Temple Israel’s Lifelong Learning Institute (TILLI) provides opportunities for Temple members and others to engage in peer-led, intellectually stimulating study groups covering a broad range of topics, to enjoy cultural events together, and to develop social relationships and a community.
June 16, 2007

To:     Rabbi Ronald Friedman, Rabbi Jeremy Morrison
From:   Rhoada Wald
Re:     Lifelong Learning and the Older Adult

Several weeks ago, I mentioned the possibility to each of you for developing a learning center for older adults or retired people at Temple Israel. Rabbi Friedman suggested I do research on the topic and what I have now is a preliminary effort. There are presently over 350 lifelong institutes for learning across the country and they are growing rapidly. Almost all are connected to an academic setting. For example, there is such an institute at each of the following colleges in the Boston area: Harvard, Brandeis, Tufts, Regis, University of MA, and Boston College.

Although there are some differences among them, they share several basic concepts. These institutes are responsive to the unprecedented demographic changes in the United States, more and more people sixty-five and over are not only living longer, but living healthier, vital lives with a thirst for intellectual stimulation.

The Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement (HILR), an arm of Harvard University’s Division of Continuing Education, is an example of one of these settings. The model is an impressive example of peer learning and teaching. Many of the members lead study groups as well as participate in them. For the fall semester, 2006, there were sixty-five study groups led by members either individually or in teams of two. The educational model is a seminar format within a broad range of topics representing the range of disciplines and interdisciplinary topics that can be found on any liberal arts college campus. In addition to the study groups, there are extra-curriculum offerings by scholars outside the Institute and informal poetry, memoir writing, and philosophy dialogue groups led by members.

There are, as far as I have discovered to date, no institutes affiliated with a religious institution that follow the peer teaching model. I believe Temple Israel is an ideal setting for trying out a new model. First, my brief experience at the Temple indicates that we are committed to lifelong learning. Although older people can certainly engage in courses through adult education here, they are not the empowering body. And these are at night. One of the values of these institutes is not only the intellectual stimulation, but the sense of community and empowerment that evolves. People gain great satisfaction from teaching and serving on appropriate committees. And we have the space during the day. The curriculum could fall into the multidisciplinary framework of Judaic studies on a very broad level.

I am free to discuss this at your convenience.

Rhoada Wald
January, 2019

Welcome,

This is TILLI’s consolidated brochure that includes Spring Study Group descriptions, information about the Winter and Summer Sessions, Lunch and Learn speakers, and upcoming Events. Please review it and register as soon as possible for any and all activities of interest to you.

The Core Committee has approved a fee change that we wanted to highlight:

- One fee will include all Winter, Spring and Summer Sessions.
- The TILLI Membership fee comes with multiple benefits. While the cost of the Spring Session has increased from $50 to $70 for temple members and from $100 to $120 for non-temple members, there will be no charges for copying and the end of semester lunch.

TILLI is a volunteer organization. Most of the planning and budgeting for the events, study groups, and speakers are provided by TILLI members on the Core Committee. Their names appear near the end of this brochure. The soul of TILLI is the curriculum leadership provided by TILLI members. Special thank you’s to Judy Herman, Curriculum Chair and the Curriculum Committee for continuing efforts to create and maintain a vibrant curriculum of Fall and Spring Study Groups, and to the leadership provided by 10 Study Group Leaders this past Fall, and to 12 Study Group leaders who will lead this Spring.

If you have questions or need registration help, please contact TILLI coordinator Sue Misselbeck at susanm@tisrael.org

Please do not hesitate to let us know of any concerns.

We hope to see you at one of the many scheduled activities.

Judy Berkowitz and Larry Koff
TILLI Co-chairs

Above: TILLI Fall 2018 Study Group Leaders

Registration Deadline: March 15th
TILLI SPRING 2019 SEMESTER SCHEDULE

THURSDAYS: April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2 and 9

10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Café TILLI: Coffee, Tea, and Nosh
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Morning Study Groups
12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Lunch & Learn Program
2:00 p.m. - 3:30/4:00 p.m. Afternoon Study Groups

MORNING STUDY GROUPS

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Impressionism: A Revolution in Art - Helene Bailen
Southern Jews: Race, Class, and Religion Below the Mason Dixon Line
- Saralynn Busch and Cathy Corman
The First Artists: Prehistoric Cave Painters - Ronald Ebert
How Hemingway Became Hemingway - Susan Ebert
Hamlet, in Film and Words - Brooks Goddard
Mindfulness and Movement - Susan Sachs
You Don’t Know What You Don’t Know (About Your Tech Device)
- Michael Sandman and Marjorie Wein

