



















Shushan Shuffle 3.13.2022

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Redemption: The Path to Freedom

By **RABBI PAUL F. COHEN**

Senior Rabbi

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Beloved Friends,

In just a few weeks we will begin our celebration of Passover, the Festival of Freedom. The central *mitzvah* of Passover is retelling the story of the Exodus from Egypt. We do so primarily at the Passover Seder, the festive meal filled with the symbols of that story that underscore and emphasize key moments in that ancient and core story of our people. The story of the actual Exodus begins after our ancestors endured slavery for 420 years. It was in that 420th year that they cried out to God and God heard their plea. Imagine suffering in slavery for over four centuries! What changed in the end for our ancestors? What changed for God? It could not possibly be that the Israelites had not cried out before or that God somehow did not know of their enslavement. No, it was something else more profound. Redemption...something within our ancestors changed in how they

saw themselves, one another, the Egyptians, and God took notice. There are three stories that give voice to three different aspects of what redemption meant for our ancestors and what it can mean for us today.



Elie Wiesel once wrote:

One day a *Tzadik* came to *Sodom*; He knew what *Sodom* was, so he came to save it from sin, from destruction. He preached to the people. "Please do not be murderers, do not be thieves. Do not be silent and do not be indifferent." He went on preaching day after day, maybe even picketing. But no one listened. He was not discouraged. He went on preaching for years. Finally, someone asked him, "Rabbi, why do you do that? Don't you see it is of no use?" He said, "I know it is of no use, but I must. And I will tell

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By **JULES HENSON**
Digital Designer/Developer
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We've made it (almost) through another winter season. And, as we approach spring—the season of change and growth, it's important to take some time to pause and consider what this might mean for each of us.

For many, the Coronavirus pandemic has been the most challenging and painful of times. From Cantor Friedman's *Persepctive* (as you'll read below), as someone who thrives within her community, it has challenged her on a greater level than living in New York City after the terrorist attacks in 2001 (9/11).

Rabbi Cohen, by way of several stories, writes that if we can learn to create balance in our lives, we will come to know that the moments always pass. Most of us were hopeful for a brighter (and even a new) beginning as the pandemic started to loosen its

grip a little during March. Since then, the world has changed of course, but certainly not for the better—yet. As I write this, we are thirty-one days into a war between Russia and Ukraine, or as President Biden put it, "liberty and repression." Families in Ukraine are living in fear and with terror all around them. Many are fleeing. It's almost impossible to watch the devastation in Ukraine, the death tolls (which are still fully unknown), and the loss of so many civilians—adults and children alike.

In this issue of the Covenant, I invite you to pause and take the time to read through the wisdom contained within these pages. Because there are many in our world who are suffering, there is no time like the present for redemption: to rise above our fears and turn our energy to helping ourselves and others achieve freedom—of body, mind, and soul. As the temperatures rise, let's rise above the temptation to become complacent. There's no time like the present to get involved in Temple's upcoming social justice programs. As Cantor Friedman writes, we must "[stay] the course during unpleasant times and [partner] with God to the best of our ability to make things better." And it will get better.

Redemption and Staying in the Present



By **CANTOR SUSIE LEWIS FRIEDMAN**
Cantor
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The word "redemption" has different meanings for different faith communities. Some may know that I grew up as a Southern Baptist. In this religion, as well as many Christian religions, it means salvation from sin and entrance into Heaven at death because of Christ's Crucifixion. For

the strictest fundamentalists, not choosing to follow Christ means not receiving this redemption, ultimately resulting in spending an eternity in Hell and damnation. In Buddhism, redemption is freedom from the bondage of worldly desires. The term is often used in this way during addiction recovery.

One of the things I love so much about Judaism is that we are commanded to live in the present: staying with each moment as it comes to us, making the most of the lives we are gifted with, and doing our best to partner with God to repair the world. For us, redemption, or *geulah*, is a tangible experience that humans experience in this lifetime. Encyclopedia Judaica defines redemption as "salvation from the states or circumstances that destroy the value of human existence or human existence itself." We read all about it in Exodus 6:1-8, where God promises Moses to deliver the Israelites from Egyptian slavery and be their God.

