



HAR ZION  
T E M P L E

Vol. 85, No. 4 March/April 2022  
Adar I/Adar II/Nisan 5782

# The Bulletin

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

## Making Musical Memories with Hazzan Eliot Vogel



*The music continues...*

May 22 – Nashirah Jewish Chorale

June 1 – Cantor Randy Herman and the Guthrie Brothers

September 11 – Young Families Concert

... and a Weekend with the Cantor

November 4-6

November 4 – Instrumental Shabbat

November 5 – Sing with the Cantor

November 6 – Gala Concert Event

Har Zion Presents

## Baroque to Folk and a Touch of Klezmer

Sunday, May 1, 3 PM



An afternoon of music in memory of Dr. Arnold Porges

Featuring

Udi Bar-David and members of the  
Philadelphia Orchestra & ARTolerance:

Juliette Kang, Marvin Moon, Angela Zator Nelson

Proof of vaccination required

This event is free and open to the community

RSVP requested (watch your emails for more information)

Refreshments to follow

## Purim Comes with Responsibility

Message from **Rabbi Seth Haaz**



While there are four mitzvot of Purim (reading the Megillah, eating a festive meal, giving gifts to those in need, and sending food to friends), there is one custom of Purim that tends to draw the most attention from celebrants. This custom is mentioned in a line in Tractate Megillah of the Babylonian Talmud: "Rava said, 'A person is obligated to get drunk until that person does not know the difference between *cursed is Haman* and *blessed is Mordechai*.'" And, since it is the recommendation of the Talmud, many Jews boast about how much they drink in their ritual observance of Purim. However, Purim celebrants tend to neglect the lines that immediately follow:

Rava and Rabbi Zeira made a festive Purim meal together. They got drunk, and then Rava arose and slaughtered Rabbi Zeira. The next day Rava prayed for divine mercy and Rabbi Zeira returned to life. The next year, Rava said to Rabbi Zeira, "Come and let us make a festive Purim meal together!" Rabbi Zeira replied, "Not every single  
(Continued on page 4)

## From the President...

Dear Congregants,



I hope you're as excited for springtime as I am. One major plus will be an ability to get together in person more by gathering outside. While we've managed well seeing each other as Zoom boxes, there is no substitute for direct interaction. I hope to see you soon!

In the meantime, I'd like to share a two items that I'm particularly excited about. First, our nearly year-long commemoration of Cantor Vogel though musical events is ongoing. It's a wonderful way for us to honor Cantor Vogel in advance of his retirement by sharing his passion for music, both spiritual and otherwise. I can't give details on events because this bulletin is made far in advance, so please check the HZT website and emails for information on upcoming events.

Second, I want to make you aware of an important recently-formed HZT committee: the Inclusivity Committee. This committee is dedicated to nurturing our beautifully diverse community. It will  
(Continued on page 4)

**Please check your weekly emails for updates on service times, programming and adult education.**

***We hope to see you all at Har Zion soon!***

# PASSOVER . . .

## Kashrut for Pesah

Following is a summary of the decisions of the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards (CJLS) of the Rabbinical Assembly pertaining to Passover foods, dishes, and utensils. *Kosher le-Pesah* labels that do not bear the name of a rabbi or one of the recognized symbols of rabbinic supervision, or which are not integral to the package, should not be used without consulting your rabbi.

Prohibited foods include the following: leavened bread, cakes, biscuits, crackers, cereal, coffees containing cereal derivatives, wheat, barley, oats spelt, rye, and all liquids containing ingredients or flavors made from grain alcohol.

Most Ashkenazic authorities have added the following foods (*kitniyot*) to the above list: rice, corn, millet, legumes (beans and peas; however, string beans are permitted). The CJLS has ruled

unanimously that peanuts and peanut oil are permissible. Some Ashkenazic authorities permit, while others forbid, the use of legumes in a form other than their natural state, for example: corn sweeteners, corn oil, soy oil. Sephardic authorities permit the use of all of the above. Consult a member of the clergy for guidance in the use of these products.

**PERMITTED FOODS: A.** The following foods require a *kosher le-Pesah* label if purchased before or during Pesah: all baked products (matzah, cakes, matzah flour, farfel, matzah meal, and any products containing matzah); canned or bottled fruit juices (These juices are often clarified with *kitniyot* which are **not** listed among the ingredients. However, if one knows there are no such agents, the juice may be purchased prior to Pesah without a *kosher le-Pesah* label); wine; vinegar; liquor; oils; dried fruits; candy; chocolate flavored milk; ice cream; yogurt, and soda.

**B.** The following processed foods (canned, bottled or frozen) require a *kosher le-Pesah* label if purchased during Pesah: milk, butter, juices, milk products, spices, coffee, tea, and fish, as well as all foods listed in Category C.

