CONGREGATIONAL APPROVAL
FINAL STEP IN SENIOR RABBI SEARCH

Rabbi Meredith F. Kahan Recommended to Serve as the Senior Rabbi of Rockdale Temple

On February 10, 2021, the Rockdale Temple Board of Directors unanimously approved the Senior Rabbi Search Committee’s unanimous recommendation of Rabbi Meredith F. Kahan to serve as the Senior Rabbi of our congregation. During the rabbinic selection process, the applications of all rabbis who applied for the position were carefully reviewed and three final candidates were interviewed. Rabbi Kahan was compared to her peers and rose to the top. During the interview process, Rabbi Kahan shared her inspiring vision for the future of Rockdale Temple, demonstrated that she is a Jewish scholar, and showed the compassion, grace, and dignity of a rabbi who is ready to lead our historic congregation.

It is now up to the membership to consider and approve this candidate at a special congregational meeting. The date of the meeting is Sunday, March 14, 2021 at 7:30 P.M. and will be via Zoom. Please watch for detailed information on the congregational meeting that will be provided through the U.S. mail and by email. There will be provisions to call in if you don’t have access to Zoom.

MAZEL TOV!

To Gabe Clark for being named an ish Emerging Artist Fellow.

To Shirah Kraus for being named an ish Emerging Artist Fellow.

To Cantor Lanie and Rabbi Jan Katzew on the birth of their granddaughter, Emlyn Aurora Turo, on January 2, 2021 in Vermont.

To Lori and George Zahn on the birth of their granddaughter, Miriam Ruth Violet Cohen on December 30, 2020 in Columbus, OH.

To Alexis and Bartley Morrisroe (and to big brother Jacob) on the birth of their son, Micah Ezra, on December 24, 2020.

To Lisa Schneider on the marriage of her daughter, Adrianna to Nathan Randall on October 13, 2020.

If you would like to contribute moments of congratulations, please send a request to Patty Kaufman, pkaufman@rockdaletemple.org.
Celebrate
PASSOVER
SECOND SEDER
SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 5:30PM
Live on Zoom

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K.K. Bene Israel
ROCKDALE TEMPLE

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ROCKDALETEMPLE.ORG/EVENT/SEDER2021
More than a year after its premiere, Frozen II is still the favorite movie at my house (probably because our four and six year old kids pick the movies)! Its featured song is titled “Into the Unknown,” and centers around Queen Elsa, who is afraid of the call to adventure she keeps hearing. As I thought about preparing for Passover 5781, this song kept coming back to me.

A year ago, we were first becoming aware of the COVID-19 virus and making decisions to lock down for a short time to flatten the curve. We thought surely we’d be through this by Passover. When it became clear that Passover would be celebrated under pandemic conditions, we took steps into the unknown. We figured out—for the first time ever—how to conduct our seders via Zoom and FaceTime. We cooked meals for the larger groups that usually came together and instead packaged them individually and delivered them to our friends and family. We unearthed mismatched Haggadahs and surfed the web to design our own seders when we, who had never needed to lead them before, realized we would be in the driver’s seat. One year ago, we celebrated a truly unique Passover—and I know we all hoped it would be a “one and done.”

Last year’s Passover was unique, but it was not the only time in Jewish history that we had to celebrate under less than ideal or even dire circumstances. After all, our ancestors marked the Exodus while wandering in the desert (though there was no seder ritual yet!), conversos conducted secret seders in Spain and Portugal, and our grandparents kept Pesach throughout the Holocaust, even baking matzah in the Lodz ghetto. As Alana Newhouse, editor in chief of Tablet Magazine, wrote last Passover, “most Jews in history have not been free, whether from murder regimes, famines or pandemics like this one. What we have been is devoted to the idea that we deserve to be.”

Unfortunately, our hope that last year’s Passover would be the only one we would have to do via technology, separated from our loved ones, did not pan out. Instead, we are facing a second year of virtual celebration. I know that we are feeling discouraged and saddened; and yet I pray you also join me in feeling hopeful. Last year, we were truly going into the unknown; this year, we know what to do about Passover and that there is an end in sight.

A well-known midrash tells of Nachshon ben Aminadav, an Israelite who stood amongst the people at the shores of the Sea of Reeds. Pharaoh’s army was approaching, and God had yet to split the waters. Newly freed from bondage, the Israelites were frozen—one side, they saw their oppressors, on the other, treacherous waters. The story goes that Nachshon was the one to take the first, brave step into the sea, into the unknown. It is said that Nachshon walked until the water came up to his chin, when he said, “Mi Chamocha ba-eilim Adonai?” Who is like You, O God, among those who are worshipped? He stepped forward and the water entered his open mouth. As he spat it out, he said, “Mi Kamocha ne’edar ba-kodesh?” Who is like You, majestic in holiness? Nachshon must have been full of hope to go into the unknown as he did. And so it must be for us.

This Passover, all is not unknown as it was a year ago. We know so much about this virus and how to combat it. We know that there are vaccines that will eventually allow us to move more freely. We know that we can celebrate our lives, mark our holy days, and come together with family and community even if it has to be virtual or sacredly-distanced. But we still must have hope. We have to hope, as Nachshon did, that we will make it through to the other side. That we can move through treacherous waters and endure the waves. That we will soon be free.

My family and I, and all of our staff and leadership at Rockdale Temple, wish our sacred community a happy, healthy, and safe Passover 5781. We have been here before; we have walked into—and through—the unknown. May we have the courage and the strength to approach this season of our freedom, this celebration of our redemption, this Passover, with hope.

Rabbi Meredith Kahan
Acting Senior Rabbi
Shalom Rockdale Family,

Hinei mah tov—how good it is! Here we are. We have made it to the Spring season. As of this writing, a thin blanket of snow is covering the grass, and the holiday coming up on the Jewish calendar right ahead of us is Tu B’Shevat—the festival of the trees. But, hopefully, by the time you receive this letter, we will be looking toward Passover, warmer weather, wider vaccine distribution and a general opening up of our lives.

Later this Spring, on the 6th–7th of the Hebrew month of Sivan to be exact (May 16–17) we will welcome another holiday—Shavuot. Shavuot, literally the Festival of Weeks, commemorates the receiving of the Ten Commandments and Torah by the Jews at Mt. Sinai. It occurs on the 50th day of the Omer—a period that connects Passover to this holiday.

At Rockdale Temple and Reform congregations around the world, Shavuot also marks the moment of Confirmation. We welcome our tenth grade students to this sacred milestone. With them, we will celebrate not only the receiving of the Torah, but also their journey as emerging adults. These students have spent the year delving into Jewish thought and thinkers—wrestling with their own understandings of what it means to be Jewish as emerging adults, and publicly stating their thoughts about how they understand their place in our people’s long history.

Our sanctuary celebrates the holiday by bringing the outdoors in, and our bima will be covered in flowers and decorations connecting us to this season in Israel as well.

