

09/14/16

**Temple Shalom**  
***Na'aseh v'Nishmah***  
**The Confirmation Program 5777 (2016-2017)**  
**Requirements and Expectations**

**1. *Noch'chut* (Presence) - Class Attendance:** Attendance at class sessions is expected. Each student is permitted up to three unexcused absences. (An excused absence is due to illness or family emergency). Please call or email Rabbi Feshbach at 301-587-2273 or [rabbifeshbach@templeshalom.net](mailto:rabbifeshbach@templeshalom.net), Andrea Mark at 301-580-9619 or [andreamark@gmail.com](mailto:andreamark@gmail.com), or Scott Kravetz at 301-592-0445 or [gausxk@verizon.net](mailto:gausxk@verizon.net).

**2. *Tefilah* (Prayer) - Service Attendance:** Attend at least eighteen (18) Shabbat or holiday services during the year. (See the "Service Attendance Record" already distributed.) We also strongly encourage students to attend services at congregations of other denominations (Reconstructionist, Conservative and Orthodox synagogues.)

**3. *Machaneh Shalom* (The Confirmation Retreats.)** Participate in the Confirmation Retreats. The retreats are scheduled for December 9-11, 2016 and March 17-19, 2017.

**4. *Chavayah* (Experience) - Heritage and History:** Learn about American Jewish History through our intensive focus on the Sephardic, German and Eastern European immigration to New York, as well as our concentration on the history of the Lower East Side. Participate in the Confirmation Class Trip to New York City, January 27-29, 2017, which will bring to life the story of the growth of the American Jewish community, as well as offer a taste of contemporary Jewish spiritual life and general culture.

**5. *Tikkun Olam* (Repairing the World):** Complete at least eighteen (18) Mitzvah hours of community service. (Examples: deliver food to home-bound individuals, take the place of a hospital worker on a Christian holiday, tutor another student, etc. Projects can include artistic or musical talents.) Acceptable projects and hours should be discussed with Rabbi Feshbach, Andrea Mark, or Scott Kravetz.

**6. *Am Yisrael* (The Jewish People) -- Identity:** Complete "Being Jewish Means," to be distributed.

**7. *Da'at* (Knowledge) – Jewish Literacy:** Participate in discussions and presentations about what was traditionally viewed as "core" Jewish topics, as offered throughout the year.

**Remember:**

**Sunday class from 6:00-8:00 PM unless otherwise noted.**  
**Occasional (approximately once per month) Wednesday classes**  
**meet from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM unless otherwise noted.**

Please note that, with this calendar we have included upcoming dates for NFTY MAR (the regional Reform movement youth group) weekends and events. It is our hope that this will facilitate planning for and participation in these exciting, fulfilling and very important weekends, providing a better opportunity for more of our young people to connect with other Reform Jewish youth in our entire region (which stretches approximately from Wilmington, DE to Wilmington, NC). Participants in these weekends often indicate that these are times which transform their lives – and the ties they make in this setting often last a lifetime.

Temple Shalom  
Chevy Chase, Maryland

Confirmation Syllabus  
5776 (2015-2016)

NFTY MAR LEAD - September 16-17, 2016

**September 18 (Sunday): Special Community Wide Kickoff beginning at 9 AM including, Opening Confirmation Class, Introductions and Expectations; Review Syllabus; Jewish Identity I: What is Judaism and Who is a Jew?**

**September 21 (Wednesday): Special class session in preparation for Selichot and the High Holy Days, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**

**September 24 (Saturday): Selichot Service; Confirmation class leads part of the service, 7 PM – 11 PM**

**September 25 (Sunday): No Evening Class (because of Selichot the previous night)**

**October 2 (Sunday): Erev Rosh Hashanah  
October 3 (Monday): Rosh Hashanah  
October 4 (Tuesday): Second Day Rosh Hashanah**

**October 9 (Sunday): Regular Evening Class (with Andrea Mark)**

**October 11 (Tuesday): Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidrei  
October 12 (Wednesday): Yom Kippur**

**October 16 (Sunday): Sukkah Building, 10 AM – Noon, at the home of Rabbi Michael Feshbach and Julie Novick, 9 Bergenfield Court, North Potomac, MD 20878**

**October 16 (Sunday): Erev Sukkot, Service at Temple Shalom, 5:30 PM  
Blessing of Animals at 6:15 PM and  
Dinner Under the Sukkah at 6:30 PM**

**October 17 (Monday): First Day of Sukkot, Morning Service,  
Service at \_\_\_\_\_, 10:00 AM**

**October 23 (Sunday) Erev Simchat Torah (Reform),  
Special Religious School Program Services at 4:30 PM:  
Erev Simchat Torah Dinner at 6:00 PM;  
Erev Simchat Torah services at 7:00 PM**

**October 24 (Monday): Simchat Torah/Shmini Atzeret (Reform)  
Shabbat and Festival Morning and Yizkor Memorial Service;  
Service at \_\_\_\_\_, 10:00 AM**

**October 30 (Sunday): Theology I: Introduction to Jewish Spirituality (The Whole World is Holy)**

**November 2 (Wednesday): Theology II: Jewish Funeral Practices;  
Here and Hereafter: Jewish Views on Life After Death; Ritual Bingo**

**November 6 (Sunday): Mitzvah Day; no evening class**

NFTY MAR Fall Kallah – November 11-13, 2016

**November 13 (Sunday): Jewish Literature I: Who Wrote the Torah?  
How to Read the Bible: A Journey Through Jewish Texts  
A Journey Through Jewish Texts (Field Trip to Rabbi Feshbach’s Library)**

