

PURIM 2017



Share the joy of Purim with your Emeth friends and neighbors by sending

SHALACH MANOT

The graggers are twirling...
The hamantaschen are baking...
The Rabbi and Cantor are planning their costumes...
You have already received your Shalach Manot order packet in the mail!
Order forms are available at emeth.org or from the Temple office.
The deadline to order is **January 30**.
Please order soon!

We'll need your help with this exciting annual fundraiser. Mark your calendar now

- **Thursday, March 9** - Packing Shalach Manot any time between 1:00 - 5:00 at the Temple, or until we're done
- **Sunday, March 12** - Delivering Shalach Manot at your convenience all over Bergen County

New Members are especially encouraged to help - it's a fun way to meet new people!

To volunteer, or with any questions, call Judy at Jsfoxrk@aol.com, or Eva at quitocutie@aol.com.



Message From the Rabbi

By the time you read this, we will have a new President. It is clear from the many conversations I have had with Temple members that the majority of our congregation didn't vote for Donald J. Trump. Since his victory, many have expressed concern or even despair about the direction President Trump will take the country. While I have policy concerns, most of my concern is with the way the new President comports himself.

Though he pledged on election night "to every citizen of our land that I will be president for all Americans," his natural reflex is to punch back at any criticism. When I was an intern at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, we were taught that in politics, everyone falls into one of two categories: friends and potential friends. It is a variation on the best quality our tradition ascribes to Aaron, the High Priest: "Be disciples of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing peace, loving people and drawing them near the Torah." By making little or no attempt to win over skeptics or critics, the President seems unlikely to make good on his pledge or to heal any of the rift in our country.

Throughout the campaign and the transition, the presidential candidate seemed undisciplined and even improvisational. This style led to his surprising victory, but that doesn't necessarily mean that it will be an effective leadership style in the presidency. When, in the final days of his term, President Obama was asked about this, he said he doesn't think his successor can be improvisational in office. No matter what the President's party or agenda, both his supporters and his opponents need to know that he says what he means, and that what he says today will apply tomorrow. This will be especially important in foreign diplomacy, where the President has no experience; our allies, including Israel, need to know where they stand and how the world's only superpower will support them.

Another concern of mine is that President Trump claims to be unaware of how much he has inspired right-wing bigotry. On online platforms such as Twitter, candidate Trump became a hero of white nationalists. His election corresponded with a rise in

hate crimes, including a swastika spray-painted on the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion campus in Cincinnati. To my knowledge, he has addressed this only once, in his first televised interview after the election, with a mere two words: "Stop it." It simply isn't enough. If the President wants to show

leadership on this issue, and shed his reputation as someone who doesn't really believe in racial equality, condemning these acts of hate should be the focus of a forcefully worded public statement which is echoed in his Twitter feed. Anything less would be tantamount to looking the other way, while an increasing number of Americans look over their shoulders in fear.

Republicans and Democrats will inevitably disagree about issues like health care, immigration, and taxes. But the concerns I have outlined above—unifying the country, establishing stable leadership, and speaking out against hate crimes—transcend party affiliation and strike at the very core of leadership and what it means for a President to be "presidential."

Similarly, our members are bound to disagree about how long to wait and see, and when the time comes, how to respond to words and deeds that they see as threatening our core liberties. In his Mini-University class in January, guest teacher Steven Goldstein gave us useful tools for advocacy. And several of our members went to Washington to participate in the Women's March on the day after the inauguration. We are determined and resilient as a nation and as a people, which will ensure that our democratic institutions will endure.

I was one of those people who felt it was important to wait and see following Election Day, to determine whether Donald Trump could successfully use the transition time to develop a presidential demeanor. In other words, in keeping with our tradition, I gave the president-elect the benefit of the doubt. The past two months have, sadly, eliminated that doubt. President Trump, to have my respect, will have to earn it by beginning to act presidential. Simply holding the office of the presidency is not enough.



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; first finish your planting and only then go out to welcome the Messiah.”

The holiday of Tu B’Shevat (the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat) is a perfect time to connect to the land and people of Israel. As part of our school celebration, we are proud to be participating in the Jewish National Fund’s “Tu B’Shevat in the School” program. This program provides our families with an opportunity to learn about the spiritual and environmental significance of Tu B’Shevat. The program highlights Israel’s role as a global environmental leader. You are encouraged to plant many trees in honor or in memory of someone.

All of our students will receive a JNF tree order form. By helping your children to plant trees in Israel, you are giving them a direct connection to the land and people and ensuring that Israel remains green and beautiful for generations to come. I invite the whole Temple Community to make a personal connection to the land and people of Israel by planting trees this year. Order forms are available in the school office.