**C.** The following foods require no *kosher le-Pesah* label if **purchased prior to Pesah**: unopened packages or containers of natural coffee without cereal additives (however, be aware that coffees produced by General Foods are not kosher for Passover unless marked KP); sugar, pure tea (not herbal tea); salt; pepper, natural spices; frozen fruit juices with no additives; frozen (uncooked) vegetables (for legumes see above); milk; butter; cottage cheese; frozen (uncooked) fruit (with no additives).

**D.** The following foods require no *kosher le-Pesah* label if purchased before or during Pesah: fresh fruits and vegetables (for legumes see above), eggs, fresh fish, and fresh meat.

**DETERGENTS:** If permitted during the year, powdered and liquid detergents do not require a *kosher le-Pesah* label.

**MEDICINE:** Since *hametz* binders are used in many pills, the following guidelines should be followed: if the medicine is required for life sustaining therapy, it may be used on Pesah. If it is not for life sustaining therapy, some authorities permit, while others prohibit. Consult the clergy. In all cases, capsules are preferable to pills.

**KASHERING OF UTENSILS:** The process of kashering utensils depends on how the utensils are used. According to *halakhah*, leaven can be purged from a utensil by the same process in which it was absorbed in the utensil. Therefore, utensils used in cooking are kashered by boiling, those used in broiling are kashered by fire and heat, and those used only for cold food are kashered by rinsing.

**A. EARTHENWARE** (china, pottery, etc.) may not be kashered. However, fine translucent chinaware which has not been used for over a year may be used if scoured and cleaned in hot water.

**B. METAL** (wholly made of metal) UTENSILS USED IN FIRE (spit, broiler) must first be thoroughly scrubbed and cleansed and then made as hot as possible. Those used for cooking or eating

## מכירת חמץ

### Sell Your *Hametz*

An integral part of the pre-Passover planning involves the selling of one's *hametz*. According to Jewish law, we are supposed to rid ourselves from all *hametz* and utensils which have been used over the course of the year during Passover. The procedure is simple. We follow the custom of selling our *hametz* and utensils to a non-Jew. In this manner, the Biblical injunction regarding *hametz* is respected.

If you are unable to come into the synagogue to sell your *hametz* in person, kindly complete the form below and return it to me in the synagogue office.

It is customary to make a donation along with selling your *hametz*.

Let me take this opportunity, while well in advance, to wish you and yours an enjoyable and happy Passover.

Dr. Ely Levine, *Ritual Coordinator*

I hereby authorize Dr. Levine to sell my *hametz*. I understand that the *hametz* will no longer be in my possession from **Friday, April 15 at 11 AM until Saturday, April 23 at 8:45 PM.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Note: If there are others for whom you wish to sell *hametz*, please provide names and addresses and their authorization.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Kashrut (continued from page 2)

(silverware, pots) must be thoroughly scrubbed and cleaned and completely immersed in boiling water. Pots should not be used for a period of at least 24 hours between the cleaning and the immersion in boiling water. Metal baking utensils cannot be kashered.

**C. OVENS AND RANGES:** Every part that comes in contact with food must be thoroughly scrubbed and cleaned. Then, oven and range should be heated as hot as possible for a half hour. If there is a broil setting, use it. Self-cleaning ovens should be put through the self-cleaning cycle according to the manufacturer's instructions. Continuous cleaning ovens must be kashered in the same manner as regular ovens.

*Microwave ovens*, which do not cook the food by means of heat, should be cleaned, and then two cups of water should be placed inside. Then turn the oven on until one cup of water has boiled away. A microwave oven that has a browning element cannot be kashered for Pesah.

**D. GLASSWARE:** Drinking glasses require only a thorough scrubbing before Pesah, or putting them through a dishwasher.

*Glass cookware:* There is a difference of opinion as to whether this item must be kashered. One opinion is that it must be kashered. After a thorough cleansing, there should be water boiled in it, which will overflow the rim. The other opinion is that only a thorough cleansing is required. *Glass bakeware*, like metal bakeware, may not be kashered.

**E. DISHWASHER:** After not using the machine for a period of 24 hours, the drain/filter should be emptied and cleaned, and a full cycle with detergent should be run.

**F. ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES:** If the parts that come into contact with hametz are removable, they can be kashered in the appropriate way (if metal, follow the rules for metal utensils). If the parts are not removable, the appliance cannot be kashered. (All exposed parts should be thoroughly cleaned.)

**G. TABLES, CLOSETS, AND COUNTERS:** If used with hametz, they should be thoroughly cleaned and covered, and then they may be used.

**H. KITCHEN SINK:** A metal sink can be kashered by thoroughly cleaning and then pouring boiling water over it. A porcelain sink should be cleaned and a sink rack used. If, however, dishes are to be soaked in a porcelain sink, a dish basin must be used.

**I. HAMETZ AND NON-PASSOVER UTENSILS:** Non-Passover dishes, pots, and hametz whose ownership has been transferred, should be separated, locked up or covered, and marked in order to prevent accidental use.

