



TEMPLE BETH EL



Social Kashrut



Last week, we sent an email explaining TBE's new Social Kashrut initiative. In case you missed it: [What is Social Kashrut?](#) & [Communal Agreements](#).

This week and next, we humbly seek your engagement as we explore the question:

Why is Social Kashrut Necessary?

To begin to answer that question, we are asking our entire community to take advantage of at least one of the following learning opportunities. Whether you are cheering on this effort, confused by it, or skeptical, we believe that we all have something to learn about the relationship between our Jewish values and how they inform what it means to create a community that is truly inclusive. And, these stories are just amazing, and worth hearing.

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please be in touch with us. We would love to hear from you.

Personal Stories

We have compiled a thoughtfully selected list of stories that range from 15 minutes to 1 hour [here](#), but if you are looking for a place to start, meet Pamela! Her funny and poignant talk details how her "case of Tourette's syndrome almost forced her out of the Jewish community completely. But a few lessons from Moses and improv comedy helped turn things around. In this personal, uproarious talk, Pamela shares her story and an important perspective on the role of difference."

The Two Little Words That Can Change a Life - Pamela Schuller



Click below to view our collection of more personal stories about belonging in the Jewish community. Oh, and if you know of a great talk or article that is missing from our list, [send it to us!](#)

[Read/Watch More](#)

Workshop Opportunities

Foundations of an Inclusive and Diverse Community

This 75-minute interactive text-study, taught by Rabbinic Intern Lorin Troderman, will utilize Biblical, Mishnaic, and Talmudic texts that explore the diversity of Jewish experiences and the values that underpin our new Social Kashrut initiative. We will work in chevruta (pairs/groups) and the focus of this class will be on the textual basis for our new policy.

- **When:** May 16 at 10am
- **Where:** Zoom (Zoom link will be sent to all registered participants by Friday, May 14 at 3pm)
- **Registration?** Required: <https://forms.gle/7yG5q7dcm2MLFQvz9>
- **Questions?** Email Lorin at lorin.troderman@tbemaine.org

Please Note: This text-study is a standalone class, but could also be paired with the workshop on May 23!

Building an Authentic Community of Diversity and Inclusion

This 90-minute workshop, taught by Rabbinic Intern Lorin Troderman, will review a variety of Jewish texts that support our understanding that there is more than one authentic way to be Jewish and how we build a thriving community living into these ever present values. We will explore texts, personal experiences and focus on the new Social Kashrut initiative's values. We will review the Social Kashrut brit (communal agreement) and our relationship to it in light of these values. The focus of this workshop will be a dialogue between our texts, our new policy, and each other.

- **When:** May 23 at 10am
- **Where:** Susan T. Goldberg Courtyard. In the case of inclement weather, an email will be sent to registrants notifying them that the class will move to the Social Hall.
- **Registration?** Required: <https://forms.gle/V6XLEQpbASqkpHLs5>
- **Questions?** Email Lorin at lorin.troderman@tbemaine.org

Please Note: Attendance of the May 16 session is not a pre-requisite for attending this one!

Talk to Us

Want to talk to us? Get in touch with any of the folks below; they are excited to talk to you!

- Josh Rosen (TBE Board Member, Social Kashrut Chair) - jrosen.me@gmail.com
- Jon Gelchinsky (TBE Board President) - president@tbemaine.org
- Kate Shalvoy - director@tbemaine.org
- Rabbi Braun - Rabbi Braun is currently on leave, but will be happy to talk when she returns.

Additionally, you can also leave a voicemail in the general mailbox for any of us and we'll return your call: (207) 774-2649



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