

About Beth Israel of Media

As Reconstructionists, we consider Judaism as more than a religion. It is a civilization encompassing history, literature, art, music, land, and language. Through our shared past and our communal experience of worship, study, and celebration, we affirm our sense of belonging. We hope you'll join us in the continuing evolution of Judaism, as we help shape the spiritual and cultural legacy we will leave to future generations.

L'Dor V'Dor/From Generation to Generation

Renew or deepen your commitment to Judaism: Our religious tradition is the reflection of our ancestors' search for meaning, purpose, and value. In our own search, we are egalitarian, participatory and open to varying viewpoints.

Godliness: Our diverse views of God share an emphasis on godliness rather than on the supernatural. We value that power in the universe which infuses all of creation with a sense of transcendence and impels us to improve the world and ourselves.

Tikkun Olam/Repair of the World: We express our beliefs in word and deed, participating in a range of social action projects. We prepare and serve meals to the homeless in Delaware County, help needy Jews in Africa, and support important social causes in the local area. We are a proud partner synagogue with Mazon--the Jewish response to hunger.

A history of valuing diversity: Since 1929, Beth Israel has welcomed traditional Jewish families and also Jews who, in the past, have felt discrimination from the larger Jewish community, including singles, intermarried couples, and gays and lesbians.

Torah Treks is an amazing journey through the Hebrew Bible. In seven years we will study seven books. In this, Year Four, we study B'midbar—the Book of Numbers. Come for any or all of the sessions.

Years 1– 5 Torah: The Five Books of Moses

Year 6 Neviim: The Prophets

Year 7 Ketuvim: The Writings

We'll begin each year with an overview of the entire book and then continue over the course of the year with an in-depth look at the individual parshiot (portions). Each session will be held after Shabbat morning services and will be taught by Rabbi Linda Potemken or our guest faculty.

9:45 -- 11:45 Shabbat services

11:45 -- 12:30 Kiddush and lunch

12:30 -- 2:00 Torah Treks

- Each program is independent. Come for all of the sessions, or attend selectively.
- There is no charge for lunch or the study sessions and RSVPs are not necessary.



Torah Treks— A Seven Year Journey Through the Bible 2009-2010



Congregation Beth Israel
of Media, Pennsylvania

WWW.BethIsraelMedia.org

Torah Treks: A celebration of Jewish learning and the love for Torah --without limits.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
BETH ISRAEL (610) 566-4645**

**EMAIL TO:
Rabbi Linda Potemken
RavLtp@bethisraelmedia.org**

**Program Schedule 5770
2009-2010**

Date	Portion	Teacher
10/31/2009	Introduction & Overview	Dr. Tamar Kamionkowski
11/7/2009	B'midbar	Rabbi Reba Carmel
11/21/2009	Naso	Rabbi Linda Potemken
12/12/2009	B'ha-a lot'Kha	Rabbi Linda Potemken
1/9/2010	Sh'lah L'kha	Rabbi Alan LaPayover
1/23/2010	Korah	Rabbi Melissa Heller
2/6/2010	Hukkat	Rabbi Linda Potemken
2/20/2010	Balak	Rabbi Helen Plotkin
3/27/2010	P i n c h a s	Rabbi Shai Gluskin
4/17/2010	M a t t o t	Rabbi Linda Potemken
5/8/2010	Mas'ei	Rabbi Linda Potemken

The Torah Treks Faculty



Rabbi Linda Potemken has served as spiritual leader at Congregation Beth Israel of Media since 1997. She is a leader in both the Reconstructionist movement and in the wider rabbinic community. She is a seasoned and passionate teacher of Torah.



Rabbi Reba Carmel is a former labor attorney and freelance writer and has served as a teacher of Jewish studies locally and in Israel. She is currently involved with the Jewish Dialogue Group and the Interfaith Center of Philadelphia.



Rabbi Shai Gluskin is the former Director of Education at the JRF and the owner of Content2zero Web Development. He is a promoter of using the Internet to teach Torah. He loves Torah study the old-fashioned way as well.



Rabbi Melissa Heller teaches courses in history and text at RRC and the Palmer Theological Seminary. She also serves as Program Manager for the Department of Multifaith Studies and Initiatives at RRC.



Dr. Tamar Kamionkowski is the vice president of academic affairs at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and chair of the Department of Biblical Civilization.



Rabbi Alan LaPayover most recently served as the interim rabbi of Congregation Tiferes B'nai Israel in Warrington, PA. He currently teaches a variety of courses in the

Florence Melton Adult Mini-School of Gratz College, and is a frequent lecturer for the College's Netzkzy Division of Continuing Education.



Rabbi Helen Plotkin is the director of the Center for the Study of Classical Jewish Texts at Swarthmore College and the founder of Mekom Torah, a community Jewish learning project in Delaware County, PA

BETH ISRAEL OF MEDIA

Directions: Congregation Beth Israel is located at 542 South New Middletown Road (Rt. 352) in Media, PA. (610) 566-4645.

You can find Beth Israel by traveling approximately 2 miles south on Rt. 352 from Rt. 1, near the Granite Run Mall.

You can also take I-95 and exit at Rt. 320/Rt. 352. Take Rt. 352 North approximately 3 miles. Beth Israel is on your left, just past Knowlton Rd.