Our Religious School Tu B’Shevat celebrations will



Dora Geld Friedman

include Tu B’Shevat seders (light meals of fruit and drink) and special readings connected to the holiday. In addition, our tradition includes “Blessings of Appreciation” that are said any time we notice the special world around us. We have blessings for smelling delicious fruit, for meeting someone wise, for seeing a rainbow, and more. All these blessings teach us of God’s presence in the world of nature. “Here on earth too God lives, not in Heaven alone. A beautiful tree, a newly plowed field, in them you will find God’s likeness.” – Saul Tchernikovsky, Jewish Poet

LOOKING AHEAD:

Like us on Facebook!

Please join us on Friday, February 3 at 7:30 p.m. for a special “Kabbalat Siddur Service” following our K – 4 Shabbat Dinner. Our 4th grade students will receive their siddur Mishkan T’filah.

Family Education - Sunday February 12 - grades 3 & 4 students & parents

No School- Sunday February 19

And on Saturday evening March 11, come celebrate Purim at the Megillah Reading Service, annual carnival, and Purim Skit.

B’vracha

Dora Geld Friedman



Temple Emeth 3rd, 4th & 5th graders choose their favorite prayer to adorn our mitzvah tree as part of the Religious School Tu B’Shevat celebration.



Religious School students celebrated Chanukah with songs, stories, dancing, and candlelighting.



Message from President Marc Chelemer

Everything in the calendar was late this year, as a leap month was added to bring the lunar months back into alignment with the solar calendar. What that means is Tu B'Shevat occurs in February. This minor holiday is sometimes called "the New Year of the Trees," as it generally occurs at the time the rains return in Israel and the almond trees begin to flower. At Temple Emeth and elsewhere, it is celebrated with a seder, during which all manner of delicious things are enjoyed. No matzah or bitter herbs here; instead, it is sweet berries, dried apricots, even surprisingly tasty carob pods. And no recounting of tales of plagues and death (though such retellings are vital to our tradition), but rather an appreciation of the importance of living things for our planet and our own sustenance.

So I have a chance to weave together some thoughts about trees, water, Israel, the environment, and our synagogue. I just returned from an end-of-year trip to five national parks in Utah. My adult children both agreed that their favorite was Zion Canyon. I think that one of the reasons is that Zion, even in winter, is green with living things...there are trees growing all along the Virgin River. The other four parks, with their brilliant sandstone color, and astonishing wind-and-water carved shapes, were beautiful in their own right, but Zion teems with life.

The theme of this year's One Book One Community project is water in Israel and, more globally, the importance of water in geopolitics. In line with that topic, Temple Emeth hosted a speaker from the Jewish National Fund who talked about water, trees, and peace parks in Israel. One of the astounding takeaways for me was that the JNF has planted more than 240 million (!) trees in Israel in the past few decades and still only *eight percent* of the country is considered "forested." The speaker emphasized how Israel has encouraged both the planting of living things and the conservation and intelligent utilization of water since the first *chalutzim* began to work the land. The fact that the country now has a surfeit of water and provides some to Jordan, and that its innovations in irrigation have made it a net exporter of agricultural products (water in a different form) attests to how Israelis have been committed to stewarding one of the Eternal's most precious gifts to us.

I am going to be more interested in this aspect of Israeli life than any other during our congregation's guided trip there in July. I will be looking at the ways in which a very young country nevertheless provides all the first-world amenities we expect in terms of clean and healthy food, hot showers, top-notch plumbing systems, water-based recreation. I want to observe how

Israel has combined technology and a national consciousness about the environment.

Temple Emeth has tried to be a steward of the environment as well. A few years ago, former President Paul Kaufman helped us become a "water conscious" congregation. But doing some of the things recommended would require, for example, changing all our toilets to low-flow (or the Israeli-technology based dual-flow) systems. Many will remember that we tried to install solar panels on the roof to reduce our purchases of fossil-fuel generated energy and also to take advantage of the renewable energy from sunlight. Those panels have not been installed because our contractor has required a certification that our roof will not need major repairs over the life of the solar array. In order to ensure a worry-free roof for 20 years, we'd need a six-figure investment in the roof's surface and sealants.

At the same time, Temple Emeth has the opportunity to reduce its overall energy usage through a state program that pays 70% of the costs of installing more efficient devices. Taking advantage of this program would provide newer and more efficient heater/air conditioners (we have 18 of 'em!) and all new LED-based lights throughout the building, which would likely cut our energy usage by 20—25% and save on routine maintenance as



Marc Chelemer

well.

