Wishing our entire TJC family a happy, healthy and safe summer!
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JUNE/JULY LIVESTREAM
SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday Night Shabbat Service - 6:30 PM
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88917859044?pwd=bFp-CZXixVGp4RUI3bWEzbHpAMeeting ID: 889 1785 9044
Password: TJCShabbat
Livestream - https://livestream.com/tjc

Saturday Morning Shabbat Service
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/98517105859?pwd=RW5v-c1rQVXWbWj5rVznd Meeting ID: 985 1710 5859
Password: TJCShabbat
Livestream - https://livestream.com/tjc

Sunday Morning Minyan
Livestream - https://livestream.com/tjc

Wednesday Morning Minyan
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82303857786?pwd=WEt1WVNBalpUUTNONEV3TkY4N3JYZz09 Meeting ID: 823 0385 7786
Password: TJCShabbat
Livestream - https://livestream.com/tjc

Prayer Book pages can be found on our website at:
https://thejewishcenter.org/Resources/Services-Sid-durax.aspx

Please visit the website for clickable Zoom links.

Message from the Interim Rabbi
To Live Stream our services, go to www.thejewishcenter.org, scroll down and in the gold box on the right, which says “go to livestream” Click on that. On the next page, a gray box will appear. Click on that as well. You will then see our main sanctuary. If we are live, just click the play button. Cameras go live 10-15 minutes before services begin.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

The following officers are elected for their first year one term:

PRESIDENT ELECT*:  Alexandra Bar-Cohen
VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP & ADMINISTRATION:  Naomi Richman Neumann
VICE PRESIDENT, FINANCE:  Dane Dickler
VICE PRESIDENT, EDUCATION:  Linda Meisel
RECORDING SECRETARY:  Edye Kamenir

*which will be followed immediately by a two-year term as President

The following Trustees are elected for the first year of a two year term:

TRUSTEE:  David Greenberg
TRUSTEE:  Adam Scheer

The following officers are elected for their second one year term:

VICE PRESIDENT, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS:  Polly Strauss
VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMMING:  Heidi Joseph

These nominees would join the current officers and Trustees, who will serve a second year of a two year term:

PRESIDENT:  Randy Breit
TRUSTEE:  Bob Schwartz
TRUSTEE:  Nicole Soffin

Respectfully Submitted,
2020-2021 slate of Officers
MESSAGE from the Acting Interim Rabbi

Rabbi Bob Freedman
609.921.0100
rabbinbob@thejewishcenter.org

Mann tracht un Gott lacht, “man plans and God laughs,” is the way the Yiddish proverb goes. To say that when you asked me to be interim rabbi until July we didn’t expect what was going to happen is a comical understatement. Many of you know that I am resting my voice. Then COVID happened.

Looking back on it, I’m pleased to say that the experience has been enriching and rewarding. Had we only been confronted with the technical adventures of developing and providing live streaming services, dayenu. But really fascinating to me was and remains the wrestling with halachic issues that live streaming and Zoom participation present. In rabbinical school we read about times of halachic crisis and how the rabbis responded. How Yohanan ben Zakkaï led the community to a new paradigm after the Temple was destroyed in the second century. How Maimonides reacted to forced conversions by the Muslims in the 11th century. How in the 12th century Rashi’s grandson Rabbenu Tam convinced to forced conversions by the Muslims in the 11th century. How in the 19th century Rabbi Israel Salanter instructed his congregation in the 12th century. How to forced conversions by the Muslims in the 11th century. How in the 19th century Rabbenu Tam convinced his congregation in a time of plague to eat on Yom Kippur. How seventy years ago the Law Committee of the Conservative Movement gave its members their leadership and energy, and you should too when you talk to them: Cantor Jeff Warschauer, Polly Strauss, Joel Berger, Randy Brett, Mindy Langer, Linda Milstein, Linda Menzel, Judi Fleitman and Gil Gordon. Regrettably, I only worked a little with Sharon Diamondstein. She deserves an enormous amount of praise for keeping the flow of education uninterrupted.

And thanks in advance to Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg. He and I will share rabbi duties for the month of June. In July I’ll leave you with confidence in his capable hands.

Thank you for all your efforts in supporting our congregation and guiding us through these past six months.

With love,

TJC

MESSAGE from the President

Randall Brett
president@thejewishcenter.org

What I Will Do On My Summer Vacation

My 5th grade teacher, Mrs. Murray, had all of us in her class write an essay near the end of the spring semester. Rather than start off a new school year in September with an essay on “what I did on my summer vacation”, Mrs. Murray thought that it would be more interesting to hear what we wanted to do over the upcoming few months. My 5th grade teacher, Mrs. Murray, had all of us in her class write an essay near the end of the spring semester. Rather than start off a new school year in September with an essay on “what I did on my summer vacation”, Mrs. Murray thought that it would be more interesting to hear what we wanted to do over the upcoming few months. Apparently, she thought this would make us think about our summer activities and help our parents keep us occupied in productive pursuits rather than just hang out and get into trouble. I do not know if this essay accomplished the first goal, but it certainly did not stop me from getting into trouble. But that is a topic for another article.

The summer between 5th and 6th grade was the first time I went to overnight camp. For Jewish children in the Chicago area during the late 1950s and early 1960s, going to overnight camp meant either the JCC’s Camp Chi in Wisconsin (if your parents had the money), or Camp Henry Horner, operated by the Young Men’s Hebrew Association. Located in the idyllic Chain O’ Lakes area of McHenry County, Illinois, Camp Henry Horner (whose name was often transposed by us witty 12-year-olds) was named for former (and Jewish) Illinois governor; one of the few who did not go to jail either during or after his term. The summer was filled with swimming, hiking, camp crafts, sports, mediocre food, mosquito bites, sunburn, and the occasional case of impetigo. In other words, the classic summer camp experience. I looked forward to going to camp, especially since I would be getting away from my annoying younger brother and sister for several weeks. I’m sure they celebrated my departure, too – a break from the bossy older brother.

