



Rabbi Matthew J.  
Zerwekh



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Fri, NOVEMBER 6, 2020  
7:00 pm Erev Shabbat  
Via Zoom

Sat, NOVEMBER 7, 2020  
10:30 am Morning Shabbat  
Via Zoom

Fri, NOVEMBER 13, 2020  
7:00 pm Shabbat  
Via Zoom

Sat, NOVEMBER 14, 2020  
10:30 am Morning Shabbat Service  
Via Zoom

Fri, NOVEMBER 20, 2020  
5:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service  
Via Zoom

Sat, NOVEMBER 21, 2020  
10:30 am Morning Shabbat Service  
Via Zoom

Fri, NOVEMBER 27, 2020  
7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service  
Via Zoom

Sat, NOVEMBER 28, 2020  
10:30 am Morning Shabbat Service  
Via Zoom

I wanted to take this prominent space in our newsletter to do something I don't always do in this column, which is to talk a bit about what goes on "behind the scenes" here at temple.

While we have been praying, learning, and gathering online for the last number of months, our office and building staff along with many dedicated members who volunteered their time and led by our Interim Executive Director Abby Goldfaden has been hard at work supporting our efforts to remain engaged in the many ways we are engaging. It is no surprise that High Holidays looked and felt different for us this year. Your temple leaders were overjoyed that so many of you tuned in for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and stayed connected throughout the entirety of the holidays to take advantage of all of our offerings.

From physical mailings, to regular timely communications, to ensuring our building and grounds were ready for all day streaming and visits during Yom Kippur, I want to give special thanks and recognition to Abby Goldfaden, Barbara Zeevi, Dharlene Norris, Charles Criss, Slava Frasinich and Dean Story, Jr. for all of their hard work and dedication in helping prepare us and our temple home for virtual High Holidays.

I also want to give special recognition and thanks to our Cantorial Soloist Kelly Onickel for all of her hard work, her collaboration, and her flexibility as we navigated and worked through the challenges and opportunities that presented themselves not only in preparation of High Holidays, but as we have navigated various ways of moving our services and class offerings online.

Each one of our senior staff members has gone above and beyond to help our temple community encounter every challenge with grace, flexibility, and with creative problem solving.

From ECC Director Eileen Brand and her truly wonderful staff keeping our pre-school running with the same love and care for our children as they always have, to Yachad Religious School Director Abi Taylor-Abt's shepherding our religious school to a new unique reality of online religious education, we at Temple Emanu-El are blessed to have the senior staff we have.

While our world is forever changing, I'm thankful that our team is prepared to encounter whatever the future brings with dedication and with true care for the community we serve. Please join me in thanking them.

Temple leadership recognizes that 2020 has been a tough year for many families, health-wise and financially. No member should ever feel that their membership is in jeopardy because of their inability to pay their dues commitment.

If you are having difficulty paying your Temple dues and/or amounts assessed, please connect with our Treasurer Dan Steinhardt: [edsteinht@comcast.net](mailto:edsteinht@comcast.net) or Interim Executive Director, Abby Goldfaden ([execdir@emanuel-mich.org](mailto:execdir@emanuel-mich.org) or at 248-967-4020 ext. 205) who will respond to your situation both confidentially and compassionately.

You have our promise that we will work together with the goal of continuing to welcome you as part of our Temple Family.

## Visiting the Sick

מי שברך אבותינו ואמותנו הוא יברך את החולים

May the one who blessed our ancestors,  
bless and heal those who are ill

### IN MEMORIAM

Harold Blair, father of  
Michelle (Martin) Keys,  
September 25th.

### MAZEL TOV

Alexandra Cook, daughter of  
Jason & Jill Cook on her  
October 24th Bat Mitzvah

Leif Schoof, son of Alycia Schoof  
and Jason & Patty Schoof on his  
October 31st Bar Mitzvah

### NOVEMBER KIDS BIRTHDAYS

Sophie Hart  
Brody Itenberg  
Henry Petts  
Ari Salomon  
Derek Waldron

### NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Matthew & Sharon Abramsky  
Kimberly & Stacy Conwell-Leigh  
Joshua & Mallory Frank  
Franklin & Lois Greenberg  
Dana & Elizabeth Gulick  
Brandon & Gabby Jarvis  
Harry & Cantorial Soloist Kelly Onickel  
Robert & Joan Rosen  
Howard & Ruth Sherman  
Daniel & Elayne Steinhardt  
Barbara & Stuart Trager  
Rabbi Matthew & Mayim Zerwekh

Hospitals and health care institu-  
tions cannot inform the Temple or  
clergy when patients are admitted.

