B'NAI MITZVAH HANDBOOK

DEAR FAMILIES,

Congratulations! You have reached a momentous milestone in your life and Jewish education, and we are honored to celebrate with you.

In this handbook, you will find all of the necessary information to help you plan and prepare for the big day. As you read through this handbook together, you will see some sections marked "@Home," which we hope will spark helpful discussions.

We look forward to working with you leading up to the big day, and beyond!

The Temple Micah B'nai Mitzvah Team

Updated July 2022

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PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

HEBREW AND CHANTING PROFICIENCY

In order to begin the B'nai Mitzvah tutoring program, students must demonstrate proficiency in decoding and reading Hebrew text and prayer. Our Machon Micah curriculum is designed to help prepare students. On Tuesdays, students learn blessings, prayers and chanting skills.

Students also receive individualized Hebrew instruction (E-vrit) via Zoom. Parents are expected to ensure that students regularly attend Machon Micah, actively participate in E-vrit Hebrew tutoring, and practice Hebrew at home 10-15 minutes each day during the B'nai Mitzvah tutoring process.

DOES MY CHILD HAVE TO ATTEND MACHON MICAH?

Yes, your child is required to be enrolled in AND attending Machon Micah. Through in-person classes and online tutoring, students are able to study and master the Hebrew skills needed to prepare for their B'nai Mitzvah, while also socializing and engaging with the Temple Micah community.

B'NAI MITZVAH DATE

Students are given B'nai Mitzvah dates in the spring of their 4th grade year. Dates are assigned to students in order of age; the oldest student in the class will be assigned the first available date for that year, and the youngest the last. Twin siblings will be given the same date, but no other students will be asked to share their ceremony with another family. Should the assigned date be challenging for any reason, families are invited to switch dates with each other to find an alternative. All B'nai Mitzvah services at Temple Micah are held on Shabbat morning; there are no evening B'nai Mitzvah.

Families who enroll in the Machon Micah program after the spring of their 4th grade year may be asked to wait up to a year to be assigned a B'nai Mitzvah date. This gives us time to assess the child's needs, and allows the full family to integrate into our community in other ways.

@HOME:

It is interesting to explore how ancient texts from our tradition can show us ways of thinking about our world today. Look closely at ages 13, 15, and 18 in the excerpt to the right. Why do you think these are specific ages, when everything after them is by decade?

As a family, try coming up with new answers together for each age:

2,000 YEARS AGO... this was the Jewish path of life. The excerpt below is from Rabbi Yehuda ben Teima in Pirkei Avot, the "Ethics of the Fathers."

> *"Five years is the age for the study of scripture, Ten is the age for the study of Mishnah, Thirteen is the age for observing the mitzvot, Fifteen is the age for the study of Talmud, Eighteen is the age for the wedding canopy, Twenty is the age for pursuit, Thirty is the age for full strength, Forty is the age for understanding, Fifty is the age for giving counsel, Sixty is the age for mature age, Seventy is the age for a grey head, Eighty is the age for superadded strength, Ninety is the age for a bending stature, One hundred is the age at which one is as if dead, passed away, and ceased from the world."*

5 *is the age for* _____

10 *is the age for* _____

13 *is the age for* _____

15 *is the age for* _____

18 *is the age for* _____

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

TORAH AND HAFTARAH

Students will be assigned to a one-on-one tutor for the purpose of learning to chant Torah and Haftarah. Since each student has a unique learning style, it is left to the discretion of their rabbi and tutor, in consultation with our clergy team, how much of the Torah and Haftarah portion each student will chant. This determination may be adjusted closer to the B'nai Mitzvah date in order to allow the student to feel as comfortable and successful on the bimah as possible.

Students at Temple Micah typically chant about 20 verses of Torah, which in many cases is only a small fraction of the total verses found in their portion. In consultation with a tutor or rabbi, each student is asked to choose a section of verses that they find most meaningful, compelling, or thought-provoking to focus on as they work toward this goal.

Reviewing the Torah and Haftarah portions at home with your child daily will greatly assist in your child's success. Listening to them read and/or chant out loud (even if you do not know Hebrew) is part of the preparation process. This creates a supportive environment and also aids the student in building the confidence necessary to chant in front of many people on the day of their B'nai Mitzvah ceremony.