What brought this to mind was thinking about what a strange summer this will be. Families probably will not be taking the stereotypical summer trip to the shore or Disney World. The Meadowlands will not be the same without a Bruce Springsteen concert or Ashbury Park without a visit to the boardwalk. And summer camps, if they even open, will be an entirely different experience if social distancing must be maintained.

Thank you Rabbi Bob for all your efforts in supporting our congregation and guiding us through these past six months.

With love,

TIC

The Havurah Minyan will continue Zoom meetings in June and July on the second and fourth Saturdays.

June 13 and 27
July 11 and 25
An Introduction to Our Interim Rabbi

Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg
609.921.0100
eschoenberg@thejewishcenter.org

The Interim Rabbi Search Committee, Michelle Bellows, Ra'anan Boustan, Judi Fleitman, Dana Molina, Liz Nayden, Naomi Richman Neumann and Ed Simon, are very happy to welcome Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg. We will officially welcome him at our Zoom/Livestream Shabbat Services on Friday, June 5 and Saturday morning, June 6. There will be many opportunities for congregants to connect with Rabbi Schoenberg on Zoom for the present and in-person as soon as feasible.

Rabbi Schoenberg comes to us after retiring from his executive role in rabbi placement at the Rabbinical Assembly, effectively working with rabbis seeking positions and congregations seeking rabbis. He also is responsible for implementing and developing the Interim Rabbi program to assist congregations in the permanent rabbis search process. He now brings that expertise and sage guidance to us in our upcoming transitional year, as we look towards defining our congregation and selecting the rabbinic leadership we seek for our future.

Rabbi Schoenberg and his wife, Rabbi Cathy Felix, have taken an apartment within walking distance of the synagogue. We know they will be made to feel at home here in the caring and welcoming community that is The Jewish Center.

The following article appeared in the New Jersey Jewish News (NJN) on May 5, 2020.

This month, Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg will begin a one-year term as interim rabbi at The Jewish Center (TJC) in Princeton. For the past three decades, he’s been senior vice president and global director of rabbinic career advancement of the Rabbinical Assembly (RA), the international professional association of Conservative rabbis. In that position he led the career development of rabbis in the movement and oversaw their job placements.

He has a varied educational background, including rabbinic ordination and a master’s degree in Talmud from the Jewish Theological Seminary; he studied philosophy and chastisment at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; and is a N.Y.-state-trained disaster chaplain.

In addition, he’s a fair-trade coffee aficionado who, before the Covid-19 pandemic, led coffee tours in New York City. He recently returned from an RA trip to Uganda, where he met with the Abuayada Jewish community and toured their many coffee farms.

Schoenberg is married to Rabbi Cathy Felix, spiritual leader of Temple Beth Am in Bayonne. They have three grown sons.

NJN: What made you want to return to the pulpit after nearly 30 years away?

Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg: I began my career as a pulpit rabbi, spending a dozen fulfilling years in two pulpits in the Boston area (Temple Aliyah in Needham and Temple Emanuel in Newton, Mass.). I actually was not looking to work for the RA, they approached me because they were seeking a “happy” pulpit rabbi. I loved my work for the RA, and now it feels like I am moving full circle, to end my career in the position I love best: the pulpit rabbinate.

The themes of my rabbinate have been teaching, counseling, and building relationships. I look forward to bringing those strengths to TJC.

NJN: How will you preserve the legacy of TJC Rabbi Adam Feldman, who passed away in December, and what innovations do you plan to bring to the congregation?

ES: The role of the interim rabbi is not the same as that of the permanent rabbi. I am not here to bring my agenda and my innovations. I am here to respect, appreciate, and articulate the strengths of the congregation. I think about the interim rabbis via a metaphor — rabbis as mirror. I reflect back to the congregational leadership what they say and do with greater clarity and perspective. I am a tool so they can see themselves better. The mark of my success is that they will find a successor to Rabbi Feldman who matches their strengths.

I knew Rabbi Feldman, and respected him. We often golfed together. Mine was the better short game and he was an excellent long-ball hitter. Together, we made a very good golfer. The loss of Rabbi Feldman is a great tragedy. Nothing can replace his warmth and caring for each individual member of the community. My role will be to listen to my congregants as they tell me their stories. Through storytelling and deep listening comes healing.

NJN: How will you unite a congregation while programming and prayer remain virtual?

ES: In the middle of this pandemic, I will bring all of my experience, creativity, and energy to help the congregation chart a new path. This task will be a partnership with the staff and the talented lay leaders. We will experiment and see what works. This is a good time to take risks. We will learn together what works best.

NJN: What is your favorite Jewish ritual?

ES: We are now in the Omer season, in which we count each day between the holiday of Pesach and the holiday of Shavuot. I like counting the Omer because: There is a blessing, it’s brief, and it reminds me to focus on the joys of this day and this moment, to try not to worry about the larger issues just for this moment. Every day the Omer inspires me to think of something I give thanks for.

NJN: What’s Jewish about a good cup of joe?

ES: Quality coffee and ethical questions around the production of coffee are my passions. Over the last four months, I created a walking tour in Greenwich Village that traces the history and ethical concerns around coffee. Greenwich Village is the birthplace of espresso in America, and still contains many ethnic and high-quality coffee stores (plus it’s a fun neighborhood for a walking tour.)

