Create a lasting legacy and enrich your community now and for years to come.

Shofar Soundings Summer 5781

Contents

3 Senior Rabbi Meredith Kahan
4 Assistant Rabbi and Educator Erin Binder
5 Rabbi in Residence Shena Jaffee
6 President John Cobey
7 Thank You from Laura Wright
8–9 Director of Education Nina Loftspring
10 Executive Director David Solomon
11 Library Update
12–13 Parking Lot Shabbat Photos
15 B’nei Mitzvah Celebrants
16 Bene Israel Society Testimonial: Bob Frohman
17 The Rockdale Temple Bene Israel Society
18 Summer Birthdays and Anniversaries
20–22 June–August Calendar
23 Liturgical Calendar
24 Women of Rockdale
25 L’Dor Vador Scholarship in Memory of Rabbi Sigma Faye Coran, z”l
27 Environmental Committee
28 Rockdale Reaches Out
29–31 Tribute Funds

OF SUMMER (shown on the cover)

Rabbi Shena Potter Jaffee holds a Torah with the mantle made using a needlepoint designed from an original gouache painting, OF SUMMER, by third generation Rockdale Temple member and Judaic artist Beth Goldstein.

On Tu B’Shevat, the 15th day of the winter month of Sh’vat, we customarily plant new trees. And when at last we speak OF SUMMER, with warm sun filled days, those trees bring forth their true gifts which they have been nurturing for so long: the fruits that are “our very own.” Twisted into a single bold trunk, the many trees of our heritage, our lives, and our lands grow strong together and like us, are deeply rooted. They deliver as promised: oranges, grapes and figs sweeten our wines; almonds flower and lemons are plentiful; pears and pomegranates sustain us on our way.

MAZEL TOV!

To Sean O’Brien on his promotion to Senior Accountant

To Rabbi Matthew Kraus for writing one of the letters to President Biden, Vice President Harris, and Members of the 117th Congress in Values and Voices: 100 Days, 100 Letters

To our confirmands and graduates and their families

To Rabbi Erin Binder on her ordination

To Rabbi Ross Levy on his ordination

To Rabbi Sam Schauvaney on her ordination

If you would like to contribute moments of congratulations, please send a request to Patty Kaufman, pkaufman@rockdaletemple.org.
As a product of Reform Movement religious school, camp, and youth group experiences, I grew up singing the words of Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav: *Kol ha’olam kulo gesher tzar m’od…* the whole world is a very narrow bridge / *v’ha-ikar lo l’fached klah…* but the most important thing is to not be afraid. A poignant message, to be sure. But, as my colleague, Rabbi Shoshana Conover, asks, “Life is a narrow bridge… is the essential thing really to not be afraid?”

In this past year, we have experienced the narrowness of life’s bridge. We have surely all felt afraid. We have walked fine, almost invisible lines. We have operated within unknown and ever-changing boundaries. We have experienced loss and grief and sadness. We have felt shaky, unsure, and fearful. We have been worried about the future. Many of us have been paralyzed in this narrowness, unable to step forward. For too many months, we have been stuck on a very narrow bridge. And during this time, fear has served a sacred purpose. Fear is often a great teacher, letting us know where to draw the line, where to take a step back, where to stop and think before we proceed. Now, as the pandemic begins to abate (*Love your neighbor! Get vaccinated! Sacredly distance! Wear a mask!*), as we welcome new professional leadership, as we plan for a hybrid version of congregational life, we ask—how do we safely, carefully, meaningfully, and (dare I say) without too much fear, walk such a narrow bridge?

Rabbi Elliott Cosgrove teaches, “The answer, or at least part of the answer, is in [our] song: *lo l’fa’hed klah.* We do not fear, or at least we do not allow our fear to immobilize us. In other words, we walk on.” So much has been beyond our control, and difficulty still lies ahead. But what is in our control, of course, is our reaction to the narrow bridge of life.

We may still fear. We may still hurt. We may still worry. But we know now that we are strong, flexible, determined, and yes, hopeful.

I am proud that we have found ways this past year to walk the narrow bridge. We have mourned, remembered, and honored Rabbi Coran, z”l. We have reinvented congregational life, including services, high holy days and holiday celebrations, and social programming. We have enjoyed an entire virtual religious school year. We have weathered significant staffing changes. We have managed to “walk on,” even when things were difficult, scary, and unwelcome.

Even though the bridge is still narrow, we are much better equipped to walk it. And walk it we will! We have appointed a new Executive Director, David Solomon, and will soon welcome Assistant Rabbi and Educator Erin Binder. Thanks in large part to Scott Larsen, we have learned how to use technology to connect with one another and our Judaism. We have begun celebrating B’nei Mitzvah again in our chapel, and even learned together in person, outdoors, on our last day of Hebrew School. I am filled with gratitude to be elected as your Senior Rabbi, and I look forward to celebrating Rockdale’s 200th with all of you in just a few short years. The bridge is still narrow, but we at Rockdale are walking on.

We may still fear. We may still hurt. We may still worry. But we know now that we are strong, flexible, determined, and yes, hopeful. Philosopher William James, in his essay “The Will to Believe,” insisted that we “be strong and of good courage”—or as we say in our own tradition, *chazak v’ematz.* I pray, in the words of Psalm 29, *Adonai oz l’amo yitein, Adonai y’varech et amo v’shalom*—May God give strength to God’s people, may God bless our people with peace… and may we have the courage to feel afraid and then face our fears with courage, strength, and hope.

Rabbi Meredith Kahan
Senior Rabbi
We read in Deuteronomy, “Blessed shall you be in your coming and blessed shall you be in your going.”

On May 2nd, I was blessed to stand with my classmates as we became rabbis and cantors. It wasn’t exactly how I had envisioned it after all these years, but then again, nothing in this last year was how we imagined it to be. And yet, the incredible blessing of reaching that holy moment was there—after six years of study and training, I was officially a rabbi.

Just as there is blessing in the going, so too is there blessing in the coming. I feel so fortunate to be joining the community of Rockdale Temple as the new Assistant Rabbi and Educator. I know we will have ample opportunity to get to know each other, but I want to share a little bit about myself.

I usually say that I am from Austin, Texas—the land of my birth and the place my family currently resides. While I do have several Southern tendencies, I have also spent many years living on the East Coast, in particular in New York City. I have loved living in NYC with all the diverse Jewish experiences, incredible food, Broadway, and more.

One of the things that made Rockdale so special during the interview process was my history with the community. As part of my family’s journey, I spent my high school years in Cincinnati while my dad was a rabbinical student at HUC. I am a graduate of Wyoming High School, but my real home as a teenager was Rockdale Temple. I was confirmed at Rockdale, served on the YGOR board, worked as a madricha in the religious school, and my dad was the rabbinic intern. It feels so befitting that my first official role as rabbi allows me the opportunity to give back to the community that was so instrumental in the development of my own Jewish identity.

As meaningful as those four years were in Cincinnati, my family moved back to Austin and I went off to college. It has been many years with lots of learning and adventure in between. In addition to my master’s degree in Jewish Education, I also have a master’s degree in International Development. I love to travel around the world, especially connecting with local Jewish history and community.