As with theater, when the emotion of our prayer is spilling over, it can be expressed through music. We find the well-known prayer *Mi Chamocha* (Who is like You, God) in *Parashat B'Shalach*, the Song of the Sea. Miriam sang it as she led the women and

children dancing through the miracle of the parted Sea of Reeds to freedom. At the end of that prayer, the final words are the blessing of God as Redeemer, "*Ga'al Yisrael*." Orthodox communities take this to literally mean that if we as Jews finally do enough good in the world, then we will all live in ultimate peace in Israel, and a Messianic figure will emerge to usher us into an era of peace and happiness. For progressive communities like ours, redemption is achieved when we partner with God to fix the world and pursue the path of justice and righteousness.

For us today, I believe we can think of redemption as the reward for staying the course during unpleasant times and partnering with God to the best of our ability to make things better. It is freedom from the bondage of things which no longer serve us, such as fear, grief, depression, unhelpful thoughts, and addiction. While we currently may be just starting to come out of an unprecedented time of fear, uncertainty, loneliness, and isolation, we are now amid even more world turmoil, and are again waiting for redemption for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, from the horrors they are experiencing with the continual destruction of their homeland.

The most traumatic thing I have ever lived through in my lifetime was the attack on the World Trade Center in 2001. I was living in New York City, and fear dominated my existence. At the time, it seemed almost impossible to think that I would ever be able to leave my house and go on the subway, let alone an airplane, without the fear of a terrorist attack. Still, no matter how difficult that time was, living through this pandemic has been much worse for me. During the 2001 trauma, I clung to my community, which was full of music: singing in choirs, groups, and auditioning. Even as unpleasant as auditions often were, there was always

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Welcome the Stranger

Monthly Update
on our support
of an Afghan
refugee family.

Presented by
Temple Jeremiah's
Social Justice
Committee

“I used to think that the most important line in the Bible was “Love your neighbour as yourself.” Then I realised that it is easy to love your neighbour because he or she is usually quite like yourself. What is hard is to love the stranger, one whose colour, culture or creed is different from yours. That is why the command, “Love the stranger because you were once strangers,” resonates so often throughout the Bible. It is summoning us now.

- Rabbi Jonathan Sacks (guardian.com)

It's been wonderful getting to know the Sadat family. Since Freba, the mother, loves to cook for the mentors, we've enjoyed delicious homemade meals with chicken, onions, and green peppers sautéed in oil and saffron, with thin naan-like bread, and saffron tea.

We have helped the Sadat family set up computers and an internet connection, and played games like Uno with the entire family to work on counting in English.

Mohamed and Freba have both started ESL classes online through the Highland

Park Library. One of our mentors, who is an ESL tutor, is supplementing the online course. Additionally, we have made contacts for Mohamed at two local Mosques, one of which has members who speak the same language as the Sadat family.

Social Justice Advocacy

Reparations: A discussion

The concept of reparations embodies two sacred obligations of Judaism: T'shuvah--making amends for what we have done wrong and Tikkun Olam--repairing the world.

On **April 24th, from 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.**, we will host Evanston Mayor, Daniel Biss and former Evanston Councilwoman, Robin Rue Simmons in a discussion about the City of Evanston's recently passed ordinance on reparations.

Both Mayor Biss and Ms. Rue Simmons have been deeply involved in the passage and implementation of this ordinance and are experts in explaining this complicated topic. In addition, Mayor Biss' personal story—he is the grandson of recipients of WWII reparations—speaks to us as a Jewish community. The program will be moderated by Rabbi Cohen and will include audience Q and A. This event will be multi-access (in-person and via Zoom).

In partnership with

HIAS

Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.



Robin Rue Simmons



Daniel Biss, Evanston

If you would like
to join us for this
conversation
(whether in person
or via Zoom),
please register at
tinyurl.com/TJ-EvRep

Rabbi Cohen (continued from page 1)

you why: in the beginning I thought I had to protest and to shout in order to change them. I have given up this hope. Now I know I must picket and scream and shout so that they should not change me" (Words from a Witness p. 48). Redemption is a personal fight to remain true to who we are, the best self we want to become. Redemption is about fighting for what is right and never to allow despair to darken your spirit. Redemption is to fight for the freedom of others and not allow your own spirit to become captive by the seemingly hopeless battle in which you are engaged.

“...This is a true redemption of the spirit. To find that balance in life that allows us to experience and move forward from grief, loss, and despair. To know that even the horrific violence and suffering in our world will, at some point, pass.”

“One day Solomon decided to humble Benaiah Ben Yehoyada, his most trusted minister. He said to him, “Benaiah, there is a certain ring that I want you to bring to me. I wish to wear it for Passover which gives you six months to find it.”

