

TEMPLE TOPICS

It's Cold out there but WARMER with your TEMPLE ISRAEL FAMILY

Vol. XCIV No 1
January/February 2022
Tevet / Shvat / Adar 5782



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The deadline for the
March/April Temple Topics
will be **Sunday, February
13th.**

Vol. XCIV No 1 - Double Issue

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Sympathy

Our Temple Israel of New Rochelle family offers our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the following people, who passed away during the past two months:

- Ruth Kates, mother of Matthew Kates
- Gail Streisand, cousin of June Streisand
- Chayim Gabriel Benson, friend of the Hartzman family
- Marilyn Escott, mother of Lara Proudian
- Dr. Herb S. Bell, brother of Cantor Susan Alcott

*"May their names be bound up in the bonds of the Eternal,
and may they rest in peace."*

New Members

We welcome the following to our Temple Israel family!

- Leonid & Amy Grinberg, with their children, Ellie, Joseph, and Jake
- Robin Rudolph
- Irina & Matt Furman, with their children, Elijah and Benjamin

Mazal Tov

- Special Birthday greetings for Howard Horowitz, Barbara Nissim, and Martin Schudroff
- Lee Fadem was honored on Channel 7 News in November for Veteran's Day, as the "oldest veteran in New Rochelle!"
- Connie and Gerry Sanders, on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Lillian Joan Sanders
- Judy Siegel, on being recognized by Soul Ryeders for her work as their attorney at Pro Bono Partnership

Send all your good news to OriettaSchneider@tinr.org



WELCOME!

Please welcome **Marie Masseo**, the new Kehillah School Assistant Director, to Temple Israel.

You can reach her by email: **MarieMasseo@tinr.org**, or call her at the Kehillah general number: (914) 637-3808.

You can see Marie's bio on kehillahschool.org. Welcome, Marie!

Make a Membership Pledge for 2021-2022

Join your fellow congregants in supporting Temple Israel as best you can in the coming year.

Visit www.tinr.org/donate to see the options to help guide you in your pledge as you reflect upon what Temple Israel means to you, and to our wider community.

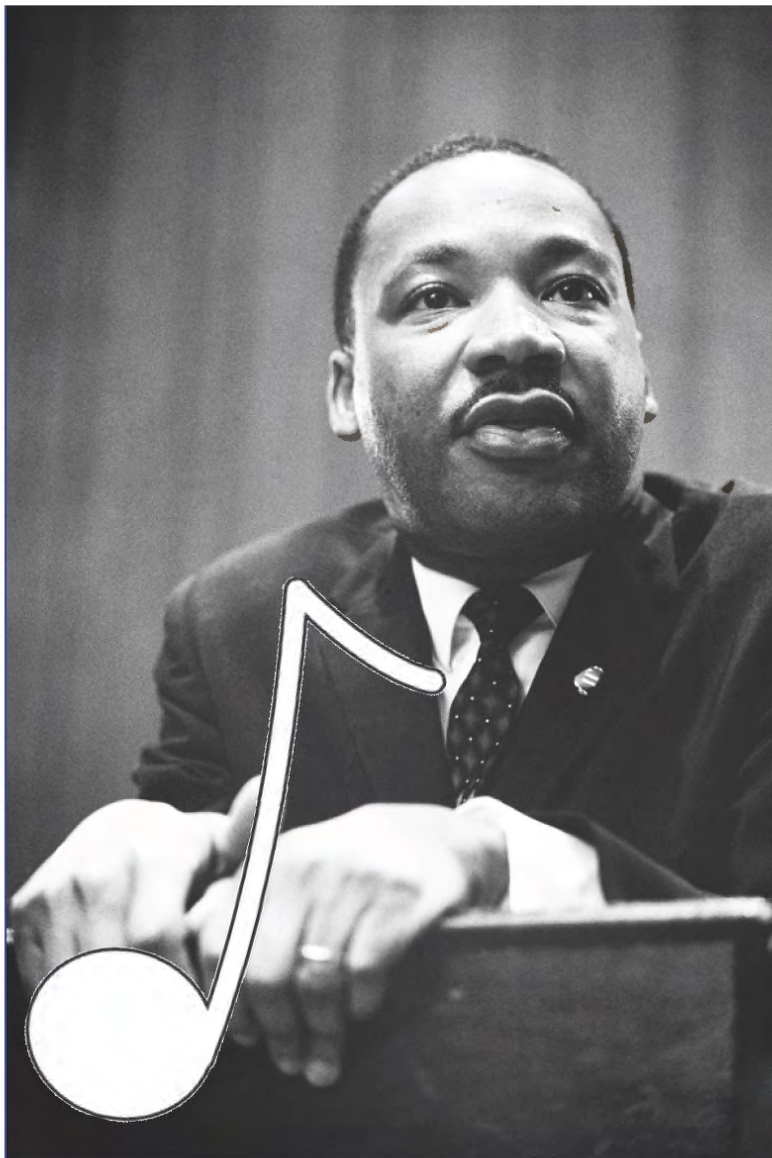
Thank you for your consideration and support!

Snowbirds

Are you leaving for the Winter? Give us a call to let us know so "Temple Topics" can find you! We don't want you to miss anything from Temple Israel.

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Special Shabbat **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** Commemoration and Shabbat Shirah

Friday, January 14, 2022
6:30 pm

Join us at Temple Israel, and on LiveStream, while we commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as join in song together for Shabbat Shirah!

More details to follow.

See more **EVENTS** on p. 16.

From the President

Making the Lives of Those Better



A new [secular] year is upon us. With it comes hopes for a better year, resolutions, and celebrations. Whether you're one to party all night, have a quiet evening at home, or, perhaps, something in-between is a personal choice. Since Thanksgiving, despite more people being vaccinated, we've seen a steady rise in COVID cases again. The death rate

remains low, but is rising. Yet, our activities influence the potential spread or arresting of this virus.

So, how does this affect our Temple? Regularly, our COVID Task Force reviews the current situation. Our leadership makes sure we are in compliance with all mandates and regulations as they apply to Kehillah, Chavaya, and, in general, our Temple. They make recommendations to our Board of Trustees to set rules to try to keep us safe, and yet, be able to have a community experience that so many of us crave. We recognize that many of us dislike masks, yet we have a responsibility to keep our family, friends, and strangers safe.

As professionals and politicians guide us, we appreciate the cooperation of others around us. Personally, I thank each and every one of you who makes the effort to make the situation that much better. We hope, plan, and pray that science and our common sense find a way to eliminate this pandemic so that, once again, we can all be happily back together.

Yes, we grow tired of dealing with this, and, yes, we get tired of hearing about it. Together we can help return fully to the in-person way things were a couple of years ago.

As we begin our new year, let us celebrate life and living. Let us bring hope, love, and joy to those who surround us. Let us strive for peace in this world of ours, and, let us, together, make the lives of everyone better.

