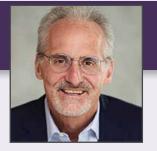
#ISAIAN



SPOTLIGHT ON ISAIANS

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WITH GREAT APPRECIATION...

by David Leichenger, President

I am honored to be able to recognize and thank four Temple Isaiah member volunteers who have each devoted substantial time, thought and energy to a lot of "high impact" work for our community. In their roles, **Rich Birnholz, Ellen Canter, Debra Silverman and Steve Smith** have each sat on our Executive Committee and contributed their time and

thinking for the benefit of all. At the end of our fiscal year, each of them will be stepping down to permit others to continue their great work.

The contributions of these four selfless and giving volunteers have grown and improved Temple Isaiah in many ways, and the brief summaries below only scratch the surface.



Rich Birnholz has served as **Vice President of Development** for eight years. He has been the member responsible for leading our fundraising efforts. Rich has worked to garner financial support for our Clergy, Staff and excellent schools; to maintain and improve our facilities; and to expand choices in our programming, learning and social justice opportunities. During his tenure, we more than doubled the amount raised in our annual campaign. Rich said it has been "a privilege to be able to build relationships with … (our) brilliant and inspired Clergy and a thoughtful and committed Board … and many other members of our wonderful community."



Ellen Canter has served as **Vice President of Membership** for five years. She has been the member responsible for leading multiple initiatives that welcomed and celebrated new and long-standing members. Whether she was welcoming new members, planning terrific celebrations and gatherings, or analyzing issues relating to our membership experience, Ellen has always rolled up her sleeves, surrounded herself with other dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers like herself, and done the job with great flair.



Debra Silverman has served as **Vice President of Community Affairs** for six years. She has been the member responsible for coordinating, and, in many instances, leading our social justice activities and initiatives. Debra has fielded many great ideas from our members and others in the greater community. She is appreciative of Rabbi Frimmer, from whom she has learned and with whom she has partnered to make our community a beacon in social justice work. She is especially appreciative of the other Temple members and leaders she has worked with who have been instrumental in the implementation of many of the groups and initiatives

created during her tenure. These include the formation of the Family Philanthropy Club, which has engaged many Temple families in meaningful social action projects; our work with PATH to help homeless individuals and families in Los Angeles; and the creation of Am Tzedek, which has helped build partnerships across our Temple justice programs. With all these partnerships, Debra has done an exceptional job of implementing many of their ideas into good, just and meaningful action, all of which have positively affected people inside and outside our greater Temple community.



Steve Smith has served as **Vice President of Administration** for six years. He has been the member responsible for leading the Temple Personnel Committee. He has discussed and finalized just about every new and renewed contract with each Rabbi, Cantor and other Senior Staff person during his tenure. And in doing so, he has patiently, carefully, respectfully and ethically balanced the individual needs of each Clergy and other Senior Staff member with whom he has been discussing with the duty to the Congregation required by his position. Under his leadership and with his significant effort and input, the Temple undertook and completed

a substantial updating of personnel policies and procedures, and he has been significantly involved in the development of the recently approved Clergy reorganization plan. He has maintained close relationships with Clergy, other Senior Staff, four Temple Presidents with whom he has worked, dedicated members of the Personnel Committee, and many other Temple staff and member volunteers.

A Temple community is created and sustained by the strength of incredible individuals whose love runs deep and whose energy runs high. For the Temple to say thank you to these individuals is like the body saying thank you to its heart. **Rich, Ellen, Debra and Steve**, may all that you have given and continue to give bear fruit in your lives and in the lives of all you touch.



MUSICAL AND RITUAL HIGHLIGHTS

by Cantor Tifani Coyot

At Temple Isaiah, we strive to offer creative and innovative experiences that create community. Here are a few of the highlights from the past year.

Religious School Shabbat: This year, the Temple offered a Shabbat experience designed for Religious School families. Each Shabbat featured a different grade that led a key prayer in our service. The students worked all year long on developing their Hebrew chanting. Our service was enhanced by the presence of a full musical band and our Permanent Players (children's choir). The Shabbat service was well attended by Religious School families and members of our greater community.



KINDERGARTNERS I FAD OUR SHABBAT SERVICE

This new Shabbat experience was created to help children and parents develop a meaningful Shabbat and prayer practice together. We strive to create a service in which parents and their children can express awe and wonder. After the one-hour service to nourish the soul, the entire community is invited to a dinner to nourish the body. During the dinner, we have a Religious School teacher available to lead children in Shabbat activities. This Shabbat experience has strengthened our Religious School community and teaches our community how to be welcoming to families with children. We look forward to continuing the Religious School Shabbat experience next year.

Dance Midrash at Yom Kippur Family Services: Five of our talented congregants (Sarah Howell, Emily Gross, Ella Nickerson, Julia Tabor, and Jasmine Singer) used dance to help enrich our spiritual experience at the High Holy Days.







Stars of David: In February, we welcomed eight of my cantorial colleagues from around the country to perform in Stars of David, a musical that explores our obsession with being Jewish and knowing that many celebrities are Jewish. The show takes our fascination deeper by asking Jewish celebrities how their Jewish identity impacts their life. Stars of

David asks us to consider how we belong, what we have to carry on, and why does it all matter? The show was moving, funny and touching, and left the community thinking about their own Jewish identity.

Hip Hop Shabbat: Rabbi Joel, Danny and I debuted a new mindexpanding approach to Shabbat. We blended Hip Hop, R & B Electronic Dance Music (EDM), and electric guitar solos for an unforgettable prayer experience. Join us for the next Hip Hop Shabbat on Friday, June 1.





Purim: Our teens starred in this year's packed performance of When You Wish Upon Esther. Our congregation was in awe of our talented teens and our Disney Purim Shpeil. Our Pop Up Choir helped bring the Disney flavor with musical numbers from Star Wars and Lion King.



emple Isaiah Senior Staff Performs the Opening Number





Pop Up Choir Sings Can You Feel the Love Tonight Moana (Esther) receives the Force from Jedi Pop Up Choir Members





Passover Sing Along: Two weeks before Purim, Teacher Danny and I presented our first concert on Facebook Live. We were overjoyed by the hundreds of congregants who gathered around their devices on a Thursday evening to sing along with us.

