

Congregational Program Guide

at TEMPLE ISAIAH
ישעיהו



5784 / 2023–2024



It is hard to believe that another summer has come and gone; Temple Isaiah is another year older and wiser; our staff has grown, our congregation has grown, but we continue to maintain the feeling of closeness and warmth that defines Temple Isaiah as a family.

Temple Isaiah offers an incredible number of ways to be a part of our community. As you look through the pages of this year's **Program Guide**, I am sure you will find activities for socializing, but also that encompass all aspects of Jewish Life, including meaningful community, sacred experiences, and Jewish wisdom. I am hopeful that you will find a way to connect: through our social action opportunities, through our adult education classes, through our Scholar-in-Residence program, and through our Shabbat services and weekly communal oneg.

Please don't forget our fun family programming for all ages: *Simchat Torah*, *Hanukkah*, *Purim*, Family and Tot Shabbat, as well as *Babies & Bagels*. These are just a few examples of how we include intergenerational activities in our programming. Our professional staff, lay leaders, committees, and volunteers continue to create and provide engaging religious, social, and educational programs for the coming year and beyond. I hope you will attend an event, join a committee, find others with similar interests, or volunteer to share your talents. Contact me, any of our committee chairs, or professional staff if you have an idea for a new event or interest group.

I look forward to a year of new and exciting opportunities and welcome all to share in our rich Temple Isaiah life.

B'Yedidut (in friendship),

Shelley Engel

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Assistant Director, ECE
Education & Youth Assistant
Behavior & Learning Specialist
Communications Coordinator
B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator & Rabbi's Assistant
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Shelley Engel, FSA
Rabbi Amanda K. Weiss
Becca Droller
Rachel Petroff Kessler, RJE
Rabbi Daniel Plotkin, RJE
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Eric Soskil
Brett Tiplitz
Larry Eldridge
Mark Shelnitz
Larry Levin
Ben Levitt

Shir Isaiah

Contact: Marshall Kohen, sproutko@verizon.net

Shir Isaiah is a choral group made up of congregants under the musical direction of Marshall Kohen. Our choir has long been a cherished part of Temple Isaiah. Shir Isaiah performs at various times during the year, including Shabbat and High Holy Day services, as well as selected Temple events. The rehearsal schedule varies throughout the year.

Renaissance

Contact: Ann Goldscher, agoldscher@comcast.net

The Renaissance Group addresses and supplements the needs of our empty nesters. This is a social group that gets together for movies nights, dinner, trips to local museums & sights, Lunch & Learns, and so much more.

Sisterhood

Contact: Janis Wasser, Sisterhood President, divajan17@gmail.com

Temple Isaiah's Sisterhood is a service organization concentrating on community, spiritual and educational programming, fundraising, and membership. Temple Isaiah Sisterhood promotes the Jewish growth of its members by being involved in mitzvot for TI and the local community. TI Sisterhood is a member of Women of Reform Judaism.

Men's Club

Contact: Larry Finkelstein, Men's Club President, larryfmail@verizon.net

Dedicated to the Temple, a fabulous group of men devoted to the Temple for service, fundraising, and especially for fun. This group sponsors the annual 5k MatzohBall Run! Join us for once-a-month Sunday morning brunch.

Tzedek Isaiah

Contact: Chuck Koplik, cmkoplik@icloud.com

Tzedek Isaiah is our Social Justice advocacy group. Often working with the RAC (Religious Action Center), Tzedek Isaiah fulfills Judaism's commitment to improving the broader community.

Shabbat

Shabbat Services

Services generally take place on Fridays at 8pm and Saturdays at 10am. Services include both Hebrew and English. We use both traditional and contemporary melodies. Our services are open to all — members and non-members, Jews and non-Jews. We would love for you to join us! Check the calendar on our website to confirm the time. To add a name to our *Mi Shebeirach* list for healing, please call the office.



Torah Study

Saturday Mornings, 9am (10am in July/August)

Add a little Torah to your Shabbat and study the weekly Torah portion. Torah study meets every week and is led on a rotating basis by Rabbi Craig Axler, Rabbi Amanda K. Weiss, Rabbi Daniel Plotkin, Rachel Petroff Kessler, and lay leaders. You are welcome to join us at any time — no prior knowledge or experience is needed to participate.

Shabbat & Schmooze

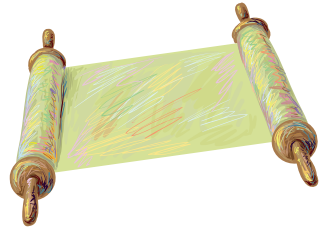
November 18, January 20, March 30, May 4

Join us for an opportunity for warm, musical, casual worship, interactive Torah learning, and a light Kiddush lunch to share with your fellow congregants.