Happy New Year!

Brian Heaps
Temple President



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Rabbi Jay provided words of inspiration comparing the Chanukah story to the rededication of our own spiritual home. The rabbi shared the exciting past weeks, getting involved with Kehillah and Chavaya.

The rabbi also shared the pleasure of David Gill's presence from the German Consulate and the Brotherhood celebration: Bible & Bourbon.

Adam Egelberg, Temple Treasurer explained that maintenance expenses are a little ahead of budget. He also shared that the PPP loan was forgiven, increasing our revenue. Kehillah received an anonymous donation, which is also helping us to be ahead of budget.

Cantor Schloss shared a discussion about this week's Torah portion.

Community Shabbat was a great success—a perfect example of connecting God and people. The Veterans Day event with David Gill, successful sisterhood event, successful discussion with b'nei mitzvah families about gender identity and other challenging topics are all examples of Temple Israel's connection with God and people. Our greatest connection to God is person-to-person. The cantor expressed that he is looking forward to doing what we do and connecting community.

The Board voted to accept new members. The Social Action Committee and Temple Israel Cares reported that \$700 was collected in the *tzedakah* box. HOPE Community Services, Columbus School Food Drive (also with help from Brotherhood), and Community Service Associates (Mt. Vernon Foodbank) will be receiving assistance with these funds.

Committee Reports

Amy Ecker, from the Social Action Committee, reported that the Interfaith Council of Westchester is welcoming another immigrant family. They will be moving in on December 15th. If anyone wants to get involved more let Amy know at amybrose@gmail.com. They are still fundraising to assist the family. The Giving Tree is up (*having since ended on Friday, December 10th*).

Ilissa Warhit (co-chair) of The Advocacy Committee, works on social, economic, peace, food, climate change, race, and justice issues in our community. This committee is for people who want to be proactive beyond social action. The advocacy

continued on p. 7

Rabbi's Note

"...from every mountainside, let Freedom ring."



Dear Members of my Temple Israel Family:

On Friday evening, January 14th, Temple Israel of New Rochelle has once again been given the honor of hosting the annual Service of Celebration and Remembrance of the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This evening will feature faith communities coming

together to heal the spiritual pandemic of our day, erasing the hate – confronting hostility with love, and prejudice with understanding. On that evening, in the spirit of sisterhood and brotherhood we shall give voice to our prophet of hope, fifty-nine years after his iconic “I Have A Dream” address at the March on Washington.

In the words of Dr. King z'l, "...it would be fatal for our nation as a whole, and for us as individuals, to overlook the urgency of the moment. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America..." until we obliterate systemic racism; and confront with unity of purpose the oldest hatreds that have emerged from the very beginnings of our human journey. To this day, both racism and anti-Semitism remain inexplicable and rampant. Let us remember that while prejudice against the Jews may be the oldest of all hatreds, sadly, it never actually ends with the Jews.

And just as we stood in step with Dr. King, in the struggle for civil rights for African-Americans, so too did Dr. King stand with us. This is what he said with regard to the oppression of the Jewish people by the Soviet Union: "While Jews in Russia may not be physically murdered as they were in Nazi Germany, they are facing every day a kind of spiritual and cultural genocide." He went on to say, "The denial of human rights anywhere is a threat to the affirmation of human rights everywhere."

In his support for Israel, Dr. King stated, "Peace for Israel means security, and we must stand with all our might to protect its right to exist, its territorial democracy. I see Israel as one of the great outposts of democracy in the world, and a marvelous example of what can be done, how desert land can be transformed into an oasis of brotherhood and democracy."

As Dr. King so poignantly demonstrated, through his words and deeds: we are all in this together, for what happens to one person of faith anywhere affects all people of faith everywhere. With hope in the future, as people of faith, of every nation and every background, we must come together to say "Never Again!" until there is love and opportunity and justice for all.

In the spirit of Dr. King and his prophetic vision and message – ever more relevant in this New Year – please join with us to raise your voice in the name of Dr. King's dream, and in his memory, ensure that "every valley shall be exalted, the rough

places will be made plain, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed...from every mountainside, let Freedom ring."

I invite you to join with me, your Temple Israel family and members of our Interfaith community, to pray with and for one another at our MLK service, and together, daring to hope and through our good works, we shall overcome.

May God bless you and keep you.

Rabbi Jay Rosenbaum



Cantor's Note

"Where We Want To Be"



I love music!

That is more than just an obvious statement. It's actually the name of a beautiful song by the jazz pianist, Ahmad Jamal. And the song itself is not just a great song, but it exemplifies what is so wonderful, powerful and remarkable about music in general. The song's

main melody is quite simple, with an "A" section and a "B" section. Jamal plays these two parts over and over throughout the song. But what is so moving is how he plays the melody. Each repetition is different—a different feel, a different key, different harmony. The essence is the same, but with each repetition, Jamal interprets the melody uniquely, creating new meaning.

I was not fortunate enough to ever see Ahmad Jamal live. I only know this song from his equally great album, *The Awakening*. So I never really experienced this song I love completely—a recording is really just a historical example of what the music does so well.

Music must be created and recreated in real time. Bach, Mozart, Lewandowski, no matter how great the composer—their art doesn't really exist until people play it. The composers essentially write detailed instructions for creating the music. The art itself comes to life and then dies again with each performance. Imagine if Da Vinci had not painted the Mona Lisa, but had only given the instructions for how to paint it. And then after each artist created it, it would disappear, waiting to be painted again. That is the art of music. No one would ever know that the art had come to life unless they were there to witness it, to be present for the artistic creation.

Jewish prayer is not only often set to music, it also shares many qualities with music. Our siddur may be known as a prayer book, but it doesn't really contain blessings and prayers as we may believe. The siddur gives us the words, the instructions for prayer. The words do not become prayer until we say them, or better still, we sing them. And how wonderful that our tradition requires a minyan, a whole community, for many of these prayers to come to life. Each participant may play a different part, cantor and congregation, instrumentalist and singer, but together we create meaning, a real-time, living community experience.

In the next few months, we have several special musical, community opportunities. Our Temple Israel Sisterhood, Music Committee, and Brotherhood, had hoped to present Sam Sadigursky's *The Solomon Diaries*, a fresh and yet poignant approach to music inspired by the dramatic rise and fall of the Borscht Belt, the Jewish resort community of the Catskills that helped to shape 20th century American culture.

Accompanied by photographs by Marisa Scheinfeld, the music intimately fuses sounds of Jewish spiritual and Klezmer music along with classical influences, middle-eastern rhythms, jazz improvisation, and tinges of Americana. While the concert will now be rescheduled to a date later in the spring, this unique musical landscape, interpreted by these gifted musicians, gives us much to look forward to.

On January 14, we join with the Inter-Religious Coalition to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This special Shabbat service also coincides with Shabbat Shirah, the Shabbat of song. Together we will create a celebration and remembrance through music.

