

July/August 2019



Temple Talk

News you can use from the TI-JCC community

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Introducing Rabbinic Intern, David Maxa

I am very pleased to share that we will be hosting another intern this September from the Abraham Geiger College in Germany. Rabbinical student David Maxa will be with us for three weeks with his wife Judita and baby Rafael Hugo. We will have opportunities to learn about Jewish life in the Czech Republic from David. I asked him to write to us about his story by way of introduction:

From Rabbinic Intern David Maxa:
Dear community members,

I was born to a Czech Jewish family and grew up in Prague, the Czech capital, the city of one *hundred spires*, the Maharal, the golem, and Franz Kafka. In the time of my childhood, which followed the 40 years of Communist rule in Czechoslovakia, Judaism often counted as a stigma, surrounded by unbreakable silence. For me, son of a Shoah survivor, this silence was only occasionally interrupted by stories and yellowed photographs of my perished ancestors.

After my father passed away, I decided to break the silence, explore my roots and deepen my Jewish knowledge; I started to visit various Jewish activities and became involved in Jewish life in the Czech Republic. I studied religious and Jewish studies at the Charles University in my hometown and at the University of Bayreuth in Germany. In the summer of 2013 I enjoyed teaching Torah at the URJ Kutz Camp in the USA. All these experiences led me to the Abraham Geiger College in Potsdam and Berlin, Germany, where I have been enrolled as a rabbinical student since 2014.

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A MESSAGE FROM RABBI LEIAH MOSER

"Happy is the man who is found among the first ten [to arrive] in the synagogue, because by him that which is completed is completed, and they are sanctified first by the Shechina, and this has been explained. And it is necessary that there should be found ten at one time in the synagogue, and that they not come in group by group, so as not to hinder the completion of the limbs. For the Holy Blessed One made the human at one time, and set all the limbs right as one. This is what is written: 'who fashioned you and made you endure.' (Deuteronomy 32:6)"
- *Zohar, Parashat Nasso*

Just as the human body is composed of various limbs and organs, each different from the others and necessary for the functioning of the whole, so too is a community made up of many different parts, all of which contribute to the richness of communal life. The diversity of these different parts both supports the overall health of the social organism and adds to the beauty of the whole. At the same time, however, it is also important not to let our awareness of our differences cause us to lose sight of the fact that we all are, in fact, part of one community.

An interesting opportunity for communal *tikkun* (i.e., setting something right) presented itself recently in our Temple community. Some of you are no doubt aware of our recent Jewish Jeopardy event. This fun evening of Jewish trivia was attended by a number of folks from the community, some members of the Reconstructionist minyan, some from the Conservative minyan, including Rabbi Fine and family and yours truly. A lovely time was had by all, thanks in no small part to

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SISTERHOOD NEWS AND EVENTS

Back in September of 2011, my family and I were new members of Temple Israel & Jewish Community Center. Never did I imagine that a mere eight years later, I would find myself the new president of the Sisterhood.

It's hard to find yourself in a new community, knowing practically no one. Walking into services or the Oneg afterward and not recognizing anyone to sit with is very hard. Our community is great about trying to engage new people, but for the new person, it can be a bit uncomfortable.

As the new person, I decided it was up to me to make the effort to find my place at Temple Israel. I had always been active in the Sisterhood in my previous synagogue, but you never how things will be with a new group of people. I started going to events, introducing myself to people, making conversation. In the end, it was amazingly easy to fit in and make new friends. And ultimately, it really did not feel like any effort at all.

But that is also why Sisterhood is such a special place. Everyone is greeted warmly (even men!), and invited to participate. We try hard to reach out to each other, truly care about one another's lives, and use our efforts to benefit the community as a whole.

I truly wish that anyone who hasn't come to a Sisterhood activity recently would come this year. It's an easy place to walk in, with no pressure. Our programming always includes a mix of educational, community service, religious, and social events. And food, of course. We have the best choices, from chocolate and wine to appetizers and desserts to our big Progressive Dinner in November. Like all good Jewish events, no one will go home hungry!

The Sisterhood board and I are all looking forward to a great year. New ideas or thoughts on programming are always welcome. We'd love you to share your talents with us. And you might find your place in the community as well. Please, come join us!

To remember:

Honey sale is going on now. See the flyer on pages 11 & 12 and respond.

Kugelathon—Morning of Sunday, October 6

Progressive Dinner—Evening of Saturday, November 2

B'shalom, Arlene Bernhardt

TI-JCC Mission Statement

TIJCC offers a choice of Conservative and Reconstructionist services, and a variety of cultural, social and educational programs for those who are committed to creating an evolving and vibrant Jewish community in northern New Jersey.

President's column



My fellow congregants and friends,

After growing up here at Temple Israel & Jewish Community Center, with faint memories of our original home on Oak Street, I am excited to have the opportunity to serve as Temple Israel's president. I am truly inspired by my predecessors, including my dad, a former president, who have all

contributed to our growth and stature here in Ridgewood over our past 70-plus years.

We have always been at the forefront of change. We were one of the early Conservative shuls to recognize a women's place in our worship by becoming egalitarian. We were one of the first to elect a woman president, Adele Rebell of blessed memory, in 1977. For many years, we have welcomed interfaith spouses in various ways not commonly practiced by other Conservative shuls. Changing with the times has been a practice here, while still adhering to our core Conservative Jewish values. I will work towards consensus on changes that benefit our future, while still respecting our past and current values. I encourage everyone to let me know if you have things you would like to discuss with me, and in turn, our leadership. This can be things you like, things you have observed at other shuls that you think we can incorporate into our culture, and things you think we can do better. Please send me an email at hschreibernj@gmail.com with your phone number, a good time to call you, and what you would like to discuss. I will respond.

In supporting our institution, we are fortunate to have Rabbi Fine as our spiritual leader. Rabbi Fine is a great teacher, educator, historian, and legal scholar in both halachic and civic issues. He is deeply involved in the Ridgewood community's interfaith council and is the president of the North Jersey Board of Rabbis. I am not going to detail here all of his qualifications but rather, encourage us all to participate in any of the various lectures, classes, and programs you will read about in our regular announcements. The rabbi's Mishna study, held on selected Shabbat mornings and Sunday morning minyanim, is fun and thought-provoking. Give it a try!

It has been gratifying to watch the rabbi and Alla's boys grow up here; Laurence and Ariel are also quick to engage you in conversation! This past year it was

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MUSICAL NOTES



Dear Friends,

This article is being written before our first Shabbat Under the Summer Sky (SUSS) on June 28. This haimish and holy evening is the melding of the Music Committee's two worlds—secular and sacred. We are very lucky to have our talented TI musicians—Michael Rosen, Artie Bressler, and Marc Cantor—who are taking the lead to make our SUSS-im inspiring, delightful, and fun. They make it look easy, but in fact, they spend many hours preparing wonderful musical programs that are presented just prior to SUSS services.

The second SUSS will be Friday evening, July 19, with Mike Rosen leading a wonderful sing-a-long. RSVP to music@synagogue.org for your dinner reservation. The music committee prepares lovely Shabbat dinners; many dishes are homemade. Stay tuned for photos in our next *Temple Talk*.