“If it exists anywhere on earth, your majesty,” replied Benaiah, “I will find it and bring it to you, but what makes the ring so special?”

“It has magic powers,” answered the king. “If a happy person looks at it, they become sad, and if a sad person looks at it, they become happy.”

Solomon knew that no such ring existed in the world, but he wished to give his minister a little taste of humility.

Summer passed and then winter, and still Benaiah had no idea where he could find the ring. On the night before Passover, he decided to take a walk in one of the poorest quarters of Jerusalem. He passed by a merchant who had begun to set out the day's wares on a shabby carpet. “Have you by any chance heard of a magic ring that makes the happy wearer forget their joy and the broken-hearted wearer forget their sorrows?” asked Benaiah. He watched the grandmother take a plain gold ring from her carpet and engrave something on it. When Benaiah read the words on the ring, his face broke out in a wide smile. That night the entire city welcomed in the holiday of Passover with great festivity.

“Well, my friend,” said Solomon, “have you found what I sent you after?” All the ministers laughed and Solomon himself smiled.

To everyone's surprise, Benaiah held up a small gold ring and declared, “Here it is, your majesty!” As soon as Solomon read the inscription, the smile vanished from his face. The jeweler had written three Hebrew letters on the gold band: *gimel, zayin, yud*, which began the words “*Gam zeh ya'avur*” — “This too shall pass.” At that moment Solomon realized that all his wisdom and fabulous wealth and tremendous power were but fleeting things, for one day he would be nothing but dust.” And of course, the opposite is true, at moments where we feel deep sadness and despair, we can try to find a way to balance ourselves and know that this too shall pass. The discomfort will fade. This is a true redemption of the spirit. To find that balance in life that allows us to experience and move forward from grief, loss, and despair. To know that even the horrific violence and suffering in our world will, at some point, pass. And to also note that any joy we experience is—as precious as it may be—fleeting. Redemption is the freedom to be at peace with, “*Gam zeh ya'avur*” — “This too shall pass.”

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel shared the following story. Once, a student arrived for his interview at the Jewish Theological Seminary where Heschel taught. Heschel asked him how he traveled to JTS. The student said he had walked from the west 70s to 120th street. Heschel said, “Did you see the veteran on 117th? The man with a gray beard and a few teeth? He usually wears a baseball cap. The student said he did not. “And the tall man with dreadlocks outside of Zabar's who stands with his hands in the air, praying?” No...not him either...Heschel said, “How can you become a rabbi if you don't see the human beings around you?”

Redemption is the freedom that opens our eyes to see the people around us and to acknowledge their humanity as we hope our humanity is acknowledged by others.

This Passover I invite you to share any or all of these stories at your Seder table and to take a moment to share what redemption means. Redemption, the freedom to become and remain your best vision of yourself. Redemption, the freedom from becoming overwhelmed by darkness and despair or misled during times of great joy. Redemption, the freedom to see and to really be seen as a human being created in the image of God. Cathy joins me in wishing you and your dear families *Chag Pesach Sameach*, a happy, healthy, and redemptive Passover.

With Blessing,



Making Temple Safer Together



By LESLIE LANDMAN
Director Of Philanthropy
leslie@templejeremiah.org

Over the past several months, the stress of the college application process has taken over my home life. It has been double trouble as both my son, who is on a gap year, and my daughter, a high school senior, went through this ordeal at the same time. Researching colleges, virtual visits, teacher recommendations, essays, deadlines...When they each hit "submit" for their final application, it was a milestone complete with cheering and sense of relief. Next came the wait for admissions decision, and as acceptances started to come in

(audible exhale), so did discussions about what the different paths could look like. But, regardless of the final decision, we all know the truth is that the real work is not the applications, but college itself.

In some ways, this is analogous to my feelings about the *Building Tomorrow Together*



Safety locks which require a release device

Campaign, which ended a few months ago. Countless hours went into planning and implementing each stage, and while the close of the campaign was a milestone, its real impact is just beginning!

From funding planned capital improvements to establishing our building Endowment Fund, every dollar contributed to the campaign made a difference. Periodically, I will highlight how those campaign dollars are being used to benefit the temple and our community.

For instance, one of the campaign's funding priorities was



Quick draw shades prevent anyone from seeing into rooms

upgrading and installing needed security features. Unfortunately, the need for security enhancements in our private and public spaces remains an ongoing reality. Jewish institutions in particular need to constantly re-evaluate security protocols, including investing in various equipment that helps keep buildings and their occupants safe and secure.

