

## Kol Yisra'e THE VOICE OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

March 2018 • Adar/Nissan 5778



In partnership with NAACP, LB

## Interfaith & Intercultural Concert

Sunday, March 25 at 4:00 p.m.

Music is truly a language that can be understood across cultures, faiths, and beliefs. Join Cantor Hass and other faith and cultural music leaders for an afternoon of music, storytelling, and hope.

(See page 10)



# COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER Saturday, March 31~ 6:30 p.m.

Join our Temple Family and enjoy a wonderful Seder Passover Songs, Family Friendly!

(See page 4)



Future Focus Guest Speaker Series

## JANICE HAHN

Los Angeles County Supervisor, 4th District

#### Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Janice Hahn will speak about her current work, accomplishments, and challenges that face the 4th District and beyond.

(See page 2)



#### SHABBAT HANEFESH

Friday, March 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Please join Cantor Hass, Bill Shafton and percussionist Christo Pellani as they embark on a new, spiritual, and uplifting Shabbat journey. Come enjoy the melodies we all know and love, presented with an acoustic, meditative flare, filled with powerful readings and perhaps a few new musical experiences.

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#### **FOCUS ON NEW MEMBERS**

#### Jason, Lara and Jamie Meintjes



Lara is a painter whose work is sold on Saatchi Art and who has exhibited paintings in coffee shops, homes, galleries and museums all over the world. Lara and Jason are both currently students at Long Beach City College where Jason is in the early stages of a degree in pure mathematics and Lara is working towards a degree in anthropology and philosophy. Jamie is an eighth grader at Rogers Middle School, she is also interested in art and music. She worked

as an apprentice curator on a show at the Museum of Latin American Art in early 2016 when she was 11-years-old and she plays tuba in the school band.

Jamie has adopted Temple Israel as her new home and is fully immersed in the teen programs and in all that our wonderful temple community has to offer. Lara is determined to attend all of Eve Lunt's marvelous cooking classes and to learn as many languages as possible, starting in the new Yiddish class. Jason was a touring musician before settling down to enjoy a quieter life in which he photographs artwork and art exhibitions and looks forward to eventually teaching college math. The Meintjes's love living near the beach and enjoy walking in the neighborhood and meeting their neighbors. They are very appreciative of the wonderful balance between proximity to LA and all it has to offer and the quiet warmth of Long Beach and its inhabitants. Temple Israel welcomes Jason, Lara and Jamie!

## Get Well Wishes To...

Diane Fike David Feldman Leah Fudim Jill Granek Fisher Sue Griffiths Ronald Guest Rosalind Hertz

Sylvia Koretz Barbara Miller Robert Raykoff Nancy Speizer Jeanne Strum Marcia Wertheimer Frank Weinberger

Kol Yisra'el is a monthly newsletter published August - June by Temple Israel (a member of the Union for Reform Judaism). The deadline for submission of all material for the newsletter is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month prior to publication.

#### PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Rabbi Steven Moskowitz • Cantor Sara Hass • David York, Organist Eric J. Shatzkin, Executive Director • Sharon Amster Brown, Educator

#### **Our Mission Statement:**

To actively engage in a journey of Jewish spiritual, educational and social growth.

#### **Our Vision Statement**

A vibrant, caring Reform congregation of living Judaism that embraces the rich legacy of Jewish thought, practice and spirituality.

#### **SHABBAT SERVICES**

#### Friday, March 2

7:00 p.m. Family Shabbat Service with our Youth Choir

#### Saturday, March 3

8:45 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Sabbath Fellowship Service

#### Friday, March 9

6:00 p.m. Shabbat HaNefesh

#### Saturday, March 10

8:45 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service

Bar Mitzvah of Joseph Meinstein

#### Friday, March 16

6:00 p.m. Tot Shabbat

7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

#### Saturday, March 17

8:45 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service Bat Mitzvah of Kylie Goldman

#### Friday, March 23

6:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

#### Saturday, March 24

8:45 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service Bar Mitzvah of Sam Laven

#### Friday, March 30

First Night Of Passover NO SHABBAT SERVICE

#### Saturday, March 31

8:45 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning & Passover Service

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017 - 2018**

Joyce Feldman

President

Freda Ross

VP Education

Joanne Levy

VP Membership

Jennette Fackler

VP Ritual Practices

**Deborah Fabricant** 

VP Ways & Means

Mark Dressner Secretary **Steve Gordon** Treasurer

**Steven Keiles** Past President

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Foundation President

Laurie Arroyo, Karen Ben-Shmuel, Jackie Besley, Evan Braude, Rick Burney, Greg Endelman, Daniel Felsenthal, Seth Goldman, Bobbi Horowitz, David Rosen, Lysa Saltzman and Frank Weinberger

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



#### **ENGAGING IN THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY**

By Joyce Feldman, Temple President



Happy March! "Baruch atah Adonai Eloheinu melech haolam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu la'asok b'tzorachai tzibur. Praised are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who sanctifies us with mitzvot and has commanded us to engage in the needs of the community."

We begin every board meeting with this prayer. I love beginning with prayer. It grounds me and reminds me as to WHY I serve. Saying a prayer

helps us all focus on what our main objective is... "to engage (serve) the needs of the community". It is a sacred duty to serve on the temple board. We represent the congregation and work to make decisions, not in our own best interests, but in the best interest of our Temple Israel Community.

