

CONNECT

CONGREGATION GATES OF HEAVEN
AFFILIATED WITH THE URJ



Image Credit: Kim Mousaw

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

- HAMENTASHEN BAKE-OFF
- MEGILLAH & MIMOSAS
PURIM DINNER
- FOUNDERS DAY
- COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER

OUR GATES ARE OPEN!

Join us in-person
or virtually.

You Belong Here

What's Happening at Congregation Gates of Heaven

Ongoing Programs

Shabbat Services:

In-person & Live stream
every Friday at 7:00 pm

Jammies & Jeans:

First Friday of each month
at 5:45 pm
for families with young children

Torah Study:

Saturdays at 9:00 AM

Gates Quest:

Sundays at 9:30 AM
(held 26 Sundays of the
year- see the schedule on
www.cgoh.org under
Learn, Gates Quest)

Zenobics Tai Chi:

Mondays at 6:30 PM

Community & Coffee:

Wednesdays at 1:00 PM

Talmud Study:

Thursdays at 12:00 PM

Visit our website at
cgoh.org to sign up for
events and access our
interactive and
live-stream offerings

March 2024

- Friday, 3/1, 5:45 PM: Jammies & Jeans
- Sunday, 3/3, 9:00 AM: "We March to Celebrate Women"
- Sunday 3/3, 10:00 AM: Brotherhood Breakfast & Speakers on Palliative Care
- Tuesday 3/5, 12:00 PM & 7:00 PM: Interpretation & Imagination- Explore the Art of Midrash
- Wednesday, 3/6, 6:00 PM: GOHTY (5th-12th grades) Nintendo Night
- Wednesday, 3/6, 7:30 PM: Let's Learn Shabbat Prayers - on line 1st session
- Friday, 3/8, 6:30 PM: Let's Learn Shabbat Prayers - in person 1st session
- Saturday, 3/9, 4:00 PM: Chorus with Margo Wagner in the Sanctuary
- Saturday, 3/9, 6:00 PM: Virtual Havdalah
- Sunday, 3/10, 9:30 AM: Sip & Share with Arnie Rotenberg
- Sunday, 3/10, 9:30 AM: B'Nai Mitzvah Family Experience 7th Grade
- Sunday, 3/10, 10:45 AM: Sisterhood Discussion "Book Banning! Libraries Threatened" with Mindy Holland RSVP to tammy@cgoh.org
- Sunday, 3/17, 10:00 AM: Cyber & Internet Security for Families
- Tuesday, 3/19, 10:00 - 2:30: Red Cross Blood Drive at CGOH
- Wednesday, 3/20, 7:00 PM: Sisterhood Book Group discusses "*Born A Crime*" by Trevor Noah at the home of C. Cohen and on Zoom
- Saturday 3/23, 5:00 PM First Annual Hamentashen Bake-Off
- Saturday, 3/23, 5:30 PM: *Megillah* & *Mimosas*: Purim Dinner & Megillah Reading, join us for a fun evening beginning with a Pot Luck dinner
- Wednesday, 3/27, 8:00 PM, Mystical Realms Book Group discusses "The Caves of Steel" by Isaac Asimov
- Friday, 3/29 7:00 PM Founders Day at B'nai Sholom
(No Shabbat service at Congregation Gates of Heaven)

April 2024

- Friday, 4/5, 5:45 PM: Jammies & Jeans
- Sunday, 4/7, 10:00 AM: Brotherhood Breakfast & Speaker
- Sunday, 4/7, 2:30 PM: Sisterhood Chair Yoga
- Sunday, 4/14, 9:30 AM: Sip & Share with Arnie Rotenberg
- Monday, 4/22, 6:00 PM: Community Passover Seder
 - \$45/adult and \$15/children's meal, catered by Gershon's: Matzah Ball Soup, Salad, Choice of: Eggplant Parmigiana, Beef Brisket, Chicken Marsala & desserts
 - Register at cgoh.org and please arrive at 5:30 PM
- Tuesday, 4/23: Office Closed for the 1st Day of Passover
- Monday, 4/29: Office Closed for the Last Day of Passover
- Monday, 4/29, 9:00 AM: Yizkor Memorial Service

