



Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand

Friends,

Our biblical tradition teaches, "There is nothing new under the sun" (Kohelet 1:9). Well, it sure does not seem that way. Instead, it appears that we are living in

strange, unprecedented times. Many of us are staying home when we'd rather be out. Many of us are working from home when we'd rather be working together with our colleagues. Many of us are pressed into being homeschool teachers. Physical nearness with anyone that is not in our immediate family or social circle is cause for anxiety. Now we have to think before walking out the door, "do I have my facemask?" Whatever we thought the future might hold, this is far different than most of us imagined.

I wish I could tell you to just hang on, and things will get back to the way they were. I know that would make many of you feel much better. It would make me feel better. But I can't tell you that. The truth is that the world will most likely never be as it was. Someday we will have medical solutions for COVID-19, either a vaccine or effective treatments. We will learn how to deal with this highly contagious virus. But in the meantime, fundamental shifts are occurring by necessity. This is not all bad. Many of us are learning and stretching far beyond our comfort zones. We are using new technologies and strengthening new intellectual muscles we did not know we had. We are moving toward a new normal.

What will the new normal look like? I can't answer that for you today. We are all just asking a lot of questions. How can I get back to work? What's up with the next baseball, football, or hockey season? When and how can I travel again? What will the High Holy Days be like? There are many more questions than answers right now. However, I can assure you that the future will be just as we create it. In front of us is an opportunity, and we are uniquely fit for these times. The heart of Reform Judaism has always been innovation and responding to the changing needs of our people as we face an unknown future.

At this time of year, we begin reading the Book of Numbers. In Hebrew, the Book of Numbers is known as *Bamidbar*,

meaning in the desert. Three-fifths of the way through the Torah, *Bamidbar* begins in just the second month after the Israelites left Egypt. There is no turning back at this point. In front of them was forty years of a journey toward a promised land. There is a poem by Michael Waltzer in our siddur, *Mishkan T'fillah*, on the theme of this journey.

*Standing on the parted shores of history
we still believe what we were taught
before ever we stood at Sinai's foot;
that wherever we go, it is eternally Egypt
that there is a better place, a promised land;
that the winding way to that promise
passes through the wilderness.
That there is no way to get from here to there
except by joining hands, marching
together.*

This poem reminds us of the truth in Kohelet's words, "there is nothing new under the sun. We are always slaves to something. We are always at Sinai. We are always on a journey from here to there. We are all on this journey together, spiritually, hand in hand, moving toward a promised land.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Marc

President's Message - Jo-el Fernandez



Winter has turned to----dare I say it----almost summer! Trees have exploded in color, and my deck and garden are thriving with flowers, birds, and even a few vegetable plants this year. This change in seasons had naturally led to me thinking about when the coronavirus

pandemic may end, and what will be different when it does. What changes have we made during this time that will benefit us even when life returns to whatever the new normal will be? For one, we will all be proficient using Zoom and other technologies that allow us to communicate, visit, get work done, see our doctors, or take a yoga class. Modern technology has made many things, including participation in Temple life, more available, more accessible, and more convenient.

However, I hope that our improved technological skills are

President's Message - Jo-el Fernandez *Continued from page 1*

not the only positives that we take away from this. For me, some of the unanticipated benefits of this time period has been the extra time that Sandy and I have been able to spend together while we both adjust to working from home, and the realization that a large part of my job can actually be done more easily from home! However, anyone who knows us even casually knows how much we love to travel, and to be "out and about" in general. We miss seeing our friends and family, and our Temple family, immensely. Being together physically is uplifting in a way that is not fully replicated with virtual contact. This is the part of our lives that we are currently missing, and the part that I pray

we will nurture when we can do so safely. But Temple Emanu-El is a strong and sustainable community, and we will remain connected as long as we are invested in one another and the relationships that we have built. This time has taught us that Temple Emanu-El is not, and never was, about our physical space (although we all miss seeing it!). As we move forward, may we focus our attention on those aspects that will make us stronger---things like leadership development, increasing engagement, and strategic planning for our future. I would love to hear your ideas!

