

## Temple Israel to Host Teens From Throughout Long Island For USY Kinnus February 2-4

Jewish teens from throughout Long Island will converge on Temple Israel next month when the congregation's Waxman Youth House hosts a USY divisional kinnus.

More than 250 students in grades 8-12 will spend the weekend of February 2-4 getting to know Temple Israel, each other, participating in discussions, and worshipping together.

"It is quite an honor to be a host congregation and I am thrilled we were selected," said Youth House Director Avi Siegel. He said it is a sign that Temple Israel's USY chapter is gaining momentum and recognition in the region. The Waxman USY chapter had been highly acknowledged in the past, but has not been active in recent years.

"It is quite magical to see 250 teenagers enjoying each other's company and doing things together, and when that thing is singing with emotion, praying with sincerity and experiencing the joy of Shabbat and community together, it is truly inspirational," he said.

Mr. Siegel has been busy planning logistics for the 54-hours the teens will spend in Great Neck. He has arranged discussion programs on Israel, social action, and a variety of Shabbat service formats. The teens will join the congregation for the

Mincha afternoon service. "In addition," he said, "there will be 'ice breakers' and a chance to just hang out and enjoy the Waxman Youth House." Most meals will be served at the Youth House.

### Hosts for Teens Needed

Members of the congregation will be needed to host the visiting teens for the weekend, provide a sleeping area in their homes ("Floors are OK, beds are not required."), and supervise activities at the Youth House. For information about hosting or to volunteer as a host family, call Mr. Siegel at 482-7800 or email him at [asiegel@tign.org](mailto:asiegel@tign.org).

Temple Israel's revitalized USY chapter recently hosted a laser tag event and several lounge nights. The chapter has an active social action group and recently participated in a Midnight Run to Manhattan. One member, Jacob Lurvey, the son of Veronica Bisek Lurvey and Jon Lurvey, represented Temple Israel at the International USY Convention, held recently in Chicago.

The congregation last hosted a kinnus in 2012. "Temple Israel was chosen as the host congregation for the kinnus," Mr. Siegel said, "because USY wants to support our growing chapter and show us the vibrancy the youth movement can bring to our teens."

## Women and Mitzvot: Scholar-In-Residence Topic

By Marc Katz, Editor

It took millennia for women and men to be seen as equals in Judaism. Conservative Judaism's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards ruled that women were equally responsible for mitzvot as men only three years ago. Rabbi Pamela Barmash, the author of the teshuvah, will discuss how the ruling was formulated when she is Temple Israel's scholar-in-residence on the weekend of January 19-20.

She will give a talk at a congregational dinner on Friday evening titled "Spiritual Transformations in Jewish

Observance," where she will discuss what the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards does and, she said, "why I, as a rabbi and spiritual seeker, care." The cost of the dinner, catered by Lederman, is \$30 per person and reservations are required. RSVP to Jodi at 482-7800 ext. 1105 by January 18.

On Saturday morning, at a "Shabbat Talk" beginning at 12:45 P.M., her topic will be "Women and Mitzvot." She will explain why she wrote the teshuvah, what false ideas about women and mitzvot she had to argue against, and how mitzvot and spirituality are intertwined.

"When I first read Rabbi Barmash's teshuvah...I was ecstatic," said Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni, an organizer of the presentation. "As a woman raised in the Conservative movement my entire life, and as an attorney trained to rely on principles, precedent, and analysis, I was blown away by the simple elegance of Rabbi Barmash's argument that women are equal to men, equally bound to the mitzvot, including those interpreted by male rabbis as time-bound."

The January weekend coincides  
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## Candy Man Celebrates 90 Years of Sweetness

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**A Voice Guest Column** by Alise Kreditor

EDITOR'S NOTE: Alise Kreditor, a regular attendee of Temple Israel's daily minyan, recently was on hand for the 90th birthday celebration of another minyan "regular," Ed Goldfeder. This Guest Column has her report of the festivities.

If you ask any child in our congregation from toddler and up who their favorite person is at Temple Israel, the answer will undoubtedly be "The Candy Man!" A nickname earned from years of providing sweets to the children

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...everyone wanted to be present to honor such a special Temple Israel member.

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of Temple Israel, Eddie Goldfeder is beloved by all as evidenced by the huge crowd of well-wishers who turned out to celebrate his 90th birthday on November 26. His four children generously hosted a lavish brunch following Sunday morning minyan which was standing room only, as everyone

wanted to be present to honor such a special Temple Israel member.

Eddie, who always has Shirley, his wife of 66 years, by his side, is as dependable as sunrise! He attends services seven days a week, partaking in morning minyan Sunday through Friday, and always occupies his special place in the back of the sanctuary during Shabbat services. His seat on the aisle makes it easy for children to stop by for a special treat. But, what one soon realizes is that Eddie isn't only handing out candy. He is also providing important life lessons on shaking hands and saying thank you when receiving a gift. Children as young as two and three regularly stop by to say "Shabbat

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## Deepening Our Understanding

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**From the Rabbi** by Rabbi Howard Stecker

Over the next several months, Temple Israel will be hosting three guests who will deepen our awareness regarding several important issues.