As I begin my transition to Cincinnati and my work at Rockdale Temple, I hope to meet members from all corners of our community. In partnership with Rabbi Kahan, we will set up various opportunities to get to know each other. I also encourage you to send me a note—introduce yourself, tell me what you love about Rockdale, and share your favorite Cincinnati food and fun recommendations! ebinder@rockdaletemple.org

This new beginning truly is a blessing. I am thrilled to be joining this warm, historic, and forward-thinking community as we begin this new chapter of sacred partnership together!

Rabbi Erin Binder
Assistant Rabbi and Educator
Shalom Rockdale Temple Family,

Do any of you feel as I have this past year, that time is simultaneously moving incredibly fast and incredibly slowly? That is what I am feeling particularly sharply now, as my role as Rockdale Temple’s Rabbi in Residence comes to a close.

On the one hand, we have lived through so many experiences together this year—electronic High Holy Days, Chanukah in cars, Family Retreat Shabbat dinners with computer screens where a guest’s chair would normally be, trivia matches, and weekly Shabbat celebrations and Torah studies on Zoom. We have welcomed baby Sari into the Kahan-Flowers family, and we have marked the first yahrzeit of our beloved Rabbi Sissy Coran, z”l.

On the other hand, we have not shared the joy of casual conversations in person over challah after services or a quick schmooze in the hallways on a Sunday morning. I was not able to hug your little ones as we sang about the Shabbat loving dinosaur knocking on our door or hold the hand of someone facing a particular challenge.

And yet, I have still felt Rockdale Temple’s incredibly warm embrace. This is such a special, strong, and resilient community. I knew this already from the congregant perspective, but this year as your Rabbi in Residence, I have been given the privilege to spend time with our Rockdale community in a new and different way. The humor, enthusiasm, wisdom, and compassion here is palpable. It is what has helped us help one another weather the storms this year, and it is what will continue to help guide Rockdale Temple into the future. I want to thank each and every one of our Rockdale Temple family for the role you have played in making our community feel like a community this past year.

Thank you especially to Aaron Herzig and Rabbi Kahan for creating this unique 10-month Rabbi in Residence position. Thank you to the entire Rockdale Temple staff for helping me jump right in and feel as if I had been working at Rockdale Temple for years! Thank you to our President and Vice President, John Cobey and Sally Korkin, for your guidance and continued leadership. And thank you to our board members for your vision and dedication, and for your D’vrei Torah at the start of each Board Meeting—so inspiring and impressive.

Brian and our children, Maya and Noa, join me in offering our gratitude to you for this year. We look forward to our continued role as ‘Jews in the Pews’—playing our part in helping Rockdale Temple to be the special place it is. Under the guidance of Rabbi Kahan and Rabbi Binder, the Rockdale Board and entire leadership team, we know Rockdale Temple will continue to go from strength to strength. Hazak Hazak v’nithzak. Be strong, be strong and let us continue to strengthen one another!

Warmly,

Rabbi Shena Potter Jaffee
Rabbi in Residence
Dear Fellow Members:

William Wordsworth begins his poem regarding Tintern Abbey by stating that since he has seen the Abbey, it has been five long years, five summers and five long winters.

Well, this last year has seemed like seven long winters. But we are not like Tintern Abbey, a hollow Abbey that has no roof or windows or members. We have a vibrant congregation and a vibrant, spiritual rabbinic staff.

Yes! We have a Senior Rabbi, Meredith Kahan, who has grown as a rabbi at Rockdale. And yes, we now have an Assistant Rabbi & Educator, Erin Binder, who was confirmed at Rockdale. Rabbi Binder is a graduate of Wyoming High School and is familiar with our community, schools, and camps. When you meet her, do not just say “hello;” tell her “welcome home!”

We are also pleased to welcome a new Executive Director, David Solomon. David also has strong Rockdale Temple roots, as he was raised in our congregation! After serving the Jewish community as Director of Operations at the JCC, we are glad to welcome David home to Rockdale, as well.

But with all who are new, there are those who sustained us this last year who are concluding their time with Rockdale in an official capacity. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank our Rabbi in Residence, Shena Potter Jaffee; our Executive Director, Laura Wright; our Director of Education, Nina Loftspring; and our Rabbinic Intern, Sam Schauvaney, for their creative and dedicated service to the Rockdale Temple community. This last year will be recorded as one the most difficult and challenging we have had in the last 200 years. Their contributions were great enough to allow us to have a Temple that served its members in an effective way.

We have come a long way and now have Renaissance Rockdale, led by a new, energetic generation who will guide us to greater heights.

So, our winter of our discontent and sadness is now over and we can enjoy Rockdale's spring.

John G. Cobey
President

RENAISSANCE ROCKDALE

We have come a long way and now have Renaissance Rockdale, led by a new, energetic generation who will guide us to greater heights.
Thank You from Laura Wright

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR!

It has been a joy and honor to serve Rockdale Temple as your Executive Director during this past year. While my time at Rockdale has come to a close, I am very proud of the substantial work that we have done together, and I value the friendships that we have developed.

During this difficult year, Rockdale Temple has flourished, becoming stronger than ever. For that, thanks must be given to the amazing Rockdale Temple staff, clergy team, and volunteer leadership with whom I have had the pleasure of working this past year. Their dedication and talent are only surpassed by their devotion to Rockdale Temple.

Our wonderful president, John Cobey, paid me the highest compliment by telling me, “you came aboard as Executive Director in May 2020 when things looked most difficult. You expended time and effort to make things look effortless. While everything was remote this year, you made things seem personal.” This means the world to me, and I will always cherish my time with Rockdale Temple and the Rockdale Temple family.

A very special thank you also goes to Karen Martin who graciously provided support to Rockdale as an Administrative Consultant during the time period between Executive Directors. Karen’s work (while continuing her studies as a rabbinical student!) kept Rockdale moving forward seamlessly.

Looking forward, it is so exciting to see the Renaissance of Rockdale that is unfolding before us. Senior Rabbi Meredith Kahan and Assistant Rabbi and Educator Erin Binder will be leading Rockdale into this new and exciting time. The administrative team will be led by David Solomon, Rockdale’s new Executive Director, to support the rabbinic leadership and the congregation on this journey.

I wish you and the entire Rockdale Temple community continued success.

Thank you for an amazing year.

L’Shalom,

Laura Wright
Former Executive Director
Kehal Kodesh School of Rockdale Temple instills knowledge and love of Reform Judaism. We provide pathways to spirituality and God through instruction in Torah, ritual, traditions, Tikkun Olam (social responsibility) and connections with our sacred community.

As we near the end of our school year 2020–2021/5781, Rabbi Kahan and I are so proud of all that our students, families, teachers, and madrichim have accomplished together. While this was in no way a regular year, our community shifted, adapted, and came together with energy, friendship, and dedication to learning and community. Together, we:

- Prayed and learned with our families through musical and visual t’filot.
- Learned with Rabbi Kahan during Family Education programs.
- Came together as families with at-home RockBox projects.
- Enriched our time together with music, art, stories, and cooking.
- Celebrated the holy days, Shabbat, holidays, and festivals together.
- Sang, danced, and studied with Rabbi Jaffee.
- Learned with our madrichim (teen teaching assistants) during their programming of Chanukah, Purim, and classroom activities.
- Virtually “retreated” to explore “Lost and Found” at our 6th annual Rockdale Temple Family Retreat.

