



## Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand

When you read this bulletin or weekly emails from our office, it is easy to see all of the *special* events going on at Temple Emanu-El. Many people put great effort into special events.

Of course, like you, I can't help but look forward to each one. By the time you read this, the Temple Emanu-El social action committee will have just completed another very special project to provide meals to area first responders. Matthew Shulman, Sybil Nassau, and Karen Bloustine have worked hard to organize the effort. Many people have given time, materials, food, or money to let our public servants know how much we appreciate them. This is just one of many special events since the High Holy Days. These special events testify to Temple Emanu-El's mission to build a vibrant community.

On the other hand, let's talk about *routine* things. There are many things that might get outshined by special events. We will host the JFEC Adult learning program each Sunday in January. Our "Purim at the Improv" theme this year might be new but Purim is regular enough. Cabaret is just around the corner – get your act together. Pesach will be here soon and we'll have a packed house for First Seder. Sisterhood dinners and movie nights and Brotherhood gatherings occur regularly. Our Social Action crew is frequently at the New London Meal Center or out on a Habitat for Humanity build. But let's get even a little *more* mundane. We have religious school most Sundays and Wednesdays; kosher lunch on Mondays; SSA every day; Brotherhood bagels and coffee on Sunday mornings; Jewish Community High School Monday nights; Confirmation, Adult Hebrew, Cantillation, and Introduction to Judaism classes. We host Nar-Anon, Hope after Loss, and Crohn's and Colitis support groups. There are a lot of wonderful *routine* things going on in our synagogue.

But here is the most routine thing going on at Temple Emanu-El. It is so routine that a lot of us have just forgotten about it. It's just here, week in and week out, like clockwork. It happens so dependably, like the setting of the sun. Okay, you get it, I'm sure. It's Shabbat. We spice it up once a month on First Fridays with Kabbalat Shabbat sing along at 5:30 and communal Shabbat dinner at 6 P.M. You can't beat our First Friday dinner anywhere – good food, friends new and old, the table set and we do the dishes – and Sherry and I sing with you. Tipping isn't even allowed – although donations on other days are appreciated.

Every week, Shabbat comes in at Temple Emanu-El at 7:30PM (except First Fridays). Shabbat. A time to regroup, rejoice, reconnect with God, connect with community, celebrate simchas, give thanks, learn from our tradition, accept and give prayers for healing, to meditate, and also to mourn. All of this, relevant to how we live and think today. This is Reform Judaism. Every week in just 75 minutes followed by an Oneg. Every Friday night, no fail, every week of the year. I only mention this because maybe you've forgotten the most special thing given to us. It really can't happen without you. As Ahad Ha'am said, "more than Jews have kept the Sabbath, the Sabbath has kept Jews." I know everyone can't make it every Friday night. That doesn't stop *me* from hoping to see *you* every Shabbat.

L'Shalom,

**Rabbi Marc**



## President's Message—Sean Bendick



These days, the Board of Trustees talks a lot about our mission statement: "Building a vibrant community through Reform Judaism." We also talk about our identity as a haimish, welcoming place. The struggle we face is how do we remain vibrant, haimish, and welcoming when money is tight?

Last year, I received criticism from many people that "everything is a fundraiser". We've done our best to minimize the emphasis on fundraising while still fulfilling our congregants' spiritual and social needs. We've had a number of popular events in the first half of the year. Our Artist-In-Residence weekend, sponsored by the Endowment Fund, was a big success. Our High Holiday services were well attended, and our First Friday Shir Shabbat evenings continue to be a monthly highlight. These are all efforts where just about all we ask of you is your presence and ruach.

We've done some events to generate revenue, but have tried to emphasize the fun over the fundraising. A recent bingo night proved to be a good time, and we'll probably try to have that again. Sisterhood Mah Jong continues to be a huge success, and the Brotherhood Latke and Italian Dinners are always fun (especially if you ask Jonathan Rowe where the Brotherhood beverages are). This winter and spring we'll have our usual cabaret night and we'll be planning a Starry Night Auction again.

Still, I'm seeing some warning signs that we might not be reaching you where you want us to. Most visibly, our attendance on regular Friday night services has been down lately. Behind the scenes, pledge revenue is down from last year, and it is certainly lower than our budgetary expectation. It's the Temple's responsibility to use our resources to provide you a spiritual and social home, but it is the congregations' responsibility to provide those resources. Still, I'm trying to learn if there's a connection between what we're doing and how that's being reflected in your support.

As concerned as I am about our budget, I look back to our mission statement and our identity. As a member for the past 20 years, I've never been asked by the Temple to explain or defend my own contribution level, and I have always been proud of our approach. So, my appeal to you as we enter 2019 is not "how much more can you give", but rather "how can Temple Emanu-El earn your engagement?" In this question, I'm not only asking about your generosity, but your presence. I ask for your feedback on this question. Please let me know what you'd like to see from us. Send me an e-mail, [president@tewaterford.org](mailto:president@tewaterford.org), and it will be answered and presented to the board.

**Please accept my best wishes for  
a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2019!**

***Sean***

## Notes from Sherry Barnes



This month, on Friday, January 18, Jeff Elkin and I will chant the Song of the Sea in parashat Beshallah. This is the song that is attributed to Moses, and sometimes Miriam, which tells the miraculous story of the crossing of the Reed Sea by the Israelites. This crossing between two

walls of water, on dry land, will begin a journey from slavery, which they knew very well, to freedom, something that was new and unknown. Sometimes this kind of journey can cause people to turn back to what makes them feel safe, even if it is not healthy, or let go of the fear of the unknown and move forward. Shefa Gold writes this about the beginning of a spiritual journey, "In the midst of the turbulence of this world, and in spite of our fear, we somehow find the courage to take one loving focused step and then another, with each step finding our footing on a path that only reveals itself step by step. . . .we don't let the fear stop us."

