



## Rabbi's Message - Marc Ekstrand

Friends,

This secular New Year is bitter-sweet. A dark winter is upon us. As I am writing, COVID-19 caused deaths have surged to over three hundred thousand. The pandemic

is now the worst human tragedy in our lifetime. Far too many have died. Even as Southeastern Connecticut has not suffered as much as other parts of the country, most of us know someone who has died. The human toll for those left behind is also tremendous. Our most senior community members are isolated. Although our schools and teachers have moved mountains, the transition to hybrid or virtual learning has been difficult. Our new normal is wearing masks, keeping our distance, and washing our hands frequently. We are anxious for this to end. We can see the light at the end of the tunnel, yet it is a long way off. That light is vaccines. Yet, many of us may have serious reservations and might be hesitant to accept a vaccine. Jewish values should be our guide.

One of the most fundamental Jewish values is *p'kuach nefesh*. The Talmud teaches us that to save one life is as if to have saved an entire world. The sanctity of life outweighs almost all other considerations. Our tradition also teaches us to accept rational science. Maimonides, the medieval Jewish thinker, and physician, in his commentary on Mishnah Pesachim 4:9, observes that medicines are as essential as food and water to our bodies. We would not deny ourselves food and water, nor should we abstain from proven vaccines. Our tradition further teaches that to refuse proven medical treatment is to commit a sin of arrogance. We are obliged to accept appropriate medical treatment for ourselves and provide it to our children as well. (see CCAR Responsa 5759.10)

Questions remain. Are these new vaccines appropriate and proven medical treatment? How do we know that these vaccines are effective and safe? Most of us cannot answer these questions ourselves, and everything is progressing so quickly. How do we know what reliable information is? For answers, we should depend upon public health, medical, and scientific experts. They have spent lifetimes preparing for this situation. Scientists have been working hard to develop these vaccines for many years. Because of their hard work,

less than a year from the outbreak in the United States, we have two vaccines. As I heard Dr. Peter Hotez, Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor (also a Cornell alumnus!) say recently, the work to develop these vaccines has been progressing for more than 30 years. Scientists have been able to work so quickly because they've been working hard all along. The FDA, NIH, and CDC are staffed with professionals that have been similarly preparing. The vaccine is neither political nor opinion.

Yet, we may still be anxious. Is the vaccine safe? How does it work? Am I just a guinea pig? Will I have a reaction? How long will my immunity last? Will I still have to wear a mask? Can I get the vaccine if I'm pregnant? We *should* be asking all of these questions. The key is looking in the right places for answers. We are working on creating a public forum for you to learn about the vaccines, how they work, why you should take them if you can, and how our communities are protected even if you cannot take the vaccine. In the coming weeks, we will let you know more details.

In the meantime, remember that we have a long way to go. Use this time to educate yourself with information from reliable sources. You will find links to many resources at [www.ct.gov](http://www.ct.gov).

We must look out for each other. This is not the time to let down our guard, just the opposite. We need to redouble our efforts to **Wear our Masks, Watch our Distance, and Wash our Hands**.

Happy New Year,

**Rabbi Marc**

## President's Message



We made it!!! 2020 is over!!!

While I never want to wish my life away, I think we can all agree that this year has been challenging in so many areas---the pandemic, of course, but also deep moral and political divisions in our country and ongoing racial and social justice

concerns.

There is finally light at the end of the tunnel concerning the pandemic. . As I write this, the first New London County

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## President's Message -- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

healthcare workers are being vaccinated to prevent them from contracting COVID-19. Next come the long-term care facility residents and staff, and our elderly and most vulnerable citizens. Hopefully, by late spring/early summer, those of us who choose to be vaccinated will have received the 2-shot series. Those of you who know me are likely aware that I will be there with my sleeve rolled up as soon as my name is called! I urge all of you to discuss this decision with your healthcare providers in order to make a choice for yourself and your family that is grounded in the best science available to us at this time.

With regard to our deep political divisions in our nation, the Union for Reform Judaism's "Every Voice, Every Vote" movement has worked tirelessly to ensure that every voice is heard and that all votes are counted. Nearly 1000 URJ civic engagement campaign participants used the Empower app to reach out to more than 4390 individuals in their own networks to get out the vote, understanding that a text or call from a friend, family member, or fellow congregant will likely be more effective than hearing from a stranger. Overall, the URJ was able to reach more than 550,000 voters in an effort to mobilize them to cast their ballots, and the work continues to ensure that every voice is heard in the Georgia Senate runoff elections occurring this month.

This month, your Temple Emanu-El board has been busy working for you. At our December board meeting, we reviewed and discussed a Synagogue Leadership Excellence tool that is part of a larger URJ Benchmarking and Assessment project. After completing and submitting this ques-

tionnaire, synagogue leadership will have the opportunity to work with a trained mentor to interpret the results, consider strengths to further leverage, and identify and prioritize potential improvements.

I am about to start the process with Chelsea Groton Bank of applying for forgiveness of the Payroll Protection Program loan that we received in May 2020 to help keep our staff on the payroll during the pandemic. Those of you who may have applied for these loans for your own small business know what an onerous process this can be.

