

THE WISE Guide

ISSUE 8 | FALL 2023



Welcome to Fall!

YOUR GUIDE
TO UPCOMING WISE TEMPLE
EVENTS, SERVICES
& PROGRAMS



New!

**EITZ CHAYIM
ADULT LEARNING
QUARTERLY
PROGRAMMING**





Enjoy Fall with Your Temple Family & Friends!



SEPTEMBER

30 SUKKOT COOKOUT, HAVDALAH, BONFIRE AND CAMPOUT

6:00 PM Casual picnic dinner
7:15 PM Campfire, Havdalah, s'mores and optional campout



OCTOBER

1 KEHILLAH #3 | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
Threes Class | 9:30 AM–11:30 AM
Consecration Rehearsal | 9:45 AM–11:15 AM
3rd Grade Family Education Program
10:15 AM–11:45 AM

1 WOMEN THRIVE
Peaceful Yoga | 9:30 AM–10:30 AM

6 FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
Sukkot/Simchat Torah Intergenerational Shabbat
5:45 PM Dinner, 6:30 PM Service

7 CONSECRATION/SIMCHAT TORAH
10:00 AM | Plum Street Temple

8 KEHILLAH #4 | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
2nd Grade Family Education Program
9:15 AM–10:45 AM
All Kehillah Parent Meeting | 10:45 AM–11:45 AM
Back-to-Kehillah Social | 11:45 AM–1:00 PM

10 EITZ CHAYIM
Tuesdays with Torah: A Jewish View of the Death Penalty with Rabbi Kamrass | 12:00 PM–1:00 PM

10 EITZ CHAYIM
Talmud and Rabbinic Judaism Class
with Rabbi Kamrass | 5:00 PM–6:00 PM

12 BROTHERHOOD MONTHLY MEETING AND DINNER | 6:00 PM–7:30 PM

13 NEXTGEN@WISE
2ND SHABBAT
6:30 PM–9:30 PM
Plum Street Temple

14 YOFI SHABABA
9:30 AM–11:00 AM



15 KEHILLAH #5 | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
5th Grade Field Trip to Plum Street Temple
9:15 AM–11:45 AM
Threes Class | 9:30 AM–11:30 AM
1st Grade Family Education Program
10:15 AM–11:45 AM
4th Grade Visit with Author, Geri Kolesar
10:45 AM–11:45 AM

15 SHELANU | 5:00 PM–7:00 PM

17 EITZ CHAYIM
Tuesdays with Torah: A Jewish View of the Death Penalty with Rabbi Kamrass | 12:00 PM–1:00 PM

19 EITZ CHAYIM
Downtown Lunch and Learn: A Jewish View of Abortion and Reproductive Rights with Rabbi Kamrass | 11:45 AM–1:00 PM | One East Fourth, 14th Floor (4th & Vine), Cincinnati

19 EITZ CHAYIM
Book Launch—*Dream By Dream: The Story of Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise* with Author, Geri Kolesar
7:00 PM–8:30 PM

20 FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
Community Friday Night Shabbat | 6:00 PM–7:00 PM

21 FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
Kehillah Parent Dinner & Wine Tasting
6:00 PM–8:00 PM Oakley Wines, 4011 Allston Street, Cincinnati

22 KEHILLAH #6 | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
3rd Grade Visit with Author, Geri Kolesar
10:45 AM–11:45 AM
B'nai Mitzvah Workshop | 10:45 AM–12:45 PM

22 SHELANU | 5:00 PM–7:00 PM

24 EITZ CHAYIM
Tuesdays with Torah: A Jewish View of the Death Penalty with Rabbi Kamrass | 12:00 PM–1:00 PM

28 YOFI SHABABA | 9:30 AM–11:00 AM

29 KEHILLAH #7 | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
Camp GUCI Visit | 8:45 AM–12:00 PM
5th Grade Visit with Author, Geri Kolesar
10:45 AM–11:45 AM

29 SHELANU | 5:00 PM–7:00 PM

31 EITZ CHAYIM
Tuesdays with Torah: Faith in Crisis with Rabbi Goodman
12:00 PM–1:00 PM



Visit wisetemple.org for more information and to register for events. All events at Wise Center unless noted.



