



2018 SPRING BENEFIT

HONORING EMANU-EL PRIZE RECIPIENTS
HOPE & JOHN FURTH AND SUSAN AMKRAUT
SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 7:00PM

The recipients of this year's Emanu-El Prize have each - in their own way - helped to define our congregation.

Hope and John Furth have contributed to the strength of our congregation and the community at large through their generosity, their service on the temple board and various committees, and their dedication to the values that we hold dear. Susan Amkraut has provided passionate leadership by serving on the temple board, as chair of several committees, and as past president of our congregation - to say nothing of her enthusiastic participation in all aspects of temple life.

Please join us on Saturday, April 21st to celebrate Hope, John and Susan, and to toast our wonderful congregation.





Hope and John Furth

Susan Amkraut



Invitations and detailed information about the event are forthcoming.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SHABBAT FEATURING THE ISAAC MEMORIAL LECTURE WITH AUTHOR DAVID GRANN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 7:30PM



Competition for resources is as old as humanity itself – and sometimes it has deadly consequences. With congregant and author David Grann, we will discuss the social justice issues raised in his new book Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI. The book deals with the Osage Indians,

the complicity of the crimes to kill them for their oil money, and the struggle for justice. We will consider how those issues resonate across the world and how we can be upstanders when we see the exploitation of others.

David Grann is a #1 New York Times bestselling author and an award-winning staff writer at *The New Yorker*. His first book, <u>The Lost City of Z: A Tale of Deadly Obsession in the Amazon</u>, became a #1 New York Times bestseller, and was adapted into a major motion picture that was released in April 2017. He previously wrote for the *New York Times Magazine*, *The Atlantic, the Washington Post, the Boston Globe, the Wall Street Journal*, and *The New Republic*.

THE SAMUEL L. & JANE L. FRIEDMAN LECTURE ON PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING WITH PROFESSOR ARON ROSE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 7:30PM



With all of the debates about healthcare in the this country, we sometimes forget about the steep challenges of accessing care in the developing world.

Dr. Aron Rose has built a career helping people do just that. Providing

direct service and putting in place the training and systems to create sustainable medical care, Dr. Rose's ground breaking work brought vision – literally – to places of darkness. We will learn about how this upstander has opened the eyes of so many while empowering people who live in poverty.

Dr. Aron Rose is an ophthalmologist and Chair of the Bioethics Committee for the White House initiative on Cancer Diagnosis and Care in Sub-Saharan Africa. He is as Associate Clinical Professor at Yale. Dr. Rose volunteers for Unite for Sight. Unite For Sight provides screenings in rural villages and provides surgical care for patients living in extreme poverty.

YOUNG FAMILIES CONCERT WITH JOANIE LEEDS & THE NIGHTLIGHTS









SAMBA SHABBAT WITH PERCUSSIONIST JOHN ARUCCI











CHANUKAH FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE

















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BAR MITZVAH MAZEL TOV!



We would like to honor Ryan Levkoff who is celebrating his Bar Mitzvah ceremony in February.

It is a pleasure and a joy to welcome him as a full member of our congregation!

ANYTHING EXCITING HAPPENING IN YOUR NECK OF THE WOODS?

We'd love to share your news in the bulletin!

If you have any exciting announcements that you would like to appear in the bulletin, contact Abbie at 914-967-4382 x11 or alevitt@c-e-w.org.

JERUSALEM: IT'S COMPLICATED

"My heart is in the east but I, I am in the uttermost west..." - Judah Halevi

When people enter our synagogue, they first see the vibrant, colorful depiction of Jerusalem in the painting by Yoram Gal. Vivid oranges and golds, strokes of green



and pink, all on a bright blue background. The painting depicts the over-saturated nature of the Holy City where everything is more intense, more real, more deeply felt. The painting reflects my feelings for Jerusalem. Intense for its religious significance; intense for its otherworldly beauty; intense for the conflicts it evokes; intense for having lived there and visiting often. For me, Judah Halevi's words ring true: I have surrendered to the city a meaningful piece of my heart and my soul. And so, just as my feelings for Jerusalem are intense, my thoughts about America's recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel are a swirl of color and contrasts that mirror the movement of the Yoram Gal painting in our lobby.

Jerusalem is, plainly, the capital of the modern Jewish state of Israel. All major branches of the Israeli government operate from Jerusalem: Prime Minister, President, Knesset (legislature), and Supreme Court. When visiting delegations from governments, NGOs, or the UN visit with Israeli government officials, the visits take place in Jerusalem. Even when the Palestinians meet with the Israelis, it most often takes place in Jerusalem.

On top of modern reality, Jerusalem has a firm hold on the religious, national, and philosophical imaginations of the Jewish people. The dream of a restored Jerusalem sustained us powerfully through 2,000 years of wandering and exile. The idea of Jerusalem has always animated the very best Jewish aspirations for a messianic era of justice, peace, and prosperity, a messianic dream for which we work to this day. From the Jewish wedding to the Passover seder to the Torah service, Jerusalem features prominently in our holy day, festival, Shabbat, and life-cycle rituals and customs.

