



Film: *Shared Legacies*

Thursday, January 5, 7:00pm

This documentary looks at the 20th century alliance between African Americans and Jewish Americans. It begins with the founding of the NAACP in 1909 and showcases the bigotry and segregation that both groups have faced.

A common cause was found in the turbulent '60s Civil Rights era, as Jewish leaders backed Dr. King's efforts at racial equality and harmony. However, a once mighty bond of support and respect has seemingly faded or been forgotten. Pivotal events come alive through archival materials narrated by eyewitnesses, activists, Holocaust survivors, and leaders of the movement.



Laugh your *tuchus* off at the temple!

Join us for a night of curated comedy emceed by comedian (and congregant!) Lisa Blythe Perlman as she brings up acclaimed comedians Patty Rosborough and Marla Schultz.

At 7:00pm, come for drinks, noshes, and live music with Zach Grann (also a congregant!), followed by loads of laughter when the show begins promptly at 8:00pm.

Must be comfortable with adult humor - must be 18 years old to be admitted.

Cost: \$30 per person. Tickets will sell fast! Purchase tickets at tinyurl.com/CEWcomedy.

SAVE THE DATE

2023 SPRING BENEFIT

HONORING

RABBI

HOWARD J. GOLDSMITH

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 7:30PM

Social Justice Shabbat with Mirele Goldsmith
Friday, January 13, 7:30pm



Social Justice Shabbat brings together powerful readings on social justice with classic 1960s songs celebrating America and America's promise of justice for all. This year we have a very special guest who will give the Isaacs Memorial Lecture.

Mirele Goldsmith is the founder of Jewish Earth Alliance and holds a doctorate in environmental psychology. She will teach us how Torah can help us respond to climate change in a lecture titled, "From Moses to Greta: Leadership Lessons for Facing Up to Climate Change".



Cantor Earl Rogers Annual Tribute:
***The Mischlinge Exposé* with Carolyn Enger**
Thursday, January 26, 7:00pm

Join pianist Carolyn Enger for a multimedia presentation exploring identity, culture, migration, and spirituality. *The Mischlinge Exposé* weaves a tapestry around a little-known aspect of the Holocaust: the Mischlinge, a derogatory term for those neither Jewish nor Aryan. Combining music by German and Jewish composers of the 20th century with stirring testimony from Enger's father and godmother, both Holocaust survivors, *The Mischlinge Exposé* offers a message of universal tolerance and hope.

This program is in partnership with the Holocaust & Human Rights Education Center.

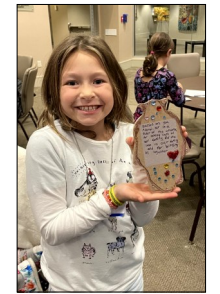
Jaunts with Jane: Garment Center Tour & the Jewish Deli Exhibit

Two fun and educational trips into the city to learn about the colorful history of the garment industry and the Jewish Deli at the New York Historical Society. Buttons, zippers, trims! We had so much fun on the walking tour of the garment district! Pickles, pastrami and lots of fun learning the history of the Jewish Deli!



Family Learning Shabbat

In November, our Religious School families came together for our first Family Learning Shabbat of the year. We created our own family blessings that we put onto hamsas and then we used those blessings during the Shabbat service. Our service that evening was Samba Shabbat and everyone loved participating with our percussion instruments!



Challah Baking

In December, we had a 3rd and 4th Grade Parents Night Out so parents could get to know one another, bake challah, and enjoy wine and cheese. Congregant Debra Cohen taught the group how to make dough from scratch and braid it. It was a delicious night for everyone and we are all challah experts now!





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www.c-e-w.org

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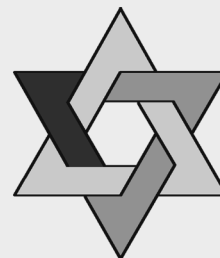
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Unless otherwise noted, the link for programs is tinyurl.com/cewconnect



B'nei Mitzvah Mazel Tov!

We would like to honor
the following students
who will become B'nei Mitzvah
in January & February:

Emma Balik-Klein

Dylan Gold

Chase Kraut

Brooke Levine

Climate Dreams

"Go, go, go Joseph, you know what they say
Hang on now, Joseph, you'll make it some day
Sha la la, Joseph, you're doing fine
You and your dreamcoat ahead of your time..."



It's okay, you can sing it out loud.

Andrew Lloyd Weber's infectious, joyous adaptation of Genesis chapters 37 to 47 is a cultural landmark. *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* deserves credit for widespread familiarity with our ancient biblical story. In case your memory is fuzzy: Joseph is a brat who taunts his eleven brothers with dreams of one day ruling over them. They almost kill him, then instead, sell him into slavery in Egypt. He ends up in jail. Pharaoh has bad dreams. Joseph is brought from the dungeon to interpret them. He tells Pharaoh that Egypt will have seven years of plenty followed by seven years of drought and famine. Pharaoh frees Joseph, tells him to manage the impending climate crisis, and essentially makes him prime minister. Joseph's brothers (after a great calypso number) reconcile with Joseph and the family settles in Egypt receiving protection from the famine. Cue the curtain.

What Weber chose not to include, what most people do not know, is HOW Joseph manages the drought to meet the needs of the population and avoid famine. His moves make Stalinist redistribution look like enlightened capitalism. According to Genesis chapter 47, first, Joseph confiscated and stored seven years' worth of Egyptian grain harvests. Then, when the drought and famine started, he sold grain to the hungry (i.e., everyone) until they had no money left with which to buy it. When the money was gone, he took their livestock for grain. When the livestock was gone, Joseph took the land of all landholders and peasants in Egypt in exchange for grain. Finally, he forcibly moved every Egyptian from their hometown to other cities so that they could not claim any connection to any piece of land – all of it now belonged to Pharaoh. Joseph undertook massive, autocratic economic and social measures to address a previously foreseen drought and avoid famine. Joseph did not pull any punches to address a climate induced catastrophe.

