



HAR ZION
T E M P L E

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Av/Elul/Tishri 5784-85

The Bulletin

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

Upcoming Centennial Events



The Dedication of the Abiri-Jean Torah

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 - 9:00AM to 12:00PM

This event will feature dancing, a procession, a ceremony welcoming the new Torah into our sanctuary, and a festive reception.



Centennial Birthday Bash

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 - 12:00PM to 2:30PM

Enjoy a lively atmosphere featuring a klezmer band, magician, photo booths, a glitter tattoo artist, a live art exhibition, and a special area just for the kids.

Please join us! Watch your emails for more information!



Thoughts from our Co-Presidents

Message from

Elliot Rosen and Lynne P. Landsburg

As I write this article, we are in the middle of a heat wave; we just had a very successful Joy of Shabbat Summer BBQ-Style dinner and service in the Sayer-Berkowitz Pavilion and

the clergy and ritual committee have their sleeves rolled up planning our High Holy Day season. It is hard to believe a year has passed since Lynne and I became your Co-Presidents. Other communications will be detailing the very exciting and extensive plans for our Centennial year.

(Continued on page 3)

Message from

Rabbi Seth Haaz



It is easy to talk about asking for forgiveness; it can be quite difficult to actually do it. It is painful to admit our mistakes, whether they were known or unknown. And, it is painful to make ourselves vulnerable to others. To ask for forgiveness but not receive it is devastating. This why the Psalmist tells us, "Yours is the power to forgive, so that you may be held in awe (Psalm 130:4)." According to Jewish tradition, praised and honored is the one who forgives others.

As we enter the Hebrew month of Elul and approach Rosh Hashanah, we should make it as easy as possible for others to come to us to ask for forgiveness. To remind us of this, we can remember what Tractate Yoma of the Babylonian Talmud says about Rabbi Zeira:

When Rabbi Zeira had a complaint against a person who insulted him, he would pace back and forth before him and present himself, so that the person could come and appease him. Rabbi Zeira made himself available so that it would be easy for the other person to apologize to him.

Rabbi Zeira understood how difficult it was to approach someone to ask for forgiveness, so he facilitated the process by bridging the physical distance, making it easier for the other to engage with him. Let's remember Rabbi Zeira if we find another courageous enough to ask us for forgiveness. Both the asker for forgiveness and the granter of forgiveness are responsible for successful *teshuvah*, and *teshuvah* works best when both parties approach the interaction with trust and compassion. May we each have the privilege to forgive and to be forgiven as we prepare to meet God in the sanctuary as a community on the upcoming High Holy Days.

High Holiday Service Schedule for 2024 – 5785

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

SELIHOT

Saturday, September 28

7:45 PM – Community Selihot with Kehillah of Lower Merion at Adath Israel (In-person and Livestream [adathisrael.org/livestream])

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Wednesday, October 2

6:00 PM – Evening Service

ROSH HASHANAH – FIRST DAY

Thursday, October 3

8:30-10:45 AM – Morning Service and Torah Service
9:00-10:00 AM – *Preschool-age Students and Families Service (Berkowitz Aud)*
9:30-11:00* AM – *1st-6th Grade Students and Parents Service (Dogole Chapel)* (* Participants will join for the Shofar Service in the Main Sanctuary at 10:45 AM)
9:30 AM-12:30 PM – *Youth Activities – 1st-6th Grades (JFGRS Hallway)*
10:00 AM-12:30 PM – *Babysitting (Rooms 108 and 109)*
11:15 AM-12:15 PM – *Link Teen Activity – 7th-12th Grades (Rm 215)*

10:45 AM-12:30 PM – Community Moment

• **Shofar Service and Sermon**

• **A Sacred Song for the Next 100 Years**

12:30-1:00 PM – Conclusion of Musaf
4:30 PM – Tashlikh: Depart HZT to walk to river (or meet group at the river at 5:00 PM)
6:00 PM – Evening Service

ROSH HASHANAH – SECOND DAY

Friday, October 4

8:15-10:30 AM – Morning Service and Torah Service
9:30 AM-1:00 PM – *Youth Activities and Services – 1st-6th Graders (JFGRS Hallway)*
9:30 AM-1:00 PM – *Babysitting (Rooms 108 and 109)*
10:30-11:15 AM – Shofar Service and Sermon
11:15 AM-12:45 PM – Musaf
1:00-1:20 PM – Community Moment (come as you are)
Shofar Service in Sayer-Berkowitz Pavilion
(in-person only)
Kiddush following the Shofar Service is sponsored in loving memory of Don Rosen by Roni Rosen.
6:00 PM – Evening Service

