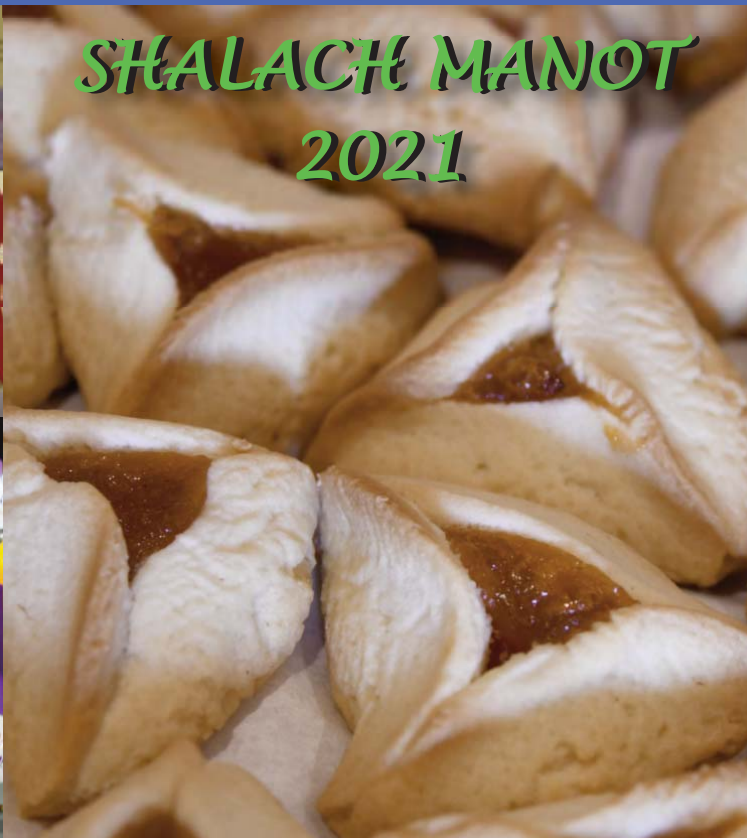


Share the joy of Purim

SHALACH MANOT 2021



One of the most joyous customs associated with the festival of Purim is SHALACH MANOT, the sending of treats to friends and family.

PLEASE NOTE: While we need to change how we share Purim joy due to the pandemic, we will continue our tradition and sense of community safely. For this reason, we will provide contact-free delivery of Shalach Manot.

You can send Purim wishes and Kosher goodies to Emeth members in Bergen County, Religious School families, and Temple staff. Recipients who live outside of Bergen County will receive Purim greetings.

To see how Shalach Manot will work this year, turn to page 7 for details.

◆ ◆ ◆

School Office # 201 833-8466



Message From the Rabbi

In November, President-Elect Joe Biden named Alejandro Mayorkas as his nominee for Secretary of Homeland Security. It is a notable pick for many reasons.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is responsible for carrying out most aspects of immigration policy, since the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Customs and Border Protection, the Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the Transportation Security Administration are all part of this department. For the last four years DHS has been responsible for some of the most cruel and controversial aspects of the Trump administration's immigration policy. This includes the family separation policy, which President Trump tried to deny responsibility for during the 2020 campaign, and which continues to impact hundreds of children whose parents still cannot be located.

Mr. Mayorkas will be the first Latino and the first refugee to hold the DHS Secretary position. He was born in 1959 in Cuba to a Cuban Jewish father and a Romanian Jewish mother who fled there during the Holocaust. The family came to the United States in 1960 during the Cuban revolution. He has served in several government posts, including seven years in the DHS during the Obama administration. During that time he was one of the architects of the DACA program, which protects "dreamers" whose parents brought them to the United States illegally when they were young children.

Also on Mr. Mayorkas's résumé is board member of HIAS, with which Temple Emeth affiliates as a "Welcome Congregation." HIAS has long worked for a compassionate refugee policy, which acknowledges America's unique role in offering refuge as well as the substantial contribution refugees make to their new communities. In a statement following the nomination, HIAS President and CEO Mark Hetfield congratulated Mr. Mayorkas with these words: "Ali has consistently

demonstrated that he is not only a strong and highly respected leader, but an empathetic one who knows the heart of the stranger, as the child of a Holocaust survivor, as a Latino, and as a refugee and immigrant himself. Ali is uniquely suited to rebuild public trust in the Department of Homeland Security as he knows that America is at its greatest when we build bridges, not walls."



