February-March 2017 / Shevat-Nisan 5777 Volume 40; Issue 4

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF NATICK

Ha-Kol

145 Hartford Street Natick, MA 01760

Safam & R'nana Bring Down The House!

On December 10, after a 13 year hiatus, Temple Israel hosted the internationally acclaimed entertainment and recording group, Safam, in a concert that kicked off their forty-third season since forming as an offshoot of the Zamir Chorale in 1974. With over 550 fans of all ages in the audience, the evening was a smashing success and comments from those who attended have included every complimentary adjective in Roget's Thesaurus. Two of Safam's founding members, Joel Sussman and Alan Nelson, have had long ties to our synagogue. Joel and his family were very active members at TI before moving to Newton in the early 90's. Since then, Joel has been our Hazzan Sheni for High Holidays. Alan and his family have been members since the mid 1980's and Alan now serves as the Director of R'nana, TI's highly regarded choral ensemble. Alan's daughter Michelle is our Youth advisor and teaches in the religious school.

The show began with a few words from Irit Tau-Webber, the event chair, who introduced R'nana to open the show with a stirring setting of Psalm 13 - Al Naharot Bavel (by the Waters of Babylon) written by Salamone Rossi, the father of Jewish choral music, in the early 1600's. That was followed by a medley of three popular Israeli dance pieces Hora Nirkoda-Sovevuni-Havu Lanu Yayin which helped set the tone for what was to follow.

continued on page 14

Our Chance to Do the Right Thing

Elaine Marmer and Lisa and Alan Avery-Peck helping set up the kitchen of an arriving Syrian family.

The Temple Israel community has reason to be proud. Over the past three months, under the auspices of the Social Action Committee, Temple Israel has partnered with Jewish Family Services of Metrowest and other local congregations to provide new homes and an initial year of financial support to two refugee families who have now relocated to the Metrowest area. Temple Israel members have contributed furniture and household items, made cash donations, and generously offered their time to assure that these young families—adults and children who suffered so terribly in Syria and as refugees—can make a new start. Our participation in this program reflects our values as a congregation and as Jews. We know the experience of genocidal violence and displacement. We act to save others from the double horror of such violence and of a world that seems again to care too little for the most in need of our protection.

We anticipate the arrival of additional families over the coming months and will be turning to our community to help these individuals as well. Requests for specific household items and furniture will go out, and financial contributions can easily be made via JFS at jfsmw.org. We are particularly proud to report having received an anonymous donation that covers half the cost of supporting one family for a year. Your fellow congregants have acknowledged and responded to this great need. It is time for our entire community to do the same.

Questions and offers of assistance should be directed to Temple Israel's Vice-President for Ritual and Israel Action, Alan Avery-Peck, via the synagogue office. Thank you for doing the right thing!

In This Issue:

2 Rabbi's Desk
3 Cantor's Voice
Presidential Ponderings
4 Sisterhood
5 Men's Club
Hazak News
6 Adult Education
Youth Updates
7 Nursery / Religious School
9 Calendars
11 In The Community
12 Donors
15 Yahrzeits

Annual Congregational Meeting & Breakfast - March 5

The Annual Congregational Meeting & Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 5 at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to elect officers, a Board of Directors and a Nominating Committee for the coming year, which begins on June 1, 2017. In addition to electing our lay leaders and conducting other important synagogue business, we will hear from Dr. Yarden Fanta-Vagenshtein, a Senior Associate Fellow at Brandeis University.

Dr. Fanta-Vagenshtein has an inspirational story, as she is the first Ethiopian woman to earn a Ph.D. in Israel. Her journey has taken her from a tiny village in Ethiopia to Israel where she received her Ph.D. from Tel Aviv University in Science and Technology in Education. When Yarden moved to Israel with her family in 1985, she didn't know how to read or write. She'd spent the first dozen years of her life tending her family's cows in their tiny Ethiopian village before they made a two-year journey to the Holy Land via Sudan.

Yarden Fanta–Vagenshtein

continued on page 14

From The Rabbi's Desk

If you think Purim is a holiday for kids, think again. The book of Esther- the real version, not the bowdlerized children's rendition- should be read as a satire: it's both funny and deadly serious, and strikingly mirrors our own contemporary realities and sensibilities. True, we are neither ruled by royal despots, nor are our daughters in any danger of being carted off to a king's harem. Yet, like the residents of Shushan, we live in an obsessively materialistic age, in which power seems increasingly divorced from morality, and in which many people tend to view life as dictated by blind fate, or chance.

The Rabbis were so uncomfortable with this book, that some of them even lobbied to keep it out of the Bible. They criticized the book on the following grounds:

1. The heroine, who marries a gentile king, hides her Jewish identity.

2. Esther and Mordecai are not originally Hebrew names. In fact, they are derived from the names of the pagan gods Astarte and Marduk.

3. God isn't mentioned once in the entire story.

So what kind of Biblical role models are these? And yet, Esther teaches us that even in such places as Shushan (or America), the Jewish identity underneath our secular masks is not easily shed; it remains a source of vitality and courage. Mordecai, after all, does stand up to Haman and refuses to bow to him. At the very least, it is a story about Jewish pride in the face of adversity.

More importantly, it is a story about faith, in places and times when God seems hard to find. Mordecai and Esther are ambivalent Jews, immersed in the pagan culture of Shushan. When faced with danger, they fast, in good Biblical tradition. But they don't, as one might expect from Biblical characters, turn to God in prayer. Esther and Mordecai have wandered so far from their roots that they can't even utter a prayer, or even the word, "God." Yet, in spite of the shadowy nature of her faith, Esther risks everything and goes before the King in order to save her people. She finds the courage to do this by first connecting with the people, who, even in their powerlessness give her strength.

That may be the aspect of the story with which contemporary Jews who are searching for spiritual connection most identify. Where can we find God? In standing with others, and in the courage of our own acts. And how can we serve God? Again, Esther's answer is through our deeds.

After Shushan's Jews were victorious over their enemies, Mordecai and Esther enacted the following practices: Mishloach Manot- gifts of sweets to friends and neighbors, and Matanot L'evyonim-gifts of charity to the poor. These are concrete acts through which we too may find God, in spite of our theological questions and uncertainties. May they inspire us to do the larger work of Tikkun that our times demand of us, both in Israel and in the world.

This year, fulfill the various Mitzvot of Purim:

Hear the Megillah, the Scroll of Esther, in the synagogue with us. It is not for children only!

Send Mishloach Manot to friends. Bake some cookies and give them to your neighbor.

Give Matanot L'evyonim- gifts of Tzedakah. Add something extra to the Tzedakah Box in memory of Esther's heroism and courage, and of God's deliverance.

Stand with those who need us, both in Israel and at home, transforming fear into joy.

The Rabbis teach, "M'shenichnas Adar, Marbim B'Simcha: With the coming of the month of Adar, joy increases." Happy Purim!

Rabbi Daniel Liben
508.650.3521 x100
rabbi@tiofnatick.org

Café Achshav

A Jewish World Music Café
7:15-9:15 PM
Sunday, April 30, 2017

Join us at TI for an evening of jazz with the Point n' Swing Big Band.
Dance, eat, shmooze, enjoy, while you support our Temple community!
Watch your mail for sponsorship opportunities and ticket information!

Shabbat Services & Candle Lighting

Friday Evening - 5:45 p.m.
Saturday Morning - 9:15 a.m.
Mincha - 5:30 p.m.

See calendars for all events

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Deadline
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The Cantor's Voice

Cantor Ken has contributed his space in this month's HaKol toward an article about Yiddish-speaking families that appeared in the Forward, written by Drew Geber. HaKol Editor, Ilene Silver, has summarized it for this purpose.

Why Yiddish Is Gaining Traction in Secular Households

There once was a place known as Yiddish Land. It wasn't a country. In fact, it lived and breathed for a thousand years in total disregard for the invisible borders sovereign nations fought and died over. Its citizens — German Jews, Polish Jews, Jews throughout Central Europe and across the world — numbered nearly 12 million, and they were connected not only by faith, but also by mother tongue.

It took an event similarly unbound by the petty demarcation of nation-states and fueled by a hatred of the Jewish people to rip the heart out of Yiddish Land. Of the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust by the Nazi Party and their collaborators throughout Europe, two-thirds spoke Yiddish.

For many, that's where the story of Yiddish Land ends, said Agi Legutko, the director of the Yiddish language program at Columbia University. But almost a century later, American Jews in search of connection and identity are harkening back to the land that was — and they're (figuratively) looking to become citizens.

Although Yiddish has remained prevalent in some segments of the Hasidic world as a common language, until recently the use of Yiddish among more "secular" Jews was nearly nonexistent, according to Legutko. She believes that the main reason why learning Yiddish is increasingly popular is the search by millennial Jews for roots.

"It goes back to that old theory," Legutko said, in reference to a famous essay by American historian Marcus Hansen. "The first generation tries to make it, the second tries to forget it, and the third tries to remember."

When our own Cantor Ken was growing up, the only Yiddish he heard was in some of his grandparents' jokes. Due to his love of Klezmer music, he began to learn Yiddish in earnest during an intensive program hosted by the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in which his future wife, Rav Shira Shazeer, was also enrolled.

Ken and Shira rediscovered Yiddish when their first son was born and they attended Yiddish Week, a Yiddish immersion program currently run by the Yiddish Youth Movement. This annual event brings more than 150 diverse people together to speak Yiddish and attend lectures in Yiddish on topics such as literature, history, and the arts. Even sports are conducted exclusively in Yiddish.

At home, Cantor Ken and Rav Shira speak only Yiddish with their three sons, ages three, seven, and nine. The older boys speak English and Hebrew at MetroWest Jewish Day School. Speaking Yiddish at home has not always been easy. While there are many Yiddish books published in the Hasidic world, they sometimes contain messages that clash with Ken and Shira's worldviews. In recent years, the small secular Yiddish community in the United States has started to translate popular English children's books, as well as produce its own. The Internet has also made it easier for Yiddish speakers across the world to connect. On the other hand, songs and lullabies have always been easy. Rav Shira grew up in a household where her father spoke multiple languages and believed the more languages one spoke, the better.

For Cantor Ken and Rav Shira, Yiddish offers a completely different way of thinking that connects them to the past. "It seems like there's something lost when you lose a language, certain ways of thinking and understanding the world," Rav Shira said. "I want my kids to have better access to that."

Now that their children are playing musical instruments, Cantor Ken and Rav Shira also want to share their love of Yiddish music with their sons, so they started a family klezmer band.

"Yiddish is certainly a beautiful, expressive language," according to Cantor Ken. "We figure this is something special and unique we can give our kids. So far, they seem to enjoy it."

Cantor Ken Richmond
508.650.3521 x107 • cantor@tiofnatick.org

Presidential Ponderings

Happy 2017! I hope that you are looking forward to the coming year at Temple Israel of Natick as much as I am, and to sharing the exciting months ahead with our community.

For me, it is difficult to believe that this is the third calendar year that I have served as President of TI, which also means that I am in the home stretch of my term. I am working with the officers and with the Board of Directors to plan for the next six months of activities and events; in addition to the day-to-day operations of our entire facility, as I also prepare to assume the most coveted role of "Past President".

The Nominating Committee is hard at work putting together a slate of officers and directors, which shall be announced in the next few weeks, and voted upon at the Annual Meeting and Congregational Breakfast on March 5, 2017. Additional information about this event and our speaker may be found elsewhere in HaKol.

