

# Temple Emeth

Celebrating 75 years

# Bulletin

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

Volume 76, Number 4

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

Shevat/Adar 5783

February 2023

## SHALACH MANOT



**OUR SHALACH MANOT CAMPAIGN IS UNDERWAY!**

We are ordering lots of goodies for the goody bags and baskets.

Make sure you have your log-in for ShulCloud.

If you aren't sure, please contact the Temple Office.

Please place your order through ShulCloud by Thursday, February 16th.

If you need any help, reach out to us by phone or e-mail.

You can view the Zoom webinar and slide show  
on the Temple website under Purim 2023.

In addition, please save the dates:

**Packing Shalach Manot on Thursday, March 2nd**

**Delivering baskets on Sunday, March 12th**

All volunteers must be masked. This is a great community service project for our Religious School and ETC students!

More information will be forthcoming about how to sign up to help deliver Shalach Manot through ShulCloud.

We appreciate everyone who has volunteered over the years and look forward to seeing you this year!

Shel & Jeff Grossman  
Shalach Manot Co-Chairs  
(201) 286-0325 or [shalachmanot@emeth.org](mailto:shalachmanot@emeth.org)



# TEMPLE EMETH

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CELEBRATING OUR 75TH YEAR



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**From the Editor** - Flyers are for the weekly or mid-month email and should be sent to Suzannah Mercado at smercado@emeth.org cc: areiser@emeth.org

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

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, submit all material by 8:00 p.m. on the date of the deadline. Please submit all material by email to Barbara Balkin at bulletin@emeth.org and use Times New Roman font, 12 pt. in a Word document file. For Mid-month mailings, 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.

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

For additional information, call (201) 833-1322

# Message From the Rabbi

“You shall appoint magistrates and officials for your tribes, in all the settlements that the Eternal your God is giving you, and they shall govern the people with due justice.” This quote from Deuteronomy 16:18 is part of a longer passage about judges, impartiality, and justice. It shows us that even in the earliest days of Israelite society, judges had an important role in settling disputes and establishing a presumption of fairness.

Last month, an estimated 80,000 demonstrators gathered in Tel Aviv to protest against proposed changes to Israel’s judiciary. The proposal of the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, which was seated in late December, would allow the Knesset to overturn a Supreme Court ruling by a simple majority vote.

Unlike the United States, Israel lacks a formal written constitution and is instead governed by a series of Basic Laws. This structure makes it easier to shift the balance of power between the judiciary and the legislature. But in both the U.S. and Israel, the Supreme Court has held the role of protecting the rights of minority groups, especially religious and ethnic minorities and LGBTQ individuals. To make court rulings subject to reversal by a simple majority of a unicameral legislature risks creating a tyranny of the majority, the very dynamic courts are supposed to prevent.

American Supreme Court justices are appointed for life terms, a feature intended to shield them from the sometimes fickle winds of politics. Israeli Supreme Court judges serve until mandatory retirement at age 70, and the current President of the Supreme Court, Esther Hayut, will reach that age later this year after 19 years of service on the court. The Israeli nomination process is intended to be less political than the American one.

Understandably, Judge Hayut, as a defender of the judiciary, is opposed to the proposed changes. And Israel’s left-leaning advocacy groups have led the campaign against the proposal, including the large demonstration in Tel Aviv. But there has also been opposition from the center, including former defense minister Benny Gantz.

As Reform Jews, we have an active stake in the outcome of this controversy. Israel has been slow to recognize the legitimacy of Reform Judaism and the authority of Reform Rabbis, especially when it comes to marriage and conversion. The progress that the Israeli Reform movement has made (with substantial help from American Reform Jews) is put at risk, as is the progress that has made Israel an LGBTQ haven in the Middle East.

As Americans, we know how landmark Supreme Court decisions have mandated equality and made our democracy more inclusive. They have protected religious minorities and atheists from mandatory school prayer, outlawed segregation in public schools, and upheld the right to same-sex marriage. Though the issues are different in Israel, the role the Court can play is similar.

It is also important to note that Prime Minister Netanyahu has a personal grievance against the judiciary. He is facing corruption charges which were filed during his last term in office, and the Supreme Court recently ordered him to dismiss his Health Minister, Aryeh Deri, whom they ruled 10-1 was unfit for office because he was recently convicted of tax fraud.

