

# Shalom, Love and Music

## Spring Benefit Honoring Rabbi Howard J. Goldsmith

Saturday, April 25, 7:00pm

Shalom, love and music. Words which personify this year's honoree, our beloved Rabbi Howard Goldsmith.

Come celebrate as a community as this year's Spring Benefit takes us into the world of "Groovy Elegance". Experience the best that the culinary world has to offer with superior hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Dance the night away as we celebrate Howard's 10th anniversary as our spiritual leader and friend.

Invitations should be arriving in mailboxes any day. Ticket, journal, and package details on pg. 8.

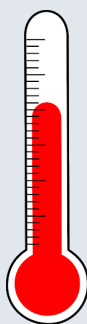
## The Garden of Gratitude

In the hustle and bustle of our lives, it is good to know that we have a sanctuary at Emanu-El that affords us a place for calm and reflection.



Just to the left of our beautiful sanctuary we have the Garden of Gratitude. Tucked between our building and the woods, is a lovely patch of green dotted with benches, sculptures, and flowers. Congregants are welcome to use the Garden of Gratitude as a place to reflect on the blessings in our lives, have a chat with a friend, or simply find a moment of peace and calm. After Hebrew School drop-off, before Friday night services, or anytime you happen to be driving by, never hesitate to visit the garden, take a deep breath, and allow nature to fill you with a sense of gratitude.

*The Garden of Gratitude is supported, in part, by family and friends in memory of Steven Klebanoff. Donations toward its upkeep are welcome.*



## Fifty for Fifty...Almost there!

We are 66% of the way towards achieving our goal of 50 new donors to our mortgage campaign. Once we reach that benchmark, a generous benefactor will donate \$50,000 towards paying off our mortgage.

If you have not already participated, please give today at [www.c-e-w.org/50for50](http://www.c-e-w.org/50for50).

## Purim Shabbat: Will Burt Bachrach Finally Meet the Megillah?

Friday, March 6, 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 Shabbat Purim celebration in the festive and famous Kaye Kafé. You will enjoy this fun evening of song, story and silliness!

## Meet Naomi Fabes, Our New Director of Education



After a thorough, nationwide search, we have found the ideal leader for our religious school: Naomi Fabes. Down to earth and deeply knowledgeable, passionate and caring, experienced and enthusiastic, Naomi will bring spirit and joy and depth to our education programs.

Naomi is thrilled to join the team at Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester as our Director of Education. She is passionate about crafting meaningful experiences that allow families of all ages to find their connection to Judaism in a personal and authentic way.

Hailing from the Lone Star State, Naomi earned her B.S. in Early Childhood and Elementary Education at the University of Texas at Austin, where she was also involved in Jewish campus life and Israel activism. She moved to Manhattan to pursue an M.A. in Jewish Education from The Jewish Theological Seminary, with a concentration in Experiential Education. While in school, Naomi taught in multiple religious schools, served as the Education Intern at Baruch College Hillel, spent summers as a ropes course instructor at Ramah Day Camp in Nyack, and taught as an assistant teacher in Jewish early childhood programs.

In July 2014, Naomi began as a Full-Time Educator at Central Synagogue where she redesigned the religious school's K-2nd grade curriculum, played an integral role in the development and expansion of the Family Engagement department, and founded Camp Central, the synagogue's early childhood summer camp.

During her free time, Naomi can be found dancing along to live music, gardening, doing puzzles, exploring the beautiful outdoors and enjoying the culinary experience that is New York City. She lives on the Upper East Side with her husband, Sherman, and their dog, Mallomar.

## Women's Study Group Retreat

This year's Women's Study Group Retreat at the Interlaken Inn was a full 24 hours of shared community, worship and study. We welcomed Dr. Betsy Stone to teach us about Mussar, the Jewish practice of self-awareness and character strengths. Below are some testimonials from participants.



"To spend Shabbat learning with a group of wonderful women makes Judaism very real."

"An annual event that I look forward to...time for meaningful study that addresses Jewish values...time with temple women who are smart and thoughtful. It's like going back to the well, where the water is always cool and fresh."

"A perfect way to spend Shabbat."

"My favorite Shabbat of the year...for spiritual growth, reconnecting with old and new friends, and being renewed and restored."

"Always a special experience that sends me home with a glow."



"It feels like the quintessential Shabbat experience - community, learning together, sharing, carving out time to exhale, to pray and sing together. By the end of our Shabbat, I feel more spiritual, more connected and more Jewish!"

"...thought provoking self examination."

"We laughed... we ate, we got to know each other better and became friends."

"The topics are always interesting and the time commitment is not onerous. The company of the other women and the leadership is enriching."

"...fascinating group of women who I don't get a chance to see and talk to often enough... magical experience."

"I expanded my knowledge of Judaism and of myself."



"A unique opportunity to press the pause button and to reflect, listen, learn and connect...a time to BE with our Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester sisters."



"An opportunity to step back from the day to day and reflect."

"Fabulous...an amazing group of women."



Congregation  
**Emanu-El**  
of Westchester

2125 Westchester Ave East  
Rye, New York 10580

www.c-e-w.org  
Phone: 914-967-4382 Fax: 914-967-0845

### Staff Directory

Howard J. Goldsmith ext. 13  
Rabbi  
hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org

Meredith Stone ext. 19  
Cantor  
mstone@c-e-w.org

Jade Ross ext. 15  
Assistant Rabbi, Director of Education  
jross@c-e-w.org

Jane Dubro ext. 21  
Youth Activities and Program Director  
jdubro@c-e-w.org

Abbie Levitt ext. 18  
Temple Administrator  
alevitt@c-e-w.org

Tal Drori ext. 12  
Religious School Administrator  
& Rental Coordinator  
tdrori@c-e-w.org

Dan O'Connor ext. 11  
Administrative Assistant  
doconnor@c-e-w.org

Denise Eisler ext. 14  
Accountant  
deisler@c-e-w.org

Enrique Torres ext. 26  
Director of Facilities  
etorres@c-e-w.org

### Emeriti Directory

Daniel S. Wolk ext. 11  
Rabbi Emeritus  
dswolk@gmail.com

Marcie Aiuvalasit ext. 12  
Religious Educator Emerita  
maiuvalasit@c-e-w.org

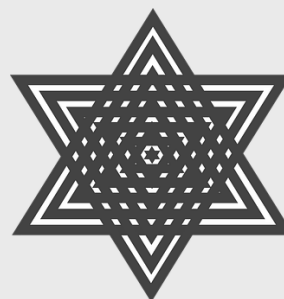
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## B'nei Mitzvah Mazel Tov!

We would like to honor the following students  
who will become B'nei Mitzvah in March and April:

**Josh Paterno**  
**Zachary Taerstein**  
**Tyler Taerstein**  
**Rebecca Tanenbaum**



## I Believe In America

*"Welcome the stranger for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."*

– The Torah, 36 times.

I believe in The United States of America. I believe in our institutions and our traditions, in our history and in our future. I believe that we are a nation that will withstand the challenges of any given moment, a people who – over the course of generations – will bend the arc of history toward justice. I believe in the abilities of those who work for the betterment of our society: elected representatives, civil servants, military and our diplomatic corps. Why do I believe this?



