



HAR ZION
T E M P L E

The Bulletin

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

Selichot Program and Service



Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia
Lower Merion Kehillah

Saturday, September 9 | 8:00 PM

In-person and Zoom

Zoom links will be provided. Check your emails closer to the program date.

Join Lower Merion Kehillah to awaken your mind and soul with an engaging evening of theater, music, and spiritual forgiveness (Selichot), as we open our hearts in anticipation of the High Holidays.

8:00 PM – Arrival, Nosh and Communal Havdalah

8:30 PM – Program

**Act I: *To Reach Across a River* by Marshall Botvinick
Performed by Theatre Ariel**

In a world where family is everything, Yehudis is unable to have a child. Surrounded by the traditions of her Hasidic community, she must decide between taking solace in her situation or finding the faith to live her inner truth.

9:30 PM – Choice of Services

Option One: Community and Choir

Option Two: Soulful Contemporary with Band

Questions? Contact Noah Schoenberg at nschoenberg@jewishphilly.org



An Observation

Message from **Rabbi Seth Haaz**



As I look forward to Rosh Hashanah and also to kicking off Har Zion's Centennial celebrations in the fall of 2024, I want to share an observation. This particular observation is not about the increasing health of Har Zion with respect to membership and finances. It is not about the beautiful ways in which our physical campus is evolving to be safer, more accessible, and more engaging to our families and children. It is not about the enthusiasm and positive energy flowing through meetings of Har Zion's lay leadership. It is not about Gesher, our revamped B'nei Mitzvah program that distinguishes us from all other synagogues in the way that we invest in community and teach mastery of Jewish skills. It is not about the talented staff and fantastic parent support that make the NCECE, the JFGRS, and our Day Camp so strong. It is not about the vision and generosity of our members. These are all big observations about the strength and growth of our community. The observation I want to share is a small one, but it is no less significant: There is more dancing at Har Zion than there used to be. At *auf rufs*, anniversaries, and birthdays, dozens of congregants consistently flood the bimah to actively celebrate with their friends.

In the past, congregants watched from their seats. They sang, and they clapped. Now, they dance on the bimah. Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav said: "Through dancing and the movements you make with your body, you awaken joy within yourself" (*Sefer ha-Middot, Simha*, #8). There is a palpable difference in our Sanctuary, and

(Continued on page 3)

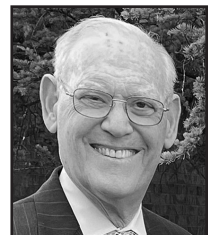
A Message from the Presidents

As we write this message, we have just welcomed Cantor Randy Herman and his family (Nicole, Kaya and Donovan). Cantor Herman is only the third permanent voice at Har Zion in eighty years. What a great legacy. We are also in the midst of the planning of our Centennial celebrations, and of course, preparation for the High Holidays, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret and Simhat Torah are on the front burners. Summer is not a slow period at Har Zion. Our award-winning camp was in full swing and preparations for the new school year at our award-winning Noreen Cook Center for Early Childhood Education are well underway.

Har Zion is a place for prayer, education, spirituality, friendships, social action, celebrating life cycle events, community service, making connections, social life, fun, good food and volunteerism. We hope you take advantage of what we have to offer. We are always available for you to seek us out, in person, by phone or electronically. There are opportunities for volunteers in all areas of synagogue life. Please join us.

We wish you and yours a new year filled with good health, joyous occasions, prosperity and peace.

G'mar Hatimah Tova,
Lynne Landsburg
Elliot Rosen



High Holiday Service Schedule for 2023 – 5784

- All High Holy Day services, programs and classes will be in-person in the Har Zion Sanctuary and Livestreamed, unless otherwise noted.
- *All Family and Youth services will be in-person only and indicated below in italics.*
- All outdoor services and programming are dependent on weather.

SELIHOT

Saturday, September 9

8:00 PM – Community Selihot with Kehillah of Lower Merion at Har Zion Temple (In-person and Zoom)

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 15

6:00 PM – Evening Service

ROSH HASHANAH – FIRST DAY

Saturday, September 16

8:30-10:30 AM – Morning Service and Torah Service

9:00-10:00 AM – 1st-6th Grade Students and Parents Service (Dogole Chapel)

9:30-10:30 AM – Preschool-age Students and Families Service (Berkowitz Family Auditorium)

10:00 AM-12:30 PM – Youth Activities – 1st-6th Grades (JFGRS Hallway)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM – Babysitting (Rooms 108 and 109)

11:00 AM-12:00 PM – Link Teen Activity – 7th-12th Grades (Room 215)

10:30 AM-12:00 PM – Community Moment: Rosh Hashanah Mosaic with Cantor Herman including Rabbi Haaz's Sermon

12:00-1:15 PM – Musaf

7:15 PM – Evening Service

ROSH HASHANAH – SECOND DAY

Sunday, September 17

8:15-10:30 AM – Morning Service and Torah Service

9:00 AM-12:30 PM – Youth Activities and Services – 1st-6th Graders (JFGRS Hallway)

9:15 AM-12:15 PM – Babysitting (Rooms 108 and 109)

12:15 PM – Preschool Picnic (Field near playground)

10:30-11:15 AM – Shofar Service and Sermon

11:15 AM-12:45 PM – Musaf

1:00-1:30 PM – Community Moment: Shofar Service in Sayer-Berkowitz Pavilion (in-person only)

6:00 PM – Tashlich – Depart HZT to walk to river (or meet group at the river at 6:30 PM)

