



Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand

We are approaching Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, pandemic or not. Since mid-March, we have been encouraging you to stay home, stay safe, and stay healthy. Numerous incidents around the country serve as reminders that simple gatherings, even in sacred spaces, can lead to outbreaks of Covid-19. Although some churches in our area have begun to open. We are not ready. Your Temple leadership has assembled an ad-hoc committee to determine when and how we can reopen safely. This committee focuses on re-entering our sacred space in a safe manner that minimizes risk to the greatest extent possible. Preservation of life is our primary objective and supersedes all other concerns. As it has been said, whoever destroys a single life, it is as if they have destroyed the entire world. Whoever saves a single life is considered to have saved the whole world (Talmud Yerushalmi, Sanhedrin 23a). We can never eliminate all risk, but we must make decisions about what is essential to do in person and what can be accomplished by other means.

I am pleased that since March, we have been able to gather in the virtual realm. **Attendance at Zoom services and social gatherings has been strong.** Even our community-wide programs have been well attended. But, I don't prefer to be on Zoom. I prefer to see you in person. I miss you.

I look forward to the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, partly because there are many of you whom I rarely see other than during the High Holy Days. I am pained that these High Holy Days will not be at Temple Emanu-El at 29 Dayton Road. However, Sherry Barnes and I will be with you for the Days of Awe on Zoom.

We are working hard to make sure these Yamim Nora'im are just as spiritually engaging as ever. There will be some things that we can't accomplish. I will miss the choir, gathering with you at the seashore, shaking hands, hugs, and kisses on the cheek.

However, the service and programs will be very familiar to you. You will hear **Jose Cordero blow shofar.** April D'Amato will be returning to engage our young people at family services. Carly Fleming will be playing cello for Kol Nidrei. **Andrew Feinstein will be challenging our intellects** with a Yom

Kippur discussion group. In the coming weeks, we will send you information on how to register for services. As always, there are no tickets required.

We will have a **special guest speaker on Yom Kippur afternoon.** Within the pandemic is folded a re-invigorated social justice movement. **Reverend Florence Clarke** will help us unpack the deep meaning of the events of our times through her perspective as a black woman and pastor. Pandemic or not, Jews must be seekers of justice and peace. Florence will help us know justice so that we can lead the world to know peace.

Many people are working very hard to make these High Holy Days memorable for all the right reasons. The key ingredient is you. We need you more than ever. The sustainability of Temple Emanu-El, the only Reform congregation in Southeastern Connecticut, depends on your presence and support.

L'shanah Tovah,

Rabbi Marc

President's Message - Jo-el Fernandez



As I type this, we may be in what is my most melancholy time of the year. As a true "summer girl", I always dread mid-August, as I know that the summer is winding down. My flowers are beginning to die. The sun sets noticeably earlier. The water in Long Island Sound starts to

get cooler. And, soon enough, a short autumn and then a long winter will arrive. This year, my melancholy is compounded by fear. During the summer, I can almost forget that the pandemic is occurring, as most of the activities that I love are outdoors anyway. But what will I do to differentiate the long, dark, cold days from one another, when the things that usually make winter tolerable, such as traveling, dinner with friends, plays, concerts, etc. can no longer occur as usual? This is where our Temple community can make such a difference. I know that one of my Temple friends is always a phone call or a Zoom meeting away with a smiling face and a listening ear. And keep an eye on our Temple website and your weekly e-mails for exciting fall and winter offerings that will keep us engaged as an active and vibrant community! Also, make sure to check out the Temple Emanu

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

President's Message - Continued from page 2

-El ads that will be running in the Jewish Leader in the upcoming editions, made possible by a generous donation from Scott Wolfe!

During the earlier part of the summer, you were asked to participate in a Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) COVID-19 Impact Survey, and I would like to share the results with you here. First, I am pleased to report that 115 congregants responded to the survey! That is a very impressive response rate for a survey, and contains a good representation of our entire congregation. Almost half of the respondents (47%) were longtime members of 22 years or more! And over half (55%) of the respondents were over 65 years old. To me, the most important question in the survey was "Would you recommend this synagogue to a friend"? This is the cornerstone question that generally gauges member satisfaction. I am thrilled to report that **96%** of respondents would recommend Temple Emanu-El to a friend (defined as a response of "agree" or "strongly agree" to this question). The 2nd most important question to me was "My likelihood to recommend this synagogue has _____ since the COVID-19 pandemic impacted my area". I am pleased to report that **97%** of congregants have either stayed the same or increased in their likelihood to recommend Temple Emanu-El since the pandemic! What this says to me is that we are doing something right regarding our efforts to engage congregants and provide meaningful virtual programming. One question covered areas of synagogue life in which congregants participated pre and post pandemic. The responses to those questions told me that the largest drop-offs in participation since the pandemic started have been in the areas of family experiences, followed by social programming. Clearly, these are 2 areas that we should focus more attention on in the months to come. The next part of the survey covered when congregants would feel comfortable returning to in-person programming, including services and social activities. What we learned was that one-third (**32%**) of our congregants **will not return to in-person services and programming until there is a vaccine, in addition to government approval, social distancing measures, and regular deep cleaning of the synagogue.** A nearly equal number (**35%**) are willing to return with all of the above measures minus a vaccine. A solid majority (**85%**) of our congregants would require a minimum of enforced social distancing measures before they are willing to return to in-person programming. Only **7%** of our congregants are willing to return to the way things were prior to the pandemic. What this says to me is that our congregants are taking scientific evidence seriously and learning from the lessons of other states and other religious denominations who opened houses of worship, only to have large COVID-19 outbreaks, including fatalities, tied to in-person worship.

