

HEBREW TABERNACLE

BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2020

ELUL-TISHREI 5780/TISHREI-CHESHVAN 5781

VOLUME CXIV | ISSUE 363

RABBI'S MESSAGE

n one of my favorite cartoons a speaker at the front of a crowded room asks, "Who wants change?" Every hand in the audience shoots up. In the next frame the speaker asks, "Who wants to change?" All the hands go down and everyone in the audience sheepishly looks down at their feet. In the third frame the speaker asks, "Who wants to lead the change?" The audience has left the room. Change is hard and we have certainly had no shortage of change in our lives in the last 6 months. Whether the change is something that we want like a job promotion or a new house, or something which we don't want like not being able to go out to our favorite restaurant with friends or having our children home with us 7 days a week, adjusting to change is challenging. When change is abrupt and alters our lives in fundamental ways, as we have experienced with this pandemic, it is exhausting at best and devastating at worst.

But even when the change is something we are happy about, something that we want, there is always some loss. All change, good or bad, includes giving up something. Getting a new job might be a big improvement in a lot of ways, but there certainly would be some things about the old job that you would miss. Maybe it would be some of the people you worked with or the place you had lunch at around the corner. Change always comes with loss, and it is very important to recognize that loss and mourn it. We live in a society which tends to skip that part of adjusting to change, which is not healthy or productive. It is only after we deal with the loss that we can start to move forward into the new reality.

The new reality might be something we are forced to cope with, like Covid-19, or it might be something wonderful that we are very excited about. At those times change is very energizing and brings on great creativity. It opens us up to new possibilities. I would definitely say that my arrival as the rabbi at Hebrew Tabernacle goes in this category. This has been a very exciting time as there is so much energy in the congregation, creativity and an openness to new possibilities and a bright future. Meeting so many of you has only added to the excitement (even if it is on Zoom and not in person yet) and I look forward to meeting anyone whom I have not met yet. It is clear how deeply all of you care about the congregation and its future.

Things will change, they will be different in certain ways. They have to be. I am a different rabbi and we are living, like it or not, in a very different world right now. Sometimes there will be changes at the congregation that will be hard. There will be losses for people as we try new things. What I ask of all of you is the following:

1. It's okay to feel a loss and to say so. Please let me know if you are feeling sad about something that has changed.

Continued on page 8

From Our President

September 1, 2020

Hebrew Tabernacle Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Hebrew Tabernacle officers, trustees and staff, I wish you a healthy and happy 5781.

The last six months have been difficult for almost all of us. We have seen the deaths and serious illnesses of so many. Jobs have been lost or conditions seriously altered. For too many, food and rent have become serious issues. The isolation and quarantining have been onerous for most of us.

Hebrew Tabernacle has also faced many challenges, and many lay ahead. From Purim on, we stopped having services, programs, and meetings in the building. Zoom took their place and many of us learned new ways of communicating. But one can't kiss the Torah, taste the challah, or hug a friend using Zoom.

I am happy to report that good things, in the form of transitions, have happened. Rabbi Jeffrey Gale accepted a full-time position at another congregation in Queens; we wish him well. Our student cantor, Robby Wittner, is now a fully ordained cantor and our student rabbi, Rebecca Hecht, continues her rabbinical training as a college Hillel advisor. Rabbi Paula Feldstein, our new rabbi, brings a rich background, warmth, and enthusiasm to our Congregation. Our active Tot Shabbat program is near to her heart, as she wrote the book about Tot Shabbat programs. We are again hosting a student cantor, Kalix Jacobson, who has been with us since mid-May. Working with the rabbis and Dr. Ralph Selig, Student Cantor Kalix has shared personal original musical compositions that have touched us deeply, and sung our traditional music as well as different versions. By the time you are reading this, Student Rabbi Ben Dyme will have joined us and will be participating in religious services, planning to teach in the Hebrew School, and becoming involved in many other activities.

Please join us at weekly and holiday services and at the many events that are taking place. We have several active committees and groups, Social Action, Publicity, Membership, Outreach, Parent Association, Program, Sisterhood, among them - please let me know if you want more information or would like to join one.

If you would like to be added to our e-blast list or learn more about us, please send the request to HToffice@nyc.rr.com, or leave a message at 212 568-8304. Let us know the happy things that are happening in your lives, and any way that we may be helpful to you in times of difficulty.

