

February 2017 Calendar of Events

Friday, Feb. 3—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Tuesday, Feb. 7—Worship Committee Meeting, 6:45pm; Board Meeting, 7:30pm

Friday, Feb. 10—Kabbalat Shabbat, 6:15pm

Saturday, Feb. 11—Torah Study, 9:30am; Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30am; Tu B'Shevat Seder Luncheon, 12:00 noon

Friday, Feb. 17—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Saturday, Feb. 18—Torah Study, 9:30am

Sunday, Feb. 19— "Nora's Will," Film at 2:00pm

Tuesday, Feb. 21—David Aubrey Film Series, #1, 7:30pm

Friday, Feb. 24—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Saturday, Feb. 25—Torah Study, 9:30am

Monday, Feb. 27—Lunch & Learn with Cantor Leslie Friedlander at Ayhan's Shish Kebab, 11:30am

Tuesday, Feb. 28—David Aubrey Film Series, #2, 7:30pm

Save these Dates in March:

3/2 Current Events

3/3 Shabbat Across America

3/11 Purim Spiel & Megillah Reading

3/12 Goods & Services Auction

3/14 Final Film in David Aubrey Series

SAVE THE DATE!

TEMPLE ISIAH GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION



Sunday, March 12, 2:00pm

REMEMBER, ONE OF THE BIGGEST FUNDRAISERS OF THE YEAR AND OUR MOST EXCITING EVENT IS FAST APPROACHING. PLEASE PLAN TO BE THERE.

BID ON: VACATIONS, THEATER TICKETS, JEWELRY, ELEGANT DINNERS, RESTAURANTS, SPORTING EVENTS, ART, TOYS, COMPUTER LESSONS & MORE

START COLLECTING GIFTS FROM THE PEOPLE YOU DO BUSINESS WITH AND LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS EVENT A HUGE SUCCESS

(ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATES FOR PRINTING ARE ON PAGES 6 AND 7))

CANTOR'S COLUMN

BY CANTOR LESLIE FRIEDLANDER

WINTER IS MORE THAN JUST THE WEATHER



While we are now in the middle of a wet and stormy winter, it is comforting for me to remember that February is the last full month of “official” winter. And even though I have always lived in cold climates, replete with four distinct seasons, it seems that I will always think of winter as the one truly transitional season between the insularity of the cold and the openness of warm weather.

Living in an era where we take our creature comforts for granted we often need to be reminded that what has become routine for us also represents blessings for which we should be thankful. The presence of rain and snow, which for us is often no more than a footnote on the evening news, was always a central focal point of concern for our ancestors.

There was a time when most people lived in agricultural societies, in climates where rain is the most important variable in the agricultural cycle. In Israel, rain falls only between October and May, predominantly in the winter months of December, January and February. In fact, rain is so consequential that there are multiple words in Hebrew that differentiate the types of rain – early, late, heavy, light. Even our ancient people understood that rain was essential for the conservation and perpetuity of life.

So important is rain that its descent from heaven signifies the entrance of spirituality into our earthly world. Prayers for rain are among the earliest liturgical texts and rain is regarded as an expression of divine providence. The abundance or scarcity of rain is regarded in the Bible as one of God's means of rewarding or punishing the Israelites, because the “keys of rain” are used by God to chasten people and cause them to repent. Both unseasonable rain (I Samuel 12:18ff.) and drought (I Kings 17) are spoken of by the prophets as signs of God's disapproval. In Ezekiel 34:26 we read, “...that which falls in good quantity and at the expected time is called a blessing.”

And as is recited in traditional services during this winter period, “...In [the merit of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, and the Twelve Tribes], favor us with abundant water... For a blessing and not for a curse, for life and not for death, for plenty and not for famine.” Let us remember that our ancestors did not simply wait for winter to end. They understood that their survival was dependent upon the success of their partnership with the Creator. The people worked the land while the Creator provided the heavenly nourishment that made life possible. As we move from winter to spring, let us never forget the primacy of this eternal partnership.

*With many blessings,
Cantor Leslie Friedlander*



“VOICES OF ISAIAH”

What Brought Us to the Door of Our Synagogue?

By Steve Fein & Denise Miller

In October 2016, the Isaiah family gathered together in prayer and fellowship for our 50th High Holiday Season and the start of our Jubilee Year. It is a time to reflect on our past and look forward to the future.

STEVE: We arrived at Temple Isaiah via different routes. I came from a Conservative background and was searching for a temple after years of being unaffiliated. I remembered being impressed by Temple Isaiah when I was a guest and had an aliyah at Allie's bat mitzvah. My experience with Reform Judaism to that point had led me to believe that just about all the praying was done in English and that somehow turned me off.

I was pleasantly surprised to hear familiar prayers in Hebrew and familiar melodies that I remembered from my earlier years of growing up and going to Hebrew school. Denise invited me to attend High Holiday services and I enjoyed them immensely, from the impressive chapel of the Community Church to the Kol Nidre Appeal. The need for funds was cited (isn't it always?) and I told Denise I would try to get a donation from one of my clients who had a charitable foundation. I did so and that's when I got "Terried". Terry Joseph convinced me to use the donation as dues and become a member. A year later I was on the board and a couple of years after that, I was the president.