On the one hand, it is easy to have this faith as someone with my level of privilege: male, white, upper-middle class, the right schools, a good job, and the right connections. But I also have this faith because this country took a bet on my refugee grandparents. America bet that it could take in my minority, immigrant, German-speaking grandparents and that they would make good for themselves and for our country. No country had records on Lisa and Fred Grubel and Henry and Gertrude Goldsmith when they arrived on these shores. Besides the stamps in their passports, there were no criminal databases to check, no social media history, no terrorist databanks. Instead, America's diplomats and civil servants interviewed them, used their discretion, and took a chance on them as they fled the Nazi atrocities of the 20th century.

The Trump administration's recent decision to block travel from six more nations is based on the premise that those countries do not maintain enough information on travelers to admit them to America. These countries do not have the information because they are riddled with war and persecution and violence. What will be the fate of those we turn away? What would have been the fate of my grandparents if the US had refused admission because Nazi Germany would not share records? Actually, we do know the answer to that question – it is an answer too horrible to contemplate.

I believe that America grows stronger when we welcome the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to be free. I believe in our diplomats and career civil servants. I believe that they know how to guide people fleeing war and persecution, repression and violence. I believe that gun violence is much more

dangerous – has killed more people – than brown-skinned immigrants and travelers within our borders. I believe that there are American synagogues and churches, civic groups and benevolent societies who will help to welcome these people and integrate them into our society. I believe that by celebrating what unites us as humans and honoring our differences, we can – in all of our diversity – become an even stronger, more prosperous, more compassionate, more peaceful nation.

...America grows stronger when we welcome the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to be free.

The America I know is courageous. It is filled with people willing to take risks for the sake of our flag, for the sake of their fellow Americans, for the sake of our fellow humans. Americans do not shy away from new projects and businesses, new medical experiments and new forms of religious expression. Difference does not scare America, it strengthens us. Each and every generation of Americans have faced a xenophobic moment which, in the fullness of time, has proven baseless. The same will be true in this moment. We will look back on travelers kept out by the travel ban and on refugees kept out by low quotas. We will look back and wonder how much stronger we could have been with the help of their grit and determination, their drive to succeed, their rich cultural heritage.

We are a brave and strong nation. We can act like it. We can allow in the refugees of 2020 just as America let in my grandparents when they were refugees. When we do, we will realize the fullness of the American promise, and the American dream will come true.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Howard'.

Howard J. Goldsmith, Rabbi

# REFLECT & ELEVATE

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*We gather for Shabbat, holy days, festivals, memorial services and life-cycle events to reflect on the themes of our lives as they echo through our traditions. Through songs and readings, sermons and theatrics, sharing and quiet, we find our lives uplifted.*

## **Union Prayer Book Service: A Tribute to Our Reform Heritage**

Friday, March 13, 7:30pm

Our congregation began with a group of families committed to worship in the Classical Reform style of the day. Grandeur and transcendence found expression in formal prose and poetry, classical organ music, and a dignified atmosphere. Each year we honor this heritage with our Union Prayer Book Service at which we use this beloved prayer book and familiar music to connect with our past and to consider the ways that beauty and majesty echo not only in the sanctuary, but in the world around us.

## **I'm A Cultural Jew: Wine**

Friday, March 27, 7:30pm

One glass of wine for Shabbat Kiddush. Two glasses at a wedding ceremony. Four glasses at the Passover Seder. Mixing red and white at Tu B'Shvat. Too many glasses at Purim. Used both to enjoy the moment and to make it holy, wine plays a big role in Jewish tradition. In modern times, too, wine has impacted the trajectory of Jewish history. The very first Zionist-Jewish settlement in the Land of Israel in the 19th century planted vineyards in our ancient homeland. Today, kosher and non-kosher wineries have popped up all over the State of Israel, producing world class wines that put Manischewitz to shame. On this night, we will celebrate Shabbat with music, good company, and plenty of wine.

## **Community Yom HaShoah Service at Community Synagogue of Rye**

Monday, April 20, 7:30pm

Together as one community with KTI, JCCH, and Community Synagogue of Rye, we gather for a program of readings, music and prayer in remembrance of the 6 million Jewish lives lost during the Holocaust.

Community Synagogue of Rye is located at 200 Forest Avenue in Rye.



## **Yom HaAtzmaut & Honoring Our Graduating Seniors**

Friday, April 24, 7:30pm

Every year we look forward to planning a special and interactive Shabbat service, all while celebrating Israel! Our graduating high school seniors will be honored on the bimah.

## **Passover Services**

### **Morning Service**

Thursday, April 9, 9:00am

In the book of Leviticus we read "...on the 14th (of Nissan), at twilight, there shall be a Passover offering to God, and on the 15th of that month, God's Feast of Unleavened Bread. You shall eat unleavened bread for seven days. *On the first day you shall celebrate a sacred occasion: you shall not work at your occupations...*"

We will celebrate the first day of Passover as a "sacred occasion" with a brief, meaningful morning service. Use this moment of reflection between seders to appreciate the blessings of freedom that we all enjoy.

### **Yizkor Memorial Service**

Wednesday, April 15, 7:30am

There are four times throughout the year when we traditionally come together as a community to remember those who have passed away: Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Passover and Shavuot.

We have scheduled the service at this early hour so that those who work can attend and honor the memory of their loved ones.

There will be one more Yizkor service following this one in the Hebrew year 5780. The Shavuot Yizkor Memorial Service will take place on Friday, May 29 at 7:30am.

## Ritual Corner: What's with the Book of Esther?!

In just a few days we will celebrate the festival of Purim. It is another in the long line of 'They-Tried-To-Kill-Us-We-Survived-Let's-Eat' holidays. One curious aspect of this holiday is its source. Yes, it comes from the bible, from the Book of Esther, but this book does not contain the word "God". On its face, this is a story about human affairs with the Holy Blessed One playing no roll at all. On top of that, the story is completely over the top: months long parties, threats of genocide, Jews killing tens of thousands of non-Jews, lots of sex, and wine flowing freely throughout the tale. The first question we need to ask is: Why did the ancient rabbis include this book in the bible? The only answer can be that it was a very popular story that people would read one way or another. So, better to include it and make it an official part of the canon. The next question: Why on earth do we read it each year and, more than that, why do it with song and dance and laughter?! We read it – and make fun of it – precisely because it is over the top and



king, to poke fun at his advisors, to find heroism in unlikely people, and to have a little fun.

*Adults will bear (at least part of!) the Megillah on Friday, March 6 at 7:30pm. Religious School students will bear (a little bit less of!) the Megillah on Sunday, March 8 followed by the Purim Celebration at 11:30am.*

## A Discussion at Emanu-El with County Legislator Nancy Barr



County Legislator Nancy Barr and Legislative Aide Debbie Friedman, who represent District 6, Harrison, Rye Brook and Port Chester, met with congregants at the Political Staffers meeting on February 13. Legislator Barr has been an active member of the Rye Brook community for many years and served on the Blind Brook School Board for 6 years as well as on the district's facilities committee. She currently serves as the Legislative Liason to the Westchester County Airport Advisory Board, chairs the Legislature's Environment, Health and Energy Committee and is Vice President of the Council of Community Services. She has created a Westchester County Advisory Board for people with disabilities.

We discussed the rise in hate crime incidents and housing discrimination in the county. She and her fellow legislators are working to enhance the county's Human Rights Commission by hiring a new director and educator for this agency. A question was asked regarding what actions the county is taking to assist lower income residents. Barr explained that there are many local programs such as Open Door in Port Chester and food banks that receive some of their funding from the County government. Legislator Barr is a member of the Families Task Force, a committee that meets monthly. They oversee numerous programs and services provided by various non-profits that work directly with immigrant citizens in the district.