7:30 PM – Evening Service

KOL NIDRE

Sunday, September 24

6:00 PM – Kol Nidre Service – Community Moment: Cantor Herman on Forgiveness

6:00 PM – All Children and Youth invited with families to main service for Kol Nidre and Rabbinic Folk Tale

6:45-7:45 PM – 1st-6th Grade Student Activities (JFGRS Hallway)

6:45-7:45 PM – Link Teen Activity – 7th-12th Grades (Room 215)

7:15 PM – Message from the Presidents

YOM KIPPUR

Monday, September 25

9:00-11:30 AM – Morning Service and Torah Service

9:00-10:30 AM – 1st-6th Grade Students and Parents Service (Dogole Chapel)

9:30-10:30 AM – Preschool-age Students and Families Service (Berkowitz Family Auditorium)

10:30 AM-1:30 PM – Babysitting (Rooms 108 and 109)

10:30 AM-1:30 PM – Youth Activities – 1st-6th Grades (JFGRS Hallway)

11:00 AM-12:00 PM – Link Teen Activity – 7th-12th Grades (Room 215)

11:30 AM-1:00 PM – Community Moment: Yom Kippur Mosaic with Cantor Herman including Rabbi Haaz's Sermon

1:00-1:30 PM – Yizkor

1:30-3:15 PM – Musaf

3:45-4:45 PM – Adult Education Class – Dr. Ely Levine and Rabbi Shawn (50th Anniversary Yom Kippur War)

5:00 PM – Minha and Neilah

7:15 PM – 7th and 8th Grade Students meet with Rabbi Shawn

7:25 PM – Ma'ariv

7:35-7:45 PM – Community Moment: Shofar/Yom Kippur Finale – students will be honored

Please watch your email for Sukkot Service times and Activities.



Denotes Community Moment

Message from Cantor Randy Herman

To my new community, my new home, my new friends –

Allow me to introduce myself: my name is Randy Herman. I'm your new hazzan, your new cantor [huge smile emoji!], and I am thrilled to be here, truly. My wife Nicole and I arrived in town in late June (I officially began at HZT on July 1), along with our kids Kaya (5), and Donovan (2), who both attended the amazing Har Zion Day Camp and LOVED it. Kaya will enter Kindergarten at HZT in the fall, and Donovan will be in the 2's.

During my 5th and final year at The Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) in 2007, I became the part-time interim cantor at Bet Torah, a super-vibrant 500-family Conservative shul in Mt. Kisco (Northern Westchester County), NY. Upon graduating from JTS in 2008, I became BT's full-time cantor, for 12 wonderful years. During that time I got married, had my first kid, and Nicole and I decided to make a change. We moved to Baltimore, where I became the cantor of Chizuk Amuno Congregation and Schools – a 1000+ family shul with a Schechter Day School on its campus. I realized fairly quickly that this was unfortunately not the ideal fit for me or my family, and we made another extremely difficult decision – to move on one more time, in pursuit of the right community.

I became aware that the amazing Cantor Eliot Vogel was retiring, and the cantorial position at HZT was opening up. And then I realized, this was where Rabbi Seth Haaz was serving – and that, my friends, was the first huge draw for me here. Rabbi Haaz is an absolute dream rabbi for any cantor to serve with. We were friends at JTS together, and my fellow cantorial students at the time would all agree – Rabbi Haaz was the type of rabbi we all wanted to serve with. Warm, wise, witty, winsome – I almost didn't need to know anything else about the shul; serving with Rabbi Haaz would be as good as it gets. And then I met Gavi, and Norman, Dr. Ely Levine, Rabbi Shawn, etc. . . . just a fabulous staff. We met Sandi and saw the preschool, and the kindergarten. And then. . .

We discovered Lower Merion. Wow, wow, wow. For those of you who've been here your whole lives, and perhaps take it for granted, here's a newcomer's perspective: this place is to die for – we absolutely love it. The historic neighborhoods and houses, the trees, the restaurants, the vibe – we feel like we truly struck gold, and couldn't be happier to be here in every way. I can't wait to meet all of you! I'm here, I'm available – let's talk, meet, have breakfast or lunch. . . . And please, come to shul on a Shabbat morning! I want to sing and pray with you, schmooze at the kiddush. . . . I am honored and excited to be a part of this community; it feels good to be home. Let's create great new things together.



An Observation (continued from page 1)

it speaks to the evolution of our community. We are finding, sharing, and expressing a greater joy, and we are celebrating life more fully together.

But *simha* (joy) is not the only reason congregants have been on the bimah in recent months. Our congregation has created a new ritual for the Prayer for Healing where congregants are invited up to the bimah to stand facing the Torahs before the open Ark as the prayer is offered. This drawing close to Torah is an expression of our deep desire that God remain close to us and to our loved ones and friends who are ill, and it places us in close proximity with others who care about us. It is an opportunity to share our concern, express our support, and to wrap our *tallit* around a friend.

As Har Zion grows and strengthens, we are learning more and more how to journey through life together, dancing through times of joy and sustaining one another through times of need. We dance, we pray, we sing, we laugh, we cry. We will do all of these together in the year 5784, and Har Zion has been embracing our community in all of these ways for ninety-nine years. And, Har Zion will continue to be a blessing to many, many thousands of people in the next one hundred years. *Kein yehi ratzon* – may this be God's will.

