

**How our Adult Education Program is Organized**

Our adult education offerings are divided into three categories, corresponding to the three core values of Mount Zion's vision:

**TORAH תורה**

**Life-long Learning ♦ Sacred Texts ♦ Hebrew**

In this category, you will find courses, lectures, and discussions on Torah and other sacred Jewish literature. You will also find lessons at all levels in the Hebrew language through which we are best able to access these sacred texts.

**AVODAH עבודה**

**Worship ♦ Liturgy ♦ Spirituality**

Here you will find classes covering topics on religion and spirituality, including liturgy, life-cycles, theology, holiday rituals, and Jewish music and chanting. Through these offerings, we enrich our spirituality and the meaning of our worship services.

**GEMILUT CHASADIM גמילות חסדים**

**Acts of Loving Kindness and Justice ♦ Social Action ♦ Community Issues ♦ Culture & Israel**

In this grouping, we have gathered a variety of learning experiences from the treasure trove of Jewish culture, history, politics, and art, seeking ways to better connect to one another, to our spiritual home in Israel, and to the American society in which we live.

To register for any class, go to [mzion.org](http://mzion.org) or contact Julie at [jbeckman@mzion.org](mailto:jbeckman@mzion.org)

# Inside

Inside this brochure are classes and one-time programs for all kinds of learners. Browse and find something that sparks your curiosity.

**Learn Hebrew!**

PAGE 2



**Intro to Judaism**

PAGE 3



**Mussar**

PAGE 4



## Mount Zion's Year-long Focus (Kivvun) on Israel Wrestling with our Relationship with Israel

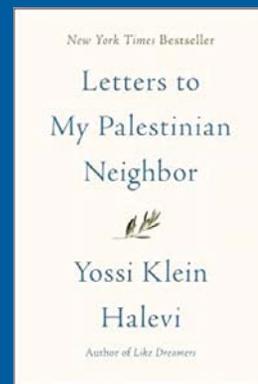
**Movie: Heading Home**

PAGE 9



**Community Book Read**

BACK PAGE



All Israel related programming: PAGES 5-10

## Torah at the Center...

Every week, three times to study Torah.  
Stop by anytime.  
No experience/background necessary.

### Torah Mondays

**Rabbi Esther Adler**

12:00-1:00 p.m. (ongoing)  
Mount Zion Temple

Take a lunch break from your busy life and join this Torah discussion. We read through the text and commentaries, and respond with our own experiences, ideas, and events of the day to illuminate the intricate relationships that evolved among our ancestors. We are currently studying the weekly Haftarah portions.

*Bring Your Lunch!*

### Thursday: Genesis with Rashi

**Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker**

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. (ongoing)  
220 S. 6th St., Suite 1800 Minneapolis (US Bank Building)

Fill your spirit with food for the soul over lunch in a downtown conference room. Study the book of Genesis the way it has been studied for centuries, with the great commentator Rashi as our guide. Come once or regularly and enjoy the camaraderie of a chevruta, the Talmudic way of learning with one's friends and colleagues.

*Bring Your Lunch!*

### Shabbat-Open Torah Study

Studying the weekly Torah portions with our Rabbis.  
9:00 - 10:00 a.m. (ongoing)  
Mount Zion Temple

This weekly study group is open to regular attendees and those who are able to drop in once or periodically -- people of all ages, knowledge and background. Through reading and discussion of the weekly parashah/Torah portion, participants will learn the stories of Torah and make them come alive in their own lives.

## Learn Hebrew This Year!

Follow synagogue services, be more involved in your children's Jewish education, or simply enhance your own ties to Judaism. To register for classes, go to [mzion.org](http://mzion.org).



### Beginning Adult Hebrew

*Taught by Siana Goodwin*

Introduction to the aleph-bet, basic grammar and Hebrew roots. Acquire the tools to participate with the siddur and our sacred Hebrew texts.

Tuition (includes all materials):

\$75 members/\$100 non-members (Minimum 5 students for all classes).

