

“Moses and Abraham taught us to be relentless, to stand up to even the most powerful.”

- RABBI JONATHAN FISCH

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family passover traditions



flashback b'nai mitzvah



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Temple Judea
5500 Granada Boulevard
Coral Gables, FL 33146
T: 305.667.5657 F: 305.665.5834
judeagables.org

Judith L Siegal
RABBI

Jonathan R. Fisch
RABBI

Sharon Israel Moskovitz
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EXT. 2105

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SR. DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT
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KALISH EDUCATION CHAIR EXT. 2113

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Sarah B. Cotler
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EXT. 2123

Gaby Enser Tangir
B'NAI MITZVAH DIRECTOR EXT. 2116

Jenny Snyder & Daniel C. Strange
ACCOMPANISTS

Thaisy Antunez
BRAND & COMMUNICATIONS
MANAGER EXT. 2104

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Through a strong Jewish community, we better ourselves and the world.

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WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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.

TORAH STUDY

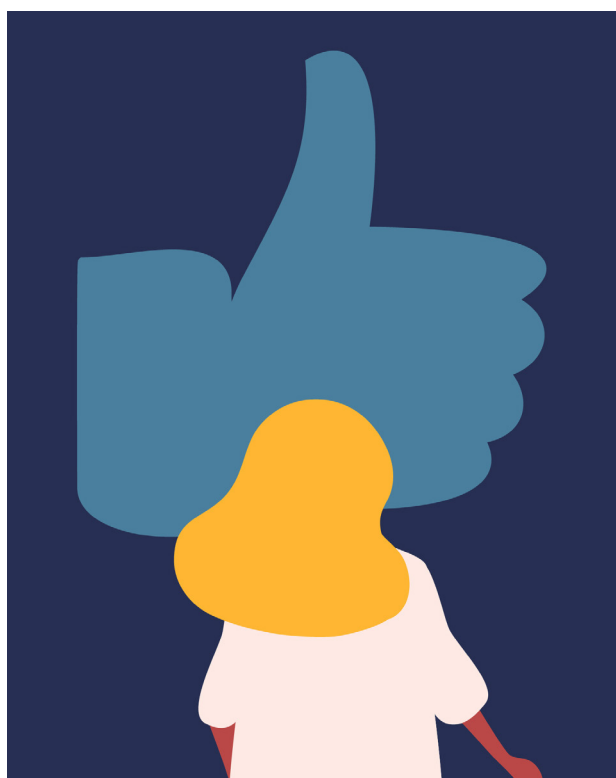
Join us for virtual Torah Study on Saturdays at 10 AM and Mondays at 9 AM.

HAVDALAH

Join us for virtual Havdalah on Saturdays at 6:30 PM.

Zoom links to join the services above can be found at:
JUDEAGABLES.ORG/VIRTUALEVENTS

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. Visit judeagables.org/temple-judea-live.html to stream our latest videos.



"Meaningful moment with mom, baking hamantaschen together for the first time!"
- Cantorial Soloist Jodi Rozental and mom, Bobbi Dorn were two of the many who helped bake hamantaschen for our Purim Color War Drive-Thru. Special thank you to A Caring Touch's Braided Blessings team for all their help this Purim!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CAROLINE MILLER | PRESIDENT@JUDEAGABLES.ORG

What are the benefits of being President of Temple Judea? They are wholly intangible, and very real. Chief among them is the privilege of a deepened understanding of Temple Judea's most precious asset: The people who comprise our community. As President, I work with our staff, our clergy, our lay leaders in close and frequent engagements and discussions. These are people that I have long respected and admired. But now I observe and interact with them in a more complete way, on a range of issues from the mundane – such as how to balance vacation schedules with the needs of our congregation – to worldly complexities out of my comfort zone, such as finance, facilities management and, in the age of Covid and vaccines, epidemiology.

It is exciting to learn new things from our diverse and thoughtful staff, clergy and fellow congregants. And it is comforting to know that Temple Judea's collaborative style of operations and policy-making distributes the burdens and responsibilities of leadership. Crowd-sourcing is much easier when the "crowd" is informed by Jewish values and principles of *pikuach nefesh* and *tikkun olam*.

Here are some recent examples:

- Since last March, Temple Judea has consulted regularly with a learned and thoughtful Pandemic Task Force. Comprised of Temple members with subject-matter expertise in health-related fields, and staff and lay leaders with deep experience of our school and worship operations, the Task Force

has guided us through novel issues related to the ongoing pandemic. Now we have an offshoot, the Vaccine Working Group, that will bring similar thoughtful consideration to issues about the Covid vaccine and what it means for our employment practices, school operation, and reopening process.

- The working life of our beloved temple staff is at the heart of the services, benefits and spiritual support that Temple Judea delivers to members. To ensure that the temple's relationship with our staff is fair, coherent and part of an ongoing covenant of respect and mutual understanding, we have reconstituted and strengthened our Personnel Committee. This Committee is conducting a yearlong review of our employment statements, review practices and personnel handbook.

- Our building, though closed to many pre-Covid activities, remains a critical focus of communal activity. Our Executive Director, maintenance staff, Life Safety Committee



The working life of our beloved temple staff is at the heart of the services, benefits and spiritual support that Temple Judea delivers to members.

and others share responsibility for its current safe and effective operation, and for visionary consideration of our building's future. We know that a post-pandemic building will need modernization and enhancements to the connectivity that has become far more than a luxury. We look to these thoughtful and caring staff and members to help us define what our physical base should be and become.

It is truly a privilege to work and interact with the people carrying out these important initiatives. The warm expressions of support that I receive from you, our members, are welcome messages of love for Temple Judea, and a sustaining reminder of the solid community that joins me in seeking to preserve and strengthen our synagogue.

The Value of Freedom: “No person is free but the one who labors in the Torah”

SENIOR RABBI JUDITH SIEGAL | J.SIEGAL@JUDEAGABLES.ORG



“When Israel was in Egypt land....let My people go. Go down Moses, way down in Egypt land. Tell old Pharaoh to let My people go.”

You probably know this song and likely sing it at your own Passover seder, and it is a favorite at our Temple Judea 2nd Night seder every year. But, if we look carefully at the words in the book of Exodus, there is an important distinction from the song. Each time in Exodus 7:26, 8:16, 9:1, 9:13, and 10:3 when God tells Pharaoh through Moses to let the people go, the text includes the phrase, “so that they may serve me.” This is an important difference than just plain freedom. This is not freedom to do anything they want. This is not freedom from work or from service. It is freedom in order for the people to serve God’s command.

In the Talmud, there is a question of who is greater, the person who does a mitzvah of his/her own free will or the person who does a mitzvah because it is commanded. Most of us would likely answer that the person is greater who does it of their own free will, but Rabbi Hanina has a different answer. He says: “Someone who is commanded to perform a mitzvah and

does so is greater than someone who performs the commandment without being obliged to do so.” We can glean from that the important lesson that for Jews, obligation is held in higher esteem than freedom.

