



# THE TEMPLE

*Bulletin*

## A Historic Moment for The Temple!

Rabbi Berg visits Washington, D.C. to officiate ceremony for the installation of The Temple mezuzah at the residence of the Vice President and Second Gentleman.



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also inside...

MLK Shabbat  
Scholar-in-Residence  
Roses for Roe  
... and more!



January 2022  
Tevet-Shevat 5782  
v. 83 | no. 8



# WORSHIP



1589 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309  
404.873.1731 | Fax: 404.873.5529  
the-temple.org | office@the-temple.org

## Follow us!

thetempleatlanta @the\_templeatl

## LEADERSHIP & STAFF

### Clergy

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

### Officers of the Board

Kent Alexander, *President*  
Louis Lettes, *Executive Vice President*  
Jeff Belkin, *Vice President*  
Susan Gordon, *Vice President*  
Janet Dortch, *Secretary*  
Eric Vayle, *Treasurer*

### Leadership

Mark R. Jacobson, *Executive Director*  
Sarah Shinsky,  
*Weinberg Early Learning Center Director*

### Staff

Katie Bass, *Communications and Marketing Coordinator*  
Melinda Brackin, *Accounting Manager*  
Judy Cole, *Pianist*  
Amy Cox, *Accounting Assistant*  
Tena Drew, *Membership Manager*  
Dan Fishman, *Audiovisual Manager*  
Lonnie Fitzgerald, *Maintenance Team*  
Elizabeth C. Foster, *Jewish Identity & Experiences Educator*  
Rebecca Good, *Hebrew & Jewish Life Educator*  
Nalo Grant, *Clergy Administrative Assistant*  
Audrey Henderson, *WELC Assistant Director*  
Summer Jacobs, *Engagement Coordinator*  
Heather McKerley, *Accounting Assistant & Facilities Maintenance Coordinator*  
Dianne Ratowsky, *Administrative Assistant to Rabbi Peter S. Berg*  
Joya Schmidt, *Engagement Administrative Assistant & Tour Coordinator*  
Laurie Simon, *Engagement Coordinator for Special Events*  
Justin Strom, *Head of Security*  
Marjorie Vaughn, *TBRIS Administrative Assistant*  
Rita Zadoff, *Donation & Event Coordinator*

## SCHEDULE: JANUARY 2022

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 AM Torah Study  
10:30 AM Zoom Worship Service

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 7

6:00 PM Shabbat Worship Service

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

9:00 AM Torah Study  
9:30 AM Mini Shabbat  
10:30 AM B'not Mitzvah of Molly Rose Silver & Madeleine Ganz

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

7:30 PM\* MLK Worship Service

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

9:00 AM Torah Study  
10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Albert Tommy Vertino

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

6:00 PM Shabbat Worship Service

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

9:00 AM Torah Study  
10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Kol Leibowitz

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 28

6:00 PM Scholar in Residence—  
Rabbi Jonah Pesner, Religious Action Center

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

9:00 AM Tora Study w/Rabbi Jonah Pesner  
10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Blake Cohen  
5:30 PM Mincha Bar Mitzvah of Conner Goldstrom

\* Note: Service Time

## TORAH & HAFTARAH:

### JANUARY 1: Vaera

Exodus 6:2-9:35; Ezekiel 28:25

### JANUARY 8: Bo

Exodus 10:1-13:16; Jeremiah 46:13-28

### JANUARY 15: Beshalach

Exodus 13:17-17:16; Judges 4:4-5:31

### JANUARY 22: Yitro

Exodus 18:1-20:23; Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-6

### JANUARY 29: Mishpatim

Exodus 21:1-24:18; Jeremiah 34:8-22; 33:25-26



# The Most Important Word

**AS** As a rabbi, I am often asked my thoughts on the most important Hebrew word. It's a tough question, so many possible answers. After all these years, I am finally ready for my answer. The most important Hebrew word is *teku*, which means *it stands unresolved*.

