



**TEMPLE SHALOM** *of* NEWTON

*A Welcoming and Inclusive Jewish Community*

# MARCH/APRIL BULLETIN



## CONNECTIONS

Letters from the Clergy, Q & A with our new Executive Director, an article about our new mural, and Getting to Know You.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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## GEN TO GEN AND FUNDS

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## RABBI LAURA ABRASLEY

Let all who are hungry come and eat.

”

Every year at Passover, Jews around the world gather at Seder tables. We fill our tables with symbols of the season and tell the story of the Israelites journey from slavery to freedom. We are obligated to tell the story, so that our children will learn, and be inspired by this remarkable story of scarcity to plenty. A reminder that, as we contemplate our good fortune, we must work towards the day when all who are hungry will soon eat as free people.

The special food of Passover, matzah, teaches this lesson brilliantly. Judaism understands matzah as the bread of affliction. Eating it during the Seder reminds us of a time when the Israelites were slaves in Egypt, when they could not control the food available to them, forced to eat whatever they could out of necessity. Matzah allows us to taste the challenge of slavery and to help us imagine what it means to be denied a right to live a free and healthy life. Ideally, it inspires us to recommit to the value of providing food and sustenance to anybody in need.

It seems fitting to officially launch the Newton Community Freedge Collaborative as the season of Passover approaches. This effort, an all volunteer-run initiative, will be open as of March 14, 2021. It is a free, outdoor refrigerator and pantry available at all times and in all weather for everyone in Newton!

If this idea sounds familiar, I'm glad to know that you remember at least some of the important ideas from my Rosh Hashanah sermon about the possibility of Temple Shalom creating a community fridge in Newton. If not, no worries, I'll refresh your memory. I spoke these words to our community on that sacred day:

“A community fridge is a neighborhood resource that has popped up in several cities over the last year as a local, independent response to increased food insecurity due to the effects of COVID19. It represents mutual aid in one of its purest forms. The idea that solidarity, not charity, is what communities need in order to become fairer and stronger. It's a hyper-local effort to restore independence to community members who are having a difficult time making ends meet. Neighbors take what they need and leave what they don't. Other neighbors keep the fridge clean and stocked.”

Sometimes a dream as big as this one requires thoughtful partnership. In November, we connected with the volunteer leadership of the Newton Food Pantry (NFP). Turns out, they were a few thinking steps ahead of us to make this great idea come to life. They had researched the possibility of community fridge in Newton and were looking for partners (community centers, communities of faith, etc.) to join their collaborative. The Temple Shalom Tzedek Team agreed to continue to partner with NFP as a member of the collaborative. Members of the collaborative provide regular volunteers for the various tasks needed to support the daily needs of this important resource.

To fulfill this commitment, we are creating a Temple Shalom Freedge Team of volunteers. Our commitment to the collective is to service the fridge once a week, hopefully for years to come. As we move this important initiative forward, I hope you will join me and our Freedge Team.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

#### Sign up to be on the TS Freedge Team

Join us as we support the fridge once a week. Volunteer tasks include stocking, shopping, cleaning, and monitoring. The tasks are family friendly and we hope a diverse reflection of our community will participate in this initiative.

#### Donate to the TS Freedge Fund

The goal is to support this community resource for years. To this end, we have established a fund, generously seeded by a wonderful family in our community, to subsidize Temple Shalom's weekly food contributions for the community fridge.

#### Contribute Food & Goods to the Freedge

The fridge site will contain perishable and non-perishable goods. We are sponsoring a Food Drive for the non-perishable goods the week of March 7th as we kick off the pilot of this initiative.

**Please visit the TS Freedge web page to sign up to volunteer and to donate to the Freedge Fund:**  
**[www.templeshalom.org/freedge](http://www.templeshalom.org/freedge)**

This year, as we safely gather around our Zoom tables to tell our story, let us hope that the time to gather again is not far off. Let us remember to take action to feed and care for those in need. And let us pray for the day when all who are hungry will be satisfied and the bread we share together is the bread of plenty, the bread of freedom.



## RABBI ALLISON BERRY

### Finding Hope and Wisdom in the Counting of Time



As you read this, we have most likely begun our count of the days between Passover and the holiday of Shavuot. Again, Pesach was not easy, there were still missing faces around our Seder table. This year's holiday required innovation and careful thought in order for us to feel connected. And yet, as the year continues on, there are reasons to hope. Much of this hope comes from counting time—setting milestones for ourselves that help us to cope and propel us forward. We count the days until spring arrives, we count the days until our kids return to school, we count and wait for the time when younger and younger generations will be vaccinated, and we count the days until this pandemic ends. We mark time and we count. And in doing so, we understand that counting is in fact an expression of resiliency; a path to believing that spring will indeed come again and that our lives can always change for the better.

This concept of counting time is deeply embedded in Jewish tradition. The Jewish calendar reminds us of the obligation to follow the waning and waxing of the moon, the cycle of the tides, and, even more significantly, the cycle of life as each year passes. Tradition teaches us that we do not simply let time pass. Each day, we wake up and pray Modeh Ani, "I give thanks to You God for [on this unique day] You have returned my soul to me." This prayer is an expression of gratitude for being alive, as well as a reminder that each day is an opportunity to fashion the world as we hope it can be.