Rabbi Steven Sirbu

On December 18, Mr. Mayorkas met with about a dozen religious leaders for whom immigration is not just a political issue but a moral one. There was a palpable sense that the frosty treatment that religious groups had experienced for the last four years was over. During that time, three refugee-advocacy organizations even took the step of suing the Trump administration.

And the news from the transition team regarding refugees has so far been good. President-Elect Biden has said he will raise the Presidential Determination, the number of refugees who will be permitted entry into the country in the coming year, to 125,000, over eight times the current number. The President-elect also promised to establish a task force charged with reuniting separated children with their parents.

"When I was very young, the United States provided my family and me a place of refuge," Mr. Mayorkas tweeted just after being named. "Now, I have been nominated to be the DHS Secretary and oversee the protection of all Americans and those who flee persecution in search of a better life for themselves and their loved ones." That he sees his role this way is already a breath of fresh air.

I wish Mazel Tov to Alejandro Mayorkas on his nomination and commend Joe Biden for his wisdom in making the choice. Now that we have leaders with similar vision in these positions, our work for a just and compassionate refugee policy is not over. We must consistently remind our leaders—even our friends—to transform their values into policy.

From the Religious School

“V’tain b’libeinu lishmoa, lilmod, u’lamed” – “Inspire us to hear, to learn, and to teach”
from the Siddur

This beautiful thought reflects the goals and aims of our teachers in Temple Emeth Religious School. Our students are learning Hebrew, Torah, Israel, Jewish history, and values. Our teachers are using Zoom, Google Meets, etc. in their virtual teaching and are successfully inspiring a feeling of family – *mishpacha* – among all our students and families. *Kol Hakavod* to Mora Jill, Mora Nancy, Mora Amanda, Mora Allyson, Mora Marla, Rabbi Sirbu, and Cantor Tilem for

- Preparing exciting, challenging, and creative lessons adapted to virtual learning.
- Being generous with compliments and encouraging words of kindness and respect.



Dora Friedman

The time that students spend in Religious School are opportunities for engaging and challenging Jewish study and learning, celebrating joyfully, cultivating friendships, and forming a strong Jewish identity.

Todah to all for your devotion to our Temple Emeth families and students.

B’vracha
Dora Geld Friedman

Looking Ahead: Classes resume on
Wednesday, January 6, 2021



Students performed a Chanukah song under Cantor Tilem’s direction.



Chanukah in the Hallway took place via Zoom with a reading by Rabbi Sirbu and candle-lighting by participants.



Marla Levine’s class made several Chanukah crafts projects; Caila after lighting the first night candles.



Message from President Nickie Falk

Five Years, But Who's Counting

At last February's Pink Shabbat service that was beautifully crafted by Cantor Tilem, I spoke about something very personal to me, even more so now that I come upon a special anniversary. Here's a shortened version of what I said.

There are some dates that are etched on my mind: March 15, 1978—my first date with Doug; November 24, 1979—our wedding day; July 11, 1984—the day Russell was born; September 25, 1996—Perri's "gotcha" day; January 26, 1998—the day my father died.

December 23, 2015. At 9:20 a.m., I received a phone call. My then-doctor said three sentences that would change my life in ways I could never have imagined. "I'm sorry it took me so long to call you but I'm just reading my emails from earlier this week. You have breast cancer. Do you have a surgeon?"

Do I have a surgeon? A week ago, she said there was an 85 percent chance that the punch biopsy would reveal only some calcium buildup.

On December 23, I stopped believing in statistics, even as I became a statistic. I became the one of eight women who will be diagnosed with breast cancer during her lifetime. In 2020, an estimated 276,480 new cases of invasive breast cancer were expected to be diagnosed in women in the U.S., along with 48,530 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer. It should be noted that breast cancer is not just a women's disease. While less than 1% of all breast cancers occur in men, in 2020, more than 2,600 men were diagnosed with the disease. For men, the lifetime risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer is about 1 in 833.

