

CHAILIGHTS

FEBRUARY 2017

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALISON YAZER FOR NAMING OUR NEWSLETTER!



Cantor Laura Berman

When I was a child, I learned that Tu BiShvat was "the new year of the trees." I imagined party hats on the leaves and streamers around the trunks, and really didn't grasp why on Earth there would be a "tree new year!"

Years later, I learned that the roots of the holiday extended all the way back to the Second Temple and to the annual practice of offering a portion of the land's produce as support for the community and to the Divine. After the destruction of the Temple and the dispersion of Jewish life, Tu BiShvat all but faded. It was revived hundreds of years ago as Jews began to return to the land of Israel, and gained further relevance with Israel's statehood in 1948.

During recent decades, Tu BiShvat has blossomed still further with the emergence of eco-Judaism. Before we heard about melting ice caps and drowning polar bears, eco-Judaism became the modern Jewish approach to reinterpreting our relationship with the environment. It has focused on the relationship between Adam (humankind) and adamah (the land). As Jews, we learn from an early age that our actions can have great impact. Tu BiShvat reminds us that by acting in concert with the Earth, we each can make an important difference for the environment.

In honor of Tu BiShvat, please join us at noon on Shabbat, February 11 when I will lead a "home-grown" Chocolate (!!!) Tu BiShvat seder, sponsored by WoTS and open to all. Wishing you a sweet and fruitful month!

WHAT'S THE RABBI READING?

Last year I was chatting with a colleague who mentioned that he enjoyed reading the books that his 5th grader was assigned. Some of them are truly fantastic and fit perfectly with Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month, including *Out of My Mind*, *Wonder* and *Freak the Mighty*. While they don't have Jewish characters, they do an incredible job of helping us as readers understand what life is like for people with disAbilities. From my Jewish bookshelf, you can find *All Kinds of Strong*, which sparked my Rosh HaShanah sermon, and *The Mitten String*. And my plan for this JDAIM is to read one of JDAIM's recommended books, Rabbi Naomi Levy's *Hope Will Find You*.

~ Rabbi Keren Gorban



You're Invited Congregational Dinner Friday, February 17

6 PM

Help raise awareness and funds during Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month. \$1 from every meal will go toward the Temple Sinai DisAbility Task Force 2017 goals! If you have children, be sure to come early for Tot Shabbat snacks at 5:00 and service at 5:30 PM!

Meal features a pasta bar! Cost is \$10 per adult, \$5 per child, \$30 max per family. RSVP to Judy Mahan by Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at (412) 421-9715 EXT 110 or judy@templesinaiaphgh.org

JDAIM

Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month

FROM THE CO-CHAIR OF THE DISABILITY TASK FORCE: MARA KAPLAN



Dear Friends,

February is national Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month (JDAIM). Did you know that 20% of the population of the United States has a disability? Our Temple Sinai family is no different. That is why Temple Sinai formed the DisAbility Task Force as part of the Year of Inclusion in 2015.

The initial goals of the Task Force were: to conduct an assessment of Temple Sinai's level of accessibility and inclusiveness of people of all abilities; to create a strategic plan; and, then to implement that plan. Co-Chairing this task force with Lisa Lederer has been one of the most rewarding things that I have been involved with at temple.

The Task Force volunteers have worked incredibly hard and have made real change happen. Just check out the list of what we've accomplished on page 5. As we celebrate JDAIM this month, we will offer rich programming for all: the Family Aseyfah on Sunday, February 5th will explore the movies *Finding Nemo* and *Finding Dory*; the Disability Awareness Shabbat on February 24th with guest speaker Harold Love, the new Executive Director of Jewish Residential Services, will feature selected passages from the Torah; the Brotherhood Brunch on Sunday, February 26th will explore mental health issues; and learning sessions with the staff and the Board of Trustees will take place throughout the month.

While we put special emphasis on inclusion this month, our commitment to inclusion is a core value of our sacred community which can be seen year-round in our services, programming and religious school. If this is an issue that interests you, please join us on Saturday, February 18th, when the Task Force will hold another strategic planning session to determine the goals for 2017 and beyond.

