



Rabbi Matthew J.
Zerwekh



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Fri, DECEMBER 4, 2020

7:00 pm Erev Shabbat
Via Zoom

Sat, DECEMBER 5, 2020

10:30 am Morning Shabbat
Via Zoom

Fri, DECEMBER 11, 2020

7:00 pm Chanukah Erev Shabbat
Via Zoom

Sat, DECEMBER 12, 2020

10:30 am Morning Shabbat Service
with Leif Schoof Bar Mitzvah
Via Zoom

Fri, DECEMBER 18, 2020

5:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service
Via Zoom

Sat, DECEMBER 19, 2020

10:30 am Morning Shabbat Service
Via Zoom

Fri, DECEMBER 25, 2020

7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service
Via Zoom

Sat, DECEMBER 26, 2020

10:30 am Morning Shabbat Service
Via Zoom

Fri JANUARY 1, 2020

7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service
Via Zoom

Sat, JANUARY 2, 2020

10:30 am Morning Shabbat Service
Via Zoom

Don't look now but Chanukah is fast approaching. As the daylight hours diminish and the weather turns cold, we naturally begin to look for comfort and warmth from the world around us. We break out our sweaters, pull out the extra blankets and start cooking soups and foods that will warm us inside and out. Throughout this next month there will be much talk about and togetherness – while our community doesn't celebrate Christmas, we are well-aware of the impact the Christmas season has on everyone, Jew and Gentile alike. Television shows and advertisements of happy families in sweaters gathering and gift giving around crackling fires and themed music seem to be everywhere.

Every year we are inundated by messages, often from advertisers and retailers, that we should be giving extravagant gifts and extending ourselves financially to give material things to our family and friends. My personal favorite ad campaign that helps to illustrate this point is the one run perennially by Lexus which depicts an excited partner (in a sweater, of course) surprising their loved one with a brand new luxury car parked in their driveway with a big red bow on its hood.

Especially this year – as the rates of infection of COVID-19 are rising and we are encouraged to stay home and not to gather- we may find that guidance more and more difficult to follow. We are used to gathering for parties, to light the Chanukiah with extended family and friends, and even to exchange presents with friends, family, and coworkers. Adding in the expectation of joyful togetherness we are inundated with around now, this particular year we may find that the prospect of not gathering is particularly difficult to think about.

I've been thinking about the Chanukah story and that miracle of oil only enough for one day but instead lighting for eight days. I think even how we tell that story can set an unfair expectation for us when it comes to miracles. What if that little bit of oil wasn't enough to give off full light for days on end, but with a smaller flame the oil was able to last? What if the miracle was not only the oil lasting for eight days, but also the Maccabees being thankful to have any light, diminished or not?

While we cannot celebrate Chanukah how we normally would this year, we can still find happiness in what we are able to do, as long as we are willing to see it. We can still give our loved ones gifts and we can still find safe ways to be together, even if it doesn't look like other years. If we accept what we have this year with joy and with gratitude for all of what we do have instead of focusing on what we are missing, we are continuing to perpetuate that miracle of light that the Maccabees first experienced – that little bit of oil that was enough for so much more than was ever expected.

As we head into the holiday season where you won't be able to see family and friends as readily as normal, you'll undoubtedly be looking for something to do – and mindless scrolling through social media will only get you so far.

Voilà – the annual Temple survey! Just in time to pull you back from the edge of boredom, we compiled a set of carefully crafted and thoughtful questions to pique your interest. So please respond...we know you have the time.

Seriously, your voice is very important. We want to hear from you! More information to follow soon.

MAZEL TOV

Jaimie Powell Horowitz on her Election as Judge in Oak Park's 45th District Court

Leif Schoof, son of Alycia Schoof and Jason & Patty Schoof on his December 12th Bar Mitzvah

IN MEMORIAM

Joel Edwards, brother of David (Vickie) Edwards, October 16th

Richard David Klein, father of Janeen (William) Fetterman, October 26th

Sharon Goldenberg, mother of Jill (Jason) Cook, October 28th

Shirlie Levy, mother of Robyn (Robert) Weltman, November 17th

Dr. Ellsworth Levine, husband of Janet Birnkrant Levine, Nov. 18th

DECEMBER KIDS BIRTHDAYS

Leo Abramsky	Luna Bennett
Wonare Burde	Alexandra Cook
Levi Findling	Levi Frank
Alexis Gross	Aria Gutman
Elliot Hoff	Liam Moser
Ruby Steinhart	

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Stephen & Frances Barnes
 Melvin & Sharon Ettenson
 Michael & Laurie Gonte
 Ian & Amy Greenspan
 Jason & Janis Horton
 Alan & Judy Kessler
 Bruce & Ann Klein
 Nevin & Sherry Rose
 Hardy Segall & Eve Avadenka
 Daniel & Susan Stettner

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.



