



THE TEMPLE

Bulletin

2022-2023 | 5783

**A Guide for Engagement,
Learning, and Programming
at The Temple**

INSPIRE & TRANSFORM

ELEVATING

MIND
BODY &
SOUL

» PAGE 5



also inside...
Rafaenu
WELC
Who Knows One?
... and more!



November 2022
Cheshvan-Kislev 5783
v. 84 | no. 5

WORSHIP



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thetempleatlanta @the_templeatl

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Rabbi Loren Filson Lapidus
Rabbi Lydia Medwin
Cantor Tracey Scher
Rabbi Steven H. Rau, RJE, *Director of Lifelong Learning*
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SCHEDULE: NOVEMBER 2022

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

6:00 PM Shabbat on the Lawn with Band

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

9:00 AM Torah Study
10:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Jack (JW) Pelissier

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

6:00 PM Shabbat Worship Service

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9:00 AM Torah Study
9:30 AM Mini Shabbat
10:30 AM B'nei Mitzvah Sylvie R. Sherman & Ari J. Robbins
5:30 PM Bat Mitzvah of Jack B. Landau

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

6:00 PM Shabbat Worship Service with Shir Chadash band

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

9:00 AM Torah Study
10:30 AM B'nei Mitzvah of Jacob J. Stillman & Lali L. Stillman

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

6:00 PM Shabbat Worship Service

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:00 AM Torah Study
10:30 AM Shabbat Worship Service (VIRTUAL ONLY)

TORAH & HAFTARAH:

NOVEMBER 5: Lech L'cha

Genesis 12:1–17:27; Isaiah 40:27–41:16

NOVEMBER 12: Vayeira

Genesis 18:1–22:24; II Kings 4:1–37

NOVEMBER 19: Chayei Sarah

Genesis 23:1–25:18; I Kings 1:1–31

NOVEMBER 26: Tol'dot

Genesis 25:19–28:9; Malachi 1:1–2:7



The Power of Travel: The Temple Heads to Morocco

Travel is always a great way to get out of your comfort zone and learn things that will change your life. In our case, travel stands for even more—a means for appreciating all that Judaism has gifted to the world, and a way to ensure Jewish thriving here at home and abroad! This month, almost 40 Temple members will be traveling together to learn about and experience the Jewish community of Morocco. With roots going back three thousand years, Morocco was home to the largest and most stable Jewish community in the Middle East/North Africa. During that time, and especially in the 1500s after the Spanish Inquisition and Expulsion, the Jewish community thrived in the North African country, producing some of our tradition's leading rabbis and scholars, maintaining a unique culture of music, food, and art, and celebrating an open peoplehood who were appreciated by their Muslim neighbors. And numbering at nearly a quarter of a million people, these Jewish communities also left an indelible imprint on the history and culture of Morocco itself. Music, architecture, food, language, and personal relationships crafted a beautiful symbiosis between Morocco and its Jewish community. Even today, after nearly all Jewish Moroccans have made Aliyah or immigrated elsewhere (today, 10% of Israelis are descended from Moroccan families), and even with dark periods in the relationship between their Jewish and Muslim communities, Morocco is unique among Arab countries to recognize the contributions of their Jewish communities throughout time. It is the fourth country to normalize relations with the State of Israel in modern times, and it has launched a major school reform in December of 2020 to include Jewish history and culture in secondary school curriculum, among other policies and efforts to safeguard their Jewish memory.

As we are learning, this rich history and overall story matters quite a bit to American Jews. First, this complex and nuanced picture should help us diminish stereotypes of the Arab world, seeing allies where we might have assumed enemies. It can give us hope where we might not have thought hope could exist for an eventual peace, as situations evolve in the Middle East. Two, it helps us expand what we might consider normative in Jewish culture. We begin to better imagine a community that knows nothing of gefilte fish or fiddlers on rooftops, and everything about saffron-infused kosher tagine and darbukas in archwayed courtyards in celebration of the pilgrimage of Hiloula. This familiarity helps us expand our Jewish tent to include other forms of Jewish practice and tradition, enriching our own practices, accepting more diversity in our own communities, and opening our minds to ways that diverse communities of the future might practice Judaism. Lastly, understanding the Moroccan Jewish community helps us to understand the state of Israel more fully. To believe Israel is solely a reflection of European influence is to deny the majority of Israelis who come from countries across the Middle East. The influence of Moroccan immigrants on Israeli music, film, government, social mores, philosophy, the military, and more cannot be overstated. Israel thrives because of the accomplishments and contributions of its Moroccan aliyot—we are so privileged to be witness to their history and origins.