During the relaxing summer months, the Music Committee revs up into high gear to ensure that both sacred and concert music are well prepared for the 5780 *yom tovim* and events. The choir and Temple Israe'lights bimah band, under the leadership of Tamara Freeman, rehearse at least eight evenings to present beautiful and lyrical prayers for Selichot, Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidrei, Yom Kippur, and Simchat Torah. The committee plans wonderful concerts to reach all demographics of our membership.

Save these dates:

MUSIC EVENTS

Friday, July 19, 2019 ,6:30-9:00—Shabbat Under the Summer Sky
Sunday, November 24, 2019, 3:00-5:00—Open Mic
Saturday, February 8, 2020—evening music event
Sunday, May 3, 2020, 3:00-5:00—America Israel Cultural Foundation concert
Friday, June 26, 2020, Shabbat Under the Summer Sky

BIMAH BAND SHABBATOT, FRIDAY EVENINGS

October 18, November 15, December 13, 2019
January 17, February 21, April 3, May 1, June 5, 2020
February 21, 2020

All of these events run smoothly thanks to the foresight and hard work of Maureen Nassan, Tina Polen, and Jose Serna. I am also grateful for the friendship and teamwork of our amazing committee. Each of these wonderful people is multi-talented and generous with their time and energy: Frankie Bordowitz, Artie Bressler, Irene Bressler, Debbie Cantor, Marc Cantor, Bob Dworkin, Susan Kornblit, Wayne Miller, Jo Rosen, Nanette Rosenbaum, Harlan Rosenthal, Deana Rothenberg, Iven Rothenberg, Bill Scher, Elaine Silverstein, Bruce Thaler, and Anne Wolf.

In closing, on the second day of Shavuot I had the honor of leying the Haftarah prophet Habakuk (3:1-3:19). The last verse exquisitely reflects the sacred and secular musical beauty of our sacred home:

My Lord G-d is my strength:
He makes my feet like the deer's
And lets me stride upon the heights.
For the leader; with instrumental music.

I feel very fortunate to be part of our congregation's musical life. Please let me know if you would like to be a part of this musical *chaverah*.

With love,
Tamara R. Freeman, D.M.A.

Debbie Cantor and Nanette Rosenbaum, concert co-chairs
Tamara Freeman, DMA, sacred music chair



A Message from Jessica

We love summer! Do you know it's a Jewish value to teach your kids to swim? It says so in the Talmud, (Kiddushin 29a):

Our Rabbis taught:

A father has the following obligations towards his son—To circumcise him, to redeem him, if he is a firstborn, to teach him Torah, to find him a wife, and to teach him a craft or a trade. And there are some who say that he must also teach him how to swim."

What do you really think the text is telling us? (We live in different times now. Let's assume for a moment that if the Talmud were a modern document, we'd be talking about all of our children, not just sons). I think it's telling us that we have some obligations to our children. We should have them be part of a community from as early as eight days old, we should teach them Torah, help them find happiness and stability, and we should teach them how to swim. SWIM! Swimming is most definitely a life skill. There's water everywhere, and swimming skills keep our kids safe. Swimming is exercise, joy, fun, and definitely part of summer in northern New Jersey.

So, while you send your kids off to camp or take them for a day at the pool you are enacting a Jewish value. What a great thing to feel good about.

We have to turn back to our text though. Our text also tells us that it's our job to keep up with our students' Jewish education (that is, teach Torah). And so, it's with that in mind, that I offer you a few tools to keep your Hebrew school student's brain filled with Torah:



For our younger students

-www.bimbam.com: A fantastic Jewish website filled with info and videos.

-<https://pjlibrary.org/home>: If you're not already receiving PJ library books, you should be. Get free Jewish books delivered to your home once a month.

-Download the PJ Library radio app: An easy and free way to fill your home with Jewish kids' music.

-Come to services: The best way to learn tefilot is to make Shabbat part of your regular routine.

For our older students

-<https://www.oysongs.com/>: A compendium of Jewish music, with a teens and tweens section.

-<https://unpacked.media/>: 10-minute videos unpacking the complexities of Judaism.

-<http://www.behrmanhouse.com/PlayLearn>: Practice reading Hebrew, practice tefilot, and more.

-Come to services: The best way to learn tefilot is to make Shabbat part of your regular routine.

For parents

-www.Kveller.com: A Jewish parenting resource.

-www.Tabletmag.com: A daily online magazine of Jewish news, ideas, and culture. It has news, podcasts, recipes, and more.

-<https://forward.com/>: A modern version of the Yiddish newspaper your grandparents used to get. Great journalism with interesting Jewish topics.

-Come to services: The best way to teach your kids tefilot and make them feel a part of a community is to make Shabbat part of your regular routine.

Have a great summer. We look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Jessica Spiegel, director
JSpiegel@synagogue.org
201-444-4194

YOUTH HAPPENINGS



Temple Youth rounded out a fabulous year with a tremendous turnout for Maccabiah Games in Petruska Park. (The picture above says it all.) Thank you to all our USYers, Kadimniks, and parents for making this such a successful year.

We bid a fond farewell to our seniors. We hope the buds and mems made at TI and USY serve you well. Don't be strangers. To our rising 6th graders, get ready for some terrific times ahead. To our parents, we welcome your feedback and programming suggestions.

See you in the fall.

James Goldfarb & Marcia Kegegan

B'YACHAD

B'yachad had a great spring, with many fun-filled events. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered and helped to make them a success:

- Jen Weitz planned a fun adult night out with a Mediterranean dinner at Mezza in Westwood.
- Alyson Yashar and James Goldfarb hosted a potluck dinner at their home, despite illness striking their family hours before the event.
- Jen and Scott Leiman opened their home for a Shabbat potluck dinner.
- Amanda Mackzum put together our picnic this June.

This group continues to be a success because of all the volunteers! Thank you!

As many of you know, for more than five years, I have been running B'yachad. The group has grown and evolved, but it has always provided an informal way for young families to socialize and get to know each other better. For many, it's been an entryway into the synagogue and also a way for our kids to connect outside of Hebrew school. I've decided that it is now finally time for me to step aside and let someone else lead B'yachad into the future. **I'm happy to report that Jen Leiman has volunteered to step into the position.** I'm confident that she will continue to grow the group and plan a great calendar of events. I wish her a great year!

You can contact Jen at Jennifer.shub@gmail.com.

Erin Lindenberg

RITUAL HAPPENINGS



We celebrated Lag B'Omer with our annual Campfire Shabbat. Then we finished counting the omer and enjoyed technical discussions with our three local rabbis at the Tikkun Leil Shavuot (cheesecake—yum).

June also saw the celebration of Yom Yerushalayim with the Salute to Israel Parade and the Goldfarb and Weiselberg b'nei mitzvot. Finally, we wrapped up by officially ushering in summer with the solstice and the enjoyable Shabbat Under the Summer Sky.