If only we had the money to pay for it all. At the moment, we do not. A new roof is a six-figure investment. Even the 30% portion of the state program would be high five figures, if not six. Where is the money to come from? Many congregants remember the shock they felt when they saw the Building Fund requirement of new members. And many will recognize that that obligation was frequently deferred in times of personal financial challenges. The Building Fund is what traditionally is used for such do-good investments, as well as fixing the boiler when it needs repairs or upgrading the refrigerator (it'll be needed soon). We have a small reserve, but it's insufficient for any of the above-mentioned opportunities. We are folding the rebuilding, so to speak, of the capital reserve into the Voluntary Commitment model you'll be talking about this month. I hope, when you think about the personal topic of money, that you can put into context how each dollar you offer may contribute not only to the congregation but also (through reducing energy demand, using water efficiently, and taking advantage of solar power) in trying to keep our community, country, and planet green with trees and blue with water, the only known such oasis of life in the universe.

Marc J. Chelemer

Social Action in Action

The Coalition to Ban Unsafe Oil Trains, which includes Temple Emeth as a member, held a demonstration on January 8th as planned, despite the weather. It drew 40 people and resulted in a promise from CSX that it would fix the bridge in Ridgefield Park, which was the object of the demonstration. However, no time frame for fixing it was offered.

This month, the Social Action Committee will continue to collect food for Buddies of New Jersey. We can make a difference in the lives of low-income individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS and threatened by hunger. Especially needed are cans of Ensure and similar nutrition drinks.



Save this week: April 30th through May 7th...If you missed the recent opportunity to participate in the Family Promise program, we will again be hosting homeless working families through this program during that week. For more information, contact Elaine Bergman, at ejb1734@msn.com.

The next meeting of the Social Action Committee will be on Sunday, February 5th at 9:45 a.m.

Annual Chanukah Dinner and Services on December 23, 2016



Lighting the chanukiyot at the Annual Chanukah Dinner.



Services included performances by the Temple Emeth Band and Shir Chadash.



Welcome new members!

Honored at the Chanukah dinner were the newest members of our congregation.





***On March 4, 2017 Temple Emeth will present
Meyerbeer's L'Africaine,
the opera starring Shirley Verrett,
Ruth Ann Swenson, Placido Domingo, and Justino Diaz
with a live introduction by Mark Shapiro.***

Bring your seat cushions and join us on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. to hear Giacomo Meyerbeer's L'Africaine, starring Shirley Verrett, Ruth Ann Swenson, Placido Domingo, and Justino Diaz, with a lecture by Mark Shapiro, Music Director of Cecilia Chorus of New York and Artistic Director of Cantori New York. He will give us his insights into this rarely heard gem, the composer, and the period in which it was composed.

Enjoy sumptuous desserts at intermission, hot and cold beverages throughout the afternoon.

Admission: \$20 will reserve your seat in the auditorium before February 26, and \$30 after February 26. The cost covers refreshments and production expenses.

Reserve Early! We expect a large audience and seating is limited. Please complete and submit the reservation form below along with your check to the Temple office.

For additional information contact Elaine Bergman at ejb1734@msn.com or Linda Poskanzer at lindaposkanzer@msn.com.



This event is underwritten by B'Yachad

L'Africaine Opera RSVP

Reservations with your check payable to Temple Emeth should be received by March 2nd, along with this form sent to L'Africaine at Temple Emeth.

Names: _____

Number attending @ \$20 each before Feb. 26, after Feb. 26 - @\$30 each: _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____ **Phone:** _____ **E-mail:** _____

One Book One Community Shabbaton on January 14, 2017

Themes of Torah study, services, and the lecture were based on the One Book One Community book, "Let There Be Water: Israel's Solution for a Water-Starved World" by Seth Siegel.



Jocelyn Inglis, Director of Northern New Jersey JNF, and Rabbi Sirbu with lecturer Shahar Sadeh, who spoke about "Water and Environmental Peacebuilding in Israel." A well-attended kiddush lunch and lecture followed services.



Services and S'machot

8th of Shevat 5777
Friday, February 3

Shabbat Bo
Family Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m.
Fourth Grade Kabbalat Siddur Ceremony

Saturday, February 4

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

Torah Portion - Bo, Exod. 10:1 - 13:16

Haftarah - Jeremiah 46:13 - 28

15th of Shevat 5777
Friday, February 10

Shabbat Shirah- B'shalach
Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m.
Kol Emet Sings

Saturday, February 11

Tu B'Shevat
Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Service -
B'nai Mitzvah Learner's Service at 10:30 a.m.

