

April 2017  
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# Covenant

TEMPLE  
Jeremiah

## Political conversations at Jeremiah

By RABBI PAUL F. COHEN, D.Min., D.D.

Senior Rabbi

rabbi@templejeremiah.org

Dear Friends,

I am finding it increasingly difficult to write this message so far ahead of when you will read it. So much is changing in our world and it is happening more and more rapidly. I struggle to keep track and to make sense of the events we read about, see online and experience in our community. Challenges coming from all angles as we strive to address immigration, rampant anti-Semitism, racism, prejudice, poverty, gun violence. We could indeed create a list rivaling the alphabet of woes in our High Holy Day Machzor. The common thread for me, however, and the message I want to focus upon now is the coarsening of the public square.

I despair of the way civility ceases to guide disagreement. I am appalled at how the default position when

people disagree is to personalize the attack and vilify the person or people with whom we disagree. I am deeply saddened that people see one another only through the lens of "good guy, bad guy." You are either my friend because we agree or you are my enemy because you disagree with a position I hold. Our community is more polarized than ever before. People find it hard to talk about Israel without fear. Discussing the politics of our own country has become a source of great tension and stress — just witness any 24-hour news source or social media platform.

My greatest concern is that this coarsening not occur here at Temple Jeremiah. I want to suggest and acknowledge that we can do better and that we must do better. Each of us is created in the image of God. This is a great gift. Perhaps the even greater gift resides with the fact that we know that we are created in the image of God. This gift can and must inform how we talk to each other and how we talk about others. This is true for the folks who hold the same views that we do and even more so for those with whom we disagree.

Just the other day, I had a heartbreaking conversation with a member of the congregation who told me that their family

was leaving the temple. They were upset and angry and disagreed with the positions we took, and that I took, that this family felt were too liberal and excluded them. I truly

regret that anything I do or say causes anyone to feel that I can no longer be their rabbi and that Temple Jeremiah can no longer be their home. Our leadership has sponsored two open forums in recent years to give congregants that opportunity to discuss and dialogue about the U.S. response to the civil war in Syria and the Iran Nuclear Deal. These were shining moments for the community as we created a space for listening and understanding without the goal of convincing one another. This needs to be our model.

I invite anyone who has a concern about

*continued on page 12*



## "My greatest concern is that this coarsening not occur here at Temple Jeremiah."

## In this Covenant, you'll learn...

... what questions our 2nd graders asked Rabbi Cohen during a special Q&A session. *page 4*

... why one of our volunteers believes in having an impact on the community. *page 6*

... how donations to the temple can illustrate friendships. *page 10*

# Lately around Temple Jeremiah



**1:** Outdoor Nosh & Mingle when February had a heat wave (2/22/17) **2:** JUF Brunch chairs Mark Sulkin, Shelley McNaughton-Sulkin, and Alan Turover with speaker Izzy Ezagui (2/19/17) **3:** Taste and Tell (2/26/17) **4:** Jeremiah middle schoolers at the NFTY678 convention at OSRUI (2/26/17) **5:** Inclusion Shabbat committee members and participants (2/24/17) **6:** Club 345 at the Blast Zone (2/11/17) **7:** Lunch and Learn downtown, led by Rabbi Cohen (2/8/17)



## The search for a new assistant rabbi

By **JOEL AFRICK**

*President*

[jafrick@templejeremiah.org](mailto:jafrick@templejeremiah.org)

In February, I had the privilege of traveling with Rabbi Cohen to interview new assistant rabbi candidates at Hebrew Union College. I anticipated that I would come back from the trip with one or more good hiring prospects for our new assistant rabbi at Temple

**“I came back from three days of interviews with 15 candidates refreshed and hopeful.”**

Jeremiah (which I did). I did come back with good prospects — I hope; but I also came back with something more — a renewed sense of hope in the next generation of rabbis serving our community.

When I grew up in the 1960s, and went to Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute summer camp in the late 1960s and early 1970s, I had the privilege of being exposed to a generation of then-young rabbis who would later go on to make an important mark on

congregational Judaism in our community. We all know Rabbi Cohen, but there were others, too. Each of these rabbis was passionate and deeply committed to a strong Reform Jewish community. I fully believed these rabbis changed spiritual lives and helped to guide their respective communities.

Over the past couple years, some of the rabbis I considered to be at the center of local congregational Judaism began to retire. Perfectly natural, I thought, but what would the next generation of young rabbis bring to our movement? My concerns were completely laid to rest by the group of young soon-to-be-ordained rabbis we met with at HUC. The rabbinic candidates Rabbi Cohen and I encountered were bright, passionate, thoughtful, and poised. They were deep thinkers and “doers.” Each had a different set of attributes to confer upon whatever congregation hired him or her. My comment to Rabbi Cohen was “wow!” and I meant it. I came back from three days of interviews with 15 candidates refreshed and hopeful.



Interestingly, too, almost every candidate we met with had been touched in some way by the URJ Jewish camping movement. They felt the same passion toward Eisner Camp in the Berkshire Mountains of MA or Camp Jacobs in Utica, MS, that I still feel toward OSRUI in Oconomowoc, WI. I am not sure where the future development ground for our future Jewish leaders would be if not for our great camping movement. But I know we are in good hands because of the camping system we have and use so well.

While I have your attention, I would like to thank the Assistant Rabbi Search Committee, chaired by a real “do-er” Ross Wolfson. The committee worked studiously to identify a candidate that would be a best fit for Temple Jeremiah for years to come. Details on the search to follow. Todah Rabah! ■

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE: April 2017

### Saturday, April 1, 2017

8:30 a.m. Tefilah  
9:15 a.m. Torah Study  
11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Worship

### Friday, April 7, 2017

6 p.m. Tot Shabbat  
8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Worship with Choir

### Saturday, April 8, 2017

8:30 a.m. Tefilah  
9:15 a.m. Torah Study  
9 & 11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Worship

### Tuesday, April 11, 2017

9:30 a.m. Matzah Brei  
10 a.m. Passover Worship

### Friday, April 14, 2017

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Reception  
6:30 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Worship

### Saturday, April 15, 2017

8:30 a.m. Tefilah  
9:15 a.m. Torah Study

### Monday, April 17, 2017

9:30 a.m. From Desert to Dessert  
10 a.m. Passover Worship and Yizkor

### Friday, April 21, 2017

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Reception  
6:30 p.m. H(OUR) Shabbat Worship

### Saturday, April 22, 2017

8:30 a.m. Tefilah

9:15 a.m. Torah Study

9 & 11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Worship

### Friday, April 28, 2017

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Reception  
6:30 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Worship, featuring our Special Anniversary Blessing Shabbat

### Saturday, April 29, 2017

8:30 a.m. Tefilah  
9:15 a.m. Torah Study  
11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Worship

## Ever wanted to write for the Covenant?

You can share your thoughts on being part of the Jeremiah community for all to see. Contact Lia at 847.441.5760 or [lia@templejeremiah.org](mailto:lia@templejeremiah.org) for more information.

