



HAR ZION
T E M P L E

The Bulletin

1500 Hagys Ford Road, Penn Valley, PA 19072-1195 610-667-5000 harziontemple.org

How We Respond

Message from Rabbi Seth Haaz

We inhabit a different world than we did a few months ago. Israel is at war, and we have uncovered the heightened, virulent antisemitism that festers underneath our American society. Even more painful than the outright acts of hatred against Jews, Jewish institutions, and Israel, is the apathy of our non-Jewish neighbors at work, in our children's schools, and on college campuses. As we follow the American discourse, we are constantly wounded by the indifference toward and disinformation about the Jewish people, and we are concerned for the future of American Jewry, world Jewry, and the State of Israel.

We do not sit idly by. Over these months, Har Zion has responded. We have responded with financial, political, and emotional support to our Israeli brothers and sisters. Har Zion congregants have contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars along with numerous items asked for by friends and loved one in Israel for those around them in need – from jackets and boots to laptops to toiletries to school supplies. We have adopted two large projects in partnership with Federation and our sister cities in the Gaza envelope and are collecting funds to (1) support families in Netivot and Sdot Negev whose homes were destroyed and (2) restore power to Netivot through emergency generators (click here to contribute).

Within the walls of Har Zion we have offered comfort, solace, and strength. We have hosted speakers from The Jewish Agency and
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Message from Elliot Rosen

As I write this article, it is the end of the sixth week since October 7th. You might think that the seventh week should be a week of rest, but the current situation won't allow that. We just came back the other day from the rally in Washington. It was an amazing show of solidarity. Even though we had a great showing from our Har Zion community, it wasn't enough. Even though the turnout from our Philadelphia Federation and community was outstanding, it wasn't enough. Even though the number of people on the Mall in DC was overwhelming, it wasn't enough. Even though contributions are exceeding the projected goals, it isn't enough. Even though this article won't be published for a couple of months, what we will have done for Israel, still will not be enough.

Our world changed on October 7. I came to shul for Shabbat and Yom Tov services and had to inform Rabbi Haaz of the tragic and barbaric attacks in Israel. The Yiddish expression "Men Trucht Un Gut Lucht" (man plans and God laughs) hit our Har Zion community that day. Lynne and I immediately knew that even though things had to remain as normal as possible at Har Zion on a daily basis, our congregational life would have to pivot. Along with our talented professional leadership we immediately began to make Israel a priority at Har Zion. Even though it was still a Jewish holiday we were able to send out an email to the congregation with information as well as an embedded video showing the special elements of the Chag and Shabbat services that were added to the
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MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE MONDAY, JANUARY 15

To volunteer or if you have questions, please contact Norma Dworkin (nldworkin58@gmail.com).
If you don't have time or the items needed, you may donate to the Tikkun Olam Fund for a specific charity and the committee will happily shop for you! Gifts cards also accepted.

Volunteer Options on MLK Day Include:

- Donation Sorting – 12-3 PM
- Cook for a Friend – 9:30 AM-12 Noon
- Shul Stitches – 1 PM- 3 PM
- Letter Writing to soldiers – 12-3 PM
- The Cat Collaborative – 12-3 PM – Will be on site with kittens and information on adoptions and fostering.

We are collecting donations through Sunday, January 14 for the following organizations:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Narberth Food Bank | Our Closet JFCS | Lions Club |
| Villanova Career Center | Mitzvah Circle | HIAS |
| Catholic Social Services | Francisvale Animal Shelter | Free the Girls |
| Vietnam Veterans of America | Summers Home for Hope | Laurel House |

There is a cart out front of the main entrance for drop-off donations, or you can leave them at the front desk.
Please NO old electronics! We are unable to recycle these.

Get ready to celebrate at Har Zion Temple on April 24, 2024, at 10:30 AM! The installation of Cantor Randy Herman promises a morning packed with inspiration, fun and interactive entertainment by Cantor Herman and a delightful line-up of guests. From our youngest to the wisest, everyone's invited to this lively ceremony that's all about joy, community, friendship and celebration. At about noon, immediately after the Installation Program, we'll keep the party going with a festive buffet luncheon (no charge) by Leslie Rosen Catering! Join us for a day of music, building connections, laughter, great food and lasting memories. See you there, ready to celebrate!

Rabbi Haaz (continued from page 1)

the Embassy of Israel, and we continue to look for opportunities to educate and inspire. We have sung together, we have studied together, and we have prayed together. We have a newly constituted Israel Committee to help lead us through this uniquely challenging time. And, an incredible congregational trip to Israel is already in the works – please mark December 22, 2024-January 1, 2025 on your calendars for a trip to visit our brothers and sisters in Israel, to demonstrate our solidarity, and to celebrate Har Zion's Centennial.

In the months to come, Har Zion will continue to focus on support for Israel and addressing the antisemitism around us. We will work with community partners to deepen the relationships between Jewish and non-Jewish neighbors. Strengthening these relationships and these bonds is the greatest way to ensure that the future generations in this area will experience peace, friendship, and the celebration of religious and cultural diversity.