Ritual Matters

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

One of the most meaningful moments of our prayer services is – perhaps, not surprisingly – one of the newest elements in our services. The prayer for healing speaks to us so much because it is something we understand. As many of you know, I maintain a list of names of people in need of healing, which we read as part of the prayer. When we are given a name to add to the list, it allows us not only to pray for their well-being, but also to try to provide whatever support we are able to them and to those who care for them.

It is often a sudden event for which we add them to the list, but, when a person recovers, there is no similar event that shocks us into notifying the synagogue! As time goes on, our list becomes more out of date. To better maintain the list and to promote more contact with you about your loved ones, we are changing our procedure a little. When you give us a name, we will keep it on the list for three months. If, at the end of three months, you feel that the person still needs our prayers, our attention, please contact us again to keep that person's name to the list.

There is a wide range of opinions about what our prayers for healing do. What does it mean to ask God to bring healing to people in an age of modern medicine? I certainly do not know; I do not think anyone knows! But I do have a strong belief in what our prayers help us to do in the world. We know that our attention to a person's condition can have a positive impact on that person's recovery and healing. In reciting the prayers, by including our loved ones, we motivate ourselves to do what we can, to reach out, to raise spirits, to help mend and heal our friends and family whose bodies and spirits need such healing.

(Continued on page 4)



We Need You!

Interested in serving as a High Holiday usher?

Please contact Alan Workman
at ajworkman@aol.com.

An Experience to Remember

by Lynne Landsburg

This past April I had the incredible experience of traveling to Whitwell, TN along with 32 other adults from Har Zion, Adath Israel, and Beth Hillel-Beth El where we experienced the Paper Clip Project first hand. Our trip was led by Norman Einhorn and Rabbi Shawn SimonHazani.

Some of you may not be familiar with the Paper Clips Project. It began in 1998 when the principal of Whitwell Middle School, Linda Hooper, wanted a project that would teach the students the importance of tolerance and respect for different cultures. After returning from a teacher training course, David Smith, the 8th grade history teacher and assistant principal, suggested an after-school course that would study the Holocaust. Eighth grade Language Arts teacher, Sandra Roberts, held the first session in October 1998. As the students learned about the Holocaust, the sheer number of Jews killed by the Nazis overwhelmed them. Six million was a number they had difficulty grasping.

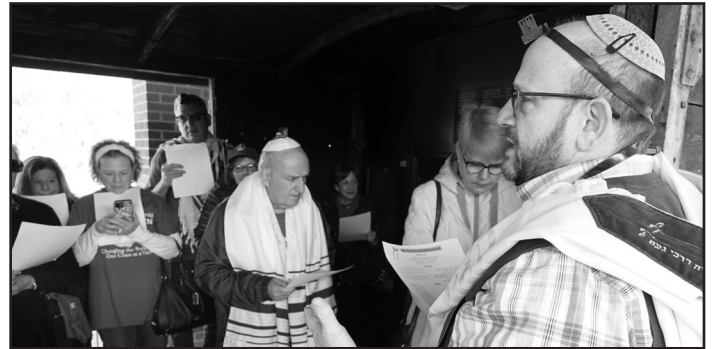
As a result of their research, the students discovered the people of Norway began wearing a paperclip in solidarity with the Jews who were forced to wear a yellow Star of David. A student suggested they collect six million paperclips to represent the six million Jews killed in the Holocaust. As word spread of the students' request for paperclips, people from all seven continents responded with letters and paperclips. In all, they received 30 million paperclips, over 3000 letters and documents, and over 5000 artifacts including a Torah. They also acquired an authentic German railcar that was used to transport people to concentration and death camps.

The students filled the railcar with 11 million paperclips, one for each victim of the Holocaust. The railcar became the centerpiece of the Children's Holocaust Memorial housed outside the Whitwell Middle School. In a small park surrounding the railcar are 18 stained glass or sculptured butterflies along with a monument filled with 1.6 million paperclips honoring the children killed in the Holocaust.

We arrived at Whitwell Middle School and were greeted by the current students involved in the Holocaust program. After dinner and wonderful discussions with the students and some community members, we went to the railcar for a moving Yom Hashoah ceremony led by Norman and Rabbi Shawn. The next morning, we davened Shaharit in the railcar. It was difficult to say the prayers as the emotions of the moment overwhelmed many of us. The other activities of the trip included lunch and discussions with other community members, a visit to a beautiful synagogue in Chattanooga where we met the Rabbi and President, and a visit to the Whitwell Miners Museum where we learned about the history of the coal mines which are no longer operational. It was a quick but very meaningful trip I will never forget.

Har Zion has been a part of the Philly Friends of Whitwell for 20 years. Many Har Zion students and their parents have visited Whitwell and Whitwell students have visited Har Zion. A group of Har Zion students and their parents will visit Whitwell on September 10 and 11. A group of Whitwell students and their chaperones will be here at Har Zion on October 20-22. I hope you will be able to join us for Shabbat services on October 20 and 21 to welcome our guests from Whitwell.

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Ritual Matters (continued from page 3)

Keep sending names: please include a sense of what sort of healing you are praying for, whether it be recovery from surgery, overcoming the common cold, or triumph over cancer. And come up onto the bimah as we recite the prayer before the Ark. We eagerly pray *with* you for healing: for that time when – even if their medical condition cannot improve – their spiritual state is restored.

"May the Source of Strength, who blessed the ones before us, help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing." – Debbie Friedman

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



Greetings for the New Year

October 1, 1948

לשנה טובה תכתבו

We are grateful for the privilege that is ours again to extend our best wishes for the New Year to you and your families, members of Har Zion Temple.