Reading Torah

Join the growing list of congregants who have read Torah at our Friday night services. Work with Rachel Petroff Kessler to choose a date and prepare your reading. Basic Hebrew decoding skills are necessary, but prior experience reading Torah is not required.



Family Services

Services on the fourth Friday of each month begin at 7pm, and are especially appropriate for families with primary-school aged children. The Torah service and sermon are replaced with a story. All who have celebrated a birthday during the month, are invited up to the bimah for a blessing and a birthday pencil!

Holidays



Sukkot/Simchat Torah

Sukkot Under the Stars, September 30–October 1

Celebrate Sukkot under the Stars at Temple Isaiah, including stargazing, singing around the campfire, and more! Camp out on the back lawn or join us just for the evening. Details and registration at <https://bit.ly/TI-sukkotstars-2023>

Axler Open Sukkah, October 5, 4–9pm

The Axler family welcomes you to stop by their sukkah for a visit, a snack, or a meal! To RSVP (and get the address), email Lori@templeisaiah.org.

connecTion Sukkah Hangout, October 3, 7:30–9pm

Join Temple Isaiah's 20s/30s group for drinks and dessert at Rabbi Weiss's sukkah.

Pizza in the Hut, October 1, 4–5:30pm

Preschool families are invited to enjoy a delicious pizza dinner, visit the sukkah and do a fun craft project. \$18 per family. RSVP to Eileen@templeisaiah.org by September 22.

Yizkor Service, October 6, 8pm

End this festival season with a moment of memory during Friday Night Services.

Simchat Torah Services, October 8, 9:45am: Interactive Learning, 10:45am: Service and Celebration

Join with Temple Isaiah members and Kulanu families to celebrate our annual completion and restart of the Torah. The celebrations will include interactive ways to explore the Torah, dancing with the scrolls accompanied by the Temple Isaiah Simchat Torah Band, the whole Torah unrolled, and more!

Hanukkah

Hands on Hanukkah

Sunday, December 3

Get in the Hanukkah spirit with an afternoon of fun for the whole family, featuring a Hanukkah sing-a-long with the Axlers, Hanukkah crafts, and more!

Neighborhood Candle Lightings

Wednesday, December 13

Gather together with your Temple Isaiah family for neighborhood-based candle lighting! Interested in hosting for your neighborhood? Contact Rachel@templeisaiah.org.



Family Service / Dinner, Friday, December 8

Dinner at 6pm, Family Service at 7pm

Save the Date for more holiday celebrations throughout the year:

- Tu Bishvat Seder, January 24
- Family Purim Service and Spiel, March 22
- Purim on Tap: Brunch Edition, March 24
- Congregational Seder, April 23
- Passover Yizkor Service, April 30, 10am
- Shavuot and Confirmation Service, June 11
- Shavuot Yizkor Service, June 12, 7pm

Programs for Families with Young Children

Contact Rachel@templeisaiah.org for more information about any of our programming for families with young children.

Tot Shabbat

2nd Saturday of the month at 10:30am

All are invited to join us as we celebrate Shabbat with a fun, meaningful, and age-appropriate service full of stories and songs. No pre-registration required! The service is geared towards kids 5 and under and the grownups who love them, though older siblings are always welcome.



Babies & Bagels

Monthly on Sundays, beginning October 1

Bring your little one and join us each month for Temple Isaiah's infant/toddler playgroup (for birth to three). Sessions include play time, music, an art project or sensory activity for toddlers, holiday stories, parent schmoozing, and plenty of bagels. Together we'll build a space where parents and little ones can have fun and build relationships with one another. Because parenting is better with a tribe!

Register at <https://bit.ly/TI-babiesbagels-2023>



Scan me
to register!

TIPS

The Rabbi Mark and Morah Renée Panoff Preschool serves children ages 2–5 and opened at Temple Isaiah in 2004. Our integrated secular and Judaic preschool is play-based and developmentally appropriate, with a focus on experiential learning. We provide high-quality early childhood education and our teachers nurture each child's social, physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual growth through interactive and meaningful experiences. Our Parents

Association supports teachers with social events and fundraising. Please reach out to Allison Weil, Director of Early Childhood Education, for more information and a personal tour. Allison@templeisaiah.org.

Calendar Highlights

- September 6, 9:15am — 1st Day of School & Boo-hoo/Yoo-hoo Breakfast in the Social Hall
- October 1, 4–5:30pm — Pizza in the Hut
 - Preschool families are invited to enjoy a delicious pizza dinner, visit the sukkah, and do a fun craft project. \$18 per family. RSVP to Eileen@templeisaiah.org by September 22.
- November 8, 10am — Grandparents and Special Friends Day
- November 27–December 3 — Scholastic Book Fair



Kulanu

Kulanu is our full program of education and activities for our Temple Isaiah children from ages 4 to 18. It includes both Sunday morning and Sunday evening classes for the appropriate grades, and special activities for all ages. For more information about Kulanu, contact RabbiPlotkin@templeisaiah.org.

