

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 8

www.emeth.org

Iyar/Sivan 5783

May 2023

*Please join us
as our
5783 Confirmand,
Emma Sophie Feuer*



*Leads our Congregation
in the
Shavuot Evening Service
Thursday, May 25, 2023
7:30 p.m.*

TEMPLE EMETH

1666 Windsor Road Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

www.emeth.org

Main Office # 201 833-1322



★ 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

Bulletin Deadlines			Mid-Month Mailing Deadlines	
<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.

Advertising Rates for Ad Size 2" x 3 ½"

	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

This month our Religious School year will end, and with it an era at Temple Emeth.

For decades—probably since the very beginning—we have taken pride in educating the congregation's children in our own educational program. In doing so, our students learned Torah, Hebrew, and Jewish history. They made Jewish friends. And they came to appreciate the Temple building as their spiritual home. Following their final year of Religious School, they often went on to youth group, Confirmation, or serving as madrichim.

At the same time, the adults of the congregation, no matter what their age, understood that educating our children meant doing our part to build a strong future for our congregation and for the Jewish people generally. No one would give that up without great consideration.

Unfortunately, changing demographics and the decrease in school enrollment compelled the Temple's leadership to consider a change to our educational format. As you probably know, we are pursuing an educational collaboration with Temple Sinai, though as of this writing, a final agreement has not yet been reached.

This, like many transitions, is bittersweet. We can celebrate all that we accomplished in our Religious School, even if we are sad or disappointed that it is ending. We hope to do this in two ways in the month of May.

On Friday, May 12 at 8:00 pm, we will have our annual Milestone Membership Shabbat. Every year it is a reflection on how the Temple positively impacts our members. This year, fittingly, the focus will be on education. Temple member Jill Kravitz, who participated in our Religious School as a student, parent, and teacher, will reflect on what the school has meant to her.

On Sunday morning, May 21 at 9:15 am, we will conclude our year as usual with a Moving-Up Ceremony. We will show our appreciation to our current teachers for a wonderful and inspiring year, and we will also honor Dora Geld Friedman and Barbara Shater for the countless hours they have spent creating a nurturing educational environment for our students. Following the Moving-Up, at 11:00 a.m., we will have a celebratory brunch, including music, dancing, and tribute videos. It will be a memorable and festive day! (And though it is a separate event, I hope everyone will stay after the brunch for a program on Jews and chocolate, led by Rabbi Deborah Prinz.)



Rabbi Steven Sirbu

Modifying our Religious School program to reflect the changing needs of the congregation is both necessary and difficult. The transition can be easier when we bring our current format to a fitting close, and we appreciate that the core values of our school can continue to guide us as together we create something new.

Congratulations Rabbi Sirbu

Rabbi Steven Sirbu will be marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination next month. He has spent 20 of those 25 years at Temple Emeth, so indeed this is a milestone for our whole congregation. In honor of this anniversary, Rabbi Sirbu will receive an honorary doctorate, formally known as Doctor of Divinity (Honoris Causa), from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion at their annual graduation ceremony. The ceremony will take place on **Thursday, May 4 at 4:00 pm** in the Lowenstein Sanctuary at Temple Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street in New York City. The keynote speaker that afternoon will be Rabba Sara Hurwitz; she is known as the first female Orthodox rabbi. More information and online registration for both in-person attendance and livestream access are available by clicking [here](https://huc.edu/form-pages/2023-grad-ord-registration-form/). <https://huc.edu/form-pages/2023-grad-ord-registration-form/> As a congregation we will be celebrating this milestone on **Friday night, June 9 at 8:00 pm**. We will offer words of tribute about Rabbi Sirbu's leadership and enjoy a festive Oneg Shabbat for the occasion. That evening's service will also feature special music written by Canadian composer Srul Irving Glick to mark Rabbi Louis J. Sigel's z"l retirement in 1992, and is being featured on June 9 in honor of his 18th Yahrzeit. We hope you will mark your calendar for this memorable evening. Mazel tov to Rabbi Sirbu on this achievement and Yasher Koach on his twenty-five years as a leader and teacher of the Jewish people.

Michael Robinson, President
Cantor Ellen Tilem

From the Religious School

“Find yourself a teacher, make yourself a friend”

Pirkei Avot - Ethics of the Fathers

If you visit our Religious School any Sunday morning or Wednesday afternoon, you will come upon a wonderful sight: engaged and involved students and teachers studying Torah, Hebrew, Jewish history and holidays, Israel, blessings and songs. Our Religious School community – students, teachers, and parents – participate in creative programs that are spiritually enriching. They are learning Jewish values: *rachmanut* - compassion, *simcha* - joy and *tikkun olam* – repairing the world, that can be integrated into their daily lives as individuals and as a community.



