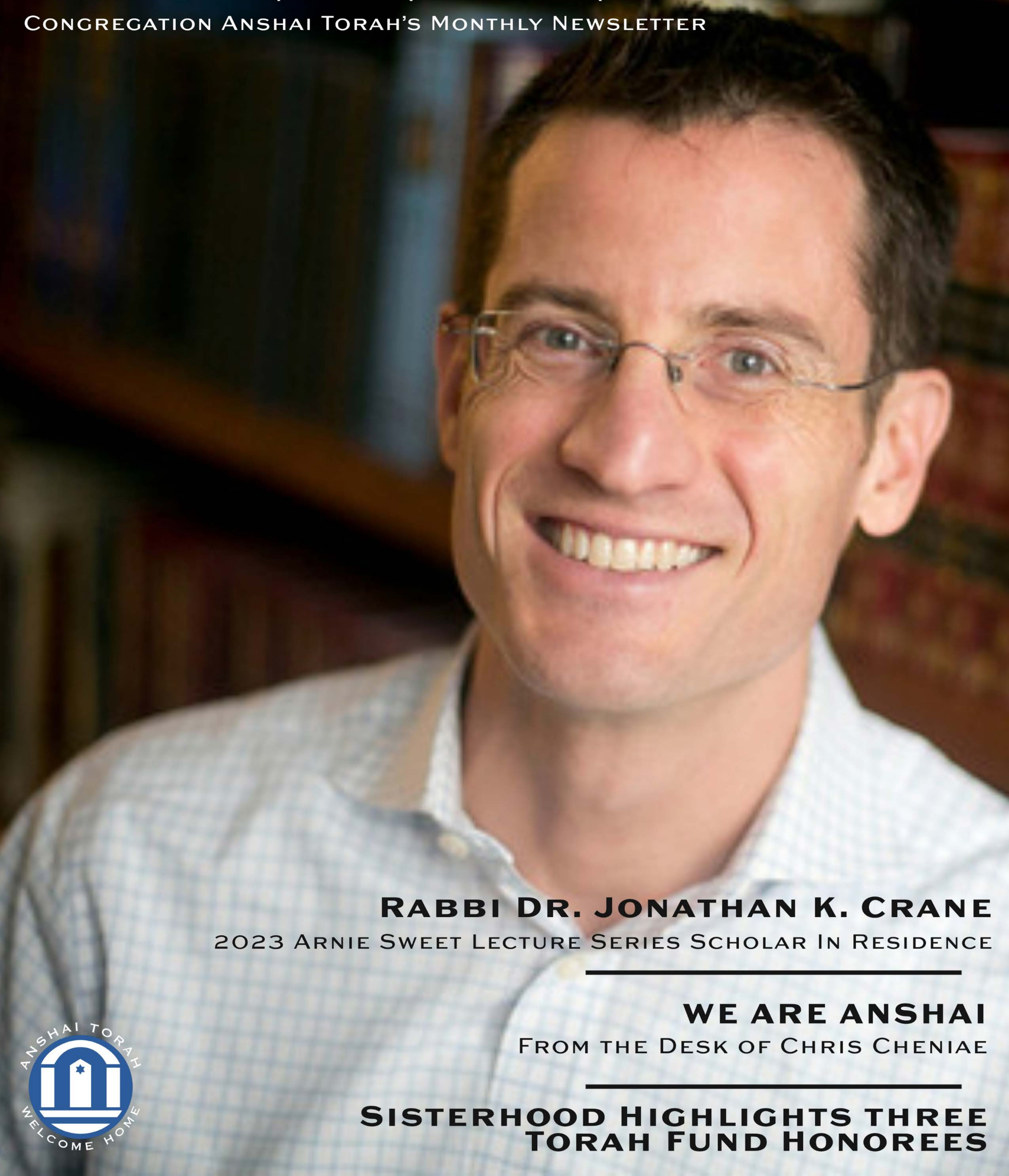


TEVET/SHEVAT 5783
JAN 2023

KOL EMET

CONGREGATION ANSHAI TORAH'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



RABBI DR. JONATHAN K. CRANE

2023 ARNIE SWEET LECTURE SERIES SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE

WE ARE ANSHAI

FROM THE DESK OF CHRIS CHENIAE

**SISTERHOOD HIGHLIGHTS THREE
TORAH FUND HONOREES**



MESSAGE FROM RABBI WEINBERG

Winter break 2022-2023 will never be forgotten by the Anshai Torah 26 who journeyed to Israel! We had a phenomenal time—eight children between the ages of 7 and 14 (they were outstanding travelers!), eighteen adults (three families proudly traveling with grandparents), an outstanding tour guide, and the first time Rabbi Kushnick and I were entitled to lead a trip to Israel, together. From the moment we touched down we were on the go—seeing, learning, laughing, crying, and appreciating the blessing of traveling as a synagogue group to Haaretz, our Homeland.

Each day another member of our traveling family elected to be our scribe. Via these daily summaries and accompanying pictures, I hope to transmit the energy and excitement we all shared as we breathed the spirit of the Jewish people from the arid environment of Masada to the lush gardens of the Golan.

As we say at the end of the Pesah seder, Next Year in Jerusalem—May we be privileged to share many more Anshai visits to Israel. It is never too early to start planning the next trip!



THE PRESIDENT'S *Perspective*

There are often words and catch phrases that come and go, but one acronym is here to stay, and for the best reasons. Many of us have heard of DEI - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. School districts are hiring DEI consultants, as are companies. At Anshai Torah, we have our membership to be our DEI consultants. You are the voice that tells us where we need to steer the ship, what areas we are focusing too much on and not enough on, and this is how we've managed to stay current and relevant for the past 24 years. The only way we can truly work on this initiative is through you. Please pay attention to this part. Nothing in life has ever gotten done from people just saying that it needs to get done. If we want to do it and do it correctly, it needs to be done by us. The nominating committee is being formed to bring forth the new leaders of our shul. I know that many of you want to get involved and don't know how. This is me shining a spotlight on this area right now: now is your calling to step up! We have committees that need attention, such as a special needs initiative, parent-teacher liaisons, community integration, and so many others. If being on the board seems daunting, talk to any current or past board member and ask! If committee involvement is more your speed, just let us know that you want to be a part of the action! We have so many things going on, and everything we do is for you, our members and friends.

Take a look where we are and how far we have come, but we have a long way to go. While we must stick together in this time of high antisemitism, we also need to open our eyes to the world around us and not close ourselves off.

There is some beauty to be found in everything, and this starts with education. Let's educate ourselves to what Anshai looks like, feels like, sounds like, etc. We are a beautifully diverse group of people with a common goal, and we need to open our arms, hearts and minds to what our future looks like.

I hope to see you all at our Scholar in Residence program coming up at the end of the month. The topic of Jewish Ethics is very interesting, layered, and complex. I can't wait to listen and receive the information that Rabbi Dr. Jonathan K. Crane is going to share with us, and I hope that you'll join in! Stay warm out there!

