


Adat Shalom-Beth Achim
Learning Community



Handbook & Calendar

2019-2020

5779-5780

Revised 11/19

CONTENTS

OUR MISSION	3
OUR VISION	3
EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	4
SCHEDULE OF CLASSES.....	4
FACULTY	4
Classroom Teachers 2019-2020 (5779-5780)	4
Specialty Areas	4
Shinshinim Program.....	5
Teen Madrichim	5
CLERGY INVOLVEMENT	5
CURRICULUM: OVERARCHING THEMES.....	6
HEBREW AND PRAYER CURRICULUM	7
Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1 st Grade:	7
2 nd and 3 rd Grade:.....	7
3 rd through 7 th Grade:	8
Prayer Mastery.....	8
SPECIAL NEEDS.....	1
Opening the Doors.....	1
IEP and 504 Plans	1
Buddies.....	1
Know Where to Go.....	2
Accessibility.....	2
Bathrooms.....	2
HOME ENRICHMENT	3
THE BASICS.....	4
Arrival Time	4
Tefillah (Prayer).....	4
Chuggim (Elective Activities).....	4
Books and Supplies	4

What to Wear.....	5
What to Bring.....	5
What NOT to Bring.....	5
Snacks at the Shalom Shuk	6
Bagels	6
Birthdays	6
GET INVOLVED	7
Parent Committee.....	7
Youth Engagement.....	7
Adult Learning.....	7
Family Education.....	7
SHABBAT AND HOLIDAYS.....	8
COMMUNICATION	9
Email.....	9
Facebook.....	9
Remind App.....	9
PARKING LOT SAFETY.....	10
Carpool, Drop-off and Pick-up	10
HEALTH.....	11
Allergies and Medical Conditions.....	11
Illness	11
SNOW DAYS & COLD WEATHER CLOSINGS.....	12
BAR AND BAT MITZVAH	13
Setting the Bar or Bat Mitzvah Date	13
B'nai Mitzvah Connections	13
Mitzvah Project (Community Service)	13
CALENDAR.....	14
Monday Schedule (7 th Grade)	16
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION	1
CONTACT INFORMATION.....	2

OUR MISSION

Adat Shalom-Beth Achim Learning Community, the educational program of Adat Shalom Synagogue, is committed to enriching the lives of students and families within our congregation in a nurturing environment through diverse Jewish educational experiences according to the values of Conservative Judaism as they relate to God, Torah, holidays, prayer, history, the Hebrew language and the State of Israel. Our school promotes connections between and among families, the synagogue, the community and the State of Israel, creating a path to a happy and meaningful Jewish life.

OUR VISION

Our Students take pride in being Jewish through education focused on age appropriate, experiential learning that enhances each student's appreciation for lifelong learning and living as Jews. As an important part of our synagogue community, students gain an understanding of the way Conservative Judaism is practiced at Adat Shalom. They have a strong sense of Jewish values, ethics, Torah, traditions, Israel, and *tikkun olam* (social action) and have the opportunity to lead as well as participate in *tefillot* (communal prayer). Their understanding of Judaism gives them a sense of who they are and an appreciation of their role in the larger Jewish community that will last a lifetime.

Our Learning Environment is warm and nurturing. Students feel safe and free to express themselves. Our learning environment is one of mutual honor and respect. Dedicated, creative and enthusiastic teachers guide our students using different learning modalities while meeting the needs of each student. They create a student-centered, active learning environment which extends beyond the classroom into the lives of our students and their families.

Our Families are part of a diverse, engaged and motivated community. They are connected to each other, to Adat Shalom Synagogue, and to the larger Jewish community. By offering meaningful experiences, celebrating holidays and Shabbat, our school provides students and their extended families with opportunities for ongoing spiritual growth.

