



HEBREW TABERNACLE

BULLETIN

March-April 2019

ADAR-ADAR II/ADAR II-NISAN 5779

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RABBI'S MESSAGE

Toward the end of April, at the Pesach seder, we will recount the Exodus from Egypt and the birth of the Jewish people.

This momentous event in Jewish history occurred as Pharaoh felt threatened: "Behold, the children of Israel are too many and too mighty for us; Come, let us deal wisely with them, lest they multiply and join with our enemies in case of war." Pharaoh's words marked the beginning of our ancestors' enslavement in Egypt, just as President Trump describes the caravan of asylum seekers from Central America as criminals overwhelming our borders and our nation.

Soon after our ancestors crossed the Red Sea unto freedom, they received the Ten Commandments. In contrast to Egyptian tyranny and to the immoral practices of those who lived in the Promised Land, Moses was instructed to form a nation based on law, social justice, and respect for the individual. As a "mixed multitude" came out of Egypt, the new nation would seem a protest movement that also embraced diversity. It is not astonishing that the mitzvah of "loving the stranger" appears 36 times in the Torah. At the earliest stages of revelation, God forbade our ancestors from oppressing the stranger for they were strangers in the land of Egypt.

During the nearly 2,000 years of dispersion, Judaism has functioned as a counter-culture. Jews were the only people who, as a group, refused to assimilate to the dominant culture or convert to the dominant faith. In the Modern age, Jews refused to embrace the pagan nationalism of Nazi Germany. They refused to embrace the chains of Soviet-style totalitarianism. Today, many American Jews refuse to embrace the anti-immigrant mindset which has resurfaced in our country. Indeed, Judaism is God's question-mark against the conventional wisdom of each age.

Judaism is a counter-culture because we believe that the world can be fundamentally changed. Every system of oppression, no matter how powerful it appears to be, can be overthrown. In fact, we were part of overthrowing ancient Egypt, and we have watched the super-powers of antiquity being overthrown. So nothing in the social world is fixed. And ordinary people can be central to those changes. Jews know that, because we did ourselves. We were once the most degraded of all social statuses—slaves—and now we are free. And that transformation was made possible because there is a God in the universe that makes possible the transformation from slavery to freedom. So don't be fooled by any ruling group that tells you something different, because we are living proof that everything could be opposite to what it is.

Indeed, many of the founders of the American Reform Movement firmly believed that Jewish teaching and correcting the social, political, and economic evils of society went hand in hand. They refused to isolate themselves from the outside world. They were not prepared to pass the buck to God or to wait for the Messiah to make a grand entrance. Rabbi David

Continued on page 3

T'FILLAH SCHEDULE

March 2019 ADAR-ADAR II 5779

Friday, March 1, 2019 ADAR 24

6:00 pm: *Tot Shabbat*
7:30 pm: *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Saturday, March 2, 2019 ADAR 25

**Parashat Vayakhel
Shabbat Shekalim**

10:00 am: *Shabbat Service*
7:00 pm: *Havdalah Hang*

Friday, March 8, 2019 ADAR II 1

Rosh Chodesh Adar II

6:30 pm: *Family Service – Buffet Dinner*

Saturday, March 9, 2019 ADAR II 2

Parashat Pekudei

10:00 am: *Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Service*

Rosh Chodesh discussion with lunch on "Jewish Calendar" after services

Friday, March 15, 2019 ADAR II 8

7:30 pm: *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Saturday, March 16, 2019 ADAR II 9

Parashat Vayikra

10:00 am: *Shabbat Zachor Service*

Purim Carnival prep/ Hamentashen Baking

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Erev Purim

6:00 pm: *Chai For A Pie*
6:30 pm: *Purim Service / Purimspiel*

Friday, March 22, 2019 ADAR II 15

6:00 pm: *Tot Shabbat*
7:30 pm: *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Saturday, March 23, 2019 ADAR II 16

Parashat Tzav

10:00 am: *Shabbat Service*

Friday, March 29, 2019 ADAR II 22

7:30 pm: *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Saturday, March 30, 2019 ADAR II 23

**Parashat Shmini
Bat Mitzvah Maya Nimowitz**

10:00 am: *Shabbat Service*



HEBREW TABERNACLE CONGREGATION

*A Liberal Congregation &
Progressive Community Center*

- Jeffrey Gale..... Rabbi
rebjeff2028@gmail.com
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- Dr. Robert L. Lehman, z"l..... Rabbi Emeritus
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- Mitchell Gershonowitz..... Webmaster
susan_gellert@yahoo.com
- Diana DouglasSisterhood President
dianaddouglas@hotmail.com
- Hilary Zatz Chair, Chesed Committee
htoffice@nyc.rr.com
- Hebrew School Committee Sara Silver & Loren Christian
Sarasilver7@gmail.com and *lchristian@muzosa.com*
Harriet Bailer, Diana Douglas & Regina Gradess *GoldWing Curators*
EHBailer@aol.com;dianaddouglas@hotmail.com;
ReginaG99@gmail.com
- Sheldon Koy Administrative Director/Educator
skhspr@gmail.com
- Craig M. CannonBulletin Designer
htoffice@nyc.rr.com
- David HirschBulletin Editor
htoffice@nyc.rr.com
- Jen Talansky..... Tot Shabbat
jentalansky@gmail.com

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T'FILLAH SCHEDULE

April 2019 ADAR II-NISAN 5779

Friday, April 5, 2019 ADAR II 29
6:30 pm: *Family Service – Buffet Dinner*

Saturday, April 6, 2019 NISAN 1
Parashat Tazria
Shabbat HaChodesh
Rosh Chodesh Nisan
10:00 am: *Shabbat Service*

Friday, April 12, 2019 NISAN 7
6:00 pm: *Tot Shabbat*
6:45 pm: *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Saturday, April 13, 2019 NISAN 8
Parashat Metzora
Shabbat HaGadol
10:00 am: *Shabbat Service*

