

JAN-FEB 2016

THE ISAIAN

2018  
2017

2016

A TIME FOR RENEWAL

2015

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# MECHADESH B'CHOL YOM TAMID MA'ASEH BERESHEET:

וּבְטוֹבוֹ מְחַדֵּשׁ בְּכָל יוֹם תְּמִיד מַעֲשֵׂה בְרֵאשִׁית

The world is constantly created anew

by Rabbi Frimmer



In our morning liturgy, we praise God as “the One who makes new every day the work of Creation.” What might be seen as flowery prose could actually be read as radical theology:

Our ancestors name God not as a one-time creator, but instead as a deity who actively and purposefully renews the world every day. If this is true, than ours is a God who is involved in our lives. Ours is a God who has the potential to bring about change, even to those aspects of creation we feel are intransient and unmovable. Ours is a God who does not see creation as stuck.

**There is the possibility of renewal: rekindling light, rejuvenating tired souls, reviving lost hope.**

Rabbi Mordechai Kaplan (z'l) noted that God's role as the ever-renewing creator means “that which seems impossible today [God] may bring to birth tomorrow.” (Meaning Of God, p. 67) And we who are made in God's image, perhaps we, too, have this gift: to recognize that each day gives us opportunity to create anew. We can rekindle light that has been lost to dark times. We can rejuvenate ourselves and shake up rote responses and habitual steps. We can revive a dream we thought had faded years before and bring it into the waking hours of a new day.



# Renewed Relationships

## A Visit to Poland with My Daughter

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Honey Kessler Amado



In the Summer of 2014, at her request, I took my youngest child Gabrielle to Poland. She had gone to Auschwitz and Majdanek with her EIE class and wanted to return with me. (EIE is the Eisendrath International Exchange, the Union for Reform Judaism's high school in Israel.) She wanted to go in the dark winter months, when Poland is cold and dreary. I was prepared to go then, though I dreaded the

cold. But, as I began planning and sought advice from friends who included Holocaust scholars and Polish Jews, I began to rethink our trip. I became convinced that Gabrielle should experience Poland both for its history and as it is today, post-Holocaust and post-Communism: a place of a vibrant, 1,000-year Jewish history, of death and destruction, and of rebirth and cultural renewal.

Gabrielle agreed to change the time of our trip to coincide with the Krakow Jewish Cultural Festival in the first week of July. (The Festival, discussing and celebrating Jewish culture, has been taking place for over twenty years and is attended by thousands of people, overwhelmingly non-Jews.)

After two days in Warsaw, we traveled to Lublin to see Majdanek, a former concentration camp. Majdanek was quiet and peaceful. It reflected, as our young, Catholic guide described, a cemetery. As we were leaving the camp, we walked behind a man and woman with their young child. The young girl was laughing and skipping to and from her father. I watched them and thought that the sound of laughter and the calling birds are the only sounds that should be heard here. In this place of loss and palpable sadness, these are the sounds of the renewal of life.

We then went to Krakow, staying in the Kazimierz, the Jewish district. Our walking tour of the Kazimierz included stopping at the Old Cemetery (of the New Synagogue) where Rabbi Moses Isserles (one of the greatest Jewish scholars) is buried. Our young guide, Alicja, explained that most of the stones in the cemetery had been desecrated or broken during World War II. Sometime in the early 1950's, a group of local Catholics came to restore the cemetery. They "replanted" many of the headstones. They did not know that the stones were originally placed in haphazard rows or, more likely, no rows at all, typical of the old Jewish cemeteries. In restoring the cemetery, they placed the stones in straight rows, as in a Catholic cemetery. This struck me as very touching, even beautiful. The cemetery with its rows now reflects the acts of the local Catholics who wanted to honor our dead buried there.

Alicja also took us to the site of the Płaszów concentration camp, where the Jews of Krakow were murdered. She showed us an unofficial memorial: a large cross and a small figure of Jesus wearing an over-sized crown of thorns. She explained that when the war was over, well before official memorial plaques and monuments were placed on the grounds, local people wanted to mark the place that they knew contained the remains of many murdered people, Jews and non-Jews. Because they were Catholic, they put up a symbol familiar to them: a cross. Had Gabrielle and I seen this cross on our own, we would have thought that Jewish suffering was being obliterated. But from Alicja we learned a different point: the people had intended to honor all who had died there, and they marked this holy place with a holy sign familiar to them. It would have been good to include a Star of David, but still they marked the place as holy.

A panel of speakers at the Festival featured two young women, contemporaries of Gabrielle, who had learned as teenagers that they were Jewish. Both had maternal Jewish grandmothers. Both had mothers who were raised as Catholics and were content to remain so. The fact that the grandmothers were Jewish had never been mentioned in either family. One of the young women, Olga, was 12 years old when she asked her mother why she was so interested in Jewish customs; her mother replied, "because we are Jewish." The other young woman learned of her Judaism in a similarly casual way. Olga identifies as Jewish and sees herself as a link between history and future. Olga's co-presenter and her younger sister also both identified as Jewish. They had asked their mother to join them at the Krakow Jewish Community Center, but she said that she did not "feel" Jewish and that what she was doing for the Jewish People was giving us back her daughters.

*I had timed our trip to Poland for Gabrielle to see history and to discover her generation's renewed relationship with Jews.*

Perhaps when the prophet Joel said, "[Y]our old shall dream dreams, and your young shall see visions" (Joel 3:1), he understood that we older generation see history, current times, and the potential for the future in one picture, where the times are super-imposed on each other in a dream-like state, with the future darkened by history; but the young see visions of a better world, free of the immediacy of the searing experiences of history.

I offer my children and their generation their future, where hopefully they will find the opportunities and courage to seek renewed relationships with historic enemies and adversaries.





Abby Mars

*Preschool Assistant Director, Curriculum & Pedagogy*

Robin Dowds

*Preschool Outdoor Classroom Specialist*

"The mission of the Outdoor Classroom Project is to increase the quantity, quality, and benefit of outdoor experiences for children in early care and education programs."

Here at Temple Isaiah we also seek to root children in outdoor experiences that connect them to Jewish values. On our yards, teachers and students are engaged in meaningful play and exploration that strengthen relationships, personal identity, and communal responsibility. Here is a look at some of our work this year.