MEET A MEMBER: ELAINE LESGOLD

On December 18, 2015, Noah and I were in a car accident on our way to deliver a quiche to a friend who was having a hard time, and I received a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). If I had to become disabled, I'm glad I was doing a mitzvah at the time! Your brain controls everything about how you experience the world and operate within it, and every TBI is different, depending on which parts of the brain are affected. For me, I have had symptoms affecting my vision, balance, language, motor skills, memory, cognitive stamina and sensory processing.

I have been so grateful for the many ways that Temple Sinai's doors have remained open to me since the accident. Because of my sensitivity to sound, lights and movement in my visual field, I have a hard time being in the Sanctuary. I love having the option of going to the quiet room where the service is being broadcast. I get to

be under the same roof as my Temple family, while participating in the service as much as I can. I also appreciate the live streaming over the Internet on days when I can't get out of the house. Then I get to feel connected to my community from my living room, and hear your beautiful voices.

I have been so grateful for the many ways that Temple Sinai's doors have remained open to me

Most of all, I am grateful for our rabbis and the community of the Saturday Morning Minyan, which is full of people that I call my family. My Temple family has been so supportive of me and Noah during this time of healing, and we are so grateful for you.



You help us know that we are not alone with the struggles of recovering from such a huge life-altering event, and remind me that I am loved and valued no matter what I can or can't do.



WHY CHANGE FROM DUES TO PLEDGE IN 2017?

By: Jerry Katz, Assistant Treasurer

The answer is simple: We need to be true to ourselves and finance our community in a way that is consistent with our values. We are who we believe we are. We are inclusive. We are welcoming. We are innovative. We are leaders. We are a community. We are here for each other. We believe in each other. We trust each other.

Charging dues and putting a fixed price on membership is not inclusive. Requiring people to ask for

a dues adjustment is not welcoming. More importantly, it's not who we are. We are a sacred community. We are at all times, a service, a charity, a mission, a heritage, a future. It's impossible to put a single price tag on what we are together.

What is the value of finding meaning in your life, of instilling generations of children with Jewish values and identity, of watching your child grow as they are called to Torah, of lifelong learning, of changing the world or just one life? What does it mean to have a community to comfort us at a moment's notice in time of loss or sickness, or to celebrate our simchahs? How do you put a value on sustaining the heritage our grandparents and their grandparents worked to build? We don't believe we can decide that for you, and trust that you will search your heart and decide what is fair.

We believe in each other. We have faith that our congregants will

pledge what they can. We believe that we all will give, not only to help ourselves, but also to support others who can't give as much. We honor the generations past who pledged for us, as we pledge for those to come. We are all in it together.

We are for each other. We get fulfillment knowing our house is here for the young, old, single, married, change agents, lost souls, mourners and seekers. Their simchah is ours, their loss is ours.

We trust each other. We trust that we will all give what we can. We have flourished for 70 years because we have all given our time, talent and treasure freely and generously. We have no reason to believe that, given the choice, our congregants will not continue to give from the heart. We trust that all will, as has been the experience of other congregations who have adopted this model, and we welcome all pledges with that faith.

WHAT DOES TEMPLE SINAI PLEDGE 2017 MEAN?

It's a relatively new concept and we hope you share our pride in being the first congregation in Pittsburgh to embrace it. The Temple Sinai Pledge 2017 means that, instead of sending you a dues statement, this year you will receive a pledge request. We will let you know what it costs to sustain and grow our sacred community, and ask you to give what you can to make Temple Sinai thrive. The rest is up to you!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT Nancy Gale at Nancygale3@gmail.com

FAQ

Mostly Musical Shabbat

A Sensory Friendly Experience
Friday, Feb 3rd at 7 PM

Join us on first Fridays to sing, dance and make some noise with the Temple Sinai Band! Not into noise? Join the youth group for quieter Shabbat activities. For more information or accomodation call (412) 421-9715 EXT 110. All are welcome!