In these years of uncertainty, crisis, and division, we have learned to live with question marks. In the world of Jewish scholarship, we are constantly surrounded by those question marks. Jewish study, of course, is traditionally based on questions and answers. The give and take of Talmudic debates are fascinating and the answers that those rabbis provide to a plethora of questions are based on careful analysis. But any student of Talmud quickly learns that not all questions can be answered during a discussion. Such unresolved discussions are concluded when a rabbi declares: *teku!* The simple explanation of the term is *it stand unresolved*. Jewish folklore has, however, given it significant meaning. *Teku* is interpreted as standing for the first letters of the phrase *Tishbi Y'taretz Kushyot V'abayot—Elijah the prophet of Tishbi will, when he comes, explain all the questions, and solve all the problems*.

Elijah the prophet plays a fascinating role in Jewish folk tales. He is pictured in the Book of Kings as a man who never died. He is transported to heaven in a fiery chariot, where he dwells until he is needed to intervene and save Jews in trouble. Elijah will also come at the end of time to announce the arrival of the Messiah. And when he comes to announce the arrival of the Messiah, he is assigned the additional task of solving all difficult problems that had been left unresolved. In the meantime, *teku*, the questions are left hanging in the balance. Unresolved questions are recognized as such, but they never stop the process of learning. When students of Talmud cannot agree, they acknowledge that a particular issue cannot be resolved, but we will continue to learn and grow and develop a new set of questions.


*Teku* applies not just to the Talmud, but to our everyday lives. Often, we must learn to live with unsolved problems, with question marks hovering over the future. God gives us goodness and blessings, but we know that problems are part of the package deal. As Jews, we strive to go on with our lives despite problems and despite unanswered questions—and to do it all with a zest for living. When we learn to apply the principle of *teku* to life, we accept the fact that we cannot control all the factors that affect the world.

Yet, Judaism would also have us see that our fears sometimes serve a useful function. Fears of failure spur us to develop skills and talents more fully. Fear of drowning prompts us to learn how to swim. Fear of

## About Rabbi Berg:

Peter Berg became the fifth senior rabbi of The Temple since 1895 in July 2008. He is thrilled to serve this diverse and multi-generational congregation as a spiritual leader. Rabbi Berg is passionate about Jewish learning and meaningful worship, and he is an advocate for social change. A native of Ocean Township, New Jersey, Rabbi Berg holds a degree in Education and Human Development, with a focus in human services, counseling and Judaic Studies from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He earned his M.A. in Hebrew Literature and his rabbinic ordination from Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in New York and Jerusalem. In 2013 Rabbi Berg was named by Newsweek and the Daily Beast as one of the most influential rabbis in the United States. In 2016, he was named by Georgia Trend as one of the 100 most influential Georgians and in 2019 and 2020 as one of Atlanta's most powerful leaders.

## Connect with Rabbi Berg:

 [pberg@the-temple.org](mailto:pberg@the-temple.org)  
 404.873.1731







## B'NEI MITZVAH



JANUARY 8

**Molly Rose  
Silver**

Daughter of Jennifer  
& Adam Silver



JANUARY 8

**Madeleine  
Ganz**

Daughter of Jodi  
& Adam Ganz



JANUARY 15

**Albert Tommy  
Vertino**

Son of Beth  
& Albert Vertino



JANUARY 22

**Kol  
Leibowitz**

Son of Jennifer  
& Scott Leibowitz



JANUARY 29

**Blake  
Cohen**

Son of Stacy Cohen  
& Brian Cohen z"l



JANUARY 29 (MINCHA)

**Connor  
Goldstrom**

Son of Julie  
& Seth Goldstrom

## MAZAL TOV!

Have good news to share?

Please email Dianne Ratowsky at [dratowsky@the-temple.org](mailto:dratowsky@the-temple.org).

Rebecca and Maximillian Schwenk on the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Lion Schwenk and to big brother, Benjamin

Susie Collat on becoming a grandmother to Evelyn Jane Adams born to Sabena and Benjamin Adams

Annie and Jeremy Herman in the birth of son, Asa Miles Herman

Joshua Jarmin and Sumbul Babaron on the birth of daughter, Mila Jarmin

Greg and Lindsey Swartzberg on the birth of a son, Harvey and to big brother, Theodore.