Friday, April 19, 2019 NISAN 14
Erev Pesach
5:30 pm: *Erev Pesach*
6:30 pm: *Congregational Seder*

Saturday, April 20, 2019 NISAN 15
Pesach I
10:00 am: *Pesach 1*

Friday, April 26, 2019 NISAN 21
Pesach VII
10:00 am: *Pesach 7*
6:45 pm: *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Saturday, April 27, 2019 NISAN 22
Pesach VIII
10:00 am: *Pesach 8–Yizkor*

SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, March 17th
Purim Carnival
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

RABBI'S Message

Continued from page 1

Einhorn, of Har Sinai Congregation in Baltimore, attacked slavery in the years preceding the Civil War. Rabbi Adolph M. Radin spoke at an anti-Tammany meeting and disclosed cases of police graft and harassment of East European peddlers. In 1889, Rabbi David Phillipson delivered a Thanksgiving sermon in which he advocated civil service reform. Rabbi Henry Berkowitz once commented, "Some will no doubt ask: 'How dare you drag politics into the pulpit?' I will ask in return, 'How do you dare drag morality out of politics?'"

Religion cannot be divorced from politics. Inaction makes as much of a political statement as protesting the status quo. Many years ago, Rabbi Abraham Heschel chastised both political and religious leadership for its isolationism and unwillingness to stand up to Adolf Hitler during the rise of Nazi Germany. He stated: "Let modern dictatorship not serve as an alibi for our conscience. We have failed to fight for right, for justice, for goodness; as a result we might fight against wrong, against injustice, against evil. We have failed to offer sacrifices on the altar of peace; thus we offered sacrifices on the altar of war."

Judaism is a counter-culture. We refuse to uncritically accept the values of the dominant society. Like our biblical ancestors, we are being called to be the moral defibrillators of our time. In the words of Rev. Dr. William Barber, a national figure from North Carolina:

We must shock this nation with the power of love. We must shock the nation with the power of mercy. We must shock this nation and fight for justice for all. We can't give up on the heart of our democracy, not now, not ever! And while you're fighting, sing that old hymn, "Revive us again, fill each heart with Thy love. May each soul be rekindled with fire from above." Hallelujah! Find the glory.



SUBSCRIBE TO THE BULLETIN!!

Dear Hebrew Tabernacle Members,

You are receiving this edition of the Bulletin electronically unless we have received a request to send a hard copy through the mail. If you would like to receive a hard copy, we ask that you subscribe by sending a \$5 contribution to The Bulletin Fund (if you have not already done so). We also ask that you consider contributing to The Hebrew School Scholarship Fund and the Senior Citizens Support Fund. Please make checks out to Hebrew Tabernacle and write the name of the Fund in the Memo line.

Thanks for your support!

Report from the President

The Board set up a series of Focus Groups over the spring and fall and has been reviewing the feedback from those discussions. We are initiating some changes in services, Hebrew School and programs in response to that feedback. The goals of the participants for our synagogue, which have been endorsed by our Board include:

*Create Jewish Connection & Community

Build children's & adults' understanding, love for and connection to the Jewish religion Be the central spot for progressive Jewish community in WaHi;

*Increase Participation

Grow membership through recruitment and retention. Increase attendance at core synagogue activities, including services, life cycle events, and Hebrew School, plus social/community events

*Build Organizational Resilience

Increase financial solvency from mission-driven activities & growth Build upon our rich foundation by continuing to make HT a dynamic, adaptable institution.

We are in the process of exploring adding a Rabbinical Student to our complement of clergy. On March 9, we will be restarting the Rosh Chodesh Shabbat lunch and discussions. At the request of many, on April 5th, we are moving Friday services to an earlier start of 6:45 pm and through the summer. (Family Services will still start at 6:30 pm.) The earlier start time will allow some to come straight from work as well as allowing time for dinner after service.

For Hebrew School families, we are serving an earlier dinner before the student presentations after Family Services and have started a Havdalah Hang program with athletic and board games on Saturday evenings for middle- & high-school children (from HT, Ft. Tryon and the neighborhood).

For adults, we will be alternating on some Saturday afternoons the "Ten Treasures to Address the Stress," taught by Sensei Miriam Frank, which started Feb. 9 @ 3:00 pm and "Game Day Schmooze & Spiel" with bridge, mahjong, dominoes starting March 2 @ 3:00 pm.

You will see more details on these service changes and new programs elsewhere in this Bulletin. We will be evaluating the successes and challenges as we go along and welcome your continued suggestions and feedback.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, thank you for sharing your concerns and ideas with us. We are listening and taking action. Please continue to give us your ideas.

With best wishes, Joan Serrano Laufer, President

THANK YOU

תודה רבה!

תודה רבה!



WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THESE RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS:

12/11/18 – 2/6/19

AIR CONDITIONING RENOVATION FUND

received a donation from...

Eve Leopold & Marvin Reinheimer

Donation covering Air Conditioning Renovation

BUILDING RENOVATION FUND

received a donation from...

Brian Schneider & Jennifer Talansky

Donation for Building Renovation

CLERGY ASSIST FUND

received a donation from...

Hebrew Tabernacle Sisterhood

Assists to cover clergy payroll costs – January 2019

GENERAL FUND – MISC.

received a donation from...

Michael & Melanie Klein

Book Plate in memory of Henry and Phyllis Taylor

Michael & Melanie Klein

General Fund Donation

Michael, Melanie & Julia Klein

In honor of Eleanor Levin's Bat Mitzvah

Rita Rosenthal

In honor of Tu Bishvat

Judith M. Topper

In honor of Paula Loscocco and Andrew DaSilva

Robinanne Turiel & Todd Rubinstein

In honor of Lighting Shabbos Candles - Robinanne Turiel

GENERAL FUND

received a donation from...

