contemporary

Congregation Olam Tikvah www.olamtikvah.org 3800 Glenbrook Road Fairfax, Virginia 22031



Volume 57, Number 1 January 1, 2020

What would you like to learn in January?

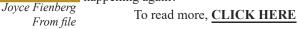
From Hate to Hope Men's Club Winter Brunch. Sunday. January 19

From 2forseder blog:

On October 27, 2018, the bottom fell out of my world. After hours of waiting and worrying, the worst thing possible happened —my wonderful mother-in-law, Joyce Fienberg,was one of the 11 murdered at the Tree of Life synagogue while she prayed as she did every Shabbat. The weeks that followed were the most difficult of my family's life—Joyce was the glue that kept our extended family together.

During our Shiva (week of mourning), we were held up by thousands of people, both family and strangers, Jews and non-

Jews. The outpouring of love and support still gets me through each day. What I heard over and over was, "How can I help?" At first, I thought they meant, "How can I help you get through this sorrow?"—something you typically say to a mourner. After a while, though, I realized they were also saying, "How can I help prevent this agony from happening again?"



Men's Club is honored to welcome Marnie Fienberg as the speaker for our winter brunch.

An OT member, Marnie is

co-founder of 2 for Seder, an international initiative piloted last year across North America, and inspired by the kindness and generosity of her mother-in-law, Joyce Fienberg, one of the victims of the Pittsburgh shooting.



Marnie speaks at North Shore Jewish Center, Tisha B'Av 2019 From 2 For Seder FB page.

Marnie and 2 for Seder encourage individual actions to fight back against anti-Semitism by engaging with our neighbors and building bridges of support.



To register, CLICK HERE

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend January 24-26

Friday, January 24

5:45pm, Service and Dinner

8:15pm, Lecture:

"Light and Darkness: Seeking God's Presence, Wrestling with God's Absence"

Dinner: \$30

Saturday, January 25

9:30am, Service and D'var:

"Prayer for Agnostics"

Post-Lunch Discussion:

"He Shall Sit in Silence: Why is There No Complaint in Prayer?"

Lunch: No fee

Sunday, January 26

9:00am, Shacharit Service

9:45am, Brunch & Talk:

"The Mindful Approach to Tallit and Tefillin"

Brunch: \$15 prepaid or \$18 at the door

To register, CLICK HERE

We look forward to learning at OT about God's presence, prayer, and ritual throughout our Scholar in Residence weekend, January 24-26, with Rabbi Dr. Eliezer Diamond



Rabbi Dr. Eliezer Diamond is the author of numerous books and chapters on rabbinic culture, the rabbinic period, prayer, asceticism, and ethics. He is currently editing a commentary on *Yerushalmi Pesahim* written by the late Professor Louis Ginzberg, as well as a book on prayer.

The prayer volume will address the problem of cognitive dissonance for the contemporary worshipper and will offer readings of traditional liturgy that use midrashic methodology to find meaning and relevance in these prayers for the modern Iew

Dr. Diamond has taught in a variety of settings, including Stern College, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, the 92nd Street Y, and several Ramah camps. Dr. Diamond was ordained at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University and received his doctorate in Talmud from JTS.

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OUR 16TH ANNUAL MISHLOACH MANOT FUNRAISER

And still going...

One of the mitzvot of Purim is to give bags of delicious treats to friends and neighbors.

This is called Mishloach Manot.

Once again our volunteers are making it easier for you to fulfill this mitzvah. At the same time, Olam Tikvah will benefit from your generosity.

Shortly, you will receive a Mishloach Manot Packet in the mail, explaining how to order your Purim greetings and bags.

The bags will be filled with yummy goodies and delivered by volunteers.

There are some delivery restrictions, which will be explained in your Mishloach Manot Packet.



In your packet you will also find a flyer explaining how to purchase extra bags for non-OT friends and family.

If you have not received your Misloach Manot Packet by early February, or if you have any question, please call the Main Office, 703-425-1880.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Anne, Brenda, Joanne



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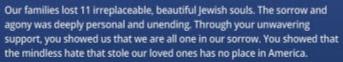
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Open Letter

We, the families of the Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting, want to thank you for your support and love over the past year.