Dora Geld Friedman

A poem written by a noted Israeli poet, Leah Goldberg, beautifully expresses this idea:

Teach me my God, a blessing, a prayer
On the mystery of a withered leaf
On ripened fruit so fair
On the freedom to see, to sense,
To breathe, to know, to hope, to despair,
Teach my lips a blessing, a hymn of praise
As each morning and night
You renew Your days
Lest my last days be as the one before
Lest routine set my ways.

In the spirit of the *mitzvah* of *tikkun olam*, why not ask your family and friends to think of ways to share your good fortune and blessings with others.

B'vracha,
Dora Geld Friedman

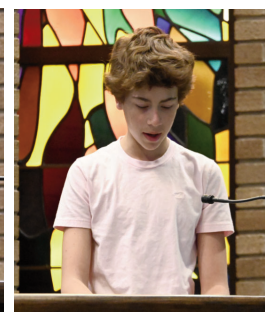
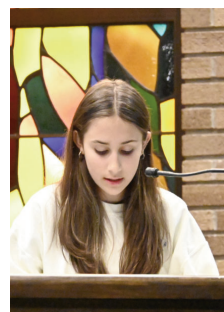


Mora Marla Levine's students proudly show their Passover and Yom Ha'Atzmaut projects.

Students sang Hatikvah at the Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebration on April 26th.



Mora Nancy Scher's 7th grade class presented Yom Hashoah reflections at services on April 23rd.



Message from President Michael Robinson

We are excited to announce that Temple Emeth will be celebrating its 75th anniversary on May 6th with a celebration to honor this significant milestone. We want to express our gratitude to Morris and Marsha Sobel for chairing this event, and to the many volunteers, who are helping to make it a truly memorable occasion.

In addition to celebrating our Temple's rich history and the contributions of our community, we will also be recognizing Emma Feuer on her upcoming confirmation during our Shavuot observance on May 25th. We offer our sincerest congratulations to Emma and her family on this special occasion.

We are excited to announce that starting next year, we will be changing our Religious School model to better meet the needs of our community. We look forward to sharing more information about these changes in the

coming months and working together to create a vibrant and engaging educational experience for our students.



Michael Robinson

As we celebrate this important milestone, we also say a fond farewell to Morah Dora, who has served as our Religious School Director for many years. There will be a luncheon on Sunday May 21st at 11 a.m. to honor her. We thank Dora for her dedication, hard work, and commitment to our community, and wish her all the best as she moves into retirement. We hope that you will join us for this special celebration and share in our joy and gratitude as we reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and look forward to the future. RSVP by May 7th on the Temple website.

As always, I welcome your comments.

Mike

Congregational Second night Passover Seder on April 6th was organized by Rachel Eastman, with music by Richard Buchbinder and Amanda Eastman.



SILENT AUCTION



Bid and Win Great Prizes at Our Silent Auction!

One of the highlights of the Gala is always the Silent Auction—and this year you can bid on our fabulous Silent Auction from the comfort of your home! **Bidding is open to everyone everywhere!** Just sign up at emeth.schoolauction.net/2023 and start bidding! **Bidding opens on Sunday, April 30, at 6 p.m., and closes at 10 p.m. on May 6, as the Gala ends.**

We have so many great items for you to bid on—including tons of gift cards so you can get exactly what you want from the generous local businesses that support Temple Emeth. Want to shop? Bid on gift certificates to Bloomingdale's, Home Depot, and Target, plus many more. Want to eat out? Bid on gift certificates to Eddie V's, Grissini, Ruth's Chris, and many, many more.

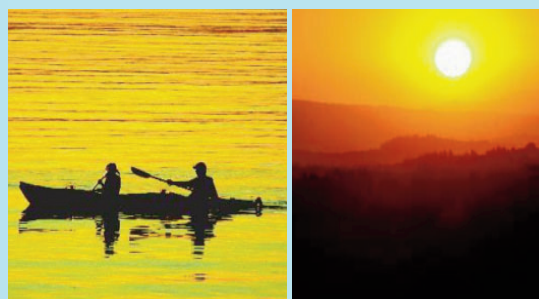


You'll also find returning Temple-family favorites: delightful meals with the Rabbi and the Cantor, beautiful framed photos by Barbara Balkin, jewelry from Lynne Graizel, and steak from Micki and Mike Grunstein.

But wait, there's even more—great experiences! Attend the centerpiece event at the Teaneck International Film Festival . . . see an opera at the Met . . . cheer on the home team at a preseason Giants game . . . check out a show at Paper Mill Playhouse. Trust us, there's a lot!

Don't miss out! You can see all the prizes and make your bids online. With easy online bidding, you don't have to jostle for position at the clipboards. **And you can bid from anywhere using your smartphone or computer. You don't even have to attend the Gala!** Anyone can bid, so tell your friends and family to log in and get a great deal.

