



The Menorah

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From the President: Sylvia Horwitz

What an interesting time to be starting my term as TI's president! I am both excited and daunted by the challenge, and immensely grateful that we have such a dedicated professional staff and that I will be sharing the lay leadership with such talented and committed officers, board members, building and cemetery trustees, and committee members. There is always much work to be done to keep TI going, and more than simply "going." I am constantly amazed at how much goes on at any given time – the variety of adult classes, social action activities, social gatherings, book groups, and more – in addition to the core functions of religious services and providing a Jewish education for our children and youth. And let's not forget food!

Needless to say, a central focus in the coming year is the process of selecting a new rabbi to lead us when Rabbi Seidel steps down as our full-time rabbi. The rabbi selection process is already giving us a chance to deeply consider what kind of community we are and want to be. This is hard work, but it is essential if we are going to thrive and adapt to our changing worlds – the world at large, our Jewish world, and our TI world.

As I have gotten older, I have come to appreciate how valuable a synagogue can be, for individuals, families, and the community at large. I didn't always feel that

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Notes from the Rabbi: Ethan Seidel

Volunteers in General and in Particular

Perhaps you followed the recent brouhaha about the suggestion that DC train some citizens to hand out parking tickets. While I can see the potential for violence in this particular proposal, I must say that in general I am biased in favor of initiatives that include volunteers. Sure, volunteers take training, and are not (being human) perfectly reliable, and it can sometimes seem to us professionals that they save little if any of our time. And yet, I remember involving my kids in the baking of challah, and how that *always* took more time than if I had done it myself. However, their participation in the community of bread-bakers was facilitated by that early training - all three still work extensively with yeast, though one makes more wine and beer than bread.



(Continued on page 2)



Notes from the Rabbi - continued

I don't think it would be an exaggeration to say that a real community is formed to the extent that volunteers are welcomed. Think about our community, and the volunteers who lead the services. I think that their participation helps make TI the community that it is. And I've noted the different feelings I get in the daily services I've been attending around the city. At Ohr Kodesh and Ohev Shalom, I'm sometimes invited to lead the minyan, and I've come to feel both places of worship as homes away from home. Whereas at another local congregation's morning minyan, the service is entirely led by its staff – very well led to be sure – and its vibe felt totally different: not unwelcoming, but a little formal.

The Menorah Tifereth Israel Congregation

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9-3

Sat & Sun Closed

Closed: Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day
June 10 for Shavuot

Appointments are recommended

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*Tifereth Israel is a traditional egalitarian congregation
affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative
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There are two volunteer opportunities at TI I'd like to call your attention to – two very good things we've been doing that are currently led by volunteers ready to be replaced:

- The Sunday afternoon tutoring program for Shepherd Elementary kids. Started many years ago by **Beth Shulman** (z"l), and run by **Jenny Goldstein, Pam Stone, Chuck Rombro, David Wachtel, and Susan Catler** for the last five years. this program meets at TI 5-6PM on most Sundays during the school year. Most of the actual tutors are TI'ers, including many of our kids who count it as their Bar Mitzvah tzedakah project. I think it's one of the nicest things TI does for our community. And the TI kids who do the tutoring come to have a better realization of how much they know. We're looking for two couples who are ready to take this over this fall. I'd hate to see this great program stop for a lack of volunteer coordinators.
- The Wednesday Evening minyan, which meets 6:10-6:30PM while Hebrew School is in session, was initiated and coordinated by **Jennifer Kefer**, and has been going strong for a few years now. There is very little work involved in this one: it's basically sending out an email reminder email each week, and showing up to the minyan fairly regularly. (I also teach a little Torah as part of this minyan.) Perfect for a Hebrew School parent who would be there anyway to pick up their child!

(Continued on page 3)

President's Column - continued

way, even though I grew up in family that was active in the Conservative shul in Richmond, Virginia, Temple Beth-El. (I'm following in my father's footsteps by becoming synagogue president.) But by the time I went to college, and thereafter in my twenties and thirties, I was not interested in attending services or joining a synagogue. I had a strong Jewish identity, but the synagogue – any synagogue – just did not attract.

So where would I find a place to be Jewish without having to be religious? I went to Israel, and ended up spending ten years there. And there, ironically, I found my way back to being an American Jew and ultimately, thanks to my wonderful husband **Dov Weitman**, a shul-goer. And not just a shul-goer, but a shul-appreciator. Yes, I wanted to learn (or relearn) how to chant haftarah, to lead parts of the service, to leyn, to understand Jewish history. I came to understand that comfort with the services and traditions is integral to my Jewish being. Beyond that, it is the synagogue as community that I have come to value.

And this brings me back to the rabbinic search process. We are so fortunate to have **Sara Goldberg** and **Stan Dorn** at the helm of this process, and that we're already off to a strong start. If you have not already signed up for a community input session, please do. I particularly encourage those who don't regularly attend services, have kids in the Himmelfarb School or take part in other activities at TI. You

care enough to be a member of TI, so please let us know why and what you are looking for.

It also brings me back to the year ahead. Even if we weren't in the process of seeking a new full-time rabbi, I would be asking you the same questions. What do you want to see TI doing that isn't being done, or what should we be doing better? How can we enhance the quality of our community experience?

We have the coming year to savor having Rabbi Seidel as our fulltime rabbi and teacher. I'm looking forward to that! And I'm looking forward to getting to know more of you and hopefully, to being a worthy president of the congregation. I have a very tough act to follow. Stan has set a high bar. I'm so glad that I will have him to help me. And I will certainly need help from congregants. Stan began his tenure with "office hours" – a regular time each week when he came to TI and made himself available for congregants to talk about whatever TI issue was on their minds. I thought that was a great idea. Rather than designating a set time, I offer a general invitation to contact me to schedule a time to meet or talk by phone if there is something you would like to discuss. The best way is to send me an email at tipresident@tifereth-israel.org.

