

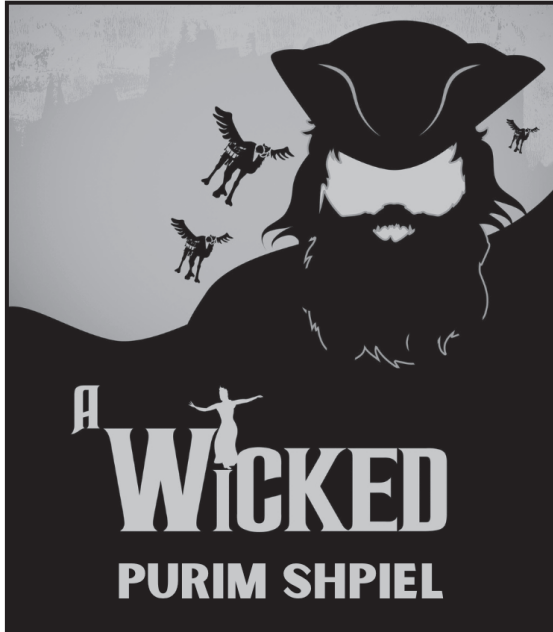


HAR ZION
T E M P L E

Vol. 88, No. 4 March/April 2025
Adar/Nisan 5785

The Bulletin

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



PURIM AT HAR ZION

*Join us for a unique Purim Celebration
featuring the Har Zion Shpielers!*

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

6 PM – Evening Minyan

6:20 PM – Megillah Reading

7:15 PM – "Wicked" Shpiel and Dinner

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

**7:15 AM – Morning Service with our friends from
Adath Israel followed by breakfast**

Musical Magic & Mischief

MARCH 30, 2025
DOORS OPEN 3:30PM



Message from Rabbi Haaz

Open Your Mind," organized through The Sisterhood of Har Zion is having an incredible centennial year, and I am proud to partner with them to welcome Professor Arnold Eisen, Chancellor Emeritus; Professor of Jewish Thought at The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, on **Sunday, April 27 at 11:30 AM**. Professor Eisen will present about his newest book, *Seeking the Hiding God: A Personal Theological Essay*.

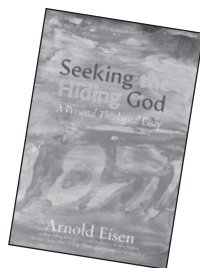
Eisen is one of the world's leading scholars on modern Jewish thought and has held faculty positions at Stanford, Tel Aviv, and Columbia. Throughout his uniquely impactful career, Eisen wrote and taught about the development of Jewish thought, with a special focus on American Jewry. "I was writing scholarship about other people's Jewish thought for something like forty years," Eisen explains, "but I always somehow avoided facing the questions of what I actually believe."

This book lays out Eisen's beliefs and his ongoing open exploration of his own faith in God, and his open exploration is fueled and enriched by his unique experiences with and insights into Judaism through secular academia, The Jewish Theological Seminary, Jewish organizations, and synagogues.

Through his various teaching positions, publications, and Chancellorship of JTS, Eisen has significantly influenced the development of American Jewry. He has also been a mentor and friend to me and to other rabbis – a great source of inspiration, courage, and wisdom when we have needed it most. For those who have heard Professor Eisen present in the past, he speaks with clarity, honesty, and an incredible depth and breadth of Jewish knowledge, perspective, and experience. Please take advantage of this opportunity to discuss faith and God with Professor Eisen; all who attend will walk away from this conversation with a greater appreciation for how we can incorporate God into and access holiness in our lives.



Sisterhood's Open a Book...Open Your Mind
invites you to a special presentation



Professor Arnold Eisen

*Chancellor Emeritus of Jewish Thought at
The Jewish Theological Seminary*

Seeking the Hiding God: A Personal Theological Essay

Sunday, April 27 at 11:30 AM

Open to the Community

RSVP to Susan Kochman, sbkochman@aol.com

Books will be available for purchase

Bridging Divides in Israel: An Israeli Rabbi's Perspective

Rabbi Arie Hasit

*Associate Dean
of the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary*



Saturday, April 5

Join us as we welcome Rabbi Arie Hasit to Har Zion Temple. A leader in uniting diverse communities in Israel, Rabbi Hasit has gained recognition from Orthodox leadership while advocating for an inclusive Jewish state.

He will deliver the sermon during morning services at 9:30 AM and lead the Milton Pomerantz Interactive Torah Study session at 1:00 PM.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear his powerful insights on Israel's future and our role in shaping it.



Rabbi Hasit's visit is
in conjunction with Mercar USA

Save the Date!

**Har Zion Community Second Seder
with Rabbi Haaz and Norman Einhorn
Sunday, April 13**

Watch your emails for more information.

Community Purim Events

Sunday, March 9

11 AM – Purim Fest at the JCC

Visit www.phillyjcc.com/purim/

Saturday, March 15

8:15 PM – KLM Community Purim Event

Clergy Beit Cafe – at Main Line Reform

Rabbi Haaz and Cantor Herman will be participating.

