Temple Topics

Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism www.urj.org

March 2024

Adar I/ Adar II 5784

March Events

3/1
PTO Movie Night

3/3 Sisterhood Speaker

3/5 Bunco TAFI- Mother Kelly's

3/10 Men's Club Speaker

3/17 Granny's Attic Sale

3/20 Bagels & Bingo

3/21 TAFI- Just Salad



FRIDAY, MARCH 22 AT 7PM



BE OUR GUEST!





JOIN BROADWAY STAR RUSSELL JOEL BROWN
FOR TEMPLE AVODAH'S PURIM SHPIEL
"BE OUR GUEST"
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST THEMED





6:15PM
JOIN PJ LIBRARY FOR A
SPECIAL PURIM CRAFT

3050 OCEANSIDE ROAD OCEANSIDE, NY 11572 / AVODAH.ORG



March Service Schedule

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

5:00PM FAMILY KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE 7:00PM SHABBAT SERVICE WITH SCHLEPPENWOLF

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

7:45AM MINYAN 8:45AM TORAH STUDY VIA ZOOM & IN PERSON 5:00PM BRIT MITZVAH OF LAYLA ZIFF

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

7:00PM RUACH SHABBAT SERVICE IN GARDEN ROOM **SATURDAY, MARCH 9**

7:45AM MINYAN 8:45AM TORAH STUDY VIA ZOOM & IN PERSON 10:30AM BNAI MITZVAH LEARNER SERVICE 4:30PM PJ HAVDALLAH 5:00PM ASK THE RABBI 6:00PM HAVDALLAH



There are name badges for all adult Temple members. Please wear them in order to get to know your fellow members. Then return them to the basket for next time

Watch for notices for possible changes to services



March Service Schedule continued

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

7:00PM GIRL SCOUT SHABBAT SERVICE WITH ANNIVERSARIES, BIRTHDAYS & SCHLEPPENWOLF

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

7:45AM MINYAN
8:45AM TORAH STUDY VIA ZOOM & IN PERSON
11:30AM ADULT BNAI MITZVAH CLASS LUNCHEON
5:00PM ASK THE RABBI
6:00PM HAVDALLAH

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

7:00PM SHABBAT SERVICE & PURIM SHPIEL

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

7:45AM MINYAN 8:45AM TORAH STUDY VIA ZOOM & IN PERSON 5:00PM ASK THE RABBI 6:00PM HAVDALLAH

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

7:00PM SHABBAT SERVICE

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

7:45AM MINYAN 8:45AM TORAH STUDY VIA ZOOM & IN PERSON 5:00PM ASK THE RABBI 6:00PM HAVDALLAH

Made in the Divine's Image

March 2024



Avodah אָבוֹדָה Adar 1- Adar II 5784

Dear Chaverim/Chaverot:

In Genesis 1:25-27 we read **all** people are made in the Divine's Image. B'Tzelem Elokim. בצלם אלקים. G-d created each of us with purpose. Treating each other with care and respect means we are treating G-d with care and respect.

Let me be more specific and let's talk about gender identity and sexual orientation. During these divisive times this group deals with a lot of hatred. Their existence is often debated publicly making many feel isolated and alone. For me there is no debate. Who we love and the pronouns we prefer has no bearing on the fact we are each made in G-d's image. This alone gives all the right to live freely and openly. Period.

So, what is the difference between sexual orientation and gender identity? Sexual orientation refers to who a person is attracted to (which is independent of their gender). One's sexual orientation does not dictate their gender identity. The term binary means consisting of two parts. Those two parts traditionally refer to male and female. When someone does not fit into either of those two genders they are referred to as being Non-binary. To keep this simple our gender identity can be male, female OR Non-binary. The common set of pronouns to use for Non-binary individuals is: they, them, their. HOWEVER, gender identity can be fluid which means it can change over time. Non-binary may also use male or female pronouns. Can this be confusing for those of us not familiar? Yes and that's OK. I am still learning. What we can't do is turn the other way, ignore OR remove someone because we don't get it. Someone's existence should NOT be contingent on our ability to understand. It may take time as long as we are always caring and respecting.

For those who identify as male or female we don't think to question how it must be for the ten percent of the population who don't fit into the binary box. What must it be like for them? My friends as new as sexual orientation and gender identity may seem to us, it is NOT new. In fact there are many examples in our Jewish texts. For those who know Hebrew you will notice how often G-d is mentioned with a masculine tense. HOWEVER, Jewish scholars will tell you G-d is both male and female AND G-d is neither just male or just female. The Shekhinah is the name given to the female side of G-d. In Jewish, Orthodox teachings it takes ten (Jewish) males (of Bar Mitzvah age) to make up a minyan. A minyan is required to be allowed to recite specific prayers like the Kaddish. It is said the Shekhenah is present during a minyan. Jewish scholars use this to argue why women are to be counted in a minyan. If the Shekhenah (the feminine side of G-d) is present then women can be too.

In Kabbalah, a mystical guide of practices that emerged in the 12th-13th Centuries from oral traditions, we read about Isaac being gender fluid. 18th Century Hasidut: "It is known that when Issac was born, he was born with the soul of a female, as it is written in Or Hachaim, and through the akeidah (binding of Issac) he got a male soul..." Even Talmud states there are no less than eight genders.

We can see sexual orientation and gender identity in our biblical figures. Because Hebrew has masculine and feminine tenses we can easily read inferences from the text. Joseph's brothers made fun of him because his coat of many colors was considered to be a woman's garment. Even though women weren't given equal voice we do see a strong love between Naomi and Ruth. These are OUR people. I am proud to have them as part of my history. I will always stand united with my LGBTQ+ and Non-binary brothers and sisters as images of G-d. It's important we use our voices to show support not only during Pride month but during the entire year.

Rabbi Shai



As you read these words, the Nominating Committee has been formed. I figured I'd dedicate this month's column to going over what they will be doing in the next couple of months, and how it could impact you personally... if you want it to. I'll do a little Q&A here:

Q: What does the Nominating Committee do?