## Q&As with Rabbi Cohen

By DR. ANNE LIDSKY  
Director of Religious Education  
anne@templejeremiah.org

Temple Jeremiah is blessed with an incredible staff of teachers, working in both our religious and Hebrew schools. So much happens in the tiny block of time we have to teach and inspire your children, and I am so proud of all we have created in our

**“So much happens in the tiny block of time we have to teach and inspire your children.”**

Center for Learning. To give you just a taste of one of our Sunday experiences, in this case, for a class of 2nd graders, I would like to share the e-mail sent by Jennifer Bruns, teacher extraordinaire, to the parents of her students:

*Shalom! You guys, it was such an exciting day!! RABBI COHEN CAME TO VISIT — and — BONUS! —*

*EVERYONE was here today!!! Thank you for making the effort to have your child at school for this special visit. The kids were completely enthralled by Rabbi Cohen and loved having him answer their questions from a few weeks ago, and Rabbi Cohen genuinely enjoyed answering them! He was so impressed with the thought the kids put into their questions and sought me out after school today to volunteer to come back again. It was such a great experience for all of us! Please be sure to ask your son or daughter what they learned from their visit with him — especially if they remember the part of the Torah that is Rabbi Cohen's favorite. I've included a list of the questions the kids generated for Rabbi Cohen and a “Cliff Notes” version of his answers at the bottom of this e-mail to help get your conversation going.*

*After our visit with Rabbi Cohen, we talked again about how Moses climbed Mount Sinai to receive the 10 Commandments and Torah from God and delved deeper into the first commandment: “I am Adonai who led you out of Egypt to be your God.” We read a story about a prince who arrived in a new village and tried to declare himself their king. The people questioned why they should respect him as their leader. The prince proceeded to take care of the people, building a well, planting and harvesting crops, and building a wall to keep them safe.*

*He then returned to the people and they gladly proclaimed him their king as he had shown they would take care of them. So it is with God having led us out of Egypt, keeping us safe and fed in the desert for 40 years, before making his covenant with us on Mount Sinai. The kids each made their own Mount Sinai complete with Moses walking up the mountain, collecting the 10 Commandments, and coming back down to the Israelites. I know one friend dropped their magnetic stick in the hallway, but I'm not sure whose it is. If it's your child, please let him or her know I have it in the classroom for next week. :) Many of the kids drew some Israelites at the base of Mount Sinai. Ask your child if s/he remembers how many Israelites there were in the desert. (600,000 - the same number as letters of the alphabet in the Torah!)*

*Finally, racing against the clock, we managed to sneak in a quick reading of “The Torah” booklet that came home with your child this morning. Thank you for your patience this morning as we dismissed a few minutes late. With only nine sessions of Sunday school left, we still have a lot to accomplish so I*

*didn't want us to fall behind on learning about the Torah. Next week we will watch a video about how a sofer actually makes a Torah and learn about the special objects used to dress the Torah.*

*A big shout out to Dana for generously donating her change collection to tzedakah this week! The kids are clearly clamoring to see me on a ladder as our tzedakah chart is a mere few inches from the ceiling of the classroom. I'm so proud of all of them for being so charitable! Please remember to encourage your child to earn his or her own money to donate. They love sharing what they've done to earn the money each week.*

*Enjoy this phenomenal weather while it lasts! See you next Sunday when we're back in winter. :)*

Best,  
Jennifer Bruns



### QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH RABBI COHEN:



**Aaron:** How long have you been a rabbi here? 17 years.

**Haley:** How long have you been a rabbi here and at different places? 27 years (four years in Norfolk, VA and six years in Portland, ME before coming to Jeremiah).

**Zoe E.:** When were you born? In Chicago (\*The rabbi very cleverly evaded this question. :))

**Chase:** Is being a rabbi hard? Sometimes it is. Visiting sick people in the hospital and not being able to make them better, performing funerals — and having to go from a funeral to a joyous occasion like a baby naming and having to switch gears, and sometimes writing a good D'var Torah/sermon can be hard. But 99.9% of the time, I love my job!

**Zoe R.:** How many different temples have you been at? Three as a head

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## Passing on our stories to the next generation

By ADAM KAHAN

*Cantorial Soloist*

adam@templejeremiah.org

I have to tell you, I have absolutely loved all the learning I have been undertaking as I pursue my certification as a cantor. My favorite moments are when I learn the background to why we do things that I have been doing my whole life. To have the opportunity to pass on those “aha” moments with you, that excites me ... in hopes that it leaves you feeling more connected to our traditions and to our current world in the same way it left me feeling that greater empowerment. And so, in that context, I want to share with you about my memories of Pesach.

Earlier this year I wrote about the mental spaces I traveled as my parents sold my childhood home. So many memories had been assembled into my mental storybook, and no longer would more chapters be added from the same setting. I “got” that in a conceptual way, but I think I will experience it more fully when our Passover seder happens this year, somewhere other than my parents’ home.

I loved Passover at their house, year after year. The conglomerate of winding tables were laid out with so many uniquely beautiful elements at the settings for some 20-plus people ... the little flower vases, the individual bowls of charoset, hard-boiled eggs, maror (bitter herb) ... the individual wine glasses, all the water glasses twinkling in the light ... the ubiquitous seder plate ... and the table cloth. Oh that table cloth.

Years ago my mother learned of a lovely idea which she brought to our home, which was to cover the table in a generic white table cloth. By the end of the seder, everyone had an opportunity to sign and date the table cloth with a permanent marker. As the two decades have passed since the inception of that tradition, we now look back and see who joined us at our table over the years. We go down a bit of a memory-lane ... thinking about those who may no longer be alive, or are living their own adventures in other parts of the world. These visual memories combine with the actual seder to form a story, an experience, which I hope to pass along to my own children.

That’s actually the point of the seder ... to tell the story of the journey, from confinement to freedom, to our next generation. In fact, one of the strong encouragements of the seder is to make it exciting or fun for the children, to incorporate them so that they are active participants in the experience. We tell them about our own ancestors’ experiences. We reflect on what are our current constraints, and how we might liberate others who may be feeling those same constraints now. We make the seder come alive. That’s a

unique thing about our Jewish holidays. We are often not just telling a story about something, but reliving and reenacting the experience.

We start the seder reflecting on the constraints of slavery. We taste the bitterness, the harshness. We eat the “bread of affliction” but also recognize how that bread was what accompanied us on the road to freedom. Our ancestors ate the unleavened bread only once they were on their way to freedom. Our seder brings us into that freedom as we move on to an abundant festival meal and revel in song and rejoicing. This journey, one that we create on that night, brings to life a history that we share with our families, with our parents or our children.

So much of the seder is constructed to bring us through the experience, even at levels that I didn’t, until recently, understand. Why do we have the four children who ask questions (the wise, the wicked ...)? Well, it’s because there are four times in the Torah where it says how we should tell our children about the way God freed us from slavery. Why do

we drink four glasses of wine? Well, that’s tied to one particular verse of Torah where it describes the four ways that God redeemed us. There are so many hidden little gems in the seder, and we get to live out the instructions of the Torah, even when we don’t know we are doing it. It’s really a magnificently constructed experience ... all built around the idea of family being together. How lovely.

