

TIDINGS

TEMPLE JUDEA | SUMMER 2020 | VOLUME 71 ISSUE 5

live from Miami... it's

NO SHOW NIGHT SATURDAY

recap on page 14

2020-2021

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



RENEW TODAY!

MEMBER CHAI-LIGHTS



GET TO KNOW THE FEINGOLDS & THE SHERMANS!

LEARNING ON



zoom

TEMPLE JUDEA'S
**SOCIAL ACTION
NETWORK**
GET INVOLVED



**LETTER FROM THE
PRESIDENT**

Gary Matzner

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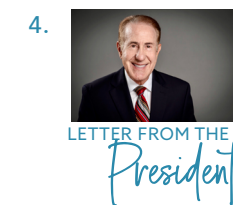
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TEMPLE JUDEA MISSION STATEMENT:

Temple Judea cultivates an engaging, inclusive, and sacred Reform Jewish community by building lifelong connectedness to Torah, Israel and each other through worship, acts of social justice, learning and service, from generation to generation. - L'DOR V'DOR



Temple Judea is dedicated to connecting and bringing prayer to all congregants, those considering membership, as well as those who may be interested in learning more about our Jewish faith.

Live Streaming is one of our temple's local and global outreach program priorities.

We would like to let you all know that from now on, our HAVDALAH SERVICE will be held at 6:30 pm each Saturday evening on the live streaming page of Temple Judea's website, as well as on our Temple Judea Facebook page.

SHABBAT

Join us for virtual Shabbat services via Zoom on Fridays at 6PM. Log on as early as 5:30 PM to familiarize yourselves with the site. Click here to join.

Due to security we are asking that all participants identify themselves with first and last name in order to be admitted.

MINYAN

Join us for virtual Minyan Services on Saturdays at 9 AM via Zoom. [Click here to join.](#)

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Join us for virtual Torah Study on Saturdays at 10 AM and Mondays at 9 AM.
[Click here to join on Saturday](#)
[Click here to join on Monday](#) Password: Temple5500


HAVDALAH

Join us for virtual Havdalah on Saturdays at 6:30 PM. [Click here to on our website](#)
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I welcome you to the 2019-2020 Temple Judea Annual Meeting. In accordance with our by-laws, I am providing a written report on our "State of the Congregation." However, before I can clearly convey the pride, I feel surrounding our thoughtful, community-wide campus accomplishments of this past fiscal year, I must address, the extraordinarily unusual, "State of our World".

This is an unprecedented time. Globally, life as we know it has changed forever because of our COVID-19 environment. The simple pleasures of taking a walk, spending time with loved ones and friends, a handshake, a hug; gathering in person as a community, just came to a sudden and shocking halt.

However, as we welcome week ten, I am here to say that I, as your president, of this resilient and nimble congregation, has been incredibly inspired by our collective perseverance, leadership, and teamwork. Our clergy, volunteer leadership and staff have stayed true to our sacred Temple Judea mission and cherished way of life. Through efforts of on-line connectivity, and in finding new tools to bridge worship, outreach, adult education, to bring new and special meaning to community as we navigated these times.

I am, however, filled with enormous hope and encouragement as we look back on all that we have achieved together for our Jewish community, our members, our children, and those in need over the past three months through one of the most disjointed periods. Having said that, it is important to recount our most recent milestones.

Membership reached an all-time high this year, but the strength of our community was not hinged upon the number of families, but in the strength and efforts displayed by those who rose above the challenges to stay a family. Our community's ability to transform seemingly overnight to keep us all connected was this year's most important accomplishment. Being part of a community that stayed true to who we are and not give up on finding new ways to ensure that weekly Shabbat and Havdalah services, Minyan, iEngage, Lunch & Learns, Adult Education, daily clergy messages, member to member outreach and check-ins continued to bring light into the homes of our deserving congregants, was the standout achievement for Temple Judea in 2019-2020. Many thanks to those who made adjustments outside their comfort zones and embraced these new platforms to bring comfort and closeness to others. Upgrades in technology, such as ShulCloud, Live Streaming, the Temple Judea App, along with our established, social media tools, allowed our community to become even stronger and subsequently grow. We have most definitely gone from strength to strength.

The Margaux Early Childhood School family has been thriving through long-distance learning and the collaborative efforts of our parents, teachers and our most precious gifts, our

children. Online outreach has brought education and worship into the homes of our students through pre-school Shabbats, daily check-ins, themed messages, music, FaceTime, zoom, Facebook-Live Fridays, Margaux Good News, Shabbat Story Time, Music Time, virtual classroom experiences, daily moments of joy and continuity by bringing friendships and interactive experiences to our students each day.

New and creative ways to secure funding has been at the forefront in both our conventional and online year. To that end Temple Judea was able to secure critical funding for our fundamental needs of protecting our day to day operations through a Homeland Security Grant, Small Business Paycheck Protection Program loan/grant, as well as reach out to our Temple Judea members in need, through the member driven initiative of the new COVID 19 Emergency Mitzvah Fund. Plus, our most recent celebration of our community spirit through the No-Show Saturday Night Event. Established as a fundraiser, this free event was reinvented to better serve the needs of our community in these times and far exceed expectations in many ways. At a time when we needed it the most, incredibly, over half our temple families participated in this event. Most important however, was to bring our community together in this time of need. The power of the many, inclusion, being able to be seen and see others is what truly matters in our Temple Judea family. And through that motivation our community collaborated and achieved the most important goal of providing sustenance.

Temple Judea is a wonderful community – not because of what we do, but who we are. A special thank you to Rabbi Siegal and Rabbi Fisch for their inspired leadership and thoughtful guidance.

The dedicated lay leaders, volunteers, Klei Kodesh, staff, faculty, teachers, maintenance team and custodial staff make all of these daily accomplishments possible. I am looking forward to working with our incoming president Caroline Miller, and our Temple Judea Board of Trustees to maintain a strong congregation that is a beacon within our community and the larger Jewish world. Veronica and I consider ourselves blessed to be members of such an extraordinary congregation

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President these past two years.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Matzner, Temple Judea President



“ I AM HERE TO SAY THAT I, AS YOUR PRESIDENT, OF THIS RESILIENT AND NIMBLE CONGREGATION, HAS BEEN INCREDIBLY INSPIRED BY OUR COLLECTIVE PERSEVERANCE, LEADERSHIP, AND TEAMWORK. ”

AFTER THE PANDEMIC

As I write this in our seventh week of quarantine, it is hard to imagine what the world will be like when you are reading this. We have no idea what lies ahead right now. What do we not know? We don't know when society will restart. We don't know if there will be summer camp (a VERY big deal in our family). We don't know when we will feel safe to travel. We don't know when we will see our families again or our congregation. We don't know what will happen to the economy. There are so many unknowns.

