NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2026 | CHESHVAN/TEVET 5787 | VOL. 52 NO. 6

The Window

For This We Are Grateful



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Correction: The following gift was listed incorrectly in the 2025-2026 Impact Report in the Cumulative Giving section. Please note the correct listing:

Susan (z"l) & Maury Jaffer

On the Cover: Members of Torah Yoga practice their closing pose with the prayerful word, "shalom."

Temple Emanu-El

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8500 Hillcrest Road | Dallas, Texas 75225
214.706.0000 | tedallas.org

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Rabbi Amy Rossel
Rabbi Kimberly Herzog Cohen
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The Window
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From Their Hearts

Our clergy share their wisdom, love and hopes in this year's High Holy Days sermons.



'We are Artists of Creation'

Rabbi Debra Robbins, Erev Rosh Hashanah

As 5786 turns into 5787, as one era in our congregation transitions into another, as one moment in our lives grows into the next, as each breath comes and goes, we understand every ending is a new beginning.

Made in the image of the One our tradition calls, "*Tzayar Gadol* Great Artist," on Rosh Hashanah we are artists of creation. Like God, with creativity we can: find perspective in a pause, grow in darkness, connect in chaos. We can make our lives, our congregation, our world, works of art.

Being a creative person isn't about learning a skill in a studio or waiting for "Divine Inspiration" to strike. AI can't do it for us. *B'tzelem Elohim,* being made in THE Great Artist's image means, creativity is in your DNA.

We are all artists, making something that didn't exist before with every breath, every day, every year, in each generation. On Rosh Hashanah we gather materials, practice skills and prepare to display our work in the New Year, with our choices, our words, our actions. When we don't know what to do, when the world looks dark, and life feels chaotic, it's time for creativity.



Beyond Self-Centeredness

Rabbi Michael Lewis, Rosh Hashanah Morning

The Book of Judges concludes with the words: "In those days there was no king in Israel; every person did what was upright in their own eyes. Everyone did as they pleased." If our tradition teaches us anything, it is that we Jews know how this story plays out and what can happen when self-interest comes to dominate a society…

What does it mean to think beyond the self? The truth is, as we pause to reflect at this sacred season, we all know how to commit to others, to sacrifice and give up something of ourselves for a greater good. At our best, we do this in our deepest relationships—in our marriages, in our relationships with parents and siblings and children, and in the friendships that give meaning to our lives…Because when we sacrifice for others, our life suddenly takes on a more meaningful twist. Our relationships where we give something up of ourselves make our foundation feel whole and strong in a way that we couldn't have ever imagined before all the sacrifice.



Makers of Frames

Rabbi David Stern, Kol Nidre

I keep a black-and-white photograph on my desk. It is a picture of Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel. He and his wife Marion were friends of my parents, through a mutual close friend.

Elie Wiesel came to Temple to deliver a lecture in May of 2000, but I never met him because my mother had died two days before, and I was already in New York for the funeral. The picture on my desk at Temple is of Elie Wiesel sitting at my desk at Temple, writing a condolence note to me on the passing of my mother.

Every time I look at that picture, I remember my unforgettable mother, and the support my family and I received in this congregational community when she died. Every time I look at that photo I think of Elie Wiesel—his courage, his conscience, his kindness.

And every time I look at that photo, I realize that sometimes, no frame stands a chance. Because love spills over and memory spills over, and on this Kol Nidre night, a sense of gratitude to the Holy One shines above and beyond it all. How deeply blessed I have been to walk this path with you. How deeply blessed we all are to call Temple Emanu-El home.

Continued on page 5

View sermons and music from the 2026/5787 High Holy Days on our YouTube playlist here.

Connie Dufner, Senior Director of Communications

The Blessings in the Details

In Vayeitzei, the Torah portion that we read the week before Thanksgiving, Jacob has his famous dream. A stairway leads from earth to heaven, with angels climbing up and down its rungs. God appears and makes a whole-shebang promise to Jacob—that he will bestow upon Jacob the land upon which he lies, the blessing of many descendants and divine protection.

Wow factor indeed! Yet, it is the next part of Genesis 28 that resonates with me most: "Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, 'Surely, God is present in this place, and I did not know it.'"

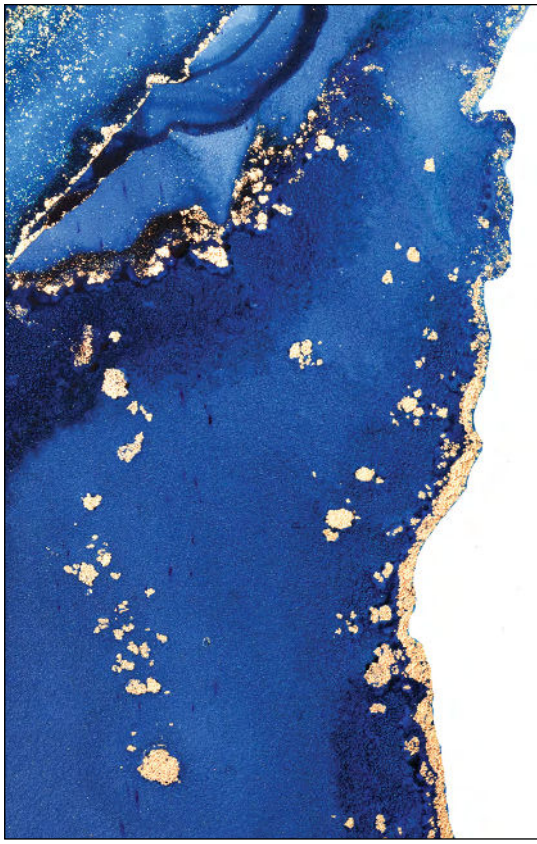
For when it comes to gratitude, it's easy to check off the big ones: family, friends, health, community, meaningful work, love, a gorgeous sunrise. The challenge is to realize that God is in this place even when we don't always think of it that way.

And that's our mission at Temple: to provide the anchoring moments that don't get the headlines and applause, but that without them, our lives wouldn't be nearly as rich. A friendly "hello" and being greeted by name; a cup of coffee to fuel your Temple visit; slipping into a seat someone has saved for you; a grandchild's hug as you head to a meeting; being nearly run over by exuberant teens; peeking in on a setup for a wedding; catching a quiet moment in one of our courtyards.

We are calling this year leading up to Rabbi David Stern's retirement the "Year of Gratitude and Possibility." You'll be hearing plenty about the big scholar-in-residence weekends (pp. 24, 26), and visiting MAC artist Dan Nichols (p. 11), Hanukkah week (p. 12) and more. And just as pivotal are the routine sacred moments: the daily online minyan, the sounds of *b'nai mitzvah* kids practicing with their tutors, buying the perfect gift at Judaic Treasures, the chaos of a Sunday morning during religious school. All of them add up to one big, beautiful Temple truth: God is in this place and we work hard to know it.

As the secular year winds down, we hope the celebratory days ahead bring you dreams come true. Whether they are life-altering like Jacob's or just the ones that bring a smile to your face—for these and so much more, we are grateful.





PLEASE JOIN

Rabbi Amy Rossel and Justin Ross

IN CELEBRATION AS THEIR DAUGHTER

Briana Wynne Ross

IS CALLED TO THE TORAH AS A BAT MITZVAH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2027 | SHABBAT BO | בא

RSVP: tedallas.org/events by Jan. 8

Luncheon following

Please bring school supplies to donate to Jill Stone Elementary School.

Continued from page 3



What is Greatness?

Rabbi Kimberly Herzog Cohen, Yom Kippur Morning

The prevalence of the word "great" to describe feelings or behavior isn't only a modern phenomenon. The Hebrew word for great is *gadol*, and the word appears over 500 times in the Hebrew Bible, and a total of 13 times in the Book of Jonah alone.

The book of Jonah famously ends with a question from God to Jonah about the people of Nineveh. But on this day of soul-searching, I wonder if the book is asking all of us another question: What is greatness?

Greatness frequently comes in the form of physical beauty, material assets, and status—how we appear, what ZIP code we live in, the number of A-teams our child joins. Many of us are making choices and pursuing paths of greatness, thinking we are enhancing our reputation and sense of self. If we post pictures of beaches, we can project how calm and relaxed we are. If we forego our moral compass, we tell ourselves, we will find our way back. If we just fight harder and longer then we will finally win.

At the end of the day, at the end of the year, in this life, we all make tradeoffs, but we still must ask: Are we achieving greatness?

A Tradition of Connection

Rabbi David Stern, Yizkor Reflection

We don't just say, "May God console you." We say, "May God console you *betoch*—among, within—the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem."