Breast and ovarian cancers, once viewed as secular health concerns, are increasingly recognized as heightened health issues for Jewish women and their families. One in 40 Jewish women and men carries the BRCA (breast cancer) gene mutation, compared to one in 500 in the general population, making Jewish families more susceptible to hereditary breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and other related cancers, including melanomas, prostate cancer, and pancreatic cancer—which all appear to be linked to the BRCA gene.

January 27, 2016. My surgery at Memorial Sloan Kettering after a long month of interviewing doctors, worrying, poking, prodding, and multiple tests.

June 21, 2016. My last day of five months of chemo. Every three weeks, we would drive to NYU's Medical Center in New York City for chemo treatments. It start-

ed with blood work and then there was about a three to four hour process while they pumped poisons into my system to kill what we all hoped were any remaining cancer cells that were not removed by my surgery or that might have traveled to other organs through my affected lymph nodes. Chemo drugs do not know the difference between healthy and non-healthy cells. That's why your hair falls out, your fingers and skin crack, your nose can't tolerate most smells, your taste buds change, you get nauseous, your brain cells fry. "Chemo brain" is real. I lost certain words, or they became scrambled in my head. Common-day words were lost—a problem for someone who makes her living as an editor. Unfortunately, some of those brain cells never regenerated. At least that's what my kids tell me.

September 8, 2016. My last day of three months of daily radiation treatments.

January 27, 2021. Five years cancer-free. The truth is, however, you are never cancer-free.

You are in remission. You are certainly not worry free. Medications have side effects, including bone aches and bone loss; two teeth were pulled; thinning hair continues to clog the drain. Each ache, tired day, bump, or rash is a concern that maybe your cancer or another cancer has returned.

While I refused to be defined by my disease, I will always be a cancer patient.

I learned a lot during 2016 and since. The first was how incredibly blessed I am to have Doug as a partner and caretaker. He was there and continues to be there every step of the way, schlepping me to appointments, holding my hand, rubbing my sore back or shins, preparing meals, dealing with the paperwork from insurance companies, and comforting me when I cried. When you are stricken by cancer, or indeed, any disease, it affects not just you but your entire family. Your immediate support system can make or break your spirit.

I learned I had some great friends—people who brought over meals, offered rides, brought chocolate, were there to listen to me. I also learned that there were some friends who could not be there for me, who stopped calling and texting, who never offered to visit. At first, I was hurt, then judgmental. After all, I had always been the first to bring over a meal when they had been ill. But I also learned that people react to illness very differently. Some are scarred by recent events with their own families or other friends. Others just didn't know what to say, so rather than say the wrong thing, they said nothing. I've learned to be more forgiving.

(continued on page 6)



Nickie Falk



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.

Message from President Nickie Falk *(continued from page 5)*

I learned there are tremendous resources and support systems out there. I learned to accept the kindness of friends, but also the help of strangers. I learned that I didn't want pity. I would only allow myself to cry for five minutes a day, and then I would get on to the business at hand. I needed support and positive energy. I needed jokes and laughter. I needed chocolate.

There's a reason that they say: "inside every cloud is a silver lining." We all know that some things are out of our control, but how we react to those things is very much within our control. When I got my diagnosis, I could have reacted with anger at God, at the world, at whatever. Instead, I tried to emulate my mother, who at age 89 made jokes while dealing with a brain tumor. If she could face such a fate with good humor, then so could I.

Cancer puts the rest of your life in perspective. Those seemingly small things are, indeed, small. Even before my diagnosis, when we paused for *T'fillat Halev*, the prayers of the heart, I always used that time to thank God—for Doug, for my kids and the rest of my family, for our good health, for our good fortune. I still use that time to express gratitude for all those things and for each day that I continue to enjoy, and especially for chocolate.