Since the pandemic stormed into our lives in March 2020, I have started looking at the period leading up to Shavuot differently. You may notice when you attend services on Shabbat between Passover and Shavuot, that we ‘count the Omer.’ Literally, this means we count the 49 days between Passover and Shavuot. But, what can we learn from this act of counting each day out loud? And why count this particular period?

One of the things I love about our Jewish calendar is its innate ability to make history come alive. Not only are we to feel, as it tells us in our Passover seder, as if each of us literally came out of Egypt, but in reality, each holiday is an opportunity to connect us to our ancient past and help us find relevant meaning for modern days.

For our ancestors, the time of Passover marked a moment of jubilation—finally after generations enslaved, we are now free! But…now what? Our history teaches that we walked into the Wilderness—without a map, without much guidance except from a shepherd named Moses—into the unknown. This period between the Exodus from Egypt and the Receiving of the Torah was a collective holding our breaths. We did not have a clear path ahead, we were definitely not sure what the next days weeks and months would bring, and so, in this in between moment, we count. One step at a time, one day following the one before it.

If we have learned anything by living through this past year, it is that every generation is subject to chaos and unknown that can know us off kilter, off the path we anticipate lies ahead. In those times of uncertainty, we also learn what can tether us. Our community, our rituals, the institutions of synagogue, school, and work, can help ground us and connect us to one another.

The Omer reminds us to count each day. When we are not sure what direction to go in, we can simply count our steps. Sometimes we cannot look too far ahead, because doing so would be too frightening or overwhelming that we wouldn’t move at all.

This counting of the Omer, that leads up to the joyful and seminal moment of receiving of the Torah, acknowledges that the coming chapters of our journey will be fraught. But in creating a ritual, in creating a public way to mark the passage of days, we figuratively hold hands and we walk forward together.

Wishing you a Spring filled with joy and warmth, of connections and a sense of possibility.

L’shalom,

Rabbi Shena Potter Jaffee
Rabbi in Residence
As I write this article in January, I have just listened to the Saturday morning Torah Study by clicking on the Zoom link found in the weekly Rockmail. I was greeted by four Rabbis (there are usually six or more Rabbis) and erudite members like Fay May, Joyce Alpiner, Chris Malhotra, Bob Ingberg and others. It was wonderful, fun, and interesting. You get the feeling you are with people who care and have humor. If you want a good time that is thoughtful, join us online, Saturday mornings at 9:30.

Now, what is happening at Rockdale?

- We have an incredible spirit here, at least when we enjoy the spirits of bourbon and chocolate. Nearly 170 people attended this virtual happening organized by our Engagement Task Force chaired by Jennifer Clark.
- The Membership Committee (Gerry Korkin, Chair) is working diligently on marketing programs for unaffiliated members. We are creating a system to make the process of membership easier.
- And the Environmental Committee (Joanne Gerson, Chair) is actively educating us and others on how to repair the earth.
- The Justice Collaborative (Justin Levy & Mark Michaelson, Co-Chairs) has met and given us insights into our own implicit racism.
- Our 200th Anniversary Committees, under the leadership of Development Co-Chairs Stephanie De Falco and Aaron Herzig, are working to make our historic celebration really interesting and meaningful.
- Our Investment Committee (Peter Ganz, Chair) has carefully made our investments go up in a difficult year.
- Our Treasurer, Aaron Herzig, working with administration, has cut expenses so that we are solvent and do not have an unbudgeted deficit.
- The Religious School Committee (Adele Zuckerman, Chair) is actively supporting our kids.
- RUACH, Rockdale’s 20s and 30s Community, has been active via Zoom.
- And the Brotherhood (Andy Gollin & Mark Friedman, Co-Presidents) provided Chanukah treats and snacks to those at Cedar Village.
- Our Safety and Security Committee (Dr. Ed Herzig, Chair) has advised and kept us up to date on the seriousness of COVID-19. They will also help us know when to reopen. At a future time, we hope to celebrate the first responders and the members of the medical community in our congregation. These are the unsung heroes of this pandemic whose praise we will sing.
- Following last year’s Biennial, Dani Reiss, Caroline Winstel-McLeod and Rabbi Coran, z”l, discussed setting up a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEI). The mission is to be actively welcoming, so all feel at home in our congregation. Since this was one of the last ideas implemented by Rabbi Coran, z”l, it has special meaning.

Of course, I cannot describe all that is happening within the Rockdale community. This gives you an idea of how all of us are working together to make our Temple and world better. We welcome you to join us in any of the committees’ fascinating work.

Difficult times can test the strength of a non-profit like a Temple. The many members of the congregation, administration, and our Rabbinic staff have been there for each other. We will continue to do so. In the future I would think our members might well write of us, “This was their finest hour.”

John G. Cobey
President
Passover is an ideal holiday to involve children of all ages in the seder and week-long observance. You can tell a story with puppets, craft matzah covers, sing together and create your own family parodies on TikTok. However, we do not need to wait until Spring to start celebrating. Tu B’Shevat, typically referred to as the holiday of trees, takes place in the middle of winter. A dark and cold time in Ohio, but the start of Spring in Israel. One of my favorite Tu B’Shevat traditions is planting Karpas (parsley) with students so that it can grow in time to use for Passover. I love introducing hands on, kinesthetic learning to our virtual students and teaching the mitzvah of Sh’mirat Ha-Teva (taking care of the earth). Plus, parsley is used at the Passover Seder during the Four Questions, a section traditionally set aside for child participation!

Karpas symbolizes Spring and the time of harvest and alludes to a time of hope through the lens of a large bounty of fruits and vegetables. It may also represent the literal flourishing of the Israelites in Egypt, a modestly numbered nation of only 70 people when Jacob and his descendants first arrived.

This Winter, with the help of Rockdale’s Environmental Committee and David Rosenberg of Wooden Shoe Garden, all students in Kehal Kodesh were able to either plant parsley seeds or receive parsley plugs to nourish throughout the Spring season.

This Passover and Spring mark the one-year anniversary of the rise of COVID-19, quarantines, mask wearing, and social distancing from our loved ones. With more vaccinations, warmer weather and hope on the horizon, may we emerge from this Winter and be embraced by a Spring of family gatherings, playdates, and parsley.

Nina Loftspring
Director of Education

Vada Reiss planting parsley.

