

The Covenant

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2024 • VOLUME 67 • ISSUE 5



Temple
Jeremiah
The Joy of Belonging



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Editor's Note

MEREDITH LEVINSON

Communications Coordinator

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This issue of *The Covenant* is packed with articles, information, photos, and more. It was almost overwhelming to edit! However, while reading Rabbi Heaps' article, I was reminded of the healing power of breath, and the importance of taking a moment to reflect. It's a good thing that this issue is packed because it means Temple Jeremiah has a lot of great things to share with its congregants. For example, Director of Philanthropy Leslie Landman wrote a lovely article focusing on congregants Sara and Alan Turover, and their amazing contribution to MDA's ambulance campaign held last fall. Also included is a thought-provoking New Year message from Rabbi Schreiber, a look back at our J-Quest students' "hike" across the Mitzvah Mountains, and a recap of some of the many events we held over the summer.

As we move into the High Holy Day season, I encourage you to turn to page 9 to see our full worship schedule as well as information on guest badges. Plus, page 15 might be the cutest spread we've done in an issue of the *Covenant*...ever. Check it out. I look forward to seeing you at the temple for High Holy Days, J-Quest Family Days, and special programs throughout the fall!

Meredith Levinson

TORAH PORTIONS

SEPTEMBER

September 7th	Shoftim	Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9
September 14th	Ki Teitzei	Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19
September 21st	Ki Tavo	Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8
September 28th	Nitzavim-Vayeilech	Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30

OCTOBER

October 5th	Haazinu	Deuteronomy 32:1-32:52
October 12th	Yom Kippur	Leviticus 16:1-34
October 19th	Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot	Exodus 33:12-34:26
October 26th	B'reishit	Genesis 1:1-6:8



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Coming Up at Temple Jeremiah

Please turn to page 9 for all information regarding the High Holy Days.



Shir Joy Is Back!

Do you enjoy singing? Join me for Shir Joy, our K-6th grade youth choir! **Our first meeting of the year is Friday, September 6th at 4:15 p.m.**

No commitment is required; kids come when they can. Shir Joy sings for select Shabbat services throughout the year, typically the first Friday of the month.

To get involved, please email me, Cantor Lianna, at cantormendelson@templejeremiah.org.

Dates and times are subject to change. Check our calendar for the most up-to-date information at tinyurl.com/TJ-calendar



Shabbat Dinner with Families (5:30 p.m.) & Family Kabbalat Shabbat (6:30 p.m.)
Fridays, September 6th (with Pet Blessing) & November 1st

J-Quest Family Day
Sunday, September 8th @ 9:00 a.m.

Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Cohen
Wednesdays, September 11th & October 9th @ 12:00 p.m.

Mahjong
Sundays, September 15th & October 20th @ 9:15 a.m.

Shabbat Dinner with Friends
Fridays, September 20th & October 18th @ 7:30 p.m.

Parent Coffee Connections
Sundays, September 22nd & October 6th @ 9:15 a.m.

Jeremiah Buddies in the Park
Saturday, September 28th @ 11:00 a.m.

Shalom Seekers with Rabbi Heaps
Sundays, September 29th & October 27th @ 9:30 a.m.

First Grade Consecration
Sunday, October 20th @ 9:00 a.m.

INCLUSION TOUCH-A-TRUCK & HAVDALLAH!



**Saturday,
September 7th, 2024
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Join your Temple Jeremiah friends for a hands-on fire safety experience. Come to explore a fire engine and learn fire safety tips. We will provide snacks and end the evening with Havdallah. This event is for individuals of ALL AGES with different abilities and their families.

**Questions?
Contact:**

Caren Brown
ceb994@gmail.com
(847) 471-1158

Barb Kite
bkite1002@gmail.com
(847) 732-5352

Please RSVP by August 28th:
tinyurl.com/TouchATruck24



Please let us know if there are any other accommodations needed.



Sukkot Festival

**Sunday, October 20th
10:45 a.m.**



Celebrate Sukkot with your whole family!
Join us for games, sukkah decorating, treats, and more!

**Tuesday, September 24th
11:00 a.m.**



Why the Jews?

CHAT & CHEW

With Danny Glassman

***Registration required**

**Tuesday, October 24th
11:00 a.m.**



Here We Are



Breathe in the High Holy Days

RABBI RACHEL HEAPS

rabiheaps@templejeremiah.org

When I was in middle school I took my first biology class. In the first days of that class we discussed the scientific process, the relationships between curiosity, observation, and conclusion, and the definitions of what make something “alive.” I can practically remember the day that our teacher gave us seven processes to look for that would help us to determine if something was alive or not, and what might fall under the umbrella of biological sciences. They were movement, respiration, sensitivity, growth, reproduction, excretion and nutrition.

Not being a professional scientist, I don’t know if these processes are still accepted as the basic behaviors of life. But every time I think about the ways that we notice, encourage, or understand “life” I come back to this 6th grade knowledge. Most importantly I come back to the idea that respiration, breathing, taking in the necessary and letting go of the detrimental, is one of the most basic needs for our lives.

We are on the precipice of a time of profound spiritual reflection and renewal, the High Holy Days. Central to the holidays of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur is the concept of life itself and what it takes to perpetuate life. As an intentional pair, Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur echo and are inspired by this process of breathing in and out.

