

Forming Kulanu: Temple Israel and Temple Beth-El Religious Schools to Combine Starting This Fall

By Marc Katz, Editor

Conservative Temple Israel and Reform Temple Beth-El religious schools will merge this fall, forming a new combined school serving both congregations. The new school, under the direction of Rabbi Amy Roth of Temple Israel, will be called The Kulanu Religious School. Kulanu is Hebrew for “all of us.”

Negotiations to establish the new school have been ongoing for some time, but only within the past few weeks were all points agreed upon by a committee from both congregations. The plan calls for classes to continue to be held at Temple Israel on Sundays and Tuesdays, when the congregation’s students will be joined by Beth-El pupils. The Waxman High School—currently open to non-members of the congregation—will be part of the combined curriculum, but Temple Israel’s Beth HaGan Nursery School and Temple Beth-El’s early childhood program will remain independent. Both congregations will continue their own *bar* and *bat mitzvah* training and perform their own *b’nei mitzvah*.

“This plan has the potential to make our community more vibrant and robust,” said Rabbi Roth. “There is currently a lot of socialization between the students from both congregations and this is a natural and appropriate way to join the educational programs.”

An announcement to the membership of both congregations said: “The new school will be a multi-denominational Jewish complementary school for Jewish students in grades pre-k-12. The mission of the new joint religious school is to provide innovative, experiential learning that will inspire and prepare students to engage meaningfully in Jewish life. Temple Israel and Temple Beth-El’s leadership are committed to providing a stellar supplemental Jewish educational program for our children.”

Rabbi Roth said the “underlying principal of the educational program (at both congregations) is not all that different. We

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Temple Israel Is Exploring Re-Opening Options

Temple Israel is exploring options for re-opening its campus following a shutdown of more than three months. The options include an in-person outdoor *minyan*, other shared prayer experiences, small teen and adult gatherings and other social activities. Guided by the overriding consideration of the safety and well-being of congregants, the clergy, senior staff and leadership are looking to welcome members back in ways that will enhance their spiritual, programmatic, educational and social experiences.

In the last few weeks, the congregation has had a number of successful in-person gatherings, including a pre-school graduation, a

drive-by ice cream social for religious school families and an outdoor gathering for teens. Trying to capitalize on the successes of prior years’ events, the synagogue is looking to adapt some of these to fit within the socially distanced world of today—outdoor hikes, a drive-in movie night, perhaps a small family barbecue night and other outdoor family, teen and children’s programs.

As a “sacred experiment” the synagogue will hold an in-person outdoor *minyan* for a limited number of persons who pre-register and conform to requirements that maintain personal safety this Sunday evening. The service will also be available via Zoom, allowing members to continue to participate

remotely. The synagogue will look to add additional opportunities to pray outdoors.

The committee exploring options for re-opening the campus, appointed by Temple Israel President Burton Weston, includes members with medical, legal, communications, security, facilities, and programmatic expertise, all of which bear on the re-opening.

“Through this extremely challenging time, our mission remains the same... to be a place where everyone is welcome to experience the power of Judaism... The medium may be different, but not the message,” the

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Strengthening Synagogue Leadership

A Voice Guest Column By Ofra Panzer

EDITOR'S NOTE: Temple Israel trustee Ofra Panzer is a lay leader with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the organization of Conservative congregations. She is the Metropolitan New York (METNY) district chair, encompassing more than 85 synagogues on Long Island, the five boroughs of New York City, Rockland and Westchester Counties.

Why did more than 20 new synagogue leaders drive to Temple Israel (some all the way from Scranton, Pennsylvania) to join in a one-day program that took place on Sunday, January 26? Read on for the answer.

...cherish the gift of life every single day.

Given the complexity of a synagogue as an institution, and that its lay leaders usually are comprised of diverse professions, backgrounds and differential board experiences, a training course would be in order to round out the areas lacking. For the past 27-years, United Synagogue has been training presidents

and presidents-elect. A benefit of a synagogue being a member of USCJ is access to this specialized training.

The Sulam (Hebrew for "ladder") for Presidents full training is geared to newly elected presidents and vice presidents likely to become president in the next two years. It takes place over three-and-a-half days in the form of a retreat, including *Shabbat*, is comprehensive and implements reflective leadership practices. Immediate Past President Rob Panzer was the first Temple Israel leader, followed by Burton Weston, to experience this coaching.

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What Do We Need Right Now?