Log in NOW at emeth.schoolauction.net/2023. Tell your friends, tell your family, and most of all, visit the Silent Auction yourself! Every item has been donated, so every dollar goes to support our spiritual and social home at Temple Emeth. **Bid now and bid big!**



Bidding begins

**at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 30th
and ends on Saturday, May 6th
at 10:00 p.m.**

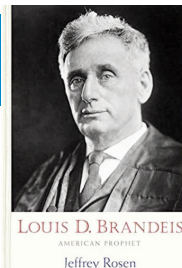
Don't wait—get your bids in now!

Good Luck and Happy Bidding!
Jodee, Nancy, Wendy, and Laaren

TEMPLE EMETH MINI UNIVERSITY

Justice Brandeis and His Legacy

Tuesdays May 9, 16, 23 and 30 - 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.



Louis D. Brandeis, the first Jewish justice of the Supreme Court, is perhaps the most famous Jew to come from Louisville, Kentucky. Before joining the Court, Brandeis gained renown as “The People’s Lawyer” and an advocate based in Boston. Only later in life did he embark on his most significant contribution to Jewish life: redefining American Zionism. This class will examine Brandeis’s legacy as a lawyer, judge and Zionist and attempt to apply some of his lessons to our political and legal landscape. Our primary textbook for this class will be “Louis D. Brandeis: American Prophet,” by Jeffrey Rosen. Temple member Michael Dillon will lend his legal expertise during this four-part course, which will take place in person and on Zoom. To join on Zoom, see login info below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85350664837?pwd=MUpVOUZDaWxhTjYzRTNXTzBJNG1NUT09>

Meeting ID: 853 5066 4837

Passcode: 540217

NOTE: Our Adult Education Mini-University class on Justice Brandeis and his legacy will be postponed by one week so Temple Emeth members can attend a program entitled, “Coming Together to Save Israeli Democracy!” at Temple Sinai on Tuesday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m. See page 16 for information about the program.

**Save the Date: “What is the Best
Chocolate? Jewish Ethics Mix into our
Chocolate Eating”
Sunday, May 21 at 1:00 p.m.
in the Youth Lounge**

Copies of her books, *On the Chocolate Trail* and *The Boston Chocolate Party* will be available for purchase at the event.

Join us on Sunday, May 21 at 1:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge for a presentation by Rabbi Deborah R. Prinz in celebration of Temple Emeth’s 75th Anniversary. She will be discussing, “What is the Best Chocolate? Jewish Ethics Mix into our Chocolate Eating.” Faced with a mélange of options when selecting our chocolate, chocolate lovers might be informed by our Jewish values. We will review the complexities of measuring our food values against our chocolate choices and consumption.

This event is \$10 for adults, free to teens 13-18 years old. Register on the Temple website: emeth.org

Registration deadline is Monday, May 15.



Rabbi Deborah Prinz

Hildy Dillon and Paul Kaufman made presentations at the Earth Day Service on April 21st, and Tom Mustachio and Cantor Tilem sang a duet.



Deborah Veach, daughter of Holocaust survivors, was the guest speaker at the Yom Hashoah service on April 23rd.



Flutist Carol Shansky, accompanied by pianist Amber Liao, gave a concert/lecture entitled, "Voices: Lost Music of Dutch Composers Suppressed in the Holocaust" on April 23rd.



Israel 75

A COMMUNITY *Celebration*



75 & Fabulous! SUNDAY, MAY 21 4:00PM

— An entertainment extravaganza! —

BERGEN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, Englewood, NJ

An evening of entertainment by world-renowned Israeli performers to celebrate Israel's 75th birthday. Featured entertainers are singer Rami Kleinstein, the talented dance troupe Keshet Chaim and mentalist Nevo Abutbul.

Chairpeople - Maggie Kaplen & Leon Sokol, Cheryl & Lee Lasher, Maxine & Bob Peckar, and Jayne & David Petak

VIP Seating - \$72 | General Admission - \$36

PURCHASE TICKETS JFNNJ.ORG/ISRAEL75

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FOR GROUP SALES of 10 or more, contact the bergenPAC Box Office directly at (201) 816-8160 ext. 1024 or email [bergenPAC at groupsales@bergenpac.org](mailto:bergenPAC@groupsales@bergenpac.org) to avoid Ticketmaster fees.

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Services and S'machot

15 Iyar 5783
Friday, May 5

Shabbat Emor
Family Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 6

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.

75th Anniversary Gala at 7:00 p.m.