Counting is never more important than during the days between Passover and Shavuot. During these 49 days, we count the Omer (or "weeks" in English). The days between these ancient festivals are intended to be a time of reflection, revelation, and change. At our Passover Seders, we proclaim that God freed us from slavery. However, according to the Torah, despite the parting of the Sea of Reeds, we were not yet a fully realized people. It was during the 49 days of wandering that we began the long process of truly freeing ourselves from the shackles and trauma of slavery and imagining a world, a community, that could be our own. It was in the reflection, in the counting, and in the infusion of meaning and growth into each day that we could finally reach revelation at Sinai.

What a profound lesson for all of us, as we too count and consider, wait and hope, and dream of a brighter future.

“

Psalm 90 says it best:

“...You engulf men in sleep; at daybreak they are like grass that renews itself; at daybreak it flourishes anew; by dusk it withers and dries up...we spend our years like a sigh...The span of our life is seventy years, or, given the strength, eighty years; but the best of them are trouble and sorrow. They pass by speedily, and we are in darkness. Teach us to number [count] our days, that we may obtain a heart of wisdom.”

”

Throughout our lives, especially now, we face many hardships. We experience sadness and loss. We often hope the grief will pass quickly. We push aside our current reality (it is often too painful) and think only of the past or the future. But in doing so, in the urgency of leaving all that hurts behind, we inhibit our ability to grow. Our wise tradition understands that, in the act of counting time, we can infuse meaning into the darkest (or in some cases the most mundane) of moments.

This year, as we count the Omer, let us not only mark the passage of time. Let us use these slow moving days to reflect on this difficult and lonely year, acknowledge the losses and the sacrifices, and then mourn them. As we do, let us also come to understand this time of counting as the beginning of a new reality—one where we open ourselves up to all we have learned, explore how we have changed, and imagine who we would like to be.

**“God, teach us to number our days, that we may obtain a heart of wisdom.”**



## CANTOR LEAH SHAFRITZ

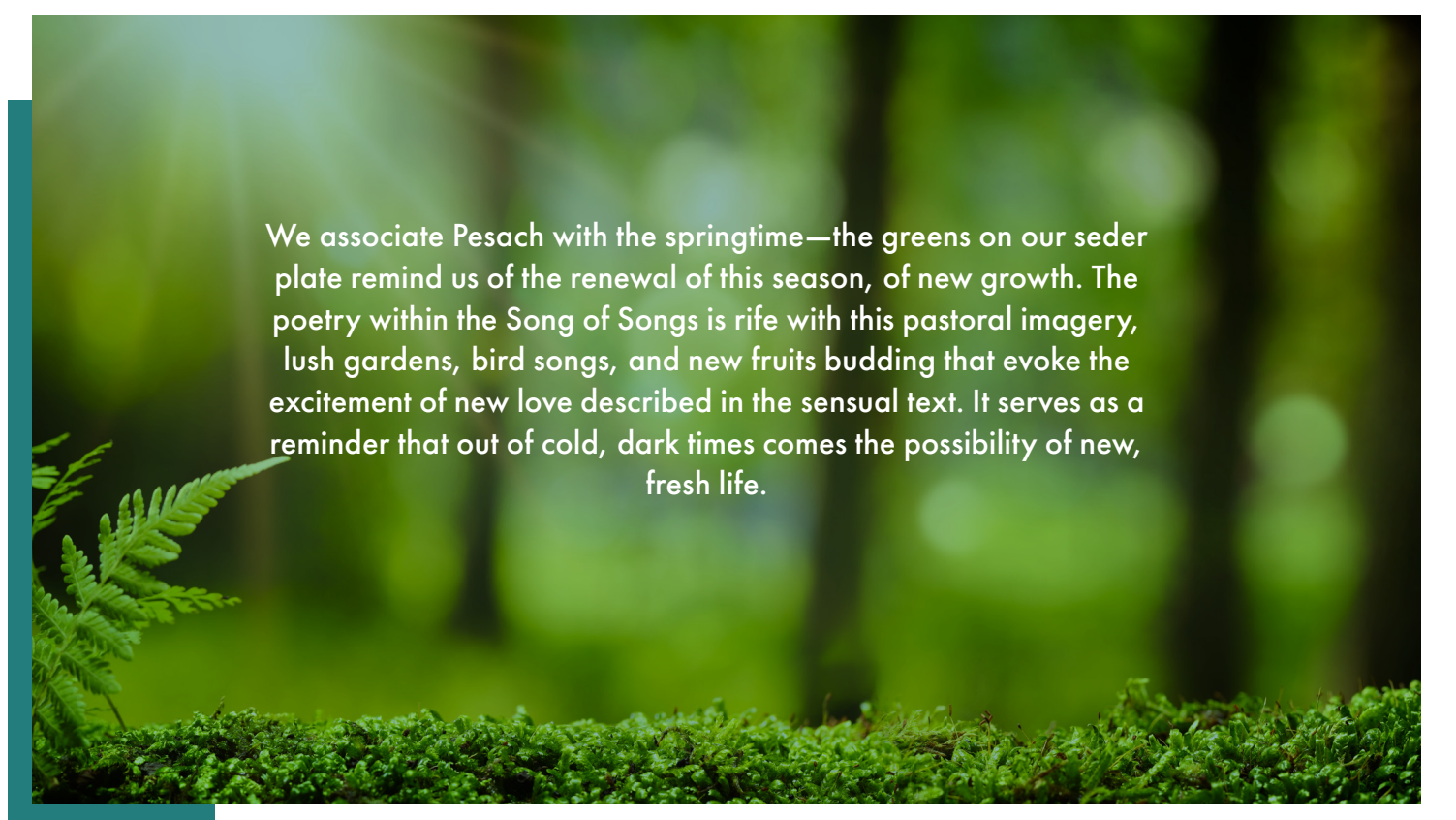
### As Winter Turns to Spring: Celebrating the Jewish Season of Renewal