The only way our rabbi and Ruth and Maxwell Stettner Caring Community knows is when  
someone contacts us. **Please contact the office or Rabbi Zerwekh** when you know one of  
our members is a patient so he can be in touch. (Please do not assume we know.) For those  
who you wish to be listed on our Mi Shebeirach list, please let us know, including updates.

### YARTZEITS

#### Nov 1-7

Arthur Abt  
\*Herman Band  
\*Ralph Benach  
\*Jennie Berkower  
Sol Braiker  
Stanley Chmura  
\*Dorothy Band  
Cooperman  
Roland "Ronnie"  
Edwards  
Charlotte Engelson  
\*Harold N. Finney  
Rhoda Friedman  
Samuel Galea  
\*Marilyn Price Gonte  
\*Bernard Gordon  
Max Guyer  
\*Samuel Jospey  
\*Morris Kaplan  
\*Marshall Klaper  
\*Irvin Levine (LaVine)  
\*Charlotte Levitan  
\*Pauline Mandell  
\*Sidney B. Mann  
Rochelle Markle  
Anne Menken  
\*Dustin Alexander  
Nowinski  
David Jeremy Patt  
Blanche Pittman  
Bluma Schwarzberg  
Karen Stiefel  
Bertha Cole Stillman  
Michelle Sturman  
Carole Weiner  
Harold Weiskopf  
\*Simon Monroe Werner  
\*David H. Zeff

#### Nov 8-14

Sally Berman  
Peter Castronova  
Ruth Davis  
Tillye Dershowitz  
Lawrence Docks  
Leonard Edelman  
\*Albert Eisenberg  
Abraham Ettenson  
Lois Falk  
\*Philip P. Fealk  
Jeanette Fershtman

\*Sarah Fisher  
Sandra Freedman  
\*Evelyn Fynke  
\*Benjamin Harris  
\*Barbara Herman  
Leonard Horton  
George Kayes  
Na'ama Kroch  
Rhoda Lachar  
\*Eva Lerman  
\*Marilyn Sasan Matenky  
Jules Meklir  
\*Dorothy Modell  
A. Morris Nisenson  
\*Fannie Potashnik  
\*Elizabeth (Betty) Prady  
\*Harriet Rich  
\*Sadie Sachs  
Nathan Sahn  
\*Sandra L. Samuels  
Charles Arthur Shartsis  
Ida Herman Siebenwirth  
\*Martin Spiegel  
Gloria Stacey  
\*Donald Thal  
\*Brenda Vinton

#### Nov 15-21

\*Hyman Abrams  
\*Hope Aiken  
Ernest Barron  
Louis Berman  
\*Harry Colburn  
Anna Cooper  
Sylvia Cooperman Hyman  
Laura Diamond  
\*Frances Driker  
\*Blanche Engelberg  
Ida Ettenson  
\*Dr. Paul Feldman  
\*Shirley Friedman  
\*Samuel Goldberg  
Phillip Goldstein  
\*Ethel Green  
\*Mae J. Grossman  
Lee Gulick  
Frances Kaczander  
Sheryl Kahn  
\*Mary Frances Klein  
\*Abraham Krosnick  
Phillip Leon  
\*Mabel Levy

Rick Melamed  
\*Saul Modell  
\*Fannie Newhouse  
\*Daniel E. Patt  
\*Dr. Bernard Plotkin  
Fara Riche  
\*Aaron Rosenbaum  
\*Benjamin Rosenthal  
\*Abbie Rothnagel  
\*Irving Sacks  
Grace Shapiro  
\*David M. Sidder  
Jan Sidorski  
Sam Silberman  
Herman Silver  
Edward Sorkin  
Sol Sorkin  
\*Ben Sucher  
\*Ethel Bicolor Tushman  
\*Samuel Tushman  
\*Julian Unger  
\*Louis Weinstein  
\*Erwin R. Wile  
\*Anna Zelickson  
Harry Zucker  
Leah Zucker

