



Temple Times

TEMPLE EMANU-EL | SARASOTA, FLORIDA | FOUNDED 1956

Rabbi's Message: Dare We Dream?

Israel Trip in March 2022

I write these words from my home office, where I have sheltered for nearly a year. Israel has just extended its third nation-wide lockdown. Though cases are finally starting to decline, new variants are posing threats of faster spread.

How can we possibly think of traveling to Israel right now?

Because we have signs of hope, here and especially in Israel. The new vaccinations are more effective than anyone reasonably expected just six months ago. Israel's leading pace of inoculation is showing the world a path out of this isolation. We see a new future and imagine a time when we can come together again in safety.

And so we dare dream of a temple trip to our Promised Land one year from now. Will you join us in that dream? We have designed an itinerary to appeal to both first-timers and returnees. Our emphasis this year will be on the beautiful Negev desert, and the holy city of Jerusalem. We will witness first-hand the marvels of innovation, while exploring ruins of thousands of years.

If you are possibly interested, please contact the temple to receive more detailed information, including the link for our kickoff Zoom meeting on March 11. The dates of the trip are March 9-20 of 2022.

To paraphrase Herzl, "if you book it, it is no dream."



Rabbi Brenner Glickman

Special Note for Passover

Please see upcoming emails for information on receiving temple gift bags, purchasing seder meals, and a livestream Seder where we will virtually sit at the table together to share the sacred ritual.

Rabbi Brenner Glickman



EDITOR'S NOTE REGARDING THE CORONAVIRUS

All services and events are currently being held virtually or outdoors with safety guidelines in place. Please look for news and updates on the temple website and in our Eblasts.

Shabbat Services will be livestreamed at: WWW.SARASOTATEMPEL.ORG

Stay healthy and well.



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President's Message: Board Votes to Re-Open the Susan Schwaid Early Learning Center (SSELC)

In November in 2021, a task force was created by me to evaluate the school's operation to help determine its further permanency. A business plan was completed that comprised the following essential components: background, executive summary, safety analysis, market analysis and strategy, product and services, organizational chart, SWOT analysis, and financial pro-forma. In its summation, the task force concluded the plan might not have all the answers, but they felt it was in the best interest of the temple and the community that the school re-open for the summer and fall programs. On January 18, 2021 the Board of Trustees voted to re-open the SSELC for its 2021 summer camp and fall programs.

SSELC history dates back to 1979 when it was started by Suzanne Gellens. Elaine Sharrock has been the director for the past fifteen years and started as a teacher thirty-four years ago. Many of the current teachers have been loyal employees having numerous years of service.

SSELC's mission is focused on providing a fun, nurturing, and curiosity-driven environment where children develop a love of learning and an appreciation of Jewish tradition. The school supports TEE's mission, vision, and values and also supports the overall goal to attract and retain young Jewish families. The SSELC provides loving, high-quality education for young children ages 15 months to 15 years old.

Re-opening the school supports one of the temples strategic planning group's initiatives to engage and retain young families to assist TEE's future sustainability. In 2020, before

the school closed, the percentage of Jewish students was 39% and in line with other temple pre-schools in our area.

Are you looking for fun a fun and educational experience for your children or grandchildren? Join us for camp this summer or for school in August. We would be honored for you to share the news about our wonderful school with your family and friends. Temple members do receive a discount. For more information about the school and its programs, contact Director Elaine Sharrock at 941-377-8074 or by her e-mail at preschool@sarasotatemple.org.

Barry Gerber
President



Barry Gerber

Sunday Movie Discussions

at 4:00 pm with Howard Kilman

Zoom Events

March 7
"Abe"

March 14
"They Ain't Ready for Me"

March 21
"Kiss Me Kosher"

March 28
"Breaking Bread"

Watch our Message from
the Temple for updates.

Register online at
www.sarasotatemple.org



Following an uplifting and inspirational tribute to Martin Luther King Jr, viewed by 126 screens in February, we returned to lighter fare hosting the “Battle of the Sexes”, a Family Feud event. This game pitted five engaging women of Temple Emanu-El (Adrienne Krouse, Harriette Krasnoff, Heather Labinger, Savannah Samberg, and Susan Schlossberg) against TEE’s courageous men (Dan Aminoff, Gary Docks, Howard Schapiro, Jan Rosenbaum and Mike Meyer). The game was ably controlled by Bob and Susan Meisel and Judy Fine, including a Rita Mazer-delivered commercial that added to the fun. At stake was not only bragging rights but a mention in these Temple Times.

Recalling memories of years past, I attended our Purim Carnival and enjoyed watching families interact, eat, and participate in the gaiety of the day. Brotherhood continued our tradition of handling the food concession. Thank you to Michael Lauber and his team for preparing and serving deli sandwiches, bagels, and fruit cups.

Last summer, no one could have imagined the devastation because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite our inability to connect in person with our Brothers and other temple members, we have been able to create and deliver well-received, balanced programs this year with lectures, tributes, games and a concert. Currently, we have three interest groups: Investments, Sports, and Theater. To continue to grow and innovate, Brotherhood is looking for those of you who wish to make new connections and help us in the areas of events programming, finance/ fund-raising, membership, and interest groups. We have an immediate need for people with event planning experience because we are in the formative stages of designing a major 2022 fund-raiser. Please contact me at richfine.tee@gmail.com to learn more.



Richard Fine

If you have an interest in sports, take a look at our Sports Interest Group, now offering a contest tied to the upcoming NCAA men’s basketball tournament (“March Madness”). No skill or knowledge of basketball is required. Prizes will be awarded. For details, please contact Ken Simon at ksimon7396@aol.com.

Rich Fine
Brotherhood President



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Executive Director's Message: COVID - Looking Forward

March 2020 hit us with a boom and started all of us on an unexpected path full of changes, challenges, hardships, and new opportunities. Coming up on the year mark, I wanted to take an opportunity to reflect back on a few notable areas and mention future plans.

In mid-March, all Shabbat services and events moved to a virtual platform. We were very fortunate to already have livestreaming in place for Shabbat services because this gave us an immediate advantage. Shout out to Rabbis Glickman and Shefrin for their forward thinking and to Carol Siegler and her beloved, late husband, Mort, who graciously funded the startup costs.

We quickly expanded to using ZOOM for Shabbat services, Torah study, religious school, fun events, committee meetings and more. The High Holy Days were reimagined too. Who would have thought the holidays could be so personal and warm having held virtually? Our staff and members quickly adopted to our new ways of gathering. We have held 1,935 ZOOM sessions since March. To say I am proud of our staff and temple members is a vast understatement. The teamwork, commitment, and ingenuity displayed has been incredible.