It is a strange feeling not knowing much about the future. I am a planner. I love to have my color-coded digital calendar filled (as it usually is) and just keep planning out the future (focusing on the day-to-day and the 3, 5 and 10-year plan). Then, I simply follow my calendar each day - it is a system that works well for me, considering I have a lot of obligations and events and children (with their own events) to keep track of, and then I have a record of everything I did to look back on later. However, these days, my calendar is fairly empty except for Zoom calls/meetings/gatherings/classes and services. I still need time to prep the classes I teach each day, the services and few lifecycle events planned, but my calendar looks quite different than it once did. Life looks altogether different than it once did.

Of course, there are tremendous losses that we are experiencing right now. The losses are significant. There is loss of opportunity, the seniors in high school missing their "victory lap" and in-person graduation ceremonies, the lost Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrations, weddings, and in-person baby namings and Brit Milah ceremonies. There are all of the events we usually look forward to attending in person from sporting events to cultural ones and from art exhibitions to galas. We miss seeing our loved ones and friends, and we even miss the day-to-day - birthday

parties, basketball games, book clubs, restaurants, movie theater, going to the gym, and so many of our normal routines and social interactions. But more profoundly, some have had loss of employment, loss of income and savings, and the ultimate, loss of life. We continue to remind ourselves that this time of quarantine is what we each are doing to save lives, and that is crucial.



SENIOR RABBI JUDITH SIEGAL
J.SIEGAL@JUDEAGABLES.ORG

“IT IS MY DEEP PRAYER THAT THIS TIME WILL BRING US THE OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A BETTER WORLD, AS WE BEGIN TO REBUILD OUR LIVES IN THE DAYS AND WEEKS AHEAD. JUDAISM AT THE EXCLUSION OF ALL OTHER FAITHS.”

With all that in mind, there are also great gifts that this time is bringing to many people. We have extra time and opportunity to reset our priorities. We are seeing the natural world recovering from the extreme toll our business takes on the earth. We are seeing ways that we might live if we were not quite so busy all the time. Some are eating healthier, baking, exercising more, being more in the moment and spending time with family. Of course, we are all aware that these are not true for everyone, and each situation presents its own benefits and challenges.

This leaves me and all of us wondering, not only when will we get back to "normal" but what will the new "normal" be? Can we bring some of the good things into our new normal in the future?

I suspect that like the time after 911, things have never gone back to exactly the same as they were. This pandemic, too, I believe, will alter life for us permanently in some ways.

One of my mentors, Rabbi Karyn Kedar, suggests that during times when we feel as though we are flying blind, our tradition teaches us to turn to forgiveness. She writes: "Isn't that a perfect metaphor for what we

are now experiencing? We are flying in zero visibility, not sure about the plane, don't trust the pilot, can't see where we are going, fearful with every bump of turbulent air."

Just like a pilot, we have to use the instruments we have to guide us as we live our lives each day. For us as Jews we have our Kehillah Kedoshah, Sacred Community to help us through difficult times. We have our Jewish calendar and the Jewish holidays to give us structure and meaning to our days. We have Shabbat which brings meaning and gives us time to reflect and prioritize our lives in a new way. Lastly, we have the hope for the future that we pray about and sing about every day in our prayers as well as a way to connect with the Eternal. We have rituals, and we have our obligation to others to help the needy and the poor. All of this gives our days meaning and structure during an otherwise confusing and stressful time. I realize every day of this quarantine how blessed we are as Jews to have these sacred traditions that have gotten our people through many difficult times and will help us through this. It is my deep prayer that this time will bring us the opportunity to create a better world, as we begin to rebuild our lives in the days and weeks ahead.

CAN I GET AN AMEN

RABBI JONATHAN FISCH | J.FISCH@JUDEAGABLES.ORG

I love this word, "amen." Amen is a word that unites the "blesser" or "speaker" with the "listener." It connects the prayer leader to the community as they join together by saying "amen."

We say amen a lot in our services. Next time you are praying, think about when you say it and what it means to you. Also consider how often you are using it.

Interestingly, it is used in our TaNaKh, our bible, only 25 times. Its root implies truth. Some rabbis suggest it is an acronym for מֶלֶךְ נֹאמָן אֱל (El Melech Ne'eman – God the Trustworthy Lord), and according to the Talmud, it implies truthfulness, credence or belief. By saying amen we agree to that which was just spoken. Amen is not just for the synagogue, it's for everyday life.

Here are three times I have said amen to people sharing with me what they have done in quarantine.

1. The Police Officer and I - While talking to a friend of mine in the

Coral Gables Police Department, he said "Rabbi, I was always proud of my three children, all of whom are nurses or work in health care, but right now during the COVID pandemic I see the holy work they were called to do and see them in a new light." His new found awe of his children made me say, "Amen"! I, too, see this new truth which I have always known, but now appreciate more than ever.

2. New Neighbor, New Opportunity for Kindness – Abby and I were outside playing with our girls when the new neighbors who had not even moved in yet came by to check on their house the day they closed. They came over, staying 6 feet away, and asked if we liked wine because they would love to share a glass to get to know us once they move in. Abby responded, "Yeah we love wine!" and I said, "Amen," not to the wine, but to the opportunity to connect with the stranger who will become a friend soon enough.

3. The Call of Positivity – Recently I received a text asking if someone could speak with me for a few minutes, in need of some positive



energy. "Of course," I responded. During our phone conversation, we talked about life, the ups and downs and how to stay positive during this pandemic. Truthfully, the call did more for me than I think I could have done for my friend. Regardless after our conversation I said, "Amen". Amen to our friendship, questions, taking the time to reach out and of course for our ability to share with one another.

My amen means "thank you for this opportunity to be aware of 'this' blessing." So take time to say amen, get lost in the "amens" of our world and know how lucky we all are to experience "amen moments" in life.

1. Rabbi Mike Harvey
- rabbiharvey.wordpress.com/2016/09/23/amen-and-amen/

OUT OF LEMONS COMES LEMONADE!

CANTORIAL SOLOIST JODI ROZENTAL | J.ROZENTAL@JUDEAGABLES.ORG

So we never actually know what will come out of an unprecedented situation such as the Coronavirus and its resulting stay-at-home order.

As the head of A Caring Touch, Temple Judea's chesed committee, I am often approached with ideas about various mitzvot we may be able to do for the people in our temple community, as well as the community at large. One of the ideas presented to me most recently, in light of our current circumstances, was the possibility of making face masks, since at this point, we are all supposed to be wearing one whenever we go out if we will be near other people.

I thought I'd reach out to one of our congregants, Rebeca Curiel, who I know is very creative and has suddenly found herself at home with nothing to do (like so many others.) I asked her if she happened to know how to sew, and more specifically, if she happened to have a sewing machine. (I was sure she did not.)

Much to my delight and surprise, she texted me back very quickly and said that a friend of hers had given her a sewing machine a year ago, that it was in her closet, and that she never learned how to use it. Within minutes, she texted me a picture of this brand new sewing machine and all the necessary supplies. I couldn't believe my eyes! Then she said, "Actually, I just need to learn. I can't believe I had this treasure in my closet!"