The history of coffee is a lens to examine our own ethical values. Coffee touches on slavery, feminist expression, political freedom, workers’ rights, climate change, and so much more. When the pandemic ends, I look forward to sharing this adventure with my new community in Princeton. I love teaching in an informal setting, especially outdoors while drinking good coffee. I am anticipating exploring good coffee places in Mercer County.

Edited by NJN Managing Editor Shira Vickar-Fox

A Word on Leadership

Dear Congregants,

After nine consecutive years serving on the TJC Board (seven on the EC), I wanted to thank you for the opportunities and also to share some reflections on how fulfilling it is to volunteer and to answer the call to leadership.

I officially accepted the appointment of JW Chair after being a member of TJC for less than 2 years (having moved from California) because I was anxious to make friends. When Linda Grenis called me a couple of years later to offer me VP of Programming because my name was suggested, my response was “and then you search committee asked who’s THAT?” I then went on to serve for 2 years as VP of Religious Affairs and then the past 3 as VP of Administration.

Did I work hard? Did I spend sleepless nights trying to grapple with important issues? Did I get frustrated? Of course. “The Jewish Center way” is disparate points of views on what is best for our synagogue. Respecting various opinions of a passion- ate, diverse community and maintaining our mission of “warm and welcoming” with integrity continues to be the push-pull of leadership. Was it discouraging? -- sometimes. Was it fulfilling?-- often. Was it worth the effort? -- always.

To paraphrase JFK, I urge you “do not ask what your synagogue can do for you, ask what you can do for your synagogue”. The more people you know, the more dedication you emulate, the more you offer your skills and talents, I can say confidently from personal experience, the more you will reap the high-yield returns of a greater sense of community, develop deep friendships and garner more respect for the commitment of others.

You have a great deal to offer TJC. Contact Randy, or the appropriate VP or Committee Chair and get involved! No need to wait to be asked. This is a great community and with your efforts you will fortify our community while our community fortifies you.

B’shalom,
Judi Fleitman
MESSAGE from the Cantor

Cantor Jeff Warschauer
609.921.0100 ext 213
jwarschauer@thejewishcenter.org

Enhancing Our Online Services

Dear TJC Friends,

As I write this, in mid-May, the need to social-distance continues, and with it, our online-only services continue as well.

A few weeks ago, I was contacted by two members of our wonderful TJC leadership, Naomi Richman Neumann and VP of Religious Affairs Polly Strauss. They felt that, since online-only services clearly would be continuing for far longer than initially expected, there was an urgent need to enhance the services with much more congregational participation.

We formed a group, informally called the “Enhancing Online Services Task Force,” comprised of Naomi, Polly, Rabbi Bob, Linda Meisel, Gil Gordon, Mindy Langer, Joel Berger and Sharon Diamondstein, plus, representing the Religious Affairs Committee, Dana Molina and Suzanne Esterman. We began meeting weekly on Tuesday mornings.

What a great group! Our meetings have been lively and full of great brainstorming. Not only that, the results have been spectacular, which is a not only a tribute to the members of the task force, but to the willingness of our congregants to step up and take part.

Here’s what’s happening:

During the Saturday morning online services, congregants with access to Zoom have begun reading Torah and Haftarah, delivering divrei-Torah, leading prayers and readings from the siddur and beyond, and joining in on the participatory Torah discussions led by Rabbi Bob. And our B’nai Mitzvah families and young families have been joining in as well.

On Friday night, we will be expanding participation in similar ways, including songs, candle lighting and Kiddush to be led by congregants of all ages, including kids and their families.

Special kudos go to Polly and to Mindy Langer for their coordination of the participation (a big job!), to Rabbi Bob for reaching out to the congregation to provide opportunities for participation, and to Gil Gordon, Naomi Richman Neumann, Ed Simon and Joel Berger for their stalwart efforts to keep our online services and meetings secure from interference.

All in all, the initiative and the results are a great tribute to the resourcefulness and resilience of our TJC family.

Deborah and I send you our continued wishes for health and safety!

Cantor Jeff

MESSAGE from the Executive Director

Joel Berger
609.921.0100 ext. 205
jberger@thejewishcenter.org

A Tribute to Zoom

As we sit here waiting for our lives to resume, let’s not presume anything. I thought it would be a good time to look around the room and see what has transpired. Certainly we can assume that there will be a baby boom in about 8-9 months. The wombs will be full and new playrooms will be needed. We will try to get away from the doom and gloom of the crisis and look forward to flowers to bloom. Will there be new brides and grooms?

Have you cleaned out your bedroom, dining room, bathroom, play room—or any room—at this point with a broom? Have you found any missing heirlooms? We know that kids are still in the classroom and lawyers can’t wait to get back into the courtroom. Are you traveling to Khartoum? Have you seen the play Brigadoon? Have you finally learned what a Zoom waiting room is?

Have you tried to consume any new legumes? What about a new perfume? Have you found some distance from your family by using more elbow room? I can’t wait for the 4th of July when we hear the big Ka-booms! Have you found a new game room or lunchroom?

I think you get the point. As summer approaches, we all need to get out a little. Smell the fresh air. Go on a walk or hike. But most importantly, do NOT stop practicing social distancing. Do not stop wearing a mask. Wash your hands often.

We will hopefully see you in the boardroom, cloak room, ballroom, chat room, child’s room, cleanroom, or any room where we can safely get together in the future. Maybe all it will take is a new costume!

On behalf of my family, we wish you a safe and healthy summer. Be smart and make sure you all take time for yourselves to stay healthy. See you on Zoom!