Rosh HaShanah, the Jewish New Year, is a time of spiritual intake. Like inhaling fresh air, we are guided through the liturgy and teachings of our faith. The shofar is blown, calling us to spiritual awareness. The blast, like the breath, penetrates deep within us, all the way to our soul, stirring us from our exhaustion. The holy days offer a moment to inhale the essence of faith, community, and purpose.

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is a time of spiritual release. Like exhaling, it is our moment to let go of the year's burdens for 5784, our missteps, and our regrets. Through prayer, fasting, and the accounting of our souls, we are able to release our emotional and spiritual toxins, creating space for renewal.

The unending rhythm and cycle of breath, the inhale and exhale, mirrors the cyclical nature of life itself. The High Holy Days, too, are an essential part of this cycle, marking the end of one year and the beginning of another. Just as breath sustains our physical lives, these holy days sustain our spiritual lives. In them, we find a new rhythm for spiritual renewal, a moment to pause, reflect, and prepare for the year ahead.

The last line of the Book of Psalms declares: *Kol haNeshamah t'hallel yah*, let everything that has breath praise God. (Psalm 150:6). Prayer and praise are often described as the breath of the soul. On the High Holy Days, prayer takes on a profound significance. The rituals and rites that we perform are filled with prayers of confession, repentance, hope, and praise. Each breath we take during prayer is a moment of connection with all that surrounds us and is a chance to pour out our heart and soul.

As we enter this holy season, we can start simple, with one of the most basic processes of life. When we access prayer and praise through focusing on respiration, we gain a deeper appreciation for the significance of our lives and our actions. The act of breathing, simple yet profound, becomes the key to taking another step in each of the spiritual journeys, journeys of intake and release, of life, and renewal.

Rabbi Rachel Heaps

PREPARE FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAYS
WITH OUR CLERGY

The Psalmist wrote: "Let my entire being, body and soul, praise God." This beautiful verse from Psalm 150 expresses our theme for the upcoming Days of Awe. To guide us in our preparation, we will offer a two-session study, facilitated jointly by Rabbi Cohen, Rabbi Heaps, and Cantor Mendelson.

Prepare for Rosh HaShanah
Monday, September 9th
6:00 p.m.

This session will focus on how the shofar and the liturgy surrounding it call us to use our soul/breath as the link between us and the divine.

Prepare for Yom Kippur
Monday, September 16th
6:00 p.m.

This session will focus on how we spend Yom Kippur: completing an accounting of our soul and learning how we can better encounter one another as a community, as well as internally create a stronger bond with a divine in ourselves and in one another.

RSVP for one or both sessions:
tinyurl.com/PrepareHHD24

5 QUESTIONS FOR...

JENNY ANGEL

jenny@templejeremiah.org

1

Who is Jenny Angel? Please tell us a little about yourself.

I grew up in Lorain, Ohio, west of Cleveland, on Lake Erie. I went to a small college, Earlham, where I majored in English and met my husband! I went to the University of Michigan for my master's in Library Science, and then moved to Washington, D.C., where I worked for a government contract in support of early childhood education and child care. After that, we lived in Houston, Ann Arbor (again), and Indianapolis. I worked for the Jewish Federation as the PJ Library Coordinator in Indianapolis. We moved to Deerfield 6 years ago, and have enjoyed getting to know the North Shore and the city.



Jenny has been the clergy executive assistant since May. She lives in Deerfield with her husband and three daughters, ages 6, 13, and 16.

Fun Fact: Jenny played violin for 15 years, and was in a youth orchestra that was run by the Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

5

What are your favorite things to do outside of work?

I love cooking, seeing live music, reading, taking walks, and watching my kids in their various dance, music, and athletic activities.

4

What's your favorite Jewish tradition?

I have a few favorite Jewish traditions. First is Jewish summer camp- I went to GUCI and spent time there as a congregant at IHC in Indianapolis, and it's a special place. Our middle daughter goes to Chi, and my cousin, Josh Lake, has worked at Camp Solomon Schechter in Washington. Second is Bat Mitzvahs, because my Bat Mitzvah was one of my most meaningful Jewish experiences, and participating in my oldest and upcoming middle daughter's Bat Mitzvahs have been very special. Finally, I enjoy creating a family seder at Passover. I always went to a seder hosted by my aunt and uncle growing up, but for the last few years I have enjoyed creating new traditions for my family.

3

What does the "Joy of Belonging" mean to you?

The "Joy of Belonging" means feeling welcomed, connected, comfortable, and part of the community.

Fun Fact: When asked if she would rather travel back in time to meet her ancestors or to the future to meet her descendants, Jenny said she would like to travel to the future to meet her descendants. "It would be amazing to meet my great-great-great grandchildren!"

2

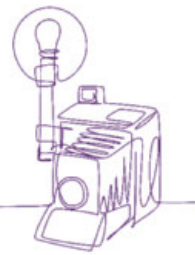
What brought you to Temple Jeremiah?

I am the clergy executive assistant at Temple Jeremiah. I was interested in Temple Jeremiah because of the warm, caring, and inclusive community. The professional staff and clergy are collaborative, welcoming, and interesting people, and it is a wonderful place to belong.

Fun Fact: If Jenny could be a guest star on any TV show, she would have liked to guest star on "My So-Called Life" or "Dawson's Creek" as a teenager. Now, she'd love to be on a historical comedy/drama, like "The Gilded Age" or "For All Mankind."

ICYMI...

