



TEMPLE SHALOM *of* NEWTON

A Welcoming and Inclusive Jewish Community

TEMPLE BULLETIN

June 2020 | Sivan - Tamuz 5780



 [templeshalomofnewton](https://www.instagram.com/templeshalomofnewton)

 [temshalom](https://twitter.com/temshalom)

 [templeshalomnewton](https://www.facebook.com/templeshalomnewton)

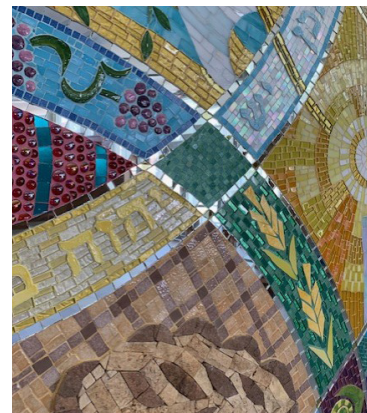
Open Your Eyes to the Beauty of Our World

Introducing Our New Entryway Mosaic

“

Adonai spoke to Moses, ‘See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability, and knowledge in all kinds of crafts—to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver, and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship.’ [1]

”



The Jewish connection to visual arts begins with Bezalel, the chief artisan commissioned by God to create God’s holy dwelling space in the desert. The Jewish community has adorned homes and synagogues with beautiful things ever since. In fact, there is a Jewish value—*hiddur mitzvah* (beautification of the commandments)—that encourages the creation of distinctive ritual items and sacred spaces.

Temple Shalom’s love affair with the visual arts began with our founding members who created an exceptional sacred space in the earliest days of our congregation’s history. Our community home is filled with beautiful pieces of original, one-of-a-kind artwork, including the remarkable stained glass windows, created by Napoleon Setti, in our sanctuary and the collective needlepoint tapestry that adorned the original Ark doors, inspired by Boston artist Lawrence Kupferman’s painting *Creation*. In keeping with this legacy of beauty, our new sanctuary features an original piece of stained glass art entitled *Aliyah*, encasing our new Ark.

These beautiful items greatly enhance the worship experience and welcome visitors to our new sacred space. As we were completing our sanctuary renovation, we realized that one space was lacking *hiddur mitzvah*: the entryway. As luck would have it, we found a wonderful way to beautify this main entrance while also connecting with our past, when local mosaic artist Josh Winer, nephew of our founding members Herb and Anita Winer, reached out to us looking for a way to honor his family legacy of artists and art appreciation.

Josh, together with a committee of clergy and Temple Shalom members, designed a new, breathtaking tile mosaic for the entryway entitled *Open Your Eyes*. The piece was installed in March, just as our building closed to keep each other safe.

The mosaic celebrates the generations who established, nurtured, and sustained our Temple Shalom community since its founding in 1950. Supported by the Anita Winer Open Your Eyes Fund for the Arts, the mosaic mural honors the memory and creative energy of Arthur Cohen, a beloved community member who served as a trusted advisor for many years, using his talents and keen eye to enhance the beauty of our spiritual home.

