

Kol Yisra'el THE VOICE OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

UPCOMING JOYS OF JEWISH LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



WINE AND TEXT STUDY Thursday, January 7 7:00 pm



SACRED TEXTS OF COMFORT AND RESILIENCE

Nachamu Nachamu Ami (Comfort, Comfort My People)

Fridays at 9:30 am January 15 and 22



INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

Wednesday, January 20 6:00 pm January 2021 • Tevet/Shevat 5781



YOUR DONATION OR LEGACY GIFT WILL HELP FUND OUR FUTURE!

The 100 Years Campaign has currently raised nearly two million dollars that will allow Temple Israel to continue to maintain our beautiful facility and continue services and programming for our community.

If you are interested in supporting the campaign, or getting more information, please call the Temple office.

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Tu B'Shevat Tot Shabbat

this month welcoming PJ Library

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK LIVE

Friday, January 15 at 5:15 pm with Rabbi Fox and Cantor Hass



Tot Shabbat is a fun, informal, child-centered Shabbat Service, designed especially for children, ages newborn to early elementary school age and their loved ones. Through songs, prayers, stories, and Torah time, children love this Service.

Get Well Wishes

- Colleen Carver Jay Eiser Jacs Ferdman Andrea Friedenthal Laurie Gerstman Miriam Goldberg Steve Gratch Dawn Haldane
- Darrin Hammer Andrew Hass Sandy Horwitz Ann Martin Marian Martin Phyllis Wallis Frank Wyckoff Deborah Wyckoff



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 10th of the preceding month prior to publication.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Rabbi Scott Fox • Cantor Sara Hass • Cantor Emeritus Marvin Finnley Eric J. Shatzkin, Exec. Director • Sharon Amster Brown, Educator Kara Liu, Youth Director • David York, Accompanist

Our Mission is to actively engage in a journey of Jewish spiritual, educational and social growth.

Our Vision is to be a vibrant, caring Reform congregation of living Judaism that embraces the rich legacy of Jewish thought, practice and spirituality.

SERVICES AND TORAH STUDY ZOOM LINKS

Friday Evening Services - 6:00 pm https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87165332931

Saturday Morning Torah Study - 8:45 am <u>https://zoom.us/j/163280737</u>

Shabbat Morning Services - 10:30 am <u>https://zoom.us/j/987542891</u> (Please Note: if there is a Bar/Bat Mitzvah a different link will be provided)

Services are also streamed on Facebook Live https://www.facebook.com/Temple-Israel-Long-Beach-CA-197939336908344/



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RABBI FOX'S MESSAGE



EVEN IN DIFFICULT AND DARK TIMES WE CAN AND NEED TO OFFER BLESSING

By Rabbi Scott Fox



There are many reasons why we gather together for prayer. It gives us a chance to stop, hear familiar melodies and to see our friends. As the old joke goes, *Rachel goes to services to talk to God, Sally goes to services to talk to Rachel.* What's more, the reasons seem to grow each time we pray. Like life, our ritual practice adapts and grows, changes and reveals new applications and meaning living beneath the surface. The most meaningful rituals are the ones

that seem to speak to every generation, offer endless levels of engagement and compel us beyond any intellectual pursuit or connection. *We have to pray.*

Among all of the various reasons why we do pray, one theme emerges that is so central to the practice that it sometimes is used to mean the entirety of prayer itself, that is the theme of blessing. Among all of the things that we do when we pray, central is the understanding that it is an opportunity to offer blessings and to remind ourselves of what fortune we have in our lives. What's peculiar then, is that our people has had such a dark past while offering these blessings. There has been so much persecution, anxiety and violence in our history that evening services were shortened, afternoon services often folded into the evening in the fear that leaving home after dark was particularly dangerous. During the long list of difficult times in Jewish history our people continued to open our prayer books and sing out words of gratitude for their great fortune. Darkness brightened by confident voices singing practiced scripture.

Today too, we face a difficult time in history, although in a rare occurrence it is shared by everyone the world over. This time the anxieties are experienced equally and our community draws together with the greater population in hope for a better future.

And so we again turn to our old practice of blessings. We set a regular schedule to it, a recurring activity that even if we were to get distracted with the laundry or email would present itself kindly, patiently but unavoidably at the door because we both know its importance. Even in difficult and dark times we can and need to offer blessing.

