

#VirtualAdat

Adat Ari El's Quarterly Online Update



The Bulletin-Adat Ari El
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//From The Clergy

Rabbi Jonathan Jaffe Bernhard



It is 7:45 AM, May 6th, and in approximately nine hours this Bulletin article is due...and our communications director hates it when I'm late...and he is strict too! This is par for the course on days when I have to write one of these. One difference is that I do not know what the world will look like by the time you read this.

In the face of such unknowns, I really can only think of one thing that might be useful as I project forward with this article: Courage, we all need to practice living with courage.

In this COVID-19 world we are awash in unknowns and have no idea what the contours of daily life will look like a month from now. For all news the media machines spew out, much about this virus is still unknown. And so as I write, parts of our country are experiencing decreasing numbers of cases and death, and some seem to be at the start of an outbreak. Some businesses are beginning to reopen and are exploring what daily life might look like in this new world, and others have already disappeared. And many institutions, like our Synagogue, are trying to plan and budget and program. It all feels like a global game of pin the tail on the donkey, except that no one stops you from spinning or pushes you in the direction of the donkey. Oh, and you don't know if it is even a donkey on which you are trying to pin the tail...or for that matter, if you are really holding a tail. Life in this COVID-19 world.

Unsettling to say the least.

In the face of such unknowns, I really can only think of one thing that might be useful as I project forward with this article: Courage, we all need to practice living with courage. Estelle Frankel writes that courage is the quality that enables us to overcome our fear so we can venture into the unknown rather than be overwhelmed by it. We might want to run and hide and avoid. We have been doing this in many ways in many areas for much of our lives. We are very good at avoiding. But to live life, really live, always requires courage. Courage opens our eyes so we can see the unknown terrain outside the shelter of our homes and

minds. It is a pool of energy from which we draw that grounds us in the present and gives us the strength to face and live what is real rather than be overcome by our fear.

In Hebrew, the expression for courage is "ometz lev"/ strength of the heart. Sometimes the word "ometz" appears as a verb, which suggests that courage is a capacity within us on which we can work and improve. We grow in courage by taking small daily risks or facing difficult emotional and moral challenges. And we grow in courage as we practice living and speaking our truth with patience, kindness, and wisdom.

We are not the tin man who needs to be given a heart. We are our own wizards.

As Moses prepared the Israelites to enter Israel, the promised land, he implored the people, "Hazak v'Amatz"/Be strong and courageous! For some this means we need to be strong and filled with courage so we can enter the holy land and partake of its promise. I believe it means that every land can be a land of promise if we enter it with courage. 

Adat Ari El Membership Sustainability Model

Our annual membership renewal period will open on Monday, June 8.

We ask that you renew your membership now for the upcoming 2020/21 year.

Please [Click Here](#) to go to our easy to complete membership form.

//From The President

David L. Burg



Thank you for the honor of serving as President of Adat Ari El. It's been a meaningful and rewarding experience. Nor has my term lacked for excitement! Needless to say, I step down at a perilous moment, when it's hard to see beyond nightfall. But I do so with deep confidence in the strength of Adat Ari El. I fervently believe our future is as bright as our past. In fact, the creative leadership of our clergy, professional staff, and educators through this pandemic—and the dedication and generosity of our members—has made me more proud to serve as your President now than at any previous time.

Certainly, like synagogues and churches throughout the country, Adat Ari El faces challenges beyond the coronavirus. We're fortunate to own our real estate without encumbrance and to hold a generous endowment that (until recently) had long enjoyed steady investment growth. But we have too much operating debt, and we've struggled too long to meet budgets. We've also accumulated an unacceptable level of long-deferred maintenance that must be promptly addressed.

This year we were well into a reinvigorated budgeting process, looking to prudently reduce our operating expenses as required to meet anticipated membership revenue, when the virus struck. We've had to proceed more slowly since then, as we need a clearer picture of the coming months to accurately forecast. We hope to complete our budget for the 2020-21 fiscal year soon.