Students will also chant the blessings before and after their Torah and Haftarah readings. These blessings are available on the "B'nai Mitzvah" page on our website, and will be taught during the Machon Micah and E-vrit programs.

THE MICAH HAFTARAH PROJECT

The Hebrew word "Haftarah" means additional, and is used to describe a supplementary reading to accompany the Torah reading on Shabbat. Historically, these writings from the Hebrew Prophets were chosen to lift up an idea from the Torah portion itself or from its place in the cycle of the Jewish year.

At Temple Micah, through our work on the Haftarah Project, we have expanded the options for Haftarah selections. Guided by these same principles that the Haftarah should be in conversation with the Torah text, the Jewish calendar, and the rhythm of our lives, we have chosen new readings from the Prophets and Writings to accompany each Shabbat. Each Haftarah has a short description, summarizing the reading and our reasons for choosing it. Our hope is that the Haftarah Project selections serve to expand our understanding of Torah, our lives, and our responsibilities to one another and the world.

THE TUTORING PROCESS

TORAH/HAFTARAH TUTORING

Students will meet with a Torah/Haftarah tutor for 30 minutes each week. These tutoring sessions will start approximately six to seven months before the B'nai Mitzvah date, though students who require additional support with Hebrew decoding skills may be scheduled for additional Torah/Haftarah tutoring to begin earlier than this. If a student is not regularly attending Machon Micah and E-vrit tutoring, the cost of any additional sessions may be passed on to the family.

- **Please plan to be available for a weekly tutoring session on THURSDAY afternoon or evening.** Most Torah/Haftarah tutoring will take place between 4:00 and 8:00 pm on Thursdays; though depending on the number of students and schedules, we may schedule some tutoring sessions on Tuesdays.

- In order to ensure that you are matched with a tutor and a time slot that works for your family, please be sure to fill out the tutoring availability forms available on our website. As some students will receive tutoring during the summer, when family schedules are often disrupted, we have both summer-specific and year-round forms available.

- It is expected that students will make steady progress in preparation for their B'nai Mitzvah. It is the student's responsibility to practice 10-15 minutes daily and to complete the homework given to them. It is the tutor's responsibility to keep the parents informed of the student's progress.

D'RASH (SPEECH) MENTOR

In coordination with a d'rash mentor, the student will prepare a speech or mini-sermon to deliver during their B'nai Mitzvah ceremony, offering their interpretation of the weekly Torah portion. The student will also prepare a short introductory statement for their corresponding Haftarah. Families are encouraged to help their child discuss and practice their d'rash at home.

- New for the 2022-23 B'nai Mitzvah class, students will be assigned a d'rash mentor from within our congregation. We are fortunate to have many talented writers in our community, many of whom write professionally, and who have offered their time to serve as mentors. We are thrilled to offer this opportunity to deepen community relationships as our B'nai Mitzvah students prepare for their special day. Students and their families will be connected with their assigned mentor to arrange meetings to help the student prepare their d'rash.

NOTE: Please plan to have at least one parent available to join the student's first individual session with their Torah/Haftarah tutor, and their d'rash mentor if requested. It is expected that the student will be accompanied by their parent(s) so that everyone can meet, ask any questions they may have, and start the process "on the same page."

MEETINGS WITH THE RABBI

Each student will be assigned to one of our Temple Micah rabbis, who will meet one-on-one with the student four times in advance of the B'nai Mitzvah date. These sessions will begin approximately two months before the ceremony and are scheduled directly with the rabbi.

Should you or your student wish to speak with a rabbi before you are assigned to one, please reach out to any of our rabbis to schedule a meeting with them directly.

FORMING A QUESTION

In their meetings before the B'nai Mitzvah service, the student will pose a question to their rabbi which will become the basis for the rabbi's sermon during their B'nai Mitzvah. This question can be about anything related to the human experience.

EXAMPLES OF PAST QUESTIONS:

- What is the most important story in the Torah?
- What happened before creation?
- What does Judaism say about…?

Family discussion is encouraged to help the student develop an appropriate question.