Like a salad of words, our prayer practice seems thrown together from whatever was found left over in the refrigerator of the Jewish textual tradition. It can seem like an ancient jumble of words but each one does stand on its own, each prayer pointing to something specific. Nothing particular is universal, but the concept of it is, and so we are reminded from the practice of counting blessings in the liturgy that its not enough simply to tell ourselves that we are blessed, rather the practice of prayer is an opportunity to stop and think specifically about the ways we are fortunate. Prayer is ultimately a practice of hope, and now as the first people around the world receive vaccines for this terrible virus we can see that hope and count that blessing. Wishing all of us continued blessing, and may the prayers of our global community, in voice and vaccine, continue to be a beacon of hope.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR US TO PRAY TOGETHER FRIDAY SERVICES ONLINE SCHEDULE

Every Friday at 5:40 pm

A "Musical Prelude" to our Shabbat Evening Services with David York on piano

Janaury 8 at 6:00 pm

Shabbat Service followed by online Israeli Dancing led by David Hillinger

> January 15 at 6:00 pm Shabbat Service

January 22 - Two Services Healing Service at 6:00 pm with Jewish Family and Child Services Late Shabbat Evening Serivce at 7:00 pm

January 29 at 6:00 pm

Collaborative Shabbat Service with Temple Menorah

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87165332931

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



PERSPECTIVE, GRATITUDE AND THE NEED FOR A BIGGER BOAT

By Steve Gordon, Temple President



Last month, I took a detour from my regular writings about the Pandemic, and how it's affecting our congregation in particular, and our lives in general. If you recall, I wrote about the need and the moral obligation (I didn't use those words in my article, but I wish I had), to come together and treat each other with respect, despite differences in opinion, politically or otherwise.

This month, however, I'm back to expressing some thoughts about the

Pandemic. At first, I was reluctant to do so, but given the fact it's one of the most significant issues in the world today, not to mention our entire lifetime, I'm asking for your indulgence once more.

In case you are wondering about the title of this article, I will get to the boat part shortly. For now, I'd like to address the first two concepts. Much has been written, by me as well as others, about the difficulties we are all facing. The hardships range from boredom, isolation and loneliness, to severe financial troubles and life-threatening health concerns. Additionally, many of us are experiencing so much more in between the two extremes.

A common recommendation among mental health professionals (and those of you who are far more self-actualized than I am), is to feel genuine gratitude for the blessings in our lives. I get it, I understand it, and I agree with it. From a commonsense standpoint, appreciating what we have, and recognizing the perspective that there are others out there who are desperately trying to manage far more troubling circumstances, certainly makes sense.

Of course, as my family likes to remind me, I frequently lack basic common sense. My problem with this, is that no matter how bad someone has it, there are always people who have it worse. If I am troubled by not being able to share a meal with family and friends, do I have the right to allow that to sadden me if my neighbor lost his job six months ago, and is kept awake at night wondering how he will make his mortgage payment? And does my neighbor have the right to complain of sleepless nights if he has a colleague who died from the virus? The potential examples here are infinite.

Again, I fully acknowledge the benefit and necessity of feeling and expressing gratitude. It prevents us from wallowing in self pity and taking a "woe is me" attitude. But because there is always someone who has things worse, I am troubled by the implication that we cannot, or should not feel sadness or discomfort because of our own circumstances.

At this point, I would like to extend an apology. I've raised this concern, but I don't have an answer. The only thing I can think of, is that it's possible to do both. That is, make an effort to count

our blessings, and to be truly grateful for the good things in our lives, and at the same time, it's okay to feel sadness because things are not the way we would like them to be.

For those of you out there who might have additional insight into my dilemma, I would welcome hearing from you.

Okay, let's talk about the boat. For all of you movie buffs, I suspect you will recognize "the need for a bigger boat," coming from the 1975 blockbuster thriller, Jaws. When Captain Brody first saw the enormity of the shark they were hunting, he expressed his concern about the size of their boat to the others on board.

What does this have to do with anything I might be writing about? Absolutely nothing. What it does do, is provide a segue to a thought I would like to share.

As I am writing this, the COVID-19 vaccine has just been approved by the FDA, and is on its way to be delivered. We are at the very beginning stages of getting a faint glimpse of hope of resolution from the nearly ten month ordeal we have all been experiencing. But despite the crazy making and anxiety provoking uncertainty of not having a clue as to when this will end, there is another phenomenon that occurs when a resolution is in sight.

When we are in the middle of things, without knowing when normalcy will return, we settle in, live our lives the best we can, and do what we have to do, the pain and difficulties mentioned above, notwithstanding. But when we start to see the light at the end of the tunnel (and hope it's not a train), the anxiety can actually increase. Resolution is there, just out of reach, but we can see it, feel it, and taste it. And as it gets closer, the ache we feel for this madness to end, becomes even stronger.

I call this the "Jaws Effect." During a calm evening on the boat, Quint (the shark hunter), was sharing a story with Captain Brody and Hooper. He recalled how during the war, he was on the ship that was delivering the atomic bomb to be dropped on Japan. After they made the delivery, the ship was heading back home when it was struck by a torpedo and sunk. Because of the secrecy of their mission, hundreds of sailors remained floating in the ocean with life preservers for weeks until a rescue ship finally found them. Quint spoke of the many friends who were killed by sharks during that period of time. But it wasn't until he was waiting for his turn to climb up the ladder of the rescue ship, that Quint felt the most fear. During the previous two weeks, he bobbed around in the water, accepting his fate. But with rescue so close, and just out of reach, he could see it, feel it and taste it.

The vaccine has been approved, and it's on its way. My hope is that we can stay strong, continue to be vigilant in our mask wearing and distancing protocols, and remain sane while waiting for our literal shot in the arm.

