



# The Menorah

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**From the President: Rabbi Jason Kimelman-Block**

I recently listened to a sobering episode of the Ezra Klein Show podcast that discussed the epidemic of loneliness in American society. A 2018 report by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that 22 percent of all adults – almost 60 million Americans – said they often or always felt lonely or socially isolated. In the 30 years before the pandemic, the number of Americans who reported having five or more close friends decreased by 25%. Most striking to me is that young people now report feeling lonelier than the elderly.



There are many possible causes of this epidemic of loneliness in American life - millions living far away from family, the physical design of many of our living spaces that facilitates isolation from each other, and technological developments (such as social media and the ubiquity of headphones) that help us to avoid uncomfortable or awkward interactions, while increasing our isolation.

No matter the cause, one remedy is to seek out and build what sociologists call “third places” -- social surroundings that are separate from home and the work-

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**From the Rabbi: Rabbi Michael Werbow**

Wow, what a skit at the Shabbaton!

**Carolivia Herron** and her troupe of July birthday enthusiasts made me aware of an injustice that has been plaguing our congregation for far too long. For many years we held a joint celebration, in August, for July and August birthdays and anniversaries. July celebrants never got a Shabbat of their own. Now, I haven’t been here that long, and we are just now getting back into kiddushes and specifically birthday & anniversary kiddushes, so I didn’t know about this and thought their skit was just a spoof. Well I sure was wrong.



So, what have I learned from this. One thing is that TI is a place that listens to the congregants and, when possible, implements the desired event, activity, or policy. It could be that this has been raised many times before. I don’t know. Sometimes that is the case but appropriate persistence (and maybe even a good Shabbaton skit) can produce movement.

This, I have noticed, is also how many events come to be. Someone has an idea,

*(Continued on page 3)*



## From the President - continued

### **The Menorah Tifereth Israel Congregation**

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Mon - Fri: 9am - 5pm

Closed weekends.

Additional closures for July:

July 4th - Independence Day

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*Tifereth Israel is a traditional egalitarian congregation  
affiliated with the United Synagogue of  
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place (and now that many of us work remotely, the social space of work is in decline as well). In my own life, TI is a precious “third place” – a place where I can spend relaxed time with people that are not necessarily my closest friends or family (although it’s great when they’re there too), but who I build connections with as part of a larger circle. I think that’s why when I’ve heard people describe what they love most about TI, many people say “lunch!” We sometimes joke about people who come on Saturday mornings “JFK” (just for kiddush), but maybe Shabbat lunch is the most important hour of the week.

The value we place on simply spending time together was underscored during Rabbi Werbow’s installation this past spring. As part of the celebration, each committee donated a board game to the shul, so that people could linger after lunch and spend more time in each other’s company. Another example is our Helping Hands effort, led expertly by **Susan Catler**, where people can provide simple assistance to each other, such as rides to medical appointments. In considering the value of TI in our lives and how we can meet the needs of our entire community, we should pay special attention to our ability to address this epidemic of loneliness. I’m sure there are so many other things we could do to thicken our relationships with each other and I’d love to hear your ideas.



Photo courtesy of Elliot Goldberg

## From the Rabbi - continued

asks for the event to be put on the calendar and away it goes. Unfortunately, this can't always be the case and it won't work if the individuals desiring the event aren't going to make it happen. The staff is not able to make every idea brought forth into a viable program. Yes, they do it a lot. They are often the movers and doers on programs but every program we have will have a greater chance to succeed if those who are interested do what is needed to make it happen.

I have mentioned before my interest in having many programs that address the needs of our congregants. There are small groups that are making things happen. The families with young children have an active Tot Committee (yes they planned the infamous Tot Bar-B-Que) and some have begun a chavurah in addition to the regular tot programming. Another group of families with middle school aged children have also started a new chavurah. These are in their early stages and if you are interested in being a part of the activities, please reach out and I'll put you in

touch with the organizers.

What else can we be doing? Shabbat afternoon is a wonderful time to be together in community. We often have a SHALEM program with an interesting presentation. **Rabbi Seidel** holds a Talmud class and there is often an anagrams game or some other game taken out of the game closet. Invite some friends to play a game and start up during Kiddish. Often, others will stop by to hear about the game and will join in the next time.

What do you want to see happen at TI? Let me know. Let our president, **Jason Kimelman-Block** know. We can't promise that every idea will get the same traction as July Birthdays & Anniversaries did but you are what makes up TI and you can make TI happen too.

Unfortunately, I will be away July 22<sup>nd</sup> but others should be sure to come and celebrate at our July birthday & anniversary kiddush.

Mazal Tov!

Tifereth Israel  
Congregation



The Bridge Campaign  
We're on our way!

Each of us has a vital role to play helping secure TI's financial future as we continue redefining our community in this rapidly changing world. Working together, we will build a powerful bridge between the challenges of today and our hopes and plans for the years to come.

Donate to the Bridge Campaign at <https://bit.ly/TIBRIDGE>.

## JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

7/1 Michael Milton  
 7/2 Shirah Lister  
 Charles Thrush  
 Nathaniel Thrush  
 Miriam Turner  
 7/3 Naomi Freeman  
 Rebecca Gan  
 7/3 Sarah Mancoll  
 7/4 Alan Bandler  
 Harvey Fernbach  
 Yochanan Sullivan  
 Yohannes Zeleke  
 7/6 Joseph Goldberg  
 Shelly Heller  
 7/7 Lisa Traiger  
 7/8 Josh Goldberg  
 Benjamin Sitron  
 Dorothea Wolfson  
 7/9 Heike Bailin  
 Jeff Steinberg  
 7/10 Isaac Kuhn  
 Amy Nadas  
 Amos Sullivan  
 Miriam Torrey-Coffidis  
 7/12 Richard Schachter  
 7/13 Beryl Afflerbach  
 Timothy Anderegg  
 7/14 Carla Ellern  
 David Rabin  
 Renata Sullivan  
 7/16 Janet Braun  
 Aliza Marcus  
 Elisha Sullivan  
 7/18 Renana Brooks  
 Talia Frank Stempel  
 Shelley Sturman  
 7/20 Rose Hedrick  
 Mark Verschell  
 7/21 Barbara Grosz

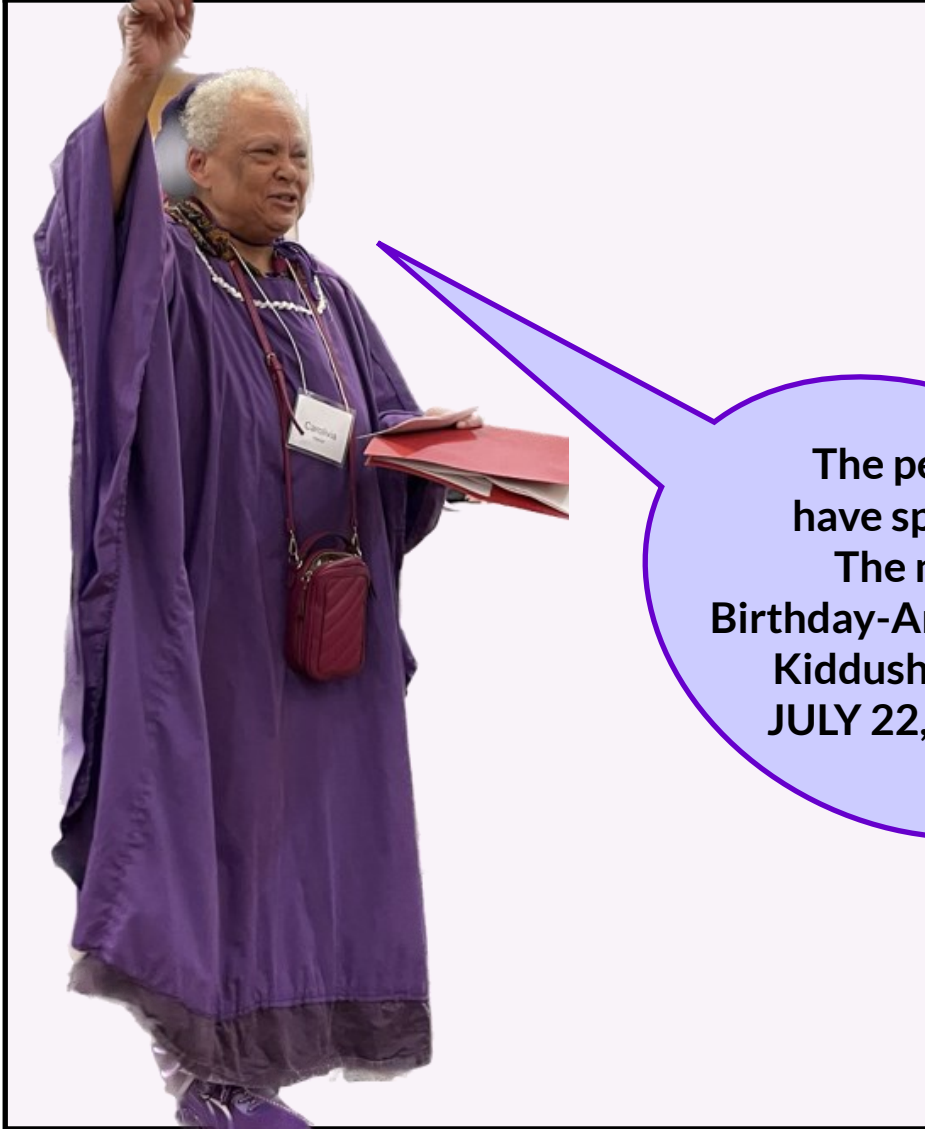
7/22 Robyn Altman  
 Carolivia Herron  
 7/23 Joel Kramer  
 Dana Neimark  
 7/24 Samuel Alterman  
 Kenneth Deane  
 Earl Dotter  
 Jane Gilvin  
 Eleanor Wachtel  
 Judith Zander  
 7/26 Rebecca Dorn  
 Myrna Goldman  
 Reenie Wagner  
 7/27 Rachel Finkelstein  
 Andi Gunther  
 7/28 Mira Diamond-Berman  
 Sofia Jaime  
 7/29 Brenda Footer  
 Eugenia Vitale Levin  
 7/30 Linda Greer  
 Solomon Murdock  
 7/31 Howard Gleckman  
 Yonah Reiter