Allen Bachenheimer

In memory of the Yahrzeits of Herta & Josef Bachenheimer

Jeff & Marjorie Bauml

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Julius Seligsberg

Bernard R Crystal

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Normita Crystal

Eva & John Feist

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Julius Feist

Miriam Frank & Desma Holcomb

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Werner Frank

Martin Friedman

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Greta Friedman

John Frolich

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Lina Froehlich

Leonard & Myra Greenbaum

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Walter Greenbaum

John Habermann

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Grete Habermann

Clifford & Susan Hamburger

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Jeanne Hamburger

Mark & Rita Hamburg

In memory of the Yahrzeits of Morris Klein, Rivka Zemet & Helen Berg

David & Linda Horowitz

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Gertrude Horowitz

Eric Koesterich

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Frieda Lesser

Ursula Kohlmann

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Paul A. Kohlmann

Susan Krause

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Robert Krause

William Landsberg

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Ernest Landsberg

Marga Marx

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Heinz Marx

Roberta S. Mathes

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Fred Mathes

Michael Melzer

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Trude Melzer

Ellen Oppenheimer

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Gerda Katzenstein

Stanley & Joan Herz Pearlman

In memory of the Yahrzeits of Marta and Curt Herz

Rafael & Susan Rishik

In memory of the Yahrzeits of Jacob and Leontine Rishik

Werner & Audrie Rothschild

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Isadore Max

THANK YOU

תודה רבה!

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DONATIONS

Continued from page 4

Alon & Shelley Salzman

Frank Stern

Vera Strauss

Gary Thalheimer

Robinanne Turiel & Todd Rubinstein

Pauline & Lawrence Ungar

Gwynne H. Wohlgemuth

Gerald Zobel

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Paula Salzman

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Louise Stern

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Alice Katz

In memory of the Yahrzeits of Martin Thalheimer & Herta Frank

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Michal Winter

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Fred Hamburger

In memory of the Yahrzeits of Charles and Ruth Bargeski & Milton Marx

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Lucy Zobel Eliaser

HEBREW SCHOOL EVENT FUNDRAISERS

received a donation from...

John Authers & Sara Silver

Anatoly & Gisele Garelik

Matthew Scherer & Alison McDonald

Brian Schneider & Jennifer Talansky

Purim Fundraiser: In Memory of Joseph Silver

Purim Fundraiser: In memory of Gisele Garelik's Dad Elia Toueg

Purim Fundraiser: In honor of Sylvie Scherer,

Purim Fundraiser

PRINCIPAL'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

received a donation from...

Harriet & Gene Bailer

In honor of Shelly Koy for all his work & contributions

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

received a donation from...

Alik Barg

In memory of my father, Iosif Barg

SEDER FUND

received a donation from...

Vivian Anapol

Bella Y. Bankoff

Christopher & Patricia Hametz Berner

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Diana Douglas & Lester Howard

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Mark & Rita Hamburg

Michael & Melanie Klein

Peter Kohlmann

Joshua & Dorian Karchmar-Kotzin

Rita Rosenthal

Paul Roth & Kathryn Ruby

Emilie Vigushin

Contribution to support the annual community Seder.

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SISTERHOOD FUND

received a donation from...

Diana Douglas

Michael & Melanie Klein

Honoring Rita Rosenthal's Birthday

In memory of Ruth Werthheimer & Lore Reutlinger

Havdalah Hang

How do you get your Middle School or High School kid off their phone? Have them hang out with their neighborhood friends at the Havdalah Hang at Hebrew Tabernacle on Saturday evenings from 7 pm to 10 pm! Following a brief Havdalah to celebrate the end of Shabbat, the Social Hall is converted to a gymnasium, so the kids can work up a sweat playing gaga (an Israeli dodge-ball camp game played in a pit), badminton and kadureshet (another Israeli camp game similar to newcomb). Board games and knock hockey are also available, as well as snacks. The kids decide what they want to do in this unstructured play period, which is supervised by volunteers from Hebrew Tabernacle and Fort Tryon Jewish Center.

We had a nice turnout on Saturday evening, February 2nd. Balls were flying everywhere, music was playing, and everyone left with a smile. Come to our next Havdalah Hangout on Saturday, March 2nd at 7:00 pm. More information on our website: go to Havdalah Hang under Youth and Family.



Congregational Seder News

Good News for our First Night Congregational/Community Seder on Friday, April 19, 2019! Our caterer, Itzik, has told us that he will be able to hold his price to us at the same level as last year – with no change in the menu.

We still have a way to go to reach our goal in donations to the Seder Fund, to keep it affordable for everyone who wants to participate in our communal celebration of the Exodus. At this point (the March 30th deadline for the Bulletin) we expect to keep the price the same as last year –and almost a dozen years ago. So please continue to make your donations to the Hebrew Tabernacle Seder Fund.

Additional good news: We will continue to extend the \$50 (\$25 for health aides and children) cost of participation for Hebrew Tabernacle members, to members of Fort Tryon and Beth Am congregations, as well as members of other organizations that use our premises. And please get your reservations in early!

Thank you in advance for your donations and participation.

Earlier Friday Services & Social Dinners

Many members have expressed an interest in having a chance to get to know each other better, over a Shabbat meal. In order to foster these social dinners, the Ritual Committee and the Board are trying something new: moving up the Friday night Kabbalat Service from 7:30pm to 6:45pm, starting April 12 and going through June. Come to the service with old or new friends, and then go home or go out for dinner together! To sign up to host or attend a home dinner, see the box below.

To help build community within our congregation, we are hoping members will share an occasional Shabbat meal. Please send an Email to Susan Gellert susan_gellert@yahoo.com, if you are interested in hosting or attending a Shabbat meal in someone's home. Please indicate

1. Friday dinner, Saturday lunch or Havdalah eve.
2. Number of adults and children (with ages)
3. Allergies to pets.
4. Accessibility issues
5. Food concerns (vegetarian, gluten free, etc)

Thank you from your program committee!



Charlie and Lilli Friedman relaxing near their new home in Arlington, VA.
Photo taken by their longtime friends Mark and Rita Hamburg, who were visiting.