Join us for snacks
after service!



OUR SACRED COMMUNITY

NEW MEMBERS

Ryan Lockhart
Matthew Unger and Elizabeth Smith

SIMCHAHS

BIRTHS

Caleb Robert was born on 12/22/16. His parents are Michelle & Rich Schein.

Jacob Daniel was born on 12/25/16 (the 1st day of Hanukkah). His parents are Brianne and Aaron Stein and his big brother is Abraham.

OF BLESSED MEMORY

September

Louise Silverman, wife of Martin Silverman, mother of Edwin (Diane) Silverman

December

Dan Rosenthal, father of Joel (Reesa) Rosenthal

Sidney Philip Antonoff, father of Bruce (Gail) Antonoff

Florence Leebov, mother of Linda Leebov z"l (Ed)

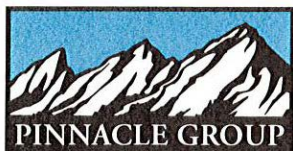
Goldston, Sister of Donald (Janet) Landis,

"Mema" of Joe (Jen) Goldston, Sam Goldston z"l, great grandmother of Sam, Marilyn, and Judah

Elfi Rook, mother of Jill (Rick Koepsel) Rook, grandmother of Emily (Abe DeBenedetti) Rook-Koepsel and Megan (Austin) Parker

Joe Michutka, uncle of Lauren (Michael) Coblenz

Elizabeth Brown, grandmother of Alison (Josh) Karabin, great grandmother of Zachary



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Notes From Jerusalem

January 2017

Tevet/Shevat 5777

Jerusalem is a joy and a wonder, as is Israel. Walking down a street today I saw pre-schoolers walking and singing with their teacher the tune "Artik-Mentah-Shokolad-Banana," which we teach at Jewish camp. It reminded me that with so much division surrounding us, so much mistrust and even hatred, we can fail to see simple beauty, like hearing a child's voice in song.

Yet we know that children in this area – Jewish and Palestinian – sometimes suffer too much from this conflict to raise their voices in joyous song. I get it. At the same time, there are lives being lived not 5 blocks from my house in Pittsburgh that are less than harmonious. Despite everything, I love Jerusalem and I walk through its streets over and over again, delighting even in running simple errands.

I love going to *shacharit* (morning) service at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, praying with friends, old and new. Today I sang harmonies with Cantor Jeff Klepper. The Jeff Klepper, who wrote dozens of the songs we sing in our Reform movement, especially our youth groups.

I love sitting with Rabbi Ezzie Ende and catching up on our families. Ezzie worked as our Associate Rabbi from 2006-2010 and made a lasting impression on our community. I love seeing the mix on the streets and in the alleyways of Jerusalem – old hands and tourists, Arabs and Jews, sharing this wonderful, holy, yet troubled space.

Next week I'll be visiting up north near Haifa and a newer city in the West Bank named Efrat that challenges me, given the present political climate. You see, in Israel I am drawn to the vibrancy and challenge of life instead of wanting to withdraw.

I would love to share Israel with you, my Israel. Consider coming with the Temple Sinai trip this June. Come and see the wonder. Come and experience the challenges. Come and, I hope, fall in love with this country I love so much. You can find trip information online at:

www.secure.ayelet.com/GibsonJune2017.aspx

L'Shalom
Rabbi Jamie Gibson



New Clergy Email Addresses

As you can imagine, our clergy get a lot of emails. In an effort to help them get through them more quickly we've added new addresses to use for any emails that can be opened by support staff.

If your message is private continue to use the current clergy email addresses:

Rabbigibson@templesinaipgh.org
Rabbigorban@templesinaipgh.org
Cantorberman@templesinaipgh.org

For all other emails please use one of the following and remember "the dot is not" completely confidential:

Rabbi.gibson@templesinaipgh.org
Rabbi.gorban@templesinaipgh.org
Cantor.berman@templesinaipgh.org

2016 DisAbility Task Force Accomplishments

Services:

- Magnifying Glasses & Fidget Toys available for services
- Quiet Room available for participating in Streamed Services
- Mostly Musical marketed as "Sensory Friendly"
- Large Print prayerbooks available for both High Holidays and Shabbat
- Visual T'fillah materials developed
- Onegs include gluten-free options and sugar-free options, and food with nuts is clearly marked.