Wednesdays, October 3 - December 19, 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. (ten classes)

Wednesdays, January 9 - March 13, 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. (ten classes)

### Intermediate Adult Hebrew

*Taught by Kent Simon*

Tuition (includes all materials):

\$75 members/\$100 non-members (Minimum 5 students for all classes).

Sundays, October 7-January 6, 10:00-11:15 am (ten classes)

### Learn the Hebrew of our Prayers

*Taught by Kent Simon*

Wednesday, September 12, 6:00-7:15 pm. (Yom Kippur prayers)

No registration or cost.

Using *Mishkan HaNefesh*, participants will go over the main prayers, learning Hebrew words, practicing reading, and engaging in discussion as a way to find more meaning in the High Holy Days.

### University Adult Hebrew – at the JCC!

Tuesdays & Thursdays, October 2018 – May 2019, 7:00-8:30 PM

*Taught by Rabbi Yosi Gordon*

\$450 per semester (doesn't include the cost of the textbook)

Acquire the ability to speak, understand, read and write Israeli Hebrew! Class will meet twice a week. Homework will be assigned. Students will self-test to monitor their own progress. Please go to [www.ttsp.org](http://www.ttsp.org) to use a short placement tool.

### ENGAGE:

#### An Evening of Jewish Learning

Saturday, February 2, 7:00 p.m. at Talmud Torah of St. Paul  
\$20 in advance; \$25 at the door (under 30 - free)

First-rate teachers, wonderful learning, wide-ranging topics – from cerebral to hands-on! Round out the evening with schmoozing, live music, and refreshments...and all that in the middle of the winter. Registration starts Dec. 10. Register at [ttsp.org](http://ttsp.org).

Co-sponsors: *Hineni and St. Paul JCC*; Community Partners: *Adath Israel, Beth Jacob, Mount Zion Temple, Temple of Aaron*



With our partner, Hineni: Adult Jewish Learning and Contemplative Practices



## Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning

This two-year course goes far beyond one-shot lectures or short-term seminars, challenging adult Jewish learners to engage in Jewish learning in a serious and comprehensive way. Each lesson is designed to inspire and enlighten you irrespective of your prior experience or background. This course is ideal for those looking to deepen their understanding of the basics of Judaism and Jewish living. Classes for this wonderful program will take place on **Wednesdays, 7-9:15 p.m., at Talmud Torah of St. Paul, from October 10 - May 15.** Hineni is partnering with Twin Cities area synagogues and agencies to bring this highly regarded and popular program our community.

Tuition is \$500 per year + books. For more information, contact Sara Lynn Newberger at sara.lynn@ttsp.org or 651-698-8807. Class space is limited.

## Day-Long Jewish Silent Meditation Retreat

**Sun, Dec. 16, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Talmud Torah of St. Paul**

\$75 or \$50 for Hineni Supporters

Led by Sara Lynn Newberger

Join us for a day of contemplation as we practice walking and sitting meditation, chanting, silent eating, and heart-centered Torah study. Register at ttsp.org.

## Torah Yoga

With Diane Bloomfield

**Tuesday, October 16, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Mount Zion**

Cost: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

We must have a minimum of 10 advance registrations to run this class. Register at www.ttsp.org. Questions? Sara Lynn Newberger at 651-698-8807 or sara.lynn@ttsp.org.

## Contemplative Chanting

Second Wednesday of the month, 7:00-8:00 p.m. at Mount Zion  
Nov 14, Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12

Led by Sara Lynn Newberger. Co-sponsored with Beth Jacob

Chanting helps to clear the mind of chatter, open the doors of the heart, and focus attention on the present moment. Drop in, no experience necessary.

## A Taste of Honey: An Introduction to Judaism

Member: \$36, Public: \$75

**Mondays, October 8 - December 17, 7-8:30 p.m.**

Rabbi Esther Adler

This course provides students with a basic understanding of Jewish practice and belief. Topics include Jewish history, life cycle, Shabbat, theology, home observance and more! For anyone interested in learning more about Judaism and/or thinking about conversion.