Take good care,

-Joan Serrano Laufer, President



HEBREW TABERNACLE CONGREGATION

D - I- I- :

A Liberal Congregation & Progressive Community Center

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Our Hebrew School: Facing New Year 5781 Hebrew Tabernacle Strong!

By Loren Christian

This school year has already been like no other and that is all BEFORE the first day of school. Our Hebrew School might look a bit different this year, but I am so ready to get back into the Hebrew School routine at Hebrew Tabernacle. The kids have missed their Hebrew School friends and I've missed the amazing parent community.

Is Hebrew School in-person this year? Hebrew School classes will take place virtually for the months of September and October. We are hopeful that starting in November we will be able to host in-person activities and events.

What if my child doesn't enjoy virtual classes? For many students virtual learning is not ideal. We have put a lot of thought and attention into creating an online/virtual experience that will be fun and inclusive. There will be time to socialize, move and interact with teachers and other students. If at any point in time your child is resistant to participating virtually, please let us know. We will work one on one with your family to make sure their Jewish education is both rewarding and enjoyable.

Hebrew School begins on September 21st & 23rd and is a welcoming and exciting home for Reform Jewish families. Whether it's in the classroom or on Zoom, I could not ask for a better Hebrew School for our kids.

It's very quick and easy this year to register online. Please contact Hebrew School Principal Shelly Koy to learn more at skhspr@gmail. com.

If you use Amazon, please shop at smile.amazon.com

(which is exactly the same as using amazon.com).

When you choose
Hebrew Tabernacle of Washington Heights
as your supporting charity .5% of every
purchase goes directly to supporting
our programs.

If you need help please call the office and we'll walk you through it.



Hebrew Tabernacle CONGREGATION

AN INCLUSIVE REFORM COMMUNITY

HIGH HOLIDAYS 5781

Services conducted by Rabbi Paula Feldstein and Student **Cantor Kalix Jacobson**

S'LICHOT SERVICE

Saturday, September 12 7:30 PM

EREV YOM KIPPUR

Sunday, September 27 *7:00 PM KOL NIDRE

ROSH HASHANAH EVE

Friday, September 18 7:00 PM

YOM KIPPUR

Monday, September 28 9:30 AM Tot Yom Kippur Service *10:30 AM Yom Kippur **Morning Service** 1:00 PM Family/Youth Service 2:00 PM Study Session 3:30 PM Afternoon Service (Avodah, Eileh Ezk'rah) 5:00 PM Yizkor 6:00 PM Neilah/Havdalah

ROSH HASHANAH I Saturday, September 19

9:00 AM Tot Hashanah *10:30 AM Rosh Hashanah I

ROSH HASHANAH II

Sunday, September 20 9:00 AM Youth Service 10:30 AM Rosh Hashanah II

> All services will be held via ZOOM *Special Zoom Code Required

All Are Welcome Reservations: 212.568.8304 HToffice@nyc.rr.com

New this year, Daily Elul Reflection and Shofar Blast on Zoom www.hebrewtabernacle.org/daily-elul

Schedule of **High Holiday Services**



HIGH HOLIDAYS

YOM KIPPUR

Tot & Family/Youth Service

TOT, YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

Services conducted by Rabbi Paula Feldstein and Student Cantor Kalix Jacobson

ROSH HASHANAH

Tot Hashanah Saturday, September 19 9:00 AM

Monday, September 28 Tot Yom Kippur 9:30 AM Family/Youth Service 1:00 PM Youth Service

Sunday, September 20 9:00 AM

All Are Welcome Reservations: 212.568.8304 HToffice@nyc.rr.com

All services will be held via ZOOM

Contributions Acc<mark>epted - www.hebrewtabernacle.org</mark>

Regular Services in September & October:

Kabbalat Shabbat | Friday | 7:15 PM

Shabbat Service | Saturday | 10 AM Torah Study 11 AM (Zoom invites via email)

Other Holiday Services (Zoom invites via email)

Erev Sukkot/Kabbalat Shabbat, Friday October 2, 7:15 PM

Sukkot 1/Shabbat, Saturday October 3 10 AM, Torah Study 11 AM

Sukkot 7 with Yizkor Friday October 9 10 AM

Simchat Torah Celebration, Saturday October 10, 6 PM

First Family Service, Friday October 23, 6:30 PM

What's New for High Holidays This Year?

he list of what is not new for High Holidays this year might actually be shorter. Some of this change the congregation has chosen, like a beautiful new High Holiday prayer book. Some we did not choose, but we will do our best in spite of everything -- like not being in the sanctuary service because of a pandemic. Regardless, there will be a lot to appreciate and be excited about. The key is to keep an open mind and open heart, and come into the High Holidays expecting things to be different and definitely not "the usual." Here is a list of some of the biggest changes.