Despite current circumstances, however, in my view the long-term stability of Adat Ari El primarily rests upon our success in meeting these goals:

1. Growth. Since adopting our Sustainability Model three years ago, Adat Ari El has welcomed about 200 new and returning members to our community. But we must continue to grow. Among other things, this will require new and creative outreach to the unaffiliated Jewish population within our midst, demonstrating the life-changing value of a synagogue community. It also might challenge us to explore modern adaptations of some interfaith policies while maintaining our core Conservative Jewish values.

2. Wider financial support. As I wrote in my previous column, the continued success of our Sustainability Model requires wider and deeper support for Adat Ari El's operations among our members. We will not succeed if our average membership contribution continues to decline, and if the number of members contributing at the lowest levels continues to increase. Here's the truth: Too few members have financially sustained this Synagogue for too long. Is a world without thriving synagogues acceptable to you? If not, and if Adat Ari El is your Synagogue, then you truly do have an obligation to support this community as generously as you can. Please do so.

3. Increased facilities revenue. We are blessed with a beautiful open-air campus, substantial onsite parking, and proximity to two freeways. With commitment and focus, we can dramatically increase the number of events held at Adat. This will bring significant revenue and afford us valuable exposure to potential new members. To fully realize this opportunity, however, we must raise sufficient funds to renovate our Sanctuary building and kitchens. I hope we're able to do so soon.

4. Debt elimination. We must work to eliminate our accumulated operating debt as quickly and

prudently as possible. There certainly are potentially wise uses for long-term debt. For example, it might be prudent to borrow money secured by our valuable real estate to support facility improvements we deem sufficiently beneficial to our continued growth and prosperity. But operating debt that grows year after year, on which we not only pay too much interest (whatever the rates) but which can interfere with the liquidity of our revolving lines we need to manage annual revenue fluctuations, is unacceptable. Like every retiring President and Congressperson, I'm truly sorry we weren't able to make progress on this critical issue during my term in office. It must be a priority moving forward.

I do want to humbly address one dark cloud I've observed: Growing intolerance for differing political views. This reflects a troubling national phenomenon. But at Adat Ari El we must do what we can to reverse it. Political strife can seriously harm an institution like ours. So here's my equally humble suggestion: Going forward, let's assume the opinions of our fellow congregants—however strongly we may disagree with them—are well-considered and taken in good faith. And let's engage in political conversations not to convince others they're wrong (or bad) but to better understand their views and more clearly articulate our own without personal attack.

I am so fortunate to be passing the torch to my extraordinarily capable and committed successor, Lena Labowe. Lena and I will continue to co-chair our Rabbinic Search Committee, and I look forward to supporting Lena's leadership and devotion to Adat Ari El any way I can.

We will go from strength to strength. God bless Adat Ari El.

///Lifecycle Announcements

B'nai Mitzvah



8.22.2020

Sophie Eli

Daughter of Rachel & Daniel Eli



8.29.2020

Avital Goldzweig

Daughter of Judith & Jeff Goldzweig

Births

Rafi Noah Feigenblatt

Mazel Tov to parents Orly and Andrew Feigenblatt; grandparents Elke and Manny Aftergut, and June and Stuart Feigenblatt; great-grandmother Shirley Landau

Jonah Min-Seok Olch

Mazel Tov to parents Adrianna and Ben Olch; grandparents Cindy and Ron Olch, Diana Mar Jip and Edward Chuh; great-grandparents Belle Genesove and Young Sil Chuh

Aubrey Rena Borgen

Mazel Tov to parents Judy and Ari Borgen; grandparents Kathy and Peter Reynolds, Judy and Bill Deutchman; great-grandmother Bea Reynolds; and great aunt and uncle Miriam and Dr. Ron Reynolds

Jacklyn Jamie Fard

Mazel Tov to parents Keren and Alex Fard; grandparents Rochelle and Freddy Cohen and Jan and Amir (z"l) Fard; great-grandparents Janet and Jake (z"l) Farber