Like Pharaoh in the Torah, we now stand at the precipice of a climate catastrophe. And, like Pharaoh, we have fair warning. Our warning does not come from an imprisoned dream interpreter and a colorful coat. Our scientific warnings date back

decades. Joseph took decisive, drastic action to help his people avoid the worst effects of the impending drought. With Pharaoh's blessing, Joseph turned the socio-economic norm on its head to avert climate catastrophe.

What action will we take to address our impending climate catastrophe? Will we continue to delay through fires, storms, floods and droughts until they upend our socio-economic norms? Will we rely on the political, economic, and social norms that got us into this mess to get us out of it? Or, will we seek a new way forward?

Our Community Read this year will seek to answer these questions. Together we will explore *All We Can Save: Truth, Courage and Solutions for the Climate Crisis* edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson. This extraordinary book takes an unabashedly feminist, anti-patriarchal approach to the climate crisis that focuses on leadership and action based in compassion, connection, creativity, and collaboration. With dozens of essays by women from around the world, this volume offers new ways to look at climate change and how to address it. The old ways of thinking have gotten us to this precipice. Only new ways of thinking can chart a path forward. Instead of Pharaoh and Joseph's extreme, top-down approach, Johnson and Wilkinson offer a new path.

If all of this gets you excited, great! Get a copy of the book and join the Community Read featured on page 11. If all of this talk of power structures and feminism and economic models and patriarchy makes you uncomfortable... even better! Change never happens when we are comfortable. Real discussion of vital issues requires respectful engagement among people who disagree. Together let's reimagine what sort of environmental legacy we will leave our future.

The absolute control that Joseph instituted in Egypt concentrated all power in Pharaoh. Fear of losing that power led a later Pharaoh to enslave us. Let us have the courage to examine the structures of power and economics that have led us to this crisis. And let that examination spur us to a future of possibilities for our climate, our people, and the whole world.

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

Howard J. Goldsmith, Rabbi

CANTOR STONE'S MESSAGE

The Joy of Movement

Twenty-five years ago, a baby music class completely changed the way I taught music to kids at the temple. A Mommy and Me class seemed like a great way to get out of the house with my tiny tot; what better choice than music?! The wonderful program I found, Music Together, fosters young children's musical growth in a way that is playful, musically rich, and developmentally appropriate. Each week, we moms, caregivers, and babies gathered in a warm circle, shaking shakers, moo-ing and baa-ing, moving body parts in all sorts of ways. Because young children learn through play, everything in the class was engaging and fun. The inextricable bond between music and movement was clear to me after having my own kids and participating in six Music Together semesters. It was a no-brainer to transfer what I learned to my temple music sessions and ever since, we've been shaking, shimmying and dancing up a storm while we sing.



When our Sunday music classes went online during the pandemic, Zoom's limitations meant we couldn't sing as a group. But we could move! With all the kids on "mute" it didn't matter so much whether or not they were singing along; we could see one another in our little Zoom rectangles all moving in sync to the music. When our kids get older, perhaps they will hold Jewish experiences in their bodies as well as their minds.

Adults, especially when given permission to get over their inhibitions, enjoy moving, too! This was obvious at an adult Zoom Shabbat when we joined in "King Tut" style choreography to the song *Pharoah, Pharoah*. Moving can simply make us feel good. (Before you get up and go for a walk though, keep reading.)

Back in our sanctuary, kids and adults alike have continued "embodying" our prayers at Shabbat services. Perhaps you've lit imaginary candles for *Ma Yafe Hayom*, boogied to *Roll into Dark* or formed your arms overhead for "I've got strength like a mountain" which is a lyric in the song *Peace Like a River*.

Movement in prayer has long been a part of Jewish worship, implied by the biblical verse "All my bones shall say, O God, who is like You?" (Psalms 35:10) meaning we bring our entire being when we praise God. The mind, heart, and mouth express the prayer through speech, and the rest of the body does so

by moving. The Hasidim of the mid-18th century, led by the Baal Shem Tov, embraced this idea. In reaction to the religious establishment of their time which focused on the intricacies of the law, they led a heart-based movement of religious renewal of joy, faith, and ecstatic prayer steeped in song and dance.

The body can be a vehicle for expressing all manner of worship: wonder, peace, reverence, beauty, yearning, loving, no matter what our physical abilities!

Go to the Western Wall or any Orthodox service and you'll see worshipers *shukling*, rocking and swaying in prayer. Or, to the Upper West Side or Brooklyn on Simchat Torah when Jews dance all night in the streets. Traditional clergy enact a powerful custom on the High Holy Days, prostrating themselves flat onto the floor in front of the ark when we normally "bend the knee" in praise of God.

The body can be a vehicle for expressing all manner of worship: wonder, peace, reverence, beauty, yearning, loving, no matter what our physical abilities! Tap into your inner Hasid, or your inner child who moves so innately to music, and give prayer in motion a try. It can stimulate the joy of Shabbat within us, pull us out of ourselves, lift our spirits, and connect us with our community and the divine. Feel the smiles around you when we do.

Meredith

Meredith Stone, Cantor

Ritual Corner: Conversion

Going back to the 1980's, Emanu-El has warmly welcomed and embraced interfaith families. The Jewish adjacent members of Emanu-El (often a non-Jewish spouse married to a Jew) are integral parts of our community. They show up for family learning, accompany their loved ones to Shabbat and High Holy Day services, attend classes and lectures, participate in social action, serve on temple committees, and generously support our congregation with their time and resources. While some of these members also practice another faith, others essentially live Jewish lives. Already integral parts of our community, sometimes these members decide to formally join the Jewish people and convert.

In past centuries, people were discouraged from converting to Judaism. A rabbi was supposed to refuse a person's inquiry three times before agreeing to work with them for conversion. The reason? In those days, who would want to be a Jew?! We were discriminated against and threatened with violence on a regular basis. A non-Jew's desire to convert was simply illogical. In the mid-20th century, rabbis (especially in the Reform movement) became much more inviting to potential converts. Rather than turn people away, they sought to engage them in the life of the community and welcome them to the Jewish people. It is important to note that even when conversion was discouraged, Judaism has always been clear that someone who converts to Judaism is as Jewish as someone born Jewish.