It’s no small mistake that this happens in the spring (at least in the Northern Hemisphere, where the custom originates). As the natural world is waking from its winter slumber, completing the period where plants wither and die, we come to a new moment of rebirth. The world comes alive again, as do we. We celebrate the redemption of the past, and invite Elijah the Prophet to our table, as he will signal the time when we will be ultimately redeemed ... when peace will be here at last ... the ultimate rebirth.

Let us not forget that the whole point of this is to pass on the stories to the next generation. Yes, we gather to pass on the story of the Exodus from Egypt, all within our Jewish historical context, but there is another beautiful opportunity, as long as we are together ... and that is the chance to pass on our own personal stories. I hope that as we gather together, this month, to run another thread through the tapestry of our families’ journeys, that we each have a chance to tell our stories, to pass along our tales ... to bond ... to stand side by side ... to celebrate and relax and recognize the beauty of our world come alive once again. ■



**“That’s actually the point of the seder ... to tell the story of the journey, from confinement to freedom, to our next generation.”**

**SAVE THE DATE: Racism in America: Where Are We Now?**

**Golder Interfaith Initiative, featuring Pulitzer prize winner Clarence Page: Saturday, May 6, 2017, 7:30 p.m.**

**Adult Learning’s Pulse of Our World, featuring a screening and discussion of the film “Skin Deep”: Sunday, May 7, 2017, 10 a.m.**

*Watch your e-mail and mail for more information.*



# Volunteer Spotlight: Jack Craven

By LIA GOLDFARB

Membership and Communications Director  
lia@templejeremiah.org

*Jack Craven is the new chair of Temple Jeremiah's Social Justice Committee. We sat down with Jack to learn why he's involved in our community.*

**How long have you been at Temple Jeremiah?**

We joined in the summer of 2000. My wife, Judy, had family members who already belonged here.

**Were you looking to get involved in volunteering?**

Not at that time. We were looking for a place for our kids to start Sunday school like everyone else. After six months, I started to really enjoy the congregation and services, especially Rabbi Cohen and Cantor Amy. I became more connected to the community and to being Jewish.

**When did you start volunteering?**

We did family activities like Feed the Homeless and

**“When multiple people become energized around an idea, we make it happen.”**

much smaller group of regulars back then, now it's about twice the size. We are capable of taking on bigger projects.

**What were your first social justice projects?**

In one of my first years, I suggested that we get involved with families with disabilities, and that became the social justice theme of the year. We did a lot of new programming, including the Keshet Art Fair. I have a personal connection to Keshet because my brother has two sons with autism. Barb Miller visited Keshet to understand their programs and she created the idea of having an art fair. Then I became more involved with other social justice projects as they came up. I enjoyed the camaraderie of the group and meeting new people. Then the committee kept growing and we got more involved in advocacy, where we put on some tremendous programming on the issues of housing, hunger, immigration, and this year will be racism.

donations for The ARK on High Holy Days, and then I joined the Board of Directors. About eight or nine years ago, I started attending Social Justice Committee meetings. I liked that it was about giving back to the community, and the meetings were run efficiently. Impact was also important. We did what we said we were going to do. I really enjoyed the people and the fact that we had a common purpose. It was a



**Were you and Judy working on these projects together?**

We did some projects together, and if it wasn't temple activities, we did other family social justice projects like Maot Chitim. We've done that as a family every year for over 15 years. It's important to us to do these projects with our kids. Taking our daughter to the Greater Bethlehem Healing Temple and seeing where our Feed the Homeless food was going – that was especially meaningful.

**How did you become the chair of the Social Justice Committee?**

Barb told me that she's going to be the next president of our congregation and can't continue to be the chair of Social Justice, so she asked if I would take over. I felt privileged to be asked and I take the responsibility seriously. I love that the Social Justice Committee continues to grow in people as well as programming. I'm grateful that Barb and other committee members have built this committee to what I believe is one of the pre-eminent social justice committees in the country. We couldn't do all that we do without the incredible support of Rabbi Cohen, Rabbi Segal, Anne Lidsky and Danny Glassman, and so many others at the temple. It's exciting to see new faces on a project because they resonate with the activity and giving back. For example, with the recent refugee project, Jennifer Gershowitz came up with this idea that we had never done before. She sent out an e-mail and 30 people showed up to the first meeting and got involved. Having a meaningful impact is one of the best things we can do – it's all about community and connection. When multiple people become energized around an idea, we make it happen.

*continued on page 16*



## Volunteer in the temple office

**Volunteer in the temple office:** Do you have a few extra hours each week? Help out the office staff with mailings, answering phones, and other tasks during the week or during school hours. If interested, please contact Sheila at sheila@templejeremiah.org. Check [www.templejeremiah.org](http://www.templejeremiah.org) for more volunteer opportunities.

**Thank you to our February office volunteers:** Elan Adler, Aileen Blum, Caren Brown, Arnie Fishbain, Hershy Pappadis, Dale Reiff, Barbara Schwarz, and Art Sutton

# Passover information

**Join us for our Passover events as we celebrate our freedom.**

## **Matzah Brei and Passover Worship**

**Tuesday, April 11, 2017**

**9:30 a.m. Matzah Brei**

**10 a.m. Passover Worship**

Enjoy matzah brei (fried matzah) lovingly prepared by our own Rabbi Cohen, followed by Passover worship.

## **From Desert to Dessert: Passover Worship and Yizkor**

**Monday, April 17, 2017**

**9:30 a.m. Dessert for Breakfast**

**10 a.m. Passover Worship and Yizkor**

Join us for Dessert for Breakfast and bring your favorite Passover dessert to share (or just come and enjoy!). We continue our celebration of Passover with the festival worship service, which includes Yizkor, the memorial service.

## **Passover Seder Matchmaking**

Looking to attend a Passover seder but don't have plans yet? Willing to host a few people at your seder? In the spirit of welcoming friends and strangers to our Passover tables, we would love to help you find a seder to attend. Contact Phyllis Burg at [phyllis@templejeremiah.org](mailto:phyllis@templejeremiah.org) and she will help "make you a match!"

## **Passover Seder for Families with Special Needs** **Sunday, April 9, 2017, 2-3 p.m.**

Please join us for this multisensory, interactive Passover experience at Temple Jeremiah.

We'll enjoy a brief seder (not a meal), sing songs, and act out the story of Passover.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Caren Brown at [ceb994@gmail.com](mailto:ceb994@gmail.com).



## Center for Enriched Living Art Fair: Sunday, April 9, 2017, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Jeremiah

By **JUDY CRAVEN**  
*Social Justice Committee*  
judyabc3@gmail.com

Temple Jeremiah and the Center for Enriched Living are partnering to present an art fair displaying and selling beautiful multimedia works of art created by the Center's many talented artists on Sunday, April 9, 2017, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Center for Enriched Living is a vibrant community where people with developmental disabilities can connect, participate, grow and pursue their passions.

