



Temple Rodef Shalom Program Guide

February - July 2024

www.templerodefshalom.org

Program Guide Key



Learning

Our learning opportunities encompass a diverse range of topics to enrich your knowledge and engage your interests. From thought-provoking discussions on current affairs to Hebrew classes to text study and so much more! Follow your interests and embark on a transformative journey of learning that will last a lifetime.



Gathering

Spiritual connection and community engagement are hallmarks of our gatherings. Explore connections through our Tents where smaller groups come together for intimate conversations as well as just to have fun. Are you a Jew by Choice, Jew of Color, or identify as LGBTQIA+, an ally, or adjacent to one (or more) of these identities? Join our Kehilot, groups centered on shared identities and experiences. Don't miss out on good food and even better camaraderie at a Spice & Spark dinner!



Repairing the World

Our social action initiatives are a call to action and embody the core Jewish value of tikkun olam – the repairing of our world. Engage in social justice endeavors that address pressing issues and advocate for positive change. Participate in meaningful community service projects that uplift those in need. Families with children in K-6th grades should join us for Feed 'Em Fridays, an initiative dedicated to feeding the hearts, minds, and souls of neighbors in need. Sign up for our spring Blood Drive, an opportunity to contribute to the well-being of others. Come together...and make a tangible difference and fulfill our collective responsibility to repair and heal our world.



The Arts

The performing arts thrive at Temple Rodef Shalom! This semester, you'll be entertained and inspired by an interfaith concert, the music of one of today's "brightest voices," Cantor Becky Mann, our "Circle of Life" concert with seven cantors from across the country sharing songs about the lifecycle, and "My Son The Waiter: A Jewish Tragedy" with comedian Brad Zimmerman sharing his hit off-Broadway show. In addition to the performing arts, explore the world of literature by signing up for one of our book clubs, join a cultural outing to a museum or theatrical production, or register for A Wick & A Flick, Havdalah and great cinema on a Saturday evening. Engage...discover...appreciate...the tapestry of artistic expression!

Shabbat Services

Shabbat Evening Services

Weekly: Friday at 6:30 PM

The core of Temple Rodef Shalom is our Shabbat service — at the end of the week, we pause for Shabbat and come together as a community. Together, in times of joy, sorrow, and every day, we hope to create a spiritual encounter with self, community and God. Sometimes, we have extra programs to celebrate specific holidays or lift up the voices of different groups within our community.

B'oi Shabbat Services

Monthly: Fri, Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 1, Apr 5 & May 3, 6:30 PM

Join us for an intimate and informal service, with an emphasis on spiritual music and accessible singing. This is an alternative to the family service, geared towards adults and teens.

Family Shabbat Services

Monthly: Fri, Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 1, Apr 5 & May 3, 6:30 PM

This service is geared towards kids (6th grade and younger) and the teens and adults who love them. Our Family Shabbat Band and Cantors are sometimes joined by Shir Harmony or Shir Joy (our youth choirs), and Clergy share a story or interactive game rather than a sermon.

Fifth Friday Nights

Fri, Mar 29 & May 31, 6:30 PM Dinner, 8:00 PM Services

New this year! Fifth Friday Nights at TRS will start off with a vegetarian potluck dinner at 6:30 PM, then continue with a congregational service at 8:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to join for all or some of the evening as we welcome in Shabbat, and build community, together.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

Weekly: Saturdays at 9:00 AM

Our Torah Study meets in-person (with bagels and fruit) and over Zoom. We share our thoughts, opinions, and perspectives, and enjoy a lively discussion. Everyone is welcome!

Parallel Shabbat and Kiddush Lunch

Monthly: Sat, Feb 17, Mar 16, Apr 20, May 18 & Jun 15, 10:30 AM

Led by one of our clergy, this monthly alternative minyan provides an informal opportunity for members of all ages to read from the Torah, give a *d'var torah* (literally a “word of Torah” — a short interpretive talk), and help lead prayers — or simply join in and connect in community! Services are followed by a kiddish luncheon.

Tot Shabbat Services

Monthly: Sat, Feb 24, Mar 23, Apr 27, May 25 & Jun 22, 9:00 AM

Our short and lively service lasts around 30 minutes and is created with preschool-aged children in mind. After services, families are invited to stick around for a craft project and optional snack — and time on one of our playgrounds, if they want!

Shabbat Morning / Afternoon Services

Most Saturdays at 10:30 AM; Occasional Saturdays at 5:00 PM

Young people who are becoming *b'nai mitzvah* join our clergy in leading the congregation in prayer. They also read from the Torah and give a *d'var torah*. These open and accessible services include prayer and music for all. Morning services take place every week (with occasional exceptions on major holidays); please check our website or the e-letter for dates of occasional afternoon services.

Hot Shabbat

Fri, Jun 7, 6:30 PM

Welcome Shabbat under the stars at our annual outdoor worship service!

If you need any special accommodations to attend or participate in any of our worship services, events or programs, please contact info@templerodefshalom.org.

Holiday Services

Overview



Purim Megillah Reading Purimspiel: The Megillah in the Magic Kingdom of Shushan

Sat, Mar 23, 7:00 PM

Purimpalooza to follow!

It is a weekend of revelry and laughter! We kick off our Purim weekend with the Megillah Reading and Purimspiel. When the spiel ends, join us for Purimpalooza – great food, great cocktails, and schmoozing with friends and friends-to-be. Registration is not required for the Megillah Reading and Purimspiel; but, please register for Purimpalooza.

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/Purimpalooza.mar24>



Family-Friendly Purimspiel

Sun, Mar 24, 10:30 AM

Clergy and staff delight kids of all ages with our annual Family-Friendly spiel. The theme is always top secret. Costumes encouraged! Groggers provided!



Purim Quiet Room

Immediately following Family-Friendly Purimspiel

Sun, Mar 24, 12:00 PM

The Inclusion Committee invites families with children to visit the Purim Carnival Quiet Room. This room is for children who need to take a break from the Carnival or prefer a smaller and quieter celebration. We will have crafts, drawing materials, Legos, and other low-key activities.

COST: No charge

RSVP: N/A

CONTACT: For more information or if you need accommodations to participate, please email inclusion@templerodefshalom.org.



Family-Friendly Carnival

Immediately following Family-Friendly Purimspiel

Stick around for our Carnival – inflatables, games, facepainting, and hamantaschen! Organized by the Men of TRS and manned by our youth groups, our Carnival provides a joyful and fun Purim experiences for our children.



Passover Passover Morning Service

Tue, Apr 23, 10:30 AM

Start off Passover with a joyful, family-friendly gathering of song and study! We will begin our worship service together by singing some favorites from the Passover musical canon followed by a short Festival morning service. Then, we will invite the children (and guardians when needed) to join in a Passover-themed craft and activity while the adults remain for a Torah service, discussion, and short Yizkor. This Passover experience will be appropriate for people of all ages and all are welcome!



Matzah Brei Brunch

Tue, Apr 23, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Following our service, we will enjoy a Matzah Brei Brunch together. Enjoy this Passover favorite, fresh fruit, and other yummy food. No need to register for worship services; but registration is required for brunch.

COST: \$10/Temple Member Adult ; \$15/Non-Member ; \$5/Children 12 and under

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/passoverbrunch.424>

CONTACT: Cookie Mandell, Director of Congregational Engagement,
cmandell@templerodefshalom.org



Second Night Seder

Tue, Apr 23, 5:30 PM

Our Second Night Seder is a family-friendly, lively, and captivating affair! We'll retell the miracle of our liberation from Egypt through story, song and dance while exploring the meaning of the Exodus story in our own time.