## Building a Jewish Home, Creating a Jewish Family

**Mondays, Feb 4, 11, & 25, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker

\$36 members/\$50 public per person

### Ready to take a positive step in your life?

- Explore ways to bring Jewish traditions into your home in a judgement-free class.
- Hear from others about their decisions or practices.
- Make practical (small) decisions about holidays, values, and even artwork to hang on your walls.
- This open, guided class is for interfaith, same-faith, mixed roots, or single households.

What does it mean to have a "Jewish" home? This three-part class is for couples or single heads of households, who want an open and structured way to reflect. The emphasis of the class will be on making choices that are right for you after study and discussion on key questions of Jewish life. Examples: What Jewish values will we emphasize? What books and periodicals and art will be in our home? What rituals will we incorporate? What will Shabbat look like in our home?



## Our Bodies, Our Souls

22nd Annual Jewish Retreat for Women

## The Joys of Welcoming the Stranger

Connecting with Self, Others and God

Friday Evening to Saturday Evening

**Save the Date: January 25-26, 2019**

8th Annual

## Men's Retreat

Save the Date: Friday-Sunday, May 17-19, 2019



# MUSSAR AT MOUNT ZION

2018-19 / 5779



## The World of Mussar is opening before you ... and you are invited to enter.

Mussar may best be described as “Jewish spiritual ethics” and has been practiced for centuries by people who sought to cultivate and strengthen the qualities of the inner mensch. There are no pre-requisites nor is Hebrew required.

Come join in small group study as we explore Jewish teachings on humility, gratitude, equanimity, patience, order, and honor among others – and discover how we can improve these qualities in our own life. Conversations will be in a safe, supportive, exciting, and collaborative environment.

## NEW TO MUSSAR?

**A One-Time Intro: A Taste of Mussar** with Sara Lynn Newberger - Wed., Sept. 26, at 11:00 am at the St. Paul JCC. RSVP to [Sara.lynn@ttsp.org](mailto:Sara.lynn@ttsp.org).

## READY TO DIVE DEEPER? FOR NEW AND RETURNING STUDENTS

**A Season of Mussar I** with Rabbi Heidi Waldmann – A 14 session program with materials from *The Mussar Institute* that explores the *middot* (values) in depth through practices, texts, and conversation.

**When? Tuesday evenings (7-9 pm) at Mount Zion Temple - (7-9 pm) at Mount Zion Temple Oct 23; then 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays Nov-Dec; and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays Jan-May 14.**

Rabbi Waldmann, a member of Mount Zion, led a Reform Congregation in Plattsburgh, NY for three years followed by eight years as Staff Chaplain at Indiana University Health North Hospital.

**Cost:** Tuition is \$250 for MZ members (\$300 for the public). Financial support is available from our clergy. Sign up at [mzion.org](http://mzion.org).

## INTERESTED IN ANOTHER APPROACH?

**FOR NEW & RETURNING STUDENTS** – CO-SPONSORED BY HINEINI, ST. PAUL JCC, MOUNT ZION, AND BETH JACOB

**Mindful Mussar Va'adot** with Sara Lynn Newberger – Through an exploration of mindfulness practices, Jewish texts from the *Institute for Jewish Spirituality*, group conversation, and Mussar practices, you will explore soul traits like humility and kindness and consider ways to expand their presence in your life.

**When? Mondays, beginning Oct 15, 7:00-9:00 pm at Beth Jacob OR Wednesdays, beginning 17, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at St. Paul JCC.**

Both groups will be 14 sessions, every other week, Oct-May.

Sara Lynn Newberger is director of Hineni-Adult Jewish Learning and Contemplative Practices: Talmud Torah of St. Paul

**Cost:** Tuition for either of the classes is \$300 or \$250 for Hineni Supporters and Beth Jacob, Mount Zion or JCC members. Register at [ttsp.org](http://ttsp.org). Financial support is available from Hineni and from our clergy.

