

Temple Rodef Shalom

Jan | Feb | Mar

2025

Program

Guide



Your TRS Program Guide

New Schedule Update

Starting with this issue, the Program Guide will come quarterly, arriving to your home in January, April, July and October. Each will cover three months of TRS programming.

Connection Magazine Contents

We won't have a Connection magazine during months in which we have a Program Guide but we don't want you to miss out on Shabbatot and B'nai Mitzvahs. These will be for a single month as they'll continue to be in both magazines. See below for our Connection supplement to the Program Guide.

Register now!

The TRS calendar, and all the sub-calendars, can be found on the calendar menu tab at the upper right corner of the home page of our website at templerodefshalom.org or by scanning the QR code below. Visit our calendar and locate the event by date for more information, to register to attend or to find out who to contact with your questions.



Main
TRS calendar
click or
SCAN HERE

We're here to help!

Do you need help with event registration? Email us at info@templerodefshalom.org or call 703.532.2217.

January Connection Supplement

January Shabbatot

All times below are when each service will be in-person and air on the temple's website, Facebook Live and YouTube Live.

*This content is for members only.
Please log into your account for the full version.*

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Please log into your account for the full version.*

Holidays & Closures

Dec 26-Jan 2: Chanukah (Temple office, Religious School & ECC close at 1:00 PM on Dec 24 and reopen on Jan 2)
Jan 1: New Year's Day (Temple office & ECC closed)
Jan 20: Martin Luther King's Birthday (Temple office & ECC closed)
Feb 13: Tu B'Shvat
Feb 17: President's Day (Temple office & ECC closed)
Mar 14: Purim

Special Shabbat Services

Jan 10: Shabbat Evening Service Celebrating Camp!
Jan 10: Shabbat on the Town (Rodef 2100 - 20s & 30s)
Jan 31: Fifth Friday Night Shabbat Evening Service with Cantor Barbara Ostfeld
Feb 14: Shabbat Evening Service with a Prayer for the Prevention of Gun Violence
Feb 21: Shabbat Celebrating Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance & Inclusion Month
Mar 7: Family Shabbat Evening Service with Elana Arian, Artist-in-Residence
Mar 28: Shabbat on the Town (Rodef 2100 - 20s & 30s)



Discover Shabbat! is our year-long initiative to encourage you to sing, dance, play, read, pray, cook, meditate, connect, unplug, delight, learn and yes, – rest on Shabbat. We'll have lots of activities, workshops, and moments of gathering throughout the year to help you find meaning and wholeness as you explore Shabbat in new ways. Look for our *Discover Shabbat!* logo to find events each week.



Discover Shabbat!
calendar
click or
SCAN HERE

TRS Tents Let's Get Together

You've heard the age-old phrase "think outside the box" – well, what if we asked you to "think outside the Tent?"

We know you've seen the robust list of TRS Tent offerings... a few times now. We've even shared photos of recent fun outings and gatherings that many of our Tents have scheduled. You get it, Tents are a leisurely way to socialize, meet new friends, and gather with like-minded TRS members.

But, what if you haven't found a Tent that sparks your interest... yet? Now's your time – we're looking to build some new Tents and need your ideas! We'll help to promote, gauge Temple interest, and facilitate a few gatherings to help get the group going. Perhaps you like to craft or volunteer, or you'd like to get together with others in your professional field, or you're a runner... there are new Tents in the waiting.

Submit an idea!
click or
SCAN HERE



Check out our Tents page on your MyTRS page and click on the "Submit an Idea" button or use the QR code above to fill out our form. We're open to any suggestions that come our way!

For questions or additional help, please contact Sarah Rogoff at srogoff@templerodefshalom.org! Tents are for temple members and ECC families only.



Shabbat Services

Shabbat Evening Services

Weekly on Fridays 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 on the First Friday, 6:30 PM

(no service in Jan) Feb 7, Mar 7

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

Family Shabbat Services

Monthly on the First Friday, 6:30 PM

Feb 7, Mar 7

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, Jan 31

6:30 PM Dinner, 8:00 PM Services

Fifth Friday Nights at TRS start off with a catered vegetarian 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.

* On the 5th Friday of a month, the service begins at 8:00 PM. There is a congregational dinner at 6:30 PM on those Shabbatot.



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

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

Weekly on 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! Please email Otto at oadelman@templerodefshalom.org for the Zoom link.

Parallel Shabbat and Kiddush Lunch

Monthly on the Third Saturday, 10:30 AM

Jan 18, Feb 15, Mar 15

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 on the Fourth Saturday, 9:00 AM

Jan 25, Feb 22, Mar 22

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.



Sat, Jan 4, 1:00 PM

Discover Shabbat! Out & About (Out of the Building)

Join us for a Shabbat afternoon adventure on the first Saturday of the month! Jan 4, we'll visit the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington DC. After enjoying the exhibitions and the garden, we'll pop into the Dolcezza Café for a hot espresso! Our meeting place and information on parking will be sent to all registrants the week before.



Sun, Jan 5, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Winter Mitzvah Day

You make a difference! Join fellow TRS congregants for a day of family-friendly community service activities in the Social Hall including assembling hygiene kits for shelter residents, making blankets for families and dog toys, bagging beans and rice for the hungry, and more. There will also be a handful of off-site activities listed. Please visit the calendar or use the QR code to read more and to register for the activity of your choice.



**Mitzvah Day
Registration**
click or
SCAN HERE



Mondays, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3, 2:00 PM

Seniors Chat

Attention all TRS seniors! If you are looking for uplifting conversation and connection with others in our congregation as well as some delicious coffee, please join us on the first Monday of each month at the Rodef Café! Registration is not required.



Tuesdays, Jan 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 18, 25, 12:00 PM
Guided Autobiography Writing - 8-Week Session

Telling the Stories of Life Through Guided Autobiography Groups - Uncovering Treasures That Matter: This is an 8-week workshop, limited to 8 people. How it works: As a trained and certified Guided Autobiography instructor, Stefanie Bloom, Director of Caring, will lead participants through themes that tackle the richest part of our history, such as family, our work, health, death, and branching points that may have changed your life direction. Have fun! No writing experience is necessary!