I am not going to pretend COVID is easy because it is not. Very hard decisions have been made during the last several months. In late summer, the Board of Trustees voted to not re-open the Susan Schwaid Early Learning Center for the school year because of safety concerns for our staff and families. This was incredibly challenging and sad for our families and long-term staff. In addition, our social hall has been

closed for events affecting our wonderful kitchen manager and staff.

Not being able to freely engage in our normal activities and staying separated has been very difficult. We are social people and are meant to be together. Rabbis Elaine and Brenner Glickman and Rabbi Shefrin have instilled a sense of connection and compassion for all of us to follow. Small and grand gestures have been generated during this time. Our Caring Committee, Member to Member group, newly formed Sunshine Committee and countless others have banded together to reach out to our members to help with the loneliness and separation. New ideas are constantly being thought of and implemented by our amazing committees, Brotherhood, and Sisterhood.

We are encouraged that we are on an upward swing to being together more. We have already expanded to holding select events and Havdalah services safely outside. Religious school and our youth group have held fun outdoor gatherings. The Susan Schwaid Early Learning Center is re-opening in June for summer camp and the fall for school. Additional plans are in motion.

The Covid Response Team (CRT) continues to meet every two weeks. The CRT was created to provide guidance about COVID-19 for all temple operations and is comprised of staff and members representing medical, legal, spiritual and managerial expertise. The team members are Rabbi Glickman, Rabbi Shefrin, Barry Gerber, Dr. Hal Alterman, Alice D'Souza, Dr. Marc Loundy, Shannon Hankin, Dr. Joni Steinberg, and Christine Elliott. To help guide current and future temple operations, established metrics are



Christine Elliott

reviewed on local positivity rates, hospitalizations, and deaths, availability of vaccinations and medical care, variant trends, and ease of accessing testing. The CRT responds to member and staff requests, helps to provide current safe operating guidelines and protocols, and plans for stages of re-opening.

Saving the good stuff for last. A COVID Fund was established from donations from our members to help members and staff experiencing financial hardships directly related to COVID. Donations came in ranging from \$20 to \$5000. The generosity was astounding! With these funds, car payments, rent, mortgage, utilities and more have been paid. One of the recipients called me when they received the check from the temple. The pure, honest appreciation expressed during the call was heartwarming. Listening to the relief in this person's voice knowing this money would help their family pay bills brought tears to my eyes. This is what YOU did. This is what our temple family does. We care for our members and stand together.

I wish I had a Magic 8 Ball to see into the future to tell us when this will end but I don't. In the mean-

time, I know temple leadership is focused on the best interest for our members and staff bringing great assurance knowing we are on the right path. Thank you for being on this journey with each other and with me.

P.S. The COVID Fund still has funds available to help, so please reach out to me if you need assistance. Also, please halt your donations to this fund right now. If you are so inclined, there are other areas to help. (Truly, my message is not a solicitation of any kind.)

Christine Elliott
Executive Director



Time is flying by! We celebrated Purim at the end of February. Sisterhood performed the mitzvah of Mishloach Manot. All members of the temple had the opportunity to drive by to receive a Purim gift bag filled with savory and sweet treats, including hamantaschen made by our fabulous volunteers. Delicious! Now we are looking forward to Passover which begins on the evening of March 27.

In conjunction with the Israel Committee, we are presenting two cooking demonstrations on ZOOM on March 2 between 11 am and 12:30 pm. Evie Shen-Tal will be showing us how to make smooth Israeli hummus with some toppings. On March 9 from 12:30 pm to 2 pm, she will demonstrate how to make stuffed cabbage. Registered participants will receive a list of ingredients so they can cook along with Evie. Those of you who have been to past presentations by Evie know that they are both informative and tasty.

Sisterhood will be holding its annual fundraiser on April 11 at 7 pm on ZOOM. Our resident playwright-director, Harriette Krasnoff, is mounting a production of *Sugar and Spice, Murder Isn't Nice*. You will be able to help McBride, the police detective, decide which one of the six suspects is guilty of murdering Frances Flambe. All of the actors are members of our congregation. Please support Sisterhood and our Religious School by attending this amusing and witty theatrical production. Admission is \$18 per household. Registration is on the temple website.

Our Sisterhood Book Club has been one of Sisterhood's big successes this year. The women who attend are enjoying the camaraderie of other women who like to read, the marvelous discussions led by Sisterhood members, and to date, three very interesting chats with authors. Mark your calendar June 8 at 7 pm for another Book and Author chat with Talia Carner who will talk about her book *The Third Daughter*. This exceptional presentation, moderated by Shari Kaplan-Paler, will be open to the whole congregation. Our regular series continues on March 2nd with a discussion, led by Cheryl Kindred, for *My Own Words* by Ruth Bader Ginsburg. On April 2 join the discussion of *Memento Park* by Mark Sarvas. The May 4th book will be *America's Jewish Women* by Pamela Nadell.

The book club meets via ZOOM on the first Tuesday of every month at 1:30 pm. For more information, contact Karen Androphy at teebookclub@gmail.com.

Would you like to purchase a leaf for the Tree of Life in the temple social hall? This is a very special way to honor milestones in other people's lives as well as your own. The sale price is \$75 per leaf. You may also like to buy a pew plaque to be placed in the sanctuary at the sale price of \$125 per plaque. For more information or to make a purchase, contact Paula Hayden at 646-831-5337 or paula.hayden.ny@gmail.com.

Get all of your Passover needs from the Sisterhood Gift Shop. Alice Cotman is available to help you. Contact Alice at alicecotman@gmail.com or call her at 941-359-6451 to make an appointment.

Also in the Gift Shop are TEE Starfish Initiative certificates. Contribute \$10 to the Starfish program and you will receive a certificate to present to an individual that a donation has been made in her/his honor. All proceeds benefit the Temple Emanu-El Religious School.

Good Pesach!

Susan Simon and Susan Meisel
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Will We See You at Lunch with the Rabbis?

Wonderful monthly program currently being held via Zoom

Scheduled Dates

Wednesdays, March 3rd and April 7th @ Noon



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Please remain in your car / A volunteer will place the food in your car.

Soup will be in a microwaveable container. All other items will be packed in containers
suitable for warming in the oven.

If you wish to microwave items not in a microwavable container, transfer to a
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For more information or questions, contact Susan Meisel 585-797-4189 or
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Wednesday, April 21 at Noon

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*A Zoom event.***



***Featuring John McCarthy,
Vice President of
Historic Spanish Point Campus
of Marie Selby Gardens.***



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community, worship, caring
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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Steven Weinberger

Many of our temple members hail from other parts of the country and world, but some of our members take different journeys to end up here in paradise. One must wonder how a St. Thomas VI Charter Boat Captain, who also managed a family restaurant and food wholesale business for years, ended up in Sarasota installing a seven-foot tiki-torch menorah outside of our temple this past Chanukah. Our Steve Weinberger grew up on St. Thomas where his family belonged to The Hebrew Congregation, the oldest continuous synagogue in the Western Hemisphere. His dad became known as the member who could get things done while his mom baked for every single Temple event. (Her email address became *thecheesecakecarol*.) Steve and his siblings had B'nai Mitzvah, but it was not until he married Amy, that Shabbat dinners and other celebrations became a part of their home. When Hurricane Hugo decimated St. Thomas, they moved to Florida where they wanted to be near water in an uncrowded place south of Tampa. Hello, Sarasota!