Sylvia

Notes from the Rabbi - continued

Let me (or the current volunteers) know if you could help out with one of these programs. Thanks for your consideration!

Rabbi Seidel

EDITOR'S NOTE: There is a third volunteer-led program where the current volunteer is ready to be replaced. The SHALEM program of post-kiddush talks has provided a variety of interesting and compelling presentations on topics of Jewish interest, broadly interpreted, over the years. Some programs are sourced by the SHALEM coordinator, while many others are suggested by congregants or the rabbi.

I've been doing this for a while, and I think we need fresh ideas from a new coordinator. It's a relatively light lift, involving mainly emails and keeping track of program ideas and schedules. You also get to introduce SHALEM presenters. There's no requirement to attend every program, though you'll probably want to.

I would hate to see the series come to an end. If you can take on this straightforward but enjoyable task, please contact me or Rabbi Seidel.

Kol Nashim

Pearl Schainker

On Sunday, May 19, Kol Nashim hosted Explore the Power of Gratitude led by Sheryl Frank. The workshop was accompanied by a delicious brunch. There was active participation by a large group of women and men that focused on the intersection of Jewish thought and the role of gratitude in prayer, as well as mental and physical health. The next Kol Nashim Book Club will meet June 18 at the home of Claudine Schweber and Ed Koren to discuss *Lovesong* by Julius Lester. Lester was a prolific author of fiction for children and adults (including *Autobiography of God*, which the book group read a few years ago. *Lovesong* is his spiritual autobiography.

Kol Nashim of Tifereth Israel is sponsoring the movie *93 Queen* on Tuesday June 11 at Ohr Kodesh at 7:15 PM. The program is cosponsored with Ohr Kodesh, Ohev Shalom, Temple Shalom and Svivah. The movie follows a group of Hasidic women who challenge patriarchy by founding an all-female volunteer ambulance corps in New York City. Reserve tickets at www.tinyurl.com/KN-93Queen Tickets:\$5 online/\$8 at the door.

Kol Nashim is working on plans for September 2019 through June, 2020. Some of the programs that we are considering are:

- Tour of National Museum of American Jewish Military History
- “Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence” at National Portrait Gallery, guided tour during the 100th anniversary of ratification of the 19th Amendment
- Kol Nashim Returns to Glenstone
- Baking with Jessica Weissman
- A craft-making event

We are happy to receive additional suggestions. You can speak with any KN board member or email your ideas to KN President Sharon Brown at sharonpbrown@verizon.net.



The editor is grateful to Louise Kelley for providing these photos of Sheryl Frank's talk.

Social Action Committee News

Gene Herman & Larry Baizer

On the Shabbat of June 8, the Social Action Committee and the congregation will be honoring **Pam Stone, Chuck Rombro, Jenny Goldstein, David Wachtel** and **Susan Catler** for having coordinated the “being a good neighbor” Shepherd tutoring program for 5 years. This program which began 19 years ago, brings committed adults and teenagers from TI and the Shepherd Park neighborhood together with students from our local public elementary school (Shepherd Park Elementary School).

The program coordinated by Jenny, Chuck, Pam, David and Susan works as follows: Each tutor is paired with a young student (grades 2-6) for school year. The tutor and the student meet one hour each week at the synagogue to read, practice math skills or review homework. This hands-on weekly hour has made a significant difference in the academic performance of participating students by boosting self-confidence and strengthening skills learned in school. This is a very satisfying outcome for this type of volunteer service.

Pam, Chuck, Jenny, David, and Susan have been successfully running the tutoring program since 2014 and deserve our utmost appreciation and gratitude. After 5 years they would like to step back but are very much interested in keeping TI connected in a meaningful way to the local community. For this to happen we are extending a request for someone (or better yet a small group of people) to volunteer to keep the tutoring program running for the next

school year. Pam, Chuck, Jenny, David and Susan have demonstrated that TI is a caring congregation. Please consider the opportunity to participate in this special program. Please contact **Gene Herman** (gene511@aol.com)

Seven volunteers from Tifereth Israel assisted in serving dinner at Shepard's Table on May 5th. Together with a couple of additional volunteers we participated in setting up, serving over 100 clients and cleaning up afterwards. Everyone remarked on the wonderful new facility, the rewards from joining this effort, and how convenient Shepherd's Table is for TI members who live in the Silver Spring area. It was also a great opportunity to meet other TI members and an excellent activity for families with children 13 or older.

We are considering the possibility of scheduling a regular Sunday night shift at Shepherd's Table, perhaps 4-6 times per year. TI members and families who previously worked at Luther Place are encouraged to consider Shepherd's Table as a replacement for that activity. If you are interested. Please contact either **Tobi McFarland** (tobimc3@gmail.com) or **Larry Baizer** (lbaizer@yahoo.com)

Shepherd's Table's mission is to provide help to people who are homeless or in need by providing basic services, including meals, social services, medical support, clothing, and other assistance in an effective and compassionate manner.

Library News -Michele Sumka

Passover is over, so please return the Haggadot and other Passover books you borrowed, so that we can have them for next year! Many thanks!

Kol Nashim Book Group

We met on May 21st at the home of Jennifer and Josh Kefer to discuss Sara Davidson's *The December Project*. This book chronicles a series of meetings between the author and Rabbi Zalman Shachter-Shalomi where they discuss what he calls The December Project. "When you can feel in your cells that you're coming to the end of your tour of duty," he said, "what is the spiritual work of this time, and how do we prepare for the mystery?" The book also functioned as a short biography of Reb Zalman, which was the favorite aspect of it for some readers. A few attendees who had personal experiences with Reb Zalman shared them with the group.

For our June 18th meeting at the home of Claudine

Schweber and Ed Koren our reading is Julius Lester's *Lovesong*, an account of his conversion to Judaism and his Jewish life. Those who remember his novel *Autobiography of God*, which we read a few years ago, know to expect another well-written and emotionally resonant book.