Training/Planning/Governance:

- Developed and implemented strategic plan
- Staff and Clergy received annual training
- Board received annual training
- Completed inclusion assessment
- Greeters trained to welcome people with disabilities
- Ensured that people with disabilities serve on the Board of Trustees
- By-Laws and policies reviewed to ensure they meet our vision of inclusion

Marketing:

- Weekly email newsletter revamped for easier reading

- Website revamped (in process) for easier reading
- Accommodation statement on all publicity
- Membership Packets include inclusion statement
- Membership Director is responsible for accommodation requests

Building:

- Accessible spaces are used for educational programs and Board of Trustee Meetings
- Board uses microphone at meetings
- Secured architectural plans to make the Rose Garden accessible
- Move the Sukkah to the front yard, until the Rose Garden can be made accessible

Religious School:

- New multi-sensory Hebrew curriculum beginning in Kindergarten.

Mental Health:

- Formed Mental Health committee



FEBRUARY AT

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

JDAIM

Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month

5

9:00 AM Youth Choir
9:30 AM Religious School
10:00 AM RUMMAGE SALE!
11:00 AM Bereisheet
12:00 PM Purim Shpiel Rehearsal

12

9:00 AM Youth Choir
9:30 AM Religious School
10:00 AM WoTS Meeting
11:00 AM Bereisheet
12:00 PM Club Sinai/Jr
Purim Shpiel Rehearsal

19

9:00 AM Youth Choir
9:30 AM Cooking for Caring
Religious School
11 AM Bereisheet
12:00 PM Purim Shpiel Rehearsal

26

9:00 AM Youth Choir
9:30 AM Religious School
10:00 AM Brotherhood Brunch:
Thriving with Mental
Health
11 AM Bereisheet
12:00 PM Purim Shpiel Rehearsal

6

6 PM 7th Grade Hebrew
7 PM Teen School

13

6 PM 7th Grade Hebrew
6:30 PM WoTS cooking class
7 PM 11th-12th Grade Seminar
Teen School

20

6 PM 7th Grade Hebrew
7 PM Teen School
11th-12th Grade Seminar
Women, Wine and
Working Wonders

27

6 PM 7th Grade Hebrew
6:15 PM Young Adult's DIY
Chinese Dumplings Class
7 PM Teen School
11th-12th Grade Seminar
7:30 PM Band Practice

7

14

21

28

7:30 PM Rosh Chodesh Group
Meeting

1

12:00 PM Parsha/Torah Class
4:00 PM Hebrew School
6:00 PM Evening Meditation
6:30 PM Power of the Psalms class
7:15 PM Recite Kaddish
7:30 PM Intergenerational Choir
Rehearsal

8

12 PM Parsha/Torah Class
4 PM Hebrew School
6 PM Evening Meditation
6:30 PM Power of the Psalms class
7:15 PM Recite Kaddish
7:30 PM Intergenerational Choir
Rehearsal

15

12 PM Parsha/Torah Class
4:00 PM Hebrew School
6 PM Evening Meditation
6:30 PM Power of the Psalms class
7:15 PM Recite Kaddish
7:30 PM Intergenerational Choir

22

12 PM Parsha/Torah Class
4 PM Hebrew School
6 PM Evening Meditation
6:30 PM Power of the Psalms class
7:15 PM Recite Kaddish
7:30 PM Intergenerational Choir
Rehearsal

TEMPLE SINAI

THURSDAY

2

6:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting with Minyan
7:00 PM Intro to Judaism at Rodef Shalom
7:15 PM Recite Kaddish

9

6:15 PM Cooking and Serving Dinner at EECM Community House
7:00 PM Intro to Judaism at Rodef Shalom

16

Rabbi Gibson's Birthday!

