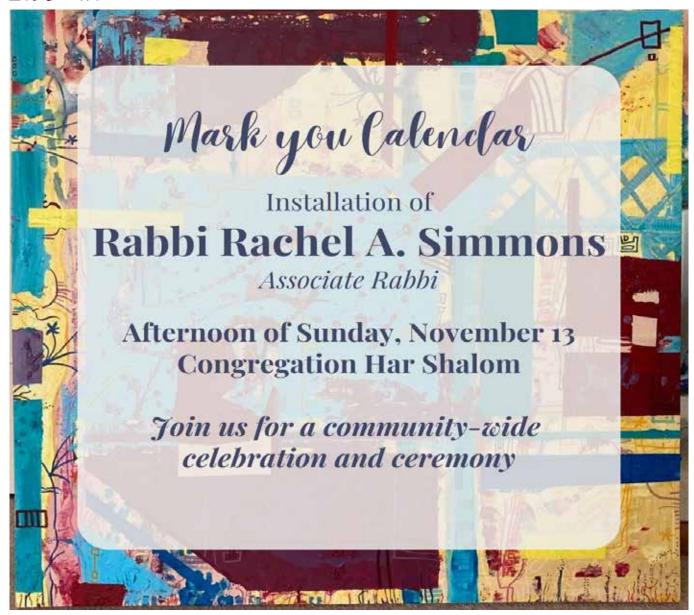


# THETABLET

Congregation Har Shalom November/December 2022 Volume 55 - Issue 8 <u>Heshvan/Kislev Tevet</u> 5783

www.HarShalom.org/TheTablet



Har Shalom Players are Back with CINDERELLA, the Broadway Version!

> Performance dates are Saturday night, January 28 and Sunday afternoon, January 29, 2023



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# Highlighted In This Issue ... Nov/Dec 2022

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Social Action and Tikkun Olam Opportunities **Page 17**  Catch Up with the Sisterhood Pages 20-21

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/CALENDAR

## FROM RABBI RASKIN

Dearest Friends,

On Rosh Hashanah, I spoke about the Hebrew word achrayut, which means responsibility. Coming from the same root as acher, meaning 'the other,' achrayut is the unique responsibility we have toward other people. In the context of a synagogue family, one of our sacred commitments to one another is supporting people who are in mourning and need a minyan to recite Kaddish. While there might be a tendency only to think about this when we find ourselves in need of a minyan, the truth is that nearly every day of the year someone in our community has a yahrzeit. I am hoping, in this new year, that we can provide a reliable, robust minyan for anyone who seeks it. Along with the mitzvah of daily prayer, our minyan fosters a beautiful community that lovingly supports people throughout the mourning process. I am asking you to review your schedule during the week, and find a time, whether morning or evening, when you can attend minyan. It will make a world of difference to those who attend, and you will hopefully feel inspired as well. If you have more



flexibility in your day, if you are retired, or work from home, perhaps you can carve out some time to join us at the shul. On Mondays and Thursdays we serve a lovely light breakfast and coffee. It's a great way to meet other members of the shul in a more intimate gathering, and a wonderful way to start your day as well. Please read the following testimonial by David Marcus, who reflected on his experience of attending minyan regularly following the passing of his beloved mother.

Wishing you every blessing in 5783,

Alews Roshin

Rabbi Raskin

#### Saying Kaddish...

Growing up I was mostly oblivious to the Jewish ritual of reciting the Mourner's Kaddish. As a young man, I thought the need to say Kaddish was still remotely in my future, and so I paid little attention to it. Truth be told, I left it to others to help make a Minyan. I absentmindedly thought that others would step in.

Well, the future has a way of intruding on one's plans. My father died when I was just 29. Fortunately, I was able to find a Minyan (morning and evening at a local synagogue) for 11 months. I was young and resilient. I said the Kaddish prayer mostly out of a sense of duty (my father believed, like many of his generation, that my saying Kaddish was needed for his soul to get into Heaven).

Things changed for me 11 years ago when over a span of nearly two years both of Bilha's parents passed away. It was a very traumatic time for my wife (and our family as a whole). The loss and ensuing grief were very palpable. Not having a brother, Bilha felt the need to say Kaddish in synagogue for her parents.

By then we were long-time members of Har Shalom so naturally we attended the minyanim.

It became obvious to me how valuable and how therapeutic saying Kaddish was. While it was a slow process, my wife was able to deal with the profound sense of loss and deep grief with the help of saying Kaddish.

In the minyanim she met others who had also suffered equally difficult personal losses. The sense of community, the sense of shared losses, and the support she received all helped her cope with the deep sense of loss and the accompanying depression. In the process, I was so thankful for the gift of support that Bilha received at Har Shalom that I became a regular leader of the evening minyanim.

I had finally realized that minyanim were more than a Jewish duty – they formed a crucial component of dealing with loss and grief for those in need.

But I realized something else: by helping make a minyan today I knew that if/when I needed a Minyan at some later day, others would be there to support me. This is part of the core of a 'Jewish community' – supporting others in their time of need with the

added benefit of knowing that should I ever need support it would be there.

Sure enough, my own mom passed away last September. I wanted to recite the Kaddish for my mother morning and evening knowing full well the emotional value. Friends, family, and the Har Shalom community stepped up and helped make a daily minyan.

It drove home the point that helping others in their time of need is the right thing to do. Not so much as a future tit-for-tat, but as the Jewish thing to do.

I am keenly aware of how critical that support and care was in helping me get through my personal loss – my mom and I were very close. I am very grateful and thankful to the Har Shalom community for being there when I needed them.

Yet, sadly, occasionally, we fall short of having a minyan for those saying Kaddish – whether it is due to vacations, weather, other priorities, lack of awareness, or, honestly, simply indifference. It is painful to see the look on the mourners' faces when there is a no minyan.

It is equally sad for me, when leading a service, to read the Yahrtzeit names at the minyan and not see members of their family present (even if only out of a sense of Jewish duty).

Reciting the Mourner's Kaddish (annually, and at Yizkor) is one of the main ways to remember your loved ones. When a person dies their real legacy is the good memories they leave behind. But memories fade over time (whether we like it or not). Saying Kaddish helps rekindle their life and legacy as does telling your loved ones' stories to your kids and grandkids.

In short, I hope I can inspire you to support your Har Shalom friends and members by occasionally attending a minyan – even if you attend just once a month, once a quarter or even once a year. Please 'rekindle' your own loved ones' life during their Yahrtzeit time. You will be surprised how good it feels.

Please help make a minyan not so much because others will be there for you should you ever (G-d forbid) need it but because it is the Jewish thing to do.