Visiting the Sick

Hospitals and health care institutions 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.

מי שברך אבותינו ואמותנו הוא יברך את החולים
 May the one who blessed our ancestors, bless and heal those who are ill

YARTZEITS

DEC 6 - 12

Paul Ettenson
 Norman Fershtman
 Cindy Fuller
 *Myer Gerson
 Elanada Glaze
 *Robert Alan Golds
 David Goldstein
 *Natalie Goren
 *M. Manuel Helfman
 *Margo Duncan Howard
 *Gloria Kelter
 Oscar Klaper
 *Lawrence Klein
 *Joseph Klinsky
 *Louis Malkin
 *"Dinny" Margolis
 *Joseph Modell
 *Joseph Modell
 Irving Onickel
 *Dr. Samuel Rosenfeld
 *Dr. Samuel Rosenfeld
 Richard Rosenthal
 Harry J. Ross
 *Constance S. Seligson
 Fred Sherman
 Joshua Short
 *Estelle Sobel
 *Joseph Stralser
 *Sam Tack
 *Fannie Esther Taubman
 Barbara Washelewski
 Barry Weiss
 *Margaret Weiss
 *Morton Wolin
 *Abraham Zeidman
 *Dora Zelikman

DEC. 13- 19

Eugene Bower
 *Stella Cole
 *Anne Coleman
 Frances Cutler
 *Ralph Davis
 Sandra Davis
 *Dr. Warren Eder
 *Roger Ettlinger

Frieda Faigin
 William Fasbinder
 *Esther Feldman
 Dr. Irving Fowler
 Rose Matenky Fowler
 *Bella Ruth Frank
 *Louis J. Friedman
 Seymour Genden
 B. Rae Gillis
 Helena Goldhecht-Szwarcman
 *Dr. Joseph H. Goodman
 Alexander Guttman
 *Max B. Kerner
 Herman Klonsky
 *Rose Levitan
 *Jacqueline H. Malbin
 *Albert Mulder
 Lois Nisenon
 *Jayne S. Oppenheim
 Morris Order
 Lillian Padover
 *Frances Plotler
 *Sidney Reibel
 *Marian Richter
 *Margaret Rosett
 Morty Sauber
 Leon Mischa Schlinger
 *Martin Schmalberg
 *Dr. Ralph Schwartz
 Jerome Sedler
 Bertha Siegel
 Robert Silver
 *Jean Silverman
 *Anne Steinbock
 Jeanette Stovack
 *Max Stulberg
 *Bernard Trock
 Sylvia Vulcan
 Jennie Weinberg
 Ralph Weiss
 Nadia Zakalik

DEC 20 - 26

Tali Aharon
 Paraschiva "Piri" Bartos
 Doreen Bricker

*Dean Thomas Burrier
 *Pauline P. Coskey
 Minnie Cowen
 Frances Cutler
 Louis (Lou) Damraur
 *Marjorie Serlin Eckerling
 *Magda Barna Fox
 Frank Gable
 *Edith Gans
 *Sarah Gittleman
 Thelma Goren
 *Bess Goren
 *Eli Gross
 *Samuel Hamburger
 Doris Holberg
 Howard Kallush
 *Sarah Katz
 *Albert Samuel Kohl
 *Rose Mechanic
 *Beatrice Meyer
 Julius Passerman
 *Antoinette Purdy
 Selma Rome
 *Harold S. Schiller
 Marilyn Silver
 *Abel Sobel
 *David Lee Tyner
 Florence Weiss
 *Chaim Wolin
 *Miriam Wolin
 *Moshe Wolin
 *Naomi Wolin
 *Melvin R. Yoffee
 *Hyman Zalenko
 *Ruth Wax Zeidman
 *Lois H. Zussman