Officiating at the B'nai Mitzvah Services of my original Pop Up Choir members: continued at the bottom of page 5



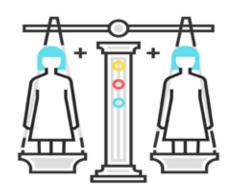
THE THREE AND FOUR BRANCHES OF GOVERNANCE OF THE PRESCHOOL

by Tamar Andrews, Preschool Director

When I was first hired to be the new Preschool director here at Temple Isaiah, I was fresh out of my coursework for my doctoral degree and had been fascinated by one of my courses taught by Dr. David Marsh.

Dr. Marsh specializes in instructional leadership and the process of change in organizations.

I recall vividly sitting mesmerized in his lectures at USC about upending the traditional top-down leadership styles of so many schools. When provided the opportunity to test his theories out here, I did so with fervor and a sense of urgency. I formed two committees (branches) and was determined to follow in the footsteps of our founding fathers and make our Preschool one that represented the needs of all families, teachers and staff.



I wanted to ensure not only a successful Preschool but to help turn families and teachers from "renters" to "owners." It has proven to be an amazing system wherein the clergy are the de facto judicial branch, ensuring that everything we do is kosher. The Preschool director and our administrative office is the executive branch and the Preschool Advisory Committee (PAC) is the legislative branch, helping to ensure fair taxation (budgets and tuition), fair laws and policies, and working collaboratively with one of its subsidiaries, the Preschool Parent Association (PPA).



The PAC has been guided successfully through the years, first by Debbie Isaacman, Darren Greenblatt, Tracy Shabsis Cohen, Allison Samek, Kristen Lonner and now, Lisa Keston. Lisa has helped not only to ensure the continuity of the amazing work of her predecessors but has also worked to ensure that the current issues are dealt with such as security, enrollment, and really importantly, she and the budget team helped the Preschool over a huge hurdle of navigating keeping tuition relatively competitive and low while helping to increase staff salaries to livable wages and providing for increases for merit and promotions. Lisa has been

a confidante to the Preschool and, as every person who has taken the helm of PAC Chair before her and just as we anticipate will happen with Heidi Gray, who assumes the helm for the next two years, the PAC Chairs have always helped increase the quality and attractiveness of our Preschool program to the community and for our families.



The PPA Chair position has been helmed superbly by Christina Glotzer for the past two years, and previously by Sharon Eshegoff. Again, what a wonderful addition to the branches of governance of our Preschool program. From setting up coffee baristas in the lobby, to helping ensure Night at Tamar's, class coffees, Friday night Family Shabbat dinners, caring community outreach, teacher gifts and end of year teacher luncheons, and so much more, the PPA is what helps solidify our sense of "community" in the Preschool and in the larger Temple as well.

The PPA Chair has a seat on the PAC and together, the PPA, the PAC, the teachers, families and administration of the Preschool constitute the high quality that many feel when they take their first steps into Temple Isaiah. If only our US government operated so well. Oh what a world it could be!



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT EQUALS SUCCESS

by Rabbi Zoë Klein Miles

A meta-analysis by N.E. Hill and D.F. Tyson showed "parental involvement in school life was more strongly associated with high academic performance than helping with homework." The study used several measures to define "parental involvement," including attendance at general meetings or school events, meeting with a teacher,

volunteering and serving on committees. It is a fascinating discovery! They showed that volunteering at your child's school, regardless of income or background, is the most effective measure of success in education (higher grades, enrollment in higher-level programs, and better social skills).

The same is true, if not more so, for Religious School, whose success depends upon the partnership between Temple and home. In Religious School, children are introduced to values, to the Hebrew language, to prayer, to Jewish history and traditions. Those values are reinforced by regular whole-family participation in activities and tzedakah. Hebrew and prayer are cemented through regular whole-family participation in worship and learning. Jewish history and traditions move from being learned to being lived when the whole family is engaged.

This year there have been some individuals who have gone above and beyond devoting time, energy and heart to our Religious School, deepening the experience of the hundreds of children who join us each week.

We are so grateful to Sharon De Mayo, our VP of Education, for her insight, attention to detail, and vision; to Diane Gross, chair of the Religious Education Committee, for her ongoing support, guidance and nurturing; to Jenny Grigor, chair of the Religious School Parent Association, for her creativity, positivity, and spirit. We want to thank the members of REC: Susan Bartholomew, Ronna Berlin, Ranit Efron, Sharon Eshagoff, Tanya Friedman, Nilu Hakkakzadeh, Jody Labb, Maryam Mehanian, Beth Mohammed and Jill Seidel, as well as the members of the

RSPA: Kate Eshaghoff, Shayna Fisch, Caryn Friedman, and Emi Zeidenfeld. A special thank you to Beth Mohammed, Jon Cohen and Paul Goodwin for their wisdom and zeal with the B'Yachad program, and consultation as the program drew to a close this year.

We are grateful to all of the parents and grandparents who volunteer their time every week helping with special programs and projects to enhance our students' learning and experience. You are role models! We thank the community members who volunteered their time leading our fourth graders in the Our Hevruta program: Sheri Altura, Michelle Bollinger, Iris Chayet, Stuart Goldurs, Sidney Levine, Brian Schwartz, Madeline Wolf, and Ken Wolf. You taught our children that Torah is relevant and dynamic at any age and that you don't have to be a rabbi or cantor to dive into its teachings.

We also celebrate **Rhonda Studner** who has volunteered her time every Tuesday and Sunday, and **Bobbie Allen** every Tuesday, since the beginning of the year, taking care of children, parents, and teachers with utmost love, from administering Band-Aids to putting lost teeth into tooth fairy boxes, helping teachers with snacks and supplies to helping parents locate classrooms. It has been a joy to work with you all year!

CONT, FROM PAGE 3: OFFICIATING AT THE B'NAI MITZVAH SERVICES OF MY ORIGINAL POP UP CHOIR MEMBERS.



