

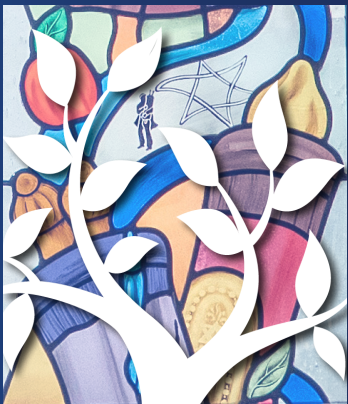
# 2025-2026 Adult Education & Programming

Presented by the  
Lillian, Philip and Gerry  
**Cooperman Academy**  
for ADULT JEWISH LEARNING



**B'NAI TORAH**  
CONGREGATION

# Welcome!



We are delighted to share with you the 2025–2026 Adult Education programs at B’nai Torah Congregation, presented by the Lillian, Philip, and Gerry Cooperman Academy for Adult Jewish Learning. This

year’s offerings include a rich variety of classes, scholars-in-residence, author series events, Women’s League and Men’s Club programs, and so much more, each designed to bring our community together in meaningful learning and connection.

For more than 20 years, the Cooperman Academy has been at the heart of adult Jewish learning at B’nai Torah, offering opportunities that are diverse, engaging, and relevant. This vision became a reality thanks to the generosity of Amy and Fred Weiss, who sought to make



a lasting impact on our community. After conversations with Rabbi Emeritus David Steinhardt, they recognized

that creating a vibrant program of adult Jewish education would be a powerful way to honor and perpetuate their family’s legacy.

With their leadership and ongoing commitment, the Cooperman Academy continues to flourish and welcome learners of all backgrounds and interests into a shared journey of exploration, growth, and connection. We are deeply grateful to Amy and Fred for their vision, and to each of you who make our learning community so strong.

## Registration

Most Cooperman Academy classes are free and open to the community. We kindly ask that you consider a donation to support Adult Education so we can continue offering the high-quality learning you value. Non-members are welcome to join at a nominal fee.

Advance online registration is required for each class. This helps our teachers prepare, ensures proper room assignments, and lets us know if you’ll attend in person or online. We offer hybrid learning when possible, but please note that hybrid classes are not recorded.

## Adult Education Classes



New classes, speakers, and programs are added regularly. For the latest info, please scan the QR code or visit

[btcboca.org/adult-education](https://btcboca.org/adult-education)

## Melton School Classes



All Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning classes require registration and tuition payment. To register, scan the code or visit

[meltonschool.org/boca](https://meltonschool.org/boca)

*We look forward to learning together in the year ahead!*





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**For more information and questions:**



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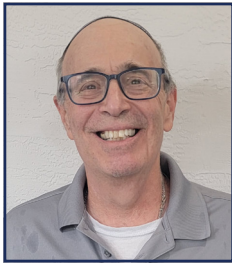


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# Special Programs

To register, please  
scan the code or  
visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](http://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## **Torah Cantillation 101**

**Thursday, October 16 at 11:00 am**

**Wednesday, January 7 at 11:00 am**

*Instructor: Ari Silverman*

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members**

Learn to read directly from the Torah using the ancient cantillation (trope) system. This 1.5-hour class introduces the history of cantillation, core trope symbols, and techniques for applying melodies to unvocalized text. Students gain practical tools for memorization and self-study, with resources for continued growth. Designed for Hebrew readers seeking fuller participation in Torah reading. *Optional one-on-one tutorials provide personalized support at no cost.*



## **An Ethiopian Jew's Journey**

**Thursday, November 20 at 3:00 pm**

*Presented by: Tali Ysia*

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

Tali made Aliyah from Ethiopia as part of Operation Moses (1984). Over the years, she has led large-scale educational and social initiatives in Israel and worldwide. She is happy to share her personal story and explain the SIGD holiday – an ancient Jewish celebration of the Beta Israel community, symbolizing the renewal of the covenant with God and the longing for Jerusalem and return to Israel.



## **Contributions of Jewish Song Writers to The Great American Songbook**

**Tuesday, December 2 at 2:30 pm**

*Presented by: Sol Moglen Q&A led by: Cantor Magda Fishman*

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

A documentary discussing how Jewish artists have influenced mainstream American Culture for more than a century. This 60 minute film includes performances by Frank Sinatra, Tom Jones, Zero Mostel, the Andrew Sisters, Irving Berlin, Elvis Presley, and Louie Armstrong.

# Special Programs

To register, please  
scan the code or  
visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](http://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## Book Talk: A Great Miracle Happened Here: A Rabbi's Musings from Akiva to Zionism

**Thursday, December 11 at 11:00 am**

*With Author:* Rabbi Dr. Leon Weissberg

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

Join Rabbi Dr. Leon Weissberg, who was born in a displaced persons camp to Holocaust survivors, as he discusses his memoir. A renowned educator and Holocaust specialist, he has guided over 2,500 teens and adults on the March of the Living to Poland and Israel. At 74, he became an Orthodox rabbi. His story and reflections on divine providence, Israel, Shabbat, and kashrut shine as a source of light and hope in a challenging world.



## The Michael Levin<sup>z"l</sup> Lone Soldier Foundation with parents, Harriet and Mark Levin

**Thursday, December 11 at 6:00 pm**

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

At the age of only 22 years old, Michael was the first Paratrooper and only American to die in the 2006 Second Lebanon War. On Tisha B'Av, Michael was laid to rest at Mount Herzl Cemetery surrounded by his family and thousands of people from all over Israel, who came to pay tribute to his memory and heroism. His parents will be with us to share how they are fulfilling Michael's dream to help Lone Soldiers before, during, and after their service. His parents will also speak about Michael's life and present a short film called *A Hero in Heaven*. Co-sponsored with the Women's League.



