



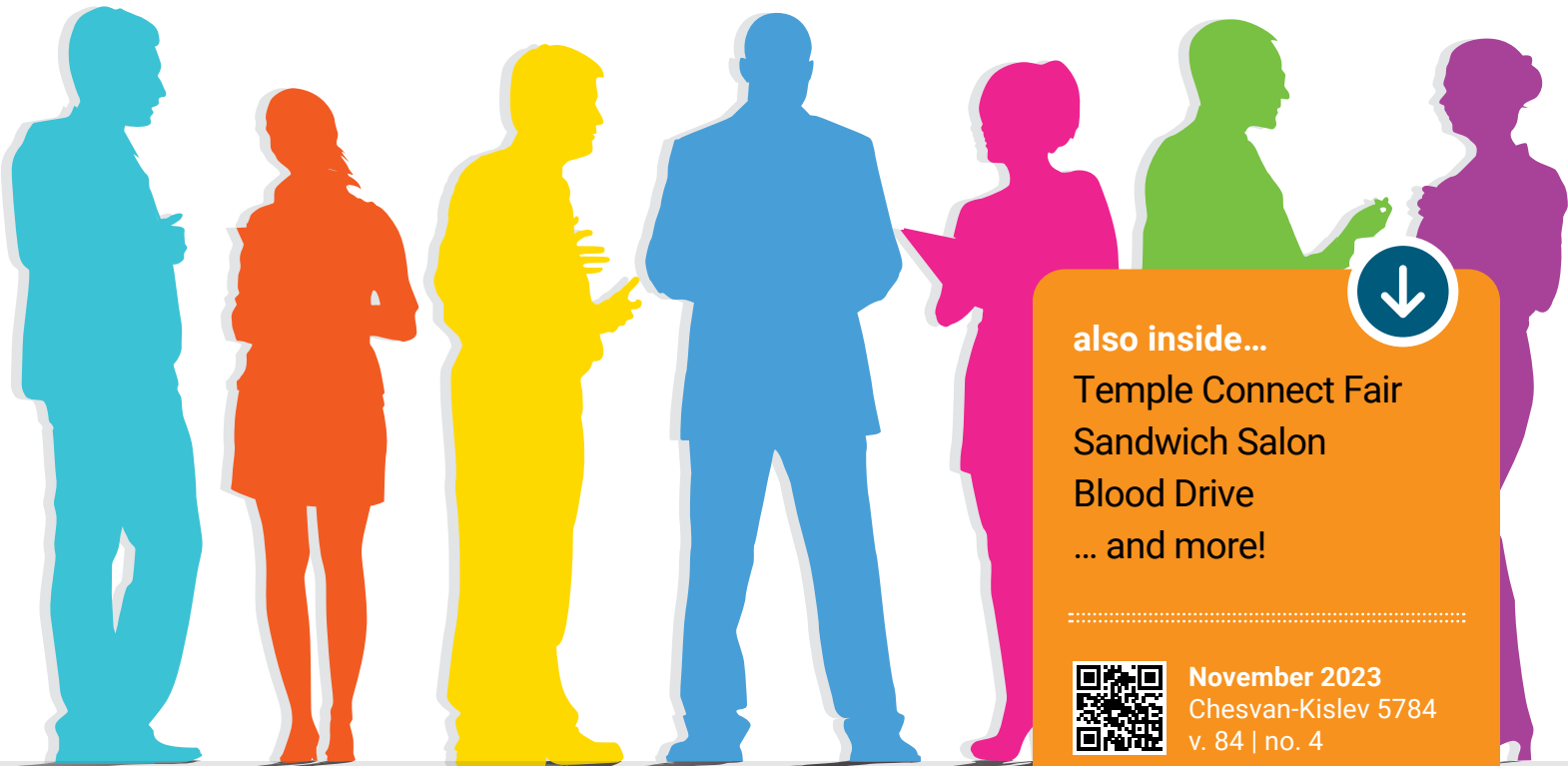
THE TEMPLE

Bulletin

Shabbat honoring **NEW MEMBERS**

Join for a Special Shabbat Service
& Dinner on Friday, November 3

See page 7 for details.



also inside...

Temple Connect Fair
Sandwich Salon
Blood Drive
... and more!



