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LEARNING
For All Ages
2016/2017
~ 5777 ~

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our mission statement

Where ...

- Community is at our core
- Jewish living is creative, inclusive, joyful and intergenerational
- Children are nurtured and treasured
- We reach out beyond our congregation to help improve the world
- “member2member” is the essence of mutual support
- **Green** is more than a color
- Jewish tradition and culture inform the present
- Learning is a lifelong endeavor
- Values translate into action

learning at rsns



Starting with our one year-olds in the **Come Play With Me** program, through **Gan Shalom Nursery School, Synagogue School, programs for teenagers, and adults - our entire community** - we take the ideas expressed in our Mission Statement seriously. They form the essence of learning at RSNS. We hope congregants of all ages will take advantage of the variety of offerings, all designed to stimulate your thinking about Judaism, to engage you in enjoyable learning and to increase your understanding of our heritage. No prior level of knowledge is expected, questions are encouraged and discussion is meaningful. Participating in courses and programs is a wonderful way to meet fellow congregants of all ages and to more fully enjoy our community.



for young children

Come Play With Me

1 - 2 year olds

Tuesdays, 9:30 - 10:45am

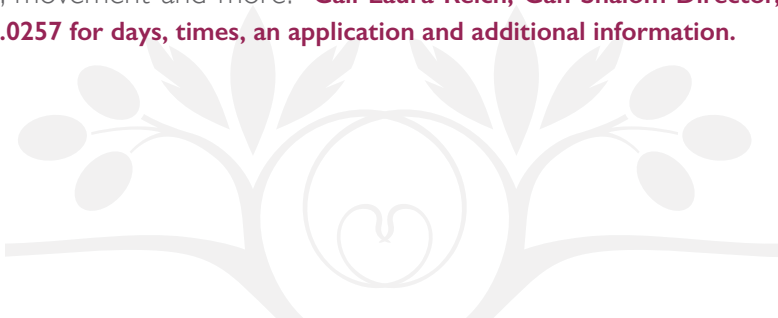
Children, along with their parent/caregiver play, paint, paste, sing and share snacks. Starts in January, 2017.

Gan Shalom

Nursery School

2 - 4 year olds

This program provides a quality Jewish preschool experience in a safe, relaxed and nurturing environment. We believe in fostering each child's natural curiosity, imagination, problem solving skills and creativity. Children are encouraged to experiment with a variety of materials while participating in individual and group activities. The curriculum includes story time, music, art, cooking, the celebration of Shabbat and Jewish holidays, movement and more. **Call Laura Reich, Gan Shalom Director, at 516. 627.0257 for days, times, an application and additional information.**



Gan Shalom Summer Program 2 – 4 year olds

This program is the perfect time to help your child transition into the pre-school environment. It offers children a variety of activities appropriate for their age and development. Children play indoors in air-conditioned classrooms, and outdoors where sprinklers and a water slide are available. Special activities are planned for each week and include Red, White and Blue Week, Under the Sea Week, Pajama Day and Crazy Hat Day. **Call Laura Reich, Gan Shalom Director, at 516.627.0257 for days, times, an application and additional information.**

Before & After Care 2 – 4 year olds Mon - Fri, 7:30am - 6:30pm

This program wraps around our traditional nursery school classes and includes indoor and outdoor playtime, gym playtime, afternoon snack, story time and art.

Friday
Night Family
Service
once/month,
7:30pm. Rsns.org
for dates

PJ Library 6 months – 8 year olds Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:30pm

Join our PJ Family! The RSNS Clergy and Gan Shalom Nursery School partner with PJ Library (a national program) to fill your lives with Jewish songs and books. Enrolled children receive free Jewish-themed books monthly through the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The synagogue also offers free PJ Library programs which celebrate Jewish holidays with crafts, storytelling, music and a pizza/salad dinner. **Dates: 10/19, 11/16, 2/15, 4/5, 5/3, 6/7. At Dolphin Bookshop: 12/21 6:00pm**





Shalom Shabbat with Cantor Eric & Yoga Jen

Birth - 5 year olds

Fridays, 12:00 - 1:00pm

Every Friday afternoon, our youngest children along with their parent/ grandparent/caregiver, celebrate Shabbat with challah and juice, songs, stories, and movement. Both Gan Shalom families and non-members are invited. **This program is inspired by the 92Y Shababa Network Approach. Every Friday, excluding Holidays. Please check rsns.org for dates.**