## FIVE YEARS OF MUSSAR STUDY!

**Adventures in Mussar - A continuing va'ad** with Julie Dean. Uptown Sundays 4-6pm.

Begins Nov. 18. **Cost:** \$250. Financial support is available from our clergy. Sign up at [mzion.org](http://mzion.org).

# Mount Zion's Year-long Focus (Kivvun) on Israel

## *Wrestling with our Relationship with Israel*

*In Hebrew, Israel is “Yisrael” which means “to wrestle with God.” Israel refers to four separate arenas: a people, a land, a country (state), and a government.*

Our purpose is to inspire אהבת ישראל *ahavat Yisrael*, a love for the people, land, and country of Israel, and to help congregants articulate their views of the government of Israel and current events.

### **We have four goals:**

- 1. We will help our members feel capable of speaking about Israel in a safe environment of empathetic thinking and open dialogue.**
- 2. We will teach the history and contemporary cultures of Israel.**
  - We will focus on the history of Zionism, structure of the Israeli political system, Jewish and Palestinian narratives of the past, and the cultures of all of Israel's citizens.
  - In the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, we will emphasize learning the values behind different positions (e.g., justice, self-preservation, peace, compromise, land, etc.) and unpack the terms used (e.g., why is the same land called “Disputed Territories”, “Occupation”, “Judea-Samaria”, “West Bank”, and “Palestine”?).
- 3. We will advocate for religious pluralism in Israel.**
- 4. We will strengthen our connections with our partner synagogues in Modiin and Rosh HaAyin and our Federation partnership region, Sovev Kinneret.**

# Israel: Wrestling with our Relationship

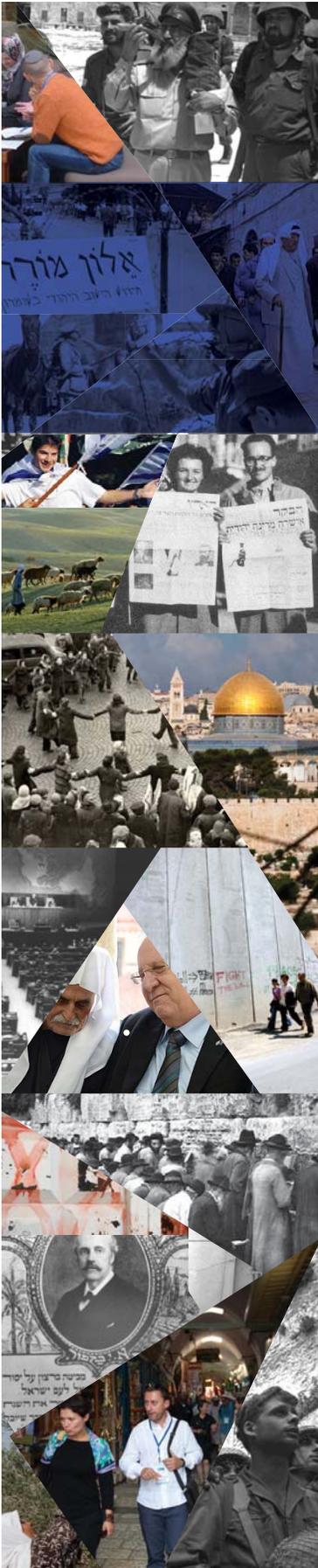


PHOTO CREDITS: hartman.org.il/photocredits

## **New!** Hartman Video Lecture Series

# iEngage

## Israel's Milestones and Their Meanings

The Legacy of the Past  
and the Challenge of the Future

A special iEngage Video Lecture Series to mark 50 years since the Six Day War and 70 years since Israel's establishment.

Memory is a central element in defining modern Jewish identity. As we look to Israel's future, we need to engage anew with our past and explore its meanings and consequences. Through the consideration of major historic moments, this iEngage series grapples with the different ideas and values that shape the meaning of modern Israel, Zionism, and Jewish identity today.