KOL NIDRE

Friday, October 11

5:30 PM – Community Moment: Cantor Herman Awakens our Souls

5:30 PM – *All Children and Youth invited with families to main service for Kol Nidre and Rabbinic Folk Tale*
6:15-7:15 PM – *1st-6th Grade Student Activities (JFGRS Hallway)*
6:15-7:15 PM – *Link Teen Activity – 7th-12th Grades (Rm 215)*
6:45 PM – Message from the Presidents

YOM KIPPUR

Saturday, October 12

9:00-11:30 AM – Morning Service and Torah Service
9:00-10:00 AM – *Preschool-age Students and Families Service (Berkowitz Aud)*
9:30-11:00 AM – *1st-6th Grade Students and Parents Service (Dogole Chapel)*
10:00 AM-1:30 PM – *Babysitting (Rooms 108 and 109)*
11:00 AM-1:30 PM – *Youth Activities – 1st-6th Grades (JFGRS Hallway)*
12:00-1:00 PM – *Link Teen Activity – 7th-12th Grades (Rm 215)*

11:30 AM-12:15 PM – Community Moment: The World After October 7

12:15-1:15 PM – Sermon and Yizkor
1:15-3:00 PM – Musaf
3:15-4:15 PM – Adult Education Class – Dr. Ely Levine and Rabbi Shawn
4:30 PM – Minha and Neilah
7:10 PM – Ma'ariv

7:20-7:30 PM – Community Moment: Shofar/ Yom Kippur Finale

SHEMINI ATZERET

Wednesday evening, October 23

6 PM – Service (Yizkor recited)

7-8 PM – Community Moment: First Yahrzeit for Victims of October 7

Please watch your emails for Sukkot Service times and Activities.



Denotes Community Moment

What in the World is Selichot?

Message from **Cantor Herman**

A central theme of the High Holy Days is forgiveness. We contemplate the difficult inner work of forgiving those who have wronged us, and we seek forgiveness from others. Even more profoundly, we reach into the depths of our beings and plead for forgiveness from something beyond us, from a creative force in the universe to which we feel connection; we confront ourselves, and we ask God for forgiveness. It's beautiful, holy spiritual work, and quintessentially Jewish.

Has anyone ever bumped into you in Israel and said, "Selicha"? It can mean "pardon," "excuse me," or "sorry." *Selichot* is the plural form of *selicha*, and means "forgiveness." In Judaism, *Selichot* are penitential (expressing regret for wrongdoings, seeking repentance) poems and prayers, but *Selichot* also refers to a very special, specific service. The *Selichot* service happens once a year, on the Saturday night preceding Rosh Hashanah – which this year falls on September 28. You should mark your calendars and absolutely consider attending, and here's why:

Several Lower Merion shuls will gather this year for *Selichot*, so it will be a community-wide gathering (see box at right). The evening will begin with a presentation by one of the Jewish world's greatest scholars, former JTS Chancellor Arnold Eisen. Professor Eisen is indeed a world-class thinker, writer, and not-to-be-missed speaker. And then the "service" – which will actually be more of a spiritual concert, featuring instruments, several cantors, and several rabbis. The music will feature everything from relevant popular tunes, to meditative, prayerful participatory singing. In essence – the *Selichot* concert-service is a deeply meaningful and social way to actually begin preparing our hearts and minds for the High Holy Days. Attending *Selichot* will elevate and deepen your High Holy Day experience; you will arrive at Rosh Hashanah more mentally prepared and spiritually focused. Plus you'll have a chance to sing, hear inspiring words, and enjoy wonderful music. Please join us!



Presidents (continued from page 1)

It is also hard to believe that shortly after this *Bulletin* is published, we will be observing the first anniversary of the tragedy of October 7th. Even though we worked hard to follow our plans for the year, we did pivot after October 7th. That's part of what makes Har Zion special. For many of us Har Zion is a second home. We come to minyan, we go to classes, we are on committees, we help prepare food for Shabbat and breakfasts after minyan, we volunteer in the gift shop, are involved in Sisterhood, HSA and Men's Club, greet and usher at services, lead services, read Torah, chant Haftarah, attend Shabbat and holiday services etc.

Whatever your interests, Har Zion can fill your needs. You can even spend time in nature by hiking our trails. We are thrilled with what was accomplished last year and eagerly look forward to 5785 being the greatest year in Har Zion's history. Please join us as often as you can and make Har Zion your second home. There is something for everyone. Lynne and I are proud and honored to be your Co-Presidents and wish you and your loved ones a healthy, joyous, peaceful, safe and sweet New Year.

G'mar Hatima Tova!