7:00 PM Intro to Judaism at Rodef Shalom
7:15 PM Board of Trustees Meeting
Recite Kaddish

23

7:00 PM Intro to Judaism at Rodef Shalom

FRIDAY

3

7:00 PM Mostly Musical Shabbat, a sensory friendly experience, followed by Oneg



10 EREV TU BISHVAT

12 PM Downtown lunch with Rabbi Gibson
5:30 PM Pre-Oneg
6 PM Shabbat Evening Service
7 PM Shabbat Tables

17

5:00 PM Tot Shabbat Snacks and Schmoozing
5:30 PM Tot Shabbat Service
6:00 PM Congregational Dinner
7:00 PM Shabbat Evening Service with Birthday Blessing followed by Oneg



24

8:00 PM DisAbility Awareness Shabbat Service, featuring guest speaker Harold Love from JRS & the Intergenerational Choir, Oneg following



SATURDAY

4

8:30 AM Torah Study
9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service

11 EREV TU BISHVAT

8:30 AM Torah Study
9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service
Mini Minyan
12:00 PM Chocolate Seder
4:00 PM Chai Mitzvah Havdalah

18

8:30 AM Torah Study
9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service
11:15 AM Shabbat Minyan Potluck Oneg
4:00 PM Shabbat Meditation

25

8:30 AM Torah Study
9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service
1:45 PM Sing-Along at Charles Morris
4:30 PM Glow in the Dark Havdalah

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE FRIDAYS

FEB 3 AT 7 PM

FEB 10 AT 6 PM
FEB 17
TOT SHABBAT AT 5:30 PM AND SHABBAT EVENING AT 7 PM

FEB 24 AT 8 PM

SATURDAYS

TORAH STUDY AT 8:30 AM

INFORMAL MORNING SHABBAT AT 9:15 AM

MINI MINYAN ON FEB 11 AT 9:15 AM

CHOCOLATE SEDER FEB 11 AT NOON

GLOW IN THE DARK HAVDALAH ON FEB 25 AT 4:30 PM

Contact Us:

Executive Director Boni Fine, Boni@templesinaipgh.org, EXT 111
Membership & Engagement Director, Judy Mahan, Judy@templesinaipgh.org, EXT 110
Development Director, Barry Rudel, Brudel@templesinaipgh.org, EXT 133

To submit content to the calendar and/or newsletter contact: Jessica Levine at EXT 120 or Jessica@templesinaipgh.org

Questions or Suggestions?
We want to hear from you!
(412) 421-9715

WWW.TEMPLSINAIPGH.ORG

FAMILY PROGRAMMING

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL On Sunday, February 5

9:30 AM- Family Aseyfah disability awareness program with *Finding Nemo & Finding Dory*.

9:30 AM - We will be having two age-appropriate seders to celebrate Tu BiShvat. This holiday celebrates the New Year of the trees and gives us time to reflect on the importance of trees and nature, eat some of the fruits of trees, and think about our connection and responsibility to help the earth. We are asking each class to bring in a fruit (enough for 6 small portions) associated with the seder.

Grades K & 3: Fruits with peel or shell that cannot be eaten such as bananas, oranges, pineapple

Grades 1 & 4: Fruits that have a pit such as peaches, plums, cherries, olives

Grades 2 & 5: Fruits that are all edible such as apples, dates, kiwi, strawberries, blueberries, grapes, carob, raisins

Grade 6: Fruits and spices that are fragrant, but not necessarily eaten such as lemons, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves

We could also use a hand cutting the fruit and preparing for the seder. All volunteers will meet in the kitchen at 9:30. If you are able to help, please email dhaber@templesinaipgh.org. As always, we greatly appreciate your support.

Mini Minyan

Saturday, February 11

9:15 AM

Torah yoga, stories, music! Shabbat prayers, crafts, snacks and Flash Mob at Kiddush! All are welcome, if your child is under 6, we kindly ask that parents/caregivers accompany them.