DEC 27- JAN 2

*Fay Abrams
 *Lena Aiken
 Pauline Bloom
 Sarah Bloom
 *Derek Caplane
 Lawrence Davis
 *Charles Paul Druker
 *Lillie Eckhous

זיכרונם לברכה
Zichronam livracha
 may their memories be for blessing

*Samuel Eisenberg
 Louis Finegold
 Harold Finegood
 *Gregory Speigel Finegood
 Shelly Friedman
 *Hyman Friedman
 *Rosella Friedman
 Barbara Garrett
 *Philip David Goldstein
 *Alan Goodman
 *Sidney Kessler
 *William Kimmel
 *Celia Schmier Kline
 *Shirley Korobkin
 Sadie Lachar
 Esther Lazar
 *Harry Levitan
 *Sophia Losh
 *Jennie Luft
 *Clara Marks
 *Katie Meyerson
 Frieda Milinsky
 *Pearl Morton
 *Yetta Moss
 Jack Nater
 Hyman Natinsky
 Betty Order
 *Louis Owen
 Chris Richard
 *Maurice Roe
 *Mabel Schmalberg
 *Rochelle Seidman
 Isaac Sherman
 Amy Margolis Silberman
 Helene Simon
 Doris Sodders
 Henry Strausz
 *Sam Sweetwine
 Julius Washelewski
 *Sarah Esther Weisman
 Lyn Wilson Frowine
 Mamie Zacks

**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.*



Admission: Being a shopaholic isn't necessarily a bad thing!

I am sure as many of you have discovered during our "stay at home time" the desire to declutter has become a regular occurrence. In spite of "Marie Kondo-ing" my wardrobe (the Marie Kondo philosophy suggests you only keep items that "spark joy") and clearing out old papers and mementos as part of the Swedish Death Cleaning Method (really, it's not as morbid as it sounds!), I still love

to shop! Due to COVID and admittedly due to my sheer dislike of going out this time of year as the weather turns, most of my shopping as I'm sure for many of you, is online. So naturally, I hop on my computer or phone and immediately go to Amazon Smile which is set to support Temple Emanu-El and the adventure begins! From home supplies such as toner to tulips sent to my aunt in Baltimore, I've bought it and then Temple benefits from it! However, I do in-store for groceries because I like to inspect my produce (fun fact: always flip over the strawberry container and take a look to ensure no bruising and take a good sniff-if not overly fragrant, it should have a good few days of shelf life before it needs to be relegated to a smoothie). My Kroger card is linked to support Temple Emanu-El, is yours? If not, please go to krogercommunityrewards.com and follow the instructions to add Temple Emanu-El (our organization number is GP708).

And of course, you are welcome to support us directly either via web, snail mail, or give us a call! If you haven't already, please give to our High Holiday Appeal or to one of our deserving funds; just because "Giving Tuesday" may have passed, doesn't mean you missed out. Any Tuesday will do! Also, stay tuned for future fundraising opportunities. I know 2020 was a hard year, but let's look back since "hindsight is 2020" and we can say, I remember 2020 as the "Year of Contributions" versus the "Year of COVID".



Abby Goldfaden

Men, if you haven't done so already, it's time you joined Brotherhood. Our dues are minimal and they're waived the first year of your membership.

If you are so busy with your active life, and you couldn't possibly fit another group or activity in, don't worry. Since the covid lockdown began, Brotherhood hasn't engaged in any of our normal activities; even meetings have been kept to a minimum--we've only had three in this plague year.

As Brotherhood president, I've been leaving Brotherhood members alone, allowing them to live their lives unencumbered by mis-sives and requests from me. I can do the same for you should you choose to join Brotherhood.

Of course, this phase of history will not last forever. One day, humanity will once again be able to encounter each other face to face. And then Brotherhood will have meetings again; in person. We will do all of the fun and exciting things we used to do and hope to do once again. We will be there at Temple events, supporting the congregation, and helping everyone have a good time. We will also return to giving a nudge to your spiritual and culinary needs with our famous, partnered with Sisterhood, Chili Cook-Off, and our even more famous, more spiritual, and more fried Chanukah Latke Sale and Brunch.

