

INSPIRING WORSHIP

I'M A CULTURAL JEW: SELECTED SHORTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 19 7:30PM



Edgar Allen Poe, literary genius

Where literature meets liturgy. The universal themes which drive the greatest novels of all time echo in the themes of Jewish prayer that have evolved over the millennia.

Come find out how we will weave classic narratives and quotations from the Western literary cannon through the service to draw meaningful connections to our tradition and ourselves.

Will we use Hemingway or Faulkner, Shakespeare or Poe? Whoever we quote, know that we will pull from our great literary tradition to provide commentary on our prayers, our ideas about God and our own sense of meaning and purpose.

SACRED STORIES SHABBAT

FRIDAY, MAY 8 7:30PM

We are inspired by the sacred sparks we see in ordinary and extraordinary stories congregants share with us all. This service inspires as it connects us to each other and our tradition.

The joyful music of our band and the Temple Tones fill this uplifting Shabbat service.

Come experience how Rabbi Goldsmith brings the Torah portion to life though Storahtelling, a unique arts-based approach to Torah interpretation and teaching.

THE 29TH ANNUAL CANTOR EARL ROGERS TRIBUTE SABBATH

FRIDAY, MAY I

7:30PM

A 20th Anniversary Performance of *I Remember*



"I Remember" has been described as the distillation of the psychological and spiritual journey Anne Frank made during her time in hiding.

In 1975 in London, Otto Frank, the only member of his family to survive the Holocaust, heard a score for a new musical theatre

piece based on his daughter Anne's diary. Minutes later, he gave his blessing to the project. In 1980, he died in Switzerland, at the age of 91. A memorial was organized in New York City, and included a performance of some songs from that piece, played by an orchestra that included Lisa Hansen, a young flutist.

Fifteen years later, a decade after "Yours, Anne" opened off-Broadway, Ms. Hansen, who was still haunted by the music and lyrics, collaborated with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Chamber Music Series to commission a piece for voice, flute, harp, and cello. "I Remember" was given its premiere performance in Washington, D.C. in 1996.

Later that year, Cantor Stone performed "I Remember" at our temple with Ms. Hansen and her chamber group, Serenata.

The composer, Michael Cohen, The Serenata Trio, and Cantor Stone are delighted to come together again almost twenty years later for this special anniversary of the inception of the piece at the 29th Annual Cantor Earl Rogers Tribute Sabbath on May 1.

SPRING BENEFIT CASINO NIGHT

Celebrating Emily Cohen, Dick Hecht, and our congregation!





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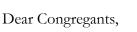
Custodian

facilities@congregationemanuel.org

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To contact Rabbi Goldsmith directly: 914-967-4382 ext. 13 To contact Abbie Levitt directly: 914-967-4382 ext. 11		

BOARD BUZZ





Congratulations to us!

April 11, 2015 was a night to remember here at Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester.

Over 250 congregants, family members and friends came together for our Annual Spring Benefit and Casino Night.

Our membership is diverse in many ways, and all groups joined together for this special evening honoring our 2015 Emanu-El Prize recipients Emily Cohen and Dick Hecht.

The funds generated from this event help to support our operating budget. As you know, dues and fees simply do not cover all our annual expenses, therefore the money raised is critical.

The success of this fundraiser will help support a myriad of programs, services and the social action outreach of the congregation. With these funds we can further educate our children, create cultural programming, and provide a spiritual home for all. Everyone who walks through our door for a spiritual or life cycle event, artistic or intellectual program and those touched by our social action will benefit.

The upcoming Annual Meeting on Monday, June 1st at 7:00 pm is another opportunity to connect. I will give a brief State of the Congregation, speak about our essential infrastructure needs, and we will vote in the Board of Trustees for our 2015/2016 calendar year. In addition, the gallery will be filled with congregants' artwork for all to enjoy.

Join us before the Annual Meeting at 6:30pm for a glass of wine in our lovely gallery to enjoy the Annual Congregants' Art Salon.

I look forward to seeing you very soon,

Susan Ampraut

TRANSFORMING MEMORY INTO HOPE

The year that Jennifer and I lived in Israel, Yom Hashoah fell at the end of April. At that point we'd lived in Jerusalem for eight months or so. We lived a few blocks from Hebrew Union College's (HUC) Jerusalem campus, right near the King



David Hotel. Across the street from our apartment was a major construction site which featured loud jack hammers five days a week, one day a week of grinding the rocks into pebbles and one day a week of blessed quiet on Shabbat. Yet, despite the construction zone, there was light traffic on the street. Occasional cars and pedestrians but never jammed with either.

When Yom Hashoah came that year, we attended events both at HUC where we were studying, as well as at a middle school not far from our home. The eternally irreverent Israelis were surprisingly serious for these occasions. As the grandson of four Holocaust survivors, this was in line with the tone that I'd come to expect on such a serious day of commemoration. There were readings and speeches and poetry and moving music. There was the televised ceremony from Yad Vashem, the Israel Holocaust Memorial and Museum in Jerusalem. But the most powerful moment of that day was in the mid-morning when the alarm sounded.