#### Nov 22-28

Mary Bieman  
\*Edith Bloomgarden  
Edward Girson  
\*Joseph Goodman  
\*Alexander Gothelf  
\*Herman Grand  
\*Florence Heller  
Neil Kleiman  
Mary Kutlov  
\*Jean Ann Layne  
\*David Lichtenstein  
\*Nathan Lurie  
Sara Mazer  
\*Bernard Meyers  
Harold "Hal" Miller  
\*Sarah Shapiro  
Julianne Silverstein Vinik  
Frank Singer  
\*Gertrude Smaltz  
\*Anna Smith  
\*Louis Sorkin  
\*Helen Swidler  
Ann Wallach  
\*Becky Warfel

זיכרוןם לברכה  
Zichronam livracha  
may their memories  
be for blessing

Alfred Weiner

#### Nov 29-Dec 5

Elise Adler  
\*Theodore Birnkrant  
\*Joseph Cohn  
Ida Damraur  
Dorothy Diamond  
David Drasin  
Rick Fenster  
Bernard Fowler  
\*Havis Frank  
Joey Gangola  
\*Merle Garfield  
\*Elsie Gelman  
\*Celia Gliner  
\*Sol Goldberg  
Sylvia Golds  
Mitchell Gubkin  
\*Otto Hyman  
\*Dr. Martin Jacobs  
Lottie James  
\*Charles E. Joseph  
\*Max Kalik  
\*Fern Niman Keats  
\*Daniel Kellerman  
Phyllis Kolko  
\*Eugene H. Lastar  
\*Rachel Chertoff Levine  
Nancy McLernon  
\*Alfred Meisner  
\*Yetta Metz  
Joseph Miller  
\*Betty Owen  
\*Jack W. Parr  
\*Eleanor E. Poplack  
\*Becky Portnoy  
\*Samuel Rubin  
\*Bertha Schwartz  
\*Helen Schwartz  
\*Jeanette Serlin  
\*Ruth Starman Siegan  
\*Marvin Weston  
\*Louis Zalk  
Sylvia Zeff

## Temple Emanu-El

Where You Belong!

We are a family of  
families, keeping alive  
our cherished traditions  
by joyfully sharing  
Jewish learning,  
spiritual celebrations,  
and a commitment  
to social justice.



\*A light will be lit on our Memorial Board. If you wish to memorialize your loved ones in a special  
way, consider purchasing a memorial plaque to be displayed in our Anne Jospey Sanctuary.  
Each year, on the anniversary of their death, it will be lit as a remembrance. Contact the  
Temple office at 248-967-4020 to make arrangements for this eternal memory of your loved one.

Talks start at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom.  
Links will be sent to the congregation in advance

## DURING NON GARDENING MONTHS WE'LL SHARE RECIPES

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020**

**JACK LESSENBERRY**  
Political Analyst

### The Election Is Over What Happened and Why? and What Happens Now?



We have just had what may have been the most important presidential election since the Civil War. We think we know the result – but what do the returns mean? And what will happen after the Electoral College meets, the new Congress is sworn in, and Inauguration Day?

Veteran political analyst Jack Lessenberry offers his observations and takes your questions via Zoom.

To join or learn more about the Adult Education committee, please contact Susan Genden, [susan.genden@gmail.com](mailto:susan.genden@gmail.com), or Doug Kellerman, [doug.kellerman@gmail.com](mailto:doug.kellerman@gmail.com)

**TorahStudy**  
with Rabbi Matt Zerwekh  
Saturday mornings  
@ 9:30 am. via ZOOM



## Lemony Garden Tomato-Basil Soup

Adapted from *Better Homes and Gardens Complete Canning Guide*

This book is my “go to” bible for my summer produce and trips to the local farmer’s markets. This recipe can be made to give you enough soup for the week without canning, or if you want to preserve that summer freshness for the cold winter days you can do so by doubling the amounts.

### Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 1/2 cups finely chopped onions (about 4 large)
- 1 cup finely chopped carrots
- 1/2 cup finely chopped celery (2 stalks)
- 3-4 cloves garlic, minced
- 5 lbs ripe roma or similar tomatoes, chopped (see peeling tip below)
- 2 Tablespoons sugar or honey
- 2 tsp kosher salt
- 1/2 cup tightly packed fresh basil or Italian (flat-leaf) parsley, snipped
- 1 Tablespoons finely shredded lemon peel
- 6 Tablespoons lemon juice (if canning, use bottled lemon juice)