Thank you for showing us that we are one Community - one Jewish, one interfaith, one Pittsburgh, one country, and one world. We are truly stronger together.

With love from the families of:

Joyce Fienberg **Richard Gottfried** Rose Mallinger Jerry Rabinowitz

Cecil Rosenthal **David Rosenthal Bernice Simon** Sylvan Simon

Daniel Stein Melvin Wax **Irving Younger**





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In February the OT Assistant Rabbi Search Process Begins

By Michelle Pearlstein, Search Committee Chair, and Rabbi David Kalender

This summer, we will say goodbye to Rabbi Ravski as he completes his wonderful five-year tenure as our rabbi and friend. Stay tuned for farewell plans in June.

Because some of you are familiar with the search process and others are not, we appreciate the chance to share the roadmap we will follow over the coming months.

The Roadmap

The Search Committee has been working hard for a few months and will guide us through this vigorous and energizing process. The Committee has focused on completing an extensive questionnaire (designed by the Joint Placement Commission of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Rabbinical Assembly) about OT, for use by potential candidates. This document requires us to deeply consider who we are and what kind of community we aspire to be. Therefore, the transition becomes an opportunity for self-assessment and evaluation of where we are on the paths we have chosen.

The questionnaire requests data—how many people come to various services, who leads them, how many children are in our various schools, what does the youth program look like, what is in our adult study and social action programs, and what are our demographic trends? It's a great exercise to study the metrics, so that we truly understand the reality and don't just have 'a sense of things.'

At the same time, the transition allows us to consider our aspirations. In what ways do we want to grow our congregation? Is there a particular segment of the congregation that needs new or special attention? Is there an unserved population within (or outside of) OT? Are there communal challenges to be addressed, distinct elements that must be protected? And how do we imagine a new rabbi will help us achieve those goals?

It is critical that we ask these questions periodically, so that we never become a community that does what it does because 'that's how we did it last year.'

Olam Tikvah is a kehillah k'doshah—a sacred community—because we look simultaneously and profoundly into tradition, our contemporary experience and our dreams for the future. This transition helps us chart a course that draws us closer to a life of spiritual growth, supportive community, intellectual heights, and joy, in a thoughtful and intentional fashion.



OT rabbis meet at 2017 AIPAC National Rabbinic Symposium **L-R**, Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon; Rabbi Ita Paskind; Rabbi David Kalender; Rabbi Evan Ravski

The Search Committee is chaired by Michelle Pearlstein, our 3rd Vice-President. The committee is charged with the task of identifying the qualities and abilities the next Assistant Rabbi should have to respond to the needs of OT, and to assess the ability of each candidate to provide these attributes.

Selected to represent a cross section of the OT community, the Committee includes Jeff Borenstein, Arnold Golub, Walt Meyer, Naomi Saad, Sara Silverman, and Judy Werbel. The committee is completing the questionnaire described above. It will also help prepare a set of our own questions, for the soon-to-be ordained-candidate interviews in New York, at JTS.

OT President Brittanie Werbel will join us in the 2nd week of February to interview the graduates. There we will extend invitations to visit for the weekends of February 21 and 28, and March 6, 14, and 21. We don't anticipate bringing in five rabbis, but those are the national dates for visits.

Weekend Visits

On those weekends, there will be multiple opportunities to engage with the candidates during services, a D'var Torah, and a study session. Each candidate will also meet with selected members of the OT Board, professional staff, and the Search Committee, whose members will also manage the logistics of each visit.

Additionally, and critically, there will be a process for the OT membership to provide feedback on the candidates, so that the Committee and Rabbi Kalender will be able to make a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

There will be more details about the visits as they draw near. In the meantime, there is a dedicated email address, so if you have questions, please send them to rabbisearch@olamtikvah.org.

Looking forward to an exciting month.

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Around Olam Tikvah

From Our Hearts

Kiddush Sponsors

Thank you for your donations to the Kiddush Fund, in honor of your January anniversaries.