We mourners have an understandable instinct for solitude. Journalist Dan Barry describes covering the nights at Ground Zero in the immediate aftermath of 9/11, an image that has never left him: "A single sanitation worker pushing a broom along the edge of the ground zero hellscape. He was, he is, the rest of us, pushing his broom, doing his best to move forward, but knowing that some of this dust will always be there."

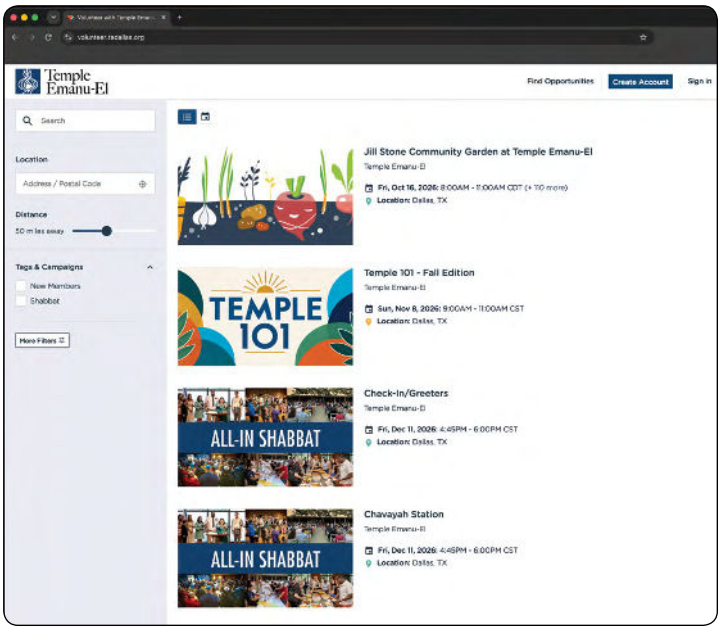
Sometimes we find ourselves alone, on the edge of the crowd. Sometimes it feels like a tightrope: "Balanced," as Barry writes, "between the tower of remembering and the tower of forgetting." Sometimes we push our solitary brooms, and we know that some of the dust will always be there. This work of remembering, forgetting heartbreak, healing, moving forward or stopped short in our tracks—sometimes it is solitary work. But then our tradition whispers, "*betoch.*"

Click to Make a Difference

TEMPLE LAUNCHES A NEW ONLINE VOLUNTEER DATABASE

By Livia Stevenson

At Temple Emanu-El, we show up for one another by giving our time and sharing our talents whenever we're needed. Now, finding a way to get involved is easier than ever with our new volunteer database, a one-stop hub for opportunities at Temple and throughout our community.



It's easy to get started. Visit **volunteer.tedallas.org** and complete the one-time interest form. Then, you'll be able to easily browse and sign up for opportunities, including welcoming members and guests; supporting worship services; helping with educational programs and special events; and engaging in social justice through Temple-led advocacy, education and service initiatives.

This new volunteer database makes it easy to filter by your interests and preferences and, in just a few clicks, sign up for projects and events that are right for you. Whether you have a few hours to give or are looking for an ongoing way to get involved, there's a place for you to make a meaningful contribution.

Have questions or need assistance creating an account? Visit us at Temple for in-person help from our staff on the following dates: Nov. 4, 12-2PM; Nov. 10, 2-4PM, and Dec. 11, 5-6PM.

Contact: Katie London, Director of Volunteers and Older Adults, at klondon@tedallas.org or call 214.706.0000, ext. 4006

HONORING OUR OWN: VETERANS DAY BRUNCH

November 8 | 11AM

In honor of Veterans Day, Temple will hold a special brunch celebrating the military veterans in our community. We'll enjoy a delicious meal, connect with others who have served and be recognized by the Temple community. Spouses and partners are welcome.

Register: tedallas.org/events.



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM
presents

HANUKKAH *Bazaar*

NOVEMBER 15

9AM–2:30PM

TYCHER GATHERING SPACE AND LINZ HALL

Back bigger and better, with even more vendors than last year, the WRJ Hanukkah Bazaar offers an irresistible array of gifts, art and finds for everyone on your list. You'll find unique gifts while supporting small businesses, local Jewish artisans, Temple members and Judaic Treasures.

Toys and clothing for young children
Judaica
Art and home décor
Beauty and wellness
Jewelry, accessories and clothing

Need to refuel?
Snacks and lunch provided by Temple Brotherhood will be available for purchase.





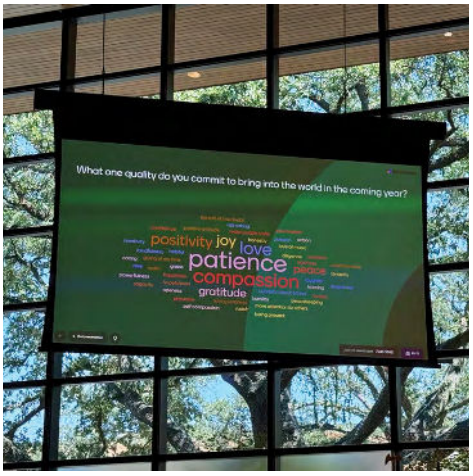


Scenes From a Sweet New Year

Temple shone and so did the smiles of our community, as we welcomed the Jewish new year with open hearts and open arms. Enjoy these photos and some stats we can be proud of!



Rosh Hashanah morning Torah reading in Olan Sanctuary



Word cloud, Stern Chapel 1PM service, Rosh Hashanah



Tashlich at Caruth Park, led by the Lipsky family



Oh babies! Families gather to bless children born since Rosh Hashanah 2025.



ATiD reception, Erev Rosh Hashanah

By the Numbers

93 children from **55** families in expanded child care

157 volunteers

576 non-member visitors

3,630 in-person members and guests

3,681 logins on Erev Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre

80,000 views on social media



The High Holy Days Hunger Relief Drive collected 700 bags of food totaling 14,000 pounds.



Hospitality hub in Tycher Gathering Space



Pumpkin painting in the sukkah with 3rd-6th graders



LGBTQ+ Havdalah in the sukkah



Family concert with MAC artist Joanie Leeds



Simchat Torah: That's how we unroll!



Tashlich station during Yom Kippur afternoon self-guided reflection

Thank You, VOLUNTEERS!

Temple Emanu-El thanks the volunteers who helped make our High Holy Days, Sukkot and Simchat Torah celebrations so warm, loving, beautiful and meaningful this year. You brought the sweetness to the start of 5787.

Richard Abramowitz
Kathy Aferiat
Jacques Aferiat
Sara Albert
Shelley Allison
Jaclyn Altman
Debbie Andres
Rachel Andres
Jamie Asch
Emily Atlas
Shelley Becker
Joan Becker
Flauren Bender
Amy Berger
Rachel Biederman
Lara Bierner
Andrew Block
Jenifer Blum
Allison Braley
Suzy Butler
Tammy Cancela
Brian Chaput
Beverly Charles
Karen Cheniae
Yuh Min Chook
Graham Coombs
Janet Coppinger
Pam De Angelo
Robert Elkin
Macki Ellenbogen
Heath Einstein
Erin Finegold White
Eric Fried
Marcie Friedman
Mike Friedman
Michele Block
Greg Gerstenhaber
Nikki Gibson
Cathy Gilberg
Andrew Gilbert
Arlene Glazer
Beth Gold
Eric Goldberg
Gary Golden
Michelle Goldstein
Joel Goodman
John Goren
Suzi Greenman
Risa Gross
Bob Grossman
Sherrie Grunfeld
Scot Harris
Carrie Hatfield
Hunter Hayden
Jamie Hayden
Julie Haymann
Matthew Hoffer
Michael Hoffman
Nancy Jellinek
Mack Johnson
Roz Kaplan
Art Kaplan
Renee Karp
Robert Karpel
Pam Karpel
Sarah Kasprzyk
Peggy Kaufman
Andrew Kaufman
Kevin Kerber
Jeff Kitner
Mark Kleinman
Madeleine Kline
Erik Kogut
Bob Krakow
Katherine Krause
Emily Levy
Vlad Leybovich
Allen Liebnick
Robin Lightstone
Lipsky Family
Jeff London
Roberto Longoria Jr.
Eric Maniloff
Staci Mankoff
Joseph Mannes
Scott McCartney
Ellen McIntosh
Michael Medley
Elise Mikes
Sharon Miller
Anna Miller Goodman
Debra Morrison
Barbara Moses
Karen Moyer
Chloe Newman
Josh Nichols
Jennifer Nocerini
Sydney Olinick
Maddie Ordiway
Rosemary Pachter
Jordan Palefsky
Wendy Palmer
Peggy Papert
Teresa Parker
Troy Patterson
OriAnn Phillips
Joselyn Ramey
Judi Ratner
Greg Redish
Nancy Rivin
Larry Robins
Harriett Rosen
Bonnie Rosenberg
Joyce Rosenfield
Joseph Rosenfield
Ann Rosenzweig
Leona Ross
Connie Rudick
Ruiz-Tinnin-Brim Family
Robin Sachs
Suzanne Sarbofsky
Halley Satz
Jacquie Schwitzer
May Sebel
Michael Selz
Steve Shafranek
Sarah Shelton
Stephen Shore
Laurie Shwiff
Susan Silberberg
Kerry Silver
Judy Silverstein
Mike Sims
Marcia Smith
Ann Spillman
Amy Spindel
Alexis Stein
Brian Stock
Phyllis Stoup
Ray Termini
Olivia Waidmann
Julie Weinberg
Sue Weiner
Jon Weinstein
Bart Weiss
Rachelle Weiss Crane
Gail Weltman
Grace Whitten
Deb Williams
Layla Wilson
Linda Wimberly
Linda Winski
Karen Winter-Patterson
Jeanne Zamutt
Peggy Zilbermann
Joe Zimmerman
Steven Zuckerman

