ritual art. This elective will allow you to start or add to your own Judaica collection at home. No artistic skills necessary. Sessions 1 and 2 **begin September 22 and January 12.**

Jewish Art/Literature of the Holocaust, Geri Durbin - Mondays
Learn from this expert teacher at the ROM who will give a different perspective on this tragic moment in the history of our people through art and literature. Session 1 **begins September 22.**

Songleading and Jewish Music with David Gershon – Wednesdays
From the basics of guitar to the Jewish music of today, if you are an expert guitar player and singer, or have never played a song in your life, but are interested in learning more about Jewish music, come to learn from David Gershon. David Gershon is one of the most talented and friendliest artists to bring contemporary Jewish music to life in front of the campfire, on a stage, and in intimate worship settings. All levels of guitar and music skill welcome. No prior experience/knowledge necessary. Session 1 **begins October 1.** This elective will continue and accept new students if there is interest in Session 2.

Tough Questions Teens Ask with Rabbi Helfman - Mondays
From issues of God and Body Image to Sex and Tattoos, we will tackle some of the most challenging questions we can think of as a class. This class will give you some of the skills to begin your own research into finding answers to difficult questions from a Jewish perspective. This is a text class which will include reading Hebrew sources. Session 2 **begins January 12.**

Teen Philanthropy, Elana Paice Lidsky - Mondays
What makes a good philanthropist? Is it just giving away money? This elective will assist you in learning what goes into proper philanthropy – not just giving away cash! Learn what you need to know to make thoughtful decisions in teen philanthropy. Session 2 **begins January 12.**

If any of these electives interests you please give it try. E-mail any of the above team for information on how to sign up for a Core or Elective option.

Avodah – Jewish Life in Community

There are many ways you as a teen can be involved in the Jewish life of Holy Blossom Temple, from having a part in the Purim Shpiel to pulling an all-nighter on Shavuot to blowing Shofar on Rosh Hashanah, we hope you will find a way to engage in Jewish life that will bring you closer to the Jewish community. The Havayah team will advertise ways of getting involved during the year, feel free to reach out.

Gimilut Hasadim – Volunteer Acts of Loving Kindness

Why not fulfill some of your volunteer hour requirements through Holy Blossom Temple? Why not plan social justice events for your peers, run educational programs for younger students, visit the sick, or feel the hungry? Lisa Isen Baomal maintains a list of ongoing volunteer opportunities, and is waiting for you to be in touch with your interests so we can find the right match for you. lbaumal@holyblossom.org

Bagrut בגרות – The Giving Back on the Way to Graduation Grades 11-12

We invite our Grade 11 and 12 teens to give back to Temple life through the Bagrut program. There are social programs through our youth groups, there are serious Jewish learning opportunities, there are electives in music, drama and beyond, there are opportunities to participate in Jewish community and Jewish life through worship and leading worship opportunities. If you are interested in getting a group of friends together to get volunteer hours through HBT, let us know how we can help. If you are looking to participate in one elective because it is interesting or you love the teacher, please join us. The future is yours, and we just want to help you live your Jewish life.

Contact our Director of Youth Engagement Lisa Isen Baomal to learn about all of the volunteer opportunities, the paid opportunities to be a student teacher, and the core and elective learning possibilities. lbaumal@holyblossom.org



We Will Not Be Silent! A Community March Against Anti-Semitism 2014

Teen Communities

HABSTY (Holy Awesome Blossom Senior Temple Youth)

Grades 9-12

HABSTY is a great way to gain leadership experience and training, network and meet other Jewish teens from across the GTA and into the USA. HABSTY is Holy Blossom's link to NFTY – the URJ's Youth Movement. In addition to weekly lounge nights on Mondays, and participation in Temple events and celebrations, HABSTY's teen board organizes their own monthly programs and events, and gets together with youth from other local synagogues. HABSTY members also participate in NFTY-NEL (North Eastern Lakes) regional events, which include weekends at camps, and cities throughout Ontario, and parts of the US. Register to get on the email list and receive details on upcoming events. Regional and North American NFTY programming requiring HABSTY membership.

For more information, contact Lisa Isen Baomal or HABSTY President Talia Rivers. lbaumal@holyblossom.org, habsty@holyblossom.org

SHAMMAI GET INVOLVED IN SOCIAL JUSTICE!

Grades 9-12

Shammai is the Social Justice youth movement at Holy Blossom Temple. Totally teen run, Shammai is a great way to fulfill your community service hour requirements while having fun with other Jewish teens and helping out worthy causes. To get in touch with the Shammai leadership team, Jordana Lyons and Lesley Shiner, contact Rabbi Helfman. jhelfman@holyblossom.org

Reform Jewish Teen Opportunities

URJ NFTY IN ISRAEL - Teen summer programs in Israel are recognized not only as spectacular opportunities for fun and friendship but as defining and transforming Jewish growth experiences as well. This is the Reform movement's peer trip to Israel in the summer. It does not affect Birthright Israel eligibility.

