



HAR ZION
T E M P L E

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The Bulletin

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

**Please enjoy this online, social distancing version of the *Har Zion Bulletin*.
*We hope to see you all soon!***

**Check your daily emails for Service Times, Havdalah Live with Rabbi Haaz,
Lifelong Learning Classes and Programming.**

**And don't forget to join us for
"The Lighter Side" – Sunday-Thursday at 8 PM; Pro-neg – 4-5 PM on Fridays;
and "Brunch on Broadway" – Sundays at 12 PM**

Make a Difference, Har Zion

Message from **Rabbi Seth Haaz**

As COVID-19 and the subsequent quarantine continue with no sign of relenting, many of us have begun to anticipate and feel the effects of this long-term disruption. It is easy to lose ourselves to fear, anxiety, and uncertainty, but it is important to remember that we can find ourselves again by returning to our core values. This is equally true for individuals and for organizations. Like most other synagogues and non-profit organizations, Har Zion confronts daunting challenges: the disruption of preschool, religious school, and summer camp, limitations to prayer and study, unprecedented challenges to our financial well-being, and an inability to gather as a community, which is what, fundamentally, we were built to do. The staff and lay leadership of Har Zion are working hard to meet each of these challenges and to preserve the future of our community. However, we must not forget that what we do in the present is just as important.

Har Zion was founded to make a difference in peoples' lives – to build relationships, to celebrate, to mourn, to help those in need, to strengthen our Jewish community and the greater Philadelphia area. Har Zion congregants have done this for 100 years, and not only within the walls of our synagogue. Consider the legacy that our congregants have built and continue to build through their contributions of resources, talents, and time: Perelman Jewish Day School, the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, Camp Ramah in the Poconos, the
(Continued on page 5)



Reflections

Message from **Lee S. Kirschner**, President

When I think back to 'simpler' times, before the Pandemic of 2020, I reflect on everything that once was. Birds chirping, trees blossoming, flowers blooming, entering into a store and shaking someone's hand, to name a few. When did that time before now pass away? When you think of the time just before now, what do you picture? Do you remember what you did or how you felt?

My guess is that one would say it was just an ordinary day. What I would give now for that 'ordinary' day. I think about all of the things that I can't wait to do when this is all over.

However, the first thing I would do is hug my children. Our family, like most, are a very close knit group. We talk all the time, see each other all the time and spend a lot of time together. To not get close enough to share a hug with them is painful. Reality says that this is temporary, but for me, temporary is taking too long!

Hope and I take daily walks, noticing the change in season and happy to see friendly faces on our way. These are simple pleasures but no longer being taken for granted. Gone are the days of going to Har Zion, meeting friends for dinner, going to see a Broadway show
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The Sounds of Silence

Message from **Hazzan Eliot Vogel**

It's 7:15 AM on another dreary spring morning in Penn Valley. I check my pockets (yes, my reading glasses are there) and hurry out of the house. Pulling out of my driveway to head over to the synagogue (I tell myself I'd be walking there, were it not for the rain), I register the fact that there's not another car on the road. Aside from the one service vehicle that has been parking there for weeks, Har Zion's lot is empty too.

From the outside, the building *looks* lonely. Entering through the school wing, into the dark and lifeless hallway, that notion intensifies. I force out of my mind the eerie and chilling thought that Har Zion has been abandoned. (*Eicha yashva badad ha'ir rabati am.* Alas! Lonely sits the city once great with people!) Everything looks just like it did yesterday, and the day before and the day before that. I know it's horrible, but I can't suppress the thought that this must be what buildings look like when disasters strike (think Chernobyl), or when a foreign army invades and all the inhabitants hurriedly flee with just the clothes on their backs.

Modeh Ani L'fanecha. I am awake and I am alive. I am dressed in a shirt and tie, and I have a mission. I head down the hall to the chapel, turn on the lights and go to the middle of the room to switch on the laptop and microphone. The simultaneous Livestream and Zoom call begins in ten minutes. Not a morning goes by when I don't think how strange this all is. I'm alone in this massive building and soon I'll start singing into the emptiness. Once again I check the date and reference it with the *yahrzeit* list. People will be waiting to hear their loved-one's name mentioned. In fact, it seems more important to them than ever before. Others are waiting too. They are waiting to connect to Zoom, to the chapel, to me, the other *daveners*, to God. "Thank you Cantor, thank you Gavi, thank you Har Zion for creating this lifeline. I don't know what I would do now if I couldn't continue to honor the memory of my recently deceased father. I need prayer now more than ever before."

START CALL. The screen is soon populated with faces of people I haven't actually seen in person for weeks. I am happy to see them. Briefly, we make some small talk, checking up on one another. Sadly, I'll have to mute everyone to start the service. Too many open microphones interfere with the call. I recite the first blessing, habitually pausing for an "Amen" that I cannot hear. Continuing, I find myself praying aloud much more of the service than I normally would, offering commentary here and there – using my voice to fill in the amplified silence. Also, I'm singing with intensity. In part it is to overcome the barrier imposed by the physical distance imposed on me and "my flock," and in part it's because these days have imparted so much more meaning to the words of the *siddur*.

Looking at the computer screen, my gaze goes from the *siddur* to the participants. Now and then I unmute them and can rejoice in hearing their voices despite the momentary cacophony. We're getting a larger "crowd" than normal and despite how little we interact audibly with one another, the experience actually feels richer than before. Their bodies may not be here in the building; nonetheless I know for certain that we've *davened* together. I turn out the lights and leave the chapel feeling much lighter than I felt one hour earlier. The building may still be empty, but I know that Har Zion is full of people.