Judaism is a cyclical religion. Our year is guided by the turning of the seasons, the turning of our Torah text, our festivals and holidays, and the five megillot or scrolls. We just celebrated the holiday of Purim, which is associated with the most familiar of these scrolls—the book of Esther. This holiday of joy and celebration perhaps felt a little different this year as we remembered when, at this point a year ago, our lives drastically changed. We have spent a full year observing our holidays from home, marking time differently than usual. As many of us are beginning to see a light at the end of a long tunnel, I invite us to look to two of our spring holidays as a guide to hope and renewal after a difficult year.

This March, we celebrate the festival of Passover, during which we read from Shir HaShirim, The Song of Songs, one of these five megillot. We associate Pesach with the springtime—the greens on our seder plate remind us of the renewal of this season, of new growth. The poetry within the Song of Songs is rife with this pastoral imagery, lush gardens, bird songs, and new fruits budding that evoke the excitement of new love described in the sensual text. It serves as a reminder that out of cold, dark times comes the possibility of new, fresh life.

Coming shortly after the start of new growth is the spring harvest and the festival of Shavuot, when we would traditionally bring offerings of the first fruits of the harvest to God in reverence and thanksgiving. It is also during Shavuot that we commemorate the receiving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. For both these reasons, we read the book of Ruth during this festival. For one, the story of Ruth takes place during the spring harvest, but we also read about Ruth's decision to commit to Judaism and take the Jewish people to be her people, and their God, her God. On Shavuot, we are all Ruth, and we are provided the opportunity to recommit ourselves to the Torah and God.

Throughout the year, we are provided with these markers, these points at which to pause to feel the seasons turning, to feel the cycle of our lives as time progresses. These spring holidays and their corresponding texts invite us to experience rejoicing and rebirth, thanksgiving and recommitment. In a year that has often felt void of these qualities, may we turn to this ever-recurring time in our Jewish calendar, even though we may still be observing it in a unique way. May we allow ourselves to embody the themes this season evokes, guiding us toward hope and renewal in the months ahead.



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## Introducing our new Executive Director, DAVID NEWMAN



David Newman grew up in Stoughton, MA and is thrilled to be back in the Boston area after a 25-year hiatus (or exile) in New York City. He has worked in the Jewish communal sector for more than 20 years and is honored to join the Temple Shalom of Newton community as Executive Director. David currently lives in Sharon with his wife and two sons, Ilan and Yonatan. As a family, they enjoy camping, skiing, and hiking.

Prior to joining Temple Shalom, David worked at Combined Jewish Philanthropies as Director of Partnership Relations. Previously, he served as the Executive Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Long Island (JCRC-LI), where he coordinated the community relations agenda among Long Island's diverse populations and worked to enhance the quality of Jewish life on Long Island.



Prior to assuming his role at JCRC-LI, David worked for Hillel on a variety of campuses culminating at his alma mater, Hofstra University, where he served as Executive Director. In that position, he was instrumental in re-organizing the Board of Directors and establishing relationships with a full range of stakeholders including alumni, parents, students, the local community, and university officials.

David has a Bachelor's degree from Hofstra University in International Affairs and a Master's degree in Management from NYU. He also holds a certificate in Professional Leadership from Columbia University. His studies have brought him to Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. He has traveled to Israel more than 20 times, living there for a year in 1998.

## Q & A with David

### WHAT INSPIRES YOU TO WORK IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY?

What inspires me to work in the Jewish community are the same things that inspire me to live an active Jewish life—that is, our connection to each other, Jewish history, and Israel. Each of these aspects of Jewish community remind me that I am part of something greater than myself. They bring purpose to my life. I find deep meaning in creating vibrant Jewish communities where people can forge such connections for themselves. That is what I have strived to do throughout my career, and what I hope to do here at Temple Shalom.

### AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WHAT ROLE DO YOU PLAY IN THE LIFE OF TEMPLE SHALOM?

I am passionate about this role because it allows me to touch so many aspects of congregational life. In short, I help ensure that things run smoothly—from building operations to program logistics to finances. Yet, even more than that, I seek to be a welcoming face, voice, and presence for our congregation. I want to make sure that people have a positive experience whenever they walk through our doors. I want to help congregants find meaningful opportunities to be part of an active Jewish community in whatever way are most relevant and interesting to them.

### WHAT DOES BEING PART OF A SYNAGOGUE COMMUNITY MEAN TO YOU?

For me, being a part of a synagogue community is about finding connection and meaning. As human beings, we thrive on connection. It's not in our nature to be alone. Judaism has so much to offer and I feel that it is Temple Shalom's responsibility to make sure our members can take full advantage of our tradition's rich meaning and sense of community.

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## WHAT IS ONE OF YOUR MOST MEMORABLE JEWISH EXPERIENCES?