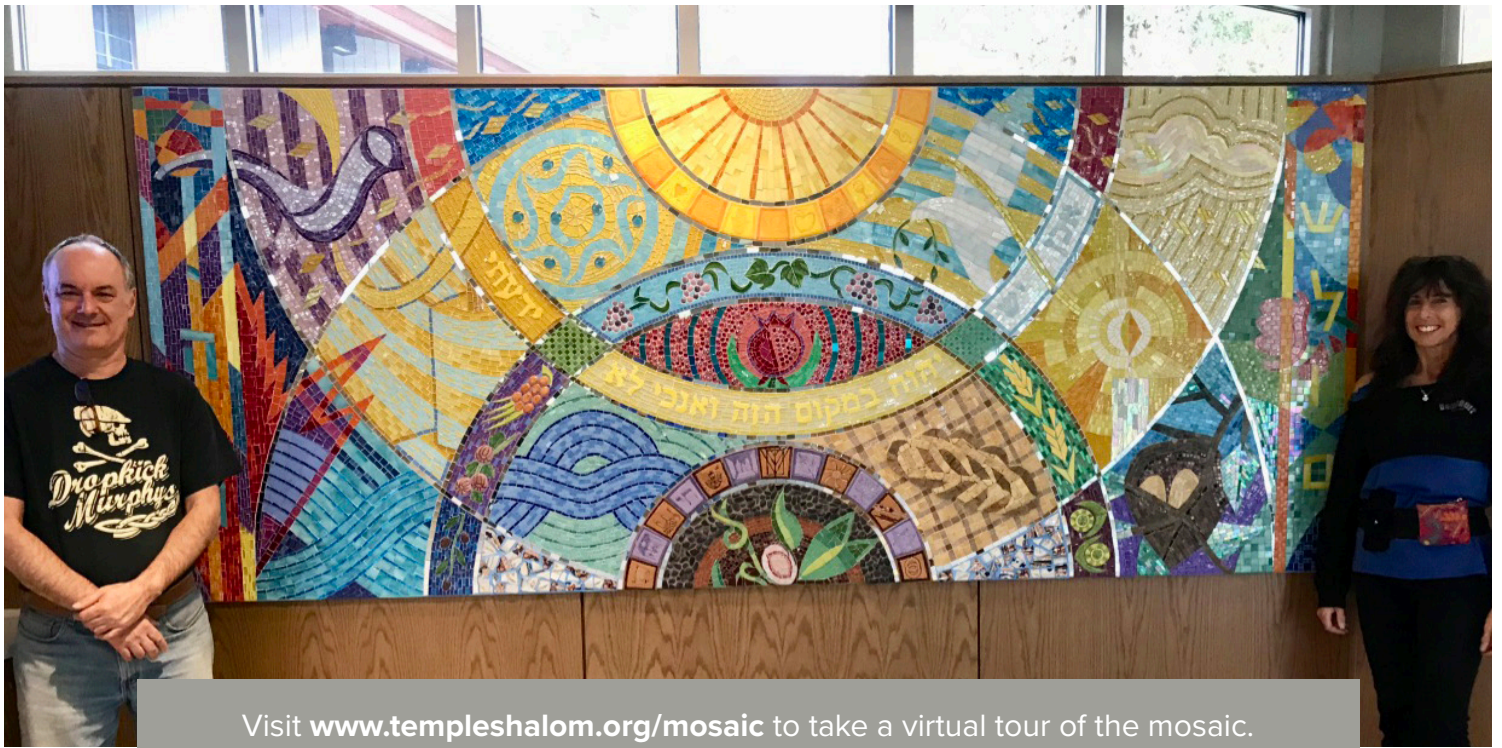
Open Your Eyes also lovingly represents Temple Shalom’s core values of inclusion, community, and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world). The central text inscribed on the mosaic is from Genesis:

Achen, yesh Adonai bamakom hazeh v’anochi lo yadati.
Surely, God is in this Makom, this place, and I did not know.[2]

Temple Shalom’s sacred space welcomes us from the moment we walk through the doors. It holds our joy, our challenges, and our community. The handmade tiles that encircle the sun and flower at the top and bottom were drawn by members of our congregation and transferred to clay by the artist, Josh. This mosaic opens our eyes to the beauty of our world and reminds us that the values we hold close can be actualized in every generation.

We all look forward to the time when we will gather again to see this awe-inspiring work of art with our very own eyes and welcome one another with open arms, revealing that God dwells in this place, our place, every time we come together.