Milo Ashton Wilson

Mazel Tov to parents Tess and Sam Wilson; grandparents Anthony and Monise Neumann, and Frida and Stuart Wilson

Max Elliot Rosenberg

Mazel Tov to parents Sarah Cunningham and Mark Rosenberg; grandparents Sherri and Paul Cunningham, Linda Rosenberg and Ed Whitmore, and Saul Rosenberg; great-grandparents Beverly Barak and Carol Cunningham

Elio Norris Arcuri

Mazel Tov to parents Graham Norris and Lee Arcuri; brother Simon; grandparents Melanie and Richard Norris and Andrew and Bill Arcuri

///births continued

Mila James Gordon

Mazel Tov to parents Ben and Shayla Gordon; grandparents Debbie and Greg (z"l) Gordon and Mitchell and Bonnie Bloom; great-grandparents Edna and Abbott (z"l) Sydney, Ronald and Lois Bloom, and Norman and Gloria Ross; uncle Daniel Gordon, Alex and Brenna Cascante, and Jared Bloom

Andrew Parker Weinberg

Mazel Tov to parents Dr. Aaron and Dr. Jennifer Weinberg; grandparents Joel and Deborah Weinberg, and Jim Parker and Stephanie Poe; great-grandparents Leonard and June Weinberg, Jerome Isaacs and Faith Isaacs (z"l), James Parker (z"l) and Marjorie Parker (z"l), Glen Foe (z"l) and Vera Foe (z"l); aunt and uncle Vicki and Colin Parker

Isaac Matthew Hellman

Mazel Tov to parents Eric Hellman and Rachael Pearl; brother Connor Hellman; grandparents Debby and Allen Hellman and Bob Pearl; great-grandmother Doris Hellman; aunts and uncles Alison Hellman and David Braffman, Arielle Pearl, and Josh and Stephanie Pearl

Ariana Scarlett Rose

Mazel Tov to parents Daniel Rose and Alison Peck: brother Adam Rose; grandparents David and Arlene Peck

Caleb Samuel Chiel

Mazel Tov to parents Harry and Zoe Chiel; grandparents Jonathan and Judy Jacoby Chiel, and Gene and Toby Tabachnick; great-grandparents Rabbi Samuel Chiel, (z"l) and Janet Chiel, and Norman and Lela Jacoby

Ilana Sarina Handelman

Mazel tov to parents Guy and Alexis Handelman; grandparents Lisa and Steve Silverman; great-aunt and uncle Juli and Jeff Kinrich

Condolences

Yocheve Nordman

Mother of Hava (Dan) Gabay and Yehuda (Gila) Nordman; grandmother of Coby (Jess) Nordman, Eli (Adi) Gabay, Liron (Solly) Samara, and Bar Gabay; great-grandmother of Amit, Lavi, and Shaya

Eugenia "Jenny" Savariego Edelstein

Wife of Jaime Edelstein; mother of Leonard (Claudine) Edelstein and Richard (Sherry) Edelstein; grandmother of Max, Louie, Jack, and Lucia Edelstein

Anne Garbowitz

Mother of Sue Garbowitz and Gary Garbowitz; grandmother of Molly Garbowitz

Muriel (Mickie) Goldstein

Wife of Meyer Goldstein; mother of Jeff (Risa) Goldstein, Barbara (Alan), Gindi, Robert (Francine) Goldstein; grandmother of Breanna Goldstein, Shayna Goldstein,

//Condolences continued

Malory (Dustin) Lea, Rachel (Aaron) Inlender, Jaime (Henrik) Sukkonik, Ariela (David) Kupperman, Shoshana Gindi, Bryan Goldstein, Bethia (Avi) Rabinowitz, and Aliza Gindi; great-grandmother of 12

Lawrence Sax

Husband of the late Ruth Sax; loving father and father-in-law of Robert (Kathryn) Sax, Gail (Michel) Sax-Trocme, and Toby Sax; devoted Zayda of Zora, and Ira Trocme; brother-in-law of Max Schleicher and the late Annette Klemow