This year many of my original Pop Up Choir members entered seventh grade. For five years, I have watched these children grow and develop spiritually and musically. Working with these teens and their families has been the highlight of my professional career. I am moved to tears because I love these children and feel so connected to their families. One parent wrote me a six-page letter after her son's Bar Mitzvah and it captures the magic of my relationship with this family. "One of the highlights of Josh's Bar Mitzvah service and what made the service beautiful and meaningful was the way you talked to him and the way you talked about him. You spoke from your heart and made it personal. Your close bond with Josh was palpable. When you cried, we cried. Watching the two of you together lifted our souls. Listening to you was like listening to his third parent. We kvelled. The memories of the Purim plays and High Holy Days, the joy of singing in the Pop Up Choir, the dancing and flippingall gifts you have given him and which are the main reasons he loves Judaism and is so connected to Temple Isaiah."

This year our clergy team was given a gift; we have three rabbis who have deep roots in the congregation and they get to all continue working at Temple Isaiah. We all have long and meaningful relationships with our congregants. I love looking over at one of

the rabbis as we officiate a B'nai Mitzvah and seeing the tears and joy in their faces because we know these families so well. The clergy team feels blessed to be able to continue deepening our relationships with our wonderful congregants through their life cycle events.

TEMPLE ISAIAH COALITION AGAINST TRAFFICKING (TI-CAT) by Tina Feiger

Temple Isaiah has developed a terrific social justice project with Cantor Tifani Coyot as the key Clergy member at the helm. There are now about 15 Isaians involved. Some have become mentors, others run workshops, and others show their support by coming to the organized programs and interacting with the shelter participants. Some of us do all three. Our goals include bringing just plain joy to the shelter residents, and teaching important life skills to a population of people who have survived human trafficking.

For me, when I originally retired, I still wanted to do something useful besides indulging in fun hobbies, seeing friends, and exercising. Having directed a Women's Center once at Santa Monica College, and having written my doctoral dissertation on Community College Women, I knew immediately when I heard about this volunteer opportunity that this was the right project for me.

We were required to go through an FBI background check and some training before we could be matched with a mentee, someone who had been trafficked. All of this made sense to me though it did take some months before the actual match was created. I have been meeting my mentee now once a month for lunch for over a year. I'm extremely proud of her as she is working full time, has an apartment, and is now expecting her first child. It's terribly important to understand (and I learned) that being enslaved means you are not allowed to go through what we might call "normal development". It puts all development on hold, it is thwarted. This may seem like an obvious result of enslavement to the reader, but let me explain this further. The year after enslavement (thanks to

the shelter), the women (mostly) receive therapy to deal with the post traumatic stress, legal counsel, and casework to help them in making a future plan for work and independent living. To cram all of this into a year or two is quite a feat for many of them, and, would be for us. Think about it; most of us, most of our children have had the opportunity to learn these kinds of skills in over a decade or two, i.e. in our twenties. But, there is no luxury of time for the shelter participants. Adjusting to freedom takes work. (We Jews know something about that having wandered around the desert for four decades!)

The residents are resilient and they now have hope and support. My mentee has struggled with getting her finances in order, having the burden of earlier student debt, and coping with the general high cost of living in LA. At one point she was working three jobs and was worried about being evicted from her apartment. I knew if she was struggling out 'there' and had made less than optimal financial decisions earlier in her life, others involved with CAST could also probably use support and education on managing their finances. I thought about who we have from the synagogue who could help teach these skills and then of course... I turned to Michael Diamond who did give a terrific financial management workshop at the shelter. Who else but a former professor of Accounting to give that? Gail Solo helped with coordination and even my mentee came over and had some good advice for the residents based on her own personal experience. I now will be giving a workshop on Managing Time and Goal Setting next month at the shelter, and we happily will also be giving my mentee a baby shower. Other Temple volunteers have led hikes, and two created an art project experience with a selfexploration component.

I'm grateful I may be of some help. I'm reminded that being involved in synagogue life keeps us behaving, growing and further developing as moral, caring, and ethical human beings. What could be more important?

STEVE FOX AND THE GREEN TEAM - by David Chiu and Ivy B. Rappaport

It's a challenging time for environmentalism, but there's one person we on the Green Team can always turn to for hope:

our spirited leader, Steve Fox. Steve attributes his dogged persistence to a career as an engineer. Inventing something new means constantly running up against failed experiments and dead-ends. Banging one's head against the wall...but suddenly, the wall gives way. The breakthrough happens,



and all that frustration is worth it. Climate activism is a lot like that.

Ironically, his profession is also what first drew Steve into deeper involvement with Temple Isaiah. Originally, Judaism wasn't a priority. He balked when his first wife, Ginnie, wanted to join a shul when their oldest child was only five. "That's seven years too early," Steve protested. "You join when the kid is twelve-and-a-half!" But Ginnie came from a family full of Jewish community leaders in Egypt and Europe. In her mind, a synagogue is more than just B'nei Mitzvot.

Soon after, Rabbi Lewis noticed Steve's job description - "engineer" - and asked him for help with the Temple's AC system. However, Steve wasn't that kind of engineer - and knew nothing about air conditioners! But Steve didn't say no. Instead, he did a crash learning of the subject. It would be the start of many volunteer efforts.

Now coming up on the end of his 50th year here, Steve has been

a Board member almost continuously, served on almost every clergy selection committee, held many positions including head of the Young Marrieds and the Personnel Committees, Vice President for Membership, and Executive Vice President. But most vivid in his mind is how his chavurah opened Isaiah's now-beloved Preschool. "It was set to open on Monday," Steve recalls, and they had so many toys and so much furniture to assemble and so much sand to shovel - "not the easiest task for Jews," he laughs. But they worked through the weekend, and voilà - like an instant kibbutz, there was the Preschool. The memory became indelible - what a small-but-determined group of people could do if they set their minds to it.

Steve kept building Isaiah institutions. About 25 years ago, he initiated the Jazz Shabbat Service and five years after that, something new was built again. Following a visit from famed interfaith environmentalist Reverend Sally Bingham, the Green Team was started - its founders perfectly named Ivy, Moss, and Fox. It's been a thriving institution since. Last year, Steve personally brought nationally acclaimed philanthropist Tom Steyer to speak here. This March, he invited State Senator Ben Allen, co-chair of the CA State Environmental Caucus, to give a Shabbat talk. The following Friday, the Green Team partnered with the League of Women Voters, hosting a candidate forum for the upcoming 54th State Assembly District election.

In April, the Green Team organized a trio of events in the weeks around Earth Day: gathering protest signs for the March for Science, a Shabbat learning about Israel's green tech, and a screening of the documentary Merchants of Doubt, which exposes the climate denial industry. This summer, several Green Team members will make our annual trip to Sacramento, lobbying on behalf of climate legislation. Together, we're building the most crucial thing of all: our future...and we've got the perfect engineer leading up the project team.