Summertime has several ritual items coming up:

- *Summer Sunday minyanim at people's homes
- *Fast of Tammuz (July 21), ushering in the Three Weeks of Consolation, a time for introspection and repentance
- *Nine Days of Av (August 2-10), when we refrain from activities such as home improvements, planting, buying new clothes, and eating meat
- *Tishah b'Av (August 11), a day of fasting and sadness kicking off the Seven Weeks of Consolation (erev observed at Glen Rock Jewish Center)

Then we cruise through the rest of August and September, leading up to our Star Trek Selichot before the High Holidays.

Enjoy your golf, beach, travels, and the Yankees' quest for the pennant!

David Millman and Bob Smolen, Co-chairs



STAY IN TOUCH, STAY INFORMED

Our **weekly Tidbits emails** keep our members up to date on what's happening that week and what's coming up.

Remember to check our **online calendar** for monthly services and events, on our website at www.synagogue.org.

If you are on **Facebook**, you can follow us there. Both congregations have pages, where we post information, announcements and updates, and articles of interest.

Look for Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center, and Reconstructionist Congregation Beth Israel.

TI-JCC Board of Directors, 2019-20

The following members were installed during the June 7 service as the Board of Directors of Temple Israel and JCC for the year 2019-2020.

OFFICERS

President	Howard Schreiber
First Vice President	James Goldfarb
Second Vice President	Evan Weitz
Treasurer	Stephanie Gottesman
Financial Secretary	Merille Siegel
Recording Secretary	Robert Obeiter
Corresponding Secretary	Matt Lindenber
RCBI Chair	Joseph Freedland

TRUSTEES

Three Years:	One Year:
Ilyse Goldman	Robyn Berger
David Millman	Nadine Genet
Bob Smolen	Scott Leiman

In addition, the following trustees will continue to hold office 2019-2020:

Two Years Remaining	One Year Remaining
Johanna Rosen	Brian Della Torre
Alex Rothschild	Wayne Miller
Steven Frank	Manny Haber

A heartfelt thanks to the following people who have completed their service as members of the board:
Bob Dworkin Kate Mowlem Linda Paige
Allan Weissman



Chesed: Here When you Need Us

The Chesed Committee maintains a collection of gently used medical equipment available for loan by congregants. We currently have canes, crutches, walkers, and a wheelchair. We hope you won't need any of these, but remember us if you do.

If you have **gently used medical equipment (small items only)** that you'd like to donate, or if you have need of these items, **call Elyse Levene to make arrangements at 201-306-1283.**

Hazak — A Social Group for Older Members

There's no "aging out" at TI-JCC! Active seniors may participate in **Hazak**; this is a social group that generally meets on the second Wednesday of every month for lunch and programs of interest that participants plan together. Dues are only \$15 per person; come join us! Contact the office.

MEMBERSHIP

We had a wonderful crowd attend Camp Shabbat on Friday of Memorial Day weekend. Lots of kids running around. Great food thanks to the Men's Club and Sisterhood. Wonderful music thanks to Amichai Margolis and a memorable Kabbalat Shabbat thanks to all of you who participated.

To continue to celebrate our wonderful temple community, please join us on Tuesday, July 9 at 5:00 PM at the home of Tricia and Howard Schreiber for a summer membership party. Come swim, hang out by the pool, and eat. Children are welcome (and will probably be found in the pool). Since it will be a potluck dinner, we are asking folks to bring parve salads, side dishes, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts. We will supply the hotdogs and burgers. It will be a lovely opportunity to catch up with everyone as we dive into summer.

Please RSVP to Jo Rosen at joresnickrosen@gmail.com if you can come and what you would like to bring.

We will be continuing our Gift of Membership program. Now is the time to think of a friend or neighbor who might enjoy participating in our community. If so, you can extend a gift of membership for one year to them and invite them to shul throughout the year so they have a chance to engage with our community. Hopefully they will want to join us down the road. Details will be published separately.

Have a great summer.

Jo Rosen and Jennifer Blanck Weitz
Membership co-chairs



ADULT EDUCATION

Rabbi Moser's "David Story" class continues on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. as does her Thursday afternoon "Mystical Parashat HaShavua" class, which meets weekly at 2:00 p.m. Please drop in any Thursday for a look at the weekly Torah portion through the lens of some of the classics of Jewish mysticism. Each week we will read a part of the parsha alongside commentary from the Zohar or the chassidic masters and discuss the insights contained therein. Open to all; RSVP rabbileiah@synagogue.org

This fall, we're looking forward to some team teaching by our rabbis, among other offerings.

Catch up with what they are writing about in the Jewish Standard with their articles archived here:

Rabbi Fine – <https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/author/david-j-fine/>

Rabbi Moser – <https://jewishstandard.timesofisrael.com/writers/rabbi-leiah-moser/>



Brandeis Men's Club: Looking forward to a great year!

Thank you to everyone for the support as I take on the presidency of the Brandeis Men's Club. A special thanks to Arty Freed for his leadership, creativity, and support in keeping the club going strong over his tenure as president.

We had a strong showing at the NNJ-FJMC (Northern New Jersey Region-Federation of Jewish Men's Club's) President's Installation Dinner on June 12th at the Fair Lawn Jewish Center. BMC was represented by past presidents Denis Vogel, David Millman, Arty Freed, Joe Landau plus myself as the incoming president. There was great *ruach* in the air as representatives from many regional clubs assembled for a night of speakers, prayer, networking and falafel. The International Convention will be held in Toronto July 3-7 and the Brandeis Men's Club will be represented there as well. We'll report on that in the next issue.

Summer may be here but we have an eye on the fall . . . a busy time for the club and a great time to jump in and help! Please keep an eye out for the calendar which is coming soon. Your BMC Men's Club Officers for the year ahead are: President, Scott Baslaw; VP, Jay Berger; Treasurer, David Millman ; Secretary, Bob Dworkin

Scott Baslaw, president

Tikkun Olam

The Tikkun Olam committee consists of members of both TI and RCBI who work together to try to repair the world. Our efforts focus on helping people in our community who are poor and homeless and on raising awareness about important national issues.

This spring we focused on our regular activities of feeding the homeless, collecting blood donations, and assisting neighbors such as the residents of Ridgecrest Senior Housing, a low-income housing complex in Ridgewood. We are also planning future events, such as a Shabbat dinner highlighting immigrants to the United States (held, appropriately, during Sukkot), and a Shabbat morning program in November focusing on disability issues.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Yom Kippur Food and Clothing Drive—October 8

Following a long-standing tradition at Temple Israel, we ask that congregants bring unopened food packages, diapers, and paper goods, as well as gently used clothing to the Kol Nidre Service on Tuesday evening, October 8. These items will go directly to needy families in our local community. Look for more information in future issues of *Temple Talk* and in the weekly announcements.

Sukkot Immigrant Panel—October 18

Sukkot is a time for welcoming guests, and on Friday night, October 18, Tikkun Olam will host a Shabbat dinner in the sukkah and a panel discussion by congregants who were welcomed as immigrants to the United States.