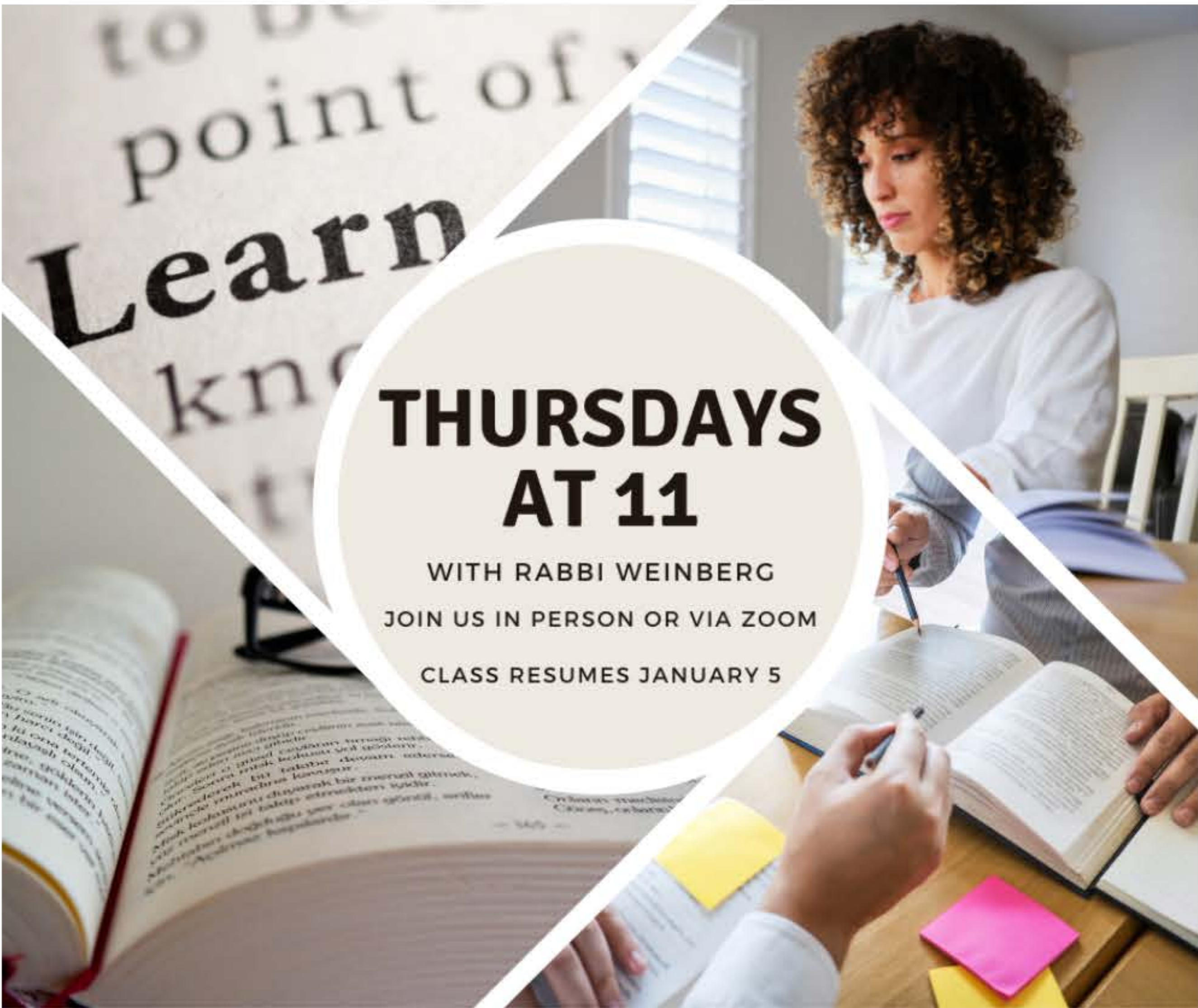
Beth



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A HUGE thank you to Kay Sykora for your gracious guidance with the new face of Kol Emet. Without you, we wouldn't have the Kol Emet! Thank you , as well to Carol Orrange and Robin Feldman for your editing!



From the Desk of Our Executive Director

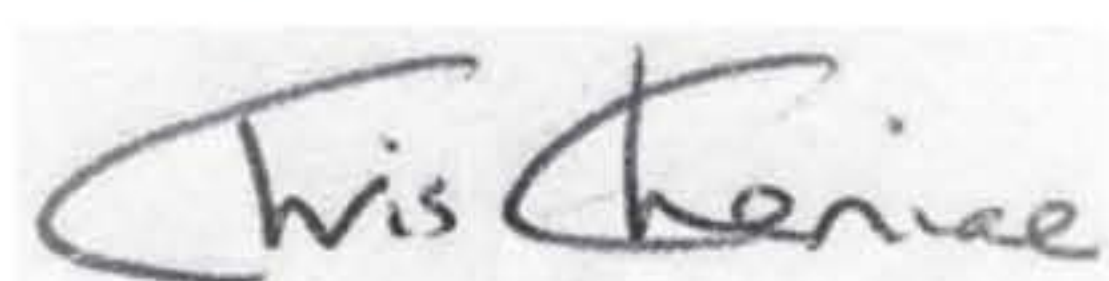
How has it already been a year since I joined the Anshai Torah staff? I have been blown away by the warmth, passion, vision, and generosity of our clergy, staff, Board of Directors, and membership. I have used the past year to observe and learn from so many of you. I wanted to understand what makes Anshai unique as it continues to grow while the national trend in synagogue membership is moving in the opposite direction. I wanted to find out what we do well and what might need a little attention.

During my first few months I asked some of you to give me one word that best describes Anshai. The word that was continually repeated was "Heimish". When asked what Heimish means to you, I often heard... "it's hard to explain but it just fits us as a community; Heimish is what we are..."

It has been a year filled with committee meetings, staff meetings, High Holy Day prep, experiencing this building bursting at the seams during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. I have seen faces light up as friends gathered together in the Behringer Family Sanctuary on a Friday night or sat together in the Haymann Family Foyer for kiddush lunch. We've experienced laughter coming from Religious School classrooms and from members as they watched our Rabbis dressed up for a Purim shpiel. We've also watched as some shed tears during minyan services that were quickly met with hugs of support.

Heimish - it's a good word - it's the right word for a congregation who supports and celebrates one another, welcoming and inclusive to all who join this sacred community.

We Are Congregation Anshai Torah. Welcome Home!



Heimish (היימיש): pronounced by HAY-mish or HY-mish): Based on the Yiddish word heim, which means "home," it describes things that are homey or familiar.

Make yourself at home: Going back to Abraham, the very first Jew, our people have always valued inviting others into our homes. This mitzvah is known as hachnasat orchim, "welcoming and bringing in guests."



Our B'NAI *mitzvot*

& Other Simchas!

Peyton Taylor Benatovich and Connor Eli Benatovich, twin sons of Lisa and Todd Benatovich, and younger brothers of Jacob Benatovich, will be called to the Torah as a B'Nai Mitzvah on Shabbat morning, January 14, 2023. They are the grandsons of Diane and Abe Rozenberg of Overland Park, Kansas, and Susan Benatovich of Plattsburgh, New York.

Peyton and Connor are seventh grade honors PACE students at Hendrick Middle School where they play football & basketball. Peyton plays cello and Connor, the viola in the orchestra.

For their mitzvah project, Peyton and Connor fundraised for the Ryan Goldblatt Foundation. Ryan was born three days before their older brother Jacob and were each other's first friends. Ryan was diagnosed with a brain tumor when he was 16 months old and bravely fought cancer until he passed away just shy of his fourth birthday.

The foundation honors Ryan's memory by raising funds for medical institutions and charities that provided support and services to Ryan and his family. Peyton and Connor used the funds they raised to assemble and deliver Halloween goodie bags to pediatric cancer patients at Children's Medical Center Plano.

We would like to thank those who helped the boys prepare for his special day. Warren Rubin, Peyton and Connor's tutor, has been instrumental in making the boys shine with his dedication and encouragement. We also would like to thank Rabbi Weinberg and Rabbi Kushnick for their support and guidance. We are grateful for all of the wonderful teachers from preschool through today who have helped with Peyton and Connor's Jewish education.