By the next morning, I received another message that said: "My first mask with nose wire and pocket for filter!" I was absolutely blown away! Literally overnight, she watched videos, stayed up until 4:00 am, and learned how to not just use the sewing machine for the very first time, but also to make a mask! It was truly remarkable! Way to go, Rebeca! We can't wait to see what else you learn how to make!



Pictured above: Temple Judea Member, Rebeca Curiel



2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



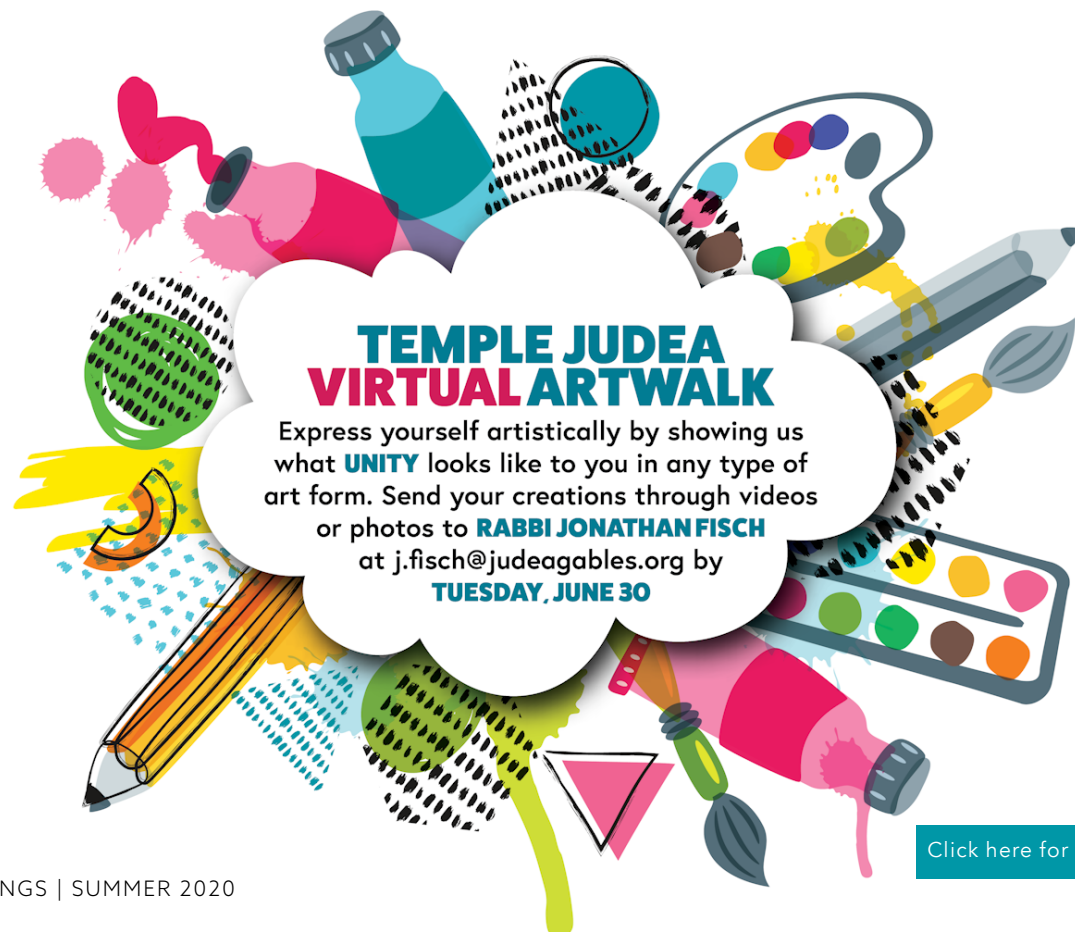
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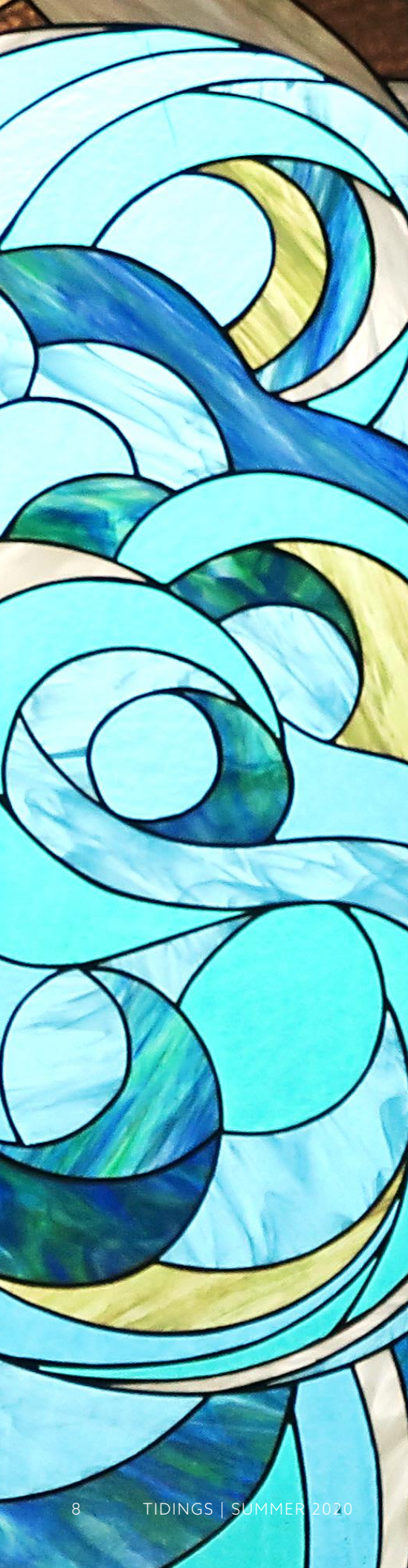
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TEMPLE JUDEA VIRTUAL ARTWALK

Express yourself artistically by showing us what **UNITY** looks like to you in any type of art form. Send your creations through videos or photos to **RABBI JONATHAN FISCH** at j.fisch@judeagables.org by **TUESDAY, JUNE 30**

[Click here for a video from Rabbi Fisch](#)



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KEHILLAH CONNECTIONS



YULIETTE GONZALEZ
MARGAUX SCHOOL MENTOR TEACHER
Y.ANTUNEZ@JUDEAGABLES.ORG

These past weeks in quarantine have moved me to count my blessings (my family, my health, and my job) and appreciate even more the Margaux School kehillah- the community.

This year as I started my full time position as a Mentor Teacher I reflected on various framing questions that would guide me to better support the teachers, the children and families in making learning visible. I am passionate about making connections between play experiences and learning and really wanted to understand how these connections could educate our families about the school's philosophy and support the teachers and me to be better reflective educators. Some of these questions included:

- How might children's conversations inspire us as educators to create intentional learning experiences?
- What special connections will the children make? What will they feel inspired to share?
- How do these learning experiences strengthen kehillah?

These questions still are relevant in this time of physical distancing. Even though we are far part, the teachers have been closer than ever before thanks to technology. It has supported new partnerships and deepened current ones, pushed me out of so many comfort zones and offered new avenues for ideas! Hello Margaux Good News!