Ritual Matters

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

What has been hardest for me during quarantine is – amusingly – the lack of ritual. I define ritual as an activity that we do regularly because the regularity provides an additional benefit above and beyond that of the behavior itself. The benefit of a rain-dance ritual is that it rains. Unlike rain dancers, I do not expect my behaviors to alter what God does or change the forces of nature. For me, ritual is more about me. I take two primary benefits from ritual. First, ritual helps me to mark time. By turning an activity into a ritual, I get it done. The rabbis understood this, which is why they ordained daily prayer services. While we may pray whenever we think of it, if we wait to pray until we find the time, we will never find the time! Ritualizing our activities helps to ground us when one day is so much like every other.

Another way that I benefit from ritual is in the comfort of its regularity. I am not the only one who feels warm and fuzzy when – amid all this chaos – I find a moment of familiarity and stillness. The endorphin release combines with a reduction of blood pressure and muscle relaxation. When I was growing up, I found these warm-fuzzies in the smell of my father's cooking. For some people, that feeling comes when the workday ends.

A ritual that accomplishes both of these goals is Shabbat. It is our sanctuary in Time: a ritualized day of rest. If it were not on the schedule each week, when would we ever recharge? And since we know the benefit that recharging provides, we come to expect it every week, looking forward from days away.

Establishing ritual, however, does not happen overnight. Those who do not observe Shabbat in this way may not recognize its benefits; but try it regularly for a few months: I think you will like it. This period of sheltering in place may provide the perfect environment for this experiment. Perhaps the activities you usually participate in on Shabbat are not available. Perhaps, life's pressures are just reduced enough from normal to allow for a planned break. Perhaps, you are bored and looking for a way to mark time. In any case, now is a great time to start some more rituals. For those of you who do observe Shabbat, I encourage you to find additional ways to appreciate it.

My work at Har Zion is quite varied, and in a strange, inverted way, I have come to expect that. I know that even when ritual and routine become tedious, I can *count on* the unexpected pleasures of Har Zion. I look forward to getting back to the chance meetings, the unexpected hugs from our NCCECE children, and the off-the-wall questions from b'nai mitzvah students to help me mark my time and to warm my heart. Most of all, however, I cannot wait for a "regular" Shabbat with all of its associated craziness!

Warm wishes to all, for health, happiness, rest and recharge.

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Message from Gavi Miller, Executive Director

We continue to hope that you and your family are staying safe and healthy as we all adapt to life under new circumstances. To be sure, Har Zion is not operating as we did two months ago. But we are continuing to operate. Activities in our building have been replaced with activities online. Religious services led by our staff happen twice a day, every day. As time marches forward, lifecycle events continue to be marked. Children still turn 13, and work with our staff remotely to prepare. Some Bar and Bat Mitzvahs are participating in services online, some are planning a postponed event, and some are doing both. And our staff is unfortunately still doing funerals and *shiva minyans*. We have an array of online activities, including continuing our educational programs for the NCCECE, JFGRS, and lifelong learning program. It is not the same as having classes together in our building, but our teaching staff is working hard to provide content for everyone at home.