**We are delighted
you have chosen to
join the Anshai Torah
family!
Kayla & Joseph
Dobinsky
Ariel, Asher**

Anniversaries

- 2

Ilene & David Sporkin
- 3

Lindsey & Eric Freed
Rachel & Matthew Steinberg
- 4

Erin & Geoffrey Margow
- 5

Diane & Allen Kufert
- 6

Rebecca & James Bishop
- 8

Nancy & Jamie Blumenthal
- 10

Inna & Michael Kleyman
- 17

Amy & David Balis
- 19

Isabel & Yehoshua Valencia
- 21

Andrea & Jay Katz
Caryn & Joe Kboudi
Michelle & Andrew Silver

Birthdays

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Ariel Zubery
Maya Zubery
Kalia Popp
Arielle Laizerovich
- 2

Aaron Grossman
Sawyer Levine
Tara Feldmus
Matthew Last
- 3

Roberta Poznick
Cherie Chestler
- 4

Leah Cherner
Ricardo Szperling
Jeffrey Romick
Cecily Rosemore
- 5

Wyatt Levine
Daria Zelinger
Peter Schochet
- 6

Miles Ratner
Gregory Feldmus
Zoe Ginchansky
Ronald Nevelow
- 7

Jonah Hersh
Barron Markowitz
- 8

Kenneth Dauber
- 9

Florence Kramer
Asher Dobinsky
Julie Sutker
Michael Fletcher
Corey Todres
Eric Spector
Amy Schachter
- 11

Avery Klatsky
Caleb Baum
Justin Pearlman
- 12

Lori Goodman
Allison Daniels
Daniel Kaplan
Leah Bernstein
- 13

Dara Levy
Theresa DeMerit
Barbara Carr Goodman
- 14

Ethan Grandfield
Inna Kleyman
Alex Raff
Carl Uretsky
Paul Evans
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Morrie Weinman
Steven Davidoff
Hailey Velevis
Addyson Schwartz
- 16

Joy Phillips
Debra Ginchansky
Debra Fletcher
Brianna Richardson
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Candace Weinberg
Michael Kushnick
Harlow Fenster
- 18

Jeremy Levine
Robert Ciago
Talia Schackman
Charlie Reid
Ryder Robins
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Lindsay Shiller
Jack Piotrikowsky
Ryan Shiller
Dafna Rubinstein
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Meryl Evans
Benjamin Rivner
Reid Dubner
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Louise Sayah
Robert Sayewitz
Mark Anderson
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Beth Wood
Jacob Mehr
Jason Nevelow
Jenna Nevelow
Ari Cohn
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Ashley Abrahams
Cameron Abrahams
Asher Friedman
Jeffrey Schultz
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Lane Evans
Norma Wolfson
Jonathan Goodman
Ronald Frimere
Neri Corin
Jonathan Goldminz
Michael Acks
- 25

Neal Rothstein
Kim Kamen
Eric Satz
Jonah Kaufman
Graham Schwartz
- 26

Carla Rosenberg
Riley Manson
Gavin Shrell
Sheldon Fleschman
Kelly Hymowitz
Maya Kuchinsky
- 27

Kalal Zuckerman
Bonnie Rubinstein
Mahra Paillet
Rebecca Shmukler
Ilana Shuster
- 28

Keith Leventhal
Debra Clamp
Erica Feldman
Dahlia Goldberg
- 29

Parker Anderson
Miles Goldberg
Samuel Wigder
Emory Last
- 30

Alexandra Rosenblatt
Todd Birenbaum
Alayne Cyk
Stella Rosen
Rita Gozlan
- 31

Susie Wolbe
David Billman
David Shusterman
Sloane Markowitz

CAT PRESCHOOL

PRE-K POST

"We are raising beautiful people."

This is a quote from one of our pre-k parents after our first Hazak & Me program.

Members of Hazak joined our graduating class for a meal, some songs and an art project.



There were a few nerves, but everyone settled in and enjoyed the attention from their partners. The conversations and cooperation were delightful. Our students showed off their knowledge of Hanukkah, shared personal interests and beaming smiles. As the stories from the students trickled back to me from their parents, there was an overwhelming sense of pride. We are looking forward to our next event for Tu B'shevat.

More about the program:

The Hazak & Me Program brings members of Hazak into the preschool to provide the children with an additional layer of adult interaction. Interaction between the generations helps the children thrive in an environment enriched by the presence of committed volunteers willing to share their life experiences.

Guiding Principles

- Intergenerational practice is inclusive, building on the positive resources that the young and old have to offer each other and those around them.
- Intentionally collaborating across age groups/boundaries is not just a nice, collegial thing to do, it helps us flourish.
- Cohesion and empathy between the generations helps to develop a strong community spirit.
- Children thrive with stories, attention, an extra lap, an extra person who can radiate warmth and joy.
- The volunteer feels useful by providing a relaxed, unconditional and nonjudgmental presence to children seeking connection.



CHAI MEMBERSHIP

Did you know Anshai Torah has a Chai Membership Program? Our Chai Membership Program is a critical component of our shul. Anshai Torah takes pride in welcoming all who wish to become a part of our Anshai family regardless of their financial situation. Chai members directly help make that happen as additional funds contributed through the Chai Membership Program are used to help bridge that gap.

All our members have the option to participate at a Chai Membership level, which is above the annual dues. We thank our current Chai Members and to all members who consider joining this wonderful program to help your fellow congregants. Please reach out to Chai Co-Chairs Lisa Gerstenfeld at lgerstenfeld@gmail.com or Jana Stern at jana.stern17@gmail.com for any questions or for more information on the Anshai Torah Chai Membership Program.

LIFETIME

Janet Behringer
Liz & Rusty Cooper

BENEFACTOR

Nancy & Jamie Blumenthal
Darci & Randall Iola
Dot & Basil Haymann
Alisa & Jason Makler
Cindy & Mitch Moskowitz
Julio & Katty Rosenstock

BUILDER

Ann Arnold & Eugene Morris

SUSTAINING

Cathy & Joel Brook
Tracey & Jacob Cherner
Frannie & Robert Gardner
Erik Grossman
Stephanie & Joseph Kufert
Michelle & Mark Meiches
Dafna & Neil Rubinstein
Janis & Bruce Barbash
Sharon Tiger & Robert Edwards
Ann & Howard Rubin

CONTRIBUTING

Randi & Jeffrey Aaronson
Jennifer & Howard Abrahams
Patrice & Steven Adler
Mojgan & Farzin Bakhshian
Amy & David Balis
Diana & Brad Behringer
Beth & Scott Berk
Andrea & Jeff Berkowitz
Elaine & Richard Berry
Sheryl & David Billman
Wendy & Steven Blum
Cynthia Brooks
Karen & Andy Cohen
Jaime & Michael Cohen
Debbie & Dan Cohn
Joanne & Gary Croll
Ricki & Jeff Dworkin
Claudia & Mike Egnal
Ellen & Jack Fishpaw
Lisa & Philip Gerstenfeld
Lori & Mickey Goldberg
Nina & Jonathan Goodman
Warren Harmel
Marcy & Jeffrey Kahn
Debbie & Bruce Katz
Julia & Aaron Kaufman
Lisa & Ira Kravitz
Pamela & Matthew Kurtzman
Stephanie & Michael Landgarten

CONTRIBUTING CONT.