Torah Portion – Emor
Leviticus 21:1-24:23

Haftarah – Ezekiel 44:15-31

22 Iyar 5783
Friday, May 12

Shabbat B'har- B'chukotai
Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.
Tribute to our Religious School and
Milestone Membership Appreciation

Saturday, May 13

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion – B'har-B'chukotai
Leviticus 25:1-26:2; 26:3-27:34

Haftarah – Jeremiah 32:6-27; 16:19-17:14

29 Iyar 5783
Friday, May 19

Shabbat B'midbar
Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 20

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion – B'midbar
Numbers 1:1-4:20

Haftarah – Hosea 2:1

6 Sivan
Thursday, May 25

Erev Shavuot and Confirmation at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 26
Torah Portion for Shavuot
Exodus 20:1-14

Shavuot Morning Service with Yizkor at 10:30 a.m.
Haftarah — Isaiah 42:1-12

7 Sivan 5783
Friday, May 26

Shabbat Naso I
Kabbalat Shabbat on Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 27

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion – Naso I
Numbers 4:21-5:31

Haftarah – Judges 13:2-12

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 10th of Iyyar 5783 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	2 11th of Iyyar 5783 6:30pm - 10:00pm Gala Rehearsal Tentative @ Youth Lounge 8:00pm - 9:00pm Mini University - Justice Brandeis and His Legacy @ Library	3 12th of Iyyar 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 3:45pm - 5:00pm RS Class @ Lounge 4:00pm - 6:00pm Religious School @ Upper Conference Room, room 5 & 8 5:00pm - 5:45pm "The Kinship of Sorrow," with Cantor Tilem @ Museum 6:00pm - 6:30pm Junior Choir Rehearsal @ Youth Lounge 7:45pm - 9:00pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	4 13th of Iyyar 5783 7:30pm - 8:30pm Officer's Meeting @ ZOOM	5 14th of Iyyar 5783 7:30pm - 8:30pm Family Shabbat Service @ Sanctuary	6 15th of Iyyar 5783 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary 7:00pm - 11:00pm 75th Anniversary Gala
7 16th of Iyyar 5783 9:00am - 11:00am RELIGIOUS SCHOOL @ UCR, Rooms 5,7 & 8 9:15am - 10:45am Sunday Fundays @ Museum 9:45am - 10:45am Social Action Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	8 17th of Iyyar, Erev Lag B'Omer 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	9 18th of Iyyar, Lag B'Omer 8:00pm - 9:00pm Mini University - Justice Brandeis and His Legacy @ Library	10 19th of Iyyar 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 3:45pm - 5:00pm RS Class @ Lounge 4:00pm - 6:00pm Religious School @ Upper Conference Room, room 5 & 8 5:00pm - 5:45pm "The Kinship of Sorrow," with Cantor Tilem @ Museum 6:00pm - 6:30pm Junior Choir Rehearsal @ Youth Lounge 7:45pm - 9:00pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	11 20th of Iyyar 5783 7:30pm - 9:00pm Board of Trustees Meeting @ Youth Lounge	12 21st of Iyyar 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service - A Tribute to our Religious School & Milestone Membership Appreciation @ Sanctuary	13 22nd of Iyyar 5783 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary
14 23rd of Iyyar 5783 9:00am - 11:00am RELIGIOUS SCHOOL @ UCR, Rooms 5,7 & 8 10:00am - 11:00am RS Mother's Day Service, led by grade 4/5 @ Sanctuary	15 24th of Iyyar 5783 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	16 25th of Iyyar 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Mini University - Justice Brandeis and His Legacy @ Library	17 26th of Iyyar 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 3:45pm - 5:00pm RS Class @ Lounge 4:00pm - 6:00pm Religious School @ Upper Conference Room, room 5 & 8 5:00pm - 5:45pm "The Kinship of Sorrow," with Cantor Tilem @ Museum 6:00pm - 6:30pm Junior Choir Rehearsal @ Youth Lounge 7:45pm - 9:00pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	18 27th of Iyyar 5783 7:30pm - 8:30pm Book Group - The Flight Portfolio 7:30pm - 8:30pm Viewpoints Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	19 28th of Iyyar 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Sanctuary	20 29th of Iyyar 5783 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary
21 1st of Sivan 5783 9:00am - 11:00am Last Day of Religious School - Moving Up Ceremony @ Sanctuary 9:00am - 11:00am RELIGIOUS SCHOOL @ UCR, Rooms 5,7 & 8 11:00am - 1:00pm Luncheon for Dora @ Social Hall 1:00pm - 2:30pm Chocolate Program with guest presenter Rabbi Deborah Prinz @ Youth Lounge 4:00pm - 6:00pm 75 and Fabulous! An Evening of Entertainment at the Bergen PAC	22 2nd of Sivan 5783 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class @ ZOOM	23 3rd of Sivan 5783 8:00pm - 9:00pm Mini University - Justice Brandeis and His Legacy @ Library	24 4th of Sivan 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 7:45pm - 9:00pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	25 5th of Sivan 5783 7:30pm - 9:00pm Erev Shavuot Service and Confirmation @ Sanctuary	26 6th of Sivan, Shavuot 10:30am - 12:00pm Shavuot Morning Service with Yizkor @ Sanctuary 7:00pm - 8:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service @ ZOOM	27 7th of Sivan, Shavuot 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary
28 8th of Sivan 5783	29 9th of Sivan 5783	30 10th of Sivan 5783 7:30pm - 8:30pm Adult Education Committee Meeting @ Library	31 11th of Sivan 5783 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch & Learn @ Library 7:45pm - 9:00pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary			