## Book Club: *The Hebrew Teacher* by Maya Arad

**Thursday, December 18 at 11:00 am**

*Facilitator:* Marion Hirschmann

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$10 Guests**

Join Marion Hirschmann for a curated book club experience. Three Israeli women in the U.S.—a devoted Hebrew instructor, a mother confronting family fractures, and a protective parent ensnared in her daughter's online world—face crises that expose fading ideals and widening generational divides in Maya Arad's incisive, ironic novellas.



# Special Programs

To register, please  
scan the code or  
visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](https://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## **The Flame of Joy: Exploring Chassidism and Chabad**

**Monday, January 5, 2026 at 6:30 pm**

**Monday, January 12, 2026 at 6:30 pm**

*Instructor:* **Dr. Sandra Lilienthal**

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$18 Guests**

Chassidism emerged in the 18th century with a message of warmth, song, and spiritual joy, offering a new way to feel connected to Jewish life and to God. It was a spiritual revolution that promoted a sense of closeness to God that reshaped Jewish life. In the first session, we will explore the beginnings of this movement, and in the second session we will focus on the Chabad movement, examining its unique philosophy, global influence, and continuing role in Jewish life today.



## **Book Talk: *Remember to Eat***

**Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 2:00 pm**

*With Author:* **Meryl Ain**

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

*Remember to Eat* is a collection of twenty-two loosely connected short stories following a Jewish family from before World War II to the present. Centered on Marjorie, a baby boomer, and her mother, Alice, the stories explore themes of identity, family, gender roles, antisemitism, and the impact of societal change.



## **Field Trip: Perez Art Museum Miami**

**Thursday, January 29, 2026**

**9:30 am – 3:30 pm**

*With:* **Rabbi Hector Epelbaum**

**Cost: \$65 for B'nai Torah Members, \$72 for guests**

Enjoy a private docent-led tour as we explore the world-class collections of the Perez Art Museum in Miami. Includes round-trip transportation and museum admission. For more information, please visit [btcboca.org/art-museum](https://btcboca.org/art-museum).

# Special Programs

To register, please  
scan the code or  
visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](http://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birth of the United States and the Declaration of Independence

**Tuesday March 3, 2026 at 2 pm**

**Robert Watson, PhD**

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Cost: \$18 for B'nai Torah Members, \$25 Guests**

Dr. Watson is an American political scientist and a historian of US politics, and the author of many books on US political and military history. He is a Distinguished Professor of American History and Avron Fogelman Research Professor at Lynn University in Boca Raton.

## Save the dates! 2026 Concert *Series*

**Produced by Cantor Magda Fishman**  
in collaboration with Maestro Tomer Adaddi  
**B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Wednesday, January 21**

**Cantor Boaz Davidoff, Cantor Adam Stotland and  
Special Guest, Maya Davidoff**

**Wednesday, February 11**

**Fiddler on the Roof Sing-Along with Cantor Aaron Kula  
and Friends**

**Wednesday, February 18**

**Cantor Randy Herman and Special Guest Coleen Dieker**

Showcasing the music of Piano Legends Billy Joel, Carole King, Elton John and more

**Wednesday, March 11**

**Cantor Magda Fishman, Maestro Tomer Adaddi and Yair Keydar  
with Special Guests**

# Lunch & Learn

**November 4, 2025 through May 19, 2026**

(CHECK DATES FOR SCHEDULED CLASSES)

**Tuesdays at 12:00 pm**

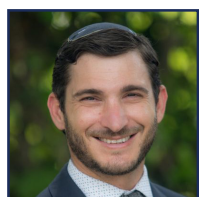
**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

Join our Rabbis and special guest educators for an hour of learning.  
You are welcome to bring a dairy/parve lunch; coffee and tea are provided.

**Please register  
for each class.**



Scan the code  
or visit [btcboca.org/  
lunch-learn](https://btcboca.org/lunch-learn)



## *Exploring T'Shuvot*

**November 4, 11 & 18**

**Rabbi Evan Susman**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$18 Guests**

What are our rabbinical responses to Jewish Law? We will discuss contemporary and relevant issues that impact us individually and as a community including Blended Families, Jews with Special Needs and Shortening Services - guidelines for abbreviating Jewish prayer experiences.



## *Everything About Israel Except Politics*

**December 2, 9 & 16**

**Rabbi Hector Epelbaum**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$18 Guests**

Music, technology, and the culinary experience in the 21st century Israel with special guests who will enlighten us on each topic. In three sessions, we'll explore 21st-century Israel through the lenses of music, technology, and cuisine—discovering how each reflects innovation, identity, and the blending of tradition with modern life.



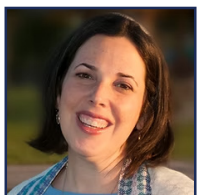
## *Restoring the Jewish Cemeteries of Poland and Eastern Europe*

**January 6, 2026**

**Dr. Dan Oren**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$10 Guests**

Dr. Dan Oren's visit to an abandoned Jewish cemetery in Poland inspired him to devote his life to preserving Jewish heritage. He founded Friends of Jewish Heritage in Poland and the broader volunteer efforts to restore over 1,200 desecrated or forgotten cemeteries.