For all of these reasons the decision of the United States to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel is right and just. And still, I worry.

When the UN voted to partition the land into Jewish and Arab states, they designated Jerusalem as an international city. Israel immediately named Jerusalem as its capital but no other nation recognized it as such. When Israel captured East Jerusalem in the Six Day War, Israel unilaterally annexed that portion of the city

and the cities borders have expanded eastward again and again. All nations with whom Israel has diplomatic ties have always maintained their embassies in Tel Aviv. The Oslo Peace Accords declare that the Israelis and Palestinians will decide the status of Jerusalem as part of a final peace treaty. Most of these "facts" are actually ambassadorial fictions, formalities that exist only on paper and on a bit of Tel Aviv real estate. They nevertheless describe – in part – the diplomatic situation of the last 70 years.

With the announcement on recognition of Jerusalem as the capital, the United States does not change anything meaningful on the ground in Jerusalem. The Knesset will get no new offices, the Supreme Court, no new court rooms. My main concern lies in the power of the United States to shape a possible future peace deal. In changing the diplomatic assumptions did the United States give up a portion of its diplomatic influence? Arab and Muslim leaders have said that the US can no longer operate as a trusted mediator for any future peace talks. President Trump threatened to withhold foreign aid to any country that votes to condemn the US announcement on Jerusalem. On the one hand, I do not really care about the opinions of those who refuse to recognize the ancient Jewish connection with Jerusalem. On the other hand, these are the very parties that we will need as allies to help Israel and the Palestinians reach a peace accord one day.

Many people with meaningful diplomatic, advocacy, journalistic, and foreign policy experience have offered alternative and enlightening perspectives on this. I encourage everyone to read these different perspectives and think reflectively about their implications. This – like so much else in Israel – is complicated. Anyone who says it is simple does not acknowledge the astounding intricacies, vibrancy, passion, religious fervor, and colorful history of the Holy City of Jerusalem.

As a Rodef Shalom, a pursuer of peace, I worry that US recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel may push the prospects for peace even further from reach. And still, as an Ohev Yerushalayim, a lover of Jerusalem, I'm glad that the US now publicly recognizes reality; I'm glad that the US is treating the Jewish State the same as it treats other nations' rights to choose their capitals. And so, I ask you to join with me, and with the Jewish people across the world, to answer the psalmists call and "pray for the peace of Jerusalem".

Howard J. Goldsmith, Rabbi

CANTOR'S MESSAGE AND REFLECT & ELEVATE

2017 URJ BIENNIAL

The URJ Biennial convention, which took place in Boston from December 6-10, is the largest Jewish gathering in North America, bringing together approximately 6,000 Reform leaders, clergy, lay leaders, professionals, congregants and



youth groups to learn, network, worship, share ideas and make decisions about the future of Reform Jewish life. I was proud to represent the temple as part of our delegation, which included Rabbis Howard and Jen Goldsmith, Marcie Aiuvalasit, student rabbi Jade Sank, Abbie Levitt, immediate Past President Susan Amkraut, and board member Emily Cohen. It was a pleasure spending time together outside the temple.

For me, accustomed to years of annual American Conference of Cantors conventions and intimate Women's Study Group and Bar Mitzvah Family retreats, the sheer number of people and dizzying smorgasbord of activities was absolutely overwhelming! I always come back stimulated by a multitude of new ideas, and infused with new melodies and new inspiration.

The conference covered a wide range of topics, offering how-to's for all facets of congregational life – from membership and outreach to leadership development, from social justice to social media and everything in between, as well as a long list of impressive speakers such as Senator Elizabeth Warren and Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker. Resolutions that were passed and adopted by the URJ involve the global refugee crisis, climate change, racial justice, and student on student sexual violence in schools.

I am grateful to the temple for this unique opportunity to become attuned to the pulse of Reform Judaism today, to strengthen our bonds with others in the Reform Movement. I returned home energized, with

Meredith

Meredith Stone, Cantor

EXPLORING OUR PRAYERS FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 7:30PM L'Dor V'Dor (5th grade) and Mi Ani (6th grade) students will participate by sharing their interpretations of prayers from the service.

Followed by the annual Make-Your-Own Ice Cream Sundae Oneg!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS DINNER FOR CURRENT AND FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 6:00PM

Current and former board members join together to reconnect, get updates on board business, and celebrate the congregation. (Precedes Purim Shabbat).



MARK YOUR CALENDARS PURIM SHABBAT: BURT BACHRACH MEETS THE MEGILLAH

FRIDAY, MARCH 2
7:15PM COCKTAILS/ 7:30PM SERVICE
Esther will tell us "What the World Needs Now," Haman will kvetch that "Raindrops Keep Fallin' On My Head" and Vashti will ask "What's New Pussycat?" as we "...Say a Little Prayer" at our annual Shabbat Purim celebration in the festive and famous Kaye Café.

