



Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand

Friends,

I've retrieved our Chanukiah from the basement. It is of a rather plain design, electric, and about 18 inches tall. We usually put it on a small table

in the front window of our house. We bought it here in Connecticut from the Temple gift shop. There were many beautiful designs, but we wanted something that would be visible from the street. Although Chanukah is old, this Chanukiah is new. The light it shines is a new light.

The Chanukah myth is that there was a single oil vessel for the light in the Temple after the Hasmoneans' uprising against the Seleucids. It was a rabbinic invention. We don't know of it until the Talmud, centuries after the Temple's 165 BCE rededication. The ancient rabbis took a historical moment of Jews fighting against Jews and brilliantly turned it into a story of Jewish hope. Leading up to the Maccabean revolt, Jerusalem's elite was already Hellenized and significantly benefited from Greek influence. They did not abandon Judaism but adapted it in progressive ways. Sound familiar? However, some sources indicate there was even more tension. Jews outside of Jerusalem did not benefit so much and were not interested in Hellenization.

Further, there was jockeying for the position of High Priest replete with betrayals and buying of political and military support from their Seleucid overseers. Antiochus IV's increasing interference in Jerusalem was much less about religion and much more about putting down Jewish infighting and securing the economic benefits the Seleucids expected from their vassal city, Jerusalem. But, all that is not a pretty picture and certainly does not inspire hope.

Jewish tradition is overflowing with stories and texts. It seems very unlikely that the Talmudic rabbis did not know something of a more real history surrounding the Hasmonean revolt against the Seleucids. Instead, they chose to let history lay in its grave and create a new tradition. This tradition comes each year when we most need it, as the longest night is approaching. This year,

we need that hope, not because of anti-Jewish, anti-Semitic, or anti-Zionist fervor but rather because we witness radical political polarization tearing at our nation's very fabric.

This year not only will we be putting our electric Chanukiah in the front window and lighting our smaller Chanukiot on the dining room table, but we will also be participating in virtual candle lightings all over our region. We'll be connected on Zoom. Each square on our screen amplifying the light in our home. These new lights are for the hope that we can overcome the animosity, rumor mongering, and villainization of our fellow Americans in favor of truth, understanding, and righteous action for the sake of all. Our prophetic tradition teaches that we have a higher purpose than a perpetuation of Judaism or even Jewish sovereignty. As Isaiah delivered the message in the sixth century,

It is too little that you should be My servant
In that I raise up the tribes of Jacob
And restore the survivors of Israel:
I will also make you a light of nations,
That My salvation may reach the ends of the earth." (Is. 49:6)

**Happy Hanukkah,
Rabbi Marc**



President's Message



By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will be over and Chanukah will be upon us. As I reflect upon these two holidays---one secular and the other a minor, but popular, holiday on the Jewish calendar---we cannot help but think about how differ-

ently these holidays will be observed this year. As I am writing this in mid-November, the pandemic has escalated dramatically throughout the country, and celebrations for Diwali, Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and other winter festivals are expected to further propel our nation into crisis. Some of you are tired of hearing about the pandemic. I, too, am tired of reading about it, writing about it, having meetings about it, and worrying about the safety of loved ones. I am tired of having to remember to bring a mask everywhere I go. And we miss traveling the world and seeing friends and loved ones most of all!

However, during this season of giving thanks, there is much to be grateful for. We can be grateful that so many lives have been saved by wearing masks, staying home, and avoiding gatherings. We can be thankful that our state government officials are making data and science-driven decisions, and that mask compliance in our area of the country is high. And so many times since March, I have been grateful that, if we had to live through a pandemic, that at least we have technology like Zoom and YouTube to keep us connected and engaged. Can you imagine living through the 1918 flu pandemic? We would have been completely cut off, without the spirituality of virtual religious services, the social connection of seeing one another's smiling faces and interacting together and without entertainment at our fingertips from cable television and Netflix. We can be thankful for added time with our immediate families, and the ability to strengthen relationships with children or partners. We can be thankful for our front line physicians, nurses, and other healthcare workers, social workers, grocery store employees, public transportation employees, and all those who put their lives on the line for the rest of us every day. And, we can be thankful for scientists and modern medicine, since as I write this both Pfizer's and Moderna's COVID-19 vaccines are demonstrating 90-95% efficacy in large-scale clinical trials. Finally----hope on the horizon!

Which brings me to Chanukah, the festival of lights, of miracles, and of hope. Chanukah has always been one of my favorite holidays for the light that it brings to short, cold, dark winter days. I am always sad after the 8th

night, when we once again revert to darkness. However, this year, Chanukah ends just a few days before the winter solstice, after which the days begin to get lighter for longer periods of time, imperceptibly at first, but noticeable within a few weeks. There is hope of longer days, of warmer weather, of a vaccine that is safe and effective and will allow for us to gather in person again, and most importantly, the hope that we all get through the next very difficult months of the pandemic safely.