IMA-ISAIAH MOTHER'S ALLIANCE

by Suzanne Asherson

Just over two years ago over a casual lunch with Cantor Tifani where we were discussing what it means to be a modern Jewish mother, an idea sparked. There was a realization that a new group was needed for the young Jewish mothers of Temple Isaiah to gather and create a sisterhood of support and learning. We named this group the Isaiah Mother's Alliance, also known as IMA, which is the perfect name as "ima" means mother in Hebrew.

After reaching out to the Isaian community it was rapidly apparent that there was a desire to connect the values and spirituality of Judaism with the modern mother's lifestyle and needs. A group of eighteen women joined together monthly at different homes over shared meals and wonderful wine or we gathered for fun outings including Karaoke, a Paint and Sip evening and a family barbeque.



Cantor Tifani leads us in discussions and introduces themes including what does it mean to parent Jewishly, how to bring faith into our lives and who we are as mothers, women and friends. These gatherings, whether more serious or more playful, create a sisterhood of women who energize, provide support and strengthen the bonds that form the bricks of our community.

One particular theme on prayer truly spoke to me and gave me a new perspective on how to pray. I remember sharing with the IMA ladies my personal story of how I lost the power to pray and my connection with God at 17 years old after tragically losing my father to Leukemia when he was just 44 years young. Life then pitched me another curveball in 2013 when my doctor delivered me news that would forever change my life, again. During that phone call with my doctor, my world quickly shattered and as the tears welled up in my eyes I had to muster all the strength and courage to utter the scariest words imaginable...I HAVE BREAST CANCER.

As a 32-year-old mother, I knew I had no choice but to put one foot in front of the other and do everything that was possible in order to be around for my 16-month-old son's future. I followed doctor's orders and engaged in six grueling rounds of chemotherapy, double mastectomies

and reconstruction, 33 rounds of burning radiation and a hysterectomy. My body has been through a lot and is riddled with scars, but I am thrilled to shout that I am a survivor.

During my breast cancer journey, I had not yet reconnected with God or spirituality. It was only through my involvement in IMA that I refound a connection to prayer. I was not aware of how strong this new connection was until just over a few months ago, on February 28, I had a bad scare.

Spoiler - I am just fine!

However, I was not fine for a miserable 24 hours after an enlarged lymph node was found that could possibly be the nasty C returning. My oncologist tried to reassure me that I had a 95% chance all would be okay, but all I could think about was that 5% statistic which felt insurmountable. My mind went to a dark place and I was scared.

During this 24 hour period of fear, I found my coping mechanism to be different than it was during my initial diagnosis. I turned to prayer. I heard the voices of my IMA sisters in my head and our conversations on prayer. As a person who had long lost the ability to pray, I was shocked about how natural it felt to have a conversation with God and I remember crying as I sang the Mi Sheberach to myself, which I had learned to chant during our monthly meetings as we always wrapped up with the Prayer of Healing. My prayers were answered when an ultrasound revealed that there was no cancer after all. I rejoiced.

At the next IMA meeting during our routine check in, with tears in my eyes I shared how thankful I am for IMA which has really strengthened my spirituality and transformed me from a person with a Jewish upbringing, followed by a time of spiritual wandering without a place to call home, and now a growing reconnection with God. I am so thankful that this group has provided myself and all of the IMA women a safe place to be authentic, open and vulnerable while also laughing, smiling and having a good time.



With the seeds planted and the roots taking hold, IMA is branching off and forming a second IMA group due to the tremendous success of the first group and the growing demand of Isaian moms wanting to join. If you are interested in being a part of this sacred group of support and friendship, please contact Cantor Tifani at tifani@templeisaiah.com.

ISAIAH WOMEN - May/June Calendar of Events

Behind the scene at Isaiah Women are two amazing volunteers, Sherri Zigman and Beth Raanan. They joined IW within the last two years and have become passionate about IW. They have dedicated a great deal of their time to ensure that IW continues to be a vibrant women's group for all ages. Both Sherri and Beth are IW Board members. Sherri is our Membership Chair and Beth is our Programming Chair. Sherri has increased membership by 25%, and Beth has almost doubled the number of events and programs we offer. IW continues to integrate social action into our activities. We encourage all women of Temple Isaiah to become members and join us in our fun and engaging events.



Below are Sherri and Beth's feelings on why they decided to become involved with IW

Sherri Zigman: After seven years developing friendships in Shabbat

B'yachad, it was time to move on after my daughter became Bat Mitzvah. Isaiah Women is the perfect place for me to continue deepening my existing friendships and making new ones within the Isaiah community



while enabling me to enrich myself in meaningful activities and leadership!

Beth Raanan: I joined IW about two years ago. My kids are almost through high school, and I realize that I needed

to maintain/build my own adult social connections-and what better place to do that than at Isaiah! I have found a very welcoming community and great activities with Isaiah Women!

Please join Isaiah Women for our annual Installation of Board Officers. This year we are having an afternoon tea at the Culver City Hotel in downtown Culver City.

June 24, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

\$18 for all IW members who have paid their 2018-19 dues. Non-members \$36.00

JOIN US FOR THESE MAY/JUNE EVENTS

MAY

Tuesday, May 15 | 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

IW's Book Group, "Cover to Cover"

Book: Little Fires Everywhere, by Celeste Ng.

RSVP to Tina Feiger: tinafeiger@hotmail.com

location given upon RSVP

Thursday, May 17 | 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Isaiah Women Celebrates Rosh Hodesh with Rabbi Klein

A light dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Bobbie Allen. Rabbi Klein will begin the program at 7:00 p.m. Bring items for SOVA. Free for Temple members.

•••••

RSVP to Bobbie Allen: bobbie@bobbieallendesigns.com

Thursday, May 24 | 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Trivia Night with Rabbi Dara; In the Social Hall

Spouses are welcome at this fun take on game night! Light refreshments will be served and there will be prizes for the winners!!

