

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND WITH AUTHOR DAVID LASKIN INCLUDING CONGREGATIONAL MORNING OF LEARNING & DOING AND MITZVAH DAY

FRIDAY, MAY 5 - SUNDAY, MAY 7



Stories matter a great deal in Judaism. Still, our ancient prophets taught that stories, ritual activity, and study are not enough: we need to act in the world. With this in mind we've combined our traditional Scholar-in-Residence Weekend with Mitzvah Day to create a holistic and inspiring Jewish experience for all our congregants, young and old and everyone in between. Please turn to pages 8 - 9 for a schedule of the weekend's events. *Sponsored by the Rabbi Daniel S. Wolk Scholar-in-Residence Fund.*

4TH ANNUAL CONGREGANT ART SALON: CALL FOR ARTWORK

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 10

ART SALON: THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 6:30PM



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; 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 contact Jane at 914-967-4382 x21 or jdubro@congregationmanuel.org.

ANNUAL MEETING & ART SALON OPENING

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

6:30PM ART SALON

7:00PM ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendars and come meet with the Board of Trustees. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear about the state of the congregation and growth in our community.

For more information, contact Abbie at alevitt@congregationmanuel.org or 914-967-4382 x18.

THE ANNUAL CANTOR EARL ROGERS TRIBUTE SABBATH WOMEN & WINE: VOICES FROM THE GOLDEN AGE OF SPAIN AN EVENING OF SONGS IN JUDEO ESPANOL

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 7:30PM



Our sanctuary will pulse with exciting Sephardic rhythms and melodies with songs sung in Ladino, or Judeo-Espagnol, the dialect of Sephardic Jews. The accomplished mezzo-soprano, Janice Meyerson, joins Cantor Stone in this fascinating program of songs dealing with love, loss and concerns of daily life. This rich treasure trove of folk music originating in Spain survives long after the Jews were cast out in 1492, and has been infused with the unique sounds and flavors of the lands in which Jews found themselves, from the Iberian Peninsula to North Africa and the Middle East. Bring extended family and friends to our temple, and enjoy!

SPRING BENEFIT 2017 HONORING EMANUEL PRIZE RECIPIENTS MARCIE AIUVALASIT AND JOHN CARTON

APRIL 1



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BOARD BUZZ

Dear Congregants,

Believe it or not, this will be my last time writing to you as Board President. It has been an honor to serve these last 3 years. And don't worry...I'm not going anywhere. I will remain on the board for the next two years as the Immediate Past President with pleasure.

Our 2017 Spring Benefit was a great success. Thanks to all who planned, contributed, attended and supported this amazing event. In our beautiful Susan Schweitzer Family Learning Center, we ate, drank, laughed, and honored Marcie Aiuvalasit and John Carton.

Through everyone's generosity we raised over \$85,000 to support our **Operating Budget**. This helps close the gap in our expenses that dues, fees and other donation do not cover.

Now onto a **Capital Campaign** update. We have pledges of just over \$1.3 million. We are on our way to our goal of \$2.4 million.

The installation of our new HVAC is moving along and if all goes as planned it will be up and running before the warm weather sets in.

The Annual Meeting is Thursday June 1st at 7:00pm. Please join us at 6:30pm for our Annual Congregant Art Salon opening. You will have the opportunity to meet **Darren Fogel**, our new Board President, hear an update on the state of the congregation, and vote on the 2017-2018 Board of Trustees.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish you a safe and healthy summer.



Susan Amkraut, President

UNCOVERING THE IMMIGRANT POTENTIAL

I actually felt embarrassed as we headed toward the museum exit. It was my first afternoon with the Kurdish family our congregation is helping to resettle in Westchester. I brought them to the Neuberger museum at SUNY Purchase to show off a great cultural institution and college campus in Westchester County. A campus construction project detracted from the beauty outside. Inside, it seemed, a good part of the collection lay under black shrouds. So much for a great culture institution. It was embarrassing.



"When will the exhibit upstairs open?" I politely asked the museum receptionist on the way out.

Bridging a gulf of culture and background, over a cup of tea, we talked about what might be for his family...

"It is open, sir," he patiently explained. "We have many pieces in our collection created by immigrants. The artist took those pieces, put them on display, and then covered them with black cloth. It shows what would be missing from our collection – from the art of America – if those immigrants had not been allowed into our country."

How poignant. How perfect. What would these new residents of America add to our nation's collection? How would they build upon the work of all the immigrants who came before them?

I had picked them up late that morning at their apartment in White Plains. "I heard that you haven't had pizza," I said incredulously. "You're in New York! Come on, we're going to Sal's." On the drive to Mamaroneck we talked about the million moving parts of settling in a new country. The father described his job search. In Iraq he translated for the US Army, the UN, and NGOs. He wants to do translation work here also. The son described the very funny little old lady teaching his GED class and how he'd like to work in a video game store. The daughter has already picked up a lot of English from her ESL classes as she clearly understood everything we said, laughing at jokes, and easily answering questions about her classes.

"I've noticed," the father said once we had ordered and sat down, "that many bathrooms in America say

'mens'. That doesn't make any sense. They either need an apostrophe or it should just say 'men'." In 39 years of going to public bathrooms I had never noticed. But with fresh eyes he saw our grammatical shortcomings right away.

"Besides bathroom signs, what else has surprised you about America? What is different than you expected?" All three agreed that they met more kindness than they ever could have expected. From people on the street in downtown White Plains to the members of our congregation who are helping them settle in, they cannot believe how nice everyone is. "I thought it would be like you see on TV shows about New York City," the son said, "but everyone is so friendly."