November 2023
Chesvan-Kislev 5784
v. 84 | no. 4

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](https://www.facebook.com/thetempleatlanta) [@the_templeatlanta](https://www.instagram.com/the_templeatlanta)

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Lynne & Howard Halpern Senior Rabbinic Chair
Rabbi Loren Filson Lapidus
Rabbi Lydia Medwin
Cantor Tracey Scher
Rabbi Steven H. Rau, RJE, *Director of Lifelong Learning*
Rabbi Alvin M. Sugarman, Ph.D., *Emeritus*
Cantor Deborah L. Hartman, *Emerita*

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Justin Strom, *Head of Security*
Jordan Wilensky, *Music Specialist*

SCHEDULE: NOVEMBER 2023

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

6:00pm Shabbat Worship Service honoring New Members & November Birthdays

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

9:00am Torah Study
 10:30am Shabbat Worship Service & B'nei Mitzvah of Elena Sladkus and Orly Sladkus

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

6:00pm Shabbat Worship Service honoring our Veterans

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

9:00am Torah Study & Kaddish
 9:30am Mini Shabbat Morning

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

6:00pm Shabbat Worship Service with Shir Chadash

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00am Torah Study
 10:30am Shabbat Worship Service & B'nei Mitzvah of Anna Cleveland and Catherine Katz

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

6:00pm Shabbat HaNefesh

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

9:00am Torah Study & Kaddish

TORAH & HAFTARAH:

NOVEMBER 4: Vayeira

Genesis 18:1–22:24; II Kings 4:1–37

NOVEMBER 11: Chayei Sarah

Genesis 23:1–25:18; I Kings 1:1–31

NOVEMBER 18: Tol'dot

Genesis 25:19–28:9; Malachi 1:1–2:7

NOVEMBER 25: Vayeitzei

Genesis 28:10–32:3; Hosea 12:13–14:10



We Are the Stories We Tell

OF all the marvelous inventions and massive projects in the world, the story is still the most powerful tool we humans have. Around 70,000 year ago, scientists say that storytelling was born, a cognitive leap called the Tree of Life mutation. With it, legends were born, along with myths, religions, the fiction of kingship...even now, democracy, limited liability companies, Barbie, all of these are stories we collectively share and use to shape our reality. Stories help us define who we are and how we relate to others. Stories help us empathize with others whom we would never meet. Stories unify large groups of us towards a common goal, and give our individual actions more meaning, creating a sense of belonging over time and space.

Emory University professor, Marshall Duke, famously explored ritual and myth in American families. What he found is that children who know their families' stories tend to do better when faced with challenges. "The more children knew about their family's history, the stronger their sense of control over their lives, the higher their self-esteem and the more successfully they believed their families functioned." He also found that the most helpful type of family narrative was one that he called the "oscillating family narrative."

We know this story. We know it because every one of our families lives it. It's the story of overcoming adversity and then flailing again, and then triumph followed by pitfall followed by more victories and more challenges. We also know this "oscillating family narrative" because it's the story of our people. The month of November this year is filled with Torah stories about a certain family and their near constant drama: Abraham passing his wife Sarah off as his sister to avoid dishonor, Hagar and Ishmael's near death experience, Lot and his poor, curious, nameless wife, Isaac and Rebecca's story that goes from love to bitterness faster than an episode of *The Bachelor*, Jacob, Rachel, and Leah and their strained love triangle, the twelve sons and one daughter who all suffer for their father's shortcomings.

Their stories include infighting and deceit, falling in love and finding God, exile and return, and so much more. Why would this family define who we are to become as a people? Why do we continue to tell these stories and build a future on the tumult of their lives? Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks comments on our family story too: "Knowing the Bible as well as we do, we rarely if ever stop to consider how strange this is. But it is strange to the point of being unique. Every other literature until modern times ... is about epic heroes, gods or demigods, figures of legendary strength and power. The stunning originality of the Book of Genesis is that its heroes and heroines are ordinary people in ordinary situations, made extraordinary not by their power but by their loyalty to one another and to God."

Continued on page 9.

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:

✉ lymedwin@the-temple.org

☎ 404.873.1731



EDUCATION

INSPIRE&TRANSFORM

A Guide for Engagement, Learning and Programming at The Temple. *Begin your journey here!*

www.the-temple.org/classes

ADULT EDUCATION

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

Professor Series:

Israel in Flux: Exploring the Challenges & Opportunities of Israel's Current Political & Social Discord 

NEW DATE! Tuesday, November 28 • 7:00pm

Instructor: Dr. Eli Sperling, Israel Institute Teaching Fellow in the University of Georgia's Department of International Affairs

Following up on his session on Yom Kippur, learn about what is going on in Israel now. Register at www.the-temple.org/classes.



