

## Kol Yisra'el

THE VOICE OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

December 2022 Kisley / Tevet 5783



## **IOIN US FOR DECEMBER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**



## **JEWISH ROCK AND ROLL:**

Jewish Rockers of The Past 100 years

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm December 7, 14, 21 (In person and Livestreamed)



## **PRAYER 101:**

Kabbalat Shabbat Overview
Friday, December 9 at 6:00 pm
(In person and Zoom)



## **PARENTING STRATEGIES 101:**

Creating and Implementing
Positive Home Routines

Sunday, December 18 at 9:45 am
(In person)

More opportunities and information on pages 10-11



## YOUR DONATION OR LEGACY GIFT WILL HELP FUND OUR FUTURE!

The Next 100 Years Campaign has currently raised over three 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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## **TOT SHABBAT**

## Friday, December 23 at 6:00 pm

at Temple Israel Followed by a FREE pizza dinner!



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!

Please RSVP to Michelle at mdt@tilb.org

## Get Well Wishes

Mark Hoffer Laura Bleiberg Joshua Kaye Robert Brumbaugh Colleen Carver Art Levine Ann Martin Harriette Ellis David Philips Linda Fox Harriet Reed Karen Fried Joseph Schleich Elyse Gordon Michelle Vadon Darrin Hammer Ed Zwieback Judith Hardaker

Amy Hodis



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  $10^{\rm th}$  of the preceding month prior to publication.

## **PROFESSIONAL STAFF**

Rabbi Scott Fox • Cantor Kelly Cooper • Cantor Emeritus Marvin Finnley Eric J. Shatzkin, Exec. Director • Sharon Amster Brown, Director of Ed. Kara Liu, Youth Director • David York, Accompanist

**Our Mission Statement** Guided by Reform Jewish values, our mission is to engage in a journey of prayer, learning, and community that inspires us to transform ourselves and the world.

## **SHABBAT SERVICES**

## Friday, December 2

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Service

## Saturday, December 3

### Shabbat Midbar

8:45 am Torah Study (at El Dorado Nature Center) 10:00 am Hike and Meditation (at El Dorado Nature Center)

## Friday, December 9

7:00 pm Kol HaNeshama: Soulful Musical Shabbat

## Saturday, December 10

8:45 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service / Bat Mitzvah of Miryam Fisher Leiserowitz

## Friday, December 16

6:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service

## Saturday, December 17

8:45 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service / B'nai Mitzvah of Elizabeth and Jacob Dobrofsky

## Friday, December 23

6:00 pm Tot Shabbat 7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service

## Saturday, December 24

8:45 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service

### Friday, December 30

6:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service (Online Only)

## Saturday, December 31

8:45 am Torah Study (Zoom Only) No Shabbat Morning Service

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022 - 2023**

Mark Dressner Justin Perlman President VP Resource Development Karen Ben-Shmuel Kate Sachnoff VP Education VP Social Action **Bobbi Horowitz** Ron Artstein VP Membership Secretary Sheryl Stahl Jerry Levy VP Ritual Practices Treasurer

## Steve Gordon

Past President

Laurie Arroyo, Daniel Felsenthal, Lea Gerber, Jared Goldin, Jill Fisher Granek, Lisa Hill, David Jacobson, Kathy Kreida, Gail Levy, Lysa Saltzman, Sheri Sinaga, Scott Sterling, Ed Zwieback

Alan Lilien, Foundation President

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE / END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTION



#### **EXPECTATIONS**

By Mark Dressner, Temple President



We have so many expectations of what we want at Temple Israel. I would like to update you on what may be some of your expectations including some that could best be tempered with reality of the 24-hour day.

## **Board of Directors - Supervision**

One expectation here is that our TI employees are well supervised, with explicit goals and time set aside for feedback and adjustment. I am

so happy to say that we are completing a year of productive feedback. Explicitly, the Rabbi and I sat together about a year ago to mutually agree on goals for the year. We met twice during the year to discuss progress of these goals and strategize. We met formally at the end of October along with the head of our HR committee, our president-elect, and our VP of Membership to summarize accomplishments and work in progress for our Jewish year. In November, we met again to develop goals for the next year.

I am also happy to say that the Rabbi is doing this same process with the Cantor and Temple Educator. They are goal setting, working closely together, and meeting to check in on progress. This is developing into a valuable system of communication, feedback, and forward-looking activity to help make TI the vibrant institution that it is. This same process is also taking place in the administrative section of TI with our Executive Director, and then with those whom he supervises.

## **Board of Directors - Fiduciary**

One of the Board's biggest roles is to be sure that TI remains financially sound. We meticulously create a budget for the year led by the Executive Director and the Treasurer along with their committee of financial professionals. Our budget is created with assistance from the Temple Foundation and the 100-year campaign. Our income comes from membership, the High Holy Day campaign, and through fund (and fun) raising. One of the most challenging positions at TI is VP of Resource Development. An incredibly talented team has been put together this year to strengthen our usual events and brainstorm other ideas to have fun and raise funds. Our sustainability plan which looks at our next 10 years has us stepping back and looking at the future as we actively plan for the current year.

#### Communication

This is always a somewhat perplexing issue. We want everyone to know what is going on with enough time to plan, but we do not want to overload congregants with too much information. We want our website calendar kept up to date. We want to have documents, policies, and really any information in an easily

retrievable format for anyone who needs them. Probably, besides this newsletter, the most important emails sent are on Mondays and Fridays. Please carefully scroll through your Monday email, which is full of the regular weekly events, events specific for that week, social action opportunities, and even education about ritual practice. Sometimes we really want to inform about special events during the week and send out dedicated emails, so nobody misses out. Also, as a sacred community, learning about births and deaths are important so we can be there for each other.