(In Case You Missed It)



Taste of Torah with Rabbi Heaps

During the return of Taste of Torah in June, Rabbi Heaps led a bit of Torah study as attendees made and enjoyed some of the delicacies of the bible. Plus, Rabbi Cohen joined the third session, which focused on Shavuot.



Inclusion Comfort Dog Event

A wonderful golden retriever comfort dog visited TJ on Saturday, June 15th! Attendees also had Havdallah, made dog-friendly crafts, and enjoyed a snack. This event was geared toward individuals with disabilities and their families.

Rabbi Joe Black Concert

Rabbi Joe Black performed live in concert in Evanston on Monday, June 17th, and several TJ members were in attendance. Rabbi Black has recorded five critically acclaimed albums of Jewish music, as well as published two children's books for the PJ Library.

Summer Pickleball Game

Our Second Annual Summer Pickleball Game took place on Saturday, July 6th, and it was a hit! We had a great group playing multiple games simultaneously, as well as a special visit from Elan Adler and Bill Johnson's dog, Sammy!



Parents Night Out

What's better than a Parents Night Out? Spending it with your Temple Jeremiah friends at District Brew Yards in Wheeling! And on Thursday, July 11th, attendees did just that. Drinks were served, appetizers were enjoyed, and new friendships were made.

OSRUI

We love getting to visit our campers at summer camps in Illinois and Wisconsin! Plus, on Tuesday, July 23rd, Cantor Lianna and Communications Coordinator Meredith Levinson got to visit OSRUI for the first time. Rabbi Heaps showed them around and everyone stopped for a photo before our OSRUI campers got back to fun!

Lunch & A Show

On Wednesday, July 24th, Walker Brothers in Lincolnshire was the lunch spot of choice before attendees headed to the Marriott Lincolnshire Theater for Beehive: A 60s Musical. The show nostalgically recalled the days of miniskirts, transistor radios, and flower power while playing the music of the time period.

Send us your photos!

Do you have photos from Jeremiah events you would like to share with us? We would love to see them! Please send photos to Meredith Levinson at meredith@templejeremiah.org or tag us on social media.

Perspective



A Message From Our Rabbi Emeritus

RABBI ROBERT D. SCHREIBMAN
Rabbi Emeritus

Dear fellow Congregants,

It was a year ago from this moment, on this very spot, I wrote a New Year's message, and it is time for me to do it again. Since then, a lot has occurred - many wonderful things like marriages, births, and B'nai Mitzvah, to name a few, but also many sad things - like illness, accidents, and deaths. We will face the same things that we have before - global warming, hurricanes, fires, and this year, an existential election.

This is the Hebrew month of Elul when we contemplate if the last year taught us anything that we can use in the coming year and where we fit in. Will we continue to make the past our future? Do we go Green? How hot is too hot? How can we succeed as parents, children, friends, and Jews?

I missed my 60th college class reunion. Many of my friends, roommates, and fraternity brothers are gone. I am a year older and not in better health. Two of my children are in their 60's, a granddaughter is a college graduate, and a grandson now drives. Like most of us at this holy time of year, we think, "What are the best and worst scenarios for us to come?" Even if many of you can guess the answers to my questions, still I must state the obvious. I want to hold my loved ones close and my family closer. Some of us are in the same position as I am. But we all ask, to whom do we turn? Most of us would answer God. Others look to ourselves for possible answers.

We agree that the world is a mess. As a great philosopher once said, "It is us. We are the enemy." Only with love, respect, and sacrifice can we bring about even a scintilla of change so the next year's message will be very different.

As always, Patti and I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.

Rabbi Robert D. Schreibman

L'Shanah Tovah

Maot Chitim Food Delivery

SPONSORED BY TEMPLE JEREMIAH BROTHERHOOD

**Sunday,
September 29th
8:30 a.m.**

Let's go for 100! Help Temple Jeremiah deliver
100 pre-packed boxes of Rosh HaShanah food
and help bring some joy to those in need.

**PLEASE RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 24TH:
[TINYURL.COM/MAOTCHITIMFALL24](https://tinyurl.com/maotchitimfall24)**



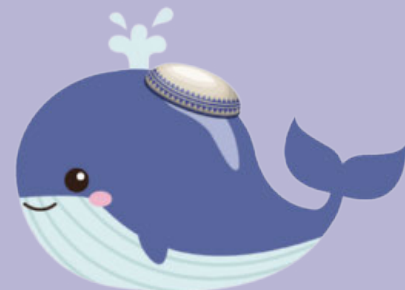
Contact Michael Schack (michael.schack@comcast.net) with any questions.



K'ilu Intergenerational Shabbat Adventures

K'ilu Back-In-Time High Holy Day Adventure
Friday, September 20th @ 5:30 p.m.

Climb aboard a ship headed across the sea, but watch out for storms! Follow Jonah on an adventure under the sea and inside the belly of a whale in this interactive theatrical adventure that brings this High Holy Days tale to life through immersive storytelling, music, movement, and play. Families will take home access to the K'ilu Kit to play the adventure again at home during the holiday.



CELEBRATE THE HIGH HOLY DAYS AT TEMPLE JEREMIAH

Dates and times are subject to change. Check our calendar for the most up-to-date information at tinyurl.com/TJ-calendar

Selichot

Saturday, Sept. 28th

- Dinner @ 6:30 p.m.
- Learning @ 7:15 p.m.
- Worship @ 8:00 p.m.

Erev Rosh HaShanah Worship

Wednesday, Oct. 2nd @ 7:30 p.m.