Joel
MESSAGE from the
Director of Congregational Learning
Sharon Diamondstein
609.921.0100 ext 220
sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Friends,
Sunday September 8, 2019 was a bright, sunny day. I remember it vividly. I was so excited to begin the new year. High Holy Day plans were underway and apples and honey sticks were ordered. I started the morning with a brief meeting with my madrichim — my AMAZING support staff, followed by a quick meeting with the teachers and madrichim together. I greeted the students as they walked into the building. After meeting with new families, Rabbi Feldman, and I held a back to school parent meeting in the social hall and then we went into the sanctuary for a school wide welcome and back to school sing-a-long. As the morning ended, we sent the students off with survival kits for the school year. As Rabbi Feldman and I spoke after the meeting, I remember, "this is going to be a great year." These toolkits became survival kits that, in retrospect, really helped me focus on what would lie ahead. Some of the more notable items included an eraser to remind us that everyone makes mistakes, and that's ok. A band aid served as a reminder that we are obligated to perform acts of tikkun olam, or repairing the world. A friendship bracelet was included, because one of the Rabbis, Ben Shira, teaches us that "a faithful friend is a secure shelter; whoever finds one has found a treasure." Also included was a star, as a reminder of our place in the family of the Jewish people, because G'd promised Abraham more children than there are stars in the sky. We also included a bell as a reminder to listen and be attentive to tikkun olam. There are many ways for such a band aid to represent tikkun olam. Maybe a chain of paper clips could replace the friendship bracelets, because we can always add more. Maybe a small mezuzah can replace the star. There are many ways for each of you to create your own resilience toolkits. I can't wait to see each of your kits, and learn how you use your tools to make your lives better and easier.

B'Shalom,
Sharon

Lockdown Liberation via Life & Legacy

Do we have your attention? Great—read on.

The pandemic is tough on everyone, and we've all seen enough of the inside of our homes. Good news: there's an easy way to free yourself from the lockdown blues! We are the Life & Legacy Committee at The Jewish Center, and it's our privilege to help ensure a strong future for TJC by giving you the opportunity to provide what has been an important part of this community for 70 years.

Sixty-seven current and former TJC members made Promises under Life & Legacy (L&L) to leave a bequest to TJC as part of their estate plans. There's no need to write a check today—just agree to help secure our future tomorrow. There are eight key elements of Life & Legacy:

Love this congregation? Provide for it tomorrow without spending a cent today.

Energize yourself out of lockdown boredom by investing in TJC's future.

Think how good you'll feel by helping insure a strong Princeton Jewish community.

Modeling is important—I'Do! V'Dor is a key value; we must provide for future generations.

Ensure that those who come to TJC after you will find the same Jewish home as you did.

Own part of this community's future by making an L&L Promise.

Understand that all L&L bequests go to the TJC Endowment Fund for future needs.

Tomorrow comes way too soon—support L&L today!

How do you break away from lockdown lethargy? It couldn't be simpler. Just go to https://tinyurl.com/TJC-Planned for info about and links to materials about L&L.

Better yet, get in touch with one of us and we'll be glad to answer your questions. Meanwhile, stay safe!

Eliot Freeman: RANDZFREEMAN@aol.com or 609-924-8167
Gil Gordon: gil@gilgordon.com or 732-735-3216
Evy Grossman: evgrossman@gmail.com or 609-577-1374

We congratulate our daughter, Galia, on graduating from the University of Pennsylvania's Fels Institute of Government with a master's degree in public administration. - Bernard and Barbara Abramson

Linda and Michael Grenis are proud to announce that their son, Billy Grenis graduated with an MBA Tech from Cornell SC Johnson College of Business.

Shoshana Silverman is proud to announce the college graduations of Noam Silberman Brenner (George Washington University) and Jonah Silberman Brenner (Skidmore)—both magna cum laude. She also is celebrating the elementary school graduation of Devorah Shoshana Silverman.

Joyce And Clive Usiskin take pride and pleasure in announcing the graduation of four of their grandchildren.

To Bernard and Barbara Abramson on their daughter, Galia, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania's Fels Institute of Government with a master's degree in public administration.

Dr. Ilana Meryl Usiskin from Yale University School of Medicine, daughter of Keith and Michelle

Benjamin Y. Lee from Cornell University, son of Suzanne and Howard

To these graduates
We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support The Jewish Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through their generous contributions:

GENERAL FUND
from Diane Cavesnis
from Joe Mattiella

In memory of
The 50th wedding anniversary of Ira and Linda Cheifetz
from Gil and Ellen Gordon
The 2021 Nominating Committee: Joshua Baird, Barbara Ganter, Michael Feldstein, Art Meisel, Liz Nayden, Abigail Rose
from Edye Kamenir