From the Rabbi By Rabbi Howard Stecker

As we progress further into the summer, amidst virtual gatherings and the gradual introduction of in-person activities, we ought to continue to be mindful of the issues which face us communally, nationally and globally. I recently posted the following reflection in light of the reality of racial inequality and our obligation to respond: Along with the many challenges we are facing right now, I urge us to think seriously about this and to determine what we will say and do as Jewish American human beings.

What do we need right now?

We need humility. Those of us who are not Black do not know what it's like to be Black in this country. Humility calls upon us to listen to our Black brothers and sisters, to hear their stories, to bear witness to their passion and pain, to commit to getting to know people as people before we presume to know what they are feeling, what they need,

what is best for them. "I'm prepared to listen." and "How can I help?" are good places to start.

We need discernment. In the whirlwind of information and opinion that might feel overwhelming right now, we must

...we need courage.

make a concerted effort to discern between good cops and bad, peaceful protest and violent protest, leadership that seeks to uplift and unite and leadership that seeks to suppress and divide. Willful ignorance and intellectual sloppiness are not legitimate ethical options. We must act with discernment.

We need courage. Courage to admit our own sins of omission and commission when it comes to racism. Courage to call out racism whether it comes

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Amid the Uncertainty

From the President by Burton Weston

The pandemic has brought with it endless disruption and uncertainty. But amidst it all, one thing is certain—that the business of the synagogue has continued unabated. Clearly, there has been no road map to address any one of the episodes of this story as it has unfolded. Nonetheless, we have been forced to develop a script that has given uninterrupted support and addressed the varied needs of our community, albeit a little bit differently.

...our families, singles and students ...needed to have some certainty in this uncertain world we are experiencing.

Being very much in the thick of it, I cannot tell you how fortunate we have been and how thankful I am for the creativity, determination and workhorse spirit of our clergy—that of each of Rabbis Stecker and Schweber and Cantor Frieder—and of every member of our senior staff (with special kudos to the tireless and "never-say-no" efforts of our executive director, Jamey Kohn). By this point, we almost take for granted uninterrupted daily and Shabbat services, a school year finished out with continued learning, an art fair, graduations and celebrations, continued adult learning, programming and lectures, special and frequent connections made with almost every member of the congregation—all in new and different ways for which there was no instruction guide. They did it because that's what synagogue's do. Not so much because folks expect it, but because our families, singles and students needed it—needed to have some certainty in this uncertain world we are experiencing.

A simple demonstration of this need to feel grounded, to feel a connection, was on full display one evening a

—Continued on page 8

In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends condolences
to the families of:

IRAJ TODD

brother of Vahideh Morad

DORA WURTZEL

mother of Robert Wurtzel,
Carl Wurtzel and Lennie Wurtzel

JACK WEINBERGER

father of Jeffrey Weinberger
and Steven Weinberger
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

May their memories be for a blessing.



A well-attended Temple Israel membership meeting, held on June 15 on Zoom, took the following actions:

- Elected Debra Bykoff, Lesli Giglio, Barbara Katz, and David Levin to the Board of Trustees. They were all recommended for election by the Nominating Committee and assume their positions beginning in July. They replace outgoing Board members Susan Brustein, Toby Katz, Mark Putter, and Sima Tæid.
- Approved a contract for the hiring of Cantor Brian Shamash, effective January 1 of next year. The contract had previously been approved by the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees.
- Approved the congregation's operating budget for the coming fiscal year. It allows for the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees to modify the budget during the year due to the Corona pandemic.

Next Voice Issues, Deadlines

The next issue of The Voice will be published on August 7. The deadline for that issue is Wednesday, July 22. The following issue, covering Sellhot, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, will be published on September 4. The deadline for that issue is August 17.

The congregation and community
is invited to dim their lights
and join Temple Israel Zoom to...

observe

TISH'AH BE'AV

Commemorating the Destruction of the First Temple
(in 586 BCE) and the Second Temple (in 70 CE)
in Jerusalem, and the Exile of the Jewish People.

*This solemn day reflects
the greatest tragedies of Jewish history
including the Holocaust,
but also serves as a reminder
that the Jewish tradition of renewal
is alive in Israel and in America.*

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 29

Fast begins at 8:20 P.M.

Minhah 8:10 P.M.

Followed by Ma'ariv

and the reading of Eikhah (the Book of Lamentations).