There are many things that Har Zion will do, but the most important actions are those that you will take. The global forces of antisemitism succeed when Jews are not able to practice their Judaism and live freely as Jews. We will not allow this to happen. This moment in history demands that we each take meaningful steps toward enriching our Jewish identity and practice. Our resistance, our strength, and our commitment to the Jewish future are not demonstrated only through the dollars that we give but through the Judaism that we practice and the community in which we participate. Every time you participate with Har Zion – every time you attend a holiday or social program, every time you pray in the sanctuary, every time you engage in Torah study, every time you visit someone who is sick, every time you attend a shiva minyan – you stand up to antisemitism, you strengthen the Jewish community with your presence, and you declare through your words and your actions that Judaism is a beautiful part of this world that will continue to blossom and flourish.

This is, undeniably, a time for concern. And, yet, the future is in our hands. This is a time for active Jewish engagement – for growing closer to our Jewish identity and practice, closer to our synagogue community, and closer to the State of Israel and all those who call it home. Together, let's demonstrate the Jewish strength, resolve, and joy that characterize the Jewish people and have been forged and refined over thousands of years.

Am Yisrael Chai – the People of Israel will live and flourish, and we will be a blessing to ourselves and to others.

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100th
 HAR ZION
 TEMPLE

Centennial Celebration
April 2024 - May 2025

Plan to join us for these and many other special events to highlight Har Zion's first 100 years:

April 12-14, 2024
 Installation of Cantor Randy Herman

November 24, 2024
 Birthday Bash

February 23, 2025
 Special Guest Scholar

May 18, 2025
 Ultimate Celebration

Let's Honor Our Past, Celebrate Our Present and Inspire Our Future

Nancy & Dr. Michael Grossman, Andrea & Ron Robbins
 Co-Chairs

To get involved, please email us at
hzt100@harziontemple.org

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service to allow the congregation to react and respond liturgically and emotionally to the tragedy.

We established micro and macro ways to contribute to an Israel emergency fund. We communicated to the congregation information and opportunities to help in a myriad of ways. We established Zoom and in person events to transmit information as well as dialogue. We brought in speakers to help inform us of what was going on, government and volunteer response, financial needs, volunteer opportunities, unmet needs, political analysis etc. We reestablished our Israel Affairs Committee with Rachel Wachs as chair. We are planning to continue to bring in experts as well as firsthand reports about Israel to the congregation. We are planning an opportunity for our congregation to gather to sing, emote and share the joy of being together. We will have an Israel Spotlight portion of our weekly Shabbat email highlighting positive news about Israel and her accomplishments.

Hanukkah is still a few weeks away and this year especially we need the light of Hanukkah to brighten our darkened world and I know the Hanukkah Happening will do just that.

On behalf of my Co-president, Lynne Landsburg, the officers, boards, clergy and staff of Har Zion, I wish you a very healthy, happy, prosperous and, please God, peaceful secular New Year of 2024.

Honoring our strong traditions, it is with great pleasure to take a look back at our glorious past.

The HAR ZION Bulletin

Philadelphia, Pa., January 16, 1953
29 Teves, 5713

Vol. 16, No. 7

Late Friday Night Services

Sermon by Rabbi David A. Goldstein. Services led by Cantor Isaac I. Wall. Choir directed by Mr. Eric Mandell.

January 16, 1953.
Members of the Confirmation Class will participate in the Service and the Oneg Shabbat that follows. Mrs. Julius Axelrod will preside at the Oneg Shabbat. See the story on page 6.

January 23, 1953.
Bas Mitzvahs: Diana, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sakind; and Binnie C., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Schuman.

January 30, 1953.
A special program of music will be presented on the occasion of the Jewish Music Festival. See story on page 6. The Social Hour will be dedicated to the members of the Choir and the Choral Group, and the chairman of the evening will be Mr. Louis Ingber.
Mr. Eric Mandell will have an exhibit of music manuscripts from his own collection.

ABRAHAM M. ELLIS PRESENTS HOUSE AND GROUNDS TO TEMPLE



ABRAHAM M. ELLIS

At the recent Dedication Dinner for the Har Zion Temple Center, Rabbi Goldstein announced the generous gift by Mr. and Mrs. Abraham M. Ellis. They presented the house and grounds on the southwest corner of Wynnefield Avenue and Georges Lane, adjacent to the Temple campus, to be used for educational purposes.

"I would like to see the establishment of a regular Jewish Day School," said Mr. Ellis, "from the Nursery School level to the early grades of the elementary school, where our children could receive both a Jewish education and a general education under the auspices of Har Zion Temple."

Mr. Ellis is a member of the Board of Directors of Har Zion, and he has dedicated his life to the furthering of Jewish education in Philadelphia.

He was the moving spirit in the erection of a new large building for the Yeshivah in downtown Philadelphia more than thirty years ago. It was due in part to his efforts that the B'nai Jeshurun Congregation, in the Strawberry Mansion section, built a beautiful synagogue and school.

Mr. Ellis made possible the establishment of the Ellis Memorial House for Jewish Students at Temple University; and more recently, he gave the funds to establish the Abraham M. Ellis Chair for Hebrew Culture and Education at Temple University.

