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## What's been happening at Temple?

### ONLINE PASSOVER SERVICE

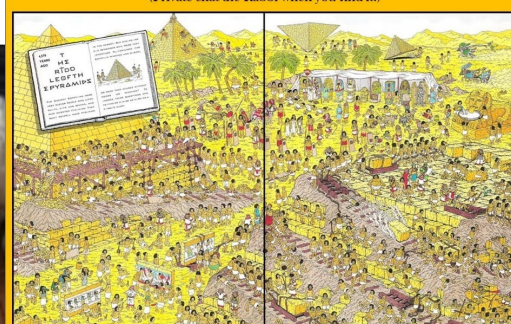


Kids aren't the only ones who love the Passover tradition of hunting for the afikomen!  
Can this sweet pup find what she's looking for?



### Can you find the Afikomen?

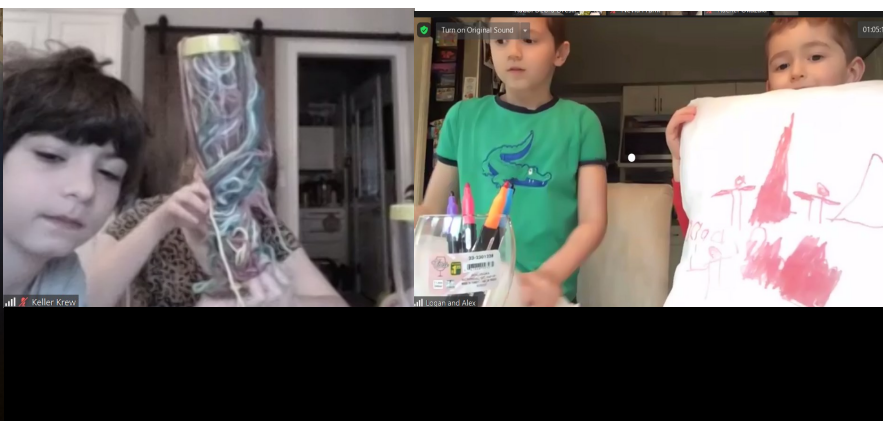
(Private chat the Rabbi when you find it!)



### FOOD READY FOR PASSOVER KIT DISTRIBUTION



### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL





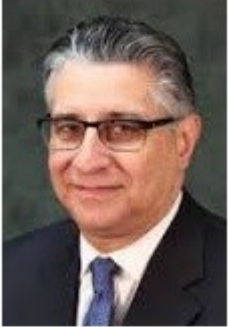
## Some Humour to Brighten Your Day: Courtesy of Josh Dubitsky

- My goal for 2020 was to lose 10 pounds. Only have 14 to go.
- Ate salad for dinner. Mostly croutons and tomatoes. Really just one big round crouton covered with tomato sauce, and cheese. FINE, it was a pizza.... OK, I ate a pizzal Are you happy now?
- I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.
- I don't mean to brag, but I finished my 14-day diet food supply in 3 hours and 20 minutes.
- Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.
- Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero outside they closed school? Yeah, me neither.
- I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented. I forgot where was going with this.
- A thief broke into my house last night. He started searching for money so I got up and searched with him.
- I think I'll just put an "Out of Order" sticker on my forehead and call it a day.
- Having plans sounds like a good idea until you have to put on clothes and leave the house.
- When I was a kid I wanted to be older..,this is not what I expected.
- Life is like a helicopter. I don't know how to operate a helicopter.
- It's probably my age that tricks people into thinking I'm an adult.
- Marriage Counselor: Your wife says you never buy her flowers, is that true? Him: To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.
- Never sing in the shower! Singing leads to dancing, dancing leads to slipping, and slipping leads to paramedics seeing you naked. So remember...Don't sing!
- I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.
- I see people about my age mountain climbing; I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.
- So if a cow doesn't produce milk, is it a milk dud or an udder failure?
- If you can't think of a word say, "I forgot the English word for it." That way people will think you're bilingual instead of an idiot.
- Cronacoaster: noun; the ups and downs of a pandemic.
- At what point can we just start using 2020 as profanity? As in: "That's a load of 2020." or "What in the 2020." or "abso -2020-lutely."
- One day you're loving your bubble, doing work outs, baking banana bread and going for long walks and the next you're crying, drinking gin for breakfast and missing people you don't even like.
- I'm getting tired of being part of a major historical event.