Lauren & David Levinson
Elaine & Jeff Levitt
Julie & Jay Liberman
Julie & Bret Miller
Gail & Michael Milner
Mahra & Kevin Paillet
Janis & Allan Peiser
Jeanette & Michael Pincus
Amy Popp
Nicole & Jay Post
Nancy & Andrew Rabhan
Debbie & Manuel Rajunov
Diane Ratner
Natalie & Jacob Ratner
Edna & Hugh Robinson
Shani & Jeff Romick
Lorraine & Ian Rosenberg
Marilyn & Stanley Rothstein
Staci & Paul Rubin
Florence & Howard Shapiro
Michelle & Andrew Silver
Nancy & Mark Solls
Ilene & David Sporkin
Jana & Barrett Stern
Carolyn & Michael Wilkov
Susie & Ellis Wolbe
Diane Yaris
Samantha & Matthew Zucker

WHAT IS THE TORAH FUND?

The Torah Fund campaign began in 1942 as a scholarship fund. In 1963, it merged with the Mathilde Schechter Residence Hall campaign that provided housing for undergraduate students. In time, the campaign identified needs and raised funds for specific projects, including:

- Women's League Educational Pavilion (Kripke Tower)
- Women's League Seminary Synagogue
- Mathilde Schechter Residence Hall Renovations
- Goldsmith Hall
- Residence Hall at the American Jewish University
- JTS Quadrangle
- JTS Library Bookshelves
- Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies Garden

For the past several years, funds raised by Torah Fund have gone toward scholarships to all the schools. There are continuing opportunities for sisterhoods and individuals to provide support to all five institutions through Torah Fund. Resultantly, thousands of dedicated volunteers have contributed to the spiritual, aesthetic and material well being of these educational communities by supporting Torah Fund projects.



**TORAH FUND
SISTERHOOD SHABBAT
CHAZAK V' EMATZ
(BE STRONG AND
COURAGEOUS)
FEBRUARY 11, 2023
9:30AM**



ELAINE LEVITT was born in Cape Town, South Africa and grew up living a very traditional Jewish life focusing on Jewish education and community service.



Receiving a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Cape Town, Elaine worked in the accounting field for many years before changing careers and teaching in the Early Childhood Center at Levine Academy.

The Levitt family joined Anshai Torah back when services were being held in a building on Plano Parkway and Village Creek. Elaine's husband, Jeff jokes they joined Anshai when Big Bird was still small. Over seven years ago, Elaine took on the critical role of Hesed Committee Chair. It is very important to Elaine that regardless of how big Anshai becomes, congregants will never feel lost or invisible especially those who are in need. When asked what it was that drew Elaine to Hesed, she said, "I had been the recipient of a stranger's kindness when I was taking care of a family member in another state and a synagogue reached out to help. The support we received was invaluable, and I knew then that I wanted to do the same for others."

Elaine and her committee worked tirelessly to ensure those in need received whatever assistance was required. Then the pandemic hit and the world came to an almost complete stop; however, the pandemic didn't stop the mitzvah of Bikur Cholim (visiting the ill) nor did it stop the need for meal/grocery deliveries as well as checking on those most vulnerable. Elaine quickly came up with a plan and put together groups of volunteers who made calls to Anshai's more senior congregants to ensure they didn't feel alone and who made meals and/or purchased groceries to deliver to those in need. Elaine found the strength and courage to deal with the challenges of the pandemic from the depths of her soul: "I knew no matter the challenge there is always a way to take care of our Anshai family when needed, especially when I received the support of my volunteers. None of this is possible without our volunteers," said Elaine.

Strong/strength and courage/courageous - these words so beautifully encapsulate both Elaine's actions and who she is. Elaine found herself relying on her strength and found the courage to keep the mission of Hesed alive and well during the pandemic.

"Throughout Covid, I stayed steadfast to my mission of keeping connection with those who needed help, even if that meant masking up and entering a home to deliver food and groceries and making the necessary plans and getting authorization to pick up much-needed medication from the pharmacy for a congregant," Elaine said.

Continuing to expand her volunteer efforts is very important to Elaine. When she is not volunteering, Elaine loves to spend time with her family which includes Jeff, her husband of 36 years, son and daughter-in-law, Daniel and Rachel Levitt, and daughter and son-in-law, Carly and Alex Raff. Elaine also enjoys playing mahjong and kaluki with her friends.



"I knew no matter the challenge there is always a way to take care of our Anshai family when needed,

Spread the word!!

Remind your Jewish friends our High School lunch is Wednesday, January 11!!

2023 High School Lunches

Wednesday, January 11

Wednesday, February 8

Wednesday, March 15

Wednesday, April 19

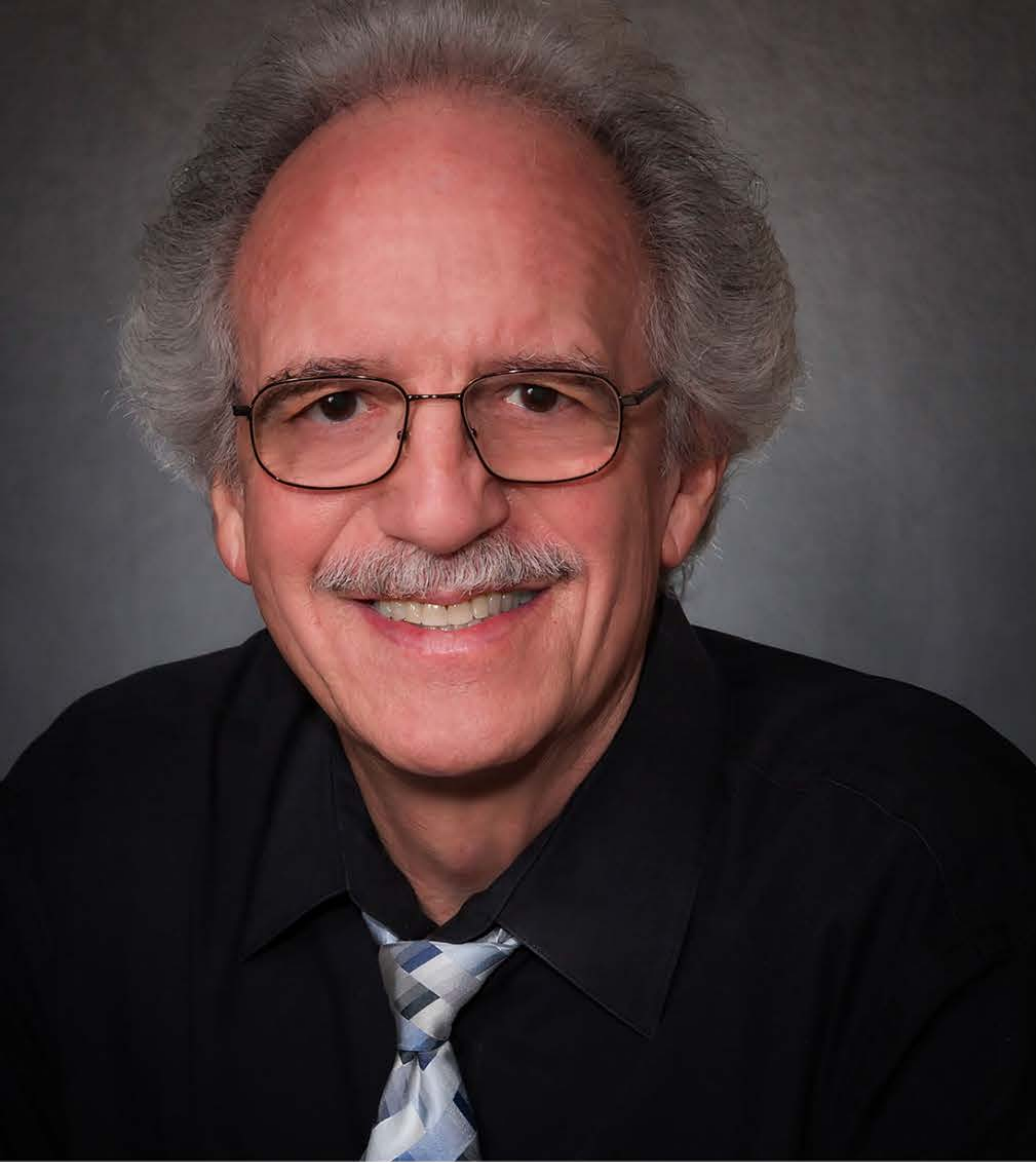
Wednesday, May 10

Following the schedule of Plano West Senior High School, we serve both 'A' & 'B' lunches. 'A' lunch will be served at 11:45am; 'B' lunch will be served at 12:45pm.