Jo-el Fernandez

Notes from Sherry Barnes



Gratitude

Imagine how your life would change if you awoke every morning and declared:

*Thank You, G*d, for Your abundant gifts.*

Imagine if things weren't going so well and still you awoke every morning and said:

*Thank You, G*d, for Your abundant gifts.*

How would that change your life?

This poem was written by one of my favorite writers, Rabbi Karyn D. Kedar. Her stories and poetry have been a source of comfort and inspiration ever since I attended her class at a CAJE Conference many years ago. The poem "Gratitude" comes from her newest book, *Amen: Seeking Presence With Prayer, Poetry, and Mindfulness Practice*. Rabbi Marc has shared some of her poetry with us at our Havdalah services.

As I paged through her book, this poem resonated with me. It also reminded me of a Mussar lesson taught by Rabbi Marc, where we discussed "Hakarut HaTov": Gratitude, or recognizing the good. It is easy to recognize the good when we are happy, and life is good and just as easy to not to recognize the good when we are going through bad times and feeling down.

It's when we are in the midst of the tough times that we recognize there is still good in our lives. We are always hearing that meditation is good for our mental state. I believe setting aside the time to start a practice of thanking G-d every day for the things we are grateful for can be greatly beneficial to your state of mind.

I know for myself, saying thank You G-d for my family, my

friends, etc., reminds me of how fortunate I am, especially when times are rough. Thanking G-d for our abundant gifts brings our attention back to the things that really matter in our lives. If you already have a practice like this, you know how it can change your life in a meaningful way. If you haven't, you might try setting aside a few minutes every day, maybe when you wake up, or before you go to bed, to recognize the good in your life, especially in the tough times, and thank G-d in gratitude.

In the book, *The Mussar Torah Commentary: A Spiritual Path to Living a Meaningful and Ethical Life*, put out by the CCAR Press, Rabbi Eric S, Gurvis writes, "Again and again, Jewish tradition teaches us to give thanks for the myriad of blessings of our lives." As Psalm 92 reminds us, "It is good to praise the Eternal, to sing hymns to Your name, O Most High." You should join Rabbi Marc's Mussar class on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. and Or Zohar's Kabbalah Class on Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m. Both classes will help you find a connection to our lives that we may have lost or enhance the connection we have already made.

Things coming up:

Rabbi Marc and I have started discussing Summer Lay-Led Shabbat Services. Yes, they will be on Zoom and you will need a good internet connection. Rabbi Marc or I will be hosting the services with you. If you think you might be interested in leading a 1-hour service, Rabbi Marc and I are happy to help you. Lay led Shabbat Services will begin soon. Please email me at shirie3860@aol.com and I will send you a list of dates.

Enjoy your summer. Be safe and healthy, and make wise decisions as we ease into opening up and supporting our local businesses.

In gratitude, **Sherry**

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Annual Meeting Via **Zoom** on **Sunday, June 7 at 10:30 A.M.**

Watch for an email with the **link to Pre-Register for the Zoom meeting.**

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

If you have not been receiving weekly e-mails from Rabbi Marc with on-line programming and service information, and you would like to, please e-mail the office at **office@tewaterford.org** with your current e-mail address.

SEE PAGE 10 FOR ADDITIONAL INFO ON THE ANNUAL MEETING.

Mazel Tov to . . .



Sam and Andrew Venooker
on the birth of their son –
Jacob, "Jake" Levi Venooker,
born on Monday, April 27.
Mazel Tov to Jacob's
big sister Ella as well.

Barbara Bentley Wolfe and Scott Wolfe!

Spencer Bentley (son of Barbara Bentley Wolfe and the late Bill Bentley) and **Elian Silverman** were wed **on Saturday, May 16** amid the COVID-19 quarantine.

The couple exchanged vows from the rooftop of their apartment building with the Brooklyn Bridge in the background. Family and friends witnessed the beautiful ceremony via Zoom!

Condolences to . . .