With regard to the potential Community Campus project, the executive board met, and then several of us met with the Community Campus committee and the architects who have been hired for the exploration. We were very honest about what we perceive could be the value of a community campus on the property of 29 Dayton Road that would house Temple Emanu-El, Congregation Beth El, and the Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut, and we were equally honest about our hopes and fears regarding any such project. The architects will develop a proposal utilizing this feedback that will be presented to the Temple Emanu-El board, and eventually to the congregation at large. I urge you to keep an open mind about this exciting possibility for the Jewish community of southeastern Connecticut. This project has the potential to provide Temple Emanu-El with strong connections with our wider Jewish community, as well as sustainability to exist as a vibrant Reform congregation for many years into the future. Stay tuned for more information!

**Jo-el**

## Notes from Sherry Barnes



A new secular year is here! May it bring hope that we may see the beginning of the end of Covid-19 deaths, as the vaccine makes its way around our state, our country, and the world. May this new secular year, 2021, also bring peace to our country. Helping us find a way to come together and begin heal-

ing from the chaos of 2020.

Even in the darkness of Covid-19, there are many who have let their light shine by helping those in need. Whether you are a frontline worker, or a neighbor watching over someone who lives alone, you are beacons in the night. In the darkness of winter, or even a pandemic, light can bring hope. Light can come from the match that we strike to light a fire in our fireplace or candles in our window. Light can come from the beauty we find within our own soul or the soul of someone else. Sometimes we are the creator of the

light and sometimes we are enlightened by the light of others. Light is meant to illuminate. Light can be the light of Torah that illumines our soul, and enlightens our minds. We light candles at the beginning of holidays, or on a holiday like Hanukkah, for 8 beautiful nights. We light candles after the loss of a loved one, or in remembrance of a loved one. We light candles weekly for the beginning of Shabbat and also light a multi-wicked candle for Havdalah, in addition to tasting the wine, smelling the beautiful spices, and enjoying the beauty of the flame. Havdalah is a special ritual that separates the holiness of Shabbat from the ordinary week ahead of us.

Beginning on Saturday, January 2, at 7:00 p.m., until Saturday, March 20, we hope that you join us for Havdalah. Following Havdalah each week, there will be a short program.

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## Notes from Sherry Barnes -- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

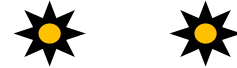
It could be a game, a discussion question, or our monthly cabaret. The cabaret might be a little longer. Over these next few months, come and let your Temple Emanu-El family be a special source of light throughout the winter.

If you are interested in being a part of the January 23rd Cabaret, please send me an email with your act to: [shirie3860@aol.com](mailto:shirie3860@aol.com). Special thanks to Barbara Senges for coming up with the programming.

I'd like to acknowledge our Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class, Irene Brickman Smith, Tom Smith, Claire Warren, Marianne DeBruyn, and Erik Brengman, who made me very proud on December 5. They worked hard learning prayers, Torah, and Haftarah, and led a beautiful service. They are an amazing group of adults! Mazal tov!

B'shir,

**Sherry**



**Religious School 860-439-0406 | [religiousschool@tewaterford.org](mailto:religiousschool@tewaterford.org)**

Happy Secular New Year! May 2021 bring us renewed hope and resilience as we look forward to everyone finally receiving the COVID-19 vaccine and having our day-to-day happenings return to normal. We hope everyone had a restful holiday break. **We look forward to welcoming our students back to classes on Wednesday, January 6 (grades 3-7) and Sunday, January 10 (grades K-7).**

Looking back just a few weeks, we are reminded of the wonderful ways in which we were able to celebrate Chanukah together. Thank you very much to Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood, for donating a bag of gelt, dreidel and a box of Chanukah candles for each student. The school included a cute box of sufganiyot and a dreidel origami magnet activity kit. Thanks also to our Temple for distributing a delicious recipe for Latkes and a wonderful Chanukah greeting. We believe that it is through simple gestures like these, which physically reach our students and their families that we are able to stay connected during this challenging time.

We loved seeing many of our religious school students, families and staff tuned into our Chanukah celebration. Together, students pieced together a silly story, a mad libs version of "The Mighty Macabbees." The students split up into two breakout rooms to gather their Chanukah scavenger hunt items and then we came back together to com-

pare items. We had a wonderful time making our dreidel origami magnets together and then enjoyed singing Chanukah songs and lighting candles on our chanukiyot with Rabbi Marc and Hazan Sherry.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our December Tzedakah Project by donating hats, gloves and socks to people in need this winter. Special thanks to Rabbi Marc for delivering them to the New London Homeless Hospitality Center.

We would also like to show our appreciation for our teachers and faculty assistants who work tirelessly each month not just to bring engaging virtual lessons on Sundays but also taking the time to create and deliver the beautiful craft and activity kits for the children so they can still enjoy hands-on learning. Take a look at some of the beautiful Chanukah crafts which they put together during virtual class (pictures 4).

Our families gathered for First Friday Family Shabbat on Friday, Dec 4. **We hope to see you all again at our next First Friday Family Shabbat on Friday, January 8, 2021 at 6:45 p.m.**

**On Friday, January 22, we will host special Tu B'Shevat activities at our Fun Family Friday event beginning at 6:00 p.m.** More details to follow. Please save the date.