## Gardening and Composting

Preschool classes now have their own garden boxes to care for. Classes work to water, weed and nurture their crops and in doing so make meaningful connections to the natural world. Children are learning about the basic structure of plants, what they require, and how they grow. Silver Moon, our oldest preschool class, is exploring Tikkun Olam through the act of composting. They are saving their snack scraps and collecting brown organic matter like leaves and hay to add to our compost bin on the deck. They are patiently waiting for the new rich soil to be ready this spring.

## Natural Materials

To deepen their understanding and respect for natural elements, children are using natural loose parts such as pinecones, stumps, tree cookies, acorns, branches, and leaves. In addition to investigating their dynamic properties, children are using these open-ended materials as props in a vast array of dramatic scenarios.

# The Outdoor Classroom

## A Renewal of Space

## A Commitment to Jewish Values



***"I found a fruitful world because my ancestors planted it for me. Likewise, I am planting for my children." - Talmud***



## Maintained Interest Areas

We've also refinished outdoor furniture to create beautiful interest areas for the children. There are spaces for building, sensory play, dramatic play, science and math, reading, and music. These spaces inspire creative and sustained play, and children are learning responsibility by creating a brit (Jewish contract) for how we share outdoor spaces and materials.

## Butterfly Gardening

This fall our milkweed was thriving and dozens of caterpillars have munched through our certified Monarch Way-station butterfly garden. A few classes even took the larvae indoors to watch the process up close. We've loved watching monarchs and humming birds flitting around our garden, an opportunity to celebrate daily miracles.

## Areas for Small Group Work

We believe that anything that can be done inside the classroom, can also be done outside. We've set up our yards to encourage small group work and one-on-one work with teachers and peers. This draws on the Jewish practice of havruta, meaningful paired learning.

## Looking to the Future

In the coming months we hope to increase home-school connections by offering family meet ups, parent work days and increased communication with the temple-wide community about what is happening in our yards. Our outdoor classrooms provide opportunities for children to connect to Jewish values such as Bal Tashchit (do not destroy), Hoda'ah (appreciation), G'milut Chasadim (acts of loving kindness), Shmirat HaGuf (caring for the body), Ohev et HaBriyot (loving all creatures), Tza'ar Ba'alei Chayim (kindness to animals), and Mishpacha (family), among many others. In practicing these values we hope that the children of Temple Isaiah will strengthen their Jewish identity as mensches for today, and mensches for our future.



CARLA KOPF  
*Director of Religious School*

## L'Taken Conference

Many of our Temple Isaiah Religious School students have wonderful lives. They have supportive families, live in lovely homes, have all their basic needs met, and lead full and productive lives. Their world is not broken, but in the real world there are many things that need to be fixed.

Each weekend from December - February over 300 Jewish teens travel to Washington D.C. to attend the L'Taken Conference of the Religious Action Center, the lobbying arm of the URJ.

On December 10, Danny Rubenstein and I had the pleasure of accompanying our confirmation students to L'Taken. They researched, wrote, and delivered speeches about current legislation. The students attended seminars, participated in small group discussions and held mock debates about issues ranging from foreign relations with Israel to gun control policy.

## “Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof” - Justice, Justice shalt we pursue!

In our sanctuary above the ark, you will find these words. “Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof” - Justice, Justice shalt we pursue! These words have been instilled in our confirmation students since they began Religious School and now have truly become part of their collective conscience. Calling upon this motto, our 10th graders researched and wrote eloquent speeches that they used to lobby the staff of Representatives Bass and Lieu and Senators Boxer and Feinstein. They asked for legislative support on the following issues: women’s reproductive issues and women’s right to choose, increase of the federal minimum wage and gun violence prevention.

We are all lucky to have these teens as part of our world and to have them willing to work to help fix it.





**TIYUL:  
SHABBAT  
B'YACHAD  
TSBY**



# What's In A Name?

by Paul Goodwin and Jon Cohen, TSBY parents

What's in a name? In recent years, the meaning of the name of our Religious School TSBY program has become a mystery. The words behind the acronym—Tiyul Shabbat B'yachad—came from the name of two family education programs that were combined. However, the current TSBY has grown and changed considerably since the early days, and it's time for a new name!

Stephanie Schwartz  
*Assistant Director of Educational Engagement*

**TSBY is one of Temple Isaiah's innovative approaches to Jewish education, and is for families that want a deeper connection to small community within the larger temple.**

TSBY parents of all kinds—single, intermarried, Jews by choice, Jews by birth—and their children meet to pray, to learn and to share meals, but also to camp and provide community service together. The adult education component includes parents learning with our clergy and educators, while small classes of children enjoy an experiential, hands-on curriculum in small classes taught by Religious School teachers.

TSBY parents have begun to search for a new name that accurately reflects what the program means today. Suggestions have included **Shalhevet (flame)**, since the program gives our families light, warmth, and illumination. **Shabbat Spark** is another option, reflecting our hope for the program to ignite a strong, lifelong Jewish identity in our children. **Shabbat Together** would convey our commitment to shared community.

Whatever the name chosen, we invite you to visit us.

**For more information about Temple Isaiah's Religious school TSBY program contact:**

Stephanie Schwartz, Assistant Director of Educational Engagement at 310.277.2661 • Stephanie@templeisaiah.com



## 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp Retreat

Friday, January 22, 2016-Sunday January 24, 2016

at Camp Bob Waldorf on the Max Straus Campus



**SPORTS**



**ARCHERY & HIKING**



**CLIMBING WALL**

**SHABBAT**

**FRIENDS**

**FUN**

For more information contact Stephanie Schwartz  
310.277.2661 • stephanie@templeisaiah.com

# ISAIAH WOMEN January / February calendar of events

Isaiah Women continues to invite new members of all ages to join the only group at Temple Isaiah that is exclusively for women (although we do have certain events when we invite spouses and male guests). Please send your \$50 dues to Membership Chair, Laurie Gantz: 2317 Canfield Avenue, Los Angeles 90034 or email her for more information: [lbgantz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lbgantz@sbcglobal.net)

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**Sunday, January 10 • 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

## **Sunday Brunch Honoring Mothers of Isaiah Temple Youth Groups**

Join us for a special program and lovely brunch at the home of Simonne Yaroslow.

RSVP to Simonne by January 5: [syaroslow@aol.com](mailto:syaroslow@aol.com)

**Tuesday, January 12 • 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

## **Rosh Hodesh**

Join us at the home of Laurie Gantz to celebrate the new moon. The evening will begin with a light dinner at 6:30, followed by a program led by Rabbi Klein.

RSVP to Fran Wenger by January 8: [franrw@aol.com](mailto:franrw@aol.com)

**Tuesday, January 19 • 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

## **Book Group**

We will meet at the home of Ronda Fox to discuss *The Luminous Heart* of Jonah S.