You see, each year on Yom Hashoah at 10:00 AM an air raid siren sounds throughout Israel for one minute. For that minute, Israelis stop whatever they are doing to observe a moment of solemn reflection in memory of those who died in the Holocaust. Drivers stop in the middle of highways and stand by their cars. Yuppies in cafés put down their lattes and stand by their tables next to the waiters and the baristas. Surfers stand at attention on the beach, their boards forgotten for that moment. Sitting in my apartment, I stood by the window and saw a sole pedestrian stop in the middle of the street. She was alone. She could have kept walking and no one would have known. But she there she stood; stock still for 60 seconds as a siren called out saying "remember, remember, remember." It was more powerful than the ceremonies and the music and the memorials the rest of that day. One woman. Remembering.

Yom Hashoah is part of a cycle of observances that fall at this time of year. The next one, six days later, is Yom HaZikaron, Israeli Memorial Day. Memorial Day in Israel is not a day for barbecues and sales at the mall. On Memorial Day people remember their loved ones and friends and fellow Israeli citizens who died defending the State of Israel. They are a country that knows war all too well. It is a country where each person serves in the Israel Defense Force. It is a county that

For that minute Israelis stop whatever they are doing to observe a moment of solemn reflection in memory of those who died in the Holocaust.

understands sacrifice and honors it.

And then, one week after Yom Hashoah, one day after Yom Hazikaron, is Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel Independence Day. It falls each year on or about the 5th of the Hebrew month of Iyar, the date in 5708 (1948) when David Ben Gurion declared the first sovereign Jewish state in nearly 2000 years. Now the barbecues come out in force. Israelis flock to parks and beaches and forests to picnic and grill and celebrate the miracle of this tiny democracy in the Middle East, this symbol of Jewish ingenuity, this realization of a millennia-long dream of being *am chofshi b'artzeinu*, a free people in our own land.

I wish I could have seen where that woman who stood outside our window was seven days later on Yom Ha'atzmaut. How did she transform her memory into hope for the future? How did she make room in her heart for both the grief of the Holocaust and the miracle of the State of Israel? Because that's the trick: allowing the memory of those who perished to inspire us to live fully. Whether in Israel or here in the United State, we are called on to live fully as parents and children, as business people and community volunteers, as members of humanity and members of the Jewish people. We are, indeed, all sovereign; independent to make whatever choices we desire. We learn from these three observances the power of choices which honor our past, protect our future, and celebrate the blessings that we enjoy in this moment.

Had

RITUAL CORNER: ALIYAH

Considered one of the most important honors during any synagogue service, an *aliyah* brings a member of the congregation or honored guest to the *bimah* when the Torah is read.

The person or people honored with an *aliyah* recite the blessings before and after the Torah reading.

Traditionally the honor is structured as follows:

- 1) The honorees are called to the bimah in English and Hebrew, often using their Hebrew names.
- 2) The honorees see where the Torah reading will begin in the scroll (some people touch a fringe of their tallis to that spot and then kiss the fringe).
- 3) The honorees recite or chant the first Torah blessing which features themes including: praise of God, Israel's unique mission on earth, and the giving of Torah.
- 4) The Torah reader reads a piece of the weekly portion.
- 5) The honorees recite or chant the second Torah blessing which features themes including: praise of God, the giving of Torah, and eternal life.
- 6) The honorees may then receive a blessing from the rabbi or other service leader before returning to their seats.

In a more traditional setting, the full weekly Torah portion (often 100 verses or more) is divided into seven aliyot. At Emanu-El we typically have one *aliyah* when Torah is read on Friday evenings and up to four *aliyot* at b'nai mitzvah ceremonies on Saturday mornings.

FAMILY SHABBAT HONORING HINEINI STUDENTS AND B'NEI MITZVAH PARENTS

FRIDAY, MAY 15 6:30PM DINNER 7:30PM SERVICE

Dinner: \$15/child, \$20/adult; family maximum is \$60.

RSVP to Denise at 914-967-4382 x12 or dburke@congregationemanuel.org.

SHAVUOT YIZKOR SERVICE

SUNDAY, MAY 24 9:00AM

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.

The final Yizkor service for the Hebrew calendar year 5775 will take place on May 24. Please note the 9:00am start time.

CONFIRMATION & SHAVUOT SHABBAT SERVICE

FRIDAY, MAY 29 7:30PM SERVICE

Mazel Tov to this year's Confirmation Class!

Come celebrate their accomplishments and their years of learning at our Confirmation Ceremony and Shavuot Service. Their dedication deserves our admiration.

Confirmation Class 5775

Maddy Blinderman Katie Blinderman Ethan Finkelstein

Maddie Gaynor



Robert Marotta Jacob Pariser Ella Sternberg

REFLECT & ELEVATE

6

SHAVUOT

The food of choice for Shavuot is cheese: most typically blintzes, crepe-like pancakes filled with farmer cheese, or a Sephardic equivalent such as *burekas*, cheese-filled dough pockets.

Some derive the practice of eating cheese on Shavuot directly from scripture, saying that we eat dairy to symbolize the "land flowing with milk and honey" (Exodus 3:8) promised to the Israelites, or that "milk and honey are under your tongue" (Song of Songs 4:11)... Scholars who trace all Jewish customs and rituals to practices common among various ethnic groups claim that ancient spring harvest festivals characteristically featured dairy

dishes, perhaps because cheese was produced during that season.