We live in a period of almost constant crisis in international affairs. There is, indeed, cause for concern, but the message of Rosh Hashanah brings the assurance that mankind can build a world of brotherhood and peace. The efforts of the United Nations — however feeble and vacillating — are, we believe, the beginning of the fulfillment of the Rosh Hashanah prayer to God that "Al the peoples shall form one union to do Thy will wholeheartedly."

We see in the foundation of the State of Israel a vindication of our faith in the powers of ideals to determine the course of history. Grateful to God that this has come to pass in our lifetime, we shall re-dedicate ourselves to give our utmost to help Israel become a recognized and securely-established nation, a member of the family of nations that constitute mankind.

For ourselves here in America, we must continue our efforts to make Judaism a living influence for good in our daily lives. It is for us only to attend services regularly, to read and study our sacred texts, and to open our minds and hearts in an attitude of receptivity to the tested doctrines and practices of our faith.

For peace of mind and for courageous living, we need the teachings of Torah. As we walk in the ways of Judaism, we pray that God will grant us all health, well-being, and prosperity, and that He will help us gain the serenity and the strength adequate to meet all of life's demands.

DAVID A. GOLDSTEIN, *Rabbi*
DAVID WEBER, *President*

ROSH HASHANAH GREETINGS

I appreciate the privilege of extending, through the columns of the *Bulletin*, our sincere good wishes for the New Year to all of our dear friends of the Har Zion family.

The twenty-one years which our family spent in Wynnefield, and in close association with Har Zion, were blessed with the abundant joys of sincere friendships and with the happiness of laboring together in the vineyard of the Lord. We are grateful particularly that during the last two years, we were able to participate in the work of the congregation under the selfless and devoted spiritual leadership of Rabbi and Mrs. David A. Goldstein.

Though our physical home will henceforth be in New York (420 Riverside Drive), spiritually and emotionally, we shall be forever close to this congregation and to the wonderful people who compose its membership.

Har Zion is part of the larger Seminary family whose members are scattered throughout the land. But none of the spiritual children of the Seminary are closer and more loyal to it than Har Zion. We shall thus continue to work together for those larger purposes, to which the Seminary and Har Zion are together dedicated.

Our sincerest prayers, dear friends, will join yours during these High Holy Days and always, for your own physical and spiritual welfare and for the welfare of Israel and mankind. I pray that the bonds of affection now binding us one to the other will grow even stronger through the years, and that together we will be privileged to help build a glorious Republic of Israel and a spiritually vigorous and creative American Israel.

RABBI AND MRS. SIMON GREENBERG
AND SONS

ADULT JEWISH LEARNING . . .

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

MONDAY

Starting September 18

**1 PM – NaKh: The Rest of the Bible with Dr. Ely Levine
In-person and Zoom**

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

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

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

TUESDAY

**10:30 AM – Experience the Joys of Yiddish
with Gerry Spector
In-Person and Zoom**

**October 17 and 31, November 21, December 5 and 19,
January 9 and 23, February 6 and 20, March 5 and 19, April
2 and 16, May 7 and 21, June 4**

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

**12 PM – Study of the Book of Samuel with
Rabbi Gary Charlestein
In-person and Zoom**

1710 Romano Dr., Plymouth Meeting

WEDNESDAY

**8:15 AM – TISCH with Rabbi Shawn
In-person and Zoom**

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

Please note! This class is using a new Zoom link. Check your emails for the updated link.

Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh

Tuesdays, 4 PM

**October 17, November 14, December 14, January 9,
February 6, March 5, April 9, May 7, June 6**

In-person and Zoom

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

THURSDAY

Starting September 14

**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!

Starting September 14

**12:30 PM – Jewish Books in Christian Bibles
with Dr. Ely Levine
In-person and Zoom**

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

FRIDAY

New Class beginning September 8

**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. Class will meet for 40 minutes following Friday morning minyan.

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

Stay tuned for new classes coming up:

Sisterhood Program with Cantor Herman: October 4

**Three-part series taught by Cantor Randy Herman:
Jewish influence on the music of...**

**Four-part series on American Jewish History with
Dr. Michael Schatz and a tour**

Dates and times to be determined. Watch your emails for more information.

MEN'S CLUB . . .

Steak & Bourbon Opening Dinner

Wednesday, October 4, 6:30 PM

in the Kendall Sukkah

Watch your email for more info

Eagles Game Watch Party

Eagles vs Kansas City Chiefs

Monday, November 20, 8:15 PM

BYOB

For more info on Men's Club programs, please contact Jordan Landau at jordan.landau@gmail.com.



The Men's Club Golf outing on May 1 was a great success! Over 50 golfers came out on a beautiful Monday. Congratulations to Paul Markowitz, Bret Sandler, Jason Schwartz and Alex Epstein overall winners at -11.

Dan Feith – longest drive winner

Charlie Graening – closest to the pin on 6

Steve Mendelson – closest to the pin on 16

A big Thank You to our sponsors:

Firsttrust Financial Resources Wealth Management,

PJ Fitzpatrick, WB Cleaners

A HUGE thank you to Bala Golf Club and Bruce Halpren. The course was in excellent condition, you would not have guessed it rained over 3 inches for 3 days.

Thank you all! Jordan Landau, Men's Club President

NACHES, ETC . . .

BIRTHS

Welcome to the world to

Kobi Alan Gamliel, son of Julie & Yoni Gamliel, brother of Shoshana, grandson of Lisa & Arthur Berkowitz and Dina & Jacky Gamliel, great grandson of Barbara & Alan (z"l) Boroff and Barbara & Edwin (z'l) Berkowitz, nephew of Emily & Jonathan Fridberg and Lauren & Jake Berkowitz, and cousin of Benjamin and Miriam. Kobi arrived May 27, 2023.



