Dear Friends,

As I write this article, images of Russian missiles and tanks in Ukraine fill the airwaves. We are watching in real time as innocent lives are being snuffed out, unimaginable havoc is being wreaked, millions of refugees are fleeing their homeland, and Democracy and the rule of law are being threatened. While we applaud the bravery of the Ukrainian leadership and its people, the chaos and destruction that they are facing is unimaginable.

My family has deep roots in Ukraine. As I have shared in other writings, my grandparents lived in the city of Zolotonosha — just outside of Kharkiv. My Grandmother, Esther Kovalyevsky, received her master’s degree in History from the historic University of Kharkiv – which now lies in ruins due Russian bombings. She and my grandfather, Avram Kovalyevsky fled Ukraine at the turn of the century after a series of Anti-Semitic attacks made life unbearable for Jews. They moved to Leipzig, Germany where my mother was born. That they managed to escape from Jew hatred in both Ukraine and Nazi Germany is part of my family’s legacy that has indelibly shaped our worldview — but that is a tale for another time.

I know that my family’s story is not unique. Many of you can also trace your lineage back to Ukraine and other parts of Eastern Europe. When we tell our family histories, we are reminded of the power of storytelling and how it raises our consciousness while forcing us to work to make change in the world.

In just a few weeks we will be celebrating the festival of Pesach. As we gather around our seder tables and tell the tale of our deliverance thousands of years ago, images of destruction from Ukraine are even more pressing. Pesach is a festival of freedom and hope. Our story of escaping bondage is both ancient and evergreen. We cannot fully celebrate our deliverance while others suffer. The tragedy of the subjugation of Ukraine by a blood-thirsty tyrant is reflected by the symbols on our seder plates and the passages of the Haggadah which speak of a vision of a world where oppression is ended.

If you have not yet donated to help those in need affected by this horrific crisis, now is the time. There are many organizations that are helping on the ground. Here are just a few you might want to consider for your Tzedakah:

- HIAS is an organization founded in 1881 that was originally founded to assist Jewish Refugees fleeing pogroms in Russia and Eastern Europe. Their mission has expanded to help refugees all over the world. To donate to HIAS, go to www.HIAS.org.
- Jewish Colorado has set up a Ukraine Emergency Fund. To donate, go to https://www.jewishcolorado.org/jewishcolorado-ukraine-emergency-fund/.
- One more organization worth considering is an Israeli Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) called NATAN called NATAN – an all volunteer humanitarian disaster relief organization that collaborates with international NGOs to provide help in emergency situations. My brother-in-law, Dr. Avery Hart is currently volunteering on the ground in Poland with NATAN. To donate, go to: www.natanrelief.org/donate.

May this Pesach bring its message of deliverance to all who are suffering.

L’Shalom,

– Rabbi Joe Black
INSIDE TEMPLE

Greetings Temple Emanuel family. I hope the spring feels good after our decent winter. I think there is more snow on the way, but of course I am writing this article on March 23rd, who knows what’s to come? By the time you read this we will have completed our 147th Annual Meeting on April 7 and 8 and finally we will have had the chance to really socialize together in this beautiful building for the first time in over two years.

One thing we addressed at the Annual Meeting is the exciting 150th Anniversary celebration commencing in the fall of 2023. As a part of this important milestone we are going to commence with one of the most momentous and vital fundraising ventures ever contemplated at Temple Emanuel. Over the past 148 years we have had our share of fundraising endeavors and each one was successful and kept our vibrant community alive and well.

The Board of Trustees along with our 150th Anniversary co-chairs and our professional leadership have worked closely with an outside consultant to investigate our ability to create a significant endowment which will allow our operations to thrive for many years into the future as well as raise funds for some critical capital upgrades in our building. As traditional temple dues models continue to be less reliable throughout the country, we need to be at the forefront of financial sustainability. This fundraiser is tasked with aiding our ability to meet our vision for years to come. Over the next year we will be laying out the plans to all of you so our entire congregation can have meaningful involvement in our fundraiser and the 150th Anniversary celebration.

As always I wish you and your families health and happiness. I look forward to seeing you at Temple. As always I wish you and your families health and happiness. I look forward to seeing you at Temple.

INSIDE TEMPLE

Save-the-Date – Mini-Mitzvah Day

For the first time since 2019, we will have a scaled back, in-person Mini-Mitzvah Day on Sunday, May 15th for adults. The Religious School has been incorporating Mitzvah projects into their curriculum over the last couple of months. We are excited to participate once again in Tikkan Olam, repairing the world. There will be limited projects inside the building, off-site, kit projects to take home and fundraising.

Part of Mitzvah Day will be working with Clothes for Kids, which provides new and quality used clothing to low-income, school-aged children in Denver County free of charge. The items they are always in need of are new socks and underwear. We will be collecting all sizes and styles from kids size 4T (XS) up through adult sizes. All socks and underwear should be new and in original packaging. Kids of all ages enjoy fun socks. Sometimes the teens get overlooked so anything for middle and high school students would be great.