Family Promise Walk-In Dinners

Four times each year, our synagogue community cooks, delivers, and serves dinner at the Family Promise of Bergen County walk-in dinner program in Hackensack. Generally we serve a hot and hearty meal to approximately 100 people. This large-scale endeavor is possible through the leadership of Sue Hill and Nadine Genet and the continued efforts of a large group of volunteers who donate food and prepare and serve the meals. Fall 2019 cooking & serving dates are as follows:

Cooking

Sunday, October 27

Sunday, December 1

Serving

Tuesday, October 29

Tuesday, December 3

Many congregants donate food items to this important effort. If you would like to help out with cooking or serving or wish to donate, contact Nadine Genet at nzgenet@outlook.com.

Fall Blood Drive—November 18

The next blood drive will take place on Sunday, November 18. If you've been donating for years, thanks very much, and please continue. If you're never done it before, it's easy and painless, so give it a try. The need for blood is urgent and unceasing. You can drop in or make an appointment in advance. To sign up for future donations, contact Bob Rohrberger at rrohrberger@foxrothschild.com or Jerry Birenz at JerzykB@aol.com.

Ridgecrest Senior Citizens' Housing

Starting with the NNJJA Hanukkah party in 2017, the Tikkun Olam Committee has forged a very pleasant relationship with the staff and residents of the Ridgecrest Senior Center in Ridgewood. Many of the residents of this community are food-insecure and in need of opportunities for socialization. We regularly provide healthy snacks, and once or twice a year we prepare and serve dinner to the residents. If you would like to help us reach out to our neighbors at Ridgecrest, contact Elaine Silverstein at elasil@optonline.net.

PAST EVENTS

Mother's Day Dinner

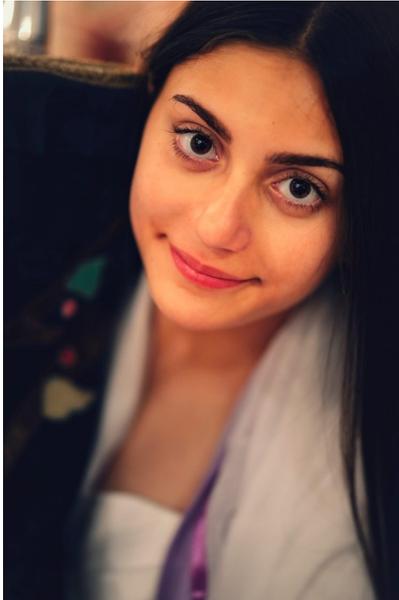
Many thanks to Sue Coleman for organizing the annual Mother's Day dinner for the residents of the Center for Hope and Safety. Continuing a long-established tradition, Tikkun Olam members and Sisterhood members pool their efforts each year to provide a bountiful dinner.

New committee members as well as programming ideas are welcome: contact co-chairs Bob Rohrberger (rrohrberger@foxrothschild.com) or Elaine Silverstein (elasil@optonline.net) for more information.

B'NEI MITZVAH SPOTLIGHT

Ellinor Hana Wieselberg

I have been attending the Academies at Gerrard Berman Day School since I was three years old. In the past year, I have become very involved with Shevet Lehava, the local Israeli Scouts chapter.



I love all scary amusement park rides, and listening and dancing to Israeli music. I am passionate about the environment. From a young age I made sure everyone in the house recycled. Right now, I make sure that we don't use plastic straws at home, and when we buy drinks at Starbucks we bring our refillable Starbucks cups with straws.

I had a hard time picking out my Bat Mitzvah project. Originally, I wanted to volunteer at an animal shelter and adopt a dog, but shelters take older volunteers. I explored other ideas and this summer I am going to make crafts for Meals on Wheels to be added to meals that are delivered to elderly. I will also participate in delivery of the meals to elderly in our community.



This is Reconstructing Judaism's weekly podcast about everything Jewish. Hosts Bryan Schwartzman and Rachael Burgess explore how Judaism intersects with contemporary culture and illuminates how people live their lives. As the website states, "We don't profess to have answers, just a host of questions, some profound, some rather goofy. Along the way we'll learn about Judaism, the arts, politics, living a good life, and the interconnectedness of all things." Subscribe online at <http://subscribebyemail.com> trendingjewish.fireside.fm/rss
Visit us at ReconstructingJudaism.org.

BERGEN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL OF JEWISH STUDIES

BCHSJS is Bergen County's only community Hebrew high school for teens in grades 8-12. For information, call (201) 488-0834 or visit www.bchsjs.org. As the academic year came to a close, the BCHSJS held several events. (Photos: Triple S Studios)

Graduation

BCHSJS's annual graduation took place at the Jewish Community Center of Paramus/Congregation Beth Tikvah. Among the graduates was Temple Israel member Josh Unger, shown here with Rabbi Fine and BCHSJS Board President, Sy Blechman.



Outstanding Students

On the last day of school, BCHSJS gave awards to outstanding students, identified as such by at least four of their six teachers. Awardees from Temple Israel were Jake Cohen (absent, not shown), Laurence Fine, and Ethan Holden



Gala

BCHSJS recently held its annual gala at Congregation Beth Sholom in Teaneck. Temple Israel member Shari Haber (seated, far right) was on the Dinner Committee.



Temple Israel and JCC

Annual Membership Party

Tuesday, July 9 at 5 pm

At the home of

Tricia and Howard Schreiber

To All of Our Members ~

Make time to join us. Catch up with old friends and make new ones too.

Bathing Suits Are Encouraged !

(especially for the kids)

Food and Beverages will be served
Potluck for Hors d'œuvres,
Sides (salad, pasta, veggies)
Desserts

RSVP to Jo Resnick Rosen at joresnickrosen@gmail.com
or 201-805-3989 by Friday, July 5th with your parve
Potluck offering

ROSH HASHANAH HONEY SALE

What's the Buzz? **It's the annual Sisterhood honey sale.** Share the tradition of apples dipped in honey and help Temple Israel & Jewish Community Center at the same time. Sisterhood is offering our members the opportunity to share the sweetness of Rosh Hashanah by sending gifts of delicious golden honey. You can send honey to your family, friends, teachers, synagogue staff, children in college and/or the entire congregation. Each package contains a cheerful giftcard and a jar of honey. Delivery will be made prior to Rosh Hashanah.

Individual honey gifts to member families and synagogue staff cost \$10.00 each and can be purchased by circling the names of your choice on this form or send to the entire congregation for \$198. Members may send friends and relatives honey by attaching a separate list of names and addresses for each jar of honey at a cost of \$12.00 per jar for pick up at the temple or \$15 including shipping.

Thank you for supporting Sisterhood.



Please mail your check payable to *Temple Israel Sisterhood* with this form and your non-member name and address list to:



Temple Israel & JCC Sisterhood Rosh
Hashanah Honey Sale
475 Grove Street
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

Orders must be received **NO LATER THAN AUGUST 8, 2019**

Questions? Please email Stephanie Gottesman at stephaniegottesman@gmail.com

Your Name _____ Your Phone Number (____) _____

Total gifts from list	_____ x \$10.00 each	\$ _____
Total gifts to non-members	_____ x \$12.00 each (pick up)	\$ _____
Total gifts to non-members	_____ x \$15.00 each (delivered)	\$ _____

(Attach list of names & addresses)

Give to the entire synagogue (includes Rabbi, Education Dir., office & custodial staff) **\$198.00**

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHECK \$ _____

PLEASE **CIRCLE** THE NAMES OF THOSE FAMILIES TO WHOM YOU'D LIKE TO SEND A GIFT OF HONEY:

This list is pulled from our most recent membership roster. If your name does not appear, please forgive the oversight and let us know so that you will be included on future lists. Thank you.

