

# Temple Emeth

# Bulletin

Temple Emeth of Teaneck, New Jersey  
An Affiliate of the Union for Reform Judaism  
Serving Reform Congregations in North America

Volume 74, Number 3

[www.emeth.org](http://www.emeth.org)

Kislev/Tevet 5781

December 2020



◆ ◆ ◆

***School Office # 201 833-8466***



ssirbu@emeth.org  
cantoret@yahoo.com  
dfriedman@emeth.org

admin@emeth.org  
mtursi @emeth.org  
ehanan@emeth.org  
bshater@emeth.org

<b>PRESIDENT.</b>	Nicole Falk	president@emeth.org
<b>FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	Michael Robinson	firstvp@emeth.org
<b>SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT.</b>	Michael Goldberg	secondvp@emeth.org
<b>THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT.</b>	Flip Bernard	thirdvp@emeth.org
<b>SECRETARY.</b>	Robert Kahn	secretary@emeth.org
<b>ASSISTANT SECRETARY.</b>	Marty Breznick	asstsecretary@emeth.org
<b>FINANCIAL SECRETARY.</b>	Alan Winters	financialsecretary@emeth.org
<b>ASSISTANT FINANCIAL OFFICER.</b>	Ken Scher	asstfinancialofficer@emeth.org
<b>TREASURER.</b>	Gary Richards	treasurer@emeth.org

Barbara Balkin   bulletin@emeth.org

**ASSISTANT EDITORS:** Marion Wolf and Judy Fox

<i>Bulletin Deadlines</i>			<i>Mid-Month Mailing Deadlines</i>	
<i><u>Month</u></i>	<i><u>Deadline Date</u></i>	<i><u>Publication Date</u></i>	<i><u>Deadline Date</u></i>	<i><u>Publication Date</u></i>
September	August 15	September 2	September 10	September 16
October	September 15	October 1	October 12	October 17
November	October 15	November 1	November 9	November 14
December	November 15	December 1	December 12	December 18
January	December 15	January 2	January 10	January 16
February	January 15	February 1	February 11	February 19
March	February 15	March 1	March 8	March 13
April	March 15	April 1	April 9	April 16
May	April 15	May 1	May 8	May 15
June	May 15	June 1	June 10	June 17

**From the Editor** - In order to ensure that everyone's articles are published in the Bulletin please limit them to half a page.  
Remember, flyers are for the Mid-month email and should be sent to  
Suzannah Mercado at [admin@emeth.org](mailto:admin@emeth.org) cc: [ehanan@emeth.org](mailto:ehanan@emeth.org)

Material for the Bulletin is welcome and essential for the success of the publication; however, it is necessary to honor the deadlines as listed.

For the Bulletin mailings, all material **must** be submitted by **8:00** p.m. on the date of the deadline. Please submit all material by email to Barbara Balkin at [bulletin@emeth.org](mailto:bulletin@emeth.org) and use **Times New Roman** font, **12 pt.** in a Word document file.

For Mid-month emails, all materials are due by **4:00 p.m.** on the date of the deadline.

The Temple Emeth Bulletin is published monthly  
from September through June.

### Advertising Rates for Ad Size 2" x 3 1/2"

	Member	Non-Member
1 Month	\$ 55	\$ 75
5 Months	\$250	\$350
10 Months	\$330	\$450

For additional information, call (201) 833-1322



# Message From the Rabbi

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger is a nationwide organization that sees human hunger as a crisis of morality which can be addressed by Jewish values and Jewish action. For over thirty years, MAZON has combatted hunger by creating educational resources, granting awards to food pantries, and advocating in Washington for a stronger safety net. A few years ago, Temple Emeth hosted MAZON's "This Is Hunger" traveling exhibit, which told the real stories of hungry Americans, in our parking lot.

As a policy priority, MAZON is a strong supporter of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) the federal assistance program also known as food stamps. SNAP benefits are not excessive (it offers about four dollars per person per day) but they are vital. And every dollar spent on SNAP creates about \$1.90 in economic activity.

In November, I participated in MAZON's Jewish Clergy Justice Mission, an annual conference that was moved online this year due to the pandemic. The week-long program combined formal presentations with lobbying visits to congressional offices. The rabbis and cantors representing MAZON on these visits sought to frame hunger as a moral challenge. When speaking to members of Congress or their staffs, we made three specific legislative asks:

- Since the Coronavirus pandemic began, estimates indicate that the number of hungry people in America has doubled and the number of hungry children has tripled. We ask Congress to increase SNAP assistance in the next Coronavirus relief package to help millions of families put food on the table during the COVID crisis.