AFTERNOON STUDY GROUPS

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Reflections on Life’s Most Challenging Moments - Rabbi Herman Blumberg
Through a Narrator’s Lens - Helen F. Smith
Five Portraits of Outstanding Leadership - Joanne Tuck
A Long History: Jews in Arab Lands - Eveline Weyl

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  (No class May 9)

Through Indian Eyes: Westerners in Indian Fiction - Peggy Morrison

Registration Deadline March 15th
If you have any questions regarding TILLI, please contact Sue Misselbeck at susanm@tisrael.org, 617-566-3960, ext 117.
**Impressionism: A Revolution in Art**

*Helene Bailen (hldab@comcast.net)*

French art made a radical break from tradition at the First Impressionist Exhibition in 1874. The works exhibited were dramatically different in technique, scale, and subject matter. We will look briefly at the art of the French Academy from the 17th century against which the Impressionists rebelled. Through the impressionist paintings of Monet, Pissarro, Renoir, Degas and Morisot (the only woman in the group) we will explore the vibrant Paris of the 1860’s-1880’s with its new grand boulevards, café life and art studios. We will also follow the artists into the countryside. The revolutionary nature of this new art left an important legacy which we will then see transformed in the work of Seurat, Van Gogh and Gauguin.

**Reading:** No required texts. The SGL will supply handouts with the titles of the paintings viewed and a bibliography for the participants’ own enrichment.

**Southern Jews: Race, Class, and Religion Below the Mason-Dixon Line**

*Saralynn Busch (saralynn0907@gmail.com) and Cathy Corman (cathy@catherinecorman.com)*

Jewish settlement in the American South began in the late 17th century colonial era and continues through the present day. Jews have thrived, practiced Judaism, and simultaneously created identities as Southerners and Americans. They keep kosher at home and sometimes dine out on barbecued pork spare ribs, attend synagogue services, and sometimes keep their stores open on Shabbat. We will look at such topics as slavery and the Confederacy, the Galveston Movement, anti-Semitism and the Leo Frank case, religious practice (with an emphasis on food and culture), the establishment of the South as a stronghold of the Reform movement, the role of Jews in the Civil Rights movement, and the political and economic influence of Jews.

**Reading:** Alfred Uhry’s play, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* (available at Amazon for about $9.) plus assorted articles. Preparation: Two hours per week.
The First Artists: Prehistoric Cave Painters
Ronald Ebert (rebertpsi@yahoo.com)

Beginning 40,000 years ago and continuing for another 25,000 years, our most ancient ancestors painted, etched, and carved art of remarkable sophistication and skill. Much of this art has been found in caves in northern Spain and southern France. We will study some of these images to arrive at theories of why this work was created and what it may mean. Slides and videos will provide the basis for class discussion.

Reading: The Cave Painters, Gregory Curtis, Anchor Books, Paperback. $14.38 at Amazon. Readings of about 50 pages a week (one to two hours) are required.

How Hemingway Became Hemingway
Susan Ebert (susanebert42@gmail.com)

Ernest Hemingway arrived in Paris in December 1921. Twenty-two years old, talented, fiercely ambitious, armed with letters of introduction to important expatriates and backed by his wife Hadley’s trust fund, he set out to become a famous writer. That he succeeded is a matter of record. How he succeeded is a story in itself. “How Hemingway Became Hemingway” will focus on the extraordinary stories that Hemingway wrote in his Paris years. The class is based on close textual analysis and active and engaged discussion by all participants.


Hamlet, in Film and Words
Brooks Goddard (goddard@rcn.com)

This study group will be devoted to understanding William Shakespeare’s play, Hamlet, spurred on largely by actors’ interpretations on film. Actors will include Kenneth Branagh, Richard Burton, and Laurence Olivier. In the first class, we will explore Act I, Act II in the second class, and so on. In the last class we shall attempt to gain perspective on the entire play. Each class will begin with questions being posed by participants followed by watching film from the act of the week. General discussion on interpretations will conclude each class.

Reading: Hamlet by William Shakespeare, any edition. (The SGL will be using a Folger Library edition.) Available at Amazon.com from $6.00. Also widely available at libraries. Preparation: One and half hours per week.
Mindfulness and Movement

This class will introduce participants to mindfulness and movement fundamentals and how to integrate these healthy living practices into one’s daily life. Over the course of six weeks, participants will learn specific breathing exercises and mindfulness practices and also simple movement exercises to augment their mindfulness practice. We will be using chairs and standing for the exercises, with modifications as needed. There is no assigned reading but students are encouraged to practice the techniques we learn in class at home.