In memory of
Robert Pollard
from Mark and Carol Pollard
Rosalind Spielinger
from Ira and Linda Cheifetz
Jacob David (Jay) Caras
from Lynn Green, Marcie and Marc Citron, Allen and Rhona Porter
Emily Sobin
from Nancy Sobin
Dora Lachman
from Sofia Parish
Chaim Dubowska
from Sofia Surkis
Aurelia Blau
from Leslie and Stephanie Blau
Abraham Carchman
from Phil and Joel Carchman
Shirley Steinberg
from Phyllis Caras, Sara and Steven Jast, Marcie and Marc Citron, Alison and David Politzter, David and Donna Gabai, Michael Feldstein, Polly and Rick Strauss, Linda and Art Meisel, Nikki and Len Feldman, Lauren Neufeld
Phyllis Feigenbaum
from Jack Feigenbaum
Hilda Hubert
from Marcie and Marc Citron, David and Donna Gabai
Harold Berger
from Marcie and Marc Citron
Cesia Bitter
from Helena Schwarz
Robert Aresty
from Carol and Mark Pollard
Augusta Goodkin
from Jerry and Vera Goodkin
Rabbi Adam Feldman
from Al and Rena Klein, Cynthia and Fred Neufeld
Susan Loew
from Catherine Stroup
Bruce Feigles
from Sharon Shylit
Milt Rubin
from Ed Flax and Dee Silver, Chavurah Aviva
Frank Dermitrovic
from Rick and Mitzi Senfeld
Benjamin Robert Mohr
from Marilyn Zagorin
Rose Lackwitz
from Vickie and Jeff Solomon
Toni Silman
from Carol and Mark Pollard
Hyman Rosen and Lillian Greene
from Marilyn and Joe Rosen
Max Levine
from Bob and Judy Levine
Reeva Isaacs
from Betsy Le

ADULT EDUCATION FUND
In honor of
Myra Weinert's kindness
from Shoshana Silberman

In memory of
Kenneth Kollman and Howard Margolin
from Moshe and Judy Margolin
Jacob David Caras
from Dan Brent and Sally Steinberg-Brent
Shirley Steinberg
from Joan Levin

ADULT LIBRARY FUND
In honor of
The birth of Matan Silberman
from Joan Levin

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND
In honor of
The birth of Matan Silberman
from Myra Weinert and Irv Newman

In memory of
Richard Hanson
from Christine Kaufman

JESS AND MARION EPSTEIN LUNCH-AND-LEARN FUND
In memory of
Annie Freedman
from Frederick Hughsen, Melissa Lane, Baz and Terry Willner Aaron, Steven Rudenstein, Roberta and Richie Gorden, Jennifer Goldberg, Norman Melofsky, Anne and Bill Homes, Carol and Jack Pollard, Ruth Schuman, Gail and Marty Gottlieb

THE JEWISH CENTER REFUGEE FUND
from Emily Enminzer
from Patricia Bardi Von Hippel

In honor of
The engagement of Lily Brent
from Shoshana Silberman

In memory of
Linda Gunther Edelman
from Sherry Edelman Meyer and Gerard Meyer
Milt Rubin
from Myra Weinert and Irv Newman

KIDDUSH FUND
from Debi Dunn Solomon

In honor of
The birth of Matan Silberman
from Shoshana Silberman

In memory of
Shirley Steinberg
from Maryann Yarin, Cynthia and Fred Neufeld
Mark Levin
from Joan Levin and Family
June Skar
from Mindy and Cory Langer and Richard Slavin

RABBIT'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
from Bonnie and Jeffrey Weissman

In honor of
Sara and Steven Just on the birth of their granddaughter, Juliet
from Shoshana Silberman

In memory of
Shirley Steinberg
from Mindy and Cory Langer

LASHIR FUND
In memory of
Gertrude Cooperman
from Lee and Lynn Coopersmith

In memory of
Shirley Steinberg
from Shirley Gordon, Marsha and Eliot Freeman

LIFE AND LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND
In honor of
The engagement of Lily Brent to Jonathan Tescher
from Lenny and Eve Grossman

In memory of
Shirley Steinberg
from Lenny and Eve Grossman

MARCHAND ESPIR FAMILY HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND
In memory of
Ruth Mandel
from Michael Feldstein
Milt Rubin
from Barbara and Steve Felton

PRAYERBOOK FUND
In honor of
Denise Chekas
from the Bucholtz/Feldman Family
Joel Berger
from the Bucholtz/Feldman Family

In memory of
Shirley Steinberg
from Marilyn Green, Cynthia and Fred Neufeld
Mark Levin
from Joan Levin and Family
June Skar
from Mindy and Cory Langer and Richard Slavin

In memory of
Harold Berger
from Linda and Art Meisel
Shirley Steinberg
from Sher Leiman

In honor of
Malvina and Sasha Greenfield on the birth of granddaughter Ayla Rae
from The Bucholtz/Feldman Family

In memory of
Shoshana Silberman
from Linda and Art Meisel

In memory of
Jacob Caras
from Marcie and Marc Citron, David and Donna Gabai

In memory of
Jacob (Jay) Caras
from Maxine Gark, Judith Bronstein, Roger and Martin Rome
Reeva Isaacs
from Robin Perky

REPERTIOU SCHOOL FUND
In honor of
Malvina and Sasha Greenfield on the birth of granddaughter Ayla Rae
from The Bucholtz/Feldman Family

In memory of
Shoshana Silberman
from Linda and Art Meisel

In memory of
Jacob (Jay) Caras
from Maxine Gark, Judith Bronstein, Roger and Martin Rome
Reeva Isaacs
from Robin Perky

TORAH REPAIR FUND
In memory of
Shirley Steinberg
from Joe Mattiella

YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS FUND
In memory of
Shirley Steinberg
from Debbie Freedman

*This gift is from a Donor Advised Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Mercer.
All programs are held via Zoom until further notice. All communications are via email. If you are NOT on our email list, please email us at info@thejewishcenter.org