Julian Scott Dein, son of Dr. Eric Dein & Jessica Wasilewsky, and grandson of Robin & Dr. Robert Dein. Julian arrived July 12, 2023.

MAZEL TOV!

Mazel tov **Rabbi Shawn!**

On May 22, Rabbi Shawn received his Honorary Doctorate Degree from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies of American Jewish University in Los Angeles.



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

Inclusivity Committee

The Inclusivity Committee of Har Zion Temple endeavors to create a spiritual and physical environment in which everyone is able to comfortably participate in congregational life without barriers or judgement. In line with the Har Zion's mission and values, we seek to educate, promote, and integrate the ideology of inclusion into all aspects of the synagogue and its programming. Our initiatives and programming are aimed at fostering a greater sense of warmth and belonging for all who wish to participate in the Har Zion Temple community.



Our committee is hard at work on various initiatives and programs for the next year, including multi-faith family engagement, a series on child mental health, and LGBTQ+ education. If you are interested in learning more or contributing to our efforts, please email inclusivity@harziontemple.org."

Har Zion Caring Connection

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

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

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

EDUCATION . . .

Message from Dr. Michael Schatz, Principal, JFGRS



The Jane Fishman Grinberg Religious School is looking forward to a new school year for 5784! We can't wait to welcome back over 150 children to our Gan-Zayin classes this year. It promises to be a school year filled with learning and community building.

Jewish learning is not simply decoding the Hebrew alphabet, nor is it solely based on prayer and Torah values, though of course it does include these foundational elements. Jewish learning is immersion in the whole of Jewish culture and religion – our way of initiating our children into our millenia-old civilization as it is reimagined in each generation. We do this through various lenses and experiences. Some involve traditional classroom activities, while others allow our children to express their learning through different sorts of experiences. We don't just read a story or play a game about Shabbat dinner; we have Shabbat dinner with all its accompanying rituals. We don't just look at a picture of a Havdalah candle, we have a Havdalah service. We don't just read about Jewish history, we create a museum of family heirlooms where we tie our own family experience into the fabric of Jewish continuity.

At Har Zion we are blessed with generous congregants who understand these values and provide our school with the resources to make them happen. The Keiser-Wilf family, for example, assures that our annual Pesah model seder is an enriching experience to help children prepare to participate in their families' sedarim. The Abiri and Jean families have supported our arts programs. Even our youngest religious school children create sophisticated ritual objects that are used year to year (even week to week) in their homes. Older children are exposed to professional calligraphers, paper cutters, woodworkers and others who guide them in the creation of special objects that enhance their home Judaica collection and the rituals that accompany these objects. These families also generously support our gift books, in which over the course of their religious school years, our children begin to build a Judaica library befitting children of "The People of the Book."

Many of these special activities will happen over the course of the school year in each different class. We look forward to sharing pictures and experiences in future *Bulletins* and in our secure Jane Fishman Grinberg Religious School Facebook page. Look us up and join the group to see more!

Wishing our Har Zion family *L'Shanah Tovah* – a Happy and Healthy New Year.

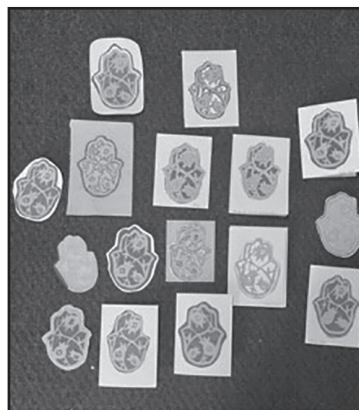
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Hudson Fishkind making a Challah cover.



Rachel Gilje making Shema in Hebrew calligraphy.



The Dalet class made paper cut Hamsas.



Last year's Zayin class at the woodwork studio making Challah boards.

**Message from Sandi Toben,
Early Childhood Ed Director**



Another great summer at Har Zion Day Camp has come to an end. I would like to thank each and every counselor for making this summer special. Our campers had so much fun during our amazing activities. Our campers swam, danced, played sports, learned Hebrew and science, and made friends during an incredible eight weeks together. Our summer is always marked by two wonderful celebrations. Family Fun Night was a great success. Families enjoyed a picnic dinner and Kona Ice dessert, while the children enjoyed inflatables, sand art, bounce house, and balloon art. Our Camp Carnival was a celebration of our campers for our campers. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who made this day possible.

We cannot talk about camp without mention of camp director, Diane Halpren. She was behind the scenes every day making sure all our campers were safe and having the best summer. Diane's dedication to the camp and initiative to bring a diverse and engaging schedule of activities to our community has produced a well-respected and highly sought after day camp. We are grateful for Diane and her years of dedication to the Har Zion Day Camp and the Noreen Cook Center for Early Childhood Education. We wish Diane all the best in her retirement. You can still visit Diane at our monthly Tot Shabbat starting in October!



Our 2023-2024 School Year is about to kick off and our staff is ready to invite your students into their classrooms. The NCCECE is welcoming new families, new staff, and new initiatives. We are excited to have Missie Pludo join our administration team! Missie will be helping with teacher training, Kids Knowledge College, and our new Lundy Inclusion Initiative. The new Lundy Inclusion Initiative will bring our teachers resources and training to further diversify and sharpen their toolbox of strategies. Each student is unique and their learning needs and wants differ. This initiative celebrates those differences and establishes our classrooms as places where diverse learning styles and students' needs are met with love and understanding. We are excited for another year of growth!