I. Me!! Rabbi Paula Feldstein (she, her, hers). It is probably obvious by now, but you have a new rabbi and that by itself brings many changes. Every rabbi has their own personality, style, strengths and weaknesses. Having a new rabbi leading on High Holidays is a big change all by itself.

II. Student Cantor Kalix Jacobson (they, their, theirs). This means that we have two new faces on the bima, two different people who bring different personalities and styles to leading worship. Student Cantor Kalix brings a wonderful voice and presence to our congregation.

III. We are all going to be on Zoom and not in the sanctuary. This is a tough one, but one about which we just have no choice. Pikuach nefesh, saving a life, is the highest Jewish value. We are permitted to break all other Jewish laws, including keeping Shabbat, to save a life. After consulting with a team of our congregation's doctors and learning what other congregations are doing, our Board came to the wise conclusion that it is just too dangerous to be together in the sanctuary right now. We will do our best to make the holidays meaningful, fulfilling, spiritual and wonderful anyway. Please watch your weekly emails for more information about how to make your home into a sacred space and the holidays special even on your couch on Zoom!

IV. We have a new Machzor (High Holiday prayer book). A few years ago the Reform movement created a beautiful new Machzor called Mishkan HaNefesh. We will be using this book for the first time this year. It has many of the prayers and songs that are a regular part of High Holiday worship, but the English readings are creative and beautiful. Also, the English translations of prayers are better, with no gender-specific language for God or humanity.

V. There will be separate Tot services and Youth services on Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur. Each group learns and prays in different ways, and these services will reflect what is developmentally appropriate for the very different age groups.

There was nothing more that I wanted during my first High Holidays at Hebrew Tabernacle than to stand on the bima in the sanctuary and look out on all of you in the congregation. It is so joyful to be able to

Continued on page 8

לתודה רבה! THANK YOU

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THESE RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS: 6/16/20 -8/15/20

AIR CONDITIONER FUND

received a donation from...

Larry Cytryn & Eileen Scigliano

Leadership Circle Donation towards the A/C Replacement Project

GENERAL FUND

received a donation from...

Laura Altschuler Arthur Baer Harriet Bailer Bella Y. Bankoff Hilda Blum

Sharon & Jay Bobbins

Miriam Frank Ellen Gross

Mark & Rita Hamburgh

Mark Meyer

Manfred Rosenthal Rita & Martin Steiner

Vera Strauss **Gary Thalheimer**

Renee Toueg **Anita Vooss** Robert Waldman **Robert Wertheimer Gwynne Wohlgemuth** Marion Wohlmeringer

Eva Zirkl

In memory of Sheila Klein & Bill Altschuler In memory of the Yahrzeit of Leonie Neuburg In memory of the Yahrzeit of Mark Martinez In memory of the Yahrzeit of Nathan Gordon

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Gary Blum

In memory of Sheila Klein

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Adolph Frank In memory of the Yahrzeit of Walter Gross In memory of the Yahrzeit of Max Hamburgh

In memory of Sheila & Paul Klein

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Paul Meyer

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Manfred Rosenthal

In mmory of the Yahrzeit of Leo Steiner In memory of the Yahrzeit of Otto Strauss

In memory of the Yahrzeits of Hilda Grau, Margaret Neumann,

& Auguste Thalheimer

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Dr. Elie Toueg In memory of the Yahrzeit of Clementine Vooss In memory of the Yahrzeit of Alexander S. Waldman

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Allen Kalfus

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Madeleine Secunda

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Robert & Friedel Wollmeringer

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Ernest Zirkl

GENERAL FUND - MISC.

received a donation from...

Harriet Bailer Terri Jacobson

Michael & Melanie Klein Michael & Melanie Klein

Elizabeth Ritter Hilary & Robert Zatz General operating support -- donation with membership renewal In honor of Kalix Jacobson, to be used for live streaming equipment

In honor of Rabbi Gale's 11 years of service to HT

In honor of Bugs Kelley's Bar Mitzvah

In honor of our new Rabbi and Student Cantor

General operating support -- donation with membership renewal

HEBREW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

received a donation from...

