

JEWISH STUDIES

Expand Your Heart and Mind



THE GREAT JEWISH BOOKS INITIATIVE

The Adat Shalom Jewish Studies Committee is planning a unique year-long study experience. We're calling it the Great Jewish Books Initiative. We will be reading and studying the five Megillot, or books that follow the Jewish calendar's festivals. Let's take time to immerse ourselves and take a deep dive into the rich texts that accompany each festival: Sukkot (Megillat Kohelet/Ecclesiastes), Purim (Megillat Esther), Pesach (Megillat Shir HaShirim/Song of Songs), Shavuot (Megillat Ruth) and Tisha B'av (Megillat Eicha/Lamentations). We will offer special materials for each class and opportunities for people to come together in person and by Zoom video. Our hope is to make the experience accessible and enriching for all ages.

Megillat Kohelet/Ecclesiastes with Rabbi Leila Gal Berner

"There is nothing new under the sun" and "To everything there is a season." So says Kohelet, but that's just the beginning. Come and learn this profoundly spiritual text in time for the traditional chanting on Sukkot. Please join us for one or both classes.

Sunday, October 6, at 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Part 1) *Class participants will join the Sukkah raising for the traditional mitzvah of the first nail; class to begin immediately after.*

Saturday, October 12, at 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm (Part 2) *Join us for services and then study Kohelet with Rabbi Leila in our communal Sukkah, weather permitting.*

Mark your Calendars: Coming in 2020

Megillat Esther with Dr. Erica Brown

Sunday, March 1, 2020, at 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Dr. Erica Brown is the Director of the Mayberg Center for Jewish Education and Leadership and Associate Professor of Curriculum and Pedagogy at The George Washington University. She is the author of twelve books on leadership, the Hebrew Bible and spirituality; her forthcoming commentary is The Book of Esther: Power, Fate and Fragility in Exile.

Megillat Shir HaShirim/Song of Songs with Dr. Elsie Stern

Sunday, March 22, 2020, at 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Zoom video only) (Part 1)

Sunday, April 5, 2020, at 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Zoom video only) (Part 2)

Dr. Elsie Stern is the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Bible at the Reconstructionist Rabbinic College.

Megillat Ruth with Rabbi Rachel Hersh

Sunday, May 3, 2020, at 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Part 1)

Saturday, May 16, 2020, at 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm (Part 2)

Megillat Eicha/Lamentations (To Be Scheduled)



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