Please join us for our Tot Family Rosh Hashanah service on Saturday, September 16!

Upcoming NCCECE/HSA Events

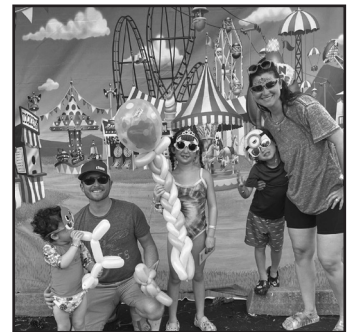
September

- 4 Labor Day
- 6 Meet and Greet/ HSA Welcome Back – 9 AM-12 PM
- 7 First Day of School!
- 15 Erev Rosh Hashanah – No School
- 16 and 17 Rosh Hashanah
- 24 Erev Yom Kippur
- 25 Yom Kippur – No School
- 27 Back to School Night – 7 PM
- 29 Erev Sukkot – 12 PM Dismissal
- 30 Sukkot

October

- 1 Sukkot
- 6 Erev Shemini Atzeret – 12 PM Dismissal
- 7 Shemini Atzeret
- 8 Simhat Torah
- 20 Shabbat Sha-Blue Jeans – featuring Gan class
- 28 Tot Shabbat

Look who had fun at Family Fun Night!



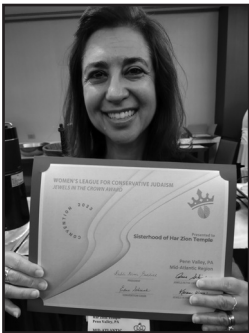
SISTERHOOD . . .

Welcome Back!

Message from **Michele Perlstein**, Sisterhood President

This summer, as President of the Sisterhood of Har Zion Temple, I had the pleasure of attending the Women's League for Conservative Judaism's International Convention from July 16-19, in Schaumburg, IL. It was a busy three days of programming and education where I learned many interesting things (for instance, I never realized that at the second World Zionist Congress in 1898 women were allowed to vote), made new friends from around the country, and heard from some fascinating speakers. (There's too much to summarize in this small space but ask me about the talk given by the lovely Dafnah Sizomu, the daughter of Rabbi Gershom Sizomu, the religious leader of the Abayudaya community in Uganda, in particular). I really enjoyed learning more about Masorti Olami and Mercaz Olami and I'm glad to report that Conservative Judaism is thriving around the world. It was so inspiring to see a recording of an interview with the Executive Director of Women of the Wall, Yochi Rappeport, and learn more about their dedication in the face of intense opposition to attaining the right of women to wear prayer shawls, pray, and read Torah aloud at the Western Wall.

However, the highlight for me was when our Sisterhood was named one of the awardees of the Jewels in the Crown Award! This award recognizes Sisterhood affiliates which meet certain standards of excellence in education, engagement, and participation. Those who achieve this award are considered to be the best at educating, inspiring, and helping others. It was an honor to be awarded this recognition and I'm so glad I was able to be there in person to receive the award at the ceremony.



It is not lost on me that the reason our Sisterhood was eligible for the Jewels in the Crown award is because of all our fabulous engaged women who do so much for our synagogue and larger Jewish Community. In April and May, we finished out the year with two terrific programs. The first was a challah baking afternoon with our own Maxine Rosen and the second was with speaker Amy E. Feldman, Esq. who spoke about the dangers of children and "sexting". (This program was recorded so if anyone is interested in getting a copy of this talk please let me know). Thank you to Sheila Schafer, the VP of Programs, for coordinating these two programs for us.

In June, we had a fabulous Closing Campaign and Dinner. I would like to thank the co-chairs, Abby Siegel-Greenberg and Aimee Silverman, along with VP of Ways and Means, Robin Zatuchni and Sisterhood Past President Lynne Landsburg for putting together a highly entertaining evening with performer Elizabeth Knecht. The money we raised from your contributions will help support everything Sisterhood does for our members and the entire Har Zion community.

As for the upcoming year, we in Sisterhood have been planning and preparing for a new year of fun, educational, and interesting

10 ■ September/October 2023

Sisterhood Calendar

- Sisterhood Shmooze**
Wednesday, September 13, 11 AM
- Sisterhood Book Club**
Wednesdays, September 27, November 8, 12:30 PM
- Sukkah Decorating**
Thursday, September 28, 10 AM
- Sukkot Program with Cantor Herman in the Sukkah**
Wednesday, October 4, 11 AM
- Rosh Hodesh Group**
Tuesdays, October 17, November 14
(Zoom/In-person) 4 PM
- Opening Dinner**
Wednesday, October 18, 6:30 PM
- Board Meeting**
Sunday, October 22, 10 AM
- Mid-Atlantic Region Torah Fund Event**
Congregation Beth Tikvah, Marlton, NJ
Sunday, November 12, 11:30 AM
- Save the Date!**
Torah Fund Brunch
Sunday, December 10, 11 AM

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.



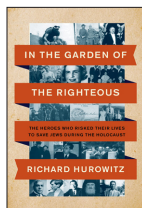
programs! I look forward to seeing you at our Sisterhood Shmooze and babka and challah pick up, on September 13 at 11 AM at the Main Entrance. Our big Fall event, the Opening Dinner, will be on October 18 and we are in the process of planning this program. Be on the lookout for your invitation in the mail soon. I hope to see you there!