Shana Tova, David Marcus

## FROM RABBI SIMMONS

Dear Har Shalom Community,

Whenever I feel the first breeze of autumn, I can't help but smile. Cozy sweaters, hot drinks, frost on the windows, crunchy leaves, pumpkin spice-flavored everything: fall feels like home to me. Of course, each change of the seasons brings its own unique beauty and newness, but there's something about the end of summer and the promise of winter that is particularly delicious for me and my soul.

Ecologically and meteorologically, fall brings with it the end of a lot of things: the end of a growing cycle, the death (whether seasonal or permanent) of many plants, the shortening of days, the lowering of temperatures, the retreat of flora and fauna alike into cold-weather hibernation. But I've always felt that in spite of these shifts, fall persists—almost stubbornly—in heralding a time of new beginnings, of excitement, of potential, of hope.

Secularly, this is the time when kids go back to school; when goals are set for the coming year; a time for new friendships, new mentorships, and new responsibilities. As our bodies begin to hunker down and bundle up against the chill, our minds spring into action.

Jewishly, the cycle is similar: our religious school and ECC years are now well underway, Confirmation is kicking off, and the sounds of children's voices laughing and exclaiming and questioning are ringing through the Har Shalom halls. On the heels of our High Holy Days, our hearts and minds are primed for self-reflection and new resolutions. This is the time of year when we get to start over and tell our stories again: both the stories of our people and our individual stories.

And it is with great pleasure that I share with you how lucky I feel that my story has led me into the Har Shalom family this year. To begin this next chapter with all of you, to dive into a year of learning, growing, and exploring together, is an incredible honor. I have only been your Associate Rabbi for three months, but already I feel buoyed up by the love, the warmth, and the welcome that I have received since moving here this summer. Across the board, this congregation has made me feel that I am where I belong. I feel so blessed.

This is all to say that this year, the coziness that I am feeling at the onset of autumn is augmented by the coziness I am feeling from the Har Shalom community. I have no doubt that as the nights get longer and colder, our light will shine brighter and warmer.



Rachel Simmons
Rabbi
301-299-7087 ext. 1
rabbisimmons@harshalom.org

We will be celebrating my installation on Sunday, November 13 at Har Shalom, and I'd love to see you there. As we've planned for this special occasion, I've been asked lots of questions— who would I like to have speak? What kind of food would I like at the reception? What songs would I like to have sung? But if I'm honest, the one thing I want more than anything is to have as many of you, my Har Shalom family, there with me as possible. For me, this installation is a celebration of the brit, the sacred relationship, that we are establishing together— and that relationship goes both ways. Your presence, whether in person or virtually, would mean the world to me.

I am beyond excited to see what this autumn has in store for all of us in this kehila kedosha, this holy community. There is nowhere else I would rather be.

Always,

Rabbi Rachel Simmons



## FROM THE HAZZAN



I invite you to attend our next Concert, on 12/4 at 4 PM. I will be joined by my colleagues Hazzan Elisheva Dienstfrey, from Agudas Achim Congregation, Cantor Hinda Eisen Labovitz, from Ohr Kodesh Congregation, and our coach and accompanist George Peachey. In this recital, "Funny Songs, Serious Singing", we'll sing hilarious songs, in Hebrew, Yiddish, and English. We look forward to smiling and laughing with you.

Self-deprecating humor seems to be the core of Jewish humor. It is a way of diluting some of the criticism and prejudice we get from the outside, which, through amplification and ridicule, becomes an avenue for discharging our anxieties. Word play has its origins in Rabbinic literature, in the Talmud and Midrash. Our Sages of blessed memory used letter substitution and puns to explain difficult passages in the Torah. Our humor evolved from Chelm to Mrs. Maizel, from irony to Theological satire.

In the Torah (Genesis 18:25), upon hearing that God was planning to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham responds to God with sarcasm: "Is it possible that the Judge of All Earth will not act justly?" Elijah teases the prophets of Ba'al (I Kings 18:28) saying: "Shout louder! After all, they are god. But they may be in conversation, they may be detained, or they may be on a journey, or perhaps they are asleep and will wake up."

My favorite piece of humor in Rabbinic literature comes from the Pesach Haggadah. Right after the 10 plagues and before Dayeinu, the Sages engage in a playful game of "Who Can Top This" to stick it to the Egyptians: "Rabbi Yosi says that in Egypt there were 10 plagues, but at the Sea there were 50! (...) Rabbi Eliezer says that in Egypt there were 40 plagues, so at the Sea there were 200! (...) No, says Rabbi Akivah: in Egypt there were 50 plagues, so at the Sea there were an additional 250!" Dayenu, itself, is a brilliant piece of self-deprecating humor: would we really think it was enough for God to save us from Egypt just to let the Egyptians catch us in the desert?!

A song called the Rabbi Levi Yitzchak of Berdichev's Kaddish comes close to asking God: "I know you made

us the chosen people; but could you choose another people every once in a while?" Purim is the ultimate debauchery, between the fun of the observances and the idea of confusing between "Evil Haman" and "Righteous Mordechai". There's a custom of chanting a kiddush for the Seudat Purim (the afternoon celebratory meal), weaving biblical and rabbinic verses based on word play. And, on Simchat Torah, it used to be the custom of chanting a "Yaris Kaddish", using the different melodies from the whole year in one single kaddish.

In this age-old tradition, we hope to entertain you this December 4th, at 4 PM. It will be a wonderful afternoon of song and laughter.

Hazzan Ozur Bass



## FROM THE PRESIDENT



When I became President back in May 2021, I knew this position would be time consuming, spending a good amount of time attending meetings, reading emails, working with leadership and attending services, plus much more. But the hardest part of being President for me is writing my Bi-Monthly tablet article. Our last two Presidents, Steve Susswein and Jeff Rubin were lawyers who loved to write. Being an accountant, all I learned was debits and credits. So here I go for my tenth tablet article.

October was a great month for Har Shalom. Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah, four holidays in a four-week period. I congratulate and thank Rabbi Raskin, Rabbi Simmons, Rabbi Elson, Hazzan Ozur Bass, Carly Litwok and her staff for a very spiritual and successful High Holy Day experience.

Seeing so many congregants returning to Har Shalom in over two years was very promising. For the first day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we had over 1,100 congregants in the building, attending services in the Burke and Cahan Sanctuary, and more congregants participating in our Family and Children services in the Paul Family Social Hall. I heard great things about our Family and Children Services and thank Beth Hoch and Ruth Szykman for conducting these services.