Emails – oh my. We all know about the number of emails we all get regularly to which we tread water just to keep up. Our staff are inundated with emails, not to mention texts and voicemails. When one looks at all the other responsibilities in a day, the plethora of emails is overwhelming. For a Rabbi, this is especially difficult because even meticulously planned days can go asunder as attention is diverted to the sick, those grieving from a death, and those in need for any reason. Though the staff and leaders are often strategizing how to best handle emails, please be patient if you do not get an immediate response. Every email gets seen, but sometimes our staff responds when they finally can, late at night, or even the next day, because they do have to sleep too. Patience.

## PLEASE CONSIDER AN END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTION

Dear Temple Members and Friends,

We are immensely grateful to those of you who have already made a gift to Temple Israel this year. Please know that your contribution is critical to our being able to provide services, programming, and experiences for our youngest to our youngest-at-heart members. The simple fact is that membership contributions and Torah Center fees do not cover the cost of operating Temple Israel. Remember that Temple Israel is a 501(c)(3) organization, which means that your donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. (Consult with your accountant.)

You have many choices when it comes to organizations to support with your end-of-year charitable gifts, and we thank you for your consideration to contribute to Temple Israel or the Temple Israel of Long Beach Foundation. When planning your end-of-year charitable giving, you have many choices, so please check with your tax preparer.

We thank you in advance for your ongoing support of Temple Israel and our community!

Eric Shatzkin Executive Director Mark Dressner Temple President



## RITUAL PRACTICES COMMITTEE MESSAGE



## **RPC MESSAGE**

By Sheryl Stalh, VP Ritual Practices

At the end of almost every service, we say the Aleinu. We have three different choices to choose from in the Mishkan T'filah which got me wondering what the differences were among them and why do we have so many choices? The origins of the Aleinu are a little murky. One tradition says that Joshua created it after the destruction of Jericho. Another opinion is that Tanna Rav wrote it in the 3rd century.

The versions in our siddur all begin the same:

## עָלֵינוּ לְשַׁבֵּחַ לַאֲדון הַכּל. לָתֵת גְּדֻלָּה לְיוצֵר בּרִאשׁית.

It is upon us to praise the Lord of all; to bestow greatness to the Former of creation,

And end the same:

## וַאֲנַחְנוּ כּוֹרְעִים וּמִשְׁתַּחֲוִים וּמוּדִים לִפְּנֵי מֶלֶךְ מַלְכֵי הַמְּלָכִים הַקָּדושׁ בָּרוּךְ הוּא

And we bend the knee and bow before the King, the King of all Kings, the Holy One, Blessed be God,

But the middle parts differ. The most traditional version is the one we generally recite at Temple Israel

## שֶׁלֹא עָשנוּ כְּגויֵי הָאֲרָצות. וְלֹא שמָנוּ כְּמִשְׁפְּחות הָאֲדָמָה. שֶׁלֹא שם חֶלְקֵנוּ כָּהֶם וְגורַלֵנוּ כָּכַל הַמוּנַם

Who did not make us like the nations of the lands, and did not set us up like the families of the earth; who did not assign our portion as theirs, nor our lot like that of all the multitudes.

I was fascinated to learn that there originally was another line which got censored out over the years.

## שָׁהַם מִשְׁתַּחֲוִים לְהֶבֶּל וְרִיק וּמִתְפַּלְלִים אֶל אל לא יושיע

For they bow to vanity and emptiness and pray to a god that does not save.

Assuming that it referred to them (it may or may not have,) Christians were upset at the line and it was removed from many prayer-books.

Reform Judaism has wrestled with the notion of "chosenness" and at one point changed the middle section completely.

## שהוא נוטה שמים ויסד ארץ ומושב יקרו בשמים ממעל ושכינת עזו בגבהי מרומים הוא אלהינו אין עוד

Who spread out the heavens and established the earth, whose glory is revealed in the heavens above and whose greatness is manifest throughout the world. You are our God, there is none else.

Because this prayer does not come from the Bible, people have been free to offer different versions. The Reconstructionist movement and the British Reform movement both changed the words, as have other liturgists.



## Shabbat Midbar

WITH RABBI FOX AND CANTOR COOPER

at El Dorado Sature Center (First Saturday of the month through June)

## Saturday, December 3

Meeting at the grass area picnic tables at the rear of the parking lot

Torah Study at 8:45 am Hike and Meditation 10:00 am

(Please bring your own water and snack)





# DOCTOR, I'M WORRIED ABOUT MY MEMORY: A DISCUSSION ABOUT ASSESSING COGNITIVE CHANGES AS WE AGE

with Dr. Matt Davis

Sunday, January 29 1:00 - 3:00 pm

at Temple Israel

Everyone welcome to attend! Zoom information coming soon.



## JEWISH IMMIGRATION AND THE ELLIS ISLAND NAME CHANGE MYTH

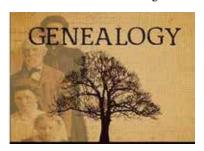
with Laura Lee Gold

President of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Los Angeles

Sunday, February 5 1:00 - 3:00 pm

at Temple Israel

Everyone welcome to attend! Zoom information coming soon.



## UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2023 Please stay tuned for details and join us!

- January Women's Night Out
- February 23 at 1:30 pm Color Me Mine
- April 23 TI Sisterhood Member Appreciation Event
- April 30 Make a Difference Day Sisterhood will be baking for heroes in our community
- May Flower Arranging
- June 11 Jews in American History by the Braid in partnership with Joys of Jewish Learning
- TBD Bingo/Game Day



## THE SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP



The Gift Shop is open during Torah Center hours, Sundays, from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm Wednesdays, from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Stop by and check out the Sales Table!



It will also be open by appointment. Contact Elyse at (562) 429-8626





## **SECURITY COMMITTEE MESSAGE / FOCUS ON NEW MEMBERS**



## A MESSAGE FROM THE TEMPLE ISRAEL SECURITY COMMITTEE

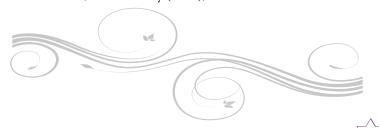
In *Deuteronomy 4:9* we are commanded to take utmost care of ourselves and to remember what we have observed. This has been interpreted to care for our bodies, our physical and mental health, our environment, and even to safeguard our homes and our house of worship. While we as individuals are responsible for caring for ourselves, it does take a united effort to care for our community.

Temple Israel's Security Committee is committed to prioritizing and enhancing the safety and security of our Temple building and all who enter its doors. The experience of others has taught us that addressing potential vulnerabilities and training staff and congregants can serve both to decrease the likelihood of bad actors entering our spiritual home and increase our preparedness should the unthinkable occur.

Our committee has been busy since we first convened this fall. We conducted a building vulnerability assessment in September. Members of the LA area JRIC (Joint Regional Intelligence Center) are reviewing this assessment and are scheduled to visit our facility in December to make their formal recommendations. In late October, thanks in large part to Temple member Reggie Reyes and our Executive Director, Eric Shatzkin, we submitted a Nonprofit Security Grant Program proposal to the California Office of Emergency Services, Homeland Security, and Grants Processing Branch for reimbursement funds for planned physical security enhancements and training. Some of our committee members have participated in virtual and in-person trainings led by local security experts, the Secure Community Network, or subject matter experts from the federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). And with Sharon Amster Brown, we explored what might be done to further enhance safety and security for our Torah Center students and faculty.

Although the installation of building hardening enhancements, staff training, and monitoring of security threats may not be apparent to you, please know that they will be occurring. More obvious will be our efforts to train volunteers and congregants in situational awareness and how best to prepare for an emergency situation, be it a natural disaster, medical emergency, physical attack, or cyberattack. We hope that you will join us in our efforts to take utmost care of ourselves.

If you have questions or comments, please reach out to one of our dedicated Security Committee members: Alex Moreland, Elyse Gordon, Gary Roberts, Reggie Reyes, Rob Friedenthal, Steve Gratch, Linda Burney (chair), or Eric Shatzkin.



## **FOCUS ON NEW MEMBERS**



## The Hirsch Family

Temple Israel warmly welcomes new members, Jennifer and Jerry Hirsch.

Jennifer and Jerry moved to Belmont Shore last year after living in Rossmoor since 1990. They enjoy the close access to the beach for strolls and bike rides and the neighborhood's vibrant food scene.

The Hirschs like to travel, walking, wine tasting and hanging out with their labrador retriever, Pippa. Jennifer loves spending time curled up with a good book. Jerry is an avid

cyclist.

Both have had active careers. Jennifer is a CPA specializing in not-for-profit finances and Jerry is a journalist, specializing in transportation, business, and economics.

They have three grown children. Rebecca is married and lives in Edinburgh, Scotland. Jacob and Shira both live in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Over the years, the Hirsch family have been members of Adat Ariel, Adat Chaverim, and Chabad of Rossmoor. Every member of the family has many happy memories of time spent at Camp Ramah.

At the time of their move, the Hirschs were looking for a new, more egalitarian synagogue close to Belmont Shore and decided to check out Temple Israel.

Jennifer and Jerry enjoyed the warm and inclusive High Holy Day services, beautiful music, and friendly congregants, and decided to become members. Jennifer is especially looking forward to attending programs in-person and having the opportunity to meet new people and engage in our temple community. Please welcome Jennifer and Jerry Hirsch to Temple Israel!



New Member Recognition Shabbat

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2023

Join us for Oneg and Program getting to know our newest members

Oneg in honor of our New Members 6:00 pm

Kol HaNeshama Service 7:00 pm

## Cantor Kelly Cooper Installation Weekend Sponsors

We had a joyous weekend celebrating the installation of Cantor Kelly Cooper. We thank everyone who was able to join us in some or all of the events. A weekend like this is only possible by the efforts of our Installation Committee and our amazing sponsors listed below.

## **INVITATIONS**

Howard & Karen Ort

### **DECOR AND RENTALS FOR THE WEEKEND**

Lena Shupper

## **INSTALLATION GIFT**

Eliezer & Karen Ben-Shmuel
Denny & Judy Blumenthal
Clifford Corman & Deborah Fabricant
Stuart & Lauren Friedman
Nathan & Lisa Hill
David Jacobson
Scott & Melissa Newman
Jeff & Andrea Salisbury
Todd & Vicki Scherwin
Eric Shatzkin & Melissa Marcus