Dr. Pamela Barmash, JTS-ordained rabbi and associate professor of Hebrew Bible and Biblical Hebrew, served for several years as a pulpit rabbi and currently teaches at Washington University in St. Louis. In addition to writing extensively in areas pertaining to scripture, history of law and ancient Near Eastern religions, Rabbi Barmash has served on, and authored numerous responsa for, the Rabbinical Assembly's Committee on Jewish Law and Standards. When she visits us from January 19-20, she will offer an insider's perspective in how this committee functions, both the underlying philosophy of how Conservative Jewish leaders make decisions about Jewish law and the practical ways that this works regarding specific issues. She will also speak in detail about a seminal paper she wrote called "Women and

Mitzvot." Rabbi Barmash will draw upon her own professional and personal experience to address Conservative Judaism and Jewish law in general and the relationship between gender and observance specifically.

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Our three guests will deepen our understanding of one another...

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Beth Steinberg, co-founder of Shutaf in Jerusalem, will be our guest from February 9-10. Shutaf provides "quality, inclusive services to all children, teens and young people with disabilities, regardless of labels and perceived functioning differences, while inspiring and educating others towards the acceptance and inclusion of all members of the community." Inspired by the circumstances of one of her own children, Beth helped to establish an organization that meets the needs of children who are often marginalized

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## Learning from Others

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**From the President**

by Rob Panzer

Last month Temple Israel members Bracha and Marty Werber, Susan Wagner and Alan Klinger, Rabbi Schweber, and Ofra and I attended the United Synagogue Biennial Convention in Atlanta. A few more members registered, but had to change their plans as other things came up. This was an opportunity for everyone to meet new people, see old friends (Rabbi Adelson sends regards), and for congregations to share experiences. Participants offered both new ideas that were instituted and working well in their communities and experiences that may not have gone as well as planned.

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The first part of the convention was a Shabbaton, with a spiritually moving Friday Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat, and Maariv services that were different from those we are accustomed to. There were several choices for Shabbat morning services, ranging from very traditional to one featuring mostly communal singing, and one that was more contemplative. We had the opportunity to try them all.

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) has undergone a self-reflection as part of its process of strategic planning and rebranding. Revised Mission and Vision Statements acknowledge our Conservative movement's struggles and opportunities for a bright future. For more information visit the website, [uscj.org](http://uscj.org). The theme for the convention was "Dare Together" with the message: "Seek Meaning together." Printed on the hot beverage cups was the mantra for this gathering.

It is important to recognize the changing landscape of American Jewry in general and Conservative Jewry specifically. Standing in the same spot will leave

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## In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends  
condolences to the families of:

### WERNER STEIN

husband of Helga Stein,  
father of Barbara Katz  
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

### ARLEEN GINGOLD

sister of Laurie Frankel

### SYLVIA K. SALZBERG

mother of Barry Salzberg  
and the late Lani Salzberg Hopp,  
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

### RUTH RADER

mother of Judy Vine

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

## Temple Lites...

### • Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni

was recently elected president of the  
Sephardic Heritage Alliance, SHAI. She  
is also a member of the Great Neck  
Board of Education and a former Temple  
Israel vice president.

• **Josh Charry** has been elected  
Chief of Department of the Vigilant Fire  
Company. He has held a number of  
positions with Vigilant, most recently  
Assistant Chief from 2011-2017. He twice  
led the departments EMS operation  
and is the first paramedic to serve as  
chief. He was sworn in by his father,  
Rabbi Marim D. Charry. Chief Charry  
succeeds Josh Forst, also a Temple  
Israel member.

• **Joseph Oginski**, son of Wendy and  
Gerald Oginski, was elected Vigilant Fire  
Company EMS Captain.

## Mazal Tov To...

### Rebecca and Malcolm Phillips

on the birth of their grandson,  
Alexander Dov Fogelman.

### Rusti and Alex Rothstein

on the birth of their great-granddaughter,  
Andi Reese Rothstein.

### Rabbis Amy Roth and Noam Marans

on the engagement of their son,  
Aaron, to Allie Shafran.

### Doris and Norman Delman

on the marriage of their granddaughter,  
Rebecca, to Jordan Stufflebeam.

### Lois and Gary Sazer

on the marriage of their son,  
Jonathan, to Yearit Izhak.

## Upcoming Events

### January 18

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

### January 19

Scholar-in-Residence 7:00 P.M.  
Weekend Dinner with  
Rabbi Pamela Barmash

### January 20

"Shabbat Talk" 12:45 P.M.  
with Rabbi Pamela Barmash  
Temple Israel Film Series: 7:00 P.M.  
"Norman: The Moderate Rise and  
Tragic Fall of a New York Fixer"

### January 25

Men's Club Meeting 7:30 P.M.

### January 26

Tu B'Shevat 6:00 P.M.  
Dinner and Celebration

### January 31

Tu B'Shevat

### February 1

Beth HaGan Torah Science Fair 5:30 P.M.

### February 2-4

USY Kinnus at Temple Israel

### February 4

Men's Club World Wide Wrap 9:30 A.M.