As I write this, Connecticut's COVID-19 positivity rate is between 5-6%, hospitalizations are increasing dramatically every day and are now at the levels that they were during the early days of the pandemic in late March and will likely exceed that number within days, and deaths from COVID-19 across all age groups continue to increase. While New London County is no longer the state "hot spot", we are currently up to a 7-day moving average of 24.1 cases per 100,000 residents (compared to 51.6 cases in Fairfield County), with 64 additional New London County residents being diagnosed every day as of this writing. These numbers will undoubtedly increase after each of the winter holidays. Our government officials are hesitant to recommend that people refrain from holding gatherings inside their own homes to celebrate the winter holidays---so I will do it. Please. Celebrate the holidays within your own household or your previously established "quaranteam" bubble. Have dinner outdoors if you absolutely feel that you need to gather in person. I want for all of us to be here to celebrate together once the pandemic has ended, whenever that may be. We all have COVID-19 fatigue. But if this virus has taught us anything at all, it is that our lives are intertwined, and Jewish values dictate that we are all responsible for one another, not just ourselves. Our locals rabbis and other eastern Connecticut Jewish organizations have teamed up to make Chanukah special this year, and every night of the holiday at 6:00pm a different local congregation or organization will be sponsoring a group Zoom candle lighting, so that we can all observe the holiday by performing the mitzvah of lighting the Chanukkiah together from the safety of our own homes. I can't wait to see you there!

Jo-el



Notes from Sherry Barnes



I'm sitting here thinking about my article for December. While looking out my front window at the darkening, almost winter looking sky, I think about the lights of Chanukah and how beautiful the lit candles will be as they light up the same window with their beautiful glow. I think about what other special things hap-

pen in December and the thought of my Mom comes to my mind. Her birthday is December 23. She would have been 83 this year. December 19 will mark 10 months since she passed. It feels like an eternity, and yet, like it was yesterday. She is always close, always in my heart, just a whisper or a thought away. Lingering in the moments of sadness and loss, one of those thoughts brings a memory to mind that makes me smile. The smile turns into a laugh, this opens the door to all of Mom's beauty and brilliance, as brilliant as the Chanukah candles that will light up those 8 evenings.

I was blessed with yet another memory as I thought about my Mom. About 20 years ago, my mom and dad, Hali Keeler, Mindy Halperin, and Nancy Trostler, all went on a very special journey together. They all became Bar and Bat Mitzvah! They worked hard, put the time in, learned to read Hebrew, led a Shabbat morning service, and read from Torah and Haftarah. I loved every moment of their journey, and the day that they all became B'nei Mitzvah, was a wonderfully emotional experience for all

of us.

On Saturday, December 5, 2020, you will have the chance to have that same wonderfully emotional experience with yet another group of beautiful souls who came together to take the same journey. Five hard working members of our Emanu-El Family decided that they would also like to become Bar and Bat Mitzvah. Working hard to learn to read Hebrew, master their prayers, Torah and Haftarah, Irene Brickman Smith, Tom Smith, Claire Warren, Marianne DeBruyn, and Erik Brengman, will join a special group who have also become Adult B'nei Mitzvah.

This group of Hebrew Students has not only studied hard to attain their goal but have also become very good friends along the way. They have been so supportive of each other; encouraging each other as they climb this mountain and make it to the top together. I am so very proud of them and all of the adults that have become B'nei Mitzvah at Emanu-El over the years.

Please join us, Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., and support Irene, Tom, Claire, Marianne, and Erik, on this very special day.

B'shir,

Sherry



Religious School 860-439-0406 | religiousschool@tewaterford.org

We were thrilled to see so many of our religious school

Gwenyth "Goose" Arruda



families tune into our First Friday Family Shabbat on **Friday, November 6** as we **celebrated the consecration of our Kitah Gan students Gwenyth "Goose" Arruda and Morgan Hicks.** Mazal Tov to the Arruda and Hicks Families! The first time since the start of the pandemic, it was a meaningful time for

our students and their families to gather together virtually for an earlier Shabbat service. Morgan and Gwenyth are pictured in this bulletin.

Rabbi Marc and Hazzan Sherry led Tefillah Time with our students from 6:45pm-7:30pm – an abridged Shabbat service that includes stories, prayers, poetry, and songs. Because religious school is limited to one hour virtual classes by grade, we have missed gathering as a group for assemblies like this. It was very special for our students to be able to see the rest of their religious school friends

Morgan Hicks



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on the zoom service. We were delighted to see more of our Kitah Zayin students and their families attending regular Shabbat services at 7:30pm as they prepare for their upcoming B'nei Mitzvah beginning this spring.

Many thanks to Rabbi Marc for donating the candles and kiddush cups that were delivered to each religious school family. We hope our families will continue to put the Shabbat candles, kiddush cups and children's Mishkan Tefillah siddurim we sent home to good use. Once we are back in the school building, we ask that families please return these special kids prayer books to the Temple.

We hope to see you all again at our next First Friday Family Shabbat on December 4, beginning at 6:45pm.

On Friday November 20, we held a special game night at 6:00pm as part of our monthly series of Fun Family Fridays. We played fun rounds of Thanksgiving-themed Family Feud as a way for students, staff and families to socialize before Shabbat service at 7:30pm. The goal of these gatherings is simply to find opportunities for everyone to get to know each other better.