## *Words from the Heart: The Power of Ethical Wills*

**January 13 & 20, 2026**

**Rabbi Marci Bloch**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$10 Guests**

Rabbi Bloch, Director of Jewish Community Outreach at Trustbridge, explores the ancient practice of creating an ethical will, a tradition that has helped families connect through generations. Learn how this deeply emotional and meaningful expression can benefit both you and your loved ones. An ethical will is a powerful way to leave a legacy that goes beyond material wealth. It's an opportunity to pass on your beliefs, experiences, and life lessons - guiding future generations with wisdom that shapes not just their lives, but their hearts.





**THE SHALOM HARTMAN  
SERIES (iENGAGE):**

***Liberal Zionism  
for the 21st Century***

**January 27, Feb 3, 10,  
17 & 24, March 3, 2026**

**Rabbi David Steinhardt**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$54 Guests**

This volume is dedicated to understanding liberal Zionism in this challenging moment. In six units, Hartman scholars offer frameworks to grapple with the contemporary challenges to liberal Zionism, including the dominant critiques against Israel and Zionism post-October 7. Learners will gain a deeper understanding of the key values that animate liberal Zionism and how to approach the core issues that have emerged during these many months of war.



***How to Pray***

**March 10, 17 & 24  
April 14, 21, 2026**

**Rabbi Jack Moline**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$36 Guests**

So many Jews do not know how to pray. If you had a Jewish education of almost any kind, you may very well have learned to navigate the siddur, reading phonetically, chanting the melodies, becoming familiar with translations. But in a tradition like Judaism where the liturgy is set, rote recitation can be the enemy of spiritual expression. This class is not a cure for that problem – but it is a step. Come take the step.



***Judaism and the  
Afterlife: What happens?***

**April 28, 2026**

**Rabbi Marci Bloch**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$10 Guests**

Join Rabbi Bloch, Director of Jewish Community Outreach at Trustbridge, for an engaging exploration of Jewish views on the Afterlife examining traditional texts, mystical teachings, and contemporary perspectives.



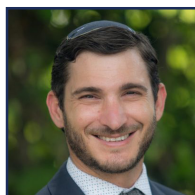
***How Israel's Ancient Tekhelet  
(Holy Blue Dye) Was Lost  
and Rediscovered***

**May 5, 2026**

**Dr. Dan Oren**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$10 Guests**

It's a story combining the Torah, Jewish history, chemistry, and amazing ingenuity.



***Exploring T'Shuvot***

**May 12 & 19, 2026**

**Rabbi Evan Susman**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members  
\$10 Guests**

What are our rabbinical responses to Jewish Law? We will discuss contemporary and relevant issues that impact us individually and as a community.

# Lunch & Learn

**Tuesdays at 12:00 pm**

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Please register for each class.**



Scan the code or  
visit [btcbo.org/  
lunch-learn](https://btcbo.org/lunch-learn)

# Multi-Session Classes

To register, please  
scan the code or  
visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](https://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## Mondays

### Hebrew Conversation for Beginners

**October 20 – December 15 at 5:45 pm**

*Instructor:* Harvey Leven

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**\$120 for B'nai Torah Members, \$150 for guests**

Please see page 21 for full details on Hebrew classes. Register at [btcboca.org/Hebrew](https://btcboca.org/Hebrew)



### Polish Jewry: A search for roots

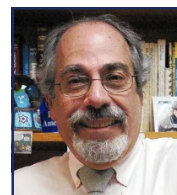
**November 3, 10 & 17, December 1, 8 & 15 at 11:15 am**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Howard Shub

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$36 for guests**

For many American Jews, our roots trace back to Poland—yet how much do we truly know about the history and culture of Polish Jewry? Before the Shoah, Jews made up about ten percent of Poland's population, with entire cities and shtetlach often half—or more—Jewish. Polish Jews flourished as professionals, artists, and community leaders. Though nearly 90% were lost in the Holocaust, today a growing number of Polish Jews are rediscovering their heritage. Join us on a journey through time to explore one of the most vibrant and influential Jewish communities in history.



### Sages of the Talmud

**January 26, Feb 2, 9 & 23, March 2, 9, 2026 at 11:15 am**

*Instructor:* Ed Sopher

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION    VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$36 for guests**

We have all heard stories from the Talmud in sermons or in various classes. But usually the stories told are the “Cliff Notes” versions – many of the details have been left out. In this class we will dive into the full text of several of the most famous Talmudic stories and get a better sense of the Rabbis who helped shape the Jewish law we practice today.



### Three Strange Books of the Bible

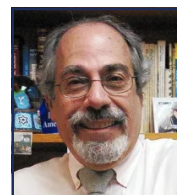
**March 23, 30; April 13, 20, 27 and May 4 at 11:15 a.m.**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Howard Shub

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$36 for guests**

Beyond the Five Books of Moses, the Tanach includes writings that shape Jewish life and tradition. Three of them—Jonah, Kohelet (Ecclesiastes), and Esther—are so central that we read them on Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Purim. But why these books, and why on these days? What meaning do they hold for us today? Join us as we explore these timeless texts and uncover why our tradition elevates them as essential to the Jewish calendar. Truly, a course that is one for the books!



# Multi-Session Classes

To register, please  
scan the code or  
visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](https://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## Tuesdays

### Hebrew Prayer

**October 21 – December 16 at 1:15 pm**

*Instructor:* Harvey Leven

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**\$120 for B'nai Torah Members, \$150 for guests**

Please see page 21 for full details on Hebrew classes. Register at [btcboca.org/Hebrew](https://btcboca.org/Hebrew)



### Amazing Secrets of Amazing Prayers

**February 10, 17 and 24 at 10:30 am**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Hector Epelbaum

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION      VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$18 for guests**

Amazing secrets and meanings of the main prayers of our Kabbalat Shabbat and morning services. Did you know that the Ein Keheloinu is written in reverse order?