If you are interested in serving as a member of the Board of Directors, or if you wish to make a recommendation for a congregant who is willing to serve, it is not too late to make your voice heard. Leave a note for me in the Temple office or contact me by email, and I shall forward your request or recommendation to Mark Needleman, the chairperson of the Nominating Committee.

One position that has already been filled on the nominating slate is our next President, David Tursky. Most of you know David as a long time active member of Temple Israel and you no doubt share my opinion that he is eminently qualified for this position; one of the few remaining positions which he hasn't already filled. David has been active as an officer and a director. He has served on numerous committees and is a long-time member of Temple Israel's Men's Club. He is a regular part of Shabbat and daily minyan, and most importantly, he is an all around mensch.

Ellis Morris will be on the nominating slate to continue in his role as Executive Vice President for a one-year term, beginning on June 1, 2017. To the extent that I have been successful as President of the Temple, I owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Ellis who has been an indispensable partner and "right-hand man" for the past two years. David will be fortunate to have Ellis as his EVP, just as we will all be fortunate to have David as our Temple's President.

Both of these gentlemen share a very important quality. They are steadfastly generous to Temple Israel of Natick. They give of their time, resources, and the benefit of their respective areas of expertise. In this, they are much like many of the other members of the Board and the community at large who understand that in order for our community to remain healthy and vibrant, we must all give of ourselves, to the best of our ability, on an ongoing basis.

Be like David. Be like Ellis. Make our community strong!

Stuart Alford
president@tiofnatick.org • (617) 216-5477

HaKol: For the People, By the People

HaKol is Temple Israel's monthly bulletin- for the people and by the people. Temple members organize and publish this newsletter. You might see the "usuals" listed in their regular columns, but anyone is welcome to offer a story - whether it's a creative piece or an article describing a Temple event or initiative. If you would like to get your creative writing juices flowing, please email hakol@tiofnatick.org.

Sisterhood

EVENING BOOK CLUB: The Sisterhood Evening Book Club has monthly meetings at 7:00 pm at the synagogue. Everyone is welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Marci Landis at landfamfour@SBCGlobal.net. The selections and dates for the remainder of this year are:

The Two-Family House - Lynda Cohen Loigman, February 28, 2017
Empty Chairs - Stacey Danson, March 28, 2017
The Lost Book of Moses - Chanan Tigay, April 18, 2017
The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down - Anne Fadima, May 23, 2017

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB: The afternoon Book Group meets in the Temple Chapel on the second Monday of each month at 1:30 pm. All Sisterhood members are welcome and encouraged to attend. For information, please contact Edna Mae Schneider at 508-653-5396 or agsems.emsags@verizon.net.

Friday the Rabbi Slept Late, by Harry Kemelman February 13, 2017

DONATIONS: For those wishing to make donations to Sisterhood, there are several funds available, depending upon what you wish to support: the General Fund (also where the money goes if you do not specify); the Silver Simcha fund; In Memoriam (this money is used for educational programming); and the Scholarship Fund (to subsidize Sisterhood Board members attending conferences, conventions, and training institutes). We extend our thanks to Debby Brun for her donation to the General Fund in gratitude for the thoughtful Leagrams sent when she had surgery.

TORAH FUND: Have you noticed that you can't buy inexpensive greeting cards anymore? Sisterhood has the remedy! Next time you have an occasion that requires a card, consider sending a Torah Fund card. We have a selection of attractive, tasteful cards for most occasions. The donation is $4.00 and the entire amount goes to support the five Jewish seminaries that educate our future rabbis, cantors, and Jewish educators. Your contribution goes to a great cause, the recipient receives a beautiful and appropriate greeting, and you get a tax deduction! Now, isn't that better than giving it to Hallmark?

I will have the cards available at all Sisterhood meetings. You may obtain cards as you need them or put together an assortment to have on hand at home. If you can't wait for a meeting, email me at kblock@wlcj.org and I will make arrangements to get you what you need. It's totally win-win!

Karen Block, Torah Fund Chair

UPCOMING EVENTS/SAVE THE DATE

Sisterhood General Meeting – Tuesday March 21 at 8:00 pm. Come and learn about the healing power of herbs! Our own Daphne Blacker will speak to us about the role herbs play in the cycle of the Jewish year and help us explore ways to revitalize our diets using herbs, with a focus on a few renewing spring recipes, and making our own herbal tea. Daphne is a trained Whole Foods Chef and Certified Holistic Health Coach with over 20 years experience as a teacher, lecturer, recipe developer, and chef.

Open Door – Open Door is a program that provides dinners on Thursday nights to residents of Natick who are in need. As a new member, Open Door was my first volunteer activity. It was an incredible experience in so many ways. The time devoted to prepare and serve is nothing compared to the appreciation the people who come give us. Cooking together is fun and a wonderful way to get to know other synagogue members. Instant memories are made when you spend time in the kitchen with someone. This is also an opportunity for our kids old enough to prepare and/or serve the food to perform a mitzvah. The time is short: 4:00-6:30 pm. Be there for part or all. Temple Israel provides 3 dinners, all on Thursday evenings. 2017 dates are March 16 and May 25. If you would like to share in this fulfilling experience in any way please contact Idy Lanier, at idylanier@gmail.com.

THANK YOU: This year the Sukkah decorating was a great success! A belated thank you to the Men's Club for setting up the Sukkah. It was wonderful partnering with the Religious School for this fun event. Special thanks go to Rachel Plofsky for organizing the event and to Jennifer Yurrita for the ideas and planning for the crafts. Also, thank you to the following people who helped with the crafts and the lunch: Arlie Burg, Ella Landman, Michelle Guttman, Amy Elterman, Barbara and Jonathan Gilvarg, Ava Kleimann, and Jorge Hjalmarson.

SISTERHOOD LEAGRAMS: Why buy birthday, anniversary, and other greeting cards when you can send a Leagram and support Sisterhood at the same time? Remember family and friends on special occasions with a Leagram. Sisterhood thanks you for supporting this wonderful fundraising program.

KIDDUSH: Sisterhood would like to acknowledge and thank the following people who sponsored Kiddush in honor of a special event:

Rachel and Jeremy Arcus-Goldberg

The Hollander Family

Are You Receiving TI Correspondence?

Have you moved? Has your phone number changed? Do you have a new e-mail address? Call the office at 508-650-3521 x 100 or send an email to office@tiofnatick.org to update your contact information.

Enroll your 3rd - 7th grader in the PASSPORT TO ISRAEL program and receive FREE MONEY for your child's teen trip to Israel. For information contact Gary Rosenberg 508-620-0116 or garosenberg22@gmail.com

Family Table

Each month, Temple Israel has taken on the responsibility of donating 50 four-packs of toilet paper to JF&CS' Family Table, in support of more than 400 needy Jewish families in the Boston area. Don't forget to bring a four-pack of toilet paper to contribute the next time you are in the Temple building. Contact site coordinator Daphne Blacker at daphneblacker@yahoo.com or 508-405-2853 for more information.

Maintenance Issues at TI?

As you have probably noticed, we are striving to improve and keep on top of all maintenance issues for our facility. If you are aware of any issue that needs to be addressed, please inform our VP of Administration Bob Gold, by putting a note in his Temple office mailbox or by contacting the office at 508-650-3521 x100 or office@tiofnatick.org

TI Israel Film Club

TI's Israel Action Committee is proud to show the latest in Israeli Films. Israeli films have garnered international recognition in the last decade and have provided for us a window of opportunity to better understand the complexities of Israeli society. Contact Dubi at dubi@wellnessstandard.com to be added to our mailing list.

Men's Club News

Listening to State Representative Tom Sannicandro speak at our annual breakfast, Hearing Men's Voices, playing cards and watching the Patriots at Texas Hold-em night, and making latkes for the Temple's Religious School students are just some of the recent programs enjoyed by the Men's Club.

Social Action for Hastings House in Framingham, Sunday, January 29, at noon With the co-sponsorship of The Chaverim Club, Men's Club also organized a family social action event to benefit Hasting House in Framingham, an independent elder living facility. The Temple community was asked to donate personal care items, and on Sunday, January 29, we gathered at the Temple to flll and decorate bags containing these items. We then traveled to Hastings House to deliver the bags to the residents, and then stayed for lunch and visiting.

Upcoming events and programs:

World-Wide Wrap Day, Sunday, February 5, 10 am - On the morning of Super Bowl Sunday, the Men's Club will once again facilitate the World Wide Wrap for our Religious School and Day School fifth and sixth graders. This is a comprehensive and fun learning program that introduces fifth and sixth graders to the joy and mitzvah of Tefillin in Jewish life. The sixth graders will learn about the meaning and method of wrapping from our Men's Club members who will teach them how to wrap tefillin. The fifth graders will participate in the Build a Pair program, learning by creating a decorative set of Tefillin, and writing their own scrolls to place inside.

Dinner Out on Thursday, February 9, 6:30 p.m. - We are getting together for dinner and camaraderie at a local restaurant.

Men's Club Shabbat, Saturday, February 25, 9:15 am - Join us for the annual Men's Club Shabbat. Club members will lead the entire Shabbat service. The service will be followed by a Kiddush luncheon, sponsored by the Men's Club, and prepared by Phyllis Rotberg.

Hearing Men's Voices (HMV), Thursday, March 22, 8 pm - Our next Hearing Men's Voices Program will be held at the Temple. Attendees will discuss different men's related issues and perspectives. Refreshments will be served.

Save the date for the following programs coming this Spring:

Sunday, April 2, 10:00 am - Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle packing.

June 8 to 11 - Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, New England Region: The Retreat at Camp Ramah.

June 25 - Tour de Shuls to benefit the Tikvah program at Camp Ramah of New England.

July 19-23 - FJMC International Convention in Washington, DC – see the FJMC website for details.

Having a life cycle event?

You can help ensure that the Men's Club continues to perform its important functions for our Temple Israel community by making a donation to commemorate your event to the Temple Israel Men's Club.

For more information, see our web page at www.tiofnatick.org/Mens-Club.

If you would like to help out with an event or have any questions or suggestions, please contact Men's Club President Phil Legro at mensclub@tiofnatick.org.

HAZAK NEWS

Happy New Year everyone! We're hoping that 2017 brings you all health, peace, happiness, and fulfillment. Our HAZAK programs will certainly add to your wellbeing this New Year!

Our Shabbat/ Hanukah dinner on Friday evening, Dec. 23, was so joyful! All 70 of us enjoyed a great meal planned and prepared by our own Karen Block and Elaine Marmer. We appreciate the expert cooking of Dalia and Zvi Ron and the kitchen and serving help of Harriet Merkowitz, Sue Schaufeld, Marilyn Goldberg, and so many others who pitched in. We prayed, ate, shared information about Hanukah, and simply enjoyed being together as a very special community.

We will be very active in 2017. Please save the dates for the following programs. You will be receiving more information about each of them, as the dates get closer.

1. Sunday morning, February 26 - Dr. Gary Hylander will return to talk about Hamilton. Linda and Larry Wise are, once again, planning this annual event.

2. Sunday afternoon, March 26 - Jane Blair of Art Matters will visit to discuss the art of Picasso. Barbara Richmond and Charlotte Temple are coordinating this program at Temple Israel.