I often get asked "What does the board do?" First a direct quote from our Temple Israel Bylaws: "Subject only to the provisions of these Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall have the general management of the affairs, funds and property of the Corporation and all the Corporation's powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of and under the control of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have the power to exercise all Corporate powers vested in this Corporation under the laws of the State of California, except as may be otherwise restricted by the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws." Here is my translation: We, the board, make sure the finances of the temple (the budget) are well managed and used wisely. We make sure our temple home is well maintained and used properly. We make sure our temple has the staff to effectively run and provide the services our Temple needs. We do all this while keeping in mind our Temple's mission statement, "To actively engage in a journey of Jewish spiritual, educational and social growth." In other words... back to the prayer, "to engage in the needs of the community."

To do all this, we meet once a month as a full board comprised of no more than 21 board members and once a month as an executive committee. The executive committee is comprised of the President, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Immediate Past President and four Vice Presidents. Our senior staff (Rabbi, Cantor, Educator and Executive Director) also join us for each meeting as they are our sacred partners in doing this work. As the executive committee, we discuss and plan agenda items prior to the large board meetings to ensure the large meeting will run smoothly & effectively. At our board meetings, we hear reports from our VP's and our youth representative as to the current activities and needs of their committees. We review the year to date budget, prepared by our Treasurer, and ensure that our temple is using our funds effectively. We make decisions, based on current needs what items to increase, decrease or add to the budget. We are currently working to finalize the new strategic plan that will outline goals we will be working on in the upcoming years.

Our Vice Presidents oversee various areas of the temple; the VP of Ritual Practices chairs the Ritual Practice Committee. This committee works in partnership with the clergy to enhance the ritual aspects of the congregation. The Ritual Practice VP also oversees the Caring Community, and all the special services we hold throughout the year like: Purim Shpeil, Sabbath Fellowship, High Holy Days and more. The VP of Education oversees many of our Education based committees such as: Torah Center, JJL, Library, Youth and more. The VP of Ways and Means oversees the fundraising activities of the temple like: Gala and Purim Bags. The VP of Membership chairs the Membership Committee who is responsible for the recruitment, integration and retention of Temple members. The Membership VP also oversees Social Action and other special programs that effect our members like: Family Camp and the upcoming "Make a Difference Day."

As you can see the board is hard at work making sure your needs are being met in your temple home. We encourage you to reach out to a board member if you have a question, concern or compliment! This is what we are here for. AND we also encourage you to reach out to join one of our many committees. Want to join us on the board? We typically find our new board members from our committees. Our immediate past president, Steve Keiles, is currently working to form this years' nomination committee to select new board members for the upcoming year (our "year" begins July 1). If you are interested in serving on this committee, or on the board, please reach out to him and let him know.

This month's Gemilut Chasadim (nurturing act of kindness) is to join us in engaging in the needs of the community. On March 18th, we will join with our neighborhood partners to host the annual "Make a Difference Day". Please join us as we spread out among the community to provide acts of nurturing kindness. There are many projects, something for every age and interest, that you can participate in. Volunteers need to sign up in advance at www.bhmadd.org and select the project you would like to work on. Have a conflict on that date? There are many other ways you can help. The easiest way to help is to simply donate via the website, "Make a Difference Day" depends on donations to achieve many of its' goals. They are also taking donations of school supplies and other items that you may bring to the temple office in advance. There is also an ongoing need for volunteers for other projects. I encourage you to reach out to our temple representative, Andrea Friedenthal at (562) 822-7882 for more information. However you choose to engage in the needs of the community, know that all of our little "acts of nurturing acts of kindness" can truly make a difference in our little corner of the world. Happy March: Make a Difference!

## MARCH BOARD BITES What has the board been doing lately?

- Approving the URJ Brit Olam: "A Covenant with our World"
- Beginning Budget Planning for next year
- Setting Goals for the Strategic Plan

#### RITUAL PRACTICES COMMITTEE MESSAGE



## PASSOVER AND LEARNING TO COUNT THE OMER

By Jennette Fackler, VP Ritual Practices



The eight-day festival of Passover (in Hebrew *Pesach*) is celebrated from the 15<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the Hebrew month of Nisan. In this Gregorian calendar year, it begins on Friday, March 30th and goes thru sundown on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. The holiday commemorates our freedom from slavery in ancient Egypt. It is observed by avoiding leaven (yeast or other rising agents) and seating at Seder meals that include four cups of wine,

eating matzah and bitter herbs, and retelling the story of the Exodus.

## Counting of the Omer (Sefirat HaOmer) – The days between Passover and Shavuot

In the Torah it is written: "And you shall count for yourselves from the morrow of the Shabbat, from the day that you bring the omer [offering] that is raised, seven complete weeks there shall be until the morrow of the seventh week you shall count fifty days" (Leviticus 23:15-16).

It is a mitzvah for each person to count the days of the Omer by him or herself, because the Torah states: And you shall count for yourselves. This mitzvah still applies today even though the Holy Temple no longer stands and we no longer bring the offering. Some say that the obligation today is Rabbinic. The Kabbalists explain that the 49 days that connect Passover with Shavuot correspond to the 49 drives and traits of the human heart. Each day immerses us to the refinement of one of these sefirot, bringing us a step closer to our choice as God's "Chosen People" and receiving of God's communication to humanity.

