



Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand

Friends,

We are living in unprecedented times. At the time of my writing this article, we have been asked by the President to limit our public gatherings and asked us to

stay home if possible. The Governor of Connecticut has closed schools, restaurants, bars and gyms. We are all trying to figure out what this means for us and how long it will go on. Our schools are issuing homework packets and distance learning instructions. They are hopeful for a return of students to classrooms but preparing for the possibility of completing the school year without our school buildings reopening. The economic impact is hard to fathom. Every sector of the economy in every country has been and will continue to be affected. Only those who were alive during World War II may remember anything remotely like what we are experiencing now.

So what do we do? First, don't panic. It is understandable to compare this public health crisis to a war. In many ways, we are being asked to pull together and take collective action much like it is wartime. However, we should realize that an enemy is not coming across our borders, no nation is singularly to blame, and no political party holds any high ground or is under attack. A pandemic requires national and international cooperation and response. Much of the response is in our own hands. It is up to each one of us to stay informed and do what is asked of us to protect ourselves and others. This is the time to trust our public health officials at the Federal, State, and local levels.

Second, stay connected. On Wednesday, March 11th, our president Jo-el Fernandez, our religious school co-directors, Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler and I made an early call that closing our religious school and Temple to on site activities was the right decision for the safety of our community. That same night, our Board of Trustees backed our decision and asked us to prepare to close the building to all activities. This was a very difficult decision. We also made the difficult decision to cancel our community Passover Seder and postpone other Temple events including at least one bar mitzvah. We

all care very much about our Temple Emanu-El community. Closing our Temple building has been a traumatic but necessary decision.

Disconnecting by closing the Temple means we need to stay connected in other ways. As quickly as we made the decision to close, we started thinking about alternative ways to maintain our community. Armi and Jennifer have been working on plans for home and distance learning for our students. Sherry Barnes and I, with the help of Trevor Fornara and Ellanora Lerner, began planning to live stream our Shabbat Services. Our first ever live streamed service was on Friday, March 13. The response was wonderful. Even after this public health crisis ends, we will keep live streaming services. This will be one positive outcome of this experience.

Throughout this crisis, I will be reaching out personally to each family in our community. That is a lot of phone calls. You don't have to wait for me to call you. I like to hear from you. You should never hesitate to call me. I will also be working on other ways to keep us engaged and in touch with one another. In the meantime, if you or someone you know is in need, please let us know. You can call the Temple or reach out to me directly at 513-479-1962. We are here for you. It is my hope that 'social distancing' will, in the end, bring us closer together.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Marc

President's Message - Jo-el Fernandez



Shalom chaverim,

I kept putting off writing this message, hoping that life would return to normal. But as I type this message in mid-March, life is as far from normal as it has ever been in my lifetime. We have canceled all Temple activities through at least the end of April, including our beloved Passover seder. We are all isolated in our homes, afraid to venture out for anything but life's absolute necessities. And as of a few days ago, there is nowhere to go anyway. Bars, restaurants, retail stores, theaters---all closed.

And yet, there is beauty. Beauty in the excitement ex-

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President's Message - Jo-el Fernandez -

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pressed by many Temple members about the 1st live-streamed service that Rabbi Ekstrand and Cantorial Soloist Sherry Barnes led on 3/13/20, and even more excitement about upcoming virtual services, Havdalah, and living room concerts.

Even though we cannot meet face to face at this time, we are no less a community. In this disconcerting, anxiety-provoking time, our Temple members continue to come together in love—via YouTube, via Facebook, via Zoom, and via good old –fashioned telephone chats. We are still a community, even if we cannot currently gather at 29 Dayton Road.

The Temple board has been busy despite these challenges. Regarding space-sharing with Congregation Beth El, they continue to wish to rent space in our building to create a chapel in the fall of 2021, when Solomon Schechter and All Souls congregation are no longer renting space. However, they are uncertain about how the possibility of a community campus fits into their long-term plans, and discussions have ceased until their intentions are a little clearer.