AGINS, AUDREY MEYERS & SCOTT
ALBARELLA, DIANE
ALBESCU, SONIA
ALTERMAN, CHERLY & ALLAN
ALTMAN, ROZ
AMBROSIUS, MICHAELA
AMOS, TAMARA & ALBERT
AMSTERDAM, SUSAN
ANTEBI, KIM & HENRI
ARMSTRONG, SANDY & DONALD
ARONEANU, CORINA & ANDREI
ARONSOHN, MARIE & PAUL
AUERBACH, EVELYN
AUSTEIN, EMILY & JOSHUA
BAKAL, MIRIAM & TODD
BARTH, ADAM & REBECCA KATZMAN
BARTLETT, JULIA & JONATHAN
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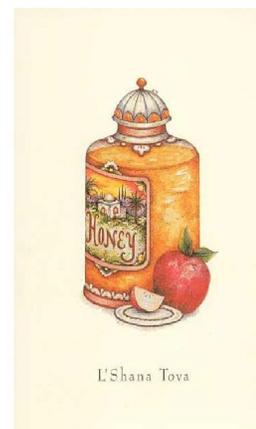
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UShana Tova



33rd Annual Ridgewood Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service Excerpts of remarks by Rabbi Noam Marans - West Side Presbyterian Church

(Presented May 1, 2019, just days after the synagogue attack in San Diego)



The Holocaust was unprecedented and unimaginable. Its magnitude and vileness defy any comparisons. But when a Jew—Lori Gilbert-Kaye, of blessed memory—is murdered and others are injured by yet another violent white supremacist . . . it is impossible not to think: this is how it all started more than 80 years ago. As the heroic rabbi of the Poway congregation said, “It was just 70 years ago during the Holocaust [when] we were gunned down like this.”

Anti-Semitism is on the rise . . . There are more hate crimes against Jews than against any other faith group. Jews on college campuses are feeling vulnerable. Since we met to remember the Holocaust last year on this sacred day, the worst attack against Jews in American history took place at a Pittsburgh synagogue, leaving 11 murdered Jews and an indelibly rattled American Jewish community with armed guards at services and public events.

And yet, we are sitting here together for the 33rd time, at the incomparable Ridgewood Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service. Christians, Jews, and other faith-adherents collectively asserting that we have an obligation to observe Deuteronomy’s call—“*Zakhar, lo tishkakh*”—remember, never forget. We are living in an age when Christianity is no longer overwhelmingly silent as it was during the Holocaust, an age when the most visible religious leader on the planet, Pope Francis, regularly describes anti-Semitism as a sin.

On Saturday evening, hours after the attack on Jews at prayer in Poway near San Diego, it was a local Presbyterian Church that hosted the first of many vigils in recent days, a heartfelt outreach demonstrating that many have learned the lessons of history. Just yesterday, the secretary general of the World Muslim League, Dr. Mohammad Abdulkarim Al-Issa, visited AJC to announce an AJC-World Muslim League partnership that will include his January 2020 visit to Auschwitz with AJC on the 75th anniversary of the liberation of that infamous Nazi death camp.

As a Jew who came of age in the shadow of the Holocaust, I have regularly visited Holocaust sites, those simultaneously desecrated and holy places where my people were murdered. Four months ago, my brother and I and our wives visited Bialystok, Poland, where many of my father’s family were born and flourished. After arriving in Warsaw, we stopped at the Treblinka death camp . . . In its place today is a very meaningful memorial with 17,000 stones of different sizes. Seven hundred of the stones bear the names of Jewish communities. One of the larger stones bears the name of Bialystok, where my family once thrived . . . We chanted the *El Malei Rachamim*, the traditional Jewish memorial prayer for the dead—the four of us alone with the souls of our people.

A Jew cannot be in Poland without experiencing overwhelming sadness. In 1939, Poland was 10% Jewish. 90% of Polish Jewry was murdered during the Holocaust, three million souls, approximately 1/6 of world Jewry. Half of European Jewry and one third of world Jewry perished in the Holocaust. Polish Jewish civilization, one of the greatest in Jewish history, was destroyed.

This Holocaust requires a response. And you have created and sustained here in Ridgewood one of the most unique and powerful responses to the Holocaust. This Ridgewood response to the Holocaust is inseparable from the history and transformation of this community and is also inseparable from the history of this church, West Side Presbyterian Church, within which we remember and vow tonight, “Never again, not for my people, not for any people.”

It is true that Christianity had become self-reflective since the Holocaust, acknowledging the role Christian ideology had played in setting the stage for the Holocaust and the acceptance of the destruction of European Jewry by too many Christians who were perpetrators or passive bystanders. The inauguration of this service here in Ridgewood required courage from many people, a courage that has lasted and taught us for more than three decades. It is based on a simple but profound premise: If we are to create a world where the Holocaust and other genocides are to be prevented, we must do so not only as Jews but also as Christians, Muslims, people of all faiths, believers and non-believers. And we must do it not only in a synagogue but also in a church.

As we move further from the Holocaust our responsibility only grows, the responsibility to make history come alive, so that the lessons of the Holocaust are not forgotten. On this Holocaust Remembrance Day, we must acknowledge that we are living in the most divisive moment of our lives here in America. . We have been inundated with attacks on houses of worship and the murder of parishioners around the corner and around the world . . . We have a responsibility as people of faith, as human beings. If our society has a disease, we need to be its cure . . . We must intervene when we see evil rise. That is my prayer for all of us this evening. It is the least we can do in remembrance of the victims we mourn today. *Yehi zikhram barukh*. May their memory be for a blessing.

Rabbi Fine, cont'd. from p. 1

During my studies, I spent a year in Israel and studied in Jerusalem at the Conservative Yeshiva, the Hebrew Union College, the Shalom Hartman Institute, and the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies. I had internships in various congregations in Israel and all over Europe, including Germany, the United Kingdom, but especially in the Czech Republic.

I love leading participatory services, exploring Jewish synagogue music, organizing educational activities and working with people of all generations. I focus on finding new ways to make Judaism accessible in post-Holocaust and post-Communist Europe. I have been involved in various interfaith dialogue projects.

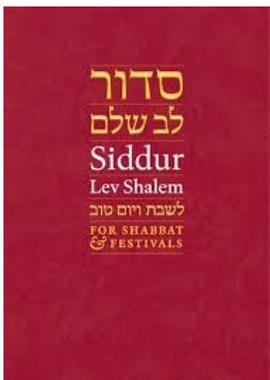
I am married to Judita Bergmann, who is a historian and is involved in Jewish children's education in the Czech Republic. We enjoy literature, history, classical music, traveling, and cooking. In April 2019 we became parents to our beloved first child, Rafael Hugo.



