

Our Torah Members

We honor these generous individuals who have chosen to help those Synagogue members who are less fortunate and in need of assistance. They have voluntarily elected to contribute dues at a higher level in order to assist other Jews .

ETERNAL LIGHT MEMBERS

Our Eternal Light members have generously added \$1,000 to their synagogue membership dues in order to provide assistance to our other congregants who are enduring financial hardship.

Anonymous
Martin & Rochelle Carus
Steven & Suzette Kolitch
David Korn



Marvin & Judith Platt
Joni Rosen
Myrna Weissman
Mordechai & Suzanne Warshavsky

CHAI MEMBERS

Our Chai members have generously added \$500 to their synagogue membership dues in order to provide assistance to our other congregants who are enduring financial hardship.

Seymour Blechman
Mercy Cohen
Iris Coleman
Lior & Andrea Elrom
Harvey & Barbara Fishman
Regina Friedman
Seymour & Nancy Green
Marvin & Shirley Kochansky

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Marjorie Kalman-Kutz
Irwin & Karen Meyers
Larry Lesh & Terry Gottlieb
Stephen & Merilee Obstbaum
Hennie Ostrower
Abraham Ravid

Harry Richman
Ann Rosenberg
Phyllis Rosenberg
Sheila Scherl
Norm & Florence Silverberg
Michael Glantz & Heidi Skolnik
Barry & Barbara Sussman

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Our President's Council



Our President's Council was established to honor "Our Leadership Donors" who contribute \$1,250 or more to our *Kol Nidre Annual Fund*.

These generous individuals are the "Financial Guardians" of our synagogue.

GUARDIAN LEADERS *Gifts of \$25,000 and above*

- * Reggie Feuerstein
- * Steven & Suzette Kolitch
- Joseph Lempel *a"h*
Congregation Sons of Israel

CHAI-FOUNDERS *Gifts of \$18,000 - \$24,999*

- * Anonymous (1)
- * Gary & Lisa Maier

FOUNDERS *Gifts of \$10,000 - \$17,999*

Kenneth Feldman *a"h*

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JCC Sisterhood

PATRONS *Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999*

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Renee *a"h* Gruenspecht
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- Regina Friedman
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- Ruth Korn
- Jerome & Barbara Margolin
- Stephen & Merilee Obstbaum
- Joseph & Tikva Ofeck
- Marvin & Judith Platt
- * Terry Plawker
- * Leo Rettig
- * Richard & Nancy Schiff
- Laurie Singer
- Gregory & Nancy Vorbach
- Myrna Weissman
- Ellen Yuder

* Charter Members - Indicates annual contributions since 1995.

LOOK FORWARD WITH HOPE TO THE NEW YEAR



Every once in awhile we experience a pleasant confluence of the Hebrew and secular calendars. Here are a couple of examples of what I mean: those years when Hanukkah falls before most people depart for their winter vacations, or in former times, (before Congress shortened

Standard Time) when Passover would occasionally fall before we changed the clocks to Daylight Savings Time, and the s'darim could begin at a decent hour.

While what I have in mind now is much less momentous, here is an additional occurrence for us to celebrate this year: The High Holidays conclude in September, and Sukkot didn't have to share, or play second fiddle to Rosh HaShannah and Yom Kippur.

Sukkot (and Sh'mini Atzeret and Simhat Torah) began on Friday evening, October 2nd, and for a welcome change it was our only October holiday. As a rabbi, I always welcome Sukkot; the tension of the HiHo's are quickly replaced by the relaxed atmosphere of Sukkot. For you, the High Holidays may be the "Days of Awe"; for me they are the "Awful Days".

I was impressed by the image conjured by a text that I learned in Rabbinical School, but its concept I would only resonate with me once I was out in the pulpit. The text says that the Lulav, held aloft on Sukkot, is reminiscent of a sword or a spear held aloft following a great victory in battle. The Rabbis assert that our great victory is that we have come through the Ten Days of Repentance with confidence. I'm not so sure about that kind of confidence, but I do experience great relief.