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

In the Book of Proverbs, there is a profound statement: “Educate a youth according to his path, so that when he is old he will not stray from it.” Here, we try to put that statement into practice: we try to find out what will help each child succeed, so that our educational process has a long-term impact on each student. ***Our goal is to make Judaism accessible, meaningful, and relevant for our students and their families.***

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Grades Pre-K through 1

Sundays only, 9 am to noon

Grades 2 through 6

Sundays, 9 am to noon and Wednesdays, 4:30 to 6:15 pm

Grade 7

Mondays, 6 to 8 pm and Wednesdays, 4:30 to 6:15 pm

FACULTY

Classroom Teachers 2019-2020 (5779-5780)

Pre-K	103	Orit Hamburger & Kelly Bressler
K / Gan	104	Shelly Tarockoff
1 / Alef	105	Marilyn Wolfe
2 / Bet	102	Rivkah Nachlas & Rochel Nachlas
3 / Gimel	101	Ettie Schargorodsky
4 / Daled	106	Eva Feuerstein
5 / Hay	107	Abbi Emerson
6 / Vav	108	Ariel Stollman
7 / Zayin	106	Abbi Emerson & Emily Hollenberg (M)
	109	Lisa Dresner (W)

Specialty Areas

We have art, music, environmental studies, Israel studies, and Hebrew!

Shinshinim Program

The Shinshinim Young Ambassadors Program brings recent high school graduates from Israel to our community. Young, fun, engaging representatives of Israel, the Shinshinim are here to bring Israel into our lives through programs, activities, and lectures throughout our educational programs. We will get a glimpse into what it means to grow up in Israel by learning about youth movements, current events, Israeli music, Hebrew slang, shared society in our region in Israel, how the Shinshinim's friends and families celebrate the holidays, and much more. When they return home to begin service with the Israel Defense Forces, Shinshinim carry a deeper understanding of global Jewish peoplehood and what it means to be part of the Jewish community outside of Israel. Shinshinim (or Shin-Shin in the singular form) is a Hebrew acronym for *Shnat Sherut*, meaning "year of service."

Teen Madrichim

A *madrich* is a guide, and our school has an amazing cohort of teens who choose to continue being part of the Adat Shalom community on a weekly basis! Beginning in eighth grade, teens may volunteer or work within the school as teaching assistants, buddies, and office assistants.

Teens complete regular training and learn how to best assist the classroom teachers and their students. *Madrichim* often work with students one-on-one in Hebrew reading, help students with projects, run stations or games, and more.

CLERGY INVOLVEMENT

Our clergy are actively involved and play an integral role in our classes and family education programs. Clergy regularly visit classrooms to teach new melodies, explore prayers, teach varying topics, and answer student questions.

CURRICULUM: OVERARCHING THEMES

- **Pre-K:** Jewish holidays and experiences are meaningful and fun. I can be an active part of my synagogue and community. There are Jews all around the world and I am part of a larger Jewish community. We learn about the different types of people who live in Israel.
- **Kindergarten:** The symbols and ritual objects of Jewish life, including Shabbat, have relevance for my family and myself. Kindness and compassion are important values in Jewish life. I can use Jewish values to be kind to others. We learn about the symbols of the state of Israel.
- **First Grade:** My Jewish acts help me discover the beauty and order of sacred time and my place in the Jewish story. I am part of the ongoing story of Torah and the Jewish people. I can talk about God and God's role in the universe. We learn about the different places in Israel, connected to stories in the Torah and what they look like today. I can talk about God and God's role in the universe.
- **Second Grade:** We are created *B'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of God, and therefore have certain responsibilities in how we conduct ourselves among our family and peers. This concept is called *Derekh Eretz*, and our responsibilities are called *Mitzvot*. I am part of the ongoing story of Torah and the Jewish people.
- **Third Grade:** *Mitzvot*, or commandments, have two forms: between us and God and between us and other people. I am part of the ongoing story of Torah and the Jewish people. I can understand the cycle of the year and many *mitzvot* through the Jewish calendar.
- **Fourth Grade:** Being Jewish in a modern world is challenging but rewarding. I am part of many communities, but in each of them I remain a Jew with certain responsibilities and expectations. The Torah and its stories are mine to experience, and I can build my confidence in my Jewish knowledge by exploring holidays and my communities in Michigan and Israel.

- **Fifth Grade:** The Jewish values which are part of my life can help me make a difference in my Jewish community. I begin to explore Jewish history and life cycle events as I take my place in the Jewish world. I continue to develop my understanding of the texts of our tradition. I can understand Judaism with respect to other world religions.
- **Sixth Grade:** As I begin to prepare to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, what does it mean to take my place in the Jewish community? How do my roles and responsibilities change? I continue to explore Jewish history and life cycle events, as well as my relationship to Israel, as I grow and learn. I can understand Judaism with respect to other world religions.
- **Seventh Grade:** I seek to understand contemporary Judaism through the lenses of history, including the Holocaust, and Israel today through multiple narratives and viewpoints. I can understand the history of Jews in America and the world, and I can begin to understand the ethical debates that are the foundation of our legal works.

