





17 Chesvan - 17 Kislev November 2023



"EMILY NELSON RODGERS QUARTET"

This concert of classical, semi-classical and popular tunes will have "something for everyone"

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2023 | 3:00 PM

Ochs Sanctuary

923 McCallie Avenue (entrance on Oak) www.mizpahcongregation.org or 423-267-9771

BE A PATRON OF MUSIC AT MIZPAH

Percussion - \$1.000:

Ten Concert Admissions/Reception & Acknowledgement in Program **Brass - \$500 - \$999**:

Six Concert Admissions/Reception & Acknowledgement in Program **String - \$150 - \$499**:

Two Concert Admissions/Reception & Acknowledgement in Program

Woodwinds - \$75: Single Admission/Reception

Single Admission - \$25: Single Concert Admission

All costs for the Concert have been underwritten... performance fees, piano rental, security, graphic artist, program, & reception. All proceeds from sponsorship, donations from those unable to attend & ticket sales will go directly to Mizpah Congregation.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT...

Dear Fellow Congregants,

It has been over a week since Art and I returned from Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico. I tried writing this article from a computer in the hotel lobby, thinking it was due on the 9th, not the 20th like I had written on my calendar. Of course, I had forgotten my password, but I thought I had circumvented the problem, and composed what I thought at the time was a short paragraph, comparing our various members to the many shapes of the beautiful, colorful balloons rising into the sky. Apparently, my letter went up into the clouds as well, never to be received by **Richard Zachary**, who has been compiling this Newsletter for years.

Unfortunately, times quickly changed, since Art and I had the opportunity to glide up into the sky where there was quiet and peace. And then war began against our beloved state of Israel. The Jewish people have got to stay strong, both in Israel and the diaspora. We have to be aware, vigilant, but also hopeful.

I had a conference yesterday with **Michael Dzik**, Director of our Chattanooga Jewish Federation, about security. One of the things that came to my mind and my heart was the fact that we are all in this together as one community. Last month when I talked about receiving our security grants, I failed to mention the importance of the **American Jewish Federation** which helped us achieve those grants.

The NSGP funds – These are federal funds for which the Federation system actively lobbies congress. Michael connected us with **Rob Goldberg** who helped us write the grant. which was for the building, not individual congregations. We will continue to upgrade the security of our building.

The TN State Grant for Personnel Costs – Chattanooga, Knoxville, Nashville and Memphis all pooled our time and money to hire lobbyists in Nashville for the past 2 years. They were able to get the Governor to put \$500,000 last year's budget specifically for religious institutions – and specifically to pay for direct personnel costs. It's a grant process that is open to all faiths. This year the Federations again lobbied and got an increase to \$750,000 available funds. Michael personally completed the Mizpah/BZ/Machanooga application. NOTE: Organizations with the same address could only make ONE application, hence a joint application.

All we need to do is apply for the grant after we spend the money for the personnel. This will be administered by Mizpah for our events, BZ for their events, and Machanooga for its events. I want us to acknowledge that we are all Jews; that we all need to stand strong. We need to show up for activities at Mizpah, but we also need to show up for Federation events because right now Jews in Israel need our help. And the quickest way for you to get it there is to donate through Chattanooga Jewish Federation. Am I biased? Absolutely!!!

L'dor va dor

From Generation to generation

Vicki Lewis

SPECIAL NIGHT NOVEMBER 3RD!

5:00 pm Challah braiding with Susan Caminez

6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat evening worship family service of song and story with **Rabbi Lewis** and **Susan Caminez**

Consecration Ceremony for our newest youth in Jewish education

November Birthdays and Anniversaries recognition

7:00 pm 1st Friday Shabbat dinner—See insert flyer

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR RABBI...