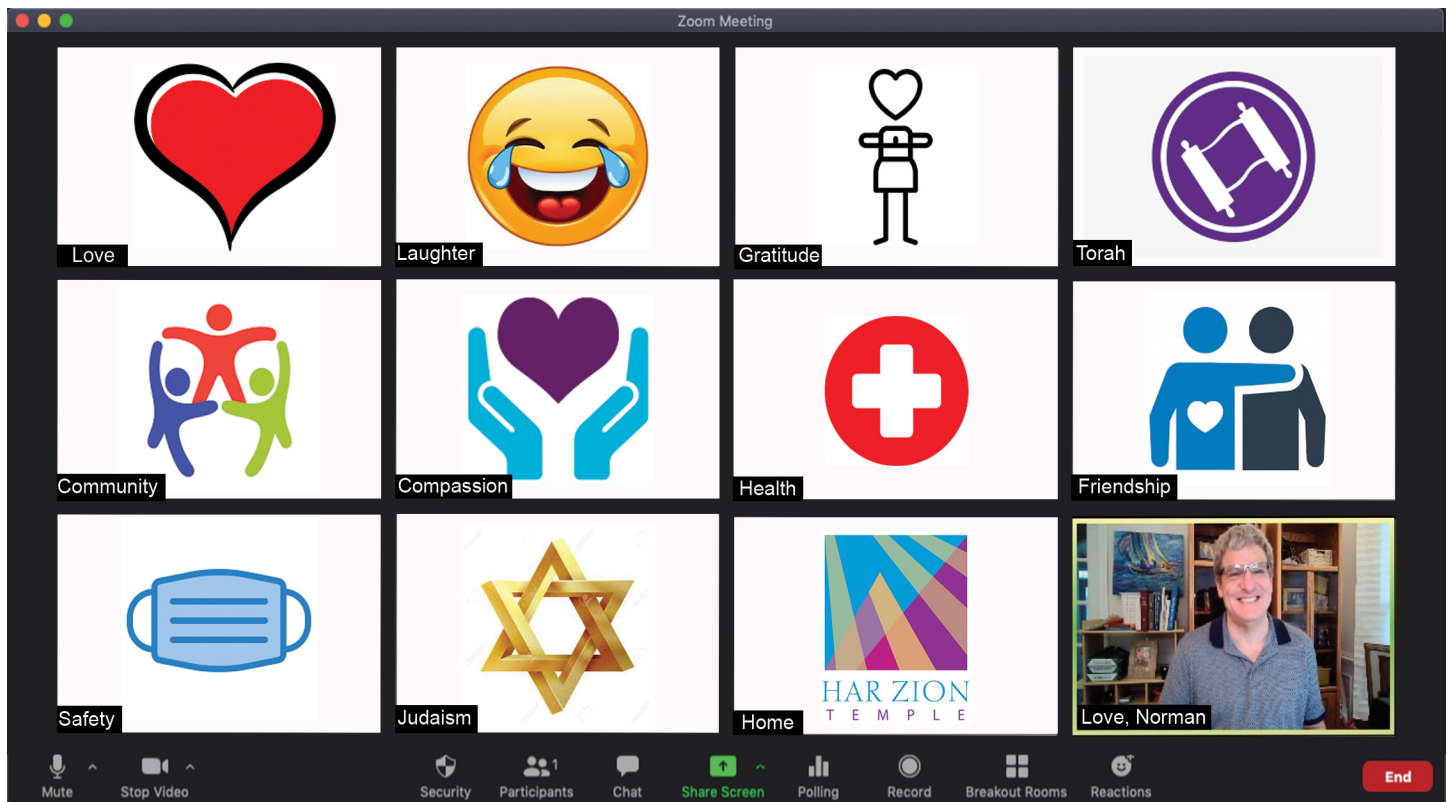


As with many of you, all of Har Zion's finances have been affected as well. The synagogue did receive a Paycheck Protection Program loan, but it only covers eight weeks of salary, and our facility will be closed for much longer than that. Our treasurers have calculated that Har Zion could lose up to \$1,000,000 in just the next 12 months, starting with crediting families for a portion of the tuition and fees for the year. In order for us to continue to provide services, in addition to government assistance, we need everyone to pay their bills if they can, and we will need support from the community from those who can afford it. We know that some families may not be able to afford to pay their Har Zion bill due to hardship, and ask that they please contact me to coordinate a process for addressing those needs.

Beyond updating everyone on how Har Zion is navigating through our current situation, I want to take this opportunity to give thanks. I am thankful for my health, and that of my family. I am thankful for the staff who are continuing to work hard in a difficult situation, and especially for those staff who have to work harder than ever before. I am grateful for the lay leadership who are trying to guide Har Zion as best they can through this challenging period. I thank Har Zion and the federal government for the funds so that 89 staff members still have paychecks for the time being. Har Zion is lucky to have families who are fortunate enough to be able to donate paid credits so that we can continue to provide services even while our facility is closed. I sincerely thank those who have been generous with their donations. As we figure out how to start our next fiscal year in the midst of a pandemic, I am thankful for the donors who will step up to help make sure Har Zion can continue to serve the community.

Har Zion has been serving the community for almost a century. The programs, events and activities that we provided a few months ago look nothing like those we provided almost 100 years ago. What we are providing today looks different than a few months ago. As the needs of the community change, Har Zion changes to try to meet those needs. I hope that our world returns to something similar to the world we used to know. But I am confident that no matter what our needs are in the future, with the help of the lay leadership, staff, and our entire community, Har Zion will continue to find ways to serve.

I have been happy to see so many of you participating in Har ZiONLINE recently from your homes. I look forward to the time when I can see you all back in our facility, your home away from home, *bimhayra b'yamaynu*. In the meantime, I wish you and your families health, safety and happiness.



Message from Rabbi Shawn, Director of Lifelong Learning and the JFGRS

To say the religious school has been operating differently since the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic seems to be stating the obvious. However, we do want our Har Zion community to understand the tremendous investment of our teachers and the school in continuing the sacred task of Talmud Torah, the teaching of Torah, though our work has shifted to a virtual platform and our classrooms and hallways sit empty.

While families were preparing for an unusual Pesah, perhaps Zoom *sedarim* with friends or relatives not in our own houses, and other such details, our children continued their learning – of the Pesah traditions, the *seder* melodies, stories and crafts, and our youngest learners even were able to “visit” a *matzah* factory! Since the return from the holiday, we have quickly trained and acclimated our teachers and students to learn via the Zoom platform, much as adults in the workforce have done. We’re holding classes, practicing Hebrew, virtually visiting Israel and discussing significant topics. On Yom Hashoah, we held a commemoration ceremony in memory of the Six Million Jewish martyrs of the Holocaust, and our Children’s Choir treated us to a wonderful video performance. To celebrate Israel’s Yom HaZikaron and Yom HaAtzma’ut, our children learned about Israel, sang, and had a virtual tour.

Many families have been able to view our weekly Story Time with Morah Shulie and Art or Cooking from Ariela’s Kitchen videos. We also had a Lego-building contest to replicate something from the Pesah story. Our elementary students who have been working hard to learn the prayers of our tradition are participating in a contest to learn to read and chant various prayers, and earn points and prizes. This is the time of the year when our seventh grade students would typically be making their plans to continue their Jewish study in LMAHH next year. They are so fortunate to be studying with Norman Einhorn and Steve Goldberg who will be with them as they continue their learning next year, and our sixth graders are having a taste of Norman and Steve’s seventh grade program during the Zoom classes.

While we won’t be able to have a classic Moving Up day this spring, or a Lag B’Omer picnic or other end-of-year activities as we have in the past, we are planning some special things to finish out our JFGRS school year and get ready for a different sort of summer, and welcome our students and their families back in the fall.

Wishing you health and well-being, Rabbi Shawn, Dr. Michael Schatz and the whole JFGRS Faculty



Message from Debbie Folz, Director of Early Childhood Education

These past three months have been very challenging for me, as well as I am sure for all of you. While a virtual hug is no match for the relationships and connections between children and their teachers in “live” classrooms, we know our parents needed activities and experiences for their child to continue to learn and grow. Our teachers, in the safety of their homes, have been reaching out to them and recreating parts of their preschool day, whether it be circle time, reading stories, singing songs, art, cooking or science activities, creative movement and more.

However, during Covid-19 it's been easier for some than it has been for others, depending on personal finances, the careers they have and their health, or the health of their family members. But no one really has it easy right now. I am taking liberty on a piece that I saw on Facebook by changing Grandpa to Grandma.