Gunter Hirshfield: A Remarkable Life

By Mark Hamburg

Gunter Hirshfield, who died in mid-December at 97, was a remarkable man who was a central player in one of the most important projects that Hebrew Tabernacle has ever undertaken.

In the late 1970s, as the Communists took over all of Vietnam, many Vietnamese attempted to flee in small boats. Just like today's migrants in the Mediterranean region, they were refused permanent entry by many neighboring countries. Hebrew Tabernacle was among the various groups in the United States that sponsored some of these immigrants, known as the "boat people." Their plight resonated among German Jewish immigrants all too familiar with the ill-fated ship St. Louis, which carried Jewish refugees from Germany in 1939 and was denied entry to ports in countries including the United States. The St. Louis was forced to return to Germany and disgorge its passengers, hundreds of whom then perished in the Holocaust.

The Tabernacle adopted Nguyen Be, who had been an officer in the South Vietnamese Army, and his teenage son, Lam Be. Laura Altschuler found them an apartment in Washington Heights. Sonia Hartog got Lam enrolled in George Washington High School. Gunter owned a clock and watch business and he hired and trained Nguyen to repair them. Nguyen became an expert and later started his own business. It was Gunter who enabled the Mr. Be to earn a living and become a self-sustaining member of American society. Later, Mrs. Be and the other children immigrated to the US and the family was reunited.

Gunter was a member of Hebrew Tabernacle's Board of Trustees for many years and served as a Vice President. He was a survivor of Auschwitz and met his wife, Ruth, who died two years ago, in a displaced persons camp after the war. They were devoted to each other. I sometimes tried, perhaps unfairly, to pry information about his experience in Auschwitz from Gunter, but Ruth would discourage him from engaging in such conversation.

It was a pleasure to be in Gunter's company. He was well-read, intelligent, much-traveled, unpretentious and articulate. He was also charitable, generous and kind. A total mensch. In his last years, Gunter suffered from dementia and withdrew from the community, but his death should not go unremarked.

Hebrew Tabernacle Book Club



BOOK Club



Join us for the next meeting of the Hebrew Tabernacle Book Club, open to the community.

Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 7 – 8:30 pm

Meeting in Classroom 2

The Jew Store, by Stella Suberman (1998)

For a real bargain, while you're making a living, you should make also a life. --Aaron Bronson. In 1920, in small town America, the ubiquitous dry goods store--suits and coats, shoes and hats, work clothes and school clothes, yard goods and notions--was usually owned by Jews and often referred to as "the Jew store." That's how Stella Suberman's father's store, Bronson's Low-Priced Store, in Concordia, Tennessee, was known locally. The Bronsons were the first Jews to ever live in that tiny town (1920 population: 5,318) of one main street, one bank, one drugstore, one picture show, one feed and seed, one hardware, one barber shop, one beauty parlor, one blacksmith, and many Christian churches.

Questions and suggestions: Contact Susan Gellert at susan_gellert@yahoo.com

Check Out Some Great Books — Then Check Out Our Hebrew Tabernacle Book Club!

Each month, the Hebrew Tabernacle Book Club challenges readers with great conversation, offering great refreshments and plenty of food for thought.

A household appliance sent as a gift literally takes on a life of its own in "My Russian Grandmother and Her American Vacuum Cleaner" by Meir Shalev. The book, which was our March selection, is a memoir set against the backdrop of the development of modern Israel over decades past. It details, in sparkling translation from the Hebrew, the engaging experiences of a variety of family members--most notably Grandma Tonia. Her lifelong battles against dust and dirt result in a most unusual fate for the subject of the book's title.

April's scheduled selection was the memoir, "The Fortune Teller's Kiss," by Brenda Serotte. When she is stricken with polio just before her eighth birthday in the autumn of 1954, the lives of her Sephardic Turkish family living in the Bronx are changed forever.

The scheduled selection for March 27 is "The Jew Store" by Stella Suberman, a memoir set in northwest Tennessee about the only Jewish family in town during the 1920s. The heart-wrenching memoir, "The Nazi Officer's Wife," by Edith Hahn Beer, is planned for April 24.

Most meetings take place in Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. They take place in Classroom 2 off our Social Hall. Enter through Hebrew Tabernacle's Fort Washington entrance near 185th Street. All are welcome. Suggestions and questions can be shared by contacting convener Susan Gellert at susan_gellert@yahoo.com. We look forward to meeting you!

— Hilary Zatz



Maya Nimowitz

Maya Nimowitz is a seventh grader at PS/IS 187, where she especially loves Social Studies, Math and English. For her mitzvah project, Maya spends some lunch periods helping Kindergarten students. During her free time, Maya likes to watch YouTube, play ukulele, go to Starbucks with her friends and belt out songs from her favorite Broadway musicals. Maya loves to sing and dance and has performed in numerous productions with the Riverdale Children's Theater. Somehow, she also finds time to train and compete with the Riverdale Rapids swim team, play with her pet hamster Jax, and babysit! Maya attends a sleep away camp in the Berkshires where she horseback rides and has a very special bond with a mare named Baily; they are both short and feisty! Maya has been with the Hebrew school since the third grade, and has been so excited for her bat mitzvah ever since. She hopes to continue learning Hebrew even when not in Hebrew school so someday she can have an easy, full-on conversation with her cousins from Israel.



Rosh Chodesh Lunch & Discussion Returns!

Rosh Chodesh study after services, with light lunch and discussion, will resume on March 9. Susan Edelman, a former Hebrew School principal (and former HT Hebrew School grandmother) will lead us in a study of the Jewish calendar. Participate in the service—lots of lay readings and aliyot—and then join us in Classroom 1, after services. Lunch is being graciously donated; please RSVP to susan_gellert@yahoo.com.