We are very grateful for the opportunity to spend some time with Rabbi David Fine and all of you at Temple Israel & JCC and are looking forward to meeting you and learning from you!

Gift Ideas for Special Occasions:

Contribution to our Siddur Lev Shalem Fund



We have purchased Siddur Lev Shalem ("the red books") prayer books for our Shabbat services. We want to fill *all* our book holders with these wonderful new editions and you can help! Please consider honoring a loved one with a gift for any special occasion or milestone by dedicating a new Shabbat prayer book in their name. **You can do so with a \$50 contribution to our Siddur Lev Shalem Fund.**

Etz Hayim Chumash

The *Etz Hayim* chumash (the Five Books of Moses plus all haftarot) makes a very special gift. The volume also contains insightful commentaries, essays, and maps to enrich the Torah service and study sessions. Contact Maureen Nassan in the temple office for information.

Rabbi Leah, cont'd. from p. 1

the efforts of RCBI members David Volin and Christine O'Donnell, who organized the event.

Afterwards, it came to my attention that a number of TI members had been aware of the event and thought it sounded interesting, but in the end, decided not to go. When asked why, the response was that, since Jewish Jeopardy was listed in the announcements as an RCBI event, they had assumed that it was open only to members of the Reconstructionist community. Some other folks had apparently not even been aware that the event was happening because they are in the habit of simply skipping over the "RCBI Events" section of the announcements based on the same assumption.

To be honest, I was kind of thrown for a loop by this realization. It *simply hadn't occurred* to me (or, I believe, to anyone else who's part of RCBI) that folks might look at "RCBI Events"—labeled as such in order to indicate the fact that they were being sponsored by the RCBI community—and draw the conclusion that these events were meant to be exclusive to members of the Reconstructionist community!

In response to this discovery, we have adjusted the way events appear in congregational announcements—observant readers may have noted that there is now one heading for "Community Events" rather than separate headings for "TI" and "RCBI" events, in order to better reflect the truth that we are, despite our differences, part of one community, and to avoid giving the impression that certain community events are open solely to members of one part of the community or another. I hope this change will have the effect of fostering an increased sense of solidarity between different parts of our broader community, as well as encouraging folks to sample the full range of what TI & JCC has to offer.

Working out the proper balance between solidarity and diversity is never a simple task, and new opportunities for *tikkun* will always present themselves along the way. As we all continue to engage with the opportunities and challenges presented by community life, may we do so with an awareness of how, just as it is with our own bodies, our community too is a beautiful and miraculous creation formed in the image of the Holy Blessed One.

Have You Attended our Recon Salon Yet?

Join Rabbi Leah for a Recon Salon, our free monthly, informal gatherings. If you, your friends, or family have been wondering "What's Reconstructionist Judaism all about?" this is a great opportunity to get information about the movement, about RCBI's history, and chat it up with some RCBI members.

We meet at **Land & Sea Diner, 20-12 Fair Lawn Avenue in Fair Lawn** Summer dates are **July 16th and August 20**. **RSVP to rcbi@synagogue.org** if you plan to attend.

President's column, cont'd. from p. 2

particularly gratifying to celebrate the Fines' ten years here as our honorees at our Ways and Means party! We are very lucky to have such a wonderful family to provide spiritual guidance.

I am looking forward to strengthening our relationship with our congregants affiliated with Reconstructionist Congregation Beth Israel. RCBI has been sharing our building for the past four years, and recently, Rabbi Moser has brought us many additional programs that are open to all, further expanding our range of Jewish experiences. We have enjoyed the benefits of the strengths each brings to the other.

As has been the tradition here at TI, we are having our summer Sunday morning minyanim at members' houses. This gives us the opportunity to travel around the area and get to know our members more personally. After the half-hour morning service, we have breakfast and snacks together for another 45 minutes or so. It is a great way to begin a summer morning: praying, and socializing with our temple friends. If you have not laid tefillin in some time and would like some help, summer minyanim are a great place for that. (If you don't want to put on tefillin, that's fine, too.) I strongly encourage you to try one or two summer minyanim. If you send or have sent your children to Hebrew school, what a great way to engage with them at a casual morning service, whether they are bar/bat mitzvah yet. Try it. You'll like it, and we can use your support!

Change. Unfortunately, the recent events in both Pittsburgh and San Diego have led us to enhance the security at our shul to a significant degree. Joe Landau, Wayne Miller, Bob Obeiter, and John Halenar have spent countless hours in consulting, planning, and implementing hard security deterrents and emergency plans. They deserve a thank-you from all of us when you see them. Although our doors are now locked, we are still open to everyone coming here to pray, to learn, to cook for the homeless, to attend lectures, to socialize, and to educate. Members can have access fobs by calling the office. We are now more vigilant, but we are more committed than ever to not allow causeless hatred to dampen our Jewish life experiences.

Lastly, let me take the opportunity to thank my good friend and predecessor, Bob Obeiter. Bob has been a terrific president and his dedication to our shul and temple family has always been passionate and has taken much time and considerable effort. Volunteers like Bob are what keep our shul going, and he has certainly led by example. Bob is a tough one to follow, as his ability and involvement in so much is a daunting task for me. I will not hesitate to lean on him where necessary, but will work hard as your new president to continue all the good work that Bob has achieved and initiated.

B'shalom, Howard Schreiber

Temple Israel & JCC Circle of Honor

The Circle of Honor is our campaign for high-end donors ; it offers members an opportunity to make a three-year commitment with a minimum annual contribution of \$1,800.

Circle of Honor donors are publicly recognized with a plaque in the main lobby. In exchange for your pledge, you'll receive benefits such as free admission to designated TI-JCC events, reserved High Holiday parking, advertising space in the annual Ad Journal , and more, depending on your level of commitment.

Information about the Circle of Honor is on our website at <http://www.synagogue.org/support-us/circle-of-honor>.

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Our Campfire Shabbat was a Big Success!



Photos: Jo Rosen
Photography



A Home Away From Home

Temple Israel is our place to pray, our place to play, our place to teach, our place to learn, a place for us to socialize, a place for us to celebrate, a place to stretch with yoga or listen to concerts, a place to have parties. It is ours—it belongs to every member, and by extension, members' families, friends, and guests.

Since we do not and cannot logically occupy our facility 100% of every day with our activities, there are amply opportunities for rooms and other spaces to be rented out by the hour, the morning, the afternoon, evening, or by the day. In this way we bring in supplemental income to help operate our facility and keep the doors open for us. If you are aware of any organization that may be looking to rent classroom, meeting, or banquet-hall space, please let the office know.