If you are not comfortable with pouring boiling water, you can use a steamer. If you have any questions about this or other topics, please reach out to Dr. Ely Levine, [elvine@harziontemple.org](mailto:elvine@harziontemple.org).

### Inglis House Seder

**Wednesday, April 20, 11 AM-1 PM**

**2600 Belmont Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131**

After two years, Inglis House will once again hold their in-person seder and they're asking for volunteers from Har Zion to host. Volunteers will sit with the residents and their families, join in the service and serve the Seder meal.

For questions and to volunteer, please call Andy Coren, 610-649-5294.

## Service Schedule for Pesah 5782

### Thursday, April 14 – 13 Nisan

*Bedikat Hametz* – Search for Hametz after nightfall

### Friday, April 15 – 14 Nisan – Erev Pesah

7:15 AM – Morning Service and *Siyum Bechorim*

(Fast of the First Born)

10:47 AM – Last time to eat Hametz

11:54 AM – *Biur Hametz* – Burning the Hametz

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

### Saturday, April 16 – 15 Nisan

#### First Day of Pesah

9:15 AM – Morning Service

1 PM – Minha – after Kiddush

5:30 PM – Virtual Congregational Second Seder

### Sunday, April 17 – 16 Nisan

#### Second Day of Pesah

9:15 AM – Morning Service

7:50 PM – Minha/Shabbat Ma'ariv

### Monday, April 18 – 17 Nisan

#### Third Day of Pesah – Hol HaMoed

7:15 AM – Morning Service

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

### Tuesday, April 19 – 18 Nisan

#### Fourth Day of Pesah – Hol HaMoed

7:15 AM – Morning Service

6:00 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

### Wednesday, April 20 – 19 Nisan

#### Fifth Day of Pesah – Hol HaMoed

7:15 AM – Morning Service

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

### Thursday, April 21 – 20 Nisan

#### Sixth Day of Pesah – Hol HaMoed

7:15 AM – Morning Service

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv for Yom Tov

### Friday, April 22 – 21 Nisan

#### Seventh Day of Pesah

9:15 AM – Morning Service

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv for Yom Tov

### Saturday, April 23 – 22 Nisan

#### Eighth Day of Pesah

#### Trustees Shabbat

9:15 AM – Morning Service – Yizkor Recited

7:45 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv; Yom Tov concludes at 8:28 PM

## **Rabbi Haaz** (continued from page 1)

time does a miracle occur.”

The resurrected Rabbi Zeira teaches that, while prayer is efficacious and God does watch over us, God generally holds us responsible for our actions. We must recognize our lives as sacred gifts from God, and we must never risk them unnecessarily. From a narrow perspective, we learn that should we not drink excessively on Purim to the point where we place ourselves or others at risk. But, there is a broader message to take from this Talmudic passage and the warning of Rabbi Zeira. The Purim narrative is about the Jewish people being saved from certain death, and, while you could argue for God’s divine hand in the background, this salvation comes about directly through the words and actions of Mordecai and Esther. Like Mordecai and Esther, Rabbi Zeira recognizes that our lives and the lives of others are in our hands. This is a huge responsibility with which God has entrusted us, and Purim reminds us that we must always make decisions that honor and protect our lives.

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## **President** (continued from page 1)

focus on many of the different individuals within our synagogue, including those who are LGBTQ+, members of multifamily families, those with disabilities, and more. One of their first initiatives will be a program related to Pride month in June (see page 10). This will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our LGBTQ+ community members. And now a request: the committee needs the help and participation of additional members representing our diverse congregation, so if you think you may be interested, please contact Solomon Friedman at [snfriedman@me.com](mailto:snfriedman@me.com).

Best wishes and a *zissen Pesach!*

– Josh Friedman

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## **Multifaith Work Ramping Up this Spring**

Message from **Allyson Zacharoff**

As spring arrives, we are excited for the warmer weather allowing us to (hopefully) have more ways to safely connect soon with our neighbors of various faiths!

Have you checked out the Har Zion website lately? You might notice two important pages are up: one under “Connect” about our entire Multifamily Engagement program, and one under “Join” to specifically make sure multifamily families know they are welcome here. Take a look! [harziontemple.org](http://harziontemple.org).

April brings a beautiful converging of several holidays, including Passover, Easter, and Ramadan, all happening at the same time! Keep an eye on your emails for an exciting program in the works...

We are eager to plan another multifamily program in the spring, perhaps a visit to one of our neighboring congregations so that their members can join for Shabbat services and we can attend their religious services, or a group meeting for our multifamily families. Interested in helping plan one of these or something else? Let me know!