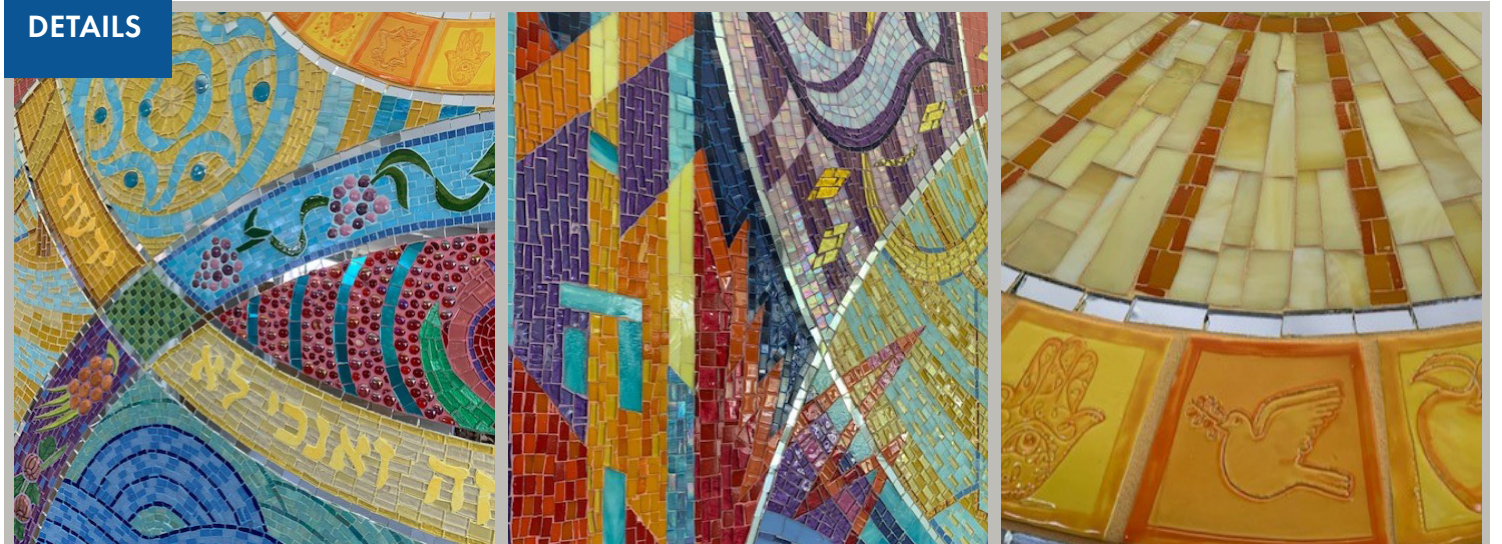
[1] Exodus 31:1-5 [2] Genesis 28:16



IN-PROCESS



DETAILS



Our Connected and Caring Community

While the last few months have brought new and unforeseen challenges, our Temple Shalom congregation has remained strong and vibrant. We've responded to adversity by taking care of one another and making sure we stay connected in every way possible. Thanks to each and every one of you for being part of our caring community.

As we say goodbye to spring and look forward to summer and fall, we are honored to share the voices of a few members of our congregation. In their own words, they beautifully capture the strength, kindness, and resolve of our community over these past few months.

“

If I had to choose a few words to describe our Temple Shalom community before the current pandemic it would be: Caring & Connected. And that's exactly how the Temple Shalom community has shown up for us during this pandemic. While the temple continues its many educational programs, services, and regular programming virtually, it is the more informal gatherings that have made me feel connected. It's the "check-ins" where we can get together as a community and just talk, share stories, and let each other know how we are doing that makes me feel more secure and cared for... Thank you for connecting and caring about us during the COVID-19 pandemic and reminding us about the good, kind, generous, and supportive people in this world.

-Marguerite Beaser

”