Interestingly, it is not our oldest and most vulnerable congregants, but rather the age groups from 45-64 (42% of those ages 55-64 and 33% of those ages 45-54) who were most likely to respond to this question by stating that they would not return to in-person programming without a vaccine in place. My hypothesis, based on some conversations with congregants, is that this age group may include several physicians and scientists who are on the frontlines of cutting-edge information on transmission rates, vaccine development, etc., and also includes congregants who may be in a caregiving role for older relatives or loved ones. With regard to whether their ability to contribute financially to the synagogue has been negatively impacted by COVID-19, 56% of congregants answered "no" and 19% answered "yes". However, a full 25% of congregants preferred not to answer this question. The next question, which also made me happy, was "I plan to be a member at this synagogue for the foreseeable future", to which 97% responded in the affirmative!

As in most surveys, there was the ability to write in comments, and I was pleasantly surprised by how many congregants chose to write a few sentences expressing their thoughts about Temple Emanu-El and the COVID-19 crisis. I am including a number of quotes here that are representative of the vast majority of survey respondents. Any potentially identifying information has been removed:

"I think they've done a great job communicating with the congregation and giving opportunities to connect with the Temple.... It's important to me that the only Reform synagogue in the area remains viable. The leaders do a great job of that".

"Our synagogue leadership has done a remarkable job of connecting with the congregation via Zoom services, online education, and social events. The atmospheres created in-person and online are remarkably similar".

"It is the most socially and educationally active synagogue in the area....we find it the best fit. Have always recommended it!"

"I would not return until there is a vaccine. I am not comfortable meeting in groups, as I have seen when this happens, masks and social distancing go away and people are very relaxed about things".

"My enthusiasm to give is sometimes blunted by lack of giving from other congregants".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

President's Message - Continued from page 2

"I will not attend an indoor gathering of any kind until there is a therapeutic or a vaccine".

"I like the ability to still participate in Friday night services via my computer, which protects our congregants from the COVID-19 threat. This allows us to still feel a part of our Jewish community even though we have quarantined ourselves....."

"Appropriate COVID-19 safeguards have been implemented"

"I admire the spiritual support, have enjoyed the services, and made great friends along the way".

"Everyone is welcome at this synagogue....."

"A congregation is reflected in its congregants and in its lay and religious leadership. That is still as good...."

"Cannot improve on strongly agree!"

"I feel connected to the Temple at this time. I have not attended many services, but I am pleased with the level of communication via e-mail, Facebook, and the bulletin. I know just as much now as I did before COVID-19 about what's happening at Emanu-El."

"This synagogue will always be a part of my life....."

"I like the way the Temple leaders responded so quickly to the needs of the congregation by setting up YouTube and Zoom worship, meetings, and services. I feel proud and fortunate to be a member of this group of intelligent, motivated, and involved congregants".

"It is easier to attend an online service".

"I believe that the rabbi and cantorial soloist are among the best I have experienced and the congregation is dedicated to a mission I believe in. During the COVID-19 pandemic, they have kept their focus".

"They will be very careful with everyone's health and listen to the medical community to open safely".

"Rabbi Marc has reached out and increased his e-mail contact and even phoned to check on us. He has offered many opportunities to engage with others in book discussion, Torah study, and other services. I'm impressed with his efforts".

"The congregation and its representatives have taken a strong interest in the community by providing continuity as well as focusing strongly on the safety and well-being of its members and the community at large".

"Active, engaged rabbi and cantorial soloist"

"Our Temple has been a lifeline for my family with or without the quarantine. Its leadership has been concerned for its members' well-being. I look forward to reconnecting with fellow members even in our current limited capacity"

There were many other comments, the vast majority of which were in the vein of those above.

I look forward to seeing you all during our High Holy Day services. While I will miss having the opportunity and the privilege to stand before you holding a Torah during the Kol Nidre service, and to deliver my Rosh Hashanah address while standing before you, I know that we will be just as connected this year as we have throughout our history. Thank you for allowing me to be your president.

Shana Tova, **Jo-el Fernandez**

Notes from Sherry Barnes



The Coronavirus has changed our lives in many ways over the last 5 months. Like you, I wear a mask whenever I go grocery shopping or into any place that I am around other people. I also make sure to keep my hands clean. I'm working from home and, like many of us, miss being at Temple Emanu-El with

our extended T.E. family. At least we have been able to be outside during the warm weather, that's a positive! I try to get out and walk a few times a week and I'm looking to add bike riding to my list of things that make me feel good.

If asked what I miss the most since this virus became a part of our lives, it would be hearing your voices at Shabbat Ser-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Notes from Sherry Barnes - Continued from page 3

vices and Shabbat hugs. Spending Shabbat with you virtually may not allow me to hear your beautiful voices singing, but what it does allow me to do is see your beautiful faces and brilliant smiles! I love hearing everyone wishing a Shabbat Shalom to each other before we begin services and doing the same as we say good-bye to one another and close the Zoom door for the evening.

Now we are getting ready for the High Holy Days to arrive and for the sake of keeping everyone in our T.E. family safe, we have decided to observe these Holy Day services from our homes. Though I will miss not being on the bimah, conducting the choir, hearing your voices, or seeing everyone in person, I look forward to seeing your faces on my screen.

How can you make the High Holy Days special in your home? Dress up, change the scenery, sing, sing, sing. It's tough singing alone, I feel that myself, but if I know that you are out there singing, it helps me feel more connected.

Mindset also has a part to play as we enter our home sanctuary. How do we give these Days of Awe the attention and feeling that we get when we are in the sanctuary among our friends and family? Kavanah, the intention that we bring to the prayers we recite, can help with bringing the meaning of these Holy days. The Days of Awe should be a time when the words of these prayers help give us insight into ourselves.

The question we ask every year? Have we been the best that we could have been this year? Did we miss the mark? Have

we made amends with family and friends?

With the opportunity to begin again with a "clean slate", we move forward into this new year on the path towards finding our better self. It isn't an easy task, nor should it be. We should be aware of our actions every minute of every day.