A: The Nominating Committee puts forth the slate of the Board of Trustees to the congregation, to be voted on at the congregation meeting that I will set in June.

Q: Who is on the Nominating Committee?

A: The Committee was formed at the February board meeting. There are seven members and an alternate. The only person who is automatically on the Committee is Marian Keilson, our Immediate Past President. The Constitution states that the person in that position chairs the committee. Marian will chair the committee this year and next, and then I will for two years, assuming I'm voted back in as President at the Congregation meeting. Everyone else is voted on by the Board. The only people who are not allowed on the Committee are either those running for positions on the Executive Committee (President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, etc.) or those who have been on the Committee in each of the last two years. There are also limitations on the number of Past Presidents serving, and family members of Board members.

Q: How can I be voted to be on the Nominating Committee?

A: An email went out to the congregation to apply to be on the Committee. Board members are automatically on the list to be voted upon, with the exceptions stated above.

Q: How do I get the Nominating Committee to consider my application to be on the Board?

A: Check your email! There will be a form going out where you can speak to your qualifications to be a Board member.

Q: Aren't the individual people on the Nominating Committee considered for the Board?

A: Depending on their current positions, yes. They are sent out of the room (or kicked off the Zoom!) when they are discussed.

From the President (continued)

Q: Are discussions in the Nominating Committee public?

A: No. As you can imagine, if everyone's opinion on everyone got out, there could be some very hurt feelings. People on the Committee are encouraged to be honest about their feelings on the individuals considered. As such, members are told that their discussions are not go beyond the room (or Zoom).

Q: Will I hear from the Committee if I apply?

A: Usually, yes. You may be contacted by a member or two of the committee to discuss your application.

Q: When is the work done?

A: The Nominating Committee must present the slate to the Board of Trustees by the May meeting of the Board (May 21). As stated, the Congregation will then vote on the slate the following month.

I hope this answers some of the behind-the-scenes questions about the Nominating Committee!

Matt Phillips, Temple President



Religious School Updates:

- For the holiday of Tu B'Shevat, our students collected money to plant 14 trees in Israel through JNF.
- The 4th -7th graders made cards for soldiers of the IDF which Rabbi Shai delivered on his trip to Israel. The sentiments expressed by our students reflected their understanding of the sacrifices made by the Israeli soldiers and were quite moving.
- We have initiated a B'nai Mitzvah Bootcamp for our 6th and 7th grade students. Led by Moreh Jesse, the students review the tefillah (prayers) required for them to lead services.
- Our 6th grade students made presentations based on their research of important people and places in Israel.
- Our K/1 students are learning about tzedakah and decorated their own 'pushkes' (tzedakah boxes).
- 5th graders and their parents participated in a B'Yachad (together) Family Education Workshop, "What's In A Name?" We discussed Jewish naming customs, and families brought in pictures of the people their children was named for, sharing special memories. Parents also shared how they chose their children's names. The students decorated posters with their Hebrew names, hobbies and interests.

B'Shalom, Phyllis Pellman



PTO is looking forward to the beautiful spring around the corner! Parents and children had great fun at the recent Superbowl Shabbat. The kids enjoyed their turns playing trivia at the bimah while congregants participated from their seats. The kids loved the little squishy footballs and played with them for hours and days to follow.

PTO will again have its annual Movie Shabbat on March 1st. This event is always lots of fun! Kids will have their own special Shabbat service led by Rabbi Shai, followed by pizza, treats, and a movie! There will be two different movies for two age groups. Parents, feel free to bring sleeping blankets or beach towels for your kiddos! There will be chairs of course, but we all know how kids like to move! And don't worry, there will be plenty of room in the Garden Room for movement. Kids can bring some small toys or stuffed animals too. We encourage parents to stay and get to know one another. Remember, children will stay in the Garden Room until their parents come to pick them up!

Purim is approaching and we are getting ready to make some noise to boo Haman! Children will be making groggers and yummy hamantaschen, an all-time favorite! Also to be enjoyed is the Purim Shpiel! Students have been rehearsing after religious school during youth choir times. We hope to see you there on March 22nd!

Danielle Davoli - President Cari Catania - VP Sabrina Cohen - Secretary Lori Izmirly - Treasurer

Social Action In Action THE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

"SPRINGS" INTO ACTION

Parades! Collections! So many opportunities to repair our world!

First up, we will again carry the Temple Avodah banner in the annual Israel Day

Parade in Manhattan on Sunday, June 2, 2024 – and again, there will be bus

transportation available with advanced registration. Contact Lisa Goldberg for more information.

The following week, join us at the Long Island Pride Parade and Festival in Huntington, as we carry our banner to let all of our fellow Islanders know, "however you define your family, we welcome you to ours!" The event is Sunday June 9 and we thank Lenore Greenberg for once again organizing this always-joyous activity.

Mitzvah Day is coming! Sunday, May 5, 2024, in theTemple parking lot, congregants young and old will gather to do what we Jews love to do: take action to improve our world (with music and noshing, of course). Our PTO is conducting the annual Food Drive for the benefit of the Long Beach Soup Kitchen and Hatzilu Kosher Food Pantry; our Choir will sing; Torah Study Group will lead open sessions on Jewish topics of interest and we will conduct collections still to be announced. As we begin finalizing the details, we are looking for your projects to add to the mix. Contact Betsy Meyerson and lets make it happen!

Finally, we thank Barry Howard for organizing the ever-popular excursion to Ronald McDonald House, taking place later this spring. All available slots have been filled. The Social Action Committee meets on Zoom once a month and we welcome everyone, so contact the undersigned for the schedule and a link. We can't wait to hear your ideas about how we can improve our world, one step at a time.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Engel

paulmengel@hotmail.com

Lisa Goldberg

lisacarolgold@gmail.com

Betsy Meyerson

tortgirlny@aol.com



Sisterhood is very busy going into March!

Guess who's coming to visit! Stephen Cole, award winning Author of *Mary & Ethel... and Mickey Who?* Spend the afternoon with Stehen Cole who will talk about his new hot-off-t he-press "historical-theatrical-time coming of age novel." Bring your book and get it signed. Don't have a book? You can always get one at the event if you'd like!