In these times, we need to remember the good... I have heard the good from so many of our families!!

Child – “How old are you, Grandma?”

Grandma – “I’m 81, dear.”

Child – “So does that mean you were alive during the Coronavirus?”

Grandma – “Yes, I was.”

Child – “Wow. That must have been horrible, Grandma. We were learning about that at school this week. They told us about how all the schools had closed. And moms and dads couldn’t go to work and they didn’t have as much money to do nice things. They said that you weren’t allowed to go and visit your friends and family and couldn’t go out anywhere. They told us that the shops and stores ran out of lots of things so you didn’t have much bread, and flour, and toilet rolls. They said that summer holidays were cancelled. And they told us about all those thousands of people that got very sick and who died. They explained how hard all the doctors and nurses and all essential workers worked, and that lots of them died, too.

That must have been so horrible, Grandma!”

Grandma – “Well, that is all correct.

And I know that because I read about it when I was older.

But to tell you the truth I remember it differently...

I remember playing in the garden for hours with Mom and Dad and having picnics outside and lots of BBQs.

I remember making things and fishing with my Dad and baking with my Mom.

I remember making forts and learning how to do hand stands and back flips. I remember having quality time with my family.

I remember Mom’s favorite words becoming ‘Hey, I’ve got an idea...’

Rather than ‘Maybe later or tomorrow I’m a bit busy.’

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Global Solidarity and Multifaith Engagement

Message from **Allyson Zacharoff**, Rabbinic Intern

It goes without saying that we find ourselves now in an awesomely difficult moment in time, dealing with this global pandemic. If we learn anything from this moment of crisis, I hope that it can be that as a world community we have the ability to come together as one and protect each other in the midst of great hardship.

Every day throughout this pandemic, people from all around the globe and of all backgrounds have had to make sacrifices – whether it is staying home to stop the spread of this disease, trying to homeschool children while continuing to work, putting oneself in harm's way as an essential worker to keep the planet functioning, missing the funerals of loved ones...the list goes on and on. But we are making these sacrifices together, to protect ourselves and others. What a beautiful testament to the holiness of humanity that we have come together when we most need to do so.

Multifaith work also seeks to bring people together for a common purpose every single day, during moments of despair and moments of calm. We want to show that we are stronger when we stand with our friends of other faiths – when we build relationships and join together to make our world better, make our world safer. We protect each other when our faith communities come under attack. We join together to seek solutions to society's ills, such as poverty, prejudice, and gun violence. We form genuine friendships so that we can have fun together. Our mandate to, **"Love the stranger as thyself" (Leviticus 19:34)** that drives so much of this interfaith work can only be heightened in a time like this of such great need.

So this critical multifaith work continues even while we all stay physically separate during this pandemic. We at Har Zion are committed to undertaking this holy work even while we all live our lives virtually, so be sure to look out for opportunities coming up soon. I offer you all the blessing that we come out of this time with a stronger appreciation for the moments when we can once again come together in person, a deep gratitude for the global act of love we were able to take together during this pandemic, and a continued commitment to building relationships with people of all backgrounds.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me at any time. Whether you are part of a multifaith family, have ideas about ways to bring our community together with others, or want to talk about anything else multifaith, I am available at azacharoff@harziontemple.org. Stay well, and stay safe.



Rabbi Haaz *(continued from page 1)*

Horwitz-Wasserman Holocaust Memorial Plaza, the National Museum of American Jewish History, and Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, not to mention the institutions that we have built in Israel and the various, local cultural and healthcare institutions that our congregants support and lead. When we look at our history and our present, building and caring for our community has always been and continues to be a core value. In challenging times, our core values do not change. And, there are many needs to be met. In addition to focusing on our future as an essential Jewish non-profit organization, we want to make a difference in peoples' lives now, and we are eager to partner with you.

In this spirit of partnership, we are teaming up with Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia to support their crucial work. They are in need of masks, volunteers to field calls on their friendly helpline, and help to fund, package, and distribute food. To join this partnership, visit our website harziontemple.org. When you click on "Make a Difference" at the top of our homepage, you will see the ways that you can join Har Zion's partnership with JFCS. You will also see that Har Zion is offering a Caregiver Support Group starting Wednesday, June 3 at 2:30 PM (by Zoom, of course), for those who are responsible for the well-being of their loved ones at this incredibly difficult time of social distancing. Please reach out to Judy Guzman at ritual@harziontemple.org for more information. Our Caring Connection and Tikkun Olam committees are active, and we will explore new options as we look to make a difference, alleviate suffering, and bring love and compassion to those who need it. Please also know that Cantor Vogel, Rabbi Shawn, and I are extending our pastoral support to local healthcare facilities and chaplaincy teams, and we are available to you as well. Do not hesitate to reach out, even if just to say hello. We miss you very much.

Lee Kirschner *(continued from page 1)*

or taking a vacation to a far away land. It could also be going to work or visiting with a relative. We all are waiting for that time when we can resume our lives once again.

During these extremely challenging days ahead, let's think about our blessings. Our families, our friends, our loved ones, our health and our strength to persevere. We are a family, a community and a resource for you. Whether in good times or in the tough times we are all enduring, Har Zion is here for you.

"Happiness is when we realize how blessed we are for what we have."

וְאַהַבְתָּ לְרֵעֶךָ כָּמוֹךָ

Ve'ahav'ta lere'acha ka'mocha

Love thy neighbor as you love thyself.

Debbie Folz *(continued from page 4)*

I remember making our own bread and pastry. I remember having movie night three or four times a week instead of just one. It was a horrible time for lots of people, you are right.

But I remember it differently."

– Author unknown

Remember how our children will remember these times.

Be in control of the memories they are creating right now, so that through all the awful headlines and emotional stories for so many that they will come to read in future years, they can remember the happy times.