Tuesdays, Jan 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 18, 25, Mar 4, 11, 7:00 PM
Conversational Hebrew Class

Shalom! We'll learn contemporary Hebrew as spoken by Israelis in daily life including travel vocabulary, how to talk about ourselves and our interests, how to read a menu/talk about food and much more. We'll make Hebrew learning fun! Each class will weave in some Israeli music or other aspect of Israeli culture. Prerequisites: Ability to decode (read) Hebrew. This class builds a basic vocabulary over the sessions and requires a willingness to attend most sessions. Members and non-members welcome. Please register on our calendar.



Tuesdays, Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 4, 7:30 PM

Dining In Together (Virtual)

TRS's virtual speakers' series tackles fascinating and timely issues as we dine together...at home. Zoom links will be sent to you in your registration confirmation email.

- Jan 7: Update on the state of the world from security expert Richard Fontaine, CEO of the Center for a New American Security
- Feb 4: Author Jack Russell shares the true story behind his novel *Fox World: 500 Miles of Walks and Talks with an Old Fox*
- Mar 4: Speaker TBD



Wednesdays, Jan 8, Feb 12, Mar 12, 9:00 AM (Out of the Building)
Volunteer at SHARE's Food, Clothing & Home Goods Pantry

You make a difference! SHARE of McLean is community-based nonprofit that supports individuals who face food insecurity, economic hardships or other related challenges. On the 2nd Wednesday of every month, a group of four volunteers will go to volunteer at SHARE to distribute food, sort donations or work in their warehouse. The address is 1367 Chain Bridge Rd, McLean, VA. Visit the TRS calendar to RSVP.



Wednesdays Jan 8, Feb 12, Mar 12, 10:30 AM

WoTRS Wednesday Book Club (Virtual)

A cordial and welcoming virtual book group meets on the second Wednesday of each month to discuss a book selected from an eclectic and varied list. You must register to receive the Zoom link. Please contact wotrs@templerodefshalom.org to register. 2025 first quarter books are:

- Jan 8: *The Soul of an Octopus* by Sy Montgomery
- Feb 12: *Sea of Tranquility* by Emily St. John Mandel
- Mar 12: *Kantika* by Elizabeth Graver



Wednesdays at 1:00 PM

Jan 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar 5, 12, 19, 26

WoTRS Weekly Drop-In Mah Jongg

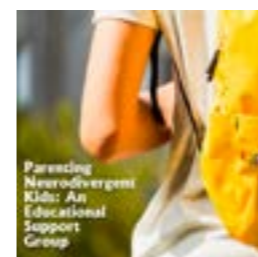
Come to play the game, increase your skills, see old friends and make new ones. Please bring your mah jongg card. We provide the mah jongg sets and refreshments. For our less experienced players (you must know how to play), we offer mentoring opportunities. Proceeds support various TRS programs and charitable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



Wednesdays, Jan 8, 22, Feb 5, 19, Mar 5, 19, 7:00 PM

MoTRS Virtual Happy Hour

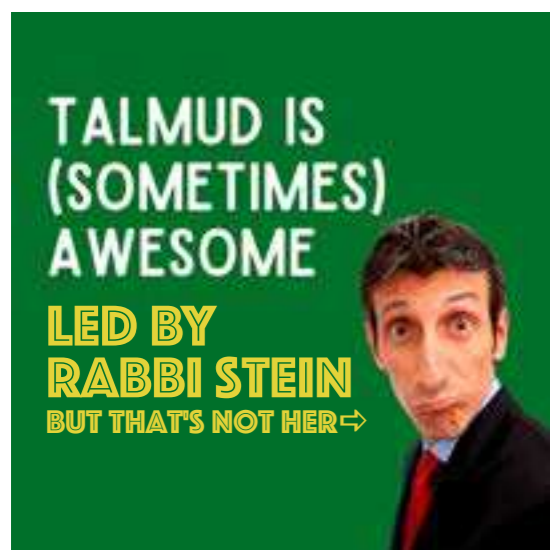
The Men of TRS invite you to join us for a virtual happy hour to discuss whatever you'd like to chat about and maintain our community connections. This is open to all men who are members of Temple Rodef Shalom! Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.



Wednesdays, Jan 8, 15, 22, 29, 7:00 PM

Parenting Neurodivergent Kids: Educational Support Group (Virtual)

Dr. Jaclyn Halpern (she/her) will offer a support group for parents of neurodivergent kids. We'll work together to share tips and tricks, seek guidance, celebrate our successes, and compassionately process our missteps. The group will be a supportive and safe space to help parents feel seen and accepted as they navigate their children's neurodivergence. We'll help caregivers keep in mind their child's unique strengths and vulnerabilities, while recognizing the challenges that arise while helping children navigate a predominately neurotypical world.



Talmud is (Sometimes) Awesome Choose from In Person, Virtual or a Combo!

- In Person on Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Jan 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb 19, Mar 19
- Virtual on Sundays, 4:00 PM, Jan 12, 19, 26, Feb 2, 23, Mar 23

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? Led by Rabbi Alexandra Stein, each month, we'll study specific texts from the Talmud in English. Visit our calendar to register!

- January: Berakhot (blessings) - for this mini-series it's recommended to attend all classes since they build on one another, but it's not required.
- February: Famous Talmudic quotes such as "it's not up to you to finish the work, but neither are you free to desist from it" or "if not now, when?"
- March: Origins of "Tikkun Olam" in the Babylonian Talmud.



Wednesdays, Jan 8, 15, 22, 7:00 PM Mahj & Mingle: Lessons for Moms of Young Kids

Looking to jump on the bandwagon and learn the ever-popular game of Mahj Jongg? We invite moms of young children (6th grade & under) to join us to learn the ropes from an instructor (a fellow mom of a preschooler), and enjoy time to schmooze and nosh with new friends. You can continue playing with your cohort after this 3-week class, plus lookout for future drop-in sessions to be scheduled at TRS and keep the momentum going! Open to non-members. Registration is limited for each session - please contact srogoff@templerodefshalom.org for the link.



Thurs, Jan 9, 7:30 PM Yes in God's Backyard: Forum on "Faith in Housing" Legislation for VA (Virtual)

Virginia has a shortage of 200,000 affordable rental units. This virtual session will brief you on an exciting effort by a statewide coalition of housing advocacy groups seeking to remove barriers that make it difficult for willing congregations to create desperately-needed affordable housing on their own land. VOICE, the interfaith action organization TRS is a part of, is organizing support for this legislation in the VA General Assembly in the 2025 session. Please visit the TRS calendar to register.



