

Temple Times

TEMPLE EMANU-EL | SARASOTA, FLORIDA | FOUNDED 1956

Rabbi's Message: We Are Maccabees

Every year at Hanukkah, the festival of lights, Jews around the world tell the story of the miracle of oil lasting for eight days. This may be the best known story of the season. This year I invite you to focus on the other story. The story of the Maccabees. It is our story.

In a time of great oppression, the Jews of Judea rose up against King Antiochus of the Seleucid Empire. The revolt was led by Judah the Maccabee. In the year 164 BCE, Judah and a small band of fighters recaptured the Holy Temple in Jerusalem which had been turned into a pagan shrine. They cleansed it and rededicated it to our God. It was a great military victory. It was a victory for religious freedom. It was a victory for the Jews. This story embodies Jewish strength after a period of Jewish vulnerability.

As I write, we are all still in shock from the October 7th Massacre. This, too, is a time of vulnerability. A time when our sacred homeland has been defiled. Once again, Jews have risen up and are at war. We are at war against Hamas. We are at war against antisemitism. We

are at war against darkness.

Anachnu Maccabim. We are Maccabees.

While we aren't on the front lines, we are a part of the war. We are part of the war when we are courageous standing up to antisemitism and misinformation. We are part of the war when we gather resources in support of the Israel Defense Forces. We are part of the war when we muster the strength to rededicate ourselves to our tradition and our God at this season.

Anachnu Maccabim. We are Maccabees.

I believe that, along with the good works of Project Amichai and the many ways we are supporting Israel and each other, we must stand up and reclaim the rituals of this season. We can do our part by proudly lighting the menorah. By loudly singing the prayers. By spinning dreidels and savoring every bite of jelly donuts and latkes. By coming to one of the many events the temple is hosting for Hanukkah. And, of course, by recounting the stories of the season. They are our stories.

Anachnu Maccabim. We are Maccabees.

Rabbi Michael Shefrin





Rabbi Michael Shefrin

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President's Message: Congregational Meetings

At the end of October, we held our semi-annual meeting, one of the two congregational meetings we have during the year. There are people who ask me, "What will happen there?" and "Should I attend?" Of course, I'm the wrong person to ask the second question, but I thought it might be helpful to answer the first one.

The October meeting started with a continental breakfast, including bagels and whitefish salad. Of course there was food – this was a Jewish event! Susie Miller and her helpers had everything ready so even the early birds could start right in. Everyone had a chance to socialize before the meeting started, mingling with the 100 plus people who attended – a relief to me since the required quorum is now 75!

Our meetings start with a prayer, followed by approval of the previous minutes. They end with Good and Welfare, then a motion to adjourn. In between we have a fairly standard agenda; I'll highlight some of those items.

In the President's report, I mentioned the tremendous growth in membership, the positive response to our permanent



Bob Meisel

name badges, and the launch of our new website. I also provided recognition to Rabbi Glickman for his tremendous efforts on Our Jewish Future, turning a vision into a reality.

In the Rabbi's report, Rabbi Glickman noted the growth and leadership we have seen in Rabbi Shefrin. He also talked about the great work Scott Sable has been doing with our music. He invited Rabbi Elaine to talk about Project Amichai, which she is chairing. She talked about all the projects being carried out in support of Israel.

On the education front, Snait Ben-Herut gave a picture presentation of activities in the religious school; it was great to see her enthusiasm. Elaine Sharrock gave an update of the many good things happening in our highly regarded early learning center.

From a financial perspective, Treasurer Harry Yaverbaum, gave the Financial Secretary's report on membership – we have over 700 member households. He also talked about the temple's sound financial state. Doris Ross, chair of the Endowment Committee, gave an update about their funds as well as ways to donate.

Barry Gerber, chair of the Nominating Committee, solicited nominations for the two members of the congregation who will join him, along with two board members, to work on next year's slate for the board.

We ended by looking at the new web site, highlighting some of its many features and improvements, and demonstrating how helpful it is to be logged into your account.

Whether you attended this meeting or not, now have a better perspective on what happens there, I hope you will join us for the Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 21, 2024. Yes, there will be bagels!

Bob Meisel Temple President

Executive Director's Message: Safety and Security

With the horrendous acts happening in Israel, security is being asked about more than ever. I preface my response on this important topic by saying only select information is shared publicly so our security measures are not negatively impacted. Temple Emanu-El has focused on the safety and security of our members, families, staff, and guests for many years. Safety and security spans a broad range, everything from preventing a slip and fall accident to preparing for a hurricane to encountering an intruder. We partner with experienced, top professionals to guide our decision making and systems. Our protocols and systems are reviewed and updated consistently based on our needs, the current environment, and recommendations from our trusted partners.

Yes, our security measures have changed in response to the current environment, and we have implemented additional steps. There are three major ways you can help to be an active participant and support our security protocols. First, respect and follow the steps we have in place. Second, participate in the training courses we offer. Increasing your knowledge helps you in all aspects of your life. The training we offer is not limited to the temple; it is intended to broaden your situational awareness and overall knowledge in all environments. Third, consider donating to our Security Fund to help offset the additional expenses we are absorbing with the changes we have made to protect everyone on our campus.

I pray for everyone's safety and am grateful for the positive ways the temple is responding to supporting Israel and our members. Please take care of yourselves during this challenging time. Take a break from the news and social media.

I wish everyone a Happy Hanukkah and make sure to enjoy time with your friends and family.

Shalom,

Christine Elliott Executive Director



Christine Elliott

WELCOME!

TEMPLE EMANU-EL WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS

Arndt, Seth & Jaclyn & Family Baer, Sybil Glanz Burke, Caryn Chapnick, Nicole & Family Coffin, Susan Edoff, Larry & Mathisen, Autumn & Family Franklin, Brian & Julia Ann & Family Geller, Marne & Dr. Peter Hershman, Monica & Bastis, Karen & Family Mitzafon, Gur & Simmons, Dr. Sara & Family Mynatt, Angela "Angie" Sesser, Rachel Silverman, Leslie & Kenneth "Ken"



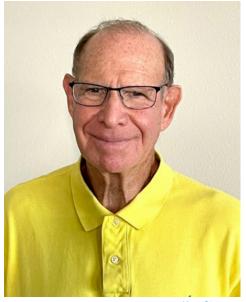
I was wrong. 18 months ago at a Brotherhood Sabbath, I introduced myself with the opening line of Dickens' Tale of Two Cities — "It was the best of times, It was the worst of times." My reference was to the Covid. pandemic. I was wrong. This is the worst of times, seeing the Hamas slaughter and inhuman treatment of innocents. I can only hope and pray that the conflict in Gaza and Israel, resulting from the horrific surprise attack by Hamas terrorists and massacre of innocent families is resolved with Israel at peace and the terrorist threat is eliminated.

We learned of the attack as we gathered early Saturday October 7th for the NAMI Walk at Payne Park for mental health awareness. Sponsored by various Temple committees, the walk raised significant funds of \$4,851 (2nd total out of 61 groups represented), Thanks to all sponsoring organizations and our brotherhood team for their support.

On Sunday October 8th our rabbis led our congregation to pray for peace and the safety of our friends, family, and congregation members in Israel. Afterwards, in conjunction with the religious school students, we had an opportunity to write letters of support.

Earlier that day, Brotherhood stored the temple's Sukkah with the support of 16 volunteers and well organized by Neil Klaber.

The Brotherhood breakfast speaker program launched with Brian Hersh, CEO Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota on October 22nd and 92 attendees. We learned that the Sun Coast is also the Culture Coast, leading the nation in many cultural and related economic venues. As a



Ken Simon

special add-on activity, Walgreens was onsite to administer flu, Covid and RSV shots to 27 temple members and guests.

After a successful Bucs vs Titans matchup on November 12th, Brotherhood is sponsoring another foray into NFL games. Bucs at Benderson will feature the hometown Bucs playing the Carolina Panthers on Sunday December 3rd. The "stadium" fare will feature traditional food and drinks. (A vegetarian offering by request in advance).

The December 17th classical musical event is special this year. The **Two Violins Encore**, featuring Chung Von (Cy) Hong and Anne Chandra, who will perform "A Yesterday Concert: The Beatles meet de Beriot".

Our interest groups continue to flourish and expand: Photography, Events, Cycling, Investment, Sports, Book, Travel and Golf groups are in place.

May we conclude 2023 and launch into 2024 with a year that brings all of us peace, happiness, and health.