If you are interested in helping serve at the lunches, please email programming@anshaitorah.org. Or, if you would like to be a sponsor for the High School Lunch, we would greatly appreciate that as well.

Please let your Juniors and Seniors know about the next lunch on Wednesday, January 11. Also, send us their name and cell phone number so we can send them a text of the remainder of the lunches for the school year.





WARREN RUBIN was born in Yuba City, CA and grew up in Long Island, NY. His family belonged to Temple Beth Sholom where Warren attended Hebrew School (his favorite teacher was Stanley Sobolovsky).

Morton Kula, their synagogue's cantor, was Warren's bar mitzvah coach. Thirty years after Warren's bar mitzvah, Cantor Kula gave Warren copies of the trop melody music sheets he had created when he was a student at JTS after World War II.

Warren served as the METNY ritual chairman of USY in both his junior and senior years of high school, then served in the United States Air Force and graduated from UT Dallas with a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies. He obtained his M. Ed. in Special Education in 2008 and his M. Ed. in Education Administration in 2010. He also attended Hebrew University in Jerusalem focusing on Jewish Education. Warren spent 28 years in the kitchen cabinet manufacturing industry, but in 2002 he moved into the education arena as a special education teacher and elementary school principal. He has been a b'nai mitzvah tutor/coach since 1985 - his very first student was his son, Stuart.

Warren and his wife of 55 years, Sherry Lynn, joined Anshai Emet in 1980 and have been part of the Anshai family for 42 years! Warren became a b'nai mitzvah tutor/educator at the encouragement of Harry Butensky, Anshai Emet's cantor in the early 1980s. Cantor Butensky encouraged Warren to learn to read Torah and learn trop and the rest, as they say, is history.

Continuing his support and encouragement for his students, Warren had to help them navigate the new virtual world of learning. "I am first and foremost a cheerleader for my b'nai mitzvah students," he said. "I try to create a learner/teacher relationship that is very supportive and affirming. Students learn to be independent and responsible for their assignments. Parents are our first and most important teachers which lead me to cooperative relationships with moms and dads." Chazak v'Ematz (Be Strong and Courageous) describes Warren Rubin to a 'T'. In fact, there have been many instances where Warren has found the strength and courage to face challenges head on. On May 28, 1977 in Southgate, KY, Warren, along with family and friends, was a guest at a bar mitzvah reception at the Beverly Hills Supper Club. A fire broke out in the room next to theirs, and Warren, along with his brother Ronald, were among the first to evacuate the building. All of their party escaped unscathed. Unfortunately, more than 164 people perished that night.



"The joy of watching b'nai mitzvah students turn into blossoming young adults is my reward" Warren shared. "That many of them tell me in later years the importance of their experience is truly wonderful. Education is food for my soul."

Warren said, “[Even] during my four years in the U.S. Air Force, I had not witnessed a disaster on this scale.”

When not tutoring/educating Anshai students, Warren spends time with Sherry Lynn and their children Debra (Scott) Clamp, Stuart (Stephanie) Rubin and Michelle (Jay) Lewis as well as their grandchildren Chandler, Gabrielle, Spencer, Joshua, Finley and Sutton. Warren loves music and has been a part of the Plano Community Band since 1983 playing the bass clarinet (including being president 1985–1987).

Warren also founded the Plano Clarinet Choir in 2002. In July 2022, they performed at the International Clarinet Association convention in Reno, NV. Warren also has an extensive audio system at home. Audio equipment and intense listening have been part of Warren’s life since his teen years - Warren has a wonderful collection of both classical and jazz in LPs, tape cassettes and CD/DVDs - he even has a few rare vinyl LPs!



SHALACH MANOT

Orders • Volunteers • Delivery

Watch your
emails around
January 13th!

SHERRI MASSARELLA was born in Philadelphia and grew up with a family who celebrated all the Jewish holidays in their home. Sherri loved learning Hebrew, traditional songs and melodies along with Israeli dancing at the conservative synagogue they attended.



Earning a Bachelor of Science in Public Health Education at Temple University, Sherri's teaching career began in the New York school districts. In 1991, Sherri began teaching students Hebrew at the United Jewish Center in Danbury, CT, and then at Ohev Shalom in Richboro, PA.

After relocating to the Dallas area in 1995, Sherri continued teaching/tutoring both children and adults in Hebrew at various DFW synagogues. Sherri established the Adat Chaverim Hebrew School and created the program curriculum. Sherri also worked as a substitute teacher for two decades in Plano ISD.

Upon joining Anshai Torah in 1999, Sherri's love and passion for Judaism motivated her to continue teaching/tutoring children who wanted to learn Hebrew and more about Judaism. Teaching is deeply rewarding and fulfilling for Sherri who said, "I especially love teaching and inspiring children. Teaching the next generation of Jewish adults is a truly a blessing."



"My heart ached for them [students' families] because I knew how special it was for my own family to share with extended family and friends."

Sherri truly is the embodiment of Chazak v'Ematz (strong and courageous). In February 2020, Sherri's fourth-grade students were having fun and baking Hamantaschen at Anshai. Then came the lockdown and there was no returning to the classroom. Sherri and her family sadly experienced significant loss in 2020, including her father and two cousins. These were unprecedented times and traveling was not an option so they couldn't be with their extended family nor have any closure. They couldn't see their adult children, either, as everyone was quarantining at home.

To overcome the barriers of the lockdown, creativity became the 'name of the game' for teaching and tutoring. Sherri not only had to find new ways to tutor/teach students preparing for their b'nai mitzvahs but also had to help support them in their new learning environment: FaceTime and Zoom. There were a lot of challenges in the first weeks of virtual learning but Sherri, her students and their parents persevered, and they carried on. Sherri said, "Faith in G-d, tons of webinars, and teamwork helped us through that very difficult time. Students taught me while I taught them; we all learned and grew together!"

When not tutoring/teaching, Sherri spends time with Bob, her husband of 36 years, her children Josh and Rachel, son-in-law Daniel, granddaughter, Ava, mini dachshund, Angel and mini donkeys, Cinderella, Lucca, Kira and Rafael. Sherri also loves to walk, hike, bake, do yoga and spend time with her family and friends.

Cover Story



Rabbi Dr. Jonathan K. Crane is the Raymond F. Schinazi Scholar of Bioethics and Jewish Thought at Emory University's Center for Ethics, Professor of Medicine and affiliated Professor of Religion in the Emory College of Arts and Sciences.