### February 9

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend  
with Beth Steinberg

### February 10

"Shabbat Talk" 12:45 P.M.  
with Beth Steinberg

### February 11

Shalom Club Meeting 6:00 P.M.  
Temple Israel Film Series: 7:00 P.M.  
"The Women's Balcony"

### February 15

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

Temple Israel of Great Neck  
Where Tradition Meets Change



# SKI & SNOWBOARD TRIP

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018**  
**SHAWNEE MOUNTAIN, POCONOS, PA**

**Bus will depart Temple Israel at 7:00 AM SHARP!**  
(return to Temple Israel approx. 6:30 PM)

**KIDS UNDER 18 YRS. OF AGE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT**

### PRICING

*(all prices are per person)*

**Lift ticket only: \$40 • Ski/Snowboard rental only: \$27 • Helmet rental: \$10**  
**Value Package including lift ticket, ski or snowboard rental, and 1.5 hour lesson:**  
**\$70 (add \$10 for a helmet rental)**

**(Minimum age of 6 for ski lesson or 7 for snowboard lesson)**  
**Lessons at 9:45 AM (first timers only) & 11:45 AM (all levels)**

**Tubing: \$30/two hour session; \$45/4 hour session**  
**(these are based on availability, no advance reservations)**  
**Coach bus transportation from TIGN: \$35**

Bring your own food or purchase at the resort (resort is not kosher supervised).

**Deadline to register by January 25 (full payment required to hold spot)**  
**RSVP to Jodi Engel at the synagogue office or [jengel@tign.org](mailto:jengel@tign.org)**  
**Make checks payable to: Temple Israel of Great Neck**

**Feel free to bring your own ski/snowboard equipment on the bus if you'd like.**  
**(storage available underneath the bus)**

**Questions? Contact Seth Kurpiel at [skurpiel@gmail.com](mailto:skurpiel@gmail.com) or**  
**(Cell) 718-578-7363**

# B'nai/B'not Mitzvah In Our Temple Israel Family



**Rebecca Bernstein**

Rebecca Bernstein will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on January 20. She is the daughter of Sharon and Larry Bernstein, granddaughter of Susan and Cyrus Kahn and Maxine and Terry Bernstein, and great-granddaughter of Sylvia Rieders. She has a brother, Jeremy, 15, and a sister, Abigail, 8. Rebecca is a seventh grade honor student at Great Neck North Middle School. She is a competitive figure skater and has received many medals including a bronze medal in the New York State Empire Games. Rebecca has also been the recipient of the Judaic Scholar Award for several years from the Temple Israel Religious School. She also enjoys playing the violin. She is currently attending the Waxman High School and plans to visit Israel with her family in February.



**Evan Youssefi**

Evan Youssefi will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on January 27. He is the son of Deborah and Albert Youssefi and has a sister, Ashley, 18, and a brother, Ethan, 16. Evan is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. Evan plans to attend the Waxman High School and Youth House following his Bar Mitzvah.



**Justin Farajollah**

Justin Farajollah will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on February 3. He is the son of Navid and Ramin Farajollah and has a sister, Ariana, 19, and a brother, Brandon, 15. Justin is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. Justin will be attending the Waxman High School and plans to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah with his family in Israel next summer.



**Matthew Shavolian**

Matthew Yekhezkel Shavolian will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on February 10. He is the son of Roya and Binesh (Joe) Shavolian and has two brothers, Zachary, 21, and Jordan, 17. Matthew is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. Matthew is currently attending the Waxman High School and Youth House and plans to visit Israel next summer.

**POWERFUL WOMEN IN THE BIBLE**  
**Intrigue, intellect, heroics and even murder!**

This is not a headline from a tabloid -  
this is from the Tanakh (Bible)!

Join us as we study, analyze and discuss biblical texts  
relating to several powerful women in the Bible.

**REBECCA** **RACHEL**

**Wednesdays, January 24, 31 & February 7**  
**11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon**  
**Alef Room (301)**  
**Taught by Rabbi Amy Roth**

**SARAH** **RUTH**

To RSVP, please contact Karel at (516) 482-7800 ext. 1134 or  
[KTanenbaum@tign.org](mailto:KTanenbaum@tign.org).

**MIRIAM** **ESTHER**

## Religious School Torah Troupe Readers



Religious School Torah Troupe Readers have an opportunity to read from the Torah on a Shabbat once a month. Recent Torah Troupe readers, above with Rabbi Amy Roth, include, left to right, Liana Kase, Kayle Kahen, Harrison Albin, Cecelia Albin, Alex Gottlieb, Eliot Ganjian, Ariel Kermani, and Raphi Kermani. Earlier Torah Troupe readers, below left to right with Rabbi Roth, are Zachary Dorf, Alec Blumberg, Jessica Tamari, Elizabeth Matalon, Natalie Schweber, Matthew Esrail, and Jackie Matalon. Torah Troupe is open to students in grades two to six. For further information about the Torah Troupe program call Rabbi Roth at 482-7800.



December Torah Troupe readers, left to right, were Elliot Tabaroki, Noah Scheidt, Ella Covitt, Brian Scheidt, Brandon Reed, Shira Khoda, and Sam Bagon.

## Start Super Bowl Sunday With the Men's Club's World Wide Wrap

Temple Israel members will join thousands of Conservative Jewish men and women around the world who will mark the mitzvah of putting on tefillin on Sunday, February 4, beginning at 9:30 A.M., by participating in the Men's Club's annual World Wide Wrap.