From a biblical perspective, it is written that from the burning bush as the foot of Mount Sinai, Moses heard God say, "When you take this people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain." The Israelites departed Egypt on the 15th of Nissan (the first day of Passover); on the 6th of Sivan (celebrated ever since as the Festival of Shavuot) they assembled at the foot of Mount Sinai and received the Torah from God. It took seven weeks to reach the mountain. The Omer is counted each evening, signifying our preparation for the receiving of the Torah on Shavuot.

#### How To Count the Omer

We begin counting the Omer on the second night of Pesach.

Before reciting the blessing one should know the number of the day. However, if one recited the blessing without being aware of the number and added the number only after having heard it said by someone else, he has fulfilled the obligation.

Traditionally, the blessing and the counting should be said while standing, for the verse (Deuteronomy 16:9) states: *When the grain is standing in the fields*. But if one sat while counting, they have nevertheless fulfilled the mitzvah.

Every night, i.e., as soon as three stars appear, say the blessing below.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech HaOlam, Asher Kid'shanu B'Mitzvotav V'tzi-vanu Al Sefirat HaOmer.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, Who has made us holy with their Commandments, and commanded us concerning the counting of the Omer.

Then we count the day saying:

"Today is one day (or two days, or three days, etc.) of the Omer." If you forget to count at night, you can count throughout the next day (without saying the blessing). The following evening you can count again with the blessing.

It is customary to recite Psalm 67 after the counting of the Omer. According to tradition Psalm 67 has forty nine words, corresponding to the 49 days of the Omer.

### COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER

Saturday, March 31~ 6:30 p.m.

Join our Temple Family and enjoy a wonderful Seder Passover Songs, Family Friendly!

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON.



Rabbi Wolli & Sarah Kaelter SABBATH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM & SERVICE

featuring

#### **RONNIE JAYNE**

Entertainer

Saturday, March 3 ~ 10:30 a.m.

Lunch included - \$5.

Please RSVP to the Temple Office.



#### **SISTERHOOD**



#### TIS FEBRUARY 2018 FUNDRAISER EVENT

What a special afternoon it was on Sunday, February  $11^{\rm th}$  at Temple Israel.

Temple Israel Sisterhood honored the "Women Presidents of Temple Israel" Lynn Rosenstein, Phyllis Wallis, Linda Burney, Amy Lipeles, and our current Temple Israel President, Joyce Feldman.

Thanks to Susan Stuhlbarg, Linda Simmons, Judy Blumenthal, Joanne Ratner, and Robin Lilien for introducing our honorees.

Current Sisterhood President Robin Lilien acknowledged Fundraising Chair Eva Lowenstein and her committee members Judy Blumenthal, Elyse Gordon, Bobbi Horowitz, and Debi Felsenthal for helping to make the event a success.

For all those who attended this event, we appreciate your participation in a day that will be well remembered.



## Sisterhood Gift Shop

Looking for the perfect birthday gift, b'nai mitvzah gift, or hostess gift? Shop at our Gift Shop! Sisterhood Members, if you are interested in joining the Temple Israel Sisterhood Board, please contact Judy Blumenthal

jblume75@gmail.com

## COLD OUTSIDE

FOR CATS & DOGS TOO

#### WE ARE COLLECTING NOW THROUGH THE END OF MARCH

Temple Israel Sisterhood Social Action will be collecting used blankets and used towels for the Long Beach Animal Shelter. Please deposit your donations in the bins in the Temple Israel Alpert Foyer.

#### YOUR HELP IS SO APPRECIATED!



#### **SAVE THE DATE**

THURSDAY, APRIL 19 AT 6:30 P.M.

Ladies Night Out

Aroma Italiano Cafe

4958 Katella Ave. • Los Alamitos, CA 90720



### Tuesday, April 24

3rd Annual Temple Israel Sisterhood







9:30 am. - 2:30 p.m

\$ 36.00 Includes snacks, lunch, dessert, beverages Bring your own Mahjong set for your table, and any other game boards you like. **More information coming soon.** 



#### THIS MONTH'S B'NAI MITZVAH



JOSEPH MEINSTEIN March 10, 2018

My name is Joseph Meinstein and I'm a 7th grader at Rogers Middle School. Two strong interests of mine are animals and music, therefore, my Mitzvah Project is related to both. I have a dog who I love so much, and it makes me sad knowing that there are dogs in the world who don't get that kind of love. I decided to become a volunteer in the Pet Literacy Program at the Animal Shelter in Long Beach. I read to dogs who appear to be timid. This helps them get used to people, increasing their

chances of being adopted. At school, I play tuba in intermediate band. I've been a chorister in the Southern California Children's Chorus since kindergarten. Since I have also studied piano for over 6 years, my other project activity is playing piano for residents at a rehabilitation hospital. I wanted to use this skill to entertain patients and make them feel happier. After I play piano, I call bingo for the residents in their game room. It is very exciting knowing that I'm going to become a Bar Mitzvah soon. I'd like to thank all my friends, family, and teachers for preparing and encouraging me.