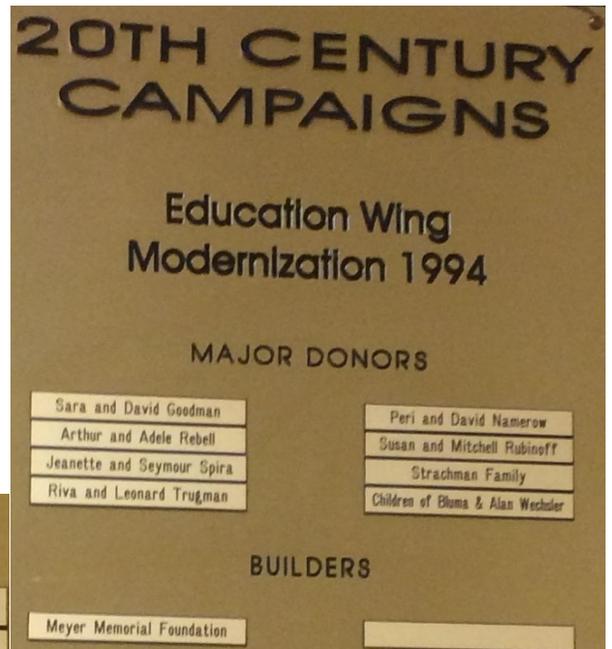
Membership numbers in synagogues, churches, and other houses of worship may be going down, but we here at Temple Israel continue to take pride in who we are, what we have accomplished, and where we are striving to go in the future.

Donor Acknowledgements

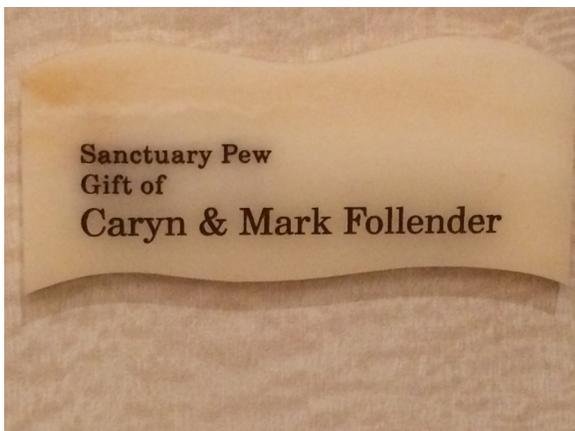
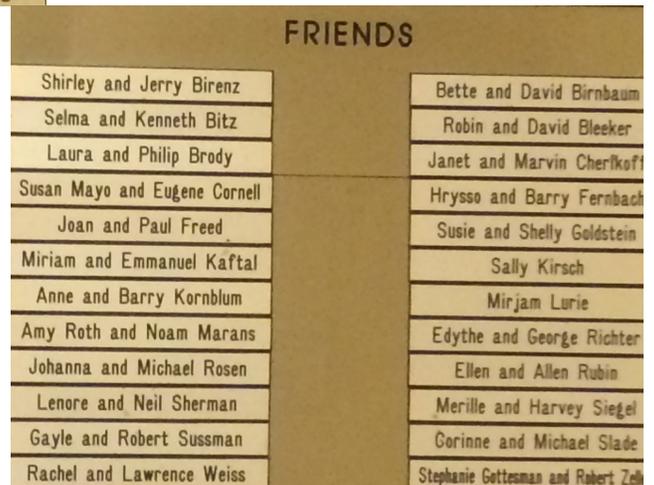
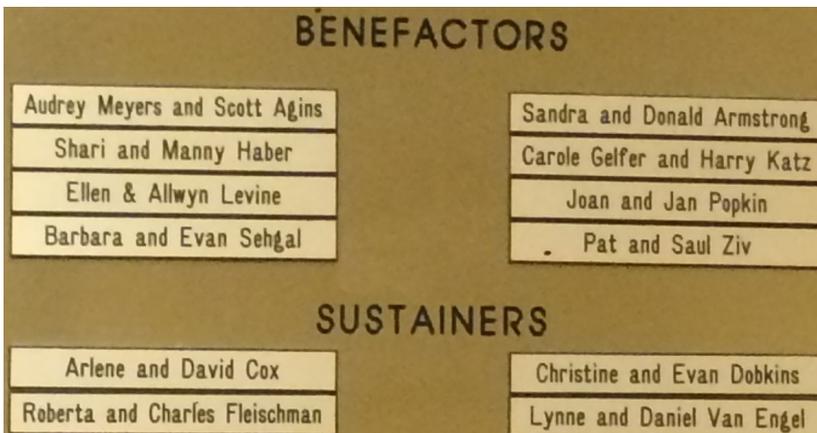
As Facilities Chair, I had taken notice of the numerous plaques acknowledging generous donors. Though some are relatively new, most are quite old. Celebrated at the time, they go way back before I became a temple member.

We may live for the moment and try to plan for the future, but we should not forget our past. Consequently, I took pictures of as many plaques as I could find throughout our building. Since I am not infallible, I want to apologize in advance for the possibility of offending anyone by failing to acknowledge any of our generous donors. A large number of plaques appeared in the last edition of *Temple Talk*. Here are more., with others on subsequent pages.

Bob Dworkin, Facilities Chair



Three brass plaques recognize donors to the 1994 Education Wing Modernization campaign. Plaques acknowledging donors to other initiatives are on the next two pages. Look for plaques from our memorial boards in our next issue of *Temple Talk*.

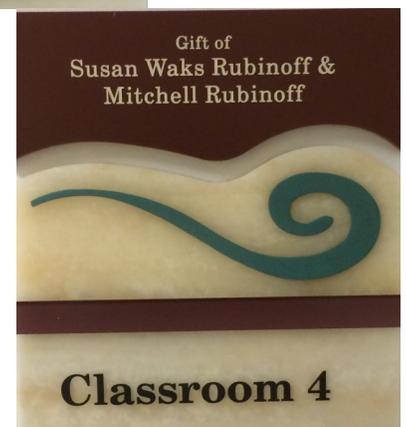
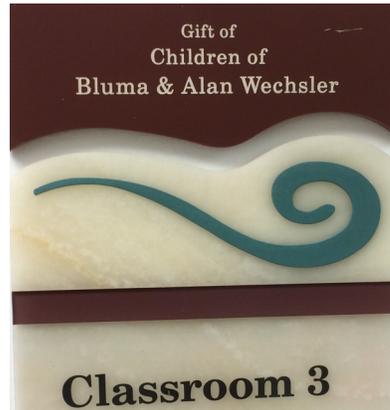