- It is a sad and underreported fact that currently-serving military families struggle with hunger. We ask Congress to include a Military Family Basic Needs Allowance, which would provide needed assistance to low-income military families, in the next National Defense Authorization Act.

- The Farm Bill was reauthorized in 2018 for five years, but it is not too early to work toward ensuring that the next renewal in 2023 has provisions to expand benefits, help single mothers and promote greater food sovereignty on Tribal lands.



Rabbi Steven Sirbu

When my delegation spoke with staff members from the offices of Senators Booker and Menendez, we received a warm reception. They were familiar with Mazon and understood why we as Jews care about this issue. More importantly, they agreed with our premise that private charity will never be able to meet the

needs of the 40 million hungry people in this country, that only the Federal Government has the resources to address this problem. And they welcome calls and email from constituents like us to remind them how important this is.

As I write these words it is just before Thanksgiving, when turkey and stuffing are on our minds, and food connects us to the past and one another. You will probably read this just before Chanukah, when latkes and sufganiyot enhance our celebration, and remind us of the ancient miracle. I hope you will take time at this season to familiarize yourself with the crucial work of MAZON and to recite one of their "Eight Myths About Hunger," as you light each candle. It may seem like an unwinnable battle to eradicate hunger, but that's exactly what the Maccabees faced, and they prevailed.



**Join your fellow Temple members for a Chanukah candlelighting ceremony led by Rabbi Sirbu and Cantor Tilem in our parking lot on the fourth night of Chanukah, Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 pm. As would normally be our tradition at the Chanukah dinner, all Temple members are invited to bring a chanukiah from home and light their candles on a long table in front of the Temple building. Songs, treats and fun for all!**

## From the Religious School

### “These lights we kindle for the miracles and wonders” From the Siddur

What are the main differences between the seven-branched *menorah* and the *Chanukah menorah*, called in Hebrew a *chanukia*? The *menorah* has seven candles and is lit during the day. The *chanukia* has eight candles and is lit after dark. The *menorah* was lit inside the Temple to shed light inside and was lit all at once. The *chanukia* was lit outside one's door or on a window ledge. Its light is directed outside. It is lit one day at a time with an additional candle for each day. A great Hasidic Master used the candle lighting of Chanukah as an opportunity to renew our dedication to illuminating our own corners of the world.

The lit menorah is a visible sign of our ability to overcome hardship. It is a light we share with others.



Dora Friedman

This Chanukah season, I hope that we will all be inspired to participate in the following activities with our family:

Light the “*chanukia*”- *menorah* each night of Chanukah and share personal stories of heroism and courage.

Bake Chanukah “goodies” with your children.

Play dreidel and sing Chanukah songs.

Make greeting cards for friends and family members who cannot be with you for the holiday.

Chanukah (First candle on Thursday evening, December 10) is about discovering and proclaiming the miraculous and the heroic special aspects of Judaism and Jewish civilization. Each one of us is urged to step forward and personally feel in a fresh and profound way the exhilaration of being part of something that stirs one's soul. On Chanukah, we light candles in hopes of rekindling the lights of our tradition within ourselves and sharing that light out to the world.

Celebrating Jewish holidays help us all claim our Jewish heritage and shape our children's Jewish identity in a meaningful and joyful way.

Share Chanukah blessings with family and friends and may your joys and blessing increase with each candle.

B'vracha

Dora Geld Friedman

## Emeth Teen Community Mitzvah Project

Teens packed hygiene bags and wrote letters to seniors as part of their mitzvah projects on November 15th.





# Message from President Nickie Falk

## All I Want for Chanukah Is...Nothing!

I admit it. I'm a social media junkie. I love seeing pictures of family and friends on Facebook and Instagram. I laugh out loud at memes and pet videos. I get inspired by seeing what other mosaic artists have done. Blog posts from some of my favorites get my creative juices flowing. I'm a sucker for inspiring quotes.

This message, recently posted on a friend's Facebook page, resonated with me:

*"This is not the year to get everything you want.*

*This is the year to appreciate everything you have."*

I'm **so** appreciative for what I have—a loving, healthy family, including a new granddaughter! I have my health, great friends, work I enjoy, a roof over my head, food in our freezer, books on my shelves, and a stash of mosaic tiles, friends' broken china and other paraphernalia waiting to be glued to something.

I have a wonderful Board leadership team. They deliberate with passion and with humor and always with the love of Temple Emeth at the front of all their decisions.

I'm grateful for our clergy. Cantor Tilem has been a great source of comfort to many congregants during this difficult year. She bolsters us spiritually with her incredible voice, enhancing the beauty of our services and uplifting us during this difficult time. Her outreach to congregants in need shows a sensitivity to each person's unique situation.