Thanks to the campaign funds, protective security coating was added to our windows many months ago. More recently, night locks and shades were installed for all the doors in our school wing, including offices, the teacher resource center, the multipurpose room, and the conference room. The quick draw shades are made of blackout fabric that covers the windowed area of the doors, preventing anyone from seeing into the room. The safety locks are mounted at floor level and once activated require a special release device from outside the classroom to open the door. These are critical tools used to secure classrooms throughout the country, and while we pray that they are never used, we are comforted that they are in place to keep students and staff safe.

We are grateful to everyone who supported our very successful campaign, which enables our leadership to take proactive measures to ensure the temple's future, including the physical security of our building and all who visit.



Weekly Torah Portions

We invite you to join us on Saturday mornings to discuss the Torah portion and how it might apply to our lives. We meet virtually and in-person at 9:30 a.m.

April 2, 2022	Tazria	Leviticus 12:1-13:59
April 9, 2022	M'tzora	Leviticus 14:1-15:33
April 16, 2022	Yom Rishon shel Pesach	Holidays Exodus 12:37-42, 13:3-10
April 23, 2022	Acharei Mot I	Leviticus 16:1-17:16
April 30, 2022	Acharei Mot II	Leviticus 18:1-30

Staff Spotlight: Shira Brandhandler, Youth Engagement Director

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

I grew up in Wilmette and was a part of many Jewish communities as a kid. I went to Temple Beth Israel in Skokie, spent a semester in Israel on NFTY-EIE (now Heller High), was active in BBYO in high school, but my most formative Jewish experiences were the many summers I spent (and still spend) as a camper and staff member at OSRUI in Wisconsin. In 2019, I graduated from the University of Michigan with degrees in Biopsychology and Judaic Studies. During my time in Ann Arbor, I also had my first foray into working at a synagogue teaching Hebrew and Religious School at Temple Beth Emeth. After college, I was excited to return to Chicago and I now live in Bucktown. In my free time, I love exploring the city, finding new coffee shops, sushi restaurants, and trying to keep up with my pandemic hobby, knitting.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE JEWISH TRADITION?

My favorite Jewish tradition is havdallah. I love the ritual of coming together with others to have a moment of transition out of Shabbat and setting a new intention for the week ahead. I also love singing, making havdallah a perfect way for me to start each week. Some of my favorite havdallah memories have been sitting around a campfire, bringing in the week with s'mores and a song session.

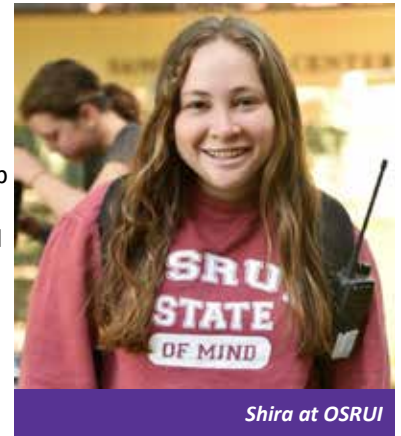
WHAT DO YOU DO AT JEREMIAH?

I am the Youth Engagement Director at Temple Jeremiah. I run our five youth group programs (Jeremiah Buddies, Jeremiah Kids, Club 345, Jr. JeTY, and JeTY) and create experiences for our youth to have fun while connecting with Temple Jeremiah, their Judaism, and each other. I also help out in our school with the *Madrichim* (teacher assistant) program and other family programs. I also like to think I have the best office in the building, complete with foosball, basketball, crafts, and more! Come stop by the youth lounge and say hi!

WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO TEMPLE JEREMIAH?

After college, I knew that I loved working with children and that I wanted to work in the Jewish community. Getting the opportunity to create the formative experiences that shaped my own Jewish identity for others at Temple Jeremiah seemed like

the perfect fit! I was also excited to be a part of the URJ's CLASP (Camp Leader and Synagogue Professional) Fellowship. As part of the fellowship, I help create camp programming at Temple Jeremiah during the year and spend my summers working at OSRUI in Oconomowoc. I am already getting excited for my upcoming sixteenth summer with almost thirty Temple Jeremiah kids!



Shira at OSRUI

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE TEMPLE JEREMIAH MEMORY?

My favorite Temple Jeremiah memory was the first Sukkot festival we hosted in September 2020. It was one of the first moments of coming back together during the pandemic and it was so much fun seeing the community fill the parking lot, kids coming together with friends, and just being joyful to be together.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT TEMPLE JEREMIAH'S MEMBERS?