New Programs on Shabbat Afternoons—

Open to Members and the Public

Let TenTreasures address the stress! Ten Treasures is a movement class, taught by Sensei Miriam Frank. It is a series of gentle movements, associated with Chinese traditions of health maintenance. Exercises are slow, soft and specific, and benefits accumulate with practice. Ten Treasures can improve balance, flexibility and coordination, relax tense muscles, and support healthy posture. Classes meet once every two weeks on Saturday at 2pm for an hour: March 2 & 23 and April 6.

Schmooze and Spiel is an afternoon of games! Meet your neighbors, bring a friend and play bridge, mahjong, canasta, scrabble, bananagrams, dominoes and whatever the participants want to play. First session was March 2, 3-5 in the Social Hall, and this will continue roughly every other week.

HELP WANTED!!!

We are fixing and improving the building in many important ways, while increasing religious, social, and community programs. Our building is becoming a community social hub. Past President Joan Taub started the Hebrew Tabernacle slogan, "There's always something happening at the Hebrew Tabernacle." This has only become truer in recent months!

Thank you to the many volunteers who have helped make things happen and who have contributed time and money to our efforts. Much has been done and much is being done, but so much more is needed. I am personally asking everyone to consider devoting just a little extra time to what they are already doing or to become more active if you haven't been very involved. Our committees are open to all members, as participants and, in some cases, leaders! These include: the Chesed Committee, Finance, Fundraising, Hebrew School Parents, House/Building, Membership & Program, Publicity, Social Action, and Tot Shabbat Committees. There are so many ways everyone can help, and many hands always make light and fun work.

We have many important volunteer opportunities, either on a one-time, periodic, or regular basis such as preparing the Friday night Kiddush or Shabbat morning Oneg, seasonal help with plants and trees, ushering, or assisting in the office.

If you think you might enjoy volunteering or joining any of the above committees, or if you see an unmet need that you would like to help with, please let me know! My email is joanhtpres@gmail.com or leave a message for me in the office and I will call you back!

We need you!

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Joan Serrano Laufer



On Monday evening, January 28, 2019, a group of Hebrew High School students went down to the HUC-JIR Soup Kitchen on West 4th street for our annual volunteer effort to help feed folks in need. The students who went were: Ben and Helena Canning, Alec Farber, Julia Klein, Anna Levy, Ethan Park, Jasper Saar and Laszlo Stein. Adult chaperones were HHS teacher Cynthia Friedman and parents Tom Canning, Andrew Rubinson and Melissa Stein.

The students gladly participated in a number of tasks necessary to feeding the guests and met with HUC educators to discuss the experience after cleaning up.

Laszlo said, "I'm glad I went and helped people. I was surprised by how many people wanted milk."

Tom said, "It was a great night. The kids really enjoyed the experience."

Andrew remarked, "Our students represented themselves and HT very strongly down at HUC. We worked hard and pitched in positively. It's a great experience for all of us.

Sign me up for next year!! Melissa added, "I was impressed by how non-institutional the (institutional) space felt. The live pianist contributed so much to the ambiance.

This was a valuable trip for all!"

We received this email from the coordinators of the Soup Kitchen program: "We wanted to express our gratitude to Hebrew Tabernacle students for donating your time and volunteering with us yesterday! The Soup Kitchen cannot operate without volunteers, and we are truly grateful for your help. I hope that your visit sparked meaningful conversations and opened everyone's eyes to the plight of those suffering from food insecurity and homelessness."

Best, Sarah Grabiner & Erin Binder, *Program Coordinators*

Shelly wants to thank all of the students and their teacher Cynthia for making the trip downtown and especially the parents, Andrew, Melissa and Tom, who took time out of their busy days. Your support makes this trip possible!

Building Update

By now, most of us are aware that our beautiful building with its wonderful acoustics, historic design and so many strong points, has given us challenges. Our ancient air conditioning needs replacing, the gas has been turned off due to problems with the gas line, our heating system needs new steam traps, and for security and efficiency our windows and doors need strengthening.

We have hired an engineering company to design a HVAC system that will both cool and heat the sanctuary and the social hall. This will give us the flexibility to heat one or both of those locations if we are not using the rest of the building and will also act as a heating back up system. The design is currently being worked on. We expect to be going out to bid on HVAC project in February and to have the systems in place before the air conditioning season begins.

The same engineering company is developing the drawings for the gas line replacement. We anticipate the drawings will be completed shortly so we will be able to obtain bids from contractors and obtain the necessary permits. Meanwhile we have purchased and installed an apartment size electric stove that allows us to do some basic cooking and heating will supplement our professional size stove.

In accordance with new NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection regulations, we needed to install a water meter. A remote meter will be mounted on the Fort Washington Avenue exterior of the building with the piping in the room to the right after going down the stairs from the Ft. Washington Avenue entrance. The project is about 85% complete. Installing the water meter will allow us to continue receiving free water from the City.

A Security Committee has been formed to consider what our safety needs are and how to implement them.

These projects are, of course, quite expensive and we are hoping to pay for them through grants, special donations, and existing funds. We are working on both government and philanthropic grants and special donations. Our Hebrew School students are working to raise \$2,000 towards the cost of the gas line to allow the kitchen to be fully functional. They are having bake sales, collecting loose change, and dedicating other small fundraisers towards that end. Our adults too are stepping up to the plate. Large and small donations are most welcome. A special fund-raising event is being considered. Many companies match their employees' contributions, please check if yours does.

We strongly hope that you will consider making a generous donation to the Building Fund and sharing your ideas for ways of raising this money with us.