As I mentioned during my Rosh Hashanah remarks, many of you may not know that Rabbi Sirbu cut his

sabbatical short so he could help us revamp our synagogue during our shutdown, becoming our technical guru overnight. He challenged us to find new ways to pray, new ways to celebrate Shabbat and holidays, and new ways to mourn the loss of our loved ones and the loss of what is no longer...at least for the moment. Every Shabbat and, indeed, every day, he offers support, bolsters those who are struggling, and carries our

Temple Emeth family forward by creating new best practices where none existed before. He helps us engage with one another over screens and phones all over the county, lifting us up and walking with us on an uncharted journey.

I am grateful during this past year to attend virtual Shabbat services. Whether on Zoom or streaming, this weekly pause has given me a chance to truly separate from the workweek

and the mundane. It has given me a chance to connect with my Temple Emeth family. It has given me a chance to have a (small) weekly glass of wine!

Here's another social media message that recently caught my eye:

*"With gratitude, optimism becomes sustainable."* — Michael J. Fox

There's no doubt that despite my appreciation, this last year has been very challenging. But when I continue to focus on what I have versus what I don't, I'm able to get through the days.

This Chanukah, I am focusing on gratitude. I want nothing, because I already have it all. Hag Sameach.



Nickie Falk

### Temple Emeth Mini-University

**Tuesdays, January 19, 26, February 2 (makeup February 9), 2021**

**7:30 – 8:30 p.m. offered via Zoom**

**"Golden America: Half Dream and Half Nightmare," taught by Irwin Yellowitz, Ph.D.**

**Description:** This class will cover the years 1880-1924, the prime period of Jewish immigration to the United States. It will explore the appeal of "Golden America" to the Jewish masses in Europe, the conditions they found in the United States – particularly those concerning working conditions, labor unions, political activity, and family life – and the relationship, or lack of it, between Jewish immigrants and the rest of the population. We also will compare the experience of Jewish immigrants with that of other newcomers. As usual in Prof. Yellowitz's classes, we will follow an open format with continuous interaction between him and those who attend.



**B'yachad** invites you to a BYOBagel  
Zoom presentation and discussion on  
**Sunday, January 17th**  
**at 10:30 a.m.**

**with Tom Meyers about**

## **New Jersey's Film Industry and the History of Jews in the Film Industry**

Please join us on January 17, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom, as Tom Meyers, the Executive Director and Founder of the Fort Lee Film Commission will talk with us about New Jersey's Film Industry and specifically about the History of Jews in the Film Industry.

Fort Lee, New Jersey was the first-ever film town in America, even before Hollywood. At its height in the mid-1910s, the town had 11 working studios including Fox Film Corporation, the Goldwyn Picture Corporation, Éclair Studios and The Solax Company.

Tom will also provide an update on the new Barrymore Film Center, in Fort Lee, which opens in 2021.

*The Zoom link for this B'yachad breakfast will  
be distributed a week before the presentation.*



## **Shalach Manot 2021**

One of the last celebrations we enjoyed at Temple Emeth prior to the pandemic was Shalach Manot.

This year, we are preparing for Purim with a few changes. First, we will communicate with everyone electronically through e-mail. We are doing this to be as green as possible and save the Temple substantial costs of printing and postage. Second, we'll use a fillable-pdf order form that you can complete and e-mail back. Third, you'll have the option of paying for Shalach Manot by mailing a check to the Temple or have the amount billed to your account through Shulcloud. And, if you're not comfortable with electronic ordering, you can contact us by e-mail or phone.



Since we may not be able to produce baskets with our wonderful team of volunteers, we are looking at scaled back gift bags for this year. Whatever we do, it will include hamantaschen!

Sharing Shalach Manot with friends and family is a great way to stay connected and celebrate our ongoing Purim tradition!

Shel & Jeff Grossman  
[shalachmanot@emeth.org](mailto:shalachmanot@emeth.org)

## Services and S'machot

**18 Kislev 5781**  
**Friday, December 4th**

**Shabbat Vayishlach**  
**Family Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Camp Harlam Shabbat**

**Saturday, December 5th**

**Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Shabbat Morning Service at 11:00 a.m.**

*Torah Portion - Genesis 32:4-36:43*

*Haftarah - Obadiah 1:1-1:21*

**25 Kislev 5781**  
**Friday, December 11th**

**Shabbat Vayeshev - Second Day of Chanukah**  
**Kabbalat Shabbat on Zoom at 5:45 p.m.**  
**Honoring Our New Members**

**Saturday, December 12th**

**Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Shabbat Morning Service at 11:00 a.m.**

*Torah Portion - Genesis 37:1-40:23*

*Haftarah - Zechariah 2:14-4:7*

**27 Kislev 5781**  
**Sunday, December 13**

**Chanukah Candlelighting Ceremony**  
**in the parking lot at 4:00 p.m.**

**3 Tevet 5781**  
**Friday, December 18th**

**Shabbat Miketz**  
**Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, December 19th**

**Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Shabbat Morning Service at 11:00 a.m.**

*Torah Portion - Genesis 41:1-44:17*

*Haftarah - I Kings 3:15-4:1*

**10 Tevet 5781**  
**Friday, December 25th**

**Shabbat Vayigash**  
**Shabbat Evening Service at 6:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, December 26th**

**Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.**  
**Shabbat Morning Service on Zoom at 11:00 a.m.**

*Torah Portion - Genesis 44:18-47:27*

*Haftarah - Ezekiel 37:15-37:28*

# December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 15th of Kislev 5781 7:30pm 2021 Gala Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	<b>2</b> 16th of Kislev 5781 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ ZOOM 4:30pm - 6:00pm Religious School @ ZOOM	<b>3</b> 17th of Kislev 5781 7:30pm - 8:30pm Officer's Meeting @ ZOOM	<b>4</b> 18th of Kislev 5781 7:30pm - 8:30pm Family Shabbat Service - Camp Harlam Shabbat @ Live Stream	<b>5</b> 19th of Kislev 5781 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Live Stream
<b>6</b> 20th of Kislev 5781 9:00am - 11:00am Religious School @ ZOOM 2:00pm - 3:00pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Parking Lot	<b>7</b> 21st of Kislev 5781 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	<b>8</b> 22nd of Kislev 5781	<b>9</b> 23rd of Kislev 5781 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ ZOOM 4:30pm - 6:00pm Religious School @ ZOOM 7:30pm - 8:30pm Viewpoints Committee Meeting @ Lounge	<b>10</b> 24th of Kislev, Hanukkah Begins 7:00pm - 9:00pm Ritual Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	<b>11</b> 25th of Kislev, Hanukkah 5:45pm - 6:45pm Kabbalat Shabbat - Honoring Our New Members @ ZOOM	<b>12</b> 26th of Kislev, Hanukkah 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Live Stream
<b>13</b> 27th of Kislev, Hanukkah 9:00am - 11:00am Religious School @ ZOOM 9:45am - 11:45am Social Action Committee Meeting @ ZOOM 2:30pm - 3:30pm Kol Emet Rehearsal (Tentative) @ Parking Lot 4:00pm - 5:00pm Congregational Candlelighting Ceremony @ Parking Lot	<b>14</b> 28th of Kislev, Hanukkah 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM 7:30pm Technology Task Force Meeting @ ZOOM	<b>15</b> 29th of Kislev, Hanukkah	<b>16</b> 1st of Tevet, Hanukkah 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ ZOOM 4:30pm - 6:00pm Religious School @ ZOOM 4:45pm - 5:15pm Chanukah in the Hallway	<b>17</b> 2nd of Tevet, Hanukkah 7:30pm - 9:00pm Book Club The Dutch House @ ZOOM 7:45pm - 9:15pm Board of Trustees Meeting @ ZOOM	<b>18</b> 3rd of Tevet, Hanukkah 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Live Stream	<b>19</b> 4th of Tevet 5781 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Live Stream
<b>20</b> 5th of Tevet 5781 9:00am - 11:00am Religious School @ ZOOM 2:00pm - 3:00pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Parking Lot	<b>21</b> 6th of Tevet 5781 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	<b>22</b> 7th of Tevet 5781	<b>23</b> 8th of Tevet 5781 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ ZOOM 4:30pm - 6:00pm No Religious School (Winter Break)	<b>24</b> 9th of Tevet 5781	<b>25</b> 10th of Tevet 5781 Building Closed 6:30pm - 7:30pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Live Stream	<b>26</b> 11th of Tevet 5781 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ ZOOM
<b>27</b> 12th of Tevet 5781 No Religious School (Winter Break) @ ZOOM	<b>28</b> 13th of Tevet 5781 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	<b>29</b> 14th of Tevet 5781	<b>30</b> 15th of Tevet 5781 No Religious School (Winter Break) @ ZOOM	<b>31</b> 16th of Tevet 5781		

For up-to-the-minute event information, additions, cancellations, or make-up classes go to [www.emeth.org](http://www.emeth.org)  
 A version of the calendar is online at <http://www.emeth.org/monthly-calendar>



## Good & Welfare

**The congregation mourns the loss of member Harry Filowitz and sends condolences to his wife, Wendy.**

### Condolences to...

**Nickie Falk** on the loss of her aunt, Helen Alster.  
**Cindy Kitzinger** on the loss of her sister, Barbara Zukerman.

