

From Rabbi Michael Silbert

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Adult Education! It's on the way!

I am so excited to share with you that Temple Beth David, together with Temple Sinai, will offer a new adult education series designed by the Shalom Hartman Institute (SHI), in the Spring of 2022, to be taught jointly by Rabbi Debbi Till and myself.



The **Peoplehood** unit (which will be taught this coming spring) focuses on the meaning and definition and purpose of Jewish community, how it can be diverse and hold shared values and a shared history and an exploration of the main centers of Jewish life: Israel and North America.

The subsequent units are:

"Foundations for a Thoughtful Judaism" is a curricular project which offers a sophisticated yet accessible introduction to philosophical ideas in Jewish (1) peoplehood, (2) practice, (3) faith, and (4) ethics (each of these four areas forms a separate unit of the curriculum). Therefore, we shall begin with the first unit by exploring Jewish Peoplehood over 10 sessions, beginning March 7 through May 16.

According to the SHI, "The curriculum grew out of an interest in sharing ideas that have been taught at the Institute to rabbis for decades, but this time with people who have an interest in Jewish tradition yet are not experienced Jewish scholars."

Rebecca Starr, director of regional programs for the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, says that *Foundations for a Thoughtful Judaism* is a curriculum based on wide-sweeping thoughts and concepts about Jewish identity and peoplehood for the 21st century rather than focusing on the details of practicing the religion. She hopes that the new curriculum will lead to the "deep meaningful conversations" that people in the Jewish community need to have as they continue to deal with and emerge from the pandemic.

Faith: An exploration of questions relating to one's relationship with God and what a life of faith entails, models in Judaism that exemplify the complexities of having a relationship with God as well as viewpoints on where Jews who do not believe in God fit in.

Practice: What is the meaning of the system of mitzvot and what does it accomplish? In an age that encourages independent and self-minded thinking, how can one find relevance in rituals and how the sanctification of time, space and body can lead to holiness.

Ethics: In what ways is the individual obligated to the widest and innermost circles of community according to Jewish tradition? How to maintain relationships even when one party wrongs another, and the obligations parents and children have to one another.

To add to the multimedia aspect of the curriculum, each volume is accompanied by a series of podcasts and 10-minute videos. The lessons have a basic format built on Jewish texts, but they allow for news articles, videos or even songs — anything that allows more current relevance to the subject matter.

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The mission of Temple Beth David is to provide an environment where the concepts of community prayer, education, and service to the greater Jewish community are provided within the context of Conservative Judaism. We take pride in being a friendly, participatory, egalitarian community, welcoming all to be a part of our synagogue family.

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Please stay tuned for information about how to register for the course, which will be released early in 2022.

Just to recap in the meantime though, the important details are:

“Foundations for a Thoughtful Judaism”

- Unit 1: *Jewish Peoplehood*
- Taught by Rabbis Debbi Till and Michael Silbert
- Ten sessions, running from March 7 through May 16
- Monday evenings (each session will be 1½ hours)
- IN PERSON ONLY, at Temple Sinai
- There is no cost to register but there is a limit as to how many may participate

This ought to be a fabulous experience – I look forward to seeing you there!

Best wishes,

Michael

Thank you so much to all congregants who donated to our
Temple Beth David Chanukah collection drive for the
Brighton Food Cupboard and Brighton Your Wardrobe!

You were so generous, and these items will be a great
support to the families BFC and BYW serve.



Temple Beth David will be holding Shabbat service in the
Temple B'rith Kodesh Chapel, located on the first floor, at 10:00 am on

Saturday, January 8 and Saturday, January 22

For more information, visit our website or call the temple office.

The next **Temple Beth David Board of Trustee Meeting** will be held
on Tuesday, January 18 at 7:00 pm, via Zoom. All temple members
are welcome to attend or you may address any questions or concerns to
a board member for consideration prior to the meeting. For information
on how to attend the meeting or how to contact a board member,
please consult your temple directory or contact the temple office.



Find us on Facebook at **Temple Beth David - Rochester, NY**.
You will find photos and videos, event information, recipes,
and more. If you are interested in certain types of content,
please send suggestions to office@tbdrochester.com.

All in the Family

January Birthdays

Ethan Aranov	January 3
Paul Eissenstat	January 8
Bruce Goldin	January 8
Hannah Eckhaus	January 12
David Langmann	January 18
Mindy Zoghlin	January 23
Elaine Schaffer	January 24
Linda Servetnick	January 25
Sarisa Zoghlin	January 27



Andrew Berger honored for novel ways to monitor biological cells and tissues

New Optica fellow studies bruising associated with abuse, risks of bone fracture, and accumulation of microplastics.