Good & Welfare

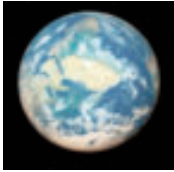
The congregation mourns the loss of longtime member Gidon Yablonka, and sends condolences to his wife, Judy.

Condolences to...

Seth Ginsberg on the loss of his father, Ira Ginsberg.

Get Well Wishes to...

Janice Lipsitz



Social Action Committee Environmental Call for Action

Midrash on the Garden of Eden:

Behold my works, how pleasant and how beautiful they are. And I created it all for you! Be aware and don't ruin or destroy my world, for if you ruin it, there is no one to come and fix it up after you.

Temple Emeth, as a member of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC), is participating in RAC's Power for Purpose national campaign advocating for policies that will deliver a clean, healthy, livable future for all communities, particularly those most impacted by climate pollution.

How to Take Action!

The first step in RAC nationwide Power for Purpose Environmental Justice campaign is to participate in an online writing campaign to Congress to support the U. S A. Donald McEachin Environmental Justice for All Act (S. 919 /H.R. 1705). RAC's goal is to have 3000 personal messages nationwide sent to US Congress through this RAC campaign. What should your personal message include? Tell your U. S. New Jersey Senators and your House representative(s) why environmental justice is important to you personally. Personal messages make a difference! Here is what you do:

Visit www.rac.org/ejforall or QR Code:



Review the information available

Fill out your name and contact information

Add a personal reason why you support strong limits on climate pollution!

Click "Send Message!"

More RAC Power for Purpose activities will be announced throughout the summer!

Questions? Contact Paul Kaufman, pkaufman65@optonline.net or Hildy Dillon, Hildy.Dillon@gmail.com.



Small Changes Can Have an Impact

Social Action Committee Environmental Call for Action!

How to Conserve Water and Use Alternatives to Plastic:

- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth.
- Try and limit how often you flush the toilet.
- Take quick showers and save 1000 gallons a month.
- Take showers instead of baths.
- Look for and fix leaks.
- Plant hardy plants outside and limit lawn watering.
- Use a dishwasher instead of hand-washing dishes.
- Do everything you can to eliminate the use of plastics!
- Install water filtration systems and use tap water.
- Drink out of non-plastic glasses and cups, or reusable water bottles made of glass or metal.
- Use products that come in biodegradable or compostable containers.
- Buy larger containers of liquids to refill smaller containers, in place of buying multiple small containers.

Refill your cleaning supply bottles with cleaning tablets and water.

Use plastic alternatives, such as paper, glass, or metal containers.

There are many new products made of mushrooms, seaweed, and other compounds that are biodegradable and can be used as non-plastic "plastic," for utensils, food wrap, containers and more.

Compostable non-plastic "plastic" bags can be bought online at large retailers.

Support the non-plastic movement with your intentions and habits!

For more suggestions see page 19.

Questions? Contact Paul Kaufman: pkaufman65@optonline.net or
Hildy Dillon: Hildy.Dillon@gmail.com

Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library

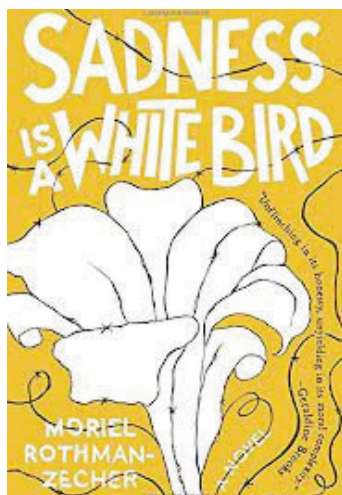
Monthly News Update: Glimpses Into Others' Lives by Marion Wolf

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION



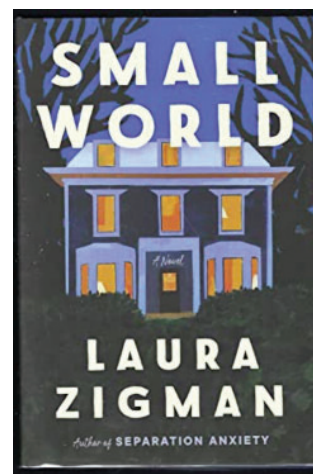
Sometimes when you read a novel, you wonder what it must feel like to face the difficult circumstances the characters face and how you might deal with their problems if you were in their shoes. A sensitive, well-written book opens your eyes to other perspectives. We have added two such works of fiction to the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library. These books both draw on the authors' own lives, and both have poetry sprinkled throughout them.