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

7/1 Brenda & Lee Footer  
 7/6 Paul Goldman & Debbie Pomerance  
 Timothy Michalak & Robin Reiss  
 7/7 Joseph & Paula Martin  
 7/27 Mikey Franklin & Sonya Shpilyuk  
 7/28 David & Elana Cohen  
 Stan Dorn & Carla Ellern  
 7/29 Janet Blank & Joshua Pitlick

Honor a family member, a friend or  
 even yourself at the July 22  
 Birthday/Anniversary Kiddush!

Click <https://bit.ly/BdayAnniv> to help sponsor the Kiddush.



The people have spoken!  
 The next Birthday-Anniversary Kiddush will be **JULY 22, 2023!!**

Not sure what this is about? Ask someone who went to the Shabbaton...

## New Members Barbara and Daniel Bass - Jared Garelick

**Barbara and Daniel** are moving to the area and joining TI as part of a family reunification project. They are the parents of **Gideon Bass** and parents-in-law of **Mae Cooper**, as well as, at least as importantly, grandparents of **Leah and Nathaniel**. That makes the Bass/Cooper household TI's Magnet Family of the Month.

Barbara and Daniel are not fully here yet. While they have bought a house in Silver Spring within a mile of Gideon and Mae, there remains the significant task of sorting through the items accumulated over 27 years in their larger house outside of Baltimore. The move to Silver Spring will be more of a process than a single event.

Daniel is a software engineer. For the last twenty years before retiring in 2016 he worked for a defense contractor. Barbara worked as a cartographer for the Maryland State Highway Administration, helping produce its highway map.

In addition to Gideon, they have another son, who lives in Israel with his wife and nine children, with another one expected.

Barbara and Daniel have been coming periodically to TI for years and have come to like it. They hope to become involved once they have fully moved. Daniel likes to leyn and to lead services.

Daniel is also a gardener, looking forward to working a new patch of ground. Barbara is a serious needleworker, with experience in various kinds of embroidery, including the traditional Japanese silk on silk style.

Welcome to TI, Barbara and Daniel.



# SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE TIME



Step into the Chapel  
to enjoy a cuppa!  
July 1, 15, 29  
beginning at 10:00 am



Please note: We're still looking for a pithy name for Coffee Time. Send your ideas to [info@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:info@tifereth-israel.org).



The Paul and Annetta  
**Himmelfarb School**  
Tifereth Israel Congregation



## Enroll in K-12 at TI

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- Open classroom model that mixes ages & styles
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202-882-1605

**REGISTER NOW!**

<https://bit.ly/TIHimmelfarb>

.....  
**Himmelfarb Open House**  
Sunday, August 27 at 10:00 am  
<https://bit.ly/TIHFOH>

.....  
**Questions?**  
Contact Rabbi Kelley Gludt at  
[rabbikelley@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:rabbikelley@tifereth-israel.org)

## Social Action: Focus on Refugee Family Support and Shepherd's Table Service - Melissa Perera, Rachel Seidel and Gene Herman

**New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance (NNIA) Refugee Family Support** - School ended in Montgomery County on June 16 and thanks to the research and hard work of our own **Bob Mathis** the two oldest Afghan refugee children—Ahmad and Asra— started attending Kids After Hours summer camp June 20. Bob also managed to get almost the entire fee excused by the camp. Additionally, due to a generous gift from Kol Nashim the children were taken on a shopping trip to Target with their mom and NNIA family lead volunteer, Joyce Mange, to stock up on summer camp supplies (think sunscreen, hats, closed toed shoes, swimsuits) - the children are so excited about camp and so appreciative! The remaining money



Photo by Joyce Mange

from Kol Nashim will be held in reserve for ongoing needs.

In other news, the children's father started a new job in early June which he feels is an excellent fit. He is an Immigration Legal Coordinator for Lutheran Social Services, a relocation agency. Their mother continues to work on her English. Yusra,

the 3 year old, has not been able to start at a preschool summer camp yet due to lack of finances. Again, Bob Mathis and Joyce Mange have worked hard to help the family submit applications for funding, and we are hopeful that some will come through soon.

A huge thank you to those who have already started volunteering or signed on to help with the family soon, including: **Morris Rodenstein, Joshua Kranzberg, Diana Zurer, Bob Mathis, Eti Bardack, Adrienne Torrey, Krayna Feinberg, Margie Odle, Rabbi Ethan Seidel and Rachel Seidel**. It means so much to them, and we can always use more help. Please contact Rachel Seidel (contact information in TI Directory) if you are interested in helping out this summer.

Finally, the Social Action Committee voted at their June 21 meeting to earmark additional funds (matching Kol Nashim's generous donation) to support NNIA refugee families as needs arise. To learn more about NNIA, go to [NNIA New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance \(nnia-maryland.com\)](http://nnia-maryland.com).

**Shepherd's Table June Service** - Members of TI gathered at Shepherd's Table on June 4<sup>th</sup> to help serve dinner. Those working to provide the food service that evening were **Esther Herman, Joseph Martin, Paula Martin, Phil Shapiro, Stephen Garber, Raymond Coleman, Rebecca Coleman, Stephanie Rubin, David Rubin and Gene Herman**. A total of 160 dinners were served during the 5-7:30 shift. **Rabbi Chuck Feinberg and Krayna Feinberg** have also been serving at critical times during the week when volunteers are needed. TI is scheduled to serve dinner on the first Sunday of each month. In September, this community service provided by TI will have been ongoing for 2 years. Since the number of Shepherd's Table clients has remained high, there is a continuing need for volunteers.

*(Continued on page 9)*



# TISHA B'AV

## EREV TISHA B'AV

Wednesday, July 26 at 8:15pm

## TISHA B'AV MORNING SERVICE

Thursday, July 27 at 7:30 am

Please let Rabbi Werbow know if you want to chant from Eichah (Lamentations) at [mwerbow@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:mwerbow@tifereth-israel.org).

## Social Action at TI - continued

To register and sign up for a date the link is: <http://tiferethisrael.shepherdstable.volunteerhub.com/>

There are other ways to help Shepherd's Table with their mission. Special thanks to **Jessica Cohen** for baking cookies and to **Mona Berch** for providing a large number of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

### Upcoming Events

- Sunday July 2: Shepherd's Table - 5pm
- Wednesday July 19: SAC mtg -8-9pm
- Shabbat, July 22: Joelle Novey (Interfaith Power and Light) will give a drash on the environment, focusing on solar power
- Sunday, August 6: Shepherd's Table - 5pm
- Wednesday August 16: SAC mtg - 8-9pm
- Later this summer, date/time TBD: Family-friendly event inviting congregants from all SEA Change synagogues to rooftop of Eastern Village Cohousing, 7981 Eastern Ave, NW, Washington to see solar panels and get information on going solar

### Ongoing Social Action/Social Justice/Environment Activities

Please contact **Melissa Perera**, Social Action VP at [TISocialaction@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:TISocialaction@tifereth-israel.org) about getting involved.