Led by Rabbis Howard Stecker, Daniel Schweber, and Amy Roth, as well as Cantor Raphael Frieder, the congregation is invited to put on tefillin together. The clergy will be joined by Religious School sixth grade students and their parents for the service, to be held in the Crystal Ballroom.

There will be extra sets of tefillin available, as well as trainers, if needed, from the Men's Club. Afterwards, participants are invited to a complimentary breakfast sponsored by the Men's Club.

## Daily Minyan Times

### Friday, January 12

7:00 A.M. 4:40 P.M.

### Friday, January 19

7:00 A.M. 4:45 P.M.

### Friday, January 26

7:00 A.M. 6:00 P.M.

### Friday, February 2

7:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M.

### Friday, February 9

7:00 A.M. 5:15 P.M.

### Sunday

8:15 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

### Monday

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

### Tuesday

7:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

### Wed., Jan. 17 (Rosh Hodesh Shevat)

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

### Wed., Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7 & 14

7:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

### Thursday

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

## Candle Lighting Times

### Friday, January 12

4:30 P.M.

### Friday, January 19

4:38 P.M.

### Friday, January 26

4:46 P.M.

### Friday, February 2

4:55 P.M.

### Friday, February 9

5:03 P.M.

## Inclusiveness Is 'Shabbat Talk' Topic

Being inclusive of others with disabilities is the message Beth Steinberg, executive director of Jerusalem-based Shutaf Inclusion Programs, will bring to Temple Israel on Saturday, February 10.

"It is a discussion about how people who are not necessarily typical fit in," said Rabbi Amy Roth, director of congregational schools, a colleague and friend of Ms. Steinberg who invited her to speak at Temple Israel. She said: "We as a community need to become more aware of the ways in which, both consciously and unconsciously, we may fail to create an atmosphere that fully embraces people of differing abilities and needs."

Ms. Steinberg will speak during the Shabbat service and present a "Shabbat Talk" following the kiddush. She will participate in the Shabbat Hamishpaha service, which begins at 4 P.M., addressing parental issues and challenges. In addition, she will be available to meet privately to discuss issues with members.

Rabbi Stecker said, "Beth Steinberg's visit is fully aligned with our vision of Temple Israel as a community where everyone is welcomed to discover the beauty and power of Judaism. With her vast experience in inclusion, Ms. Steinberg will help us find concrete ways to extend a welcoming embrace to people with physical, cognitive and emotional challenges."

Addressing the needs of members with disabilities was first addressed in Temple Israel's recently completed Strategic Plan.

Ms. Steinberg, the Brooklyn-born mother of a special needs child, moved to Israel in 2006. There she co-founded Shutaf, which has spread rapidly throughout Israel addressing the country's residents with special needs.

"At Temple Israel," Rabbi Roth said, "we have children who have differences in learning." The congregation has consulted with Matan, a Jewish educational agency that supports children with special learning needs. "The Temple Israel schools try to be as flexible and as accommodating as possible," she said.

## Men's Club Shabbat HaChodesh March 16

Shabbat HaChodesh, the annual Friday evening service conducted by members of the Men's Club, will be held this year on March 16. Congregants are invited to volunteer to lead parts of the service, according to Sam Husney, who is coordinating the event.

"We would like to offer you an opportunity to participate in what promises to be an enjoyable and fun evening for all of us," he said. "I know that many of you had a part in last year's Shabbat HaGever service, so I'm sure that this would be something you'd definitely like to do. You can try a new part—which we encourage—or do the same part again. Your kids or grandkids can join you when you do your part and there is plenty of time to practice and learn between now and the time of the service."

Rabbi Mark Borovitz, senior rabbi and co-director of the Elaine Breslow Institute of Congregation Beit T'Shuvah will be the featured speaker at a dinner following the service. He will discuss using the wisdom of Judaism to fight addiction and provide rehabilitation.

For further information about the service contact Mr. Husney at 972-3890 or SamHusney@gmail.com, or email Ezra Kassin at Kassin.Ezra@gmail.com or Harold Citron at HaroldCitron@gmail.com.

## Deepening Our Understanding

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while advocating for understanding and outreach by the broader community. She will be addressing the congregation in various settings, including a conversation with parents in our religious school, on the imperative and challenges of creating truly inclusive settings for children and adults.

Rabbi Mark Borovitz, co-founder of Beit T'Shuvah in Los Angeles, will join our community from March 16-17. Beit T'Shuvah was established to treat addiction using a 12-step program and Jewish values. Rabbi Borovitz's own personal experience with addiction drew him to this important, life-saving work.

## Learning from Others

—Continued from page 2

congregations behind. Outreach to the unaffiliated and in-reach to our own congregants is vital; both may look different than what has "worked" in past decades. Innovation is critical, and we have to accept that change is inevitable. "Because this is how we have always done it" is not a recipe for future success.

An example for Temple Israel would be for us to look at alternative services, not to replace what we currently have, but in addition to what we do now. We have to look at different staffing possibilities to meet the needs of the future, not of the past. As well, we have to look into funding the future, so development, planned giving, and capital improvement are connected to a successful future.

The entire congregation will have several opportunities to hear him over the course of Shabbat, including the Men's Club sponsored service and dinner on Friday night. In addition, he will be speaking to our teens on the previous Thursday. He will also make himself available to any individual or family that wants to meet with him confidentially while he is here. Beit T'Shuvah is predicated upon the core Jewish value that every human being has the "right to redemption" and can learn to make lasting positive changes in his or her life.