I love all of the relationships that I have developed over the past few years with so many of the children at Temple Jeremiah, but one of my favorite parts of my job is getting to work with our high schoolers, and in particular our JeTY teen leadership council *madrichim*. They lead extremely busy and full lives, but always make time for their community at Temple. I have loved watching their confidence grow as leaders and their connections to each other and Temple strengthen.

WHAT DOES THE "JOY OF BELONGING" MEAN TO YOU?

To me, the "Joy of Belonging" means being a part of a community that keeps you coming back. A community that celebrates you in times of joy and supports you when needed. It also means creating relationships and moments and memories that build a love for Judaism and connection. I love getting to play a small role in this community by connecting with our families and children.



Do you want to see that program you missed and everyone is talking about? How about that sermon Rabbi Cohen gave on Kol Nidre? Visit our YouTube channel to see past programs, worship experiences, musical pieces, and more.

Visit tinyurl.com/TJYouTube
OR scan the QR code below!



Upcoming Social Justice Opportunities

Reparations: A Discussion

On **April 24th, from 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.**, we will host Evanston Mayor, Daniel Biss and former Evanston Councilwoman, Robin Rue Simmons in a discussion about the City of Evanston's recently passed ordinance on reparations. (See more details on page 3.)

This event will be multi-access (in-person and via Zoom). Register at tinyurl.com/TJ-EvRep.

Feed the Hungry

We are seeking volunteers on **the first Sunday of every month**. Please help us Feed the Hungry by volunteering at Temple, or by packing lunches at home! This quick, family-friendly activity can take place at home over the weekend and lunches can be dropped off at Temple Jeremiah before 10:00 a.m. Each lunch should consist of the following: two meat sandwiches (two slices per sandwich of any lunch meat), small bag of chips, fruit (apple, orange, etc.), and two cookies. Every lunch helps!

Our next Feed the Hungry session is **May 1st**.

Note: Drop-off time has changed from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

To get involved, visit: tinyurl.com/FeedTheHungry2021-2022. If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Miller at stephenmiller2854@gmail.com.

Backpack Blessings

Backpack Blessings feeds children who are never sure where they will get their next meal. We help children stay nourished over weekends by sending them home from school on Fridays with a bag full of food. Each backpack contains enough food for two breakfasts, two lunches/dinners and two snacks. Our efforts help between 40-50 students in need at two schools in Highland Park.

Backpack Blessings is dependent on volunteers who give of their time once a month to pack and deliver food. Members and guests are welcome.

Our next Backpack Blessings session is **May 15th**. To get involved, visit: tinyurl.com/BPB2021-2022. For questions, contact Jacki Krashin at jackikrashin@gmail.com or Melanie Morrow at stein.melanie@gmail.com.

To learn more about, and get involved in Temple Jeremiah's Social Justice programs, visit: tinyurl.com/TJSocialJustice or scan the QR code.



Perspective... from Cantor Susie Lewis Friedman (cont.)

a community to connect with in the holding room who were all in the same boat, hanging around waiting for their turn. When I wasn't singing, I was with friends, healing, living, and thinking about the next musical events on the horizon. I never knew or appreciated how much being in that community helped me, until this pandemic, when the very thing that I didn't even realize had sustained me, was unattainable.

In Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, there is a technique called "pre-paving" in which the patient is to imagine an unpleasant circumstance having the positive, peaceful outcome that they desire. For extroverts, social distancing, especially without an end point, can be excruciating. While I was so grateful to be living with my family, being socially distanced from my congregation and my friends made this pandemic more traumatic for me than living through September 11, 2001.

I was not in the space to pre-pave during that time, so I turned my anxiety into writing more music and planning my upcoming album entitled, "Sing, Pray, Repeat!" which is sponsored by a very generous member of our congregation, Harry Major. The album will have many of my original songs along with songs we sing in J-Quest. During the greatest times of crisis in history, the world

has always turned to music. It feeds our souls in ways we cannot explain. Join me on May 15th at 10:30 a.m., the last day of J-Quest for the year, and experience redemption from isolation as we sing together during my album release concert. Jewish musical superstar Rick Recht will be featured, along with Laurie Akers, and other members of the group *Chicago Sings*, which performs original songs by Chicago-based cantors and musicians.