I witnessed first hand how strong our Margaux kehillah is through the rapid discussions the teachers shared amongst each other on how to keep the connections alive and going with our children and families.

The Margaux teachers have come together to support one another. I have appreciated how we together

have embraced this detour and celebrated success, acknowledged areas of growth, and deepened our learning. We have taken webinars, connected with other educators from around the world, and learned about Zoom and other technology resources that enhance and support our connections with the children. We were not prepared to go virtual, but as educators in such a supportive community, we were prepared to support one another and learn together to make things work. We were prepared to be flexible and to adjust. We were prepared to ask for help, to learn, and reflect on what we can do to better support our kehillah.

I zoom every month with my pedagogical coach, Dr. Lori Ryan, who lives in Colorado, where we have dialogue about children's learning, strategies for support and how to create frameworks that will deepen learning for the children and teachers. I absolutely love zooming and connecting this way, however, I never thought I would be communicating with my own colleagues from school this way. Many of the teachers jumped into this with little or no training and have been wonderful about learning and sharing new techniques and ideas on how to strengthen partnerships. As educators, we are learning as we go to make those experiences meaningful and intentional. We're trying our best to have interactive zoom experiences, captivate and maintain the children's attention on a live screen, and strengthen and support our partnerships with our families. I admire the women I work with and how they are asking questions, making things work, and embracing the opportunity to learn and keep growing.

Technology has supported our learning in various ways. We connect every other week for our Age Group



MS. YOHANDRA & MS. MARGY'S PRE-K CLASS LOGIN FOR A MORNING OF LEARNING.

meetings where we share with one another what is working, ideas on how to support learning, and discuss articles or webinars we attend. In addition, each teaching team meets with Mikki or me to discuss ideas, check in on one another, and discuss the flow of the week for their virtual gatherings. On Friday afternoons we gather for a little bit as we sip on coffee or tea or snack on something and talk to one another! Its been so good for morale!

Teamwork does make the dream work, physically or virtually. What is the dream you ask? It's to make beautiful connections with one another regardless of the circumstance. It's to stay connected, to listen to our children, to acknowledge their interests, nurture their curiosities, support them in their learning adventures and value each of them.

Going back to those framing questions...I have seen how the children are so eager to discuss the things they love, wonderings they have, and ideas they share! Their conversations have guided the teachers to look for and support meaningful learning experiences inspired by the children's conversations. Some classrooms have studied bugs, transportation, rainbows and colors. Others have done live experiments and followed a recipe to create something delicious. Others have small groups and read books or share stories about their day or ideas. The memories we are making through the connections we are creating together as a teacher-family partnership and the collaborative work in the Margaux school kehillah is a story I will always share, even if it's through zoom 25 years from now.

OUR NEW VILLAGE

BY TEMPLE JUDEA MEMBER, SETH LEWIS LEVIN

This school year had already been a wildly disruptive one for our family. In August we had left the kids' schools, our congregation and our "village" in Brooklyn to embark on an adventure abroad. Then, in October, we relocated again, this time to Miami. We were feeling pretty unmoored and weren't sure how to feel settled. Jump forward to one rather chilly March morning, a few hours before I had to head back to NYC for work for the week, we turned off US1 to the Purim Carnival at Judea. Within minutes, our 5 year old daughter, Ava, was careening down the inflatable slides, hand-in-hand with her new Margaux School friends, and I'd lost Kami, my wife, to cotton candy and chatting it up with some of the Margaux parents. I gazed around and realized we had found our new home.

As a young couple, Kami and I bonded over having been "lost tribe members" for most of our adult lives. We had spent our sons (Sydney, age 14 and Elijah, age 12) earliest years fumbling around for a spiritual home to bring them for services. When we found Congregation Beth Elohim in Park Slope, we thought we would never leave. When we did, we assumed we would be spending years in the spiritual desert again. This recent Passover proved otherwise.

Despite growing up in the northeast, I had spent most of my Passovers in the Gables with my grandparents, unknowingly just miles from the woman I would marry. So our first seder as Miamians was going to be a thrill. Ava was going to prep the four questions at the Margaux School, I would stockpile gefilte fish at Milams and we would riff on the PJ Library Haggadah. And...our best friends from Brooklyn were coming down to help the kids find the affikomen!

Then COVID-19 hit.

I flew back from my work in New York, that fated day Friday, March 13, that the city had closed up. Soon our friends and family back in New York were suffering in the schools, hospitals and communities in which they worked. Our friends had to cancel their flights down for spring break. We couldn't even be with the very family we moved to be close to in Miami. Meanwhile, as self-isolation set in, we were balancing nature walks with Ava and online learning with our middle school-aged boys. Scheduled calls with teachers changed every hour. Work Zooms moved up to 7AM. By March 30, Sydney, our 14 year old, was exploding with emotion from having just gotten into New World for high school, but he couldn't get in touch with his drama teacher or his friends. And daily, after dinner, we were all literally falling into bed. The month of March 2020 felt like it had lasted for years.

Yet, within what now seems like days, Elijah, our 12 year old, was laughing along with Sarah and Shosh



THE LEWIS LEVIN FAMILY PICTURED ABOVE AT SYDNEY'S BAR MITZVAH IN JANUARY OF 2019.

on Sunday morning J-PLEx zooms. Ava was once again learning the Passover story with Ms. Jenny, Ms. Margy and Ms. Yohandra. Sydney was chilling on a Monday night call with JTY. We engaged in Jodi's Zoom Healing Service as a family. All this was inspiration for our own very special Seder Service. On the second day of Passover, we began our day with the beautiful zoom service led by Rabbi Seigal, Rabbi Fisch and Cantorial Soloist Jodi, then celebrated that evening on the Temple Judea Zoom Seder with our new community.

As lifelong educators, Kami and I both know how radically difficult it is to upend teaching and learning in this new reality. I spend hours-a-day with school districts all over the country trouble shooting how to transform an ancient tradition for the new normal. The public schools in NYC still struggle to get a plurality of their students online. Norwalk, CT bussed free meals across their city, only to have them pile up at the bus stops. Teachers who have never been asked to create so much as a powerpoint for young, active minds, are forced to master Google suite.

It is not surprising that Beth Young, Mikki Feinberg and the amazing educators at Judea have risen to the occasion. Ava now has daily, meaningful dialogue about nature with teachers and peers only weeks into this global crisis. Ms. Jenny cheers her through Mondays and Fridays with songs and puppets. Rabbi Fisch's "Cribs" show is just the right amount of corny for our teen boys.

As the curve starts to flatten, we are eternally grateful for our new home. The warm and loving spiritual embrace has come at just the right moment in our lives. While the world outside our windows had appeared dark and foreboding, Temple Judea's staff has provided an invaluable look at the other side of the Jordan river. We are so grateful for the resilience, creativity, flexibility and compassion in this crazy time from Judea, our new community, our new home.