A conversion process usually takes about a year and consists of three elements. First, students take an introduction to Judaism class that teaches the basics of Jewish religion, practice, history, and culture. The students also commit to living a Jewish life, attending synagogue services and programs with some regularity and taking on home rituals like Chanukah candles, seders, and the occasional Shabbat dinner. Finally, the students meet regularly with a rabbi for spiritual counseling - to understand the role of holiness and divinity in their lives.

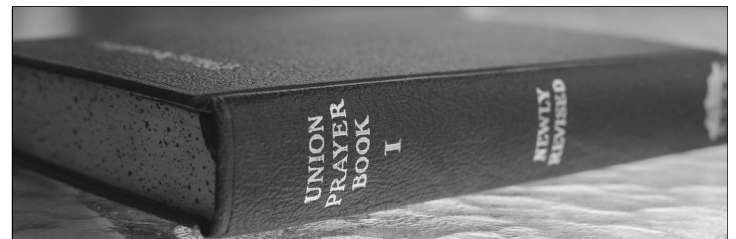
The process culminates with a *beit din* and *mikvah*. The *beit din* is a rabbinic court of three rabbis that serves as a welcoming committee for the student. The student presents the *beit din* with a two-three page essay about the conversion journey. The rabbis then ask questions about the journey (or anything else) to help affirm the students' new



identity. After the *beit din*, the student goes into the *mikvah* (ritual bath), dunking three times and emerging fully Jewish. Very often, this is followed by a ceremony as part of a Shabbat service with friends and family.

It is important to note that Reform conversions are recognized by all Reform rabbis and most Conservative rabbis. They are not recognized by Orthodox rabbis. Reform conversions are also recognized by the State of Israel for the purposes of making Aliyah (immigrating to Israel), but they are not recognized by the Israeli rabbinic authorities for the purposes of marriage or burial in Israel. That being said, people who convert with Reform rabbis do so with the utmost integrity and commitment to the open, welcoming, warm Judaism that we practice.

If you are ever interested in discussing conversion, do not hesitate to reach out to Rabbi Goldsmith.



Union Prayer Book Service: A Tribute to Our Reform Heritage Friday, February 10, 7:30pm

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

A schedule of January and February Shabbat services for can be found on pg. 20.

STEP-UP & GIVE BACK

2022-23 Social Action Drives

It is more important than ever that we continue acts of *tikkun olam* (repairing our world) in our community.

To learn more about how you can get involved, contact Social Action Committee Chair, Hedy Cardozo, at hedo@aol.com.

September Feeding Westchester Food Drive - done!

October Children's Hope Chest Coat Drive - done!

November WJCS Gift Drive - done!

& December

January 914Cares Diaper Drive

February Cottage School New Art Supply Drive

March Local Food Pantry Pasta Drive

April Midnight Run Supply Drive

May 914Cares Pajama & Book Drive

June Midnight Run Gently Used Backpack Drive

914Cares Diaper Drive for Sizes 3, 4 & 5 Tuesday, January 3 - Tuesday, January 31



914Cares Diaper Bank provides a week's worth of diapers to "fill the gap" each month for families that are struggling with diaper need. Babies without

enough diapers often suffer from physical ailments such as severe diaper rash which can lead to high levels of mental stress for both parents and children. Please consider a donation!

Diapers can be dropped off in the temple lobby during normal business hours.



Cottage School New Art Supply Drive Wednesday, February 1 - Tuesday, February 28

We are collecting new art supplies for the children and teens at the Pleasantville Cottage School. New art supplies will be brought to the school in February and May when CEW teens spend the morning with kids living on campus. Art supplies needed: marker sets, colored pencils, crayons, craft glue, drawing paper, and tracing paper (or similar items—just no glitter!).

New art supplies can be dropped off in the temple lobby during normal business hours.



Bake Lasagna at Emanu-El for Lasagna Love Tuesdays, January 10 & February 14, 9:15am

In partnership with Lasagna Love, a platform that connects neighbors with home-cooked meal delivery, congregants are invited to a lasagna-making session which will benefit local non-profit partners.

Cost: \$10 donation that goes directly to the purchase of ingredients. RSVP to Abbie at alevitt@c-e-w.org.

UJA Young Families Committee: Breakfast Bag Assembly for HOPE Community at Emanu-El Sunday, January 22, 12:15pm

This program for families with young children teaches kids about the very real issue of food insecurity in our community and creates a hands-on way for them to get involved. Cost: \$30/family to cover supplies and a pizza lunch.



RSVP and payment required via Venmo @Etan-Shalem. Please list the number of children and adults participating in the notes. For more information, contact Lauren Shalem at lauren.beitman@gmail.com.

Social Justice Committee Update RAC-NY Climate Covenant Assembly Webinar Wednesday, January 11, 7:00pm

Following RAC-NY's work with our climate change partners on the successful passage of the Environmental Bond Act that will help ensure clean water, clean air, and green jobs in New York for years to come, RAC-NY is planning to continue advocacy work for the next New York State Legislative session. RAC-NY will hold a webinar to consider proposals for next year's work and vote on which direction we should pursue. This is an opportunity to be on the ground floor of deciding on our advocacy work for the upcoming legislative session.

Registration required at tinyurl.com/CEWRACNY.

To learn more about the Social Justice Committee, our work with RAC-NY, and our partnership with Westchester Jewish Coalition for Immigration (WJCI) in their support of refugees being settled in and around Westchester, please contact Social Justice co-chairs, Marcie Aiuvalasit at marciena33@gmail.com or Hedy Cardozo at hedo@aol.com.

Civil Rights Journey

In preparation for our January Etgar 36 Civil Rights trip with students and families (see pg. 13), I have been reflecting on the themes of truth, justice, and peace, both as Jewish values and in the context of the Civil Rights movement. I have spent a lot of time considering my white privilege and my role as a minority "American Jew".



Over Thanksgiving I chatted with my mother about growing up in segregated Baltimore. She described going to an all white high school that was 90% Jewish while her black neighbors, with whom she was friendly, went to a school for blacks only. I found it so strange that we never discussed this before. My mother went on to share that she was proud that Baltimore was one of the first cities that desegregated its schools in 1956 following the United States Supreme Court ruling in the case of Brown v. Board of Education. She remembers the events that followed desegregation in Baltimore and knows that they were significant to the Civil Rights movement across America.