October was a challenging month for Jews around the world, and most trying for our kinsmen, the citizens of Israel. I was talking to friends the other day who asked how I was doing. I answered, "Okay, but I just have this ever-present feeling of "yuck." However, I cannot allow that feeling to dominate my life. Israel needs Jews around the world to remain strong, healthy, confident, and informed. I have made a point of doing the things that take my mind off of the very serious world events: family time, playing with my pets, and watching the Chiefs. I advise this for everyone. My mantra has been: "There is a difference between staying informed and "doom scrolling." So, go outside. Take a walk. Go to the gym. Go shopping. Be present for



Rabbi Craig Lewis

your kids and grandkids. The news will still be there when you get back, and it does not update as quickly as we tend to think.

Personally, I feel the most "normal" when I am outside running: no news, no stress, just music and the road in front of me. On October 15, I had the opportunity to run in a half-marathon. Wearing Israel flag arm sleeves, intentionally showing my Jewish pride, I enjoyed a beautiful autumn day. My music playlist, titled "Fun Songs," was one that I listened to most days that I ran during July in Israel. During my run, my mind took me back to the *Shvil Ha-rakevet*, the Train Path, repurposed train tracks turned into a long running, walking, biking trail. My body was on the Tennessee River Walk, but my mind was on a running trail in Jerusalem. I could see it - the construction walls announcing Jerusalem's attempts to add more green spaces and to develop the city in an eco-friendly way. I could see the people who passed by, fellow runners, even Orthodox women in leggings and long skirts to maintain modesty during their boot camp training. There were also Muslims, including women in hijab, all sharing the same trail, in their shared city. I



was transported to a special time and a place, and the memories, along with endorphins, made me smile throughout the 13 mile race. I needed that, and every time I have exercised since, I try to return to that same place. I hope we all find our own outlets that can help us pace ourselves through these difficult days and guide us to the feeling I described during our Israel Solidarity event at the Jewish Federation on October 10 - Nechemtah.

Here are some of my remarks:

Nechemtah is consolation, a feeling of repose and relief, a moment of healing that allows us to move forward. In Judaism, we think not just in days or years, but in generations. After all, we are a people who plant seeds not for ourselves, but so that our grandchildren can enjoy the shade of the trees we provided. In the meantime, we mourn. We share our grief. We comfort our friends. We express our solidarity. We make an outward showing that the Jewish homeland matters, even for we who live half a world away. Israel is our family, an integral part of who we are. And so, if we remember the heart of the people of Israel is broken, but not our backs, we know *nechemtah* will come. If we stand together in solidarity with the Jewish state, we know *nechemtah* will come. If we look forward to moments of celebration when a hostage is freed, we know *nechemtah* will come. If we await the day when Israel's borders are secured..., we know *nechemtah* will come. If we take the time to mourn and honor every innocent lost life, and give meaning to their sacrifice with the promise: "Never again," we know *nechemtah* will come."

Another thought on *nechemtah* relates to this month of November. We must remember to count our blessings and offer thanks. I already talked about embracing time with friends, family, and pets. Those are blessings worthy of thanksgiving. We live safely and freely in a nation whose borders are secure and endeavors to protect us. For this we give thanks. We had more than 20 representatives from churches across Chattanooga attend our *Shirei Shalom* service to show their love for Israel and the Jewish people. For this we give thanks. We will host at Mizpah a beautiful music concert on November 5th. For this we give thanks. We will host an interfaith dialogue about the Catholic Church's statements on reconciling relations with Jews on November 15th. For this we give thanks. We will participate in an interfaith Thanksgiving service on November 19th. For this we give thanks. We will enter into a holiday season filled with cheer, and reminders of the cycles of history, that there is always a brighter time somewhere in the future, a time filled with *nechemtah* - consolation and repose. For this and all our blessings we give thanks.

May we all enter November with a mission that this and every month after will bring us closer to *nechemtah* and peace for Israel and all people everywhere.

Rabbi Lewis

The journey of friendship between Jews and Catholics in Chattanooga"

LET'S TALK!