Of course, we will delight in all of the traditional foods of the Seder meal as well. Wine and dessert included. And don't forget the hunt for the afikomen!

COST: \$15 for children under 5; \$40 for children 6-12, \$60 for TRS Members (Adult); \$75 for Non-Members (Adult)

RSVP:

<https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/passover.secondnightseder.april24>

CONTACT: Cookie Mandell, Director of Congregational Engagement, cmandell@templerodefshalom.org



7th Night of Passover & Yizkor Service

Sun, Apr 28, 7:30 PM

Reform Jews celebrate 7 days of Passover as is written in the Torah., with the 7th day being a holy time. To mark that occasion, join our clergy as they lead the Erev 7th Day Pesach Service. It is customary, at this time, to recite Yizkor, in memory of loved ones who have died at any time previously. Our custom also includes reading aloud the names of those people who have died in 5783, since Rosh Hashanah. The music features traditional holiday music including Hallel, to piano accompaniment.



Yom HaShoah Observance and Program

Sun, May 5, 7:00 PM

Every year, Temple Rodef Shalom observes Holocaust Remembrance Day with a presentation by a prominent speaker – an author, filmmaker, musician and others who share narratives of resilience and personal perspectives on the Holocaust. A clergy member will lead a brief observance of remembrance.

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/YomHaShoah.may24>



Yom Ha'atzmaut Shabbat Service

Fri, May 10, 6:30 PM

Israel's Independence Day is celebrated each year with a special Shabbat service that often includes a speaker and/or dinner. More information about this year's Shabbat will be forthcoming soon.

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/YomHaatzmaut.may24>



Shavuot

Tues, Jun 11, 7:30 PM

Our Shavuot observance includes an evening of worship, study, and...cheesecake! Stay tuned for more information on the evening's program.



At publication, circumstances in Israel continue to be quite dynamic and unpredictable. The Israel Committee and clergy continue to monitor the situation on the ground and will be developing program content in response to current events. Please tune into Temple communications for more information on upcoming programs.



February

ECC, Religious School, and Temple Office Closures:

February 19, Presidents Day



Inclusive Havdalah Service

Sat, Feb 3, Apr 6, Jun 1, 5:00 PM

The Inclusion Committee invites the TRS community to conclude Shabbat with an Inclusive Havdalah ceremony, which includes singing, smelling sweet fragrances, candlelight and "wine". We say goodbye to Shabbat and look forward to the sweetness of the new week to come.

Our Inclusive Havdalah Service welcomes everyone while focusing on individuals who are differently-abled, including them in a religious community experience. This musical service is led by Anita and Chuck Thornton in the Mishkan. Sponsored by the Inclusion Committee.

COST: No charge

RSVP: N/A

CONTACT: Inclusion Committee, inclusion@templerodefshalom.org



Rodef 2100: Ice Skating & Dinner

Sun, Feb 4, 3:00 PM

If you are in your 20s or 30s, join Rodef 2100 for a fun afternoon of ice skating! Meet us for dinner afterwards!

COST: \$10/person for ticket and skate rentals

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/rodef-2100-ice-skating-and-dinner.html>

CONTACT: Jordyn Barry, jbarry@templerodefshalom.org



Sing for Peace: A Concert in Celebration of World Interfaith Harmony Week

Sun, Feb 4, 4:30 PM

Temple Rodef Shalom hosts this year's interfaith concert for peace celebrating 2024's United Nation's Interfaith Harmony Week. A tapestry of musical groups including Temple Rodef Shalom's Koleinu Adult Choir come together in our sanctuary to celebrate and promote peace in our world. Other participants include

Temple Sinai's Adult Choir of Washington DC, Mosaic Harmony Interfaith Choir, Muzik on a Mission, Tema Choir USA, Voices of Hope Area Youth Choir, Sufi Melody Instrumental Ensemble, and the Silk Road Dance Company. The combined voices perform under the direction of David North of Mosaic Harmony.

Sponsored by the Music & Performing Arts Committee

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/mpa.singforpeace.feb24>

CONTACT: Music & Performing Arts Committee, cultural@templerodefshalom.org





Rodef 2100 Ice Skating & Dinner

In your 20s or 30s? Get involved with Rodef 2100!

Rodef 2100 is a space for Jewish and Jewish-adjacent folks in their 20s and 30s to gather, relax, worship, discuss, serve, learn, and celebrate together in our community. Our goal is to create Jewish environments in a variety of settings, both spiritual and secular, and welcome all those interested to engage on the level they choose.

Rodef 2100 hosts 2-4 events a month, and we'd love to see you there! In January, we're volunteering at AFAC, having a facilitated discussion about antisemitism, celebrating Tu BiShvat, and headed to Jewish Heritage Night at the Washington Wizards. In February, we're going ice skating, doing a Challah baking class with Rabbi Schwartzman, getting together for Shabbat services and dinner in honor of Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month, and headed to a concert with TRS Artist-in-Residence Cantor Becky Mann. In March, we'll be bowling, celebrating Purim, and more.

We'd love for you to join us for whatever sounds fun!

You can read about our upcoming events on our website (<https://www.templerodefshalom.org/adults/rodef-2100/>) or by joining our monthly newsletter (sign up here: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/rodef-2100-welcome-form.html>). And you can also contact Rodef 2100 president Rebecca Borovsky at rodef2100@templerodefshalom.org.

We look forward to meeting you!



Seniors Chat

Monthly, Mon, Feb 5, Mar 4, Apr 1, May 6, Jun 3, 2:00 PM

Attention all TRS Seniors! If you are looking for uplifting conversation and connection with others in our congregation, please Seniors Chat with us on Mondays at the TRS Cafe! We meet on every first Monday from 2-4. Registration is not required.

COST: No charge

RSVP: N/A

CONTACT: Otto Adelman, oadelman@templerodefshalom.org



Women of TRS Drop-In Mah Jongg

Every Wednesday (exceptions: holidays, Jun 12 & 19), 1:00 PM

We welcome new and experienced players for some Mahj. Come to play the game, increase your skills, see old friends, and make new ones. Please bring your mah jongg card; we provide the mah jongg sets and refreshments. For our less experienced players (you must know how to play), we offer mentoring opportunities. Proceeds support various TRS programs and charitable organizations.

COST: \$5 per drop-in session

RSVP: Not required

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org



Men of TRS Virtual Happy Hour

Wed, Feb 7 & 21, Mar 6 & 20, Apr 3 & 17, May 15 & 29, Jun 12 & 26, 7:00 PM

The Men of TRS invite you to join us for a virtual happy hour to discuss whatever you'd like to chat about and maintaining our community connections. This is open to all men of Temple Rodef Shalom!

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjEqdumvpzggGNce6WCBdt9S7CzpXBSpMea-#/registration>

CONTACT: Men of TRS, motrs@templerodefshalom.org



Rodef 2100: Challah Baking with Rabbi Schwartzman

Thu, Feb 8, 6:30 PM

Rabbi Schwartzman will join Rodef 2100 (TRS's 20s and 30s community) to share all of her challah-making secrets! Come empty handed, leave with your own challah! This event is for individuals in their 20s and 30s.