**Lunch & Learn on Tuesdays** See pages 8-9

## Wednesdays

### Introduction to Judaism

**September 2025 - May 2026 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Evan Susman & Harvey Leven

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**\$1,000 for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

An opportunity for those who are looking to convert to Judaism or are curious and want to explore Judaism. This is not just a course but an immersive experience where students will participate in field trips, Shabbats, holidays, social gatherings and learn with clergy and other special guests.

Please contact Rabbi Evan Susman at [rabbi.susman@bnai-torah.org](mailto:rabbi.susman@bnai-torah.org) for more details.



### Yiddish from Scratch

**October 22, 29, Nov 5, 12 & 19, Dec 3 at 1:30 pm**

*Instructor:* Chaya Kessler

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$54 for guests**

In this six-week course, we will learn the Yiddish alphabet, a bit of grammar, and a lot of vocabulary. Our new skills will allow us to create and use sentences and read basic Yiddish stories. We will be amazed by the richness of the Yiddish culture through songs, poetry, curses and folk tales (yes – in English translation). There will be ample opportunity for those in the class to share their stories with others.





# Multi-Session Classes

To register, please  
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visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](https://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## Wednesdays

### Hebrew Reading for Beginners

**October 22 – February 2, 2026 at 5:45 pm**

*Instructor:* Harvey Leven

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**\$180 for B'nai Torah Members, \$220 for guests**

Please see page 21 for full details on Hebrew classes. Register at [btcboca.org/Hebrew](https://btcboca.org/Hebrew)



### Learn with Our Rabbis: Pirkei Avot

**Starting, November 5 at 9:15 am**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Hector Epelbaum

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION      VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

Ethical teachings of our Fathers to guide us through life followed by teachings of our Mothers. Come and find out.



### David & Bathsheba

**November 5, 12, 19, December 3 & 10 at 11:00 am**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Jack Riemer

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$36 for guests**

Join amazing storyteller Rabbi Jack Riemer as you revisit the story of David and Bathsheba that has fascinated readers of all generations. In this course, we will study the story as it appears in the Bible, how it was transformed in the Talmud, and how it was reinterpreted in current Israeli literature.



### Mussar: A Four-Part Course in The Jewish Way to Self-Improvement

**December 10, 17, Jan 7 & 14, 2026 at 1:30 pm**

*Instructor:* Helen Shub

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$36 for guests**

Explore your spiritual journey through the Jewish practice of Mussar—a practical yet deeply spiritual approach to aligning who we aspire to be with how we live each day. This course will focus on four core traits: Enthusiasm, Kindness/Compassion, Honor, and Truth. Drawing on classical and modern Jewish texts (and even some insights from Peanuts and I Love Lucy), we'll see how Judaism places ethical living at the heart of a meaningful life. Participants will gain practical exercises to build self-awareness and integrate Mussar into daily practice.



# Multi-Session Classes

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adult-education](http://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## Better Ways to Understand our Ancient Jewish Folklore Through Midrash

**January 21, 28, Feb 4, 18 & 25, March 4, 2026 at 11:00 am**

*Instructor:* Ruth Weiner

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$18 for guests**

Midrash ("to seek") arose as a way to interpret Torah, filling in gaps through law (halakhah) and story (aggadah). Still evolving today, it invites us to uncover new insights into both well-known and overlooked biblical figures. In this class, we will explore midrash as a living art form. Come and find out.



## Conversational Yiddish

**February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18 & 25, 2026 at 1:30 pm**

*Instructor:* Chaya Kessler

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$54 for guests**

The focus of this class will be primarily Yiddish conversation and dialogue. This means that some knowledge of the language is necessary. We will view excerpts from Yiddish films, listen to poetry and songs and practice reading jokes, curses and enjoyable stories. Yiddish culture – old and new – will be presented in English. Mainly, we will have fun using our mame-loshn.



## Trials that Changed the World

**April 15, 22, 29, May 6 & 13, 2026 at 11:00 am**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Jack Riemer

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$36 for guests**

In this course we will examine some of the famous trials that have taken place in the Bible and in Greek literature including the trial of Amos vs. Amaziah, the trial of Jeremiah, the trial of Jesus and the trial of Socrates. We will reveal how each of these trials shaped the world we live in today.



## Life and Legacy of the Ba'al Shem Tov

**April 22, 29, May 6 & 13, 2026 at 1:00 pm**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Amy Pessah

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$36 for guests**

Join this four-part journey into the life and legacy of the Ba'al Shem Tov, the visionary founder of the Hasidic movement. Discover the power of his revolutionary teachings, which emphasize joy, prayer, humility, and a personal relationship with the Divine. Through stories and spiritual insights, we will explore his mystical path and reflect on how his wisdom can guide our own spirit.



# Multi-Session Classes

To register, please  
scan the code or  
visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](https://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## Thursdays

### Introduction to Judaism

**October 2025 - May 2026 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

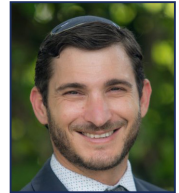
*Instructor:* Rabbi Evan Susman

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**\$1,000 for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

An opportunity for those who are looking to convert to Judaism or are curious and want to explore Judaism. The online setting allows participants to learn from anywhere while still building meaningful connections with our extraordinary educators and fellow students. Taught online in a live, interactive format, this course introduces the foundations of Jewish life and learning.