Rosh HaShanah

Thursday, Oct. 3rd

- Tot Worship @ 9:00 a.m.
*Geared toward Pre-K through second graders and their families.
- Morning Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
- Teen Learning @ 10:45 a.m.
- Tashlich @ 11:30 a.m.
- Family Worship @ 12:45 p.m.
*Geared toward families with school-aged children.
- Community building and craft time @ 1:45 p.m.
- Inclusion Service @ 2:00 p.m.
*Geared toward individuals of all abilities and those who love them. Visit our calendar to register.

Rosh HaShanah Second Day

Friday, Oct. 4th

- Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
We will join together in an experiential worship through the gardens at the Bahá'í Temple with our friends from Emanuel Congregation. BYO Picnic at Gilson Park to follow.
- Kabbalat Shabbat (Shabbat Shuvah) @ 6:30 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat will take place at Temple Jeremiah.

Kol Nidre Worship

Friday, Oct. 11th @ 7:30 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Saturday, Oct. 12th

- Tot Worship @ 9:00 a.m.
*Geared toward Pre-K through second graders and their families.
- Morning Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
- Teen Learning @ 10:45 a.m.
- Meditation Transition into Yizkor @ 11:30 a.m.
- Yizkor Worship @ 12:00 p.m.
- Family Worship @ 1:30 p.m.
*Geared toward families with school-aged children.
- Meditation Walk @ 1:30 p.m.
- Adult Learning @ 2:45 p.m.
- Afternoon and Neilah Worship @ 4:00 p.m.
- Havdallah, Oneg, and Sukkah Decorating @ 5:30 p.m.

Erev Sukkot

Wednesday, Oct. 16th

- Pizza in the Hut & Sukkah Decorating @ 5:00 p.m.

Sukkot

Begins Thursday, Oct. 17th

- Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday, Oct. 18th @ 6:30 p.m.
- Shabbat Dinner with Friends on Friday, Oct. 18th @ 7:30 p.m.
- Sukkot Gathering on Saturday, Oct. 19th @ 4:00 p.m.
- Sukkot Festival on Sunday, Oct. 20th @ 10:45 a.m.

GUEST BADGES

This time of worship, reflection, and celebration is so much more meaningful when we are able to share it with friends, family, and community beyond our membership. We are thrilled to offer the opportunity for guests to participate with no ticket or set charge.

- Temple Jeremiah Members, simply wear your name badges.
- Guests, please visit tinyurl.com/HHD24Guests to fill out the short form so we can create name badges for you.
- Guests who do not pre-register will need to do so at the temple to receive their name tags prior to worship.

Simchat Torah Celebration and Dinner

Wednesday, Oct. 23rd @ 6:00 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat and Yizkor

Friday, Oct. 25th @ 6:30 p.m.



Philanthropy



LESLIE LANDMAN
Director of Philanthropy
leslie@templejeremiah.org

MAGEN
DAVID
ADOM
IN ISRAEL



ירושלים
מגן דוד
אדום
בישראל
1725

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF MAGEN DAVID ADOM

ארגון ההצלה הלאומי

Profiles in Giving: Sara and Alan Turover

About two years ago, Temple Jeremiah participated in a collaborative campaign with five other local Reform congregations to raise money to provide Magen David Adom (MDA) and the people of Israel with a new Life Support ambulance in honor of Israel's 75th anniversary. Longtime Jeremiah members, Sara and Alan Turover, were lead donors in that campaign and were personally recognized along with all the participating congregations, including Temple Jeremiah, with their names appearing on the doors of the ambulance. That ambulance is currently operating from MDA's Jerusalem Station, actively responding to medical emergencies on a daily basis.

I reached out to Sara and Alan to talk about their support of MDA and their thoughts about the impact of their gift particularly after the horrific events of October 7th. Our conversation was illuminating and inspiring—and included a touch of humor as we noted the shared connections that emerge through playing Jewish geography.

Sara and Alan have been longtime supporters of MDA. They were drawn to this organization that is filled with volunteer first responders from all walks of Israeli life—Jews, Druze, Christian, and Muslim—and which treats all types of medical emergencies for all of Israel's citizens. From routine day-to-day incidents such as helping women in labor, heart attack victims, and car accident injuries, to injuries from terror attacks, as Sara notes, "MDA is there in the moment of need and is necessary for the health and welfare for *all its citizens*." And, MDA is there beyond Israel, providing hands-on support for catastrophic events world-wide, which the Turovers hope helps the global community see that Israel "is not just about Jews, but about helping humanity...and elevates what Israel is about."

The tone of the collaborative campaign was celebratory and uplifting – a way to bring people together to mark Israel's significant milestone and support an incredible organization doing critical work. Sara and Alan were thrilled that Temple Jeremiah was part of this community effort.

Then it was October 7th and the need for MDA services increased exponentially. This motivated Sara and Alan to immediately duplicate their prior gift. The full fleet of ambulances, medicycles, helicopters, and all other vehicles was mobilized. American Friends of Magen David Adom airlifted 27 ambulances to Israel to meet these unprecedented urgent needs.



The Turovers pose with the ambulance they helped fund, before it was shipped to Israel, during last November's celebration at Makom Solel Lakeside.