The fun continues on Sunday, November 13 at 4pm, as we install our newest Clergy Member Rabbi Simmons. It has only been a few months since Rabbi Simmons arrival, and the energy she has brought to Har Shalom has been contagious (the good kind). Rabbi Simmons has been very busy singing with the children in the Sherman Early Childhood Center, performing her First Wedding over the summer, leading the Rock'in Friday night Shabbats, and very busy meeting all her new congregants. Let's give her a great Har Shalom welcome on Sunday, November 13.

During my High Holiday Appeal, I spoke about the First Annual Har Shalom Gala on Sunday, March 19, 2023. Once again I would like announce the three honorees for the Gala:

**Keter Shem Tov** — **Crown of a Good Name Award** Sorrell Schwartz

**Amudim** — **Pillars of the Community Award** Ira and MJ Sherman

**Ahavat Chesed** — **Loving-Kindness Award** Estrella Levy

Congratulations to our honorees and please save the date for this event.

I also spoke about connecting to Har Shalom for 5783. There many opportunities to connect with your community:

- Attending morning or evening Minyan
- Joining a Har Shalom Committee
- Helping out in the Kitchen for Shabbat
- Men's Club and Sisterhood Events
- Becoming part of Har Shalom Leadership

Michael & Baron

- Attending various Programs at Har Shalom
- And, of course, donating Money to your synagogue

As I said at Yom Kippur – HAR SHALOM IS BACK AND LET'S RE-CONNECT IN 5783.

## SAVE THE DATE

# MARCH 19, 2023

## Har Shalom Annual Honoree Gala

Honoring 3 Outstanding Congregants *Invitation to follow* 



## **ARE YOU RETIRED?**

Do a mitzvah and help Har Shalom make a *minyan*!

In person services are held Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00AM and 7:45PM in the Stein Family Chapel.

To activate your Har Shalom fob for building access outside normal business hours, please email Joanna: jrubin@ harshalom.org.

## DAYTIMERS JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

November and December will feature two films with a Latin flavor even if they take place in very different places, both geographically and temperamentally. Each features a rabbi in financial trouble who seeks a way to solve his money problems. But each goes about it in a surprising but distinctive way. Each will supply us with plenty of laughs and a good bit of humanity.

Both films will take place in the social hall. You may bring a dairy or pareve lunch at 12:00Noon. We'll provide dessert and a drink. The program will start at 12:30PM.

#### November 16, 2022 TANGO SHALOM USA – 115 minutes

In Crown Heights, Brooklyn, Hasidic rabbi Moshe Yehuda is the father of five whose Hebrew School is on the verge of bankruptcy. His brother is entangled in a scam and needs money for his upcoming wedding. In his spare time, Moshe tramps all over Brooklyn in search of paid employment. With no end in sight to his mounting tsuris, he and his family face financial and emotional ruin. What can he do?

#### December 21, 2022 SHALOM TAIWAN Argentina – 115 minutes

In Buenos Aires, Orthodox rabbi Aaron, father of three, is in the middle of a massive synagogue renovation which has been going on for years. He was loaned the \$150,000 for this by a man named Suarez who has ideas of his own for the property. With the synagogue as collateral, Suarez demands his money within days. Another rabbi in financial difficulties. What will this one do?

## FROM THE HESED COMMITTEE

Join the Hesed Committee and participate in Acts of Loving Kindness! Helping others and strengthening our bonds to our Har Shalom community just feels good!

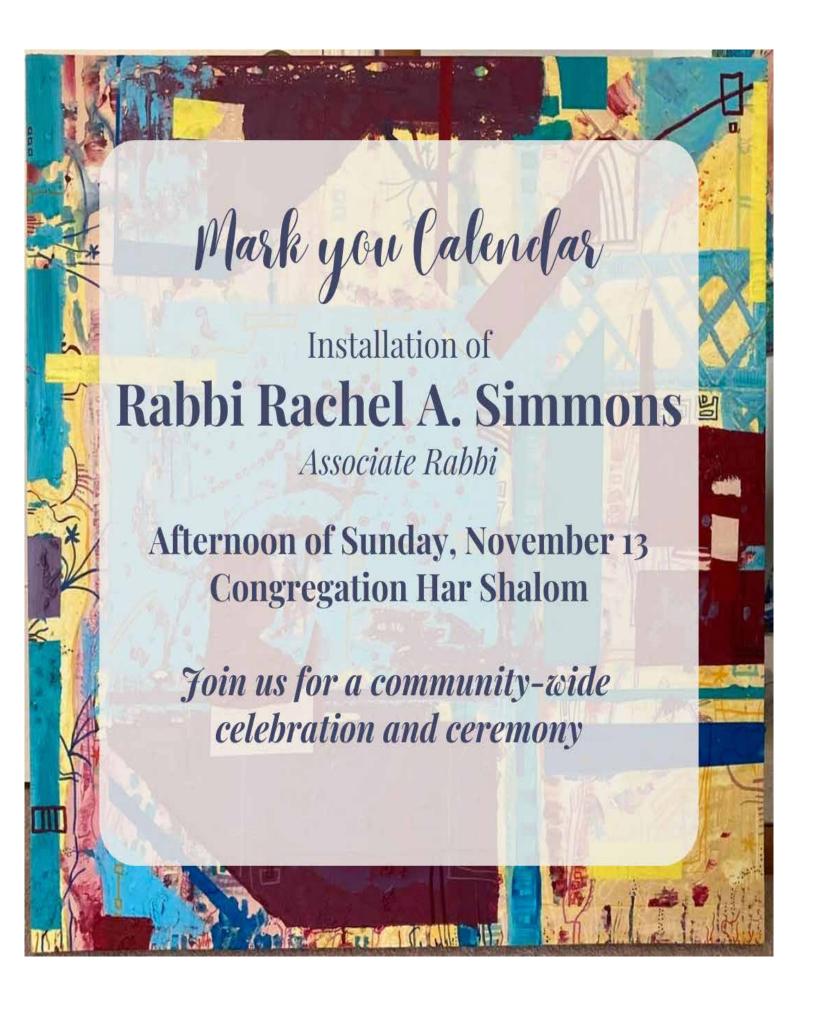
Our Hesed committee needs and welcomes your help as we strive to be a COMMUNITY OF CARING. If you have time to make a few phone calls, make or order a meal, or help with delivery or a small errand, please contact us at Hesed@HarShalom.org or call Leslie in the clergy office at 301-299-7087 ext. 1.

Have you heard of a Har Shalom member who you think could benefit from a phone call, a meal, or other comfort? Please let us know. In the new year, we can all strive to do our small part in making Har Shalom a COMMUNITY OF CARING.

Shanah Tovah U'Metukah!