**KYLIE GOLDMAN**March 17, 2018

My name is Kylie Goldman and I am being called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on March 17, 2018. I am in 7th grade at Oak Middle School, and am also in the Choir program and love it so much. I have been at Temple Israel since kindergarten, and my temple class is like my family. Temple has been a big part of my life and I have always enjoyed going to Hebrew School. I also love my to hang out with my family and friends. For my Mitzvah Project I volunteered at New Life Beginnings in downtown Long Beach. The Shelter is for Woman

who are homeless with kids, pregnant, or both. The shelter is a place for homeless mothers to go and get back on their feet. They are required to do chores, take classes, and much more. While the mothers are doing all of these things, I babysit the children, and I love it so much. It brings me so much joy to see the children grow, evolve, and have fun. It really warms my heart to see them making so much with what they have. I have grown so close with each of the children who range anywhere from newborns to 10 and 11 year olds. I am looking forward to my Bat-Mitzvah and celebrating this very special day with my amazing friends and family.



SAM LAVEN March 24, 2018

Hi, my name is Sam Laven and I am looking forward to becoming a bar mitzvah on March 24th. I have enjoyed my time preparing for this special event through my classes at Torah Center, and through working one-on-one with Cantor Hass and Rabbi Moskowitz.

For my Mitzvah Project, I chose to work with an organization called WAGS (Westminster Adoption Group and Services) because I love animals of all kinds.WAGS has programs for

dogs, cats, and rabbits that socialize them so that they have a greater chance of being adopted. Through the HISS program for cats, and the BARK program for dogs, I have had the opportunity to work directly with the animals by petting, talking and playing with them, which helps them to be more comfortable with humans.

In addition to school and my Mitzvah Project, I enjoy cooking for my family and friends whenever I can. I love learning how to cook with new ingredients and trying new dishes that I have heard of but never tried. My family and friends really enjoy my discovery of new dishes because they get to eat whatever I cook!

I'm very happy that friends and family from near and far will be able to share this special day with my family and me, and I can't wait to celebrate with everyone.



For thousands of years, the land of Israel has been for the Jewish people a dreamscape, a land of promise. Today it is a living dynamic reality: a place of rebirth for a language, a people, and a magnificent heritage. I invite you to join us on this extraordinary journey. This trip is open to all, so please feel free to invite friends and family. - Rabbi Steven Moskowitz





## 10<sup>™</sup> GRADERS EXPLORE JEWISH IDENTITY ON WEEKEND RETREAT AND CREATE POETRY

By Rabbi Steven Moskowitz

Rabbi Michal Loving and I had the privilege of leading members of our Torah Center's 10th grade class on a three-day retreat over Presidents' Day weekend. We rented a house in Indio, where the students took full responsibility for preparation of all meals, table set-ups, and cleanups. The students explored Jewish identity as the product of a dynamic relationship between individual decisions and communal expectations. For one of the concluding exercises the students watched videos of two compelling and, in many ways competing, spoken word poems: "I am Jewish" by Andrew Lustig and "I am Judaism" by Rabbi Rafi Mollot. We asked them to write their own spoken word poems in response. Three of the students gave us permission to publish their pieces. Their work shows both a profundity of reflection and a sparkle of language that is extraordinary. I am humbled to be their rabbi.

#### - Rabbi Steven Moskowitz

~ I am Jewish. I am the star of David I wear around my neck for each service. I am the delicate Torah being lifted out of the ark by my people. I am the helping hand that lifts others up. I am the older, the wiser, the stronger. I am the scared, young and confused. I am the quiet and not the loud. I am not the cross but the mezuzah hung proudly on the front door of my house. I am like the wars in Israel, conflicted and destructive. I am like the food we eat, warm and comforting. I do not dress in long skirts and I do not cover my whole body. I was born into this and chose to stay because I have found a family. I am Jewish, but most importantly I am ME. I have struggled a lot with identifying as Jewish. It is not common and at times I get embarrassed explaining to people why I'm fasting or why I am Bat Mitzvahed or why I don't eat any grain or bread for a week. I have struggled finding what makes me Jewish. I mostly know who I am and what makes me that way. I am unique and I am an individual. I am a part of a whole. Being Jewish teaches me about myself and others and the world. I am the holocaust survivors and the 18 year olds entering the army. But I am also me. Being Jewish isn't all I am but it is a treasured part of me that I am ready to explore. ~

~ I am Judaism because Judaism is an Idea that can be interpreted in many ways, because it is symbolic of life for some without being life for all. Because it can be split apart without being broken apart. ~

~ I don't know if "I am Jewish" or if "I am Judaism." I do though know that "I am a Jew." I know that I have been in Hebrew school since I could remember. I know that I went and still go to Friday/Saturday Shabbat services with my family. I know that I had my bat mitzvah and that I became a madricha. I know that I go to Jewish sleepaway camp and create some of the best experiences I will ever have. I know that I love singing Jewish songs and Israeli dancing. I know that I love learning

from Jewish mentors. I know that I have a drive to find and discover my true identity, that will never change. I know that there are jokes made and rude comments. Do I care? Of course I do! But I will never let that interfere with what I believe. I know that I don't like some of the food that we eat and that I still watch T.V. on Shabbat. I know that celebrating holidays with family and friends is important to me. I know that having a voice and taking a leadership role in the Jewish community is something to be grateful for. I know that having values can help me discover my Jewish identity and what it means to me. I know that everything I've said is a part of the road to learning about myself. I don't know if

"I am Jewish" or "I am Judaism" defines me correctly. I do know though that...