Harriet Bailer In recognition of outstanding work with the Hebrew School

MUSIC FUND

received a donation from...

Diana Douglas & Lester Howard

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.

YAHRZEIT LIST September 6-12, 2020

Ida Asch Kenneth L. Batt **Aaron Blum** Rose Borsody Gertrude Bronheim Celia Sarah Edberg Dr. Betty Finkelstein Theodor Flatauer Max Flehinger Frances Gerber Nathan Glauber Eric Goldsmith

Emma-Esther Herrmann Rolf Werner Heymann Erna Himmelweit William B. Irell

Sandra Golub

Tillie Greenbaum

Robert Kahn Isidore Karlsruher Helen Kornreich Morris Lefkowitz **Margot Marcus** Louis S. Obermeier Joseph Ritter Rhoda Rosenfeld

Edmund Rothschild Norton Rothschild Rudolph Scheibe **Aaron Scheuer** Naum Schub

Peter Rosenthal

Ray Sharoff **Dorothy Silver** Walter Silverman

Denny Simon Anna Stamm Henrietta Stephan

George Stokes Kurt Strauss - Goldsmith Lothar Tannenwald

Inge Waldman George Walzer **Emil Weill** Erna Wolf

Sept. 13 - 19

Leopold Baer Arthur Blumenthal Moses Boehm Gustine Bruckman Israel Collin Zelda Y. Davis Ida Eberhardt Morris A Engel Anna Fraenkel Adolph Frank Otto Goldschmitt Alfred Goldstrom Isaac Greenberg Marion Hahn Morris Hart

Albert, Frieda, Carlo Josephs Hugo, Erna, Helga Josephs

Emil Hartog

Johanna Kahn Ilse Kohlman Paul Levv Richard Levy Cecile Lipkin Alice Loewkowitz Theo M. Lorch **David Luster** Margot Marx Horace McCracken Leopold Meyer Herman E. Meyers Fanny Michael Gilbert Michel

Gunilla Martenson Moore

Frank Mosback Dan Newman Carl Ochs

Ernest Oppenheimer Pauline Oppenheimer

Adolf Pollack **Gustav Reis** Ita Rosenberg

Mordechai Rosenberg

Henry Rosenow Julius Rutberg Joseph Salomon Jacob Samuels

Charlotte Scheibe **Rose Schuster**

Else Seligmann

Hermann Seligmann Frieda Sokolowski

Gerson Sonnenfeld Regina Sonnenfeld

Vivian Gorlin Steinhoff

Fidel Strisower Else Warms Adolph Wolff **Charlotte Wolff**

Sept. 20 - 26

Siegfried Bachenheimer

Leon Berger Meyer Bialos

Brenda Munz Brienza **Fmanuel Cohn Richard Collins** Hanni Elias

Malvina Eulau Rose Glickman Gertrud Goldschmidt

Theodore Goodkind Paul Gottschalk Dr. Samuel Graff

Bernhard Greenbaum

Ben Hertzog Alice Kassel Lina Kassel Jane L. Kaufman Julius Kaufmann Adele Kollman Sara Lederman Michael Lehman Alfred & Auguste Levi Charles Lowen

Elijah Mindich Joseph Ornstein Marianne Osers **Adolf Reiner** Dr. Nathan Roos Isidor H. Scheirer **Kurt Schloss**

Jacqueline Schonholtz

Joseph Schwartz Rosalie Seideman Hilde Steinhardt **Ethel Stertz** Rae Stream Artur Westheimer

Robert Wiener

Judy Wingard Michael Wolff

Sept. 27 - Oct. 3

Ida Blumenkranz Julius Briskie Julius Buchdahl Tessy Buchdahl Rosa Cohn Morris Collin

Sylvia Crystal Joseph Ehrenreich

Georg Elias Martha Elias Orah Elias Richard Erle

Raymond Fleishman Herman Fraenkel Werner Fraenkel Danny Frank Wally Freyer Isaac Fuld Frwin Fuss Imre Gestely

Amalie Greenbaum Nathan Gruenewald

Josef Hanauer

Sydne Eckstein Harris

Max Heymann Regina Hofmann Ludwig Katz

Simon Kestenbaum

Tillie King David Lazar Paula Marx Anna Meseritz Alfred Mever Paula Meyer Leo Mosback