COST: \$5pp

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/rodef-2100-challah-baking.html>

CONTACT: Jordyn Barry, jbarry@templerodefshalom.org



Artist in Residence Weekend with Cantor Becky Mann

A composer, guitarist, and cantor, Becky Mann has been called “one of the brightest voices of a new generation of Jewish songwriters carrying our tradition forward in new and exciting ways.” She is passionate about creating community through music and meaningful worship and inspiring communities to sing together. Cantor Becky Mann will be our Artist in Residence February 9-11. She will join Cantors Shochet and Michaeli for Friday night Shabbat services, perform at a Beit Café concert with TRS Cantors on Sat, Feb 10, at 7:30 PM, and spend Sunday morning making music with our Religious School students and parents.

Sponsored by the Music & Performing Arts Committee

Fri, Feb 9, 6:30 PM

- Shabbat Evening Service

Sat, Feb 10, 7:30 PM

- Beit Café with Cantor Becky Mann

COST: \$18/Temple Member
\$18/Rodef 2100 Member
\$36/Non-Member

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/mpa.beitcafe.beckymann.feb24>

CONTACT: Music & Performing Arts Committee,
cultural@templerodefshalom.org



Bubbles & Babies

Sun, Feb 11, 3:00 PM

Bubbles & Babies is our group for babies up to the age of 3 and their parents! While older sibs are welcome, please remember that we want to create a space that is as safe as possible for our littles. So, the younger children will get “first dibs” on the play equipment! We’ll have a light snack for the children...and some bubbly for the adults.

Bubbles & Babies is open to Temple members and non-members alike. Stay tuned for more information on gatherings scheduled for Apr 14 and Jun 9!

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/bubbles-babies-february-2024.html>

CONTACT: Melissa Weinstock, Membership Manager,
mweinstock@templerodefshalom.org



Talmud Is (Sometimes) Awesome: Monthly Drop-In Sessions

Sun, Feb 11, Mar 17, Apr 14, May 19, Jun 9, 4:00 PM

Have you ever wanted to study Talmud, but you weren't sure where to start? Or do you really love Talmud, and want to talk about it with other members of the TRS community? However you relate (or hope to relate) to Talmud, we'd love to see you in these drop-in sessions!

Each month, we'll study specific texts from the Talmud in English, based on the interests of the group. Whether you love text study or have never tried it, or are somewhere in between, we'd love to have you as part of the conversation!

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/talmud1123>

CONTACT: Rabbi Alexandra Stein, astein@templerodefshalom.org





Men of TRS Dinner on the Town

Feb 20, Mar 13, May 23, 7:00 PM

Gather with the Men of TRS to enjoy an evening of good food and great conversation at a local restaurant. Register for one (or all!) dates and locations.

Tue, Feb 20: Hong Kong Pearl Seafood Restaurant, Falls Church

Wed, Mar 13: Open Road Grill, Merrifield

Thu, May 23: Location TBD

COST: Everybody pays their own way

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/motrs.diningtown.spring2024>

CONTACT: Men of TRS, motrs@templerodefshalom.org



Women of TRS Wednesday Book Club (Virtual)

Wed, Feb 14, Mar 13, Apr 10, May 15, 10:30 AM

This semester, our book club will read the following books on the second Wednesdays of the month:

Feb 14: Rules of Civility by Amor Towles

Mar 13: All the Beauty in the World by Patrick Bringley

Apr 10: The First Ladies by Heath Terrell and Victoria Christopher

May 8: The Searcher by Tana French

Jun 12: The Wind Knows My Name by Isabel Allende

To read over the summer and discuss in September 2024, The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese.

RSVP: Contact wotrs@templerodefshalom.org to be added to the contact list and receive the Zoom link.



Women of TRS Knitting Circle

Thu, Feb 15, Mar 21, Apr 18, May 16, Jun 20, Jul 18, Aug 15, 2:00 PM

Gather with avid WoTRS members who are knitters and crocheters as we meet to make blankets for Project Linus, a charity which distributes handmade blankets to children who are seriously ill, suffering trauma, or otherwise in need. Our blankets are distributed locally and each is affixed with a tag identifying the blankets as made by WoTRS. We meet in local homes, snacks are served, and new yarn is available.

COST: No charge

RSVP: Interested WoTRS members should contact wotrs@templerodefshalom.org for more information.



Women of TRS: Jewish Women Artists in the Modern Era (Virtual)

Thu, Feb 15, 7:00 PM

Building on the theme of Jewish women artists, Lauren Jimerson, Ph.D., returns to share a curated slide presentation that explores the contributions of Jewish women to modern art, highlighting artists who broke barriers and made significant contributions in a male-dominated field.

COST: \$10pp

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.jewishwomenartists.feb24>

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org





Men of TRS Book Club (Virtual)

Thu, Feb 15, Apr 18, Jun 20, 7:30 PM

Interested in a vibrant and lively discussion of significant and relevant books? Join the Men of TRS for a virtual Book Club discussing the following books this semester:

Feb 15: *On Repentance and Repair: Making Amends in an Unapologetic World* by Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg

Apr 18: *Abomination* by Ashley Goldberg

Jun 20: *How to Fight Anti-Semitism* by Bari Weiss

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/motrs.bookclub24>

CONTACT: Men of TRS, motrs@templerodefshalom.org



Mothers Circle Potluck Dinner

Fri, Feb 16, Mar 8, Apr 26, & May 3

The Mothers Circle at Temple Rodef Shalom is for non-Jewish women who are raising their children in the Jewish faith within the context of interfaith/intermarriage.

The group empowers women through education and support to learn about the religion, rituals, and traditions practiced at home and in the synagogue. It provides an opportunity to become comfortable with the components of weekly services, High Holiday services, and life-cycle events. As the women form a bond through discussion of the challenges, concerns, and experiences related to their journey, the group also becomes a foundation for a community within the broader Temple community. The Mothers Circle meets monthly, usually for a potluck Shabbat dinner at a private home, from September through May. Participants do not have to be members of TRS or have any prior knowledge of Judaism.

COST: No charge

RSVP: Donna Schwartz, Mothers Circle Facilitator, motherscircle@templerodefshalom.org



Feed 'Em Fridays

Monthly: Fri, Feb 16, Mar 15, Apr 19, May 17, 5:30 PM

Every single day, in our backyard, someone doesn't have enough to eat, someone is homeless, someone will go without warm clothing – but, there's something YOU and your family can do about it. Each month, families with children will focus on one project that will help feed the bodies, minds, and spirits of those in need in our own community.

Our clergy will lead us in welcoming Shabbat. We will then enjoy a kid-friendly dinner together and, following dinner, complete our community service project. If you are the parent of an elementary school-aged child (or children), please be on the lookout for an email from TRS explaining our project for the month and providing you with a registration link.

Let's roll up our sleeves... and make our corner of the world a little better.

CONTACT: Megan O'Briant, mobriant@templerodefshalom.org





Rodef 2100: Shabbat Dinner

Fri, Feb 16, 7:30 PM

Join Rodef 2100, TRS's 20s and 30s community, for Shabbat Services and Dinner to support Jewish Disability Awareness. Following our service, we will gather for dinner and share our "Joys and Oys", mingle, and reflect on our week. More information regarding cost and registration links will be shared soon!

CONTACT: Jordyn Barry, jbarry@templerodefshalom.org



A Wick & A Flick: Rosenwald

Sat, Feb 17, 7:00 PM

Celebrate Havdalah with fellow attendees before viewing this uplifting film, Rosenwald: The Remarkable Story of a Jewish Partnership with African American Communities.

The film is about an unsung Jewish hero who practiced tikkun olam and empowered his fellow Americans. The documentary describes how businessman and philanthropist Julius Rosenwald joined Booker T. Washington in an effort that teamed up with African-American communities in the South to build schools during the early 20th century. This historical partnership, as well as more recent attempts to maintain or reconfigure the schools, is a little-known but remarkable story.

Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/aec.wickflick.feb24>

CONTACT: Adult Education Committee, adulthood@templerodefshalom.org



Volunteer Shift at Arlington Food Assistance Center

Sun, Feb 18, Mar 17, Apr 21, May 19, Jun 16, Jul 14, Aug 18, 11:00 AM

Each month, TRS volunteers go to the AFAC warehouse to sort canned goods, prepare meal kits or bag produce to support those individuals experiencing food insecurity in our community. Adults and teens welcome. Open to Temple members only.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0949A5AA2EA4F4C61-46761357-2023#/>

CONTACT: Community Service Committee, communityservice@templerodefshalom.org



Staying Social & Aging Well: Trivia & Treats

Wed, Feb 21, 10:30 AM

Calling our senior members! Put your knowledge to the test and have fun competing with friends in a lively and friendly atmosphere.

COST: No charge/Temple Members ; \$10/Non-Members

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/ssawtrivia24.html>

CONTACT: Otto Adelman, oadelman@templerodefshalom.org





Sacred Sparks: Connecting with Angels

Wed, Feb 21, 7:00 PM

Each month, Temple members gather for an evening of personal exploration on a Jewish theme. Sacred Sparks gatherings include learning, personalization of the theme, and a short, guided meditation to internalize what we hope to manifest in our lives. No meditation experience is required. Great for adults or teens. In February, our theme is "Connecting with Angels." Really? Angels in Judaism? Let's explore the Jewish take on angels and how they might have a presence in our lives.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/SS0923>

CONTACT: Cantor Allen Leider, aleider@templerodefshalom.org



Women of TRS Ladies Night Out: BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse

Thu, Feb 22, 6:30 PM

Enjoy an evening of sisterhood at a fun Tysons-area restaurant that pairs familiar pub fare with an extensive list of house brews. Current, new, and prospective WoTRS members, as well as ECC moms, enjoy a meal while getting to know each other better. An optional collection for Mazon, the Jewish Response to Hunger, will be taken up during the evening.

COST: Each person pays their own tab

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.lno.winterspring24>

Please RSVP by Feb 15 so we have an idea of how many are attending, but we can usually take a few walk-ins.

BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse is located at 8027 Leesburg Pike, Suite 100, Vienna, VA 22182 (703-356-7305). Questions? Contact wotrs@templerodefshalom.org.



The Intersection of Jewish Language and Culture (Virtual)

Thu, Feb 22 & Mon, Feb 26, 7:00 PM

Let's celebrate the richness of our Ashkenazic and Sephardic languages – Yiddish and Ladino. We'll explore their historical development and the ways they reflect Jewish culture through poetry, music, proverbs and humor. Both presenters are performance artists and bring a love and passion for these languages. This program is provided by the Adult Education committee as part of Pathways, our Jewish Literacy initiative.

Matthew "Motl" Didner, the Associate Artistic Director of the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene and the Associate Director of Fiddler on the Roof in Yiddish, will present on Feb 22. Motl has performed on stage, serves as a Yiddish coach and teaches Yiddish language and theater classes.

On Feb 26, Sarah Aroeste, a multi-award-winning writer and singer of Ladino songs, many of which are original compositions, will join us. A student of Nico Castel in Tel Aviv and New York, Aroeste is a vocal advocate for exposing new audiences to Sephardic culture and keeping Ladino alive.

This program is provided by the Adult Education committee as part of Pathways, our Jewish Literacy initiative.

COST: No charge/Temple members ; \$18/Non-Members

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/aec.jewishlanguageculture.feb24>

CONTACT: Cantor Allen Leider, aleider@templerodefshalom.org





Jr TRSTY: Big Games Night

Sat, Feb 24, 5:00 PM

Calling all 6th-8th graders! Come join us for a night of fun at the Temple! We will have all kinds of games, snacks and of course pizza!

CONTACT: Hannah Foleck, hfoleck@templerodefshalom.org



ReelAbilities Film Festival Screening & Speaker

Sun, Feb 25, 3:00 PM

ReelAbilities FILM FESTIVAL

The TRS Inclusion Committee invites you to participate in the 11th Annual ReelAbilities Film Festival of Northern Virginia by attending a screening and discussion at TRS.

We will watch two award-winning short films: the documentary "Breathe" and the narrative "Just in Case," both of which address mental health, specifically bipolar disorder. After we view the films, a panel of experts will discuss bipolar disorder and how it is currently treated, as well as what Virginia is doing to prevent people with mental health conditions from ending up in the prison system.

This free event is open to TRS members and non-members. Please email inclusion@templerodefshalom.org by Wednesday, Feb. 21, if you need accommodations to attend this program.

BREATHE

16 Min | English | US | 2022 | Documentary | Dir. Zac Norrington

In 1983, Julie Ridge became the first person to swim two consecutive laps around Manhattan Island, earning her a guest appearance on The David Letterman Show. Now, living in Manhattan and working as a clinical social worker with over 25 years of experience, she dives into her memories of struggling with bipolar disorder, marathon swimming, and how the water has aided her journey.

JUST IN CASE

14 Min | English | UK | 2021 | Narrative | Dir. Kirsty Robinson-Ward

An exploration of what it's like to live with bipolar disorder, through the lens of a concerned father and his scared daughter.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/inclusion.reelabilities.feb24>

CONTACT: Inclusion Committee, inclusion@templerodefshalom.org



From Kansas City to Anatevka: The Evolution of the American Musical

Thu, Feb 29 & Mar 7, 7:00 PM

In two sessions, we will explore the evolution of the American Musical, as it developed through the 20th century into one of the most significant artistic contributions to Broadway, America, and the world. This exploration pays particular attention to the experiences of immigrant, first- and second-generation Jewish-Americans, as they learned (along with other immigrant groups during the first part of the 20th century) how to assimilate into American culture, while simultaneously helping to infuse Jewish values into that culture.

The sessions will be taught by Temple member, Leslie Bravman Jacobson, who has spent over 40 years producing, writing, directing, and teaching theatre committed to giving voice to people often marginalized by the dominant culture. She has created theatre with women in the prison system, with the homeless, and in a number of communities internationally. She is the Founding Artistic Director of Horizons...Theatre from a Woman's Perspective. Under her leadership from 1977 to 2007, Horizons introduced Washington audiences to over 100 new plays and women playwrights, receiving a variety of awards. As a Professor of Theatre at The George Washington University for 42 years, she developed a number of new courses and served as Department Chair for 13 years. In June 2019, Jacobson retired from GW and became Professor Emerita of Theatre. Jacobson's passion for musical theatre began when she was five years old, after seeing Mary Martin in Peter Pan on Broadway.

Sponsored by the Music & Performing Arts Committee

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/mpa.americanmusical.winter24>

CONTACT: Music & Performing Arts Committee, cultural@templerodefshalom.org





March



Invasive Plant Removal

Sun, Mar 3, 2:00 PM

Save the trees! Help remove invasive vines and plants that threaten the native trees on TRS property and adjacent Haycock Longfellow Park. Appropriate for families. For Temple members only. No experience necessary.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/sac.plantremoval.Feb24>

CONTACT: Community Service Committee, communityservice@templerodefshalom.org



College Panel for High School Juniors & Seniors

Sun, Mar 3, 4:00 PM

High school juniors and seniors: are you curious about what college? Wonder what it's like? Do you have specific questions you want answered? Come join us for a college panel with some TRS alum who are currently in college! Get your questions answered and hear what college is like!