Last week, students and families were able to attend a virtual Chanukah fair featuring items for all ages at Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood's gift shop, which now has an online store for your convenience. It's a great place to find candles, dreidels, gelt and more great gift ideas for

Chanukah. Check it out at: <https://judaicashop.wixsite.com/website>

Tzedakah is an important Jewish mitzvah that we continue to encourage our students to do. Please consider donating an unwrapped toy for a local Toys for Tots collection. Check your local newspaper for a list of collection sites.

On Friday December 11, we will plan to meet at 6:00pm for some pre-Chanukah Shabbat Service activities (more details to follow). Immediately after, we can all tune into the congregation-wide Chanukah Shabbat Service at 7:30pm. **Have your chanukiyot and candles ready so we can all light up our screens together.**

Religious school will be on vacation for winter break, so there are no classes on December 23, 27 or 30 and January 3. **Kitah Gimmel through Kitah Zayin virtual classes return on Wednesday, January 6. Kitah Gan. Kitah Alef-Bet A and B virtual classes return on Sunday, January 10.**

Chag Chanukah Sameach,

Armi and Jennifer



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

Dear Sisterhood friends,

Like many of you, we are looking forward to casting 2020 into the past – but let's not forget that in the midst of the hardships and craziness of this year, there have been blessings that will be remembered as well. Births and weddings did brighten the lives of some of our extended Sisterhood families. So for those happy times, 2020 will always have a silver lining to be remembered by.

Meanwhile, we're still working hard to stay connected by trying out different virtual events via Zoom. While our most recent try at something new (our Movie Night Re-invented) had a few hiccups, we're still determined to find a way to share a movie together, so stay tuned!

Our Kick-off event, the **Bean-to-Bar Chocolate Tasting**, was popular with 65 participants enjoying delicious craft chocolates together via Zoom. In addition to the tasting, a fundraiser came about and over 200 bars were purchased netting the Sisterhood over \$500. Thank you to

all who ordered chocolate bars! We'd also like to thank Sue Fornara for personalizing our chocolate tasting placemats, Pamela Kilbey-Fox, Edee Smith, Robbin Alpert and Emily Lerner for being our delivery elves, and Caren Linden for collecting all of the chocolate orders.

Another successful fundraiser, the annual sale of mahjong cards run by Iris Freeman, netted the Sisterhood \$635! Thank you to Iris for her dedication to the Sisterhood and our love of all things mahjong! See below for details on the sale of the 2021 mahjong cards.

The temple's Gift Shop is ready for all of your Chanukah needs! Thank you to Susan Hausmann for running the Gift Shop through a website she created which makes it easy to shop from home. See page 11 for more about the Gift Shop from Susan.

If you aren't a member of the Sisterhood and would like

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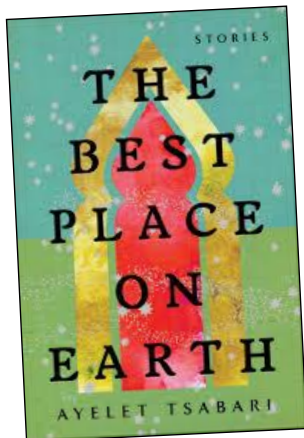
Sisterhood -- continued from page 4

to become one, it's not too late! Please contact Merrill or Gail to request a membership form. Dues are just \$36 per year and primarily go towards our support of temple life. Please join us!

Lastly, we'd like to wish everyone a very Happy Chanukah filled with latkes, light and hope.

Merrill & Gail

Next Book Club - Monday, Dec. 7 at 7:00 p.m. - *The Best Place on Earth*, a collection of



short stories by Ayelet Tsabari. "These eleven spellbinding stories often focus on Israel's Mizrahi Jews, featuring mothers and children, soldiers and bohemians, lovers and best friends, all searching for their place in the world. Absorbing, tender, and sharply observed, *The Best Place on Earth* infuses moments of sorrow with small moments of grace: a boy composes poetry in a

bomb shelter; an old photo helps a girl make sense of her mother's rootless past. Tsabari's voice is gentle yet wise, illuminating the burdens of history, the strength of the heart, and our universal desire to belong." This book is available from Amazon (and Kindle).

Movie Night - Reinvented! - Though we hit some snags on the viewing of *The Keeper* as a group, if you would like to view "The Keeper" on your own, we will soon have 2 DVD's of the movie to loan out to Sisterhood members. If you'd like to be put on the list to borrow a dvd, please contact Barbara Senges at professeur38@me.com.

The Keeper was released in 2018 (in both English & German) and was directed by Marcus H. Rosenmuller. It's the true story of Manchester City goalkeeping legend Bert Trautmann, who rose from being a German POW to being a hero for British football fans. It's also a love story between a young English woman and a German POW who together overcome prejudice, public hostility and personal tragedy.

Thank you, Merrill, for organizing our fabulous Bean to Bar Chocolate event hosted by Estelle Tracy, a chocolate sommelier!! Wonderful, delicious, fun evening!!