I know I am not alone in grappling with illness, whether past or current. I hope we all take some moments to express thanks and gratitude for what we have, celebrating each day as a small victory. And don't forget, I'm only an email or phone call away if you need some chocolate.



SHALACH MANOT



Here's how our Shalach Manot program will work this year in light of the pandemic:

- ❖ This year's program will be modified. Every recipient will receive a gift bag with hamentaschen and one or two other items.
- ❖ Please refer to the list of member families and staff sent by e-mail. Send an e-mail listing who you'd like to send Shalach Manot to shalachmanot@emeth.org. The cost is \$6.00 each if you are sending to 18 or fewer families, or \$5.00 each if you are sending to 19 families or more.
- ❖ Each recipient will get one gift bag. Each bag includes a card that lists all of the donor families.
- ❖ **RECIPROCAL OPTION:** You can elect to give to everyone who sends to you. You'll receive a statement from the Temple Office for the cost of Reciprocal Shalach Manot.
- ❖ **MITZVAH MANOT:** Share the joy of Shalach Manot with a Temple family who would not otherwise receive one!
- ❖ You can order extra Shalach Manot packages to deliver on your own to your friends and family for \$9.00 each. You'll need to pick these up at Temple on Sunday, February 21st, from 9:00 - 12:00.
- ❖ Due to COVID-19, we are only asking for volunteers to deliver Shalach Manot. We will bring the packed bags to the Temple.
- ❖ *Please send your list of Shalach Manot recipients (including Temple members, staff, Mitzvah Manot and non-Temple friends, and if you want the reciprocal option) to us at shalachmanot@emeth.org by Monday, January 11th.*
- ❖ *Please use the space below to calculate your payment and send your check to the Temple, or pay through ShulCloud. Feel free to call us with any questions.*
- ❖ *Please sign up to deliver Shalach Manot on Sunday, February 21st, from 9 - 12. Please e-mail us and we will send you your route!*

We look forward to your participation in Shalach Manot!

Shel & Jeff Grossman
 (201) 286-0325
Shalachmanot@emeth.org

Calculate your amount due, including Mitzvah Manot:

of bags @ \$6 each (if sending to fewer than 18 members): _____ x \$6 = _____

OR

of bags @ \$5 each (if sending to more than 18 members): _____ x \$5 = _____

PLUS

of additional bags for non-Temple friends: _____ x \$9 = _____

YOUR TOTAL _____



Services and S'machot

17 Tevet 5781
Friday, January 1st

Shabbat Vayechi
Shabbat Evening Service at 6:30 p.m. Live Stream

Saturday, January 2nd

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
Shabbat Morning Service at 11:00 a.m. Live Stream

Torah Portion - Genesis 47:28-50:26

Haftarah - I Kings 2:1-2:12

24 Tevet 5781
Friday, January 8th

Shabbat Shemot
Family Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m. Live Stream
Tribute to the Music of Debbie Friedman on her Tenth Yahrzeit

Saturday, January 9th

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
Shabbat Morning Service at 11:00 a.m. Live Stream

Torah Portion - Exodus 1:1-6:11

Haftarah - Isaiah 27:6-28:1, 29:22 - 29:23

2 Shevat 5781
Friday, January 15th

Shabbat Vaera
Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 5:45 p.m. via Zoom

Saturday, January 16th

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
Shabbat Morning Service at 11:00 a.m. Live Stream

Torah Portion - Exodus 6:2-9:35

Haftarah - Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

9 Shevat 5781
Friday, January 22nd

Shabbat Bo
Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m. Live Stream

Saturday, January 23rd

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

Torah Portion - Exodus 10:1-13:16

Haftarah - Jeremiah 46:13-46:28

16 Shevat 5781
Friday, January 29

Shabbat Shirah
Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m. Live Stream

Saturday, January 30

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
Shabbat Morning Service at 11:00 a.m. Live Stream