OUR THRIVING TEMPLE JUDEA
VIRTUAL COMMUNITY

BY TEMPLE JUDEA MEMBER, PHYLLIS LEVY

I have been participating in the iEngage seminar led by Rabbi Siegal. The current series Together and Apart: The Future of Jewish Peoplehood is a 14 week program offered on Mondays 1-2:30 pm on Zoom. The series offers excellent videos including a lecture by Donniel Hartman and then interviews with scholars exploring different aspect of the topic. These videos are available for streaming and may be viewed on one's own. The classes are highly participatory looking at texts and discussing their meaning and implications for contemporary life in Israeli society. I was fortunate to hear Dr. Hartman speak in person at a Limmud program and was very impressed with his knowledge and insight into issues about Israel and the Middle East. I highly recommend this series.

“JUDEA HAS REMAINED AS
MUCH FOCAL POINT OF OUR
LIFE DURING THIS PANDEMIC
AS IT WAS BEFORE”

Our family is now more involved than ever in the Friday night service, Saturday minyan and Torah study during this time of separation and distance, I am so grateful that our Temple Judea clergy had kept our community connected with spiritual and learning engagement opportunities. We especially enjoy seeing our fellow congregants and exchanging insights into the Zoom Torah discussion led by one of the rabbis after the Shabbat Minyan. Our experience has been enhanced by the participation of our son who lives in Washington D.C. What a unique experience when we are all together in the same small study group.

We should all be grateful to our wonderful clergy for their ability and creativity to engage our community with a variety of meaningful and innovative programs. Judea has remained as much a focal point of our life during this pandemic as it was before.

LEARNING IN THE
TIME OF COVID

BY TEMPLE JUDEA MEMBER, SALLYE ZILBERSTEIN

I always considered myself very Jewish, I just didn't know a lot about Judaism. So I started my "year of Jewish learning" which is now in its 7th year.

Even before I became a member of Temple Judea, I took a class with Rabbi Siegal. Once I joined the temple I was happy to see that Judea offered so many learning opportunities that it has become my 2nd home. They offer classes on a variety of interests. I've taken a class on angels, I-Engage courses from the Hartman Institute and I have come to hear from the variety of visiting lecturers, whether about aging or Leonard Cohen. I take a Melton class on Sunday mornings. I've become a regular at Friday night Shabbat services, Saturday morning minyan and Torah study. I found that the more I learned the more I wanted to learn.

Then the coronavirus pandemic hit the world. My Temple, my second home was closed. Where my studies had initially been a way to get out of my empty nest, I am now home all of the time. It was quite an adjustment going from working 9-10 hour days to having nothing to do. There are

only so many closets and drawers you can clean. But thankfully Temple Judea has continued to be a source of learning and community. Online services are good but not the same as in person. At least they still keep us connected face-to-face. Torah study continues as does my Melton Class and as well as other individual classes that Melton has been offering. I can now take the I-Engage class on Monday afternoons and Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Siegal on Thursdays. Jodi's Healing Services have been just that, healing. Besides being a source for learning, the Temple is a lifeline in the storm. It gives me a reason to get out of bed in the morning. These classes give me something to note in my calendar and plan my day around. If I know that I will be in a Zoom class, I put on makeup and fix my hair. I even dress for Shabbat. Except for my daily walks, I haven't left my house in weeks, but thanks to the creators of Zoom and Facebook Live, as well as our hard working and dedicated clergy and staff, the learning and feeling of community go on.

I thank you all for being there for us as you practice the lessons of Judaism.

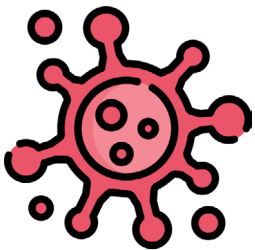
ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

IENGAGE | RABBIS SIEGAL
SHALOM HARTMAN INSTITUTE
MONDAY JUNE 29, 1-2:30 PM

If you've taken any of the previous iEngage courses at Temple Judea, you already know how truly engaging and educational they are. Led by a team of internationally renowned scholars in the fields of Jewish studies, Middle East politics, and history, iEngage is committed to addressing core questions pertaining to the necessity and significance of the State of Israel. This year's class promises to be fulfilling, topical and educational. [Click here to join.](#)

TIMELY LESSONS FROM OUR TIMELESS TEXTS
RABBI SIEGAL AND RABBI FISCH
THURSDAY, JULY 2, 16, AUGUST 6, 20 AT 12 PM

Join Rabbi Siegal and Rabbi Fisch for an hour conversation and discussion on difficult, worldly and modern topics. All you need is your food, drinks and an open mind. [Click here to join.](#)



TEMPLE JUDEA'S
SOCIAL ACTION
NETWORK

WRITTEN BY MARYLYN LUDOLPH

The phrase *Tikkun Olam* (to repair the world) has come to connote social action and the pursuit of social justice. The emphasis is on acts of social responsibility and on fixing the world, as we know it. The task of the Temple Judea **SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK** is to select opportunities in the community where members of our congregation can address injustices in the world around us. By engaging in these programs, we live up to the teachings of our faith that instruct us that while we alone cannot fix some larger problems, we cannot stand idly by.

Each year, programs of relevance are chosen by the committee. The topics are often time sensitive (e.g.voter registration) or pertinent to present day happenings (trip to Homestead - immigration). Through guest speakers at services and in opportunities offered to hear well-known advocates; through volunteering of time; and through taking actions when appropriate, many members of the Temple Judea congregation have taken part in making a difference! At the most recent meeting of the Temple Judea **SOCIAL ACTION NETWORK**, topics for the coming year were chosen for consideration! The belief is that these are pressing issues within our world that we need to know about - and not sit idly by.

Once final selection of topics has been completed, our plan is to provide programming on these topics that will inform us and invite us, if we choose, to become involved in the cause. Our topics are large issues; none to be taken lightly. It is **ALSO** our proposal to have all activities planned for each of the topics with a sensitivity to opportunities for sharing and addressing Jewish history, problems, or text; creating occasions for multi-generational participation; bringing interfaith elements to the activities; and working together with the Temple Judea members.

Topics being considered for the year 5781 are: (Drumroll, please!)

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY

"The science is clear: unless we change our ways and stop polluting the atmosphere, the world's climate will change even more dramatically." (Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism)

Increasing temperatures
Rising sea levels
Flooding coastal areas
Threatening forest and agriculture
Spreading of harmful diseases



THE POOR IN MIAMI:

"A common thread throughout our Jewish tradition is that of social justice. Our tradition demands that we speak up, judge righteously, champion the poor and the needy." (Proverbs 31:19)

Hunger
Housing and homelessness
Living and minimum wage

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION:

"In the Torah, Jews are taught to accept others without prejudice or bias." (Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism)
LGBT equality
Hate crimes
Racial justice

MENTAL HEALTH

Judaism teaches us that we as a society have an obligation to help people gain the care they need. (Religious Action Center for Reform)

Lofty aspirations? Perhaps. The best place to start is among a safe community, where values are shared and education about the issues is highly regarded. Please ponder the potential choices to be investigated in the coming year. We look forward to pursuing, with each of you, learning about and finding out how we might become actively involved in solutions. The final choice of topics will be shared in the coming months along with details about speakers and experiences. Please choose to be involved! We cannot stand idly by.