HEBREW AND PRAYER CURRICULUM

Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st Grade:

Students participate in our Sunday morning tefillah. Kindergartners learn Hebrew letters and core vocabulary, and First Graders learn reading skills as well!

2nd and 3rd Grade:

Students develop reading fluency as they ascend in medallion levels through our Aleph Champ reading program. As they become stronger readers, they also develop a core prayer vocabulary. Hebrew groups meet twice weekly. Students continue to gain some Modern Hebrew through Immersion as well.

3rd through 7th Grade:

Once students have reached a comfortable level of reading proficiency, they move to our learning centers for Hebrew prayer reading. Each center is staffed by our Hebrew faculty and teen madrichim, and students get small group and one-on-one learning time twice weekly. In order to “pass” out of each prayer level, students must read the prayer fluently, chant it if applicable, identify key vocabulary, and explain when and why the prayer is said. Learning the prayer in this manner takes multiple class sessions, as students are building skills while reading, playing games, and completing additional learning activities to master each text.

Prayer Mastery

Students who attend twice weekly should expect to learn the following by the end of 7th grade (not necessarily in this order):

Adon Olam	L’cha Dodi
Aleinu	Maariv Aravim
Amidah (Avot, Gevurot, Kedusha)	Mi Chamocha
Ashrei	Modeh Ani
Barchu	Mourner’s Kaddish
Blessings for Foods	Oseh Shalom
Blessings for Holidays	Shalom Aleichem
Blessings for Mitzvot	Shalom Rav
Blessings for Shabbat	Shema
Ein Keloheinu	Sim Shalom
Haftarah blessings	Torah blessings
Hashkivenu	Torah service
Hoda’ah (Modim Anachnu)	V’ahavta
Kiddush	V’shamru
	Yotzer Or

Students who complete this curriculum will move on to additional parts of the liturgy at their own pace.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Opening the Doors

We welcome children with differentiated needs into our classrooms. An Opening the Doors specialist works with students who have learning challenges and/or special needs, as well as with their teachers and madrichim on methods of inclusion and integration and differentiated learning strategies. *Opening the Doors is a program of the Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit.*

IEP and 504 Plans

We request that if an IEP or 504 plan (or similar) exists, that families provide those to us so that we can aim to achieve the same benchmarks and understand the specifics of your child's needs.

Buddies

Students who need a teen buddy/shadow are provided with one at no cost to the family. These teens are specially trained to work one-on-one with students with special needs, and often work with the same child for multiple years.

In cases where an adult paraprofessional is needed, please contact the office to discuss arrangements and costs. If the Learning Community determines that your child's needs are best met via an adult paraprofessional, we will be in touch with you.

KNOW WHERE TO GO

Accessibility

The school is located on the ground floor of the building. We have an elevator located at the far end of the building, across from an accessible and gender-neutral bathroom. Families who need to access the building without stairs should call the school office to have the doors near the elevator unlocked.

Bathrooms

There are single-stall bathrooms in rooms 103 and 104/105, as well as next to room 102.

Men's and women's restrooms are also located in the lower atrium (near the bottom of the circular stairs), inside the lower level kitchen, and on the mid-level outside the Muscle Room.

Unisex Restrooms: On the lower level near the Kaufman Entrance/Exit there is an accessible and unisex restroom. There is an additional unisex restroom upstairs in the Breakfast Room.

The restroom in Melissa's office has a supply of feminine products and additional hygiene products that are available to anyone who needs.

Changing tables: There is a changing table in the Parent-Toddler room and one in the Muscle Room.