This innovative course explores the pivotal events of 1947 and 1967 — following the 1917 Balfour Declaration — as key moments when Zionism unleashed new thinking about the meaning of Jewishness for generations to come. The course engages participants in an open and pluralistic discussion about issues of Jewish identity, peoplehood, ethics and theology as they relate to nationhood, land, sovereignty, Jerusalem, occupation, and moral red lines.

### **Learning Israel's History through Text and Videos of Experts** MONDAY NIGHTS, 7-9 taught by Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker

- Oct 8 - 1917 - Balfour Declaration: The Idea of a Homeland for the Jewish People
- Oct 29 - 1947 - The United Nations Partition Plan: The Jews in the World
- Nov 12 - 1967 - The Six Day War: Power, Land and God
- Nov 26 - Judea and Samaria: Occupation or Liberation?
- Jan 14 - One State, Two States: Moral Red Lines
- Jan 26 - Jerusalem of God, Prayer and Peoplehood

**COST: \$36/Mount Zion members; \$72/Public; Tuition is for the entire series.**  
*Each session is a stand-alone class; please attend as many as you are able.*

**REGISTER:** Go [mzion.org](http://mzion.org) or call 651-698-3881.



iEngage  
SHALOM HARTMAN מכון  
INSTITUTE שלום הרטמן

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



# Israel: Wrestling with our Relationship

## A Secure Israel:

How we address the challenges of today and the future.

**Jeremy Ben-Ami** (President of J-Street) and **Michael Makovsky** (JINSA president – the Jewish Institute for National Security of America)  
**Monday, October 22, 7 pm – Mount Zion**



The discussion will cover the security challenges facing Israel, and what the United States can do to help insure the future security and safety for the Jewish homeland. Moderated by Rabbi Spilker.



Co-sponsored by Beth Jacob, Federation of Greater St. Paul and JCRC

## The Band's Visit:

### The Movie

**Sunday, February 10, 4 pm**

Now a Broadway Hit!

2007 comedy-drama film. A brass band comprised of members of the Egyptian police force head to Israel to play at the inaugural ceremony of an Arab arts center. But due to bureaucracy, bad luck, or for whatever reason, find themselves stranded in a desolate, almost forgotten, small Israeli town, somewhere in the heart of the desert. 1 hour, 27 minutes



## Jewish Cooking:

### Tastes from the Mideast to Midwest

**Sundays, 2:30 - 4pm**

Feb 3 (Mount Zion), Feb 17 (Temple of Aaron), March 3 (Mount Zion), March 31 (Beth Jacob), & April 14 (Talmud Torah of St. Paul)

Taught by Tal Dror, St. Paul Shlichah and Zehorit Heilicher



Tal will teach about the impact of Mideast and Midwest kitchen on Israeli culture. Zehorit will teach by cooking, baking, flavors, and discussion. Each meeting is about a different cultural dish from the Mideast/Midwest. For program costs and to register, contact Tal Dror at taldror1995@gmail.com.

Co-Sponsored by Jewish Federation of St. Paul, Beth Jacob, Mount Zion, Temple of Aaron, Talmud Torah of St. Paul.

## Serving in the Army: Three first-hand views on the IDF (Israel Defense Forces)

**Wednesday, November 14, 7:30-8:45 pm**

Pizza and dessert will be served.

Nir Leshem, Shaked Danai, and Shai Rouche will talk about their IDF experience and the effect of their service on their psychological growth and character development as well as their personal view of the Israeli-Arab and Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Panel discussion with questions and answers will be facilitated by Mount Zion member Shirly Tramer.



## Wrestling with Israel Today

Z Willard Finberg Congregational Education Day

Sunday, May 5, for kids, teens, and adults

Featuring Artist-in-Residence

### Dror Sinai

Drummer, storyteller, peace-activist, singer

A full morning of workshops and activities on *Israel on the College Campus*, *What is BDS?*, *The Status of Religious Pluralism in Israel*, and more.