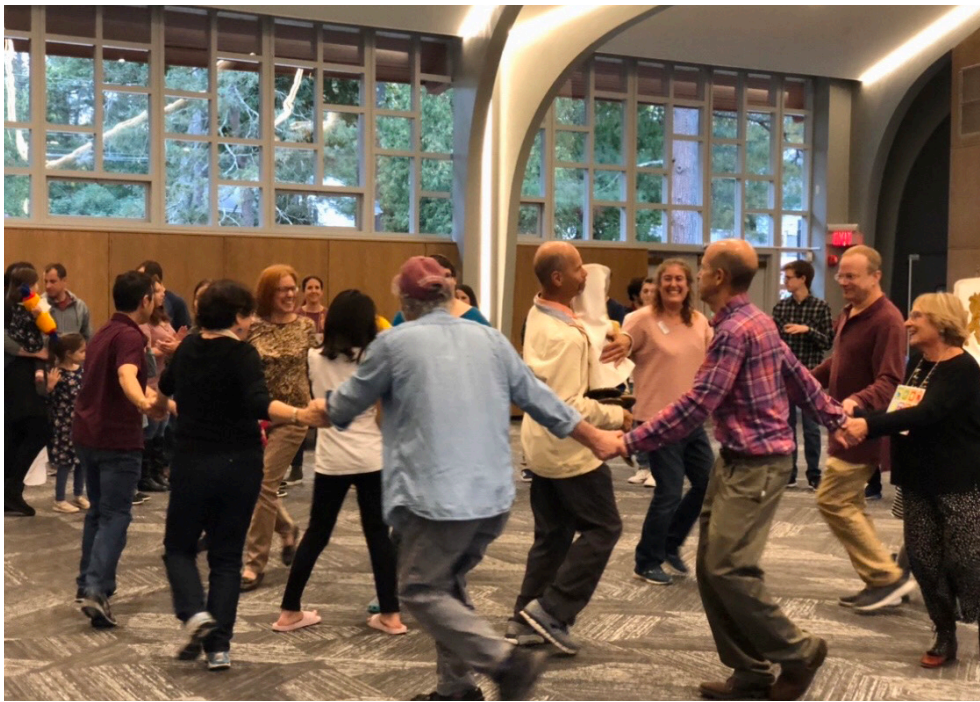


“

Even though we have been isolated from the physical space of Temple Shalom, we have never felt so connected to our community. The Temple Shalom staff, clergy, and volunteers have made sure that our mental health is secure with phone call check-ins, that our spirituality is guided with the wonderful zoom and facebook services, and that fun is still to be had with the bake-off and bingo and trivia nights. We are also so pleased with how the Nursery School has responded with its scope of activities. Our hearts are full at home with Temple Shalom!

- Blair and Jonathan Sullivan

”



“During the pandemic, my husband and I have found great comfort and a sense of community by using Zoom to connect to Temple Shalom’s remote Shabbat services. We are grateful to the clergy for all they have done to make Friday night services accessible to all and to provide inspiring and thoughtful leadership during this challenging time.

-Meryl Kessler”

“Friday night virtual services at Temple Shalom have been our grounding point of the week. During this time, we look forward to the ritual and the familiar tunes of the Shabbat services. We are so grateful to have Rabbi Abrasley, Rabbi Berry, and Cantor Shafritz to help us through this time.

-Alyssa and Garrett Brown”

“During this pandemic, I’ve stayed connected with my Temple Shalom friends from minyan, from Sisterhood, and from informal connections mostly through Zoom. I feel such a sense of solace when I see my friends’ faces and we laugh, and schmooze and, sometimes, grieve together. It’s the small interactions, when we check in with one another, commiserate, share advice, and swap intel, that have the biggest impact. They remind me that each of us matters in our community and that we have the tenacity and wisdom to get through this.

- Lynda Schwartz”



Getting to Know You

with Loretta Zack

Each month, I have had the honor of introducing you to one of our Temple Shalom members. This June, I get to highlight a wonderful team of members, brought together as volunteers to ensure that our entire membership has been contacted, supported, and comforted during this topsy-turvy and difficult time.

Under the guidance of Rabbi Abrasley, Rabbi Berry, and Rhoda Ben-Gai, I worked with the following people to get this massive task underway. I can't possibly write about each one, there are too many, but I want to mention each of their names because, without them, none of this could have happened. They are:

Janet Altman	Nina Dickerman	Becca and William	Michael Tack
Carol Berlin	Shelah Feiss	Havermeyer	Rachel Rynick and
Deborah Berlin	Barbara Fierman	Melanie Henriques	Kevin Bonham
Scott Birnbaum	Peggie Fineman	Josh Jacobs	Agi Sardi
Barbara Bix	Susan Fritz	Robin Krieger	Sharon and Howard Sholkin
Renee Brant	Susan Goodman	Fred Kraus	Amy Waksler
Margaret Brill	Mark Gottesman	Irene Laursen	Sarah Ruderman Wilensky
Alyssa Brown	Marina Gross	Judy Levin-Charns	Robyn Winik
Wendy Case	Barbara Gubb	Susan Opdyke	Abigael Yelensky
Elizabeth Connolly	Susie Gudema	Marion Pollock	Julie Youdovin
Jessica Davis		Arlene Pressman	

Together, this team made hundreds of calls and that was just first-time calls, as several members were called more than once. They made calls, picked up food and medication, and talked with our members and got to know them. Volunteers reported back with a tremendous amount of information that helped us understand more about what each and every person was going through.