In fact, the very title of one of them—Moriel Rothman-Zecher's Sadness Is a White Bird—is taken from a poem (that poem is Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish's "A Soldier Dreams of White Lilies."). Sadness Is a White Bird is a coming-of-age story, the debut novel of Rothman-Zecher, who is known for his journalism and his own poetry. Like his main character Jonathan, Rothman-Zecher is an Israeli citizen who spent some of his early years in the United States. We meet Jonathan, when he is 19 years old. He is in an Israeli prison writing letters to his close friend Laith. We do not know what crime has landed Jonathan in that prison, but we gradually learn about his life from those letters. We hear the story of his grandfather, a Salonican Jew whose community was destroyed by Nazis. Jonathan's grandfather managed to escape and fought as a young man to establish the State of Israel. Jonathan has always taken pride in his heritage and looked forward to serving in Israel's army as a paratrooper. But his situation



becomes complicated when he forms a deep friendship with Laith and Laith's twin sister Nimreen. Those siblings are Palestinians, and their family history is tragic, too—only they have suffered at the hands of the very Israeli army Jonathan seeks to join. Nevertheless, Jonathan goes ahead with his service in the IDF. Then he finds himself policing a Palestinian demonstration. This book is beautifully written, powerful, and disturbing.

Laura Zigman is the author of several novels. Small World is her latest. Like her main character, Joyce Mellishman, Zigman grew up with two sisters, one of whom was disabled. In real life and in the book, that sister lived some of her life in an institution and died young. What impact does that have on those who survive? In Small World Joyce's older sister Lydia moves back east after almost 30 years in Los Angeles. The sisters, both divorced, decide to live together until Lydia can find her own place. They seldom discuss the loss of their sister Eleanor, and instead of forming a close bond as adults, their relationship is fraught. Though this book deals with a serious subject, the author has a light touch and injects humor with charming "found poetry" from Joyce's neighborhood social networking site. This novel of sisterhood and hope reminds us that sometimes you have to look back to move ahead.



These are just two of the treasures you can find in the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library.

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

CONTRIBUTIONS

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Marilynn and Joel Friedman

Marcia Orange in memory of her beloved mother,
Bryna Wities

BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Sue Keusch in memory of Arthur Skulnik

BETH AM SPECIAL PROGRAMS FUND

Harvey and Barbara Rosenfeld in memory of their
parents, Sidney and Minnie Rosenfeld; Walter
and Irmgard Hann

LIBRARY FUND

Carol Aerenson in memory of her beloved father,
Robert Aerenson

JANICE PRESCHER SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Lynne and Bill Graizel

Sandy and Herb Loft in memory of Gidon Yablonka,
beloved husband of Judy Yablonka

MARGERY ROTHSCHILD MEMORIAL ISRAEL FUND

*In memory of Gidon Yablonka, beloved
husband of Judy Yablonka*

Victor and Ilene Anesini

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Carlene Fleishman

Judy and David Fox

Michael Geller

Michael and Gayle Goldberg

Lynne and Bill Graizel

Mindy Greenberg

Sam and Karen Gronner

Micki and Mike Grunstein

Paul Kaufman

Elaine Pollack

Karen Rappaport and Phylis Burman

Larry and Carla Silver

Eva and Larry Tobias

Mary Jane Tucker

Karen and Ron Wertheimer

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Matthew Weiner and Hildy Dillon in memory of
Matthew's beloved parents, Jacob and Janet
Weiner

Lisa Eig in memory of Ira Ginsberg, beloved father
of Seth Ginsberg

Michael and Gayle Goldberg in memory of Ira
Ginsberg, beloved father of Seth Ginsberg

Micki and Mike Grunstein in memory of Micki's
beloved father, Burton Wolfberg, and beloved
uncle, William Liberman

RABBI LOUIS J. SIGEL

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FUND

Michael and Gayle Goldberg thank Rabbi Sirbu,
Mike and Rachel Eastman, Amanda Eastman,
Richard Buchbinder and Barbara Balkin for a
beautiful Second Night Seder

REPLACE THE ROOF

Doug and Nickie Falk wish Greg Janoff a speedy
recovery

TEMPLE EMETH FUND

Judy and David Fox wish a Mazel Tov to Karen
Kramer and Daniel Kramer on the Bar
Mitzvah of their son, Joshua Kramer

Fran LaBarbera

YAHREZEIT FUND

Florette Koffler to honor the memory of her
husband, Dr. Richard Max Koffler

Joan Rubenstein in memory of her beloved mother,
Beatrice Abrams, and her beloved grandfather,
Samuel Abrams

Marsha Sobel in memory of her beloved father,
Bernard Hirshfeld

Barbara and Irwin Yellowitz in memory of
Barbara's beloved father, Moe Kromberg, and
sister, Carol Brill

Join us on
Friday, May 12th
at 8:00 p.m.
for

A Tribute to our Religious School



Milestone Membership Shabbat

Friday, May 12th at 8:00 p.m.



