

Peninsula Temple Beth El Youth and Family Education
REGISTRATION PACKET
2011-2012 / 5772

ושנתם לבניך

V'shinantam l'vanecha

"And you shall teach them to your children..." ~ Deuteronomy 6:7

PTBE offers engaging and enduring educational experiences for students of all ages. The values we teach reflect a deep appreciation for Jewish tradition and encourage active interpretation and creative forms of religious expression. *Embarking on a Jewish education is a life-long journey.* Our goal is for students to gain the necessary tools to enable them to continue to study, question, and participate actively in Jewish life. We embrace and teach the principles of Reform Judaism.

Our educational theme for this year is - "*Me and My Middot: Jewish Values to Live By*". We will explore different Jewish values from our tradition and how they guide our lives today.

A Few Highlights for the Upcoming Year Include:

- For families with children in Kindergarten-6th grade, choice between our Sunday program and *Gesher* (Bridge), an alternative educational experience for the whole family.
- "*Exploring the World of Judaism*:" PTBE has been selected by the San Francisco Bureau of Jewish Education to be a site for this innovative speaker series designed for parents of K-6 children that will take place primarily on Sunday mornings.
- A new vision for our Wednesday Night Teen Program based on the work of PTBE's 2010-11 Education Committee and feedback from the teen community. The main theme is choice - more choices in electives, dinner options, and varied experiences. We are pleased to share that PTBE has been selected as a site for *Abraham's Vision*, a unity program for teens that promotes Jewish-Muslim understanding and relations and Moving Traditions "*The Brotherhood*," a program designed to engage teenage boys in Jewish life.

We welcome YOU to PTBE's Education Programs for the 2011-2012 school year!
Rabbi Karen Citrin, Director of K-6 Education Programs (rabbikaren@ptbe.org)
Rabbi Micah Citrin, Director of 7-12 Teen Education Programs (rabbimicah@ptbe.org)

This is your Registration Packet:

Please take a moment to read through this packet of materials (some pages are double-sided including this one!) Following enrollment, a complete calendar and other information will be mailed to you during the summer. Included you will find more information about our Education Programs, a Student Enrollment form, a Family Tuition form, 6th Grade Hebrew choices, a Volunteer page, and our *Brit Kavod: Covenant of Respect*. Please note that **grades 4-6** have options for Hebrew days. Preference will be given to students with forms completed by the due date. If you have any questions about programs or registration, please contact us at (650) 341-7701. In order to register your child, the following items are due to the Education Office by **June 10th** with 50% installment (registration received after this date will incur a **late fee** of \$100). NOTE: All of the items below must be fully completed for your registration to be processed:

- Student Enrollment and Emergency Form (**yellow - one per student**)
 - **Fill out the front and back** and SIGN the bottom. A **photograph** of your child must be attached.
- Tuition Form (**blue - one per family**)
 - For Grades K-6, please indicate Sunday program **OR** Gesher.
 - Check/Credit Card information for **half** of your tuition (the remainder is due **by August 15**).
- Volunteer Form (**purple - optional**)

PTBE Education Programs Schedule – At a Glance

GRADE	DAY/TIME
PreK (Age 4 + parent/s)	Gesher Katan (“Little Bridge”) 1 st Friday night of the month
K – 6	Option 1: Sunday Program Sundays 9:00-11:15 am Option 2: Gesher Family Program (sample month) 1 st Friday of the month 6:30-7:30 pm + dinner 2 nd Saturday of the month 9:15 am-noon 3 rd Saturday of the month 3:45-6:00 pm Sunday afternoon activity or excursion
4 – 5 (Hebrew)	Tuesdays 3:45-5:45 pm OR Wednesdays 3:45-5:45 pm
6 (small group Hebrew tutorials)	There are 6 small groups (see separate page with choice of days/times)
7	Wednesdays 6:00-8:30 pm (includes dinner)
8 – 9 10 (Confirmation)	Wednesdays 6:00-8:30 pm (with dinner option)
11 – 12	Every other Wednesday 6:00-8:30 pm (with dinner option)

Notes:

- ❖ All 4th-6th grade students attend **two days** a week.
- ❖ **To celebrate becoming *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* at PTBE**, students must complete at least 4 years of our Education Programs or the equivalent. For questions regarding *B’nai Mitzvah*, please contact Cantorial Soloist Elana Jagoda.
All students who become bar/bat mitzvah are expected to continue at least through Confirmation.