Unfortunately, we also missed some of our favorite school year moments due to COVID-19—Passover programming, last day fun, Boker Baalagan, and more. And yet, our Kehal Kodesh School continued to thrive! Our virtual school year utilized new technology, creative solutions, and take-home projects. On Sundays, our whole school community met for t’filah, especially excited to say “hi” to each other in the Zoom chat box. Teachers welcomed their classes for home scavenger hunts, Kahoot (trivia) games, art projects, cooking and more! Madrichim checked in with students and built connections. Students engaged in new ways, showing flexibility and goodwill. On Tuesdays, 3rd–5th graders benefited from one-on-one Hebrew learning, while older students learned trope and modern Hebrew virtually as a class. Students practiced their liturgy, Modern Hebrew, and decoding at home—with parents supporting and helping with technology!

We are proud of the way every part of our school community came together. Students and parents, teachers and madrichim, staff and leadership have all remained positive, helpful, flexible, and creative. We have given each other space and patience to try new things, learn new skills, and thrive throughout the year. Rabbi Kahan and I are grateful for the way our beloved school community remained a true Kehal Kodesh—a sacred community—throughout this year.

We would like to specifically mention the wisdom, energy, and dedication of our wonderful faculty. We are blessed with a group of Jewish role models who commit themselves to building a positive learning environment for our students. Thank you to:

Frannie Kahan – Mishpacha
Caroline Winstel-McLeod – Mishpacha and Hebrew Tutor
Ashley Barrett – Mishpacha
Amy Shaiman – 2nd/3rd Grade
Tzvia Rubens – 4th/5th Grade
Kim Kraus-Preminger – 6th Grade
Rabbi Matthew Kraus – Rak Noar
Madeline Budman (HUC Fellow) – Rak Noar and Team Trope
Jason Schapera – Rak Ivrit
Rabbinic Intern Sam Schauvaney – Hebrew Tutor and Club 456
Rabbi Judy Spicehandler – Hebrew Tutor
Anna Meyers – Madrichim Coordinator
Israel Ginsburg – Hebrew Through Movement
Renee Rosensweet – School Administrator
Dani Reiss – Student Support Specialist

Madrichim:
- Cait Barilleaux
- Isabella Gollin
- Morgen Grover
- Emma Herzig
- Lila Herzig
- Libby Hoicowitz
- Elyse Kadish

Many thanks are also due to our Religious School Committee, a group of parents who work to make Kehal Kodesh School an amazing place of learning and growth not just for their own children, but for all our congregation’s young people!

- Rebecca Barilleaux
- Karla Blackmore
- Rob Burstein
- Mark Friedman
- Donna Gantner
- Lynda Grossman
- Lauren Herzig
- Magnus Knudsen
- Melanie Kraus
- Sydney Kraus
- Caroline Routh
- Sophie Shapiro
- Cameron Sheldon
- Emily Waterman

As always, we are thankful for our Rockdale Temple staff—Paige Adkins, Patty Kaufman, Scott Larsen, and Sean O’Brien, along with the Building and Grounds team—Carolyn Baker, Heather Carter, Ezra Plymesser, and Warren Raglan—who go above and beyond to support our school program.

It was my pleasure to serve the Rockdale Temple community as your Director of Education this year. In partnership with Rabbi Kahan and Rabbi Jaffee, along with our faculty and staff, we were able to create a special, meaningful, connected school year. As my time at Rockdale ends, I look forward to being part of the congregation in new ways and am excited to continue to guide Rockdale’s high school students in our high school. I will spend some time assisting in the transition to Rabbi Erin Binder this summer, as well.

We are thrilled to have spent a meaningful year together as a Kehal Kodesh—a sacred community—in our innovative Zoom space. We look forward to the start of the 5782 school year—we are optimistically planning our annual Opening Day in the Park! Please save-the-date: Sunday, August 29, 2021, at Montgomery Park!

Nina Loftspring
Director of Education

KEHAL KODESH: A SACRED COMMUNITY WHEREVER WE MAY BE (continued from page 8)
A NEW JOURNEY AT ROCKDALE TEMPLE

I feel incredibly honored to embark on this new journey. Rockdale has such a storied history in Cincinnati and the Reform Jewish movement. It also has a storied history in my own life. Rockdale is where I developed my Jewish identity. It is where I learned to read and write Hebrew, received my religious education, and celebrated my significant Jewish milestones. I vividly remember our class Confirmation trip to Washington, D.C. and touring the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum for the first time. That trip instilled in me a great sense of responsibility to our people and connection to our past.

These experiences that Rockdale provided for me laid the foundation for my Jewish adulthood. I was a camper, counselor, and administrator at Camp Livingston. I was very active, including serving as chapter president, of the Jewish fraternity AEPi at The Ohio State University. After college, I spent two years serving in AmeriCorps and then the next ten years working in the Cincinnati Jewish Community. I participated in Jewish Family Service’s Dancing with Our Stars fundraiser and have volunteered in their afterschool mentorship program for years. I have participated in numerous Jewish Federation social and philanthropic events. I am an active member of the Mayerson JCC and participate frequently in their programs.

I spent five of the ten years that I worked at the JCC as the Director of Operations. During that time, I had the awesome responsibility of oversight of various JCC departments including Facilities, IT, Events, Security, Administration, and Aquatics. In this capacity I was able to gain valuable professional and personal experiences that will serve me well in this new role. I collaborated frequently with Rockdale staff and lay leaders during that time on facility and security projects, holiday programs, and coordinating worship services. I graduated with Cincinnati’s first cohort of the Jewish Nonprofit Leadership Institute, as well as the first cohort of the Jewish Community Center Association’s Leadership Training Institute. I also snuck in a master’s degree in Public Administration concentrated in Nonprofit Management from Northern Kentucky University while working at the JCC.

Resume aside, the world looks very different than when I last worked professionally on this campus. Times have changed significantly over the past year. They have certainly changed since the days of my Consecration. I don’t wear a clip-on tie to services anymore for one. We are living in a world trying to find its way back from a global pandemic, in a political landscape where too often lines are drawn in the sand, and in a society where many approach organized religion much differently than in my Consecration days. No amount of training, experience, or education can prepare any one person for the work ahead.

I am thrilled to take on this role because Rockdale is already on the front lines addressing the challenges before us. I truly could not be more excited to join all of you in living out Rockdale’s mission to preserve and strengthen Reform Jewish life, to deepen our relationships with one another and with God, and quite frankly to repair the world. This work will not be without its challenges, but we owe it to the future generations of our temple, of our community, and of our world. I will work tirelessly with the Rockdale staff, board, and congregation to ensure that those that come after us will be afforded the same vibrant Jewish opportunities that were bestowed

David Solomon
Executive Director
Hello readers! Since 2021 is shaping up to be a slightly less restricted experience “out in the world” than 2020 was, many libraries are open. We hope to open the Rockdale library to our community again soon, but while you wait, I’d like to suggest some of the best sources of free Jewish reading online.

Yes, we of the twenty-first century are reading all the time on our screens—news, social media, texts—but not much “long form” reading. We sample stories from online news sources, but more often we just read headlines we have already learned about to some degree. How often do we look online for in-depth news, ideas, analysis, features, or humor that focuses on the Jewish perspective?