2021 MAH JONGG CARDS ON SALE NOW

FIRST OFF, THANKS FOR ALL THE ORDERS WE GOT FOR 2020 cards!

By purchasing your cards through us, the NMJL donates back a portion of the proceeds. Due to the extra special effort by many of you to solicit sales from your mahjong friends, we received over \$600 from the NMJL this past year, setting a record for us. I couldn't do this without all of you!! I remember when I started this and was happy to make \$50 profit (and I won't tell you how many of the cards were purchased by me).

AND NOW IT IS TIME TO START PLACING YOUR ORDERS FOR THE 2021 NMJL cards.

The NMJL cost for 2021 cards will be \$9 for Standard size and \$10 for Large size. This is an increase of



\$1 — the price had remained the same for several years.

Orders can be sent to the Temple NOW for the 2021

cards. I have to place our total pre-order (with payment) in mid-January. The cards get mailed in late March, and they go into effect April 1st. The NMJL does not give us any donations for any cards that I purchase after late January.

To place an order, please make out your checks to Temple EmanuEL Sisterhood and mail them to: Temple EmanuEL Sisterhood, PO Box 288, Waterford, CT 06385.

Indicate how many, and what size you would like.

If you have ordered through me before but your mailing address has changed, please let me know. Also, please **include your email**.

These get mailed from New York in late March; so snow-birds, keep that in mind if you plan to be at a different location in late March.

If you are ordering for a group (please, please ask your non-sisterhood friends and family), you can have the cards sent to you or to each individual's home. The NMJL does send out an informational brochure every year to those members for whom they have an address on file, so if you give me the individual addresses, I am happy to provide them to the NMJL.

Don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions!

Iris Freeman

Sisterhood Mahjongg connection

lfreegang@aol.com, 860-460-3081

BBYO -- Yachad Chapter

More than just fun and film at the DIY drive-in

By Jack Haynes

On October 17, Yachad BBYO had our second event of the year with our "DIY Drive In" event! This event was the regional kick-off for BBYO Connecticut Valley Region. The event began at the Novick family's house at 5:30pm where 13 Yachad members joined together.

The first aspect of the event focused on the Jewish holiday of Sukkot. Vice President of Jewish Heritage, Simone Lerner and VP of Programming, Ethan Novick, organized a wonderful activity. Each teen constructed a mini Sukkah out of different craft supplies while admiring each other's creations. Not only did we build Sukkahs but we also had a wonderful Havdalah complete with a lulav and etrog. Incorporating different aspects of Judaism is very important to Yachad. Simone always does an excellent job at not only educating members, but also engaging members in creative Jewish activities.

The next part of the event was the drive in! Regional BBYO Officers, Josh Cohen and Jen Kruzansky, supplied Yachad with a movie projector in order to create the "drive-in" feeling without the cars. A big thank you to the

Novick family for helping set up our projector and make-shift screen outside! Around the fire pit, we bundled up with blankets and camping chairs to watch the comedy movie, *Paul Blart: Mall Cop*. Although it was fairly cold at this point, a good time was had by all.

At every event, members are encouraged to wear their most creative mask. At the end of the event, the person

wearing the best mask is awarded a prize! At the DIY Drive-In, the mask winner was Amanda Rowe! Congrats! We can't wait to see everyone's masks at future events. To wrap up this event, Yachad hosted a "Food Drive Competition". Prior to the event, the members attending were split into

groups and encouraged to bring as many non-perishable food items as possible. At the event, each team's food items were counted until a winning team was named. Yachad collected two overflowing tubs of food items and two full bags! The donations were then dropped off at the Jewish Federation's Food Pantry by Ethan Novick.

Not only did Yachad help out the Federation's Food Pantry at this event by providing a lot of non-perishable food, at a later date we also organized tons of food items at Temple Emanu-El that were donated by their congregants. Four Yachad teens then delivered the food to the Waterford Food Bank and, again, to the Federation Food Pantry. Covid-19 has dramatically increased the need for food banks and Yachad is always eager to help. We are excited for the rest of the year no matter what it may bring. I think that this quote by Marie Curie perfectly sums up Yachad's feelings: "Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less." We wish you all good health and stay safe.

Jack Haynes is a Senior at East Lyme High School and the Communication Chair for our Yachad BBYO Chapter. Jack enjoys posting on social media and putting his skills to work for the chapter.



Events & Service Schedule

Zoom Links can be found on the Temple Website Calendar for events and services.