"For We Were Once Strangers in a Strange Land"



My mother's parents, my grandparents, were immigrants from Eastern Europe who moved to Baltimore in the 1920's. They had faced antisemitism and

persecution, and saw the opportunity for a better life in America. They became patriotic Americans and my religiously observant grandfather supported his family as a plumber. I remember visits to their row house on Collins Avenue and playing with all the neighborhood children during each visit, many of whom were black. I didn't see white or black. I just saw friendly children and I had a lot of fun playing. I was too young and naive to understand the reality of their lives and the hardships that they and their families faced daily as blacks in America.

Before the pandemic, I visited Charleston, South Carolina for a week and learned about slavery and the crimes committed against the Black community. I visited the Black Slave Market where slaves were bought and sold. I was devastated. I visited plantations and learned what everyday life was like for slaves. I saw where they lived and where their

owners lived. I learned about the abuse they endured and how they were treated as property rather than as human beings.

I am so excited that we have joined with Etgar 36 for our family Civil Rights journey taking place this coming January. Etgar 36 is an independent, pluralistic, nonpartisan, and nonprofit Jewish educational group. Our trip will take us to the places where the Civil Rights movement was born and grew. We will study the history, visit the sites and meet with first-hand participants. This journey will bring us face-to-face with some of the issues of the Civil Rights Movement, then and now, as well as Jewish involvement in the Movement. But as important, this journey will empower us. It is in our ability to make a difference in the world around us and champion causes that are meaningful to us.

Our trip will take us to the places where the Civil Rights movement was born and grew. We will study the history, visit the sites and meet with first-hand participants.

I have no doubt that I will return from the journey aware of my obligation, as a Jew and as a human, to be an ally of those who aren't heard and to support civil equality for all Americans and all people. And I know that all of the participants will work to find the tools to be able to share our experiences and new understanding with others in the CEW community.

Rabbi Gamliel said: "On three things does the world stand: On justice, on truth, and on peace. Execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates."
(Pirkei Avot 1:18)

May our guiding values be justice, truth, and peace.

May we work for justice.

May we tell the truth.

May the world know a peace based on justice and truth for all.

Shalom,

A handwritten signature of Jane Dubro in cursive script.

Jane Dubro, Director of Programming & Engagement

ADULT LEARNING & PROGRAMS

Unless otherwise noted, the link for programs is tinyurl.com/cewconnect

Many of our programs continue to be multi-access. The icons below let you know how you can take part in services and programs:



In-person



Livestream/Zoom



Multi-access



God During Times of Crisis - Zoom Series

(in conjunction with CSR, JCCH & KTI)

Thursdays, January 5, January 26, February 16, March 2, March 16 & March 30, 7:30pm

Where is God when the world seems to fall apart before our eyes? In this course, we will consider the relationship between faith and what transpires in the world. When, why, and to what degree does God intervene in world affairs? What is the relationship between human initiative and Divine involvement in the world? Where is God in moments of tragedy? What characterizes the relationship with God – submission, dialogue, argumentation, doubt – and how does the relationship change over time?

To learn more and RSVP, go to tinyurl.com/RSVPcrisis.

Session topics and instructors:

January 5 (Rabbi Goldsmith)

Divine Intervention - Biblical Perspectives

January 26 (Rabbi Goldberg/KTI)

Divine Intervention - Rabbinic Approaches

February 16 (Rabbi Goldsmith)

Divine Intervention and Human Initiative

March 2 (Rabbi Gropper/CSR)

Faith and Tragedy

March 16 (Rabbi Gropper/CSR)

Debate and Submission

March 30 (Rabbi Goldberg/KTI)

Intimacy, Distance and Doubt

Next Step


Sundays, January 8 & February 12, 11:00am 

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

Next Step is facilitated by retired Paul Spindel.

For more information, contact Paul at 914-632-1264.



Mah Jongg & Canasta

Mondays, January 9, 23 & 30, February 13 & 27 2:00pm 

Mah Jongg and Canasta are back! All levels of players are welcome; friends are invited too! RSVP to Jane at jdubro@c-e-w.org.



Single Malt Torah

Thursday, January 19, 8:00pm  

Men of the congregation join together for fine scotch and Torah learning with Rabbi Goldsmith.



Book Club: *Shanda - A Memoir of Shame and Secrecy*

Thursday, January 19, 11:00am 

Together we will discuss *Shanda: A Memoir of Shame and Secrecy* by Letty Cottin Pogrebin.

The book is an intimate memoir from a founding editor of *Ms. magazine* who grew up in a Jewish immigrant family mired in secrets, haunted by their dread of shame and stigma, determined to hide their every imperfection – and in denial or despair when they couldn't.

RSVP to Marcie at marciena33@gmail.com.



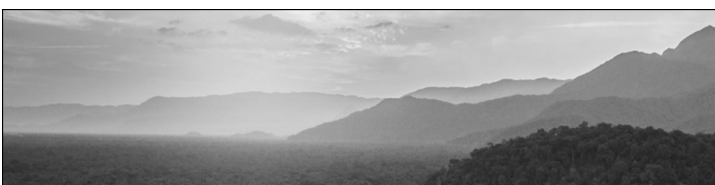
**27th Annual Women's Study Group
Shabbat Retreat at The Interlaken Inn
Friday, January 20 - Saturday, January 21** 🧑🏻🗓️

"The quintessential Shabbat experience," "magical," "my favorite Shabbat of the year" are what's been said about our Women's Study Group retreats. Now, the retreat is back, live!

Join the women of Congregation Emanu-El for a wonderful overnight getaway at the Interlaken Inn in Lakeville, CT. This year, award winning poet and beloved teacher, Rabbi Pam Wax, will lead us in *The Eyes of the Poet: a Jewish Lens*. Connect, reflect, renew, restore!