Mark your calendars for Friday, May 12th at 8:00 p.m. for our Milestone Membership Shabbat. We will honor those who mark a milestone membership in a multiple of 5 years. This year we will celebrate the occasion with a special blessing and a special oneg. Please join us.

Temple Emeth Book Group Selections 2023

May 18

The Flight Portfolio by Julie Orringer

June 15

Planning Meeting



Paul S. Lazar Caring Community

The Paul S. Lazar Caring Committee can offer rides to and from Temple services and events for congregants in need. The rides may be from other congregants or from a ride-sharing service like Uber.

Please contact Gayle Goldberg
in advance at 571-278-8523
if you need a ride.



Temple Intergenerational Community Garden

The Emeth Gardeners began working in our new expanded garden on March 26. So far we have created one new bed in the new area.

We have planted peas, bush beans, carrots, and lettuce from seed. We also planted kale, collard, and lettuce seedlings. We prepared our large bed for the tomato seedlings that will be ready for planting on Sunday, May 21. Join us at 11 a.m.



Family fun with Rachel Kugelmass



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A REFORM CONGREGATION

Invites kids 5 and under and their grownups to

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Join us monthly for a Jewish story, music and a craft.
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Next event
May 7

9:15 - 10:45am
Temple Emeth
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Teaneck, NJ 07666
P: (201) 833-1322
RSVP to: funday@emeth.org
www.emeth.org



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<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/supporting-israels-democracy-community-program-tickets-622822086627>

TUESDAY | MAY 2 | 7:30PM

**Temple Sinai of Bergen County,
1st Engle Street, Tenafly,
New Jersey**

**7:30pm- Check-In & Light Refreshments
8pm- Guest Speakers and Q&A**

Join us as we deepen our understanding of the struggle Israel's Liberal Democracy is facing and join others in shaping Israel's constitutional future.

[Register here](#) to confirm your attendance and/or receive livestream link

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/supporting-israels-democracy-community-program-tickets-622822086627>



Dr. Ayala Procaccia

Retired Israeli Supreme Court Justice. A leader whose groundbreaking and thorough rulings consistently challenged the infringement of human rights by the government including breach of legal balance between freedom of religion and freedom from religion.



Dr. Adv. Eliad Shrager

One of the first Israeli activists to combine civil legal struggle with social protest. Chairman of the Movement for Quality Government in Israel, holding Israel's administration to the highest ethical standards.



**Movement for
Quality Government
in Israel**

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OF BERGEN COUNTY

**TEMPLE
SINAI**

UNXCEPTABLE

WHAT IS TEMPLE EMETH'S TEEF?

We are in the midst of celebrating Temple Emeth's 75th Anniversary! How proud we are of Emeth's history and its many contributions to the local and larger community. We can thank our clergy, lay leadership, and the support and generosity of our members for our continued vitality and financial viability.

One important aspect of Temple Emeth's financial picture is the existence of the Temple Emeth Endowment Foundation (TEEF). A campaign in 1983, for Temple's 36th Anniversary, raised monies for our first endowment fund.

TEEF was established as a formal foundation in 1991 by the Temple's Board of Trustees under Temple co-presidents, Micki Grunstein and Diane Winer, as a charitable, non-profit corporation to safeguard these endowment funds and invest them for Temple's sole benefit. Sue Keusch was the president from the inception until about 10 years ago and remained a board member only until recently. Sue's contributions and dedication have been immense. David Fox took over as president after Sue and continues in that role to this day. TEEF's current board members include Sue Breznick, Steve Chaiken, Wendy Wineburgh Dessanti, Idajean Fisher and Laura Kirsch, who has served as TEEF's legal counsel all these years.

TEEF's current assets are \$430,000. It has provided a safety net and necessary loans to the Temple throughout its history at low interest rates. Some examples include a 30-year long term loan with a \$95,000 balance remaining from the late 90's building addition and a short-term, one year borrowing agreement which was recently implemented for a \$98K loan for overdue kitchen renovations, that we are pleased to say, has recently been repaid.

Donors through the years contribute to a large variety of restricted funds (specifically how income and earnings are used) which support music, the arts, education, youth, caring community and unrestricted funds which support Temple's operating expenses and more. This certainly enriches our programming and events. Temple members can contribute as little as \$10 at any time to an existing fund, and with a substantial donation of \$5,000 or more, may actually create a new fund in honor or memory of someone and be recognized, if so desired. This beautifully embraces the concept of posterity.