In today’s world, this seems like a hard lesson to live by for us. As Americans, we treasure our freedom. As Jews, we celebrate our freedom which comes with an obligation to do good, to follow God’s ways and to constantly pursue justice. We rejoice that we are not beholden to other human beings and their desires or needs, and that we do have the freedom to worship God and follow the path of the Torah. The freedom we have is a means towards living a purpose-driven and moral, holy life.

This year, as we celebrate our Festival of Freedom/Pesach, we may be grappling with a newfound liberty (I pray) to live a life with more freedom to be physically close to people. Yet, there will still be the obligation to care for those around us. Until most of the population has had the vaccination, it is still going to be important to wear masks, stay physically distant, and not gather in large groups for the risk of getting others sick, even if we have had the vaccine. As Jews, we know this balance between being free and at the same time, obligated. Throughout the pandemic, we have been free to do what we want, but most of us have chosen to stay indoors, stay isolated, stay apart for the safety of ourselves and others.

May this Spring Festival of Passover bring us a sense of autonomy and freedom with the reality of serving others and God in making responsible choices and doing all we can to keep ourselves and our community safe and healthy.

Condemning Antisemitism From Wherever it Comes

RABBI JONATHAN FISCH | J.FISCH@JUDEAGABLES.ORG



Antisemitism has always been around and has reared its ugly face recently in many forms. From the deep holes of the internet, to the atrocities in San Diego and Pittsburgh, hatred towards Israel, her people, and Jews has been on the rise. Over the last few years, I have seen our people become divided over where the most existential threat comes from. Is it the anti-Israel, anti-Zionists and BDS movement coming from the left, or the antisemitic extremists on the political right? The challenge is that no one ever wants to admit that their side is wrong. We must all open our eyes and see that hatred towards the Jews, Israel and antisemitic tropes, wherever they come from, need to be called out. A Jew is not safe while this rhetoric and hatred exists.

How do we combat this challenge? Partner. Petition. Repeat.

Partner - If we want to see 2021 different than previous years, we must partner with organizations that speak up for injustice, speak out against institutions, government officials, organizations and states that tolerate this form of hatred.

In 2017, Ira Forman from the Times of Israel¹ wrote that partnering with national and international

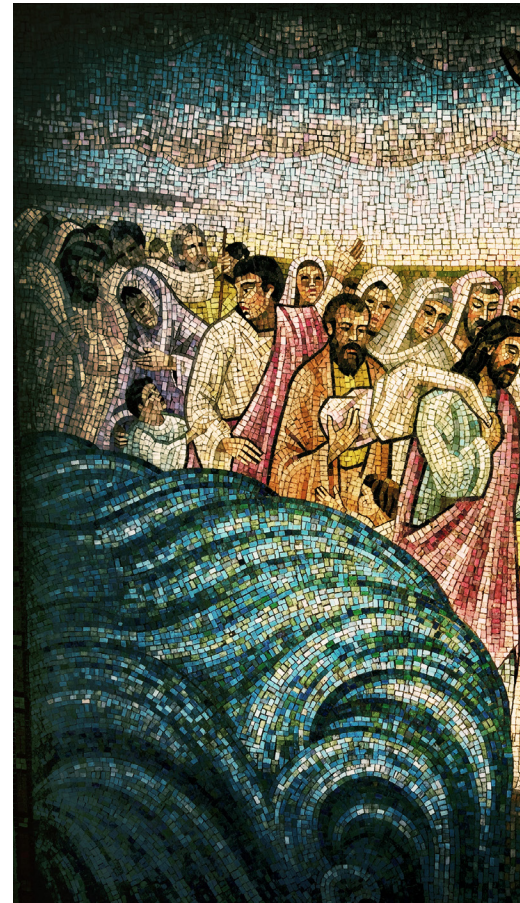
organizations can make a lasting impression. From the Anti Defamation League to American Jewish Committee, and from the Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC), to the Jewish Federations of North America, each organization has the ability to mobilize and support those on the ground who have been assaulted, threatened or whose state officials have spewed hatred. They have the resources and knowledge and ability to not turn a blind eye. How can we make a difference regardless of the side of the aisle we stand on? Supporting these and other institutions like them can help combat the spread of antisemitism.

Please don't get me wrong, you can do more than support financially or with your donation of time to these organizations. We can sign, write, and create programs that petition those who work in our government to stop this hatred. Our collective voices need to be heard. This is a unifying cry for both parties to come together in combat of the oldest hatred that exists, the hatred of the Jewish people.

Petition - Let's petition people on all sides of the party that single out Israel, that single out our Jewish minority. Let's write and focus our attention on making whole the brokenness of our world. Sadly, if we don't speak up for ourselves, who will?

In October of 2020, the US State Department put together an online conference to discuss the challenges of today's world and antisemitism – the Internet. Please visit their website and feel free to watch their videos.² American Jewish Committee also has an excellent online resource for combating antisemitism with top speakers: <https://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2020> and, ADL does as well: <https://www.adl.org/>

One takeaway from this online conference is that both sides, the far left and far right



¹ <https://jewishweek.timesofisrael.com/how-our-jewish-organizations-combat-anti-semitism/>

² <https://2017-2021.state.gov/anti-semitism-conference-2020/framing-the-challenge-triple-threat-far-right-far-left-militant-islam//index.html>

“Our voice heard once is great, but heard multiple times, again and again, that will lead to change. Moses and Abraham taught us to be relentless, to stand up to even the most powerful.”

use the same antics, conspiracy theories, ancient antisemitic tropes and the blatant lies to energize their movement. If we are to stand around and allow this to occur, we are only aiding them in their final goal to belittle, dismantle and destroy the Jewish people and our land. We cannot let this occur. Petition all that you hear is wrong, and vile, and let your voice be heard.

Repeat – Like all skills, we must practice and hone them. Through repetition and focus we can see the outcome we most desire. If you wrote one letter, write another. If you donated money to one organization, can you afford to do it again, or to add

another one to your gifts? I am reminded of the story of Moses who stood up to Pharaoh, not once or twice but ten times, asking for the Jews to go free. Each time he was met with a “No,” he tried something different. Finally the Israelites were freed. His persistence helped free our people, and your persistence will help free us from antisemitism. Abraham’s too, when he argued with God about saving the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. He pleaded with God to find 50, 40, 30, 20 and even 10 people, so as not to destroy the whole town.

Our voice heard once is great, but heard multiple times, again and again, **that** will lead to change. Moses and Abraham taught us to be relentless, to stand up to even the most powerful.



Antisemitism will never go away if we don’t act. 2021 should be the year we call, stand up, write, and donate to help eradicate antisemitism from those who spew it, share it, tweet it, and act on it. Regardless of who you vote for, or where your political leanings are, the far right and far left must be held accountable for their actions against us as Jews and against our land of Israel.