Members of the Center's various art classes are currently working to prepare the exhibits for the art fair. Temple congregants are invited to participate in the classes as support to the artists or just to unveil

their hidden artist.

Parents, send your kids to religious school with money and stop by the fair to shop as well. All proceeds go to the artists!

Volunteers are needed in preparation for the art fair on Friday, April 7, 2017, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or on the day of the art fair to help with general support and being proximate with the artists.

For questions or to volunteer, e-mail Lori Kash at [lorikash1@yahoo.com](mailto:lorikash1@yahoo.com) or Judy Craven at [judyabc3@gmail.com](mailto:judyabc3@gmail.com). ■



## TJ teens meet with Muslim peers

By **JULIE BECKER**  
*Social Justice Committee*  
jbecker1718@gmail.com



On a cold Sunday evening in January, TJ high schoolers met with Muslim peers and proved, once again, there is more that unites us than divides us. The students met at the Community

Feast Soup Kitchen in Rogers Park to informally chat and get to know each other before serving dinner to 100 needy guests.

The Muslim students were from SABAH-Society of American Bosnians and Herzegovinians in Franklin Park. The students asked candid questions of each other and gained a greater understanding of their respective religions. (Did you know Muslim describes the person and Islam is the faith?) While there were obvious differences, there were many similarities, particularly in coming of age rituals and dietary restrictions. After the conversation, the kids worked side by side to serve a hot meal and interact with the guests of the soup kitchen.

It was a very positive experience and all the teens expressed an interest in continuing the conversation. As a start, TJ students will visit the SABAH mosque in the spring and the SABAH students will, in turn, come to Temple Jeremiah. It's another step toward encouraging mutual understanding and acceptance that can only lead to stronger ties between our communities. ■

### SOCIAL JUSTICE CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE: April/May 2017

**Sunday, April 2, 2017:** Feed the Homeless  
**Tuesdays, April 4 and 18, 2017:** Eat and Be Well  
**Sunday, April 16, 2017:** Backpack Blessings

**Tuesdays, May 2 and 15, 2017:** Eat and Be Well

**Sunday, May 7, 2017:** Feed the Homeless  
**Sunday, May 7, 2017:** Backpack Blessings



For more information, visit [www.templejeremiah.org/socialjustice](http://www.templejeremiah.org/socialjustice).



## 8th graders have a 'can-do' attitude

By JULIE BECKER

*Social Justice Committee*

jbecker1718@gmail.com

With an extra-heavy shipment of food for the Jan. 29 Backpack Blessings, it was 8th graders to the rescue! The students in Andrea Raskin's class made light work of the weighty bags filled with shelf-stable milk, peanut butter, cereal, snacks, and cans of fruit and vegetables. The bags are distributed in backpacks on Fridays to needy students at Red Oak and Sherwood schools in Highland Park.

Backpack Blessings still needs volunteers through May! Visit [templejeremiah.org/backpack](http://templejeremiah.org/backpack) to volunteer. ■



## Jeremiah to host Family Promise for two weeks in July

By MICHELLE FELLMAN

*Social Justice Committee*

mich@wirthfellman.com

This summer, Temple Jeremiah will step up efforts to help families find permanent housing when it hosts Family Promise for two weeks in July.

Temple Jeremiah takes turns hosting Family Promise with other North Shore congregations throughout the year, typically hosting one week during December and one week in June and July. Through Family Promise, families receive temporary housing as they find employment and establish a permanent housing plan. This summer, Temple Jeremiah will host an additional week.

Volunteers such as Fred and Ginger Seff, who have brought and

served many meals to Family Promise guests at Temple Jeremiah, have helped make the program a success. Volunteers also may dine with guests, as well as spend the night as a chaperone.



**“This summer, Temple Jeremiah will host an additional week.”**

“Family Promise provides an opportunity to give back to our community and to support the work of our temple,” Ginger Seff said.

Watch for volunteer signups in upcoming Covenant announcements. In

the meantime, anyone interested may contact one of the coordinators: Michelle Fellman at [mich@wirthfellman.com](mailto:mich@wirthfellman.com), Jon Fellman at [jonfellman@hotmail.com](mailto:jonfellman@hotmail.com), Amy Rubinstein at [arubinstein5@comcast.net](mailto:arubinstein5@comcast.net), or Sybil Stern at [sybilstern@att.net](mailto:sybilstern@att.net). ■

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- Photos from school/temple events
- Updates and fun facts
- Jewish articles
- Community articles
- Articles about our congregants - YOU!
- Networking and connecting
- and much, much, more!

## Giving insights from Jeremiah's 'donations girl'

By JILL NUTKIS

Administrative Assistant

jill@templejeremiah.org

My name is Jill. In case you do not know who I am, I am one of ladies who sits in the temple office (by the south entrance), greeting you as you enter or answering the phone when you call. Among the many hats I wear here at temple, one of them is "donations girl." I handle all the donations, from beginning to end (except depositing them), and have done so for the last four years. Handling the donations on an almost weekly basis has given me great insight into not only the temple, but into what is called "the Culture of Giving." Allow me to share some of these insights with you.

- Most of our donations are given for a reason and people love a reason to give — births, engagements, weddings, B'nai Mitzvah, etc.
  - Most donations are made after our weekly Good News e-mail is sent out, or after a condolences or speedy recovery e-mail.
- Our congregants are very generous, as is evident not only by our Annual Fund appeals, but also by those who regularly make donations.

**"[People] love knowing that their friends and family are thinking of them and giving to a cause they care about."**

- Those who give regularly tend to give to the same funds each time.
  - Our most popular funds (in no particular order) are: the Annual Fund; the Bill and Norma Brown Fund for Lifelong Learning; the Cantor Amy J. Zussman Fund for Music; Backpack Blessings/Social Justice; the Education Fund; the Joseph H. Goldberg Family Fund for Special Needs Programming; and the Rabbi Paul F. Cohen Discretionary Fund.



- Giving *did* increase after Joel Africk's Covenant article in November of 2015, when he wrote about increasing the culture of giving. More congregants made donations, for a specific reason or just because, after his article (though sadly, it has since decreased).
- Believe it or not, I receive more donations by mail and phone (with a credit card) than I do online.
- While sometimes the amount of donations that come in can be overwhelming, it can also be overwhelming in a good way — seeing how much people care for and about others is truly inspiring and touching.
- Being able to see the friendships at Temple Jeremiah, who is connected to whom, is not only heartwarming, but seeing the connections can be pleasantly surprising and interesting.
  - It is even more pleasantly surprising and interesting when it never occurred to me that two families would be friends, but makes complete sense when I realize they are.
- Seeing congregants make donations for others has actually inspired my husband and me to make more donations ourselves.
- Most importantly, the temple would not be able to continue to operate without these donations, and we are so very grateful for those who make them, and for that, we thank you. ■

### Special Anniversary Blessing Shabbat

Friday, April 28, 2017, 6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Reception, 6:30 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Worship

Please join your Temple Jeremiah family on Friday, April 28, 2017 when we honor our members celebrating their 10th, 20th, and 50th years at Temple Jeremiah. There will be a personal blessing by Rabbi Cohen and a special Kabbalat Shabbat Reception before the service. We look forward to celebrating with our entire community and thanking everyone for their continued membership at Temple Jeremiah.