RABBI DR. JONATHAN K. CRANE

by Deb Silverthorn

Rabbi Dr. Jonathan K. Crane, Congregation Anshai Torah's 2023 Arnie Sweet Scholar-In-Residence from January 27 to 29, will engage the community in "Jewish Ethics For Now: Ethics in A Changing World," with both in-person at Congregation Anshai Torah and online engagements.

Rabbi Dr. Crane is the son of Kay and Garry, and brother to Daniel and Paul. The Crane family home, the one in which he was raised, and the one he has built with his wife Lindy Miller and their sons Nadav, Amitai and Rafi, have always been where Judaism was taken seriously, where attending synagogue was a regular part of life and where questioning and curiosity were encouraged.

"My father was an economist and my mother a librarian, so I grew up loving and revering books and always finding the learning and wisdom in the conversations around our table," he said. Raised at Temple Beth Am in Seattle, it was Rabbi Norman Hirsh and his commitment to social justice, by his sermons and his living example, and seven summers spent at the former URJ's Camp Swig, that touched the future Rabbi Dr. Jonathan Crane from a young age.

"Thinking 'Jewishly,' leadership and ethics have been engrained in my bones as a young person," said Rabbi Dr. Crane. "I studied what, and where, I thought I would best create a life to help bring peace to the world."

Worldly, an understatement, Rabbi Dr. Crane's degrees include a BA from Wheaton College in Massachusetts, his first year spent including service as international president of NFTY/North American Federation for Temple Youth, an MA in International Peace Studies from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, and an MPhil in Gandhian Thought from Gujarat Vidyapith in Ahmedabad, India. As a Wexner Graduate Fellow, he received rabbinic ordination and a Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters from Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion.

"The last 12 years I've spent at Emory have been a great fit, with a range of students from undergraduates to seasoned professionals looking for tools to take into their post-service lives," said Rabbi Dr. Crane. "Both urgent and longstanding questions and issues pique my interest as I study through older wisdom and resources and the newest of technology."

"In Rabbi Dr. Crane we have another incredible speaker. We are so very blessed and so fortunate to welcome this world-renowned scholar whose teaching influences across the ages and around the world," said Janice Sweet Weinberg. "We welcome him with open arms for what we know will be an exhilarating program."

In the past, Anshai Torah's Scholar events have featured rabbis Bradley Artson, Sharon Brous, Ed Feinstein, Daniel Gordis, Yitz Greenberg, Donniel Hartman, Brad Hirschfield and Naomi Levy as well as academics and experts Yossi Klein Halevi, Yehuda Kurtzer, Dr. Deborah Lipstadt and David Makovsky.

"Once again, we welcome a leading authority who brings an abundance of riches. Rabbi Dr. Crane, a scholar wise beyond wise on so many ethical issues that are important to our lives today, he is an authority on hundreds of subjects," said Warren Harmel, SIR Committee Chair, noting the speaker's expertise on Jewish ethical perspectives on biomedical, social, political and warfare issues, comparative religious ethics, Jewish theology, law and lore and food studies and ethics.

Among his many publications, Rabbi Dr. Crane has authored "Eating Ethically: Religion and Science for a Better Diet," "Narratives and Jewish Bioethics," and "Ahimsa: The Way to Peace." He is editor of "Beastly Morality: Animals as Ethical Agents" and "Judaism, Race, and Ethics: Conversations and Questions" and, with Rabbi Elliott Dorff, co-editor of "The Oxford Handbook of Jewish Ethics and Morality. A former president of the Society of Jewish Ethics, he founded and continues to co-edit the "Journal of Jewish Ethics."



Arnie Sweet z"l & Janice Sweet Weinberg

The Scholar-In-Residence weekend is produced by event chair Warren Harmel with a committee that includes Faina Aronovich, Cathy Sweet Brook, Ferne Farkas, Joe Kufert, Alisa Makler, Cindy Sweet Moskowitz, Manuel Rajunov, Karen Reid, Janice Sweet Weinberg, Sheryl Weisberg and others contributing to its planning and execution.

"We're privileged for the broad scope of knowledge he'll share throughout the weekend," said Harmel. "We're grateful for our presenting sponsors, Janice Sweet Weinberg and Art Weinberg, Cathy Sweet Brook and Joel Brook and Cindy Sweet Moskowitz and Mitch Moskowitz," with special thanks to Debbie and Manuel Rajunov and all our sponsors for their generous support."

Beginning at 12pm on Friday, January 27, Rabbi Dr. Crane will speak on "Mapping Ethics." The interactive and dynamic session will include topics of values, motives and reasons and conclusions. That evening, during Kabbalat Shabbat services which begin at 6:15 p.m., Rabbi Dr. Crane will provide a dvar Torah, and, after dinner present "Immoral Medicine: Poison, Ivy, and Ethics" highlighting Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, recognized as the "conscience of American medicine."

During Shabbat morning services, Rabbi Dr. Crane will speak on law and ethics; and, after the kiddush lunch, he'll address "Disembodied Ethics," Judaic discussions on cyborgism, replacing increasing proportions of the human body with technology and transhumanism, the call to "upload" the human mind/personality to persist beyond death - drones in warfare, and avatars in meta-universes.

At 8pm Saturday evening, at a dessert reception for synagogue leadership and SIR sponsors,

Rabbi Dr. Crane will lead a discussion of “Sowing Doubt and Hiding Reasons,” looking at how, in this age of uncertainty, questioning evidence, undermining truths, and casting aspersions are common. On Sunday morning during Religious School, Rabbi Dr. Crane will speak to students in grades five and six about how we decide what is important in life; and to those in grades seven to twelve, about how Judaism encourages thought and consideration about using social media. For more information, or to RSVP (required to receive Zoom links), visit anshaitorah.org/scholar or call 972-473-7718. For sponsorships, contact Robin Feldman at programming@anshaitorah.org

Deb Silverthorn, with her husband Eric and their children have been members of Congregation Anshai Torah for more than 20 years - during that time she has written dozens of articles about the goodness of the Anshai Torah family. Originally from Los Angeles, Deb has made Plano home for the last 33 years, during that time writing more than 2000 articles - a regular contributor to the Texas Jewish Post - sharing all about our greater Jewish community while also serving as a freelance writer and college application counselor. “Happy Talk,” is what she does.





The Arnie Sweet Lecture Series

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Lotty & Bobby Lyle	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

See What Our Auxiliary Groups Are Up To...



Our December program HAZAK and Me was an event with the Anshai Torah preschoolers. Together we did a joint art program and then the students presented a Chanukah play. This was followed by lunch together. A great time was had by all...young and not so young.

Hazak Shabbat is on January 7th. Our members will lead and participate in the Shabbat services. As always, Hal Babitch coordinated members needed to assist with services.

Looking ahead to February, on February 5, 2023, Jack Fink, a member of Anshai Torah, will make a Zoom presentation on how the results of the midterm election may affect the next US Congress, the Texas Legislature, and the reliability of the Texas electrical grid. Please join us at 10:30am for Jack Fink's presentation.

Save the date. Hazak is going to the theater! On Sunday, March 26th we're going to see Broadway's Best at the Repertory Company Theatre, 770 N. Coit Rd, Richardson, TX. Look for more details.

Everyone is reminded about Wednesday Happy Hour at 5:45pm, to be followed by minyan.



Adult Education 2022–2023

LUNCH 'N LEARN

Monday January 23 12:00pm with Rabbi Kushnick
In Person
RSVP at anshaitorah.org to attend and to designate if you would like a lunch.