There are also the other social events like attending baseball games, playing an occasional round of poker, and treating the congregation to popcorn.

In closing, the time to join Brotherhood is now. Contact the office, or contact me directly at honickel@gmail.com, and we can get you started.

Don't forget: if there is a Super Bowl this football season, there will be Super Bowl squares for sale.

Harry Onickel





Education Director
Abi Taylor-Abt

איזהו חכם הלומד
מכל אדם

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

Let your house be a meeting house for sages, seek ever to be covered with the dust of their feet, and seek ever to drink thirstily their words. –Ethics of the Fathers 1:4

This summer as we prepared for online teaching at Yachad, our teachers were blessed with the opportunity to learn from Jewish professionals across the country and the NewCAJE virtual conference. “Let your home be a meeting-place for sages” was emblazoned on the masks that were sent to everyone who registered for the NewCAJE conference this past summer. A truly fitting sentiment as we gathered online for an amazing month of learning and engaging.

Now we are into December and the new gregorian year is fast approaching. We have seen firsthand how our families and students have indeed turned their homes into a place of Jewish learning. We have resumed our regularly-scheduled Yachad programming, while still dealing with the limitations imposed by the ongoing pandemic. In the Lev Shalem Pirkei Avot edition, Tamar Elad-Applebaum offers this interpretation: A home is a filter for everything that exists outside its perimeter. It protects a person and serves as a shelter for one’s loves, preferences, and choices. Within it, the person whose home it is sifts through life, drawing inside that with which one hopes to inspire growth and leaving outside whatever one prefers to live without.

This has become so apparent as the world has completely opened to us technologically at the same time that families are making clear decisions about what is acceptable or desirable to them.

Our educational programming is designed to meet the needs of all to the very best of our ability. If you are seeking something that is not currently offered, please be in touch!

Abi Taylor-Abt

It's Chanukah!
**Join us for Temple Emanu-El's
FIRST EVER Tiki Torch Menorah Lighting
On the Temple Front Lawn**
Thursday December 10th @ 7 pm
Sunday December 13th @ 4pm
Thursday December 17th @ 7pm
**Join us for in-person, socially distanced, outdoor
Menorah lighting, Chanukah music, and gelt**



Kelly Onickel
Cantorial Soloist

*Chanukah oh
Chanukah come light
my menorah!*

This year, although we cannot be together for our famous Brotherhood Latke Brunch there will be three opportunities for you to join us, social distancing, to light a special outside menorah and to maybe even sing some songs. On Thursday Dec. 10th at 7:00 PM join us to light the first candle, on Sunday Dec. 13th at 4:00 PM join us to light the 4th Candle, and on Thursday Dec. 17th at 7:00 PM join us as we light all 8 candles. I will look forward to seeing you all there.

I would like to take a minute and remind you that Temple Emanu-El is here for you. As we enter into our 10th month of this pandemic, some of us are getting into a new routine, while others of us may be struggling. Something that I am finding is people apologizing for the way they are feeling. Mostly what I am hearing is people feeling bad that they are complaining about their situation when there are so many others that have it worse. I am here to tell you there will always be others that have it worse this does not negate how you are feeling. Your feelings are real and it is okay to feel them, even if that feeling is happiness. It can be hard to be happy when others are suffering, and it is even harder to share that happiness because we don't want to make others feel bad because we are happy and maybe they are not. Rabbi & I have a special time during our Erev Shabbat service where anyone can share their Joy and Happiness. I encourage you to join us and to share. We are also here to listen at any time if you feel the need to talk please give us a call.

I wish you all a very happy Chanukah!

Kelly

"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

DURING NON GARDENING MONTHS WE'LL SHARE RECIPES



Goodbye Temple Garden. See you next Spring!



Garlic Planting

The Garden Committee planted 150 cloves of garlic on a warm November morning. Garlic will be the first green that we will see after the snows of winter begin melting. Each clove will grow into a beautiful full head of garlic that will be carefully dug up next June. Hail to the stinking rose!