This event is to raise funds for Kibbutz Alumim.

Visit mainlinereformtemple.shulcloud.com/form/KLM-315-form.html

Sunday, March 16

11 AM – JCC Purim Fest at the Zoo

Visit jkidphilly.org/event/zoo-3-16-25/



The Ultimate Celebration

FEATURING
Howie Mandel

Reserve Your Seats!
MAY 18, 2025



Emotional Well-Being Series

This program is sponsored by Sisterhood, Men's Club,
the Department of Lifelong Learning, and the Inclusivity Committee
with support from Rabbi Haaz.



Tuesday, March 18, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

HELPING YOUR TEEN NAVIGATE INDEPENDENCE: UNDERSTANDING THEIR GROWTH AND CHALLENGES

Charles A. Wisniewski, DO

Child, Adolescent and Adult Psychiatry/Lecturer

Dr. Wisniewski specializes in social media use disorder, problematic internet use and sleep disorders. He has enjoyed his time at many different schools and programs in the city of Philadelphia and suburbs speaking with students/parents/teachers about a number of different mental health topics including sleep, social media/internet addiction, mood disorders and more.

Christina Comenos, LCSW

Director of Counseling Services, JFCS

Christina Comenos works with JFCS' youth programs work with young people struggling with self-harm and suicidal ideation and can offer free pediatric care for those at or below 250% of the federal poverty guidelines.

This program is free and open to the community.

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.

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 should rid ourselves – for the duration of Passover – of all *hametz* food and utensils which have been used over the course of the year. We follow the custom of selling our *hametz* and utensils to a non-Jew. In this manner, the Biblical injunction regarding *hametz* is respected.

The procedure is simple. Kindly complete the form below and return it to me in the synagogue office or reach out to me by phone or email.

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 11 at 11 AM until Sunday, April 20 at 8:30 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 4)

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 (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, elevine@harziontemple.org.

Service Schedule for Pesah 5785

Thursday, April 10 – 12 Nisan – Fast of the First Born

7:15 AM – Morning Service

8:15 AM – Siyum Bechorim

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

After Dark – Bedikat Hametz – Search for Hametz after nightfall

Friday, April 11 – 13 Nisan

7:15 AM – Morning Service

11:56 AM – Last chance to sell and burn Hametz

6 PM – Minha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Ma'ariv

Saturday, April 12 – 14 Nisan – Erev Pesah Shabbat Hagadol

9:30 AM – Morning Service

12:45 PM – Minha

Sunday, April 13 – 15 Nisan – First Day of Pesah

9:15 AM – Morning Service

12:45 PM – Minha

5:30 PM – Congregational Second Seder

Monday, April 14 – 16 Nisan – Second Day of Pesah

9:15 AM – Morning Service

8 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

Tuesday, April 15 – 17 Nisan – Third Day of Pesah – Hol HaMoed

7:15 AM – Morning Service

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

Wednesday, April 16 – 18 Nisan – Fourth Day of Pesah – Hol HaMoed

7:15 AM – Morning Service

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

Thursday, April 17 – 19 Nisan – Fifth Day of Pesah – Hol HaMoed

7:15 AM – Morning Service

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv

Friday, April 18 – 20 Nisan – Sixth Day of Pesah – Hol HaMoed

7:15 AM – Morning Service

5 PM – Passover BBQ

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv for Shabbat and Yom Tov

Saturday, April 19 – 21 Nisan – Seventh Day of Pesah – Trustees Shabbat

9:15 AM – Morning Service

6 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv for Yom Tov

Sunday, April 20 – 22 Nisan – Eighth Day of Pesah

9:15 AM – Morning Service – Yizkor Recited

8 PM – Minha/Ma'ariv; 8:30 PM Havdalah

Thank You for Keeping Har Zion Strong – Connected – Together

A hearty thank you is extended to every member of our Har Zion community who supported the Annual Campaign this year. We raised \$650,000 in support of three primary initiatives including the Centennial Celebrations, a new marketing director and program, and necessary facility improvements including enhanced security, systems upgrades, and fixing the partitions in the back of the sanctuary. What is remarkable is that the community stepped up and donated the most amount of money, over twice the amount of contributions, than any other year in our history (aside from 2020 in the midst of the COVID pandemic). This is a testament to the commitment of the tremendous generosity and dedication of our membership and the very positive feelings that everyone has toward Har Zion Temple. Kol HaKavod to all!

