

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

# TORAH CONNECTS

2019 | 5779

## Frequently Asked Questions

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Q: What are letter fill-in visits?

Letter fill-in visits are opportunities to learn more about Torah and sit down with the *sofer* to fill-in a letter in one of the eight Torah scrolls that we are restoring. At the Sunday letter fill-in events, there will be interactive and educational booths for all to participate in. Information regarding the programming for weekday visits will be announced in the near future.



Q: Is this a fundraiser?

Torah Connects is intended to be a community building event, there will be opportunities to financially contribute to the project should you feel particularly moved after your experience with the *sofer*.



Q: What's a dedication?

A dedication is an opportunity to financially contribute to the project by sponsoring a meaningful portion of the Torah for yourself, your loved ones, or those of blessed memory. There will be more information at the letter fill-in events, or you can reach out to Jackie Volkoff in the main office or via email at [jackie@bethisrael-pdx.org](mailto:jackie@bethisrael-pdx.org)



Q: How much does it cost to participate?

Participation is absolutely free-of-charge. Our goal is to ensure that everyone that wants to participate is able. If you find the experience particularly moving there will be an opportunity to donate to the project or dedicate a portion of Torah.



Q: Do we get to fill-in a letter in one of Temple's Torah scrolls?

You sure do!



Q: So, what's a sofer?

A sofer is a specially trained scribe who writes and restores Torah scrolls and other religious texts and documents.



Q: Do I need to sign up in advance?

Yes, we are utilizing "Sign Up Genius" to schedule families, please see: [www.bethisrael-pdx.org/torah-connects/](http://www.bethisrael-pdx.org/torah-connects/) to sign up.



Q: Why do I need to sign up in advance?

The sofer can meet with 3 families per hour, signing up ensures that everyone has equal access to this moving experience, it also cuts down on folks waiting around.



Q: We can't make it to the first letter fill-in, will there be other opportunities?

Of course. We have the following dates scheduled:

- February 24
- March 10
- May 12
- June 10

More weekday dates will be confirmed in the near future.



Q: Can my children participate?

Absolutely! This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with Torah as a family unit.



Q: If I don't have children can I still participate?

Of course, we welcome and hope everyone participates in this once in a lifetime experience



Q: During these visits can I scribe whichever portion is most meaningful to me?

For the letter fill-in visits you will be able to fill in whichever letter the sofer is filling in next. If there is a portion of the Torah that you find particularly meaningful please reach out to Jackie Volkoff or Josh Kashinsky about a dedication



Q: Are there adult education events?

Absolutely! Adult education events are still being formalized and will be announced in the near future.



Q: Can I volunteer?

We love volunteers and wouldn't be able to do this work without them. Please reach out to Jackie Volkoff, Director of Development by calling the main office or emailing her at [jackie@bethisrael-pdx.org](mailto:jackie@bethisrael-pdx.org) to learn more about volunteer opportunities.