Torah Portion - Exodus 13:17-17:16

Haftarah - Judges 4:4-5:31

January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 17th of Tevet 5781 New Year's Day - Building Closed 6:30pm - 7:30pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Live Stream	2 18th of Tevet 5781 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Live Stream
3 19th of Tevet 5781 9:00am - 11:00am No Religious School (Winter Break) @ ZOOM	4 20th of Tevet 5781 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	5 21st of Tevet 5781 7:30pm - 8:30pm Adult Education Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	6 22nd of Tevet 5781 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ ZOOM 4:30pm - 6:00pm Religious School	7 23rd of Tevet 5781 7:30pm - 8:30pm Officer's Meeting @ ZOOM	8 24th of Tevet 5781 7:30pm - 8:30pm Family Shabbat Service @ Live Stream	9 25th of Tevet 5781 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Live Stream
10 26th of Tevet 5781 9:00am - 11:00am Religious School @ ZOOM 9:45am - 11:45am Social Action Committee Meeting @ ZOOM 1:00pm - 2:30pm Confirmation Orientation and Short Film @ ZOOM	11 27th of Tevet 5781 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM 7:30pm Technology Task Force Meeting @ ZOOM	12 28th of Tevet 5781 7:30pm Viewpoints Museum of Jewish Heritage Program on Jewish LGBT in NY @ ZOOM	13 29th of Tevet 5781 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ ZOOM 4:30pm - 6:00pm Religious School 7:30pm - 8:30pm Viewpoints Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	14 1st of Shevat 5781 7:45pm - 9:15pm Board of Trustees Meeting @ ZOOM	15 2nd of Shevat 5781 5:45pm - 6:45pm Kabbalat Shabbat @ ZOOM	16 3rd of Shevat 5781 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Live Stream
17 4th of Shevat 5781 9:00am - 11:00am Religious School @ ZOOM 10:30am - 12:00pm B'Yachad Breakfast @ ZOOM	18 5th of Shevat 5781 MLK Day - Building Closed 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	19 6th of Shevat 5781 7:30pm - 8:30pm "Golden America: Half Dream and Half Nightmare," with Irwin Yellowitz @ ZOOM	20 7th of Shevat 5781 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ ZOOM 4:30pm - 6:00pm Religious School	21 8th of Shevat 5781 7:30pm - 9:00pm Book Club Fleishman is in Trouble @ ZOOM	22 9th of Shevat 5781 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Live Stream	23 10th of Shevat 5781 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ ZOOM
24 11th of Shevat 5781 9:00am - 11:00am Religious School @ ZOOM 10:00am - 11:00am Caring Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	25 12th of Shevat 5781 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	26 13th of Shevat 5781 7:30pm - 8:30pm "Golden America: Half Dream and Half Nightmare," with Irwin Yellowitz @ ZOOM	27 14th of Shevat, Erev Tu BiSh'Vat 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ ZOOM 4:30pm - 6:00pm Religious School	28 15th of Shevat, Tu BiSh'Vat	29 16th of Shevat 5781 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Live Stream	30 17th of Shevat 5781 9:00am Torah Study @ ZOOM 11:00am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Live Stream
31 18th of Shevat 5781 9:00am - 11:00am Religious School @ ZOOM 1:00pm - 2:30pm Confirmation Make Your Own Golem Workshop (Time Tentative) @ ZOOM						

For up-to-the-minute event information, additions, cancellations, or make-up classes go to 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
Lee Rothenberg and sends condolences to
her son, Ron Rothenberg.*

Condolences to...

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

*Nickie and Doug Falk on the loss of their friend,
Ruth Finkelstein.*

*Karen Wertheimer on the loss of her beloved aunt,
Enid Charen.*

*Roberta Liblit on the loss of her brother, David
Abrams.*

Mazel Tov to...

*Pam and Jeff Etzin on the engagement of their
daughter, Kimberly to Jake Brown.*

*Deborah and Jim Veach on the birth of their
granddaughter, Nia Rachel Veach. Parents
are Zachary Veach and Jenna Koonin.*

Get well wishes to...

Art Vatsky



**Tuesday, January 12
at 7:30 p.m.
on Zoom**

Viewpoints Committee Presentation "Exploring New York's LGBT History"

Join us Tuesday, January 12 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom as the Viewpoints Committee presents a webinar entitled "Exploring New York's LGBT History." The webinar was originally given by the Museum of Jewish Heritage Living Memorial to the Holocaust during Pride month of 2020.