Netanyahu reluctantly complied.

While defenders of the proposal argue that it is good for democracy because it gives the majority more say, we know that a democracy is more than just holding elections and letting the majority rule. It is having strong institutions such as a robust opposition, a free press, and an independent judiciary.

Neither the Torah nor the Talmud establish the institution of a Supreme Court, but then again neither envisions a Jewish democracy either. Both texts, however, understand the role of impartial judges and the importance of speaking truth to power.

Israel was born as a democracy and has enjoyed the support of diaspora Jews for nearly 75 years, because Israel is the homeland for the entire Jewish people. The proposal to weaken the judiciary should be defeated in order that Israel’s democratic traditions and its relationship with worldwide Jewry may thrive.



Rabbi Steven Sirbu



## From the Religious School

The Midrash tells us, “If you are in the middle of planting and word reaches you that the Messiah has arrived, do not interrupt your work. Finish first your planting and only then go to welcome the Messiah.”

At Temple Emeth Religious School we take pride in our strong Jewish studies curriculum and our rigorous Hebrew program. We also know that Jewish education cannot be meaningful if it only happens in the classroom. To “climb the ladder” to a compelling Jewish life, our students, families and teachers form a “sacred partnership” of Torah study, Jewish history, and celebrating Jewish holidays.

wise, for seeing a rainbow, and more. All of these teach us of God’s presence in the world.



Dora Friedman

“Here on earth too God lives, not in heaven alone. A beautiful tree, a newly plowed field, in these you will find God’s likeness.” Jewish poet Saul Tchernikovsky

B’vracha,  
Dora Geld Friedman

It is in that spirit that grades 1 – 7 students and their parents are invited to gather on Sunday morning, February 5 at 10:00 a.m. for a Tu B’Shevat Seder. We will celebrate Tu B’Shevat, 15th day of the month of Shevat, with a light meal of fruit and drink and many blessings for the food we eat and the world around us. Our tradition includes blessings, *B’rachot*, for vegetables and fruit, for meeting someone

### LOOKING AHEAD:

**Friday, February 3 at 7:30 p.m.**

**Family Shabbat Service**

**Sunday, February 5 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Religious School Tu ’Shevat Seder**

**Sunday, February 19 - NO SCHOOL**

**Presidents weekend**



Sunday Funday on January 8th led by Rachel Kugelmass.





## Message from President Michael Robinson

It's the beginning of February, and this has a tendency to be a dead month — but not at Temple Emeth! First, as of this writing, we have yet to have to alter our schedule due to any inclement weather. There has yet to be a single flake of snow. Of course, the reason for this is that I made sure our snow blower was ready for the winter. Had I not done that, we would be seeing the type of weather they had in Buffalo in the fall.

We just had another successful B'Yachad breakfast. It was very well-attended. Thanks to Michael and Gayle for putting on another great presentation, and to our speaker, David Levin. How could a presentation with comic books not be fun and different?

The One Book One Synagogue weekend was another chance to look at the Holocaust in a very personal way. Some people have argued that we spend too much time on the subject and that more contemporary topics related to the Jewish experience would be more valuable. However, I look at our past and things that happened before I was born as having an eerie similarity to things that are happening in today's world. It would be foolish not to keep an eye on the state of our world today. Just a random thought. It

was not my intention to bum out my loyal readers, so let's go to some more uplifting topics.

First, Shalach Manot is coming up. When I see the email about Shalach Manot, it's a reminder that spring is just around the corner. Before you know it, we will be seeing a Passover aisle being set up in the grocery store. Spring training will be starting, and I, for a short time, will dream that my team the Mets won't let me down. But like Lucy, Charlie Brown, and the football, my heart tells me one thing but my head says something else. Hope springs eternal.

Finally, I have exciting news. Thanks to our new members, Morris and Marsha Sobel, we have two chairs for our celebration marking the 75th Anniversary of Temple Emeth.

They come to us with a wealth of experience, and they, along with our usual cast of supporting characters, will be sure to give the celebration the excitement that it richly deserves. Keep May 6th open on your calendar. You will be hearing more about this in the coming months.