"I am a Jew." ~

## ANDI TEMPLE ISRAEL'S 9-12 GRADE YOUTH GROUP

By Owen Sweeney, ANDI President



On Sunday, February 25th, ANDI celebrated Purim by performing our spectacular Frozen themed shpiel. "The Purim shpiel is something I look forward to every year. It is truly incredible to see how much the Torah Center students and parents enjoy something we have committed so much time to writing and developing," shared ANDI Social Action Vice President and actor in the Purim shpiel, Sophie Lerer.

The show was truly a big hit with the Torah Center children, and I would like to personally thank everyone who put time and effort into the wonderful production especially the cast, the director Johanna Brown, the scripts writers Johanna Brown, Abby Harmatz, and Sophie Lerer, and our Youth Director Kara Liu.

Now that the shpiel is over, ANDI members are shifting focus and working hard to plan events later this spring. The first event we are planning is Faithchella. Scheduled after Shabbat services on Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, this event will bring together multiple teen faith groups and feature performances from many of them as well, including First Congregational Church and our very own Shir Harmony singing group. If your teen has been waiting to invite his or her friend to a Jewish event, this is the time!

Furthermore, please note that our next ANDI meeting will be held on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> after Torah Center at 12:30pm! All teens are welcome.



#### **FAMILY PROGRAMMING**



#### Saturday, March 3 at 10:00 a.m.

at Marina Vista Park (near tennis courts)

Come join us for our next Shabbat ShaPARK Shalom! This gathering at Marina Vista Park is designed for families with young children. Come meet other parents and celebrate Shabbat with us at the playground. Kids can play...Parents can chat. Shabbat singing and challah too! **See you at the park!** 

All are welcome to attend. FREE OF CHARGE



# Tot Skabbat

Led by Kelly Cooper Perler Friday, March 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Tot Shabbat is a fun, informal, child-centered Shabbat Service, designed especially for children, ages newborn to elementary school age and their loved ones. Through songs, prayers, stories, and Torah time, children love this Service. Tot Shabbat Services will be followed by challah and grape juice.

FREE pizza dinner!

Please RSVP to Michelle at mdt@tilb.org

## **TEMPLE ISRAEL'S**

GONGREGATIONAL Retreat 2018

**April 13-15** 



Join your community for a weekend filled with family, friends, prayer, study, celebration, music, and much, much more!

Download our brochure at

http://www.tilb.org/CongregationalRetreatBrochure 2018 distributed.pdf

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
Monday, March 12



#### **NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY**

by Joan Leb

We've added a great number of new books to the Temple Israel Library in the past year. Here are some you may have missed:

#### **Jewish History and Thought**

*Einstein and the Rabbi*, by Naomi Levy (175 LEV)

Rabbi Levy found a letter from Einstein in response to a father's grief about his son's death. She went in search of the original letter and found the soul.

*Covenant ant Conversations*, by Jonathan Sacks (020.5 SAC) The former chief Rabbi of England delves into Genesis.

Essays on Ethics, by Jonathan Sacks (019.9 SAC)

More essays on the other books of the Torah.

*Jewish History: A Very Short Introduction*, by David N. Myers (700 MYE) This is a very short book with unusual organization.

Hitler in Los Angeles, by Steven Ross (777.1 ROS)

Did the movie industry conspire with the Germans to kill Jews? *Lincoln and the Jews*, by Jonathan Sarna (771.4 SAR)

A photographic book about the relationship of Lincoln and the Jews.

*The Story of the Jews*, by Simon Schama (700 SCH) A two-volume companion to the acclaimed TV series.

#### Food:

Kosher USA: How Coke Became Kosher and Other Tales of Modern Food, by Roger Horowitz (699 HOR)

The journey of Kosher food through the modern industrial food system.

*King Solomon's Table*, by Joan Nathan (699 NAT) A cookbook and a history of Jewish food.

#### **Holocaust:**

Black Earth: The Holocaust as History and Warning,

by Timothy Snyder (739 SNY)

Can it happen again?

The Zookeeper's Wife, by Diane Ackerman (736.41 ACK)

A true story of a Polish woman who saved Jews; now a recent film.

#### Language:

The Story of Hebrew, by Lewis Glinert (400 GLI)

Traces the language from Genesis to the modern state.

The Language of Angels: A story about the Reinvention of Hebrew, by Richard Michelson (YR 400.5 MIC)

2018 winner of the Sydney Taylor prize for young readers

#### **Fiction:**

The Marriage of Opposites, by Alice Hoffman (F HOF) The romance of Camille Pisarro's parents
The Muralist, by Barbara Shapiro (F SHA)
Life among the artists in New York in the 1930s.
Once We Were Brothers, by Ronald Balson (F BAL)

Was a Nazi hiding in plain sight in Chicago?



## WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR FUTURE FOCUS

A Community Speaker Series Featuring Leaders of Our City



Guest Speaker:

#### **JANICE HAHN**

Los Angeles County Supervisor representing the 4th District

#### Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m. Hosted by Temple Israel

Janice Hahn will speak about her current work, accomplishments, and challenges that face the 4th District and beyond.