- Empty Your Pockets Campaign (Sept 24-25)
- Rosh Hashana grocery delivery (Sunday Sept 10)
- Emory Walk for the Homeless (Sunday Oct 15)
- Christmas brunch (Monday Dec 25)
- Serving at Shepherd's Table (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month)
- Supporting refugee families
- Shepherd Elementary Tutoring Program (starts Oct 15)
- SEA Change
- Gun Violence Prevention
- Black Lives Matter vigil (every Friday @5pm)



Watercolor by TI Member Llewelen Craig

# HIGH HOLIDAYS 5784

## SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES AT TIFERETH ISRAEL

Learn more and register at <https://bit.ly/TIHHD23>

### WOLMAN SANCTUARY SERVICES

Our beautiful traditional egalitarian services are led by Rabbi Michael Werbow, along with expert lay leaders. Our is rich in commentary and links study and prayer through a synthesis of historical scholarship and spiritual vision.

### SERVICES FOR YOUTH, TEENS AND FAMILY

Families with children of all ages are invited to join Rabbi Kelley for an engaging, interactive service before heading to age-appropriate activities and davening. These activities will be offered for tots, K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders, 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders and teens.

### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES & SERVICES

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Sat., 9/9</b>    | 9 pm Havdalah & Selichot *   |
| <b>Sun., 9/10</b>   | 9 am Social Action Food Deliveries<br>9:30 am Goldberg Cleanup Day<br>Noon Cemetery Services   |
| <b>ROSH HASHANA</b> |  |
| <b>Fri., 9/15</b>   | <b>EREV ROSH HASHANA</b><br>6:30 pm Wolman Services *  |
| <b>Sat., 9/16</b>   | <b>ROSH HASHANA DAY I</b><br>9 am Wolman Services *<br>11 am Teen Program<br>11 am Family Services<br>11:30 am Age-Specific Services |
| <b>Sun., 9/17</b>   | <b>ROSH HASHANA DAY II</b><br>9 am Wolman Services *<br>TBD Tashlich, Mincha & Ma'ariv   |

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>YOM KIPPUR</b> |  |
| <b>Sun., 9/24</b> | <b>EREV YOM KIPPUR</b><br>6:15 pm Empty Your Pockets<br>6:30 pm Mincha *<br>6:45 pm Kol Nidre *  |
| <b>Mon., 9/25</b> | <b>YOM KIPPUR DAY</b><br>9 am Wolman Services *<br>11 am Family Services<br>11:30 am Age-Specific Services<br>~noon Yizkor in Wolman<br>12:45 pm Teen Program<br>Mid-afternoon Learning Sessions<br>5:30 pm Mincha *<br>6:30 pm Neilah *<br>7:45 pm Break Fast |

### BABYSITTING

Babysitting is offered for children 18 months—12 years old both days of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur from 9 am—1:15 pm, and Kol Nidre from 6:15 pm to the end of services. Registration appreciated.



## Donate Canned Goods to La Casa Food Pantry

*Sponsored by the Social Action Committee*

La Casa, supportive housing for formerly homeless men, is in need of canned goods.

Bring cans to:

The TI Juniper Lobby (M-F 10am-4pm)

La Casa, 1444 Irving St., NW

Friendship Place, 3655 Calvert St., NW

For more information, contact TI's Social Action VP, Melissa Perera, at [TISocialaction@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:TISocialaction@tifereth-israel.org).

## Tifereth Israel Congregation SHALEM SERIES—JULY 2023

*Bringing speakers with expertise on a range of social, arts, political and religious topics to the TI Community on Shabbat afternoons.*



### **AN UPDATE ON THE JUDICIARY CONFLICT IN ISRAEL**

**Bill Galston**

Ezra K. Zilkha Chair, Brookings Institution Governance Studies Program & Senior Fellow

*Saturday, July 15 at 1:15 pm (in person and via Zoom)*

TI Member Bill Galston will be returning from Israel, where he will have met with numerous Israeli political and policy experts about the ongoing conflict over the judiciary. He will share his findings and insights with us at the SHALEM.

William A. Galston has authored nine books and more than 100 articles in the fields of political theory, public policy and American politics, most recently *Anti-Pluralism: The Populist Threat to Liberal Democracy* (Yale, 2018).

A participant in six presidential campaigns, he served from 1993-1995 as Deputy Assistant to President Clinton for Domestic Policy. Bill has appeared on all the principal television networks, is frequently interviewed on NPR and writes a weekly column for the *Wall Street Journal*.

Go to <https://bit.ly/TISH715> for the Zoom link.

## Nayes un Mechayes - Dori Gillman

### Happenings

**Bonnie Suchman**, has just been appointed to the Maryland Public Service Commission by Governor Wes Moore. Her four year term as a Commissioner must still be approved by the Maryland Senate in 2024.



For more information go to: Photo: Carolivia Herron

<https://>

[www.marylandmatters.org/2023/06/14/governor-makes-third-appointment-to-public-service-commission-marylands-utility-regulator/](https://www.marylandmatters.org/2023/06/14/governor-makes-third-appointment-to-public-service-commission-marylands-utility-regulator/)

**Myrna Goldman** traveled to Boulder, Colorado in late May for the high school graduation of her grandnephew, Elan Rubin. Aside from the lovely family events, Myrna had a nice surprise when she attended Shabbat morning services at the Conservative synagogue in Boulder with her sister and usual travel companion, Harriet Ainbinder. **Cindy and Alan Weitz** were in Boulder for the Bar Mitzvah of her brother's grandson, the previous Thursday. It was certainly a happy coincidence! Photo courtesy of Cindy Weitz.



### Happy News

Among this year's graduates of Blair High School are a trio of TI-ers. Left to right, they are **Galya Diamond-Berman**, **Simone Kimelman-Block**, and **Ruby Borzekowski**. Photo by proud father **R. Jason Kimelman-Block**.



### Sad News

Larry Rodenstein, brother of TI member **Morris (Judy) Rodenstein**, and uncle to Sarah (Louis) Jay and Asaf, died June 2, 2023, 14 Sivan 5783. He was 75 and died after complications following surgery. He is also survived by his partner, Beth Boyer; his three children, Betsy (Joseph) Reznikoff of Madison, Wisconsin; Shanna Brown of St. Paul, Minnesota; David (Mecale) Rodenstein and their son Frank of Boise, Idaho; siblings Alan Rodenstein (Lou Ann Flanz) of Houston, Texas, and Andrea (Danny) Spandau of Boca Raton, Florida. Larry was ecstatic about recently meeting Frankie, his first grandchild.



Larry Rodenstein was born in Brookline, Massachusetts, on April 15, 1948, three weeks before the State of Israel was declared, to the late Rose and Jacob Rodenstein. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Massachusetts and received his Master's degree from the University of Wisconsin in Labor Relations. He was a fierce advocate and defender of workers' rights during his working life in Madison, Wisconsin. He was an avid fan of the Boston Celtics and the Boston Red Sox. Larry retired to Tucson, where he passed away.

May his family be comforted and his memory be a blessing.

# LOOK AHEAD TO THE FALL HOLIDAYS

**Yizkor Dates:**

**Yom Kippur—September 25 | Shemini Atzeret—October 7**

## MEMORIAL PLAQUES



To establish a permanent memorial in our Sanctuary for a loved one, please order at <https://bit.ly/TIPlaques>.

Order by Monday, July 3 at 9:00 am to have a plaque by Yom Kippur (subject to manufacturer's schedule).

## BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE



The Book of Remembrance is used during Yizkor services throughout the year. Add your loved ones' names to the book at <https://bit.ly/TIBOR84>.

Deadline: Tuesday, September 5 by 9:00 am

## GET READY FOR SUKKOT!

## LULAV AND ETROG



Celebrate Sukkot in style with your own beautiful lulav and etrog. Order a set at <https://bit.ly/TILulav84>.

Deadline: Friday, September 15 at 9 am

## Kol Nashim Book Group - Jessica Weissman

On June 20th the KN book group met at the home of **Paula Flicker**. We discussed *East West Street: On the Origins of "Genocide" and "Crimes Against Humanity"*, nonfiction by Philippe Sands. We were collectively impressed by how well the author combined three threads: his family's history in the Lviv area, and the parallel lives of the men who invented the contrasting concepts of crimes against humanity and genocide. The book concluded with a description of the Nuremberg trials and the sentences of those on trial.