Thursdays Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 20, 7:30 PM MoTRS Poker Night

Come over to the temple for a (low-stakes) poker game for the men of TRS. We welcome ECC fathers as well. Please register to attend so we set up tables appropriately. Feel free to bring snacks to share and a favorite drink if you're inclined.

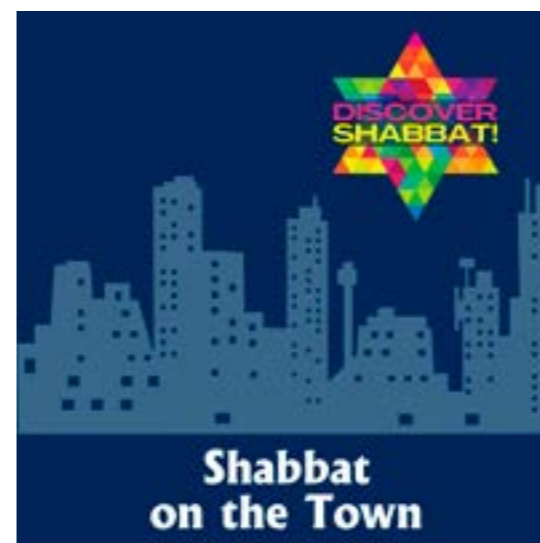


Main
TRS calendar
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Fri, Jan 10, 6:30 PM Shabbat Service Celebrating Camp

Come celebrate Camp with us! Love Jewish Summer Camp? Miss Shabbat with all your friends and favorite songs? Join Camp Rodef Shalom and all of our favorite overnight and day camp friends for a fun evening of memories and thoughts of summer! Wear your favorite camp shirt and join us for a special Oneg after services with games, crafts and dessert. All are welcome!



Fridays, Jan 10, Mar 28, 6:30 PM (Out of the Building) Discover Shabbat! Shabbat On The Town (20s & 30s)

Gather with the TRS 20s and 30s community for Shabbat services at metro-accessible locations! We'll start with an informal "Intro to Shabbat" discussion at 6:30 PM, continue with services led by Rabbi Alexandra Stein and Cantor Sydney Michaeli at 7:15 PM and close with a delicious shared dinner at 8:15 PM. Come for all of the evening or just whichever parts work for you - we'd love to see you there! Exact locations will be emailed out to those who register.

- Jan 10: East Falls Church or Court House
- Mar 28: Clarendon
- May 30: Rosslyn



Discover Shabbat! Spice & Spark Dinner

Spice & Spark Dinners are a wonderful way for temple members and their families to connect based on shared identities.

- Fri, Jan 10, 7:45 PM: those who serve (or served) our country as Foreign Service personnel or who work for the Department of State
- Fri, Feb 14, 6:30 PM: those with children in K-6 grades - parents will enjoy a quiet dinner while the kids have pizza and movie time together separately
- Fri, Mar 14 7:45 PM: alumni of Brandeis University



Saturdays, Jan 11, Feb 8, Mar 8, 9:00 AM Discover Shabbat! Rise & Shine: Music for Tots with "Shabbat Pancakes!"

In addition to Tot Shabbat (4th Saturday of every month), we also gather on the second Saturday of each month for a music-filled morning of singing, clapping, and movement. Afterwards, we'll enjoy "Shabbat pancakes" – so much more delicious than regular pancakes!



Saturdays, Jan 11, Mar 22, 6:30 PM Discover Shabbat! Havdalah & Dinner

A great Shabbat deserves a great ending! Join with the TRS community for Havdalah, dinner, and learning together. We will eat delicious food, sing, ask big questions to our clergy and celebrate a Shabbat well spent! Whether you do Havdalah every week or this will be your first time, we would love to see you there. Please visit our *Discover Shabbat!* calendar to RSVP.



Sundays, Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, 9:00 AM

Continuing Biblical Hebrew (Virtual)

For people who have successfully completed our Beginning Biblical Hebrew Class.



Sundays at 9:00 AM

Jan 12, 26, Feb 2, 9, 23, Mar 2, 9, 23, 30

Introduction to Judaism

Do you want to learn about Judaism or increase your Jewish knowledge? This class, held at Temple Rodef Shalom and led by Cantor Allen Leider and Rabbi Alexandra Stein, is perfect for interfaith couples, those raising Jewish children, spiritual seekers, individuals considering conversion, and Jews who want a meaningful adult Jewish learning experience. The 18-week course (last class is Jun 22) will give you a solid foundation in Jewish holidays, theology and core beliefs, life cycle celebrations, the Hebrew Bible and other sacred texts, history, antisemitism, Zionism and Israel, even Jewish food. When you have registered you will receive a book list, a syllabus, and other information.



Sun, Jan 12, 1:00 PM

YG25: College Brunch

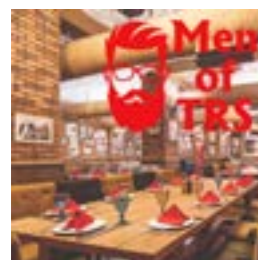
Calling all 18-25 year old TRS Alumni! Are you missing your TRS family? Come join us for a delicious brunch and see old friends!



Sundays, Jan 12, Feb 2, Mar 23, 5:30 PM

N'tivot Parent Dinner

All parents of N'tivot (Religious School teens) students are invited to join us for our monthly N'tivot Parent Dinner! Once a month parents get together for dinner and schmoozing while their students attend N'tivot.



Monthly at 7:00 PM

MoTRS Dinner on the Town (Out of the Building)

Join the Men of TRS for great meal along with great conversation! Open to all men who are members of TRS or who have children enrolled in our ECC. Everyone will pay their own way. Please register to allow us to confirm our reservations.

- Tues, Jan 14: Texas Jack's in Arlington
- Thur, Feb 20: Hong Kong Pearl Restaurant in Falls Church
- Wed, Mar 26: Open Road Grill in Merrifield



Wednesdays, 6:30 PM

Dining Out Together with the Women of TRS (Out of the Building)

Join some of the friendliest women for a relaxed and fun evening out for dinner and engaging conversation. Registration is requested but walk-ins are welcome. Everyone orders and pays for their own meal and beverages.