Save these Dates for the Beginning of the School Year:

Friday, September 9 – First Gesher Program
 Sunday, September 11 – First Day of Sunday School & Parent Orientation
 Tuesday, September 13 – 1st Tuesday Hebrew Session
 Wednesday, September 14 – 1st Wednesday Hebrew Session
 Wednesday, September 14 - 1st Wednesday Night Teen Program
 Thursday, September 15 – 1st Thursday Hebrew Session (grade 6 only)
 Saturday, September 17 – Gesher Mini-Shabbaton

7th Grade *B’nai Mitzvah* Retreat (for 7th gr. students and parent/s): **October 28-30** at Walden West
Confirmation Retreat: October 28-30 at Walden West
K-6 Family Retreat: Spring Date TBD

"And you shall teach them to your children." - Torah

OVERVIEW OF K-6 YOUTH AND FAMILY EDUCATION

Our education programs engage all students and families in Jewish learning and living. From a young age, we strive to create a warm and caring environment where children develop a positive Jewish identity and feel at home in the synagogue and Jewish community. All students learn and experience four core curricular elements: Torah, Tzedakah, Hebrew, and Holidays. Throughout the grades, we seek to impart the stories and values from Torah study, the commitment to Tzedakah (righteous deeds), the experience of Hebrew language, prayer and culture, and the joy of celebrating holy days in the Jewish calendar. Additionally, students study other Judaic themes that are developmentally appropriate for each age group. Classroom learning is enhanced by experiences in Jewish music, art, Israeli dance, and T'filah (prayer) and social opportunities for students to build and maintain friendships and strengthen community. Additionally, PTBE is excited to offer our 3rd Annual K-6 Family Retreat!

Families with children in grades K-6 have a **choice** between our Sunday School program and the Geshher (Bridge) family program, an alternative education model designed to integrate Jewish study and experience mainly on Shabbat. Please see the enclosed brochure for more information about the new Geshher program. Geshher also includes special preK and day school options.

Sunday School meets: Sundays 9:00-11:15am.

Geshher meets (generally): 1st Friday of the month 6:30-7:30pm + Shabbat dinner, 2nd Saturday of the month 9:15am-noon, 3rd Saturday of the month 3:45-6:00pm, and occasional Sunday afternoon activities or excursions.

Fourth-Fifth Grade Hebrew: Choice of Tuesday OR Wednesday 3:45-5:45pm.

Sixth Grade Hebrew: Small group Hebrew tutorials (choice of days and times - see separate page)
A complete calendar of all session dates will be available in the summer.

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade: Integrated Judaic and Hebrew foundation. Students learn Jewish symbols, stories, heroes, holidays, Torah, *mitzvot* (holy actions), blessings, talking about God, the Land and People of Israel, Hebrew *alef-bet* (letters) and basic Hebrew words.

4th-6th Grade: Judaic themes and topics include Torah study with midrash (commentaries), Prophets and Writings, Jewish values and ethics, being partners with God, rituals, lifecycles, and Jewish history. Hebrew study focuses on developing Hebrew vocabulary and prayer reading skills. Students learn the prayers of the Shabbat service as they prepare to become *bar/bat mitzvah*. Students are also expected to practice Hebrew reading at home. All 6th grade students and families participate in several Shabbat experiences during the year.

A more detailed curriculum overview will be available at the start of the school year.

*We expect at least 80% attendance during the school year.
Children and families are encouraged to attend our education programs regularly
and participate actively in our temple community.*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM

PTBE 7th – 12th Grade Education ~ Wednesdays 6:00–8:30 PM

A VISION OF WNP

A teen-centered experience that fosters meaningful relationships and a sense of belonging in a holy community, offers Jewish learning that touches the soul and excites the mind, and inspires a lifelong pursuit of Jewish connection and expression.

SO, NEW? Here are a few exciting new **changes** starting in fall 2011...

- 1) 7th grade will engage in community service learning field trips/projects
- 2) 8th/9th grade students choose electives both in the 1st and 2nd hour of WNP
- 3) 8th/9th grade boys can register for "The Brotherhood" taught by Rabbi Micah, exploring Judaism and manhood
- 4) 8th – 12th grade optional dinner plan – for the year, by trimester, or no dinner (if your student eats before, s/he can come to schmooze at 6 pm)
- 5) "Abraham's Vision" A nationally recognized Jewish/Muslim interfaith study/dialogue curriculum for 9th – 12th graders. This program will run as a track within WNP. Students sign up for A.V. course for the year (see the attached application for details, space is limited)
- 6) We encourage 8th – 12th graders to sign up to be Madrichim, youth education classroom assistants. There will a Madrichim leadership elective offered in WNP
- 7) Wild Card Wednesdays: Guest speakers/fun activities...Come find out!

7TH GRADE engages middle school students in the process of stepping up to becoming *Bnai Mitzvah* and entering the world of adult Jewish responsibility. Students will enjoy being part of a close community of their peers that gathers each Wednesday evening for a meal, a core curricular class, and an elective. The 7th grade core curriculum is split into three focus areas:

- Torah study: The Art of Interpretation
- Prayer: Making New Meaning in Ancient Words
- *Mitzvot* – Jewish Values and Actions.