January 3-9

Anna & Lenny Gottesman; Sharon & Joshua Yungshten (45)

January 10-16

Cynthia & Mark Rutzick; Rochelle & David Salzman (45); Barbara & Carl Villarruel (20)

January 17-23

Lori & David Jacobs; Barbara & Seth Kaplan (18); Joan & Howard Katz; Nancy & Jeffrey Klain; Bonnie & David Massarik; Paula & Mitchell Weiss; Gail & Henry Wolf

January 24-30

Natalie & Julian Levine; Wendy & Joseph Rosner; Rita & Howard Schlossberg

Thank you to Shari Boyett and Linda Meyer, for making anniversary calls.

Mazal Tov

We wish a hearty mazal tov to...

Sally Amster & Augie Arnstein, on the marriage of their son, Ben Arnstein, to Leila Cutler

Rachel & Philip Blumenthal, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Seth Jill Borak and David Borak, on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Addie Ellen & Mike Hilert, on the birth of their grandson, Elias Samuel, son of Deborah Hilert & Aaron Kreiswirth

Livia & Harold Jacob, on the birth of their grandson, Oliver Levi Rigberg, son of Dori & Ken Rigberg

Toni Glickman and John Leinhardt, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Bruno

Rochelle & David Salzman, on the engagement of their son, Andrew, to Rachel Stahl

Halli & Ben Weiner, on the birth of their son

Condolence

We acknowledge the passing of ... Lois Gamerman, mother of Gary Gamerman Fay Silverman, mother of Davida Kashdan



ISRAEL RETURNEES TRIP NOVEMBER 11-19, 2020

Informational Meeting Sunday, January 26, noon

Questions:

Rabbi Kalender at dkalender@olamtikvah.org



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Annual Campaign

IN MEMORY OF

Edith Krantzman, by Elizabeth A. Segal

Capital Improvement Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Bernice Kaufman, by Anita & Steve Dienstfrey Jack Klevan, by Marcy & Michael Marcus

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Fred Benoff, by Deedy & Ed Eisenson

Comfort & Condolence Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Bernice Kaufman, by Neil Schlussel; Sandy & Al Gabriel

Edith Krantzman,

by Merle, Michael, and Adam Toobin Jackie Liebert, grandmother of our daughter-inlaw, Heather Liebert Zusman,

by Fraida & Alan Zusman
Louis Bryan, by Sandy & Al Gabriel
Harold Owrutzky, by Michele & Stuart Endick
Virginia "Ginny" Robinson, mother and
mother-in-law of Wendy & Joel Fischer,
grandmother of Shoshana Fischer

Dorothy & Alexander Levin Library Fund

IN MEMORY OF

John Carl Christoffers, by Diane & Jeff Zarkin

Emanuel Passamaneck Prayer Book/ Tallit

IN MEMORY OF

Bernice Kaufman, by Zenia & Barry Bielsker Edith Krantzman, by Susan & Larry Rose

Gerald Brissman/Lyle Miller/Carol Samuels Youth & College Fund

IN HONOR OF

Anna & Irwin Jacobs' 25th wedding anniversary, by Susan & Ken Cohn Shula & Jack Friedman's 50th anniversary, by Marcy & Michael Marcus Birth of Blake Bernard, grandson of Annie &

Birth of Blake Bernard, grandson of Annie & Alan Schwartz, by Susan & Ken Cohn

IN MEMORY OF

Bernice Kaufman, by Susan & Ken Cohn

Harold T. Rib Torah & Religious Articles Fund IN HONOR OF

Anna & Irwin Jacobs 25th wedding anniversary, by Deedy & Ed Eisenson Birth of Blake Bernard Schwartz, grandson of Annie & Alan Schwartz,

by Deedy & Ed Eisenson

Thank you for your donations, which were received by November 27, 2019.