The Weinbergers moved to an area that had several acres of land so that Steve could continue his love for the outdoors. His dad was a man who was a do-er and his large workshop was where Steve learned that magic could happen if you have all the tools. Steve recalled that his dad could “take parts from a toaster to fix



Steven Weinberger

a refrigerator.” By the time Steve was 8 years old, he was a kid contractor building treehouses in St. Thomas, gathering “spare stuff” from his dad’s supplies and borrowing his tools. It was no surprise that he thought he’d be an architect, but accounting was the practical choice.

In moving to Sarasota, Steve wanted to immerse himself by doing his favorite things in his new home and working wherever he could be surrounded by tools and projects. To do that, Steve has created a 2000 sq. ft. workshop on his property.

Eventually opening both a remodeling business and a home inspection service, he met his creative needs with woodworking that resulted in beautiful furniture. Our bimah is graced with one of his custom tables which holds our flowers every week. During Shabbat services, he feels a sense of pride that something he created sits in our sanctuary.

Following a health crisis several years ago, Steve had to change careers and became Amy’s partner in her full-service educational company. His

dormant accounting skills emerged while his workshop still hummed with the sounds of woodworking.

Steve and Amy had looked into joining a temple when they first came to Sarasota in 1990. They found themselves embraced with warmth that they appreciated since relocating so far from home. Their children—Sarasota born—Erin and Jake attended our Early Learning Center.

Steve dove into Brotherhood. He was a Board Member of Brotherhood for 10 years, including Treasurer for four years. He soon began to find similar interests with other parents who dropped their kids at 9AM and picked them up at noon for religious school on Sundays. Why not use that time to build some things? Camaraderie developed and led to new projects done together with other dads. And THAT is how it all started: building our sukkah, twice; creating our chuppah, assisting staff in getting hurricane shutters in place or fulfilling requests from the rabbis, Steve never declined.

The Weinbergers have hosted multiple events at their farm. For example, for Tu Bishvat, a holiday that celebrates trees and nature, Steve built a fire pit near his gardens for temple members. After they shared a potluck feast, everyone sat around the fire pit and sang. One year, a mezuzah was blessed and placed on the gates of the garden. At times, up to 50 people have celebrated the holiday at his farm which makes Steve believe that they can feel what nature IS when they sit amongst its beauty.

The TEE Starfish Initiative also approached Steve to help their program by creating a wooden reading nook as a reward for the students who had earned time using it. In addition, as COVID arrived, he was asked to build the plexiglass dividers

for the teachers' desks, which had been previously unprotected.

In regaining his own health, Steve had already suggested The Year of Healthy Living as a theme for TEE. In wanting to support the theme, he answered the request from Starfish to build community garden boxes. He also created the TEE community garden at his farm with the assistance of Fred Thibault who is a Master Gardener. Steve is now enjoying a new hobby of growing tropical fruit trees. Any of the harvest that he and Amy don't need is shared with friends and TEE members and staff.

Steve and Amy's two children are certainly following Steve's and Amy's leads. Erin (26) is an aspiring actor/dancer who also enjoys woodworking. Jake (24), a fireman, continues to train to advance in his field, helping others.

It is comforting to know where you came from and who you are. In speaking with Steve, it is clear, that he truly learned from his parents and the way they lived their lives. He knows that his dad would be very proud of him.

Thank you, Steve, for letting us put you in the spotlight.

Interviewed by Phyllis Dreyfuss

Temple Emanu-El Organizes Covid Vaccine Committee

As Covid vaccines rolled out across Sarasota-Manatee, Temple Emanu-El grew concerned about seniors struggling to navigate the vaccine registration process. Sally and Jay Steele volunteered to organize Temple Emanu-El's groundbreaking Covid Vaccine Committee.

"The committee unanimously agreed that our goal is to assist individuals in their efforts to register for vaccine shots," Jay stated. "The registration system can be daunting and changes often. Another challenge is to keep up-to-date with availability changes and opportunities as they occur."

Our Temple Emanu-El family has had members seriously afflicted by Covid, with some hospitalized and even losing their lives to the disease. Others have lost loved ones to the virus. But even those who have been spared illness have suffered in the pandemic. "We are restricted from doing much of what we like to do," Jay said. "A difficult aspect of Covid is the inability to connect with family and friends freely." Jay explained the structure of the Covid Vaccine Committee, emphasizing the place of shared leadership. "Important decisions are made by the committee as a whole and by consensus," he stated. "It is also critical for committees to set a clear mission statement and make sure those we serve clearly understand exactly what the vaccine committee is attempting to do. And volunteers need to be constantly updated about current availability and potential appointments.

"Our committee is a work in progress," he concluded. "However, feel free to contact us at any time."

Jay and Sally Steele may be reached at jmsteele20@comcast.net or steeler1.1@comcast.net. Other Covid Vaccine Committee members are Dr. Susan Beck, Rabbi Aviva Berg, Arthur Bernberg, Adrienne Hutt, Howard Kilman, and Howard Schapiro.



Covid Vaccine Committee chairs Sally and Jay Steele

William H. Behrenfeld
ATTORNEY AT LAW

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Out of Doors Havdalah

Once again, Temple Emanu-El figured out a way for our members to connect despite the Covid-19 pandemic. On Saturday, January 23rd about 40 members of our temple met in the parking lot to celebrate the end of Shabbat with Rabbi Michael Shefrin. Members who were at home had the opportunity to join the ceremony using Livestream.

Havdalah is the weekly ceremony that marks the end of Shabbat. The word *Havdalah* means separation, and so the end of the ceremony reminds us that we are returning to our everyday world and thus separating us from the sacred time of the Sabbath. The Havdalah service is usually a short ceremony that appeals to the senses. There is always a Havdalah braided candle, a blessing of over wine or grape juice and a Havdalah spice box for smelling the fragrance of the spices contained in it. After the ceremony, along with Rabbi Glickman and Rabbi Shefrin, the group sang *Shavua'tov* (Hebrew) or said *Gute vokh* (Yiddish) meaning

“Have a good week! Because of the restrictions of the pandemic, the shared spice box was not used. Instead, each member received a small paper cup with a teabag within it. All candies were wrapped. Chairs were placed at a distance from one another. Masks were required.