3. Wednesday, April 19 from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Pucker Gallery on Newbury Street. Owner, Bernie Pucker, will present the art of Samuel Bak, 83, whose art is influenced by his Holocaust experience. This will be a timely program as we prepare for Yom HaShoah. Carpools will be arranged. Barbara Rosenn and Sheila Wolfson are arranging this event.

The success of HAZAK has been overwhelming and our group of Temple Israel members continues to grow. If you are 50+, we invite you to join us. Call the Temple office to get your name on our mailing list.

We know that we will be seeing you all soon. Be well, be warm, and be happy!

The Feinbergs, the Marmers, and the Richmonds

Bikur Cholim Visting the Sick

Please inform the Temple office if you, or a loved one, neighbor or friend, is ill or has been hospitalized, and would like a visit from the Clergy or someone from the TI Caring Committee. Take part in the mitzvah of Bikur Cholim.

SPONSOR A SHABBAT KIDDUSH

Sisterhood would like to encourage everyone to consider sponsoring or co-sponsoring a Kiddush. This is a great way to acknowledge and celebrate simchas – birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and other milestones -- with your Temple Israel community. It is also a lovely way to remember a loved one or express gratitude. All sponsors, co-sponsors, and contributors will be acknowledged in the weekly Shabbat Bulletin and on placards placed on the tables during the Kiddush. If you are interested in sponsoring or helping to sponsor a Kiddush, please contact Gail Pearlstein at 508-655-0750 or gailpearl@comcast.net.

ADULT EDUCATION

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

S1 COURSE TITLE: Not Getting Younger … But Getting Better: Wise Aging

In an inquisitive and comfortable setting, we will explore such themes as the value of life-review, investigating the deep wisdom that comes with experience, our relationship to our bodies, and honing the spiritual tools that can help us live with greater gratitude and equanimity. Through texts, shared stories, and careful listening to others, we will discover how to continue to live our lives with love and wisdom, joy and kindness, resilience and spirit.

FACILITATOR: Sheila Wolfson
TIME: Thursday evenings, 7-8:30 pm; February 23; March 2, 16, 30

S2 COURSE TITLE: The Judaic Roots of Christianity or How Jesus the Rabbi evolved into Christ the Christian God.

The 4-part series will explore the Judaic roots of Christianity, and the influence of Second Temple Judaism on the early Jewish founders of what became the new religion of Christianity. Understanding the contemporary relationship between Jews and Christians, and the often-painful history of anti-Judaism in the Christian world, is impossible without grappling with the primal origins of these two monotheistic faiths.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Larry Lowenthal
TIME: Thursday evenings, 7-8:30 pm; April 20, 27; May 4, 11

S3 COURSE TITLE: Lunch & Learn: The Ethical Life - Jewish Values in An Age of Choice

A Turnkey Curriculum in Jewish Ethics from JTS: From political and financial scandals to rapid progress in biomedical science and technology, the complex issues of modern society are, at their core, issues of ethical and moral concern. Now, more than ever, we require a solid understanding of how Jewish ethics can inform our decisions about the critical questions of the day. Foundational sessions include The Centrality of Ethics to Jewish Life and Does Ethics Need God?, to Ethics of Global Citizenship and the Public Good and Personal and Interpersonal Ethics.

INSTRUCTOR: Rabbi Dan Liben
TIME: Thursdays at noon – March 16, 23, 30; May 18, 25; June 1

S4 COURSE TITLE: Ancient Wisdom - Contemporary Living: A guided journey through traditional Jewish texts, for wise and compassionate living.

This class will take a guided journey through ancient Jewish texts, to explore the sources of Jewish values that have shaped who we are and how we walk through the world. We will read midrashim (rabbinic interpretations of Biblical stories) and translations of Torah and Talmud (the collection of Jewish law and tradition edited circa 500 CE.) We will explore the derivation of some of our most basic Jewish values, and apply them to contemporary world issues and our own daily lives. You will (reluctantly) leave each class with a more informed and, therefore more profound, pride in your Judaism.

INSTRUCTOR: Rabbi Ma'ayan Sands
TIME: Sunday mornings, 10-11:30 am; April 16, 23, 30; May 7

Call the Main Office (508-650-3521, ext. 100) to register ($60 per course title; non-members $80)

Burt Marmer, Chairman
Adult Education Committee

YOUTH UPDATE

Youth programs continue to take place for our students in Grades K-12 almost every weekend and on some weekdays too! There are so many students who have enjoyed our programs already this year and still so much more to come!

In December, Senior USYers were present at the Safam Concert to run the Coat Check and help with the parking logistics. They LOVED hearing songs that they sing at USY conventions and thought is was great that Safam has local connections. This was followed by a very successful Parent's Night Out with more than 30 participants and 10 teens, all of whom had a great time. The highlight of January was our annual USY Shabbat weekend. We look forward to this weekend each year and enjoy the opportunity to share Shabbat with the congregation. Students led all aspects of the service and planned educational programming for our students in grades 6-12 to enjoy on Friday night. Thanks to all those who helped to make the weekend a success and to all who were able to join us.

Mark your calendars with these upcoming Youth Programming dates!

Grades K-2: March 5, March 12

Grades 3-5: February 4, March 5, March 12

Grades 6-8: February 4, March 5, March 12, March 24

Grades 9-12: February 2, February 4, February 11, March 2, March 12, March 24

The annual Purim Carnival will take place on Sunday, March 12. Please join us from 12:00-1:30 pm in the Social Hall for great games, face painting, crafts, the moonbounce, a photo-booth, cotton candy, delicious lunch, raffles, and prizes. The proceeds from this event are donated to Tikun Olam-so come have a great time for a great cause! See you there!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about Youth Programming at Temple Israel of Natick, please contact me at mnelson@tiofnatick.org.

Michelle Nelson, Youth Programming Coordinator
Mnelson@tiofnatick.org

Senior USYers with members of Safaam.

Save the Date!

Please join us on

Friday
March 3, 2017
for
Temple Israel of Natick's Annual Community Dinner

Services 5:45 pm
Dinner 6:30 pm

We will honor our outstanding Men's Club for their wonderful contributions to our community and welcome new members who have joined Temple Israel in the past year.

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA

Judy Gordon Nursery School

The children will be celebrating Tu B'Shevat on Thursday, February 9 and Friday, February 10. We will talk about the celebration of the birthday of the trees in Israel. Tu B'Shevat is a great time to bring together Judaic and secular education in our pre-school. We will mark the holiday by eating fruit, particularly the kinds that are singled out by the Torah in its praise of the bounty of the Holy Land: grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates. The children will learn the blessings to go along with the Seder for Tu B'Shevat. We are excited that this year Gretchen Brandt will be doing a Torah Godly Play story on Tu B' Shevat for the three-year-old and Pre-K classes.

Purim is an exciting time at the pre-school because it is the most joyous of Jewish holidays. The children love coming to school in costume and participating in the annual Purim Carnival. They will learn the story of Purim in different ways. First, Cantor Ken will tell the Purim story and sing some of our favorite Purim songs. On March 10, both the Pre-K and Three-Year old classes will have our second Torah Godly play. While in their classrooms, the children will hear many stories and participate in a variety of activities that will help solidify their understanding. Families will be asked to bring in macaroni and cheese boxes to decorate for groggers. After the holiday, our Pre-K classes will walk to A Place to Turn on Hartford Street and donate all of the macaroni and cheese to them. We are sure that when we ask the children what their favorite part of the holiday is, they will say the chocolate chip hamantashen that we make. We hope to have a mild winter and be able to get outside to play all during February and March.

Cindy Sandler, Director
508-650-3521 ext.122
nursery@tiofnatick.org

Religious School

Look What We've Accomplished! I have now been at Temple Israel of Natick for eighteen months and this seems like the right time to look back and share five of our community's accomplishments, as they relate to the education program.

#1 We've hired many new teachers! Our new teachers have brought new energy, new smilies, and new ideas to our program. Several of these teachers have made their way to Temple Israel through "word of mouth" meaning they've heard that Temple Israel is a great place to be teaching.

#2 We've offered flexible scheduling. Parents can now choose which afternoon during the week their child will attend relgious school. As students' after-school schedules change, we've allowed them to switch religous school days. Flexible scheduling has supported smaller classes and more individual attention. Flexible scheduling has increased attendace and I am pleased that we have always given families their first choice day.

#3 We've integrated "art" into our education program. By partnering with CJP: sharing our goals, requesting special and specific assistance, we've received over 100 hours of consulting time with the most sought - after Jewish art educator in the Boston area. Through this relationship, we've been able to pilot new models and methods of teaching. Last spring we piloted a multi-age intergated art program, and this past fall we piloted a community art project. In March, we will pilot an elective program for grades 3-5.

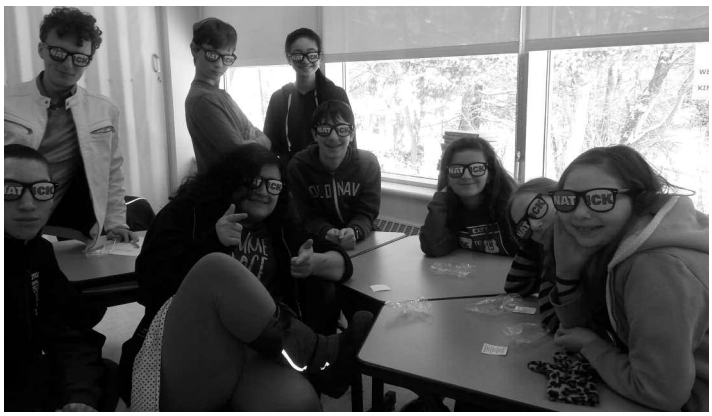
#4 We've integrated technology into our education program. Eight ipads were purchased two years ago. By taking advantage of free apps, free conferences, and online tools, our ipads are being used weekly in the classrooms. Google voice, QR codes, and more are all being used. By utilizing technology, more content and material is accessible to students. Kids love using technology! We often hear: "That's so cool!", "Can we do it again?", "I want to learn more!", "Look what I did at home!"

#5 We've hired a madrichim coordinator. This new position was made possible by a grant we received from Gateways. Our madrichim program trains and places teen volunteers in our relgious school classrooms. The results of the madrichim program include: fostering a teen community; engaging, empowering, and educating teens; as well as supporting our teachers and learners, especially those with special needs.

This is just the beginning of a longer list--more will come in the next edition of HaKol. I am grateful that through the support of the TI community, our list will continue to grow. It is a pleasure to be part of a community that is so supportive of its education program for families with school-age children!

Robin Kahn
508-650-3521• religious@tiofnatick.org

K-2 students enjoying an afternoon of Karate



Amy Ben and Ohad visited the 6th and 7th Grade classes

PURIM CARNIVAL

March 12 from 12–1:30 pm

What is the Carnival? Every year, Natick USY hosts the Purim Carnival, a fun-filled event for your family.
There are lots of booths set up with games and crafts, like a moon bounce, bowling, lollipop tree, and mask decorating for your kids to enjoy!
These booths are run by teen volunteers from Natick USY.

Additionally, there is a silent auction, raffle, and concessions. Put someone in Jail for only $1.
Lunch and snacks will be sold at the carnival (cash only).