At some point in our lives we have all come to the "Reed Sea" looking into the unknown and having to choose the next step in our own journey. Do we stay locked in the fear of the unknown and the what ifs it contains, or do we find that courage to take that first loving step, in hopes that we find something better on the other side.

The Torah says choose life so that you may live. Living life wrapped in fear, is not living. Experiencing what life has to give such as a beautiful sunrise, the song of the birds in the trees, the crash of the waves on the beach, the love of friends, family, and our life partners, that is living life.

Some say we only travel this way once, and in the grand scheme of things, are here for just a blink of an eye. We should seek to enjoy every moment and surround ourselves with as much love as we can, so when we come to the end of our days, and we are asked by G\*d if we lived our lives to the fullest, we can say, yes, this was the best journey ever! Ozi v'zimrat Yah, vay'hi li lishuah -- My strength, with the song of G\*D, will be my help. Exodus 15:2

Thank you to our December Torah readers: Alexis Fenton and Joel Fernandez. Thank you to the Temple Emanu-El choir for singing at the Shabbat Shira service, and also thank you to Michael McCarthy for stepping in to help us for Shabbat Shira.

Don't forget to sign up to participate in the Cabaret.

B'shir,

***Sherry***

Thanks again to Thea Johnson and Barbara Kallan for organizing and running the **Book Fair** for us this year. We were able to use Scholastic credits toward adding more award-winning Judaic youth titles for the school library. Remember that you and your children are always welcome to borrow any of these books, particularly when the children are on school vacation.

We also appreciate Peter and Barbara Kallan for delivering all the unwrapped toys donated by our Religious School families to the local **Toys for Tots** drive. It was the perfect mitzvah for our school to perform during this holiday season.

Special thanks to Rabbi Ekstrand and Sherry Barnes for running the sing-along booth, to Roy Sulimani for running the crafts booth and to Liam Feldman along with 8<sup>th</sup> graders Alexis Fenton, Spencer Haynes and Ethan Johnson, for helping run the games booth, and to all our teachers and faculty assistants for their help at the Religious School **Chanukah Party** on December 2. Mrs. Zettler enjoyed reading *The Golem's Latkes* to students of all ages at her story booth and it was clear by their attentiveness and lively discussion that everyone enjoyed the story. The children enjoyed home-made latkes with applesauce and sufganiyot at snack time.

As you know, Religious School doors remain locked while school is in session. Many thanks to our 7<sup>th</sup> grade Judaics and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Jewish History teacher Liam Feldman, who serves as our school's morning greeter. Our hope is that some parents can also help serve as **monitors for our school atrium door**. Even if only for one hour on one Sunday per month, it would make a huge difference in our effort to be proactive and aware of our school environment. If you can help with this effort, please let us know. Families, if you arrive more than **10 minutes after school start time**, please **ring the doorbell** on the upper right part of the atrium door. One of us should be in the school office or hallway, so we can let you into the building.

Later this month, please be on the lookout for your child's religious school reports. Teachers will provide details on what your children have been learning in class and fill you in on their individual progress. It is important to us that your child's time with us is meaningful and productive. Where needed, we can facilitate any meetings, if you have any specific questions.

Are any of your children interested in participating as an actor or singer for the school Purim Schpiel? Last year, we did not have enough commitment from students/families to build a strong cast, so we were grateful to Marcia Reinhard and the BBYO teens who put on a wonderful Purim Schpiel for us. Please let us know if you think your kids would be able to commit to about 8 rehearsals in February/March after religious school on Sundays and Wednesdays (includes pizza lunch or dinner). The level of student participation will determine whether we are able to cast enough students in roles. Please e-mail us with your thoughts.

Warmest regards,

***Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler***

TERS Co-Administrators

[religiousschool@tewaterford.org](mailto:religiousschool@tewaterford.org)

### **Inclement Weather Closing Reminders**

Religious school follows the Waterford school district inclement weather closings schedule.

Stay tuned to:

**WFSB-TV Channel 3,**

**WTNH-TV Channel 8 or**

**WVIT-TV Channel 4 or 30**

for Waterford public school closing updates. We will once again be using the **REMIND APP** to alert parents of any religious school closings due to snow, other inclement weather or emergency issues.

Please be on the lookout for e-mail instructions that we will send on how to opt into the **REMIND APP**.



## Adult Education 2018-19 / 5779

### Introduction to Judaism Course

Want to know more about Judaism because...

You're considering conversion? Someone you love is Jewish?

Your kids ask lots of questions? You didn't pay attention in religious school?

Whatever your reason, come join Rabbi Marc for a 13-Week Intro to Judaism Course

**1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, October through March – 8 P.M.**

RSVP or inquiries to Rabbi Marc at [rabbi@tewaterford.org](mailto:rabbi@tewaterford.org).

### Introductory Hebrew

Join Rabbi Marc for an introduction to Hebrew class

**Kitah Aleph 6:30 P.M. (Tues. Jan. 15, 22, and 29)**

**Kitah Bet 7:30 P.M. (Tues. Jan. 8, 15, 22, and 29)**

The class is taught primarily from the perspective of Biblical Hebrew and builds on whatever prior knowledge you have.