Our annual appeal begins in the summer and continues over the course of the year. We'd like to thank the following people who have already paid or pledged for this year:

Ner Tamid

Gorson Family

Tekiah Gedolah

Judy & Harvey Zalesne and Family

Torah

Rabbi Gary & Laya Charlestein	Jon & Joanne Harmelin
Jill & Mark Fishman	Margie & Jeffrey Honickman
Andee & Alan Greenbaum	Tracey & Shanin Specter
Michael Spolan and Nancy Gottlieb in memory of Bernard Meyers z"l	

Book of Life

Sheila & Michael Abiri	Sandi & Max Paul
Sharon & Joseph Kestenbaum	Etta & Ivan Szeftel
Sylvia Kreithen	Anonymous

Pomegranate

Jeannie & Mark Cohen	Manny Landau
Lynn Shesser & Gary Falk	Lynne & Bill Landsburg
Meredith & Josh Friedman	Michele & Robert Levin
Fredy & Lew Grafman	Meryl Raskin
Arlin & Paula	Maxine & Elliot Rosen
Yudenfriend Green	Pam & Chuck Vinocur
Jane & Irv Herling	Suzanne Waldman

Shanah Tovah

Lisa & Arthur Berkowitz	Joy Wilf Keiser & Bennett Keiser
Arlene & Steven Bronstein	Julie & Bob Levine
Eileen & Stephen Chopnick	Halie & Justin Rosenberg
Phyllis Flink	Doug Sayer
Shelby Ford	Melissa Sayer
Tina Isen Fox & Richard Fox	Jared S. Videll & Sherry L. Horowitz
Kathy Landau Goodman & Larry Goodman	Rachel Wachs & Family
Lynne & Harold Honickman	Margie Perilstein Wargon
Rachelle & Ron Kaiserman	Jane Zolot and Family

Apples & Honey

Marilyn Becker	Meryl & Gary Littman
Hollis & Steve Berney	Arlene & Albert Perlstein
Morri Safran & Rob Brodo	Michele & Michael Perlstein
Sandy & Steve (z"l) Cozen	Drs. Rachel & Moshe Porat
Molly & Dan Feith	Eileen K. Porges
Fuchs Family	Cindy & Russ Reisner
Nanci Goldman & Steve Bergstein	Lori & Peter Rosenberg
Juliet Greenfield	Robin & Alan Seeherman
Jean & Jay Herz	Susan Shapiro & Brian Rubin
Sheri & Howard Herzberg	Judy Shrager
Dorene & Stephen Karasick	Paul Siegel
Barbara H. Kardon	Aimee & Bill Silverman
Ellen Milgrim & Andrew Keiser	David S. Smith
Sherman Leis	Kathy & Richard Soloff
Ely & Sara Beth Levine	Sherrie Willner
	Anonymous

*If you haven't made a pledge yet and would like to participate, please call Gavi Miller, 610-667-5000, ext 105.
We apologize for any errors or omissions.*

Community-wide Yom Hashoah Program Wednesday, April 23, 7 PM

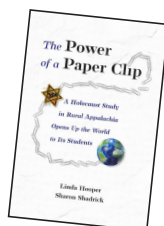
Beyond the Railcar



Featuring
Linda Hooper
Founder of the
Paper Clips Project
and
Author of
*The Power of a Paper Clip**

Honoring
Dr. David Tabby
and his permanent loan of
*The Dr. Gilbert Tabby Artifacts Collection of
European Life under Nazi Rule*
to the Children's Holocaust Memorial

We also welcome **Alison Lebovitz**,
television host, motivational speaker and
founder of One Clip at a Time



*Linda will be signing her book.
Watch your emails for the opportunity to
order the book in advance, so that we can
have it here for you that evening.

Watch your emails for information to RSVP.

MLK Day of Service 2025: Successful Day of Cooking, Stitching and Collecting for Others

Message from **Andy Deitch**

On January 20, our Martin Luther King Day of Service was a success for the charities we were collecting for and the ongoing service programs here at Har Zion.

Our charity drive collected, sorted, packed for pickup – and in many cases delivered – over 125 large bags and boxes of clothing, shoes, household goods, toys, books and food for 10 charities. A special thanks to Norma Dworkin and Mona Kolsky who patiently got me up to speed and worked with me to coordinate these efforts.



Cook for a Friend's 15 volunteers, led by David Brownstein, prepared 140 meals for KleinLife JCC.

Approximately 25 Shul Stitchers, led by Andy Coren and Connie Handen, diligently knitted, crocheted and sewed hats, scarves and blankets that are likely destined for

Life Center shelter or Laurel House (and Temple Hospital NICU if there are baby blankets) when completed. Lessons were offered for those learning how to knit or those brushing-up on knitting skills they had learned in the past, and tutorial was given to folks wanting to learn how to sew squares together to make a blanket.

The American Red Cross Blood Drive, chaired by Marilyn Becker, was the recipient of 48 pints of blood that will go on to help those in need.

Unfortunately for cat lovers, the winter weather forced Cat Collaborative to cancel!

Thanks to all the fantastic volunteers, generous donors and dedicated support staff who made it another successful and fun MLK Day of Service!

Ideas for next year's MLK Day? Interested in chairing it? Contact Andy Deitch andydeitch57@gmail.com.



HZTV IS BACK!
More episodes coming soon!
Watch your emails!

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 reading now about Solomon and his reign in the book of Kings.