Awakening the Soul: Selichot Program and Service Saturday, September 28, 2024 Adath Israel

250 N Highland Avenue, Merion Station, PA 19066

Awaken Your Mind & Soul: Join Kehillat Lower Merion for an engaging evening of learning, reflection, music, and spiritual forgiveness (Selichot), as we open our hearts in anticipation of the High Holy Days...

7:45 PM: Nosh and Havdalah

8:00 PM: "A Theology for Our Time" with Arnold Eisen

9:00 PM: Communal Musical Service



After nearly half a century of studying and teaching major works of modern Jewish religious thought, Arnold Eisen – one of the world's leading scholars on American Judaism – has written a personal theological essay remarkable for its honesty, accessibility, and insight.

Like many Jewish theologians before him, Eisen is resigned to the fact that there is little mere mortals can know about God's nature. His focus is rather the search for the "hiding God," the meaning of fleeting encounters with the Creator, and the acts of justice and compassion that human beings are called to perform as God's partners, in God's name.

Seeking the Hiding God is a rich, original, and moving work. It invites readers of all persuasions to join the author in asking – perhaps for the first time – what they actually believe about ultimate matters of faith and doubt, and rewards fellow-searchers for ultimate Meaning with reassurance that the search itself can be a source of personal fulfillment, vibrant Community and great joy.

Free and open to the community.
For more information, please
call 610-934-1919.



Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia
Kehillah of Lower Merion



BETH DAVID
REFORM CONGREGATION

Shake a Lulav

Blessing the Lulav and Etrog is the Jewish way of thanking God for the blessings of the earth on the holiday of Sukkot.



Your order needs to be submitted no later than Friday, September 20. To purchase a Lulav and Etrog (\$53), call Dr. Ely Levine, 610-667-5001, or email him at elevine@harziontemple.org.

We Need You!

Interested in serving as a High Holiday usher?
Please contact Alan Workman
at ajworkman@aol.com.

DO A MITZVAH!

Please join us in hosting a Rosh Hashanah service and luncheon for residents and their family members at
Saunders and Inglis Houses.

Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 11:00 AM – Inglis House
Friday, Sept. 27 at 11:30 AM – Saunders House

Interested? Contact Andy Coren, 610-585-1866
or andreajoy.coren@gmail.com.



Emotional Well-Being Series

Har Zion presents a four-part series designed to enhance wellness for both children and adults. Open to the community, these sessions are facilitated by professionals and designed to empower and support families through the challenges of modern life. Please let us know if you require any accommodations to participate fully.

Brought to you by the Inclusivity Committee in conjunction with Jewish Family and Children's Services.

Watch your emails for how to register.

Parents of Elementary Children

Sunday, September 15, 2024 • 10:15 AM-12 PM

Promoting SUPERPOWERS of our children: emPOWERing them to face today's challenges

Parents of Tweens

Sunday, November 3, 2024 • 10:15 AM - 12 PM

YouTube? More like you glued: Understanding and modifying problematic tech use in the digital age

Parents of Adolescents

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 • 7 - 8:30 PM

Managing your teen's increasing independence

Adult Self-Care

Wednesday, January 15, 2025 • 7 -8:30 PM

Empty Nester/Sandwich Generation

Ritual Matters

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



The Torah readings in the second half of the book of Numbers seem to be full of independent episodes rather than chapters of a continuous narrative. Part of that impression comes from the fact that we read the Torah as separate episodes, a little bit each week, severing the connections between passages. In the consecutive portions of Hukat and Balak, we see two parallel stories that we never read together because one is in each of the two weekly portions. First, there was the episode when God told Moses and Aaron to talk to the rock in order to bring forth water for the Israelites. The second story is about Balaam and his talking donkey. They are parallel because in each, a person resorts to an act of violence instead of speaking. Moses, angry about how Israel has complained for water, strikes the rock twice instead of talking to it. Balaam, the seer who cannot see, beats his donkey because she reacts to what is in front of her.

These two stories remind us of how easy it is to turn to violence, and how wrong it can be. It is this single event that is the reason that Moses and Aaron are not allowed to enter the Promised Land despite their long, illustrious careers. Balaam would have killed the donkey that had served him well for his whole life until that time (and then, how would he have made it to his destination?). We are taught from a young age to use our words and not hit or kick or bite: it is nice for the Torah to weigh in on this as well.