## B'nai Mitzvah Date Request Form for 2019-2020

The B'nai Mitzvah Date Request Form for 2019-2020 was sent via e-mail in February to families with students currently in the 4th grade religious school and Bet Hebrew classes. It is an online form. If you did not receive the form via e-mail, have questions regarding the form or would prefer a hard copy be mailed to your home, please contact Sarabeth Salzman, B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator, by phone, 847.441.5760 ext. 108, or e-mail, sarabeth@templejeremiah.org.

Final dates will be e-mailed to families on Monday, May 1, 2017. Please note, Sarabeth cannot hold or release any dates prior to May 1.

### DR. LIDSKY, *continued from page 4*

rabbi, but I also spent two years as a student rabbi in Fort Smith, Arkansas (\*\*\*ask your child about Rabbi Cohen's plane trip there!) and two years as a civilian chaplain at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio.

**Jacob:** *Do you like being a rabbi?* I LOVE being a rabbi!!! No two days are the same and I consider it a privilege to get to be a rabbi.

**Ruth:** *Why did you become a rabbi?* Strengths and interests were always in serving as a counselor, a teacher, and an active member of the Jewish community.

**Morgan:** *How did you become a rabbi?* Studied A LOT! College and then rabbinical school for five years. Spent the first year in Israel and the next four in Cincinnati at the Reform rabbinical college.

**Dana:** *What's your favorite thing about being a rabbi?* YOU! Getting to be with people all the time.

**Sarah:** *How long is the Torah?* Five books.

**Zoe R.:** *How many words are in the Torah?* **Alex:** *How many letters are in the Torah?* Not sure about words but tradition tells us there are 600,000 letters — the same as the number of Israelites who came out of Egypt. In other words, there is one for each of us - a personal connection to the Torah!

**Chase:** *Do you like being dressed up every day?* Nope!

**Zoe R:** *Are you hot?* Yes!

**Sarah:** *Do you like reading the Torah?* Yes! I learn something new every time I read it!

**WHOLE CLASS:** *What is your favorite part of the Torah?* The Book of Leviticus for two reasons -- first, it was my Bar Mitzvah portion, and second, because it contains the most important lesson in the Torah: If it can be broken, it can be fixed. (Ask you child what that means to him or her.)

**Braden:** *Who do you want to win the NBA All Star Game?* The Eastern Division.

\*\*\*\*\*

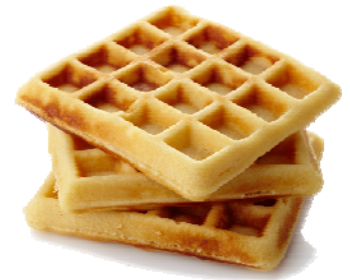
Jen's room is delightful, every inch of wall space inspires

the children to do their very best. Allow me to share just a few photos, and you'll see what I mean. Pretty amazing, to say the least ... and this is only one example of many fabulous Sunday mornings. ■



### New Member Brunch with Chef Rabbi Cohen

**Sunday, April 9, 2017, 9:15 a.m.**



Attention all new (first and second year) members! What do you get when you cross a rabbi, a skillet, and a dozen eggs?! If you don't know the answer, you are a **NEW MEMBER** who needs to come to a special brunch just for you on Sunday morning, April 9, 2017 at 9:15 a.m. You are in for a real treat!

Please join us for a wonderful brunch prepared by "Chef" Rabbi Paul Cohen and "Sous Chef" Temple Jeremiah President Joel Africk. Omelettes, waffles, and more, plus a chance to meet other new members. RSVP to Arden Brenner at [ardie521@aol.com](mailto:ardie521@aol.com) by Wednesday, April 5.

### Domim: A new partnership



We are excited to announce a new partnership through the Israel Movement for Progressive and Reform Judaism in Israel called "Domim," the Hebrew word for "alike." The goal is to strengthen the connection between Reform congregations in Israel and Reform congregations in the Diaspora.

"It's a recognition that these relationships should not be based on financial support, but based on what we can learn from each other and about how we build community," Rabbi Cohen said. "This deepening relationship will be based on the personal connections we are able to foster amongst our professional leadership, volunteer leadership, and overall membership of the congregations."

Temple Jeremiah is paired with Kehillat Har-El, the oldest Reform congregation in Israel, led by Rabbi Ada Zavidov and Cantor Evan Cohen. Rabbi Cohen spent Shabbat with Rabbi Zavidov and Cantor Cohen when he was in Israel in January.

"The program is in its infancy, but I'm excited to share more with you as it unfolds," Rabbi Cohen said.

For more information on Domim, visit <http://www.reform.org.il/Eng/Domim/Domim.asp> (or find them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/domimalike](https://www.facebook.com/domimalike)), and on Kehillat Har-El at <http://kbyonline.org/synagogues/kehillat-har-el>. ■

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#### RABBI COHEN, *continued from page 1*

where I stand on a particular issue or what the temple is doing or saying to come meet with me in person, to reach out through phone or e-mail so that we can speak to one another and more importantly, we can listen to one another. The goal is not to convince, but to understand. I want to make sure no one feels that I can no longer be their rabbi or that Temple Jeremiah can no longer be their spiritual home.

In just a few days we will begin our celebration of Passover. We tell the story of the exodus from slavery to freedom. We remember that the Israelites fought with their leaders even as they fought among themselves. Yet, they remained committed to building

community. With time and patience they learned how to live with one another and to flourish. They received the Torah and entered the Promised Land.

In this time of great division, let us be inspired anew by this story.

**"I want to make sure no one feels that I can no longer be their rabbi or that Temple Jeremiah can no longer be their spiritual home."**

Let us come together and strengthen one another even when ... especially when ... we disagree. May God grant us strength, wisdom and patience.

Shalom,  
Rabbi Paul F. Cohen, D.Min., D.D. ■



## Caring Community lends a helping hand!

By **BARB KITE and PATTY TURIM**

*Caring Community Co-Chairs*

bkite1002@gmail.com

pandmt@aol.com

We want to thank those members who took time out from their busy schedules to bring a meal to those who have been a little under the weather!

- Elan Adler
- Alene Frost
- Lia Goldfarb
- Gail Modro
- Hershy Pappadis
- Laurel Shapiro
- Valerie Slotnick

- Michele Vold

Also welcome to our new members of our Caring Community team who are already helping! We thank you for joining.

Valerie Slotnick  
Amy Weintraub  
Ed Pines and family

Joining Caring Community is an easy way to volunteer ... and we need more members who can help. Please sign up and help when you can.

Please contact Barb Kite at BKite1002@gmail.com or Patty Turim at PandMT@aol.com and let us know how we can help or to join. ■

## Tell and Kvell

### Congrats to our congregants who are doing great things.

#### Superlawyers Illinois

Congrats to Jeremiah congregant **Lori Goldstein**, who in January was named in Superlawyers Illinois (for the second consecutive year). Additionally, she was named one of the Top 100 Lawyers and Top 50 Women Lawyers for 2017.