May 2024

- Friday, 5/3, 5:45 PM: Jammies & Jeans
- Sunday, 5/5, 10:00 AM: Brotherhood Breakfast & Speaker
- Wednesday, 5/15, 7:00 PM: Sisterhood Book Group discusses "Signal Fires" by Dani Shapiro
- Wednesday, 5/22, 12:00 PM: Senior Moments Light Luncheon
- Monday, 5/27: Office Closed for Memorial Day

THE TASTE OF FAITH FROM OUR RABBI

RABBI MATT CUTLER ~ MCUTLER@CGOH.ORG



I have such distinct, positive memories of celebrating Passover as a child. It is with a great deal of ease that I can close my eyes and visualize it. In an instant, I am in the driveway of my uncle's house in Little Neck, Queens. Then I smile and am transported in my mind to the living room-dining room; clearly seeing the extended long, rectangular arrangement of folding tables and bridge tables pushed together with the dining room table – all at different heights. None of the chairs really matched –some were brought up from the basement and others were borrowed from neighbors; come to think of it—none of the *kippot* (traditional head covering) matched either, they were an eclectic collection of every bar mitzvah and wedding in our family's history. Then there were the wine-stained books, which still had some matzah crumbs from past years. Boy, I miss those days; 25+ people crammed around the tables for *Seder*. The food was abundant as if the table was part of the Holy Tabernacle that stood in Jerusalem where my Jewish ancestors would bring their offerings 2000 years earlier. Between the family and friends present, the smell of homemade cooking, the sacred rituals that were to be performed and the laughter mixed with loud voices—there was holiness all around us.

The *seder* was led by Sol Kreitman, who always seemed very old to me. I loved sitting by his side as he chanted the sacred passages. This man embodied *kavanah* (spiritual integrity) as he conducted the age-old rituals. I remember vividly him leaning over to me when I was about 10 years old and whispering for only me and my grandfather to hear: “*Boychik*- this is YOUR history; told to you through food... *Fress* (Yiddish for “Eat!”)... and remember!”

There was real wisdom in that statement. Indeed when I think of Passover, my memories are associated with the foods served. Passover was a holiday that came with unique tastes and smells for me. But what Mr. Kreitman meant was the *seder* table was a visual drama mixed with liturgy that we got to eat. It started with feelings of renewal but always remembering the bitterness of the past as we ate *karpas*, parsley dipped in salt water. We recalled the pains of servitude under Pharaoh's reign by eating bitter herbs. We remember the potential and possibilities of freedom by eating *Matzah*, the unleavened bread. We played with the *charoset*, the mixture of chopped apples and wine and nuts, which reminded us how our ancestors made bricks and used them for building the stone cities of Pithom and Ramses. We drank 4 glasses of wine to remember the joys of deliverance, but we lessened the joy as we poured out 10 drops to recall the plagues—Mr. Kreitman would stay my hand if I tried to lick my fingers when I did this ritual; “one should not enjoy the plagues inflicted on others...” he would say.

The *seder* experience spreads Jewish history out before us--from creation to the patriarchs; from slavery to freedom and then into the land of Israel. The meal itself is metaphoric of the *korbanot* (the sacrifices offered in the Temple years ago; that is why we eat roasted meats!). This is in accordance of the Talmudic sage, Rabbi Yohanan Ben Zakkai who taught that after the Temple, the dining room table became the altar for God. (continued on page 4)

The Rabbi's message continued

Thus the joys found after the meal center around that moment in history when we as a people, gathered in our own God-given land and were free to embrace God as we were commanded. Thus the rituals after dinner have a strong Messianic overtone. We invite the forerunner of the Messiah, the prophet Elijah to the table by opening the door and inviting him in for a glass of wine. We sing and end our *seder* with the line “*L'shanah Habahah b'Yerushaleiyim...* Next year, in Jerusalem.” Long before Theodor Herzl proclaimed Zionism as Jewish nationalism in the 19th century, Jews have been yearning to return to their homeland that God bestowed upon their ancestors.

Rabbi Aaron Panken z”l, the former President of the Hebrew Union College, shared with me his insights that the *seder* was sort of “pep rally for the soul.”

Jews who lived in Diaspora after the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE used the seder to hold onto their history and to find the strength to yearn to return to Israel and the way things were. He believed that the message is clear —“God did it once, God can do it again... Keep the faith”, he said.