B'NAI MITZVAH RUN-THROUGH

In the final week, your rabbi will meet you for a full run-through of the service and its elements. This meeting will be scheduled on the Thursday afternoon immediately prior to the B'nai Mitzvah, at 3:30 pm, unless the family is otherwise notified. The B'nai Mitzvah student and parent(s) must be present; other service participants do not need to attend.

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SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING PROJECT

In lieu of the charity project that often accompanies B'nai Mitzvah, students at Temple Micah are asked to develop their own entry into Jewish learning through a self-directed learning project. As the B'nai Mitzvah ceremony marks a child's entry into adult responsibility, the idea behind the self-directed learning project is to empower our students to take Jewish learning and living into their own hands. With ongoing consultation and support from clergy, Micah staff and, we hope, family members, our students will design and carry out individualized learning plans that are reflective of their own passions.

PROJECT EXAMPLES:

- Book groups,
- Hosting Shabbat dinner,
- Volunteering for Micah programs,
- Screening Jewish/Israeli films,
- Raising support & awareness for various causes,
- and more!

This project does not need to be a traditional mitzvah project, but it can be; a great project will take whatever form best enables students to discover something about Judaism that they find inspirational or that draws them in. Creativity is encouraged! The self-directed learning project does not need to be completed by the time of your child's B'nai Mitzvah. For more guidance on this project, please speak with a member of our Temple Micah clergy team.

@HOME: WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?

When deciding on a project, choose something meaningful to you - something you feel a connection to. If you're not sure what theme to choose, take a look at your parasha!

Here is a list of fifteen different themes for inspiration:

ANIMALS
ART/MUSIC
CHILDREN
CLOTHING
EDUCATION
ELDERLY
ENVIRONMENT
HEALTH
HUNGER
ISRAEL
LITERACY
POVERTY
SOLDIERS
SPORTS
TOLERANCE

It's okay if you feel passionate about multiple themes - the best part about these projects is you can always do more than one! Try combining themes for a project that is uniquely-you.

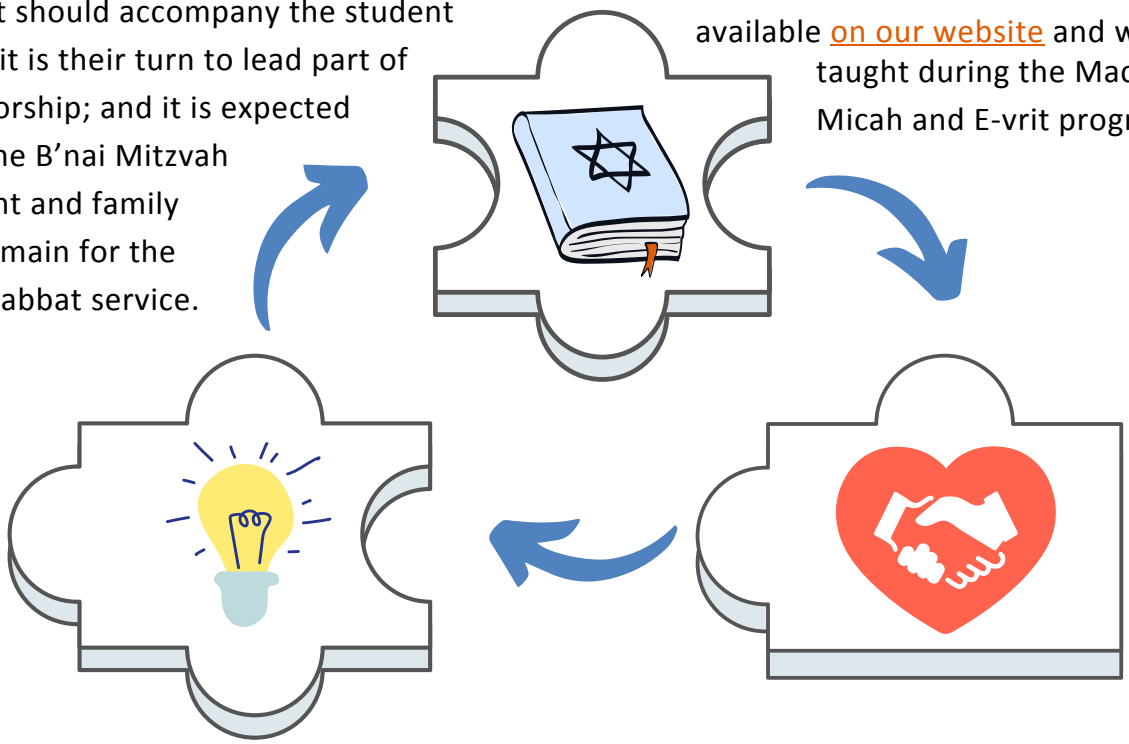
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