In the meantime, you can make hummus with all of that garlic! This super-easy is a favorite "go-to" hummus that my husband and I have been enjoying for decades. This is adapted from the New York Times Cookbook published in 1990:

HUMMUS (ABOUT 3 CUPS)

Ingredients

- 2 cups cooked or canned chick-peas, drained, skins and all
- 2/3 cup tahini
- 3/4 cup lemon juice
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled (or more if you really love garlic as we do!)
- salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 1/4 cup rough chopped scallions
- Italian parsley leaves for garnish

Instructions

1. Place all ingredients in food processor (except parsley) and blend until smooth.
2. Pile into a small bowl and garnish with parsley leaves. Serve with pita bread, tortilla chips, or cut up vegetables and ENJOY!

TorahStudy
Saturday mornings @ 9:30 am. via ZOOM




WHERE OUR EXPERIENCE PROVIDES YOUR CHILD WITH THE BEST EXPERIENCE



Eileen Brand

Sizzle, sizzle, sizzle - get ready for latkes! The Early Childhood Community will be busy preparing for the celebration of Chanukah. In the classrooms the children will be creating many Chanukah decorations to share at home. Some of the classes will also be making Chanukah menorahs, and learning the significance of the oil that burned for eight days. As Wendy Mogel tells us in *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee*, "The modern version of this miracle is the recognition that what we already have may be all that we need, and that there's

even enough to share with others. It takes determination and self-discipline to teach these lessons to children, but when you do, they'll reward you by counting their blessings instead of counting what they want and don't have."

As you light Chanukah menorahs in your home, remember that Chanukah celebrates freedom. The first Chanukah candle is to be lit on Thursday, December 10th. As we enjoy the holiday, the beauty of our heritage will glow with the Chanukah lights. Celebrating holidays at home with family and friends creates a warm and loving family time. Our celebrations will be limited with many happening on Zoom, but this will mean less latkes to fry!

The tradition of Shabbat makes Friday special. The beauty of our weekly service is that we introduce the children to Sabbath rituals. Although we can't all gather together in the sanctuary, we are celebrating in our classrooms and looking forward to visits from Rabbi Z.

Thank you to all of our families who participated in our annual hat and mitten drive. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Here's wishing everyone an upcoming year of good health and peace. The last day of school before winter break is Friday December 18th. Classes resume on Monday, January 4th. Our staff is looking forward to a much deserved rest.

From our family to yours, HAPPY CHANUKAH AND A HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

Eileen Brand, Director,
Early Childhood Community



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.

B'nai Mitzvah@Temple ✨



Leif Schoof – December 12

Leif is a seventh grader at Norup International School in Oak Park, and is loved dearly by his whole family. He has developed three different home businesses, and has been successful in marketing, branding, and advertising his businesses, along with product development and sales. Leif has played piano since he was three years old, and has acted and participated in many musical theater productions, at Norup and at a private theater company. He loves biking, hanging out with his friends, and playing with his two dogs, Spike and Luci, and his Russian tortoise, Norman. Leif is an awesome vegetarian cook, and is also excellent at making all kinds of smoothies and smoothie bowls.



Many of us do our best thinking in the shower. I do my best thinking in the bathtub. Taking baths (not showers) is a ritual that I inherited from my late parents, Faye and Seymour Okun, whose favorite past-time was reading the Sunday newspaper while in the tub. So, just last Sunday while in the bathtub, I was pondering the question of how to best utilize the message in this Bulletin article to learn from you - how might I be a better leader of Temple during this time of COVID, and thereafter?

Fatefully, while bathing in the hot water with the TV in the adjacent family room tuned to the ABC World News, I heard the words of the wife of the late Senator John McCain – Cindy McCain - who was being interviewed by News Anchor George Stephanopoulos. Asked what advice her husband might have had to offer President-Elect Joe Biden at this time when the nation is so divided, Mrs. McCain readily responded that Senator McCain would have simply advised his long-time friend and Senate colleague to take time to “sit down and listen,” (italics added)

It got me thinking about whether, in the past 5 months since I have become Temple president, have I really taken the time to listen to our members and listened with empathy. As Dr. Ron Wolfson explains in his well-respected book, “Relational Judaism,” the most important first step that any leader can take to make personal connections and, thereby, build meaningful relationships among Temple members is to listen. Dr. Wolfson notes that, often-times, in our rush to tell our story, we simply forget to listen – a quality that requires one’s total attention, along with an ability to empathize. When members feel heard, he explains, their connection with Temple is deepened, and the relationship between members progresses and is solidified. When people feel ignored or dismissed, there is no chance that a relationship can be built.