### FRIDAY LUNCHEON RECEPTION

Jeff & Andrea Salisbury

### FRIDAY ONEG RECEPTION

Temple Israel Sisterhood

## **SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST**

Dennis & Lea Gerber

## **SATURDAY PARK RENTAL**

David Jacobson

## **SATURDAY EVENING DINNER**

Eliezer & Karen Ben-Shmuel Asher & Heather Edwards Clifford Corman & Deborah Fabricant Hank & Joyce Feldman Steve & Michelle Gordon Alan & Kathv Kreida Alan & Robin Lilien James & Nancy Linden Richard & Amy Lipeles Scott & Melissa Newman Daryl & Sandy Phillips Jeffrey & Lauren Rips Leon & Barbara Shoag Sheri Sinaga Wayne Slavitt & Joanne Ratner Bill & Kristina Shafton Susan Stuhlbarg Natalie Swit David Tillman & Karen Zoller

### **HAVDALAH EVENT ENTERTAINMENT**

Alan & Rosecarrie Brooks
Todd & Vicki Scherwin

#### **SATURDAY LIGHTING & SOUND**

Paul Levitt Gerald & Joanne Levy

## **TORAH CENTER SUNDAY TREATS**

Adam & Sharon Brown Rabbi Scott Fox & Dori Chandler Fric Shatzkin & Melissa Marcus

### **WEEKEND SECURITY**

Mark Dressner & Matthew Davis

## TEMPLE ISRAEL BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPONSORSHIPS

Laurie Arroyo, Ron Artstein & Nancy Hall, Eliezer & Karen Ben-Shmuel, Mark Dressner & Matthew Davis, Dennis & Lea Gerber, Steve & Michelle Gordon, Kenneth & Jill Granek, Adolfo Guzman-Lopez & Lysa Saltzman, Nathan & Lisa Hill, Bobbi Horowitz, David Jacobson, Alan & Kathy Kreida, Jerry & Joanne Levy, Justin Perlman & Marielli Cardona-Rivera, Lawrence Rosenthal & Katharine Sachnoff, Sheri Sinaga, Sheryl Stahl & Jane Withrow-Stahl, Scott & Beth Sterling

### ADDITIONAL WEEKEND SPONSORSHIPS

Beverly August, Cheryl Avirom, Joshua & Amy Axel, Jack & Binnie Berro, Richard & Linda Burney, Nathan & Lisa Hill, Craig Kain & Kevin O'Grady, Linda Keiles & Leslie Ciletti, David & Susan Philips, Jerry Prell & Karen Calechman, David & Sadie Sacks, Anna Salusky, Marlene Sanchez, Jeffrey Shupper, William & Marian Siegel, Ivy Smith & Winona Phillabaum, Jan & Norma Stein, Ilsebill Wolfe, Walt & Diann Zenda





At the end of October, the Kesher teens attended the Teen Leadership & Madrichim Development Overnight at Camp Bob Waldorf in Glendale, CA. This event was created by our own Youth Director Kara Liu in partnership with Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills Youth Director Aaron Wiener. Our Kesher youth board ANDI helped create and lead some of the programs including a mixer, and Friday and Saturday night services. Kara Liu is dedicated to partnering with other area temples to help provide these incredible experiences for our teen community. Please enjoy the following article written about our event by Aaron Wiener.

## BUILDING A MEANINGFUL, JEWISH WORLD: A LESSON IN EXPANDING TEMPLE YOUTH GROUP PROGRAMS

by Aaron Wiener (He/Him/His)

Leadership demands two kinds of courage: the strength to take a risk, and the humility to admit when a risk fails. -Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Joint programming is not a new concept but reintroducing it as a movement that employs our teens and enables them to collaborate with one another provides them with a different set of skills and new ways to learn.

The third weekend of October, 55 teens across southern California, hailing from 12 synagogues, attended our first Teen Leadership & Madrichim Development Overnight at Camp Bob Waldorf in Glendale, CA. Our focus was helping our teens network, engage, and collaborate through leadership-based workshops and team building experiences.

We brought in four Jewish organizations to focus on concepts our teens struggle with incorporating into their monthly programs. Tzedek America hosted a discussion around ways social action can benefit our community. URJ California Camps' assistant director, Rachel Dubowe, helped our teens learn about active listening and communication, while Tivnu Gap Year Program came down from Portland, OR to teach our teens about homelessness and the social impact we can have on our local communities. StandWithUs engaged our teens with a simulation about antisemitism, learning how to be active on social media without getting caught in the crossfire and teaching other teens about the importance of Israeli knowledge and current events in the world today.

We asked our teen leaders to describe their experiences this past weekend:

This experience is more impactful than you might know. The bonds you create with the people at these retreats grow increasingly stronger the more you come back and the more

amazing it gets. Going to retreats really separates you from the outside world and lets your true self shine ... everyone who comes to these events is open and friendly. I am going to remember them for the rest of my life ... these events have helped make me the person I am today, and I couldn't be happier!

- *Rachel Nisenholtz* (she/her), 11th Grade, President (Temple Israel of Long Beach)

This retreat provided so many great workshops in becoming a stronger leader in many types of situations. It's a great way to connect with your friends and make new ones. You'll return from this a stronger leader and overall, a more well-rounded person. Highly, highly recommended. - *Max Perler* (he/him), 9th Grade, Communication Vice President (Temple Israel of Long Beach)

We can collaborate with Jewish organizations in different ways. Moving forward, we expect to see our NFTY SoCal Teen regional board members engaging with our TYG board members at synagogues across southern California. We are working hard to ensure that our SoCal community is providing multiple leadership opportunities for our teens. When we embrace partnership with other Jewish organizations, we are setting an example in leadership.