Please contact Rabbi Evan Susman at [rabbi.susman@bnai-torah.org](mailto:rabbi.susman@bnai-torah.org) for more details.



### Join חוג עברית (Hebrew Speakers' Circle)

**Starting October 23 at 10:45 am**

*Instructor:* Harvey Leven

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**\$225 for B'nai Torah Members, \$275 for guests**

Please see page 21 for full details on Hebrew classes. Register at [btcboca.org/Hebrew](https://btcboca.org/Hebrew)



### Hebrew Conversation Intermediate

**October 23 – December 18 at 1:15 pm**

*Instructor:* Harvey Leven

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**\$120 for B'nai Torah Members, \$150 for guests**

Please see page 21 for full details on Hebrew classes. Register at [btcboca.org/Hebrew](https://btcboca.org/Hebrew)



### Learn with Our Rabbis: Talmud

**Starting, October 16 at 9:30 am**

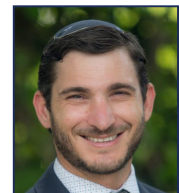
*Instructor:* Rabbi Evan Susman

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

A compilation of ancient teachings regarded as sacred and normative from the time it was compiled until modern times. Learn how these ancient texts are still relevant in our lives today.





# Multi-Session Classes

To register, please  
scan the code or  
visit [btcboca.org/  
adult-education](https://btcboca.org/adult-education)



## Love, Sex and Death in the Midrash

**January 22, 29, February 5 & 19 at 7:00 pm**

*Instructor:* Rabbi Jack Moline

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members, \$36 for guests**

The title ought to say it all, but if it doesn't, come look at some surprising perspectives on the human condition that are remarkably romantic, explicit, and comforting (sometimes all at once).



## The Bible with and Without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler

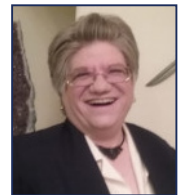
**March 12, 19, 26, April 16, 23 & 30, 2026 at 5:45 - 6:45 pm**

*Instructors:* Rabbi Jack Moline and Reverend Nancy Zuckerman

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members**

Join Rabbi Jack Moline and Reverend Nancy Zuckerman of Good Shepard Lutheran Church as interfaith congregational members learn together in a class examining key Hebrew Bible passages and how they've been interpreted differently by Jews and Christians. Through historical, literary, and theological lenses, we'll uncover the original meanings of these texts and their rich afterlives in both traditions. This interfaith class will deepen your understanding of the Bible as a dynamic source of meaning, insight, and inspiration for all readers. Limited to 15 members from each congregation.



## Fridays

## Learn with Our Rabbis: Finding Ourselves in the Text

**Starting, November 7 at 9:00 am**

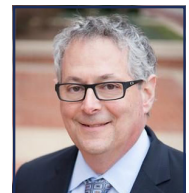
*Instructor:* Rabbi Jack Moline

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

**VIRTUAL - ZOOM**

**Free for B'nai Torah Members & Guests**

A close reading and free flowing conversation of Torah texts and what they evoke in our lives.





# Shabbat



For more information about all our Shabbat Services & Programs, please scan the code or visit [btcbo.ca.org/shabbat](http://btcbo.ca.org/shabbat)

## Shabbat Kulanu

**Oct 18, Nov 1, Dec 6, Jan 31, Feb 7, March 28, April 25, May 16**

**10:00 am**

Kulanu means "all of us." Shabbat Kulanu's service really is for everyone! Kulanu is a fun, welcoming, and engaging space for our students and families. A musical, interactive, and engaging family service led by Rabbi Evan Susman and Education Director, Dr. Cathy Berkowitz. Shabbat Kulanu provides our youth with opportunities to lead and gives our families an unforgettable Shabbat experience while being connected to the larger B'nai Torah community.



## Jewish ReNEWal Shabbat

**Oct 11, Oct 18, Nov 1, Nov 15, Dec 6, Dec 13, Jan 17, Jan 31, Feb 7, Feb 28, Mar 7, Mar 28, Apr 11, Apr 18, May 2, May 9**

**9:30 - 11:00 am**

Join Rabbi Amy Pessah and Cantorial Soloist Laura Lenos in reNEWing traditional prayers and Torah, discovering how they can touch our daily lives. Our service features weekly Torah study, music, and teachings that deepen our connection to the prayer journey.



## Ahava & Tot Shabbat

**Nov 15, Dec 12, Jan 16, Feb 7, Mar 13, Apr 24, May 8**

A warm and welcoming Shabbat experience for our youngest children with their families with Rabbi Evan Susman and Karen Deerwester. During this fun and meaningful program, we will come together as a community for a short musical tefilla (prayer) service combined with interactive activities for the whole family to enjoy. This is a great opportunity for building community, making joyful memories and connections, and building the foundation for a Jewish home. For more information, please contact Karen at [Karen@FamilyTimeInc.com](mailto:Karen@FamilyTimeInc.com).



## Shabbat Weekly Services

(IN-PERSON & ONLINE)

### Friday Night

**5:45 pm**

Weiner Cultural Center

### Saturday Morning

**8:45 am**

Sanctuary

**New this year!**

## Pink Shabbat Friday, Oct 24



**SHARSHERET**

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, B'nai Torah welcomes Sharsheret for a special Shabbat. We invite our community to wear pink as we come together in support of Jewish women and families facing breast and ovarian cancer. Sharsheret provides vital healthcare resources, financial assistance, communal support, and educational programs to thousands across the country. Please join us for this meaningful Shabbat experience as we raise awareness, stand in solidarity, and strengthen our community through prayer, learning, and connection. Co-sponsored with Women's League.