Then the Education Department decided that a group of young people could also make calls, especially to those people who were alone. These Temple Shalom teens are known as the Elderbuddies and they are:



Rachel Bindman	Manny Hutter
Ryan Carey	Serena Jampel
Naomi Goldstein	Alice Molinsky
Joanna Grill	Carrie Ryter
Dayna Hoffman	Nathaniel Scharf

And then there's you, yes all of you, who are the frontliners in our congregation working tirelessly, risking your own lives to save others. And yes, you the parents who are doing other wonderful work in keeping your children educated and busy. And yes, you who donated so much to so many causes and filling our food pantries so that no one goes hungry. And yes, you, our entire congregation who have made our temple into what it is today, our Temple Shalom family, and we are so grateful.

Hopefully, we are close to the other side of this difficult time and I am proud to say I was part of this team and honored to have worked with them and pray we never have to do this again.

Always be safe.

Kochavim Moving On

Dear Kochavim,

Most of you started Temple Shalom Nursery School when you were young toddlers. You are five years old now, and this means we've known you for nearly half of your life. That is a long time! Here, at Temple Shalom, you have many friends, know every teacher, and it feels like home!

You grew up here and are ready for new adventures. You will meet new teachers, learn new skills, and make new friends. And as your home, we will still be here for you. From nursery school, you are taking the most important gifts for your journey: curiosity, excitement, confidence, strength of friendships, and warmth of this community. Wherever you go, you will always be a Temple Shalom Nursery School alumni. This bond will remain strong!

Love,
Lucy Banerji

“You grew up here
and are ready for
new adventures.”



Celebration of Youth

Dear Temple Shalom children, youth, and families,

Even though it has been several months since we were last together, I am incredibly grateful to interact with so many of you virtually through SHACHARIT, MINCHA, and teen online activities. Catching up, playing games, cooking together, and simply seeing your faces has brought me so much joy during this difficult time. And, while the 2019-2020 programming year did not exactly turn out as we had all imagined, there is still so much to celebrate and be thankful for in our Temple Shalom community.

Our annual Celebration of Youth honors the hard work and many accomplishments of our K-12 youth and families with the greater Temple Shalom community. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank our students for their contributions to Temple Shalom this year and celebrate their amazing milestones as they continue along their Jewish learning journey. And, as always, our Celebration of Youth is a chance to honor our high school seniors and, with mixed emotions of pride, love, and a little sadness, send them off on their next adventures. Mazal Tov, Class of 2020! We will miss you!

As the spring wraps up, I am excited to share a snapshot of this past year with you right here on these pages. Everyone please stay in touch and continue to brighten our world with your humor, curiosity, and kindness.

L'Shalom,
Marriah Vengroff



**“We are as great as the challenges we have
the courage to undertake.”** - Rabbi Jonathan Sacks



Graduating Seniors: Rachel Bindman, Lucy Bronstein, Zoe Goldstein, Max Goodwin, Mitchell Healey, Alex Kolodney, Alex Kuperwasser, Jessica Lipchin, Serena Jampel, Rachel O'Brien, Joshua Shapiro, Michael Shriver, Jacob Teszler



Donations

RABBI'S SERVICE FUND

In Appreciation/Honor of

Barry Glovsky's birthday and Ellen & Barry Glovsky's anniversary
By Erica Schwartz and Harry Meade

The Bar Mitzvah of Ben Towvim
By Laura and Adam Towvim

On behalf of the moving funeral service held for our beloved Lois Pill
By The Pill Family

Rabbi Allison Berry for the beautiful funeral service for Phyllis Nussman in a challenging time
By Judi and Joel Pava

Rabbi Allison Berry for her support and kindness
By Jane and David Ryter

Rabbi Laura Abrasley in memory of Evelyn and Bernard Seckler
By Stephen Seckler and Jenny Gamson

Rabbi Allison Berry for her kindness and care at the funeral of Charlotte Cohen
By Ronald & Susan Cohen and family