RSVP to Ronda: [rondafox@ca.rr.com](mailto:rondafox@ca.rr.com)

**Monday, January 25 • 7:00 p.m.**

## **Lilith Salon**

Our discussion of this quarter's magazine will take place at the home of Sandy Milden.

RSVP to Elaine Diamond: [ediamond27@hotmail.com](mailto:ediamond27@hotmail.com)

**Sunday, February 7 • 3:00 p.m.**

## **Super Bowl 50 and Chili Cook-off**

Good times, an exciting football game, delicious chili, and new recipes: come to a great afternoon for women and their spouses/friends at the home of Simonne Yaroslow.

RSVP to Sari Spiro by February 3: [spirojjs@gmail.com](mailto:spirojjs@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, February 9 • 10:00 a.m.**

## **Skirball Museum Ansel Adams Exhibit:**

Join us in a docent led tour of one of California's prominent photographers, followed by lunch in the café.

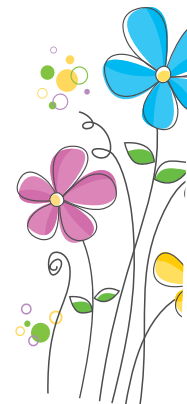
RSVP to Helene Korn by February 3: [helenekorn@hotmail.com](mailto:helenekorn@hotmail.com)

**Tuesday, February 16 • 7:00 p.m.**

## **Book Group:**

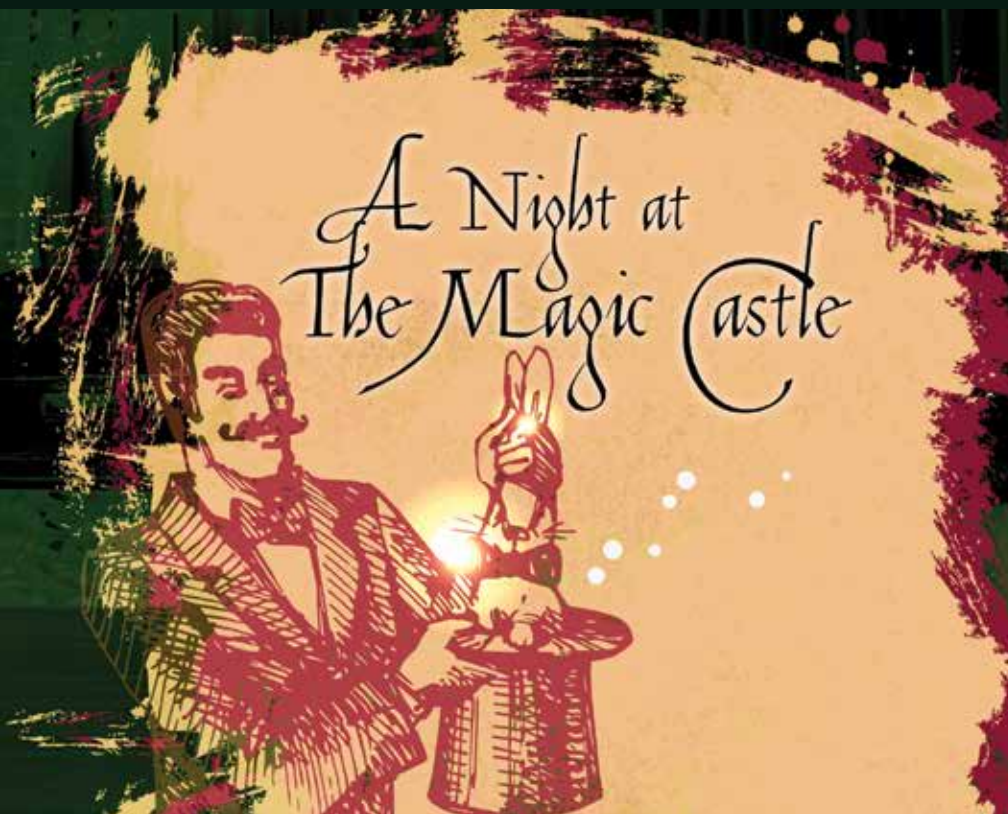
We will meet at the home of Ellen Canter to discuss the classic, *Mansfield Park*.

RSVP to Ellen: [ellenjcanter@aol.com](mailto:ellenjcanter@aol.com)



**SAVE THE DATE:** Thursday, March 10, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
Rosh Hodesh will be led by Rabbi Aimee Gerace at the home of Elaine Diamond. The evening will begin with a light dinner. RSVP to Fran Wenger: [franrw@aol.com](mailto:franrw@aol.com)

# ISAIAH MEN'S GROUP January event



Join **Isaiah Men's Group** for an evening of exclusive entertainment at the famous private club.

Featuring preeminent magicians up close, and a three course meal.

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**Wednesday, January 27**

5:00 p.m. - Doors Open

6:00 p.m. - Dinner and Show

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RSVP at [www.TempleIsaiah.com](http://www.TempleIsaiah.com)

Event Info - [IMG@TempleIsaiah.com](mailto:IMG@TempleIsaiah.com)

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Learn more about the world famous Magic Castle at [www.magiccastle.com](http://www.magiccastle.com)



## Renewed Hope for Renewable Energy.



The world leaders have met in Paris. Never have so many national, and local leaders come together to press the case for limiting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

**Gates, Buffet, Bramson, Soros, Steyer, Ellinson—billionaires--are also contributing huge sums of money to the cause.**

But we need your help too. The world uses 14 Terawatts/yr. of energy supplied from non-renewable sources. At that rate, if we continue as we are now, someone born today could find no fossil fuels left on Earth anywhere when he/she is just 20 years older than I. What took hundreds of millions of years to create will all be gone—all the coal, all the gas, all the petroleum, all gone. Now, imagine how much the world will have to change by then. It is

staggering to contemplate everything that would become useless, or impossible to make, without them. And to make matters worse, Bill McKibben, in DO THE MATH, said we have to leave 80% of the energy in the ground to limit the earth's temperature rise to 2° C to keep the planet inhabitable for humans. If that's true, we don't even have 100 years to make these changes—we only have about 20-30 years.

One thing you can do is join our Green Team Rapid Response group that principally advocates to shape public policy to reduce and mitigate the effects of climate change. It won't take much effort, but we will ask you to sign on occasionally an online petition, make a phone call, or perhaps even visit a government official. If you would like to join this group, or want more information,



## FAIR FOOD COMMITTEE NEWS by Mary MacVean

Perhaps the Paris talks have inspired you to renew your efforts to fight climate change. Or, maybe 2016 is the year you intend to make some changes toward a more healthful diet.