Contact Rabbi Marc at [rabbi@tewaterford.org](mailto:rabbi@tewaterford.org) to determine which session is right for you.

### Torah and Haftarah Cantillation

Our Sacred texts come alive through musical codes. Come learn

this sacred tradition with Cantorial Soloist Sherry Barnes, exploring Shabbat, High Holy Days, Magillot, and Haftarah cantillation.

**Tuesday evenings, 6:30 to 7:30 P.M. – December through June.** RSVP to Sherry Barnes

at [cantorialsoloist@tewaterford.org](mailto:cantorialsoloist@tewaterford.org)

### Food for Thought

Join in on this once-a-month open discussion of where our Jewish heritage, identity, and values intersect with our modern world. Conversation facilitated by Rabbi Marc.

**Second Thursday of the month, 12 noon – Jan. 10.** Bring your own brown bag lunch. We'll have a plate and some drinks available for you. No RSVP necessary.

### Bible Study Group

The Temple Emanu-El Adult Education Group has been meeting on Sunday mornings at the Temple for 24 years. Although we do study the Torah, we have also delved into the Talmud, Josephus, Apocrypha, Quran, and New Testament. No prior knowledge required, and we don't take ourselves too seriously. If you want to learn more, come and join us from 11 to 12:30 in the sanctuary during the school year or call Barry Feldman at 860-739-0474.

## Pre-School



Preschool takes place on **Sunday, Jan. 6 and 20, at 10:30 A.M.** Monica Goldstein is the teacher.

The program includes music with Cantorial Soloist Sherry Barnes, and special

programming for holidays with k-2. Additional dates for 2018-2019: Feb. 3 and 24, March 3 and 17, April 7 and 28, May 5 and 19. If you are interested in signing your child up for class, please contact the office at 860-443-3005.

## Gift Cards



Please consider donating Stop and Shop, Shop Rite, Big Y, Walmart or other gift cards for people in need.

The Temple office receives calls

for help purchasing food throughout the year. **Please help replenish the supply.**



## Religious Practices

We are looking forward to Havdalah and dinner at Jo-el Fernandez and Sandy Greenhouse's home, 97 West Main St., Apt 48, Niantic, on January 5 at 5:30 P.M. Please R.S.V.P. to Jo-el.

Karen and Stan Bloustine will be hosting Havdalah on February 23. We would like to have a home-hosted Havdalah in March also. Let Sherry Barnes or Roberta know if you're interested in hosting. Please join us and enjoy good company and a short service to end Shabbat.

This committee is always open to any congregant who would

like to participate. We meet each month, usually on the first Tuesday evening, in the Rabbi's office. If you would like to be part of working with the Rabbi and Sherry to make our services and holiday programs be the best, this is the committee for you!

We are currently beginning to plan our program for Purim. We have some time, since Purim falls on March 20, 2019. If you have some ideas about shpiels, let us know!



## **Sisterhood — Janine Sitko & Merrill Mazzella, Co-Presidents**



### **SAVE THE DATE — BUNCO NIGHT**

Don't miss **"Bunco Night"** on **Sunday, January 13, at 4:30 P.M.**, at the home of Armi Rowe.

Bunco is a very easy dice game to play, no experience necessary. Have fun with Sisterhood friends, old and new. Enjoy some appetizers and bring a light dessert to share. \$5.00 per person to play means 3 cash winners at the end of the evening! RSVP to (860) 460-3047 by January 10.

### **LAST CALL For 2019 Mahj Card Orders**

Please send checks to the Temple Emanu-El office for your 2019 Mah Jongg cards.

**\$8 for standard and \$9 for large size**

They will be mailed directly to your home in late March.

**Don't let the January 25 deadline pass you by.** This is the only time you can order from TE Sisterhood and help with this fundraiser.

Any questions, contact Iris Freeman at [ifreegang@aol.com](mailto:ifreegang@aol.com) or 869-460-3081.

### **The Temple Emanu-El Gift Shop had a lot to be grateful for in 2018**

To begin with, I am very grateful to the congregation and the Southeastern Connecticut Jewish Community. The Hanukkah Fair and the Hanukkah Season surpassed my expectations. I realize there are many shopping options and I am so thankful for all the support.

I am so grateful to everyone who helped with the Fair. This event takes much time and effort and I can't do it alone. I particularly want to thank Erica McCaffrey, Shoshanna Weiss, Caren Linden, Sue Fornara, Ann Doyle and Jody Morris. I hope I didn't forget anyone.

The person I am most grateful for is my husband, Geoff Hausmann. He is truly an honorary member of Sisterhood. Geoff probably does as much for the gift shop as I do.

The gift shop will be open as usual on Sundays beginning January 6. Come browse. There will be selected markdowns and during the month of January, all in-stock tallit will be 20% off.

**You can always reach me at [judaicashop@tewaterford.org](mailto:judaicashop@tewaterford.org) or 860-625-6618.**

Thanks,  
**Susan Hausmann**

## **Brotherhood**

*Jonathan Rowe, President / [bioconsultants@yahoo.com](mailto:bioconsultants@yahoo.com)*



### **Latke Dinner Thank Yous!**

If you missed it, the latke dinner was a resounding success. With more than 100 attendees, the culinary chief Mike Reinhard delivered another delectable brisket, chicken, green beans, salad and latke buffet. Thanks to Brian Alpert (and me!) for serving as sous chefs during the day. And even more of a thank-you to all the brotherhood volunteers who helped set up and clean up. That was a life saver!