A devout religious Jew, Mr. Ellis is at services every morning in addition to the Sabbath and holidays. A highly successful businessman, he shares his

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CRITICS RAVE AFTER SNEAK PREVIEW

A word to the "wives" is sufficient—tell your husbands to reserve Wednesday, February 25, when the "show of shows" comes your way. Hold on to your hat—the Purim Spieler are coming! Exciting details will follow.

The HAR ZION Bulletin

Philadelphia, February 16, 1951
I Adar 10, 5711

Vol. 14, No. 8

CONFIRMATION CLASS SERVICE AND DINNER

The Confirmation Class held its annual Friday Evening Service and Sabbath dinner on January 19, 1951. It was a most impressive evening with many of the students participating. About 275 persons were at the dinner, including the students and assembled guests. Mrs. David A Goldstein spoke at the dinner, and Mrs. Parnis spoke at the Oneg Shabbat. Our thanks to Mrs. Sklaroff and her Committee for their work in making this evening a memorable affair.

The following members of the class had individual parts at the service and dinner and at the candle-lighting before the Kabbalat Shabbat:

- Marion Bronstein, Barbara Elkin, Barbara Epstein, Henry Feinberg, Louis Fisher, Louis Fryman, Marvin Goodman, Adelle Levin, Major Marks, Debbie Miller, Fredlyn Rubin, Leona Schwartz, Sandra Schwartz, Toba Segal, Dolores Sherman, Abner Silver, Herschel Sklaroff, Malva Sorkin, Estelle Tobin, and Judy Weiss.

Ritual Matters

Message from Dr. Ely Levine,
Ritual Director and Scholar in Residence

According to the Mishna, in the Jewish calendar, there are four occasions on which we mark the turn of the year. On the first of Tishrei, our Rosh Hashanah, we mark the turn of the years corresponding to the beginning of the planting cycle. On the first of Elul (one month earlier), we count our livestock to pay our tithes (something like our Tax Day). On Tu BiShevat, we celebrate the cycle of the trees. Lastly, the first of Nissan marks the beginning of the holiday cycle, the beginning of spring, and the formation of the People of Israel through the Exodus from Egypt.

This year, we have an interesting double-conjunction of two of these new year's celebrations. Tu BiShevat falls on Thursday, January 25, 2024, during the weeks when we read the Torah portions about the exodus from Egypt. Conversely, National Arbor Day falls during Passover. What can we learn from these coincidences?

Of course, trees are crucial to life: like all plants, they provide oxygen for us to breathe; they also provide us with shade, fruit, and wood. They provide other animals with places to nest. Shel Silverstein famously taught us all about this sixty years ago. The freedom we celebrate on Passover provides us with similar - albeit more figurative - necessities. New Hampshire's motto, "Live Free or Die," is an extreme expression of this idea. Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, and Frederick Douglass each said the same thing in different words.

Freedom also seems to be eroding in various parts of our world. While this is perhaps better a theme for the Passover column, it is useful to point out how the Rabbis designed our Passover rituals to focus as little as possible on the exodus from Egypt itself and more on other transitions from slavery and oppression to freedom and self-sufficiency. At the seder we re-enact our own journeys from "This year we are slaves" to "Next year in Jerusalem!" and we are invited to consider the different slaveries that still exist around the world.

In our world today, deforestation progresses at an alarming rate. We need more trees, but we are watching as more trees are cut down than are planted, and the difference continues to rise. To continue to support our life, we need to continue to plant trees. Of course, the Jewish National Fund helps to plant and take care of trees in the State of Israel; however, we should attend to the trees of our own neighborhoods as well. Indeed, careful attention and maintenance is necessary to preserve the life-giving benefits of trees.

With regard both to trees and to our Jewish national identity as free people, we cannot just reap the benefits; we cannot just take and take. We must constantly give back, especially if we want the next generation to be able to benefit as well. This Tu BiShevat, try to find a way to support your local trees, plant some new ones, contribute to an organization like the Arbor Day Foundation. As we learn in the Talmudic story, as there were trees planted for us by our ancestors, so we should ensure that there are trees for our descendants.



Join us for Men's Club Shabbat
Friday, January 19 and Saturday, January 20
followed by an Extended Kiddush

For more information, please contact
Howard Herzberg, hherzberg@hpcpa.com.

A New Siddur, A New Style

A recent contribution from the Green-Yudenfriend family in honor of Minya and Herb Yudenfriend, our beloved congregants and friends, has allowed us to acquire 1,000 copies of *Siddur Lev Shalem*, the flagship Shabbat and Festival prayer book of the Conservative Movement. This prayer book is a perfect companion for the congregants of Har Zion because it includes comprehensive transliteration (Hebrew words written with English letters) and a variety of readings and poems about the historical and spiritual makeup of prayers to enrich our members and guests both intellectually and emotionally.

The Har Zion clergy and ritual team have been working to create opportunities for increased participation and engagement, and this prayer book is a wonderful tool to further these efforts. Over the past two months, I have used the structure, language, and readings in sermons and remarks, and Cantor Herman has directed everyone to the transliteration to increase singing and involvement.

These prayer books are already a well-used gift, uplifting and inspiring our community. And, this gift is a perfect tribute to Minya and Herb who were regulars at Shabbat morning services, active participants, and deeply invested in learning and growing Jewishly. The Siddur Lev Shalem prayer books honor that fusion of prayer, participation, and education. Through these prayer books, the memory of Minya and Herb will continue to bless, sustain, and strengthen our Har Zion community.

