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April 2021
Nisan-Iyar 5781
v. 82 | no. 12
**WORSHIP**

**SCHEDULE:** APRIL 2021

**FRIDAY, APRIL 2**
6:00 PM  Shabbat Worship Service
8:00 PM  The Well

**SATURDAY, APRIL 3**
9:00 AM  Torah Study
10:30 AM  Bat Mitzvah of Nola Shapiro
10:30 AM  Shabbat Service/Yizkor Service (7th Day Passover)

**FRIDAY, APRIL 9**
6:00 PM  Shabbat Worship Service

**SATURDAY, APRIL 10**
9:00 AM  Torah Study
9:30 AM  Mini Shabbat
10:30 AM  Bat Mitzvah of Alexandra Resnick

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16**
6:00 PM  Shabbat Worship Service
8:00 PM  The Well

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17**
9:00 AM  Torah Study
10:30 AM  B’nei Mitzvah of Max Linsky and Ashley Nelson
5:30 PM  Bat Mitzvah of Ava W. Roseman

**FRIDAY, APRIL 23**
6:00 PM  Shabbat Worship

**SATURDAY, APRIL 24**
9:00 AM  Torah Study
10:30 AM  B’not Mitzvah of Ariel Shore and Annabelle Bacon
5:30 AM  Bar Mitzvah of Ari Rosenthal

**TORAH & HAFTARAH:**

**APRIL 3:** 7th day of Passover and Yiskor
Exodus 14:30-15:21
2 Samuel:22:1-51

**APRIL 10:** Shemini

**APRIL 17:** Tazria-Metzora
Leviticus 9:1-11:47
II Samuel 6:1-7:17

**APRIL 24:** Achare-K’doshim
Leviticus 16:1-20:27
Amos 9:7-15

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*Ezra & Howard Halpern Senior Rabbinic Chair*
Rabbi Loren Filson Lapidus
Rabbi Samuel C. Kaye
Cantor Deborah L. Napier
Rabbi Steven H. Rau, JF, Director of Lifelong Learning
Rabbi Lydia Medwin, Director of Congregational Engagement & Outreach
Rabbi Alvin M. Sugarman, Ph.D., Emeritus

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Reflecting on Our Journey

Our rabbis taught in a Midrash around the 11th century that as the waters began to part in the Sea of Reeds and our ancestors took the first steps of their journey to freedom, one Israelite spent much of the trek focusing on the wet clay under his feet that filled his sandals. “Rueben said to Simeon, ‘In Egypt we had clay, and now in the sea again clay—in Egypt we had mortar and bricks, and now in the sea again mortar and bricks.’” (Shemot Rabbah 1:24) This story reminds us that in the midst of times of transitions, it is so easy to overlook miracles by focusing only on the mud.

As we concluded our quarantined seders last year, I, like many of you, was certain that our lives would return to normal by the fall. Who could have imagined the pain and suffering our world would endure over the next eleven months? So many of us have truly lived through a year of plagues of biblical proportions. And as we gather again to celebrate this year, tables filled with less guests than we had prayed for, it is so easy to overlook our freedom.

Last fall I participated in a focus group through the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta and the Jewish Funder’s Network to explore what the future might look like for the Jewish world post-pandemic. We began by examining four different possible scenarios and then identified how each might affect Jewish life. While it is impossible to predict what the future of Judaism may look like after a year of isolation from our physical institutions, the beauty of the study was that it helped us prioritize our needs and define what we will need to work on moving forward.

In the subsequent forty years of wandering through the desert after crossing the sea, the Israelites revived the complaints about the “clay, mortar and bricks” with every challenge along the way. But when we look back at the end-product of our journey, we see that it was precisely those challenges and the wandering together that unified the Jewish people and solidified us as an unflappable people who would be able to withstand and survive hardships throughout the ages. This is certainly not to say that the tragedies of this pandemic happened for a reason. Rather, it is the way that we confront these hardships—how reflect on them and choose to move forward to make the world better tomorrow—this is what we have learned as a people for over 5000 years... And this is the reason that we celebrate the Exodus journey each year.

Passover is the season that reminds us of our resilience—that we are the agents who can create the scenarios leading us and our world toward freedom. So as we reach this season once again, perhaps even a bit lonelier than the previous one, let us use this celebration of rebirth to recount the bright spots or miracles in our lives, prioritize where we want to focus our attention, and set out on our journey together to come out of this pandemic stronger for our future.