Tracy Colsen Schaperow,
Sam Schaperow & family
on the passing of
Tracy's father,
Steven Schaperow



Sisterhood — Merrill Mazzella & Gail Weber, Co-Presidents

Hi Ladies,

After listening to Rabbi Marc's comments at our last temple board meeting, I finally realized that we are all in this new way of communicating for the long haul. Our mindset has to change and adjust to finding a new way to stay connected and continue to feel like a community. Back in March, I know that I was thinking "let's just postpone an event to a later date". This no longer will work. We need to figure out programs that work through on-line platforms and start scheduling them. This is new territory for all of us so I am asking for help from all of you. Please contact one of us if you have an idea for a program.

By the time you read this, we would have had our first on-line book discussion. Be sure to check your emails so that you can join us for our next discussion.

I want to thank an amazing group of women who I have had the pleasure of working with over the past year. Merrill Mazzella, Caren Linden, Emily Lerner, Susan Hausmann, Sue Fornara, Barbara Senges and Cecile Feldman. And the best part is that we will continue to work together for the coming year. Thank you, ladies, for your time, talent, and friendship as we continue to keep Sisterhood vibrant and meaningful.

All of us look forward to the future when we can share the same space and see each other in person. For now, we will embrace our on-line options.

Stay safe; stay healthy; stay in touch!

Gail

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

Cantor's Fund

Norma and Alan Hollandersky

--in memory of Alita Sevilla

--in memory of Ethel Perl

Endowment Fund

Chic and Jane Weinberg

--in memory of Louis Korey

Essential Services Fund

Armi and Jonathan Rowe

--in memory of Ethel Perl

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

--in memory of Ruth Alpert

--in memory of Dr. Steven Colsen

Christine and Thomas Kelley

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Paula Garnica

--in loving memory of James Shleffar on his yahrzeit

Abraham and Sandy Fisher

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Ethel Perl

Alan and Robyn Krasner

--in memory of Ethel Perl

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--to the Temple Emanu-El mask making project

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

--in memory of Ruth Alpert

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

--congratulations to Gail and Steve Weber on the

engagement of Dara Weber to Jeff Ritterband

--in honor of the birth of our granddaughter Maya Sadie

Panikoff

--in honor of the birth of Barbara and Scott Wolfe's

grandson, Wes Hewitt Bentley

Alvin and Patricia Sher

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Sam Sher on the occasion of his yahrzeit

--in memory of Leah Sher on the occasion of her yahrzeit

Caren and Bob Linden & family

--in loving memory of Irene Fox on her yahrzeit

Henry and Jane Weinberg

--in loving memory of David Rifkin on his yahrzeit

Jane and Marvin Schnur

--in loving memory of Eleanor Samuels Schnur on

her yahrzeit

Jennifer Beatty

--in loving memory of my mother, Anne Ressler, on

her yahrzeit

Karen Dinsfriend

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

--in memory of Ethel Perl

Kenn and Kim Fischburg

--in memory of Janice Reisner

Martin and Joanna Lazarus

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

--in memory of Ethel Perl

Michele and Harvey Snitkin

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Ruth Alpert

Peter and Barbara Kallan

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

--in memory of Janice Reisner

Goldsmith-Kallan Fund

Peter and Barbara Kallan

-- wishing everyone to remain in good health

Isaaca Siegel Landscaping Fund

Abraham and Sandy Fisher

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Barry and Cecile Feldman

--in memory of Ethel Perl

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

David and Jill Bauer

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Golda Siegel Doyle and family

--in loving memory of Isaaca Zelda Siegel on her yahrzeit

--in loving memory of Harriette Siegel on her yahrzeit

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Jane and Marvin Schnur

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Martin Zeldis

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

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

Mia Peterson

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Michele and Harvey Snitkin

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Peter and Barbara Kallan

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Teresa and Dave Von Bank

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Kitchen Fund

Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Lothar Knobel Library Fund

Mrs. Myra Chivian and family

--in loving memory of Sidney Chivian on his yahrzeit

Mitzvah Fund

Barry and Cecile Feldman

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Francine and Jeffrey Schwartz