Cost (includes 3 meals): \$330 (double room) and \$380 (single room). RSVP required by Thursday, January 5 at <https://tinyurl.com/WSG23>.

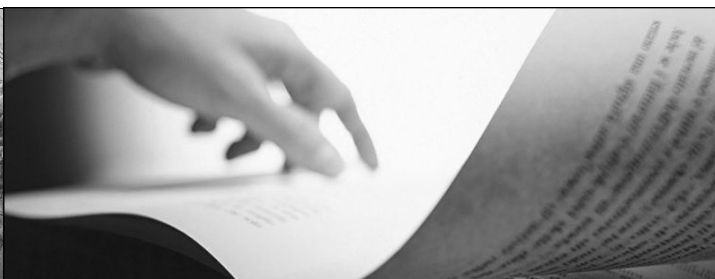
For more information contact Cantor Stone at mstone@c-e-w.org or Abbie at alevitt@c-e-w.org.



**Community Read - *All We Can Save: Truth, Courage and Solutions for the Climate Crisis*
Mondays, January 23, 30 & February 13
12:00pm** 🗓️

This extraordinary book, edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson, takes an unabashedly feminist, anti-patriarchal approach to the climate crisis that focuses on leadership and action based in compassion, connection, creativity, and collaboration. With dozens of essays by women from around the world, this volume offers new ways to look at climate change and how to address it. The old ways of thinking have gotten us to this precipice. Only new ways of thinking can chart a path forward.

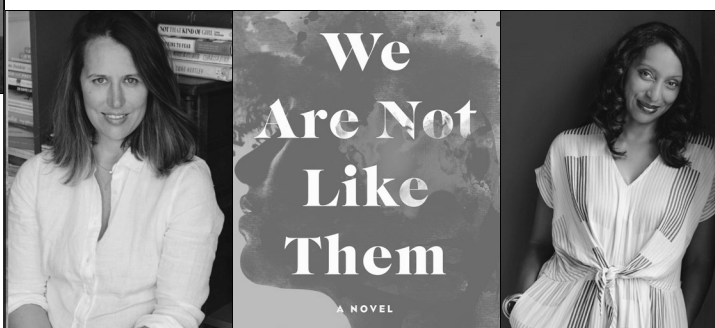
RSVP to Dan at doconnor@c-e-w.org.



**Beit Midrash
Sunday, January 8, 9:30am** 🧑🏻🗓️
Saturdays, January 28 & February 11, 9:00am
We continue our exploration of Jews whose legacies have shaped our religion and our people to this day. From Rashi to Ruth Bader Ginsberg and Moses to Moshe Dayan - we'll look at the writings and actions of those who helped create the Jewish people and Judaism. Come to every session or just drop in. All are welcome!

**Reflections Workshop with Cantor Stone
Monday, February 6, 12:00pm Lunch,
12:30pm Workshop** 🧑🏻🗓️

In this workshop, we will find out how our daily life experiences can illuminate and give deeper meaning to our prayers. Through writing on various topics, learning about the themes of prayers, and sharing as a group, we will see prayer in a new light and strengthen connections to one another and our tradition. RSVP to Cantor Stone at mstone@c-e-w.org.



**Book Club: *We Are Not Like Them*
Thursday, February 16, 11:00am** 🗓️

Together we will discuss *We Are Not Like Them* by Christine Pride and Jo Piazza. Jen and Riley have been best friends since kindergarten and remain close as adults. But the deep bond they share is severely tested when Jen's husband, a city police officer, is involved in the shooting of an unarmed Black teenager.

RSVP to Marcie at marciena33@gmail.com.

JACKIE KURLAND'S MESSAGE

Lightning Doesn't Strike Twice

This past May, my house was struck by lightning. My daughters were both sleeping but fortunately the strike was in the living room and not over our bedrooms. The smoke came quickly and we were out of the house within minutes. Eleven fire trucks lined our street and I rushed the girls to a friend's house nearby where we moved in for two weeks. My husband stayed behind to watch and manage the house. It wasn't until I had put both girls back to sleep that it hit me what had really happened and I allowed myself to break down. It was the scariest moment we've ever experienced as a family and I'm beyond thankful that we are all safe.



I could dwell on all of the "what-if" situations, like what if my husband hadn't been home, what if it had been our bedroom instead, or what if I had been in the shower and not heard it happen, but there's really nothing to gain from doing that. All I can do is count my blessings.

When we met with the contractor, we were told it would take about six months to be back in our house. As I write this article, we're already at the six month mark and it's clearly going to take a little longer. We're now hoping for the beginning of February (fingers crossed!). We're extremely lucky that we have been living in a very comfortable rental house that has been flexible with our timing, but that doesn't mitigate the frustration and annoyances that come with the situation.

Throughout this whole time, the thing that upsets me most is just how wasteful this all seems. I have very young children, so we have to be even more cautious than others with what we are able to keep with the soot damage from the fire that ensued. We have been advised to throw out all of our children's books and toys, including those that were sentimental gifts. All of our baby and toddler bottles, cups, plates, and utensils need to be replaced, along with all of the bedding, sofas, and any other upholstered furniture that can hold onto the smoke smell, including window treatments. We had only lived in our house for one year, so the majority of our things were brand new. I know that items can easily be replaced, but without being able to even upgrade our house throughout this process it just feels wasteful.

My one-year-old won't remember any of this (I'm sure she doesn't even remember our house at this

point), but my soon to be four-year-old is slightly traumatized and asks on a regular basis when we'll get to move back into the "boo boo house". We don't want her to be afraid of thunderstorms so we haven't told her how the fire started, but she certainly asks questions and we just skirt around it. I hope she's not afraid when we move back in and that she's young enough to forget this crazy period of time. I used to love thunderstorms especially on those summer afternoons at camp, but there's no question that I will always have a fear of them now!

Eleven fire trucks lined our street and I rushed the girls to a friend's house nearby where we moved in for two weeks. My husband stayed behind to watch and manage the house.