David Alpert

Husband of Merryl; brother of Herb (Lani), sister Mimi Feldman; father of Randy (Nicole), Derek (Julie), and Shalene; grandfather of Jessica and Eric Nicastro, Dustin (Lauren), Heather, Jagger, and Olivia Alpert; and great-grandfather of Ella and Owen Nicastro

Peter Levine

Husband of Judy; father of Jason Levine

Jay Nelson

Husband of Diane Nelson; father of Cheryl (Greg) Boles, Brent (Sally) Nelson; grandfather of Lauren, Ashley, Skyler, and Brandon

Alisha Sharvit

Father of Anette, Shachar, and Ofra; grandfather of five

Dr. Herman J. Lew

Husband of Annette; father of Lawrence, Gary, and Mark; grandfather of Madeleine, Sophia, Max, Bethany, Eric, and Sarah

David Prizer

Husband of Joyce Spiegel; father of Hilary, Jesse, and Jamie

Oscar Cohen

Husband of Eleanore Cohen; father of Lisa Cohen (Luis Andruoin), Maggie Howard (Andrew Howard), and Joanne Cohen (Russell Rosenberg); grandfather of Harry and Jack Howard and Michael and Jamie Schenker; brother of Florence Cavanaugh, Billie Desisto, and David Cohen

Saul Tureltaub

Husband of Shirley; father of Adam and Jon, and their spouses Rhea and Amy; grandfather of Max, Ross, Jack, Daniel, and Arabella

Orrin Kabaker

Husband of Betty Kabaker; father of Bill (Roberta), Alan, and Joel (Leah); grandfather of 15, including Erez (Becky), Elkana (Mandy), and Yishai (Yochanan) Kabaker; great-grandfather of 10, including Aytan, Shira, Westley, Cameron, Eyal, and Einav

Yitzchak Aranoff

Husband of Chavie; father of six; cousin of Mel Aranoff; grandfather of many

Ichak Eli

Father of Dan (Rachel), Orli, Uzi, and Tovah; grandfather of Nathan, Sophie, Samantha, Jonathan, Daniel, Udi Natalie, Edan, Vered, Aya, and Tal; great-grandfather of seven. In addition, he was the husband of Rivka Eli, who passed away two years ago

Susan Nusbaum

Mother of David (Stephanie) Nusbaum and Melinda (Jonathan) Pardes; grandmother of Stanley Nusbaum, and Noah and Julia Pardes; widow of Robert Nusbaum; sister of Joan (Mel) Berman and Rena (Larry) Rothstein; aunt of Russell Berman, Dana (Jeff) Marks, and Melissa (Kyle) Cohne; great-aunt of Brandon and Dylan Marks, and Aiden, Ryan, and Vanessa Cohne

Shahnaz Sefaradi

Mother of Naghmeh (Michael) Yaghoubi; grandmother of Alexis, Abigail, and Audrey

Dinah Kahan

Mother of Tova (Ehud) and David (Marla); grandmother of Ronit (Amir), Sarah, and Elizabeth; great-grandmother of Noa and Itay

Diane Liberman

Wife of Roberto; mother of Natalie and Kaylee; sister of Gregg (Susan); aunt of Chelsea and Hannah

Zinayda Mazler

Mother of Gregory and Albert; grandmother of Haggai, Milana, Rebecca, and Daniel; great-grandmother of Mia, Eli, Ethan, Abigail, and Adam

Julie Wynn

Wife of Mel Wynn (z"l), mother of Jan (Ron) Field, Jeff Wynn (z"l), and Andrea Wynn (z"l); grandmother of Rachel (Jake) Zacuto, Michael (Madeline) Field, and Justin Field; great-grandmother of Leo and Logan

Vickie Sonnenberg

Wife of Dave; mother of Mark (Michelle), and Sharon (Robert); grandmother of Max, Sam, Alison, Caitlin, and Megan

///Thanks

When we first joined the Adat community three years ago and I enrolled my daughter in the ECC, I was excited about a Jewish education for my daughter and building a Jewish foundation. Over the last three years, we have come to love the community at Adat. From the ECC to now the Day School, we have made friends along the way and have loved sharing in the joy that the community brings us. It wasn't until last week, however, that I really got to experience the true meaning of this community.