#### “Bringing Good from Tragedy”

Mazel tov to **Laura and Michael Fine**, who were featured on the front page and in an article in the Chicago Jewish News in the Dec. 30, 2016 / Jan. 5, 2017 edition.

The article, written by George Castle, is excerpted below.

*“Laura and Michael Fine figured entering into their matrimonial union, they’d be a good team raising a family and adhering to the best precepts of their respective Jewish upbringings.*

*Laura Fine started the 2010s as a part-time political science instructor at Northeastern Illinois University. Yet just three years into the decade, the personable mother of two transformed into an activist Illinois state legislator, spearheading bills to extend health insurance to the masses and requiring more liability insurance for drivers.*

*Whatever sensitivity Fine had toward these issues was dramatically heightened by the near-tragedy experienced by her husband. Michael Fine started the decade as an attorney going about his business. But one day a cement truck rammed into Fine’s car head-on, severing his left arm and plunging him into a nightmare of pain and depression.*

*The personal experience of dealing with the health-insurance nightmare in her household was the additional spur Fine needed as she began her career as a Democrat in the Illinois House of Representatives in 2013. Almost immediately she made a difference, drawing bi-partisan support for insurance initiatives and bringing insurance company representatives to the bargaining table in the process.*

*‘So much good has come out of this, I wouldn’t change a thing,’ said Michael Fine, who cannot wear a prosthesis because his arm was severed at the shoulder.*

*Added Laura Fine: ‘It’s unfortunate to say, but a lot of people in the state of Illinois have benefited because of what he has gone through.’...”*

Read the rest of the article in the Chicago Jewish News. ■

*Little could the Fines, of Glenview, predict how they’d work together in painful, but ultimately positive, ways to make lives better for others.*

## Advertise in the Covenant

Our generous sponsors make these newsletters possible and we sincerely appreciate their support. Please take a moment to note the businesses that advertise in the newsletter and patronize these supporters when possible. If you are interested in sponsoring an ad, please contact Erin Hardy at 1.800.950.9952 x2598 or at ehardy@4LPI.com for details.

## Brotherhood News

By **RUSTY COLMAN**  
*Brotherhood Publicity Chair*  
wcolman435@comcast.net

It's finally spring -- that is, officially spring -- and Brotherhood is looking forward to the remainder of its 2016-2017 activities. Last month, on March 11, our organization co-hosted, along with Women of Jeremiah, the Adult Purim Party. Themed "Megillah, She Wrote," it was, according to almost everyone who attended, one of the best-ever Jeremiah Purim parties. Many thanks to Brother Bruce Zimmerman for chairing this highly successful event.

Coming up, our annual Jazz Night affair. As of this writing, the exact date has not yet been set, but the many jazz lovers in our group faithfully attend this yearly event. It's held at one of Chicago's top jazz venues and is chaired by Brother Mike Pfeifer. If you're

interested in attending, you can contact him at [mpfeifer@imetllc.com](mailto:mpfeifer@imetllc.com).

Next month, on Friday, May 5, 2017, Brotherhood will have its annual Brotherhood Shabbat Dinner and Service. The free dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. and the service, conducted by Brotherhood

members, will be at 8 p.m. Those interested in attending and participating in the service should contact Brother Joel Rovner at [jrovner@comcast.net](mailto:jrovner@comcast.net)

Finally, Brother Larry Tracy has scheduled two upcoming Kibbitz 'n' Bites breakfasts -- one on April 16

and the other on May 7. As usual, they'll be held at Max and Benny's and are free. And as always, all Jeremiah men are invited to attend. Just drop off the kids for Sunday school, and head on over to Max and Benny's for some great food and even better conversation. ■

**"The many jazz lovers in our group faithfully attend this yearly event, held at one of Chicago's top jazz venues."**

### Not getting our e-mails?

We send out a weekly e-newsletter, Good and Welfare notices, and other announcements via e-mail.

If you're not getting our e-mail, or if you want to change your e-mail preferences, please contact Lia at [lia@templejeremiah.org](mailto:lia@templejeremiah.org).

### Be in touch with us!

Call the office at 847.441.5760 whenever you need us.

Our office is open Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Our website, [www.templejeremiah.org](http://www.templejeremiah.org), is open 24/7.

### Temple Jeremiah Bagel Bar: Volunteers Needed

A fun way to get involved at Temple Jeremiah is to help out at the Bagel Bar on Sundays. Sign up with a friend!

E-mail Cindy Morhaim at [cindymorhaim@comcast.net](mailto:cindymorhaim@comcast.net) or Linda Stolberg at [lindastolberg611@gmail.com](mailto:lindastolberg611@gmail.com).





## Calling all Mah Jongg players!

Come join the Women of Jeremiah Mah Jongg Group! We play every other Friday at 1 p.m. in the temple library.



Bring a friend or come to make new ones.



If you haven't played with us before, please RSVP to Lori Kash at [lorikash1@yahoo.com](mailto:lorikash1@yahoo.com) or 847.612.4998.

## Women of Jeremiah Gift Shop

**Come check out our new case filled with seder table needs. We're getting ready for Pesach, are you?**

**The gift shop will be hosting their annual "MAKE ME AN OFFER" sale Sunday, April 9, 2017. We will say YES to any reasonable request on merchandise in the shop (excluding tallitot).**



**Join us for this special sale and walk away with something wonderful.**

Regular shop hours are Monday and Wednesday, 1-6 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are also available by appointment. Contact Lynne Amos at 847.571.8707 or [lynne.jolles@yahoo.com](mailto:lynne.jolles@yahoo.com) or Melissa Celnik at 847.296.6461 or [mrsclcnik@yahoo.com](mailto:mrsclcnik@yahoo.com). Volunteers are always welcome!



## Jeremiah Buddies

Toddlers, preschoolers,  
and their families are  
invited for playtime, a  
craft, and a snack

RSVP to Naomi at  
naomi@templejeremiah.org.

9-10 a.m. on these Sundays:

|          |         |
|----------|---------|
| 10/16/16 | 2/19/17 |
| 11/20/16 | 3/19/17 |
| 1/15/17  | 4/16/17 |

Temple Jeremiah Youth Lounge  
937 Happ Road, Northfield

And it's FREE!



## Babies & Bagels Playgroup at Temple Jeremiah



Little ones will enjoy toys, songs, and fun while adults  
enjoy coffee, bagels, and getting to know each other!

**When:** Once a month on these Sunday mornings (third Sunday of the month):

Sept. 25, 2016

Jan. 29, 2017

April 30, 2017

Oct. 30, 2016

Feb. 26, 2017

**Time:** 9-10 a.m.

**Where:** Temple Jeremiah Youth Lounge - 937 Happ Road, Northfield

**Who:** Members and non-members, moms, dads, grandparents, and caregivers

**RSVP:** E-mail Naomi at naomi@templejeremiah.org



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: JACK CRAVEN, *continued from page 6*

### Do you have a favorite memory of your social justice involvement?

When my daughter Rachel was interviewing the kids from the Keshet Art Fair, that was special. It was nice to bring family and programming together. I also enjoyed waiting at the airport for our refugee sisters to arrive. After all of the ups and downs, that was a special moment.