**Gary Friedland** on the loss of his cousins, Helene Farber and Beverly Friedland.

**Teri Binder** on the loss of her brother-in-law Robert Binder.

**Abby and Andy Schlectman** on the loss of their son-in-law, Tony Lucanto.

**Meredith Alvaro-Gebhart** on the loss of her uncle, Michael Serota.

**Idajean Fisher** on the loss of her friend, James King.

**June Witterschein-Cohen** on the loss of her brother, George Witterschein.

**Sandy Zullow** on the loss of her aunt, Davida Zullow.

**Anita Zullow** on the loss of her sister-in-law, Davida Zullow.

**Marla Levine** on the loss of her mother, Dolores Rabin.

### Mazel Tov to...

**Nickie and Doug Falk** on the birth of their granddaughter Andromeda (Andi) Juniper. Parents are Lauren and Russell Falk.

**Paula and Robert Newman** on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Sarah**.

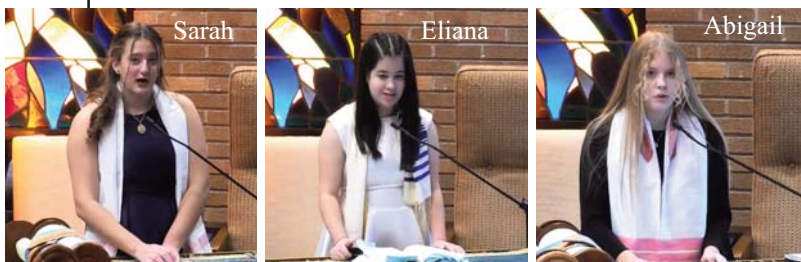
**Yukie and Bruce Bieber** on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Eliana**.

**Jocelyn and Trevor Inglis** on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Abigail**.

**Joy and Dan Firshein** on the birth of their grandson, Ezra David Firshein Cooper. Parents are Jenna Firshein and Ben Cooper.

### Get well wishes to...

**Art Vatsky**



## Social Action in Action

**Center for Food Action** - High Holiday food/donation drive. Temple Emeth donated \$2,327.20. We also donated more than that for the Walk-in-Dinners

**Family Promise Walk-in-Dinner** - Tuesday, Nov 10th for 150. It was catered with Karyle Goldstein doing all the planning, working with the caterer, and providing dessert, paper products, etc. Family Promise needs organizations to maybe do more. Karyle is willing, as are we. We want to do another dinner or partner and split costs with another church/temple.

Further, a task force will be discussing how we'd like to organize around food insecurity issues – i.e. setting up a permanent fund for same, working with other food banks, etc. Alissa Sandler, Ina Miller, Nancy Mednick, and Andrew Benesch will work together to discuss and bring ideas to the larger group.

**Sanctuary Coalition** - 10/24 - Some of us went but we haven't heard overall results yet.

**Political news** - Paul Kaufman's report.

- 1 - Plastic bag bill was passed by legislature and signed by Governor Murphy.
- 2 - NJ Transit abandoned the Meadowlands power plant project.

**RAC** - Zoom meeting on Wednesday, November 11th. Every Voice, Every Vote, What Next? - discussed election and results of Civic Engagement campaign. We also discussed Georgia and what we could do - rather limited because of the need to stay non-partisan. RAC is doing non-partisan postcarding. Further information was sent out.

Next meeting: Sunday, December 13th at 9:45 a.m.

### Temple Garden



Gardeners Nancy Miller, Paul Kaufman, and Andy Benesch worked on preparing the soil and planting garlic.

# Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library

## Monthly News Update: *Fraught Relations*

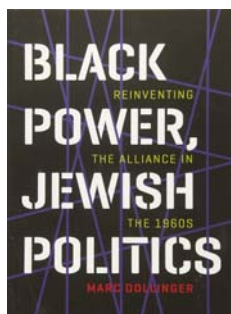
By Marion Wolf

### ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION



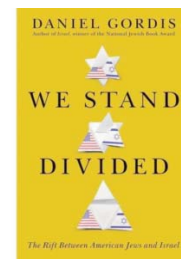
When American Reform Jews look back at the 1960s, some of us remember them as idyllic times for idealists. After all, rabbis walked arm in arm with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to fight for civil rights. And we wholeheartedly supported the state of Israel, the underdog in the Six Day War. We wonder what happened to sour Black-Jewish relations, and when did it become so hard to defend Israel's actions? Two new books in the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library reexamine history and suggest that perhaps our memories are not entirely accurate. A third book, the memoir of a Jew of color, shows us a gap between the idealistic beliefs we profess and the way we treat a minority within our community.