Contact **RICHARD YOUNG** for more information at richardyoung1941@msn.com

live from Miami... it's

NO SHOW

SATURDAY

NIGHT

On behalf of Host Rabbi Jonathan Fisch, Rabbi Judith Siegal, Cantorial Soloist Jodi Rozental, Event Chairmen Debbie & Jim Siegel, President Gary Matzner and the entire No Show Saturday Night committee, we want to thank each and every one of you who logged on, laughed, cried and shared in this special evening for our Temple Judea community. Our No Show Saturday Night received rave reviews, reaching over 600 households, between Zoom and Facebook combined! We are especially grateful to have had our clergy, sponsors, donors and our Temple Judea community join us for a night of meaningful messages and humor.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

YOU LOOK MAHVELOUS SPONSORS

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Penny & Dr. Richard Thurer
Cynthia & Andy Varat

OOOHH WEE..WHAT'S UP WITH THAT? SPONSORS

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No Show Saturday Night Leadership Committee

EVENT CHAIRMEN: DEBBIE & JIM SIEGEL

Jeanne Becker, Linda & Michael Bittel, Marsha & Leon Botkin, Alexis & Bradley Brodie, Emily & Steve Demar, Jaime & Todd Ehrenreich, Michelle & Jeffrey Eisenberg, Abby & Rabbi Jonathan Fisch, Hilary & David Gershman, Stuart Gitlitz, Susana & Michael Gold, Claudia & Joe Greenberg, Miriam Grossman-Rodriguez & Pedro Rodriguez, Ossie & Harry Hanauer, Jennifer & Jared Kay, Julie & Lawrence Lambert, Sheila & Howard Levine, Veronica & Gary Matzner, Caroline Miller, Marilyn Mittenag & David Magidson, Andrea & Neil Potash, Cantorial Soloist Jodi & Ruben Rozental, Sydney & David Schaecter, Lois & Larry Schimmel, Samantha & Mason Sharpe, Barbara "Bobbie" Siegal, Rabbi Judith & Brian Siegal, Susan Silver, Jenny Snyder, Amanda & Michael Tillman, and Cynthia & Andy Varat

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CLERGY

Host Rabbi Jonathan Fisch, Rabbi Judith Siegal, and Cantorial Soloist Jodi Rozental

Thank you to the Temple Judea Staff for their efforts in facilitating this new on line platform and in support of our ongoing community mission. Sharon Israel Moskovitz, Thaisy Antunez, Anna Forer, Janice Garcia.

Sarah Cotler, Gaby Enser Tangir, Mikki Feinberg, Mike Forer, Juan Giraldo, Daphne Parker, Judy Rosenblum, Jenny Snyder, Danielle Spiegelman, Joey Velasquez, and Beth Young.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Beverly & Richard Arnold, Alexis & Bradley Brodie, Harriet Brookman, Joan Biller-Cauce & Francisco Cauce, Eliane & Adrian Cristian, Philis & David Edelman, Vicki Einhorn, Gary Feder, Annabelle & Eli Feinberg, Nadine & Steven Foldes, Sheila Freed & Mel Miller, Ellen & Richard Gray, Beverly Greenberg, Ossie & Harry Hanauer, Karol Hochman & Donald Harvey, Tomas Hauff, Shirley Herris, Irene & Morris Hollander, Francine Horwich & David Weinstein, Alan Kazan & Bill Shores, Phyllis & Abe Koss, Pat Lieberman, Jamie Milton, Shara & Danny Pelz, Julie & Philip Rosenfeld, Leanne Rutter-Arnold & Jonathan Arnold, Jan & Harvey Sasso, Patricia & Juan Silva, Dianne Singer, Tom Singer, Tracey & Larry Spiegelman, Marilyn Stoler, Judith Weissel, Myrna & Lawrence Wheatman, Denise Wolpert, and Sara Zamikoff

THANK YOU TO OUR FEATURED GUEST STARS AND PARTICIPANTS

Debbie & Jim Siegel, Jon Lovitz, Gabriel & Stephen Felsen, Matzner Family, Kraftchick Family, Cristina Lea Fernandes, Diamond/Kanter Family, Billy Martin, Doug Bondy, Missy Farbish, Levey Family, Barbara Phillips & Howard Goldman, Varat Family, Ruben Rozental, Sherman Family, Epstein Family, Rubin Family, Tillman Family, Brodie Family, Lago Family, Shane Battier, Sonya & Richard Horwich, Anita Varat, Dianne Singer, Max Goldfarb, Barbara Bulbin, Barry Hesser, Judy Weissel, Phyllis Miller, Jake Miller, Tobias Beker-Flah, Sofia Bronstein, Emily Kay, Seth Kessler, Andy Kutner, Sophia Lambert, Audrey March, Ella March, Shiloh Markus, Elliot Myers, Rae Myers, Alex Nelson, Ella Pelz, Ethan Saphier, Ben Siegal, Caroline Sosler, Janine Balkin, Dr. Erin Kobetz, Ben Greenberg, Stephanie Demar, Ossie Hanauer, Bruna Rabinowits, Jake Labbie, Samantha Ehrenreich, Gaby Enser Tangir, Jenny Snyder, Emily Kay, Sarah Leiva, Dana Brunser, Sophia Lambert, Jennifer & Jared Kay, Julie & Lawrence Lambert, Jessica Kornfeld & Gustavo Brunser, Candice Maze & Aldo Leiva, Sarah Crane, Michelle Kaufman & Dave Barry, Grossman-Rodriguez Family, Rodriguez Family, Gerber Family, Deutch Family, Smith Family, Markowitz Family, Bermudez/Sellinger Family, Labbie Family, Sucar/Hamel Family, and the Levin Family (In order of appearance)

No Show Saturday Night Event Sign Ups

SPACE IS LIMITED – PLEASE LOG ON TO [JUDEAGABLES.ORG](https://www.judeagables.org) FOR RESERVATION AVAILABILITY AND FULL DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE FABULOUS OFFERINGS

12.4.2020 AT 8:00 PM - JAMMIN' WITH JODI & JENNY: Hilary & David Gershman welcome Cantorial Soloist Jodi Rozental and musical partner, Jenny Snyder for an evening of food, drink, conversation and music.

2.21.2021 AT 6:30 PM - SUSHI, SAKE & TERIYAKI: Join co-hosts Jan Sasso and Debbie Siegel for a taste of Japan as you enjoy a wonderfully themed evening filled with laughter, cheers, and friends for sushi rolling, sake tasting and teriyaki making.

2.27.21 AT 7:30 PM - MEGILLAH MARDI GRAS MASH UP: Join Rabbi Judith Siegal, Brian Siegal and co-hosts Veronica & Gary Matzner and Tracey & Stuart Waldman for a New Orleans themed Megillah / Mardi Gras Mash Up Purim celebration. Dinner, drinks, laughter, happiness and a time to rejoice.