A few copies are at local libraries. The book is out of print but easy to find as a used book. It is also available in electronic form.

We will choose our summer readings and prepare for the fall meeting where we choose our books for the next year.

RSVP to knbook@tifereth-israel.org and bring your summer reading suggestions.

SHALEM - Jessica Weissman

May saw three intriguing SHALEM programs. The Social Action Committee presented a Native American Shabbaton on May 4th, with several speakers including TI's Judith Shapiro.

On May 11th the TI Environmental Committee presented a talk by Naomi Edelson of NWF on What We Can Do at Home and at TI to Protect Wildlife and Water. There really are things we can do to make a difference.

Claudine Schweber shared her mother and uncle's experiences in her May 18th presentation on Hidden Children in WWII - Moving through Occupied France to Safety. They were helped by many different people, and ultimately found their way to a network of shelters operated by the OSE (Oeuvre de Secours Aux Enfants or Children's Aid Society) that saved many Jewish children from France.

Scholar in residence Rabbi Barry Schlesinger will offer a SHALEM talk as part of the weekend he is spending with us on June 15. His topic is A Re-reading of the Isha Sota (Numbers chapter 5), Drawing on the Midrash of Dr. Ruth Calderon.

As always I am looking for SHALEM speakers. The only requirement for a SHALEM topic is that it be of Jewish interest, loosely interpreted. There's something you know that TI'ers would love to hear about, and SHALEM attendees are the best audience you can ever have. We are attentive, forgiving, and full of questions.

Please contact me with your ideas, including suggestions for other speakers.

June and July/August Birthday/Anniversary Kiddushim

Share your summer simcha and help sponsor the birthday/anniversary kiddush. Your name on a cake in squiggly icing! Your birthday or anniversary in the bulletin and mentioned in the announcements!

Sign up to sponsor at: www.tinyurl.com/Tlbday. Sign up to help cook at: www.tinyurl.com/Tlcooking

June 15th - donate by noon on June 11th. Cooking on Thursday, June 13th at 7pm

August 3rd - donate by noon on July 30th.

Shavuot Schedule

Sat, June 8 – Erev Shavuot

- 7:30 pm Pre-Shavuot Dairy Dinner - Sign up at www.tinyurl.com/TIJun19
- 8:30 pm USY Shavuot Program and End of Year Party
- 9:15 pm Ma'ariv Holiday Service
- ~9:50 pm Tikkun Leil Shavuot - Full schedule available in Shulcloud
- 5:00 am

Sunday, June 9 – Shavuot 1

- ~5:00 am Early Morning Holiday Service
- 9:00 am Morning Holiday Service
- 11:00 am Tot Shavuot

Monday, June 10 – Shavuot 2

- Office Closed
- 9:00 am Morning Holiday service
- ~10:15 am Reading of the *Book of Ruth*
- ~11:00 am Yizkor Service

SHAVUOT DINNER

SATURDAY JUNE 08 | 7:30 PM

Ma'ariv at 9:15 pm
Tikkun Leil Shavuot to follow



Register by June 3rd: www.tinyurl.com/TIJun19

Funeral Practices Committee Always On-Call

Chaverim of the Funeral Practices Committee are on call to provide counsel and services to synagogue members and their dependents.

In the event of a death, before contacting the funeral home please contact one of the following chaverim or the TI office (202-882-1605).

Shelly Heller h: 301-942-1836
w: 202-994-5906
c: 301-996-2704

Marcia Goggin h: 301-593-8480
w: 301-754-1963
c: 301.792.1063

Bruce Heppen h: 301-299-3255
c: 202-997-1890
w: 703-417-8983

Naomi Revzin h: 301 765 6272

Robert Rovinsky h: 202 237 1036
c: 202 815 8707

Himmelfarb Happenings

Rina Rebibo

On May 5, Tifereth Israel hosted Congregation Etz Hayim fourth and fifth graders for the third in a series of joint Israel programs. The first program focused on Am Yisrael (the People of Israel). The second program focused on Eretz Yisrael (the Land of Israel). This final program focused on Medinat Yisrael (the State of Israel).

The day started with an icebreaker designed to teach students about the modern State of Israel. Students had to decide whether statements about Israel were true or false (e.g., you can buy hummus ice cream in Israel). Students then shared knowledge about Israel such as the names of famous Israelis and Israeli inventions.

Our focus then turned to the idea of Israel as a Start-Up Nation. We watched a video and learned about many Israeli inventions, such as instant messaging, flash drives, the most popular type of cherry tomato, drip irrigation, and the Waze GPS app. We talked about why such a small nation was a hotbed of innovation. Answers included: necessity,chutzpah, making money, security, and a desire to improve the world.

The students were then tasked to think of something that is tedious (e.g., chores) and invent something to make the task easier. The teams demonstrated amazing creativity! For example, one team created a system to check out and reshelve library books, another created a car that ran on magnetic power, and a third created an automatic book page turner (lots of readers in this group!).

The day finished with Israeli snacks (cherry tomatoes and different flavors of Bissli - an Israeli snack food). Students left with their own set of Chamesh Avanim stones. Chamesh Avanim is a popular Israeli game also known as Five Stones. If you are the parent of a fourth or fifth grader, ask them to show you how to play!

To wrap up this programming series, we asked students to tell us how their feelings about Israel have changed from the first class to the final class. Some answers:

- At the beginning of these classes I felt I knew everything about Israel. Now, I know I don't.
- I didn't know they were such an environmental country.
- I used to think Israel is two things: war and deserts. Now I think of it as culture and spirit and even ancestry.
- I feel like I have a bigger connection with Israel.

This program was generously funded by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington DC, supported by Congregations Etz Hayim and Tifereth Israel, and created by Laura Naide and Rina Rebibo. We have received a follow-on grant from JNF & Nefesh B'Nefesh to continue the learning next year with a new group of students.