WELC PRESCHOOL

November is a time to be thankful!

Every November we start to think about what we are thankful for so this year we thought we would share what some of our WELC students are thankful for...

- Emma (4) is thankful for her baby sister.
- Jack (4) is thankful for sleep and his bed.
- Charlotte (4) is thankful for her mommy.
- Lily (4) is thankful for her big sister.
- Sloane (3) is thankful for unicorns.
- Miles (3) is thankful for family, friends, and his house.
- Autumn (3) is thankful for bananas.
- Harrison (3) is thankful for firefighters and firetrucks.
- Emmett (2) is thankful for his mommy and toys.
- Ezra (2) is thankful for firetrucks and cookies.

All of us at WELC are thankful for our amazing families, teachers, staff, and supporters! Happy Thanksgiving!





BEC PROGRAMMING

NOVEMBER 1

9:30am Sunday Program

NOVEMBER 5

Fall Back- End of Daylight Savings Time

9:30am Sunday Program

Noon 45 Club Youth Group Event

NOVEMBER 11

Project 8 Evening Event

NOVEMBER 12

9:30am Sunday Program

9:30am 5th Grade Family Education

Noon Project 67 Event

NOVEMBER 19

No Sunday Program

NOVEMBER 20-22

No Midweek Hebrew

NOVEMBER 26

No Sunday Program

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. If your teen would like to get involved, please contact one of our co-chairs: Sarah Zedd, Daniel Ratner, Anna Banner, or Emily Silver.

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 Sophie Brilliant at sbrilliant@the-temple.org.

45 Club



Our 4th and 5th graders having tons of fun exploring science and making new friends during the 45 Club event.

Mishpacha & Me

JUST FOR OUR 3 YEAR OLDS & THEIR ADULTS



During our September meet up, we celebrated Rosh Hashannah by singing some songs for the Jewish New Year, reading the story *The Apple Tree's Discovery*, and cutting open an apple to see the "star" inside! We then made two round challahs each to take and bake for the holiday! We hope you join us in January for our next meet up!





B'NEI MITZVAH



NOVEMBER 4:

Elena Sladkus

Parents: Laura & Jeffrey Sladkus



NOVEMBER 4:

Orly Sladkus

Parents: Laura & Jeffrey Sladkus



NOVEMBER 18:

Anna Cleveland

Parents: Katy & Adam Cleveland



NOVEMBER 18:

Catherine Katz

Parents: Lisa & Edward Katz

MAZAL TOV!

Have good news to share? please email Lisa Madrigal at lmadrigal@the-temple.org.

Temple Z for the second year in a row won the Division B Silver Bracket Championship in the Greater Atlanta Men's Synagogue League.

Dianne Ratowsky on the birth of her great-granddaughter Pearl Sylvia Brenner; and to parents, Andrea and Nate Brenner.

Hamilton Greene and Megna Saha on their wedding; and to Hamilton's parents, Natalie and George Greene.

Mrs. Tamara (Smith) Washington and Frank Washington on the birth of their son, Banks Howard Washington; and to big brother Benjamin Washington.

Betty Garrett on the birth of two new granddaughters, Sequoia Jo Sorte Bernstein and Sydney Navarro Heaps.

Marc and Randy Hyman Shapiro on the birth of their new grandnephew, Archer Miles Reich; and to parents, Evan and Norma Leaf Reich.

Joyce Shlesinger on the birth of her great grandson, Daniel Calvin Zacks.

Ashley Fayth Carey and Alexander John Carey on the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Ann Carey, and to grandparents, Beth Ann and I.J. Rosenberg.

Debbie and Jack Wexler on the birth of their 5th grandchild, Fern Eleanor Wilson.

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE FOR A BLESSING

Our Heartfelt Sympathy to the Families of:

Jerry R. Anglea
(brother of Janet Dortch)

Dr. Louis "Lou"
Sheldon Belinfante
(husband of
Janice Belinfante)

Susan Geiger
(sister of Larry
Sommerfeld)

Noah Leopold
(brother of Jenna
Leopold Shulman)

Claire Levine
(aunt of Judy Lipshutz)

Sarah Smith Malino
(mother of
Daniel Malino)

Milton Weinman
(father of
Richard Weinman)