Finding Home Through Song

Dan Nichols reflects on camp, the power of music and the communities that help us belong

By Livia Stevenson



At age 9, Dan Nichols found himself sitting in the back of a Shabbat song session at Jewish summer camp. Newly Jewish, he didn't understand the Hebrew words or the meaning behind the music. He only knew how it made him feel.

When his counselor came over to check on him, Nichols explained: "It's just so beautiful. I needed to sit back here and listen to all of it."

That moment captures something Nichols has spent the past 25 years sharing with Jewish communities across the country: music can connect us to ourselves, to one another and to something larger than ourselves. We look forward to welcoming him as the MAC artist-in-residence on November 13-15.

One of Reform Judaism's most beloved singer-songwriters and prayer leaders, Nichols first found that connection at Goldman Union Camp Institute in Indiana. His childhood home was loving, he says, but also "volatile and confusing." At camp, he found a dependable community where counselors cared for him and music brought people together.

"Camp is every bit as much a Jewish home for me as my own home," he says.

Watching young counselors lead services and song sessions helped Nichols discover what he wanted to do himself. Today, he approaches songleading not as a performance, but as an opportunity to create something meaningful with a community.

Over time, that understanding has changed how he measures success. He's let go of the idea that a successful songleader must get everyone to sing. "I used to feel responsible for the group," he says. Now, he sees himself as responsible *to* the group: to prepare thoughtfully, offer something meaningful and let everyone engage in the way that's right for them.

That approach has found a welcoming home at Temple Emanu-El. Over the years, Temple has given Nichols the freedom to explore his creativity and share his musical voice with our community. Here, he continues to grow as an artist while inviting others into the music and prayer that have shaped his own sense of Jewish home.

"My wish is for folks to allow the music to open themselves up to connecting more deeply with themselves and each other, and in doing so, allow themselves to connect more fully to God," he says.

The gift Nichols discovered as a 9-year-old at camp, sitting quietly at the back of a room and letting the music lead him home, is the same gift he'll share with our community.



MAC
MUSIC | ARTS | CULTURE

DAN NICHOLS

Friday, November 13
6:15PM: Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday, November 14
10:30AM: Shabbat Morning Service

4PM: Tot Shabbat

6:30PM: Havdalah Concert

Sunday, November 15
12:30PM: Teen Songleading Workshop & Lunch

Learn more and register at tedallas.org/events



Lighting the Way

HANUKKAH 2026 | FIRST CANDLE: DECEMBER 4

Each Hanukkah, we gather around the light of the *hanukkiyah*, remembering that even a small flame can brighten the darkness. This year, as we celebrate Lighting the Way throughout December, we're invited to consider how we carry that light beyond the candles themselves: through the traditions we share, the relationships we nurture and the communities we build together.

We also mark Rabbi David Stern's last Hanukkah celebration as senior rabbi and reflect on the many years he's been lighting the way for Temple! We'll see you at Temple for moments of connection, joyful celebration and reflection, and to radiate light into the world.



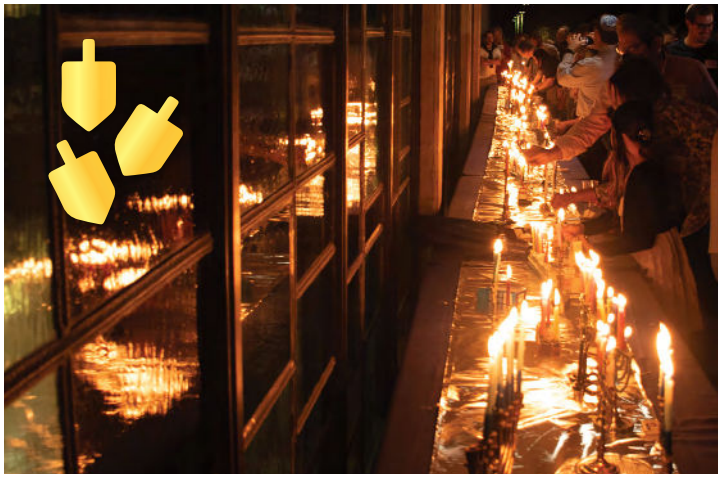
LIGHT UP THE NIGHT HANUKKAH AT NORTHPARK

December 8 | 6PM

The fifth night of Hanukkah glows with the Temple Emanu-El Choir and youth choirs Kol Shir and Shir Joy at our annual concert at NorthPark. Light the *hanukkiyah*, sing along to your favorite songs and help spread the joy of the season far and wide.

Also at NorthPark, the Temple choir and cantors will sing Hanukkah songs in a live recording of "Caroling with WRR" from 12-1PM on Dec. 2.





ALL-IN SHABBAT AND CONGREGATIONAL DINNER

December 11

5PM: Chavayah, pre-service experience with activities for all ages
6PM: Service followed by dinner

Gather the whole family for a special evening as we light the way together on the final night of Hanukkah. Enjoy activities for all ages, followed by an all-ages-friendly service led by Rabbi David Stern, Cantor Vicky Glikin and Cantor Margo Wagner, with participation by Kol Shir and Shir Joy youth choirs. Bring your *hanukkiyah* and candles to add your light to the glow of our community. Following the service, stay for a festive congregational Hanukkah dinner with latkes and dessert!

REGISTER: TEDALLAS.ORG/EVENTS



FIRST NIGHT SHABBAT

December 4 | 6:15PM

Begin the Hanukkah celebration at Temple by lighting the first candle with your Temple family.

ATiD HANUKKAH

December 6 | 6PM

Temple's 20s and 30s community gathers for a home-hosted evening centered around the delicious foods of the Hanukkah season.

ATiD
20s and 30s at Temple

WIENER SANDFIELD HANUKKIYAH LIGHTING

December 9 | 6PM

Gather for a candle lighting and reception with the family of Temple's architect, Max Sandfield, who designed our current building alongside Howard Meyer.







SH'MA EMANU-EL HANUKKAH DINNER

December 9 | 6PM

Begin the evening with the Wiener-Sandfield *hanukkiyah* lighting, then enjoy a Hanukkah dinner and time to deepen connections with your group and make other small group connections as one big Sh'ma community.

J★PRIDE HANUKKAH PARTY

December 9 | 6PM

Join the Wiener-Sandfield *hanukkiyah* lighting, then move into a fun evening of activities and connection with the Jewish LGBTQ+ community in Dallas. Open to LGBTQ+ adults and allies, ages 21+.



REGISTER: TEDALLAS.ORG/EVENTS

New Initiatives Provide Mental Health Support and Connection

Spiritual and Mental Well-Being Workshop Series 2026-2027

This year's series of Spiritual and Mental Well-Being workshops focuses on gratitude.