That's all for now. Keep warm.  
Mike R



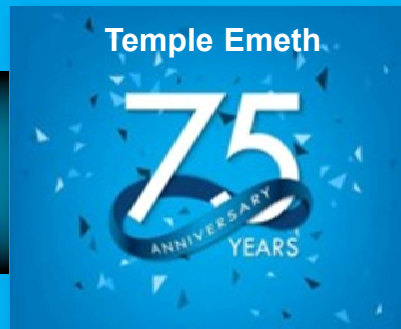
Michael Robinson

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One Book One Synagogue Shabbaton on January 7th included a Kiddush lunch, followed by a viewing and discussion of the film, "Valiant Hearts."



**SAVE THE DATE**



**MAY 6, 2023**

**FOR TEMPLE EMETH'S  
75th ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION**

Volunteers are needed. Contact Co-chairs Marsha and Morris Sobel at [mes0802@gmail.com](mailto:mes0802@gmail.com) if you would like to help.

*Watch for details*

**Annual Giving Campaign Reaches Goal**

Thanks to the generous contributions of about 140 Temple members, Temple Emeth's Annual Giving Campaign reached its target goal of raising \$75,000 (in celebration of its 75 years).

This great accomplishment speaks to the congregation's generosity and willingness to support the Temple during these difficult financial times. Whatever you were able to give is greatly appreciated.

The funds raised will cover the cost of improvements to the Temple's aging physical plant and expenses associated with Covid-19 that are not covered by the voluntary commitment, temple rentals, bazaar, gala, and other sources of revenue.

If you haven't yet donated and wish to, you can call the office or donate by visiting [emeth.org/payment.php](http://emeth.org/payment.php) and clicking on Annual Giving Campaign 22/23.



**On Sunday, April 23 at 2:00 p.m. Carol Shansky will be giving a concert at Temple Emeth  
Voices Lost: Music of Dutch Composers Suppressed in the Holocaust.**

Voices Lost: Music of Dutch Composers Suppressed in the Holocaust is a concert-lecture that looks at music written by Dutch composers in the years just before the occupation of Amsterdam by the Nazis. Those who were not sent to camps went into hiding and still composed or sponsored concert evenings to support music-making despite the Nazis' ban. In some cases, the music performed on this program was some of the last by that composer.

Dutch composers are in general not well known in history, nor is the music being written at that time familiar to many. This concert exposes listeners to the kinds of approaches that Dutch composers were using in writing and gives us a chance to hear some wonderful music that otherwise would have remained unfamiliar to us.

The format of this concert is that of a lecture-recital. Carol Shansky will give background on each of the composers, their lives, and experiences, in addition to performing selections of their music. Composers included are Rosy Wertheim, Henriette Bosmans, Dick Kattenburg, and Leo Smit. Carol is joined by pianist Amber Liao, with whom she has performed this program at the Holocaust Center at Kean University as well as at several academic conferences.

**Carol Rina Shansky**, flutist, has been a prizewinner of the Concerts Atlantique Competition, the Pearl Amster Concerto Competition, the JCC of Metro NJ Young Artist's Competition, and Artists International. A particular interest in chamber music has brought her to concert halls at the British Arts Center of Yale University, Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, Tanglewood's Little Theatre, and the Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center. Described as "produc[ing] a lovely tone with a large palette of colors" (*NY Concert Review*), Dr. Shansky has performed by peer-reviewed invitation at the conventions of the National Flute Association, College Music Society, NACWPI, International Duo Symposium and the International Clarinet Association, among others. A chamber musician and orchestral flutist, Carol plays with Bergen Chamber Artists and Synergy 78, and is principal flute of the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra. Carol has performed live and been interviewed on New York Public Radio and North Jersey Public Radio, who described her performance as "first-rate." Her CD with guitarist Seth Himmelhoch, "Songs and Dances of the Americas" has been on the rotation at classical radio stations WNYC and WVPR. Dr. Shansky is Assistant Professor of Music and Coordinator of the Music Education Program at New Jersey City University, where she teaches applied flute, as well as maintaining a private studio in Tenafly, NJ. She received her Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees from Boston University and her Bachelor of Music degree from Ithaca College.