Step one, **Partner**. Step two, **Petition**.
Step three, **Repeat** steps one and two.

help combat the spread of antisemitism

Anti Defamation League

ADL is a leading anti-hate organization. Founded in 1913 in response to an escalating climate of antisemitism and bigotry, its timeless mission is to stop the defamation of the Jewish people, and to secure justice and fair treatment to all.

www.adl.org

Instagram: @adl_national

Facebook: @anti.defamation.league

Twitter: @ADL

American Jewish Committee

AJC is the leading global Jewish advocacy organization, with unparalleled access to government officials, diplomats, and other world leaders. Through these relationships and our international presence, AJC is able to impact opinion and policy on the issues that matter most: combating rising antisemitism and extremism, defending Israel’s place in the world, and safeguarding the rights and freedoms of all people.

www.ajc.org

Instagram: @ajc.global

Facebook: @AJCGlobal

Twitter: @AJCGlobal

Simon Wiesenthal Center

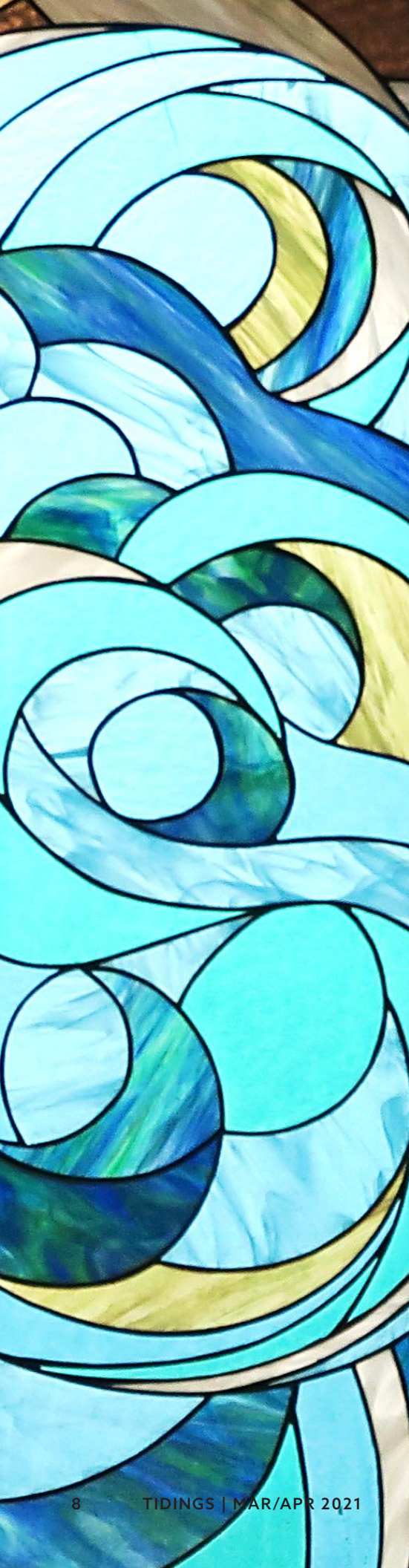
The Simon Wiesenthal Center is a Jewish global human rights organization researching the Holocaust and hate in a historic and contemporary context. The Center confronts anti-Semitism, hate and terrorism, promotes human rights and dignity, stands with Israel, defends the safety of Jews worldwide, and teaches the lessons of the Holocaust for future generations.

www.wiesenthal.com

Instagram: @simonwiesenthalcenter

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A BRIDGE TO TEMPLE JUDEA'S FUTURE

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Join Us!

GIFTS OF \$1,000 AND ABOVE PUBLISHED (UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUESTED). HOWEVER, WE RESPECTFULLY APPRECIATE ALL GENEROUS CAMPAIGN GIFTS RECEIVED TO DATE AS OF 1.4.2021. (*SUMMER SOCIETY MEMBERS DONATED BETWEEN 6.1-8.30).

Building Bridges to the Future

BY TEMPLE JUDEA MEMBER AND RABBINIC ENDOWMENT DONOR, JULIE SIMON

With Amanda Gorman's inspirational Inaugural poem, *The Hill We Climb*, poetry as a way of expression has returned to our American psyche. In fact, Gorman has two books coming out – one in March: the other in September 2021. And both books are currently number one on Amazon's bestseller list! Another poetry anthology, *HOME BODY* by Rupi Kaur, has been on the New York Times' bestseller list for weeks.

When Temple Judea's Past President Joe Greenberg glanced through the last Tidings, he noticed a poetic tagline under the Rabbinic Endowment Campaign headline saying: *A BRIDGE TO TEMPLE JUDEA'S FUTURE*

The line was inspired by a beautiful poem, *The Bridge Builder*, written by Will Allen Dromgoole. While not without controversy, she is best known for *The Bridge Builder* which remains in circulation to this day. This tagline speaks to the heart of Temple Judea's Continuity of

Community Campaign – the only way to ensure the survival of our Temple, our community and Judaism as a whole is to ensure a strong endowment now, building for the future.

You can read the poem in its entirety to the right, but the story is of an old man who successfully struggles to swim across a chasm of "sullen" water. He returns to build a bridge over it. When questioned by fellow pilgrims why, as an old man sure to never cross this way again, he would make this effort, his answer was very clear. A youth was on the road behind the old man who said,

The chasm that has been as naught for me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, *I am building this bridge for him!*

In the same way as this kind-hearted stranger built a bridge to help those that followed him, it is incumbent upon all of us, as Jews and as members of this incredibly close-knit Temple Judea sacred community, to be a part of the Continuity of Community Campaign to raise funds to ensure our Rabbis' futures. If you have not yet donated, or if you would like to increase your donation, please reach out to Danielle Spiegelman at d.spiegelman@judeagables.org.

The Bridge Builder

by Will Allen Dromgoole

An old man going a lone highway,
Came, at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.
Through which was flowing a sullen tide
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
The sullen stream had no fear for him;
But he turned when safe on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with
building here;
Your journey will end with the ending day,
You never again will pass this way;
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,
Why build this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head;
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,
"There followed after me to-day
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me
To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!"



The Rabbinic Endowment Fund

Continuity of Community – Established by Temple Judea, this fund was specifically created to demonstrate Temple Judea's unwavering commitment to protecting our most basic and fundamental spiritual, social, cultural and religious core— our *Continuity of Community* – our rabbinic leadership. Temple Judea regards this endowment as the most sound and dependable opportunity for our families of today, to fulfill their generational promise to our families of tomorrow. Donate today at judeagables.org.



TEMPLE JUDEA
Playing Fore Love
Golf & Tennis Tournament

5.24.21

Golf Co-Chairs Wendy Elkin • Jeff Eisenberg • Michael Gold Women's Tennis Co-Chairs Andrea Potash • Susan Silver
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Hi Everyone!

"We are so excited to be new members of the Temple Judea community. This is a natural home for us with our upcoming return from two decades in New York City! I am a Miami native and my parents, Dale and Stephen Kulvin, as well as my sister and brother-in-law, Leigh and Flip Gassman, are temple members. Billy is a native of Trumbull, Connecticut, although he has been residing and practicing in New York City for over 25 years! He is very excited about all South Florida has to offer.