Tzedakah

Jerry Werbel Memorial Landscape Fund IN MEMORY OF

Anna Gordon, by Joan & Don Sacarob;
Dotty & Alvin Fuchsman
Bernice Kaufman, by Judy Werbel; Merle,
Michael, and Adam Toobin; Lynn Phillips
Louis Bryan, by Dotty & Alvin Fuchsman;
Lynn Phillips; Florence & Alvin Bernstein
Louis Chernoff, by Deedy & Ed Eisenson

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Al Bernstein, by Joan & Don Sacarob Bruce Waxman, by Judy Werbel

Kitchen Fund

IN HONOR OF

Leslie Varkonyi's special birthday, by Deedy & Ed Eisenson Debbie & Mark Weber's birthdays, by Marcy & Michael Marcus

IN MEMORY OF

Bernice Kaufman, by Dotty & Alvin Fuchsman

Rabbi Itzhaq M. Klirs Memorial Adult Education Fund

IN HONOR OF

65th wedding anniversary of Mimi & Len Levine, by Fraida & Alan Zusman Annie Schwartz receiving the Kallat haTorah honor on Simchat Torah,

by Debbie & Mark Weber Birth of Blake Bernard Schwartz, grandson of Annie & Alan Schwartz,

by Debbie & Mark Weber Birth of Elias Samuel, grandson of Ellen & Mike Hilert, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Birth of Leon Ziv, son of Halli & Ben Weiner, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Brandon Werbel receiving the Yad award, by Debbie & Mark Weber

Marriage of Elayna Tursky to Jordan Tenenbaum, by Debbie & Mark Weber

IN MEMORY OF

Anna Gordon, by Debbie & Mark Weber Bernice Kaufman, by Annie & Alan Schwartz; Debbie & Mark Weber

Edith Krantzman, by Debbie & Mark Weber Ezra Sage O'Leary, by Debbie & Mark Weber Louis Bryan, by Debbie & Mark Weber Stephen Fienberg,

by Marnie & Howard Fienberg

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

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Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of Rabbi Kalender, for his kindness to our family,

by Family of Edith Krantzman

Thank you to Rabbi Kalender, by Alison & Josh Stern

IN HONOR OF

Bunny Kaplan's special birthday, by Marcy & Michael Marcus Paul Hill's birthday, by Marty & Paul Hill

IN MEMORY OF

Louis Bryan, by Deedy & Ed Eisenson; Eleanor & Stanley Katz

Robert C. Tannenbaum, by Jane Tannenbaum

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Shelly Palley, by Eileen & Norman Leshan

Robert Natkin Religious School Fund IN MEMORY OF

Bernice Kaufman, by Randee & Jerry Markowitz

Edith Krantzman,

by Meredith and Susan Senter Louis Bryan, by Randee & Jerry Markowitz

Stahl Family Experience Israel Fund IN HONOR OF

50th wedding anniversary of Shula & Jake Friedman, by Shelly & Joel Palley

IN MEMORY OF

Anna Gordon, by Rachelle & Joel Palley; Stephanie, llan, Alexa, Lia, and Noa Sussan Bernice Kaufman, by Rachelle & Joel Palley

Tzedakah Fund

Thank you for allowing me to join you for Rosh Hashanah with the Pedersons, by Barbara Fieldman

IN HONOR OF

50th wedding anniversary of Shula & Jake
Friedman, by Sharon Kirsch & Ed Rosen
Birth of Blake Bernard Schwartz, grandson of
Annie & Alan Schwartz, by Judy Back
Birth of our grandson, Elias Samuel,
son of Deborah Hilert & Aaron Kreiswirth,
by Ellen & Michael Hilert
Marriage of Ben Arnstein to Leila Kutler,
by David & Rochelle Salzman

by David & Rochelle Salzman

Marriage of Ivan Carrier to Gayne Kalustain,
by Pearl & Steve Raikin

Olam Tikvah, by Rita Mayer

Rochelle & David Goldberg's 20th wedding anniversary, by Natalie & Julian Levine

IN MEMORY OF

Alfred Frahm, by Irene F. Smith
Anna Gordon, by Rochelle & David Salzman;
Myra & Gordon Gondos
Anna Kaplan, by Bunny Kaplan
Anna Meltzer Wolf, by Gail & Hank Wolf
Annette Rieger, by Barry Rieger

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Belle Behrmann, by Jane & Bill Behrmann Benjamin Sobel, by Francine Lasken Bernice Kaufman, by Susan & Bill Kristol; Audrey & Les Fisher; Tzipora Wecker; Myra & Gordon Gondos; Helene & Karl Wittman; Michele & Stuart Endick; Mimi & Len Levine; Natalie & Julian Levine;