Speaker: Brendan Murphy

Date: November 15, 2023

Time: 7 PM - 9 PM

Location: Mizpah Congregation

ENTER ON OAK STREET 923 MCCALLIE AVENUE CHATTANOOGA TN

I am a history teacher at Marist School in Atlanta who is about to start his 30th year at the school! Crazy. The class I'm hoping to bring to Chattanooga is one I developed as part of my position on the Committee for Ecomenical and Interreligious Dialogue for the Archdiocese of Atlanta and has been endorsed by Archbishop Hartmayer. The class covers the history and Christian anti-Judaism, the watershed proclamation of Nostra Aetate, and current and future Jewish-Christian relations.

Recent events

Mizpah **Rabbi Craig Lewis** was photographed crossing the finish line at the October 15th 7 Bridges Half Marathon. We are happy to share this bit of glory. Mazal Tov! And to think he finds time to train a*nd* be our rabbi!

SHIREI SHALOM

Photos compliments of **Andy Hodes** taken our recent *Shirei Shalom* worship service. On the 3rd Shabbat of each month, **Amy Cohen** leads the congregation in song, prayer and meditation, while **Rabbi Lewis** facilitates a spirited and timely discussion. We conclude the evening with our self-named Chardonnay Shabbat, aptly named for the array of wine to share with Mogen David. The service is held in our Feinstein Chapel.







BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

November 1	
Linda	Spector

Lettie Ruiz

November 2

Muriel Rosen

Ken Hays, Jr.

Paul Kaplan

November 3

Jonathan Speal

Tina Glaser

Gail Lindsey

November 4

Michael Shalett

November 7

Eren Kaplan

November 9

Ira Long, Jr.

November 11

Larry Young

Kathryn Stone

November 12

Travis Gilbert

November 14

Caitlyn Rising

November 16

Olivia Center

November 17

Chaim Charyn

Nancy Dinberg

Harriett Finkle

Simon Monen

November 18

Rosemary Odineal

Morton Center

Marcia Noe

Cindy Sirota

November 20

Leta Berger

Aaron Parker

November 21

David Binder

November 22

Shepard Russo

Joshua Schklar

November 23

David Temple

November 25

Jennifer Lincove

Florence Abelson

November 27

Madelaine Israel

Mike Royal

November 29

Cora Feintuch

November 30

Matthew Gabelman

November 2

Joshua and Juliana Roslin

November 3

Mark and Sandra Shapiro

November 6

Mike and Alex Birghenthal

November 18

Jed and Phyllis Mescon

November 21

David and Betsy Temple

November 24

Jordan Rothman and Cassi Combs

November 25

Matt and Tracie Gabelman

November 26

Paul and Brenda Lefkoff

November 27

Mike and Deb Royal

FIRST FRIDAY FAMILY SHABBAT

11/03/23

SERVICES AT 6:00PM

DINNER AT 7:00PM

Fundraiser



"ALL PROCEEDS **GO TO OUR CHATTY** YOUTH GROUP"

Adult Members: \$10

Age 13-22: \$7

Under 12: No Charge

Adult Non-Members: \$13

Age 13-22 Non-Members: \$9

Under 12: No Charge

Please RSVP to the office at 423-267-9771 or email: office@mizpahcongregtion.org

MIZPAH CONGREGATION YAHRZEITS - October 1-November 4

Oct. 29-Nov. 4 Marvin Siskin Sadve Rosenblum Angel Eisenberg Jacob L. Levine Joseph Moore **Brent Matthew Sirota** Reba Spiegel Tyler Hastings Betty Solovey Sarah Gordon Rebecca Gabelman Mollie Siskin Melvin Young Martin Paul Cohen Walter Melnyk Ida Russ Leventhal Kenneth Bryant Snell Ollen Huff Erma Lebovitz Alfred Opengart Marie S. Weber