Rabbi Debra Robbins



Meredith Pryzant

Choosing a Giving-Thanks Name | November 5

We'll explore the Modim prayer from the daily service, which invites us to give thanks for the many blessings of our lives, morning, noon and night, and not only in November. Together we'll consider what it means to Jews, Yehudim, our names grounded in gratitude. We will consider the psychosocial impact of gratitude and how *hakarat hatov* (recognizing the good) can be a vital self-care tool as we navigate this season, wherever we are in life. Led by Rabbi Debra Robbins and Meredith Pryzant, MSW

Register: tedallas.org/events

SAVE THE DATES

Tu BiSh'vat | February 4

We continue our theme of gratitude and how it impacts our positive mental well-being by participating in a Tu BiSh'vat seder, using materials from The Blue Dove Foundation, a Jewish mental health advocacy organization. Led by Rabbi Debra Robbins and Meredith Pryzant

Passover | April 8

During Passover, gratitude for the memory of our collective experience as strangers in a strange land resonates throughout the holiday. We will prepare for Passover by deepening our understanding of community and expressing how gratitude can strengthen our mental well-being resilience. Led by Rabbi Kimberly Herzog Cohen and Meredith Pryzant

New Fertility Support Group Forming

Temple is launching a new, in-person fertility support group that will meet monthly beginning in November, through June, with a maximum of 10–12 participants.



Miriam Kolni



Alexandra Horn

It will be facilitated by Temple member Miriam Kolni, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

"The fertility support group provides a safe place to seek solidarity, understanding and connection," says Miriam. "Being part of something where you don't have to explain yourself, know everything or stay strong, offers a singular space to finally breathe and lean on others to feel less alone."

Alexandra Horn, a Temple member who experienced fertility treatments and is now a mother of two sons, agrees: "What really got us through our fertility journey was finding others on a similar path with whom we could relate to and share experiences. Hearing other perspectives gave us hope for our future family."

Judaism provides a lens that "expands our experience to connect with each other, community and generations across time to find validation, acceptance, comfort, healing, blessing, hope and love," says Mirian. As a Jewish therapist, she says, "I hope to provide an additional layer of empathy, community and perspective by framing discussions within Jewish concepts and teachings."

If you or someone you know is experiencing fertility issues related to infertility or LGBTQ+ family-building, please contact Meredith Pryzant, Director of Pastoral Support, mpryzant@tedallas.org.

Circles of Care to Provide Member-to-Member Support

Temple is creating care networks for members experiencing different kinds of chronic physical or mental health illnesses, transitions into different stages of life or other difficult-to-navigate challenges.

Rabbi Debra Robbins shared some insights about this important initiative and how it will enhance our ability as a congregation to be there for one another.

How will these circles benefit our congregation?

At this time of transition, we know it can help to create an even stronger web of interconnection among congregants around issues that speak to the body and soul.

What makes a synagogue uniquely qualified to offer these circles of care?

A synagogue is uniquely qualified to establish and support circles of care when its core values, like ours, are rooted in sacred connection. In this home, everyone can be seen for who they are, heard as they share their unique truths about the joys and challenges of their lives and know that others are present with them.

What are some situations in our congregants' lives where a Circle of Care may be a useful resource?

Circles of Care will be especially helpful for issues/topics that we already speak to congregants about, such as a spouse diagnosed or living with Parkinson's, helping a parent move into a smaller/safer living situation, navigating or looking for referrals for fertility treatment, preparing to be an empty nester.

How does the Circle of Care initiative fit within already existing projects or programs at Temple?

They are the emotional and spiritual well-being expansion of our already existing small-group programming. We have other small groups like our book club and support groups; our Sh'ma Emanu-El groups bring people together around a passion or project, and now we will have a way for members to connect around life issues to share experiences and learn from each other.

If you are willing to be part of a Circle of Care, please contact Meredith Pryzant, Director of Pastoral Support, mpryzant@tedallas.org.



SHINE the light

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR SPIRITUAL AND MENTAL WELL-BEING

In-Person Grief Support
Last Tuesday of the month
Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan. 26
(November and December adjusted for holidays)

Grief Support on Zoom
First Tuesday of the month, 12-1PM:
Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5

Substance Abuse Support for Friends and Families
Thursdays 5:30-6:30PM, in person and on Zoom
Contact: Freda Heald, fredaheald@yahoo.com

New: Fertility Support
Monthly, November 2026–June 2027
See opposite page for more information.

New: Divorce Support
This in-person group will launch in January 2027 and will be facilitated by a licensed therapist. Watch Temple communications for more information.

Here for You
Is your family caring for someone who is living with Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease or dementia? We are creating networks of members who are facing similar experiences.

Contact
Meredith Pryzant, MSW
Director of Pastoral Support
mpryzant@tedallas.org
214.706.0000, ext. 2016







Eight Years and Flowing Strong

Yoga and Jewish mindfulness meditation celebrates a birthday and a new name

Temple's yoga class, now known as Torah Yoga, is celebrating its eighth year of being together on the mats. Under the guidance of Kohenet and yoga teacher Debbi Levy, the special hour on Tuesday afternoons combines movement with Jewish mindfulness meditation.

Since its inception, the class has taken place in Temple's sacred spaces, including Olan Sanctuary, Stern Chapel and the Temple sukkah, creating an even deeper connection among mind, body and Jewish heart. Practitioners spend the first part of the class studying Jewish texts and themes, then transition to yoga poses.

The practice, held at 3PM on Tuesdays, is free and open to people of all experience levels. We suggest that newcomers arrive a few minutes early to orient themselves. No registration is required. It's a great oasis to quiet your mind and further ground yourself in the richness of our Jewish traditions.

We'll see you on the mat!

Contact: Megan Sims, ATiD and Adult Learning Events Manager, msims@tedallas.org



CINEMA EMANU-EL POP-UP

November 29 | 4PM

Need your Jewish film fix? In case you missed the showing in July, or if you can't wait to see it again, we're excited to offer a second screening of the hit film "Tatami." This intense and suspenseful story centers on Leila, an Iranian judo athlete, who competes in the world championship. While trying to bring home a gold medal, she must face a difficult decision—fight for herself or fight for her country.

1 hour, 45 minutes
English/Persian with English subtitles

SCAN TO WATCH THE TRAILER

‘Every Jewish Mother’s Dream’



Jamie Palefsky and Enrique Elias are living proof of two feel-good truths of young adult life at Temple Emanu-El.

One, it’s good to invite guests into the sukkah. You never know who you might meet.

Two, listen to your parents: Go to Temple, you’ll meet people!

Jamie, 30, and director of annual giving at Ursuline Academy, grew up at Temple, where she participated in youth events. As an adult, she worked as a teacher in the religious school.

“I was involved in Jewish community and Temple my whole life; it was difficult to be dating in the Jewish community I grew up in. I was hoping and praying to meet someone who wasn’t from Dallas,” she says.

Enrique, 30, and an MBA student at Southern Methodist University, grew up Jewish in Mexico City, and moved to Dallas three years ago for work.

“When I got here, it was hard for me to find people with similar interests and to make friends,” he says. He looked up “synagogues near me” on Google and found Temple Emanu-El, and learned about ATiD, the 20s and 30s community at Temple. He started attending ATiD events and became friends with Tyler Margaretten, also an ATiD regular.

Fast forward to Oct. 3, 2023 at the Pizza in the Hut event held in the Temple sukkah.

Decision Jamie: “I asked my older sister if she wanted to go with me. I thought there was always a chance I’d meet someone but I also knew it would be a fun sister night regardless. I was thinking that the ATiD group was a great way to meet someone, as friends or a possible partner. It’s a great way to bring the community our age together.”

Decision Enrique: “Tyler texted me and asked if I wanted to come to Pizza in the Hut. We ended up sitting next to Jamie.”

It just so happened that Tyler and Jamie were friends from Tulane University, and the introductions flowed naturally. Jamie and Enrique felt an immediate spark. “We were just lucky we were in the same place at the same time,” says Jamie. “After the event, my sister told me, ‘Jamie, you and he have something. Don’t mess it up.’”

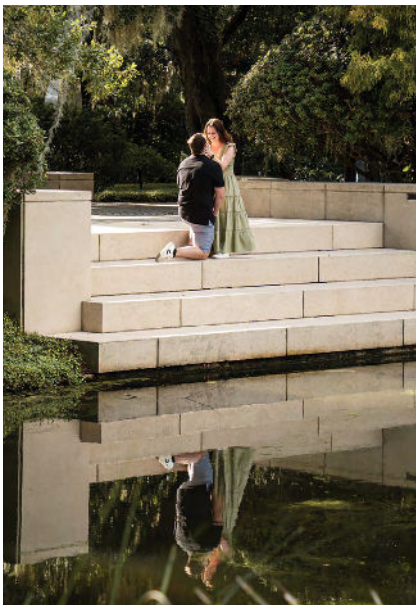
A week later, they had scheduled a dinner date, but the tragic events of Oct. 7, 2023, had occurred and a community-wide gathering of solidarity was being held at Temple.

