

## Classes

### Polemic and Poetry

*Mutually Hostile Discourse between Jews and Christians in Medieval Western Christendom*  
**Five Sundays, 10-11:30 a.m.**

This course with Rabbi Friedman will examine the Disputation of Rabbi Yehiel of Paris with the heretic Nicholas Donin in 1240 before the court of Louis IX of France together with some Jewish martyrological poetry from that period. Topics addressed in this disputation: Is the Talmud necessary? Is it absurd? Does it insult Jesus and Mary? Does Jewish suffering betoken Jewish guilt? Readings from scholarly studies of this period will be offered. For more information, please contact [rabbijf@judeareform.org](mailto:rabbijf@judeareform.org).

**Meets in the Rabbi's Study**

2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 4/4

### Service Participation for Dummies

**Sunday, April 11, 10-11:30 a.m.**

Have a bar or bat mitzvah coming up in your family? Want to participate more often in Friday night services but don't know how?

Come to the **Sanctuary** to learn how to do an aliyah and other service honors. Rabbi Berkowitz will teach the blessings as well as lead a walk-through of the various Judea Reform customs.

### Do Jews believe in Heaven and Hell?

**Three Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.**

One of the questions rabbis get asked most often—and have the most difficulty answering—is, “What do Jews believe about what happens after death?”

In this three-part course taught by Rabbi Berkowitz, we will look at the wide variety of Jewish views on the afterlife.

**April 21: What about us is eternal? Jewish ideas about the soul (Bossen Family Library)**

**April 28: Where do we go? Different visions of the afterlife (Bossen Family Library)**

**May 5: Can we come back? Jewish concepts of reincarnation and resurrection (Monsein Community Court)**

## Cantillation Course

Congregant and accomplished Torah reader David Blaker will lead a class on chanting from the Torah. Students will learn the art of chanting, so they will be able to chant any portion with practice and without a recording.

The prerequisite for this course is the ability to read Hebrew out loud. Comprehension is not necessary. Singing talent is a plus, but not required. The textbook for this course will be [The Art of Torah Cantillation - A Step-by-Step Guide to Chanting Torah](#), which is available from [urjbooksandmusic.com](http://urjbooksandmusic.com). Please purchase the book before class begins.

**Meets in the Bossen Family Library from 11:55 a.m.-1:15 p.m.**

1/31, 2/7, 2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 4/4, 4/11, 4/18

## Year of Reading

Our *Year of Reading* continues. Over the last few months of 5770, we'll read and discuss two more books. Join Rabbi Berkowitz for engaging and inspiring conversation!

**Sunday, January 31, 10-11:30 a.m. (Monsein Community Court)**

**Putting God on the Guest List: How to Reclaim the Spiritual Meaning of Your Child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah by Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin**

**Sunday, April 25, 10-11:30 a.m. (Monsein Community Court)**

**The Blessing of a Skinned Knee: Using Jewish Teachings to Raise Self-Reliant Children by Wendy Mogel**

## Torah on Tour

This spring, Rabbi Berkowitz will be coming to YOUR neighborhood for a one-time, weekday study opportunity over breakfast or lunch. Dates, times and topics are still TBA, but we are hoping to have one each on the Duke Campus, in Chapel Hill and in RTP.

**Interested?**

**Email [rabbiberkowitz@judeareform.org](mailto:rabbiberkowitz@judeareform.org) with your input.**

## Book Club

Join our Book Club for one book or for both! All meetings are on Sundays from 9:30-11 a.m. in the Administrative Conference Room.

**March 21- The Book Thief by Markus Zusak**

**April 18- The Last Chicken in America by Ellen Litman**

## Guest Speakers

*Please contact the temple office for directions to Aleynu events.*

### Erin Carlston

***Aleynu: "Good for the Jews? The Rosenberg Trial and Conflict in the Jewish Community"***  
**Saturday, Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m.**

Join us at the Mecham home for a discussion led by Erin Carlston, professor of English and Jewish studies at UNC-Chapel Hill.

***Just Added at Press Time! Ora Gelley***

***Aleynu: film screening***

**Saturday, Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m. in Classrooms 5&6**

Check [www.judeareform.org](http://www.judeareform.org) for information

### Martha Hauptman

***Aleynu***

**Saturday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.**

Join us at the Vrana home to hear Martha Hauptman, personal assistant to Elie Wiesel for 27 years at Boston University, share her experiences. She will speak about his non-fiction books and his work behind the scenes at the White House from President Carter to the present.