And on March 5th, we will present the Fifth Annual Music Benefit: "Where we want to be." We are asking you to make short videos, answering the question, "Where do you want to be this year?" You may interpret the question in any way. Perhaps it will lead you to a location, an adventure, a relationship, or simply a state of mind. Your short answers will help us create a musical evening reflecting the needs and desires of our community.

I look forward to being present with you for every musical moment in the months to come.

Cantor Randall Schloss

5th Annual Benefit for Music
at Temple Israel
Where We Want To Be
Saturday, March 5, 2022 – 7:30 pm



committee will continue its work with:

- HIAS, -Interfaith Council for New Americans (ICNAW),
- Affiliation with Westchester Jewish Coalition for Immigration, -NY RAC, -NY Caring Majority (advocates for home care workers, seniors, and our disabled communities),
- Climate Justice at the local level, and several other local issues including voting, family, school streets, etc. First meeting was December 12th (11:00 am-12:00 pm). They want to bring back the solidarity fair, which was canceled due to COVID. They would like to bring 30 organizations, inviting congregants, and the outside community.

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 15, 2021

The Rabbi stated it has been a time of spiritual growth. Our Chanukah was special with all of the young people. As COVID increases, the message of hope is important. Hope becomes the booster we need to propel us along with good spirit. Pray for a better new year than the past. *"Yasher Koach"*

Congratulations to Amy Ecker on The Giving Tree (along with Mia Egelberg). We need to give what we have to help others. The Rabbi also mentioned the successful viewing of "Aulcie Perry" about an African American who led the Maccabi Tel Aviv soccer team towards winning its first European Championship. Rabbi Jay and Cantor Schloss are working together to create the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration / Shabbat Shirah Service with Victor Hall as the guest speaker. The event will take place on Friday, January 14th, at 6:30 pm. The event will be in-person and LiveStreamed. The Rabbi wished everyone a happy, healthy, and safe new year.

Cantor Schloss discussed the writings of Hillel, which advocated to not separate yourselves from the community. Cantor Schloss was very proud that the tone of the COVID conversation with the COVID taskforce kept two Jewish principles –a) not separating from the community and b) preserving health and safety. We have been able to hold two in-person Shabbat events and we are working with B'nei Mitzvah families to mark their entrance to join as adults in our community.

We have two wonderful musical events coming up: 1) Saturday, January 8th: In Concert - The Solomon Diaries at Temple Israel; 2) Saturday, March 5th, the 5th Annual Music Benefit "Where We Want to Be" - where the Community wants to be.

Everyone is encouraged to attend these events.

Anita Aronoff, Executive Director, presented the membership report. We are at 86% membership support. We will try to make 90% by December, and believe we will achieve 90% in January. Rosen Hall is in disrepair. Anita is working with the House & Grounds Committee getting bids to repair the floor and ceiling. Estimates will be brought to the board in January. More information to come.

Temple President Brian Heaps stated that Board members will be calling members soon to check on how they are doing. The Membership Committee met. The Committee needs more members to have broader representation. Non-board members are welcome.

Rabbi Jesse Gallop presented on Camp Pinebrook, and how

the original mission and camp has evolved since its inception. COVID created challenges, but in 2020 it was the only camp in Westchester that offered all 8 weeks-full day. Our goal for summer 2022 is to have 240 campers from ages 3-10. We are expanding our offerings to include: electives program for older campers, gymnastics, ceramics, more coaches and adult instructors, program directors supporting specialists and developing more overall camp activities.

Committee Reports:

The Social Action Committee announced that The Giving Tree was a great success and thanked everyone for their participation.

Brotherhood and Sisterhood had a very successful Thanksgiving food drive at Columbus School, providing food for 300 families

Mara Roberge announced that we are forming a BBYO chapter. Eighteen teens showed up interested in joining and others, who were unable to attend, have expressed interest. There is interest and excitement around this new endeavor.



Temple Israel is Grateful

Todah Rabah - Thank You!

Temple Fund

Sari Bedevian, in gratitude for the mah-jongg class **Marilyn Kramer**, in memory of Beth Behr, for the maintenance of Beth's garden **Val Etra**, in appreciation of our temple staff; in memory of Matthew Kates' mother, Ruth **Valerie Garland Eden**, in honor of Arlo Goodwin's baby naming **Ellen & Lee Meiner**, in memory of Matthew Kates' mother, Ruth **Linda Capozzola**, in memory of Matthew Kates' mother, Ruth **Mona Kunen**, in honor of and appreciation for Rabbi Jay Rosenbaum officiating at my husband James' unveiling **Mary Ann DeRosa**, in memory of Matthew Kates' mother, Ruth **Richard S. Hollender**, in memory of his father, Herbert **Nancy Steinberg**, in memory of Sally and David Rummel **Matthew & Jennifer Kates**, in memory of Ruth Kates

Rabbi Rosenbaum's Discretionary Fund

Marcia Nackenson & Bruce Turkle, in memory of Yvette Nackenson **Bonnie & Don Rosenfeld**, in memory of Matthew Kates' mother, Ruth **Judy & Bernie Robinson**, in appreciation **Mona Kunen**, in appreciation for officiating at the unveiling for her husband, James Kunen z'l **Michael S. Weiss**, in appreciation

Cantor Schloss'

Discretionary Fund

Marcia Nackenson & Bruce Turkle, in memory of Yvette Nackenson **Judy & Bernie Robinson**, in appreciation **Dalia Levine & Michael Weiss** **Ilissa Herskowitz**, in appreciation for Marion Herskowitz unveiling

Brotherhood Fund

Diane S. Goldstein, in memory of Murray S. Goldstein **Ilissa & Paul Warhit**, in honor of Brotherhood co-Presidents Todd Pekats and Mitchell Tarnopal on the occasion of Bourbon & Bible; in memory of Matthew Kates' mother, Ruth

Camp Pinebrook Fund

Barbara Gleekman Coleman, in memory of M. Donald Coleman, Evelyn Wilensky, Helen Gleekman, David Gleekman, and in appreciation for the temple staff, admin, and Kehillah teachers. and Cantor Schloss' music at Shabbat Services

Hospitality Fund

Val Etra, in honor of her special birthday

Joan Sanders

Transportation Fund
Connie & Gerry Sanders, in honor of the birth of their great-granddaughter, Lillian Joan Sanders

Judaica Fund

Val Etra, in honor of her special birthday

Kehillah School Early Childhood Program Fund

Barbara Gleekman Coleman, in memory of M. Donald Coleman, Evelyn Wilensky, Helen Gleekman, David Gleekman, and in appreciation for the temple staff, admin, and Kehillah teachers. and Cantor Schloss' music at Shabbat Services