Just like the Grandma, let's all try to remember the good in these unprecedented times.

In Your Own Words...

We have heard from many of our Har Zion community, whether it's for support and encouragement, thanks for being there, or compliments from the Virtual Seder.

Here are just a few...

For technical support...

Lydia Gesoff: Because of you, Har Zion has become my lifeline ... You are better than all my hours on the phone with Apple. I can't thank you enough. Stay Well!

Sandra Kagan: Thanks again for all of your help – I was able to get on to Zoom tonight with no difficulty. You did a great job helping me and I love the show. We all need a good laugh in these uncertain times.

From Tobi Millrood on Zooming his mother's funeral for the family...

Norman, Really can't thank you enough. You were able to capture the entire service and tributes to honor Mom. It was meaningful to us as well as the hundreds of others who attended via Zoom – thanks to you. We know your hands were freezing and arms were tired but our gratitude is immeasurable. Thank you.

From a teacher...

Hi Gavi, I just want to send a note of thanks and appreciation to you and the others that worked together to enable me being paid through the school year. As this email's reply is directed to you, please pass my appreciation to everyone involved in this process. Stay safe and healthy.

From an adult ed participant...

Rabbi, Thank you again for taking the time to host the class for new Hebrew readers. I thought I knew more than I actually did! Was I wrong! It will be nice to know that when I am reading I'll be pronouncing the words correctly, eventually. I definitely would like to continue learning so I would be very interested in another class.

I have to tell you how impressed I am with you and the other clergy and staff. You are all so committed to enriching the community and keeping us connected especially in this difficult time.

Our move to Har Zion was a good decision. Robin Seerherman

From parents...

Hi. Please donate our Hebrew school and bus refunds to your salary pool. Thanks for taking care of the teachers and staff. Best wishes.

... to Debbie and some of the teachers...

Joy and Patty, I just wanted to thank you for everything you are doing with the kids. I know this has been an uncertain time and you didn't have much time to prepare before we left school but I wanted to let you know that I think you are doing an amazing job of engaging Adam (and the other students) each day with your group and literacy group learning. Adam looks forward to seeing and hearing from you each day.

I feel the activities you have them doing during the Zoom

The following names were submitted by the Nominating Committee for election by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – election for three-year term expiring June 2023:

Michael Abiri	Audrey Greenberg
Michael Berkman	Bill Novick

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – re-election for three-year term expiring June 2023:

Jonathan Fishbein	Maxine Waxman
Sarah Strick	

The following names were submitted by the Nominating Committee for elevation to Trustee by the Board of Directors:

TRUSTEES – eligible by virtue of having served as Director for at least ten years:
Cindy Reisner

The following Directors are completing their terms, and we thank them for their dedicated service:

Sheree Bloch	Roy Stander
Gary Falk	Rachel Wachs
Morria Pedowitz	

ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2020, 7:00 PM

In accordance with Section 904 of the By-laws, "additional nominations for the position of Director may be made only by petition signed by at least fifty (50) Members in good standing.... All petitions must be filed with the Secretary of the Congregation at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting." Such petitions should be sent to the synagogue office, attn. Gavi Miller, for Arthur Berkowitz, Secretary.

Thank you to this year's Nominating Committee, including Jordan Landau, Jacob Guzman, Eileen Porges, Leigh-Ann Maltz-Dichter, Steve Chopnick, Abby Siegel Greenberg, Ari Roitman, Michael Perlstein, Alan Workman, Ana Kolansky, and Harry Sauer, Chair.

classes are appropriate skill level and duration, just enough to keep them engaged. I know it has been a lot to adapt to this new learning style but I am so impressed with all that you are doing. Keep up the great work! Molly

Debbie, Thank you so much for getting back to me so quickly! We are very excited to have Noa stay at Har Zion. We have
(Continued on page 12)

***Hafoch Ba, Hafoch Ba!* Message from Rabbi Shawn, Director of Lifelong Learning**

Turn it and turn it again we are taught by the rabbis in Pirke Avot (chapter 5). We are told to look creatively and repeatedly into the Torah for instruction and wisdom. Well, if ever there was a time in our life spans that begged for us to deeply search for meaning in Torah it is now. What the sages could not have predicted was that all our Torah study would be done together but remotely, through Zoom, Facebook live, WhatsApp, and Livestreaming technologies. Amazingly (miraculously even), we have been able to not only bring our in-person classes into the virtual world but we have turned it and turned it again and found some new ways to engage our congregants' desire to learn.

Needless to say, I miss seeing each and every one of you in person, and can only pray for the day when it is safe to once again hug each other, break bread together, and even just be in the same space with one another. In the meantime, I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to continue to interact through technology as well as we have been able to.

Please be sure to join our continuing year-long and new classes (see listing below) via Zoom. See what other great Jewish learning there is from these organizations:

JTS - <http://www.jtsa.edu/events-calendar>

AJU - <https://www.aju.edu/byachad-together>

Schechter Institute - <https://schechter.edu/spring-lecture-series/>

Pardes institute - <https://elmad.pardes.org/>

Hadar - <https://www.hadar.org/torah-online>

Gratz Scholars- <https://www.gratz.edu/academics/gratz-scholars-program>

Shalom Hartman Institute -

https://updates.hartman.org.il/Hartman_Home#Hartman_Home

Online Learning through the Week...

MONDAYS

1 PM – Wisdom of the (S)Ages with Dr. Ely Levine

Last class will be June 15

Having looked at Biblical Wisdom from Proverbs, Qohelet (Ecclesiastes), and Job, we are now discussing Rabbinic Wisdom from Pirkei Avot. For previously recorded classes, visit the Adult Learning page on our website.

New class beginning on July 6, same time

***NaKh*: The Rest of the Bible**

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!

