



# The Menorah

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## Notes from the Rabbi: Ethan Seidel Go Crazy this Year, תשג"ע

The alpha-numerical equivalent of our new year 5773 is תשע"ג.

To spell it out more exactly, the *taf* equals 400, the *shin* equals 300, the *ayin* equals 70 and the *gimel* equals 3 (the thousands being traditionally elided in this context). That little quotation mark between the last two letters is an indication that this string of Hebrew letters is to be understood as a number, not a word.

However, a Hebrew number *is* a word, and this year, if we mix the letters up a little bit (because there is no Hebrew root טשג) we get the root טשג, which means "to drive crazy". Even if you're not already familiar with this Hebrew root, you're probably familiar with the related Yiddish word "meshugah," which differs only slightly in

pronunciation from the Hebrew (which is accented on the last syllable), and means "crazy."



The numerical equivalent of our year could thus be punctuated תשג"ע, meaning "you will be driven crazy."

Is this then a bad omen for our new year? Not necessarily. In modern Hebrew, much like in modern English, "meshuga", like "crazy", can have a positive connotation.

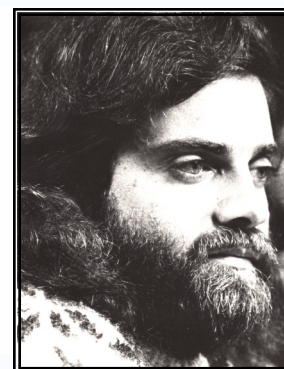
*(Continued on page 2)*

## President's Column: Joel Cohen Old Questions

As the summer comes to an end, for one reason or another, I have been wondering about some religious inconsistencies. Now we all know plenty of these in Judaism, but I have a couple of questions regarding Christianity. After I researched them, they grew to a *drash*, which I will deliver if Matthew or Luke were ever to be the *haftarah* of the week.

My first question regards the assumption that Jesus is the Messiah, *Mashiah ben David*, the Christ, Χριστος. The Gospels begin, in Matthew 1, by breaking the ancestry of Jesus into three generation cycles: from Abraham to David, from David to the "deportation to Babylon," specifically to Jechoniah, and from Jechoniah to Jesus. Matthew skips several generations as recounted in the *Tanakh*.

In any case, the next-to-last generation gives us Joseph, Jesus' adoptive father. Since there may be some who do not accept the Davidic line to include adoptions, many writers have turned to the story as told by Luke 3:23-32."



Luke tells a different story. He says, "Jesus was the son (as was thought) of Joseph son of Heli." I assumed that the

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Notes from the Rabbi (continued)

As in the phrase: "He'd do anything for her - he's just crazy about her," or "He rides that bicycle everywhere - he's just crazy about the environment."

This is "crazy" as a rough equivalent to "passionate." And I believe we need passion if we are to do the work for which we've been created.

I worry that, with all of the distractions out there nowadays, with all the entertainment continually bombarding us (especially the entertainment masquerading as "need-to-know" news, or "necessary" connectivity), we have less and less time and energy for passionate action. We may not be any less passionate than we have ever been, but we are surely more distracted than we have ever been.

In this vein, it occurs to me that maybe the alpha-numerical equivalent of this coming year is a promise, not necessarily a threat. Maybe it should be taken to mean not: "You will be driven crazy," but rather "May your passion be rekindled!"

I like this thought, this wish for the coming year. But I know it's largely up to each of us to bring it about.

The passion part of it comes from God, and it's up to us to make the choices to limit the distractions in our lives, to limit our time in front of our many screens. It's up to us to maximize the time spent on our individual and communal missions, on face-to-face time with the other people in our lives, as well as the time we spend alone with our Maker.

May this year be a year of passion for you. May your distractions be pleasant, enriching your soul, and not turning you away from the essential tasks of your life. In other words, may you be inscribed for a good year!

*L'Shanah Tova Tikatevu!*

Rabbi Seidel

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## **Sukkah Walk, October 1 Can You Host?**

Each year TI does a Sukkah Walk. Folks walk together after services (starting around 12:15) to different *sukkot* in the area, and the host of each *sukkah* provides a little *nosh* for the walkers. This year the Sukkah Walk is scheduled for the first day of Sukkot, Monday, October 1.

People who live within walking distance of TI (within about a 1½ mile radius), and who have their own *sukkah*, can be one of the hosts, depending on the direction the Sukkah Walk takes. We haven't decided on the direction this year. First we need to see who's interested in hosting.

So if you're interested, please let Rabbi Seidel know!  
Thanks.

## President's Column (continued)

parenthetical remark indicated that most of the townsfolk presumed that Joseph was Jesus's father, not knowing that Mary was pregnant when they got married. But Matthew had said that Joseph's father was named Jacob.

As Luke continues, all the names are different from those in Matthew, and the link to David is not through King Solomon, as Matthew claimed, but through Solomon's older brother, Nathan. Nathan is mentioned in Chronicles as the third son of David and *Bathshuah*, but not in Samuel, where Solomon is *Bathsheva's* only named surviving child.

"Aha," say the Christian talmudists. The phrase "as was thought" meant that what was about to follow was the ancestry of Mary, not Joseph. Somehow the parenthetical remark indicates that the sentence is really about Mary not Joseph. Mary is the descendant of David after all; but through Nathan, not Solomon. That is against the traditional idea that *Mashiah ben David* meant through Solomon.

Now the Zohar comes to the rescue! The Zohar says that Nathan died

without issue, so his brother Solomon had the Levirite duty to make a child with Nathan's widow and the child would count as Nathan's. But biologically it was Solomon's. So now almost everyone can be happy.

The spoilsports are those who claim that while Jesus was perfect, Mary, despite the fact that she was born without sin (the Immaculate Conception was Mary's birth), was still not perfect. Therefore, Jesus's DNA could not have come from Mary. And it certainly did not come from Joseph, so how could he be *Mashiah ben David*? I'll leave that mystery for another *drash*.

My second question concerns the role of Satan. His major role comes in Job, where he needles God into giving him permission to make Job suffer to see whether he will then remain faithful. It is very clear that he is playing "devil's advocate" in God's holy council, and that he is an agent of God. To a lesser extent Satan appears in Zachariah (3:1-2) and First Kings (22:22), but always as God's subordinate.

In one of Satan's most famous appearances in the Gospels, Jesus

says to Peter, "Get thee behind me, Satan," because Peter is opposing his plans to be killed in Jerusalem. Jesus, the Jew, is being tempted to continue on with his life, and thinks of Peter as Satan, the tester.

Does Jesus feel that God is testing him by having his closest ally try to have him follow the human path instead of the spiritual one? It seems to me that Jesus is continuing the Jewish tradition of calling Satan the tempter, the tester, or perhaps, the opposer. Yet in Christian theology, Satan appears as evil incarnate, as the fallen angel or the leader of fallen angels, and certainly as the main opponent of God. He is certainly not subservient to God.

When did the idea of Satan being God's servant become the idea that he is the personification (or angelification) of all evil?? Perhaps, somehow in the development of Christianity, dichotomy became the path: everything is black and white, with no shades of grey. This also becomes an idea for another *drash*.