All are welcome to the class—if you’ve never practiced mindfulness or any movement, or if you’ve practiced on and off for years, everyone is encouraged to join.

“Such a rewarding class.”
— TILLI Participant

You Don’t Know What You Don’t Know (About Your Tech Device)

Do you use your iPhone but stay with the familiar to avoid the maze of technology that lurks beneath the surface of this amazing device? Or maybe you’re a beginner still not ready to take it out of the box? This study group will guide you through this maze of new technology within your iPhone/smart phone so that you can take advantage of more of what it offers you in information and convenience and yes, even entertainment.

Part One, led by Marjorie Wein, will begin with two sessions on such iPhone basics as Siri, calendar, texting, notepad, email, keyboard tips and tricks, iTunes and contacts. This will be followed by one session on everything you wanted to know about APPS but were afraid to ask. And the last of Part One will make sure you get where you want to be: using ‘maps’ and other navigational tools, Uber/Lyft.

Part Two, led by Michael Sandman, promises that you’ll be tapping into the many possibilities of your iPhone/smart phone camera with ease: sending and receiving photos, composing good shots, using flash, creating a short video, editing photos and getting prints from those photos. These sessions will be hands-on with lots of opportunity to practice.

Reading: Optional, for Michael Sandman: Smart Phone Smart Photography by Jo Bradford, Amazon.com $14.22.
Afternoon Study Groups

Reflections on Life’s Most Challenging Moments
*Rabbi Herman Blumberg (hermanblumberg@gmail.com)*

Every creative genre from the Torah to the modern film explores illness, loss, and the end of life. In this study group we will discuss themes such as how to tend to one who is dying, how to respond to a loved one whose quality of life has deteriorated, how to face our mortality without becoming morbid, and what happens when we look back on our life to contemplate our legacy. A selection from the arts will frame each weekly discussion, including music and film.

**Reading:** Leo Tolstoy: *The Death of Ivan Ilych* (available from $3.99 at Amazon and at libraries.) John Updike: *My Father’s Tears and Other Stories* (available from $1.35 at Amazon and at libraries). Excerpts (or video) from Atul Gawande, *Being Mortal*, $10.87 at Amazon. Other materials will be provided by the SGL. Preparation time: Less than 2 hours.

Through Indian Eyes: Westerners in Indian Fiction
*Peggy Morrison (prmorrison@verizon.net)*

From E.M Forster to T.S. Eliot to the Beatles to our yoga classes, we are aware of the admiration, misinterpretation, or disparagement which characterizes the representation of India in Western culture and society. In contrast, in this study group we will read short fiction to learn how Westerners are depicted in contemporary Indian literature. What prejudices and misconceptions do Indians, writing in English and with Western educations, convey about us? What do they admire and wish to identify with? How are Western characters treated differently from Indian characters? Do they think one culture is superior to the other?

**Reading:** The SGL will provide handouts. There will be about 2 hours of reading for each class session.

Through a Narrator’s Lens
*Helen F. Smith (phsmith@igc.org)*

We will discuss some of the ways that thought-provokingly ironic narrators’ perspectives affect our appreciation of a short story, a novella, and a novel. We will look at what these character-narrators say, how they say it, and what they never say at all (and maybe should have said).

**Reading:** “In a Grove” by Ryunosuke Akutagawa, copies to be provided by SGL, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (paperback $8.99 new at Amazon), *Bartleby and Benito Cereno* by Herman Melville (paperback $5.99 new at Amazon).
Preparation: About 2 hours.
Afternoon Study Groups

Five Portraits of Outstanding Leadership
Joanne Tuck (jwtuck1@verizon.net)

In *Forged in Crisis, The Power of Courageous Leadership in Turbulent Times*, author Nancy Koehn tells the stories of five individuals driven by higher purpose, willing to make great personal sacrifices, carrying out their life’s work in times of great inner and outer turmoil. Ernest Shackleton led his stranded men home to safety in England. Abraham Lincoln saw the country through the brutal Civil War and brought an end to slavery. Frederick Douglass, an escaped slave, relentlessly campaigned for abolition. Dietrich Bonhoeffer stood up to the Nazis and defied Hitler nobly and courageously. Rachel Carson was challenged as a female biologist and wrote *Silent Spring*, the book that changed our thinking about the environment. Class members should have computer skills to exchange emails and download attachments.

“Tough stuff—would not have had the courage to sign up for this class anywhere else.”
— TILLI Participant

Reading
Available from Amazon in hard copy, audio, or kindle. Paperback ($16.06). Estimated reading about 100 pages per week.