Joan Serrano Laufer, *President*

Mike Klein, *Vice President & Building Committee Chair*



IN MEMORIAM

In grateful memory of the departed whose names are taken from the records of Hebrew tabernacle and Beth am and which appear on a separate weekly Yahrzeit list. It is our minhag to read Yahrzeit names at the Shabbat services following the date. **If you would like a name read, please call the office in the preceding week.**

YAHREZIT LIST

March 3 - 9, 2019

Frieda Bachert
Gustav Bachert
Curt J. Blanke
Samuel J. Cohen
Heyman Cohn
Grete Dilloff
Morris Duhan
Gunther Ehrlich
Anneliese Eisenberger
Jerda Englaender
Jetta Eschelbacher
Ida Felsenthal
Maurice Fleshler
Alice Frankel
Ellie Gradess
Erwin Grossman
Selma Heilbronn
Richard Hess
Helen Hirsch
Robert Jacob
Hippolyte Jonas
Fred Julius
Theresa Kestenbaum
Samuel Klinger
Peter Levy
Leopold Leysersohn
Natan Bernt Londner
Gertrude Maier
Hyman Mandelsberg
Johanna Michel
Moritz Moses
George F. Muller, Sr.
William J. Neuberg
Dave Newman
Dorothy Newman
Sylvia Olefson
Arthur Plaut
Ruth Rosenstam
Evelyn Rosenstein
Irwin Ross
Eric Salomon
Albert Schulein
Bernhard Schwartz
Rosy Simonstein
Clara Sittenmann
Dr. Max Sorell

Margaret Sorell
Louis Stadholz
Siegfried Steinhardt
Renee Salzman Tabor
Barbara Heldman Tauszig
Paul Tislowitz
Samuel Wertheimer
Else Westheimer
Josef Wodowski

March 10 - 16

Curt S. Bertheim
Lena Birn
Lottey Blattman
Edith Block
Nathan Brandis
Felix Cahn
Hannah Cohn
Ignatz Dingfelder
Nathan C. Engel
Henry Eppstein
Alois Eysler
Anna Frank
Arnold H. Fried
Max Gottschalk
Sophie Gruensfelder
Fanny Heimann
Bruno Isaac
Ludwig Jacobi
Gerhard Jordan
Martin M. Kastan
David Klein
Kurt Levin
Rebecca Lewin
Jennie Loewenberg
Moritz Lowenthal
Elizabeth McDowell
Emil Mortge
Aron Gerson Muetz
Sara Neugarten
Siegfried Neugarten
Emily G. Pearson
Rebecca Rosenberg
Leo Schachter
Dora Scheirer
Bertha Schwenk
Eve Greenberg Segal
Bernhard Singer

Elsie Strauss
Ruth Taylor
Jack Weigel
Simon Wieser
Samuel Wohlstetter

March 17 - 23

David Arndt
Max Bauman
Debra Bernhardt
Lili Bier
Harry Bimberg
Herman Blatt
Hedwig Bloch
Anna Bloom
Jacob Braun
Evelyn Deutsch
Ernst D. Frank
Herman Frant
William Freeman
Jacob J. Gerber
Charlotte Haendel
Bina Hanauer
David Harris
Percy E. Hart
Else Heidenheimer
Lore Heilbronn
Alex Heyman
Margot Hochberger
Julius Yale Kaplan
Lotte Katz
Minnie Klebanoff
Ruth Landsberg
Hanna Langstadt
Trude Lauer
Walter Lesser
Alice Levy
Eric Loeb
Selma Loebenberg
Betty Lowenthal
Nathan Maier
Paula Marshall
Sigmund Muetz
Rose Ober
Pauline Oppenheimer
Walter Rinehouse
Anna May Freeman Rose
Joseph Rosenberg
Dr. Anna Rosenow
Hilde Rubel
Oskar Schwarz
Joseph Schweitzer
Jacob Seligman
Julius Sessler

Marie Smith
Agnes Steiner
Ernest Strauss
Thilla Suessel
Dr. Arnold Taub
Janis Townsend
Henry Uhlfelder
Edith Wachsner
Siegfried Weil
Emma Weinberger

March 24 - 30

Maxine Baar
Rebecca Berliner
Sophie Blankenstein
Nelly Bloch
Lena Doniger
Ruth Wolf Ehrlich
Louis Fein
Willy D. Fromm
Bianca Ganzman
Jennie C. Gold
Dora Seidner Greenbaum
Erwin E. Haimann
Albert Hamburger
Salo Hamburger
Hermann Himmelweit
Arthur Hirsch
Simon Hirsch
Edith Jacobi
Curt Jellin
Isidor Kulb
Seligman Levi
Sigmund Levin
Rev. Meyer A. Levinson
William Levitman
Bettina Silver Lorris
Erich Marx
Moses Milshtein
Jack Morris
Arthur Muller
Norman Myers
Tessie Myers
Bessie Nemlich
Henry Nesselroth
Otto Samuel Oppenheim
Isabel Perlman
Daniel Pinsky
Helma Roos
Simon S. Rosenstamm
Martha Rothenberg
Robert Rothenberg
Kurt Speier

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YAHREZEIT LIST

Continued from page 11

Fritz Ultmann
Anna Vickers
Jeanette Ward
Hansi Wickert
Justin Winter
Alma Wolff
Ernest A. Wolff

March 31 – April 6

Albert Alexander
Blondine Alexander
Dina Alexander
Ilse Amson
Egon Bachrach
Walter Berney
Frank Bloch
Irene Cahn
Emily Cappel
Lillie Cohen
Millie Coster
Abraham L. Diamant
Isidore Dolinger
Donald Edwards
Lore Emanuel
Martha Federmann
Gretel Feibelman
Bernhard Feist
Herbert Feist
Edith Friedman
Armin Gold
Charles H. Greenberg
Herman Heidelberger
Elizabeth Heymann
Isaak Jutkowski
Toni Kahn
Walter Kaufman
Chava Rivka Kohn
Gershon Levin
Lina Levite
Bernard Lowenthal
Marcus Lowenthal
Bertha Magasiner
Sophie Magasiner
Emmy Marx
Henny May
John H. Mayer
Marion E. Mayer
Joseph Melzer
Sally Neu
Magda Oberlander
Renee Obermeier
Lynn Presley

John H. Scharf
Annie Schiff
Aaron L. Schwartz
Joseph P. Smith
Ada Speyer
Dr. Frederick D. Stern
Riyan Tejada
Hans David Tobar
Charlotte Tucker
Ruth S. Weiss
Manfred Westheimer
Esther Zacks
Javier Garcia Zurita