Music Fund

Janice & Warren Agatston, in honor of the wedding of Susan Germaine's daughter, Michelle, to Josh Fox **Martin & Ruth Schudroff**, in honor of Martin Schudroff's 80th Birthday on December 14th **Mary Ann DeRosa**, in honor of Martin Schudroff's 80th Birthday on December 14th **Ilissa Herskowitz**, in honor of the yahrzeit of beloved parents Marion & Allen Herskowitz

Social Action Fund

Jill Frey, in appreciation

Temple Israel Cares

Mary Ann DeRosa, in memory of Yvette Nackenson; in honor of Val's special birthday **Marcia Nackenson & Bruce Turkle**, in memory of Yvette Nackenson **Val Etra**, in honor of her special birthday **Wittenstein Family**, in honor of Chavaya Tzedakah Day **Judy & Bernie Robinson**, in appreciation

Families Donated to Social Action with Membership Pledge

Richard & Karen Balik
Dr. Gerald & Sandra Hyman
Michael Kramer

Families Donated to Temple Israel Cares with Membership Pledge

Richard & Karen Balik
Dr. Gerald & Sandra Hyman
Michael Kramer

Brotherhood Thanksgiving Drive

Dr. Wilbert & Ina Aronow
Linda Capozzola
Mary Ann DeRosa
Brian & Dianne Heaps
William Weil
& **Elaine Weiss**
Sisterhood
Brotherhood

Brotherhood's Message of Thanks!

The food drive at Columbus Elementary, sponsored by Brotherhood, was very successful. In addition to Brotherhood's financial contribution, they also received food contributions from various other individuals and groups. They filled and gave away over 300 bags of food that had fresh turkeys, chopped turkey, fresh produce, eggs, assorted canned goods, bags or boxes of pasta, and assorted other noodles and rice, cereal, and baked goods.

The volunteers consisted of PTA moms and one dad, the school superintendent, three school board members, the school principal and vice principal and assorted other staff. However, the person who gets the most credit is Emma Silver Rodriguez, PTA President, who is and was amazing in organizing the event and purchasing the food.

We can be proud that our contributions helped to reach a part of our community that truly benefited from the food drive

- Mitchell Tarnopal
- Todd Pekats
Co-Presidents, Brotherhood

B'nei Mitzvah

Mazal Tov!



My name is **Leora Moskowitz**, and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on **Saturday, January 15th**. I will be chanting from *Beshalach* in the Book of Exodus. I belong to Temple Israel with my mom, Miki Gerblich. I am in the 8th grade at The Leffell School. Outside of school I like to play soccer and hang out with my friends. For my Mitzvah Project, I am raising money for the Crohns and Colitis Foundation. The project is important to me because I know many people who are afflicted with this disease. I hope to see you at services when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Raphael Nero** and I will celebrate becoming a Bar Mitzvah on **Saturday, January 22nd**. I will be chanting from the Book of *Mishpatim* in the Book of Exodus. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Diana & Greg, and my siblings, Sebastian, Amber, and Jordan. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I enjoy track, baseball, and having fun with friends and family. For my Mitzvah Project, I volunteer at HOPE Community Services. This project is important to me because it reflects the Jewish value of helping the stranger. I look forward to connecting with you at my Bar Mitzvah service when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Sebastian Nero** and I will celebrate becoming a Bar Mitzvah on **Saturday, January 22nd**. I will be chanting from the Book of *Mishpatim* in the Book of Exodus. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Diana & Greg, and my siblings, Raphael, Amber, and Jordan. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I enjoy baseball and hanging out with my family. For my Mitzvah Project, I volunteer at HOPE Community Services. This project is important to me because I get to give back to my community by helping people who are dealing with food insecurity. I look forward to connecting with you at my Bar Mitzvah service when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Sienna Rubin** and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on **Saturday, January 29th**. I will be chanting from *Mishpatim* in the Book of Exodus. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Alissa & Brian, and my sister Brooke. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I play basketball and volleyball, and hang out with my family and friends. I also love to travel. For my Mitzvah Project, I participated in Better Together. This project is important to me because it helps me to learn from my elders' life experiences. I hope to see you at services when I am called to the Torah.



My name is **Devin Ferrucci** and I will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on **Saturday, February 5th**. I will be chanting from *Terumah* in the Book of Exodus. I belong to Temple Israel with my parents, Marc & Lauren, and my sister Lila. I am in the 7th grade at Albert Leonard Middle School. Outside of school, I like to play softball and I love to draw. For my Mitzvah Project, I am donating to the Humane Society of Westchester in New Rochelle. This project is important to me because we recently adopted two cats named Wyatt and Olive and saw that all the animals there need loving homes. I hope to see you at services when I am called to the Torah.

Temple Israel Cares

We wish our Temple Israel family a bright and joyous Chanukah. It is our pleasure to stand with all of you during your sad and joyous moments. We thank our devoted committee members. We welcome new and innovative ways to serve our congregation. Our goal is to reach into every home and heart with love.

And finally, our baby blanket project continues...if you knit or crochet, please reach out to Berdie at (914) 473-4708 and let

us know you want to volunteer - we'll supply the yarn, deliver it and you'll supply your creative needlework!



Toni Hoffman
grandmatonib@gmail.com
Temple Israel Cares
Co-President



Berdie Stein
berdiestein@gmail.com
Temple Israel Cares
Co-President



Chavaya ... Making a Difference!



Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof...Justice, Justice You Shall Pursue!

Our Chavaya participants in *Zera'eem* (K)-*Ahleem* (5th & 6th grade) wrapped up 2021 year with an amazing *Tzedakah* Day! We spent our time learning about different not-for-profit organizations around Westchester and preparing materials each organization needed.

Chavaya Tzedakah Day benefited the following organizations:

1. **HOPE Community Services:** We prepared over 60 packages of decorated bags with after-school snacks and activity books for children over the Winter Break.
2. **The Sharing Shelf:** We packaged over 30 sets of underwear and socks for toddlers.
3. **The Humane Society of New Rochelle:** We packaged over 40 bags with handmade dog and cat toys, as well as canine and feline food for residents at the shelter.
4. **Firefighters at Fire Station #5:** We created 25 "Superhero" bars for our firefighter friends
5. **The Jewish Board:** We decorated 19 canvases for teens to place in their rooms.
6. **Dorot:** We prepared over 25 "soup in a jar" packages for senior citizens.
7. **United Hebrew:** We created over 25 activity bags for residents.

A special Todah Rabah to all our parents who helped support our successful Tzedakah Day with contributions. We were able to help so many people because of your generosity!

Better Together: An Intergenerational Program with Temple Israel Teens and Adults

Better Together brings together teens and Senior Citizens through engaging programming. Teens in 7th-12th grade are eligible to participate. Participants establish meaningful relationships, and we are thrilled to have the following individuals participating in the program:

Adults: Janice & Warren Agatston, Barbara Coleman, Toni & Alan Hoffman.