Socrates famously observed that the unexamined life is not worth living. From the Torah's repeated injunctions to pursue knowledge to the gratitude we express daily to God for our innate awareness and curiosity, our people have championed the importance of broadening our perspective on a whole host of issues. If this is true of academic matters, how much more crucial is it when it comes to deepening our understanding of the concrete needs of the people in our midst?

All of this is fully aligned with our congregational vision as we strive to be a community "where everyone is welcomed to discover the power of Judaism to bring blessing to our lives and to our world."

Our three guests will deepen our understanding of one another and thereby enable us to strengthen our engagement with one another. I hope that you and your loved ones will be able to join us for these important conversations.

# Tu B'Shevat: Justice for the Trees

## By Rabbi Daniel Schweber

In January we observe a national holiday in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As Jews we also mark the yartzeit of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. We also celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the new year of the trees, observed in January or early February. For this month's column I challenged myself to create a teaching weaving in all three observances.

This April will mark 50 years since Dr. King's assassination. This milestone is an opportunity to reflect on how far we have come in fulfilling Dr. King's vision of justice in the world and how far we still have to go.

Defining justice is difficult. The following metaphor might help. Imagine a large forest with different terrain and different species of trees. The goal is for all of the trees to thrive. For the different trees in different terrain and climate to thrive they need varying amounts of light, water and care. A tree perched on a hill might get plenty of light, but require measures to prevent and combat soil erosion. A tree in the shade might need a nutrient rich soil to thrive. Some trees will require irrigation and others will need measures to dry the soil.

In my mind, justice for all is similar to the metaphorical forest. Justice is not necessarily everybody receiving everything in equal amounts. Justice is creating environments: social, economic, legal, educational, etc. where everyone can thrive.

In early December I attended the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's (USCJ) convention in Atlanta. The evening program was held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church where Dr. King Jr. and his father were both pastors. Rabbi Steven Wernick, USCJ's CEO, facilitated a discussion between one of the church pastors and Temple Israel's own Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League. The discussion naturally began with a celebration of, and reflection on, the close relationship between Dr. King and Rabbi Heschel. Both of the revered leaders heeded the Bible's call to pursue justice.

Deuteronomy is where we can find

what connects Dr. King, Rabbi Heschel and Tu B'Shevat, the holiday of the trees. Deuteronomy 20:19 rhetorically compares humankind to the tree of the field. Deuteronomy 16:20 commands us "justice, justice you shall pursue." Deuteronomy 15:7 teaches that there will never cease to be poor people, through no fault of their own. These three verses teach that it is our obligation to open our hands freely and do justice for all by helping people based on their needs so they can thrive. Humankind is a "ecosystem" not unlike a forest.

At the time of his death, Dr. King was preparing an advocacy campaign for

economic justice. Dr. King's vision was that everyone would be given the opportunity to support themselves and their families. Like helping a forest thrive, people need different resources to provide economic opportunity. In Dr. King and Rabbi Heschel's memory, we should ask ourselves what we can do to bring more justice into the world.

The mystical Kabbalists turned the 15th of Shevat from a calendar date for certain tree rituals into a day to think about trees and ourselves. Join us on Friday, January 26, for a Tu B'Shevat celebration where we will eat fruit, sing songs and learn about our connection to trees.

**The almond tree is blooming, the golden sun is shining,  
birds atop each roof announce the arrival of the festival.  
Tu Bishevat has arrived, the festival of trees.**

**TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK**  
presents

## **Tu Bishevat Dinner & Celebration** **Friday, January 26**

**An enhanced *N'Ranenah* service at 6:00 P.M.**

**in the Multipurpose Room**

**followed by a**

**Communal Shabbat Dinner in the Crystal Ballroom**

**(catered by Lederman Caterers)**

**Featuring separate celebrations for adults, teens and children.**



**Cost for the dinner:**

**\$20/adult**

**\$13/children 12 and under**

**(children 2 and under are free)**

**(Reservations will not be taken after Wednesday, January 24)**

**To RSVP, please call Jennifer in the synagogue office at 482-7800**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

# From Generation to Generation

## Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

### PRAYER BOOK FUND

In honor of:  
 Simhat Torah honorees,  
 Lila Bernstein-Schoen and  
 Alexander Schoen  
     Susan and Robert  
     Lopatkin  
 The marriage of Rachel  
 Englander, daughter of  
 Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey  
 Englander, to Adam Davis  
 Simhat Torah honorees  
 Manny Bardash and Van  
 Frankel  
     Barbara and Leonard  
     Schultz  
 Ed Goldfeder's 90th  
 birthday  
     Edith and Leonard  
     Kliegman  
 Ronnie Katz  
     Sherry and Sam Husney

In memory of:  
 Jean Rothbaum  
     Paul Rothbaum  
 Rosalind Forgasch  
     Susan Lopatkin  
 Jack Rosenbaum  
     Harriet Rosenbaum  
 Edwina Goldberg  
 Maurice Goldberg  
     Rabbi Geoffrey  
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 Betty Horowitz  
     Maxine Vogel  
 Henry Sheidlower  
     Ellyn Sheidlower  
 Yaacov Yahid  
     Jack Moallem

