

BIKE RIDE WITH THE RABBI

SATURDAY, JULY 18

8:30AM



Spend Shabbat morning cycling on the beautiful roads of Westchester with Rabbi Goldsmith.

We will meet in the temple parking lot and ride up to Armonk for some coffee and muffins. We will then loop back down via Glenville before finishing up at the temple.

The ride will be about 20 miles on moderately hilly terrain - best for experienced cyclists or people in good shape. Please feel free to invite friends along for the ride.

Please RSVP to Abbie Levitt at 914-967-4382 x11 so we don't leave without you, or just make sure to show up by our start time.

Looking forward to riding with you!



Have a **FANTASTIC** Summer

SHABBAT ON THE BEACH AT THE EDITH G. READ WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

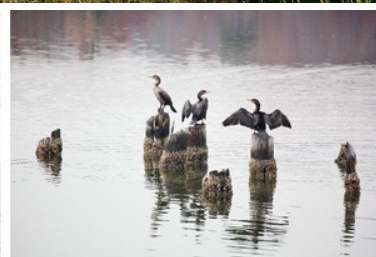
FRIDAY, JULY 31

6:30PM

Surround yourself with the sights and sounds of nature as we celebrate Shabbat on the beach at the Edith G. Read Wildlife Sanctuary, located on the sound shore along a migratory flyway.

Directions to the Edith G. Read Sanctuary

From I-95, take Exit 19 (Playland Parkway) to Playland. Pass through the Playland parking booths and continue straight past the parking area and to the right behind the Dragon Roller Coaster. There is a second gate here. Pass through the gate and continue straight down the road into the sanctuary.



SNAPSHOT: 5775 IN PICTURES

Take a stroll with us through the last year — a year of exciting events for congregants of all ages, projects we worked on together, holidays we celebrated, and strong bonds built within our community. 5775 was a GREAT year! See more pictures on page 11.



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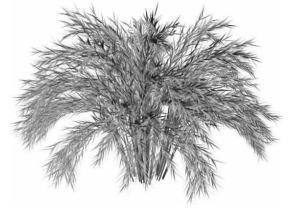
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GARDEN OF GRATITUDE



A new area of our
synagogue is blooming!

Just to the left of the sanctuary, between the building and the forest, we are planting a Garden of Gratitude for the benefit of all members and visitors to the congregation.

The Garden of Gratitude is thanks to the vision of Joy Klebanoff together with her children Jennifer Lerner and Peter Klebanoff. Seeking a fitting tribute to the memory of Joy's late husband, Steven, they helped Rabbi Goldsmith conceive of a space where congregants could gather outside to reflect and to learn, or simply to schmooze and visit.

The Klebanoffs have named one of the beautiful benches that will grace this garden in memory of Steven. The benches, the grassy area, the flowering bushes and the beauty of the forest just beyond will help to make our temple an even more gracious, attractive and welcoming place to be.

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMITTEES!

A big *thank you* to all the volunteers who help make our congregation a great place to be!

Interested in getting involved?
Please contact Abbie Levitt
or Rabbi Goldsmith.



FAREWELL DENISE!



For the last three years we have had the pleasure of working with Denise Burke.

We are sad to say goodbye as she and her family relocate to Austin, TX.

Hired as the Religious Educator's assistant, Denise has worn many hats including B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp coordinator, webmaster, and editor of our weekly EmanuMail. With her professionalism, diligence and a good sense of humor, Denise has brought us not only timely communication and organization, but the blessings of friendship, camaraderie and thoughtfulness that have helped to make our school and our congregation a warmer, friendlier and more engaging place to be.

While we hate to see Denise go, we are so happy for the opportunities that her family will have in the Lone Star State and we celebrate the time that she spent with us at Emanu-El!

RABBI'S MESSAGE

TRANSFORMING MEMORY INTO HOPE

Jennifer, Lev, Talia and I head to Israel on June 25th. We're going for a wedding, we're going to see friends, we're going to introduce our children to a land that we love. After living there for a year during rabbinical school, Jennifer and I feel a special bond with the Land of Israel and its people. It is a land that echoes with history: every stone has a story to tell, the olive trees have seen a thousand years of crusaders and mystics, people from the east and from the west. The people are vibrant, loud, pushy, innovative, funny, loving, passionate, and not a little crazy – so they're like the family you never knew you had.