A Happy and Healthy New Year to you all. *Shanah Tovah U'Metukah!*

## Jeremy Goldberg Commemoration Day

Each year on the Sunday prior to Rosh Hashanah, the congregation honors the memory of Jeremy Goldberg--past president, frequent floor gabbai, house chair extraordinaire, one-man team for High Holiday changeover, and greeter to all--by inviting volunteers of all ages to help prepare the synagogue for the holidays. This means that children and grandparents are welcome, too.

This year the Commemoration Day will take place on **two** Sundays, September 9 and 16, since Rosh

Hashanah starts the evening of the 16<sup>th</sup>. We will work from 9 a.m. to noon on each Sunday.

You may work one or both days. There will be inside and outside work, sitting and standing responsibilities, and schlepping and stuffing. You do what you can do.

On September 9, we will put out the *mahzorim* in the balcony, clean chairs in the Cherner, clean up the Family Room and Bride's Room and help organize the kitchen. There will also be playground and grounds clean-up.

On September 16, we need to collect all the *siddurim* in the sanctuary and put out the *mahzorim*, change the Torah mantles, help set up for the Cherner service, and organize the two lobbies.

We will need a huge team that morning since we must be out of the sanctuary by noon.

We will have food, of course, for all workers. There is no charge, but it is strongly suggested that you register by contacting the TI office by September 7.

## New Members

### Jared Garelick

We can always learn something from the *New Members* column, and you can learn a lot from this month's featured new members. This is a group that likes to learn and teach. And they seem to be pretty good at math, which explains why they didn't have to become lawyers.

#### Shira Jones

Shira is a native Washingtonian, a proud graduate of Dunbar High School (and other institutions since). She teaches math at Montgomery College, and also teaches Hebrew school and beginning Spanish through music.

Shira is a licensed tour guide, and offers community cooperation tours of Washington, including Jewish-themed tours of Shepherd Park and downtown, and Underground Railroad tours. She also conducts unique SHIR singing tours. As a sideline, Shira enjoys international folk dancing, particularly Greek dances.

Shira, who was introduced to TI by member Gilah Langer, has hit the ground running as a TI member. She is already a frequent Torah reader and a member of the Ritual Committee.

#### Barbara and Michael Milton

Barbara and Michael, who moved to the area from Chicago, are both teachers. Barbara started as a classroom teacher and then developed expertise as a reading specialist. She recently left Cresthaven Elementary and is now working for the Commonwealth Foundation, a privately funded organization supporting reading programs at schools.

Michael, who had done programming and analysis in financial services, reinvented himself several years ago as a teacher. He has taught math, and is currently substitute teaching in Montgomery County in math, science, and Spanish.

The Miltons decided a few years ago to seek a climate warmer than Chicago's, and looked first at Washington, where a grown daughter lives. They looked at several shuls locally, but kept coming back to TI.

Barbara and Michael each have two grown children from previous marriages. Residents of the Woodside Forest neighborhood of Silver Spring, they enjoy hiking and biking, and Michael wouldn't mind finding a tennis partner.

#### Andrew Reamer

Andrew, a northwest Baltimore City native, moved to Washington in 2004 after nearly 30 years in Boston. He is an economist, with degrees from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and from MIT's Department of Urban Studies.

Andrew came to the area for a position at the Brookings Institution, and is now a Research Professor at the George Washington University Institute of Public Policy, where he analyzes federal policies related to economic competitiveness. He has a special interest in the creation and use of data by the federal government.

Before coming to DC, Andrew was an active member of Temple Beth Zion in Brookline, where he served on the board. Here at TI, Andrew has already joined the board, as well as the House Committee. While Andrew might be new at TI, his name is not. TI's Reamer Chapel is named after his great-uncle, a dedicated member of years past.

Welcome to this month's featured new members, legacies and total newcomers alike!

### **Funeral Practices Committee** **Always On-Call**

Chaverim of the Funeral Practices Committee are on call to provide counsel and services to synagogue members and their dependents. Prior to contacting the funeral home, please contact one of the following chaverim, Rabbi Seidel, or the TI office (202-882-1605).

**Shelly Heller** h: 301-942-1836  
w: 202-242-6698

**Jeff Davidson** h: 301-593-1335

**David (Judy) Cohen** h: 301-652-2872

**Marcia Goldberg** h: 301-589-0352

## Summary of TI Board of Directors Meeting July 9, 2012

**Attending:** Susan Catler, Joel Cohen, Joe Davidson, Deena Dugan, Paula Martin, Stephanie Roodman Murdock, Margie Odle, Naomi Revzin, Daniel Turner, Vivian Seidner, David Levy, Joanne Hovis, Andrew Reamer, Sharon Brown, Mark Verschell, Jevera Temsky, Esther Herman, Alice Burton, Jeffrey Colman, Sarah Meytin.

**Excused:** Chris Zeilinger, Cynthia Peterman, Jeff Davidson, Renee Brachfeld.

**Absent:** Varda Fink.

**Staff:** Eitan Gutin and David Zinner

**President's Report:** A draft of the Fine Art Committee Policies and Procedures was discussed. The board decided that the draft should be revised by the Art Committee to address two issues.

**Executive Director's Report:** David Zinner.

**Office Update:** 1. The office did not lose power during the recent storm. The recent PEPCO repairs served the synagogue well. 2. The

office hosted the National Synagogue's camp for a few days while they had a power void. 3. The acknowledgement system for donations is now running. Messages are being sent immediately to donors and to those being honored.

**Finance Update:** Results from the last fiscal year project a small surplus. We are still resolving dues bills for a number of congregants.

**Art Show:** The Art Committee will be developing plans for an upcoming Fall art show.

**Membership Committee:** New members: Earl Dotter and Deborah Stern (two adult children), Sara Siegel Spieler and David Spieler (three children), and Laura Rappaport (two young adult daughters).

**Ritual Committee:** 1. The summer minyanim are going well. 2. The High Holiday organizing has begun strong. 3. There will be two Jeremy Goldberg cleanup days: September 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Lifelong Learning:** Eitan Gutin. 1. Registration for Himmelfarb has begun. 85-90 children are projected to enroll. 2. In order to continue encouraging USY and Kadima participation, TI has been given an anonymous gift to provide needs-based funding - up to 1/3 of the cost. 3. The desks and furniture in the TI classrooms are from the 1960's. The Board approved a motion for the president to establish an ad hoc committee which will price out and research the best furnishing setup. 4. Chana Berliant is retiring from teaching on Sundays and LLL would like to hold an event honoring her that would also include fundraising.

**Retreat:** The TI Retreat, December 7-9, will include the first night of Hanukkah.

**New Business:** 1. Rabbi Sarah Meytin is now the Development Vice-President. 2. Margie Odle is coordinating the *gabayim* for the downstairs High Holiday service and is looking for volunteers. 3. The office will be sending out forms for plaque orders.

## Discounts for Funeral-Related Expenses Miriam Galston and Carl Bergman

As TI members know, when someone dies the congregation has long-standing practices that reduce the stress on mourning families. Our Funeral Practices Committee arranges for a funeral service, including congregant-administered *taharah* and *sh'mirah*, low-cost coffin, and heavily-discounted funeral home services.

Less well known, however, is the role of TI's Cemetery Trustees, who supervise the sale of plots at our cemetery, Mt. Lebanon. They have established procedures for all cemetery matters and

plot sales to be handled through the TI office rather than the cemetery.