Rabbi Shefrin, in his outgoing and friendly style, led the service. Volunteers Eleanor Wachs, Deb Stengel and new temple member, Arlene Bobrow, helped with the organization of the service. Thank you to the Brotherhood members for helping with the physical set-up of the ceremony.

Eleanor Wachs
Ritual Committee



Beautiful mezuzah which an anonymous donor gave to every new Temple Emanu-El family.



Deb Stengel, Arlene Bobrow and Eleanor Wachs prepare the outdoor Havdalah ceremony on January 26, 2021. (Photo by Savannah Samberg)



Barbara Gerber hands new member Gwen Murphy complimentary dinner for her family. Gwen was thrilled with the gift and her Shabbat Dinner and was happy to pose for a photo op.

Membership Committee

On Friday, January 22, 2021, Temple Emanu-El held the annual New Member/25+ Member Shabbat. Everything was virtual this year, but that didn't stop the fun! Over 30 of these families chose to receive a delicious complimentary dinner, which they picked up at the temple in the afternoon. In addition, a wonderful anonymous donor donated a mezuzah for each new family who joined Temple Emanu-El. Everyone was then invited to attend Friday night services at 7:15. We all had the pleasure of listening to our Kaplan Scholar-in-Residence. Rabbi Ed Feinstein is a super-star of the Conservative movement, immensely popular, and deservedly so. He is an engaging storyteller with penetrating insight and gave an engrossing sermon that everyone enjoyed. Following the service more than 20 new member and 25+ member households joined the exclusive Zoom oneg with the Rabbis and the Membership committee. It was great to greet everyone and learn about these members. Hopefully we will all meet in person soon! The temple continues to grow with wonderful people of all ages, coming from many different places.

Thank you very much to Barbara Gerber for chairing the successful event.

Leslie Podolsky
Co-Chair



JFSM Virtual

FEDERATION MAJOR EVENTS
2020–2021

To see the full schedule
of events and to register,
visit
jfedsrq.org/events



The Jewish Federation
OF SARASOTA-MANATEE

Temple Emanu-El Religious School Celebrates Tu B'Shevat

Tu B'Shvat, also called "Rosh Ha-shanah La'Ilanot" (the "New Year of the Trees"), is a wonderful, festive Jewish holiday celebrating the birthday of the trees and marking the start of spring in Israel. Considered the Jewish Arbor Day, it provides an opportunity to practice Tikkun Olam and affirms our responsibility for the earth and its repair. Tu B'Shvat is also a symbolic date for restoring the Jewish connection to the land of Israel.

On Sunday, January 24, Temple Emanu-El Religious School (TEERS) pre-kindergarteners through fifth graders and families gathered for "Tu BaChutz" (the "15th Outside"). Following safety protocols, everyone learned about the holiday, listened to the story of Honi, sang a Hebrew song about almond trees, learned the blessings over fruit and

plants, and decorated flowerpots. Families then drove away to complete an educational scavenger hunt, meeting challenges such as singing and recording a song about a tree, picking up debris, and finding things at home that they can thank a tree for.

TEERS sixth and seventh graders observed Tu B'Shvat with an ecological field trip to the Celery Fields. The program was led and facilitated by our President Barry Gerber on behalf of the Audubon Society. As part of a lesson on ecology, the students learned about the park and its animal habitat while spreading mulch and beautifying the park.

Whether through community service, songs, crafts, or learning,

Brooke Feldman and Layla Murphy showed off their decorated flowerpots.



TEERS sixth and seventh graders gathered at Celery Fields.

our children and families deepened their connection to Judaism and the natural world while celebrating this festive holiday. Happy Tu B'Shvat!

Director of Education
Sabrina Silverberg, MARE

Social Action News

The Social Action Committee wants to thank the Congregation for your support of our Spread the Love Drive in February to support SPARCC (Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center) which offers a 24/7 shelter, 365 days a year, along with support services, for women and children in Sarasota and surrounding counties. We especially appreciate Lita Katzer for spearheading this effort on behalf of SAC along with Lisa Phifer. Lynne Pewterbaugh continues her amazing longtime leadership of the Backpack program for students at Lakeview Elementary School. Because of Covid, volunteers are limited but special kudos to Sherrie and Joel Eisenberg for volunteering monthly. The

Social Action Committee's Mission Statement is to invite the Congregation to participate in Tikkun Olan, "Repairing the World". We wish to live according to Torah by doing Mitzvot, acts of living kindness. We strive to promote awareness, and we share a sense of collective responsibility to help others, particularly those in need. As a committee and individually, we each try to meet this mission. The pandemic has made this particularly challenging. As we get our vaccines and move towards herd immunity, we hope that our opportunities to be physically in the community are able to increase. We would love to hear from you to know what you have been able to

do during this past difficult year to perform Tikkun Olan. Please email me at srosenbaum28@gmail.com to share whatever you have been able to do, regardless how small or large so we can see the impact of our congregation's acts of loving kindness. Perhaps some of your efforts will inspire us for future SAC projects. We always welcome new members. If you are interested in join the Social Action Committee or want more information about any of our activities, please contact me at srosenbaum28@gmail.com We currently are meeting via zoom at 1:30 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Susan Rosenbaum
Chair, Social Action Committee



JOIN IN THE FUN!

NOW ENROLLING FOR SUMMER CAMP

TWO SESSIONS:
JUNE 7 - 25 & JUNE 28 - JULY 16

TO LEARN MORE OR TO REGISTER,
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AT 941-377-8074 OR
PRESCHOOL@SARASOTATEMPLE.ORG



Thursday
March 4 at 10:30 am
Featuring
Sonia Fuentes

**Sonia Fuentes, Feminist Activist
and Co-founder of the National Organization for Women**

Join us for an interview with Sonia Pressman Fuentes, a feminist activist, international advocate and legal expert on women's rights. She served as an attorney with the federal Department of Justice, National Labor Relations Board, Equal Opportunity Commission, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Ms. Fuentes has lectured extensively in this country and abroad on women's rights and has written numerous articles on that subject in law reviews and other publications both in the U.S. and abroad. She is the recipient of many honors and awards for her trailblazing work on women's rights.



A Virtual Event!
Register online at
sarasotateemple.org



ISRAELI COOKING DEMONSTRATION

FACILITATOR: EVIE SHEN-TAL

Tuesday, March 2 (11:00 am to 12:30 pm) and

Tuesday, March 9 (12:30 to 2:00 pm)



Zoom Events



All recipes in this series are suitable for vegan, gluten free, and nut free diets. Oil for the hummus topping is optional.

Session 1: March 2 at 11 am

Everything Hummus
Learn how to make smooth
Israeli hummus and toppings!

Session 2: March 9 at 12:30 pm

Stuffed Cabbage
Try a new way to make an
Israeli favorite!



Presented by the Israel Committee and Sisterhood.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:

Register online at www.sarasotateemple.org

Original Cemetery Special Opportunity

We have a limited number of cemetery plots and columbarium niches in our original Temple Emanu-El Gardens section.