With 2020 now behind us, I'm looking forward to when it's a distant memory, for our children and grandchildren to be reading about in their history books.

Wishing you all a very happy, safe and healthy new year.

100 YEARS CAMPAIGN



A TEMPLE ICON WILL TURN 100 WITH TEMPLE ISRAEL

OK, Jeopardy fans. Here's your clue:

She is among the youngest of the older generation in Temple Israel. Her family joined the Temple in 1955, under her name at the time, Harriette Kaplan, and which was the same year that Rabbi Wolli Kaelter arrived and began his many years of service. She served on the Temple Board twice, once in the '60s and once in the 2000's. She was a founding member of the Temple's Social Action Committee and continues to serve on the Art Committee. She was Temple Sisterhood president in 1961-62, served as three of the five vice-presidents, and also served on the boards of the Pacific District Sisterhood and the National Sisterhood (WRJ) based in New York.

At Sukkot, she would follow the LB city trucks as they went around pruning the public palm trees, and would tie the cut palm fronds that she "rescued" on top of her station wagon and then carted them off to the Temple to help the custodians create a sukkah on the bima (Yes, in those days it was done inside the Temple).

She and her team are currently engaged in assembling the Temple archives. And the question is: **Who is Harriette Ellis?**



Harriette has a long history, starting from her birth in Memphis, Tennessee and Confirmation at Vine Street Temple in Nashville. (That's right, we have a southern belle in our midst). Her life's course took her to St Louis, New Orleans, Albuquerque, N.M. and, ultimately, Southern California.

Harriette is, among other things, a graphic artist, and over the years she has designed much of the artwork for publications emanating from Temple

Israel. Some years ago she took over from Gordon Cohn as editor for the Long Beach Jewish Federation News (now the Chronicle) and remained in that capacity for 11 years. During her tenure, she introduced the editorial page, whose contents included commentary on Jewish life at home and abroad. Aware of budgetary limitations, she somehow tapped into news services (e.g. JTA) that served to expand the local community's knowledge of the Jewish world beyond the confines of Long Beach. With her skillful and diplomatic approach, she was also able to secure the efforts of many of the luminaries from the Jewish world. One of her coups was an article written for the Chronicle by Harvard Law professor Alan Dershowitz. She now recounts with a chuckle that when the issue of payment for his services came up, Mr. Dershowitz responded that it was better that he charge nothing, as he knew that Harriette's paper needed the money more than he did.

After working at a newspaper in Los Angeles and then a magazine in the San Fernando Valley, plus a prominent public

relations agency in Beverly Hills, Harriette was enticed by Sandy Goldstein, who was then the CEO of Long Beach Jewish Federation, to resume her editing position at the Chronicle. The job was supposed to last for only three months, but somehow got extended for 12 years.

Her personal life was of primary importance. While working full-time she managed to raise three daughters, at times as a single mom. The food got to the table, and the kids got off to school and adulthood.

In addition to her service to Temple Israel, Harriette's social consciousness carried her to Honduras, where she volunteered for the CARE project and to Baja Mexico with the Flying Samaritans. She also travelled to Italy, where she met Jews newly airlifted out of the USSR during "glasnost," and assisted them to make the transit and transition to new lives in Israel and the US. She is still trying to make the world a better place through CLUE- Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice.

At a tender age encroaching on a century, Harriette Ellis is still going strong. We are grateful for her service to Temple Israel and to the Jewish community at large. We are indeed blessed to have this *Eichet Chayel* among us, and are extremely grateful for her generous contribution via the 100 Year Campaign for the continuation of Jewish life in Long Beach.



ASK RABBI FOX

Ask Rabbi Fox is our weekly video segment that will help our community get to know our new rabbi. Send in your questions for Rabbi Fox, and if selected, we'll video your conversation with him. Answers will be posted weekly (Thursday afternoon) to Temple Israel's Facebook and YouTube Channel.

Submit your questions to: <u>TItransitionCommittee@gmail.com</u>

RITUAL PRACTICE MESSAGE / A VOICE FROM ISRAEL



LAUGHTER - IT'S TALMUDIC

By Mark Dressner, VP Ritual Practices



Rabbi Elai said: In three matters a person's true character is ascertained; in his/her cup, (i.e., behavior when drinking), in his/her pocket, (i.e., conduct in financial dealings with other people) and in his/her anger.

And some say: A person also reveals his/her real nature in his/her laughter.

-- Talmud Eruvin 65b

Questions: Why would the editors keep the laughter section of the quote?

What makes it different from the other traits mentioned?

We are experiencing a time like no other in most of our lives. We must take care of ourselves, and others, as we approach the light at the end of the tunnel. Traditionally there are three pillars of self-care – healthy activity, nutrition, and enough sleep. There is a fourth activity that is equally important – connectivity. To remain healthy during this time we need to stay connected. Relationships matter. They make us personally stronger and happier and make the group stronger and happier.