NOVEMBER

- 3 FAMILY ENGAGEMENT**
Lego Masters Family Shabbat | 6:00 PM–7:30 PM
- 5 GOOD DEEDS**
Fall Battery & Bulb Collection | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
- 5 KEHILLAH #8** | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
Threes Class | 9:30 AM–11:30 AM
6th Grade Visit with Author, Geri Kolesar
10:45 AM–11:45 AM
- 5 SHELANU** | 5:00 PM–7:00 PM
- 7 EITZ CHAYIM**
Tuesdays with Torah: Faith in Crisis
with Rabbi Goodman | 12:00 PM–1:00 PM
- 7 EITZ CHAYIM**
Talmud and Rabbinic Judaism Class
with Rabbi Kamrass | 5:00 PM–6:00 PM
- 9 BROTHERHOOD BEER NIGHT
WITH RABBI DREW KAPLAN**
6:00 PM–8:00 PM
- 10 MUSICIAN-IN-RESIDENCE SHABBAT,
DINNER AND SONG SESSION**
6:15 Shabbat Service, 7:15 Dinner followed by
Song Session
- 11 YOFI SHABABA AND BRUNCH
WITH MUSICAL GUEST, RICK RECHT**
9:30 AM–11:00 AM
- 11 GOOD DEEDS**
Volunteer at Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank
1:00 PM–3:00 PM | 1400 State Avenue, Cincinnati
- 11 ADULT ENGAGEMENT**
An Evening with Rick Recht | 7:15 PM–8:30 PM
Redtree Art Gallery & Coffee Shop,
3120 Madison Road, Oakley
- 12 KEHILLAH #9 WITH MUSICAL GUEST,
RICK RECHT** | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
- 12 SHELANU** | 5:00 PM–7:00 PM
- 14 EITZ CHAYIM**
Tuesdays with Torah: Faith in Crisis
with Rabbi Goodman | 12:00 PM–1:00 PM
- 18 YOFI SHABABA DOWNTOWN**
9:30 AM–11:00 AM
Play Library, 1306 Main St, Cincinnati

19 KEHILLAH #10 | 9:15 AM–11:45 AM
Threes Class | 9:30 AM–11:30 AM

19 WOMEN THRIVE
Peaceful Yoga | 9:30 AM–10:30 AM

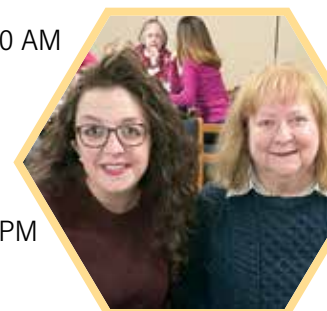
19 EITZ CHAYIM
A Conversation with
Dr. Elizabeth Petuchowski
10:00 AM–11:00 AM

19 SHELANU | 5:00 PM–7:00 PM

20 GOOD DEEDS
St. Francis Soup Kitchen
3:00 PM–6:00 PM | 1615 Republic Street, Cincinnati

21 EITZ CHAYIM
Tuesdays with Torah: Faith in Crisis
with Rabbi Goodman | 12:00 PM–1:00 PM

28 EITZ CHAYIM
Tuesdays with Torah: Gender Identity in Jewish Life
with Aaron Torop, Rabbinic Fellow | 12:00 PM–1:00 PM



Sponsored by Brotherhood

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

6:00 PM Casual picnic dinner
7:15 PM Campfire, Havdalah, s'mores & campout

Our 19th year of celebrating Sukkot by "living in booths" just as our ancestors did! Enjoy a free cookout dinner—simply bring a side dish, salad, or appetizer to share. Then, gather at the field for Havdalah, songs and s'mores by the campfire. Bring tents and sleeping bags and wake the next morning to a camp-style breakfast and coffee, just in time to send kids to Kehillah.