--in memory of Ruth Alpert

Judy and Stephen Mann

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

--in memory of Ethel Perl

--in memory of Janice Reisner

Karen Dinsfriend

--in support of the mask makers

Kenn and Kim Fischburg

--in support of the mask makers

Martin and Margaret Trehub

--in support of the mask makers

Martin Zeldis

--to the Temple Emanu-El mask making project and
in memory of Alicia Bauer

--in memory of Janice Reisner

Myra and Rick Gipstein

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

--in memory of Alita Sevilla

--in memory of Alita Sevilla

--in memory of Ethel Perl

Sheryl Reagan

--in support of the mask makers

Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood

--food gift cards for those in need

--in support of mask makers

Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Fund

Mrs. Myra Chivian and family

--in loving memory of Sidney Chivian on his yahrzeit

Norma and Alan Hollandersky

--in honor of the birth of Barbara and Scott Wolfe's
grandson, Wes Hewitt Bentley

--in memory of Ruth Dunkerley

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jill Bauer

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Ethel Chatkin

--in loving memory of Irving Gordon, my brother,
on his yahrzeit

Harriet Lesko

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Henry M. Dunkerley

--in loving memory of Alice Werner on her yahrzeit

Judi Glickstein

--in memory of Ethel Perl

Michele and Harvey Snitkin

--in memory of Ethel Perl

Michelle Blinderman Davis

--in loving memory of Gertrude Pat Blinderman
on her yahrzeit

Norma and Alan Hollandersky

--in memory of Janice Reisner

--in memory of Alicia Bauer

Tikkun Olam Scholarship Fund

Armi and Jonathan Rowe

--in celebration of the graduation from High School of
Trevor Fornara, a religious school faculty assistant

--in celebration of the graduation from High School of
Jared Linder, a religious school faculty assistant

--in celebration of the graduation from High School of
Ellanora Lerner, a religious school faculty assistant



2020 Recipients of Rabbi Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Trevor Fornara - Ellanora Lerner - Jared Linder

The Rabbi Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Award Committee has selected **Trevor Fornara, Ellanora Lerner and Jared Lerner** as this year's honorees. Since its inception in 2016, the Award Committee has only once selected multiple recipients of the Scholarship Award. This year's honorees are all so deserving, that the committee was unable to choose from these three amazing graduates who each epitomize the meaning of Tikkun Olam!

Trevor Fornara is the son of Susan and Chris Fornara of Stonington.

Trevor has grown up at Temple Emanu-El. He joined the Religious School in first grade and as he says, "have never ceased to be involved since." In his application essay, Trevor speaks about "being consumed by a need to give back to the community that has contributed so much to my Jewish identity." The list of ways that Trevor has contributed is a very long one: tutor and Faculty Assistant at the Religious School, Secretary and President of Yachad BBYO, member of the Temple's Communication Committee, Youth Representative on the Temple Board, and Assistant Advisor of the Junior Youth Group. In his "spare time," Trevor attended Jewish Community High School, celebrated his confirmation, wrote numerous articles for the *Jewish Leader* and has assisted in many community service projects for Temple Emanu-El and Yachad BBYO. Trevor is also extremely active in service to the town of Stonington and his high school: 150 hours of volunteer work for Stonington's Community Center summer camps, after-school programs, food drives and beach clean-ups. Throughout his middle school and high school years, Trevor has been a leader for the Special Olympics Unified Activities, working with special needs individuals in sports and other school activities. Trevor truly believes in "Tikkun Olam" and has made it a significant part of his life.



Ellanora Lerner is the daughter of Emily and Arthur Lerner of New London.

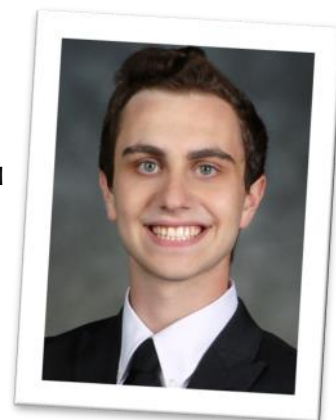
Ellanora became a member of Temple Emanu-El in sixth grade. In her own words, she has become an active member and youth leader, because she believes that "community is a necessary part of Jewish identity" for young people.



