

# Pre-K<sup>un</sup> ~~Tikkun~~ SHAVUOT

Please note all times are EST

Join us for any of these learning sessions to get prepared for Shavuot—a holiday of learning! Hyperlinks are attached to each session name, which will take you right to the session on Zoom on the day of the session. Please sign up using this [form](#).

## **1pm Lilith: Jewish Demon or Heroine? w/ Lindsay Goldman**

In this session we will be exploring both traditional and modern interpretations of the character Lilith, Adam's "ex-wife". She was villainized by the rabbis for being a woman not willing to submit to her husband and became associated with demonizing Jewish babies. We will also look at feminist texts that view her in a more positive light and discuss what we can learn from her as a character and a Jewish woman. Hope to see you there!

## **5pm Is Photoshop Compatible with Jewish Ethics? w/ Kayley Romick**

We will explore Jewish sources that can be applied to this modern topic. This highly interactive sessions will encourage discussion of values as related to technological advancements in our world.

## **6pm How long, O Lord? Crafting our own Psalms of Lament w/ Maor Greene**

The first half of this workshop will explore how the psalmist complains to God in Psalm 13 about suffering while still maintaining faith. The second half of the workshop will provide time for people to compose their own psalms.

## **7pm An Old-New Hate with Many Names: Understanding Antisemitism in the 21st Century w/ Margo Hughes-Robinson**

What are the different dynamics of anti-semitism globally and in the? How does antisemitism function similarly and differently from other oppressions? How do we understand our own history, and move into coalition and deep relationship for liberation? Join educator and rabbinical student Margo for an in-depth exploration of the interlocking economic, political, and religious dynamics of historical and contemporary Jew-hatred, and what it means for our moment.

## **8pm Beach Reads in the Talmud w/ Lilli Shvartsmann**

To kick off beach read season, join Lilli Shvartsmann to read stories of love, friendship and family in the Talmud. We may not get as much beach time this summer as we'd like, but the stories are endless!

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## 1pm Encountering Illness w/ Naomi Zaslou

As someone with a chronic illness, I often think about what it means to pray for refuah, for healing. How are illness and healing addressed in the Torah, or by the rabbis of the Talmud? How might their ideas about illness and refuah interact with our own? We will explore a few ideas from the Torah, Talmud & Siddur, and discuss their spiritual meaning and resonance for us today. All scripture will be shown on the screen in Hebrew and English.

## 5pm There's Something About Ruth w/ Jonathon Adler

Why do we read Megilat Ruth at Shavuot? What should we learn from this book with some of the most vibrant female characters in the bible? In this session, we'll discuss The Book of Ruth as well as some of the midrashic tales about this unusual heroine.

## 6pm "Ayyekah?" A Reflective and Spiritual Writing Workshop on Where We Are w/ Maor Greene

In Genesis 3:9, God asks Adam, "Where are you?" This is a question we can ask at any point in our lives. Using writing prompts from spiritual direction, this workshop will help us get in touch with where we are and our understandings of God.

## 7pm "Going Up the Mountain": Yoga and Meditation on Being Ready for the Next Big Thing w/ Deena Cowans

Join Rabbi Deena Cowans for a one hour yoga and guided meditation on elevating our minds and bodies for something great. Please wear flexible clothing and have a towel or mat on which to practice. Beginners welcome!

## 8pm Calligraphy Collaging: Being Present at Sinai w/ Ilana Sandberg

The word ירד, to come down, appears many times in the Sinai scene both referring to God and Moses. Join Ilana to learn how to write the two root letters in traditional Hebrew calligraphy, about the meaning of these letters in Jewish mysticism, and how they figure in the Sinai extravaganza! Be prepared to make your own meaning of the Sinai scene and unleash your artistic creativity.

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## 1pm From Sinai to Psychedelics: Can we Embody Revelation in our World Today? w/ **Rishe Groner**

What really happened at Sinai? Was it a visceral experience, a deep sleep, or the world's biggest group psychedelic trip? We'll talk about the use of entheogens and hallucinogenic substances to encounter the Divine, and uncover what psychedelics research can teach us about how we continue to live out Sinai in our daily lives, interacting with God as an ever-growing experience.