We meet next on July 18th at the home of **Naomi Freeman & Morris Klein**. Our reading is *The Tunnel*, a novel by A.B. Yehoshua. The story of a retired engineer who is involved in an ominous military project at the same time his dementia accelerates, and how this affects him and his family. Including his wife of nearly 50 years.

We meet from 7:30 to 9pm, or until we run out of things to say. This rarely happens. We are TI! All are welcome, including people who have not finished or even started the book. If you have friends who might enjoy discussing interesting books with Jewish content, bring them along.

If you are not already on the evite list, contact **Janice Mehler** (contact information in ShulCloud) to be added. You'll get timely reminder emails. Please RSVP so Naomi knows how many guests to prepare for. But if you don't get around to it, come anyway.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our meetings.

### 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.

**In the event of a death, before contacting the funeral home please contact one of the following chaverim or the TI office (202-882-1605).**

**Shelly Heller**            h: 301-942-1836  
   w: 202-994-5906  
   c: 301-996-2704

**Marcia Goggin**            c: 301-792-1063

**Bruce Heppen**            h: 301-299-3255  
   c: 202-997-1890  
   w: 703-417-8983



Left: **Brenda Footer** at a familiar spot. Photo by a passing friendly stranger.

Right: **Dori Kefer** and **Nathan Suddleson** at drop off for Camp Tel Yehuda. Photo: Molly Suddleson



**Bring your family!  
Bring your friends!**

# TI End of Summer Party

**Sunday, August  
27 at 10 am**

**Ice Cream  
Coffee Bar  
Music  
Israeli Dance  
Info Tables  
Fun for All Ages!**

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/TIsum23>.

## Himmelfarb Open House



Looking for innovative, multi-faceted,  
joyful K-12 learning?

- Learn about the Maker Space, Builder Space and Beit Midrash
- Meet the teachers
- View students' work
- Meet Rabbi Kelley

Questions? Contact Rabbi Kelley Gludt at  
[rabbikelley@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:rabbikelley@tifereth-israel.org).



**Tifereth Israel  
Congregation**

7701 16th Street, NW • Washington, DC 20012

## Anacostia River Trip - Julie Steinberg



Photo by Julie Steinberg

Three days after Washington DC suffered code purple air quality, a group of TI members joined the Anacostia Watershed Society for a boat trip on the river to learn from our guide about water quality, wildlife, and the history of the Anacostia River. The weather was comfortable.

As we traveled, we observed four ospreys perched on trees bordering the river and an eagle sitting high up on a tower. Swallows swooped over the river catching insects, and when we passed under a highway bridge, we could see their mud nests.

One of the society's goals is restoration of the wetlands. They use wild rice to rejuvenate the marshes. Unfortunately, the Army Corps of Engineers put up seawalls that prevent the renewal of the marshes and are prohibitively expensive to remove.

We passed the location of one of the nation's dirtiest power plants (now closed), the old Benning. Road PEP-CO power plant. When operating, it burned coal and emitted toxic air pollution into the river and local neighborhoods. Carolina Herron made the connection that when she was young and visiting her grandparents, she used to play outside with the ash raining down on her and her friends. As we returned, we passed a kayaker with 5 tires on his boat who ventured often onto the river to collect tires and trash.

My impression is that everyone enjoyed the trip and were happy to learn about the recreational facilities connected to the river (a bike path, the National Arboretum, and the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens) and the work of the Anacostia Watershed Society toward making the Anacostia a swimmable river.



## Kol Nashim Events - Margie Odle

### **Come one, Come all!**

KN and Gevarim are sponsoring a TI Sunday summer night movie on July 16th at 7:30PM. KN will provide snacks and Gevarim's Andrew Reamer has selected *Crescendo* for the movie. Here's a synopsis:

A famous conductor, Eduard Sporck, is approached to create an Israeli-Palestinian orchestra, but is quickly drawn into a sea of problems. Young musicians from both sides are unable to form a team, largely due to their personal experiences with war, oppression, or the risk of terrorist attacks. For the orchestra to be a success, Sporck must help his musicians overcome their own beliefs, fears, and bigotry in order to come together.

### **KN is happy to report.....**

To find out how we might help, KN has reached out to TI members who are working with an Afghan refugee family through the New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance, NNIA. The need for volunteers and money has inspired KN to make a donation to help buy summer supplies the children need for camp. Soon, an additional KN donation will be made to help fund either summer camp or groceries. In addition, KN is considering volunteer options that we can organize.

### **A big hit.....**

KN is very pleased that the tzedakah boxes we're providing to those celebrating their B'nai or Kabbalah Mitzvah have been a big hit. We plan to continue this new tradition.

### **Fall programming.....**

A very exciting program is already on the TI calendar for the Fall. Joan Nathan, former TI member and renowned cookbook author, will be the guest speaker at a cooking program in the Cherner on October 15th, a Sunday morning. Stay tuned for further details.

### **And of course the monthly book club continues.....**

July's book is *The Tunnel* by A.B. Yehoshua. We meet in person on July 18th at the home of Naomi Freeman and Morris Klein.

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

**At TI, we want everyone to be able to participate as fully as possible in services and activities.**

**Contact [info@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:info@tifereth-israel.org) if you need:**

**Accessible parking and/or seating • Use of a walker or wheelchair**

**Tell a service greeter in the Sanctuary if you need:**

**Assisted Listening Device • Large print prayerbook**

**Wheelchair accessible seating • Bimah lift**



## YOUTH & FAMILY

### JUNIOR MINYAN

Saturdays, July 8 & 22, August 12 & 26 at 10:15 am

Co-Sponsored & Co-Led by TI & Segulah:

Rabbi Werbow and Ethan Merlin will each lead 2 Services

Elementary school-aged children are invited to attend this age-appropriate learner's service. Parents welcome, but not required to attend.

Would your child like to sign up for a part in the service (big or small, speaking or non-speaking)? Email [ethanmerlin@gmail.com](mailto:ethanmerlin@gmail.com).

## Check Out the Books in the Mollie Berch Library

*Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor Frankl (1946)

This book is great for anyone who has ever considered the meaning of life. Frankl, a survivor of Auschwitz Concentration Camp, recounts his experiences while held prisoner from 1942 until the end of the war. In these stark conditions, Frankl uncovers elemental qualities of the human soul that enable survival in the most abject circumstances. In a world of darkness and cruelty, Frankl finds a path to light and forgiveness.

– Pierre Dugan

*The Feast Goes On* by the Monday Morning Cooking Club (2014)

I loved 'meeting' these Jewish women in Sydney who gather every Monday to share and test recipes. Their cookbooks combine what they learned cooking together as well as from Jewish cooks all over Australia. I was entranced by the bios of the home cooks, both about the origins of the recipes (many from Europe, of course, but also some from South Africa) and about what drew them into finding joy in cooking and eating with friends and family. The quote on the cover from Yotam Ottolenghi sums up my feeling "You just want to eat everything".

- Sharon Cohen

*Editor's note: Free your inner Michael Dirda or Michiko Kakutani! Send a short review of a book in the Mollie Berch Library to [menorah@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:menorah@tifereth-israel.org).*

## WAYS TO DONATE TO TI



<https://bit.ly/TICarDon>



<https://bit.ly/TIGive>



<https://bit.ly/TIKiddush>



<https://bit.ly/TIBRIDGE>

## Upcoming Friday Night Minyan Assignments

### July 7, 2023

Melissa Perera  
 Adam & Jessica Perlmutter  
 Jeff & Cynthia Peterman  
 Joshua Pitlick & Janet Blank  
 David & Laurel Rabin  
 Glenn Rapoport  
 Jacqueline Ratner  
 Andrew Reamer  
 Sanford & Shelley Reback  
 Toby Reiter & Nechama Malkiel  
 Kelly Rickard & Stephen Rickard  
 Howard Riker & Danielle Glosser  
 Morris & Judy Rodenstein  
 Joel Rogers & Ruth Lieberman  
 Paul & Esther Roitman Bardack  
 Charles Rombro & Pamela Stone  
 Elliot Rosen & Sharon Cohen  
 Aviel Roshwald & Alene Moyer  
 Marc Rothenberg & Ivy Baer