As the Passover season rolls around, my prayer for you is this: May your memories of Passover be sweet and inspire you to create new ones. May the taste of the history inspire you to engage in a commitment to change the world for the better. And may the symbol of Elijah imbue with the confidence and the hope of what tomorrow can bring for all of us, all of Israel and all the world.”

Matthew J. Adler



The **TZEDEK BOX** is a new ritual supporting us as we pursue justice work as a consistent practice. Like the act of putting coins in a tzedakah box, you add in a slip of paper with a short diary entry every time you make an effort to build a more just world. This year on Yom HaTzedek, **May 5, 2024**, open your Tzedek Box to review what you've done as a form of sacred accountability. Engaging in regular cycles of action and reflection is a beautiful way to pause, take stock of how our actions align with our beliefs, and rededicate ourselves to Tikkun Olam.



Call or email Arnie for more information

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Contact the office today if you are interested in participating in Shabbat services, holiday events, or special programs behind the scenes.

Be an usher!

Help us welcome our fellow congregants and work to ensure our safety while we're together in the synagogue. Training will be provided and volunteerism is an important part of being an active member of our community. Meet your fellow congregants and build friendships, while performing an important duty that helps everyone enjoy being part of our congregation.

JOSH COOPER-GINSBURG
JOSH@CGOH.ORG

**FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF
CONGREGATIONAL JEWISH LIVING**

**Arnie Rotenberg ~
arotenberg@cgo.org**



Attentive Listening

Shalom everyone, “How is everybody doing?” This gentle inquiry reflects the kindness inherent in the *Middah, Sh’miat Haozen*, which means “A Listening Ear” and is **the pay attention Middah** or virtue. First, a quick lesson: the Hebrew word “*Mussar*” refers to moral conduct. The Mussar Movement arose in the 1800’s in Lithuania and encompasses a range of spiritual practices, focusing on personal characteristics, traits, or virtues which are called *Middot* (in Hebrew, singular: a “*Middah*”).

“How is everybody doing?” is a kind question, which was recently asked by a very compassionate Elmo on January 29th. Originally shared on Twitter/X, this simple question quickly traversed the globe, eliciting responses ranging from frustration “The world is in turmoil, Elmo”... to caution “How much time do you have?”. Yet, amidst the surplus of angry, sad, or distressed replies—a virtual outpouring mirroring a dumpster fire—lay a profound lesson in communal dialogue.

Despite the prevailing snarkiness online, there exists a poignant takeaway from this exchange: the importance of genuinely checking in with others. Sometimes, you really do need to ask how folks are doing,...ask about someone’s well-being, and regardless of their response, simply listen. The act of attentive listening takes intention and work on the part of the listener.

“If you have the emotional capacity, can you ask someone how they are today and hold space for their answer?”

This query, posed by Ali Hall in a piece about Elmo for the positivity and happiness-centric publication, “Spread the Ripple” on Medium, resonates deeply with the lesson of *Sh’miat Haozen*. While the response may be overwhelming, providing a safe space for someone to express their truth could serve as a significant act of kindness, enriching both the individual and the community at large. And given all the factors that continually add up in all our lives today, it is nice to have someone to talk to, and someone who will listen.

Arnie Rotenberg

Brotherhood Corner

Philip Morris, CEO of Proctors Theatre, spoke to us at our February breakfast, on the considerable success and future plans of Proctors in the Capital District.

On March 3, we will welcome Dr. William Vacca and Phil DiSorbo, who will speak on palliative care.

Then, on April 7, temple member Bob Michaels will speak on his recent book, *Civics & Science: Contemporary Issues for Civil Democracy*.

Our final spring breakfast will feature Dr. Steady Moono, President of SUNY SCCC, who will speak on future directions of our local community college.

Join us for a delicious breakfast and fascinating presentation monthly. We look forward to seeing you!

President's Column

Over 150 days have passed since October 7, 2023. There is no question that with one significant city remaining- the IDF is approaching a strategic military success in the removal of the physical infrastructure developed over 30 years by Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the PFLP, and similar terror groups. Most certainly Israel will be safer. What remains unclear however, will be how “safe” will be quantified.