\$10 per person (pay in advance with check to "Isaiah Women" or via Paypal to IsaiahwomenLA@gmail.com)

RSVP to Beth Raanan: bcraanan@gmail.com

JUNE

Sunday, June 3 | 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

SMORGASBURG Food Market (rescheduled from March)

Join us in the hip ROW DTLA district (near downtown) for this huge outdoor food stall and market. Free admission and free parking in adjacent parking structure. We will meet at the entry at 11:00 a.m.

RSVP to Beth Raanan: bcraanan@gmail.com

Tuesday, June 12 | 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Lilith Salon

Lively discussion of the latest issue of the feminist Jewish Lilith magazine. At the home of Loretta Siciliano (address provided upon RSVP)

RSVP to Elaine Diamond: ediamond27@hotmail.com

Tuesday, June 19 | 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

IW's Book Group, "Cover to Cover"

Book: Waking Lions, by Ayelet Gundar.

RSVP to Tina Feiger: tinafeiger@hotmail.com

location given upon RSVP

Sunday, June 24 | 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Isaiah Women Installation Tea

Join us for our end-of-year event at the historic Culver Hotel.

\$18 for IW members who have paid their 2018-19 membership dues (dues will be accepted at the event)

\$36 for non-members.

RSVP by June 16 to Ellen Canter: ellenjcanter@aol.com



YOUTH GROUP LOVE by Lisa Rostaing, Youth and Camp Director



Three cheers for the ITY Board! We have a very special group of high school teens who have demonstrated incredible leadership within our Temple Isaiah community.

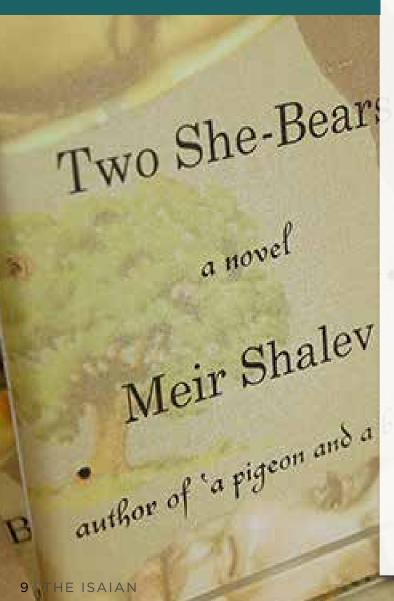
ITY (Isaiah Temple Youth) is our high school youth group and over the past several years has risen up to power house status in our NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth). This is the teen branch of the URJ SoCal Region. Over this past year, our incredible ITY Board has led teen High Holy Day Services, five Bean Bag Shabbats, four major events, and four NFTY kallot.

A HUGE MAZAL TOV to Co-Presidents Eli Howell and Aaron Selcov, Co-Programming Vice-Presidents Adam Horwitz and Michael Barash, Co-Social Action Vice-Presidents Claire Saguy and Julia Dabney, Co-Religious & Cultural Vice Presidents Ben Raanan and Kinneret Klein, Membership Vice President Ella Winett, Communications Vice President Emma Raanan, Financial Vice President Eli Lane, and 9th Grade Representative Rafe Mori. An additional shout out to Aaron Selcov who was just elected to NFTY SoCal Regional Board as Communications Vice President. Thank you ITY Board for all your hard work, dedication, and leadership!

LINES FROM THE LIBRARY by Ellen G. Cole, Librarian

Library Hours:

Tuesday: 2:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. Sunday: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



LOVE AND VENGEANCE ON THE MOSHAV

Official British documents validated the three Jewish suicides on the moshav in 1930. Were there really three? Was one murder? Why the cover-up? What's the motive? Does this still matter now? Curious? You have been drawn into the latest novel by Israel's celebrated literary giant, Meir Shalev, whose gripping *Two She-Bears* reveals itself as it replays the events that took place.

Narrated by Ruta Tavori, each character reaches us through the stories of her life and those of her relatives. Through her naration she intertwines two stories, one from 1930, and one in 2000. Both are sad and violent with repercussions affecting three generations.

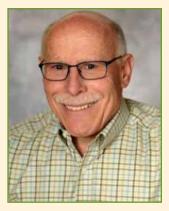
Ruta's account alternates with a current gangster crime. Tension builds as readers wonder if the two crimes will connect and whether this will reveal the truth of the third "suicide" despite everyone's attempts to prevent it. The dominating character, grandfather Zev Tavori, will unwittingly tie characters, events, and motives together. He is mean and cruel, yet a valiant creator of the new land; his nursery symbolizes and realizes the flowering of the countryside. Zev influences everyone; no one crosses him.

Ruta's family continues to live on the rural pre-state moshav where the values of the land dominate. The clannish villagers, descendants of the original victims and witnesses, keep the secret, all swearing to suicide 70 years later.

Shalev writes of grief philosophically and poetically, offsetting it with warmth and humor. He paints pictures with lyrical words embedding rural Israel into our emotions. He reveres the land without sanitizing early moshav life, valuing the ugly with the beautiful, hinting both are necessary. Shalev dramatizes through empathetic human figures, but Zev's character is to the contrary.

Will love or vengeance triumph? The story keeps you guessing, even if you think you've figured out the ending. The struggle to build a foundation for statehood is constantly reflected by metaphor and historical vignette. Shalev's trademark is to celebrate the gritty settlers in British Palestine. The author takes his title from a nasty biblical passage, repeats it at dramatic moments in the novel. The Hebrew language itself becomes its own character as clues are sought.

Come check this book out of the Library. Honor the 70th anniversary of the State of Israel by reading *Two She-Bears*, which revisits the land and its pioneers, their strengths, their passions, their legacy.



SPRING FORWARD TO THE TEMPLE ISAIAH BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018-19

by Mike Diamond, Treasurer

Spring is the time we put the finishing touches on the Temple Isaiah's FY 2018-19 budget. As we have done in the previous years, the Budget Committee is now working with our Executive Committee, the clergy and the various program and school directors to finalize a FY 2018-19 budget that is realistic, within our financial capacity, reflects our vision and mission and supports the recently approved rabbinic reorganization.