2:15 PM – Movements in American Judaism with Dr. Michael Schatz

Series continues on March 10, 17, 24

In-person and Zoom

Over the course of eight sessions we will explore the history of how American Judaism and its various denominations came to be. We will see how these evolved among the landscape of American Jewish history and American culture in general, and we will look at the current state of each Reform, Conservative, Orthodox and Reconstructionist Judaism as well as various expressions of post-denomination Judaism in America.

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

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.

10:30-11:30 AM – Current Events: Contemporary Israel and Jews in the News with Norman Einhorn

Remaining dates are: March 5, 19, April 2, 30, May 14

In-person only – at the home of Patty Grobman

Email Patty to RSVP and join the email list for this class:

pgrobman@comcast.net.

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 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.

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

Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh – 4 PM

In-person and Zoom – check your emails for updates

Tuesdays, March 25; April 29 – hosted by Debby Wolff and Barbara Block will lead the discussion.

Warm, interactive, and challenging discussions related to the holidays and themes of each month are led by group members. For more information, please contact Debbie Golden, goldendagg@gmail.com or Janice Katz, rhk101@hotmail.com.

Israel Education Class

Early Zionism to October 7: An In-Depth Exploration of the Arab-Israeli Conflict

with Danny Stein, Israel Studies Educator at Alexander Muss High School in Israel

Most Sundays thru May 18, 2025 | 10:30 AM | Zoom only | \$150 (no one will be turned away due to cost)

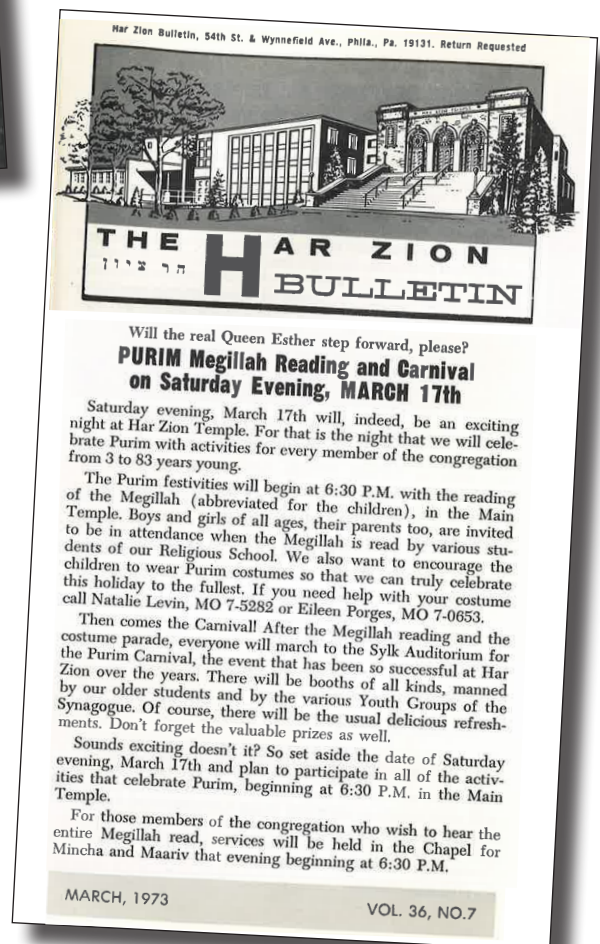
Register at: tinyurl.com/IsraelEd24-25

Sponsored by Har Zion Temple, Congregation Beth Or, Adath Israel, Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El, Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, Perelman Jewish Day School and Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

8 ■ March/April 2025

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

Religious School children enjoying their Purim Carnival – 1980



Har Zion Temple bulletin

Vol. 41, No. 6 SHEVAT-ADAR I February, 1978

SPRING '78 ISRAEL TOURS

March 13-23 \$1036 per person 10 Days

Ultra Deluxe including King David Hotel, El Al Airlines, round-trip transportation Philadelphia-N. Y., Israeli breakfast daily, 2 dinners, portorage, entrance fees, transfers, hotel tipping & taxes, Megillah reading for Purim, 6½ days in depth survey tour. Special rates for children. Confirmed departure.

LOWER MERION TOWNSHIP. SCHOOL VACATION MARCH 18-27.

GREAT TIME TO TAKE THE CHILDREN.



EDUCATION . . .

Message from

Dr. Michael Schatz, Principal JFGRS

This *Bulletin* we are pleased to profile another pair of Religious School teacher and *madricha*.

"Morah Dvora" Debbie Greenberg started teaching at Har Zion in 1988, and has been teaching our youngest learners, up to second grade (Bet) until now! Debbie grew up in the Main Line area and graduated from the former Akiba Hebrew Academy (now Barrack). She graduated from Widener University with a teaching degree, but had been teaching in other Hebrew schools during college. Har Zion was able to offer her full-time hours between nursery school and religious school when it ran in two shifts, five days a week! When her children were little, she left the preschool to take care of them, but kept teaching Hebrew school. Sara Cohen, our Education Director Emerita, helped Debbie by supporting her pursuit of a Master of Arts in Jewish Education at Gratz College.