Aileen Goldstein and Fran Elson Co-chairs, Hesed Committee



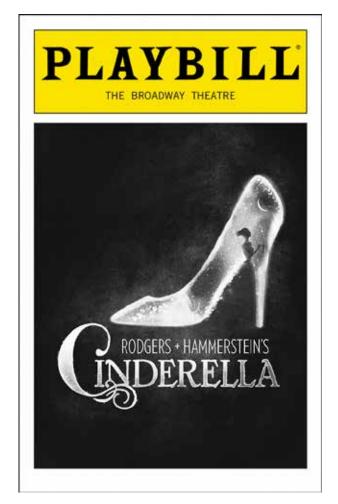


## FROM THE HAR SHALOM PLAYERS

## Tickets Now Available for HSP's Cinderella, the Broadway Version

Rehearsals are now in progress for Har Shalom Player's production of Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella, the Broadway Version being performed on January 28 and 29, 2023. Tickets can be purchased online at harshalom.org/hsplayers and would make an excellent Chanukah gift for adults and children alike.

In addition to buying tickets, you can support the play by being a patron and purchasing commercial advertising for the program. This advertising will reach approximately 1000 to 1200 people and provides revenues that always make our productions an economic as well as artistic success. If you are interested in purchasing commercial advertising, please contact our Jackie Blanken (jackieblanken@gmail.com), or Jeff Ashin (law711@aol.com). Personal ads also are purchased by our actors and their friends and families. Additionally, please consider being a Patron (\$100) or Chai Patron (\$180). Patron tickets include reserved parking, assigned preferred seating, and listing in program. Chai Patron tickets include patron ticket benefits plus guaranteed front row seating, complimentary refreshments during intermission, and special mention in the program. If you are interested in being a patron or buying a personal ad, please contact Ken Lechter (kennethlechter@gmail. com), who, with Stew Remer, is one of HSP's producers.



Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella is a musical with the story derived from the fairy tale Cinderella. The story concerns a young woman forced into a life of servitude by her cruel stepmother. She dreams of a better life, and with the help of her Fairy Godmother, Cinderella is transformed into an elegant young lady and is able to attend the ball to meet her Prince. In this version, however, she opens the Prince's eyes to the injustice in his kingdom. Rodgers and Hammerstein originally wrote the songs for a 1957 television broadcast starring Julie Andrews, and it was remade twice for television and adapted for the stage in various versions prior to the Broadway production. The 2013 adaptation was the first version of Cinderella with the Rodgers and Hammerstein score mounted on Broadway. The new book by Beane introduces several new characters and a sympathetic stepsister, and the score features several additional Rodgers and Hammerstein songs. The production ran for 770 performances. It was nominated for nine Tony Awards, winning one, for Best Costume Design.

HSP is very excited, after the forced COVID hiatus, to be back and bringing this marvelous example of "community" into the fabric to our wonderful congregation both for cast members and audiences alike.

Visit www.HarShalom.org/HSPlayers for more information.

## Har Shalom Players Annual Production At Congregation Har Shalom

Har Shalom Players production of Rodger + Hammerstein's Cinderella (Broadway Version)
This production is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of
The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization. www.concordtheatricals.com

To order tickets ...

Visit us online at www.harshalom.org/HSplayers.

Mail or return this ticket order form to: Congregation Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road, Potomac, MD 20854 | Fax: 301-299-2247

All tickets will be held at Har Shalom. Will call desk opens one hour prior to show.

Address	City, Stat	te, Zip
	E-mail	
Chai Patron/Patron of th	e Arts Tickets:	
Chai Patron tickets @		pm or Jan. 20 at 4pm \$
Patron tickets @ \$100	(adult) (circle) Jan. 28 at 8	pm or Jan. 29 at 4pm \$ pm or Jan. 29 at 4pm \$
Patron tickets @ \$36 (	under age 13) (circle) Jan. 28 at 8	pm or Jan. 29 at 4pm \$
Patron tickets include re	served parking, assigned preferred	seating, and listing in program.
	de patron ticket benefits plus guara rmission, and special mention in th	nteed front row seating, complimentar e program.
Please list name(s) for	r program as follows:	
General Admission Ticke	ts	
tickets @ \$22 (adı	ılt) for January 28 at 8pm	\$
tickets @ \$18 (und	ler age 13) for January 28 at 8pm	\$
tickets @ \$22 (adı	ılt) for January 29 at 4pm	\$
tickets @ \$18 (und	ler age 13) for January 29 at 4pm	\$ \$ 
Please indicate which show y tickets @ \$16 (adu		
tickets @ \$11 (und	er age 13)	TOTAL DUE: \$
Payment Method:  A check in the amour	at of \$ payable to <i>Congr</i>	regation Har Shalom is enclosed.
Charge the following ard transactions. Minimum	credit card (please note a 2.5% conv fee is \$1.00 per transaction)	venience fee will be charged for credit
Name as written on the cre	edit card (please print)	
Type of card ( <b>circle</b> ): Visa	MasterCard	
Card number	Ex	p. Date (month/year)

Should you have any questions about obtaining tickets, please email: play@harshalom.org

## FROM THE SHERMAN ECC

The foundations of empathy and friendship begin at birth with a child's first relationship with their primary parent or care giver. Developing friendships is an important part of early childhood. We spend a lot of time talking about and modeling what friends do for each other, the kinds of things friends can do together, how friends treat each other, and how we care for one another.

We see our youngest children in the school, at 16 months old, taking care of one another when it is nap time and one toddler covers another one with their blanket and rubs their back. Two year olds want to go and get a band-aid or ice pack for a friend who is hurt or offer a hug. Threes and fours check in with their friends when they are hurt to see if they are okay and ask what they can do to make it better.

There are many skills to develop and practice around friendship. Children are consistently watching us and learning from what we do and how we say things. We have a big responsibility as the grown ups to make sure we are modeling with our word choice, our tone and good intentions.

To develop good friendships, now and later, it is important children begin developing the following skills:

- Being welcoming and saying hello
- Play skills: taking turns with preferred toys, taking part in games, including others in play and making suggestions for play
- Communicating: talking and listening to others in a kind way
- Helping: being willing to help others if they ask, are hurt or are struggling
- Empathy: being able to respond to others' feelings with understanding
- Flexibility: being open to hearing or learning about other points of view or ways of doing things
- Self-control: being able to wait for what they want, using words to express their feelings rather than acting disruptively or misbehaving, giving others a turn with toys
- Assertiveness: Communicating what they need in an appropriate way
- Consideration: being able to say 'please' and 'thank you', taking turns, being able to lead and follow what others want to do, being able to cooperate and share

We celebrate friendship each day and especially at the end of November when we bring the ECC children, grandparents, parents, and special friends together for Special to Me Day and our Friendship Feast, just before Thanksgiving.