Har Zion Caring Connection

Are you or your loved ones living in Senior Communities and Assisted Care Communities?
We would love to hear from you.

Please help the Har Zion Caring Connection and let us know how we can connect. Please call the synagogue office or email us at caring@harziontemple.org – and we will reach out.

Also if you need a ride to Har Zion, or can provide an occasional ride, please let us know that as well.

ADULT JEWISH LEARNING . . .

Please watch the weekly emails for more info and updates for these classes.

MONDAY

1 PM – NaKh: The Rest of the Bible with Dr. Ely Levine

In-person and Zoom

We spend a lot of time on certain parts of the Bible – chiefly, the Torah. It is time to read through the Prophets and the Writings more carefully. Join this class to read and discuss the rest of the Bible. We will move at a comfortable pace, but include some deep exploration of texts. New participants are welcome at any time! We are looking at the end of King David's career and ready to move onto his successors.

8:30 PM – Talmud Study with Rabbi Gary Charlestein

Zoom only

Please call Gary (215-290-0405) if you need to pick up new text.

TUESDAY

10:30 AM – Experience the Joys of Yiddish

with Gerry Spector

Zoom only

January 9 and 23, February 6 and 20, March 5 and 19, April 2 and 16, May 7 and 21, June 4

These classes are aimed at all ages. Knowledge of Yiddish is not required. The emphasis is Yiddish culture, literature, theater and song. Language is taught using literary and musical examples.

12 PM – Study of the Book of Samuel with

Rabbi Gary Charlestein

In-person and Zoom

1710 Romano Dr., Plymouth Meeting

WEDNESDAY

8:15 AM – TISCH with Rabbi Shawn

In-person and Zoom

Join Rabbi Shawn for inspirational learning. In this class we will engage in weekly Halakha (legal text) study from the Rambam's Mishneh Torah.

11 AM – Current Events: Contemporary Israel and Jews in the News with Rabbi Shawn and Norman

In-person only – at the home of Patty Grobman

RSVP to Patty: pgrobman@comcast.net

January 3, 17, 31, February 14, 28, March 13, 27, April 10, May 1, 22, June 5

Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh – 4 PM

In-person and Zoom – check your emails for updates

Tuesdays: January 9, February 6, March 5, April 9, May 7 and Thursday: June 6

Warm, interactive, and challenging discussions related to the holidays and themes of each month are led by group members. For more information, please contact Meryl Littman, merylitt@vet.upenn.edu or Janice Katz, rhk101@hotmail.com.

THURSDAY

10:30 AM – Commentaries on Exodus with Rabbi Ira Flax

In-person and Zoom

Join us for an in-depth study of the Book of Exodus. Starting with the commentary of the Hertz and Etz Chaim Chumash we then delve into the insights found in the Talmud, Midrash, and the major commentators spanning the length of Jewish history. It's Torah as you have never studied it!

12:30 PM – Jewish Books in Christian Bibles

with Dr. Ely Levine

In-person and Zoom

Ancient Jewish literature was quite varied. What Jews decided to preserve was just a small portion; Christians preserved many, many Jewish texts. Come read through some of these Jewish texts, including the Gospels, Jubilees, and Maccabees. See what other ideas Jews had that may not have been preserved in mainstream Judaism, other ideas that seemed to find a roundabout way into normative Judaism, and still other Jewish ideas that ended up being used against Jews.

6:30-8 PM, February 8 – Jewish Influence in the Music of

Bob Dylan with Cantor Randy Herman

How much if at all did Jewishness influence the music of Dylan and other major figures of the 60's folk revival? I have some thoughts and theories; we will take a look, and a listen – and of course do a little singing.

6:30-8 PM, March 7 – Jazziness in Judaism

with Cantor Randy Herman

Legendary avant-garde jazz sax player Ornette Coleman, a non-Jewish African American, referred to the traditional cantorial music of Yossele Rosenblatt (1882-1933) as essential music listening. Swing legend Benny Goodman breaks into a hora in a live version of one of his classic tunes. Cab Calloway sings a song in Yiddish and breaks into cantorial-style skat singing. Why do these things happen, and what do they mean? You're asking me?? I don't know – let's explore!

FRIDAY

8:15 AM – Legally Speaking with Rabbi Shawn

In-person and Zoom

This class will read, analyze and discuss contemporary issues and how they are handled in Teshuvot/Legal Responsa of the Conservative movement. No prior legal knowledge necessary.

SATURDAY

Following morning services – Milton Pomerantz

Interactive Torah Study

This participant-led and organized study group wrestles with the meaning of the weekly Torah portion.

Shabbat Talmud Class with Rabbi Gary Charlestein

Saturday afternoon, one hour before Mincha

In-person only in the Rudofker Library

This class is in addition to his Monday evening class

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EDUCATION . . .

Message from Sandi Toben, Early Childhood Ed Director

Happy New Year's from the NCCECE! I hope the new year brings us all peace, happiness, and growth.