Confirmation 5781
Friday, May 28, 2021

Mazel Tov to our Confrmands:

Sydney Kraus
daughter of Barrie Kraus & Dr. Steven Kraus

Caitlin Barilleaux
daughter of Rebecca & Charles Barilleaux

Tucker Ames
son of Teresa & Dr. Michael Ames

Griffin Ames
son of Teresa & Dr. Michael Ames

Joel O’Koon
son of Michelle & Neal O’Koon

C Magnus Knudsen
son of Gitte Knudsen & Craig Rezen
As I write this in January, the COVID pandemic continues into 2021. Your Rockdale Staff is working hard to serve our community while maintaining safety through remote work and social distancing with appropriate PPE when at Temple. As the year unfolds and the course of the pandemic evolves, we will continue to work with our Safety & Security Committee and congregational leadership, to serve, and to maintain the wellbeing, of our community. This is hard work for all of us and I appreciate the grace and kindness with which we all continue to deal with this most unique time.

But, the pandemic hasn’t stopped us from having fun!

In December we gathered as a community for another in what has become a series of parking lot events. We had a great time celebrating Shabbat and Chanukah. The parking lot was full and joyful honking filled the air as we welcomed Rabbi Kahan back to the bimah from her parental leave. The celebration of Chanukah continued the next evening with our virtual Rockin’ Chanukah Bash.

In January, 170 of our nearest and dearest friends gathered together to enjoy the delightful pairing of bourbon and chocolate. In a pleasant evening of Zoom-hosted fun, Erin Fox of Foxtails helped us explore this great combination AND introduced us to the signature, Rockdale Old Fashioned. In typical Rockdale fashion (ok, pun intended), our congregants donated over $1000 when registering for the Virtual Bourbon & Chocolate Tasting to help fund future engagement events. Thank you.

It is so wonderful to be heading into Spring here at Rockdale Temple. As a community, we have made our way through the darkest season of the year and are looking forward to lighter days ahead. The administrative and Buildings & Grounds teams are working with our Rabbis and volunteer leadership to plan for the spring and summer holidays, and for nine B’nei Mitzvah. It’s going to be fun!

Laura Wright
Executive Director
The Art and Artisans of Our Torahs

In Judaism, it is considered a fulfillment of the commandment of “Hiddur Mitzvah” to create, collect and exhibit Jewish art and objects. It was therefore a true honor to create The Seasons of Our Jewish Life, a portfolio of original gouache paintings I did upon request by Rabbi Sigma Faye Coran, z”l for the purpose of becoming the Judaic design for five new Torah mantles in celebration of Rockdale Temple’s 190th anniversary as a congregation (1824–2014).

The liturgical element of my work in this portfolio was inspired in part after meeting with members of our congregation and “the four seasons” was considered for the theme and design of the new mantles. In turn, what naturally came to mind was the Tree of Life. I chose to think about the “four seasons” in accordance with the Jewish calendar, which differs from the secular calendar. After hitting the books and gaining a more precise understanding of this key distinction, I knew the names of four of the paintings would be Of Spring, Of Winter, Of Summer and Of Fall. For each ‘season’ I created a unique Tree of Life, specifically rendered to reveal the story of a significant Jewish holiday or Jewish life cycle event occurring often in concert with both calendars. For the fifth Torah mantle it was important to me that it feature something singularly associated with Rockdale Temple. Thus, the statue, Two Rabbis with Shofars, donated in memory of Alan L. Rosenberg in 1969, stands at Rockdale’s entrance and as the focal point of the fifth painting and needlepoint. I named it Our Very Own.

My designs were transferred to needlepoint canvases and lovingly hand-stitched by ‘our very own’ Renee Frankel (Of Spring), Lisa Fox (Of Fall), Lori Reidel (Of Winter), Abby Schwartz (Our Very Own) and Rosalee Luchs (Of Summer), mother of congregant Elaine Fishman. Lori engaged over 20 congregants to contribute to her needlepoint, including her mother Sue Richard, z”l. The production of these entirely hand-crafted mantles was managed by a committee headed by Jane Garfield along with Abby Schwartz, Janet Cohen, and Rabbi Coran, z”l. From initial artist sketches to completion, the realization of five new Torah mantles took a congregation and two-and-a-half-years!

Please come to see and study our Torah covers at a Shabbat service in the Chapel when the Temple reopens and admire the fine workmanship. Framed, first edition fine art prints of the four original “Seasons” paintings grace the back wall of the Rockdale Temple library. The fifth, Our Very Own, hangs on a wall just outside of the Chapel. It is ‘our very own’ call to worship.

We are ever grateful to Wilbur, z”l, and Miriam Cohen, whose generosity made the production of the Torah mantles possible. They dedicated the covers, on behalf of their son, Ken Cohen, on the occasion of his 65th birthday, during a special Shabbat Service on October 9, 2015.

Contributed by,
Beth Goldstein

This is the first in a five-part series, beginning with this SPRING issue of SHOFAR SOUNDINGS, which provides a close look into the art and evolution of our five beautiful Torah mantles.

OF SPRING (shown on the cover). Rabbi Meredith Kahan holds a Torah with the mantle made using a needlepoint designed from an original gouache painting, OF SPRING, by third generation Rockdale Temple member and Judaic artist Beth Goldstein. In OF SPRING, the Tree of Life springs up from divided salty waters, growing upward until it bends and turns and turns to become a Seder plate! The symbolic foods are all there. A bit of the plague is suggested by a single frog. The four stars in the night sky stand for the four questions. And the moon wanes as Seder dinner guests converse long into the night.

“The pomegranate image is informed by 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.” —Beth Goldstein

Please consider naming Rockdale Temple in your will or estate plan.
It was almost exactly one year ago that the Rockdale Book Group dwindled to just a flickering flame. Three of us met to discuss Dan Senor’s, *Start Up Nation* and then agreed to read a novel next: *The Convert* by Stefan Hertmans. We never “gathered” (if that’s what three people do) to discuss the book.

The pandemic took hold at that very time and the world shut down. Within days, from our homes, some of us live-streamed the funerals in quick succession of two Rockdale women of valor, Dr. Meryl Goldman, z”l, and Rabbi Sissy Coran, z”l. My Israel trip got cancelled, so I read *The Convert* at home instead. It was dystopian, like my world. I later found out that neither of the other two Book Group friends could get into the book—it was just too dark.

Now, looking back from pre-Pesach early Spring 2021, I can see many parallels between *The Convert* and the year we have just lived through. Indulge me.

*The Convert* is based on two actual fragments of Hebrew writings discovered by archaeologists in the “document depository” that was the early diaspora Jews’ Cairo Genizah. The scraps had been a letter of safe passage for a Jewish woman, just before the year 1100. A girl from a wealthy Christian family in Middle Ages northern France, Rouen, falls in love with a rabbi’s son, who has come from southern France to study in a yeshiva. She secretly converts to Judaism in order to marry him, but the two must flee for their lives as her Catholic father’s knights pursue them to the south of France. This part of the novel is full of the young couple’s intoxication with each other and the landscape they are crossing, thrilling escapes from their pursuers, and hope. Once safely in hiding in a tiny village, under the protection of a rabbi-ally, she gives birth and the baby boy is circumcised. Life is good. Soon, though, the young family’s brief happiness ends as the anti-Semitism and brutal violence of the First Crusade sweeps their village, heading toward “victory” in the Holy Land.