## MAY THEIR MEMORY BE FOR A BLESSING

Our Heartfelt Sympathy to the Families of:

William "Bill" Friedrich (father of Terri Pearlstein)

Karen Dee Scheel (grandmother of Heather Warshauer)

Miles Cohn (brother of Elizabeth Austen)

Richard Bohm (nephew of Sue Bohm)

Helen Ruth Ehrlich (sister of Adele Sheftel, aunt of Elizabeth Foster)

Brenda Watkins (grandson's wife of Barbara Scheer Eason)

Leslie "Joy" Lipman (mother of Brad, Bob & Larry Lipman)

Francine Steinberg (mother of Debra Berger)

Eva Monica Wolf (sister of Doug Wolf)

Stephen Zereck Pomerantz (father of Brett Pomerantz)

Irene Wolpert (mother of Janet Wolf)

Sylvia Schuman

David Russo (father of Stephanie Fink)

## NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

Paige Alexander & Stephen Grand  
*Rachel, Carly, & Josh Grand*

Rona & Neil Ashe  
*Sarah, Neil, & Aidan Ashe*

Kari Broder

David Tillis

# EDUCATION



## Project Merry Mitzvah

Another amazing Project Merry Mitzvah event is in the books! This event would not be possible without our amazing adult and teen volunteers. We want to especially thanks our event co-chairs, Henry Banner and Chase Herbert for their leadership. We are also grateful for all those who donated money or items for the shopping mall:

Aferiat Family  
Baldwin Family  
Banner Family  
Bass Family  
Braunstein Family  
Burger Family  
Carter Family  
Catherine A Herman  
Cathy H Filson  
Cynthia and Howard  
Steinberg  
Cynthia Lourie

Dara Wassersug  
David and Amanda  
Marmins  
Dawn McNaught-Walker  
DeSimone Family  
Ellen Kaplan  
Evan Borenstein  
Eyal Ben- Arie  
Fishman Family  
Gilboa Family  
Goldman Family  
Goldstrom Family

Heather Low  
Herbert Family  
Hirsh Family  
Hyken Family  
Jones Family  
Jordan & Tania Moser  
Joyce family  
Julie Goldstrom  
Kim and Dean Benamy  
Larry Bowie  
Leah and Larry Kaplan  
Lettes Family

LeVine Family  
Levine Family  
Low Family  
Margalit Family  
Margolis Family  
Michele & Stephen Winter  
Montag Family  
Nancy and Dave Schmidt  
Nelson Family  
Parks Family  
Persily Family  
Persily Family

Ryden Family  
Savage Family  
Schlossberg Family  
Sender Family  
Tapper Family  
Tapper Family  
Vaughn Family  
Witten Family  
Zufi Family



**Breman**  
EDUCATION CENTER  
at THE TEMPLE

## JANUARY 2022 PROGRAMMING

**14-17** 8th/9th Grade Trip to Florida

**23** Sunday Program @ 9:10/9:30am

**30** Sunday Program @ 9:10/9:30am  
5th Grade Family Education

# WELC PRESCHOOL

## Looking Forward

Our amazing early learning program strives to provide a warm, supportive, and inspiring environment for each child (3 months – Pre-K)! We are looking forward to continuing our school year with even more learning opportunities!

### Camp Minimac 2022

Camp Minimac information will be coming out at the end of February! Please call 404-872-8668 or email us at [camp@the-temple.org](mailto:camp@the-temple.org) for more information.

### 2022-2023 Enrollment

Enrollment for Temple members will be opening soon for the 2022-2023 school year. Visit [www.the-temple.org/welc](http://www.the-temple.org/welc) to learn more.



**Weinberg Early  
Learning Center**  
at The Temple

# EVENTS & NEWS

## Mini Shabbat

Saturday, January 8 @ 9:30am

Join us as we celebrate Shabbat with our puppet friends! We will celebrate all of our differences as we look towards Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in the coming weeks. Tolerance and understanding begin even at the earliest ages—we can't wait to make that learning sacred as a community. We will start together with our Mini friends outside in the circle, and then enjoy some bagels and coffee, and the playground! We'll meet in The Temple's Circular Drive near the outdoor playground—make sure to bundle up in your snuggly, warm hats and gloves, because we'll be outside! Questions? Email Rabbi Lydia Medwin at [Imedwin@the-temple.org](mailto:Imedwin@the-temple.org).