### **Looking for ideas**

I am looking for ideas for the spring brotherhood lecture series. No topic is too serious or ridiculous. Feel free to drop me a line.

### **Don't forget FREE bagels!**

Remember, free bagels and coffee during Sunday school. What could possibly be better than joining us for that?



**Jonathan Rowe**



## Dec. Service & Oneg Thank You's!

Deborah Diehl  
Donna and Andrew Goldman  
Jonathan Grossman  
Thea Johnson  
Hali and Gerry Keeler  
Erica and Richard McCaffrey  
Jo Michaelson  
Alisa and Milton Sheriff  
Edee Smith  
Lois and Donald Steinman  
Gail and Steve Weber



## Let's Learn Mah Jongg

There will be a class at Temple Emanu-El **for beginners or people who need a review, to learn to play Mah Jongg.**

It will begin **Wed., Jan 23, 12:30-2:00 P.M.** and run **5 to 6 weeks or whatever is needed.**

Cost is \$18 plus \$9 for the cost of the card used for playing.

Please R.S.V.P. the earliest you can, so we can have cards available the first week.

R.S.V.P. by text preferably, or call **Edee Smith 860-501-0382**, or **leave message at the synagogue 860-443- 3005.**

This game is a lot of fun and you get to meet new people. Join us!



## Mazel Tov to . .



**Jay and Patricia Hans**  
on the birth of **Amelia Taylor**,  
their new granddaughter.

Born on November 25, 2018, she is the daughter of

**Samantha and Stephanie Hans**  
of Davie, Florida.

## Condolences to . .

**Seymour and Patricia Hendel**  
on the passing of  
**Myron Hendel**



## Join us for Dinner Mon., Jan 14

Let's all go out to dinner. The Dinner Club will pick a restaurant every 6 to 8 weeks.

The first selected restaurant will be **Langley's in Waterford on Monday, January 14 at 6 P.M.** This evening will be **all-you-can-eat pasta. The cost will be \$13 a person**, which will include tax and gratuity. **Note: This is not a fundraiser, but rather a way for all of us to get together socially.**

So that the restaurant can set up enough tables for us, please e-mail Geoff Hausmann at **Geoff@CallTheHouseMan.com** with the number attending.

Everyone is welcome. Looking forward to having dinner with you.



## January Birthdays

Lynn Brown  
Ethel Chatkin  
Betty Cooper  
Hanna Deglin  
Andrea Fenton  
Simon Frischling  
Marc Goldsmith  
Patricia Hans  
Samantha Hans  
Patricia Hendel  
Justice Kali  
Leah Krieger  
Maya Kriet  
Deborah R. Linder  
Jim Michalove

Leslie Orenstein  
Eleanor Ostrow  
Jonathan Panikoff  
Marnie Rock  
Solomon Ross  
Nathaniel Ross  
Sam Schaperow  
Marvin Schnur  
Susan Seeman  
Dr. Adam Seidner  
Lester Shapiro  
Seth Sharack  
Anna Cloe Sheikowitz

Leila Shepard  
Rachel Sherman  
Fiona (FiFi) Sherman  
Noah Shiling  
Michael Adam  
Snyderman  
Elizabeth V. Walz  
Barbara Wolfe  
Jessica Wolfe



## January Yahrzeits

### January Anniversaries



Lesly & Jay  
Ginsburg

*I found the one  
my heart loves...*  
Song of Songs 3:4

#### January 4

Eva Berkowitz  
Randy Deglin  
Samantha Deglin  
Elizabeth Farren  
Henry Germaine  
Edward Gipstein  
Anna Jezeski  
Morris Kaplan  
Shirley Kriet  
Murray Lazarus  
Sylvia Lewiss  
Roger Rouquette  
Harry Rubin  
Rachel Wessel

#### January 11

Donald Bloom  
Morris Brickman  
Louis Caplowe  
Ray Cohen  
Hannah Cooper  
Elaine Deglin  
William Fishbone  
Michael Beanett Freeman  
Audrey Germaine  
Bernie Goldstein  
Marvin Goldstein  
Samuel Grau  
Shirley Grayson

Lillian Kane  
Daniel Kanfer  
Joseph Lesser  
Murray Rapoport  
Frederick Rosenstein  
Mortimer Shaff  
Stanley Skigen  
Louis Snitkin  
Rose Tobin  
Anna Tropp  
Eafir Vestel  
Harry Weber  
Al Weinberg  
Richard Donald Zettler

#### January 18

Frances Brensilver  
Barbara Ellen Lupkay Combs  
Tillie Finkelstein  
Eleanor Freeman  
Edwin Haflich  
Stephen Horton  
Mildred Meitzen  
Marilyn Morgenstern  
Bernice Moss  
Doris Reinhard  
Ellen Schwartz  
Reuban Shilling  
Herman Weber  
Grace Wertheim  
Alice Wiesniewski

#### January 25

Phyllis Adler  
Carol Blaise  
Abraham Irving Epstein  
Elizabeth Glenn  
Jack Greenberg  
Esther Hoffman  
Paul Kriet  
Jules Levine  
Eleanor McCaffrey  
Maurine Miner  
David Nirenstein  
Frances Ogulnick  
Yetta Paulson  
Sigmund Sol Rosenholtz  
Dorothy Segool  
Beatrice Sherman  
Clara Sibelman  
Isaaca Zelda Siegel  
Alex Stancovski  
Morris Thall  
Rochelle Tripp  
Irwin Tuchfeld  
Pauline Ruth Wildstein



