

December 2016 Calendar of Events

Friday, Dec. 2—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Saturday, Dec. 3—Torah Study, 9:30am

Sunday, Dec. 4—GN Choral Society Winter Concert
Dedicated to Bea Aubrey, 4:00 at Merchant Marine
Academy

Monday, Dec. 5—Conversational Spanish, 10:30am;
Linda Burghardt Lecture on “Inheriting Holocaust
Trauma,” 7:30pm

Tuesday, Dec. 6—Board Meeting, 7:30pm

Wednesday, Dec. 7—Lunch & Learn at Ayhan’s Shish
Kebab with Cantor Friedlander, 11:30am

Friday, Dec. 9—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Saturday, Dec. 10—Torah Study, 9:30am

Tuesday, Dec. 13—Student Rabbi Class, “Forbidden
Texts,” 7:00pm

Friday, Dec. 16—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Saturday, Dec. 17—Torah Study, 9:30am

Wednesday, Dec. 21—Student Rabbi Class, “Forbidden
Texts,” 7:00pm

Friday, Dec. 23—Chanukah Dinner, 6:30pm followed by
Shabbat Service with Chanukah Choir, 7:30pm

Saturday, Dec. 24—Torah Study, 9:30am; Torah Service,
10:30am; First Night of Chanukah

Wednesday, Dec. 28—Student Rabbi Class, “Forbidden
Texts,” 7:00pm

Friday, Dec. 30—Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15pm

Saturday, Dec. 31—Torah Study, 9:30am; Last Night of
Chanukah

December Highlights

Monday, Dec. 5
Linda Burghardt
Lecture:
“Inheriting Holocaust
Trauma”

Tuesday, Dec. 13 and
Wednesdays, Dec. 21 and
Dec. 28
Student Rabbi
Chase Foster Class:
“Forbidden Texts”

Friday, Dec. 23
Chanukah Dinner



Details On These and Other
Events Inside

CANTOR'S COLUMN

A CHANUKAH CHALLENGE

BY CANTOR LESLIE FRIEDLANDER

For nearly two thousand years Chanukah was celebrated as a minor festival. Moreover, Chanukah is not mentioned in the Hebrew Bible, which includes the Torah, Prophets and Writings. Even the Talmud pays relatively scant attention to Chanukah.



But late in the nineteenth century Chanukah began to experience a rebirth. Around this time Jewish people increased their contact and communication with the Christian and secular world. At the same time, the celebration of Christmas among Christians in Europe and North America was growing into a great community event.

The concurrence of Christmas and its importance on the secular calendar has a positive and negative influence on the celebration of Chanukah. Its positive influence is the increasingly widespread observance of Chanukah, which has helped to strengthen Jewish identity. Its negative influence has caused many American Jews to view Chanukah as a significant celebration on the Jewish calendar.

It is easy to see why children (and adults, for that matter) are drawn to the glitter and dazzle of the celebration and commercialism surrounding Christmas. Our cities and suburbs are bathed in tender music and "magic" seems to be everywhere. Jewish parents and grandparents feel compelled to assure their children that by being Jewish they are not missing out on anything. In an attempt to compete with the Christmas glitz-blitz, the once-modest custom of giving Chanukah gelt (probably pennies) has turned Chanukah into an eight-day gift orgy.

We need to remind ourselves that Chanukah celebrates Jewish self-affirmation, and the lights of Chanukah are a demonstration of Jewish tradition and pride. When Jews bring the "Chanukah bush," a euphemistic Christmas tree, into their homes, they are doing exactly what the Hellenists in 169 B.C.E. did. By treating the Christmas tree as an American cultural symbol of the season, Jews are doing two things: trivializing the religious significance this tree holds for Christianity while undermining Judaism.

This year Chanukah occurs at the same time as Christmas, offering a bigger challenge for those of us living in an assimilated world, and an even bigger challenge for interfaith families. Let us all celebrate Chanukah in its own light, on its own terms, and may the warmth and beauty of Judaism glow in your homes and your hearts this Chanukah season.



TEMPLE ISAIAH'S JUBILEE YEAR HISTORICAL MOMENT #1

“What’s In a Name?”