As we head to Israel with our children, we're also celebrating. We're celebrating the victory of the liberal Jewish movements in the recent World Zionist Organization elections that we told you about all year long. The Reform movement, under the ARZA banner, won 56 of the seats in that election. Combined with the 25 seats of the Conservative movement, the liberal branches of Judaism have a solid majority in the 145 seat U.S. Delegation. That means that our pluralistic, egalitarian voice will directly impact the Jewish Agency for Israel, the Jewish National Fund and many other state institutions. This will lead to a more open Israel, more commitment to freedom and equality and justice for all of Israel's citizens. When we get off the plane in Tel Aviv, we will be proud to know that so many of you helped to make this possible through your votes.

In addition to visiting friends, eating out and playing at the beach, we're going to do some things with a bit more depth as well. For one, we'll be participating in an archaeological dig at Beit Guvrin. These caves were dug by our ancestors over 1700 years ago and later filled with possessions and detritus. Tourists are welcome to come to dig for a day under the guidance of a professional archeologist, an experience we had on our Family Trip to Israel a few years ago. We're excited to have our children help with the dig. To see the next generation touch the handiwork of long-ago ancestors, to see them uncover their own history and imagine what life might have been like in that long-ago time, to see them smiling and dirt covered,

to see these things will be a blessing that reaches across centuries.

Israelis wrestle with the difficult times of today. And, through the World Zionist Organization, we too have impacted the issues that help define the character of the modern Jewish State. Israelis wrestle with uncovering our collective past, understanding where we come from, the history of our people in that land, and how that helps us to understand ourselves. And, through our Holy Days and Festivals, our sacred texts and our prayers, we too seek to understand how our past impacts our present, how the stories of our ancestors shape our own, how the debates and ideas recorded in our ancient texts remind us of what's important in our own lives.

Lev and Talia are, perhaps, too young to delve into these issues on an intellectual basis. But as we walk the land we'll see men with long beards and women whose heads are covered. We'll see Arab cities within Israel and the barrier which separates Israel from the West Bank. When we visit the Western Wall, Jen and Talia will not be able to approach its ancient stones together with Lev and me. We'll see shiny towers of Tel Aviv and poor areas of Jaffa. And we'll dig at Beit Guvrin and uncover our connections with our ancient past. So, they may not be able to engage intellectually, but they will live and breathe and experience the myriad things that make being in Israel – that make being a Jew – so exciting and fulfilling and complicated and interesting.

As this programming year at the synagogue comes to an end, I'm struck by all of the ways that *we've* engaged in these same questions together over the year. With meaningful worship, interesting lectures, engaging discussions, and fun cultural programs we've experienced Judaism in community. And with joyous b'nei mitzvah, celebratory weddings, moving funerals, a beautiful Confirmation ceremony and inspiring baby namings we've marked the moments of our lives with friends and family. Without leaving the continent, we've lived our Jewish lives as individuals and in community, we've immersed in the Jewish past and wrestled with the Jewish future. May we continue to experience the manifold blessings of our heritage as we look together towards a warm summer and the year 5776 that lies just around the corner.



(P.S. The ice cream in Israel is really good, too! We'll be sure to eat a lot of that!)



HIGH HOLY DAYS 5776

This year's High Holy Day observances begin in mid-September. A full schedule of our High Holy Day events and services will be published and distributed over the summer. Below is a list of important dates to note:

September 13	Erev Rosh Hashanah
September 14	Rosh Hashanah
September 15	Rosh Hashanah Day II Nature Walk Tashlich
September 18	Shabbat Shuva
September 22	Kol Nidre
September 23	Yom Kippur



SUMMER WHITES: WINE TASTING & TOUR FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

THURSDAY, JULY 30
7:00PM

Know anyone interested in joining our temple community? Let them know that they are invited to have a tour of the temple and enjoy a summer whites wine tasting conducted by the experts from Westchester Wine Warehouse in White Plains.

Let your friends and neighbors know!

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

*This event is geared for prospective members and friends.
Babysitting services available upon request.*

OPENING DATES FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, HEBREW SCHOOL AND MONDAY NIGHT PROGRAM

Tuesday, September 8	Hebrew School
Sunday, September 20	Religious School
Monday, September 28	Monday Night Program (Grades 8 & 9)

STILL NEED TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR SCHOOL?

Are you enrolling your child in Religious School for the first time?

School registration forms are available on our website and by contacting Marcie Aiuvalasit at 914-967-4382 x15 or maiuvalasit@congregationemanuel.org.





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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 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 the cost. 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.

