

# THE WISE

ISSUE 12 | FALL 2024



# Guide



Celebrate  
the festive  
fall season!

**YOUR GUIDE** TO UPCOMING WISE TEMPLE  
EVENTS, SERVICES & PROGRAMS IN SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER





# Celebrate Fall with Your Wise Temple Family!

## SEPTEMBER

- 6 **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**  
Family Shabbat Service, Dinner & Foam Party | 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- 8 **KEHILLAH #1** | OPENING DAY  
9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting | 10:15 AM – 10:45 AM  
All Kehillah Parent Meeting | 10:45 AM – 11:45 AM  
Sunday Hebrew #1 | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM
- 8 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM  
Confirmation Parent Meeting | 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
- 10 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Tuesdays with Torah: Abraham Lincoln: Has There Already Been a Jewish President?  
with Rabbi Zachary Goodman | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
- 12 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Downtown Lunch and Learn: Reading Jonah Backward with Rabbi Neil Hirsch | 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM  
KMK Law, One East Fourth St, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cincinnati
- 12 **MONTHLY BROTHERHOOD MEETING**  
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
- 13 **TAILGATE SHABBAT**  
Kick off football season with dinner following Shabbat Service | 7:15 PM – 9:15 PM | Back parking lot
- 14 **YOFI SHABABA** | 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
- 15 **KEHILLAH #2** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
Kehillah Welcome Back Celebration/Picnic  
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM
- 15 **WOMEN OF WISE** (see page 11 for more info)  
Learn to Play Mahjong! | 9:15 AM – 11:15 AM
- 15 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- 17 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Tuesdays with Torah: Mussar: A Spiritual Discipline  
with Rabbi Anna Burke | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
- 20 **NEXTGEN SHABBAT**  
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM | Plum Street Temple
- 22 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Wise Learning Guest Speaker Series  
Poems for Our Days: Israeli Poetry Since October 7<sup>th</sup>  
with Rachel Korazim | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
- 22 **KEHILLAH #3** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
Consecration Parent Meeting | 9:15 AM – 10:00 AM  
Open Room Family Education Program  
10:00 AM – 11:45 AM  
Sunday Hebrew #2 | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM
- 22 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- 24 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Tuesdays with Torah: Mussar: A Spiritual Discipline  
with Rabbi Anna Burke | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
- 28 **YOFI SHABABA** | 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
- 28 **SOCIAL ACTION**  
Crayons to Computers  
1:00 PM – 3:30 PM | 1350 Tennessee Ave, Cincinnati



- 29 **KEHILLAH #4** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
2027 B'nai Mitzvah Parent Meeting  
9:15 AM – 10:15 AM  
Sunday Hebrew #3 | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM
- 29 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

## OCTOBER

- 1 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Tuesdays with Torah: Understanding Repentance, Apologies, and Forgiveness with Rabbi Neil Hirsch  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
- 6 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Judaism 101: The Days of Awe (Session #1)  
with Matt Check | 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM
- 6 **KEHILLAH #5** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
Threes Class | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
Sunday Hebrew #4 | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM
- 8 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Tuesdays with Torah: Understanding Repentance, Apologies, and Forgiveness with Rabbi Neil Hirsch  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
- 13 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Judaism 101: The Three Festivals (Session #2)  
with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass | 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM
- 13 **KEHILLAH #6** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Education Program  
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Gorman Heritage Farm  
10052 Reading Rd, Evendale  
Sunday Hebrew #5 | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM
- 15 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Tuesdays with Torah: Understanding Repentance, Apologies, and Forgiveness with Rabbi Neil Hirsch  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
- 17 **YOFI** | Shakin' in the Sukkah with YoFi  
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
- 18 **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**  
Family Sukkot Celebration | 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
- 19 **BROTHERHOOD SUKKOT COOKOUT, HAVDALAH, BONFIRE & CAMPOUT**  
7:00 PM | Casual picnic dinner  
8:00 PM | Campfire, Havdalah, s'mores & campout  
(see details for Sukkot Celebrations on page 4)
- 20 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
Wise Learning Guest Speaker Series  
Ballot Box Priorities: Should we vote like Jewish Americans or American Jews?  
with Gary Zola | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
- 20 **KEHILLAH #7** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Family Education Program  
9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
Threes Class | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
Sunday Hebrew #6 | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM
- 20 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM



22 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Tuesdays with Torah:** Sacred Dimensions:  
What is “Holiness”? with Rabbi Zachary Goodman  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM



23 **CONSECRATION**  
6:15 PM – 7:30 PM | Plum Street Temple

26 **YOFI SHABABA** | 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

27 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Judaism 101:** Shabbat & Other Holidays (Session #3)  
with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass | 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

27 **KEHILLAH #8** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
**2nd Grade Family Education Program**  
9:15 AM – 11:45 AM



**Sunday Hebrew #7** | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

27 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

29 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Tuesdays with Torah:** Sacred Dimensions:  
What is “Holiness”? with Rabbi Zachary Goodman  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

31 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Downtown Lunch and Learn:** What’s the Deal with  
Jews and Halloween? with Rabbi Zachary Goodman  
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

KMK Law, One East Fourth St, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cincinnati

31 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Torah Take 2:** A Jewish Perspective on Jesus  
with Courtney Anthony | 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

## NOVEMBER

1 **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**  
**Shabbat Under the Stars:** A Camp-Inspired  
Family Experience | 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

2 **SOCIAL ACTION**  
**Volunteer at Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank**  
1:00 PM – 3:30 PM | 1400 State Ave, Cincinnati

3 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Judaism 101:** Jewish Literatures and Texts (Session #4)  
with Rabbi Zachary Goodman | 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

3 **KEHILLAH #9** | 9:15 AM - 11:45 AM  
**Threes Class** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
**Sunday Hebrew #8** | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

3 **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**  
**Mitzvah Day** | 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

3 **WOMEN THRIVE**  
**A Casual Hike at French Park with Women Thrive**  
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM | 3012 Section Rd, Amberley Village

3 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

5 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Tuesdays with Torah:** God Concepts in the Bible and  
Rabbinic Literature: A Sampling to Stimulate  
Our Personal Belief with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

5 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Talmud and Rabbinic Judaism Class**  
with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass  
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM



7 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Torah Take 2:** A Jewish Perspective on Jesus  
with Courtney Anthony | 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

9 **YOFI SHABABA** | 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

10 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Wise Learning Guest Speaker Series**  
Becoming a Resilient Parent (Part I)  
with Dasee Berkowitz | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

10 **KEHILLAH #10** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
**1st Grade Family Education Program**  
9:15 AM – 11:45 AM

**Sunday Hebrew #9** | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

10 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

12 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Tuesdays with Torah:** God Concepts in the Bible  
and Rabbinic Literature: A Sampling to Stimulate Our  
Personal Belief with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

14 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Torah Take 2:** A Jewish Perspective on Jesus  
with Courtney Anthony | 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

14 **BROTHERHOOD**  
**Burgers and Beer with Rabbi Hirsch**  
Time & location TBA



17 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Judaism 101:** Prayer, Worship & the Synagogue  
(Session #5) with Rabbi Neil Hirsch | 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

17 **KEHILLAH #11** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
**4th Grade Family Education Program**  
9:15 AM – 11:45 AM

**Threes Class** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM

**Sunday Hebrew #10** | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

17 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

19 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Tuesdays with Torah:** God Concepts in the Bible  
and Rabbinic Literature: A Sampling to Stimulate Our  
Personal Belief with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

21 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Torah Take 2:** A Jewish Perspective on Jesus  
with Courtney Anthony | 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

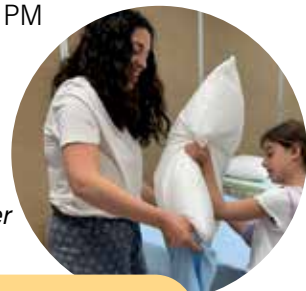
24 **EITZ CHAYIM – Adult Jewish Learning**  
**Judaism 101:** Biblical & Talmudic History (Session #6)  
with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass | 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

24 **KEHILLAH #12** | 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM  
**Sunday Hebrew #11** | 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM

24 **SHELANU** | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

30 **YOFI SHABABA**  
**Grandparents' Edition**  
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

*Visit [wisetemple.org](http://wisetemple.org) for more  
information and to register for  
events. All events at Wise Center  
unless noted.*