- Jan 15: Patsy's American in Vienna
- Mar 19: Aracosia (Afghan food) in McLean



Wed, Jan 15, 7:00 PM

A Conversation with Egyptian Activist, Dalia Zaida

Come hear this fresh new voice from the Middle East in conversation with Jim Ramenofsky, temple member and American Jewish Committee of the Washington region board member and executive committee member. They will discuss aspects of Israeli relationships in the Middle East – especially with Egypt now and potentially in the future. Registration is required.



Thursdays, Jan 16, Feb 20, Mar 20, 2:00 PM

WoTRS Knitting and Crocheting Circle

Gather with avid 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. We meet in the Rodef Café, snacks are served and new yarn is available. Contact wotrs@templerodefshalom.org for more information or to be added to our group email list.



Thursdays at 7:00 PM

Winter Beit Midrash: Jewish NYC - Our Place in the Greatest City in the World

Each of three sessions will take a different "slice" of the Big Apple.

- Jan 16: Eldridge Street (Virtual) Scott Brevda of the Museum at Eldridge Street will take us on a virtual tour of the Eldridge Street Synagogue and the era of immigration at the turn of the 20th century.
- Jan 23: Social Movements (Virtual) Fordham University History Professor Daniel Soyer will share stories of the Jews of New York who helped spawn social justice movements to address important challenges, including labor rights and Jewish settlement houses.
- Jan 30: Seth Kibel Performs (In Person at TRS) TRS fan favorite Seth Kibel returns for a lecture/performance on Jewish influences on the arts in Yiddish theater, vaudeville, Tin Pan Alley, and early Broadway. His appearance will be followed by a NYC-themed oneg.



Fridays, Jan 17, Feb 21, Mar 21, 5:30 PM

Feed Em Friday

Every 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. Each month will be a different task. 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.



Fri, Jan 17, 6:00 PM

Women of TRS Meet, Pray, Nosh

We started Meet, Pray, Nosh to bring community and companionship to TRS Women during worship services. 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. After services, we head off to the Oneg Shabbat or to a restaurant for a nosh. No registration is required.



Fridays, Jan 17, Feb 21, Mar 21, 8:00 PM Teen Hang

Grades 7-12! Friday night Shabbat hang is the 3rd Friday of every month! Come together with your Jewish community and celebrate Shabbat! We will be playing games, eating snacks and hanging out!



Saturday at 2:00 PM Discover Shabbat! Self Care Workshops

Long before self-care was a hashtag, Shabbat prioritized nurturing your soul and your body. It is a day of rest, contemplation, and renewal – truly an “island in time.”

- Jan 18: step into the healing waters of meditation to reduce stress, calm your mind, become more aware and more mindful
- Feb 15: journaling to reduce stress, improve self-awareness and mindfulness, and develop gratitude among other benefits
- Mar 15: healthy meal prep and how to better nurture our bodies



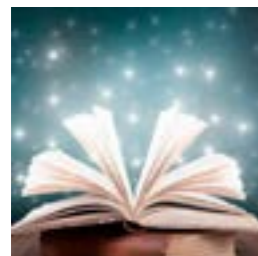
Sun, Jan 19, 2:00 PM (Out of the Building) WoTRS Cultural Program: DIY Watercolor Necklace

The Women of TRS invite you to explore your creative side and make a watercolor pendant. Deborah Conn, a watercolor artist, will teach us how to make our very own watercolor necklace. The fee covers the cost for the instructor and all necklace materials. Please register on our website calendar.



Mon, Jan 20, 11:00 AM (Out of the Building) Annual Vigil of Remembrance and Gun Violence Prevention Advocacy Day

The Annual Vigil of Remembrance and Gun Violence Prevention Advocacy Day will take place at the State Capitol in Richmond. Join hundreds of concerned citizens from across Virginia for this annual event sponsored by the Virginia Center for Public Safety. There will be buses and carpools going to Richmond in the morning for lobbying visits to members of the General Assembly. The prayer vigil is scheduled for 3:00 PM. If you are interested, please register to receive all the details. Registration is required.



Wednesdays, 7:00 PM Sacred Sparks

Our monthly drop-in group for adults (and teens) explores a variety of Jewish topics. No knowledge or skill level required. Discussion will be centered around Jewish texts with an emphasis on discussion and finding personal meaning in each topic. Each session ends with a short, guided meditation to bring the teachings to heart. Join us for any of these free sessions:

- Jan 22: Covenant – Can We Be in Relationship with God?
- Feb 19: Judaism and Nature
- Mar 19: Forgiving Others and Ourselves



Thur Jan 23, 7:30 PM (Virtual) Discover Shabbat! Relax and Renew

We will practice quieting the mind through guided relaxation as an antidote to the stress, busyness, and hyperactivity of the modern age. Join instructor Lynne Jacobs for the one program where you are not expected to do anything and except rest and listen to her voice.



Sat, Jan, 25, 1:00 PM Discover Shabbat! Savor Shabbat! Lunch with Cookbook Author, Leah Koenig

Meet Leah Koenig—the author of seven cookbooks, including *Modern Jewish Cooking*, *The Jewish Cookbook*, and the acclaimed 2023 *Portico: Cooking and Feasting in Rome's Jewish Kitchen*—as we eat a vegetarian Shabbat lunch cooked from Leah's recipes by TRS volunteers. Afterward, our own celebrity chef Rebecca Tax (of Lazy Mike's and Clare and Don's) will interview Leah, also author of *The Jewish Table* substack, about her Shabbat experiences, her views of the

role that food plays in celebrating Shabbat, and her process for updating and expanding what we think of as Jewish cuisine.

Volunteers Needed: Want to help us cook, bake and savor Shabbat?

To make this event delicious, we need your help. We are looking for volunteers for food preparation. You may work in the TRS kitchen in gatherings to be held in January (dates TBA) or choose to cook and bake on your own at home. Sign up and a “Recipe Captain” will contact you with details.



Register for
Lunch
click or
SCAN HERE



Register to
volunteer
click or
SCAN HERE



Saturdays, Jan 25, Mar 29, 5:00 PM Inclusive Havdalah Service

The Inclusion and Accessibility Committee invites the TRS community to conclude Shabbat with an Inclusive Havdalah Service, which includes singing, smelling sweet fragrances, candlelight and “wine.” 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 with an Oneg.