### July 14, 2023

David & Stephanie Rubin  
 Howard & Hannah Rubin  
 Stephen & Jill Saletta  
 Mark & Diann Saltman  
 Richard Schachter  
 Alex Schaffer & Nichole Berns  
 Lawrence & Pearl Schainker  
 Eric & Shira Schechtman  
 Laura Schiavo  
 Michael & Mical Schneider  
 Adina Schwartz & Jessica Simpson  
 Keith Secular & Susan Catler  
 Ruth Secular  
 Rabbi Ethan & Rachel Seidel  
 Paul Seltman & Jeanne Ireland  
 David & Lois Shapiro  
 Phillip & Ruth Shapiro  
 Noam & Deborah Shelef  
 Jaclyn Shettler  
 Randy Showstack & Michele Zador  
 Richard & Marjorie Siegel

### July 21, 2023

David Silber  
 Morton & Christine Simon  
 David & Rona Siskind  
 Joseph Davidson  
 Jonathan & Catherine Tuerk

Neil & Jessica Sitron  
 Sarah Sorscher & Marcus Hedrick  
 Louis & Madge Lee Spector  
 Gregory Stackel & Genevieve Sapiro  
 Jeffrey & Julie Steinberg  
 Michael Stempel & Sheryl Frank  
 Hayim & Malka Stopak  
 Michael & Michelle Strollo  
 Edwin Stromberg & Rose Ellen Halper  
 Shelley Sturman  
 Marc Suddleson & Molly Surden  
 Yochanan Sullivan & Yvonne Shashoua

### July 28, 2023

Howard & Michele Sumka  
 Michael & Adele Sumner  
 Miriam Sznycer-Taub & Henri Makembe  
 Jennifer & Naomi Taransky  
 Kassahun Teffera & Melke Mengiste  
 Jevera Temsky  
 Glenn & Diane Thrush  
 Rachel Tickner  
 Michael Tilchin & Linda Greer  
 Adrienne Torrey & Joel Cofidis  
 Lisa Traiger  
 Peter & Rhoda Trooboff  
 Paula Tucker  
 Daniel & Allison Turner  
 Lester & Judith Turner  
 Michael Unterweger  
 Mark Verschell & Elizabeth Leff  
 Susan Vitale  
 David Wachtel & Jenny Goldstein  
 Reenie Wagner  
 Harry Waldman & Susan Morse  
 Marc Warshawsky & Vivian Seidner

### August 4, 2023

Eric Weiner & Sharon Moshavi  
 Louise Weingarten Wiener  
 Leah Weinryb Grohsgal  
 Jon Weintraub & Judith Heimlich  
 Dov Weitman & Sylvia Horwitz  
 Alan & Cynthia Weitz  
 Rabbi Michael & Melissa Werbow  
 Howard & Barbara White  
 Peter Winch & Denice Zeck

Adam & Dorothea Wolfson  
 Lesley Zark  
 Christopher Zeilinger & Ann Baker  
 Yohanes Zeleke  
 Diana Zurer  
 Ellen Zwibak

### August 18, 2023

Luis Acosta & Karen Levin  
 Sandra Adelstein  
 Andrew Afflerbach & Joanne Hovis  
 JoAnn Albert  
 Estie Alemu  
 Jon Alterman & Katherine LaRiviere  
 Morton Alterman  
 Robyn Altman & Brendan Doherty  
 Lisa & Tim Anderegg  
 Leonard Bachman  
 Heike Bailin  
 Alan Bandler  
 Burt Barnow & Joyce Kaiser  
 Gideon Bass & Mae Cooper  
 Charlie Baum  
 Leonard & Joy Baxt  
 Mark & Mona Berch  
 Bruce & Laurinda Berger  
 Carl Bergman & Marjorie Odle  
 Judith Berland

### August 25, 2023

Sidney Bailin  
 Sarah Berman  
 Dana Beyer  
 Jackie Binogol  
 Sheri Blonder  
 Gideon & Lisa Blumenthal  
 Ron & Dina Borzekowski  
 Larry & Lise Bram  
 Sarah Bram  
 Daniel & Ariel Brandt Lautman  
 Steven & Rachel Bressler  
 Renana Brooks  
 Sharon Brown  
 Alice Burton  
 L Lee Butler  
 Nataliya Chernyak Cowen  
 David & Elana Cohen  
 David & Judith Cohen

## July Yahrzeitn

Yahrzeit dates are listed under the Shabbat date when the name is recited during services. If any information is missing or incorrect, please contact Sheri Blonder at [sheri@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:sheri@tifereth-israel.org).

### JUNE 30– JULY 1

|                 |  |                   |  |                   |   |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|--|-------------------|---|
| 7/1             | Alvin Berkowitz<br>Harry Goldman<br>Ida Malnik<br>Rebecca Trooboff   | 7/9               | Felix Menachem Ellern<br>Benjamin Levin<br>Lisa Null<br>Esther Silverman   | 7/17              | Harry Taylor<br>Frances Wolf  |
| 7/2             | Shirley Beheshti<br>May Ruth Frohlich<br>Curtis Eric Heppen<br>Sol Swerdloff<br>Samuel Trupp   | 7/10              | David Franks<br>Elizabeth Marie Levey<br>Sherman<br>Solomon Sickle<br>Irma C. Stein<br>Bertha Suppree<br>George Toll                                     | 7/18              | Ellis Herr<br>Gary Laredo<br>Sidney G. Odle<br>Beatrice Roth<br>Robert Sandler<br>Jerome Schwartz<br>Bernard C. Trupp<br>Irving Yaverbaum                           |
| 7/3             | Bertam R. Abramson<br>Joel H. Greenstein<br>Esther Kutnick<br>Oscar Panikoff<br>Rose Portner   | 7/11              | Sol Baxt<br>Jenny Friedman Bulman<br>Zelma Charmé Fink<br>Dorothy Roodman<br>Bertha Friedman Smith<br>Pearl Weitman                                      | 7/19              | Herman H. Corman<br>Trude Rosenthal<br>Madeline Sherman   |
| 7/4             | Irving Clarfeld<br>Annie Glassman<br>Sheldon Mermelstein<br>Lisa Kim Plotkin<br>Dorothy Wurman Turner  | 7/12              | Jeremy Goldberg  | 7/20              | Morris Finkelstein<br>George Greenberg<br>Grandison Frank Jones, III<br>Sidney Mickelson  |
| 7/5             | Nettie Cohen<br>Edward Israel Friedland<br>Michael M. Green<br>Sarah Jewler<br>Donald M. Kabaker<br>Ray N. Kabaker<br>Gary Schneier<br>William Taylor<br>Anne Wolman | 7/13              | Eva Bleicher<br>Sophia Irene Hirschman<br>Louise G. Kalish<br>Moshe Matalon<br>Louis Naiman<br>Harry Lawrence Rudnick<br>Kathryn B. Shapiro              | 7/21              | Barbara Blanco<br>Minnie Goodman<br>Robert Moses Kolodny<br>Morton William Lazar  |
| 7/6             | Fay Maydeck<br>Harry Melvin Mendelson<br>Ada Naiman<br>Harry Seeff<br>Evelyn Stopak  | 7/14              | Samuel Greenstein<br>Morris Hertz<br>Rachel Roffe<br>Mary Markel Rosenthal<br>Milton Wruble  | <b>JULY 21-22</b> |   |
| 7/7             | Mollie Handwerker<br>Abraham Klitzman<br>Aaron Leifer<br>Harry Roth<br>Selma August Rubinstein<br>Sonnya Woll  | <b>JULY 14-15</b> |  | 7/22              | Kathy Wachter Michos<br>Sidney Reitberg<br>Jacob M. Schwarz   |
| <b>JULY 7-8</b> |  | 7/15              | Julius Anderson<br>Morris Bulman<br>Tamara Paul<br>Alexander S. Taransky   | 7/23              | John Hunter Burlingame<br>Joseph Forman   |
| 7/8             | Dora Borow<br>Sandra Greenfeld<br>Carol R. Peck<br>Sarah Taylor  | 7/16              | Hirsch Bieler<br>Carolyn Bogen<br>Abraham Cadish<br>Ida Fanaroff<br>Arthur Levy<br>Oscar Mann<br>Florence Marvin<br>Pearl Perlmutter<br>Joseph Silverman | 7/24              | Esther Rachel Cohen<br>Morris Lav<br>Lorna Margolis<br>Esther Rodberg   |
|                 |  |                   |  | 7/25              | Solomon Iskow<br>Simon Michnick<br>Deborah Weilerstein  |
|                 |  |                   |  | 7/26              | Alexander Breslow   |
|                 |  |                   |  | 7/27              | Harry Ackerman<br>Yaakov Laib Berger<br>Irvin Footer<br>Ellis Harris<br>Peter Jay Levin<br>Paul Rosen<br>Tillie Shleien<br>Edgar Allan Turpin<br>Henrietta W. Weitz |