USY and Kadima

Adam Rosen

Dear TI USYers, Kadimaniks, Parents, Families, and Friends:

Time has surely flown by and we are excited to conclude the year with a final USY program, details of which you can find below. I want to thank all the volunteers, parents, carpool drivers, and especially teens who continue to make TI a wonderful place to be an involved Kadimanik and USYer as we combine fun, laughs, memories, and Judaism in all we do. Check out the final opportunities to be involved in our chapter this year below. We hope to see you one final time before all head out for summer vacations, camp, and much more.

B' Shalom,

Adam Rosen

TI Youth Advisor (adam@tifereth-israel.org)

Upcoming Events

Saturday, June 8th – TI USY Shavuot End of Year Party – 8:30PM – TI

All 8-12th graders are invited to join us for the final event of the year as we celebrate all things Shavuot and USY with an all out Ice Cream Sundae extravaganza. There will be lots of laughs and learning along the way, and we really hope to see you there for this sweet conclusion to the year. Please RSVP to adam@tifereth-israel.org by June 4th.

June 26 - 28 - TI Welcomes USY on Wheels

TI is thrilled to be welcoming USY on Wheels to our community for two nights, June 26th and 27th, as 40 Jewish teens and staff from across the nation begin their 6.5 week travels throughout the U.S.A. with a stop in Washington D.C. We are honored to have been chosen as a host synagogue and need our community's help to make their visit a success as we show the power of TI hospitality. If you would be interested in helping to host even 2 teenagers on the dates above, please reach out to adam@tifereth-israel.org for more information on how you can help make a difference in this lives of Jewish teens as they take part in a formative Jewish summer experience.

Israel program photos on this and facing page by Rina Rebibo.



SHABBATON

June 14 - 15



With Scholar-in Residence

**RABBI BARRY
SCHLESINGER**

Congregation Torat Hayim
Herzliya ISRAEL

Friday Night:

Israel post-election from the perspective of a Masorti Rabbi and the importance of Israel's Declaration of Independence

Saturday Drash:

Aaron, Bob, and the two Leonards (Cohen and Nimoy)

Shalem:

A re-read of the Isha Sotah (Numbers chapter 5) drawing on the Midrash of Dr. Ruth Calderon

Sign up for Shabbat dinner by June 10: www.tinyurl.com/SchlesingerDinner

The Fiscal Year is Almost Over....

Tifereth Israel's current fiscal year ends June 30th. **Please double check your accounts and make sure all dues, dinners, pledges and other charges are paid off before the end of June.**

We have a vibrant congregation with an engaged membership, strong lay leadership, a dedicated Rabbi, and hardworking staff. Together we make TI a wonderful place to be, and that requires funds to keep us going. Paying your accounts in full before the end of the year is crucial for budgeting and planning.

Each TI member brings something unique and irreplaceable to the community and we do not want finances to become a barrier to anyone's full participation. If money is an issue, please call Executive Director Jevera Temsky at 202-882-1605. She is happy to speak make arrangements with you for financial abatement and/or a payment plan.

Thank you for your time, energy, creativity, and financial contributions. And a special thank you in advance to everyone who is able to pay their charges before June 30th.

Rabbi Search Update - Sara Goldberg, co-chair

Participate in a Community Input Meeting! Whether you are a TI regular or come to shul once or twice a year, we want your opinion. All members and non-member spouses are encouraged to attend. Our goal is to involve 150 people in the process, so please sign up and be one of them! View the available meeting times and sign up in advance at bit.ly/CIMtgReg

Have you seen our emails? The search committee is sending regular updates via email. Past updates are available for you to review at any time in the Member Resources section of ShulCloud. To access them, go to <https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com> and sign in. Then, scroll down to the Member Resources Section and click on Rabbinic Search.

What's next? We will continue to hold community meetings throughout June to get input from as many people as possible. In July, we hope you'll take time to thoughtfully complete an extensive survey (either online or on paper). This survey, along with the data gathered in the meetings, will guide our work as we describe TI to potential candidates. We will also use the data we collect to match the desires of our community with the qualities and skills of our next rabbi.

If you have any questions or comments about any aspect of the search, you can reach the committee via email at tidcrabbisearch@gmail.com or call us at (202) 596-6045.

An Appreciation of TI - John List

I feel blessed to be part of the TI Community. There are many occasions when I feel this joy and connectedness: services; informal gatherings at the shul; learning opportunities offered by TI; social events; and, insights that I get from many of you in personal conversations.

While many of the activities at TI are out-of-reach as I recover at home, I am comforted by TI's Helping Hands program. Many, many people have responded with visits to our home. In the early days/weeks this made it possible for Lynne to meet her professional and personal obligations and for me to be cheered, engaged and connected.

Thank you to all who visited to share food, stories, and book recommendations. And, thank you to all who are in my world because together we are TI.

Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers

Nakhes Fun Kinder and General Mishpokhe News Dept

Lots of exciting happenings for the **Kruger-Weinberg** family in 2019! Son **Ben Kruger** (aka Benjy) graduated from the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School in February, then embarked on a three-month class trip to Israel and Eastern Europe. Parents **Naimah Weinberg** and **Rich Kruger** visited him over Pesach while the program at Alexander Muss High School in Israel was closed. They joined a group seder at the Tel Aviv International Synagogue (only one seder!) and were visited by some of Naimah's Israeli cousins, then spent the second half of the holiday in Jerusalem. This part of the trip was greatly enhanced when Rich and Naimah ran into Rose Sue Berstein, known to several TI'ers from her many connections within Jewish Washington; she knew Naimah and Rich through separate connections before they knew each other! Rose in turn put them in touch with TI member **Martha Hare** (minus husband **Seth Glabman**, who was home in Silver Spring teaching). On Shabbat, Rich and Naimah accompanied Rose and her daughter Anna Leah to an egalitarian service in the neighborhood.