November 5-11 Benjamin Gordon **Natalie Miller Edward Brody Betty Dagley** Isadore Friefeld Helen S. Cohn Carlos Lamport E.E. Reisman, Sr. Steven Schechter Clarence E. Varble Martha Varble Jospeh Zuckerman Celia Berger Samuel Long James R. Ruppe, Jr. Ira B. Brukner Wyeth Chandler Abe Goldstein Rich Simon

November 12-18 Bertha Effron Borisky Michael Mescon Carol Young Elizabeth Angel Morris Wanda Wood April Bloch Janie Matzkin Harry Miller Lawrence Witten Bernie Dubrow Dorothy Israel Allen D. Lewis Chester Maszden Harrison Rosner Charles Harold Alper Steve Bevil Lou Effron Mary W. Levine Robert Segora Clark **Audrey Minns** Henry Snyder Myra Abelman-Jolles Alvin E. Blumberg Shelton E. Goldblatt Robert Lasky M.J. Mittenthal

November 19-25
Frances Alexander
Douglas Collins
Sylvia Greenman
Morris A. Hodes
Anna Siskin
Barbara Sipinick
Ray Wygoda
Margaret Ann Weill
Celia Neiman
Manuel Russ
Steven Kaset
Sidney Pleat
Ralph Shumacker
Michael Stoller

Nov. 26- Dec. 2 Suzanne L. Gibson Karen Lewin Harry Maurice Edelstein Joyce Cohn Friedman Jospeh Koplan David Prudowsky **Aaron Barshay** Herbert R. Christie Antonette Flaggclemons Reta Ruben Lee Bloch Max Feintuch Morris Joseph Marder Theodore E. Zurett Richard D. Goldberg Ida S. Mallen Irving Phillip Banks Irving Friedman Edwin Kirzner Lawrence Levine Gerald Stephen Lyons Joseph M. Shalett Fannie Cooper Jospeh Ginsberg Jennie Kushner Robert Schneider Edward L. Stein

COMMUNITY SECURITY AWARENESS EVENT

Wednesday, November 1, 7:00 pm at the Jewish Cultural Center (JCC)

Chattanooga Police Department Chief of Police **Celeste Murphy** plus agents from our local FBI and other local safety officials will provide information on how the police handles direct and non-direct threats against the Jewish community



JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Make sure you tune in or attend the 16th Annual Jewish Film Festival! Each Sunday – Wednesday online or each Monday 7:00 pm in person at the JCC. Awardwinning films of Jewish content by acclaimed Jewish writers and producers. The committee views over 50 films to pick our final six. Join in the fun!



NEW ISRAELI SHALIACH

You are invited to meet the new Israeli shaliach, Ofer Musan, who arrived in Chattanooga about four weeks

ago. He is fast getting used to our city and our unique language. Ofer has a great story to tell and a most-interesting family background. As with all Israelis, Ofer is dealing with the horrors of war back home. Please welcome Ofer to our community:

Tuesday, Nov. 14th JCC 5:30 pm



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDUCATION COORDINATOR...Susan Caminez



In October, we celebrated *Simchat Torah* by dancing with the Torahs to live music, enjoyed our Mizpah Hebrew School (MHS) Meet-up in Renaissance Park, and learned so much in the Garden of Life from "Ms. Ladybug" (at left)





In November, on <u>Friday November 3rd</u> at 5:00 pm our kids are coming in to participate in challah braiding. Then, at 6:00 pm we enjoy our rousing Family Service with song and kid-friendly activities. Part of the service will be our annual Consecration, where we welcome and honor all the newest members of our Religious School.

Finally, make sure all your kids join "Miss Susan" in the Preschool Room at 10:00 am on November 18th:



INTERFAITH WORSHIP AND SONG

Join Rabbi Lewis, Marianna Allen and others as we celebrate an Interfaith Gathering of Thanks on Sunday, November 19, 2023. If you wish to sing, be there at 3:00 to rehearse. Location: Pilgrim Congregational Church, 400 Glenwood Drive. After the service, there will be fellowship and refreshments.