When: Sunday, March 3, 2024, at 2:00 pm in the Rabbi Uri and Peppy Goren Garden Room. This event is open to all, but registration is required!

Our Sisterhood Book Club for March is *Unaccustomed Earth* by Jhumpa Lahiri. Book club is the first Wednesday of the month! Please contact Connie Axelson if you would like tojoin us.

Granny's Attic is coming on March 17 in the Rudich building, so it's time to clean out your house! Setup begins on March 9. Please call the office if you can help so you will get the times we are there. We really need all the help we can get for this sale! Look for flyers to see what we are taking for donations! Please: no books or computers!

Bagels and Bingo is back - March 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Rabbi Uri and Peppy Goren Garden Room. Dinner will be catered by Delicious Moments. Price is \$20 for Sisterhood members and \$25 for non-Sisterhood members and non-Temple members.

We will again be doing our Shaloch Manot baskets for Purim (March 22) There will be separate baskets for children and for adults! Each basket is still only \$18. Don't want a basket? Donate a basket to a nursing home or to a children's hospital. Again, only \$18 a basket and Sisterhood will deliver all our donated baskets for you!

SAVE THE DATE! Sisterhood is hosting a Miriam's Seder for the Woman of Temple ages 18 and older on April 10th. It will be conducted by Rabbi Shai and Phyllis Pellman. Look for flyers! f you still haven't joined or rejoined Sisterhood, it's not too late. You will stand with our proud members who support our mission and want to make a significant contribution to our congregation. Our goal is 100% membership, so that Sisterhood can truly represent the glorious array of women in Temple Avodah—women of all ages. Sisterhood embraces all of us Jewish women. We warmly welcome you.

As always, don't forget our ongoing participation in the We Care Blanket project! Knit or crochet a baby blanket (any pattern or color in washable acrylic yarn in 36 x36" is acceptable) and it will be donated to a local hospital for pediatric patients. Contact Ellyn Katz (Ellyn143@aol.com) for more information or to make your donation. Our Judaica Shop has everything you need for your own home or gift giving. We can also order kippot for your simchas. Contact Lisa Goldberg at Lisacarolgold@gmail.com or RobynDrangel@hotmail.com.

Hoping you have a wonderful March!
Wendy Brumberg & Sheila London Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Exclusive Club Formed at Temple Avodah

TABM²

There are lots of clubs, committees and groups at Temple Avodah; just prowl around www.Avodah.Org and you will see them. But when a Temple Member reaches their 83rd birthday (achieving the biblical lifetime of 70 plus 13 years to reach a bar mitzvah) they are entitled to have a second Bar Mitzvah with all the responsibilities and celebrations that go with it. And what a special event that turns out to be!

Given that this special event endows the participants with special blessings, the recent celebrants have decided to form a most exclusive club, a club dedicated to Temple study, reflecting on their preparation for their second Bar Mitzvah.

Club participants are entitled to very special treatment TBA.

Interested in joining? Just ask Rabbi Shai for a membership application.

Temple Avodah "Stream Team"



We are looking for new members to join our "Stream Team".

If anyone is interested in learning about what we are doing and how the Livestreaming works, please join our "Stream Team". We will teach you how to run the show, including switching cameras, adjusting camera angles, zooming in and out and panning. We have professional quality equipment here, and you will learn valuable skills while enjoying the experience. Great for anyone interested in broadcasting, or those who just want to learn! This is really cool stuff and a lot of fun!

We have some special things planned so please let us know if you have anyone in your family who might be interested. We'd like this to be the start of a special club at Temple Avodah, open to all member families.

Contact Elliot Shulman: Elliot.shulman@avodah.org for more details

We Remember With Love, The Following People Whose Yahrzeits Are Observed During The Month of March



Week of March 1

Morton Clement Sadie Cohen Sally Eisenberg Ann Lee Friedman Jane Moyse Gilder Richard Gilder, Senior Herman Greenwald Amanda Rose Kanowitz David Andrew Levine Melvina Fraser Lipshitz Martha Mark **Emanuel Mevorah** Semen Portnoy Benjamin Rosenberg **David Rosenthal** Fanny "Bobe" Rubinstein Doris Steigbigel

Week of March 8

Solomon Abbey Max Belanoff Shalom Ben-Amou Morris Berkenblit Renee Dinoff **Barry Geffner** Marten Ginsburg Isadore Levine Fanny Levy Henry Lieberman Lenora Marcus Alvin Moskowitz Elliot Paskoff Shelly Perlman-Foster Alfred Reinharz Jessie Reiser Sidney Reiser

Week of March 15

Anita Berger
Bernard Chesner
Gladys Dorfler
Dr. Abraham Goren
Rachel Greenberg
Sydney Horowitz
Gertrude A. Kirsh
Matty Plave
Esther Dapin Rose
William Schulster
Sylvia Sisapel
Benjamin D. Velella Sr.

We Remember With Love, The Following People Whose Yahrzeits Are Observed During The Month of March



Week of March 22

Randall S. Alazraki Brenda Arum Francine Berlin

Louis Bernstein Blanche Cherrick

Stanley Cohen

Irving Dorfler

Harry Feder

Diane Feinberg

Jerry Fleisher

Michael Gruber

David Henkus

Anita Hoine

Lillian Lehman

Anne Miller

Irving Mizel

Teddy Newmark

Edith Nottes

Sarah Posner

Dorothy Segal

Florence L. Sones

Elias Suntup

Rachel Stempler Trombetti

Florence Weinberg

Sally Yaverbaum

Leo Zeveloff

Week of March 29

Khannan Abramov

Marvin Ackerman

Martin J. Baumann

Helenanne Bider

Thelma Fain

Hannah Feder

Rose Friedman

Dorothy Gerberg

Ethel Gillette

Martin Gruber

Solomon Gubenko

Julia Jacobson

Elaine Frances Kaplan

Frieda Lifschitz

PFC Seymour Lippman

Jessica Lewis Oresky

Harry Rosman

Baby Lilah Sadownick

Trudy Saperstein

Hermine Shapiro

Shirley Sherman

. . . .