**Isaiah's Fair Food Committee** has been working to do the same for us as a community, including the more healthful, planet-friendly snack table before services on Friday nights. The volunteers who put on the preschool's Thanksgiving market did a wonderful job getting more fresh and more healthful food into their program.

**It turns out that we can make a difference with the food we buy and eat. Here are seven ideas:**

### **Eat what you buy.**

People in the U.S. waste up to 40% of their food. All that food takes resources to produce, and what gets thrown out often ends up in landfills.

### **Eat less beef.**

There are disagreements over the exact cost, but beef production takes vastly more resources than produce. And its production causes methane emissions.

### **Eat local and-or organic.**

If you're choosing fruit from far away over beef, you're probably still doing the right thing. But if you cut out some meat and buy local produce, you get double points.

### **Plant something.**

Even herbs in a pot. What you grow at home needs no chemical additives and uses no fuel for transportation. It also tastes great, and there's evidence that gardening can reduce stress.

### **Don't buy food over-packaged food.**

One of my favorite grocery stores seems to be getting the message. Not too long ago, all its produce was in plastic trays, covered in shrink wrap. That's changing. Tell store managers what you want.

### **Put some plastic containers in your car.**

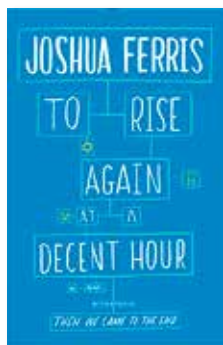
And when you take leftovers home from a restaurant, use them.

### **Drink tap water.**



Consider joining the Fair Food Committee in 2016. Contact Mary MacVean at [maclands@earthlink.net](mailto:maclands@earthlink.net).





## OPEN WIDE!

You will not hear your dentist say “open wide” again without thinking of the unusual novel: **To Rise Again at a Decent Hour** by Joshua Ferris. Hilarity and hacking mix in a clever satire that stars a dentist, yes a dentist. Can you recall one as a protagonist since William Steig’s award winning Doctor De Soto?

Dr. Paul O’Rourke is an atheist whose on-line identity is hijacked, and then returned as a Jew. Talk about renewal! Paul is happy to be Jewish because it speaks to him of belonging, something he wants to do, but to date has only tried through girlfriends. Talented writing and sound plot make the implausible happen.

Paul is a functioning depressive set apart by his roots (he comes from Maine to Manhattan), his inability to connect (despite trying), his despair (failed romances; his dead father) and the constant defeats of his favorite ball team, the Boston Red Sox (stats and game descriptions are spot on). Although he desires to impress the family of his Jewish girlfriend/receptionist, he has never read the Bible past day two of creation.

Lack of Tanach familiarity sets Paul up to fall into the phony Ulm religion, headquartered in Israel at Mt. Seir, which inverts the story of the Amalekites. Paul searches the truth with Jewish friends and experts. He further becomes involved with the Ulm founder, the founder’s Orthodox ex-girlfriend and an American millionaire who wants to become an Ulm.

Paul’s seeking plays smartly with religion in general and Jewish biblical details in particular. His adventures online and in his office arrive through laugh out loud dialog. The author reveals a touching sensitivity to the travails we face in our own day to day existence. Pushing ordinary to its limits, Ferris offers a thought-provoking extraordinary which becomes a perceptive mirror. Hope balances despair; longing trumps alienation.

The fun pairs with an impressively handled underlying philosophy about life having meaning. Paul, an insomniac, constantly pondering this weighty detail, fears the night, rarely sleeps, wakes too soon in the morning and yearns to rise again at a decent hour, rested. Such daring comic soul-searching will not leave you down in the mouth. Rise up to the Library, try it!

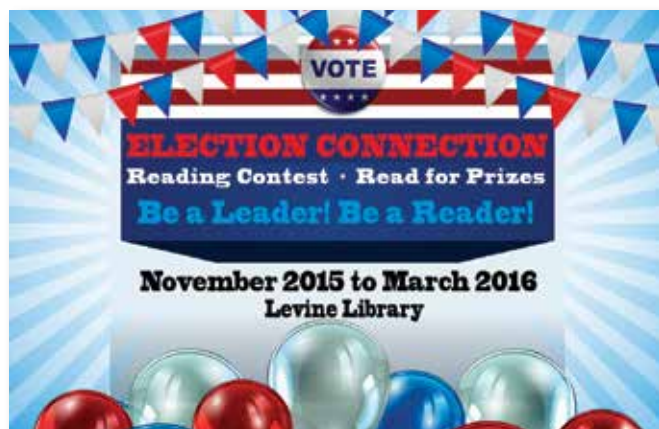
## STILL TIME TO READ AND WIN PRIZES ENTER THE LIBRARY READING CONTEST TODAY

### The Library’s Election Connection Reading Contest continues

Now that winter break is over it is not too late to enter and start to read for the first time! Reading books count until March 8th. Come into the Temple’s Levine Library. Sign up with Librarian Ellen Cole.

### Library Hours:

Tuesday: 2:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.  
Thursday: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP by Sherry Garfield

Have you lost a loved one? Now that shiva has ended, do you feel even more alone?

How do you find your way back to the living, while honoring and remembering the past? You might join Temple Isaiah’s grief support group, which provides a safe environment as you walk the mourner’s path.

Tragedies with each of my parents left me feeling completely isolated and disconnected. I cut myself off from the outside world. Well-meaning friends and family tried to reach out to me, but unless they’d had a similar experience, I could not relate to them.

And then I discovered the bereavement group here. I have found it to be a tremendous resource: spiritually, emotionally, psychologically and socially. I’ve made connections with

other temple members who have also lost a spouse, parent or other loved one. Group members have provided me with sage wisdom. The input from each has been invaluable.

Our group meets alternate Saturdays from 1:00-2:30 p.m. and is facilitated by Rabbi Edwin Harris, Ph.D. Rabbi Ed is not only a rabbi, he is a skilled therapist with many years of experience, and also teaches at Beit T’Shuvah and the Hebrew Union College. Rabbi Ed helps us reach deeper into our emotions than we might think possible and address our issues in a nurturing environment. In our meetings we work through our grief, move forward, and support each other while keeping memories of our loved ones alive. At the end of each session, we recite Kaddish.