It's hard to pick just one, so I'm going to take the liberty of sharing two. During my time as a Hillel professional, I had the privilege of leading about a dozen Birthright Israel trips. I always loved experiencing Israel again for the first time through college students' eyes. I learned so much from them and saw firsthand how an immersive, educational experience in Israel can strengthen Jewish identity and forge lifelong connections to the Jewish people. It was so special to be part of this pivotal moment in young people's lives.

It is a bit ironic that my second most memorable Jewish experience takes place in a Sikh gurdwara (house of worship) on Long Island. As the Executive Director of JCRC-LI, I was asked to come speak to a local Sikh congregation following the mass shooting at the Oak Creek Wisconsin gurdwara. I brought words of comfort, solidarity, and partnership, and let the congregation know that an attack on a Sikh gurdwara in Wisconsin was also an attack on a Jewish synagogue in New York, or anywhere around the world. That evening, I realized how much it meant for the Jewish community to be able to stand up publicly for our neighbors when they were hurting so deeply. Two years later, when three Israeli teenagers were kidnapped and killed, that same Sikh community was there for us. This time, they were the ones bringing us words of comfort and solidarity. I have always remained deeply moved by this expression of community and the power of authentic relationships built across different faiths.

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE JEWISH HOLIDAY AND WHY?

That's an easy one for me. I have always loved Sukkot, in part because it is a holiday where we spend a lot of time outdoors in nature, which is one of my favorite places to be. I love the symbolism of creating a structure that is temporary, yet strong enough to serve as a home for the entirety of the holidays; so much of life is about finding the right balance between fragility and permanence, and I like how this is echoed in the holiday's rituals. Further, on each night of Sukkot, we symbolically welcome guests from our liturgy. My wife and I also love welcoming real-life guests into our sukkah, just as we do around our Shabbat table (of course only in non-Covid times). Ever since we were both Hillel professionals and welcomed college students to our Shabbat table, we have always enjoyed sharing Jewish rituals and community with others, and we find it particularly meaningful to do so on Sukkot.

## IF I WAS NOT A JEWISH PROFESSIONAL, I WOULD BE....

A labor and delivery nurse or a graphic designer. Feel free to ask me why when we meet in person!

# SISTERHOOD PAINT NIGHT!

**Sunday, April 11th from 4:30-6:00 PM on Zoom**

Join Sisterhood for a relaxing afternoon with friends and tap into your creative side! No experience needed; an artist will guide us through every step of the painting process and engage us in fun activities along the way. Supplies and special cocktails are available for purchase.

**FREE FOR ALL CURRENT AND NEW SISTERHOOD MEMBERS**



## What is a blessing? MINCHA Mural Project

Becca MacKillop, Youth Engagement Specialist

During the summer of 2020, the Learning & Engagement Team at Temple Shalom embarked on the necessary task of redesigning what this school year would look like for the 6th and 7th graders in our MINCHA program.

We focused on a framework of Project Based Learning, which was not new to us. In fact, it's how we've structured the curriculum for the last three years. Under this framework, students use a medium of their choosing (i.e, art, music, cooking, etc.) to explore Judaism, answer an overarching guiding question, and produce a final culminating project. What was new this year was the challenge of keeping students engaged in an almost completely virtual setting. Rather than breaking the school year into two semesters as had been done in the past, this school year was split into four quarters, giving students the opportunity to complete four separate culminating projects, or expeditions, with as many as four different teachers.

During the second quarter, which spanned from late October to early December, I had the opportunity to teach one of these expeditions myself. Together, students who chose my expedition would be exploring the same guiding question as students in all of the other expeditions that quarter: "What is a Blessing?" The final culminating project for our expedition would be to create a mural which would live permanently on a wall at Temple Shalom.

If the idea of creating a large-scale, collaborative, real-life painting in a virtual setting seems puzzling to you, then you can appreciate the predicament in which we found ourselves. We had actually had our hearts set on a mural project for quite some time. During the fall of 2019, we had worked with CJP Arts Consultant Tova Speter to plan out a curriculum for 6th and 7th graders that would culminate in a mural on the wall of the second floor school wing. We made it halfway through the spring 2020 class when COVID-19 forced us to

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cut our semester short, just two weeks before we were due to execute our first brush strokes on the wall.

This time, we knew that we would have to be flexible and to plan for a number of different possible scenarios. The entirety of the quarter was only seven sessions long, five of which were held entirely on zoom, and two of which were held in person. Rather than putting paint directly on the wall and creating one continuous image, students were each given a two foot by two foot wooden board on which to execute their individual designs. This was done to ensure that when students came into the building to paint, they could be spaced out appropriately. This also gave students the option to complete their painting at home, if attending in person was not possible for them.

We approached the guiding question of “What is a Blessing?” through five blessings that students in the 6th and 7th grades had likely come across so far in their Jewish education. These included Yotzeir Or, Mi Shebeirah, Hashkiveinu, Birkat Hamazon, and Shehecheyanu. Once we had explored all five, including their meanings and any symbolism contained within them, students brainstormed as a group to generate imagery that came to mind when they thought about these blessings. Each student then selected a blessing on which to base their painting. Please enjoy these images of our final mural project, which are now permanently installed on the second floor of the school wing at Temple Shalom for all to enjoy once we are back in the building!





# GETTING TO KNOW YOU

with Loretta Zack

We have all been through so much in the last year. This Pandemic has affected everybody in one way or another. For this edition of Getting to Know You, all the families featured have one thing in common—celebrating a simcha during the pandemic. I asked three families if they would allow me to interview them and discuss how it felt during this time: one family who had their Bar Mitzvah at home, another family who had their Bat Mitzvah in a tent at the Temple, and, finally, the first family to have a Bat Mitzvah in the Sanctuary during the pandemic.