Our Jubilee Year ... 50 years passes as quickly as the wink of an eye. The year was 1967 ... the Six-Day War and anxiety about the Jewish survival in Israel. And, in the United States, there was widespread dissension over the escalating involvement in the Vietnam War. Nevertheless, our new synagogue chose to be known as Temple Isaiah of Great Neck, in honor of the prophet of peace. The founding members of our congregation were imbued with optimism and a strong faith in the future of the Jewish people both in Israel and in the Diaspora.

The founding families met on May 16, 1967 at the home of Sidney Rosenzweig for the first official congregational meeting of the new (yet unnamed) Reform congregation. Pro Tem officers were voted in, committees established. However, the name of the new temple that would embody our core principles, values and ethics remained an open question. Everyone was invited to join in the exciting task of naming the temple along with the reason they felt it would be meaningful to our congregation. Names suggested: Temple HaZikaron (Temple of Remembrance to our brethren who died in the Shoah); Bet HaZikaron (House of Remembrance); Beth Chai (House of Life); and Atid Yisrael (Future of Israel).

It was Faith Marshall who suggested the name Temple Isaiah after the prophet of peace, justice, and faith. How appropriate and *bashert* that someone with the first name of Faith would suggest Isaiah. The final selection of the name Temple Isaiah of Great Neck was decided at the first full congregational meeting.

And now you know the rest of the story ... “What’s In a Name?”

*Kathie Davis and Bill Rosenberg,
Co-Presidents*



We continue to welcome and solicit your personal story and experience in our “Voices of Isaiah” column, which will return next month. Tell us your story ... the unique path to the door of our synagogue. The *Shehecheyanu* moments that connect your family to our Temple Isaiah family. Raise your voice, sing out in joy and share your Isaiah experience. Please contact either Kathie Davis or Bill Rosenberg to share your story.

Can Holocaust Trauma Be Inherited? ***The Complex Genetic Legacy of the Second Generation***

A lecture presentation by

Linda F. Burghardt, Ph.D.

Scholar-in-Residence, Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center



Psychologists have long known that the profound legacy of loss and suffering experienced by Holocaust survivors deeply affects their children. Now biologists are saying that genetics can play an even larger role in transmitting this trauma to the next generation. Dr. Burghardt will describe the science behind these claims and explain how this genetic legacy can have far-reaching consequences for the children of survivors -- and their own offspring.



Dr. Linda Burghardt, Scholar-in-Residence at the Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center, is a journalist and author from Great Neck, N.Y. and a long-term member of Temple Isaiah. She worked as a freelance reporter for *The New York Times* for 20 years and is the author of three non-fiction books. Her articles and essays have appeared in newspapers across the U.S., and she has lectured to both national and international audiences. She holds a Ph.D. from LIU Post and is the daughter of Holocaust survivors from Vienna.

Monday, December 5, 7:30 p.m.

\$10 donation requested

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	3 Torah Study, 9:30am
4 GN Choral Society Concert Dedicated to Bea Aubrey, 4:00pm	5 Conversational Spanish, 10:30am; "Inheriting Holocaust Trauma," 7:30pm	6 Board Meeting, 7:30pm	7 Lunch & Learn with Cantor Friedlander, 11:30am	8	9 Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	10 Torah Study, 9:30am
11	12	13 Student Rabbi Class, 7:30pm	14	15	16 Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	17 Torah Study, 9:30am
18	19	20	21 Student Rabbi Class, 7:30pm	22	23 Chanukah Dinner, 6:30pm; Shabbat Service, 7:30pm	24 Torah Study, 9:30am; Torah Service, 10:30am <i>First Night of Chanukah</i>
25  HAPPY CHANUKAH	26	27	28 Student Rabbi Class, 7:30pm	29	30 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15pm	31 Torah Study, 9:30am <i>Last Night of Chanukah</i>



Student Rabbi's Class in December **Forbidden Texts: Stories Our Rabbis Tried to Hide**

**Learning Sessions with
Student Rabbi Chase Foster**

**Tuesday, Dec. 13, Wednesdays, Dec. 21st & 28th—
7:00pm—8:15pm**

Based on a passage in the Talmud that proscribes portions of the Torah that are not to be translated or even read in public, join Student Rabbi Chase Foster to explore parts of the Torah that are deceitful or salacious, known or unknown, confounding or eye-opening. These forbidden fruits are sure to provide a deep glimpse into our own understandings of censorship.