Ken Simon Brotherhood President



Chanukah is just around the corner, but no worries! Anyone reading this update or walking inside the front door of Temple Emanu-El will immediately realize our outstanding Sisterhood Gift shop is ready for everyone's Chanukah shopping list. It doesn't matter if a menorah and candles are on your list, perhaps dreidels or clever decorations or kitchen accessories that you didn't even realize were necessary, Alice Cotman, with her warm, welcoming smile, as well as her knowledgeable volunteers, will happily assist everyone, while likely reminding shoppers that our Temple's Religious School benefits from all purchases. This makes this a win-win situation, for the religious school and the customer who had a terrific shopping experience in a shop filled with eye-catching merchandise.

We've had a busy November! November 5 was our very successful annual fundraiser – thank you all for supporting Sisterhood and TEERS (our religious school) by attending "The Speakeasy". Karen Michelle Tanner is a talented entertainer, and we all enjoyed her one-woman show. Our second Lunch & Learn, featuring Michael Katzer, gave us an inside view of the beginnings of using DNA as evidence in criminal trials. Michael has educated and entertained us before. (Do you remember his presentation at Derby De Mayo?) He came through for us again. Thank you, Michael.

In between all your holiday celebrations, please join us for our regularly scheduled monthly activities. The Sisterhood Book Club meets on Tuesday, December 5 at 1:30 pm to discuss *How to Love Your Daughter* by Hila Blum. If you're not already receiving emails about the books we've chosen and meeting dates, contact teebookclub@gmail. com. Canasta and Let's Do Lunch interest groups meet monthly. And, as always, Sisterhood Board meetings are open to all interested members. We meet monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am in the temple conference room. This month's meeting is on December 13.

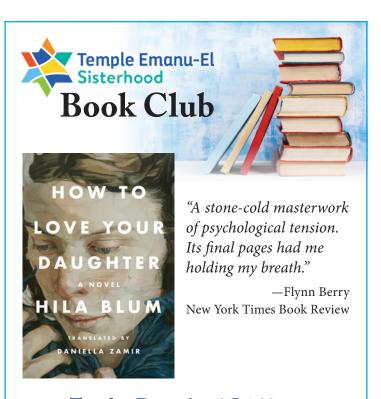
We look forward to many exciting programs in 2024. These include, but are not limited to, the annual Martin Luther King tribute on Sunday, January 14 and the Sisterhood Paid Up Luncheon and Fashion Show on Sunday, January 21.

We wish everyone a happy Hanukkah and a happy, healthy and safe 2024.

Judy Fine and Susan Simon Sisterhood Co-Presidents



Susan Simon and Judy Fine



Tuesday, December 5 @ 1:30 pm Benderson Family Hall

Contact Karen Androphy For More Information at TEEBookClub@gmail.com



"Lunch with the Rabbis,"
Temple Emanu-El's Popular Monthly Program,
Continues Wednesday, December 6, at Noon

Bring a brown-bag lunch and join Senior Rabbi Brenner Glickman and Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin for lunch, discussion of current events and topics of Jewish interest, and conversation and mingling with old and new friends (We'll provide homemade dessert!)

We look forward to sharing "Lunch with the Rabbis" - and with you!



Calling All Mitzvah-Minded Knitters and Crocheters!

Do a KNITZVAH and use your talent to bring joy to others in Sarasota and Israel!



Who: Everyone who wants to participate - all are welcome!

When and Where: Thursdays, December 7 and 21, at 10 a.m. at Temple Emanu-El. Our group meets every first & third Thursday

What: Please bring yarn, needles, and your favorite pattern for a blanket, sweater, or more. We have extra yarn and patterns as well!

Why: We will spread love and joy by delivering our handmade creations to local organizations including JFCS, and will also send them to be enjoyed by expectant mothers and infants in Israel!

Please join us for knitting, socializing, good deeds, and sisterhood!

For more information, please email lklein98@gmail.com or judyg704@gmail.com





Temple

Emanu-El

Membership Committee

WWW.SARASOTATEMPLE.ORG -

Lynne Spencer 941-922-6762

Carol Lesnick 561-603-0448



Life and Legacy From Generation

Since the shocking Hamas terrorist attack earlier this fall on innocent Israeli civilians, our hearts are filled with support for those families impacted by this horrific event. Here at home, there also is sadness and fear. Temple Emanu-El's Project Amichai was established recognizing that many of us are experiencing our own emotional crises. While we have provided financial support to Israel, we are also concerned about the lasting impact of today's antisemitism on our children and grandchildren. Thankfully, there are also members like Barbara and Larry Newman who recognized the need to support Judaism's future, not only through a commitment to the Endowment Fund, but also to the Temple's Religious School.

Here are their words: "We are honored and blessed to be able to actively support charitable causes. We are also inspired by our children and grandchildren and appreciate the opportunity to teach them the meaning of philanthropy."

Participating in the Life and Legacy program has focused our attention on investing in the future while also giving to secure the past. We need future leaders and we also need Jewish Synagogues and Jewish Organizations to be there for them.

We read in the Torah-"Behold a good doctrine has been given unto you! Forsake it not "

And in the Shema-we hear and speak about the importance of teaching our children about Judaism and its values.

Jewish Life and Legacy fits perfectly within our Mission statements of our charitable funds. We support Jewish causes first and foremost. But we also support other causes that are consistent with our strategies.



Doris Ross Endowment Fund Chair



In honor of our 60th wedding anniversary, we have made a financial commitment to strengthen the Jewish identity of our Temple youth through a program called-The Nefesh Initiative (named by our Rabbis and Sunday school leader).

To quote a favorite song:

"We believe the children are our future-Teach them well and let them lead the way."

Invest in the future but also secure the past.

Support The Endowment Fund's Life and Legacy!!!

Doris Ross Endowment Fund Chair



Sarasota Arthritis Center

Richard Yonker, D.O.
Yoel Drucker, M.D.
Robert Ikeman, M.D.
Tatiana Huguenin, M.D.
Bradley Weitzner, M.D.
Jaishree Manohar, M.D.
Cindy Johnston, M.D.
Kimberly Lyn Shue, M.D.
Jesse Boodoo, M.D.

Amparo Gordian, M.D. Kaitlin Lima, M.D. Angela Edmondson, APRN



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Research Center

1945 Versailles St, Suite 101 Sarasota, FL 34239 941-366-1244 Venice Arthritis Center 411 Commercial Ct, Suite D Venice, FL 34292 941-484-4409

Philanthropy Committee Corner | Membership Committee Update

In last month's article, I reported that the Cornerstone Society reached a record setting 115 households. Now, the number is 118 thanks to recent members, Hilary and Jonathan Yunis, Susan and Bob Goldstein and Ellen and Richard Sandor. On behalf of the Philanthropy Committee, WELCOME!

At this time last year my article featured End-of-the-Year Charitable Donations. By reprinting it, I hope it may benefit you and the temple.



Barry Gerber

END-OF-THE -YEAR DONATIONS

As the year winds to a close, the Philanthropy Committee wishes to share that even though precious few things in modern life can be classified as a win-win, a charitable donation is unquestionably one of them. For the temple, your donation keeps us and our noble endeavors afloat. And for you, the benefits can be twofold: the innate satisfaction of having done good and the potential of a resulting tax deduction benefit.

One of the most efficient means of making a charitable donation for donors over 701/2 is to take advantage of special rules related to Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) made from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's). These RMD's are fully taxable; however, the RMD or any portion of it can be donated directly to a charitable organization utilizing the QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION(QCD) provisions. The QCD can be used for donations to the Endowment Fund, temple funds, annual dues, or for any items on the Rabbi's Dream List.

The Dream List is a list of annual projects and bigger dreams in need of a benefactor. To learn more about the various projects please contact me at 941-228-7459 or Rabbi Glickman at 941-371-2788. Rabbi Glickman and I will meet with you for further discussion and potential execution.

Please contact your financial advisor or tax form preparer regarding any charitable donations to discuss what makes the most sense for you and how your donation might benefit you tax-wise.

> **Barry Gerber** Philanthropy Committee Chair

Temple Emanu-El is growing fast with over 700 family units. Over 60 of these family units joined since

July. To encourage members to bond with one another, the Membership Committee oversees events for members to meet in small groups.