## DICKERMAN FAMILY

Let's start with the Dickerman family. Kal Dickerman's original Bar Mitzvah date was April 4. The ceremony was delayed until June 27 and, given the point in the pandemic, it was held in the Dickerman home. Here are Kal's thoughts on his home Zoom Bar Mitzvah: "I didn't have stage fright doing a Zoom Bar Mitzvah because I didn't have to see everyone. I didn't have to wear uncomfortable shoes, actually I didn't wear any shoes. I felt like it was more special because it was at home. I accepted my fate that it wasn't going to happen on the original date scheduled on April 4 so I adjusted my expectations because I knew the date would need to move. I liked that I was able to pick one of my favorite dinners for that night".



and make lemonade out of lemons. We dressed the part, we had just my parents over, we still took pictures outside and made the most of it. Nina adds, "After planning and having two B'nei Mitzvah with Temple Shalom, I was a little worried this wouldn't feel as special this time around. I am happy to report Kal's Bar Mitzvah felt equally as special as the first two just in different ways. I am so appreciative that the Torah was our guest for a few days before and that Kal was able to read from the scroll on his big day. Rabbi Abrasley and Cantor Shafritz continued to officiate a personal and meaningful service for Kal... that did not change."

Kal's parents, Nina and Mitch Dickerman, had seen their older sons, Ian and Ben, have the "normal" B'nei Mitzvah experience with the whole nine yards. Kal's experience was very different. Mitch shares, "As a parent you have to adjust your expectations. The loss of physical communal elements was significant. You can't all be in the same room for the joyous occasion, but the tradition continues and we adapt

The Dickermans were able to add special meaning to the Bar Mitzvah that never would have happened if it were in the Temple sanctuary. In their home, they incorporated meaningful representations of their family that filled the gap of not having people in the room with them. They made a point to make their home bema equally as special for their special guest—the Torah—and guest of honor—Kal.

## KONTOROVICH/TARAKANOV FAMILY

Next, I want to share the story of the Kontorovich/Tarakanov family and their daughter Polina, whose Bat Mitzvah took place on September 2 in a tent outside the Sanctuary. It was originally scheduled for May 16 and they had already made all the arrangements for a function in the Temple's social hall, but it had to be cancelled. The family shares "While we were originally unsure about the '2020 format,' the experience really exceeded our expectations. The ceremony was truly unique and

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meaningful for our family and guests who joined by Zoom. We were very glad to be able to perform the ceremony outside in the synagogue courtyard with the Rabbi present in person and are very thankful for that!"

I asked Polina, what did you think of the day, were you nervous, excited? Were you able to have any friends attend? She replied, "I wasn't nervous at all, just very excited! Having spent almost a year preparing for my Bat Mitzvah ceremony, I felt confident and thrilled to share

this occasion with everyone in my family and our guests on Zoom. We did get to have some family friends in person, but almost everyone was on Zoom. This turned out to be very convenient because family and friends from all over the world were able to attend, who would not have been able to if the ceremony was in person."

The family was lucky enough to host their immediate family (including grandparents), some close family friends, and several of Polina's closest friends in small groups in their backyard for a Kiddush brunch. It was a great way to celebrate and mark the wonderful occasion.

There is a special story surrounding this event and I feel it is important for you to learn about it. Polina's mother, Elena, shares, "My parents are Soviet Jews, whose parents lived through pogroms in Ukraine and Belarus and moved to Leningrad after the Russian Revolution. My paternal grandmother spoke Yiddish to my dad, and my maternal grandmother was very well known in the community as the best gefilte fish maker. Both of my grandfathers died during World War II: one defending Leningrad, another in the Gulag. But despite my Jewish heritage, growing up, I knew practically nothing about Judaism. Hebrew was a forbidden language in the Soviet Union, with a penalty of ten years of prison for simply learning the language. According to Karl Marx, 'Religion was the opium of the masses.' As a result, my parents tried to shield me and my brother from anti-Semitism and related problems at school. At the time, I didn't even know the term B'nei Mitzvah. So, for our family, Polina's journey to become a Bat Mitzvah represents a new start to an old family tradition."

"Mike and I became High Holiday service-goers, my parents learned the Shabbat blessings, and we all love our cozy Friday nights with homemade challah. We were so proud of Polina as she went through Hebrew school, with her usual determination, enjoying this new world through art, music, yoga, history and the language. And of course, we were so happy and proud to watch Polina chant the Torah tropes and share her D'var Torah with us and the virtual audience. Given the circumstances, we could not have imagined a more unique way to mark this occasion, in the yard of the Synagogue, with Rabbi Berry and our closest family present, on a beautiful autumn Shabbat morning."

## SHAPIRO FAMILY

My final family is the Shapiros, whose daughter Lily's Bat Mitzvah was the first service in the Sanctuary since the start of the pandemic. October 2 was the original date of Lily's ceremony and they decided to keep that date (it was also special as it was Sukkot) albeit under different circumstances than their sons, Joshua and Alexander, whose B'nei Mitzvah were held in the Sanctuary with a big party afterwards.