Our holiday season culminated in a wonderful, live, in-person, outdoor, socially-distanced gathering on Sunday afternoon, October 11th at 2:00pm in the parking lot at Bridge Plaza North to celebrate our Simhat Torah honorees, Adrian Osian and Richard Schiff. We provided the lightest weight Torah scrolls that we have, wrapped in special "PPE" which were replaced for each of the 7 Hakafot (processions). Masks and gloves were worn.

Thank you to all who attended to recognize these most deserving members:



Our Hatan Torah Richard Schiff

Richard is currently a Vice-President of the Synagogue and Chair of our Ritual Committee. He is a long-time member, joining when he and Nancy were newly married, and raising their 2 sons here. Nancy often joins the weekday evening and Friday night services. Richard has held many volunteer positions, including unofficial Shul photographer. Most visibly, Richard ushers on the HiHo's. This year, with his ushering job eliminated, Richard went above and beyond, in making sure that all the items on his endless checklists were addressed. What you experienced on the HiHo's was largely a product of Richard's tireless work behind the scenes. For this, and for his years of dedication, we were pleased to honor him.



Our Hatan B'reishit Adrian Osian

Adrian has been a faithful attendee at our morning minyanim for more years than I have been at Geshar Shalom. He comes in, davens attentively, offers a quiet "Good morning" or "Goodbye", and then rushes out to brave the GW Bridge traffic on his commute into the City. We often would not have had an in-person, 7:00am minyan without him. Occasionally Adrian is even able to make our 9:00am morning Zoom minyanim, despite the inconvenience of its later starting time. He and wife, Dr. Michelle Reisner, have raised their 3 children (all Solomon Schechter graduates) in our congregation, and Michelle is often able to join our Thursday morning minyan. For his years'-long commitment to our minyan and to our Shul, the Ritual Committee was pleased to honor Adrian.



REMEMBERING THE MASTER OF JEWISH SOUL MUSIC: A SONG WITH HEALING POWERS

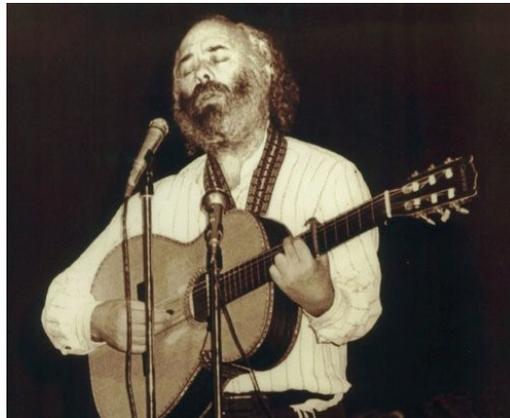


Never has there been a time as critical as this, to have faith, and I mean real faith. The pandemic has taken so many lives of Americans and others around the globe. These times are uncertain. These times are fearful and no one knows what is around

the corner. Our lives have become so fragile, that young and old walk with trembling hearts.

There is one great luminary who has been known to the Jewish musical world for more than half a century as the father of modern popular Chassidic music, whose Yahrzeit will occur during this coming month of November (the 4th) corresponding to the 17th day of the Hebrew month of Cheshvan. I'm speaking about Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, of blessed memory. His musical spirit, fervor and faith inspired more Jews than anyone else of his generation - and still does. His melodies, which were once dismissed as primitive, alongside the great compositions that were heard in synagogues, continue to permeate the Jewish world and are sung everywhere. There isn't a traditional Jewish wedding celebration that does not have several of his melodies sung or played. His music at Jewish summer camps and youth group functions has even become part of synagogue worship.

I'll never forget his concert appearances going back to my youth, when my father's shul in Maine brought him in for a concert. His opening song always was followed by "my holy brothers and sisters, I have something deep to tell you," and then he would go on non-stop telling stories from the Talmud, from the Midrash, but mostly from Chassidic masters. His stories, as he promised, were always moving and profound. But for me, and all of his fans, it was his melodies that were most thoughtful and inspiring. I'll always remember his trademark - white shirt, vest, tzitzit (ritual fringes) hanging out, and of course, his "Payot" (ear locks).



All he ever needed was his guitar and his songs.