The upcoming Census was also discussed. The County has a "Complete Count Committee" that is charged with getting as many residents as possible to participate in the Census. This includes those who will reply online, those who will need assistance to complete the census and encouraging all of the undocumented residents living in Westchester to be counted.

Rabbi Goldsmith spoke about his concern for the smaller local county parks like the Edith G. Read Sanctuary and Marshlands Conservancy. He asked if there was a way for the County Parks Department to assist with a mentoring program for their "Friends" groups that might help them to attract more local membership and financial support, and of the possibility for them to have a more of a presence on the County Parks website that would enhance their visibility.

We briefly discussed the status of Playland, the Water Filtration Plant that will be built soon near the airport, and the newest master plan proposal that is currently in the works for the airport. We covered a lot of ground in a very limited time and learned quite a few new things about the Westchester County government.

Our next meeting will take place on Friday, May 1 at 9:30am. Our guest will be Legislator Catherine Parker, who is serving her third term for the 7th district (Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Rye, and parts of Harrison and New Rochelle).

## MUSSAR: YOUR SPIRITUAL CURRICULUM - OR - LORD, HELP ME TO BE THE PERSON MY DOG THINKS I AM (AS SEEN RECENTLY ON BUMPER STICKER)

It is not surprising that many followers of Eastern religious traditions are Jewish, having veered away from their roots in search of something more “spiritual.” What is surprising is that Judaism has its own “mindfulness” tradition, called Mussar, which most of us had never even heard of until recently. It was founded in the mid-19th century to help people focus on improving their character. Mussar is based on the injunction from Leviticus “You shall be holy,” meaning that it is the task of every individual to become spiritually refined and elevated. Although we are created in the image of God, the Talmud tells us that we are imperfect and need improvement: “Anything created in the first six days [of Creation] needs further actions—for example, mustard seeds need sweetening, peas need sweetening, wheat needs grinding, and even humans need fixing.” Since our Women’s Study Group always integrates a personal approach to whatever Jewish theme we engage with, “A Taste of Mussar: Your Spiritual Curriculum” was an apt topic for those of us who participated in the 19th Annual Women’s Study Group Retreat in early February.



Historically, Judaism has not been as clear-cut as one might expect about how to be a good person and how to lead both an ethical and meaningful life. While our motivations are important, our actions matter the most. The medieval Torah commentator Rashi states that following all the mitzvot will make you holy. The Torah and other Jewish texts prescribe endless commandments designed to make us ethical and spiritually elevated, but most people—because of our inner drives and fallible human nature—find it difficult to follow rules and always be “good”.

Maimonides (the medieval Sephardic philosopher and Torah scholar) argues that we should work on ourselves from the inside out, focusing on our intentions—because despite following all the commandments, one still might not be a good person. Mussar provides a specific path for cultivating inner values.

A need to find meaning within the strict rule-based Judaism of 19th-century Lithuania may have been a reason that the Mussar movement sprang up. After

all, once you have mastered the rules, it’s hard to know what to do next. The Mussar movement blossomed within mainstream Judaism, but nearly disappeared after its major proponents perished in the Holocaust.

In recent times, Mussar has been rediscovered, dusted off and packaged for modern sensibilities. It is not uncommon to find Mussar groups in synagogues and Jewish organizations. Unlike many other spiritual disciplines, Mussar offers possibilities for personal transformation through a specifically Jewish lens.

Although we are created in the image of God, the Talmud tells us that we are imperfect and need improvement

In a Mussar group, participants meet to study and reflect upon one middah (or soul trait, such as gratitude, trust, patience, generosity) at a time. During the following week or two, they increase their awareness of how this soul trait plays out in their daily life and take some steps to improve in this area.

During our women’s retreat, we focused on a fundamental middah, humility, which is not to be confused with being humble, meek, or overly deferential. Humility refers to occupying one’s rightful space, neither too much nor too little. When we constantly interrupt, when we fail to make room for others, or we are puffed up by our own ego, we need to work on taking up less space; we need to exercise more self-restraint. Conversely, when we don’t speak up for ourselves and others, or are deflated and lacking in self-esteem, we need to learn to take up more space. Practicing this middah of “limiting ourselves to an appropriate amount of space while leaving room for others,” according to Alan Morinis in *Everyday Holiness*, makes us ever aware of when we should expand or contract ourselves. As we calibrate our relationship to ourselves and those around us, we become better people. In the practice of Mussar, we don’t do this merely for our own benefit. Rather, we do it to fulfill the purpose of our lives in line with the divine plan, to become holy—whole and complete—through our own efforts and intentions.

*Meredith*

Meredith Stone, Cantor

## ANNUAL SPRING BENEFIT

# Shalom, Love and Music



A CELEBRATION HONORING THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF

*Rabbi Howard J. Goldsmith*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 7:00 PM**

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**RSVP & Journal Deadline: March 30**

### *Benefit Tickets*

\$200 each

### *Ticket & Journal Packages*

Shalom	\$5,000	8 Tickets/Blue Page Journal Ad
Love	\$2,500	4 Tickets/Red Page Journal Ad
Music	\$1,000	2 Tickets/Yellow Page Journal Ad

### *Journal Ads*

Blue Page	\$2,000	Yellow Page	\$500
Red Page	\$1,000	Friend Listing	\$100

Register online: please go to [www.c-e-w.org](http://www.c-e-w.org)  
and click on the link for the Spring Benefit

For further information call Abbie Levitt at 914-967-4382 x18  
or email [cewtemplebenefit@gmail.com](mailto:cewtemplebenefit@gmail.com)

# MIX & MINGLE

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*The center of our congregation is our sense of community. We celebrate together, comfort each other, forge friendships and make connections - that is what we can uniquely offer as a synagogue.*

## **Mah Jongg & Canasta**

Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
& April 6, 13, 27, 6:45pm

From the tenements of New York City to the bungalows of the Catskills and the vast American suburbs, Jewish women have kept Mah Jongg alive enjoying the betting and matching of tiles into Rummy-like patterns. Speaking of Rummy, did you know that Canasta is the only member of the family of Rummy games to achieve the status of a classic?

Contact Robin Herko at rherko@rmfriedland.com if you are interested in playing. Friends and all levels of players welcome!

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## **Challah Baking with Baker Debra Cohen**

Wednesday, March 4, 12:00pm



Learn how to bake delicious challah from start to finish with congregant and baker Debra Cohen. \$36/person. Bring a mixing bowl!

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

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## **Book Club: Peony by Pearl S. Buck**

Thursday, March 5, 10:15am

Meet with fellow congregants for a discussion about *Peony* by Pearl S. Buck

RSVP to Tal at 914-967-4382 x12 or to Marcie at maiuvalasit@c-e-w.org. Newcomers always welcome!

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## **Drinks with the Clergy at The Crooked Knife in NYC**

Thursday, March 5, 6:30pm

Have a grown child living or working in New York City who wants to meet for drinks, food, and conversation with old and new friends?

Let them know that drinks and bites are on us at The Crooked Knife, 29 E. 30th Street, New York.

RSVP to Dan at doconnor@c-e-w.org.