STUDENT RABBI'S MESSAGE & RITUAL CORNER

I TOO AM PLANTING FOR MY DESCENDANTS

The psalms have always stood out to me. The words from the psalms that we find in our prayer book like "Adonai s'fatai tiftach - God, open my lips," which we say before the Avot prayer, and "y'hiyu l'ratzon imrei fi - May the words of my mouth," which we say after the silent prayer, have always been two of my favorite moments in services.



We see psalms during Friday night Shabbat services, during our morning services, celebrations of the beginning of each month, and holiday services. We also see psalms in blessings after eating a meal, and in our funeral and remembrance services.

Not only do we find psalms in our liturgy, they also pop up occasionally in everyday life. Many people who have survived very difficult situations have famously credited the psalms in particular. For example, Natan Sharansky recited the psalms while he was imprisoned, and credits them with his survival. On October 13, 2010, thirty-three Chilean miners were rescued after being trapped underground. Following the meticulous operation that led to their rescue, the miners wore shirts with a verse from Psalm 95, "In His hand are the depths of the Earth and the mountain peaks belong to Him." In June 2013, a Salvation Army store collapsed in Philadelphia and during the collapse, inside the building, shopper Linda "Kelly" Bell recited Psalm 23, which she attributed with her survival.

The psalms enable us to find a voice in times when we cannot string our words together into sentences.

The psalms enable us to speak, to call out to God in prayer, to express our sorrow in times of crisis and joy in times of great rejoicing. The psalms are different from other prayers in our prayer book: they are poems. Poetry is written for public reading, and so are the psalms. Poetry gives voice to the words of our hearts, our prayers, and the psalms, the ancient poems of our biblical ancestors, go even beyond expressing our inner yearnings; the psalms continue to resonate with us today, and they connect us with the trials and triumphs of those who came before us.

For my rabbinic thesis, I have been working on a project on the psalms. The project began with a full immersion into the entire book of Psalms. As I read each one, I marked the psalms that stood out to me, including the two I mentioned earlier: Psalm 19 and Psalm 51. I soon discovered that, like these two examples from our prayer book, many of the psalms I marked have a common theme; they speak about our speech, our ability to "open our lips," to prevent using our speech in destructive ways, and instead to have the courage to speak praises and joyful words aloud. These psalms remind us that our words matter.

The book of Genesis teaches us that God spoke the world into being. Our gift of speech gives us the power to create new worlds for ourselves and for each other.

Jade

Jade Sank, Student Rabbi

RITUAL CORNER: LUNAR LIVING, BY RABBI GOLDSMITH



Around Jewish holidays I am very aware of the moon. Since the date of these holidays are tied to the Jewish lunar calendar, looking up in the night sky provides a quick visual of how much time remains until the next celebration.

In late August and early September, the moon wanes through the second half of the Jewish month of Elul until it disappears on the first of Tishrei, also known as Rosh Hashanah. It starts to wax again and 10 days later, about two-thirds full, is Yom Kippur. A few more days brings the full moon and the first days of Sukkot until it starts to wane with the half-moon of Simchat Torah. Cheshvan, which follows Tishrei, has no holidays so it is not until the full moon of Kislev that I start counting down to

Chanukah which begins as the Kislev moon fades to a small crescent. It disappears completely most of the way through the festival as we enter Tevet and have naught but Chanukah lights to illuminate the darkest time of year.

Traditionally, each month begins with a special set of blessings and prayers to mark Rosh Chodesh – the observance of the new moon and, hence, the new month. While Rosh Chodesh will come and go through the winter, I know that I won't really notice the moon again until the end of March when the full moon of Nissan brings Passover to our homes. These holy days not only tie us with our history, our community, and God, they also tie us to the natural world around us as encapsulated in the beautiful moon above.

We're Going to Israel!

Simply
The Best
Family
Trip You
Will Ever
Take





Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester

February 15, 2019 – February 24, 2019

There is nothing like touring Israel with your congregation. Don't miss this amazing opportunity!

Pricing and itinerary will be available in January.

For more information contact Rabbi Goldsmith 914-967-4382 x13 hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org

STAND UP!

On Rosh Hashanah, many people in our congregation stood up in support of Rabbi Goldsmith's powerful sermon of protest. On Kol Nidrei, Rabbi Goldsmith called for us to take action, to STAND UP and help our nation move closer to its ideals. Through six different initiatives, Emanu-El is working to make a difference for our congregation, community, nation, and our world. Below is an update on the work done by each initiative and the plans for the future:

Caring Community (Meals): Under the guidance of Lorri Goldstein and Janelle Berger, our Caring Community is poised to relaunch. With plans to prepare and deliver meals to congregants who have lost a loved one, welcomed a new baby, are suffering an illness, or otherwise need a little help, the Caring Community will bring comfort and support to those in need of a hand.

Social Action: Under the leadership of Hedy Cardozo, Social Action has made a meaningful impact on our broader community this fall. Our partners have expressed true gratitude for our collections of food, coats, and toys. Student and adult volunteers came out for Midnight Run, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and the Hope House Christmas party. Looking ahead to 2018, there will not only be more drives and volunteer opportunities, but also a newly imagined Mitzvah Day – Mitzvah Shabbat! Every congregant will have the opportunity to help our neighbors in the context of a fun congregation-wide dinner and a brief, joyful Shabbat service. Hold the date: the evening of Friday, May 11th.