“I said, ‘this is important to me, would you be willing to go?’ and he did,” recalls Jamie. “Being Jewish, going through that time together strengthened our relationship early on. Our values and morals aligned so completely, and we could be there to support each other.”

After nearly three years of dating, the couple expected to get engaged. Enrique decided it was time to propose, but wanted it to be a surprise for Jamie, the planner. He had a ring made in Mexico City from his grandmother’s engagement diamond, and brought it back to Dallas, waiting for the right moment.

On a lark, Jamie suggested they spend Labor Day weekend in New Orleans, a city that is very meaningful to her. “I told Jamie I wanted to go to the sculpture garden, because I knew it would be a beautiful place to surprise Jamie and propose. I hired a photographer to hide in the bushes, and when I proposed she was completely shocked. Mission accomplished.”

The couple are planning to get married in Mexico City, so that they can be with Enrique’s two grandmothers, who are both in their upper 90s.



“We joke, we’re every Jewish mother’s dream,” says Jamie. “We got so lucky, it’s a blessing it happened to us. If it wasn’t for Temple, our paths wouldn’t have crossed.”

Celebration & Remembrance

Compiled by Thomas Booe

BECOMING B'NAI MITZVAH



Eli Schweig
November 7
Son of Lauren and Brad Schweig
Parkhill Junior High School
Tikkun Olam: SPCA of Dallas



Ellen Tate
November 7
Daughter of Lisa Hasday and Joshua Tate
Highland Park Middle School
Tikkun Olam: Jill Stone Community Garden



Maya Antypas
November 14
Daughter of Nofar Gal and Evangelos Antypas
Greenhill School
Tikkun Olam: Vogel Alcove



Abraham Reisman
November 21
Son of Esther and Mark Reisman
Lakehill Preparatory School
Tikkun Olam: East Lake Pet Orphanage



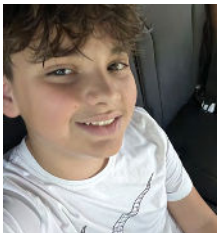
Sophie Annette Rosenfield
November 21
Daughter of Teresa and Lance Rosenfield
Ann & Nate Levine Academy
Tikkun Olam: National Council of Jewish Women/West Dallas Multipurpose Center



Noah Friedman
November 23
Son of Jaclyn and Justin Friedman
Greenhill School
Tikkun Olam: Operation Kindness



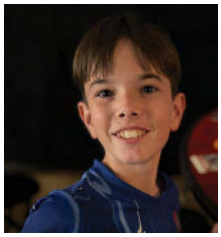
Jacob Belkin
December 5
Son of Amy and Josh Belkin
Trivium Academy
Tikkun Olam: North Texas Food Bank gluten-free food drive



Luca Marrone
December 5
Son of Amanda and Michael Marrone
The Shelton School
Tikkun Olam: Light The Night walk



Cody Joshua Goodman
December 12
Son of Erica and Andrew Goodman
Parish Episcopal School
Tikkun Olam: Camp Impact



Zane Matthews
December 19
Son of Jill and Eric Matthews
Parkhill Junior High School
Tikkun Olam: Catch Up & Read

NOT PICTURED

Asher Sadoughi
November 14
Son of Lisa and Armand Sadoughi
St. Mark's School of Texas

Ivy Sadoughi
November 14
Daughter of Lisa and Armand Sadoughi
Greenhill School

NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Sarah and Brandon Alex

Idelle, Noah and Levi Aschen

Arin, Vikas, Deven and Nathan Aurora

Andrea Bennett

Johanna Sproed-Berlin, Odette and Noah Berlin

Danny Brodson

Sam and Jon Chamberlin

Lauren, Natalie, Ashley, Haley and Steven Davidoff

Kamryn, Aubrey, Dean and Landon Ehrlich

Hilary Fagadau, Elle, Riley and Harry McCluskey

Rachel, Mara, Adam and Caleb Green

Pepi Harris, Miles and Eli Wucher

Sharon, Johanna, Gillian and Dwight Hill

Kendra, Marilynn, Stan and Matthew Jacobs

Ryan Kassanoff

Alex Tenney, Nell, Max, Grey and Lane Katzenstein

Ana Maria Santacreu, Hannah, Miriam and Fernando Leibovici Santacreu

Catherine, Sophia, Andrew and Theodore Lohrfink

Alexis, Scott, Joseph and Charles Magids

Jan Magids

Corrie Mathias

Jessica and Max McPhaul

Emily Meschertson and Ben Mesches

Mollie Mirsky

Alex and Gordon Phillips

Allen Plotkin

Hope Rovner and Henry Pluss

Samantha, Liana, Rayna and Khurram Rizvi

Bibiana Schindler

Sheree and Craig Simon

Lisa and Ethan Vardi

Cantor Margo Wagner

Robin, Travis and Lewis Wedgeworth

Marni Weiss

Kelly, David, Daniel and Andrew Wilkes

Shanna, Jeff and Elan Wolf

Rose, Emmersyn, Roman and Joseph Yago

BABY NAMINGS



Margaret "Maggie" Joy Birdwell
Daughter of Caroline and Matthew Birdwell
Sister of George Birdwell



Molly Miriam Chiu
Daughter of Lindsay and Scott Chiu
Sister of Elliot Chiu
Granddaughter of Alisa and Brian Sureck



Aaron G. Grafing
Son of Hannah and Geoffrey Grafing



Lainey Matsil
Daughter of Erica and Andrew Matsil

MAZEL TOV



To **Marcie and Michael Brown**
on the birth of their grandson,
Perry Lucas Brown, in London,
son of Sasha and Dylan Brown

CONVERSIONS



Johanna Sproed-Berlin, Odette Berlin and Noah Berlin



Kourtney Lieberman



Karen McClard

IN MEMORIAM

Sari Bassman
Mother of Julie Bassman, Jennifer Bassman Rogers, Jarrod Bassman and Jeffrey Bassman
Grandmother of Isabella Bassman, Emma Kate Bassman, Kenzey Bassman, Kendelyn Bassman and Jacob Bassman
Sister of Elizabeth Veihweg and Dr. Barry Frank

Andrea Cohen
Daughter of Ann Kahn
Wife of Gary Cohen
Mother of Madeline Cohen and Wilder Cohen
Sister of Josh Kahn

Yael Etzkin
Wife of Karen Trager
Mother of Rabbi Amy Rossel and Deborah Bradford
Grandmother of Leona Ross, Briana Ross and Gray Bradford

Marilyn Coleman Golman
Mother of Abby Golman and Brad Golman
Grandmother of Tracy Golman

Jay Morton Goltz
Father of Lynne Goltz Jacob, Terry Goltz Greenberg and Gary Miles Goltz
Grandfather of Rachel Jacob, Claire Lyon, Lindsay Goltz, Alan Jacob, Mark Jacob, Evan Greenberg and Alex Goltz

Stefanie Held
Mother of Kim Arnold and Josh Held
Grandmother of Matthew Arnold, Andrew Arnold, Jake Held, and Max Held
Sister of Mitchell Sidd

Dr. Michael Hoffman
Husband of Roxana Bermani Hoffman
Son of Mildred Stone Hoffman and Solomon Hoffman
Father of Michelle Hoffman, Dr. Bryan Hoffman and David Hoffman
Grandfather of Olivia Hoffman, Vivienne Hoffman, Emma Hoffman, Sophia Hoffman and Kaia Hoffman

Carolyn Joyce Jacobs
Mother of Lisbeth Bulmash

Patricia Jimeson
Mother of Michael Pershes
Grandmother of Jonathan Pershes

Joan Johnson
Mother of Ellen Krakow, Bob Krakow and Glenn Krakow
Grandmother of Sara Feasel, Ben Krakow, Eli Krakow, Jacob Krakow, Ari Dorf, Ethan Dorf and Jared Dorf

Rachel Kurz
Mother of Rick Kurz, Greg Kurz, and Jeff Kurz
Grandmother of Samantha DeVito, Taylor Welsh, Dylan Kurz, Danny Kurz and Aaron Kurz

Edward Legum
Father of Jonnice Berns

Rosalind Natalie Nasher
Sister of Jacquie Lipton Schwitzer
Stepsister of Arlene Falke

Dianne Ovens
Wife of Kevin Ovens
Mother of Jill Weinger and Fran Nichols
Grandmother of Jacob Weinger and Ethan Weinger
Sister of Bobbie Berner

Regina Paintner
Mother of Linda Levine

Richard Pfeffer
Brother of Becky Slakman and David Pfeffer

Diane Plotkin
Wife of Allen Plotkin
Mother of Wendy Baker, Jody Rudman, Amy Martin and Brian Plotkin
Sister of Richard Marks

Bonnie Schneider
Wife of Bernard Schneider
Mother of Iris Siff and
Jordan Siff

Shirley Wee
Mother of Elaina W. Gross
Grandmother of Lara Gross and Risa Gross

Pauline "Polly" O. Weisberg
Mother of Susan W. McCain and Alex Weisberg

HELP KEEP OUR NEIGHBORS WARM THIS WINTER

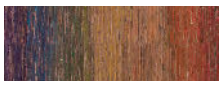
Temple Emanu-El is holding a winter coat drive from Nov. 1-20. There are two ways to contribute:

Bring Your Coats to Temple
Please bring new or gently-used outerwear of all sizes to Temple to donate to the Vickery Meadow Clothes Closet.