(Continued on page 21)

## July Yahrzeitn continued

7/28 Dora Corman  
Jeanne Wayne  
Cornetto  
Jeffrey Greer  
Bertha Tranen  
Esther Zark

### JULY 28-29

7/29 Frieda Abramowitz  
Eric Drazin  
Louis M. Frankel

Mollie M. Lutsky  
Myrna Matusow  
Larry Povich  
Paul Weber  
Charles Weingarten

7/30 Benjamin Greenfield  
Helen Lubin  
Meyer Rothenberg  
Bernard Rubinstein  
Nancy Weber

7/31 Arnold Berman  
Joseph Goldstein  
Millie Kahanov  
Lena Morris  
Judy Schechtman  
Rosalie Choper Stahl  
Etta Watson

## MARCH IN THE TAKOMA PARK JULY 4TH PARADE



Photo from the 2017 Takoma Park Parade

*Sponsored by the Membership Committee  
Tuesday, July 4 at 10:00 am*

**Share your TI spirit and spread the word about our fabulous congregation!  
We'll march together, rain or shine, and stop along the route to do the Himmelfarb Dance.  
You can pick up dance steps at the parade or come to a practice session  
on July 2nd at 10:30 am to learn from Himmelfarb experts.**

**Register at <https://bit.ly/TIJuly4Reg> so organizers to receive location information.**



**Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3NGLvjz> to learn the Himmelfarb Dance on July 2.**

## Donations—May 20 to June 20

### Bridge Campaign

Katherine Benton-Cohen & Hal Cohen  
 Sharon Cohen & Elliot Rosen  
 Miriam Davidson  
 Harvey Kabaker & Andrea Kline  
 Andrew Reamer in honor of TI's Legacy Members  
 Genevieve Sapir & Gregory Stackel

### Funeral Fund

Miriam Davidson in memory of Bob Hausman

### General Donation

Anonymous  
 Mark & Mona Berch in memory of Larry Rodenstein  
 Mark & Mona Berch in honor of Rabbi Werbow  
 Raymond & Rebecca Coleman  
 Naomi Freeman & Morris Klein in memory of  
 Larry Rodenstein  
 Francie & Josh Kranzberg in memory of  
 Larry Rodenstein  
 David & Sara Handwerker in honor of  
 Malvine Kleiner's 100th birthday  
 Elihu Leifer to support the Menorah  
 Dana & Sheridan Neimark in honor of Hannah Zibel's  
 Bat Mitzvah  
 Dana & Sheridan Neimark in memory of  
 Esther Greene  
 Barry & Marcia Silverberg in memory of  
 Esther Greene  
 Barbara & Howard White in memory of  
 Larry Rodenstein  
 Barbara & Howard White in memory of Bob Hausman  
 Barbara & Howard White in memory of  
 Ruth Unterweger

### In Honor of TI's Legacy Members

Joy & Leonard Baxt  
 Sheri Blonder  
 Naomi Freeman & Morris Klein  
 Harvey Kabaker & Andrea Kline  
 Ken Morris & Terri Zall  
 Dana & Sheridan Neimark  
 Cynthia & Jeff Peterman  
 Marjorie & Richard Siegel  
 Howard & Michele Sumka  
 Paula Tucker  
 Mike Unterweger  
 Alan & Cynthia Weitz

### Marvin Caplan Social

Shelly & Steve Heller in memory of Ruth Unterweger

### Madeline Ness Fund

John & Marcia Goggin in memory of Saul Ritter

### Mollie Berch Library Fund

Janice Goldblum in memory of Esther Greene  
 Myrna Goldman in memory of Esther Greene

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Miriam Davidson in honor of Lev Werbow's  
 Bar Mitzvah  
 Mike Unterweger

### Yahrzeit Donations

Ivy Baer & Marc Rothenberg in memory of  
 Paul N. Baer  
 Judith Berland in memory of Seymour Berland  
 Sharon Brown in memory of Rae Jasinowsky  
 Sharon Brown in memory of Jay Steven Brown  
 Stan Dorn & Carla Ellern in memory of Felix Ellern  
 Rabbi Charles & Krayna Feinberg in memory of  
 Morris Epstein  
 Tamar Hendel Fishman in memory of  
 Zalman Fishman  
 Seth Glabman & Martha Hare in memory of  
 Stanley Glabman  
 Seth Glabman & Martha Hare in memory of Esta Hare  
 Myrna Goldman in memory of Leonard Goldman  
 Marjorie Greenberg in memory of Alvin Berkowitz  
 Marjorie Greenberg in memory of George Greenberg  
 Ellen & Lawrence Gross in memory of Gerald G. Gross  
 Shelly & Steve Heller in memory of Ethel Heller  
 Esther & Gene Herman in memory of Brenda Cywan  
 Melvin & Sue Heyman in memory of  
 Pat Lopatin Lischin  
 Harvey Kabaker & Andrea Kline in memory of  
 Ray N. Kabaker  
 Louise Kelley & Jessica Weissman in memory of  
 Leah Weissman  
 Evan Lazar in memory of Morton William Lazar  
 Beverly Lehrer in memory of Fay Lehrer  
 Elihu Leifer in memory of Aaron Leifer  
 Joseph & Paula Martin in memory of Milton Kahan  
 Cynthia & Jeff Peterman in memory of Eve Gaizband  
 Roberta Schery in memory of Irma C. Stein  
 Howard & Michele Sumka in memory of Sylvia Stahl  
 Marion & Michael Usher in memory of  
 Barney David Usher

## Donations continued

### Yahrzeit Donations continued

Barbara & Howard White in memory of  
Morris Mestetsky  
Diana Zurer in memory of Sonnya Woll  
Diana Zurer in memory of Raymond Zurer

### Yizkor Donations

Shelly & Steve Heller in memory of  
William and Esther Silverman  
Myrna Goldman in memory of  
Lorraine and Leonard Goldman  
Richard Levine

## Our Tifereth Israel Memories - Sheridan and Dana Neimark

As presented at the TI Legacy Shabbat, June 17, 2023 by Dana.

Sheridan and I have been members of Tifereth Israel Congregation for 48 years. We joined TI in 1975.

Our children Matthew and Rebecca became Bar and Bat Mitzvah at TI. And Rebecca was married by Rabbi Abramowitz.

Both of Dana's parents--long time members Benjamin and Frieda Perlzweig--had their funerals at TI and are buried in the TI section of Mt. Lebanon Cemetery.

Although Dana's parents were members of TI when we joined, our dear friend **Hedy Ohringer** strongly influenced our becoming TI members.

We have many good TI friends.

Initiated by our children's friendships at TI, we became and are still close friends of **Gene and Esther Herman** and **Howard and Barbara White**.

We joined a TI study group and became very fond of **Richard and Marjorie Siegel, George and Marjorie Greenberg, Jay and Rachel Finkelstein, Bill and Miriam Galston, Dina and Pierre Durgan, Alan and Cindy Weitz, Judith and Lester Turner, Harris and Rosa Weinstein**.

We have great admiration and affection for many other TI members. Member **Sheryl Gross-Glazer** and Dana have been studying Biblical Hebrew together weekly for over 9 years. **Heike Bailin** studied with Dana and Sheryl until her professional medical obligations precluded her continuing.

Dana has been so fortunate to be in a Biblical Hebrew class led by **Stephanie Rubin** for over 14 years, which Sheridan has recently joined.

Sheridan served on the TI Board for a number of years, and on the Ritual Committee for many years.

Dana worked in the TI Library for a number of years,

as a member of the Library Committee, and worked on a number of earlier TI Retreats.

Since we joined TI, we have been pastored by 3 wonderful rabbis.

Rabbi Abramowitz led the services for the Bar and Bar Mitzvahs of our children Rebecca and Matthew, and conducted the marriage ceremony of Rebecca to Lee Spector. Rabbi Abramowitz supported us through several serious illnesses.

Rabbi Seidel also supported us during serious illnesses, and saved Dana's father's life during a hospital visit by quickly summoning a physician following an earlier improperly administered procedure.

In Dana's father's last days, Rabbi Seidel visited him frequently, providing enormous comfort. And at Dana's father's request Rabbi Seidel sang to him the Yiddish songs his mother sang to him as a young child.

During Dana's mother's very difficult last days, Rabbi Seidel provided extraordinary comfort during his many visits.

In addition to all of Rabbi Seidel's support during our and Dana's parent's illnesses, Rabbi Seidel's Biblical Hebrew classes sparked Dana's continuing study and accomplishments in Biblical Hebrew.