It is easy to be caught up in fear of the unknown, particularly when the world around us is in such turmoil. But if we try to pre-pave, it will—at the very least—give us a peaceful release from unhelpful, or negative thoughts. Let us try it together at our Temple. Join me in person in our Temple, to worship, pray, gather, have fun, and imagine ourselves surrounded by health and peace. The Talmud teaches that there must be ten things for a community to have for it to be fit to live in, and one of those things is a gathering place, or synagogue. Let us come back together for every Shabbat service, class, or program that you can make it to, and imagine our lives as healthy, strong, and being surrounded by a *Sukkat Shalom*, a shelter of peace, where no disease, war, or anything can harm us. I wish you peace, love, and a life of music.

Inclusion Passover!

By CAREN BROWN AND GAIL MODRO

Inclusion Committee Chairs

ceb994@gmail.com and gailmodro@comcast.net

The Inclusion Committee is at it again! We're planning a virtual pre-Passover program for individuals with special needs and their families and friends. The program will include prayers, songs, and the Passover story, plus a picture Bingo game and crafts. It will be held on **Sunday, April 10th from 3:30-4:30 p.m.** This is well before Passover so you'll be ready for the first Seder!

Please register by Wed. April 6th so you can receive your special gift bag full of fun and delicious treats. You can register here: tinyurl.com/inclusion-passover-2022 or on Temple Jeremiah's online calendar for the date of April 10th. Contact Barb Kite (bkite1002@gmail.com) or Cantor Amy Zussman (amy@templejeremiah.org) if you have questions.

We hope you'll join your Temple Jeremiah friends on Zoom on April 10th and have a wonderful Passover holiday!

ALBUM RELEASE CONCERT! *Sing, Pray, Repeat!*

May 15, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.



Join us as we celebrate a song-filled year of J-Quest through music from Cantor Friedman's upcoming Album, "Sing, Pray, Repeat!" Come lift your voices in songs you've heard during worship, J-Quest, and on Jewish Rock Radio with special guests Rick Recht and members of Chicago Sings.

This album is generously sponsored by Harry Major, whose dream it was to have J-Quest music fill kids' homes.

Sisterhood Book Club

NOTE: We're planning an in-person meeting (masks optional)!

Thursday, April 14, 2022 ~ 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

The Book of Lost Names, By Kristen Harmel



Based on a true story from World War II, we are taken back to Switzerland in 1942 where a young woman learns a very useful trade... forgery! How can she refuse the plan, especially when it means the new identities she creates will offer the possibility of escape for so many young children.

Thursday, May 12, 2022 ~ 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

The World to Come, By Dara Horn



"An actual art heist inspired this fictional tale...taking us from New York to the Soviet Union, and Vietnam... A compelling collage of history, mystery, theology, and scripture, *The World to Come* is a narrative tour de force crackling with conundrums and dark truths."

— Booklist, starred review

Contact Vicki Siegelman at vsieg@gralynn.org for more information or to join.