**Learn to Play Mahjong with Women of Wise!**

Sundays, 9:15 AM - 11:15 AM | September 15, 22, 29 and October 6, 20, 27  
Wise Center | \$10 for all 6 sessions | Register at [wisetemple.org](http://wisetemple.org)





# EITZ CHAYIM—Adult Jewish Learning Program

## Fall 2024 Presenters & Courses



### **Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass, Senior Rabbi**

Rabbi Kamrass is the Senior Rabbi of Isaac M. Wise Temple of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he has spent his entire rabbinate of nearly forty years. Rabbi Kamrass is a Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude graduate of the University of Georgia in Sociology and Psychology, with a Master of Hebrew Letters and Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), as well as recipient of an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. He served for 25 years as an Instructor in the Theology Department of Xavier University and as adjunct faculty at HUC-JIR.\* In the national Reform movement, Rabbi Kamrass currently serves as Immediate Past President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the 2200-member international body of Reform Rabbis, and also serves on its Board. He has served as a Board Member of the HUC-JIR\* and the Union for Reform Judaism. He is married to Renee Kamrass and together they are the proud parents of three children and their spouses, and proud grandparents to their seven grandchildren, all members of Wise Temple.



### **Rabbi Neil P.G. Hirsch, Senior Rabbi Successor**

In July 2024, Rabbi Hirsch joined Isaac M. Wise Temple as our Senior Rabbi Successor. Prior to joining Wise Temple, Rabbi Hirsch served as Senior Rabbi of Hevreh of Southern Berkshire in Western Massachusetts from 2015-2024 and Associate Rabbi of Temple Shalom in Newton, Massachusetts from 2010-2015. Rabbi Hirsch is a graduate of Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts, where he studied Art History and Classics. He received a Masters of Hebrew Literature and Rabbinic Ordination from HUC-JIR\* and is currently completing a doctorate in Halakhah (Jewish Law) and Jewish Ethics, researching the ethics of care, accountability, and t'shuvah (repentance). Rabbi Hirsch is married to Rabbi Liz Hirsch, who serves as the CEO of Women of Reform Judaism and host of the podcast "Just For This." They have two children.



### **Rabbi Zachary S. Goodman, Associate Rabbi**

Rabbi Goodman was born and raised in Dallas, Texas and attended the University of Texas at Austin before he was ordained on the Cincinnati campus of HUC-JIR.\* Following his ordination in 2019, Rabbi Goodman served as the Assistant Rabbi at Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto before joining the Wise Temple family in the summer of 2022. Rabbi Goodman is passionate about Israel education, youth and teen engagement, young professional programming, and learning in all its many forms. Music is also an important part of his life; he plays guitar, piano, and sings. Rabbi Goodman loves to explore the outdoors, travel, cook, watch sports, host game nights with friends, and spend time with his sons.



### **Matt Check, Director of Lifelong Learning**

A native of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Matt attended the University of Pittsburgh, before an almost 20-year stint in New York City as a Jewish educator and musician. He holds a Master of Arts in Education from the Jewish Theological Seminary (2008) and a Master of Public Administration from Baruch College (2011). In directorial roles, Matt has overseen Hebrew schools, family engagement, and adult education programs at New York institutions that include Central Synagogue, Park Avenue Synagogue, 92Y, JCP Downtown, and Anshe Chesed. In addition to his administrative work, Matt is an accomplished singer-songwriter, guitarist, banjoist and producer of Jewish, children's, Americana, and bluegrass music. As a member of the Wise Temple team, he enjoys working with the community to celebrate Jewish values through music and education.



**Courtney Anthony,  
Director of Education**

Courtney has brought a warm spirit and a passion for Jewish education to her role since 2018. Launching the Kehillah program at Wise Temple has been a highlight of her professional life, and she loves working with our community of students, parents, and teachers. Prior to joining the Wise Temple family, Courtney served as Principal for Grades 7-12 at Temple Rodef Shalom in Falls Church, Virginia from 2010-2014 and as Director of Education at Temple Emanuel in Winston Salem, North Carolina from 2014-2018. In addition to her background in education and Judaic studies, Courtney holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English and is a longtime Shakespeare enthusiast.