*Reach out anytime to get involved, ask questions, or connect one-on-one!* – Rabbinic Intern Allyson Zacharoff ([azacharoff@harziontemple.org](mailto:azacharoff@harziontemple.org))



## **Ritual Matters**

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

As I write this, it is time for Tu B’Shevat. We celebrate the rebirth of trees and greenery and nature. Of course, in our neck of the woods, the trees are quite bare: it is still the middle of winter! But when this issue of the *Bulletin* reaches you, it will include important information about celebrating Purim and Passover. In most years, Tu B’Shevat is a good marker on our approach to Passover, but in Jewish leap-years like this one, we are still three months away. And with COVID still raging and surging, it is still hard for us to know what Passover is going to look like this year.

Nonetheless, we are planning a Purim celebration that look like Purim celebrations used to look: our service in the evening headlined by our teens chanting the Megillah. But honestly, we cannot know what the world will look like in two months, so we do not know what we are going to be able to do together. And even if we plan it and think it is safe, will any of you want to join us?

Purim is a difficult holiday anyway. For many of us, it is too loud and disorderly. For others, it is not serious enough. And for still others, Har Zion takes it too seriously. I have heard all of these complaints, and I have felt them myself too!

Purim is our chance, like Carnivale, to let loose a little bit. The book of Esther is a – frankly – ridiculous story about hidden identities, random chance, and reversals of fortune, and everything is taken to the extreme: the drinking, the sex, and the killing. We read this story as a model of relaxing our tight grip on life, on reality, for just a little while. In the same way that Shabbat is our respite from the workweek, Purim is a respite from buttoning ourselves up too tightly.

But at the same time, it is not a license to totally lose control. There are four mitzvot for Purim that keep us partying *within limits*. This certainly explains the contradictory complaints above. But it also allows everyone to find their space in the celebration. We can have a great deal of fun – some by letting go almost completely and some – perhaps, like me – by loosening my tie just a little bit.

And either way, when it comes time to celebrate Purim, we know that Passover is only a month away!

*Hag Purim Sameah! Happy Purim!*

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## **New Inclusivity Committee Welcomes Participation**

We are excited to share that we have recently formed an Inclusivity Committee dedicated to nurturing our beautifully diverse community. We envision our work focusing on many of the different individuals within our synagogue, including those who are LGBTQ+, members of multifamily families, those with disabilities, and more.

As one of our first initiatives, we hope to run a program related to Pride month in June 2022. This will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our LGBTQ+ community members.

If you are interested in learning more about any of our work or getting involved (we would love more voices in the room), please e-mail [snfriedman@me.com](mailto:snfriedman@me.com).



# ADULT JEWISH LEARNING . . .

All classes will continue on Zoom. Some may be held in-person at Har Zion. Please watch the weekly emails for more info and updates.

## **MONDAY**

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

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 began this fall reading through the Books of Samuel.

### **8:30 PM – Talmud Study with Rabbi Gary Charlestein**

Call Gary (215-290-0405) if you need to pick up the text.

## **TUESDAY**

### **10 AM – Experience the Joys of Yiddish with Gerry Spector**

**April 5, 19, May 3, 17, 31, June 14**

### **4 PM – Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh**

**April 26, May 31, June 28**

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](mailto:merylitt@vet.upenn.edu) or Janice Katz, [rhk101@hotmail.com](mailto:rhk101@hotmail.com).

## **WEDNESDAY**

### **8:15 AM – TISCH with Rabbi Shawn**

Are you looking for a little traditional text early in the morning? If so, join Rabbi Shawn, the Rambam and friends from Har Zion as each week we work our way through the Mishnah Torah, written by Rabbi Moses Maimonides in the 12th Century. You can join the group from the comforts of your own home by Zoom or in person after morning minyan. We have just begun the fascinating section on Torah, Mezuzah, and Tefillin and would love to have you come along for the friendly conversation and the traditional learning.

### **12:30 PM – Jewish Books in Christian Bibles with Dr. Ely Levine**

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.

## **THURSDAY**

### **10 AM – Commentaries on Exodus with Rabbi Ira Flax**

#### **Now in-person and on 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!

### **7 PM – Open a Book...Open Your Mind**

**Select authors will be a part of our Adult Ed sessions.**

#### **April 7 – Tracy Walder, *The Unexpected Spy***

Admission is \$18, please visit [www.harziontemple.org](http://www.harziontemple.org) to register and for more information. See page 9 for the remaining schedule.

### **7 PM – Foundations for a Thoughtful Judaism**

*While this course flows from beginning to end, each session stands alone, so we welcome you to drop in as you are able.*

#### **Practice with Rabbi Shawn**

#### **April 28; May 5 (Yom Ha'atzma'ut), 12, 19**

*Explores questions that are fundamental to Jewish practice: What is the system of mitzvot trying to accomplish? Why the need for ritual action beyond belief? How have Jewish thinkers conceived of the meaning of mitzvot in an age of radical human autonomy?*

*This series comes to us from the Shalom Hartman Institute and is an introduction to philosophical ideas*



SHALOM HARTMAN  
INSTITUTE מכון הרטמן שלום

*in Jewish peoplehood, practice, faith, and ethics based on Hartman Torah from the past four decades.*

## **SHABBAT**

### **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

We will begin with the tractate of Sukkah.