Zip Code gatherings are a great way for members to meet their neighbors. The Havurah Kick-Off on October 11 encouraged members to form small friendship groups with common interests to meet on a regular basis. The Social Senior Singles gatherings such as the Fall Fest held in November and the upcoming Hanukkah Party in December encourage senior single members to meet. The Members in the Middle group for members ages 45-65 meets regularly. The Membership Committee coordinated a Sukkot New Member Meet and Greet on October 4 for new members of all ages to meet one another and learn more about Temple Emanu-El. If you would like to meet other Temple Emanu-El members in smaller group settings such as a Zip Code Gathering, a Havurah, a social senior single gathering, or a "Members in the Middle" event, contact Membership Committee Co-Chairs, Leslie Podolsky, podolsky135@gmail.com or Kim Sheintal, klapshein@aol.com. With so many ways to meet other Temple Emanu-El members in "small" group settings, you have the opportunity to make many new friends.

Leslie Podolsky and Kim Sheintal Membership Committee Co-Chairs

Membership Committee Members (Betty Crane, Alice Golub, Lynn Sacks, Gail Leavitt, Beverly Austgen, Nikki Queen, Kim Sheintal) welcomed new members at the Meet and Greet





Havurah Kick-Off attendees Michael Franklin, Bob Meisel, Nikki Queen, and Val Franklin enjoyed mingling with members



SCREENING & DISCUSSION

DECEMBER 10: 3PM
BENDERSON FAMILY HALL



Light refreshments offered at Screening and post-movie Discussion.

Questions? Email Howard Kilman at howardkilman@hotmail.com



CHARIOTS OF FIRE

1981 Documentary-Sports / Runtime: 125 min



A 1981 British historical sports drama film directed by Hugh Hudson, written by Colin Welland and produced by David Puttnam. It is based on the true story of two British athletes in the 1924 Olympics: Eric Liddell, a devout Scottish Christian who runs for the glory of God, and Harold Abrahams, an English Jew who runs to overcome prejudice. Nominated for seven Academy Awards and won four, including Best Picture, Best Original Screenplay and Best Original Score for Vangelis' electronic theme tune.

Kings, Conquerors & Cunning Women



GREAT BIBLE STORIES FROM THE PROPHETIC NARRATIVES

4-PART PROGRAM

Jan 11 10:30am - Noon

Jan 16 10:30am - Noon

Jan 18 10:30am - Noon

Jan 22 10:30am - Noon

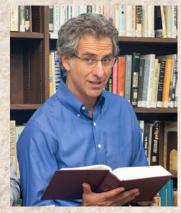
BENDERSON FAMILY HALL

FREE - Join us for 1 part or all!

RSVP REQUIRED

Register at SarasotaTemple.org

Questions? Contact Sara Weinberg at saraweinberg28@gmail.com



Instructor: Rabbi Brenner Glickman

Jael and Sisera by James Northcote, 1787



Adult Education Update

As we close out 2024, we join our community to pray for peace in Israel. The Adult Education Committee is looking forward to a variety of programs in 2024. Our programs enrich and energize our synagogue community with presentations on timely topics.

Upcoming Courses & Events

Ongoing Mondays: Conversational Hebrew I & II Classes are taught by Cheryl

Cohen who lived in Israel and are offered at no cost in the Temple Emanu-El conference room. **Hebrew I** introduces basic vocabulary including greetings, weather and food. Accommodations will be made for those who need to learn the Alef-Bet. **Hebrew II** builds upon this vocabulary and includes short readings. For questions call Cheryl at 941-355-2870 or email her at sarasotaclrc@yahoo.com.

Sunday at The Movies continues in Benderson Hall with "Chariots of Fire" December 10 at 3:00 pm (new start time for this date only). This Academy Award winning film is based on the true story of two British athletes in the 1924 Olympics: Eric Liddell, a devout Scottish Christian who runs for the glory of God, and Harold Abrahams, an English Jew who runs to overcome prejudice. Admission: \$5.00 p/p for members; \$10.00 p/p for non-members. Register Online at SarasotaTemple.org

January 9, 11, 16, & 18, 2024, 10:30 am; Benderson: A special 4-part series - "Kings, Conquerors, Cunning Women". Great Bible Stories from the Prophetic Narratives led by Rabbi Brenner Glickman. Registration will open in mid-December at SarasotaTemple.org

January 28, 2024, 1:00 pm; Benderson: Sunday at The Movies "Beaufort". This movie portrays the end of the Lebanon war when a group of Israeli soldiers defends an isolated mountain outpost next to a 12th-century fortress called Beaufort Castle. Moving through a maze-like underground structure, the soldiers are under constant bombardment and stress. Admission: \$5.00 p/p for members; \$10.00 p/p for non-members. Register Online at SarasotaTemple.org

February 21, 2024, 10:30 am, Benderson: "The History & Purpose of Jewish Theater in Sarasota" Presented by Carole Klineberg, Artistic Director of Sarasota Jewish Theatre, retired Director of Education and Outreach for the Asolo Rep and Artistic Director of the Banyan Theatre. Ms. Klineberg will also reminisce about the general history of Sarasota's Jewish community.

March 19, 2024, 10:30 am; Benderson: "Jews of The Supreme Court" by Judge Judith Barzilay. Judge Barzilay is a Senior United States Judge of the US Court of International Trade. Judge Barzilay is known for her decision in Toy Biz Inc. vs United States. Register Online at Sarasota Temple.org.

We hope you can join us for these exciting programs. For further information or questions please contact Sharon.G.Miles@gmail.com or SaraWeinberg28@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at TEE!

Sharon Miles & Sara Weinberg Adult Education Committee Co-Chairs



Sara Weinberg and Sharon Miles



WWW.SARASOTATEMPLE.ORG — 9

A Report from the TEE Civil Rights Trip

From Thursday, October 19, through Sunday, October 22, about 36 Temple Emanu-El members led by Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin traveled through Atlanta, Montgomery, Selma, and Birmingham to visit key sites on the civil rights movement and meet with some of its courageous and visionary participants. Traveler Fred Snyder shares some of his impressions and the moments that touched him most deeply:

I had lived in Atlanta for four years some thirty years ago. I remember hearing frequent denigrating comments from educated co-workers targeting black people. There were plenty of antisemitic comments as well from a few of my associates who assumed I wasn't Jewish. I was quick to inform them of my heritage. Besides that, Atlanta is a great city to live in. I enjoyed living there, but I was very aware of the prejudices that surfaced occasionally.

Temple Emanu-El's recent tour of Georgia and Alabama introduced me to a deeper understanding of what had transpired over the years in Georgia and Alabama, an understanding that I didn't fully appreciate before. For one thing, I now am confident that the racial and religious prejudices have significantly diminished.

On our recent visit, I learned many more historical details. Some of that history recalls how badly the black communities were treated – significantly worse than I remembered – and courage and personal sacrifices that many men and women chose to accept as the price to pay for their life mission. It took many years, but in time they made a difference. They assumed the risks, the workload, and the sacrifices, but they did have Martin Luther King, an extraordinary and dedicated

leader to follow.

The tour included much about the life of MLK, where he grew up, his motivation, some of his mistakes, his influences, and his approach that included the unexpected yet exceptional commitment to non-violence. His charismatic persona won him many followers and supporters, and, as we know, many enemies as well.

The tour also included Shabbat services at an Alabama synagogue, and we were also welcomed to witness a service at the well-known Ebenezer Baptist Church, where MLK was baptized.



Fred and Gail Snyder cross the Edmund Pettis Bridge in Selma, Alabama



Civil rights group travelers on the steps of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama



Bernard Charles Mintz Bar Mitzvah

On December 29-30, 2023, Bernard Charles Mintz will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah.

Bernie is in 7th grade at Sarasota Middle School, a member of the National Junior Honor Society, and a straight-A student (almost). He is a talented drummer, having played the drum set for over half his life! Bernie is active in both Jazz and Symphonic Band and has also mastered finding the beat with his drumsticks on every surface he encounters.

When not drumming, Bernie's playing chess, cubing, or focusing on his kendama. A budding entrepreneur, you can find him on many Saturday mornings selling sugar-free snow cones at Payne or Bayfront Park (look for "Bernie's Flavor Shaver"!).

Bernie loves riding his scooter, listening to music, throwing a baseball, and having movie nights with popcorn. He has spent the last eight summers at URJ's Goldman Union Camp Institute (GUCI) in Zionsville, Indiana and can boast having played drums with Dan Nichols as well as having had Noah Levine as a counselor!