Morton F. Siegel

Gertrude Solomon

Seymour Weiss

DID JOU KNOW... THAT NOW WITH 2 OFFICERS
OF THE INQUISITION LIVING IN THEIR HOME, IT WAS
IMPOSSIBLE FOR DIGGO RIBERD'S FAMILY TO
PRACTICE THEIR JEWISH RELIGION... BUT THEY NEVER
FORGOT IT.

AS THE YEARS PASSED BY THE FAMILY ONCE AGAIN INGRATIATED ITSELF WITH THE PORTUGESE NOBILITY... SO WHEN THEY HOSTED A GALA BALL. IT WAS VERY WELL ATTENDED. DURING THE FESTIVITIES, DIOGO INVITED EVERYONE TO JOIN HIM ON HIS NEW YACHT,

WHERE THE PARTYING WOULD CONTINUE.
A SHORT TIME LATER THE PARTYERS
REALIZED THEY WERE MOVING... FOR
INFACT THEY WERE ON BOARD A
BRITISH BRIGANTINE ON ITS WAY
TO ENGLAND BRINGING FREEDOM TO
THE RIBEIROS, AND A RETURN
TRIP FOR THE PORTUGESE GUESTS.

IN ENGLAND, ALL MALE MEMBERS WERE RITUALLY CIRCUMCISED DIOGO'S NAME WAS CHANGED TO

SAMUEL NUNEZ, HIS WIFE GRACIA'S NAME WAS CHANGED TO REBECCA, AND THEY HAD A JEWISH WEDDING UNDER A CHUPAH...

THEIR ESCAPE BEING VERY COSTLY) ... AND FACED WITH A LANGUAGE BARRIER, LIFE WAS NOT THAT EASY FOR THE NUNEZ FAMILY.

BUT NOW IN 1733, THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT WAS ENCOURAGING IMPOVERISHED FAMILIES TO SETTLE AND
HELP COLONIZE NEW TERRITORIES IN GEORGIA.
WITH FINANCIAL AID FROM THE BEVIS THARKS
SYNAGOGUE IT WAS ARRANGED FOR 2 BOATS
CARRYING 90 JEWS TO BE AMONG THE SETTLERS
--- AND THE NUNEZ FAMILY WAS ON THE FIRST
BOOAT TO LEAVE.

TO BE CONTINUED

As a tribute to the late
Art Cooperman's z'l talent and
contributions to Temple Avodah, his
cartoons and commentary will continue
to be run in Temple Topics.

Happy Birthday to Our March Birthdays!

Barry Goldman 3/1 Hannah Wiener 3/2 David Kirsh 3/2 Scott Fedor 3/3 Andrew Wolfe 3/3 Ryan Lepper 3/4 Michael Toomey 3/5 Logan Eckstein 3/5 Linda Panzarino 3/6 llene Herman 3/6 George Akst 3/7 Benjamin Velella 3/7 Scott Jukofsky 3/7

Gayle O'Keefe 3/7 Barbara Stern 3/8 Rochelle Lewis 3/9 Maya Jukofsky 3/9 Jason Gutman 3/9 Evan Perlman-Gutwein 3/9 Glenn Manion 3/10 Ronald London 3/10 Jillian Oresky-Weston 3/12 Elle Toledano 3/14 Mindy Goldsmith 3/14 Marla Gross Mussman 3/14

Harvey Brodsky 3/14

Hillary Wertlich 3/16 Morris Lipton 3/16 Samantha Adelman 3/17 Marc Maitland 3/27 Joshua Fedor 3/18 Alexandra Fried 3/18 Michael Schiller 3/18 Alexa Levine 3/20 Michael Stromer 3/20 Addison Manion 3/21 Paul Colella 3/21 Janet Elin 3/21 Liz Mizel 3/22 Chuck Liebov 3/25 Barry Chernoff 3/25 Mackenzie Poledro 3/26

Edward Gelfond 3/27 Mark Altman 3/27 Mark DiStefano 3/27 Mark Lebowitz 3/27 Adam Abbey 3/28 Betsy Meyerson 3/28 Joyce Lipton 3/28 Jennifer Bickman 3/28 Kasey Ziff 3/28 Mitchell Pinsky 3/28 Asya Sheynberg 3/29 Melanie Wiener 3/29 William Ziff 3/30

Mazal Tov To Our March Wedding Anniversaries!

Nella & Vladimir Rabkin 3/1 Darra & Leo Battino 3/3 Marina & Michael Rukhlin 3/7 Mindy & Craig Feinberg 3/9 Melissa & Gregory Sirochinsky 3/10 Denise & Joel Kass 3/18 Sarita & Ronald Berkenblit 3/23 Amy & John DiStefano 3/29 Jocelyn Weston & Paul Oresky 3/29 Galia & David Myron 3/30

Come Celebrate Birthday & Anniversary Shabbat on Friday, March 15th at 7:00pm!

If your birthday or anniversary is during the month of March and is not listed here, please log into your account to add it, or contact the Temple office so we can update your record.







Mazal Tov to Layla Ziff on becoming a Brit Mitzvah on March 2, 2024

Mazal Tov to Randi & Rafi Ben-Amou on the birth of their granddaughter, Madeline Jane

Oneg Sponsorships

3/1 Ziff Family in honor of Layla's Bat Mitzvah

Please let us know if you wish to share any happy news with your fellow congregants (births, graduations, engagements, weddings, awards received, etc.).