3.20.2021 AT 7:00 PM - FUN WITH FISCH & FRIENDS: Join Rabbi Jonathan Fisch and hosts Samantha & Mason Sharpe for a fantastically fun night of community, games, and friendship. We can't wait to share this casual evening with you while we celebrate Havdalah.

SOLD OUT - BAD BOYS CAN COOK 2: Co-Hosts Michael Bittel and John Kozyak and "pseudo chefs" Rabbi Jonathan Fisch, Brian Siegal and Ruben Rozental bring you the ultimate man-cave event.

THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTS AND FEATURED GUESTS



[CLICK HERE TO REWATCH NO SHOW SATURDAY NIGHT!](https://www.judeagables.org)

[JUDEAGABLES.ORG](https://www.judeagables.org)

15

WOMEN OF TEMPLE JUDEA



NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

As I reflect on my first year as WTJ President, I am practicing "social distancing" per the current guidelines regarding the Coronavirus Pandemic. I hope that life will soon return to the "new" normal with some anticipated changes.

When I first accepted the presidency position for the Women of Temple Judea, I was sure that this was going to be an overwhelming year filled with much angst. I even prepared my family, telling them they wouldn't be hearing from me so often. I was told by past president Karla Ebenbach that being president was "manageable." Well it's been more than manageable - it's enjoyable! The position is filled with so much satisfaction, primarily due to our WTJ Board. The Board is comprised of 19 of the most intelligent, diverse and dynamic women I have ever worked with. They can accomplish whatever they put their minds to and they bring important programs to the temple community. This year we reached an all-time milestone with 195 members!!

One of the most important functions of WTJ is to allocate funds raised through our programs and membership dues as grants to important programs and staff projects at Temple Judea. This year we allocated funds for the High Holy Day Restyled Services, NFTY Scholarships, B'nai Mitzvah book gifts, Special Projects for the Margaux Preschool and two staff development programs. Unfortunately not all the funds were used up to this point due to the Corona Virus but we are hopeful that the Grant process will begin anew this fall.

The year began with our first ever Board Retreat, led by Julie Lambert. We had an opportunity to develop goals for the year regarding Membership, Community Service and Leadership. An important part of this experience was a chance to socialize with each other while discussing WTJ and its future. Our Mission and Vision Statements have been revised, as well as our Bylaws, so they better reflect our organization as it exists today in 2020. Thank you to the Bylaws Committee and all their hard work.

Our first program was Pink Challah Baking in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month, with a lecture by Dr. Grace Wang. Next, we were delighted to host chef Hedy Goldsmith for our Membership Welcome event with over 60 women learning new cooking techniques and gourmet dessert recipes. We also participated in a most interesting story-telling workshop with Amy Kohan. Our Progressive Dinner is now postponed until October 24, 2020 - so be sure to mark your calendars. It is also our hope that the Women's Passover Seder will take place next year.

Our Community Service initiatives have been so successful and diverse. Our involvement with Toussaint L'Ouverture Elementary School remains strong, including our annual school supply collection, Thanksgiving gift cards, and 14 of our congregants participating in the school's Career Day. In addition, over 200 Chanukah gifts were delivered to JAFCO to brighten the holidays for the foster care children in this organization. Two hundred plus temple members enjoyed a fulfilling and successful morning participating in our Mitzvah Day project "Rise Against Hunger," packaging 20,000 meal packages for the hungry. This year, we also became involved in a new project, preparing and delivering dinner monthly for Casa Valentina, an organization that supports at-risk and former foster care youth.

Finally our Gift Shop has been revitalized and is filled with so many new items for all your Judaic needs.

I want to thank everyone who joined WTJ and participated in our programs and community service projects. I want to particularly thank the WTJ Board for giving their time to make our sisterhood so special. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering with WTJ. I look forward to another successful year and hope that we will continue to enhance the lives of many women and families at Temple Judea. - *Marsha Botkin* MARSHABOT@GMAIL.COM

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND COVID-19:

The Dinner Program at Casa Valentina has been temporarily suspended due to COVID-19, but that has not stopped the Community Service *Casa Valentina* team from stepping in to help. In lieu of a meal, WTJ has delivered much needed cleaning supplies and groceries to fill their refrigerators and freezers! Dr. Leanne Rutter delivered a planned talk via Zoom on women's health issues as part of their educational series and we dropped off Chicken Kitchen dinners. We also supplied treats and gift cards for their graduation celebration. The Casa Valentina staff and residents have been so appreciative and we hope to continue efforts to help meet their ongoing needs in the coming months. If you have extra supplies on hand that you would like to contribute, please contact **HEATHER SOSLER** to coordinate a safe distance delivery option
hsosler@gmail.com; 305.984.2768



JCS VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE

WTJ organized a Virtual Food Drive for the JCS Kosher Food Bank. The online registry through Target is still open, and the link can be found in the weekly Temple e-blast. This is an easy and much needed way to help with the increasing numbers of food insecure in our community. Please contact **HEATHER SOSLER** hsosler@gmail.com or **LEANNE RUTTER-ARNOLD** at benali2@gmail.com with questions.



MARSHA BOTKIN



HEATHER SOSLER



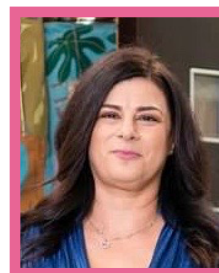
LEANNE RUTTER ARNOLD



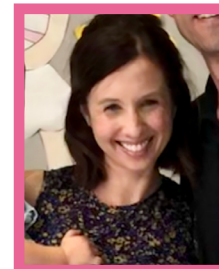
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BEVERLY ARNOLD

NOT PICTURED: NAN MARKOWITZ

WTJ Gift Shop

For all your Judaica needs, think of us!
We are here to help you

WTJ Gift Shop has a wide variety of items to help you be ready for any occasion.

Our **Judaica** selection includes stunning **Kiddish Cups**, **Kippas**, **Tallits**, **Mezuzahs**, and more. We also now have Gift certificates. We have plenty of options for you to pick from, for all your **Mitzvahs** needs. Hostess **Gifts**? We have you covered too!

We have established partnerships with Israeli charities, so you can shop from them or have your child do a Mitzvah project. We are working very hard to make our prices competitive and our selection varied. And if we still don't have what you need, contact us and we will work to get it for you.

Remember your Gift Shop purchases help **WTJ** fund our community programs. **Visit us soon!**

For suggestions, help or Questions contact:

VP WTJ Gift Shop • Jessica Kornfeld
wtjgiftshop@gmail.com • 305 588 4938



Thank you
TO OUR WONDERFUL
2019-2020 BOARD MEMBERS



The Women of Temple Judea are pleased to announce the new date for the

2020 Progressive Dinner

Saturday, the 24th of October

You can look forward to a new and creative evening event. Please stay tuned for more information.