Bernie is volunteering at Aviva Senior Life for his Bar Mitzvah project, playing chess, Scrabble, and Rummikub with residents, who no doubt enjoys his eagerness to chat and his sense of humor.

Bernie's older sisters (Rachel & Maxine), parents (Lindsey & Jason), and grandparents (Doug & Sandy Barton and Mike & Adrienne Mintz) couldn't be prouder of his hard work and dedication in preparing to become a Bar Mitzvah! Mazal Toy, Bernie!



Bernard Charles Mintz

Shabbat Alive! Was "Just What We Needed"

Even in the dark days that Israel and those who love her have experienced since October 7, Shabbat offers a respite of peace, hope, and even moments of joy. So the return of *Shabbat Alive!* – Temple Emanu-El's signature all-musical Shabbat worship experience – on Friday, October 27, was, as Senior Rabbi Brenner Glickman said, "just what we needed. We could see that immediately with the crowds that assembled well before the service began," he continued, "and then the energy in the congregation once we started."

With a full band and vocalists comprising professional and volun-



Temple Emanu-El's talented Shabbat Alive! musicians and vocalists

teer musicians, led by Music Director Scott Sable, *Shabbat Alive!* is a spirited, exhilarating service featuring contemporary arrangements of the traditional Shabbat prayers. Temple Emanu-El holds *Shabbat Alive!* services quarterly. For this installment, worshippers filled the sanctuary.

"The sanctuary was filled with smiling people, with prayerful singing, and with energized and inspired music," Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin concluded. "I can't wait to joyfully dance with our temple family again at the next *Shabbat Alive!*"



OUR MEMBERSHIP EXTENDS DEEPEST SYMPATHY

to Sandy Ainbinder, Laurie Coleman,
Sandy Kuskin, Lindsay Leary,
Rabbi Michael Shefrin, Marian Smith,
Eleanor Wachs and their families on
the death of a loved one so
precious and dear.

Our membership mourns the loss of Marty Goldman and Annette Nagel.

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



Social Action: News

I am extremely proud to announce that we hit an all-time high for our High Holiday Food Drive this year, with our generous congregants donating \$56,090.65 to All Faiths Food Bank!

The two walks and fundraisers which Social Action members participated in were huge successes. Please see the article by Janis Gold to read about the NAMI walk. The American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk was a day filled with pink t-shirts, honoring both those who have lost their fight to breast cancer and those who are survivors.

Barbara Gerber, and Ronni Loundy shared that our TEE Team had 40 donors who raised \$3192 which will go to the Answer for Cancer SRQ research project at the Moffitt Cancer Center.

Our annual collection for holiday gifts for children with the Boys and Girls Club of Sarasota will be held in December. Please bring unwrapped gifts for children 6-12 years old. See

the weekly program for more information.

At 1:00 pm on January 8, 2024, in the Benderson Family Hall, the Mental Health Initiative Committee will host Danielle Valery, BS, CDP, the Program Manager for the Memory Disorder Clinic at Sarasota Memorial Hospital, who will present "Differences Between Forgetfulness and Signs of Cognitive Decline". Please register online or on the Temple website for this important program. Light refreshments will be served.

Please remember that the money collected in the temple's Tzedakah Box is given to the Social Action Committee who will be working with Project Amichai to donate the money to charities in Israel.

The Social Action Committee is especially looking for men to join our committee! If you want to join us in our efforts, please contact Susan Rosenbaum at 410-707-5076 or srosenbaum28@gmail.com.

Susan Rosenbaum Social Action Committee Chair







Some of our members enjoying a Bradenton Marauders baseball game together

Members in the Middle

Does the middle child ever get neglected? Not so at Temple Emanu-El! Leslie Podolsky, an active member serving on several committees, spearheaded a group called Members in the Middle. Truth be told, there are phases in membership where congregants are most active such as when their children attend preschool or religious school and the mature age when congregants are retired and engage in more programming and temple related social activities.

We know there are more folks in the middle who would like to socialize with their contemporaries and build new friendships at TEE. For Members in the Middle there are many opportunities at the Temple and Community Events to consider. Meet Me in the Middle Members have gone to dinner after Friday night services, celebrated Hannukah together, attended an organized brunch, etc. Robin Spiegel volunteered to assist Leslie in reaching out to our TEE community about Members in the Middle. Anyone interested in the group, who has some fun and interesting ideas for future programing or wants to be added to the email list can contact Robin at rwspiegel@bellsouth.net.

> Mark Spiegel Members in the Middle Representative

Pop-Up Hanukkah Returns to Temple Emanu-El!

Hanukkah is always a season of light and joy for the Temple Emanu-El family, with plenty of opportunities to celebrate! In addition to the wonderful Hanukkah dinner hosted by the religious school on Friday, December 8, at 6 p.m., there are special Hanukkah events for our Tot Shabbat families, Members in the Middle, Junior Sisterhood, Social Singles, and more. We are also excited to announce this year's Pop-Up Hanukkah celebrations — at a local market, a beautiful beach, and in our own green space. Please mark your calendars for these fabulous Hanukkah events — and feel free to invite family and friends to join the fun:

Menorah Lighting on the Temple Green: Celebrate the first night of Hanukkah with your Temple Emanu-El family at the annual outdoor Menorah Lighting on the Green! Kindle our giant tiki torch menorah, join in Hanukkah blessings and songs, and enjoy the first sufganiyot and dreidel spins of the season with old and new friends. All are welcome to this friendly and festive intergenerational event!

Pop-Up Hanukkah at Morton's Market: The popular Morton's Market, 1924 South Osprey near Hillview, will be the site for our next Pop-Up Hanukkah, on Tuesday, December 12, beginning at 5 p.m. In addition to socializing, smiles, and cheer for all, we will enjoy a menorah lighting and Hanukkah celebration at 5:15 p.m. with our wonderful rabbis; and attendees are encouraged to grab a Morton's meal-to-go and share dinner afterwards on their back outdoor patio! This wonderful evening is a special gathering for zip codes 34239 and 34242, and hosted by Rita and Barry Mazer and Judy and Alan Wertheimer, but all are invited!

Pop-Up Hanukkah at Lido Beach: Savor a beautiful Hanukkah beach sunset with your Temple Emanu-El family on Thursday, December 14, from 4:30 p.m. until dusk. Bring beach chairs – we'll supply dreidels, gelt, dessert (sufganiyot, of course!), and friendly company. We'll light the menorah together and enjoy a Hanukkah song session as well as a Hanukkah story with our rabbis. This wonderful evening is a special gathering for zip codes 34228 and 34236, and hosted by Doris and Irv Ross and Betsy and Jimmy Granite, but all are invited!

We can't wait to see you at all of TEE's Hanukkah events, and look forward to sharing the light and magic of Hanukkah with our Temple Emanu-El family!



A glorious sunset accompanied the 2021 Pop-Up Hanukkah at Lido Beach



Senior Rabbi Brenner Glickman and co-host Irv Ross greeted the Kaufmans at the Pop-Up Hanukkah at Lido Beach



Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin welcomed attendees to the Pop-Up Hanukkah at Morton's Market



Join us for a Temple Emanu-El Pop-Up Hanukkah at Morton's Market.

Celebrate the sixth night of Hanukkah with your Temple Emanu-El rabbis. We will mingle and chat, light the menorah, and enjoy songs. All members and guests are invited.

Consider buying dinner or a snack from Morton's and sit at outdoor tables. **Happy Hanukkah!**

Morton's Market

1924 S. Osprey Avenue

Hosts

Rita & Barry Mazer Judy & Alan Wertheimer

Register by Dec 11 at

sarasotatemple.org





Join us for a Temple Emanu-El Pop-Up Hanukkah at Lido Beach.

Celebrate the eigth night of Hanukkah with your Temple Emanu-El rabbis. Enjoy the sunset with us. We'll mingle, chat, light menorahs and enjoy songs. All members and guests are invited.

Bring your own beach chair or blanket, menorah, candles, lighter, and picnic dinner. There will be doughnuts.

Happy Hanukkah!

Lido Beach

Near covered pavillion by main parking lot

Hosts

Doris & Irv Ross Betsy & Jimmy Granite

Register by Dec 13

at sarasotatemple.org



Junior Sisterhood: News

The Junior Sisterhood Committee has been created to help foster community among the younger families who belong to Temple Emanu-El, especially those who are part of Our Jewish Future. By planning social and other events, helping to facilitate Junior Shabbat, providing a friendly, welcoming atmosphere, and working in partnership with Sisterhood, Junior Sisterhood will connect families and women of all ages to help build and support a more cohesive and inclusive Temple community.