On behalf of my husband Michael, my children Rachel, Abby, Leo and Emma, and myself, we wish you all a *Shana Tova U'metukah*, a sweet and happy New Year!

The Eleventh Annual
Open a Book...Open Your Mind
for 2023-24

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

Admission is \$18 per author or \$180 for the series
 All programs will be in-person – check your emails closer
 to the program date.



Wednesday, September 27
7:00 PM
Michael Posner
Leonard Cohen Untold Stories

Wednesday, October 11
12 Noon Lunch & Learn
(Virtual from Israel)
Jonathan Porath
Here We Are All Jews

Monday, October 16
7:00 PM
Richard Hurowitz
In the Garden of the Righteous

Wednesday, November 8
7:00 PM
Info to come

Wednesday, December 13
1:00 PM
Pam Jenoff
Code Name Sapphire

Monday, December 18
7:00 PM
Cynthia Ehrenkrantz
Seeking Shelter

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

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

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



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

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

Monday, March 18
7:00 PM
Debby Applegate
Madam

Monday, April 8
Info to come

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

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

Thursday, April 11
Info to come

TIKKUN OLAM . . .

Message from the Co-Chairs

Melissa Sayer and Norma Dworkin

It's hard to believe that a new year is upon us again! A time for self-reflection and planning for the days ahead. As Jews, it is incumbent to all of us to help make this world a better place. Our Tikkun Olam committee needs new ideas and new leadership. If anyone has time to give or would like to initiate a charity program please contact us. There is so much more that can be done within our community and neighboring areas. Har Zion Temple has the manpower. Please let's use it!! From our family to yours *Shana Tova U'metuka!*

Melissa Sayer msapirosayer@gmail.com
 Norma Dworkin nldworkin58@gmail.com

GET READY – GET SET – KNIT!!

Our Shul Stitchers knitters and crocheters have been busy this summer starting new projects and finishing uncompleted ones. We are now looking forward to doing more mitzvot! We are ready to start a new year of making beautiful knitted blankets, hats or scarves and giving them to those who are in need of warmth and beauty in their lives.

We'd love you to join us! Just come to a Shul Stitchers meeting, and we'll provide the needles, yarn, knitting/crocheting lessons, friendship and fun!!

Meetings are held on **Tuesdays, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM (except for MLK Day): Sept. 5, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 15-MLK Day of Service, Feb. 13, Mar. 12, Apr. 9, May 14, Jun. 11.**

In July we donated to the Israeli Lone Soldier program. Thank you Rabbi Shawn for bringing and delivering our handmade hats and blankets made with love to the soldiers. Later in July, JRA received baby, youth and adult-sized twin blankets for their new immigrants to cozy up with on cool nights.

This summer Robin Seeherman and Andy Coren delivered hand knitted blankets to Julie Roat, JRA's Chief of Operations.

The Jewish Relief Agency serves any household in need of food assistance regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, background, or sexual orientation.

Learn more about JRA at their website JewishRelief.org.



Save the Dates!

Cook for a Friend

Sundays, October 15, November 19, December 17, February 11, March 17, April 7, May 19
9:30 AM (Prep to begin at 9 AM)
and MLK Day – Monday, January 15, 9:30 AM

*Bimah flowers for Yom Kippur are sponsored
 by the Friedland Family
 in memory of Annette & Jack Friedland.*

*Sisterhood would also like to thank the sponsors
 of the Bimah flowers for Rosh Hashanah.*

HAR ZION TEMPLE

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR WILLIAM “BILLY” PERILSTEIN

William “Billy” Perilstein, past president and long-time volunteer leader at Har Zion Temple, died on May 20, 2023 (29 Iyar 5783). Billy was a lifelong member of Har Zion. A combination of the Covid pandemic and declining health, limited Bill’s ability to participate in recent years, but at all times Billy remained interested in Har Zion and its community.

Billy was born on June 6, 1933, in Philadelphia, the son of Nathan and Rose Perilstein, brother of Paul Perilstein (Adeline), Edgar Perilstein (Charlotte), Harold Perilstein (Florence), Charlotte Kirschner, and Betty Krestal (Larry), who predeceased him. Billy graduated from Overbrook High School, class of 1951. He subsequently attended and graduated from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Class of 1954, with a B.S. in Management, majoring in Engineering/Industrial Management.

After graduation, Billy served in the US Armed Forces. He was honorably discharged in 1955, at which time he joined the H. Perilstein Glass Company. H. Perilstein Glass Company was subsequently sold to Chromalloy. In 1978, Billy founded Wm. Perilstein Glass Company in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Later Billy joined Allied Glass in Clarks Summit, PA as Sales Manager, where he worked until his retirement in 2017. The glass industry was an integral part of Billy’s life.

Billy personifies the Har Zion Temple tradition in the fullest sense. There was not a time that Har Zion Temple was not part of Billy’s life. His parents, Nathan and Rose, were actively involved in the life of Har Zion, Nathan serving as a member of the Board of Directors. Billy graduated from Har Zion Religious School, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at Har Zion, and was confirmed at Har Zion. Billy and his beloved wife “Cookie” (Marianne Sall), also a Har Zion lifetime member, were married at Har Zion Temple. During their many years of membership, Billy and Cookie shared many simchas with the Har Zion community.

As a young adult, Billy became involved in all aspects of congregational life at Har Zion Temple. Billy was elected to the Board of Directors and became an officer for the first time in the late 1960’s. Billy served in many officer capacities, including both as a Senior Vice President and then Executive Vice President. He served as chairman of many committees and programs at 54th Street, Radnor and Penn Valley. In particular, Billy was actively involved in all aspects of the planning, construction and opening of the then new Har Zion Temple building in Penn Valley in 1976.