THURSDAY, JULY 30

Shaharit 7:30 A.M.

without tallit and tefillin, including Torah reading
and kinot (poems of lament)

Minhah & Ma'ariv 8:05 P.M.

including Torah and Haftarah
appropriate for Tish'ah Be'av with tallit and tefillin

Fast Ends at 8:46 P.M.

Three New Temple Israel Summer Classes

Open to All via TIGN Zoom

PIRKEI AVOT: INSPIRING LESSONS FROM OUR TRADITION

with Rabbi Amy Roth

What are these "Ethics of the Fathers" that everyone quotes?

Why is it a custom to study these texts during this time of year?

Read selections of these short but memorable aphorisms, and be part of a discussion to analyze their relevance to 21st century Jews.

Wednesdays at 11 A.M.

on July 15, 22 & 29

text will be provided

JOB: RESPONSES TO ADVERSITY

with Rebecca Friedman-Charry

What can biblical wisdom literature tell us about understanding and facing adversity? Find out in a seasonal reading and discussion of the book of Job.

Thursdays at 11 A.M.

July 16, 23 & 30

JEWISH DIASPORA: THE JEWS OF EUROPE

with Rabbi Daniel Schweber

The Jewish Diaspora eventually spread to all six habitable continents.

In the first of what could be several mini-series, Rabbi Schweber will lead an exploration of the Jewish history of several European countries:

Thursdays at 7 P.M.

July 16 - Greece, Italy and Baltics

July 23 - Germany

July 30 - Eastern Europe and Pale of Settlement

Join the Sisterhood's Film Discussion Series

Monday, July 20 • 8 P.M.

THE NEXT FILM IS **IVANHOE** (1952) AVAILABLE ON AMAZON PRIME, YOUTUBE, VUDU, ITUNES AND GOOGLE PLAY (\$2.99 RENTAL). **WARNING: BEWARE OF "FREE" WEBSITES FOR THIS FILM. THEY CANNOT BE TRUSTED.**



BEFORE THE MEETING, WATCH THE FILM ON YOUR OWN AT HOME.

BACKGROUND: THIS FILM IS A REMARKABLY ACCURATE PICTURE OF JEWISH LIFE IN ENGLAND, AT THE END OF THE 3RD CRUSADE (1189-1192). AS YOU WATCH THE FILM, COMPARE THE JEWS, THE SAXONS AND THE NORMANS IN TERMS OF THEIR LIFESTYLES, OCCUPATIONS, ATTITUDES TOWARD EACH OTHER.

WHO'S WHO IN THE STORY?

IN 1066, WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR CAME FROM NORMANDY (FRANCE) WITH HIS KNIGHTS AND CONQUERED ENGLAND,

DISPLACING THE VARIOUS RULING TRIBES (SAXONS, JUTES, ETC.) WITH A NORMAN DYNASTY.

THE SAXONS:

CEDRIC, IVANHOE'S FATHER, A SAXON NOBLE DISPLACED BY THE NORMANS. **ROWENA**, A SAXON PRINCESS, CEDRIC'S WARD. SHE IS IN LOVE WITH IVANHOE. **IVANHOE**, A SAXON KNIGHT, RETURNED FROM THE CRUSADES, DISOWNED BY HIS FATHER FOR HIS LOYALTY TO THE KING OF ENGLAND, RICHARD. IVANHOE IS IN LOVE WITH ROWENA. **LOCKSLEY** (AKA ROBIN HOOD), LEADS A REBELLION AGAINST PRINCE JOHN.

THE NORMANS:

RICHARD, KING OF ENGLAND, HELD FOR RANSOM IN AUSTRIA ON HIS RETURN FROM THE CRUSADES. **PRINCE JOHN**, RICHARD'S BROTHER, RULING ENGLAND IN RICHARD'S ABSENCE, AND DETERMINED TO KEEP THE THRONE FOR HIMSELF. THE **NORMAN KNIGHTS**, KEEPING JOHN IN POWER.

THE JEWS:

ISAAC OF YORK, A MONEYLENDER. **REBECCA**, ISAAC'S DAUGHTER, PRACTICES MEDICINE. SHE FALLS IN LOVE WITH IVANHOE.

JOIN THE MEETING ON JULY 20TH (1PM):

- **BY COMPUTER:** on [TIGN Zoom](#) PASSWORD: 224111
- **WITH SMARTPHONE OR TABLET:** MEETING ID: 953 316 9190 PASSWORD: 224111
- **BY PHONE (AUDIO ONLY):** DIAL 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 953 316 9190

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Temple Lites...