## Scholar–In–Residence



### Rabbi Angela Buchdahl

**November 22, 2025**

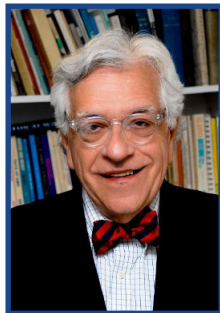
Rabbi Angela Warnick Buchdahl is the Senior Rabbi of Central Synagogue in New York City, the first woman to lead its Reform congregation in its 180-year history. Ordained as both cantor and rabbi by Hebrew Union College–JIR, she is also the first Asian American to serve in either role in North America. Nationally recognized for her innovative leadership and powerful voice in Jewish life, Rabbi Buchdahl has been featured in major media outlets and named one of Newsweek's "America's 50 Most Influential Rabbis." Buchdahl is joining us as part of the Jewish Book Council as she just completed her memoir, *Heart of a Stranger*. Books will be on sale before and after Shabbat.



### Rabbi Brad Artson

**January 17, 2026**

Rabbi Dr. Bradley Shavit Artson is the Dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies and Vice President of American Jewish University, as well as founding Dean of the Zacharias Frankel College in Germany. A passionate advocate for social justice, inclusion, and interfaith dialogue, he is a leading voice in Jewish theology, integrating science and spirit through his widely read books and teachings. Nationally and internationally recognized as a teacher, author, and mentor, Rabbi Artson has inspired communities across the globe with his scholarship and commitment to a more just and compassionate world. This Scholar-In-Resident is endowed by Mickey <sup>z"l</sup> and Harold <sup>z"l</sup> Smith Lecture/Scholar Fund.



### Rabbi Dr. Marc Gellman

**February 21, 2026**

Rabbi Dr. Marc Gellman, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth Torah in Melville, NY, and rabbi of the Aspen Jewish Congregation, is widely known as co-founder of The God Squad with Monsignor Thomas Hartman, bringing thoughtful conversations on faith to national television, radio, and print. An award-winning author of ten books for children and adults, including *Does God Have a Big Toe?*, Rabbi Gellman has been recognized by Newsweek as one of "America's 50 Most Influential Rabbis." A respected teacher, ethicist, and speaker, he continues to inspire through his writing, teaching, and leadership.



## Artist–In–Residence



### Michael Ochs

**March 2026**

Michael Hunter Ochs is an award-winning songwriter whose music has been recorded by artists including Josh Groban, Cece Winans, and Helene Fischer, and featured in films. A beloved composer of contemporary Jewish music, his melodies are sung in congregations around the world each Shabbat, weaving joy, reflection, and connection into Jewish life. He also composed Cantor Fishman's favorite version of Oseh Shalom. With a gift for bringing people together through song, Michael has shared his music on some of the world's most meaningful stages, from the URJ Biennial to the Jewish Museum of Berlin.

# Additional Programs & Resources



## The Eight Three Club

**Starting on Wednesday, December 10 at 10:30 am**

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

According to Psalm 90:10, "The span of your life is 70 years, or given the strength, 80 years." It has become customary to celebrate your 82/83rd year with your second (or first) B'nai Mitzvah. It's a time for a new beginning and your B'nai Torah family wants to celebrate with you. Be part of one B'nai Torah's newest clubs, The

Eight Three Club and, together we will get ready for the big day on Shabbat, March 21, 2026. For more information, please contact Penina Bredoff at [penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org](mailto:penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org).

**To register, visit [btcboca.org/83club](http://btcboca.org/83club).**

*save the date*

**Mitzvah Day**

**Sunday, November 16, 2025  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**



*Let's come together to make a real difference in just one morning.*

## Mitzvah Day

**Sunday, November 16, 2025**

**9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**IN-PERSON - B'NAI TORAH CONGREGATION**

Join us for Mitzvah Day 2025, a powerful morning of giving back, hands-on service, and

community impact! From blood drives and hair donations to sandwich making, flower arranging, and care packages, there are opportunities for every age to get involved. Together, we'll support causes that touch lives across our community—youth, veterans, the hungry, the homeless, those with special needs, and more. All ages welcome, all hearts needed—let's make a real difference in just one morning!

**For more information, please contact Summer Faerman at [summer.faerman@bnai-torah.org](mailto:summer.faerman@bnai-torah.org).**



## Hazak Senior Programs

B'nai Torah's Hazak Senior Programming offers diverse weekly activities which include health and wellness lectures and workshops, in addition to social and spiritual programs. You can find details in our weekly emails. Hazak is endowed by the Jack and Tamara Faintuch Senior Programming Fund.

**For more information, contact Liz Singer at [liz.singer@bnai-torah.org](mailto:liz.singer@bnai-torah.org).**



## Support Groups

Bnai Torah Congregation offers weekly caregiver and bereavement support groups as well as other mental health resources and services.