Being grateful for friends is something wonderful to celebrate at this time of year.

Wishing you and your family a happy Thanksgiving and an early happy Hanukkah.

B'yedidut, Beth Hoch





















## FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Ruth M. Szykman Director of Religious School 301-299-7087, ext. 229 ruth@harshalom.org

Now that our year is well underway, the Jewish value of hakarat ha'tov, Gratitude, has been on my mind quite a bit. Hakarat ha'tov translates to "recognizing the good." It is a reminder to express our appreciation when and where it is felt. I want to take this space to do just that – show my deep appreciation for our amazing HSRS teachers.

The Talmud says: "the true guardians of a community are the teachers" Pirkei Avot teaches us to "revere your teachers as you would heaven." Judaism is a religion of learning, always learning. Our wonderful teachers help our students on that learning journey.

Join me in showing gratitude to our HSRS teachers:

Michelle Pinko Kindergarten
Dov Kosowsky Kindergarten
Joanna Rubin 1st Grade
Zina Betahron 1st Grade
Jonah Loshin 2nd Grade

Ronit Miller 3rd Grade 3rd Grade Mercedes Aseraph Jessica Betahron 3rd Grade Moed Milner 4th Grade Yochoved Rothschild 4th Grade Elad Goren 5th Grade Elie Lowenstein 6th Grade Ben Gersten 7th Grade Ezra Raskin **Hebrew Specialist** 

.

And our fabulous weekday Hebrew teachers: Stephanie Aseraph Mercedes Aseraph

Dov Kosowsky
Micah Cohen
Moed Milner

Lexi Cohen
Eytan Pomper
Micaela Thau

I read a beautiful blessing for teachers recently: May you be blessed and strengthened as you have blessed and strengthened your students. May you have peace, grace, kindness, mercy, and long life.

I love seeing our students and teachers working together as our HSRS community. There will be plenty of opportunities for our parents to be involved as well – watch this space!

Take care, Ruth



## **Photos from our Religious School...**













## **ADULT EDUCATION**

For a full list of upcoming Adult Education, visit www.HarShalom.org/Adult-Ed

# Har Shalom Is an Active Partner with Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA)

For the past several years, increasing numbers of Har Shalom members have been volunteering their time to drive for JSSA's Meals on Wheels program. Our volunteers pick up nourishing kosher meals and deliver them to seniors in Montgomery County who cannot cook for themselves. At this time, we have 13 drivers who drive once or twice a month. These drivers include Heidi Dross, John Friedson, Ed Hutman, Shelah Landsman, Bernie Lubran, Stew Remer, Owen Ritter, Jeff Rubin, Ed Schapiro, Aimee Segal, Bob Sunshine, Steve Susswein, and Sorrell Schwartz. For more information and how you can become involved, please contact Stew Remer at sremer@verizon.net.

Har Shalom members also support JSSA by providing volunteers who deliver packages of food and ritual

items at Passover, Rosh Hashanah, and Thanksgiving to individuals and families who could benefit from a little help during the holidays. This Rosh Hashanah, 17 of our members delivered holiday bags to 57 families and individuals throughout Montgomery and Prince Georges counties. These volunteers included Sarah, Katherine, and William Albert; Heidi Dross; John Friedson; Tricia, Jason, Asher, Mika and Rafa Friedman; Marlene Goldschmidt; Stan and Robin Hein with Elisha and Dani Lubar; Beth, Louis, Maya and Avi Leibowitz; Bernie Lubran; Yonat and Dalia Lurie; Laurie Nadler with Harry and Sam Stone; Betsy, Dan and Benjamin New-Schneider; Stew Remer; Owen Ritter; Bob Ross; Brenda Schmand; Bob and Laurie Sunshine; and Steve Susswein.

To participate in future holiday bag deliveries, please









## FROM SOCIAL ACTION AND TIKKUN OLAM

Har Shalom's SATO (Social Action/Tikkun Olam) activities benefit those in need in our local community. The organizations we support are thankful for and rely on the generous contributions of our congregants and friends. A special thank you to this year's Kol Nidre Manna food drive and Mazon fundraiser participants.

#### September/October donations also included:

- School supplies and toiletries for the Upcounty Distribution Hub.
- Judaica to the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes (JFGH).
- Medical supplies and diapers to multiple local organizations.
- Birthday gifts and bingo prizes for the Women's Shelter.
- Warm Up America afghans and quilts for Comfort Cases, which supports children entering foster care.

KindSoups continues on Zoom! Join from your own kitchen on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 4-5 pm, as we cook soup. Be part of our healthy meal donor community or cook on your own. Prepare enough soup to feed your own family plus freeze additional quarts of soup for delivery to the food insecure. NOTE limited cooking dates in November (Nov 27) and December (Dec 11). Details and recipes are on the Har Shalom website.

#### November collection:

- PET FOOD, PET TOYS, and USED TOWELS for Montgomery County Animal Shelter.
- Non-Perishable Thanksgiving Food for Manna Food Center (please, no glass).

#### **December collection:**

 GIFT CARDS for food, pharmacy, and clothing for Jewish Social Service Agency. Please hand gift cards to the front desk.

I Support the Girls accepts new and gently used bras of all sizes and types, new underwear, feminine hygiene products for donation locally and around the globe, helping girls and women experiencing homelessness, victims of domestic violence and sex trafficking, and refugees and evacuees affected by natural disasters. Since March 2020, there has been a 35% increase in requests for products. Har Shalom makes quarterly deliveries to this organization.

**Medical Supplies** are always needed. Supplies and equipment, prescription and non-prescription drugs, bandages, and infant and hygiene products are collected twice yearly. Local organizations and more benefit from our donations, which are funneled to the below organizations and more:

- The Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, which runs 24 clinics for the homeless and uninsured.
- The Colesville Council of Community Congregations, which accepts baby and nursing supplies.
- St. Andrew Ukranian Church, which accepts medical supplies for shipment to invasion-ravaged Ukraine.
   (While they try purchasing in Europe, many European countries are seeing shortages due to the ongoing conflict and overseas shipments are necessary.)
- Maryland Department of Aging, which supports needy and high risk seniors throughout the state and receives supplies and equipment.
- Before disposing of medications, prescription or over the counter (open medications are accepted), or medical equipment, please remember those in need.





## PLEASE SUPPORT Har Shalom's EFFORTS TO HELP THOSE IN NEED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

Check weekly emails for upcoming programs.

If you want to volunteer, have questions, or have a future project suggestion, contact <u>msklein424@</u> aol.com.