As always, the board is committed to transparency and welcomes any feedback from congregants. We received a great deal of feedback from many of you at the Coffee and Conversation groups that occurred during January and February. Please see the report in this bulletin for a summary of that feedback.

The board also had some difficult discussions regarding financial concerns. Unfortunately, since the March board meeting, these concerns have been further compounded by the cancellation of several events that would have raised some additional funds for Temple operations.

We recognize that many congregants may also be in difficult financial straits due to lost income or increased expenses as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. But if you are able, any additional contribution to help us balance our budget for this fiscal year would be especially appreciated.

While we all get through these difficult times, please don't forget to reach out to friends, especially those who live alone.

Adonai Oz L'Amo Yitein; Adonai Yivarekh Et Amo Ba'shalom.

May G-d grant strength to all of G-d's people;

May G-d bless G-d's people with peace.

Jo-el Fernandez



Notes from Sherry Barnes



Thank you, Roberta for reminding me about getting my bulletin article finished today. I've been busy trying to figure out Zoom, FaceTime, and Skype for virtual classes, tutoring, Havdalah, and trying to figure out ways to stay connected to you from a safe distance and forgot about writing an article.

I'm writing this article on March 19, from my office. As I sit here gathering my thoughts, I can't help but wonder, what will the world look like in two weeks when I read this article again. A sobering thought. How differently I've been looking at the world and coming into contact with other people. I really miss seeing everyone in person, but also want to stay healthy, so I don't bring anything home to my dad.

I've never had to ask myself if I would have enough food to get through two weeks or more if needed. I find it so easy to get caught up in the "what ifs" or the panic of whether I have enough toilet paper to get through this pandemic! I know, I won't be laughing about that one if I do! So, what do you do to calm the ever present "what if"? Well, besides washing my hands 20 times a day, one of my favorite psalms to go to in troubled times is Psalm 121, "Esa Einei". "I will lift up my eyes to the mountains—From whence comes my help? My help comes from Adonai, Who made heaven and earth", and also made my other favorite thing, music! So, me being the person that I am, immediately looks for all the musical settings I can find on YouTube. There are so many out there! First one I found was by Nefesh Mountain, a Jewish bluegrass duo which definitely lifted up my spirits, so I posted it on Facebook. That led me to "Modeh Ani," music by Elana Jagoda. "Modeh Ani" is a morning prayer thanking G*d for the soul that was returned to me in the morning when I wake up. Elana sings it beautifully. The last song was the best, "Oseh Shalom," music by Nava Tehila. By the end of that song, the "what ifs" disappeared since it is very upbeat and a spirit lifter! There is so much beautiful music out there to keep you in your happy place over this trying time. If music doesn't get rid of the "what ifs", there is always the comedy channel. Laughter is the best medicine, right Aaron? When we are older, much older, we can tell everyone that we were alive when the world ran out of toilet paper.

Stay safe, wash your hands often, and see you on Zoom, FaceTime, Skype, etc.

Virtual hugs.

Sherry



Coffee & Conversation Report

Temple Emanu-El held six Coffee and Conversation gatherings in January and February 2020 in an attempt to learn from our congregants how the lay and spiritual leadership of the Temple can better serve you, to obtain information on how to increase congregants' engagement in synagogue life, and to give congregants a voice regarding the internal functioning of the Temple and our community partnerships. We were pleased that over 80 congregants participated in these coffee and conversation events, and many expressed hope that we will do this again in future years.

We have compiled this report to highlight common themes that were expressed by people at many of the Coffee and Conversations gatherings. Please note that these reflect majority opinions, and may not fully reflect the diversity of opinions on any one topic.

Financial:

Many expressed that regardless of whether Temple Emanu-El continues the Gift of the Heart (GOTH) or returns to a more structured dues schedule, it is helpful for us to clearly articulate what the Temple needs and what funds are required to meet those needs. Last summer's brochure was helpful in that regard. Some felt we should return to structured dues so that congregants know what is expected, and others felt that people will do what they want regardless of whether there is a dues structure. It was widely agreed that there needs to be a simple process in place for congregants who truly cannot afford full dues to maintain dignity.