For example, TI's plots, which are most reasonably priced, may be purchased through the TI office either in advance or when required for a burial. TI also sells discounted burial services such as, grave openings, closings and liners when required for a burial.

Recently, Mount Lebanon's operator, Service Corporation International (SCI), hired TI congregant Morris Rodenstein as

the cemetery's first Jewish Community Services Counselor. On SCI's behalf, he presented to the trustees a package of SCI's pre-need services for TI members who have plots at Mount Lebanon. The trustees take no position for or against the package; they believe that TI members should decide for themselves if it is beneficial.

By buying in advance of need, the package offers a 15% savings of \$250 or \$350 from TI's at-need prices. It includes:

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## Lifelong Learning

### Eitan Gutin

#### Himmelfarb & Chai Happenings

Registration is nearly closed for the 2012-2013 school year. Our enrollment is once again going to increase this year thanks in part to the many parents who say such wonderful things about the school to their friends. Remember that we have a non-member rate for those households who may be involved in another community but find our school to be the best place for their children. We plan to continue growing our wonderful school.

#### Now Introducing Jr. Chai

A new addition to our offerings, Jr. Chai is for students in grades 7 and 8. Over two years the class will study four topics in depth. In the 2012-2013 school year the class will first study Israel & Zionism with Eitan Gutin, Director of Lifelong Learning. The second semester will be spent studying the Jewish Life Cycle with Rabbi Seidel. Jr. Chai takes place at the same time as the Chai School, from 6:15 to 8:15 on Wednesday evenings, and begins with a

communal dinner for students in grades 7-10.

#### Our 2012-2013 Faculty

The most important factor in the success of the Himmelfarb School is our amazing faculty. Please welcome and welcome back the following teachers when you see them around TI:

Gan: Silvia Edenburg  
Alef: Rachel Lemberg  
Bet: Helen Shulman  
Gimel: Anita Kramer  
Hey: Hagit Leibowitz  
Vav: Helen Rittman

Jr. Chai: Eitan Gutin and Rabbi Seidel

Chai: Gideon Amir, Marilyn Fine, Cynthia Peterman, Rabbi Seidel, Eitan Gutin, and others

#### Family Education and Programs

The first **Family Service** of the year will be **Friday, September 7**. It kicks off a full year of great family and youth programs. We will have family-led Kabbalat Shabbat services at 6:00 p.m., followed by a community

dinner at 7:00. Please email Eitan Gutin, Director of Lifelong Learning, if you or your child would like to participate in the service in any way. The registration form for dinner is now live on the TI website.

#### Youth Programs

We are gearing up for a great year for our award-winning USY (9th-12<sup>th</sup> grades) and Kadima (6th-8th grades). Here are our opening programs for the year:

**USY.** September 7 -- Opening Shabbat Dinner and Services

**USY.** September 8 -- Regional Kickoff Dance at Shaare Torah in Gaithersburg

**Kadima.** September 23 -- Make the New Year a Hit! Kadima will go to see the Nats take on the Brewers at Nationals Park.

We welcome back Amanda Rudman for her second year as our USY advisor, and say *Barukh HaBah* to TI member Ken Lemberg who will be our Kadima advisor.

## Discounts for Funeral-Related Expenses (continued)

- Grave opening and closing
  - Grave liner, and related burial costs
  - Zero interest installment payments for up to 60 months with as little as a 10% down
  - Payment by credit card
  - The ability to transfer the package to another cemetery in the SCI network of 1,800 funeral homes and cemeteries
  - Discounted travel for family members' travel to the funeral or shiva
- Please note these restrictions:
- This offer is limited to those who either own a TI plot at Mt. Lebanon, or who buy one during the sale period.
  - Plots are not included. For example, if burial occurs at another SCI cemetery, you will have to pay for a plot at the prevailing price.
  - Once purchased, the package's services may not be sold or refunded.
  - The 15% discount expires Friday, September 14. However, pre-need goods and services may still be purchased thereafter, and Morris is available at any time to discuss them.
- To see if this package meets your needs, contact Morris at: [morris.rodenstein@dignitymemorial.com](mailto:morris.rodenstein@dignitymemorial.com) or 301-980-6115

## Adult Education

### Cynthia Peterman

The Adult Education Committee is proud to offer a wonderful lineup for the fall.

#### SHALEM

Our *SHALEM* series begins with Bill Galston on September 15, just before Rosh Hashanah. The title of his talk is "How Can Repentance Happen?" On October 20, Howard Gleckman will speak on "Caring for our Aging Parents." *SHALEM* programs begin after *kiddush* and *benching*, a little after 1:00 p.m.

#### Sunday Morning Talks

Adult classes are also forming for the fall. Shira Jones will offer a Sunday morning talk on September 30 about "Shir Tours," her tour company, which highlights the interconnectedness of Washington, DC's Black and Jewish communities.

Michele Sumka will give a presentation about the Mollie L.

Berch Library on Sunday, October 14. Michele took over the stewardship of the library from Mollie, and will talk about our wonderful collection.

#### Multi-Session Classes

Gideon Amir will teach a four-session course on the "Biblical View on Divine Intervention and Divine Justice." Many of you know Gideon as a teacher of *Parshat haShavua* on Mondays and as a teacher in the Chai School. Gideon also gave the *drash* in August, and he teaches at the Saul Bendit Institute at Congregation Beth El. His class will meet on Sunday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30, beginning on October 28.

Michele Sumka and Susan Dreiband will offer a six-month course on "From Age-ing to Sage-ing." The course, originally developed by Rabbi Zalman Shachter-Shalomi, explores the aging process and how to live fulfilled lives through discussion,

sharing personal stories, and journaling. The course will begin after the High Holidays.

Rabbi Bob Saks will teach a four-session course on "Judaism and Homosexuality." The course will explore the subject through biblical texts, and through rulings issued by each of the four major movements. Cathy Tuerk will join Rabbi Saks for one session to speak about her book, *Mom Knows: Reflections on Love, Gay Pride, and Taking Action*. The course will meet on Sunday mornings from 10:15 to 11:30, beginning on October 21.

You can find all of these classes and more in the Fall Course Catalog, which will be available in your High Holiday packet, as well as in the kiosk in the main lobby. Many thanks to Paula Martin for putting the catalog together, and to the entire Adult Education Committee for their hard work planning the fall semester.

## News from Goettingen, Germany

### Naomi Revzin

Our sister Goettingen congregation works hard. Like in previous years, it participated in the Progressive (Liberal) Jewish Union's (UPJ) annual convention in Berlin that is held in early summer. It has taken advantage of the opportunity to engage in cooperative ventures with other nearby German Jewish congregations.

As the Goettingen congregation grows, it is inaugurating new programs to target members' specific needs. The new "Minicamp" program for its youngest members is led by a congregant and supported by a

national UPJ rabbinical student/youth leader. The community also is exploring how to connect its children with children from other Jewish communities in Lower Saxony.

Simultaneously, Goettingen is engaging its seniors. This coming January, they will head to Berlin for a three-day holiday that will feature learning seminars, city tours, and cultural events.

The Goettingen men's and women's organizations now are preparing for fall, specifically Rosh Hashanah, with sessions centered around food--of

course! They are resurrecting their traditional Ashkenazic dishes and exploring cuisine from Sephardic communities and contemporary Israel.