THURSDAYS AT 11 WITH RABBI WEINBERG

Every Thursday 11:00am

In Person & Zoom

Formerly known as Rabbi Weinberg's THURSDAY TANACH CLASS, is now working their way through AS A DRIVEN LEAF, a novel by Milton Steinberg, "... based on the life of Elisha ben Abuyah. Steinberg's novel wrestles with the 2nd Century Jewish struggle to reconcile Rabbinic Judaism both culturally and philosophically with Greek Hellenistic society."

(Wikipedia)

DAF YOMI

Wednesdays, February 22, 2023 & April 19, 2023 7:00pm with Rabbi Weinberg

Have you been participating in the on-line DAF YOMI course that is working its way through the Talmud?

In the Spring, Rabbi Weinberg will offer several programs supporting the class that will expand on the topics and information provided, answering your questions, and leading discussions on the material.

It is NOT TOO LATE to start the program now, in advance of his class!

You don't have to "start at the beginning" . . .

just start the weekly readings now and you will be ready for class!

Sign up here to receive the daily DAF YOMI readings

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/get-your-daily-dose-of-talmud/>

THE NEW JEWISH CANON

Monday evenings at 7:30pm

January 16, 23, 30 with Rabbi Weinberg
In Person & Zoom.



Committee Corner

The Hesed Committee invites you to join us and spread Hesed – acts of loving kindness. We continually accept volunteers and have opportunities from ongoing to one-time actions. It is a meaningful and wonderful way to be involved in your community.

The Hesed committee:

- provides meals to those needing a helping hand
- delivers care packages to bring a little sunshine and nourishment to your day
- fulfills the mitzvah of Bikkur Cholim, visiting those who are ill at home, in hospitals, and those recovering in physical rehabilitation centers.
- writes notes to recognize milestones and acknowledges losses
- makes phone calls to check on the progress of those in need
- welcomes new babies and grandbabies with an Anshai baby bib



Please reach out to me should you wish to volunteer, receive help, or know someone who could benefit from our support.

I can be reached on my cell 214-783-4000, by email elainelevitt@gmail.com or you can contact Kay at the shul kay.sykora@anshaitorah.org.

Elaine Levitt, Hesed Committee Chair



Welcome to 2023!

GO BLUE!

Thank you to those who attended the Thanksgiving College Shabbat! The most spirited family award goes to The Rubinsteins! Thank you for showing your University of Michigan spirit!

WINTER GIFT

Your students should have received a special e-gift card to help them get through their finals! If they have not, let us know and we will get it to them!

SPRING ADDRESSES

Please send us your students' spring address if it changes, or let us know if they are going abroad this semester.

WHAT IS CATS IN COLLEGE?

Our CATS in College committee connects our students to Anshai Torah while they are in college, graduate school, law school, medical school, or any higher education institution, and we also proudly send packages to those young adults in the military who have chosen to serve our country post-college.

Some examples of how we have done that in the past are by sending holiday care packages, finals-time Starbucks gift cards, shalach manot baskets, and birthday wishes.

For more information, please visit anshaitorah.org/form/catsincollege

CONTRIBUTIONS

CATS in College

In recognition of Avery Klatsky's graduation with honors
from Arizona State University

Wendi and Howard Klatsky

Donation by Alisa and Jason Makler

General Operating

In memory of Dr. David Genecov, brother of Julie Shrell

In memory of Sean Oh, brother of Jin Friedman,

Rachel and Earl Bloom

In memory of Bernice Mazer, mother of Suzy Schwartz

In honor of Sami Dworkin & Scott Robins wedding, Mazel Tov,

Sheryl and Dave Billman

Donation by Michael Shvartsman

In honor of Nancy Rabhan's Special Birthday

Debbie Butvin

Hazak

In memory of Charles Weinman,

Patti & Dr. Morrie Weinman

In honor of Hal Babitch's Birthday,

Sandy & Philip Balis

Debbie Butvin

In memory of Mary Isenstein, mother of Elaine Levitt,

Elaine & Jeff Levitt

In memory of Reuben Levitt, father of Jeff Levitt,

Elaine & Jeff Levitt

In memory of Stanley Kurtzer, brother of Sandy Crook,

Roni and Josh Socolof

Hesed

In honor of Elaine Levitt's Special Birthday,

Charle and Michel Dembo

Pam and Dan Loewenstein

Joanie and Bart Raff

Harriet and Joel Carson

In appreciation of Rabbi Weinberg for his beautiful
funeral service and shiva for our mother, Bernice Mazer,
Sally and Larry Bell

In honor of Elaine Levitt's Torah Fund nomination,

Sheri & Jack Vine

Liz & Rusty Cooper

In memory of Dr. David Genecov brother of Julie Shrell

In memory of Soung "Sean" Oh, brother of Jin Friedman

In memory of Barnett Goldberg,

Liz & Rusty Cooper

Kol Rina

In memory of Bernice Mazer, mother of Suzy Schwartz,
Mimi and Mark Kogut

In memory of Soung "Sean" Oh, brother of Jin Friedman,
Sheila Brown & Hal Babitch

In memory of Sol Katz and Shirley Katz Berman,

Brenda Lynn Katz

Preschool Fund

In memory of Clara Sweet, Janice's mother-in-law,
Janice & Arthur Weinberg

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund - Weinberg

In memory of Sean Oh, Jin Friedman's brother

In memory of Dr. David Genecov, brother of Julie Shrell

Rachel & Earl Bloom

In honor of the Auf Ruf of Yaffa's son Ygal and Kimberly Corson
Nechama & Elias Baron

In memory of Dr. David Genecov, brother of Julie Shrell,
Edna & Hugh Robinson

In memory of Clifford Kahn, brother of Dr. Jeffrey Kahn,
Marcy & Jeffrey Kahn



CONTRIBUTIONS CONT.

*January 7 – Kiddush Sponsor
Congregation Anshai Torah*

*January 14 – Kiddush Sponsor
In honor of
Connor & Peyton Benatovich
B'nai Mitzvah*

*January 21 – Kiddush Sponsor
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*January 28 – Kiddush Sponsor
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OR KAY SYKORA AT KAY.SYKORA@ANSHAITORAH.ORG**

Vayechi

Sedra–Carolyn & Robert Birenbaum
in honor of their grandson Joshua's
Bar Mitzvah - January 11, 2020

Pasuk– Elayne Brown
in honor of David Balis' 50th Birthday
December 13, 2016

Bo

Pasuk– The Shabbat Group
in honor of Alexandra Rosenblatt's Bat Mitzvah
February 4, 2017

Nicole & Jacob Ratner
in honor of Miles Ratner's Bar Mitzvah
January 20, 2018

Renata Katz in memory of her grandmother Hanna Kac

YAHREZEITS

8 Tevet January 1

Morris Zimmerman,
grandfather of Matthew Kurtzman
grandfather of Hillary Kurtzman

9 Tevet January 2

David Sorin,
grandfather of Abbe Lemack
Eleanore Barbash,
mother of Dr. Bruce Barbash
Besse Lemack,
grandmother of Dr. Gary Lemack
Rose Dworkin Chazanow,
mother of Candace Weinberg
Paul Rosenthal,
brother-in-law of Patti Weinman

10 Tevet January 3

Seth Kessler,
son-in-law of Janice Weinberg
brother-in-law of Cindy Moskowitz
brother-in-law of Cathy Brook
David Cobbell,
father of Gary Cobbel
Ruth Epstein,
aunt of Ellen Satlof
Carolyn Turner,
aunt of Lori Goldberg
Chana Sander,
mother of Cindy Greenberg