• **Rebecca Yousafedeh Sassouni** was elected to a second term on the Great Neck Board of Education last month.

Mazal Tov To...

- **Alise Kreditor and Jeffrey Englander** on the marriage of their son, Jacob, on June 7—exactly 23 years to the day after his *bar mitzvah*—to Alexandra Rose Tawfik. Cantor Raphael Frieder officiated at the backyard wedding.
- **Deanna and Rabbi Howard Stecker** on the marriage of their son, Daniel, to Rebecca Rimsky.
- **Amy and James Pearlman** on the marriage of their daughter, Rena, granddaughter of Temple Israel Past Presidents Eileen and the late Mickey Putterman, to Michael Benison.
- **Susan and Dennis Brustein** on the birth of their grandson, Joshua Micah Brustein.
- **Rona and Joseph Lupkin** on the birth of their granddaughter, Autumn Sylvia Lupkin.

Congregation Thanks Kiddush Sponsors

Contributions toward the kiddush on January 25 were made by the Adult *B'nei Mitzvah* class: Mahvash Abitbol, David Eshaghoff, Nahid Mashihhi and Nelly Mizrahi in honor of their *simhah*.

Introducing ShulCloud, Temple Israel's New Membership Management System

Temple Israel is upgrading its membership management system to a new platform, called ShulCloud. Used by more than 1,200 congregations nationwide, ShulCloud has become the preferred software for this industry.

This software manages family contact information, *yahrzeit* reminders, High Holy Day seating and *aliyot*, Religious School and Waxman High School registration, billing, and payments. Additional features which will be utilized by Temple Israel include online registration forms for events and programs, and fundraising options.

"The enhancement which the membership might most enjoy is the new ability for online personal account maintenance and bill payment," according to Executive Director Jamey Kohn. "Members will each have their own login and be able to review their statements, make a donation, pay a bill, and even sign up for a dinner—all from one's smartphone, tablet or computer."

ShulCloud will also save Temple Israel a great deal of money. Members will have the option to receive their invoices and *yahrzeit* reminders by email, saving stationery and postage. "Don't worry though," Mr. Kohn said. "A standard mailing will always remain an option." The new ease of paying bills online will allow for more prompt remittance and increased cash flow.

"A new, modern donation form will be so efficient that contributions can be expected to increase," he said. "Please keep in mind that even as Temple Israel increases its online presence, members are always welcome to send a check in the mail or call the office for all of their needs."

In the coming months members will receive an email to access a newly created account. For further information about the new system call Mr. Kohn at 482-7800 or email him at jkohn@tign.org.

Temple Israel and Temple Beth-El Religious Schools to Combine

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may have differences in observance, but they are not going to be imparted in the new religious school. We are always open to recognizing the different types of Jewish observance."

The letter to the congregations said: "More unites us than divides us. Yes, there are distinctions between

our movements, but there are also differences in how each of us individually practices and the beliefs we each hold. In an age-appropriate manner, we endeavor to address the differences in an open, pluralistic and egalitarian fashion. We look to Jewish summer camps, Hillel and other cross-denominational school models for guidance and inspiration."

Rabbi Roth said that "in elementary Jewish education our religious differences are really not all that different. Educational programs are all about Jewish identity, connection to the Jewish community through reading, common prayers, Jewish holidays, lessons from the Torah, and Jewish values."

She said "We can't ignore the fact that this merger is happening at a challenging time for everyone. We hope to be able to hold in-person classes in the fall, but we are committed to starting sessions in September in whatever form is necessary.

"Our world is changing," Rabbi Roth added, "and we are obliged to adapt to the changing needs of the community."

Temple Israel Exploring Re-opening Options

—Continued from front page
committee said in a letter to the congregation. While the objective is to re-open the synagogue in a safe manner for all, and to try to make worshiping together a positive experience, the synagogue is committed to providing outstanding virtual services and programs for all ages for as long as is necessary.

The leadership is also convening a diverse group to explore the High Holy Days experience and how to meaningfully engage the entire membership during this time of year. As part of this exploration, the clergy and synagogue leadership plan to send a survey to the congregation to gauge member's comfort and interest regarding a variety of options.

