



MASA

Journeys 2013-2014/5774

A Family-Based Religious School Experience for
Families with Children in Grades K-5

WHAT IS MASA?

MASA is a Hebrew word that means journey. This is an innovative program designed to serve as an option for those who would like a family-oriented Religious School experience. The goals of *MASA* include providing opportunities for parents and children to come together to learn and experience Jewish life in a more flexible setting. Each family journey will include opportunities for families to be together, for parents to learn with and from other parents, and for children to work with other children. In addition to exploring a path of Jewish content, journeys are meant to bring Temple families together to build relationships with one another and connections to the Shaaray Tefila community. This year, we will be offering two journeys. The first journey is called *Celebrations: Jewish Values Through the Jewish Year* which will be an opportunity for families to explore Jewish values and *mitzvot* while celebrating the Jewish holidays. The second journey is called *Family, Friends, and Foes*. *Family, Friends, and Foes* will journey through our Torah, learning about biblical characters and exploring their sometimes complicated relationships.

WHO IS MASA FOR?

This year, we are enrolling families who have children in Grades K-5.

- Both families who were registered for the program in 2012-2013 and new families are eligible to register for this program on a first come first served basis.
- At least one parent from the family will need to attend each session.
- Older and younger siblings are welcome to participate, but the program will not fulfill Religious School requirements.



ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- Participating in *Shabbat* and Temple Holiday Celebrations
- Age Level Learning Sessions for Children and Parents Separately
- Mixers and Games
- Family Projects
- Cooking, Tasting, and Eating
- Drama, Art, and Music
- Family Retreat



SAMPLE SUNDAY SESSION SCHEDULE

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3:00 p.m. | Get-to-Know You Activities and Singing |
| 3:15 p.m. | Introduction to the Learning for the Day |
| 3:30 p.m. | Adult Learning Session
Student Learning Sessions and Snack |
| 4:15 p.m. | Family Activity |
| 5:10 p.m. | <i>T'filah</i> Service |
| 5:30 p.m. | Goodbye |



CELEBRATIONS: Jewish Values Through the Jewish Year

Celebrations! was the first journey to be offered as part of the Temple's MASA program. It is designed to explore the Jewish calendar together and to reflect on the meaning of our rich holiday traditions for each family. This year, the curriculum will add a rich layer by learning about a different Jewish value or mitzvah for every holiday. These Jewish values enrich our celebration of the holidays and allow families to connect to each other while also building a community of *mensch*s. While all K-5 families are eligible for either track, we recommend families with exclusively K-3rd Grade students register for Celebrations. This program fulfills all requirements of Religious School for student participants in Grades K-5. **Programs meet approximately two times per month on Sundays from 3:00-5:30 pm and on some Shabbatot and most Jewish holidays; Third through fifth grade participants must also register for the Hebrew Connection (one-on-one tutoring) program.**

Family, Friends, and Foes

All new this year, this journey will take a closer look at stories in the Torah about relationships. Learning about our biblical role models such as Jacob and Joseph, Rachel and Leah, and David and Jonathan will allow families to explore lessons of complicated parental relationships, sibling rivalry, and close friendship, while applying these lessons to their own lives. **Programs meet approximately two times per month on Sundays from 3:00-5:30 pm and on some Shabbatot. Third through fifth grade participants must also register for the Hebrew Connection (one-on-one tutoring) program.**



Celebrations Calendar

September:		
15	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
25	Wednesday	5:30pm-6:15pm
October:		
6	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
25	Friday	6:00pm-8:00pm
November:		
3	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
17	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
December:		
2	Monday	6:00pm-7:30pm
15	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
January:		
15	Wednesday	6:00pm-7:30pm
24	Friday	6:00pm-8:00pm
February:		
1	Saturday	3:00-5:30pm
9	Sunday	3:00-5:30pm
March:		
2	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
16	Sunday	10:00am-11:30am
April:		
6	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
25	Friday	5:15-7:30pm
May:		
5	Monday	5:30-7:00pm
18	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm

Family, Friends, and Foes Calendar

September:		
29	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
October:		
11	Friday	6:00pm-8:00pm
20	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
27	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
November:		
10	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
24	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
December:		
8	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
January:		
12	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
19	Friday	5:30pm-8:00pm
26	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
February:		
2	Sunday	1:30pm-4:00pm
March:		
1	Saturday	3:00pm-5:30pm
9	Sunday	1:00pm-3:00pm
April:		
5	Saturday	3:00pm-5:30pm
27	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
May:		
4	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm
17	Saturday	3:00pm-5:30pm
June:		
1	Sunday	3:00pm-5:30pm

As we plan over the summer, this schedule may be amended. A final schedule will be sent in September.