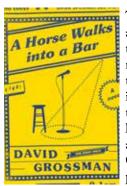
Reception to follow hosted by Gelson's Market
Free Admission

Reservation Recommended

## WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB Wednesday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Facilitator: Rosecarrie Brooks

A Horse Walks Into a Bar by David Grossman



The award-winning and internationally acclaimed author of the To the End of the Land now gives us a searing short novel, A Horse Walks Into a Bar, about the life of a stand-up comic, as revealed in the course of one evening's story begins to take shape—one that will alter the lives of many of those in attendance. In a little dive in a small Israeli city, Dov Greenstein, a comedian a bit past his prime, is doing a night of stand-up. In

the audience is a district court justice, Avishai Lazar, whom Dov knew as a boy, along with a few others who remember Dov as an awkward, scrawny kid who walked on his hands to confound the neighborhood bullies. Gradually, as it teeters between hilarity and hysteria, Dov's patter becomes a kind of memoir, taking us back into the terrors of his childhood. Continuing his investigations into how people confront life's capricious battering, and how art may blossom from it, Grossman delivers a stunning performance in this memorable one-night engagement.

## Poys of Jewish Learning ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

#### **JEWISH VIEWS OF** SEXUALITY AND GENDER

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.

March 1, 8 and 15

Teacher: Rabbi Michal Loving

Gender and sexuality are integral parts of our personal identity, yet are almost never discussed in a temple setting. But did you know that our holy texts discuss sexuality and sexual acts at length? Or that the Talmud records six different classifications of gender? We will read excerpts from ancient, medieval and modern sources (ones that you never saw in Hebrew school!) and learn what our sages say, and why. No Hebrew necessary.

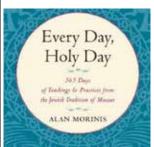
#### Cost: none



#### **MUSSAR STUDY GROUP**

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

March 7, April 4, and May 2 Facilitator: Trish Goldin



"Mussar is a system of introspective practices that can help you identify and break through the obstacles to your inherent holiness, using methods that are easy to integrate into daily life. The program laid out in this book focuses on 26 traits (middot)-such as loving-kindness, strength, generosity, compassion,

honor, and equanimity-each of which takes center stage for a week of contemplation and exercises, in order to develop and refine that quality in yourself," says Alan Morinis.

Our study group will get together once a month to study and share ideas on one trait using the Morinis book "Every Day, Holy Day" and other resources. We are thrilled to have Cantor Hass be our clergy liaison and hope to integrate music into our study. Cost: none

#### **GETTING TO KNOW AMERICAN** MUSLIMS AND THEIR FAITH

Sunday, March 4 at 10:00am

Presenter: Milia Islam-Majeed



This presentation begins with basic terminology and demographics of Muslims in the United States and the world, describes the major beliefs and practices of Islam, including major Muslim holidays. It also addresses common misconceptions about Islam and Muslims and describes its relation to other religions, including Judaism and Christianity.

Cost: none

#### **COOKING - MEXICAN JEW-SION CUISINE**

Add some sabor (flavor!) to your Passover table with untraditional Mexican seder dishes.

#### Wednesday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Instructor: Eve Lunt

Join us for a delicious evening of cooking and fun with resident cook Eve Lunt! Together, we will explore the unique intersection between the Jewish and Mexican communities and come away with new knowledge and new recipes. Cost: \$10



#### **INTERFAITH & INTERCULTURAL CONCERT** in partnership with NAACP, Long Beach Branch

Sunday, March 25 at 4:00 p.m.



Music is truly a language that can be understood across cultures, faiths, and beliefs. It is the center of the lives of so many and has the power to bring people together. Join Cantor Hass and other faith and cultural music leaders for an afternoon of music, storytelling, and

hope. As we break down the walls, building and strengthening our bond with our diverse community, using music as our guide. Cost: suggested donation of \$10 to be donated to a local civil rights organization

## Joys of Jewish Learning ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES



# SYMBOLS OF FAITH: A Collaborative Creation of Art in partnership with Belmont Heights Methodist Church Tuesdays, April 10 and 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Instructor: Eve Lunt

Join with your Temple Israel family and members of other Long Beach faith organizations to create a beautiful collage of symbols of our faiths. Using up-cycled tin tiles as a background, you will contribute to an assemblage project using paints, art paper and found objects. The final piece will be shared by the community and travel through different places of worship in Long Beach. **Cost: \$10** 

## YIDDISH SONGS OF THE JEWISH GHETTO (AND MORE): Tears, Joy and Hope! Thursday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Teacher: Harriet Bennish

Join us for a brief history of Jewish music followed by a performance of songs written before, during and after World War II, when life for a Jew was so uncertain. Prior to World War II, Jews of Eastern Europe led a life filled with poetry, literature, music and theater. Yiddish was the native tongue of the great writers and performers of a very cultured community. When Hitler came to power and Jews were being sent to Ghettos and concentration camps, the Jews took their rich culture with them. Schools were set up in the Ghettos, and theater and concerts continued. The new music being written reflected life in the Ghetto with tears, joy and hope. As Jews were rounded up and taken to concentration camps, the music they sang gave them comfort. They continued to sing in Yiddish...until they were silenced. **Cost: none** 

PLEASE RSVP FOR ANY JJL PROGRAMS
TO CHARMAINE AT CLW@TILB.ORG

#### WHY YIDDISH?

by Harriett Bennish



When Sharon Amster Brown asked me to write a short article on "Why are you doing this concert?" I could think of no better person to answer this question than Max Weinreich, the founder of the Yiddish Scientific Institute in Vilna (YIVO), later transplanted to New York. When asked for a reason for the continuation of Yiddish after the devastation of the

Holocaust, he responded:

"Without Yiddish Jews are the poorer, even American Jews, without Yiddish American Jews are torn from the Jews in other countries and from the Yiddish culture of the past. Without Yiddish, even in America, Jewish culture cannot reach its full potential."