After her children were all in school, Debbie went back to teaching nursery school at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El, but all through has remained part of the JFGRS faculty. Some of Debbie's fondest memories are seeing her little students all grown up, some of them even returning as parents of students! She recalled that in her early years at Har Zion, she taught the children of past presidents Steve Chopnick and Jeff Blum, and those children came to her wedding as special "young guests!" She has only taught children as old as second grade, because she "loves to see their skills in Hebrew reading develop. They are excited about it and I can see my impact. The little ones really enjoy being in religious school. They have fun and say that they love coming."

Outside of her work, Debbie loves to read, garden, and work out. She has two cats, three grown sons and one new daughter-in-law. All the boys worked at Har Zion at some point, two in the day camp, and one in the religious school as a *madrach* and later *madregot* specialist.

Amelia Biran works as a *madricha* in Kitah Bet, in Morah Dvora's
(continued on page 11)



Message from Sandi Toben,

Director of Early Childhood Education

As the Noreen Cook Center for Early Childhood Education excitedly opens enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year, I am deeply grateful for the many wonderful classrooms, events, and programs we have had success with this year. I am especially proud of the Lundy Inclusion Initiative that is currently in its sophomore year.

The Initiative created the Director of Student Services position which is held by Missie Pludo. Missie's role is multifaceted as she works with private and county therapists, teachers, parents, and students. We are committed to continuing to evolve and shape our program with the help of the Lundy Fund to best meet the needs of our students. Missie has joined the Matan Institute to further her education and I am excited for her to bring back new ideas, understanding, and insights that will benefit our school. Below, Missie shares about her experience.

Here at the NCCECE every single child is treated as an individual and our teachers work very hard every single day to ensure that each one gets exactly what they need to be the best little person they can be. We are fortunate to have the Lundy Inclusion Initiative to help meet every child where they are and keep everyone safe in an environment that supports equity for all.

In the middle of January, I had the opportunity to attend the Matan Institute in New York. Matan is dedicated to disability inclusion in the Jewish community. The Matan Institute hosted a conference focused on advancing inclusive teaching practices within the Jewish world. The event gathered educators, advocates, and community leaders to discuss strategies for creating environments that support the needs of all learners.

I will be part of a year-long mentor program to learn and improve the practices in the NCCECE to support every type of learner. The goal is to make sure that inclusion happens by design and not by afterthought. The Lundy Inclusion Program, which

(continued on page 11)



Upcoming JFGRS Events

March

- 9 Purim Activities for Gan-Hay
- 23 Better Together for Hay and Vav

April

- 6 Pesach Program for Gan-Hay
No Model Seder this year
- 13-20 JFGRS Closed for Spring/Pesach Break
- 27 Better Together for Hay and Vav

Upcoming NCCECE/HSA Events

March

- 2 Sunday Fun Day – Special 100th Day Celebration
- 14 In-School Purim Celebration – Costume Parade at 9:15 AM
Back to Regular 3:05 PM Dismissal
- 28 Shabbat Sha-Blue Jeans featuring Shalom Chai

April

- 11 In-School Passover Celebration – 12 PM Dismissal
Families Invited
- 14-18 Passover Break
- 21 School Reopens

Dr. Schatz (continued from page 10)

classroom. She is a ninth grader at Harriton High School, and a product of Har Zion, including the NCCECE, day camp, religious school, and became a Bat Mitzvah. She is the third out of her family of four siblings to be a madrich or madricha at JFGRS, and is excited to follow the path forged by Arielle and Jordan, and we hope Jonathan, a sixth grader, will follow her in a few years. Amelia's parents are Israeli-born, and she still has two grandparents in Israel, where she has visited at least ten times. In the summer, Amelia has gone to Camp Weequahic, and has traveled and spent time at the beach. She is active in the Tzofim, the Israeli Scouts that have a local troop. Scouting is very common in Israel and a huge part of many teens' social life. Her group is made up of Israeli-Americans, and they meet every Sunday. They enjoy games, Israeli culture, and Amelia has attended a seminar to be a counselor in Texas. In her troop, she is the oldest Hanicha, or camper. After 9th grade you can be a madricha, which is a peer leader or counselor. Amelia shared that, "Mostly they try to get us to speak in Hebrew."

Amelia's favorite memory of religious school is music class with Alex, and singing in the children's choir. At Harriton, her favorite subject is math, and she is involved in soccer and the debate team. She has been involved in theater as well, as part of Wolf Pack. As a madricha in religious school, Amelia has learned about how to handle situations with the children, especially the talkative ones, and has learned about various behavior issues. She also recalls that she has helped to teach some Hebrew, including that the letter "Hay" is silent at the end of a word!

I hope you have enjoyed getting to know some of our JFGRS staff who are so devoted to our Har Zion children and to Jewish learning!

Sandi Toben (continued from page 10)

we are so grateful to have, makes our goals more attainable and gives our students the advantage that they deserve to achieve great things.

The key topics during my time spent working at the Matan Institute were:

Sensory Processing Disorders - the importance of understanding SPD and how it affects individuals in educational and communal settings as well as practical strategies for recognizing and accommodating sensory needs to ensure all participants feel safe and comfortable.