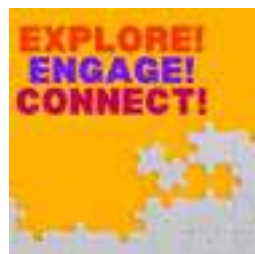
Sundays, Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 30, 11:00 AM (Out of the Building) Volunteer Shift at Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC)

Looking to support the more than 3,900 families in Arlington at risk of hunger and malnutrition? Volunteer monthly at AFAC with fellow TRS members and sort donations, bag beans and rice, or bag produce. AFAC is the only organization in Arlington, VA, solely devoted to providing Arlington residents dignified access to nutritious, supplemental groceries—free of charge. Please visit our calendar as registration is required.



Sundays, Jan 26, Feb 23, 3:00 PM Bubbles and Babies

Grab your family and come for playtime! If you're a parent of a “little” (ages 0-3), Bubbles & Babies is for you! Meet other parents...sip some bubbly...and let the kids toddle, run, or watch from their strollers. We'll be outdoors on the tot lot if weather permits. Otherwise, we'll find an indoor space to play. While older sibs are welcome, please remember that we want to create a space that is as safe as possible for our littles. Membership not required.



Sun, Jan 26, 10:00 AM

Explore! Engage! Connect! TRS Engagement Expo

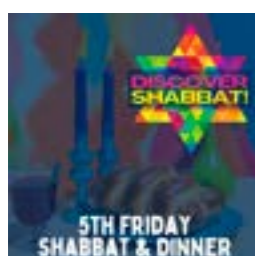
Don't miss the Engagement Expo, a fun and exciting committee fair where purpose and community come together! This is your chance to dive into the heart of our synagogue, connect with like-minded individuals, and explore the dynamic committees shaping life at TRS. Whether you're eager to get involved or just curious, come meet committee members and learn about ways to make a difference while building lasting friendships.



Sun, Jan 26, 3:00 PM

Men of TRS Football Playoff Games

The Men of TRS will gather to watch a Conference Championship Playoff Game...and drink and snack, of course. The location and exact time TBD. Stay tuned! Feel free to bring snacks and drinks to share.



Fri, Jan 31, 6:30 PM

Discover Shabbat! Fifth Friday Shabbat Dinner

Fifth Friday Nights (of the month) at TRS will start off with a Shabbat dinner at 6:30 PM, and 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. Since it's January, let's enjoy some good old-fashioned Jewish comfort food with roasted chicken, kugel, tzimmes, and other delectables. Stuffed vegetables will be available as a gluten-free and vegan option.

More ways to give...

Did you know you can donate up to \$105,000 annually from your IRA directly to Temple Rodef Shalom or other charities? Many members give through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), which can count towards your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) and also lower your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) — especially beneficial if you don't itemize deductions.

QCDs can fund donations, endowment gifts, and membership-related payments that provide only intangible religious benefits. IRA owners can begin making QCDs at age 70½, even though RMDs aren't required until age 73. The annual \$105,000 QCD cap will adjust annually for inflation. To maximize benefits, make your QCD before taking any other RMD.

For more details, contact Hannah Moore, Director of Philanthropy, at hmoore@templerodefshalom.org or 703-676-3867.

*QCDs must go directly from your IRA to the charity.



Rodef Arts Concert Series

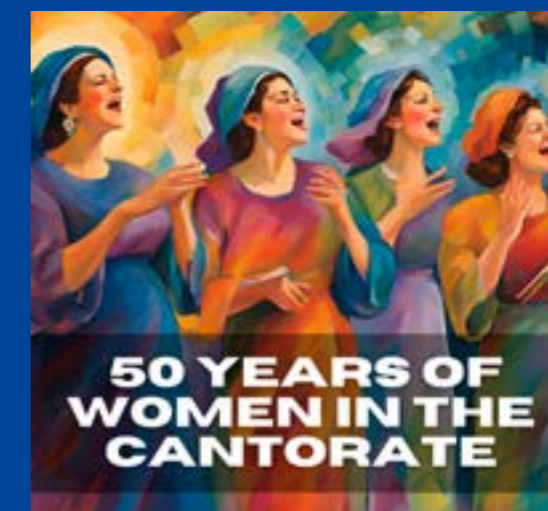
Sponsored by the Music and Performing Arts Committee



Fri, Jan 31, 8:00 PM

Fifth Friday Night Shabbat Evening Service with Cantor Barbara Ostfeld

We are honored to welcome Cantor Barbara Ostfeld as our guest cantor this Shabbat. Cantor Ostfeld, the first female Reform Cantor, will join us in celebrating 50 years of women in the Cantorate.



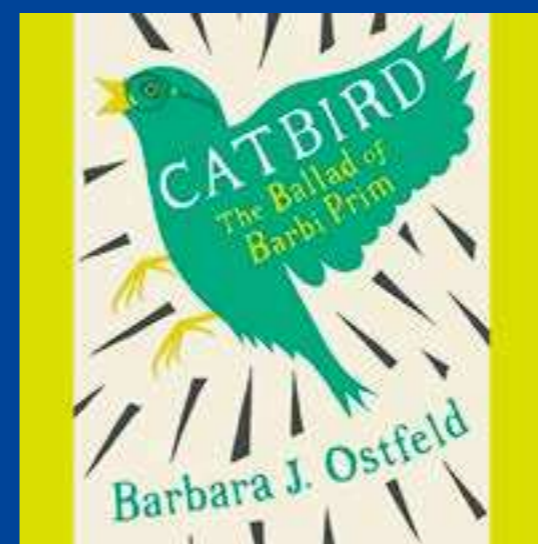
Sat, Feb 1, 7:30 PM

Concert in Celebration of 50 Years of Women in the Cantorate

Our celebration of 50 Years of Women in the Cantorate continues with a concert featuring Cantor Barbara Ostfeld, our own cantors and cantors from around the DMV. The concert will take place in our sanctuary with a reception immediately following in the Social Hall and everyone who attends will receive a free copy of Barbara's book! Please scan or click the QR code or visit our calendar to register.