The Covenant Crossword

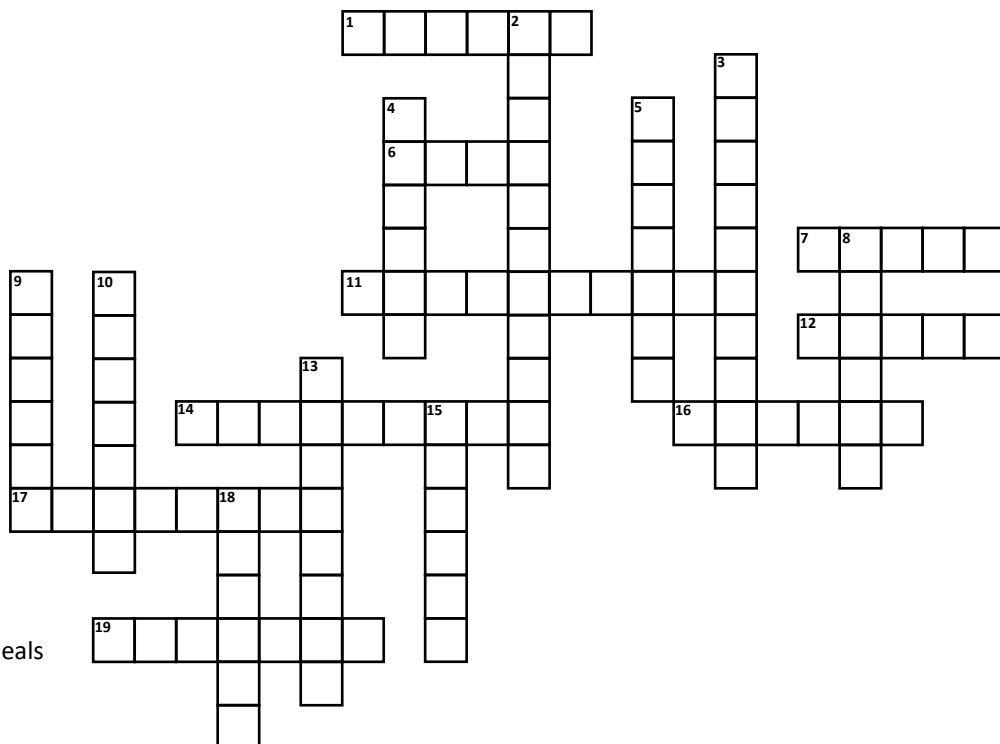
Theme: *Passover*

ACROSS

1. The second book of the Torah
6. *Tikvah*
7. Ritual Passover feast
11. To be a companion to the suffering
12. Passover month
14. Four cups (2 words)
16. Reminder of tears mingled with hope
17. Recounting
19. Liberty

DOWN

2. Lack of assurance
3. Repair the world (2 words)
4. Peace
5. Selfless _____
8. Venerated at Passover Seders & other meals
9. Last eaten at the Passover Seder
10. Valor
13. First to jump into the sea
15. Season of growing
18. Enough for us



Find the answers on page 10.

Entering College Freshmen – Apply Now for the Toddie Gray and Diane Mary Katz Scholarship

To apply, students who will be entering their first year of college this fall should submit a personal essay discussing their interests and goals, and describing their qualifications for scholarship consideration. Applicants should also meet one or more of the following criteria: achieved academic or extracurricular success, be in need of financial aid, and/or have excelled in community service. Rabbi Cohen will review all applications with the scholarship committee.

In memory of Toddie Gray and Diane Mary Katz, a college scholarship is awarded each year to a Temple Jeremiah High School senior who actively participated in or provided service to the Temple or school. The deadline for receiving applications this year is May 9, 2022.

Scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/2p8re9x9 to apply. Presentation of the scholarship will be made at our annual meeting, May 23rd. Good luck!



SCAN ME

Deadline – May 9th

Reflecting on a “Sweet” Celebration of Purim



By **MEREDITH BEIRNE**

Communications Coordinator
meredith@templejeremiah.org

As a newer member of the Temple Jeremiah team, I had the wonderful experience of attending my first Temple Jeremiah Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 13th. You may have seen me walking around taking pictures of the costumes, games, and laughter that filled the day, and I was certainly able to capture some pretty fun moments. Although I have been to many Purim festivities over the years, the energy and atmosphere that I experienced during “Purim Land” was unlike any other.

The day started off on the right foot—pun intended—with the 19th annual Shushan Shuffle 5K Run/Walk. Although Rabbi Cohen couldn’t attend this year, he was there in spirit and in cardboard form to cheer on the participants and share in the excitement of this year’s winner, Ezra Morrow. Ezra, who is 10 years old, ran the 5K in 30 minutes and 11 seconds!

Following the Shuffle, I was drawn to the Schreibman Sanctuary by the harmonized voices of Staam, WashU’s premier Jewish a cappella group. The group first performed for Temple Jeremiah members, and then stayed to listen to the talented young singers of our youth choir. It was awesome to see the smiles on each soloist’s face as they were cheered on by the older kids.

Next, as I walked past the raffle baskets and through the candy balloon arch into Purim Land, I made sure to check out the

abundance of games and activities that our Purim Carnival Committee, led by Youth Engagement Director Shira Brandhandler, had put together. I can safely say the “Obstacle Course” and the “Hi Striker,” among other games, were huge hits (even with adults!). Plus, a few newer activities this year that were instantly popular were crafting and Purim Trivia. Purim puppets, grogger-making and mask-coloring were all the rage in the classrooms, while Rabbi Heaps and Matt Rissien led a candy-fueled, fast-paced game of trivia in the Sanctuary.

Our Purim celebration did not end there. Many of you are familiar with our annual Purim shpiel, or Purim play based on the story of Purim. This year, on March 16th, we hosted Jeremiah’s Got Talent: PURIM Edition to celebrate the holiday. We called on any and all talented members to present their greatest talents with an added Purim theme, and it was a blast!