Pianist **Amber Yiu-Hsuan Liao** has given recitals and solo performances throughout the United States and Taiwan. Her solo engagements include recitals at the Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center in NYC, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the National Concert Hall in Taiwan, Chicago Cultural Center in Chicago, and the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum in California. Ms. Liao's recording of works by Granados, Schumann, and Beethoven was released on the MSR Classics label. She has been invited to participate in several music festivals in Europe, including Courchevel Academie Musicale in France, Internationale Sommerakademie Mozarteum in Salzburg, and New Millenium Piano Festival in Gijón, Spain. As a chamber musician, Ms. Liao's collaborations with vocalists and instrumentalists have led to performances in the CAMI Hall, Symphony Space, and the Lenox Athenaeum, among others.

Amber Liao received her Doctor of Musical Arts from the Manhattan School of Music and Master of Music from the Peabody Institute under the tutelage of Arkady Aronov and Boris Slutsky. She taught at Seton Hall University and Montclair State University, and she served as the Director of Piano/Theory at Snow College in Utah. She is currently Assistant Professor of Music at Borough of Manhattan Community College of CUNY in NYC.



## Temple Emeth Viewpoints Committee Programs for February 2023



The mission of the Viewpoints committee is to present programs that highlight all the different types of Jews in our community. The following are the programs scheduled for February 2023.

### 1. Friday, February 17 at 8:00 p.m. Disability Shabbat

The speaker is Lisa Shulman, MD, a Neurodevelopmental Pediatrician and a Professor of Pediatrics at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She specializes in treating children with developmental and learning disabilities. In her work she hears from families who want to feel more included in the community. Her talk, "Shining a Light on Inclusion," will be on ways to make our Temple community more inclusive.

### 2. Thursday, February 23 at 7:30 p.m. NY Historical Society presentation

NY Historical Society docent, Kyle Einhorn, will present an online history tour, "I'll Have What She's Having: The Jewish Deli." The exhibit will examine how Jewish immigrants, mostly from Central and Eastern Europe, imported and adopted their traditions to create a uniquely American restaurant. The talk will reveal how Jewish delicatessens became a cornerstone of American food culture.

## Movies That Mattered presents "A Stranger Among Us"

**Tuesday, February 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the Social Hall**

The film tells the story of Emily, a NYC detective trying to solve the case of a young Hasidic diamond cutter who has gone missing, but the case becomes more complicated when his body turns up. When Emily must go undercover in the Hasidic community to track down the killer, she experiences events which change her life.

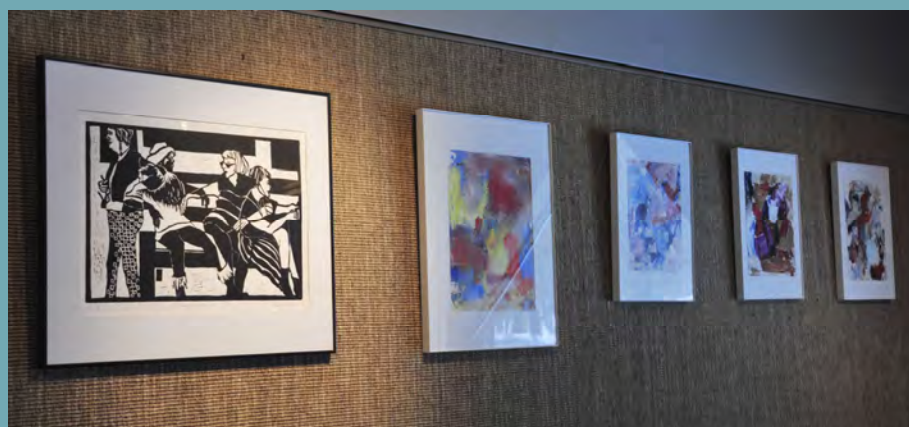
Refreshments will be served.



### Museum announcement:

#### Calling All Artists

If you are interested in participating in a Member Showcase this year, please contact Barbara Balkin at [dkrm505@yahoo.com](mailto:dkrm505@yahoo.com)







## DOVE LOUNGE

For LGBTQIA+ Teens and Allies in Grades 7-12

A safe place for teens to meet and make friends,  
hang out, play games, listen to music and enjoy  
pizza & snacks.