Sweet Tastes of Torah at 6:30 p.m. at Temple Beth Rishon in Wyckoff

Torah Portion- B'shalach, Exod. 13:17 - 17:16

Haftarah - Judges 4:4 - 5:31

22rd of Shevat 5777
Friday, February 17

Shabbat Yitro
Shabbat Duets Music Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 18

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

Torah Portion - Yitro, Exod. 18:1 - 20:23

Haftarah - Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6: 9:5 - 9:6

29th of Shevat 5777
Friday, February 24

Shabbat Mishpatim
Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 25

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Holy Roller Service at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion - Mishpatim, Exod. 21:1 - 24 :18

Haftarah - Jeremiah 34:8-22: 33:25-26

February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5th of Shevat 5777 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch and Learn @ Library 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Religious School Grades 3-7 @ Upper Conference Room 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Etz Chayim Pizza and Rehearsal @ Youth Lounge 7:45 pm - 9:15 pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	2 6th of Shevat 5777	3 7th of Shevat 5777 4:58 pm Candle Lighting 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm K- 4 Religious School Dinner @ Social Hall 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Family Shabbat Service - Fourth Grade Kabbalat Siddur Ceremony @ Sanctuary	4 8th of Shevat 5777 9:00 am - 10:15 am Torah Study @ Youth Lounge 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Museum
5 9th of Shevat 5777 9:00 am - 11:00 am Religious School Classes @ Upper Conference Room 9:15 am - 10:15 am Panim el Panim (Face-to-Face) Gatherings @ Museum 10:00 am - 11:30 am Social Action Committee Meeting @ Library 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Purim-spiel Rehearsal @ Museum 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Junior Choir Festival @ Sanctuary	6 10th of Shevat 5777 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Yiddish Class @ Library	7 11th of Shevat 5777 7:45 pm - 9:00 pm Adult Education Committee Meeting @ Library	8 12th of Shevat 5777 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch and Learn @ Library 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Religious School Grades 3-7 @ Upper Conference Room 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Junior JYG Pizza and Game Night @ Youth Lounge 7:45 pm - 9:15 pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	9 13th of Shevat 5777 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Officers' Meeting @ Lounge 8:00 pm - 9:00 am Ritual Committee Meeting @ Youth Lounge	10 14th of Shevat 5777 Erev Tu BiSh'vat 5:07 pm Candle Lighting 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm Shabbat Service - Shabbat Shirah - Kol Emet Sings @ Sanctuary	11 15th of Shevat 5777 Tu BiSh'vat 9:00 am - 10:15 am Torah Study @ Youth Lounge 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Shabbat Morning Service - B'nai Mitzvah Learner's Service @ Museum 6:30 pm - 10:00 pm Sweet Tastes of Torah @ Temple Beth Rishon, Wyckoff
12 16th of Shevat 5777 9:00 am - 11:00 am Religious School Classes @ Upper Conference Room 9:00 am - 11:00 am Third and Fourth Grade Family Ed and Tu B'shevat Seder @ Youth Lounge 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Panim el Panim (Face-to-Face) Gatherings @ Lounge 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Purim-spiel Rehearsal @ Museum	13 17th of Shevat 5777 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Yiddish Class @ Library	14 18th of Shevat 5777 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Viewpoints Event @ Library	15 19th of Shevat 5777 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch and Learn @ Library 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Religious School Grades 3-7 @ Upper Conference Room 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Etz Chayim Pizza and Rehearsal @ Youth Lounge 7:45 pm - 9:15 pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	16 20th of Shevat 5777 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Book Group: "Salvage the Bones" @ Library 7:45 pm - 9:45 pm Board of Trustees Meeting @ Youth Lounge	17 21st of Shevat 5777 5:15 pm Candle Lighting 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm Music Service @ Sanctuary	18 22nd of Shevat 5777 9:00 am - 10:15 am Torah Study @ Youth Lounge 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Museum
19 23rd of Shevat 5777 No Religious School 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Panim el Panim (Face-to-Face) Gatherings @ Library 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Purim-spiel Rehearsal @ Museum 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Viewpoints Event @ Youth Lounge	20 24th of Shevat 5777 Presidents' Day	21 25th of Shevat 5777	22 26th of Shevat 5777 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch and Learn @ Library 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Religious School Grades 3-7 @ Upper Conference Room 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Etz Chayim Pizza and Rehearsal @ Youth Lounge	23 27th of Shevat 5777	24 28th of Shevat 5777 5:24 pm Candle Lighting 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm Shabbat Service @ Sanctuary	25 29th of Shevat 5777 9:00 am - 10:15 am Torah Study @ Youth Lounge 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Holy Roller Service @ Social Hall
26 30th of Shevat 5777 9:00 am - 11:00 am Religious School Classes @ Upper Conference Room 10:00 am - 12:00 pm Panim el Panim (Face-to-Face) Gatherings @ Library 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Purim-spiel Rehearsal @ Museum 11:30 am - 1:00 pm BEETY @ Lounge	27 1st of Adar 5777 10:30 am - 12:00 pm Yiddish Class @ Library 7:45 pm - 9:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting @ Upper Conference Room	28 2nd of Adar 5777 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Adult Ed Mini University: "Living Waters: Understanding the Significance of Mikvah in a Modern World" taught by Cantor Ellen Tliem @ Library 8:40 pm - 9:40 pm Adult Ed Mini University: Arthur Lerman, Ph.D. on Talmud @ Library				

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 longtime member, **Howard Guttman** and sends condolences to his wife, **Jacqueline**.