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## **Former & Current Board Member Dinner**

Friday, March 6, 6:00pm

Former and current board members are invited to this wonderful opportunity to reconnect and get an update on temple happenings. Following the dinner, stay for our Burt Bachrach-themed Purim Shabbat at 7:30pm.

RSVP to Dan at 914-967-4382 x11  
or doconnor@c-e-w.org.

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## **Next Step**

Sundays, March 15 & April 19, 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 Paul Spindel (retired executive). For more information, contact Paul at 914-632-1264.

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## **Book & Bites at North Street Tavern: *The Liar* by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen**

Wednesday, March 18, 6:30pm

Meet with fellow congregants for a dinner discussion about *The Liar* by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen.

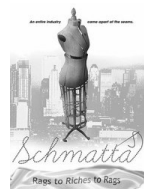
RSVP to Tal at 914-967-4382 x12 or to Marcie at maiuvalasit@c-e-w.org. Newcomers always welcome!

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## **Sunday Film Series**

### ***Shmatta: Rags to Riches to Rags***

Sunday, April 5, 7:00pm



Midtown Manhattan was the backbone of the fashion industry. This documentary explores the rise and fall of New York's fabled schmatta (rag) trade as a microcosm of the economic realities of the present.

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

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## **Congregant Art Show Call for Artwork**

Deadline: Friday, May 1

Opening Reception: Friday, June 12, 6:00pm

Showcase your talent in our beautiful, light-filled gallery! This show will highlight the artistic perspectives of the artists in our midst. All mediums are welcome. We encourage all congregants of *all ages* to participate in this celebration of art and culture. For more information, contact Jane at jdubro@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x21.

# SEEK & DISCOVER

*Jewish study leads to vitality that keeps our minds sharp and our souls searching. Rather than relativism, Judaism confronts us with issues that help to clarify our place in history and our place in our world. Classes, lectures, text study, book clubs, Single Malt Torah, and the Women's Study Group; see what you can discover.*

## Beit Midrash

In Beit Midrash (which means House of Study) we take an in-depth approach to Jewish Study using the Statement of Principles for Reform Judaism to examine the theologies, practices, and notions of peoplehood that define us as American Reform Jews.

To learn more about Beit Midrash, contact either Rabbi Ross (x15) or Rabbi Goldsmith (x13) at 914-967-4382.

## March & April Sessions

Sunday, March 1, 10:15am  
**Zionism**

Saturday, March 14, 9:00am  
**Tikkun Olam & Justice**

Saturday, March 21, 9:00am  
**Three Israels**

Saturday, April 4, 9:00am  
**Worldwide Jewish Community**

Sunday, April 26, 10:15am  
**The Future of American Jewry**

## Single Malt Torah

Thursday, March 19, 8:00pm

Men of the congregation gather in Rabbi Goldsmith's study for Torah learning and refreshments. Explore the wisdom of our tradition and enjoy some fine scotch. Bring a friend!

RSVP to Rabbi Goldsmith at 914-967-4382 x13 or [hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org](mailto:hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org).

## Transformative Torah For Your Seder at Temple Israel Center in White Plains

Sunday, March 29 - Tuesday, March 31

Prepare for your Passover Seder with some of the New York area's most innovative, engaging teachers! Join Rabbis Avi Killip, Aviva Richmond, Elie Kaunfer and Shai Held to make matzah and learn on Sunday, then continue the experience on Monday and Tuesday, taking a deep dive into the Haggadah and exploring ideas to take back to your seder. For more information and to register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/hadarpassover> or email [programs@hadar.org](mailto:programs@hadar.org).

## Women's Study Group Passover Seder

Thursday, April 2, 6:30pm

Come enjoy our popular Women's Passover Seder gathering as we share holiday traditions and also participate in a special project for My Sister's Place.

RSVP to Tal at 914-967-4382 x12 or [tdrori@c-e-w.org](mailto:tdrori@c-e-w.org).

## A Morning with Holocaust Survivor Dr. Moshe Avital

Sunday, April 26, 9:30am

Dr. Moshe Avital was born in Bilke, a village on the Eastern part of the former Czechoslovakia called Ruthenia (now Ukraine), and brought up in a traditional Jewish home and environment.

During the Holocaust, Dr. Avital was imprisoned in Ghetto Berhhovo, deported with his entire family to Auschwitz, then transferred to Plaszow, Gross Rosen, Bolkenheim, Reichenau, and finally to Buchenwald from which the United States Third Army liberated him on April 11, 1945.

RSVP to Jane at [jdubro@c-e-w.org](mailto:jdubro@c-e-w.org) or 914-967-4382 x21. Open to the community.

## Reflections Workshop with Cantor Stone

Monday, April 27, 12:00pm

In this workshop, we find out how our daily life experiences, observations and anecdotes can illuminate and give deeper meaning to our prayers. Through writing on various topics, learning about the themes of prayers, and sharing as a group, we will see prayer in a new light and strengthen connections to one another and our tradition. A light lunch will be served.

RSVP to Cantor Stone at 914-967-4382 x19 or [mstone@c-e-w.org](mailto:mstone@c-e-w.org).

## Luncheon with Sacred Shelter: Thirteen Journeys of Homelessness and Healing Author Susan Greenfield and Contributor Dennis Barton

Thursday, April 30, 12:00pm

Through frank, honest interviews, editor Susan Greenfield follows the lives of thirteen people who experienced homelessness and graduated from an interfaith life skills empowerment program in New York City. Interspersed among their stories are reflections from directors, clerics, and volunteers involved in the life skills empowerment program.

Cost: \$20/person, friends welcome. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

RSVP to Tal at 914-967-4382 x12 or [tdrori@c-e-w.org](mailto:tdrori@c-e-w.org).

## THE GOOD PLACE: LIVING A GOOD LIFE

**This article contains spoilers for Michael Schur's NBC comedy, *The Good Place*.**



Following the exodus from Egypt, with the Israelites wandering in the wilderness, the Torah spends much of the final chapters of the book of Exodus and the early chapters of Leviticus focused on mitzvot (commandments) and the creation of an Israelite society. As the Israelites build the mishkan, the dwelling place of God in the wilderness, and begin to establish rituals and offer sacrifices, we are taught, in great detail, what actions we ought to take to serve God and our community. With so many laws and precepts, instructions and specifications, the underlying question of these chapters is undoubtedly, how do we live a good life?

Many of the commandments laid out in the Torah are still applicable today, like pursuing justice or loving your neighbor as yourself, and many that appear in these final chapters of Exodus and the start of Leviticus are not, like the laws of priestly purity. However, whether or not the laws themselves are still relevant today, the message that is conveyed to us in the Torah is clear: living the good life is all about doing - living out the timeless value of being God's partners in creation.

In the hit NBC comedy, *The Good Place*, viewers primarily follow the relationship between moral philosophy professor, Chidi and shrimp-loving, Arizona native Eleanor. Eleanor, believing that she has died and is indeed in "the good place" (i.e. heaven) during the early episodes, and that she does not belong there, wonders if she can change her ways and blend in. Initially, she attempts to take action--she holds doors for others, attempts to stop gossiping and makes her best effort to suppress her exasperated eye rolls. After a while, she seeks out Chidi's help. Chidi's primary role throughout the series is teaching Eleanor and others, helping them to study and learn, and based on those studies, make positive changes and live good lives.