So, if I can take the advice of the late Senator McCain, supported by Dr. Wolfson, I will tell you with all sincerity that I want to hear from you, and I want to listen. In this era of COVID, one of many opportunities that I really miss is the ability to personally interact with one another - to just sit down and talk with each other face-to-face. Whether it be at an Oneg or following a Temple event, function, activity or meeting, we would have found time to connect. I would have listened to your story and you would have heard mine. I would have asked an incessant amount of questions in an effort to learn where you are on your Jewish journey; what are your passions; what do you want from your Temple; how might you want to be involved; what keeps you up at night; and more importantly, what makes you want to get up each morning. Now we have to work a little harder to ensure that this happens, making certain that any personal encounter complies with CDC guidelines. But it still can happen, and it must; we just have to figure out how.

I want to listen, and I want to hear from you. Whether it be via an email or text, home or cell phone call to me at the numbers listed below, or whether you respond to our upcoming congregational survey, or send me a confidential note - any of those vehicles of communication are fine. I’m also considering scheduling “office hours” both during the day and in the evening -offering you precise times when I will surely be available to receive your call or message – a time when I will be in a position to give you my undivided attention. Or maybe you can offer another vehicle by which we can connect. The key is that I want to hear from you about whatever you want to share with me regarding how you think I can be a better Temple leader during this unusual time and in the future.

I look forward to connecting. From my family to yours and from your entire Temple family - have a wonderful Hanukah and New Year. Although this has been and remains a tough year for many, we can never forget just how much we have to be thankful for. Stay well.

Yihieh zeh Ratzon Haelohim. May it be G-d’s will.

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

Diversity/Inclusion/Welcoming Task Force

Temple Emanu-El is creating a Task Force to ensure that what we do and what we say pursues our mission of fostering an environment of welcoming, diversity, and inclusion for everyone within our community. The Task Force will help Temple Emanu-El to create a formal diversity and inclusion policy and ensure that Temple activities and communications align with the goals set by the Task Force.

If you want to be a part of this important work or have input for the committee, please let Temple President Ruthanne Okun know at (248) 229-2709 or Rokuntemple@gmail.com.



Please join us as Elliot Wilhelm reviews the state of the movie industry and shares his thoughts on its post-pandemic future.

A Zoom link will be emailed to Temple

members before Dec.6.

Sunday, Dec. 6th 10 am

ELLIOT WILHELM, Curator of Film and Director of the Detroit Film Theatre at the Detroit Institute of Arts and part-time faculty in film history, Wayne State University

Do Movies Have a Future?

The impact of internet streaming and other forms of home video on traditional moviegoing was felt – and debated – even before the COVID-19 pandemic struck just nine months ago. But with theatres abruptly closed – then opened, then closed again – and film production still erratic and repeatedly delayed, what will the moviegoing experience look like after the pandemic eventually dissipates? Moreover, what might be the long-range impact of these dramatic changes in theatrical movie exhibition – not just on our tradition of going out to dinner and a movie, but on the art of cinema as a whole?

AdultEducationwithRabbiMattZerwekh



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.

AdultEducationwithRabbiJoeKlein



Rabbi Klein will be teaching through the community's JLearn Adult Education Program. For more information or to register go to [JLearn.online](https://www.jlearn.org), or 248-205-2557

Theology, Faith and Prayer

Biblical theology is simple and clear: God is omniscient, omnipotent and omnibenevolent; and God has chosen us as God's favored people. How well has that worked for us? We have always struggled with questions of theology and faith: asking why bad things happen to good people, how does God work in our world, and the efficacy of prayer. From medieval to modern times, Jewish theologians have wrestled with these issues, as will we. Eight-week course, beginning January 15, 2021

SundayMorningSpeakerSeries



On behalf of the Adult Education Committee, Jack Lessenberry gave a Zoom presentation on Nov. 11 about the results of the election. After describing the Biden/Harris victory in the Electoral College, he highlighted the four and one half (now five) million popular vote margin, the role of Kamala Harris as the first woman of color, and the election of the second Catholic president. Lessenberry wondered how an administration which is deemed so abjectly awful by so many could come so close in the election and, furthermore, increase its party's representatives in the House and seemingly keep the Senate majority. Biden won Michigan on the strength of suburban and mid-size city voters, while he only won eleven counties and fared slightly worse in Detroit than Clinton did in 2016.