The immediate counter-argument, however, is that words do not always work, and dialogue can be frustratingly slow. But the Torah shows us this at work as well. In the Torah portion after those two, Pinhas, the daughters of Zelaphehad come to Moses because they wish to inherit their father's estate as their father had had no sons. Their plea makes sense based on how land and names are passed down through generations, and God tells Moses that they should indeed inherit. Yay, a victory for equality! But in the next Torah portion after that, Mattot, the rest of the Zelaphehad's clan approach and claim that this decision will end up depleting the allotment of land to the tribe. Their argument is also based on the principles of land distribution and inheritance, and it is also accepted.

While the specifics of this case may not align with *our* notions of equality and inheritance, we see how dialogue has furthered the conversation, little by little. We should always look to improve ourselves, listening to others, offering our thoughts as response, until we can find a way forward. Violence does not leave room for alternatives. It does not allow for growth.

As we approach the new year of 5785, I invite us all to continue to grow as human beings. Recognizing that this growth will not always be as fast, or as much in a straight line as we want. But it starts from being aware of ourselves and keeping our tempers in check and communicating with others.

Shana Tova.



SAVE THE DATE

**ONE YEAR LATER:
COMMEMORATE THE
OCTOBER 7 MASSACRE**

OCTOBER 27, 2024 | 1:30 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.
HAR ZION TEMPLE, PENN VALLEY



MERCAZ USA

The Zionist Organization of Conservative Judaism that advocates for funding of pluralistic streams of Judaism in Israel through the World Zionist Congress.

To learn how you can help, contact Debbie Zarwin Rose at mercaz@harziontemple.org.



ADULT JEWISH LEARNING . . .

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

MONDAY

1 PM – NaKh: The Rest of the Bible with Dr. Ely Levine

Starting September 9

In-person and Zoom

We spend a lot of time on certain parts of the Bible – chiefly, the Torah. It is time to read through the Prophets and the Writings more carefully. Join this class to read and discuss the rest of the Bible. We will move at a comfortable pace, but include some deep exploration of texts. New participants are welcome at any time! We are reading now about Solomon and his reign in the book of Kings.

8:30 PM – Talmud Study with Rabbi Gary Charlestein

Zoom only

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

TUESDAY

12 PM – Study of the Book of Samuel with

Rabbi Gary Charlestein

In-person and Zoom

1710 Romano Dr., Plymouth Meeting

WEDNESDAY

8:15 AM – TISCH with Rabbi Shawn

In-person and Zoom

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

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

Starting October 9

In-person only – at the home of Patty Grobman

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

pgrobman@comcast.net.

Oct 30, Nov 13, Dec 4, 18, Jan 8, 22, Feb 5, 19, March 5, 19, Apr 2, 23, May 7, 21

Sisterhood Rosh Hodesh – 4 PM

In-person and Zoom – check your emails for updates

Tuesdays – Starting October 29

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

THURSDAY

10:30 AM – Commentaries on Exodus with Rabbi Ira Flax

Starting September 5

In-person and Zoom

Join us for an in-depth study of the Book of Exodus. Starting with the commentary of the Hertz and Etz Chaim Chumash we then delve into the insights found in the Talmud, Midrash, and the major commentators spanning the length of Jewish history. It's Torah as you have never studied it!

12 PM – Jewish Books in Christian Bibles with Dr. Ely Levine

Starting September 5

In-person and Zoom

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

FRIDAY

8:15 AM – Legally Speaking with Rabbi Shawn

In-person and Zoom

This class will read, analyze and discuss contemporary issues and how they are handled in Teshuvot/Legal Responsa of the Conservative movement. No prior legal knowledge necessary.

SATURDAY

Following morning services – Milton Pomerantz

Interactive Torah Study

This participant-led and organized study group wrestles with the meaning of the weekly Torah portion.

Shabbat Talmud Class with Rabbi Gary Charlestein

Saturday afternoon, one hour before Mincha

In-person only in the Rudofker Library

This class is in addition to his Monday evening class

Mussar Journeys with Karen Kripke!

Thursdays, 2:30-4 PM (Zoom only)

If interested, please be in touch with Karen, kskripke@comcast.net or 610-574-1511.