This past November, I was fortunate to attend the Paradigm Project Conference, which is a gathering of Jewish Early Childhood Educators whose mission is to, "multiply, nurture and network the seeds of excellence in Jewish early childhood education." It was empowering and uplifting to be with so many other Jewish educators sharing and learning together. While there was a wealth of ideas and insights I took away, one session stood out as a lesson for all.

What story can one photo tell? In the NCCECE our teachers take tons of photos to share with the parents. As a parent, I know I click through to find the photos of my daughter and chuckle at her silly cute face, but what can I learn about my child from that picture? On the surface, our students play a lot while at the NCCECE and if you flip too quickly through our photos that is all you will see. However, learning and growing is many small moments put together. These moments might look like a class picking up leaves, but it is also the students exploring nature, the changing weather, and the effects of weather on different plants. The children are staying with the class which shows self-regulation and an understanding of classroom norms and rules. In the picture, you can see they are making three piles, each a different color. They are sorting and working collaboratively. So, that cute picture of a nature walk becomes a communication tool and a way to learn about your child. There is a story behind every photo and the practice of slowing down to notice the detail can benefit everyone.

Our NCCECE teachers are true curators of learning experiences that are inviting and thought provoking to our students. Their attention to detail and ability to observe creates a unique experience and environment that is best for their students at that moment. I encourage our parents to slow down, look for the detail, and notice all the growth your children do all day long. You can learn a lot about your child by just being observant. I think we can all use the reminder from time to time to slow down and appreciate the detail and everything that goes into the creation of every small or big action.

The NCCECE is not slowing down in 2024, but we do appreciate and care for every small and big moment of learning. We have a lot planned for the upcoming months both in and out of the classroom with the return of our Sunday Fundays, Tu B'Shvat celebration, and winter thematic units of study.

The NCCECE is also looking ahead to next school year. Please stay tuned for 2024-2025 registration information!



Upcoming NCCECE/HSA Events

January

- 1 No School
- 2 School Reopens
- 7 Sunday FunDay
- 12 Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend- 12PM Dismissal
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No School
- 19 Shabbat Sha Blue Jeans – featuring Prachim
- 20 Tot Shabbat
- 25 Tu B'Shvat In school Celebration- for students only
- 28 Sunday Funday

February

- 11 Sunday Fun Day
- 16 President's Day Weekend – No School
- 19 President's Day – No School
- 24 Tot Shabbat

Classroom and Thanksgiving fun!



SAVE THE DATES!

Friday, March 22

In-school Purim Carnival for students

Friday, April 19

NCCECE Passover Seders – Parents welcome

TIKKUN OLAM . . .

A Message of Gratitude to the Har Zion Community

by Jeff Handen on behalf of the Tikkun Olam Committee

On November 19, members and friends of the Tikkun Olam Committee delivered Thanksgiving baskets to 61 food-insecure individuals in the Lower Merion/Narberth area through our partnership with Eldernet (<https://eldernet.org/>). This is an increase from the 51 baskets delivered last year and could not have been accomplished without the hard work and generosity of the entire Har Zion community.

Tikkun Olam – “repairing the world”. It’s an awfully big statement, maybe even too big at times. However, I also wanted to share with our community in these trying times a quick (true) story of how our efforts, no matter how seemingly small make huge ripples.

During our 2022 Thanksgiving basket drive, the first one back since Covid, one of our volunteers wound up developing an ongoing relationship with one of the recipients to whom they delivered a Har Zion Thanksgiving basket. Our volunteer was able to connect this individual with other charities and service organizations and since that time this individual has been able to receive much needed food and support all year long. This individual has had a difficult life but appreciates everything that is done for them, thanking, and sending notes to their Har Zion “angels”. This past 2023 Thanksgiving season our volunteers delivered to this individual again and also helped them celebrate their 96th birthday! Tikkun Olam - for this one recipient, that all started with receiving a single Thanksgiving dinner, their world has been repaired.

So, on behalf of the Tikkun Olam Committee we would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest thanks and deepest gratitude to:

- the continuing generosity of the Frezel Family Tikkun Olam Fund
- the current and past members of the Tikkun Olam committee who started and continue to maintain our decades long tradition of service enabling this Mitzvah to happen.
- friends and neighbors from outside the Har Zion community who continue to join us each year for this Mitzvah; helping to collect and deliver boxes and crafting the beautiful paper turkey centerpiece included with each meal.
- the Sisterhood (in what must be a record-setting event) who collected and donated over 130 pounds of canned food at their Opening Dinner.
- an anonymous benefactor who donated a \$10 grocery store gift card for each and every one of our 61 recipients.
- a small army of over 50 volunteers who planned, packed, and delivered the 61 baskets, each with a complete Kosher Thanksgiving turkey dinner, all the sides, drinks, desserts, and supplemented with a host of non-perishables (over 100 pounds of food per box!)
- Sandi Toben, Dr. Michael Schatz, and all the teachers and

Shul Stitchers Get It Done – Donation Update

- Hats and scarves were given to clients of Prevention Pointe
- Blankets and baby hats were given to Lankenau maternity
 - Blankets, hats and scarves were given to Laurel House
 - Blankets and hats were taken to the Lone Soldier Center in Israel

Come join us on MLK Day – Monday, January 15, 1 PM and help with our mission to KEEP FOLKS WARM THIS WINTER

Save the Dates!