The young mother is left a widow, and her young son and his little sister have been stolen by the murderous, motley, yet “holy” Crusader band headed for Jerusalem.

So the convert is off on an eleventh century search on foot, by ship and then on camel back toward the Holy Land. As a lone woman, she has a letter of passage from her rabbi. She lands for a time among Jews in Cairo—diaspora Egypt, Mitzrayim—which Moses left centuries before. She’s obsessed to find her children but finds only the protection that a community of Jews provides. Her mind is cracking. She thinks her stolen children are back in northern France with her Christian parents. So she crosses the Mediterranean again. A crazed mob nearly burns her at the stake in Spain, where the Reconquista has set Jews fleeing. She descends into insanity and dies alone of mushroom poisoning. Her life is erased, all but two scraps of a letter found in the Cairo Genizah.

Hey, not every story has a happy ending! Even for a Jewish historical novel, it was harsh. But I couldn’t deny how familiar its fear felt.

Snap forward to our present in America. We look back on our recent past, tally our losses and wins, and set our sights again on a better future. We are American Jews, just humans, but working toward the rightness we call tzedek, justice, for all. Yet we have seen in our country many violent “crusaders” for a much more exclusive right to the rightness. We and other minority Americans have seen proof that we are thought of as “them” by co-Americans claiming “us” status. It feels like the echo of our Jewish story once again, stirring dread. We know our nation’s capacity for “othering.”

One of our American Jewish strengths is to identify all the other oppressed peoples around us, and to make “them and us” allies for justice. This story doesn’t have an ending yet, but we have some time—maybe 40 years in the desert—to take another stab at making this the Promised Land for all Americans. Happy Passover!

So, reading one dreadfully dark novel wasn’t what nearly snuffed the Rockdale Book Group. There were larger stories unfolding, and they hijacked our energy and attention. Maybe you’ll join the Rockdale Book Group as we begin again to read the Jewish stories together. Watch for specifics in this and other Temple communications, or drop me a note.

Karen Zanger
Librarian
karenszanger@gmail.com
Please consider naming Rockdale Temple in your will or estate plan.

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SIENNA RAE MALTZ, April 24, 2021
Sienna is an 8th grade student at Sycamore Junior High School. Outside of school, Sienna's passion is dancing. Most days she can be found at the studio practicing with her teammates. Sienna competes in several styles of dance including Jazz, Contemporary/Lyrical, and Musical Theater.

Sienna would like to thank her Bat Mitzvah tutor, Anna Meyers, along with Rabbi Kahan and Rabbi Coran, z”l, for helping her prepare for her big day. She would also like to thank her friends and family for their love and support.

DANI GROSSMAN, May 8, 2021
Dani Grossman, a student at Loveland Middle School, loves:
• Soccer. She plays on the Loveland Storm, a select soccer team. She once said, “I was born to play soccer.”
• Legos. Her bedroom is filled with her Lego creations, including the Statue of Liberty, Lunar Module and Empire State Building.
• And her furry brother, Tai, who’s a shih tzu poodle. For her 13th birthday, Dani asked that Tai get a gift, too.

At school, where Dani is an “A” student, she has earned awards for citizenship. One teacher said she inspires other students. “Just being near Dani, her tablemates often follow her quiet lead.”

At age six, she started skiing at Perfect North Slopes. By the time she was nine, she had skied 10,000-foot mountains in Utah and later Colorado.

Dani probably celebrates more holidays than most of her friends, including Chinese New Year and Hanukkah. In addition to her birthday, she gets to celebrate “Dani Day,” her adoption anniversary. Among her favorite foods are matzah ball soup, Chinese dumplings and macaroni and cheese.

Dani is thankful to Rabbis Coran, z”l, and Kahan, her tutor Madeline, and her Rockdale religious school teachers for helping her with her Jewish education and Bat Mitzvah.

JACOB SHAPIRO, May 15, 2021
Jacob Shapiro is in the 7th grade at Loveland Middle School, where he is a straight-A student and most interested in math and science. Jacob plays competitive basketball and is joining a select baseball team for the first time this spring. His favorite baseball position is pitcher, although he will be exploring catcher as well. In his free time, Jacob enjoys spending time with friends, playing card and board games (he is the Connect Four champion of our family), and playing video games on his Play Station.

Because of Jacob’s passion for mathematics and his genetics, he is probably destined to become an engineer, like his Grandpa Alvin, and he has even expressed an interest already in attending Stanford University. Whatever course Jacob decides to pursue, we expect him to approach life with his strategic mind and a passion to do well for himself, for others, and for the Jewish community.

Jacob would like to thank his Bar Mitzvah tutor, Anna Meyers, Rabbi Coran, z”l, and Rabbi Kahan for guiding him through religious school and preparing him to become a Bar Mitzvah. Jacob also thanks his parents, Josh and Heather Shapiro, and his siblings, Joseph and Sophie, for all of their love and support.
B’nei Mitzvah Celebrants

MARINA KOTTLER, May 22, 2021
Marina is an eighth grade student at Walnut Hills H.S. She loves to paint anything she can get her hands on, such as shoes, phone cases, jars, and many other things. She also loves leading her novice team for Cincinnati Junior Rowing Club as a coxswain. Marina was born in Reno, Nevada but found her way across the country, through New Orleans, Louisiana, to Cincinnati, Ohio. Her favorite month is July because she gets to go to Goldman Union Camp Institute, where she can hang out with friends and participate in plenty of fun experiences with them.

Marina would like to thank her Bat Mitzvah tutor Shirah Kraus. She would also like to thank Rabbi Kahan, Rabbi Coran, z”l, her Hebrew School and Religious School teachers, all essential workers, and the entire Rockdale community for their support. She also thanks Mom, Dad, her family and friends, and her cats for their love and support over the years.

LILLIAN LINER, May 29, 2021
Lillian Liner is in 7th grade, at Sycamore Junior High and is most interested in Language Arts and History. Lillian is in Scouts BSA where she enjoys camping and outdoor activities and is hoping to start Lacrosse this spring. Most of the time you can find Lillian on a call with her friends, playing games or making earrings. She also enjoys caring for her pet snake, Athena.

When Lillian grows up she wants to be either a veterinarian for exotic pets, run a small jewelry business, or something else if she becomes inspired. What we do know is that she will bring her joyful smile and energy to whatever she chooses to do.

Lillian may not say it enough, but she is very grateful for Jason's patience and time to help her not only study and learn to read from the Torah, but also how to play Dungeons and Dragons! She’d also like to thank Seth, Dad, and Mom for supporting her in whatever chooses to do.

The 2020 Gary Heldman Menorah Award Recipients

The Gary Heldman Menorah Award recognizes congregants for their exceptional volunteer service and is one of the most cherished honors bestowed by Rockdale Temple.