CONTACT: Jordyn Barry, jbarry@templerodefshalom.org



Biblical Women Speak

Sun, Mar 3, 10:00 AM

Learn how our ancient tradition can provide meaning to our modern lives through midrash and the inspiring tales of biblical women during this unique program sponsored by the Carol Davidson Endowment for the Advancement of Women and the Women of TRS.

In the first part of the day, Rabbi Feldman will provide an overview of her new book about feminist midrash and the biblical women whose stories continue to be relevant today. After a break for brunch, she will provide a deeper dive into the "sacred sisterhood" of the midwives, Puah and Shiphrah, and their heroic defiance of Pharaoh's evil plan to kill the Israelite babies in the Exodus story. You will come away empowered to engage deeply with the biblical text and learn to read our sacred scriptures with "midrashic eyes".

Rabbi Marla Feldman is both a Reform rabbi (HUC-JIR) and a lawyer (JD, Univ. of Florida). Professionally, Rabbi Feldman has a long history serving the Reform Movement as the Executive Director Emerita of Women of Reform Judaism, Director of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, and Director of Development of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ). Previously she worked in the Jewish Community Relations field, serving communities in Detroit and Delaware and taught as adjunct faculty at the University of Detroit-Mercy and the Widener University College of Law in Wilmington, DE. She served congregations in Sarasota and Orlando, FL.

Preorder her book at 40% off: <https://jps.org/books/biblical-women-speak/>

COST: \$20/Temple Member ; \$32/Guests & Visitors

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.biblicalwomenspeak.mar24>

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org





SPICE & SPARK

Congregant-led Shabbat and Havdalah dinners

Spice & Spark Dinners are held on either Friday or Saturday evenings to welcome...or bid farewell...to Shabbat. These casual dinners are hosted – and attended – by Temple members.

Any Temple member or member family can host. Interested in hosting? It's easy!

- Select a date – either a Friday or Saturday evening – that works for your schedule.
- Create a “guest profile.” That is, who would you like to invite? Perhaps you'd like to meet families whose children attend the same school as your children, adults who are empty nesters, individuals who work in the same profession or industry, fellow alumni of your alma mater, members who live in your neighborhood, members of a Tent you've joined, and on and on.
- Decide what entrée you'd like to serve: chicken, vegetarian lasagna, or a vegan entrée. The dinners are ordered for you and the Temple is always happy to provide an appropriate meal for any guest regardless of their dietary restrictions or preferences. Everyone pays for their own dinner.
- Contact Cookie Mandell, Director of Congregational Engagement, cmandell@templerodefshalom.org, to see if your date works with the Temple calendar and discuss your guest profile.

Schedule your Spice & Spark Dinner today. It's the perfect way to meet other Temple members!



Wise Aging (7 Sessions)

Weekly, Mon, Mar 4, 11, 18, & 24, Apr 1, 8, & 15

Wise Aging, developed by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, explores the opportunities and challenges we all face as we age. In this program, peer groups of TRS members in their 60s and 80s are guided through a reflective process that helps them come to a deeper understanding of their lives, selves, and values in a welcoming Jewish context. The program covers topics critical to this time of our lives, including physical changes, relationships, forgiveness, spirituality, and loss. Issues are explored through various means, including text study, meditation, and interaction with your peers at a deeper level than is possible in many other settings. The program is seven sessions and is limited to 12 participants. This is not a support group but rather a supportive group that explores opportunities and challenges we all face as we age. This program is open only to Temple members.

COST: \$18/Temple members

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/CaringWA24.html>

CONTACT: Otto Adelman, oadelman@templerodefshalom.org



Women of TRS Meet, Pray, Nosh

Fri, Mar 8 & Fri, Jun 14, 6:00 PM

Sat, Apr 20, 10:00 AM

The Women of TRS started Meet, Pray, Nosh to bring community and companionship to TRS Women during worship services. Many TRS women have occasion to go to Shabbat services by themselves, so we wanted to make that experience more enjoyable.

Before Shabbat services, in the TRS lobby, our welcoming women's group meets and gets acquainted! During services, we sit and pray together as a community. On Friday, after services, we head off to the Oneg Shabbat or to a restaurant for a nosh.

New this semester! We will meet before Parallel Shabbat on Sat, Apr 20, at 10:00 AM and will stay for a simple kiddush luncheon afterwards.

COST: No charge

RSVP: Not required

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org



Circle of Life: 7 Cantors Celebrating the Lifecycle in Song

Sun, Mar 10, 7:30 PM

Cantors Shochet and Michaeli welcome to TRS 5 of their incredibly talented cantorial friends to share in a beautiful night of Broadway, Yiddish, pop, and folk music celebrating the lifecycle: from birth, marriage, parenthood, relationships, loss, and more. Joining Cantors Shochet and Michaeli are Cantor Leigh Korn (CA), Cantor Chanin Becker (NY), Cantor Erin Frankel (PA), Cantor Dan Sklar (NY), and Cantor Hayley Kobilinsky (NY). This concert is the last of a 3-state tour to standing ovations! Following the concert, enjoy some refreshments in our social hall.

Sponsored by the Music & Performing Arts Committee

COST: \$18/Temple Member ; \$18/Rodef 2100 Member ; \$36/Non-Member

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/mpa.circleoflife.mar24>

CONTACT: Music & Performing Arts Committee, cultural@templerodefshalom.org





Dining In Together: Recovering Nazi Loot (Virtual)

Tue, Mar 12, 7:30 PM

In March, Dining In Together welcomes TRS member, Eli Rosenbaum, Director of Human Rights Enforcement Strategy and Policy, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section, and Counselor for War Crimes Accountability of the U.S. Justice Department. In 1997, Rosenbaum was selected by the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania Law School to receive the school's Honorary Fellowship Award for "making significant contributions to the ends of justice at the cost of great personal risk and sacrifice." He has also received awards from the Anti-Defamation League and the Assistant Attorney General for his work in prosecuting former Nazis.

Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/aec.dit.mar24>

CONTACT: Adult Education Committee, adulted@templerodefshalom.org



MoTRS Dinner on the Town: Open Road Grill

Wed, Mar 13, 7:00 PM

Join the Men of TRS for good food, great conversation, and fabulous drinks at Open Road Grill in Merrifield. More details about the restaurant can be found here. The address is 8100 Lee Highway, Falls Church. Everyone will pay their own way. Please register so that we may make the appropriate reservations.

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/motrs.diningtown.spring2024>

CONTACT: Men of TRS, motrs@templerodefshalom.org



Baking in the Neighborhood: Challah with a New Twist (In Person)

Fri, Mar 15, 1:00 PM

Our instructor, Melissa Sporn, says, "One of my favorite Mitzvahs is to bake challah for my family, friends and community. I will take you step-by-step through the process from sifting the flour, the first rise (while your challah rises, you will sample some already baked challah), learn braiding, then take your beautiful, challahs home to your oven to bake and enjoy for Shabbat." Attendees should bring a baking sheet on which to put their braided challah and a dish towel to cover the challah. This program will be held out of the building.

Baking in the Neighborhood classes are open to all TRS and WoTRS members and ECC parents. Contact wotrs@templerodefshalom.org with questions.