### Rabbi Toba Spitzer

***Levin-Moscovitz Lecture***

**Friday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Rabbi Spitzer has served Congregation Dorshei Tzedek in West Newton, Mass. since her ordination in 1997. Rabbi Spitzer teaches courses on Judaism and economic justice, approaches to thinking about God, and the practice of integrating Jewish spiritual/ ethical teachings into daily life. She served as president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association from 2007-2009, and was the first lesbian or gay rabbi to head a national rabbinic organization. She was in *Newsweek's* Top 50 Rabbis in America 2008 and the Forward 50.

### Evyatar Marienberg

***Aleynu***

**Saturday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.**

Join us at the Birnbaum home for a discussion led by Evyatar Marienberg, E.J. and Sara Evans Assistant Professor of Jewish History and Culture at UNC. He has found many intellectual and scholarly benefits of studying more than one religious culture. He has done research involving Rabbinic Judaism and Jewish law, contemporary Catholicism, regulation of sexuality, social history in the Middle Ages, rituals, and reception of Vatican II. He earned a doctorate degree from Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales.



## Shabbat Morning Learning

### Torah Study

Join us on the following Saturdays at 9 a.m. for Torah Study. We are going through the entire Torah, verse by verse. Come add your voice to the discussion! Knowledge of Hebrew not required.

2/6, 3/6, 4/3, 5/1, 6/26 (Rabbi's Study)

### Talmud Study

Join us on the following Saturdays at 9 a.m. for Talmud Study. We will discuss Talmud passages on a variety of engaging topics such as forgiveness, social justice, and reproductive rights. Knowledge of Hebrew not required.

1/23, 2/13, 3/20, 4/24, 5/15, 6/19 (Rabbi's Study)

### Women's Torah Study

Join fellow women to read and discuss Torah on the following Saturdays at 9 a.m. No special expertise or knowledge of Hebrew needed. Come and share your insights!

2/20, 3/27, 4/17, 5/8, 6/5

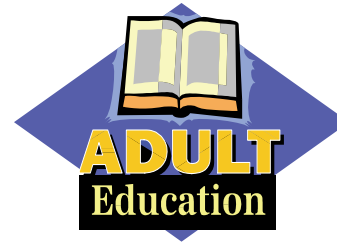
(Administrative Conference Room)

### Questions?

Call us at (919) 489-7062

Or visit us on the Web at

[www.judeareform.org](http://www.judeareform.org)



## How to Register

You may register for courses in the following ways:

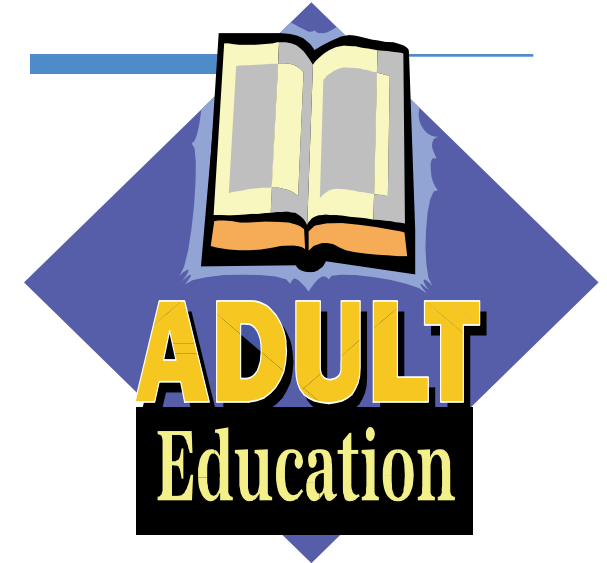
- 1) Via phone: 489-7062.
- 2) Via internet: Visit our website at [www.judeareform.org](http://www.judeareform.org) and follow the link to register for Adult Ed. Courses. By using this link, you can also pay by credit card online.

### Payments may be mailed to:

Judea Reform Congregation  
1933 West Cornwallis Road  
Durham, NC 27705  
Attn: Adult Education

### Fees:

Admission to lectures featuring guest speakers are free of charge. Classes are a benefit of membership to our congregants. **Non-members will be charged a fee of \$36 per class, which must be paid prior to the first class meeting.**



Opportunities for Study  
**Spring 2010**  
**5770**

**Rabbi John S. Friedman**  
**Rabbi Leah R. Berkowitz**

Judea Reform Congregation  
1933 West Cornwallis Road  
Durham, NC 27705