There is also support for the custom based on the spiritual development among the Israelites in the wake of Sinai. After the Torah was given, they were obligated to follow its laws, including those governing dietary practice. As they returned to the camp from Revelation at Sinai, they could not eat the previously prepared meat, which had not been done according to the new laws of kashrut [dietary restrictions]. Since butchering and cooking fresh meat would take too long for the tired, hungry Israelites, they took the dairy food that was readily available.

Adapted from myjewishlearning.com.

RECIPE FOR CHEESE BLINTZES

Reprinted from The Book of Jewish Food, published by Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.



Ingredients

- sour cream to pass around
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon to sprinkle on (optional)
- zest of 1 and 1/2 lemons
- 1/2 cup or more sugar, to taste
- 1 lb. curd cheese
- 1/2 lb. cream cheese
- 2-3 tablespoons melted unsalted butter
- confectioners' sugar to sprinkle on (optional)
- 3/4 cup currants or raisins soaked in a little rum for 1/2 hour (optional)
- A few drops of vanilla extract (optional)
- 3 egg yolks
- 1/2 tablespoon oil plus more for greasing the pan
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg
- 2/3 cup water
- 1 cup flour
- 1 1/4 cups milk

Directions

Add the milk and water to the flour gradually, beating vigorously. Add the egg, salt, and oil and beat the batter until smooth. Leave to rest for 1-2 hours.

Heat a preferably nonstick frying pan—with a bottom not wider than 8 inches (20 cm)—and grease very slightly with oil. Pour about half a ladleful of batter into the frying pan and move the pan around so the entire surface is covered with batter. The batter and the resulting pancake should be thin. As soon as the pancake is slightly browned and detached, turn it over with a spatula and cook a moment only on the other side. Continue until all the batter is used and put the pancakes in a pile.

For the filling, blend the curd and cream cheese with the sugar, lemon zest, egg yolks, and vanilla, if you like, in a food processor. Then stir in the raisins, if using.

Take each pancake, 1 at a time, put 2 heaping tablespoons of filling on the bottom half, fold the edge of the pancake over the filling, tuck in the sides so that it is trapped, and roll up into a slim roll. Place the rolls side by side in a greased oven dish. Sprinkle with butter and bake in a preheated 375 F (190 C) oven for 20 minutes.

Serve hot, dusted with confectioners' sugar and cinnamon, if you like, and pass the sour cream for people to help themselves if they want.

SPRING CLEANING

As some of you know, my brother Warren is a rabbi. Years ago he told me about a holiday program at his temple that was out of the box and fun. "If I'm enjoying myself," he said, "then others will too."



I took those words to heart and enjoy offering programs generated out of personal interest. This year, most of our Women's Study Group programs were inspired by my personal trajectory of cleaning up and moving forward. First, I transformed my office. Then Martin and I finally renovated our apartment, something we've been wanting to do for years. In recent weeks, I closed out my father's home, donating and discarding the remnants of a lifetime that lasted nearly 100 years. What a wonderful feeling it was to know that the 30 boxes my family donated to Habitat for

At our annual Women's Study Group retreat, themed "Letting Go and Moving Forward," we each brought in – and let go of – an object we no longer needed. We explored the difference between Lot's wife, the biblical character who turned to a pillar of salt because she was mired in the past, and Miriam, Moses' sister, who forged across the Red Sea with not only matzah, the stuff of survival, but also with her tambourine, an optimistic symbol of celebration.

A couple of months later, I stumbled onto an article in the *Wall Street Journal* about Marie Kondo, the new guru of organizing, whose book, <u>The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up</u> is a bestseller in Japan and Europe and is quickly becoming popular in the US.

The arrival of this book in my life coincided with the weeks leading up to Passover and spring cleaning. Our women's seder became the perfect opportunity to look at the journey from slavery to freedom through the lens of our enslavement to all the belongings we have amassed! How might we *free* ourselves of the tyranny of all of our STUFF?

Marie Kondo suggests that you should go through all of your possessions by category (starting with clothes, then moving on to books, papers, miscellany, etc., with sentimental things last). Anything that doesn't "SPARK JOY" can be discarded. Thank the item for having served a purpose at one time, then move it on to its next incarnation. When you discard what no longer serves you, and surround yourself with only things you love, you will feel transformed.

As I have enjoyed sharing a passion this year for sorting out what to keep and what to discard, we might consider another type of spring cleaning: asking ourselves if we are investing time and energy in what SPARKS JOY in us. By clearing out clutter from our lives, we can focus on the abundance that we already have, and make room for more good to come in.



Quotes by Marie Kondo

Humanity would serve others.

"By handling each sentimental item and deciding what to discard, you process your past...To put your things in order means to put your past in order, too. It's like resetting your life and settling your accounts so that you can take the next step forward."

"To truly cherish the things that are important to you, you must first discard those that have outlived their purpose."

"Keep only the things that speak to your heart. Then take the plunge and discard the rest. When you put your house in order, you put your affairs and your past in order, too. As a result, you can see quite clearly what you need in life and what you don't."