This class is in addition to his Monday evening class.

## **ScholarStream Continues!**

*The Conservative Movement seminaries and institutions are partnering to offer these virtual series that will bring you face-to-face with the brightest and most engaging scholars our movement has to offer.*

**Series #6: *The Power of the Prophets* – Tuesdays, April 5, 12 at 8 PM**

**Series #7: *Liturgy of Resilience* – Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 at 8 PM**

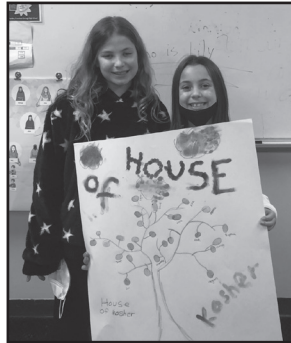
**Series #8: *Israel - Models of Resilience* – Wednesdays, May 11, 18, 25 and June 1 at 1 PM**

**Registration is required before each session** – You can register at no cost, but you need to use coupon code: **HZTPennValley21** to skip through the credit card/billing info. A day before each session, the Zoom link will be sent out to all those who registered.

**Check the weekly emails for more information and to register for these FREE sessions.**

# EDUCATION . . .

We had a wonderful day full of trips to educational and interesting places on Sunday, February 6 – Bet visited the Franklin Institute; Dalet visited the House of Kasher; Gimel visited Beth Sholom Congregation; Hay visited the Museum of the American Revolution; and Vav visited B'nai Abraham in the Philadelphia Jewish Quarter.



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## SAVE THE DATE! NCCECE Spring Fundraiser

### Casino Royale

May 19, 2022 - 7:30 - 10:30 PM

We are finally able to host our annual spring fundraiser in person at Har Zion. Join friends for a night of casino games, live music, dinner and drinks, along with some amazing silent auction items.

The silent auction will be online as well and open to all of Har Zion, not just those attending in-person.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities or to donate an item to our silent auction, contact Sara Horowitz at [sarahorowitz85@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahorowitz85@yahoo.com).

### Camp News from Diane Halpren

At Har Zion Day Camp, we believe a busy child is a happy child! Our schedules are designed to vary the camp day by switching between strenuous activities and sedentary activities. Lots of fun, lots to do, lots of happy campers! This year we are introducing Taekwondo for our four, five and six year old campers. If you haven't already signed up your child for the summer of 2022, do so now, as we are almost at full capacity.

We are still looking to hire fun, energetic and nurturing counselors for the summer. They would need to be available to work June 20-August 12. If you know of anyone, please have them reach out to me at [harziondaycamp@harziontemple.org](mailto:harziondaycamp@harziontemple.org).

HAR ZION DAY CAMP WILL BE SO MUCH FUN FOR YOU.....IN THE SUMMER OF 2022!!!!!!

### NCCECE Calendar

#### April

- 12 and 13 – Passover Sedarim in school
- 14-22 – Passover/Spring Break
- 25 – School Reopens

#### May

- 5 – Yom Ha'Atzmaut
- 6 – 'Trip to Israel' and Teacher Appreciation – Noon dismissal
- 11 – Parent-Teacher Conferences – Noon dismissal
- 27 – No School
- 30 – Memorial Day – No School

## NACHES, ETC . . .

### BIRTHS

*Welcome to the world!*

**Jacob Ari Brownstein**, son of Jillian & David Brownstein, grandson of Rosa & Dr. Bruce Brownstein, and Cherie & Alan Finkelstein (Cherry Hill, NJ), nephew of Elyssa Finkelstein, Courtney Vanaria and Charles Brownstein, Dr. Elana Weinstein & Kenneth Brownstein, cousin of Madison and Noah Brownstein. He is named in honor of Jane Finkelstein and Irvin "Nunckie" Cohen. Jacob arrived October 30.



**Crosby Heart Goldman**, daughter of Nikki & Ryan Goldman, granddaughter of Carol & Dr. Stephen Goldman and Elyse Kremins and David Bierman and Jules & Dr. Burt Schlecker, great-granddaughter of Bernice & Harold (z"l) Kremins, niece of Michael Goldman, Alex Pope & Evan Schlecker, and Carly Schlecker. Crosby's middle name Heart is in loving memory of her great-grandfather Harold, and her Hebrew name Mindle is in loving memory of her great-grandmother Merlene Sniderman Young. Crosby arrived November 22.

**Henry James (Hank) Harmelin**, son of Jenna & Nick Harmelin, grandson of Janet & Andy Harmelin and Catherine & Bob Swan Gross, nephew of Ben Harmelin, and cousin of Max and Cami. Hank arrived December 5.