Family Havurot supervised by Rabbi Jodie

Join a Family Havurah! Each Havurah is a small group of four to six families with children/grandchildren from birth to 18 years old. We strive to connect participants to each other and Judaism through a home-based program that meets five times a year. We will pair you with other family units OR you can make your own group. Non-members and both traditional Jewish and inter-faith families are welcome. Each Family Havurah is assigned a master teacher, (Lauren, Miriam or Solomon) who mentors the Havurah as they engage in Jewish ritual, holidays, stories and learning. **Contact**

Rabbi Jodie: rabjodie@optonline.net for more info.

Funded by
UJA Federation
of New York

synagogue school



Coordinated by Rabbi Jodie

Children build community within their age groups and come together in the study of Torah, Jewish Values and Acts of Ethical Kindness. Through song, prayer and stories they deepen their knowledge of Hebrew. We teach Torah as a living document which serves not only as a record of our people's experiences, but as a blueprint for our lives today.

Our synagogue school is integrated into our larger synagogue community and draws upon the resources of our congregation. We seek to create a caring community within our school, which reflects our congregation.

Kindergarten, First Grade/Alef

Thursdays, 4:15 - 6:15pm

We join in song and prayer with our youngest students, welcoming them into the Synagogue School learning community. Through a holiday-based curriculum, Hebrew as a living language, and family involvement, we integrate our youngest learners into the larger RSNS community. Each family may participate in the class by providing dinner for the students and by bringing a special ritual object from home for show and tell. **Start date 9/15**

Second - Sixth Grade/Bet - Vav

Families choose one of the two following educational options:

Option 1. Shabbat School

Tuesdays, 4:15 - 6:15pm, Friday evening or Saturday morning

This two day-a-week option addresses a desire for direct parental involvement in their child's Jewish education and fosters Shabbat learning. On Tuesdays, students get Hebrew instruction and attend school community programs including Tefilla Breira* (electives) in groups with

Ashokan
Trip!
December 2-4,
Grades 3-6

the Tuesday/Thursday students. The second day of attendance is either a Friday evening or a Saturday morning. One Friday evening each month (when family services are held), students engage in “classroom” activities from 6:00 - 7:25pm. At 7:30pm parents join their children for Family Services. The remaining sessions meet on Saturday mornings from 9:00 - 11:00am and include Torah study and services.



One Saturday a month includes a B'Yahad (literally “Together”) service with Cantor Eric and Rabbi Jodie. A parent is required to attend the B'Yahad service with their child. For the first hour two simultaneous Torah study groups are held - one for adults and one for children. Parents and children then join together for a one hour family Shabbat service. The entire RSNS community is invited to attend both the adult Torah study and family service. **Start date: 9/6. Saturdays B'Yahad, 9:00–11:00am: 9/24, 10/22, 11/19, 12/17, 1/21, 2/11, 3/25, 4/22, 5/13**

Option 2. Tuesdays/Thursdays, 4:15 - 6:15pm

Tuesdays are for Hebrew instruction and school community programs including Tefilla Breira* (electives). Thursdays the focus is on Torah, Tefilla (prayer service), Jewish Values and Acts of Ethical Kindness.

***Tefilla Breira (prayer electives) or “breirot”**

Students have a chance to try something new by focusing on a particular type of prayer activity. They explore different ways to access prayer, for example, through storytelling, social action, yoga, Israeli dancing and creative writing sessions led by our staff.

Kids' Choir with Cantor Eric

Tuesdays, 6:15 - 6:30pm

The Kids' Choir is open to all synagogue school students in grades gimmeI-vav. Kids learn contemporary Shabbat music (Camp JRF/NFTY tunes, folk songs, and other popular melodies). Kids' Choir sings at every Friday evening family service, and joins the adult choir for a special musical service in the winter. They also perform at nursing homes and community holiday events.

Or Hadash with Morah Lauren

Grades 4 - 6, Saturdays, 7:00 - 9:30pm

Our junior youth group is called Or Hadash or “New Light”. Participants get together for monthly ice cream Havdalah movie nights, and take a trip to volunteer at a Jewish soup kitchen in New York City. **Dates: 9/17, 10/15, 12/10, 1/9 (trip), 2/4, 3/18, 4/22**

Kadima with Rabbi Jodie, Cantor Eric and Solomon

Tuesdays, 6:00 - 8:00pm, includes pizza dinner

Students in the Kadima year attend class every Tuesday.