Thanks to Ethel Weinstein, together with her late husband Sid Weinstein, who promoted Yiddish culture here in Long Beach for many years, I was able to have access to a vast library of Yiddish music. When I eyed the book on her shelf called "30 Songs Of The Ghetto" I knew what the theme of my concert was going to be. When I began to sing through the songs, I felt an incredible connection to the music and the words, but what I was not prepared for was the amount of research I would have to do to find the origins of these beautifully written songs. There was no translation, and in some instances the composer was unknown. What I found was that each song had a story to tell. Stories of day to day life living in a Jewish ghetto began to emerge. The "Tears, Joy, and Hope" is the title of my program. During this journey I have discovered the roots of my people. As the great Yiddish poet Avrom Sutsekever stated: "The most important and most valuable that we can give American Jews are the treasures of our Eastern European heritage."

Sadly, I discovered that many of the composers and poets that wrote the extraordinary music that I will be singing perished in the Holocaust. Bringing life to their music and words is my way of paying respect to their work and most important to declare: "Never Forget!"

I have chosen with purpose the date of my concert to occur on the actual "Day of Remembrance", Thursday April 12. The concert will be at 7:00 p.m. in the Temple sanctuary. I will be accompanied by a professional ensemble of both accordion and cello. I look forward to sharing the stories that inspired the music you will hear. If I don't sing these songs to keep their memory alive...who will? What comes to my mind are the words of Hillel when he said: If not now, when?

## YAHRZEIT OBSERVANCE

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To Lauren & Daniel Feldman (and big sister Talia) on the birth of their son Levi Jaden Feldman born on January 17 weighing 7lbs. 8oz.

To Margaret Locke & Bill Giser on the birth of their grandson, Evan Liam Shenhav born on January 29, 2018 weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz.



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Tzedakah is a central mitzvah of Judaism. It humanizes both the giver and the recipient. It acknowledges an important occasion, honors a person for a job well done, or pays tribute in sympathy.

TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND  ☐ General Fund  For the support of on going congregational activities	MUSIC FUNDS  □ Rob & Debbie Feldman Family Got Shabbat Funds quarterly Friday Shabbat alternative music service.	PROGRAMMING FUNDS  ANDI Programs for our teens
DISCRETIONARY FUNDS  □ Rabbi Steven Moskowitz  Tzedakah projects at the Rabbi's discretion	☐ Music Patrons Funds musical programs	<ul> <li>□ Jack Bard Memorial         For Jewish programs of interest to the congregation     </li> <li>□ Social Action         For social action and programming needs     </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>□ Cantor Sara Hass         Tzedakah projects at the Cantor's discretion</li> <li>□ Educator</li> </ul>	CAMP FUNDS  □ Paula & Michael Avchen Campership Camp/trip program for children in financial need	☐ Joys of Jewish Learning Funds adult education programs at the Temple
For benefit of the Torah Center and its teachers  President For special projects at the President's discretion	☐ Lester Elbert and Corinne Van Boemel Memorial Campership Camperships for those in financial need	TEMPLE ISRAEL
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□ Nancy Leff and Donald Leff Memorial Purchases Hanukkah gifts for children of needy families	TORAH CENTER FUNDS ☐ Torah Center Fund	☐ Temple Israel Preservation Fund (TIP Fund)  Funds building beautification and
☐ Yad B'Yad Purchases kitchen and catering supplies for Yad B'Yad	Polly Alevy Memorial Education Funds for Torah Center	refurbishment  The Speizer Youth Development
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We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support Temple Israel by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through generous contributions

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Bruce & Michelle Baral in loving memory of Bruce's mother, Irene Baral. Michele, Aaron, Britney, Nathan & Miriam Berro in memory of Harold Spellens, beloved grandfather & great-grandfather.

Jackie & Tom Besley in memory of Jackie's father-in-law, Harold Spellens. Douglas & Rebecca Cringean in loving memory of Douglas's mother, Jane Cringean.

Howard & Elaine Davis in loving memory of Howard's father, Maurice M. Davis.

Marilyn R. Day in loving memory of her father, William Raatz.

Becky Dolhinow in memory of her beloved father, Jack Dolhinow.

Jay Eiser & family in loving memory of Jay's wife, Cheryl Eiser.

Lyn & Joel Epstein in memory of their special loved one, Faye Shapiro.

William Giser & Margaret Locke sent get well wishes to

David Randle and Danny Greif.

Anne Gundry in loving memory of her uncle, Francis Gundry. Jeanne Halliday in loving memory of her grandmother, Jennie Wagenheim Berman.

Mildred Hattenbach in memory of Cheryl Eiser, beloved wife of Jay Eiser. Alain & Tari Hirsch in loving memory of Alain's aunt, Ines Sassoon. Barbara Ivler in loving memory of her husband, William Ivler. Barbara Ivler in loving memory of her father, Milton Mandel. Gerald & Sandra Joffe in loving memory of Gerald's father, Charles Joffe. Paddy Kaller in loving memory of her husband, Robert G. Kaller. Judy Leff in loving memory of her husband, Richard Leff. Judy Leff in loving memory of her father, Hyman Wisotsky. Robin & Alan Lilien in loving memory of Robin's grandparents, Lee & Herman Brozinsky.