The journey is what makes us better people. We are human and not perfect and recommitting ourselves to being better human beings helps us to lead a more meaningful and peaceful life. I will leave you with the reading from our machzor, "Said Rabbi Levi Yizchak of Berditchev: **"In every action, we must regard our own body as the Holy of Holies, a part of the Supreme Power on earth - that is, as a manifestation of the Divine. Whenever we lift our hands to do a deed, let us consider them to be G*d's instruments."**

May this New Year, 5781, bring you peace, health, and a successful journey to finding your best self, as we move through these challenging times.

Looking forward to seeing you at our Zoom Shabbat Services and High Holy Day observances.

A big thank you to our Summer Service lay leaders! Loved working with all of you.

Shanah tova u'mitukah,

Sherry

Social Action

To say the least, it is hard to accept that we remain in the midst of a coronavirus pandemic. It has changed all of our worlds. Social Action at the Temple is still functioning, but the level of functioning is greatly reduced. In order to regain cohesiveness and positive momentum there should be a meeting of the Committee. If an in person meeting remains difficult, the chair intends to schedule a virtual meeting sometime in September. Below is a listing of activities that remain ongoing to some degree. There are undoubtedly other activities and needs both inside and outside the Temple community. If you are aware of such need that can be addressed by Social Action, please contact Roberta at the Temple office.

The New London Soup Kitchen - Meals are still provided by the New London Community, although in a much different way and the Temple continues to sponsor a dinnertime meal



on the third Tuesday of every month. Hali Keeler, the organizer for that meal indicates there is a need for volunteers and that the Temple's involvement in both preparing and distributing the monthly meal is safely and effectively accomplished. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Hali Keeler.

Mask Making - Under the dynamic guidance of Matt Shulman and his wife Aileen, the Temple has been involved in the making and the distribution of essential masks which are provided to a wide array of community agencies such as Safe Futures and the Homeless Hospitality Center, area senior centers and soup kitchens etc. When the project started, there was little awareness of the importance and need for masks. As a result the Temple's mask project addressed a need that was extraordinarily necessary. It might be said that this region now rec-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Welcome back! We hope that you and your families enjoyed your summer vacation time together. We were busy all summer making plans for our students' safe return to religious school, which will begin as a virtual program. Our mission is to ensure that our children are learning in a comfortable environment, which is in the safety of their own homes, until the COVID-19 vaccine is made available to everyone. We made this decision after much deliberation and after consulting with medical experts, state public health guidelines and the Temple Emanu-El building re-entry committee.

Special thanks to Barbara Kallan and Marc Goldsmith for a grant from the Goldsmith-Kallan Fund, which allowed members of our staff to attend professional development workshops through the Summer NewCAJE virtual conference. We learned a great deal this summer and gathered new virtual curriculum resources and ideas available to Jewish educators nationwide.

New and Innovative Program for our Religious School

This year, starting on September 13, our school will be using Shalom Learning's values based curriculum and Hebrew program in grades K-7. This award-winning program was developed by a team of Jewish and secular educators and curriculum developers. Our school is among 120 partner synagogues making Jewish education more engaging and relevant for our students. The Shalom Learning values-based curriculum explores seven Jewish values and their relevance in our everyday lives. Students will learn to use Jewish culture, holidays, text, history, and traditions to make responsible decisions and build positive relationships.

Using the Shalom Learning Hebrew program, we will teach your children to read Hebrew, chant prayers, and understand their meaning. At home, your child can log into the Shalom Learning portal to practice reading and prayers. Learning together in a virtual classroom, students will see and interact with each other in a real-time, teacher-led class. By being able to log in from home (or anywhere), students

understand that learning and Judaism happens everywhere, not just in the Religious School.

For more information about Shalom Learning, go to www.shalomlearning.org. If you have questions about how our school is implementing the program please contact us at religiousschool@tewaterford.org. We look forward to a wonderful new school year and a productive partnership with Shalom Learning.

Focused Learning and Social Opportunities

This school year is our chance to take advantage of modern and engaging ways to approach Jewish education. We will maximize student learning in compressed schedules that provide Judaics and Hebrew lessons within smaller groups (pairs or one-on-one check-ins). Grades K-2 and 8 will meet only on Sundays while Grades 3-7 will meet on Sundays and Wednesdays. There will be an emphasis on interactivity and special activities that will be meaningful for the youngest grades (for example, craft material kits will be sent home). As we get back to structured and focused learning for our students, we also know how important it is for them to gather for some fun age-appropriate activities. Throughout the school year, we will be coordinating events (virtual for now) so that kids still have the chance to connect and socialize. We will continually monitor Connecticut Public Health guidelines for the latest news and will evaluate when it is safe to return to the school building for in-person learning and social events.

We appreciate everyone's patience and support as we embark on school year 5781. Please submit your child's registration as soon as possible so we can set them up with their login information for our Shalom Learning curriculum portal.

Shana tovah u'metukah,

Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler
Co-Administrators



Pre-School

If you are interested in having your child attend Preschool, please contact Armi Rowe and Jennifer Zettler at religiousschool@tewaterford.org.



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

Aaron and Pearl Parker Religious School Fund

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Elkin
--in loving memory of Pearl Parker on her yahrzeit

Cantor's Fund

Charlotte Freeman
--in loving memory of Sarah Chevan on her yahrzeit
Charlotte Freeman & family
--in loving memory of Miriam Toplosky on her yahrzeit
Harvey and Ellen Schiller
--in memory of our friend, David Margolin
Michele and Harvey Snitkin
--in loving memory of Bessie Snitkin on her yahrzeit
Norma and Alan Hollandersky
--in loving memory of Warren Hollandersky on his yahrzeit