I invite everyone who has lost a loved one to contact Rabbi Ed at [edwinharris@gmail.com](mailto:edwinharris@gmail.com) and to consider joining us.

# SHABBAT AT ISAIAH



Tifani Coyot  
Cantor

## The Sound of Time and Jewish Music

Have you ever wondered if time had a sound? The Jewish musical tradition offers us an array of musical sounds and motifs for different times of the day and seasons of the year.

Music has always been used by our people to mark time and rejuvenate the Jewish spirit. Musical motifs for every season were passed on from generation to generation and traveled throughout the Diaspora. The traditional motifs and melodies from the surrounding cultures were adapted and preserved. We developed a rich and diverse tradition of music that was and continues to be in a constant state of renewal. Rav Kook (first Chief Rabbi of Israel) said, "the old will become new, and the new will become holy."

Familiar sounds and melodies mark Jewish time. Passover sounds like the dance of *Dayeinu* and the High Holy days are filled with the majesty of *Avinu Malkeinu*. The *Song of Songs* alerts us that when "the flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing is here" (2:12).

On Friday, January 22 join us for a *Sermon in Song*; "The Sound of Jewish Music." Together with HaSharim (adult choir) and our musicians, we will present a musical journey of the Jewish people and fill our sanctuary with music that has been preserved throughout time.

## SHABBAT SERVICES

### 1/15 MLK Shabbat

with First A.M.E.  
and HaSharim

6:15 p.m.

### 1/22 Shabbat Shira

(sermon in song) "Sounds of Jewish Time"  
Featuring HaSharim

6:15 p.m.



1/8 & 2/12  
6:15 p.m.



1/16 & 2/20  
9:30 a.m.



1/22 & 2/26  
5:30 p.m.



2/5  
6:15 p.m.



2/19  
6:15 p.m.



# THE ART OF LOVE

Opening Night

Friday, February 5

A month-long exhibit featuring meaningful, beautiful, and unusual ketubot from our Isaiah families. Join us on opening night to celebrate the month of LOVE.

If you are interested in exhibiting your ketubah, please contact: Rabbi Klein at [rabbiz@templeisaiah.com](mailto:rabbiz@templeisaiah.com)



## DON'T BE AFRAID TO CLICK "LIKE" By Tara Berger

LOVE & WIFI



There was a time when nobody wanted to admit they had met their significant other through a personal ad in a newspaper. My, how times have changed. These days, if you ask, 70% of couples will tell you they met online.

That high percentage should come as no surprise: Searching for love on the Internet is so prevalent now that there is a magazine called *Online Dating Magazine*, which reports that there are approximately 2,500 online dating sites in the United States and more than 5,000 online dating services worldwide.

So what are all these singles really looking for?

### There is a Yiddish word that means "destiny"

Some Jewish singles will say that they are looking for that person who will complement them perfectly. In Yiddish, the idea of finding this soulmate is called *bashert*, or destiny. And it's easy to wonder: what are the chances of finding your *bashert* online? Can a computer algorithm really find the perfect match? The one you were meant to meet?

Admittedly, there is no science to it, but you'll increase your chances by dedicating time and energy to reading a multitude of profiles, and not hesitating to make contact with those that "speak" to you.

It also means putting effort into and being honest in your own profile. I was listening to that old "Escape (The Piña Colada Song)" recently, and realized for the first time what it was all about. A man, unhappy in his relationship, sees a personal ad in the newspaper and responds to it. In the end, it turns out the ad was placed by his girlfriend. He tells her he "never knew that she likes piña coladas and getting caught in the rain." If only she had told him what she was looking for from the beginning.

### Renew your faith in finding love online

Does online dating work for everyone? No. Chances are, if you're currently doing it, you've gone on more bad dates than good ones. I know I did. But it is important not to let these negative experiences deter you from continuing to look for love online. I believe if you stay positive that you can find it. I did.

So don't be afraid to hit "like" because you may just find your **Basherte** (female) or **Basherter** (male). I know I did.





## TEMPLE ISAIAH, YOUR JEWISH HOME, A PLACE FOR YOUR LASTING LEGACY

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One of the greatest gifts you can give is that of a legacy – a gift that will provide for the future of your community and pass on Jewish traditions for generations to come.

The Legacy Circle includes members who **support Temple Isaiah's Endowment Fund** (named in honor of Rabbi Gan and his family) through a variety of planned giving **options including bequests, retirement accounts, appreciated stock, and insurance.** Most gifts are easy to arrange and cost little or nothing to the donor during their lifetime.

To learn how you can leave a lasting legacy to Temple Isaiah, contact **Michael Goldberg**, Director of Development, at **(310) 277-2772 x32.**



# TRAVEL TO ISRAEL

WITH TEMPLE ISAIAH

## 2016 ADULT TRIP:

Politics, Faith and Social Justice  
February 24-March 6

## 2016 TEEN TRIP:

Dual Narrative Trip  
December 18-28

## 2017 COMMUNITY TRIP:

With B'nai Mitzvah Ceremony  
June

For more information  
contact Rabbi Joel Nickerson.





ISAIAH  
CONTINUING  
ENRICHMENT

Jan - Feb 2016

## LifeQuest

LifeQuest, is a community of learners and sojourners exploring this wilderness of life, with all of its challenges and adventures, together. We move with the rhythm of the Jewish seasons, with Shabbat, shared learning, meals, delving into the treasury of Judaism. Join us!

**\$90 to be a member of LifeQuest (Temple Isaiah members only). This membership helps to subsidize meals, speakers, and programs throughout the year and allows you to attend some classes open only to LifeQuest members**

To join LifeQuest, go to  
[www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)

## Shabbat Shorts

**Erica Jamieson**

**Saturday, January 9 • 11:00 a.m.**

**Saturday, February 6 • 11:00 a.m.**

Join writer Erica Jamieson to discuss great contemporary and classic Jewish short stories over coffee and snacks.

To register for Shabbat Shorts, go to  
[www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)

## Blush

**Sunday, January 10 • 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

“Blush” is Temple Isaiah’s version of the grassroots movement “Mortified,” in which adults participate in a stage show by sharing their most embarrassing and intimate childhood writings in front of total strangers. The difference at Isaiah is that we are not strangers! One staff member has already courageously stepped forward and volunteered to share a few love letters from her high school days. If you are brave enough to share a few pages of your diary from your pre-teen or teen years, please contact [zoe@templeisaiah.com](mailto:zoe@templeisaiah.com). As humiliating as it may have been then, you may find this totally fun soul-baring evening to be incredibly cathartic!