With all the stress of immigration. With all the pressure to find work. With the inevitable challenges of a new land and language and culture, simple kindness has made the biggest impression on our nation's newest residents.

Later in the day I sat with the father sipping tea and talking about his experience as an interpreter in Iraq, the threats to his family, life as a refugee in Turkey, and the joy they felt when the US consulate gave them the visas to emigrate. I shared with him how our congregation came to be involved with his family. The desire to do something to help the refugees of the world that concretized in a partnership with the refugee advocacy experts at HIAS to help a family resettle in Westchester. "The Jews," I explained to him, "spent most of the last 2,000 years as refugees. The least we can do is to help the refugees of today."

Bridging a gulf of culture and background, over a cup of tea, we talked about what might be for his family, about the ways that they will build lives, about America's opportunity and freedom, and about the contributions that they will make. Earlier that morning at the Neuberger we could not see the sculptures beneath the shrouds. But the haze that obscures this family's future has begun to lift. I feel honored to help in my small way. I feel humbled to lead a congregation who believes in the promise of America and her immigrants.

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

Howard J. Goldsmith, Rabbi

CURATING THE INPUT OF YOUR LIFE

"Modeh ani l'fanecha melech chai vekayam, she-he-chezarta bi nishmati b'chemla, raba emunatecha."

"I offer thanks to You, living and eternal God, for You have mercifully restored my soul within me..."



These are the first words we are supposed to utter every morning - while still lying in bed. Our first conscious moments are spent thanking God for the gift of life. With this gift, each new day brings so much potential. Our challenge is in how we use each day; the choice is up to us.

Of course it may not always feel like we have much choice, with our long lists of things to get done. Yet, our days also include discretionary moments, which can all too easily get filled up with so many distractions.

Speaking of time, my 40-minute commute home from temple often flies by as I listen to a variety of programs on National Public Radio, from interviews to stories, music and more. I never know what I might hear; there's always something different. I enjoy the stimulation of learning new things. It's enriching.

Recently, in an interview with a young artist, Claire Rosen, she used a phrase that struck me:

"It is amazing if you can take control of CURATING THE INPUT OF YOUR LIFE..... it's very easy to get sucked into a very busy, monotonous work life, and when you get home and you want to unwind, all you want to do is sit down and watch Netflix. But I think one should try to fight that — to actively curate your life so that you are having interesting experiences in the world."

Curate! What a fresh and poetic way to look at making wise, conscious choices of how we spend our days. *Modeh ani!* Thank you God for giving me life and the ability to make choices.

When many of us were younger, we didn't have much "input," like the countless options for entertainment and social media that are available today. Before cable TV, we had only three decent stations, and kids had to wait a year for the annual airing of The Wizard of Oz (which I skipped because I was too scared of the Wicked Witch and those terrifying flying monkeys!).

Without today's dizzying, ubiquitous array of on-screen temptations, kids used to spend their time differently. As an "indoor" child, before taking up

formal music instruction, which required daily practice, I spent time making things from paper, tin foil, clay, paint, basically whatever I could find around the house.

Occasionally I got bored, and had to come up with new ways to entertain myself. I am grateful for these early opportunities to be creative.

Our challenge is in how we use each day; the choice is up to us.

At this stage of my life, after spending the better part of the past several decades immersed in career and child rearing, I find myself gravitating toward my childhood love for art and crafts. Participants in our annual Women's Study Group retreats know that this passion wends its way into many of our activities.

While I do admit to an occasional mini-series binge, Claire Rosen suggests carving out time for creativity, as an antidote to being a couch potato.

"I don't know that it has to be the sort of traditional formula of going to a museum. Maybe you take up archery. Maybe you are doing pottery but you're really a banker. Maybe you're going to see a talk on a field that has nothing to do with what you do. Or traveling. But the important thing is that you are seeking out experiences... that you are experimenting and exploring and figuring out what it is that you actually like. You may come across something that you never knew you were interested in."

At the end of the day, can we go to bed knowing we've "curated" that day's input? That we've made a conscious choice to meet a friend face to face for coffee instead of online, or to read a novel in the evening instead of checking email again.

Modeh ani l'fanecha. Thank you God for giving us the gift of life, and awakening us to a new day of possibility.

Meredith

Meredith Stone, Cantor



RITUAL CORNER: MI SHEBEIRACH FOR HEALING

At the entrance to the sanctuary on Friday evenings is a piece of paper on which congregants and guests can list the names of people in need of healing of body, mind, or spirit. The clergy read this list aloud and invite people to privately think of others in need of healing before reciting a **מִי שְׁבֵרַח** *mi sheberach*, a prayer for healing.

The practice of a prayer for healing on Shabbat arose because of a quirk of Jewish liturgy. During weekday prayers, a prayer for healing is included in the series of supplications during the section of the service known as the *Amida* or *Shemoneh Esrei*. But on Shabbat, when we act as if the world is perfect for one day, we do not recite these supplications. Nevertheless, people still wished to pray for healing of their loved ones who were ill. A multi-generation debate ensued among rabbis from all over the Jewish world.

In the end, a short prayer for healing was added into the Shabbat liturgy. This fell out of favor among early Reform congregations for many years but was brought back, thanks in large part, to the popularity of a tune composed by the late Debbie Friedman. This coincided with a greatly expanded theological sense of the word “healing” which allowed our scientifically oriented minds to accept a prayer for healing that may not include a supernatural cure.

