

February 2021

Congregation Beth Tikvah

Newsletter



We hope you have enjoyed some of the online events we have shared with you so far! Here are some more that you may want to check out!

Harrisburg Jewish Film Festival: February 14 - March 24



The 27th Film Festival season begins on February 14th and continues through March 24!

Look forward to 11 films over 5 weeks, guest speakers, and popular virtual water cooler gatherings! For more information and to register, click here:

<https://hbgjff.eventive.org/welcome>



Zoom Shabbat Services

Congregation Beth Tikvah's next Zoom Shabbat service will be held on February 26 at 7pm. Below is the Zoom link.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82146340168?pwd=NHRHb2JNeHBHRmpaSGJaSnYmFOZz09>

Meeting ID: 821 4634 0168

Passcode: 114015

We will also have Zoom services on the following dates:

March 12

March 26

April 9th

April 23

Passover 2021



Passover begins on the evening of Saturday, March 27 and ends on the evening of Sunday, April 4, 2021. We will keep you informed about Passover events as we learn of them.

Emily's Faith in Focus Column

Here's a brief excerpt from Emily's recent Faith in Focus Column on Tu Bi-Shevat. If you'd like to read the whole article, click here: [Celebrating New Year for Trees](#)

How is Tu Bi-Shevat celebrated? It is customary to eat fruits that grow in Israel, such as figs, dates, carob, raisins and almonds. Many Jewish families and Jewish schools hold a Tu Bi-Shevat Seder, a sort of ritual meal, in which they celebrate the fruits that grow on trees and the greatness of God who makes trees.

Why trees? Judaism has always had a special love for trees. The Torah requires that when the ancient Israelites besieged a city, they were forbidden to cut down fruit trees. In our weekly Sabbath prayers, we sing about how the Torah is the "Etz Hayyim," the Tree of Life. It is a special "mitzvah" (good deed) to plant trees, and it is a Jewish custom to plant trees to celebrate weddings, births and other joyous occasions, and to plant trees in memory of our departed loved ones.

Religious School Update from Miss Amelia

CBT Religious School has started our spring semester with an exciting blend of Torah study and Hebrew lessons. We are following the lives of the patriarchs and matriarchs, learning both about them and from them. As we follow the family tree from Abraham and Sarah to Isaac and Rebecca, we discuss themes of family, fairness, and faith. In our Hebrew lessons, we've been using names from the Torah and vocabulary from everyday life to learn about Hebrew. We've introduced root letters and prefixes, and will be discussing suffixes soon, all while reviewing familiar letters and vowels. We've had much fun learning about Tu B'Shevat and are looking forward to our upcoming spring holidays: Purim and Pesach.

Stay in Touch!

We hope to see you at one of our upcoming events mentioned in this newsletter!

Stay in touch by joining our Facebook Group!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1647586225527574>

Have news to share?

Please email Ariel Franchak at bethtikvahnews@gmail.com



Have a happy, healthy and peaceful February!