Jessie, our daughter in 4th grade, and Max, our son in 7th grade, have been attending J-PLEx since the fall. It was the perfect solution for us to integrate the kids into the Judea community before our physical move this summer. Max said that Temple Judea has been an overall great experience so far, which is a rave review for a 7th grader! Since everyone was virtual, they have been able to meet some kids their ages despite being miles away. When I asked them both about their experiences so far, Jessie said that when she thinks of Temple Judea, she thinks "welcoming".

I am a Managing Director at Kayne Anderson Real Estate which is headquartered in Boca Raton, and my husband, Billy, is a physician specializing in ENT and Facial Plastic Surgery.

The entire Portnoy family is very excited to meet the Judea community in the coming months and years. Thank you all for being so incredibly welcoming so far, and we have no doubt the best is yet to come!" - **Karen Kulvin**



Welcome to the Portnoy/Kulvin Family!

MART Conversation with Marra B. Gad

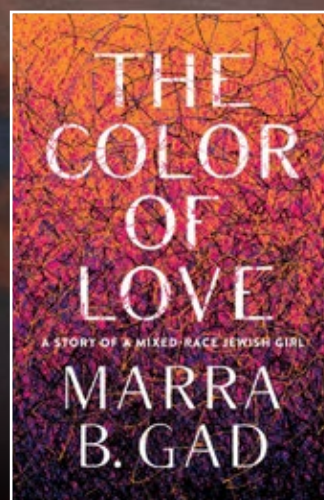
author of "The Color of Love--A Story of
a Mixed Race Jewish Girl," winner of the
2020 Midwest Book Award for Memoir



The joint congregations of MART (Miami Area Reform Temples) are pleased to present this candid conversation with award-winning author Marra B. Gad. Marra will be in conversation with Nancy Ratzan, lawyer and community activist who champions women's rights and social justice. We encourage you to read a copy of Marra's book, "The Color of Love--A Story of a Mixed Race Jewish Girl" before the program.



WEDNESDAY
MARCH 17, 2021
7:30 PM (ET)



Book ordering Information:
www.marrabgad.com/book

Webinar Registration:
<http://tiny.cc/MART2021>



This program is open to members of the sponsoring MART-member synagogues.



Happy Passover!

WISHING YOU ALL THE JOYS OF
THE FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM

FROM YOUR TEMPLE JUDEA
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CLERGY + STAFF

Celebrate Passover with Temple Judea!

Seder 201 with Rabbi Siegal

Thursday, March 18, 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Bringing big questions of today to your family seder.

Register online at judeagables.org/adult-learning.

Annual 2nd Night Congregational Seder | Sunday, March 28, 6 PM

Join Rabbi Siegal, Rabbi Fisch, Cantorial Soloist Jodi Rozental and pianist Jenny Snyder for our 2nd Night Annual Community wide fun-filled, musical, interactive virtual Seder. Be on the lookout for more information.

Passover Family Traditions



Passover is Judaism's most widely observed holidays. Pesach, as it is called in Hebrew, celebrates our people's journey from slavery in Egypt to Freedom, led by Moses, with God doing miracles and wonders to lead them out of persecution and through the parted sea with an outstretched hand. We celebrate our people's freedom through retelling our master narrative at one or two Passover seders, beginning this year on March 27, 2021, with a week long observance of eating matzah, reminding us that our people had to rush out of Egypt so quickly that their bread did not even have time to rise. There are many rituals, customs and traditions that are a part of the Passover celebration, and each family has different ways of observing and keeping these customs. Read below to see how our Temple Judea members have carried on Passover traditions over the years.

"Our family tradition is that we celebrate on the first night of Passover with our son and daughter-in-law and their three girls. We have been unable to celebrate with our daughter and her husband and children since she lives 600 miles away and no one is ever on spring break at that time. This year, since we have become more familiar with Zoom, we hope we can all get together virtually. Probably the most enduring of our traditions is that I have made the same farfel kugel recipe for the past 35 years. It is also "traditional" that I try a new dessert recipe each year!"
- Beverly & Richard Arnold



"For our Passover celebration, we substitute a roasted beet (see red circle) for the shank bone since we are vegetarians. We also use a boiled potato (see blue circle) for karpas to follow the tradition of Asaf's grandparents from Eastern Europe who had difficulty finding greens. Best of all, we love to share the holiday with friends and family and drink a lot of good wine!" - Robyn & Asaf Batelman

"Buying of the Matzah - I love matzah! Each year I go out early to find the big pink Streits box. And for breakfast it's the Israeli chocolate spread and matzah!"
- Sharon Israel Moskovitz



"When I was a kid, we did seder with a few family friends. My older sister and a brother from another family would alternate reading words when it came to their part to lead. It was extremely obnoxious. When they graduated high school and couldn't come back for seder, I filled in the obnoxious reading style with another younger brother. We added our own flare and would read paragraphs backwards and included punctuation. As the years went on, it became a tradition that almost all of the younger generation participates in and it annoys everyone, even us."



"PS- When I told my husband I would be writing about this tradition, his response was 'Oh. I hate that.'" LOL
- Sara Edelman



"Our Seder has been an institution in our family for 71 consecutive years. Unfortunately, we have not met live in person for the last two pandemic years. We are a large family of the original seven brothers and sisters and their mishpacha, most living in the South Florida area.

Throughout the years there were too many family members for one home (some years over 100 people), so we met in a hotel or restaurant. For many years Mitchell Horwich (Sonia and Dick Horwich's son) has been our leader. We share the reading of the Haggadah, the young children ask the four questions and look for the afikomen, and we sing songs, some original to us. The Seder is our Traditional Family Reunion and so we make family reports with updated news."
- Barbara Pallot Katzen

fun fact Passover has many different names in Jewish tradition, such as *Chag HaMatzot*, Festival of Unleavened Bread. Some people also call it *Chag HaHerut*, Festival of Freedom or *Chag HaAviv*, Festival of Spring.

Volunteering at Camp Jenny

At Temple Judea and through JTY, our senior youth group, we strive to give our teens a chance to find their voices and then use them to make a difference in their community and the world. Among the many causes and organizations that our teens work with is a mitzvah project called Camp Jenny.

Camp Jenny is NFTY's Southern Area (SAR) and Southern Tropical Regions' (STR) year-round mitzvah corps project, giving children from an impoverished Atlanta community the opportunity to receive tutoring and support throughout the year which then culminates in a 4-day long camp experience at URJ's Camp Coleman over Memorial Day Weekend. The camp is then staffed by NFTY teen volunteers who apply to serve as counselors, specialists, and leadership staff who plan and execute Camp Jenny.

With COVID-19 continuing to force us to rethink what our programming and youth engagement can look like in a virtual space, Camp Jenny has done a complete 180 in the hopes of still providing meaningful experiences for the students and teen staff. This year Camp Jenny will take place over the span of the full Spring semester, and will be made up of a combination of virtual and in-person programming.