www.tewaterford.org

Dec. 1	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Dec. 1	Tues.	Kabbalah in Times of Change	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 2	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Dec. 3	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 4	Fri.	Family Tot Shabbat	6:45 P.M.
Dec. 4	Fri.	Family Tefillah Time	7:05 P.M.
Dec. 4	Fri.	Shabbat Service	7:30 P.M.
Dec. 5	Sat.	Shabbat Morning Service/Adult B'nai Mitzvah	10:00 A.M.
Dec. 6	Sun.	Schedule a curb side pick-up from judaicashop@tewaterford.org	
Dec. 7	Mon.	Mussar Class	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 7	Mon.	Sisterhood Book Club	7:00 P.M.
Dec. 8	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Dec. 8	Tues.	Kabbalah in Times of Change	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 9	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Dec. 9	Wed.	Temple Emanu-El Board of Trustees Meeting	7:30 P.M.
Dec. 10	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 10	Thur.	Chanukah Candle lighting	6:00 P.M.
Dec. 11	Fri.	Chanukah Candle Lighting	4:00 P.M.
Dec. 11	Fri.	Religious School pre-Hannukah Shabbat activities	6:00 P.M.
Dec. 11	Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:30 P.M.
Every night Dec. 12 through Dec. 17. Hannukah Candle Lighting			6:00 P.M.
Dec. 12	Sat.	Meditation, Prayer and Bible Study	10:00 A.M.
Dec. 13	Sun.	Schedule a curb side pick-up from judaicashop@tewaterford.org	
Dec. 13	Sun.	Temple Raffle Drawing	6:00 P.M.
Dec. 14	Mon.	Mussar Class	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 15	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Dec. 15	Tues.	Kabbalah in Times of Change	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 16	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Dec. 17	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 17	Thur.	Help Out at the New London Meal Center contact Hali Keeler halirkeeler@gmail.com	
Dec. 18	Fri.	Religious School Family Zoom Social	6:00 P.M.
Dec. 18	Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat	7:30 P.M.
Dec. 21	Mon.	Mussar Class	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 22	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Dec. 22	Tues.	Kabbalah in Times of Change	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 23	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Dec. 25	Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:30 P.M.
Dec. 28	Mon.	Mussar Class	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 29	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Dec. 29	Tues.	Kabbalah in Times of Change	12:00 P.M.
Dec. 30	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Dec. 31	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 1	Fri.	First Friday Tot Shabbat & Tefillah Time	6:45 P.M.
Jan. 1	Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:30 P.M.

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

Building Fund

Dr. & Mrs. Elliot Kimmel
--in memory of Judge Seymour Hendel

Cantor's Fund

Bruce Goldstein
--in loving memory of Avraham Duvid ben Moshe,
Alfred Goldstein on his yahrzeit
Frances Shleffar
--in memory of the Honorable Seymour Hendel
Harvey and Ellen Schiller
--in memory of Jodi Katz on the 3rd anniversary of her
passing

Endowment Fund

Harvey and Ellen Schiller
--in honor of the promotion of Rabbi Polly Berg to full
time chaplain at the VA Hospital

Essential Services Fund

Charles and Romana Primus
Karen Dinsfriend
Susan Fornara
Alvin and Patricia Sher
--in appreciation of Rabbi Marc for keeping things going
Alvin and Patricia Sher
--in appreciation of Sherry Barnes for keeping things
going
Alvin and Patricia Sher
--in appreciation of Roberta Reisner Winograd for
keeping things going
Annette Alatalo
--in memory of our dear friend Seymour Hendel
Barbara and Peter Kallan
--in memory of Seymour Hendel
Bob and Elly Hoffman
--in loving memory of Helen Angert on her yahrzeit
--in loving memory of John Hoffman on his yahrzeit
--in memory of Irving Zion, Gail Weber's father
--in memory of Dorothy Rosen, Carl Rosen's mother
Caren and Bob Linden
--in memory of Irving Zion, father of Gail Weber
Dianne Brody
--in loving memory of my grandmother, Goldy Gorban
Davidson on her yahrzeit
Edward Perry
--in memory of Seymour Hendel
Gillian Schair
--in memory of Seymour Hendel
Guy Thomas
Gaetano Mercadante
--in memory of Seymour Hendel
Jane and Jim Esser
--in memory of Doug Hendel's father, the Honorable
Seymour Hendel
Jay Levin
--in memory of the Honorable Seymour L. Hendel, an
amazing man, an outstanding father, grandfather and
husband

Jonathan and Armi Rowe
--in memory of Irving Zion
Jonathan and Armi Rowe
--in memory of Seymour Hendel
Lester and Claudia Shapiro
--thinking of Susan and Barry and wishing Susan a
speedy recovery
Martin and Joanna Lazarus
--in loving memory of Lottie Lazarus on her yahrzeit
Martin and Joanna Lazarus
--in loving memory of Caroline Hillsberg on her yahrzeit
Roberta Reisner-Winograd
and Sam, Hannah Winograd
--in memory of Irving Zion
The Kil Family
--in memory of Seymour Hendel
The Lasser Elkin Family
--in memory of Libby Isaac
The Stavropoulos Family
--in memory of Seymour Hendel
--in loving memory of Sylvia Irwin on her yahrzeit
Theodore Irwin
--in memory of Seymour Hendel

Goldsmith-Kallan Fund

Barbara, Peter Kallan,
Missa Kallan R.N. at VA in West Haven,
& the Kallan family
--in honor of Rabbi Polly Berg's promotion to full time
chaplain at the VA in West Haven
Marc Ekstrand
--in memory of Dr. John P. Ekstrand in the month of his
yahrzeit. May his light shine on through those who
benefit from this fund. in memory of my grandfather,
Mike Greenberg