**For more information or to receive assistance, please contact Liz Singer at [liz.singer@bnai-torah.org](mailto:liz.singer@bnai-torah.org).**



# Additional Programs & Resources



## Women's League

Women's League of B'nai Torah Congregation is an active group for women of all ages. Your membership in Women's League supports all aspects of synagogue life: our preschool, our Hebrew school, our book club, our speakers and educators. It is a place where every woman's voice is heard. For more information about Women's League programs, please visit [wlbtc.org](http://wlbtc.org)

### 2025-2026 Events

|             |                                        |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|
| Oct 12      | Supper, Sangria & Scotch in the Sukkah |
| Nov 16      | JCC Holocaust Exhibit Visit            |
| Dec 17      | Latkas & Vodkas                        |
| Jan 11      | Membership Party PUMP                  |
| Jan 23 & 24 | Women's League Shabbat                 |
| Jan 28      | Babka Bake                             |
| Feb 3       | Torah Fund Lunch                       |
| Feb 23      | Israeli Fair                           |
| Mar 18      | Game Day                               |
| Apr 19      | Deli Night                             |

### Book Club

Library | 6:30–8:00 pm

|        |                                                         |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct 21 | <i>It Could Be Worse</i> by Dara Levan                  |
| Nov 18 | <i>We Would Never!</i> A Novel by Tova Mirvis           |
| Jan 20 | <i>Six Days in Bombay</i> by Alka Joshi                 |
| Feb 17 | <i>The Confidante</i> by Christopher C. Gorham          |
| Apr 21 | <i>The Heart's Invisible Furies</i> by John Boyne       |
| May 19 | <i>Fine, I'm a Terrible Person</i> by Lisa F. Rosenberg |



## Men's Club

The B'nai Torah Men's Club brings men of all ages together through fellowship, learning, and service. From Shabbat dinners and Sunday morning bagels, community programs, and volunteer projects, our calendar is filled with opportunities to connect and give back. By blending tradition with camaraderie, the Men's Club strengthens the bonds of our congregation. For more information, please contact co-presidents Elliot Burns at [Bocaburns@aol.com](mailto:Bocaburns@aol.com) or Andres Alminana at [andres.alminana@ml.com](mailto:andres.alminana@ml.com).

### 2025-2026 Events

|        |                                        |
|--------|----------------------------------------|
| Oct 12 | Supper, Sangria & Scotch in the Sukkah |
| Nov 11 | Bagel Bites                            |
| Dec 14 | Bagel Bites                            |
| Jan 25 | Bagel Bites                            |
| Feb 8  | World Wide Wrap                        |
| Feb 15 | Bagel Bites                            |
| Mar 22 | Bagel Bites                            |
| Apr 19 | Bagel Bites                            |

# 2025-2026 Author Series



IN-PERSON

FREE\*

**Sunday, October 12 | 10 am**

**Lee Yaron**

*100 Human Stories: 10/7*



IN-PERSON

\$18

**Tuesday, October 21 | 2 pm**

**Yaakov Katz**

*While Israel Slept*



Adolph & Rose Levis  
Jewish Community Center



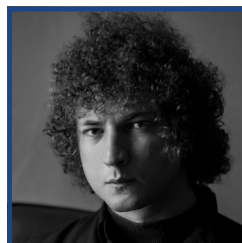
SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE (DURING SHABBAT)

**Shabbat November 22**

**Rabbi Angela Buchdahl**

*Heart of a Stranger*

Endowed by  
Eve Udell z"l  
Memorial  
Author  
Series Fund



IN-PERSON

\$18

**Thursday, January 8 | 2 pm**

**Sam Sussman**

*Boy from the North Country*



Adolph & Rose Levis  
Jewish Community Center



IN-PERSON

FREE\*

**Wednesday, February 4 | 2 pm**

**Christine Kuehn**

*Family of Spies*



IN-PERSON

FREE\*

**Wednesday, February 11 | 11 am**

**Rabbi Shira Stutman**

*The Jewish Way to a Good Life*



IN-PERSON

FREE\*

**Wednesday, April 15 | 2 pm**

**Lisa F. Rosenberg**

*Fine, I'm a Terrible Person*

in partnership with



**Jewish  
Book  
Council**



For more info  
and to register,  
scan the code  
or visit:

**[btcboca.org/  
author-series](https://btcboca.org/author-series)**

For more  
information, please  
contact Elysa Stark  
at [elysa.stark@  
bnai-torah.org](mailto:elysa.stark@bnai-torah.org)

\*Please consider supporting the  
Author Series with a donation  
to B'nai Torah Congregation. at  
[btcboca.org/donate](https://btcboca.org/donate). This will  
allow us to continue to offer the  
high quality programming you  
have come to appreciate.

# 2025-2026 Hebrew @ B'nai Torah

INSTRUCTOR:



**Harvey  
Leven**

**ALL LEVELS  
IN-PERSON  
@ B'NAI TORAH  
CONGREGATION**



For more info  
and to register,  
scan the code  
or visit:

**[btcoca.org/  
hebrew](http://btcoca.org/hebrew)**

For more  
information,  
please contact  
Penina Bredoff at  
[penina.bredoff  
@bnai-torah.org](mailto:penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org)

Sponsored by the  
Lillian, Philip and Gerry  
**Cooperman Academy**  
for ADULT JEWISH LEARNING

## Hebrew Reading **BEGINNERS**

**October 22 – Feb 4, 2026, Wednesdays at 5:45- 6:45 pm**

Being able to read the Hebrew alphabet doesn't need to be a mystery. In 12 weekly sessions (with homework in between) you'll master this skill. Designed for very beginners.

Textbook: *Shalom Hebrew: Simple Steps to Reading Hebrew*

**\$180 for B'nai Torah Members, \$220 for guests**

## Hebrew Prayer

**October 21 – December 16, Tuesdays at 1:15 - 2:15 pm**

Improve your reading of vowelized Hebrew. Learn to read and deepen your fluency and understanding of Shabbat prayers. Ideal for students that can read the Hebrew alphabet.