SPRING BENEFIT

Many thanks for the generosity of all listed here. Your support made the Annual Spring Benefit honoring Emily Cohen and Dick Hecht an overwhelming success:

Tony and Marcie Aiuvalisit Scott and Rae-ann Allen David and Leslie Alpert Susan Altman Anonymous Doug and Lisa Antonacci Michael Aguis Martin and Arlene Avidan Gary and Jill Baker Lucy Banker Michael Baruch Steven and Lenore Baum Caroline Bauman Andrew and Froma Benerofe Shelly Benerofe Seth Bengelsdorf & Diana Schaefer Greg and Janelle Berger Richard Berger Marty and Pat Bernstein Tony Bey & Melissa Shapiro Mark and Tracey Bilski Adam and Marj Blinderman B'Nai Mitzvah Class of 2006 Bill and Hinda Bodinger Mark Bortner & Rosane Hirzman John and Patty Bottomley

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Bruce and Dana Freyer
David Fried & Kathy Marks
John and Hope Furth
Meg Gaynor
Robert and Melissa Gaynor
Cliff Gevirtz & Alison Lazarus
David Gibbs

THANK YOU!

Nada Beth Glick

Jim and Elaine Glover Bob and Jean Golden Howard and Jennifer Goldsmith Richard and Lucille Goldsmith Ryan and Lorri Goldstein Bennett and Cynthia Golub Anne Gottlieb Eric and Robin Gould Allen and Karen Grauer Lawrence and Chris Griff Liz Grill Adam and Denise Groothuis Sandy Grundman Joanne Hackenburg David and Mary Harrison Robert and Linda Heath Charles Hecht & Leslie Toepfer Michael Hecht & Marlene Friis Richard and Susan Hecht Iean Heller Lee Helman & Amy Schulhof Sean and Brandy Hendleman Holocaust & Human Rights Educaton Center Elyssa Hurlbut Marjorie Isaacs

Jim and Debbie Jond Gary and Micki Joseph David Judson Marcella Kahn Joseph and Ellen Kaidanow Cliff and Janice Kaplan Steve and Joan Kass Chip and Sheryl Kaye Joan Kessler & Vincent Kruskal Larry and Julie Kirshner Jason and Heather Klein Janet Klion Andrea Kocsis Marc and Jill Koppelman Jay and Susan Koppelman Jim and Meredith Kornriech Diane Kort Neil and Alison Kozek Stephen and Doreen Kushel Mark and Fran Lerner Jerry Levine Abbie Levitt Hedy Levy David and Niki Levy Tim and Lisa Lindon Jan and Ellen Linhart Stan and Evelyn Lobel Tom and Peggy LoCastro Glen and Cathy Malin Bob and Babs Mann Brett and Ilissa Marks Martin and Barbara Marks Edgar and Margy Masinter Janet Mayrsohn Brett and Sharon Mehlman Will Merchan & Rachel Legatt Kevin McCarthy & Claire Simonelli David and Jody Miller David and Karen Miller Michael and Leslie Mook Henry and Susan Mustacato Bruce and Audrey Nathanson Becca and Marilyn Newman Laura Newman Ken and Jill Novak Valerie O'Keeffe Ron and Eileen Oleet Mitchell Ostrove Kathy Pandekakes Wendy Pein Robert and Lillian Pincus



Thank you to the business which donated to our auction:

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Encore Bistro

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Riccardi Landscape Design

Ridge Photography Ripped Fit Gym Ruby's Bistro Rye Country Store Rye Grill and Bar Saks Fifth Avenue Seth Meyers Show Shirley Sharma

Silver Lake Grill & Cafe

Silver Lake Pizza Solo Clean Cleaners Standing Room Only Sunrise Pizza
Tampa Bay Rays
The Flower Bar
Tory Burch
Wine at Five

Woodrow Jewelers Zaltas Gallery

Z Life

Thank you to all the individuals and families who donated to our auction:

Avidan Family
Bernstein Family
Blinderman Family
Bob Weinberg
Bottomley Family
Carton Family
Cohen Family
Dorine Lerner
Farrah Family
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Howard and Jennifer Goldsmith

Griff Family
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LoCastro Family
Mann Family
Marks Family
Jane Meryll
Mook Family
Ouinn Family

Rosenblut-Cardozo Family

Shyer Family Sternberg Family Warshauer Family Daniel Wolk Wyman Family



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

- 1495 First written record of Scotch Whisky appears in Exchequer Rolls of Scotland
- **1533 -** Anne Boleyn crowned queen of England
- **1789 -** 1st US congressional act becomes law (on administering oaths)
- **1808 -** 1st US land-grant university founded-Ohio University, Athens, Ohio
- **1869 -** Voting machine patented (Thomas A. Edison)
- 1940 Nazi occupiers kick Jews out of Dutch Air Guard
- 1948 Israel & Arabs agree to a cease fire
- **1967 -** Beatles release Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band in US & album goes gold
- 1980 1st transmission of CNN, Cable News Network

There is a common thread that runs through all of the years listed above, and it is certainly not obvious at first glance. Each of the events, and many more for sure, took place on June 1st. Why am I making a point to highlight June 1st in a column in this bulletin issue? The answer is both quite simple, and very important.

Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester is holding its annual meeting this year on June 1st at 7:00pm.