ADULT EDUCATION In Honor Of

Bob Epstein's 96th Birthday from Helena Shayer

ANITA BERGER CAMPERSHIP FUND In Memory Of

Seymour Plave from Jamey Basham

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN In Honor Of

Ben-Amou's granddaughter, Madeline Jane, from Anne & Stewart Gubenko

Speedy Recovery

r'fuah sh'lemah Jill Burns from Caryle Katz

GENERAL DONATION FUND In Memory Of

Seymour Plave from Erica Penn

MORTGAGE PAY DOWN FUND In Honor Of

Randi & Rafi Ben-Amou on the birth of their granddaughter, Madeline Jane from Vivian & Philip Perlmutter

RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor Of

Rabbi Shai from Jay & Susan Rosenheck Randi & Rafi Ben-Amou on the birth of their first grandchild, Madeline Jane from Shelly & Gilbert Balanoff

Speedy Recovery

Renee Kaufman from Caryle Katz Caryle Katz from Renee & Gerald Kaufman

SIMCHA/MEMORIAL FUND In Memory Of

Seymour Plave from Phyllis Carbone

Speedy Recovery

Paul Stone from Michael Hertz

Donations can be made online, by contacting the office at 516-766-6809, or by email: mgr@avodah.org

Funds: Capital Campaign Fund • Simcha/Memorial Fund, Lillian Klein Adult Education Fund,
Alan M. Katz Memorial Library Fund, Amanda Rose Kanowitz Children's Library Fund,
Music Fund • Children's Education Fund, Anita Berger Campership Fund, Sacred Book Fund,
Scholarship Fund, Rabbi Philmore Berger Leadership Development Fund, Rabbi Shai's Discretionary
Fund, Joan & Erwin Kombert Gardens Fund, Mortgage Paydown Fund



The Reform Jewish Congregation in Oceanside Rabbi Jeshayahu 'Shai' Beloosesky D.Min Rabbi Uri Goren, Rabbi Emeritus Dr. Philmore Berger, Rabbi Emeritus (Z"L)

Dear Congregant,

As your new Rabbi it is my honor and privilege to continue the tradition of the Rabbi's Challenge started by Rabbi Goren. This has become a vital part of our budget each year, enabling us to maintain and update our temple and grounds. In the spirit of adding a little fun, I am renaming this "Shai's Shekels."

Over the years, I understand that your generosity and the participation of many others has provided the resources for the livestreaming equipment, building the Garden Room, replacing the roof, new High Holiday prayer books, eco-friendly LED lighting, and many more necessary projects. And there's a lot more to do.

This year there are two important projects I'd like to focus on.

- New sidewalks leading from the Rabbi Uri and Peppy Goren Garden Room: Sidewalks are badly needed leading to both the driveway and parking lot, so that this emergency exit will be wheelchair accessible and make things easier for anyone using a walker or cane. This will also provide an additional entrance and exit that bypasses the lobby area, opening more opportunities to use this space and raise additional revenue.
- Renewal work on the ark: We have a beautiful ark. I feel strongly that some updates are
 needed to keep our ark and Torah scrolls looking beautiful. We have already added some
 beautiful silver Torah adornments, which were found in our synagogue, and which have been
 cleaned and placed on the Torahs. As part of this renewal, I want to update the insides of the
 ark with some better lighting and other features meant to fully honor our Torahs and
 congregation.

Please help if you can.

Every dollar is important to secure our vitality today and our Temple for future generations.

Continuing a tradition started by Rabbi Goren, for contributions of \$540 or more you will receive an invitation for a special event. I don't know what that will be yet, but I promise it will be fun.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Shai Beloosesky





Shai's Shekels 2024

(formerly Rabbi's Challenge)



Temple Awodah MARCH FOOD OF THE MONTH



Food and supplies are delivered to Hatzilu and the Long Beach Soup Kitchen. Donations are used to support the preparation of over 1200 meals/month to people in need.

Please drop your donations in the cart located in the vestibule

Sponsored by Temple Avodah Social Action Committee & PTO



KABBALAT SHABBAT FAMILY SERVICE FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024 5:00PM

MEET NEW FRIENDS!



CELEBRATE SHABBAT WITH RABBI SHA!!

For parents & children ages 0-10! Music, Stories, Challah & Juice!

3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572 516-766-6809 / avodah.org FUNDRAISER!

Temple Avodah

Parent Teacher Organization WEAR YOUR PJ'S

MOVIE NIGHT

PIZZA & TREATS!

Temple Avodah Friday, March 1, 2024 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm UNPLUGGEDI



\$25. per member child/\$45.per member family non-member guests \$25. with parent

Special kid's Shabbat service led by Rabbi Shai!

Parents are encouraged to stay & socialize!
Children must stay in Garden Room until parent pick up.

<u>CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE FUN!</u>

Please RSVP by Friday, February 23rd

K-6 Movie: Wonka
7th grade & up will vote on their movie



SISTERHOOD PRESENTS...

MARY & ETHEL ... and Mikey Who?

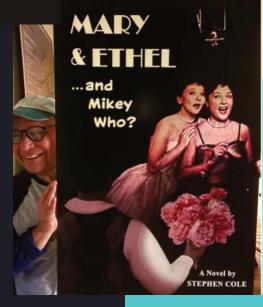
by Award Winning Author

Stephen Cole

Spend the afternoon with Award-Winning Author Stephen Cole who will talk about his new hot off the press "historical-theatrical-time travel-coming of age" novel MARY & ETHEL...and Mikey Who?

Books will be available for sale & Stephen will autograph them!

Open to all.
Registration required. <u>Click here</u>.



Stephen will talk about his friendships with Ethel Merman and Mary Martin and show rare videos.

Sunday, March 3, 2024 2pm Rabbi Uri & Peppy Goren Garden Room

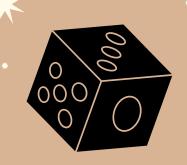


34160 NIGER



Tuesday, March 5, 2024 7:30PM





ALL INVITED! Instructions given! Chance to win \$!

Friends!



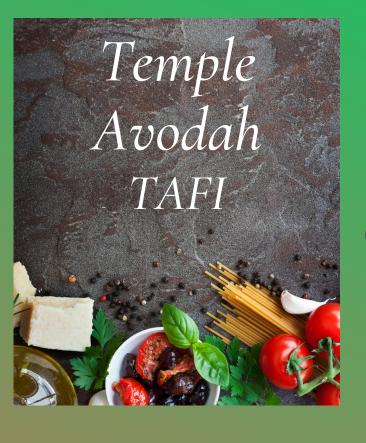
\$18.00 pre-registered \$20.00 at the door





Click here to register

Temple Avodah 3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572





Tuesday, March 5th 12:00 - 8:00pm

In-store pickup, or pick up at Temple Avodah*

Mother Kelly's has generously offered to contribute 20% of your check back to Temple Avodah.