Students then choose an elective such as conversational Hebrew, trope, Israeli society and culture, lessons of the Holocaust, and Modern Midrash.

Memorable Adventures:

- 7th grade Bnai Mitzvah retreat (student + parent/s)
- Community service learning

8TH/9TH GRADE

puts the path of Jewish learning in the hands of the students. Having become *Bnai Mitzvah*, 8th and 9th graders shape their WNP experience by choosing from a variety of engaging electives. Students will be able to choose six different electives during the course of the year, two per trimester. Elective themes include God and spirituality, approaching Jewish text as adults, Jewish ethics and hot topics (navigating social pressures of teen life, current events, technology), arts, cooking, and more. See the sample elective list.

Memorable Adventures:

- 8th/9th grade Jewish San Francisco overnight (alternating with Jewish L.A. Trip, 2013)

10TH GRADE - CONFIRMATION

is a unique opportunity for 10th grade students to study with PTBE clergy and affirm their Judaism in a meaningful lifecycle moment, the Confirmation service. Confirmation students focus on three pillars of Jewish life: God, Torah, and Israel. As they move toward young adulthood, students ask deep questions about their own relationship with God, how Torah responds to the complexities of life, and why Israel matters. During the second hour Confirmation students choose from a variety of elective options. See the sample elective list below. 10th Grade students also have the option to register for "Abraham's Vision" a Jewish/Muslim interfaith dialogue study program as an alternative Confirmation track. This course would be the primary area of focus for any student who registers for this option. More information to follow about how students who choose this option will also participate in Confirmation.

Memorable Adventures:

- 10th grade Confirmation Retreat
- Shabbat dinner at the Rabbis Citrin home
- Summer Israel trip

11TH/12TH GRADE

invites students to continue their Jewish learning and maintain relationships with their PTBE friends. 11th and 12th graders meet every other week with members of the clergy for seminar style study. Students choose the topics of study they would like to learn with the clergy. Guest speakers and field trips of interest are woven into the program. This year 11th and 12th graders can also apply to sign up for "Abraham's Vision", a nationally recognized Jewish/Muslim interfaith dialogue curriculum. This course would meet weekly; see the attached application.

Memorable Adventures:

- Evening at the Rabbis Citrin Home
- Stanford Hillel field trip

WNP SAMPLE ELECTIVE LIST

- | | |
|---|---|
| ✓ Abraham's Vision: Jewish/Muslim Interfaith Study/Dialogue | ✓ Jewish Graphic Novels |
| ✓ Arts (painting, Jewish song writing, Israeli folkdance, quilting, mosaic) | ✓ Madrichim: Classroom Leadership Skills |
| ✓ The Brotherhood (boys only) | ✓ New Games and Jewish Values |
| ✓ Conversational Hebrew | ✓ Pop Culture and Jewish Theology |
| ✓ Cooking | ✓ Rosh Hodesh: It's a Girl Thing (girls only) |
| ✓ Defiance: The Holocaust and Ethics | ✓ The Simpsons and Jewish Ethics |
| ✓ Hot Topics: Current Event, Teen Issues, and Judaism | ✓ Stories from the Bible My Sunday School Teacher Never Taught Me |
| | ✓ Talmudic Argument |
| | ✓ Torah Trope |

Peninsula Temple Beth El Youth and Family Education
BRIT KAVOD – A Covenant of Respect
בְּרִית כָּבוֹד

Brit means “covenant” and *Kavod* means “respect” or “honor.” Being part of our covenantal community means that we show *kavod* for each other, for this place, and for our programs.

PTBE recognizes that each person has a unique learning style and that we all experience education and Judaism differently. There are also core Jewish values that bind us together in one community. All parents, students and teachers will strive to uphold the following values of our *Brit*:

1. KAVOD FOR OTHERS – We expect every person to demonstrate self-respect and respect for other people.

“V’ahavta l’reiacha kamocha – Love your fellow person as yourself.” (Leviticus 19:18)

Each person is created “*B’tzelem Elohim*” (in God’s image) and we honor the holiness in each person with our words and our actions. We treat one another how we want to be treated.

2. KAVOD FOR PLACE – We expect every person to demonstrate respect for our Synagogue and grounds.

“Ma tovu ohalecha Ya’akov mishk’notecha Yisrael – How beautiful are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel.” (Numbers 24:5)

Out of respect for our sacred space, we are responsible for caring for everyone and everything in and around our temple home. We are responsible for keeping each other safe.

3. KAVOD FOR OUR PROGRAM – We expect every person to be present and considerate and to contribute positively toward our learning environment.

“Na’aseh v’nishma – We will do and we will hear.” (Exodus 24:7)

It is a privilege to learn about our Jewish heritage. We have the responsibility to help ourselves and others to learn by listening, participating and following all instructions.

In all these ways, we work together to demonstrate kavod for ourselves, for each other, for PTBE and for our community.