Originally, the family was told they could only have ten guests in person, which was very difficult as there were already five of them without the rest of their family. Luckily, in the end, they were able to have 20 guests, which included a surprise for Lily when her best friend came to the Temple. It is hard to imagine how they felt when they went to the final rehearsal on the Thursday, walking into the Sanctuary that looked like a film studio, with the lights, umbrellas, cameras and sounds. Lily said she felt like a film star and she was. It was strange to see the chairs separated. Lily's parents, Lisa and Ken, both said that the setting felt special and intimate, but Lisa said it was also sad not to have everyone there. Lily said that she felt calm with the smaller group but was still nervous.



The family received many compliments from the audience, some of Lily's friends sat and watched in their pajamas and felt special being involved. Ken said that with Rabbi Abrasley there and Cantor Shafritz remote, it felt like a normal service and they were delighted by how it went. Once the ceremony was over, the Shapiros had a small, socially distanced celebration back at their house with an ice cream truck.

*Mazal tov to all!*

## Upcoming Events Calendar

### WORSHIP

In addition to our weekly **Kabbalat Shabbat service on Fridays at 6:30 PM** and **Minyan Service on Saturdays at 8:45 AM**, we have several special, community worship experiences:

#### TORAH STUDY

**Saturdays at 9:45 AM on Zoom**

Join us weekly—or as often as you can—for an informal study of Jewish texts and lively discussions, with a member of the clergy and fellow Temple Shalom congregants.

#### SHABBAT B'YACHAD

**Second Friday of Each Month on Zoom**

Introducing our new interactive, multi-generational Friday night worship experience —Shabbat B'yachad. Join us on Zoom as we sing, pray, learn, and build community together.

#### TOT SHABBAT

**First Friday of Each Month at 5:30 PM on Zoom**

Welcome Shabbat with our Temple Shalom family! Together, we will sing songs, tell a story, say the blessings, and celebrate the joy of being with friends and family on Shabbat. Appropriate for children of all ages.

#### ART SHABBAT

**Third Friday of Each Month at 6:30 PM on Live Stream**

During this special Friday evening service, we will feature one piece of artwork on display in the Temple Shalom building and talk about its history and connection to Judaism and our beloved congregation.

#### SHABBAT MIND

**Saturdays March 13, April 10, May 8, and June 12 at 1:00 PM on Zoom**

Join us for Shabbat Mind, an hour of Shabbat-inspired stillness and reflection led by members of our community. Shabbat Mind includes guided imagery, meditation, discussion, and sharing. Appropriate for all experience and comfort levels.

# Upcoming Events Calendar

## K-12 LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

### PROJECT EXPEDITIONS

**Quarter 3 ends March 20; Quarter 4 begins April 4**

Using a Project-Based Approach, our SHACHARIT and MINCHA students learn about Jewish traditions, culture, and values through hands-on projects that incorporate music, stories, art, and games.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

### SISTERHOOD SOCIALS

**First Thursdays of the Month at 7:30 PM on Zoom**

Join Sisterhood for an hour of socializing, laughing, and unwinding. Each month will feature a different interesting speaker or fun activity while we catch up with temple friends by Zoom. We'll wind down the evening with a relaxation exercise. Come to one, some, or all of the Socials!

**April 1, 2021:**

Cantor Leah Shafritz

**May 6, 2021:**

Celebrating Mother's Day with the Garden Club

**June 3, 2021:**

Show & Tell for Grown Ups

(Share your story behind a unique item)

### SISTERHOOD PAINT NIGHT

**Sunday, April 11th from 4:30-6:30 PM on Zoom**

Join Sisterhood for a relaxing afternoon with friends and tap into your creative side! No experience needed; an artist will guide us through every step of the painting process and engage us in fun activities along the way. Supplies and special cocktails are available for purchase.

Free for all current and new Sisterhood members.

## ADULT LEARNING & ISRAEL

### AMERICAN JEWS AND THE JEWISH STATE

**Thursday nights from April 8-May 13 @ 7:30 PM on Zoom**

In this 6-class course, we will explore the history and evolution of the relationship between American Jews and Israel. Beginning in the 1880s (with the emergence of a new Zionist movement) we will look at how—and in what ways—the American Jewish community both came to embrace but also feel conflicted about the emerging Jewish state. We will look at how the American Jewish community both supported and challenged the new state in its first decades, how the 6 Day War changed that relationship, and how American Jews have increasingly asserted their voices regarding religion in Israel, security, land, and the Palestinians. Students will reflect on what we have learned and think about stances they may want to take in relating to and engaging with Israel.

Full Calendar Online -  
<https://www.templeshalom.org/calendar>

### SPEAKERS AND SPICES

Which of our temple members is a leader in Mars exploration? Energy policy? Solving white collar crime? Renaissance Art? During this monthly, one-hour program, we'll come together to learn from Temple members that are experts in their specialties, engage in a lively discussion, and bring Shabbat to a close with a community-wide Havdalah ceremony. Hosted by the Sisterhood of Temple Shalom and all genders are welcome.

**Saturday, April 24 at 7:30 PM on Zoom:**

***Understanding white collar fraud  
(and how you can help fight it)***

Ever read about a financial fraud in the newspaper and wondered, what really happened? Lynda Schwartz will share her experiences from 30 years of forensic accounting and financial fraud investigation and the lessons that might help prevent problems in your organizations.