Whatever our personal theologies, saying a prayer for a loved one in need of healing helps to affirm our hopes and assuage our fears in the context of a caring and supportive congregation.

STUDENT RABBI'S MESSAGE

MEMORY AND WHOLENESS

Only a couple of weeks ago we were preparing for Passover – the holiday of our redemption, rejoicing in freedom and singing of God’s great strength as God parts the Red Sea. What a contrast there is between Passover and Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance day, when we might read the words of Eli Wisel: “Where is God? This is where—hanging here from this gallows.”



The proximity of these two holidays is instructive. Like the remembrance of the Exodus, the remembrance of the Holocaust demands that every Jew consider himself or herself as if he or she had personally lived in Europe during the 1930s. We were made to be strangers in a land we thought was home. From this experience we say “never again”, and accept our call to care for the stranger in our midst. To fight against xenophobia and persecution wherever it exists. As at our Passover seders, a child, Anne Frank, questions, “Who has inflicted this upon us? Who has made us Jews different from all other people? Who has allowed us to suffer so terribly up till now?”
Mah nishtana ha-lilah ha-zeh mi kol ha leilot?

It is striking too that 73% of American Jews say that being Jewish means remembering the Holocaust and 70% of American Jews say that they attend a Passover seder (Pew Report, 2013). Passover is one of the oldest holidays, while Yom Hashoah is one of our newest observances. There is something essentially Jewish about remembering

and connecting with our family and those who came before us.

On Yom HaShoah, we confront our broken world, our despair and the overwhelmingly impossible task of fixing any of it. Rabbi Irving Greenberg offers a post-Holocaust theology that just as the world is incomplete, so is faith and truth, and even God. He says he knows that, “God exists in that we can sense God’s absence.” Similarly, because faith and truth can be broken, we know that they are also whole. Rav Nachman of Bratzlav said, “there is no heart so whole as a broken heart,” and Greenberg adds, that after the Holocaust, “there is no truth so whole as a broken truth.”

In confronting the brokenness that Yom HaShoah sets before us, we also acknowledge the existence of wholeness in our lives. The ultimate message of this holiday is that it is our project to work towards completeness by remembering profound brokenness. Because the world is so broken, we know that it can be whole. The work of *tikkun olam*, of repairing the world, calls us to do what we can to fix, yes, and it also demands that we imagine what wholeness could be.

Jade Sank, Student Rabbi



FAMILY SHABBAT: CELEBRATE YOM HA'ATZMAUT & HONOR HINEINI STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 7:30PM

Come together to celebrate Israel's independence! On this night we honor our Hineini parents and congratulate our Hineini students for all they have accomplished this year.

For more information, contact Marcie at 914-967-4382 ext. 15 or maiuvalasit@congregationmanuel.org.

CONFIRMATION & SHAVUOT SHABBAT SERVICE

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 7:30PM

Come celebrate the accomplishments of our tenth grade students and their years of learning at our Confirmation Ceremony and Shavuot Service.

Their dedication deserves our admiration. On this day we also mark the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai with a reading of the 10 Commandments.

SHAVUOT YIZKOR SERVICE

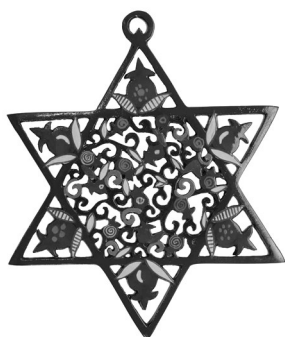
WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 7:30AM

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 full-time can attend this brief service to honor the memory of their loved ones.

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. It is a pleasure and a joy to welcome them as full members of our congregation.



LILY CLAIRE ALPERT
JOSH ROSENBLUT
LUCY ROSENBLUT
ABBY ROTH

CONFIRMATION MAZEL TOV!

MARISA ALKALAY

MATTHEW GRIFF

JUSTIN GROOTHUIS

JIMMY HEFTER

RACHEL SCHMAIER

COLE WYMAN



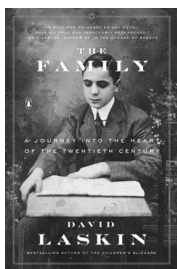
SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND WITH AUTHOR DAVID LASKIN & CONGREGATIONAL MORNING OF LEARNING AND DOING FRIDAY, MAY 5 - SUNDAY, MAY 7



Events happen around us. Events happen to us. Events make up our lives. The stories that we tell about these events give our lives meaning. Author David Laskin illustrates this truth through the profound story of his family in his moving book, The Family: Three Journeys into the Heart of the Twentieth Century.

With programs on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Laskin will help us to see our Jewish stories and our families' stories in the context of the 20th century and how they continue to impact us in the 21st century. Our Scholar-in-Residence weekend will conclude Sunday morning with learning programs for all congregants and our Religious School families, followed by our annual congregation-wide Mitzvah Day.

Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat with David Laskin Friday, May 5, 7:30pm



Author David Laskin brings the Jewish history of the 20th century to life in his riveting book The Family: Three Journeys into the Heart of the Twentieth Century.

In David's own words: Born in Brooklyn and raised in Great Neck, New York, I grew up hearing stories that my immigrant Jewish grandparents told about the "old country" (Russia) that they left at the turn of the last century. How I wish I had recorded and video-taped every one of their memories.