The presentation will feature a tour of the residences and locations in NYC that are significant to the Jewish LGBT community.

*Zoom info will be sent the week
before the event.*

Social Action in Action

Looking Forward to a Healthier and Happier New Year 2021!

Focus on Food Security. Social Action partnered with another Family Promise volunteer to cater an **additional** Walk-in-Dinner on December 23rd for 150 homeless people. Again, Karyle Goldstein, our chief organizer for food events, handled everything beautifully, as usual. THANK YOU Karyle!

Stay tuned - Social Action will have much more to say about Food Security in Bergen County and how we can help.

Hunger Strike at the Bergen County Jail. Last month, the Social Action Committee signed on to a letter supporting the detainees who are on a hunger strike to protest conditions in the jail. The Northern New Jersey Sanctuary Coalition, of which we are a founding member, also participated. In addition our New Jersey Senators Cory Booker and Bob Menendez supported this initiative.

Updated news about the environment from Paul Kaufman

- a) The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) has approved the construction of a port in Gibbstown, New Jersey for the processing and shipment overseas of liquid natural gas (LNG) transported from

the fracking fields of Pennsylvania by truck or train to the port. Environmentalists had been strongly against this plan due to the dangerous nature of the cargo (LNG) being transported and general opposition to increasing fossil fuel infrastructure in the state.

- b) New York State announced that it will be divesting its employee pension fund of securities which it holds in fossil fuel companies. This is part of a general campaign on the part of environmentalists to urge governmental agencies to rid themselves of fossil fuel company holdings.

- c) GreenFaith will be sponsoring a global day of climate action on March 11, 2021. While all the plans for this day are not presently known, it is likely that Temple Emeth, as a member of the Central Bergen GreenFaith Circle, will be invited to participate in some way in this event.

Save the Dates: The next Social Action meeting is Sunday, January 10th at 9:45 a.m. via Zoom.

Martin Luther King Jr. Bergen County birthday celebration on Monday, January 18th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Temple Emeth Mini-University

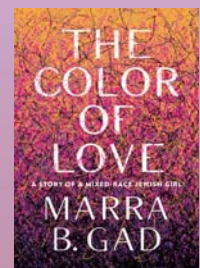
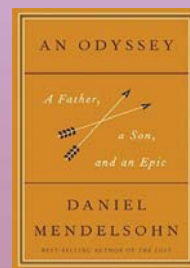
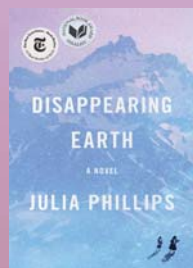
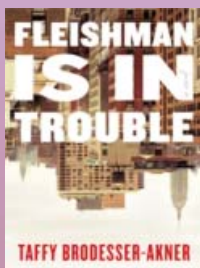
Tuesdays, January 19, 26, February 2 (makeup February 9), 2021

7:30 – 8:30 p.m. offered via Zoom

(Zoom info will be sent the week before class starts)

**“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.



TEMPLE EMETH BOOK GROUP SELECTIONS 2021

<i>Fleishman is in Trouble</i> by Taffy Brodesser-Akner	January 21
<i>Disappearing Earth</i> by Julia Phillips	February 18
<i>The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek</i> by Kim Michele Richardson	March 18
<i>An Odyssey: A Father, A Son, and an Epic</i> by Daniel Mendelsohn	April 15
<i>The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl</i> by Marra B. Gad	May 20

Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library

Monthly News Update: Four Women's Stories
By Marion Wolf

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION



The stories we hear in our childhood are a strong influence in our lives, whether those stories are family lore or biblical tales. Two new books in the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library have their origins in such stories.

The first new book is a work of non-fiction, I Want You to Know We're Still Here: A Post-Holocaust Memoir. Its author is Esther Safran Foer. Her name may sound familiar to you. She is the mother of Jonathan Safran Foer, who wrote Everything Is Illuminated.