Creating Welcoming Spaces – discussions emphasized the need for intentional design and programming to foster inclusivity and tools and techniques for adapting spaces to meet diverse sensory, emotional, and physical needs.

The conference provided actionable insights and resources to empower educators to create environments that respect and honor the diversity of their learners. Participants left inspired to implement the strategies discussed and to foster inclusive, welcoming spaces for all members of the community.

I am excited to bring all that I learn back to our NCCECE community.

MEN'S CLUB . . .

A black and white poster for a poker night event. The title "POKER NIGHT" is at the top in large, bold letters, with a spade symbol for the 'O'. Below it, "HAR ZION MEN'S CLUB POKER TOURNAMENT" is written in a smaller, bold font. The text "Join the club and you'll be able to win all the games in one night!" is followed by "SUNDAY APRIL 6, 2025". Registration details include "Registration 4:15pm" and "Tournament starts at 5:00pm". The location is "Har Zion Temple, 1500 Hagys Ford Road, Narberth PA 19072". It mentions a "Pre-registration chip bonus if signed up by March 24, 2025", "Snacks and food provided | BYOB kosher event", and pricing: "\$60 buy in | \$20 rebuys". A "REGISTER NOW!" button with the URL "http://harziontemple.org/poker-night/" is present. A small Har Zion Temple logo is in the bottom left, and a note at the bottom states "50/50 raffle proceeds benefit project H.O.M.E. and the HZ Men's Club". The background features various poker chips and cards.

POKER NIGHT

HAR ZION MEN'S CLUB POKER TOURNAMENT

Join the club and you'll be able to win all the games in one night!

SUNDAY APRIL 6, 2025

Registration 4:15pm
Tournament starts at 5:00pm

Har Zion Temple
1500 Hagys Ford Road, Narberth PA 19072

Pre-registration chip bonus if signed up by March 24, 2025
Snacks and food provided | BYOB kosher event

\$60 buy in | \$20 rebuys

REGISTER NOW!
<http://harziontemple.org/poker-night/>

50/50 raffle proceeds benefit project H.O.M.E. and the HZ Men's Club

**Har Zion Men's Club
and their families
partnered with
Rev. Brian Jenkins and
Chosen 300 Ministries
to serve dinner to the
homeless on
Christmas Day.**



SISTERHOOD . . .

Happy 100th Birthday, HZT Sisterhood!

Message from **Meryl Littman**,
Sisterhood President

Yasher Koach to more than 60 Sisterhood women who participated in our Sisterhood Shabbat weekend in January! Special kudos and *Todah Rabbah* to Andrea Robbins, who chaired this special weekend, as she has done for 35+ years!

If you missed that Shabbat morning, the recording is at <https://vimeo.com/1046195990/bddce77ed5>. My sermon starts at 2:13. First, I reviewed concerns our Sisterhood founders might have had in 1924. Next, in our parsha, as Jacob bid farewell, blessing his sons, I thought "What about Dinah?" What blessing can we give Jacob's daughter? Dinah "went out to visit the daughters of the land" (see Genesis 34). I think she was looking for a Sisterhood like we have at Har Zion!

Our Sisterhood, with 340 members, is busy! Big events included Opening Dinner (THANK YOU Kathy Soloff/Rachel Steerman), Torah Fund Brunch honoring Joy Landau (TY Sheila Kliger/Susan Kochman), Sisterhood Shabbat weekend honoring Jane Fetscher Kontopodias (TY Andrea Robbins), and upcoming Closing Dinner (TY Ellen Pries/Robin Zatuchni). Amazing meals and programs (TY Aimee Silverman/Suzanne Waldman) included Sukkah decorating (TY JoAnne Deglin), Sukkot program (TY Rabbi Flax), Moroccan dinner (TY Devorah Selber), Hanukkah party/Israeli dancing (TY Leah Schatz), Game Days, and upcoming Frank Lloyd Wright's Beth Shalom Synagogue tour.

Then there's College Outreach and Mishloah Manot programs (TY Robin Zatuchni), monthly Rosh Chodesh sessions (TY Debbie Golden/Janice Katz), Shul Stitchers (TY Connie Handen/Andrea Coren), Open-A-Book (TY Sheila Kliger/Susan Kochman), Kiddush preparing (TY Joy Landau/Maxine Rosen/Suzanne Waldman/Robin Seeherman/Reisel Weinberger/more), Gift Shop (Marilyn Becker/Helene Nelson/Maxine Schwartz/Dorene Karasick), weekly Yoga (TY Cantor Lizzie Shammash), monthly Book Club (TY Barbara Kardon), Chaplaincy at Bryn Mawr Terrace, Saunders, and Inglis House (TY Sherrie Willner/Andy Coren/Maxine Waxman/Eileen Chopnick/more); Babkas & Challahs (TY Sheila Schafer/Reisel Weinberger), New Year's Greetings (TY Sheila Kliger), scrip fundraising (TY Susan Kochman); social/floral fund/life secretaries (TY Janice Katz/Judy Weinberger Solomon), guidebook (TY Jean Clemons), recording secretaries (TY Jean Clemons/Marian Levine), and budget/treasury helpers (TY Judy Workman/Debbie Golden/Michelle Strayer).