In the 2nd century, years after Moses' biblical leadership of the Israelites, and millennia before the series finale of *The Good Place*, the rabbis of the Talmud wondered, "Which is greater, study or action?" In other words, if what we do is so important according to the Torah, should we prioritize studying, even the Torah's many antiquated laws, when we could otherwise just focus on the immediately actionable parts of our

tradition? Should Eleanor spend time studying moral philosophy when she could otherwise just start acting better?

"Which is greater, study or action?"

Rabbi Tarfon suggested, "Action,"- Eleanor's initial inclination. But Rabbi Akiva concluded, "Study, because it leads to action,"- Ultimately Eleanor's course. Our studies, that is, reading the Torah, including the ancient laws, learning Jewish traditions and history, studying Hebrew and inculcating Jewish values, is really all about learning how to live a good life (Talmud, Kedushin 40b).

*The Good Place* concludes that human experiences are meaningful precisely because of our mortality—and how we treat one another in that finite window is the greatest measure of our lives (Giorgis, Hannah, *The Atlantic*, "The Most Optimistic Show on TV is Over," January 31, 2020)." What ends up mattering most at the end of the series is not the morals and ethics Eleanor learns but rather the relationship that she develops with Chidi and the show's other characters. It is through these relationships that an unlikely team takes on one of life's most fundamental questions: can humans ever truly change? The show resoundingly concludes, yes. "Ethics and morality can be a losing game, but how people show up for one another will always matter most (Giorgis, Hannah)." Ultimately, what we learn from *The Good Place* is that our relationships are ultimately what change us and truly enable us to live good lives.

Like Eleanor, we can study Torah and take action - we can honor our parents, leave the corners of our fields for those in need, and even observe Shabbat - but what really matters is not just the action itself, but the act of partnership in those actions. Studying, like our ancestors did in the Talmud, is not done in solitude. We learn together. The Israelites in the wilderness built the mishkan together. As Rav Hamnuna says in the Talmud, "One who recounts the creation of the world, it is as if he becomes part of the story - God's partner in completing creation (Shabbat 119b)." Only together can we truly live good lives.

*Jade*

Jade Ross, Assistant Rabbi

## **The Bauman-Greene Pre-K & Kindergarten Program**



Our pre-k & kindergarten classes are a wonderful introduction to the Religious School experience.

Each class focuses on a Jewish holiday with a fun-filled program including music, storytelling and arts and crafts. Classes meet on occasional Sunday mornings during Religious School and are open to the community.

*This program is funded by the generosity of congregant Dr. Caroline Bauman.*

### **Purim Program**

Sunday, March 8, 9:30 - 10:45am

Drop your little ones off to learn about the joyful holiday of Purim through music, crafts and storytelling. Followed by Young Families Purim Celebration and Carnival.

### **Passover Program**

Sunday, March 29, 9:30 - 10:45am

Our youngest students will answer way more than four questions! Followed by Young Families Passover Celebration.

RSVP for all sessions to Tal at [tdrori@c-e-w.org](mailto:tdrori@c-e-w.org)

### **Save the Date:**

#### **Yom HaAtzmaut Program**

Sunday, May 3, 9:30 - 10:45am

## **Young Families Celebrations**

We are committed to helping young families begin their Jewish journeys. Bring your children, nieces, nephews, grandchildren... any little one who is special in your life. All Young Families Committee events are free and open to the community and are appropriate for ages 6 months through 2nd grade.

For more information or to RSVP for Young Families celebrations, contact Jane at 914-967-4382 x21 or [jdubro@c-e-w.org](mailto:jdubro@c-e-w.org).

### **Purim Celebration**

Sunday, March 8, 10:45 - 11:45am

### **Passover Celebration**

Sunday, March 29, 10:45 - 11:45am

Please bring a donation of diapers or wipes for Baby Bank Westchester.

### **Save the Date:**

#### **Mitzvah Shabbat & Pizza Truck Dinner**

Friday, May 8, 5:30pm

## **Religious School Purim Celebration**

Sunday, March 8, 11:30am - 1:00pm

Come in your favorite costume to celebrate this over the top holiday! Games! Prizes! Food! Excitement! After the schpiel, enjoy our annual Purim Celebration sponsored and run by our Youth Group. The Susan Schweitzer Family Learning Center will overflow with popcorn, lunch, face painting, Gaga, Pin the Hat on Haman, prizes and much more! \$10/20 tickets; \$20/40 tickets. Games and snacks are 2-4 tickets each.

All proceeds benefit the Religious School.

## **Youth Group Cereal Drive**

Sunday, March 1 - Sunday, March 29

Bring a shopping bag filled with boxes of your favorite cereal to your Religious or Hebrew School classroom. Donations will be given to Feeding Westchester.

## **JTeen J-Serve Day of Service**

Sunday, March 29, Time TBD

Every year, Jewish teens around the world join each other on this special day to make their community and the world a better place. J-Serve is the International Day of Jewish Teen Service. Details to follow!

RSVP to Jane at [jdubro@c-e-w.org](mailto:jdubro@c-e-w.org) or 914-967-4382 x21.

## **6th Grade Retreat**

Friday, April 17, 6:00 - 10:00pm

Location: The Shames JCC on the Hudson

Saturday, April 18, 8:00am - 12:00pm

Location: Congregation Emanu-El

The all-new B'nei Mitzvah Retreat for 6th grade students and their parents/guardians will help adults and students alike learn everything there is to know about the b'nei mitzvah process at Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester from "alef to tav".

*All 6th grade students are expected to attend with a parent or guardian.*

### **Save the Date:**

#### **Religious School Open House**

Sunday, May 3, 9:30am

Tell your friends to check out Emanu-El!

## HONORING RABBI HOWARD GOLDSMITH



It's hard to believe that a decade has passed since Rabbi Howard Goldsmith joined the Congregation Emanu-El family. And what a decade it has been!

Whether engaging our youth, meeting with new members, interacting with young families, or teaching our adult

Beit Midrash, Rabbi Goldsmith shares his knowledge, personality and love of Judaism. He understands the importance of community being central to our lives and makes sure that the temple fulfills that mission. He also extends himself and our congregation to members of the community at large. He is a talented Rabbi and educator, has an astute business sense and keeps a steady stash of Hershey's kisses at the ready!

On a personal note, Rabbi Goldsmith has supported my vision for our youth and has allowed me to create meaningful and relevant programs. Hineini, the pre-B'nei Mitzvah program has become one of service and learning. What better way to prepare for young adulthood than to turn what we learn into action.

A few years into his tenure, Rabbi Goldsmith realized the need for expanded programming for all community members, not just our youth. He entrusted this new role to me and has guided and supported me every step of the way. Our annual theme serves as a vehicle for all programs and activities throughout the year and engages the entire community in innovative learning and thoughtful programming.

Ten years of growth

Ten years of creativity

Ten years of collaboration

Ten years of building community

Ten years of strengthening our Jewish values and connection to Israel

Join us at the Spring Benefit, as we celebrate Rabbi Goldsmith's first ten years at the helm of Emanu-El, Saturday, April 25 at 7:00pm.

*Jane*

Jane Dubro, Youth Activities & Program Director

*We live in safety and security, with an abundance unimaginable for past generations. Donating our time and resources to worthy causes shows our gratitude for the plenty we enjoy. These acts of tikkun olam (repairing the world) allow us to express our Jewish identity in a fulfilling, important way.*



## Volunteer with Baby Bank Westchester

Last fall, (914) Cares launched Baby Bank Westchester, which provides underserved families with six months of new, basic necessities for their babies.