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SHABBAT

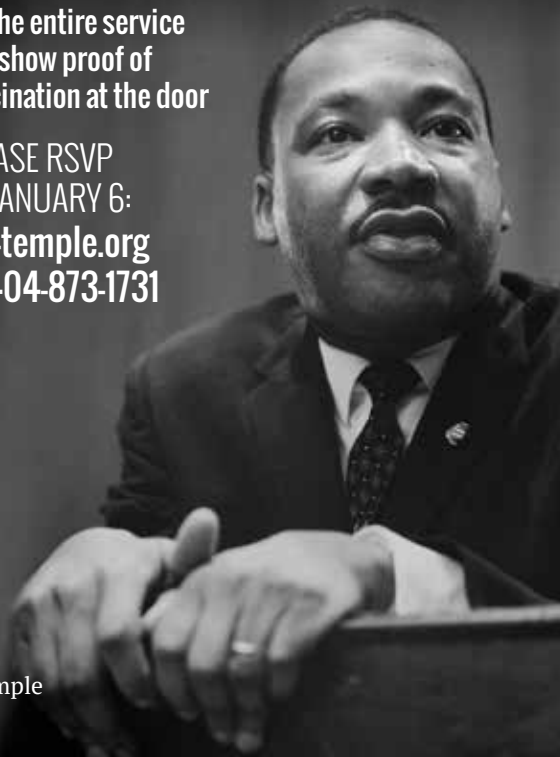
Celebrating MLK Shabbat with  
Ebenezer Baptist Church and their Pastors

Friday, January 14, 2021

Service Time: 7:30pm

All who enter must be masked  
for the entire service  
and show proof of  
vaccination at the door

PLEASE RSVP  
BY JANUARY 6:  
[the-temple.org](http://the-temple.org)  
or 404-873-1731



In January, on Monday, January 17, Tu B'Shvat, the Jewish New Year of the Trees, will be celebrated on the same day as the national MLK Day Holiday. Please join us for these special events to celebrate Tu B'Shvat while honoring the legacy of Dr. King and The Temple's longstanding commitment to Social Justice:

### 3rd Annual Tu B'Shvat Seder

Sunday, January 16 • 6:00-7:30pm • Virtual via Zoom

Registration is required to receive link.

Please visit <https://gipl.org/events/> and scroll to find the event

If you have never heard of a seder for Tu B'Shvat, or even if you have, join us virtually on Zoom to learn and celebrate together!

We will partake in the different fruits and grains native to the Land of Israel, known as the "Seven Species" and enjoy a mixing of wines, a symbol for blending our own needs with those of our communal sustainability. A short shopping list will be provided to all who register. This celebration of our relationship to nature is also a call to action. In honoring this year's sharing of the holiday with MLK Day, we will learn about the direct connection between historical Atlanta area practices to neighborhood environmental impacts today. We will also connect our seder to the current Schmita year. Our time together will be a time of prayer, education and connection to shmirat ha'adamah, protecting our planet. Families welcome!

### MLK Day Annual Tree Plantings

Monday, January 17 • 9am-12:00pm

Two Locations to Choose From:

South View Cemetery, 1990 Jonesboro Rd SE, Atlanta, GA, 30315  
Brook Run Park, 4770 North Peachtree Rd, Atlanta, GA, 30338

Registration is required, please visit: <https://werrepair.org/atlanta>  
Get outdoors for your MLK Service Project! Join Trees Atlanta, Repair the World and Jewish Climate Action Network of GA for our annual tree planting service project honoring Dr. King.

### Tu B'Shvat Annual Jewish Community Tree Planting

Sunday, January 23 • 1:00-4:00 pm

Hammond Park, 5909 Glenridge Drive, Sandy Springs

Registration is required, please visit: <https://gipl.org/events/>

Join the Atlanta area Jewish Community to celebrate the Jewish New Year of the Trees by planting trees with JCAN-GA (Jewish Climate Action Network of Georgia). This is one of our annual commitments to do our part to repair our planet.