Purchase from the Amazon Wish List



Gifts of Memory, Honor and Gratitude



OUR CONGREGATION

Dora Aronson Helping Hands Fund
Distributions by Rabbi David Stern to individuals in need of financial assistance, particularly in dire situations
Memory of Harriette Glazer
by Julie & David Kronick
Memory of Judith C. Satrapa
by Lindsay & Jeffrey Steinberg

Susan Salom Clergy Good Works Fund
Distributions to charitable organizations, individuals in need or community causes by Temple's clergy
Memory of David Eldridge
by Nancy Eldridge
Memory of Yael Etzkin
by Malcolm & Beverly Bonnheim
by Michael Kerber
by Judy & Steve Lewis
by Debbie & Howard Haile
Memory of Lynn Goldstein
by Nancy Ungerman
Memory of Joan Johnson
by Maddy & Mark Unterberg
by Marcia Grossfeld
Memory of Judith C. Satrapa
by Gary Kahn
by Maddy & Mark Unterberg
by Marcia Grossfeld
Memory of Alfred Weiss
by Marla H. Bane & Michael Benson
Memory of Rose Zidell
by Nancy Ungerman
Anniversary of Barbara & Randy Rosenblatt
by Maddy & Mark Unterberg
Appreciation of Cantor Vicky Glikin
by Lisa & Steve Lieberman
Appreciation of Rabbi David Stern
by Marla & George Williams
Appreciation of Margo Wagner
by Nancy Eldridge
Birthday of Beth Gold
by Marcia Grossfeld
Honor of Cantor Vicky Glikin
by Ileen Kaufman
Honor of Giovanna Gonzales
by Marcia Grossfeld
Honor of Rabbi Kimberly Herzog Cohen
by Liz & Ira Matsil
Honor of Diego Lastra
by Marcia Grossfeld
Honor of Rabbi David Stern
by Marsha Moser
by Nancy Ungerman
Marriage of Molly Chiu
by Alisa & Brian Sureck
Marriage of Michael Lewis & Jake Ettinger
by Fran & Jeff Toubin
Marriage of Samuel Robbins & Stefie Flint
by Fran & Jeff Toubin
by Marcia Grossfeld

Anne and Sam Kesner Caring Congregation Fund
Assistance for Temple members through all phases of life including hospitalization, elder care, military service, mental health challenges and grief
Memory of Sari Bassman
by Irene & Bernard Raden
Memory of Rita Power
by Lynne & Mark Rossow
Appreciation of Meredith Pryzant
by Michael Kerber



OUR TEMPLE AND CEMETERY

Temple Emanu-El Cemetery Endowment Fund
Distribution from the Temple's foundation supporting the maintenance and improvement of the cemetery grounds
Memory of Annette Alper
by Diane Alper Colton

Dorothy and Henry Jacobus Archives Fund
Support of special exhibits from our Archives
Memory of Adrienne Strull
by OriAnn Phillips & Scott McCartney

Rabbi Gerald J. Klein Memorial Cemetery Fund
Beautification and improvements of the Temple cemetery
Memory of Dennis Brent
by Lynn Brent
Memory of Mendel Melasky
by Julie & Michael Lowenberg



GENERAL

Temple Emanu-El General Operating Fund
Support of Temple's general programs and events
Memory of Phillip Cohen
by Claire Richker
Memory of Yael Etzkin
by Debbie & Peter Koeppel
Memory of Katie Fleming
by Rebecca & William Bogie
Memory of Harriette Glazer
by Barbara & Randy Rosenblatt
Memory of Harriette Glazer
by Jane & Cameron Larkin
Memory of Joan Johnson
by Debbie & Marc Andres
by Flauren & Jason Bender
by Gayle Johansen
by Kimberly & Jeffrey Chapman
by Meredith Fried Fedyk & Mark Fedyk
by Patricia Goodman
by Rebecca & Kenneth Bruder
by Sandy & Rabbi Barry Diamond
Memory of Edward Legum
by Jan Mirmelstein
Memory of Gracie Pack Meiggs
by David Freirich
Memory of Judith C. Satrapa
by Betsy & Todd Teitell
by Debbie & Marc Andres
by Linda & Ken Wimberly
by Rebecca & Kenneth Bruder
by Sarith & Rich Abramowitz
by Rebecca & William Bogie
Memory of Jeanne Polakoff Schulman
by Howard Polakoff
Memory of Jan Statman
by Rebecca & William Bogie
Memory of Shirley Tobolowsky
by Janet & Robert Miller
Anniversary of Jack Greenberg
by Rita & Mitchell Rasansky
Birthday of Deborah Haile
by Thomas Lilien & Linda Rothangel
Birthday of Kerrie Wolfson
by Esther Cohen
Happy Holidays to Peter Weinstock & Hilarie Weinstock
by Macki & Paul Ellenbogen
Honor of Bob Krakow
by Flauren & Jason Bender
Marriage of Meagan Friedman & Joe Modica
by Sandy & Rabbi Barry Diamond
Speedy Recovery of Larry Goldstein
by Lisa & Steven Lieberman

Temple Emanu-El Endowment Fund
Distribution from the foundation supporting Temple's programs
Memory of Mrs. Paula Barshop-Donovitz
by Deborah Hersh
Memory of Dorothy K. Boris
by Deborah Hersh
Memory of Joan Johnson
by Betsy & Mark Kleinman
Memory of Edward Legum
by Susan & Joel Litman
Memory of Judith C. Satrapa
by Betsy & Mark Kleinman
by Courtney Hensel & Gus Lyons
by Mark Satinsky & Julia Glover
by Sara & Mark Albert
by Susan & Joel Litman



MUSIC AND PRAYER

Music Fund
Enhancement of Temple music programs
Memory of Judith C. Satrapa
by Connie Rudick
by Michael Kerber
Birthday of Kerrie Wolfson
by Mindy & Rick Cohen
Birthday of Steven Wolfson
by Mindy & Rick Cohen



ADULT PROGRAMS

ATiD (Young Adults)
Support of Jewish engagement of young adults in their 20s and 30s
Memory of Michael Cohen
by Mindy & Rick Cohen
Memory of Ruth Cohen
by Mindy & Rick Cohen
Memory of William Kimmel
by Mindy & Rick Cohen

Katherine F. Baum Adult Education Fund
Support for adult education programs
Memory of Baruch Garcia
by Christell & Michael Baum
Memory of Charles H. Rubenstein
by Mindy & Rick Cohen
Memory of Shirley Wee
by Peggy & Dave Millheiser
Memory of Sheldon Zimmerman
by Rosie Stromberg



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Hunger Relief Fund
Collection of funds for hunger relief throughout the year, especially during High Holy Days and Passover
Memory of Barbara Bierner
by Lara Bierner
Memory of Michael Bierner
by Lara Bierner
Memory of Maurice Bramnik
by Tamara Bramnik
Memory of Joan Essenfeld
by Robin Essenfeld Stoller
Memory of Saul Sonny Essenfeld
by Robin Essenfeld Stoller
Memory of Lea Felts
by Elisa & Steven Reiter
Memory of Edward Glass
by Andrea & Robert McDaniel
Memory of Hilda Glass
by Andrea & Robert McDaniel
Memory of Marilyn Golman
by Sally & Rick Rosenberg
Memory of Mrs. Pauline Israel
by Nancy & Solomon Israel
Memory of Joan Johnson
by Sally & Rick Rosenberg
Memory of Gloria Kersh
by Susan & Daryl Beck
Memory of Harold Knop
by Nancy & Richard Fincher
Memory of Beverly Lande
by Sid Lande
Memory of Sanford May
by Vivian May
Memory of Alice McDaniel
by Andrea & Robert McDaniel
Memory of Janet P. Newberger
by Carol & Jon Weinstein
Memory of Rosalie Taubman
by Kaaren Shalom & Richard Gilligan
Memory of Shirley Teich
by Scott Teich & Susan Scott
Memory of Shirley Wee
by Celia Saunders