Thanks for all you do, Marjorie Klein

## FROM THE MEN'S CLUB

#### Men's Club Brunch Series

We have two exciting brunches lined up for November and December. Actually, **October 30** is the date of our November Brunch, and the next brunch is on **December 4th**. Save the dates and register online. The brunches are complimentary for all Har Shalom members and prospective members. Voluntary contributions to help offset food costs are appreciated and sometimes donated to the speakers' cause as appropriate. Everyone is encouraged to attend Sunday morning minyan prior to the brunch. A special reserved table is set aside for minyan attendees.

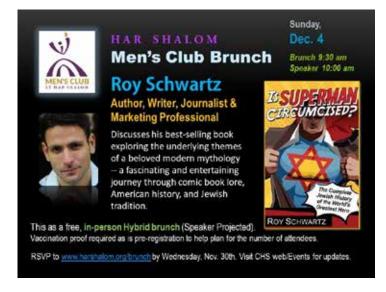


## On Sunday, October 30, at 9:30am Food & 10:00am Speaker

## The Men's Club Brunch Speaker Series features Scott Higham and Sari Horwitz

They are the Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington Post reporters who first uncovered the dimensions of the deluge of pain pills that ravaged the country and the complicity of a near-omnipotent drug cartel. They will speak about their latest book "American Cartel: Inside the Battle to Bring Down the Opioid Industry". The definitive investigation and exposé of how some of the nation's largest corporations created and fueled the opioid crisis.

The event is free. This Brunch is a IN-PERSON only (no Zoom or hybrid) if synagogue protocol allows kitchen use and gatherings. Consult with the Har Shalom web/events page or Men's Club and Synagogue E-Mails for updates. RSVP online before Oct. 26 greatly assists our food planning.



## On Sunday, December 4th, at 9:30am Food & 10:00am Speaker

This will be in-person HYBRID Brunch. Food is served and the speaker will be projected on screen for breakfast attendees.

#### This Men's Club Brunch features Roy Schwartz

Mr. Schwartz will speak about his best-selling book exploring the underlying themes of a beloved modern mythology, "Is Superman Circumcised? The Complete Jewish History of the World's Greatest Hero" – a fascinating and entertaining journey through comic book lore, American history, and Jewish tradition.

Roy Schwartz has written for a wide range of publications, including New York Daily News, Jerusalem Post and Philosophy Now. He currently writes about pop culture for The Forward and CNN.com. He was born in Tel Aviv and currently lives in Long Island, New York where he heads a Marketing Communications firm.

Come to learn more about Superman as the most famous character in the world. He's the first superhero, an American icon—and he's Jewish! Introduced in June 1938, the Man of Steel was created by two Jewish teens, Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, the sons of emigrants from Eastern Europe. They based their hero's origin story on Moses, his strength on Samson, his mission on the golem and his nebbish secret identity on themselves. They made him a refugee fleeing catastrophe on the eve of World War II and sent him to tear Nazi tanks apart nearly two years before the US joined the war.

In following decades Superman's mostly Jewish writers, artists and editors continued to borrow Jewish motifs for their stories, basing Krypton's past on Genesis and Exodus, its civilization on Jewish culture, the trial of Lex Luthor on Adolf Eichmann's and a holiday celebrating Superman on Passover.

Future Brunch Dates with Speakers already booked include Feb 5, Mar 5, May 7, and June 4. The June 4th brunch will be the annual Joint Men's Club & Sisterhood Brunch featuring three Pulitzer winning Washington Post investigative reporters. They will discuss the January 6 Insurrection and how their early reporting led to the Congressional Hearings

#### Photos from our Back to Shul BBQ!











#### Men's Club Sukkah Assembly

After several days of weather challenges, this year's Sukkah construction went up in record time. Many thanks to our project chairman, Moshe Cohen, Keith Hartman and numerous Men's Club volunteers.







## CATCH UP WITH THE SISTERHOOD

I know that it is now November when you are reading this, but I just can't help but reflect on how wonderful it was to see Har Shalom filled with so many congregants during the High Holidays! From all of the services, to time in the sukkah, to singing and dancing with the Torah, it was a heart-warming few weeks. It filled my soul to reconnect with everyone on that level in what felt like forever. I hope everyone enjoyed every moment as much as I did.

Our Paid-up Membership Dinner and Program was wonderful! Thank you to Linda Isen for putting together a fun and yummy evening. We appreciate your bringing Paula Shoyer to share a little bit of her trip to China with us.

We co-sponsored the Blessing of the Pets with the Religious School and had fun with a petting zoo. I can tell you that my dog, Buddy, can always use an extra blessing or two!

We are looking forward to celebrating the 80th birthday of Torah Fund with a brunch on November 20 at 11:00AM at Har Shalom.

Join us making soup, exercising or reading a book in the next couple of months. There's something for everyone! Wishing everyone a joyful and healthy Thanksgiving and Hanukkah!

Beth Ann Katz



## Sisterhood Program Recap

#### Sisterhood Bingo at Back to Shul Event

Sisterhood hosted lots of fun with congregants of all ages playing many rounds of Bingo at the Back to Shul BBQ event on Sunday, September 11, 2022. Although some rain stopped us from enjoying the outdoors, we were still able to entertain many kids and adults, and we handed out gift cards to Krispy Kreme and Starbucks to the many winners. We are looking forward to Sisterhood hosting Bingo again at next year's Back to Shul event.

#### Sisterhood Let's Get Physical

We had fun at the Cardio Pilates and Strength class on September 13th. We got our heart rates up while working all parts of the body using mat pilates exercises for core conditioning. Hope to see more ladies at the Yoga Fusion class in November. Marta came last year and is returning for another session.

Susan Grant

#### Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh

Rosh <u>H</u>odesh is a woman's gift, a reward, for not participating in the creation of the Golden Calf.

Har Shalom Sisterhood has a long history of celebrating the new month by gathering together, praying together, and learning together, as a community of women. For the past two years we have Zoomed our programs but hope to meet in person this year. Please save these dates.

Shevat - January 22 at 8PM Adar - February 21 at 8PM Nisan - March 22 at 8PM Tamuz - June 19 at 8PM

#### Sisterhood Book Club

We invite all Sisterhood members to join the Book Club discussion group. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 1:00PM. **Note:** Zoom Link will open at 12:30 for chatting...discussion of book will begin promptly at 1:00PM.