## THIS MONTH'S B'NAI MITZVAH



MIRYAM FISHER LEISEROWITZ December 10, 2022

Miryam is a 7th grader at Hughes Middle School, where she also participates in Green Team. She was born in Idaho, and decided to change the spelling of her name from Miriam to Miryam at the age of 3. She always looks forward to the next visit to see her family in Iowa, Hawaii, Wisconsin, and to meet up with her half-siblings. She loves dogs, especially her pug, Junie. Miryam enjoys reading, backpacking, and traveling. She plans to pursue a career in aerospace engineering.

Her Mitzvah Project involves volunteering at the Michelle Obama Library helping with events for children and teens. Miryam looks forward to becoming bat mitzvah so she can participate more fully in services and at Temple Israel.

## LOOKING TO CREATE SMALL INTEREST GROUPS

Have a hobby or activity you would love to share? Do you enjoy hiking, bird watching, eating (for our foodies), antiquing, crafts, theatre, movies, or some other social activity? Are you someone with things to do and looking for like-minded companions?

Then the Membership Committee is looking for you. This is an invitation to you to create and lead a "small interest" group of your own design: an exciting way to get involved in our Temple community as well as an excellent opportunity to gather with friends, old and new, while doing something you enjoy.

If interested in leading a group, please contact Bobbi at <a href="mailto:VPMembership@tilb.org">VPMembership@tilb.org</a>





ELIZABETH DOBROFSKY December 17, 2022

Hello, my name is Elizabeth Dobrofsky and my Bat Mitzvah is on December 17, 2022. I am going to be leading the congregational service with my twin brother, Iacob.

I currently go to Oak Middle School in Los Alamitos, and I am in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. I am in the Oak Choir, and love performing on stage. I also do several different acts of volunteering for one of my school's clubs. Another club I am in is Science Olympiad, where we compete with other schools in the

different fields of science. My favorite school subject is history because I love learning about the different cultures of people and how others lived. Some of my hobbies are drawing, singing, dancing, and gaming.

I have been going to Temple Israel for 5 years now, including this year, starting in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. I would like to thank Cantor Cooper for helping me study for my Bat Mitzvah, and I would like to say I have really enjoyed learning my Torah and Haftarah portions. I would also like to thank Rabbi Fox for helping with my Dvar Torah. I really am excited (*but nervous*) for my Bat Mitzvah, and I can't wait for it to happen.



JACOB DOBROFSKY December 17, 2022

My name is Jacob Dobrofsky, I am celebrating my Bar Mitzvah with my twin sister, Elizabeth. I attend 7th grade at Oak Middle School in Los Alamitos, and my favorite subjects are Science, Math, and History. I play trumpet in Oak's Jazz Band and in the Intermediate Band. Reading, playing video games, and bike riding are also activities I enjoy.

I have attended Temple Israel Torah Center since the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. At Temple Israel, I like Hebrew

Reading and Jewish History. Bar Mitzvah class has been much work but being guided by Cantor Cooper and Rabbi Fox has made it also fun.

My Mitzvah Project will involve helping out at a shelter for pets seeking adoption. I am really excited to become a participating member of Temple Israel and the larger Jewish communities!



## JOYS OF JEWISH LEARNING

## NEW TESTAMENT STUDY FROM A JEWISH POINT OF VIEW

## Mondays at 9:45 am (Zoom Only)

Facilitator: Jo Ann Schneider Farris

Jews and Christians read the same stories differently. Explore and discuss the New Testament from a Jewish perspective and learn more about the Jewish roots of Christianity. Currently going through the book of Revelation.

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82285979629



## **TANAKH STUDY GROUP**

## Thursdays at 10:15 am (Zoom Only)

Facilitator: Martine Korach

This dedicated group of learners has studied together for many years and is beginning their third voyage through the Tanakh. Every reading of this material yields new information and insights. Anyone is invited to join the group at any time, as we take pride in learning from each other. The only requirements for the class are curiosity and a willingness to learn and share.

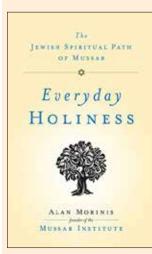
Zoom Link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86029516690</u>



## **MUSSAR STUDY GROUP**

## Every Other Wednesday at 9:45 am December 7 and 21 (Zoom Only)

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 the book Everyday Holiness: The Jewish Spiritual Path of Mussar by Alan Morinis 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. Our study group meets every other Wednesday morning to work on one or more Mussar soul traits. Come join us!

Zoom Link: <a href="https://www.rabbishefagold.com/love-and-truth/">https://www.rabbishefagold.com/love-and-truth/</a>

## SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK GROUP JANUARY MEETING DATES

Sunday, January 8 at 7:00 pm Sunday, Janaury 15 at 10:00 am (Group Meets on Zoom)

The Social Justice Book Group will be discussing the book, *Kosher Soul* by Michael Twitty.

Please join us on **Sunday**, **January 15 at 10:00 am** as we welcome author, Jessica Nordell discussing her book, *The End to Bias: A Beginning*. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

To participate, email Jared Goldin jalangoldin@gmail.com



## JOYS OF JEWISH LEARNING

### **JEWISH ROCK AND ROLL:**

Jewish Rockers of The Past 100 years

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm December 7, 14, 21 (In person and Livestreamed)

Teacher: Rabbi Scott Fox



What's that sound? How Rock and Roll shook the foundations of American society and why the Jews have been a central part of that revolution. Jews have always been movers and shakers. Come learn how our unique role in American society led to the growth of the greatest popular music.

## **PRAYER 101:**

Kabbalat Shabbat Overview

Friday, December 9 at 6:00 pm (in person and Zoom)

Teacher: Cantor Kelly Cooper



Let's delve deeper into the prayers that we recite at services. We'll translate them, look at their origins, and explore why the sages felt it was important that they be included in our liturgy. Looking forward to studying them with you!