One of my favorite Carlebach tunes is one that (as far as I know) is not that popular, but the words make this song stand out. During the last half year, while coming to our services twice daily via zoom, our Rabbi would ask different people to read translations of certain Psalms of David. One reading that always has a special meaning to me is Psalm 30, the dedication of the Holy temple. Some of these words are part of the song I just referred to:

***"Eilecha Adonai Ekrah...
Sh'ma Adonai V'choneinee
Adonai Heyei Ozer Li..."***

"To you God I will call to help me."

Psalms have always been a source of comfort during trying times for many centuries. For generations, Jews have turned to Psalms for a sense of hope during times of a challenge.

I have a personal story regarding the words of Psalm 30, with a Carlebach connection. Back in 1982, during the Lebanese-Israeli crisis, I flew to Israel and joined some of America's and Israel's well known singers, actors and comedians. We all visited and entertained the wounded soldiers who were in Israel's best hospitals, recovering from their injuries. I remember at one hospital, (Tel Hashomer) I had the honor of going from room to room and even shared some songs with Reb Shlomo, as Rabbi Carlebach was known. He sang his tune of "Eilecha" in every room he visited. The melody had such an effect on so many of those in hospital beds. He told me later that some of the soldiers credited him with saving their lives. I remember telling him on our way back to Yerushalayim, that his singing brought smiles to their faces and tears to my eyes. No speech or sermon could attain that! It's always been amazing to me how a simple *niggun* (melody) and powerful words could save lives and inspire the soul. Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach's music will be everlasting and enshrined in our hearts, and uplift our souls forever.

Zichrono Livracha - May his memory be for



*We wish everyone
a safe and healthy
Autumn Season*

Thank You

Sisterhood would like to thank Rabbi Stern, Rabbi Wasser, Cantor Zim, the office staff and volunteers for putting together beautiful and meaningful **High Holiday Services**. We urge all Gesher Shalom and CBIOTP members to continue to “tune” in on Zoom to our weekday and Shabbat services. You will be glad you did.

5781 Torah Fund Pin 2020-2021

Plan to be part of the wonderful cause that is raising money for the seminaries of the Conservative/ Masorti movement through the Torah Fund campaign of Women’s League for Conservative Judaism. The theme for this years



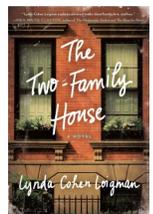
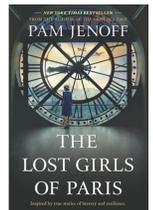
benefactor Torah Fund Pin is **Together (B’Yachad)**. Sisterhood members working together to help their Synagogues and the Jewish community. Each of us is a **nugget of gold** that shines.

You may purchase your pin through Sisterhood. Please contact our chairperson **Kathy Grazian** at **201-592-0463** to get one for yourself or as a gift for someone special. The cost is \$180. You may pay in installments.

Book Club Members

The Fort Lee Public Library and other local libraries are now open at 25% capacity for browsing and taking out books. There is no seating or computer use. The book drops are open for returns 24/7.

When we eventually meet in person we will be reviewing “The Lost Girls of Paris” by Pam Jenoff and “The Two Family House” by Lynda Cohen Loigman . May we also suggest reading: “Red Letter Days” by Sarah Jane Stratford, a novel concerning the McCarthy era and “The Things We Cannot Say” by Kelly Rimmer, a novel about the Holocaust. Happy Reading!



Kathy Grazian 201-592-0463
Naomi Altschul 201-568-9274

Last Call

If you have somehow forgotten or neglected to pay your dues for the **2020-2021 year**, please make every effort to do so now. Sisterhood is a major donor and arm of the synagogue family. Your check for \$36 would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for heeding our call.



Every Wednesday, 12 Noon with Rabbi Stern
see zoom information on front cover

October 28th: SOFA SO GOOD,



We are immigrants and the descendants of immigrants; our nation is largely a nation of immigrants. We will hear from one of the newest: Noa Osheroff, Israeli writer, director, producer and comedian based in New York. She will screen her newest film, a 12-minute comedy, **SOFA SO GOOD**, which is currently on the film festival circuit. Noa is also the founder and producer of “**Speak American**”, a highly acclaimed monthly stand-up comedy show in Brooklyn focusing on recent immigrants to the US and their stories. In the course of her conversation with us, she will talk about the process of film-making, stand-up comedy, diversity and everything in between.