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<tr>
<td>9:00 AM Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:00 PM Board Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM A Dollmaker's Journey with Barbara Gantwerk</td>
<td>7:00 AM Morning Minyan Adult Ed Programs - Talmud Study #Sulam</td>
<td>7:00 PM #Sulam Arts and Culture - Michele Alperin</td>
<td>Candle Lighting is 8:07 PM</td>
<td>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker Shabbat Morning Service</td>
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<td>9:00 AM Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:30 PM EC Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 AM Morning Minyan</td>
<td>12:15 PM Adult Ed Programs - Talmud Study #Sulam</td>
<td>7:30 PM #Sulam</td>
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<td>All programs are held via Zoom until further notice. All communications are via email. If you are NOT on our email list, please email us at <a href="mailto:info@thejewishcenter.org">info@thejewishcenter.org</a></td>
<td>Morning Minyan</td>
<td>Candle Lighting is 8:14 PM</td>
<td>Independence Day - Happy July 4th!</td>
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<td>5:00 AM</td>
<td>Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>Beginner's Drawing and Watercolor with Julie Rosenthal</td>
<td>Morning Minyan Adult Ed Programs - Talmud Study</td>
<td>4:00 PM Pre-Shabbat Meditation</td>
<td>9:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Morning Minyan</td>
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<td>Morning Minyan Adult Ed Programs - Talmud Study</td>
<td>Morning Minyan Adult Ed Programs - Talmud Study Great Minds Salon featuring Ben Strauss</td>
<td>6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>4:00 PM Pre-Shabbat Meditation</td>
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<td>Morning Minyan Adult Ed Programs - Talmud Study</td>
<td>6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
<td>11:00 AM Shabbat Katan</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Morning Minyan</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>TJC Book Club - The Cost of Living</td>
<td>Rosh Chodesh Av</td>
<td>9:30 AM Torah and Tea</td>
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May

Sydney Burnside
Sydney is a student from West Windsor who has a passion for baking and volunteering. She loves volunteering at the kids’ cooking classes at Homefront, as well as at the Princeton Nursery School. Her favorite items to bake are cookies, lemon bars and apple pie. When she’s not baking, she enjoys spending time with her friends and family.

Jonny Feldman, son of Jayne and Scott Feldman.

June

Emma Eisenberg
Emma is currently a seventh grader at The Hun School of Princeton, NJ with her twin brother, Zachary. She has an incredible work ethic and is a bright, motivated young lady. She loves all sports, but her favorite is softball, and her position is catcher. She has practiced off the tee almost everyday in quarantine. She has a passion for her Jewish sleep away camp in the Pocono mountains, her home away from home, and cannot wait to return next summer. She loves her dog, Oreo, and deeply cares for her family and friends. She is strongly rooted in her Jewish values and traditions, and has been working extremely hard for the past seven months preparing for her Bat Mitzvah.

Zachary Eisenberg
Zach is currently a seventh grader at The Hun School of Princeton, NJ with his twin sister, Emma. He loves playing most sports including basketball and football but his passion has always been baseball. From his first day at T-Ball Zach has been dreaming of playing in the MLB. He has played on multiple recreational, travel and competitive teams and would play everyday of his life if he could. He is a very funny, thoughtful and caring young man who has a heart of gold. Zach is looking forward to and has been preparing long and hard for his upcoming Bar Mitzvah.

Mia Ramirez
Mia Ramirez is a seventh grade student at John Witherspoon Middle School. She has an older sister Ava, and two older brothers, Jason and Michael. When Mia is not in school, she keeps herself busy by playing field hockey and spending time with her friends. Mia has always loved younger kids and therefore chose to volunteer at the Princeton Nursery School for her Chesed project. Mia would like to thank Cantor Jeff, Nancy Lewis, and all of the educators at The Jewish Center who helped her prepare for her special day.
ADULT EDUCATION

Adjusting to the New Normal

With the advent of the coronavirus and the closing of the building, the Adult Education Committee was faced with a set of new challenges to continue to bring high-quality programming to our adult learners.

In the middle of the winter/spring schedule with two highly anticipated scholars set to visit TJC, on-site lectures became impossible. To fill this void, it was decided that our programs would be delivered by original videos and interactive Zoom classes. We called this initiative “TJC at Home” and it began in late March.

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Look for program details in upcoming emails and the weekly newsletter.

During the coming months, the members of the Adult Education Committee will be both conducting the summer programming and planning for the 2020/21 program cycle. Committee members are Lynn Coopersmith, Sharon Diamondstein (Director of Lifelong Learning), Heidi Joseph (VP Programming), Jon Katz (Co-chair), Jerry Kaufman, Frank Lees, Moshe Margolin (Co-chair), Warren Mitlak, Fredi Pearlmuter, Mik Rosenthal and Nancy Sobin.

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We are interested in new members joining our Committee.

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Fridays:
June 5
June 12
June 19
June 26

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Tuesdays, June 16 & July 21
7:30 p.m.
via Zoom.

Tuesday, June 16
Pam Jenoff’s The Orphan’s Tale

“Through the darkness of war, the circus lights twinkle on, the circus family lives and loves and laughs, all while beautiful athletes fly high above the crowd…Jenoff has written a tribute to the human spirit that soars in the midst of epic despair.” National Public Radio

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Deborah Levy’s The Cost of Living

The Cost of Living is a personal essay collection. After having divorced at age of 50, Deborah Levy sets up as a single parent in a London flat, finding time and space to write, meanwhile grieving for the death of her mother. This collection is about motherhood, feminism, and intellectual life.

August 18
Covid permitting: Plan to join us at 6:00 p.m. for a Potluck supper and to watch: Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story

September 15
Daniel Silva’s The Other Woman

An instant classic from Daniel Silva, whose latest masterpiece puts him firmly alongside le Carré and Forsyth as one of the greatest spy novelists of all time.