Please join us as we wish our Morocco travelers a *Nesiyah Tovah*—a safe and pleasant journey! We hope our travelers return with great pictures and some fun souvenirs. But more importantly, we hope they come home with a broader and deeper understanding of the Jewish people of Morocco and ready to share it with us all!

Lydia B. Medwin

Rabbi Lydia Medwin

About Rabbi Medwin:

Rabbi Lydia Medwin was ordained on the Los Angeles campus of HUC in May of 2010, where she received a Masters of Hebrew Letters and a Masters in Jewish Education from the Rhea Hirsch School. A native of Memphis, TN, Lydia attended the University of Texas (hook 'em) and Hebrew University for undergraduate studies, earning degrees in Middle Eastern Studies and Honors Humanities. Between studies, she worked as the education director for a synagogue in Jackson, MS, and traveled to places as varied as South Africa, Peru, and Greece. She is the co-author of the book *The Relational Engagement Handbook* (2018).

Connect with Rabbi Medwin:

✉ lmedwin@the-temple.org
☎ 404.873.1731





B'NEI MITZVAH



NOVEMBER 5:

Jack (JW) Pelissier

Son of Lauren
& Jack Pelissier



NOVEMBER 12:

Sylvie R. Sherman

Daughter of Jen Strada
& Ken Sherman



NOVEMBER 12:

Ari J. Robbins

Son of Heather
& Eli Robbins



NOVEMBER 12:

Jack B. Landau

Son of Brenda Seiton
& Michael Landau



NOVEMBER 19:

Jacob J. Stillman

Son of
Tracy Schwartz



NOVEMBER 19:

Lali L. Stillman

Daughter of
Tracy Schwartz



NOVEMBER 21 (OFF-SITE):

Blake R. Cutler

Son of Hilary
& Alex Cutler

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE FOR A BLESSING

Our Heartfelt Sympathy to the Families of:

Sidney Katz (father of Edward Katz)

Sue Bom (mother of Stephanie Aferiat)

Joel Derketsth (friend of Susan Melanie Levy)

Mac Lyons (uncle of Susan Jacobson)

John Kelly (nephew of Clara Bridges)

Sharlene Jacobi (grandmother of Noah Warshauer)

MAZAL TOV!

Have good news to share? Please email
Dianne Ratowsky at dratowsky@the-temple.org.

Sam and Thea Kin on the birth of their daughter, Lexi and to big sister, Merritt

Taylor & Allison Sacks on the birth of their son, Andrew Capers Zacks

Stephanie & Kevn Flink on the birth of their son, David Graham Flink and to big brothers Benjamin & Charles

Mona Yogesh Sheth & Stephen Jordan Douglass on their marriage

Marriage of Diana Yuspov and Justin Alexander Steinfeld and to parents, Shayna and Bruce Steinfeld

Marriage of Garrett Alan Blackman & Kim Annette Roberson

EDUCATION



NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

Max Altman

Andi Anchell

Jen Arkowitz & Dave Lichtman
Reya & Zachy Arkowitz Lichtman

Garett Backman

Holly & Brett Bernstein
Belle Bernstein

Terry Bordan

Marilyn Brooks & Zack Sherman

Anna Daniel

Carlene Denmark

Denise Gangadharan
& Elliot Krop
*Adia Denning, Ayla,
Adina & Alisa Krop*

Amy & Marshall Glade
Jordyn, Julie, & Olivia Glade

Karen & Russell Goldman

Marissa & Ross Heller
Vera Heller

Jill & Louis Hengen
Lily & Jackson Hengen

Alex Henson

Lauren Hirsch

Jessica Karell

Aaron Levi
Lil Levi

Hannah Marcus & Gaby Blade

Jordan Maser

Samantha & Knox Maslia

Ariel Pinsky

Korin Pinsky

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Haley & Jason Price

Alexandria Rawls

Gabrielle & Nicholas Ressler

Carol & Fred Salmons

Samantha Shams

Kelly & Steven Stewart
Jacob Stewart

Project Merry Mitzvah

Project Connect (our high school youth program) is gearing up for our annual social action initiative! Each December our teens host a Shabbat dinner and shopping evening for the residents of the Zaban Paradies Center. Teens will serve dinner, celebrate with the residents, and then give them an opportunity to go shopping in the “mall” for a gift for their spouse or partner. This can’t happen without help from you.