Last week was the hardest week of our lives—my father passed away unexpectedly and needless to say, we were crushed. Losing a parent is devastating, losing a parent in the middle of a pandemic is crippling. My siblings and I had to bury our father without the support of our family and friends around us, we sat Shiva alone, without visitors, without sharing stories of our dad, without shedding tears and laughs with those that loved him. Our own mother had to stay at a safe distance, not being able to hug her children when their hearts are breaking. It's an awful, lonely, surreal, and unnatural way to mourn. We were lost, not knowing how to cope without our loved ones to lean on.

Enter the Adat community...when we got the news, I sent a text to a small group of moms that I am close with, and from there things just took on a life of their own. Within two hours Rabbi Bernhard called me offering the wisdom and support that I greatly needed. An email regarding my father's passing went out to the entire community. The outpouring of texts and calls sending love and support was immense: from the Day School and ECC admin team, from almost every single kindergarten parent, who reached out either by phone, text, social media, or email. A meal train was set up, food from the kindergarten class, from the Day School, from Ari's friends' parents which arrived on our doorstep. Money was donated in my dad's

name from people that I sit on committees with, and I received calls from parents that I barely know checking in on us. Ari's teachers, Day School admin, and fellow parents joined us on Zoom for the funeral as a show of support for our family. Groceries were dropped off at the front door, cookies and baked goods with cards and kind words were delivered, letters and cards dropped in our mailbox. Ari's teachers set up Zoom calls with her to check in on her, her friends FaceTimed her, arts and crafts deliveries from Amazon arrived to keep her busy so that I could mourn.

I cannot express the amount of gratitude and love that we feel for this community that held us up during the hardest of times. It's easy to come together during times of joy, but it is in times of hardship and pain that it makes the most impact. The way this community took us under its wing and rallied around us means more to us than I can ever put into words. We felt your love, your sorrow, and your support when we needed it most. If I could take this feeling of gratitude and love that I have for this community, bottle it up, and give it to everyone I know, our Temple would be bursting at the seams with congregants. This community is one of a kind, something I never expected nor thought about, but really needed. This Adat community is truly special in a magical way, and we are so lucky to be a part of it. Ari and I want to thank each and every one of you for keeping our family in your thoughts and your prayers. We are forever grateful.

With gratitude and love,
Anette Sharvit

Brawerman Fellowship of The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles Recipient

Mazal Tov to Joey Rabinek, son of Harriet and David Rabinek, on being selected to be a part of the 9th cohort of the Brawerman Fellowship of The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. The Brawerman Fellowship is a four-year leadership program for incoming college students who will be attending a four-year accredited college in the fall. The fellows not only receive an annual scholarship of \$10,000 (for a total of \$40,000) but also participate in leadership retreats, a trip to Israel, and other local and overseas opportunities. The fellows participate in a program that builds leadership skills and further strengthens their connection to Jewish life. This cohort is a select group of four high school seniors who demonstrated academic strength and a deep commitment to leadership and community service. Joey will be graduating from Milken Community High School and will be attending Tulane University.



//From the JLC

A Community of Blessings

Julee Snitzer Levine
Director of Supplemental Education

Baruch atah Adonai Eloheynu melech ha-olam, ha-tov v'hameytiv.