This prestigious award is given annually to three congregants. Rockdale is ever grateful to Gary Heldman who perpetually endowed this award as a way of recognizing the Rockdale legacy of member engagement. Through this generous endowment, Menorah Award recipients are afforded the honor of choosing a Rockdale fund or project to which a $1000 donation is made in their name, in addition to receiving an engraved menorah for their home.

The 2020 Gary Heldman Menorah Award recipients, who were originally announced at the June 2020 Annual Meeting, along with their gift designations, are shown below.

- **Janet G. Cohen** has directed her $1000 be given to the Rabbi Sissy Coran Memorial Fund.
- **Justin Levy** has donated his $1000 to Rabbi Meredith Kahan's Discretionary Fund.
- **Karen Martin** has designated that her $1000 be given to the Rabbi Sissy Coran Memorial Fund.

The next recipients of the Gary Heldman Menorah Award will be announced in June at the 2021 Annual Meeting. We look forward to continuing the tradition of honoring Rockdale’s most dedicated volunteers and celebrating their passionate support of our wonderful Rockdale community.
Dr. Robert (Bob) Stein passed away in October, 2020 at the age of 97. He left a very generous bequest to Rockdale Temple, and this bequest has been added to Rockdale's Bene Israel Fund. His legacy gift brings us closer to reaching our Bene Israel Fund goal of $1 million to support rabbinic and educational leadership. Dr. Stein has become the newest member of Rockdale's Bene Israel Society.

Dr. Stein's son, Dan, a fourth-generation member of Rockdale, noted that his father began blowing the shofar at Rockdale Temple on Rockdale Avenue at the age of 13. Frank Simon taught him to blow the shofar, and Dr. Stein was Rockdale's shofar blower until he was 86. He also played the clarinet and trumpet.

Dan shared two stories about his father. On one Yom Kippur when Harold Hahn was rabbi, Dr. Stein locked his shofar and his keys in his Corvette. Luckily, one of Rabbi Hahn's avid hobbies was being a locksmith, and Rabbi Hahn saved the day by helping Dr. Stein “break into his car.” Dr. Stein did not like the attention of being the shofar blower because he was a modest man. After each service he would disappear out of Rockdale's back door so no one would see him.

Dr. Stein trained Ben Reed, now Dr. Benjamin Reed, to blow the shofar. He commented that Dr. Stein and he played together for over 10 years. “I started when I was eight and played every year at Rockdale through high school, then for a couple of years when I came back from college,” he said. “Rabbi Mark thought I would have fun with it and introduced me to the shofar, and Dr. Stein was gracious enough to begin teaching me. My dad never played with him. When Dr. Stein retired from playing, my dad and I started playing together.” Mike Reed is now Rockdale's shofar blower.

“Dr. Stein, playing the shofar was an honor not to be taken lightly and it obviously gave him great joy to share it with others. I remember him teaching me about where the shofar came from and why we played, in addition to how to play. He was ever patient with me as I grew in height and skill, and each year he made sure that we practiced until we were satisfied that our calls would resonate with all those who heard them. As I spent time with him, I saw what an amazing, diligent, and kind hearted person he was. Whenever I play now, I think of him, and I am always grateful for his guidance, and that I had the opportunity to know him.”

Rockdale Temple is grateful for Dr. Stein's wonderful legacy, and that he included Rockdale in his estate plans.
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.

| Leonard Berenfield                      | Michael G. Hall                           | Lynn Rosenberg Mayfield                        |
| Doris* & Stuart* Berman                | Andy A. & Debbie Heldman                  | Tracy M. McMullen                              |
| Max Joseph Bleich                      | Betty Heldman                             | Lisa & Jonathan Mezibov                         |
| Rosemary & Frank Bloom                 | Gary & Austine Heldman                    | Mark Michaelson & Barbara Turner-Michaelson    |
| Lynn Gross Chaifetz                    | Jim Heldman & Wendy Saunders              | Dale Rabiner                                   |
| Anthony & Andrea Checroun              | Michael Heldman & Beth Franks             | Loretta* & Gary* Rabiner                       |
| Matthew* & Jean* Chimsky               | Andrea & Dr. Edward Herzig                | David* & Marilyn* Reichert                     |
| Jennifer Clark                         | Lauren & Aaron Herzig                     | Leslie & Bernard Reiss                         |
| John Cobey & Jan Frankel               | Daniel J. Hoffheimer                      | Benjamin M. Rosensweet                         |
| Max Cobey                              | Robert Ingber, M.D.                       | Matthew & Renee Rosensweet                     |
| Alfred M. Cohen                        | Johnny “JJ” Jones                         | Jack & Mary-Bob Rubenstein                    |
| Barb & O.J. Cohen                      | Rabbi Meredith Kahan & Sean Flowers       | Judith & Mark Schaengold                       |
| Ken & Janet Cohen                      | David & Hildy Kerman                      | Steven & Rachel Schild                         |
| Rabbis Sigma F. Coran* & Matthew Kraus| Nancy & Jerry Klein                       | David & Abby Schwartz                          |
| Bernie Dave*                           | Sally & Gerry Korkin                      | Joshua & Heather Shapiro                       |
| Stephanie & Tony De Falco             | Bennett Kottler & Family                  | Mark Sheldon                                   |
| Bonnie & Darryl Dick                   | Jamey & Vanessa Kurtzer                   | Andrew & Sally Shott                           |
| M. James Ellis                         | Justin Levy & Eira Tansey                 | Dr. Robert Stein*                              |
| Mark & Nancy Feldman                   | Lauren & Jake Lillenstein                 | Hagit & Jeff Sunberg                           |
| Lisa & John* Fox                       | Deb & Joe Loewenstein                     | W. E. Blair Tillett*                           |
| G. Allan & Sara Frankel                | Ralph & Fran Lowenstein                   | Julie & Shachar Torem                          |
| Dr. & Mrs. G. Russell Frankel          | Helene & Millard Mack                     | Robert & Loris Ungar                           |
| Gail* & Dick Friedman                  | Christine & Ramesh Malhotra               | Sarah Weiss & Todd Schild                      |
| Robert Frohman                         | Mara Marnocha                             | Edward Wertheimer                              |
| Dr. Barry & Nancy Gibberman            | Karen & Stewart Martin                    | Karen & Stuart Zanger                          |
| Dolores Goldfinger                     | Sheryl & Scott Mattis                     | Mitchell* and Florence E. Zaret               |
| Rabbi Mark & Dr. Meryl* Goldman        | Fay B. May & Robert E. Prescott*          | Anonymous Donors – 3                          |
|                                          |                                          |                                                 |