We will meet virtually, so please email us at SisterhoodBookClub@harshalom.org or register below so we can send you the Zoom link. We hope you will join for our upcoming discussions:

November 2: Klara and the Sun by Kazuo Ishiguro

December 7: Inheritance by Dani Shapiro

January 4: The Beauty of Your Face by Sahar Mustafa

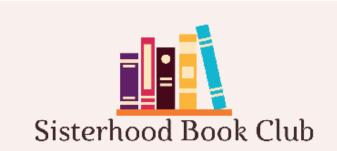
February 1: The Yellow Wife by Sadega Johnson

March 1: People Love Dead Jews by Dara Horn

March 29: The Newspaper Axis by Kathryn Olmstead

May 3: Indigo Girl by Natasha Boyd

June 7: Book selection for '23 - '24



1st Wednesday of the Month at 12:30PM

#### SAVE THE DATE

September 7 | October 12 | November 2 December 7 | January 4 | February 1 March 1 | March 29 | May 3 | June 7



IF YOU KNOW OF A SISTERHOOD MEMBER WHO IS ILL OR SOME FAMILY MEMBER WHO HAS PASSED AWAY, PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL LOIS FORSTER SO SHE CAN SEND, ON BEHALF OF SISTERHOOD, A GET WELL GREETING OR A SYMPATHY CARD.

ALSO, IF YOU KNOW OF A SIMCHA IN A MEMBER'S LIFE, SUCH AS A BABY, ENGAGEMENT, WEDDING, AWARD, ETC., PLEASE CONTACT LOIS FORSTER SO SHE CAN SEND OUT A CARD FROM SISTERHOOD.

LOIS FORSTER 301-770-8668 LOISFORSTER@GMAIL.COM

## TORAH FUND UPDATE

#### **EXCITING NEWS FROM TORAH FUND**

Join with Sisterhood as we celebrate Torah Fund's 80th birthday! Hold the date of **Sunday, November 20th**, for the big in-person celebration brunch!

Invitation with more details coming soon!

Rita Wertlieb, Chair

Ellen Bresnick, Toby Holtzman, Hanna Lee Pomerantz, Shelley Remer

Torah Fund Pins Available for Donations of:

\$300.00 - Guardian \$2500.00 - Scholarship Patron

\$600.00 - Associate Patron \$5000.00 - Keter Kavod



# FAMILY NEWS B'NAI MITZVAH



Benjamin KronenbergNovember 5Son of Abi & Rona Kronenberg



Ilana MarcusNovermber 12Daughter of Seth & Marisa MarcusGranddaughter of Frances Feder



Jonah Tessler

December 17

Son of Steven & Shoshana Tessler

Grandson of Jeremy & Graciela Schwartz

Gabriella Susskind

January 7

Daughter of
Ethan Susskind and Danielle Susskind
Granddaughter of Joel & Leslie Susskind

## **MAZAL TOV!**

#### July 16 - September 15

Sen. Cheryl Kagan and County Council Member Andrew Friedson on winning their primary elections.

Ronald & Margaret Myers on their 50th anniversary.

Dennis & llene Kiefer on the naming of their twin granddaughters, Hazel and Illiana Kiefer-Roberts.

Bruce & Debby Vivari on the marriage of their son, Paul, to Nicole Wingo on May 1st.

Michael & Paulette Baron on the marriage of their son, Zach, to Paige Ames on July 22nd.

Eli and Anna Shoham on the naming of their daughter, Sanna Bella Shoham.

Herbie & Michelle Epstein on the naming of their daughter, Elyse Munsey Epstein.

Abe & Marcia Akresh on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Oren Henry Akresh, on July 9th at Sinai Temple in Champaign, Illinois.

He was surrounded by family and friends, including his parents, Richard Akresh and Ilana Redstone, and his two brothers, Ezra Joseph Akresh and Zachary David Akresh.

Meryl & Jeff Cohen on the acceptance of their granddaughter, Madison Ladin Warner, to Virginia Tech's Veterinary School. Madison is the daughter of Nessa and Greg Warner.

Scott & llene Orkin on the birth of their daughter, Sydney Violet, on July 6th. The excited big sister is Alyssa.

Nancy & Leon Weintraub on the birth of their granddaughter, Lauren Sophie Katz, on July 1st in New York City. The proud parents are Ruth (Weintraub) Katz and Evan Katz.

Howard Reichel and Emily Hitt on their auf ruf and wedding.

Dr. Marc Nemiroff on the publication of his 11th book and first novel, Kings Highway: A Novel of the 1960's.

Yonatan Blumstein, grandson of Anne Weiss, was part of the Greater DC 16u Maccabi Games baseball team, which brought home the Gold from San Diego, and remained undefeated throughout the competition. Yonatan was shortstop and pitcher.

Randy Goldel on becoming a Partner at Deloitte.

Ruth Newburger completed a Masters of Science in management / emergency management with a graduate certificate in Homeland Security.

Mia Raskin on being elected Vice President of the Binghamton University Zionist Organization (BUZO).

Linda and Richard Isen on the birth of their grandson Henry Martin Abel on August 5th in Los Angeles, CA. Henry is named after Linda's father, Henry Zetlin. Philip & Shirley Wisotsky on their 52nd anniversary.

Bena Siegel and Ronnie Ginsberg on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter and great-niece, Emma Garvin, at Har Shalom. Emma is the daughter of Dan & Rachel Garvin.

Susie & Rick Edelson on their 50th anniversary and the 8th anniversary of Susie's Bat Mitzvah.

David Freeman on the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

Sela Wertlieb on her 16th birthday and the 3rd anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah.

Zoe Wertlieb on her departure for college.

Fern & Ron Solomson on their 55th anniversary.

Josh Manevich, son of Jacob and Megan Manevich, on being called to the Torah for the first time.

Shay and Anna Cohen on the birth of their daughter, Miley Ziv, on August 14th. Miley is welcomed by older siblings Matan and Lia.

Robert and Blima Wellek on their 64th anniversary.

Debby & Bruce Vivari on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Evan Ames Vivari.

Alicia J. Cohen, MD, MSc, daughter of Deborah K. Cohen and the late David L. Cohen z"l, was selected by the National Academy of Medicine as one of 7 Fellows for 2022-2024.

Mark & Ruthie Hartzman on their 65th anniversary.

Dena & Ryan Blaustein on the birth of their son, Owen Eli. The excited big brother is Aiden.

## Have some Family News you would like to share with the Har Shalom Community?

Email office@harshalom.org, to have your simcha included in the Mazal Tov section of the Shabbat Shalom emails and an upcoming issue of the Tablet!

#### **CONDOLENCES:**

July 16 - September 15

Ellen (David) Kaminow on the passing of her father, Herbert Weinstein.

Curt (Heather) Udell on the passing of his mother, Norene Udell.

Michael (Barri) Schnall on the passing of his mother, Bernice Schnall.