If you sample some of those listed here, you might find yourself drawn in. You know, the shock of recognition? And it may be the Jewish values that grab you as much as do the Jewish writers and locations covered by commonly known Jewish news sites like, *The Forward, Jerusalem Post,* or *Jewish Telegraphic Agency.*

First stop could be a visit to newyorker.com, which is the freely accessed web version of the long-running magazine. New York is Jewish, right? Anyone who appreciates great humor or is curious about cutting-edge writing will find something to read here, often running parallel to excellent investigations and interviews on NPR. Many of us read *The New York Times* online for the same reason, but the proportion of political material in newyorker.com is far less. You can have *The Daily* emailed to you, making it even easier to get sucked in. Not all magazine content is online for free, but lots of it is!

Moving deeper into the heart of the American Jewish magazine world, and understandably so considering its first and only editor ever is Nadine Epstein, a fixture in Jewish Washington, D.C., you might give a read to momentmag.com. It is the online version of the venerable magazine Moment, providing commentary on American Jewish life momentmag.com will send a daily sampler to your email. If you visit their site, however, you will also find a huge menu of on-demand interviews and webinars with central figures in many areas of Jewish and secular arts and culture, as well as politics.

Nadine is nothing if not connected in Washington and she seems to get a lot of access to Jewish influencers.

Pull back to a broader Jewish world view and you can feast on tabletmag.com, which both aggregates outside writers as well as publishing its own staff writers. This site is full of fresh, youthful, and often quite pointed looks at trends and events all over the Jewish world (and Jewish values). I was surprised to find out my 35-year-old daughter reads tabletmag.com. Again, you can receive a quite short daily e-letter entitled The Scroll (look at the bottom of tabletmag.com’s homepage to find the sign-up) which brings you several very brief and not-necessarily-Jewish world news items you likely missed. Sometimes the related final commentary sent by The Scroll in these missives makes me bristle a bit. Know thyself!

Not done yet? Try the “independent, Jewish, and frankly feminist” reading at lilith.org. Note that this one is .org, not .com—not sure why, but its content pulls no punches. The original paper magazine version *Lilith* is and always has been provocative, wide-ranging and hard to toss out, so if you tend to collect stuff you should stick with the free web version!

Finally, if it is full-on Judaic sources you are looking for, impeccably organized and easily searchable, look no further than sefaria.org. This site is one of the most complete and wide-ranging collections of Jewish knowledge I have ever seen short of a rabbi’s library. This one is worth a visit and a “save” to your favorites or bookmarks just in case you EVER need an answer about Judaism and dislike visiting sketchy sites with unknown agendas and ads.

There is SO much more out there! (Rabbi Kahan suggests reformjudaism.org, heyalma.org, and myjewishlearning.com) I welcome your suggestions too, or perhaps you will share your favorites with our Rockdale family on Facebook!

Karen Zanger
Volunteer Librarian
karenszanger@gmail.com
Parking Lot Shabbat  
APRIL 30, 2021

Create a lasting legacy and enrich your community now and for years to come.
Please consider naming Rockdale Temple in your will or estate plan.
EXPERIENCE ALL THE BENEFITS OF GIVING.
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jvscareers.org  (513) 936-9675
RACHEL HERZIG, June 5, 2021

Rachel Herzig is an 8th grade student at Walnut Hills High School, which starts too early in the morning and forces her to study Latin—sursum ad summum. Rachel’s favorite subjects are the intellectual study of the physical and natural world (some call it “science”) and everything that happened before she was born (“history”).

You may be wondering why she didn’t have her Bat Mitzvah last year, when she turned 13, but then you would be someone who has missed some big news in the last year. You’ll need to buy some masks before you go outside.

Rachel is excellent at riding a unicycle—a word which here means that her father didn’t want to pay for both wheels for her bicycle. She loves photography, gardens, beaches, epidemiology, and taking care of animals, including her dog Penny. Rachel is passionate about social justice and equity. She has volunteered for a social justice organization, Transform, which helps transgender teens, for her Mitzvah project.

Rachel thanks her Bat Mitzvah tutor, Shirah Kraus, for sticking with her for this long. Thanks to Rabbi Kahan for not making her do a longer Torah portion even though she is a year older. Rachel appreciates that her parents and sisters mostly have stayed out of her way.

Matias is an honor student at Spencer Center, the Gifted and Exceptional Magnate School of Cincinnati Public Schools, located in Walnut Hills. In addition to earning high marks, Matias loves playing lacrosse for the Walnut Hills Junior High team, mostly playing attack. After the sudden shutdown early season last year, he is grateful to be back playing, and hearing his teammates shout out “TT”.

Matias looks forward to this summer as he hopes to again attend Camp Livingston for the first session, participate in the National Junior Tennis Camp, and join Guard Start Jr. Lifeguarding and Swim Team. He also hopes to visit his out-of-state friends for a long weekend away, go camping and lots of kayaking! TT is also an avid reader, and also looks forward to hammock time, where he can read and hang with nature.

Social Justice & Tikkun Olam are strong foundations of Matias’ character. From speaking in front of thousands of people at the March For Our Lives, Cincinnati, about the need for increased gun safety, or presenting ideas to the CPS Board of Education, to advocating on Student Council and being a Just Love Cincinnati kid, Matias will continue his efforts forward with the same enthusiasm.

Matias and his family would like to thank Rockdale Temple and Rabbi Kahan, his tutor Jason Schapera, and his Hebrew School & Religious School teachers, family & friends, who have helped bolster his faith. They are also grateful, in loving memory, to Rabbi Sigma Faye Coran, z”l.
I’ve been a Temple member for over 68 years. Wow! Has it really been that long? I’m happy, proud and amazed to say yes. So, what pearls of wisdom have I gleaned from that much time and so many experiences?

There are the lessons learned from friendships forged in Sunday School. I must say we were one of the most interesting and radical groups to pass through those halls. I think I can sum it up by saying it was the late 1960s through 1970. You can Google what that time in history was like to help clarify that statement. There were also some great friendships that last to this day, like Beth Goldstein, one of my favorite friends from Wyoming, OH. Beth shares her giving spirit and beautiful artwork with us and many other lucky patrons. Then, there’s my lifetime friendship with the Tieger family; mostly Harold (Hal) and Sherri today. I can’t tell you how shocked I was the first time I saw Dr. and Mrs. Tieger (Murray and Millie), Hal’s parents, dressed as “Parrotheads” at a Jimmy Buffett concert! I’ve had a joyous and precious longtime friendship with urban farmer, David Rosenberg. His mom’s cooking talents were second only to my mom’s. I’m also still in regular contact with old friends from Rockdale like Jeff Buka, who recently retired as a pharmacist for the city; OJ Cohen, a pillar of the Temple and community; Bob Frankel, a pediatrician in CA and the biggest Reds fan I know; and Chuck Zax.

