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What's been happening at Temple - Summer

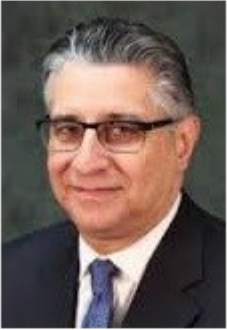
March for Our London Family June 5, 2022



General Meeting June 26, 2022



From our President



Jason Mandlowitz

As we move into summer, a number of positive signs are appearing that demonstrates we are moving back to “normal”.

Our Shabbat services are hybrid (in-person and virtual) with more people starting to return to our live services. Your return to our community and attendance at in-person services is ENCOURAGED.

With the threat of COVID and variants ever looming, the Board has continued our conservative approach and still requires masking, pre-registration, proof of vaccination, physical distancing on an optional basis, and CARE and SAFETY as our principal concerns.

On June 26, 2022, over 30 members attended our virtual General Meeting and confirmed our new Executive and Board for 2022-2023. Our sincerest best wishes to Daryl Fridenberg for all of her work and support as she leaves the Board. We welcome Janie Rother who is now a Director.

Also on June 26, 2022, we had over 60 people attend our Summer Picnic. Fearing the worst of weather, we set up the backyard with white tents which provided an inviting setting. Food was served buffet style in the building sunroom, with members observing COVID protocols. And not a drop of rain was seen that evening!

We have now launched our 2022-2023 Membership Dues campaign. We know we can expect your ongoing support and generosity. In addition to your voluntary dues commitment, we are trusting you will consider sponsorships for our key priorities. This year we have a NEW, MAJOR part to our campaign. Included in your dues mailing is my letter which points to the grounds and building maintenance need we have: WE HAVE TO REPLACE THE RAMP leading to the building which is no longer safe nor meets the city building code. Our estimated project costs are about \$35,000!!

From Daryl and myself, have a wonderful summer season. To keep abreast of Temple Israel activities, please consult the weekly e-mail and website.

Around the Property

Ramp – ongoing replacement. Use front door entrance only.

Trees – much work has taken place. Five trees and a great deal of fence were taken down as a result of the storm.

There is cut firewood available by garage – help yourself.

Ceiling damage was found in room 5 (Bet). Roof above it was repaired.

Windows – some of the big windows show rot in the wood frames. Sander purchased, sanding done, gaps between moldings were filled and a special marine primer was ordered from Amazon to fix it. It shows up a darker grey than the window frames, but it should stop the rot.



Garage windows – heavy lexan polymer was purchased to reinforce windows to protect property of tenants. Has been sanded and painted with marine paint first, and awaiting installation.

Stable doors in bad shape – in process of being sanded and will repaint bad sections.

Stable storage – trailer and tractor to be sold as they are no longer used.



From our Rabbi



Rabbi Debra Stahlberg Dressler

This year will be my 13th year at Temple Israel. It's hard to fathom - maybe having 2+ of those years in a pandemic distorts the sense of time's passage. I have now lived in London longer than I have in any other city during my adult life. Even in my childhood, I lived in Michigan until I was 16, but we had spent time in both Lansing and Bay City, neither of which was for more than 10 years. My youngest children have grown up here, and my oldest has completed high school and undergrad, worked, graduated from law school, and gotten married during this period.

Thirteen years is a pretty significant milestone.

In Jewish life, we mark our children's thirteenth birthdays by calling them to the Torah. Although not really an "adult," the nascent teenagers become responsible for their own ritual obligations. Few parents are ready to let go of their child's choices at the onset of their teens, but the years that follow unfold with more and more independence either placed upon or assumed by our youths.

Thirteen years really is a significant milestone.

To celebrate my "bat mitzvah" year at Temple Israel, I want to honour and reminisce about all the b'nei mitzvah celebrated in our community. This year will be *"Our Big Fat Temple B'nei Mitzvah."* Families will be invited to join us at various Shabbat services, and with the technology of Zoom, we can even have far-flung adult children join the "party." They will share memories, and we will have the chance to reflect on how our Temple family has grown and changed - or maybe not changed so much - over the years.

Thirteen years is a marvellous milestone.

I'm ready for some celebrating; how about you?

Watch your inboxes for more information about the upcoming year's b'nei mitzvah remembrances - we will begin celebrating them in the Fall.