Teens: Layla and Sasha Arbetter, Samara Brecher, Jax Ciscone, Vivian Goldman, Olivia Feinblum, Amber and Jordan Nero, Ellie Roberge, and Sienna Rubin

The teens and adults met during Chanukah and learned about two different rabbinic opinions on lighting the candles. The group also enjoyed decorating Chanukah cookies together.

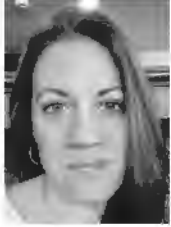
Our next intergenerational program will take place on Sunday, January 9th.

Rebecca Elkus-Ferst
Director of Education: Youth & Families





Memories of Thanksgiving and Chanukah!



The last few months have flown by for Kehillah. We are steadily growing in numbers with children of all ages, opening new classrooms, and we have welcomed a new Assistant Director, Marie Masseo. Marie was previously at Huguenot Nursery School as the curriculum director and joins us with over 33 years of experience in the field of Early

Childhood education. She has spent her first few weeks with us getting to know the children, staff, and families. We are very excited to have her as a part of the Kehillah community!

During the month of November, we were busy preparing for and celebrating Thanksgiving and Chanukah. Each family had an opportunity to add a feather of thanks to our Thankful Turkey in the front lobby. For Chanukah, each child created a Menorah they brought home to share with their families. We gathered each night in the lobby with Rabbi Jesse and Cantor to sing and join in lighting the candles on the Temple Menorah. On the Friday before Chanukah, we gathered for

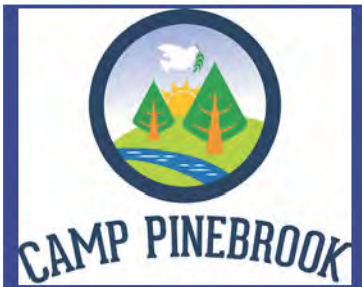
community Shabbat in the courtyard. Children practiced songs with their class in advance, which they sang for the community. The evening was complete with hot cocoa, apple cider, and *sufganiyot* (jelly donuts).

As we look to the new year, we are excited to bring back Gym On Wheels weekly for our Toddlers and PreK. We hope to bring in other outside enrichment; such as Mad Science, Yoga, and Dance. As we look to continue to enrich our school; we are seeking highly qualified early childhood educators to join our community. If you or someone you know may be interested please have them contact us!

The Kehillah community would also like to send out a huge Thank You to the Brotherhood and Sisterhood for the donation of candles and gelt for our Chanukah gift bags to families. ***Todah Rabah! Thank you!***

Jennifer Pennucci, M.Ed.

Kehillah School for Early Learning, Educational Director



Welcoming Israeli Staff Members to Camp Pinebrook



Camp Pinebrook is excited to welcome four Israeli staff members this summer, as partners with The Jewish Agency for Israel. It is a wonderful experience for campers and staff to work with Israeli young adults, who have completed their military service. Every summer, thousands of Israelis come and work at Jewish summer camps, bringing Israeli culture, Hebrew, and a love for Judaism to our community. It is a

great way for campers and their families to connect to modern-day Israel. We had *shlichim* (Israeli staff) pre-COVID pandemic and this was a great addition to our staff and programs.

Another positive experience related to this program is that members of the congregation and community house (home hospitality) these young adults. It is a great way to get to know them, welcome them to family meals, and support their experience in America. And Camp Pinebrook needs your help! Laurie Dubner will be coordinating housing for summer 2022. If interested please email her, LaurieEDubner@gmail.com

A family can host 1 or 2 Israeli staff members, for 2-10 weeks (what works best for you). You should have a bedroom (that can be shared if you have 2 staff members). The family provides breakfast and dinner during the week. Weekends are flexible, depending on whether the staff members want to do their own thing or spend time with the host family. If the hosts can provide transportation to camp, it would be helpful but not required.

2022 dates are June 27-August 19. Anyone in the community can host if you have the space available (Temple Israel members, camp families, or anyone in the larger Jewish community).

Thank you for supporting Camp Pinebrook,

Rabbi Jesse

Camp Pinebrook Director

We had some great events!

We want to wish everyone a HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

Over the past few months Brotherhood has enthusiastically sponsored a number of wonderful programs including:

- **Bourbon & Bible** which was a fantastic program led by our Rabbi and Cantor
- Brotherhood's famous **Latkes & Vodka**s which provided hundreds of delicious latkes
- A movie night program which included a real Israeli human interest story, "**Aulcie**," with two wonderful speakers. This was a rare program that was multi generational and spoke to our youth and older congregants
- Our **Thanksgiving Food Drive** sponsored by Brotherhood & Sisterhood, with the help of the Columbus PTA, and the generosity of our congregants, was able to provide bags of food for 300 families!

We look forward to many new programs in the upcoming year starting with "**The Solomon Diaries**" on Saturday, January 8th, that we are sponsoring along with Sisterhood and the Music Committee!

If you want to learn what Brotherhood is about, and get up to the minute invites, reach out to one of the two Brotherhood Co-Presidents below.

STAY HEALTHY and SAFE!



Todd Pekats
ToddPekats@live.com
(917) 992-5704
Brotherhood Co-President



Mitchell Tarnopal
mitchell.tarnopal@randrealty.com
(914) 552-1566
Brotherhood Co-President

Look for pictures of Bourbon & Bible, and Latkes & Vodka on p. 13

Happy New Year from Sisterhood!

We hope this finds everyone and their families healthy and happy.

Sisterhood hosted a virtual tour of the Jewish Museum's "**Afterlives: Recovering the Lost Stories of Looted Art**" in December. This zoom tour told the stories of artwork looted by the Nazis and traced the fascinating timelines of individual objects as they passed through hands and sites before, during, and after World War II.

Sisterhood, along with Brotherhood, donated money to the **Thanksgiving Food Drive** that provided Thanksgiving meals to the Columbus School food drive. Sisterhood and Brotherhood also funded Chanukah candles and gelt given to Kehillah and Chavaya children.

We're also very happy to be sponsoring an exciting event with the Music Committee and Brotherhood on Saturday, January 8th. In concert, "**The Solomon Diaries**" is an Original Musical Tribute to the Borscht Belt combining folk, classical, and jazz influences composed and performed by Sam Sadigursky with Nathan Koci. Tickets are \$18 per person in advance, and \$25 at the door. Tickets available now on the Temple Israel website: www.tinr.org/solomon-diaries/

We are in the process of choosing a book for this spring's **Common Read**. Look out for the selection and more info in the eblasts.

We hope you will join us for these great events! If you would like more information or have programs you would like to suggest, please feel free to contact us.

Happy New Year!



Janet Frey
janetdubielfrey@gmail.com
Sisterhood Co-President



Jennifer Herbst
jsherbst@yahoo.com
Sisterhood Co-President



Latkes & Vodka



Bourbon & Bible



SAC Asks You to Stay Connected!