Zoom Link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.</u> us/j/83142907783

## PARENT DISCUSSION AND LEARNING

Sunday, December 11 at 11:00 am

Facilitator: Rabbi Scott Fox



Come join Rabbi Fox for coffee and conversation and enjoy this opportunity to connect with Rabbi and meet some other parents. We'll discuss a few current events, explore some big Jewish questions, and have a little fun along the way. This opportunity is for current Torah Center parents only, please.

## PLEASE RSVP FOR ALL JJL PROGRAMS TO CHARMAINE

clw@tilb.org

### **PARENTING STRATEGIES 101:**

Creating and Implementing Positive Home Routines

## Sunday, December 18 at 9:45 am

Facilitator: Judy Blumenthal, Temple Israel Torah Center's Learning and Behavior Specialist

Come out and discover strategies to support easier homework time, bedtime, mealtime, screen time, and other difficult situations and transitions.



## **CHINESE FOOD AND MOVIE SCREENING:**

Dreaming of a Jewish Christmas

Saturday, December 24 at 6:00 pm

Facilitator: Jonathan Kass, long-time congregant and big movie fan



offbeat, Enjoy an irreverent documentary that tells the story of a group of Jewish songwriters, including Irving Berlin, Mel Tormé, Jay Livingston, Ray Evans, Gloria Shayne Baker, and Johnny Marks, all who wrote music for the world's most musical holiday. It's

an amazing look at the 20th century North American immigrant experience and the extraordinary outburst of musical energy from the children of those immigrants. This new generation rejected their parents' European past and instead embraced Tin Pan Alley, Broadway and, finally, Hollywood. The outsiders began writing the soundtrack to the insiders' American dreams and in doing so, wrote themselves into history.

Telling this story through words and song, Dreaming of a Jewish Christmas features rarely seen archival footage, musical performances, and interviews with contemporary writers and performers, as well as connoisseurs of North American popular music.

Cost: \$15 per person
Please RSVP by December 15

## SCIC INTERFAITH GREETINGS

## **Five Interfaith December Holidays**

By Roni Love, SCIC Member

Chanukah and Christmas are the two holidays most of us think about in December, but there are several others celebrated by the world's numerous religions and beliefs. I am focusing on five of them this month. Please go to deseretnews.com and Zoroastrians. net as well as other internet sites for more information.

**Dec. 8: Rohatsu (Bodhi Day)** — Buddhism Rohatsu is viewed by Buddhists much like the Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus. Buddhists remember when Buddha attained enlightenment while sitting under the Bodhi Tree (tree of awakening) and taught his followers the way to live in harmony. Followers eat a meal of rice and milk and children make cookies in the shape of a leaf or tree to symbolize the Bodhi Tree.



Dec. 15: Posadas Navidenas

— Christian (Latin American)
Las Posadas reenacts Mary and
Joseph's search for shelter in
Bethlehem. Two people dress
up as Mary and Joseph and a
procession follows them from
posada to posada, but they are
turned away, but at the final

posada, Mary and Joseph are finally let in. Food, singing, and festivities follow and a piñata in the form of a seven-pointed star representing the seven deadly sins is broken. The blindfold represents faith and the stick signifies hope in destroying sin. Treats that fall out of the piñata symbolize all good things received from God.

**Dec. 18: Simbang Gabi** — Christian (Filipino) Simbang Gabi consists of a series of nine masses leading up to and preparing for Christmas. During the masses, celebrants walk in procession with star-shaped lanterns representing the star that guided the three wise men to Bethlehem on their way to see the baby Jesus in the manger.

**Dec. 21: Solstice** — Yule, Wicca/Pagan, Winter Solstice Yule is the holiday that celebrates the winter solstice, when the North Pole's tilt away from the sun creates the longest night of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. The solstices are almost universal for pagan traditions as they mark the cycles of the seasons. Most pagan traditions are centered on a nature-based calendar and the solstice has great significance. In celebrating the solstice, pagan and Wicca believers honor the rebirth of the sun, celebrating family, friends, and nature by discussing plans for the new year and reflecting on accomplishments.

**Dec. 26: Zartosht No-Diso** - Zoroastrian Zartosht No-Diso commemorates the death of the prophet Zoroaster. Attendance at fire temples is very high at this time of year, much like synagogue attendance is at the High Holidays for Jews. There is no mourning in the Zoroastrian religion, only remembrance and worship of the faravahar of the departed – their personal spiritual power and guardian angel.

Shalom, salaam, her ping, shanti, paz, peace...





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alpertjcc.org/filmfestival

6 Rich & Sara Brown - 8 years

7 Fred & Rachael Kogen - 19 years

14 Timothy & Karen Strelitz - 47 years

15 David Hillinger & Anne Gundry - 4 years

16 Cara & Heidi Hale-Hanes - 15 years

**18** Burton & Michele Goldstein - *51 years* Steven & Cindy Meltzer - *17 years* 

**21** Justin Perlman & Marielli Cardona-Rivera - *19 years* Richard & Yael Marcus - *27 years* 

22 Joshua & Stacy Flom - 15 years

**26** William Giser & Margaret Locke - *40 years* Simon & Yevgenia Kairo - *52 years* 

27 Daniel & Karen Rosenfeld - 30 years

28 Barry & Donna Mitnick - 49 years

29 Eric Shatzkin & Melissa Marcus - 15 years

**30** Joel & Edie Brodsky - *50 years* Chun & Kara Liu - *27 years* 

31 Kenneth & Jill Granek - 36 years

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## Condolences

**Harold Seifer** 

on the death of his wife, Gerda Seifer



<sup>\*</sup> These names are permanently inscribed on our memorial wall and will be read in perpetuity.