We need donations!

Visit www.the-temple.org/merrymitzvah to be connected to our Amazon Wish List and make a contribution of a new item for our shopping “mall.”

For more information, please contact Elizabeth Foster (efoster@the-temple.org).



Breman
EDUCATION CENTER

at THE TEMPLE

Sparkling Positive Jewish Identities.

NOVEMBER 2022 PROGRAMMING

- 6** Fall Back- End of Daylight Savings Time
Sunday Program @ 9:30am
45 Club Youth Group Event @ 12:00pm
Project 67 Event @ 12:00pm
Project Eight Event @ 12:00pm
- 13** Sunday Program @ 9:30am
4th Grade Family Education @ 9:30am
- 20** No Sunday Program
- 21-23** No Midweek Hebrew
- 27** No Sunday Program

TAMID— THE TEMPLE'S ADULT EDUCATION

Check out more details on each class and to register, visit www.the-temple.org/tamid.

 Virtual  In-person  Multi-access (virtual & in-person)

TAMID TUESDAYS

Finding Your Community Through Sacred Time

Time: 7:00pm • Cost: No charge

- **November 1:** Rabbi Lapidus— Rhythms of Jewish Life & Rest
- **November 8:** Reverend John H. Vaughn, Executive Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church—Rhythms of Life & Rest
- **November 15:** Reverend Lauren Holder from The Cathedral of St. Philip—Holy Days: Combining Community & Celebration
- **November 29:** Rabbi Berg—Holy Days: Combining Jewish Community & Celebration



EDUCATION



WELC PRESCHOOL

Faith & Blue Weekend Kicked off at WELC

Preschoolers love police officers, and police officers love preschoolers! We had a great Friday morning learning about motorcycles, SWAT trucks, police horses and officers!



Weinberg Early Learning Center at The Temple





The Installation of Cantor Tracey Scher, followed by Showstoppers Cantorial Concert and Dinner – theater style!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 • SEE BACK COVER FOR DETAILS!

Who Knows One?

Tuesday, November 1
7:00pm • Sanctuary

Who Knows One? is a hilarious show that has become a cultural hit in the Jewish community over the course of the pandemic, reuniting old friends and creating new ones with an innovative game that combines Six Degrees of Separation and Jewish Geography. Now the creator of Who Knows One? is bringing the experience to The Temple with a new live, interactive version of the show! Come see how we're all connected to each other and share a few laughs along the way—and maybe even be a part of the show yourself!



Mornings with Bob Bahr: Arthur Freed and the Golden Age of Movie Musicals

Wednesdays, November 2, 9, and 16 • \$49 Registration

A four-part series about some of the greatest movie musicals ever produced. They are part of the legacy of Arthur Freed, the Jewish American motion picture executive who was responsible for some of the most important musicals in motion picture history. An in-depth examination of The Wizard of Oz, An American In Paris, Singin' In The Rain, and Gigi, with an abundance of movie clips and documentary material.

RSVP is required. Please visit <https://www.the-temple.org/event/bob-bahr-fall-class.html>.

If you need help registering, please contact Joya Schmidt at jschmidt@the-temple.org or 404-873-1731. For questions, contact Summer Jacobs at sjacobs@the-temple.org.

Find Your Tribe! Temple Connect Weekend

Friday, November 4 @ 5:30pm
Sunday, November 6 @ 9:15am

Temple Connect Small Groups are formed around interests, needs, geography, demographic or profession. They meet regularly at The Temple and off-site and are self-organizing. They are designed to deepen relationships and connections. Like hiking? Ethnic restaurants? Book club? Mah Jongg? Sampling whiskey? Want to start or reboot a group? Come find out what Temple Connect is all about! Contact Kelli Harran, Director of Engagement, for more information at kharran@the-temple.org.



Educating Children in Judaism: A conversation for interfaith couples and families

Sunday, November 6 • 10:00-11:30am

We talk about Jewish education, but even those who grew up Jewish aren't always familiar with the various options, milestones, and goals for our programs. Come for a conversation with our Temple clergy and other interfaith families or those curious to learn more about what this means for their families. Brunch will be provided—there is no cost but please sign up so we have enough food.