Then, there are all the great spiritual leaders who touched my life. People like Rabbi Victor Reichert, a legend in Judaism and a spiritual icon. I was in awe that I knew him personally. Rabbi Murray Blackman, who would always say to me when he gave me a blessing, “Bob, would you mind bending over so I can reach your head without stretching too far?” Hilda Rothschild did an amazing job “running the show” at Rockdale in Avondale. There were lessons learned from Rabbi Harold Hahn and all the Rockdale rabbis who have since led the congregation. Rabbi Gary Zola officiated so beautifully at my wedding; he has been a great influence on my life for many years since. The most significant impact on my life, though, has been my friendship with Rabbi Mark Goldman. When he came to Cincinnati, my parents took him under their wing and he spent many a Shabbat dinner at our house. He wasn’t the Rabbi at that time. He was just an energetic, interesting and fun guy who taught music at Sunday School. He seemed wise beyond his years. I have continued to stay in touch with him and Dr. Meryl, of blessed memory. Our friendship has been one of the most significant ones I have had in my lifetime.

Lastly, when I think of Rockdale, I think of the members. I’ve had members support me in so many ways. Some have come to my rescue when needed most, and many have taught me life lessons in more ways than I can tell here. I attend services for the spiritual lift and joy it brings me, but the experience is enhanced by all the warmth and friendly greetings from so many. Even though the Zoom services have changed that somewhat, the sense of friendship, fellowship, family, community and spirit is still impactful and strong. As many of you know, I spent two weeks in the hospital in January 2021 fighting for my life with COVID-induced pneumonia. The hospital did its best to nurse me back to good health, but the environment was a miserable one for recovery. So, I derived my strength from my own resolve and the literally thousands of prayers I received from all over the world, especially from Rockdale Temple members and friends. In addition, Rabbi Kahan was there for me whenever she was needed. I can’t tell you how important and powerful that was for me. I have since recovered nicely, pretty much back to full strength. I am proud to have made a legacy gift to the Bene Israel Society because it was easy to do and, as you can probably tell by now, I am honored and proud to have been and to be a small part of this great religious institution.
The Rockdale Temple Bene Israel Society

We thank our members of the Bene Israel Society listed below who have left a legacy to Rockdale Temple with a designated gift in their will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy. We invite you to join us in securing Rockdale Temple's future financial stability with a legacy gift through Create Your Jewish Legacy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leonard Berenfield*</th>
<th>Michael G. Hall</th>
<th>Lynn Rosenberg Mayfield</th>
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<td>Doris* &amp; Stuart* Berman</td>
<td>Andy A. &amp; Debbie Heldman</td>
<td>Tracy M. McMullen</td>
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<td>Max Joseph Bleich</td>
<td>Betty Heldman</td>
<td>Lisa &amp; Jonathan Mezibov</td>
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<td>Jim Heldman &amp; Wendy Saunders</td>
<td>&amp; Barbara Turner-Michaelson</td>
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<td>Andrea &amp; Dr. Edward Herzig</td>
<td>Loretta* &amp; Gary* Rabiner</td>
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<td>Jennifer Clark</td>
<td>Lauren &amp; Aaron Herzig</td>
<td>David* &amp; Marilyn* Reichert</td>
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<td>Johnny “JJ” Jones</td>
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<td>Rabbi Meredith Kahan &amp; Sean Flowers</td>
<td>Jack &amp; Mary-Bob Rubenstein</td>
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<td>David* &amp; Hildy Kerman</td>
<td>Judith &amp; Mark Schaengold</td>
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<td>Bernie Dave*</td>
<td>Nancy &amp; Jerry Klein</td>
<td>Steven &amp; Rachel Schild</td>
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<td>Sally &amp; Gerry Korkin</td>
<td>David &amp; Abby Schwartz</td>
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<td>Bennett Kotler &amp; Family</td>
<td>Joshua &amp; Heather Shapiro</td>
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<td>Risa &amp; Steve Feagins</td>
<td>Jamey &amp; Vanessa Kurtzer</td>
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<td>Ralph &amp; Fran Lowenstein</td>
<td>W. E. Blair Tillett*</td>
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<td>Christine &amp; Ramesh Malhotra</td>
<td>Robert &amp; Loris Ungar</td>
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<td>Sarah Weiss &amp; Todd Schild</td>
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<td>Karen &amp; Stewart Martin</td>
<td>Edward Wertheimer</td>
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<td>Rabbi Mark &amp; Dr. Meryl* Goldman</td>
<td>Sheryl &amp; Scott Mattis</td>
<td>Karen &amp; Stuart Zanger</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Of blessed memory</td>
<td>Fay B. May &amp; Robert E. Prescott*</td>
<td>Mitchell* and Florence E. Zaret</td>
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<td>Anonymous Donors – 3</td>
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<td>Anonymous Donors – 3</td>
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To learn more about our Bene Israel Society, contact the temple office at 513.891.9900.

Thanks to our talented congregant, Beth Goldstein, for creating the Bene Israel Society logo. The pomegranate image is adapted from a partial stained glass window belonging to and found on the site of the Rockdale Temple building at Rockdale and Harvey Avenues, the home of our congregation from 1906–1969.
## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### BIRTHDAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adults of June</th>
<th>Adults of July</th>
<th>Adults of August</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 Charles Barilleaux</td>
<td>2 Miranda Brady</td>
<td>4 Elisabeth Wiener</td>
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<td>6 Edward Rosenthal</td>
<td>2 Larry Smilg</td>
<td>5 Toni Winston</td>
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<td>7 Tanner Csendes</td>
<td>4 Betty Heldman</td>
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<td>7 Susan Routh</td>
<td>6 Dolores Goldfinger</td>
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<td>9 Beth Franks</td>
<td>6 Sam Schapera</td>
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<td>13 Howard Liberman</td>
<td>7 Jean Abrahamson</td>
<td>11 Paul Heldman</td>
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<td>16 Marvin Siegel</td>
<td>8 Maxine Potter</td>
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<td>20 Margaret Meyer</td>
<td>10 Michael Katchman</td>
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<td>20 Phyllis Gold</td>
<td>11 Donna Gantner</td>
<td>13 Boris Auerbach</td>
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<td>20 Barbara Nelson</td>
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<td>14 Julia Torem</td>
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<td>20 Alice Perlman</td>
<td>13 Benjamin Kraus</td>
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<td>30 Fay May</td>
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<td>30 Frank Bloom</td>
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Adult birthdays are listed every five years starting with the 20th birthday and every year for members who have reached the age of 75.

### Children of June

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children of June</th>
<th>Children of July</th>
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<td>4 C Matias Knudsen</td>
<td>5 Baylor Dowd</td>
<td>2 Jacob Morrisroe</td>
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<td>6 Sam Flagel</td>
<td>5 Teddy Shaiman</td>
<td>2 Evan O’Koon</td>
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<td>9 Harrison Gollin</td>
<td>6 Lilly Rubenstein</td>
<td>4 Shai Reiss</td>
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<td>11 Phillip Richman</td>
<td>7 Ari Kane</td>
<td>17 Samuel Dunkelman</td>
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<td>12 Sydney Swiatok</td>
<td>10 Arielle Lewis</td>
<td>18 Robin H. Vidmar</td>
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<td>15 Parker Calico</td>
<td>15 Josephine Forrest</td>
<td>20 Daniel Flagel</td>
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<td>15 Rachel Herzig</td>
<td>22 Eli Bedard</td>
<td>23 Eli Putz</td>
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<td>16 Isaac Rosensweet</td>
<td>23 Eric Waterman</td>
<td>23 Zach Feldman</td>
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<td>16 Lydia Rosensweet</td>
<td>26 Jack Dunkelman</td>
<td>25 Abigail Friedman</td>
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<td>16 Joel O’Koon</td>
<td>27 Miriam Schapera</td>
<td>27 Joel Martin</td>
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<td>19 Sebastian De Falco</td>
<td>31 Griffin Ames</td>
<td>28 Chana Kravitz</td>
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<td>19 Maggie Rubenstein</td>
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<td>25 Harry Lohse, V</td>
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<td>28 Leah Schild</td>
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<td>29 Emily Burstien</td>
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“Children of the Temple” are those who are 18 years old and younger.