A Long History: Jews in Arab Lands
Eveline Weyl (eweyl@comcast.net)

2,000 years of history. The Jews in Arab lands. We will mainly focus on North Africa (called the Maghreb) and Egypt where the largest numbers of Jews have lived. We will discuss the encounter of the Jews and Islam, the twilight of the middle Ages and the dawn of modern times. We will study the impact of the West in the 19th century, colonialism, Zionism, and finally the exodus from Arab lands.

Reading
Spring, 2019
Afternoon Study Groups
Registration Deadline: March 15th

TILLI GAMEDAY happens year round during the breaks between Fall and Spring Sessions. To register for Mah Jongg and Bridge, contact Sue Misselbeck (susanm@tisrael.org).

LUNCH & LEARN PROGRAM
Thursday Afternoons, 12:30 - 1:45 p.m.
Plan to stay for lunch! Our speakers are distinguished members of the congregation and the community. Bring your lunch. We’ll provide beverages, snacks, and dessert.

April 4: TBD
April 11: Professor Arnold Offner; Topic: Hubert Humphrey
April 18: Doctor Burton Jaffe; Topic: Climate Change
April 25: Professor Joyce Antler; Topic: Jewish Feminism
May 2: Ellen Clegg; Topic: Journalism Today
May 9: Spring Session Closing Luncheon and Recognition

TILLI EVENTS
Save the Dates: More information to follow.

March 28: New England Conservatory
June 13: Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
RSVP: green.sylvia166@gmail.com

TILLI GAMEDAY
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
TILLI WINTER SESSION 2019

THINKING ABOUT THE ARTS IN A NEW WAY
Each Thursday Program begins with coffee and nosh at Café TILLI at 10:30 a.m. followed by the Speaker at 11:00 a.m. Bring a Lunch if you wish to socialize after the presentation, which will end about Noon.

Thursday, January 31
Dancing Cheek to Cheek: Partnering as Rhetoric with ILYA VIDRIN, Dancer and Scholar
Ilya trained in Classical Ballet, Latin/Ballroom, and Argentinian Tango. He has investigated partnering principles with professional Dance companies such as Eric Hawkins Dance.

Thursday, February 21
The Three B’s...and Mozart: Repetition and Variation in Music with Steven Lipsitt, Clarinet and Piano
Steve is Artistic Director of the Children’s Chorus VoicesBoston, and founding Music Director of the Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms Society Orchestra.

Thursday, March 7
Step into Art with Abigail Rischin, Arts Educator
Abby founded this program in 2005. With dedicated associates in partnership with the Boston Schools, this Program introduces students to art-viewing, art-making, and imaginative writing.

REGISTER FOR ONE, TWO OR ALL THREE PROGRAMS
susanm@tisrael.org or call Sue at 617-566-3960 x 117

TILLI SUMMER MINI SESSION
Save the Dates:
May 16 & May 23

Registration Deadline: March 15th
Study Group Leaders

Helene Bailen, *Impressionism: A Revolution in Art*, is a former French teacher. She is a gallery Instructor in the Education Department at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Although she teaches in all the major collections at the Museum, French painting is her passion.

Rabbi Herman Blumberg, *Lessons On Life’s Final Journey*, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Hebrew Union College, is Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Shir Tikva, Wayland. He recently retired as Rabbinic Director of Hospice Care at Hebrew Senior Life.

Saralynn Busch, *Southern Jews: Race, Class, and Religion Below the Mason Dixon Line*, is a third-generation Texan who moved to Boston four years ago. She has served on numerous non-profit boards and is a graduate of both the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning and Me’ah.

Cathy Corman, *Southern Jews: Race, Class and Religion Below the Mason Dixon Line*, has been a Texan-in-exile for three decades. She holds a PhD in American Studies (Yale), teaches part-time at Emerson College, volunteers at Beacon Academy, and has an educational consulting business. Cathy completed Me’ah and enjoys learning about Jewish history and culture.

Ronald (Ron) Ebert, *The First Artists: Prehistoric Cave Painters*, is a retired forensic psychologist and long time Temple Israel member who was captivated by cave art after visiting the Cave of Lascaux in his early 20’s. Fifty years later he is still trying to convert others.

Susan Ebert, *How Hemingway Became Hemingway*, worked with the Hemingway papers at the JFK library while completing her dissertation. She admires Hemingway’s concise style and is a firm believer in close textual analysis.

Brooks Goddard, *Hamlet in Film and Words*, has been a career English teacher in many places but most notably at Wellesley High School. He has taught adults at TILLI, LLAIC, and Needham Community Education. Brooks is also knowledgeable about the literature of Africa and India.
Study Group Leaders

Peggy Morrison, *Westerners through Indian Eyes*, has a PhD in English and American Literature from Brandeis. She has taught English at the secondary school and college level and has worked with English teachers in India for the last four years and has travelled to many parts of the country. After last year’s study group in Orientalism, we will now learn how the East views the West.