Contact Paula Hayden
for information and availability:

Cemetery plots for only \$2500 or
Niches in our arched columbarium for only \$2000.
paula.hayden.ny@gmail.com or 646.831.5337

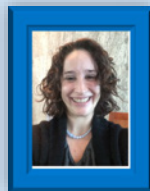


Zichronam Livracha
May their memory be a blessing.

Hebrew Classes

Spring 2021 VIA ZOOM

**You must register and pay online
at www.sarasotatemple.org**



Evie Shen-Tal



HEBREW CONVERSATION FOR ADVANCED

\$50 for Members / \$60 for Non-Members

Tuesdays at 9:15 am

March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

April 6, 13 & 20

HEBREW CONVERSATION FOR INTERMEDIATE

\$50 for Members / \$60 for Non-Members

Thursdays at 9:15 am

March 18 & 25

April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

May 6

HEBREW CONVERSATION FOR BEGINNERS

\$50 for Members / \$60 for Non-Members

Thursdays at 7:00 pm

March 4, 11 & 25

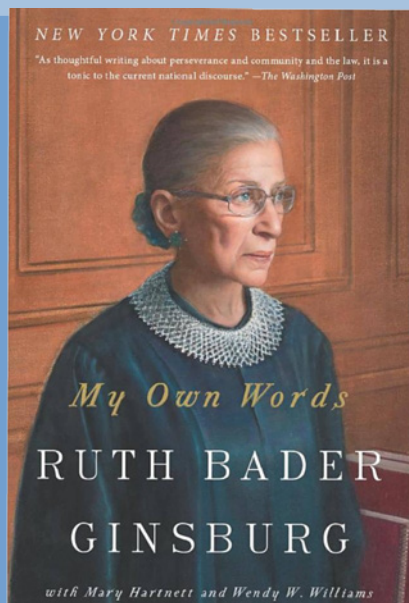
April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

ZOOM
INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE
SENT TO YOU VIA
EMAIL.

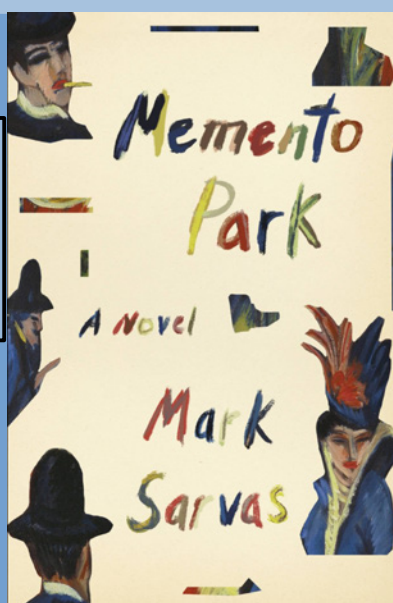
Fee is for entire course.

Dates are subject to change.

2021 SISTERHOOD BOOK CLUB Zoom Book Club Meeting and Discussion



Tuesday
3/2/2021
1:30 PM



Tuesday
4/6/2021
1:30 PM

Register at www.sarasotatemple.org

For more information contact Karen Androphy at: TEEBOOKCLUB@gmail.com

March Is the Month for Young Families!

Temple Emanu-El's young Jewish and interfaith families are warmly invited to "march" into an incredible month of special and meaningful programs. Most of these events are open to the community, so please spread the word and join the fun!

Our wonderful family Shabbat services continue the first Friday of the month. This is a terrific way to celebrate Shabbat with your religious school and Tot Shabbat friends, and of course Morah Sabrina and your rabbis. This month's service will be held Friday, March 5, at 6 p.m. – don't miss it!

The rest of that weekend is filled with special events, including "Havdalah with the Prince" – a family movie night complete with Havdalah and a drive-in showing of The Prince of Egypt on an outdoor movie screen on Saturday evening, March 6! Contactless, covid-safe concessions will be available for purchase as well. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, and get into the Passover spirit at this wonderful program! And come back to Temple the next morning – Sunday, March 7 – for our Temple Emanu-El Religious School (TEERS) Kindergarten Roundup as prospective TEERS families enjoy a taste of our amazing religious school and meet our amazing staff and families! That morning will also bring our monthly in-person family holiday celebrations – featuring the songs, crafts, tastes, traditions, and joy of Passover. Please contact Director of Education Morah Sabrina Silverberg, MARE, at teers@sarasotatemple.org or 378-5567 for reservations and details.

If you are blessed with very small ones, you will be thrilled to learn that – by popular demand – Evie Shen-Tal's Shabbat ShaZoom will be offered twice this month! Kids ages 6 months to 2 ½ years, and the adults that love them, will enjoy Shabbat- and Hebrew-themed songs, fingerplays, and more via Zoom on Friday mornings, March 12 and 26, at 9:30 a.m. Please email Evie at eviesrqwork@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Saturday morning, March 20, at 10 a.m. will also bring our monthly signature Drive-In Tot Shabbat! Our in-person Tot Shabbats have become a model for the local Jewish community as safe, meaningful, and fun programming for young families. As always, we'll enjoy Shabbat and holiday songs, blessings, movement, and a story with Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin, plus a goody bag featuring themed crafts, snacks, and surprises, plus a special family activity. And for those who wish, our playground will be open for safe, socially distant outdoor playtime. Drive-In Tot Shabbat is free of charge, but we

ask that you register at www.sarasotatemple.org – and of course that you wear a mask!

As March draws to a close, we enter the Passover holiday! We are excited to announce the return of our Temple Emanu-El Family Seder on the second night of Passover. While we are still making plans and confirming details, we know that we want your family to be there! Please save the date of Sunday evening, March 28, and watch your inbox for more information.

We hope March is full of goodness for you and your little ones, and we can't wait to share it together!



Tot Shabbat kid Jacob Shefrin raises a glass to all the great March programs in store for Temple Emanu-El's young families!

Sisterhood Gift Shop

PASSOVER SALE Continues!

All Passover items 20% off. Any Seder plate, Matzah holders, Charoset dishes, Matzah and Afikomen covers, plus children's items, etc. all at 20% off.

And new... beautiful Judaica Seder plate and other items by artist Gary Rosenthal for the home in copper, brass and fused glass. We even have a Seder Plate turntable. See our entire selection of Passover items by appointment (Masks are a Must).

100% of the proceeds go to Sisterhood for the Religious School.

The Sisterhood Gift Shop is by appointment only with Alice Cotman (call 941-359-6451). 20% off sale ends March 20th.



Alice Cotman
Sisterhood Gift Shop, Buyer/Manager

Sixth Grade Kallah Is Virtual – and Meaningful

The coronavirus pandemic meant that Temple Emanu-El Religious School's much-anticipated Sixth Grade Kallah went virtual this year – but the meaning, significance, and excitement of the event was as strong as ever!