In her essay, Ellanora describes the countless ways she has contributed to the Temple Emanu-El community: Vice President of Programming for Yachad BBYO, Faculty Assistant for the Religious School, student at the Jewish Community High School, a member of the Confirmation Class. As Vice President of Yachad BBYO, Ellanora has been instrumental in designing the group's "mission statement," creating a scholarship to pay for BBYO membership for all teen synagogue members, and expanding the group's collaborations with other synagogues, community groups and churches. Ellanora is a talented writer and uses these skills to express her thoughts about her identity as a woman and a Jew. She is a member of and writes for both, "Jewish Women's Archive's Rising Voices Fellowship" and "Risen Zine". As a student at Fishers Island School, "very small, not very diverse", Ellanora brought the Jewish Federation's Encountering Survivors and Encountering Differences program to her classmates. Ellanora works tirelessly to improve the world and help others. Last summer she volunteered at Safe Futures and this summer she had planned to work with Connecticut Legal Services, to assist low-income Connecticut residents.

Jared Linder is the son of Deborah Linder and Sam Linder of Waterford.

Jared attended Solomon Schechter Academy and Temple Emanu-El Religious School and is an active participant at both Temple Emanu-El and Beth-El Synagogue. He is an honor student at Waterford High School. In his essay, Jared talks about being the grandchild of Holocaust survivors, and the promise he made to his grandfathers "to be a mensch". Jared credits his leadership ability and his confidence to be an activist for world causes to his role models in the Jewish Community. He is a strong advocate for Social Justice and is outspoken on gun violence, climate change, mental health reform and migration. Like his fellow recipients, Jared has an impressive list of contributions to the Jewish Community: Faculty Assistant at the Religious School, Vice President of Jewish Heritage for Yachad BBYO, President of Yachad BBYO, Vice President of Jewish Heritage for the Connecticut Valley Region of BBYO, student at Jewish Community High School and a member of the Confirmation class. Jared has also been instrumental in assisting with temple fundraisers and driving senior citizens



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2020 Recipients of Rabbi Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Continued from page 6

to services at Beth-El. Jared takes great pride in having led services at both synagogues, blown the shofar, read from the Torah and given D'var Torah.

* * * * *

It is unclear at this time, whether we will be able to honor Trevor, Ellanora and Jared in person. However, I hope our



pride in their accomplishments is demonstrated in this written tribute. Their names will be added in our place of honor on the plaque in the Temple Atrium. We wish them the very best as they begin their college careers in the fall.



Social Action

No one needs me to remind you that we are living through a very unusual and difficult time. It is worth noting that, although everyone in our Temple and in the regional community is affected in a huge and mostly negative way by the Corona Virus, social action and more importantly the recipients of social action and social services are affected much more than others. For examples our soup kitchens can still serve meals, but it is not nearly as satisfying or effective as it normally is. The socializing experience is almost entirely gone and the meals do not reach all those that it reached before. If nothing else "staying in place" makes such group togetherness virtually impossible.

For further example Habitat for Humanity is not building houses/homes. Those who expected to be moving into their own home months ago are trying to figure out how to re-plan their lives now that work on their homes has been halted for months; and the Homeless Shelters, how do they get by when many people are living in very close quarters and social distancing is impossible. Where do these people go to? How do they survive when all of us are competing at some level for pieces of the much smaller pie? And are the tensions for residents of places like Safe Futures magnified with so little employment and so much anxiety?

For our Social Action Group, the glue that holds us together, the Temple home and structure, does not exist in the way that it always does, and we are mostly scattered to our own homes and our own personal situation. In optimism, I say that the worst is behind us and I can hope and pray that when I write the article for the July Bulletin we will all be back as a unified and effective Temple Community. I take this moment to suggest that contacting a social service agency and asking to help their efforts would be a Mitzvah.



Project Mask

I want everyone to be aware that during the horror of this Pandemic, Social Action and the Congregation are making much needed Masks. At this writing (May 20) we have

made and distributed over 500 masks. By the time you read these words, that number will likely be doubled. Our masks are colorful, attractive, washable, sturdy, provide protection, and most importantly comply with CDC mask making guidelines.