Craig Blumsack Fund

Linda Jackson
--in memory of Mr. Jerrold Abell

Dr. Sanford Blank Computer Fund

Abraham and Sandra Fisher
--in loving memory of Stanley Jacobson on his yahrzeit

Essential Services Fund

Alan and Patricia Gruber
--in loving memory of Morton Klieback on his yahrzeit
--in loving memory of Angela Klieback on her yahrzeit
Caren and Bob Linden
--mazel to Barry and Cecile Feldman on the birth of their
grandson Leo Moses Feldman
--in loving memory of Jonathan Fox on his yahrzeit
Caren and Bob Linden & family
--in loving memory of Leah Goldberg Asen on her yahrzeit
Claire Warren
--in honor of Matt Shulman for his editorial in *The Day*
Connie Spaulding-Rubin
--in loving memory of Barbara Rubin on her yahrzeit
--in loving memory of Fay Rubin on her yahrzeit
--in loving memory of Marshall Rubin on his yahrzeit
Judy & Steve Mann
--get well wishes to Barry Thorp
--mazel tov to Maayan Rosenberg on her Bat Mitzvah
Karen Bloustine
--in loving memory of Rose Baker on her yahrzeit
Karen Dinsfriend
--in loving memory of Jack Dinsfriend on his yahrzeit
Kenn and Kim Fischburg
--in loving memory of Sylvia Eisenberg on her yahrzeit
--in loving memory of Mary Jane Helveston on her yahrzeit
--in loving memory of Joseph Eisenberg on his yahrzeit
--in loving memory of Diana Fischburg on her yahrzeit

Martin and Joanna Lazarus
--in loving memory of Irene Levy on her yahrzeit
Nathan and Shelley Weiss
--in loving memory of Charley Weiss on his yahrzeit
Steve and Lois Panikoff
--in loving memory of Oscar Panikoff on his yahrzeit

Goldsmith-Kallan Fund

Claire Warren
--mazel tov to Marc Goldsmith on the wedding of his son,
Zack Goldsmith to Elena Stojanova
--mazel tov to Barbara and Scott Wolfe on the wedding of
their son, Spencer Bentley to Elian Silverman
Jane and Marvin Schnur
--in loving memory of Nathan Rappoport on his yahrzeit
Lori Corah & Peter Marcus
--in loving memory Sherman Marcus on his yahrzeit
Peter, Barbara & Jillian Kallan
Thea, Ethan, and Joshua Johnson
--in memory of Enid Lesser

Isaaca Siegel Landscaping Fund

Cecile and Barry Feldman
--in appreciation of Mike Betten
Claire Warren
--mazel tov Barry and Cecile Feldman on the birth of their
grandson Leo Moses Feldman

Mitzvah Fund

Cecile and Barry Feldman
--in loving memory of Marie Rouquette on her yahrzeit
Donald and Lois Steinman
--mazel tov to Hali and Gerry Keeler on the birth of their
grandson Razi David, son of Ty and Emily Keeler Alhadeff
Hali and Gerry Keeler
--in honor of our grandson Razi David, son of Ty and Emily
Keeler Alhadeff
Michele and Harvey Snitkin
--in loving memory of Jodie Gorin Stewart on her yahrzeit
Mr. and Mrs. Irving Ziegler
--in loving memory of Joseph Ziegler on his yahrzeit

Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Fund

Matthew Shulman
Claire Warren
--in honor of Trevor Fornara receiving the Rabbi Aaron
Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship
--in honor of Jared Linder receiving the Rabbi Aaron
Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship
--in honor of Ellanora Lerner receiving the Rabbi Aaron
Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship
--in honor of the future Jewish Leaders of America and of
BBYO, Hannah Linder, Ethan Novick, Regan Kaye, Jack

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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

We are eternally thankful for the support of those below. . . Continued from page 6

Haynes, Simone Lerner, and Bayla McCaffrey
Matthew and Florence Lewis
---in loving memory of Harry Tulman on his yahrzeit
Alan and Norma Hollandersky
---in loving memory of Bernice Bunny Stern

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Alan and Norma Hollandersky
---in loving memory of Bernice Bunny Stern
Barry and Stephanie Thorp
---in loving memory of Brian Archer Thorp
Edward Perry
---in loving memory of Elaine Perry on her yahrzeit
Harvey and Michele Snitkin
---in loving memory of Eileen Iorillo on her yahrzeit
Nancy and Bob Trostler
---mazel tov to Hali and Gerry Keeler on the birth of their
grandson, Razi David, son of Ty and Emily Keeler Alhadeff

Shirley Goldblatt
---in loving memory of Morris Epstein on his yahrzeit
Stuart and Betsy Sharack
---in loving memory of Bernard Sharack on his yahrzeit

Ruth Joan Brody Religious School Fund

Kenneth Sunshine

Torah Fund

Frederic West
---in loving memory of Dorothy West on her yahrzeit
Jane and Chic Weinberg
---in loving memory of Bob Spero on his yahrzeit
Linda and Michael Barnett
---in loving memory of Gunther Goldman on his yahrzeit
---in loving memory of Max Barnett on his yahrzeit

Mazel Tov to . . .



Cecile and Barry Feldman
on the birth of their grandchild,

Leo Moses Feldman
born July 1 to proud parents
Jenna and Jonah Feldman

Marc Goldsmith
on the on the wedding of his son,
Zack Goldsmith to Elena Stojanova

Condolences to . . .



Cynthia Lesser and Megan Dame
on the passing of Cynthia's mother
and Megan's grandmother, **Enid Lesser**

Blumsack family

on the passing of **Joel Blumsack**

Social Action - Continued from page 4

ognizes the importance of masking, and masks are much more available to the public than they had been. But with the advent of the school year, the need for more masks may again become overwhelming and if that happens, hopefully the Temple will again be able to step up and fulfill that need.

Habitat for Humanity - For more than two decades, Temple Volunteers have been working with the local Habitat helping to build homes on a monthly basis. During the pandemic, Habitat limited its activities. With the hope for positive changing times, Habitat has reopened its Waterford Restore

and expects to return to Building Sites in the area. By the time of the October bulletin we may be able to announce the resumption of monthly Sunday Builds, and the need for volunteers for that project. There is a prayer that the worst of the pandemic is almost over and that when this historic dust settles, the Temple community and everyone else can go back to working on and with the needs of others. In the meantime, stay safe.