Isaaca Siegel Landscaping Fund

Barry and Cecile Feldman
--in memory of Seymour Hendel
--in memory of Irving Zion, father of Gail Weber

Mitzvah Fund

Barry and Cecile Feldman
--in celebration of the birth of Barrett Taylor Hans to
Samantha and Stephanie and grandparents Patricia
and Jay Hans
Hali and Gerry Keeler
--in memory of Libby Isaac
Mike and Flossie Betten
--in memory of Irving Zion; condolences to the Weber
family

Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship

Barry and Cecile Feldman
--in honor of Rabbi Polly Berg's new position

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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 8

Rabbi Aaron and Karen Rosenberg
-- in memory of Seymour Hendel
Sherry Turner
-- in memory of Seymour L. Hendel
Marc Ekstrand
-- honoring the light of his presence during the High Holy Days, especially Yom Kippur afternoon services

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Deborah, Jared and Hannah Linder
-- in memory of Irving Zion

Condolences to . . .

Gail and Steve Weber
on the passing of Gail's father, **Irving Zion**

Caryn & Steven Novick & Family
on the passing of Caryn's father, **Warren Brenner**

Ethel Chatkin
--in loving memory of my mother, Fanny Gordon on her yahrzeit
Judi Glickstein
--in memory of Irving Zion, Gail Weber's father
--in loving memory of Allan Brian Glickstein on his yahrzeit
Sybil Nassau & family -- "The Kiplowitz Girls"
--in memory of Linda Reichin

Mazel Tov to . . .

Jay and Patricia Hans on the birth of their grandson,
Barrett Taylor Hans,
born Tuesday, November 10 at 3:40 a.m.
7 lbs, 15 oz., 21 inches.
Samantha and Stephanie
and Big Sister Amelia are doing well!
Rabbi Polly Berg's
promotion to full time chaplain
at the VA in West Haven

Fundraising Committee Needs Your Help

Hello congregants. One of our fundraising events is sharing in the **Mishloach Manot Purim Bags**. Volunteers are truly needed to assist this Purim however due to Covid-19 restrictions, baking is out. Swag Purim Bags will be delivered and anyone who knows how to create a website and link to order them is most needed!

A link needs to be programmed in our website to a page to list name, address, Size of T Shirt, payment type, preference to donate to the entire congregation or just several people. Anyone who knows how to do this is needed. I do not know how to set this up on our website so I need your help!

The idea is to assemble swag bags with T-Shirts "60th Anniversary Temple Emanu-El or "Sherry makes me sing 20 years!" (small, medium, large and x-large or just one size to wear as a night shirt, depending on availability), candy, popcorn, Purim party horns and store made Hamantaschen. The idea is to have them ready for Purim. Once the items are purchased, assembled and ready, we need volunteers to deliver the bags to congregants' doors. We deliver only to the door knob, so no worries!

Please email me at Deborah_linder@comcast.net with your interest. There are many tasks to help with. Ideas of economical companies who sell items are most appreciated. Donations needed and accepted. Ideas welcome. My cell phone is 860 877 4255, if you need to discuss further.

I am looking to start right away so please consider being a part of this fundraiser.

Other ideas being considered:

I would like to know if any digital photographers would like to volunteer to participate in a remake of our Temple Photo Album. You would take the family photos, outdoors privately per household or receive a digital photo from families who take their own digital photos and then assemble the pictures to create a Temple Emanu-El family photo album. The cost will be determined and you would receive supplies for the task from the fundraising budget. The albums would then be sold to the congregation as a fundraiser.

Also, this is a new idea so it's up for discussion. If anyone is interested in selling off garage sale items, slightly used or collected, please let me know. We may be able to set up a page to allow items be posted on our website for sale. The proceeds would be yours to keep excluding a 25% donation to the Temple as a Mitzvah. Times are tough and it may be difficult to have a garage sale and this could be helpful.

Finally, volunteering is a Mitzvah, so please exercise your mitzvah. Hope to hear back from you in regard to our plans. If you haven't purchased your raffle ticket, please do so by contacting John Murphy via the Temple office and be on the lookout for the big fundraiser and silent auction coming later next year.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Deborah Linder

In the Beit Midrash (House of Study) – 5781

Check the calendar on our website, www.tewaterford.org for links to classes and programs

Rabbi's Coffee House: Tuesdays, 9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Each week stop into Rabbi Marc's virtual coffee house and talk about whatever is on your mind. You'll have to make your own coffee.

Kabbalah in Times of Change: G(r)o(w)ing with the flow – with Rabbi Or Zohar

Tuesdays, 12 P.M. – 1:15 P.M. – Begins October 13.

Meditation, reading, and discussion of the Book of Zohar. This class will be 12 sessions. Rabbi Or presents Kabbalah in an engaging for both beginners and more advanced students. There is a semester fee of \$216. To register contact Rabbi Or at rabbiorzohar@gmail.com.

Mussar: Mondays, 12 P.M. to 1 P.M.

Each week through the 2nd week in June. This discussion session will be based upon The Mussar Torah Commentary edited by Rabbi Barry Block and selections from the classic Mussar text *Messilat Yesarim*. Study and conversation led by Rabbi Marc.