Mini Shabbat

Saturday, November 12 • 9:30am Service
10:00am Bagels and Coffee • 10:30am Playground

Join us as we celebrate Shabbat with our puppet friends and, in honor of the upcoming holiday of Thanksgiving, learn about the mitzvah of saying "Thank You!" We will start together with our Mini friends for a fun service, and then enjoy some treats and coffee and run off the energy on our playground. We'll meet in The Temple's Circular Drive—make sure to pay attention to the weather and dress accordingly, because we'll be outside! Questions? Email Rabbi Lydia Medwin at lmedwin@the-temple.org



Jewish Diversity of Arts Showcase

Sunday, November 13 • 3:00-6:00pm • Breman Museum

The Temple is partnering with the Atlanta Jews of Color Council to sponsor the Jewish Diversity of Arts Showcase. This free event will feature performers, visual artists and a roundtable discussion in a platform to explore and celebrate inclusive culture, emerging voices, new perspectives and the multiplicity of Jewish identity. For tickets, register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jewish-diversity-of-arts-showcase-tickets-429221181107>.

SAVE THE DATE!

Chanukah Shabbat

Friday, December 16 • 6:00pm

Join us for an amazing Chanukah Shabbat celebration featuring our Temple Youth Choir, Shir Harmony, our adult Temple Singers along with our volunteer band, Shir Chadash and our newest teen band members. This service will be followed by a festive dinner. A celebration for all ages!

EVENTS & NEWS

Leven Family Jewish Identity Institute

Through a generous gift from the Leven Family, The Temple is able to significantly enhance the ways we welcome and support couples and families in the early stages of their journey into the Jewish community and our congregation. As the name suggests, we are helping to strengthen Jewish identity and connection for the generations to come.

The programs of the Leven Family Jewish Identity Institute are particularly aimed toward interfaith couples (dating, engaged, married, partnered) who are figuring out the role Judaism has in their relationship and future and those who are trying to figure out what connection their children (or future children) will have to Judaism and the Jewish community. We are excited by the diversity of couples and families who choose to make their connections here. Our goal is to help you find your path into The Temple and to feel supported in your journey.

To see our upcoming programs, including our annual marriage retreat, please go to www.the-temple.org/interfaith. If you have questions or want to speak to other interfaith couples, or want to make sure you're receiving emails about upcoming events, please contact Rabbi Loren Filson Lapidus. Please be on the lookout for information about the next cohort of "Our Shared Journey," The Temple's Israel trip for interfaith couples, generously subsidized by Leah and Richard Davis.



Music Opportunities at The Temple!

If you or anyone else in your family loves music, please consider joining one of several new opportunities to get involved in the musical life of The Temple!

- **Shir Harmony**—3-5th grade meets twice a month on Sundays
- **Project Shir**—varied musical opportunities for 9th-12th graders
- **Shir Ami**—Volunteer adult choir meets every Tuesday night
- **Shir Chadash**—Volunteer adult band plays one Friday night Shabbat service each month.

To get involved in any of these musical groups, email Cantor Tracey Scher at tscher@the-temple.org.



The Temple House Band

Friday, November 4

Anchored by our pianist Judy Cole and by composer and guitarist, Rabbi Micah Lapidus, The Temple's House Band always adds sparkle and zest to our Shabbat evening worship. With its everchanging array of top-notch musicians, our House Band enhances and elevates our worship each and every time they are with us. Join us on the Shabbat evenings listed above for an energetic and fun worship experience!

Shabbat on the Lawn

Friday, November 4

Join us on the front lawn for a musical, casual Shabbat service for all ages, a light nosh, and socializing.

Shir Chadash—Volunteer Adult Band

Friday, November 18

We welcome the joy of Shabbat through instrument and song, featuring Shir Chadash, our Temple Volunteer Band. Please join us for the Shabbat on Friday, November 18, for an upbeat, uplifting worship experience.

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. Please visit smile.amazon.com/ch/58-0835812 and change the way you shop!





Mental Health Initiatives at The Temple

Learn more about Refaenu: Healing Our Community From Within, an initiative across all Temple programs and departments, from pre-school to sages, that will focus on mindfulness, healing, and wholeness.