Since then, 36 babies throughout Westchester were supported with more than 33,500 diapers and over 550 packages of wipes, as well as clothing, strollers and other baby essentials.

Now, as Baby Bank continues to provide this service, we will continue to partner with (914) Cares to help stock the shelves throughout the year. How can you help? Order supplies directly from Baby Bank's Buy Buy Baby and Amazon wish lists, or drop off new items and gift cards at the temple. Donate new or gently used baby clothing sizes 0-24 months or a box of diapers (especially sizes 5 & 6) or a package of baby wipes. If you have Amazon credit, consider putting it towards a car seat or stroller or bathtub.

In addition, congregants have been providing hands-on assistance to the Baby Bank by visiting the (914) Cares headquarters in North White Plains once a week to help sort and organize donated items. If you are interested in participating or want more information regarding Baby Bank Westchester please visit [www.914cares.org](http://www.914cares.org), or contact Hedy Cardozo at [hedoza@aol.com](mailto:hedoza@aol.com).

Save the date: Baby Bank's first fundraiser will be during the day on Friday, May 8. More details to follow!

## Social Action Collections

Help make our community a better place and participate in the important drives scheduled throughout the year. For more information, contact Hedy Cardozo at [hedoza@aol.com](mailto:hedoza@aol.com).

## Upcoming Collections

**Pajama Project Collection for Mitzvah Shabbat**  
April (details on pg. 14.)

**Gently Used Backpack Collection for Midnight Run**  
June

## Pajama Project Collection for Mitzvah Shabbat

Wednesday, April 1 - Tuesday, May 5

In preparation for Mitzvah Shabbat in May, we are collecting *new pajamas and new books* for children of all ages; particularly needed are pajamas and books for young adults. Collection bins will be located in the main lobby throughout the month. Contact Hedy Cardozo at [hedozo@aol.com](mailto:hedozo@aol.com) for more information.

## Intergenerational Social Action Programs

We live in turbulent times. Rather than sit and worry, we can go out in our community and counter the turbulence with acts of tikkun olam, acts that make our world a better place. Let's join together as a temple community!

Each one of these social action programs is an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in our community, the kind of action that creates ripples of hope and goodness. The time is now to take your good intentions and act on them with congregants of all ages.

RSVP for any of these events to Jane at [jdubro@c-e-w.org](mailto:jdubro@c-e-w.org) or 914-967-4382 x21.

## DOROT Westchester Passover Package Delivery

Sunday, March 29, 10:00 - 11:30am

10:15am & 11:00am New Volunteer Orientations

Walk-ins welcome after 11:00am



We are pleased to be the host location once again for the DOROT Westchester Passover Package Delivery. We hope that you will consider being a part of this very important and special outreach effort.

Registration is required for students, adults and families online at <https://tinyurl.com/DOROT20>. After picking up a bag of Passover goodies from the temple, adults and families (friends are welcome to participate, too) are asked to deliver them to a senior on DOROT's list, followed by a visit in the home of that senior.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact Emily Cohen at [emilydcohen@gmail.com](mailto:emilydcohen@gmail.com) or 914-414-0636.

## Upcoming Programs

### Brunch Run

Sunday, May 3, 7:30am

### Mitzvah Shabbat & Pizza Truck Dinner

Friday, May 8, 5:30pm

## With deep appreciation, we acknowledge the following contributions:

### Annual Fund: High Holy Days

Robert & Barbara Goldstein

Nancy Molesworth

### Annual Fund: Year End Appeal

Marcie Aiuvalasit

Marcus & Betsy Aldredge

Joshua Balik-Klein & Tracey Levi

Michael & Denise Barnett

David Fried & Kathy Marks

Robert & Melissa Gaynor

Sondra Grundman

Jack & Melissa Heinberg

Gary & Karen Juster

Mark & Carla Lobel

Elaine Losquadro in memory of Michael Losquadro

Yuval & Jana Meron

Jane Meryll

Steven & Lucille Oppenheim

Kenneth & Amy Pollinger

Jonathan & Joelle Resnick

Michael Rosenblut & Hedy Cardozo

Marnie & William Rukin

Ilene Schwartz

Sam & Jill Sheppard

David & Nora Tulchin

Nancy Ullman

Robert & Denise Warshauer

### General Contributions

John Carton & Wendy Rowden

John Miller in memory of Eric Yaffee

Daniel & Stefanie Offit

Seena Peck in memory of Tony Aiuvalasit

Steven Shapiro & Susan Amkraut

Lilian Sicular in honor of Michael Sicular

Joanne & Eric Storch in memory of Eric Yaffee

Maj Wickstrom & Noah Birnbaum in memory of Rochelle Marks

Kevin & Jacqueline Wyman

### High Holy Day Music Fund

Peter Schweitzer in memory of Susan Schweitzer

### Jared Dubro Legacy Fund

Marcie Aiuvalasit

Mark & Allison Baumrind

Shelly Benerofe

Lawrence & Debra Cohen

Richard & Emily Cohen

Tal Drori & Daniel Lipin

Denise & Nathan Eisler

Pamela Eliach

Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder

Teri & Peter Gifford

James & Elaine Glover

Howard & Jennifer Goldsmith

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## **Jared Dubro Legacy Fund (cont.)**

Ryan & Lorri Goldstein  
Sondra Grundman  
Lee Helman & Amy Schulhof  
Richard & Arline Josephberg  
Margery Katz  
John & Madeleine Leigh  
Mark & Carla Lobel  
Tom & Peggy LoCastro  
Brett & Ilissa Marks  
Stephen & Margery McCabe  
Yuval & Jana Meron  
Jane Meryll  
Jack & Karyn Moore  
Robert & Randi Robinowitz  
Michael Rosenblut & Hedy Cardozo  
Steven Shapiro & Susan Amkraut  
Sam & Jill Sheppard  
Paul & Ann Spindel  
John & Amy Tanenbaum  
Maj Wickstrom  
Richard & MJ Wolff  
Kevin & Jacqueline Wyman

## **L'Dor V'Dor Capital Campaign**

Marcie Aiuvalasit  
Robert & Christina Baker  
Cliff & Janice Kaplan  
Laurence Rutkovsky & Sharon Feldman

## **Liturgical Fund**

Jonathan & Shari Austrian

## **Music Fund**

Arlene Cole wishing a speedy recovery  
to Cantor Stone  
Richard & Arline Josephberg in honor  
of Sophie & James Rukin's B'nei Mitzvah  
Jane Meryll

## **Mortgage Fund Donations & Pledges**

Andrew & Diane Alson  
Anonymous  
Michael & Denise Barnett  
David & Lisa Barse  
Michael & Lauren Baruch  
Mark & Allison Baumrind  
Irving & Felicia Beitler  
Shelly Benerofe  
Joshua & Nancy Blaine  
John & Patricia Bottomley  
John Carton & Wendy Rowden  
Susan Chapiro  
Michael & Patty Chernick  
Daniel & Rhonda Chestler  
Lawrence & Debra Cohen