CONSECRATION CLASS OF 5784



EVENTS & NEWS



NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

Jason & Stephen
Arel-Klein

Halle Berger

Vanessa & Eric Bernstein
Rafi & Quincy Bernstein

Rebecca & Wilson Couture

Rachel & John Henry Davidson

Devyn Edelstein

Molly Englander

Darin Givens

Leslie Gordon

Jasper Hankin

Holly Hellman

Katherine Hernandez
& Max Altman

Katie & Brandon Janco

Harriet Jacobs

Dorothy Leone-Glasser
& Ira Katz

Sam Levy

Annie Mason

Callie Morgan &
Brandon Rosenstein

McKenzie Moskowitz

Karen & Matthew Pearl
Olivia & Isla Pearl

Keith Pepper

Cassie & Zachary
Poirier Kopp

Sara Plotkin

Olivia Profita
& Mike Levitas

Hayley & Nate Rubin

Abby & Brad Ruffkess
Lane & Macy Ruffkess

Dori Schermer & Michael Ehrlich
Abigail & Falyon Schermer

Ben & Eric Turnwald

Hannah Usadi

Corey Weilheimer
& Jordan Hesslein

Lindsay Weisbord

Shabbat honoring New Members & November Birthdays—Services And Dinner

Friday, November 3 • 6:00pm

Join us in Schwartz-Goldstein Hall as we celebrate our New Members and November birthdays. New Members will be offered a blessing of dedication and gifts during our service. Optional dinner will be available for purchase or bring your own picnic-style meal. Learn more about Temple Connect, our small groups program, as well as other committees and initiatives looking for volunteers and continue to find ways to connect and make your home here at The Temple. Visit www.the-temple.org/sotl to RSVP.



Temple Connect: Mah Jongg & Canasta Luncheon

Sunday, November 5, 2023 • 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

We will begin with lunch and then break into individual games. This event is a thank you from The Temple to all of our game players. Not only do we each appreciate our fellow players, but The Temple wants you to know how appreciative it is of our active participation in Temple Connect. RSVP at www.the-temple.org/games.

Sandwich Salon Returns!

Come connect with other women at these informative events planned just for us! Bring your lunch, bring a friend, and enjoy conversation with women of all ages. So, mark your calendars and join us for some exciting and provocative discussions at our quarterly programs.



Talking Turkey with Sandra Bank, President of Added Touch Catering

Tuesday, November 7 • 11:30am-1:00pm

Back by popular demand! Join us for a pre-Thanksgiving program and cooking demo with the force behind Atlanta's award-winning upscale catering company of nearly 30 years.

Mini Shabbat

Saturday, November 11 • 9:30am Shabbat Moments • 10:00am Bagels and Coffee and Playtime

Join us for a beautiful fall Shabbat morning as we give thanks for all of our blessings in the season of Thanksgiving. Sing with your favorite Shabbat puppet friends and join in an activity that will reveal all the many things for which we give thanks! You'll even learn how to say "thank you" in Hebrew! We'll meet in The Temple's Motor Lobby and then continue the fun outdoors.

No RSVP required and feel free to bring your friends and family. Questions? Email Rabbi Lydia Medwin at lmedwin@the-temple.org.

Age & Stage

VIYP: Games & Giving

Tuesday, November 7 • 6:30-8:30pm

Join us for our friendsgiving event including a yummy turkey day inspired meal and bring a game to share with friends. RSVP at www.the-temple.org/yp.

K-2: Bowling

Sunday, November 12 • 12:30-2:30pm at Midtown Bowl

\$10/person includes two hours of bowling, shoes, and pizza. All families with kids in kindergarten, first and second grades are invited to join us to get to know one another and have a great time!

Sages: Lunch and CDC Tour

Friday, November 17 • 12:15 pm

Meet at The Temple for lunch (\$18/person), and then we will journey together by bus to the CDC for a Docent Choice tour. Explore the permanent exhibition, *The Story of CDC*, from the lens of a CDC expert and different highlights based on the docent's expertise and preference.



EVENTS & NEWS



Blood Drive

Sunday, November 12 • 9:00am-1:00pm

Blood donation saves lives! Join us for a Lifesouth blood drive at The Temple. All donors will receive a recognition item and a free cholesterol screening. Donors must be 16 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and show photo I.D. 16-year-olds require written parental permission. To sign up, visit https://donors.lifesouth.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/808958.

LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers

Exploring the Stories of Biblical Women

Sunday, November 12 • 11:30am-5:00pm • Cost: Free

Ebenezer Baptist Church: 101 Jackson St, Atlanta, GA 30312

Please join the women of St. Luke's, The Temple, and Ebenezer Baptist Church on in the Ebenezer Fellowship Hall as we explore the stories of biblical women through the Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney's artistic, challenging and provocative "midrash" stories. The event will include brunch and refreshments throughout the day.