### Adults of July

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Paul Heldman &amp; Deborah Kirshner, 40th</td>
<td>4 Elisabeth Wiener</td>
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<td>8 Steven &amp; Meg Ackermann, 40th</td>
<td>5 Toni Winston</td>
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<td>13 Barry &amp; Nancy Gibberman, 40th</td>
<td>6 Bernad Widlansky</td>
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<td>14 Jan &amp; Alan Katzew, 40th</td>
<td>8 Michael Reed</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 G. Russell &amp; Renee Frankel, 59th</td>
<td>10 Sally Shott</td>
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<td>17 Maurice &amp; Erva Dick, 70th</td>
<td>11 Paul Heldman</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 Ronald &amp; Anne Roth, 51st</td>
<td>11 Natalie Gerstein</td>
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<td>21 Myron &amp; Joanne Gerson, 52nd</td>
<td>12 Michael Greenberg</td>
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<td>21 Morton &amp; Barbara Harshman, 64th</td>
<td>13 Boris Auerbach</td>
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<td>23 Edward &amp; Andrea Herzig, 53rd</td>
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<td>25 Michael &amp; Margaret Meyer, 60th</td>
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<td>26 Gerald &amp; Sally Korkin, 53rd</td>
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<td>30 Lawrence &amp; Pamela Faust, 20th</td>
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### Adults of August

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### Children of July

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<td>31 Tucker Ames</td>
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<td>25 Joan Weinberg</td>
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<td>31 Daniel Jacobs</td>
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### Anniversaries

#### June

- 2 Paul Heldman & Deborah Kirshner, 40th
- 8 Steven & Meg Ackermann, 40th
- 13 Barry & Nancy Gibberman, 40th
- 14 Jan & Alan Katzew, 40th
- 17 G. Russell & Renee Frankel, 59th
- 17 Maurice & Erva Dick, 70th
- 21 Ronald & Anne Roth, 51st
- 21 Myron & Joanne Gerson, 52nd
- 21 Morton & Barbara Harshman, 64th
- 23 Edward & Andrea Herzig, 53rd
- 25 Michael & Margaret Meyer, 60th
- 26 Gerald & Sally Korkin, 53rd
- 30 Lawrence & Pamela Faust, 20th

#### July

- 6 Andrew Cusher & V. Ruth Klette, 30th
- 7 Robert & Loris Ungar, 64th
- 12 Michael & Zina Zmood, 30th
- 21 Stephen & Risa Feagins, 25th

#### August

- 7 Edward & Anita Marks, 56th
- 20 Tim & Cathy Heldman, 10th
- 22 Fred Kahan & Susan Klug Kahan, 40th
- 28 Michael & Eileen Greenberg, 55th

Anniversaries will be listed every five years starting with the fifth anniversary. All anniversaries of 50 years or more are recognized.
Please consider naming Rockdale Temple in your will or estate plan.

Relax. Help is here. Delivering care where you are.

Non-medical home care that puts your loved one first.

StarPoint Home Care

Learn How We Can Help
513-766-3339
StarPointHomeCare.org
StarPoint Home Care is a nonprofit subsidiary of Jewish Family Service of Cincinnati.

Whether you or a loved one is looking for health and wellness programs, COVID-19 resources, an encore career, innovative ways to stay connected, or help with technology, AgeWell Cincinnati is your first step.

Contact us: 513-766-3333 | AgeWellCincy.org

Our Providers
jewish family service
Cedar Village
MAYERSON JCC of Cincinnati

Our Funders
Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati
JVS Career Services
JEWISH FOUNDATION OF CINCINNATI
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<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY</th>
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<td>12:00p Summer Studies Adult Education</td>
<td>9:30a Coffee Chat</td>
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<td>6:15p Shabbat Service, with Birthday Blessings</td>
<td>9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Discussion) 10:30a Bar Mitzvah of C Matias Knudsen 4:30p Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Herzig</td>
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Liturgical Calendar

**June**

**Friday, June 4**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services with June Birthday Blessings

**Saturday, June 5**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Bar Mitzvah of C Matias Knudsen, son of Gitte Knudsen and Craig Rozen
4:30p Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Herzig, daughter of Lauren and Aaron Herzig

**Friday, June 11**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services

**Saturday, June 12**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services

**Friday, June 18**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services

**Saturday, June 19**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services
1:00p Shabbat Shal-OM Yoga

**Friday, June 25**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services with June Anniversary Blessings

**Saturday, June 26**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services

**July**

**Friday, July 2**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services welcoming Rabbi Erin Binder with July Birthday Blessings

**Saturday, July 3**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services

**Friday, July 9**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services celebrating Long-Standing Members of 40–49 Years

**Saturday, July 10**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services

**Friday, July 16**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services

**Saturday, July 17**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services
1:00p Shabbat Shal-OM Yoga

**Friday, July 23**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services with July Anniversary Blessings

**Saturday, July 24**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services

**Friday, July 30**
6:00p ShabbatCTY (location TBA)
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services

**Saturday, July 31**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services

**August**

**Friday, August 6**
5:30p FoRT Shabbat (Swaim Park)
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services

**Saturday, August 7**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services

**Friday, August 13**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services

**Saturday, August 14**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services

**Friday, August 20**
6:15p Shabbat in the Park (Swaim Park) with August Birthday Blessings

**Saturday, August 21**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services
1:00p Shabbat Shal-OM Yoga

**Friday, August 27**
6:15p Erev Shabbat Services with August Anniversary Blessings

**Saturday, August 28**
9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Study)
10:30a Shabbat Morning Services
8:00p Selichot Study and Candlelight Service
Women of Rockdale

The Women of Rockdale (WoR) are looking forward to a time when our customary projects and events take place live in real time, and our meetings are not on a screen. Though Zoom has afforded us the ability to hold regular meetings of both our executive committee and the entire membership, we miss working together in person. We have also missed our Sip n’ Schmooze evenings and monthly membership dinners. But mostly, we have just missed being with one another. We hope that life will be different for everyone by the time our new year begins in the fall, and that all our ’normal’ activities will be back on the schedule and bring delight and meaning to all who participate.

Though Covid-19 and gathering only in the Zoom dimension have slowed us down, we have still made progress on many items continuing to appear on our agenda. We have been working on several ways to memorialize Rabbi Coran, z”l. A beautiful magnolia tree has been planted at Rockdale in her memory. Jen and Larry Smilg provided the seed money needed to kick off our L’Dor VaDor Scholarship at HUC-JIR in memory of Rabbi Sigma Faye Coran, z”l.