As I noted in a similar article in an Isaian a couple of years ago, our annual budget is approaching \$8 million. As a congregation at the forefront of Reform Judaism, we have many

top programs including our Preschool, Religious School and camp, among others. Our hard working and committed staff of over 120 individuals support our outstanding and innovative clergy that is committed to implementing the initiatives contained in our sustainability project and to the success of the rabbinic reorganization. As Temple Isaiah continues to grow and prosper, the Board of Trustees has an obligation to make sure that our financial position continues to be strong and sustainable well into the future, and that we make programmatic and financial decisions that support and enhance our vision "to create a spiritual and vibrant community where we can deepen our relationship with God and each other." The programmatic and financial decisions that support this vision are best made when all of us fully understand the entire budget process as we work together to support our synagogue and its many programs and activities. As Treasurer my goal in this report is to keep the congregation informed about the budget process as we work through the FY 2018-19 cycle. I hope that this will better inform our budget discussion at the congregational meeting on June 10, 2018.

BUDGET PARAMETERS - A NEW APPROACH

Like many other faith-based organizations, Temple Isaiah is faced with balancing the certainty of increased staffing costs; sustaining current programs that are cutting edge; and continuing to develop new programs. However, we have less certainty concerning our revenues from future membership. What will be our future membership level? How many students will enroll in our Preschool, Religious School, camps, and in other activities offered? While we generally have good data on which to make estimates, future budgets are subject to uncertainty. To decrease this uncertainty for both the Temple and its members and provide better forecasts of future tuitions, I worked with our Preschool Director, Tamar Andrews, to develop a new process to set preschool tuition rates that brings certainty to what these rates will be for the years that a child is enrolled in the school. Starting this coming fall when a parent enrolls a child in our Preschool, that parent will know at that point what the tuition will be for future years. This brings certainty to both the parent and at the same time allows the Temple to better forecast future tuition revenues. As we get more experience with this process we will look to expand this idea to our other programs and fees.

AN OVERVIEW OF THE BUDGET PROCESS

This is my third year as Treasurer and I continue to tweak the process that has been used in previous years to make it more effective and efficient. As in past years, I am fortunate to have an excellent Budget Committee as a partner. This year we have focused on developing a budget that supports our vision and mission, our rabbinic reorganization and the initiatives approved by the Board that were contained in the sustainability project started under the leadership of past president Honey Amado and continued by our current President David Leichenger. As I did in the past two years, I have asked each person who has budget authority, whether clergy, staff or volunteer to prepare a concise narrative that provides context for their proposed budget.

In December and early January, Larry Wayne, who serves as Vice Chair of the Budget Committee, Michael Cantor and I met with each budget director to review their narratives, followed by another set of meetings to discuss their unit's preliminary budgets. After another round of revisions, these budgets were presented to the Budget Committee for their analysis, feedback and suggested revisions. After the committee reviewed all the revised individual budgets we combined them into an overall Temple Isaiah budget for fiscal year 2018-19 and made any necessary adjustments to insure we have a realistic budget that supports our vision and mission. In early May, I will present this draft budget to the Temple's senior staff for discussion, feedback, review and approval. The budget will then be presented to the Board of Trustees for their discussion and approval prior to discussing the budget with the congregation at the June 10th meeting and asking for its approval.

I look forward to reviewing last year's financial performance and presenting the FY 2018-19 budget to you at that meeting. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at: mdiamond@marshall.usc.edu.



ISAIAH MAY/JUNE SHABBAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Friday Night Shabbat

Shabbat at Isaiah is experienced through music, friendship, warmth, and creativity.

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

Oneg to follow

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Friday Night Shabbat

Niggun service - Join with our special House Band for an evening of middle eastern rhythms, soulful melodies and mindfulness teachings.

5:45 p.m. Pre-Onea 6:15 p.m. Services

Oneg to follow

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Friday Night Shabbat

Shavuot & Confirmation service - Join us for a special Shabbat Shavuot service honoring our Confirmation students.

Shavuot Yizkor 5:30 p.m. 5:45 p.m. Pre-Oneg Services 6:15 p.m.

Oneg to follow

FRIDAY, MAY 25

Memorial Day - Shabbat at Isaiah is experienced through music, friendship, warmth, and creativity.

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

Oneg to follow



FRIDAY, JUNE 1

PRAISE SERVICE - HIP HOP SHABBAT!

Experience the combination of Hip Hop, R&B, Electronic Dance Music (EDM), and electric guitar solos as we mind-expanding approach to Shabbat.

6:45 p.m. Shabbat Praise Service in Sanctuary

Oneg to follow

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

Friday Night Shabbat

Jazz service - Join us for a festive service that blends our ancient words of prayer with syncopation and swing.

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

Oneg to follow

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Friday Night Shabbat

Shabbat at Isaiah is experienced through music, friendship, warmth, and creativity.

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

Oneg to follow

TWO SERVICES

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Friday Night Family Shabbat

Family service - Our Shabbat Family service (formerly 4th Friday Shabbat) is designed for our youngest members and their families. Torah discussion and shots with the Rabbi for our adults. Bring the whole family.

5:30 p.m. **Family Shabbat Service** 6:00 p.m. Family Shabbat Dinner Dinner for young families - RSVP required

Friday Night Shabbat

5:45 p.m. Pre-Oneg Services 6:00 p.m.

Oneg to follow

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Friday Night Shabbat

Shabbat at Isaiah is experienced through music, friendship, warmth, and creativity.

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

Oneg to follow

B'nai Mitzvah MAY & JUNE



Leah Uslan
Daughter of
Cari and Dan Uslan
Saturday, May 12, 2018



Natalie Antin Daughter of Cynthia and Blaise Antin Saturday, May 12, 2018



Tyler Hoffman
Son of
Amy and Gavin Hoffman
Saturday, May 19, 2018



Alexa Kreshek
Daughter of
Suzanne and Brad Kreshek
Saturday, June 2, 2018



Evan Baron
Son of
Glenna and Rich Baron
Saturday, June 2, 2018



Piper Rutman

Daughter of

Allison Bloom and Gabriel Rutman

Saturday, June 9, 2018



Tobiah Manheim
Son of
Lisa and David Manheim
Saturday, June 9, 2018 (away)



William Myers
Son of
Alison and Scott Myers
Saturday, June 9, 2018 (away)



Jesse Solomon
Son of
Jennifer and Robert Solomon
Saturday, June 9, 2018 (away)



Graham Wolff
Son of
Courtney and Jared Wolff
Saturday, June 9, 2018 (away)



Piper Saken

Daughter of

Karen and Rio Saken

Thursday, June 14, 2018 (away)



Rebecca Katz Daughter of Mandana and Steve Katz Saturday, June 16, 2018



Julia Leviadin Daughter of Bahareh and Pejman Leviadin Saturday, June 16, 2018



Jacob Berman
Son of
Holly Sklar and Michael Berman
Saturday, June 30, 2018



Samantha Berman
Daughter of
Holly Sklar and Michael Berman
Saturday, June 30, 2018

LIFECYCLES

MILESTONES

Mazel Tov to: Niloo and Simon Nazarian, on the birth of their son Cyrus Abraham; Laurie Gantz, on the birth of her granddaughter Dahlia Jane; Pamela and Alon Hakakian, on the birth of their daughters Ava and Daniella; Andrew Friedman, on the birth of his daughter Marni Aster; and Geri and Gary Rosenberg, on the graduation of their grandaughter Heather Megan Kredell.