ESL at Don Bosco: Our English as a Second Language program continues to make a profound impact on the Port Chester immigrant community. Three days a week, a corps of volunteer tutors under the leadership of Jaime Morris help Port Chester's newest residents find their voice. Recently, we hosted a celebratory lunch at the temple for each of these selfless volunteers and then organized a wonderful Christmas Party for our students and every member of the Don Bosco community. This award-winning program continues to bring healing and light to our neighbors in an admirable interfaith effort.

Staffer Meetings: In mid-December, we had our first staffer meeting. About a dozen members of the congregation met with two representatives from Nita Lowey's White Plains office, District Director Pat Keegan and Director of Constituent Services Meryl Harris. The staffers were pleased to have an opportunity to speak about the work that they do, as well as to get to know our members. Our meeting gave us insight into how we as individuals or as a community can offer our support to local issues affecting the greater community surrounding our congregation. We also learned about some of the important work that the Congresswoman is doing for example, insuring that CHIP funding stays in place for families in her district as well as enabling DACA students to complete their applications to remain in the US. We accomplished our goal for the meeting: building a relationship between our congregation and our representative's local office. Please see the next page for a description of the kinds of constituent services that Congresswoman Lowey's office provides. Similar services are offered by other local representatives such as Congressman Elliot Engel. If you are interested in participating in future Staff Meetings please contact MJ Wolff at migwolff@gmail.com. (MJ Wolff contributed to this summary.)



Reform Jewish Voice of New York (RJVNY):

With the resolutions of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) as our reference point, plans are in the works to educate, advocate, and raise awareness about issues facing New York State. Part of this effort will include a trip to lobby in Albany. A number of congregants met with a representative from RJVNY in December to learn about their work. Also, at the URJ Biennial in Boston, we met the newest professional community organizer from the Religious Action Center who will focus exclusively on **New York. We look forward to both advocating for local issues** and teaming up with our URJ partners to bring about the changes that we need locally and statewide.

Different Views Conversations: We seek to come together with members of Emanu-El who have diverse political views to share perspectives, to gain an understanding of "the other side's" position, and to ease the divisive tone in our nation. Our first discussion will take place on Thursday, January 25th. While there was a great show of interest during Yom Kippur, we are still looking for people who hold more traditionally conservative points of view.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Dan O'Connor in the temple office at 914-967-4382 x11 or docconor@c-e-w.org.

We have a lot of work to do repair our world. That fact can feel overwhelming. But the ancient rabbis assured us that every effort was worth it when they taught: "It is not your responsibility to finish the work. But neither are you free to desist from it." Stand up with us as we persist rather than desist; Stand up with us as we make our world a better place.

ASSISTANCE FROM CONGRESSWOMAN NITA LOWEY: HOW CAN SHE HELP?



Dealing with federal agencies can be a challenge. Congresswoman Lowey's office can help you navigate the bureaucracy in the following areas:

Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid: Ensuring benefits are received for those who qualify.

Veterans: Resolving disability and health benefits, and replacing lost service medals.

Consumer Protection: Helping address identity theft, credit card company abuse, predatory lending, and other consumer abuses.

Passports and Immigration: Assisting constituents with citizenship, passports and visas.

Visiting Washington: Arranging tours of Washington, D.C. landmarks and obtaining flags flown over the Capitol.

Congresswoman Lowey Contact Information:

Washington, D.C. Office 2365 Rayburn HOB Washington, D.C. 20515 202-225-6506 202-225-0546 (fax)

White Plains District Office 222 Mamaroneck Ave., #312 White Plains, NY 10605 914-428-1707 914-328-1505 (fax)

Website: https://lowey.house.gov

JOAN & STEPHEN KASS RECEIVE JULIAN Y. BERNSTEIN AWARD

Each year the Westchester Jewish Council honors volunteers who exhibit exceptional, consistent, and dedicated volunteer efforts. The award bears the name of Julian Y. Bernstein, a former Westchester Jewish Council board member, who believed that doing tzedakah was just as important as giving tzedakah.

This year, fellow congregants Joan and Stephen Kass will be awarded the Julian Y. Bernstein Award for their incredible leadership welcoming a refugee family to our shores. With grace and strength, with passion and a pure commitment to tikkun olam, Joan and Steve ably led over 50 congregants in this important effort. Through a partnership with HIAS and then a sustained effort once the family arrived, Joan and Steve assured the our congregation - and our county - was at the forefront of this issue. Indeed, the work that we did under their leadership was used as a model by other other congregations who later welcomed families to Westchester. With over forty years of membership and leadership at Emanu-El - including service on the board of trustees and passionate advocacy work in and out of the Jewish community - Joan and Steve represent the finest of our community.

The award ceremony will take place on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:30pm at Temple Israel Center, 280 Old Mamaroneck Road in White Plains.

For more information on the event, contact council program director Donna Bartel at 914-328-7001.

WJCS GIFT DRIVE - THANK YOU!