Israel Education Class

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

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

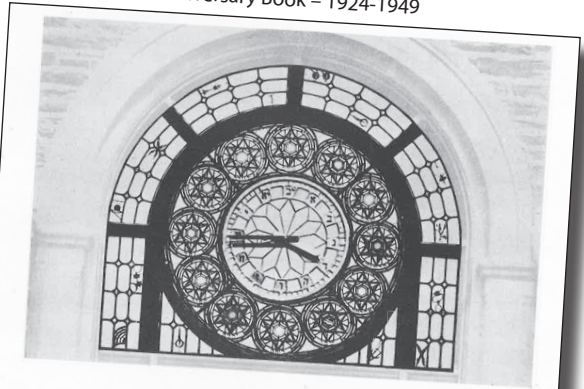
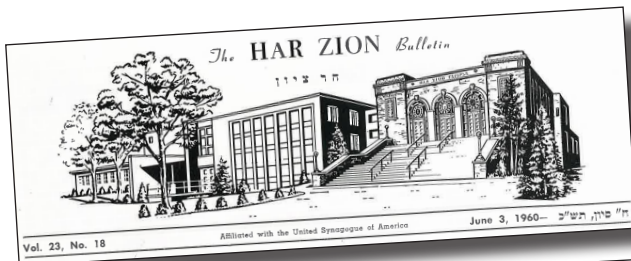
Most Sundays, October 27, 2024 to May 18, 2025 | 10:30 AM | Zoom only | \$150 (no one will be turned away due to cost)

Register at: tinyurl.com/IsraelEd24-25

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

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

From the 25th Anniversary Book – 1924-1949



THE WINDOW ABOVE THE CENTER ENTRANCE

The Central portion consists of the Clock inscribed with the Hebrew words opening the third chapter of the book of Ecclesiastes: "Everything has its appointed hour." כלל וכן

The Outer Circle of twelve medallions is composed of the twelve precious stones set in the breast-plate which the High Priest wore when officiating in the Temple. Each stone had a name of one of the twelve tribes inscribed on it. All of Israel was to be in his heart when he appeared before the Lord.

These stones with their names served as the "Urim v' Tumim," אורים ותומים which were used in early Jewish History for oracular purposes. The Hebrew words and their Latin translation "Lux et Veritas" appear in the seal of Yale University.

In Exodus, Chapter 28, verses 17-20, the precious stones are enumerated as follows:

Carnelian	Carbuncle	Jacinth	Beryl
Topaz	Sapphire	Agate	Onyx
Smaragd	Emerald	Amethyst	Jasper

SIX BECOME EAGLE SCOUTS IN TROOP 200

Six members of Har Zion Temple's Troop 200, Boy Scouts, achieved the highest honor that scouting can bestow—the rank of Eagle Scout.

The winners of this award are pictured below. Two other scouts in Philadelphia also attained this rank.

The rank of Eagle signifies that they have demonstrated expert proficiency in at least 21 fields such as citizenship, athletics, outdoor living and survival, scholarship and many more.

Their scholarship achievements encompass not only secular training but also outstanding accomplishments in their

Hebrew studies. Since each holds the coveted Ner Tamid Award which is given to such Scouts of the Jewish faith.

The recognition of their new rank was given to them on Wednesday, May 25, 1960, at an impressive Court of Honor ceremony sponsored by the Philadelphia Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Temple congratulates them and hopes that they will remain in Scouting and go on to achieve greater heights as the future leaders of the movement.



Left to right, seated: David Tinkelman, Steven Saturen, Sheldon Orkin. Standing: Robert Agran, Arnold Kramer, Mark Finkel.

From the Har Zion Bulletin –
March 14, 1952

BOY SCOUTS

Har Zion Troop 200 meets every Wednesday evening in the Auditorium and the boys are progressing excellently in their activities. Sponsored by the Men's Club, the Scout Troop is under the leadership of Scoutmaster Martin Birenbaum and a Troop Committee headed by Dr. Samuel Sussman.



GIFT SHOP OPENS



TIKKUN OLAM . . .

Our Shul Stitches group starts yet another year of knitting, crocheting, putting together and sewing baby blankets and hats, twin, youth, or lap sized blankets, adult teen or child-sized hats and scarves. The best part of what we do is gifting our "made with love" items to charities with folks in need of some warmth and special kindness.

We do our handiwork during our monthly meetings as well as in our own homes. Our meetings are filled with friendship and productivity. We welcome all experienced and novice knitters.

Also, we can teach the "newbies" how to knit, crochet or sew a blanket together. Come join us – TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT!!

2024 - 2025 Calendar

All dates are on Tuesdays at 11:30 AM, with the exception of January 20 which is MLK Day:

Sept. 10, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Feb. 18, Mar. 11,

Apr. 8, May 13, Jun. 17

Questions? Contact Connie Handen (cnhanden@gmail.com) or Andy Coren (andreajoy.coren@gmail.com).



This blanket was pieced together using the squares lovingly stitched and arranged by residents of The Hearth. We sent blankets to Israel and this one was included.

Cook for a Friend

Watch your emails for the upcoming schedule.

9:30 AM (Prep to begin at 9 AM)

For more info, contact us at

cookforafriend@harziontemple.org

With Love and Thanks!