HOME ENRICHMENT

- Pre-K – 1:** Ask your child to tell you a story from the Torah that he/she has learned. Find Jewish objects in your home. Do something special on Shabbat. Read a Jewish book together. Come to synagogue as a family when possible and bring your children to shul!
- 2 and 3:** Encourage your child to complete his/her 20 minutes of reading each night using PJ Library Jewish books. Encourage your child to practice Hebrew reading for five minutes a day, three days a week. Ask your child to teach you Hebrew if you do not read it. If you need resources, we can help! Bring your child to family programming and learn together. Come to synagogue as a family when possible. Do something special on Shabbat.
- 4 through 7:** Encourage your child to complete his/her 20 minutes of reading each night using PJ Our Way Jewish chapter books and help your child practice prayers he/she is learning (a list of prayers each grade will learn is on page 17 of this handbook). We recommend five to ten minutes a day, three to four times per week. Come to Shabbat services (Friday or Saturday) at least once a month as a family and learn with your child at Shabbat family programming. Celebrate holidays together and have your child help lead blessings and prayers at home.

THE BASICS

Arrival Time

Students may arrive as early as 3:45 p.m. on Wednesdays to do homework, play outside on the playground, or relax and have a snack. Our formal afternoon begins at 4:30 p.m. On Sundays, please arrive before 9 a.m. so we can start on time. Teachers will be in their classrooms by 8:45 a.m. On Mondays, students may begin to arrive at 5:30 p.m.

Tefillah (Prayer)

Every Sunday we begin with a whole school musical *Tefillah* and *Havdalah* led by Hazzan Gross at 9 a.m. Families are invited to join us! Students become familiar with prayers, learn to lead services, and connect with our clergy and educators. Students are expected to participate respectfully in the service, sit with their classes, and refrain from playing on their phones or eating during this time.

Chuggim (Elective Activities)

For thirty minutes each Wednesday, second through seventh graders will be able to choose a specialty activity. Choices will include art, music, environment, Modern Hebrew, and more. Students will be able to choose one specialty area for the fall and one for the spring.

Books and Supplies

Your children will receive all materials from which to learn during the year. Most materials will remain in the classroom. Homework can be completed using handouts and/or your child's prayer book (*siddur*). If your child is in fourth grade or above and you do not have a prayer book at home, please contact the school office.

What to Wear

Boys should wear a *kippah* to class; girls may if they choose. We have extras in the office but have found that children tend to prefer a special one of their own that they have selected. Students and *madrachim* who have already become *bar* or *bat mitzvah* are encouraged to bring *tallit* and/or *tefillin* on Sundays.

We ask that students dress respectfully. If it would not be permitted in your regular school, it's probably not appropriate for Adat Shalom either. Please label your belongings.

Please note that during the winter months, students often wish to go outside during their breaks. Students should come with appropriate gear for the weather.

What to Bring

- ✓ *Tik* (school bag) – Returning students should bring their bags with them. New students will receive one on the first day of school. If your bag has torn, please let us know and you can receive a new one.
- ✓ Kosher (no meat, though!), nut free snack or money (\$1 to \$1.50)
- ✓ Money for tzedakah (we recommend at least 25¢ per class session) so we can make the world a better place.
- ✓ Pre-K Students: Extra clothing because life happens!

What NOT to Bring

- ✗ Cell phones (unless turned off during class; they may be used during a break)
- ✗ Hand-held computer games or other electronics
- ✗ Fidget spinners and cubes (or any other fidget that makes noise and/or can be misused as a toy)
- ✗ Toys, unless discussed with the office

Snacks at the Shalom Shuk

For 50¢ to 75¢ per item, students may purchase snacks and/or drinks before school. All snacks are kosher and nut free, and we always have dairy free and gluten free options available. If you would like to send a snack from home, please ensure it is kosher and nut free. Cream cheese may be purchased for 25 cents at the Shalom Shuk.

Bagels

Plain bagels and juice/water will be available by pre-order. Limited numbers of bagels will be available in the Shalom Shuk on Sundays and Wednesdays. **If you want to make sure your child has a bagel (and save money), please order in advance.** During the first week of school, we will have plenty of bagels and other snacks available for purchase before the pre-orders are processed. See the enclosed form.

Birthdays

If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday at Adat Shalom during class hours, please let your child's teacher know in advance. There are many nut-free, kosher treats available. Nut-free and Kosher bakeries include Bake Station and Zeman's. Homemade treats cannot be shared. Class lists with mailing addresses will be made available shortly after the school year begins, and we encourage you to invite the entire class to your child's birthday celebration. Before you bring something in, please check with the office so we can ensure that all children's dietary needs are met.