Cheers,

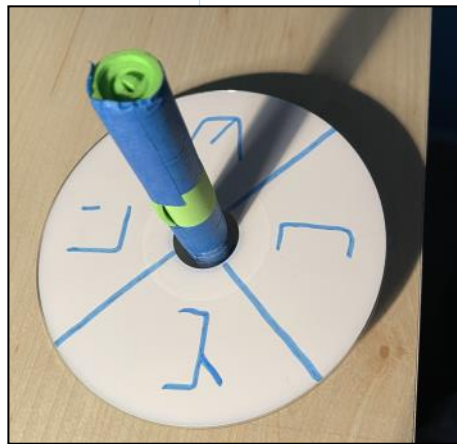
**Armi and Jennifer**



## Religious School -- continued from page 3



Take a look at some of the beautiful Chanukah crafts which they put together during virtual class.



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

Hi Ladies,

As I write this article, the first vaccines for COVID 19 are starting to be distributed. It feels like we have reached a turning point and if we continue to be vigilant, our lives might slowly begin to return to a new normal. I know the next few months might be the most difficult but having this renewed hope will help me stay focused on the future.

Sisterhood is continuing to offer programs through Zoom. Our book club is always popular. See below with our next book selection.

In January, when you are looking for a fun activity, join us for **Game Night on Zoom, on Tues Jan 26**. More details to follow. It should be great! If you have ideas for other Zoom meetings, just let us know.

We would like to thank all of you for renewing your Sisterhood membership. We continue to support the temple and religious school and your dues make this possible.

As always, we can't wait to see you in person, but for now, see you soon on Zoom.

Best wishes for a healthy 2021!

**Gail & Merrill**

**Next Book Club** - Join us on **Monday, February 8 at 7:00 P.M.** – ***The Rise of the Rocket Girls*** – the riveting true story of the women who launched America into space.

In the 1940s and 50s, when the newly minted Jet Propulsion Laboratory needed quick-thinking mathematicians to calculate velocities and plot trajectories, they didn't turn to male graduates. Rather, they recruited an elite group of young women who, with only pencil, paper, and mathematical prowess, transformed rocket design, helped bring about the first American satellites, and made the exploration of the solar system possible.

For the first time, ***Rise of the Rocket Girls*** tells the stories of these women – known as "human computers" – who broke the boundaries of both gender and science. Based on ex-

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## Sisterhood -- continued from page 4

tensive research and interviews with all the living members of the team, *Rise of the Rocket Girls* offers a unique perspective on the role of women in science: both where we've been, and the far reaches of space to which we're heading.

"If *Hidden Figures* has you itching to learn more about the women who worked in the space program, pick up Nathalia Holt's lively, immensely readable history, *Rise of the Rocket Girls*." – Entertainment Weekly

This book is available from Amazon as a paperback, hardback and Kindle. Go to Amazon.com.

**KEEP THOSE ORDERS COMING FOR 2021 MAHJONGG CARDS!**

**DEADLINE for checks is JANUARY 25**

Cards are \$9 for Standard Size and \$10 for Large Size.

Cards are mailed directly to your home in late March, but I need your payment by 1/25, when I place the group order. Mail checks made out to Temple Emanu-El Sisterhood to Temple Emanuel, PO Box 288, Waterford, CT 06385.

Please include your email.

Thank you,

**Iris Freeman**

ifreegang@aol.com / 860-460-3081

### Temple Emanu-El Gift Shop

Welcome to 2021! A very Happy New Year to everyone.

I would like to thank everyone for supporting the Judaica Shop. The Hanukkah season was far more successful than I ever imagined. It was great to see so many people in person. I really want to thank everyone for being so flexible with all the parking lot transactions.

The website is now a permanent part of the Judaica Shop and new items are going to be added. As of now, parking lot transactions will also be available.

As always, you can reach me at [Judaicashop@tewaterford.org](mailto:Judaicashop@tewaterford.org).

Wishing you peace and health in 2021.

**Susan Hausmann**

### Mazel Tov to . .

**Michael and Krystle Roseman.**

They welcomed their new son,

**Jacob Noah Roseman**

into the world on December 16, 2020.

He was 9 lbs, 6 oz, and 20.5 inches.

**Steve and Gail Weber**

on the passing of Steve's mother, **Judy Weber**

**Barry and Cecile Feldman**

on the passing of Barry's sister, **Marsha Sperling**

### Condolences to . .

## Tu Bi Sh'vat Tu Gether

A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 AT 7PM** On Zoom

**Music with** Sherry Barnes and Roz Etra

**Spirituality with** Rav Julius Rabinowitz and Rabbi Ken Alter

**Special guest speakers from the** Connecticut College Arboretum

**Call to Action** Rabbi Marc Ekstrand

**Closing Benediction** Rabbi Earl Kideckel

This is a collaborative production of the liberal  
Congregations of Southeastern Connecticut.



## BBYO -- Yachad Chapter

### Virtual holiday cheer

By Jack Haynes



Despite being physically apart, Yachad still had an amazing Hanukkah celebration. Fifteen teens were able to join us in addition to a very special guest. All the way from Israel, our lovely 2009-10 Young Emissary, Hadar Elya, joined us for an action-packed zoom call. She put together an exciting virtual program in which all the teens

had to "Save the Temple" & "Save Hanukkah".