The Family of Rachel Spiegel express their heartfelt thanks to our Har Zion community. The support and comfort, donations, meals, cards, emails and text messages you provided to us during this difficult time are deeply appreciated.

The Spiegel, Robbins, Finger and Hoppy Families

NACHES, ETC . . .

BIRTHS

Welcome to the world to

Noah Blaze Drotman, son of Sara & Spencer Drotman, brother of Theo, grandson of Margie & Jeffrey Honickman and Myra & Scott Drotman, great grandson of Lynne & Harold Honickman and Shelly & Stanley Kramer (z"l), nephew of Mauri Honickman and Cassie & Bill Farrant, great nephew of Jill & Lenny Feinberg and Eileen & Robert Kramer. Noah was born on April 19.



Louie Sima Schpero, daughter of Aurora Greenberg & Gil Schpero, sister of Goldie, granddaughter of Leta Shubin, great granddaughter of Gladys & Aaron Shubin (z"l), niece of Jay Greenberg, and great niece of Andy & Bill Coren. She is named for her aunt Laurie Shubin and great uncle Saul Magram, as well as great grandfathers Morton Greenberg and Morton Schpero. Louie arrived on April 24.

Rami Noam Fox, son of Alisa & Chaim Fox, brother of Yakira and Amalia, grandson of Karen & Hazzan Eliot Vogel and Shirley & Rabbi Bernie Fox, great grandson of Ginette & Charles Mizrahi and Elaine & David Vogel (z"l), nephew of Adina Vogel-Ayalon & Yoni Ayalon and Davida Vogel & Matan Ayash, and cousin of Naomi. Rami arrived on May 6.

Dahlia Neta Ayash, daughter of Davida Vogel & Matan Ayash, granddaughter of Karen & Hazzan Eliot Vogel and Toby & Meir Ayash, great granddaughter of Ginette & Charles Mizrahi, Elaine & David Vogel (z"l), Rhoda & Harvey Ballen (z"l), and Freicha & Shimon Ayash (z"l), niece of Alisa & Chaim Fox, Adina Vogel-Ayalon & Yoni Ayalon, Noa Ayash, and Or Ayash, and cousin of Naomi, Yakira, Amalia, and Rami. Dahlia arrived on May 27.

Chaya Shrager, daughter of Yehudit & Joshua Shrager, sister of Temima, Rina, Nava and (brother) Avishai, granddaughter of Judy & Hank (z"l) Shrager, niece of Kathie & Aaron Shrager and Beth & Joshua Sydney. She is the cousin of Izzy, Yaakov, David, Leah, Bella, Noah and Abby. Chaya was named after her grandfather Henry (Chaim), and arrived on June 19 in Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel.

Hayden Miles Landsburg, son of Mitch Landsburg & Ashley Yerusalim, grandson of Lynne & Bill Landsburg and Dana & Eddy Yerusalim, and great nephew of Laurie & Harry Landsburg. Hayden arrived July 9.

Isabel Sage Barrett, daughter of Leah & Scott Barrett, sister of Elle Remi Barrett, granddaughter of Robyn & Michael Barrett and Caron & Asher Hyman, great granddaughter of Susan & Morton Lerner (z"l), Barbara & Edmund (z"l) Barrett, Elaine & Jason Beden, Libby & Raymond Hyman (z"l), niece of Joshua Barrett, Alexander Rodney and Sara Hyman. Isabel arrived on July 22.

MAZEL TOV!

On April 21 at the Kaiserman JCC, Adam Sherman and sons Matthew and Corey were inducted into the Maccabi Hall of Fame. Proud wife and mom is Michele, daughter and sister Mackenzie, and Matthew's wife Rachel.

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

September/October 2024 ■ 7

EDUCATION . . .

Message from

Dr. Michael Schatz, Principal JFGRS

The Jane Fishman Grinberg Religious School is looking forward to an exciting new school year! We will be welcoming nearly 170 children in the fall with two sections of each class including Gan! While many of our families will be taking advantage of the full-day kindergarten program in the Lower Merion School District, Har Zion families understand that Jewish learning need not take a break, and our formal Jewish learning program picks up in Gan/Kindergarten, right after children finish in the Noreen Cook Center.



We'll see many familiar activities and faces, as well as some new ones this year. We look forward to Mitzvahpalooza, Cantor Herman's introduction to the bar and bat mitzvah service for sixth grade families. Better Together continues for fifth, sixth and seventh graders and their Empty Nester friends. The students will be participating in many art projects and receiving gifts sponsored by the Abiri Jean Family Fund for Religious School Special Programs. There will be trips, holiday celebrations, Israel programs, and of course lots of creative and active Jewish learning.