Since October 7th, MDA has been operating 24 hours a day, responding to incidents and emergency calls across the entire country, often providing lifesaving treatment surrounded by rocket attack and gunfire. MDA's blood services is supplying all of the blood needed by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and is distributing blood to all of Israel's hospitals to treat civilians. It is also increasing its supply of tested and processed breast milk for babies whose mothers have been killed, injured, kidnapped, or called to IDF reserve duty.

I wondered if the Turovers ever contemplated how profound the need for Life Support ambulances would be. Alan's response was sobering: "We have been around for a while and have seen changes in the world. In the back of our minds, we know that Jews are always fighting for survival, if not immediate, it will happen. History tells us we will have these needs again."

Sara and Alan's giving philosophy is guided by two prongs: first, by choosing to take action that has an immediate, tangible impact today, and second, by taking action to support the future Jewish community. Supporting MDA through the ambulance campaign, seeing the actual ambulance that was headed to Israel to join the fleet, and, since October 7th as Israel fights for its survival, providing additional generous donations to medical service organizations like MDA and Hadassah imparts the direct and immediate impact they seek through the first prong of their philosophy.

They accomplish the second prong through another passion, providing scholarships from the *Sara and Alan Turover Jewish Overnight Camping Scholarship Fund*, which they established at the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, for children to attend overnight camp, deepening Jewish identities that these youth will carry into their adulthood.

Sara and Alan concluded our conversation with wise words that reflect the power of community and philanthropy—a shared living value at Jeremiah: “If we all do a little bit, together we will overcome the insurmountable.”♦

If you would like to learn more about MDA, please speak with fellow Jeremiah member, Jennifer Schnepfer at jschnepfer@afmda.org. To learn more about Hadassah go to <https://www.hadassah.org>. If you would like to make a donation to Temple Jeremiah or wish to share a story about giving and how it reflects your Jewish values, please email leslie@templejeremiah.org.



Donate to Temple Jeremiah

Making a donation to Temple Jeremiah is a wonderful way to honor a friend or family member on their happy occasion or to memorialize a loved one. There are specific funds you can make a donation to that support and enhance education programs for youth, adults, and our congregation as a whole. You can make a donation in these easy ways:

- Click on “Make a Donation” at templejeremiah.org or visit the Member Login section and click on “Donate” to donate online via credit card or ACH/eCheck.
- Mail a check to Temple Jeremiah, 937 Happ Road, Northfield, IL 60093. Be sure to include a note as to what the donation is for and which fund you prefer.
- Also consider a gift of stock or a contribution from your IRA or Donor Advised Fund.

For questions about Hall of Remembrance plaques, Wall of Life leaves, or donations, please contact Leslie Landman (leslie@templejeremiah.org).

YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS:

Temple Jeremiah Annual Fund • Temple Jeremiah Endowment Fund • Temple Jeremiah Building Maintenance Fund • Social Justice Fund • Education Fund • Stanley Golder Interfaith Initiative Fund • Marshall B. & Viola R. Schwimmer Library Fund • Prayer Book and Torah Commentary Fund • Caring Community • Dr. Anne Lidsky Endowment Fund for Education The Bill and Norma Brown Fund for Lifelong Learning • The InterAct Fund for Youth Programming The Fern M. Kamen Fund for Youth • Joseph H. Goldberg Family Fund for Special Needs Programming The Cantor Amy Zussman Fund for Music • Brotherhood Fund Discretionary Funds: Rabbi Paul F. Cohen • Rabbi Rachel L. Heaps • Cantor Lianna Mendelson

Looking Back...



RABBI DEBORAH GARDNER HELBRAUN
Hebrew Coordinator
rabbidebbie@templejeremiah.org

"Hiking" the Mitzvah Mountains

Back in May, our Kindergarten, First, and Second graders sat on the floor around our Mitzvah Mountain display, calling out mitzvot that they had done during the year.

"I asked a friend to come over to my house!"

"I recycled my school supplies!"

"I helped my parents by setting the table!"

"I called my grandma when she was sick!"

The students continued until they had named mitzvot from each of 10 categories*, hence climbing their way across the Mitzvah Mountains. There were flags strewn across the board marking their accomplishments. Students were proud to have reached their goals and happy to show Mr. Matt and I each time their name appeared next to a mitzvah on the mountain. To mark the completion of the "hike," each student was given a Temple Jeremiah bucket hat to wear during their own summer adventures and as a reminder of all of the great things they had accomplished this year. We are so proud of our little mensches and can't wait to see what next year will bring!



**Shamor V'zachor Shabbat*
(Remembering and Observing Shabbat)



**Tzedakah*
(Giving Money)



**V'ahavta L'rayacha Kamocha*
(Love your Neighbor as Yourself)

**Bikur Cholim*
(Helping the Sick)

**Kibbud Zekaynim*
(Honoring the Elderly)



**Tz'ar Ba'alay Chayim*
(Being Kind to Animals)

**Kibud Av Va'aym*
(Honoring Parents)

**Bal Tashchit*
(Do Not Waste)

**Tikkun Olam*
(Repairing the World)

**Hachnasat Orchim*
(Welcoming Guests)



Committee Spotlights

Social Justice & Advocacy

Feed the Hungry Packing Parties

Our partnership with Another Chance Assembly in the Austin neighborhood of Chicago has enabled us to continue our mission to feed the hungry in an area with the most need, and **we need your help to make and deliver lunches to meet demand!** We had such success with our Packing Parties over the summer (thank you for those who packed and gave donations!), and we are excited to continue these events this fall.