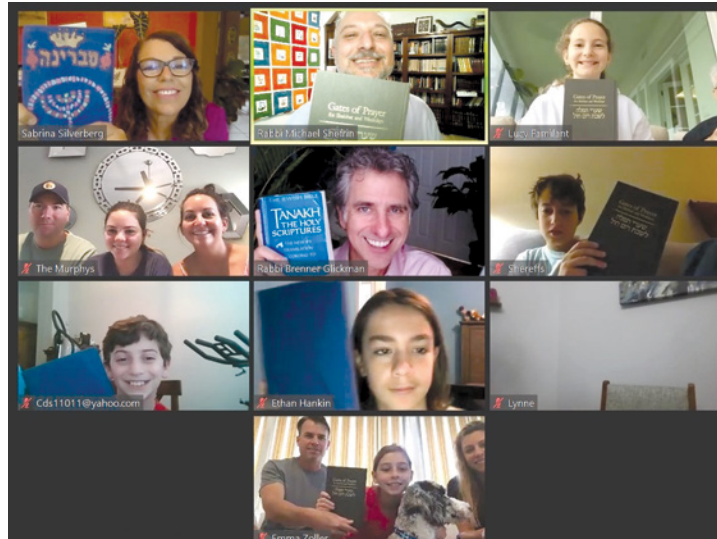
B'nai Mitzvah candidates and their families gathered on Sunday, January 3rd, for this special morning with Senior Rabbi Brenner Glickman, Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin, and Director of Education Morah Sabrina Silverberg, MARE. Each family introduced themselves, discussed what made the upcoming time of

study and preparation so sacred and important, and learned about their Torah and haftarah portions. They also explored Temple Emanu-El's signature B'nai Mitzvah elements, including hands-on mitzvah projects and composing a personal prayer. Finally, parents presented their chil-

dren with a siddur – which had been delivered to each home along with a name plate and siddur cover by Morah Sabrina and Religious School Assistant Lynne Pewterbaugh – and joined Rabbi Glickman in offering the Priestly Blessing and reciting Shecheyanu.

“These fantastic young people are to become Bar and Bar Mitzvah soon, and this Kallah was a special moment to share with them and their families,” Rabbi Shefrin stated. “It was an absolute blessing to give them one of the most important pieces of our tradition: their siddur, their prayer book.

“With this book, they are one step closer to all of Judaism being theirs,” he added. “Let the study and practice commence!”



The wonderful participants in Temple Emanu-El Religious School's Sixth Grade Kallah

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Each time we purchase ANYTHING from Amazon once you have signed up for the SMILE PROGRAM, .05% of that purchase goes directly to Temple Emanuel El.

As of December we have received \$800 from Amazon

This could be so much more as we are sure many of our members use Amazon and are Prime members. Please give this some consideration. Again, it has no negative effect on the price you pay, and it helps Temple Emanu-El.

Adult Education Update:

The TEE Adult Education Committee welcomes your participation in our programs for the community via ZOOM.

The Holocaust and the Imagination - In case you missed it, a ZOOM video of the excellent and inspiring presentation by Dr. Racelle Weiman on “The Holocaust and the Imagination” which took place on January 27, is available to the TEE community. To request information, please check the TEE website or email Adultedtee@gmail.com.

Upcoming Courses & Events

Please mark your calendars and register online on the TEE website.



Sonia Fuentes, Feminist Activist and Co-founder of the National Organiza-

tion for Women: Join us for an interview with Sonia Pressman Fuentes a feminist activist, international advocate and legal expert on women's rights. Ms. Fuentes has lectured extensively in this country and abroad on women's rights and has written numerous articles on that subject in law reviews and other publications both in the US and abroad. Ms. Fuentes served as an attorney with the federal Dept. of Justice, National Labor Relations Board, Equal Opportunity Commission and the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

DATE: March 4 at 10:30 am

Language and Racism in the United States Today: As part of the *Judaism and Civil Society Series* of the HUC, Sarah Bunin Benor, PhD, Professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies, HUC/Los Angeles and Jared Jackson, Founder and Executive Director of Jews of all Hues examine the role of language in racism from education to employment, from housing to media. “Through Disney movie clips and experiments on accents, interrogate the notions of “standard language” and “grammaticality” with a focus primarily on African Americans, Latinos, and Asian Americans, and attention to other groups, including Jews” This is a recorded ZOOM locally moderated.

DATE: Wednesday, March 10 at 7:00 pm



Sonia Fuentes

Hebrew Conversation - Beginners: Evie Shen-Tal will teach you how to communicate with her and with the rest of the class about everyday topics in Hebrew. Knowledge of written Hebrew is not required.

Hebrew Conversation-Intermediate: Students who have completed Hebrew Conversation for Beginners or who have some experience with Hebrew are ready for this intermediate level class where you continue to build vocabulary and communication skills.

DATE: Thursdays, 9:15 am

Hebrew Conversation- Advanced: Students with some background and experience in speaking, reading, and writing Hebrew build on their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary through engaging classroom interactions with instructor Evie Shen-Tal and classmates.

DATE: Tuesdays, 9:15 am

FEE: 8 one-hour classes \$50/members, \$60/non-members

If you would like more information on these programs, please contact Co-Chairs Ellen Zipin, or Dr. Janet Hiller at Adultedtee@gmail.com.

OUR MEMBERSHIP EXTENDS DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Our membership extends deepest sympathy to Karen Androphy, Mara LaPorta, Stu Lurie, Denise Novick, Gary Rosenbaum, Jessi Sheslow, Rabbi Mimi Weisel and their families on the death of a loved one so precious and dear.

May God's strength and our support bring comfort to one and all.

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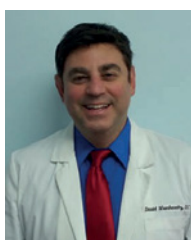
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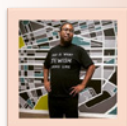
Judaism and Civil Society

Language and Racism in the United States Today

**Wednesday
March 10 at
7:00 pm**



Sarah Bunin Benor, Ph.D.
Professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies,
HUC/Los Angeles



Jared Jackson
Founder and Executive Director of
Jews in All Hews

A discussion will follow led by Adrienne Hutt

Our presenters will examine the role of language in racism, which can be found in many sectors of society, from education to employment, from housing to media. Through Disney movie clips and experiments on accents, we'll learn about the notions of "standard language" as well as "grammaticality" with a focus primarily on African-Americans, Latinos, Asian-Americans, and Jews.