**Thank You to Terry Joseph and all of
the hard-working volunteers who
Made our Tag Sale So Successful!**



**Lunch
&
Learn**

**Wednesday, December 7th, 11:30am —
12:45pm
at Ayhan's Shish Kebab**

Chanukah Family Potluck Dinner

Friday, December 23rd, 6:30PM

Followed by a Shabbat Service with
Choir at 7:30PM

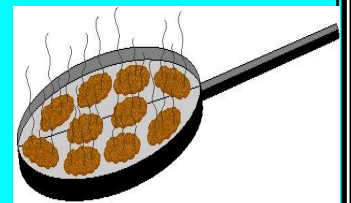
Celebrate the holiday with your
Temple Isaiah family at our traditional
“meat” potluck supper
(Non-Dairy)



Bring an appetite for great food!

Bring the Family and Friends!

Contact dinner chairperson Marcia Null
(516-570-6322 or matanu@optonline.net)
to RSVP and let her know what dish you
will be bringing.



Save The Date

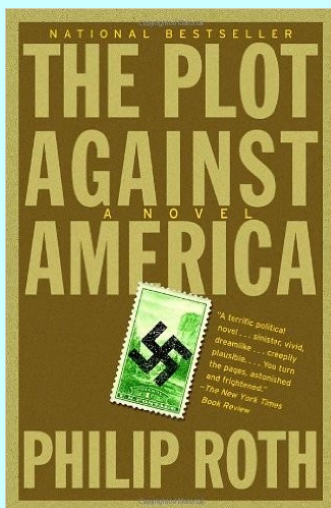
In Celebration of Our
Jubilee Year, Sofer (Torah Scribe)
Neil Yerman
Will be Joining Us On
Sunday, January 22, 2017
Details to follow

Save the Date: Wednesday, January 11
"Current Events" with Helman Brook



Read the Book & Save the Date: February 12 ***The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth**

The Temple Isaiah Book Club is back in business! Join us on Sunday morning, Feb. 12th for Bagels and Books (time to be determined). Our first book is *The Plot Against America*, a novel by Philip Roth published in 2004. It is an alternative history in which Franklin Delano Roosevelt is defeated in the presidential election of 1940 by Charles Lindbergh. Following is the opening paragraph of the NYTimes Sunday review from 2004:



"Philip Roth has written a terrific political novel, though in a style his readers might never have predicted -- a fable of an alternative universe, in which America has gone fascist and ordinary life has been flattened under a steamroller of national politics and mass hatreds. Hitler's allies rule the White House. Anti-Semitic mobs roam the streets. The lower-middle-class Jews of Weequahic, in Newark, N.J., cower in a second-floor apartment, trying to figure out how to use a gun to defend themselves. ("You pulla the trig," a kindly neighbor explains.) The novel is sinister, vivid, dreamlike, preposterous and, at the same time, creepily plausible."

Judy Snow can reserve copies of the book from the GN Library if you let her know that you want one. Please email Judy at judyscott2006@yahoo.com if you would like her to reserve one for you.

General Donations

In Loving Memory Of:

Erling Tholfsen, Father of Judy Brook
Judy & Helman Brook
Rose Victorio DeFazio, Mother of Victor DeFazio
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Maurice Wagner, Father of Helene Dorfman
Tillie Kelner, Dear Friend of the Greenstein Family
The Stepdaughter of Helene's Brother
Herbert Dorfman, Husband of Helene Dorfman
Helene Dorfman
Helen Miller, Mother of Rhoda Epstein
Rhoda & Michael Epstein
Ella & Fred Guttstadt, Mother & Father of Leonie Goldfarb
Leonie & Norman Goldfarb
Naomi Greene, Wife of Franklin Greene
Omaira Enriquez & Franklin Greene
Eugene Lustig, Father of Lia Hans
Lia & Mortimer Hans
Harvey Rosenberg, Brother of Ruth Isaac
Marlene Barhalias, Sister-in-Law of Ruth Isaac
Toby & Herbert Rosenberg, Mother & Father of Ruth Isaac
Ruth Isaac
Martin Turman, Brother-in-Law of Gary Feibert
Terry & Richard Joseph
Florence Waze-Fink, Mother of Cantor Leslie Friedlander
Helene Dorfman
Rona Levy
Willa Lewis & Ed Moulin
Rita Rubenstein
Arlene Soifer
Rose Fuchs, Mother of Connie Maller
Charles Maller, Father of Abraham Maller
Connie Maller
Gerry Greenberg, Mother of Shelley Feldman
Mamie Proschuck, Mother of Janette Lee
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Alfred Bein, Uncle of William Rosenberg
William Rosenberg