Last month, as the winter holidays approached, Junior Sisterhood created and offered Sarasota's only opportunity for Jewish and interfaith families to participate in a Hanukkah-themed photo shoot for their holiday cards. Many thanks to Junior Sisterhood officer Elise Ramer and photographer Seth Berman for bringing this innovative and wonderful project to our families! This month, Junior Sisterhood will sponsor a fun afternoon of Hanukkah cookie-decorating on Sunday, December 10, at 12:30 p.m., after religious school.

The founding Junior Sisterhood officers are Shera Friedman, President; Brittany Gates and Helene Zukas, Social Officers; Elise Ramer, Junior Shabbat Officer; Jaspreet Bindra, Mitzvah Day Officer; and Rabbi Elaine Rose Glickman (Rabbinic Advisor). For more information, please contact Shera or Rabbi Elaine.



Junior Sisterhood members and officers Jessi Sheslow, Leah Verier-Dunn, Brittany Gates, Shera Friedman, Suzanne Medvedovsky, and Naomi Silva crafted bracelets together for Project Amichai

WWW.SARASOTATEMPLE.ORG



with Linda Joffe

MIRIAM'S WELL

A creative movement practice for women

inspired by the prophetess Miriam, who led the women in dance and song after the Red Sea parted.

Cost: \$10 - cash or check at the door, PayPal available by request

Open to all women:

Temple membership not required

Temple Emanu-El

Benderson Family Hall 151 McIntosh Road Sarasota, FL



2023-2024 Schedule

In-Person Classes Thursdays at 10 AM Oct 5 & 19, Nov 2 & 16, Dec 14 & 28, Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 7, Apr 4, May 2, June 6*

*Note: additional dates in 2024 may be scheduled



Questions? Email lindajoffe534@gmail.com or call 941-376-5162

Temple Emanu-El Warmly Invites Your Young Family to JUNIOR SHABBAT

A VERY SPECIAL SHABBAT EXPERIENCE ESPECIALLY FOR JEWISH & INTERFAITH FAMILIES



5:30 - 6:00 P.M.
Junior Shabbat service

6:00 - 6:30 P.M.

Junior Shabbat blessings and bites

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES AND JOIN US

Friday, January 19 Friday, February 16 Friday, April 19



Junior Shabbat is a project of Temple Emanu-El's Junior Sisterhood. For more information, please contact Rabbi Elaine Rose Glickman.

The Brotherhood Presents at Temple Emanu-El

Two Violins Encore!

Chung Yon (Cy) Hong and Anne Chadra

Violinists with the Sarasota Orchestra

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023, at 7 PM

Will perform "A Yesterday Concert: The Beatles Meet de Bériot"

\$20 In Person OR \$25 Livestream

Reservations Required at sarasotatemple.org

Information: Don Malawsky, dmalawsky@msn.com

Art Committee News

Children's Art Workshop

On Sunday morning, October 22 at the religious school, the committee hosted a workshop for over 45 children in grades three through five called "Images of Abundance – Using art to celebrate the harvest." In this fun workshop led by Tamara Teeter Knapp, with assistance from several older children and volunteers, the participants were led through a simple and colorful painting process using acrylic paint on canvas. Each participant was guided to create a Matisse-inspired still life with bright colors, patterns, and forms that evoke celebration and joy for the blessings of the harvest, a "natural" tie-in with the holiday of Sukkot. Here are a few photos of the enthusiastic participants and their art.

Children's workshop participants and art

Art Excursions Group

On December 7 at 10 am, the art excursions group will return to the Sarasota Art Museum for a private docent-led tour. The cost is \$15 or free for members of the museum. This tour will feature the works of Juana Valdez and Judy Pfaff, along with a special exhibit from the Richard and Barbara Basch Collection of Studio Glass. Lunch will be at the museum cafe.

On January 17, the group will host a walking tour of the street art in the Rosemary District. Watch for details about the tour and signing up, or email rookies@me.com.

Because of the demand and space limitations, these excursions are open only to temple members. Reservations for can be made by emailing Rookie Shifrin at rookies@me.com. She can also add you to the committee's growing email list for advance notification of upcoming events.

Linda Joffe
Co-Chair Art Committee



WWW.SARASOTATEMPLE.ORG — 17

Project Amichai: Report

The day after Hamas invaded and unleashed unspeakable horrors on our brothers and sisters in Israel, the Temple Emanu-El family packed the sanctuary to mourn, pray, and simply be together. It was the first such service on the Suncoast, and it felt meaningful, important, right.

But it didn't feel like enough. We knew there was much more to do. And we wanted to do it together.

Our response was Project Amichai. Hebrew for "my people lives," Amichai is a comprehensive project to support Israel and one another. With fourteen different initiatives and three pillars - Personal Practice, Community and Support, and Advocacy and Truth - Project Amichai provides opportunities for everyone to get involved however feels right to them. Almost 300 Temple Emanu-El members have joined Project Amichai, and are now engaged in sharing reliable news sources to combat disinformation, learning tools for pro-Israel advocacy, writing letters to the editor, communicating with Israeli soldiers, evaluating different Israeli charities and ritually giving tzedakah, amplifying prayers for Israel by baking challah, observing a fast day, practicing meditation, committing to praying daily for Israel, and crafting bracelets to raise money for Israel. Amichai also sponsors four groups that offer support, guidance, and fellowship for Israelis, for members with family and close friends living and serving in Israel, for families and teens, and for members of all ages. Special Project Amichai events include a blood drive for Israel and an AmichaiReads book group.

We are most grateful to all of Project Amichai's leaders: Rabbi Elaine Rose Glickman, who created and chairs Amichai; Ali Baltodano, Elizabeth Bornstein, Mark Criden,



Project Amichai initiative leader Eloise Friedman sorts her beads to create new bracelets

Jill Fischberg, Shera and Eloise Friedman, Judy Gibbs, Rabbi Brenner Glickman, Ike Koziol, Nina Levitt, Lindsey Mintz, Lisa Naiburg, Rabbi Michael Shefrin, Jessi Sheslow, Rabbi Jennifer Singer, Rabbi Mimi Weisel, and Kary Wortman. Several of these leaders have shared a deeper look at their initiatives:

Mark Criden and Lisa Naiburg:

As relatively new members of TEE, Mark Criden and I are honored to have been asked to chair the Project Amichai initiative to ritualize giving for multiple causes on the ground in Israel. Lisa's connection to Israel is through a youthful passion for

Zionism that has remained strong through the years. The slaughter on October 7 brought her to the pogroms her grandparents ran from, and to the ritualized killing of the Holocaust.

Mark's connection was kindled

during his visit in 2012; and, like Lisa, recalls the horrendous pogroms his grandparents escaped.

Our initiative's goal is to present a charity of the week, which will be presented to the congregation in the weekly eblast. The charities will be selected and vetted by our volunteer committee. Our hope is that together, as a vibrant and passionate community, we can raise funds to help Israel – from medical and mental health needs to housing and food essentials, to support and supplies for the IDF. Each week the committee will present a charity. We ask that you give from your hearts.

Rabbi Mimi Weisel:

Israel. I'm not even sure how many times I have visited. My first visit was as a teenager in 1965, prior to the 6 Day War in 1967. My longest was the year I studied in Jerusalem while in Rabbinical School. My most recent visit was to be with family, which includes my Israeli stepchildren and grandchildren. So many memories of the land, so many connections to the people, so many moments of spiritual connection.

When Rabbi Elaine invited me to lead a meditation group while Israel is in crisis, I immediately said yes. One of the ways I have been coping is doing what I can for Israel. Another will be this group which will give so many



Temple Emanu-El Project Amichai initiative leaders Nina Levitt, Rabbi Brenner Glickman, Lindsey Mintz, and Judy Gibbs



Temple Emanu-El Project Amichai initiative leader Kary and David Wortman



Temple Emanu-El Project Amichai initiative leaders Jill Fischberg, Elizabeth Bornstein, and Ali Baltodano

of our TEE family the chance to quiet our minds, which are anxious, fearful, and very, very busy.

My heart is lifted when I see how many of us are involved in Project Amichai, a beautiful way to acknowledge and help our brothers and sisters in Israel, and here at home.