**Brayden Davis Langsam**, son of Amy & Andrew Langsam, brother of Ethan and Haley, grandson of Marsha & Saul Langsam, Betsey Howard Sgrenci (z"l), and Thomas Sgrenci, nephew of Stephanie & David Langsam and cousin of Emma, Spencer and Devin. He was named in memory of grandmother, Betsey Howard Sgrenci and great-grandmother, Dora Langsam. Brayden arrived December 17.

**Samuel Alan Golden**, son of Jennifer & Harry Golden, brother of Zoe Gray, grandson of Debbie & Jim Golden and Wendy & Peter Grabler. He is named for his great-grandfathers, Samuel Goldfarb and Alan Jay Golden, both of blessed memory. Samuel arrived January 10.

### WEDDING

**Jamie Gorson and Paul Benario** were married on December 18. Jamie is the daughter of Phyllis & Murray (z"l) Gorson, sister of Michelle Gorson and Eric Gorson, granddaughter of Janice & S. Marshall (z"l) Gorson and Selma & Norman (z"l) Linefsky, and niece of Lynne Gorson Cohen and Sherrie Willner. Paul is the son of Julie & Howard Benario, and brother of Steven Benario.

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Ruth & Morton Gleit** were honored by the Greater Philadelphia ZOA with their Zionist in the Spotlight Award as part of National ZOA's 2021 Virtual Superstar Gala, on December 19.

On November 4, Temple women's lacrosse coach **Bonnie Rosen**, daughter of Leslie & Lewis Rosen, was inducted into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame as part of the 2021 class. She was joined by 14 other distinguished Philadelphia sports figures who were honored.

The *Philadelphia Business Journal* is proud to recognize **Stephen A. Cozen** as 2021's Best of the Bar Hall of Fame inductee. Share your good news: [jfetscher@harziontemple.org](mailto:jfetscher@harziontemple.org)

## TIKKUN OLAM . . .

Message from **Melissa Sayer and Norma Dworkin**, Co-chairs

### MLK Day

We are so grateful for all your MLK Day donations! A small but mighty group of volunteers were able to sort, pack, and deliver goods to each of our participating charities. The impact that we made this year, particularly for the Afghan refugees arriving in Philadelphia, was huge! Imagine for a moment being driven suddenly from your homeland with a suitcase in one hand and your child in the other. Most families arrive with nothing but one another so what we give goes directly to these families helping them to resettle. If interested, gift cards can be purchased at sites like HIAS to keep your giving going forward.

MLK Day volunteers also donated blood through the **Red Cross Blood Drive** exceeding our goal and giving 46 pints which will save the lives of 138 hospital patients! **Cook for a Friend** made meals for Klein Life and the **Shul Stitchers** were busy putting blankets and scarves together for donations. Thank you again to all who contributed to this significant day of service! We also greatly appreciate HZT's maintenance staff for their assistance!

### Upcoming events:

**Cook for a Friend** – April 10, May 15, June 12 @ 9:30 AM (9 AM prep). Contact David Brownstein ([CookForAFriendHZT@gmail.com](mailto:CookForAFriendHZT@gmail.com))

**Shul Stitchers** – Tuesdays, May 10, June 14 @ 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Contact Connie Handen ([cnhanden@gmail.com](mailto:cnhanden@gmail.com)) or Andy Coren ([andreajoy.coren@gmail.com](mailto:andreajoy.coren@gmail.com))

**Meals for Shelter** – April TBD. Contact Melissa Sayer ([msapirosayer@gmail.com](mailto:msapirosayer@gmail.com))

**Services at Bryn Mawr Terrace** – Second and fourth Fridays of the month (hope to be resumed) @ 2 PM. Contact Eileen Chopnick ([emc114@aol.com](mailto:emc114@aol.com))

If you would like to participate in these or other activities we're offering, don't hesitate to contact us – Melissa Sayer at [msapirosayer@gmail.com](mailto:msapirosayer@gmail.com) or Norma Dworkin at [nldworkin58@aol.com](mailto:nldworkin58@aol.com). Continue to stay well!

### Scholarship Submission Deadline Monday, April 25, 2022

Har Zion is pleased to be able to continue to offer a limited number of scholarship awards to help support those pursuing Jewish educational programs. Several generous donors have established endowments at Har Zion for this purpose. Scholarships will be awarded twice during the year.

Those who wish to be considered for an award should send an email to Har Zion's Executive Director, Gavi Miller, outlining the program or activity, the cost, and other pertinent information. Requests can be submitted for any member in good standing, but must be received by noon, April 25, for consideration. Final determination of awards and amounts will be decided on merit, need, and the number of requests received.

For more information, contact Gavi Miller at 610-667-5000 ext 105 or [gmillier@harziontemple.org](mailto:gmillier@harziontemple.org).