Condolences to...

Rachel Eastman on the loss of her mother, **Mitzi Helfgott**.

Peter Adler on the loss of his cousin, **Rolf Montag**.

David Kohane on the loss of his father, **Theodore Kohane**.

Marion Wolf on the loss of her aunt, **Julia Chalfin**.

Eley Kohn on the loss of her uncle, **Tommy Strauss**.

Mazel Tov to...

Barbara and Michael Bias on the birth of their granddaughter, **Sydney Ruth Bias**, daughter of **Justin Bias** and **Abbey States**.

Sandy and Herb Loft on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, **Elyssa Claire Wagshal**, daughter of **Emily** and **Steven Wagshal**.

Linda Poskanzer on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, **Ellie Teweles**, daughter of **Liz Pleshette** and **Josh Teweles**.



Etz Chayim performed Chanukah songs at Holy Name Hospital on December 21, 2016.



Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Scholar-in-Residence

Save the Date

Please join us the weekend of **April 21-23** as we welcome our scholar, **Dr. Eric Goldman**. Dr. Goldman is a Jewish film scholar and educator. He is an adjunct professor of cinema at Yeshiva University and has also taught at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Hebrew Union College, The Jewish Theological Seminary, Kean University, Queens College, and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. He is an expert and lecturer on Yiddish, Israeli and Jewish film; he is a noted film historian and educator.



SWEET TASTES OF TORAH FEBRUARY 11, 2017 AT 6:30 P.M. AT TEMPLE BETH RISHON 585 RUSSELL AVENUE, WYCKOFF

The North Jersey Board of Rabbis invites you to participate in Sweet Tastes of Torah, a community-wide evening of study, music, and celebration.

This year's theme is based on two special circumstances that coincide that particular day: Shabbat Shira (the annual time when we read the "Song of the Red Sea" from the Torah) and Tu B'Shevat, the birthday of the trees.



Rabbis from all across Northern New Jersey will teach and lead sessions based on music and trees, texts about ecology and the environment, as well as the experience of song, poetry, and music in the Jewish experience. They may include Biblical and Rabbinic texts, modern poetry and song lyrics, experiential views of fruit — from the kitchen or the sukkah — to seeing the beauty in the world as reflected in the "leaves" of books and the cycles of the natural world.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The evening begins with a group Havdalah ceremony. Following the two periods of classes (at 7:30 and 8:40), there will be a reception featuring fruits and nuts commonly associated with the mystics' Tu B'Shevat Seder.

For descriptions of classes and to register go to:
<http://sweettastesoftorah.weebly.com/>
Pre-registration by February 8: \$15 per person, \$20 at the door.

JUNIOR CHOIR FESTIVAL at Temple Emeth will be held on **Sunday, February 5th** at 2:00 p.m.



CONTRIBUTIONS

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman in honor of Asher Drew, grandson of Michael and Gayle Goldberg

Teri Binder in honor of Ruth and Peter Adler's 60th wedding anniversary - Mazel Tov
in memory of Howard Guttman
in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane
in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman
in memory of Harold Chelemer, father of Marc Chelemer

Nathan and Bernice Ritzer in memory of Harold Chelemer, father of Marc Chelemer
in honor of Ruth and Peter Adler's 60th wedding anniversary

Gayle and Michael Goldberg in honor of Ruth and Peter Adler's 60th wedding anniversary

Sabrina and Arthur Lerman in memory of Larry Lipsitz, husband of Janice Lipsitz
in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman
in memory of Raymond Rutz, father of Ken Rutz
in memory of Lorraine Goldberg, mother of Michael Goldberg
in memory of Mina Edith Breznick, mother of Marty Breznick
in honor of Ruth and Peter Adler's 60th wedding anniversary

Bill and Brenda Weiss in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY

Lewis Klotz in memory of his wife, Brenda Klotz

Marian and Rubin Ferziger in honor of Cantor's inspirational, uplifting services

Sydell Yegelwel in appreciation of the support Cantor Tilem gave to her and her family during their mourning of Sy and David

David Kohane and Wendy Kosakoff in gratitude to Cantor Tilem

Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman in gratitude to Cantor Tilem for a meaningful funeral and shiva minyan

COLLEGE KIDS FUND

Robbie Liblit in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman

EMETH TEEN COMMUNITY FUND

Judy and David Fox in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman

ILANA HED RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Fran LaBarbera in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman

Dora and Yossi Friedman in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman
in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane
wishing a Mazel Tov to Lynn and Steve Chaiken on the engagement of their son Max to Rabbi Dan Shapiro

Judy and David Fox in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane

Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman in gratitude to Marc Klausner for providing beautiful music for our shiva minyan