While learning about different aspects of Israeli culture and Hanukkah, we played games, solved problems, and had a really good time! Hadar and her family then joined us to light our chanukiyot! She first sang a lovely Israeli version of the Hanukkah prayers before we all joined together in song and lit the candles. It was amazing to catch up with Hadar who hasn't been here in a whopping 10 years!

After Hadar's activity, Ethan Novick and Simone Lerner led a group game of Dreidel. Using the amazing technology availa-

ble to us, we were able to use an online program that would spin a dreidel for us. We took turns answering questions about Hanukkah and then spinning the dreidel! Although this is not how Yachad would traditionally celebrate Hanukkah, it was still an amazing event!

Shortly after our chapter celebration, regional BBYO hosted a virtual "Global Shabbat". Throughout Global Shabbat, the Connecticut Valley Region of BBYO joined together in song and prayer to celebrate Shabbat, Hanukkah, and each other. It was a beautiful sight to see teens and their families across the state lighting their chanukiyot.

We hope that everyone has an amazing rest of the year! Stay tuned for more from Yachad for next year - Cheers to 2021!



## 2020 Raffle Winners

Thanks again everyone for their support!

The 2020 Temple Emanu-El Raffle was drawn on Sunday, December 13 at 6:15 P.M. I would like to thank Rabbi Marc for running the camera and zoom session and Bayla McCaffrey and Regan Kaye for drawing the tickets. In addition, I would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets to support the raffle both first time and longtime raffle supporters. In addition, I would like to thank Barry Feldman, Scott Wolfe, Merrill Mazzella, Marcia Reinhard, Armi Rowe and Roberta Reisner-Winograd for helping sell tickets. Finally, I would like to thank our sponsors Kim and Kenn Fischburg, Sayet & Seder (Bart Sayet), Creative Office Interiors, Bill and Ellen Seeman, Adam Kaufman and Rebecca Woodward, Armi and Jonathan Rowe and Barbara Senges for covering all seven prizes. See list of Prizes, Sponsors and Winners (Mazel Tov). What stayed the same: Price of the tickets only \$25 and that we sold all 720 tickets to raise \$18,000 for the Temple. What was different: First Prize instead of travel was five \$500 Visa gift cards and we ran the drawing after the Chanukah lighting ceremony at 6 pm on Zoom for the first time.

### Prize List

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Five \$500 Visa Gift Cards  
Sponsor: Kim and Kenn Fischburg  
Winner: Arti Dean
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: iPad Pro  
Sponsor: Sayet and Seder, Attorneys at Law, Norwich, CT  
Winner: Carol Seeman
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$500 Visa Gift Card  
Sponsor: Creative Office Interiors, Hartford, CT  
Winner: Howard Brensilver
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize: Three \$100 Walmart Gift Cards  
Sponsor: Bill and Ellen Seeman  
Winner: Mark Kirschblum
- 5<sup>th</sup> Prize: \$200 Target Gift Card  
Sponsor: Adam Kaufman and Rebecca Woodward  
Winner: Donna Goldman
- 6<sup>th</sup> Prize: \$150 Best Buy Gift Card  
Sponsor: John Murphy and Barbara Senges  
Winner: Lee Snyderman
- 7<sup>th</sup> Prize: \$100 Amazon Gift Card  
Sponsor: Jonathan and Armi Rowe  
Winner: Iris Freeman

## Events & Service Schedule

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

[www.tewaterford.org](http://www.tewaterford.org)

Jan. 1	Fri.	First Friday Tot Shabbat & Tefillah Time	6:45 P.M.
Jan. 1	Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:30 P.M.
Jan. 2	Sat.	Havdalah	7:00 P.M.
Jan. 4	Mon.	Mussar Cass	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 5	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Jan. 6	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Jan. 7	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 8	Fri.	Family Tot Shabbat	6:45 P.M.
Jan. 8	Fri.	Family Tefillah Time	7:05 P.M.
Jan. 8	Fri.	Shabbat Service including <b>2020</b> Howard Ilson Award Presentation to Cecile Feldman	7:30 P.M.
Jan. 9	Sat.	Meditation, Prayer and Bible Study	10:00 A.M.
Jan. 9	Sat.	Havdalah	7:00 P.M.
Jan. 10	Thur.	Deadline to order Purim Mishloach Manot Bags	
Jan. 11	Mon.	Mussar Class	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 12	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Jan. 13	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Jan. 13	Wed.	Temple Emanu-El Board of Trustees Meeting	7:30 P.M.
Jan. 14	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 15	Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:30 P.M.
Jan. 16	Sat.	Shabbat Learners Service	10:00 A.M.
Jan. 16	Sat.	Havdalah	7:00 P.M.
Jan. 18	Mon.	Mussar Class	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 19	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Jan. 20	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Jan. 21	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 21	Thur.	Help Out at the New London Meal Center contact Hali Keeler <a href="mailto:halirkeeler@gmail.com">halirkeeler@gmail.com</a>	
Jan. 22	Fri.	Family Fun Zoom Social	6:00 P.M.
Jan. 22	Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat	7:30 P.M.
Jan. 23	Sat.	Havdalah and Cabaret/contact Sherry to be in the Cabaret	7:00 P.M.
Jan. 25	Mon.	Mussar Class	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 26	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Jan. 26	Tues.	Sisterhood Game Night	TBA
Jan. 27	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Jan. 27	Thur.	Community Tu B'Shevat Program – special speaker	7:00 P.M.
Jan. 28	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.
Jan. 29	Fri.	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	7:30 P.M.
Jan. 30	Sat.	Havdalah	7:00 P.M.
Feb. 1	Mon.	Mussar Cass	12:00 P.M.
Feb. 2	Tues.	Rabbi's Coffee House	9:00 A.M.
Feb. 3	Wed.	Adult Hebrew Translation Class	11:00 A.M.
Feb. 4	Thur.	Beginning Hebrew Class	12:00 P.M.