# SISTERHOOD . . .

## *Sisterhood Celebrates 96 Years of Women's League Membership*

Message from **Lynne Landsburg**, Sisterhood President

Three years ago in my message on Sisterhood Shabbat, I talked about the history of Har Zion Sisterhood and how today we continue the legacy and mission of the women who came before us. Today, I would like to talk about Women's League for Conservative Judaism which created the foundation on which our Sisterhood and all Conservative Sisterhoods continue to stand.

This year, Har Zion Sisterhood celebrates 96 years of membership with Women's League for Conservative Judaism. Women's League was founded in 1918 by Mathilda Schechter, wife of Solomon Schechter, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and 99 other women, many of them wives of prominent rabbis and scholars affiliated with the seminary.

Mathilda Schechter continued the work begun by her husband who had called for women to assume a role in the newly established United Synagogue of America, now known as the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. As the founding president, Mathilda envisioned an organization that would be the coordinating body of Conservative synagogue sisterhoods and inspired Women's League to promote as its mission the perpetuation of traditional Judaism through the home, synagogue, and community. They did this by disseminating their message through the publication of educational materials in English which helped young women through the process of acculturation and Americanization. Some of their early publications included pamphlets on Shabbat, Shavuot, Tisha B'Av, Pirket Avot, and how to celebrate Hanukkah instead of Christmas.

With the belief that education is the lifeline of sisterhood, Women's League has promoted Jewish literacy and leadership for women by creating programs and providing resources for sisterhoods relating to adult education, books, libraries, creative handicrafts, Jewish family living, and Judaica shops.

One instance of Women's League concern with enhancement of Jewish ritual and observances is through their commitment to the Sukkah at JTS. They have created a Sukkah endowment fund to underwrite increasing costs and to maintain responsibility for the Sukkah's decoration.

Women's League has been closely linked to the Conservative Movement's institutions of higher education and the welfare of their students. Their initial support was for JTS as it was the sole institution of that kind associated with the movement. In 1934, this interest was formalized by establishing an educational fund to which members contributed an annual amount to assist the seminary in its work. In 1942 this was renamed Torah Fund. It was initially suggested that each member contribute \$6.11 which is the Hebrew numerical equivalent of the word Torah. In 1957, Torah Fund pins were first introduced. They are designed annually to reflect a theme and are worn to show our dedication to the seminaries and reflect the donor's level of support. Last year and continuing this year, the theme is *B'Yahad*, together. Over the years monies raised go to support student scholarships, residence halls, libraries, and programs. Two major initiatives were the Mathilda Schechter Residence Hall which was initially built as a dormitory for women students in 1958 and later became a co-ed dormitory for seminary undergraduates in 1976. In 1995 and again in 2021, Torah Fund refurbished the JTS synagogue which is known as the Women's League Seminary Synagogue. Torah Fund's support now includes the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, CA; Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, Israel; Seminario Rabinico Latino Americano in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Zacharias Frankel College in Potsdam, Germany as well as the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

As part of its commitment to Jewish values, Women's League has long been involved in social action. It has supported human and women's rights, civil rights, social justice and care for the poor, hungry and homeless. Women's League has passed resolutions speaking out against racism, gun violence, violence against women, and human trafficking and has supported reproductive choice including abortion rights, equal rights for LGBTQ+ individuals and racial justice. One of its first initiatives was with the Jewish Braille Institute. The first Hebrew-English prayer book in braille was underwritten by Women's League in 1954. A recent example is Mathilda's Mentionables where over 5,000 bras were collected for women in shelters or victims of natural disasters at the triennial convention in 2017 and is a continuing project of many sisterhoods.

Women's League has also been an early and vocal advocate for egalitarianism in Conservative Jewish religious life. It has led the way in advocating for women to be called to the Torah for an *aliyah*, reading from the Torah, being elected to congregational boards, ordination of women Rabbis and Cantors and equality in all other aspects of Jewish life. This led to the hiring of Rabbi Ellen Walintz-Fields in 2018 as Executive Director of Women's League, the first female rabbi to head the organization.

Israel has always been a high priority for Women's League lending its support in many aspects of equality, religious pluralism, the Masorti Movement, and access for egalitarian prayer at the Western Wall.

Women's League for Conservative Judaism is an independent arm of the Conservative Movement and over the years has become  
(Continued on next page)





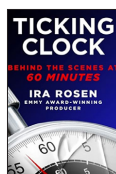
Remaining Authors for the Ninth Annual  
**Open a Book...Open Your Mind 2021-22**

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**

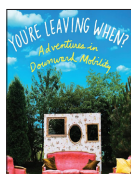
Until further notice, all programs are virtual – check your emails closer to the program date.