Our copy of Black Power, Jewish Politics: Reinventing the Alliance in the 1960s is signed by the author, Professor Marc Dollinger of San Francisco State University. Temple Emeth has strong connections with Dollinger, who has been a Rabbi Sigel Scholar-in-Residence, a Trachtenberg lecturer, and a B'Yachad speaker (the Emeth trifecta!). Dollinger posits that for a long time as American Jews tried to assimilate, we championed liberal universalist goals. We then felt stung by Black militants' anti-Semitism. They did not see our role the way we perceived it. But Black nationalists also provided us with an example of community building possibilities. Their example led American Jewish activists to campaign for the emancipation of Soviet Jews, to develop Jewish day schools, and to revitalize our worship with gender-inclusive liturgy. It also led us to a new form of American Zionism.

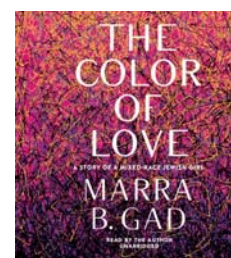


To better understand our connection to Israel, we can turn to We Stand Divided: The Rift Between American Jews and Israel. Its author, Daniel Gordis, is a journalist, one of the founders of Shalem College in Jerusalem, and a two-time National

Jewish Book Award winner. Nowadays Netanyahu's policies toward Palestinians and non-Orthodox Judaism make some American Jews feel disillusioned, even sympathetic to Israel's enemies. But Gordis says that our different world views and visions of Jewishness even predate the founding of the state in 1948! As Herzl was launching political Zionism in 1897, American Jews—happy with America as their new national home—were leery of holding a double allegiance. Unlike European Zionists who sought a Jewish homeland in the face of persecution, we did not want to jeopardize our standing in the United States. We American Jews devoted ourselves to universalist goals, while Israel focused on Jewish particularism. We differed, too, on whether we should take an active role in history, on whether we were a people or a religion, and on whether we supported a liberal or an ethnic democracy. Daniel Gordis, in this well-written book, explains the historical basis for our complex relationship with Israel.



A third new book also can help us gain greater understanding and empathy for others. The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed Race Jewish Girl is a memoir by Marra B. Gad. Gad's biological mother was an unwed Jewish woman, and her father was Black. In 1970, at the age of three days, Gad was adopted by a loving, white, Jewish family in Chicago. But she faced prejudice from all sides. In Black spaces she wasn't Black enough; in Jewish settings, she was sometimes mistaken for the help, asked to leave, or insulted. One great aunt was particularly nasty to her, which led to an estrangement that lasted 15 years. But then that great aunt developed Alzheimers. Gad stepped forward to care for her. This was an extraordinary act, and it is fascinating to read Gad's story.



If you would like to borrow any of these books from the Temple library contact Teri Binder at [twbinder@aol.com](mailto:twbinder@aol.com) or Marion Wolf at [marionewolf@yahoo.com](mailto:marionewolf@yahoo.com).

# CONTRIBUTIONS

## ADULT EDUCATION FUND

**Gary Friedland** in memory of his cousin,  
Beverly Friedland  
in memory of his cousin, Helene Farber  
**Carla and Larry Silver** in memory of Tony Lucanto,  
son-in-law of Abby and Andy Schlectman

## CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman** with gratitude  
to Cantor Tilem for giving Amanda the chance  
to sing at High Holy Day Services

## EMETH TEEN COMMUNITY FUND

**Gayle and Michael Goldberg** in honor the Bat  
Mitzvah of Jordana Hart  
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Newman  
**Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman** in honor of  
the Bat Mitzvah of Emma Feuer, daughter of  
Danielle and Jamey Feuer

## ILANA HED RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

**Gayle and Michael Goldberg** in honor of the Bat  
Mitzvah of Eliana Bieber  
**Carla and Larry Silver** in memory of Harry  
Filowitz, husband of Wendy Filowitz  
**Carlene Fleishman** in memory of Harry Filowitz,  
husband of Wendy Filowitz

## LIBRARY FUND

**Brenda and Bill Weiss** in memory of Barbara  
Zukerman, sister of Cindy Kitzinger  
**Jacqueline Guttman** in memory of Robert Binder,  
brother-in-law of Teri Binder

## MUSEUM FUND

**Carla and Larry Silver** in honor of the engagement  
of Barbara Balkin's son, Jonathan to Heather  
Bisson  
**Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman** in gratitude to  
Barbara Balkin for her beautiful montages