Thank You – The Giving Tree Success!

Thanks to you, our community fulfilled the following:

- Hearts and Homes for Refugees - 52 gifts
- Jewish Board – Cedar Knolls House - 10 gifts
- P.S. 140 The Eagle School - 32 gifts
- Port Chester Children's Place - 72 hats, gloves, and books
- The Sharing Shelf – final tally to come, but received the most items ever donated during the Giving Tree!
- Westchester Cares Action Program (WCAP) - 51 Gift Cards
- WestCop Children's Center for Learning - 50 hats, gloves, and books

Over \$500 will be donated to each of the following:

- Community Service Associates
- HOPE Community Services
- Interfaith Council for New Americans Westchester (ICNAW)
- Interfaith Council for New Americans Westchester (ICNAW) – Feed a Family Program

In addition, the Social Action Committee was able to fulfill extra wishes as several of the programs asked for extra gifts. Thanks to the generosity of the Temple Israel community, we were able to grant these requests. Many purchased gifts, while others made donations enabling the committee to fulfill wishes. Listening to the Kehillah and Chavaya children talking about the tree, and asking what it is, always warms our hearts. Temple Israel young families contributed enormously to The Giving Tree this year. People reached out to make sure no child would be left out, and we assure you, that all the children included on The Giving Tree will receive a gift! Thank you to all who participated!

Here is some of what we are hearing from our partners:

- I want to give the greatest heartfelt THANK YOU TO YOU & EACH MEMBER OF THE TEMPLE who have participated in being the kindest and generously giving to our children and families we serve!
-Kyle, Port Chester Children's Place
- I wanted to reach out today, and just say thank you again! I cannot believe that since 2014, you and the Temple have been donating gifts to our WCAP families. We truly appreciate all that you do for our families. Thank you for always reaching out to me and including us. The staff is super appreciative. -Beatriz, Westchester Cares Action Program (WCAP)

NEW LEADERSHIP FOR SAC

The SAC is looking for new leadership! It is time for Mia and Amy to pass the baton! If you, or anyone you know may be interested, please reach out to Mia Egelberg or Amy Ecker. There are multiple ways to lead the Social Action Committee including various roles heading up cooking projects/collections, hygiene drives, clothing drives, animal causes, among other opportunities. It is important to have new leadership, and all are welcome!

"MITZVAH SEASON" WILL CONTINUE IN LIEU OF MITZVAH DAY

Do you want to lead a project? A monthly collection? WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to step up to lead some projects that can be done at home or in small groups. Specifically, we are looking for volunteers to lead a Project Linus Blanket Making project, a Sharing Shelf volunteer day, a cookie baking project to thank our local firefighters and police, a dog/cat toy making project for The Humane Society, or another organization that the SAC can support. Please email us at socialactiontinr@gmail.com!



HIAS & INTERFAITH COUNCIL OF NEW AMERICANS:

Over the next six to eighteen months refugees will be resettled across the country. The Interfaith Council of New Americans Westchester (ICNAW), of which Temple Israel is a member, has launched a new round of fundraising to enable us to co-sponsor a new family with HIAS. HIAS has told us that a new family will be arriving soon.

*Interested in volunteering with our new family? Visit <https://tinyurl.com/RefugeeFamilyVolunteer> to sign up as a volunteer.

ICNAW welcomed its fourth family during the week of Thanksgiving. They are grateful to be here after being in hiding and then spending time in Qatar and six weeks on an army base in New Mexico. The family is currently staying with their family, Fardin & Mahnaz in White Plains. They are grateful to be together, but there are nine people living in a small space. ICNAW continues to look for housing. If ANYONE knows a landlord, realtor, or a developer who may be able to help find housing, please have them contact Amy Ecker at amybrose@gmail.com. The family needs a 2-bedroom apartment, preferably in White Plains, but we are open to other locations. Transportation and walking to stores are key factors because they do not have a car. ICNAW can spend around \$2,000-\$2,200/month and will co-sign a lease.

Co-Presidents of the Social Action Committee

Amy Ecker: amybrose@gmail.com

Mia Egelberg: miaegelberg@gmail.com

Social Action Committee email: socialactiontinr@gmail.com

ONGOING:

Temple Israel Shops – continues on Fridays. The program will continue for as long as we have volunteer shoppers. Currently one congregant continues to use TI Shops regularly.

Non-Perishable Food Collection for HOPE – The SAC collects non-perishable food items throughout the year. There is a bin in the Giving Corner.

Eyeglasses – Have old eyeglasses around the house? Place in the box in the Giving Corner and they will be donated to the Larchmont Lions Club.

Pencils – New pencils for students in District 8 in the Bronx. Many students don't have writing utensils to bring to school

Toiletries – Travel and full-size items, diapers, and period products are needed

2021 Partner Organizations and Updates!

Children's Place of Port Chester

Community Service Associates (CSA)

Family Services of Westchester

Hearts and Home for Refugees (HHR)

HOPE Community Center

Interfaith Council for New Americans Westchester (ICNAW)

PS 140 The Eagle School

The Jewish Board

The Sharing Shelf

Westchester Cares Action Program (WCAP)

WestCOP Children's Center for Learning

- This year the **Children's Place of Port Chester** has moved under the umbrella of Family Services of Westchester. Its program continues to serve pre-k children as a Head Start program. This year its director asked for hats, gloves, and books for its children. Given the tough times many families are facing these items are helpful. The families greatly appreciate Temple Israel's generosity.

Visit: <https://www.fsw.org/our-programs/early-childhood-programs/head-start-and-universal-pre-kindergarten>

- **Cook Up a Storm** is an annual Mitzvah Day project which provides a meal to Community Service Associates. This year we are supporting them through the Giving Tree as we have for the past three years. Monetary donations benefit their organization the most at this time. Visit www.csasoupkitchen.org to learn more about Community Service Associates.

- Temple Israel has partnered with **Hearts & Homes for Refugees**, collecting children's winter coats and boots during their annual drive. This year we have the wishes from over 30 refugee children posted on our Giving Tree. To learn more visit <https://www.heartsandhomesforrefugees.org/>

- Temple Israel has a longstanding relationship with **HOPE Community Services**. Throughout the year, teens and others participate in sandwich brigades benefitting HOPE. We also collect and donate non-perishable food to HOPE throughout the year. The Giving Tree is another avenue for giving to HOPE by sponsoring a meal for a family of four. To learn more about HOPE's services and needs visit www.hopecommunityservices.org

- The **Interfaith Council for New Americans Westchester (ICNAW)** is near and dear to Temple Israel. As a member of the interfaith based organization, we have sponsored three families who relocated from Afghanistan with a fourth family arriving in November. There are two ways to support ICNAW, (1) make a donation to help sponsor our new family via <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/icnaw> OR (2) make a donation to the temple to help Feed a Family in Afghanistan. (Money is sent via back channels.)