### Instructions

1. Sautee onions, carrots, celery, and garlic in hot oil over medium heat for about 20 minutes or until vegetables are tender, stirring occasionally. Stir in tomatoes, sugar or honey, and salt. Bring to boil, reduce heat, simmer, uncovered, for about 20 minutes.
2. If you like smooth tomato soup, press mixture through a food mill or sieve to remove skins (see my tip below) and seeds. If you prefer more “rustic,” use immersion blender, blending skins and/or seeds into the mixture.
3. Return strained/blended mixture to the pot. Bring to boil, reduce heat. Simmer, uncovered, about another 45 minutes or until reduced to about 5 cups.
4. Remove from heat. Stir in basil, lemon peel, and lemon juice.
5. If canning, this recipe can be doubled and follow boiling-water processing instructions (35 minutes processing for pints)



My tip: Freeze tomatoes at least one day in advance, then run under warm water right from the freezer (do not thaw first) to easily peel skins. Core and rough chop and put into soup pot in step # 1. Enjoy!

Judy Front



Education Director  
Abi Taylor-Abt

איזהו חכם הלומד  
מכל אדם

Who is smart? He who  
learns from everyone.  
Ben Zoma

It is amazing to think that we are already in November and Thanksgiving is approaching!

This year more than any others, I feel the need to search for gratitude as I still navigate these unusual times.

I am grateful for the students, families and staff of Yachad.

I am grateful for the Zoom accounts that allow us to remain connected.

I am grateful for the turn-page technology of the books we use to learn from.

I am grateful for the platforms such as padlet and flipgrid that allow us to use ingenuity in our lessons.

I am grateful for Remind that allows us to stay in touch.

I am grateful for tenacity and hope and that we live in a time that allows us to pivot and manage new situations.

Yachad this year is moving forward with a strong program of learning and connection. All of our students from 2nd grade upwards are benefitting not just from their regular classes but also individual

1:1 Hebrew tutoring with a teacher weekly.

We are already seeing how quickly this makes a difference to their overall ability to decode and read Hebrew.

The electives have started with Art, Jewish History and Heroes being among the favorites. Hebrew through Motion, Israel, and Judaism around the World are also offered this year. In fact, Yachad now takes place every day Sunday through Thursday, we have students learning and participating.

Every day in our morning blessing we thank God for our everyday miracles. I want to thank everyone for their continued support of our wonderful Yachad Religious School and wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

*Abi Taylor-Abt*

**The Vilification of Esau**  
Four week adult education program  
beginning Tuesday, November 3rd @ 10:00 am

Taught by Educator Rabbi Abi Taylor-Abt  
Meeting ID: 827 8420 3676  
Password: 14450

## Adult Education with Rabbi Matt Zerwekh

ZOOM LINKS TO FOLLOW



### Lunch and Learn – 12 Noon every other Wednesday beginning Nov. 4th

Join Rabbi Zerwekh for an hour of learning every other week on topic ranging from the Aleph Bet to Zionism and everywhere in between. Some weeks' learning will be influenced by current events, other times we will investigate topics requested by those in attendance. Each session will be a stand-alone session, you will not need to have come to prior classes to learn with us.

### Prophecy and Prophets – 7:30 pm, Wednesdays beginning Nov. 11

Did you know that the TANAKH, the Jewish bible, contains huge amounts of work attributed to "The Prophets"? We often read words attributed to prophets like Jonah, Isaiah, and Ezekial but who were these prophets? When did they live? What did they say? What is prophecy and why is it still important?

Join Rabbi Zerwekh as he teaches this multi-part series investigating Prophets and Prophecy.



**Kelly Onickel**  
Cantorial Soloist

First, I want to say thank you to my Temple Emanu-El Family. This High Holy Day Season was a strange one for sure but you all gave it great meaning. Having your support through this truly crazy time means the world to me! As we continue forward in this new reality I want to remind you that I am here for you, not just as your clergy but as your friend. I have known many of you for 30+ years and we may not be best friends, but I am a very good listener and sometimes that is all we need. I find myself really missing our chats before and after services or when you all drop in at temple to say hi, so I thought I would take this opportunity to tell you what has been happening in my life over these past few months. The biggest thing is that Harry and I adopted a new fur baby his name is Mingus, and he is a Lab/Heeler (Australian Cattle Dog) mix. We got him at 6 weeks and this week 10/25 he will be 11 weeks old. It is just like having an infant, Harry and I get up multiple times a night for him to go out, but he is close to being house trained, and, well, he just takes up a lot of our time and we love him. Our children Kein & Shelly, and Sierra are doing



