

a community-wide evening of  
**adult Jewish learning**

taste of



# TORAH

featuring thought-provoking sessions  
led by Jewish clergy and educators  
from throughout Upper Fairfield County

**SATURDAY  
FEB. 1  
7-9 PM**

**Congregation Beth El-Norwalk  
109 East Ave., Norwalk**

**Open to the community free of charge**

**Co-sponsored by  
Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County  
and the Jewish congregations of Upper Fairfield County**

**INFO** [shalomct.org](http://shalomct.org) / 203-226-8197

## HERE ALL ALONG



FINDING MEANING,  
SPIRITUALITY, AND A  
DEEPER CONNECTION  
TO LIFE — IN JUDAISM

*(After Finally Choosing to Look There)*

Sarah Hurwitz



## *Here All Along* KEYNOTE SPEAKER Sarah Hurwitz

spent a decade as a political speechwriter—as head speechwriter for First Lady Michelle Obama, a senior speechwriter for Pres. Barack Obama, and chief speechwriter for Hillary Clinton on her 2008 presidential campaign. The quintessential lapsed Jew, she attended an introductory class on Judaism at age 36, on a whim, and was blown away by what she found. Sarah decided to apply her skills as a communicator to writing a book . . . about Judaism. And no one is more surprised than she is.



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Federation for Jewish Philanthropy  
OF UPPER FAIRFIELD COUNTY





# taste of TORAH electives

This year, many of our educators will teach classes based on one of the chapters from *Here All Along* by Sarah Hurwitz, Taste of Torah keynote speaker.

**Rabbi Marcelo Kormis – Congregation Beth El Fairfield**  
**Chapter 1 – In the Beginning and In the Image: The Torah**

**Rabbi Evan Schultz – Congregation B'nai Israel, Bridgeport**  
**Chapter 2 – The Process of Judaism: Questioning, Debating, and Interpreting**

To be Jewish is not only to act in a certain way but to speak in a particular register. We question, we hold multiple opinions, we read our texts with a critical eye. Join Rabbi Schultz to explore Chapter 2 of Sarah Hurwitz's book on the process of Judaism.

**Rabbi Greg Wall – Beit Chaverim Synagogue, Westport**  
**Chapter 7 – Not Doing Shabbat**

*More than Jews have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jews*” - Ahad Ha'am

Shabbat is one of the most misunderstood Jewish encounters. We will dig a little deeper and try to unlock the secrets of Shabbat, the sacred domain of *Am Yisrael*, the Jewish people.

**Rabbi Ita Paskind – Congregation Beth El-Norwalk**  
**Chapter 8 – A Well-Placed Banana, Tomato, and Orange: Making Our Holidays Meaningful Today**

Jewish holidays are perhaps the most well-known Jewish observances, and they often get a bad rap for being long and boring (think Yom Kippur services and the never-ending Passover seder). But they've endured because they have inherent meaning and beg to be reinterpreted in every generation. We will look at some modern, perhaps surprising, ways we might reengage with the Jewish holidays through the lens of the seder.

**Rabbi Jeremy Wiederhorn – TCS, Westport**  
**Chapter 9 – Did We Get It Right? Examining the Jewish Approach to Death and Mourning**

Of all the Jewish rituals, people often say that those associated with death and mourning make a lot of sense. But do they really? Let's take a closer look and we'll let you decide.

**Rabbi Jason Greenberg - Temple Shalom, Norwalk**  
**Jews and Tattoos**

The official Jewish stance on tattooing is that it is forbidden, even among liberal Jewish movements, yet more and more Jews are getting tattoos as the practice has become safer and more widely accepted in mainstream culture. Join Rabbi Greenberg as we study and discuss Jewish sources, concepts, myths, and stories relevant to tattooing in our times.

