

תנועה - פיקוד 'לעול

Themes for the Summer of '98

Dates:

FIRST SESSION

7/30 - 7/14

שירי עיר וקריאת

(ע' קריאת)

"Sing unto the LORD a New Song"

This is an opportunity to explore the issues related to God & עיר from general to specific. Why do we pray? To whom do we pray? Why do we pray communally? How does the קריאת facilitate our regular connection @ God? Issues of קריאת vs. עיר. Particular emphasis to be paid to the relationship between music and עיר. We plan to have a Ramah version of the old Hassidic Song Festival - in which campers and staff quotations from the liturgy to new tunes.

(Our עיר department will help out.) Andrea Cohen-Keiser & Jessica Weber are working together to prepare some ideas/suggestions/materials for this theme.

7/15 - 5/11

עיר פיקוד

(ע' פיקוד)

"In God's Image"

How do Jewish traditions & texts deal with the notion that human beings are

created in the Divine Image? What grows out of this concept? What are the connections between the physical and the spiritual? How do we relate to the wonders and the limitations of our bodies? What can we learn from the bracha תְּהִי עִמָּנוּ, from וְעִמָּנוּ? How does Judaism deal with illness, aging, disabilities? Are we obliged to make all institutions in the Jewish (and general) community "accessible"? What are the "barriers" around us? What does the realization that we are created לְפָנָיו וְלִפְנֵי simply for our relationships with one another? with God?

7/12-7/18

אֲנִי הָיִיתִי כְּבַדְתִּי וְהָיִיתִי

(ע' סוּחָר)

"Creating a Palace in Time"

We'll be hosting an exhibit developed for the A.T. Heschel School in New York by Or Rose, and adapting materials he prepared in honor of Heschel's 25th Yahrzeit this year. Heschel, a profound religious thinker and social activist was a Professor at The Jewish Theological Seminary and can be a genuine Jewish hero for our campers and staff. Heschel had much to say

about God and Prayer, Torah and Revelation, social justice and the concept of Shabbat as a "Palace in Time."

7/19-7/25

י"ד

"Israel at 50"

This week, which will involve a great deal of participation by our אורפי, will focus on Israel at 50 and will be kicked off by a Maccabiah (aka Yom Sport). Various ארגונים will ^{engage in} different activities related to the theme, culminating in a י"ד פ"ו on Wed., a סדרת קריאה on Thurs. and a special אירוע celebration at the end of the week. Particular attention will be paid to the concept of bringing dreams and visions to reality (הגשמת חלומות : is the following אירוע, Aug. 1st).

SECOND SESSION

7/28-8/2

מלכות אלהים
From Darkness to Light

Second session begins during the Nine Days preceding שבת 'ג. Campers will prepare for שבת 'ג in various ways, utilizing a variety of primary sources and hands-on approaches. Some questions to be explored: what is שבת 'ג about? Why is communal loss so devastating? Is it different than personal loss (which is, after all, part of the human condition)? Of the traditional explanations posited for the מלכות אלהים, one is רש"ט רש"ט ("baseless hatred," intolerance and infighting within the Jewish people). Is there רש"ט today? Are we participants in it? What does it mean to be "pluralistic"? what are possible ע'ג'ק'ק for רש"ט רש"ט? The observance of שבת 'ג itself will utilize the expressive arts and be as experiential/participatory as possible (while allowing for campers/staff who need to rest because they are fasting - an exercise in pluralism!)

8/3-8/8

"אם-היה-אני-היה" ואלהי י"ג"
Changing the World

Using the old Anik Einstein song as a

metric, we'll explore - in word and in deed - the moral imperative of פרו כבוד ה' (פרו כבוד ה'). How do we change the world - as individuals and in concert with one another? Is it possible to make a difference, or are these just utopian ideals? How do/must the texts we study move us to action? wed. will be a פרו כבוד ה' פרק 11 (and ^{פרק 12} is ^{particular} ^{particularly} ^{appropriate} following פרק 16.)

19-8/15

פרו כבוד ה' פרק 11
The Earth is the LORD's

A great week to focus on our relationship to the environment and take advantage of our outdoor setting at camp. (also another opportunity to use Heschel.)
 "radical amazement" ←
 What is our responsibility for the earth, for our fellow creatures? Are there limits to the demands of stewardship? What are the environmental challenges at camp? in our communities? in Israel? How are concerns for nature/the earth reflected in the liturgy (eg. פרו כבוד ה' פרק 11, פרק 12)? What happens when we focus on God as Creator (as opposed to lawgiver or Redeemer)?

8/16-8/23: פ' שלום ירושלים

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

Our final theme of the summer intertwines the themes of peace with Jerusalem. We will use texts from the classical period through today, focusing not simply on תפלה על ירושלים but on תפלה על 'עיר' - the reality of this unique city. This is a great week for involving real, live Jerusalemites at camp and for building/creating large-scale simulations, etc. It's also a chance for campers (particularly ^{non} older ~170) to explore why deeply-held religious passions and sacred history make peace so difficult (though no less necessary.) Lots of songs and dances will be featured. Wed. will be a פ' שלום ירושלים and Thurs. will be a Jerusalem-themed מסכת קורבן.