GET INVOLVED

Parent Committee

If you are interested in being part of our parent committee, please contact Rick Goren, head of the education committee, at rick.goren@gmail.com

Youth Engagement

Helping your children feel a connection to other children and the Adat Shalom community is one of our goals. We offer programs throughout the year for K-4th grades, 5th-7th grades, and 8-12th grades. Events such as Kids' Night Out, Kids' Afternoon of Fun, Middle School events, Teen Volunteer Corps Projects and other programs create opportunities for your kids to foster friendships that could last a lifetime. We encourage participation in area youth groups and experiences as well.

Adult Learning

Throughout the year our clergy and guest speakers offer an array of adult learning opportunities for you to learn and grow, enrich your life and deepen your soul: weekly Torah Study, regular Soulful Yoga, lectures and parenting classes.

In addition to a wide variety of learning opportunities, volunteers create and arrange programs to meet the interests of the congregation. Sisterhood, Men's Club, Young Adult Group, Social Action Committee, and Tikkun Adat provide a link to the synagogue community through social, cultural, educational, spiritual and volunteer opportunities.

Family Education & Engagement

Family education and engagement opportunities abound at Adat Shalom! Our programs are always changing and we look forward to celebrating and exploring Judaism with you.

SHABBAT AND HOLIDAYS

Childcare is available every Shabbat and festival morning from 10 a.m. until the end of services in the Muscle Room. Shabbat is for everyone, and we want to make it possible for all our families to attend!

Mini Minyan takes place regularly throughout the year. Watch your calendar and email for announcements of other programs you may find appropriate for your family.

During the **High Holidays**, we offer family services as well as youth activities. Erev **Simchat Torah** is fun for all ages, and our celebration includes dancing and singing with the Torah scrolls, delicious treats to celebrate the sweetness of Torah, and even a raffle!

Our Family Chanukah Bash takes place on Wednesday, December 18th at 6:15 p.m. – you don't want to miss the music, activities, and delicious food!

Purim's Carnival and Megillah Reading are events you will not want to miss! The Purim Carnival takes place on Sunday, March 8 at noon (at Adat Shalom), and the Megillah will be read on Monday evening, March 9, at Beth Ahm.

On **Sukkot, Passover, and Shavuot** we offer a *PJs & Stories* program during which preschoolers and kindergartners can take part in an engaging story and project – and, of course, wear pajamas to shul!

COMMUNICATION

Email

Every week during the school year, usually on Tuesday night, we send out an email to all addresses in our system. These emails contain important highlights of the coming week, dates to remember, special notices, information about upcoming programs of interest, and any changes to our regularly scheduled programming. In addition, teachers send out emails regularly.

If you do not receive teacher emails, please contact your child's teacher directly to be sure he or she has the correct email address. If you do not receive Learning Community emails, please make sure we have your correct email address and that you have not opted-out of emails from us.

Facebook

We have a closed Facebook group, called "Adat Shalom-Beth Achim Learning Community." Please request to join! You can also "like" Adat Shalom Synagogue's Facebook page to get updates on synagogue activities and items of interest.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ASBA.learningcommunity>
<https://www.facebook.com/adatshalomsyn>

Remind App

Reminders and cancellations are sent out via text message on **Remind**. You may download the Remind app onto your smartphone, or text the message **@asbalc** to **81010**, and you will receive text reminders. This is a great way to make sure you don't miss out on special programs or announcements about cancellations! You can also reply directly to Melissa Ser through Remind or ask questions about messages you received.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

We want to make sure that all our students and teen drivers are safe. Please take extra care when entering and exiting the parking lot during drop-off and pick-up, watch your surroundings, and drive slowly and cautiously through the parking lot. The 13 Mile Road exit is EXIT ONLY. Cars may enter and/or exit on Middlebelt Road.

Carpool, Drop-off and Pick-up

EARLY PICK-UP: If you need to pick your child up early, please come to the school office and request that one of our staff call the classroom for your child. There is a sign-out sheet in the office. Please do not go to the classroom to retrieve your child.

DROP-OFF: Please drop your child or carpool off at the Canner Entrance near the office. This is the only entrance which will be open during drop-off. Be mindful of children and adults crossing at the entrance, and of icy conditions during the winter months.

CARPOOL LINE PICK-UP: Please use the Kaufman Entrance (the circular drive near the playground). This door is exit only. Do not leave your car unattended in the circle.