Register
click or
SCAN HERE



Sun, Feb 2, 10:00 AM

A Conversation with Cantor Barbara Ostfeld

Hear from Cantor Barbara Ostfeld about her book *Catbird: The Ballad of Barbi Prim*, which reflects on her journey to becoming the first female ordained cantor. "The world meets an insightful, opinionated eight-year-old who's already taken a few steps toward becoming a pioneer—but also a shadow of her quirky self. Although she's corroded—sometimes literally—by a toxic but familiar social atmosphere, her love of singing propels her to become the first ordained woman cantor in 3,000 years of Jewish history. A family crisis exposes old and enduring wounds, but she begins to rescue herself—by diligently going to therapy—and embarks on an imperfect but perpetual metamorphosis, becoming the well-coiffed heroine of her own story."



Sat, Feb 1, 1:00 PM (Out of the Building)

Discover Shabbat! Out & About

Join us for a Shabbat afternoon adventure on the first Saturday of the month! Every month will offer a different kind of experience. As February weather can be tricky, we'll visit Lillian and Albert Small Capital Jewish Museum in Washington DC. Visit the *Discover Shabbat!* calendar to RSVP.



Sat, Feb 1, 5:00 PM

Rodef 2100 (20s & 30s) Havdalah Yoga with Rooted Rainbow

Close out Shabbat with a relaxing yoga class and havdalah, followed by dinner together! And if you'd like, stay after dinner for a concert (Celebration of 50 Years of Women in the Cantorate, see p. 15) at TRS at 7:30 PM!



Wed, Feb 5, 7:00 PM

The Undoing of Israel? A Conversation with Dr. Ilai Saltzman

Join us as we welcome Dr. Ilai Saltzman, Associate Research Professor and Director of the Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies at the University of Maryland, for a discussion inspired by his recent essay, *The Undoing of Israel: The Dark Futures that Await After the War in Gaza* (co-authored with Ilan Baron). Dr. Saltzman's talk will draw on his expertise in international security, Israeli and U.S. foreign policy, and political psychology.



Fridays, Feb 7, Mar 7, 5:30 PM

Discover Shabbat! Happy Hour for Bo'i Shabbat

Our Bo'i Shabbat service on the first Friday of the month is an informal, one-hour adult-oriented service with an emphasis on music and accessible singing. It meets in the Mishkan and is the adult alternative to our Family Shabbat Evening Service. This year, come an hour early and enjoy a light nosh with others. Step into Shabbat and begin to decompress, disconnect, and discover! Registration is not required.



Sat, Feb 8, 3:00 PM

Rodef 2100 (20s & 30s) Ice Skating and Dinner! (Out of the Building)

Join Rodef 2100 for our annual ice skating afternoon in Pentagon City. We'll begin ice skating at 3:00 PM. Don't ice skate, no problem! We will gather for havdalah and dinner around 5:00 PM. Come for whichever parts of the night work for you!



Sat, Feb 8, 6:00 PM

Youth Group: Lil' TRSTY Movie & Havdalah Night

Calling all 3rd-5th graders, join friends new and old for a fun night at the TRS movies! Pizza and popcorn will be served. Stay tuned for the movie choices!



Sun, Feb 9, 3:00 PM

ReelAbilities Film Festival Screening and Panel Discussion

As part of the 12th Annual ReelAbilities Film Festival: Greater Washington, TRS is hosting a screening of *Facing the Falls*, a short documentary executive produced by Hillary and Chelsea Clinton. In the film, international disability advocate Cara Elizabeth Yar Khan, who is deep in the throes of an aggressive, fatal muscle-wasting disease and no longer able to walk unassisted, embarks on a daring, 12-day expedition through the Grand Canyon. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion and audience Q&A. Light refreshments will be served following the panel discussion. There is no charge to attend, but registration is required.

Celebrate Tu BiShvat



Wed, Feb 12, 6:30 PM

Tu BiShvat Seder & Potluck Vegetarian Dinner

In Ancient times, Tu BiShvat marked the beginning of the agricultural cycle, hence it became known as the Birthday of the Trees. In the Middle Ages, the Kabbalists assigned the fruits of Israel symbolic meanings, creating Tu BiShvat seders. In modern times, Tu BiShvat has become an opportunity to reaffirm the Jewish commitment to cherish and protect our beautiful world. Join our clergy and members of the TRS Sustainability Initiative for a Tu BiShvat Seder followed by a festive vegetarian potluck. The event is geared toward adults, but kids are welcome to attend.



Age 20s & 30s? Join the Rodef 2100 (20s and 30s) table at TRS' annual Tu BiShvat seder! Please register to let us know to look for you!



Fri, Feb 21, 6:30 PM

Shabbat Celebrating Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month

February is Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month, a unified effort among Jewish organizations worldwide to raise awareness and foster acceptance and inclusion of people with disabilities and mental health conditions and those who love them. Please join us as Dr. Robin Rinearson, the owner of Jake's Ice Cream and Jake's Gourmet Popcorn, delivers an inspiring D'var Torah telling the story of why she founded these two local shops which employ and train people with disabilities. Special oneg following the service.



Age 20s & 30s? Rodef 2100 (20s and 30s) invites you to sit together with us at services! After, we will head to the oneg together. Please register to let us know to look for you!



Sundays, 9:30 AM (Virtual or Hybrid) WoTRS Sunday Morning Book Club

For book lovers interested in reading Jewish-themed books. Some meetings are virtual only and others are hybrid (that is, you may choose to meet in-person or join virtually). please register in order to receive the Zoom link which will be sent to you with your confirmation. First quarter reading list:

- Feb 16 (Virtual): *The Books of Jacob* by Olga Tokarczuk
- Mar 16 (Hybrid): *Operation Paperclip: The Secret Intelligence Program that Brought Nazi Scientists to America* by Annie Jacobson



Sat, Feb 22, 6:00 PM Youth Group: Jr. TRSTY Night at the Movies

Calling all 6th-8th graders come join your friends for a night at the movies! We will have popcorn, sweets, pizza, and a showing of your choosing!



Sat, Feb 22, 7:00 PM Wick & Flick: Robbie Schaefer and *Burst the Silence: A Musical Fable*

Musician Robbie Schaefer comes home to TRS to share his semi-autobiographical musical fable. A precocious kid growing up with his father, a charismatic and irrepressible storyteller shadowed by a memory that has remained hidden in the woods of his childhood: how he, as a young boy, survived the Holocaust. After the father gives his son a guitar, the boy goes on to tell the story his father never could. Following the film, Robbie will share memories of his father, Konnie, and the story that traveled from the stage to a film-festival favorite.