LITURGY SCHEDULE

In the months prior to their B'nai Mitzvah service, students will lead parts of the worship service from the bimah, typically at two or three different Shabbat morning services. This will give the student an opportunity to become comfortable on the bimah, as well as help the entire family become more familiar with Shabbat morning worship. At least one parent should accompany the student when it is their turn to lead part of the worship; and it is expected that the B'nai Mitzvah student and family will remain for the full Shabbat service.

Students should arrive 10-15 minutes prior to the start of the service and check in with the clergy. The more a family is familiar with our worship, the more meaningful and joyous the B'nai Mitzvah experience will be.

Prayers that the students are typically asked to lead include the V'ahavta and the Avot/G'vurot. These blessings are available on our website and will be taught during the Machon Micah and E-vrit programs.



MEDITATIONAL READING

The student will select a poem, a passage from a favorite book, or write some words of their own to read during the Friday evening service the night before their B'nai Mitzvah. This will be discussed with the rabbi in advance during one of their sessions together.

PHILANTHROPIC LEARNING

In order to create a complete sense of mitzvah in the B'nai Mitzvah celebration at Temple Micah, each family is asked to make a one-time donation to a communal pool in lieu of giving gifts to each student in the class. Later in the B'nai Mitzvah class year, students will decide as a class which worthy causes will receive these donations collected by their families.

LOGISTICAL PREPARATIONS

THE SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

B'nai Mitzvah services are held on Shabbat mornings at 10:15 am and last approximately 2 hours. The B'nai Mitzvah family will meet in their rabbi's office prior to the start of services at around 10:00 am.

The student becoming B'nai Mitzvah will then join the clergy on the bimah until after the Torah service, at which point they join their family in the congregational seating section.

THE TEMPLE MICAH COMMUNITY

Every worship service at Temple Micah is a community service, including all B'nai Mitzvah, and we encourage congregational attendance. The beauty of our community depends upon a regular weekly Shabbat worship practice; our atmosphere of prayer can be maintained only if there are a number of congregants present who know our customs and participate actively in the service. We encourage all upcoming B'nai Mitzvah families to begin attending Shabbat morning services regularly in advance of their own.

USHERS

The family is expected to invite five people – three Temple Micah classmates and two parents of Temple Micah classmates, who are familiar with Micah's Shabbat morning worship – to act as ushers for the Shabbat morning service.

The families hosting the Friday evening Oneg will usher for the evening service. We will provide separate instructions for the ushers a few weeks prior to the service.

BUILDING RENTALS

If you are interested in renting our building space for any evening event (Friday Shabbat dinner or Saturday evening party) held in conjunction with the B'nai Mitzvah, please request a reservation from the Executive Director at least six months in advance.

PARKING

The temple can reserve spaces close to the building for the B'nai Mitzvah family and for mobility-impaired guests. Please contact the office by the Wednesday prior to the B'nai Mitzvah service to reserve spaces.

LOGISTICAL PREPARATIONS

HOLOCAUST TORAH SCROLLS

Two silent survivors of the Holocaust make their home in the Temple Micah sanctuary and inconspicuously attend every service. Two of our temple's Torah scrolls once were owned and used by synagogues in Czechoslovakia that were destroyed during the Holocaust. The scrolls were rescued after World War II and are now on loan to Temple Micah through the Memorial Scrolls Trust. These scrolls serve as a reminder of a community now destroyed, a moving testimony to Jewish resistance, and a remarkable tribute to the Jewish ability to revive and regenerate.

@HOME: ONE OF JUST A VERY FEW

Temple Micah is one of very few synagogues given more than one Czech Torah scroll. Scan the QR code or click here to learn more about the history of these scrolls.