*Of blessed memory

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.
## March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<td></td>
<td>4:30p Hebrew School Classes &amp; Tutoring</td>
<td>9:30a Coffee Chat 7:00pm An Evening with Sarah Weiss — What Power Do Each of Us Hold to Repair the World?, Live via Zoom</td>
<td>6:15p Shabbat Service, Virtual</td>
<td>9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Discussion), Live via Zoom 10:30a Shabbat Morning Service, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>10:00a Kehal Kodesh Religious School 5:00p Kulanu</td>
<td>4:30p Hebrew School Classes &amp; Tutoring</td>
<td>9:30a Coffee Chat 7:00pm Preparing for Passover 2021! with Rabbi Kahan and Rabbi Jaffee, Live via Zoom</td>
<td>6:15p Shabbat Service, with Birthday Blessings, Live via Zoom</td>
<td>9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Discussion), Live via Zoom 10:30a Shabbat Morning Service, Live via Zoom 1:00p Shabbat Shal-OM Yoga, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>10:00a Kehal Kodesh Religious School 5:00p Kulanu 7:30p Special Congregational Meeting, Live via Zoom</td>
<td>4:30p Hebrew School Classes &amp; Tutoring</td>
<td>9:30a Coffee Chat</td>
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<td>9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Discussion), Live via Zoom 10:30a Shabbat Morning Service, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>10:00a Kehal Kodesh Religious School</td>
<td>4:30p Hebrew School Classes &amp; Tutoring</td>
<td>9:30a Coffee Chat 7:00p Women of Rockdale General Membership Meeting, Live via Zoom</td>
<td>6:15p Shabbat Service, with Anniversary Blessings, Virtual</td>
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<td>6:15p Shabbat Service, with Anniversary Blessings, Virtual</td>
<td>Erev Passover 9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Discussion), Live via Zoom 10:30a Shabbat Morning Service, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>Passover Day 1 5:30p Congregational Seder, Live via Zoom</td>
<td>Passover Day 2</td>
<td>Passover Day 3</td>
<td>Passover Day 4 9:30a Coffee Chat</td>
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Calendars are subject to change.
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<td>9:30a Coffee Chat 7:00p Exploring the Poetry of Israel, with Rabbi Jaffee, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>Yom HaZikaron 9:30a Coffee Chat 7:00p Exploring the Poetry of Israel, with Rabbi Jaffee, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>6:15p Rock Shabbat Service, with Birthday Blessings, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>Shabbat Morning Service, Live via Zoom</td>
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Please consider naming Rockdale Temple in your will or estate plan.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9:30a Sichat Torah (Torah Discussion), Live via Zoom</td>
<td>9:30a</td>
<td>Shofar Soundings</td>
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<td>10:30a Shabbat Morning Service, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>Shofar Soundings</td>
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<td>6:15p Shabbat Service, with Birthday Blessings, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>10:30a Shabbat Morning Service, Bat Mitzvah of Dani Grossman</td>
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<td>1:00p Shabbat Shal-OM Yoga, Live via Zoom</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>10:30a Shabbat Morning Service, Bar Mitzvah of Lillian Liner</td>
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<td>5:00p Kulanu</td>
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Shofar Soundings Spring 5781

March

Friday, March 5
6:15p Shabbat Service, Virtual

Saturday, March 6
9:30a Torah study,
Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning Service,
Live via Zoom

Friday, March 12
6:15p Shabbat Service,
Live via Zoom
(marking one year of pandemic)
with Birthday Blessings

Saturday, March 13
9:30a Torah Study,
Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning Service,
Live via Zoom

Friday, March 19
6:15p Virtual shabbatCTY,
Live via Zoom

Saturday, March 20
9:30a Torah study,
Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning Service,
Live via Zoom

Friday, March 26
6:15p Shabbat Service,
Virtual with Anniversary Blessings

Saturday, March 27
9:30a Torah study,
Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning Service,
Live via Zoom

Sunday, March 28
10:30a First Day Passover Morning Service, Live via Zoom

Sunday, March 28
5:30p Congregational Seder,
Live via Zoom

April

Friday, April 2
6:15p Shabbat Service, Virtual

Saturday, April 3
9:30a Torah Study,
Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning and 7th Day Passover Service
with Yizkor,
Live via Zoom

Friday, April 9
6:15p Shabbat Service,
Live via Zoom

Saturday, April 10
9:30a Torah study,
Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning Service,
Live via Zoom

Friday, April 16
Rock Shabbat (Celebrating Israel),
Live via Zoom
with Birthday Blessings

Saturday, April 17
9:30a Torah study,
Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning Service,
Live via Zoom

Friday, April 23
6:15p Shabbat Service,
Virtual

Saturday, April 24
9:30a Torah Study,
Live via Zoom
10:30a Bat Mitzvah of Sienna Maltz

Friday, April 30
6:15p Shabbat Service, Virtual

May

Saturday, May 1
9:30a Torah study, Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning Service, Live via Zoom

Friday, May 7
School Celebration Shabbat,
Live via Zoom with Birthday Blessings

Saturday, May 8
9:30a Torah Study, Live via Zoom
10:30a Bar Mitzvah of Dani Grossman

Friday, May 14
5:45p Bene Israel Society Schmooze, Live via Zoom
6:15p Shabbat Service, Virtual

Saturday, May 15
9:30a Torah Study, Live via Zoom
10:30a Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Shapiro

Sunday, May 16
7:00p Erev Shavuot Service, Live via Zoom

Monday, May 17
10:30a Shavuot Morning Service, Live via Zoom

Friday, May 21
6:15p Shabbat Service,
Virtual with Anniversary Blessings

Saturday, May 22
9:30a Torah Study, Live via Zoom
10:30a Shabbat Morning Service,
Live via Zoom
4:00p Bat Mitzvah of Marina Kottler

Friday, May 28
Shabbat Service Celebrating Confirmation (time TBD)
Live via Zoom

Saturday, May 29
9:30a Torah Study, Live via Zoom
10:30a Bat Mitzvah of Lillian Liner
The Women of Rockdale greet the spring with renewed hope. We have adapted, learning new ways to do usual things.

With that spirit in mind, WoR continues to support and enhance the social and spiritual lives of both our congregation, and the greater Cincinnati community. Since the pandemic has prevented us from physically supporting both the Christmas dinner at Ronald McDonald House and the Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen, we supported them financially by underwriting the cost of their Christmas dinner and by making a donation to the Soup Kitchen. (A little plug here—individual donations are most welcome and extremely appreciated.)

Women of Rockdale and the In The Beginning Fund helped to underwrite the Engagement Task Force’s Bourbon and Chocolate Tasting event.

The In the Beginning (ITB) Fund, created over 40 years ago, has provided close to one million dollars in funding for projects at Rockdale. The ITB Endowment’s mandate is to support programs and projects that provide social enhancement for Rockdale members. In addition, the ITB Endowment has made special distributions for larger scale needs that meet the criteria of the fund such as the most recent renovation of the chapel. Last year, 2020–2021, the endowment allocated over $15,000 toward projects including a new visual T’filah system for the chapel, scholarships for families to attend the Family Retreat, and subsidizing expenses for other events (now offered online due to Covid-19).