## **Mortgage Fund (cont.)**

Richard & Emily Cohen  
Barrie & Joan Damson  
Richard & Peggy Danziger  
Alan Epstein & Yvonne Tropp  
Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder  
Roger & Vivian Farah  
Lawrence & Harriet Feldman  
Darren & Jeanne Fogel  
Bruce & Dana Freyer  
David Fried & Kathy Marks  
William & Laurie Fried  
Robert & Melissa Gaynor  
Ryan & Lorri Goldstein  
Elizabeth Grill  
Sondra Grundman  
Richard & Susan Hecht  
Jack & Melissa Heinberg  
Myra Hersh in honor of  
Rabbi Goldsmith's 10th Anniversary  
Scott Hirsch & Christine Staeger-Hirsch  
The Kahn Family in memory  
of Marcella & Max Kahn  
Chip & Sheryl Kaye  
Doris Kempner  
Lee & Daney Klingenstein  
Patricia Klingenstein  
Robert & Cheryl Kobre  
Lindsay & Matthew Kraut  
Stephen & Doreen Kushel  
Mark & Fran Lerner  
Randy & Jennifer Levitt  
Edgar & Margery Masinter  
Lisa & Gary Matthews  
Norman & Joanne Matthews  
Stephen & Margery McCabe  
Yuval & Jana Meron  
Neil & Mara Miller  
Marcelo & Marcy Modica  
John & Dana Montone  
Michael & Leslie Mook  
Brian & Jaime Morris  
Lawrence & Kimberly Motola  
Elyse Nathanson  
Laura Newman  
Clark & Debra Pager  
Joshua Perlman & Yan Yunqing  
Kenneth & Amy Pollinger  
Cary & Michele Potkin  
Jonathan & Joelle Resnick  
Jessica, Jason, Noah & Andie Riesel  
in memory of Stephen Dichter  
Kim & Rich Rosenbaum  
Laurence Rutkovsky & Sharon Feldman  
Linda Salamon  
Robert Sales & Rachel Marcus Sales  
Lanier Saperstein & Stefanie Kalkut  
Harvey Schulweis & Barbara Benerofe

## **Mortgage Fund (cont.)**

Axel & Sara Schupf  
Adam & Jessica Schur  
Peter Schweitzer  
Steven Shapiro & Susan Amkraut  
Todd & Karen Siegel  
James & Jane Stern  
Stuart & Lisa Sternberg  
Alan & Jacqueline Stuart  
John & Amy Tanenbaum  
JoAnn Terdiman  
David & Nora Tulchin  
Maj Wickstrom  
Mandi & Evan Wiederkehr  
Martin & Pamela Winter  
Richard & MJ Wolff  
Michael & Lynne Wolitzer  
Kevin & Jacqueline Wyman

## **Rabbi Goldsmith's Discretionary Fund**

Bill & Hinda Bodinger  
Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder  
in memory of Michael Benerofe  
Sanford & Brianne Goldstein in gratitude  
for their anniversary blessing  
Merle & Fabrice Hugon in memory of Eric Yaffee  
Steve & Robin Kamin in memory of Eric Yaffee  
Robert & Deborah Lewis in memory of Eric Yaffee  
Marnie Mallah in memory of Eric Yaffee  
Marcelo & Marcy Modica in memory of Eric Yaffee  
John & Dana Montone in memory of Eric Yaffee  
Hanna Poplasky in memory of Eric Yaffee  
James Schutzer in memory of Eric Yaffee  
Sam & Jill Sheppard  
Lilian Sicular  
Maj Wickstrom & Noah Birnbaum  
in memory of Eric Yaffee

## **Religious School Fund**

Sandra Feldman wishing a speedy recovery  
to Doreen Kushel

## **Shabbat Music Fund**

Neil & Loren Canell  
David Fried & Kathy Marks in memory  
of Lawrence Fried

## **Social Action Fund**

Marsha Cirulli  
Peter Schweitzer in memory of Susan Schweitzer  
Steven Shapiro & Susan Amkraut in memory  
of Tony Aiuvalasit

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Our community offers condolences to:

Susan Cohen and Lisa Rubenfeld on the the death of their mother, Helen Wasserman  
Ann Fliegenspan on the death of her mother, Rochelle Marks  
Jessica Gordon the death of her stepfather, Ernest Kovacs  
Mara Miller on the death of her father, Eric Yaffee  
Amanda Gitkind on the death of her father, Sandy Kay

### Memorial Fund

#### In memory:

Gertrude Appel  
Albert Cohen Arthur  
Greg Benerofe  
Greg Benerofe  
Carolyn Bossak  
Beatrice Burak  
Alina Cantoni de Leon  
Esther Cohen  
Jerry Cohen  
  
Thelma Cohen  
Laurence Cole  
Sybil Cole  
Sadye Davis  
Allan D. Emil  
Sally Epstein  
Henry Farah  
Irwin M. Freyer  
Rose Pasternack Garber  
Sally Gardos  
Lillian Gelfman  
Gloria Gevirtz  
Joseph Greene  
Bernard L. & Ida Grossman  
Warren Heilbron  
Robert Herko  
Alexander Hersh  
  
Ralph & Ruth Heyman  
Ronnie Hymowitz  
Leslie Golden Kantor

#### Remembered by:

Bonnie, Henry & Samantha Shyer  
Anne Gottlieb  
Shelly Benerofe & Family  
Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder  
Jane Heilbron  
Sondra Burak Grundman  
Patricia & Martin Bernstein  
Nina Fixler  
Debra, Clark, Dylan, Tyler  
& Austin Pager  
Michael & Arleen Cohen  
Arlene Cole  
Arlene Cole  
Patricia Klingenstein & Family  
Judy E. Tenney  
Alan Epstein & Yvonne Tropp  
Vivian & Roger Farah  
Bruce & Dana Freyer & Family  
Lawrence Goodman  
Elaine Losquadro  
Patty & Bob Gelfman  
Alison Lazarus & Clifford Gevirtz  
Dr. Caroline Bauman & Family  
Patricia & Philip Laskawy  
Jane Heilbron  
Robin Herko  
Myra Hersh, Andrew & Emily Hersh  
  
Jeanne & Bert Keller  
Fran & Mark Lerner  
The Golden Family

#### In memory:

Harriet J. & Nathan B. Kessler  
Charles & Jeanne Korn  
Charles Koty  
  
Theodore R. Lazarus  
John Lese  
Michael Losquadro  
Carol B. Mann  
Paul Nebenzahl  
Fanya Paley  
Nancy Redfern  
Seymour Robinson  
Estelle Rod  
Melvin Roseman  
Enoch & Mandy Roskies  
Edith Schultz  
Lillian Schupf  
  
Nathan Schwartz  
Solomon Sinder  
Lloyd Singer  
Beverly Sternberg  
Ida Suskind  
Charlotte Sweig  
Leonid Tisnovsky  
Perry Wachtel  
Jerome Wolff  
Dick Yaffa

#### Remembered by:

Terry & John Schwarz  
Claire Yaffa  
Tina Koty, Sharon Koty Cooper,  
Andrew, Matthew, Josh  
& Charlie Cooper  
Alison Lazarus & Cliff Gevirtz  
  
Linda Lese  
Elaine Losquadro  
Robert & Barbara Mann  
The Aiuvalasit Family  
Lev & Alya Belilovsky  
Arline & Rich Josephberg  
Fran & Roger Lefft  
Helene, Jonathan & Marc Rod  
Shelly Benerofe  
Doreen & Stephen Kushel  
Michael & Joan Flaxman  
Sara & Axel Schupf  
and Family  
Ilene Schwartz  
Brian Sinder & Lois Falberg  
Madeleine & John Leigh  
Stuart & Lisa Sternberg  
Debra & Dan Alpert  
Jeannie & Gerald Kligman  
Emma Tisnovsky  
Robin Herko  
MJ & Richard Wolff  
Claire Yaffa

Donations processed after February 19 will appear in the next bulletin. If you have any questions, please call Abbie at 914-967-4382 x18.