RSVP: wisetemple.org/sukkotcampout



Welcome to Wise Temple's Eitz Chayim Adult Learning Program Fall Quarter, 2023-2024



THE great sage, Rabbi Hillel, is known for the famous quote, "Do not separate yourself from the community." This idea can be applied to many aspects of life including education, one of the highest of our Jewish values. We stand to learn more from one another than we do alone. Perhaps that is why, throughout most of history, the Jewish people have studied Torah with learning partners, also known as chevruta. Jewish study is for all of us, without any hesitation for what we may or may not know. At Isaac M. Wise Temple, we pride ourselves on making Jewish learning accessible, relevant, and meaningful for everyone, no matter the starting point. At Wise Temple, we value the tradition of learning in partnership.

It is with this spirit that we introduce our new Eitz Chayim Adult Learning Course Catalog for 2023-2024 as a quarterly format in *The Wise Guide*, to keep you informed with the latest updates. Whether you are a prospective student or veteran learner, we invite you to peruse our many programs for something that piques your interest. Try something new and draw closer to your own Jewish learning.

The year ahead promises to be an inspiring one, and we look forward to your unique contributions as we continue to build and strengthen our learning community!

Shanah Tovah (Happy New Year),

Rabbi Lewis Kamrass
Senior Rabbi

Rabbi Zachary Goodman
Associate Rabbi

Matt Check
Director of Lifelong Learning

FALL PRESENTERS



Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass, Senior Rabbi

Rabbi Kamrass is the Senior Rabbi of Isaac M. Wise Temple of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he has spent his entire rabbinate of over thirty-eight years.

Rabbi Kamrass is a Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude graduate of the University of Georgia in Sociology and Psychology, with a Master of Hebrew Letters and Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), as well as recipient of an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. He served for 25 years as an Instructor in the Theology Department of Xavier University and as adjunct faculty at HUC-JIR.* In the national Reform movement, Rabbi Kamrass currently serves as Immediate Past President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the 2200-member international body of Reform Rabbis, and also serves on its Board. He has served as a Board Member of the HUC-JIR* and the Union for Reform Judaism.



Rabbi Zachary S. Goodman, Associate Rabbi

Rabbi Goodman was born and raised in Dallas, Texas and attended the University of Texas at Austin before he was ordained on the Cincinnati campus of HUC-JIR.* While still in rabbinical school,

Rabbi Goodman and his wife, Katie, were members of Wise Temple and were married at Plum Street Temple. Following his ordination in 2019, Rabbi Goodman served as the Assistant Rabbi at Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto before joining the Wise Temple family in the summer of 2022. Rabbi Goodman is passionate about Israel education, youth and teen engagement, young professional programming, and learning in all its many forms. Music is also an important part of his life; he plays guitar, piano, and sings. Rabbi Goodman loves to explore the outdoors, travel, cook, watch sports, host game nights with friends, and spend time with his wife and young sons, Abe and Ira.



Aaron Torop, Rabbinic Fellow

Aaron Torop is the 2023-2024 Wise Temple Rabbinic Fellow and a 5th year rabbinic student at HUC-JIR.* Prior to starting at Wise Temple, Aaron served a student pulpit in Lafayette, Louisiana for two years and was the Rabbinical Student Association President. He is a Nachshon Project Graduate Fellow, a pluralist fellowship cultivating the next leaders of North American Jewish communities. Prior to starting at HUC, Aaron was a Legislative Assistant at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism in Washington, DC and received his BA in Political Science from American University. He lives in Norwood with his wife, Madeline (also a 5th year rabbinic student), and their two cats.



