

Adult B'nei Mitzvah Training Program begins September 17

If you are interested in joining this class, or have questions, please contact Leira at leira@shomreitorah.org Class size will be limited; register early.

Purpose:

The Adult B'nei-Mitzvah Training Program is an opportunity for adults to learn about Judaism and Jewish life. This yearlong course will delve into Jewish theology, liturgy and an exposure to the Jewish canon. The course will include study of the skills required for participation in and leadership of portions of a Shabbat morning service culminating at the Shabbat morning service on January 12, 2013, during which students will share in leading the service.

Format:

The program will take place 2-3 Saturdays a month from 1-2:30 pm, beginning on Sept. 17, 2011. (Don't let scheduling conflicts keep you from enrolling; there is some flexibility.) Rabbi George Gittleman and a variety of guest teachers, including Rabbi Stephanie Kramer, will teach the 90-minute sessions. The course will begin with an introductory Hebrew section for students who cannot decode Hebrew, followed by several months of classes to cover the curriculum and prepare for the Shabbat Morning Service and ceremony. In addition, students will occasionally attend Life Long Learning lectures on Wednesday nights, and students will have 5 hours of private tutoring to learn to chant the *parshah* (Torah portion).

Subject Matter:

- Introductory Class: Basic Hebrew decoding (for those who need it)
- *T'fillah* (prayers) of the Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat Morning Service: reading, chanting, meanings, and derivations
- What happens when I die?
- Jewish response to death and mourning
- Jewish approaches to the Divine
- Israel
- Introduction to the Jewish canon
- Introduction to *Kabbalah*
- Meaning of Mitzvah
- Jewish movements
- Structure and meaning of the Shabbat Morning Service
- How to approach writing a *d'var Torah*
- Basic Torah Trope
- Torah study of specific *parshah* verses
- Parshah Tutoring: Chanting of 1-3 specific lines of Torah (5 hours of private study with tutor)

Student expectations and requirements:

- Regular attendance to program classes
- Completion of weekly readings and/or homework assignments
- Attendance at Shabbat morning services at least once a month during the entire study period
- Regular access to a desktop or laptop computer that will run Trope Trainer Software (PC or Mac)

Cost to Student: payable in installments

Introductory Hebrew class: \$150 tuition and materials

B'nei Mitzvah Training Program: \$1310 tuition and materials