Adult Hebrew Translation Class with Sherry Barnes

Wednesdays, 11 A.M. to 12 P.M.

This class has been meeting for a while and is up to chapter 13 in their book, *Prayer Book Hebrew The Easy Way* by EKS Publishing. Our goal is to be able to translate prayers and maybe even some Torah.

Adult Beginning Hebrew Class with Sherry Barnes

Thursdays, 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. beginning November 5

This class is open to anyone wanting to learn how to read Hebrew. We will start with the Hebrew Aleph-Bet and vowels. Our goal is to be able to read prayers in our siddur, prayer book. If you already know Hebrew, but are a bit rusty, you are

also welcome to join the class. Bring your lunch and come learn Hebrew!

Meditation, Prayer and Bible Study:

Saturday Mornings at 10 A.M. on the 2nd Saturday thru June

A 15 to 20 minute prayer and meditation session based upon liturgy and verse followed by a 40 to 45 minute conversation based upon the Torah and Haftarah reading of the week. When a bar or bat mitzvah coincides with the 2nd Saturday, expect a traditional Reform liturgy open to the entire Emanu-El community. Meditation and study co-led by Rabbi Marc and Sherry Barnes.

Meditation with April D'Amato

Wednesdays, 12 P.M. to 12:30 P.M. – beginning January 6.

Meditation feeds the soul by aligning mind, body, and soul. Meditation leads the individual to a higher state of awareness, deeper sense of well-being and peacefulness. This class will incorporate several techniques including sound, breath work, energy balancing and guided imagery. Join with April as she guides and teaches meditation for beginners and the experienced.

Rabbi's Appointments

Something on your mind that you need help thinking through or just need to talk about? Concerned about something going on at the Temple or in the community? Or you'd just like to get to know one another. Rabbi Marc is available nearly every day, except Wednesdays for one-on-one, couples, or family meetings. Contact Rabbi Marc directly or schedule an appointment through Roberta in the Temple office.

Questions can be directed to Rabbi Marc at marcekstrand@gmail.com or Sherry Barnes at shirie3860@aol.com. Zoom links will be posted on our Temple Emanu-El calendar which you can find on our website www.tewaterford.org.

Social Action

The ravages of Covid 19 continue on worse than ever. Every month it is wished here that by next month the horrors of the virus will disappear or at least abate. As the calendar year ends, that seems to be only wishful thinking at least for 2020. Despite this, the needs of our congregation and the com-

munity at large not only continue, but are undoubtedly much greater than ever. The Social Action Committee has not met in any form for a long time. The hope has been that we will sometime soon be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

able to meet in person. The conclusion has now been reached that this cannot happen any time soon. As a result, the Chair will call a Zoom meeting for early December. Although limited, there are a number of things we can still do.

One suggestion made recently to the Committee Chair was to contact all Congregation members to make sure that they are okay and have necessary support. While there may be other Temple efforts ongoing in this regard, the Social Action Committee could have the strength of numbers; focus and the ability to follow through where there are unmet needs. It is hoped that this idea can be formally addressed at our December meeting. Although there are potential problems getting started and possible replication, there are several ways that members can be contacted, and needs can be positively handled.

As for core projects, our monthly involvement with the Community Meals Center in New London is still happening, although in a somewhat different format.

There is also the hope that our monthly Habitat Sunday Builds will be able to resume in January.

Places and programs such as the Homeless Hospitality Center, Start Fresh, Safe Futures and more can be provided meaningful help from Social Action. Recently some organizations, expressed an anticipated need for masks and it might be good to restart the Temple's mask making project. Sadly Covid-19 is not going away soon.

If you have any ideas as to how Social Action can help, please let us know. And you can also relay such ideas to the Rabbi or Roberta at the Temple office.

Enjoy Hanukkah!! Remember the story of the Macabees and the miracle of the needed oil that lasted eight days when it was only expected to last one. With prayers and determination, this too (the Covid horror) will pass.

Marty Zeldis

Temple Emanu-El Gift Shop

Thank you for the tremendous response to the new Temple Emanu-El Judaica Shop website. There is still time to complete all your Hanukkah shopping.

The website is not only for Hanukkah merchandise. It contains over 300 items including jewelry, candlesticks, mezuzahs, tallit, gifts and kids' items. It will be updated frequently to include all new merchandise so you can shop at your convenience.

Parking lot pickup has been highly successful, and it has been great seeing many of you in person. All you need to do is email

Judaicashop@tewaterford.org and include the items number and small description. I will arrange a convenient pickup time.

Wishing everyone a very happy and healthy Hanukkah.

Susan Hausmann



Visit the **Chanukah Fair** at the Temple Emanu-El Judaica Shop **Virtually!**

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2020 Temple Emanu-El Raffle

The **2020 Temple Emanu-El Raffle** will be drawn on zoom, **Sunday December 13** after the Chanukah Candle lighting at 6:00 P.M.