Appreciation of Temple Emanu-El Clergy
by James Brodsky & Cindy Schneidler
As a Contribution
by Karen & Mike Ablon
by Sarith & Rich Abramowitz
by Lisa & Jim Albert
by Terry & Dr. Steven Altshuler
by Anna & Zachary Arons
by Emily R. Atlas
by Lauren & Joshua Beckman
by Susan & William Behrendt
by Elizabeth Bera
by Berardi Family
by Joanna Bernal de Castro & Daisy Bernal de Castro
by Cindy & Bruce Bernbaum
by Fran Berry
by Donald Blum
by Beverly & Malcolm Bonnheim
by Donna & Jeff Bosse
by Mary Lee & Michael Broder
by Carrasco Family
by Cynthia & Tim Christnagel
by Mindy & Rick Cohen
by Diane Colton
by Taylor & David Courtade
by Michael Egan
by The Ernst family
by Laura & Matt Farber
by Sue & Richard Feingold
by Layla Finch
by Brenda Fine
by Judith & Andrew Finger
by Nico Foulk
by Terry & Michael Friedman
by Shari & Steve Goldberg
by Sandra Golman
by Randi Gordon
by Gerri Gordon
by Carole & Howard Greisdorf
by Marcia Grossfeld
by Marcy & Michael Grossman
by Debbie & Howard Haile
by Jennifer & Jeffrey Hammett
by Debbie Handler
by Dwight, Sharon, Johanna & Gillian Hill
by Ladd A Hirsch
by Joan Jackson
by Jones Family
by Charlotte & Josh Kahn Family
by Lori & Jon Karp
by Rita Koger
by Alisone & Dr. Jeffrey Kopita
by Leslie & Bob Krakow
by Julie & David Kronick
by the Kurtz family
by Ben Lehrman
by Tricia & Mark Lehrman
by The Light Family
by Anne & David Mann
by Bobbi & Richard Massman
by Jean Maza
by OriAnn Phillips & Scott McCartney
by Michael Meyerson
by Sharon Miller
by Barbara Miller
by Cory Morrow
by Leslie & Gary Null
by Megan O'Grady
by Monica & Elliot Olschwang
by Lori & Trace Ordiway
by Dayna & Brian Oscherwitz
by Laurie Pierce
by Elise Plaksen
by Iris Podolsky
by Yuh Min Chook & Michael K. Rosen
by Kerri & John Rosenberg
by Joyce & Joseph Rosenfeld
by Paige & Marc Sachs
by Brooke & David Salisbury
by The Schendles
by Adam Schor
by Ronnie & Michael Schornstein
by Donna Schuback & Richard Atkinson
by Leigh & Louis Schultz
by Alison & Jack Schwartz
by Cindy & Armond Schwartz
by Susan & Scott Seidel
by Barb & Michael Selz
by Linda & Mike Sheff
by Larry Shosid
by Toni & Morey Silverman
by Jerald Sklar
by Vesta Snider
by Carol & Barry Sobol
by Gwen Spector
by Evan Stone
by Phyllis & Phillip Stoup
by Lynn & Jim Swartz
by Debbie & Josh Taub
by Betsy & Todd Teitell
by Sue & Robert Walker
by Harianne & David Wallenstein
by Risa Weinberger
by Jamin Whitaker
by Scott Wilson
by Linda & Randy Winski
by Karen & Shelby Wyll
by The Zopolsky Family

Honor of Cantor Vicky Glikin
by Jeffrey Engel & Kate Carté
Speedy Recovery of Alan Strauss
by Laura Strauss

The Jill Stone Tikkun Olam Fund
Support of Temple's social justice programs including initiatives, advocacy, projects and lectures
Memory of Richard Pfeffer
by Jennifer & Michael Blum

Priscilla R. Stern Memorial Literacy Fund
Support of literacy projects in the general and Jewish communities
Memory of Joan Johnson
by May Sebel
Memory of Sheldon Zimmerman
by Henrietta & Melvin Weinberg
Honor of Rabbi David Stern
by Norman Miller

Social Justice Fund for Youth Education
Support of worthwhile educational causes for youth in need
Memory of Judith C. Satrapa
by Sally & Rick Rosenberg
Memory of Shirley Wee
by Joyce & Joseph Rosenfield
Birth of Lainey Matsil
by Carol & Jon Weinstein
Marriage of Samuel Robbins & Stefie Flint
by Jennifer Healy



YOUTH AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

William P. Budner Youth Library Fund
Purchases of Judaic books and publications for students
Memory of Lillian Gilbert
by Gail Arbetter

Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) Fund
Support of ECEC programs
Memory of Laura B. Darver
by Sherri & Alan Darver
Memory of Eileen Freed
by Judy & Michael Feinstein
Memory of Harriette Glazer
by Tammy Greenberg
Memory of Joan Johnson
by Frada & Alan Sandler
Memory of Richard Pfeffer
by Carly & Scott Goldman
by Susan & Joel Litman
Birthday of Howard Freed
by Jamie & Ed Tonkon
Honor of Merle Rubin
by Irene Julius
Marriage of Meagan Friedman & Joe Modica
by Carly & Scott Goldman

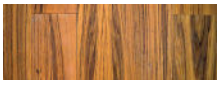
Gina Rosenfield Levy Greene Family Camp Scholarship Fund
Financial assistance to families for Greene Family Camp
Memory of Andrea Cohen
by Phyllis & Phil Stoup
Memory of Adolph Stoup
by Phyllis & Phil Stoup
Memory of Bess Meyer Stoup
by Phyllis & Phil Stoup

Lomdim Project
Support of the inclusion program for children with special needs at the Karla & Larry Steinberg Center for Jewish Learning
Memory of Ruth Ross
by Barry Ross

Metz Youth Fund
Scholarships for Jewish activities sponsored by Temple or other Jewish organizations
Memory of Alan Cohen
by Mindy & Rick Cohen
Memory of Libby Goldberg
by Mindy & Rick Cohen
Memory of Annette Kimmel
by Mindy & Rick Cohen

Martin and Charlotte Weiss Religious School Fund
Scholarships for religious school fees, books and additional expenses
Memory of Yael Etzkin
by Sara & Mark Albert

Shor/Lowenstein Youth Scholarship Fund
Financial assistance to families for participation in youth programs
Memory of Yael Etzkin
by Peggy & Dave Millheiser



WRJ

Funds to support activities of Women of Reform Judaism

YES Fund of Sisterhood
Support of the Youth, Education and Service programs of Women of Reform Judaism
As a Contribution
by Emily Atlas
by Pam Karpel
by Leah Beth Kolni
by Jeana Foxman
by May Sebel
by Marla H. Bane
by Elise Plaksen
by Esther R. McKenna
by Beri Kaplan Schwitzer
by Kristy Goltz
by Sharon Willey
by Yuh Min Chook
by Jacquie Schwitzer
by Margie Landson
by Terri Greenspan
by Michele Block
by Louise Rosenfield
by Denise Siegal
by Debbi Levy
by Nancy Israel
by Marian Spitzberg
by Lynn Swartz
by Mindy Cohen
by Joan Jackson
by Bonnie Rosenberg
by Cheryl Pollman
by Jane Manaster
by Vicki Redden

Freda Gail Stern Fund
Support of social action projects consistent with WRJ's mission
As a Contribution
by Emily Atlas
by Pam Karpel
by Leah Beth Kolni
by Jeana Foxman
by May Sebel
by Marla H. Bane
by Elise Plaksen
by Esther R. McKenna
by Beri Kaplan Schwitzer
by Kristy Goltz
by Sandy Phillips
by Yuh Min Chook
by Jacquie Schwitzer
by Margie Landson
by Terri Greenspan
by Michele Block
by Louise Rosenfield
by Denise Siegal
by Nancy Israel
by Marian Spitzberg
by Allison Schwartz
by Lynn Swartz
by Mindy Cohen
by Anne Batalsky
by Joan Jackson
by Cheryl Pollman
by Jane Manaster
by Sheila Stieglitz
by Ellen Markus
by Teresa Parker
by Angela Hardy

Yolanda Clark Scholarship Fund
As a Contribution
by Emily Atlas
by Pam Karpel
by Leah Beth Kolni
by Jeana Foxman
by Marla H. Bane
by Elise Plaksen
by Esther R. McKenna
by Beri Kaplan Schwitzer
by Kristy Goltz
by Sharon Willey
by Yuh Min Chook
by Jacquie Schwitzer
by Margie Landson
by Terri Greenspan
by Michele Block
by Louise Rosenfield
by Denise Siegal
by Nancy Israel
by Marian Spitzberg
by Allison Schwartz
by Lynn Swartz
by Fran Berry
by Mindy Cohen
by Joan Jackson
by Cheryl Pollman
by Jane Manaster
by Vicki Redden
by Nancy Jellinek
by Angela Hardy

Multigenerational Journey to Israel

June 1-10*, 2027

Don't miss this unforgettable visit to Israel with your Temple family, led by Rabbi David Stern, Cantor Vicky Glikin and Rabbi Amy Rossel.