## Israel Book Discussions

Meet in the Mount Zion Library

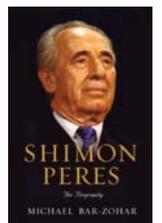
Led by Jonathan Eisenthal and Charlie Levine

Join us for an engaging conversation about Israeli life through its literature. Even if you cannot read the book in advance, you are welcome. Questions: Jonathan at jkeisenthal@comcast.net.

### *Shimon Peres* by Michael Bar-Zohar

Monday, September 17, 7:00 p.m.

"In this stunning, courageously frank, and scrupulously factual biography, Michael Bar-Zohar gives an eminent man his due."



### Schedule for the Year

Meetings begin at 7pm unless otherwise noted

**November 5:** *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor*, by Yossi Klein Halevi

**January 6, 10:30 a.m. Potluck Brunch**

*Like Dreamers: The Story Of the Israeli Paratroopers who reunited Jerusalem and divided a nation*, by Yael Neeman

**March 4:** *Harpoon: Inside the Covert War Against Terrorism's Money Masters*, by Nitsana Darshan-Leitner

**May 6:** *Suddenly, A Knock on The Door*, stories by Etgar Keret

**July 1:** *The Unswitchable*, by Yoav Blum

**September 9:** *Waking Lions*, by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen

**November 4:** *A Horse Walks into A Bar*, by David Grossman

# Classes taught by Professor Arie Zmora

Wednesday nights, 7:45-9:15 pm

Cost per class: \$54 Member / \$100 Public (scholarships available)

## Roots of Zionism in the 19th Century

Sept 26-Dec 12

Zionism was not born in the 19th century but a new political movement was.

After the Romans exiled the Jews from Jerusalem in 70 CE and many continued a dispersion around the world, over the next two millennia only small numbers of Jews remained and returned to eretz Yisrael. There was a major influx of Jews in the 1500s after the Spanish Expulsion, but for the most part, most diaspora Jews trusted in a divinely sent Messiah to one day return them to Zion, keeping Zion alive in daily prayer and in religious, cultural expression.

Then, in the 19th century, Western political and intellectual revolutions awakened a new political awareness among European Jews. Persecution and nationalism in many countries also made life untenable for Jewish life. Some banded together to form a nationalist political movement—Zionism—to regain political independence in a common homeland. This course delves into the emergence, development, and expansion of Zionism during the 1800s.

## Arab-Israeli Conflict through Literature Since 1917

Jan 9-Feb 27

This course focuses on the varied ways that Israeli Jews, Israeli Arabs, Palestinians, and Western scholars have experienced and conceptualized the Arab-Israeli conflict. Unlike a typical history class, we will emphasize texts by novelists, poets, and other literary writers. This approach assumes that literary writers, by dint of their disciplines, can sometimes access human experience with greater nuance, subtlety, and depth, than scholars using academic disciplines.

## Israeli Democracy and the Political System in Israel since 1948

Mar 6-May 15

Despite multiple wars and constant challenges since its founding in 1948, Israel remains the Middle East's only continuously functional democracy. This course will describe and explain Israel's multi-party, parliamentary system and its historical roots in Mandatory Palestine.

We will explore several challenges that democracy faces in Israel's unique circumstances, including:

- Israel is a Jewish State. How does Israel reconcile the secular principle of rule-of-law in a Western democracy with pressures to incorporate Halacha, religious Jewish law, into governance? How should Israel address differing answers to "Who is a Jew?"
- Israel rapidly absorbed large waves of Jews from differing diasporas with radically different cultures and views of governance. How does Israel forge into one nation diverse populations from such places as Algeria, Yemen, Russia, Ethiopia, and Germany?
- Israel has always had a large Arab population. How have they fared in a Jewish state? How does Israel over time preserve its pluralistic identity? Might West Bank settlements over time threaten or compromise Israel's democratic principles?