IN PERSON PICK-UP: Please park in the parking lot and enter through the Canner Entrance to pick up your children. Children will not be permitted to wait outside at the Canner entrance. There is a convenient lounge at the entrance for you to use while waiting.

Preschool, kindergarten, and first grade students must be walked to and picked up from their classrooms by a parent or an older sibling, unless you give other instructions, in writing, to the teacher/office. However, these students may not be given permission to wait outside the building unattended.

Please do not park in the fire lane or leave your car unattended at the Kaufman Entrance or the Canner entrance.

HEALTH

Allergies and Medical Conditions

If your child has an allergy or medical condition, we must have an emergency protocol and current emergency medications, epi-pens, and/or inhalers in our office.

Our school environment is nut free (you may **not** bring food that “may contain tree nuts or peanuts” or are “processed on shared equipment with tree nuts or peanuts”). We do have students in the school with airborne nut allergies. Thank you for keeping all our children safe.

All food served at school and family education programs is nut free, and Shabbat morning Kiddush treats are from Bake Station (nut free/dairy free). *However, food at synagogue-wide programming may not be, so always ask!*

Illness

If your child is not feeling well during school hours, we will call home so that you can arrange early pick up. If your child is sick, has had a fever within 24 hours, is vomiting or has diarrhea, please do not send him or her to school until the symptoms have resolved.

We understand that winter colds will be prevalent for much of the year, and as long as your child is able to focus and take part in class (and it’s just a sniffle), you may send him or her. Signs to stay home: deep, productive cough or fever. Please send extra tissues and a personal hand sanitizer!

When in doubt, stay home. Your child needs the rest and can always catch up!

SNOW DAYS & COLD WEATHER CLOSINGS

We check the weather reports carefully during actual or anticipated winter storms, and while generally we are closed when Farmington Public Schools have closed for storms, we are not necessarily closed when the schools close for cold temperatures.

We understand that you need to make arrangements for your children on snow days. We will do our best to make a decision by 6:30 am on Sundays and by 1 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Cancellations will be posted on our school Facebook page as well as on local news sources; they will be sent out via email and Remind as well.

Of course, the most important thing is safety: when in doubt, don't venture out. If we are open but your streets are not passable, err on the side of caution please.

BAR AND BAT MITZVAH

Setting the Bar or Bat Mitzvah Date

Synagogue Members: When your child turns 8 years old or enters 3rd grade, you may call Denise Gallagher, the booking coordinator, at (248) 851-5100 to schedule a Bar/Bat Mitzvah date. This date will be scheduled on or after the child's 13th birthday (12th birthday for girls) on the Hebrew calendar. Denise will gladly assist you in determining the Hebrew birth date. There is no booking fee for members.

Non-members: You may reserve a Bar/Bat Mitzvah date *two years* prior to the date of your child's 13th birthday (12th birthday for girls) on the Hebrew calendar, although it is not confirmed until one year prior to the date. There is a non-member usage fee for the Main Sanctuary or Shiffman Chapel for the date of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

B'nai Mitzvah Connections

You and your child will receive an invitation to *B'nai Mitzvah Beginnings* with Hazzan Gross and Melissa Ser. Following that introductory session, you and your child will need to attend each of four workshops during the 12 to 18-month period leading up to your child becoming a bar or bat mitzvah. Each workshop takes place twice per year. These programs are listed on the calendar for your convenience. For questions, please contact Caren Harwood: charwood@adatshalom.org or call 248-851-5100, ext. 231

Mitzvah Project (Community Service)

In the year leading up to bar/bat mitzvah, each student is expected to volunteer for a minimum of 8 hours, with a goal of 18 (chai!). These hours may be part of volunteer opportunities that we organize for you or opportunities that you create on your own. We ask that you find volunteer activities which will connect you to another living being, a true giving back to your community. Many students engage in a Mitzvah Project, a single project aimed at helping the community, based in a core Jewish value or commandment. Jodi Gross, Director of Adult Learning and Youth Engagement, coordinates group activities available through Adat Shalom.