Who: geared towards families

What: a fun-filled carnival celebrating Purim

Where: Temple Israel of Natick

Remember to wear your favorite costume!
Bracelets entitling the wearer to unlimited game play will be available!*

*Limits may apply at select games. Raffle and Jail do not apply. All of the proceeds will benefit Tikkun Olam!

Purim Time Is (almost) Here!!!

Believe it or not, it's not too soon to be thinking about spring! Purim is coming and you have a chance to perform the mitzvah of Mishloach Manot. Mishloach Manot are gifts of food that Jews send to each other during the holiday of Purim. "Mishloach Manot" literally means the "sending of portions," and this mitzvah is meant to ensure that everyone has enough food to enjoy the traditional Purim feast. The custom comes from the biblical Book of Esther, where the Purim story is recounted. Esther 9:22 reads: "as days of feasting and gladness, and sending portions of food to one another, and gifts to the poor."

Watch your email to receive your personal Login Code to the HappyPurim.com website where you can sign up to send greetings to friends, family or even the whole congregation. Greetings are $5 each. All Temple members and staff in the Eastern Massachusetts area will receive one basket. You may order extras to pick up and deliver on your own for $10 each. Reciprocity greetings (at $2 per greeting) may be sent to people who send to you, but to whom you didn't send, if you choose the Reciprocity option. The maximum charge is $218 (total of all greetings and reciprocity greetings); once you reach that level, additional greetings and reciprocity are free.

If you did not receive an email with your personal Login Code, please contact the Temple office. If you prefer, you may return your completed paper Mishloach Manot form to the Temple office, with payment, on or before Wednesday, March 1. Don't be late, send in your form today!

The USY Purim Carnival will be on Sunday, March 12. That morning, volunteers (could be you!) will be assembling the Mishloach Manot baskets, which include a combination of hamantashen, fruit, candy, and more. Volunteer drivers will be picking up baskets for delivery (could be you!). If you can be at the Temple on Sunday morning, March 12, please help reduce our deliveries by indicating on your order that you will be picking up your basket(s).

Please contact Erez Azaria at MM2017@tiofnatick.org, or at 508-651-7786, with any questions.

Generosity Abounds at TI

We thank the TI community for donating more than 100 canned goods and 60 turkeys for Thanksgiving, 2016! The Natick Service Council and Jewish Family Service of MetroWest greatly appreciated the food donated to our neighbors in need.

A special thank you goes to Gretchen Marks Brandt, seventh grade educator at Temple Israel's Religious School. She supported the Gesher students in organizing a parallel campaign. They were coordinators, cheerleaders, and participants within the Religious School, where each grade adopted one of 8 families and collected a full dinner "from soup to nuts" for their adopted family for distribution through the Natick Service Council.

We are proud to be part of such a caring synagogue.

Linda Silverman
On Behalf of the Social Action Committee

Do You Know Someone Who Is Struggling Financially?

CJP is leading an initiative to provide comprehensive support for individuals and families in our Greater Boston Jewish community who are in, or at risk of, severe financial hardship. With support from generous donors and in partnership with our Jewish social service agencies, we are able to collectively address immediate needs — like getting dinner on the table and keeping the heat on in the winter — as well as provide services that lead to greater stability, such as job search support and mentors for children.

Do you know someone who has struggled to pay rent? Had to choose between buying meals and paying for medical bills? Too many people in our community have to make these difficult choices every day. In the past three years, CJP and our partner agencies (Jewish Family & Children's Service, Jewish Family Service of Metrowest, Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters, Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly, Jewish Vocational Service and Yad Chessed) helped more than 3,800 members of our Jewish community navigate their options to get support, find jobs and gain access to food, financial assistance and utilities.

We believe many more people are in need, but asking for help is very difficult. CJP and our partner agencies are here to provide resources and help turn things around.

By calling the CJP warmline (1-800-CJP-9500), individuals and families in need are connected with a compassionate, experienced social worker who can connect them with the full spectrum of services available to our Jewish community and the support needed to move forward. You can also learn more at raiseyourhand.cjp.org.

FEBRUARY 2017 / SHEVAT-ADAR 5777

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5 Shevat Line Dancing, 10:00-11:00 am Religious School Ramah Service Corp. 4:00 – 6:00 pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 8:00 – 9:30 pm	**2** 6 Shevat Youth Lounge, 6:00-7:30 pm Youth Committee Meeting, 7:30-9:00 pm Israeli Dancing, 8:00-9:00 pm	**3** 7 Shevat JFN/JFS Playgroup, 9:30-11:30 am Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:45 pm	**4** 8 Shevat Shabbat Service, 9:15 am All Youth Services, 10:30 am Talmud study in translation, 4:45-5:30 pm USY Event (Grades 6-8) 6:30 pm
5 9 Shevat Men's Club World-wide Wrap & Build a Pair, 10:00 am HaZamir Chorale Rehearsal, 2:00-4:00 pm TI Singers Rehearsal, 7:00-9:00 pm	**6** 10 Shevat Membership Committee meeting, 8:00 pm	**7** 11 Shevat Sisterhood Board meeting, 8:00-9:00 pm OA Meeting, 10:00-11:00 am	**8** 12 Shevat Line Dancing, 10:00-11:00 am Religious School Prozdor Program, Grades 5-7, 4:00 – 6:00 pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 8:00 – 9:30 pm	**9** 13 Shevat Education Committee meeting, 7:00 pm Israeli Dancing, 8:00-9:00 pm	**10** 14 Shevat JFN/JFS Playgroup, 9:30-11:30 am Family Tu'Bishvat Seder and Services, 5:45 pm	**11** 15 Shevat Shabbat Services, 9:15 am Shabbat babysitting10:00 am Talmud study in translation, 4:45-5:30 pm NERUSY Tikkum Olam Semi-Formal Dance (Grades 9-12)
12 16 Shevat School-wide Tu'Bishvat program Ramah Service Corp Program, Grades 3-5, 12:00-2:00 pm HaZamir Chorale Rehearsal, 2:00-4:00 pm USY Board mtg, 2:30-4:30 pm TI Singers Rehearsal, 7-9 pm	**13** 17 Shevat Sisterhood Book Group, 1:30 pm	**14** 18 Shevat OA Meeting, 10:00-11:00 am Executive Board meeting, 8:00 pm	**15** 19 Shevat Line Dancing 10:00-11:00 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 8:00 – 9:30 pm	**16** 20 Shevat Israeli Dancing 8:00-9:00 pm	**17** 21 Shevat JFN/JFS Playgroup 9:30-11:30 am Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:45 pm	**18** 22 Shevat Shabbat Service, 9:15 am All Youth Services, 10:30 am Talmud study in translation, 4:45-5:30 pm
19 23 Shevat No Religious School TI Singers Rehearsal, 7:00-9:00 pm	**20** 24 Shevat Office closed School Vacation No Nursery School	**21** 25 Shevat School Vacation- No Nursery or Religious School OA Meeting, 10:00-11:00 am	**22** 26 Shevat School Vacation- No Nursery School or Religious School Line Dancing, 10-11 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 8:00 – 9:30 pm	**23** 27 Shevat School Vacation- No Nursery School Israeli Dancing, 8:00-9:00 pm	**24** 28 Shevat School Vacation- No Nursery School JFN/JFS Playgroup 9:30-11:30 am Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:45 pm	**25** 29 Shevat Men's Club Shabbat Service, 9:15 am Talmud study in translation, 4:45-5:30 pm
26 30 Shevat No Religious School Hazak presents Dr. Gary Hylander, 11:00 am HaZamir Chorale Rehearsal, 2:00-4:00 pm TI Singers Rehearsal, 7-9 pm	**27** 1 Adar Israeli Movie Night, 8:00 pm	**28** 2 Adar OA Meeting, 10:00-11:00 am Religious School Ramah Service Corp., 4–6 pm Religious School Prozdor Program, grades 5-7, 4–6pm Sisterhood Evening Book Club, 7:30 pm Temple Board Mtg, 8:00 pm				

MARCH 2017 / ADAR-NISAN 5777

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 3 Adar Line Dancing, 10:00-11:00 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah class, 8:00 – 9:30 pm	**2** 4 Adar USY Youth Lounge, 6:00-7:30 pm Adult Ed. – Not Getting Younger, Getting Better (Wise Aging),7:00 – 8:30 pm Youth Com Mtg,7:30-9pm Israeli Dancing, 8:00-9:00 p	**3** 5 Adar JFN/JFS Playgroup, 9:30-11:30 am Membership Community Dinner/Shabbat Across America, 5:45 pm	**4** 6 Adar Shabbat Service, 9:15 am All Youth Services, 10:30 am Talmud study in translation, 4:45-5:30 pm
5 7Adar Annual Congregational Breakfast, 9:45 am – 12:00 pm K'vutza Youth Event (Grades K-2) 12:00-2:00 pm Kadima Event, Grades 3-5 (offsite) HaZamir Chorale Rehearsal, 2-4pm USY Board Meeting, 6:00-8:00 pm Jr. USY Regional Event (offsite) TI Singers Rehearsal, 7-9 pm	**6** 8 Adar Membership Committee meeting, 8:00 pm	**7** 9 Adar OA Meeting, 10:00-11:00 am Religious School Prozdor Program, grades 5-7, 4:00 – 6:00 pm Sisterhood Board meeting, 8:00 pm	**8** 10 Adar Line Dancing, 10:00-11:00 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah class, 8:00 – 9:30 pm	**9** 11 Adar Education Committee meeting, 7:00 pm Israeli Dancing, 8:00-9:00 pm	**10** 12 Adar JFN/JFS Playgroup, 9:30-11:30 am Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:45 pm	**11** 13 Adar Shabbat Service, 9:15 am Shabbat babysitting, 10 am Talmud study in translation, 4:45-5:30 pm Purim Dinner Megillah Reading 6:45-9 pm
12 14 Adar Daylight Savings Time Begins Mishloach Manot Assembly, 8:00 – 10:00 am Purim Carnival, 12:00 pm TI Singers Rehearsal, 7:00-9:00 pm	**13** 15 Adar Sisterhood Book Group, 1:30 pm	**14** 16 Adar OA Meeting, 10:00-11:00 am Executive Board meeting, 8:00 pm	**15** 17 Adar JGNS Person in Your Life Breakfast, 7:00 – 9:0 am Line Dancing, 10:00-11:00 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah class, 8:00 – 9:30 pm	**16** 18 Adar JGNS Man in Your Life Breakfast, 7:00 – 9:0 am Adult Ed. Lunch & Learn: The Ethical Life, noon – 1:30 pm Adult Ed. – Not Getting Younger, Getting Better 7–8:30pm Israeli Dancing, 8-9 pm	**17** 19 Adar JFN/JFS Playgroup 9:30-11:30 am Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:45 pm NERUSY Senior Weekend	**18** 20 Adar Shabbat Service, 9:15 am Bat Mitzvah of Madeleine Siegal NERUSY Senior Weekend All Youth Services, 10:30 am Talmud study in translation, 4:45-5:30 pm
19 21 Adar Religious School Grade 6 Tallit Program HaZamir Chorale Rehearsal, 2:00-4:00 pm TI Singers Rehearsal, 7:00-9:00 pm	**20** 22 Adar Israeli Movie, 8:00 pm	**21** 23 Adar OA Meeting, 10:00-11:00 am Sisterhood General Meeting, 8:00 pm	**22** 24 Adar Line Dancing, 10:00-11:00 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah class, 8:00 – 9:30 pm Men's Club Hearing Men's Voices, 8:00 pm	**23** 25 Adar Adult Ed. Lunch & Learn: The Ethical Life, noon – 1:30 pm Israeli Dancing, 8:00-9:00 pm	**24** 26 Adar JFN/JFS Playgroup 9:30-11:30 am Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:45 pm USY Shabbat Dinner	**25** 27 Adar Shabbat Service, 9:15 am Bat Mitzvah of Mikayla Henderson Shabbat Babysitting, 10 am Talmud study in translation, 4:45-5:30 pm
26 28 Adar Men's Club Board meeting, 10:00 am Hazak Program, 2:00 – 4:00 pm TI Singers Rehearsal, 7:00-9:00 pm	**27** 29 Adar JGNS Pre-K matzah-baking	**28** 1 Nisan JGNS Toddler Seder OA Meeting, 10:00-11:00 am Sisterhood Evening Book Club, 7:30 pm Temple Board Mtg, 8:00 pm	**29** 2 Nisan JGNS Passover Workshop/Toddler Seder Line Dancing, 10:00-11:00 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah class, 8:00 – 9:30 pm	**30** 3 Nisan Adult Ed. Lunch & Learn: The Ethical Life, noon – 1:30 pm Adult Ed. – Not Getting Younger, Getting Better (Wise Aging),7:00 – 8:30 pm Israeli Dancing, 8-9 pm	**31** 4 Nisan JFN/JFS Playgroup 9:30-11:30 am Kabbalat Shabbat, 5:45 pm	