REGISTER ONLINE AT SARASOTATEMPLE.ORG



Adult Education and Friends of the Religious Action Center

Music



of Israel

Thursday, March 18 at 7 pm

Come join the Israel Committee for our **Israeli Music Program**. We will watch a compilation of music videos by **BAT ELLA**, a very talented popular singer, and **NAOMI SHEMER**, a popular singer from many years ago whose music is still loved today. One of the songs by Naomi Shemer, "Al Koh Eleh" is sung by Koolulam with 1,000 Israelis singing together for the first time. It's an extraordinarily uplifting experience as are the other songs. This is an opportunity for us to come together via Zoom to listen to inspiring music from Israel. These artists and their music represent the best of Israeli culture.

English translations will be provided.



BAT ELLA



NAOMI SHEMER

**Register for this ZOOM event at
www.sarasotatemple.org**

Leaving a JEWISH LEGACY—L'DOR V' DOR

For us, this is a vital RESPONSIBILITY.

We have been blessed with a beautiful nuclear family and extended family. Our grandparents escaped Europe as teenagers due to **antisemitism**. They met and married in this country and started families. They brought with them a rich Jewish heritage. They imparted their Jewish values and traditions to our parents and created a legacy **that has continued** through five generations.

We have a sacred obligation to provide for those who come after us. Jewish identity must be supported. Synagogues need to be supported and nurtured.

Programs such as Jewish camps, trips to Israel, youth groups, Jewish education programs and meaningful involvement in the Jewish community need to be funded and encouraged.

Because our family is blessed, we believe this is our responsibility!

L'DOR V' DOR!

Barbara & Larry Newman



Breast Cancer Support Group

We are proud to announce a breast cancer survivor's support group has been formed at Temple Emanu-El. Our goal is to support one another before, during and after surgery. Remember, you are not alone. If you find yourself experiencing physical or emotional difficulties, we are here for you. Your friends at Temple Emanu-El will be a tremendous help to get you through this most difficult time.

We are planning meetings with speakers or subjects pertaining to breast cancer support. Being informed is the key. If you are a breast cancer survivor, we encourage you to join our group and help us to help others. We are available through telephone or email. We will be happy to meet with you on an as needed basis.

Helene Davis: helenesdavis@aol.com

Joan Blum: bloven91@aol.com

Helene Davis & Joan Blum
Co-Chairs



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Special Temple Moments



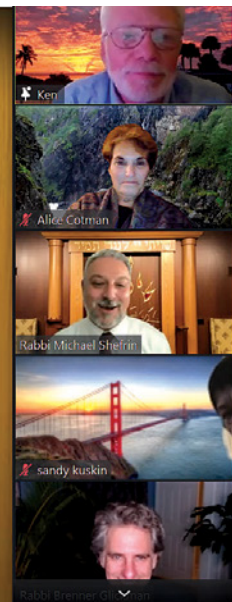
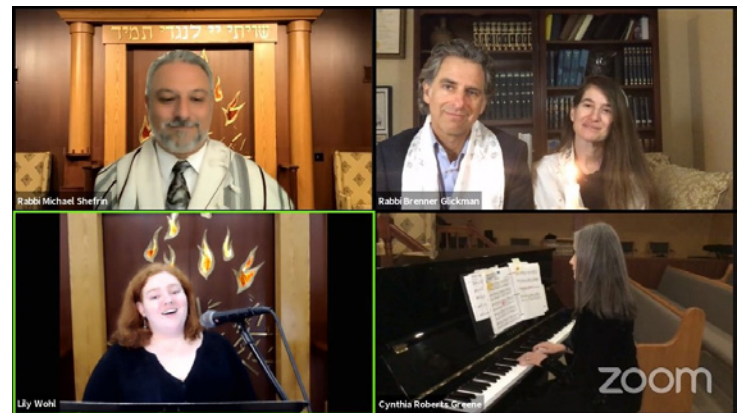
In every issue of the Temple Times, we highlight a few special moments from the past month with words and photos. We hope you enjoy them. If you have special moments or photos to share, please let Rabbi Elaine know!



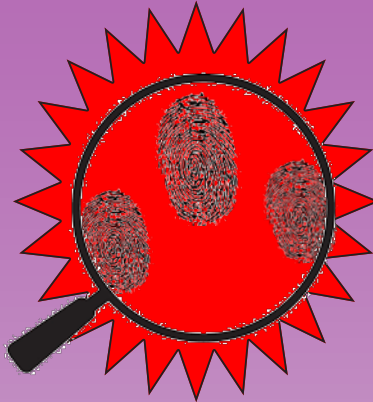
On Sunday morning, January 31, confirmation class members gathered at the Temple Emanu-El cemetery for a special lesson to learn about Jewish rituals, traditions, and beliefs surrounding death and dying, to recite Kaddish, and to honor the memories of those buried there.

The Temple Emanu-El family marked the 10th yartzheit of the incomparable musician-liturgist and artist Debbie Friedman.

Members attended a livestream concert in her honor and recalled her influence in a post-concert ZOOM meeting on January 28. A special Shabbat service featuring Friedman's music sung by choir member Lily Wohl and accompanied by Cynthia Roberts-Greene was held on January 29.



As our beloved Past President Ken Marsh prepared to leave for a new home in Israel – to be joined soon by his wife Dr. Tanice Knopp (Chair of the Starfish Initiative, Do Good Now) the Temple Emanu-El family gathered to bid him nesiah tovah (a good journey) with a special ZOOM oneg after Shabbat services on January 15th.



Sisterhood Presents Its Annual Fundraiser

SUGAR AND SPICE, MURDER ISN'T NICE

Who Killed Frances Flambe?

Playwright/Director Harriette Krasnoff

Sunday, April 11, 2021, at 7 PM On Zoom

Which one of the 6 suspects committed this dastardly crime???

You and McBride, the detective in charge, will decide.



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Police Detective



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TAMARA TOXIC
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SARA SALMONELLA
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Questions? Contact Barbara Peltz at barbandmarkpeltz@gmail.com

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Susie, Jason, Jeff, Hannah, Robert and Debbie

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Adult Education Presents:

Baila Miller



Wednesday
March 24 at 10:30 am
Via
ZOOM

For centuries, Jewish culture had been largely perceived as an "artless tradition" for many reasons. One of these reasons is The Torah's prohibition against making "graven images" and the other is the exclusion of Jews from artistic guilds across Europe.

However, worldwide political changes in the 1800 and 1900s produced a significant level of Secularization in the European World which resulted in new opportunities for Jewish artists and photographers. This lecture will discuss Jewish artists including Amedeo Modigliani, Chaim Soutine, Marc Chagall, and many others who made significant contributions to the History of Art.