## 5pm When Your Honored Parents Are Making You Crazy: Kibud Av v'Em in Tight Spaces w/ **Jessica Dell'Era**

Sure, we're supposed to honor and respect our parents--but are there limits? What if we think they're being unreasonable? What if they're just wrong? Come explore what Jewish tradition has to say about how we can all get along and where to draw our boundaries.

## 6pm Guests? At a time like this?!? w/ **Jonathon Adler**

Hachnasat Orchim, the welcoming of guests, is a highly valued mitzvah. The Talmud Bavli teaches it is greater than welcoming even Schechinah. How can we fulfill this mitzvah in this time of social distancing?

## 7pm Reaching Sinai: Completing the Omer in Covid-19 Times w/ **Marcelle Hohl**

While we have been wandering in the wilderness of COVID-19, tonight marks the spiritual destination of Sinai. Together we will study and discuss Jewish texts from Pirkei Avot, the Zohar and by Mussar masters. We explore them as tools to see the way forward, and we will learn how to use their teachings to overcome our current challenges and emerge stronger and more resilient on the other side.

## 8pm What's Jewish about the 2020 election? w/ **Talia Kaplan**

Let's learn what Judaism has to say about civic engagement and how you can make a difference in the upcoming election, whether or not you're old enough to vote. Bring your ideas, questions, or just yourself to this interactive text study. This discussion will be facilitated by Talia Kaplan, a rabbinical student and community organizer who previously worked on Capitol Hill.

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## **12pm “If you prick us, do we not bleed?” (Shylock, Merchant of Venice, Act III, Scene 1) w/ David Chapman**

William Shakespeare wrote The Merchant of Venice at the end of the 16th Century, over 300 years after Jews had been expelled from England. How did he create one of Western drama’s most enduring (and controversial) Jewish characters without any direct exposure to Jewish life? This course will explore how Shakespeare used — and misused — the Hebrew Bible to create “Shylock the Jewe.”

## **1pm Death Exploration (+ creative prompt) w/ Naomi Zaslow**

It's a certainty of life: we will all die. We will die even if we don't talk about it! And while the Torah is full of deaths, it is opaque on what happens next. In this session, we will look at some death and after-death stories, and share our thoughts and questions about death. Bring a journal, or sketchbook, and any creative supplies that you enjoy using. All scripture will be shown in English and in Hebrew.

## **5pm The Power of the Individual Versus the Power of Community w/ Aaron Leven**

By delving into a passage from the B'rachot Tractate of the Talmud, we will explore together the ways we connect with the Divine and ask is the question is this connection with G-d more powerful when we are alone or when we are in community. Especially, in our current environment, we will examine the way the text can be a guide in seeking different forms of spirituality, and the ways that the text perhaps falls short.

## **6pm Weeping with God: Theologies of Pain and Solace w/ Allen Lipson**

Now, more than ever, we need theological language adequate to moments of deep pain and fragility. This session will trace the rabbinic theme of God's weeping in through rabbinic literature, culminating with R. Kalonymos Kalmish Shapira's writing from the Warsaw Ghetto. We'll ask each other how these texts speak to our religious and emotional lives.

## **7pm Adventures in Talmud: I'll Make a Man Out of You w/ Joshua Klein**

An in-depth look at the Talmudic tale about Rabbi Yochanan and Reish Lakish's relationship focused on how this story highlights an alternate model to the predominant Western conception of masculinity. And yes, we will listen to “I'll Make a Man out of You” from Mulan.

## **8pm Medical Decisions in the Time of COVID-19 - Who to save? w/ Ben Varon**

We are living through a crisis and doctor's, all over the world, are being faced with all kinds of difficult decisions. One of those terrible decisions has been whose life to prioritize in saving? Join me as we look at some Jewish sources and see what Judaism has to say about this issue.

**A PROJECT OF THE SLIFKA-NADICH MILLENNIAL  
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