Multiple copies of our selections are available on the “Book Club” shelves of the Princeton Public Library. (NOTE: Book Club shelves for fiction are on the first floor, and shelves for works of non-fiction are upstairs on the second floor.) All of our books can be ordered online, and you can click on the synagogue link (below) to order a book from Amazon that will earn a commission for the Synagogue: https://thejewishcenter.org/Participate-With-Us/Our-Committees/Book-Club.aspx

For more information contact Louise Sandburg: louise@sandsmith.com

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What makes Jews different from Christians, and Christians different from Jews? What elements (if any) made Jewish and Christian identities irreconcilable with one another, already in the ancient world? The Story of the Ten Martyrs from Byzantine Palestine (fifth to seventh centuries CE) presents a narrative in which the blood of the rabbinic martyrs executed by Rome is presented as a medium of vicarious atonement for the sins of the Jewish people. The martyrology challenges conventional assumptions about Jewish attitudes toward atoning human blood and thereby illuminates the dynamics of Jewish self-definition in a Christian world.

Open to the Community!
THURSDAY, JUNE 18 (8:00-9:00 PM)

This program will be held via Zoom. Please register by emailing adulteducation@thejewishcenter.org. A Zoom link will be sent to all registrants prior to the event.

Dr. Benjamin Strauss serves as CEO and Chief Scientist at Climate Central. He is an expert on sea level rise and the architect of the Surging Seas suite of maps, tools, and visualizations. Strauss has testified before the U.S. Senate and his research has been cited by the White House and two Secretaries-General of the United Nations. His work has won extensive coverage in U.S. and international media in at least 110 countries and 29 languages. Ben, a TJC congregant, lives in Princeton with his wife and son.

Open to the Community!
THURSDAY, JULY 8 (8:00-9:00 PM)

This program will be held via Zoom. Please register by emailing adulteducation@thejewishcenter.org. A Zoom link will be sent to all registrants prior to the event.
Leonie Menaschê, wife of the late and Ava as well as by her husband, Jeff Lucker, and Dr. Ruth Mandel z”l, longtime congregant. She is son-in-law Steve Simon, and grandchildren Lev and grandmother of Stuart and Joshua Isaacs.

On Thursday, our morning service begins at 9:00 a.m. and we will include all the appropriate readings for Tisha B’av.

begin at 8:40 p.m.

at 8:00 p.m. and the Evening Service that will include the Biblical reading of Eicha (The Book of Lamentations) will Please join us on Wednesday night for a short discussion prior to our Tisha B’Av Service. The discussion will begin at 8:00 p.m. and will include all the appropriate readings for Tisha B’av.

Each week a reminder notice is sent. If anyone wishes to participate, they are welcome to join via the Zoom link. Michael Goldin https://zoom.us/j/165159911

Tisha B’Av is an annual fast day in Judaism, named for the ninth day (Tisha) of the month of Av in the Hebrew calendar. The day commemorates the destruction of both the First Temple and Second Temple in Jerusalem, as well as other major tragedies in Jewish history including the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492. Accordingly, the day has been called the “saddest day in Jewish history.” It is one of the two full-day fasts in the Jewish year.

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In Memoriam:

We extend our deepest sympathy in remembering

Reeva Issacs z”l, mother of Hanan Issacs (Hedaine) and grandmother of Stuart and Joshua Issacs.

Milt Rubin z”l, life partner of Rita Swirsky.

Dr. Ruth Mandel z”l, longtime congregant. She is survived by her daughter, Dr. Maud Mandel, son-in-law Steve Simon, and grandchildren Lev and Aya as well as by her husband, Jeff Lucker, and her ex-husband and dear friend, Barrett Mandel.

Al Klein z”l, husband of Rena Klein and father of Michael, Lisa, Lori, Karen, Judy, Amy, Gerri and Rachel

Leonie Menaschê, wife of the late Zakí Menaschê, Mother of Isaac Menaschê, Abraham Menaschê, Mary Kersten and grandmother of four grandchildren.

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Bible Baboker
Saturdays - 8:45 a.m.
Zoom video study session each week.

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Saturdays - 8:45 a.m.
Zoom video study session each week.

Each week a reminder notice is sent. If anyone wishes to participate, they are welcome to join via the Zoom link. Michael Goldin https://zoom.us/j/165159911

The Arts and Culture Committee has sponsored 4 delightful cooking demonstrations during May from our very own TJC chefs. Highly recommended by congregants, chefs well known to the pot-luck crowd shared recipes and showed their talent in well-attended Zoom classes. Thank you Mindy Langer for your demonstration of how to make beer bread (recipe courtesy of Williams Sonoma). This avant-garde demonstration preceded the NY Times publication of the beer bread recipe which was published the following day! Andrea Gaynor shared her recipe and cooking talents for ricotta gnocchi with butter herb sauce. Ellen Goldblatt followed up with a lemon meringue pie from a recipe she adapted from the Settlement Cookbook that was used by her grandmother. For our final session, Susan Gross made an Indian style shakshouka—a delicious recipe for brunch or dinner. Thanks to all the chefs and to our host, Arlene Opatut and sous-hosts Nancy Lewis and Joel Berger.

Lynne Ross 609-439-6834

Wednesday night
July 29
8:00 p.m.

Thursday morning
July 30
9:00 a.m.

This year, the Selection Committee was composed of Jerry Neumann as Chair, and Gabrielle Cayton, Hodge, Bob Lebeau, Michael Goldin, and Nancy Lewis as members. Sharon Diamondstein was the staff member assisting the committee. Our policy requires the selection committee to consider three key criteria in making their selection:

1) Nominees for selection must have provided devoted service to the Congregation over a significant period of time, generally recognized as three years.
2) Nominees for selection must have served in capacities outside of an official volunteer position, such as an officer or a member of the Board of Directors; and
3) Nominees for selection must have demonstrated exemplary volunteer contributions in more than one way and over time, and not measured by any financial impact on TJC. That is, one cannot simply receive this award through personal financial donations or by encouraging others to donate.