## Professor Arie Zmora

*Arie Zmora is a native of Israel, holding BA and MA degrees from The Hebrew University, Jerusalem in History and International Relations; MPhil in European History from The Johns Hopkins University; PhD in European History from University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Zmora has taught over the past eighteen years in area colleges and universities wide variety of classes on European and Middle East (Hamline University, Macalester College, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Saint Cloud State University, University of Wisconsin, River Falls). For over a decade (2001-13), Dr. Zmora was co-director of Middle East Exchange Programs funded by the US Department of State at Hamline University with participation of Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian, and Lebanese partners.*



# HEADING HOME

## THE TALE OF TEAM ISRAEL

Sunday, January 13

Two Showings: at Mount Zion and St. Paul JCC

Special Guests: Team Israel star Josh Zeid and MLB Reporter Jonathan Mayo



*Heading Home: The Tale of Team Israel* is a spirited documentary about a group of nice Jewish American baseball players who take on the world competing for Israel's national baseball team. It is a David-and-Goliath story as they head to the World Baseball Classic in 2017.

## Israel: Wrestling with our Relationship

# Myth-Conceptions Series:

Who are the Jewish Organizations speaking about Israel?

What are the myths about each organization? What are the realities?

All sessions held at Mount Zion Temple moderated by Rabbi Spilker.

## AIPAC

### Guest Speaker: Lital Casper Rosenberg

AIPAC Midwest Deputy Regional Director

Sunday, October 14, 10-11:30 a.m.

A FREE bagel brunch sponsored by Brotherhood. Includes bagels, lox, cream cheese and fruit.

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee is a bipartisan organization of US citizens committed solely to strengthening, protecting, and promoting the US-Israel relationship.



## Jewish Agency, (JAFI)

Date: TBD

Since 1929, The Jewish Agency for Israel has been working to secure a vibrant Jewish future. They were instrumental in founding and building the State of Israel and continue to serve as the main link between the Jewish state and Jewish communities everywhere.



## J-Street

### Guest Speaker:

Jeremy Ben-Ami, President

Tuesday, October 23, 7:30-9:00 a.m.

J-Street organizes and mobilizes pro-Israel, pro-peace Americans who want Israel to be secure, democratic and the national home of the Jewish people.



## Jewish National Fund

Guest Speaker: TBD.

Friday, January 25, 7:30 pm (during Shabbat services).

The organization that gives all generations of Jews a unique voice in building a prosperous future for the land of Israel and its people.



## IfNotNow

Guest Speakers: Leah Soule, Ari Jahiel, and Ethan Levin

Sunday, December 2, 10-11:30 a.m.

IfNotNow says: "We are building a Jewish community that recognizes we cannot be free absent the freedom of Palestinians. We seek to end American Jewish support for the occupation. We are grounded in the values of the Jewish tradition."



## ARZA

Guest Speaker: Rabbi Josh Weinberg

Executive Director

Friday, April 12, 7:30 pm

(during Shabbat services).

The Association of Reform Zionists of America is part of an international network of like-minded, progressive Jewish voices, working in unison, to build a better Israel.



# Israel: Wrestling with our Relationship

**The Other Peace Process**  
**Inter-religious Dialogue in the Service of Peace**  
 Sunday, November 11 at 1:00 pm

**Rabbi Dr. Ron Kronish**

*Founder and long-time Director of the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel (ICCI)*  
 The David Cobin Memorial Lecture



**Rabbi Ron Kronish** organizer, activist, writer, teacher, brings with him years of experience working in interfaith and peace-building efforts in Israel. His articles can be found at ronkronish.com.

**David Cobin**, in addition to being an active participant in Jewish life in St. Paul, was for 33 years a Professor of Law at Hamline University School of Law. Bringing together those he cared for to celebrate and learn was David's way of life. It was natural, therefore, that Jewish law students found a place around his dinner table on Jewish holidays. It also made sense that he would feel the need to establish and direct the Hamline-Hebrew University Program, **Conflict Resolution from Religious Traditions**. The program, in which Ron Kronish has taught since its inception, brings together faculty and students from Minnesota, Israel and around the world. It continues under the auspices of Mitchell-Hamline School of Law and is directed by Mitchell-Hamline School of Law Professor Sharon Press.