**For reservations, email us at [openabook@harziontemple.org](mailto:openabook@harziontemple.org) or go to [www.harziontemple.org](http://www.harziontemple.org).**



**Sunday, April 3, 7:00 PM**  
**Ira Rosen**  
*Ticking Clock*

**Monday, April 4, 11:30 AM**  
**Annabelle Gurwich**  
*You're Leaving When?*



**Tuesday, April 5, 11:30 AM**  
**Linda Kaufman**  
*Mishugas*

**Wednesday, April 6, 7:00 PM**  
**Jean Hanff Korelitz**  
*The Plot*



**Thursday, April 7, 7:00 PM**  
**Tracy Walder**  
*The Unexpected Spy*



**JEWISH  
 BOOK  
 COUNCIL**

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

**Sisterhood** (continued from page 8)

a distinct presence and voice. It is an international organization comprising the United States, Canada, and Mexico with 400 sisterhoods and synagogue affiliates as well as individual members not associated with a synagogue. It is divided into 13 regions with the Har Zion Sisterhood part of the Mid-Atlantic Region. I'm not sure you are all aware, but \$15 of your Sisterhood dues goes to Women's League which allows it to provide the programs, services and support I just spoke about.

Har Zion Sisterhood is built on the aims and ideals of Women's League begun by Mathilda Schechter and enhanced over the last 103 years. From our educational programming of classes, general meetings, Open A Book...Open your Mind to Sisterhood Shabbat, as seen most beautifully in February. From yearly decorating of the Sukkah, to our very successful Torah Fund events where we raise significant money to support the seminaries. From our commitment to the support of Israel and social action with contributions to Masorti, Women's Day of Study in Israel, the Braille Institute and other charitable institutions, Har Zion Sisterhood has succeeded for 96 years in upholding those aims and ideals. We will continue to dedicate ourselves to creating a vibrant Jewish community which nurtures our women, families, and synagogue with the values of Jewish tradition.

Thank you and *Yasher Koach* to all the women who participated in Sisterhood Shabbat. Once again it was a beautiful weekend. A special thank you and *Yasher Koach* to Andrea Robbins for chairing and coordinating the services.

**SISTERHOOD CALENDAR**

**Sisterhood Board Meeting**  
**Sunday, May 22, 10 AM**

**Sisterhood Book Club**  
**Wednesdays at 12:30 PM – April 27, June 1**

**Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh**  
**Tuesdays at 4 PM – April 26, May 31, June 28**  
 (on Zoom)

**Open a Book...Open Your Mind**  
**Tuesday, April 5, 11:30 AM**  
**Special Lunch Program with Linda Kaufman**  
 See above for remaining schedule

**Sisterhood Challah Making**  
**Tuesday, May 17, 1-3 PM at HZT**

**Sisterhood Closing Event**  
**Wednesday, June 8, 11:30 AM**

**Sisterhood Board Dinner**  
**Wednesday, June 22, 6:30 PM**

**Floral Fund Donation Cards**  
**Minimum contribution: \$10 / Four for \$30**

Questions? Please contact Janice Katz,  
 610-525-1101 or [rhk101@hotmail.com](mailto:rhk101@hotmail.com).

**See contributions page for Floral Fund donations.**

**Save the Date!**

**Men's Club Annual Golf Outing  
Monday, May 2**

To benefit the HSA Playground Project  
Many sponsorships available.

Please check your emails for up-to-date info on  
this event and more, or contact  
Jordan Landau, [jordan.landau@gmail.com](mailto:jordan.landau@gmail.com).

**Save the Date!**

**Sunday, May 15, 2 PM  
at Har Zion Temple**

Please join us for an in-person play reading  
entitled "Half a Bike" by Will B, directed by  
Susan Moses and based on the book, *It Comes  
From Within, Living with Bi-Polar Illness*  
by Gloria Hockman and Michael Solomon.

Free to HZ members!

LGBTQ+ Pride Movie Night, Q&A, & Discussion:

***Who's Gonna Love Me Now?***

Co-Sponsored by the Men's Club and Sisterhood

*In honor of LGBTQ+ Pride Month, the Inclusivity Committee of Har Zion Temple  
will be screening the Heymann Brothers' 2016 film,  
"Who's Gonna Love Me Now?"*

**Monday, June 13 at 7:00 PM**

**Levin/Bailis Room**

Join us for a screening followed by a  
pre-recorded Q&A with one of the filmmakers  
and the Inclusivity Committee, and a group  
discussion about the film and inclusivity within  
our congregation.

Popcorn will be provided!

*The film follows Saar Maoz, an Israeli man who  
finds acceptance in the London Gay Man's Choir  
after being thrown out by his family  
and kibbutz for his sexuality.  
19 years later, after learning he is  
HIV positive, Maoz reaches out  
to them in an attempt at reconciliation.*



**Admission is free, but we ask that you please  
RSVP by June 9 via the link or QR code  
<https://bit.ly/3L3N5YV>**

**If you have any questions, please email  
[inclusivity@harziontemple.org](mailto:inclusivity@harziontemple.org)**



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