## 7th Annual Roses for Roe

**Thursday, January 20 @ 6:00 pm**

Please join us for the 7th Annual Roses for Roe, an event of The Temple's RSJI Women's Rights group. This year, we are so thrilled to be honoring our living legend and Temple member, Elaine B. Alexander. Alexander has served on numerous civic and Jewish boards and commissions. As well as serving as Executive Director of Leadership Atlanta from 1978-1992, she is a life board member of the American Jewish Committee and Southeast Region's Anti-Defamation League, and she was a founding member of the Black/Jewish Coalition. She has also actively supported organizations that help women. She was a member of the Executive Committee of the Georgia Commission on the Status of Women from 1976-1979, and served on the board of the Atlanta Women's Foundation from 1997-2004. She was also the founding president of Vote Choice / A Georgia PAC, and has long been an avid and vocal supporter of Planned Parenthood.

The evening will support Planned Parenthood Southeast and all of its efforts. Get your tickets here before they sell out: <https://give.classy.org/RosesForRoe22>.



## Helping our Neighbors: A Mitzvah Project for Interfaith Families

**Sunday, January 23 • 12:45-2:30pm**

Our next Leven Institute program is an opportunity for interfaith couples and families to learn about the Zaban Paradies Center, which is located on The Temple's campus and has supported couples facing homelessness for over 30 years. We'll hear about the ZPC's amazing work and prepare a meal together for the residents. There will be an activity for kids as well. Since space is limited, please register at [www.the-temple.org/interfaith](http://www.the-temple.org/interfaith).

## Scholar-in-Residence: Rabbi Jonah Pesner

**Friday, January 28 @ 6:00 pm • Worship Services**

**Saturday, January 29 @ 9:00 am • Torah Study**

Join us all weekend to learn with Rabbi Jonah Pesner, Executive Director of the Reform Action Center of Reform Judaism—a giant in the Reform movement, an indefatigable justice-seeker, a deep Torah scholar, and a long-time friend of The Temple. He will offer us his Torah during Friday night services and Saturday morning Torah study on the practice of justice and the Jewish considerations of many of today's most pressing issues. You will not want to miss this informative and inspiring teaching as we celebrate this Shabbat weekend.



## A Historic Moment for The Temple

Earlier this year, the Vice President, Second Gentleman, and their White House staffs launched a national search to source a mezuzah to consecrate the Vice President's official residence at the Naval Observatory. After consulting rabbis, historians, and museum and synagogue experts throughout the country, they asked to borrow one of ours. The mezuzah is now in place. This is the first time a mezuzah, the abiding sign of the sanctity of a Jewish home, has been placed on the residence of a nationally elected leader of our country.

The Second Family told Rabbi Berg they narrowed their search to The Temple based on our unique and historic involvement with civil rights and social justice, including, of course, the fight against antisemitism. They noted The Temple's trailblazing leadership in supporting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and honoring him in Atlanta after he won the Nobel Peace Prize; the 1915 lynching of our member Leo Frank; the 1958 bombing of our beautiful synagogue; the creation of our Zaban Paradies Center for Homeless Couples; and The Temple's ongoing role as a Reform movement leader in promoting tikkun olam.

Rabbi Berg flew to Washington to officiate a private *Chanukat Habayit*, the ceremony during which the Temple mezuzah was placed on the front entrance of the official residence.

"The ceremony was extraordinarily emotional and meaningful for the family and for me, made even more so as it marked the first time the Second Gentleman's parents had gathered with the family since the start of Covid," said Rabbi Berg.

This is a proud moment for our congregation and Jewish faith.



# EVENTS & NEWS

## Listening Party: Last Call!

At a backyard or Zoom link near you.