As we come out of this period of literal darkness in December to lighter days, I'm hopeful for new beginnings and starting over in our house again this spring. They say that lightning doesn't strike twice, but we just had one of our trees fall on our neighbor's fence from strong wind, making us think that maybe our house is cursed. Having lived in our house for only a year and having moved in with a one-month-old and a two-year-old, we never got around to putting up a *mezuzah* or anything else to really bless our home. When it is finally time for us to move back in, rest assured that I'll be doing everything possible to keep my home protected as I'm a little more superstitious nowadays. I'll make sure we hang up our *mezuzot*, hamsas, and evil eyes everywhere and we will certainly be putting some sort of lightning rod on the roof, even if it's just for my own peace of mind.

Jackie

Jackie Kurland, Director of Education

HAPPY NEW YEAR! (Wait, which one?)

While it may have been about three months since we all wished each other a *Shanah tovah u'metukah* (a good and sweet year), somehow we're talking about New Year's again—how is that possible?

How many Jewish new years do we celebrate anyway?

If ever you're in the mood for a fun trivia fact, there are actually four New Year celebrations in the Jewish calendar according to our oral tradition (Mishnah Rosh Hashanah 1:1). They are:

1 Nisan: The New Year for Kings and Festivals

Nisan is the first month of the Hebrew calendar—which originally was called *Aviv* (spring!) for when it tends to occur. Nisan not only helps us head the calendar with our redemption from Egypt (this is the month in which we celebrate Passover), but also helps us understand the order of our holiday/festival celebrations. Consider Nisan your government-appointed calendar New Year!

1 Elul: The New Year for Animals

Animal lovers, rejoice—there's a New Year for you! Okay, okay—generally this particular New Year—held one month before Rosh Hashanah—helped us understand how to age the animals who might be tithed (given to the Temple). Still, this was a way to help gauge the age of your favorite furry friends!

1 Tishrei: Rosh Hashanah, The New Year for Years

Hey, wait—we know this one! That holiday that we celebrate every fall was used for the counting of years based on religious ritual—so that we would know when to hold *sh'mitah* (sabbatical) every seven years or *yovel* (jubilee) years every fiftieth year. This is when we will start writing 5784 on our checkbooks and class notes—don't worry, you've still got a lot of time!

15 Shevat: Tu BiShvat, The New Year for Tree

One of these dates is not like the others, one of these dates just...well, okay, there's an argument about this. Beit Shammai—one of the most respected schools in rabbinic tradition—claimed that like all other new years, this particular date should be 1 Shevat. However, Beit Hillel—an equally respected and regularly followed school in rabbinic tradition believed that a full-moon festival was more appropriate and claimed the 15 Shevat for our



upcoming New Year's foliage festival! This particular New Year helps us understand how we age our trees, ensuring that we know when it's appropriate to pick fruits from them (after three years!) or when to tithe them to the Temple. Why is it called "Tu BiShvat?" That "Tu" is created by combining a *tet* (a letter whose numerical equivalent is 9) to a *vav* (whose numerical equivalent is 6: $tet (9) + vav (6) = tu (15)$). If we'd followed Shammai, we'd be calling it *Achat BiShvat*—which just doesn't have that familiar festive ring!

If ever you're in the mood for a fun trivia fact, there are actually four new year's celebrations in the Jewish calendar according to our oral tradition (Mishnah Rosh Hashanah 1:1).

Whether you're celebrating 2023, or any one of the upcoming Jewish New Years (Tu BiShvat is coming at you on February 6th) I hope that you find incredible ways to celebrate and use these traditional New Years in fun ways—there's always an opportunity to reflect, refresh, revitalize, and rejuvenate!



Amanda K. Weiss
Rabbinic Intern

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL & YOUTH

The Bauman-Greene

Pre-K & Kindergarten Program

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

Our pre-k and kindergarten program gives your little ones a taste of Religious School! Each session highlights the unique rituals and celebrations of each Jewish holiday through a variety of artistic explorations. Sessions are followed Young Family Celebrations at the temple – fun for the whole family. Free and open to the community.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Jackie at jkurland@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1015.

All classes meet from 9:30 - 10:45am on Sundays.

2022-23 Schedule

Tu BiShvat	Sunday, February 5, 9:30am
Purim	Sunday, March 5, 9:30am
Passover	Sunday, March 26, 9:30am
Yom Ha'atzmaut	Sunday, April 23, 9:30am



Tu B'Shvat

Sunday, February 5

Tu BiShvat is the holiday where we celebrate trees and the environment!

Join us for pre-k/k and the Young Families celebration for a fun filled day of crafts, stories, music, and planting for good!

Young Family Programs

We are committed to helping young families begin their Jewish journeys! Bring your little ones (children, nieces, nephews, grandchildren) to Emanu-El to discover the joy of Jewish life through holiday celebrations.

Our Young Families events are overflowing with food, song, movement, crafts, stories, community, and fun!

All Young Families Committee events are free and open to the community and are appropriate for ages 6 months through 2nd grade. For more information and to RSVP, contact Jackie at jkurland@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1015.

2022-23 Schedule

Tu BiShvat	Sunday, February 5, 10:45am
Purim	Sunday, March 5, 10:45am
Yom Ha'atzmaut	Sunday, April 23, 10:45am

5th Annual REFUGEE SHABBAT a project of HIAS

Family Learning Shabbat & Dinner

Friday, February 3

6:00pm Family Dinner, 7:00pm Service

This year's winter Family Learning Shabbat coincides with the 5th Annual Refugee Shabbat. Our learning session will include a social action project to help refugees in our community. Then we will join with congregations, organizations, and individuals in the United States and around the world to dedicate a Shabbat experience to refugees and asylum seekers.

In age-appropriate ways, we will learn about the Jewish refugee experience and how we can answer the Torah's call to "welcome the stranger".

All Religious School families are expected to attend.

Family Civil Rights Journey Trip Orientation Sunday, January 8, 11:15am

In the footsteps of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, we will answer this call together.