**Rabbi Anna Burke,  
Director, Young Family Involvement  
& Member Engagement**

Rabbi Anna Burke is thrilled to serve the Wise Temple community, connecting with young families in her role leading YoFI and developing relationships with all adults in our congregation through member engagement. Rabbi Burke moved to Cincinnati in 2018 to attend HUC-JIR\*, where she earned her Master of Arts in Jewish Education in 2021 and was ordained as a rabbi in May 2023. While completing her rabbinic studies, Rabbi Burke served as a rabbinic educator for Hillel at Miami University and held the position of Cincinnati Manager for the Jewish Fertility Foundation. Before moving to Cincinnati, Rabbi Burke lived in Israel for two years, though she is a proud New Englander at heart. Born and raised in Rhode Island, she then received her Bachelor of Arts in Jewish Studies at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. In her free time, Rabbi Burke loves spending time with her husband, Rand (the other Rabbi Burke), three-year-old son, Mason, and adorable pups, Callie and Ace. Rabbi Burke can't wait to meet you!



**Rachel Korazim, PhD**

Rachel Korazim is a Jewish education consultant in curriculum development for Israel and Holocaust education. She opens for her audiences a window into Israeli society through literature, and through stories, poems and songs of the best of Israel's writers; she invites listeners to engage with Israel in an innovative way. At the beginning of the pandemic, Rachel created a global community of hundreds of learners who still meet regularly to study Israeli poetry online. Rachel teaches at Israel's well known learning centers such as Pardes and the Shalom Hartman Institutes, as well as numerous world Jewish communities. In her free time, Rachel enjoys scuba diving in the cenotes of Playa del Carmen in Mexico and the amazing coral sites of the Red Sea. She is also a very active grandmother of eight grandchildren who all live in Israel.



**Rabbi Gary Phillip Zola, PhD**

Gary Phillip Zola is Executive Director Emeritus of the American Jewish Archives (AJA) at HUC-JIR\* here in Cincinnati. Rabbi Zola received his rabbinic ordination from HUC-JIR\* (1982) followed by his PhD in American Jewish History as well (1991) and is a well-known historian of American Jewry, specializing in 19<sup>th</sup>-century and Reform Judaism. He and his wife, Stefi live in town and have four grown children and five grandchildren.



**Dasee Berkowitz**

Dasee Berkowitz is an educator, executive facilitator, coach, and author. Originally from Boston, Massachusetts, she lives in Jerusalem with her husband and three children. Read more about her here: [soulfulparent.com](http://soulfulparent.com).

*\*Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*



**TUESDAYS WITH TORAH**

Tuesdays, 12:00 PM-1:00 PM  
Wise Center and Zoom

**Abraham Lincoln: Has There Already Been a Jewish President?**

Rabbi Zachary Goodman  
August 27, September 10

This two-part class explores the unique dynamics between Abraham Lincoln, the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, and the American Jewish community during a pivotal era in American history. Uncover the lesser-known aspects of Abraham Lincoln's presidency and his profound impact on the American Jewish community during the Civil War. Through engaging discussions and source documents, we'll explore the lasting impact of Lincoln's presidency on the Jewish-American experience and how it continues to shape our understanding of religious freedom and diversity in the United States.

FALL COURSES CONTINUED ON PAGE 14 >





## FALL COURSES *continued*

### **Mussar: A Spiritual Discipline**

Rabbi Anna Burke

September 17, 24

In the weeks preceding the High Holy Days, we engage in profound introspection, reflecting upon the events of the past year to acknowledge personal successes and areas for growth in anticipation of the year ahead. Throughout this two-week course, participants will delve into Mussar, a rich Jewish tradition focused on refining character traits through study, contemplation, and practical application. Together, we will explore the principles and practices of Mussar, aiming to cultivate the virtues of a true mensch.

### **Understanding Repentance, Apologies, and Forgiveness**

Rabbi Neil Hirsch

October 1, 8, 15

During the High Holy Days we focus our prayers and energy on *t'shuvah*, the process of repentance, enabling us to enter into a new year for goodness and blessing. Many use this time to repair relationships that have been fractured. Given its centrality to Yom Kippur, *t'shuvah* though is often discussed though not always understood. How we understand the role of offering apologies for wrongs committed and how we understand what forgiveness is colors how we experience *t'shuvah*. In this three part series with Rabbi Hirsch, explore the look, sound, and intent behind *t'shuvah*, specifically studying how repentance works. We will use Jewish texts to better understand how we put forward our penitent hearts, and how we are to respond when someone offers us their own.