This winter, The Temple community is going to take the time to reflect on all the changes we've experienced in our lives, and how they relate to our Temple and Jewish community. We want to listen, to hear what you think must be included in our next chapter. And we want to party, to celebrate with you as precious friends and community members. That's why we are rolling out our Listening Parties, small gatherings of 10 or so friends, hosted by your peers, who will lead us in an intentional conversation that relates to new ways to engage with this historical and dynamic community. We urge you to visit The Gathering ([www.thegathering.the-temple.com](http://www.thegathering.the-temple.com)) to find a group meeting near you. Or, be in touch with us here ([jschmidt@the-temple.org](mailto:jschmidt@the-temple.org)) with your interest in joining a conversation, and we'll find one for you. We can't wait to hear what you have to say!

## Baby Hats!

Do you crochet or knit? We would love to add you to our team of Temple members who create hats for our newest Temple members. When we send them soup and challah, we'll add your hat to the caring package to let them know how excited we are as a Temple family to help them welcome their sweet addition. Please email Joya Schmidt ([jschmidt@the-temple.org](mailto:jschmidt@the-temple.org)) to let us know if you'd like to help, and we can send you a suggested pattern.

## Temple Staff Appreciation Holiday Lunch

It was a bunch of masks and merriment on Friday, December 10 for our staff and clergy at our Annual Staff Appreciation Holiday Lunch! We had a gift exchange and recognized the following staff for their service to The Temple: Lonnie Fitzgerald: 35 years; Joya Schmidt: 20 years; Tena Drew & Elizabeth Foster: 15 years and Amy Cox (not pictured), Nalo Grant, Summer Jacobs, Laurie Simon and Marjorie Vaughn: 5 years!

Thanks to our board, especially Kent Alexander, Janet Dortch, Jeff Belkin and Jo Rau for a fun time had by all!



## Zaban Paradies Center

### Happy New Year!

Thank you to all our volunteers and donors for your support to Zaban Paradies Center (ZPC) and our program participants last year. Despite the ongoing challenges presented by COVID, 2021 was a very successful year. With your support and the work of our small but highly committed staff, ZPC helped over 45 couples and families with obtaining permanent housing. Additionally, ZPC assisted over 50 low-income families with rental assistance to prevent them from losing their homes.

We are hopeful that 2022 will bring new beginnings and a fresh start for many of our participants. We look forward to finding new opportunities to serve the community of couples and families experiencing homelessness and financial instability in the metro Atlanta area.

### Put on your Blue Jeans, Bow Ties, and Bling to support Zaban Paradies Center

February 27 @ 2pm • Schwartz Goldstein Hall

Tickets on sale now! Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/yc72nyk4>

We are excited to announce our first public fundraising event, Blue Jeans, Bow Ties & Bling, sponsored by Rooms To Go. The event, which celebrates ZPC's history and its broad impact on the community, includes food, Mystery Boxes, and a silent auction.

"Early Bird" tickets are only \$30 until January 22 and will increase to \$45 until February 22 or sold-out! For more information, don't hesitate to contact us at [info@zabanparadiescenter.org](mailto:info@zabanparadiescenter.org). If you are interested in being a sponsor, donating something for the mystery boxes/silent auction, or getting involved in the decorating and planning, please email Mary Wesley at [mary.wesley@zabanparadiescenter.org](mailto:mary.wesley@zabanparadiescenter.org) or call 404.872.2915.

## 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.

Thank you to our Caring at The Temple volunteers who delivered soup this month: Elizabeth Austen, Zavi Bailey, Jane & David Bockel, Cameron Carter, Scott Chalk, Sandy & Duane Cox, Brooke Dickerson, Ariela Ehrens, Laurie Gluck, Bill Goldstein, Susan Gordon, Linda Levy, Debbie Levinson, Marilyn Margolis, Belinda Morris, Tania Moser, Sharyn Mulqueen, Cheryl Orlansky, Marla Shoff, Lenny Silverstein, Ronnie van Gelder, Jack Wexler, and Esther Zells.

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](mailto:lmedwin@the-temple.org) or 404-873-1731.