CALENDAR: MARCH 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School  10:15 - 11:45am Beit Midrash: Zionism	<b>2</b> 6:45pm Mah Jongg & Canasta  7:15 - 8:30pm Academy & Confirmation	<b>3</b> 3:50 - 5:45pm Hebrew School	<b>4</b> 12:00pm Challah Baking	<b>5</b> 10:15am Book Club  6:30pm Drinks with the Clergy in NYC	<b>6</b> 6:00pm Former & Current Board Member Dinner  7:30pm Purim Shabbat: Will Burt Bachrach Finally Meet the Megillah?	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School  9:30 - 10:45am Pre-K & K: Purim  10:45 - 11:30am Young Families Purim Celebration  11:30am - 1:00pm Religious School Purim Celebration  4:00pm Westchester Chamber Music Society: Amerigo Trio	<b>9</b> 6:45pm Mah Jongg & Canasta  7:15 - 8:30pm Academy & Confirmation	<b>10</b> 3:50 - 5:45pm Hebrew School  7:30pm Board Meeting   <b>Purim</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:30pm Union Prayer Book Service: A Tribute to Our Reform Heritage	<b>14</b> 9:00am Beit Midrash: Tikkun Olam & Justice  11:00am Josh Paterno Bar Mitzvah Ceremony
<b>15</b> 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School  11:00am Next Step	<b>16</b> 6:45pm Mah Jongg & Canasta  7:15 - 8:30pm Academy & Confirmation	<b>17</b> 3:50 - 5:45pm Hebrew School	<b>18</b> 6:30pm Books & Bites	<b>19</b> 8:00pm Single Malt Torah	<b>20</b> 6:00pm Pre-Neg  6:30pm Early Service	<b>21</b> 9:00am Beit Midrash: Three Israels  11:00am Zach & Tyler Taerstein B'nei Mitzvah Ceremony
<b>22</b> 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School  10:15am 6th Grade & Hineini visit Pleasantville Cottage School	<b>23</b> 6:45pm Mah Jongg & Canasta  7:15 - 8:30pm Academy & Confirmation	<b>24</b> 3:50 - 5:45pm Hebrew School	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:30pm I'm A Cultural Jew: Wine	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School  9:30 - 10:45am Pre-K & K: Passover  10:00am DOROT Passover Package Delivery  10:45 - 11:am Young Families Passover Celebration	<b>30</b> 6:45pm Mah Jongg & Canasta  7:15 - 8:30pm Academy & Confirmation	<b>31</b> 3:50 - 5:45pm Hebrew School				

# CALENDAR: APRIL 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Pajama Project Collection for Mitzvah Shabbat Begins	2 6:30pm Women's Study Group Passover Dinner	3 7:30pm Shabbat Service	4 9:00am Beit Midrash: Worldwide Jewish Community
5 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School  7:00pm Sunday Film Series: <i>Shmatta - Rags to Riches to Rags</i>	6 <b>No Academy &amp; Confirmation</b>  6:45pm Mah Jongg & Canasta	7 <b>No Hebrew School</b>	8      <b>Erev Passover</b>	9 9:00am Passover Morning Service  <b>Temple Office Closed</b>  <b>1st Day of Passover</b>	10 7:30pm Shabbat Service	11
12 <b>No Religious School</b>	13 6:45pm Mah Jongg & Canasta  7:15 - 8:30pm Academy & Confirmation	14 3:50 - 5:45pm Hebrew School  7:30pm Board Meeting	15 7:30am Yizkor Memorial Service   <b>Temple Office Closed</b>  <b>7th Day of Passover</b>	16	17 6:00pm Pre-Neg  6:30pm Early Service  6:00 - 10:00pm 6th Grade Retreat at The Shames JCC on the Hudson	18 8:00am - 12:00pm 6th Grade Retreat at Congregation Emanu-El  5:00pm Rebecca Tanenbaum Bat Mitzvah Ceremony
19 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School  11:00am Next Step  4:00pm Westchester Chamber Music Society: Escher Quartet	20 7:30pm Community Yom Hashoah Service at Community Synagogue of Rye (Academy & Confirmation students to attend)	21 3:50 - 5:45pm Hebrew School	22	23	24 7:30pm Yom HaAtzmaut & Honoring Our Graduating Seniors	25 7:00pm Spring Benefit
26 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School  9:30am 5th & 6th Grade with Guest Speaker Dr. Moshe Avital  10:15 - 11:45am Beit Midrash: The Future of American Jewry	27 12:00pm Reflections Workshop  6:45pm Mah Jongg & Canasta  7:15 - 8:30pm Academy & Confirmation	28 3:50 - 5:45pm Hebrew School	29	30 12:00pm Luncheon with Author Susan Greenfeld  6:30pm Committees in Community		

## Blingo Bingo



## Youth Group Volunteering at St. Peter's Food Pantry



## Youth Group Sorting Medical Supplies at Afya on Martin Luther King Jr. Day



## Hineini Visiting with Residents at Willow Towers Assisted Living Home



Name  
Street Address  
City, State Zip Code

## March & April Shabbat Services

March 6  
7:30pm     
**Purim Shabbat: Will Burt Bachrach  
Finally Meet the Megillah?**

March 13  
7:30pm **Union Prayer Book Service:  
A Tribute to our Reform Heritage**

March 20  
6:00pm **Pre-Neg**  
6:30pm **Early Service**

March 27  
7:30pm    
**I'm A Cultural Jew: Wine**

April 3  
7:30pm **Shabbat Service**

April 10  
7:30pm **Shabbat Service**

April 17  
6:00pm **Pre-Neg**  
6:30pm **Early Service**

April 24  
7:30pm     
**Yom HaAtzmaut & Honoring Our  
Graduating Seniors**

 Band  Prayers projected  Family Friendly

### Mark Your Calendar

#### **Samuel L. and Jane L. Friedman Lecture on Peace & Understanding with Congresswoman Nita Lowey**

Friday, May 1, 7:30pm Service



We have the great honor of welcoming Congresswoman Nita Lowey to our sanctuary. Having served in congress since 1989, Mrs. Lowey currently serves as the Chairwoman of the House Appropriations. From her long career of service and her deep commitment to Judaism, Mrs. Lowey will share her perspectives on the national issues that most directly impact the Jewish community. We are honored that she has accepted the invitation to be our Friedman lecturer this year.

### Mark Your Calendar

#### **Mitzvah Shabbat & Pizza Truck Dinner Friday, May 8**



5:30pm Pizza & Social Action Projects  
6:30pm Shabbat Service  
7:00pm Pizza, Social Action Projects & Dessert

With fun mitzvah projects, a delicious dinner, a wonderful intergenerational community, and a brief lively service, this will be a meaningful evening.

We will also use this evening to say thank you to Rabbi Ross for her four years at our congregation. Don't miss this special tribute to a wonderful rabbi and educator!

Remember, with a little bit of time, fueled by delicious pizza, you can make a real difference!