well. Kein lost his job at the beginning of the pandemic and has been looking for another, mean while he has been doing data input for a friend, my daughter-in-law Shelly is a school teacher and she has been getting used to teaching online. Sierra works for the Wayne County Medical Examiner's office as a Forensics Photographer, she has been working steady, and thank God they all have stayed healthy throughout this time. Harry continues to enjoy retirement, although he is still tutoring from home via Zoom which has kept him very busy. As for me besides my duties at Temple Emanu-El and taking care of a puppy, I am still in school. I am currently taking Advanced Hebrew, High Holy Day Nusach, and a special program called The Spiritual Practice of Creative Writing.

This month I will also be participating, with other Cantors in our area, in a PBS film call "Shoah Ambassadors" directed by Keith Famie that will be filmed, in part, at the West Bloomfield Holocaust Memorial Center. If you wish to know more about this project follow this link <http://shoahambassadors.com>. I hope you are all navigating your way through this new reality we live in. If you haven't Zoomed into services lately please do we would love to see you.

*Kelly*

Kelly Onickel, Cantorial Soloist

*"You know what music is? God's little reminder that there's something else besides us in the universe; harmonic connection between all living beings, everywhere, even the stars." Robin Williams*

## It takes a village... A Sanctuary Story

The current times are challenging. And we all wish for a bit of normalcy in our lives. When I had the opportunity to be in our sanctuary with only 7 or 8 other people recording for the high holy day services, I sat back and took in the view. I was thinking how sad it was that we would not be here in the weeks to come. So, I chose to focus on the beauty of our spiritual home... recalling many joyful, and some mournful, times that I had spent there during the past 3 decades.

The new ark doors are stunning. But there was a distraction. The pedestals that our flowers sat upon did not do our bima justice. So... when I was helping distribute our new high holy day prayer-books, fellow congregant, Andy Hauser drove up. And, I had an idea! Did he have a spare moment? He had done such a magnificent job with our portable ark, perhaps he would have time to fabricate new pedestals? We walked into the sanctuary... silent and bathed in the afternoon sun. He asked what I had in mind. I said I had not gotten that far, it was just an idea. Nothing more.

Unbeknownst to me, Dr. Hauser ran with the idea. And a few weeks ago, they just appeared! We are now the recipients of another gift of Andy's talents. Two beautiful pedestals adorn either side of our ark. They celebrate its architectural design and sit proudly beside it.

For now, we patiently wait for the time when we are able to gather together in our sanctuary. They will be there waiting for us. With sincere gratitude, thank you Andy Hauser.

Jackie Bean, VP, Engagement & Development



WHERE OUR EXPERIENCE PROVIDES YOUR CHILD WITH THE BEST EXPERIENCE



Eileen Brand

Happy November! Fall is in the air, and once again Mother Nature is dazzling us.

Thanksgiving is one of our favorite November themes. It is a holiday that everyone in school celebrates. The children learn about Native Americans, pilgrims and traditions of the holiday. While some classes recreate the Mayflower, others will be busy with corn prints, turkey decorations, and cornucopias. Of course there will be an emphasis on what we are thankful for and how we should show our appreciation and help others.

Children are a blessing. At this Thanksgiving season give your child an extra hug and kiss between eating and half-time.

Children are never too young to learn the value of helping those who are less fortunate. In November we will participate in our annual Hat & Mitten Drive. This project will benefit the Orchards Children’s Services, a non-profit agency that serves children of all ages. Encourage your child to participate by picking out a new hat and pair of mittens to place in the collection box between November 2nd and December 4th.

As we continue living with the pandemic, our approach is to have school feel as normal as possible. We recognize that children may still exhibit signs of stress which could include becoming more clingy, angry, or withdrawn. We are all trying to reach out in a supportive way giving extra hugs and attention. It is fortunate that children in school can maintain social connections with friends and teachers.

Please stay connected with us. Although we can’t always meet in person, we are here and happy to hear from you.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

*Eileen Brand*

**Eileen Brand**, Director,  
Early Childhood Community



### Shake the Lulav!!

Member and ECC teacher, Shari Bills performing the mitzvah of shaking the lulav and etrog at this year’s Drive-up Sukkah.”

We thank our Sisterhood for supplying visitors with yummy caramel apples and Hazon for a locally sourced lulav.