A Temple Israel Scrapbook

Men's Club Members Taste A Variety of Beers Via Zoom



Zoom is constantly presenting new opportunities for Temple Israel programs. Last month the Men's Club conducted their first beer tasting, hosted by Alex Silberstein of Citifield's Mikkeller Brewery, left. He explained the history of the company, how beer is brewed, and got reaction from members who sampled six unique beers brewed by the company.

A large number of Men's Club members, many along with their families or in small socially distanced groups, as the one below, enjoyed the hot summer evening sampling the brews and asking questions.

The program was organized by Men's Club President Michael Becker, who was assisted by Rabbi Daniel Schweber, who even brought meals to participating Men's Club members who had pre-ordered them from Ben's Deli in Bayside.

Praying for a Great Round On The Golf Course!

Rabbi Daniel Schweber is spending part of his summer days taking members of the congregation to the golf course.

He recently spent a beautiful day on the links with Temple Israel members Bob and Susan Lopatkin and Howard Spun, below left, and Daniel and Van Frankel, below right.



A Temple Israel Scrapbook

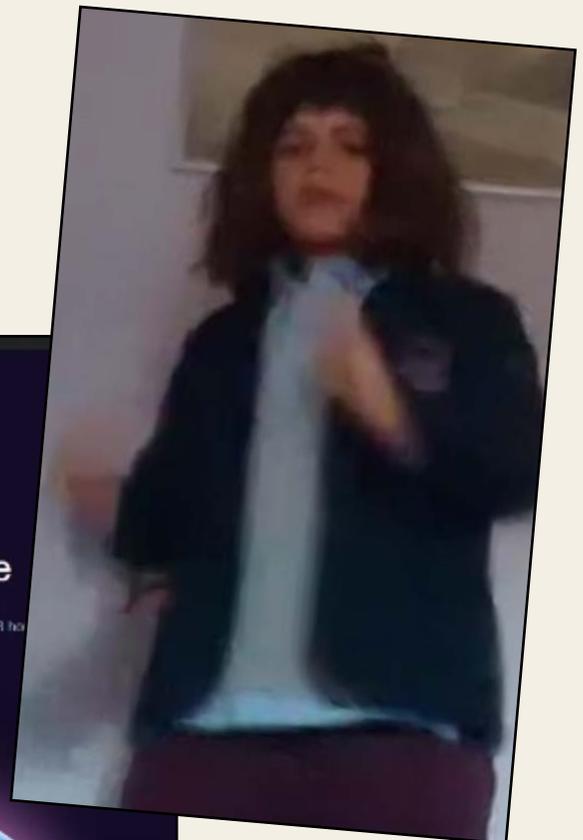
Temple Israel Sure's Got a Lot of Talent!

Everyone knows Temple Israel's membership is bursting with talent, and on June 22 it was on display when the congregation held its first talent show, via Zoom, titled "Temple Israel's Got Talent." Individuals as well as entire families showed off their abilities at singing, playing musical instruments, art, comedy routines, magic tricks, and more.

The hour-long presentation was organized by Rabbi Daniel Schweber and Waxman High School Director Avi Siegel, who both pronounced the effort a huge success. They predict another program in the near future.



Among the many congregants showing off their skills were the singing duo of Brian and Amanda Volk, above; Benson Kurpiel, who shared some of his original art work, at left; Harriet Picker, below left, who sang "Far From the Home I Love" from Fiddler on the Roof; and David Goldberg, below, who did his interpretation of Elvis Presley.



Voice Guest Column: Strengthening Synagogue Leadership

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Sulam for Officers is "...Not Just for Presidents Anymore." This intensive one-day agenda arms synagogue presidents, executive committee and select board members with the resources and tools needed to contribute to the leadership team and vibrancy of their synagogue. It supports each individual's next steps on the leadership "ladder."

Space was intentionally limited because one of the hallmarks of this experience is the intimacy of learning and sharing in a small group setting. Throughout the day, references to different personality styles were discussed (using the Myers Briggs Personality Indicator) and how these types can impact the work of synagogue leadership.

The session exercises and facilitated

discussions focused on the core of mission and vision building, budgeting, effective meeting management, membership, volunteerism, and engagement of the next generation. The presenters were USCJ Leadership Specialist Robert Leventhal, Synagogue Consultant Linda Sussman and METNY Vice President of Finance Marc Klee (filling in at the last minute for Senior Director of Synagogue Affiliations and Operations Barry Mael, who had a family emergency), with facilitation assistance by Marc Klee and myself.