Just tell 'em "Temple Avodah sent me"

*Pick up at Temple Avodah at 5:45pm

Orders must be called in by 3pm

Click here for Menu!

Mother Kelly's

171 Maple Ave

Rockville Centre, NY

11570

516.295.5421

Temple Avodah

3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572 516.766.6809 avodah.org





CORDIALLY INVITE

5TH, 6TH & 7TH GRADERS & THEIR PARENTS TO

YOUR OWN BNAI MITZVAH SERVICE

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024
10:15AM - 11:30AM
TEMPLE AVODAH SANCTUARY
BAGEL KIDDUSH TO FOLLOW
EXPERIENCE THE SERVICE EVERYTHING YOU WILL NEED TO KNOW

RSVP: PHYLLIS PELLMAN @

RELIGIOUSSCHOOL@AVODAH.ORG

BY TUESDAY, MARCH 5

EACH STUDENT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED

BY A PARENT



Temple Avodah 3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572





HAVDALAH IN PAJAMAS



Men's Club Presents...

From Hate to Healing: My Journey of Resilience in Overcoming Neo-Nazism, Murder, and Brain Cancer to Find Redemption

MARCH 10, 2024 10am - 11am Zoom Only

SPEAKER

John Daly



A Story To Tell

The story of John Daly is unique. From a high ranking officer in a neo-Nazi organization to Israeli Knesset candidate, this could only happen in Hollywood, but yet, it is the life of John Daly. Not knowing John was Jewish, he was recruited into a national Skinhead organization while in high school.

Click here to register

3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572 / avodah.org





Birthday/Anniversary Service With music by Schleppenwolf!

Girl Scout Shabbat Service Friday, March 15 at 6:30pm

Celebrate Shabbat at Temple Avodah!

Special Girl Scout dessert Oneg with mitzvah project!

Please bring a non perishable food item for Girl Scout Troop 2238's Food Drive.

Non temple members need to be accompanied by an adult.

Please email all food accommodations/allergies & if your Girl Scout will be completing their "My Faith My Promise" Project to mrsadube@aol.com.

3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572 / avodah.org



Granny's Attic



Sunday, March 17, 2024 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

NOW is the time to donate your unwanted household articles for our sale! Clear out your cluttered closets, attics, garages & basements.

We can use the following:

Lamps, glassware, tools, sporting goods, giftware, linens, dishes, kitchen items, tableware, costume jewelry, pots, and pans, serving pieces, gently used toys, games and children's books, small furniture, small working appliances, craft & knitting supplies, bric-a-brac, artwork, gardening tools, etc.

NO computers or computer software, computer, or video games, printers, cameras, phones, stuffed animals or books (except children's books).

No clothing please! Save it for our SPRING THRIFT SALE.

Donations may be brought to the Rudich Building/Annex starting
Tuesday, February 20th as follows:
Monday-Friday 3:30PM-6PM Saturday 9AM-1PM
No Sunday drop offs

Do not leave items outside!! Place them in the annex lobby between the two sets of glass doors!

Tax letters will be sent to you (only) if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your donation.



For more information, or to arrange a drop off of items of value, call 516-766-6809

Temple members & friends are needed and invited to help with set-up and on the day of the sale!

Temple Avodah

3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572

www.avodah.org



presents...







DATE: WEDNESDAY MARCH 20, 2024

LOCATION: TEMPLE AVODAH

TIME: 6:30 PM

COST: \$20/PER PERSON SISTERHOOD MEMBERS

\$25/PER PERSON NON-SISTERHOOD MEMBERS

RSVP BY MARCH II

CATERED BY DELICIOUS MOMENTS
JOIN US FOR BAGELS, TUNA SALAD, EGG SALAD & TOSSED SALAD

Click here to register



QUESTIONS? CONTACT ELLYN KATZ 516-536-5056 OR ELLYN143@AOL.COM



PURIM SHPIEL

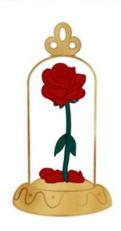
FRIDAY, MARCH 22 AT 7PM



BE OUR GUEST!



JOIN THE FUN!



JOIN BROADWAY STAR RUSSELL JOEL BROWN
FOR TEMPLE AVODAH'S PURIM SHPIEL
"BE OUR GUEST"
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST THEMED



PROUD PARTNER OF



Bring Jewish stories home Sign up at: www.pjlibrary/org

6:15PM
JOIN PJ LIBRARY FOR A
SPECIAL PURIM CRAFT



Friday, March 22, 2024 Purim Shpiel 7 PM





Always a fun part of Purim night is our Purim raffle.



We have lined up prizes for both adults and children for this year's raffle.

We are asking for your support and help by buying and selling raffle tickets to family and friends. Pricing is as follows:

- \$10 each
- \$50 for 6
- \$80 for 12

Click here to purchase raffle tickets

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN, BUT WE HOPE YOU WILL BE THERE. IT'S A FUN NIGHT!



TEMPLE AVODAH SISTERHOOD IS SELLING PURIM BASKETS (Shalach Manot) \$18



BUY ONE TO TAKE HOME AND BUY ANOTHER TO DONATE!

Donated baskets will be delivered to Jewish
nursing home residents or children in the hospital.

Purchase online at avodah.org
Or
Complete and return the form below to:
Amy Abbey
526 Derby Drive North
Oceanside NY 11572

ALL BASKETS MUST BE PRE-ORDERED MARCH 8TH!

PLEASE PRINT		
Name		Phone No
Email		
ENCLOSED IS \$18. BA	SKET(S) TO BE PICKED UP Frida	ry March 22 5;00pm-6;00pm
9 <u>e-</u>	Child themed basket _	Adult basket
ENCLOSED IS \$18. MY	DONATION IS FOR A NURSING	HOME ADULT OR HOSPITALIZED CHILD
ENCLOSED IS \$36. I W	OULD LIKE TO DO BOTH -1 TO	KEEP (choose 1 below) & 1 TO DONATE
_	Child themed basket _	Adult basket



2024

Temple Avodah

New TAP

Lunch & Dinner!