Billy was elected President of Har Zion Temple in the spring of 1979 and served a term of one year. During his term of office, year three in Penn Valley, Har Zion experienced rapid growth. At the same time, working with both the Board of Directors and the entire membership, Billy instituted the “burn the mortgage campaign.” The rapid success of this campaign enabled Har Zion to grow, unfettered by any long-term financial burdens.

Following his term as President, Billy remained active in leadership, a regular attendee and active participant at meetings of both the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. Billy remained particularly interested in the financial health of Har Zion. He was a mentor to Presidents who followed him.

As active as Billy was on the business and financial side of Har Zion, Billy never forgot that Har Zion was a בית תפילה (*beit tefilla*), a house of prayer. Billy regularly attended both Shabbat and holiday services, as well as daily minyan and he wrapped his tefillin daily.

In addition to Har Zion, Billy devoted his time and philanthropy to the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, as well as to the Philadelphia Geriatric Center (now Abramson Senior Care), where Billy served as President and long-time member of the Board of Directors. In addition, many of Billy’s deepest friendships were nurtured by his charitable efforts on behalf of the Golden Slipper Club. Golden Slipper honored Billy for his many contributions with the prestigious Gold Medallion Award.

Billy and Cookie traveled around the world, in particular to Israel numerous times, and once to the then Soviet Union in order to visit and support Soviet Jewish dissidents. In 1986, Billy and Cookie were with dissident Natan Sharansky, when he received word that he could leave Russia and emigrate to Israel.

In addition to Cookie, Billy is survived by and was the proud father of Linda Applebaum (Joel z”l), Robert and Nancy Toll Perilstein, Ronald and Jayne Davis Perilstein, and Margie Wargon; proud grandfather of Julie Mozes (Daniel), Matti Burnett (Max), Alex Perilstein (Erika), Samuel Applebaum, Molly Applebaum, George Perilstein (Tayarish Poe), Elana Perilstein (Paiboon Choollin), Jesse Wargon, Talia Wargon, and Ava Wargon; and proud great-grandfather of Henry, Ari, Max, Rena, Miriam, Valerie and Binyamin.

Billy was a humble and sincere person, the essence of goodness. He believed that every person was his equal, offering his sincere attention, as well as advice and assistance along with respect for their dignity.

We miss Billy and his significant contributions to the Har Zion Temple community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Memorial Resolution be spread on the minutes of the Board of Directors of Har Zion Temple, a copy be published in the Har Zion *Bulletin*, and copies be sent to Billy’s family.

June 2023

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Elliot Rosen's presidency
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Julie & Andrew's wedding,
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Sara Cohen's birthday

Community Seder
Sheila Kliger's birthday
Sara Cohen's birthday
Charlotte Muchnick's birthday
Stanley & Lita Cohen's grand-
daughter

My birthday Aliyah, gratitude for
a loving HZT community, Gavi Miller
for his work at HZT, my teachers
Dr. Rabbi Shawn Simon-Hazani
Jean Herz

Appreciation of Passover services
Talia Bernstein's Bat Mitzvah
Welcoming Cantor Herman to HZT
Aufruf
Sara Cohen's Birthday
Lynne Landsburg
Charlotte Muchnick's birthday and
all she does to make the world a
better place
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Maddie Brownstein's Bat Mitzvah

IN MEMORY OF

Henry Shrager

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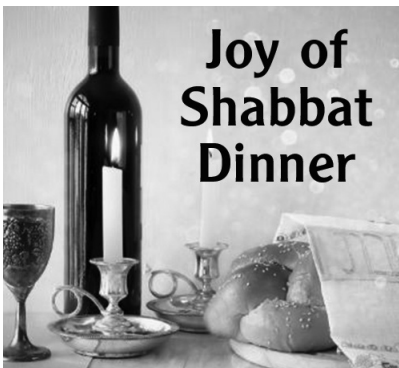
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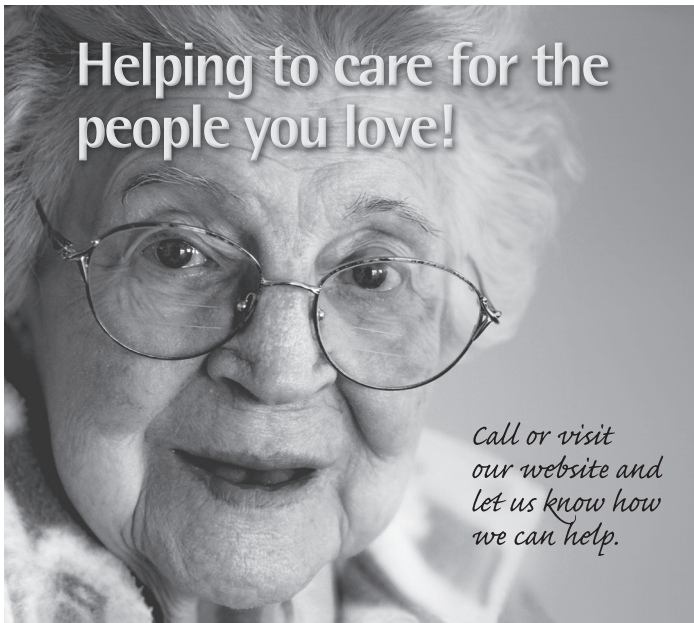
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