April 7 – 13

Irene Adler
Victor Adler
Harriet Appel
Mildred Besser
Sarah Chekinsky
Phil Deutsch
Cantor Henry Ehrenberg
Julia Ehrenreich
Edith Eisemann
Justin English
Bernard Forscher
Bernard Frank
Ernst J Galewski
Jack Gerber
Mathilde Golden
Charles Graff
Lee Sally Grossman
Hedwig Gruenbaum
Erna Heart
Sigmund Herz
Dr. Martin Hirschowitz
Moritz Hirschowitz
Pincus L. Klein
Samuel Konig
Ruth Krautman
Ruth Krautman
George Lebow
Jacob Lefkowitz
Alfred Lehmann
Siegfried Loewenstein
Ludwig Loewkowitz
Max Maas
Julius Morgenroth
Charles Neadel
Barnet Perlman
Theo Rendl
Mamie Rosenbluth
Paul A. Salz
Richard Schulz

Julius Simon
Klara Simon
Linda Diane Solomon
Josef Sonnenfeld
Max Stern
Fanny B. Strauss
Lillie Stream
Olga Weihermann
Simon Weinberger
Bernard Weissman
Benjamin Willis
Peter L. Wolff
Max Zobel
Robert M. Zweig

April 14 – 20

Sol Altschuler
Irene Baltuch
Salo & Rosa Bandmann
Harry N. Baruch
Walter Bergmann
Leo Blankenstein
Machla Braun-Speishandler
Max Breitbarth
Clara Dittmann
Carol Feller
Jeanne Florsheim
Arnold Fraenkel
Arthur Frank
Elsie Frank
Martin Freund
Eva Gorton
Alfred Grau
Steven Allen Greenbaum
Sarah Grinstein
Dr. Arthur Hahn
Anna Kalfus
Herbert Kann
Bertha Kaufman
Anna Kramer
Rebecka Lachmann
Emma Lambert
Selma Landauer
Jules Lebell
Martha Levi
Richard Lewitus
Ilse Lichtstern
Fritz Loeb
Erna Loewenstein
Stefanie Lowen
Ruth Lowenthal
Jacob Mandelbaum
Max Marx
Julius May

Charles Mayer
Jacques J. Mayer
Renate Mccutcheon
Walter Mosbacher
Lina Mosback
Enoch Nordlinger
Abraham Ober
Henny Rinehouse
Ray Roman
Mina Roos
Ruth Rosenbaum
Ronald Rubinstein
Bruno J. Salomon
Flora Schloss
Eugenie Seligsberg
Milton Semes
Ben J. Sondheim
Thekla Strauss
Irma M. Tyson
Fred Wolff
Jacob Wolff

April 21 – 27

Nathan Abrams
Sonia Ahrens
Emanuel Bellefond
Charlotte Blatt
Henry K. Bronheim
Gustav Buchdahl
Abraham Cohn
Irene Danziger
Irene Danziger
Pfc. Gunther Dorzback
Irmgard Ehrlich
Sophie Fleischmann
Arthur Frank
Traude Hamburg
David Heimann
Meta Hermann
Joseph Hirsch
Anne Hoexter
JoAnn Hoffman
Amelia Reisel Horowitz
Mina Jarajewski
Alfred Katz
Bess Kaufman
Florence Keidan
Arthur S. Klashman
Annie Kohlhagen
Benjamin Laguna
Joseph Leindheim
Daniel Levy
Leo Maier

Continued on page 13

YAHZEIT LIST

Continued from page 12

Doris Mannheimer
Alice Marx
Erna Marx
Hilde Marx
Gary Mendel
Dr. Henry Mintz
Dr. Jacob Joseph Nadel
Anna Nadelman
Zessi Nelkens
Bessie Newman
Emma Norman
Rosa Ochs
Jonathan Ragovin
Kurt Reis
Max & Clara Rohrheimer
Mark Rosenfeld
Faith Rosenzweig
Max Salomon
Irving Schuster
Leo Secunda
Esther Seide
Lilli Seligsohn
Otto Sonnenfeld
Max Spector
Oscar Spector

Ruchel Spiewak
Dr. Ernst Springer
David Stern
Helene Stern
Berthold Strauss
Erna Strauss
Solomon Strisower
Hans Weile
Ethel Weisbard
Erwin Winter
Herman Wolf

April 28 – May 4

Moses Barth
Julius Baum
Karl Baum
Lillian Baumblatt
Florentine Behrendt
Herman Behrendt
Shlomo & Nacha Brandis
Grete Callman
Harry Donish
Rosa Faber
Victor Faber
Georg Feibel
Max E. Fischler
Judith Frank
Friedrich Gemeiner

Salomon & Fradel Gemeiner
Rita Greenberg
Tilde Gruenebaum
Frances Gutter
Pauline & Moses Hanauer
Albert Heilbronn
Alice Hoexter
Julius Holdheim
Eva M. Huvos-Lowenthal
Selma Israel
Manya Kaplow
Morris Katz
Herman Kohlman
Allison Krause
Mildred Kutell
Emilie & Heinz Langstadt
Ray Lewis
Sol Light
Gida Lomnitz
Rhoda P. Marquith
Ernest May
Sessy Mayer
Lena Michel
Jeff Miller
Zacharias Mode
Dwora Muetz
Robert A. Muller
Lorraine Fay Myerson-Anderson

Katherine Neumann
Elsie Oestreicher
Helene Oppenheim
Paul Pollack
Max Regensburger
Ruth Rosenthal
Elise Rothschild
John Rubino
Jeanette Scheuer
Sandy Scheuer
Bill Schroeder
Irma & Julius Siegel
Selma Siegel
Manya Silverstein
Toni Simon
Rudy Simonstein
Fred Stacy
Annie Stiefel
Jeanette & Salomon Strauss
Emil Vorzimer
Ray Weigert
Irma Weinheim
Rosi Weinheim
Bella & Leopold Werberg
Gertrude Wittner
Judit Wolff
Sidney S. Wolff

PLANNING AN EVENT? COME SEE THE

NEWLY RENOVATED SOCIAL HALL

AT THE

Hebrew Tabernacle Synagogue

in the heart of Washington Heights



Conveniently located at 185th Street and Fort Washington Avenue, half a block from the A train and M4 bus stop.