Cook for a Friend

Sundays, February 11, March 17, April 7, May 19

9:30 AM (Prep to begin at 9 AM)

and MLK Day – Monday, January 15, 9:30 AM

**For more info, contact us at
cookforafriend@harziontemple.org**

students of the Noreen Cook Center for Early Childhood Education and the Jane Fishman Grinberg Religious School who lovingly and artistically decorated all the Thanksgiving baskets (copier paper boxes)

- Tyhie, Tenzin, and our entire facilities staff who spent weeks hauling boxes up and down three flights of stairs and throughout all the nooks and crannies of Har Zion and moving over 600 pounds of foodstuffs.
- Dawn, Jane, Emily, and Gavi who as usual showed they are the best professional staff in the world helping and seamlessly guiding the budgeting, scheduling, communications, printing and probably a bunch of other things I’m missing.
- our catering partners who donated both monetary and wonderful in-kind donations; Leslie Rosen Catering (Bala Cynwyd), Classical Caterers (North Brunswick, NJ), Deluxe Kosher Catering (Philadelphia), A La Carte Catering (Bala Cynwyd), and Nana’s Kitchen and Catering (Narberth)

Without all of you this quite simply would not have been able to happen.

In closing, an original Thanksgiving poem authored by one of our very own congregational poets and included in all the baskets:

*Carve out some time
Relish with care
Stuff with sweetness
Savor and share*

*Bless this bounty
Seasoned with love
Gobble slowly
Thank God above*

SISTERHOOD . . .

Sisterhood Update

Message from **Michele Perlstein**, Sisterhood President

As I write this it has been six heart-wrenching weeks since the barbaric events of October 7 have passed – six weeks since our brothers and sisters in Israel have been at war, and most tragic of all, six long weeks since approximately 240 men, women, and children have been taken hostage, being held somewhere in Gaza. My heart, thoughts, and prayers are constantly with the people of Israel and I know all the women of Sisterhood feel the same.

The tragedy of this unwanted war has been compounded by the shocking displays of antisemitism that are seemingly everywhere, most notably on college campuses around the country. As I myself have a child in college and another who is applying to schools for next year, my anxiety and concerns for the safety of my family, myself, and Jews around the world have skyrocketed. I know from discussions with family and friends that I am not alone in these fears.

However, all of these things have done something else to me. They have galvanized me to take action. They have moved me to do something I never, ever did before in my life – I marched. On Tuesday, November 14, I joined nearly 300,000 others in person in our nation's capital at the March for Israel.



I joined my voice to the hundreds of thousands of others as we sang *HaTikvah* together. I was handed a poster of two hostages, brothers, and held the poster high as the crowd chanted in unison, "Bring them home!" It gave me such hope to see support for Israel across the political spectrum and from non-Jewish allies who all showed up to say they stand with Israel. While we were all

there for a tragic reason, I left the rally feeling uplifted by the experience, and for the first time in weeks I began to feel better about the future of Israel and her people.

Sisterhood's support of Israel will never waver, and we are in discussions to plan projects and efforts we hope to undertake soon to help our friends and family in Israel. In the meantime, life goes on for us here and it is more important than ever to carry on our many programs, events, and educational opportunities that we have planned throughout the year.

One of these highlights was our Torah Fund Brunch held on Sunday, December 10, in honor of Reisel Weinberger. The featured speaker was our own Rabbi Moriah Simon-Hazani. Many thanks to chairs Sheila Kliger and Susan Kochman, in cooperation with our VP of Ways and Means, Robin Zatuschni. I would also like to thank all the ladies who helped us stuff the Torah Fund invitations:

Sheila Kliger, Susan Kochman, Lynne Landsburg, Meryl Littman, Maxine Rosen, Judy Weinberger, and Reisel Weinberger. Another

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Sisterhood Calendar

Open a Book...Open Your Mind
See schedule on next page

Rosh Hodesh Group
Tuesdays, January 9 and February 6
(Zoom/In-person), 4 PM

Sisterhood Book Club
Wednesdays, January 17 and February 21, 12:30 PM

Board Meeting
Sunday, January 21, 10 AM

Sisterhood Shabbat February 23-24

6 PM – Sisterhood-led services Friday night
followed by a catered dinner

9:30 AM – Sisterhood-led services Shabbat morning
followed by an Extended Kiddush

Look for your invitation in the mail

Contact Andrea Robbins for more information,
arrelst8@gmail.com

Save the Dates

Sunday, March 17 – Mishloah Manot Distribution

Monday, April 8, 11:30 AM – Open A Book...Open Your Mind
Luncheon with author B.A. Shapiro

End of April – Trip to JTS with Rabbi Haaz

Floral Fund Donation Cards

Minimum contribution: \$10 / Four for \$30

Questions? Please contact Janice Katz,
610-525-1101 or rhk101@hotmail.com.

See contributions page for Floral Fund donations.

notable past program was our Bible Education classes with Rabbi Flax in November. We discussed "Women of the Bible", starting at the very beginning with Eve and going through the Matriarchs, and we are grateful to Rabbi Flax for sharing his wisdom with us.