5 PM – Israel in the News with Rabbi Shawn

Shalom Chaverim – Grab a cup of coffee or a glass of wine and join Rabbi Shawn in discussing the latest news from Israel. Feel free to send me (rabbishawn@harziontemple.org) any articles you find interesting and worth discussing with friends. As we celebrate 72 years of Israel's vibrant democracy, let's stay on top of the latest and greatest news about our little sovereign state.

8:30 PM – Talmud Study with Rabbi Gary Charlestein

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

TUESDAYS

JUNE 2 – 10-11:30 AM – Ancestral Journeys - Part II with Rabbi Simcha Raphael

Explore sacred moments of transition in the lives of our Biblical ancestors. Through study of texts, conversation and reflection, we shall discover helpful guidelines for dealing with end-of-life transitions and challenges in our times.

JUNE 9 – 10 AM – Experience the Joys of Yiddish with Gerry Spector

You do not have to be able to speak or understand Yiddish to experience the Joys of Yiddish culture. Enjoy Yiddish literature, poetry, folk songs, art songs, theater songs, opera, drama, comedy, movies, and incidentally learn the language.

1 PM – The Book of Psalms – One at a Time with Dr. Ely Levine

We will look at the Psalms one by one, understanding what each says, how it may have been used originally, and how it may remain meaningful to us. For previously recorded classes, visit the Adult Learning page on our website.

WEDNESDAYS

8:30 AM – Tisch with Rabbi Shawn

Together we will read and discuss the legal writings of the Rambam.

11 AM – Parashat Hashavua for the Sandwich Generation with Rabbi Shawn

Join your friends in studying the weekly Torah reading and relating it to our lives as a parent, child, spouse and maybe even ourselves as well.

THURSDAYS

JUNE 4, 11, 18 – 1 PM – Jewish History with Rabbi Gary Charlestein

Join us for a brief overview of Jewish History in three hour-long sessions starting with Sarah and Abraham and taking us through the Talmud and the rise of Islam, the Middle Ages, Chassidism, and Napoleon until this very day.

SUNDAYS

10:30 AM – Pirke Avot - Ethics of the Father with Rabbi Shawn

This six chapter book of Mishnah is traditionally studied on the Shabbat afternoons between the festivals of Pesah and Shavuot. Please Join Rabbi Shawn as we read and discuss the wisdom from this fantastic work of rabbinic literature.

Jordan Landau and the Har Zion Men's Club hope that you are all staying healthy and look forward to planning future programs soon. Take care everyone!

NACHES, ETC . . .

BIRTHS

Mazel tov to the following families and welcome to their new arrivals!

Tamar Bari Rosenthal, daughter of Tal & Scott Rosenthal, sister of Etai, granddaughter of Orna & Shmouel Karpenshif, Sandy & Jeffrey Mazer, Barbara & Arthur Rosenthal, great granddaughter of Chaya Wetzler and Doris Grabov, and niece of Dr. Emma Satloff-Bedrick & Dr. Yoav Karpenshif and Dana & Craig Rosenthal. Tamar arrived on February 20.

Mimi Ava Cahn, daughter of Remy & David Cahn, sister of Jamie and Asher. Mimi arrived on March 24.

Eloise Rose Rolfe, daughter of Rachel & Alex Rolfe and sister of Henry and Tilly. Eloise arrived on March 30.

Abigail Bernice Sydney, daughter of Beth & Joshua Sydney, sister of Leah, Isabella and Noah, and granddaughter of Judy & Henry Shrager and Joy & Michael Sydney. Abigail arrived on March 30.

Maven Ivy Morgan, daughter of Alexandra & Jonathan Morgan, sister of Jordan, Jackson and Madison. Maven arrived on April 5.

Nathan Hart Abrams, son of Sarah Grafman & Ben Abrams, brother of Rafael (Rafa) Abrams, grandson of Fredy & Lew Grafman and nephew of Jenny & Charlie Grafman. Nathan arrived on April 14.

Isabelle Shirley Kimelman, daughter of Lindi & Michael Kimelman, sister of Max and Vivi, granddaughter of Drs. Glenda & Stephen Orlin and Susie & Josh Kimelman, and great-granddaughter of Philip Rabie and Marcia Orlin. Isabelle arrived on April 15.

Juliette Brooke Drizin, daughter of Nikki & Dean Drizin and sister of Jack. Juliette arrived on April 29.

Sloane Camryn Epstein, daughter of Elissa & Paul Epstein, sister of Brody, and granddaughter of Susan & Dr. Peter Gross and Rose & Hal Epstein. Sloane arrived on May 6.



TIKKUN OLAM . . .

Message from **Norma Dworkin**, Co-chair

As I write this, our community is shutting down to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Melissa and I pray that sometime soon our community will be moving beyond the critical mass contagion point and that we will all be able to make upcoming plans. Our committee is always willing and available to help any families in need, so please let us know! Email us at: Norma Dworkin nldworkin58@gmail.com or Melissa Sayer msapirosayer@gmail.com.

SISTERHOOD . . .

Almost Business as Usual

Message from **Lynne Landsburg**, Sisterhood President

Unfortunately the Covid-19 pandemic has caused us to cancel Har Zion Sisterhood's programming this spring including our closing dinner and campaign. Despite this, the nominating committee met and a new slate of officers and board of directors has been voted on and approved for 2020-2022. We hope to have a formal installation at our opening dinner in October but the new officers and board will officially begin our work July 1. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the current officers and board for their hard work over the last two years. We have had wonderful programming and events that all of Sisterhood has enjoyed. I look forward to working with our new officers and board to continue all the wonderful ways Sisterhood supports and brings enjoyment to our members and Har Zion Temple as a whole.