On the first day of school, the Religious School will join the congregation for a dedication of our new Sefer Torah, as part of the Centennial festivities. Stay tuned for lots of excitement from the Religious School this year!

Upcoming JFGRS Events

First Day of School: Sunday, September 8

First Tuesday: September 10

No school: Sunday, October 6 for Rosh Hashanah break

Special Event: Rick Recht concert on Sunday, October 20



RICK RECHT LIVE

SUNDAY OCT 20 - 11:00AM

HAR ZION TEMPLE

Message from Sandi Toben,

Director of Early Childhood Education

Har Zion Day Camp Summer of 2024 was the place to come and explore! We had so much fun and made so many memories. I would like to thank our counselors, lifeguards, specialists, and all other staff for making this summer special. I also would like to give a special shout out to our camp leadership team, Jen Mirsky – Swim Director, Jodi Woodbury – Athletic Director, and Missie Pludo – Co-Camp Director. This team created, steered, and produced an amazing summer program. Our campers swam, created art, played sports, learned Hebrew and science, and made friends during an amazing eight weeks together.



Family Fun Night under the Sayer-Berkowitz Pavilion was an incredible celebration of our camp community. Families enjoyed a picnic dinner and Kona Ice dessert, while the children enjoyed inflatables, sand art, bounce house, balloon art, and our awesome playground. Our camp community is a wonderful network of families that we are excited to welcome back next summer and continue to grow.

Our 2024-2025 school year is about to kick off and our staff is ready to invite your students into their classrooms. The NCCECE is welcoming new and returning families and staff. We are excited to have Ashley Waldman join our administration team as the Early Childhood Coordinator! This year, our teaching team will continue our work with the Lundy Inclusion Initiative to celebrate our diverse students, invest in professional development, and continue to strengthen and expand our team's educational goals. We are excited for another year of growth!

Please join us for our Tot Family Rosh Hashanah service on Thursday, October 3rd!

Upcoming NCCECE/HSA Events

September

- 2 Labor Day - NCCECE Closed
- 4 Meet and Greet/ HSA Welcome Back - 9AM - 12pm
- 5 First Day of School!
- 20 Shabbat Sha-Blue Jeans featuring Prachim
- 25 Back to School Night

October

- 2-4 Rosh Hashanah- NCCECE Closed
- 1 Erev Yom Kippur- NCCECE Closed
- 17 Sukkot Day 1 - NCCECE Closed - Yom Kef Day
- 18 Sukkot Day 2 - NCCECE Closed
- 24 Shemini Atzeret - NCCECE Closed
- 25 Simhat Torah - NCCECE Closed - Yom Kef Day

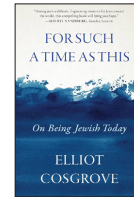
Everyone had fun at Day Camp!



**The Twelfth Annual
Open a Book...Open Your Mind
for 2024-25**

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

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



**Wednesday, September 25
6:30 PM**

**The Inheritance
Israel Rosen**

**Monday, October 7
7:00 PM**

**The Money Kings
Daniel Schulman**

**Wednesday, October 30
1:00 PM**

**The Sequel
Jean Hanff Korelitz**

**Sunday, November 10
11:30 AM**

**For Such a Time as This
Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove**

*Admission: \$36 (Book included)

**Wednesday, November 20
12:00 PM Lunch and Learn
The Last Ships from Hamburg
Steven Ujifusa**

**Monday, December 2
7:00 PM**

**What We Buried
Robert Rotenberg**

**Monday, January 6
7:00 PM**

**Becoming Janet
Janet Singer Applefield**

**Wednesday, January 22
12:00 PM Lunch and Learn**

**10/7: 100 Human Stories
Lee Yaron**

**Monday, February 3
7:00 PM**

**Two Wheels to Freedom
Arthur Magida**

**Wednesday, February 19
1:00 PM**

**There Was Night and There
Was Morning
Sara Sherbill**

**Monday, March 3
7:00 PM**

**Max's War
Libby Fischer Hellmann**

**Monday, March 31
11:30 AM**

**Sisterhood Luncheon
The Love Elixir of
Augusta Stern**

Lynda Cohen Loigman

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

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



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

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

SISTERHOOD . . .