What happens when you share a belly laugh together? As a recent Ritual Practice Committee get together wound down, three of us lingered and started playing with the Zoom filter function allowing us to wear funny hats, look like animals, change our features etc. I was laughing so hard (thanks Ron and Cheryl)! I so needed to laugh and I so needed to connect at the end of a stressful, COVID filled day. Today I looked over on my desk in the middle of the work day and saw a stone with the word community on it. This made me warmly smiley. I shot off a text to Joyce to thank her for the rock and let her know that I was thinking about her. She texted back – but I am sure there was a smile and maybe a tiny laugh at the other end.

What about the person that is not laughing or seems to be unable? What is happening with that person? The energy it takes not to laugh must be so much more than the energy needed to just be silly. I once had a cantankerous older woman as a patient for whom I was the fourth doctor she had changed to in the practice. At the beginning of the third visit I walked in the room and just asked her if she had even smiled yet today. She just started laughing. We bonded and remained together until the end of her life.

I challenge you all to laugh today. Make others laugh this week. Reach out to someone to Zoom a happy hour. Send dinner to someone and Zoom dinner together. Bake cookies and drop them off to people and Zoom milk and cookies together. Leave time at the end or beginning at your next meeting to just connect. Make this a priority. Watch the spontaneity of genuine laughter, something that just can't be faked, that allows us to just feel great and connect.

KOL <u>M'YISRAEL / A VOICE FROM</u> ISRAEL

By Jeremy Rosen



Over a year has passed since my landing here. I will end my threepart introduction with some current affairs. I arrived in Israel in the middle of a political crisis that inconceivably continues until today: Israel was just days away from an election, a second one, since long-serving Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu failed to build a governing coalition in the Knesset for the first time in Israeli history. My apartment sat across from Likud (his

party) headquarters. Draped down the side of the Bauhaus high rise, Bibi's ten-story tall face watched the people of Tel Aviv (who just so happen to gather at the very trendy bar located on its entrance steps). Attempting to clarify to them his strength as a leader he flanked himself with a ten-story Trump and a ten-story Putin. After the second and third election however, his grip on power was much less clear. He was finally able to cobble together a governing coalition after the major opposition gave in to help combat the now-ongoing pandemic. To protest the kowtowing of the opposition as well as the poor national coronavirus response from the now-indicted Prime Minister, protests have taken over the streets of Israel for months. As I write this, both the finale of Trump's reelection campaign and the 25th anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination loom; a president with whom Bibi aligns and a prime minister who's murder from which he is not altogether disconnected. Bibi is again playing his parliamentary tricks to try to prevent the transition of power to the next prime minister-as was part of the power-sharing deal after the third election-hoping that by retaining the premiership he can stay out of court. Maintain power at all costs and quell the protests... for "Bibi is king!"

MEDITATIVE MORNING MINYAN EXPERIENCE WITH BILL SHAFTON

Thursdays at 7:30 am



Join Bill Shafton via Zoom for the first in a series of meditative, musical morning minyan prayer experiences. The 35 minute prayer service will feature new music and contributions from the Temple Israel community. Collaboratively, we will explore the weekday morning prayer liturgy and encounter our own meaning and holy fun.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85826362108?pwd=eituNFpEQnJJNmQ1U0V6c0kxVEYrUT09

SISTERHOOD



BID FOR A CAUSE SUCCESS!

Sisterhood's online auction was a virtual success! We raised close to **\$4,000** on auction items donated by Temple members and by the Gift Shop.

Thanks to all who were generous enough to donate items, as well as those bidders who won some awesome goods and/or services!



SISTERHOOD SCHMOOZE!

Let's connect online with Zoom for some schmoozing! Bring your beverage of choice and/or your snack of choice.

Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 pm

The Zoom link will be emailed to Sisterhood Members



Temple Israel's Sisterhood wishes everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

TEMPLE ISRAEL SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP

NEW HAVDALAH ITEMS COMING SOON!

The Gift Shop will be open by appointment only, Monday through Friday between 9:30 am and 1:30 pm Contact Elyse at (562) 429-8626

SOCIAL ACTION / HIGH SCHOOL

HAPPENINGS WITH THE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

By Andrea Friedenthal and Paul Levitt

Winter Coat Drive



Over the 3 days of the drive, congregants donated approximately 75 bags filled with jackets, sweaters, blankets, sleeping bags, and other high-quality items that were then distributed to Long Beach Community Table, Christian Outreach in Action, East Village Food Bank and Skidrow Advocacy, Wrap the Kids, and St Luke's Episcopal Church homeless assistance programs.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers:

Dan Frank, Stephanie Pullman, Ami Guy, Lauren Friedman, Jeanne Halliday, Fran DeFrance, Jackie Love and Diane Saltzman who were at curbside at Temple Israel to receive, sort, load, and deliver the donations.

High Holy Days Food Drive

Congregant monetary donations during the High Holy Days amounted to \$3,300 and were distributed to Long Beach Community Table, East Village Foodbank, and the JCC's Meals for the Seniors lunch program. These donations were in addition to the 3,000 lbs of food donated by congregants that went to the Long Beach City College Food Bank.