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Sisterhood Judaica Shop

Team up with Sisterhood - complete the enclosed Passover Wine Order Form to purchase Kosher for Passover Wine. Join this fundraiser and support Sisterhood and the Temple Israel community! Your purchase helps Sisterhood continue to provide support to the Religious School, Nursery School, HaKol, Kiddushim, Sukkah decorating, and more!!

Deadline: Monday, March 27

Wine pick-up: Social Hall on Sunday, April 2 from 10:00 am -1:00 pm
Checks payable to: Temple Israel of Natick Judaica Shop
For additional information contact Julie Sudenfield jsudenfield@gmail.com

In The Community

MetroWest Jewish Day School

Mazel Tots and Maccabees Pre-School Programs Return!

Mazel Tots & Maccabees are monthly programs geared toward young children ages 2 and up. All children and their families are welcome to participate. Activities will include kid-friendly mitzvah & craft projects, hands-on activities, games, snacks and stories led by the talented MWJDS staff. Drop-ins are welcome, but RSVP's are appreciated. Contact Beth Null for more information or to RSVP: beth.null@mwjds.org.

Tu B'Shvat– Birthday of the Trees - February 12 from 2-3:30 pm

Our February activities will include planting seeds and learning about ecology.

Purim Carnival – Friday, March 10 (time to be announced)

MWJDS Visitors Day Friday, February 1 from 10 am – 12 pm

Come see student centered learning in action at MetroWest Jewish Day School. Visit our classrooms while school is in session. Our Head of School, Rav-Hazzan Scott Sokol, will be available to answer questions. Our Admissions Director, Beth Null, will have additional information about financial aid, transportation, and extended day options. RSVP is requested: beth.null@mwjds.org or 508-620-5554.

MWJDS is now accepting applications for kindergarten through 8th grade for the 2017-2018 school year. Apply online: www.mwjds.org/admissions.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

February 20-24 (9:00 am-4:00 pm) for grades K-6 and CITS in grades 7-9

JCC Kids' Choice February Vacation Program

From sports to swimming to arts, dance, cooking and rock climbing, kids have their choice of activities at the JCC Kids' Choice February Vacation Program. Held at the Leventhal-Sidman JCC (333 Nahanton Street) in Newton on February 20-24 from 9am-4pm with early drop-off and extended day available. For boys and girls entering grades K-6 (and CITs in grades 7-9 at a reduced rate – please call for details). Special highlights include JCC Magic Ark Performing Arts Series for Families The Amazing Max Magic Show, pajama day and carnival, trip to Wheelock Family Theatre to see Billy Elliot the Musical, arts and crafts festival and a performance by singer-songwriter Janet Feld. Come for one day or as many days as you would like. Everyone welcome. Early bird rates available. Register at bostonjcc.org/schoolvacations. For more information, visit bostonjcc.org/schoolvacation or contact schoolvacations@jccgb.org or 617-558-6529.

CJP is Sponsoring Author Jonathan Safran Foer

CJP's Jewish Learning and Engagement team has just engaged Jonathan Safran Foer to speak about his most recent book, Here I Am, at a free event on April 26. The hope is that many people – in book groups or on their own – will read and discuss the book in advance of the event. There will be book discussion materials and blogs posted on JewishBoston.com beginning very soon.

Solomon Schechter Day School

SCHECHTER PALS (Preschoolers and Little Siblings) PROGRAMS

Wednesday, February 8, 2017 • 4:00-5:00pm • Green Thumb: The Science of Tu B'Shevat and Trees

Leave it to us to branch out! We're going out on a limb and learning about trees and plants. We'll dig down to the roots of Tu B'Shevat and unearth the meaning of the holiday. Get your hands dirty designing a mini terrarium you can take home. PALS is a free, family-friendly series of programs of the Solomon Schechter Day School. At every PALS event, preschoolers enjoy entertainment and projects that are designed to be engaging, educational and interactive. Hands-on activities that teach Jewish values are woven into every PALS. 60 Stein Circle, Newton. For more information, contact Stephanie Maroun at 617-630-4625 or at stephanie.maroun@ssdsboston.org

Jewish Family Services of MetroWest

Patient Navigator: Join the JFS Patient Navigator corps of volunteers that provides access to vital health services. Patient Navigators are trained volunteers who accompany frail older adults to medical appointments, facilitate communication with medical staff, and provide practical and emotional support. CJP funds JFS to provide this important service to Jewish seniors in Metrowest.

If you have an interest in helping frail older adults maintain their independence, contact JFS (www.jfsmw.org) at 508-875-3100 x110 to learn more about this flexible, rewarding opportunity.

Adoption Choices: Are you interested in growing your family through adoption? Do you have questions about adoption? We can help! Since 1982, Adoption Choices, a non-profit, licensed adoption program, has been providing Massachusetts families with comprehensive adoption services. Our program is designed to meet the needs of the adoptive parents, birth parents, and adopted persons by providing a wide range of educational and counseling services in a progressive program. Contact us today to speak with an expert.

Family Assistance: The JFS Family Assistance Network provides confidential and respectful assistance to individuals and families in Metrowest to help them meet the short-term challenges resulting from urgent financial difficulties. Our goal is to help households remain independent and financially self-sufficient. Diana O'Brien dobrien@jfsmw.org.

Geriatric Care Management: The experts at JFS Elder Care Solutions understand the challenges that come with aging. Whether you or someone you love needs help after a stay in the hospital or assessing housing options, coordinating services, understanding benefits, or adapting to health-related barriers, our care managers can give you expert advice that meets your needs and preferences. Call JFS and speak with an expert today. 800-655-9553, help4elder@jfsmw.org

Jewish Family Network: JFN creates opportunities for new parents as well as parents of children under age 5 to connect with each other and the community in Metrowest. JFN is collaboration between JFS of Metrowest and the JCCs of Greater Boston. JFN represents the Metrowest Jewish community's commitment to young families. Contact Abrielle Salloway for more information: 508-875-3100 ext. 360.

Ready for Success: This is a joint project with Jewish Vocational Services and JFS. We are seeking mid/late career Jewish professionals in the Metrowest region who are active job seekers, and who have a clear career direction, but need some help with searching for and landing a job. If you're interested please inquire by filling out this form: https://jfsofmetrowest.wufoo.com/forms/jfsjvs-ready-for-success-inquiry/ or calling Stephanie Rohr LCSW at 508-875-3100 x 380.

Temple Israel of Natick Donors

We gratefully acknowledge these thoughtful donations to our Temple Israel funds

Adopt-A-Family

Donation from: Carolyn and Israel Michaeli

In honor of:

The Bat Mitzvah of Harvey Stone's granddaughter Jessica, from Marilyn Goldberg

The marriage of our grandson, Matthew Schwarz, to Amy Kassen, from Arlene and Jack Miller

In memory of:

Gilbert Wolpe, from Barbara Marder; Jill Greenberg; Lorraine and David Telegen; Marge and Allan Slotnick; Janis and Jonathan Lightman; Carolyn and Israel Michaeli

Martin Bruce, from Deb and Jonathan Bruce

Beloved husband Arthur, from Marilyn Goldberg

Beloved father Harry Telegen, from David Telegen

Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from Sharon and Stewart Ginsberg

Adult Education Fund/Temple Israel Learning Institute (TILI)

Donation from: Marsha and Harvey Chasen, Marcia Aronson

In honor of:

The 55th wedding anniversary of Elaine and Burt Marmer, from Lauren and David Fishman; Marilyn and Joel Feinberg

Burt Marmer's special birthday, from Marilyn and Joel Feinberg

In memory of:

Beloved father Abraham Shufrin, from Sandy and Norm Shufrin

Rabbi Herman Savitz, father of Shoshana Savitz, from Charlotte Temple

Gilbert Wolpe, husband of Brina Wolpe, from Charlotte Temple

Fran Bernstein, mother of Roberta Kressel, from Charlotte Temple

Beloved mother Ella Feinberg, from Marilyn and Joel Feinberg

Al Doxer Fund

In memory of: Ann Doxer, from Orrin Doxer

Aliyah/Yizkor Fund

In appreciation of:

High Holiday honor, from Julie and Ron Thalheimer; Barbara and Jonathan Gilvarg; Gail and David Gilvarg; Edward Kepnes; Amy and Jay Salinger; Lauren and Gary Kracoff

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In memory of:

Pola and Victor Aresty, from Neil Aresty

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In memory of;

Our dear friend Elsie, from Paula and Hal Homonoff and family

Fred Merkowitz, from Harriet Merkowitz

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Benson Rowe Memorial Fund

In memory of:

Beloved mother Selma Morse, form Charles Morse

Bima Beautification Fund

In memory of:

Rae Hadburg, mother of Gail Pearlstein, from Gail and Jay Pearlstein

Beatrice Eckstein, mother of Laurie Gorelick, from Gail and Jay Pearlstein

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of:

Cantor Ken's comforting presence during the service for our son Barry, from Jean and Mort Levin

Cantor Ken's preparing Ari for his Bar Mitzvah, from Helaine Denenberg and Jonathan Klawans

In memory of: Sidney Oakan, from Robert Oakan

Cantor's Fine Arts Fund

In honor of:

Our wonderful family Marci, Barry, Adina and Benjamin Kling, from Eileen and Harvey Krieger

In memory of:

Lawrence Sugarman, from Halye, Richard, Jonathan and Adam Sugarman

Peter Gross, from Brenda and Arnold Zaltas

Anna Feigen, from Brenda and Arnold Zaltas

Beloved mother and grandmother Ruth Murman, from Marlene and Mort Cohen

Father Max Stuchins, from Marion and Burt Stuchins

Beloved daughter-in-law and son JoAnne and Bart Krieger, from Eileen and Harvey Krieger

Wishing a happy Hanukah to:

Cantor Ken Richmond and family, from Caryl and Robert Hurwitz

Dr. Fine Choir Enhancement Fund

In memory of:

Beatrice Slater, from Jean and Mort Levin

Mary Ryack, from Jean and Mort Levin

Judith Scherr, sister of Cantor Robert Scherr, from Jean and Mort Levin

Beloved sister Myrna Finn, from Esther Fine

Fried-Tanzer Hiddur Mitzvah Fund

In honor of:

Simchat Torah Honorees Shirley Woods, Mitch Hollander and Herb Daitch, from Nancy and Donald Fried-Tanzer

The Bar Mitzvah of Ari Klawans, son of Helaine Denenberg and Jonathan Klawans, from Nancy and Donald Fried-Tanzer

In memory of:

Judith Scherr, sister of Cantor Bob Scherr, from Nancy and Donald Fried-Tanzer

General Fund

Donation from: Marc Gorenstein, Orrin Doxer

In appreciation of:

Temple Israel, from Michael Albert

The Rabbi, Cantor and Temple community for their support in 2016, from Ellen and Norman Kahn

Our Temple Israel friends and family for the amazing support and comfort provided following the passing of our dear mother and grandma, Anne "Honey" Goldfarb, from Esta, Bob, Jodi and Erica Gold

In honor of:

The engagement of Elliot Salinger, son of Amy and Jay Salinger, to Sarah Ricklan, from Sharon and Rudolf Salinger

In memory of:

Father Sam Rosenberg, from Florence Rosenberg

Father Frank Gerrin, from Howard Gerrin

Father Herman Yorks, from Edith Yorks

Brother Mitchell Levin, from Edith Yorks

Husband Alfred Simon, from Esther Simon

Mother Lena Busny, from Esther Simon

Father Soloman Busny, from Esther Simon

Thelma and Morris Gordon, from Barbara Schwab

Seymour Casdin, from Jane Kamer

Rabbi Herman Savitz, father of Shoshana Savitz, from Lauren and David Fishman; Julie and Jake Barth

Howard Hill, from Joan and Joseph Hill

Gilbert Wolpe, husband of Brina Wolpe, from Marlene and Mort Cohen; Naida and Michael Rodman

Abraham Greenberg, from the Greenberg, Bass and Winn Families

Bessie Greenberg, from the Greenberg, Bass and Winn Families

Father Majer Jakubowicz, from Bernard Jakubowicz

Beloved father and grandfather Albert Hanzel, from Harriet and Alan Cole

Father Samuel Salllus, from Anita Valof

Anna Levin, from Edith Yorks

Mother Rose Bernstein, from Helen Cook

Husband Burton Cook, from Helen Cook

Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from The Sarasohn Family; Valla Hoffman; Rosalyn Finn; Judie and Harry Linowes; Allen Goldfarb; Lisa and Alan Avery-Peck; Karen and Lloyd Koltov; Lisa and Mitchell Covitz; Siagel Productions; Candy and David Gould

Mark Aronson, father of Debbie Needleman, from Lisa and Alan Avery-Peck; Lisa and Mitchell Covitz

Judith Scherr, sister of Cantor Robert Scherr, from Lisa and Alan Avery-Peck

Dear mother Frieda Valdofsky, from Joe Valof

Harry Hershfield and Ruth Rodman, from Naida and Michael Rodman

Aharon Tau, Robert Webber and Eleanor Poloner, from Irit Tau Webber and David Webber

Rose Covitz, from Lisa and Mitchell Covitz

Father Gerald Gershon, from Lisa and Mitchell Covitz

Innovation in Education Fund

Donation from:

Ann and Larry Lester; Lisa and Matthew Goldsmith

In honor of:

Burt Marmer's special birthday, from Gail and Jay Pearlstein

The 55th wedding anniversary of Elaine and Burt Marmer, from Gail and Jay Pearlstein

In memory of:

Bubbie Greenfield and Herb Libman, from Michelle and Adam Wilen

Israel Action Fund

In honor of:

Kurt Linden's special birthday, from Carolyn and Israel Michaeli

In memory of:

Gilbert Wolpe, husband of Brina Wolpe, from Margie Matross and Dubi Gordon

Dr. Barry Levin, son of Jean and Mort Levin, from Margie Matross and Dubi Gordon

Rabbi Herman Savitz, father of Shoshana Savtiz, from Margie Matross and Dubi Gordon

Beloved uncle and war hero Morris Kaplan, from Sandy Shufrin

Beatrice Eckstein, mother of Laurie Gorelick, from Dee and Barry Unger

Jacob & Ethel Raider Fund

In memory of:

Ethel Raider, from Brenda and Arnold Zaltas

Beloved mother Reiza Steremberg, from Betty Fischman

Judy Gordon Nursery School Fund

In memory of:

Our grandmother and great-grandmother Ethel Goldberg, from Cindy and Gary Sandler and family

Beloved mother Judith Fishman, from Judy and Jeff Fishman

Beloved mother Edith Abrams, from Judy and Jeff Fishman

Beloved son Joshua Max Fishman, from Judy and Jeff Fishman

Joshua Max Fishman, from Linda and Gerald Wheland

Joanne and Bruce Rampe's grandson Brendan, from Cindy and Gary Sandler

Audrey Peppi Donaldson, sister of Joelle Peppi, from Cindy Sandler, Stacey Shulman, Ann Barbo and Joanne Rampe

Dear brother Herb Sherry, from Beverly Karp

Beatrice Eckstein, mother of Laurie Gorelick, from The Nelson Family

Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from Gail and Jay Pearlstein

Nancy Dratch, mother of John Dratch, from Cindy and Gary Sandler

Ellen Hochberger, mother of Ben Hochberger, from Cindy and Gary Sandler

Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from Cindy and Gary Sandler

Jane Walk, mother of Ann Barbo, from Cindy and Gary Sandler

Kitchen Renovation Fund

In memory of: Trudy Tursky, from David Tursky

Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from Laurie and Stuart Alford

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Dick Rotberg, from The Nelson Family

Living Memorial Fund (Aaron Kushner Memorial)

In appreciation of:

The leagrams and messages of congratulations in honor of our granddaughter Rebecca Janfaza becoming a Bat Mitzvah, from Fay and Parviz Janfaza

In memory of:

Mother Lena Yetta Sandler, from Marvin Sandler

Parents Dora Packer Siegel and A. Louis Siegel, from Fay Janfaza

Father Benjamin Figur, from Judy and Murray Hack

Jeff Hadburg, brother of Gail Pearlstein, from Gail and Jay Pearlstein

Minyan Fund

Donation from: Edna and Fred Glass

In appreciation of:

Paula Jacobs, Mark Needleman, Norm Shufrin, Rabbi Liben, Cantor Ken and all of our Temple friends for their kindness, good wishes and wonderful breakfast as we relocated to Florida, Marla and Michael Winer,

Cantor Richmond, Bob Smith and Ralph Korenstein, for traveling to the wilds of Framingham to lead the shiva minyan for our son Barry, from Jean and Mort Levin

In honor of:

Herb Daitch, Simchat Torah Hatan Torah honoree, from Ruth Levy

Mitch Hollander, Simchat Torah Hatan Bereshit honoree, from Ruth Levy

Temple Israel of Natick Donors

We gratefully acknowledge these thoughtful donations to our Temple Israel funds

In memory of:
Parents Martha and Melvin Cherwin, from Arlene Cherwin
Beloved mother Mollie Zafron, from Ilene Zafron
Beloved mother Helen Tarutz, from Paula Jacobs
Father Maurice Seiniger, from Roberta Aronson
Gilbert Wolpe, husband of Brina Wolpe, from Ruth and Joel Winett; Sandy and Norm Shufrin
Beloved mother Ethel Noah, from Irene Perlmutter
Beloved father Samuel Noah, from Irene Perlmutter
Morris Kaplan, loving son, brother and war hero, from Nan and Murray Kaftan
Judith Block, and in appreciation of the Temple Israel daily minyan, from David Block
Martha Jaffe, from Francine Jaffe
Carroll Trockman, from The Trockman Family
Parents Dr. & Mrs. Jack Kagan, and brother Arthur Kagan, from Nancy Kreevoy
Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from The Nelson Family; Dee and Barry Unger
Mark Aronson, father of Debbie Needleman, from The Nelson Family
Harry Kaftan, devoted husband, father, son and brother, from Nan and Murray Kaftan
Beloved brother Steven Hollander, from Mitch Hollander
Sonia Markman, from Fran Goldstein
Rhoda Gold, from Esta and Bob Golda and family
Seymour Gold, from Esta and Bob Golda and family

Passport to Israel (Harry & Betty Blumenthal)

In memory of:
Mother Betty Blumenthal, from Lee and Vic Blumenthal
Grandmother Dora Blumenthal, from Lee and Vic Blumenthal
Father Hyman Ullian, from Lee and Vic Blumenthal
Florence and Irwin Cohn, and Jeanne and Samuel Saber, from Sue and Jim Saber
Husband and father Harold Reisman, from Lee and Vic Blumenthal
Uncle Myer Freedman, from Lee and Vic Blumenthal
Father David Blumenthal, from Aaron Blumenthal

Passport to Israel (Needleman Fund)

In honor of:
The Bat Mitzvah of Maya Dolgoff, daughter of Jennifer and Aaron Dolgoff, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
The Bat Mitzvah of Jessica Stone, granddaughter of Harvey Stone, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
The Bat Mitzvah of Jessica Smith, granddaughter of Terry and Bob Smith, and of David and Bonnie Gordon, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
The engagement of Elliot Salinger, son of Amy and Jay Salinger, to Sarah Jane Ricklan, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Sheila Wolfson's special birthday, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Jeremy Arcus-Goldberg's special birthday, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Omi Cantor's special birthday, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Mitch Hollander's special birthday, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
The engagement of Daniel Haberman, grandson of Berna and Bill Haberman, to Amanda Ault, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Elaine and Burt Marmer's 55th wedding anniversary, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Burt Marmer's special birthday, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Alan Blolck's special birthday, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning

In memory of:
Dr. Barry Levin, son of Jean and Mort Levin, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Rabbi Herman Savitz, father of Shoshana Savitz, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Gil Wolpe, husband of Brina Wolpe, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Beloved mother Micky Winston, from Eileen Winston
Mark Aronson, father of Debbie Needleman, from Nancy and Donald Fried-Tanzer; The Lechan Family; Claire Levovsky; Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning; Sandy and Mark Challant; Allen Goldberg; Erica and Jay Ball; Dee and Barry Unger; Sandy and Norm Shufrin
Ellen Hochberger, mother of Ben Hochberger, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning
Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from Sue Rodgin and Warren Manning; Sandy and Mark Challant
Beatrice Eckstein, mother of Laurie Gorelick, from Lauren and Gary Kracoff

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of:
Rabbi Liben's preparing Ari for his Bar Mitzvah, from Helaine Denenberg and Jonathan Klawans
Rabbi Liben's hospitality, from Richard Gray

In honor of:
This year's Simchat Torah honorees: Shirley Woods, Mitch Hollander and Herb Daitch, from Adele Wolfson
The Bar Mitzvah of Ari Klawans, son of Helaine Denenberg and Jonathan Klawans, from Paula and David Jacobs
Fran and Rabbi Daniel Liben, from Minna and Jeffrey Heilpern
Our wonderful family Marci, Barry, Adina and Benjamin Kling, from Eileen and Harvey Krieger