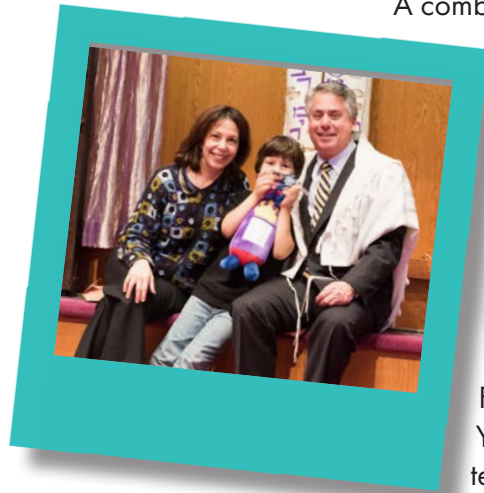
Tot Shabbat

Friday, February 17

5:00 PM - Snack and schmooze

5:30 PM - Service

A combination of music, movement and learning offering young children a Shabbat experience through age-appropriate songs and prayers. All are welcome, if your child is under 6, we kindly ask that parents or caregivers accompany them.



YOUTH GROUPS

For more information, contact our Youth Advisor, Roz Knapp (roz@templesinaipgh.org). To register for events, log into your temple account.

Open Mic

Friday, February 10th

7 PM

PARTY (grades 9-12)

Snow Tubing!

February 11

PARTY Jr. (grades 6-8)

Tu BiShvat: The New Year of Trees!

February 12

12 - 1:30 pm

Club Sinai/Club Sinai Jr. (Kindergarten – 5th grade)



GLOW IN THE DARK HAYDALAH

Saturday, February 25

4:30 PM

When night falls on Saturday we say goodbye to Shabbat. Bring your favorite stuffed animal to mark the end of Shabbat with songs, stories and activities that glow in the dark. All are

welcome, if your child is under 6, we kindly ask that parents/caregivers accompany them.

Adult Education:

The Power of the Psalms, a new class in February! Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm. What are the Psalms about, when and why do people recite them, and how can these ancient words be meaningful in our own lives? Rabbi Gorban will share her passion for the Psalms and include some of the work she did for her rabbinic thesis.

No fee for members. Registration is required for the series so we have enough supplies and materials for everyone. Register online with your temple account at www.templesinaipgh.org. Non members fee \$36.00. Registration is available at www.templesinaipgh.org, Just click on donate and select community member option. Questions? Contact Rabbi Gorban @ 412.421.9715 X117 or rabbi.gorban@templesinaipgh.org



Chocolate Seder Saturday, Feb 11 at noon

*Enliven your senses
Fruit & juice tasting
with chocolate pairings
Led by Cantor Berman*

***Tu BiShvat: The Birthday of the trees
This event is open to all, sponsored by WoTS***

DONORS DECEMBER 2016

Alphabetical by donor last name

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Of Bee Kossis Firman
Bert and Reda Kossis
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Of Jeanette Pearlstein
Harvey and Marcy Kronzek
Of a dearly departed
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Laurie Mulvey
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Mustin
Of Mary Sachs
Rona Mustin
Of Lillian Shachman
Lynn Naman
Of Flo Leebov
Of Frieda Safyan
Of Emily Segal
Harvey and Esther Nathanson

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Joanne M Nicoll
Of Flo Leebov
Elliott Oshry
Of Larry Gibson
Terri & Jim Polacheck
Of Pollock
Beverly Pollock
Of Harry Pretter
Of Mollie & Harry Pretter
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Of Hennie Jurjaanz-Meier
Of Roselle Roth
Barry and Mayda Roth
Of Annette Rubinstein
Of Harold Rubinstein
Of Frieda Safyan
Debra Rubinstein
Of Rose Rudov
Walter and Diane Rudov
Of Charles Lipsitz
Selma P. Ryave
Of Edwin Sable
Of Kate Sable
Morry Sable
Of Frieda Safyan
Estate of Frieda Safyan
Of Harry J. Lappin
Abe Sambol
Of Frank Schatten
Gerald Schatten and Irene Fonseca
Of Phyllis Faller
Leland and Janice Schermer
Of Samuel Schreiber
Brian and Lynn Schreiber
Of Bea Nelson
Gary Nelson and Jo Anne Schwendinger
Of Joyce Seltman
Morton and Rita Seltman
Of Ethel Briskin
Daniel and Barbara Shapira
Of Emily Segal
Joan Shapiro
Of Florence Geller
Podolsky
Michael and Sheila Sittig
Of Louis Smith
Philip and Elayne Smith
Of Alan Marcus
Howard and Caren Sniderman