We distribute them to area social service agencies, to senior centers, to those in need, to the Temple, to ourselves and to wherever there is a request.

Everyone should recognize that mask wearing will almost undoubtedly be required for the foreseeable future.

Thus, if you want to help with our project and help keep the Corona Virus at bay, especially if you have sewing skills; please contact Matt Shulman (2omattaline12@gmail.com) or Marty Zeldis (ztr8n@aol.com).

Our plea for help is not limited to Social Action members or the Temple Community, and we are presently beginning to join forces with other groups in the area to make and distribute masks. In short, and at this moment in history, everyone is welcome.

To our entire Temple family,
stay safe and stay healthy.

Marty Zeldis



June Birthdays

Kaitlyn Bendick
Erik Brengman
Hanna DeBruyn
Ilan Ekstrand
Nava Ekstrand
Jeffrey P. Elkin
Matthew Elkin
Aliza Elkin
Laurie Engelman
David Feldman
Emily Feldman
Ben Flax
Daimon Flax
Charlotte Frank
Meika Freeman
Michael Friedman

Joshua Friedman
Steven Frischling
Lauren Frischling
Marlene Frydel
Judith Glickstein
Alan Hollandersky
Melissa Kallan
Natalie Kil
Ethel Krasney
Tessa Lasser
Joanna Lazarus
Jared Clark Levin
Jay Levin
Roark Levine
Lori Lindfors
Devin Mazza

James Taylor Michalove
Mark Newall
Kyla Orce
Sherri Panikoff
Richard Pascal
Noah Pascal
Marcia Reinhard
Jonathan Rowe
Ben Schaperow
Carol Seeman
Eileen Shapiro
Aline Shulman
Max Siegel
Edee Smith
Deena Bess Snoke
David Stein

Dr. Kenneth Sunshine
Steve Weber
Joseph Weiss
Daniel Wolfe
Scott Zettler



June

Anniversaries

Dr. Barry and Phyllis
Bienstock
Lynn and Jean Brown
Gary and Iris Freeman
Richard and Myra Gipstein
Paul and Andrea Kanfer
Aaron and Jennifer Kaplan
Arthur Fox and
Pamela Kilbey-Fox
David and Keli Levine
Bob and Caren Linden
Gregory Morea and
Barbara Luftglass-Morea
Steven and Caryn Novick
Judd Mayer and
Dale Zechman Rosen
William and Ellen Seeman
Charles and Susan Seeman
John Murphy and
Barbara Senges
Robert and Nancy Trostler
Henry and Jane Weinberg

June 5

Ellen Abrahms
Milton Ballot
George Bor
Katherine Edgar
Ruben Elijah
Leon Elston
Joseph Farran
Sadie Garfinkel
Barney Goldstein
John Greenhalgh
Israel Kaminsky
Sylvia Katz
David Levin
Bessie Levine
Marcelle Levine
Katerina Morozenko
Margaret Ratner
Abraham Seidman
Edgar Sevilla
Hazel Shaw
Morris Sherman
Anita Thorp
Warren Young

June 12

Matthew Edgar
Helen Epstein
Siebert Feldman
Zachary Fradkin
Jerry Freeman

June Yahrzeits

Michael Glazer
Stuart Glenn
Samuel Kronick
Irving Kronisch
Shirley Lebowitz
Ben Massman
Joseph Muchnick
Harry Rollman
Arthur Seidman
Jack Stern
Edna Sunshine
Louis Weiss
Sarah Ziegler

June 19

Alexander Bochain
Benjamin Brody
Julius Cantor
Laura Charlotte Haggis
Max Kallan
Evelyn Kaplan
Boris Kil
Charles Kilbey
William Leader
Marie Mange
Scott Morganstern
Aaron Nassau
Alex J-C Shulman
Larry Spees
Abner West
Bob Workman

June 26

Sigmund Beck
Rebecca Feldman
Alvin "Sonny" Flitt
Dr. Irving Fox
Esther Irwin
Lois M. Jackson
Beatrice Kosseff
Israel Lazev
Dana Stephen Nirenstein
Aaron Parker
P. Joseph Reinhard
Isadore Rosenstein
Joseph Vail
Margarite Vinick



The pandemic threw us all a curve ball, which prompted us to attempt distance learning and to extend religious school a few weeks into June. Although it has not been possible to replicate in-person lessons, the good news is that our religious school students are still succeeding in the midst of uncertainty. We are maximizing learning opportunities despite the challenges.