During the trip it was decided that Ben will attend Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland this fall, the alma mater of his late maternal grandfather, late uncle, and cousin. Naimah's sister works at the university and lives nearby so Ben will have some nice family connections. Before starting at CWRU, Ben will work this summer as a counselor at Camp Ramah in Palmer, MA, where he was a camper and CIT over the past few years with many of his JDS classmates.

Dori Gillman, mother of **Max** and **Sam Heimowitz**, reports that are in a dual enrollment program at School Without Walls and GW University. This means that for their junior and senior years of high school, they were freshmen and sophomores at GW, taking all their classes at GW. Sam was recently honored at GW for being in the top 1% of the entire school at GW. Max recently won a DCPS/Library of Congress Letters to an Author Literature contest for the metro area and is now being considered at the national level.

They are also tap dance teachers, professional choreographers, performers, and members of Capitol Tap, a youth ensemble in DC. They perform and choreograph up and down the east coast from the DC area, to NYC, to Boston.

On May 18, both boys will graduate from GW with an AA degree and on June 15 (with seals of biliteracy in French (Max) and Chinese (Sam)) from Walls with a high school diploma. They are heading to Yale in the fall.

Mazel Tov to all.

Dergraykhungn (Accomplishments)

Shelly Heller is ending her tenure as a tenured professor with a flurry of activity. She was named the inaugural director of the GW Engineering School's Center for Women in Engineering; gave a paper on her work on an NSA grant in Crete Greece; was named Academic Leader of Women in Technology by Women in Technology Association; and was honored by her more than 20 former PhD students and her many current and former colleagues on May 10. And, as an Emeritus Professor, she will continue to direct her NSF and NSA grants for at least the next year.

At the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists convention in Pittsburgh, **Simcha Kuritzky's** exhibit on Israel's Historic Site commemorative coins took second place in World Coins.

Ruby Borzekowski continues to wow at national dive events. In the AAU competitions, Ruby qualified for the Red-White-Blue nationals. In May, Ruby begins the USA diving series, competing in Regionals on 1m, 3m, and platform events with the 14-15 girls division.

Meh Fort (Travels)

Judi Berland went to Cuba in April. Besides the usual sights, such as a cigar factory and Che Guevara's memorial, she also visited community projects where people are giving back to the community to help

(Continued on page 13)

Nayes un Mekhayes - continued

make lives better. One uses art to help children become 'better human beings'. Also got to ride in a fabulous vintage car, fintails and all. Had a salsa lesson and some very tasty mojitos.

Barbara and **Howard White** spent Pesach in Israel and had a great time. They visited their daughter Ilana and her family and were joined there by their son Avi and his family. The entire family was together for the Seder: 13 in all, down to great-granddaughter Hadar. The Seder even included a few readings from the White Family Haggadah. During Pesach, some of them took the train for a

one-day visit to Nahariya for lunch with other relatives followed by a short walk near the Mediterranean. Before lunch, they walked out on the balcony. They could see Haifa by looking in one direction and Rosh Ha-Nikra in the other direction. That was amazing.

Editor's note: Many thanks to Diana Zurer for her years of service. If you have 3 hours a month and a love for getting the news first, you can be our next *N un M* columnist. Contact me at jweissmn@hers.com. Otherwise this will be the last appearance of the column.



TI's New 16th Street Sign - Margie Odle

Thanks to those who helped remember Audrey Smith (z'l) and her passion for the public face (literally) of TI by helping to sponsor the sign at the corner of 16th and Juniper. Now everyone knows our address! Now anyone can find us easily if they know only the address!

Thanks for contributions to **Kol Nashim, Ray & Adele Natter, Jessica Weissman & Louise Kelley, Bernie Schlein, Bruce & Laurie Berger, Sherrie & Dana Neimark, Carl Bergman & Margie Odle**. Thanks to **Earl Dotter** and the Art Committee for the sign's design and project support, and to **Carl Bergman** for vetting vendors and for all the hoohaw and foofarah with the DC government to get the permission to place it on public land.



Photos by Sheri Blonder

Gevarim

Andrew Reamer



Talmud Study

On Saturday, June 1, 8, and 22, at 1:00 PM. Rabbi Seidel will lead the study of Talmud in English translation.

Movie Nite@TI

On Sunday, June 23 at 7:30 PM in the Berch Library, Movie Nite@TI will show **Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies, and the American Dream**, a documentary history, based on Neal Gabler's best-selling book *An Empire of Their Own, of the influence of Eastern European Jewish Emigre culture on Hollywood and its films (1997, 100 mins.)*. Winner of the Best Jewish Experience Documentary award at the 1998 Jerusalem Film Festival, this A&E program directed by Simcha Jacobovici was hailed as "provocative and engaging" by John Leonard in *New York Magazine* and "shrewdly on target" by Caryn James in the *New York Times*.

Beginnings of Judaism: The World of the Second Temple

On Sunday, June 2, 10:30 AM - 12:15 PM, in the Berch Library, we will watch and discuss the last two video lectures by Dr. Isaiah M. Gafni, the Sol Rosenbloom Professor of Jewish History at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, on the world of the Second Temple and its aftermath. The lectures are introduced and the discussion led by **Cynthia Peterman**.

Lecture 23: A Violent Epilogue—Bar Kokhba. Not all Jews opted immediately for the rabbinic alternative to the Second Temple. Sixty-two years after the destruction of the Temple, the image of a militant messiah appeared once again. Under a leader named bar Kosiba (or Bar Kokhba, "Son of a Star"), a violent rebellion broke out once again in Judea. After the failure of this rebellion, rabbinic Judaism entered a further stage of consolidation. Messianic expectations assumed a distinctly spiritual (and far more passive) tone, and even the role of the Land of Israel in Jewish thought was subjected to reappraisal.