Blessed are You, oh Lord, our God, Ruler of the universe, who is good and bestows good.
It is a struggle to see the blessings as we look back on the past few months and see a time of distress and discomfort. As I reflect on the 2019-2020 school year, I choose to see that the blessings have been abundant...even amidst drastic and unplanned change. Within a two-week time period, the JLC went from a bustling hub of Mishloah Manot activity to a school that was being run from the living rooms and kitchen tables of our exceptional educators. This was not the case everywhere. Some supplemental schools opted to offer only asynchronous learning and rely on packets and busywork. The JLC made a quick pivot so that our families could continue to learn from the teachers with whom they had relationships. It was the Ulpan (immersion) that nobody had planned for; and yet, we saw rapid growth and thriving. At first, it was simply the opportunity to reconnect class by class and to see familiar faces. Then it became a shared challenge of what new ways each class could learn from each other. From guest speakers to art projects to Kahoot quizzes to home scavenger hunts, each week brought its share of chaos and connection and above all, caring. The staff and faculty of the JLC love their students, and our students love learning and love sharing that knowledge.

The blessing I shared is meant to be recited at a time of communal good and celebration. Through the weeks of isolation, distance and, yes, frustration, there was so much good. The "Singing in the Dark" experience we shared at Family Camp reminded us that we are never alone, and that great connection can come from discomfort. The stories that parents shared about their children taking more ownership of this year's Seders show that L'dor V'dor (from generation to generation) is real and is multidirectional. Through pixels and megabits and through a commitment to blending Jewish wisdom with modern reality, we created this together. I invite you to contact me: jsnitzer@adatariel.org if you have any questions about our school and our community. Wishing you a summer of blessings! 

>>>JLC Enrollment is open for the 2020-2021 school year for grades K-6.
Returning Students [Click Here](#).
New students [Click Here](#).

2020 Israel Levin Scholarship Recipient



Mazal Tov to Julian Bertet, who is the recipient of the 2020 Israel Levin Scholarship, awarded annually to a graduating high school senior for their exemplary academic record and commitment to Jewish life and learning. Julian is the son of Wendy Shapero and Jean-Claude Bertet. Upon graduating from the Highly Gifted Magnet at North Hollywood High School, he will be attending the University of California, Berkeley, where he will study Political Science. Julian is one of the class valedictorians this year.

"After my Bar Mitzvah, I found myself stepping away from Judaism. I rarely attended services, and my perception of Judaism remained relatively stagnant. This changed after spending five weeks in Israel engaging with difficult questions directed at challenging my conceptions of faith. After countless conversations and sleepless nights, I understood faith to be ever-changing. Judaism has a history of questioning and challenging to advance personal meaning. The conflicts between Hillel and Shammai did not fissure the integrity of Judaism but reinforced its basic principles of community, justice, and education. Similarly, this journey of questioning has only allowed faith to become a more permanent and important factor in my life. I find the community created by Judaism wholly unique from other smaller communities I have experienced."



Jennifer and I are honored to have been the Adat Ari El Sisterhood's co-presidents. Sisterhood has seen many changes over the last two years. We have had to say goodbye to two of our most valued institutions within our Adat Ari El Sisterhood: the Gift Gallery and the Service Department. Although we were all very sad to see these departments go, we, along with our board, understand that change is necessary. These changes allowed us not only to open our doors to Andres and his wonderful Café Adat, but also most importantly, freed up our cash flow so that Sisterhood was able to help our Synagogue when it needed it the most, with a substantial contribution to the Adat Ari El Coronavirus Relief Initiative. The money we were able to lend will help keep our Adat employees employed during the COVID-19 crisis.

The last few months of Safer at Home have been very difficult for all of us. The personal connections that are so

important have been missing. We in the Sisterhood recognize how vital these connections are. We are so excited to begin in-person social events as soon as it is possible, so that the Women of Adat can once again come together as the strong, vibrant, fantastic community of women that we are!

Until then, stay home, stay safe, stay healthy!!

Jennifer Kaplan and Amy Zacky

///Sisterhood Tribute Cards

\$5.00 personal message

\$4.00 name included on group card

Sign up online:

adatariel.org/sisterhood

or email Susie Katz:

skatz@dsxextreme.com



Devorah Brous
Green Adat Campus Coordinator

I hope you and your family are healthy and finding a silver-lining in these times. From the environmental perspective, we're learning about one incredible upshot of this pandemic: COVID-19 is restoring the health of the planet's organs: air, soil, water. The coronavirus is set to cause the largest ever annual drop in CO2 emissions. And CNN reported that L.A. has some of the cleanest air of any major city!