Pilgrim Congregation Church
400 Glenwood Drive

NOAH MOSS BAR MITZVAH

Saturday, October 21, 2023, **Noah Moss**, son of **Vanessa and Charlie Moss**, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at Mizpah, Rabbi Craig Lewis officiating. Noah

presented this art piece as part of his Torah drash, or commentary. As told to his Dad: This piece. based on the Torah reading Noach. depicts Noah finding land after God flooded the Earth. The colors represent the hardships Noah faced but the fact they found land meant there was still hope when all hope had been lost.



MIZPAH FUNDS: YOUR DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Donations received by the 15th of prior month \$18 - "chai" - minimum donation

Archives
Building
Capital Campaign
Cemetery
Educator
Endowment
Flower
Garden of Life
Goldman/Moses
Mary W. and Jacob L. Levine

Leadership Development
Library
Miller/Lefkoff
Marks Memorial
Mazon (Feed the Hungry)
Miller/Schwartz
Music
NFTY (Youth Group)
Operating
Oneg
Prayer Book

Physical Property
Religious Activities
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Rabbinic Endowment
Rita Russ Speer
Religious School
Social Action
Staff Support
Kindertransport Chapel

Mary W. and Jacob Levine In Memory of Helen Smith

M.J. Levine

Operating
In Memory of Joseph Zuckerman

Larry and Sandy Zuckerman Sylvia Zuckerman

In Honor of Zoom for the High Holy Days

Judy Sachsman

In Memory of Joseph Heyman
In Memory of Robert Richelson
In Memory of Mary Spector

Louise Spector

Thank you Bev Coulter for a wonderful lunch
Ellen Freiberg

Rabbi's Discretionary

Thank you Rabbi Craig Lewis

Zoya I. Zeman

In Honor of Rabbi Craig Lewis

Arnold and Joan Kort

Social Action
In Memory of Aaron Goldfarb
Candi Kruesi

FEDERATION CAMP AND ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIPS

NEW THIS YEAR – The Chattanooga Jewish Federation is partnering with One Happy Camper (OHC) and PJ Goes to Camp for *first time campers*. Been to camp more than once? More than twice? Three times? Your Chattanooga Federation offers camp scholarships for ALL!

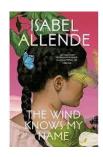
Applications go through OHC: jewishcamp.org. NOTE - If this is *not* your

first time, the application may "deny" your grant. Not to worry - OHC collects that data for Chattanooga and you WILL get a grant! Grants range from \$1,000-\$1,750 per child, per summer. Requirements • Must be an approved Jewish summer camp • Family must live in the Chattanooga metro area • Family must make annual campaign gift (and in good standing) to Federation – at any level. The Federation recognizes the life-long benefits of Jewish summer camp, building Jewish identity, friendships and independence.



BOOK CLUB

Come read with us! Your Mizpah Book club is reading Isabel Allende's *The Wind Knows My Name*. We will meet at the home of **Vicki and Art Lewis** on Sunday, November 12th at 10:30am. Contact Amy at amyjcohen@gmail.com for info! We meet to learn and talk, but really we come for the food and friends. Try it out!



RABBI LEWIS AND ERNEST Rabbi Lewis presents Sgt. Ernest Craw an official jacket from the IDF. Rabbi Lewis brought this from Israel, and asked the seller was it OK to give it to our non-Jewish security officer, who said, "anyone, anywhere who guards Jews is in our Army!"



SOCIAL ACTION

Our Pride event was extremely successful this year! We had an excellent turnout from Mizpah for the parade, and at the Convention Center. This was our first year that we were Silver Sponsors of a booth held at the Convention Center. The crowds overwhelmed us at our booth, folks loved our trinkets, but more importantly, they were extremely interested in learning about Mizpah and our welcoming synagogue. Rabbi Lewis not only marched in the parade with us, but spent most of the day in the booth speaking with curious visitors. A special thanks goes to all of our volunteers who took shifts at our booth to make the day so successful: Ellen Hays, Hope Flammer, Rabbi Lewis, Marissa Street, Olivia Center, Maddie

Gabelman, Eden & Jen Lewis. In addition, I especially appreciate Alex Birghenthal for her contribution in providing our booth with a beautiful sign. We truly had fabulous participation which made our event even more enjoyable.