Rabbi Steven Rau
A Deep Dive into Jewish Prayer
Dates: Tuesdays, April 6, 13, 20, 27 • Times: 7:00-8:00pm
Cost: Free and open to all!
Ever felt lost in a Shabbat service? Or known the song but not what you are saying? You are not alone. The truth is that most of us have encountered this experience at some point. Join your Temple clergy to learn what is beneath the Hebrew words for a closer look at Jewish prayers and how they can add more meaning to your Shabbat. Each week we will explore a different prayer. April 6: Amidah, April 13: Shema & Her Blessings, April 20: Kaddish, April 27: Morning Blessings.

Judaism 101
Dates: 7 weeks beginning Tuesday, April 13
Times: 7:00-9:00pm
Cost: Free for members, $120/person for non-members; add a second family member $36; $30 book fee for members who do not own Honoring Tradition, Embracing Modernity.
A basic overview of the many facets of Judaism and Jewish practice: history, holidays, life cycle events, Torah, texts, and more.

WISDOM CIRCLE: Searching for Clarity in an Uncertain World
Dates: 6 weeks beginning Tuesday, April 13
Times: 12:00-1:00pm
In such uncertain times, we are all searching for meaning and wisdom in our lives from each other and our sages. Please join us each week for a clergy-led discussion with breakout sessions based on topics of Jewish wisdom to add inspiration to our lives and make new connections with our own friends and others in our Temple community. Register with a friend or two, spouse/partner, or sign up solo to be matched with a small group of learners guided by our own Temple clergy’s wisdom. This class welcomes first-time learners.
Weinberg Early Learning Center
Our amazing early learning program strives to provide a warm, supportive, and inspiring environment for each child (3 months- K)! We are located in midtown! Very limited spots available now!

2021-2022 Enrollment open now!

Nurturing Infant Program!
Summer Camp!
New Transitional Kindergarten!

Please call 404-872-8668, visit www.the-temple.org/welc or email us at welc@the-temple.org for more information.

Transitional Kindergarten
at Weinberg Early Learning Center

Transitional Kindergarten(TK) offers a nurturing and developmentally appropriate learning environment tailored to meet academic, social, and emotional needs of each child in a small class setting. A low teacher-to-student ratio ensures students are receiving individualized attention.

In addition to providing a spirited Jewish learning experience, our curriculum focuses on exposing the students to standards in:

- language arts/literacy
- mathematics
- science
- social studies
- communication skills
- problem-solving

More info: Call 404-872-8668 or visit www.the-temple.org/welc

Camp Minimac
Here is what’s happening this year at Camp Minimac!

This summer, 2021 Camp Minimac will be going on adventures around the world! There will be science, cooking, art, in house field trips, and of course plenty of time in Sonia’s Splash Pad! Join us for Camp Minimac’s "Adventure Camp!"

Session 1:
- June 1-4 (Closed May 31st): Antarctic Expeditions
- June 7-11: African Safari
- June 14-18: Desert Camp Out

Session 2:
- June 21-25: Ocean Deep Divers
- June 28-July 2: American Adventures
- July 6-9 (Closed July 5th): Space Explorer

Session 3:
- July 12-16: Dinosaur Time Travelers
- July 19-23: Volcano Visitors
- July 26-30: Amazonian Jungle Cruise

Visit www.the-temple.org/camps.html or call Audrey Henderson at 404-872-8668 for more information.

WELC loves Our Supporters!
Even though we aren’t having any visitors inside WELC we are still having special visitors virtually entertain, enrich, and educate our students with activities thanks to our The Parent Association(TPA)! This year we have had the Chattahoochee Nature Center, The Children’s Museum, Synchronicity Theater, and Jeffini the Magician all perform virtual field trips for our students! Thank you TPA for helping bring us these exciting and special activities and a BIG thank you to everyone who donated this past year during Chanukah! We look forward to planning many more fun and exciting events next year! (Hopefully in person)
MAY THEIR MEMORY BE FOR A BLESSING
Our Heartfelt Sympathy to the Families of:
Thomas Pepper (uncle of Meredith Bass and Hillary Nelson)
Phyllis Maslia (cousin of Martin Maslia)
Sara Emily Bowling
Jonathan Kreissman (son of Barbara & Marvin Kreissman)
Maynard Berle Gottlieb (brother of Joan Solomon)
Tom Ziff (father of David Ziff)
Jacqueline Klein Salenfriend (mother of Judy Musicer)
Peter Kay (son of Irv Kay)
Mel Warren (father of Richard Warren)

MAZAL TOV!
Have good news to share? Please email Dianne Ratowsky at dratowsky@the-temple.org.
Birth of Amelia Grace Salkin to proud grandmother, Nina Rubin.
Birth of Murray Ashton Roth to Alexandra and Ian Roth and to proud grandparents, Janet and Milton Dortch.

NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS
Eric Eisen
Katie & Jarred Klorfein • Leo Klorfein
Madeleine Lawson
Elizabeth & Matt Moraff Pritchard • Shifra Pritchard Moraff
Alana Schube & Brian Teitell
Opening the Ark: Bringing a Lost Polish Synagogue To Life
Wednesday, April 7 @ 12:30pm
Abby Schwartz, Director, Skirball Museum, HUC/Cincinnati
Shmuel Polin ’21, Rabbinical Student, HUC/Cincinnati
Participate in a tour of the Skirball Museum’s exhibition of Shmuel Polin’s full-size replica of an Aron Hakodesh (holy ark) from Sidra, Poland, that was destroyed by the Nazis. The unique story of the reproduction of this sacred architectural artifact, its relationship to the 18th-century Polish ark that graces the Scheuer Chapel on HUC’s Cincinnati campus, works from the Skirball Museum’s collection, and related documentation bring to life the precious legacy of the destroyed wooden synagogues of Europe.

Yom HaShoah Commemoration: Unto Every Person There is a Name
In partnership with B’nai Brith Atlanta Chapter
Thursday, April 8 • 1:00–5:00pm
Since 1989 on Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, B’nai B’rith International has been the North American sponsor of the "Unto Every Person There Is a Name” ceremonies. Participants name the Holocaust victims, in addition to where and when they died. These observances, created by Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, honor more victims each year, as the project collects more names over the years. We invite you to join us for part or all of the ceremony in this moving tribute, and even to read your family names or the names of those who have no one to remember them.

Mini Shabbat: Do a Mitzvah!
Saturday, April 10 • 9:30–10:00am
Mitzvot (plural for more than one mitzvah) are central to what it means to be Jewish! But where do they live? And how can you find them? Join your favorite puppet friends to learn more about where to find a mitzvah in your home and beyond!. As always, no need to RSVP. Just jump on and join us, even in your PJs! Questions? Email Rabbi Lydia Medwin at lmedwin@the-temple.org.

Silkworms and Bookworms: Jewish-Christian Relations and Hebrew Books in Italy
Tuesday, April 13 @ 1:00pm
Rabbi Joseph A. Skloot, Ph.D., Rabbi Aaron D. Panken, Assistant Professor of Modern Jewish Intellectual History, HUC/New York
Jews were early adopters of the technology of printing. Encounter the identities of some of these innovators—a small group of Jewish silk weavers in the city of Bologna, including Italian Jews, Ashkenazim, and Sephardi exiles, who produced an eclectic mix of nine books over four years, from 1536 to 1540. While these works have merited some attention from bibliographers, the printers themselves, and their place in the Jewish communal and commercial life of Bologna, are a new realm of scholarly and historical analysis. Presented by the Klau Library.

Transcendent Melodies: Exploring the Music and Cultural Context of Ishay Ribo
Tuesday, April 20 @ 6:00pm
Gordon Dale, Ph.D., Visiting Professor of Ethnomusicology, Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music, HUC/New York
Through his creative weaving together of Jewish liturgy, Biblical verses, and reflections on religious life, contemporary Israeli musician Ishay Ribo has been embraced by Jews around the world. Delve into his songs to uncover their levels of meaning, and appreciate how this deeply religious music has transcended cultural divisions among Jews, both within Israel and abroad.

Counting the Omer: Making Each Day Count
A Turbo-Charged Temple Connect Experience
March 21 @ 7:00pm • April 28 @ 7:00pm • May 16 @ 10:00am
The Omer is the time between Passover and Shavuot, known as an auspicious time for turning inward, a spring cleaning for the soul. Jewish tradition has created a kabbalah-based framework, inspired by the biblical injunction to count each day during this time, through which we are able to purpose and meaning in our lives. We will take a journey through this special time, guided by daily reflection, weekly conversations in small groups, and 3 online gatherings. Our guide book this year will be “The Seven Questions You’re Asked In Heaven” by our friend and colleague Dr. Ron Wolfson. Questions? Contact Rabbi Lydia Medwin at lmedwin@the-temple.org. RSVP to Joya Schmidt (jschmidt@the-temple.org) or 404-873-1731 if you’d like to join this turbocharged Temple Connect small group experience.