SYMPATHY

We would like to express our sympathy to the following Temple members and their families on the recent loss of their loved ones: Luke (Shannon) Lieberman, on the loss of his grandfather Bill Trogdon; Mina (Arthur) Kuper-Liberty, on the loss of her mother Frieda Kupferschmidt; Judith Weiner (Dr. David Scott), on the loss of her father Dr. Charles Weiner; Risa Okin, on the loss of her father Murray Gechtman; Jackie Rosner, on the loss of her sister Mimi Friedman; Lisa (Brian) Aronson, on the loss her father Bertram Kermit Massing; the loss of Janice Smith; Tara Berger,

on the loss of her grandmother Gertrude Berger; Danielle (David) Ambrose, on the loss of her mother Arlene Shirley Moscowitz; Stuart Goldurs, on the loss of his mother Naomi Goldurs; Mitch (Danielle) Bloch, on the loss of his father Richard Bloch; Scott Miles, on the loss of his brother Rabbi Mark Miller; Navid and Naghmeh Yadegar, on the loss of their grandmother Kokab Mosanen; Stephanie Bronson, on the loss of her uncle Dr Cyril Nenemth; Mara (Franklin) Simon, on the loss of her father Bernard Tanzman; and Doug (Jodi) Galen, on the loss of his father Eugene Galen.

SPEEDY RECOVERY

The following Temple members or their loved ones have been ill and we want to wish them well: Tara Berger, Bill Warnick, Joan Sales, Jacqueline Rosner, Joel Peck, Kelli Freeman, Arlene Tanzer, Jennifer Shpilsky, Tina Fox, Gary Rosenberg, Emily Field, Stelle Strozer, Julie Smith, Samuel Surloff, Loretta Siciliano, Stella Vatan, Lynda Belinky, Glen Padnick, Terry Feigenbaum, Benjamin Shahrabani, Robert Gandel, Mason Gateman and Jerome Aroesty.

MAY MEMORIAL PLAQUES

May 4

Anna Adams Jack Bieber Harry Bookman Robert Brown Frieda Bruck Mary Ginsburg Hyman Goldberg B. Donald Guttenplan Louis Jacobs Susan Jacobs Miriam Markman Lester Moss Henry Nirenberg Jean Piller Louis Rokaw Anne Schechter Mildred Weger Charlene Weisbaum

Joseph Weiss

May 11

Dorothy Didak Sarah Golenternek David Hallner Jack Horwitz William Katz Kenneth Kaufman Gertrude Krasnow Annette Lazare Fanny Levitz Philip Nalibotsky Morris Roth Kenneth Schwartz Julia Waldner Sidney Wasserman

March 18

Maurice Baumer Morris Berman Saralyn Blatt Eleanor Bookman Jack Cohen Belle Drangel Saul Gan Joseph Lasky Fay Rapp Anna Riave Flora Romain Miriam Rosenwasser Howard Ross Maurice Stern Ida Warmbrun

Max Wolfson

March 25

Mary Ascheim Sarah Dlugofsky David Fraizes David Koskoff Hermon Moss Charles Okonowsky Fred Pobris Morris Rohrlick Livingstone Smith

JUNE MEMORIAL PLAQUES

June 1

Bessie Ames Jack Berniker Donald Bernstein Beniamin Elswit Melvin Gross Harry Indictor Ike Jacobs Bruce Kimmel Sara Krom Jack Miller Henry Milner Naoum Norman Cevle Osaw Harold Romain William Rosenberg Molly Rosenbloom **Elaine Saunders** Abraham Segal Rose Segal

Evelyn Stevens

June 8

Harry Cohen Svdnev Dash Bruce Deerson Sarah Gifis Regina Heller Nathan Horenstein Pauline Landau Ronald Levin Sophie Paller Milton Rosner Zysa Shlachter Jonathan Smith Adolph Stein Sarah Wagner Dora Wasserman

Monroe Weinberg

June 15

David Andrens

George Beidner Sylvia Bennett Betty Borden Sophia Dash Daniel Dosik Jennie Flaxman Louis Greenspan Mary Hershkowitz Samuel Hurewitz Belle Kopald Morris Levtus Jared Scott Mandel-Becker Henry Moghtader Anton Papilion Victor Reskin Steven Schlussel Rose Schwartz Samuel Shannahoff Abner Waxman Beatrice Weltman Gus Zsupnik

June 22

Lewis Barnes Mary Bass Dora Berk James Freeman Carl Green Lillian Grodin Hannah Harris **Fthel Hendler** Samuel Hoffman Rose Lapidus Sarah Lewis Barnet Linden Herman Neuman Charles Roth Selma Sax George Vollmer Jake Weinstein

June 25

Nathan Baumer Minnie Cross William Esensten David Goldstein **Burt Pinter** Tesse Sokol Vida Stuart Alex Walter Rose Wilensky

CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEMPLE FUNDS

CAHN ULPAN FUND

in memory of

in memory of Paula Goode by Hannah Cahn

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in appreciation of

all Rabbi Frimmer does to make
Temple Isaiah the powerful temple it is
by Paula and Laurence Shuman
all Rabbi Klein Miles does to make
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all Rabbi Nickerson does to make
Temple Isaiah the powerful temple it is
by Paula and Laurence Shuman
another beautiful & meaningful
baby naming ceremony
by Melissa and Sean Daugherty
Rabbi Dara Frimmer
by Karen Sloane and Ronald Rosenberg
Rabbi Frimmer's support

in honor of

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Bella Desser's 90th Birthday by Karen and Paul Richter Ellen & David Davidson's vow renewal by Joan & Gary Davidson Rabbi Zoë's 18 years at Temple Isaiah by Roberta Gillerman Rebecca Berlin's Bat Mitzvah by Ronna and Joshua Berlin

in memory of

Adrienne Huberman by Sherry Gold Augusta Miller by Arlene and Alan Karpel Bourse C. Allen by Joan and Irwin Allen