COST: \$5/pp

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.bitn.challah.mar24>

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org



WoTRS Sunday Book Club (Virtual)

Sun, Mar 17, Apr 14, May 19, Jun 9, 9:30 AM

Inviting book lovers interested in Jewish-themed books to join us on Zoom for discussion of the following books:

March 17	<i>Signal Fires</i> by Dani Shapiro
April 14	<i>Who by Fire</i> by Matti Friedman
May 19	<i>Address Unknown</i> by Kathrine Kressmann Taylor
June 9	An in-person meeting, location TBD, to discuss books for next year.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.sunbookclub1.2024>

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org





Viewing Conflict Resolution Through a Jewish Lens

Sun, Mar 17, 2:00 PM

In today's society, divisions are deep, dividing families and friends who aren't on the same page politically. Bullying is rampant in schools and on social networks; people aren't listening to one another nor are they respecting different opinions. Often opposing sides consider their opponents wrong or uninformed. Learning to resolve conflicts meaningfully and respectfully is central to Jewish teachings and values. Learn how our Jewish values can guide us to a place of connection and commonality... rather than a struggle to prove who is right and who is wrong.

Rabbi Alexandra Stein will share Jewish teachings regarding conflict resolution and then TRS members, VA Del. Marcus Simon, and family attorney, Lynn Fletcher, will share lessons of conflict resolution from their respective worlds.

Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/aec.conflictresolution.324>

CONTACT: Adult Education Committee, adulted@templerodefshalom.org



Women of TRS Mah Jongg Lessons

Mon, Mar 18, Mar 25, Apr 1, 1:00 PM

A three-session (2½ hours per session) Mah Jongg class for beginners and those needing a refresher class on the rules of the game.

COST: \$100 (which includes the 2024 National Mah Jongg League Official Rules card)

RSVP: Send a check, made payable to WoTRS, to Su Hale c/o Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church, VA 22043. Please include your home address, email address, and both home and cell phone numbers. Registration fee is non-refundable once classes begin. Enrollment is limited, so register now.

Registration deadline is Monday, March 11.



Staying Social & Aging Well: Chair Yoga

Wed, Mar 20, 10:30 AM

Designed specifically for seniors, this class will improve your physical and mental well-being in a gentle and supportive environment through chair yoga exercises.

COST: Free/Temple members, \$10/Non-Members

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/ssawyoga24.html>

CONTACT: Otto Adelman, oadelman@templerodefshalom.org



Sacred Sparks: Pursuing Peace & Seeking Wholeness

Wed, Mar 27, 7:00 PM

We are Rodef Shalom – Pursuers of Peace! But what does that really mean according to Judaism? What does it mean to live with a sense of peace and wholeness? Join us for text study and group discussion.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/SS0923>

CONTACT: Cantor Allen Leider, aleider@templerodefshalom.org





April

ECC, Religious School, and Temple Office Closures:

April 23, first day Passover

April 29, last day Passover



Women of TRS Cultural Outings: Hester Street @ Theater J

Wed, Apr 3, 12:00 PM

Hester Street depicts the uplifting journey of Gitl, a young Jewish immigrant from Eastern Europe, who arrives with her son to meet her husband, Jake, in the tumult of the late-19th century Lower East Side. Separated from his wife and the provincial limitations of his upbringing, Jake has fully embraced his new American life—one that has little in common with Gitl's old-time ways.

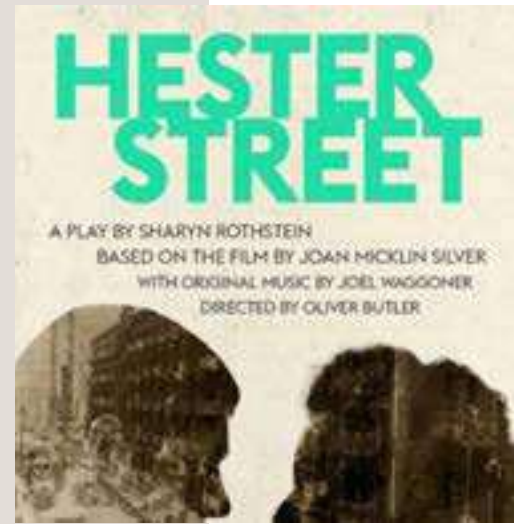
Each woman will purchase her own ticket, cost \$49.99, from the Theater J website: <https://theaterj.org/2023-2024-season/>. Curtain time is 12:00 PM. Purchasing your own ticket means that you can change the date of your ticket, if necessary. We will go to lunch after the play at a nearby restaurant (TBA).

After you purchase your ticket, please register at the link below to let us know you are attending. Also, please indicate if you plan to join us for lunch after the play. Everyone will pay for their own lunch.

COST: Ticket purchase and lunch

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.cultural.hesterstreet.mar24>

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org



Spring Beit Midrash: Jews in the Military

Thu, Apr 4, 11, 18, 7:00 PM

Learn about the role of Jews who have served in the military in the United States. Mike Rugel, TRS member and Program Director at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, will share the stories of some of the thousands of Jews who fought on both sides of the Civil War (first session) and the 500,000 who fought in WWII, including Jews who had escaped Nazi-controlled Europe and then returned there as American soldiers (second session).

In the third session, TRS member Larry Chalmer (Lt. Col., United States Air Force, Retired) will interview Rabbi Steven I. Rein of Agudas Achim Congregation in Alexandria (Chaplain, Major, United States Air Force Reserve, and Jewish Chaplain of Arlington National Cemetery) about serving his country through spiritual leadership.

Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/aec-spring-beit-midrash-2024.html>

CONTACT: Adult Education Committee, adulthood@templerodefshalom.org



Dining in Together: Ending Antisemitism: The President's Plan (Virtual)

Tues, Apr 9, 7:30 PM

Alyssa Weiner Sandler is the Associate Director for Combating Antisemitism for the American Jewish Committee and the author of Moving toward Never Again: State of Holocaust Education in the United States and other landmark studies. She has expertise in the history and tropes of antisemitism, the rise of incidents of vandalism of Jewish institutions and violence against Jews. She is well versed in the recently published White House proposal on combatting antisemitism, how government agencies will be involved in combatting this scourge, and the role of many Jewish agencies, notably the American Jewish Committee in the development and adoption of the plan.

Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/aec.dit.april24>

CONTACT: Adult Education Committee, adulthood@templerodefshalom.org

AJC



Jr TRSTY Event

Sat, Apr 13, 5:00 PM

For more information on Jr TRSTY and their activities, please contact Hannah Foleck, hfoleck@templerodefshalom.org.



Men of TRS Spring Brunch

Sun, Apr 14, 11:00 AM

Inviting all Men of TRS to join together on the patio and enjoy some Sunday Brunch and camaraderie at our semi-annual Men of TRS Brunch at Ireland's Four Provinces in Falls Church.

COST: Everyone pays their own tab.

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/motrs.springbrunch.424>

CONTACT: Men of TRS, motrs@templerodefshalom.org

Please register by April 11 so that reservations can be confirmed. The restaurant's location is 105 West Broad St, Falls Church.



Lil' TRSTY: Bowling

Sun, Apr 14, 2:00 PM

Calling all 3rd-5th graders! Come join us at the bowling alley for a fun afternoon of bowling and pizza!

CONTACT: Jason Flatt, jflatt@templerodefshalom.org



Creativity in Aging

Sun, Apr 14, 1:45 PM

Especially for seniors, immersion in the arts improves well-being, sparks imagination, fuels self-expression, and builds connections! Join us to learn about creativity in aging from experts in the field. Choose from different workshops in music, art, dance, and writing. You will be surprised at your own potential – it's never too late to create!