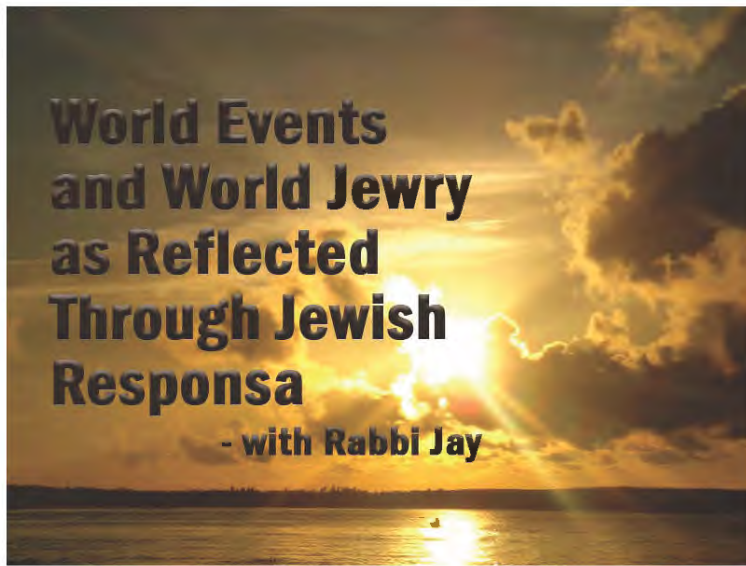
- Erika Tobia, a Temple Israel member, is the Bronx Executive Superintendent. We have partnered with Erika for the past seven years to support students in her district. This is the second year that we are supporting **P.S. 140, The Eagle School**. The K-5 students and their families have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic. The gifts provided by our congregation are often the only gifts these students receive. Erika, her staff, and students are grateful for the generosity of our community.

- Temple Israel has an ongoing relationship with **The Jewish Board**. This year we are working with the female teen residents at the Cedar Knolls House in Riverdale. Over the years we have regularly donated toiletries, participated in joint Mitzvah Day activities and other projects. The gifts donated from The Giving Tree are appreciated by the children and staff. The children residing on campus typically arrive with nothing and being thought of during the holidays is very meaningful. Visit <https://jewishboard.org/about-us/programs-services/>

- Temple Israel has a longstanding relationship with **The Sharing Shelf** throughout the year. The Sharing Shelf was founded by Temple Israel member, Deborah Blatt. The Giving Tree provides another opportunity for congregants to give to TSS by donating new underwear. These items are always needed. Visit <https://www.sharingshelf.org/>

- Temple Israel and the **Westchester Cares Action Program (WCAP)** have partnered on The Giving Tree for five years. WCAP's social workers work with entire families and the gifts received from our congregation are appreciated. Visit <https://hudsonvalleycare.org/our-agencies/westchester-cares-action-program> to learn more.

- **WestCOP - The Children's Center for Learning Head Start** has been a part of Temple Israel's The Giving Tree for many years. This year its director asked for hats, gloves, and books for its children. Given the challenging times many families are facing these items are helpful. The families appreciate Temple Israel's generosity. To learn more visit <https://westcop.org/>



Rabbi Jay's Responsa Class Every Friday, 9 am

With each passing day, we are bombarded with news of a constantly changing world which confronts us with difficult challenges we thought we'd never encounter. More often times than not, they require of us a response, be it internal or through a course of action.

Have a discourse with Rabbi Jay, and your fellow congregants. Ask questions, make comments, and explore!

Contact Andi Rosenthal at AndiRosenthal@tinr.org for the Zoom link.

"Israel Matters"

An Israel Action Committee
Program at Temple Israel



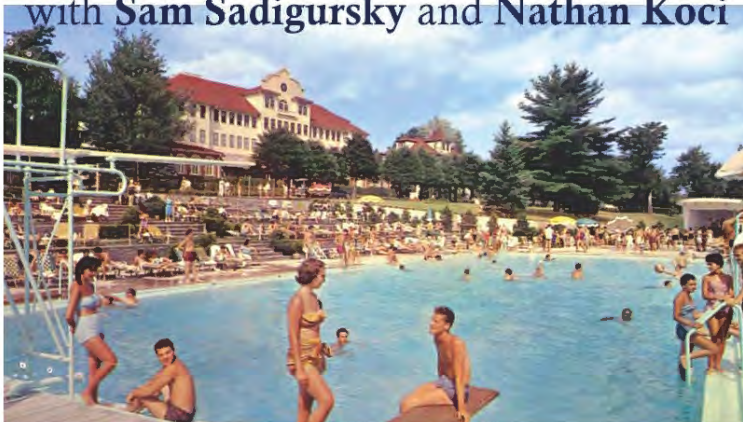
"Israel Matters" | Israel Action Event 1st Meeting, Sunday, January 9th, 10:00 am

"Israel Matters" is a new program to be held at Temple Israel one Sunday per month.

One goal is to improve the quality of Israel conversation and level of engagement...visit www.tinr.org/israel-matters/ for more information and to register to Paul Warhit.

Space is very limited, so please register as soon as possible. First come first serve. Attendees need to be vaccinated to participate.

In Concert The Solomon Diaries with Sam Sadigursky and Nathan Koci



Coming in Spring 2022!

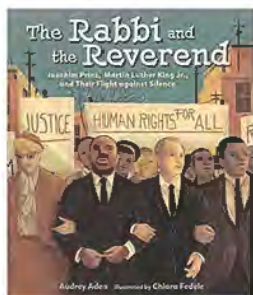
We unfortunately needed to postpone this event to Spring 2022

But we would like to thank Sisterhood, the Music Committee, and Brotherhood for their efforts as well as Sam Sadigursky and Nathan Koci ... stay safe and healthy!

Visit www.tinr.org for future events, and a new date for this concert in Spring 2022!

Edith H. Handelman Library

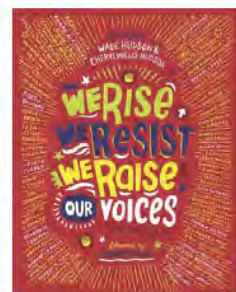
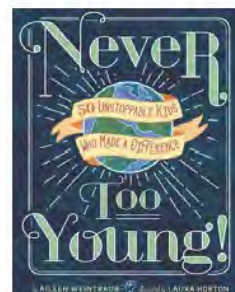
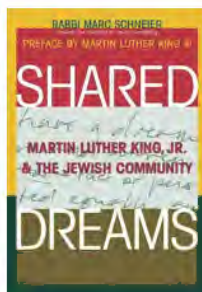
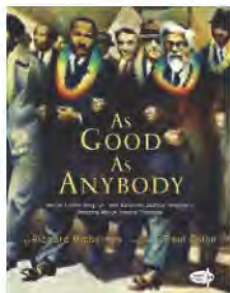
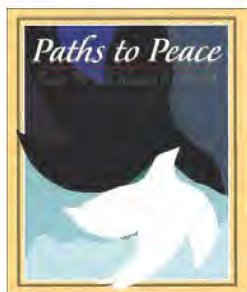
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



The Rabbi and the Reverend: Joachim Prinz, Martin Luther King Jr., and Their Fight against Silence, by Audrey Ades.

