

Hebrew Curriculum:

Temple Beth Ami uses the Mitkadem program, which is an individualized, self-paced Hebrew prayer learning program, for students of different learning styles and abilities. *Mitkadem* is designed to empower every child to learn Hebrew prayers and rituals. Hebrew begins being taught with foundational skills in the earliest K-3 years, and as the students become fluent in Hebrew decoding, they move into the self-paced ramot (levels). Students will have 23 lessons with 5 specific activity areas for each topic. The Hakdamah introduces the Hebrew contract and introduces the lesson. The K'riah focuses on decoding and fluently reading the prayer or learning to chant it if appropriate. Otzar Milim is the focus on vocabulary of the prayer, while Dikduk will concentrate on the grammar. Finally, Dvrei T'filah emphasizes the concepts and theological meaning of the prayer. Each ramah (level) should take about 4-6 weeks to complete. Students will have ample opportunity to practice in the 4-6th grade, 2-day a week program. Students will have access to technology in the classroom, small group, and one-on-one instruction as needed. Mitkadem engages our students to work to complete their goals in learning Hebrew through the prayers in our services and the rituals in our lifecycle events. Our 7th grade program will also use Mitkadem as they are preparing for B'nai Mitzvahs and these sessions will also allow for teachers to give extra attention to areas that students need to work on as their B'nai Mitzvah approaches.

Judaica Curriculum:

Our CHAI program is K-6 and is based upon Torah, Avodah, and G'milut chasadim. The lessons on Torah focus on how we live with the understanding of Torah in our daily lives and how important it is to develop skills to learn about the Torah. Avodah is the work we do to build sacred connections to G-d, community and self. Finally, G'milut Chasadim is built upon our personal ways of making the world a better and more holier place.

Each year all of the Jewish holidays are taught with grade level appropriate activities. We include both a Tu B'Shevat and Passover Seder, along with an Israeli Independence celebration each year. Each Sunday we have a morning service where our younger and older students share in being a community with an oneg that follows. Music is essential in our program and we have a specialist that comes in once a month to enhance our students with Jewish song and prayer.

Our 7th grade spends this special year with the Rabbi and they delve into many facets of their Jewish lives. Learning about their own heritage to the life of a famous American Jew. Students learn more details about their Torah portions and they have ethical discussions about living in today's world as a Jew.