## From our President



### Jason Mandlowitz

We are now about 14 months since our building closed and on-site programs ceased. The time has been difficult but we look forward to better times ahead as the COVID vaccination program proceeds. At our April 2021 Board meeting, the decision was made to continue to close our building and follow all public health guidelines. However, in order to plan ahead, we are establishing a Re-opening Committee: updates will be provided to you.

While several months away, we have begun High Holy Days preparation which will build on our virtual platform from last year. Our planning is carefully focused on the public health situation and we will comply with the need for masking and social distancing.

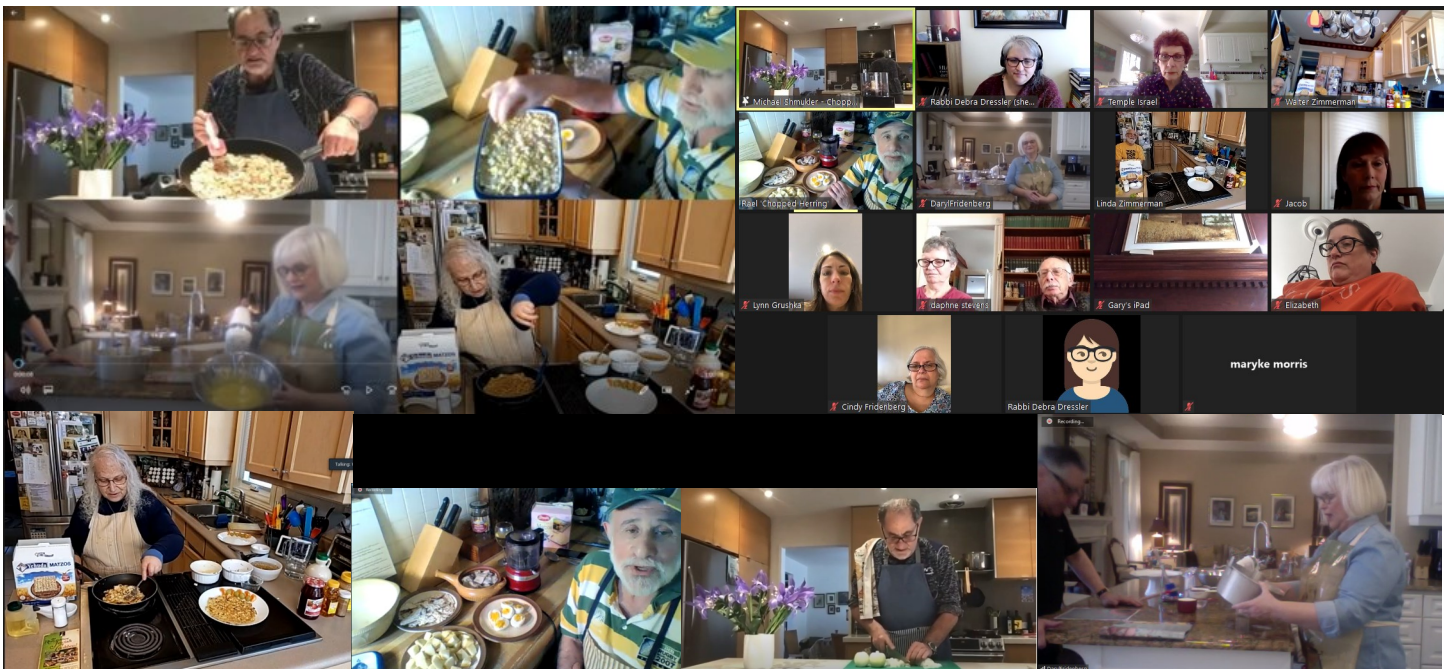
If COVID did not pose enough of a challenge, we are all watching with grave concern, recent hostilities in Israel. As of today, the international efforts to broker a cease fire has been successful with the commencement of peace negotiations. Recognizing that conflict in Israel has had a tendency to affect Jewish communities elsewhere, we have been closely monitoring the situation in London and escalated our security arrangements. We know, for example, that in recent weeks, Toronto and Montreal both experienced an increase in anti-semitic graffiti. London Police Services in recent days have established a presence at each of our synagogues and the JCC. If you have any concerns or see anything suspicious at these locations, you should contact London Police Services directly and Temple (myself or Jim Stevens, VP Operations). We are conducting daily checks of our building and property.

We are monitoring our security system to confirm that only authorized individuals enter Temple. We are asking, in the name of heightened security, that no member enter Temple Israel after 6:00 PM.