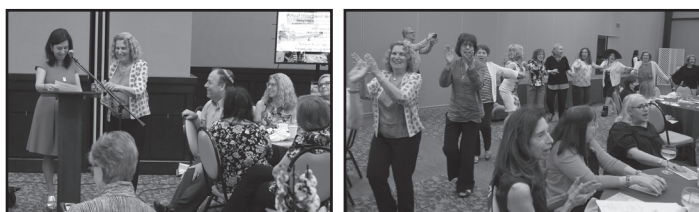
Bensch our Bench

Message from **Meryl Littman**,
Sisterhood President

For those of you who don't know me yet, my husband Gary and I grew up in Philly, became HZT members in 1985, and our three daughters enjoyed Gan through Midrasha here. I was a veterinarian at PennVet and Gary was a biostatistician. We have eight grandchildren in Austin, Silver Springs, and close-by Merion. In retirement, I enjoy Adult Ed classes, Torah Study, and the many activities that Sisterhood provides. For our Centennial year I wrote:



"Emerging post-pandemic isolation, we now joyously celebrate our 100th birthday together! Yet we face uncertainty from rising antisemitism, the tragedy of October 7th, ensuing war, and political polarization. During these turbulent times, we find comfort and resilience in our Sisterhood, inspired by our strong legacy of service and *tikkun olam*. Our 370 members participate in impactful activities supporting communities locally and abroad, including BMitzvah/Confirmation/Midrasha gifts, Book Club, Caring Committee, Challahs/Babkas, Chaplaincy at Inglis House/Saunders House/Bryn Mawr Terrace, College Outreach, Educational programs, Events, Federation, Floral Fund, Gift Shop, Israel/IDF, JBI, JNF, JTS, Kosher Meals-on-Wheels, Madregot, Masorti, Mazon, Open a Book...Open Your Mind, Purim Mishloah Manot, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Rosh Chodesh sessions, Shabbat/Holiday Kiddushes, Shul Stitchers, Sisterhood Shabbat, Sukkah decorating, Synagogue building upgrades, Torah Fund, Women's League, and Youth activities. We enjoy sharing, caring, connecting, kvelling, and working together! We look forward to sustaining and growing our leadership pipeline through our Network to Nourish and Nurture."



Last June 4, outgoing Sisterhood President Michele Perlstein thanked co-chairs Ellen Pries and Aimee Silverman for a lovely Closing Champagne Brunch. Cantor Herman played piano as we sang and danced. We gifted Michele a beautiful kiddush cup, thanking her for her steady grace and leadership, recovering from years of Covid isolation, and now guiding our actions to support Israeli soldiers and families.

As new Officers and Board of Directors were inducted, I asked everyone to *BENSCH OUR BENCH*, i.e., give a blessing to our members, our deep varsity bench, full of the prior/outgoing/incoming Officers/Board, and all you ladies out there getting ready to volunteer for the numerous committees working throughout the year! We need your help, for you to stretch into ROLES maybe outside your comfort zone, and to share your

10 ■ September/October 2024

Sisterhood Calendar

Sisterhood Opening Dinner
Tuesday, September 17, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
Special Guest: Alice Golembo
Actress and Grandniece of Golda Meir
By reservation only

Sisterhood Book Club
Wednesdays, September 25, October 30, December 4,
12:30 - 1:30 PM
For info, contact Barbara Kardon, barbkardon@comcast.net

Sisterhood Board Meeting
Sunday, September 29, 11 AM

Sisterhood Challahs & Babkas
Bagging: Thursday, September 26, 9:30-11 AM
Pick-Up: Sunday, September 29, 9:30-11:30 AM
If you're not able to come on Sunday, pick-up in the synagogue office on Monday, September 30, 9:30-11:30 AM

Sisterhood Decorating the Sukkah
Monday, October 14, 10 AM

Sisterhood Sukkot Program
Tuesday, October 22, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Sisterhood Rosh Chodesh
Tuesdays, October 29, December 3, 4 PM

Floral Fund Donation Cards

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

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

See contributions page for Floral Fund donations.

IDEAS, maybe outside of the box, and encourage more both young and old 'junior varsity' sisters to join our team bench, our pipeline for committees and leadership, to fill and sustain our talented, compassionate HZT Sisterhood for another 100 years!

And so we give this blessing: Dear G-d, THANK YOU for these good ladies, one and all, who are working to sustain a beautiful Sisterhood with a strong legacy that started 100 years ago. Please give them health and energy in this complicated year, turbulent as well as joyous, in their work to strengthen and care for each other and our whole community, at home and abroad. May we be happy, may we be healthy, may we be safe, may we live with ease. And let us say, Amen.

I hope you'll join our Sisterhood 'team' that loves fun, learning, and caring! We have a variety of committees that embrace the spirit of *tikkun olam*, to make the world a better place. If you don't see an activity you'd like to see, let us know and we'll start something new! Join us, won't you? From strength to strength! See you at shul!

GIFTS TO THE CONGREGATION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

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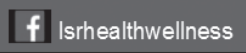
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