Hamas and its brethren are not, sadly, going to be truly eliminated. The ideas, energy, philosophy that created them cannot be defeated. Rather, the popularity and acceptability of ideas and concepts rise and fall over time based on varying factors. Support for the idea of a Palestinian state remains as popular as it has ever been, and that idea is one that is a reasonable aspiration for a people seeking self-determination.

This past summer, I had a rare opportunity to meet with the top leadership of the Israeli Histadrut, the equivalent of the AFL-CIO. While we focused on the general strike that occurred last spring in relation to the Judicial laws, the conversation did include discussion on peace efforts. Arnon-Bar David, Histadrut’s leader, reminded everyone present that the idea of a Palestinian statehood is not something to oppose. He reminded us that Yitzhak Rabin gave his life to pursue this cause and that it’s incumbent on all to keep that goal alive. He clarified that there is a difference between having a goal and achieving that goal, as achievement requires levels of smaller goals, strategic planning, and mechanisms for enforcement and mutual accountability.

The impact of the ever-intensifying calls for “peace”, “ceasefire,” etc. which are thoughtful, compassionate calls for humanitarianism are interwoven with those advocating the same for far less noble reasons. We see calls for “peace” used as fronts for hate speech. In an increasing amount of utter disregard for the events of October 7, 2023, We are seeing the center of both political parties being eroded bit-by-bit with “fringe” ideas that are transforming the parties into something new.

While it’s healthy and reasonable to engage in review and analysis of institutions and governments in Israel, the US and elsewhere, we must resist the urge to allow that otherwise healthy discourse to be used as a distraction. The events of October 7 are being whitewashed into something other than what it was: a total unprovoked massacre of innocent civilians- infants, seniors, children, men, women, even pets, simply because they existed and because Hamas could do it. Further, Hamas has made it clear that it has no regrets and would do the same repeatedly. Hamas’ goal is not a strategic one. It is not seeking Palestinian statehood and self-determination of a people. Hamas seeks only the eradication of Jews from Eretz Yisrael. That is Hamas’ goal and the goal of those calling “from the River to the Sea.”

The IDF’s fight is there. Our battle here is the concern of ideas. We need to be vigilant in fighting against hate for hate’s sake; that is the only way to achieve a meaningful, lasting peace.



Jonathan Rubin
President of the Board of Trustees
Congregation Gates of Heaven



Hamentashen Bake Off

Bake homemade Hamentashen!

Purim is a time of great joy and festivity. So take part in the 1st Annual Hamentashen Bake-Off.

Rules:

- Enter as an individual, family or team.
- Enter more than once.
- All entries must be home made and 1 dozen minimum for each entry (except "biggest").
- Must be at the synagogue by Saturday, March 23 at 5:00 PM.
- Must be labeled with name and category.

Entries become the property of CGOH and will be appropriately consumed.

Categories:

Cookie Dough, Gluten Free, Yeast Dough, Most Shapely, Biggest, Smallest, Most Original/Creative, Most Colorful, Most Unique Filling (and others if discussed with Arnie in advance)

Call Tammy at the Temple Office if you have any problems registering. The link to the form is in the weekly emails.

We thank Adrian & Nina Swierczewski, Elizabeth Desbiens, Brian & Cheryl Hatkoff, Neil Golub, and Lauren & Richard Savage for committing to make a Life and Legacy Gift to our congregation.

Their promise to remember Gates of Heaven in their after-life plans or to gift our community with funds for our perpetual endowment will help to sustain our long-term future.

By stating their intent to make a Life and Legacy gift, Gates will receive incentive money from Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York.

Almost every adult can be a philanthropist using the Life and Legacy model. For more details, please reach out to Mindy Holland, Life and Legacy Committee Chair (mindyminerholland@gmail.com) or to any of the other team members: Theresa Cassiack, Rick Dolins, Stacey Farber, Peter Kopcha, Paula Metzner, and Josh Cooper-Ginsburg.

SISTERHOOD UPDATE & NEWS

Sisterhood had a very busy winter with programs that included: Judge Brian Haak speaking about the Court of Claims, Bagels with County Court Judge Jill Polk, & the Sisterhood/Brotherhood breakfast with guest speaker Phillip Morris, CEO of Proctors Theater.