## ***We are eternally thankful for the support of those below. . .***

### **Cantor's Fund**

Frederic West

Harvey and Ellen Schiller

- in memory of Jody Katz on the 1st yahrzeit of her passing

### **Capital Improvements Fund**

Adam Kaufman and Rebecca Woodward

### **Craig Blumsack Fund**

Joel and Judith Blumsack

Lillian Yormark

- in loving memory of Benjamin Yormark on his yahrzeit

Matthew and Florence Lewiss

- in loving memory of Lillian Gertz Lewiss on her yahrzeit

### **Essential Services Fund**

Alan and Robyn Krasner

- in memory of Eze Bashi, father of Janine Sitko

Ellen Gottfried

- in loving memory of Larry Gottfried on his yahrzeit

- in loving memory of Helen Schreiber on her yahrzeit

- in loving memory of Beverly Gilman McCaffrey on her yahrzeit

- in loving memory of Barry Gilman on his yahrzeit

Gail and Steve Weber

- in memory of Eze Bashi, father of Janine Sitko

- in memory of Gail Webman, wife of Ken Webman

Gary and Iris Freeman

- in memory of Gail Webman, wife of Ken Webman

- in honor of Patricia and Jay Han's grandchild, Amelia Taylor Hans

- for the speedy recovery of Sam Winograd

- in memory of Eze Bashi, father of Janine Sitko

Jay and Patricia Hans

- in memory of Charlotte Winograd, mother of Sam Winograd

- in memory of Gail Webman, wife of Ken Webman

Robert and Caren Linden

- in memory of Eze Bashi, father of Janine Sitko

### **Goldsmith-Kallan Fund**

Peter and Barbara Kallan

Lori and Mitch Corah

- in loving memory of Marilyn Marcus on her yahrzeit

### **Louis Shoor Playscape Fund**

Melissa

Tracy Shoor

### **Mitzvah Fund**

Gabriella Schlesinger

- in appreciation of First Responders

Gail and Steve Weber

- in appreciation of First Responders

Hali and Gerry Keeler

- in loving memory of Ethel C. Schnable on her yahrzeit

- in memory of Eze Bashi, father of Janine Sitko

- in memory of Gail Webman, wife of Ken Webman

- in loving memory of Esther Green, mother of Myra Gipstein

Jeanette and Louis Ziegler

- in appreciation of First Responders

Judy and Stephen Mann

- in memory of Gail Webman, wife of Ken Webman

- in memory of Eze Bashi, father of Janine Sitko

### **Oneg Fund**

Sean Bendick

Barbara Senges

- in memory of Gail Webman, wife of Ken Webman

Sandy and Abraham Fisher

- in gratitude for and in honor of our daughter Karen's recent election

### **Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Fund**

Margaret Church

- thank you for participating in the memorial service for Frank Church

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Ethel Chatkin

- in loving memory of Milton Chatkin on his yahrzeit

Michael and Marcia Reinhard

- in loving memory of Esther Green, mother & mother-in-law of Myra & Rick Gipstein, & grandmother of Sam & Sophie Gipstein. All the Reinhard's loved her & will miss her very much. Her memory will always be for a blessing

- in memory of Sylvia Moynihan, sister and sister-in-law of Claudia and Lester Shapiro. May her memory be a blessing

- with deepest sympathy to the 11 families in Pittsburgh who lost their loved ones due to an anti-Semitic act of violence. May all their memories always be for a blessing.

Michelle and Harvey Snitkin

- in loving memory of Daniel Iorillo on his yahrzeit

Stanley and Karen Bloustine

- in loving memory of Ada Bloustine on her yahrzeit

### **Ruth Joan Brody Religious School Account**

Henry and Jane Weinberg

- in loving memory of my mother, Mollie Rifkin, on her yahrzeit

***Please make checks payable to Temple Emanu-El and remit to PO Box 288, Waterford, CT 06385***



## Goldsmith-Kallan Fund

### The purpose:

1. To defray the cost of camp or conference that enhances the ideals of Reform Judaism for the children of Temple Emanu-El religious school.
2. This fund is also intended to create stipends for faculty assistants who are Temple Emanu-El members and are currently volunteering in the religious school.

3. To defray the cost of a conference, which would benefit our religious school, for an individual attending who is both a member in good standing of Temple Emanu-El and a member of the Temple Emanu-El religious school staff.



## Book Fair Follow-up & Thank You

We would like to Thank Everyone who visited and supported the Religious School Scholastic

and Judaic Book Fair this year. Although the timing wasn't ideal, coming right before and continuing through the middle of Chanukah, the selection of books covered a wide range of topics and seemed to capture the interest of many of our students. The fact that it also provides a selection of Judaic material is a plus for our families.

We also want to Thank Author Lisa Greenwald, daughter in-law of Aaron and Karen Rosenberg, and wife of David Rosenberg for graciously donating copies of her most recent 4 books which were also available at our sale and are a profit for our school. They are particularly interesting for Pre-Teen girls and once they have read one or two, they usually look for more. There are still a few available if anyone is interested in purchasing one or more.