A Bar Mitzvah Project

From a referral by the Social Action Committee, Jackson Marschall is doing his Bar Mitzvah Project with LB Community Table (thank you teacher Rachel)! The whole family has gotten involved, and they pack & deliver weekly meals to 7-8 families in need. They found it so rewarding, and it was exciting to hear how 'connected' and needed they felt. Stay tuned at TC for Jackson's report.

Thank You...

Thanks to all of you who contribute either with time, material or money including the staff and clergy at Temple Israel. All of the organizations receiving assistance are very grateful and your efforts do not go unnoticed in the community.

Feel free to contact the Social Action Committee at *socialaction@* tilb.org for more information or details about its meetings and activities or community organizations needing support.



TEMPLE ISRAEL PROGRAM



As we move from the gratitude of the Thanksgiving holidays, we are very grateful for the time we have been able to spend with our Torah Center adoptive grandparents. Each of the 8th - 12th grade classes has had an online visit with our adoptive grandparents. It was so good to see them and connect for the first time this year. We are looking forward to more learning and laughter together.

Jakob Friedman

Our 9th grade class had its first Madrichim Representative comparative religion visit this month. Our friends from Faithful Central

Bible Church joined them for class. The 9th graders had an opportunity to learn, ask questions, and find community with the teens from a different religious experience.

The 8th Grade and High School Program Teen Council met. We discussed our upcoming Purim activities and the end of the year service. The Teen Council has a representative from ANDI, the madrichim program, and the Torah Center program. Items that were discussed will be brought back to each group for their input and direction.

Finally, the teens had a ton of fun cooking this month. First, the 8th Grade and High School Program had their Hanukkah family learning day. All the families chose a cooking activity to participate in that was led by our clergy and 8th Grade and High School Program staff. Many tasty donuts, latke cups, and homemade applesauce were made and consumed. To continue the cooking fun, ANDI got together to bake bourekas, a popular Sephardic pie filled with potatoes or cheese. We listened to music, cooked, and ate our delicious bourekas. It was nice a way to start our winter break, in community with each other.

As we end 2020, we are reminded of the importance of connecting with our community and friends. We are grateful for the opportunities that Temple Israel provides that allow us to stay close.



B'NAI MITZVAH



SARAH MADDEN January 16, 2021

Sarah Madden is an eighth grader at Rogers Middle School. She lives in Long Beach with her parents and two goldfish, Sushi and Taco. Sarah began her Jewish education in preschool at the JCC and Temple Israel, and we look forward to her Bat Mitzvah on January 16, 2021.

She is an accomplished student who has amazed us with her imaginative stories and poems, and she has a keen interest in science and math. After learning the Periodic Table of Elements at

age 8, Sarah announced that she wants to be a scientist so she can discover a new element. Currently, her career choice is to become a pediatrician.

Sarah enthusiastically embraces her many activities. She packed a punch with her Krav Maga training; raced dragon boats on team Fireball; swam on team Rocket Fish; sang her heart out in choir; led confidently in student council; and created drawings, clothing, and other masterpieces in art and sewing classes. Sarah enjoys adventure and travel with her family. Sarah is an avid reader and also enjoys watching her favorite anime and cooking shows. In recent months, she has perfected baking challah for our Shabbat dinners.

Sarah chose two Mitzvah Projects and spent many hours volunteering in the community. For her first Mitzvah Project, Sarah was a teen volunteer at the Long Beach Public Library, which gave her the opportunity to assist the librarians at the Billie Jean King Main Library. Being around books on a weekly basis brought Sarah so much joy. Although she had many things to do as a volunteer, she sometimes would get "lost" in the stacks with her head in a book. Sarah's second Mitzvah Project, volunteering at the Helen Sanders CatPAWS adoption center, kept her busy with adorable "fuzzy" cats who needed to find permanent homes.





MAX PERLER January 30, 2021

My name is Max Perler, and I am 13 years old. I go to Tincher Preparatory School in Long Beach. I enjoy reading, building Lego sets, and collecting Hot Wheels. I pride myself on being very helpful, techsavvy, and smart. My Bar Mitzvah will be held in conjunction with Temple Menorah on January 30th. I am very excited to become a Bar Mitzvah because it means I can become more involved in my Jewish community. I think Judaism is a fascinating religion!

For my Mitzvah Project, I am raising money to help kids with hearing loss in Mongolia, which is an underdeveloped country. Children in these countries do not have access to early identification and hearing devices. There is not enough money for screening equipment to identify hearing loss early on and to train professionals on how to use them. Early identification is important so that you can intervene in a child's hearing loss before it impacts their development and their life. I am helping to fund all these things so that the children in Mongolia can lead a life of listening, talking, learning, and growing. I hope you will consider a donation!

I live in Long Beach with my mom, my dad, my sister Molly, and the best of all, my adorable, and sometimes grumpy dog Murphy.



To Margaret Locke & Bill Giser on the birth of their grandson, Connor Levi Shanhav born on December 14, 2020 weighing 6lbs. 14 oz and 20 inches in length. We also extend Mazel Tov to parents Sheilia and Amitai Shenav and big brother Evan.