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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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☐ Cantor Kelly Cooper  Tzedakah projects at the Cantor's discretion	Camp/trip program for children in financial need	☐ Joys of Jewish Learning
☐ Educator  For benefit of the Torah Center and its teachers	☐ Lester Elbert and Corinne Van Boemel Memorial Campership Camperships for those in financial need	Funds adult education programs at the Temple
☐ President For special projects at the President's discretion	☐ Lipeles Family Camp & Adult Shabbaton Fund for Families in need	TEMPLE ISRAEL
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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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Reva Alban in loving memory of her mother, Lillie Steinberg. Reva Alban in loving memory of her brother-in-law, Harry Alban M.D. Beverly August in loving memory of her father, Edward Milkes.

Michele Berro in loving memory of her grandfather, Samuel Joseph Berro.

Christina & Kip Boatwright in loving memory of Christina's father, Leo B. Flores.

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Falina & Saul Budeshtsky in loving memory of Falina's mother, Rachel Tsipkis, and in loving memory of her sister, Marim Tsipkis.

Susanne Cameron in loving memory of her husband, Jack Cameron. Asher & Heather Edwards in loving memory of Asher's grandfather, Allan Edwards.

Jay Eiser in loving memory of his great aunt, Ruth Treuhoft Swartz. Lyn & Joel Epstein in loving memory of Lyn's grandmother, Sadye

Jean Feldman in loving memory of her grandmother, Esther Kohut. Renee Florsheim in loving memory of her father,

Warner Hanns Florsheim.

Maryse & Daniel Fujimori in memory of Maurice Oudiz, beloved father of Maryse.

Nadia & Robert Geller in loving memory of Nadia's father, Jacques Harlot. Dennis & Lea Gerber in memory of Ann Gerber, beloved mother of Dennis.

Patricia & Jared Goldin in loving memory of Patricia's mother, Jeanne Zimmerman Ettelson.

Patricia & Jared Goldin in loving memory of Patricia's father, Ben Lee

Jeanne Halliday in loving memory of her grandfather, Jacob Berman. Alain & Tari Hirsch in loving memory of Alain's sister, Yrielle Hirsch. Florine Karabenick in loving memory of her father, Morris Lubkin.

Martine Korach & Steve Brenton in loving memory of Martine's father, Fred Korach.

Joanne & Jerry Levy in loving memory of Joanne's father, William Schnee. Robin & Alan Lilien in loving memory of Robin's father, Irving Rosenberg. Carol Masters in loving memory of her mother, Sadie Dover.

Carol Masters in loving memory of her father-in-law, Anthony Masters. Barry & Donna Mitnick in loving memory of Barry's father, Irving Mitnick.

Eric Newman & Loren Albeg in loving memory of Eric's mother, Marjorie Yospin Newman.

Mona Panitz & Ed Zwieback in loving memory of Mona's mom, Shirley Gold.

David & Sadie Sacks in memory of Leonard Keiles, beloved father of Steve Keiles.

Louis & Norma Schumow in loving memory of Louis's father, Lester Schumow.

Karen & Tim Strelitz in memory of Marcia Helen Blank, beloved wife, mother, grandma, and great-grandma.

Janice & Mitch Wellsteed in loving memory of Janice's mother, Sylvia Heilbrunn.

#### **GENERAL FUND**

Elinore & Ben Brown in honor of Sharon Amster Brown's Sabbatical. Karen Calechman & Jerry Prell in honor of the birth of their granddaughter, Olive Jean Costa.

Bruce Eason in support of Temple Israel.

Jonathan & Lynne Kass in memory of Leonard Keiles, beloved father of Steve Keiles.

Ann Lentzner in honor of the birth Maxine Azadi Hassani Goldin and Gwen Shoshana Lutz, granddaughters of Jared and Trish Goldin.

Ann Lentzner in honor of Bea Aron on her 99th Birthday.

Joanne & Jerry Levy in memory of Gerald Towner, beloved father of Jennifer Hirsch.

Seth & Sara Linden in support of Temple Israel.

Kate Sachnoff & Larry Rosenthal in honor of the birth of Olive Jean Costa, granddaughter of Karen Calechman & Jerry Prell.

#### **RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Sean Wang & Carolyn Sharzer in gratitude to Rabbi Fox for officiating at their wedding.

#### **CANTOR DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Mark Dressner & Matt Davis in memory of Eytan Alpern, beloved brother of David Alpern.

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Rob & Debbie Feldman in memory of Paula Avchen's beloved motherin-law, Sandy "Tootsie" Avchen.

#### **CARING COMMUNITY FUND**

Joan Leb in memory of Shirley Locke, beloved mother of Margaret Locke, beloved grandmother of Kevin Giser.

## ROB & DEBBIE FELDMAN FAMILY GOT SHABBAT FUND

Rob & Debbie Feldman in memory of Leonard Keiles, beloved father of Steven Keiles.

Rob & Debbie Feldman in memory of Shirley Locke, beloved mother of Margaret Locke, beloved grandmother of Kevin Giser.

Rob & Debbie Feldman in memory of Renee Solomon, beloved mother of Ava Weiss, beloved grandmother of Erin Cherson.

Rob & Debbie Feldman in memory of Patricia Workman, beloved mother of Vicki Kogan.