Life and Legacy

The Life & Legacy Campaign has arrived in London! The three shuls and Jewish London are partnering to open a conversation with you about considering leaving legacy gifts to your own organization, i.e. Temple Israel, or as many as you would like. Over the next few weeks and months, you may be approached by someone from Temple to discuss a gift that will "last for generations." With financial support from the London Jewish Community Foundation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, this campaign will have a great impact on our community by securing our collective Jewish future in London.

A legacy gift can be a charitable bequest in your will, a life or group insurance policy by naming the organization(s) as a beneficiary, or donating a new or existing policy. The tax benefits of giving in this way could mean that you reduce, and in some cases, even eliminate the taxes that will be paid by your estate.

So when your friend calls you to talk about Life and Legacy, be open to the conversation. We'll provide support every step of the way.

Donations

2022 MARTIN BASS MEMORIAL COMEDY NIGHT

from David Kramer
in memory of Martin Bass from Noah Bass

DONATIONS GENERAL

In memory of Lisa Faden from Michael
& Janice Faden
in honour of Eli's bar mitzvah from Jason Mandlowitz
& Daryl Fridenberg
in memory of Ruth Rohekar's mother
from Stephen State
in honour of Thelma Rosner's art exhibit from
Ronald & Denise Wexler
in memory of Dr. B. Langer, father of Pearl Langer
from Ronald & Denise Wexler
in honour of Gail Bass for organizing Comedy Night
from Jeffrey & Ruth Seigel
from Randy Kissack

SPONSORSHIPS - TECHNOLOGY & WEB SPONSORSHIPS

in memory of Rose Philip from Jeffrey & Ruth Seigel

EDUCATION FUND

in memory of Jack Blitz and Ruth Gertner from
Andy Barak & Sally Cozens
in memory of Tova Blitz from Andy Barak
& Sally Cozens
in memory of Abigail Reuben, mother of Ruth
Rohekar from Leonard & Maxine Silverstein
in memory of Abigail Reuben, mother of Ruth
Rohekar from Ruth & Gary Rohekar
in honour of Stephen State from Gary Rohekar
in memory of Ruth Rohekar's mother from
Elizabeth Teevan
in memory of Abigail Reuben, Ruth Rohekar's mother
from Walter & Linda Zimmerman

ART, DECORATION AND DESIGN

in honour of Naomi Stambler from Melody Enzel

BUILDING FUND

in honour of Bonnie Teevan from Debby Albin
& Yair Medini

LIBRARY FUND

in honour of Micaela Benjamin, our youngest
grandchild, who is becoming a bat mitzvah
from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND (RDF)

in memory of Carlos & Olga Acerenza from
Alex & Ana Porzecanski
in honour of Linda and Wally Zimmerman's grandson,
Henry, on becoming a bar mitzvah from Melody
Enzel
from Michael & Irina Sanatani
in appreciation of the Rabbi from Bonnie Teevan
in honour of the marriage of Casey Wright
& Jacob Kraus from Walter & Linda Zimmerman
in memory of my darling, Moya, who loved Seders at
Temple Israel from Vivian Macdonald
on the occasion of Passover from Leslie
& Nurit Kochav
in memory of Peter Tilner, Peggy McCormack
& Pearl Tilner from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin
from Steven Semenov
on the occasion of the Auf Ruf of Rabbi Dressler's
daughter, Casey from Jeffrey & Ruth Seigel

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

from Randy Kissack

SOCIAL ACTION FUND - FOOD BANK

in memory of Dianah Nowgaonkar from
Ruth & Gary Rohekar
in honour of Eli MacDougall's bar mitzvah from
Lisa Manax & Anargyros Skikos

RABBI WITTSTEIN CAMP GEORGE FUND

in memory of Danny Rich from Susan & John Dean

Note: Donations included to June 15, 2022. 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@templeisraelondon.ca.

ARZA Canada

You will very soon receive your membership renewal package from Temple Israel, and included in that renewal, is membership to ARZA Canada.** In case you are not aware, the mandate of ARZA Canada is to connect with Reform communities throughout Canada, foster connections with and strengthen our ties to the Reform Movement in Israel, and work to realize the vision of Reform Zionism.

A fair question is *What is Reform Zionism?* Put simply, it is the continuation of the early Zionist dream to foster a living, breathing national culture that represents the highest ideals of Jewish peoplehood.