Which brings me back to this year’s Congregant of the Year, Suzanne Esterman. Over the past 25 years as a TJC member, Suzanne has served TJC in many different ways—and nearly always under the radar. She has impacted the religious, cultural, social and, yes, the culinary aspects of the TJC life experience! With her modest, soft-spoken style and as a “Shabbat Regular,” Suzanne has volunteered at numerous Jewish Center Women events, the annual Shavuot Holiday Learning events and the annual Sukkot events, and is one of the few key-holders for the Schnapps after Services kiddush — but perhaps her crowning achievement and contribution to TJC has been as the designer, founder, sustainer and true leader of the “Kiddush Krew.”

What Suzanne has accomplished over the past five years is much more than simply making Shabbat or Festival lunches for Congregants when there is not a b’nai mitzvah taking place. She has single-handedly built a “community” within this community, as there are now upwards of 50 individuals who count themselves as part of the Kiddush Krew, all of whom truly look forward to attending those Friday morning preparation sessions. On any given Shabbat or Festival, 10 to 12 Kiddush Krew members are now stepping forward to help, and so many are repeat volunteers. In fact, during this challenging pandemic, Suzanne has put together a Kiddush Krew lunch next Friday afternoon on Zoom — because, as she has informed us, “these folks need to be together.” Born in Jersey City, Suzanne grew up and became a Bat Mitzvah at the Highland Park Conservative Temple and when she and John moved to Kendall Park, she “tried on” both B’nai Tikvah and The Jewish Center to see what felt the most comfortable for a Jewish family with a non-Jewish parent. When it came time for their oldest to start religious school, they decided to join The Jewish Center — where she and John both felt comfortable, accepted and welcomed. And still do, all these years later.

Please join me in shouting Mazel Tov Suzanne Esterman!
Mazel Tov!

To Joyce And Clive Usiskin who take pride and pleasure in announcing the graduation of four of their grandchildren. The degree recipients are:
Robin Quinn Barrett from University of Cincinnati, son of Irene and Ned
Benjamin Y. Lee from Cornell University, son of Suzanne and Howard
Hayley R. Roy from Amherst College, daughter of Natalie and Nikki
Dr. Ilana Meryl Usiskin from Yale University School of Medicine, daughter of Keith and Michelle

To Bernard and Barbara Abramson on their daughter, Galia, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania’s Fels Institute of Government with a master’s degree in public administration

To Ira and Linda Cheifetz on their 50th wedding anniversary

To The 2020 Nominating Committee: Justus Baird, Barbara Gantwerk, Michael Feldstein, Art Meisel, Liz Nayden, Abigail Rose

To Shoshana Silberman on the birth of grandson, Matan

To Dan Brent and Sally Steinberg-Brent on the engagement of Lily Brent to Jonathan Tescher

To Sara and Steven Just on the birth of granddaughter, Juliet Cecilia Alvarez-Just

To Malvina and Sasha Greenfield on the birth of granddaughter, Ayla Rae

To Fran Zeitler Edelman and Fred Edelman on their 2nd anniversary

To Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins, our Rabbi Emeritus, for teaching Divray Torah to almost all of his 12 grandchildren each Sunday with Zoom—from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, Los Angeles, Cleveland and Philadelphia

To Evan Bernstein (caterer) for providing delicious Seder food – safely and efficiently

Shoshana Silberman is proud to announce the college graduations of Noam Silberman Brenner (George Washington University) and Jonah Silberman Brenner (Skidmore)—both magna cum laude. She also is celebrating the elementary school graduation of Devorah Silberman in Boston.

To Bernard and Barbara Abramson on their daughter, Galia, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania’s Fels Institute of Government with a master’s degree in public administration

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We were thrilled with the participation for April’s Zoom meeting. It was good to be able to share our feelings, situations and Passover celebrations with each other. We may not have been able to be together but our connections were still very strong. Special thanks to Ellen Pristach for being our Zoom Host. Please see the screenshot below commemorating the first Nosh & Drosh via Zoom ever. Photo credit to Pam Zaifman for capturing it.

Special thanks to Ellen Pristach for facilitating our May ZOOM meeting. Ellen is a NOSH & DROSH favorite facilitator and we always appreciate her insightful and creative learning experiences.

Ellen is a huge help to us and a wonderful source of information. We personally appreciate everything she does for us and NOSH & DROSH.

Thank you to everyone who attended NOSH & DROSH this year your participation continues to make our group very successful, strong and special.

Wishing everyone a healthy and safe summer and hopefully we will be together come Fall.

Stay well,

Lauren & Cynthia

Questions? Call Sharon Diamondstein at (609) 921-7207 or email at SDiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

This spirited service is designed for preschool-aged children and their families. Led by music teacher Susan Sacks and parents, this interactive Shabbat experience includes stories, prayers, songs, and a brief Torah reading.

Open to the Community!

Mark your calendar for
Shabbat Katan
Schedule
June 6 & July 11
11:00 am via ZOOM

Open to the Community!

Kabbalat Shabbat Katan
June 5, 12, 19, 26
5:45 pm via ZOOM
Open to the Community!

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Joan Goldstein interviewed Rabbi Feldman in 2016 for Princeton Community TV. The segment can be viewed at this link: https://vimeo.com/channels/backstory/16187721

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