Register online at sarasotateemple.org

Sarasota Arthritis Center



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Jeffrey L. Kaine, M.D.
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941 567-4021

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- 2 Bruce & Sabrina Silverberg
- 4 Dr. Jeff & Louisa Moscow
- 6 Emily & Rob Stroud
- 9 Stacy & Jamie Rosenberg
- 15 Rich & Judy Fine
- 15 Dr. Richard & Ruth Goldman
- 18 Dr. Robert & Nancy Oppenheimer
- 18 Joseph & Rachael Feldman
- 18 Elise & James Ramer
- 19 Donna Popick & Marc Jonas
- 21 Gwen & David Murphy
- 21 Brian & Sasha Goodrich
- 22 Nadine & Todd Anderson
- 25 Bruce Black & Susan Marks
- 26 Gary & Lauren Kurnov
- 27 Liana & John Bryant
- 28 Lewis & Janet Stern Solomon
- 30 Clement & Rosalind Hopp
- 30 Ernie & Ardis Freedman
- 31 Laurance & Barbara Newman
- 31 Brittany & Justin Gates

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Abe Zeewy | 10 Dr. Marc Loundy | 23 David Wyant |
| 1 Katelyn Silverstein | 10 Benjamin Silverstein | 24 Sandra Samdperil |
| 1 Sally Hoffman | 10 Jamie Rosenberg | 24 Lori Klein |
| 1 Stephen L. Simons | 10 Phyllis Dreyfuss | 25 Sandra Rifkin |
| 1 Kris Knoernschild | 10 Dr. Richard Goldman | 25 Rosalind Hopp |
| 2 Sasha Goodrich | 10 Neil Schlossberg | 25 Steve Weinberger |
| 2 Linda Weiss | 11 Dr. Bart Levenson | 25 Elizabeth Klaber |
| 3 Addison Schoenfeld | 12 Zoe Jefferson | 26 Joan Wexler |
| 3 Kathy Rance | 12 Diane Chechik-Temple | 26 Lucas Podolsky |
| 3 Dr. Gary Janko | 12 Barbara Lifsec | 26 David Lyles |
| 3 Shaun Benderson | 13 Dr. Andrea Zucker | 26 Adam Amdur |
| 3 Gerald Sernau | 13 Noah Goodrich | 26 Ronni Loundy |
| 3 Ethan Schoenfeld | 15 Monica Caldwell | 26 Benjamin Labinger |
| 3 Zachary Kurnov | 15 Rabbi Howard Simon | 26 Bettianne Marcus |
| 4 Dr. Randee Gevertz | 15 Dr. Russell Samson | 26 Lisa Schoenfeld |
| 4 David Koffman | 15 Meryl Taback | 26 Joey Hanan |
| 4 Marilyn Sachs | 15 Stuart Lurie | 27 Russell Kramer |
| 4 Dr. Jazmin Lesnick | 16 James Ramer | 27 Robin Bloom |
| 4 Chris Jefferson | 16 Laurence G. Barnet | 27 Kalin Matechik |
| 4 Bailey Warren | 17 Dr. Eleanor Wachs | 27 Eric Liederman |
| 6 Jill Berry | 18 Dr. Lynda Geller | 27 Dr. Janet Hankin |
| 6 Albert Ernst | 18 Steven Ludmerer | 27 Jennifer Moore |
| 6 Dr. Adam Heller | 18 Sharon Kunkel | 28 Akiva Pipe |
| 6 Dr. David Sax | 18 Brodie Benderson | 28 Joan Blum |
| 6 Wendy Feinstein | 18 Regene Aberson | 28 Joan Franzel |
| 7 Barbara Becker | 19 Stuart Bayer | 28 Rachel Silverman |
| 7 Wendy Cohen | 19 Dr. Marvin Geller | 29 Dr. Marc Grinberg |
| 8 Carol Gerber | 19 Laura Zalkin | 29 Asher Weber |
| 8 Morielle Hoffman | 19 Donna Popick Jonas | 30 Rose Chapman |
| 8 Gail Klein | 20 Emma Podolsky | 30 Isabel Silverman |
| 8 Mark S. Freed | 20 Shira Johnson | 30 Pauline Schonberg |
| 9 Karen Hertzfeld | 20 Mark Peltz | 30 Abner Beck |
| 9 Lucy Wolff | 21 Penny Ducoff | 30 Rachael Witherspoon |
| 9 Marsha Svirsky | 21 Eileen Finehirsh | 31 Dr. Howard Schapiro |
| 9 Judith Sylvan | 22 Dr. Martin J. Schor | 31 Richard Orenstein |
| 9 Nella Benderson | 22 Abigail Alcock | 31 Carole Friedman |
| 10 Alice Cotman | 22 Katelin Alcock | 31 Rachel Marcus |

CONTRIBUTIONS

Backpack Fund

In Memory of:

Steven Derfler, beloved
father of Jessi Sheslow
by Susan & Gary Rosenbaum

Covid Relief Fund

In Appreciation of:

Temple's outstanding support
of Covid related needs
by Bob & Sharon Miles

Yahrzeit In Memory of:

Raymond Resnick, beloved father
by Bonnie Ross & Family

Endowment Fund

In Appreciation of:

Bob & Susan Meisel for
all they do for temple
by Alan R. Orenberg

Yahrzeit In Memory of:

Milton Gerber, beloved father
by Barry & Barbara Gerber

Norman S. Klein, beloved brother
by Paul W. Klein

Shirley Panaia-Baker, beloved sister
by Betty Perlmutter

Eunice Cohen Religious School Scholarship Fund

In Honor of:

Gail & Ben Klein's 50th
anniversary
by Susan & Randy Mallitz

Yahrzeit In Memory of:

Hannah Cukell, beloved mother
by Wendy Wicks

General Fund

In Appreciation of:

Of our FRAC programs
by Ellyn Ingalls; Ellen Klein

Healing prayers for my
two close friends
by Donna Jablo

Temple Emanu-El
by Fran & Jack Braverman

The caring phone calls
from the temple
by Ursula Schiff

In Honor of:

Gail & Ben Klein's
50th anniversary
by Sumner Baum & Donna Jablo

Jacob Maggard & his
beautifully led service
by Joni Steinberg

Kim Sheintal for incredible
job with 65 years of TEE
by Diane Chechik-Temple

In Memory of:

Brian Sicknick, officer
killed on duty
by Donna Jablo & Sumner Baum

Bruce Bratten, beloved brother-
in-law of Karen Androphy
by Sumner Baum & Donna Jablo

Renee Gold
by Paula Hayden; Sylvia Gross

Yahrzeit In Memory of:

Abraham Breverman,
beloved father
by Bettianne & Hal Marcus

Abraham Friedman,
beloved brother
by Carole & Howie Friedman

Abraham Gardner, beloved father
by Allan & Barbara Gardner

Albert Horowitz,
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by Ken Taksen

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by Judith Koziol

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beloved brother-in-law
by Alan R. Orenberg

Carol Weinberger, beloved mother
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Carolyn Rubin, beloved mother
by Dana & Alec Rubin

Charlotte Grossman,
beloved mother
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beloved husband
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beloved grandfather
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