A mushroom hunt will highlight the Sukkot celebration. Exploring for edible mushrooms is a very tasty German experience. Even better is cooking and dining on these gems, best of all with German wine or beer.

For more information and contacts, call your TI ambassador to the Goettingen Gemeinde, Naomi Revzin.

## Lilmod U'ilamed: Eitan Gutin Take Them By The Hand

Why are you a member of a synagogue? Why did you join Tifereth Israel? What makes an individual or a household likely to become so engaged in Jewish life that they want to invest in their home community by becoming members?

The people who research the Jewish community in the United States for a living know which life experiences seem to have an influence on future Jewish engagement (their word, not mine). Researchers have a sense of how many Jews in the US are paid-up members of synagogues in the major movements and what percentage of American Jews regularly attend Shabbat and other services. They cannot, however, tell us with certainty why American Jews do and do not choose to become regularly involved in a Jewish community to the point of investing in it as a member.

### Many Reasons for Joining

Perhaps one of the reasons research does not tell us why Jews join synagogues is because it is too difficult to measure. Just ask around TI sometime and you will find as many reasons for joining a synagogue as there are people. What you may find, however, is a lot of consistency in why, when someone decided to join a DC area synagogue, they chose Tifereth Israel.

Our members often talk about the warm feeling of community and how welcomed they felt the first time they entered the building. Some mention how wonderful it is to be in a synagogue with such a variety of people leading services and running the programs. Perhaps one member of a household has established a meaningful relationship with Rabbi

Seidel or with another of the many professionals and volunteers who serve the community. Often it is a specific program at TI such as the Himmelfarb School or the Adult Bat Mitzvah class that links a new person to our community.

As a member of TI, you know how powerful it is to be part of a Jewish community. Whether your interests lie in services, learning, or seeing your friends at Shabbat lunch, being part of this (or any other good) community strengthens your bonds with the Jewish people and your own Jewish identity. Researchers tell us that it is those Jews who are part of a community (dues-paying or not) who keep the Jewish people going from generation to generation.

### Half Are Disengaged

Unfortunately, at least 50% of American Jews are not likely to be part of any Jewish community during their adult lives. Here in the DC metro area there are as many as 100,000 Jews who do not spend any meaningful time connecting with the Jewish community. While it would be easy for us to sit back and just wait for some of those Jews to walk through our doors, Tifereth Israel recently decided to actively seek unengaged Jews and do our part to reduce that 100,000 by at least a few people.

It is easy for synagogues and other institutions to look at a number such as 100,000 and make the wrong assumptions. Usually they blame the unengagement problem on another part of the Jewish community, suggesting that the person went to the wrong synagogue growing up, or lamenting that these Jews do not care enough to be involved.

We usually never ask ourselves whether anyone has gone out and asked those Jews to be involved.

If you pass by the building at any point in the next month you may see a set of flags outside with a website printed on them -- HiHoDC.com, which stands for High Holidays in DC. This website is just one piece in an ongoing effort to take Jews by the hand and bring them through our doors. HiHoDC will also be showing up this year on postcards and posters in buildings and businesses that serve potential members of our community.

TI is embarking on a new path for the New Year, one that is unusual in Conservative and Reform synagogues today. Instead of sitting back and letting Jews come to us we are going to do our best to find the Jews. As we do this, we will need your help.

### Three Ways You Can Help

First, if you know someone who is Jewish and not already part of a community please gently reach out to them to give us a try; both your friend and the synagogue will benefit from their presence.

Second, as we expand our efforts we will need volunteers to work on marketing and outreach. If you would like to help, email Sue Catler and let her know what you would like to do.

Finally, continue doing what so many members of our community are doing already to make every guest feel welcomed and even loved the moment they come through our doors.



## Social Action at TI: Stephen Nelson Rabbi Elizabeth Richman: Advocating on Many Fronts

If you talk to Rabbi Elizabeth Richman about the myriad initiatives at Jews United for Justice (JUFJ), you wouldn't know that she's currently on leave from her post as Program Director and Rabbi-in-residence, due to the birth four months ago of her son, Yonatan.

That's because Richman, a TI member since she relocated to Washington in 2009, exhibits an incredible passion for her work. Examples are her advocating for the upcoming Maryland ballot initiatives on the Maryland Dream Act and the Civil Marriage Protection Act, and promoting *Green and Just Celebrations*, a JUFJ booklet which educates families how to incorporate issues relating to the environment and workers' rights in celebrations of b'nei mitzvah, weddings, and other important life events.

### A Long Path to the Present

Richman has taken a long, circuitous route to her current station. After graduating from Princeton, she became active in international human rights and development issues, and even attended law school for a year. But something was missing, and she then dedicated herself to Jewish study and attended the Jewish Theological Seminary.

After being ordained in 2009, she moved to the D.C. area, and became active again in JUFJ, where she had volunteered before going to JTS. She now lives in Silver Spring (right near the D.C. line) with her husband, Ben Dreyfus, and, of course, Yonatan.

Her current work has two particular connections to the historic Social Action tradition of TI: mobilizing the

Jewish community as a whole to take direct action to improve people's lives, and concentrating on local and regional issues.

An example is the recent campaign to change the District of Columbia tax code to provide a more graduated income tax. Because of the fiscal crisis brought on by the recession, several D.C. Council members proposed raising the tax rate for those earning over \$200,000 from 8.5 percent to 8.9 percent.

Mary Cheh, a key Council member representing largely-affluent Ward 3 in upper Northwest D.C., originally opposed the measure. But JUFJ worked to mobilize the Jewish community, particularly residents in Ward 3, to communicate their support for the bill to Cheh, even though many of them would be subject to the tax hike.

Largely as a result of these efforts, Cheh not only changed her position, but introduced the compromise legislation that raised the threshold for the additional taxation to \$350,000. "This effort illustrated why I'm proud to be working with the Jewish community," Richman says. "It was a beautiful expression of Jewish values and people working



Rabbi Elizabeth Richman



together for the common good, including those who would be affected by the change."

JUFJ uses both traditional and unconventional methods in working for social change. One of its current initiatives is to extend a 2008 D.C. law, requiring employers to provide sick leave, to workers in the restaurant industry, which was previously exempted. An innovative effort is to organize citizens to deliver flowers and "get-well" cards to restaurant workers at their places of employment, both to show solidarity with the workers and raise awareness of the issue among restaurant patrons.

### Educating Jewish Professionals

Another interesting part of Richman's work is educating younger Jewish professionals about social justice. One program, initiated in 2009, is Project Jeremiah, where 16 young adults embark on a yearly education program which incorporates both text study and practical training in such disciplines as community organizing, fundraising, and public speaking.

JUFJ is initiating a new Fellowship program for synagogue members in the D.C. area; this year's focus will be on food justice issues. So far, around 12 synagogues, including TI, have agreed to participate. "We've gotten great support from Rabbi Seidel and other leaders of TI," Richman says, adding that such support for social action "is one of the hallmarks of the synagogue."