"The unspeakable tragedies and improbable triumphs of the European Jewish diaspora in the 20th century have been told many times but rarely quite so compellingly as in David Laskin's 'The Family.' Mr. Laskin's chronicle could have been written in tears—of torment and scarce joy—and it is at once anguishing and inspiring... 'The Family' is a very emotional book."

— Edward Kosner, Wall Street Journal



"[A] moving account of the history of [Laskin's] family during the 20th century...demands to be read...a metaphor of sorts for the 20th century, one in which incredible good fortune was granted to some and incomprehensible agony to others....the book of this particular family stands out for the extremes of joy and sorrow contained within it."

—Jonathan Yardley, The Washington Post

Torah Study with Scholar-in-Residence David Laskin Saturday, May 6, 9:00am

An opportunity for more intimate learning with our Scholar-in-Residence. David Laskin will bring his family history expertise to our study and help illuminate the family secrets of our sacred texts.

Congregational Morning of Learning and Doing

Sunday, May 7

In this culminating morning we will come together as a congregation to learn and to do, to immerse ourselves in Jewish ideas and then go out to make the world a better place. Using our minds, we will deepen our connection with our history, our stories. Using our hands, we will deepen our connection with our community and with one another. Don't miss this important and fun day! See RSVP information below.

9:30 - 11:00am: Following a brief service in the sanctuary we'll engage in learning through story (see activities below). **RSVP to Marcie at maiuvalasit@congregationmanuel.org.**

11:00am - 1:00pm: Like Mitzvah Days of the past, we'll have activities here at the temple and all over town. Project descriptions are below. **RSVP to Emily at mitzvahday2017@gmail.com.**

MORNING PROJECTS

Searching Your Own Family Tree with Scholar-in-Residence David Laskin

Start the journey of genealogical research for your own family. *Congregants and students grade 6+.*

Recording Your Story with our Teen-Tech Squad

Record your story for the next generation. *Congregants and teens.*

Reflections Workshop with Cantor Stone

Connect your stories to the themes of traditions of our people. *Congregants and students grade 4+.*

Storahtelling Our Torah Stories with Rabbi Goldsmith

Bring the stories of our biblical family to life. *Congregants and students of all ages.*

Object Theater with Special Guest Ora Fruchter

Everyday items illuminate our Torah stories in this fun, interaction workshop. *Congregants and students of all ages.*

Our Stories Through Our Recipes with Student Rabbi Jade Sank

Bring a favorite family dish to share and its recipe along with the story that makes it meaningful. *Congregants and students of all ages.*



ONSITE MITZVAH PROJECTS

No-Sew Fleece Blankets

Create no-sew fleece blankets for the mother's group at the Church of the Holy Rosary and Project Linus. *For adults and families.*

Don Bosco Workers, Inc.

Address, stuff & stamp envelopes for a day laborer mailing to help spread the word about the Don Bosco day-laborer hiring center. *For adults and families.*

Garden of Gratitude Beautification

This restored space provides a place where congregants can sit and reflect, or simply take a break from a busy day. Prepare a bed and plant hardy annuals. *For adults and families.*

IDF Care Packages

It is essential we let the courageous IDF soldiers know that we all deeply appreciate their bravery and their heroic defense of the Jewish homeland. Create personal care packages and write cards of gratitude. *For adults and children ages 10+.*

OFF-SITE MITZVAH PROJECTS

Rye Nature Center/HOPE House

Join with HOPE House members for a light litter clean up. Wear closed toed shoes & bring utility gloves. The Rye Nature Center is located on 47 acres of wildlife preserve. *Adults and families.*

Kids' Kloset

Sort and organize clothing for Kids' Klostet. Kids' Klostet, a program of Westchester Jewish Community Services. Donations of gently worn children's clothing are given to families in need. Participants are asked to donate gently worn spring and summer clothing sizes 2T – teen for boys & girls. ***Space is limited.*** *Adults and families with children ages 10+.*



2016 - 17 SOCIAL ACTION EVENTS

We are committed to tikkun olam, the repair of our world. Help make our community a better place! Whether it's donating your time or providing items to those in need, there are so many ways to get involved. Interested in participating in any of these great efforts? Contact Social Action Committee Chair Hedy Cardozo at hedozo@aol.com.

HIGH HOLY DAY FOOD DRIVE - DONE!

OCTOBER

COATS FOR HOPE - DONE!

OCTOBER

MIDNIGHT RUN WITH HINEINI - DONE!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER:

TEAM EMANU-EL - DONE!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

COMMUNITY MEAL AT ST. THOMAS CHURCH - DONE!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

HAVE A HEART TOY DRIVE - DONE!

NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 2

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AT HOPE HOUSE - DONE!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

FOOD PANTRY CEREAL DRIVE: DONE!

JANUARY

AFYA WITH OUR YOUTH GROUP: DONE!

MONDAY, JANUARY 16

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR PANTRY: DONE!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

KIDS' KLOSET COLLECTION - DONE!

MARCH 1 - 31

DOROT PASSOVER PACKAGE DELIVERY - DONE!

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

BRUNCH RUN WITH HINEINI - DONE!

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

COLLECTION FOR AFYA - DONE!

APRIL

MITZVAH DAY: DAY OF LEARNING AND DOING



SUNDAY, MAY 7

Last Social Action event of the year. Be a part of it!
Details on page 9.

THANK YOU: DOROT PASSOVER PACKAGE DELIVERY

87 local seniors received delicious Passover packages from congregants, community members and their families. 122 volunteers in total! Your time was so very appreciated by the seniors who received visits. DOROT and the temple thank you for your participation!