Andrea (Paul) Lewis on the passing of her father, Irving.

June Rogul on the passing of her husband, Marvin Rogul.

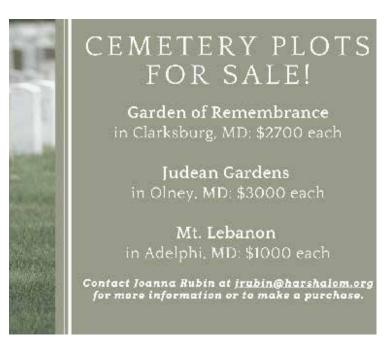
Meryl (Hiram) Bernstein on the passing of her brother, Neil Parsoff.

Elizabeth Cahan on the passing of her sister-in-law, Naomi Katz, sister of Rabbi Leonard Cahan z"l.

Karen (Phil) Priesman on the passing of her uncle, Irwin Baumel.

Robert Kaufman on the passing of his wife, Bonnie Fine Kaufman.

The family of Harolyn Schwartz on her passing.





## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Use this link to sign-up and help us prepare for Shabbat Kiddush.

https://tinyurl.com/HSKitchenVol



#### **DONATIONS**

July 16 – September 15

#### **Abram Blum Library**

*In Memory Of* Fran Russell

Richard & Lois Neuman

#### **Ashin-Zitomer Dor L'Dor Fund**

In Memory Of
Irving Birnbaum
Mikki and Jeff Ashin

#### **Bernie Witt**

In Memory Of
Marvin Becker
David & Carol Buchoff

#### Cal Chizever ECC Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Dr. Julius Siegel Bena Siegel

#### **Community of Caring**

In Memory Of

Marvin Becker

Edythe & Darryl Runett

Irving Birnbaum

Joyce Lipman

Randolph & Laurie May

Bernie Witt

Marcia Witt

Seth Benjamin

Vic & Marla Cohen

Charles Brenner

Bill & Helen Branda

Rose and Ben Besdin

Zeevia Besdin Jaffa & Joseph Jaffa

#### **Debbie Karch Children's Library**

In Memory Of

Anne Batleman Paul

Vic & Marla Cohen

Benjamin Stein

William & Ruth Oshinsky

**Betsy Davis** 

Owen & Margie Ritter

#### **Etz Hayim Humash**

In Memory of

**David Kenton** 

Bena Siegel

David Feder

Frances Feder

#### **General Operating**

Adam Weissmann & Rebecca Certner

Elizabeth Cahan

Gary Ginstling & Marta Lederer

Ken & Sheila Handel

In Honor Of

Birth of Max Aiden Moskowitz

Daphne Halpern

Marriage of Zachary Baron

Holly & Bob Bloom

Our 52nd Anniversary

Philip & Shirley Wisotsky

Our 57th anniversary

William & Ruth Oshinsky

Judy Abrams

Hanna Lee Pomerantz

Susan & Ted Rabkin

Helen & Bill Branda

Marriage of Michael Schapiro

Marriage of Zachary Baron

Richard & Linda Isen

Speedy Recovery

Harold Burke

**Howard & Sharon Metro** 

In Memory Of

Arlyne Sher

David & Diane Kessler

Oscar Stempler

Deana Stempler

Marvin Becker

Doug Bradley

Beno Edelstain

Eliot & Christiane Sorel

Irving Birnbaum

Gary & Miriam Mishkin

Linda Silverman and Dan Snow

Mark & Susan Strassman

Marvin Rogul

Karl & Ruth Seif

Max Shere and Sarah Zoberman

Kenneth Shere

Myra Birnkrant

Leah Weisman

Peter Alexander

Marcy Versel

Jules Cooper

Bayla Gershowitz

Melvin & Linda Slan

Steven Ross

**Robert Ross** 

Esther Diane Schepartz

Saul Schepartz

#### **Har Shalom Religious School**

Robin & Stanley Hein

In Memory Of

Stanley Blumberg

Andy Cohen & Ruth Szykman

Arlene Cohen

Sheila & Stuart Marcus

#### Hazzan's Discretionary

Leonard & Susan Miller Joan Medway

In Honor Of

Margaret & Ron Myers's 50th Anniversary

Daniela Myers

In Memory Of

Sydney Polakoff

Steven Polakoff

Alex Kovalsky

Ben & Elaine Kovalsky

Neil M. Parsoff

Hiram & Meryl Bernstein

Stephen Abrams

Sidney Goldscheider

Eileen Goldscheider

Judy Abrams

Sheldon Solomon

**Sharon Solomon** 

Larry Medway

Joan Medway

Bonnie Fine Kaufman

Irving Birnbaum

Sue Rosenstock & Jim Midanek

#### Hevra Kadisha

In Memory of

Marvin Becker

Naomi Katz

Ellen & Bill Bresnick

Louis Witt

Marcia Witt

#### **Ilene Abrams Gemilut Hasadim**

Jeffrey & Lora Drezner

In Memory Of

Bernice Schnall

Howard & Cindy Menditch

Marvin Rogul

Stewart & Shelley Remer

Bernard and Beatrice Katzen

Warren & Ann Steinberger

## Irving J. & Henrietta Kadish Religious School Scholarship Fund

In Memory of

Leslye Siegel

Bena Siegel

#### **Morris & Lillian Cahan Adult Education**

In Memory Of

Naomi Katz

Richard & Linda Isen

Hanna Lee Pomerantz

**Edythe Siegel** 

Bena Siegel

#### Rabbi Raskin Discretionary Fund

#### The New-to-You Sale

Joan Forest

Judith N. Lasker Jodi & Peter Susser

In Honor Of

Baby naming of our granddaughters

Dennis & Ilene Kiefer

Fern and Ron Solomson's 55th anniversary

Randolph & Laurie May

In Memory Of
Brian Lewis
Douglas & Rita Lewis
Marvin Rogul
Enrique & Suzanne Fefer

#### **Rabbi Simmons Discretionary Fund**

Bena Siegel Daniel & Diane Berinstein

In Honor Of
Our wedding
Brett Kaplowitz & Debra Kay

## Jillian Bernstein & The Rabbi Search Committee

John & Leslie Friedson

#### **Sherman ECC Fund**

In Honor Of
Birth of Henry Martin Abel
Warren & Ann Steinberger

#### **Siddur Sim Shalom**

In Memory Of
Bessie and Morris Kreitman
Aaron Harry and Ida Feder
Frances Feder

#### **Sisterhood**

In Honor of
Susan and Ted Rabkin's 50th anniversary
Wendy & David Epstein
Bill & Helen Branda



RABBI **Adam J. Raskin** 

RABBI RACHEL A. SIMMONS

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