CALENDAR

All dates are subject to change

*For the complete 7th grade Monday night schedule, see page 24

September

- 8 Sunday classes begin, 9am
Meet the Teacher, 10:30am
Assembly, 11am
Consecration of New Students (K and up), 11am
Back to School BBQ, noon
- 9 Monday classes begin*, 6pm
- 11 Wed. Classes begin, 4:30pm
- 14 Mini Minyan, 10am
- 15 Classes in session
Pre-K Family Program, 10:30am
B/M Beginnings, 10:45 am
- 18 Classes in session
- 22 Classes in session
Parenting/Jewish Learning, 9:30am
B/M Connections: iTorah (Shere), 10:45 am
TVC, noon
- 25 Classes in session
- 29 Erev Rosh Hashanah, no classes
- 30 Rosh Hashanah, 1st Day

October

- 1 Rosh Hashanah, 2nd Day
- 2 Classes in session
- 6 Classes in session
6th Grade Better Together
- 8 Erev Yom Kippur
Kol Nidre, 6:30pm
- 9 Yom Kippur, no classes
Minchah/Ne'ilah, 5:15pm
"It's a Blast", 7:30pm
- 13 Erev Sukkot, Classes in session
Sukkah Decorating, noon
TVC, noon
- 14 Sukkot, 1st day- No classes

October, cont.

- 16 Classes in session
- 20 Classes in session
Parenting/Jewish Learning, 9:30am
- 21 Shemini Atzeret/Erev Simchat Torah*
Simchat Torah dinner, 5pm
PJs and Stories, 5:45pm
Hakafot, 6:30pm
- 22 Simchat Torah
- 23 Classes in session
- 27 Classes in session
6th Grade Better Together
Kids' Afternoon of Fun, noon
Tech Connect, 12:30pm
- 30 Classes in session

November

- 2 Family Havdalah, 7pm
- 3 No school—faculty PD
- 6 Classes in session
- 10 Classes in session
B/M Connections: Uniform of Prayer (Gross), 10:45am
J-Serve/JFS Fall Fix Up, TBA
- 13 Classes in session
- 16 Mini Minyan, 10:00 am
- 17 Parenting/Jewish Learning, 9:30am
6th Grade Better Together
- 20 Classes in session
- 23 Middle School Night Out, 5pm
- 24 Classes in session
6th Grade Yad making with Gail Kaplan
- 27 NO CLASSES—THANKSGIVING

December

- 1 NO CLASSES-- THANKSGIVING
- 4 Classes in session
- 8 Classes in session
Parenting/Jewish Learning, 9:30am
6th Grade Better Together
Men's Club and 5th/6th Grade
Chanukah Sing-Along, 10am

December, cont.

- 8 3rd gr. parents only: Siddur Intro
with Rabbi Shere, 11 am
Sisterhood Chanukah Bazaar
- 11 Classes in session
- 14 Kids' Night Out, 5 pm
- 15 Classes in session
B/M Connections: Jewish Roots
(Ser), 10:45 am
Sisterhood Chanukah Bazaar
TVC Project, noon
- 18 Classes in session
Family Chanukah Bash, 6:15 pm
- 22 NO CLASSES: WINTER BREAK
BEGINS (classes resume Jan. 5)

January

- 5 Classes resume
6th Grade Better Together
- 8 Classes in session
- 11 Havdalahpalooza @ Hillel, 6:45pm
- 12 Parenting/Jewish Learning,
9:30 am
B/M Connections: Thinking
Jewishly (Bergman), 10:45 am
TVC at Bookstock, 11 am
- 15 Classes in session
- 18 Mini Minyan, 10:00 am
- 19 Classes in session
Volunteer Day, 10:15 am
- 22 Classes in session
- 26 Classes in session
- 29 Classes in session
- 30 Teen Trip Departs to Atlanta

February

- 2 Classes in Session
Teen Trip Returns
- 5 Classes in session
- 8 Kids' Night Out
Middle School Night out
- 9 Classes in session
Parenting/Jewish Learning,
9:30 am
B/M Connections: Jewish Roots
(Ser), 10:45 am

February, cont.