Nina Levitt and Judy Gibbs:

The Advocacy Initiative includes creating resource documents with information to combat disinformation and background fact sheets that cover a variety of topics about Israel as well as advocacy training on communicating about Israel with Members of Congress and other policymakers, university administrators, family, friends, and neighbors through sample letter writing and role-playing face to face meetings. We will thank those in support of Israel and present the facts to those in doubt or opposed.

For more information about Project Amichai, please visit the special tab on the Temple website. Am Yisrael Chai!

Opher Library: News

It's fitting that Hanukkah coincides with Human Rights Day, celebrated annually on December 10th, as designated by the United Nations General Assembly. Back in 169 BCE, the Maccabees waged a courageous battle for the freedom of thought, and religious expression. Remarkably, this struggle did not conclude with the Maccabees' triumph but endures to the present day. Throughout history, the Jewish people have been associated with the ongoing struggle for human rights, tirelessly advocating for equality and fundamental freedoms for all individuals across generations.

"The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara" by David I. Ketzer sheds light on the infamous abduction of an Italian Jewish boy, orchestrated by Pope Pius IX in 1858. This shocking event transpired after a family servant, unbeknownst to the boy's parents, claimed she had secretly baptized the child. The book provides a comprehensive account of the abduction of young Edgardo, his parents' ordeal, and the reactions and futile efforts of the Jewish community to secure his release. It serves as a stark reminder of the perils associated with the absence of a clear separation between church and state in Italy, and underscores the significance of religious freedom, a principle that ultimately contributed to the advancement of human rights on a global scale.

In Francine Prose's novel "A Changed Man," a repentant neo-Nazi enters the office of a human rights foundation led by a Holocaust survivor and declares his intention to rescue people like himself from going down the same path. With a masterfully crafted plot, "A

Changed Man" delves deeply into the complexities of human nature, morality, and the potential for transformation. It raises thought-provoking questions about these fundamental aspects of the human experience.

"The Ministry of Special Cases" by Nathan Englander is a work of historical fiction depicting a Jewish couple's search for their missing son amidst Argentina's harrowing Dirty War. Notably, Jewish women emerged as influential figures in a growing human rights movement, with the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo at the forefront. These courageous women demanded answers about their missing children, capturing global attention and exposing the grave human rights abuses in Argentina. They stood as a powerful symbol of resistance during a time marked by pervasive terror and fear.

Visit the library this December to explore these books and so many more that remind us that our Hanukkah menorah illuminates the path toward justice, liberty, and peace. Happy Hanukkah!

Anyone with a TEE library card may borrow books from our library. Questions? Contact Rosalind Lieberman, simone9@comcast.net, 941-922-4517 or Cindy Aminoff, 847-433-0153, cinamino@gmail.com.

"To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity."

- Nelson Mandela

Cindy Aminoff Librarian





PLEASE NOTE

Acknowledgment card minimum is \$18. This covers the cost of one tribute card and envelope per address, postage, and staff time.

You can make donations easily online at SarasotaTemple.org:

- Click the DONATE button
- Click HERE TO DONATE
- Click on the fund of your choice

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

DECEMBER 2023

Friday, December 1
Family/Appreciation Shabbat / 7:15 pm

Friday, December 8 Chanukah Shabbat / 7:15 pm

Saturday, December 9
Chanukah Tot Shabbat / 10:00 am

Friday, December 15 Erev Shabbat / 7:15 pm

Friday, December 22 Erev Shabbat / 7:15 pm

Friday, December 29 Erev Shabbat / 7:15 pm

Saturday, December 30
Bernard Mintz Bar Mitzvah / 10:30 am









Celebrate Shabbat with meaning, spirit, and joy in a warm community of old and new friends. Tot Shabbat is designed especially for Jewish and interfaith families with children up to age 6.

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous "angel" donor, Temple Emanu-El Tot Shabbat is free and open to the community. For more information, please contact Rabbi Elaine Rose Glickman.

SONGS · PRAYERS · MOVEMENT · BIRTHDAY BIESSINGS INDOOR + OUTDOOR PLAYTIME · CRAFTS · SNACKS · FUN SURPRISES

For more information, please visit SarasotaTemple.org or email elaine-glickman@comcast.net

Please save These Dates + Join US

Sat., December 9, at 10 am @ TEE Hanukkah Tot Shabbat - Enjoy the Festival of Lights at this special morning!

Sat., January 20, at 11 am Celebrate Shabbat and Tu B'Shevat in the strawberry fields at Hunsader Farms!

Sat., February 10, at 10 am @ TEE Ahavah Tot Shabbat - A special love and friendship-themed Tot Shabbat!

Sat., March 2, at 10 am Tot Shabbat (location TBA) -Fun details will be coming!

Sat., April 13, at 10 am ® TEE Pre-Passover Tot Shabbat. Get into the Passover spirit with your family!

Sat., May 18, at 10 am @ TEE Tot Shabbat - Songs, blessings, movement, crafts, and more!

Summer 2024 – Splash Shabbat Our signature Summer Tot Shabbat details to come!

TEE STARFISH INITIATIVE



Temple Members Bring Books to Life!

Despite books being banned across the country, temple members, as TEE Starfish Initiative volunteers, are effectively dedicating their time and talents to bringing books to life for the kindergarten students at Wilkinson Elementary School, our Starfish school. Two Starfish primary goals are to (1) close the vocabulary gap, which often compounds the achievement gap between these at-risk students and their peers from other socioeconomic groups and (2) inspire a love of reading and increase reading readiness skills.

For each of eight books throughout the school year, Rita Mazer dons full costume of a book's primary character and enthralls the students as she provides a dramatic telling of each story. She engages talented friends and colleagues from the Venice Little Theatre to assist her in the performances. After the children listen to the story, Rita engages the students in actions related to the story and voicing the catchphrase or refrain from the story.





At the end of the performance, each child is given their very own copy of the book, made possible by Dr. Robert and Cheryl Parnes.

Immediately following the Dramatic Storytelling Performance, Rita assists Cheryl Parnes as they guide the children through a Literacy Art Experience linked to the book just performed. Cheryl has a dedicated team of volunteers who prepare the art materials in advance into kits, thus facilitating the students' success with the experience.

Providing a third experience in literature for the children, Dr. Adrienne Krouse leads the TEE Starfish Thespian Troupe that includes Alice Cotman, Susy Childers, Beverly Horowitz, Gail Levitt, Ellyn Ingalls. Once a month the troupe uses minimal props to bring beloved stories and "fractured fairytales" to life for the children.

Through these Starfish programs, the students learn to love literature through multi-sensory experiences

provided by our very own dedicated and talented members of our TEE family.

Tanice Knopp
TEE Starfish Initiative Chair

TEE Starfish Thespian Troupe October 2023

Students proudly display their books and art project for Pete the Cat with Rita Mazer, Cheryl Parnes, Jill Berry, and Susan Coles. Not pictured Carol Lesnick.

Susan Schwaid Early Learning Center: News

This past month the children at Susan Schwaid Early Learning Center enjoyed celebrating Shabbat with Morah Snait and decorating the Sukkah for Sukkot. The VPK class collected leaves with Ms. Rivka to use as decoration, and the whole school made a special visit to the Sukkah with Rabbi Glickman. The children were excited to have the Sarasota County Fire Fighters visit to educate them on fire safety. We have several parents who are Fire Fighters and some of them came for this special visit.

Elaine Sharrock SSELC Director



Child with firefighter



Children with Sukkah



Forgetfulness + Cognitive Decline

The Mental Health Initiative presents:

Danielle Valery, BS, CDP of Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

Danielle will present on the differences between Forgetfulness and Signs of Cognitive Decline.



MONDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 1:00 PM Benderson Family Hall

Light refreshments will be served.

Questions? Contact Barbara Schenk blschenk@gmail.com

REGISTER ONLINE BY JANUARY 7: SARASOTATEMPLE.ORG





Jodi O'Neill

January 29, 2024

1-3:30 pm

Middle Eastern

Inspired Menu

Mujadara Stew

lentils, rice & caramelized onions

Green Bean & Bell Pepper Salad

Israeli Tomato Salad

Basbousa

semolina lemon cake

Taught By Two
Experienced & Talented
Cooking Instructors

Join Us For One Or Both Classes

Benderson Family Hall \$18 each

maximum class size: 25 Dalia Rosenthal February 11, 2024 1-3:30 pm

Classic Israeli Menu

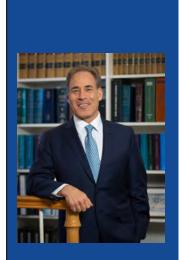
Shakshuka eggs poached in a tomato and pepper sauce Minted Watermelon Salad with Feta

Israeli Stuffed Dates Oatmeal Power Balls

Ouestions?