Once a month students are joined by their parents.

Beginning with a day-long family retreat (9/10), we hope to form both a spiritual and a learning community where b'nai mitzvah students and their parents encounter Judaism through the eyes of the women, men and children who have helped shape our heritage.

We also hope to give each participant a common vocabulary as they continue to develop their own relationship with Judaism. **Start date: 9/6**



Kadima
Family
Retreat
9/10



Family D'Var Torah

The whole family has the opportunity to write and present on the bima a discussion of the Torah portion of the week in which their child becomes a bat/bar mitzvah. Following an introductory workshop on how to study Torah texts and prepare a d'var torah (literally: a word of Torah), families are given a copy of that Torah portion. After the family has read the text, Rabbi Jodie meets with the family to help guide them through the text, to answer questions, address issues, and help focus a course of study.

Shabbat
Dinners
Fridays, 6:30
Adults \$10, Kids free
10/21, 12/16, 1/20,
3/17, 4/21

for teens

Adopt A Survivor with Rabbi Jodie

Grade 8

Introductory Session 9/14 6:00 - 7:00pm

One Wednesday a month, 5:30 - 7:00pm

10/5, 11/9, 12/14, 1/11, 2/8, 3/8, 4/5

Yom HaShoah program during Synagogue School on 4/25

Yom HaShoah RSNS service 4/23 at 7:00pm

This program was established by Irving Roth, director of the Holocaust Resource Center at Temple Judea of Manhasset. Mr. Roth has organized a network of Holocaust survivors to serve as “adoptees” for our eighth grade students. These connections provide a vital link to the events of the Holocaust at a time when there are fewer survivors living to tell their own stories. The process begins with conversations between survivor and adopter. Through a series of meetings held at RSNS under Rabbi Jodie’s supervision, the students become “surrogate survivors,” committed to learning and re-telling their survivor’s story to the next generation. Students in this program agree to speak about their survivors in the year 2045, the 100th anniversary of the camps’ liberation. The initial session consists of a formal educational piece to provide students with general background information. Finally, students present their survivors’ stories to the Synagogue School and during RSNS’ Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial) service. Parents are welcome, but not required to attend, and take turns providing food for each session.

Bro’s Hodesh with Cantor Eric

Grades 8 - 12, Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00pm

Being a guy is not always so simple. In this boys-only group, we’ll take an opportunity to explore what being a man – more specifically, a JEWISH man – means, and what we can learn about ourselves and each other.

Through activities, games, popular culture, food, discussions, and group experiences, we'll take this opportunity to just be guys. **Dates: 9/27, 10/25, 11/29, 12/20, 1/31, 2/28, 3/28, 4/25, 5/23, plus "BroBQ" on 6/11**



Girls Rosh Hodesh with Rabbi Jodie **Grades 8 - 12**

This program is based on the Jewish tradition of women's New Moon celebrations to build the self-esteem, Jewish identity, leadership skills, and friendship networks of adolescent girls. The monthly meetings provide a supportive environment where girls explore the social and cultural issues they encounter as they become adults and derive their own authentic Jewish values in response to the challenges they face. The small groups are designed to provide a celebratory, empowering setting in which girls support each other in growing and learning while having lots of fun. The program's success is due, in part, to the participatory mixture of discussing issues, traditions, and role models, making crafts and writing stories, rejoicing with song and dance, socializing, and munching. **Dates: 9/27, 10/25, 11/29, 12/20, 1/31, 2/28, 4/25, 5/23**

Madrachim, coordinated by Rabbi Jodie

Grades 8 - 12

Madrachim (Guides) are given assignments which include assisting in a classroom, or in the office, as a Hebrew tutor, or working one-on-one with students. During training sessions Madrichim enhance their Synagogue School experience through continued learning about Judaism, leadership, Jewish education, professional conduct and teaching techniques. **Madrachim have the option of working Tuesday and/or Thursday, 4:00 - 6:30pm, once a month on Friday, 6:00 - 8:30pm, and/or Saturdays, 9:00 - 11:00am. Madrichim can be paid or earn community service hours. Learning sessions are 9/1 at 7:00pm, and 11/22, 1/24, 3/21, 5/9 from 6:30 - 7:30pm.**



Kulanu

Grades 8 - 12 and parents

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00pm

Kulanu means **All of Us**. Teens and parents meet separately, at the same time, one Tuesday a month to learn and connect with each other. Pizza included.