MEMBER CHAI-LIGHTS

THE SHERMANS

LAURA, SCOTT, LUCAS AND LILY

What year did you join Temple Judea and what brought you to Temple Judea? The Sherman's joined Temple Judea in 2018 when Lucas had been at school there for a year. After spending time at Tot Shabbat, Family holiday services, and in the classroom at the Margaux School, they knew this was the perfect place for their family to join. They are so happy to be part of the Temple Judea community. It feels like family. The whole house would look forward to Shabbat with Ms. Jenny and Rabbi Fisch's Friday Stories and of course, the Margaux Good News!



What is your occupation – current or past? Scott co-founded Tricera Capital in 2017, real estate investment company focused on acquiring urban retail and mixed-use assets in the Southeast United States. Laura was a Women's Shoe Buyer for Bloomingdales in NYC, but became a stay at home mom when she and Scott moved back to Miami. She, as most parents have, recently took on the additional rolls of part time home schooler, chef, house keeper, and Lucas's personal assistant.

What is your favorite Jewish Holiday & why? Recently, we have started really celebrating Shabbat every Friday. We make our own special Challah every week, adding sprinkles, food coloring, and sometimes even chocolate chips. Lily knows exactly where we keep the candles and she gets them every week before we face time with Scott's parents for the blessings. The kids even get juice in wine cups. It's the perfect way to end the work week.

What is the best or worst Chanukah gift you have ever received? We have a family friend that gets us fluffy fleece socks every year. Literally the same exact pair. They were sort of useful when living in NYC but in Miami no one needs endless pairs of fluffy winter socks.

Describe your perfect Sunday: Pre-Covid Laura's perfect Sunday would include lunch outside at Villagio in Merrick park and some shopping. Now that we have learned to slow down a little, Scott and Lucas's perfect Sunday is going kayaking, and then meeting Lily and Laura by the pool in the afternoon. If its raining, which it has been a lot lately, we love a family movie day. We make popcorn and all snuggle on the couch. Lately, we have been watching classics like "Back to the Future" and "ET".

If you could have a Shabbat dinner with anyone who has passed away or is living, who and why? We would love to do Shabbat with our grandparents, our children's great grandparents, who are no longer with us. They would be so proud to see the amazing family we are raising. Lucas's shabbat guest would be Darth Vader, although he would have to follow the "No light sabers at the table" rule. Lily will be inviting some Disney princesses a well.

If you had your Bar/Bat Mitzvah what would you tell your 13 year old (or age at B'nai mitzvah) self today? Scott- I'll keep it short and sweet because I know my 13 year old self is busy. I would tell him to keep up the good work! The best is yet to come.

Laura- I had my Bat Mitzvah on my birthright trip when I was 25 I would tell younger Laura that while being 25 is pretty amazing, it only gets better! I would remind her to enjoy her 20's but assure her that no matter how much fun she is having now, that being a mom is really the best thing in the entire world. I would also warn her to buy lots of Lysol spray, clorox wipes, toilet paper and LOTS of wine in February 2020.

Is there a question you would like to ask the rabbis? Scott wants to ask Rabbi Fisch when is their next Peloton race?

SUSAN & ALFRED FEINGOLD

What year did you join Temple Judea and what brought you to Temple Judea? 1976. Both our families were founders of their synagogues and stressed the importance of synagogue membership. When we moved to Coral Gables in 1972, Temple Judea had a waiting list. By the time we were able to join, our son Howard was ready for religious school.

What is your occupation? We are both happily retired, Alfred as an anesthesiologist and Susan as his office manager.

What is your favorite Jewish Holiday & why? Shabbat because it's a time for rest, contemplation and being thankful.

Describe your perfect Sunday: In the morning Alfred bicycles with his friends and Susan reads the Miami Herald and walks. Later we enjoy FaceTime with our son Howard and daughter Helen, son-in-law Noah and grandchildren, Eve and Jonah.

Onerecipeyou'dbewillingto share(Kosher style): ALFRED'S BORSHT

1 can julienne beets, coarsely chopped, with liquid
few bits of lemon peel
1 potato, quartered
1/2 cup water
1 hard-boiled egg, sliced
few sprigs of fresh dill
sour cream
Bring to boil first 4 ingredients until potatoes soften. Let cool. Spoon into individual bowls. Garnish with egg slices, dill sprigs and a dollop of sour cream before serving.
2-3 servings.

If you could have a Shabbat dinner with anyone who has passed away or is living, who and why? Our parents. As we age, we'd like to learn more about our families and our Jewish roots.

Is there a question you would like to ask the rabbis? Not a question but a polite request of our rabbis and our Senior Director of Education, Beth Young: Please join us more often at our Monday morning Torah Study.



Mazal Tov to Lauren Deutch on being named a Top Up and Comer in Real Estate by the South Florida Legal Guide!

Mazal Tov to Amy and Richard Kohan on the birth of their first grandchild, Nelle Charlotte Siemann. Proud parents are Rebekah and Carson Siemann.



MEMBER CHAI-LIGHTS FEATURE

Have great news you want to share? Contact our Brand & Communications Manager, **THAISY ANTUNEZ** at t.antunez@judeagables.org to be featured in a future issue of the Tidings! Milestones, achievements, or accomplishments are all encouraged to share.



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Condolences to Judy (Jeff) Finkelstein on the loss of her mother, Susan B. Rosen, grandmother to Mark & Ryan.

Condolences to Sandee Burger on the loss of her cousin, Allen Shapiro.

Condolences to Miriam Grossman (Pedro) Rodriguez on the loss of her uncle, Ray Vick.

Condolences to Lauren Beiley (David Elkins) on the loss of her step-father, Herbert “Herb” Dunn, step-grandfather to Jessica, Samantha and Michael.

Condolences to Maggie Silverstein on the loss of her husband, Dr. Bernard (Bernie) Silverstein.

Condolences Laura Weinkle and Lisa Silva and Family on the passing of their father, Dr. Bernard Applebaum.

Condolences to Richard and Amy Kohan on the loss of Richard’s father Eugene Kohan, grandfather to Rebekah and Benjamin.

Condolences to Bob Markowitz on the passing of his wife, Patricia Markowitz mother of Lori Salzman (Rick), sons Gregg Markowitz (Janet) and Keith Markowitz (Elizabeth); brother Joel Rabin (Joyce Hamersmith); sister Susan Becker (Irwin); brother-in-law Jerry Markowitz (Patricia Redmond) and grandchildren Hayley Harrison (Wally); Brett Gerson (Elise); Kevin Gerson; Reilly and Mason Markowitz; Jordis and Marley Markowitz and great granddaughter, Mia Jane Harrison.

Condolences to Toby Richards on the loss of her brother, Michael Kurtz.

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RHINOPLASTY BEFORE & AFTER



BEFORE

AFTER

BEFORE

AFTER



“I wonder what Grandma is doing
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The Palace has been honored as America's #1 senior community for its social calendar and activities, and you'd be amazed how our entertainment program rivals a cruise ship. Every week there are live shows on stage, events to join in, classes to learn and songs to sing. We even have a free Happy Hour every day.

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