



# Congregation Tikkun v'Or

Ithaca Reform Temple  
Spirit • Community • Justice

## Jewish Learning Experiences 2025-2026 / 5786

The first day of JLE (kitah bet-zayin / grades 2-7)  
is **Sunday, September 7.**

Bet-Gimel (second & third grade) meets from **9 am - 11 am.**  
Dalet/Hey (fourth & fifth grade)  
and Vav/Zayin (sixth & seventh grade) meets from **9 am - 12 pm.**

The first day of the midweek class (kitah vav-zayin / grades 6-7)  
**Wednesday, September 10, 4:30-6 pm.**

The first day of Family JLE (for gan-alef / k-1 and a caregiver)  
**Saturday, September 20, 10-11:30 am**

If you have not yet registered, please do so [HERE](#)  
Tuition assistance forms are [HERE](#)



**Kitot (classes), Morim (Teachers) & Madrichol (assistants) כיתות ומורים ומדריכול**

**Kitah Bet/Gimel כיתה ב/ג (grades 2/3)**

**Sundays 9-11 am**

Explores holidays, mitzvot / values, Torah stories and Hebrew letters, through stories, movement, and crafts with **Rabbi Tziona Szajman**.

**Kitah Dalet/Hey כיתה ד/ה (grades 4/5)**

**Sundays 9 am - 12 pm**

Focuses on Hebrew language skills, Jewish culture and history, holiday rituals and songs, with **Miranda Phillips**.

**Kitah Vav/Zayin כיתה ו/ז (grade 6/7)**

**Sundays 9 am - 12 pm**

Studies weekly Torah portions and the life lessons they contain, along with contemporary connections and creative art and games with **Kenny Berkowitz**.

and:

**Kitah Vav/Zayin כיתה ו/ז (grade 6/7)**

**Wednesdays 4:30-6 pm**

Students become a supportive community as they prepare together to become bmitzvah, exploring spirituality, ethics, mitzvot, middot (personal characteristics), and prayers with **Michael Margolin**. Field trips and special projects are part of the program. **Jacob Berman**, a Cornell University student, will be assisting on Wednesdays.

**Madrichol** מדריכול are assistants/counselors. At JLE, madrichim are middle and high school students who help with numerous tasks that allow our classes to run smoothly. They take attendance, lead craft projects, demonstrate activities, distribute snack, make photocopies, supervise break times, and tutor individual students and small groups. These fabulous young people are graduates of JLE who come back each week to pass along their knowledge and enthusiasm for Jewish education.

**FAMILY JLE** is for students **Kitah Gan/Alef** כיתה א - גן (K/grade 1) and their parents / caregivers.

They will be learning about Jewish holidays and Shabbat on

**Saturday mornings, 10-11:30 am** with **JENNIE LAVINE**

Sept 20

Oct 18

Nov 15

Dec 20

Jan 17

Feb 14

March 14

April 18

May 16

June 20



## What's New?

מה חדש?

**Jewish Learning Experiences continues to include these components, which are all are part of Limud (learning):** לימוד

- \* **Chugim** חוגים (not “ch” as in “change” but “CH” as in “CHallah.”) Special projects including art, drama, dance, music, and more, with plenty of choice for students about how they want to spend their time
- \* **Judaic Studies** Including history, holidays, mitzvot, and Talmud Torah
- \* **Hebrew** עברית (*Ivrit*) Students learn to decode the letters and vowels and read Hebrew for participation and leadership in prayer services, with an understanding of the meanings of the words.
- \* **Hafsakah (break / snack)** הפסקה Learning blessings for food, eating, and playing together is also important!
- \* **Ha’asharah** העשרה (enrichment from special guests) Scheduled guests for this year already include: Leah Shoshanah (October 19), Arlene Schensker and Gebyanesh Addisu, authors of *Call Me Gebyanesh* (November 16). Jewish artists and Israeli folk dancers, Jewish camp leaders, and others are often our guest teachers.
- \* **Tefillah: (prayer)** תפילה: All students in dalet-zayin join together most mornings for songs and short prayer services to practice what we are learning, with plenty of *ruach* רוח (spirit and singing). Praying together as a community is an important way for children to practice what they are learning in class, build on their knowledge of Hebrew, and experience some aspects of Jewish spirituality. Madrichol/songleader Julia Kleinberg leads us in tefillah!