Grades 8-10 With Cantor Eric and Solomon, participants explore a wide range of engaging topics in fun, interactive ways!

Grades 11-12 High school juniors and seniors learn from a series of guest experts what it takes to make it as a young adult looking ahead to college life! Topics include: Israel, Hillel, Sex, Drugs, Time Management, Politics and Making a Difference in The World.

Parents In the tradition of B'Yahad and Kadima, parents continue their own journeys as learners in this new monthly course: All About Reconstructionism! The topics will include God, Ritual Practice, Philosophy, Jewish Peoplehood and Reconstructionist History and Ideology. The entire RSNS community is invited to attend this monthly course taught by Rabbi Lee. **Dates: 9/13, 10/18, 11/15, 12/13, 1/17, 2/14, 3/14, 4/18, 5/9. Contact Cantor Eric for more info: rsnscantor@gmail.com.**



Kesher Hadash with Cantor Eric

Grades 8 - 12

Our synagogue's co-ed youth group is called Kesher Hadash, "New Connections". Teens have the opportunity to connect once a month by engaging in tikkun olam (social action), holiday experiences, parties, trips and more! **Dates: 9/18, 10/22, 11/6, 12/4, 1/8, 2/5, 3/3-5, 4/2, 5/26-28. Contact Cantor Eric for more info: rsnscantor@gmail.com.**

Save the
Date
Teen Trip
to Baltimore
5/26-29

Shinshinim, coordinated by Rabbi Jodie

In partnership with the Sid Jacobson Jewish Community Center (SJCC), the Long Island Chapter of the Israeli Scouts and several area synagogues, we receive two "Shinshinim" – Israeli High School graduates who spend their gap year with us and other local partnering institutions before they commence their mandatory military service in Israel. The Shinshinim program's mission is to bring Israel closer to Jewish communities on Long Island, to foster cross-cultural understanding, and to nurture love of and pride in Israel, particularly for our youth. These two wonderfully dynamic Israelis will each teach a class in our synagogue school and have other opportunities to interact and contribute to our community.

for adults



All about Reconstructionism with Rabbi Lee
Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00pm

How often have you been asked to define Reconstructionism? This course will address all questions, and will satisfy your own curiosity as well. After an introductory session on the context of Reconstructionism in American Jewish History, Rabbi Lee will offer a topical approach to the study. Topics to be considered will include: the meaning of God, ritual practice, the nature of prayer; the place of Israel, Judaism as a civilization, living in two civilizations – the Jewish and the American, life cycle practices, political action, and Jewish Peoplehood. Topics will be announced in advance for your consideration. One need not attend every session to benefit from the course. The entire RSNS community is invited to attend this monthly course. **Dates: 9/13, 10/18, 11/15, 12/13, 1/17, 2/14, 3/14, 4/18, 5/9**



A Historical Survey of Israeli Music -
From Herzl to Hip Hop
Three Day Course, 11/14, 11/21, 11/28

Cantor Eric will be teaching this three-day course as a part of The Herbert Tarr North Shore Institute for Adult Jewish Education 2016 Fall Jewish Studies and Lecture Program. **Note: this course will be held at Temple Beth Sholom in Roslyn. There is a fee for this course. See www.herberttarr.org for registration forms, time, as well as other courses offered as part of this series.**

Torah Study with Rabbi Jodie and Cantor Eric
Saturdays, 9:00 - 10:15am

Study the Torah portion of the week, Parshat HaShavua. Open to all adults, members and non-members. **Dates: 9/24, 10/22, 11/19, 12/17, 1/21, 2/11, 3/25, 4/22, 5/13**



Bible Seminar with Rabbi Lee

Thursdays, 8:00 - 9:30pm

Come and dip a cup into the sea that is the Hebrew Bible, which has been an anchor of the Jewish People for the last two millennia. Our particular study, which is without end, requires no previous experience. Using the tools of critical and literary analysis, we collectively strive to find the meaning of the biblical text for generations of its writers and for us. This year begins with the end of the Book of Psalms but will quickly turn to the Book of Proverbs. Don't be intimidated. This class is for those without any biblical background and for those who know a great deal. This seminar is open to both members and non-members. **Dates: 10/20, 11/3, 11/17, 12/1, 12/22, 1/5, 1/19, 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, 3/30, 4/13, 4/27, 5/11, 5/25**

Save the
Date
**Pesach
Experience**
3/22

Women's Rosh Hodesh with Rabbi Jodie

Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9:00pm

All women of our congregation are welcome to join us as we study, and learn from each other. We examine traditional religious rituals that were designed and continue to meet a variety of needs that relate to life passages.