On this powerful tour of the south, we will learn about the struggles of African Americans to gain equality in the 1950s & 60s. Montgomery, The Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, and the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church are just some of the sites that will help bring this vital part of American History to life – and motivate us to continue the important work of racial justice. Indeed, we will learn about the important role that Jews played in the Civil Rights Movement and consider how we can be effective allies and advocates today.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Our community offers condolences to
Noah Katz on the death of his brother Daniel Katz
Randie Paterno on the death of her mother Evelyn Ullman**

Yahrzeit Remembrances for the Memorial Fund

In memory of:

Martha Astrove
Clara Bernstein
Michael Braude
Alfred Burin
Judith S. Cohen
Diane Colish
Richard Alan Cotton
Donald Lee Duncan
Alan Epstein
Rabbi Harry W. Ettelson
Lorraine Flocks
Stanley & Eileen Goodman
Edwin "Ed" Greenhaus
Leonard Heinberg
Jayne & Robert Hersh
William Hersh
Richard Jacobs
Sally Josephberg
Hillary Katz
Margaret Kempner
Irene Kirshen
Frederick A. Klingenstein
Joseph Klingenstein
Joseph Lefft
Janice Dietz Madoff
Jack Mann
Madelyn Wattenberg Marshak
Gazella S. Masinter
Mayr Mayrsohn
Yetta Goodman Meyers
Murray Perlman
Lila Resnick
Judith Schneider
Rosalind Schulweis
Irving Schulweis

Remembered by:

Nancy Gladstone
Marty & Pat Bernstein
Danny, Amy, Julia & Alyssa Braude
Peter & Hilda Spitz
Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder
Bill Colish
John & Patty Bottomley
JoAnn Terdiman
Yvonne Tropp-Epstein, Liz Kadin & Peggy Tanner
Sandra Ettelson
Edgar & Margery Masinter
Rick & MJ Wolff
Martin & Pamela Winter
Jack & Melissa Heinberg
Myra Hersh & Family
Myra Hersh & Family
Pat Jacobs
Rich & Arline Josephberg
Deborah, Noah, Rae & Becca Katz
Doris Kempner
Nina Fixler & Mark Rosenstein
Lucy Klingenstein & Brandon Sall
The John Klingenstein Family
Roger & Fran Lefft
Harriet Madoff Parker
J. Robert & Barbara Mann
Bill & Fran Klingenstein
Edgar & Margery Masinter
Janet Mayrsohn
Robin Neimark Seegal
Lisa Perlman & David Kaufman
Gene & Susan Resnick
Jan & Ellen Linhart
Harvey Schulweis
Harvey Schulweis

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Yahrzeit Remembrances for the Memorial Fund (cont.)

In memory of:

Julia Seligson
Harriet Shenk
Joseph Slotnik
Louis Steiner
Beatrice Rothschild Stotter & Herbert J. Stotter
James Stuart
Milton M. Stuart
Leon Tepper
Howard Wohl
Marcia Wolff
Ronald Zuckerman

Remembered by:

Nancy Gladstone
Andy & Marcia Patel
Stacey Cole
The Steiner Family
Sandra Ettelson
Alan & Jackie Stuart
Alan & Jackie Stuart
Elyse Nathanson
Michael & Jennifer Zinn
Rick & MJ Wolff
Terry Zuckerman Feldman & Family

General Contributions

J. Robert & Barbara Mann
Peter Schweitzer & Anne McBride
Dyan & David Taerstein

Prayer Book Dedication

Linda Lese in memory of John H. Lese

High Holy Day Appeal for the Annual Fund

Mark Biderman
Richard & Peggy Danziger
Steven Wissak

Religious School Donations

Roger & Vivian Farah in support of
the Farah Family Hineini Program

Social Action Fund

Anonymous
Stacy & Timothy Bittel
Sean & Arielle Diskin
Richard & Lucille Goldsmith
Mark & Carla Lobel
Michael N. Rosenblut & Hedy R. Cardozo
Robert & Lynne Schwartz
Sam & Jill Sheppard
Bonnie Shyer
Erica & Gregory Wagner
Rick & MJ Wolff in honor of
Hedy Cardozo's birthday
Rick & MJ Wolff

Jared Dubro Legacy Fund

Sam & Jill Sheppard

Memorial Fund

Kathryn Adamiak in memory of Barrie Damson
Marti & Mitchell Cohen in memory of James Jond
Annabelle Gries in memory of Barrie Damson
Deborah Meringolo in memory of Barrie Damson
Linda & Steve Selig and Cathy & Steve Kuranoff
in memory of Barrie Damson

Mortgage Fund

David & Nora Tulchin

Velasquez Family Fund

Bob & Randi Robinowitz

Music Fund

Martin & Pamela Winter in honor of Cantor Stone

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Year End Appeal for the Annual Fund

Boris Belilovsky in memory of Yelena Belilovsky
Greg & Janelle Berger
Adam & Marj Blinderman
John Carton & Wendy Rowden
Larry & Debra Cohen
Michael & Arleen Cohen
Richard & Emily Cohen
Richard & Peggy Danziger
Terry & Herb Feldman
Nina Fixler & Mark Rosenstein
Darren & Jeanne Fogel in honor of Michael N. Rosenblut
Robert & Phyllis Gelfman
Richard & Susan Hecht
Pat Jacobs
David Lobel
Brian & Jaime Morris
Elyse Nathanson
Stefanie Offit in memory of Daniel Wolf Offit
Jon & Donna Ostrau in honor of the baby naming of Leah Meren Goff
Josh Perlman & Yan Yunqing
Ken & Amy Pollinger
Jonathan & Joelle Resnick in memory of
Burton Resnick, Anthony Santaniello & Elise James
Bob & Randi Robinowitz
Kim & Rich Rosenbaum
Harvey Schulweis & Barbara Benerofe
in appreciation of Rabbi Goldsmith
Steven Shapiro & Susan Amkraut
in appreciation of Rabbi Goldsmith
Sam & Jill Sheppard in honor of the Rabbi, Cantor & Staff
Peter & Hilda Spitz
Alan & Jackie Stuart
John & Amy Tanenbaum in appreciation of
Rabbi Goldsmith
David & Nora Tulchin
Nancy Ullman
Maj Wickstrom
Martin & Pamela Winter