Email Jodi O'Neill at jeoneill2@gmail.com

Register by January 22nd
SarasotaTemple.org



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Tot Shabbat Looks Back at Fun Fall, & Ahead to | To Be Young "Parent and Me" & "Hanukkah Tot Shabbat!"

The fall season was full of fun for Temple Emanu-El's Tot Shabbat! Designed especially for Jewish and interfaith families with children up to age 6, Tot Shabbat is a wonderful opportunity for our youngest members to experience the meaning and joy of Judaism and Jewish community.

On September 30, however, parents joined in the fun. Moms Laura Bishop and Caitlyn Perlman expertly planned a Tot Shabbat Parents Night Out, featuring potluck appetizers and desserts, glasses of wine, and time to meet and socialize with other parents. The fun, friendly night concluded with time in the Temple sukkah and a beautiful havdalah service led by Senior Rabbi Brenner Glickman. While the parents enjoyed this time for adults, their children were busy and happy eating pizza, crafting, and playing in the school building with two awesome babysitters, Susan Schwaid Early Learning Center faculty member Abbie Mount and Temple Emanu-El Religious School madricha Ava Rosin. Many thanks to all who made the special night possible and wonderful!

On Saturday evening, October 28, Tot Shabbat families donned costumes for Temple Emanu-El's signature - and much-anticipated! - HavdalahWeen. In addition to playtime, crafts, and age-appropriate blessings, songs, and movement with Associate Rabbi



Laura, Ben, and Bill Bishop

Michael Shefrin, this not-so-spooky Halloween-themed Tot Shabbat featured a Jewish ghost story, a costume parade, a HavdalahWeen photo area, HavdalahWeen gift packs, and a musical havdalah service as families (and ghosts and ghouls) said goodbye to Shabbat and hello to the week ahead. HavdalahWeen marked the debut of our wonderful new B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator Marni Mount - who will also be overseeing Tot Shabbat and facilitating Parent and Me!

Tot Shabbat-age families are warmly invited to mark your calendars for Parent and Me, for little ones ages 6 weeks to 20 months, which begins Friday, December 1, and will be held every Friday at 10:30 a.m. - and this month's Hanukkah-themed Tot Shabbat on Saturday, December 9. We can't wait to share these wonderful times together!

For more information, or to receive invitations to Tot Shabbat and other family events, please contact Rabbi Elaine.



Abbie Mount and Kohav Weiman



and Jewish

I have felt very attached to my Jewish community for a long time. We are a people of kindness and compassion. We care very strongly about everyone in our community and always support each other. I feel that it is not just a religion but a way of life. I'm proud of my religion and identity.

Going to temple each Friday for Shabbat services, listening to the congregation chant Torah, singing prayers, celebrating holidays such as Hanukkah, Passover, and Purim are typical events for Jews. Every Sunday I was urged by my parents to go to Sunday school so I could learn more about being Jewish and prepare for my Bar Mitzvah. Becoming a B'nai Mitzvah, I was finally considered to be a Jewish adult.

My dad was raised in a Jewish household, and my mom was raised without much religion. The first time my dad took my mom to synagogue, she was filled with awe. On the rare occasion that her family had gone to church growing up, she never felt at home. At the synagogue, my mom felt immediately welcomed by everyone and knew this was the religion she wanted to raise her children. Soon after, she converted to Judaism. Although my parents both feel very strongly about their religion, they never forced it on my brother or me.

I'm the oldest son in my family, and I have always felt like I needed to be a good role model for my younger sibling, Zach. When Zach gave a speech at my Bar Mitzvah, his speech affirmed that I was doing my part as an older brother.

When I was very young, I didn't exactly understand what Judaism was. To me, it was just going to religious school and celebrating holidays, mainly Hanukkah. When I went to Jewish sleepaway camp at ten, every Friday

Continued on Page 24

Continued from Page 23

and Saturday we have services at camp in front of the lake and each Shabbat, I felt like I truly belonged.

To me, being young and Jewish is to feel very passionate about your family and the others in your community. It's being proud of your identity. It has completely shaped who I am today. It means so much more to me than just religion. I'm so glad I got to have a Bar Mitzvah, and that I go to Jewish summer camp. All of these things teach me more things about my religion and about who I am.

Jordan Heller, TEERS Madrich and Confirmand



Jordan and Zach Heller share the bima at Zach's brit mitzvah last spring

Temple Emanu-El Joins NAMI Sarasota/ Manatee to Raise Awareness and Donations

On a beautiful Saturday morning, October 7, 2023, over 60 members of the Temple Emanu-El family joined 60 other teams to participate in NAMIWalks' Fall United Day of Hope, Mental Health for All, at Payne Park. The Sarasota/Manatee walk was one of 35 walks held across the country at the same time.

TEEm walkers and other temple members raised \$4,876 in donations for the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI). Our team placed second out of 61 local teams in fundraising. This year out temple was also a bronze sponsor of the walk and temple walkers were very proud to have our name on the NAMI t-shirt. Also, our team joined 29 other community groups who staffed information tables during the event.

Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin was once again the inspiration for this year's walk. He was also our Team captain. Team co-captains included Janis and Ken Gold as well as Barbara Schenk.





Chair of the MHI. On August 11, 2023, during our Friday night service, Rabbi Shefrin launched TEEs Mental Health Initiative (MHI). Members of the NAMI Walk leadership team attended the launch and provided information during a special dinner in the social hall.

The temple team was enthusiastic, energetic, and the largest team in the event. Many walkers from last year joined this year's walk, and we had the opportunity to meet and welcome new temple members who expressed pride that our temple chose this event to support.

We are grateful to all who participated in and supported this very meaningful community event. Special thanks go to Ray Pendleton who was our Shomer and to Ken Gold, Dalia Rosenthal, and Michael Richker who served as our photographers.

Janis and Ken Gold





TEERS Celebrates Sukkot and Consecration

After a fun and joyful week of Sukkot – spent crafting sukkah decorations, waving the lulav and etrog, making new friends in the Aviva Senior Center sukkah, and enjoying snacks and friends in the Temple Emanu-El sukkah – Temple Emanu-El Religious School (TEERS) families and students gathered for the Consecration ceremony and Simchat Torah celebration on Sunday, October 8.

We had heard the horrible news from Israel the day before, and we truly debated if we should cancel our celebrations. Our intuition was that we should show our support to Israel through continuing to celebrate Jewish life and traditions, and we decided to keep our original plans.

TEERS families and students gathered in the sanctuary at 9:30, singing our opening song, "Hineh Mah Tov." We received blessings from Senior Rabbi Brenner Glickman and Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin and welcoming words from Temple President Bob Meisel and Trustee and Education Liaison Megan Heller. New TEERS mom Remy Tesoriero read the blessing for the new students, and TEERS *madricha* Emma Witherspoon shared a memory of growing at TEERS.

All Consecrants were called to the bimah to recite the Shema and to receive their certificates and a little Torah as they began their Jewish learning journey at TEERS. We had twenty-seven new students up on the bimah and joining our school!

Right after the Consecration ceremony, we celebrated Simchat Torah. We handed Simchat Torah flags to the students, and our *madrichim* had the honor of opening the Ark and carrying the Torah scrolls during the procession. The Torah procession was led by Rabbi Glickman and Rabbi Shefrin as our students followed them, singing and waving their flags.

After the Torah procession, everyone returned to the school building for a delicious and fancy cake, decorated especially for the event.

This month of December brings more special times for our TEERS students and families, including a family Shabbat service on Friday, December 1, honoring the seventh-grade class; the wonderful Hanukkah dinner sponsored by TEERS on Friday, December 8; the opportunity to buy Hanukkah presents for family and friends at the Sisterhood gift shop, with proceeds supporting TEERS; a schoolwide Hanukkah celebration; Hanukkah cookie-decorating sponsored by Junior Sisterhood, and much more!

We are so happy to welcome new students and their families to our community, and we wish for all of us many more joyful events of celebration, Torah, and Jewish learning.