Eva and Larry Tobias in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman

LIBRARY BOOK DEDICATION FUND

Temple Emeth Book Club in memory of Rachel Kaplan, beloved daughter of Carol Kaplan

MUSEUM FUND

Joan Rubenstein wishing Ruth and Peter Adler congratulations on their 60th wedding anniversary

MUSIC FUND

Robbie Liblit in memory of Harold Chelemer, father of Marc Chelemer
in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane

Joan Paul in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane

Gayle and Michael Goldberg in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane
in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Elinor Buchbinder in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman
in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane
in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

June and Victor Cohen and Family in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane

Mary Jane Tucker in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman in gratitude to Idajean Fisher for a lovely shiva minyan and for her support

Sabrina and Arthur Lerman in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane

Eva and Larry Tobias in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane
in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Shana Greenblatt and Gregory Janoff in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Priscilla Lindenauer in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Larry and Carla Silver in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Wendy and Dan Dessanti in honor of Lynn and Steve Chaiken's son Max's engagement to Rabbi Dan Shapiro in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Nat and Bernice Ritzer in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Karen Rappaport and Phylis Burman in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Karen and Sam Gronner in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library

Monthly News Update: Running the Gamut

By Marion Wolf

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION



Although the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library books all have Jewish content, there is tremendous variety on our shelves. Our books cover topics from A to Z—from the *artistry* of Archie Rand to the *zealotry* of Yigal Amir and lots in between.

Let's begin with Archie Rand, a secular Jewish artist who took on an intriguing challenge. He decided to create 613 illustrations, one for each of the 613 commandments in the Torah. He worked for five years on this project, then compiled his highly idiosyncratic illustrations with hallucinatory colors into a one pound volume called The 613. Rand's influences are comic strips and pulp fiction. Each page includes a brief description of the mitzvah and where in the Torah it is found.

Skipping straight from A to Z, we come to Dan Ephron's Killing a King: The Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and the Remaking of Israel. Parallel chapters trace Rabin's plans for peace with Amir's plot to murder the Israeli leader. How could such a security-conscious country allow this to happen? What have the repercussions been? Long-time journalist Ephron tells a riveting story in Killing a King, which was named a New York Times Notable Book of 2015.

Perhaps you prefer stories about a happier topic, like love. For you we have Jewish Stories of Love and Marriage: Folktales, Legends, and Letters by Sandy Eisenberg Sasso and Peninnah Schram. The authors

have gathered tales from around the world and through the ages, both fictional and true. They invite readers to delve into this treasury for entertainment and inspiration. According to Publishers Weekly, the book includes "Jewish folktales about courtship, fascinating love letters by Jewish historical figures, and a diverse collection of contemporary stories of meeting, loving, and joining in marriage...Likely to appeal to a broad range of readers, the book is of particular value to those celebrating a wedding or anniversary."

After love and marriage comes family. Catherine Schine (author of The Three Weissmans of Westport) knows how to write about family and proves it again in They May Not Mean To, But They Do. The New York Times says this novel "combines black comedy with shrewd observation of family dynamics." Several generations cope with aging, infirmity, loss, and new beginnings. Roz Chast comments, "It's about how people making the difficult and at times scary journey into old age figure out how to live. And it's about the people who surround them—with love, anxiety, resentment, and sometimes complete misunderstanding. They May Not Mean To, But They Do is a great read: empathetic, and also very, very funny."

These are just a few of the many choices you'll find in the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library. Please come and browse for yourself.

CONTRIBUTIONS (continued)

Judy and David Fox in loving memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman
Sydell Yegelwel in memory of Howard Guttman, loving husband of Jacqueline Guttman in memory of Theodore Kohane, loving father of David Kohane
Richard and Susan Barnett in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

PAULS. LAZAR CARING COMMUNITY FUND

David Kohane and Wendy Kosakoff in gratitude to the Caring Committee
Sabrina and Arthur Lerman in memory of Clarice Estelle Greenberg, mother of Mindy Greenberg
Michael and Gayle Goldberg in gratitude to Robin Rolfe and Karen Wertheimer for caring so much
Sydell Yegelwel in honor of Ruth and Peter Adler's 60th Wedding Anniversary in memory of Audrey Muehsam's brother
Joan Paul in honor of Ruth and Peter Adler's wedding anniversary - Mazel Tov

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Paula, Michael, Mollie and Rebecca Dillon in gratitude to Rabbi Sirbu

David Kohane and Wendy Kosakoff in gratitude to Rabbi Sirbu
Rachel, Mike, and Amanda Eastman in gratitude to Rabbi Sirbu for a meaningful funeral and shiva minyan and to the members of the congregation for their heartfelt expression of condolences on the loss of her mother, Mitzi Helfgott
Sydell Yegelwel in gratitude to Rabbi Sirbu for all of the support during the loss of her husband and son-in-law
Irwin and Sheila Polishook in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman
Lyle and Muriel Breitkopf in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman
Amy Abrams and Arnold Graber