We hope this information is helpful. We encourage you to reach out to us if you have any questions about TEEF, or if you would like to explore how you can contribute to TEEF with current or deferred gifts. Feel free to reach out to David Fox at jdjmfox@aol.com or any of its Board members.

We thank you for your interest and any support you can provide.
Chazak, Chazak, V'nitchazek May we go from strength to strength!

Wendy Wineburgh Dessanti, TEEF Board

Summary of Minutes of the March 9, 2023 Board of Trustees Meeting

Rabbi Sirbu reported that the RAC trip to Washington, D.C. was a success; seven teens participated; the Temple will be participating in a gathering at Votee Park on April 25 to celebrate Israel's 75th anniversary. At the end of the Religious School year the current positions of Director and School Administrator will be discontinued. There is a luncheon being planned for May 21 to honor Dora's many years of service, and we will conduct a Tribute to our Religious School in conjunction with our Milestone Membership Appreciation service on May 12.

Suzannah Mercado and Sue Keusch assessed the building. Bids for partial and full replacement of the roof have been requested; the parking lot and rear driveway need to be repaved; the lighting bar on the stage needs to be repaired; carpet in the Youth Lounge needs to be replaced. One-day rentals are picking up. There has been \$29,000 in rentals since July 2022, but no activity on long-term rentals.

Gary Richards reported that the Temple will repay TEEF the \$98,000 borrowed for refurbishing the kitchen. The Temple has gone from a ~\$53,000 deficit to a ~\$17,000 surplus because revenue is projected to go up from ~\$839,000 to ~\$952,000.00. The Board thanks the anonymous donor who made a contribution that allowed us to conduct the strategic plan.

Alan Winters reported that households have committed ~\$460,000, of which \$409,209 (89%) has been collected. Increased contributions by 114 households added \$40,600. Decreased contributions by 4 lowered \$19,877. Since July, 2022 there are 15 new memberships which added \$9,126, and 17 resignations resulting in a loss of \$3,950. The need to bolster the number of people on the Membership Committee and for them to conduct "exit" interviews was discussed; as was reviving a planned giving campaign.

Flip Bernard reported that the issue of whether there is sufficient communication between the Board and the membership has been raised. Also there is a need to have more respectful conduct at board meetings. A motion was passed as follows: "Move that the agenda for Board meetings be posted in This Week At Temple Emeth the week before a board meeting. That a summary of the Minutes be posted in the monthly Bulletin. That the Temple distribute our Safe Environment policy once a year to the membership." Board meetings are open to the membership except during executive session.

Karen Rappaport presented a proposal that detailed the creation of a Lifelong Learning Institute to coordinate all Temple learning opportunities, which would be marketed to outsiders and promoted and publicized better. A vote on the proposal was tabled. Instead a motion was passed as follows: "We are in favor of moving to a consolidated approach to life-long learning that can be marketed and branded both internally and externally." A second motion also passed as follows: "The Adult Ed Subcommittee will report back at the May Board meeting with a proposal, based on research of other successful models, for life-long learning."

Rabbi Sirbu and Stacey Butler held their first meeting with Temple Sinai about the collaboration of the religious schools went well. Temple Sinai's Director of Education, Guy Ratki, made a presentation of their religious school program. The negotiating teams discussed concerns raised by each congregation.

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 • Roof Repair 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 |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|

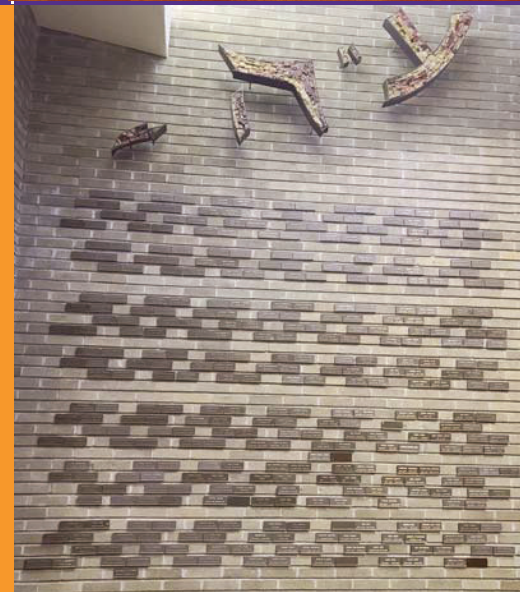
Tree of Life

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.





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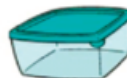
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food wraps



Store potatoes
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basket in a dark
place

**Suggestions from the
Social Action Committee**



**For more information contact
Paul Kaufman or Hildy Dillon**



Emeth

**The Bulletin of Temple Emeth of Teaneck, New Jersey
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Serving Reform Congregations in North America**