Marty Zeldis

September Birthdays

Jay Alpert
 Jason Arenson
 Sherry Barnes
 Michael Barnett
 Matthew Blum
 David Blustein
 Michele Caton
 Mitchel Corah
 Scott Daniels
 Stuart Deglin
 Golda Siegel Doyle
 Michael Dunkerley
 David Engelman
 Liam Feldman
 Ethan Fenton

Sandra Fisher
 Bruce Flax
 Robert Goldberg
 Shirley Goldblatt
 Leonard Goldstein
 Madison Goldstein
 Jay Hans
 Susan Hausmann
 Matthew Hausmann
 Elyse Hicks
 Sarah Julia Kaplan
 Leslie Kirschblum
 Brian Lazarus
 Cynthia Lesser
 Florence R. Lewis

Paul Luner
 MicKayla Marcus
 Bayla McCaffrey
 Rebecca Morea
 Zachary O'Brien
 Phil Schneider
 Nicole Schneider
 Sarah Selke
 Samuel Selke
 Lee Snyderman
 Jordan Stein
 Philip Trostler
 Jane Weinberg
 Yitzchak Winograd



September Anniversaries

Sean and Anne Bendick
 Andrew Feinstein and Elizabeth Bochain
 Lori and Mitchel Corah
 Barry and Cecile Feldman
 Abraham and Sandra Fisher
 Marlene Frydel and Andrew Grant
 Seymour and Patricia Hendel
 Gerry and Hali Keeler
 Arthur and Emily Lerner
 Paul and Anne Luner
 Richard and Erica McCaffrey
 Krum Chuchev and Naomi Mendelovicz
 Shoshanna Weiss and Mark Newall
 John and Jamie Stavropoulos
 Sheldon and Amy Stricker
 Martin and Margaret Trehub

September 4

Eleanor Baker
 Leah Betten
 Harry Chevan
 David Fearer
 Lanny Glasgow
 Roz Leader
 Cory LeVine
 George Lupkay
 Selma Orenstein
 Samuel Shapiro

September 11

Daniel Bloomfield
 Neal Buckstein
 Yetta Diamond
 Stanley Falk
 Jack Fischburg
 Judy Fishbone
 Pearl Glasgow
 Sol Gordon
 Harold Goteib
 Isadore Gotleib
 Ann Grant
 Dorothy Green
 Bernice Moeller
 Robert Schor
 Tibe Smith

Sylvia Stoner
 Herbert Swiedler

September 18

Bluma Cohen
 Rose Dibner
 Rabbi Chiam Feuerman
 Evelyn Graber
 Sarah Ann Grayson
 Jeffrey Greenberg
 Charlotte Hoper
 Edward Ilson
 Boris Liberma
 Michael Manson
 Isidor Meckler
 Richard Namenson
 Mildred Pincus
 Nathan Snyderman
 Esther Stein
 Samuel Steinman
 Abraham Sutel
 Alvin Swatzburg
 Arlene Wessel
 Dr. Norman Zeldis

September 25

Harold Alpert
 David Bienstock

Sylvia Bienstock
 James Connell
 Jack Dinsfriend
 David Flitt
 Eileen Kaplan
 Paul Kozek
 Sol Krasner
 Eleanor Krasney
 Alvin Michaelson
 Claude Moynihan
 Seymour Ofstein
 William Thorp
 Alfred Ursinus
 Sindy Vail
 Joel Weiss
 Charlotte Winograd



High Holiday Details

- All members are welcome to attend services via Zoom; however, preregistration for services is required.
See your weekly e-mail or the temple website calendar and click on the service for registration information.
- Guests are welcome, but they need to preregister.
- If Zoom does not work for you, you may participate in services by watching YouTube Live. Note there may be a short delay in start times when watching on YouTube

Selichot

Community Selichot Program is on **Sept. 12**, 7:30 P.M.:

Communal prayers for divine forgiveness, said during the High Holiday season. Drawing from biblical verses and rabbinic teachings, they are a soul-stirring introduction to the Days of Awe.

Cemetery Visit

Rabbi Marc Ekstrand and Cantorial Soloist Sherry Barnes will be social distancing with masks at the Hebrew Benevolent Society Cemetery #3 & #4 on Middle Rd. in Preston on Sunday, **Sept. 13**, from 1:00 P.M - 2:00 P.M.

Machzor (Prayerbook) Pickup, Monday, September 14

- Drive through at Temple Emanu-El (don't get out of your car)
- Rabbi Marc and Cantorial Soloist Sherry will greet you with a set of High Holiday Machzorim and a holiday gift bag.
- Pick which time works for you:
10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. or
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
- Return Prayer books by driving though on Oct. 5, same time schedule as pick up.

Friday, September 18 Erev Rosh Hashanah Service 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, September 19 Rosh Hashanah **Morning** Service 10:00 A.M.

Rosh Hashanah **Children's** service 2:00 P.M. (zoom link different from adult service)

Tashlich and Havdalah, 6:00 P.M. symbolically cast off your sins at your favorite body of water while on Zoom. Bring your own breadcrumbs, shofar, havdalah candle (look in gift bag), spices, and wine/juice

Sunday, September 27 Erev Yom Kippur/**Kol Nidre** Service 8:00 P.M.

Monday, September 28 Yom Kippur **Morning** Service 10:00 A.M.

Yom Kippur Discussion

"Are Jews less racist than other Americans?" Following on the Rabbi's sermon on Black Lives Matter, we will discuss whether Jews have some special sensitivity to discriminated minorities due to our history or whether the sensitivity has evaporated over time. The discussion will start at 1:00 P.M.

Monday, September 28 Yom Kippur **Children's** Service 2:00 P.M. (zoom link different from adult)

Yom Kippur **Afternoon** Service 4:00 P.M.

Yom Kippur **Yizkor** 5:00 P.M.