Hors d’oeuvres and blush wine will be provided.

To register for Blush, go to  
[www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)

## Opening Doors: Talking to Your Adult Children about Things that Matter Most

**Debbi Molnar, LMFT, LPCC**

**Four Wednesdays:**

**January 13, 20, 27 and February 3**

**7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

When children become adults, parents often need more advanced communication skills. Many parents want open dialogue with their adult children about relationships, independence, work/career, and personal values. This workshop will help you develop the skills to create meaningful conversations. You will learn techniques to practice curiosity, manage reactivity, have safe and respectful dialogue, and more. This is a great opportunity to successfully navigate the transition from a parent/child to parent/adult relationship.

**Free for LifeQuest members.**

**\$50 for guests for the series.**

To register for Opening Doors, go to  
[www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)

## The Shalom Hartman Institute of North America Presents Justice and Righteousness: The Ethical Agenda of the Jewish People

How have the concepts of “justice” and “righteousness” evolved within Jewish tradition? How do North American and Israeli Jewish communities differ in their discussion of justice? What dilemmas and challenges does building a just and righteous community raise?

**Elana Stein Hain**

**January 31, 2016 Temple Beth Am**

To register for the series or for more information, go to  
[www.shalomhartman.org/lacollaborative](http://www.shalomhartman.org/lacollaborative).

## Spine Tingles Book Club

**Two Meetings to Share!**

**Join Librarian Ellen Cole to discuss:**

***The Mathematician’s Shiva* by Stuart Rojstaczer**

**Tuesday, January 5 • 10:30 am - 12:00 pm**

High math, low Russian history and middle America mesh in a hilarious fictional memoir culminating in a rip roaring shiva.

***Henna House* by Nomi Eve**

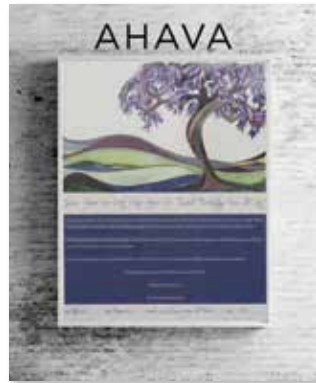
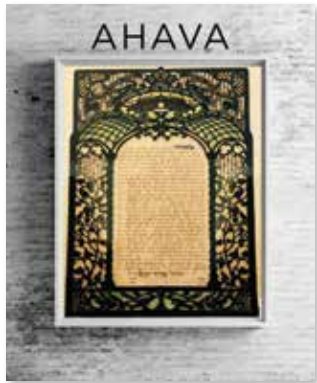
**Tuesday, February 2 • 10:30 am - 12:00 pm**

Discover the exotic lives of rarely portrayed Yemenite Jews whose rituals push them apart as much as they bind them together in this historical romance.

**All Temple members are welcome.**

**RSVP to [ellenc@templeisaiah.com](mailto:ellenc@templeisaiah.com)**





## Friday Night Series On Love February 5, 12, 19 and 26

Illustrious visiting rabbis will present their unique illuminations on love during our Shabbat services

### Rabbi Klein's House

**Saturday, February 6 • 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

Tony Buzan, the inventor of a technique called "Mind Mapping," wrote about the connection between memory and creativity. "The art and science of memory is about developing the capacity to quickly create images that link disparate ideas. Creativity is the ability to form similar connections between disparate images and create something new and hurl it into the future so it becomes a poem, or a building, or a dance, or a novel. Creativity is, in a sense, future memory." After all, Mnemosyne, the goddess of memory, was the mother of Muses. Memory is at the essence of Judaism. We are commanded to remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy and to remember to blot out the name of Amalek. We remember our loved ones during Yizkor on all the major holidays. And yet, much of what we've been taught about memory is wrong. This evening we will talk about the art and science of memory, learn real ways to enhance our memories, and enjoy a little friendly competition.

**For LifeQuest members only.**

**To register for Memory Olympics, go to [www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)**

### The Art and Wisdom of the Ketubah Rae Antonoff

**Thursday, February 11 • 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Rae Antonoff is a calligrapher, micrographer, ketubah marker, artist, writer, musician, and educator. She will join us and teach us the unique history of the Jewish marriage contract, its words and its expression from ancient to modern times.

**To register for The Art and Wisdom of the Ketubah, go to [www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)**

## Ketubah Art Show

**Opening Night**

**Friday, February 5**

A month-long exhibit of Temple Isaiah families' ketubot. Come see the various meaningful, beautiful, and unusual ketubahs in our community on display during the Month of February.

### Jewish Love Songs

**Cantor Tifani Coyot**

**Wednesday, February 17 • 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

From the *Song of Songs*, to the Friday night service which is comprised primarily of love songs between Israel and God, to Yiddish ballads, to Israeli sonnets, to American classics like Happy Together and This Magic Moment, Judaism has a rich repertoire of love songs. Join us and travel through time on wings of a Jewish heart.

**To register for Jewish Love Songs, go to [www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)**

### The History of the Song of Songs

**Dr. Tamara Cohn Eskenazi**

**Thursday, February 24 • 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

In honor of our theme, Dr. Eskenazi will offer a unique presentation on the history of the *Song of Songs*. Dr. Eskenazi is the Effie Wise Ochs Professor of Biblical Literature and History at Hebrew Union College. She is the first woman appointed as professor to the Rabbinical Faculty of HUC since its founding in 1875. She is the editor of the award winning book, *The Torah: A Women's Commentary*.

**To register for The History of the Song of Songs, go to [www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)**

### House Calls

**We are offering ICE House Calls on  
February 27, March 10, April 9, May 19  
from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

We are thrilled to continue ICE House Calls. Again this year you will have the opportunity to learn with one of our clergy in the intimate setting of an Isaiah member's home.