To Rebecca & Aaron Talvy on the birth of thier son, Elias Jackson Talvy born on December 21, 2020 weighing 6 lbs and 20 inches in length. We also extend Mazel Tov to grandparents, Cindy & Jonathan Gotz.



JOYS OF JEWISH LEARNING

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WINE AND TEXT STUDY

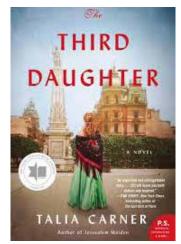
Thursdays at 7:00 pm January 7, February 4, March 4, April 15, May 27, June 17 Facilitator: Cantor Sara Hass

Explore the Book of Psalms with us. Bring your favorite bottle of wine (or other beverage) and your thirst for knowledge, as we discover why these verses of comfort and consolation have aided the Jewish people for generations. We will meet once a month, and all are welcome!

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82106608521



WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB Discussing the book The Third Daughter by Talia Carner Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00 pm



From the author of Jerusalem Maiden comes a remarkable story, inspired by little known true events, about the thousands of young Jewish women who were trafficked into prostitution at the turn of the 20th century, and whose subjugation helped build Buenos Aires.

Zoom Link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87285748108</u>

SACRED TEXTS OF COMFORT AND RESILIENCE

Nachamu Nachamu Ami (Comfort, Comfort My People)

Fridays at 9:30 am January 15 and 22 Teacher: Rabbi Robin Foonberg

Our prophets provided comfort to the Israelites in their time and still provide comfort for us today. Together, we will take a look at some of their writings and discuss how they speak to us during our time of need.

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83457556923

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

January 20 - May 26 ~ 6:00 pm

Teachers: Rabbi Scott Fox, Rabbi Michal Loving, and Student Rabbi Miriam Hoffman

We invite you to join with learners of all backgrounds in our Introduction to Judaism course. The course will cover a broad cross-section of topics related to Judaism in a discussion-based format with experts in the field. This class is ideal for anyone looking to explore Judaism for the very first time, seeking conversion, or for folks who would like to fill in pockets of knowledge in a tradition that takes a lifetime to learn. Everyone is welcome. We look forward to your joining us. **Cost: \$180**

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83112102784



COMFORT FOODS Seven Species Salad Thursday, January 21 at 7:00 pm Teacher: Kara Liu



Wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olive oil and dates the taste of Tu B'Shevat. Join Kara Liu in getting ready for Tu B'Shevat with a yummy seven species salad.

Zoom Link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.</u> us/j/86890108043

JOYS OF JEWISH LEARNING

BEYOND THE DOCUMENTS How Purposeful and Ongoing Estate Planning Can Enhance Life for You and Your Loved Ones

Tuesday, February 2 at 7:00 pm Facilitator: Curtis Kaiser, JD, MBA

Join us for this important presentation about how we best prepare to leave a legacy for those who will survive us.

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85958509553



COMFORT FOODS: BABKA Thursday, February 11 at 7:00 pm Teacher: Eve Lunt

Join Eve Lunt for a delicious evening, as we make bubbe's chocolate babka. Butter, cinnamon, sugar, and lots of love - a recipe you're gonna love!

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85451525005



FAMILY GENEALOGY Mondays at 7:00 pm February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22 Teacher: Sheryl Stahl

Have you been meaning to get around to doing your family history but haven't found the perfect moment? Here it is! "In this class, we will go over the basics of finding and organizing records about life in the United States, immigration to the United States, and life in the "old country" (wherever that may be). Participants of any age are welcome - you just need an active curiosity and a little patience with diving into databases.

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89873249413

MOVIE DISCUSSION Shared Legacies: The African-American Jewish Civil Rights Alliance

Thursday, February 18 at 7:00 pm

Facilitator: Kate Sachnoff



The crucial historical lessons of Black-Jewish cooperation are revisited and revived in this utterly fascinating, urgent call to action. The modern alliance between African-Americans and Jewish Americans dates to the NAACP founding in 1909. Since then, both groups have endured segregation and racism, from the codified bigotry of southern Jim Crow laws, to blatant bias in real

estate, employment, higher education and politics. Common cause was found in the turbulent '60s Civil Rights era, as Jewish leaders backed Dr. King's efforts at racial equality and harmony. Yet, the relationship has frayed in recent years, as a once mighty bond of support and respect has seemingly faded, been forgotten, or ignored. Pivotal events come alive through a treasure trove of archival materials, narrated by eyewitnesses, activists, Holocaust survivors, and leaders of the movement. This potent, inspiring story of unity, empathy and partnership validates the ubiquity of the human experience, and how freedom and equality for all can be achieved only when people come together.

Watch on YouTube beforehand and then join us for the live discussion.

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85299197568

STRIVING FOR RESILIENCY PART TWO

Sunday, February 28 at 7:00 pm

Facilitators: Lisa Endelman and Greg Endelman



Licensed Educational Psychologists Greg and Lisa Endelman will continue to explore resiliency through the development of competency-based personal growth, offering strategies to help with the development of grit,

growth mindset, scout mindset, and other related skills.