Looking forward, Sisterhood will be hosting Mindy Holland speaking about book banning and how it affects families and students, the movie ARE YOU THERE GOD ? IT'S ME MARGARET, Chair Yoga, Painting class, Sephardic cooking, Lilith Salons. Also, we would like to hold programs on Women's reproductive rights and climate change. Please let us know of any guests that might be able to speak on these topics. Stay tuned-much more to come!!

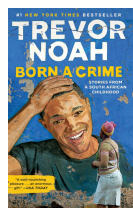
So, join us for friendly conversation, lots of smiles and of course, noshing!!!

SISTERHOOD EVENING BOOK GROUP SELECTIONS 2024

Held at 7:00 PM at the home of the discussion leader. Sisterhood Evening Book Group welcomes all members of Sisterhood and our temple to join us for discussion of the following book choices:

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Born A Crime by Trevor Noah
Discussion Leader & home of Cindy Cohen & on Zoom



Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Signal Fires by Dani Shapiro
Discussion Leader & home of Ellen Eisenberg



CEMETERY UPDATE

We are pleased to report that in January 2024, The Cemetery of Congregation Gates of Heaven, Inc. was formed as a new organization.

The Board members of the new corporation are:

- President: Eileen Michaels
- Vice President: Richard Dolins
- Treasurer: Gordon Zuckerman
- Secretary: Suzanne Gold
- At-large: Elizabeth Desbiens
- At-large: Karen Gerhardt
- At-large: Del Salmon

The new corporation Board is in the process of applying for recognition of tax-exempt status as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is working with the CGOH Board of Trustees to gather the necessary documents and regulatory approvals needed for the cemetery funds, The Watt Street property, and contract with Vale cemetery, to be transferred to the new corporation.

Please add the new cemetery corporation email and mailing address to your contacts:

cgohcemeteries@gmail.com

Our new mailing address is:

**The Cemetery of Congregation Gates of Heaven, Inc.
1737 Union Street #165
Schenectady, NY 12309**

As spring approaches, we are undertaking a major effort to address the repairs and/or cleaning of headstones and footstones as may be needed at the cemetery. Email us at cgohcemeteries@gmail.com or speak with Josh Cooper-Ginsburg if you would like to have the stone of your loved one professionally cleaned or repaired this spring, or if you would like to sponsor the cleaning or restoration of any of the other markers or stones in the Watt Street cemetery. We will also be reaching out to individual families as needed and are happy to provide current photos showing the condition of a loved one's stone or marker if you are unable to visit the cemetery in person.

OUR TEMPLE FAMILY

11/11/23 to 2/12/24

We share in their joy and extend warm congratulations to:

- David & Andrea Golub on the engagement of their daughter, Hailey, to Sam Feitel.
- Peter & Carol Max, on the arrival of their grandson, Ronan, born to Ben and Michelle Max.
- Maggie Collins on the arrival of her grandchild, Willson Solomon Lueck, born to Lilly Carrell & Joseph Lueck.
- Gordon Zuckerman on his recent election/ appointment to the MiSci Board and as Chair of the Board of Niskayuna Fire District #2.

We send out thanks and appreciation to:

- Karen Wachenheim for organizing the Zumbathon held on Mitzvah day. \$2,309 was raised for the Jewish Federation Israel Emergency Fund.
- We appreciate ALL the Mitzvah Day organizers, participants and donors!
- All the Soup Shabbat participants, soup makers extraordinaire and those who enjoyed soup and contributed. We made donations of **\$600 each** to Rotterdam Community Center and Schenectady Community Ministries, SiCM.



Please join us to welcome these new members of our congregation:

Adam Cohen
Charlotte Hansen
Ellen Madison
Miriam & Shai Posner
Ben & Emily Solomon

OUR TEMPLE FAMILY

11/11/23 to 2/12/24

We grieve with those who have lost loved ones and extend our condolences to:

- Barbara Dworkin and Janet Goldman on the loss of their mother, Sarah Chapman
- Jenifer Cartoon Follman, on the loss of her husband, David Follman
- Sara Cartoon, on the loss of her stepfather, David Follman
- Isaac & Elijah Follman, on the loss of their father, David Follman
- Marcie Fox Green, on the loss of her mother, Ruth Lia Fox
- Randie Salmon, on the loss of her sister, Lisa Fox
- Benjamin, Stephen and Hannah Salmon, on the loss of their aunt, Lisa Fox
- Hope Goldhaber, on the loss of her father, Mandell "Manny" Safer
- Joshua Goldhaber, on the loss of his grandfather, Mandell "Manny" Safer
- Linda Carr, on the loss of her Mother, Mildred Larner
- Aaron Carr & Lauren Baxt, on the loss of their grandmother, Mildred Larner
- Joanne Westervelt, on the loss of her partner, Gerhard "Gil" Adam
- David and Stephen Adam, on the loss of their father, Gerhard "Gil" Adam
- Allyson, Rebecca and Rachel Adam, on the loss of their grandfather, Gerhard "Gil" Adam
- Henry Molt, on the loss of his companion of 22 years, Janice Myra Miesing
- Debbie Regan & Marc Miesing, on the loss of their mother, Janice Myra Miesing
- Abigail, Kaitlyn, Alexander, Jonathan and Samuel Regan and Kai, Joshua and Micah Miesing on the loss of their grandmother, Janice Myra Miesing
- Carrie Kronick, on the passing of her mother, Dolores LaPointe
- Steve Kronick, on the passing of his mother, Arlene Kronick
- Peter Max, on the passing of his brother, David C Max
- Karen & Bernard DeChalus, on the loss of their son, Jonathan DeChalus

*Yahrzeits are published
weekly in the Friday email
announcements*



***We record with sorrow the
passing of our members***

**Sarah Chapman
David Follman
Gerhard "Gil" Adam
Jonathan DeChalus**

NEW IN THE GATES OF HEAVEN LIBRARY

Gates' Libraries

Mindy Holland, Temple Librarian

There are over 5000 materials in Gates of Heaven's Libraries. The materials may be taken out of the libraries by any congregant. For a spreadsheet of all library materials, go to cgoh.org/libraries.html# on the Gates webpage under the Learn tab, or view it [here](#).

The Randall Adult featured books of the month are:



Am Yisrael Chai is an emergency response anthology of voices from all over the world, grieving and writhing from the horrors perpetrated upon the State of Israel on Simchat Torah 5784, October 7, 2023.

The author of Mama's Survival from Lithuania to America spoke to our 7th grade Gates Quest students on February 4th.

Kantika was read by Sisterhood's evening book group.

Titles in our library include:

- Popular new fiction with a Jewish theme
- Books by local Jewish authors
- Holocaust materials
- Information on modern Jewish living, parenting
- B'nai mitzvah planning, raising Jewish children
- Holiday observances
- Biographies

To check out these books or any others, simply write your full name on the card in the back of the book and leave the card in the holder on the desk in the library. Please feel free to visit our libraries any time the building is open.

Discard Book Cart

Pick up a book from our discard cart located in the temple lobby/cafe area for a \$1 donation. New books are added often...Jewish and secular. Many books are donated by our temple members.

Book Donations

If you have books to donate, please contact Mindy Holland before bringing them to the temple. Some books will be added to the Randall Adult Library, others will be placed on the discard book cart. Cash donations are welcome as well.

Join a Book Club

We have two book clubs:

- Our Sisterhood Book group meets about every other month at each other's homes. Please see the temple newsletter and e-newsletter and the Sisterhood section of the website for current book selections or facilitators' contact information. New members are warmly welcomed!
- *Mystical Realms: Jewish Fantasy & Science Fiction Book Group. Meets on zoom the last Wednesday of every month.*

Any questions about the Randall Adult library- Please contact Mindy Holland at Mholland@sunrisemc.com

DONATIONS

November 11, 2023 to February 12, 2024

Alan Sternstein Cheder Scholarship Fund

- Rhonda Fulton IMO Sanford Sternstein
- Barbara Miller IMO Sanford Sternstein
- Gail Sternstein IMO Larry Miller
- Gail Sternstein IMO Jack Waltman