Congregation Emanu-El donated 100 toys & \$200 in gift cards this year helping to provide over 1,000 gifts to underserved children.

DOROT VISITING OPPORTUNITY

DOROT's programs provide isolated seniors with friendly volunteer visitors, intergenerational connections and holiday celebrations, all making a difference in the lives of older adults. These programs include ongoing and occasional opportunities for volunteers of all ages, providing companionship and lifelong connections across generations.

For more information contact congregant and DOROT Westchester Committee Chair Emily Cohen at 914-414-0636 or emilydcohen@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ESL PROGRAM

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS 9:30 - 11:00AM

Volunteers are needed to teach English as a Second Language to a very eager-to-learn immigrant community.

No knowledge of any foreign language is necessary, nor is a teaching background! Come one morning to observe other volunteers and see what a rewarding experience it is for both tutors and students. You may volunteer any or all three mornings.

Classes are held at the Don Bosco Community Center, 22 Don Bosco Place in Port Chester. For more information or to volunteer, contact Jaime Morris at jaime-morris@hotmail.com.

2017-18 SOCIAL ACTION CALENDAR

We are committed to *tikkun olam*, the repair of our world. Help make our community a better place! Whether you donate your time or provide items to those in need, there are so many ways to get involved. Contact Social Action committee chair Hedy Cardozo at hedozo@aol.com for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

FOOD PANTRY CEREAL DRIVE

JANUARY

AFYA WITH THE YOUTH GROUP

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

KIDS' KLOSET DIAPER & UNDERWEAR COLLECTION

MARCH

BRUNCH RUN WITH HINEINI

SUNDAY. MAY 6

COLLECTION FOR AFYA

APRIL

DOROT PASSOVER PACKAGE DELIVERY

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

MITZVAH SHABBAT

FRIDAY, MAY I I

PAST EVENTS:

HIGH HOLY DAY FOOD DRIVE - DONE!

SEPTEMBER

COATS FOR HOPE - DONE!

OCTOBER

MIDNIGHT RUN WITH HINEINI - DONE!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

MAKING STRIDES WALK - DONE!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

HAVE A HEART GIFT DRIVE - DONE!

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 5

CHRISTMAS AT HOPE HOUSE - DONE!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

JUDAISM & SOCIAL JUSTICE

"Justice, justice shall you pursue." (Deuteronomy 16: 20).

The pursuit of a just society is one of the most fundamental concepts of Judaism. Historically, Jews in general and Reform Jews specifically, have played an active role. During the Civil Rights Movement, Jewish activists



represented a disproportionate number of whites involved in the struggle. American Jews played a significant role in the founding and funding of some of the most important civil rights organizations, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and the Student Nonviolent Coordination Committee (SNCC).

Our temple community is actively engaged and keenly involved in humanitarian causes and issues. We offer many educational events that give us insight and a better understanding of just causes. There are so many opportunities to support and help others through our social action events.

Here are a few of our upcoming educational and spiritual "Upstander" events":

Social Justice Shabbat featuring the Isaacs Memorial Lecture David Grann Friday, January 12, 7:30PM:

Congregant and "Upstander" David Grann will discuss the social justice issues raised in his new book <u>Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI</u>. The book deals with the Osage Indians, the complicity of the crimes to kill them for their oil money, and the struggle for justice. We will consider how those issues resonate across the world and how we can be "Upstanders" when we see the exploitation of others.

Cartoonists Against The Holocaust: Art in the Service of Humanity, Monday, January 29, 7:15pm: In the 1940s political cartoons warned the US about the Holocaust. These "Upstanders" cartoonist raised awareness of the genocide against European Jews.

The cartoonists used pens to eviscerate US politicians' apathy. The number of editorial cartoons illustrates how widely known Hitler's atrocities were before the end of the war. Presented by the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center.

The Samuel L. and Jane L. Freidman Lecture on Peace and Understanding with Professor Aron Rose, Friday, February 9, 7:30PM: With all of the debates about healthcare in the country, we sometimes forget about the steep challenges of accessing care in the developing world. Dr. Aron Rose has built a career helping people. Providing direct service and putting in place the training and systems to create sustainable medical care, Dr. Rose's ground breaking work and brought vision - literally - to places of darkness. We'll learn about how this "Upstander" has opened the eyes of so many while empowering people who live in poverty.

Rosenwald (Sunday Film Series), Sunday, February 11 at 7:00PM: Rosenwald is the story of Julius Rosenwald, who never finished high school, but rose to become the President of Sears. This Jewish philanthropist joined forces with African American communities during the Jim Crow South to build over 5,300 schools during the early part of the 20th century. Rosenwald was inspired by the Jewish ideals of tzedakah (charity) and tikkun olam (repairing the world). "Upstander" Julius Rosenwald used his wealth to become one of America's most effective philanthropists.

Reform Judaism takes pride in a long history of active commitment to social justice. Our community pursues a wide range of activities designed to *l'taken et ha'olam*, to mend the world. As Reform Jews, we make a collective effort to bring our values to the community at large. We engage on issues of local, national and global concern. We speak out on behalf of the vulnerable. And we seek justice for all. This is who we are.