THANK YOU: AFYA COLLECTION

Thank you for the hand sanitizer and children's vitamins for Afya's latest collection. Afya collects and delivers critically needed surplus medical supplies, hospital equipment, and humanitarian provisions for acute and ongoing health crises worldwide. The needs of Afya change on a regular basis. To learn more about Afya, visit their website at <http://afyafoundation.org>.

ESL PROGRAM: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS

9:30 - 11:00AM

Volunteers are needed to teach English as a Second Language to a very eager-to-learn immigrant community. No knowledge of any other foreign language is needed. Come one morning to observe and see what a rewarding experience this is for both tutors and learners. You may volunteer any or all three mornings. Classes are held at the Don Bosco Community Center, 22 Don Bosco Place, Port Chester. 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 neighboring towns for a friendly visitor. Can you visit them? Volunteers are matched with seniors for periodic home visits. DOROT social workers maintain a supportive presence for the duration of your relationship.

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

OUR STORIES/OUR LEGACIES

“God made man because God loves stories.”

- Rabbi Nachman of Bratzlev

Our Scholar-in-Resident David Laskin will be with us during the weekend of Friday, May 5 - Sunday, May 7.



At the Friday evening service David Laskin will “tell his story”. On Saturday morning he will lead our Torah study. During the Sunday morning family education workshop, he will help us “tell our stories”.


Author David Laskin’s book, The Family: Three Journeys Into the Heart of the Twentieth Century, traces the roots of the author’s Jewish ancestors. The story begins with the birth of Laskin’s great-great-grandfather in Russia. It traces how the family separated into three branches, one immigrating to America, eventually founding the Maidenform Bra Company. Another branch went to what was then Palestine and participated as pioneers in the birth of Israel. The third branch, seventeen members, unfortunately remained in Europe and was killed during the Holocaust. This meticulously researched and beautifully written book chronicles an amazing family whose experiences span the history of the 20th century. It is an epic story of triumph and tragedy that everyone can relate to and enjoy.

“The pulse of history beats in every family” writes Laskin, and there is no exception here. There were essentially three options for Jews in the twentieth century: 1) immigrate to America (if they could) or to another country (and hope for the best), 2) go to Israel as a pioneer, 3) stay where they were born, in Europe.

In writing his story, Laskin hopes that we will understand what our ancestors had to go through, especially the pioneers in Israel, their huge and inspiring idealism that spurred them to make sacrifices. “My hope is to inspire readers to research their own families’ roots,” he says.

There’s a saying in the Jewish tradition that the shortest distance between a human and God is through a story. Our role is to live our lives, in a way that enables our stories to be told in the way that we aspire for them to be told. Our responsibility is to keep the stories, the legacies, of those who came before us, telling them as they should be told and teaching their valuable lessons.

Join us the weekend of May 5 - 7 to experience how you can share your stories with the generations who will come after you, leaving your own unique legacy.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane".

Jane Dubro, Youth Activities and Program Director

HIDDEN HISTORY WITH RABBI GOLDSMITH

MONDAY, MAY 1, 12:00PM

Explore two of the less familiar epochs of Jewish history. From 632-1500, the Jews lived among Muslims all over the Islamic world. The impact on Jewish life from that period continues to this day. From 1453-1948, many Jews lived under Ottoman rule as well as in other areas of the Middle East. Their stories inform our own.

To RSVP for this class, contact Dan at 914-967-4382 x11 or doconnor@congregationemanuel.org. Light lunch will be served.

KNITZVAH CORPS

MONDAYS, MAY 1 & JUNE 5, 6:30PM

Knit baby clothing, blankets, and chemo caps to donate to those in need. This is a group activity that enables us to experience a true sense of social action. All are welcome.

RSVP to Jane at 914-967-4382 x21 or jdubro@congregationemanuel.org.

MAH JONGG & CANASTA

MONDAYS, 7:00PM

How did a 19th century Chinese parlor game come to be a favorite pastime for Jewish women?

From the tenements of New York City to the bungalows of the Catskills and the vast American suburbs, Jewish women have kept this game alive enjoying the betting and matching domino-like tiles into rummy-like patterns.

For more information contact Jane at 914-967-4382 x21 or jdubro@congregationemanuel.org.

PANEL: COMMON VALUES AMONG OUR FAITHS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 7:30PM

A panel discussion with members of the Harrison religious community, organized by the Interfaith Laymen's Committee of Harrison.

This event will be held at the Harrison Library, 2 Bruce Avenue, Harrison.

ENGAGING AGING: LIFE AFFIRMING CHOICES FOR OUR THIRD-THIRD YEARS WITH RUTH ROSENBAUM

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 7:00PM

A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Marcie at maiuvalait@congregationemanuel.org or 914-967-4382 x 15.

WALK WITH THE RABBI

FRIDAYS, MAY 5 & JUNE 2, 9:00AM

What better way is there to discuss a Torah portion than walking at Playland with our community of energetic congregants and our fearless walker, Rabbi Goldsmith? Meet at the Oakland Beach Lot, 94 Dearborn Avenue, Rye.

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, Jade Sank 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 6, 9:00AM,

WITH SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE DAVID LASKIN

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 9:00AM, BEHAR-BECHUKOTAI

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 9:00AM, NASSO

ADULT HEBREW LESSONS

TUESDAYS, 1:00 - 2:00PM

Adults who are interested in learning or freshening up their Hebrew are invited to our beginner and intermediate level classes.