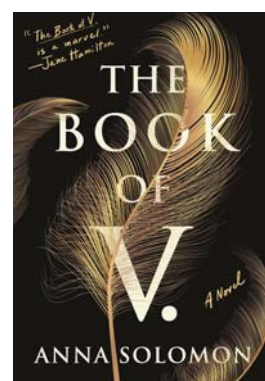
Esther Safran Foer is the daughter of Holocaust survivors who suffered horrifying losses. Growing up, Safran Foer hear just a few often-repeated anecdotes about her parents' shtetls and some of their



relatives. Those "traumatic memories live on from one generation the next, even if the later generation was not there to experience these events directly." It is only when Safran Foer is in her early 40s that her mother casually mentions that her father (now deceased) had a first wife and a child who were murdered by the Nazis. After this shocking revelation, Safran Foer resolves to learn all she can about them and about the righteous gentiles who saved her father's life. Her research goes on for years and takes her all over the world. She finds relatives on several continents; she corresponds and meets with

other refugees. Ultimately, she returns to Ukraine, where the shtetls once stood. Her journey uncovers the family's full story and ensures that the names from her family's past live on.

Our second new book is a novel by Anna Solomon called The Book of V. The book opens in Brooklyn in 2016 with Lily telling her two young daughters the story of the Book of Esther. Lily is wondering whether she should be sewing Purim costumes for the girls or pursuing her career as a writer. After a brief introduction to Lily, we cut to Washington, D.C. in the Watergate era. There we meet Vivian, who is nicknamed Vee. The wife of a senator, she is about to host a party for lots of big-wigs that will prove to be a turning point in her life. Just as we are drawn into her narrative, we find ourselves in ancient Persia with the "real" Esther. As Solomon relates the events of Esther's life, we recognize some of the details, but others are not quite the way we learned them in Hebrew School. Who is the "V." in The Book of V? It could be Vashti, who comes to mind when the senator asks Vee to strip for their guests, and Vee refuses. Readers curious to see what happens to each of these three women will discover intriguing connections, as the characters' tales are intertwined.



Whether you are interested in a woman's real-life quest or a modern midrash, we have your next read at the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library.

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

CONTRIBUTIONS

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Carla and Larry Silver in memory of David Abrams,
brother of Robbie Liblit
in memory of Irving Borowitz

PAUL S. LAZAR CARING COMMUNITY FUND

Karen and Ron Wertheimer in memory of Enid
Charen, aunt of Karen Wertheimer

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Paul Rosenberg thanking Cantor Tilem for all that
she does

ILANA HED RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Carla and Larry Silver in memory of Dolores
Rabin, mother of Marla Levine

Rob Staffin and Gail Talcoff in memory of Harry
Filowitz, husband of Wendy Filowitz

Judy and David Fox in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of
Abby Inglis, daughter of Jocelyn and
Trevor Inglis

JANICE PRESCHER SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE FUND

Judy Distler in honor of the Firsheins on the birth of
their grandson, Ezra David Firshein Cooper

Mary Jane Tucker in memory of Robert Binder,
brother-in-law of Teri Binder

Paul Rosenberg in memory of Janice Preschel

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Paula and Michael Dillon with gratitude to
Rabbi for his wisdom and insight as we finish
our Torah Study cycle. We are greatly indebted
to Rabbi Sirbu for the knowledge he shares
with us each week.

Sandy and Herb Loft in appreciation of all Rabbi
Sirbu does

Doris Pape in memory of her dear friend, Lee
Rothenberg and in gratitude to Rabbi Sirbu for
his inspiring funeral service

Marla and Tara Levine in appreciation and gratitude
to Rabbi Sirbu for all he's done during this
extraordinarily difficult time for us

Paul Rosenberg in appreciation for all that Rabbi
Sirbu does

Wendy Filowitz in memory of her husband, Harry
Filowitz

RABBI LOUIS J. SIGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

Judy and David Fox in honor of the birth of Nickie
and Doug Falk's granddaughter, Andromeda
Juniper, daughter of Lauren Malinowski and
Russell Falk
in honor of the birth of Joy and Dan Firshein's
grandson, Ezra David, son of Jenna Firshein
and Ben Cooper
in honor of the engagement of Jonathan Balkin
to Heather Bisson
in honor of the birth of Karen and Ron
Wertheimer's granddaughter, Sydney Nelia,
daughter of Sarah Wertheimer and James Lopez