Alison Auerbach-Barr Youth Fund

- Barbara & Jeff Walton IMO Jonathan DeChalus

Brotherhood

- Peter & Miriam Vollweiler IMO Harvey Cline

Campership Fund

- Ina & Aaron Fried IMO Theo Fried
- Fred Kantrow IMO Lisa Fox

Cemetery General Donation

- Aaron Albert IMO Beatrice & Joseph Albert
- Paul & Juli Boyarin IMO Judith Boyarin
- Jenna Voss IMO Corinne Tepper

Cemetery Improvement Project Donation

- Thomas & Stephanie Hirschen IMO Dr. Aaron Preiss & Kurt Hirschen

Giving Tuesday

- Elizabeth & Robert Desbiens
- Suzanne Gold & John Berhaupt
- Kay Keller
- Christine & Jeffrey Levy
- Parker Meyers
- Bob & Joanne Schnee
- Roger Shapiro
- Fran Rossi Szpylczyn
- Barbara & Jeffrey Walton

Guardian Circle

- Anonymous
- Ann Cramer
- Robert & Donna Grossman for 2024-25
- Bea & Gerry Hahn
- Marcus Harrington & Elisa Harrington-Verb
- Al & Sally Magid
- Dr. Elyse Pearson
- Jonathan & Jessica Rubin
- Dr. Randy Simon & Prof. Rachel Cohon
- Nina & Adrian Swierczewski

Hahn Teen Initiative Fund

- Bea & Gerry Hahn IMO Gil Adam & Audrey Moskowitz
- Bea & Gerry Hahn IHO Peter & Susan Kopcha

High Holy Days Appeal

- Randy Simon & Prof Rachel Cohon
- Maya & Steve Elson

Infrastructure Fund

- Dianne Schreer IMO Harvey Cline
- Steven Goldberg IHO Tu B'Shevat

Jo Auerbach Culinary Fund

- Elaine Auerbach IMO Josephine Auerbach

Jewish Vibrancy Fund/General Fund

- Joanne Assini IMO Eunice Greer
- Vanessa Bilanceri as a late year end gift
- Lee Brice IHO the Congregation
- Lee Brice IMO Jonathan DeChalus
- Ann Cramer IMO Harvey Cline
- Ellen Cuttler IMO Irwin Rothman as we approach anniversary of his passing
- Ellen Cuttler- Thank you Rabbi Matt for all you do for Congregation & Community
- Karen & Bernard DeChalus IHO CGOH staff & Friends who have supported Jonathan & his family
- Marilyn Elson for a speedy recovery to Sarah Chapman
- Jill & Arnold Factor IMO Harvey Cline
- Caryn Feig IMO Abraham Sultan
- Sanford Fialkoff IMO Sid Cramer & Harvey Cline
- Sanford Fialkoff, Thank you to Josh for preparing the Fialkoff history display
- Jane Frankel IMO Ernest A R Cohen
- Wayne Greene & Marci Fox
- Gay Griffith IHO the Congregation
- Gay Griffith IMO Rosemarie Fontaine, Great Aunt of Jeremy Cohen & David Griffith
- Gay Griffith IMO Charmaine "Cookie" Florell, dear friend of Gay Griffith
- Gay Griffith IAO Natalia & Daniil Polishchuck
- Gay Griffith IAO Parker Meyers
- Gay Griffith IAO Alyssa Fecura
- Gay Griffith IAO Josh Cooper-Ginsburg
- Bea & Gerry Hahn IMO Harvey Cline

Key: IMO=in memory of; IHO=in honor of; IAO=in appreciation of

DONATIONS

Jewish Vibrancy Fund/General Fund

- Mindy & Jesse Holland IMO Jonathan DeChalus, Lisa Fox & Elliott Miner, father of Mindy
- Charles & Johanna Horowitz IMO Walter W. Horowitz & Florence Horowitz & Barbara Weiant
- Elaine Hughes IMO Michael Ruzyla
- Roy & Susan Keats IMO Freda Keats
- Gail Kendall & David Galletly (R. Friedman Memorial Philanthropic Fund) IMO David Max
- Barbara Kramer IMO Mark Wishnick
- Sandra Kutil IMO Audrey Moskowitz
- Margaret Levine IMO Sanford H Levine
- David O'Brien IMO Jonathan Falk
- Michelle Ostrelich & Howard Schlossberg IMO Lisa Fox
- Lucian Rizzo for the People of Israel
- Marc Rosenbloom IMO Jeffrey Rosenbloom
- Arnie & Veronica Rotenberg IMO Jonathan DeChalus & Janice Myra Brenner Miesing
- Eric & Rachel Siegelman IMO Jonathan DeChalus
- Sandra Smith IMO Margaret Radin
- Jennifer & Shawn Tabankin IMO Jonathan DeChalus
- Tai Chi Class IHO the Congregation
- Jack & Rochelle Treiber IMO Eunice Greer
- Peter & Miriam Vollweiler IMO Lisa Fox
- Barbara & Jeff Walton IHO Karen & D Graham Holmes on birth of their granddaughter
- Jeffrey & Barbara Walton IMO David Max, Gil Adam & Lisa Fox