Temple Emanu-El Early Childhood Community has immediate positions available for warm, nurturing teachers and teaching assistants.

- Flexible hours
  - Salary determined by position
  - Experience preferred
  - Must like children!
- Please call 248-967-4847 if you are interested.

*You can smell Autumn in the air and what a beautiful Autumn we are having!!! The Social Action Committee hopes you are enjoying it.*

### TIME TO VOTE

Election Day is almost here and your voice and vote are extremely important. Individuals who have not registered to vote prior to October 19th, must register in person at their city or township clerk's office. If you are voting in person, all polling places will be open in each jurisdiction on Tuesday, November 3rd between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

### ADL NEVER IS NOW

Join our concerned community members in November by taking part in Never Is Now, a virtual summit on antisemitism and hate. Never Is Now is a way to learn about and discuss current drivers of antisemitism and hate and learn about how to add your voice to the conversation in combating bias of all kinds. Go to [www.neverisnow.org](http://www.neverisnow.org) to learn more.

### GOTV – HAMTRAMCK

A Get Out The Vote drive was undertaken by the ACLU in a shopping center parking lot in Hamtramck, Michigan. Ruthanne Okun and Sandy Goldberg participated in this effort by talking with individuals who drove up for food distribution by inquiring whether they were a registered voter and providing them with information about voting. This was a very organized and successful effort and very worthwhile.

### RACIAL JUSTICE

We can show support to our community and Jews of color. If you are interested in joining an Oak Park area group on racial justice or looking for information, please contact Lynn Hollins at (702) 701-4414 or at [hollinscreative@gmail.com](mailto:hollinscreative@gmail.com).

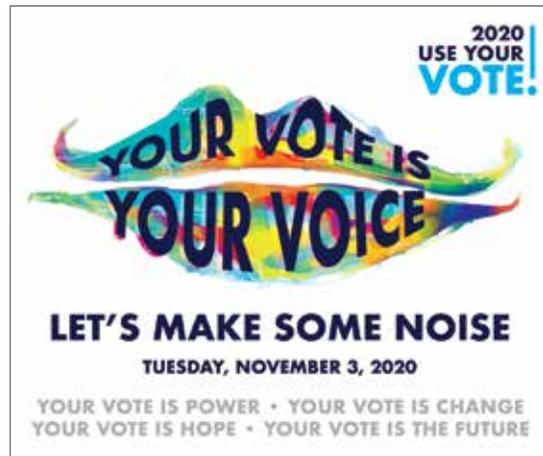
### SAVE THE PLANET TIPS

Even when we increase our reducing and reusing habits, we can't avoid recycling, so we should try to do it right.

No bags. Like really, no bags.

Grocery bags dissolve into potentially harmful microplastics and, in case of ingestion or entanglement, hurt and kill animals. They're pretty much the worst. Even though these bags are technically recyclable, you must go to a drop-off area to do that, not your curbside bin. Plastic bags act as "tangles," getting caught in machinery and shutting down this equipment.

Though grocery bags may be a major cause of plastic pollution, sandwich bags, bubble wrap, plastic wrapping and other flimsy materials that don't survive the poke test – where the plastics are soft enough to push your finger through it – are also prime candidates for commercial drop-off areas, not the residential recycling bin.



Ruthanne Okun, Sandy Goldberg, Julie Falbaum, Janet Watkins

### BOOK NOOK

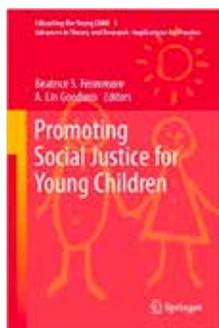
#### Promoting Social Justice for Young Children

Beatrice S. Fennimore and A. Lin Goodwin, Editors

This book explores important current social justice issues that confront young children in America. A broad range of topics related to the fair treatment of young children and their families are approached with fresh and hopeful energy. The central argument of this volume is that a fair and just society must protect the basic needs of all children so they are able to reach their full potential to learn, grow, and ultimately become productive democratic citizens.

Thank you so much for reading about Social Actions commitments and interests. We hope you will join and participate in one or several of these projects. Please contact Committee Co-Chairs Sandy Goldberg at

(248) 396-5072 or [sandragoldberg@yahoo.com](mailto:sandragoldberg@yahoo.com) or Lynn Hollins at the above contact information if you would like to participate in or be a part of the Social Action Committee.