Geri Kolesar

Once upon a time, Geri taught environmental education in Maine, worked for a U.S. Senator on Capitol Hill, and practiced law in Manhattan. Then, after having three children in two years (yes, there are twins), she stopped writing briefs and started washing them instead. Geri was honored to serve for 16 years as an active member and officer of the Isaac M. Wise Temple Board of Trustees. Her days are filled with family, community service, and writing for children. In the author's note of her new children's book *Dream by Dream: The Story of Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise*, Geri notes "I treasure what Judaism has brought to my life. I am especially thankful for the Cincinnati congregation that Isaac Mayer Wise built, which has welcomed my interfaith family with open arms. I am honored to share his story with young readers." www.gerikolesar.com.



Dr. Elizabeth Petuchowski

Dr. Petuchowski was born in Germany and came to America via World War II England. She taught German language and literature in an adjunct capacity while a wife and mother. She published widely both in her field and feuilletons. She has authored a memoir, *Where From and Where To: One of the Last Self-Told German Jewish Life Stories*, as well as two German books, and has translated extensively from German into English.

FALL COURSES

Tuesdays with Torah

Tuesdays, 12:00 PM–1:00 PM
Wise Center and Zoom

Life and Death—It's in the Courts, the Legislatures and the Talmud: A Jewish View of the Death Penalty

Rabbi Lewis Kamrass

October 10, 17, 24

Rabbi Kamrass will guide us through the complexities of capital punishment, including the clear statements in the Bible, examples like the Rabbinic/Talmudic major shift away from capital punishment, the use of the death penalty in contemporary Israel and the case of the federal death penalty for the Tree of Life killer as we approach the fifth anniversary of that terrible event. Capital punishment is also a current issue in the Ohio legislature, so these sessions will help to clarify personal opinions as informed by the evolving Jewish teachings on this issue of life and death.

Faith in Crisis

Rabbi Zachary Goodman

October 31, November 7, 14, 21

Drawing from the new curriculum produced by the Sholom Hartman Institute of Jerusalem, we will explore the themes of faith and faithlessness in times of crisis. Tap into Jewish wisdom—ancient and contemporary--and discover that our spiritual struggles and aspirations put us in very good company! This course is accessible to learners of all levels.

Gender Identity in Jewish Life

Aaron Torop, Rabbinic Fellow

November 28, December 5, 12

Did you know there are at least six types of gender in the Talmud? Learn about gender identity and how it shows up in Jewish life. This space is equally for those who are working to understand different facets of gender identity alongside those who feel comfortable in today's language surrounding gender. Together we will learn, grow, and embrace the expansive diversity of gender in Judaism.

To look ahead for events later in the year, visit the temple's website calendar at wisetemple.org/calendar.



Talmud and Rabbinic Judaism Class

Tuesdays, 5:00 PM–6:00 PM
Wise Center and Zoom

Rabbi Lewis Kamrass

October 10, November 7

No prior knowledge is required for this course, but do bring your curiosity, questions, and a desire to learn deeply. The ancient rabbis radically reshaped biblical Judaism to respond to new needs and changing times. Their work through the centuries sets the foundation for the Judaism we currently practice. Learn about the Talmud, Midrash and other areas of their creative, intellectual and spiritual genius that shape who we are as Jews today. This once-a-month class will open your eyes to the enduring richness and origin of Jewish ideas and practice.

Downtown Lunch and Learn

Thursdays, 11:45 AM–1:00 PM
One East Fourth, 14th Floor (4th & Vine)
Optional lunch available

Life and Death—It's in the Courts, the Legislatures and the Talmud: A Jewish View of Abortion and Reproductive Rights

Rabbi Lewis Kamrass

October 19

With the many legal challenges being considered across the United States on the subject, this session will review Jewish ideas of when life begins, how our tradition has looked at abortion, and the ways in which Jewish tradition might inform and shape our own values in today's changing landscape.

Special Events & Programs

Dream By Dream: A Conversation with Geri Kolesar on the Launch of Her New Children's Book on the Life of Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise.