Lecture 24: From "Roots" to "Tree." The concluding lecture of this course attempts to put all that we have discussed into a broader perspective. After the destruction of the Temple, did Judaism evolve from a vibrant, freewheeling, and diverse community into a normative society with far less room for deviation or opposing positions? Or, as claimed by others, did Jews and others begin slowly to think of Judaism as a religion or faith rather than as a distinct ethnic community centered around a specific homeland and capital city? Of the two major rabbinic communities that now emerged, why was the Babylonian center ultimately successful in overcoming its rival in the Land of Israel? Were Jews finally reconciled to a dispersion that would only cease in "the end of days," and how did decisions on these and other issues affect the direction taken by Judaism during the past two millennia?

Great Courses Options for 2019-2020

On Sunday, June 23, from 10:30 AM-12:15 PM in the Berch Library, we will show one lecture each from three video Jewish history Great Courses and then allow class participants to discuss their course preference for the coming year. The three options are:

The Old Testament, Prof. Amy-Jill Levine, Vanderbilt University -- These lectures offer an introduction to the history, literature, and religion of ancient Israel and early Judaism as it is presented in the Tanakh. Attention is given not only to the content of the biblical books but also to the debates over their meaning and the critical methods through which they have been interpreted. Questions asked include: Why these words? Why this order? Why this social context? Why this translation?

The Dead Sea Scrolls, Prof. Gary A. Rendsburg, Rutgers University -- These lectures focus on the actual scrolls (in English translation, with an eye to uncovering the religious practices and theological ideas expressed; the narrative of the discovery, publication, and dissemination of the material, (which often reads like a spy novel); background information on the Qumran community in the great-

TI Tots - Ruth Tabak

In February, March, and April, the TI Tots and their parents were very busy! In February we spent an afternoon learning about and crafting handmade challah covers and tzedakah boxes. The kids loved using (lots of) sequins, glitter, glue, and tissue paper, and took their new items home to use.

In March, we celebrated Purim together, on an early schedule. Queens, action heroes, animals, and a butterfly were in attendance, and many made and added beautifully decorated masks to their costumes that evening. Morah Sylvia led a rousing and interactive retelling of the Purim story and I read some of the Megillah.

In April, we gathered to close out Passover with a pizza party at Shepherd Park. Everyone went home with sleepy kids after a few hours of eating pizza and racing around the playground. It's been a fun few months and we have a more holidays to celebrate together over the next couple of months!



More photos on page 21



TI Tot Purim - photos by Vera Krimnus

Gevarim - continued

er world of early Judaism; and points of contact between the Dead Sea Scrolls and the development of both rabbinic Judaism and early Christianity.

Jewish Intellectual History: 16th to the 20th Century, Prof. David Ruderman, University of Pennsylvania -- This course deals with the Jewish encounter with modernity, focusing on a small group of thinkers who responded to the changes of their lifetimes by reflecting deeply on the texts and traditions of Judaism and their relevance for modern Jews. The writings of these thinkers are linked directly to the long exegetical traditions of Jewish writers in earlier ages, who had previously attempted to breathe new life and meaning into the sacred texts and utterances of classical Judaism.

TI Volunteer Spotlight - Simcha Kuritzky

Jared Garelick

A central function of a synagogue is performing a Shabbat or holiday service, and at the center of that service is the Torah reading. A large number of different people read Torah at TI, not just the Rabbi. But reading even a few verses of Torah requires advance preparation. How does everyone know what parts to read, on what Shabbat or holiday?

The answer at TI for the past generation is that Simcha Kuritzky arranges it. This spring will mark Simcha's twenty-fifth anniversary as TI's Leyning Coordinator (to leyn is to read from the Torah).

Simcha maintains a database tracking which TI members have read which particular aliyot. Some readers want to read something new, while others prefer to read a portion they've done before, which is easier to prepare. He uses the database to put out requests for readers well in advance, so there is time to master (or at least competently handle) a reading.

TI has about a dozen hard core regular leyners, who have the experience to handle even the longest and most challenging aliyot from many different parts of the Torah, and can easily learn a new aliyah. There is a larger group who are regular readers but limit themselves to shorter aliyot. Then there are many dozens more who leyn occasionally.

Simcha encourages members who have not yet done so to try leyning. He notes that doing so requires working with Rabbi Seidel to make sure you are ready. Rabbi Seidel can make a recording that will help you learn an aliyah. Even if you've never read from Torah before and don't know how, TI has about a half-dozen members who regularly train others how to leyn. If you're interested, ask Simcha.

In addition to assigning aliyot, Simcha determines in advance precisely which verses will be included in

which aliyah. Different sources sometimes break up the weekly parashah slightly differently, so it is not unknown for someone to prepare verses that begin or end at a different place than the reader before or after them. For b'nai mitvah, he works with the family to make sure the Torah reading will be fully covered.

Decades ago, and for many years, one TI member, Al Blanco of blessed memory, coordinated all the leyners and all service leaders for every service.



Towards the end of his life that large task was divided up among three different people. Bruce Berger took on the leyning coordinator role, which after a few years he passed on to Simcha. The earliest entry in Simcha's leyning database is for Shavuot in 1994, which establishes this Shavuot as his Silver Anniversary in the role.

To celebrate this milestone Simcha is sponsoring Kiddush luncheon after Shabbat services on June 22. If you wish to donate to TI to honor Simcha on this occasion, you can contact the synagogue office, or use the link available on the shulcloud section of the TI website: <http://www.tinyurl.com/Jun22Kiddush>.

Thank you Simcha, for making TI's Torah reading run so smoothly for the past quarter century. That more than merits a turn in TI's Volunteer Spotlight.

B'nai Mitzvah



Hi! My name is Hannah Burd. I am a seventh grader at Loiederman Middle School where I enjoy the creative and performing arts -- especially chorus.

In my free time I like to read, write, and hang out with my friends. I have been going to Camp Moshava for four years and I can't wait to go again this summer.