Several of our members participated in the virtual sessions of the Women of Reform Judaism Central District Conference last fall. Though originally slated to take place in Cincinnati, the program was inspiring and provided valuable guidance and fresh ideas for developing program initiatives aimed at meeting the needs of all members, our congregations, and the larger community as well. A special thank you to our WoR President Donna Gantner for co-leading the Friday evening WRJ Central District Shabbat Service.

Our nominating and executive committee have proposed a slate of officers for the upcoming 2021–2022 fiscal year that our membership approved at our Annual Meeting in May. They are Susan Klug Kahan, President; Toni Winston, Vice President; Christine Malhotra, Treasurer; Leslie Joseph, Recording Secretary; and At-Large board members: Mara Marnocha, Heinke Lillenstein, and Fay May.

Whatever the year brings, Women of Rockdale will be prepared to continue doing what we do best: welcoming and including all who wish to join us, learning from one another and appreciating the qualities that each member brings to the group, and finding meaningful ways to enhance the experience of being a part of the Rockdale congregation and the community beyond its doors. Join us, support us, be our guest at a membership meeting and discover how you can be a part of the fun, the challenges and the rewarding sense of purpose that keeps us coming back for more—no matter what form of being together that may involve.

Yours in Sisterhood,
Donna Gantner
President
The Women of Rockdale (WoR) have created a L’Dor VaDor Scholarship in loving memory of Rabbi Sigma Faye Coran, z”l at her alma mater, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, thanks to a generous seed donation to the Women of Rockdale from Rockdale Temple congregants, Jen and Larry Smilg.

The Women of Rockdale are planning several ways to honor the memory of Rabbi Coran. Creating this meaningful scholarship for tuition support is one way to memorialize her.

Established by alumni of HUC-JIR, the L’Dor VaDor Scholarship Fund honors alumni while providing scholarship assistance to talented students who follow in their footsteps. The HUC-JIR L’Dor VaDor Fund is a pooled endowment that supports many students while offering individual naming opportunities to honor rabbis ordained at HUC-JIR. Ordained in 1993, Rabbi Coran mentored and inspired many students throughout her career, and the Women of Rockdale L’Dor VaDor Scholarship in her memory will benefit students at HUC-JIR now and in the future.

The HUC-JIR Alumni Relations Office will facilitate the effort to approach alumni and special friends who wish to support Rabbi Coran’s alma mater to commemorate her service to the Reform movement. The Rockdale Temple Board of Directors is grateful to the Women of Rockdale and the Smilgs for establishing this important scholarship at HUC-JIR.
BUILD A JEWISH COMMUNITY

THAT WILL CONTINUE LONG AFTER US.

With your help we can improve the lives of those who need us most.

DONATE NOW  JEWISHCINCINNATI.ORG

SHABBAT SHAL-OM YOGA

Saturdays
June 19, 1:00PM
July 17, 1:00PM
August 21, 1:00PM

Live on Zoom
with instructor Lori Reidel

REGISTER AT
WWW.ROCKDALETEMPLE.ORG/
EVENT/SHABBATSHALOMYOGA
FOR ZOOM INFORMATION
Torah teaches us that every seven years we are to give the land a rest and forgive all debts. This is known as the Shmita or Sabbatical year. The next Sabbatical year will begin on Rosh Hashanah 5782.

Thousands of years ago, no one could have imagined how we harvest earth’s resources today. We tear down mountain tops for coal, drill down over a mile for oil and gas bringing up radioactive and toxic materials buried for millions of years, overharvest our oceans for food, cut down entire forests for paper goods, carelessly allow plastic to fill our oceans and the stomachs of innocent oceanic wildlife, and fill the air with toxic chemicals. In the last 150 years, humans have changed the earth’s environment at a rate unprecedented in the history of our planet.

Human beings are consuming our planet’s resources faster than the planet can replenish them, creating a debt, borrowing from future generations. God created a planet in balance for sustaining life. Life on the planet depends on this intricate balance of systems to survive. We have borrowed too much and upset this delicate balance.

We have a small window of opportunity to change our lifestyle to protect God’s creation, for if we do not, it will be too late. Prioritizing care for creation this coming Sabbatical year, 5782, is more important than ever.

Rockdale’s Environmental Committee is asking that for one year, the Shmita year 5782, the entire Temple—every part of every aspect of Temple being, from every person 5 to 105—give our natural resources a rest and reduce the debt we are burdening our children and our children’s children with for generations to come. We are encouraging each person to change one behavior each month, to get outside and enjoy nature, to not put toxins in the water, air, and in our bodies, and to live intentionally to take better care of our wonderful world.

The Environmental Committee has been meeting with our rabbis, staff, and committees to develop a calendar of fun and meaningful activities throughout the coming Shmita year. Please join us on this purposeful journey to give creation a rest and release our resources from debt for one year.

Begin the journey this summer by spending time outdoors to gain an appreciation and love for our wondrous natural world. Without that appreciation and love, the next generation will not understand what we are losing, or what we have already lost, when we do not “tend and keep” (Genesis 2:15) the miracle of creation. Go for a walk in a park, search for creatures hiding under rocks and leaves, notice the many varieties of plants in the woods, and stop, smell, and listen to our living world.

Here are a few beautiful places to go to enjoy nature this summer:

- **Cincinnati Parks** [www.cincinnatiparks.com](http://www.cincinnatiparks.com)
- **Hamilton County Parks** [www.greatparks.org](http://www.greatparks.org)
- **Loveland Bike Trail** [www.lovelandbiketrail.com](http://www.lovelandbiketrail.com)
- **Stanley Rowe Arboretum** [www.ihill.org/recreation/rowe-arboretum](http://www.ihill.org/recreation/rowe-arboretum)
- **Bull’s Run Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum** [www.bullsrun.org](http://www.bullsrun.org)
- **Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum** [www.springgrove.org](http://www.springgrove.org)
- **Woodside Cemetery and Arboretum** [www.woodsidecemetery.org](http://www.woodsidecemetery.org)
- **Cincinnati Nature Center** [www.cincynature.org](http://www.cincynature.org)
- **Ohio State Parks** [www.stateparks.com/ohio_parks_and_recreation_destinations.html](http://www.stateparks.com/ohio_parks_and_recreation_destinations.html)
- **United States National Parks** [www.nationalparks.org](http://www.nationalparks.org)

In our great state of Ohio we have 77 State Parks, 17 State Forests, 20 State Memorials, 4 State Nature Preserves, 2 State Reserves, 15 State Wildlife Areas, a National Park, a National Forest, 2 National Memorials, 2 National Historic Parks, 3 National Wildlife Refuges, 3 Metro Parks and numerous County and City Parks!

Spend some time this summer discovering the wonders of the world we live in. Let us work together to preserve it for the next generations to come.

Joanne Gerson
Chair, Environmental Committee
It is a Jewish imperative that our community supports and connects with refugees, people who have had to flee their homelands for safety and who are now strangers in a new land. The Torah teaches thirty-six times that we shall care for the stranger, for we were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Rockdale members are welcome to volunteer to help our new neighbors. Cincinnati is the newest home for many people from all over the world who hope to make better lives for themselves and their children. Some of these families have extensive and complicated needs. Most would like to make friends with Americans.

Here are two ways you can help!