Register at: <https://ebenezeratl.cbchurch.com/goto/forms/179/responses/new>. Once you register, you will receive a personal email reminder with pertinent information to ensure that you are prepared for this gathering.

Should you have any questions, please contact Rabbi Lydia Medwin at Imedwin@the-temple.org.

SIGD

Tuesday, November 14 • 7:00pm

Sigd is an ancient Jewish holiday that was preserved by the Ethiopian Beta Israel community through the generations. In Ethiopia this holiday was a highlight of the Jewish year, bringing Jews together in commitment to Torah and celebration of community. Today, the celebration of Sigd is a highlight of the Israeli calendar and spreading beyond the Beta Israel community and even to the United States.

Join us as we learn about Sigd, its rituals, themes and traditions. Hear stories of Ethiopian heroism and the challenges and joys of one of the world's oldest Jewish communities. This program is presented in conjunction with Be'chol Lashon and with the support of The Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta's Propel Grant.



Leven Interfaith

**Jewish Genes and Jewish Babies—
A Conversation with Drs. Jane and Jonathan Meisel**

Tuesday, November 28 • 7:00pm

Wondering about genetic testing both for yourself and your future children? Wondering what happens when those children actually arrive? Come have wine and cheese and a conversation with Temple members Drs. Jane and Jonathan Meisel. Jane is an oncologist specializing in breast cancer at Winship and a medical director with JScreen, and Jonathan is a pediatric surgeon and mohel. Rabbi Lapidus will facilitate this informal evening of sharing questions and information. Sponsored by the Leven Family Jewish Identity Institute, this program is for anyone interested in the topic (you don't have to be married, pregnant, or a member of The Temple!).

Upcoming Events in December!

**Montag Speaker Series
with Dr. Lisa Miller**

December 1-3

Join us for an entire weekend of learning with our Montag Speaker Series guest, Dr. Lisa Miller, author of *The Spiritual Child* and *The Awakened Brain*. She will explore with us dimensions of spiritual development throughout life, from the youngest child to the most senior among us.

Rabbi Sugarman Receives NIF Tzedek Award

Sunday, December 3

See details and registration link below.

Shabbanukah

Friday, December 8

Musical service with the help of Shir Chadash (our volunteer band), our youth and adult choirs and teen band, get in the Chanukah spirit. Latkes following services!

Vodka & Latkes: Adult Only Chanukah Party

Saturday, December 9

Join us for an adult-only evening with drinks, dancing, and yummy bites. This will be an evening you won't want to miss!

YOU'RE INVITED
NEW ISRAEL FUND'S
**ATLANTA
TZEDEK
AWARDS**

Supporting Israel's pro-democracy pushback

HONORING
RABBI ALVIN SUGARMAN

NIF Atlanta is proud to honor Rabbi Alvin Sugarman with the Tzedek Award for his long-standing commitment to the Atlanta community, social justice, and New Israel Fund's vision for a just and democratic Israel.

POSTPONED
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023
7 PM, followed by a dessert reception
Doors open at 6:30 PM
The Temple
1589 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta

TO JOIN US IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY, SIGN UP AT
WWW.NIF.ORG/TZEDEK2023 OR SCAN HERE:

The New Israel Fund is the leading organization advancing and defending democracy in Israel. Widely credited with building Israeli progressive civil society, we have provided over \$200 million to more than 900 organizations since our inception in 1979.



ShalomCare

Supporting Mental Health
Powered by The Temple

Mission

Our mission is to create a supportive culture at The Temple and within our community with intentional programming focused on mental health. We seek to increase awareness, eliminate stigma, provide education, and advocate for expanded support around mental health within our community and in coordination with the broader Jewish community and its stakeholders.

Contact:

If you are ill or in need, please reach out to our clergy at 404-874-1731. If The Temple is closed, one of clergy can be contacted on the emergency page by selecting option #3.

Web

www.the-temple.org/shalomcare



UPCOMING EVENT:

Technology, Anxiety, and Teens— A Program for Parents

Sunday, November 5 • 9:45-11:00am

Gather with other parents and learn from mental health professionals about how to prevent battles over devices, how tech may be contributing to our children's anxiety, and how we can negotiate tech in all of our lives for the sake of our children (and ourselves).