Now Rabbi Werbow pastors us. We feel so fortunate to participate in his Parshat HaShavuah weekly classes, his Shabbat morning Mishnah meetings, and all the other Torah study that he leads, as well as all the other Rabbinic support that he provides.

All three Rabbis have wonderful wives and children who have and now contribute to a meaningful and supportive TI membership.

## ONGOING RELIGIOUS SERVICES AND LEARNING

### KABBALAT SHABBAT AND MA'ARIV \*

*Fridays at 6:30 pm*

At TI, we love to sing, especially on Friday night! Come warm your soul with a joyful start to Shabbat.

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/TIKabbalat>.

### MISHNA WITH RABBI WERBOW \*

*Saturdays at 8:15 am-July 1, 8, 15, 29*

Deepen your understanding of Judaism through the eyes of the early rabbis. All levels of learning and Hebrew skills are welcome!

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/TIMishna>.

### SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES \*

*Saturdays at 9:00 am*

Services are traditional and egalitarian led by TI members in partnership with Rabbi Werbow. Come to pray; stay for lunch and lively conversation!

For online resources, go to <https://bit.ly/TIShabbat>.

### SUNDAY MORNING MINYAN

*Sundays at 9:00 am*

Services are lay-led, with Rabbi Werbow sharing insights. Stay around to eat and socialize!

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/TISunday>.

## SPECIAL SERVICES & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### SHABBAT PRAYER MELODY WORKSHOP

*Sponsored by the Ritual Committee—Saturday, July 8 after Kiddush Lunch*

All are invited to learn melodies that will be used at the July 15 'Rising Song' Shabbat services.

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/3Xg3hxi>.

### RISING SONG ON SHABBAT MORNING! \*

*Sponsored by the Ritual Committee—Saturday, July 15 at 9:00 am*

Services will be downstairs in-the-round, in 'Rising Song' spirit to fill our Shabbat with ruach.

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/3pfR13s>.

### RISING SONG KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE AND DINNER \*

*Sponsored by the Ritual Committee- August 11 at 6:30 pm; kids' snacks from 6:00 pm—6:30 pm*

*Deadline to register for dinner: Sunday, August 6 by 9:00 am*

Circle up in song and catapult the community into a soul-filling Shabbat!

Learn more and register for dinner at <https://bit.ly/TIRising>.

*\*Attend in person or virtually*



## ONGOING ACTIVITIES

### SERVE DINNER AT SHEPHERD'S TABLE

*Sponsored by the Social Action Committee—Sundays, July 2, August 6 and September 3 at 5:00 pm*

Help serve dinner to homeless individuals on the first Sunday of each month.

Learn more and register at <https://bit.ly/TIServe>.

### KOL NASHIM BOOK CLUB

*Tuesday, July 18 at 7:30 pm*

July's book is [\*The Tunnel\*](#) by A.B. Yehoshua. All are welcome, including people who have not finished or even started the book. The book discussions have returned to meeting in person.

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/KNBooks>.

### RAIN GARDEN CARE

*Sponsored by the Green Committee— Sunday, July 23 at 10:00 am*

Dig into the TI rain garden! Weed or plant, depending on the season. BYO shovel and gloves.

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/TIGarden>.

### VIGIL AGAINST RACISM

*Fridays at 5:00 pm*

Join the TI community on 16th Street in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement.

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/TIVigil>.

### CANNED GOODS DRIVE

*Sponsored by the Social Action Committee*

[\*La Casa\*](#), a 40-unit supportive housing building for previously homeless males in Columbia Heights, is in need of canned goods for their food pantry. Cans may be brought to the TI Juniper Lobby Monday-Friday from 10:00 am-4:00 pm.

For additional drop-off locations see <https://bit.ly/TILaCasa>.

## SUPPORT A SHABBAT KIDDUSH!

Celebrate a simcha with the TI community and your guests.

Options to fit any budget!

Sponsor or support a Kiddush at <https://bit.ly/TIKiddush>.

Questions? Contact Sheri Blonder at [sheri@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:sheri@tifereth-israel.org).

## TI's Innovative Approach to Jewish Education - Stan Dorn

**Jennifer Lav** had mixed feelings when she first sent her son to the Himmelfarb School. She wanted Ira to get a strong Jewish education. But “traditionally, Hebrew school wasn’t fun. It was something you had to go to.”

She was astonished to find that Ira “absolutely loves Sunday school”. Now six years old, Ira “looks forward to it every week, and when he gets home, he’s excited to tell me what he did.” After just two years, “it’s installed a love of Jewish learning. He’s sad when Hebrew school breaks for the summer.”

Volunteering at Tifereth Israel’s Himmelfarb school, Jennifer discovered the school’s secret sauce: it’s “a diverse and accepting place that meets kids where they are as they learn in very different ways.”

Under the approach pioneered by the school’s director, **Rabbi Kelley Gludt**, most class cohorts are not defined by age or grade level. Instead, each student



Color war photo by Michelle Strollo

picks a club where Jewish learning is integrated with the child’s favorite activities. As Rabbi Kelley explained, “we support student agency, encouraging children to have as much say in their educational

journey as possible.” This promotes learning that is “hands-on, experiential, and filled with energy and joy.”

The school teaches familiar subjects: Shabbat, holidays, Hebrew, Jewish values, Biblical literacy, Israel, prayer, preparation for Bar, Bat, and Kabbalat Mitzvah, etc. But learning methods are anything but traditional.

Rising sixth-grader **Ava Strollo** explained, “we’re all focused on one topic, but we learn it in different ways.” For example, during the Shabbat unit, students in Ava’s reading and writing group “wrote short stories, using what we researched about Shabbat.” In the Music Room, students rewrote the lyrics of popular songs to bring out their favorite parts of Shabbat. And during a unit on the book of Genesis, students in the Builder Space used Legos to picture key moments drawn from a close reading of the Biblical text.

According to Ava, “being able to choose how you learn” lets students “be more creative in our classes. We get to do what we really want to do. We listen more, we’re more productive.”

Ava’s 13-year-old sister, **Mia**, put it succinctly: “School is a lot more fun.”

Hebrew instruction is especially individualized. Over Zoom, Hebrew teachers meet with students one-on-one, using instructional methods carefully tailored to fit the individual child’s situation, knowledge base, and learning style.

Fresh from her recent Bat Mitzvah celebration, Mia explained why she found the one-one-one Hebrew instruction remarkably effective: “Everyone learns at their own pace. Each student can learn as fast as they can, but without speeding anyone along. We learn everything better and more thoroughly.”

Some activities are community-wide. Students and teachers all come together for weekly prayer. Usually, seventh-graders lead the upbeat, tuneful service, though younger students often volunteer to lead.

Holidays are another time when the entire school community comes together. This Spring’s celebra-

*(Continued on page 27)*

## TI's Innovative Approach to Jewish Education - continued

tions included a Tu B'Shevat ice cream seder, "Nailed It! Passover Edition," and a Purim carnival.

The school is built on a "pedagogy of joy," according to Rabbi Kelley. "Joy comes when our children are engaged by learning, have a degree of independence and agency, and feel safe to explore concepts and ideas without fear of judgment." In Ava's words, "It's a very good community to be learning. No one's going to judge you if you're not always right. It's about learning, not about knowing everything."

**Michelle Stollo**, Ava and Mia's mother, was struck by the school's trusting environment that helps older kids feel comfortable sharing their thoughts about tough topics, including rising antisemitism in area schools. "That's a great gift we can give our kids," Michelle explained, "providing safe spaces where they can be proud of their Jewish identity and cultivate that together."

Michelle noted the contrast with weekday schooling: "After sitting in classrooms all week, it's nice for kids to have a place where learning happens so naturally, not in a traditional, formulaic way," She stressed that the school gives students "a chance to get creative," providing a break from secular schools that focus on standardized test results by "teaching to the test."

"In the past, my kids would go because they're good kids. But on lots of Sundays we heard them ask, 'Do we have to go?' Now, it doesn't matter how late our girls stayed up on Saturday night. They wake up on Sunday and want to go to religious school," drawn by "renewed energy and a sense of community."

Rabbi Kelley provided a long-term context for the school's innovative approach: "When learners feel contentment, belonging, and joy within Judaism, we reinforce the foundations of our Jewish future."