This year we will be putting a strong emphasis on our fundraising campaign to aid with the Afghan Refugee Resettlement Program. The Denver Jewish Community has begun the process of welcoming hundreds of Afghan refugees. We have a rich history—as Jews and as Temple members—of participating in this work and, again, our country and our tradition are calling on us to reach out our arms in welcome. That tradition teaches us at least 36 times in the Torah that we are to welcome the stranger. Jewish Family Services of Colorado has applied for and been granted temporary Afghan Refugee Resettlement Agency status and will be working to settle 100 individual refugees arriving in Colorado. We look forward to sharing in the generosity and creativity of our Temple community and know we can count on you to help.

To learn more about the projects, register, or donate, visit our Mitzvah Day website at https://emanueldenver.knack.com/mitzvahday.

Temple Emanuel Women’s Inspirational Israel Journey

Led by Cantor Elizabeth Sacks and Rabbi Emily Hyatt • December 1-11, 2022

We are excited to announce that our long-awaited Women’s Inspirational Israel Journey is finally happening! We’re thrilled to have the opportunity to bring women together to travel, explore, learn, pray, sing, and eat.

This year, 2022, commemorates not only 100th anniversary of the first Bat Mitzvah but also 50 years of women in the rabbinate. As the current female clergy, we are proud to continue the tradition of celebrating the power and possibility of Jewish women in community and connection with one another.

The history of women in leadership at Temple Emanuel is extremely strong. Our Women’s Inspirational Israel Journey will build on this foundation to expand our knowledge and deepen our relationships with Israel and one another — all through the lens of empowered progressive Judaism. From Tel Aviv to Tefaf, from marketplaces to mikvahs, and from prayers to politics — this trip has it all. For first-timers and frequent fliers, for Temple Emanuel members and anyone else who wants to experience this unique opportunity — all are welcome.


We hope you will join us!
The names listed below are taken from the memorial plaques in the Meditation Room. Names are read at the Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services following the date of death. To find out how to purchase a plaque, contact Patricia Lackner, ext. 308.

Abe Feldman
Alexander Sol
Amanda Hillary
Hildegard Baer
emanueldenver.org/yahrtzeit

Saturday morning Shabbat services following the date of death. To find out how to purchase a plaque, contact Patricia Lackner, ext. 308.

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TRIBUTES

Tributes through March 21, 2022

Afghan Refugee Resettlement Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Victer Siegel
Robert & Myra Siegel
Malita Shier
Alan & Diana Sher
In Honor of:
Cantor Elizabeth Sacks/Funeral
Joan Sussman
Paula Sussman

Family Promise Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Max Padowsky
Herb & M. Padowsky

General Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Alexander A. Stark
Susan Stark
H. Joseph Silverman, MD
Carol Plotka
Abe Verger
Steve & Enid Wenner
Martin S. Milstein
Ilana Milstein
Rose Kaufman
Henry Kaufmann
Michael Sachtz Memorial Lecture Series Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Gary Fisch
Barbara Freis & Shirley Freis

Katchen-Heller Israel Study Tour Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Jack Fischer
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Haytin

David Lipman Shwayder Equipment Fund
Donations:
James L. Lipman
Jerry Gubisch

Jack & Dorothy Lopata Memorial Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Jack H. Lopata
Barbara Metz

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Stacy Malman Feldman
Dorothy & Art Malman
In Honor of:
Rabbi Steven Foster/Funeral
Joan Sussman
Paula Sussman
Dan Conn celebrating his 80th birthday
Andrea Barkoff
Paula Roberts celebrating her 80th birthday
Judy, Bruce, Jeremy & Gaby Sacks

Rabbi Joseph Black Social Justice Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Gary Fisch
Tori Sackin
Larry Melnick
Jackie Fein

In Honor of:
Rabbi Joe Black/Funeral
Joan Sussman
Paula Sussman

Rabbi Steven E. & Joyce Foster Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Anna Debtor
Donald & Joyce Perlmutter

In Honor of:
Joyce Foster
Joyce & Don Perlmutter

David Jacob Reynolds B’nai Mitzvah Program Fund
In Loving Memory of:
David Jacob Reynolds
Fred & Lundy Reynolds

Religious School Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Martin S. Milstein
Arleen Aron & Family

Ritzo Family Adult Education Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Pat Bloom, mother of Judy Monzen
Roger & Lynn Lieberman
Ritzo

In Honor of:
The birth of Jane & Mark Cohen’s grandson
Lynn & Roger Ritzo

Fred Schwartz Library Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Heloise Bernstein
Phyllis Hindlemann
Deb Webster

Maurice B. Shwayder Camp Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Roselyn Ann Agustus (Natalie Goldman’s sister)
Jerry & Joan Kirshenbaum
Amanda Hillary Cook
T. Michael Cook

Shwayder Camp Capital Campaign
In Loving Memory of:
Ira Self
Bradley Friedman
Jane & Don Friedman
Jacob Walpin
Jim Seff
Sisterhood Flower Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Cheryl Betschler
Seymour Betschler
Arthur J. Betschler
Gay Betschler
Gary Fisch
Andy & Cindy Pollet