TALLIT & KIPPAH

The wearing of a tallit or kippah is not required for Shabbat morning worship at Temple Micah. However, many students choose to wear a tallit and/or kippah when they become B'nai Mitzvah. **It is important to note that neither a kippah nor a tallit is intended to be worn as a one-time B'nai Mitzvah accessory.** We encourage families to discuss the meaning behind both of these ritual Judaic objects and create meaningful traditions for both home and synagogue.

The Temple Micah Judaica shop has a variety of tallitot for sale. Please contact Jill Berman at Judaica@templemicah.org for more information. If you prefer to shop online, please speak to a member of our clergy before purchasing. Many of the tallitot available on Amazon or other secular retailers are unsuitable for Jewish worship.

KIDDUSH & MOTZI

The Shabbat morning service concludes with the blessings over grape juice (fruit of the vine) and challah. The B'nai Mitzvah family provides the challah; either one 4-5 pound challah or two 2-pound challot, to be shared among the community after the Motzi at the conclusion of the B'nai Mitzvah service.

LOGISTICAL PREPARATIONS

HOSTING THE KIDDUSH RECEPTION

It is our custom to welcome the entire congregation to the kiddush following Shabbat morning services. This kiddush reception is your opportunity to share your celebration with the Temple Micah community, as well as with your invited guests.

Our hope is that you create a warm and welcoming atmosphere, allowing members of the congregation and invited guests to celebrate with you and share your joy. We'd like you to view the kiddush you are hosting as an opportunity to deepen your relationship with the Temple Micah community.

NOTE: Temple Micah has resumed eating in the building, though if COVID conditions or expert guidance changes, we may have to amend our policies. We will make every effort to inform you of any changes of policy as soon as possible. If you have any COVID-related concerns about Kiddush, please reach out to us at bnaimitzvah@templemicah.org.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE

It is customary for family and friends to attend the Friday evening service prior to the B'nai Mitzvah and stay for the entire service. Services begin at 6:30 pm, but B'nai Mitzvah families must arrive early.

ONEG SHABBAT

Friday Shabbat services begin with a 6:00 pm oneg (snack and schmoozing). The B'nai Mitzvah class coordinates the Friday evening Oneg prior to each of their classmates' B'nai Mitzvah services. With the help of 1-2 parent coordinators, the class organizes its own schedule. The responsibilities include providing the food, setting it up, and cleaning up after services. Every family should be helping with each of these jobs during the evenings they are assigned.

LOGISTICAL PREPARATIONS

INVITATIONS

ALL members of the B'nai Mitzvah class and their parents should receive an invitation to all students' services. We will provide a complete class list and contact information. Please remember the invitation should reflect the dignity of the religious ceremony. This is an invitation to a worship service.

For any additional celebrations held outside of Temple Micah, please be sensitive to inclusivity so no one feels left out. If you are inviting a majority of the class, please invite everyone.

DECORUM

If your guests are unfamiliar with Temple Micah, you may wish to let them know what to expect. Your guests, especially younger ones, may need to be reminded of proper attire and decorum. B'nai Mitzvah services are religious ceremonies and should be respected as such.

To the right you will find some more specific guidelines to help your guests understand what is and is not appropriate in this setting.

BEHAVIOR:

All cell phones and electronics should be turned off before the service begins. Texting or using equipment to photograph or video the service is not permitted. Speaking to your neighbor can be disturbing to people who are praying. Please be respectful of the people around you. Please refrain from eating, drinking and chewing gum in the sanctuary.

CLOTHING CHOICES:

We do not require a strict dress code, but we do expect people to dress respectfully for worship services.

BIMAH DECORATION

The family may want to add flowers or potted plants to the bimah during the B'nai Mitzvah weekend. Families who wish to do this must schedule delivery to the temple between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm on Friday (the day before the B'nai Mitzvah date). NO heavily scented flowers, like eucalyptus, lilies, freesia, or forsythia, are allowed. Please be sensitive to the allergies of the congregation and its leaders.

In lieu of flowers, some families have chosen to further enrich their celebration by adorning the bimah with baskets of non-perishable food or other charitable items which are later donated to the charity of their choice.