Over the past year, I have been tutoring Shepherd Park Elementary School students and working with the amazing Hanna Weissberger on my parsha, Bechukotai. My Bat Mitzvah is on June 1. I hope you can join me!

What's Blooming in the Rain Garden - Carla Ellern

These two plants are blooming now in TI's rain garden, with links to more information including photos.

***Baptisia sphaerocarpa* 'Screaming Yellow' (Yellow Wild Indigo)**

The Blue False Indigo seed pods were used as children's rattles. Ours are the yellow version. They have deep, extensive root systems. They are native from Louisiana to Texas, north to Missouri and Texas.

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=242075>

***Iris versicolor* (Blue Flag)**

This plant is very attractive to butterflies. Native from Southern Canada to Virginia and west to Minnesota and Kentucky. Will survive in wet clay to short periods of drought. It's a great rain garden plant.

It is the provincial flower of Quebec. Its common name, 'flag' comes from the Middle English word for a rush.

<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=281141>

New Members - Gabe Kravitz and Yael Smiley Jared Garelick

Gabe and Yael moved to Washington about five years ago, and to the Takoma neighborhood of the District last year. Gabe, originally from the Minneapolis area, works at the Pew Charitable Trusts focusing on consumer finance, particularly family economic stability issues. Yael, who grew up in the Detroit area, is a pediatrician in an outpatient clinic at Childrens' Hospital, where she did her residency.

Gabe and Yael first met when they were twelve, because their mothers were friends from their time attending Camp Ramah

Poconos together. They ran into each other again at 18, while in Israel. Finally, they began dating during college, when they both attended McGill University in Montreal. In addition to the maternal connection, they had a lot in common. Both their mothers are now Jewish educators, and both their fathers are rabbis. Their family now includes 7-month old baby Josh.

Gabe and Yael began coming to TI by attending Segulah, the independent minyan that often meets in the building. That makes Segulah the TI Magnet Minyan of the Month. Gabe got to know more about TI after a nice talk with Rabbi Seidel, who happens to be a rabbinical school classmate of his father's. In addition to his work, Gabe is involved in social action and Israel/Palestine organizations, including Jews United for Justice, the New Israel Fund, and If Not Now.

Welcome to the Kravitz/Smiley family!



INSTALLATION SHABBAT

THANK OUTGOING
BOARD MEMBERS
AND TRUSTEES

WELCOME INCOMING AND
RETURNING LEADERS

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

THE TI TROPE TROUPE PRESENTS

Daniel in the Lion's Den

SATURDAY, JUNE 15 ~10:30AM



Come hear this gripping tale
in the original Aramaic!

Upcoming Friday Night Minyan Assignments

June 7, 2019

Robert Rovinsky & Renana Brooks
 David & Stephanie Rubin
 Howard & Hannah Rubin
 Stephen & Jill Saletta
 Mark & Diann Saltman
 Lawrence & Pearl Schainker
 Eric & Shira Schechtman
 Michael & Mical Schneider
 Keith Secular & Susan Catler
 Paul Seltman & Jeanne Ireland
 Hershel & Judith Shanks
 David & Lois Shapiro
 Phillip & Ruth Shapiro
 Yvonne Shashoua & Yochanan Sullivan
 Noam Shelef & Deborah Quint Shelef
 Jaclyn Shettler & Aaron Marx
 Randy Showstack & Michele Zador
 Nathaniel Shyovitz
 Richard & Marjorie Siegel

June 21, 2019

Morton Simon
 David & Rona Siskind
 Steven Solomon & Cara Lichtenstein
 Sarah Sorscher & Marcus Hedrick
 Louis & Madge Lee Specter
 Phil & Dianne Spellberg
 Barry & Sari Siegel Spieler
 Jeffrey & Julie Steinberg
 Michael Stempel & Sheryl Frank
 Abby & Samantha Holtz
 Steven Stoller
 Jack Stone & Wilma Brier
 Herman & Malka Stopak
 Michael & Michelle Stollo
 Edwin Stromberg & Rose Ellen Halper
 Shelley Sturman

June 28, 2019

Marc Saddleson & Molly Surden
 Howard & Michele Sumka
 Michael & Adele Sumner
 JT & Naomi Taransky
 Kassahun Teffera & Melke Mengiste

Jevera Temsky
 Glenn & Diane Thrush
 Neil & Rachel Tickner
 Michael Tilchin
 Peter & Rhoda Trooboff
 Paula Tucker
 Jonathan & Cathy Tuerk
 Daniel & Allison Turner
 Michael & Ruth Unterweger
 Mark Verschell & Elizabeth Leff
 Susan Vitale

July 5, 2019

David Wachtel & Jennifer Goldstein
 Reenie Wagner
 Harry Waldman & Susan Morse
 Philip Wallach & Vera Krimnus
 Marc Warshawsky & Vivian Seidner
 Matthew Watson & Ellen Cabot
 Eric Weiner & Sharon Moshavi
 Zach Weinstein
 Jon Weintraub & Judith Heimlich
 Jessica Weissman & Louise Kelley
 Dov Weitman & Sylvia Horwitz
 Alan & Cynthia Weitz
 Howard & Barbara White
 Louise Wiener
 Peter Winch & Denice Zeck
 Adam & Dorothea Wolfson
 Christopher Zeilinger & Ann Baker
 Yohannes Zeleke
 Alan Zibel & Renee Gindi
 Diana Zurer
 Ellen Zwibak

July 12, 2019

Luis & Karen Acosta
 Sandra Adelstein
 Andrew Afflerbach & Joanne Hovis
 Jon Alterman & Katherine LaRiviere
 Morton Alterman
 Robyn M. Altman & Brendan J. Doherty
 Timothy Anderegg & Lisa Fogel-Anderegg

(Continued on page 21)