Shalom,

9ane

Jane Dubro, Youth Activities and Program Director

WALK WITH THE RABBI

FRIDAYS, JANUARY 5 & FEBRUARY 2, 9:00AM What better way is there to discuss a Torah portion than walking at Playland with our community of energetic congregants and our fearless walker, Rabbi Goldsmith?

Meet in the Oakland Beach parking lot.

TORAH STUDY

Saturday morning. A time of rest. A time of study. A time for conversation. A time to discuss the Torah with Rabbi Goldsmith and other congregants. Our sessions include a brief worship service with an opportunity to recite Kaddish and celebrate the Sabbath. No need to sign up - just drop by!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 9:00AM - SHEMOT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 9:00AM - BESHELACH

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 9:00AM - MISHPATIM

CHAI MITZVAH

SUNDAYS, JANUARY 7 & 28, 10:15AM A curriculum for the parents of 6th graders to help them deepen their own Jewish commitment and understanding in the year leading to their children's b'nei mitzvah. This is a great opportunity to get to know Rabbi Goldsmith, the rest of the clergy and other parents in your child's grade.

NEXT STEP

SUNDAYS, JANUARY 7 & FEBRUARY 11, 11:00AM

This group of men meet to discuss personal issues that they face in retirement. The bonds of friendship and a deep sense of trust have allowed this group to continue for many years.

Next Step is facilitated by congregant Paul Spindel (retired executive).

MAH JONGG & CANASTA

MONDAYS, JANUARY 8, 22 & 29, FEBRUARY 5, 12 & 26, 6:45PM

All levels of players are welcome, friends are invited too! If you are interested in playing, contact Jane at 914-967-4382 x21 or jdubro@c-e-w.org.

BOOKS & BITES AT NORTH STREET TAVERN

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 6:30PM All Who Go Do Not Return, by Shulem Deen

BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 10:15PM

<u>Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis</u>, by J. Vance

To RSVP and for more information, contact Marcie at 914-967-4382 x15 or maiuvalasit@c-e-w.org

SINGLE MALT TORAH

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 8:00PM Men of the congregation gather in Rabbi Goldsmith's study for some Torah learning and refreshments. Explore the wisdom of our tradition and enjoy some fine scotch. Bring a friend!

PSALM 126 & ZIONISM TODAY WITH STUDENT RABBI JADE SANK

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 12:00PM

Psalm 126 has a lot to say. We sing it as part of our Shabbat after-dinner prayer, it includes the popular refrain, "Those who sow in tears will reap in joy," and it speaks about an ancient Zionism, a longing for a return to this ancient land. What does it have to say to us today? Come for a conversation rooted in the words of our oldest book of poetry, about dreams, hopes, and Zionism today.

RSVP to Jade at jsank@c-e-w.org. Light lunch served.

TEENS TEACH TECH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 11:00AM

Learn to use your smartphone, laptop and other technology. Our terrific teens will teach you to use your devices! Sign-up with Marcie at maiuvalasit@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x15.

SISTERHOOD CHALLAH BAKING WORKSHOP

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 12:00PM

We know you knead bread! Learn to bake challah from start to finish, and bring home a delicious challah you baked yourself!

Cost \$36/person. Space limited to 12 bakers.

RSVP to Jane at jdubro@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x21.



ANNUAL WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP SHABBAT RETREAT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 5:00PM - SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 5:30PM

If you have never come to one of our famous women's retreats, give yourself the gift of a unique winter escape at the picturesque New England Blackberry River Inn in Norfolk, CT. We promise you will be embraced by a warm community of women and stimulated by new ideas, sharing, learning and laughter.

The Blackberry River Inn is a historic Colonial home dating back to 1763, situated on 27 acres in the beautiful Southern Berkshires of Connecticut.

Room rates:

\$320/person double occupancy (includes 3 meals) \$370/person single occupancy (includes 3 meals)

For more information or to RSVP, contact Marcie at 914-967-4382 x15 or maiuvalasit@c-e-w.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP PASSOVER SEDER

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 6:30PM

SUNDAY FILM SERIES: ROSENWALD

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 7:00PM

In the early 1900s, businessman and philanthropist Julius Rosenwald uses his considerable wealth to build more than 5,000 schools to help African-Americans in the South.

Free and open to the community. RSVP to Jane at jdubro@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x21.

1967'S SIX DAY WAR AND ITS AFTERMATH WITH RABBI GOLDSMITH

MONDAYS, FEBRUARY 26, MARCH 12, 19 & 26 12:00PM

What led to this confrontation with Israel's neighbors? How did the war change the face of the Middle East? How did the Settler Movement take shape and what is its legacy in today's search for peace? We'll examine these important questions from the view of history and, more importantly, we'll think about the religious implications of this seminal moment in the history of modern Israel.

RSVP to Dan O'Connor at doconnor@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x11. Light lunch served.