I would like to thank Reisel Weinberger for stepping in and stepping up to chair our very successful Mishloah Manot event this year. Thank you also to everyone who purchased Mishloah Manot packages, helped stuff hamantashen, stuff bags and deliver the bags. It truly takes a village.

Sisterhood Officers and Board of Directors 2020-2022

Honorary Presidents: Sheila Kliger, Susan Kochman

President: Lynne Landsburg

Vice Presidents-Membership: Ruth Gleit, Peggy Sterling

Vice Presidents-Programming: Meredith Moss, Sheila Kliger

Vice Presidents-Ways and Means: Judy Shrager, Michele Perlstein

Vice Presidents-Gift Shop: Marilyn Becker, Helene Nelson, Maxine Schwartz

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Life Cycle Secretaries: Judy Weinberger, Michelle Strayer

Social Secretary: Janice Katz

Membership Secretary: Laurie Landsburg

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Marla Kerstein

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Meryl Littman

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Rabbi Moriah SimonHazani

Maxine Waxman

Robin Zatuchni

Advisors:

Bonnie Rose Schulman Karen Vogel

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.

Boker Tov Har Zion from your Sisterhood!!

Another Successful Year for our Mishloah Manot Fundraiser

We had another successful Mishloah Manot Fundraiser!! Thanks to our hard working team – Our Happy Purim website Administer, now living in Florida, Shelley Brietling, who volunteered to help us remotely with orders; Andrea Robbins, who put all the routes together for our drivers; Madelyn Karasick who guided and helped us through the process; Jane Fetscher Kontopodias, who edited and managed all the info for our packages; and Gavi Miller, who collated and printed all the letters that go into the packages. Thank you to all our congregants who purchased Mishloah Manot bags to send to their family and friends and to the personal contributions to support this Sisterhood project. We hope you all enjoyed all your healthy breakfast treats, the hamentashen, and useful key chain.



We could not have accomplished our mission without our devoted volunteers. *Yasher Koah* to our team of busy hands who put the assorted hamentashen in plastic bags: Robin Seeherman, Meredith Moss, Meryl Littman, Maxine Waxman, Lydia Gesoff, Janet Harmelin, Judy Solomon, Jay Gorodetzer, Laura Berney, Judy Shrager, Peggy Sterling, Andy Coren, Janice Katz, Nate Greenberg, Phil Greenberg, Harry Landsburg, Laurie Landsburg, Chris Grad, Madelyn Karasick, Connie Handen, Lynne Landsburg, Ruth Gleit and Ellis Weinberger.

Our next task was to fill the bags with all the breakfast goodies, and hamentashen! We were so fortunate to have the students from the Jane Fishman Grinberg Religious School participate with the support of their teachers, director, and Rabbi Shawn, Sisterhood members, and synagogue members – all of whom were there for us when we needed them most! Our dedicated teachers Sharona Durry, Wendy Lebofsky, Karen Kripke, Julie and Ari Nugent, and their students Ezra Fenkel, Max Henry, Zach Woodbury, Jordyn Butler, Sam Chalal, Katie Chalal, Jordyn Bender, Brooke Greenfield, Jack Harker, Bella Herz, Ethan Stern, Max Strick, Daniel Ash, Josh Bloom, Chase Rose, Emma Roseman, Emma Rosenberg, Jake Zemble, Alexandra Pierce, Emma Harmelin, Benjamin Roitman, Joshua Herz, Chloe Littman, Jonas Berger, Karleigh Brotz, Dylan Gordon, Amelia Biran, Danica Berger, Jordan Mazer, and Dylan Gordon, all contributed to this *mitzvah*! We know that we can always count on our Har Zion Family too! Thank you to our adult volunteers: Rachel Steerman, Lydia Gesoff, Phyllis Weinstock, Ruth Gleit, Judy Weinberger Solomon, Jonathan Fishbein,



Pam Vinokur, Sheila Schafer, Maxine Waxman, and Ellis Weinberger.

Our team of expert drivers navigated their assigned routes with ease, delivering over 550 packages to their final destination, to the homes of our Har Zion friends and family: Leigh-Ann Maltz Dichter and Jason, Norma Dworkin, Nanci Goldman, Melinda & Robert Hochberg, Madelyn Karasick, Hope & Lee Kirschner, Faye Goldman, Laurie & Harry Landsburg, Lynne & Bill Landsburg, Sheila & Lou Schafer, Kristy & Jeff Schulman, Rachel Steerman, Pam Vinocur, Judy & Michael Solomon, Reisel & Ellis Weinberger, Ellen Novick, Joy Abt, Marla Kerstein, Sarah Oaks, Susan Shapiro, Judy Guzman, Michael Grossman, Susan Kochman, Maxine Rosen, Maxine Waxman, Sherrie Willner, Judy and Hank Shrager, Robin Zatuchni, Pamela Berman, Beverly & Steve Moskowitz, Lita & Stanley Cohen, Rachel and Daniel Wachs, Eileen Chopnick, Jean Clemons, and Reisel & Ellis Weinberger.



We also want to thank Bill Landsburg, Ellis Weinberger and two volunteer students from PCOM – Gabrielle Yankelevich and Gabrielle Nirenberchik, who helped load the cars with the many Mishloah Manot bags to be delivered to our community. Sisterhood's Purim concierge service!!

This Purim Project would not be a success without the dedicated members of our Har Zion Sisterhood, community, office staff and maintenance crew. Thank you all for your continued support and *Yasher Koah* to another successful year.