## MUSIC FUND

**Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman** thank Carol  
Shansky for getting Kol Emet together to sing

## PAUL S. LAZAR CARING COMMUNITY FUND

**Gayle and Michael Goldberg** in honor of the Bat  
Mitzvah of Abigail Inglis

## REPAIRING THE ROOF

**Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Committee** in  
memory of Mitchell Rosenthal, brother of  
Stephen Rosenthal  
**Rachel and Michael Eastman** in honor of Michael  
Goldberg

**Gayle and Michael Goldberg** in honor of the birth of  
Nickie and Doug Falk's new granddaughter,  
Andromeda Juniper

**Nickie and Douglas Falk** in memory of Frank Falk,  
father of Douglas Falk

## STREAMING FUND

**Marcia and Mike Robinson**

**Laurel and Seth Kane** in honor of Ed Pierce and  
his crew

**Gayle and Michael Goldberg** in appreciation of  
Amanda Eastman  
in memory of Harry Filowitz, beloved  
husband of Wendy Filowitz  
in memory of Abby and Andy Schlectman's  
son-in-law

**Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman** with deepest  
gratitude to Ed Pierce and the Technology  
Committee

**Judy Eichinger** in gratitude to Ed Pierce and his  
crew for our beautiful High Holidays and  
weekly Shabbat services

**Robbie Liblit** in gratitude to the many individuals  
who amazingly provided the wonderful  
holiday services

**Judy Distler** in honor of the engagement of Pam and  
Jeffrey Etzin's daughter  
in honor of the marriage of Sue and Phil  
Keusch's daughter  
in gratitude to Rabbi Sirbu, Cantor Tilem, Ed  
Pierce, the technology task force and all who  
made virtual services so wonderful  
in gratitude to Nickie Falk for her leadership  
in the best and worst of times  
sending get well wishes to Caryn Diuguid on  
shoulder #2  
in honor of Nickie and Doug Falk on the birth  
of their granddaughter, Andromeda  
in honor of the engagement of Barbara  
Balkin's son, Jonathan, to Heather Bisson  
in honor of Marcia Shapiro and Michael  
Robinson on the engagement of their son  
Daniel, to Sam Berger  
in honor of the birth of the Wertheimers' new  
granddaughter

**Shana and Greg Janoff** in gratitude and appreciation  
to Ed Pierce, Isaac Pierce and the technology  
team for bringing the High Holy Day services  
to our homes

## TEMPLE EMETH FUND

**Laurel and Seth Kane** thank Amanda Eastman for  
all the work she did both vocally and behind  
the scenes to make the High Holidays better



## CONTRIBUTION FORM

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed (\$10 minimum) Fund Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contributed by \_\_\_\_\_

Send Acknowledgment to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Message \_\_\_\_\_

Use this form to send an acknowledgment for life cycle events to your friends and family and at the same time perform the mitzvah of tzedaka. Call the office with any questions.

**Contributory Funds** – contributions are deposited in the Temple Emeth Funds Account and drawn for use by the designated committee

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| • Adult Education Fund                           | • Adult Kallah Fund                    | • Albert & Mildred Otten Institute for Living Arts |
| • Beautification Fund                            | • Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Fund  | • Children's Worship Fund                          |
| • College Kids Fund                              | • Emeth Teen Community Fund            | • Environment Fund                                 |
| • Abe Golomb Religious School Scholarship Fund   | • Ilana Hed Religious School Fund      | • Inscribed Prayerbook Fund (\$50 minimum)         |
| • Library Fund • Museum Fund                     | • Music Fund                           | • Prayerbook Fund                                  |
| • Janice Preschel Social Action Committee Fund   | • Ritual Fund                          | • Margery Rothschild Memorial Israel Fund          |
| • Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Scholar-in-Residence Fund | • Straussman Memorial Youth Award Fund | • Streaming Fund                                   |
| • Temple Emeth Fund                              | • Torah Repair Fund                    | • Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture Fund        |
| • Viewpoints Fund                                | • Yahrzeit Fund                        | • Youth Committee Program Fund                     |

**Endowed Funds** – contributions are added to principal held by the Temple Emeth Endowment Foundation with fund income distributed yearly

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| • Adult Kallah Scholarship Fund           | • Grunstein-Liberman Endowed Fund             | • Honigberg/Howard Religious School Scholarship Fund |
| • Lazar Educational Enrichment Fund       | • Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Endowed Fund | • Alfred and Helen Levin Youth Award Fund            |
| • Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Endowment Fund     | • Ned and Doris Siner Music Fund              | • Temple Emeth Endowment Fund                        |
| • Dru and Ted Greenwood Youth Awards Fund |   |  |

**Other Funds** – contributions are used at the discretion of the recipient • Rabbi's Discretionary Fund • Cantor's Discretionary Fund