Calendar

Kulanu Sunday Morning (PreK–6th Grade):

- <https://bit.ly/Kulanu-morning-2023>

Kulanu Sunday Evening (7th–12th Grade):

- <https://bit.ly/Kulanu-evening-2023>

KPA is our Kulanu parents group, open to all parents of Kulanu students from PreK–12th Grade. Over the course of the year, the KPA will sponsor opportunities for parents and families to get together both during and outside of Kulanu hours. The KPA will also oversee the Kulanu pizza sale. If you are interested in helping to plan KPA programs or getting involved please contact Mindy Gorelik or Kendra Reisner.



Club 34

Club 34 is Temple Isaiah's youth group for our 3rd and 4th Grade students. Club 34 gives kids and parents opportunities to create and deepen friendships at Temple Isaiah.

- October 15 — Kickoff!
- December 17 — Paint "Night"
- February 11 — Winter Craft and Games
- April 7 — Chocolate Seder
- April 10 — School's Out Day of Fun



JYTI

All 5th and 6th Graders at Temple Isaiah are invited to participate in our junior youth group, JYTI, which holds monthly events here at Temple Isaiah and around the community.

- October 29 — Archery
- November 12 — Fall Luminary Craft and Games
- December 3 — Hanukkah Party
- February 8–9 — Shul-in
- March 10 — Pottery Painting
- April 7 — Chocolate Seder
- April 10 — School's Out Day of Fun



For more information about Club34 or JYTI, contact Joanne@templeisaiah.org.



Next Dor

The Kulanu Next Dor Program is for all 8th–12th Grade students at Temple Isaiah. It consists of classes, special programs and events, Shabbatons, the opportunity to serve as a Madrich/a on Sunday mornings, and more. Interested teens can register for the full program, or pick and choose the pieces that interest them.

Below are particular programs we'd like to highlight this year, the full schedule can be found in the Gesher/Next Dor Calendar, at <https://bit.ly/Kulanu-evening-2023>

- **Ben Topus Shabbaton, December 15–16** — The annual Ben Topus Shabbaton is a chance for TI teens to come together for Shabbat fun, learning, and friendship.
- **L'Taken, February 23–26** — 10th–12th Graders are eligible to attend the L'Taken Social Justice Seminar in Washington, DC, held in partnership with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Students will have the opportunity to learn about Jewish perspectives on social justice issues with hundreds of their peers from around the country, and then visit the offices of our Senators and Representatives to speak on those topics.
- **New York City Trip, April 12–14** — 9th–12th Graders are invited to join Rabbi Plotkin on a weekend trip to New York, highlighting sites of Jewish and general interest.

Students not enrolled in the Next Dor program may attend elective classes or any of these special events for an additional fee.

connectTlon

connectTlon is Temple Isaiah's 20s/30s group. We connect young Jewish adults with one another. We welcome singles and couples, Temple members and non-members, parents and those without kids. For more information about connectTlon programming contact Rabbi Amanda K. Weiss or join our Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/353374785277631>

- **Drinks and Desserts in the Sukkah, October 3, 7:30–9:30pm**

More programs to come! Be in touch with Rabbi Weiss if you've got a program idea or would like to help organize future events. RabbiWeiss@templeisaiiah.org



connectTlon
Facebook Group

Adult Education

Torah on Tap

Most 2nd Thursdays

Join Rabbi Plotkin at The Periodic Table for an informal evening of Jewish learning and socializing.



Adult B'nai Mitzvah

Select Wednesdays, starting October 18, 7–8:30pm

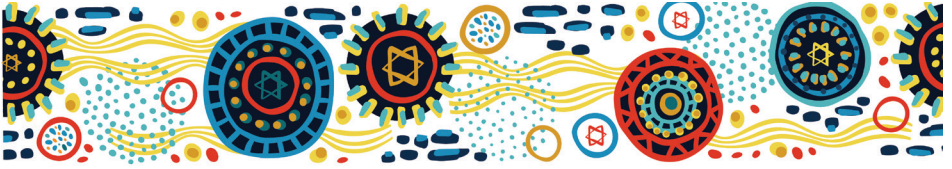
Join Temple Isaiah's clergy and educators for a year of meaningful learning, culminating in a B'nai Mitzvah service on June 15, 2024. Throughout the year, our studies will focus on improving prayer skills, gaining a deeper understanding of our liturgy and sacred texts, and learning to access and participate in the tradition of Biblical commentary and interpretation. For details and registration visit <https://temple-isaiah.shulcloud.com/form/AdultBnaiMitzvah>.