Spiritual:

A number of people felt that Shabbat services should be kept to no more than an hour in length, and that sermons could be shorter. There was also discussion that no service start time will please everyone, but that having an earlier service the first Friday and 7:30 p.m. services the rest of the month was a good compromise between those who preferred the old 8:00 p.m. services and those who wish they were much earlier.

A significant number of people discussed feelings that too much new music was introduced at once, and felt that they could not fully participate in services as a result. There were others who loved the new music. Many congregants expressed that they miss seeing large crowds at Friday night services, and on Sunday mornings at the Temple, as this used to be a time to meet up with friends.

There was a consistent sentiment expressed that cantorial soloist Sherry Barnes is a treasure to Temple Emanu-El.

Congregants expressed that they do not wish to hear one particular political affiliation/party/candidate etc. endorsed from the bima. Congregants are interested in hearing rab-

binic commentary on social issues and current events, but without a political slant. There were comments that some assume that all Reform Jews are politically liberal when this is not necessarily the case.

Congregants value personal attention from Rabbi Ekstrand. They want for the rabbi to know their name, and to be warm and personable. Some felt that Temple Emanu-El is very friendly and that Rabbi Ekstrand goes out of his way to meet people, while others felt that we can improve on this. Many felt that spiritual and lay leadership should be separate, and that rabbis should not be involved in the "business" of the synagogue. Congregants want Rabbi Ekstrand to be as engaged in the wider Jewish community as he is in the community at large.

Community:

Largely, the congregation expressed positive sentiments about the idea of sharing space with Congregation Beth El under a long-term lease to include Beth El renovating 2 classrooms into a chapel for their use, and utilizing the sanctuary during times that Temple Emanu-El is not using it. A few congregants had previous negative experiences at Beth El (some many years ago), and continue to express concern regarding this arrangement. Congregants want clear communication and transparency around this issue from the board. Many noted that Beth El already rented space from Temple Emanu-El for one year with no disruption to Temple Emanu-El operations. Many expressed that community collaboration was positive, and enjoyed events such as the combined Simchat Torah services that have occurred during the past 2 years. Rabbi Ekstrand has initiated many of these community efforts and plans to continue to expand on them. A sentiment that "our tent is big enough for everyone", that we should avoid the silos of the past, and that we are all one Jewish community and need one another to survive prevailed throughout much of the congregation. A number noted that previous joint social events were a lot of fun due to a "critical mass" of people being present.

A significant number of congregants liked the concept of a community campus, but expressed significant concern about the implementation of such. Many noted that our community cannot sustain more large buildings, that the project needs to be scaled down to size, and that money from private donors funding this project takes away from money that could be going to the synagogues. Concern was also expressed about whether there would be enough money to maintain these structures far into the future when these donors are gone, and some were concerned that the committee was largely composed of wealthier members.

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Coffee & Conversation Report — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The board thanks all of you for this crucial feedback, which will help to guide our activities in the future. Thank you to the following board members (and their partners, when applicable) who opened their home and/or came to the Temple to facilitate one of these meetings: Sean Bendick, Jo-el Fernandez, Erica McCaffrey, Amy Perry, Marcia Reinhard, and Tom Smith.

Sincerely,

Coffee and Conversation Ad-Hoc Committee Members:

Stan Bloustine / Rabbi Marc Ekstrand

Jo-el Fernandez / Elyse Hicks

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

Cantor's Fund

Elon Rosenberg

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Flossie and Michael Betten

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Harvey and Ellen Schiller

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Harvey and Ellen Schiller

--in memory of Emanuel Luftglass, father of Barbara
Luftglass-Morea

Iris and Gary Freeman

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

--in memory of Emanuel Luftglass, father of Barbara
Luftglass-Morea

Jamie and John Stavropoulos

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Jonathan and Armi Rowe

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Judi Glickstein

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Karen Dinsfriend

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Martin Zeldis

--in loving memory of Louis Zeldis on his yahrzeit

Rabbi Aaron and Karen Rosenberg

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Essential Services Fund

Adam Kaufman and Rebecca Woodward

--to enhance Temple Emanu-El's technology

Bart Sayet and Lori Linfors

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Bruce and Lori Goldstein

--to enhance Temple Emanu-El's technology

--in memory of Alita Sevilla

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

--in memory of Aunt Lee Ziegler

Caren and Bob Linden and family

--in loving memory of Benjamin Linden on his yahrzeit

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Donna and Andrew Goldman

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Dorothy Seidel Wigod

--in memory of W. Paul Wharton

Ethel Chatkin

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Gabriella Schlesinger

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Gail and Steve Weber

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

--in memory of Terri Goldsmith

Henry and Jane Weinberg

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Jane and Marvin Schnur

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Jennifer Beatty

--in loving memory of Irving Ressler on his yahrzeit

Jonathan and Armi Rowe

--in memory of Emanuel Luftglass, father of Barbara

Luftglass-Morea

Judy and Stephen Mann

--in memory of Emanuel Luftglass

--mazel tov to Yitzchak Winograd and Amanda Wycoff on
their engagement

Karen Dinsfriend

--in loving memory of George Mikulka on his yahrzeit

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Kenn and Kim Fischburg

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

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

Kim and Kenn Fischburg
-- in loving memory Howard Helveston on his yahrzeit
Leslie and Harvey Orenstein
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
-- on the loss of their beloved companion and friend
Lois and Donald Steinman
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
Lois and Steve Panikoff
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
-- in memory of Alita Sevilla
-- in honor of the birth of Barbara and Scott Wolfe's
grandson, Wes Hewitt Bentley
Martin and Joanna Lazarus
-- in loving memory of Alex Lazarus on his yahrzeit
-- in loving memory of Priscilla Young on her yahrzeit
Marvin and Jane Schnur
-- in loving memory of Norman Schnur on his yahrzeit
Neil Willins
-- Bethesda Lodge #30 of Oddfellows
-- to aid Temple Emanu-El in work in friendship, love and
truth
Paula Garnica
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
Richard Simonson
Phyllis Holtzman
-- for the good health of Jonathan Rowe
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
-- in memory of Alita Sevilla
Sandy and Abe Fisher
-- wishing Andrea Kanfer a speedy recovery
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
Shirley Goldblatt
-- in loving memory of Philip Goldbaltt on his yahrzeit
Stan Bloustine
-- in loving memory of Joseph Bloustine on his yahrzeit
Stuart and Marilyn Fisbone
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
Tammy and Rick Kaye
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
Teddy Eckert
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley
The Keeler Family
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Goldsmith-Kallan Fund

Karen Bloustine
-- in loving memory of Gerald Baker on his yahrzeit
Lori Corah
-- in memory of Terri Goldsmith on her yahrzeit

Merrill Mazzella
-- in loving memory of Ruth Doukas on her yahrzeit

Isaaca Siegel Landscaping Fund

Golda Siegel Doyle
David Blustien
-- in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Lothar Knobel Library Fund

Susan Cramer

Mitzvah Fund

Martin Zeldis
-- in loving memory of Martin Zeldis on his yahrzeit

Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Fund

Florence and Matthew Lewiss
-- in loving memory of Rose Pearlman Tulman on her
yahrzeit
Rabbi Aaron and Karen Rosenberg
-- in memory of Allison Glickman's mother, Paula Glickman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Bart A. Sayet and Lori Lindfors
-- in loving memory of Irwin Sayet on his yahrzeit
Edward Perry
-- in loving memory of William Perry on his yahrzeit
Susan Smith
-- in loving memory of Bernard Simon on his yahrzeit
-- in loving memory of Marlene Simon on her yahrzeit



Mishloach Manot Fundraiser Thank You's

**Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make our Purim
Mishloach Manot fundraiser a success:**

Hamantaschen Bakers:

Sue Fornara
Deborah Linder
Caren Linden
Jody Morris
Adrienne Parad
Sue Rosen
Armi Rowe
Shoshana Weiss
Roberta Reisner-Winograd

Bag Fillers:

Susan Fornara
Adam Kaufman
Deborah Linder
Pat Sher
Alvin Sher
Roberta Reisner-Winograd

Delivery People:

Sean Bendick
Judi Deglin
Andrea Fenton
Kim Fischburg
Susan Fornara
Barbara Kallan
Deborah Linder
Jacqui Mazza
Mark Newall
Mimi Perl
Ed Perl
Roberta Reisner-Winograd
Katherine Rosen
Adam Seidner
Gail Weber

**Thank you to everyone who donated baking items and/or
Mishloach Manot bags:**

Karen and Stan Bloustine
Judith Glickstein
Andrea and Paul Kanfer
Harold and Gerald Keeler
Deborah Linder
Regina Magnus Aryetey
Shoshana Weiss and Mark Newall
Amy and Orce
Chuck and Alisa Sheriff
Janine and Ira Sitko
Lois and Donald Steinman
Jo Michaelson

Brian Kent
Bill and Ellen Seeman
Sheryl Reagan
Judy and Steven Mann
Frederic West
Barbara Wolfe
Stop & Shop

Thank you to all of those who **donated to give a bag to the
entire congregation.**

(Note: The program is set up that Your own name would
not appear on your own bag.):

Sean and Anne Bendick
Michael and Florence Betten
Stuart and Judith Deglin
Karen Dinsfriend
Golda Siegel Doyle
Kenn and Kim Fischburg
The Fornara Family
Gary and Iris Freeman
Paula Garnica
Richard and Myra Gipstein
Bruce and Lori Goldstein
Geoff, Susan, Matthew, and David Hausmann
"CallTheHouseMan" wishing you a great Purim
Peter and Barbara Kallan and the EntireKallan Family
Cynthia Lesser and Megan Dame
Bob and Caren Linden
John Murphy and Barbara Senges
Stephen and Lois Panikoff
Andy, Adrian, Jillian, Zoe & Jacoby Parad
Mike and Marcia Reinhard
Rock Family
Rabbi Aaron and Karen Rosenberg
The Rowe Family – Jonathan, Armi, Nathaniel and Amanda
Bart Sayet and Lori Lindfors
Harvey and Ellen Schiller
Dr. Adam and Mary Seidner
Alvin and Patricia Sher
Tom Smith and Irene Brickman Smith
Claire Warren
Steve and Gail Weber
Nate and Shelley Weiss
Sam Winograd and Roberta Reisner-Winograd
Barbara and Scott Wolfe
Scott and Jennifer Zettler

Thank you to Deborah Linder for Chairing the Fundraiser.

April Birthdays

Jon Arruda
Gwenyth Wolf Arruda
Sean Bendick
Rabbi Polly Berg
Jessica Blaise
Thomas Blum
Michael Chuchev
Lori Corah
Mark DeBruyn
Alexia Dickey
Deborah Diehl
Rabbi Marc Ekstrand
Zoe Feinstein
Savannah Feinstein
David Feldman
Eva Feldman

Abe Feldman
Fred Fenton
Jacob Fenton
Gary Freeman
Myra Gipstein
Hillary Goldstein
Bruce Goldstein
Norma Hollandersky
Avery Holwitt
Barbara Kallan
Zachary Kanfer
Bethany Kanfer
Ellanora Lerner
Hannah Rae Linder
Peter Marcus
Anthony Mazza

Niko Mazzella
Casey Mazzella
Emilia Osovsky
Stephen Panikoff
Adrienne Parad
Jillian Parad
Sheri Pascal
Edward Perry
Amy Perry
Carl Rosen
Aaron Rosenberg
Bart Sayet
Rosa Schaperow
Patricia Sher
Michele Snitkin
Edith Swatzburg