At that meeting, you will hear from Rabbi Goldsmith about some of our many successes of the past year. You will hear from our President, Susan Amkraut, who will update you on the state of the congregation since the High Holy Days. You'll certainly hear her talk about our recent Spring Benefit, where we honored two long-time congregants— Emily Cohen and Dick Hecht—as recipients of the 2015 Emanu-El Prize.

You will also have the opportunity to meet and mingle with the Board of Trustees and share your thoughts. Our by-laws require a congregation vote, to elect the incoming board for 2015-2016, which will take place that evening.

The annual meeting is very important and we hope you will join us. We can't promise you that our meeting will change the course of history, but then again, one never knows.



ANNUAL MEETING & EMANU-EL ART SALON OPENING /

MONDAY, JUNE 1 6:30PM ART SALON 7:00PM MEETING This year's meeting is on a Monday.

Mark your calendars and come meet the current and newly elected Board of Trustees.

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear about the state of the congregation and growth in our community.



WELCOME LILAH GRACE!



Mazel tov to Terry and John Schwarz on the birth of granddaughter Lilah Grace Schwarz, born March 7, 2015, to Jamie and Katie Schwarz at Mt. Sinai Hospital at 8 lbs. 12 oz. and 20" long.

KNITZVAH CORPS

MONDAYS, MAY 14 & JUNE 8 5:30PM

Our Knitzvah Corps meets monthly to knit baby clothing, blankets, and chemo caps to donate to those in need. We enjoy an evening of knitting and schmoozing in our cozy Berger Family Library while performing a lovely mitzvah.

This is a group activity that enables us to experience a true sense of social action.

All are welcome. RSVP to Abbie at 914-967-4382 x11 or alevitt@congregationemanuel.org.



ONGOING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

ST. THOMAS CHURCH THRIFT SHOP

Volunteers are needed to help with Thrift Shop sorting and set-up on an ongoing basis.

The shop serves the local community with affordable clothing for men, women and children. Even trendy designer clothes are for sale at a fraction of retail prices. In addition the shop offers shoes, glassware, pottery, silverware, housewares, pictures, costume jewelry, and more.

Sorting for the shop takes place on Mondays at 10:30am, and the shop is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10:00am - 1:00pm.

For more information, please contact Social Action Chair Leslie Mook at mook1@optonline.net or 914-441-7561.

St. Thomas Church is located at 168 West Boston Post Road, Mamaroneck.

VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED FOR ESL PROGRAM

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, AND 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 Spanish or any other foreign language is necessary and you do not need a teaching background!

You may volunteer for one, two or all three mornings. Come one morning to observe other volunteers and see what a rewarding experience it is for both tutors and students.

Classes are held at the Don Bosco Community Center, 22 Don Bosco Place, Port Chester, NY (near Costco).

For more information or to volunteer, email: Doreen Kushel at dkushel@icloud.com or Emily Cohen at emilydcohen@gmail.com.

DOROT WESTCHESTER VISITING OPPORTUNITY

There are lonely seniors waiting in the following towns for a friendly visitor: Briarcliff - Eastchester - Mt. Vernon - New Rochelle - Rye - Valhalla - Tarrytown - White Plains - Yonkers.

Can you visit them? Volunteers are matched with seniors for weekly home visits for a minimum of a

year. Matches are made by a DOROT social worker based on mutual interests, availability, and location. DOROT social workers maintain a supportive presence for the duration of your relationship.

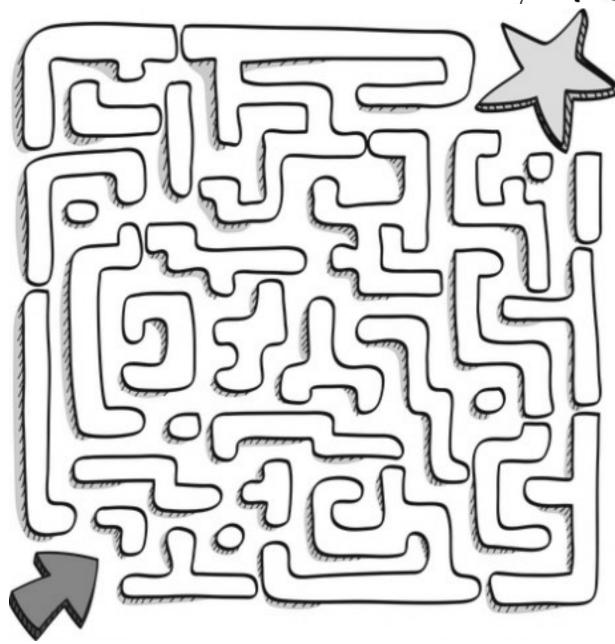
To sign up contact Emily Cohen: 914-381-1260 or email emilydcohen@gmail.com.



SHAVUOT

Every year on the holiday of Shavuot we celebrate when God gave Moses the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai over 3,300 years ago. That's a really long time ago!

See if you can find your way to Mt. Sinai and retrieve the Ten Commandments.



Start Here

YOUTH AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

THE STUDY OF TORAH

For two thousand years, Shavuot has been celebrated as the holiday of the giving of the Torah. There is a famous statement by Rabbi Saadia Gaon "The Jewish nation is a nation only by virtue of the Torah".