The next Packing Party will be on Friday, August 30th at 5:30 p.m. Please check our weekly Thursday newsletter for updates on upcoming packing parties. **Feed the Hungry *DROP OFF* will take place on Sundays, September 1st and October 6th at 9:00 a.m.**

If you are not able to attend, please consider making an \$18 donation to Feed the Hungry to help us buy the food for upcoming Packing Parties. In your Temple Jeremiah account, click donate, choose Social Justice, and write "Feed the Hungry" in the notes. And please, tell your friends!

Please remember you can always participate in these ways:

- Make lunches at home and drop off your lunches between 9:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. at Temple Jeremiah outside the west doors (the circle drive).
- Help us deliver lunches. Meet at Temple Jeremiah at 9:30 a.m., load all the lunches at 9:45 a.m., and, along with Feed the Hungry Co-Chairs, drive downtown to our partner church (Another Chance Assembly, 5136 W Division St, Chicago, IL 60651). You will have the opportunity to deliver meals and see the vibrant community we partner with at Another Chance Assembly.

For questions, please contact Mindy Kurtz (cupermom@aol.com) or Stephen Miller (stephenmiller2854@gmail.com).

Advocacy Alerts

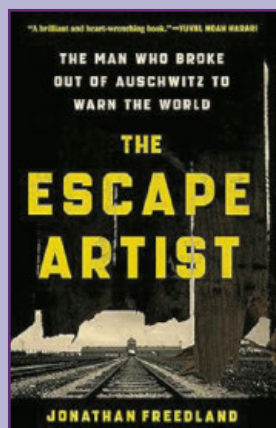
For many years, our congregation has had an award-winning reputation for being active in social justice, rooted in the Jewish value of *Tikkun Olam* ("Repairing the World"). If you are interested in receiving Advocacy Updates via text messages, please scan the QR code. Please contact Advocacy Chair Nancy Eisenberg (nleslp@aol.com) with any questions.



Sisterhood Book Club

Interested in joining Sisterhood Book Club?
Contact Randi Gurian (randi.gurian@gmail.com).

September



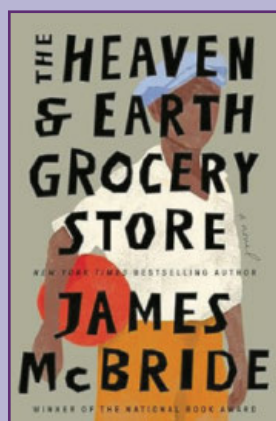
The Escape Artist: The Man Who Broke Out of Auschwitz to Warn the World

Thursday, September 12th
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

In April 1944, Rudolf Vrba became one of the very first Jews to escape from Auschwitz and make his way to freedom. He did it to reveal the truth of the death camp to the world. Against all odds, Vrba and his fellow escapee, Fred Wetzler, smuggled out the first full account of Auschwitz the world had ever seen—a forensically detailed report that eventually reached Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and the Pope.



October



Heaven and Earth Grocery Store

By James McBride

Thursday, October 10th
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

In 1972, when workers in Pottstown, PA were digging the foundations for a new development, the last thing they expected to find was a skeleton at the bottom of a well. Who the skeleton was and how it got there were two of the long-held secrets kept by the residents of Chicken Hill, the dilapidated neighborhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side and shared ambitions and sorrows. When the truth is finally revealed about what happened on Chicken Hill and the part the town's white establishment played in it, McBride shows us that even in dark times, it is love and community—heaven and earth—that sustain us.

Temple Jeremiah's Virtual Community

If you haven't been following us on social media (you should), you may not know about all the wonderful things our congregants and staff have been up to. That's why we're happy to share a few of our "Jeremiah Gems" and social media highlights in this issue of the *Covenant*. Make sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook to stay up to date with events, learn about trending Jewish news and holiday recipes, and discover our virtual Temple Jeremiah community.

#JeremiahGems



Congregant Samantha Merkin was recently named to JUF's 36 Under 36 list! Samantha's friendly demeanor and commitment to *tikkun olam* is apparent through her work fighting for those who cannot speak up for themselves. Samantha - who serves as an Associate Director at the advertising agency FCB Chicago - partnered with JUF to launch a Jewish employee resource group, the Tribe, at her workplace. In 2023, the Tribe won the award for the "Most Inspiring ERG" at FCB's DEI Gala. Mazel Tov, Samantha!

Follow Us!



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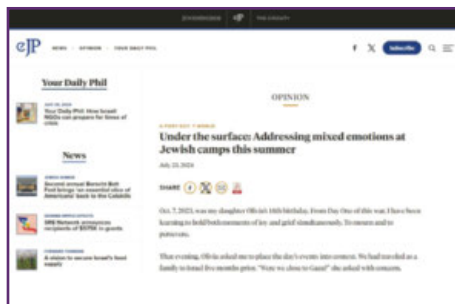
Mazel Tov to congregant Alex Marks for being sworn in as Vice President of The Decalogue Society, the oldest Jewish bar association, at its 90th Anniversary Celebration. Alex also received the Presidential Citation award for his outstanding work against antisemitism. Alex is a partner in Burke, Warren, MacKay & Serritella's Litigation, Labor and Employment, and Consumer Financial Services Litigation practice groups.