If you are
experiencing
a mental
health crisis
and need
immediate
help, call
or text

988

to get
help now.

We Are the Stories We Tell

Continued from page 3.

With November's Torah parshiyot, we begin the Jewish story yet again. In the next few weeks, Abraham will laugh at the prospect of a child after years of infertility. Issac and Esau will have a tearful reunion after a twenty year estrangement. Joseph will go through immigration and a prison term only to become one of the most powerful people in Egypt. "To be a Jew is to see yourself as a part of that story," says Sacks. It is because our stories are filled with ordinary people that we can see ourselves in them. And through their stories, we understand that our Jewish "oscillating family narrative" gives us immeasurable strength, esteem, and belief in our capacity for survival and thriving.

So, as we head into different opportunities for gathering with family this fall, I encourage you to share the stories of your own families: the good, the bad, and the ugly. All of them will benefit our children and grandchildren. And I encourage you to dig more deeply into our Jewish family stories – take a class, attend Torah study, come to Shabbat services. Inhabit these stories. Make them your own. Share these stories, alongside your interpretations of them, with your children, too. The Jewish stories we tell define what we think about ourselves and others. Continuing to tell them with our own depth and nuance will define our Jewish future. They are our Tree of Life, and they make us more human. Through them, we will shape our world for the better. After all, we are the stories we tell.

Lydia B. Medwin

Rabbi Lydia Medwin

Blue Jeans, Bow Ties, & Bling

A Fundraiser for the Zaban Paradies Center



Thursday, April 11, 2024

The Wimbish House hosted by Atlanta Woman's Club
Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Celebrating 40 Years of Home

CONTRIBUTIONS

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Baby Naming of Noa Shear-Gromer

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Lori Director

Teddy Orkin's Bar Mitzvah

Naomi & Stan Orkin

Wedding of Ari Stillman & Moral Masuoka

Randi Stillman

Rabbi Alvin Sugarman's Birthday

Alan M. & Barbara H. Smith

Steven Blake Touchstone upcoming Aliyah

Sam & Malissa Touchstone

The Temple's Holy Day Food Drive

Scottie Davis

In Appreciation of Yom Kippur Services

Mark R. & Janis Henowitz

In Appreciation of High Holiday Services

Andrew Berg

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In Honor of:

Ellen Holland's Birthday

Jackie & Tony Montag

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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.



iGive.com Rewards Program

Enroll at www.iGive.com/the-temple, then shop online as you normally would—no added steps. Over 1,900 Online Stores—including all your favorites!



iGive.com
Change online shopping for good.



Esther Bleich Scholarship

More than 40 years ago, Dr. Jack K. Bleich endowed a scholarship fund in memory of his mother, Esther Bleich. Thanks to Dr. Bleich's generosity, The Temple has been able to award college scholarships to many very deserving Temple members and other Jewish Atlantans. This financial assistance is targeted at students who need additional funds for their education. In accordance with Dr. Bleich's instructions priority is given to any applicants pursuing the rabbinate or Jewish studies, however, funds are also awarded to those whose fields of study more broadly contribute society at large.

In accordance with Dr. Bleich's instructions, scholarship recipients will normally be offered a combination of grants and loans. Loans are interest-free until graduation. Recipients can choose not to accept the offered loans and still be awarded the grant portion of their scholarship. Awards can be made for undergraduate or graduate study.

Request an application by calling The Temple office at 404-873-1731 or emailing office@the-temple.org with the subject line "Esther Bleich Scholarship." Completed applications must be received by The Temple no later than February 28, 2024.



ESTHER BLEICH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of:

Hyman Shapiro

Dianne Ratowsky

Dr. Louis Fishman

Barbara & Philip Fishman

Melvyn Greenberg

Paul Greenberg

Abe & Ruth Grubman

Annette & Marvin Grubman

In Honor of:

Dianne Ratowsky's

40+ years at The Temple

Alexis & Ross Appel

Fayne Frankel's Birthday

Billie Guthman

Nancy Hirsch's Birthday

Billie Guthman

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In Memory of:

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In Memory of:

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TEMPLE CONNECT SMALL GROUPS FAIR

Friday, November 3 • 5:00pm

Temple Connect Small Groups are formed around interests, needs, geography, demographic, advocacy causes 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 clubs? Mah Jongg? Entrepreneurship? Want to start or join a group? Come find out what Temple Connect is all about!

For more information and a complete listing of Temple Connect groups, visit www.the-temple.org/findyourtribe.

