



ADULT ENGAGEMENT

SPRING
2018

► SEMESTER-LONG COURSES

How We Pray

Taught by Rabbi Ari Lorge and
Rabbi Nicole Auerbach

Thursdays, January 11 - March 1

6:00 pm - 7:15 pm

Have you sat through worship at Central wondering why everyone around you was bowing? What the Hebrew words mean? If we believe our prayers actually make change in the world? If so, join us for this introductory course on Jewish prayer. Over the course of six sessions we will consider these and other foundational questions. No prerequisite. This class is free and open to members and non-members.

Jews in America

Taught by Rabbi David Kalb

Mondays, January 8 - March 26

10:45 am - 12 pm

This course considers the challenges of Jewish acculturation to American life, exploring the sacrifices and contributions that have been made over the past 200 years. Lessons will explore a range of questions that address American and Jewish culture and identity. No prerequisite. Open to members and non-members.

Bereshit I

Taught by Rabbi Rebecca Rosenthal

Tuesdays, January 23 - April 24

9:30 am - 11 am

Come dive deep into the stories from Adam to Abraham. The stories take us from the universal tales of the creation of the world, the flood, and the Tower of Babel to the foundational tales of Abraham and Sarah, and the beginnings of the Jewish people. The themes of family and faith, honor and dishonor, passion and power provide a rich exploration of our people and ourselves. No prerequisite. Open to members and non-members.

Teachings of Wisdom, Wonder and Values

Taught by Joe Septimus

Thursdays, February 8 - April 12

7:15 pm - 8:15 pm

We will explore selected teachings from Torah, Talmud, Midrash, medieval, modern and contemporary sources. All texts will be in English. No prior text study experience required. Open to members and non-members.

Pirke Avot, Eighteen Centuries Later:

Engaging Rabbinic Wisdom through
Poetry and Discussion

Taught by Jessica Greenbaum

Wednesdays, February 21 - March 21

10:30 am - 11:50 am

Join award-winning poet Jessica Greenbaum for a unique approach to studying *Wisdom of the Sages; A Modern Reading of Pirke Avot*. This edition by Rabbi Rami M. Shapiro offers renewed, vitalized translations of iconic teachings on justice, integrity, and virtue, by sixty-five rabbis. No prior poetry or Judaic knowledge required. This class is free and open to members and non-members.

► ONGOING CLASSES

Our ongoing classes continue this Spring and are open to members and non-members.

- **Meditation**
Mondays, 8:20–8:50 a.m.
- **Bible & Bagels**
Wednesdays, 8:15–9:15 a.m.
- **Weekly Torah Study**
Wednesdays, 12–1:15 p.m.
- **Book of Kings II**
Wednesdays, 1:30–2:30 p.m.
- **Alper Talmud Study**
Fridays, 8:15–9:15 a.m.

► MINISERIES

Lunch and Learn Series

**January 22; February 12; March 5; April 23
12:30 pm - 2 pm**

Don't forget to mark your calendars for Central's Lunch and Learn Series this spring. Our program lineup includes an exciting mix of music, Jewish cuisine, and spirituality. In these afternoon programs we will provide lunch, followed by presentations and/or workshops by Rabbi Debbi Prinz, Cantor Julia Cadrain, Conductor Cesare Civetta, and Jewish educator and baker Ted Dreier. Visit our website for registration information. Open to members and non-members. View accompanying insert for event details.

"Carry Your Voices in Joyous Song"

Taught by Shani Ben Or

**February 21 ; March 21 ; April 11; May 16
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

If your Jewish holiday sound track needs an update, then this class is for you. Together we will discover the wonder of S'fardic Piyutim (religious poems) preserved by Mizrahi Jews and dedicated to some of the most significant dates on the Jewish calendar. We will focus on the sacred texts as well as the inspiring melodies. Through this musical journey we will explore fascinating narratives, traditions and other aspects of the holidays. No prerequisite. This class is free and open to members and non-members.

► OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Jerusalem, Reunion, Shabbat and Messiah: An Evening of Study with Rabbi Levi Weiman-Kelman

**Wednesday, January 17
7 pm - 9 pm**

L'cha Dodi, the mystical Shabbat prayer, poetically expresses the meaning of holiness in time and space and the mystery of physical and spiritual union. We will study the history, content and melodies of this well-known but little-understood prayer. This class is free and open to members and non-members.

An Evening of Art and Wine: Glass Making with Sasha Kopp

**Thursday, March 8
6:30 pm - 8 pm**

Come enjoy an evening of art and wine with Central's very own glass artist, Sasha Kopp. Sasha will guide you through the process of designing and creating your own fused-glass Mezuzah. Come alone, or with a friend – the evening will be fun for all! No prior art experience required. Advanced registration required. Open to members and non-members.

Walking Tour - Jewish Harlem

**Led by Rabbi David Kalb
Sunday, April 22**

10:45 am - 2 pm

Harlem's history as a Jewish community dates back to the 1870s. By World War I, it was the second largest Jewish community in the U.S. and the third largest in the world. On this tour, we will walk through this neighborhood and learn about the past, present, and future of this fascinating New York Jewish community. The tour departs from the Northeast corner of 125th street and Adam Clayton Powell Blvd. Open to members and non-members.

CORE Groups

We are fortunate to have a large and diverse community here at Central. We know that it can sometimes be challenging to "find your people." Join CORE Groups to develop meaningful connections within our congregation. These member-led groups are formed around a shared life-stage, passion, or area of interest. Some groups you can join today include: Members of Interfaith Families, Families with Children with Special Needs, LGBTQ Parents, Singles in our 40's, 50's & 60's, Theater for Everyone (Play Reading Group), Upper West Siders, Central Downtown, and Upper East Siders.

Contact Rabbi Nicole Auerbach at auerbachn@censyn.org to get started.

ISRAEL AT 70!

This year marks 70 years of Israeli independence. This spring, Central will commemorate the anniversary by offering a series of programs on Israel. We hope you join us as we celebrate, reflect, learn and engage in meaningful conversations. More information to come.

All Adult Engagement programs require RSVPs. This is only a complete listing at the time of publication. Visit our website for the most up-to-date program information.