November 4th: Post-Election Agony or Ecstasy



This may be the most hotly contested election in US history—certainly in our lifetimes. The results may not be conclusive the day after, but we have to try to come together as a country—and as a community. Let’s see if we can’t talk calmly and with some understanding for each other’s viewpoints now that the ballots have been cast.

November 11th: A Visit to the YIVO Archives



A virtual visit to examine more treasures from their vast collection with Director of the YIVO Archives, Dr. Stefanie Halpern. (Those of us who went “On the Road” met Dr. Halpern in person last February)

November 24th: (Tuesday)



A Visit to the Knesset with Masorti Israel

The program, under the auspices of Masorti’s Jewish Pluralism Watch, will include a virtual tour of the Knesset and a conversation with a Knesset Member, and Blue and White Party’s newest star, passionate centrist Tehila Friedman about whom Rabbi Stern spoke on Kol Nidre.

Reservations are required. Please email me to secure your seat in the Knesset.

Talk Amongst Yourselves; I’ll give you a topic: Discuss...”

How About You? LINDA RICHMAN is looking for VOLUNTEERS to share their passion or expertise with the COFFEE TALK crowd....Your profession, Your avocation, Your hobby, Your expertise , Your life experiences or Your travels; Please be in touch with the Rabbi...



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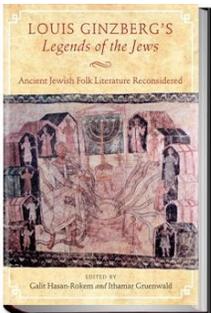
IN MEMORY OF

Dr. Seligman Rosenberg

Donations listed were received in August & September

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

*Seymour Blechman
The Koszer Family
Beth & Howard Schefflan
Roberta Schranze
The Starr Family
Al Sussman*



Re-Inventing the Bible

Thursdays at 11:00 am

Want a zoom invitation? Email the Rabbi!

The Rabbis were both close readers of the text, sensitive to every nuance, and, it turns out, also great fiction writers and spinners of yarn. Using Louis Ginzberg's masterful narrative compiling these legends, *The Legends of the Jews*, we will continue our exploration of these tales, known as Midrash Aggada.

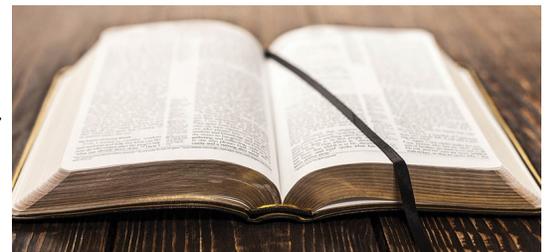


The Bible as Literature: Led by Marvin Chertkoff

Fridays at 11:30 am

Want a zoom invitation? Email the office

In addition to being the basis of three major religions, the Bible is one of the great works of world literature. This course emphasizes understanding and appreciating the text and the literary devices used. Come join us for a completely new way of looking at our sacred book.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	<i>Jerome Margolin</i>	16	<i>Chloe Altschul</i>	26	<i>Naomi Altschul</i>
2	<i>Reggie Feuerstein</i>	16	<i>Nancy Green</i>	26	<i>Heidi Skolnik</i>
4	<i>Debbie Shatz</i>	20	<i>Ruth Korn</i>	27	<i>Francine Koszer</i>
7	<i>Mark Halpern</i>	20	<i>Lia Pitchkhadze</i>	28	<i>Shifra Ruda</i>
10	<i>Myrna Weissman</i>	21	<i>Ethel Chesen</i>	29	<i>Robert Feuerstein</i>
15	<i>Judith Auerbacher</i>	23	<i>Otto Salmon</i>	30	<i>Evelyn Baer</i>
15	<i>Helene Polinsky</i>	23	<i>Carolyn Tauber</i>		