Your membership in ARZA Canada is of critical importance, especially in Israel, to ensure support for Jews who wish to express their Judaism in a progressive, egalitarian manner. We support work in Israel to build robust institutions and religious communities that welcome expressions of Judaism with no barriers:

- to diverse ways of expressing Judaism
- to participation in worship, life cycle or social events
- for individuals with mental or physical disabilities
- to members of the LGBTQ+ community
- to truly belonging to a community

In Canada, ARZA Canada creates Israeli programming for Canadian Reform congregations and supports individual congregations in their efforts to increase engagement with Israel. There is an ARZA Canada *Resource for Israel Engagement In Your Reform Congregation* and we work with Domim-aLike, an umbrella organization that creates and oversees the map of partnerships between Israeli and world Reform congregations. Rabbi Larry Englander is leading an initiative to write curricula for Reform congregation religious schools. This will be a first and has been enthusiastically endorsed by religious educators across the country. Initial grades will be 1 - 4, followed as soon as possible by the remaining grades. ARZA Canada makes it possible for synagogues across Canada to share programming and benefit from the work of each other.

One indication of our success in promoting Reform Judaism was the 24th biennial council in Jerusalem last month. The theme of the conference was "*Hinenu*" – *Here we are!* After a four year hiatus due to COVID, everyone was joyful and grateful to be together – 1500 Israelis, including hundreds of youth, as well as representatives from the Reform community around the world. During the conference there was celebration of the 60th anniversary of Kehillat Mevakshei Derech AND the welcoming of 2 new congregations.

At home, the Israeli Embassy of Canada recently sponsored the **Canadian Summit of Israeli-Jewish Affairs**, as a significant indicator of the importance of diaspora Jewry in Israel. Of course, ARZA Canada leaders were there, including our President, Lee Weisser. Discussions included innovation, Israel education, inclusivity, social media, BDS and antisemitism, as well as recognition of the role of Israeli Jews and Diaspora Jews to enhance their education about the other. Minister of Diaspora Affairs Nachman Shai said, "We have to look for new bridges between us."

Basel, Switzerland: The 125th Anniversary of the First Zionist Congress. In 1897, a new stage in the history of the Jewish people of Israel began - the vision became a reality in Basel. This year's main celebratory event will be held on August 29 2022, in the hall where 200 participants gathered at the invitation of Theodor Herzl, adopted the Basel Plan to establish a national home for the Jewish people in the land of Israel and founded the World Zionist Organization.

In addition, on Sunday and Monday, August 28-29, 2022, conferences and meetings will be held in the Basel Congress Hall with the participation of leaders of a variety of Zionist organizations from around the world. On August 30, the Va'ad Hapoel (meetings of WZO representatives in between formal World Zionist Congresses) will be held. It should be quite a historic and interesting few days, and I will happily report to you in one of our upcoming newsletters, on all the activities.

**If you do not wish to have your membership information shared with ARZA, please opt out to receive mailings from them.

Upcoming Events

Zoom Service with Beth El Windsor

July 22 at 7:00 pm

See your weekly email for details

BETH EL WINDSOR

Lunch and Learn

Lunch and Learn returns in the fall

LUNCH
& LEARN

Jewish Information Class

JIC will resume in the fall.



Food Bank Sort

Wednesday, August 3 from 6:30-8:00 pm

Email office to volunteer: office@templeisraelondon.ca



News

Kol Hakavod to:

Arthur & Sandra Benjamin on the marriage of their grandson, Toby Abramson to Diana Bellissimo
Michael & Sandra Fisman on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Alice Fisman Zickler

Condolences to:

Ruth Rohekar and family on the loss of her mother, Abigail Reuben.

Yasher Koach to:

Josh Dubitsky, David Rosner and Stephen State for leading Shabbat services and to Michael Simmons for providing the musical accompaniment.
Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg for their help at the Summer Picnic.

Welcome to New Members:

Arik Pasternak & Kamila Myszak

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.

Eli MacDougall Bar Mitzvah May 21, 2022



Religious School Activities



Shabbat Service for Casey & Jake April 8, 2022 Temple Israel Bloomfield Hills, MI



Casey & Jake Wedding April 10 , 2022



Second Zoom Seder with Congregation Beth El Windsor Saturday, April 16, 2022