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have." – Maya Angelou

Hosted by Stefanie Bloom, Director of Caring and TRS Wise Aging Graduates

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/Creativity-in-Aging24>

CONTACT: Stefanie Bloom, sbloom@templerodefshalom.org



Bubbles & Babies

Sun, Apr 14, 3:00 PM

Bubbles & Babies is our group for babies up to the age of 3 and their parents! While older sibs are welcome, please remember that we want to create a space that is as safe as possible for our littles. So, the younger children will get "first dibs" on the play equipment! We'll have a light snack for the children...and some bubbly for the adults.

Bubbles & Babies is open to Temple members and non-members alike.

COST: No charge

CONTACT: Melissa Weinstock, Membership Manager, mweinstock@templerodefshalom.org



Women of TRS Baking in the Neighborhood: Not Your Bubbe's Sponge Cake (Virtual Only)

Tues, Apr 16, 7:00 PM

Join Bernice Porrazzo in her kitchen on Zoom to celebrate Passover culture and tradition as she demonstrates her easy-peasy Almond Orange Chocolate Chip Cake recipe – soon to be your favorite holiday dessert. Participants will receive a copy of the recipe after registering for the program.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.bitn.spongecake.apr24>



Sacred Sparks: Freedom from What? Exploring the Meaning of "Mitzrayim"

Wed, Apr 17, 7:00 PM

As we approach the holiday of Passover, join us for an exploration and discussion on the theme of freedom. What makes us free? Where are we not free? Where might we want to draw attention at our Passover seders to those who are not free?

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/SS0923>

CONTACT: Cantor Allen Leider, aleider@templerodefshalom.org



Ladies Night Out: Clare & Don's Beach Shack

Thu, Apr 18, 6:30 PM

Our WoTRS April outing will be at one of our tried-and-true go-to establishments – Clare & Don's Beach Shack – a warm and welcoming restaurant owned by fellow congregants (with both indoor and outdoor seating options) in the Falls Church area. We can't wait to schmooze and dine with friends – new, old and yet-to-meet. Dinner is "Dutch treat" so you can select what you prefer.

COST: Each person pays their own tab

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.lno.winterspring24>

Please RSVP by Apr 11 so we have an idea of how many are attending, but we can usually take a few walk-ins. Clare & Don's Beach Shack, 130 N. Washington Street, Falls Church, VA 22046 (703/532-9283). Questions? Contact wotrs@templerodefshalom.org.



Beit Café Comedy Show with Brad Zimmerman

Sat, Apr 20, 7:30 PM

My Son The Waiter is actor/comedian Brad Zimmerman's hilarious and inspiring story about the grit and passion required to "make it" as an artist and the sweet rewards that come from never giving up on your dream. Brad moved to New York City and "temporarily" waited tables for 29 years, while continuing to pursue his dream of comedic acting. He never gave up and, many years later, after opening for Joan Rivers, Brad Garrett, and the famed George Carlin, his off-Broadway hit show is as profound as it is entertaining. The *New York Times* called it: "Delicious! Distinctly original and powerfully poignant.... Great Comedy!"

Sponsored by the Music & Performing Arts Committee.

COST: \$18/Temple Member ; \$18/Rodef 2100 Member ; \$36/Non-Member

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/mpa.beitcafe.comedy.april24>

CONTACT: Music & Performing Arts Committee, cultural@templerodefshalom.org





TRS Tents

Let's Get Together

TRS Tents are our small group initiative that aims to draw together TRS members who share a common interest or hobby or career or happen to be in the same stage of life. Whether you'd like to indulge in a relaxing yoga session, have a potluck dinner with fellow cooks, meet other parents (or grandparents!), plan travel with new friends, play board games, or are an opera aficionado, we've got a Tent for you. Visit the TRS website to learn about all of the Tents we offer. To join a Tent, or propose an idea for something new, email Sarah Rogoff, Program Assistant, srogoff@templerodefshalom.org



Celebrate Earth Day at Bunny's Place

Sun, Apr 21, 2:00 PM

Create garden art from waste plastic with the 2024 international theme of "Protect Our Species."

For Temple members only. Appropriate for children and adults. No artistic talent necessary. Registration required.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/sac.earthday.april24>

CONTACT: Community Service Committee, communityservice@templerodefshalom.org



Staying Social & Aging Well: Passover Lunch

Wed, Apr 24, 11:00 AM

Join together with fellow seniors for a meaningful Passover lunch filled with traditional foods, storytelling, and a celebration of our liberation.

COST: \$22/Temple Member ; \$28/Non-Member

No charge for caregivers.





May

ECC, Religious School, and Temple Office Closures:

May 27, Memorial Day



Women of TRS Cultural Outings: Planet Word Museum

Fri, May 3, 10:30 AM

For the next Cultural Outing for the Women of TRS, we will visit the Planet Word Museum located in the historic Franklin School in downtown D.C. The museum is dedicated to inspiring a love of words, language and reading. We will take a self-guided interactive tour and play word detective in Lexicon Lane, the museum's puzzle room.

Following our visit to the museum, we will have lunch together at Immigrant Food restaurant located in the lower level of the museum. Individuals will pay for their own lunch at Immigrant Cafe.

COST: \$20pp for Museum entry fee (nonrefundable)

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.cultural.planetword.may24.html>

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org



Let the Good Times Roll: Selected Non-Terrible Moments in Jewish History

Thu, May 16 & 23, 7:00 PM

"They tried to kill us, we survived, let's eat!" is a popular and funny descriptor of many Jewish holidays. (Or, to quote the hit musical TV show Crazy Ex-Girlfriend: "Remember that we suffered!")

But what about all of the times in Jewish history when we ... weren't suffering so much? In this class we'll explore some of the high points (and moments of calm) in world Jewish history and their implications for our Jewish identities today.

Facilitated by Rabbi Alexandra Stein, the first session will focus on the Middle Ages and the second session will focus on early and late modernity (1500-1900). Come celebrate (and learn about) the good times! Join us for one or both sessions.

Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee as part of its Pathways/Jewish Literacy initiative. Our trimester theme is history.

COST: No charge/Temple Members, \$18/Non-Members

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/aec.letthegoodtimesroll.524>

CONTACT: Cantor Allen Leider, aleider@templerodefshalom.org



Lil' TRSTY Extravaganza

Sun, May 19, 1:30 PM

Calling all 3rd-5th graders! Come celebrate the end of the school year and summer beginning with a party at Temple! We will have games, snacks, and of course pizza!

CONTACT: Jason Flatt, jflatt@templerodefshalom.org



Women of TRS Blood Drive

Sun, May 19, 8:30 AM

WoTRS is again hosting an INOVA Blood Donor Services Blood Drive in our Social Hall. Donating is a true mitzvah and it only "costs" an hour of your time. Teens (ages 16 and older) who bring a parent and an ID are also eligible to donate. Blood is urgently needed.

The Women of TRS will again be on hand to offer our generous brand of TLC.

RSVP: https://www.inovabloodsaves.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/33632

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org





Men of TRS Congregational Dinner

Sun, May 19, 6:00 PM

All TRS families are invited to a dinner prepared and served by the Men of TRS! Enjoy good times and good food. Special musical entertainment for the children!

COST: \$5.00pp

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/motrs.familydinner.524>

CONTACT: Men of TRS, motrs@templerodefshalom.org



Sacred Sparks: Seeking Shabbat

Wed, May 22, 7:00 PM

Why is Shabbat considered the most important holiday in Judaism? How can we come to understand the meaning of Shabbat in a deeper and more personal way? How can we bring a little Shabbat meaning into our lives without it being an "all or nothing" approach? Join us for study and discussion.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/SS0923>

CONTACT: Cantor Allen Leider, aleider@templerodefshalom.org



Men of TRS Dinner on the Town

May 23, 7:00 PM

Gather with the Men of TRS to enjoy an evening of good food and great conversation at a local restaurant. Register for one (or all!) dates and locations.