Temple Judea has had many teens throughout the years go and volunteer their time for this wonderful cause, which has changed the lives of the campers and our own teens alike. This year we are so excited to have 8 of our teens volunteering their time throughout the semester to make this year's Camp Jenny experience unforgettable for the students who participate.

Joining the Camp Jenny family this year we have: Abbie Lambert, Andy Kutner, Audrey March, Ben Siegal, Elliot Myers, Julia Kay, Lauren Kay, Sofia Bronstein. I was able to talk to a few of them about their experiences so far, and they wanted to share with the congregation.





We are so proud of the work our teens have done, and continue to do with and for the Camp Jenny community. If you have any questions about Camp Jenny or teen programming at Temple Judea, please email SARAH COTLER at s.cotler@judeagables.org.

What are you most looking forward to about participating in Camp Jenny?

Julia Kay- "Being the source of one of the kid's smiles. Covid has brought so many difficulties in life, and has caused so much of their everyday lives to change, so the fact that I can help to make them feel a little more content or normal brings me joy."

Sofia Bronstein- "I am really looking forward to working with the younger kids and inspiring them to be the most creative versions of themselves."

Why is Camp Jenny important to you?

Audrey March- "Camp Jenny is important to me because it is about helping put smiles on kids' faces and being there for them, but this year it means much more. Sophia Lambert praised and did everything to help Camp Jenny because she loved it, and being a part of it this year makes me feel like I am a tiny part of carrying on her amazing legacy."

What is your favorite aspect of Camp Jenny?

Julia Kay- "My favorite aspect of Camp Jenny is being able to connect with the kids and other teens. I love working with the kids on arts and crafts activities and seeing their creativity."

Audrey March- "My favorite aspect of Camp Jenny is being able to meet new people from different places and make new friends."

What do you hope to gain during your experience volunteering with Camp Jenny?

Sofia Bronstein- "I hope to gain a connection with people from around the US through CJ and to have more experience working with young kids."

Julia Kay- "During my experience while working with Camp Jenny this year, I hope to gain a better understanding on how to connect with children and people in general over virtual communication."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MARSHA BOTKIN

marshabot@gmail.com

"TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE"

It's just about one year ago (March 12) when I received the early morning phone call from then temple President Gary Matzner that the WTJ Progressive Dinner set for March 14 would need to be postponed because of the Covid Pandemic. After all, once the NBA cancelled their season, we realized this was serious!! We already had the chicken in the freezers at the temple and then next thing we knew we had to pivot to a new date in October by which we were sure that the pandemic would be behind us. We know how that worked out! We notified all 175 people coming to the dinner and hoped for everyone to remain safe. Thank you to Elyssa Lewis, Jen Posner, Sharon Goldman, Heather Sosler, and many others. In the end, as the pandemic is still not over, the chicken was used wisely: it was cooked and became food for people most in need. The Progressive Dinner coffee, which comes with a fancy serving cart, was served to everyone who came to the "Mitzvah, Miracles and Munchies" Chanukah Drive-By.

Our progressive dinner "progressed" to a new experience including wine, cheese, fruits, desserts, and more surprises. Thanks again to Elyssa, Jen, Sharon, Michael Bittel, Rabbi Siegal, Rabbi Fisch, and Cantorial Soloist Jodi Rozental for helping to create another magical evening. Even though we weren't together in person, our traditional Progressive Dinner will be long remembered as a very special event.

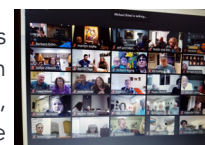
This is why I am so proud to be involved in WTJ. We are a dynamic organization strengthened by over 190 women. You can look forward to more programs in the next few months all here to provide support for Temple Judea.

Progressive Dinner

The Progressive Dinner 2.0 took place March 6, via Zoom, at 7 PM. It featured a musical Havdalah service with our amazing Temple Judea Clergy, wine tasting with Michael Bittel of Sunset Corners, and a decadent display of cheese and dessert by Sharon Goldman Events. The evening was sure to be one to remember!



All food that was ordered for the original event was cooked by members of WTJ and then donated, in coordination with the Temple Judea Soup Kitchen, to people facing food insecurity during these strange times. We are grateful to all Progressive Dinner participants for making this possible. More details about what that involved can be found in other stories in this WTJ section of Tidings.



Board Member Spotlight:

Alexis Brodie

"When we moved from NYC to Coconut Grove in 2014, we needed to find a preschool for my daughter and to make some friends. We found both at Temple Judea and the Margaux School! six years later, my son is now in his last year of the Margaux School, and we have made some of our best friends through the Judea community. As a parent at the school, I became involved in the Early Childhood Committee, which I now co-chair. That led to my involvement in WTJ as the preschool liaison. It's been so wonderful getting to know the women of WTJ and becoming ingrained in a whole new facet of Temple Judea."

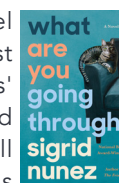


Book Club

The book of the month of March is Yaa Gyasi's novel *Homegoing*, which was discussed on March 10. Gyasi's *Homegoing* takes place three centuries earlier and in Ghana. Its theme, which may seem familiar to those who read *The Vanishing Half*, is the divergence of the life paths of two half-sisters; but in this case they grow up in different villages and don't know each other. One marries an Englishman and goes on to a life with many luxuries, while the other is captured in a raid in her village and lives through a strikingly different reality.



On Wed. April 14 we will discuss Sigrid Nunez's brief novel *What Are You Going Through*. This book was named a best book of 2020 by NPR and was also a New York Times Critics' top book of 2020. The narrator's meditation on life and connection is occasioned by a request from a terminally ill friend. Her narrative is, as one review states, "as luminous as it is deep."



WTJ Community Service

The WTJ community service team & Marilyn Mittentag put together 42 Shalach Manot bags for South Dade JCS families for Purim. The children in the Pre-K classes at the Margaux school decorated the bags and the community service team filled them with goodies!



A team of WTJ volunteers cooked, packaged and delivered 200 individual meals to Christ Episcopal Church in Coconut Grove on December 8th. The church has been delivering meals to needy individuals within the community since the closing of the soup kitchen at the beginning of the pandemic. The cooking team, led by our very own Sharon Goldman, prepared the meals using ingredients that had been purchased for the postponed Progressive Dinner. The WTJ community service team coordinated the packing and delivery for this amazing mitzvah. We want to thank our incredible volunteers for the platting of this food: Vicki Busch, Shona Blonsky, Leanne Rutter Arnold, Sharon Goldman, and Nan Markowitz. A big thank you again to Sharon Goldman, Emily Demar, and Judi Katzen for cooking the meals.

The Community Service team was able to continue to supply monthly meals to Casa Valentina residents the first Tuesday of each month throughout the pandemic. They continue their efforts and are very excited that they can start to resume home cooked meals instead of store bought starting February 2021.