B'shalom,

Reisel Weinberger, Lynne Landsburg, Shelley Brietling, Madelyn Karasick

GIFTS TO THE CONGREGATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

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IN HONOR OF

The birth of Mason Aspen Selarnick,
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Arnold Lovitz's Special Birthday
B'not Mitzvah of Sadie and Sophie
Spiegel; Parker's Bar Mitzvah
The engagement of Michael
Keiser to Caroline; birth of Hadar
Ora Shapiro; birth of Zoe Gray
Golden; birth of Mason Aspen
Selarnick; birth of Lincoln Hayes
Avart; birth of Max Robinson
O'Gara; Michael Kirschner's 75th
Birthday and on his and Patty's 20th
Anniversary

A speedy recovery for Barbara
Boroff and congratulations on her
granddaughter's wedding; a speedy
recovery for Jack Aezen
B'not Mitzvah of Sophie and Sadie
Spiegel
Dr. Barry Kliger

Marriage of Julie Berkowitz & Yoni
Gamliel; Arnold Lovitz's special
Birthday; Gratitude to Beverly
Goldberg, Jeff Lieberman and Rabbi
Shawn

IN MEMORY OF

Janis Oaks
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(continued to next page)

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Jane & Rick Kontopodias	Marriage of Julie & Yoni Gamliel, birth of Abigail Bernice, grand daughter of Judy & Hank Shrager; birth of Nathan, grandson of Fredy & Lew Grafman; William Reisner's Bar Mitzvah; Marriage of Sydney & Mike Selarnick

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Steve & Eileen Chopnick	Birth of Zoe Gray Golden, birth of Hadar Ora Shapiro, birth of Mason Aspen Selarnick, Arnold Lovitz' 90th birthday
Deborah & James Golden	Birth of Mason, granddaughter of Nancy & Stuart Selarnick; wedding of Michael & Sydney Selarnick; Ron Robbins feeling well
Meryl & Gary Littman	Zoe Gray, granddaughter of Debbie & Jim Golden; Hadar Ora, grand- daughter of Susan Shapiro
Chris Grad	Shirley Swinger's move, Andy Coren's Birthday

*(continued to next page)***SISTERHOOD FLORAL FUND**

Marilyn Becker	Bernice Zellis/in memory of your husband, Dr. Abraham Zellis; Sarah Oaks/in memory of your mother Judy & Hank Shrager/in honor of the birth of your granddaughter Abigail
Janice Katz	Janice Gorson/in memory of her son Murray; Phyllis Gorson/in memory of your husband; Sherrie Willner/in memory of your brother; Kerstein Family/in memory of your mother
Sheila & Barry Klinger	Louise Steerman/in memory of your husband William; Gary Kerstein and Family/in memory of your mother Laurie Landsburg/congratulations on your retirement and to thank you for your 25+ years of service to Har Zion; Andrea Robbins/thanks for making Sisterhood Shabbat so special; Reisel Weinberger/thanks for all you do; Judy & Hank Shrager/in honor of your new grandchild
Lynne & Bill Landsburg	Phyllis Gorson/in memory of your husband Murray; Sherrie Willner/in memory of your brother; Janice Gorson/in memory of your son; Gary Kerstein and Family/in memory of your mother; Deborah Z. Rose/in memory of your father, Norman; Bill Landsburg/wishing you a speedy recovery
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marriage of your three eldest sons,
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Mitzvah, Parker becoming a Bar
Mitzvah, birth of Lew & Fredy Jo
Grafman's grandson Nathan Hart
Sophie & Sadie Spiegel's B'not
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William Steerman

In Your Own Words... *(continued from page 6)*

absolutely loved our experience at your school and feel grateful for all the love and support you have shown Noa and all of us! Thank you for your kind words! It means a lot.

With love, Jenna Benn Shersher, MSW

Great Shabbat service today!! Wonderful way to come back from break!! Thanks Debbie!!! Xo, Holly, Jon, Asher and Brady

To Cindy Fox: Good morning! I feel like I am crossing a boundary of texting you so much! ...One of my friends sent this to me and it made me think of you. Thank you for being such a rock for myself and our family through all this. Your positive attitude and reassurance has really made a difference in our weeks, even if our kids are tiny, it truly helps. You help. Your Miles' hero! Thank you.

Voicemail: "Good morning, Debbie. It's Kathy Silver (Leah Luksenberg's Bubbe). I just wanted to call and thank you for all that you were doing for the school children at Har Zion. I have been on Zoom several times watching your Friday morning service with the children, and this morning I saw the Israeli program with the children and I just want to give you the credit that is due you. I thank you for all that you're doing. I appreciate it. I know that the kids appreciate it."

Dear Debbie, Thank you so much for being a great leader and great boss. You have been a great support system for all of the teachers and parents as well. Hopefully we will all be able to go back to working soon in our classroom. Love, Jen

12 ■ May/June 2020

From a Director/Trustee...

David (Becher), You did an amazing presentation last night. Thank you for all that you do for HZ. Be well.

Reviews for Norman and "The Lighter Side"...

Joy Landau: Norman, thank you for all you do. I love your program. Have a wonderful Shabbat. Miss you.

Phyllis Weinstock: You are a gift to all of us. Thank you for all that you do with such love and care!

Alan Seeherman: I think the show is hilarious, and obviously so do quite a bunch of others. You have earned a #1 rating, even an A+ grade. Keep it going buddy. Don't change a thing. I love it.

Meryl Littman: Thanks so much for sharing fun stuff in your show "The Lighter Side" each night! We sure do need to laugh.

Nanci Goldman: I really look forward to your show each night ...thanks for doing this at this difficult time... it's nice to have a community to laugh with each other. You are doing such a mitzvah. Thank you!

Dorene Karasick: What a great idea – and we all need it so badly. Thank you so much for something to look forward to every night

Lee Kirschner: You are a very special person with a very special gift... thank you for all you do.



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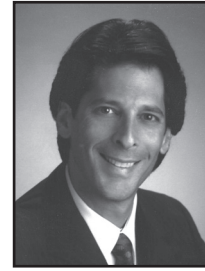
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