HUC-JIR LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS -

The Reform rabbinical school in Cincinnati offers outstanding programs for teens looking for insight into difficult issues and looking to make friends across North America. The first program is "Israel: A people, a land, a state" on **October 24-26, 2014**. Travel subsidies available.

URJ KUTZ CAMPUS FOR REFORM JEWISH TEENS -

The NFTY Leadership Experience is designed for teens that are looking for a challenging and exciting summer program that will enhance your skills in a specific area of interest. As a participant in this program, you have the ability to choose your classes, and create a schedule that best fits you and your needs. This is a fantastic program for those looking for summer leadership development.

NFTY-EIE HIGH SCHOOL IN ISRAEL -

NFTY – Eisendrath International Exchange In Israel, named for our former rabbi, is an accredited semester or summer-long program for Reform Jewish high school students in grades 10 to 12 that offers an unparalleled opportunity to be immersed in the richness of the land, culture, people and history of Israel, all while earning high school and college credit.

NFTY MITZVAH CORPS -

NFTY Mitzvah Corps connects Reform Jewish teens with immersive social action opportunities across North America. Alongside a group of committed peers and our dedicated staff, volunteer with grassroots organizations that provide participants with unique hands-on experiences and a deeper understanding of the major issues facing their communities. Spend your summer building lifelong relationships while obtaining the skills to play an active role in making our world a better place. If you want to make a difference, Mitzvah Corps wants you! Currently programs are run in: New Jersey, New Orleans, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and at URJ Kutz Camp in Warwick, NY.

For more information on any of these programs, contact Rabbi Helfman. jhelfman@holyblossom.org

Gap Year: Shnat Netzer

Shnat Netzer - The Netzer Year is a unique gap year in Israel for recent Reform Jewish high school graduates. Consider taking a Reform Jewish gap year before continuing on to your next step in life. Volunteer in local communities. Live and work on a kibbutz. Learn Hebrew. Study in Jerusalem. Travel the country. Meet Israelis. Make a difference. Create an organic Jewish community at the epicenter of Jewish life in Israel while you form lifelong friendships with people from around the world! Live, learn, explore, and grow as a Jewish leader. The first Canadian participant went this year, and she would love to tell you how amazing the program is! Contact Rabbi Helfman for more information and to be in touch with her. jhelfman@holyblossom.org



Camp George 2014



Included among our Yom Kippur Study Sessions will be:

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

“Are you Really So Angry?”

**Humour and Humanity in The Book of Jonah
With Professor Adam Sol, Laurentian University**

“How I see it”

With Evan Solomon, CBC

**13 Attributes of God’s Mercy – a Contemplative
Session With Cheryl Sylvester, professional coach, studied
and practitioner of Jewish Mediation.**

Renewal of Space and Spirit:

**A Self-Guided Tour of Holy Blossom Temple Past, Present,
and FUTURE!**

**Follow the blue line to visit all ten stations throughout
our campus – inside and out. Discovers some of our best
stories and catch a glimpse of the future our Renewal
Project will bring to Holy Blossom Temple.**



Welcome to Our Congregational Family

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to Holy Blossom Temple:

- **Dylan Aster & Laura Pripstein**
- **Marlo Galler**
- **Stuart Gibson**
- **Barbara Glaser**
- **Michael Greenstein**
- **Lee & Melissa Grunberg**
- **Michael Lipson**
- **Marjorie Monas**
- **Marc & Cheryl Newburgh**
- **Leonard Simpson & Micki Moore Simpson**
- **Ben Sugar**
- **Sylvie & Ilan Tsafnat**

Mazal Tov

- **Marvin Sadowski** on his recent appointment as a Governor of Haifa University.
- **Liz Wolfe** on receiving the Gold Meir Award from Israel Bonds.

Births

- Bonnie Croll & Robert Henry, on the birth of a granddaughter, **Billie Henry Cole**. Proud parents are Lesley Henry & Luke Cole. Other proud grandparents are Sandi & Ken Cole. Proud great grandparents are Lilyan & Joe Cole and Miriam Levitan.
- Ellie Michelle & Adam Slavens, on the birth of a son **Ryan Benjamin Slavens**. Proud grandparents are Barbara & Howie Alter and Linda & Jamie Slavens. Proud great grandparents are Marvin & Sybil Rothschild.
- Ruth Fisher & Jonathon David Reeves, on the birth of a daughter, **Liora Pearl Reeves**, and sister to Asher Kenneth. Proud grandparents are Bella & George Fischer; Fern & John Reeves. Proud great grandparents are Frida Sigic and Lorraine Reeves.
- Jordana Hoppe & Carey Tepperman, on the birth of a son, **Sam Reid Tepperman**. Proud grandparents are Bonnie & Sheldon Hoppe and Bonnie & Jack Tepperman. Proud great grandmothers are Janie Rigler; Mary Hoppe; Freda Urbas and Irene Tepperman.
- Jonathan & Amanda Lapidus on the birth of a daughter, **Layah Rachel Lapidus**. Proud grandparents are Anita & Leon Lapidus and Karen & Michael Schwartz. Proud great grandmothers are Pola Pach and Frieda Lapidus.