We continue to believe that although this is not a huge fundraiser for us it is a service to our Religious School families considering it includes some of the Jewish stories written for children which would not be available at the public-school book

fairs. So, if Scholastic is willing to keep us on as a customer, we hope to continue to offer this event. We were able to contribute some new children's books to the Temple Library from some of the "Scholastic Bucks" we earned. Hopefully, since Chanukah is in late December next year our book fair will be at a better time to benefit from your holiday shopping.

We'd like to Thank Don, our Temple and Religious School custodian, who put in so much time and effort in arranging the room perfectly for us, as well as Roberta Reisner-Winograd and Barbara Wolfe who accepted the book delivery and were there when the books were picked up. It was a huge help to us.

As soon as we confirm a date for 2019, we will let you know.

Thanks again,

**Thea Johnson & Barbara Kallan**

## Social Action

### First Responders Holiday Dinner

The First Responders Holiday Dinner was conceived, sponsored, organized and made to happen by the Social Action Committee, but that really isn't the most important part. When all is said and done, the success of this endeavor was primarily due to the tireless efforts of three people who were determined to honor and respect the efforts of the daily work done by this area's first responders--fire, police and ambulance--who are out there, in difficult circumstances, not just during the holidays, but 24/7/365. Those three Temple members are Sybil Nassau, Karen Bloustine and Matthew Shulman.

Despite that some people (like me) felt that we/they had probably bitten off more than could ever be chewed, Matthew, Sybil and Karen rose to the occasion at every challenging turn in the road. In a very short time, they mastered every detail in a very detail-oriented project. Be it finding volunteers to provide for the dinner, or endless contacting of area merchants to contribute food etc., to finding a certified chef to oversee the work

being done in the Temple kitchen on Christmas eve into Christmas day, to talking to all of the First Responder cites to find out how many were interested in the holiday dinner, to getting all of the details jigsaw-puzzled together to make this gigantic event happen, these three were faster than the speed of light and more powerful than a locomotive. We served about 250 meals in less than a day to our very deserving First Responders. It appears that Karen, Matthew, Sybil and the many others who were involved have literally made the impossible happen. Our thanks to all of you.

### The New London Community Meals Center

As if the First Responders Holiday Dinner was not enough, on that same Christmas eve, the Temple provided, prepared and served a holiday eve meal at the New London Soup Kitchen. Hali Keeler's volunteers continued this annual tradition which, as always, was joyful for all. And continuing the tradition, after

## Social Action — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

the work at The Meals Center was finished, all the volunteers got together for a Chinese dinner. As a cooperative footnote, the Meals Center donated a substantial number of turkeys to the First Responder Dinner. For January and beyond, the Temple works and provides a meal at the New London Soup Kitchen, normally on the third Tuesday of each month. If interested, contact Hali Keeler.

### The Mitzvah Corps

**THE TEMPLE MITZVAH CORPS IS IN PLACE AND READY TO HELP. The Mitzvah Corps' goal is to help congregants who have emergency needs as well as those who need home visits, assistance with rides, getting to appointments or providing help for day-to-day activities/needs, etc. Any Temple member in need of such help from the Mitzvah Corps, or any Temple member who wants to join the Mitzvah Corps as a volunteer, should contact the Temple office at 860-443-3005.**

### Habitat, Start Fresh and Homeless Hospitality Center.

The Temple has a number of other ongoing projects that Social Action is involved in. Social Action volunteers normally help build houses for **Habitat for Humanity** on one Sunday each

month. After a too-long hiatus, we expect to resume Building in January. If interested in volunteering, **contact Marty Zeldis at 860-442-4580 or ztr8n@aol.com.** We also are involved with **Start Fresh**, the area group that works to help refugees get settled in this region by providing an array of assistance to them; contact Temple member Karen Bloustine if interested in being involved.

Finally, **The Homeless Hospitality Center** offers shelter for those who are without. This becomes more urgent now that the cold of winter is upon us. If interested, contact Temple member Judy Mann.

Now that the hectic nature of December activities are behind us, Social Action will put a renewed focus on the Mitzvah Corps and making it truly functional. Additional focus will also be put on our other ongoing projects (and perhaps some new ones) and a Quarterly Mitzvah day as we enter 2019. There will be a Social Action Committee meeting in January. The date and time of the meeting are still to be determined. Please join us if you are interested in our work.

**Marty Zeldis**

**860-442-4580 or ztr8n@aol.com**

## Raffle Winners & Thank You's

The annual Temple raffle was held on Sunday, Dec 2, during the brotherhood latke dinner. The dinner was well attended, making for an exciting environment for the drawing. The Israeli emissaries Liron and Roy drew the winners for the prizes listed below. I would like to thank Barry Feldman, Scott Wolfe, Marcia Reinhard, Merrill Mazzella, Armi Rowe, Stuart Fishbone and Roberta Reissner-Winograd for helping us continue our streak of selling all 720 tickets. Due to our generous sponsors listed below covering the cost of the prizes, we will make \$18,000.