Thur, Feb 27, 7:00 PM WoTRS Baking in the Neighborhood: Pizza Hamantaschen (Virtual)

Try your hand at making a savory Hamantaschen this Purim as an alternative to the usual sweet variety. To be eaten as a snack or add a salad and it's a Purim dinner entree. Watch WoTRS Chef Bernice Porrazzo demonstrate this delicious 'Israeli street food,' Pizza Hamantaschen. Everyone is welcome to attend on Zoom. Please RSVP for the link.



Thur, Feb 27, 7:30 PM Men of TRS Book Club (Virtual)

The Men of TRS Book Club offers a vibrant discussion of a significant and relevant book for the Men of TRS to connect in intellectual discourse. The MoTRS Book Club meets virtually on Thursdays every other month. February's selection is *Outwitting History: The Amazing Adventures of a Man Who Rescued a Million Yiddish Books* by Aaron Lansky. You must register to receive the Zoom link to join the conversation.



Main
TRS calendar
click or
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**Register for
Feb 27**
click or
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Thur, Feb 27, 7:00 PM Hungary and The Struggle Against Antisemitism: What Can We Learn? A TRS Endowment Funded Event

Join us for the inaugural program of the Rabbi Laszlo Berkowits Remembrance and Understanding Project Endowment Fund honoring Temple Rodef Shalom's first rabbi. Join us as we bring Andras Heisler to our community for a public discussion of Judaism in Hungary and rising antisemitism today. From 2013 to 2023, Andras Heisler served as President of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Hungary, representing the vast majority of Hungary's 80,000-100,000 Jews. He was simultaneously a vice president of the World Jewish Congress and twice-elected vice president of the European Jewish Congress. Mr. Heisler, in conversation with the Holocaust Museum's Paul Shapiro, will discuss the Hungarian Jewish community today, the warning signs of rising antisemitism as experienced in an increasingly "illiberal" Hungary, and the efforts of Hungary's Jewish community to respond. Today, Andras Heisler is creating a new museum and cultural center focused on Hungarian Jewish life and history in the heart of Budapest's historic Jewish district.

At 7:00 PM, join us for Hungarian-style desserts. Our program begins at 7:30 PM. Please click or scan the QR code to register.



**Register for
Mar 1**
click or
SCAN HERE

Sat, Mar 1, 3:00 PM A Special Wick & Flick: *Missing in Action - A New Film about Raoul Wallenberg* A TRS Endowment Funded Event

2024 marks the 80th anniversary of Raoul Wallenberg's extraordinary role in the rescue of thousands of Hungarian Jews from murder by Nazi Germany, followed by Wallenberg's arrest and abduction by the Soviets. This new film focuses on Wallenberg as an individual, his difficult relationship with his Swedish industrialist family, and the business and Cold War dynamics that determined his fate in KGB prison. In addition to original interviews with family members and KGB officials, the cast includes Jamie Lee Curtis as the voice of Raoul's mother, Jake Gyllenhaal as the voice of Raoul, and Brian Cox as the voice of Raoul's grandfather. A co-producer of the film will join in a post-viewing panel discussion.

Registration is required. Please click or use the QR code. This program is funded by the Rabbi Laszlo Berkowits Remembrance and Understanding Endowment Fund.

The Rabbi Laszlo Berkowits Remembrance and Understanding Project Endowment Fund



The Rabbi Laszlo Berkowits Remembrance and Understanding Project Endowment Fund is formed from the merger of two previous Endowment Funds: Rabbi Berkowits Educational Endowment Fund and Simon Family Fund for Jewish Living. This new Fund honors Rabbi Berkowits' life story by underwriting programming that may include rebuking antisemitism, sharing lessons of the Shoah, and ongoing dialogue with our non-Jewish neighbors. The Temple Rodef Shalom Endowment develops the financial resources to support our vitally important work for the next generation and secures our future as a sacred community.



Saturday March 1, 2025 1:00 PM

Discover Shabbat! Out & About (Out of the Building)

We'll take a stroll along the Washington & Old Dominion (W&OD) Railroad Regional Park. Often called the skinniest park in Virginia, the W&OD is a paved trail between Shirlington and Purcellville, Virginia. We'll meet in the parking lot of the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna.



Sun, Mar, 2, 2:00 PM

Spring Tree Rescue: Haycock Longfellow Park (Out of the Building)

Join TRS members and neighbors from the Haycock-Longfellow community for a Spring Tree Rescue at Haycock Longfellow Park. We will be learning about the woods adjacent to the TRS parking lot and saving trees from invasive vines. This is a family friendly event. Please visit our calendar to RSVP.



Thur, Mar 6, 7:00 PM

Rodef 2100 (20s & 30s) Board Game and Dinner Night at Upside on Moore in Rosslyn! (Out of the Building)

Bring your favorite board games or dive into fan-favorites like Wingspan, Catan, Munchkin, and many more! Join us for an evening of friendly competition, great food, and community. Enjoy a delicious dinner as you roll the dice and strategize with friends.



Elana Arian
Artist-in-Residence



Fri, Mar 7, 6:30 PM

Family Shabbat Evening Service with Elana Arian

Family Shabbat, in the Sanctuary, is geared towards kids (6th grade and younger) and the teens and adults who love them. Our Shabbat worship service will feature Elana along with our youth choirs, Shir Harmony and Shir Joy. A family-friendly dinner for our youth choirs will immediately follow our service.

Sat, Mar 8, 7:30 PM

Beit Café Concert with Elana Arian, Artist-in-Residence

Join us for a fun, hand-clapping and inspirational concert, appropriate for adults and families with one of the most popular songwriters in the Reform movement today. Beit Café concerts feature food and drink prior to the concert in our Social Hall. Please visit our calendar or use the QR code to register.

Sun, Mar 9, 2:30 PM

Community Youth Choir Festival with Artist-In-Residence Elana Arian

TRS welcomes area reform congregational youth choirs for the community annual choral festival with Elana Arian. Members are invited to attend this free concert!