The Community Service team was happy to organize Seder in a Box, a Passover initiative that intended to support the 42 Jewish families in South Dade served by the Kosher Food Bank. Our goal was for our temple community to provide Seder in A Box for all 42 families. Each package contained a box of matzos, soup mix, gefilte fish, horseradish, canned veggies, fresh apples, passover cake, grape juice and a grocery gift card, as well as hand made notes and items from the preschool and religious school students.

The Temple Judea community responded incredibly fast with donations of \$36 that each funded a one family "Seder in a bag" and with donations of \$10 grocery gift cards to be added to the passover packages. Specific Passover items have been purchased from a Target Wish List.

WTJ is happy to announce that thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our Temple Judea community we made Seder in a Box available for 100 families instead of the 42 we initially envisaged to help. We are beyond grateful to you all!

ARE YOU LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED IN A WTJ COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE? We would love your help to broaden our efforts and reach! Please reach out to the team for more details! **HEATHER SOSLER** at hsosler@gmail.com, **LEANNE RUTTER ARNOLD** at benali2@gmail.com or **REBECCA LAGO** at rebeccalago@gmail.com



Family Cooking Class

Join WTJ for a Passover Family Cooking Class with Miriam Grossman Rodriguez!

Grab your kids and let's make chocolate chip macaroons via Zoom.

We will learn how to make something special for our Passover table on March 21st at 2 pm. You will receive the recipe after registration.

Please register by emailing ssherard33@gmail.com by Thursday, March 18th.



Gift Shop Event

Ready for Passover?
WTJ and our Gift Shop are here to help.

We will have a limited supply of essential Passover items available for you to shop from through Shul Cloud. Use this direct link, www.judeagables.org/form/passover-gift-shop-sale-2021.html

If you are looking for items not included in the sale form please contact Jessica Kornfeld at WTJGiftShop@gmail.com for help.

Orders can be placed until March 17. Pickup instructions and details will be emailed once an order is placed.



Generation to generation

BY TEMPLE JUDEA MEMBER AND MARGAUX SCHOOL GRANDPARENT, VICKI EINHORN

We all remember the sitcom, “Cheers,” with the theme song, “Where everybody knows your name, and they’re always glad you came” — Right?

That warm, welcoming sentiment immediately comes to mind when I think of the Margaux preschool. After my first in-person Shabbat, Mikki always remembered that I was “Dylan’s Mimi.” I am so happy to say that my grandsons are thriving from the nurturing atmosphere one feels the minute they step foot into this special little corner of the world. I miss the days, pre-COVID of course, when I would drop off or pick up Dylan and Brady. My little guys always had a cute comment about the security guard as they walked past the familiar police car. The presence of Mikki as we entered through the security gate, with a welcoming smile and personal greeting for each child, was heartwarming. The boys were always excited to arrive and see what experience was awaiting them for the day. These days, when I pick them up in carpool, that Margaux team spirit still shines through. I love the friendly warmth of their teachers. As they buckle them into the carseat, from behind their masks, they always share a sweet positive comment about the boys’ day. Everything about the atmosphere feels so COVID safe; they follow all the rules and have it down perfectly. The latest rules of COVID safety guidelines have always been communicated between staff and parents.

I always looked forward to “Grandparent Shabbat” and birthdays in the classroom, as we were able to do pre-COVID. The awesome creative staff has figured out a way to still make Shabbat and birthdays available to parents and grandparents through zoom. Neil and I love being a fly on the wall through our computer screen to see our boys. Rabbi Siegal, Rabbi Fisch and Miss Jenny step into their classrooms through technology, and still make Shabbat special. Our clergy is so talented and always inclusive with the parents and grandparents.



The teachers in each class are busy keeping the children engaged as they prepare for a Zoom Shabbat. It is a beautiful sight seeing those joyful smiles from our Rabbis and Jenny as they kick off Shabbat with a story and familiar songs, spreading enthusiasm about Shabbat. Watch out though, you never know when Rabbi Fisch may ask you to show off your best dance moves to one of Miss Jenny’s fun Shabbat songs.

B'NAI MITZVAH

REED GERSHMAN



Reed Gershman is in 7th grade at Ransom Everglades School. He loves to play basketball, golf, video games, and the trumpet. He enjoys spending time with his brothers, hanging out with his friends, and playing with his dog and two cats. Reed

is grateful for his family and friends, that he lives in Miami, and that he has been a member of Temple Judea his whole life. He has participated in the Young Lion of Judah program through the Federation, which educates kids before their Bar Mitzvahs about the Holocaust. He was paired with David Schaecter and learned about his experiences during the Holocaust. For Reed, being Jewish means that we must always remember our history and learn from it, so that we can help the world become a better place. Going forward, Reed will continue to volunteer with his family and be an active member at Temple Judea.

ELLA PANN

Ella Pann attends Sunrise School of Miami and is in the 8th grade. Some of her many interests include art, reading, and swimming. Ella is grateful for her family, her friends, and her school. To Ella, becoming a Bat Mitzvah means committing herself to Judaism. For her mitzvah project, she is painting



recycled glass jars and bottles, selling them, and donating the money to charity. Her future plans for connecting with Judaism and Temple Judea include volunteering to teach younger students who are preparing for their B'nai Mitzvahs.

B'NAI MITZVAH FLASHBACK

"Always a performer, I enjoyed chanting my Torah portion in front of family and friends. But I most remember the party - Peace, Love and Happiness at Haley's



Bat Mitzvah! Candle lighting ceremony to celebrate loved ones, colorful tie dye t-shirts for party favors, lots of dancing and stations of delicious food including fondue for dessert."

- Haley Gordon Karl



"My Bar Mitzvah was in Buffalo, NY on May 18, 1957. My Haftorah was a portion of Bechukotai. The B'nai Mitzvot of today do far more liturgy than I did and are uniformly impressive. They also are committed to other important tasks - service

projects and good deeds, for starters. How great! My party was very understated. Friday night dinner at home with family and friends, and bowling with friends on Sunday. I made it very clear to my parents that I was not interested in having a party on Saturday night or some kind of shindig. My parents understood that I knew what I wanted and acquiesced to my request. You don't see anything like this today. In fact, you may not have seen anything like this back in my day!"

- David Mesneko

MEMBER CHAI-LIGHTS

DYAN & LARRY DANNHEISSER

What year did you join Temple Judea and what brought you to Temple Judea? In 1997, we moved over from Temple Shir Ami.



What is your occupation? Dyan was a former art teacher and now works with Larry in his Podiatry Practice.

What is your favorite Jewish holiday & why? Dyan: Rosh Hashana, the start of a new year; Larry: Passover which celebrates freedom.

What is the best or worst Chanukah gift you have ever received? We are always grateful for any gift.

Describe your perfect Sunday: Visiting with family.

What is your earliest memory at Temple Judea? We accompanied friends to Judea when we were not yet members, for a 5th grade service that our daughter's friend participated in. It was followed with a dinner of Pollo Tropical.....something we had never had!