**John Murphy**, Chairman  
Temple Emanu-El 2018 Raffle

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** - Punta Cana-Dominican Republic Trip for two - Includes round-trip air from Hartford, roundtrip transfer from the airport to hotel, 5 nights, all-inclusive at Ocean Blue and Sand, hotel taxes

Sponsor: Consumer Interstate  
**Winner: Roark Levine**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** - \$1000 Travel Gift Certificate – Tzel Travel

Sponsor: Sayet & Seder  
**Winner: Andy Feinstein**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** - \$500 Visa Gift Card

Sponsor: Minuteman Press

**Winner: Sandy Greenhouse**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize** - \$300 Best Buy Gift Card

Sponsor: Creative Office Interiors

**Winner: Barbara Senges**

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize** - \$200 Walmart Gift Card

Sponsor: Medical Meetinghouse

**Winner: Muzahid Shaik**

**6<sup>th</sup> Prize** - \$150 Target Gift Card

Sponsor: The Senges/Murphy Family

**Winner: Armi Rowe**

**7<sup>th</sup> Prize** - \$100 Amazon Gift Card

Sponsor: The Rowe Family

**Winner: Margaret Trehub**

## ***January Services & Schedule of Events***

Jan. 2	Wed.	4:30 P.M. Hebrew School 7:30 P.M. Religious Practices Meeting
Jan. 3	Thur.	7:00 P.M. Nar-Anon 7:30 P.M. Choir 8:00 P.M. Introduction to Judaism
Jan. 4	Fri.	5:30 P.M. Shir Shabbat 6:00 P.M. Shabbat Dinner 7:00 P.M. Shabbat Service
Jan. 5	Sat.	5:30 P.M. Dinner and Havdalah at Jo-el Fernandez and Sandy Greenhouse's home, please R.S.V.P.
Jan. 6	Sun.	9:30 A.M. Brotherhood Free Bagels / Religious School 10:30 A.M. Preschool 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:00 P.M. Adult Jewish Education sponsored by JFEC
Jan. 7	Mon.	12:30 P.M. Federation Senior Lunch 6:00 P.M. Jewish Community High School
Jan. 8	Tues.	6:00 P.M. Confirmation Class 7:30 P.M. Adult Hebrew Kitah Bet
Jan. 9	Wed.	4:30 P.M. Hebrew School 7:30 P.M. Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30 P.M. Crohn's and Colitis Foundation Support Group
Jan. 10	Thur.	12:00 P.M. Food for Thought 7:00 P.M. Nar-Anon 7:30 P.M. Hope After Loss 7:30 P.M. Choir
Jan. 11	Fri.	7:30 P.M. Kabbalat Shabbat
Jan. 13	Sun.	9:30 A.M. Brotherhood Free Bagels / Religious School 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:00 P.M. Adult Jewish Education sponsored by JFEC 4:30 P.M. Sisterhood dinner and Bunco night
Jan. 14	Mon.	12:30 P.M. Federation Senior Lunch 6:00 P.M. Jewish Community High School 6:00 P.M. Dinner Club at Langley's Pasta Night, Open to everyone, R.S.V.P. pls
Jan. 15	Tues.	6:30 P.M. Adult Hebrew, Kitah Aleph 7:30 P.M. Adult Hebrew, Kitah Bet
Jan. 16	Wed.	4:30 P.M. Hebrew School
Jan. 17	Thur.	7:00 P.M. Nar-Anon 7:30 P.M. Choir 8:00 P.M. Introduction to Judaism
Jan. 18	Fri.	7:30 P.M. Kabbalat Shabbat/ choir is singing
Jan. 20	Sun.	9:30 A.M. Brotherhood Free Bagels / Religious School 10:30 A.M. Preschool 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:00 P.M. Adult Jewish Education sponsored by JFEC
Jan. 22	Tues.	6:30 P.M. Adult Hebrew, Kitah Aleph 7:30 P.M. Adult Hebrew, Kitah Bet
Jan. 24	Thur.	7:00 P.M. Nar-Anon
Jan. 25	Fri.	7:30 P.M. Kabbalat Shabbat
Jan. 27	Sun.	9:30 A.M. Brotherhood Free Bagels / Religious School 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:00 P.M. Adult Jewish Education sponsored by JFEC
Jan. 28	Mon.	6:00 P.M. Jewish Community High School
Jan. 29	Tues.	6:30 P.M. Adult Hebrew, Kitah Aleph / 7:30 P.M. Adult Hebrew, Kitah Bet
Jan. 30	Wed.	12:30 P.M. Learn to Play Mah Jongg – R.S.V.P. please



*February 1, 2018*

*5:30 P.M. Shir Shabbat in song for all ages*

*6:00 P.M. Shabbat dinner*

*7:00 P.M. Shabbat service including honors and celebrations*

R.S.V.P. for February 1 dinner by Sunday, January 28

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults, Chicken Marsala: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$18 per person)

Number of Children, Chicken Fingers: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$5 per child)

Number of Adults, Vegan: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$18 per person)

Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

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Email Armi at [armirowe@gmail.com](mailto:armirowe@gmail.com) or Sherry at [shirie3860@aol.com](mailto:shirie3860@aol.com) Confirmed acts must attend audition run-through on January 20, 2019 at 12:30 p.m.



## Howard Ilson Memorial Distinguished Service Award

Nominations are now being accepted for the **Ilson Award**, which is given annually to a member who has contributed to Temple Emanu-El in an important way. The award is in honor of Howard Ilson, a former president of our Temple who died suddenly while in office.

Areas of service to consider include:

- ~ Years of service as an officer or Board member
- ~ Years as a committee chairperson
- ~ Years of service in auxiliaries such as the Religious School, Sisterhood,

Brotherhood

- ~ Years of community service as a representative of Temple Emanu-El
- ~ Years of time and energy expended for the betterment of Temple Emanu-El

Nominations will be accepted until March 1. The award committee will then review the nominations, and the winner will be announced in the Temple *Bulletin*. The award winner will be honored at a Shabbat service, and his or her name will be engraved on a plaque on display in the Temple.