What Can We Do to Grow Green in these times? We've curated a few #GreenAdat resources to keep yourself inspired. Educate, Advocate, and Plant.

Join us for Adat's bi-monthly Zoom class, "[What is Jewish About Gardening?](#)" and a weekly restorative meditation in your garden, "[Sh'ma Healing Circle](#)."

Join forces with the Jewish Earth Alliance for their May Action alert, to urge members of Congress to take steps to create jobs and stimulate the economy in ways that will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve resiliency, foster health, and advance equity. To get people back to work and revive our economy in the wake of COVID-19, done right, stimulus measures will help us build a greener economy. [Click Here!](#)

- [Grow Your Own Groceries, LA Times](#)
- [Learn to Garden! A Gardening Manual from the UC Master Gardener Program](#)
- [Click here to learn how to Compost at home](#)
- [Tinkergarten outdoor activities for kids](#)
- [Your kitchen is full of plants! Learn to Regrow romaine lettuce \(or onions, bok choi, celery, potatoes, garlic\) at home](#)
- [Start seeds in an egg carton](#)
- [Recycle and Play](#)

Great Green Books

- [We are the Weather](#) by Jonathan Safran Foer
- [Eating Animals](#) by Jonathan Safran Foer
- [Animal Liberation](#) by Peter Singer
- [In Defense of Food](#) by Michael Pollan

Great Green Films:

- [Fantastic Fungi](#)
- [Forks over Knives](#)
- [The Game Changers](#)
- [A Place at the Table](#)
- [Cowspiracy](#) (warning: some disturbing footage)
- [Eating Animals](#)
- [GMO OMG](#)

Wrapping up with a question from EcoFarm: "We must #REIMAGINE a new, interconnected food system and world and fight for it. What will you #Reimagine doing differently post crisis?" Even while we are not together learning and harvesting in the garden, please know that we harvested bitter greens from Adat gardens for the Passover Seder kits, and we trained Alfonso to harvest ongoing food! Our food is not being wasted; it is feeding essential workers at Adat. From #GreenAdat, be well and eat your veggies.

///From the ECC

Gratitude

Ori Zadok
Director

Way back in January, the ECC staff had a professional development meeting where we discussed gratitude, mindfulness, and how to incorporate more of it in the lives of small children. We wanted to make sure that our Early Childhood Center was helping to raise children who are thankful for all that they have in their lives and also be the type of people who can stop to smell the roses. We figured there is no greater way to do this than to utilize all the wonderful Jewish blessings that our tradition teaches us. We thought about saying the *Modeh Ani* first thing in the morning and moments when we could say *Shehecheyanu* with the many “first moments” children have in their lives. We talked about the blessings over the candles and the wine and the challah that we do every Shabbat. And how we all love the way Havdalah helps us focus as we start a new week. The next step is for the teachers to create their own blessing books as a resource for their practice and to incorporate blessings into everyday moments for the children and themselves.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 and having to close our doors to our ECC families, the teachers of the ECC have become a blessing in themselves. From the very start of this new way of life, they all went to work creating innovative ways of engaging families through the deployment of technology. Every day, Monday through Friday, our ECC teachers have been engaging families by singing songs, providing countless activities, doing scavenger hunts, talking about feelings, and even hosting parent “happy hours.” I am humbled by the amazing work that our ECC staff has done in these strange times. They have made being “safer at home” a bit easier for our community. By the time you are reading this, teacher appreciation week will have passed; however, I wanted all of you to know that the teaching staff in the ECC are definitely worth appreciating. We are absolutely blessed to have them! 