Don Nadler by Stacey Nadler

by Stacey Nadler and Ronald Schneeberger Dorothy Fishman

by Ronnie Fishman

Dr. Phil Feiger

by Tina Feiger and Andrew Moss

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by Ronald Losch

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Harold Lank and all the others in 2018

by Gerald Lank

Harry Elman

by Honey De Roy

Harry Rosen

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Henry Flamberg

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by June-Ellen Miller

Martin Shephard

by Phyliss Shephard

Michael Widom

by Roberta and Benjamin Allen

Michelle Agasi by Nir Agasi

Mimi Friedman

by Sherilee and Sumner Feldman

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by Joan and Irwin Allen

Peter K. Studner

by Rhonda Studner

Rebecca Fishman

by Ronnie Fishman

Regina Tarica

by Honey Amado

Toni Turin

by Lisa Turin

thank you

Rabbi Dara, for Josh's blessing by Wendy Plottel

Rabbi Frimmer for Amanda's Blessings by Jill and Rodney Sabel

DONNA GROSS FUND

in memory of

Ida Weinberg

by Adelle Gross and Robert Finkel

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Joe Gillerman

by Roberta Gillerman

MAY-JUNE 2018

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in memory of

Bella Desser's Special Birthday by Wendy Plottel

ISRAEL ACTION FUND

in memory of

Cele Altkorn by Merridy Mishkin

Mac Altkorn

by Merridy Mishkin

Shirley Porutchyck Ungerleider

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thank you to

Bobbie Allen for all her help by Ellen Cole

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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Bracha Dantus

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Carl Weissburg

by Evelyn and Allen Kwawer

Esther Elfenbaum

by Evelyn and Allen Kwawer

Florence Clare

by Deborah Reamer and Andrew Clare

Jennie Kwawer

by Allen Kwawer

Samuel Dantus

by Carla and Philippe Kopf

ROSALEE LIPMAN FUND

in memory of:

Rosalee Lipman by Donald Lipman

SKLAR CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

in honor of

Bella Desser's 90th Birthday by Martha Sklar

Bernice LaPan

by Martha Sklar

Bud Blitzer

by Susan and Leonard Milner

Catherine Boatwright

by Cheri and Manuel Katz

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

in memory of

Helen Greenwald

by Stacy and Denton Fisch

Kevy Greenwald

by Stacy and Denton Fisch

Mark Furman

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by Robin and Charles Shephard

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by Shirley Kern

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by Diane and Scott Lewis

Gayle Sadofsky

by Shirley Greene

Harold Berger

by Sherrie and James Berger

Harry Bundy

by Celine and Robert Kahn

Herbert Burstein

by Cynthia and Vincent Waldman

Hugo Kanter

by Susan Bartholomew and

Sanford Jacoby

Hyman Cohen

by Marsha Miller and David Cohen

Irene Davidson

by Leslie and Jonathan Davidson

Jack Holland

by Martin Milden

Leahbelle Bercey

by Kim Perry and Larry Zucker

Martin Ross

by Lorraine Trogman

Meyer Epstein

by Jerry Epstein

Pearl Bundy

by Celine and Robert Kahn

Robert Zucker

by Kim Perry and Larry Zucker

Rose Shulman

by Jean and Jay Abarbanel

Sidney Kern

by Leslie and Jonathan

MAY-JUNE 2018



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DATED MATERIAL

MAY/JUNE 2018 CALENDAR



TEMPLE ISAIAH CELEBRATES SEVENTY YEARS

L'Chaim To The '70s - Honoring Rabbi Zoë Klein Miles for her 18 years of service and special recognition of our longest standing members

Seventies attire - Leisure Suits, Bell Bottoms and Platforms strongly encouraged

TEMPLEISAIAH.COM/
70TH-ANNIVERSARY

MAY EVENTS & MEETINGS

Spine Tingles Book Club - Tuesday, May 1 - 10:00 a.m.

Temple Isaiah Board Meeting - Wednesday, May 9 - 6:30 p.m.

Hearts & Minds: A Torah Roundtable - Saturday, May 12 - 9:00 a.m.

T.I.N.G. Temple Isaiah Business Networking Meeting - Tuesday, May 15 - 8:00 a.m.

Green Team Committee Meeting - Thursday, May 17 - 7:00 p.m.

IsaiahWomen Trivia Night - Thursday, May 24 - 6:30 p.m.

IMG Happy Hour at The Stalking Horse - Tuesday, May 29 - 6:00 p.m.

JUNE EVENTS & MEETINGS

Spine Tingles Book Club - Tuesday, June 5 - 10:00 a.m.

Temple Isaiah Congregational Meeting - Sunday, June 10 - 10:00 a.m.

Temple Isaiah Board Meeting - Wednesday, June 13 - 6:30 p.m.

T.I.N.G. Temple Isaiah Business Networking Meeting - Tuesday, June 19 - 8:00 a.m.

Green Team Committee Meeting - Thursday, June 21 - 7:00 p.m.

IMG Happy Hour at The Stalking Horse - Tuesday, June 26 - 6:00 p.m.

ONGOING

CENTER FOR THE WIDOWED: Every other Monday

DAUGHTERS OF TORAH ~ LEARNING CIRCLE: Every Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

SHABBAT TORAH STUDY: Every Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Study with Rabbi Zoë Klein Miles every Shabbat morning, exploring Torah verse by verse.

SHABBAT AT ISAIAH

If you are celebrating a special event, come and be honored at our First Friday Night Shabbat service of the month.

View our full Shabbat schedule on page 11.

Friday, May 4 Friday, May 11 Friday, May 18 Saturday, May 19 Friday, May 25 Friday, June 1 Friday, June 8 Friday, June 15 Friday, June 22 Friday, June 29

Let us know if you have new contact information or wish to subscribe to our newsletters and receive our latest event updates.