*This lecture is sponsored by Beth Jacob Congregation through the David Cobin Fund for Caring and co-sponsored by Mount Zion Temple, Talmud Torah of St Paul, and Hineni.*

University of MN - Center for Jewish Studies Presents

## Orange Trees in Blue and White:

**The Beginnings and Politics of Zionist Private Enterprise**  
 Wednesday, March 13, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. at Mount Zion

People think of kibbutzim, socialist agricultural collectives, as the first Zionist agricultural settlements. But kibbutzim were preceded in the late 19th century by a small network of privately owned agricultural colonies like Petach Tikva and Zikhron Yaakov. How did these settlers think of themselves as the "first" Zionists, promoting an image of a Zionism they claimed was prior to and outside politics, one that continues to influence Israel today.



*Liora Halperin is Associate Professor of International Studies, History, and Jewish Studies at the University of Washington.*

*Cosponsored by: History, Institute for Global Studies, and Political Science*

## Food for Thought

Learn and Nosh before Shabbat Services

5:45 - 6:15 p.m. Food before the Thought

6:15 - 7:15 p.m. Food for Thought Discussions

**Friday, September 14**

**Shabbat Shuvah, Sabbath of (Re)turning**

**Israeli Poetry of Mishkan HaNefesh**

**Read by Mount Zion Israeli Congregants**

Connected to our Israel focus this year, and on Shabbat Shuvah, this session will feature beautiful poetry from *Mishkan HaNefesh* (our High Holy Day prayer book) written by Israeli Poets, and read by Israeli congregants. Come hear and discuss inspiring poetry, some in English and some in Hebrew, from the literary treasure trove that is our *Mishkan HaNefesh*.

**Friday, October 12**

**Dialogue in a time of Hyper-Partisanship:  
 Rediscovering Civic Engagement in 2018**

**Moderated by Larry Jacobs**

Hubert Humphrey billed himself as the "happy warrior" who welcomed disagreement but insisted that colleagues from both parties refrain from being disagreeable. By contrast, American politics today is more divided than at any time since just after the Civil War. Many voters and political activists identify with their political parties with ferocious attachment and demand pure victories. Compromise has become a dirty word for some. And, too many citizens have lost interest in today's fractious politics while others seem content to observe from the sideline while occasionally writing checks and casting ballots.

We will have high-profile guests from different political parties join Larry for an engaging hour: What are the opportunities for working toward our shared hopes? And, how can we engage citizens to become engaged and part of building a civic culture of disagreeing without being disagreeable?

*Larry Jacobs is the Walter F. and Joan Mondale Chair for Political Studies and director of the Center for the Study of Politics and Governance in the Hubert H. Humphrey School and the Department of Political Science at the University of Minnesota.*

**Friday, November 9**

**Judaica Roadshow\***

Do you have an special item with a Jewish story to tell, or a story you'd like to know? Join us for this fun Food for Thought, in which Rabbi Spilker will add his insights to the stories behind congregants' Judaica items. More details to come! \*A Prime Timers "Begegenen" (ba-gey'gen-en (Yiddish), noun - meeting, encounter, gathering)

## Israel: Wrestling with our Relationship

# A Mount Zion Community Book Read

***Kick-Off Engagement for Year-long Focus on Israel***

***Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor*** by Yossi Klein Halevi

Books are available in the Mount Zion office for a subsidized cost of \$5 if you attend one of the following discussion groups:

**Sunday, November 4, 10 am**

Facilitated by Michael & Hannah Kuhne

**Monday, November 5, 7 pm**

Facilitated by Jonathan Eisenthal and Charlie Levine  
(This is part of the regular Israel Book Club; all are welcome)

**Wednesday, November 7, Noon**

Facilitated by Jessica Griffith

*New York Times Bestseller*

Letters to  
My Palestinian  
Neighbor



Yossi Klein  
Halevi

*Author of Like Dreamers*