The Torah is the heart of our identity as a Jewish people. The study of Torah is the connection for a people dispersed throughout the world. The Torah is the one precious possession that tells our history, and our values. The Torah serves as a road map for living a moral life. On Shavuot, we celebrate our relationship to God and to one another. We celebrate our identity as Jews, eternal

The mitzvah of Torah study outweighs all other commandments. The rabbis of the Talmud wrote: "These are the things for which a person enjoys the dividends in this world while the principal remains for the person to enjoy in the world to come. They are: honoring parents, loving deeds of kindness, and making peace between one person and another, but the study of the Torah is equal to them all" (Talmud Shabbat 127a).

The study of Torah is equal to all other good deeds because it leads to good deeds.

Opportunities to study Torah at our temple:

Torah Study: At our Saturday morning Torah study you can participate in a lively discussion of the week's Torah portion. See page 17.

Single Malt Torah: Join the men of the congregation for fine scotch and Torah learning with Rabbi Goldsmith. All meetings are on Thursdays at 8:00 PM. See page 17.

Walk with the Rabbi: Join Rabbi Goldsmith and fellow congregants once a month at Rye Playland for an hour long walk, schmoozing and some Torah discussion. See page 14.

Forbidden Torah: Our Rabbinic Intern Chase Foster gave a class on the "Forbidden Torah". The class explored parts of the Torah that are deceitful or salacious, known or unknown, confounding or eye-opening.

Confirmation and Shavuot Shabbat Service: At our Shabbat Shavuot service, we celebrate the achievement of our grade 10 students for their commitment to Torah study and Jewish education. See page 5.



people of the covenant.

HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT AT EMANU-EL

Know a loved one who has recently gotten engaged? Planning for a graduation? Does this year mark a special anniversary, birthday, or a new addition to the family?

With the Berger Family Library, newly renovated Kaye Family Room, and the Susan Schweitzer Family Learning Center, we have beautiful and unique rooms to host an intimate party or grand affair.

Let Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester be a part of your special day! For more information, contact Events Manager Christina Rosenfeld at 914-967-4382 x25 or crosenfeld@congregationemanuel.org.



2ND ANNUAL CONGREGANT ART SALON: CALL FOR ARTWORK

MONDAY, MAY 4: SUBMISSION DEADLINE MONDAY, JUNE 1: OPENING

Showcase your talents in our beautiful, light-filled gallery. This show will highlight the artistic perspectives of the artists in our midst. Paint, fiber, photography, sculpture, and all mediums are welcome.

We encourage all congregants to participate in this celebration of art and culture. If you are interested in submitting artwork, please read our submission guidelines.

The opening reception will be held on Monday, June 1 at 6:30pm before the Annual Meeting.

Submission Guidelines:

- Email a JPEG image of one piece of artwork (no larger than 30 inches in any direction).
- JPEG images must be 72 dpi, a maximum of 600 pixels in the longest dimension.
- File size must be 1MB or less.
- Include the title of the piece, medium, dimensions, and name of the artist.

Please send submissions to Abbie at alevitt@congregationemanuel.org.



TUESDAY, MAY 19 7:30PM

Looking to meet other singles over 60?

Come to the Jewish Community Center of Harrison (JCCH) for wine, cheese, and schmoozing.

The event is open to the public, so please invite your friends and anyone over 60 who would be interested!

RSVP to Phyllis Kelly at 914-472-3300 x423

Sponsored by Jewish Community Center of Harrison; Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester; Jewish Community Center of Mid-Westchester; Beth El Synagogue Center of New Rochelle; Congregation Kneses Tifereth Israel (KTI); Community Synagogue of Rye, Temple Israel Center of White Plains (TIC).

The JCCH is located at 130 Union Avenue, Harrison.

WALK WITH THE RABBI

MONDAY, MAY 4 & FRIDAY, JUNE 5 (NEW DATE) 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 at the Oakland Beach Lot, 94 Dearborn Avenue, Rye.



NEXT STEP

SUNDAY, MAY 17 11:00AM

A group of men is their 60's and 70's meeting to talk about anything but sports, politics and the market!

Next Step started with a concern about the transition from work to retired life and has developed into conversations about personal issues in our lives. The group is facilitated by congregant Paul Spindel (retired executive). Join us!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATOR'S MESSAGE

"It's just a holiday invented by Hallmark" – a common refrain when discussing the modern holidays of Mother's Day, Father's Day, Grandparents' Day, etc.



But did you know that these days of appreciation can be traced

back to the holiday of Shavuot? On this Jewish holiday we celebrate the Hebrews, our ancestors, receiving the Torah on Mount Sinai and we read the story of Ruth and her devotion to her mother-in-law Naomi. Now for the obvious connections!

Central to the 613 *mitzvot* found in our Torah are the Ten Commandments, and the fifth commandment states: "Thou shalt honor thy mother and father." Long before there was a holiday, there was a commandment! Some synonyms for honor... respect, appreciate, revere. Love is the emotion that is the foundation for these behaviors. How we feel is one thing – how we express it is another.