Marta Oppenheimer Dr. Siegmund Rothschild

Frances Rothschild Frank A. Sanders Leo Schwartz

Albert Schwartzburt Otto Schwarz

Flyin J. Schwarzbaum

Hilla Simon

Dr. Charles Spiegel Rabbi Julie Spitzer

Fred Strauss Henry Taylor

Continued on page 7

YAHRZEIT LIST

Continued from page 6

Flora Walter Sarah Wecker Pearl Weinman Ezra Wieser **Hugo Wolff**

Oct. 4 - 10

Minnie S. Appel Mildred Austern Bertha Barber

Dr. Siegfried Beckmann

Harry L. Blum

Margot Bodenheimer

Minnie Cohen **Bvrdie Davis** Sarah Dlugatch Herbert Ehrlich Herbert Ferber Patrick J. Flanagan

Max Frank Jacob Frankel Pauline Frant Samuel Glassman

Ilya Godin Mary Graham Karl Hamlet Leo Hanau Marcus Hertz Sigmund Herz **Ernst Heumann** David S. Hirschfeld **David Hoexter**

Evelyn Klinger David Lauber Frieda Levy Hulda Levy

Herbert Lichtenstein Selma Manheimer Fred Meyerhoff Margot Munz Klara Oppenheimer Amelia Ornstein Wilhelm Ottenheimer

Martha Ottensooser Herta Pertiller Kathe Pollak Rosie Pollak Jacob Rishik **Ethel Irene Rook** Elisabeth Roos

Hugo Rosenfeld Paula Rosenthal

Richard Rosenthal Solomon Sichel Walter Simons

Jacob Spector

Gertrud Stadthagen

Ida Sternfels Robert Stix Paul Weil Frank Wittner

Oct. 11 - 17

Anton Bauml Henrietta Berger Fanny Eysler May Farber Leona Finestone Siegfried Frank Abraham Greenberg **Gregory Habermann**

Stanley Haft Clarice Hausman Caroline Hecht Margaret Heiman Gertrude Hirsch Margit Hirsch Bertha Hofmann **Daniel Horowitz** Fred L. Joseph **Ruth Jost** Leon Klinger Berta Kuba Lena Lefkowitz Fred Lipner

Harry Mandelbaum

Morris Moss Sam Muenzer Gertrude Myers Dr. Oscar Nussbaum Vally Ollendorff Rev. Abraham Reser Irene Rollman Gerda Ruwalski Melvin Scheuer Alfred Schueller Mathew Shepherd Ludwig Sinsheimer Adele Sostman Julius Joe Stern Dr. Curt Strauss

Vivian Taber

Elizabeth Tuerkheimer Max Tuerkheimer Marianne Ultmann Norbert D. Warren Leon Zellner

Oct. 18 - 24

Rita Alpert Nuta Bery-Chmukh

Alyssa Brennan Sarah Briskie Jacob Cohen Fritz Ehrenreich Dr. Siegfried Elias Rev. David Epstein

Emanuel Eschelbacher

Ilsemarie Fleck **Hedwig Frank** Rae Friedland Harry Frolich Jerome Glauber Arthur Goldschmidt Walter Gunther **Edith Haas** Bertha Hertz Elly Hirsch Martin Hirsch Millie Hirsch Sophia Horowitz Sarah Jutkowski Fred Kahn Helma Katz Johanna Katz

Herman Lass

Bella Mandelsberg Gertrude Metzger Molly Nadelman William Nathanson Simon Neumann Vera Oppenheim Morris Oppenheimer Jacob L. Phillips Helen Piasecki **Curt Pollak** Cecilia Schwartz Lillian Secunda **Gladys Sharoff** Karola Strauss

Meyer Gus Lowenthal

Dr. Frederick J. Wachsner Blanche Walter

William Weinberg

Samuel A. Wohlgemuth

Oct. 25 - 31

Stanley Adelman David Baer Gertrude Baer Walter Barton Nathan Bloom Betty Bodenheimer

Jean Boehm Alfred Bornstein Leopold Cahn George Charig Paula Deman Stephen Fleck Sari Frank