### ABRAHAM ROSENFELD MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:  
 Devorah Gittel bas  
 Avraham Shalom  
 Lea Bat Shmuel  
     Roberta and David  
     Harounian  
 Khorshid Harounian  
     David Harounian

### USHERS FUND

In memory of:  
 Farideh Bakhshi  
     Manijeh and Jack  
     Moallem

### TORAH FUND

In memory of:  
 Samuel Mirkin  
     Naomi Schulman

### DAILY MINYAN FUND

On the occasion of:  
 The end of the 11 month  
 mourning period of Helen  
 Frank  
     Cathy, Eric and Adam  
     Miller  
     Kim, Andy, Sydney and  
     Ethan Dymond

In appreciation of:  
 Jack Moallem for giving  
 Alise Kreditor an honor on  
 the yahrzeit of her father  
     Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey  
     Englander and family

In honor of:  
 Ed Goldfeder's 90th birthday  
     Naomi and Bob Lippert  
     Marlene Kreditor  
     Marilyn Torodash  
     Anita Mosten  
     Suanne and David Scherr  
     Rhoda Kaufman  
     Cheryl Eisberg Moin  
     and Seth Moin  
 Manny Bardash  
     Rena and Jonathan  
     Horwitz  
 The marriage of Jonathan  
 Kestenbaum, son of Elise  
 and Richard Kestenbaum,  
 to Lindsay Kriger  
 The marriage of Jonathan  
 Sazer, son of Lois and Gary  
 Sazer, to Yearit Izhak  
     Alise Kreditor, Jeffrey  
     Englander and family

In memory of:  
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In honor of:  
 The Auf Ruf of Jeffrey Choit,  
 son of Barbara and Harvey  
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     Jacqueline and Harold  
     Lamkay  
 Ronnie Katz  
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In memory of:  
 Farideh Bakhshi  
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 Ed Goldfeder's 90th birthday  
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     Parvaneh and Parviz  
     Khodadadian  
 The Mamiye family  
 Isabella Frankel, daughter of  
 Lynn and Alan Frankel,  
 becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
 The marriage of Jonathan  
 Kestenbaum, son of Elise  
 and Richard Kestenbaum,  
 to Lindsay Kriger  
     Parvaneh and Parviz  
     Khodadadian

In memory of:  
 Rita Emanuel  
     Trudy Emanuel  
 Michael Greenberg  
     Marcia, Richard and  
     Joshua Olarsch  
 Beatrice Feder  
     Carol Glatstein  
 Pauline Mattana  
 Farideh Bakhshi  
     Parvaneh and Parviz  
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 Adam Davis  
     Alise Kreditor and  
     Jeffrey Englander  
 Rabbi Stecker officiating  
 at the wedding of their son,  
 Jeffrey, and Jamie  
 Pearlman  
     Barbara and Harvey  
     Choit

Contribution:  
 Renata Farahnik

In honor of:  
 Rabbi Stecker and their  
 Temple Israel family  
     Rachelle and Ebbv  
     Ohebshalom  
 The birth of their grandson,  
 Louis Simon Gillman  
     Ilana and Eugene  
     Gillman

In memory of:  
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 Millie Werber  
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 Millie Papilsky  
     Rena and Jonathan  
     Horwitz



# From Generation to Generation

## Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

### TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

Contribution:

Frances Harris

In honor of:

Isabella Frankel, daughter of Lynn and Alan Frankel, becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Hildy Sanders  
Sandy Rosen

Ed Goldfeder on his special birthday

Rene Horowitz

The upcoming wedding of Rachel Perlman to

Jordan Stufflebeam  
Sonia Movsas

In memory of:

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Malcolm Salit

Seymour Geller

Sandra Geller

Myron Cooper

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Louise Soleymani

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Dorman

Edwina Goldberg

Maurice Goldberg

Judith Greenstein

Belle Arkin

Andrea Bloomfield

Moosa Neydavood

Manejeh Gabbay

Ruth Greener

Jeffrey Greener

## 90 Years of Sweetness: The Candy Man Celebrates a Landmark Birthday

—Continued from page 2

Shalom” and “thank you,” give him a firm hand shake, and leave with a special treat.

Eddie and Shirley moved to Great Neck 20 years ago after residing in Queens, where they were members of Hillcrest Jewish Center. Always one to volunteer, Eddie was a regular usher at Shabbat services and had the idea of handing out sweets to the children who came week after week. Not only did this become a ritual, but the children also began to behave a bit better after they received their treat. When the Goldfeders joined Temple Israel it was only natural for him to continue his ritual, which also takes place at morning minyan. Anyone who joins Eddie and Shirley at morning minyan receives multiple treats to “keep them going throughout the day.”

Eddie tragically lost both his father and brother within two weeks in 1980, which is when he started to attend the daily minyan. He soon realized that it is often difficult to have ten people attend to make up a minyan and vowed to always help others who need to say Kaddish. Many who have said Kaddish for 11 months, like temple member Karen Lewkowitz and myself have found tremendous comfort in Eddie’s cheery disposition and never ending sweet treats during a very difficult time in our lives. He is a true mensch, and always does his good deeds with a smile and a small reward just for being there.