Lewis Chapman LLL Find

- D Graham & Karen Holmes IMO Ruth Kramer Weiss

Life & Legacy

- The estate of Jonathan Falk
- Karen Gerhardt
- Herbert Schwartz
- Nina & Adrian Swierczewski

Livestream Fund

- Gail Sternstein IMO Alan Sternstein, Gail's son

Lulu Field Fund

- Albert & Elsbeth Field Memorial Fund IMO Lulu Field

Oneg Fund

- Elizabeth & Rob Desbiens IMO Carol Caden, mother of Elizabeth
- Larry & Ellen Eisenberg
- Gail Sternstein IMO Jack Golden, Gail's father

Passport to Israel

- Sandra Smith IMO Lenore Verdrager

Randall Adult Library Fund

- Bea & Gerry Hahn IMO Lois Bluestein
- Harvey Randall IMO Lisa Fox

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Paul & Juli Boyarin IHO Rabbi Cutler's Services
- Elaine Cline IHO Rabbi Matt
- Karen & Bernard DeChalus IHO Rabbi Matt Cutler for being there for Jonathan. Always.
- Ellen & Larry Eisenberg IHO Gordon Zuckerman reappointment as Chair of Niskayuna Fire District #2
- Larry & Ellen Eisenberg
- William & Ellen Friedman IAO High Holy Day tickets
- Karen Gerhardt for Teen Advocacy Programs
- Linda Goodman
- Susanna & John Hurley IMO Bob Hurley & Phyllis Stein
- Peter & Carol Max IHO Ben & Michelle Max and their new baby boy, Ronan Max
- Harvey Randall IMO Sheila J Randall & David Max
- Heidi Reale IHO Rabbi Matt Cutler
- Debbie Regan & the family of Janice Meising
- Marc Rosenbloom IMO Marian Rosenbloom
- Rosalyn Rufer IMO Jeannette Florman & George Gross
- Frances Scheer IMO Jonathan DeChalus
- Brooke (Cutler) & Andrew Sichel IHO Rabbi Matt Cutler

Religious School

- Joni Lieberman Basen & family IHO Michael Schulman

Safety & Security

- Rob & Rachel Carr
- Neev & Wendy Crane
- Elizabeth & Rob Desbiens in memory of Carol Caden, mother of Elizabeth
- Suzanne Gold & John Berhaupt
- Gay Griffith
- Harvey Randall
- D Graham & Karen Holmes
- Michelle Ostrelich & Howard Schlossberg
- Barbara & Jeff Walton
- Ernie & Deb Wein

Sisterhood Reyut

- D. Graham & Karen Holmes IMO Lucy Kramer Cohen
- Peter & Miriam Vollweiler IMO Harold Szenes & Mignon Szenes

Sisterhood

- Andrea & Ed Leighton IMO Fay Friedman

TCSC Fund

- Karen & Bernard DeChalus IMO Jonathan DeChalus
- Marc Rosenbloom IMO Ginny Rosenbloom

Wachenheim Mitzvah Day Fund

- Kay Keller
- Frances Scheer IMO Jonathan DeChalus

Key: IMO=in memory of; IHO=in honor of; IAO=in appreciation of

Each donation is gratefully appreciated!



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Join us for a delightful evening of fun at our Family Purim Potluck Dinner! We're rolling out the red carpet for a memorable celebration filled with laughter, delicious food, and a whole lot of excitement.

BRING A DISH FOR 10 TO SHARE!

Scan me! **SATURDAY** **23 MAR** **5:30 PM** Scan me!

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