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# A Frightening Vision for Israel, and a Path toward Improving Palestinian Living Conditions and Israeli Security - Elihu Leifer

*Editor's note: this is the second part of a two-part article. The first part ran in the June 2023 issue of the Menorah.*

## I. The Smotrich "Decisive Plan"

A program drafted by Israel's new Finance Minister and Minister in the Defense Ministry Bezalel Smotrich, known as the "Smotrich Decisive Plan", if carried out, will seriously compromise Israel's security, economy, and foreign relations. It contains three main features:

1. The settling of an additional half-million Israelis in the West Bank;
2. A judicial overhaul which would endow the executive branch with unfettered power, including power to execute this plan;
3. The undermining of what remains of the Palestinian Authority's operational capacity, which will lead to the strengthening of Hamas and other anti-Israel terrorist organizations.

These are far from abstract musings. In the plan itself Smotrich writes that "this goal...will be realized via a political-legal act of imposing sovereignty on all of Judea and Samaria [i.e. the West Bank]."

In the new Israel government Smotrich has received the Finance Ministry and a portfolio in the Defense Ministry, powerful positions that would enable him to promote his agenda. In his capacity of Finance Minister, he can allocate vast resources necessary to put his plan into practice. In his role in the Defense Ministry, he can control the civil administration with responsibility in the West Bank. To make matters worse, the extremist Itamar Ben-Gvir, has secured the National Security Ministry whose powers include the internal security forces that operate in Israel and, increasingly, in the West Bank.

The results are already evident. Nine outposts, illegal by Israeli and international law, have received post-facto authorization; plans were approved to build thousands of housing units across the West Bank; the Disengagement Law (which secured withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and five settlements in the northern part of the West Bank in 2005) was repealed; the illegal settlement of Homesh was effectively reestablished; significant new budgets were approved for settlement infrastructures; and signs were posted on West Bank billboards condemning IDF OC Central Command, a clear warning to those soldiers and their officers who would stand in the way of West Bank annexation.

For these reasons, and to reduce the violence currently taking place in the West Bank and the surrounding area, it is critical for the Israel government to implement quickly and, if necessary, unilaterally a peace plan that clearly rejects the Smotrich Decisive Plan, and that will enhance Israel's security and improve Palestinian living conditions.

## II. Viability of Prompt Implementation of a Peace Plan

I believe this is a moment of potential positive change in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and relationship. This may seem counter-intuitive because of Israel's new right-wing government, the ongoing violence by Palestinian terrorists and Israeli West Bank settlers, the deep political split within Israeli society, the seeming indifference of Prime Minister Netanyahu and U.S. President Biden, and the hostility toward Israel by international agencies, organizations and media. But a deeper examination shows the contrary is true, if appropriate action is taken promptly.

To be sure, positive change will require Netanyahu's agreement to the substance of a peace plan and

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## A Path toward Improvement - continued

his willingness and ability to restrain the right-wing forces in his coalition. It will also require personal involvement by Biden and his willingness to push Netanyahu to agree to such a plan. This, in turn, will require acquiescence by Egypt, Jordan, Britain and the E.U. Ideally, an effort should also be made to obtain acquiescence to the plan from the United Nations Security Council, including China and Russia, and the countries of Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Arab Gulf states that have normalized relations with Israel. Impossible? Consider:

1. Netanyahu already agreed, in 2020, to a peace plan which included:
  - A. Recognition of a Palestinian state with its capital in a portion of eastern Jerusalem.
  - B. No displacement of Arab and Jewish residents from their homes in Jerusalem, the West Bank, and Gaza.
  - C. A division of land in the West Bank whereby i) 97 percent of Palestinians currently residing there would be incorporated into the new State of Palestine, and ii) simultaneously, 97 percent of Jews currently residing in the West Bank would be incorporated into the State of Israel.
  - D. Retaining the status quo regarding rights and protocols on the Temple Mount, including the al-Aqsa mosque, and all other Moslem holy places.
  - E. Retention by Israel of all security prerogatives it currently exercises over land, sea and air.
  - F. Retention by Israel of sovereignty over the security-sensitive Jordan River Valley. Existing agricultural enterprises owned or controlled by Palestinians would continue without interruption.
  - G. The State of Palestine would include a limited portion of the Negev contiguous to Gaza.
  - H. The “triangle communities” of Kafr Qara, Ar’ara, Baha al-Gharbiyye, Umm al Fahm, Qalansawe, Tayibe, Kafr Qasim, Tira, Kafr Bara and Jaljulia, which largely self-identify as Palestinian, would become part of the State of Palestine.
  - I. A high-speed transportation link would be built to enable efficient movement between the West Bank and Gaza, crossing over and under the State of Israel’s sovereign territory.
  - J. First rate infrastructure solutions (including tunnels and overpasses) would be implemented to maximize unimpeded and secure movement throughout both states.
  - K. There would not be a return to Israel proper of any Palestinians who fled or were displaced during the 1948-49 War.
  - L. Funding of the implementation of the plan would be through an international fund administered by a “multilateral development bank” that would receive investments by interested countries, United Nations agencies, and private individuals and organizations which are approved by Israel, the Palestine Authority (PA) and the U.S.
  - M. Many other features that will improve Palestinian living conditions. (See Section IV.)
2. On June 9, 2023 Prime Minister Netanyahu told the British media company Sky News, in an interview, that a normalization deal with Saudi Arabia “would help us solve the Israeli-Arab conflict.” He spoke one day after the U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken completed a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia, where he spoke with its leaders about such a deal.
3. Netanyahu has very recently shown that he is willing and able to restrain and override the extreme rightists in his coalition:

On February 26 and March 19, 2023 representatives of Israel, the PA, the U.S., Jordan and Egypt (the “quintet”) met in Aqaba, Jordan and Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, respectively. At these meetings, the PA

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## A Path toward Improvement - continued

agreed 1) to carry out its security responsibilities in the West Bank under the “Oslo Accords” and report on a continuing basis to the “quintet leadership” on this subject; 2) Israel and the PA will address all outstanding issues through direct dialogue; 3) Israel and the PA will continue the status quo at the Moslem Holy sites in Jerusalem; 4) Israel will stop authorization of new outposts for 6 months, other new settlements for 4 months and even stop discussion in the Knesset of any new settlements for 4 months. These agreements also show that Biden is able and willing to have his administration play an active role in a new search for peace.

4. The very recent events in Israel related to the right-wing’s judicial reform plan has created a new political dynamic in Israel that will make it easier for Netanyahu to implement such a plan.

### III. Procedural Steps to be Taken by Israel Prior to Implementing the Peace Plan.

1. Israel should promptly advise the PA that it wishes to discuss the peace plan, and do so if PA agrees.
2. At the same time, Israel should implement certain good faith measures to demonstrate its intent to improve immediately the living conditions of Palestinians. These should include:
  - A. Suspending authorizations of all new settlements and outposts, all actions involving displacement of Palestinian residents in Jerusalem and the West Bank and all destructions of Palestinian homes and apartments.
  - B. Take no action inconsistent with the peace plan under discussion.
  - C. Allow Palestinian to develop their communities in accordance with the provisions of the plan as it would apply when fully implemented.
  - D. Increase construction of Palestinian hospitals in eastern Jerusalem, suspend construction of Jewish homes in all of East Jerusalem; implement its announced (last September) relaxation of West Bank entry rules that adversely affect Palestinian foreign passport holders, including professors, students, physicians, and their families, and give official recognition to Bedouin villages that are home to 90,000 individuals and families, so they can be connected to power and water.
3. Biden (or the Secretary of State) and Netanyahu should coordinate their efforts and promptly discuss the plan and its imminent implementation with Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, other Arab Gulf states with whom Israel has normalized relations, the U.N. Security Council Secretary General, Britain, France, the E.U. and other countries of their choosing. (If Biden wishes, perhaps Turkey, China and Russia should be included.)
4. Following the discussions, implementation of the plan should be commenced as soon as moneys for construction, etc. become available. (While Israel should consider all points raised in good faith by the PA, implementation should not depend on PA consent; this should be made clear in all discussions with the PA and others.)

### III. More Details

I will provide a more detailed list of the plan’s provisions to those who will email me at [elihuleifer@gmail.com](mailto:elihuleifer@gmail.com).

### IV. Plea to TI Members

If you are in agreement with the recommendations in this paper, please provide this paper with positive comments to people you know who work in the Biden Administration State Department and National Security Council.

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*Musicians from both sides are unable to form a team due to their personal experiences with war, oppression or the risk of terrorist attacks.*

*The conductor must help them overcome their own beliefs, fears and bigotry in order to come together.*



## The Menorah

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Photo from the TI staff fieldtrip to the Lillian and Albert Small Capital Jewish Museum. Rabbi Kelley Gludt and Melissa Werbow in the exhibit "Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsberg".



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