In Loving Memory of (cont'd):

Susan Rubenstein Weiss, Daughter of Rita Rubenstein and Sister of Neil Rubenstein
Ritsuko Ando & Neil Rubenstein
Rita Rubenstein
Seymour Rubin, Father of Harold Rubin
Harold Rubin
Abraham Secofsky, Father of Joan and Martin Secofsky
Joan Secofsky & Herbert Kwasnik
Lydia Sherman, Mother of Shelley Sherman
Nathan Sherman, Father of Shelley Sherman
Shelley Sherman
Louis Rosner, Father of Harriet Shindler
Harriet Shindler
Helen Cohen, Cousin of Bella Bekker-Silver
The Boxenbaum & Stern Family Circle
P.F.C. Leonard Kristal, Brother of Evelyn Solow
Evelyn & Richard Solow
Henry Weiner, Father of Richard Weiner
Alice & Richard Weiner
Michael Tannen, Father of Susan Welkis
Susan & Jerry Welkis
Hannah Zimberg, Mother of Shelley Willcox
Shelley & Robert Willcox

Kol Nidre:

Sue & Howard Begelman
Michelle & Rod Birnbaum
Susan & Bella Drucker
Yvette & Ronen Gitelman
Ruth Isaac
Mindy & Howard Israel
Meryl & Jack Menashe
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Lloyd Perell
Linda Rabino
Sherri & Richard Roth
Ritsuko Ando & Neil Rubenstein
Shelley & Robert Willcox

In Honor of:

Ruth Mandelbaum's Kindness
Kathie Davis
The Hospitality of Suzanne Branch & Gary McTiernan
Kathie Davis
Gail & Robert Gordon
Ruth Mandelbaum
The Birth of Skylar Blumenthal, Granddaughter of Rachel Greenwald
Rona Levy
The Birth of Calvin Emjay Ortenburger, Grandson of Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Ruth Isaac
Rona Levy
The Birthday of Bob Gordon
Willa Lewis & Ed Moulin
All the Volunteers Who Worked at the Tag Sale
Bill Rosenberg
The Hospitality of Judy & Helman Brook
Stanley Turetsky
The Speedy Recovery of Susan Bendor
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Terry Birnbaum-Horton & Brian Horton
Mindy & Howard Israel
Terry & Richard Joseph
Ruth Mandelbaum
Bill Rosenberg
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
The Marriage of Sarah Magida & Student Rabbi Chase Foster
Ruth Isaac
The Speedy Recovery of Jeff Schadlow
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver



Bequests to Temple Isaiah

It's both impressive and heartwarming—leaving a legacy to our temple for your favorite program or general funding. You can begin by writing out this sentence directing your attorney to modify your will:

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath _____ (a dollar amount, or all or a percentage of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate) to Temple Isaiah of Great Neck, now or formerly in the Village of Great Neck Plaza, 1 Chelsea Place, in the State of New York, for its general purposes."

[Our federal tax ID number is 11-2202208]

For further information, contact the office—we'll be happy to help.—or contact Steve Fein, who has generously volunteered to provide a free consultation on the topic.

RIVERSIDE- Nassau North Chapels

55 North Station Plaza
Great Neck, New York 11021
(516) 487-9600

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TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place
Great Neck, NY 11021

www.templeisaiahgn.org

Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism
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**Deadline for submissions
10th of the Month**

BULLETIN

Co-Presidents: Kathie Davis, Bill Rosenberg
Cantor: Leslie Friedlander
Student Rabbi: Chase Foster
Production: Cathy Reibstein

UJA-Federation of New York's

Partners in Caring

**Do you have a family member or friend with
special needs?**

Sid Jacobson JCC offers year round social, recreational, fitness and vocational programs for children, teens and young adults with a variety of special needs and ability levels. All of our year round programs are facilitated by educators and social workers with low child to staff ratios. Afterschool, evening, weekend, vacation and summer programs are available.

Don't Miss Out On:

Travel programs (Adult Adventures, Teen Travelers, Overnight Adventures)
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Fitness, Swim and Sports programs
Drop-in Teen/Young Adult Lounges
School Vacation programs
After-school Respite programs
Vocational programs (VTEC)

For more information and easy registration, visit our website at www.sjjcc.org/special-needs or call Marissa Caira at 516-484-1545, ext. 127