### MOMS NIGHT OUT GOES VIRTUAL

**Thursdays, March 18, April 15, and  
May 20 at 8:30 PM on Zoom**

Get the kids in bed, grab your favorite beverage, and join other Temple Shalom moms for some much needed fun and laughter. MNO offers a healthy mental break and a chance to connect "face-to-face" with fellow moms. Each month, we will do a different activity! Hosted by Families with Young Children.



# Donations

## ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH FUND

in honor of

The Adult Kallah committee for their hard work in making our virtual weekend possible  
from Loretta & Michael Zack

in memory of

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Ellen & Barry Glovsky

## ANITA WINER OPEN YOUR EYES FUND FOR THE ARTS

Significant support of the sanctuary lobby mosaic in memory of Arthur Cohen  
from Debra Cohen, Jennifer (Cohen) Drucker, and Jill (Cohen) Medynski

in memory of

Sydney S. Kaplan  
from Ellen Kaplan

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Jeanne & Leo Stolbach

## CANTOR SHAFRITZ SERVICE FUND

in honor of

Cantor Shafritz's officiation at Noah's Bar Mitzvah service  
from Julie Childers & Laura Abrasley

Sarah Brecher's Naming  
from Peter & Sharon Brecher

in memory of

Faye Neiberg  
from Steven Feinstein & Jennifer London

## CARING COMMUNITY FUND

in memory of

Newton Isaac Greenberg  
from Marjorie Greenberg

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

in memory of

Sally Reichert Shulman  
from James & Susan Shulman

## COMMUNITY FREEDGE PROJECT

Phyllis Freed

Linda and Michael Frieze

## GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Robert & Joan Klivans

Josh Bowman & Christina Perez

in honor of

The Birth of Remi and Noa Ben-Gai  
from Allegra Manacher

in memory of

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Alan & Margie Levin

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Barbara Sullivan

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Carol Weisberger

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Senator Cindy Creem

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Edmund & Wendy Case

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Francisco Diaz

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Janet & Mark Gottesman

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Judith Doe & Randall

Russell Eleanor Leventhal  
from Marian Mandell

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Norman & Barbara Meltz

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Paul & Sheila Snyder

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Ann Tackeff

Bess Tabenken  
from Jeff Kolodney & Marcia Tabenken

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Tulis, Miller and Co. Accountants

Beth Goldsmith Brown  
from Kurt & Arlene Pressman

Theodore Weiner  
from Meryl, Robbe, Liam, & Aidan Natter

Stanley and Adele Brown  
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Fred Pogust  
from Sara & Robert Danziger

Lenore Asher  
from Steven Asher & Rebecca Warner

Sue Rodman, beloved sister  
from Anita Walk

Charlotte Sargeant  
from Bob & Anne Rosenthal

Lester Lasky  
from Frederick & Ruth Stavis

## EDUCATOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

in memory of

Ella Unger  
from Betty & Larry Lapide

## GIVING OPPORTUNITIES GENERAL CONTRIBUTION

Carol & Charles Berlin

in honor of

the birth of the Ben-Gai granddaughters  
from Ellie Shuman

in memory of

Bert Martinson  
from Ellie Shuman

## GURVIS ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Nancy & Ken Leeser

in memory of

Eleanor Leventhal  
from William & Donna Carleton

## GIVING OPPORTUNITIES HIGH HOLIDAY VIDEO PRODUCTION

in memory of

Marilyn Scherer Blecker  
from Liz Kleinerman & Allison Blecker

## LIBRARY FUND

in memory of

Donald Koblitz Jacobs  
from Steven Canter & Vicki Jacobs

## MUSIC FUND

in honor of

The marriage of David Carrier and Alceu Oliveira  
from Kurt & Arlene Pressman

David Carrier  
from Mark Gottesman

in memory of

Eleanor Leventhal  
from David & Mary Goldberg

Kenneth Paul  
from Gerald & Phyllis Briskin

Theodore Koskoff  
from Susan and Neil Glazer

Sam Amira  
from Stephen & Shelley Amira

## NURSERY SCHOOL ENHANCEMENT FUND

Daniel & Melissa Bergman

Jennifer Levin & Family

in honor of

The Birth of Remi and Noa Ben-Gai  
from Allegra Manacher

## GIVING OPPORTUNITIES OUTDOOR CLASSROOM & PPE GIFT

Emily Rubenstein

in honor of

the Nursery School staff  
from Sharon & Howard Sholkin

# Donations

## RABBI ABRASLEY SERVICE FUND

in honor of

the Bar Mitzvah of Noah Abrasley  
from Stephen Brochstein

## RABBI BERRY SERVICE FUND

Karen Siegel

Roberta Cohn

Michael & Sara Matzkin

in honor of

Rabbi Berry's officiation at Noah's Bar Mitzvah  
service  
from Julie Childers & Laura Abrasley

Rabbi Berry's kindness following the death of my  
aunt, Eleanor Leventhal  
from Marion and David Pollock

in memory of

Beth Goldsmith Brown  
from Ellen & David Rosenblatt

Ethel Goldman  
from Henry Goldman & Susan Opdyke

Marion Pava  
from Joel & Judi Pava

Eli Rubenstein  
from Laraine Levy

Abraham Latsky  
from Lois Liss

Kenneth Paul  
from Lois Liss

Faye Neiberg  
from Marcia Neiberg & Tai Senior

Irving Freed  
from Michael Freed & Elizabeth Geist

Morris Elbaum  
from Paul Rezendes & Joy Elbaum

Eli Leventhal  
from Laraine Levy

## ROTHMAN CLERGY INSTITUTE

in memory of

Joseph Heller, Bernard Shulman, and Rabbi  
Murray I. Rothman  
from Elaine Shulman