**To volunteer your home or to sign up for the topic of your interest, go to [www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning](http://www.templeisaiah.com/lifelong-learning)  
All dates and topics are listed there.**

**For additional questions, please contact:  
Rabbi Aimee Gerace at [rabbiaimee@templeisaiah.com](mailto:rabbiaimee@templeisaiah.com).**

# B'nai Mitzvah

## JANUARY



**Shane Levey**  
Son of  
Elan & Andrew Levey  
Saturday, January 9



**Alexander Seidel**  
Son of  
Jill & Scott Seidel  
Saturday, January 16



**Alexander Bonrouhi**  
Son of  
Tina & David Bonrouhi  
Saturday, January 23



**Ryan Altman**  
Son of  
Son of Marnie & Paul Altman  
Saturday, January 23



**Elijah Ludden**  
Son of  
Julie Sandor & John Ludden  
Saturday, January 30



**Rosa Schorr**  
Daughter of  
Robin Schorr & Brian Flaherty  
Saturday, January 30

# B'nai Mitzvah

## FEBRUARY



**Benjamin Brill**  
Son of  
Laura Brill & Ellen Evans  
Saturday, February 13



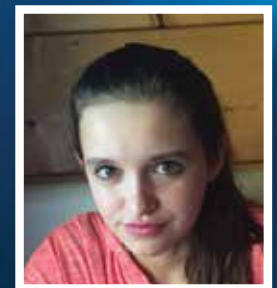
**Owen Eggleston**  
Son of  
Ann & Jeff Eggleston  
Saturday, February 13



**Aliya Zigman**  
Daughter of  
Sherri & Marty Zigman  
Saturday, February 20



**Elijah Labb**  
Son of  
Jody & Evan Labb  
Saturday, February 27



**Sydney Andrews**  
Daughter of  
Alison Garb & John Andrews  
Saturday, February 27

## LIFECYCLES

### MILESTONES

**Mazal Tov to:** Gail and Terry Feigenbaum on the birth of their grandson, Noah; Linda and Darrel Malamut on the birth of their daughter, Ella Rose; Lisa and Jean-Edouard Rostaing on the birth of their son, Boaz Joseph.

### SYMPATHY

**We would like to express our sympathy to the following Temple members and their families on the recent loss of their loved ones:** Ellen Himmel on the loss of her step-father, William Heller; Steven Seidman on the loss of his father, Ted Seidman.



# JANUARY MEMORIAL PLAQUES

## JANUARY 1

Henrietta Blumberg  
Cecelia DeRoy  
Bert Freeman  
Becky Garden  
Dina Levi  
Harry Macoff  
John Nasht  
Sadie Pittler  
Noah Rachofsky  
Lillian Stern  
Irving Weisbart  
Dawn Weiss

## JANUARY 8

Hannah Berman  
Nathan Brounstein  
Abraham Ginsburg  
Stanley Gottlieb  
Dorothy Green  
Ben Hershkowitz  
Jeanetta Kartsman  
Sara Kimmel  
Morris Leibowitz  
Louis Litman  
Samuel Mendelsohn

Jack Myers  
Sam Plotkin  
Anna Rosenthal  
Lorraine Weger

## JANUARY 15

Joseph Ascheim  
Sophie Asrican  
Mildred Avidon  
Leonard Goldstein  
Beryl Hirschfeld  
Charlotte Jaloff  
Paul Kahn  
Bernard Klein  
Birdie Ruben  
Beatrice Schwartz  
Richard Spivack  
Gerald Stern  
Albert Terrence  
Phillip Warnick  
Jack Wynbrandt  
Abe Yaras

## JANUARY 22

Nocen Baritan  
Seymour Fabrick

Hyman Finkel  
Esther Fox  
Donna Gross  
Henry Harris  
Henry Kaplan  
David Light  
Josiah Mishne  
Anna Pick  
Selma Pullan  
Sherrill Roseman  
Richard Rosenblum  
Yetta Silverberg  
Pearl Spector  
Genevieve Stern  
Eva Volan  
Joan Windisch

## JANUARY 29

Ron Allen  
Ronald Allen  
Carol Ascheim  
Jack Asrican  
Eleanor Auerbach  
Rebecca Barnett  
Sarah Bernson  
Michael Filerman

Birdie Fishman  
Rose Freeman  
Hyman Gordon  
Sarah Horowitz  
Sheila Kassorla  
Anna Plotkin  
Ethel Rosenblatt  
Zelda Ross  
Harry Sax  
Ruth Sax  
Rose Shushan  
William Wallace  
Manuel Walter  
Hymen Weger  
Fan Weisbart  
Isador Wilensky

# FEBRUARY MEMORIAL PLAQUES

## FEBRUARY 5

Michelle Agasi  
Bertha Arnold  
Blanche Dauber  
Bernard Estes  
Abraham Frazin  
Betty Gaynor  
I. Morris Harris  
Herbert Joseph  
Paul Kodimer  
David Lavine  
Deborah Leemon  
Bess Levine  
Sylvia Marx  
Rita Melcher  
Nettie Mendelsohn  
Henry Monosson  
Thomas Pearl  
Ina Person  
Janet Petkoff  
Rosalie Sacks  
Robert Shane  
Minnie Stoll

Joseph Subotnick  
Sam Weisbart

## FEBRUARY 12

Samuel Adler  
David Beckman, DDS  
Sidney Geilman  
Ruth Ginsburg  
Etta Globenfelt  
Sam Green  
Abraham Harmell  
Sallie Harris  
Dorothy Kares  
Milton Katz  
Mildred Fendell Kessler  
Irene Kimmelstiel  
Morris Lapidus  
Abraham Levine  
Florence Lewis  
Anna Miller  
Florence Mindlin  
Dorothy Prager  
Irene Riave

Morton Rokaw  
Henriette Rynveld  
Ruth Schwartz  
Nat Spector  
Betty Stack  
Manford Susman  
William Wax

## FEBRUARY 19

Fannie Feiles  
Emil Goldstein  
Minnie Grodin  
Perle Kerstein  
Ellen Leff  
James Levich  
Martha Madoff  
Osias Nacht  
Gilbert Leonard Park  
David Solomon  
Hyman Solomon  
Howard Spector  
Charles Sperber  
Ethel Yavitch  
Alexander Young

## FEBRUARY 26

Mac Altkorn  
Robert Braun  
Jane Carter  
Annie Fink  
Samuel Fink  
Sara Freeman  
Joe Gillerman  
Samuel Goldstein  
Charles Kimmel  
Muriel Krom  
Eugene Levine  
Pearl Lieberman  
Eva Marx  
Isaac Ramberg  
Wolf Sales  
Isaac Shachory  
Rose Sherman  
Lena Weiss  
Ronald Zsupnik

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEMPLE FUNDS

A big thank you to those who have contributed to the various Temple funds.