In memory of:
Brother-in-law Isadore Kravitz, from David Levenson
Martin Singer, from Randy and David Singer
Irwin Solomon, Sidney Miller and Peter Miller, from Ellen and Jonathan Miller
Beloved mother Beatrice Reine, from David Reine
Martha & Maurice Fisher, from Diane Cooper
Helen Pike, from Julene Rosenman
Beloved daughter Alla, from Sofia and Emmanuil Khlyap
Mother-in-law Ida Kravitz, from David Levenson
Mother Judith Levenson, from David Levenson
Brother Marvin Levenson, from David Levenson
Sister Libby Hack, from Murray Hack
Rabbi Herman Savitz, father of Shoshana Savitz, from Ellen Deutsch and Arthur Riseman
Gertrude Levin, from Linda and Jerry Levin
Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from Leslie Miller and Warren Abramson; Bernard Friedman and family; Debbie, David and Adam Gitner; Jeanne and Peter Shumrak; Phyllis Levine
Mark Aronson, father of Debbie Needleman, from Karen and Don Berk
Beloved daughter-in-law and son JoAnne and Bart Krieger, from Eileen and Harvey Krieger
Martin Rosenman, from Julene and Alan Rosenman

Religious School

(Ida and Charles Gilvarg Memorial)

In honor of:
Doug Koltenuk's selection as Men's Club's 'Keeper of the Flame," from the Sugarman Family

In memory of:
Beloved mother and grandmother Shirley Cohen, from Barbara, Jonathan, Samuel, Jacob and Hannah Gilvarg
Rabbi Herman Savitz, father of Shoshana Savitz, from Nancy and Donald Fried-Tanzer
Bernard Cohen, father of Barbara Gilvarg, from The Nelson Family; Sandy and Norm Shufrin; Alison, Ken, Ethan, Sarah and Adam Davis; Paula Levine; Gail and David Gilvarg and family
Gilbert Wolpe, husband of Brina Wolpe, from Rachel and Michael Kamin
Beloved mother and grandmother Ida Gilvarg, from Barbara, Jonathan, Samuel, Jacob and Hannah Gilvarg; Gail, David, Craig, Larry and Briana Gilvarg
Father and grandfather Bernard M. Cohen, from Barbara, Jonathan, Samuel, Jacob and Hannah Gilvarg

Rosenthal Mitzvah Fund

In memory of: Lili Cukor, from Adele Cukor
George Hurwitz, from Sandy and Joe Hurwitz
Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from Bonnie and Joel Rosenthal

Sanctuary Renovation Fund

In memory of:
Bernard Cohen, father of Barbara Gilvarg, from Laurie and Stuart Alford

Sarah Cohen Testamentary Fund

(Bimah Accessibility)

In memory of:
Mother Roberta Cohen, from Neil Cohen

Saxe Camp Ramah Scholarship

In appreciation of:
All the great wishes on the birth of our grandson, Hudson Levi Volin, from Ellen and Henry Kanner

Mazal Tov to:
Rachel and Adam Volin on the birth of their son Hudson Levi Volin, from Bernice Saxe

The Silverman Family Community Service Fund

Mazal Tov to:
Herb Daitch, Mitch Hollander and Shirley Woods on their Simchat Torah honors, from Amy and Jay Salnger

Temple Book Fund

In honor of:
Rabbi Daniel Liben and Dubi Gordon, from Jack Leitner

In memory of:
Mother Rose Stone, from Helaine Weener
Father Samuel Stone, from Helaine Weene

Wiener/Wolfson Caring Committee Fund

In appreciation of:
The Caring Committee, with special thanks to Annette Ziegler, for the help, food and visits during my recovery, from Edna-mae Schneider

In honor of:
The engagement of Betsy Rotberg, daughter of Phyllis and Richard Rotberg to Randy Barske, from David Decter

In memory of:
Shira Ronit Nislick, from Phyllis and Joseph Chartor
Barnett Chartor, from Phyllis and Joseph Chartor

Wiener/Wolfson Family Education Fund

In honor of;
Burt Marmer's 80th birthday, from Sheila and Bill Wolfson

In memory of:
Minnie Wiener, from Sheila and Bill Wolfson
Anne Goldfarb, mother of Esta Gold, from Marilyn Kurzman

Rabbi Harold and Suzette Kushner Prozdor Scholarship Fund

In memory of:
Abraham Bressler from Barbara and Melvin Bressler
Hyman Leventhal, from Barbara and Melvin Bressler
Father Israel Matz, from Edna Perlmutter
Sister Esther Matz Clarke, from Edna Perlmutter
Father Isaac Hack, from Judy and Murray Hack

Nathan & Rhoda Levine Scholarship Fund

In memory of:
Sarah and Samuel Levine, Jack Levine, Morris Levine, Ida Frank, Rachel Lucas and Hyman Levine, from Rhoda and Nathan Levine

USY Activity Fund

In memory of:
Beloved father and grandfather Harry Kaftan, from Sandy Shufrin

USY Pilgrimage/Wheels Scholarship

In memory of:
Parents and grandparents Dorothy and Irving Chursed, from Maxine, Larry, Jamie and Ira Rogers
Parents and grandparents Rae and James Samuel M. Rogers, from Larry, Jamie and Ira Rogers

Thank you to our Temple community for all your leagrams, donations and well-wishes for our 55th wedding anniversary.
--Elaine and Burt Marmer

Thank you to our Sisterhood and Temple friends for the leagrams and donations in honor of Sheila's 75th birthday. --Sheila and Bill Wolfson

We want to thank all those who made donations in memory of our beloved husband and father, Gibby Wolpe. It was much appreciated. In addition, it was extremely moving to see so many mourners attend Gibby's funeral and to realize the many lives he touched. We are grateful for your compassion and kindness.
--Brina Wolpe, Helaine Kaplan, and Larry Wolpe

With heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to the Temple Israel Community for all the donations, leagrams, and kind condolences in memory of both Michael's beloved mother, Elaine, and sister, Connie.
-Ilene and Michael Lieberman and Family

Safam continued from page 1

Irit returned to introduce Safam. From the opening notes on Joel's piano, to the final cadence of their encore, Al Kol Eileh, and on to a standing ovation, the room belonged to Safam. Songs in English, songs in Hebrew, songs written by Joel and by Robbie Solomon that speak of world peace, brotherhood, family, coming to America, living as a student in Israel, songs for Hanukah, songs from the prayer book: all expertly delivered with four-part harmonies reminiscent of the well-known supergroups of the 60's and 70's. Their music was interspersed with on-stage banter among Joel, Alan, Robbie and Dan Funk, making it clear that the band was enjoying the show just as much as the audience. Throughout the show, Safam called on "friends" to join them on several pieces. Our own Cantor Ken got to show off his "fiddlin' skills" on several pieces and then again singing Al Hanissim as a duet with Dan Funk. And old friend, Bruce Creditor, added wonderful lines on his clarinet throughout the show. In addition, our own R'nana joined Safam to open the second half with a Chassidic Pit'chu Li from the Hallel service and then with Joel's heartfelt treatment of Mourner's Kaddish in Tribute, which he wrote shortly after the passing of his father Max more than thirty years ago.

The show ended with Safam's trademark Top-Ten Adon Olam countdown of the absolute WORST melodies to use with Adon Olam. The 10 (really 11) songs and the "shtick" surrounding them had the audience in constant laughter. And when the last note of Blue Moon (which was the number one worst) was struck, the entire 550 rose as one while Safam left the stage to thunderous applause which only subsided when they agreed to come back out for an encore.

After the shows, patrons, sponsors, donors, and special invitees were treated to a fabulous wine and dessert reception expertly decorated, coordinated, and presented by a committee consisting of Deb Iken, Deb Nelson, Gail Windmueller, and Phyllis Rotberg. No re-cap of the evening would be complete without mentioning the talent of Francine Ferraro Rothkopf whose program book for the evening was in itself a piece of art.

Hopefully, it won't be another 13 years before we have Safam at TI again for those of you who weren't able to attend this year to be able to experience the magic that Safam has been bringing to Jewish audiences over the past five decades.

Congregational Breakfast March 5 continued from page 1

She completed her post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard Graduate School of Education, and now serves as a Senior Associate Fellow at Brandies University.

Her research focuses on cross-cultural educational, social, and cultural issues faced by immigrants and refugees from underdeveloped and developing countries. She examines how these populations work within the confines of these issues to adapt to their host countries. She examines how transnationalism and gender differences affect images of self-esteem, academic, and socioeconomic achievement among immigrants. Fanta-Vagenshtein is conducting comparative studies on upward mobility and glass ceiling as experienced by immigrant women in Israel and in the United States. She also serves as President of Empower Boston Immigrant Center (EBIC), Boston; committee member at JCRC (CJP) Shiluvim program; Event Chair and committee member of Tel Aviv University's Alumni Leadership; and member of the World Computer Exchange in Boston. She runs her own Educational and Professional Counseling Company in greater Boston.

Straddling Two Worlds by Marsha Stein

We emigrated to the land of our people; you'd think that we would have everything in common with them, that we would value the same things, want the same things, and live our lives in a similar manner. In a certain way that is true. We do feel at home here in Israel. But aren't we all shaped by our upbringing? Culturally, we are American. And yet, we see many things as Israelis.

According to the Pew survey of March 2016, "Virtually all Israeli Jews say they are Jewish when asked about their religion, even though nearly half of them also identify as secular Jews, and one-in-five do not believe in God. But fully 22% of American Jews – including about one-third of those in the Millennial generation do not identify as Jewish on the basis of religion. Instead, they say they have no religion but they have Jewish parents and consider themselves Jewish in other ways, such as by ancestry or culture. Many American Jews identify with Jewish denominations that do not have a major presence in Israel, such as the Conservative and Reform movements."

In his November 25 column in the Jerusalem Post, David W. Weinberg wrote: "Israeli Jews have a lot of difficulty with the fact that the 'religion' of most American Jews is liberalism that embraces universalism and rejects particularism. American Jews have a lot of difficulty with the fact that Israel is today the world's largest and most dynamic Jewish community, increasingly rooted in religious-nationalist identity."

Weinberg quotes Yossi Klein Halevi: "For Israelis, the most essential element of their Jewishness is Jewish solidarity and self-protection. For American Jewish liberals, it's empathy for the other, especially the oppressed. 'For many Israelis, American Jews sound hopelessly naïve; and for many American Jews, Israelis sound brutal.' In short, there are deep structural and cultural discontinuities in the relationship that need to be massaged."

Weinberg quotes Elliot Abrams' comments regarding the Pew poll: " …tikun olam, repairing the world through action for 'social justice,' is widely regarded by many American Jews as more important than actually observing Jewish rituals or supporting Israel."

Abrams writes: "Are we really to believe that someone who chooses not to engage with any part of the organized Jewish community, who does not belong to a synagogue and considers himself a 'Jew of no religion,' who has never visited Israel, who has married a non-Jew who did not convert and whose children are not being raised as Jews—feels less attached to Israel than his parents or grandparents because of settlements or 'the occupation?'"

In Melanie Phillips' Jerusalem Post column on the same day, "American Jews Get It Wrong," she claims that Liberal American Jews' tribal loyalty is not to Judaism but to liberalism, that they "pretend that liberal universalist values are Jewish values. They are not. They are anti-Jewish."