## Family Programs

למשפחה

Tikkun v’Or and Jewish Learning Experiences includes opportunities for the whole family!  
Please check this program guide for more information on:

**Rosh Hashanah Youth Services / Picnic and Tashlich**  
**Yom Kippur Youth and Family Services**  
**Family Education**  
**Parents in the Woods**  
**Class Shabbat Dinners and Services**  
**B’Mitzvah Services**

### HEALTH GUIDELINES:

Students will be asked to wash or sanitize hands regularly.

**Please keep your children at home if they:**

- a) have a fever or have had one in the previous 24 hours;
- b) are vomiting or have had intestinal disturbance in the previous 24 hours;
- c) have heavy nasal discharge and/or cough;
- d) have discharge from eye(s);
- e) test positive or have symptoms of COVID or flu or a possible communicable disease.

If your child shows symptoms of illness upon arrival or during the school day, we will call and request that the child be picked up.

If your child will be absent, please email or call and leave a message at 607-256-1471, and contact your child’s teacher as well.

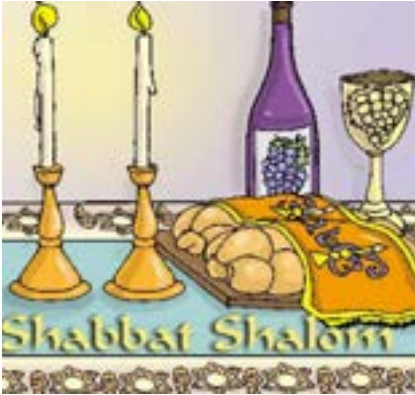
Also please be sure that we have contact and emergency contact information should your child become ill during the morning.

Family weddings and bmitzvah celebrations are good excuses for missing school; help your child be ready to talk with the class about their visit to another Jewish community! Contact the teacher to find out about missed work.

## Shabbat

שבת

Each class will lead at least one service with their teachers. These Shabbat services will usually begin with a class dish-to-pass dinner (or end with a Saturday oneg). Families will have a chance to eat together, sing together, sometimes craft together, and students will have the opportunity to share and demonstrate what they are learning. More information will be coming from the teachers as the dates approach, but please mark your calendars now!



Friday, November 14, 5:30 pm	Bet/Gimel Shabbat Dinner
Friday, November 21, 6:15 pm	Dalet/Hey Shabbat Dinner
Friday, December 12, 6 pm	Vav/Zayin Shabbat Dinner & Service
Saturday, Jan 24, 5:30 pm	Bet/Gimel Havdalah & Dinner
Saturday, February 7, 10 am	Vav/Zayin Shabbat morning service
Friday, April 24, 6 pm	Dalet/Hey Shabbat Dinner & Service

## Vav/Zayin In the Woods / Parents in the Woods

במצוה

### WHAT ARE DAYS IN THE WOODS?

Along with our Wednesday/Sunday JLE classes, we'll hold three Sunday JLE experiential ed classes in the woods of EcoVillage, based on the Days of Awe, Hanukkah/Winter Solstice, and the end of the school year. At each class, we'll have a set of games and physical/mental challenges for our Vav-Zayin students – plus this year, for the first time, we'll have parallel **PARENTS IN THE WOODS** - for Vav-Zayin parents\*, with kids and grownups coming together at the end of the day.

Day of Awe in the Woods	10 am - 2 pm	Sun	Sept 28 (other classes still at TvO)
Chanukah / Solstice in the Woods	10 am - 2 pm	Sun	Dec 21 (other classes still at TvO)
B-Mitzvah in the Woods	10 am - 2 pm	Sun	May 17 (no classes at TVO)

*\*If you also have a child in a younger class but want to participate in Parents in the Woods, let us know and we'll help you figure it out!*

**All vav/zayin students are also expected to attend Shabbat services throughout the year, especially participating in each other's B-Mitzvah services on Friday nights and Saturday mornings.**

2025:	Oct 11 Louisa Holt
	Nov 8 Will Kleinberg
2026:	March 21 Sabrina Kallandar
	June 13 Trixie Litwin
	June 27 Eliyana Olivieri
	Oct 17 Evan Berne
	Dec 19 Joseph Bosworth

Mazel Tov  
מזל טוב

**JEWISH LEARNING EXPERIENCES****on SUNDAYS**

9-11 am Kitah Bet-Gimel (2nd – 3rd grade)

9 am - 12 pm Kitah Dalet-Hey (4th - 5th grade)  
and Vav-Zayin (6th-7th grade)