CALL IN ORDERS ONLY KEVIN - 516-206-3089

Eat in or Take out!



30% back to Temple



3035 LONG BEACH ROAD OCEANSIDE, NY

IN THE GAP SHOPPING CENTER

3050 OCEANSIDE ROAD OCEANSIDE, NY 11572

Temple Avodah receives 40% of sales!



Temple Avodah

Present our

2024 PASSOVER ONLINE FUNDRAISER

Dear Parents,

Our Fundraiser starts today. Your participation in this fundraiser will benefit our children and our school. All orders are to be placed online. Please make arrangements to pick up your order on the day of delivery.

PLEASE DO NOT PERMIT UNSUPERVISED DOOR-TO-DOOR SELLING

The fundraiser starts: Today

The fundraiser ends: 3/17/24

School ID#: **700903**

Delivery Date: TBD

Contact for inquiries: Mindy Goldsmith mindy@avodah.org

Not a student?

Choose Friends & Family Shop

here!

Shop on line Use ID# 158607

You can invite family and friends to participate in our fundraiser and shop online through your personalized ordering site. When registering, choose to have your order delivered to school for free shipping, or directly to the purchaser's home. Shipping charges will be applied at checkout if orders are being shipped to the purchaser's home.

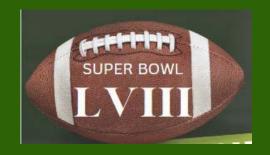
FOLLOW THESE ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS:

- · Go to misschocolate.com and click on Seller Dashboard.
- Next click Register I Know My School ID.
- Use our school ID (found above) to register and follow directions.
- Invite family and friends through your personalized ordering site to participate in our fundraiser.
- You will receive additional information about when and where to pick up your order.

Prizes: As a thank you we have arranged for a special individual award program for everyone who participates in this fundraising sale. The awards are arranged by total ITEMS sold ranging from 1 – 126+ items which can make everyone an easy winner. To view prizes, visit Miss Chocolate's online store.

Thank you for your support!

















NOSH & Schleppenwolf 1/26/24















Save the Date

Miriam's Seder



Not your grandfather's Manischewitz seder!

More information to follow

Temple Avodah

3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572 / avodah.org



Outing Honorees
Rita & Dan Henick

Bob Harwood Memorial Golf Classic Hosted by Temple Avodah

Lawrence Yacht & Country Club June 10, 2024

Followed by
Kombert Caterers Awards Dinner Buffet



Person of the Year Caryle Katz

Continental Breakfast 10am Shotgun Start 12pm Lunch, Grill, Range, Beverage Cart Awards Dinner & Raffle 6pm

Not a Golfer?

Join us for a lovely evening & incredible Kombert Buffet at Temple Avodah 6pm 3050 Oceanside Road, Oceanside, NY

\$275 Golf Classic Player (Breakfast,
Lunch, Dinner)
\$250 Early Bird Golf Classic Player
(Registered & paid by March 1st)

CHOOSE YOUR REGISTRATION:

____\$200 Golf Only (includes breakfast & lunch only)

___\$80 Awards Dinner Buffet Only

CHOOSE YOUR SPONSORSHIP LEVEL:

____\$3600 Entire Event Sponsor*

_\$2500 Golf Course Sponsor*

_\$2000 Awards Dinner Sponsor*

___\$1000 Breakfast Sponsor**

_\$1000 Golf Ball Sponsor**

_\$1000 Lunch Grill Sponsor**

__\$750 Beverage Cart Sponsor**

____\$125 Tee/Green Sponsor**

*Includes Foursome, Sponsor Signage, Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner ** Includes Sponsor Signage

Your Name:	
Company:	
Phone:	 _
Email:	

To pay by credit card <u>click here</u> or call the office 516-766-6809

Make all checks payable to Temple Avodah 3050 Oceanside Rd, Oceanside, NY 11572

For additional information, contact Stew Gubenko: 516 766-0954 or Gary Baumann: 516-330-6796

www.avodah.org





Bring Them Home!



Temple Avodah has 24 dog tags and chains to offer our Congregants, showing your support of the Hostages being held by Hamas. All donations will be given to the <u>Hostage and missing Families Forum</u>.

Donations are directed towards advancing all necessary efforts through diplomatic, medical, and legal channels and towards raising public awareness to the hostage crisis by creating campaigns in Israel and abroad. There are special dog tags with pictures of one of the missing children.

Donations for the beautiful tags with Bring them Home Now in large type, or in just Hebrew text, are \$36.00. For the special dog tags, donations are \$72.00.

Please make your check out to Temple Avodah or <u>click here</u> to purchase on line. Donations are tax deductible as permitted by New York State law.

The tags are available for pick up in the Temple office.







Support Israel!

American Israeli Flag Pins



\$5.00 each to Rabbi Shai

Bracelet Fundraiser



American Friends
of Magen David Adom
\$5.00 per bracelet
Youth & Adult sizes

Friends of IDF https://www.fidf.org/

Magen David Adom https://afmda.org/

United Hatzalah https://israelrescue.org/donate/







TEMPLE AVODAH NEEDS YOU!



Join our team today and become a volunteer!

WE APPRECIATE EVERY HELPING HAND WE CAN GET!

YOUR TIME, EFFORT, AND
PRESENCE AS A VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED

Click here to find out
about opportunities to
volunteer at your
Temple

Temple Avodah

3050 Oceanside Road, Oceanside, NY 11572 516-766-6809 office@avodah.org

Sponsor an Oneg

Honor someone you love or celebrate an upcoming simcha.

We invite you to sponsor a Shabbat or Holiday Oneg as a way to mark a personal lifecycle or a shehecheyanu experience. Sponsor an Oneg in remembrance of a loved one on their yahrzeit, in celebration of a new baby, a loved one's accomplishment, graduation, anniversary or birthday, or for any other reason that holds meaning for you.