Looking ahead, Lessenberry was not at all optimistic about the Democratic chances of winning the the Georgia Senate elections in January. Thus, he anticipated that there will be almost no Federal judges confirmed in the next two years. He described the problems of the three trillion dollar federal deficit and the looming inflation in the future. However, he thought our foreign policy would steady, and we would get much better Covid control.

Much of the time was taken with audience questions. In responses he noted: (1) the Democrats did worse with Hispanic voters than expected, (2) the Democratic control of Oakland County, (3) the likelihood that Gretchen Whitmer can be elected, (4) the lack of success of voter suppression, (5) the failure of the polls, and (6) the need to mollify GOP voters by investigating the election.

The Social Action Committee Wishes You and Yours a Very Happy Chanukah!

We invite you to peruse the different projects and issues being addressed by the Social Action Committee:

Ruth Ellis Center – Founded in 1999, the Ruth Ellis Center provides services for our LGBTQ+ youth and young adults who are experiencing homelessness, involved in the child welfare system, and/or experiencing barriers to health and wellbeing. Their mission is to create opportunities for our LGBTQ+ young people so they can move toward a positive future, making sure they are safe and supported no matter where they go. This organization is always in need of assistance. To donate or for further information, please call (313) 252-1950 or E-mail: info@ruthellescenter.org. Website: www.ruthellescenter.org.

Racial Justice – 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.

GOTV Update – Texting and phone calls were conducted by some of our Temple members. We worked with the ACLU. Volunteers for this group made 200,000 texts in one day, plus they made phone calls. It was felt that this helped Get Out The Vote. This election had the largest turn out of voters, either at the polls or through Absentee ballots. The ACLU will continue “fighting until the civil rights and civil liberties of all Michiganders are protected.” Several other groups worked toward getting people out to vote. Hopefully this will encourage people to continue participating in the Democratic process.

Yad Ezra – Our help is still needed to help deliver meals to our Jewish community. Yad Ezra has devised a method whereby this is safe for the individuals receiving the meals and for the person delivering the meal. Please contact Yad Ezra at (248) 548-3663. Their address is 2850 W. Eleven Mile Road, Berkley, MI 48072.



Dr. Peggi Tabor gave a Zoom presentation on behalf of the Adult Education Committee on Sunday October 18. Her subject was how we can enhance our sense of happiness. She emphasized that about forty percent of people’s relative happiness can be affected by our thoughts and behaviors. Contrary to what one might think, people typically revert to their usual level of happiness after a rise or fall caused by a life-changing event.

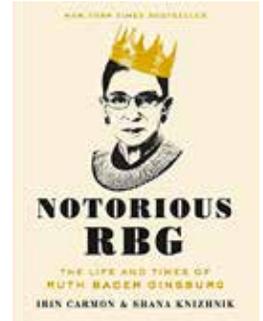
She recommended the following to enhance our own happiness: (1) deep, slow breathing; (2) exercise; (3) making oneself aware of reasons to be grateful; (4) good connections with family, friends, and community; (5) an altruistic and compassionate approach to others; (6) meditation and music; and (7) an effort to keep one’s thoughts and feelings in the present (mindfulness). The audience responded with many questions and evident interest.

Social Action Shabbat – Just to let you know that the Social Action Committee will be having a Social Action Committee Shabbat service in the future. We will keep you posted about the date and our speaker. We sure hope you will join our Zoom experience!

Book Nook – URJ Book Review:

Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg
by Shana Knizhnik and Irwin Carmon

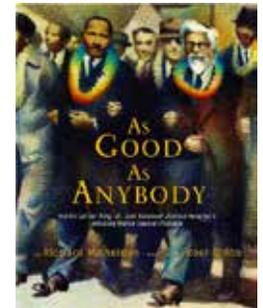
This is a lively look at the life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a mix of chatty stories, photographs, charts, letters, and cartoons with legal decisions to illustrate the illustrious career of the first Jewish woman Supreme Court justice. In that role, she soon became known for her legal caution, collegiality, and willingness to compromise. In 1993, President Bill Clinton nominated Ginsburg to the Supreme Court. *Notorious RBG* focuses largely on Ginsburg’s arguments and legal decisions concerning women’s rights, though she has written both majority and dissenting opinions on a wide array of cases.