The answer, then, to my opening question is that these people recognize the importance of exploring what they may not know. They came away with how to begin the process of... developing concrete action plans that can help their leadership teams to

thrive. These tools will last through the participant's tenure as a synagogue officer and beyond.

Acknowledgments to our own Temple Israel officers David Eshaghoff and Rachel Geula for taking advantage of and participating in this opportunity.

In the past decade USCJ has developed varied "Sulam" programs. Temple Israel participated in Sulam for Emerging Leaders in 2013, and more recently Sulam for Strategic Planners, USCJ's newest Sulam, "For Purposeful Living," is geared towards baby boomers, those generally born between the mid-1940s and mid-1960s who may be becoming less connected with their congregations. Speak to our leadership if you are interested in hearing more about this.

From the President: Amid the Uncertainty

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couple of weeks ago when a group of empty nester couples and singles had a dialogue with Rabbi Stecker about the impact the pandemic was having on our lives and psyches. In what I can only describe as a candid, indeed soul-bearing discussion, we each found comfort in the fact that we were not alone in feeling anxious, out of control and somewhat untethered. Providing the forum for support is part of the synagogue's institutional role. Yes, our business continues.

And, amidst the uncertainty, we have exciting things to look forward to. A signature program that was in the works before the pandemic struck—the combination of our religious school with that of our neighbor, Temple Beth-El, is coming to fruition. Something a while ago advocated as part of our strategic plan, this inter-connection will provide an exciting platform to educate our next generation.

We will be honoring the outstanding musical leadership and incredible impact that Cantor Frieder has had on our community over three decades, while welcoming *Hazzan* Brian Shamash and his family to the Temple

Israel community as he assumes the role as our next cantor this coming year.

**A lot of change, yes.
A bit of uncertainty, yes.
Enervating and exciting, yes.
All because the business
of the synagogue continues.**

We are planning a safe and responsible slow return to in-person

activities as we carefully navigate next steps, and are looking ahead at providing outstanding and meaningful services and programs for the entire synagogue community in celebration of the high Holy Days.

A lot of change, yes. A bit of uncertainty, yes. Enervating and exciting, yes. All because the business of the synagogue continues.

What Do We Need Right Now?

—Continued from page 2

from our house, the house next door or the White House. Courage to advocate for what we know is right even if it's easier to lay low.

We need perseverance. The evil of racism—like the evils of anti-Semitism, homophobia and misogyny—requires our consistent effort to oppose. It didn't arise overnight and it won't be cured overnight. Attitudes change one person at a time when decent people make the painstaking effort to help change them. We must persevere and make the effort again and again at social gatherings, at holiday meals, in peaceful protests, whenever and wherever we see and hear bigotry.

In Jewish prayer, breath is acknowledged as the animating force of body and soul. In memory of George Floyd, a Black man whose breath was literally taken from him, let us use the breath God has given us to ask, absorb, discern, admit, call out and persevere in order to help change things for the better.

Dear God, the living, breathing souls you have given us are pure. Let us use them to ensure that all of your creatures can live, love and—yes—breathe, without fear.

From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

TEMPLE ISRAEL FUND

In appreciation of:

David Eshaghoff
Jamey Kohn

In honor of:

The birth of Lorenzo
Cole Davis, grandson of
Alise Kreditor and
Jeffrey Englander
Barbara and
Leonard Schultz

In memory of:

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Lisa Berke-
Weidenbaum
Sybil and Simmy
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Harold Kobliner
Suanne and Dave
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Moshe Doustan
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TEMPLE ISRAEL PLAYERS FUND

In memory of:

Laurie Frankel
Leon Silverberg

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In memory of:

Laurie Frankel
Lori and Peter
Oppenheimer
Liza Markus
Susan Jarolem
The LeRea family

D'var Torah

—Continued from back page
the festivals of the year and the public sacrifices that are to be offered daily and on every Shabbat and festival after the Israelites have entered the land. Maintaining this calendar is to be a means of tying together God, the land and the People of Israel.