Ann Martin in loving memory of her 1st born grandson, Nathan Berk Isaacson.

Sandy & Daryl Phillips in loving memory of Sandy's father, Max Levin. Daryl & Sandy Phillips in loving memory of Daryl's uncle, Harold Spellens. Sheila Pokras in loving memory of her father-in-law, Harry Pokras. Sadie & David Sacks in loving memory of Sadie's mother, Cathenia Kinslow Briggs.

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Louis & Norma Schumow in loving memory of Louis's grandmother, Jennie Schumow.

Mark & Elizabeth Sharzer in loving memory of Mark's mother, Toby Sharzer.

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Sheryl & Jeffrey Stewart in loving memory of Sheryl's grandmother, Annette Grawoig.

Gail Webster & Norman Slomann in loving memory of Gail's father, Joseph Webster.

#### **GENERAL FUND**

Affinity & Co., Harry & Eva Lowenstein-donation of 10% of sale made to Temple Israel member.

Joyce & Hank Feldman in honor of the Adult B'not Mitzvah class, Laurie Arroyo, Leslie Ciletti, Ruth Cooperman, Kelly Cooper Perler, Nadia Geller, Sharon Gerstein, Lynne Kass, Carrie Levinson, Marlene Sanchez and Janet Schultz.

Inge Johnson in memory of longtime congregant Anita Bard, beloved mother of Cantor Deborah Bard and Adrienne Bard.

Inge Johnson in memory of Bret Charipper, beloved father of Kurt Charipper.

Sharon Kenigsberg in honor of Lynne Kass's Bat Mitzvah. Janet & Carl Schultz.

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Adrienne G. Bard & Roberto Palazuelos in appreciation of the Temple Israel Family and in memory of their beloved mother, Anita Bard.

Helen Barrad in memory of Dan Spellens, beloved brother of Binnie Berro, beloved husband of Melanie.

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 $\label{lem:chana & Glenn Ham-Rosebrock in memory of longtime member,} \\ Helga Fultheim, beloved mother of Leon Fultheim and Gary Fultheim. \\$ 

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Joan Leb and Marian & Paul Martin in memory of their beloved sister and aunt, Rebecca Eden.

Robin & Alan Lilien in memory of Dan Spellens, beloved brother of Binnie Berro, beloved husband of Melanie.

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Daryl & Sandy Phillips in memory of Dan Spellens, beloved brother of Binnie Berro, beloved husband of Melanie.

David & Sadie Sacks in memory of longtime member, Helga Fultheim, beloved mother of Leon Fultheim and Gary Fultheim.

Noah Shafton B'nai Tzedek in honor of Rabbi Moskowitz and Temple Israel.

Nancy & Mark Speizer in memory of Dan Spellens, beloved brother of Binnie Berro, beloved husband of Melanie.

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#### **POLLY ALEVY MEMORIAL EDUCATION FUND**

Melanie Spellens in loving memory of Mazaltov Berro

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Janet & Carl Schultz.

Gerda & Harold Seifer in loving memory of Harold's father, Joseph B. Seifer.

Mary Suzanne Siegel in honor of Laurie Arroyo's Bat Mitzvah. Nina Wool in memory of Bret Charipper, beloved father of Kurt Charipper.

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Jean Feldman in memory of her dear friend, Maureen Klein.
Jean Feldman in loving memory of her sister, Frances Gross.
Jean Feldman in memory of her dear friend, Betsy Kanarek.
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Ronna & Joel Kizner in memory of Jack Gaines, beloved father of Cindy Gotz.

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on the death of his friend and business partner, Silvestre Uqueio

Binnie & Jack Berro, Michele, Denise, Aaron & Britney, Nathan and Miriam

on the death of brother, uncle, and great uncle, Dan Spellens

**Greg Endelman and Susan Torres** 

on the death of their grandmother, Clara Endelman

Rabbi Steven & Ana Moskowitz

on the death of his brother, Michael Fleisher

Alex & Ellen Polsky

on the death of his sister, Rima Rabb

Melanie Spellens

on the death of her husband Dan Spellens

Susan Steel

on the death of her mother, Elaine Goff

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Marian & Paul Martin in honor of their mother, Joan Leb and their beloved Ted Van Boemel as they celebrate 10 years of unwedded bliss.

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Binnie & Jack Berro in memory of Rebecca Eden, beloved sister of Joan Leb, beloved aunt of Marian Martin.

Judy & Denny Blumenthal in memory of Rebecca Eden, beloved sister of Joan Leb, beloved aunt of Marian Martin.

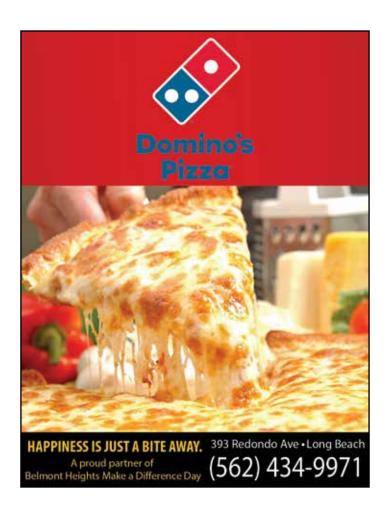
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in memory of his beloved wife, Cheryl Eiser
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in loving memory of her husband Dan Spellens
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