Our next event coming up is the "Grateful Gobbler." **Ellen Hays** who informed me Mizpah participated on a regular basis in the past. We are renewing this event this year and have formed the Mizpah Team. Please sign-up so that Tom, Ellen, and I don't have to march alone! Please indicate after you register "Mizpah Congregation Team" Let's walk together for a great cause! www.gratefulgobblerwalk.org/

Finally, I am very pleased to share that we have two new Social Action Chairs that are looking forward to getting started in November. Please welcome **Stefanie deOlloqui** and **Brenda Binder** to their new roles. It has been a pleasure serving you these past 2.5 years.

Debra Dubow

Former Social Action Chair







THANKSGIVING DAY 5K GRATEFULGOBBLER.ORG

STUDY, LEARNING and WORSHIP

The following study, learning and worship opportunities are available each week; some are geared to youth; for more info, call the Office or email Rabbi Lewis

Sundays: Machanooga; Confirmation classes

Wednesdays: Mussar (Jewish Ethics) via Zoom

Thursdays: Teen Torah Talk via Zoom

Fridays: Kabbalat Shabbat; Shirei Shalom; Kaddish

Saturdays: Torah Study; Shabbat worship (with Torah and Haftarah reading; Kaddish

MIZPAH GARDEN OF LIFE

Have you recently been in the Garden of Life and felt like something was missing? The Garden bench (shown at right) that was a fixture for a long time had a significant amount of rotten wood and for safety reasons had to be removed. If you would like to purchase a new bench in memory of or in honor of someone, please contact the Temple Office. There are several designs that you can choose from and Angela can send you the link to look at the pictures. Please know that you and the recipients will be duly noted with proper marking.





923 McCallie Ave., Chatt. TN 37403

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Mizpah is a Reform Jewish Congregation. We offer worship, learning and social action / social justice programs designed to enhance our lives and improve our world. Mizpah is a welcoming congregation as we embrace interfaith couples, those of all faith-traditions and culturally-diverse backgrounds as well as families in all forms.



www.MizpahCongegration.org Office@mizpahcongregation.org www.urj.org Non Profit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Chattanooga, TN Permit No. 281

Email: Office@mizpahcongregation.org www.mizpahcongregation.org Monday-Friday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm 423-267-9771

Craig Lewis, Rabbi Rabbi@mizpahcongregation.org

Vicki Lewis, President
President@mizpahcongregation.org
Angela Rickert, Administrator
Susan Caminez, Education Coordinator
Richard Zachary, Newsletter

TEMPLE OFFICERS AND BOARD

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 Craig Lewis, Rabbi Susan Caminez, Education Coordinator Angela Rickert, Temple Administrator

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VP-Programming:
VP-Annual Giving
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MIZPAH YOM KIPPUR BREAK-THE-FAST

Mizpah is grateful for all who donated their time and talents to make our Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast a huge success. Team leaders: Dana Banks, Judy Sachsman, Jen Lewis, Vicki and John Steinberg, Andy Hodes. Volunteers who brought in food and/or worked to set up or clean up the room: Marianna Allen, Leta Berger, Ellyn Brooks, Ronni Charyn, Amy Cohen, Bev Coulter, Angela Conn, Ivan Dominguez, Deb Dubow, Issi Goldberg, Nikki Hasden, Ellen Hays, Lynn Howard, Paula Israel, Brenda Lefkoff, Ruth Longway, Bob Marlowe, Rebecca Sadowitz, David Solovey, Marissa Street, Sandy Tabakin, Betsy Temple, Beth Thomas, Susan Waxenberg, Rachel Weir, Donna White-Dropkin.



Toda Rabah!