While the needs and scope of social enhancement for Rockdale members have changed due to the pandemic, ITB and the Women of Rockdale remain dedicated to honoring our commitments while still working within the intent of the fund. As we approach Rockdale’s next fiscal year we look forward to helping Rockdale continue to provide meaningful social enhancement no matter what form that takes.

The nominating committee is forming to discover our future leaders. Become a Board Member or a Member At-Large. We would love to have you.

The executive board of the Women of Rockdale continues to receive suggestions in our search for a meaningful memorial to our beloved Rabbi Coran, z”l. We hope to make an announcement soon.

While we await the dates of our annual Sisterhood Shabbat service and Women’s Seder, we continue to plan virtual events, like our monthly Schmoozes. Better days and good things are coming!

Yours in Sisterhood,
Donna Gantner
President

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**SHABBAT SHAL-OM YOGA**

March 13, 1:00PM
April 10, 1:00PM
May 8, 1:00PM
via Zoom
with instructor Lori Reidel

**REGISTER AT WWW.ROCKDALETEMPLE.ORG/ EVENT/SHABBATSHALOMYOGA**

Generously supported by the In the Beginning Fund of the Women of Rockdale
# Birthdays and Anniversaries

## BIRTHDAYS

### Adults of March
- 3 James Albert
- 3 Florence E. Zaret
- 7 Janet Roger
- 9 Leah Levy
- 11 Samuel Greengus
- 13 Henry Schmulewitz
- 13 Edward Herzig
- 15 Solomon Kravitz
- 17 E. Gordon Margolin
- 20 M. Robert Garfield, Jr.
- 21 Loris Ungar
- 22 Gerry Kraus
- 27 Marianne Fox
- 28 Mark Lybik
- 28 Lori Rosenthal
- 29 Barry Berman
- 30 Mara Marnocha
- 31 Leslie Joseph
- 31 Janet Cohen

### Adults of April
- 1 Mark Berliant
- 3 Mary-Bob Rubenstein
- 4 Jerry Klein
- 10 Brook Westheimer
- 12 Vikram Chatterjee
- 12 Indrani Chatterjee
- 12 Barbara Harshman
- 16 Lois Spahn
- 17 Samuel Potter
- 19 Alice Price
- 21 Morton Harshman
- 24 Jan Katzew
- 25 Frances Lowenstein
- 26 Steven Kraus
- 29 Valerie Weinstein
- 29 Donna Kabakoff

### Adults of May
- 1 Leonid Sigalov
- 2 Steve Coppel
- 7 Marjorie Schaal
- 8 Robert Ungar
- 18 Gerald Korkin
- 18 Lesha Greengus
- 19 Max Leitman
- 20 Marina Rivin
- 20 Nancy Messer
- 21 Eileen Greenberg
- 25 Michael Zmood
- 25 Sally Cohen
- 26 Leonard Berenfield
- 28 Anita Marks
- 30 Ann Berenfield
- 30 Beatrice Ballas
- 31 Madeline Berman

*Adult birthdays are listed every five years starting with the 20th birthday and every year for members who have reached the age of 75.*

## Anniversaries

### March
- 18 Jack & Nancy Messer, 53rd
- 22 Daniel White and Jessica Shaw-White, 35th
- 28 William & Diane Turner, 40th
- 30 Marvin & Gerry Kraus, 63rd

### April
- 11 David & Chie Weil, 35th
- 11 Joseph & Marilyn Hirschhorn, 67th
- 30 Samuel & Lesha Greengus, 64th

### May
- 11 Alan & Cheryl Schriber, 35th
- 16 Andrew A. & Deborah Heldman, 40th
- 29 Peter Landesman & Linda Ungar, 10th

*Anniversaries will be listed every five years starting with the fifth anniversary. All anniversaries of 50 years or more are recognized.*

## Children of Birthdays

### Children of March
- 1 Amelia Phillips
- 1 Ellie Torem
- 5 Peyton Shaftel
- 9 Adina Schapera
- 17 Rebecca Friedman
- 18 Maya Jaffee
- 18 Tehillah Sabath
- 21 Josef Gantner
- 26 Miriam G. Vidmar
- 26 Sydney Kraus
- 27 Robert Rosensweet
- 27 Isabella Gollin
- 31 Evan Schmulewitz

### Children of April
- 2 Vito Pesola
- 2 Tate Sheldon
- 4 Ava Kane
- 8 David Zuckerman
- 11 Mira Zuckerman
- 11 Shawn Zuckerman
- 12 Zane Jacobson
- 12 Isabelle Hoicowitz
- 13 Eric Schmulewitz
- 15 Jacob Shapiro
- 17 Piper Brady
- 19 Clara Dunkelman
- 19 Eli Jacobson
- 22 Sienna Maltz
- 23 Caroline Routh
- 30 Elyse Kadish

### Children of May
- 2 Johanna Blackmore
- 2 Emily Waterman
- 3 Ariana Pesola
- 5 Tripp O’Connell
- 7 Marina Kottler
- 7 Jackson Friedman
- 15 Griffin Lynn
- 16 Jonah Weinstein
- 16 Lillian Liner
- 21 Noa Jaffee
- 26 Isaac Phillips
- 29 Cecelia Glaser-Hennessey

*“Children of the Temple” are those who are 18 years old and younger.*
Create a lasting legacy and enrich your community now and for years to come.

Shofar Soundings Spring 5781

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RENEWABLE ENERGY, A MORAL CHOICE

Renewable energy—the biggest trend in energy in the U.S. and world

A new United Nations report, Global Trends in Renewable Energy Investment 2020, shows that “governments worldwide are injecting huge amounts of money into renewables to help them deliver stronger climate actions under the Paris Agreement.” Offshore wind investment hit the highest ever, at $29.9 billion, up 19% from last year thanks to China, France and the U.K. The US invested $55.5 billion in renewables, up 28% from last year to take advantage of tax credits before they expire. Nearly 78% of the net gigawatts of generating capacity added globally in 2019 were in wind, solar, biomass/waste, geothermal and small hydro. Investment in renewables excluding large hydro was more than three times that in fossil fuel plants due to the falling cost of wind and solar electric generation thanks to technology improvements, and economies of scale. In 2019, the cost of solar photovoltaic was 83% lower than a decade ago and wind power was roughly 50% lower.

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics lists wind turbine service technicians and solar photovoltaic installers in the top three fastest growing occupations with salaries comparable to oil and gas occupations over the next ten years.

City of Cincinnati—number one in the nation for sustainability

The nation’s first municipal solar array will soon provide 25% percent of electricity for city residents. Michael Forrester’s message, on December 9th, if we live outside of Cincinnati city limits or do not have solar installed, we can purchase electricity from renewable energy companies. His recommendation includes energy providers who use 100% renewable energy sources: www.energychoice.ohio.gov

Fossil fuel trends in the U.S.