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

### **Building Fund**

Cecile and Barry Feldman

---in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Erik Brengman

Kathleen McFadden

---in honor of Claire Warren's Bat Mitzvah and the absolutely incredible job that she did! Mazel tov! I'm totally impressed!

### **Cantor's Fund**

Cecile and Barry Feldman

---in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Claire Warren

Claire Warren

---in honor of my Adult B'nai Mitzvah Classmates: Thomas Smith, Irene Brickman Smith, Marianne DeBruyn, and Erik Brengman

Don and Lois Steinman

---in memory of Irving Zion, father of Gail Weber

Lois and Steve Panikoff

---in memory of Irving Zion

---in loving memory of Benjamin Yormark on his yahrzeit

Norma and Allan Hollandersky

---in honor of Irene Smith and Thomas Smith's B'nai Mitzvah

Scott and Barbara Wolfe

---in honor of the Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class: Claire Warren, Thomas Smith, Irene Brickman Smith, Marianne DeBruyn, and Erik Brengman

### **Essential Services Fund**

Callie Beaulieu

Alan and Patti Gruber

---in loving memory of Herman Gruber on his yahrzeit

Brock and Melissa Dubin

---in memory of Judge Seymour L. Hendel

Claire Warren

---in memory of Seymour Hendel

Ellen Gottfried

---in loving memory of Barry Gilman on his yahrzeit

---in loving memory of Helen Schreiber Gilman on her yahrzeit

---in loving memory of Beverly Gilman McCaffrey on her yahrzeit

---in loving memory of Lawrence Gottfried on his yahrzeit  
Henry Dunkerley

---in loving memory of Mary Shiers on her yahrzeit

Iris and Gary Freeman

---in memory of Irving Zion

---in honor of the birth of Barrett Taylor Hans, Patricia, and Jay Hans grandson

---in memory of Warren Brenner, father of Caryn Novick  
Jane and Chic Weinberg

---in loving memory of Mollie Rifkin on her yahrzeit

Jerome and Bernice Bobruff

---in memory of Seymour Hendel

Karen Dinsfriend

---in memory of Irving Zion

---in honor of the Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class: Claire Warren, Thomas Smith, Irene Brickman Smith, Marianne DeBruyn, and Erik Brengman

Kenn and Kim Fischburg

---in memory of Irving Zion

---in memory of Laura Seder on her yahrzeit

Nancy and Robert Trostler

---mazel tov to the Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class: Claire

Warren, Thomas Smith, Irene Brickman Smith, Marianne DeBruyn, and Erick Brengman

Nathan and Shelley Weiss

---in memory of Irving Zion

Patricia and Jay Hans

---in memory of Irving Zion

Paula Garnica, Emily Aungst, and Jennifer Shill

---congratulations to Claire Warren on her Bat Mitzvah

Roberta Reisner-Winograd and Sam, Hannah Winograd

mazel tov to grandparents Patricia and Jay Hans and to parents Samantha and Stephanie on the of Barrett Taylor Hans

Roslyn Elston and Sari Trzepacz

---in memory of Jody Katz on her yahrzeit with love from her mom and sister

Scott and Barbara Wolfe

---in memory of Irving Zion

---in memory of Warren Brenner, father of Caryn Novick

Timothy Dionahue

---in memory of Judge Seymour Hendel

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



**Goldsmith-Kallan Fund**

Claire Warren

--in honor of the birth of Barrett Taylor Hans, Patricia and Jay Hans grandson

--in memory of Irving Zion

--in memory of Warren Brenner, father of Caryn Novick

Lori Corah

--in loving memory of Marilyn Marcus on her yahrzeit

Matthew Shulman

--in loving memory of Helen Shulman on her yahrzeit

**Isaaca Siegel Landscaping Fund**

Cecile and Barry Feldman

--in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Thomas Smith

Golda Siegel Doyle

--in loving memory of Thayer Schlegel on his yahrzeit

**Mitzvah Fund**

Cecile and Barry Feldman

--in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Marianne DeBruyn

Don and Lois Steinman

--congratulations to Gail Weber on being Volunteer of the Year given by the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT

Flossie and Michael Betten

--mazel tov to our wonderful Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class:

Claire Warren, Thomas Smith, Irene Brickman Smith, Marianne DeBruyn, and Erick Brengman