Andrew Berger, a professor of optics at the University of Rochester, scatters light from molecules and cells in novel ways, working with collaborators from many disciplines to detect risk of bone fracture,

signs of domestic abuse, and micro-plastic pollutants in our bodies.

For his achievements, he has been elected a fellow of Optica (formerly OSA), the international society for optics and photonics.

Fellows are Optica members who have served with distinction in the advancement of optics and photonics. No more than 10 percent of the total Optica membership can serve as fellows.

Berger, who joined the University's Institute of Optics in 2000 and also serves as a professor of biomedical engineering, is being recognized for "significant advances in using intrinsic optical contrast mechanisms to analyze untreated cells and tissues, either in living subjects or in the laboratory."

Those contrast mechanisms include Raman spectroscopy, in which narrowband lasers scatter light from molecules, revealing detailed information about chemical concentrations. Berger also uses angular scattering of light from single cells to detect changes or differences in the size of the cells' organelles.

His recent research projects have included:

Assessing the risk of bone fracture due to osteoporosis, with Hani Awad, the Donald and Mary Clark Distinguished Professor in Orthopaedics and a professor of biomedical engineering. Initially funded with a University seed grant, the project has generated more than \$2.25 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health.

Using different types of light sources to detect bruising in dark-skinned individuals in order to improve documentation of domestic abuse. The project is a collaboration with researchers at the University's Susan B. Anthony Center and colleagues at the Institute of Optics.

Examining the ability of microplastic pollutants to pass through human tissue barriers and accumulate in organs, in collaboration with five other colleagues from the University of Rochester Medical Center, Department of Biomedical Engineering, and the Institute of Optics.

Andrew Berger is also an accomplished teacher. He codirects the University's nano-, bio- and quantum photonics REU (research experience for undergraduates) program and has been recognized with two of the University's college-wide teaching awards: the Goergen Award for Distinguished Achievement and Artistry in Undergraduate Teaching (2007) and the Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (2016).

"I'm always energized by the thought of how I can reach students," Berger says. "In optics, the challenge of teaching undergraduates is not to be too abstract—to put your energy not into presenting a seamless train of thought but into chopping it up," he says. So, he uses peer-led workshops, and in lectures checks in with students frequently, using questions, hypothetical scenarios, and other techniques to engage them.

Last year he participated in a University Symposium Series presentation on how faculty members in STEM fields can use online learning tools.

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Received November 16 - December 15, 2021

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Yahrzeits			Date Observed
January 2 Benjamin Rosenbaum	January 10 Arthur Bauman Laurie Feuerstein Walsh	January 17 Ida "Toots" Skopitz	January 23 Miriam Bauman
January 5 Yuda Kinel L. Grant Meeker	January 11 Julius Himmelstein Regina Schier	January 18 Charles Jaffey	January 26 Rose Kessler Florence Levinson Lillian Narotsky
January 7 Norman Gilman	January 12 Bertha Dobkin	January 19 Lillian Schneider	January 28 Herman Miller
January 8 Ada Rosenthal Abe Rousso	January 14 Barbara Goldman Minnie Haymoff	January 21 Charles Conwell Garson Kleinberg David Nussbaum	January 31 Minnie Himmelstein
January 9 Sarah Ann Berke Ida Gertzog	January 15 Morris Klein George Moidel	January 22 Max Gordon Harry Sigelow	
<p><i>The yahrzeit date that appears above is the date of observance using the secular calendar. These dates match those of the Hebrew calendar for the actual date of death.</i></p>			

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☐ Mitzvah Kiddush Donation

- ☐ Rabbi Discretionary Fund
☐ Rabbi Skopitz Fund
☐ Soldiers Project
☐ Torah Repair Fund

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Donations and dues payments may now be accepted online! Visit our donate page at www.tbdrochester.org/donate Online donation minimum \$10.



Do you receive our Weekly News email?

If not, you are missing out on the latest news about Temple Beth David services and events, as well as community information. Call or email the Temple Office to add your name to the mailing list!

HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) is United States legislation that provides data privacy and security provisions for safeguarding medical information. Hospitals are no longer permitted to contact the temple office to notify us of admitted congregants.

Please contact the office with family news.



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