#Quoted



Dan Tatar, son of congregants Judy & Jerry Tatar, recently wrote an article for the online publication eJewish Philanthropy titled *Under the Surface: Addressing Mixed Emotions at Jewish Camps This Summer*. In the article, Dan discussed supporting campers and counselors at nearly three dozen day and overnight camps across North America as they worked through challenging feelings about October 7th and antisemitism this past summer. As the director of engagement and strategic partnerships for The iCenter, Dan found himself supporting the *mishlachot*, the Jewish Agency's delegation of counselors from Israel; facilitating conversations with faculty, staff, and older campers; and helping to integrate Israeli culture into the camp experience. Dan also discussed broaching conversations about Israel and antisemitism with his 14-year-old daughter.

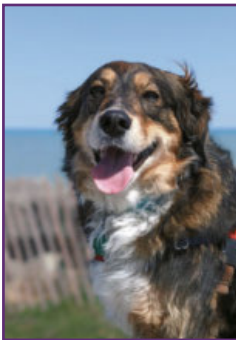


"As I balance my roles as dad and educator, I must recognize the depth of emotion they each carry. By creating safe spaces for vulnerability, encouraging personal storytelling, and embracing both the highs and lows together, we can help our community move forward. The pain may linger under the surface, but so too does the strength of our connections."

To read Dan's article, visit tinyurl.com/DanTatarArticle.

#ThePetsofTJ

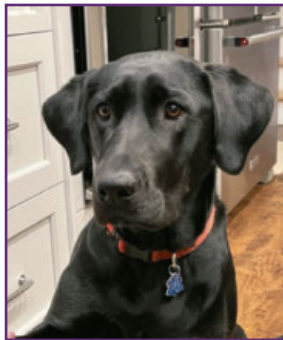
We asked, and you delivered! Back in July, we posted on Facebook asking you to share photos of your pets, and you did not disappoint. Here are a few of the fur (and shelled) babies of our clergy, staff, and congregants!



Samson
Rabbi Heaps



Spot
Cantor Mendelson



Tali
Cohen Family

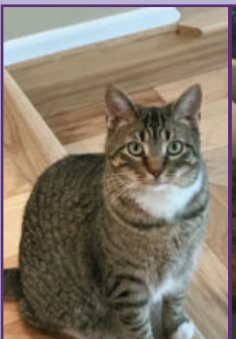
All are welcome, including family members with feathers, fur, and scales, to join us for **Family Kabbalat Shabbat with Pet Blessing on Friday, September 6th at 6:30 p.m.!**



Ivy
Friedman Family



Tater Tot
Fishbain Family



Felix & Kiki
Jenny Angel & Family



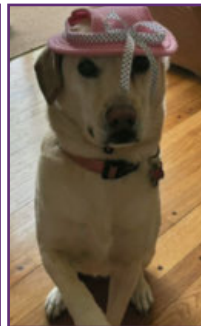
Georgie & Rosie
Wallis Family



Big Rock Salt & Little Pepper Speck
Glassman Family



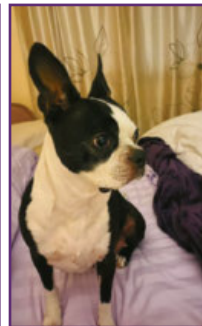
Ollie
Helbraun Family



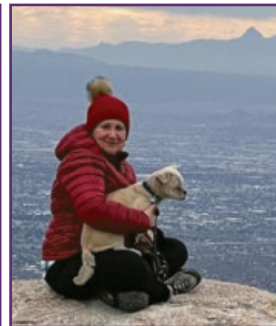
Abby
Guralnick Family



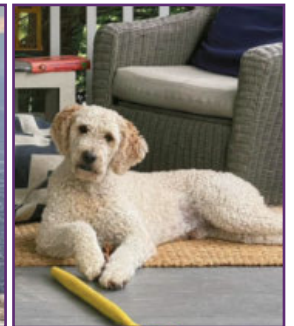
Southpaw
Persky Family



Rocco
Nutkis Family



Sam
Elan Adler & Bill Johnson



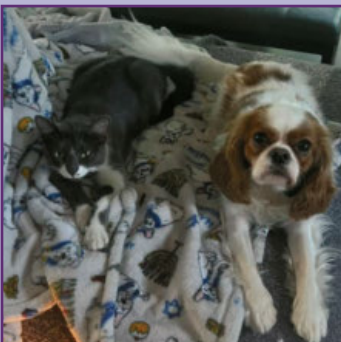
Ace
Rothschild Family



Zelda Miriam
Franken Family



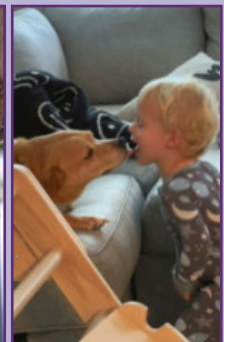
Linda & Louie
Jones Family



Theo & Dr. Fiona Pickles
Pisick Family



Willum
Levinson Family
(Willum lives at the Brookfield Zoo)



Reese
Rissien Family

Acknowledgements

IN SUPPORT OF

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-Kimberlee Ratkin and David Dieffenbacher
-Andrea and Ron Sandler
-Elizabeth and Douglas Shabelman
-Robin and Justin Sheperd
-Judy and Jerry Tatar
-Cydney and Ben Topaz
-Rita and Jeffrey Torf
-Patricia and Dan Vorona
-Victoria Weisenberg
-Laura and Bruce Zimmerman