This year, Temple will offer:

- Open Hearts—a new task force of clergy and lay leaders who will establish programs and services (see right) focusing on mental health
- A series in the Spring on mindfulness and other spiritual resources that are native to Jewish tradition (contact Elizabeth Foster at efoster@the-temple.org for more details).
- A weekly, online opportunity to explore Jewish wisdom for a healthy inner life and time to simply be still for a guided meditation during a busy day (see your weekly email for the link).
- Shabbat hanefesh—Service of the Soul—monthly opportunities to renew the spirit through reflection, music, intro section and inspiration (see your weekly email for upcoming dates).
- Moderated Facebook groups, conversation circles, and social media campaigns (follow us @thetemple_atl)
- Connection for those who ask to skilled therapists for free (contact Rabbi Lydia Medwin for a referral).
- Moderated Bereavement Group for those who have lost loved ones (contact Rabbi Lydia Medwin for a referral).
- Training for our Geshet Teen Peer Leaders on additional resilience training and coping skills with local psychologists and CHOA'S Strong4Life team (contact Rabbi Steven Rau for more information).
- Expanded socio-emotional learning activities in our BEC and WELC classrooms (contact Rabbi Steven Rau at srau@the-temple.org for more information).
- Guest speakers for parents on youth and teen mental health (contact Rabbi Steven Rau at srau@the-temple.org for more information).
- Updated teen curricula to include more lessons and activities on strengthening mental health (speak to your teen to learn more).
- Ongoing training our WELC teachers through Bright from the Start on teaching stress management and promoting empathy and prosocial behaviors (contact Sarah Shinsky, WELC Director, at sshinsky@the-temple.org for more information).

This is what it looks like when we strengthen our safety net. We develop relationships that allow us to show up for each other, sit with each other in darkness, check in and really listen to the response we are given, and offer support. Darkness may come. Sometimes we can prepare for it. Sometimes we can anticipate it. Together we can build up practices to help us move through it.

Learn more about The Temple's Mental Health Initiatives at
www.the-temple.org/healingfromwithin.

Crisis Line

If you are in crisis or having suicidal thoughts, please reach out for help! Call or text 988 to speak with someone right now. NAMI is a Georgia-specific resource: 1-800-273-TALK

Open Heart Program

Over the next 12 months, we will be assembling a task force of clergy, lay leaders, and champions to join us in establishing programs and services that The Temple will provide. Please consider whether you would like to open your heart and join us in this important work. Contact Rabbi Medwin for updates and information at Imedwin@the-temple.org.

Vessel Wellness

A program of the Blue Dove Foundation, Vessel Wellness is a new social wellness initiative focusing on teens and young adults. Facilitators will teach wellness and life skills through live, experiential group activities. Simply, we believe social wellness is a pillar of a good life. Go to www.vesselwellness.com to start in a group now, or contact Rabbi Medwin for more information.



CONTRIBUTIONS

RABBIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

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Nancy Abrams

Joan Goldman
Helene Zusmann

Beloved mother, Beatrice Bauer

Marilyn C. Gross

Beloved mother, Sue Bohm

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My children, Reesa & Jonah's B'nei Mitzvah

Deborah Citron

Special Birthday, Mark Lichtenstein

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Our daughter, Jessica Senft's wedding to Aaron Rettenbush

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Roz Winston

My friend, Ruth Shacter

Mary Ann Lewis

Our grandson's Bar Mitzvah

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Naming of Andrew Capers Zacks

Allison & Taylor Zacks

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20 years at The Temple

Marilyn Shubin

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uncle of Susan Jacobson

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Yahrzeit of Julia Feiner Metzel

Jacqueline Metzel

Yahrzeit of Saul Zelvin

Robert & Joan Dokson

Yahrzeit of Abraham R. Dokson

Robert & Joan Dokson

Yahrzeit of Esther Miller

Irene Miller

Yahrzeit of Marion Wolf

Jo Ann Rau

In Honor of:

Rabbi Steven Rau

Marilyn Shubin

Birthday of Dr. Manning Patillo

Gail Ripans

Marriage of Jonathon & Helayna Lewis

Gail Ripans

Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Wolf

Gail Ripans & Family

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SAVE THE DATE!



THE INSTALLATION OF CANTOR TRACEY SCHER

Friday, December 2 at 6:00pm

Guest Speaker Rabbi Jeffrey Sirkman, Larchmont Temple,
followed by dinner and a show. See details below.

Followed by...

SHOWSTOPPERS!

Best of Broadway and More Cantorial Concert

Join us for a concert featuring BIG songs from the BIG Broadway shows,
sung by cantors from around the country, and our own Cantor Tracey Scher.
This event includes dinner – theater style.



Cantor Tracey
Scher



Cantor Jennifer
Frost



Cantor Kerith
Spencer-Shapiro



Cantor David
Rosen



Cantor Jill
Abramson



Lenora
Eve

An invitation will follow at a later date.