Friday Night Minyan Assignments - continued

Leonard Bachman
 Sidney Bailin
 Heike Bailin
 Lawrence Baizer & Elaine Lewis
 Lolita Baker
 Ethan & Jodi Balis
 Paul & Esther Bardack
 Burt Barnow
 Mae Cooper & Gideon Bass
 Charles Baum
 Leonard & Joy Baxt
 Mark & Mona Berch
 Bruce & Laurie Berger
 Carl Bergman & Margie Odle

July 19, 2019

Judi Berland
 Marsha Gentner
 Nicole Berns & Alex Schaffer
 Dana Beyer
 Jackie Binogol
 Sheri Blonder
 Gideon & Lisa Blumenthal
 Ron & Dina Borzekowski
 Larry & Lise Bram

Sarah Bram
 Steven & Rachel Bressler
 Sharon Brown
 Laura Schiavo
 Joel & Alice Burton
 Susan Chapin
 Daniel Chazan & Ronit Eisenbach
 Joel Cohen

July 26, 2019

Ann Cohen
 David & Judy Cohen
 David & Elana Cohen
 Hal Cohen & Katie Benton-Cohen
 Raymond & Rebecca Coleman
 Nataliya Chernyak Cowen
 Tamir & Rebecca Damari
 Miriam Davidson
 Joe Davidson
 Ronni Davis
 Adam Diamond & Rabbi Jane Berman
 Helen Disenhaus
 Stan Dorn & Carla Ellern
 Earl Dotter & Deborah Stern
 Desirée Douglas

Around TI - Tots Craft and Post-Passover Pizza



Photo by Ruth Tabak



Photo by Mikah Berg



Photo by Ruth Tabak

June Highlights at Tifereth Israel

June 1, 8 & 22 Talmud Study, 1:00 pm in the Reamer chapel. Study text provided.

June 8 Installation Shabbat. Thank outgoing Board members and trustees; welcome new and returning leaders

June 8 - 10 Shavuot. See schedule on page 7

June 14 & 15 Scholar in residence Rabbi Barry Schlesinger presents a Friday night talk, a drash, and a SHALEM program

June 18 Kol Nashim Book Group meets at 7:30pm at the home of Claudine Schweber and Ed Koren to discuss *Lovesong* by Julius Lester. RSVP to knbook@tifereth-israel.org

June 23 Movie nite @TI showing *Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies, and the American Dream*, 7:30 pm in the Berch Library

For further details on these and other TI events go to our website at <https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com>,
Facebook at www.facebook.com/TiferethIsrael, or Twitter at www.twitter.com/TiferethDC.



In partnership with The Washington Jewish Film Festival
Kol Nashim invites you to the

DC Premiere of 93Queen

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

7:15 pm-9:30 pm

at Ohr Kodesh Congregation



Set in the Hasidic enclave of Borough Park, Brooklyn, **93Queen** follows a group of tenacious Hasidic women who are smashing the patriarchy in the community by creating the first all-female volunteer ambulance corps in New York City.

Co-Sponsors: Tifereth Israel (Kol Nashim), Ohev Sholom, Temple Shalom,
Ohr Kodesh, Svivah

Please join us for complimentary snacks
and a post-film discussion with movie director, Paula Eiselt.

Reserve Your Tickets Now at www.tinyurl.com/KN-93Queen

Tickets: \$5 online / \$8 at the door

Location: Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Lane,
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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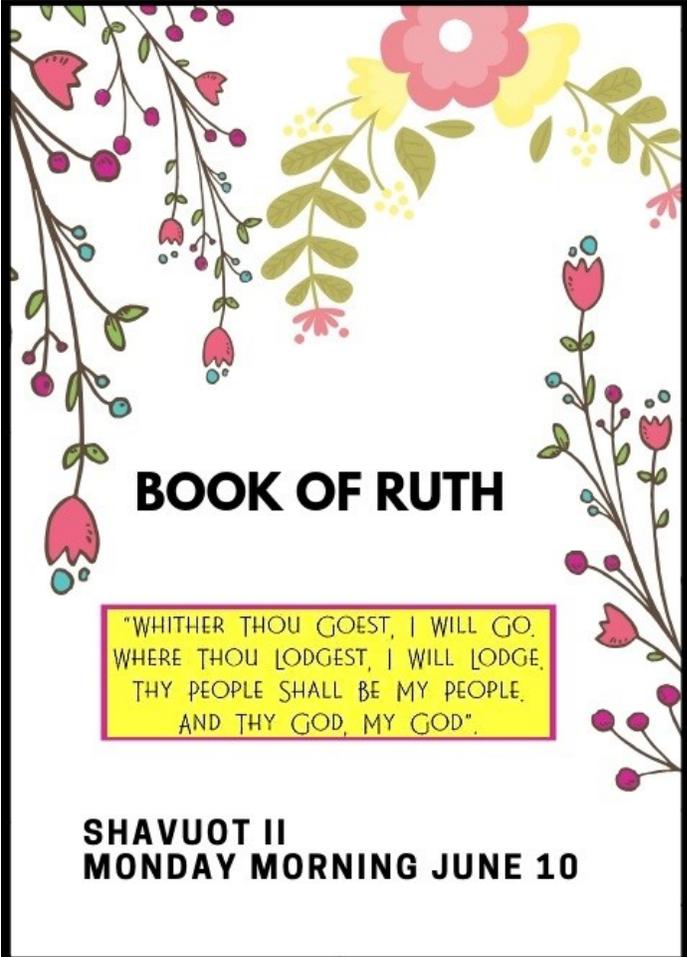


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SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019

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BOOK OF RUTH

"WHITHER THOU GOEST, I WILL GO,
 WHERE THOU LODGEST, I WILL LODGE,
 THY PEOPLE SHALL BE MY PEOPLE,
 AND THY GOD, MY GOD".

**SHAVUOT II
 MONDAY MORNING JUNE 10**