IN MEMORY

Of Bernard Elinoff
Lewis Hyman and Lynn Snyderman
Of Dr. Ruben Snyderman
Lynn Snyderman
Of Dale Joanne Solomon
Of Martin Solomon
Ellen & Marcie Solomon
Of Paula Kaufman
Ellen Solomon
Of Mark Stein
Joan Weiss Stein
Of Esther Seft
Larry and Elaine Seft
Of Tannenbaum
David and Mary Tannenbaum
Of Jack Tufshinsky
Morris and Barbara Tufton
Of Barbara Rose Straussman
Saul Straussman and Kellee Van Aken
Of Flo Leebov
Irwin and Gail Wedner
Of Larry Gibson
William and Evelyn Wedner
Of Larry Gibson
Rosalyn Wein
Of Frieda Safyan
Of Hennie Jurjaanz-Meier
Joseph and Phyllis Weinkle
Of Harry Tannenbaum
Edris Weis
Of Florence Leebov
Stanley Levine and Barbara Weschler
Of Richard Wilson
Adria & Haylee Wilson
Of Ruth Fisher
H. J. Zoffer

DONORS DECEMBER 2016

Alphabetical by donor last name

IN APPRECIATION

Of Zev Abramovitz's Bris
Barbara Abramovitz
Of Ellie Farbman's Bat
Mitzvah
Steven and Louise
Farbman
Of Rebb
Evelyn Rebb
Of Gloria Silverblatt
unveiling
Adam Silverblatt

IN HONOR

Of the birth of Clara
Rosenthal
Laura and George
Arnold
Of the Kurs-Lasky Family
Sylvia Frank
Of Dr. Mortan Selman's
90th Birthday
Jamie and Jeffrey Harris

IN HONOR

Of the birth of Clara
Rosenthal
Edward and Jan
Korenman
Of the birth of Clara
Rosenthal
Of the birth of Hannah
Coblentz
Robert Kraut and Aya
Betensky

IN HONOR

Of the birth of Clara
Evelyn Rosenthal
Of the marriage of Glenn
& Stephen
Of the marriage of Lauren
& Rob
Karen, Nathan &
Noah Levin

IN HONOR

Of the birth of Clara
Rosenthal
Of the birth of Hannah
Coblentz
Lynn Naman
Of the birth of our grand-
daughter, Gwen Ella
Sablowsky
Lee and Marsha
Sablowsky

FOR THE YARZHEIT

Of Robert Arnold
Laura and George
Arnold
Of Bernard Berman
Diane Berman
Of Madeleine
Keller
The Keller Family

MEET A MEMBER: LENORE WOSSIDLO

I feel blessed to have a son with autism. One day, when he was 5, I decided to focus on his abilities, rather than his disabilities. This changed our world, for now we saw his capabilities and would learn how to help him do tasks in HIS way, to think outside the box. This was also the start of me helping to bring autism awareness and acceptance to as many people as I could, including law enforcement and first responders.

Keeping spirituality in our lives has given us a way to turn to GOD, who listens and hears us without passing judgment, as well as many times answering our prayers. Sometimes a prayer was as simple as "GOD, please get me through this challenge right now."

Working with the synagogue task force has helped me to help others understand the challenges we face. I have also realized that people may feel uncomfortable talking to us or sitting with us. It is okay. Just come over and say hello and talk to us like you would anyone else. I will help facilitate the conversation. If you come sit down with us, just talk to us about general issues or just ask about work, etc. If you want to talk about autism, choose another time separate from the time I am with K.J.