Meet Our Staff!
Get to know the friendly faces at The Temple.

Tena Drew
Membership Manager
Tena grew up just north of Atlanta in Rome, GA. She has lived in Brooklyn, NY, Jacksonville, FL, and San Francisco, CA. Tena has a 10 year old son who keeps life crazy and fun. She spends all her free time running him to ninja warrior practices and competitions.

Likes:
Nachos, the beach, reading, being with friends and family.

Dislikes:
Cooking, crowded places (even before Covid), Atlanta traffic.

Fun Fact:
Several years ago I was lucky enough to go with The Temple to Israel, and it was the trip of a lifetime!
Bereavement Groups

We all know that we are living through unprecedented times. But we are also experiencing unprecedented grief. If you are dealing with loss in your life, these groups can help. Please don’t hesitate to be in touch with any of our clergy for guidance towards what might be right for you.

Temple Connect Bereavement Group with Drs. Greene

"Death ends a life not a relationship. "We are so blessed that Temple members Dr. Robert Greene MD, a retired surgical oncologist and hospice director, and Dr. Barbara Greene PhD, a psychologist who specializes in grief groups, are offering a free, bimonthly bereavement group to help deal with the loss of a loved one and to honor the experiences of the bereaved. Whether you have recently experienced a loss or there’s more distance in time from your loved ones passing; whether you need just one session or many; whether you want to schedule ahead of time or wake up that day discovering a need to talk about your experience—coming to this group will be an act of love for yourself and others, and way to honor of your loved ones. Available on Zoom. Email them directly at rjgbbg@yahoo.com.

JF&CS Clinical Services

Bereavement Groups: Joining together for comfort and consolation

Every other Tuesday, starting February 9 • 4:00-5:00pm via Zoom

Cost: Free, donations welcome at jfcsatl.org/howyoucanhelp

Grief and loss of loved ones brings about complicated and mixed emotions. This support group aims to foster a safe and healthy environment to process and support those individuals. For more information or to register, contact Rabbi Judith Beiner at (770) 667-9478 or chaplain@jfcsatl.org or Brennen Joseph, LCPC, NCC at (770) 677-9478 or bjoseph@jfcsatl.org.

In addition, our partnership with JF&CS allows us to offer you a clinician and geriatric care manager associated with The Temple. The focus for our organization is providing care through a trauma-informed lens. This approach recognizes the role that past trauma plays in how a person experiences life situations. We are proud of the work that we doing to provide supportive housing to couples and families through our Rapid Re-Housing Program (29 households since November), provide temporary housing and programs to transition couples from homelessness to stability (60 couples served since September), and provide day resource services to couples in need of a hot meal, laundry services, and life skills support.

Recently, one of our residential couples became married. The wife has steady employment and the couple is on the list for supportive housing. Every evening they walk into the center smiling, grateful for the opportunity to move forward.

Support The Temple when you shop!

Kroger Community Rewards

It’s easy and it doesn’t impact your savings! To enroll, visit kroger.com with your Kroger Plus card handy. Create an account or sign in to your existing account, then enroll by searching our NPO number: ST889. To verify you are enrolled correctly, The Temple’s name, “The Temple: THE HEBREW BENEVOLENT CONGREGATION,” will appear on the right side of the page. Enrollment takes up to 7 days before you start earning towards The Temple community rewards.

AmazonSmile

Shop on AmazonSmile and make contributions to The Temple with every purchase. Visit smile.amazon.com/ch/58-0835812 and change the way you shop!

Temple Connect Gets a New Home!

The Gathering:

https://thegathering.the-temple.org

Joining a Temple Connect small group is the best way to get to know a small group of people well. Now, you can check out our new online platform for meeting other Temple members and finding the group that is right for you! At The Gathering, you can find Temple programming as well as new gatherings offered by Temple members on a regular basis. Join a group for a one-off a Shabbat dinner, or find new friends to become the newest Temple Connect group at The Temple! Questions or want to learn more? Email Rabbi Lydia Medwin at lmedwin@the-temple.org.

