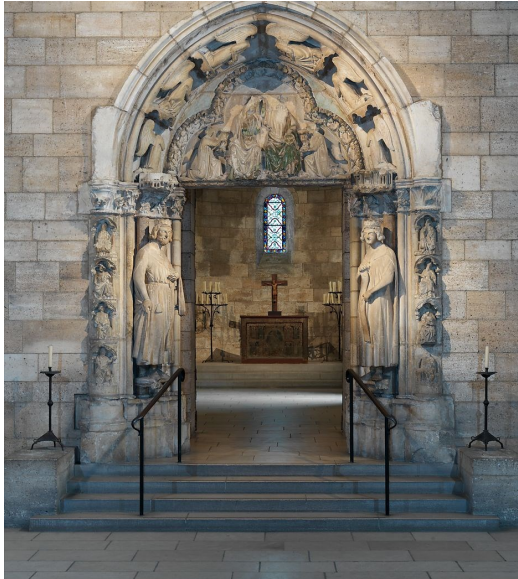


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The Jewish Origins of Christian Art

January 15th

10:30 am

\$25/person space limited

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THE JEWISH ORIGINS OF CHRISTIAN ART

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Priority given to shul members



Call the Rabbi for more information:

201-947-1735 ext. 314

Or email rabbi@geshershalom.org

Our Torah Members

These generous individuals have voluntarily chosen to support our Synagogue at a higher level of dues than is required, in order to help other Jews who are less fortunate and in need of assistance.

ETERNAL LIGHT MEMBERS

These members provide financial assistance and synagogue membership for families who are enduring financial hardship, as well as a full religious education for their children.

Anonymous
David Korn
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"Offerings of the Heart"

*The names of our
Torah Members
are inscribed on the
sculpture in our
Community Room.*

Joni Rosen
Ann Rosenberg
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Charlotte Winter

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AUSCHWITZ A POWERFUL REMINDER OF THE UNIMAGINABLE



This article was recommended to me by past president of our Congregation, Leo Rettig. I admire George Will greatly, and this has to be one of his greatest.

It was printed in the Bergen Record on November 24, 2019.

If you have not seen the exhibit, Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far

away"at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in lower Manhattan, please put it on your bucket list. It will remain on display until August 30, 2020, which is sooner than you think!

Not only is this beautifully and effectively written, but Mr. Will only thinly disguises his fear that "the unimaginable" could happen again, as he contrasts the words and actions of the victims with those of their youngish, well-educated and sophisticated murderers.
-Rabbi Stern

Auschwitz a Powerful Reminder of the Unimaginable

BY GEORGE WILL

NEW YORK --

From the mountains of shoes that were worn by Jews when they were packed into railroad freight cars bound for Auschwitz, the Museum of Jewish Heritage: A Living Memorial to the Holocaust displays one: a woman's red dress pump with a three-inch heel. It prompts viewers to wonder: Where did she think she was going?

Perhaps she did not have time to think when she was swept into the vortex of one of Europe's innumerable roundups. She was destined for the unimaginable, where she probably vanished quickly: 900,000 of the 1.3 million people sent there were murdered shortly after their arrival.

The New York Times of January 28, 1945, reported on its front page the Red Army's arrival the day before at Auschwitz, which the story described, in its 16th paragraph, as a place where more than a million "persons" were murdered. Persons. Of them, 1 million were Jews.

A yellowed Times edition from that date is displayed today in the museum, which is located on Manhattan's southern tip, near the spot where, in 1654, 23 Jews who

had come from Spain and Portugal, via Brazil, became the first Jews in what was then New Amsterdam. The museum's six-sided Core building evokes the six-pointed star of David, and the 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust, which is the subject of a shattering exhibit, "Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away." The eloquence of the artifacts, which were first seen when the exhibit opened in Madrid and will be seen elsewhere in North America, is welcome testimony, in an age obsessed with new media, to the power of an old medium: the museum.

The exhibit includes Reinhard Heydrich's gift for Hermann Goering on his 47th birthday. Before Heydrich was assassinated by Czech partisans in 1942, he was the "architect of the Final Solution." His gift was a piece of parchment: the original 1551 proclamation, signed by the Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand I, requiring Jews to attach to their garments a yellow circle. The seeds of the Holocaust germinated for centuries in Europe's social soil. They did not, however, have to come to their cataclysmic fruition.

Other artifacts include Heinrich Himmler's handwriting in his annotated first edition of "Mein Kampf." And a photo of Anne Frank's parents' wedding. And a child's shoe with a sock carefully tucked into it, waiting for the child to put it back on after the "shower" to which he had been directed, from which he did not return.

Did you know that eight of the 15 participants in the Jan. 20, 1942, Wannsee Conference, which finalized plans for the industrialization of murder, had doctoral degrees? Education is not necessarily an inoculation against evil. Only two participants were older than 50: Genocide was a project for up-and-comers, idealists who acquired the ideals from socialization under totalitarianism.