If you could have a Shabbat dinner with anyone who has passed away or is living, who and why? Larry: my grandfathers because I never remembered them speaking of life in a shtetl and coming to America. Dyan: Elie Wiesel. How could someone be so inspirational in his writings after enduring such tragedy during the Holocaust?

If you had your Bar/Bat Mitzvah, what would you tell your 13-year-old (or age at B'nai mitzvah) self today? Larry: Really enjoy the moment; it will only happen once in a lifetime.

Is there a question you would like to ask the rabbis? Can you explain if and why Jews believe there is an afterlife?

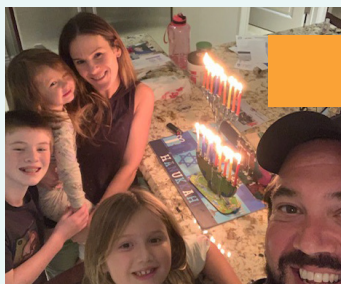
MAZAL TOV!

Mazal Tov to Harvey and Jan Yelen Sasso on the birth of their grandson, Simon Franklin Heller.

Mazal Tov to our accompanist Jenny Snyder and Daniel Rocha on their marriage.

Mazal Tov to Angela and Jeffrey Ritter on the birth of their grandson, Oliver Ritter.

Mazal Tov to Sara Edelman and Michael Polatsek on their marriage



WHY TEMPLE JUDEA?

“ When we first moved to Miami eight years ago, we looked for a nice Jewish preschool to put our son in. Temple

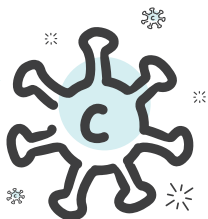
Judea felt warm and loving. It seemed to check all the boxes. Jill Band gave Amanda a tour and from there we were hooked. We've met our best friends here, as have our kids. Our daughters were both born into this synagogue and spent many days crawling around the social hall floors while we prepared and planned for events or had committee meetings. Our kids are growing up here. We've celebrated the birth and baby naming of our daughter, Skylar, here.

Temple Judea was the first place we encountered in our new, strange city that felt like we belonged. We were instantly welcomed and encouraged to be involved. Our friends in this synagogue include the peers who are our age, as well as some older than our parents and we love them all. Everyone here embraces each other and creates a sense of respect, love and community. We know that if we ever needed anything, our Temple Judea family would be there without us even needing to ask, and we would do the same for any of our Temple Judea family. From the members to the staff, there is no place warmer or more welcoming. So “Why Temple Judea?” Simply put - because it is our home and there is no place better.

BY AMANDA TILLMAN
MEMBER SINCE 2013



TEMPLE JUDEA'S COVID-19 EMERGENCY MITZVAH FUND



The COVID-19 Emergency Mitzvah Fund has been established by concerned congregants of Temple Judea. The purpose of this fund is to assist current Temple Judea members and their immediate family, in obtaining relief from financial hardship caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, whether due to illness, caring for an ill person, loss of job or other economic hardship.

Temple Judea recognizes that often it is hard to ask for help. But we are your community, and we are here for you in good times and in the more challenging ones.

Thus, in order to better assess individual needs and, in an effort to create a clear path to potential assistance, all those who seek financial resources from the COVID-19 Fund are asked to please submit a written or electronic request providing pertinent information.

Please address all requests to: COVID-19 Emergency Mitzvah Fund, Rabbi Judith L. Siegal, Temple Judea, 5500 Granada Boulevard, Coral Gables, Florida 33146. Or you may email to Rabbi Siegal at j.siegal@judeagables.org or Rabbi Fisch at j.fisch@judeagables.org. All requests shall be kept confidential to respect and protect the privacy of our applicants. If you have any questions, please email Rabbi Siegal or Rabbi Fisch.

Our tradition teaches us in numerous ways to care for the poor among us, as it says in Deuteronomy 15:7, "If there is among you a poor person, one of your kin, in any of your towns within your land which God gives you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against them, but you shall open your hand to them, and lend them sufficient for their needs, whatever they may be." Therefore, we will always have the obligation to look after and care for those who need our support.

As a Kehillah Kedosha during these challenging times, there will be people among our members who lose jobs, lose salaries and are in need of help, perhaps for the first time. We are here for our community to help in any way that we can. We are grateful to donors who give to help support those who are struggling during this time.

Temple Judea welcomes the continued support of our community through directed donations in support of this fund. If you wish to donate to the COVID-19 Emergency Mitzvah Fund, you can do so by visiting JUDEAGABLES.ORG/PAYMENT.PHP

APPLICATION REVIEWPROCESS: COVID-19 EMERGENCY MITZVAH FUND

A committee made up of Temple Judea's two rabbis, and an officer as designated by its President, shall decide the amount and recipients of distributions from the fund, by majority vote of the committee. Please note that recipients may not include any donor to the Fund, or any member of the committee or their respective immediate family members.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

MIAMI'S JEWISH COMMUNITY IS HERE TO HELP Jewish Community Services has quickly adapted to meet the changing and challenging needs of the community. Loss of employment, underemployment and school closure led to an increase in the amount of food needed by existing and new clients. Seniors dependent on Meal Sites were added to the Meals on Wheels program. If you or someone you know is in need of emergency counseling, financial assistance, food, bereavement support, domestic abuse assistance or help facing other challenges, call 305.576.6550 for guidance and support. Operated by Federation's partner agency, Jewish Community Services of South Florida (JCS), this confidential helpline is open 24/7 every day of the year.

Congregants who would like to support the efforts of JCS to assist our seniors, Holocaust Survivors and Kosher Food Bank may visit JCSFL.ORG/DONATE. Every donation, no matter how small, is greatly appreciated.

EMERGENCY CORONAVIRUS FINANCIAL IMPACT LOAN

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, the Hebrew Free Loan Association (HFLA) of Miami, a Federation program, is providing interest-free emergency loans to qualified Jewish borrowers in need in Miami-Dade County. The emergency loans of \$1,000 can help with expenses related to the pandemic, such as lost wages due to being unable to go to work, childcare costs due to school closures, related medical expenses and more. For more information, visit their website at HEBREWLOAN.ORG/WEB/LOANS/.

JEWISH VOLUNTEER CENTER

JVC needs volunteers to make telephone reassurance calls to Jewish seniors in our community. These calls are intended as a friendly check in and a well-being check. Volunteers will receive a list of names, a script to guide the conversation and a link to an online needs-assessment survey to document each call. Based on survey answers, seniors will be linked to services in the community. Register online or contact Lori Tabachnikoff, Director, Jewish Volunteer Center, 305.680.9353.

CAROL MAGIDSON MEDICAL INSURANCE FUND

Established by David Magidson along with family and friends in memory of Carol Magidson, this fund assists uninsured Temple Judea members and their immediate family/ families in obtaining one year of medical insurance coverage.