On a more positive note, I wanted to focus your attention on our weekly e-mails and website which detailed a number of upcoming programs led by Rabbi Dressler and from ARZA Canada. Our next Executive and Board meeting is scheduled by Zoom for June 6. Our General Meeting is scheduled for June 20 to vote for Officers and Directors and to present our 2021-2022 budget. The meeting will be immediately followed by recognition of Margie Wienburg's work as Religious School Coordinator: Margie left the post on May 16.

Until we can be together, sincerest best wishes for continued good health. Be safe.

### PASSOVER COOKING "MASTER CLASS"



# Donations

## DONATIONS GENERAL

in honour of Susan Agranove by Ronald & Denise Wexler  
in honour of David Rosner by Ronald & Denise Wexler  
in memory of Thelma Llewellyn's brother, Everard Llewellyn by  
Linda Freedman  
in honour of Rael Wienburg by Michael & Penny Lander  
by Randy Kissack (3 donations)  
in memory of Frida & Carl Rosenblatt by Carla Taub  
in memory of Michael Lubell, brother of Richard Lubell by  
Michael & Jill Simmons  
in memory of Louis Starnbach and Edward Malkis by Marvin &  
Phyllis Simner  
in honour of the upcoming marriage of Rabbi Dressler's  
daughter, Casey by Nancy Wright  
in memory of Michael and Sheila Lubell by Ronald &  
Denise Wexler  
by Janie Rother  
in appreciation of Temple Israel welcoming Marion Rogers' son  
to the Seder by Jeffrey & Marion Rogers  
by Eric Robinson  
in memory of Michael and Sheila Lubell by Jeremy &  
Dinah Frank  
in memory of Michael and Sheila Lubell by Michael Shmukler &  
Linda Dutsch  
by Josh & Kay Dubitsky  
in honour of Judith Wiley by Michael Wiley  
by Melanie Foerster

## SPONSORSHIPS - PASSOVER

by Shaul Shecter & Judith Levine  
by Vivian Macdonald  
by Jacob Megdell  
by Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg  
by Sharon Marks  
by Anna Kras-Dupuis  
by Holly & Shawn Hudes  
by Steven Semenov  
by Janie Rother

## SPONSORSHIPS - EDUCATION & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

by Samara Angus  
in memory of Michael Lubell by Walter & Linda Zimmerman  
in memory of Michael and Sheila Lubell by Robert Solomon &  
Barbara Lent  
in memory of Michael Woolf by Peter Fendrich  
in honour of Stephen State by Yuri & Lara Rybak

## FUND - ART, DECORATION & DESIGN

in memory of Candace Nefsky by Melody Enzel

## FUND - EDUCATION

in honour of Rabbi Dressler and the many congregants who  
supported and helped us by Rael & Margie Wienburg  
in honour of Stephen State by Michael Shmukler & Linda Dutsch  
in honour of Nevia Frank by Michael Shmukler & Linda Dutsch  
in memory of Tova Blitz by Andy Barak & Sally Cozens  
in memory of Sheila Lubell by Andy Barak & Sally Cozens  
in honour of Sue Dean by Andy Barak & Sally Cozens  
in memory of Jack Yashinsky by Louise & Al Levy

## FUND - BUILDING

in memory of Michael Woolf by Walter & Linda Zimmerman  
in honour of Susan Agranove by Peter Fendrich  
in memory of Michael and Sheila Lubell by Peter Fendrich

## FUND - MUSIC & CHOIR

in honour of David Rosner by Michael Shmukler & Linda Dutsch  
in memory of Sonya Sydell by Melody Enzel  
in honour of Dr. Kandice McKee (Brownstone) by Andy Barak &  
Sally Cozens

## FUND - LIBRARY

in memory of Samuel Nefsky by Melody Enzel  
in honour of Barbara Lent by Peter Fendrich  
in memory of Mary Blustein by Sid & Vena Presner  
In memory of Nancy Pazner's mother by Arthur &  
Sandra Benjamin

## FUND - RDF

in honour of Casey Wright's engagement by Linda Freedman  
in honour of the Torah Study with David Wolpe by Judith Wiley  
by Michael & Irina Sanatani (3 donations)  
in honour of Rabbi Dressler by Michael Shmukler &  
Linda Dutsch  
by Adrienne Lipson  
In memory of Peter Tilner by Arthur & Sandra Benjamin  
in memory of Pearl Tilner by Arthur & Sandra Benjamin  
in honour of Rabbi Dressler's daughter, Casey becoming  
engaged to Jake Kraus by Melody Enzel  
in memory of Murna Gitlin by William Gitlin  
in memory of Peggy McCormack by Arthur & Sandra Benjamin