## Kol Nashim

### Debbie Pomerance



#### New TI Book Club

Kol Nashim proudly announces the start of a new Book Club at TI, open to all who love to read, discuss and *kibbitz* about novels, memoirs, and non-fiction. Please join us! Contact our facilitator, Jessica Weissman, at [KNBook@Tifereth-Israel.org](mailto:KNBook@Tifereth-Israel.org), to let her know you are coming or if you have any questions.

Here's what we have planned so far:

- Meetings will be at members' homes
- Meetings will be the third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 - 9 p.m.

- The host will serve very light refreshments to enliven the brain as well as the tongue

The first Book Club meeting is planned for Tuesday, October 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Pearl and Larry Schainker.

The book to be discussed is *A Pigeon and a Boy: A Novel* by Meir Shalev. It was chosen by the Kol Nashim board from a long list provided by Jessica.

Future meetings are planned for Tuesday, November 19, and Tuesday, December 18.

#### Also Coming this Fall

Carla Ellern will lead a session on *A Rain Garden: How to Make One At Home (DIY)*. Carla will take the opportunity to explain the upcoming TI Rain Garden and the Green techniques to be used in its construction. The TI Environmental Committee has received a District DOE grant to create this exciting demonstration project on upper 16th Street.

## Lotsa Helping Hands

### Susan Catler

On August 7, eight TI'ers cooked a dozen meals in the Tifereth Israel kitchen and put them in the synagogue's freezer. Participants included Andrea Kline, Deena Dugan, Sylvia Horwitz, Carla Matusow, Laura Muller, Judi Berland, Paula Martin and Susan Catler.

The cooking evening was prompted by the needs of one family, but preparing meals at TI in advance of need is something we have been contemplating for a while.

This was the first batch of meals ready to take – to a family dealing with a serious illness, or welcoming a new baby, or one in mourning. The meals include vegetable lasagna, mac and cheese, quinoa stew and vegetarian bean chili. When this stock runs low, we will have another cooking session.

Preparing meals in advance in the TI kitchen was one of the recommendations made at last year's retreat – Creating a Caring Community.

#### Many Advantages to Meals Prepared in Advance

It was felt that having meals available to take would make it easier for people to volunteer to visit and bring a meal to a TI family in need of one.

Cooking the meals in the TI kitchen minimizes kashrut issues. Often a meal is needed on short notice, so having a few in the freezer allows a quick response. Also, people who can make time to visit and/or deliver a meal, but don't have to cook, can bring a meal from the TI supply.

If you would like to cook meals for other congregants, look for the notice

in the weekly newsletter of the next cooking session. If you have a recipe you think should be made, send it to [TINews@Tifereth-Israel.org](mailto:TINews@Tifereth-Israel.org).

We can arrange calls, visits and meals only if we know they are desired. Do you know someone who could use a visit, with or without a meal? Contact Susan Catler at [TIIPP@Tifereth-Israel.org](mailto:TIIPP@Tifereth-Israel.org) or Rabbi Seidel with information. If you would like to know when congregants request assistance or would like to be able to volunteer to help, sign up on TI's Lotsa Helping Hands page, [www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/642923](http://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/642923).

Contributions to help pay for the supplies needed to prepare these meals are welcome. Please indicate that the contribution is for the Helping Hands Fund.

# Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers

Barbara Raimondo

## You Call it "Amphibious Training," I Call it Surfing

The **Siskinds** were in Israel this summer where they got a glimpse of **Marcy Goldring's** pre-Israeli Defense Force so-called amphibious training. Your faithful columnist asks, "Work? Or fun?" You decide.



The Siskinds also saw **Marcia Goldberg**, the original Tifereth Israel Synagogue in the Old City, sunrise at Masada, dig for a day, Shabbat with Rona's childhood friend, and the many tunnels (under the Kotel, Hezekiah's and at Mea Kedem).

In other amphibious news, **Marjorie Rosenthal** announces the engagement of her granddaughter, **Sharon Melinda Levine**, to **Andrew Schaffer**, First Lieutenant, U.S.M.C., who is currently serving in Afghanistan. They will be married later when he is stationed in the U.S.

Andrew is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, and Sharon is a University of Virginia graduate who works for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Her parents are **Joanne** and **Paul Levine**.

And **Michele** and **Howard Sumka** have not one, but two weddings to announce. Their older daughter **Shoshanna** was married to **David Weinreich** in May at the Airlie Center in Virginia. **Rabbi Mark Novak** officiated.

Shoshanna works at American University, where she is in charge of helping students organize Alternate Breaks with a focus on social justice issues. David, who formerly

worked in Congress, is the Principal of Weinreich Strategic Group. The couple lives in Takoma Park.

The Sumkas' younger daughter, **Ilana**, was married in February in a civil ceremony in Belgium to **Siebrecht Vanhooren**. Ilana is currently writing a book about her experiences as the Middle East Director of Encounter, a non-profit organization in Israel that takes rabbis, rabbinical students, and other Jewish leaders into the West Bank to meet Palestinians in order to promote the goal of transforming the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Siebrecht is a practicing psychologist.

The couple lives outside of Bruges and is hoping to move to the U.S. at some point in the future. They are planning a Jewish wedding in Washington in the winter. Michele and Howard are about to visit them for two weeks. They plan to bring back a lot of Belgian chocolate, so make sure you hit 'em up for some.

In the neighborhood, **Mira Schainker** has left for Frankfurt, Germany to join her husband of five weeks for a two-year government posting. That equals 10.

## Can't Lose

**Simcha Kuritzky** just returned from the coin-collecting Olympics, the American Numismatic Association (ANA) annual coin convention in Philadelphia. His exhibit on ANA first-place award medals won first place (life imitates art). His *pidyon haben* exhibit won second and his Dutch-Israel gold fantasy coins also won second.

The Numismatic Literary Guild gave Simcha an extraordinary merit award for his article on Stellar Numismatics that appeared in ANA's journal, *The Numismatist*, in January. The next issue of *The Numismatist* will include his article on polygon coins.

Also watching her polygon coins is **Loretta Vitale Saks**, who retired in August from nearly 20 years at Catholic University's National Catholic School of Social Service. She had served as Director of Field Education. She is very

excited about her "next chapter," which she hopes will include part-time social work employment and more time for grandchildren, learning, volunteering, and hobbies. (Note to TI Board: Someone with lotsa time on her hands!)

**Esther** and **Gene Herman** spent a happy week in New England with two TI families. First, they spent three days in Marblehead with **Rabbi** and **Babs Abramowitz** in their beautiful home on the sea. During short breaks in their ongoing conversations, they were able to take a boat trip in Pickering Bay, tour Hammond Castle and Beauport, and visit with **Judy** and **Mark Arnold**, long-ago TI members who now live in Gloucester.

Another highlight of the Hermans' week away was attending the Yiddish Culture Weekend at the Bethlehem (New Hampshire) Hebrew Congregation with **Martin Kessel** and **Gail Robinson**. Martin was one of the organizers (Go Martin!).

Talented professionals spoke about and demonstrated Yiddish language, theater, art, music and literature, and the Grammy winning group, the Klezmatics, gave a concert. During intermission, the audience moved outdoors to sing the Havdalah service. Even an antlered deer running into the side of their rental car (ouch!) could not dampen their spirits from this amazing and energizing weekend.

Amazed and energized **Neshama Rovinsky** returned from five months in Mussel Bay, South Africa, where she stayed with a local family and attended an Afrikaans-speaking high school. She returns to the George School to begin 11th grade in September.