**Mar 8
Concert**
click or
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Friday March 7, 2025 11:00 AM (Out of the Building)

WoTRS Tour of the Arts Club of Washington and Noon Concert

Join us for a docent-led tour of the Arts Club of Washington, a historic Federal-era mansion that was once the home of President Monroe. Following the one-hour tour, we will attend a concert at noon in the mansion and then meet for lunch at 1:00 PM at a nearby restaurant. Participants will pay for their own lunch. Please visit our calendar for more information and to register.



Fri, Mar 14, 6:00 PM

Meet, Pray, Nosh with a Spice & Spark Dinner at TRS

TRS women "meet" before services, get to know each other, then sit and "pray" together, and finally "nosh" together. It is especially mindful of women who go to services solo and might want some company. For this evening after the Shabbat service, we will be holding a special Spice & Spark Dinner for the Meet, Pray, Nosh group! There will be delicious food, challah, wine, and dessert. Registration is required.



Sat, Mar 15, 5:00 PM

Youth Group: Jr. TRSTY Purim Game Truck

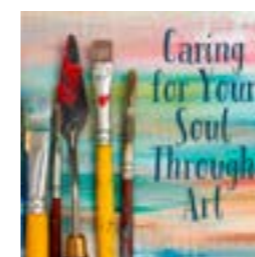
Calling all 6th-8th graders come celebrate Purim with your friends at TRS! We will have dinner and a game truck!



Tues, Mar 18, 10:00 AM

Food 4 Thought: Xueta Island: The Secret Jews of Majorca

Join filmmaker Dani Rotstein as he shares his documentary, *Xueta Island*, which tells the story of Majorca's secret Jewish history and its lessons for humanity today. Dani moved to Majorca in 2014 not expecting much Jewish life there. Instead, he found the fascinating legacy of the Xuetas, a unique group of families who are believed to be descendants of the island's Inquisition-era Jewish population. Dani, a guide for the TRS tour of Eastern Europe in 2023, will join us on Zoom.



Mon, Mar 25, 11:00 AM (1st of 4 sessions)

Caring for Your Soul through Art with TRS Artist Emmy Lou Glassman

Join us for an experiential program where the focus is on the process of art-making as a spiritual practice. Rather than planning and executing a piece of artwork, participants are encouraged to embrace a sense of play, freedom, and experimentation that follow unique introductory prompts each session. During a 4th culminating session, the group visits a D.C. museum where artist participants have the opportunity to experience professional artworks.



Sunday March 30, 2025 7:00 PM (Out of the Building)

Men of TRS Go Bowling!

The Men of TRS are hitting the alleys for a first-time bowling event! We'll head to Bowlero (Bowl America Falls Church), 140 S Maple Ave., Falls Church, Virginia 22046. Everyone will pay their own way.



Main
TRS calendar
click or
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Thur, Mar 13

Every year, the TRS community has a wonderful time gathering for the Megillah Reading (chanting of the Book of Esther), Purim Shpiel (play based on the Book of Esther) and Purimpalooza (party after the Spiel!). The Purim Shpiel is created and performed by a fantastic group of TRS members, and auditions are held a few months in advance. Please contact the Cantors (mshochet@templerodefshalom.org or smichaeli@templerodefshalom.org) if you'd like to read the Megillah, audition for the Shpiel, or otherwise be involved in leading the Purim celebrations. We hope to see you there!

7:00 PM: The Megillah According to Mel Brooks

Join the TRS Music Department, Music and Performing Arts Committee, and clergy teams as the TRS performers retell the story of Purim. Don't forget your costume!

8:30 PM: Purimpalooza

Join us for Purimpalooza – great food, great cocktails, and schmoozing with friends and friends-to-be. Don't forget to wear your best costume! Masks optional. Registration is not required for the Megillah Reading and Purim Shpiel but please register for Purimpalooza to help us with food and beverage estimates.



Purimpalooza
click or
SCAN HERE

For more information or if you need accommodations to participate in any of these events, please email inclusion@templerodefshalom.org.

Sun, Mar 16

10:30 AM: Family-Friendly Megillah Reading & Purimshpiel

The fun begins with the family-friendly Purim Shpiel led by our clergy and staff in the Sanctuary. What could this year's theme be? It's always a ton of fun. If you have kids in your family, we'd love to see you there. Don't forget your costume!

12:00 PM: Purim Carnival

Following the Shpiel, delight in the carnival with games, bouncy houses, face painting, prizes, and food! We can't wait to see you for this festive celebration. Registration not required.

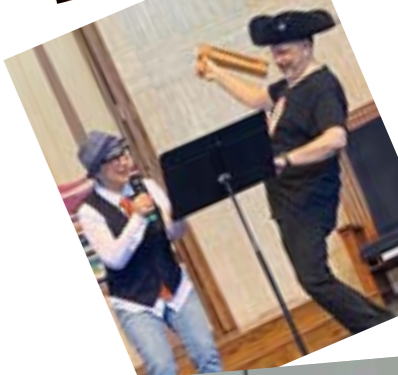
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Purim Carnival Chill-Out Room

The Inclusion and Accessibility Committee invites families with children of all ages to drop in for a break from the Carnival or for a smaller and quieter celebration. We will have crafts, drawing materials, Legos, and other low-key activities, as well as snacks. There is no charge and no registration is required.



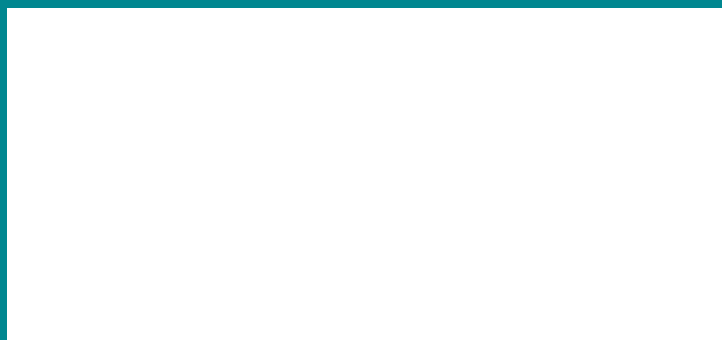
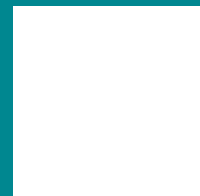
3:00 PM: Rodef 2100 (20s & 30s) Purim Murder Mystery

Join us for a Purim-themed murder mystery afternoon! Sign up in advance to get your assigned role, and come in costume! Visit our calendar to register.





Temple Rodef Shalom
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