Finally, don't forget to shop in our beautiful gift shop, the Landau Gift Box, which is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 AM to 3 PM. There is also online shopping available at harziontemple.org/giftshop, and shopping by appointment on Mondays, Fridays, and Sundays by calling 610-667-5000, X126.

For our upcoming events and programs, please take a look at the calendar of events above. We will not let terrorism win by keeping us from living our lives to the fullest. *Am Yisrael Chai!*

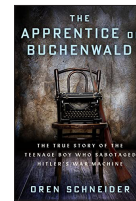
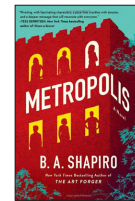
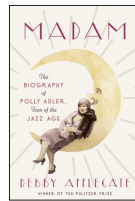
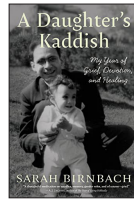
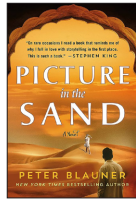
The Eleventh Annual

Open a Book... Open Your Mind for 2023-24

The Sisterhood of Har Zion Temple and the Department of Lifelong Learning proudly present "Open a Book... Open Your Mind"

Admission is \$18 per author or \$180 for the series

All programs will be in-person – check your emails closer to the program date



Wednesday, January 10
1:00 PM
Gioia Diliberto
Coco at the Ritz

Monday, February 12
7:00 PM
Christopher Gorham
The Confidante

Monday, March 18
7:00 PM
Debby Applegate
Madam

Tuesday, April 9
7:00 PM
Judy Rakowsky
Jews in the Garden

Monday, January 15
7:00 PM
Peter Blauner
Picture in the Sand

Wednesday, February 28
12:00 PM Lunch & Learn
Sarah Birnbach
A Daughter's Kaddish

Monday, April 8
11:30 AM
Sisterhood Luncheon
B. A. Shapiro
Metropolis: A Novel

Wednesday, April 10
7:00 PM
Oren Schneider
The Apprentice of Buchenwald

For reservations, call 610-667-5000,
email us at eberton@harziontemple.org
or go to harziontemple.ticketleap.com.

This program is brought to Har Zion Temple
in collaboration with the
Jewish Book Council.



Opening Doors to Multifaith Inclusion:
In the Sanctuary, in the Community, and in your Family

Wednesday, January 17 at 7:00 PM

The Inclusivity Committee invites you to participate in an intimate conversation with Rabbi Seth Haaz and Rabbi Robyn Frisch of 18Doors about multifaith inclusion within Har Zion Temple and in our lives outside the walls of the synagogue. We will discuss what Har Zion does to engage multifaith families and how we can all be inclusive in our roles as congregants, parents, grandparents, and friends.



18Doors is an organization that seeks to empower people in multifaith relationships – individuals, couples, families, their children, and congregations – to engage in Jewish life. They offer a fellowship for rabbis and professional development for Jewish clergy, as well as resources and events for people in multifaith relationships.

Admission is free and the event is open to all ages.
Light refreshments will be served.
If you have any questions, please email inclusivity@harziontemple.org

Sisterhood Torah Fund Contributions

December 10, 2023

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and Family:
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Double Chai

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Barbara Berns
Barbara Block
Becca Boroda
Jacqui Boroda
(continued next column)

NACHES, ETC . . .

BIRTHS

Welcome to the world to

Shoshana Orly Prine, daughter of Amanda & Marc Prine, sister of Golda and Eden, granddaughter of Meryl & Gary Littman, and Alice & Richard Prine. Shoshana arrived on October 23, 2023.

Allyn Bernadette (Alfie), daughter of Betti Packman & Phil Zakahi, sister of Jacqueline Ray (Jax), granddaughter of Nanci Goldman & Steve Bergstein and Barry Packman, great-granddaughter of Elias & Jane (z"l) Packman and Biena & Raphael Goldman (z"l), niece of Ian & Elle Packman, and great-niece of Faye Goldman & Leonard Kolins. Alfie arrived on October 30, 2023.

Simona Elka Flax, daughter of Adina & Rabbi Benjamin Flax of Revere, MA; granddaughter of Rene & Dr Mark Feitelson and Vicki & Rabbi Ira Flax; great granddaughter of Harriett Loigman; niece of Debra & Sam Kitchen and cousin of Wallis Harper. Simona Elka is named for Mark's father Simon, and Ira's mother Enid. Simona arrived on November 29, 2023.



ENGAGEMENT

Alexi Michele Several is engaged to Brandon Azus. Alexi is the daughter of Robin & Jay Several, sister of Ariel & Eric Leonard. Brandon is the son of Elyse & David Azus of Melville, New York, brother of Matthew & Allie Azus and Evan & Robyn Azus. A September 2024 wedding is planned.

Do you have other good news to share? Just let us know: jfetscher@harziontemple.org.

Double Chai (continued)

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Sheri Boroda
Eve Brauner
Susan Brauner
Lita Cohen
Eileen Daley
Leigh-Ann Maltz-Dichter
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Robin Seeherman
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Louise Steerman
Peggy Sterling
Tessa Teeter
Pamela Vinocur
Nicey Walinsky
Anne Walowitz
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We apologize for any errors or omissions.