I noted these two articles not because they are the exception to what I read and hear here in Israel on a daily basis, but because they are the rule. Israeli Jews see Judaism and the world differently than do American Jews. I often use Temple Israel of Natick as an example of committed American Jews practicing their religion, supporting Israel, and transmitting their values to their Jewishly involved children. But TI is not a typical American synagogue, it is an exceptional one. I am regularly asked to "explain" the American Jewish community to our Israeli friends, some of whom are former Americans. Hard as I try, I feel unsuccessful in providing reasons for this shift away from Israel and toward universalism. Can you do better?

February Yahrzeits

This list represents the yahrzeits as listed in the Temple database. If we have omitted a name, please call the Temple office at 508.650.3521 x 100, and we will update our records.

This February (Shevat/Adar) we remember:

David Abelow
Lillian Abelow
Benjamin Abramson
Max Adelman
Sarah Adelman
Harry Albert
Anna Alpert
Ruth Ball
Esther Baron
Judy Baron
Carolyn Berman
Abraham Bornstein
Florence Bornstein
Gail Bornstein
Benjamin Braverman
Bertha Briana
Adelle Burstein
Francis Casdin
Benjamin Charny
Yadviga Charny
Benjamin Chartor
Jacob I. Chuker
Alice Cohen
Bernard Cohen
Dorothea Cohen
Samuel Cohen
Peter Cukor
Sandra Cymerman
Isadore Daitch
Chana Dodyk
Ralph Dolgoff
Jenny Doxer
Sally Eisen
Maurice Ellis
Bella Feinstein
Sarah Feldman
Doris Ferraro
Ralph Ferraro
Ernest M. Finkel
Martha Fisher
Israel Freedman
Maurice Freedman
Solomon Friedlander
Lila Friedman
Walter Furman
George Gerstein
Henrietta Gerstein
Harry Glazer
Leon Glazer
Mark Goetzler
Katie Golan
Zahava Goldberg
Laura Goldenberg
Joseph G. Goldfarb
Lena Goldstein
I. Leonard Golnick
Theodore Greenman
Benjamin Grun
Louis Grunin
Fred Gustin
Cantor Henry Hearst
Ida Hearst
Julius Homonoff
Louise Horowitz
Gordon Hurwitz
Joshua Jacob Hurwitz
Lyllian Isaacs
Sylvia Kahn
Barney Kaitz
Harry Kallman
Menachem Edward Kanarek
Morris Kaplowitz
Louis Katz
Jacob Katzowsky
Dora Funari Kennedy
Miriam Korenstein
Abner Kravitz
Dora Kritz
Zvi Levin Rosen Laslo
Henrietta Soble Lederman
Sara Levenson
Lena Levin
Nathan Levin
Annie Linder
Edna J. Mael
Max Mandelstam
Louis Gerald Marcus
Esther Markow
Robert Matz
Ina Mason
Rylan Richard Mead
Isadore Miller
Ruth Miller
Israel Muskat
Mitchell Muskat
Margaret Nauert
David Norris
Arnold Oppenheimer
Nisil Ordis
Janet Paul
Sherman Pearlstein
Louis Penn
Henrietta Pitkowsky
Marilyn Pons
Abraham Meyer Potter
Pauline Pressman
Charles Richmond
Gertrude Rizeman
Judge Max Rosenn
Mary Rosenthal
Edith M. Rothschild
Ernest Rothschild
Louis Rubin
Shirley Rutman
Edward Ryack
Frederika Sachs
Simon Sachs
Alan Sack
Maurice H. Saval
Joseph Scheinbach
Mollie Schneider
Jack Schwartz
Hyman Shapiro
Ree Shapiro
Herman Sibitt
Dora Siegel
Stanley Siegel
Gussie Silverman
Joseph H. Silverman
Lena Singer
Albert Slavin
Jacob Smith
Jennie Soble
Anne Spivak
Sadye Steckler
George Stein
Herbert Stein
Deanne Stone
Lillian Strauss
Esther Sussman
Hyman Tannenbaum
Lena Trockman
Morris Wald
Michael Waters
Jennifer Lyn Weener
Samuel Weener
Bernard Weinstock
Herbert Weinstock
Burton Weisman
Elena Weiss
Gertrude Weisz
Otto Weisz
Leonard White
Albert Winer
Joseph Witten
Esther Wolfson
Alfred Boleslaw Yonda
Abraham David Zaltas
Simon Zola
Marjory Zucker

March Yahrzeits

This March (Adar/Nisan) we remember:

Abraham Abelow
David Abrams
Rachel Adelman
Joseph Albert
Leon Albert
Sarah Albert
Martin Alintuck
Morris Alpert
Irene Balk-Rivchin
Alice Becker
Nathan Belkin
Norbert Bieler
Martin Blank
Victor Ben Bluestone
Norbert Borell
Robert Borts
Connie Bram
Irving Bram
Dora Bregman
Gladys Bruce
Norbert Brun
Harold Carlin
Rose Carlin
Leonid Charny
Betty Chartor
David Clain
Harold Conn
Harold Cooper
Samuel Dlott
Bella Razel Doxer
Samuel Doxer
Gerald Bruce Drew
Sebastian Phillip Duckworth
Rose Eigen
Frank Elasowich
Steven Louis Engel
Irene Epstein
Sylvia Estrada
Shirley Thomas Evans
Millie Fain
Max Feldman
Mildred Goldstein Feldman
Abraham Fine
Selma Gross Finstein
Philip Fishman
David Flower
Hilda Franklin
Barbara Franklyn
Samuel Freedman
Irene Gans
Philip Garnick
Maurice Geshelin
Charles Gilvarg
Oscar Glaser
Bessie Glass
Harold Golan
Barnett Goldberg
Michael Goldberg
Pearl Goldberg
Louis Golden
Raymond Gootzit
Ruth Gootzit
Rose Gordon
Sarah M. Gordon
Ruth Granek
Jeanette Gravelin
Beatrice Grodman
Bernice Grodman
Martin Gross
Sampson Grunes
Flora Haberman
Sarah Hack
Ann Heit
Leo Heller
Doris Hersh
Robert Herzberg
Jerome Hollander
Bernard Horlink
Joseph Morris Iken
Hans Ikenberg
Esther Jacobs
Miriam Jacobs
Tevie Jacobs
Vivian Jacobs
Beatrice Kaftan
Helen L. Kamer
David Kaplan
Lillian Kaplan
Arthur Karas
Samuel Katzman
Isadore Kaufman
Milton Kessler
Harold Klawans
Sarah Klein
Dora Klemins
Gay Kohen
Isaac Kriedberg
JoAnne Krieger
Sarah Kushner
usan Landau
Arnold Leavitt
Jacob David Leavitt
Morris Leavitt
Irving Harold Lebowitz
Frances Levine
Jack Levine
Lillian Levine
Albert Levy
Allegra Levy
Samuel Levy
Stella Levy
Sidney Licht
Ethel Lippin
Lillian Lipsett
George Litwack
Alvin Luftman
Iosif Mamiofa
Irving Mande
Edward Marcus
Richard Mann
Henry Markow
Abraham Marmer
Sophie Mastbaum
Paul Mayer
Elaine Mazzella
Carl Mendelson
Morris Mordis
Oscar Morris
Louis Morton
Hilda Moskowitz
Sara Muskat
Abraham Nahmias
Isaac Nahmias
Jacques Nahmias
Matol Nahmias
Victor Nahmias
Paul Paresky
George Pearlstein
Shirley Pearlstein
Frank Perlmutter
Israel Perry
Abraham Polonsky
Evan Rea
Elizabeth Reif
Norma Reine
Samuel Reithman
Irene Richman
Bea Richmond
Lillian Richmond
Leah Rocklin
June Y. Rosen
Samuel Rosen
Gary Rosenberg
Simcha Rosenberg
Isaac Rosnov
Helga Rothschild
Freda Rozowsky
Irving Rubin
Joel H. Rubin
Ruth Rubin
Ruth Rose Rubin
William Rubin
Benjamin Rutberg
Joseph Ryack
Robert Ryack
Joseph Sallet
David Sandler
Harry Saradnik
Gail Saval
Jeremy Martin Savitz
Johanna S. Schiff
Jack Schultz
Henry Schuman
Luayne Schwartz
Max Schwartz
Sumner Segall
Morris Aaron Shamitz
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Lillian Sharff
Allen Sher
Daniel Hirsh Sherman
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Irving Siegel
Edithe I. Sigalove
Evelyn Greenberg Sigalove
Bernard Singer
Sylvia Singer
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Samuel Smith
Herbert A. Soble
Steven Socol
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Rose Spires
Burton George Stern
Jeanne Stone
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Melvin Sundook
Julius Sussman
Mary Swartz
Irving Tarakan
Fanni Tau
Arthur Thomas
Harry Tratten
Louis Valdofksy
Paula Waters
Frances Waxler
William Weener
Rose Weiner
David Weiss
Joseph Weissman
Alfred Weisz
Louis Wexler
Frieda White
Morris Wiener
Freda Winett
Dora Wolfson
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Stephen Woods
Frances Yarckin
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Heather Zir
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Upcoming Events

February 10
Tu'Bishvat Seder and Family Shabbat Dinner

February 25
Men's Club Shabbat Service

February 26
Hazak—Dr. Garry Hylander

March 5
Annual Congregational Breakfast

March 11
Purim Dinner & Megilla Madness

March 12
Mishloach Manot Delivery and Purim Carnival

March 29
Sisterhood Shabbat Service

April 10 First Seder

April 30 Café Ashchav

May 8-9 Sisterhood Rummage Sale

B'nai Mitzvah:

Madeleine Siegal, daughter of Joanna and Lewis will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 18, 2017.

Mikayla Henderson, daughter of Jessica and Peter will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 25, 2017.

Milestones:

The Bat Mitzvah of Jessica Smith, granddaughter of Terry and Bob Smith, and of Bonnie and David Gordon.
The birth of Joshua Ben Bluestone, son of Ali and Noah Bluestone.
The engagement of Ariel Bruce, daughter of Debby and Jon Bruce, to David Denker.
The engagement of Daniel Haberman, grandson of Berna and Bill Haberman, to Amanda Ault.
The 92nd birthday of Charlotte Lebowitz.
The 90th birthday of Eleanor Feldman.
The birth of Leora Joy Walker, granddaughter of Marsha and Allen Cymerman, to Marsha's daughter Naomi and her husband Matt Walker.
The marriage of Matthew Schwarz, grandson of Arlene and Jack Miller, to Amy Kassen.
The engagement of Dr. David Smoot, grandson of Esther Fine, to Danielle Furman.

Condolences to:

Barbara and Jerry Rutberg on the death of Barbara's mother Helen Hyatt Segal.
Cantor Robert and Susie Scherr on the death of Bob's sister Judith Scherr.
Natalie Kingsbury on the death of her mother Suzana Michel.
Barbara and Jonathan Gilvarg on the death of Barbara's father Bernard Cohen.
Laurie and Abe Gorelick on the death of Laurie's mother Beatrice Eckstein.
Ben Hochberger on the death of his mother Ellen Hochberger.
Esta and Bob Gold on the death of Esta's mother Anne Goldfarb.
Debbie and Mark Needleman on the death of Debbie's father Mark Aronson.
Marc and Michelle Guttman on the death of Marc's father Howard Guttman.