April Yahrzeits

April 3

Michael Bloom
Scott Bloom
Zoe Holmwood Church
Maria Cordero
Evelyn Driessen

Joseph Fernandez
Adolph Goldsmith
Louise Goldstein
Howard Greenhouse
Charles Gregory
Samuel Liebowitz
William "Bill" Mandel-
baum
Sally Miller
Jean Morea
Jerome Rosen
Leah Swiedler
Cvanio Tauer
Bennett Werner

Francis Segal
Frieda Shapiro
Abraham Sisisky
Hope Stein
Mary Temple
Gordon Turner
Freda Weinberg

Joseph Epstein
Minnie Flitt
Marsha Gurwitz
Helen Hans
Mira Kil
Max Kline
Murray Luftglass
Arlene Margolis
Esau Mazur
Helen Michaelson
Nathaniel Proper
Joseph C. Quaratella
Ruth Rebenfeld
Helen Rosenholtz
Morris Rosenthal
Mary Rubin
Pat Ruck
Frieda Reznick Saltzberg
Howard Segool
Marlene Simon
Dorothy Spiegel

April Anniversaries

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

Brian and Robbin Alpert
Steve and Judy Mann
Emilia and Valery Osovsky
Gregg and Sarah Selke



April 10

Elias Altman
Samuel Bloom
Katherine Buckstein
Frances Church
Shirley Feuerman
Robert Flax
Miriam Miaz Fridman
Edward Gotlieb
Yetta Hartman
Elaine Jacobs
Frank Kelco
Minnie Krumholtz
Dorothy Jean Love
Judd Nordyk
Rose Schlesinger

April 17

Edith Brown Deitch
Sarah Diamond
Edward Edgar
Abraham Allie Feldman
Rebecca Goodman
Marsha Gurwitz
Samuel Kushner
Joseph Mann
Beatrice Mittelman
Nathan Paulson
Alexander Pollak
Lillian Shapiro
Samuel Sher
Bella Stricker
Rose Swiedler

April 24

Dorothy Dolly Abrams
Helen Atkind
Gertrude Pat Blinderman
Jay Breslow
Agnes Diamond



April Services & Schedule of Events

Given the ongoing COVID-19 concerns, the executive board felt it prudent to cancel all in Temple activities throughout the month of April. Hopefully, everyone is staying safe and well.

Note that Shabbat services were streaming live on U-Tube at 7:30 P.M on March 13 and 20. This meant that you needed to be watching at 7:30 in order to see it. Please watch your e-mail to see how future services may be viewed. They may be streaming, maybe Zoom Video Communications will be used, or another platform will be used.

Also watch your e-mail for messages from Rabbi Marc regarding other virtual ways to connect as they arise.

There was debate as to whether a hard copy of the bulletin should be mailed out. We realize not everyone has computer access or a new enough computer or phone set up enabling them to stay connected by the methods of communication listed above, which is why you have received this bulletin hard copy. We want everyone to know that they are still connected to Temple Emanu-El even if the building is temporarily closed.

60th Anniversary Celebration Postponed

Due to the Coronavirus threat the Starry Night Dinner Dance celebrating Temple Emanuel's 60th anniversary that was scheduled for June 6, has been postponed until later in the year. A date has yet to be determined.

Purim Night Thank You's!

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Purim Program a fun evening.

Thank you to those who baked Hamantaschen and put gift bags together for people to take home, and helped prepare the food for the evening, set up and cleaned up:

Len & Linda Cohen, Trevor Fornara, Harriet Juli, Mona Levin, Sue Miller, Edie Safman, Rabbi Safman, Deb Schwell, Gaby Schlesinger, Yair & Sasson Robinson, Susan Weiss and anyone else who spontaneously helped out that night.

Thank you to Barbara Senges for providing the Hamantaschen for dessert.

Thank you to Elsa Freeman, David Blustein, Golda Doyle, Sam Winograd, Rabbi Marc Ekstrand, and Cantorial Soloist Sherry Barnes, Jo Michaelson, and Roberta Reisner-Winograd for participating in the poetic rendition of the Megillah and/or participating in the Purim Shpiel.