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86343556437

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Fridays at 4:00 pm

Facebook Live - <u>https://www.facebook.com/TempleIsraelLB/</u>

Join Sharon Amster Brown and Eric Shatzkin for a review of the week, fun chat about topics of interest, and a discussion with a special guest for the week.

JANUARY'S FABULOUS GUESTS!



January 8 Miriam Berro Krugman



January 15 Bryon & Shlomit Jackson



January 22 Mira Smeltzer

SAVE THE DATE

FAITH IN JUSTICE: CCEJ'S 30TH ANNUAL INTERFAITH INTERCULTURAL BREAKFAST "Activating Racial Justice: Leaning into a Hope-Filled Future"

Thursday, February 18 at 8:30 am (held virtually)

Rabbi Scott Fox, MC for the Program

Keynote Speaker Dr. Leah Gunning Francis, Ph.D



INTERFAITH GREETINGS A Muslim in the Bible Belt

By Roni Love, SCIC Member

In November, Milia Islam Majeed, SCIC's Executive Director, was the guest on Civil(ish), a podcast by Johnny Byrd which tackles the big questions to find answers (or not) through engaging in meaningful dialogue to understand the differences that divide and appreciate the touch points of agreement all the while trying to come to a point of mutual respect – even for those with whom we completely disagree!

Milia was asked to share her story of faith, acceptance, belonging; what it was like growing up in Missouri as a religious minority and Bangladeshi immigrant. It was there that she learned the hard and painful lessons of prejudice and hate. More importantly, she witnessed how meaningful relationships can develop when we take the time to engage with one another and build upon what unites us. I hope you will listen to her story, A Muslim in the Bible Belt, on how she overcame adversity and chose to dedicate her life to building bridges across racial, ethnic, religious, cultural and neighborhood divides.

It is both Milia's and my firm belief in the necessity and beauty of religious diversity that motivates us to fulfill the mission of the SCIC - that of creating communities of compassion among people of different faiths and cultures through service, education and celebration.

Please tune in to <u>https://open.spotify.com/episode/2CZykY-</u> <u>QtaloDZcKE8dgfjt?si=54np8OmxRICOoG6Jyzp_Xg</u> or go to Spotify's Civil(ish), A Muslim in the Bible Belt.

SHALOM-SALAAM-PAZ-SHANTI-HER PING-PEACE





YAHRZEIT OBSERVANCE "Zecher Tzadik Livracha" The memory of the righteous are a blessing



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* These names are permanently inscribed on our memorial wall and will be read in perpetuity.

CONDOLENCES

 Kagin Family

 on the death of Doris Kagin

 Joan Leb

 on the death of her sister, Lillian Mulberg

 Marlene Ross and Freda Ross

 on the death of husband and father, Burrell Ross

 Evelyn Solis

 on the death of her grandmother, Rose Malchotsky Levine

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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.

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Rabbi *Tzedakah projects at the Rabbi's discretion*

Cantor Sara Hass *Tzedakah projects at the Cantor's discretion*

Educator For benefit of the Torah Center and its teachers

President For special projects at the President's discretion

COMMUNITY FUNDS

□ Homeless Assistance Helps those in need pay first and/or last month's rent

Caring Community Funds programs for Temple families in need

Nancy Leff and Donald Leff Memorial Purchases Chanukah gifts for children of needy families

□ Yad B'Yad Purchases kitchen and catering supplies for Yad B'Yad

BOOK FUND

Library Fund
 Purchase of library books

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS

Rabbi Wolli & Sarah Kaelter Sabbath Fellowship For Sabbath Fellowship senior programming

Stan Solomon Building

For building repairs

MUSIC FUNDS

- Funds quarterly alternative music service.
- Music Patrons
 Funds musical programs

CAMP FUNDS

- □ Paula & Michael Avchen Campership Camp/trip program for children in financial need
- Lester Elbert and Corinne Van Boemel Memorial Campership Camperships for those in financial need
- **Lipeles Family Camp & Adult Shabbaton** *Fund for Families in need*
- **Jewish Campership** *Camperships for those in need*
- □ Miriam Berro Krugman Helps teens participate in the URJ Mitzvah Corp.

TORAH CENTER FUNDSTorah Center Fund

- **Polly Alevy Memorial Education** *Funds for Torah Center*
- HUM (Horim U'Morim)
 Funds Torah Center projects
- A. Estin Comarr Memorial Torah Scholarship Funds scholarships for Torah Center
- **Torah Center Scholarship** Assists with Torah Center fees and scholarships
- Roselle & Herbert Sommer
 Scholarship Fund
 Assists with Torah Center fees and camp scholarships

PROGRAMMING FUNDS

- ANDI *Programs for our teens*
- □ Jack Bard Memorial For Jewish programs of interest to the congregation
- **Social Action** For social action and programming needs
- □ Joys of Jewish Learning Funds adult education programs at the Temple



TEMPLE ISRAEL FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUNDS

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□ Temple Israel Preservation Fund (TIP Fund) Funds building beautification and refurbishment

The Speizer Youth Development *Funds youth activities*

- Pilger Lectureship
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- □ Lapid-Shapiro Funds annual lectureship programs and Torah Center educational programs
- Syd Lemmerman Jewish Camping and Youth Fund In support of Jewish camping, Israel experiences, and other informal Jewish educational programs

To make a donation, please check off any fund above to which you would like to donate and fill out the form below. Tear out this sheet and mail to: **Temple Israel - 269 Loma Avenue, Long Beach CA 90803**

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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

IN LOVING MEMORY

Reva & Seymour Alban in loving memory of Reva's dear father, Otto Steinberg.