Needs include those of an individual to be acknowledged by community, the need for the community/tribe to read itself into the passages of each member, the need for bonding, which serves both individual and community, the need to dramatically (re-)enact the great stories and messages of the tradition, for the sake of individuals and of the tradition. **Dates: 10/5, 11/9, 12/14, 1/11, 2/8, 3/8, 5/10**

Zionism Seminar with Rabbi Lee

Saturdays, 12:00 - 1:30pm

Join us to learn about the history of the modern State of Israel. We read original documents from a variety of sources to help us understand how Israel got where it is today. In this dynamic seminar, we study and discuss memoirs, ideological treatises, positions of the historical figures, and government and international documents. Rabbi Lee provides background information and clarification, which frequently lead to lively discussions. This year we will begin with Israel's post Yom Kippur War history. Each class is complete within itself, so drop by as often as you wish. Members and non-members are welcome. **Dates: 10/8, 10/29, 11/12, 12/17, 1/14, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22, 5/6, 5/27**

Cantor's Dinner and Study Session

Fridays, 7:00 - 8:00pm or come for dinner at 6:30pm

Join Cantor Eric for Shabbat dinner and engage in lively conversation and the study of diverse topics. Each year there is a specific theme. This year's theme is Prayer Technology: Movement, Sound, Lighting and Text: From ancient times to the 21st century. Dinner is at the synagogue. Price varies depending on the menu. You are welcome to skip dinner and come for FREE for the 7:00 – 8:00pm study session. Shabbat evening services follow. **Dates: 9/23, 10/28, 11/18, 1/13, 3/24, 4/28, 6/17**

Yiddish Reading Group

Fridays, 10:00 - 11:30am

If you have an affection for Yiddish and its significance in our culture and daily life, this is the group for you. Whether you know a little Yiddish or are an expert, the group is glad to help you with the literature, poetry, readings from the Daily Forward, short stories and songs, which are read in Yiddish and discussed in English. Members and non-members are welcome.

Contact Jerry Bloom: 516.466.2519, to confirm when class will be in session.



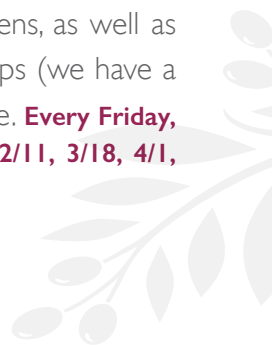
New!

2nd Generation Surrogate Survivors Introductory session 9/20, 8:00pm

Children and grandchildren of survivors are invited to share the stories and the history of their family member. These connections provide a vital link to the events of the Holocaust in a time when there are fewer survivors living to tell their own stories. Irving Roth, Director of the Holocaust Center at Temple Judea, will help train family members of survivors to tell their relative's stories for generations to come. **Contact Rabbi Jodie: rabjodie@optonline.net or Dinah Kramer: dinahkramer@gmail.com for more information.**

Shabbat Yoga with Rabbi Jodie (RYS-200 Certified) Fridays, 10:00 - 11:15am and Saturdays, 8:15 - 9:30am

Experience Shabbat through movement; connecting body, mind and soul. Good for all levels. Adults and post b'nai mitzvah teens, as well as non-members are welcome. Bring your mat and yoga props (we have a few if you forget yours). Wear comfortable work-out attire. **Every Friday, excluding Holidays. Saturdays: 9/17, 10/15, 11/5, 12/17, 1/21, 2/11, 3/18, 4/1, 5/20, 6/17. Please check rsns.org to confirm dates.**



Give
your heart
to learning

~ Proverbs 23:12 ~

For more info
and programming:
www.rsns.org



RSNS

RECONSTRUCTIONIST
SYNAGOGUE OF THE
NORTH SHORE

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