1	<i>Francine & Gerald Koszer</i>	21	<i>Rose & Henry Glazer</i>
7	<i>Karen & Craig Barnett</i>	28	<i>Rochelle & Earl Schneider</i>
9	<i>Irith & Arnold Insler</i>		

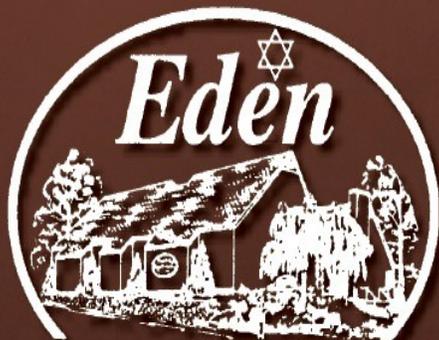
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	<i>Henry Glazer</i>	14	<i>Hilda Reisner</i>	21	<i>Jonathan Fox</i>
2	<i>Hyla Epstein</i>	14	<i>Carol Tycko</i>	23	<i>Sharon Berman</i>
2	<i>Ruth Lowenstein</i>	15	<i>Samuel Pitchkhadze</i>	24	<i>Beth Kaplan</i>
2	<i>Ann Oster</i>	17	<i>Joan Alter</i>	24	<i>Ronald Mayer</i>
3	<i>Abraham Yacobi</i>	17	<i>Esther Eisdorfer</i>	29	<i>Iris Fox</i>
5	<i>Lior Elrom</i>	18	<i>Iris Coleman</i>	29	<i>Larry Lesh</i>
7	<i>Adira Kessler</i>	20	<i>Franco Aguilar</i>	29	<i>Harry Richman</i>
13	<i>Abraham Ravid</i>	20	<i>Marvin Chertkoff</i>		

3	<i>Debbie & Charles Shatz</i>	15	<i>Kathy & Solomon Grazian</i>
4	<i>Rachel & Neil Taylor</i>	24	<i>Michelle Reisner & Adrian Osian</i>
5	<i>Marlin & Erwin Dickman</i>	26	<i>Barbara & Harvey Fishman</i>

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*Generations of our families
have been honored to serve
Generations of your family*



NOVEMBER 2020

Cheshvan/Kislev - 5781

Daily Online/Phone Service Times
 Sunday - Friday 9:00am & 7:00pm
 Saturday 10:30am & Minchah

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 14 Cheshvan	2 15 Cheshvan	3 16 Cheshvan ELECTION DAY	4 17 Cheshvan Coffee Talk 12:00 pm	5 18 Cheshvan Rabbi's Class 11:00 am	6 19 Cheshvan Bible Study 11:30 am  4:27	7 20 Cheshvan Service via zoom 10:30 am Havdalah 5:30 pm VAYERA
8 21 Cheshvan	9 22 Cheshvan	10 23 Cheshvan	11 24 Cheshvan Coffee Talk 12:00 pm VETERANS DAY	12 25 Cheshvan Rabbi's Class 11:00 am	13 26 Cheshvan Bible Study 11:30 am  4:20	14 27 Cheshvan Service via zoom 10:30 am Havdalah 5:30 pm HAYEI SARAH
15 28 Cheshvan	16 29 Cheshvan	17 1 Kislev	18 2 Kislev Coffee Talk 12:00 pm	19 3 Kislev Rabbi's Class 11:00 am	20 4 Kislev Bible Study 11:30 am  4:15	21 5 Kislev Service via zoom 10:30 am Havdalah 5:15 pm TOLDOT
22 6 Kislev	23 7 Kislev	24 8 Kislev Coffee Talk 12:00 pm	25 9 Kislev	26 10 Kislev No Rabbi's Class	27 11 Kislev Bible Study 11:30am  4:11	28 12 Kislev Service via zoom 10:30 am Havdalah 5:15 pm VAYEITZEI
29 13 Kislev	30 14 Kislev	<p>SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT</p> <p>Until further notice, all services will be held virtually, via ZOOM.</p> <p>If you did not receive an invitation via email, please let the office know.</p>				

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