B'nei Mitzvah



■ September 6 – **Eli Shiller**, son of Nori Kobayashi & Robert Shiller



■ September 20 – **Benjamin Horwitz**, son of Rochelle Chester & Daniel Horwitz



■ September 20 – **Jack Borins**, son of Sheryl Brodey & Rickard Borins



■ October 11 – **Maddy Toker**, daughter of Judy & Richard Toker



■ October 18 – **Max Yakobson**, son of Vanessa & Ari Yakobson



■ November 1 – **Kylie Barkin**, daughter of Janice Bereskin & Ira Barkin

- Sept. 27 **Avalon Nisenbaum**, daughter of Cara-Lynn & Howard Nisenbaum
- Oct. 18 **Allison Duckman**, daughter of Nancy & Owen Duckman
- Oct. 25 **Amanda Hacker**, daughter of Dr. Heather Shear & Dr. David Hacker
- Oct. 25 **Nicole Naimer**, daughter of Dr. Michelle & Gavin Naimer
- Nov. 8 **Simon Shay**, son of Meredith Johnson and Andy Shay
- Nov. 22 **Margo Prentice**, daughter of Janet Prentice & Ira Tator
- Nov. 23 **Lauren Goldman**, daughter of Jennifer & Jason Goldman

Engagements & Weddings

- **Jamie Orenback**, daughter of Marlene & Maxwell Orenbach, to **Daniel Carson** son of Lezlie & Allan Carson, are to be married this September
- **Angela Cummings**, daughter of Joanne & Richard Cummings, to **Adam Shiffman**, son of Melanie Savoie and Larry Shiffman, are to be married this September
- **Erin Litwin**, daughter of Lilian & Jeffrey Litwin, to **Marlon Paisley**, son of Julia & Randolph Paisley, are to be married this October
- **Kimberley Geller**, daughter of Cynthia Geller and Steven Geller, to **Tal Batalion**, son of Mary & Rami Batalion, to be married this November
- **Lindsay Klein**, daughter of Jerry & Judy Klein, granddaughter of Carol Freedman and Rivka Klein, to **Jared Binstock**, son of Lesley Binstock Offman and the late Morley Binstock, and Allan Offman, grandson of Lorna Gross, to be married in September 2015.

In Memoriam

- **Clara Sujatsky**, mother of Silvia Derasner, Jessica Derasner and Victor Derasner
- **Roselle Abramowitz**, sister of Ruth Smith, mother of Marcie Scudder, Joseph Abramowitz, and Naomi Abramowitz-Cohen
- **Dr. Shia Salam**, husband of Jocelyne Salem, father of Lisa Beth Salem-Wiseman and Andrew Emile Salem, brother of Benjamin Salem and Harry Salem
- **Esther Frances Lipman**, mother of Nancy Grad and Mark Lipman
- **Elysa Lipson**, wife of Michael Lipson, daughter of Samuel and Marcia Schaffran, mother of Anthony and Jonah Lipson, sister of Robin Eisen
- **Judy Argent Leranbaum**, mother of Susan Mogil and Michael Leranbaum
- **Froim Barankin**, husband of Tatyana Barankin, father of Garry Barankin and Dr. Benjamin Barankin, brother of Alex Barankin
- **Barry Spiegel**, husband of Joyce Spiegel, father of Lisa Spiegel, Billy Spiegel and Paul Spiegel, brother of Joy Cohen, Steven Posen, David Posen and Karen Davidman
- **Howard Muchnick**, husband of Lisa Slater, father of Janna Slater and Alexander Slater, brother of Erma Reefes and Shirlee Muchnick
- **Ernest Gershon**, husband of Lori Gershon, father of David Gershon, Richard Gershon and Mark Gershon, brother of Nick Gershon and Nina Gershon
- **Ella Radomski**, mother of Sidney Radomski and Harry Radomski
- **Solomon Andrew Swartz**, husband of Tara Eriksen Swartz, father of Max Swartz, son of Stan and Janie Swartz, brother of Alysse Hastie, Rachael Stein and Jeffrey Swartz.
- **Faye Leibtag**, mother of Hesty Verk, Simky Leibtag, Richard Leibtag, Ira Leibtag, sister of Dr. Bernard Zucker.
- **Steve Young**, father of Jason Young and Lisa Swimmer, son of John Young, brother of Larry Young and Michael Young
- **Dr. Morris Charendoff**, husband of Hudy Charendoff, father of Debbi Moses, Jay Charendoff and Susan Charendoff.
- **Marjorie F. Atkins**, mother of Janice Joseph, Derek Atkins, sister of Dorothy Tree.
- **Purdy Crawford**, husband of Beatrice, father of Heather Crawford, Suzanne Crawford, Mary Crawford, David Crawford, Barbara Crawford and Sarah Crawford.
- **David Michael Geneen**, husband of Linda Stromme, father of Daniel Geneen and Julian Geneen, brother of Lucy Waverman.

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