12 Tevet January 5

Mary Anne Luterman,
mother of Zachary Luterman

13 Tevet January 6

Robert A. Barbash,
father of Dr. Bruce Barbash
Dr. Carl Goldblum,
father of Richie Rosenberg
grandfather of Maya Rosenberg
Ruth Satlof,
mother of Richard Satlof
Joe Pincus,
father of Dr. Michael Pincus

14 Tevet January 7

Reuven Gandler,
grandfather of Charles Pulman

15 Tevet January 8

Ann Cohen,
mother of Marilyn Rothstein
Albert Schwartz,
father of Marilyn Schwartz
Edith Mellman,
mother of Barry Mellman

16 Tevet January 9

Abraham Kramer,
grandfather of Marcy Kahn
Alvin Kaplan,
father of Meryl Evans
Tillie Lipshy,
grandmother of Lauren Busch
Rose Korman,
mother of Barbara Ackerman

17 Tevet January 10

Izak Deutsch,
father of Cherie Chestler
Sol Katzmann,
grandfather of Sherie Wigder
Anne Leffler,
mother of Roberta Poznick
grandmother of Pamela Kurtzman
Albert Sweet,
father-in-law of Janice Weinberg
Elaine Minich,
daughter of Carl Uretsky
Sam Kane,
grandfather of David Kane
Yetta Nathan,
mother of Fred Nathan

18 Tevet January 11

Alan I. Fleischman,
father of Stephen Fleischman
Harry Goodman,
father of Eva Sonik
Mary Trippe,
aunt of Janis Peiser

18 Tevet January 11

Rabbi Mayer Tenebaum,
grandfather of
Dr. Yaffa Podbilewicz-Weinberg

19 Tevet January 12

Stanley Rabinowitz, father of
Alan Rabinowitz
David Sayewitz,
father of Robert Sayewitz
Beatrice Spivack,
aunt of Marcy Kahn

20 Tevet January 13

Jennie Herskovitz,
grandmother of Diane Kufert
great grandmother of Joseph Kufert
Kate Romanik,
mother in law of Geraldine Romanik
Martha Strauss,
mother of Karen Cohen
Sidney Babiskin,
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Beckie Feldman,
grandmother of Tracey Cherner

21 Tevet January 14

Hymie Goott,
father of Lorraine Abramson
Bella Saikin,
grandmother of Lori Goldberg
Moses Silverthorn,
father of Eric Silverthorn
Corrine Wolff,
grandmother of Beth Berk
Hannah Egnal,
mother of Michel Egnal
Jose Bucay,
father of Luisa Jinich
Helen Bernstein,
mother of Gail Berman
Ruth Haymann,
mother of Basil Haymann

YAH RZEITS

22 Tevet January 15

Robert Stadtman,
father of Nancy Solls
Jean Last,
grandmother of Matthew Last
Martin Chudnoff ,
father of Edna Robinson

23 Tevet January 16

Milton Mischel,
grandfather of Abbe Lemack

24 Tevet January 17

Jeffrey Robinowich,
uncle of Kevin Robinowich
Melissa Kuhr,
sister of Jonathan Rosen
Lionel Weinstock,
father-in-law of Warren Harmel
grandfather of Amanda Domenico
Bernard Billy Kahn,
father of Ivan Kahn
Judy Kerlick,
mother of Samantha Shiller

25 Tevet January 18

Rachel Lacke Pulman,
grandmother of Charles Pulman
Sylvia Rubin,
grandmother of Julie Liberman
Cyrus Shokuh,
father of Edmund Daniels

26 Tevet January 19

Sidelle Frankel,
grandmother Marcy Kahn
Aaron Kramer,
father of Marcy Kahn
Morris Kushner,
father of Florence Kramer
grandfather of Cheryl Weitz

27 Tevet January 20

Stanley Feinberg,
grandfather of Yasmin Feinberg
Florine Lane,
mother of Lisa Neuman
Shirley Seidenberg,
mother of Nancy Blumenthal

28 Tevet January 21

Jay Kufert,
father of Allen Kufert
grandfather of Joseph Kufert
Brice Contreras,
brother of Evan Contreras
Mort Liss,
father of Janet Behringer
Charlene Coosner,
sister of Ian Rosenberg
Lorelei Lewin,
mother of Bruce Lewin
Lester Rothschild,
father of Lori Stern
David Iola,
husband of Rowena Galerston
father of Randall Iola
Eva Singer,
grandmother of Marilyn Rothstein

29 Tevet January 22

Sidney Korenman,
father of Dr. Philip Korenman

2 Shevat January 24

Rose Kramer,
grandmother of Cheryl Weitz
Morris Rubin,
father of Howard Rubin
Eugene Muchin,
father of Chip Muchin
Edward Teddy Cohen,
grandfather of David Berman

3 Shevat January 25

Ida Baumgarten,
mother of Judith Zimmerman
Ann Kohn,
mother of Alan Kohn
Pesach Goldberg,
grandfather of Michael Frank
Pesach Goldberg,
grandfather of Louise Sayah
Hank Burttschell,
grandfather of Barrett Stern
Theodore Taxman,
uncle of Tracey Cherner
Akhtar Kashfi,
grandmother of Farzin Bakhshian

4 Shevat January 26

Alex Kenter,
father of Ben Kenter
Blima Szperling,
grandmother of Ricardo Szperling

5 Shevat January 27

Johan Hattingh,
father of Eben Hattingh
Merv Ginsburg,
father of Cynthia Bredow
grandfather of Melissa Welcher
grandfather of Ryan Bredow
Janet Schachter,
grandmother of Steve Schachter

6 Shevat January 28

Max Melasky,
father of Flora Herbert
Henry Klunower,
uncle of Deborah
Silverthorn
Sidney Seidenberg,
father of Nancy Blumenthal
Benjamin Podbilewicz,
grandfather of
Dr. Yaffa Podbilewicz-Weinberg

Yahrzeits

Sonya Bat Devorah,
grandmother of Jonathan Itzhakov
Nader Bakhshian,
uncle of Farzin Bakhshian

7 Shevat January 29

Eleanore Ratner,
grandmother of Jacob Ratner
Louis Zack,
father of Michael Zack
Anne Marcus,
cousin of Geraldine Romanik

8 Shevat January 30

Jeff Weinberger,
brother of Ilene Knubowitz
Jack Weisberger,
uncle of Sheryl Billman
Esther Meiches,
aunt of Dr. Mark Meiches
Cecilia Miriam Louis,
mother of Ian Rosenberg
Elizabeth Oppenheim,
mother of Marianne Shiller
Ada Krizeman,
grandmother of Marina Kramer
Sophia Genecov,
grandmother of Julie Shrell

9 Shevat January 31

Dennis Rich,
father of Wendy Korenman
Joseph C. Spiegel,
husband of Nina Spiegel
Joseph Spiegel,
brother-in-law of Sandy Crook



With sincere sympathy on your loss. . .

STANLEY KURTZER
BROTHER OF
SANDY CROOK AND NANCY SPIEGEL

RITA SCHOCHET
MOTHER OF
DR. PETER SCHOCHET

*"May God comfort you among all the
Mourners in Zion and Jerusalem"*



**The Anshai Torah Cemetery is located
at Restland Memorial Park in Dallas
and is exclusive to our membership.**

*Please contact Chris Cheniae at
ExecutiveDirector@anshaitorah.org or
972-473-7718 for information and assistance regarding
our available pre-arrangement and payment plans.*



O U R U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

We hope you have enjoyed reading the new Kol Emet magazine. We are moving this layout to a quarterly production. During the two months between each issue, there will be a Kol Emet Highlights Newsletter to continue the communication of important information and upcoming events.

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ANSHAI NIGHTS

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