### **CARING COMMUNITY FUND**

*in memory of*

Julius Tarnove

by Ivin and Gladys Tarnove

### **CLERGY DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*in honor of*

Cantor Coyot's beautiful CD

by Geraldine & David Misch

The Yanow babies

by Diane Weinstein

*in memory of*

David Grinfeld

by Hadas Grinfeld

David London

by Elliott Ribeiro and Marcia Albert

Toni Rosengarten

by Phalen and Renee Hurewitz

Eva Vollmer

by Honey Amado

Leo Douglas

by Judith Zimberoff

Morris Miller

by Ruth Miller

Raphael Amado

by Honey Amado

Sadie Schwartz

by Leon and Carol Schwartz

Doris Kalkstein

by Douglas and Jodi Galen

### **DONNA GROSS FUND**

*in honor of*

Jackie Rosner's Special Birthday

by Melvin and Stephanie Kay

*in memory of*

Bernice Earle

by Sumner and Sherilee Feldman

Melvin Gross

by Gail and Terry Feigenbaum

### **ELLEN GOLDBERG RELIGIOUS SCHOOL & CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*in memory of*

Frank Martinelli

by Manuel and Cheri Katz

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*in memory of*

Bernard Shupack

by Judie Rice

### **GAIL SOLO YOUTH OPPORTUNITY FUND**

*in memory of*

Jill Friedman Fixler

by Glen and Elizabeth Friedman

### **GINNIE FOX MEMORIAL FUND**

*in memory of*

Mamie Gross

by Gary and Geraldine Rosenberg

Louis Rosenberg

by Gary and Geraldine Rosenberg

Mollie Tater

by Gary and Geraldine Rosenberg

### **HASHARIM**

*in celebration of*

Ann Weinman's Birthday

by Marcia Oshman

*in honor of*

Ann Weinman's Birthday

by Barry and Helene Korn

Ann Weinman's Birthday

by Muriel Oreilly

Ann Weinman's Birthday

by Martha Sklar



Your contributions allow us to do so much and give back to the community. A true mitzvah!

*in memory*

Libby Welger  
by Barry and Helene Korn  
Ralph Miller  
by Gloria Ilan  
Warren Fairman  
by Lulu Fairman

**HUREWITZ FAMILY MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND**

*in memory of*  
Rebecca Gillerman  
by Roberta Gillerman  
Rhea Beierfield  
by Roberta Gillerman

**LEVINE LIBRARY FUND**

*in celebration of*  
Jonathan Kaness very special Birthday  
by Allen and Evelyn Kwawer

*in memory of*

Irwin Kwawer  
by Allen and Evelyn Kwawer

**PRESCHOOL SUPPORT FUND**

*in memory of*  
Reba Martin  
by Judie Rice  
Wilma Rosenblum  
by David and Susan Rosenblum

**RABBI LEWIS MEMORIAL FUND**

*in memory of*  
Joseph Fields  
by Stuart Freeman

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*in memory of*  
Ron Frank  
by Carla and Philippe Kopf

Sylvia Schapiro  
by Harold and Fern Schiff

**SKLAR CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*in honor of*  
Lisa Weis' 80th Birthday  
by Martha Sklar

*in memory of*  
Eva Vollmer  
by Martha Sklar  
Rita Cataldi  
by Martha Sklar

**SOCIAL ACTION FUND**

*in memory of*  
Eva Vollmer  
by Sumner and Sherilee Feldman  
Louis Rosenberg  
by Phyllis Rosenberg and Patricia Wile  
Robert Greenwald  
by Denton and Stacy Fisch  
Shirley B. Levine  
by Irv and Dena Schechter

**YAHARZEIT FUND**

*in memory of*  
Albert Greene  
by Shirley Greene  
Barbara Rahm  
by Bernice LaPan  
David Eilfort  
by Claire Tucker  
Harold Verbelun  
by Karol Wells  
Lucien Loeb  
by Glen and Elizabeth Friedman  
Mary Hockenberg  
by Diane Weinstein  
Walter Beitman  
by Fred and Ellie Rosen



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DATED MATERIAL

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016 CALENDAR

### Shabbat Service Schedule

#### Friday, January 1

5:45 p.m. Pre-Oneg  
6:15 p.m. Shabbat Services  
7:15 p.m. Oneg

#### Friday, January 15

5:45 p.m. Pre-Oneg  
6:15 p.m. MLK Shabbat Services  
with First A.M.E.  
7:15 p.m. Oneg

#### Friday, January 29 Friday, February 5

5:45 p.m. Pre-Oneg  
6:15 p.m. Shabbat *Rising* Services  
7:15 p.m. Oneg

#### Friday, January 8 Friday, February 12

5:45 p.m. Pre-Oneg  
6:15 p.m. Jazz Shabbat Services  
7:15 p.m. Oneg

#### Friday, January 22 Friday, February 26

5:30 p.m. Fourth Friday Shabbat Services  
5:45 p.m. Pre-Oneg  
6:00 p.m. Fourth Friday Shabbat Dinner  
6:15 p.m. Shabbat Services  
7:15 p.m. Oneg

#### Friday, February 19

5:45 p.m. Pre-Oneg  
6:15 p.m. Shabbat Nigun Services  
7:15 p.m. Oneg

**Mon**

Center for the Widowed  
Every Monday

**Thur**

Café Isaiah  
Every Thursday | 9:15 a.m.

**Wed**

Daughters of Torah ~ Learning Circle  
Every Wednesday | 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**Sat**

Shabbat Torah Study  
Every Saturday | 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Study with Rabbi Zoë Klein every Shabbat morning,  
exploring Torah verse by verse.

#### Tuesday, January 5

**Tuesday, February 2**  
10:30 a.m. Spine Tingles Book Group

#### Saturday, January 16

**Saturday, February 20**  
9:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat

#### Saturday, January 23

5:30 p.m. Chai Dinner

#### Saturday, January 9

**Saturday, February 13**  
9:00 a.m. Hearts & Minds:  
A Torah Roundtable

#### Tuesday, January 19

8:00 a.m. T.I.N.G.

#### Wednesday, January 27

**Wednesday, February 3**  
7:00 p.m. Life Quest - Opening Doors

#### Saturday, January 9

3:30 p.m. Shabbat Shorts

#### Wednesday, January 20

7:30 p.m. Jewish Tune-up:  
Tu B'shevat

#### Sunday, February 7

4:00 p.m. Westside Collaborative  
Lecture Series

#### Sunday, January 10

8:30 a.m. Blood Drive

#### Thursday, January 21

**Thursday, February 18**  
7:00 p.m. Green Team Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Am Tzedek: Isaians  
Pursuing Justice Meeting

#### Saturday, February 27

7:00 p.m. ICE House Calls -  
Havdallah Rising