Emphasis will be on prayer reading skills to enhance your worship experience.

To sign up for the classes contact Marcie at or maiuvalasit@congregationemanuel.org or 914-967-4382 x15.



MOSAIC/KESHET SUMMIT FOR LGBTQ TEENS AND ALLIES

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2:00PM

Interested in becoming an advocate for LGBTQ equality? Want to meet other Jewish teens from across Westchester? Emanu-El is proud to be a partner in this afternoon of friendship, learning, and leadership to create a safe and joyous space for exploring our identities, building community, and acquiring tools for activism. The event will take place at Temple Shaaray Tefila in Bedford Corners, NY.

For more information, contact Avi Edelman at 914- 297-9032. Please register at <http://tinyurl.com/WestchesterLGBTQSummit>.

MOSAIC MEETING AT EMANU-EL

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 4:45PM

These gatherings provide creative and meaningful ways for LGBTQ Jewish teens to foster a deeper connection to Jewish life and potentially strengthen both their Jewish and LGBTQ identities.

This is a wonderful opportunity for LGBTQ teens and allies to build community, get to know each other, make new friends, share, learn, and have fun together in a safe and supportive setting.

For more information, contact Bina Raskin binaraskin@mosaicofwestchester.org.

BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 10:15AM

Faithful by Alice Hoffman

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 10:15AM

Book to be announced.

BOOKS & BITES

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 7:00PM

Faithful by Alice Hoffman

RSVP or for more information, contact Marcie at maiuvalasit@congregationemanuel.org or 914-967-4382 x15.

SINGLE MALT TORAH

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 8:00PM



Men of the congregation gather in Rabbi Goldsmith's study for some Torah learning and refreshments.

Explore the wisdom of our tradition and enjoy some fine scotch. Bring a friend!

NEXT STEP

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 11:00AM

A group of men in their 60's and 70's meeting to talk about anything but sports, politics and the market! The group is facilitated by congregant Paul Spindel (retired executive). Join us!

WHAT'S WITH THE ז"ל OR ז"י AFTER A NAME?!

Have you ever looked at a list of Jewish names and see some listed with the suffix ז"ל or ז"י?

If you've wondered what it means, you're not alone. The letters stand for זכרונו לברכה (*zichrono livracha*). This translates to "May his/her memory be a blessing". It is sometimes also mis-translated as "May his/her memory be for a blessing." However you translate it, it indicates that the person has passed away. There is something beautiful about using this particular designation to indicate that someone has died. Instead of saying "deceased" or "passed away", this phrase does not explicitly say that the person has died. Instead, with these letters, we look beyond death to the hope that the memory of this person will bring blessings to all who knew him/her - even to those who simply read his/her name without ever having known him/her.

This is one more affirmation of the centrality of life and blessing to our Jewish tradition.



HAPPY 30TH ANNIVERSARY!

This May I am celebrating the 30th anniversary of my accepting the position of Religious Educator at Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester. At our amazing benefit on April 1, Rabbi Wolk and I shared our recollections of the beginning of a wonderful relationship between this community and me. I was so honored to be introduced by Rabbi Goldsmith and to be presented with the Emanu-El prize by Rabbi Wolk. As I said that night, "I am so appreciative of this recognition for what I have contributed to this temple and to the Jewish community because of all that Judaism and Congregation Emanu-El have given to me."



Members of my family and friends who came to share this honor with me had such a wonderful time! They raved about our beautiful synagogue, the warmth of our congregants, the spirit of the evening and the obvious caring and admiration that my temple family has for me. I was not surprised by their reaction. Saturday night was a rare gift surpassed only by the thirty years of support, encouragement, friendship and Jewish life that I have enjoyed as your Religious Educator.

I have always seen my role as a vital partner in the Jewish journeys of my school families and fellow congregants. Our temple's mission statement says that "we are committed to continuously fostering Reform Jewish life among our congregants... through the pillars of Learning and Studying, Worshipping and Reflecting and Instilling Jewish Values." Watching our youngest students light Shabbat candles, say Kiddush, and enjoy challah each Sunday, making potato latkas with third and

fourth graders, moderating the fifth grade family Prophet for President Election, observing our Mi Ani sixth graders working with groups of children at the Don Bosco Center after school program and sharing the Hineini year with our Bar/Bat Mitzvah students fills me with optimism for the future of Reform Judaism.

As many of you have heard me say, these wonderful experiences are just the beginning – my joy multiplies when I welcome our teens to our Monday Night Program. I revel in their questioning, enthusiasm and growth as they use Jewish ethics and values to find their own sense of self and relationship with the world around them.

My fun continues when I am able to work with adult congregants through our Women's Study Group, Book Clubs, Engaging Aging, Social Action and worship. My family and I have made many deep connections with so many congregants. You have supported me and encouraged me and now you have honored me. How lucky I am.

Saturday, April 1 was an amazing night – one that I will never forget – thank you!

Marcie Aiuvalasit, Religious Educator

YOUNG FAMILIES & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: SCHOOL'S OUT CARNIVAL

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 11:00AM - 1:00PM

We will celebrate the end of another wonderful religious school year with our annual carnival: jumping castle, face painting, carnival games, BBQ, cotton candy, an ice cream truck, and more!