The exhibit includes grainy, black-and-white film of a passing freight train shedding notes the way a tree shed leaves in autumn, notes tossed from between the freight cars' slats by the human cargo who were desperate to scatter random traces of themselves before the final darkness. One was tossed from a train leaving Holland by 17-year-old Hertha Aussen: "Most likely this will be the last card you will receive from

me." Three days later she was murdered on arrival at Auschwitz.

What also died at Auschwitz is -- was -- what is known as the Whig theory of history, which holds, or held, that there is an inevitable unfolding of history in the direction of expanding liberty under law. Just as the Holocaust was not inevitable, neither is the triumph of enlightenment: History is not a ratchet that clicks only one way. Today, in several parts of the world, including on the dark, churned and bloody ground of central Europe, there are various forms of political regression. These are marked by a recrudescence of the blood-and-soil tribalism of degenerate nationalism, accompanied by thinly veiled, or not at all veiled, antisemitism.

Visitors entering "Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away" immediately walk past these words of Primo Levi, an Auschwitz survivor: "It happened, therefore it can happen again." Today in China's far west, concentration camps hold more than a million people who Beijing says show "symptoms" of being "infected" with the "virus" of "unhealthy thoughts." Similar medical terminology presented the Holocaust as social hygiene.

Polls indicate that a majority of millennials do not know what Auschwitz was. The future might teach them by analogies.

George Will is a political writer. His column is distributed nationally by the Washington Post Writers Group.



December 11th, 2019
On the Road with the Rabbi at the
National Museum of American Jewish History



SOCKS OF LOVE

Thank you all who contributed to our Socks of Love event. Through your generosity we gathered over 300 pairs of socks which were donated to the Bergen County Housing, Health and Human Services.

There is always a call for donations to assist those in need. So we are in the process of planning our next event in the Spring. If you'd like to volunteer your home or backyard, please let us know.

Iris Coleman & Regina Friedman





“WE SHALL OVERCOME”



This coming January 20th, will mark the 91st birthday of the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Most of us can recall Martin Luther King’s “Freedom March” from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. Many people joined Rev. King in 1965, including people of different faiths. I vividly recall

that one of my friends and teachers from the Jewish Theological Seminary, the noted Rabbi and Theologian Abraham Joshua Heschel, of blessed memory, joined on that march.

On that day, I heard for the first time, a particular song “We Shall Overcome.” It became one of the most powerful songs of the twentieth century. It is sung on special occasions like Martin Luther King Jr. Day, at churches and peace rallies. It is the theme of hope and faith. Perhaps one day there will be peace on earth and good will for every nation on earth.

The following are the lyrics popularized by the late folk-singer Pete Seeger:

*We shall overcome (3x),
some day*

*Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
We shall overcome, some day*

*We’ll walk hand in hand (3x),
some day*

*Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
We shall overcome, some day*

*We shall live in peace (3x),
someday*

*Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
We shall overcome, some day*

*We are not afraid (3x),
TODAY*

*Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
We shall overcome, some day*

The whole wide world around (3x), some day

*Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
We shall overcome, some day*



May the dreams of Martin Luther King Jr. come true one day. May the world be a place of peace, love, and equality for all mankind. Amen!



Marching Together—Selma 1965, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Sisterhood's Mishlo'ach Manot Project

Purim is on Monday, March 9th. Your Purim gift lists will be mailed soon, please fill them out and return them to the Synagogue office with your check. Help us reach our fundraising goal.



Will you help deliver our gifts on Sunday, March 8th ?

Call Yael 201-947-1735 ext 316 or Ethel 201-224-7215 to volunteer.

We hope that everyone will participate in Mishlo'ach Manot this year. This is an **ALL CHARITY** project that supports our Synagogue and those in need, living in the US and Israel.

We need volunteers to help assemble the packages and most especially to make deliveries on Sunday March 8th. It is fun and rewarding! Todah!!

REMINDER

There will be no Sisterhood general membership or Book Club meetings in the months of January and February

Sisterhood Book Club resumes in the spring

Tuesday, March 17th - 1:00pm

Next title will be announced in the February Messenger.

Refreshments served

Chairpersons

Kathy Grazian & Naomi Altschul
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Our condolences to . . .

ALMA KATZ
On the loss of her husband,
WILLIAM "BILL" KATZ

Donations listed were received in November

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For personal experiences, AIPAC impressions and more information please speak to our members:

- Rabbi Stern
- Iris Coleman
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DON'T MISS OUT!
JOIN US FOR THE 2020 AIPAC POLICY CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----|--------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | <i>Marcia Wities Orange</i> | 13 | <i>Allan Ginsburg</i> | 23 | <i>Eran Gensler</i> |
| 1 | <i>Michael Seymour</i> | 14 | <i>Lore Benario</i> | 24 | <i>Livia Kraut</i> |
| 1 | <i>Reva Strasfeld</i> | 14 | <i>Anne Hall</i> | 25 | <i>Michael Glantz</i> |
| 3 | <i>Valerie Maier</i> | 14 | <i>Yakov Kishinevsky</i> | 26 | <i>Gloria Deutsch</i> |
| 3 | <i>Laurie Smilovitz</i> | 17 | <i>Karen Halpern</i> | 27 | <i>Charlene Stern</i> |
| 4 | <i>Sally Seymour</i> | 17 | <i>Beth Schefflan</i> | 29 | <i>Randy Karpman</i> |
| 7 | <i>Susan Ginsburg</i> | 17 | <i>Hilde Straus</i> | 30 | <i>Charles Shatz</i> |
| 8 | <i>Selma Spielman</i> | 20 | <i>Eve Kohut</i> | 31 | <i>Stuart Kimberly</i> |
| 10 | <i>Sheila Scherl</i> | 21 | <i>Greta Flam</i> | 31 | <i>Howard Schefflan</i> |
| 11 | <i>Ana Erlichman</i> | 22 | <i>Rita Berliner</i> | | |
| 13 | <i>Janet Chertkoff</i> | 22 | <i>Elai Kindler</i> | | |

*Happy
Birthday!*

- | | |
|----|---|
| 2 | <i>Hilda & Jack Reisner</i> |
| 17 | <i>Suzette & Marvin Josif</i> |
| 26 | <i>Florence & Norman Silverberg</i> |
| 27 | <i>Trudi & Robert Mohl</i> |

*Happy
Anniversary*



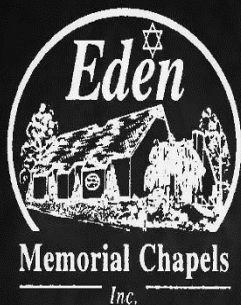
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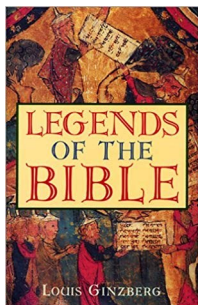


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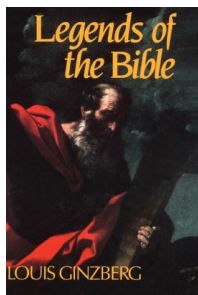
Re-Inventing the Bible

Thursdays at 10:30 am



Join Rabbi Stern as we discover the amazingly creative juices of the classical rabbis! They were masters at spinning yarns, embellishing narrative, and inventing out of whole cloth to really make the Bible come alive through what they called Midrash

Aggadah.



Using Louis Ginzberg's one-volume *The Legends of the Bible* (you can buy a used copy online for less than \$10), we will contrast the biblical text with these rabbinically enhanced narratives.

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JANUARY 2020

Tevet/Shevat - 5780

Daily Service Times

Mon -Thur 7:00am & 7:45pm
 Friday 7:00am & 7:00pm
 Saturday 9:30am & Minchah
 Sunday 9:00am & 7:45pm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p align="center">SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT</p> <p>All Shabbat Services (Friday evening, Shabbat morning and Mincha) will be held at CBIOTP 1585 Center Ave Fort Lee.</p> <p>Daily morning and evening services will be held at 301 Bridge Plaza North, Third floor.</p>			<p>1 4 Tevet</p> <p><i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>2 5 Tevet</p>	<p>3 6 Tevet</p> <p> 4:22PM</p>	<p>4 7 Tevet</p> <p>Service 9:30 am</p> <p align="right">MINCHAH 4:00PM VAYIGASH</p>
<p>5 8 Tevet</p>	<p>6 9 Tevet</p>	<p>7 10 Tevet</p> <p>Sisterhood Board Meeting 1:00pm</p>	<p>8 11 Tevet</p>	<p>9 12 Tevet</p> <p>Rabbi's Class 10:30am</p>	<p>10 13 Tevet</p> <p> 4:29PM</p>	<p>11 14 Tevet</p> <p>Service 9:30 am</p> <p align="right">MINCHAH 4:00PM VAYECHI</p>
<p>12 15 Tevet</p>	<p>13 16 Tevet</p>	<p>14 17 Tevet</p>	<p>15 18 Tevet</p> <p>On the Road with the Rabbi to the Cloisters 10:30am RSVP required</p>	<p>16 19 Tevet</p> <p>Rabbi's Class 10:30am</p>	<p>17 20 Tevet</p> <p> 4:37PM</p>	<p>18 21 Tevet</p> <p>Service 9:30 am</p> <p align="right">MINCHAH 4:15PM SHEMOT</p>
<p>19 22 Tevet</p>	<p>20 23 Tevet</p> <p><i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>21 24 Tevet</p>	<p>22 25 Tevet</p>	<p>23 26 Tevet</p> <p>Rabbi's Class 10:30am</p>	<p>24 27 Tevet</p> <p> 4:45PM</p>	<p>25 28 Tevet</p> <p>Service 9:30 am</p> <p align="right">MINCHAH 4:15PM VAERA</p>
<p>26 29 Tevet</p>	<p>27 1 Shevat</p>	<p>28 2 Shevat</p>	<p>29 3 Shevat</p>	<p>30 4 Shevat</p> <p>Rabbi's Class 10:30am</p>	<p>31 5 Shevat</p> <p> 4:54PM</p>	

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