Eddie and Shirley have also benefitted over the years from attending morning minyan and feel tremendous camaraderie

with everyone who walks in the door of the chapel. They have also shared that it is a great way to meet and bond with Temple members and others in the community. Renata Farahnik, who started coming to the daily minyan in 2014, sums it up best: “Some of us initially came together at morning minyan as mourners for a loved one, but we keep coming because many of us have become friends who now share simchas and so much of our lives together. But, the one thing we all agree upon is that Eddie and Shirley provide a great deal of the warmth and glue that holds us all together.”



**Eddie Goldfeder, better known to congregants as “The Candy Man.”**

### A Message from The Candy Man:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire congregation for the outpouring of support, love, and generosity for my recent birthday and during all the years I’ve been at Temple Israel. I have enjoyed watching many of the children grow up and look forward to meeting many more children—and adults—in years to come.

With much affection, Eddie Goldfeder

## Sabbath Services

—Continued from back page

### Friday, February 2

Evening Services 5:00 P.M.

### Saturday, February 3

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Yitro; Exodus 18:1 – 20:23

Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1 – 7:6; 9:5 – 6

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Jeffrey Englander, Rachel Geula, Rebecca Friedman-Charry, Deanna Stecker, and Brent Greenspan

Bar Mitzvah: Justin Farajollah, son of Navid and Ramin Farajollah

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 4:35 P.M.

Evening Service 5:40 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 5:05 P.M.

Havdalah 5:56 P.M.

### Friday, February 9

Evening Services 5:15 P.M.

### Saturday, February 10 - Shabbat Shekalim

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Mishpatim; Exodus 21:1 – 24:18; 30:11 – 16

Haftarah: II Kings 11:17 – 12:17

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Jacqueline Harounian, Sima Taid, Robert Lopatkin, and Jeffrey Fleit

Bar Mitzvah: Matthew Shavolian  
son of Roya and Binesh (Joe) Shavolian

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 4:45 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 5:15 P.M.

Evening Service 5:48 P.M.

Havdalah 6:04 P.M.

## D'var Torah

—Continued from back page

### Bo

### Saturday, January 20

We continue the account of the ten plagues with the last three in this portion. The plagues of locusts and darkness are described and then the account is interpreted in order to record a detailed set of instructions, which God gives to Moses and Aaron to prepare the Israelites for freedom. They are first directed to establish a calendar starting with the month of liberation, Nisan. The calendar is meant to provide social and religious cohesion as well as to symbolize the free man's ability, indeed responsibility, to make time. Then follow directions for offering the paschal sacrifice (to be eaten in haste) and for smearing blood on the doorposts and lintels so Israelite houses will be spared the final plague. God then passes over the land and kills all the first-born sons of the Egyptians, whereupon Pharaoh finally sends the Israelites out and they begin their journey toward Sinai. The Exodus is the key event in all Jewish history, and the instructions given here are by way of assuring that we remember God's role as redeemer to eternity.

### Beshallah

### Saturday, January 27

In this portion we follow the Israelites' journey to the Red Sea, where they find themselves trapped by pursuing Egyptian forces. God affects the miraculous crossing of the sea and the destruction of the Egyptians, and the Israelites rejoice singing the "Song of the Sea." The journey to Sinai may now be resumed, but three challenges are immediately encountered. The people complain that they have no bread. In response, God provides manna and gives directions for gathering it during the week and for the Sabbath. They further complain that they have no water, and God provides it from a rock. Finally, when the people are attacked by the Amalekites, Joshua heads a band of soldiers who defeat the attackers while Moses holds up the staff of God to encourage the Israelites. These incidents all serve to highlight the difficulty of transforming slaves into free men who can rely on God, yet act on their own behalf.

### Yitro

### Saturday, February 3

We read of the greatest event in the entire history of the people of Israel—the revelation at Mt. Sinai, in this portion. The portion opens with an account of the visit of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, to the Israelite camp just after they have crossed the Sea. Jethro suggests an administrative arrangement to Moses, which significantly enhances Moses's effectiveness as a judge. The people then proceed to the foot of Mt. Sinai where they engage in three days of purification in preparation for God's appearance. The proclamation of the Ten Commandments itself is accompanied by smoke and fire and the sound of the shofar. The effect on the people is overwhelming, so much so that they cannot bear to hear God's voice directly and Moses serves as an intermediary. The experience of Sinai establishes a covenantal relationship between God and Israel, which is to last to eternity and put its distinctive stamp on the entire future development of the people.

### Mishpatim

### Saturday, February 10

We find details of the covenant entered into between God and Israel in this portion. Since the relationship is all-inclusive, we find rules pertaining to social conduct, morality, ethics, civil and criminal law, and ritual concerns. Like the Ten Commandments, the source of these rules is divine. The legal material set forth here is not a code in the strict sense, since there are significant subjects not touched upon. (These subjects are, however, dealt with elsewhere in the Torah.) On the other hand, the material does make clear that God's demands of His people cover matters of conscience as well as matters usually subject to juridical control. The portion concludes with an account of the ratification of the covenant, and Moses ascends Mt. Sinai to remain there for 40 days and nights for the purpose of writing down the specific details. Thus, the freedom gained at the Exodus has now been confirmed and institutionalized in law. The next step will be to create a physical institution that will serve as the embodiment and reminder of the experience at Sinai.