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



HINEINI CAR WASH

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 9:30 - 10:00AM

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 SUVs and Vans: \$10



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PRAYER MOBILE ON DISPLAY STARTING SUNDAY, MAY 14

Our students have worked together to understand and personally relate to the meaning of our Shabbat service prayers. Art teacher Terry Schwarz helped them create an all-school mobile with hanging squares that artistically depict what a particular prayer means to them. Come by and see it!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR HEBREW & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Tuesday, May 16: Last day of Hebrew School

Sunday, May 21: Last day of Religious School

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks for the generosity of all listed here. Your support made the 2017 Annual Spring Benefit & Auction honoring Marcie Aiuvalasit and John Carton an wonderful event!

Anonymous	Benjamin & Stacey Cross	Chip & Sheryl Kaye
Tony & Marcie Aiuvalasit	Russell & Peggy DaSilva	Joan Kessler & Vincent Kruskel
The Aiuvalasit Family	Louis & Sophia DeBoer	Ben & Adrienne Kirschenbaum
Timothy & Phyllis Alexander	David & Kristen Distasio	Joy Klebanoff
John & Alanna Alkalay	Alan & Jane Dubro	William & Francine Klingenstein
Scott & Rae-ann Allen	Natan Elsberg	James & Meredith Kornreich
Andrew & Diane Alson	Alan Epstein & Yvonne Tropp	Neil & Alison Kozek
Douglas & Lisa Antonacci	David Farer & Elisa King	Jonathon & Dana Landsberg
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Michael & Sharon Baranowski	Darren & Jeanne Fogel	John & Madeleine Leigh
Michael & Denise Barnett	Bruce & Dana Freyer	Abbie Levitt
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Andy & Gail Berg	Clifford Gevirtz & Alison Lazarus	Stanley & Evelyn Lobel
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Dana Carton & Anthony Caprio	Richard & Susan Hecht	Jim Moore
John Carton & Wendy Rowden	Lee Helman & Amy Schulhof	Saul & Julie Morgenstern
The Rowden-Carton Family	Lorraine Henderson	Brian & Jaime Morris
Stephen & Carol Chase	Scott Hirsch & Christine Staeger-Hirsch	Kittric Motz
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Richard & Emily Cohen	Paul & Marcia Kalkut	Jim & Maureen Nebenzahl
Arlene Cole	Steve & Robin Kamin	Kenneth Nebenzahl
Peggy Consolini	Cliff & Janice Kaplan	Laura Newman
Andrew & Sharon Cooper	Stephen & Joan Kass	Chris & Julie Novak

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Daniel & Lidia O'Connor
Seena Peck
Neil & Thao Peretz
David & Patty Persson
Michael Preston
Michael & Karen Quinn
Gene & Susan Resnick
Jason & Jessica Riesel
Nancy Cooper Riesenfeld
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Michael Rosenblut & Hedy Cardozo
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Mark & Nina Rubin
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Barry & Linda Russin
Martin Rutishauser & Meredith Stone
Laurence Rutkovsky & Sharon Feldman
Rowie Samson
Jade Sank
Lanier Saperstein & Stefanie Kalkut
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Lynne Scheurer
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Peter Schweitzer
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John & Amy Tanenbaum
Fern Tannenbaum
Daniel Taplitz
Judy Tenney
Enrique Torres
Scott & Virginia Weisman
John & Kerry Whelan
Maj Wickstrom
Michael Wien & Miriam Shire
Martin & Pamela Winter
Eric & Regina Witkin
Richard & M.J. Wolff
Daniel Wolk & Ann Carmel
The Women's Study Group
Kevin & Jacqueline Wyman

We would like to thank the following partners in helping make the evening so wonderful:

Luxe Events & Co.
The Bronx Bears Band
Invitations & More by Bonnie
LJ Studios Photography
Anne Booth Catering
Hal Prince
Tower Productions
Modern Magic
Rye Brook Wines and Spirits
Beehive Press, Inc.
Bruce Freyer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CONDOLENCES TO

GINNY ROWEN ON THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND DAVID ROWEN

With deep appreciation we acknowledge the following contributions:

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Rose Adler
Anita Barishaw
Sidney Bernstein
Sarah Brookstein & Allen Terdiman
Marian Block
Pamela Joan Carton
Peter Lawrence Cartoun
Sidney Cole
Khasya Devchtyar
Natan Devchtyar
Roslyn Appel Einhorn
Otto Engelhard
Della Epstein & Sally Epstein
Nell S. Ettelson
David Fishman
Elaine Freyer
Albert Gottlieb
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Seymour Robinson
Allan Burton Schaffer
Hannah Silver
Ruth Steiner
Samuel Sternberg
Elizabeth L. Stuart
Warren Tenney
George Winick
Charles Winter

Remembered by:

John & Amy Tanenbaum
Lilian Sicular
Richard & Amelia Bernstein
JoAnn Terdiman
Janet Mayrsohn
John Carton & Wendy Rowden
Alan Cartoun
Arlene Cole
Boris Belilovsky
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Harriet Madoff Parker
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Roger & Fran Lefft
Bonnie Stein
David & Jane Schaiman
Stuart & Sheila Steiner
Stuart & Lisa Sternberg
Alan & Jacqueline Stuart
Judy Tenney
Evelyn Winick
Martin & Pamela Winter

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ANNUAL APPEAL

John Carton & Wendy Rowden

BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

Tony & Marcie Aiuvalasit

GENERAL FUND

Tony & Marcie Aiuvalasit

Rachel & David Grandwetter

Patricia Harte in honor of Emily Cohen
& the DOROT Passover Package Delivery

Elaine Losquadro

Neil & Karen Ptashnik

Michael Rosenblut & Hedy Cardozo

Roberta Stayman in honor of the marriage of
Yvonne Tropp and Alan Epstein

Donations processed after April 15 will appear in
the next bulletin.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Boris Belilovsky

Joan L. Feinstein in honor of Dick Hecht's birthday

Joey Gelfand

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Morton & Ruth Markowitz

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Lilian Sicular in honor of the Spring Benefit

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advertising in the temple
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(at a very reasonable
rate), contact Abbie
at 914-967-4382 x18.