Each week since April 5, we have been seeing consistent and enthusiastic student participation on our religious school zoom calls. This has allowed us to maintain connections and a sense of community for our students. In the process, we have been coming across some new learning tools we may carry into school next year.

We are grateful to all of our teachers who stepped up to adapt to online lessons, to offer ideas and support, and/or to interact with our students—in particular, we offer special thanks to Rabbi Marc, Hazzan Sherry, Randee Seigal, Rachel O'Brien, Susan Cramer and Anna Bakken, for helping teach on our zoom calls. Thanks also to Marcia Reinhard, Roi Refaeli and Tal Amar, for staying in touch from Israel with our students on the zoom calls.

Fall 2020

Looking forward, we are beginning to evaluate and plan for next year. Parents, you are integral to this process and we want to hear your feedback and ideas. Please plan to join us for an upcoming religious school community meeting; you will receive a zoom invitation later this month.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our students and

school through this time: parents, teachers, Religious School Committee members, Rabbi Marc and Hazzan Sherry. We would not have been able to meet the present challenges without your support. We also

want to thank the rest of our teaching staff and faculty assistants who worked tirelessly all year to ensure that our students have a fun and safe environment to embrace their Jewish identity, to learn Hebrew, Jewish history and Jewish values, and to practice how to participate in and contribute to the larger community beyond the classroom and Temple Emanu-El.

2019-20 Wrap Up

Please be sure to tune into our last zoom call on Sunday, June 21, when we will recognize students and staff. Together, we will also vote to allocate the tzedakah that students raised and look back on all that we accomplished this year.

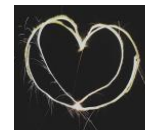
We wish you all a healthy and safe summer vacation!

Warmest regards,

Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler

TERS Co-Administrators

religiousschool@tewaterford.org



Psychology CT LLC is **seeking renters**, as we have **beautiful offices available** in Waterford. These offices are perfect for professionals (e.g., therapists, massage therapists, small practice attorneys & accountants, certain kinds of physicians, etc.), especially those that don't need a reception area, but may still benefit from a waiting area. Please see <https://sites.google.com/site/schaperowpsychology/office> for details, or email psychologycenteroffice@gmail.com for more information. PsychologyCT.com



Online Services & Other Learning Opportunities

Join us on Zoom for services (Shabbat and Havdallah) and more (Torah study, Mindfulness Programs, Kabbalah, and Mussar)

Links for services and other programs are e-mailed out each week and can also be found on the temple website calendar at www.tewaterford.org

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING NEEDED

Pre-Registration is required to participate in the Temple Emanu-El Zoom Annual Meeting, since the annual meeting is intended for those congregants who are in good standing. Registration is required to be able to take an accurate count when voting on both the proposed 2020-2021 slate of officers and 2020-2021 budget.



If you have not received weekly e-mails from Rabbi Marc recently, please **make sure the Temple office has your current e-mail address** so that you can receive the instructions on how to register and so you will receive all the information pertaining to the annual meeting.

Register as soon as you receive the link, so you will be able to access without any problem the Annual Meeting on the morning of Sun., June 7 at 10 a.m. If you try to register prior to June 5 and you have a problem, you may contact the office 860-443-3005. No one will be in the office on Saturday or Sunday morning to answer a call, although you can still register prior to the meeting on line.




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Gift Cards

The need to help those in crisis due to unexpected emergencies knows no season. 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 and other basic necessities throughout the year.



TEMPLE EMANU-EL
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Deadline for July-August 2020 Bulletin is Friday, June 12

Email your articles to Roberta at office@tewaterford.org

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