## Temple Connect

### Lead a Group Today!

Do you have a hobby that you'd like to share like hiking, theatre, or golf? Do you want to join with friends for a great conversation? Do you hope to meet some new people who live in your neighborhood for Shabbat Happy Hours? You could be a Temple Connect group leader! Especially with all the uncertainty of the year ahead, connecting with your own small group could be a vital step for a healthy and happy Jewish New Year. All you need to start is an idea and then email Rabbi Lydia Medwin at [lmedwin@the-temple.org](mailto:lmedwin@the-temple.org). We will help you organize the rest. Create community for yourself and your Temple with a Temple Connect group this year!



### Join a Group!

Joining a Temple Connect group is the best way to get to know a small group of people well. Formed around interests, needs, geography, demographic or profession, group meetings take place in the home, in an office, or anywhere in the city. Groups meet regularly (usually monthly), are led by your fellow Temple members, and consist of anywhere between 3-18 people. Temple Connect is designed to inspire us and transform our lives and the world around us. We want to help you get connected. For a complete listing of Temple Connect groups, visit [www.temple-connect.com](http://www.temple-connect.com).

## 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 the 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](mailto:rjgbbg@yahoo.com).

## JF&CS Synagogue Support

Through a generous grant, JF&CS is partnering with The Temple and other synagogues to provide direct support to our members. By calling 770-677-9480, you can get in touch with dedicated JF&CS staff members to access counseling and clinical services, geriatric care managers, and emergency financial support. While your Temple clergy continue to be a resource in making these connections, this special synagogue support phone number allows you to access JF&CS on your own as well.

## The Most Important Word

Continued from page 3.

illness spurs us to obey the doctor's orders and get vaccinated. Fear of separation from a loved one leads us to guard our health and theirs. Fear for the Jewish future leads us to be proud of our Jewish identity, to fight antisemitism, and to support Israel. Sometimes, saying *teku* is self-defeating, for we have the power to respond to our fears and solve our problems.

*Teku* becomes a useful tool when learning to live with tragedy and unanswered questions, when we must confront disastrous situations and can see no way to do anything or solve the problem. Religion does not provide the answer to every question or challenge. But it does teach us that we must learn how to live with unanswered questions and to live as best as we can in difficult circumstances. We must learn to live life no matter what life brings to us. We must train ourselves to deal with life as it is, not as we wish it were. The purpose of faith, of our holy Temple, is to have confidence in God's faith—that God will give us, despite all the challenges we face, the strength to endure, the power to hold on and to see it through, the capacity to translate trial and tribulations into moral and spiritual victories.

Now you know my favorite Hebrew word. May we learn to incorporate the tradition of *teku* into our hears and lives.

*I'shalom,*

Rabbi Peter Berg

תֵּקוּ

*Teku* in Hebrew, meaning *it stands unresolved*.

# CONTRIBUTIONS

## RABBIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

### In Memory of:

**Evelyn Golden**

Jon & Bobbie Golden

**S. Robert Greene**

Drs. Barbara & Robert Greene

**Anthony Huber**

& Joseph Rosenbaum

(killed in Kenosha, WI)

Mary Ann Lewis

**Peter Jacobson**

Mary Louise Sherman

Shirley Wender

**Beloved wife,**

**Elaine Koenig**

Ronald H. Koenig

**Ann Kornman**

Bud Kornman & Sandy Linver

**Beloved mother & grandmother,**

**Leslie Joy Lipman**

The Lipman Family

**Joy Lipman**

Shirley Wender

**Gerald Shapiro**

Loretta & Hyman Shapiro

**Deborah's Beloved father,**

**Joshua D Shubin**

Anthony & Deborah Levinson.

**Beloved husband,**

**Josh Shubin**

Marilyn Shubin

**Beloved wife & mother,**

**Caki Mendel**

Larry Mendel & family

**Beloved husband,**

**Irwin Schuman**

Sylvia Schuman

### In Honor of:

**Our granddaughter,**

**Hannah Brown's quick recovery**

Joan & Donald Brown

**Our daughter,**

**Amy Edelman's**

**quick recovery**

Joan & Donald Brown

**Wedding of our children**

**Lauren & Cory Levinson**

Barbara & Bill Goldstein

**Bat Mitzvah of Granddaughter,**

**Amanda Raptis**

Ronald H. Koenig

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