Rockdale has partnered with two organizations serving this most vulnerable population:

**HEARTFELT TIDBITS**
This amazing organization needs help coordinating its many volunteers so that we can best serve the vast needs of the refugee population. Donations are critical for success.

The link to donate is [www.heartfelttidbits.com/donate-1](http://www.heartfelttidbits.com/donate-1)

It would be amazing if the Jewish community provided support and showed that we are leaders who care for the strangers in our midst.

Heartfelt Tidbits will also be hosting a Summer Camp at Academy of World Languages for children in need. Contact Cora for more information on how you can help.

**TIKKUN FARM**
Tikkun Farm, a 3.5 acre farm in Mt. Healthy, is a place of healing, restoration and repair cultivated through meaningful work and spiritual practices. Tikkun Farm truly lives up to its name of “repairing the world”, culturally, socially, ecologically.

Tikkun Farm has received grant money in the wake of the pandemic so that they can provide fresh produce and food to hundreds of families in need! Once you see and experience the humanity of Tikkun Farm, you will want to keep coming back! Tikkun Farm offers many hands-on, on-site volunteer opportunities. You can find a complete listing on their website [www.tikkunfarm.com/volunteer-days](http://www.tikkunfarm.com/volunteer-days)

Thanks for reaching out with Rockdale!

Cora Steinberg
Chair, Rockdale Reaches Out
csteinberg999@gmail.com
Your contributions to one of our philanthropic funds is a thoughtful way to commemorate special occasions, life cycle events, or to remember a loved one.

**Alan L. Rosenberg Memorial Fund:** funds temple beautification and enhancements including the acquisition of Rockdale artifacts.

**Barrows Music Fund:** funds musicians for special events or services.

**Bene Israel Fund:** supports the role of Rabbi and Educator.

**Estelle Levine Fund for Special Children:** funds scholarships for differently abled or gifted children.

**Heldman Family Fund:** provides financing for special programs; provides special artifacts for Rockdale.

**Heritage of Learning Fund:** underwrites educational programming for temple members of all ages.

**Jules & Elizabeth K. Oppenheimer Fund:** provides Goldman Union Camp Institute (GUCI) scholarships for Rockdale youth.

**Library Fund:** funds the purchase and upkeep of our library books.

**Lillian and Dolph Hartevedl Fund:** enhances the musical program.

**Louise F. Reichert Flower Fund:** provides bimah flowers and outdoor plantings.

**Memorial Fund:** helps fund Shabbat, festivals, and other prayerbooks.

**Rabbi Harold D. Hahn Fund:** funds the Sunday adult education series.

**Rabbi Meredith F. Kahan’s Discretionary Fund:** funds opportunities and charities chosen by Rabbi Kahan.

**Rabbi Sissy Coran Memorial Fund:** supports exciting innovations, meets challenges, and addresses Rockdale’s most pressing needs.

**Rabbi Victor and Louise Reichert Fund:** funds the Scholar-in-Residence programming.

**Sacred Music Fund:** provides for musical enrichment.

**Soup Kitchen Fund:** funds the Queen City Soup Kitchen.

**Stark Fund:** provides for musical enrichment of children.

**Steven E. Altman Fund:** funds the Youth Group of Rockdale (YGOR).

**Roll of Remembrance Fund:** funds the Yom Kippur Roll of Remembrance Book and other High Holy Days activities.

**Temple Fund:** provides annual support for the temple operations.

**Trager Family Music Fund:** funds brass instruments for High Holy Days.

**Ullman Cultural Fund:** funds community lectures at Rockdale.

**Warner Fund:** funds programs for temple seniors.

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**ROCKDALE TEMPLE TRIBUTE FORM**

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Please make a contribution to the following fund:

- $18 Contribution
- $36 Contribution
- Other, please specify: ______________

**Please make checks payable to Rockdale Temple and send to:**
8501 Ridge Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45236

- Check enclosed
- Visa
- MasterCard
- AmEx

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**Tribute Occasion:**

- [ ] In Honor of
- [ ] In Memory of
- [ ] In Appreciation of
- [ ] Speedy Recovery to

**For (Bar Mitzvah, wedding, etc.):** __________________________

**Name to appear on tribute:** __________________________

**Please send acknowledgment to:**

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Tribute Funds Donations FEBRUARY 1, 2021–APRIL 30, 2021

RABBI SISSY CORAN MEMORIAL FUND
In honor of Abby Schwartz and Aaron Herzig for co-chairing the Senior Rabbinic Search Committee
Daniel Hoffheimer
In memory of Josephine Brower
Faye Dareff
Rabbi Matthew Kraus
In memory of Rabbi Sissy Coran
Anonymous
Dr. Michael & Teresa Ames
Dr. Tony & Stephanie De Falco
Ellen & Tom Drake
Elizabeth Goldstein
Scott & Alexia Kadish
Ellen Lipstein & Jonathan Spaulding
Tracy McMullen
Bernard & Leslie Reiss
Lisa Schneider
Robert & Loris Ungar
Sheldon & Waianne Weinstein
In memory of Frank Messer
Amy Diamond & Eddie Wolf
Anne Turner
In memory of Kathleen Kellar
Rabbi Matthew Kraus
In memory of Alan Sargeant
Rabbi Matthew Kraus
Fay May
In memory of Roy Sommer
Barbara Sommer
Rabbi Kenneth A. Kanter
Gerald & Sally Korkin
Julie Lineburgh
Edward & Anita Marks
Fay May
Alice Perlman
Leslie & Bernard Reiss
Ronald & Anne Roth
Jen & Larry Smilg
Weil Kahn Funeral Home
In honor of Abby Schwartz and Aaron Herzig for co-chairing the Senior Rabbinic Search Committee
Daniel Hoffheimer
In honor of the marriage of Lisa Fox and Dr. Richard Trohman
Daniel Hoffheimer
In honor of Sean Flowers
Daniel Hoffheimer
In memory of Alan Sargeant
Hildred & Robert Clayton
In memory of Josephine Brower
Daniel Hoffheimer
In memory of Philip T. Cohen
O.J. & Barbara Cohen
In memory of Kathleen Kellar
Daniel Hoffheimer
Doug & Linda Sawan
In memory of Robert Stein
Daniel Hoffheimer
ALAN L. ROSENBERG FUND
In memory Josephine Brower
Millard & Helene Mack
BENE ISRAEL FUND
In support of the Bene Israel Fund
Kenneth & Janet G. Cohen
LIBRARY FUND
In memory of Philip T. Cohen
Amy Diamond & Eddie Wolf
In memory of Lois Fried
Leese Fried
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Condolences
to the Friends and Family of:

Evelyn Liner, beloved mother of Louis Liner
Kathleen Kellar, beloved mother of Mark Michaelson
Alan Sargeant, beloved father of Linda Chatterjee
Sonia Strauss, beloved member of Rockdale Temple
Rabbi Michael J. Cook, beloved husband of Rabbi Judy Chessin
Shawn Adam Friedkin, beloved friend of Adele and Zvi Zuckerman
Frank Messer, beloved brother of Jack Messer,
Nancy Messer, Linda Sawan, and Steve Messer
Leonard Berenfield, beloved husband of Ann Berenfield

May their memories be for a blessing.

Shofar Soundings Summer 5781