Yom Kippur **Neilah** 6:00 P.M.

Havdalah (look in gift bag for candle)

Religious Practices

Our committee is meeting in our new zoom format on the first Tuesday of each month. Although we can't meet in person, we are planning for the upcoming holidays with enthusiasm and a spirit of innovation.

Our holidays will be observed on line this year. S'lichot (September 12), Rosh Hashanah (September 18 and 19) and Yom Kippur (September 28 and 29) are fast approaching. We are looking forward to celebrating with the other synagogues in the region for S'lichot, while Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services will be led for us by Rabbi Ekstrand and Sherry Barnes. Torah readers from the congregation will participate via zoom. We anticipate beautiful and meaningful services every year, and this year

should be no exception.

We will be distributing the Machzorim (High Holiday prayer books) and small gift bags to congregants at Temple Emanu-El on September 14 from 10:00 A.M. to noon and 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. Rabbi Marc and Sherry look forward to wishing you a Happy New Year as you drive through. No need to leave your car. Thank you to Gail Weber and this subcommittee who have organized this!

Wishing all a healthy and sweet new year.

Shana Tova!

Jo Michaelson

Lulav & Etrog for Sukkot



Congregation Beth El is offering our congregants the opportunity to order premium **Lulav and Etrog sets** to be used at your home during Sukkot. The cost is \$36 for the set.

Mail your check payable to **Congregation Beth El** P.O. Box 1310 New London, CT 06320.

Your Lulav and Etrog set will be available for **pick up here at Temple Emanu-El**; date to be determined. **Congregation Beth El must receive your check by September 11.**



NEW LONDON Homeless Hospitality Center

Homeless Hospitality Center of New London is concerned about the number of homeless people increasing this fall. They are preparing for the influx of residents and they are looking for help to meet this challenge. Donations may be made to the "Being Ready Fund." Checks should be made out to the Homeless Hospitality Center and mailed to 730 State Pier St. New London, CT 06320. In the memo put "Being Ready Fund."



Feeding the hungry during Tishri



There is no better time to donate food than during the High Holidays and the Holiday of Sukkot. The High Holiday liturgy reminds us that prayer, repentance, and tzedakah help shape our fate for the coming year. On Yom Kippur we read the prophetic words of Isaiah encouraging us to share our food with the hungry, and Sukkot is a harvest festival. What better way to thank God for our abundance than to share with the needy?

You may drive through to drop off a bag of food on Sept. 14 when you come to pick up your High Holiday prayer books and receive a gift bag. 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. or 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. or drop off a bag a food when you return your prayer books on Oct. 5 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. or 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

It is also a mitzvah to make financial donations to help those in need. Locally, the Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut has a Relief & Recovery Fund which is used to help supply their food pantry. Donations may be sent to JFEC 28 Channing St. New London, CT 06320; write in the memo: RRF-Food.

Sisterhood -- Merrill Mazzella & Gail Weber, Co-Presidents

Hi Sisterhood Friends,

The Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

We hope that you are all doing well during these precarious times. We miss seeing all of you in person but seeing each other virtually is the next best thing. Below is a list of ways to participate in some Sisterhood events, programs, and volunteering. Please join us as we continue on in the spirit of Sisterhood, having fun and doing good.



Book Club – Our next Book Club read has been selected and it is *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. The date of the discussion will be **Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00 p.m.**, so please save the date and plan to read this terrific book with us! The link will be sent out the week of our virtual book club gathering.

Sisterhood Virtual Happy Hour & Membership Drive - Save the Date! On **Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m.** we will meet for a “Sisterhood Virtual Happy Hour & Membership Drive” on Zoom. Join us for a fun and social evening as we all get reacquainted and meet potential new members! Invite your friends to meet up with us online! After our introductions, we’ll be letting you in on a super sweet secret... our official Kick-off event, slated for late October. (See attached flyer.)

Sisterhood Kick-off Event - You definitely want to save this date! **Wednesday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m.** - Our Kick-off event this year can’t be our usual dinner together, but we’ve got a wonderful surprise in store for members of the Sisterhood. In lieu of a meal together, we’ll be meeting up on Zoom for a super sweet time. Join us at our Virtual Happy Hour (see info above) for the exciting announcement about our (always complimentary) Kick-off event! You won’t want to miss it!

Challah Baking Class for the High Holidays - Learn how to bake a round challah in time for Rosh Hashanah by attending an online class taught by Merrill Mazzella on **Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 7:00 p.m.** This free class is open to everyone, anywhere, so feel free to invite family members or friends! Zoom information will be sent out in a separate email. Save the date!

Sisterhood Volunteering - Voter Engagement Information - Being that our social lives have been reduced this year, you may notice that you have more free time to fill. If so, please consider joining Gail and I in volunteering with the RAC (Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism), The URJ's So-

cial Justice organization, by participating in the postcard campaign (everything is non-partisan). The RAC is partnering with the Center for Common Ground, Reclaim our Vote Campaign. It’s very easy to do as the RAC has put together kits that are mailed to you with everything you need except stamps and pens for writing. You can order your own kit here: [RAC.org/OrderKit](https://rac.org/OrderKit). (It took me just 10 minutes to sign up for my kit and view a short video.)

Beyond postcarding, there are other ways to get involved with the RAC.

You can sign up at the RAC to be involved in the 2020 Civic Engagement Campaign. When you sign up, you will get emails about the things you choose to be involved in - postcards, phone banking, or a bunch of other ways. This is all part of what the RAC is calling the **Every Voice, Every Vote** campaign. There will be a Zoom training every Wednesday to explain different aspects of the Every Voice, Every Vote Campaign. You can sign up to join these webinars here...<https://rac.org/rac-civic-engagement-campaign-2020-1>

Lastly, an important way to participate in this year's election is to VOTE!!! The RAC believes that if people are engaged, change will happen for the better. One of the challenges that the RAC and the URJ have laid out is for congregations to aim to be a 100% voting congregation. Rabbi Ekstrand hopes that TE can aim for 100% voter participation. Again, that’s non-partisan. It’s about being engaged.