Winston Werner Frank

Felix Freilich Else Friedman Rosa Ganz

Dr. Walter Getreuer

Rose Hanau Renate Heiman Alice Hertz

Ludwig Heymann Samuel Hirsch **Charles Hymes** Hannah Jacob **Emil Kahn** Stephen Kahn Elsa F. Katz Frank Koerpel Alex Kopydlowski Elizabeth Kunz Jesse Kutell

Leopold A. Levison Augusta Levy Lillie Machlis

Claire May Theodor Morgenroth

Benjamin Oberst Yetta Rothschild **Rosalind Salomon Louise Salomons** Lilly Sandel Florence Scheer Selma Spiegel Leo Stiefel **Paul Strauss** Albert L. Sussman **Phyllis Taylor** Herta Westheimer

RABBI'S Message

Continued from page 1

All feelings are legitimate.

- 2. Try to keep an open mind and try new things. We all connect to Judaism in different ways. What might not be appealing to you, might be appealing to someone else. Or try it, you might be surprised.
- 3. We are going to use the mindset of "experimentation" for this whole year. All the new things we try are going to be experiments. They might work and they might not work. Nothing is written in stone (except the 10 Commandments!! -Couldn't resist).
- 4. Know that I always want to hear from you. No opinion or idea is unimportant. You can email me any time. Rabbipfeldstein@ gmail.com. If someone doesn't use email, you may call the HT office (212 568-8304) and leave a message for me to call you back.

Change is hard but it is also full of possibility....just like the new year. At this time of year, Jews do t'shuvah which can be translated as repentance or turning, but it can also be translated as change. On Rosh Hashanah, the new year, t'shuvah is about taking time to examine our lives, reflect on who we are and who we want to be. It is taking time to look back on the past year (and it has been quite a year), mourn the losses, reflect on what we have learned and to think about all the wonderful possibilities in the year ahead. I hope we will do this together, as I am so honored to be your rabbi and to explore the possibility and future of Hebrew Tabernacle Congregation with all of you in this new year. Shanah Tovah!

HIGH HOLY DAY MACHZOR DEDICATION OPPORTUNITY

n anonymous donor has made it possible for Hebrew Tabernacle to obtain the latest version of the High Holiday prayer books of the Reform movement. These prayer books, Mishkan HaNefesh: Machzor for the Days of Awe, are gender neutral and include a transliteration of the liturgy.

We now have the opportunity to dedicate these new books in memory of or in honor of people we love. The beautiful design pictured above will appear in each book that is dedicated with the name of the person or people that you are wishing to remember or honor. The book plate has room for the names of the people donating the book and room for the names of each person being honored. An example of a book plate is pictured below. Each book dedication is \$36.00.

Since the books have already been paid for, each book that you

High Holidays

Continued from page 4

hug and greet each other on these special days. Sadly, that is not to be this year. While I am truly sad for this loss, I am also excited about what we will be able to create together instead on Zoom. It is not the same as being physically together, but I am grateful that we have the technology to see and be together spiritually if not physically. Together, I know we will all pray for the healing of those who are ill and for the end of this pandemic, so that instead of "Next Year in Jerusalem" we will be able to say, "Next Year at Hebrew Tabernacle!"

— Rabbi Paula

In memory of... **OR** In honor of.... Name of the party being honored/remembered

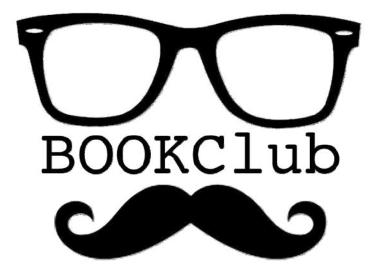


Name of person(s) making the dedication

dedicate will raise money for Hebrew Tabernacle. You can send a check to the Office, with a note on your bookplate dedication, or donate online (using the Comment section to specify "Bookplate" at our website.). It will be special to see your names and the names of those you love in our new books during the Days of Awe.

Let us start the new year with 100% participation by each family in the Hebrew Tabernacle community.

Hebrew Tabernacle Book Club



Join Us for the Next Chapters in Our Hebrew Tabernacle Book Club neaders eager to share insights into works that challenge and inspire meet monthly via Zoom at the Hebrew Tabernacle Book Club. The Covid-19 emergency has made us especially grateful to connect to friends near and far, as well as to thought-provoking discussions in this way.

Our August 19 selection was journalist James McBride's 1995 memoir, The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother. Relentlessly frank and unsentimental, the author's work details a family history by alternating chapters about his growing-up years (spent mainly in the Brooklyn projects as one of twelve children), and the voice of his mother, known as "Mommy" or "Ma."