The amount of fossil fuels, including coal, oil and natural gas, are finite, not renewable, making mining these fuels more expensive as they get harder to access. U.S. fossil fuel prices are more competitive than renewables only because of government subsidies. “Conservative estimates put U.S. direct subsidies to the fossil fuel industry at roughly $20 billion per year; with 20% currently allocated to coal and 80% to natural gas and crude oil…when renewable energy technology is increasingly cost-competitive…the broader utility of fossil fuel subsidies is being questioned.” (7/29/2019 Environmental and Energy Study Institute)

One of the pillars of President Biden’s initiatives is to address climate change with forward-looking energy initiatives by the Federal Government rather than continuing to subsidize regressive fossil fuel industries.

A moral case for divesting from fossil fuels

We know that the costs to adapt to, and repair the damage caused by climate change will overwhelmingly be paid by others including future generations. Our children and grandchildren will have fewer options and greater environmental costs to pay from wildfires to flood mitigation. Happening now, the poorest among us, from the coasts of Louisiana to low-lying Caribbean and Pacific islands such as Granada and the Maldives, may not have the resources to maintain their traditional way of life. They will become climate change refugees like what happened here in 2016 when a $48 million grant for Isle de Jean Charles, LA became the first allocation of federal tax dollars to move an entire community struggling with the effects of climate change.

Fossil fuels have health costs, too. According to the American Lung Association and other groups, the burning of fossil fuels emits toxins contributing to four of the five leading causes of death in the United States and costs $120 billion annually in mostly health-related damages.

A look at green energy stocks and funds

Morningstar reported that 23 new sustainable funds were launched in the first half of 2020 with more to come. In the volatile first half of 2020, “an impressive 72% of sustainable equity funds rank in the top halves of their Morningstar Categories.” (July 28, 2020 FORBES)

Many companies are changing their business model to be more environmentally sustainable including these companies: www.bit.ly/3i53P9M

The Rockdale Environmental Committee recommends divesting from fossils fuels and switching to investing in sustainable businesses and renewable energy companies. Here are some fossil-free mutual funds to begin your research: www.fossilfreefunds.org/funds

Joanne Gerson
Chair

Please consider naming Rockdale Temple in your will or estate plan.

Shofar Soundings Spring 5781
Rockdale members continue to support the needs of community members who are new to the United States. We are helping Cincinnati families who are recent refugees, immigrants without documentation, and those working toward their citizenship. Covid-19 has created new barriers. There are several ways we can help both in-person and virtually.

We continue to partner with Tikkun Farm and Heartfelt Tidbits. Both of these groups focus on assisting families to become independent.

**TIKKUN FARM**

Tikkun Farm is the picture of tikkun olam, and it offers so many ways to be actively involved. The pictures of our congregants volunteering give an idea of just how much fun tikkun olam can be. Volunteers help with farm animals, food distribution, construction, gardening, and other projects. Volunteer days are posted on their Facebook page, however the farm can accommodate volunteers almost any day.

Tikkun Farm is building a learning lab garden for the students at Mt. Healthy City Schools and other visiting groups. This garden of 25 raised cedar beds will include a garden sign with an inspiring quote from each donor. *Exciting news... Rockdale Temple is sponsoring one of the raised gardens at Tikkun Farm!*

**HEARTFELT TIDBITS**

**Virtual Buddy Program through Heartfelt Tidbits**

We can help students online during this virtual learning time. Students of families who are new to America are particularly at risk for having difficulties with remote learning.

Heartfelt Tidbits developed a “Virtual Buddy” program. Volunteers are paired with a student (ages vary) who needs help with homework or practicing English. You and your buddy can choose when to meet via “Google Meet”, and we encourage at least one hour weekly. Lizzy of Heartfelt Tidbits helps every step of the way.

I have had a very positive experience with my 4th grade “buddy” and his family. Please contact me or Lizzy Dobbins, lizzy@heartfelttidbits.org

*Monetary donations are welcome! Both of these organizations are fully serving local families who are new to the United States and/or other under-served communities. Your dollars go directly to food, rent, and legal help. See each of their websites for donation “buttons.”*

Please contact me for any questions!

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 Harteveld 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. Kahn’s Discretionary Fund: funds opportunities and charities chosen by Rabbi Kahn.

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.

ROCKDALE TEMPLE TRIBUTE FORM

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Please make a contribution to the following fund:
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☐ Other, please specify: __________

Please make checks payable to Rockdale Temple and send to: 8501 Ridge Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45236
☐ Check enclosed ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx

Number
Exp. Date CVV

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:
Name
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Tribute Funds Donations  NOVEMBER 1, 2020–JANUARY 31, 2021

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In honor of the birth of Leo Cobey
Daniel Hoffheimer
Drs. Kenneth & Susan Sherman
Lisa Fox & Dr. Richard Trohman

In honor of the birth of Jude Levitt
Drs. Kenneth & Susan Sherman
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In honor of the marriage of
Lisa Fox & Dr. Richard Trohman
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In memory of Aubert “Aubie” Coran
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In memory of Naomi Fishman
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In memory of Dr. Allan M. Frankel
Dr. G. Russell & Renee Frankel

In memory of Dr. Gail Friedman
Leesa Fried
Richard Friedman
Daniel Hoffheimer

In memory of Ann Pappenheimer
Daniel Hoffheimer

For the speedy recovery
of Mark Friedman
Daniel Hoffheimer

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In appreciation
Mark Berliant

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Kenneth Venick & Sharon Nelson

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Dr. Edward & Andrea Herzig

In honor of Ben & Courtney Rosensweet
Warren & Charlene Robbins

In honor of the marriage of
Lisa Fox & Dr. Richard Trohman
Scott & Sheryl Mattis

In memory of Dr. Allan M. Frankel
William & Elaine Rubin

In memory of Barbara Berenfield
Leonard & Ann Berenfield

In memory of Dr. Gail Friedman
Scott & Sheryl Mattis

In memory of Judith Heldman
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Ron & Susan Zimmerman

Condolences
to the Friends and Family of:

Dr. Allan M. Frankel, beloved brother of Dr. G. Russell Frankel

Roger Abrams, beloved brother-in-law of Ken Cohen

Naomi Fishman, beloved mother of Alan Fishman

Judith Heldman, beloved member of Rockdale Temple

Jean Chimsky, beloved member of Rockdale Temple

Josephine Brower, beloved mother of Pamela Chundrlek

Thank you to the sponsors of the Bourbon and Chocolate Event

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513.891.9900

or make an online donation at
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Click on “Donate” at the top of the screen.

May their memories be for a blessing.
Rockdale Temple
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Cincinnati, OH 45236

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