Rabbi Allison Berry for her kindness, thoughtfulness and presence at this time and always
By The family of Robert H. Liss

In Memory of

Charlotte Cohen
By Betty and Larry Lapide

Robert T. Goldsmith
By David and Peggy Fineman

Selma Miller
By Helaine Miller

Edward Stavis
Isadore Stavis
By Ruth and Fred Stavis

CANTOR'S SERVICE FUND

In Honor of

The Bar Mitzvah of Ben Towvim
By Laura and Adam Towvim

In Memory of
Sara Rosen
By Janet and Mark Gottesman

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In Memory of

Rose E. Matzkin
By Michael and Sara Matzkin

ANITA WINER

"OPEN YOUR EYES" FUND

In Memory of

Arnold Tofias
By Phyllis Scherr and Henry Lerner

BONIM FUND

In Memory of

Lenny Asher
By Janet and Mark Gottesman

CARING COMMUNITY FUND

In Memory of

Ruth Golub
By David and Marion Pollock

Newton I. Greenberg
By Marjorie A. Greenberg

Monroe L. Inker
By Joan and Sanford Katz

Jerome Kahn
Rose Kahn
By Phyllis and Jerry Briskin

Allan Skirboll
By Mark Blecher and Robin Skirboll

CONCERT FUND (SPECIAL EVENTS)

In Honor of

Fred Cohen's Bar Mitzvah and Birthday
By Stephanie Cohen

EDUCATOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of

Elaine Grossman
By Michael, Abby, Tyler & Jack Grossman

Bertha Richmond Morgenthal
By Donna and Bill Carleton

ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of

Ellie Nelson
By Shelah Feiss and Mark Likoff

GARDEN CLUB/ TEMPLE BEAUTIFICATION FUND

In Memory of

Shirley Broner
By Emily Rubenstein

Murray Siroka
By Phyllis Scherr and Henry Lerner

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of

Lenore Asher
Murray Siroka
By Fred & Stephanie Cohen

Eleanor Jasnow
Bernie Seckler
Evelyn Seckler
By Lynda and Jay Schwartz

Robert Liss
By Phyllis and Jerry Briskin

Edith Robins
By Lissa Kapust

Lottie Schneider
By Phyllis and Jerry Briskin

Gloria M. Tofias
By Harvey and Doris Robinson

Helen Yelen
By Charles Yelen and Barbara Newman

ZELDA AND SIDNEY B. GLAZIER ENRICHMENT FUND

In Memory of

Sidney Glazier
Zelda Glazier
Esther Jackson
Sidney Jackson
By Nancy and Russell Lightman

Zelda L. Glazier
By Terry and Linda Bard

INCLUSION FUND

In Honor of

Ed Case's special birthday
By David and Marion Pollock

MUSIC FUND (WORSHIP)

In Memory of

Lewis Gash
By Andrea and Mark Brodin

Robert Liss
By Barbara Holzman

Ruth Silen
By Carol and Chuck Berlin

NURSERY SCHOOL ENHANCEMENT FUND

In Memory of

Sue Mack
By Carole Stone

PEAH GARDEN FUND

In Memory of

Irving Binder
By Ellen and Stephen Parker



Donations

SISTERHOOD FUND

In Memory of

Rebecca Wolinsky
By Ernest and Robin Krieger

Maurice Gertel
By Judy Solomon

Cecile Silver
By Katherine Silver Rabinov

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In Honor of

Marion Pollock's Birthday
By Carol and Chuck Berlin

In Memory of

Joseph Friedman
By Carol and Chuck Berlin

Ruth Golub
By Audrey Cooper

YAHREZEIT AND REMEMBRANCE FUND

In Memory of

Max Berenson
Charlot Berson
Maurice Stein
By Peter and Marsha Berenson

Arnold "Chester" Bonder
Edythe Fertig
By Gary & Cheryl Fertig

Morris Cooper
By Audrey Cooper

Lucille Diebold
Jeffrey Alexander Wise
By George Langer

Leatrice Jacoby
By Rosalind Switalski

Robert Leventhal
By Eleanor Leventhal

Rose Levy
By Sara and Robert Danziger

William Mishel
By Audrey Cooper

James S. Paul
By Barbara Holzman

Golda Zaydenberg
By Mila & Mikhail Margul

YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FUND

In Honor of

Ben Tovim's Bar Mitzvah
By Elise and Richard Rothbard

In Memory of

Martin Shapiro
By Aimee and Eric Sprung

Generations to Generation

BIRTHS

Zachary Mason Beaser
Son of Anna Volerman and Andrew Beaser
Grandson of Marguerite and Richard Beaser