Sisterhood funds support Rabbi's discretionary fund, Shabbat/holiday kiddushes, bimah flowers, shul-wide events (HZT 100th Birthday events, Hanukkah Happening, Emotional Well-Being series (TY Andy Coren/Susan Shapiro), Israel Outreach (TY Rabbis Shawn and Moriah), bridal room renovations, and a smattering of other donations and gifts. All this goes smoothly thanks to behind-the-scenes past presidents (TY Lynne Landsburg/Michele Perlstein) and HZT staff's loving support (TY Gavi Miller/Emily Berton/and especially our honoree Jane Fetscher Kontopodias)!



Sisterhood Calendar

Mishloah Manot Packing
Sunday, March 2, 9 AM

Sisterhood Beth Shalom Behind-the-Scenes Tour
Wednesday, March 5, 10 AM
Watch your emails for more info

Mishloah Manot Distribution
Sunday, March 9, 9 AM

Open a Book...Open Your Mind
March 3 – Libby Fischer Hellmann
March 24 – Janet Singer Applefield
at HZT on Zoom

March 31 – Lynda Cohen Loigman
Sisterhood Luncheon

Free for Sisterhood members \$18 for non-members
(See page 13 for schedule)

Sisterhood Book Club
Wednesdays, March 12 and April 9, 12:30 PM (offsite)
For info, contact Barbara Kardon, barbkardon@comcast.net

Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh
Tuesdays, March 25 and April 29, 4 PM

Sisterhood Program
Monday, April 21, 2:30 PM

Sisterhood Yoga/Meditation
Most Mondays, 11 AM

We tell our daughters, wherever you live, join a synagogue and you'll feel at home. Join their Sisterhood or if they don't have one, start one! To our members, come join us! We will strengthen your wishbone, your backbone, and your funny bone! If there's a program you'd like that we don't have, tell us your ideas – we're user-friendly! We will work with you and try to put your ideas into action!

Sweet Dinah, may you find community – a Sisterhood to support you mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually, like we have at Har Zion! May you be brave and strong like your great grandmother Sarah, resilient after being a hostage herself, able to laugh with her husband Abraham in old age, and able to fiercely protect her loved ones from bullies and bad influences. May you be like your Bubby Rebecka, smart and independent, your opinion well-reasoned and respected, able to recognize a good leader when you see one. May you be adored, as your Aunt Rachel was. May you be like your mom, Leah, fertile if you want to be, with vulnerability, sensitivity, and understanding in her eyes. And for all of us: May we be happy. May we be healthy. May we be safe. May we live with ease. See you in shul!

Sisterhood Torah Fund Contributions

December 8, 2024

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We apologize for any errors or omissions.

The Twelfth Annual

Open a Book...Open Your Mind for 2024-25

Proudly presented by the Sisterhood of Har Zion Temple and
the Department of Lifelong Learning

Admission is \$18 per author

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



**Monday, March 3
7:00 PM
Max's War
Libby Fischer Hellmann**

**Monday, March 24
7:00 PM
at HZT on Zoom
Becoming Janet
Janet Singer Applefield**

**Monday, March 31
11:30 AM
Sisterhood Luncheon
The Love Elixir of
Augusta Stern
Lynda Cohen Loigman
Free for Sisterhood members
\$18 for non-members**

**For reservations, go to harziontemple.ticketleap.com
or email us at openabook@harziontemple.org.**

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



Floral Fund Donation Cards

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

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

See below for Floral Fund donations.

SISTERHOOD FLORAL FUND

Janice Katz	In honor of Jane Kontopodias and all your help at Har Zion
Sheila & Barry Kliger	Robln & Alan Seeherman/In honor of the birth of grandson, Zev Myer
Ellen & Michael Pries	In honor of Jane Kontopodias – a dear friend who keeps Har Zion all together
Sisterhood of Har Zion	Janice Gorson/In honor of her 100th birthday
Reisel & Ellis Weinberger	Eileen Daley and family/In memory of Barney, beloved husband, father and grandfather, may his memory be a blessing

March/April 2025 ■ 13

TIKKUN OLAM . . .



We Love Our Stitchers!

On a bitterly cold, snowy day in January, our Stitchers gathered together to celebrate our many accomplishments and to honor Dr Martin Luther King's legacy.

Over the past year, we stitched, designed, and wrapped over 300 blankets, hats and scarves that were delivered to local charities.

We are eternally grateful for the time and expertise of our Stitchers as well the many yarn donations we receive. Our goal is to try to make the world a better place through one small kindness at a time. Please join our wonderful group – no experience in knitting or crocheting is necessary, and we'll teach you if you're interested. Contact Andy Coren at andreajoy.coren@gmail.com or Connie Handen at cnhanden@gmail.com.



Cook for a Friend

Watch your emails for the upcoming schedule.