Children’s Book

As Good As Anybody by Richard Michelson (Author),
Raul Colon (Illustrator)

Martin Luther King, Jr. grew up in a loving family in the American South at a time when this country was plagued by racial discrimination. He became a minister like his father and he preached and marched for his cause. Abraham Joshua Heschel grew up in a loving family many years earlier in Europe at a time that did not welcome Jews. After moving to America, he became a respected rabbi like his father, carrying a message of peace and acceptance. This is the story of two icons for social justice, how they formed a remarkable friendship and turned their personal experiences of discrimination into a message of love and equality for all.



Saving the Planet – What people are doing to save the planet:

Switch to natural cleaners. Vinegar is an excellent option. Use it when you clean the floors, the cookware, the sink, and shower head. Other great natural options include lemon, baking soda, and even ice.

We hope you will join us on some or all of our projects. If you would be interested in working on one or joining the Social Action Committee, please contact either Co-Chairperson. Lynn Hollins contact information is above. Sandy Goldberg, (248) 396-5072 or sandragoldberg@yahoo.com.

Gifts&Memorials

A Sincere Thank You: We sincerely thank everyone for their generous contributions to our various funds. Your support allows us to continue offering our outstanding programs and services and helps us to support all members of our Temple Family. Thank you! If you have unused tribute envelopes, please recycle responsibly or feel free to return unused ones to Temple Emanu-El.

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If you are an Amazon shopper, please consider joining the Amazon Smile program. It allows you to shop as you normally would while Amazon donates 0.5% to Temple Emanu-El of your eligible purchases. To register for amazonsmile, go to smileamazon.com. On account page click on the Change your charity link and find “Temple Emanu-El, Oak Park” and select that option. You should receive an acknowledgment.

TempleCalendar **December 2020**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 4:30pm - 6:00pm YACHAD Religious School via Zoom	3	4 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service via Zoom (check email for invite and links)	5 10:30am Morning Service
6 9:00am - 11:30am YACHAD Religious School 10:00am Adult Ed Sunday Morning Speaker Series (or 12/13)	7 7:00pm - 9:00pm TLC school @ CBS	8 7:00pm Executive Mtg.	9 4:30pm - 6:00pm YACHAD Religious School via Zoom	10 Chanukah 1st candle	11 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service via Zoom (check email for invite and links)	12 Chanukah: 3 Candles 10:30am Morning Service with Leif Schoof's Bar Mitzvah
13 Chanukah: 4 Candles 9:00am - 11:30am YACHAD Religious School 10:00am Adult Ed Sunday Morning Speaker Series	14 Chanukah: 5 Candles 7:00pm - 9:00pm TLC school @ CBS	15 Chanukah: 6 Candles	16 Chanukah: 7 Candles 4:30pm - 6:00pm YACHAD Religious School via Zoom	17 Chanukah: 8 Candles	18 Chanukah: 8th Day 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service via Zoom (check email for invite and links)	19 10:30am Morning Service
20	21	22 7:00pm Board of Trustees Mtg.	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service via Zoom (check email for invite and links)	26 10:30am Morning Service
27 No Religious School - Holiday Break through Jan. 3	28 No Religious School - Holiday Break through Jan. 3	29	30 No Religious School - Holiday Break through Jan. 3	31 New Year's Eve		

Check the live calendar for daily updates on Temple's website - 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 for you to volunteer for this very important mitzvah. Please contact Sandy Goldberg for particulars at sandragoldberg@yahoo.com / 248-396-5072



14450 W. Ten Mile Rd. Oak Park, MI 48237-1438

www.emanuel-mich.org

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Kelly Onickel Cantorial Soloist

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Norman Rose, z'l *Cantor Emeritus*
Milton Rosenbaum z'l *Rabbi Emeritus*

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If you need any assistance with Zoom,
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