Rabbi Goldsmith's Discretionary Fund

Rich & Arline Josephberg
in memory of Evelyn Ullman
Matthew & Jill Kunkes with gratitude
for Robert's baby naming
Ilyssa Meren & Brian Goff
in memory of Lauren Meren
Maxwell Meren in appreciation of
the baby naming for Leah Meren Goff
Charles & Rochelle Nathanson
in honor of The Nathanson Family
Lester & Gloria Parower
in memory of Janice Sasine
Sam & Jill Sheppard
Gil & Kathy Stiefel
Daniel & Lindsay Tulchin in appreciation of
the baby namings for Evie & Cecilia
Martin & Pamela Winter
Rick & MJ Wolff in memory of Bill Birnbaum
Michael & Lynne Wolitzer in honor of
Natalie Modica becoming Bat Mitzvah

**Donations processed after December 15
will be acknowledged in the next bulletin.**

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>No Religious School Programs</p> <p><i>New Year's Day</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p>No Academy & Confirmation</p> <p><i>Office Closed for New Year's Day</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:30pm Shabbat Service</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00pm Stand-Up Comedy Show</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 - 11:45am Religious School Hineini @ CEW</p> <p>9:30am Beit Midrash</p> <p>11:00am Next Step</p>	<p>9</p> <p>2:00pm Mah Jongg & Canasta</p> <p>7:15pm Academy</p> <p>7:15pm Confirmation</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p> <p>7:30pm Board Meeting</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>7:00pm Film: <i>Shared Legacies</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:30pm Social Justice Shabbat</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>No Religious School Programs</p>	<p>16</p> <p>No Academy & Confirmation</p> <p><i>Office Closed for MLK Jr. Day</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>11:00am Book Club</p> <p>8:00pm Single Malt Torah</p> <p>Civil Rights Trip</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:00pm WSG Retreat</p> <p>6:00pm Pre-neg</p> <p>6:30pm Early Shabbat Service</p> <p>Civil Rights Trip</p>	<p>21</p> <p>WSG Retreat (until 4:30pm)</p> <p>Civil Rights Trip</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 - 11:45am Religious School</p> <p>12:15pm UJA Young Families Project</p> <p>No Hineini</p> <p>Civil Rights Trip</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12:00pm Community Read</p> <p>2:00pm Mah Jongg & Canasta</p> <p>7:00pm Hineini</p> <p>7:15pm Academy</p> <p>7:15pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>7:00pm Annual Cantor Earl Rogers Tribute</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:30pm Shabbat Service</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00am Beit Midrash</p> <p>11:00am Brook Levine Bat Mitzvah</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 - 11:45am Religious School</p> <p>10:00am Hineini @ Afya</p> <p>12:00pm Madrichim Training</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12:00pm Community Read</p> <p>2:00pm Mah Jongg & Canasta</p> <p>7:15pm Academy</p> <p>7:15pm Confirmation</p>	<p>31</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p>				

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 7:00pm Film: <i>Mary & Max</i>	3 6:00pm Family Shabbat Dinner 7:00pm Family Learning Shabbat	4 11:00am Dylan Gold & Chase Kraut B'nei Mitzvah
5 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School & Hineini @ CEW 9:30 - 10:45am Pre-K/K Tu BiShvat 10:45 - 11:45am Young Families Tu BiShvat Celebration	6 12:00pm Reflections Workshop 2:00pm Mah Jongg & Canasta 7:15pm Academy 7:15pm Confirmation	7 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp	8	9 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 6:30pm Committees in Community	10 7:30pm Union Prayer Book Service	11 9:00am Beit Midrash 11:00am Emma Balik-Klein Bat Mitzvah
12 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School 10:30am Hineini @ Cottage School 11:00am Next Step	13 12:00pm Community Read 7:15pm Academy 7:15pm Confirmation	14 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp	15	16 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom	17 6:00pm Early Zoom Shabbat Service	18
19 No Religious School Programs	20 No Academy & Confirmation <i>Office Closed for Presidents' Day</i>	21 No Hebrew Tutoring or B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp	22	23	24 6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat Service	25
26 No Religious School Programs	27 2:00pm Mah Jongg & Canasta 7:15pm Academy 7:15pm Confirmation	28 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp				

Hineini Trip to the Lower East Side

Hineini strolled through more than 150 years of Jewish history on our trip to the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. We enjoyed Jewish delicacies at Katz's and Economy Candy.



Chanukah Shabbat & Celebration

Chanukah songs and menorah lighting, *sufganiyot* and dreidel games - this year's Chanukah service and celebration were so much fun!



Name
Street Address
City, State Zip Code

January & February Shabbat Services

January 6 (in-person & livestream)

7:30pm Shabbat Service

January 13 (in-person & livestream)

7:30pm Social Justice Shabbat Service

January 20 (in-person & livestream)

6:00pm Pre-neg

6:30pm Early Shabbat Service

January 27 (in-person & livestream)

7:30pm Shabbat Service

February 3 (in-person & livestream)

6:00pm Family Shabbat Dinner

7:00pm Family Learning Shabbat Service

February 10 (in-person & livestream)

7:30pm Union Prayer Book Service

February 17 (Zoom)

6:00pm Early Zoom Shabbat Service

February 24 (Zoom)

6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat Service



Film: *Mary and Max* (in honor of Jewish Disabilities Month) Thursday, February 2, 7:00pm

Mary and Max is a stop-motion adult comedy and drama film. The voice cast includes the late Philip Seymour Hoffman, Toni Collette, Eric Bana, and Bethany Whitmore. The film follows the lives and friendship of two unlikely pen-pals; Mary, a lonely Australian girl, and Max, a morbidly obese American man with Asperger's syndrome. The film is inspired by the director's twenty year relationship with his pen-pal in New York.

Save the Date! Current & Former Board Member Dinner Friday, March 3, 6:00pm

Each year current and former board members join together to reconnect, get updates, and celebrate the congregation.

Purim Shabbat & Celebration Friday, March 3, 7:30pm Service

No matter the theme, you can rest assured that Purim will be a raucous, joyous, ridiculous celebration of our laughter-filled holiday. Mark the date in your calendar so we can celebrate together!



Prayers Projected



Band



Family Friendly