The Bergen Jewish  
Social Justice  
Alliance is a group  
of representatives  
from the Reform  
Temples in Bergen  
County.

**Sunday, February 26, 2023 4 - 6 pm**

Temple Avodat Shalom  
385 Howland Avenue  
River Edge, New Jersey 07661

Sponsored by:  
Bergen Jewish Social Justice Alliance  
For further information:  
[dovelounge18@gmail.com](mailto:dovelounge18@gmail.com)



The B'Yachad breakfast  
on January 22nd  
featured speaker  
David Levin, whose  
topic was "Jews and  
Comic Books."



## Services and S'machot

**13 Shevat 5783**  
**Friday, February 3**

**Saturday, February 4**

*Torah Portion – B'shalach*  
*Exodus 13:17-17:16*

**Shabbat Shirah**  
**Family Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m.**

**Torah Study at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Lounge  
and on Zoom**  
**Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.**  
**B'nai Mitzvah of Thomas and Marcos Piñones**

*Haftarah – Judges 4:4-5:31*

**20 Shevat 5783**  
**Friday, February 10**

**Saturday, February 11**

*Torah Portion – Yitro*  
*Exodus 18:1-20:23*

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

**Torah Study at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Lounge  
and on Zoom**  
**Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.**

*Haftarah – Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-9:6*

**27 Shevat 5783**  
**Friday, February 17**

**Saturday, February 18**

*Torah Portion – Mishpatim*  
*Exodus 21:1-24:18*

**Shabbat Shekalim**  
**Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.**  
**Disabilities Inclusion Shabbat, Kol Emet sings**  
**Guest speaker, Dr. Lisa Heidi Shulman**

**Torah Study at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Lounge  
and on Zoom**  
**Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.**

*Haftarah – Jeremiah 34:8-22; 33:25-26*

**4 Adar I 5783**  
**Friday, February 24**

**Saturday, February 25**

*Torah Portion – T'rumah*  
*Exodus 25:1-27:19*

**Shabbat T'rumah**  
**Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.**

**Torah Study at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Lounge  
and on Zoom**  
**Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.**