Rabbi Murray I. Rothman  
from Martin & Lily Snow

## GIVING OPPORTUNITIES SANCTUARY LIVESTREAM UPGRADE

Fred & Jaimie Kraus

Rebecca Schulman Havemeyer & William Havemeyer

in memory of

Annette Ehrlich  
from Michael & Barbara Hecht

## SISTERHOOD FUND

Melanie Henriques & Jeffrey Eisen

in memory of

Murray Frank  
from Kurt & Arlene and Kurt Pressman

## SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

in honor of

Ellie Goldman's dedication to Temple Shalom  
from Marion and David Pollock

The Bat Mitzvah of Cecilia Roldán-Koses  
from David Koses & Alfredo Roldán-Flores

Gary Furst's birthday  
from Edmund & Wendy Case

The Ben-Gai Family in celebration of the birth of  
their granddaughters  
from James Wessler & Susan Goodman

Noah Abrasley's Bar Mitzvah  
from Jo-Ann Suna

The Bar Mitzvah of Noah Abrasley  
from Mona Yaguda-Ross

in memory of

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Harriet Beim

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Judith Isroff

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Julie Vanek

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Arlene and Kurt Pressman

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Leslie and Warren Simmons

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Marlene Feldman

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in memory of

Lillian Oxman  
from Eric & Jocelyn Scheirer

Leslie Riseberg  
from Eric & Jocelyn Scheirer

## Yahrzeit & Remembrance Fund

in honor of

Rabbis Abrasley and Berry with deepest gratitude  
for their support and kindness following my  
mothers passing.  
from Rachel King & Mark Mansoor

in memory of

Morris Bradin  
from Bernice Bradin

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Charles Blauer

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Ellen Herbordt

Eleanor Leventhal  
from Paul Fruitt

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and Eve Zack  
from Loretta & Michael Zack

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from Mikhail & Lyudmila Margul  
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from Mona Yaguda-Ross

Dr. Irwin Suna  
from Peri Kutchin



# Donations

■ Albert (Bert) Bornstein  
from Rainy Kaufman

■ Carl Nathan  
from Sidney Novak

■ Sylvia Frost  
from Sidney Novak

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from Sidney Novak

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■ Ruth Novak  
from Sidney Novak

■ Theodore Weiner  
from Steven Goliger

■ Bernice Paul  
from Andrew Paul

## ■ YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND in memory of

■ Andrew Riseberg  
from Eric & Jocelyn Scheirer

## ■ ZELDA & SIDNEY GLAZIER FUND in honor of

■ The marriage of Rachel Bard &  
Kevin Donahue  
from Terry & Linda Bard

■ in memory of

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■ Esther Jackson  
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■ Judith Isroff

■ Rebecca Schulman Havemeyer &

■ William Havemeyer

■ Paul & Laurie Bloom

■ David & Marion Pollock

■ Ofer & Rhoda Ben-Gai

■ Kurt & Arlene Pressman

■ Erica Schwartz & Harry Meade

# Generation to Generation

## B'NEI MITZVAH

Cecilia Roldan-Koses  
Daughter of Alfredo Roldán-Flores and David Koses

Joshua Freedman  
Son of Jane and Jeffrey Freedman

Zachary Lipchin  
Son of Caryn and Joshua Lipchin

Maya Solomon  
Daughter of Stefanie and Ethan Solomon

Brooke Pelish  
Daughter of Andrea Sachs and Henry Pelish

Charley Margolis  
Son of Amy and Jason Margolis

Jack Hillburn  
Son of Charlene Gillespie and Brian Hillburn

Emma Gundersheimer  
Daughter of Eileen and Joshua Gundersheimer

Ari Ehrlich  
Son of Noemy and Dana Ehrlich

Gabe Lobron  
Son of Alison and David Lobron

Oscar Mulcahey  
Son of Stacy Klickstein and Craig Mulcahey

## DEATHS

Our beloved member....

Devorah Steinberg  
Mother of Josh Steinberg

We also remember....

Sue Bernstein  
Mother of Stephen Bernstein

Albert Bornstein  
Brother of Rainy Kaufman

Beth Goldsmith Brown  
Sister of Peggy Fineman

Mary A. "Mimi" Guay  
Mother of Maryanne Weiss

Jane Havemeyer  
Mother of Will Havemeyer

Michael Saul Huckman  
Father of Robert Huckman

Neal Merlis  
Father of Eric Merlis

Faye Neiberg  
Mother of Marcia Neiberg

Kenneth Paul  
Brother of Barbara Holzman  
Uncle of Susan Flint

Theodore (Ted) Weiner  
Father of Robin Healey  
Grandfather of Mitchell Healey

# CONTACT LIST

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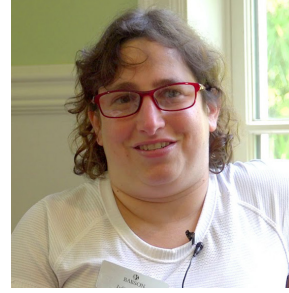
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Cantor

David Newman  
Executive Director

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Senior Director for Jewish Education and Youth Engagement

Lucy Banerji  
Nursery School Director

Fred Kraus  
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### Next Issue:

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