October 19

7:00 PM–8:30 PM

Wise Center Library

Dream By Dream: The Story of Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise is a newly published children's book by Wise Temple member and author, Geri Kolesar. Join us as we launch the book through a conversation about the research and writing process, the content of the story, writing specifically for children, and how this book may be a part of our literature and our lives. All participants will receive a copy of the book, which Geri will sign after the program. Light fare will be served in celebration.

Members & Guests \$20

A Conversation with Dr. Elizabeth Petuchowski: One of the Last Self-Told German Jewish Life Stories

November 19

10:00 AM–11:00 AM

Wise Center Library

Dr. Petuchowski shares her story of growing up as a young Jewish girl in Germany amidst the rise of Nazism, fleeing to England where she experienced the outbreak of WWII, and immigrating to the United States. Dr. Petuchowski will also read from her memoir, *Where From and Where To: One of the Last Self-Told German Jewish Life Stories*.



Fall Service Schedule

Shabbat Evening Services at Wise Center, Fridays, 6:15 PM. Shabbat Morning Services and Torah Study at Wise Center Saturdays, 10:15 AM. See event listings on pages 2–3 for YoFI and Family Engagement services.

SEPTEMBER

- 29 Sukkot and Shabbat Evening Service
- 30 Sukkot and Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 30 Bat Mitzvah of Phoebe Rothfuss at Plum Street Temple

OCTOBER

- 6 Sukkot/Simchat Torah Intergenerational Shabbat Service, 6:30 PM, preceded by Dinner, 5:45 PM
- 7 Consecration and Simchat Torah Shabbat Morning at Plum Street Temple
- 7 Shabbat and Simchat Torah Morning, Yizkor
- 13 Shabbat Evening Service
- 13 NextGen at Wise 2nd Shabbat at Plum Street Temple
- 14 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 14 Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Bonomo at Plum Street Temple
- 20 Shabbat Evening Service
- 21 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 27 Shabbat Evening Service (Birthday & Anniversary Blessings)
- 28 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study

NOVEMBER

- 3 Shabbat Evening Service
- 4 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 4 Bat Mitzvah of Josey Heyman at Plum Street Temple
- 10 Shabbat Evening Service with Musician-in-Residence Rick Recht. Dinner and song session following at 7:15 PM
- 11 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 11 Bat Mitzvah of Harper Norris at Plum Street Temple
- 17 Shabbat Evening Service (Birthday & Anniversary Blessings)
- 18 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
- 18 Bat Mitzvah of Francesca Miles at Plum Street Temple
- 24 Shabbat Evening Service
- 25 Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study





Isaac M.

Wise Temple

ק.ק. בני ישורון

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wisetemple.org

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Welcome to

Fall at Wise Temple!

Rick Recht, Musician-in-Residence

Friday Shabbat, Dinner & Song Session*

Friday, November 10

Shabbat service: 6:15 PM; Dinner: 7:15 PM, Wise Center
Song session immediately following dinner

*YoFi Shababa & Brunch with Rick Recht**

Saturday, November 11, 9:30 AM–11:00 AM, Wise Center

*Adult Engagement: An Evening with Rick Recht**

Saturday, November 11, 7:15 PM–8:30 PM

Redtree Art Gallery & Coffee Shop | 3120 Madison Rd, Oakley

Kehillah Sunday

Sunday, November 12, 9:15 AM–11:45 AM, Wise Center

An innovator in Jewish music, media and leadership training, Rick Recht is the founder and Executive Director of Songleader Boot Camp, Jewish Rock Radio and JKids Radio. Join us as Rick brings his original music and innovative spirit to Wise Temple November 10th – 12th, and experience the energy that makes him a sought-after performer and scholar across the country.

*indicates events that request or require advanced registration

VISIT wisetemple.org/recht FOR MORE DETAILS ON RICK RECHT'S RESIDENCY AT WISE TEMPLE and watch for emails to follow with more information.