**Visit the Temple website at [www.emeth.org](http://www.emeth.org)**

## CONTRIBUTIONS

**Barbara Balkin and Bill Helfman** congratulate Nickie and Doug Falk on the birth of their granddaughter, Andromeda

**Carlene Fleishman** in honor of the birth of Nickie and Doug Falk's new granddaughter, Andromeda Juniper

### **VIEWPOINTS FUND**

**Paula and Michael Dillon** in honor of the birth of Nickie and Doug Falk's beautiful granddaughter, Andromeda (Andi) Juniper

### **Yahrzeit Fund**

**Martin Adelman** in memory of his beloved mother, Pauline Adelman

**Glenda Adelman** in memory of her beloved father, Sam Kessler

**Nathan Ritzer** in memory of his mother, Bertha Ritzer

**Bernice Ritzer** in memory of her father, Julius Spielman

**Fran Einiger** in memory of her husband, Richard Einiger

**Rachael Sugarman** in memory of her husband, Jeal Sugarman

**Barbara Balkin** in memory of her mother, Syd Shana

**Barbara Balkin** in memory of her cousin, David Rosenthal

**Robbie Liblit** in memory of her mother, Helen Abrams

**Robbie Liblit** in memory of her husband, Jerry Liblit

**Mary Jane Tucker** in memory of Bruce Tucker

**James Veach** in memory of his father, James F. Veach



Located in the Temple lobby, the Tree of Life provides an opportunity to share life's special occasions with your Temple family. Loved ones, friends and members of the congregation are able to create permanent remembrances of their joyous events so that future generations can look upon our yesterday as having been filled with hopes, dreams and accomplishments. Order yours now! You will enjoy visiting the Temple and finding your leaf. To order, please call the Temple office at (201) 833-1322.

### **Memorial Plaques**

*This is a wonderful way to honor your departed loved ones by purchasing a permanent plaque in our Sanctuary. It will evoke fond memories to see their names on our Memorial wall. When you purchase these plaques, one is permanently placed on the Memorial wall and the second larger one is displayed on the actual week of the yahrzeit. The cost is \$375 FOR BOTH PLAQUES. You may also buy and reserve plaques in advance. Contact the office if you would like to make a purchase.*



## Award Winner in Results and Customer Service

*A realtor for all seasons*

### Wendy Wineburgh Dessanti

Sale prices are up 5-10%.

Ask me what your house is worth.

*Wishing you a healthy and sweet New Year!*

Broker/Sales Associate

c: 201 310-2255 (preferred)

c: 201 569-7888

e: wendydess@aol.com

Eastern Board of Realtors  
2018 Realtor of the Year  
award winner

TENAFLY



Serving Bergen County for over  
25 Years with Integrity,  
Professionalism and Results



Sam Gronner  
presented his family  
story at a Zoom  
B'yachad breakfast  
on November 22nd,  
based on his book,  
"Loss & Legacy".  
Ron Wertheimer  
moderated and Sam's  
sister, Tammy  
Kallman also spoke.



Amazon helps to support the Temple  
when you order by using the  
Amazon.com link on our website.

### Use the Amazon Link on our Webpage

Support Temple Emeth by using our special  
Amazon link to make purchases on Amazon.com.  
Just visit [www.emeth.org](http://www.emeth.org) and click on the  
Amazon.com button  
at the bottom of each page,  
then purchase to your heart's content!

Since 1954

### Bergen County Reform Temple Memorial Association

A non-profit organization  
serving Temple Emeth

Burial plots at reasonable prices

#### Contact:

David Fox at (201) 836-0260

*Please support our advertisers and tell them you saw their ad  
in the Temple Emeth Bulletin*



201-928-0100

201-928-0406 (FAX)

e-mail: [senweinberg@njleg.org](mailto:senweinberg@njleg.org)

### LORETTA WEINBERG

NEW JERSEY STATE SENATE  
MAJORITY LEADER

545 CEDAR LANE  
TEANECK, NJ 07666

SENATOR, 37TH DISTRICT  
BERGEN COUNTY

### Minutes of Board of Trustees Meetings

Minutes of all board meetings are kept on file in  
the office for anyone interested in seeing them.

### Ancestry@Emeth

#### What is your family story?

If you would like to participate in  
the next Ancestry@Emeth  
exhibit, please contact

Barbara Balkin at  
[dkrm505@yahoo.com](mailto:dkrm505@yahoo.com)





Temple Emeth  
1666 Windsor Road  
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666  
[www.emeth.org](http://www.emeth.org)

*Emeth*

The Bulletin of Temple Emeth of Teaneck, New Jersey  
A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism:  
Serving Reform Congregations in North America