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.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATOR'S MESSAGE

TZEDEK, TZEDEK...

“Justice, Justice, Justice, You will pursue...”

- Deuteronomy 16:20.

In the Torah we are commanded to pursue justice and the Reform movement gave me two opportunities to engage in lobbying activities that informed our elected representatives in Washington, D.C. and in Albany on how justice should be pursued.



Every year I take our students to Washington to participate in a Political Action Seminar sponsored by the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC). They are asked about their own efforts to perform *mitzvot* that help to make the world a better place and then told that though those efforts are vital they must also work to bring about systemic change that will alleviate the conditions causing so much of the injustice in our world.

That is the essence of lobbying – letting your elected officials know what policy and legislative changes are needed to bring *tzedek* – justice – to all of us.

On Tuesday, April 28, as part of a delegation of lay people organized by the RAC, I lobbied in Senator Chris Murphy's and Congresswoman Elizabeth Esty's offices asking them to support the compromise legislation on the Comprehensive Agreement to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon. I guess that I was successful as it passed in the Senate by a vote of 99-1!

I understand the excitement that my students feel when those legislative assistants listen to my passionate concerns, relay them to my representatives and hopefully act appropriately on them.

On Monday, May 4, as part of Reform Jewish Voice in New York, I lobbied in the offices of State Senator Liz Krueger and State Assemblywoman Rebecca Seawright on two different issues: Immigration Reform and a resolution appointing a monitor to oversee the East Ramapo School District. School Board members from the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community who do not use the schools are severely cutting programs from the schools and diverting funds to their parochial schools. As an educator and former public school board member, I am very passionate about this issue and was able to educate Assemblywoman Seawright's legislative assistant on its merits.

How do we pursue justice?

As a college student I demonstrated against the Vietnam War and for equal rights. I believed then, and as a “cockeyed optimist” still believe now, in the power and potential of our democracy. I feel compelled to do all that I can to insure that the system works for all us. I still vote in every election, work to help get those candidates that I support elected and then continue to fight for the policies that I deem vital to achieving justice and fairness in our country.

I am proud to be Jewish because we are commanded by our Torah to pursue *tzedek* – justice – and are taught by our Prophets that this is the essence of what it means to love God.

Mara

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CONDOLENCES TO

Andy & Diane Alson on the death of Andy's mother, Elaine Alson
Renee & Jeff Citron on the death of Renee's mother, Miriam Spiegel
Ben & Stacey Cross on the death of Ben's mother, Polly Cross
Jack & Melissa Heinberg on the death of Jack's mother, Cecile Heinberg

With deep appreciation we acknowledge the following contributions:

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In memory of:

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All donations processed after June 5 will appear in the next bulletin. Please contact Abbie Levitt at 914-967-4382 x11 or alevitt@congregationmanuel.org if you have any questions about the donation listings.

CALENDAR: JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2015

JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
14	15	16	17	18 10:30AM Book Club	19 7:30PM I'm A Cultural Jew: Selected Shorts	20 9:00AM Torah Study: Sh'laca Lecha Eric Mehlman Bar Mitzvah
21	22	23	24	25	26 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Services Begin	27
28	29	30				

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Service	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Service	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Service	18 8:30AM Bike Ride with Rabbi Goldsmith
19	20	21	22	23	24 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Service	25
26	27	28	29	30 7:00PM Summer Whites	31 6:30PM Shabbat on the Beach (see pg. 1)	

AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Service	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Service	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Service	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 6:45PM Summer Shabbat Service	29
30	31					

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SNAPSHOT: 5775 IN PICTURES





JUNE, JULY & AUGUST SHABBAT SERVICES

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 7:30 Service 🎧🎵
June 26 - July 24	Lay Led Shabbat Service 6:45 Service
July 31	Shabbat on the Beach at Edith G. Read Sanctuary 6:30 Service
August 8 - 28	Lay Led Shabbat Service 6:45 Service



I'M A CULTURAL JEW: SELECTED SHORTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 19
7:30PM

You love books? We love books! After all, we're the people of the book!

Find out what All the Light We Cannot See, A Tale of Two Cities, and Oh, the Places You'll Go have in common with Jewish tradition. At our Selected Shorts service we'll use excerpts from these books and others to illuminate the meanings of our prayers and as added inspiration for our worship.

Bring your week to a peaceful close as literature meets liturgy and the universal themes of great books echo through our Jewish prayers. Who knows, you may even find some inspiration and ideas for your summer reading list!