Lenore is the author of *KJ's Autism: A Mother's Inspiration*.

Here is a passage from her book, "On Sunday, August 20, 2005, KJ celebrated his Bar Mitzvah in front of very close family and friends, many of them with autism. KJ and I signed the SHEMA (one of the blessings recited before reading from the Torah), the Rabbi read from the Torah, we all said the blessing Kiddish (blessing over the wine/grape juice), and the Rabbi incorporated a couple of other important parts of the Bar Mitzvah. I wrote and spoke my thoughts about KJ. We had a very small reception afterwards, and we breathed a sigh of relief! We were very proud of our son with autism, for accomplishing this major task." Lenore will be signing books at the congregational dinner on February 17, 2017.



"In the accommodation paradigm for disability awareness, our responsibility is only to meet the needs of those who knock and say they want to enter. The inclusion model—the community paradigm—implores us to go further, to be compassionate even when the need is not explicitly defined, to seek to include people who may not already be knocking on the door, and to be willing to expand the definition of community, to be changed by people with special needs or new perspectives or diverse skill levels," by Rabbi Michael Safra, B'nai Israel Congregation, Rockville, Maryland.

FEBRUARY 2017

JDAIM
Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month

Started in 2009 by the Jewish Special Education International Consortium, the initiative is a unified effort among Jewish organizations around the world to raise awareness and foster inclusion of people with disabilities and those who love them.

BE INSPIRED TO CONNECT

Women of Temple Sinai Invite You...

WoTS Steering Committee Meeting

Sunday, February 12 at 10 AM

Cooking Class

Monday, February 13 at 6:30 PM

The story of Purim in Persia....Recipes will include meatballs stuffed with raisins in sweet and sour sauce, rice pilaf with mixed nuts & herb spinach fritata. For Dessert: Rosewater Scented Haman's Ears Cookies. Cost: \$10 RSVP by Friday, February 10 2017 to Carolyn Schwarz, 412-421-1268

Rosh Chodesh Adar Meeting

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 7:30 PM

"The Messiah" by Helen Maryles Shankman, from *In the Land of Armadillos: Stories*. Hosted by Peggy Fried and led by Phyllis Dreyfuss.

Contact Peggy to RSVP: margaretfried@gmail.com

Tikkun Olam Center for Jewish Social Justice invites you to...

Cook and Serve Dinner at EECM

Community House

Thursday, February 9 from 6:15pm - 8:00pm

Join us to cook and/or serve dinner for homeless men and women. For more information, please contact Sharon Dilworth at sd20@andrew.cmu.edu

Primetimers invite you to...

Potluck Dinner

Saturday, February, 26 at 7 PM

Contact Judy Mahan for location and what to bring, judy@templesinaipgh.org or (412) 421-9715 ext. 110

Brotherhood Brunch in honor of JDAIM

Thriving with Mental Illness

Sunday, February, 25 at 7 PM

Speakers TBA

Registration Fee: \$10 in advance or \$18 at the door

To register, contact Todd Miller at toddprmtg@gmail.com or 412.848.1082.

Registration deadline is Wednesday, February 22.

Coming Up in March...Sacred Conversations

Temple Sinai, as a member of PIIN (Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network), will conduct two Sacred Conversations on Race & Action on Sunday, March 5 and March 19 from 2-4 pm. For more information, contact Ronnie Cook Zuhlke at ronniecooks@gmail.com or Lisa Lederer at lisaglederer@gmail.com.

WWW.TEMPLSINAIPGH.ORG

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SINAI

TEMPLE SINAI

5505 FORBES AVENUE

PITTSBURGH, PA 15217

PURIM SHPIEL ON MARCH 11 AT 6:15 PM



Open
call for Shpiel
players! Rehearsals
on Sundays in February,
at noon, **have lunch and
have fun! All ages
welcome!**