Hali and Gerry Keeler

--in memory of Irving Zion

--in loving memory of Ethel C. Schnable

Judy and Stephen Mann

--in honor of Rabbi Polly Berg's new position

--condolences to the Weber family on the death of Gail's

dad, Irving Zion

**Rabbi Aaron Rosenberg Tikkun Olam Scholarship Fund**

Cecile and Barry Feldman

--in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Irene Brickman Smith

Karen Rosenberg

--in loving memory of Harry Stein on his yahrzeit

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Barry and Stephanie Thorp

--in loving memory of Rachel Crystal on her yahrzeit

Ethel Chatkin

--in memory of Pearl Gordon, my sister, on her yahrzeit

Lester and Claudia Shapiro

--in loving memory of Bessie K. Tankel on her yahrzeit

Michael Roseman

--to be used for the betterment of the congregation and our community since through his care and dedication such good has come from it so far

Michele and Harvey Snitkin

--in honor of the Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class: Claire Warren, Thomas Smith, Irene Brickman Smith, Marianne DeBruyn, and Erik Brengman

Michele and Harvey Snitkin

--in loving memory of Daniel Iorillo on his yahrzeit

Nancy and Robert Trostler

--mazel to Claire Warren on her becoming an Adult Bat Mitzvah!

Stan Bloustine

--in loving memory of Ada Bloustine on her yahrzeit



## Fundraising

Hello congregants. Once again it is time to plan for our Fund-raiser "Purim Mishloach Manot Bags". Purim is early this year, February 25. 📅

Volunteers are truly needed to assist this Purim to help deliver them. Looking to start right away so please email me at [Deborah\\_linder@comcast.net](mailto:Deborah_linder@comcast.net) with your interest. Donations needed and accepted. Ideas welcome. My cell phone is **860 877 4255**, if you need to discuss further.

Reminder, if you were a volunteer for the Gifts of Chanukah

Bags, please reconsider again. If not, please be sure to volunteer this time.

**There will be an email sent to you to participate to purchase Mishloach Manot Purim Bags.** They will be sold individually or as one donation to the Temple so that every member receives one bag. You make it possible to raise our funds with your donation. To make this valuable donation, it is \$180. We count on you for this donation. Remember that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

## ***In the Beit Midrash (House of Study) – 5781***

Check the calendar on our website, [www.tewaterford.org](http://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.

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### **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 Yesharim*. Study and conversation led by Rabbi Marc.

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### **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.

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### **Adult Beginning Hebrew Class with Sherry Barnes Thursdays, 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M.**

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!

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### **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. Medita-

tion and study co-led by Rabbi Marc and Sherry Barnes.

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### **Shabbat Morning Learners Service**

Saturday Mornings at 10 A.M. on the 3rd Saturday thru April

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### **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.

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

## ***Fundraising — continued from page 9***

every year, it is those who contribute to the entire congregation make the most profits for our Temple fundraiser.

Next, have not yet heard from anyone on digital photo album or selling off garage sale items. Remember if you have other ideas, please let me know.

If you are willing to coordinate or take digital photos in a remake of our Temple Photo Album, it could be done online. You could 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. You would receive supplies for the task from the fundraising budget. The albums would then be sold to the congregation as a fundraiser.

If anyone is interested in trying to sell 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

*Continued on page 11*

## Social Action

### AND THEN THERE MIGHT BE LIGHT

I am writing this on the seventh day of Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights. I am writing this for the Temple Bulletin for January, 2021. Most would say good riddance to 2020 and I am among those "most" people. 2020 in many ways has been a difficult time all over the world including, of course, our Temple family. From a Social Action perspective, a cruel irony is that when Social Action is needed the most, we have a difficult enough time making sure that our loved ones are safe, and we are also very limited in where we can go and what we can do. At the beginning of the pandemic, Social Action made and distributed masks to area agencies and groups. That effort was very effective, and very much appreciated—thank you Matt Shulman. But as the pandemic dug in, it became impossible to gather, and difficult to organize, identify specific needs and effectively address those needs. Just going to the grocery store became (and still is) a risky activity. But then, in the middle of Hanukkah, there came Rays of Light—Vaccines were approved distributed and put into the arms of the heroic nurses, doctors and other essential first responders. While it will be several months before all of us can be inoculated, there is light and there is hope! A plea from this corner: when the vaccine is available to you, do not hesitate: get inoculated. It helps not only you but it also helps everyone around you.

So what can Social Action do? At this moment it is not clear, but the answer is undoubtedly that we can do a lot. In January (even though I do not like Zoom) we will have a meeting. For the meeting, I will ask everyone to think about how social action can help alleviate the needs of the Temple Community and the needs of the New London County Community. Volunteering at hospitals, providing transportation, doing shopping, getting people to vaccine locations, helping at area social service agencies, Meals on Wheels, soup kitchens

etc. come to mind. Whenever stories are told about the heroes on the front lines, we see, or they say, that they are exhausted. There must be ways that we can help our heroes continue to do their work and not be so tired. Along these lines, Judy Mann recently told me that the Homeless Hospitality Center in New London needs help of all kinds in transitioning people out of the Center, and into new, hopefully permanent, homes. If you are interested in helping, please contact Judy Mann at 860 536-4784. Also our once a month work at the Community Meals Center in New London has continued unabated throughout the pandemic. (Contact Hali Keeler if you are interested in helping there). The list of things we can do is endless and Social Action, and all of us, should do everything possible to chip in.