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Craig & Lauren Reiser in support of the Color Me Mine field trip.

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Marilyn & Lance Valt in honor of their family.

## RABBI WOLLI & SARAH KAELTER SABBATH FELLOWSHIP FUND

Karen Fried in memory of Markus Lowenstein, beloved father of Harry Lowenstein.

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Harry & Eva Lowenstein in loving memory of Harry's father, Mark Lowenstein.

Susan & David Philips in memory of Mark Lowenstein, beloved father of Harry Lowenstein.

## MIRIAM BERRO KRUGMAN CAMPERSHIP FUND

Binnie and Jack Berro in loving memory of their father, Samuel J. Berro.  $\,$ 

Binnie & Jack Berro and family with love love and happy memories of their lifelong friend, Madge Pizer.

### **SOCIAL ACTION FUND**

Roni, Tontra, Sushila & Nat Love in loving memory of their uncle, Max Lerner.

## **MAZEL TOV TO GAIL FREEDMAN!**

Mazel Tov to Temple Member Gail Freedman who won the Ms. Long Beach 2023 title at this year's annual Long Beach and Southern California pageants. This title provides Gail with the opportunities to shine a light on all the great work done by our local not-for-profit organizations.



## SPONSOR OUR ONEG SHABBAT IN HONOR OF A SPECIAL OCCASION

The Oneg is a long-standing tradition at Temple Israel and throughout the Jewish community, and allows for us as a community to socialize with some light refreshments.

Full Sponosrship is \$250.

Please call the Temple office at (562) 434-0996 and we will be happy to make the arrangements for you.







Mazel Tov to Karen Calechman & Jerry Prell on the birth of their granddaughter, **Olive Jean Costa** born October 11, 2022 wieghing 7 lbs. 2 oz. We also extend congratulations to parents, Ari Jonathan & Amelia Costa.



Mazel Tov to Trish & Jared Goldin on the birth of their granddaughter, **Gwen Shoshana Lutz** born on October 19, 2022. We also extend congratulations to parents, Cantor Emma & Rabbi Adam Lutz.



Mazel Tov to Trish & Jared Goldin on the birth of their granddaughter, **Maxine Azadi Hassani Goldin** born on November 1, 2022. We also extend congratulations to parents, Amelia & Lee Hassani Goldin.

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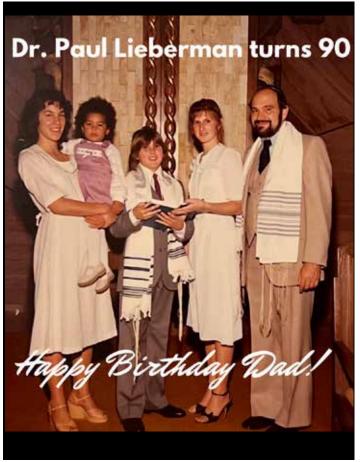
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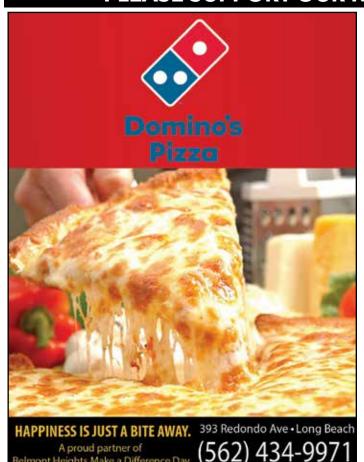


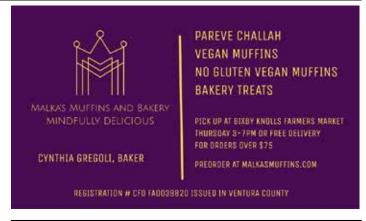




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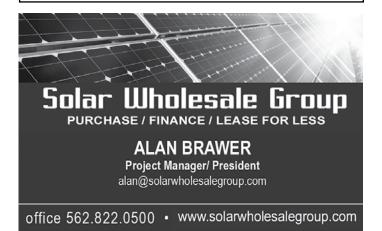
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\*June/July ~ combined issue

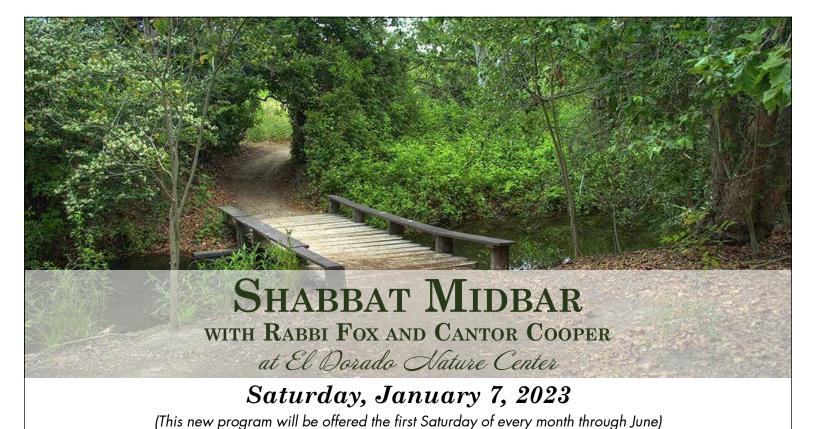
If you would like to submit a sponsorship ad please send it to Michelle at mdt@tilb.org, a JPG file is preferred to retain the highest quality for publication.





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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED** 



Meeting at the grass area picnic tables at the rear of the parking lot

Torah Study at 8:45 am

Hike and Aleditation 10:00 am