Please take the time to consider a worthy nominee. It is one way of thanking our members for volunteerism that often goes unnoticed. If you wish to nominate someone, please fill out the form below and return it to the Temple, by mail or by depositing it in the nomination box located in the entryway. All nominations will be strictly confidential.

### Howard Ilson Award Nomination Form

Name of person being nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

**Summary of nominee's attributes and service to Temple Emanu-El** (Must be completed for nominee's consideration); **Please use space below and/or a separate piece of paper to complete** attributes and service and send to the Temple or put in the nomination box in the main entrance of the Temple.

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## 2019 COMMUNITY ADULT EDUCATION

A program of the Jewish Federation in cooperation with area synagogues  
Ahavath Achim / Beth El / Beth Jacob / Bnai Israel / Emanu-El

### SCHEDULE

**Week 1 SUNDAY, JAN. 6 / 2:00-4:00 PM; On site registration 1:30-1:50 PM**

**Week 2 SUNDAY, JAN. 13 / 2:00-4:00 PM**

**Week 3 SUNDAY, JAN. 20 / 2:00-4:00 PM**

Weeks 1-3 consist of a 1-hour Enrichment course from 2-3; a snack break, and at 3:15 the Community Forum where everyone comes together to hear a special guest speaker.

**Week 4 SUNDAY, JAN. 27 / 2:00-4:00 PM**

This final session consists of the 1-hour Enrichment course from 2-3, and concludes with a **Seudat Siyum, closing meal at 3:00 PM**

### LOCATION

**All sessions** will be held at **Temple Emanu-El**, 29 Dayton Rd., Waterford

### ON-SITE REGISTRATION ONLY

**On Sunday, January 6, arrive between 1:30-1:50** at Temple Emanu-El and register for one of the Enrichment Courses being offered between 2:00-3:00 pm. Following a 15-minute break at 3:00, we will gather for a Community Forum and listen to different guest speakers from 3:15 to 4:15.

On January 27 the afternoon begins at 2:00 PM with your hour one course; Community Forum from 3-4 and then the afternoon will conclude with a Seudat Siyum, a festive meal, beginning at approx. 4:00 PM.

### FEES FOR COMMUNITY ADULT EDUCATION (CAE)

**The fee for the ENTIRE 4 weeks is \$25 per person and includes handouts, snacks, the Community Forums & the concluding meal.** To attend one or more Community Forums only, the fee is \$10 per Forum.

Make checks payable to **JFEC** and complete ahead of time if possible. Contact the Federation with questions: **860-442-8062 or office.jfec@gmail.com.**

### ENRICHMENT COURSES (1<sup>st</sup> hour)

#### EXPLORING HASIDISM THROUGH THEIR TALES

**taught by Rabbis Marc Ekstrand & Julius Rabinowitz**

With Hasidism's growing influence and even Hasidic thought and practices entering mainstream liberal Judaism, we will look at two Hasidic personalities: the Ba'al Shem Tov, the 18th century progenitor of Hasidism; and his great grandson, Reb Nachman of Bratslav. We will read some stories by or about them and reflect, respond, react. Come prepared to enter the mystical world of yesteryear and perhaps uncover modern relevance of these tales. **(There is no class on Jan 20)**

### THE DIVERSITY OF ISRAEL: A LITERARY TOUR

**taught by Rabbis Polly Berg & Jeremy Schwartz**

"Who speaks as an Israeli?" is as controversial as any question the Jewish world faces. Voices from the margins of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicities, religious observance, politics, and artistic sensibilities are finally being recognized, published, and even celebrated, in corners of contemporary Israel. In this course, Rabbis Berg and Schwartz will share some of their favorites of these diverse voices. They're both big fans of Israeli poetry, so there will be plenty of that, with some fiction and perhaps even nonfiction thrown in for good measure (and diversity!). All readings will be available in English.

Join us for a journey that will examine the respective roles that science and Judaism play in our lives, and how we can best respond to the intersections that arise between provable science and believable faith. We will look at excerpts from Biblical and historical Jewish texts as well as references from famous scientists as we explore the extent to which they agree or disagree.

### MODERN ISRAEL, FROM THE EARLIEST SETTLERS TO NOW

**taught by Jerry Fischer & Daniel Robinson**

This course will relate the story of Israel through each wave of immigrants, from the chutzim to the Ethiopians to French migration, and tell how each "Aliya" impacted Israeli society and shaped its politics (and its cuisine...).

It will be a tasty course!

### PATHWAYS INTO AND OUT OF ORTHODOXY

**taught by Rabbis Rachel Safman & Ken Alter**

While the gulf between the Orthodox and non-Orthodox Jewish world sometimes seems so broad as to be unreachable, the fact is more people than ever are today moving into and out of the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) sects of Judaism. Indeed, the trend is so strong that it is influencing Israel's demographic make-up.

This course will use a combination of published research and personal testimonies to examine the path that leads individuals into and out of the often-cloistered world of the Haredim. In the process, it will shed some light on life in Haredi communities.

### COMMUNITY FORUMS (2<sup>nd</sup> hour)

Community Forums bring everyone together to hear a guest speaker/s. Topics for 2019 include Judaism and American Comic Book Super-Heroes, and Hasidic Judaism's Intersection with Liberal Judaism.

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Email your articles to Roberta at [office@tewaterford.org](mailto:office@tewaterford.org)

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