///From the Day School

Day School in the Zoomiverse

Shara Peters
Head of School

2020 is a fascinating year to be an educator. In the last three months (has it really only been that long?), our faculty has worked as a team to take our project-based, hands-on school to exist only in cyberspace. I thought that I would take a moment to bring you through a day in the life of an Adat Ari El Day School student in the Zoomiverse!

Each morning, students start at 9AM in their homeroom Zoom rooms for a morning meeting where, just like they do at 12020 Burbank, they start their day with a social-emotional check-in with their homeroom teachers. Their day then alternates between 30-minute learning blocks and 15-minute breaks, where they proceed through a truncated version of their regular school day. We were

very conscious of how much time we asked students to spend in front of a screen, but ultimately decided that the screen time was worth it; they are seeing their teachers and classmates for the majority of their day, maintaining a semblance of normalcy in this completely abnormal reality they are now facing.

Though of course there have been challenges and hiccups along the way, at the end of the day, we still feel like “us.” In addition to continuing in their core classes of General Studies, Judaic Studies, and Hebrew, students are still having Art, Tech, Science, and Dance, all through Zoom! We are working to see how we can capture some of the magic of the end-of-year events like Graduation, Intergenerational Day, and other

milestones through web-based platforms, and are also seeing the power in saying hello in person—even if it is from someone’s driveway, and through a mask.

2020 is a tough year to be a child. Though it is no substitute for in-person learning by any stretch, we are grateful that our online learning program is helping students maintain a sense of connectedness and community. It is a testament to our teachers, as well, who are doing everything they can to continue being a support for their students (and for continuing their commitment to their education, as well!). 

///Summer Tefillah Schedule

Weekdays

>>>Morning Minyan

Monday through Friday at 7:30am

Sunday and holidays at 9:00am

>>>Evening Minyan

Sunday through Thursday at 7:00pm

No evening minyan on Chagim

Shabbat

>>>Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday 6:00pm

>>>Shabbat Morning

Saturday 9:30am

>>>Community Havdallah

Saturdays, 8:45pm

Currently, our services
are being streamed through **Facebook live**

#VirtualAdat Summer Schedule

///Ongoing Programming

M Mishnah Mondays, 12:30pm

Rabbi Bernhard

[Click Here](#) to join

[Click Here](#) for resources

Song Sesh 4:30pm

Cantor Judy Dubin Aranoff

[Click Here](#) to join

T Mixed Level Yoga Flow, 10:00am

Hillary Oberstein

[Click Here](#) to join

Torah on Tuesday, 12:00pm

Rabbi Bernhard

[Click Here](#) to join

W What's Jewish about Gardening, 3:00pm

Devorah Brous

[Click Here](#) to join

Meditation Minyan, 7:30pm

Diego Gesualdi

[Click Here](#) to join

Th Sh'ma Healing Circle 3:00pm

Devorah Brous

[Click Here](#) to join

Level Two Yoga Flow, 3:00pm

Hillary Oberstein

[Click Here](#) to join

Su Two Rabbis Walk Into a Bar, 8:00pm

Rabbi Bernhard & Rabbi Yarkin

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///Special Programming

Friday, June 12, 6:00pm

Virtual 678 Shabbat

Loren Lieb, Speaker

Wednesday, June 17, 7:30pm

Summer Book Club 1

Rabbi Jonathan Jaffe Bernhard

Friday, June 19, 6:00pm

Virtual N'ranena

N'ranena Band

Saturday, June 20, 10:00am

Shabbat Healing Service

Rabbi Jessica Yarkin

Tuesday, June 30, 7:30pm

Virtual Script Read:

God the Play by Woody Allen

Rabbi Jessica Yarkin

Sunday, July 12, 7:30pm

Virtual Trivia Night

Rabbi Jessica Yarkin

Wednesday, July 29, Time TBD

Tisha B'Av/ Details to come

Clergy

Wednesday, August 5, 7:30pm

Summer Book Club 2

Lisa Silverman

Sunday, August 23, Time TBD

Virtual Concert/ Details to come

Cantor Judy Dubin Aranoff



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