



Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation
Adult Brit* Mitzvah Cohort
2023-2024
Syllabus

Class No.	Date	Topic to be Covered
1	December 5, 2023	Introduction: Building Your Own Jewish Identity
2	December 12, 2023	Reconstructionist Judaism
3	December 19, 2023	What is Hevruta?
4	January 9, 2024	Torah and the Jewish Library: Introduction and Genesis
5	January 16, 2024	Torah and the Jewish Library: Exodus - Deuteronomy
6	January 23, 2024	Hevruta: Torah and the Jewish Library
7	January 30, 2024	Torah and the Jewish Library: Post Torah and Beyond
8	February 6, 2024	History and Civilization: From Biblical to Contemporary Times
9	February 13, 2024	Hevruta: History and Civilization
9	February 20, 2024	Liturgy, Prayer and Ritual: Blessings, Prayers, The Arc of T'fillah
10	February 27, 2024	Hevruta: Liturgy, Prayer and Ritual
11	March 5, 2024	Liturgy, Prayer and Ritual
12	March 12, 2024	Hevruta: Liturgy, Prayer and Ritual
13	March 19, 2024	Shabbat
14	March 26, 2024	Hevruta: Shabbat
15	April 2, 2024	Jewish Traditions, Practices, Halacha and VBDM
16	April 9, 2024	Hevruta: Jewish Traditions, Practices, Halacha and VBDM
17	April 16, 2024	Bodies, Food and Daily Living
18	April 23, 2024* Pesach	Hevruta: Bodies, Food, Daily Living and Jewish Practices
19	April 30, 2024	Gender, Race and Identities
	May 4, 2024	Learners' Shabbat Service
20	May 7, 2024	Hevruta: Gender, Race and Identities

21	May 14, 2024	Tikkun Olam
22	May 21, 2024	Hevruta: Tikkun Olam
23	May 28, 2024	God and Theology
SUMMER	Individual/Hevruta: Hebrew, Trope Preparation and Spiritual Autobiography	
Fall	TBD	Receiving Torah: Sharing Spiritual Autobiographies, Preparing to lead services, planning the ritual and the celebration, Conversion or Affirmation rituals
Fall	TBD	
Fall	TBD	
	Saturday, November 24, 2024 10am - 1pm	Shabbat Chaye Sara: Adult Brit Mitzvah Ritual

Shabbat and Holidays

- Attend 5 Shabbat evening services between December 8, 2023 and November 1, 2024
- Attend 5 Shabbat morning services between December 9, 2023 and November 2, 2024
- Participate in the following Jewish Holiday celebrations:
 - Chanukah (December 7 - 15, 2023)
 - Tu B'Shvat (observed at JRC January 26, 2024 or on actual day, January 25, 2024)
 - Purim (observed at JRC March 23-24, 2024)
 - Passover (1st Seder, April 22, 2024, continuing through April 29, 2024)
 - Shavuot (June 11-12, 2024)
 - Tisha b'Av (Aug 12-13, 2024)
 - Selichot (Sept. 18, 2024)
 - Rosh Hashanah (Oct 2-4, 2024)
 - Yom Kippur (Oct 11-12, 2024)

Will I have time and space in my life for this program?

*As adults, we have busy lives and many different things compete for our time. This program is designed to be flexible enough for each member to do the best they can, integrating Judaism and Jewish learning into their real lives, rather than waiting for the time to be right. Some participants may need to attend online, some may not be able to attend each session. We ask that you make a commitment to yourself that is feasible and manageable for you, and that you make a commitment to being part of the class community in the ways that are possible for you. **After all, Judaism should be something that supports our busy lives, filling us as we live.***