Textbook: *Prayerbook Hebrew for Adults & Ten Minute Hebrew Reader, Vol. II*

**\$120 for B'nai Torah Members, \$150 for guests**

## Hebrew Conversation **BEGINNERS**

**October 20 – December 15, Mondays at 5:45 - 6:45 pm**

Build conversation skills! Present tense review and intro to past tense, plus reading without vowels. Ideal for students that can read Hebrew and know some basic conversation.

Textbook: *Modern Hebrew for Beginners – 2nd Ed.*

**\$120 for B'nai Torah Members, \$150 for guests**

## Hebrew Conversation **INTERMEDIATE**

**October 23 – December 18, Thursdays at 1:15 - 2:15 pm**

Advance your modern Hebrew reading without vowels, master the past tense, and learn 150 new words. Ideal for those with a basic understanding of present tense verbs, who are able to read Hebrew comfortably.

Textbook: *Modern Hebrew for Beginners – 2nd Ed.*

**\$120 for B'nai Torah Members, \$150 for guests**

## Hebrew Speakers' Circle חוג עברית

**October 23 – May 21, 2026, Thursdays 10:45 am -12:15 pm**

Non-native but proficient speakers meet to discuss articles, chat, and expand vocabulary in a relaxed setting. Meets twice a month.

**\$225 for B'nai Torah Members, \$275 for guests**

Please contact Harvey Leven for proper placement at [mishpacha5@aol.com](mailto:mishpacha5@aol.com)



## October



### Beyond Borders: The History of Arab-Israeli Conflict

**Beginning Monday, October 20, 2025 | 9:30-11:00 AM**

**HYBRID** 20-week class with **Harvey Leven**



### Timeless Wisdom from the Books of Ecclesiastes, Lamentations, and Song of Songs

**Beginning Monday, October 20, 2025 | 2:00-3:30 PM**

**ZOOM** 10-week class with **Rabbi Dr. Leon Weissberg**



### Jewish Denominations: Addressing the Challenges of Modernity

**Beginning Monday, October 20, 2025 | 7:00-8:30 PM**

**HYBRID** 10-week class with **Harvey Leven**



### Understanding Zionism: The Return to the Jewish Homeland

**Beginning Thursday, October 23, 2025 | 11:00 AM-12:30 PM**

**HYBRID** 6-week class with **Marion Hirschmann**

## November



### Jewish Answers to Life's Most Challenging Questions

**Beginning Tuesday, November 4, 2025 | 2:30-4:00 PM**

**ZOOM** 6-week class with **Rabbi Michele Faudem**

## December



### A History of Hatred: The Ever-Present Threat of Antisemitism

**Beginning Wednesday, December 3, 2025 | 10:30 AM-Noon**

**HYBRID @ CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL**

6-week class with **Rabbi Rony Keller and Rabbi Robert Silvers**

All Melton classes take place at B'nai Torah Congregation unless otherwise noted.

For more information, please contact Penina Bredoff at 561-392-8566 or [Penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org](mailto:Penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org).



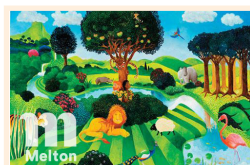
## January



### Biblical Women: Emerging from the Margins Through Midrash

**Beginning Thursday, January 8, 2026 | 11:00 AM–12:30 PM**

**HYBRID** 10-week class with **Marion Hirschmann**



### Genesis (Bereshit) Part I: From Adam to Abraham

**Beginning Tuesday, January 13, 2026 | 7:15–8:45 PM**

**HYBRID** 10-week class with **Rabbi David Steinhardt**



### Beyond Borders Part II: The Arab-Israeli Conflict (1967 to Present Day)

**Beginning Monday, January 26, 2026 | 9:30–11:00 AM**

**HYBRID** 10-week class with **Harvey Leven**



### The Jewish State: Examining the Jewish Identities of Israelis

**Beginning Monday, January 26, 2026 | 2:00–3:30 PM**

**ZOOM** 10-week class with **Rabbi Dr. Leon Weissberg**



### A History of Hatred: The Ever-Present Threat of Antisemitism

**Beginning Monday, January 26, 2026 | 7:00–8:30 PM**

**HYBRID** 6-week class with **Harvey Leven**

## February



### Understanding Zionism: The Return to the Jewish Homeland

**Beginning Wednesday, February 4, 2026 | 10:30 AM–Noon**

**HYBRID @ CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL**

## March



### Modern Living: Maintaining Balance

**Beginning Thursday, March 19, 2026 | 11:00 AM–12:30 PM**

**HYBRID** 6-week class with **Marion Hirschmann**



### Understanding Zionism: The Return to the Jewish Homeland

**Beginning Monday, March 23, 2026 | 7:00–8:30 PM**

**HYBRID** 6-week class with **Harvey Leven**

**To register,  
scan or visit:  
[meltonschool.org/  
boca](https://meltonschool.org/boca)**



**All Melton  
classes require  
registration and  
tuition fees.**

*Cost per class (including e-book):*

**6-week classes: \$179**

**10-week Scholars classes: \$295**

**20-week Beyond Borders: \$545**

*Scholarships are available for those who need.*



6261 SW 18th Street  
Boca Raton, FL 33433  
561-392-8556  
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# 2025-2026 Adult Education & Programming

Presented by the  
Lillian, Philip and Gerry  
**Cooperman Academy**  
for ADULT JEWISH LEARNING

\* All dates and times are subject to change.

Please visit our website at [btcboca.org](http://btcboca.org) for the most updated information or call the office at 561-392-8566