And **Paula Tucker** just got back from somewhere a little closer, New York City, where she had the honor of being one of the voices in a 400-voice choir at Marvin Hamlich's funeral at Temple Emanu-El. Your faithful columnist thought she heard a familiar soprano!

Paula has held a special place in her heart for Hamlich since she wrote him a

*(Continued on page 12)*

## Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers (continued)

fan letter as a teenager, and he called to wish her happy birthday on her 16th birthday. Awwwwww! She was thrilled to hear President Clinton (hey there!), among others, eulogize Hamlisch.

Former busboy and present poet **Dennis Kirschbaum** gave a reading at Busboys and Poets of a poem published in the most recent issue of *Little Patuxent Review*. Wouldncha know it, he had to clean up at the end of the evening.

**Morris** and **Judy Rodenstein** were in Israel for three weeks visiting with daughter, **Sarah**, their cousins, and lots of old friends. They did a lot of traveling in the north, including the Golan and the Galil.

**Lisa Traiger** and **Kobi Lifshitz**, and **Aylat** also were in Israel, participating in a 10-day seminar leading up to the Karmiel Dance Festival. No clean up was mentioned.



Left to Right: Morris and Judy Rodenstein, Kobi Lifshitz, Aylat Lifshitz, Lisa Traiger, Sarah and Asaf Rodenstein

### Which Would You Choose?

**Harvey Kabaker** and **Andrea Kline** went to Paris in July so that Harvey could attend the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies Conference. While Harvey researched family linkages, Andrea researched chocolate, pastry and bread.

Among the places they visited in Paris, Rin-Tin-Tin's grave was a stand-out. Hey, I loved that dude! Here in DC, Andrea

recommends that you visit the Renwick exhibit "40 under 40"-- especially Olek's crocheted room, which Andrea helped to install.

The afore-mentioned **Marcia Goldberg** returned on August 3 from 3-1/2 weeks in Israel studying at Pardes in Jerusalem. **Hana Seidel** was in one of her classes, and **Max Grossman's** brother is Director of Development. The oldest student was a 93-year-old woman from Ohr Kodesh.

Marcia had dinner with **Jack** and **Diane Zeller**, bumped into the afore-mentioned **Rona** and **David Siskind** at the hotel where Marcia and the Siskinds were staying in Tel Aviv, and spent time with former long-time member **Rita Laufer**, who is now in the U.S. attending weddings of two of her grandchildren. Marcia can also be seen in photos on the website for Women of the Wall where she had an aliyah on Rosh Chodesh Av.

Less than a week after returning, Marcia's granddaughter, **Jerusalem**, age 5 (Jerusalem is obviously very important to this family, hey no kidding), came to visit, and then Savta and Jeri flew to her home in Las Vegas. Temperatures every day were well into the 100's. But Jeri and two-year-old brother **Shai** were worth the swelter.

**Erica Julie Pitlick** was born August 2 to TI members **Janet Blank** and **Joshua Pitlick**. At birth she weighed 9 lbs., 7 oz. Baby, parents and big sister **Rachel** are all doing well.

The afore-mentioned **Dennis Kirschbaum** and his wife, **Barbara Raimondo**, also are new parents. Well, sort of. They are hosting an exchange student from Ghana for a year. The nest just refuses to empty.

And in other hot news, **Elliot Levine** will be performing at the Silver Spring Jazz Festival on September 8, headlined by Sergio Mendes.

### Sad News

**Etta Watson**, mother of **Matt Watson**, long-time member and former

congregation president, died at the age of 99. Mrs. Watson was a member of Beth El Congregation in Bethesda. A graveside funeral in Virginia was held.

And now for the meaning of last month's word, *trenchant*: "vigorously effective and articulate." (Merriam-Webster Online)

Thanks to all who sent me news, sent me to others who sent me news, or otherwise helped sniff it out. Please send information for next time to your faithful rapporteur at baraimondo@gmail.com, with "Nayes un Mekhayes" in the heading, or to P.O. Box 466, Washington Grove, MD 20880.

This brings to a close this edition of Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers.

## Social Action Sunday

Join other Tifereth Israel members in Social Action on **Sunday, September 9**.

Bake a casserole for the shelter operated by **So Others Might Eat (SOME)** and drop it off at Tifereth Israel on Sunday. The Tuna Casserole recipe is now on the TI website!

**4:30 p.m.** Support those who are hungry. Join us as we drive a soup-and-sandwich van for **Martha's Table**, serving dinner to homeless men and women on the downtown DC streets.

**6-8:30 p.m.** Cook and serve dinner to 25 women living in **Luther Place Church's N Street Village**.

## Jewish Communities in the Mediterranean

### Frank Solomon

Jewish communities have existed along the Mediterranean for millennia. Despite their long and colorful history, today many are struggling to survive. A TI family visited several Jewish communities in Italy, Croatia, Greece and Spain in August. Here are highlights of what they found.

#### Dubrovnik

Dubrovnik, the beautiful Croatian city on the Adriatic Sea, sits atop a mountain surrounded by high walls and protective towers. With a population of 60,000, it has survived many wars, the latest in 1991. The Jewish population never exceeded 250 people from the 15<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Today, there are no more than 45 Jews left in the city.

Dubrovnik has the oldest Sephardic synagogue in the world. Built in Baroque style in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, it is located on a steep, narrow alley named Zudiska Ulica (Jews Street). It is now a museum. During World War II, the Torahs, the ark, and silver were hidden, sent to New York or given to Croatians for "safekeeping." Now the scrolls and artifacts are all back. The synagogue was heavily damaged in the 1991 war. A \$35,000 restoration effort by the Rebuild Dubrovnik Foundation, helped preserve it.

#### Venice

Jews were forced to live in the Ghetto under the Venetian Republic. Its many Jewish residents never assimilated to form a distinct "Venetian Jewish" ethnicity. Five separate synagogues served the German, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese, French and Sephardi communities. In Venice today, there are also Ashkenazi Jews, mainly Lubavitchers who operate one of the

two kosher food stores, a yeshiva and the Chabad house.

Many Jews now find it difficult to live in Venice because of the tourism-driven high cost of living. Although only 300 of Venice's 1,000 Jews still live in the Ghetto, many attend religious services there at the two operating synagogues. The other three are only used for guided tours offered by the Jewish Community Museum. The Ghetto is still a center of Jewish and Venice's cultural life.

#### Rome

The Roman Jewish community is the oldest in Europe, dating back to 161 BCE. After the Romans invaded Judea in 63 BCE, Jewish diplomats and merchants came to Rome. Many stayed and the Jewish population grew. Two synagogues were founded by freed Jewish slaves. Jewish prisoners from the revolts in Palestine in 66-73 and 132-135, were brought to Rome as slaves. Some of the oldest Jewish families trace their ancestry to this period. In 212, Caracalla granted the Jews Roman citizenship.

In 1555, Pope Paul IV segregated all Jews into a Ghetto. Jews had to wear yellow hats, were forbidden to leave home at night, were banned from most occupations and higher education, and could not own property outside the Ghetto. Jewish doctors were only allowed to treat Jewish patients. Talmudic literature was banned in Rome.