### What would you tell someone thinking about getting involved in social justice?

People can do one-off activities – you don't have to make a commitment to do more than what your time allows. You can be involved as deeply or as minimally as you want – we want people to be involved in any level they're comfortable with.

**“I've learned how dedicated people are, and how much good there is in our community.”**

You'll not only give back to the temple and the community but you'll make great friends.

### Why do social justice under the synagogue's umbrella?

It's actually very important that I do this through the synagogue.

This community is important to me and my faith is important to me. It also allows my family to be a part of it as well. It really touches upon core important values to me.

### What do you like about Jeremiah?

People here are passionate about causes and about giving back. We have great

conversations that help us grow as people and learn about each other. I've learned how dedicated people are, and how much good there is in our community. ■



## **Club 345: Jeremiah's Intro to Youth Group (3rd-5th Grade)**

### **Chocolate Seder Saturday, April 8, 2017 5-8 p.m.**

A delicious way to learn about and celebrate Passover! Plus, the tasty seder reminds us that freedom is sweet. This seder is \$5 per child, and includes a lots of delicious chocolate sweets. Everything served will be nut-free.

## **JK: Jeremiah Kids (K-2nd Grade)**

### **Dreams Gymnastics Sunday, April 30, 2017 2-3:30 p.m.**

**3070 N. Lake Terrace, Glenview**  
Spend a fun-filled afternoon bouncing down a 30-foot tumbl-trak, swinging on a rope and bar into the foam pit, floating under a parachute, and bounding through an obstacle course! After an hour of gymnastics, we will have a little snack together in the party room. Parent volunteers and siblings 4 years old and up are welcome to come.

## **Jr. JeTY: Junior Jeremiah Temple Youth (6th-8th Grade)**

### **Escape Room and Lock-In Friday, April 14, 2017, 7:30 p.m. through Saturday, April 15, 2017, 9 a.m.**

Join us for fun night with friends, hands-on activities, movies, and an actual escape room at Temple Jeremiah! An escape room is an adventure game in which players are "locked" in a room and have to use elements of the room to solve a series of puzzles and escape within a set time limit, or having completed a mission. If you do not want to sleep over, just let Naomi know when you sign up.

## **Nosh & Mingle Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:45-4:25 p.m. Join us for treats and games in the youth lounge each week before Hebrew school!**

## **JeTY: Jeremiah Temple Youth (9th-12th Grade)**

### **NFTY Chicago Kolbo Spring Weekend Friday, April 21, 2017 through Sunday, April 23, 2017 at Temple Chai in Long Grove**

Kolbo is NFTY Chicago's spring event and last event of the school year. We will welcome 8th graders and say goodbye to our graduating seniors. Join JeTY and NFTY as we celebrate Shabbat with the community and enjoy delicious food, singing and dancing. We will dig deep into issues of social justice during interactive teen-led programs. Register by Wednesday, April 5 at [www.chicago.nfty.org](http://www.chicago.nfty.org).



**For more information on our youth group programming, contact Naomi Segal, our  
Director of Youth and Family Engagement, at [naomi@templejeremiah.org](mailto:naomi@templejeremiah.org).**



## April programs: Haggadah, prayerbook, 'Homegoing'

By RICHARD GELINE  
Adult Learning Chair  
rgeline@sbcglobal.net

April proves to be a full month for our Adult Learning program.

### Enhancing the Haggadah Sunday, April 9, 2017, 10 a.m.

Jerry Lidsky will lead the discussion using a common grocery store Haggadah as a resource. Drawing on his own unique background and endless fund of knowledge, Jerry will add stories and anecdotes that may be useful to enhance the attendees experience at each of their own individual seders.

### Behind the Prayerbook: Part I and II Sundays, April 16 and 23, 2017, 10 a.m.

Do you enjoy Shabbat services but are sometimes baffled by the prayers as they are recited in Hebrew? Would you find them more meaningful if you knew more about the individual prayers, their origin and what the Hebrew really means?

April 16 and 23 will find a two-part series during which Rabbi Emily Segal will lead the presentations designed to explore more in-depth the key prayers of the Shabbat service and thereby make all of Shabbat more meaningful.

### Book Discussion: "Homegoing" by Yaa Gyasi Sunday, April 30, 2017, 10 a.m.

Ruth Adler will lead a discussion of the unforgettable New York Times best-selling novel "Homegoing," written by Yaa Gyasi. The novel begins with the story of two half-sisters separated by forces beyond their control; one sold into slavery the other married to a British slaver. Written with tremendous sweep and power, "Homegoing" traces the generations of family who follow as their destinies lead them through two centuries and 300 years of history. With each life indelibly drawn, the legacy of slavery is revealed in light of the present day. "Homegoing" makes history visceral, and captures, with singular and stunning immediacy, how the memory of

captivity came to be inscribed in the soul of a nation. Having just celebrated Passover this book should deeply affect all of us.

\*\*\*\*\*

At this time our Adult Learning Committee is planning the program for the 2017-18 year. Have you heard an interesting speaker or attended a program that might be of interest to our Temple Jeremiah community? Remember there are no boundaries. History, biography, music, art, politics, travel, and more are all suitable areas for presentation. The only requirement is for the topic to touch on Judaism and Jewish life. If so, please contact us with your suggestion. ■

### "Do you enjoy Shabbat services but are sometimes baffled by the prayers as they are recited in Hebrew?"

## Downtown Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Cohen: "Talmud for Today: Applying Ancient Jewish Text to the 21st Century"

12-1 p.m. at various locations downtown (RSVP for address)

Join us for these informative sessions at downtown office buildings. At each meeting Rabbi Cohen will bring in a text from the Talmud for us to study together and then apply to our time. Absolutely no experience or knowledge of Hebrew is needed. Participate as much or as little as you wish. Each meeting stands alone, so it's no problem if you can only make one or two. Yes, you can bring a friend, whether or not they are a member of Temple Jeremiah, although please remember to include the names of all attendees in your RSVP.

Wednesday, April 12, 2017      Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Please RSVP to Art Gunther at [agunther@gunthergroup.com](mailto:agunther@gunthergroup.com).

### Weekly Torah Portions

For our Torah Study blog, which will be updated weekly with information and discussions on the weekly Torah portion, visit [templejeremiahtorahstudyblog.edublogs.org](http://templejeremiahtorahstudyblog.edublogs.org). For a breakdown of chapters and verses, visit [www.reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study](http://www.reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study).