We hope to see you soon!

Best & be well,

Merrill & Gail

Temple Emanu-El Gift Shop



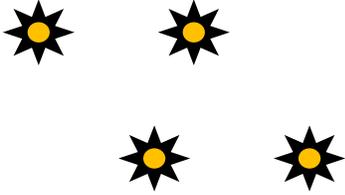
Due to the Temple remaining closed, the gift shop is also not open. We are excited to announce that a great sampling of our inventory will be available online to browse. Look for details in the near future.

Unfortunately, at the present time the gift shop will no longer accept Venmo as payment. We could not fulfill some of Venmo's requirements. Hopefully, we can come up with another solution.

As always, you can reach us at

Judaicashop@tewaterford.org

Upcoming Sisterhood Events



Challah: luyah!



Join Merrill Mazzella for tips on how to shape a beautiful round challah for Rosh Hashanah!

Tuesday, Sept. 8th at 7:00 p.m.
on Zoom
(link to come)

you're invited

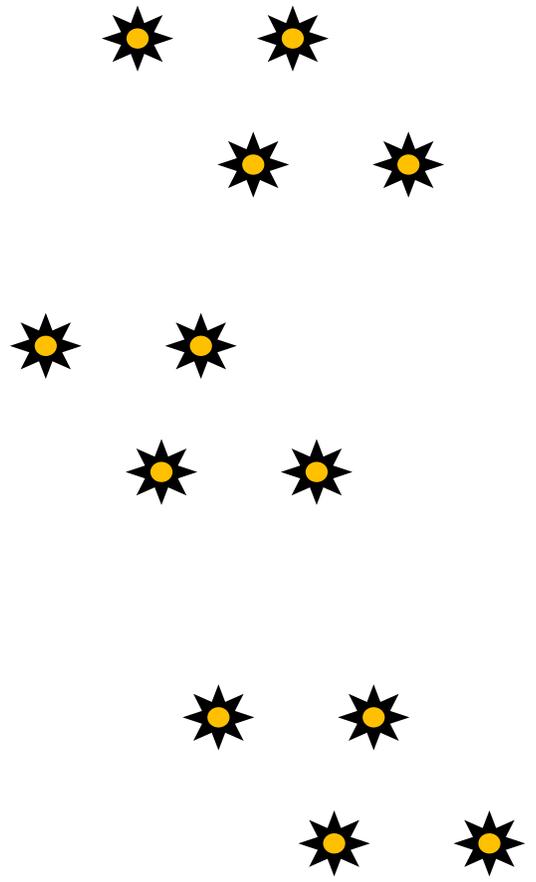
TO A VIRTUAL
HAPPY HOUR
& MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

Please join Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood as we schmooze with old friends and welcome new ones.

Tuesday, September 22 • 7 pm
Zoom link will be sent via email



Also, we'll be announcing our **SWEET** Kick-Off Event!
You won't want to miss it!



Brotherhood—Scott Zettler

Hi Brothers and welcome to our virtual Brotherhood. As you are aware there will be no Sunday school in the building to start the year so we will not be able to meet on Sundays for Brotherhood Bagels. I am open to suggestions for how to stay connected during this Covid time while staying socially distant. If you have ideas for activities or events please email me at scottzettler@gmail.com.

I hope that we will be able to get back together in person at some point during the school year, until then please stay healthy and safe and let me know if you would be interested in a ZOOM call or some other way of safely getting together.

Thanks,
Scott

Yachad BBYO

Hello everyone! My name is **Hannah Linder** and this year I am serving as President for our Yachad BBYO chapter for this programming year of 2020-2021. I have been an active member of BBYO since 2017 and this is my third year serving on the board. Two years ago I was the Head of Jewish Pro-



gramming and last year I was the Communications Director. Both positions were very fun and great experiences to have.

For those who are unaware our vision statement is the following: to help all Jewish youth develop their Jewish identity and leadership skills through meaningful Jewish learning and an inclusive social environment.

I always seem to get the question: Why should someone join BBYO? There is no right way to answer this. The best reason I can give as to why every teen from grades 8-12 should join BBYO is because **you gain a new diverse group of friends that you never would have had otherwise. The camaraderie among us is unique and very special.** I feel as though I am becoming a great Jewish woman with this incredible group of Jewish teens around me, always supporting my every move. BBYO adds purpose to my life and truly opens up opportunities I never would have had without being a part of this organization. Being around this group of people, I always know I can be the best version

of myself. It is one of the best feelings in the world knowing that I can offer others the opportunity to experience the same thing.

At the moment our board is getting off to a great start. On Friday, August 21, Yachad BBYO led a Zoom service with Temple Emanu-El starting at 7pm. On Sunday, August 23, I hosted a socially distanced board meeting in my backyard, to plan out the first half of our programming year. In previous years, our board has taken part in a convention titled “B’Yachad” where we have our board training. Although this year, due to the pandemic, most of our training is virtual, we will still be able to have our planning in person. We are also in the process of creating an in-person socially-distanced kick-off on Saturday, September 26. Obviously there are many regulations we will need to follow and it is all still in the works.

If you or your child are interested in becoming involved in our youth group, please don’t hesitate to reach out to me. My email is hannahlinderr@gmail.com. You can also reach out to our Advisor, Marcia Reinhard at mreinhard@jfec.com. We are always happy and eager to welcome new faces.