CLASSIFIEDS



REFLECTIONS ON THE URJ BIENNIAL

"You stand here this day, all of you, before the Lord your God - your tribal heads, your elders, your officials, all of the men of Israel, your children, your wives, even the stranger within your camp, ... to enter into the covenant of the Lord your God..." Deuteronomy 29: 9-11.



In early December, our Reform Jewish community came together to reaffirm its commitment to the Jewish faith, Torah, history and ethics. I attended Torah study, a teen engagement session, lunch with Rabbi Reuven Firestone and Imam Abdullah Antepil, numerous workshops on social justice and civic engagement, Shabbat evening/morning services and a symposium on baby boomer involvement in synagogue life. In addition, we welcomed Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, civil rights leader Rev. Dr. William J. Barber and Senator Elizabeth Warren to our plenary sessions. They inspired us to stay engaged and be advocates for those most vulnerable in our country.

For me, a special moments at biennial was a 60-minute dialogue between Al Vorspan, the first Director of the Commission on Social Action and Rabbi David Saperstein, former Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. The RAC was created in 1961, and Mr. Vorspan led the CSA for 40 years, until he retired in 1993. Under his leadership, both the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts were drafted. During his tenure, he articulated the Jewish values of tikkun olam (repairing our world) and gemilut chasadim (acts of loving kindness) as he advocated for racial justice and individual rights. As the second director of the RAC, Rabbi Saperstein remained commitment to these values and added opportunities for our high school and college students to experience the world of advocacy and social justice. At 94, Al Vorspan is as articulate as ever!

These two giants of Reform Jewish leadership

reminded me of my own awakening in the late 1960s, when my rabbi, Norman Kahan gave a rousing sermon opposing the Vietnam War. Mr. Vorspan ended with a passionate "call to action". In a strong voice, he implored us to stay involved and urged us not to abandon ship.

Another wonderful experience during these exciting five days was the song session at the conclusion of Friday evening Shabbat services. On the big stage were about 30 NFTY teens and numerous song leaders belting out everything from "This Land is Your Land..." to Debbie Friedman's "Lech L'Cha". The energy in the huge auditorium was explosive — with everyone on their feet and some dancing in the aisles. I left with such an overwhelming feeling of community and Jewish pride.

For five days, 6,000 Reform Jews including lay leaders, clergy, teens, spouses and children stood together. We pledged *L'Dor V'Dor* – our commitment to passing on our vibrant traditions, history and values to the next generation. This biennial inspired all of us to continue this work.

Maine.

Marcie Aiuvalasit, Religious Educator

2017-18 YOUNG FAMILIES EVENTS

Celebrate Jewish life with your little ones at these holiday celebrations! These events are free and open to the public, friends are always welcome. For more information, contact Jane at jdubro@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x21.

Young Families Purim Celebration

Sunday, March 4, 10:30AM

Religious School Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 4, 11:30AM

Passover Celebration

Sunday, March 18, 10:45AM



Israel Independence Day

Sunday, April 15, 10:45AM

Pizza Truck Shabbat

Friday, May 11, 5:30PM

School's Out Carnival

Sunday, May 20, 11:00AM

2017-18 PRE-K & K DROP-OFF PROGRAMS

Our Pre-K and Kindergarten classes are a wonderful introduction to the Religious School experience. Classes focus on a Jewish holiday with a fun-filled program including cooking, music, storytelling and arts and crafts. Classes meet seven times this year on Sunday mornings from 9:30 - 11:45am during Religious School and are open to the public.

For more information about this program or to enroll, contact Religious Educator Marcie Aiuvalasit at maiuvalasit@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x15.

Tu B'Shevat

Sunday, January 28, 9:30 - 11:45AM

Purim

Sunday, March 4, 9:30 - 10:30AM

Passover

Sunday, March 18, 9:30 - 10:45AM

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Sunday, April 15, 9:30 - 10:45AM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: PURIM CELEBRATIONS

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 9:30 - 11:45AM

Purim Shpiel

11:00 - 11:30AM





Purim Carnival

11:30AM - 1:00PM



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CEREAL DRIVE

JANUARY 7 - FEBRUARY 2

Bring in a shopping bag filled with your favorite cereal to support the Hope Community Services Food Pantry. The class that collects the most cereal will win an ice cream party!

Sponsored by Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester's Youth Group.

MI ANI TRIP TO THE MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE IN NYC

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11
DEPART 9:00AM - RETURN 1:00PM

6th grade trip to visit the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Battery Park.

For more information, contact Marcie at 914-967-4382 x15 or maiuvalasit@c-e-w.org.

L' DOR V'DOR GRADE 5 FAMILY EDUCATION MORNING: PROPHETS FOR PRESIDENT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 9:30 - 11:45AM Your 5th grader needs you to help elect a prophet president! Jeremiah, Amos, Isiah and Micah are hoping to win the race - the pollsters are predicting a close election. May the best Prophet win!