**November 20 (Sunday): Regular Evening Class; with Andrea Mark**

**November 27 (Sunday): No Class (Thanksgiving Break)**

**December 4 (Sunday): Holidays I: The Meaning of the Miracle of Chanukah**

**December 7 (Wednesday): Contemporary Issues: Judaism and Sexuality  
(Parallel Parent Education on Issues Relating to Teenagers and Sexuality)  
Special Session: Dinner at 6 PM, Study from 6:30-8:30 PM**

**December 9-11: Tenth Grade Fall Retreat, Smith Center “Relationships,”  
including Contemporary Issues : Judaism and Sexuality (continued)  
Theology II: Introduction to Jewish Spirituality: The Whole World Is Holy**

**December 18 (Sunday): American Jewish History I: Preparation for the Trip to New York  
(with Parent Meeting); with Andrea Mark**

**December 24 (Saturday): The First Night of Chanukah**

**December 25 (Sunday): No Class; Winter Break**

NFTY MAR Winter Kallah - December 27-30, 2017

**December 30 (Friday): Erev Shabbat and Chanukah Service, 6:30 PM**

**January 1 (Sunday): No Class; Winter Break**

**January 4 (Wednesday): Liturgy: The Structure of the Service**

**January 8 (Sunday): Liturgy: Writing the Service I (Anatomy of the Service)**

**January 13 (Friday): Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service**

**January 15 (Sunday): No Class; MLK Weekend**

**January 22 (Sunday): Liturgy: Writing the Service II – (Anatomy of the Service)**

**January 27-29: Confirmation Class Trip to New York City**

**February 5 (Special Sunday morning program): Chai School Mitzvah Day. 9 AM – 12 Noon**

**February 12 (Sunday): Liturgy: Writing the Service III (Ten Commandments), with Andrea Mark**

Students work at home during these weeks writing their responses to the prayers
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**February 18 (Saturday): Shabbat Morning Service, with the Reading of the Ten Commandments  
Confirmation Class attends and participates in Torah Study, 10 AM – 12 Noon**

**February 19 (Sunday): No Evening Class; President's Weekend**

**February 26 (Sunday): Preparation for the Purim Carnival I; Anatomy of the Service due**

**March 5 (Sunday): Preparation for the Purim Carnival II**

**March 11 (Wednesday): Erev Purim: Service, Schpiel and Megillah Reading**

**March 12 (Sunday): Purim Carnival; Tenth Grade Class sets up and helps to lead; no evening class**

**March 15 (Wednesday): Class Session: Continuity**

**Parallel Parent Program: What Will We Say About Interfaith Marriage?  
(introduction, in advance, to the discussion that will happen at the retreat)**

**March 17-19 (Friday-Sunday): Tenth Grade Spring Retreat: Continuity  
including Judaism and Modernity: The Three Movements; Intro to Reform Judaism**

NFTY MAR TheVent – March 24-26, 2017

**March 26 (Sunday): Judaism and Modernity II: Reform Judaism (continued);  
Ten Commandments due.**

**April 2 (Sunday): History: Antisemitism and the Shoah**

**April 9 (Sunday): No Class; Spring Break**

**April 10 (Monday): Erev Pesach; First Seder in our homes**

**April 11 (Tuesday): Pesach First Day. Clergy Cook-Off Breakfast, 9 AM  
and Festival Morning Service, Service at \_\_\_\_\_, 10 AM**

**April 16: No Class; Spring Break**

**April 17 (Monday): Pesach Yizkor Service at \_\_\_\_\_, 10:00 AM**

**April 23 (Sunday): Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Martyr's and Hero's Memorial Day);  
Tenth graders participate in the Temple Shalom Annual Yom HaShoah V'HaG'vurah  
(Holocaust Martyrs/Heroes Remembrance) Service, 7 PM**

NFTY MAR Spring Kallah – April 21-23 of April 28-30

**April 30 (Sunday): History: Israel and Zionism**

**May 19 (Friday): Erev Shabbat Service; Post Confirmation Graduation?**

Students  
work at  
home  
during  
these  
weeks  
writing  
their  
response  
s to Ten  
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ments.

**All requirements for Confirmation/Graduation  
must be completed by April 30**

**Rehearsals and Final Preparation  
(times and hours to be determined)**

**May 3 (Wednesday) Confirmation and Graduation Rehearsal**

**May 7 (Sunday): Rehearsal; final approval of all written material**

**May 10 (Wednesday): Rehearsal**

**May 14 (Sunday): Rehearsal**

**May 17 (Wednesday): Rehearsal**

**May 21 (Sunday): Special Final Rehearsal**

**May 24 (Wednesday): Rehearsal (if needed)**

**Confirmation/Shavuot Services**

**Friday, May 26, 2017: Tenth Grade Graduation  
6 PM: Shabbat Dinner  
7:30 PM: Erev Shabbat Service  
9 PM: Confirmation "Vows" Begin in the Sanctuary**

**Sunday, May 28, 2017: Shavuot/Confirmation Day  
8:00 AM: Confirmation Picture  
10 AM: Confirmation Service  
Reception to follow**

**May 30 (Tuesday): Erev Shavuot, Service and Tikkun Leil Shavuot**

**May 31 (Wednesday): Shavuot Festival Morning and Yizkor  
Memorial Service, at \_\_\_\_\_, 10 AM.**

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