*Haftarah – I Kings 5:26-6:13*



# February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 10th of Shevat 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 3:45pm - 5:00pm Rabbi's RS Class 4:00pm - 6:00pm Religious School 5:00pm - 5:45pm "Kinship of Sorrow," with Cantor Tilem 6:00pm - 6:30pm Junior Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm - 9:00pm Kol Emet Rehearsal	<b>2</b> 11th of Shevat 5783 7:30pm - 8:30pm Officer's Meeting @ ZOOM	<b>3</b> 12th of Shevat 5783 7:30pm - 8:30pm Family Shabbat Service @ Sanctuary	<b>4</b> 13th of Shevat 5783 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service - Thomas and Marcos Pinones B'nai Mitzvah @ Sanctuary
<b>5</b> 14th of Shevat, Erev Tu BiSh'vat 9:00am - 11:00am RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 10:00am - 11:00am Tu B'shevat Seder @ Youth Lounge	<b>6</b> 15th of Shevat, Tu BiSh'vat 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class Resumes @ ZOOM 7:00pm - 8:00pm Social Action Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	<b>7</b> 16th of Shevat 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Stories from a Jewish Perspective (make-up date) @ Library	<b>8</b> 17th of Shevat 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 3:45pm - 5:00pm Rabbi's RS Class 4:00pm - 6:00pm Religious School 5:00pm - 5:45pm "Kinship of Sorrow," with Cantor Tilem 6:00pm - 6:30pm Junior Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm - 8:45pm Kol Emet Rehearsal	<b>9</b> 18th of Shevat 5783 7:30pm - 9:00pm Board of Trustees Meeting @ Youth Lounge	<b>10</b> 19th of Shevat 5783 RAC Trip in Washington DC 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service - Music Service @ Sanctuary	<b>11</b> 20th of Shevat 5783 RAC Trip in Washington DC 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary
<b>12</b> 21st of Shevat 5783 RAC Trip in Washington DC 9:00am - 11:00am RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 9:15am - 10:45am Sunday Fundays @ Museum	<b>13</b> 22nd of Shevat 5783 RAC Trip in Washington DC 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	<b>14</b> 23rd of Shevat 5783 7:30pm - 9:00pm Movies that Mattered @ Social Hall	<b>15</b> 24th of Shevat 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 3:45pm - 5:00pm Rabbi's RS Class 4:00pm - 6:00pm Religious School 5:00pm - 5:45pm "Kinship of Sorrow," with Cantor Tilem 6:00pm - 6:30pm Junior Choir Rehearsal 7:45pm - 8:45pm Kol Emet Rehearsal	<b>16</b> 25th of Shevat 5783 7:30pm - 8:30pm Book Group - Black Cloud Rising @ ZOOM 7:30pm - 8:30pm Viewpoints Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	<b>17</b> 26th of Shevat 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service - Disabilities Inclusion Shabbat - Kol Emet Sings @ Sanctuary	<b>18</b> 27th of Shevat 5783 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary
<b>19</b> 28th of Shevat 5783 8:00am - 9:00am No Religious School - Presidents weekend	<b>20</b> 29th of Shevat 5783	<b>21</b> 30th of Shevat 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Mini University: "Until 120: Jewish Insights On Death and Mourning," with Cantor Ellen Tilem @ Library	<b>22</b> 1st of Adar 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 3:45pm - 5:00pm Rabbi's RS Class 4:00pm - 6:00pm Religious School 5:00pm - 5:45pm "Kinship of Sorrow," with Cantor Tilem 6:00pm - 6:30pm Junior Choir Rehearsal	<b>23</b> 2nd of Adar 5783 7:30pm - 9:30pm Viewpoints Program on the Jewish Deli on Zoom	<b>24</b> 3rd of Adar 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Sanctuary	<b>25</b> 4th of Adar 5783 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary
<b>26</b> 5th of Adar 5783 9:00am - 11:00am RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 11:00am - 1:30pm Hamentaschen making	<b>27</b> 6th of Adar 5783 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	<b>28</b> 7th of Adar 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Mini University: "Until 120: Jewish Insights On Death and Mourning," with Cantor Ellen Tilem @ Library				

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**

#### **Condolences to...**

**Idajean Fisher** on the loss of her friend,  
Evelyn Kaufmann.

**Joan Paul** on the loss of her daughter,  
Vicki VanZetta.

#### **Welcome new members...**

**Charlie Berger**

**Elizabeth Graber**, daughter of Arnie  
Graber and Amy Abrams.

## **Social Action in Action**

### **So many issues to consider. Here's where you can get active in February.**

The work of the national Religious Action Center continues to grow in 2023 as leaders build power to create a world in which all people experience peace and wholeness (*shalom*), justice and equity (*tzedek*), and belonging and joy (*shayachut* and *simcha*).

RAC teams from across the country have been meeting with various grass roots organizations to select the issue for the 2023 RAC social justice campaign. RAC is narrowing it down to two issues to be presented at a Town Hall (two dates are offered as options) for input from all congregations. Join us to help shape our campaign in 2023 at either one of these two (virtual) town halls:

**February 1 @ 4:00 p.m.** ([register here](#))

[https://urj.tfaforms.net/901?id=7014u000001RRwn&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=2023\\_1\\_5](https://urj.tfaforms.net/901?id=7014u000001RRwn&utm_medium=email&utm_content=2023_1_5)  
-OR-

**February 7 @ 8:00 p.m.** ([register here](#))

[https://urj.tfaforms.net/901?id=7014u000001RRws&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=2023\\_1\\_5](https://urj.tfaforms.net/901?id=7014u000001RRws&utm_medium=email&utm_content=2023_1_5)

What issues will we be voting for?

A climate justice campaign, where the goal is to get President Biden to take 20 Executive Actions to cut pollution in half by 2030 and support state/local work to build a more livable world.

A voting rights campaign, where the goal is to get President Biden to take Executive Action and support state/local work to protect and expand democracy.

Join us at **either** Town Hall to help shape our national movement-wide campaign in 2023.

### **One More February Event**

Bergen Jewish Social Justice Alliance is a new organization formed to bring Bergen County congregations together to advocate for social justice issues.