CONDOLENCES TO

Rich Josephberg on the death of his mother Sally Josephberg Henry Shyer on the death of his brother Robert Martin Shyer

With deep appreciation, we acknowledge the following contributions:

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of: Remembered by:

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RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Timothy & Phyllis Alexander in memory of Sally Josephberg Andrew Cartoun

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Jeffrey Risman & Savannah Woods in appreciation of their wedding

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VOLUNTARY ADDITIONAL DUES

John & Amy Tanenbaum

CALENDAR: JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	l Temple Office Closed: New Year's Day No MNP or Confirmation	2 3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School	3	4 7:00PM Wise Aging Series	9:00AM Walk with the Rabbi 7:30PM Shabbat Service	6 9:00AM Torah Study: Shemot
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:30 - 11:45AM Religious School	6:45PM Youth Group Meeting	3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School			7:30PM Social Justice Shabbat	
10:15AM Chai Mitzvah	6:45PM Mah Jongg & Canasta	7:30PM Board Meeting			with Author David Grann	
II:00AM Next Step	7:15 - 8:30PM Monday Night Program					
Cereal Drive Begins	7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
No Religious School	Temple Office Closed: Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Day No MNP or Confirmation 10:00am Youth Group at Afya	3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School 6:30PM Books & Bites		10:15AM Temple Book Club 8:00PM Single Malt Torah	I 2:00PM Adult Ed with Student Rabbi Jade Sank 7:30PM Family Shabbat Service: Exploring Our Prayers	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:30 - 11:45AM Religious School 11:15AM Drop-in with the Rabbi: Grades 3 & 4	6:45PM Mah Jongg & Canasta 7:15 - 8:30PM Monday Night Program 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School		7:30PM Different Views Conversation	Depart: 9th Grade Religious Action Center Trip 7:30PM Shabbat Service	9th Grade Religious Action Center Trip 9:00AM Torah Study: Beshalach
28	29	30	31			
9:30 - 11:45AM Religious School & Pre-K/K Tu B'Shevat Program 10:15AM Chai Mitzvah 11:00AM Teens Teach Tech	6:45PM Mah Jongg & Canasta 6:45PM Pizza Night for Monday Night Program & Confirmation 7:15 - 8:30PM Gallery Opening, MNP, Confirmation: Cartoons Against the Holocaust	3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School				

CALENDAR: FEBRUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 No Religious School:	5 6:45PM	6 3:50 - 5:45PM	Wed 7	Thu I 12:00PM Sisterhood Challah Baking	9:00AM Walk with the Rabbi 5:30PM Women's Study Group Retreat Begins 6:00PM Pre-Neg 6:30PM Early Service Cereal Drive Ends 9 7:30PM	Sat 3 Women's Study Group Retreat Concludes 10 9:00AM Torah Study:
Faculty Development Day	Youth Group Meeting 6:45PM Mah Jongg & Canasta 7:15 - 8:30PM Monday Night Program 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	Hebrew School			Friedman Lecture with Professor Aron Rose	Torah Study: Mishpatim 5:00PM Ryan Levkoff Bar Mitzvah
9:30 - 11:45AM Religious School & 5th Grade Family Education Morning 11:00AM Next Step 9:00AM - 1:00PM Mi Ani 6th Grade Trip to Museum of Jewish Heritage 7:00PM Film: Rosenwald	6:45PM Mah Jongg & Canasta 7:15 - 8:30PM Monday Night Program 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School	14	15	16 6:00PM Pre-Neg 6:30PM Early Service	17
I 8 No Religious School	Temple Office Closed: President's Day No Confirmation or Monday Night Program	20 No Hebrew School	21	22	6:30PM Lay Led Service	24
25 No Religious School	26 12:00PM Adult Ed with Rabbi Goldsmith 6:45PM Mah Jongg & Canasta 7:15 - 8:30PM Monday Night Program & Hineini 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	27 3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School	28			

YOUNG FAMILIES CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

















6TH GRADERS AT DON BOSCO CENTER THANKSGIVING ART PROJECT











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JANUARY - FEBRUARY SHABBAT SERVICES

January 5 **Shabbat Service** 7:30 **Service**

January 12 Social Justice Shabbat featuring the Isaac Memorial Lecture with

Author David Grann

7:30 **Service □**

January 19 Family Service:

Exploring Our Prayers

7:30 **Service □**

January 26 Shabbat Service

7:30 **Service**

February 2 **Early Service**

6:00 Pre-neg

6:30 **Service**

February 9 Samuel L. & Jane L. Friedman

Lecture on Peace and Understanding with Professor Aron Rose

7:30 **Service**

February 16 Early Service

6:00 Pre-neg

6:30 **Service**

February 23 Lay Led Service

6:30 **Service**

■ Band



Handsfree/Prayers projected

GALLERY OPENING & SPECIAL PROGRAM: CARTOONS AGAINST THE HOLOCAUST

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 7:15PM

A small number of American political cartoonists used their art to cry out against injustice-and to try to inspire the public to demand the rescue of Hitler's victims. The cartoonists used their art to cajole, embarrass and pillory the politicians in London and Washington, D.C. who failed to help save Jewish lives when they had the opportunity.

The evening will begin with an opening ceremony presented by Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center Co-Chairs, Julie Scallero and Steve Goldberg.

RSVP to Jane at jdubro@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x21. Open to the public.