It is a wonderful way to honor someone special in your life.

Click here to sponsor an Oneg







3050 OCEANSIDE ROAD

Be Sisterhood Strong

What is the Sisterhood of Temple Avodah?

- Women working together for a purpose
- A bond, caring, friendship
- Learning from multiple generations
- Being a role model for your kids
- The reward of success and the feeling of accomplishment
- Knowing you've done something important
- Doing things that are measureable
- Doing things that have a real impact for all temple members even when it isn't obvious
- A sense of something bigger than one's self

Participate, be heard, make a difference!

Join today!

NEW TEMPLE MEMBERS - FIRST YEAR DUES ARE FREE ANNUAL DUES FOR CURRENT TEMPLE MEMBERS \$36.00

Questions - Contact Fran Skolnick - fran.skolnick@gmail.com or 516-619-6374

Please make checks payable to Temple Avodah Sisterhood or Click on the QR code to join

Name	 	 	
Phone Number	 	 	
Fmail Address			

Checks can be dropped off at the temple office or mailed to:

Fran Skolnick

Temple Avodah Sisterhood

3912 Carrel Blvd

Oceanside, NY 11572



BRING YOUR INTERESTS & TALENTS

STEP INTO MEN'S CLUB

Membership - just \$36.00

Free for first year members!





Paid up dues
dinner
included
with membership

<u>CLICK HERE</u> TO JOIN!

MAKE FRIENDS

STRENGTHEN OUR TEMPLE COMMUNITY

SUKKAH BUILD

GOLF OUTING

LECTURES

Questions: Contact Stew @ taxmangubi@aol.com

3050 OCEANSIDE ROAD OCEANSIDE, NY 11572 / AVODAH.ORG



JOIN TEMPLE AVODAH PTO TODAY!

Enhance the Religious School experience for the children and their families!

Your donation of \$20 per family per year will help support: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Chanukah, Purim & Passover activities and programs throughout the year.

Please invest in our children!

PTO Membership is open to ALL Avodah members (with or without children in religious school)



Click here to join!

Volunteers welcomed!



Temple Avodah 3050 Oceanside Road Oceanside, NY 11572 avodah.org avodahpto@avodah.org



Kombert Caterers 516-678-6161

Sunday Wedding Package



KOMBERT CATERERS

Temple Avodah

516-678-6161

PARTY@KOMBERTCATERERS.COM WWW.KOMBERTCATERERS.COM

FOLLOW KOMBERT CATERERS ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM









The Sunday Wedding Package

3-HOUR EARLY ARRIVAL FOR BRIDAL PARTY
BRIDAL PARTY: HOT & COLD BUFFET WITH OPEN BAR
CHAMPAGNE & BERRIES AS GUESTS ARRIVE

CAPTAIN'S SEATING

FULL STATION SELECTIONS

HORS D'OEUVRES, BUTLER*STYLE

ROLLING KIOSKS

OP-SHELF OPEN BAR

PERSONALIZED MENU WITH FIVE ENTRÉES PLATED DESSERT

DESSERT SYMPHONY

3-TIER WEDDING CAKE

LADIES ROOM ATTENDANT

COAT ROOM ATTENDANT
LOBBY DECOR: VINTAGE OR CONTEMPORARY

WHITE GLOVE SERVICE EVENT PLANNER - START TO FINISH

\$29,900

Pricing Based on 100 Guests Additional Guests \$149 pp Plus Tax and Gratuity





Full Cocktail Hour includes:

- * Station Selections
- * Choice of Hors d'OEUVRES
- * Top Shelf Liquor
- * Signature Drinks

Dinner & Dancing includes:

- * Printed Menus
- * Choice of Colored Linens
- * Perimeter Lighting
- * Choice of Five Entrees
- * Decadent Dessert
- * Dessert Symphony
- * Top Shelf Open Bar
- * Occasion Cake

Kids Club Lounge includes:

- * Choice of Stations
- * Choice of Entrees
- * Fry Bar
- * DESSERT CREATIONS
- * Pipe & Drape
- * Light Up Cocktail Tables
- * Couches & Ottomans
- * Light Up Kids Beverage Bar

Additional Services Include:

- * Choice of Lobby Furniture
- * Ladies Room Attendant
- * Coat Room Attendant
- * WE Coordinate All Your Vendors
- * Event Planner-Start to Finish
- * Direction Cards

Our Vendors Are Included...



FLORIST:
4-SIDED CHUPPAH
WITH CHANDELIER
10 RAISED CENTERPIECES
BRIDAL PARTY BOUQUETS
CORSACES & BOUTONNIERES

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEO: FULL-DAY COVERAGE TWO PHOTOGRAPHERS FULL STUDIO-EDITED VIDEO ENTERTAINMENT:

FUSION PACKAGE
MC, DJ,
VOCALS AND INSTRUMENTS
FOR YOUR CEREMONY
& RECEPTION



Photographer/Video:

- * Full Edited Video Package
- * Full Digital Photography
- * Pre Portrait Session (Day of at Temple avodah)

DECORATIONS:

- * 8 Raised Table Center Pieces
- * ONE POSTER Blow Up
- * Sign in Board or Sign in Book

DJ / ENTERTAINMENT:

- * DJ and MC
- * 2 Motivaters/ Dancers
- * Staging
- * High Quality Giveaways
- * Stage LED Lighting

2023 - \$23,969

Price above 100 people \$109 per adult \$84 per child

2024 - \$25,500

Price above 100 people \$114 per adult \$89 per child

2025 - \$26,500

Price above 100 people \$119 per adult \$94 per child

Tax & Gratuity not included Saturday afternoons only

(Additional 5% for Non-Temple Members)

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Elly & Ed Lepselter (561) 302-9374



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2ND VICE PRESIDENT Elliot Shulman

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CO-TREASURER Scot Mackoff

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES Larry Lieberman & Beth Friedman Benjamin

SECRETARY Saul Wiener

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Marian Keilson

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PTO President-Danielle Davoli

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at Temple Avodah

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