REPLACE THE ROOF

Judy Distler in memory of Robert Binder,
brother-in-law of Teri Binder

Susan and Martin Breznick in honor of the birth of
Nickie and Doug Falk's granddaughter,
Andromeda Juniper, daughter of Lauren and
Russell Falk
sending Michael Goldberg birthday wishes

Nickie and Doug Falk in honor of the birth Deborah
and Jim Veach's granddaughter, Nia Rachel
Veach, daughter of Zachary Veach and Jenna
Koonin

RITUAL FUND

Fran Butensky in memory of her father, Andrew Will

STREAMING FUND

Elinor Buchbinder in honor of the engagement of
Pam and Jeff Etzin's daughter, Kimberly
in honor of Nickie and Doug Falk's new
granddaughter, Andromeda (Andi) Juniper,
daughter of Lauren and Russell Falk
in honor of Joy and Dan Firshein's new
grandson, Ezra David Firshein Cooper, son of
Jenna Firshein and Ben Cooper

Wendy and Daniel Dessanti in gratitude to Cantor
Tilem for making our virtual experience
meaningful and something to look forward to!
in gratitude to Rabbi Sirbu for making our
virtual experience meaningful and something
to look forward to!

Joy and Dan Firshein in honor of Nickie and Doug
Falk's new granddaughter, Andromeda (Andi)
Juniper, daughter of Lauren and Russell Falk

TEMPLE EMETH FUND

Carla and Larry Silver in honor of the birth of
Joy and Dan Firshein's new grandson, Ezra
David Firshein Cooper, son of Jenna Firshein
and Ben Cooper

Pam and Jeff Etzin in honor of the birth of Jenna
Firshein and Ben Cooper's son, Ezra David
Firshein Cooper

Elaine and Joe Pollack in memory of David Abrams,
brother of Robbie Liblit

YAHREZEIT FUND

Rubin Ferziger in memory of his mother,
Esther Ferziger

Marian L. Ferziger in memory of her sister,
Roberta Friedman

June Witterschein Cohen in memory of George J.
Witterschein and in gratitude for all the
kindness shown to her and her family

Joan Knauer in memory of her parents, Barbara
and Seymour Alter

Deborah Veach in memory of her mother, Rae Lifschitz
Deborah Veach in memory of her grandfather,
Baruch Tsukerman

Barbara Bias in memory of her grandfather,
Leo A. Goodman

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 | • Music Fund | • Prayerbook Fund |
| • Museum Fund | • Ritual Fund | • Margery Rothschild Memorial Israel Fund |
| • Janice Preschel Social Action Committee Fund | • Straussman Memorial Youth Award Fund | • Streaming Fund |
| • Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Scholar-in-Residence Fund | • Torah Repair Fund | • Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture Fund |
| • Temple Emeth Fund | • Yahrzeit Fund | • Youth Committee Program Fund |
| • Viewpoints 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

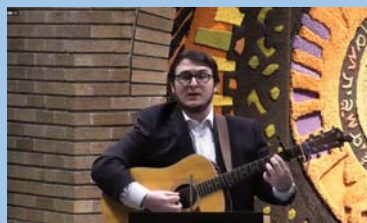
Livestream services



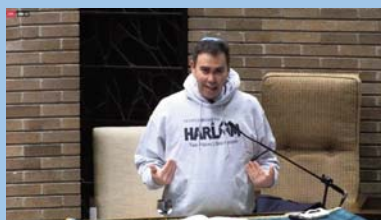
Cantor and Rabbi reciting kiddush



Marc Chelemer



Adam Kohane



Camp Harlam service



Duet with Cantor and Amanda Eastman



Idajean Fisher



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



Dog run get-together on December 6th.



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 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

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



Chanukah candlelighting livestreamed in the parking lot on December 13th.





Temple Emeth
1666 Windsor Road
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666
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