- Experience Jerusalem as if for the first time (or for the first time!), through history, sacred spaces and the remarkable people we'll meet.
- Embrace the warmth and hospitality of an Israeli Shabbat.
- Immerse yourself in Israel's natural beauty in adventures through deserts, rivers and northern landscapes.
- Meet or reconnect with Muki, our tour guide who has added so much to previous Temple trips to Israel.
- Practice *tikkun olam* in real time through impactful volunteer projects.
- Explore the ancient cobblestone streets and blue-painted walls of Tzafat, Israel's highest city and home of spirituality, creativity and mysticism.
- Return home invigorated with new appreciation for the resilience and identity of our people, and with deeper connections to our congregational community.

Learn More at Two Info Sessions

November 8 | 4:30PM | In person only

November 11 | 6PM | In person and online

Register for both sessions at tedallas.org/events

For questions, contact Mindy Butler, mbutler@tedallas.org.

**Note: This date reflects a change from the original dates that have appeared previously in Temple communications.*









Scenes from the Front Lines of the Fight for Jewish Pluralism in Israel

Orly Erez-Likhovski visits Temple as Scholar-in-Residence

By Anjelica Ruiz



For Orly Erez-Likhovski, Jewish identity in Israel carries a responsibility to build a society where everyone belongs.

She has worked toward that goal in more than two decades at the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC), where she now serves as executive director. A lawyer by training who has championed many legislative wins for Jewish pluralism, her work reflects a belief that Judaism offers a foundation for compassion and equality.

"You don't have to choose between being a liberal and being a Jew," Erez-Likhovski says. "You can be both."

Erez-Likhovski will bring that perspective to Temple Emanu-El on Dec. 18–19, where she'll spend Shabbat as our scholar-in-residence, discussing several topics, including the Israel elections. (See next page for schedule.)"We need liberal Jews to actually lean in," she said. "Because we know that what we are doing is not only on behalf of Israelis; it's really on behalf of so many Jews around the world."

As the Reform movement's advocacy arm in Israel, IRAC protects religious freedom, advances women's rights and LGBTQ+ equality, and challenges racism against Palestinian citizens of Israel. The organization uses the tools of legislative advocacy, litigation and public education.

"We are basically working to make sure Israel is a Jewish state that is a home for all Jews," she said, "and that it is a democratic state that protects all its citizens regardless of their race, gender or religion."

Values at Work

Those efforts extend from courtrooms and Knesset hearings to local communities. IRAC has helped Reform congregations work with municipalities to advance equality and religious pluralism.

For American Reform Jews, the need to fight for religious recognition can be difficult to imagine. Many of us take for granted the legitimacy of our rabbis, conversions and Jewish lives. In Israel, Erez-Likhovski explains, The Ultra Orthodox Chief Rabbinate is part of the government, and this situation creates advantages that other expressions of Judaism must repeatedly challenge.

Yet she sees growing interest in egalitarian communities and ways of practicing Judaism that reflect liberal Israelis' values.

"If you're a liberal, you don't have to reject Judaism altogether because you equate it with exclusion and racism and homophobia," she said. "This is not our Judaism."

Making that alternative visible also requires questioning whose voices represent religious communities. Erez-Likhovski cautions against assuming that demands from ultra-Orthodox leadership to exclude women from public spaces reflect everyone's wishes. Those practices also harm ultra-Orthodox women, including those who oppose exclusion but face barriers to speaking publicly.

"We actually see ourselves as those who can be the voice of the people who are against those exclusionary practices," she says.

Shifting Attitudes

She believes sustained advocacy has helped shift attitudes toward women's equality and LGBTQ+ rights. She recalls the outrage over a state response defending discrimination against same-sex couples seeking to adopt—a reminder that government positions do not always reflect public opinion.

Erez-Likhovski also describes a society that is carrying deep trauma after October 7, 2023, and one that needs leadership committed to healing.

For American Jews frustrated by Israel's elected leaders, she encourages staying connected to Israelis working toward a different future. She recalls a sign at a demonstration that read, "We are not our government."

How We Can Help

Erez-Likhovski shares several strategies to make an impact in Israel—follow Israeli civil society organizations, attend webinars, respond to advocacy opportunities and provide financial support.

"The support and empathy and love that I received from so many people around the world…was really meaningful for us," she said. "It really strengthened us."

Erez-Likhovski finds hope in growing interest in Reform Judaism in Israel, changing public attitudes and Israelis discovering their capacity for activism.

"I do believe in the possibility of change," she said.

During her December visit, she will share that experience and her perspective on Israel's political landscape. She also looks forward to joining our congregation in worship and finding the comfort and connection that community offers during uncertainty.

"I want to strengthen you," she said, "but it's definitely going to strengthen me."

2026 Rabbi Levi A. Olan Lectureship

Lighting the Way—In Israel

December 18–19, 2026

Orly Erez-Likhovski, Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center

Shabbat Evening, December 18

6:15pm: Sermon
Values in Action: Building a Jewish and Democratic Israel

Shabbat Morning, December 19

9am: Torah Study
Loving Israel: The Work of Tikkun before and after October 7

12pm: Lunch-and-Learn
Conversation with Rabbi David Stern: Challenges and Opportunities After Israel's Election

Orly will share her perspective and the work of IRAC in the aftermath of the recent election, before engaging in conversation with Rabbi Stern and our community.

IRAC Current Issues

- Strengthening Israel's democracy
- Protecting the rights of converts and immigrants
- Advancing freedom of and from religion
- Ensuring equal status for Reform and Conservative communities
- Advancing equality in the public domain
- Advancing racial equality and combatting hate

Resources Available through IRAC.org
The Pluralist: IRAC Newsletter and Podcast

For more information about the work of IRAC, the weekly newsletter and a podcast, visit irac.org.











Talking It Out, Respectfully

Resetting the Table, the powerful workshop designed to help people develop better communication skills around difficult topics, will be offered in November and December.



Rabbi Amy Rossel

The workshops, facilitated by Rabbi Amy Rossel, are open to the congregation.
Register: tedallas.org/events

RESETTING *the* TABLE

November 8 | 1:30-4PM

Speaking Across Conflict Workshop

Resetting the Table's celebrated workshop offers communication skill-building for difficult conversations and a framework for vibrant dialogue across diverse viewpoints, backgrounds, and generations. Participants exchange views and personal experiences, surface differences and commonalities, and practice skills for addressing differences honestly and constructively. The workshop builds community capacity to explore differences while strengthening relationships, trust, learning, and collaboration.

December 13 | 1:30-3PM

Skill Building Conversations

This follow-up session is designed for participants who have already completed the Speaking Across Conflict workshop and want the opportunity to deepen and practice the skills they learned. Through a carefully structured small-group conversation, participants will engage with a real and meaningful issue, practice demonstrating understanding, and experience once again what it looks like to stay present, curious, and connected across difference.

Save the Date | January 8-9, 2027
Candice and Robert Haas Visiting Scholar

IN THE BEIT MIDRASH
A WEEKEND OF LEARNING WITH LEAH HOCHMAN, PH.D.
Associate Professor of Jewish Thought, Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles

Join us for a wide-ranging, intellectually stimulating and creative exploration of the intersection of American Life and Jewish culture, through food, literature and Jewish texts.

Todah, Today and Every Day!

Gratitude is part of the DNA at the Early Childhood Education Center, where children express thanks daily for the wonders around them.



For sensory funs: Penelope Whitman



For rain and growing things: Finch Richman



For freedom: Dane Freed



For nature: Ella Okashi and Remi Cooper



For delicious food: Joseph Allen and Molly Chiu



For friends: Stella Nathan and Ryder Epstein



For our educators: Eloise Pratt, Uma Tzivoni-Shavit, Hannah Paull and Reid Tobolowsky

Temple
Emanu-El

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