This powerful new picture book, relevant for all ages, exemplifies the need to speak up against evil. The intersecting stories of Rabbi Prinz and Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., shows how they both grew up to oppose injustice. Prinz, as president of the American Jewish Congress, championed civil rights for American Blacks. He joined MLK, Jr., in Washington when the Reverend gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech as they were united in a shared belief in justice.

Find these other relevant titles available on display in our library



Books may be requested through our online site: www.librarycat.org/lib/HandelmanLibraryTINR and held at the front desk for pick-up.

Stephanie Krasner
stephkras11@gmail.com
Temple Israel Librarian

The Tamid Society

A Legacy

LEAVE A LEGACY TO THE TEMPLE

New Members

The Tamid Society is pleased to announce that David & Ronnie Parker have pledged a bequest in memory of her parents Bertram & Peggy Weiss. We also honor Eileen Gitlin, whose estate bequest was recently received by Anita Aronoff.

Over the years, Temple Israel has received dozens of legacy gifts, many of which have received little or no publicity but have helped assure the Temple's financial health. The purpose of the Tamid Society is to encourage living



congregants to pledge a bequest and be recognized for this thoughtfulness as members of the Society. The names of those below have made such a pledge and wish to encourage other congregants to do so as well.

Most importantly, there is no need to specify an amount in making a pledge. There is no minimum amount required to join the Society. Some may choose to provide a percentage of their estates as not to be locked into a sum that may not have anticipated negative financial events.

Please contact Anita Aronoff at AnitaAronoff@tinr.org, for additional information.

List of members...

Janice & Warren Agatston
Barbara & Frank Axel
Bernice Braun (estate)
Leroy Fadem
Eileen Gitlin (estate)
Evelyn Jacobs (estate)
Lilly Kaplan (estate)
Sid & Ruth Lapidus
Herb Ornstein
Carol & Arthur Ostrove
Carole & Mitchell Ostrove

David & Ronnie Parker
Lloyd Robinson
Amy Sincoff (estate)
Mady & Jeffrey Stier
Ilissa & Paul Warhit

Temple Israel thanks you!

List of Funds

Support Temple Israel

Please support Temple Israel!

Annual pledged membership contributions and tuition fees cover only a portion of the actual cost of Temple Israel's wide range of ritual, educational, and social activities. We depend on your support.

To facilitate the act of *Tzedakah* (charitable giving, typically seen as a moral obligation) Temple Israel provides an on-line form to make giving easy. Visit www.tinr.org, and click on "Donate" on the upper right hand corner.

Simply choose the amount you want to give and for what purpose. If you wish to give to several funds, we will apportion your donation as you wish: evenly to multiple funds or you may type in a specific amount for each fund in the space provided. A list of funds is found below, and to the right. Of course, you may include a dedication(s) for each fund. When making a donation "in honor" or "in memory" of someone, those honored will be promptly informed of your thoughtfulness. Donations "in honor" or "in memory" of someone are also acknowledged right here in Temple Topics. We are happy to facilitate anonymous donations at your request.

Once you have completed the on-line donation form, please click the "submit" button. Your wishes will immediately be sent to us and we will contact you regarding the preferred payment method (check or credit card), if there are questions. We accept MasterCard, Visa, and American Express.

Thank you!

Temple Operating Fund – To support Temple Israel programs, Jewish education, social activities and operations

ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreting Fund – To provide funding for ASL interpreting and to build the bridge between the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the general Jewish Community

Brotherhood Fund – Brotherhood of Temple Israel of New Rochelle, also known as the Men of Reform Judaism (MRJ), is a group of dedicated Temple members, spanning all ages, who volunteer their time and effort on behalf of Temple members and the New Rochelle community.

Camp Pinebrook Program Fund – To enhance programs associated with Camp Pinebrook.

Chavaya Program Fund – To support Chavaya programs

Endowment Fund – Used to maintain and expand religious, educational, cultural, social and philanthropic activities of the Temple

Gladys & Murray Goldstein Cultural Center Fund – Enables the Temple to present exhibits and improve the Cultural Center

Hospitality Fund – For the holding of Kiddush and Oneg Shabbat receptions

Kehillah School Childhood Program Fund – To support Kehillah programs

Sidney & Ruth Lapidus Fund – For adult education.

Music Fund – To support musical programs and the cultural life of the Temple

Prayer Book Fund – To enable the Temple to purchase prayer books

Joan Sanders Transportation Fund – To enable congregants who do not drive to get to services

Sisterhood Fund – Temple Israel of New Rochelle Sisterhood brings together all generations of women within our synagogue to serve our congregation. Our Sisterhood sponsors a variety of social, religious, and community activities throughout the year.

Social Action Fund – To support social action projects in our synagogue and neighborhood communities

Temple Israel Cares – Enables the committee to provide meals for congregants who have been hospitalized or are recovering from illness, to provide Shiva baskets, and to give blankets for new babies born.

Youth Involvement Fund – Enhances youth programs

Rabbi Discretionary Fund – This fund allows the Rabbi to support a wide variety of projects and charitable causes.

Cantor Discretionary Fund – This fund allows the Cantor to support a wide variety of projects and charitable causes.

Make a Membership Pledge for 2021-2022

Join your fellow congregants in supporting Temple Israel as best you can for the 2021-2022 year. Visit www.tinr.org/donate to see the options to help guide you in your pledge as you reflect upon what Temple Israel means to you, and to our wider community.

Thank you for your consideration and support!

Did You Know?

You can pay Temple dues or make donations to the Temple with appreciated stock?

If you would like to do so, please follow the directions below:
Janney Montgomery Scott LLC #0374 Janney Montgomery Scott LLC
Physical Certificates: Janney Montgomery Scott LLC
26 Broadway 9th Floor Mezzanine New York, NY 10004
Account Registration: Temple Israel of New Rochelle (Operations)
Account Number: 6286-6155

Temple Israel of New Rochelle also gratefully accepts donations of real property. Please contact Anita Aronoff, Executive Director, to discuss in confidence and advise her of your donation at (914) 235-1800.



CAMP PINEBROOK

We Want You Back For More Summer Fun! in 2022

Contact Jesse Gallop, Camp Director/Rabbi at (914) 813-8700 or
Jesse@CampPinebrook.com to **SIGN UP for THIS YEAR!**

1000 Pinebrook Boulevard, New Rochelle, NY 10804



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BERDIE STEIN

Associate Real Estate Broker

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BStein@houlihanlawrence.com



HOULIHAN LAWRENCE

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