IN APPRECIATION OF

Temple Jeremiah and all the individuals who supported Bill Johnson and Elan Adler while Bill was ill
-Bill Johnson and Elan Adler

Rabbi Paul Cohen

-Carol and Arnie Fishbain

Barbara and Stephen Miller
For hosting Shabbat Dinner with Friends

-Julie and Joel Africk
-Lori and Gary Kash
-Robin and Jon Lavin
-Susan and Ken Lorch

IN HONOR OF

Joel Africk

On the occasion of his retirement
-Barb Kite

Brennan Bradley Schwartz Beck and Cooper Castaneda Schwartz Beck

Grandsons of Cindy and Hal Schwartz, on the occasion of their baby namings
-Cindy and Hal Schwartz

Phyllis Burg

On the occasion of her retirement from Temple Jeremiah
-Shirley Craven
-Kay and Bart Gordon
-Steven Kalin
-Rachel and Marvin Siegel

Rabbi Paul Cohen

-Louis and Jackie Robinson

Diane and Mark Gluskin

On the occasion of their 40th wedding anniversary
-Diane and Mark Gluskin

Rabbi Rachel Heaps

-Diane and Mark Gluskin
-Louis and Jackie Robinson

Aron Hiltzik

Son of Arlyn Stern Hiltzik and David Hiltzik, on the occasion of his marriage to Allie Goad
-Arlyn Stern Hiltzik and David Hiltzik

Bonnie and Herb Horn

On the occasion of their 55th wedding anniversary
-Bonnie and Herb Horn

Barbara and Stephen Miller

On the occasion of their special birthdays
-Jerome and Mary Kaltman
-Barbara and Stephen Miller
-Dana Garbarski and Daniel Weisman

Michael Meltzer

Son of Jill and Jeff Meltzer, on the occasion of his marriage to Ari Shine
-Jill and Jeff Meltzer

Adam Murokh

Son of Caroline and Dmitry Murokh, nephew of Igor and Bobbie Murokh, on the occasion of him becoming a Bar Mitzvah
-Ellen and Alan Toban

Jonah Miles Peven

Great-grandson of Shelly Trilling, on the occasion of his birth
-Ellen and Alan Toban

Gilbert Salerno

Son of Susan and Richard Salerno, on the occasion of his graduation from university
-Susan and Richard Salerno

Margie Schwartz

Mother of Hal Schwartz, on the occasion of her 90th birthday
-Cindy and Hal Schwartz

David Weitzman

Son of Sue and Dan Weitzman, on the occasion of his marriage to Devon Braunstein
-Caren Brown

IN MEMORY OF

Elaine Baron

Wife of Henry Baron, mother of Roberta Mallon
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-Helen Brounes
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-Bonnie and Herb Horn
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-Rachel and Marvin Siegel

Sylvia Blustein

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-Adrienne Breen

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Brother of Lew Bricker
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-Mara Lane

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-Marilyn and Joseph Smith

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Father of Sandra Marks, grandfather of Patricia Lurie
-Sandra Marks

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Daughter of Nancy Hirschfield, sister of Carol Hirschfield and Jill Meltzer
-Nancy Hirschfield

William Kahan

Father of Shimon Kahan
-Jill and Shimon Kahan

Lillian Kalin
-Steve Kalin

Stanley Kantor
Father of Julie Gertz
-The Family of Stanley Kantor

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Mother of Hershy Pappadis
-Hershy Pappadis

Roberta Levy
Mother of Steve Levy
-Lisa and Steve Levy

Ralph Tomkiewicz
Father of Vincent Tomkiewicz
-Corinne Granof and Vincent Tomkiewicz

Berel and Doris Weisberg
Parents of Toby Rubenstein
-Toby Rubenstein

WALL OF LIFE

In appreciation of
Rabbi Rachel Heaps
Warmly, Shelly Trilling

Thank You!

*Donations received and processed
after July 21st that are not listed
above, will appear in the next issue
of *The Covenant*.

Previously at Temple Jeremiah

Kindergarten Mezuzah Project
2017



Inclusion Rosh HaShanah
2016



Sukkot
2012



Welcome Back/
Prospective Member BBQ
2015



Simchat Torah
2014



Jeremiah Kids
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2019



Sukkot
2021



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2023



Rosh HaShanah
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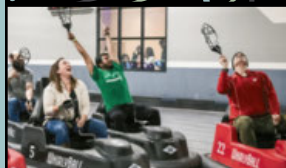
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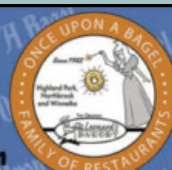


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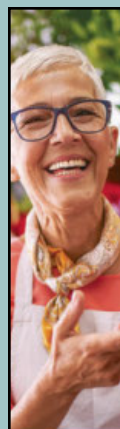
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Celebrate the High Holy Days with Temple Jeremiah

This time of worship, reflection, and celebration is so much more meaningful when we are able to share it with friends, family, and community beyond our membership. See page 9 for information on guest badges and the full High Holy Day schedule.

Selichot
Saturday, September 28th

Erev Rosh HaShanah
Wednesday, October 2nd

Rosh HaShanah
Thursday, October 3rd

Rosh HaShanah Second Day
Friday, October 4th

Kol Nidre
Friday, October 11th

Yom Kippur
Saturday, October 12th

Erev Sukkot
Wednesday, October 16th

Sukkot Begins
Thursday, October 17th

Simchat Torah Celebration
Wednesday, October 23rd