In the author's younger years, his mother, Ruth McBride Jordan, describes herself as "light skinned" rather than say the word "white." But as time passes, James begins to understand the pain and complexities of her personal life, and chronicles it in his book. Born Ruchel Dwara Zylska in Poland, and known as Rachel Shilsky when her family moved to Suffolk, Virginia, she leaves the anti-Semitic and racially intolerant town to make New York City her home.

At 17, fleeing from years of an abusive relationship with her father, Ruth finds love and acceptance in the Black community. Widowed twice to men of faith, she lives a hardscrabble life. She still manages to get her children to the best schools possible, and each through college and a professional life. (And a degree in social work for herself at

The title of the book comes from a question James poses to her as a boy: what color is God? Ruth replies that God is the color of water--clear and transparent.

And now as an adult, James wonders about Ruth: as someone whose family sat Shiva for her because she married a person of a different faith and race, and who as a younger woman helped start a church, how much of her Judaism still remains deep inside her? And what connections does James himself have to his Jewish heritage? In the September 16 selection, themes of identity and self-realization will also be explored in Such Good Girls, a 2014 nonfiction work by R. D. Rosen. Three children are hidden in three different countries during the Holocaust.

Not all the girls would even realize they were even Jewish until after the war. Each surmounted incredible obstacles and would become top professionals in their respective fields. The author weaves their stories compellingly together, reminding us that a scant 10 percent of European Jewish children would be Holocaust survivors.

What groundbreaking event would bring together these three individuals and other hidden child survivors now living around the globe? What steps could be made to try to heal the wounds so deep within each grownup mind and spirit?

Please see our website for all available Book Club information and updates. As with our Film Club, Temple members and friends who wish to participate can contact the HT office for Zoom info.



Thank You Hebrew Tabernacle!!!

PARTICIPATION BY 20 FAMILIES IN OUR HONEY SALE FUNDRAISER RAISED OVER *1,000 FOR OUR CONGREGATION!

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED AND THANK YOU TO DAVID HIRSCH FOR SENDING OUT ALL THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION.

Leadership Circle to Be Honored on a Plaque

ine members of Hebrew Tabernacle have participated so far in our Leadership Circle by donating, pledging or leaving the synagogue in their will an amount ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000 (or more). These donations are primarily being used this year to fund our new "Green" and energy efficient Air Conditioning system. These donations towards this capital project are crucial to the modernizing of our building, which is usually shared by us and three other congregations—Ft. Tryon Jewish Center, the Uptown Community Church, and Las Nuevas Buenas.

These donors will be honored (in the way they have designated) on a new Leadership Circle plaque, to be hung in the Gold Wing, in September:

Gary Thalheimer Ludi Stern z'l Anonymous With Appreciation for Scott Joplin **Anonymous** In Memory of Clara Lemlich Richard Ehrenreich z'l In Memory of Anne, Werner and Judy **Anonymous**

Our entire community is grateful that these members, who are able to do so, have made this contribution to our synagogue's long-term financial stability. There is room on the plaque for more members who wish to join the Tabernacle Leadership Circle. Please join, if you can.

Tot Shabbat

ot families: Get ready for the High Holidays! We will hold our typical Tot Hashanah service via Zoom at 9 am on Saturday, September 19th. And we are adding a NEW Tot Yom Kippur service this year at 9:30 am on Monday, September 28th. We look forward to gathering our Tot family community to bring in the New Year together. And please hold 6 pm on October 2nd for an Erev Sukkot Tot service, and 6 pm on October 30th for the next Tot service. Look for more information soon on these and other Tot services we will hold during 5781!

Please be in touch with Jen Talansky at jenlorin@hotmail.com with any questions.

SEDER 2020 REPORT AND THANK YOU

s you probably know, I have been chairing the Seder Committee for many years. My professional background in direct marketing has taught me that the three most important words for any appeal are FREE, NEW and THANK YOU.

I wish our Community Seder could be FREE for all of us, but that requires a great deal of money, so I want to thank all our donors to the Seder Fund for their generosity this year and in the past, keeping our community Seder affordable for all. And after all, we are celebrating our FREEDOM from Oppression by the Pharoh in Egypt.