Susan Sachs, *Mindfulness and Movement*, has been teaching Mindfulness and Movement for the past four years and has a background in dance, psychotherapy, and yoga.

Helen F. Smith, *Through a Narrator’s Lens*, has taught at the Winsor School, Newton North High School, and in Armenia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Georgia, Romania, and Zambia. A Smith College graduate, she edits texts about writing and journalism. She is the executive director of the New England Scholastic Press Association.

Joanne Tuck, *Five Portraits of Outstanding Leadership*, taught *Facing History and Ourselves: Holocaust and Human Behavior and Social Movements* for many years at Wentworth Institute of Technology. She received degrees from B.U. in History and Social Education. She found her teaching experience of *Reconstruction (1865-1877) Its Legacy in Our Time* at TILLI to be very rewarding and hopes for another successful term of learning and exploration.

Marjorie Wein, *You Don’t Know What You Don’t Know*, grew up in the Boston area and was fortunate to have been confirmed at Temple Israel. She has an extensive teaching and business background, and her love of technology led her to start a company, together with her sister—WizeGuides—to help people get comfortable with all types of technology. They understand how to make technology simple and unintimidating.

Eveline Weyl, *A Long History: Jews in Arab Lands*, born and raised in Annecy, France by German-Jewish parents who facilitated the creation of a Sephardic Jewish community after 1958. She has read, studied and taught about the Jews from Arab Lands and most of all befriended many and traveled in their lands.
Cost & Payment Information

TILLI membership is open to all. The pricing is as follows:

COST:

$70.00 (Members in good standing at Temple Israel or another local synagogue) or
$120.00 (Community members who are unaffiliated with a synagogue)

The charge for the Spring Session includes study group fees, Winter, Spring and Summer Sessions and the final luncheon.
There may be additional charges for special programs.

Please Note: Limited free parking is available and will be validated for the 375 Longwood Avenue parking garage. Parking is not permitted on Nessel Way.

Make checks payable to Temple Israel and mail by March 15th to:
TILLI-Temple Israel, 477 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02215

If you have any questions regarding TILLI, please contact Sue Misselbeck at 617-566-3960 ext. 117 or susanm@tisrael.org.

Core Committee

Co-Chairs: Larry Koff, Judy Berkowitz

Curriculum Committee: Judy Herman

Events: Sylvia Green, Susan Fliegel

Winter Session: Paula Folkman

Lunch and Learn: Ruth Klepper, Marlene Yesley

Summer Session: Saralynn Busch, John Freeman

Budget and Data: Larry Koff, Ted Greenwood

Membership: Mark Kaplan

Game Day: Marlene Yesley

Clergy Liaison: Rabbi Suzie Jacobson

TILLI Coordinator: Sue Misselbeck

Photo credits: Emma Koblick, Michael Sandman

Brochure design: April Ropes
TILLI Spring 2019 Registration Form

Please complete this form and return it with payment by March 15th. REGISTER EARLY. MANY CLASSES HAVE LIMITED ENROLLMENT.

Name ____________________________________________

Address __________________________________________ City/Zip __________

Home Phone ___________________________ Cell Phone ______________________

Email ____________________________________________

Morning Study Groups (begin at 11:00 a.m.) Please indicate first and second choice.

1st choice 2nd choice
Impressionism: A Revolution in Art - Helene Bailen

1st choice 2nd choice
Southern Jews - Saralynn Busch and Cathy Corman

1st choice 2nd choice
The First Artists: Prehistoric Cave Painters - Ronald Ebert

1st choice 2nd choice
How Hemingway Became Hemingway - Susan Ebert

1st choice 2nd choice
Hamlet, in Film and Words - Brooks Goddard

1st choice 2nd choice
Mindfulness and Movement - Susan Sachs

1st choice 2nd choice
You Don’t Know... - Michael Sandman and Marjorie Wein

Afternoon Study Groups (begin at 2:00 p.m.) Please indicate first and second choice.

1st choice 2nd choice
Reflections on Life’s Most... - Rabbi Herman Blumberg

1st choice 2nd choice
Through Indian Eyes - Peggy Morrison

1st choice 2nd choice
Through a Narrator’s Lens - Helen F. Smith

1st choice 2nd choice
Five Portraits of Outstanding Leadership - Joanne Tuck

1st choice 2nd choice
A Long History: Jews in Arab Lands - Eveline Weyl