HAR ZION TEMPLE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR STANLEY S. COHEN

Stanley S. Cohen, Esquire, past president and long-time volunteer leader at Har Zion Temple, died on September 19, 2023, 4 Tishrei 5784. During his last difficult months, Stanley remained an active Har Zion member, who attended Shabbat services, in person or online, and socialized with his community, whenever he was able to do so.

Stanley was born in Philadelphia. A 1957 graduate of West Philadelphia High School, he graduated with honors from Temple University School of Business. Stanley subsequently received his law degree from the now James Beasley School of Law at Temple University in 1963, where he served as an associate editor of the Law Review. Stanley was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in 1963.

Right out of law school, Stanley joined the firm –now known as Fox Rothschild LLP. He spent his entire professional career with the firm. During his long tenure, Stanley served as co-chair of the real estate department and ultimately as managing partner of Fox Rothschild. He was a member of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and American Bar Associations.

At the same time as Stanley began his professional career, he also became active and involved both at Har Zion, as well as in the greater Philadelphia Jewish community. Stanley and his beloved wife, Lita Indzel Cohen, were a constant presence at Har Zion. They were regular Shabbat service and program attendees. As an active young member, Stanley served on a variety of committees and was elected to the Board of Directors. Subsequently, he was elected to a variety of officer positions, including synagogue counsel and vice president. Ultimately, Stanley served as president of Har Zion Temple from June 1992 to June 1994.

Dr. Sara H. Cohen always described Stanley Cohen as the education president. Stanley emphasized all levels of Jewish education, religious school, high school and pre-school, as among his top priorities. He stressed the need for a holistic approach to Jewish education, from home to preschool to religious school to high school to synagogue services to camp to Israel trips and more. During his term, what is now the Jane Fishman Grinberg Religious School went through an intensive and detailed self-evaluation. As a result of this study, Har Zion Temple became the first afternoon religious school accredited by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. At the same time Stanley had the pleasure to accept a search committee recommendation to hire Charlotte Muchnick as director of what is now the Noreen Cook Center for Early Childhood Education.

Stanley oversaw another major professional staff change. At Selichot services in September 1992, the community said farewell to Mr. Adolph Schwartz, the Har Zion Sexton/Ritual Director for 26 years. After a lengthy and intensive search, in March 1993, the community welcomed Joshua Perlmutter as its new Ritual Director. Rabbi Gerald Wolpe reached his 25th anniversary as Senior Rabbi of Har Zion Temple during Stanley's term as president.

Stanley placed great emphasis on reducing the financial strain of membership dues, as well as school tuitions, for Har Zion members. During the second year of his term, Stanley charged the budget committee, working with professionals, to assure there was no dues increase, but at the same time no reduction in salaries or synagogue services. In fact, the Board approved a budget with no dues increase, for one of the few times in Har Zion history.

Stanley also placed a strong emphasis on programming, which resulted in a synagogue-wide fall festival in 1992. For perhaps the first time, the community began to emphasize the need for leadership development for volunteers. Stanley also charged the congregation to endow the religious school. Not all of his dreams were successful.

Stanley made significant contributions to Jewish education and communal activities. He served as president, counsel, and chair of the building committee at the Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education (now Jewish Learning Venture). He served on the board of the Solomon Schechter Day School, as well as a vice president of the Jewish Campus Activities Board, constituent agencies of Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. Stanley also served as a member of the advisory board for the Tuttleman Library at Gratz College. In the larger community, Stanley served as chair of the Special Gifts Section of the United Way.

For over 10 years beginning in 1992, one of Stanley's major activities was accompanying Lita to various political meetings, campaign stops and visits to Harrisburg, as she ran for office and served in the Pennsylvania State Legislature. In fact, Lita was elected to the General Assembly for the first time also in 1992 and entered the General Assembly in January 1993.

In addition to Lita, Stanley is survived by his children, Reuven (Leanne) Cohen and Shoshana (Seth) Rosenfield, his siblings Sylvia Marcus and the late Lorraine Glassman, and grandchildren Jason, Hallie, Frances and Frida.

Stanley was a kind, gentle, generous man. He loved a good joke and had a wonderful sense of humor. He brought joy and laughter into our Har Zion community, whether at services, meetings or just being with us.

We miss Stanley and his significant contributions to the Har Zion Temple Community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this memorial resolution be spread on the minutes of the Board of Directors of Har Zion Temple, a copy published in the Har Zion Bulletin, and copies be sent to Stanley's family.

October 2023

GIFTS TO THE CONGREGATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

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(continued to next page)

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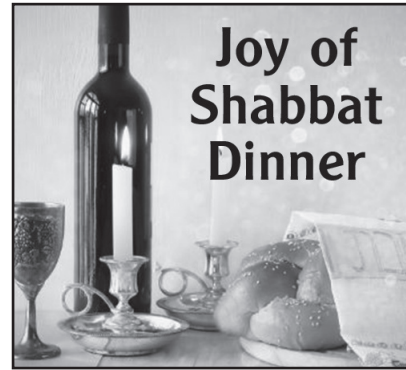
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Lynne & Bill Landsburg Lydia Gesoff/in memory of your sister Wilma Rubinstein; Barbara Kardon/speedy recovery
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