April 1 Vayikra | April 8 Tzav | April 15 Chol HaMoed Pesach |  
April 22 Shmini | April 29 Tazria-Metzorah

## OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES ON THE LOSS OF\*:

**Sondra Boas**, mother of Steven Boas

**Fran Fagen**, mother of Sheila Greenfield

**Brian Grossman**, brother of Barry Grossman, cousin of Fred Marcus

**Irving Hartman**, father of Michael Hartman

**William "Bill" Kaplan**, brother of Mary Mages

**Sidney Oberman**, father of Larry Oberman

**Marlene Salk**, sister of Steve Salk

## MAZEL TOV TO\*:

**Ilene and David Abrahams**, on the engagement of their daughter, Jessica, to David Roth

**Susan and Sheldon Isenberg**, on the birth of their granddaughter, Olivia Madison Stumpo

**Mindy and Randy Kurtz**, on the birth of their granddaughter, Chloe Reese Gilman

**Karen and Robert Weitzman**, on the birth of their grandson, Foster Bentley Smith, great-nephew of **Sue and Dan Weitzman**

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

*Birthdays are listed on the decade (30th, etc.). This month's honorees are:*



Jackie Andalman • Marsha Block • Linda Bolon • Wendy Frink •  
Ted Gehrig • Andrea Joselit • Kathleen Mayer • Jason Milton •  
Steven Smith • Lynne Sorkin • Amy Weintraub • Barbara Wilneff

## MAZEL TOV TO OUR APRIL B'NAI MITZVAH

### CANDIDATES:

**Rachel Buchanan**, daughter of Lisa and Brad Buchanan

**Jonah Sternweiler**, son of Ellen and Allen Sternweiler

**Ella Rubinstein**, daughter of Amy and Brian Rubinstein

**Sam Rubinstein**, son of Amy and Brian Rubinstein

**Joshua Sorkin**, son of Lynne and Peter Sorkin

**Samuel Sweet**, son of Lindsay and David Sweet

**Jack Malmed**, son of Anne and Dan Malmed

**Zoe Malmed**, daughter of Anne and Dan Malmed

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES:

*Anniversaries are listed on the decade (30th, etc.). This month's honorees are:*



|          |                             |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| 40 Years | Lucy and Herb Blutenthal    |
| 30 Years | Elan Adler and Bill Johnson |
| 10 Years | Eileen and Steven Brett     |

## WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Leslie and Brett Katz • Jill and Joe Patano

*\*Please note: The information for the Condolences, Mazel Tov, and New Member sections of this page is from February. For March news, please see the May Covenant, and for April news, see the June Covenant.*

## SHARE YOUR NEWS

Do you have news to share with the congregation? Whether positive or negative, please share your life cycle events with us.

Our clergy can provide supportive services, and our Caring Community members are happy to cook a meal for you in a time of need.

If you have news to share, please let us know by contacting Phyllis Burg at 847.441.5760 or [Phyllis@templejeremiah.org](mailto:Phyllis@templejeremiah.org).

| Calendar of Events  |   |   |   |   |   | April 2017  |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY                                  | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY  |  |
| 2<br>Feed the Homeless<br><i>No Religious School</i>  | 3<br>3:45 p.m. Nosh & Mingle  | 4<br>10 a.m. Eat and Be Well<br>12 p.m. Yoga                                    | 5<br>3:45 p.m. Nosh & Mingle  | 6   | 7<br>6 p.m. Tot Shabbat<br>8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Worship  | 1<br>8:30 a.m. Tefilah<br>9:15 a.m. Torah Study<br>11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Worship                            |  |
| 9<br>9:15 a.m. New Member Brunch<br>10 a.m. CEL Art Fair<br>10 a.m. Adult Learning: Enhancing the Hagaddah<br>2 p.m. Passover Seder for Families with Special Needs | 10<br><i>No Hebrew School</i><br>First Seder  | 11<br><i>Office Closed</i><br>9:30 a.m. Matzah Brei<br>10 a.m. Passover Worship | 12<br>12 p.m. Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Cohen<br>3:45 p.m. Nosh & Mingle | 13<br>10 a.m. Women of Jeremiah Book Club | 14<br>6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Reception<br>6:30 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Worship<br>7:30 p.m. Jr. JeTY Escape Room and Lock-In   | 15<br>8:30 a.m. Tefilah<br>9:15 a.m. Torah Study  |  |
| 16<br>9 a.m. Jeremiah Biddies<br>9 a.m. Brotherhood Kibbitz 'n' Bites<br>10 a.m. Adult Learning: Behind the Prayerbook: Part I<br>10:30 a.m. Backpack Blessings     | 17<br><i>Office Closed</i><br>9:30 a.m. From Desert to Dessert<br>10 a.m. Passover Worship and Yizkor | 18<br>10 a.m. Eat and Be Well<br>12 p.m. Yoga                                   | 19<br>3:45 p.m. Nosh & Mingle   | 20  | 21<br>NFTY Chicago Kolbo<br>6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Reception<br>6:30 p.m. H(OUR) Shabbat Worship                             | 22<br>NFTY Chicago Kolbo<br>8:30 a.m. Tefilah<br>9:15 a.m. Torah Study<br>9 & 11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Worship |  |
| 23<br>NFTY Chicago Kolbo<br>9 a.m. 4th Grade Creative Prayer Service<br>10 a.m. Adult Learning: Behind the Prayerbook: Part II                                      | 24<br>3:45 p.m. Nosh & Mingle   | 25<br>12 p.m. Yoga  | 26<br>3:45 p.m. Nosh & Mingle   | 27  | 28<br>6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Reception<br>6:30 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Worship, featuring Special Anniversary Blessing Shabbat | 29<br>8:30 a.m. Tefilah<br>9:15 a.m. Torah Study<br>11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Worship                           |  |
| 30<br>9 a.m. Babies and Bagels<br>10 a.m. Adult Learning: "Homegoing" Book Discussion<br>2 p.m. JK Dreams Gymnastics  |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |



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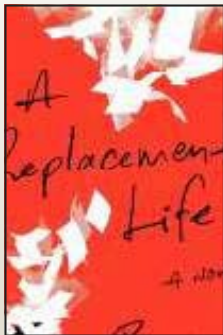
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## Women of Jeremiah Book Club

*It's Spring (sort of)! And we're busy reading April and May titles...*

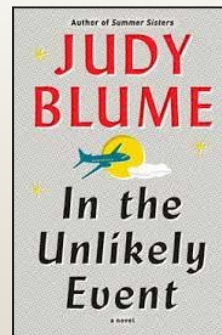
*For more information or to sign up, contact Vicki Siegelman at [vsieg@gralynn.org](mailto:vsieg@gralynn.org).*

**Thursday, April 13, 2017, 10-11:30 a.m.**  
"A Replacement Life" by Boris Fishman



A struggling Manhattan journalist helps his grandfather claim Holocaust restitution by forging papers rightfully belonging to his dead grandmother. Things get complicated when he is so successful that his services are in demand.

**Thursday, May 11, 2017, 10-11:30 a.m.**  
"In the Unlikely Event" by Judy Blume



Three planes crashed in Judy Blume's hometown one year, and these actual happenings serve as the backdrop for her novel. She transports us back into the '50s with great attention to detail as her characters probe what it means to live with disaster.

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