Cindy & David Arana in memory of Leo Jacobs, beloved father, father-in-law and grandfather.

Binnie & Jack Berro in fond memory of their special uncle, Ted Phillips, beloved father of Daryl Phillips and Gary Phillips.

Rosecarrie & Alan Brooks in loving memory of Rosecarrie's mother, Hetty Goslins.

Rosecarrie & Alan Brooks in loving memory of Rosecarrie's grandmother, Kathe Goslinski and her grandfather, Heiman Goslinski.

Falina & Saul Budeshtsky in loving memory of Falina's mom, Rachel Tsipkis.

Douglas & Rebecca Cringean in memory of Jane Cringean, beloved mother of Douglas.

Bill & Wynndi Dahlin in loving memory of their son, Josiah Andrew Dahlin.

Asher & Heather Edwards in loving memory of Asher's grandfather, Allan Edwards.

Lidia Fahlk in loving memory of her dad, Alfred (Fredi) Neumann. Linda C. Fox in loving memory of her mother, Miriam Yuter Chodosh.

Andrea Friedenthal in loving memory of her grandmother, Tillie Evans.

Leon Fultheim in loving memory of his dad, Paul Fultheim. Marvin Glickman in loving memory of his mother,

Minnie Glickman.

Jared & Trish Goldin in loving memory of Jared's father, Stanley V. Goldin.

Trish & Jared Goldin in loving memory of Trish's father, Ben Lee Ettelson.

Anne Gundry & David Hillinger in loving memory of Anne's mother, Cherry Gundry.

Jeanne Halliday in loving memory of her stepmother, Ida Pinto Nahum.

Tari & Alain Hirsch in loving memory of Tari's uncle, Donald Eisner.

Joanne & Jerry Levy in loving memory of Joanne's close friend, Randi Carp.

Joanne & Jerry Levy in loving memory of Joanne's mother, Shirley Schnee.

Nancy & Jim Linden in loving memory of Nancy's grandmother, Sarah Katz Cheifer.

Margaret Locke & Bill Giser in loving memory of Margaret's father, Robert Locke.

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Candice Schneider in loving memory of her husband, James Ellis Schneider.

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Elaine Warren in loving memory of her parents, Esther and David Lander.

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Claudia Amador in support of Temple Israel.

Benjamin & Elinore Brown in recognition of Sharon, Johanna and Sadie Brown's Torah Center work.

Chana & Glenn Ham-Rosebrock in memory of Dan Finkle, beloved father of Amy Lipeles.

Jewish Long Beach in memory of Dan Finkle, beloved father of Amy Lipeles.

Michael Malinowski in support of Temple Israel.

Al & Ruth Rudis in support of Temple Israel.

Michelle Sampson in honor of Charmaine Weiner.

Alain Silverston in support of Temple Israel.

RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

Jeff & Nancy Barrad and family in appreciation and fondness to Rabbi Fox for his compassionate presence at the funeral of their dear mother, Helen Barrad.

Barbara Wolfe in loving memory of her husband, Harry Wolfe.

CARING COMMUNITY FUND

Marvin Glickman to thank the Caring Community Group for the lovely gifts and very thoughtful note added to card sent.

Jeanne Halliday in loving memory of her father, Enrico Nahum. Jeanne Halliday in loving memory of her mother-in-law,

Ida May Golden.

Ted Van Boemel in honor of Dr. David Sacks who kindly volunteered to drive to a doctor's appointment in the city of Orange.

Audrey Zahler in honor of the birth of Laurel Rebecca Green, grandchild of Bea Aron.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE FUND

Cheryl Avirom in support of Temple Israel.

JOYS OF JEWISH LEARNING FUND

Karen Fried in loving memory of her aunt, Shirley Shayne. Shirlee Sappell in memory of her beloved brother, Perry Labow. Basha Yonis & Fritz Howe in loving memory of Basha's father, Moe Johnson.

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Susan Stuhlbarg in memory of Muriel Lipeles, beloved mother of Richard Lipeles.

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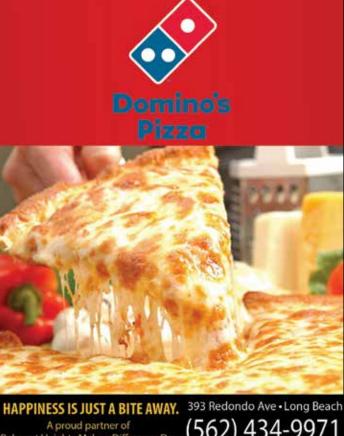
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