Mattot-Mas'ey **Saturday, July 18**
With the double portion Mattot- Mase the Book of Numbers concludes. The sedrot deal with a variety of laws and occurrences revolving around the conquest of the Promised Land. The Acities of refuge expresses the Biblical theological postulate that the divine presence cannot abide in a land so polluted by murder; the offense leads to pollution of earth and abandonment by God of His sanctuary and people. Thus, homicide and asylum are mentioned here, as issues and institutions regaining attention on the eve of entering the Promised Land. Asylum was necessary because of the prevalence of blood vengeance in the ancient Near East. The narrative of the sedrot is preoccupied with the final events preceding the entering of the Promised Land. The Israelites have to defeat the Midianite foes, slaying the Midianite men, as well as those women implicated in the apostasy at Baal-peor. Spoils are divided and Trans-Jordan is occupied. This is problematic because the Tribes of Gad and Reuben wish to settle there, rather than passing the national goal of occupying and settling in the Promised Land. Moses accepts a compromise: in return for

the privilege of settling in Trans-Jordan, they will serve as shock troops for the forthcoming conquest. Finally, Israel turns its attention to the conquest and apportionment of Canaan. The Divine instructions to Moses are clear and logically sequential: conquest and apportionment of the land, definition of precise boundaries, designation of chieftains, the appropriation of 45 towns for the Levites, and six Levitical towns as cities of refuge. As religious functionaries, the Levites always received special dispensation, in this case receiving no permanent property, but permanent residences and pasturage for their livestock, via towns and their surrounding fields.

Devarim **Saturday, July 25**
We begin the Book of Deuteronomy in this portion. The entire book takes place while the Israelites are camped in the plains of Moab, on the banks of the Jordan River, ready to cross over into the Land of Canaan. At this point Moses is reaching the last weeks of his life and his ministry. He takes this opportunity to deliver three farewell discourses and two poems before he takes leave of his people. Since these people are not, for the most part, the ones who left Egypt, Moses begins his first discourse with a review of the events from the time of leaving Sinai to the present and the lessons to be learned from them. Thus, he does not merely recount history, he interprets it. Specifically, he emphasized that the people's fate depends on their response to God's commands and promises. The original command to proceed to the Promised Land was disobeyed when the Israelites took the negative advice of the ten scouts. This led to the wilderness wandering. The second command, to proceed to the Promised Land, is about to be obeyed.

Va'ethannan **Saturday, August 1**
This portion opens with Moses concluding his historical review by recounting how he entreated God to relent and allow him to go into the

land with his people. God's response is that Moses will be permitted to see the land, but only from afar. Moses now ends his first discourse with an exhortation to obey God's laws. In his second discourse, which constitutes the bulk of the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses communicated a body of laws to the Israelites in preparation for their entry into the Promised Land. Some of these laws repeat laws given earlier in the Torah, but many of them are found only here. Before presenting the laws, Moses delivers a prologue describing the historical circumstances under which God gave them to him for transmission to the people. This section includes a repetition of the Ten Commandments, with some notable differences from the Exodus version. In addition, Moses offers a preamble, presenting the ideological basis for the laws and appealing for their observance. This section includes one of the most famous passages of the Torah: "Shema Yisrael, Adonai elohenu Adonai ehad."

Ekev **Saturday, August 8**
We continue the section of Moses' second discourse, in which he sets forth the religious foundations of the covenant at Mt. Sinai, in this portion. He reminds the Israelites that during the entire period of the wilderness wandering they enjoyed God's care as witnessed by the fact that their clothing did not wear out or their feet swell and they were provided with manna for food. Moses cautions the people about what is likely to happen to them when they come into the good fruitful land that they are about to enter. He reminds them that they must never assume that it is by virtue of their own hands that they will enjoy the produce of the land, but it is God who gives it to them. Moses then returns to history and recalls to the Israelites all their acts of defiance: the making of the Golden Calf, the complaints about lack of food and water, and the incident of spies. He points out that it is only because he interceded for them with God that they are able to enter Canaan.

Daily Minyan Times

Friday, July 10

7:30 A.M. 6:30 P.M.

Sunday

8:15 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

7:30 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Book

Talk

with Temple Israel librarian
and reading enthusiast

Rona Lupkin

*Drop in to hear about the latest
in the literary world!*

Explore a brief picture of early
20th century American
cantorial roles in New York.
"Come on along, come on along
to the leader of the Band."
(Irving Berlin, 1910).

Ashley Nemiroff will be
the presenter
for the cantorial segment.

**Book Talk will resume
on July 21
and meets every Tuesday
at 12:30 P.M. on TIGN Zoom**

The Rabbi on the Fairway

By Rabbi Daniel Schweber

We all have to adjust to the "new normal" to protect ourselves from Covid-19. I'm often saying to myself and others "look for the silver linings amidst the gray clouds of life." What are some of the differences in our lives that are good? For some, it is the opportunity to take longer walks. Others are enjoying more time with family.