Matt Rissien, who donned a lobster costume for the holiday, kicked off the show with a song. From there, we saw our youth choir perform, followed by members of all ages showing off their talents to the Congregation. The story of Purim was woven into the night through the acts of talented musicians, dancers, singers, and more. Participants received Amazon gift cards, and the audience was treated to fresh Hamantaschen, but the true prize was being together in person to enjoy Purim!

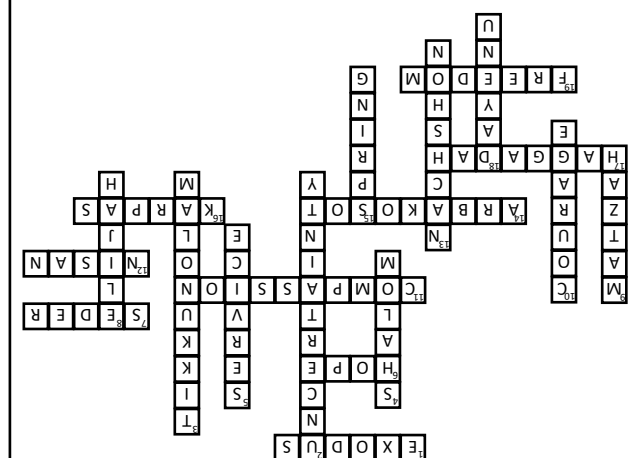
The thought and creativity that our volunteers and Temple staff put into the holiday’s events were amazing. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Stay Up to Date with Our Calendar

To learn about upcoming events, visit: tinyurl.com/TJ-Calendar, or scan the QR code



ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD ON PAGE 9





Shushan Shuffle 3.13.2022



Purim Carnival 3.13.2022



Jeremiah's Got Talent: Purim Edition 3.16.2022

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IN HONOR OF

Greta Gayle Alexander

Granddaughter of Bonnie Sorkin and Peter Alexander, *on the occasion of her birth*
-Bonnie Sorkin and Peter Alexander

Sydney Charlotte Goldhar

Granddaughter of Leslie and Joel Goldhar, *on the occasion of her birth*
-Leslie and Joel Goldhar

Nancy Hirschfield

On the occasion of her 90th birthday
-Arlene and Buddy Block
-Nancy Hirschfield

IN MEMORY OF

Jane Abraham

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-Babette and Jeffrey Sanders

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Wife of David Adelstein, mother of Lisa Fishbain
-David Adelstein

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-Harriet and Alan Weinstein

Sharyn Berns

Sister of David Rothenberg
-The Family of Sharyn Berns
-Francine Druth

William Bockenek

Father of Jerry Bockenek
-Lisa and Jerry Bockenek

Jim Foster

Husband of Lynn Foster, father of Kyle Weinstein
-Wendy Kaufman and Lee Boshie

John Frank

Father of Jay Frank
-Irene and Jay Frank

Stanley Golder

Husband of Joan Golder, father of David Golder
-Joan Golder

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-Judith Arvey
-The Family of Lois Goldfein
-Sue and Dan Weitzman

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Lois Gordon

Mother of Leslie Grauer
-The Family of Lois Gordon

Gerald Grumet

Former husband of Harriet Weinstein
-Harriet and Alan Weinstein

Allen Hirschfield

Husband of Nancy Hirschfield, father of Carol Hirschfield and Jill Meltzer
-Nancy Hirschfield

Lillian Kalin

-Alan Kalin and Steve Kalin

Arthur Kaplan

Husband of Muriel Kaplan
-Muriel Kaplan

Maurice Kash

Father of Gary Kash
-Michele and John Maeglin

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-Charles Laurito

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-Babette and Jeffrey Sanders

Howard Patinkin

Husband of Sheila Goode
-Sheila Goode

Evelyn Richmond

Mother of Phyllis Richmond
-Caren Brown

Nettie and David Sanders

Parents of Jeffrey Sanders
-Babette and Jeffrey Sanders

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-Mindy and Randy Kurtz
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Bentley Weitzman

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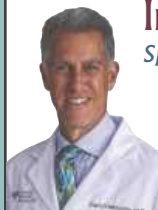
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TEMPLE JEREMIAH

Monday
May 23, 2022
7:00 p.m.

Join us to participate in the approval of the 2022-23 Nominating Slate and the Budget, as well as the presentation of the Toddie Gray and Diane Mary Katz Scholarship

 **2022/23**
Annual Meeting

To view the nominating report, visit:
tinyurl.com/TJ2022NR

*If you will not be attending in person,
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