An assortment of rooms to suit small, medium or large occasions, including meetings, formal celebrations, classes, film presentations & live performances.



Suitable for catered events; equipped with a full Kosher kitchen and in-house catering at rates to fit any budget.

Seating capacity for 300 in our historical Sanctuary, complete with organ, grand piano, and sound-system.



Our grand Social Hall holds 375 and is equipped with curtained stage, projection screen, sound system, banquet tables, and piano.

Mitzvah Day by the Numbers

40 adults & kids from Hebrew Tabernacle, Beth Am and the neighborhood made a big difference on Mitzvah Day, which was held on January 27 in the HT Social Hall.

240 PB&J sandwiches in 120 bagged lunches with fruit & cookies for the local Love Kitchen pantry and for the reunited immigrants and homeless adults and LGBT youth staying at the Holyhood Church.

70 toiletry packs & 10 hats/10 scarves/5 pairs of gloves & socks for the Ali Forney Harlem Drop-in Center for LGBT homeless youth.

240 tubes of kids' toothpaste & 120 kids' toothbrushes for the homeless clients of the Corner Project.

243 children's books for Operation Exodus after-school reading program.

20 Thank You postcards to NYS legislators for enacting laws on women's reproductive health, the NYS Dream Act for tuition and reform in elections and campaign finance. 12 letters in support of NYS driver's licenses for immigrants; 23 letters in support of a path to citizenship for DREAM act youth; petitions signed and also taken home to get signed to oppose the continued separation of immigrant children from their relatives at the border.

32 beautiful homemade cards for kids in NY Presbyterian Hospital.

2 posters (for our Ft. Washington window) with kids' answer to these questions: What is the difference between charity and social justice? How can we heal the world?

Thank you to Kitah Dalet for their yummy Bake Sale that yielded over \$120 towards the supplies for Mitzvah Day!



KRISTALLNACHT 80th ANNIVERSARY

INTRODUCTION OF Ruth Westheimer

by Mark S. Hamburg, November 9, 2018

What is to become of Kristallnacht here? What will it be like when there are no more persons among us who lived in Nazi Germany? Will it retain its poignancy? Will it drift out of our consciousness? Will it retain relevance as a historical occurrence, a modern-day Tisha B'av?"

We now have our answer. It comes in the names of two cities, Charlottesville and Pittsburgh. In the swastikas painted on synagogues. In the statistics compiled by the Anti-defamation League and the Southern Poverty Law Center. In light of the current political and social climate in our country – and in Europe, as well – it is bitterly ironic that just as the passing of the years renders that night more distant, the more relevant that night has become.

In light of this juxtaposition, we are fortunate to have as our speaker, Dr. Ruth Westheimer, who was at home in Frankfort as a 10-year-old girl on Wednesday, November 9, 1938.

At a time when people in this very neighborhood live in dread of a knock on the door, Ruth will tell us of the uninvited intrusion into her home 80 years ago tonight. At a time when our government deliberately separates children from their parents in order to repel them from our country, Ruth will tell us of her last glimpse of her father, on the night of his arrest 80 years ago tonight. Two weeks after a massacre defiled a synagogue in Pittsburgh, we will hear from a woman who was there when synagogues were torched in Germany. Just a few years after "self-deportation" was offered as a plausible solution to our supposed immigrant problem, Ruth will tell us about her own self-deportation on a kindertransport to Switzerland. As this country and countries all over Europe reject refugees, Ruth will remind us of the failure of the Evian Conference to provide a framework for rescuing the German Jews. And as immigrants who remain after the expirations of their visas have become objects of vilification, Ruth will relate how she originally came to the US on a tourist visa – which she overstayed.

I am delighted to introduce a treasured friend, the widow of the late member of our Board of Trustees, Freddy Westheimer, an orphaned girl who lived out the American Dream and a great ambassador of the Jewish people, Dr. Ruth.

The Hebrew Tabernacle's Armin and Estelle Gold Wing Gallery
March/April, 2019 Exhibit

DAVID FIRESTONE FEINBERG
Watercolor Paintings



Artist's Statement:

I have spent a lifetime in the arts as a pianist, composer, painter, and poet. I am also the editor and publisher of

Verse-Virtual, an online community journal of poetry. I'm a retired teacher who has lived in Inwood for about fifty years. More importantly, I'm a husband, father, and grandfather.

Most of my artwork features characters from my semi-imaginary reality of figures and objects. You can see them in this exhibit's watercolors as well as in this series of watercolor paintings based on the twenty-two letters of the Hebrew alphabet (alef-bet). In most cases, the letters are not "A-is-for Apple" but simply pictures which contain the letters - one painting for each quite obvious or relatively obscure letter. The design of the letter itself is an inspiration or perhaps the letter has some symbolic or unconscious meaning.

Contact: ff@fastmail.com



The 20th Hebrew Letter: Reish
11" x 15" 2018

Artist's Opening Reception – Monday, March 11, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Hebrew Tabernacle: 551 Ft. Washington Avenue @ 185 St. NY, NY 10033



Hebrew Tabernacle

Directions: "A" train to 181 St. Walk to 184 St. exit, take elevator up to Ft. Washington Ave., cross street.

HebrewTabernacle.org 212-568-8304

M, W, F 9:30 am - 4:45 pm, some evenings by appointment. Wheelchair accessible. Free admission.

Volunteer Curator - Regina Gradess

Exhibit closes Monday, April 29th



The congregation celebrated Rabbi Gale's 65th birthday!



HEBREW TABERNACLE

OF WASHINGTON HEIGHTS

551 Fort Washington Avenue

New York, New York 10033-1908