*(Following is an abbreviated version of my High Holiday message delivered on Rosh HaShanah morning. I wanted to share it with you, personally)*

While a student at the University of Notre Dame Law School, I was a passenger in a serious automobile accident, which changed my life forever. I was in a coma for 3.5 weeks. When I re-gained consciousness, my parents told me about all the support I had received from the nuns and clergy at Notre

Dame, who prayed by my hospital bed-side daily. I also woke up to a hospital wall filled with get-well cards, along with a poster signed by my classmates and stating in big letters “We’re all pulling for you.” After 3.5 months, I left the hospital and, with support from my professors and the law school administration, was able to return to classes part-time and, eventually, to graduate.

Even decades’ later, people ask me what was it about my experience that accelerated my recovery and propelled me to be a superstar in the world of closed head injury patients. What was it that encouraged me to become an even better person after my accident when the fate of so many others who experience similar head injuries is often very different?

My response is, always, the same. It was the prayers of so many, acknowledging that some of them may have been praying to a different G-d. It was the overwhelming support and love that I received from my family and friends - from my community, that would not allow me to fail – would not allow my injury to define my life and the person whom I would become.

This life-changing experience has made me realize not only the value of good health but, also, the importance of people being there for one another in times of joy, as well as in times of crisis and sadness. It has helped me realize the value of having a strong faith and of sharing that faith with a close-knit community - believing that no matter how bad things might seem at any particular moment, we will get through it together. And just as my community and support system did not allow my injury to define my life, we at Temple Emanu-El will not let COVID-19 define our community.

This is why being a member of our Temple family is such a high priority for me. And providing financial support to ensure that our Temple community and Rabbi are there for me and for my fellow members is so very important. It is because I know that if something good or bad happened to me tomorrow, you would still be by my side cheering me on, as I would be there for you. Just as our Temple community has come together since this pandemic took hold last Spring, I know that, even in our darkest hour, our Temple family will be there for us. It is when we invest (both financially and spiritually) in relationships with our fellow members and with our G-d that we are never really alone.

Please join us in supporting Temple Emanu-El by making your financial commitment to the HHD appeal as we continue our recovery as a congregational family. This year, more than ever we need and ask for the support of our entire Temple community – however much you are able to give. Thank you for being a part of my community.

With sincere and loving appreciation,

Ruthanne Okun (248) 547-8893 or (248) 229-2709  
Rokun7@yahoo.com or Rokuntemple@gmail.com

Dear Friends: There’s still time to help us reach and/or exceed our \$40,000 goal for the High Holiday Appeal. Those who have given, thus far, have our sincere thanks. Please take a moment to send in your donation.

## HIGH HOLIDAYS APPEAL 5781

**Thank You!**



*We ask that each of you do what you can to support our Temple Emanu-El community by the giving of Tzedakah.*

Please return this pledge card by mail, (or in any other way that is easiest for you).

May each of us be inscribed for a Good Year!

L'Shana Tova

*I am pleased to assist our congregation with my contribution*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ \$72 \_\_\_ \$225 \_\_\_ \$360 \_\_\_ \$500

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The following article was posted on the web-site of reformjudaism.org. It resonated with me, and I hope it does with you, as well. Shana Tova, and thank you for being a part of our Temple family. May this be a good year for you. With much love and gratitude, Ruthanne Okun, Temple President

## How Does Being a Synagogue Member Make My Life Better?

by Rabbi Paul Kipnes\*

I invited a former synagogue member – a wonderful and very pleasant person – to rejoin the synagogue after a few years away. She said she had thought about it and wondered, “How would being a member make my life better or different?” I thought about her question a lot, and even as a congregational rabbi, I admit that I struggled. Eventually, my answer was along these lines: It depends on what you mean by “better.”

If you mean physically healthier, it won't. Join a gym.

If you mean more physically beautiful, it won't. Go to Nordstrom's or a make-up artist.

If you mean richer, it won't. Get a higher-paying job.

If you mean more mentally stable, it won't. Go to a therapist.

If you mean more knowledgeable, it won't. Take a class at your local community college.

The list goes on: If you mean \_\_\_\_\_, then go \_\_\_\_\_. But here's what joining a synagogue will do.

Being part of a synagogue allows you to be part of a larger community – of your people.

Being part of a synagogue means promulgating values that you and your tradition hold dear.