Scientists in Synagogue: “Can I Patent Nature? Law, Ethics, and Biotechnology.”

November 2 and 9, 7pm

Join Rachel Petroff Kessler and Scott Markow to explore questions around patenting biotechnologies. At our first session, we'll learn about patent law and explore Jewish views on intellectual property. Our second session will focus on the legalities and ethics of patenting biotechnology. A Zoom link will be available for those unable to attend in person.





SCHOLARINRESIDENCE NOVEMBER 17-18

with Sabrina Sojourner

A Weekend of Music, Healing, and Love

Friday Night, 8pm

Sabrina will co-lead services and offer a D'var Torah on "Healing Generations"

Saturday Morning, 10am

Shabbat & Schmooze, featuring a teaching by Sabrina

Saturday Night, 7pm

"We are Love and are Loved"

Havdalah, Music, and Midrash

Join Sabrina, accompanied by a full band, for an evening of music, spoken-word Midrash, and a healing service



Sabrina Sojourner is a Shaliakh Tzibur (Jewish Spiritual Leader), nationally recognized progressive and thought leader, Community Chaplain, Educator, Ward-Artist, and facilitator of important conversations on diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and the future of Judaism. She leads, teaches, and cultivates curiosity across the country. She is welcomed as a featured speaker, Scholar or Guest Artist-in-residence, and faculty at Jewish and secular institutions, conferences, retreats, and gatherings across the country, precisely because she brings her authentic self to everything and everyone she touches. Currently, she is also the Rosh Beit for Expanding the Canon, a program of Theater J in Washington, DC, that has commissioned seven playwrights with diverse Jewish backgrounds to create plays that will enhance the stories we tell about Jews and Judaism from the stage.

Holiday Lunch & Learns

October 4 (Sukkot), December 6 (Hanukkah), April 17 (Passover), all at 12pm

Pack a lunch and come to Temple Isaiah for an hour of socializing and Jewish learning, related to the current or upcoming holiday. The December 6 Lunch & Learn is sponsored by the Renaissance Group but open to all.



Adult Study Retreat — “Light and Joy, Happiness and Honor: Entering Adar with Intention”

February 9-11

Join clergy and educators from Temple Isaiah for a spiritually enriching weekend of Shabbat celebration and learning. Together we'll enter into the Hebrew month of Adar, when Purim takes place. Our theme is inspired by a verse from the Book of Esther, “The Jewish enjoyed light and joy, happiness and honor.”

Cost: \$300/person, includes accommodations on Friday and Saturday night at the Bon Secours retreat center in Marriotsville, and all meals/snacks from Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast. Register at <https://bit.ly/TI-studyretreat-2023>



Save the Date for even more learning opportunities coming this Winter/Spring:

Winter Series: Talking about God

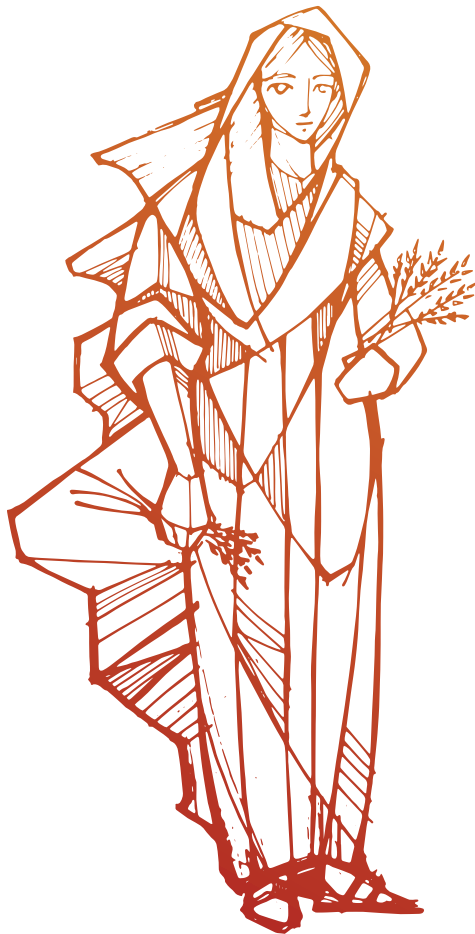
February 28, March 13, March 27, at 7pm

**Modern Views of Biblical Women,
with guest speaker Gideon Amir**

Thursdays May 16, 23, and 30 at 7pm

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

June 11





Temple Isaiah
12200 Scaggsville Rd.
Fulton, Maryland 20759

Office Hours:
Monday–Thursday, 9am–5pm; Friday, 9am–2pm

Office: 301.317.1101

TIPS: 301.498.4242

www.templeisaiah.org
info@templeisaiah.org

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