TRIBUTES

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support Temple Judea by remembering and honoring loved ones and friends through generous contributions

ANN AND VICTOR REITER ART FUND

A donation to this fund has been made
by Amy and James Reiter

B'NAI MITZVAH DIRECTOR DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of Ruby Pelz's Bat Mitzvah
by Ellen and Mark Friedman

BURGER FAMILY HIGH HOLY DAYS YOUTH SERVICE & CULTURAL ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Tracy Labenburg
In memory of Susan Pickard
In memory of Cheryl Stern
by Sandee Burger

In memory of Carole Horowitz
In memory of Sophia Lambert
In memory of Randi Robbins
In memory of Phyllis Yanks
by Sandee Burger, Michele, and Susan

CANTORIAL SOLOIST ROZENTAL'S MITZVAH FUND

In appreciation of recovering from Covid
by Janine and Ralph Balkin

In honor of Shara Pelz
In honor of Nicole Zimelman
by Marilyn and Norm Goldberg

With great appreciation for Jodi Rozental
by Vicki and Hardy Katz

In memory of Sophia Lambert
by Joel Moskowitz

With great appreciation for Jodi Rozental
making Ruby's Bat Mitzvah so special
by Shara and Danny Pelz

In memory of Susan Pickard
by Robert Pickard

In memory of Clifford M. Stein
by Adriana Pinheiro-Stein and Michael
Stein

In loving memory of Oneida Eduarte
by Rosanna Weber

In loving memory of Carole Linda
Horowitz
by Susie, Bo, Zack, and Sam Ashbel
by Ellen and Ted Bayer
by Fran and Larry Blum
by Marsha and Leon Botkin
by Gail and Gerald Breslauer
by Barbara Bulbin
by Abbey Chase and Manny Palgon
by Kate Meyers and Jonathan Etra
by Rose and Joe Falowitz
by Annabelle and Eli Feinberg

by Susan and Dr. Alfred Feingold
by Jen Posner and Josh Gelfman
by Marilyn and Norm Goldberg
by Michelle and Steve Goldish
by Marcia Hackel
by Ossie and Harry Hanauer
by Irene and Morrie Hollander
by Maxine Horowitz
by Francine Horwich and David Weinstein
by Arlene and Michael Jacobson
by BioAgilytix Labs
by Ann G. Keusch
by Sandra Koppell
by Donna Levine
by Lola and Sheldon London
by Marilyn Mittenag and David Magidson
by Madalyn Mann and Robert Goldszer
by Gail Meyers
by Boni and Larry Perl
by Melanie, Seth, Samantha, and
Ross Rosen
by Lori and Rick Salzman
by Phyllis and Richard Sandrow
by Linda and Bob Spiegelman
by Suzanne and Richard Steinbook
by Carolyn and Brian Swett
by Marjorie K. Wilkoff
by Jessie Wolfson

CAROL MAGIDSON MEDICAL INSURANCE FUND

In memory of Susan Pickard
by Laura, Richard, and Dana Simon
by Kathy and Ted Weiss

COLLEGE FUND

In loving memory of Sophia Lambert
by Lynn Beam

COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND

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by Judy Rosenblum

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by Bernice and Leslie Roth

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by Dr. James G. Schwade

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In memory of Susan Pickard
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by Jane Levin

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by Irina Dumitrescu and Irvin Lustig

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In memory of Shelley Lynn Stern
by Stefanie and Evan Reed

In memory of Tracy Pontes Labenburg
by Danielle and Marc Spiegelman

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In memory of Stephen Indianer
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In honor of Sonya and Richard Horwich's Anniversary
by Dieudonne Cherubin

In memory of Dorothy Kaplan
by Edwin Ginsburg

In appreciation of Rabbi Siegal
by Janet Katz

In honor of their granddaughter,
Alex Krischer's Bat Mitzvah
by Miriam and Steve Krischer

With great appreciation for Rabbi Siegal
making Ruby's Bat Mitzvah so special
by Shara and Danny Pelz

In memory of Susan Pickard
by Robert Pickard

In celebration of the birth of Simon Franklin
Heller, grandson of Jan Yelen Sasso and
Harvey Sasso
by Miriam Grossman Rodriguez and
Pedro Rodriguez

In loving memory of Randi Robbins
by Louise Ross and Bruce Wolf

In honor of Morgan B. Shapiro's Bar Mitzvah
by Maritza and Scott Shapiro

In honor of Ruby Pelz's Bat Mitzvah
by Susan and Steven Kobetz
by Ronnie and Arnie Ginsberg

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By Ellen and Jim Barocas
by Laura Bonn Simon and Richard Simon
by Melanie and Rabbi Edwin Goldberg
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In appreciation of Rabbi Fisch
by Janet Katz

With great appreciation for Rabbi Fisch
by Vicki and Hardy Katz

In memory of Nathan Mesnekoff
by Faith and David Mesnekoff

In memory of Susan Pickard
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by Mom & Shelly

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In honor of the marriage of
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by Susan and Dr. Alfred Feingold

In memory of Carole Horowitz
by Pearl Kaplus

In loving memory of Sophia Lambert
by Michelle Lee
by Cynthia and Kenneth Weiss

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Wendy Robbins on the loss
of her sister, Randi Robbins.

Condolences to Julie and Lawrence
Lambert on the loss of their daughter
Sophia, sister to Abbie and Sydney.

Condolences to Nissa (Lee) Mesnekoff
on the loss of her mother, Carol Linda
Horowitz, grandmother to Ben.

Condolences to Vicki (Hardy) Katz on the
loss of her sister, Carol Linda Horowitz.

Condolences to Karla Ebenbach
(Dr. Edward Gross) on the loss of her
uncle, James Coan.

Condolences to Nina and Paul Indianer on
the loss of Stephen Indianer.

Condolences to Mary Frank on the loss
of her mother Frances Kolarek. Frances is
survived by her only daughter Mary and her
adoring son-in-law, Howard Frank.

Condolences to Michael (Adriana) Stein
on the loss of his father Clifford M. Stein,
grandfather to Josh, Rachel, Skyler and
Luna Stein.

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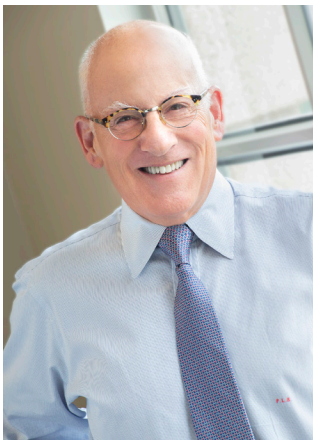
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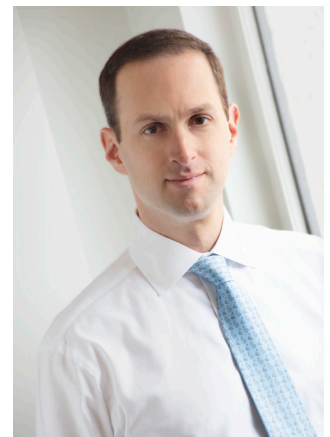


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