Finally, almost a year ago I told the Social Action Committee that someone else should chair the Committee. Then the pandemic struck and made everything different. While we are still not out of the woods, it is way past time for me to stop being the chair of the Committee. Nearly forty years ago, when I was a new member, Rabbi Rosenberg, who was then a new Rabbi, asked me to start Social Action at the Temple. I did, and there have been many other Chairs over the years. In forty years, Social Action has had a vast number of successes as well as a few low points. About eight years ago, Gary Freeman asked me to co-Chair Social Action with him. We did very good things, but then Gary left for Massachusetts. Since then, Social Action has had bunches of successes, but it is time for me to stop being the Chair. We need new blood, fresh ideas and I am not nearly connected enough to the Temple to help accomplish the mission of Social Action at Temple Emanu-El. If interested, please let Roberta or I know and it will be an agenda item at our Zoom meeting in January. **STAY SAFE.**

**Marty Zeldis**

## Fundraising — continued from page 10

tough and it may be difficult to have a garage sale and this could be helpful. Reminder that both parties, buyer and seller would sign a waiver of liability to the Temple on the items being bought and sold.

Also, I would like to thank you for the gift bags for Chanukah to all congregants headed up by Irene Brickman, Geoff and Susan Hausmann, of course Roberta and our silent volunteer crew for delivering all of the Chanukah Gift Bags. What great mitzvah makers you are because without you, we could not do these mitzvahs.

Finally, look for our upcoming year-end major fundraiser,

and auction. This is still being determined if it will be virtual so keep on the lookout.

Remember 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.

**Deb Linder**

*Fundraising Coordinator*

## HOWARD ILSON MEMORIAL

### TEMPLE EMANU-EL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

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

Areas of service to consider include:

- ~ Years of service as an officer or Board member
- ~ Years as a committee chairperson
- ~ Years of service in auxiliaries such as the Religious School, Sisterhood, Brotherhood
- ~ Years of community service as a representative of Temple Emanu-El
- ~ Years of time and energy expended for the betterment of Temple Emanu-El

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

Please take the time to consider a worthy nominee. It is one way of thanking our members for volunteerism that often goes unnoticed. If you wish to nominate someone, please fill out the form and mail or e-mail. All nominations will be strictly confidential.

#### Howard Ilson Award Nomination Form

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

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

Summary of nominee's attributes and service to Temple Emanu-El (Must be completed for nominee's consideration); Please use a separate piece of paper to complete and send to Temple Emanu-El P.O. Box 288 Waterford, CT 06385 or [temanu-el@sbcglobal.net](mailto:temanu-el@sbcglobal.net)



## January Birthdays

Lynn Brown  
Ethel Chatkin  
Betty Cooper  
Lisa Darling  
Hanna Deglin  
Marc Goldsmith  
Patricia Hans  
Samantha Hans  
Patricia Hendel  
Justice Kali  
Ross Krasner  
Maya Kriet  
Deborah R. Linder

Jim Michalove  
Leslie Orenstein  
Eleanor Ostrow  
Jonathan Panikoff  
Marnie Rock  
Mike Roseman  
Krystle Roseman  
Judd Mayer Rosen  
Solomon Ross  
Nathaniel Ross  
Sam Schaperow  
Marvin Schnur  
Susan Seeman

Dr. Adam Seidner  
Lester Shapiro  
Anna Cloe Sheikowitz  
Rachel Sherman  
Fiona (FiFi) Sherman  
Noah Shiling  
Michael Adam  
Snyderman  
Elizabeth V. Walz  
Michael Weiss  
Barbara Wolfe  
Jessica Wolfe



## January

### Anniversaries

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

### No January

### Anniversaries



## January Yahrzeits

### January 1

Eva Berkowitz  
Karen Jan Silver Blinderman  
Philip Cameron  
Louis Garfinkel  
Henry Germaine

Henry Hochman  
Anna Jezeski  
Arne Levinson  
Lillian Gertz Lewiss  
Sylvia Lewiss  
Harry Rubin  
Mabel Rutman  
Rachel Wessel

### January 8

Morris Brickman  
Louis Caplowe  
Elsie Deglin  
Randy Deglin  
Samantha Deglin  
Elisabeth Farran  
Edward Gipstein  
Marvin Goldstein  
Shirley Grayson  
Lillian Kane  
Morris Kaplan  
Shirley Kriet  
Murray Lazarus  
Murray Rapoport  
Frederic Rosenstein  
Roger Rouquette  
Fred Seeman  
Anna Seidman  
Stanley Skigen  
Rose Tobin  
Anna Tropp

### January 15

Donald Bloom

Frances Brensilver  
Ray Cohen  
Hannah Cooper  
Edith Greenberg Ekstrand  
Tillie Finkelstein  
William Fishbone  
Michael Bennett Freeman  
Audrey Germaine  
Samuel Grau  
Edwin Haflich  
Daniel Kanfer  
Joseph Lasser  
Marilyn Morgenstern  
Doris Reinhard  
Alita "Lola" Sevilla  
Louis Snitkin  
Harry Weber  
Herman Weber  
Al Weinberg  
Grace Wertheim  
Alice Wiesniewski  
Richard Donald Zettler