Being part of a community is like ensuring that your room is still there even after you go away to college. You can always come home. And even if you don't show up, we are still here.

Being part of a community teaches future generations that being a Jew matters, even if you aren't a power user of the synagogue at the moment.

Being part of a community means that there will always be High Holidays services for you and the community.

It means that you always have a place to turn when you are in need. It means that there is always Torah in your community

It means that you have a spiritual home. It means that your values are played out through social justice

It means that you have a place to go to sing Mi Shebeirach when you or someone you know is in pain. It means that Israel has an advocate in the community.

It means that you take responsibility for the next generation, like the previous one did for yours.

It's not about money, because everyone can join regardless of wealth or lack thereof. It's about demonstrating a commitment to community.

We live in a world that speaks of consumer values: “What do I get if I pay?” Judaism is a people/religion/nation/culture/ethnicity/more that transcends that question, asking instead, “What will being part of a community do for our world, for all people, for our people, for our community?” That's how I think, and it's how I want my children to think.

If this is how you want to think, come home – and if not, well, home will still be here for you if you ever decide you do want to come home.

(Oh, and one last thing: Judaism, synagogue, and community can make you feel more beautiful because you feel better about yourself when you are spiritually centered. You will feel richer because you will have enriched your life and those of others. You will feel smarter because you will be able to partake in 5,000 years of Jewish knowledge. You will be more mentally stable because you will have adjusted the balance of the mind, body, spirit. Of course, all this presupposes that not only do you join, but you also come and connect.)

So that's my answer. The shofar's in your court. (italics added)

*\*Rabbi Paul Kipnes is the spiritual leader of Congregation Or Ami in Calabasas, CA. He serves as vice president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.*



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# TempleCalendar **November 2020**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Daylight Saving Time Ends 9:00am - 11:30am YACHAD Religious School 11:00am Tikkun Olam class by Rabbi	<b>2</b> 7:00pm - 9:00pm TLC school @ CBS	<b>3</b> Election Day	<b>4</b> 4:30pm - 6:00pm YACHAD Religious School @ CBS	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>7</b> 10:30am Morning Service
<b>8</b> 9:00am - 11:30am YACHAD Religious School 10:00am Adult Ed Sunday Morning Speaker Series Jack Lessenberry "The election is over-What happened and why?...and What happens now?" 11:00am Tikkun Olam class by Rabbi	<b>9</b> 7:00pm - 9:00pm TLC school @ CBS	<b>10</b> 7:00pm Executive Mtg.	<b>11</b> Veterans Day 4:30pm - 6:00pm YACHAD Religious School @ CBS 7:30pm Prophets class weekly by Rabbi	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>14</b> 10:30am Morning Service
<b>15</b> 9:00am - 11:30am YACHAD Religious School 11:00am Tikkun Olam class by Rabbi	<b>16</b> 7:00pm - 9:00pm TLC school @ CBS	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:30pm Prophets class weekly by Rabbi	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>21</b> 10:30am Morning Service
<b>22</b> 9:00am - 11:30am YACHAD Religious School 11:00am Tikkun Olam class by Rabbi	<b>23</b> 7:00pm - 9:00pm TLC school @ CBS	<b>24</b> NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL -Thanksgiving School break from 11/22 7:00pm Board of Trustees Mtg.	<b>25</b> NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL -Thanksgiving School break from 11/22 7:30pm Prophets class weekly by Rabbi	<b>26</b> Thanksgiving Day	<b>27</b> 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>28</b> 10:30am Morning Service
<b>29</b> NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL -Thanksgiving School break from 11/22	<b>30</b> 7:00pm - 9:00pm TLC school @ CBS					

**Check the live calendar for daily updates on Temple's website - [emanuel-mich.org/calendar](http://emanuel-mich.org/calendar)**



The Ruth and Maxwell Caring Community is one of Temple's most vital committees. We aspire to bring meals to those grieving a loss of a loved one as well as to those recovering from surgery or serious illness. We welcome and are seeking volunteers to contact families and/or deliver meals.

Can you please help? Perhaps you've received a Caring Community meal and would like to give back. Or maybe you know the Temple member who is recovering from surgery.

Leadership of the Caring Community has spent many hours coming up with a simple way to volunteer for this very important mitzvah. Please contact Sandy Goldberg for particulars at [sandragoldberg@yahoo.com](mailto:sandragoldberg@yahoo.com) / 248-396-5072



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