### **Sacred Dimensions: What is "Holiness"?**

Rabbi Zachary Goodman

October 22, 29

The Jewish tradition is teeming with holy places, holy days, holy items, and even holy people. But what does it truly mean for something to be deemed "holy" within Jewish life? This course invites us to explore the spiritual significance of both time and space within Judaism, uncovering the holiness inherent in both. From the

sacred rhythms of the Jewish calendar and holy days to the holy spaces of ancient temples and contemporary homes, we will investigate the rituals, symbols, and practices that imbue times and spaces with sanctity. Join us as we uncover the sacredness that permeates every moment and every corner of the Jewish experience.

### **God Concepts in the Bible and Rabbinic Literature: A Sampling to Stimulate Our Personal Belief**

Rabbi Lewis Kamrass

November 5, 12, 19

Contrary to what most people think, our classical literature of Bible, Talmud and other rabbinic literature are far from monolithic in theology or emphasis on qualities of God. These great sources reveal wide-ranging ideas of God, with many parallel tracks or viewpoints, none competing with one another, but each to challenge and to stimulate our own theology and personal ideas of God. Rabbi Kamrass will introduce us to some God concepts we might expect, as well as many others that would be unexpected and even surprising and expansive in their approach from so many centuries ago. Examining these characteristics of God revealed in our literature is a sampling to whet our own spiritual appetite, and to challenge and enlarge our own perspectives.

## **DOWNTOWN LUNCH AND LEARN**

Thursdays, 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

KMK Law, One East Fourth St, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cincinnati

Optional lunch available

### **Reading Jonah Backward**

Rabbi Neil Hirsch

September 12

Tradition has it that we read the Book of Jonah on Yom Kippur afternoon because its message strengthens the worshiper's sense of repentance, helping everyone toward the finish line after a very long day. The trouble is, the Book of Jonah's lesson can be enigmatic. As we prepare for the High Holy Days, join Rabbi Hirsch to read the book backward, to find out how that may unlock a clearer meaning for this most important and spiritually energizing biblical story. There's a lot more to it than a reluctant prophet and a magical whale.

### **What's the Deal with Jews and Halloween?**

Rabbi Zachary Goodman

October 31

In this class, we will journey through the history, folklore, and contemporary customs of Halloween; unraveling the diverse ways in which Jewish communities engage with the popular Western holiday. From discussing the origins of Halloween to exploring Jewish perspectives on themes like death, remembrance, and festive celebration,

this class offers a unique lens through which to examine cultural exchange and the intersectionality of identity.

## WISE LEARNING GUEST SPEAKERS SERIES

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Sundays, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM | Wise Center and Zoom

### Poems for Our Days: Israeli Poetry Since October 7<sup>th</sup>

Rachel Korazim, PhD

September 22

Wise Temple is grateful to host Israel educator extraordinaire, Rachel Korazim, who will discuss how Israeli society has responded with poetry since the events of last October. Literature has always been an important part of Israeli identity and culture especially in its responses to the ongoing conflict it has faced since its creation. Join us for a morning of reflection and commemoration a few weeks before the one-year anniversary.

### Ballot Box Priorities: Should we vote like Jewish Americans or American Jews?

Rabbi Gary P. Zola, PhD

October 20

Like all Americans, Jews prioritize various issues when they approach the ballot box. However, when Jewish cultural, religious, or political concerns come to the forefront, the perennial charge of Jewish “dual loyalty” becomes particularly prominent. Rabbi Zola will explain how these questions affected our predecessors and how they may influence Jewish voting patterns in the upcoming national election.

### Becoming a Resilient Parent (Part I)

Dasee Berkowitz

November 10

Parenting is a journey filled with profound joys and significant challenges, especially in these trying times for our communities and the world. Join us to strengthen our resilience as parents and discover ways to model these essential skills for our children. *(Part II will be held on December 8.)*

## JUDAISM 101

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**NEW!**

Sundays, 9:15 AM – 10:30 AM | Wise Center

Looking to learn something exciting and different? If you thought you knew everything you needed to know about Judaism, then Judaism 101 is for you. This 11-part Adult Learning series is dedicated to exploring the core ideas, values, cultural sensibilities, history, and beliefs of Jewish civilization in a fresh, new way. Flexible participation allows you to attend as many sessions as you like, depending on your schedule, but you won't want to

miss a single class. Make learning fun again with this engaging deep dive into the complex, fascinating world of Judaism.