RABBI LOUIS J. SIGEL SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FUND

Judy and David Fox in memory of Harold Chelemer, father of Marc Chelemer wishing Gayle and Michael Goldberg Mazel Tov on the arrival of their grandson, Asher
Gayle and Michael Goldberg in memory of Harold Chelemer, father of Marc Chelemer

CONTRIBUTIONS *(continued)*

Elaine and Joe Pollack wishing Peter Adler a speedy recovery
in memory of Julia Chalfin, aunt of Marion Wolf

RITUAL COMMITTEE FUND

Shirley Rosenzweig in memory of her beloved husband,
Gilbert Rosenzweig

Dione Danis in memory of Seymour Lefton

Douglas and Nickie Falk in memory of Theodore
Kohane, father of David Kohane

Gayle and Michael Goldberg in memory of Mitzi
Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman

Sandi Klein in memory of Howard Guttman, husband of
Jacqueline Guttman

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Lucy Brody in honor of Ruth and Peter Adler's
60th wedding anniversary

Eva Sandrof in memory of Harold Chelemer, father of
Marc Chelemer

in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of
David Kohane

in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of
Rachel Eastman

Barbara and Richard Chittum in memory of
Mitzi Helfgott, mother of Rachel Eastman

Mary Jane Tucker wishing Peter Adler a speedy recovery

Joan Rubenstein in memory of Sy Yegelwel, husband of
Sydell Yegelwel

Paul and Elizabeth Rubock

STRAUSSMAN MEMORIAL YOUTH AWARD FUND

Geri Kaufman in memory of Harold Chelemer, father of
Marc Chelemer

Gwen and Marty Dubno in memory of Larry Lipsitz,
husband of Janice Lipsitz

in memory of David Rubin, son-in-law of
Sydell Yegelwel

in memory of Sy Yegelwel, husband of
Sydell Yegelwel

in memory of Rachel Kaplan, daughter of
Carol Kaplan

Sydell Yegelwel in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, loving
mother of Rachel Eastman

TEMPLE EMETH FUND

Larry and Carla Silver in memory of Mitzi Helfgott,
mother of Rachel Eastman

in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of
David Kohane

Barbara and Michael Bias in honor of the birth of
their granddaughter, Sydney Ruth

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

Wendy and Dan Dessanti in memory of Harold
Chelemer, father of Marc Chelemer

in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of
David Kohane

Gwen and Marty Dubno in memory of Howard
Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Elaine and Joe Pollack in memory of Howard Guttman,
husband of Jacqueline Guttman

Sabrina and Arthur Lerman in memory of Harold
Chelemer, father of Marc Chelemer
in memory of Sy Yegelwel, husband of
Sydell Yegelwel

Paul Kaufman in memory of Howard Guttman, husband
of Jacqueline Guttman

in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of
David Kohane

Mike and Micki Grunstein in memory of Howard
Guttman, husband of Jacqueline Guttman

TEMPLE EMETH BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Judy and Walter Distler in memory of Mitzi Helfgott,
mother of Rachel Eastman

in memory of Theodore Kohane, father of
David Kohane

Joel and Meryl Sachs wishing Ruth and Peter Adler
congratulations on their 60th wedding anniversary

in memory of Howard Guttman, husband
of Jacqueline Guttman

June and Victor Cohen and Family in memory of
Harold Chelemer, father of Marc Chelemer

Sue and Phil Keusch in memory of Howard Guttman,
husband of Jacqueline Guttman

VIEWPOINTS FUND

Karen Rappaport and Phylis Burman in memory of
Theodore Kohane, father of David Kohane

in memory of Mitzi Helfgott, mother of
Rachel Eastman

Karen Rappaport and Phylis Burman in memory of
Harold Chelemer, father of Mark Chelemer

YAHARZEIT FUND

Deborah Veach in memory of her mother, Rae Lifschitz

Carl Nahm in memory of his son, Eugene Nahm

Barbara and Michael Bias in memory of Rhoda Bias,
mother of Michael Bias

Jim and Deborah Veach in memory of Nysabea Veach,
mother of Jim Veach

Suzanne Perl in memory of her father, Max Spritzer

Joan Paul in memory of her mother, Dorothy Marks

Barbara and Richard Chittum in memory of Barbara's
mother, Evelyn Brody

Barbara and Richard Chittum in memory of Barbara's
father, Joseph Brody

Barbara and Richard Chittum in memory of Richard's
mother, Leona E. Chittum

Barbara and Richard Chittum in memory of Barbara's
aunt, Birdie Shargel

Barbara and Richard Chittum in memory of
Leonard Chittum

Sandy and Herb Loft in memory of Sophie Lipschitz

Sylvia Pollack in memory of her mother, Esther Mitnick

Ruth Meissner in memory of her son-in-law,
Steven Saloway

Sabrina and Arthur Lerman in memory of Arthur's
father, George Lerman

Joan Rubenstein in memory of her son, Mark Windell

Joan Rubenstein in memory of her father, William Abrams

Summary of Minutes from the December 15, 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting

1. Cantor Tilem's Report

Concert with Becca "Beccs" Gastfriend raised over \$3,000 for Sharsheret.
Participated in the American Conference of Cantors (ACC) Webinar on Carlebach and Nusach (melodies) services.
New keyboard - thank you to congregant Marc Wasserman, who works at Sam Ash, for providing a very good price to the Temple.
Very happy with our new accompanist, Eric Clark.
Junior Choir Festival to be held at Temple Emeth on February 5th.

2. Rabbi Sirbu's Report

Reflections on Rabbi's Bar Mitzvah service
Dora Geld Friedman to speak at January's Board meeting on status of the Religious School.
January 14 - One Book, One Community Shabbaton - Shahar Sadeh, PhD, of Columbia University, will speak about water policy in Israel.

3. Administrator's Report - Rochelle Rudnick

Lighting replacement update - 2/3 of social hall and 1/2 of sanctuary lights completed.
Ed Pierce advised on use of specialty scaffold to replace lights over Bimah steps.
Safety upgrades - purchased new, more stable ladders.
NJ Direct Install Program - Temple undertaking and evaluating energy audits for lighting and HVAC to reduce utility costs.

4. Treasurer's Report - Larry Silver

2017 Parsonage:
Rabbi - \$52,000
Cantor - \$62,373
Bazaar:
\$17,400 Revenue (\$16,000 Net) - to date

Budgeted Income - \$14,000

Customers from Bronx, Westchester, Passaic County.
Budget Projections:
Rental Income (Not including Bergenfield BOE) - \$2,000 under Budget (\$54,000 vs \$56,000).
Building and Maintenance - \$9,000 under Budget (\$157,000 vs \$166,000). However, Larry needed more time to scrutinize component parts of the Building and Maintenance budget, as some are high and some are low by significant amounts. He'll report back at the next meeting.

5. Voluntary Commitment Model Dissemination Task Force - Mel Sandler

Mel provided an update - generally going well, facilitators in place, host families determined, updating membership list, publicity and outreach ongoing, constructive feedback from Ritual Committee, meeting with Financial Committee next week

6. Governance Task Force - Flip Bernard

Flip, Seth, Amy, and Risa reviewed the Constitution, Bylaws, and Policy Manual
Goal: to clarify and define which changes can be made by a Committee, the Board, the Clergy, or require a Congregational vote
Sub-Committee to report to the Board with a Proposal in Feb/March
Board to vote on proposal at March/April meeting

7. Financial Secretary's Report - Jim Sandler

Jim presented an update on membership and dues collection.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Goldberg
Board Secretary

January 2016 Committee Reports

Annual Giving Robert Staffin

As of the time of this report, the annual giving campaign has received pledges in the amount of \$59,284. We are wrapping up phone calls to congregants we did not get a chance to speak with during the three evenings that calls were made. Howard and I would like to thank all of the folks who helped make this year's campaign such a success. We really appreciate your efforts and hope you enjoyed having had this opportunity to engage with other members of Temple Emeth you may not otherwise have had the chance to meet.

Governance Flip Bernard

We are making good progress in identifying inconsistencies between the constitution and the policy manual.

B'Yachad Gayle Goldberg

January 22nd B'Yachad Breakfast - Ezra Korman, founder of Makor, will discuss the Temple's upcoming

trip to Israel and Prague. Rabbi Sirbu and Shana Janoff will also be present to answer questions.

Paul S. Lazar Caring Committee

Karen Wertheimer

At our December meeting we discussed: Donations that were received in November are appreciated and have been acknowledged with handwritten notes. Now that Rick Chittum tracks the use of the LifeLights brochures in the lobby, we can see that they are being picked up and we know which ones are moving and which are not. New titles are being ordered to replace non-moving brochures. The Caring Committee continues to discuss how to increase outreach to congregants who need our services, how to increase services and how to enlist more temple members in our caring community. The next meeting will be April 18th in the evening; prospective members are welcome to attend. There will be no meeting in February as previously scheduled.

**SAVE THE DATE:
JUNE 3, 2017**



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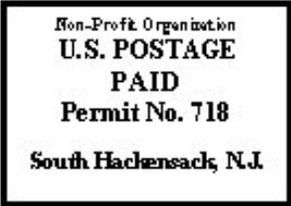
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