Dedications 1980 Renovation 1979

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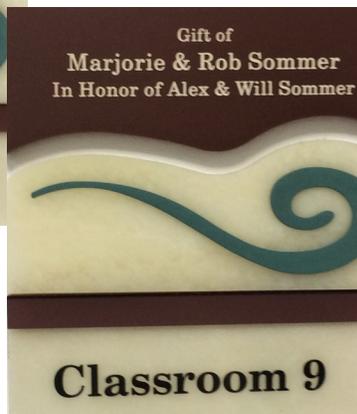
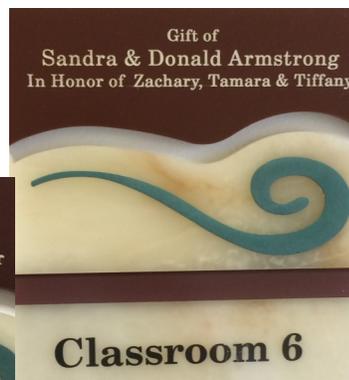
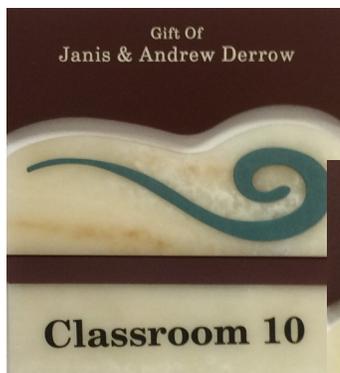
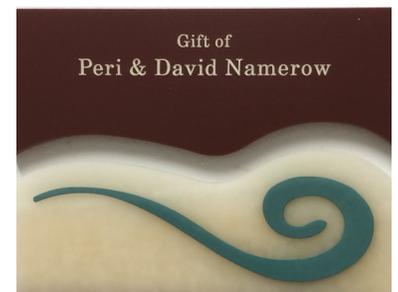
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Continued from page 17:
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Mr. and Mrs. David Kirsch	Mr. and Mrs. Howard Lemelson
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Marcus	Mr. and Mrs. Norman I. Nelson
Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Odenheimer	Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Puritz
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rubin	Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Savitzky
Mr. and Mrs. Norman A. Schreiber	Sisterhood
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Soldano	Mr. and Mrs. Norton S. Stein
Mr. and Mrs. William Toonkel	Mr. and Mrs. Isidor Weinberg

*Dedication plaques, continued from story on p. 17:
New Building major donors & benefactors (1962)
plus plaques on offices and other areas throughout
the building.*

Administrative Office
Gift of

**Susan & Larri Wolfson &
Family**

Educational Director's Office
Gift of

Kathleen & Lon Gruen

Gift of
Sara & David Goodman

Classroom 1

BENEFACTORS

Mr. and Mrs. Siegfried Ansbacher	Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Calman
Mr. and Mrs. Saul Feinstein	Mr. Morris Greenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Kaplan	Mr. and Mrs. David Kaplan
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Landis	Mr. and Mrs. Norman H. Lubitz
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Morrison	Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Nassau
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Oliff	Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Recht
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ruthberg	Mr. and Mrs. Martin Sherman

**Max Aaron Strachman
Memorial Library**
Gift of The Strachman Family

ספרייה
Library

Restoration of Stained Glass, South
Gift of

Gerda Kassner
In Memory of Fred Kassner

Gift of
**Leslie, Michael, Carrie &
Joshua Rikon**

Classroom 7

Restoration of Stained Glass, North
Gift of

**Lenore, Neil, Alex &
Heather Sherman**

Some of the dedication plaques from the memorial boards in our sanctuary, continued from page 17. Look in our next issue of Temple Talk for other such plaques that grace our space.

IN MEMORY OF
ADELE REBELL
TEMPLE ISRAEL'S FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT

IN MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED PARENTS
MAX AND FANNIE AUERBACH

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
EDITH & MAX BENEZRA AND RAYMOND P. KURSHAN
THE KURSHAN FAMILY

IN EVERLASTING REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DEAR PARENTS
ZELDA AND ISAAC FRIEDMAN – SARAH AND BENJAMIN FRIEDLAND
DEDICATED BY JOSEPH J. AND FAYE FRIEDMAN

IN MEMORY OF MY FATHER
SAMUEL GRANOFF
DEDICATED BY
FELICIA KATZ

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEAR FRIENDS
HARRY GRANT & BARRY GLICK
DEDICATED BY CHRISTINE & EVAN DOBKINS

IN EVERLASTING REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DEAR PARENTS
CELIA & MORRIS LEVINE – FLORENCE & SAMUEL OCKO
DEDICATED BY SEYMA & BERNARD LEVINE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

Donations & Dedications

While Judaism itself can thrive without reference to finances, a community of Jews who are committed to the purpose of the synagogue—learning, worship, and fellowship—does need financial resources to help each other and themselves.

Most of us recognize our obligation to maintain membership in Temple Israel and to support it by payment of annual dues. However, dues alone do not cover all of our costs. There is a continuing need for donations to help assure the synagogue's strength and development.

We encourage any and all donations to Temple Israel. The following are suggested giving opportunities in which the funds are used to support all aspects of synagogue life:

Temple Israel Operating Fund any amount

DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Minyan of Comfort	\$36
Mahzor Lev Shalem For Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur	\$50
Siddur Lev Shalem	\$50
Chumash Etz Hayim	\$118
Memorial Plaque	\$540 (contact the office)
Large Memorial Tablet	\$54,000

The following are suggested giving opportunities in which the funds are used to support specific areas of synagogue life:

Temple Israel Chai Campaign Fund any amount

Funds the major capital improvements from our synagogue building renovation

Religious School Enrichment Fund any amount

Funds religious school enrichment programs & materials

Temple Israel Torah Campaign: Funds ritual needs such as Torah scroll repairs, prayer books, etc. **\$1800 Parsha Endowment Funds \$25,000 to establish a fund; \$18 donation to established funds**

Each Fund has a specific purpose. Consult column on the right

Susan Reeve/Temple Israel Feed the Hungry Fund any amount

Funds Temple Israel's Tikkun Olam Feed the Hungry Program

Kiddush Club Funds the kiddush when there is no regular kiddush sponsor \$144

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund any amount

Funds charitable purposes, at the discretion of the Rabbi

Assistant Rabbi's Discretionary Fund any amount

Funds charitable purposes, at the discretion of the Cantor

Endowment Funds

TEMPLE ISRAEL GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To fund maintenance and/or capital improvement projects to Temple Israel properties.

AMSTERDAM FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To provide siddurim to Temple Israel religious school students.

DONALD & HELEN FELLOWS MEMORIAL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To fund the education program portion of the Annual Holocaust Remembrance.

PHYLLIS ANN ZWEIG FRIEDMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To provide scholarship to a Temple Israel high school student to attend an Israel/Eastern Europe educational program.

DAVID & SARA GOODMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To fund supplemental Jewish experiences for Jewish youth.

DAVID & SALLY KIRSCH SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To provide scholarship to a religious school graduating student for continuing Jewish religious education.

ALEXANDER & SOPHIE PURITZ MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To fund the Temple Israel Annual Hanukkah Party, which shall include the distribution of silver dollars to all students.

MAX AARON STRACHMAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To purchase educational materials for the library as well as fund library related educational events.

WILLIAM & RHODA TOONKEL

JEWISH MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND

PURPOSE: To promote Jewish musical education for the Temple Israel religious school, as well as other musical and cultural experiences for Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center.

Contribution Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Enclosed is my contribution of \$_____ to _____

**Checks for General Donations or Dedications should be made payable to Temple Israel.
Checks for an Endowment or Discretionary Fund should be made payable to the specific Fund.**

This contribution is _____ in honor of or _____ in memory of



and Jewish Community Center

475 Grove Street
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

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Some of our members enjoyed recently went on a "Gospel Girls, Grits, and Harlem Jews" tour, led by Steve Kornblit of Kornblit Tours. The uptown outing was donated to the silent auction for the Ways and Means dinner. Everyone enjoyed lunch at Amy Ruth's.