The first event is the establishment of the Dove Lounge. Dove Lounge is a safe place for LGBTQIA teens to hang out. The first event is on Sunday, February 26, 2023, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., at Temple Avodat Shalom, 385 Howland Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661. [Details on page 9.](#) For more information, contact [dovelounge18@gmail.com](mailto:dovelounge18@gmail.com)

The next meeting of the Social Action committee is February 6th on Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Temple Emeth hosted the MLK birthday celebration on January 16th.





# Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library

Monthly News Update: Variety!

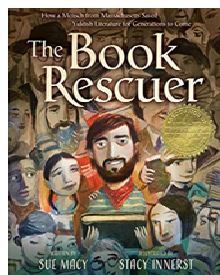
by Marion Wolf

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION



What a wonderful assortment of new books we have for you in the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library! There's a delightful children's picture book, a scholarly analysis of U.S.-Israel relations, some suspense-filled historical fiction, and the entertaining Newish Jewish Encyclopedia.

Sue Macy is the author and Stacy Innerst the illustrator of The Book Rescuer: How a Mensch from Massachusetts Saved Yiddish Literature for Generations to Come. This is the story of Aaron Lansky, who studied Yiddish as a graduate student in the 1970's.



When he saw that people were discarding old Yiddish books, he sought to save those books and preserve Yiddish culture. His efforts led to the foundation of the Yiddish Book Center in 1980, which became his life's work. Lansky rescued a million books and even made them digitally available to one and all. He wrote his autobiography—Outwitting History—in 2005, and now this children's book joins it on the shelves of our library. I suggest you revisit Lansky's inspiring saga together with a child or grandchild this time.

Or perhaps you would like to read Walter Russel Mead's latest book, The Arc of a Covenant: The United States, Israel, and the Fate of the Jewish People. The publisher describes this as "a groundbreaking work that overturns conventional wisdom to illuminate the unique relationship among the United States, the Jewish people, and the nation of Israel." According to columnist George F. Will, "Mead is today's most penetrating writer on geopolitics because he also is an extraordinarily accomplished historian. Readers of this mind-opening book will acquire a fresh understanding of



the United States, of Israel, and of the surprisingly complex relations between two of the world's most vibrant democracies."

New York Times best-selling author Steven Hartov has written a spellbinding novel of WW II, The Last of the Seven. Daniel Kalla calls it "a beautifully told war story, written with stirring prose and painstakingly accurate detail. Hartov shares a little known but compelling slice of Second World War history where German Jewish escapees were employed behind enemy lines in British commando operations that carried extreme risk and high stakes. The plot is a nail-biter. The dialogue crackles. The characters are memorable. And the exotic settings are laid out with such historical precision that you'll feel as if you are on the ground watching the horror, the sacrifice, the bravery, and the romance unfold in front of your eyes."



Finally we have The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia: From Abraham to Zabar's and Everything in Between by Stephanie Butnick, Liel Leibovitz, and Mark Oppenheimer, the hosts of Tablet Magazine's Unorthodox Podcast. If you are in the mood to browse through a pop-cultural guide, you'll enjoy this volume. It is packed with photos, illustrations, and irreverent observations. You learn about Aaron ("Like a biblical Rodney Dangerfield, our first High Priest couldn't get no respect."), Alan Alda ("Beloved actor you always thought was Jewish. He isn't."), and Florida ("where aging Jews and hurricanes go for one last furious spin."). This book is lots of fun! So what are you waiting for?



Come back to the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library and find your next read.

If you would like to borrow any of these books or DVDs 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

**Susan and Richard Barnett** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Teri Binder** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss  
in appreciation of Rabbi Sirbu and Linda Poskanzer for their work on a wonderful Shabbaton  
in memory of her beloved husband, Fred Binder  
in memory of her beloved mother-in-law, Beatrice Binder

**Naomi Blumenfeld** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Judy Eichinger** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Nickie and Doug Falk** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss  
in memory of Meyer Millman, beloved father of Nickie Falk

**Carlene Fleishman** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Judy and David Fox** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Fran Laurie Freeman**