Family of Edith Krantzman
Bernard Sontheimer, by Bunny Kaplan
Betty Walter, by Patricia & Jeffrey Freilich
Claire Caplan, by Betsy & John MacCarthy
Deborah Reade Kochka,

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Edith Cohen, by Natalie & Julian Levine
Edith Krantzman, by Natalie & Julian Levine;
Susan & Bill Kristol; David Keir
Elaine Rudow, by Bernice Stern
Eli Rozner, by Andrea & Gil Rozner
Ezra Sage O'Leary,

by Natalie & Julian Levine
Fay Faggen, by Tamara & Edward Faggen
Fay Silverman, by Joan Kashdan
Frances Grauman, by Freda Tannenbaum
Frances Kay, by Ira Kay
Gayle Fargotstein, by Laura Fargotstein
George Tannen, by Scott Gould

Gertrude Katz, by Tessa Fuchs Goldie & David Fein,

by Debra & Herman Stein
Harold Herz, by Seth Herz
Harold Sirkin, by Wendy Rosen
Irving Levine, by Bruce C. Levine
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Julius Walder, by Joan & Don Sacarob
Lillian Bielsker, by Barry Bielsker
Lisel & Siegfried Rosenthal,

by Ralph Rosenthal Louis Bryan, by Judith & Albert Lichtmann; Judy Back

Louis Gelfeld, by Debbie & Mark Weber Margareta Persson, by Birgitta Hoffman Mary E. Conover Sherman,

by Julianne E. Sherman
Mary Krauss, by Rita Schlossberg
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Milton Drazen, by Judy Schretter
Morris Wolf, by Gail & Hank Wolf
Morty Hertz, by Patricia Gibberman

Noah Seiler, by Gloria Seiler Norman Silver, by Wendy Rosner Phillip Shapiro, by Robert Shapiro Rachel Wexler, by Alvin Bernstein Robert C. Tannenbaum, by Freda Tannenbaum Robert J. Alpher, by Rita Glazer Rose Rifkind Drazen, by Judy Schretter Ruth Silberglitt, by Rich Silberglitt Ruth Wolf Horowitz, by Gail & Hank Wolf Samuel H. Levine, by Gloria Seiler Samuel Lampert, by Lisa Simon Seymour Lumer, by Gail & Mark Lumer Shirley Sloan, by Howard Sloan Shlomo Benheim, by Marci & Alan Benheim Sid Phillips, by Natalie & Julian Levine Solomon Miller, by Rhoda & Mark Miller Sondra Bolton, by Cheryl Bloom Stanley Kalender, by Natalie & Julian Levine Walter Grau, by Barbra Golub

R'FUAH SH'LAYMAH

Al Bernstein, by Natalie & Julian Levine Josh Salzman, by Michele & Stuart Endick

OT Chorale, Fine Arts, and Social Action Committee contributions are listed in the Tzedakah Fund.









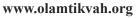






the contemporary

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January-February 2020 Calendar Highlights

JANUARY 2020			
SUN	5	7:00pm	Abba S'mores & More
SUN	12	1:00pm	Social Action & Sisterhood Unitea
SUN	12	6:30pm	Book Discussion: Kaaterskill Falls
TUE	14	7:00pm	Managing Mealtime: Healthy Habits for Preschool Familie
SUN	19	9:45am	Men's Club Winter Brunch
FRI	24	5:45pm	Scholar in Residence Dinner & Lecture
SAT	25	9:30am	Scholar in Residence D'var & Post-Lunch Discussion
SUN	26	9:45am	Scholar in Residence Brunch
SUN	26	12:00pm	Israel Returnees Trip Informational Meeting
FEBRUARY 2020			
SUN	2	8:30am	World Wide Wrap
SUN	9	12:00pm	Family Pizza & Bingo
MON	10		Hypothermia Project at Lord of Life Church
TUE	11		Hypothermia Project at Lord of Life Church
SUN	15	9:45am	Hearing Men's Voices
WED	19	7:30pm	Adult Ed: The Minor Prophets
TUE	25	5:30pm	ReelAbilities Film at OT
WED	26	7:30pm	Adult Ed: The Minor Prophets
SAT	29	7:00pm	Abba & Men's Club Poker & Game Night