Elyce Rae Tittman Fund
In Loving Memory of:
Maurice Waldbbaum
Beth Tittman & Hesh Weinstein
Joan Rittenbaum
Elyce & Albert Dinner
Elyce Rae Tittman
Beth, Jay, Alyson, Paige, Jade, Avel & Aij Tittman
Florence Slaiman
Jay & Jigenberg
Beth Tittman

Zoe Klsowski Shwayder Camp Scholarship Fund
Donations:
Donor’s Day
In Loving Memory of:
Norman Weiner
Gareth & Carol Weiner

MAZEL TOV

Confirmation Class of 2022

For the first time in two years, we’re getting ready to gather together in person to celebrate our Confirmation Students at their Confirmation Ceremony. What is Confirmation, you may ask? Good question. Confirmation is the final stage in the “formal” religious school education of our children. Though we have many opportunities for 7th and 12th graders in our Half Bay Teen Program, the formal classes of religious school conclude at the end of the 10th grade year. And while Confirmation may be the name of our ninth and tenth grade religious school experience here at Temple Emanuel, it is also the goal. Through debate, conversation, challenge and discussion, our students have been confronted with some of the most complicated questions of Jewish identity: what does it mean to be a Jew, why be Jewish, what responsibility do you have to the community, and what Judaism has to say about some of the most relevant issues in their lives — and they’ve done it all while navigating a world that is still wrestling with the pandemic.

As clergy, Confirmation class is one of the best moments of the week - not because the classes are always easy, but because for the first time, our students usually leave with more questions than answers. It is those questions and the opportunity to search for and grapple with the answers, that we hope will pave the way for deep belief and love of community. This year’s class of Confirmands has indeed wrestled - and I believe they are a class - and a community - that will continue to strengthen the Jewish people.

And so, we invite you to celebrate them with us! The entire congregation is welcome to join us on Friday, April 29th at 6PM for our Shabbat services which will include a moment of blessing and celebration for the Confirmation class — thank you in advance for making these students feel celebrated, showing them our pride in their hard work and our commitment to helping them discover what it means to them to live rich and meaningful Jewish lives!

– Rabbi Emily Hyatt

Mazel Tov to our Confirmation Class of 2022

Tamar Bar-On
Riley Berkowitz
Emily Brown
Lauren Fisher
Aidan Fleischman
Aaron Foster
Ozzi Foster
Benjamin Gardberg
Evan Goldstein
Jaxon Kaufman
Jilian Khoudi

Tessa Klopfer
Catie Lefk
Mirabel Levin
Makayla Lurie
Estella Miller
Caroline Ornman
Sammie Palay
Bennie Pollack
Hannah Reed
Alexis Rottman
Mateo Romero

Carmi Rosenweig
Sam Reich
Mara Rosok
Dora Rubin
Julia Seba
Eva Shapiro
Aviah Smith
Eve Weiner
Hannah Zatz

We recognize with sorrow the passing of:
Irene Freund
Minna Kay – Mother of Tony Kay
William (Bill) Osterburg – Brother of Rob Osterburg
Nancy Shwayder – Wife of Ken Shwayder, Mother of Danny (Stacy) Shwayder
Florence Slaiman
Gary Fisch – Brother of Barbara Schwartz
Donald Gross – Father of Nancy Gross
Larry Melnick – Brother of Sandra Melnick

May their memory be for a blessing

We hope to see you all at our Annual Meetings.
– Steve Stark

Inside Temple

Annual Meeting

Please join us for Temple Emanuel’s Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 7th and Friday April 8th, 2022.

The Annual Meeting is an important event for our Temple community. It is the time when we recognize our lay leaders and other members of the congregation, as we both reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and look forward to what lies ahead.

Thus, on Monday evening, April 7th, we will be giving out some well-deserved honors to some wonderful members of our community. We will be awarding Sheryl Gluck, and the DEI Steering Committee for the work they have begun to implement in our community. The Rabbi Steven Foster Early Learning Center will be giving out their volunteers of the year award, as will the Brotherhood. We will also hear from both our Sisterhood and our Brotherhood.

Thursday April 7th – 7:00pm — via ZOOM — Temple Business, Awards and Clergy and Professional Team Reflections

Friday April 8th — 6:00pm — Shabbat Services with Board installation, Temple President Danny Foster’s annual address and Shabbat dinner afterwards and honoring of 50 year members.

I hope to see you all at our Annual Meetings.

– Steve Stark
First Night Community Passover Seder

Friday, April 15th
5:30 p.m. Service | 6:00 p.m. Seder
Temple Emanuel

Cost:
Members - $55 adults | $40 children ages 5-12
Non-Members: $70 adults | $47 children ages 5-12

emanueledenver.org

TEMPLE EMANUEL
ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CONCERT

save-the-date (again)...
6.18.22 FEATURING SUPER DIAMOND
HONORING RABBI STEVE AND JOYCE FOSTER