There's nothing NEW about our Exodus story, but as the hagadah tells us, each of us was freed from bondage by G'd, and each of us our clergy and ourselves - brings new insight and experiences to the Seder. Certainly the COVID-19 enforcing this virtual Seder was a NEW experience for all of us.

THANK YOU is the most important here. THANK YOU to our clergy, Cantor Robby Wittner and Student Rabbi Rebecca Hecht, mentored by Rabbi Gale; to Shelly Koy and Mitch Gershonowitz; to David Hirsch, our office and custodial staff; to Yitchak our caterer and his people for his usual delicious meal and for keeping our costs as low as possible under difficult circumstances. THANK YOU to Joan Laufer and the members of our board for all their planning. THANK YOU to the members of the Seder Committee, even though they never got to check in participants. A big THANK YOU to all of you who participated in the Passover ZOOM service and attended our virtual Seder. Under the circumstances, it was difficult to establish how many participated, but we had orders for 50 Kosher meals with Seder Plates to be picked up at the Fort Washington entrance in the afternoon before the Service. As with past Seders, this number is an indication of the importance of the Hebrew Tabernacle Community Seder to our members, friends and neighbors.

Again, THANK YOU to all our generous donors who sent their contributions before we were forced to reschedule our on-site Seder and establish the virtual one

At a time when we are in the presence of a new plague, let us hope the Angel of Death passes over us so we can conclude with renewed optimism: Next year in Jerusalem! Or at least back in our own building. With this year's Seder, and my 90th birthday, I am retiring as Seder Committee Chair, and I hope one or more members will volunteer to take over this essential project. I will be available for any help that you may need and to turn over my files.

— Gary Thalheimer



Zoom in and Focus on a Great Discussion at the Hebrew Tabernacle Film Club

atch the selection ahead of time, and then come prepared to share your thoughts via Zoom at our Hebrew Tabernacle Film Club.

The award-winning 2004 documentary Paper Clips will be the topic of our next meeting, scheduled for September 2 with discussion leader Hilary Zatz.

A simple object, found on everyone's desk, becomes an incredibly powerful tool for remembrance when it is multiplied...

...Six million times.

In 1998, Middle-school students in the all-white, Protestant town of Whitwell, Tennessee, were trying to conceptualize the enormity of the Holocaust. With the support of three educators in an afterschool project, the eighth-graders came up with the Paper Clip Project. The students' goal? To collect six million clips to represent each man, woman, and child lost forever to the Holocaust.

The choice of this object, the students found in their research, was historically poignant. During World War 2, the non-Jewish people of Norway wore paper clips on their lapels as a silent, defiant protest against the Nazi atrocities.

Thanks to the support of two German journalists, over several years the school's project gained international attention. Millions of paper clips came in from every corner of the globe, some from celebrities and world leaders, but most pouring in from people of all walks of life. Their project culminated in meetings with Holocaust survivors who were able to share their survival stories with the children firsthand, and the establishment of The Children's Holocaust Memorial. It is there that many millions of the clips repose (in silent tribute in an actual German railway car). Many more millions of clips that had been sent, far more received than ever expected, represent other groups that perished mercilessly at the hands of the Nazis.

Please check our Hebrew Tabernacle website for each month's Film Club discussion time and latest updates. Temple members and friends who wish to participate can contact the HT office for Zoom info.



Beautiful Cemetery Plots Available from Hebrew Tabernacle

s your synagogue, one of our primary focuses is to provide you, our members, with an array of services in connection with Jewish life cycle events. Unfortunately, the reality of death is one we will all face along our journey on this earth. We want to help now to ease your burden when that difficult time does come. Our belief is that only the Almighty knows when that ill-fated time will come, but it is best to be prepared when it does occur.

Hebrew Tabernacle has been providing cemetery plots to our congregants for a number of years at Cedar Park Cemetery in New Jersey. At this time, we still have a limited number of plots available for purchase. These are available to HT members in good standing, and also to friends in the community.

Plots at the Hebrew Tabernacle grounds at Cedar Park are currently priced well below market rate for a burial plot when purchased directly from a cemetery. We are offering plots at a price of \$2400 per grave for members, and \$3000 per grave for non-members.

If your family is interested in purchase information, please contact our office by email at HToffice@nyc.rr.com, You may also leave a message on our phone (212 568 8304) and a member of our cemetery committee will get in touch with you when possible.







HEBREW TABERNACLE

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