Zev Emmett Gailey
Son of Chelsea Bodemer and Christopher Galley
Grandson of Kim and Brian Bodemer
(this lucky boy has 4 grandparents and
5 great grandparents to love him)

Hannah Muryn Wessler
Daughter of Sarah Frank and John Wessler
Granddaughter of Susan Goodman and James Wessler

WEDDINGS

Daphna Guttin and Daniel Beaser
Son of Marguerite and Richard Beaser

DEATHS

Our beloved members....

Saul J. Brightman
(our long time member)

Robert Liss
(our long time member)
Husband of Lois Liss

Lois Pill
Wife of Alfred Pill

Ruth Silen
Wife of William Silen
Mother of Deborah Silen

We also remember....

Lenore Asher
Mother of Steven Asher

Gloria Lynn Davis
Mother of Andrew Davis

Charlotte E. Cohen
Mother of Ronald Cohen

Joseph Friedman
Father of Richard Friedman

Ruth Golub
Grandmother of Jonathan Black

David Lasky
Brother of Ruth Stavis

Martin (Marty) Newman
Father of Barbara Newman

Phyllis Nussman
Mother of Judi Pava

Elinor Bernon Rosenthal
Sister of Carol Bikofsky and
Jeanne Stolbach
Aunt of Lynn Bikofsky

Bernard and Evelyn Seckler
Parents of Stephen Seckler

Adrian Sokoloff
Father of Claire Sokoloff and
Gail Sokoloff

Rose Tabb
Aunt of Sharon Sholkin

Taylor Woodward
Step-father of Melora Balson

CONTACT LIST

Dial (617) 332-9550 and extension.



**Rabbi
Laura J. Abrasley**
ext. 24



Lucy Banerji
Nursery School Director
ext. 55



**Rabbi
Allison L. Berry**
ext. 15



Kim Bodemer
Senior Director for Jewish
Education and Youth
Engagement ext. 21



Erin Borrás
Education Program
Coordinator
ext. 20



Eleanor Boschert
Hospitality Manager
ext. 25



Caroline Dorn
Congregational Membership &
Engagement Manager
ext. 16



Lucy Dube
Controller
ext. 14



Anne Fried
Executive Assistant to
Cantor Shafritz and Ellie
Goldman ext. 28



Ellie Goldman
Executive Director
ext. 11



Fred Kraus
President
president@templeshalom.org



Alison Lobron
Inclusion and Program
Development Coordinator
ext. 26



Becca MacKillop
Assistant Director of Youth
Engagement
ext. 18



**Cantor
Leah Shafritz**
ext. 17



Liz Shiro
SHACHARIT Director of
Education
ext. 23



Emily Sienkiewicz
Interim Marketing &
Communications Director
ext. 27



Marriah Vengroff
Director of Youth
Engagement
ext. 22



Al White
Facilities Manager



Becca Yudkoff
Program Director for
FwYC
ext. 29



Loretta Zack
Executive Assistant to the
Clergy
ext. 13

Temple Shalom

175 Temple Street
Newton, MA 02465

(617) 332-9550

info@templeshalom.org

www.templeshalom.org

Laura J. Abrasley, *Senior Rabbi*

Allison L. Berry, *Senior Rabbi*

Leah Shafritz, *Cantor*

Ellie Klein Goldman, *Executive Director*

Kim Bodemer, *Senior Director for Jewish
Education and Youth Engagement*

Lucy Banerji, *Nursery School Director*

Fred Kraus, *Temple President*

Emily Sienkiewicz, *Interim Director of
Communications and Marketing*

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 56317

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Next Issue:

SEPTEMBER 2020

ELUL 5780 – TISHREI 5781