- 10 Tu Bishvat
- 12 Classes in session
- 16 NO CLASSES- FEB. BREAK
TVC Project
- 19 Classes in session
- 23 6th Grade Better Together
7th grade tours HMC
- 26 Classes in session
- 29 **Missebaba**, 7:30 pm

March

- 1 Classes in session
6th Grade Better Together
Kids' Afternoon of Fun, noon
- 4 Classes in session
- 8 Classes in session
Daylight Saving Time Begins
(spring forward)
Megillah Mania and Carnival,
11:00 am
- 9 Erev Purim, no Monday Night
School (Megillah at Beth Ahm)
- 11 Classes in session
- 15 Classes in session
Parenting/Jewish Learning, 9:30
am
B/M Connections: Uniform of
Prayer (Gross), 10:45 am
- 18 Classes in session
- 20 Women's Spirituality Retreat
begins
- 22 Classes in session
B/M Beginnings, 10:45 am
Men's Club Daddy Daughter
Dance, 5:00 pm
- 25 Classes in session
- 29 NO CLASSES—SPRING BREAK
TVC at Yad Ezra, 11 a.m.

April

- 1 NO CLASSES-- SPRING BREAK
- 5 NO CLASSES—SPRING BREAK
- 8 Erev Pesach, No classes
- 9 Pesach, 1st Day

April, cont.

12	NO CLASSES-- PESACH	26	Classes in session
15	NO CLASSES—PESACH PJs & Stories Pesach, 10 am		Parenting/Jewish Learning, 9:30 am 3 rd Grade Siddur Party, 11:00 am
19	Classes in session 6 th Grade Better Together	27	TVC Project, noon Last Day of Monday Night
	B/M Connections: iTorah (Shere), 10:45 am	29	Classes for 7 th Grade Yom Haatzma'ut
20	Community Yom Hashoah Observance at Beth Ahm - Monday Night School & 7 th Grade meet @ Beth Ahm		Last day of Wed. Classes
		<u>May</u>	
22	Classes in session Yom Hashoah Observance during School	3	Last day of Sunday Classes Picnic, noon Walk for Israel
		8-10	Family Camp at Butzel
25	Mini Minyan, 10 am	11	Last day of Monday Night School for 8 th -12 th

**B/M = B'nai Mitzvah*

Monday Schedule (7th Grade)

September: 9, 16, 23

October: 7, 21*, 28

November: 4, 11, 18, 25

December: 2, 9, 16

January: 6, 13, 27

February: 3, 10, 24

March: 2, 9*, 16, 23

April: 20*, 27

May: 4, 11 (Nosh & Drash in session; 7th grade invited to attend)

Observances:

- October 21, Erev Simchat Torah. Please join us for dinner, teen learning, and the festivities!
- March 9, Erev Purim. Join us at Beth Ahm for the Community Megillah Reading.
- April 20, Erev Yom Hashoah. Please join us for a Community Yom Hashoah Observance at Beth Ahm.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

DR. MELISSA SER, CJE joined Adat Shalom's professional staff in July 2012. She earned a BA from Florida State University and an MA and PhD from the University of Rochester and studied Rabbinics at Hebrew Union College. She holds an MA in Jewish Educational Leadership from the Jewish Theological Seminary and is a graduate of the 8th cohort of the Mandel Teacher Educator Institute. Melissa was recognized in 2018 as a Conservative Jewish Educator (CJE) by the Jewish Educators Assembly. She is also adjunct faculty at Eastern Michigan University in the Modern Languages department (Hebrew).

An educator for over 20 years, Melissa spent almost a decade in Jerusalem, as the Academic Coordinator for the Ramah Jerusalem High School and the Director of the Ramah Jerusalem Day Camp. She also served as the Youth Director and Interim Education Director at Temple B'rith Kodesh in Rochester, New York. Melissa prides herself on keeping an open line of communication and fostering a sense of warmth and growth in all formal educational programming for our synagogue's youth.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Melissa Ser, Director of Education

mser@adatshalom.org

Cell: 248-804-3501

If you send a text message, please include your name!

Jodi Gross, Director of Adult Learning and Youth Engagement

jgross@adatshalom.org

Sammi Shapiro, Assistant Director of Education & Youth Engagement

sshapiro@adatshalom.org

Education & Youth Office: 248-626-2153

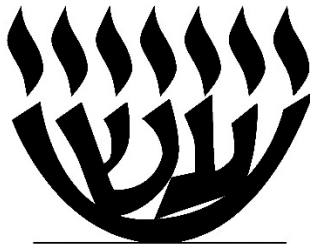
Main Office: 248-851-5100

Adat Shalom Synagogue

29901 Middlebelt Road

Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334

adatshalom.org



ADAT SHALOM

עדת שלום