## FUND SOCIAL ACTION – FOOD BANK

in honour of the birth of Yolanda Tomaszewski's  
granddaughter, Ava by Melody Enzel

## Donations Cont'd.

### FUND - SOCIAL ACTION -SHARE THE WARMTH/MAKE A WISH

in memory of George and Alice Sicular by Terry Sicular &  
Kim Moodie

### FUND - SOCIAL ACTION

by Randy Kissack

### FUND - TZEDAKAH

in memory of Elizabeth Rohekar by Gary Rohekar  
in memory of Isaac Rohekar by Gary Rohekar

### FUND - RABBI WITTSTEIN CAMP GEORGE

in memory of Rabbi Wittstein by Linda Freedman  
in memory of Michael Lubell by Arthur & Sandra Benjamin  
in honour of Aileen Wittstein by Peter Fendrich  
in memory of Michael and Sheila Lubell by Sharon Glickman

### ARZA 2020-2021

in memory of Rabbi Joel Wittstein by Linda Freedman

Note: Donations included to May 10, 2021. If we have inadvertently missed an acknowledgement on your behalf, please let the office know so that we include your kindness in our next publication.

The Temple office may be closed, but the office remains open virtually. If you would like to make a donation, please call the office and leave a message at 519-858-4400 or email: [office@templeisrael.ca](mailto:office@templeisrael.ca).

## Board News

- Following lengthy consideration, the Board agreed that this year's High Holy Days would be conducted VIRTUALLY and access to our building would remain limited, as per public health guidelines.
- Richard and Jan Lubell made a generous donation to our NFTY Fund in memory of their recently deceased family members: Michael & Sheila Lubell and Linda Zemel. The Lubells first met at a NFTY event. The Board agreed that the existing NFTY fund would be renamed the Lubell Family NFTY Fund. See more details in Rabbi Dressler's insert.
- The Board again thanked Wally and Linda Zimmerman for their commitment, in recognition of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary in 2018, to a new mobile Ark for future High Holy Days. Donations to this effort continue to be welcomed.
- Judith Wiley, as Temple Israel's ARZA Canada representative provided a list of upcoming programs that were held in May 2021 – listed in our e-mails.
- Reserve June 20, 2021, 3:00 PM for the Temple's General Meeting and celebration of Margie Wienburg's years of service to our Religious School.
- Jim Stevens, VP Operations, reported that Temple's external electrical work has been completed. This includes two (2) new external light standards in the driveway, external lighting controls updated in the hallway and two (2) new strip lights in the hallway entering the kitchen/near the coat check area. Rael has taken drone videos of the roof condition on each of the three buildings and they immediately showed damage to the stable roof not visible from the ground.



**STABLE ROOF**



**OUTDOOR LIGHT FIXTURES**





## Upcoming Events

### TI General Meeting

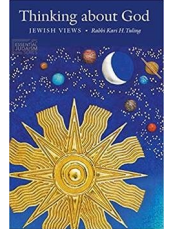
Please join us on Sunday, June 20 at 3:00 pm for Temple's General Meeting where we vote for Officers and Directors and present our 2021-2022 budget. This meeting is for Temple members only.

### Margie Wienburg's Retirement

Immediately following the General Meeting, there will be a recognition of newly retired Margie Wienburg and her work as Religious School Coordinator. (See more details in Rabbi Dressler's insert)

### Lunch and Learn

Lunch and Learn meetings will continue on Wednesdays at noon throughout the month of June and further into the summer months. We are studying from the book, "Thinking About God" by Rabbi Kari H. Tuling. You do not need to have attended previous sessions to join us.