Snait Ben-Herut, MJED Religious School Director



The fifth-grade class enjoyed making sukkah decorations with Aviva Senior Center residents and sharing time together in Aviva's sukkah



The wonderful Consecration class of 5784/2023, with Senior Rabbi Brenner Glickman, Associate Rabbi Michael Shefrin, and Religious School Director Snait Ben-Herut



TEERS students made colorful paperchains to decorate the Temple sukkah



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Sophie Spiegel
- 2 Noah Goldberg
- 3 David Finkelstein
- Sheila Kasdan
- 4 Marion Levine
- Jacob Carnes
- Rita Familant
- 4 Seth Berman
- 5 Noah Hofing
- Donald Malawsky
- 5 Robert Miles
- 6 Dr. Joni Steinberg
- 6 Lara D'Agostino
- 6 Dr. Leon Harris
- 6 Megan Meese
- 6 Lee Scher
- 6 Jay Forgotson
- 7 Laila Benderson
- 7 Daisy Leary
- 7 Stanley Zinnamon
- 7 Emma Katz
- 7 Wendy Starr
- 7 Jack Feldstein
- 7 Arthur Zipin
- 8 Dr. Jonathan Yunis
- Judith Wertheimer
- 8 Colin Geffre
- Arie Bortinger
- Alana DeRowe
- Elle Zukas
- Michael Levitan
- Alan Tarschis
- 10 Sondra Kuskin
- Kaia Yturralde
- Susan Katz 10
- Sophie Yturralde
- Rhoda Katz

26

- Josilyn Alyssa Berman
- Dr. William Haiby
- 11 David Abolafia

- 11 Diana Vytell
- 11 Bonnie Ross
- 11 Scott Hinckley
- 11 Janet Alloy
- Christopher Lind
- 12 Gabriel Yamada
- Sandra Barton
- 13 Fran Braverman
- Nancy Shapiro
- Deanne Kaplan
- John Bryant
- Leo Glickman
- Wendy Katz
- Marilyn Rosengarden
- Hayley Englander
- Grayson Arndt
- Mark Lowell
- Holly Fisher
- Mila Benderson
- Janis Gold 15
- Aiden Pearson
- 16 Richard Brown
- David Berkeley
- Drew Levine
- **Bob Meisel**
- Michael Svirsky
- Benjamin Klein
- Shoshana Benderson
- Stanley Krawetz
- Linda Lichtman
- Philip Lieberman
- Jacob Shefrin
- Sharon Miles
- Jadwiga Brown
- Dr. Janet Hiller
- 20 Larissa Mayer
- Rebekah Steinbach
- Phyllis Loewengart
- 21 Stephan Dennis
- 21 Murray Kaftan
- Jerrold Wexler

23 Andrew Cohen

Dr. Alan Wertheimer

- Cantor Murray Simon
- 23 Phillip Thierman
- Hilary Yunis
- 24 Stanton Goldman
- Rachael Feldman
- 25 Raina Kurnov
- 25 Kennya Gluzman
- Theodore Schwabach
- Noah Kindred
- 26 Dr. Fred Bloom
- Tess Koncick
- 27 Karen Gross
- 27 Maxine Mintz
- 27 Geraldine Drexler
- 27 Wendy Dinetz
- Julianna Maggard
- Daniel Rudin
- 28 Barbara Arch
- 29 Emma Shoulson
- 29 Robert Meyers
- Dr. Robert Heller
- Claire Julia Perlman 29
- 30 Emily Stroud
- 30 Phoenix Grossman
- Rabbi Aviva Berg
- 30 Rebecca Zion
- Greta Roberts
- Zachary Thompson 30
- 31 Elena Herman
- 31 Samantha Wagner
- 31 Tammy Kaufman Jefferson
- Jackson Quisenberry
- 31 Neil Marcus
- 31 Alexandra Jefferson
- Katerina Herman
- 31 Sloane Ivy Roberts

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Brian & Julia Franklin
- 3 David & Donna Koffman
- 3 Eric Flynn & April Wolfinger
- 4 Evan & Natalie Salmore
- 7 Phyllis & Paul Elson
- 8 Max & Michelle Lafer
- Rabbi Jonathan & Marty Katz
- Daniel Kisch & Lisa Naiburg 10
- David & Jodi Feuerstein
- 12 Dr. Ira & Josie Shoulson
- 13 Gloria & Bill Weed
- 14 Suzanne & Dr. Boris Medvedovsky
- Dr. Michael & Denise Shereff
- 16 Pam & Richard Brown
- 16 Eric & Judy Fox
- 17 Dr. Marc & Ronni Loundy
- Eric & Pamela Youngelman
- 19 Albert & Meredith Ernst
- 20 Jordan & Rookie Shifrin
- 21 Jules & Carol Green
- 21 Gordon & Ronna Baum
- 23 Arnold & Deanne Kaplan
- 23 Paula & David Kaufman
- Donald & Barbara Bernstein
- Judith & Ike Koziol
- 25 Andrew & Karen Hertzfeld
- Robert & Rita Familant
- Charlotte & Alan Miller 26
- Randall & Lori Benderson
- Dr. Bart & Joan Levenson 27 Dr. Martin & Dana Kline
- 27 Barbara & Lawrence Hankin
- Steven & Gail Ludmerer
- 30 Dr. Winston & Elizabeth Barzell 30 Richard Bergman &
- Rebecca Schwartz 30 Seth & Jaclyn Arndt
- 30 Dr. Fane & Leah Sigal 31 Fred & Gail Snyder

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Yahrzeit In Memory of:

Penny Berlin, beloved sister by Meryl Taback

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In Honor of:

Iill Halman's birthday by Marc Halman

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JANUARY 2024

1	New Year's Day / Office Closed SSELC Closed / Winter Break 1/1-1/5/2024	18	Mitzvah Knitters
2	Sisterhood Book Club 1:30 pm		Brotherhood Book Club – Zoom 3:30 pm
3	TEERS Closed / Winter Break In Person Meditation	19	Junior Shabbat
4	Lunch with the Rabbis	20	Tot Shabbat: Tu B'Shevat10:00 am Virtual Torah Study11:00 am
	Mitzvah Knitters10:00 am	21	TEERS
5	Endowment Board Meeting 3:00 pm Erev Shabbat 7:15 pm	22	Sisterhood Paid Up Luncheon 11:00 am Conversational Hebrew I
6	Virtual Torah Study		Conversational Hebrew II
7	TEERS Closed / Winter Break Brotherhood Board Meeting	23	Adult Education Committee Meeting 10:30 am Zoom Meditation
8	Conversational Hebrew I	24	Caring Committee Zoom
9	Social Justice Committee Meeting9:30 am Blanket Bee1:00 pm Zoom Meditation7:00 pm	25	TEERS
10	Sisterhood Board Meeting	26	Legacy Shabbat
	TEERS 5:30 pm	27	Bocce Ball at the Cascades9:30 am
11	Adult Educ. Prog. w/Rabbi Glickman10:30 am	20	Virtual Torah Study
12	Family Shabbat 7:15 pm	28	TEERS9:30 am Brotherhood Board Meeting9:30 am
13	Virtual Torah Study		TEERS 5th Grade Kallah
14	TEERS Closed MLK Event	29	Conversational Hebrew I
15	MLK Day / Office & SSELC Closed Zoom Social Hour 5:00 pm		Israeli Cooking Class
	ard of Trustees Meeting6:30 am mbership Meeting – Zoom7:00 pm	31	In Person Meditation
16	Adult Educ. Prog. w/Rabbi Glickman10:30 am		'
17	In Person Meditation		



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MITCH ALBOM

Monday, December 4, 7:30PM Riverview Performing Arts Center Sarasota

The world-renowned author is coming to Sarasota! All ticket buyers will receive a signed copy of his book.



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DAVID MILBERG

Friday, December 15, 2:00PM Manatee County Public Library, Island Branch Holmes Beach

Hear David Milberg share his mother's story at our monthly Holocaust Speaker Series. Space is limited, pre-registration is necessary.



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Tuesday, December 12, 4:00PM Glory Days Grill 8253 Cooper Creek Blvd Sarasota

Come and meet fellow tribe members for fun and laughs. Cash bar and complimentary light nosh.

MORT SKIRBOLL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL



HOPE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES
Sunday, December 17, 4:30PM
Temple Beth Sholom
Sarasota

The film highlights the humanity and compassion of those providing care, showcasing the power of small acts of kindness to bring people together.

For tickets or to register, visit JFEDSRQ.org/events