In addition to walks and family time, I have (re)discovered that I enjoy playing nine holes of golf at a time. In 2006, before my daughters came along, I found myself with a lot of time on my hand because Sarah was working long hours as a medical resident. I drove to the golf store, bought some clubs and took a bunch of lessons. I played some, and when our girls were born in December, 2007 my golf days took a LONG break. For the last couple of years I would play about three rounds a year, often with congregants.

Golf is one of the first activities allowed during Covid-19, so I took the plunge and started playing again. I quickly realized that I could play with Temple Israel congregants and that it was a

great way to safely see them in person.

I have now lost count of how many nine hole rounds I have played with congregants. Nine holes takes two or two-and-a-half hours and fits well into my schedule. I am still fairly horrible at playing, but I have hit some okay shots mixed in with the bad ones.

I have also taken several safely distanced and masked walks with congregants. While I still use Zoom and the telephone

**We all have to adjust
to the "new normal"
to protect ourselves
from Covid-19.**

to stay connected with most congregants, walks and golf are a great safe and physically healthy alternative. As you are able, I encourage everyone to get outside for our physical and mental health. And should you find yourself wanting the company of a rabbi for a round of golf, a walk, a bike ride, or a kayak paddle, let me know. I haven't picked up a tennis racket yet, but who knows...

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D'var Torah

by Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Pinehas Saturday, July 11

We read that Pinehas, the grandson of Aaron, is rewarded for his zeal in dealing summarily with the idolatry of Baal-peor by having the priesthood become the possession of his descendants for all time, in this portion. We now turn to the preparations for the conquest of the Promised Land. Moses takes a census of the generation born in the wilderness to determine the number of fighting men and the number of families who would share in the division of the land. God gives Moses instructions for apportioning the land, and we learn of a decision affirming the right of daughters to inherit property when there are no sons. Moses is told to ascend the mountain to prepare to die and to designate Joshua as his successor. The reading concludes with a calendar of

—Continued on page 10

Temple Israel of Great Neck

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Shabbat Services and Candle Lighting Times

Friday, July 10		Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.	Saturday, August 1	
Evening Service	6:30 P.M.	<i>Ma'ariv/Havdalah</i>	9:05 P.M.	<i>Shaharit</i> Morning Service	9:30 A.M.
Candle Lighting	8:10 P.M.				
Saturday, July 11		Friday, July 24		Weekly Portion: <i>Va'ethannan</i>	
<i>Shaharit</i> Morning Service	9:30 A.M.	Evening Service	6:30 P.M.	Deuteronomy 3:23 - 7:11	
		Candle Lighting	8:01 P.M.	<i>Haftarah</i> : Isaiah 40:1 - 26	
Weekly Portion: <i>Pinehas</i>		Saturday, July 25		Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.
Numbers 25:10 - 30:1		<i>Shaharit</i> Morning Service	9:30 A.M.	<i>Ma'ariv/Havdalah</i>	8:55 P.M.
<i>Haftarah</i> : Jeremiah 1:1 - 2:3		Weekly Portion: <i>Devarim</i>		Friday, August 7	
Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.	Deuteronomy 1:1 - 3:22		Evening Service	6:30 P.M.
<i>Ma'ariv/Havdalah</i>	9:10 P.M.	<i>Haftarah</i> : Isaiah 1:1 - 27		Candle Lighting	7:46 P.M.
Friday, July 17		Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.	Saturday, August 8	
Evening Service	6:30 P.M.	<i>Ma'ariv/Havdalah</i>	9:00 P.M.	<i>Shaharit</i> Morning Service	9:30 A.M.
Candle Lighting	8:06 P.M.				
Saturday, July 18		Friday, July 31		Weekly Portion: <i>Ekev</i>	
<i>Shaharit</i> Morning Service	9:30 A.M.	Evening Service	6:30 P.M.	Deuteronomy 7:12 - 11:25	
Birthday and Anniversary Celebrations		Candle Lighting	7:54 P.M.	<i>Haftarah</i> : Isaiah 49:14 - 51:3	
Weekly Portion: <i>Mattot-Mas'ey</i>				Junior Congregation	10:30 A.M.
Numbers 30:2 - 36:13				<i>Ma'ariv/Havdalah</i>	8:45 P.M.
<i>Haftarah</i> : Jeremiah 2:4 - 28; 3:4					

Zoom with Temple Israel Daily and On Shabbat