Sept 7	JLE
Sept 14	JLE
Sept 21	No JLE: Rosh Hashanah Youth Service 9:30-11:30 am
Sept 28	JLE <i>Vav/Zayin: Days Awe in Woods / Parents in the Woods</i>
Oct 5	JLE
Oct 12	No JLE: Sukkah Harvest Festival
Oct 19	JLE
Oct 26	JLE
Nov 2	JLE
Nov 9	JLE
Nov 16	JLE
Nov 23	JLE
Nov 30	No JLE – Thanksgiving
Dec 7	JLE
Dec 14	JLE
Dec 21	JLE <i>Vav/Zayin: Chanukah/Solstice in the Woods</i> <i>Dalet-Hey Family Ed</i>
Dec 28	No JLE
Jan 4	No JLE
Jan 11	JLE Special program TBA
Jan 18	JLE
Jan 25	JLE
Feb 1	JLE Tu b'Shvat
Feb 8	JLE
Feb 15 and 22	No JLE
March 1	JLE Purim
March 8	JLE
March 15	JLE
March 22	JLE
March 29	No JLE - Passover
April 5	No JLE - Passover
April 12	JLE
April 19	JLE
April 26	JLE
May 3	JLE
May 10	JLE
May 17	<i>Vav/Zayin: B'Mitzvah in the Wood</i> <i>(No JLE classes for other grades)</i>

**JEWISH LEARNING EXPERIENCES****WEDNESDAYS 4:30-6 pm****Kitah Vav-Zayin (6th and 7th grade)**

Sept 10	JLE
Sept 17	JLE
Sept 24	JLE
Oct 1	No JLE – Yom Kippur
Oct 8	JLE
Oct 15	JLE
Oct 22	JLE
Oct 29	JLE
Nov 5	JLE
Nov 12	JLE
Nov 19	JLE
Nov 26	No JLE – Thanksgiving
Dec 3	JLE
Dec 10	JLE
Dec 17	JLE
Dec 24 and Dec 31	No JLE
Jan 7	JLE
Jan 14	JLE
Jan 21	JLE
Jan 28	JLE
Feb 4	JLE
Feb 11	JLE
Feb 18	No JLE
Feb 25	JLE
March 4	JLE
March 11	JLE
March 18	JLE
March 25	JLE
April 1	No JLE – Passover
April 8	JLE
April 15	JLE
April 22	JLE
April 29	JLE
May 6	JLE
May 13	JLE

## ***High Holidays at Tikkun v'Or***

We would love to see your families at any of the High Holiday services! Details about all the High Holiday services and fall celebrations are in separate emails from Tikkun v'Or. Except for the **Rosh Hashanah Youth Service**, you do need to REGISTER for holiday programs.

The **ROSH HASHANAH YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICE** is at Tikkun v'Or on **September 21 from 9:30-11:30 am**. There are no JLE classes, and this program is for the whole family! Students will be leading the short service, tasting new fruits, and blowing the shofar. You do not need to register for this!

**The Yom Kippur Youth and Family Services** are on **October 2** at First Unitarian Society of Ithaca (306 N. Aurora St.), from 10:30-11:30 am (at the same time as the main service).

**YOUTH SERVICE:** Kenny Berkowitz will lead students (kitah bet- kitah zayin) in YK learning and togetherness. Please do not just drop off your children; come for the main service while they are at the Youth service! At the same time, 10:30-11:30 am, the

**FAMILY SERVICE** (for children 6 and under, and a caregiver) with Jennie Lavine.

Please [REGISTER](#) for any Yom Kippur services!

*Also note that no childcare is available on Rosh Hashanah, but will be available during the Kol Nidre and Morning Services on Yom Kippur.*

**SUKKOT FESTIVAL** Sunday, October 12, time TBD

The whole community is invited for a Sukkot Festival! There are no JLE classes on this day;

**SIMCHAT TORAH** Sunday, October 19

This holiday is a chance to officially welcome all new students, with singing, dancing, and Torah and musical guest Leah Shoshana.



Free books for kids!  
[pjlibrary.org](http://pjlibrary.org) and [pjourway.org](http://pjourway.org)

If you have not yet registered for JLE, forms are available at

Tuition Assistance is available through a grant from [Ithaca Area United Jewish Community](#) (IAUJC).

Send the completed [form](#) to: [presidents\\_24@tikkunvor.org](mailto:presidents_24@tikkunvor.org)

### **Contact Information**

Education Director: NAOMI WILENSKY  
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**Jewish Education Advisory Committee:**  
 Drew Margolin, Lara Freed, Rachel Ryan, Sarah Gunther