LOGISTICAL PREPARATIONS

SHABBAT HONORS (SERVICE PARTICIPANTS)

The B'nai Mitzvah family selects individuals to participate in the honors during their Shabbat morning service. Please review the Saturday Morning Honors form on our website and submit it to the office no fewer than 10 days prior to the B'nai Mitzvah date. One of the honors is an aliyah, or blessing of the Torah before chanting. Individuals honored with an aliyah must be 13 years of age or older.

Families should confirm with the Torah/Haftarah tutor about the number of aliyot the student will be chanting. The first aliyah is assigned by the temple to a community member who is celebrating or commemorating an event. The final aliyah is reserved for the B'nai Mitzvah student themselves. Before this, the penultimate aliyah includes their parents. This typically leaves two additional aliyah honors to be assigned by the family.

During the Torah service, the parents and grandparents are invited to the bimah for the passing of the Torah scroll. At the end of the Torah service, the immediate family of the B'nai Mitzvah student is invited to the bimah for a special blessing and to sing the "Shehecheyanu" prayer to express thanks for the sacred occasion.

On Friday nights in person, the B'nai Mitzvah family participates in the leading of the candle blessing and Kiddush prayer. Other temple events sometimes necessitate that these Friday honors be shared with others. You will be notified if this is the case.

@HOME: PRACTICING FOR THE ALIYAH

Being called for an aliyah is a very high honor. People who are called to the bimah for an aliyah should practice the blessings before the service. Scan the QR code or visit the "Student Resources" section of the B'nai Mitzvah page on our website.

NON-JEWISH FAMILY HONORS

It is the goal of Temple Micah to create a congregation that welcomes and values everyone, Jew and non-Jew. Many families in our community have non-Jewish members who play a vital and active role in the Jewish life of their family. To that end, we welcome you to open a conversation with your assigned rabbi, or any of our Temple Micah rabbis, about how we might thoughtfully honor and elevate the participation of all members of your family during your child's B'nai Mitzvah service.

LOGISTICAL PREPARATIONS

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO RECORDING

Photography and video recording are absolutely prohibited before and during Shabbat worship services, both Friday and Saturday. Please be aware, however, that we provide live video streaming and archiving of all Shabbat services. A video of the service will be sent to you following your child's B'nai Mitzvah.

ON SHABBAT:

You may take photos (or have a photographer take photos) of the blessings over grape juice and challah that take place in the sanctuary at the conclusion of the Shabbat morning service. You may also take photos in the sanctuary following the Shabbat morning service and during the Kiddush luncheon in the social hall. Please let the office know if you plan on using the sanctuary after services for this purpose.

THE WEEK PRIOR:

Some families choose to have a photographer come to the building for a photo session during the week prior to the service. Thursday is a common time to do this, since the family will already be at Micah for the run-through. While there is no photography during the run-through itself, you can take photographs before or after. If you choose to do this, please make appropriate arrangements with the temple office.

Please note that the Torah scrolls are ritual objects and cannot be used during any photo sessions. Additionally, the bimah microphones cannot be moved.

B'NAI MITZVAH FEE

Each family will be charged a B'nai Mitzvah fee. This fee is subject to annual review by the Board of Directors; the current fee is $2100. The temple invests a great amount of resources into the B'nai Mitzvah experience. This fee helps to defray some of the cost of providing this experience, which includes tutoring, individual meetings and rehearsals with the rabbis, and administrative and custodial support. If the staff assesses that your child needs tutoring beyond the traditional six- or seven-month preparation time, arrangements will be made on an individual basis and additional fees may apply.

NOTE: This fee, which includes payment for your child's B'nai Mitzvah tutoring, must be paid in full by the end of the month following the service. You may see this assessed on your account well in advance of the B'nai Mitzvah year, so that you can create a payment plan should you wish.

Please contact our Executive Director at executivedirector@templemicah.org if you would like to discuss options for financial aid.

CONTINUING JEWISH EDUCATION

7TH GRADE STUDIES

Students continue their Machon Micah education, including both in-person and E-vrit tutoring, through the entirety of the 7th grade year. There is also an optional, online "7th grade Book Club" which meets approximately once a month during the school year. Students in 8th grade and above who have yet to become B'nai Mitzvah will also continue their E-vrit tutoring.