Service Schedule

Sept. 4	Fri.	7:00 P.M.	Kabbalat Shabbat
Sept. 8	Tues.	7:00 P.M.	Learn to make a round challah with Merrill Mazzella
Sept. 11	Fri.	7:00 P.M.	Kabbalat Shabbat
Sept. 12	Sat.	7:30 P.M.	Community observance of Selichot
Sept. 13	Sun.	.	First day of Religious School
		1:00 P.M.	Cemetery Visit, Hebrew Benevolent Society Cemetery #3 & #4 on Middle Road, Preston
Sept. 14	Mon.	10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Drive through pick up Machzorim (Prayerbooks) and gift bag (Drop off Food for those in need)
Sept. 18	Fri.	8:00 P.M.	Rosh Hashanah Evening Service Temple Board of Trustees Installation
Sept. 19	Sat.	10:00 A.M.	Rosh Hashanah Morning Service
		2:00 P.M.	Rosh Hashanah Children’s Service
		6:00 P.M.	Taschlich and Havdalah
Sept. 22	Tues.	7:00 P.M.	Sisterhood Membership Drive and Virtual Happy Hour
Sept. 25	Fri.	7:00 P.M.	Kabbalat Shabbat
Sept. 27	Sun.	8:00 P.M.	Kol Nidre
Sept. 28	Mon.	10:00 A.M.	Yom Kippur Morning Service
		1:00 P.M.	Yom Kippur Discussion
		2:00 P.M.	Yom Kippur Children’s Service
		4:00 P.M.	Yom Kippur Afternoon Service
		5:00 P.M.	Yom Kippur Yizkor
		6:00 P.M.	Neilah
		6:45 P.M.	Havdalah
Oct. 2	Fri.	7:00 P.M.	Sukkot/Shabbat Evening Service
Oct. 3	Sat.	10:00 A.M.	Sukkot Morning Service
Oct. 5	Mon.	10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. & 6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Drive through drop off Machzorim (Prayerbooks) at Temple and Drop off Food for those in need

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






RE/MAX[®]
ON THE BAY

**FOR ALL YOUR
REAL ESTATE NEEDS**

Direct: 860-443-4400 Cell: 860-625-5255
Email: Geoff@CallTheHouseMan.com
Website: www.CallTheHouseMan.com
Blog: CTHouseMan.com

THE City NEVER SLEEPS!

MYWHALINGCITY.COM • OPEN 24/7
BROAD & COLMAN ST, NEW LONDON • 860.443.8361

MY WHALING City

860-443-CITY (2487)

ATTORNEY RICHARD J. PASCAL, LLC
82 Chelsea Harbor Drive, Norwich, CT 06360
860-886-0266
rpascal@attorneypascal.com

Contact us today to meet your legal needs:

Real Estate, Commercial & Residential,
Closings & Condo Assns.
Business Law
Corporate & LLC Transactions
Discrimination Claims
Tax Law, Fighting the IRS & DRS
Corporate Litigation
Contracts
Employment Law

**NEW LONDON
SELF-STORAGE**

CLIMATE CONTROLLED

860-442-0008

www.NLSelfStorage.com

*Conveniently Located Just Over
the Waterford Town Line
at 960 Bank St., N.L. behind Sign "A" Rama*

Brand New, Clean Facility
24/7 Video Surveillance
Secure Gate with Keypad Entry
Month to Month Rentals
Free "We'll Pick It Up" Service
Locally Owned & Managed
200+ Units - 6 Sizes, up to 10'4" ht.
Climate Controlled Automobile Bays
Boxes, Locks, Packing Supplies

PsychologyCT.com

Schaperow Psychology & Associates:
Thorough diagnostic assessments; psychological testing; individual, marital, & family therapy.

Drug & Alcohol Treatment:
Clinicians that specialize in drug & alcohol treatment.

And:
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Center:
Evidence-based CBT to improve mental health, and decrease stress for certain physical illnesses.
860-447-2047 / PsychologyCenterOffice@gmail.com

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
PO BOX 288
WATERFORD, CT 06385

Please use PO BOX 288 WATERFORD, CT 06385
when mailing material to the temple

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
New London, CT
06320
Permit #480

Deadline for October 2020 Bulletin is Friday, Sept. 11

Email your articles to Roberta at office@tewaterford.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Our Leadership

Rabbi / Marc Ekstrand / rabbi@tewaterford.org
Rabbi Emeritus / Aaron Rosenberg / arloveskr@aol.com
Cantorial Soloist / Sherry Barnes /
cantorialsoloist@tewaterford.org
President / Jo-el Fernandez / president@tewaterford.org
1st Vice President / Andy Parad
VP of Building and Grounds / Russell Sheikowitz /
buildingsgrounds@tewaterford.org
VP of Religious Practices / Jo Michaelson
Treasurer / Thomas Smith / treasurer@tewaterford.org
Financial Secretary / Bruce Goldstein
Recording Secretary / Elyse Hicks
Corresponding Secretary / Deborah Linder
Immediate Past President / Sean Bendick /
pastpresident@tewaterford.org
3 Year Trustees: Robbin Alpert, Susan Cramer, Allison Glickman,
Amy Perry
2 Year Trustees: John Murphy, Irene Brickman Smith, Gail We-
ber, Scott Wolfe
1 Year Trustees: Paul Kanfer, Steve Panikoff, Marcia Reinhard,
Edee Smith

Membership Co-Chairs / Allison Glickman & Erica McCaffrey

Social Action Chair / Marty Zeldis

Sisterhood / Merrill Mazzella & Gail Weber /

sisterhood@tewaterford.org

Gift Shop / Susan Hausmann / judaicashop@tewaterford.org

Brotherhood / Scott Zettler / brotherhood@tewaterford.org

Kitchen Committee Chair / Edee Smith

Religious School Administrators / Armi Rowe &

Jennifer Zettler / religiousschool@tewaterford.org

Office Administrator / Roberta Reisner-Winograd /

office@tewaterford.org

Webmaster / Aaron Kaplan / webmaster2@tewaterford.org

Custodian / Don Kasper

Bulletin Editor / Mimi Perl

Location: 29 Dayton Road, Waterford, CT 06385

Mailing Address: PO Box 288, Waterford, CT 06385

Office: **860-443-3005**

Religious School: **860-439-0406**

Website: www.tewaterford.org