### Session #1 | The Days of Awe

with Matt Check | October 6

### Session #2 | The Three Festivals

with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass | October 13

### Session #3 | Shabbat & Other Holidays

with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass | October 27

### Session #4 | Jewish Literatures and Texts

with Rabbi Zachary Goodman | November 3

### Session #5 | Prayer, Worship & the Synagogue

with Rabbi Neil Hirsch | November 17

### Session #6 | Biblical & Talmudic History

with Rabbi Lewis Kamrass | November 24

*Sessions 7–11 will follow in the Eitz Chayim Adult Jewish Learning Program winter session.*

## TALMUD AND RABBINIC JUDAISM CLASS

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Tuesday, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM | Wise Center and Zoom

Rabbi Lewis Kamrass

November 5

No prior knowledge is required for this course, but do bring your curiosity, questions and a desire to learn deeply. The ancient rabbis radically reshaped biblical Judaism to respond to new needs and to changing times. Their work through the centuries sets the foundation for the Judaism we currently practice. Learn about the Talmud, Midrash and other areas of their creative, intellectual and spiritual genius that shapes who we are as Jews today. Join Rabbi Kamrass once a month for this class that will open your eyes to the enduring richness and origin of Jewish ideas and practice.

## TORAH TAKE 2

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**NEW!**

Thursdays, 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Wise Center and Zoom

### A Jewish Perspective on Jesus

Courtney Anthony

October 31, November 7, 14, 21

Who was the historical Jesus of Nazareth? This class will closely examine his life story within the context of the time and place in which he lived. What was daily life like? How would Jesus have practiced Judaism? What was the political climate? And how did a man who lived and died as a Jew become the focus of a new religion? Explore the answers to these questions and more.

*This is a re-offering of the Tuesdays with Torah class which originally ran in March of 2024.*



## Fall Service Schedule

Shabbat Evening Services at Wise Center: Fridays, 6:15 PM. Shabbat Morning Services and Torah Study at Wise Center: Saturdays, 10:15 AM. | See event listings on pages 10-11 for YoFI, Family Engagement and NextGen services.

### SEPTEMBER

- 6 Shabbat Evening Service
- 7 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 13 Tailgate Shabbat
- 14 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 20 Shabbat Evening Service
- 21 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study

- 27 Shabbat Evening Service (Birthday and Anniversary Blessings)
- 28 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 28 Bar Mitzvah of Eli Werthaiser at Plum Street Temple

### OCTOBER

- 2 Erev Rosh Hashanah\*
- 3 Rosh Hashanah\*
- 4 Shabbat Evening Service
- 5 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 11 Kol Nidrei\*
- 12 Yom Kippur\*
- 18 Shabbat Evening Service (Birthday and Anniversary Blessings)
- 19 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 19 Bar Mitzvah of Elijah Landsman at Plum Street Temple
- 25 Shabbat Evening Service
- 26 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 26 B'nai Mitzvah of Nathan and Asher Friedman at Plum Street Temple

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Shabbat Evening Service
- 2 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 2 Bar Mitzvah of Sammy Campbell at Plum Street Temple
- 8 Shabbat Evening Service
- 9 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 15 Shabbat Evening Service
- 16 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 16 B'not Mitzvah of Zoe and Phoebe Greenberg at Plum Street Temple
- 22 Shabbat Evening Service (Birthday and Anniversary Blessings)
- 23 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 29 Shabbat Evening Service
- 30 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 30 Bat Mitzvah of Emori Moss at Plum Street Temple

*\*See pages 2-3 for service options*

# SAVE THE DATES

## CELEBRATING RABBI LEWIS KAMRASS' 40 YEARS AT WISE TEMPLE

### STREET PARTY

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025  
12:00 noon – 3:00 pm

WISE CENTER  
8329 Ridge Road, Amberley

### SPECIAL SHABBAT SERVICE

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2025  
7:00 pm service - Oneg to follow

PLUM STREET TEMPLE  
720 Plum Street, Cincinnati

### AN EVENING OF DINNER & DANCING

SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025  
5:00 pm – 10:00 pm

MUSIC HALL  
1241 Elm Street, Cincinnati

#KAMRASSFEST