## News

### Kol Hakavod to:

Laura Ball & Josh Wiener on the birth of their baby boy, Ezra Joseph Ball Wiener, on February 17, 2021  
Jason Mandlowitz, who was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Reform Jewish Community of Canada, RJCC (formerly Canadian Council of Reform Judaism, CCRJ)  
Nevia Frank who graduated from Brescia College and was accepted to Teacher's College in Peterborough  
Joel Frank & Shosh Lebo who graduated from high school  
Holly & Shawn Hudes on the birth last year of their baby daughter, Annabelle Kathryn  
Heather Megdell on the birth of her new granddaughter, Maeva, on May 4th, 2021  
Milestone Anniversaries - Mar/Apr/May: Allison Solomon & John Bos - 10 years (whose wedding was the first that Rabbi Dressler officiated at Temple Israel); Jim & Daphne Stevens - 55 years; Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg - 40 years  
Milestone Birthdays - Mar/Apr/May: Beverley Walker; Stephen Price; Neville Suskin; Susan Carp; Jeremy Keller; Rebecca White; Rose Philip; Alan Waxman  
Kay Dubitsky on the 100th birthday of her mother, Ursula Miller

### Special Thanks to:

Master Class Chefs: Michael Shmukler, Daryl Fridenberg, Rael Wienburg and Linda Zimmerman  
Callers for Passover Kits: Sharon Marks, Ruth Rohekar, Ailene Wittstein, Janie Rother, Michael Fisman, Len Silverstein and Cindy Monger  
Drivers for Passover Kits: Louise & Al Levy, Cindy Monger, John Dean, Susan Agranove, Sharon Marks and Barb Lent  
Passover kit assemblers: Jason Mandlowitz and the Dressler family  
Elizabeth & Bonnie Teevan for organizing our Book Club events  
Stephen State for continuing to teach our Adult Hebrew classes

### Condolences to:

Richard & Jan Lubell on the loss of their family members, Michael & Sheila Lubell.  
Brian Kurtzman on the loss of his mother, Eva.

### Welcome to New Members:

Holly & Shawn Hudes

Are you observing shloshim or a recent yahrzeit? Please feel free to share a photo of your loved one which we can include during our services.

## Education

An absolutely unforgettable year of Religious School has come to an end! Thanks to Zoom and the curriculum from the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland, Rabbi Dressler and our teachers, Nevia Frank, Rachel Okazaki, and Megan Abbott, along with our Religious Coordinator, Margie Wienburg, and our V.P. of Education, Elizabeth Teevan, had wonderful resources to provide our students with a distance program focused on strengthening personal and community resilience through Jewish values. Although classes through Zoom will never be quite the same as gathering in person, we were so fortunate that technology enabled us to engage in meaningful learning and community building this school year.

Through the five units of sukkat shalom (a shelter of peace), ometz lev (inner strength), g'vurah (courage), k'hillah (community), and chesed (loving kindness, tying into hope), students Zoomed, and learned, and crafted, and bonded, and engaged with each other, their teachers, members of our community, and teen leaders.

Now, as we say goodbye to this year, we look forward to celebrating Margie's retirement and the summer B'not Mitzvah of Hannah and Lillian Shmukler on July 3 and Aaron Macpherson on August 28. Mazel Tov to all!



**Sukkat Shalom סִפַּת שְׁלוֹם**

To me, Sukkat Shalom means ...

***Jason Mandlowitz wrote the following letter to Justin Trudeau in February, 2021.***

Dear Prime Minister:

I am writing in my capacity as President of Temple Israel of London (Ontario). Temple Israel is a Reform Jewish congregation in north-central London with about 145 families/households. We have a full time Rabbi (Rabbi Debra Dressler), executive and board of directors.

Like so many other non-profit and charitable organizations, we have found life during the COVID-19 pandemic to be challenging. Our building has been closed from March 20, 2020, onwards. We have continued to provide services, programs and adult/child education virtually. We maintain ongoing communication with our members through our website, weekly e-mail, quarterly bulletin and telephone committee which periodically contacts all of our members to make sure they are safe, well and complying with public health guidelines.

On behalf of Temple Israel, I want to extend our sincere and profound thanks to and acknowledgement of the Government of Canada for its support during the pandemic. Our eligibility for financial support under the CEBA and CEWS programs has been instrumental in ensuring our ongoing sustainability and has allowed for the continuation of our congregational and community outreach. Without this support, I am certain we would have been placed in a serious financial situation.

We are proud to be able to add Temple Israel to the list of organizations that have and will continue to take all possible steps to support our members and broader communities during this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,  
Jason Mandlowitz, President

**Canada**

***Here is the response in March, 2021:***

Dear Mr. Mandlowitz:

On behalf of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence. I regret the delay in replying.

The Prime Minister appreciates hearing comments, suggestions, and concerns from all Canadians in these trying times. I know that he is grateful for the many expressions of goodwill that he receives. Your encouraging words of support for the Government's initiatives have been conveyed to him and are most appreciated.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

M. Bredeson  
Executive Correspondence Officer