In 1870, Italy was united under King Victor Emanuel, who dismantled the ghettos and gave the Jews full citizenship. Jews fully integrated into Italian society. In 1931, there were 48,000 Jews in Italy. By 1939, several thousand had been baptized or had emigrated, leaving 35,000.

During the war, Nazi pressure to implement anti-Jewish measures was mostly ignored. Most Jews avoided going to internment camps and many were shielded by their neighbors and government officials. Nearly 8,000 Italian Jews perished in the Holocaust, but about 80 percent survived the war. Today, about 15,000 Jews live in Rome.

Over two millennia, the Jewish community in Rome has produced a distinctive prayer tradition, comparable to the Sephardic or Ashkenazi traditions, called the *Nusach Italki* (Italian rite). Several synagogues in Rome, including the Great Synagogue, follow this tradition. Most synagogues in Italy are Sephardic.

#### Florence

The Jewish community of Florence is one of the oldest, largest and most influential in Italy. It also serves the smaller neighboring communities in Pisa, Livorno and Siena. By 1931, there were 3,000 Jews in Florence. In 1943, Nazi forces occupied Florence and began to round up and deport Jews. Most Jewish families lost relatives, but many escaped the Nazis and were hidden by Italians. The Great Synagogue of Florence was damaged and nearly blown up by Germans, and most of its great art stolen. By war's end, the Jewish population was fewer than 1,600.

Today, the Florence Jewish community numbers 1,400 and two synagogues remain. Chabad provides kosher meals and Ashkenazi prayer services to many Jewish travelers. The Great Synagogue (Tempio Maggiore) is considered a masterpiece. Opened in 1882, its Moorish design was based on the Byzantine cathedral in

*(Continued on page 14)*

## A Shabbat in Paris

### Laurel Hadassah Rabin

This past spring, David and I went to Paris. Since our stay included Shabbat, I had gotten a list of shuls. Most (about 50) were Orthodox, two Reform (or Liberal), and just one Conservative (or Masorti), Adat Shalom. So that was where we decided to go.

We set out Shabbat morning armed with directions, but nevertheless managed to take the Metro going in the wrong direction. We quickly realized our mistake and changed direction as soon as we could. The shul was on the ground floor of an apartment building. There was a guard outside, but he readily let us in.

Inside, the congregation was overflowing, with not enough seats, because of a bat mitzvah. So we stood in the back. Then an English speaker came over, asked if we wanted a *humash*, and led us to open places on a bench. This man turned out to be a New Yorker, who had lived in Paris for 15 years, but had gone to the SAJ (Mordecai Kaplan's shul) in New York and knew my cousins!

We were seated within a few rows of the *bimah*, and were able to follow as the bat mitzvah, with her teacher next to her, read from the Torah. But when it came time for the *haftarah*, a young man read. So it seemed the shul was not 100 percent egalitarian, or perhaps the bat mitzvah wasn't up to reading from the *haftarah*. We never found out.

When the *haftarah* was over, our *humash* was collected. Another English speaker asked if we wanted a *siddur*. It turned out that this man, whose name I've forgotten, was just visiting Paris for business and was from Washington, a current member of Ohr Kodesh and, previously, a member of TI!

The rabbi, a Belgian trained in Israel, gave what seemed to be a riveting sermon, but alas we could only understand a word or two here and there. His subject was the terrible killing in Toulouse earlier in the week. After services, we followed the congregation to an adjacent narrow room. Here was the most elegant *kiddush* we'd ever seen, including little *kreplach*-shaped

pastries, with the ends bound together by a mini-wooden clothespin, lots of wines, and artfully placed flowers on the food trays.

We spoke with the rabbi there—his English was excellent. I asked why the *siddur* included only the patriarchs, not the matriarchs, in the *amidah*. He explained that because the Orthodox movement is the most powerful in France, it gets a subsidy from the government; the Masorti movement therefore tries to not deviate too much from what the Orthodox do.

We left with so many impressions, many good ones about feeling at home in a French shul—with the familiar Hebrew Torah, *haftarah*, and *siddur*--despite the fact that the translation was French, not English.

But at the same time, we felt sad for the Masorti movement in France. It has been marginalized and doesn't seem to be growing. Because of this, the New Yorker said, all three of his children would be going to the States for college. Adat Shalom, however, seems to be thriving.

## Jewish Communities in the Mediterranean (continued)

Constantinople. It still holds services for the Jewish community under the Sephardic rite of prayer.

### Barcelona

A sizable Jewish community lived in Catalonia from the beginning of the Common Era. For centuries, the Jews of Barcelona managed their own local affairs and lived relatively well while confined to the Juderia (Jewish quarter). In 1263, King James I of Aragon convened a four-day religious disputation in Barcelona to convince the Jews to convert to

Christianity. The king awarded Nachmanides a large sum of money for his eloquence and famously stated that he had never heard someone argue so well for such an unjust cause.

By the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the situation had worsened significantly. Anti-Semitic decrees were enacted and many Jews converted to Christianity while secretly adhering to Judaism. While Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492, the Jews of Barcelona either fled or converted years earlier following the riots of 1391.

Barcelona had no Jews for over 500 years until several came from North Africa and Eastern Europe in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Today, an estimated 3,500 Jews reside in Barcelona, making it the largest Jewish community in Spain. They have a Jewish day school, old age home, Chabad house, and an annual Jewish film festival. Main attractions are the ancient Juderia (ghetto) and the restored Sinagoga Mayor. Originally built in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, a new synagogue was built on top of it in the 14th century and additional floors were added much later.

## TI Receives DC Environment Grant When It Rains, We'll Shine!

The DC Department of Environment has awarded Tifereth Israel a \$65,000 grant to reduce storm water runoff from the synagogue property. The funds will not only enable TI to help bring the Chesapeake Bay back to health, but will finance a large share of the costs of a long-planned project to replace the Juniper St. entrance ramp, install a rain garden, and reduce traffic congestion in the alley.

Under the project, over 3,000 gallons of water from TI's roof, in a typical 30 -minute rain, will be diverted away from DC's storm sewer system to TI's new rain garden and to permeable pavers to be laid in TI's parking area adjacent to the alley. The wooden entrance ramp will be replaced with a new aluminum ramp, entered from the Juniper St. sidewalk, and a curb cut will be made on Juniper St. for both handicap and delivery access.

The current 10-year-old wooden ramp is expensive to maintain, requiring repainting twice a year. Its entrance off the alley also blocks traffic there as cars stop to discharge passengers, and is a potential safety hazard.

Removing the ramp will also facilitate removal of the dying tree that is now surrounded by the ramp. The rain garden will be installed in the space freed up, and will both enhance the front entrance area and absorb storm water runoff.

### Three-Committee Effort

The project was developed jointly by TI's Environmental, Building Preservation, and House committees, with Carla Ellern, Carl Bergman and Mark Verschell taking the lead. The total cost is \$100,000, with the DC grant covering almost

two-thirds. The \$35,000 balance will be covered by \$10,000 from the Building Preservation Fund, \$20,000 from in-kind services, and \$5,000 in reduced future-year maintenance.

Construction is expected to begin later in the fall or in early spring of 2013. Members interested in participating in the project should contact David Zinner in the TI office.