**Gayle and Michael Goldberg** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Jacqueline Guttman** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Sue Keusch** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Cynthia Kitzinger** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Janice Lipsitz** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Elaine Pollack** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss  
in appreciation of Linda Poskanzer for the wonderful Shabbaton

**Paul Rosenberg**

**Carla and Larry Silver** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Marsha and Morris Sobel** in memory of Shirley Hirshfield, beloved mother of Marsha Sobel

**Karen and Ron Wertheimer** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

**Sydell Yegelwel** in memory of Bill Weiss, beloved husband of Brenda Weiss

### JANICE PRESCHER SOCIAL ACTION FUND

**Susan and Richard Barnett** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

**Judy Eichinger** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

**Lynne and Bill Graizel** in honor of Shel and Jeff Grossman for continuing the tradition of Shalach Manot  
in honor of Adam Kohane for all the talent he brings to Temple Emeth

**Phylis Burman and Karen Rappaport** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

**Hildy Dillon and Matthew Weiner** in memory of Alan Ross Dillon, beloved father of Hildy Dillon and father-in-law of Matthew Weiner

**Judy and David Fox** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

**Micki and Mike Grunstein** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

**Jacqueline Guttman** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

**Paul Kaufman** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

**Sue Keusch** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

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**Elaine Nissen and Linda Kochenburger** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

**Elaine Pollack** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

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**Mary Jane Tucker** in memory of Vicki VanZetta, beloved daughter of Joan Paul

### PAUL S. LAZAR CARING COMMUNITY FUND

**Susan Berlinrood** in honor of Caryn Diuguid

**Nancy Mednick** in memory of her beloved mother, Louise Norman

### STREAMING FUND

**Susan Berlinrood** in honor of Caryn Diuguid

### TEMPLE EMETH FUND

**Joan Rubenstein** in memory of her beloved son, Mark Windell, and her beloved father, William Abrams

### YAHREZEIT FUND

**Sara Halman** in memory of her beloved husband, Barry Gross

**Sue Keusch** in memory of her beloved husband, Phil Keusch

**Nathan Ritzer** in memory of his beloved wife, Bernice "Bunny" Ritzer

**Carla and Larry Silver** in memory of their beloved uncle, Ben Salkin

**Elona Sofer** in memory of her beloved mother, Rose Haberman

**Sharon and Art Vatsky** in memory of Art's beloved mother, Esther Vatsky

**James and Deborah Veach** in memory of James' beloved mother, Nysabea Veach

**Virginia Wasserman** in memory of her beloved husband, Rubin Wasserman





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Rev. Kerwin Webb spoke, Cantor Laura Breznick sang, Susan and Marty Breznick and  
Steve and Holly Clark had the honors at the MLK service on January 20th.





## Temple Emeth Book Group Selections 2023

February 16

Black Cloud Rising by David Wright Falade

March 16

Last Kings of Shanghai: The Rival Jewish Dynasties that Helped Create Modern China by Jonathan Kaufman

April 20

Ritz and Escoffier: The Hotelier, The Chef and the Rise of the Leisure Class by Luke Barr

May 18

The Flight Portfolio by Julie Orringer

June 15

Planning Meeting





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RSVP to: [funday@emeth.org](mailto:funday@emeth.org)  
[www.emeth.org](http://www.emeth.org)



Marc Chelemer sang, Teri Binder and Linda Poskanzer had the honors at the One Book One Synagogue service on January 7th.



Laura Bloom of the Northern New Jersey Sanctuary Coalition spoke at the HIAS Refugee Shabbat service on January 27th. Tom Mustachio performed works by refugee composers, Amanda Eastman sang "You Were Strangers," and Cantor Tilem returned from sabbatical.





## CONTRIBUTION FORM

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

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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.

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- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
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| • Beautification Fund                            | • Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Fund  | • Children's Worship Fund                          |
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| • Abe Golomb Religious School Scholarship Fund   | • Ilana Hed Religious School Fund      | • Inscribed Prayerbook Fund (\$50 minimum)         |
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| • Viewpoints Fund                                | • Yahrzeit Fund                        | • Youth Committee Program Fund                     |

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| • 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

### Tree of Life

*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 yesteday 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.*





*Emeth*

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