CALENDAR: **MAY 2017**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Adult Ed: Mystery from History with Rabbi Goldsmith 6:30PM Knitzvah Corps 7:00PM Mah Jongg/Canasta 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	2 3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School	3	4 7:00PM Engaging Aging with Ruth Rosenblum	5 9:00AM Walk with the Rabbi 7:30PM Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat with Author David Laskin	6 9:00AM Torah Study with Scholar-in-Residence Author David Laskin 5:00PM Lily Claire Alpert Bat Mitzvah Ceremony
7 Day of Learning and Doing (Religious School Families and All Congregants) 9:30AM Community Education Morning 11:00AM Mitzvah Projects	8 7:00PM Mah Jongg/Canasta 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	9 3:50 - 5:45PM Hebrew School 7:30PM Board Meeting	10	11	12 7:30PM Family Service: Yom Ha'atzmaut & Honoring Hineini Students and Parents	13 5:00PM Abby Roth Bat Mitzvah Ceremony
14 9:30 - 11:45AM Religious School	15 7:15 - 8:45PM Confirmation	16 3:50 - 5:45PM Last Session of Hebrew School	17	18 10:15AM Book Club 8:00PM Single Malt Torah	19 7:30PM Sacred Stories Shabbat	20 9:00AM Torah Study : Behar-Bechukotai 10:30AM Josh & Lucy Rosenblut B'nei Mitzvah Ceremony
21 9:30 - 10:00AM Youth Group Car Wash 9:30 - 11:45AM Last Session of Religious School 11:00AM - 1:00PM School's Out Carnival	22 6:30PM Mah Jongg/Canasta Fundraiser for Jared Dubro	23	24	25	26 6:30PM Lay Led Service Office Closing Early at 1:00pm	27
28	29 Office Closed for Memorial Day	30	31 7:30AM Shavuot Yizkor Office Closed for First Day of Shavuot			

CALENDAR: JUNE 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30PM Congregant Art Salon Gallery Opening 7:00PM Annual Meeting	2 9:00AM Walk with the Rabbi 7:30PM Confirmation & Shavuot Service	3 9:00AM Torah Study: Nasso
4	5 6:30PM Knitzvah Corps 7:00PM Mah Jongg/Canasta	6	7	8	9 7:30PM Annual Cantor Earl Rogers Tribute Sabbath: Women & Wine	10
11 11:00AM Next Step 4:45PM Mosaic of Westchester	12 7:00PM Mah Jongg/Canasta	13	14	15 10:15AM Book Club	16 6:00PM Pre-neg 6:30PM Early Shabbat Service	17
18	19 7:00PM Mah Jongg/Canasta	20	21	22	23 6:45PM Summer Lay Led Shabbat Service	24
25	26 7:00PM Mah Jongg/Canasta	27	28	29	30 6:45PM Summer Lay Led Shabbat Service	

PROPHETS FOR PRESIDENT

FEBRUARY 8



PURIM SHABBAT: SIMON & GARFUNKEL



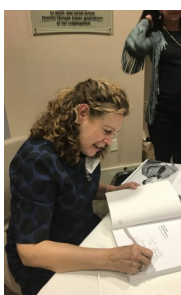
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PURIM CELEBRATION & CARNIVAL

MARCH 12



WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP PASSOVER SEDER WITH AUTHOR JUNE HERSH

MARCH 21



MAY - JUNE SHABBAT SERVICES

- May 5 **Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat with Author David Laskin**
7:30 Service
- May 12 **Family Service: Yom Ha'atzmaut & Honoring Hinieni Students and Parents**
7:30 Service 🎵 🖥️
- May 19 **Sacred Stories Shabbat**
7:30 Service 🎵 🖥️
- May 26 **Lay Led Service**
6:30 Service
- June 2 **Confirmation & Shavuot Service**
7:30 Service 🎵
- June 9 **Annual Cantor Earl Rogers Tribute Sabbath: Women & Wine**
7:30 Service
- June 16 **Early Service**
6:00 Pre-neg
6:30 Service
- June 23 **Lay Led Summer Service**
6:45 Service
- June 30 **Lay Led Summer Service**
6:45 Service

🎵 Band 🖥️ Handsfree/Prayers projected

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Did you know that you could manage your **family information** and make **payments or donations online** through our secure online member portal?

Why should you use it?

Your member portal is an easy and quick way to securely update your family's emails, phone numbers and addresses; add or change yahrzeit information on file; and you can view billing activity, pay bills or make donations through your account.

Do you have to use your online member portal?

The simple answer is "no". The online member portal has been created to make your life easier, however, if you would prefer not to use the member portal, that is perfectly okay.

Where do you access your member portal account?

If you are not already using the portal, the office will send you a link for logging in. You can use your desktop, laptop, tablet or handheld device to go to the temple homepage and log in from there.

Questions? Need help navigating your first login?

Contact Abbie at 914-967-4382 x18 or alevitt@congregationemanuel.org.