## Women and Mitzvot: Scholar-In-Residence Topic

—Continued from front page with women's marches taking place throughout the country bringing a focus on issues affecting women. Last year a similar weekend at Temple Israel featured Rabbi Abby Sosland, the spiritual advisor at Schechter Westchester High School. Her topic was "Building Influence, Holding Power: The Varied Women of Our Tradition."

Rabbi Barmash has served on the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly since 2003 and on the Joint Beit Din of the Conservative Movement since 2008. She is also the co-chair of the new Disabilities Inclusion Committee of the Rabbinical Assembly. She served as the rabbi at Temple Shaare Tefilah, Norwood, Massachusetts, for eight years and is now a professor of Hebrew Bible at Washington University

in St. Louis and has served as director of Jewish, Islamic, and Near Eastern Studies at the school.

The program is sponsored by Veronica Bisek Lurvey and Jon Lurvey, Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni and Sassan Sassouni, The Schiowitz Fund, Sisterhood, and Bracha and Martin Werber. The program was organized by Toby Katz, in addition to Ms. Lurvey and Ms. Sassouni.

"We are immensely grateful to the sponsors of this program, who have the vision to see this through, and to the clergy who strive to guide each of us to discover the power of Judaism," Ms. Lurvey said. "It will be a privilege to engage with Rabbi Barmash about these important topics that not only affect me as a woman, but that really affect all of us as a family and congregation."

## Order Sisterhood Purim Baskets Now!

The Sisterhood is offering beautiful Purim gift baskets filled with food items imported from Israel. A personalized greeting card is enclosed with each basket.

Packages can be mailed anywhere in the United States. All proceeds from this project go to support Sisterhood's Yad B'Yad program, which helps Temple Israel families in times of need. The cost is \$18 each. Mishloach manot baskets for \$10 can also be ordered, but they must be picked up at Temple Israel. The deadline for package orders is Wednesday, February 14. Call Iris Adler at 482-4421 or e-mail at [irisdadler13@gmail.com](mailto:irisdadler13@gmail.com) to place orders.

This Sisterhood project needs your help, too! The packages will be assembled in the Blue Room on Wednesday, February 21, beginning at 9 A.M.


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# D'var Torah

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By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

**Va'era** **Saturday, January 13**

In this portion God reiterates His pledge to redeem His people from slavery and promises severe punishment for the Egyptian people. A contest then ensues between the will of Pharaoh. Moses and Aaron make another appeal to Pharaoh and in the process humiliate his magicians. The appeal, however, is again rejected. There follows the first seven of the ten plagues, which God must inflict on the Egyptians in order to achieve the release of the Israelites. The plagues of blood, frogs, lice, and swarms of insects, pestilence, boils and hail (as well as locusts, darkness and the slaying of the first-born, which are related in the next portion) demonstrate God's ability to manipulate nature and to protect His people. Since a number of the plagues were directed against Egyptian divinities, also present here is the beginning of the war by the Israelites on polytheism.

—Continued on page 10

## Temple Israel of Great Neck

# Voice

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\*Deceased

## Sabbath Services

### Friday, January 12

Evening Services 4:40 P.M.

### Saturday, January 13

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Va'era; Exodus 6:2-9:35

Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25 – 29:21

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:  
Moji Pourmoradi, Audrey Kent Itzkowitz,  
Robert Lopatkin and Ofra Panzer

Bat Mitzvah: Iyana Kaiman,  
daughter of Kim and Jon Kaiman

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 4:10 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:40 P.M.

Evening Service 5:15 P.M.

Havdalah 5:31 P.M.

### Friday, January 19

Evening Services 4:45 P.M.

Scholar-in-Residence Dinner 6:15 PM.

Featuring Rabbi Pamela Barmash

### Saturday, January 20

Shaharit Morning Service/Shabbat

Morning Group Aliyah 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Bo; Exodus 10:1-13:16

Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Harold Citron, Toby Katz, Patty Schneider,  
Shahram (Mike) Delafraz, and Joyce Weston

Bat Mitzvah: Rebecca Bernstein,  
daughter of Sharon and Lawrence

Bernstein, granddaughter of

Susan and Cyrus Kahn and

Maxine and Terry Bernstein, and

great-granddaughter of Sylvia Rieders

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

"Shabbat Talk" with

Rabbi Pamela Barmash 12:45 P.M.

Afternoon Service 4:20 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:50 P.M.

Evening Service 5:23 P.M.

Havdalah 5:39 P.M.

### Friday, January 26

N'Ranelah/Evening Services 6:00 P.M.

Communal Tu B'shevat Dinner 7:00 P.M.

### Saturday, January 27 - Shabbat Shirah

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Beshallah

Genesis 13:17–17:16

Haftarah: Judges 4:4 – 5:31

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Neda Sedgh, Jeffrey Fleit, Susan

Brustein, and Ellen Birnbaum

Bar Mitzvah: Evan Youseffi,

son of Deborah and Albert Youseffi

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Niggun Circle with Cantor Frieder

following kiddush

Afternoon Service 4:25 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:55 P.M.

Evening Service 5:31 P.M.

Havdalah 5:47 P.M.

—Continued on page 10