For more info, contact us at
cookforafriendhzt@gmail.com

NACHES, ETC . . .

BIRTHS

Welcome to the world to

Remy Oz Packman, son of Elle and Ian Packman, grandson of Nanci Goldman & Steve Bergstein and Barry Packman, Renee & Ken Carlson, great-grandson of Elias & Jane Packman (z"l) and Biena & Raphael Goldman (z"l), nephew of Betti Packman and Phil Zakahi, cousin of Jacqueline Ray (Jax) and Allyn Bernadette (Alfie) Zakahi-Packman, and great nephew of Faye Goldman and Leonard Kolins. Remy Oz is named for his paternal great grandfather, Raphael Goldman, and his maternal great grandfather, Roy Carlson. Remy Oz was born on December 28, 2024.



Zev Myer Seeherman, son of Jessie Seeherman & Sean Parker, grandson of Alan & Robin Seeherman and Julie Parker, nephew of Erin Seeherman (Moshe Berman) and Kim Parker (Tim Goetjen). Zev arrived January 8, 2025.

Evan Daniel Kitchen, son of Debra & Samuel Kitchen; brother to Wallis Harper; grandson of Vicki & Rabbi Ira Flax and Andrea & Samuel (z"l) Kitchen; niece of Adena & Rabbi Ben Flax and Andrew Kitchen; cousin to Simona Elka Flax. Evan Daniel is named for Ira's mother Enid and Vicki's maternal uncle Danny. Evan arrived on January 30, 2025.

Brooks Emmett Selarnick, son of Sydney & Michael Selarnick, brother of Jackson Selarnick, grandson of Laurie & Ben Gocial and Nancy & Stuart Selarnick; great grandson of Wilma & Marvin Mandell (z"l) and Bella & Solomon Gocial (z"l), and Esther Gilman & John Selarnick (z"l) and Anita Matusow (z"l) and Donald & Janine Hoffman (z"l); nephew of Ian Gocial, John & Paige Selarnick, Alex & Dana Selarnick, Haley & Jacob Fuerst, and Sam Selarnick; cousin of Mason, Blake, Cole and Olivia; and great nephew of Meredith & Jonathan Hoffman. Brooks arrived on February 3, 2025

ENGAGEMENTS

Mazel tov!

Max Samuel Novick is engaged to Shoshi Ruth Benjamin of West Hartford, Connecticut. Max is the son of Judy & Jerry Novick, brother of Sophie Novick, and grandson of Eleanor & Morrie Novick (z"l), Ruth Distefano, and Leon S. Idas (z"l). Shoshi is the daughter of Karen & Jerry Benjamin, sister of Isaac Benjamin & Natalie Stein, and Noam Benjamin. A July 3, 2025 wedding is planned in Philadelphia.

Jack Silver, grandson of Sheila & Barry Kliger, son of Nicole & Brad Silver is engaged to Lucy Pearce, daughter of Jackie & Ed Pearce. An April 18, 2026 wedding is planned.

WEDDING

Mauri Honickman married Billy Grenis on December 30. Mauri is the daughter of Margie & Jeffrey Honickman, sister of Sara & Spencer Drotman, aunt of Theo & Noah Drotman, granddaughter of Harold & Lynne Honickman and Shelly & Stanley Kramer (z"l). Billy is the son of Linda & Michael Grenis, brother of Ricky & Bonnie Grenis, Caroline Grenis, uncle of Simon & Ronen, grandson of Florence (z"l) & Bert Grenis and Renee & Stuart Gothelf (z"l).

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



Voting opens March 10 and ends May 4

All Jewish adults 18+ (by June 30, 2025) who live permanently in the U.S. and didn't vote in the last Knesset election are eligible to vote.

Sign up to receive a reminder to vote for MERCAZ USA in the WZC elections:

COMMUNITY CODE 414



– A Night of Celebration –

Friday evening, March 21 at 7:00 PM following 6:00 PM services at Har Zion

The Charlestein Family invites you to join in a scrumptious, catered Shabbat dinner in memory of Malvina & Morton Charlestein on the occasion of Mort's 14th Yahrzeit.

Let us make this an evening for Har Zion's sacred and fun-loving community to come out, be together, celebrate Shabbat, sing and rejoice in that warm, caring Har Zion feeling.

RSVP by Wednesday, March 12

to Patty Kita at 610-239-6004 or patriciaszar@icloud.com

\$10 per adult; \$25 a family – Israeli wine included

Make checks payable to Gary Charlestein and please indicate # of adults and ages of children.

Please mail check to:

Gary Charlestein, P.O. Box 270, Fairview Village, PA 19409



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GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

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Janice Gorson

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Janice Gorson
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IN MEMORY OF

Gilda Ellis

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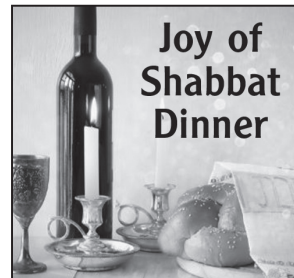
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