Thank you to all those who participated in the skits, stories and Megillah readings from congregations Beth El and Beth Jacob.

Thank you to SSA and BBYO Yachad for their participation in the evening as well.



Condolences to . .



Barbara Luftglass-Morea and Greg Morea and family on the passing of Barbara's father, **Emanuel Luftglass**

February Oneg Thank You's!

Deborah Eichler Elliot for helping to sponsor an oneg in honor of her birthday.

4th grade religious school class

Sherry Pascal / Rachel Sherman / Barbara Senges

Thank You from the Dunkerley & Barnes Families

It is with heartfelt gratitude that we thank all of you for your support of our family when my wife, Ruth, passed away in February. Words cannot express how grateful we are to those who helped get us through this hard time. Taking care of every detail so that we didn't have to worry. To those who worked behind the scenes, brought food, helped in the kitchen, sent cards, and flowers; at a time of loss, your outpouring of love, kindness, and generosity was very comforting and very much appreciated.

Henry Dunkerley

Sherry and Matt Barnes

Michael, Debbie, Jordon, and Jenna Dunkerley

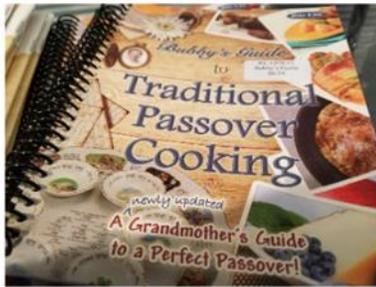
Note from the Gift Shop

With Passover coming around the corner, the Gift Shop has some Passover essentials that include:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Sedar Plates | * Matza Covers |
| Afikoman Bag | * Passover Cookbooks |
| Haggadahs | * Elijah's Cup |
| Passover Hostess Set | * Horseradish Dishes |
| Sedar Salt Water | * Matza Balls |

Currently, we are willing to deliver with a minimum purchase of \$15.

Quantities are limited. Email your request and please include your telephone number.



judaicashop@tewaterford.org

Sisterhood — Merrill Mazzella & Gail Weber, Co-Presidents

Hi Ladies,

These are difficult times for sure. We are all here for each other and although everyone is trying to stay away from groups of people, we can still chat on the phone and be supportive of each other. Don't hesitate to reach out to us if you are having one of those days.

In light of all that is happening right now regarding the Coronavirus, we have decided to postpone Golda's Balcony which was scheduled to take place on Sun, April 5, 2020. I have been in touch with Sandra Laub, the performer, and we are looking at dates in the fall. We will let you know as soon as a date is confirmed. And of course we will re-schedule the Rolling Tomato food truck!

Brotherhood—Scott Zettler

The Brotherhood will see everyone when religious school is back in session, hopefully on May 3.

By the time you read this article, our hope is that life is starting to return to normal and we eagerly wait to see all of you again.

Stay healthy! Stay positive!

Merrill & Gail

Spring Mah Jongg Tournament Postponed

Due to the COVID-19 virus we are postponing the Mah Jongg Tournament that was scheduled for May 27. Please stay tuned for a new date. We are looking at possibly June 29 if you want to pencil something into your calendar.



Social Action

We are going through very unusual and difficult times. It is a time when the need for Social Action is greater than ever, yet it is a time when it is virtually impossible to be socially active in the traditional way. It is a time when we need to distance ourselves from others, and it is a time when helping other people becomes extremely difficult. Even helping ourselves and our immediate loved ones is a major challenge. I understand that the Soup Kitchen is not serving meals at the Meals Center, but is instead trying to reach out to those who need meals. The Homeless Hospitality Center has many homeless people living together. Is that in jeopardy? We had been working with a group in the New London area who chose not to seek shelter, and were homeless outdoors. Now our hope is that they will choose to be sheltered, and that they will find a

place to be sheltered. Habitat has suspended all of its Builds, and we can only hope that our Sunday Build, scheduled for April 26 can go forward as scheduled—that would be a sign that things were getting better. My thought is that we should do Social Action for now in a way that we are comfortable with, and in a way that seems appropriate first for those near and dear to us and, then for our community and communities as a whole. If you have an idea that may work for social action in a broad way or even a narrow way, please contact the Rabbi or me. I hope when I write the article for the May Bulletin the world will be in a better place and that we can work towards social action objectives in a more traditional way. Stay safe and stay well.