Thu, May 23: Location TBD

COST: Everybody pays their own way

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/motrs.diningtown.spring2024>

CONTACT: Men of TRS, motrs@templerodefshalom.org



Gun Violence Prevention March

Mon, May 27, 1:00 PM

Join fellow congregants at the Memorial Day Parade in the City of Falls Church to raise awareness of gun violence prevention measures including Virginia's Red Flag Law.

RSVP: gvp@templerodefshalom.org



Fifth Friday Shabbat Dinner

Fri, May 31, 6:30 PM

Fifth Friday Nights at TRS begin with a vegetarian Shabbat Dinner at 6:30 PM and continue with a congregational service at 8:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to join for some or all of the evening as we welcome Shabbat and build community together!

COST: \$15/TRS Members (Adults) ; \$20/Non-Member Guests & Visitors ; \$10/Children under the age of 12

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/fifthfriday.may2024>

CONTACT: Cookie Mandell, Director of Congregational Engagement, cmandell@templerodefshalom.org





June

ECC, Religious School, and Temple Office Closures:

June 12, Shavuot

June 19, Juneteenth

July 4, Independence Day



Men of TRS Annual Meeting & Dinner

Thu, June 6, 6:30 PM

This is the annual meeting for all members of MoTRS: The year in review, planning for next year, next year's officers and a great meal! All Men of TRS are invited.

COST: No charge

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/motrs.annualmeetingdinner.624>

CONTACT: motrs@templerodefshalom.org



Hot Shabbat Fajitas 'n' Fun

Fri, Jun 7, 4:30 PM

Hot Shabbat is our kick-off to summer celebration! We take the party outdoors (weather permitting) so we can enjoy the sun, community, and a range of fun activities for all ages. Our event will feature a climbing wall, bounce houses, giant inflatables, beach balls, and more. Plus, we'll serve delicious fajitas and craft cocktails, with vegan options available for those with dietary restrictions.

Come enjoy fun and games at 4:30 PM, dinner at 5:30 PM, and, at 6:30 PM, we'll gather for a brief Shabbat service to end the evening with our Clergy. Following the service, stick around for a special oneg treat!

Don't miss out on the fun and festivities. Dig out your flip-flops and beach attire. We can't wait to see you!

COST: \$20/Temple Member (Adult) ; \$28/Non-Member (Adult) ; \$12/All Children (under the age of 12)

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/hotshabbat.june24>

CONTACT: Cookie Mandell, Director of Congregational Engagement, cmandell@templerodefshalom.org



Women of TRS Mah Jongg Fun Day

Sun, Jun 9, 2:00 PM

Back by popular demand, join us for a fun half-day of playing Mah Jongg with friends, old and new! Attendees will compete for fabulous prizes, all while raising money for various charities.

All levels welcome! Come play and nosh!

COST: TBD

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org



Bubbles & Babies

Sun, Jun 9, 3:00 PM

Bubbles & Babies is our group for babies up to the age of 3 and their parents! While older sibs are welcome, please remember that we want to create a space that is as safe as possible for our littles. So, the younger children will get "first dibs" on the play equipment! We'll have a light snack for the children...and some bubbly for the adults.

Bubbles & Babies is open to Temple members and non-members alike. Stay tuned for more information on gatherings scheduled for Apr 14 and Jun 9!

COST: No charge

CONTACT: Melissa Weinstock, Membership Manager, mweinstock@templerodefshalom.org



Spring Congregational Meeting

Thu, Jun 13

6:30 PM

Nosh with a Side of Schmoozing

7:30 PM

Meeting (Hybrid)

Your voice matters! Twice a year, we come together at our Congregational Meetings to learn more about our congregation's progress and hear reports from our clergy, lay leaders, and senior staff. This is your chance to stay informed, ask questions, and provide valuable input. Your presence and engagement are integral to shaping the future of Temple Rodef Shalom. Don't miss the chance to be an active part of our vibrant community!

You may join our Congregational Meetings in person or via Zoom. All Temple members will receive communications which include minutes from our last meeting, an agenda for our current meeting, and preliminary reports as well as links to register to attend virtually.

CONTACT: Jessica Ingram, Executive Director, jingram@templerodefshalom.org

RSVP: https://templerodefshalom.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OZax8nk5T_Wl46lkodPPOA#/registration



Men of TRS Night at Nationals Park

Tues, Jun 18, 6:30 PM

Men of TRS are invited to their annual foray to the Washington Nationals, this year playing the Arizona Diamondbacks. More information to follow once tickets have been confirmed.

COST: TBD

RSVP: TBD

CONTACT: Men of TRS, motrs@templerodefshalom.org



World Refugee Day Collection

Thu, Jun 20, all day

Established by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees more than 20 years ago, June 20 is a day set aside to honor the strength and courage of refugees around the world. It is observed internationally the same day each year and encourages communities to push for more public awareness and stronger support of refugees – people who have had to flee their home lands because of conflict, oppression or natural disaster.

During the fiscal year of 2023, more than 60,000 refugees were admitted to the United States. This is a big increase from the fiscal year of 2022, when 25,465 refugees were admitted into the United States.

As part of our participation in World Refugee Day, the TRS Refugee Outreach Committee will organize a collection of household items to help newly arrived families in Northern Virginia in their transition. As the theme this year is "At Home," the collection will target higher-cost essential items for home life that are difficult to keep in stock: laundry detergent, infant formula, cooking oil, and dental hygiene products (toothpaste, toothbrushes).

TRS will coordinate the collection with help from Casa Mariflor and LSSRC (Lutheran Social Services Resource Center), two key direct-service organizations in our area, to reach clients quickly.

CONTACT: Community Service Committee, communityservice@templerodefshalom.org





July



Women of TRS YES Luncheon (fundraiser)

Tue, Jul 16 (raindate: Sun, Jul 21), 11:30 AM

Attendees will learn how the Women of Reform Judaism's YES Fund strengthens Reform Jewish institutions. "YES" stands for Youth, Education, and Special Projects. The fund provides grants to Reform Jewish partners in North America, Israel, and globally, and gives seed money to organizations supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion. There will be a video presentation about the YES Fund. The luncheon will be held at a private home and you'll be able to enjoy a self-guided tour of the garden. A light lunch will be served.

COST: \$36pp

RSVP: <https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/wotrs.yesluncheon.2024>

CONTACT: Women of TRS, wotrs@templerodefshalom.org



Summer Limmud – SAVE THE DATES

Thu, Jul 11, 18, 25 & Aug 1, 7:00 PM

Every summer, the clergy of Temple Rodef Shalom present Summer Limmud, a multi-week program on a topic of special interest. Keep an eye out for Temple communications about this summer's content and schedule!



Kehilot are identity-based micro-communities within our larger congregation. At the suggestion of Temple members, we have three inaugural Kehilot for those who identify as Jews of Color, LGBTQIA+, and or Jews by Choice. Whether you are interested in one or all, please register to let us know that you would like to be kept up-to-date about gatherings of our Kehilot.

<https://templerodefshalom.shulcloud.com/form/Kehilot>

For more information, please contact Cookie Mandell, Director of Congregational Engagement, cmandell@templerodefshalom.org.

ביתנוך שלום

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Register Today!