A role model for turning feelings into action is Ruth, a Moabite married to a Jewish man. Her husband died leaving her childless. Tradition in those days stated that she return to her people so that she can remarry. However, her mother-in-law Naomi was a widow and now without sons to care for her. When instructed by Naomi to leave and return to her

people, Ruth replied with this eloquent response: "Do not urge me to leave you, to turn back and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go: wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my

"Thou shalt honor thy mother and father."

people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die and there will I be buried. Thus and more may the Lord do me if anything but death parts me from you."

When Naomi saw how devoted Ruth was, she relented and the two women went on to Bethlehem. Good things happened to Ruth. She met and married Boaz and was the great-grandmother to King David.

Mother's Day and Shavuot are two weeks apart this year; two opportunities to think about respecting and honoring our parents. More than a hug or a card, let our behaviors demonstrate our feelings – try saying yes to a request when you really want to say no, put your cell phone away and sit down for dinner together – load the dishwasher and then say "I love you!"

Happy Mother's Day and Chag Sameach!

Maine.

B'NEI MITZVAH – MAZEL TOV!



We would like to honor the following students who are celebrating their B'nei Mitzvah ceremonies in May and June

AMANDA BORTNER JACKSON GAYNOR

ERIC MEHLMAN VANESSA MEYER





REGISTER NOW FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Are you enrolling your son/daughter in Religious School for the first time? School registration forms are available on our website and by contacting Denise Burke at 914-967-4382 x12 or dburke@congregationemanuel.org.

MI ANI/GRADE 6 ARTIFACT MUSEUM

SUNDAY, MAY 3 11:00AM

Parents will tour an exhibit of family history created by Mi Ani students.



YOUTH GROUP CAR WASH FOR PEDIATRIC CANCER

SUNDAY, MAY 10 9:30 - 11:45AM

All proceeds will be donated to Tzedakah! Get your car cleaned, eat some home baked goodies, and raise money all at the same time.

Cars: \$7 SUV's and Vans: \$10



YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE



Sunday, May 3, 7:30 - 11:00AM Midnight Run Brunch Run



Sunday, May 10, 9:30 - 11:45AM Car Wash for Pediatric Cancer



Sunday, May 17, 11:00AM - 1:00PM School's Out Carnival & BBQ

SCHOOL'S OUT CARNIVAL & BBQ

SUNDAY, MAY 17 11:00AM - 1:00PM

Students, parents and friends - come to our annual carnival and barbecue immediately following Religious School.

Jumping castle, games and delicious hamburgers and hot dogs!





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, May 2 with Rabbinic Intern Chase Foster Achrei Mot - Kedoshim, 9:00 - 10:15AM

Saturday, May 30, with Cantor Stone Nasso, 9:00 - 10:15AM

Saturday, June 20, with Rabbi Goldsmith Sh'lach Lecha, 9:00 - 10:15AM

SINGLE MALT TORAH

THURSDAYS, MAY 7 & JUNE 11

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.

Meet and spend time with other men in the congregation.



TEMPLE BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY, MAY 14 10:30AM



All the Light
We Cannot See
by Anthony Doerr

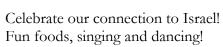
THURSDAY, JUNE 18



The Short and Happy Life of Peace
by Jeff Hobbs

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP SPRING DINNER

TUESDAY, MAY 5 6:30PM





RSVP to Marcie at 914-967-4382 x15 or maiuvalasit@congregationemanuel.org.

SACRED AGING DISCUSSION

TUESDAY, MAY 19 7:00PM (LIGHT DINNER PROVIDED)

Essays Over Eighty

by Donald Hall



"...By exploring the joys and vicissitudes of a long life (Essays over Eighty) offers revealing insights into the human condition – and the grit and openness it requires."

Books are available to purchase in Marcie's office. Plans for next year will be discussed.

RSVP to Marcie at 914-967-4382 x15 or maiuvalasit@congregationemanuel.org.

NATIONAL 9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM TRIP

THURSDAY, JUNE 11 9:30AM - 6:00PM

Honor the fallen and the heroes, embrace the hope and rebirth. The new museum is dedicated to remembering the events of 9/11, their impact and their continuing significance.

Following the museum visit, we will dine on a 3-course meal at Le Rivage restaurant in Manhattan.

Cost: \$119 per person, includes admission to the museum, lunch, a tour director, taxes and gratuities.

RSVP to Abbie at alevitt@congregationemanuel.org or 914-967-4382 x11.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CONDOLENCES TO

The Romanoff Family on the death of Gerald Romanoff

With deep appreciation we acknowledge the following contributions:

MEMORIAL	Fι	JND
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Martin & Patricia Bernstein in honor of Alina Cantoni de Leon

Peter Schweitzer in memory of Susan Schweitzer

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Peter Schweitzer in memory of Susan Schweitzer

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Douglas & Lisa Antonacci in honor of Caroline's Bat Mitzvah

Lawrence & Julie Kirshner

Paul & Shannon Rosenberg in honor of Finley's baby naming

Acknowledgements for the Spring Benefit are listed on page 8 and 9.

All donations processed after April 22 will appear in the next bulletin.

Please contact Abbie Levitt at 914-967-4382 x11 or alevitt@congregationemanuel.org if you have any questions about the donation listings.