Marty Zeldis



See TERS article on Page 10 for details about Purim celebration.



Just a couple of weeks ago, life was very different for our students, families and fellow Americans. It is astonishing how quickly we all needed to adjust to news of the spreading coronavirus, but we are committed to doing what we can to help keep everyone as healthy and safe as possible. We also very much want our religious school children and families to be able to stay connected with each other, to continue to learn and practice Hebrew, and share as much as we can as a Jewish community. We will be in touch with ways for us to do this.

Some thank yous...We are grateful to several people who helped to make March a very productive and fun month of learning for our religious school students. Thank you to Marlene Yahalom of Yad Vashem, the American Society for Yad Vashem, for her enlightening presentation through a mobile museum exhibit to our 7th and 8th graders about the children who survived The Holocaust. We are also grateful to Judy Mann, who shared stories about her work with the New London Meal Center and Homeless Hospitality Center to our 3rd through 8th graders. The children were very engaged and asked many thoughtful questions. Thank you also to the 4th graders and their families for participating in the Shabbat service on Friday, March 6. (Photos below)

Special thanks to **Barbara Senges** for her personal donation of special hamantaschen from New York for our school-wide Purim celebration on Sunday, March 8. Thank you to **Merrill Mazzella, Amanda Rowe and Gabrielle Zettler** for painting our students' arms as part of the Purim celebration. And thank you to **Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood** for providing funds to help pay for materials for the party. Students, family and staff all enjoyed the very entertaining comedic magic



performed by Magic By Derek. Congratulations to all of our Purim costume and grogger contest winners (every student went home with a "prize" so our children were all smiles per our school tradition.)

(Photos on page 9)

Closing info...As you know, we closed Religious School as of Sunday, March 15. Since then, Temple Emanu-El's Board of Trustees voted to keep the building closed until the end of April. For now, our plan is to return to school on **Sunday, May 3, 2020**. We are planning to extend the school year calendar through June to make up the missed days. Right now, we anticipate that the **final session will be on Sunday, June 21**. This means we lose one Wednesday session this year and that our school year will hopefully finish around the same time as local public schools. As conditions around the nation change daily, we will re-evaluate as we get closer to the end of the month.

Distance learning options...For now, our students will have distance learning options at home so they can maintain their Hebrew skills while we are on this extended break. Even if we don't see each other in person for a few weeks, we will stay connected as a community over the Internet. We will send you an updated school year calendar shortly. Rabbi Marc and Sherry will be contacting 7th grade families to arrange continued Bar Mitzvah study.

Everyone, please stay safe by remaining at home with your families, not touching your faces, and washing your hands often.

Warmest regards,

Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler,

TERS Co-Administrators

religiousschool@tewaterford.org



Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood
presents
Golda's Balcony
with Sandra Laub as Golda Meir



Photo courtesy of Richard Dionne Jr.

A 90-minute, one woman show, *Golda's Balcony* highlights Golda Meir's journey to become Israel's 4th Prime Minister whose leadership and love helped the country move forward.

POSTPONED

Sunday, April 5, 2020
1:30 pm • Temple Emanu-El

There will be a Q & A session after the show.

LOW:
t, \$10 per student, \$40 per family
accepted, not suitable for children under 12)

"It was powerful, emotional, frightening and emotionally moving as we learned about Golda's experience as Prime Minister of Israel and the horrific decisions she had to make regarding the security of Israel."

– Rabbi Michele Medwin, Temple Shalom, Monticello, NY

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Email your articles to Roberta at office@tewaterford.org

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