The project also has educational objectives. It will exemplify how Low Impact Development Green Infrastructure (LID-GI) technologies can beautify landscapes while restoring the watershed's health. Hopefully, it will inspire TI members to implement similar strategies in their homes and gardens, and encourage other faith-based communities in the Upper 16th St. area and beyond to undertake similar efforts.

## Upcoming Friday Night Minyan Assignments

### September 14

David & Judith Cohen  
Ann Cohen & Avi Dorot  
David & Elana Cohen  
Raymond & Rebecca Coleman  
Sara Collins  
Jeffrey Colman & Ellen Nissenbaum  
Merry Danaceau  
Jeffrey & Miriam Davidson  
Joseph & Kathy Davidson  
Ronni Davis

### September 21

Adam Diamond & Rabbi Jane Berman  
Helen Disenhaus  
Stan Dorn & Carla Ellern  
Laura Dowling  
Lisa Drazin  
David Drellich & Rabbi Gilah Langner

Pierre & Deena Dugan  
Ernie Englander  
Miriam Feinsilver  
Joshua Felman

### September 28

Harvey Fernbach & Ann Birk  
Robert Feron & Dione Pereira  
Rona Fields  
Joshua & Lucia Filler  
Ben Finkelstein & Laura Hollander  
Andrew & Anna Fine  
Eric Fingerhut & Karen Beiley  
Varda Fink & Stanley Grabia  
Jay & Rachel Finkelstein  
Anita Finkelstein

### October 5

Joseph & Rachel Firschein  
Paul & Susan Fischer  
David & Patricia Fisher

Paula Flicker  
James & Carla Flug  
Claude Fontheim & Orit Frenkel  
Brenda & Lee Footer  
Ira Forman & Caryn Pass  
Henry Fox & Sarah Kagan  
Bruce Friedland & Jenny Bryant

### October 19

Naomi Friedman  
Judy Galat  
William & Miriam Galston  
Stephen Garber & Lynne Snyder  
Jared Garelick & Ellen Kramarow  
Seth Glabman & Martha Hare  
Rick Glaser & Sheryl Gross-Glaser  
Howard Gleckman & Ann Kline

## Bar Mitzvah

My name is Michael Weinberger. I am an 8th grader at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School and enjoy math and PE. I like to play soccer.

My *parashah* is *Ki Teitzei* and is about the laws. I am looking forward to celebrating my bar mitzvah with my friends and family, especially those who are travelling from Syracuse, Boston, and Baltimore.

I hope you can join me and my family!



## September Highlights at Tifereth Israel

September 1	Michael Weinberger Bar Mitzvah	
September 7	Family Service, 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m.	
September 3, 10, 24	Monday Learning <i>Parashat HaShavuah</i> , 11 a.m. Job Club, 1 p.m.	
September 15	SHALEM: Bill Galston, "How Can Repentance Happen?"	
September 16	Erev Rosh Hashanah	See Schedule, Page 17
September 17	Rosh Hashganah I	"
September 18	Rosh Hashanah II	"
September 25	Kol Nidrei	See Schedule, Page 18
September 26	Yom Kippur	"
September 30	Shira Jones Presentation on "Shir Tours"	



## High Holiday Schedule

### Saturday, September 8, 2012 – Selichot

10:30 PM – Selichot program

Midnight – Selichot Service

### Sunday, September 9, 2012

#### Jeremy Goldberg Synagogue Clean Up -- Part 1

9:00 AM – 12:00 noon, please sign up by 9/5 by calling the office

**Cemetery Service** - 10:45 AM – Mt. Lebanon Cemetery

### Sunday, September 16, 2012

#### Jeremy Goldberg Synagogue Clean Up -- Part 2

9:00 AM – 12:00 noon, please sign up by 9/5 by calling the office

**Social Action Holiday Food Delivery** - 9:30 AM -11AM

## Rosh Hashanah

### Sunday, September 16, 2012 - Erev Rosh Hashanah

6:30 PM – Ma'ariv - Wolman Sanctuary

### Monday, September 17, 2012 - Rosh Hashanah - Day 1

#### Wolman Sanctuary

8:45 AM – Psukei D'Zimrah & Shacharit

10:00 AM – Torah Reading

11:00 AM – Sermon, Musaf - Rabbi Ethan Seidel

#### B'yachad - Cherner Auditorium

9:15 AM – Shacharit

10:15 AM – Torah Parade & Torah Reading followed by *Musaf*

#### Tot Service - Reamer Chapel

10:30 AM – Following the *B'Yachad* Torah Parade

For children aged 18 months to 5 years together with their parents

#### **Youth Activities & Babysitting**

9:15 AM – Babysitting opens for children ages 18 mos. to 5 years

10:00 AM – Quiet room (reading, studying) opens for children grades 4 to 7

10:30 AM – Youth activities begin for children grades K to 2

11:00 AM – Youth activities begin for children grades 3 to 7

12:30 PM – Activities end; Supervised play begins for all ages

1:00 PM – Babysitting and supervised play ends

#### **Afternoon & Evening**

5:00 PM – Tashlich walk from TI to Rock Creek Park, followed by

potluck supper at the home of Lillian Kronstadt,

1733 Juniper Street, NW, Washington DC 20012

7:00 PM – Mincha & Ma'ariv Service – Reamer Chapel

### Tuesday, September 18, 2012 - Rosh Hashanah - Day 2

Same schedule as Day 1 (except no Tashlich, Mincha & Ma'ariv)

## High Holiday Schedule (continued)

### Yom Kippur

#### Tuesday, September 25, 2012 - Kol Nidre

- 6:00 PM – Activities and babysitting for children 18 months to 3rd grade
- 6:30 PM (*sharp!*) - Services in both Wolman Sanctuary and Cherner
- Youth activities for 4th - 7th grade begin after Kol Nidre chanting

#### Wednesday, September 26, 2012 - Yom Kippur

##### Wolman Sanctuary

- 8:45 AM – Psukei D'Zimrah & Shacharit
- 10:30 AM – Torah Reading
- 11:30 AM – Sermon - Rabbi Seidel
- NOON – Yizkor Memorial Service
- 12:30 PM – Musaf
- 3:45 PM – Mincha
- 5:20 PM – Talk and Discussion – Sheila Jelen
- 6:20 PM – Neilah
- 7:40 PM – Shofar & Ma'ariv
- Break Fast – immediately following the Service.
- Advance Registration is required by August 31st.
- A reservation form is included with this mailing.

##### B'Yachad - Cherner Auditorium

- 9:15 AM – Shacharit
- 10:15 AM – Torah Parade & Torah Reading
- 11:15 AM – Yizkor (children 10 and up are welcome) followed by *Musaf*

Services for the remainder of the day in the Wolman Sanctuary

##### **Tot Service**

Following the *B'Yachad* Torah Parade (approx. 10:30) – Reamer Chapel  
For children aged 18 months to 5 years together with their parents

##### **Youth Activities & Babysitting**

- 9:15 AM – Babysitting opens for children ages 18 mos. to 5 years
- 10:00 AM – Quiet room (reading, studying) opens for children grades 4 to 7
- 10 AM – Youth activities begin for children grades K to 2
- 11:00 AM – Youth activities begin for children grades 3 to 7
- 12:30 PM – Activities end; Supervised play begins for all ages
- 1:00 PM – Babysitting and supervised play ends

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