CALENDAR: MAY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					7:30PM Cantor Earl Rogers Tribute Sabbath	9:00AM Torah Study: Achrei Mot - Kedoshim Vanessa Meyer Bat Mitzvah
3 7:30AM Brunch Run 9:30AM - 11:45AM Religious School 11:30AM Mi Ani Artifact Exhibit	4 9:00AM Walk with the Rabbi 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	5 3:50PM - 5:45PM Hebrew School 6:30PM Women's Study Group Spring Dinner	6	7 8:00PM Single Malt Torah	8 7:30PM Sacred Stories Shabbat	9 Amanda Bortner Bat Mitzvah
10 9:30AM - 11:45AM Religious School 9:30AM Youth Group Car Wash & Bake Sale	11	12 3:50PM - 5:45PM Hebrew School (Last Session) 7:30PM Temple Board Meeting	13	I 4 5:30PM Knitzvah Corps I0:30AM Book Club	I 5 6:30PM Shabbat Dinner 7:30PM Family Service: Honoring Hineini Students & Parents	16 4:00PM Confirmation BBQ @ Rabbi Goldsmith's House
17 9:30AM - 11:45AM Religious School (Last Session) 11:00AM Next Step 11:00AM - 1:00PM School's Out Carnival	18 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	19 7:00PM Sacred Aging Discussion 7:30PM 60+ Singles Event @ JCCH	20	21	6:00PM Preneg 6:30PM Early Shabbat Service	23
24 9:00AM Shavuot Yizkor Memorial Service	25 Temple Closed for Memorial Day	26 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation Rehearsal	27	28	29 7:30PM Confirmation & Shavuot Shabbat Service	30 9:00AM Torah Study: Nasso Jackson Gaynor Bar Mitzvah
31						

CALENDAR: JUNE 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	I 6:30PM 2nd Annual Member Artwork Gallery Opening 7:00PM Annual Meeting	2	3	4	5 9:00AM Walk with the Rabbi 6:00PM Preneg 6:30PM Early Shabbat Service	6
7	8 5:30PM Knitzvah Corps	9	10	9:30AM 9/11 Museum Trip 8:00PM Single Malt Torah	I 2 8:00PM Shabbat Service	13
14	15	16	17	I8 I0:30AM Book Club	19 7:30PM I'm A Cultural Jew: Selected Shorts	20 9:00AM Torah Study: Sh'Iaca Lecha Eric Mehlman Bar Mitzvah
21	22	23	24	25	26 6:30PM Summer Shabbat Services Begin	27
28	29	30				



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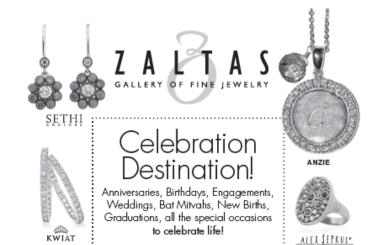
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SNAPSHOT

DOROT PASSOVER PACKAGE DELIVERY

Temple families came together to take part in the DOROT Westchester Passover Package Delivery on March 22. Families assembled and delivered meals to 35 local homebound senior citizens.









MITZVAH DAY

On Mitzvah Day all members of our congregation - people from every age group - came together to help make our world a better place. When members in their 60s, 70s and 80s pair up with our youngest students to aid the broader community, we truly live out our vision of an inter-generational congregation bringing Jewish values to life.



































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MAY - JUNE SHABBAT SERVICES

May I The Annual Cantor Earl Rogers
Tribute Sabbath
7:30 Service

May 8 Sacred Stories Shabbat 7:30 Service J

May 15 Family Service: Honoring Hineini Students & Parents 6:30 Shabbat Dinner 7:30 Service Л

May 22 **Early Shabbat Service** 6:00 **Pre-neg** 6:30 **Service**

May 29 Confirmation & Shavuot Service 7:30 Service ♪

June 5 **Early Shabbat Service** 6:00 **Pre-neg**

6:30 **Service**

June 12 **Shabbat Service** 8:00 **Service**

June 19 I'm A Cultural Jew: Selected Shorts

June 26 **Summer Service** 6:30 **Service**

Band



Service 🎝 🌉

Handsfree/Prayers projected

FAMILY SERVICE HONORING HINEINI STUDENTS & PARENTS

FRIDAY, MAY 15 6:30PM DINNER 7:30PM SERVICE



Each year many students celebrate becoming b'nai mitzvah at our congregation. These students study very hard on Tuesday afternoons at the temple and at home all week long.

On Sunday mornings, as members of our Hineini class, they go out into the community and serve others in myriad ways. Behind these students are parents who support them every step of the way.

We will honor these students and their parents for their commitment to making the Hineini experiences, and the b'nai mitzvah process, so meaningful. Please join us in celebrating their dedication.

Hineini 5775

Caroline Antonacci	Drew Kaye
Amanda Bortner	Noah Malin
Joshua Chernick	Justin Marks
Zachary Chernick	Eric Mehlman
Josh Cooper	Vanessa Meyer
Matthew Cooper	Paige Miller
Hayley Finkelstein	Zoe Miller
Jackson Gaynor	Matthew Pariser
Zachary Gibbs	Lily Reichenbaum
Abigail Gould	Maxwell Rosenblum
Zachary Gould	Victoria Rosenstock
Michael Kamin	Hannah Tanenbaum