The tickets are still only \$25 with **first prize is five - \$500 Visa gift cards (\$2500 value)**. If you are interested contact John Murphy 860-608-0774 or email (jem1219@atlanticbb.net) or the Temple Office 860-443-3005 or office@tewaterford.org. See flyer in bulletin for complete list of prizes and sponsors. Remember we only sell 720 tickets and that every prize is sponsored so every ticket sold helps the Temple meet its operating expenses.

TEMPLE EMANU-EL RAFFLE

DRAWING

**December 13, 2020
6:00 pm**

WHERE

**Temple Emanu-El
Via Zoom Link**

Announcements will provide Drawing Event Zoom link later

\$25.00 EACH RAFFLE TICKET

Only 720 Tickets Available

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Gift Cards**

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2ND PRIZE

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Sponsored by:

Sayet & Seder

3RD PRIZE

\$500 VISA Gift Card

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Interiors**

4TH PRIZE

**Three \$100 Walmart
Gift Cards**

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5TH PRIZE

\$200 Target Gift Card

Sponsored by:

**Adam Kaufman &
Rebecca Woodward**

6TH PRIZE

**\$150 Best Buy Gift
Card**

Sponsored by:

**John Murphy &
Barbara Senges**

7TH PRIZE

**\$100 Amazon Gift
Card**

Sponsored by:

Jonathan & Armi Rowe

You can buy tickets
from the
Temple Office
[office@
tewaterford.org](mailto:office@tewaterford.org)
or 860-443-3005,
Barry Feldman,
Scott Wolfe,
Marcia Reinhard,
Merrill Mazzella,
Armi Rowe or
John Murphy
([jem1219@
atlanticbb.net](mailto:jem1219@atlanticbb.net))
or 860-608-0774)

December Birthdays

Kenneth Abrahms
Morgan Abrahms
Linda Barnett
Krum Chuchev
Addison Dickey
Andrew Feinstein
Katie Feinstein
Cecile Feldman
Anna Feldman
Gavier Figueroa
Casey Flax
Irma Flitt
Susan Fornara
Florence Frank

Max Frischling
Susan Greenhalgh
Jonathan Grossman
Katelyn Haynes
Clayton Hicks
Gavin Holwitt
Ethan Johnson
Andrea Kanfer
Aaron Kaplan
Annalise McCaffrey
Lee Miller
Debra Miller
Joseph Morea
John Murphy

Steven Novick
Ethan Novick
Naomi Paulson
Bill Posage
Rebecca Reinhard
Dale Zechman Rosen
David Rosenberg
Nathaniel Rowe
Connie Rubin
Alvin Sher
Bradley Sherman
Danny Shiling
Julie Snoke

Jay Snoke
Rebecca Tsai
Frederic West
Joel Wildstein



December Anniversaries

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

Leonard and Sandra
Epstein

Phil and Donna
Schneider

Lester and Claudia
Shapiro

David and Lee
Snyderman

December 4

Edward Basch
Ada Bloustine
Mary Louise Boehner
Ruth Joan Brody
Marvin Broomfield
Sol Deglin
Nash Feldman
Allan Brian Glickstein
Dorothy Goldman
Pearl Gordon
Esther Greenberg
Emily (Rachel)
Heilweil
Robert Kent
Bernard Lieb
Marjorie Ryack
Ethel Schnable
Hilda Snyderman
Blanche Solomon
Harry Stein
Cynthia "Rusty" Sutel
Bessie K. Tinkel
Sheila Wasserman

December 11

Esther Clark

Peggy Cramer
George Daniels
Jeanette Gruber
Daniel Iorillo
Dr. Charles Irwin
Jody Katz
Lynn Machette
Janet MacMichael
Monya Millstein
Samson Joel Mittleman
Max Resnick
Mollie Rifkin
Helen Rosenstein
Saul Robert Shapiro
Helen Shulman
John Soda
Rose Stein
Ruth Steiner
Hannah Shafner Teicher

December 18

Marian Eisenstein
Miriam Freedman
Gladys Goldstein
Gertrude Lieb
Robert Ostrow
Jean Rubinsky

David Stoner

December 25

William Bentley
Gertrude Camassar
Arthur Feinstein
Milton Frank
Ida Covitz Freiberg
Israel Goodman
Betty Gotlieb
Beverly Kanfer
Sidney Katz
James Murphy
Franklin Prague
Daniel Ravis
Marci Robbins
David Rosenfield
Evelyn Rosenstein
Louis Siegel
Pauline Trostler



Recipe of the Month

Check out something new on the Temple Emanu-El website – the **Recipe of the Month**! Go to tewaterford.org for a delicious, seasonal recipe at the beginning of each month. Enjoy!

For December the recipe is:

**Sweet Potato, Caramelized Onions
& Apple Cider Soup**



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.





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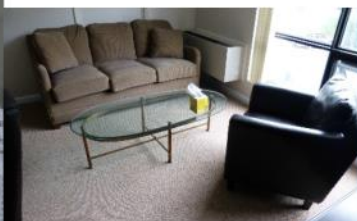
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Deadline for January 2021 Bulletin is Friday, Dec 11

Email your articles to Roberta at office@tewaterford.org

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