Caring at The Temple

Our Caring at The Temple program reaches out to fellow congregants during times of hardship or pastoral need, providing homemade chicken soup and challah to members who are bereaved, ill, recently discharged from the hospital, or are celebrating the arrival of a new child. We have delivered more than 500 soups, and nearly every step of the program—from soup preparation, to delivery (within your zip code), to letting us know about fellow congregants in need—is led by members of our congregation.

To be a part of this program and to fulfill the mitzvah of bikkur cholim (visiting the sick) or to let us know who needs soup, please contact Rabbi Lydia Medwin at lmedwin@the-temple.org or 404-873-1731.

Zaban Paradies Center

This year has been one of learning and change for ZPC. The focus for our organization is providing care through a trauma-informed lens. This approach recognizes the role that past trauma plays in how a person experiences and navigates life situations. We now see our role not only as guides in helping our residents and clients to achieve stability but also as providers of a culture of safety, empowerment, and healing. We have added Saturday morning facilitated peer groups to provide a safe space for residents to share their barriers to self-sufficiency and learn about productive ways to manage their barriers.

We are proud of the work that we doing to provide supportive housing to couples and families through our Rapid Re-Housing Program (29 households since November), provide temporary housing and programs to transition couples from homelessness to stability (60 couples served since September), and provide day resource services to couples in need of a hot meal, laundry services, and life skills support.

Recently, one of our residential couples became married. The wife has steady employment and the couple is on the list for supportive housing. Every evening they walk into the center smiling, grateful for the opportunity to move forward.

Thank you to our volunteers, meal donors, and contributors for your generosity and for enabling us to serve the community in such an impactful way.
Muslim-Jewish Relations
A Pathway to Community-Building and Mutual Understanding

Since the inception of the Rothschild Social Justice Institute, the Muslim-Jewish Relations Small Group has been committed to forming and building relations with Atlanta’s Muslim community. Events have ranged from lectures and learning experiences about Islam and Muslim demographics and worship practices in Atlanta to a community viewing of and discussion about a four-part series entitled “Jews and Muslims: Intimate Strangers.” We have given and received support when tragic or troubling events have occurred. We also are co-sponsors of the Islamic Speakers Bureau Annual Gala. Through this engagement, we have established a strong and reciprocal relationship with the Islamic Speakers Bureau and the Roswell Community Masjid, as well as other movers and shakers within the Islamic community in Atlanta.

This engagement continues. On March 22, 2021, we held our second virtual Muslim-Jewish Seder, which focused on discussions about the work required to ensure the freedom that both of our communities value so deeply and how we can work together to defuse polarization in our communities.

It’s never too late to participate! On April 27, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., we will be co-hosting with the Islamic Speakers Bureau our first virtual Muslim-Jewish Iftar, which is the breaking of the fast after sunset during Ramadan. You can register to attend this hour-long program, which is sure to be educational and enlightening. Space is limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you have any questions about the RSJI Muslim-Jewish Relations Small Group, contact Doug Pike at piked@bellsouth.net.

Environmental Sustainability and Protection Group
Urban Farm Crew Work Days with Historic Westside Gardens
Saturday April 24 and Saturday, May 8 • 9am-12:00pm
7th Graders and older please

Our Jewish values teach us that we have a responsibility to be good stewards of our sacred environment. As Earth Day approaches on April 22, make a plan to be outdoors and celebrate!

Join us by volunteering as the Urban Farm Work Crew with Historic Westside Gardens. Help the community while learning more about Community Gardens. We will be working at two different Community Garden sites.

This will be a Temple only event with limited participants for safety. To register, email Joya Schmidt at jscmidt@the-temple.org then check your email for additional information. We will let you know where to go and what to bring. We look forward to digging in the dirt together again. Questions? Email Ruth.Menter@gmail.com
CONTRIBUTIONS

RABBIS’ DISCRETIONARY FUNDS
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Marshall & Stephanie Abes
Michael Adlman
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Susan Lynn Babush
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Arlette & Douglas Berlin
LYNNIE & HOWARD HALPERN ENDOWMENT FUND
In Memory of:
Stanley & Esther Rawn
Beth & Mark Roberson
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A lot has changed due to the pandemic, including our way of connecting. Did you know most of our services, clubs, and special events are now available online via Zoom to keep you connected with your Temple family?

Check the Monday and Friday Temple emails for the latest information and Zoom links to join us live!