REASON 2 BE

The 8th-12th grade class (Reason to Be, or "R2B") meets on Tuesday evenings. The students participate in discussions, have dinner, socialize, and learn together. Topics include Jewish ritual, Jewish identity in America today, and issues relating to justice work within the Jewish community.

MADRICHIM PROGRAM

All 8th-12th graders are eligible to be paid madrichim (teacher's aides) on Sundays during Machon Micah. Students in the madrichim program learn valuable leadership and teaching skills and gain job experience.

TRIPS AND RETREATS

Off-site, extended social learning experiences provide opportunities for lifelong learning and relationship building far and above what can be offered in a formal classroom learning environment. Some examples of these include our 8th grade class's weekend trip to New York (usually in May), and the Religious Action Center's L'Taken Social Justice Seminar in January/February, which is open to all 10th-12th graders.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the Temple Micah B'nai Mitzvah team with questions or concerns about the B'nai Mitzvah process. Mazel Tov to your family on reaching this joyous milestone!

CONTACT US Team Email	bnaimitzvah@templemicah.org
MCKINLEY EDELMAN Community Coordinator	edelman@templemicah.org
ALISON LITVIN Education Coordinator	litvin@templemicah.org

B'NAI MITZVAH CHECKLIST

FOR THE STUDENT

- [ ] Learn the Friday evening blessings (candles, Kiddush, and Motzi)
- [ ] Learn the V'ahavta, Avot v'Imahot, and G'vurot prayers
- [ ] Learn to chant the Torah blessings
- [ ] Learn to chant the Haftarah blessings
- [ ] Choose Torah verses
- [ ] Learn to read Torah verses
- [ ] Learn the trope system to chant Torah verses
- [ ] Choose, read, and chant Haftarah verses
- [ ] Write and practice D'rash (Torah speech)
- [ ] Write Haftarah introduction
- [ ] Develop a question for Rabbi's sermon topic
- [ ] Choose or write a Meditational Reading (for Friday evening)
- [ ] Develop a Self-Directed Learning Project idea

FOR THE FAMILY

- [ ] Submit Tutoring Availability Form, including Summer Tutoring Form as appropriate
- [ ] Learn the Friday evening blessings (candles, Kiddush, and Motzi)
- [ ] Send Invitations
- [ ] Plan Kiddush Luncheon (after Shabbat morning service)
- [ ] Provide Oneg support for other families (before Friday evening service)
- [ ] Select and purchase decorative elements for Bimah, if desired
- [ ] Select Ushers for Saturday morning service
- [ ] Select service participants and submit Saturday Morning Honors form
- [ ] Acquire tallit and kippah, if desired
- [ ] Purchase and bring 5 lb challah for after Shabbat morning service
- [ ] Philanthropic Learning Donation to 7th Grade Tzedakah Fund
- [ ] Finalize payments on B'nai Mitzvah Fee

B'NAI MITZVAH JOURNEY

4TH GRADE

- B'nai Mitzvah date is assigned in a special ceremony
- Student is enrolled and attending Machon Micah and E-vrit

5TH GRADE

- Student is studying blessings and learning the structure and leadership roles during the Shabbat services

6TH GRADE

- Family will attend a B'nai Mitzvah informational group meeting with clergy, educators, and staff

6-7 MONTHS PRIOR

- Student will begin weekly tutoring with a trope tutor (in addition to E-vrit)
- Student is assigned to one of our Temple Micah rabbis
- Student is connected with a D'rash mentor from within the community

2-3 MONTHS PRIOR

- Provide Oneg support for other families (Friday evenings throughout the B'nai Mitzvah year)
- Plan Kiddush Luncheon (after Shabbat morning service)
- Student begins meeting one-on-one with the rabbi

2-4 WEEKS PRIOR

- Select service participants and submit Saturday Morning Honors form
- Select Ushers for Saturday morning service
- Student will lead selected blessings during their peers' B'nai Mitzvah services

WEEK OF THE SERVICE

- Final run-through of the service on Thursday afternoon at Temple Micah
- Bimah decorations delivered to Temple Micah, if appropriate

MAZEL TOV!

מַזָּל טוֹב!

CONTINUE WITH US!

- R2B - weekly teen class
- Madrichim Program - paid teacher aide position
- Trips & Retreats