### January 22

Barbara Ellen Lupkay Combs  
Eleanor Freeman  
Stephen Horton  
Eleanor McCaffrey  
Mildred Meitzen  
Maurine Miner  
Nancy Newall  
David Nirenstein  
Yetta Paulson  
Ellen Schwartz

Mortimer Shaff  
Beatrice Sherman  
Reuben Shiling  
Alex Stancovski  
Morris Thall  
Esfir Vestel

### January 29

Phyllis Adler  
Carol Blaise  
Frank Church  
Abraham Irving Epstein  
Ruth Freeman  
Younne Frydel  
Elizabeth Glenn  
Jack Greenberg  
Esther Hoffman  
Gladys Ilson  
Allen Kaufman  
Paul Kriet  
Jules Levine  
Bernice Moss  
Frances Ogulnick  
Sophie Pagnes  
Henry F. Putala  
Sigmund Sol Rosenholtz  
Dorothy Segool  
Harriette Siegel  
Isaaca Zelda Siegel  
Rochelle Tripp  
Irwin Tuchfeld  
Pauline Ruth Wildstein  
Mynna Weiss

## 2021 Purim Mishloach Manot Bag Fundraiser - Orders due 1/10/2021

Hear Yea; Hear Yea, 2021 Purim Mishloach Manot Bag Fundraiser is here.

Our Purim Mishloach Manot Bag will include items to enjoy such as candy, grogger, Hamantaschen, popcorn, the Story of Esther and a Fruit of the Loom heavy cotton Night-Shirt sporting our Temple Emanu-El Logo with the saying "Temple Emanu-El, 60 Years and Going Strong". No items will contain any nut products.

**Please be sure to order no later than January 10, 2021.**

**Purim is on Friday, February 25, 2021.** In order to make this a successful fundraiser, we need you to respond early to allow for all the parts of the Mishloach Manot bag to be obtained in a timely fashion.

**A donation of \$180 will enable all Temple members to receive a Purim Mishloach Manot Bag as well as support Temple Emanu-El.** While each congregant receives only one bag, they will receive a list of all the congregants who have given their support.

**An alternate option is to pay \$25 per bag** and specify which congregant(s) bag(s) you would like to contribute towards.

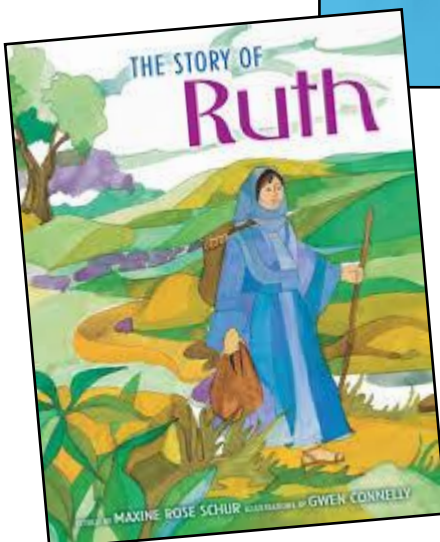
A Hearty Thank You for always caring about our rich Jewish Heritage. You are most appreciated by everyone in our community. ☺

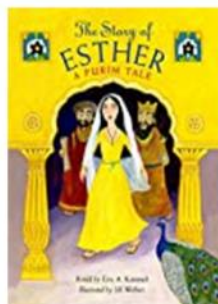
Hope you are well and staying healthy. L'chaim!

Sincerely,

**Deborah Linder**

TE Fundraising Coordinator





## FORM TO ORDER PURIM MISHLOACH MANOT BAG

### TEMPLE EMANU-EL FUNDRAISER

Order by Sunday, January 10, 2021

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \$180.00 to the entire congregation Please circle Yes or No

Donation Amount: One Bag at Costs \$25.00 per bag -Number of Bags: # \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Address to Deliver Your Own Bag and each extra Bag (deliveries to congregants only) :

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Payment type: Check or Credit Card

Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security/CVV Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Paying by Check—in the memo write “Purim Fundraiser”

Options:

- 1) Use this order form:
  - a) mail to Temple Emanu-El P.O. Box 288 Waterford, CT 06385 or
  - b) e-mail to [temanu-el@sbcglobal.net](mailto:temanu-el@sbcglobal.net)
- 2) Don't use the form and call Deborah Linder 860-887-4255 or e-mail the order information to [deborahlinder29@gmail.com](mailto:deborahlinder29@gmail.com), and then send payment to the Temple.

Thank you for supporting the Temple Emanu-El Purim Mishloach Manot Fundraiser.



## Recipe of the Month

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

For January the recipe is:

*Carrot Salad*



## 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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**Deadline for February 2021 Bulletin is Friday, Jan. 15**

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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**Rabbi Emeritus** / Aaron Rosenberg / [arloveskr@aol.com](mailto:arloveskr@aol.com)  
**Cantorial Soloist** / Sherry Barnes /  
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Bulletin Editor / Mimi Perl

**Location:** 29 Dayton Road, Waterford, CT 06385

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 288, Waterford, CT 06385

Office: **860-443-3005**

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