DENISE: In 1986, my daughter Alexandra and I moved to Great Neck to begin a new, uncertain time in our lives in an unfamiliar town. The following year I decided that Allie should go to Hebrew school and I looked around for a synagogue to join.

After attending and not loving services at the other Reform temples in town, I found Temple Isaiah. I was drawn to its small size and to the fact that it met in a lovely, but unpretentious church. After meeting with Rabbi Steinberg, I was convinced. A synagogue with a woman rabbi, about my age, with children about my daughter's age, made me feel right at home. Truly, on that day I found what was to become my home for many, many years.

BOTH: We have shared many Shehecheyanu moments during our time at Temple Isaiah that we will always treasure: Allie's bat mitzvah; Denise's adult bat mitzvah and reconfirmation; Steve's bar mitzvah redux on the 50th Anniversary of the original; both of us being honored at the annual dinner dance; the congregational trip to Israel; the marching from the Community Church to dedicate our new building; and, most of all, being married by Rabbi Ted, whom we will always treasure as our rabbi and our friend. The friendships and relationships we have made with other members of the congregation will be an important part of our lives forever.



We welcome and solicit your personal story and experience in our “Voices of Isaiah” column. 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.

Tu B'Shevat— "The Other Seder"

By Belle & Elliott Gayer



Tu B'Shevat is a holiday with biblical roots. Each year the Israelites were expected to bring one-tenth of their fruits to the Temple in Jerusalem as an offering to God. This directive to tithe dates back to the Torah and its deep concern with trees, harvests, and the natural world. Beginning with the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden all the way through Deuteronomy's injunction against destroying our enemies' fruit trees in times of war, our biblical text is replete with trees, both literal and metaphorical. Indeed, the Torah itself often is referred to as an eitz chayim (tree of life), based on a passage in the Book of Proverbs.

Thus, the Rabbis of the Talmud called Tu B'Shevat the New Year of Trees. Although the celebration of Tu B'Shevat has a long and varied history, the themes most commonly ascribed to the holiday today are the environment and social action. It is considered a festival of nature, full of wonder, joy, and thankfulness for God's creation in anticipation of the renewal of the natural world. During this festival, Jews recall the sacred obligation to care for God's world and our responsibility to share the fruits of God's earth.

It is a tradition during this holiday to plant new trees. In modern times, Tu B'Shevat was nourished by the rise of the Zionist movement, which re-emphasized the Jewish people's connections to the land and the natural world. Jews throughout the world responded by donating trees to mark smichot (special occasions).

In celebration of its century year in 2017, the Great Neck Park District added 100 trees throughout Great Neck. Since Rabbi Tsuruoka led Tashlich services in Steppingstone Park, we felt it appropriate to secure a tree in his honor in the park. We will honor the rabbi with a plaque dedication ceremony during Tashlich 2017.

This year Tu B'Shevat falls on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Please join us for a Tu B'Shevat seder luncheon immediately following services at 12:00 noon. We will have a selection of fine kosher wines and a creative menu featuring the seven species of food native to the Land of Israel and commonly eaten during the Tu B'Shevat seder: barley, dates, figs, grapes, pomegranates, olives, and wheat.

There is no charge for the seder for temple members. However, if you wish to make a donation to the temple in recognition of the tree purchased at Steppingstone, your generosity will be both appreciated and acknowledged.

The charge to attend the seder for non-temple members is \$36 per person.

RSVPs are required no later than Wednesday, February 8, by email at tubishvat.seder@gmail.com or by phone, 516-502-5174.

We look forward to seeing you.
Elliott & Belle Gayer



Monday, February 27
Lunch & Learn with Cantor Leslie Friedlander
at Ayhan's Shish Kebab
11:30am – 12:45pm



February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	4
5	6	7 Worship Committee Meeting, 6:45pm; Board Meeting, 7:30pm	8	9	10 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15pm	11 Torah Study, 9:30am; Torah Service, 10:30am; Tu B'shevat Seder Lunch, 12:00noon
12 (Book Club postponed—see page 11 for more information)	13	14	15	16	17 Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	18 Torah Study, 9:30am
19 Picture for a Sunday Afternoon, 2:00pm “Nora’s Will”	20 President’s Day	21 David Aubrey Film Series #1 7:30pm	22	23	24 Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	25 Torah Study, 9:30am
26	27 Lunch & Learn with Cantor Friedlander, 11:30am	28 David Aubrey Film Series #2 7:30pm	<div> <u>Save these Dates in March:</u> 3/2 Current Events 3/3 Shabbat Across America 3/11 Purim Spiel & Megillah Reading 3/12 Goods & Services Auction 3/14 Final Film in David Aubrey Series </div>			



TEMPLE ISAIAH GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION

JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION BEFORE THE BIDDING BEGINS
SHOP FOR NEW & "PRE-OWNED" TREASURES - SAMPLE OUR TASTY DESSERTS

REMEMBER, ONE OF THE BIGGEST FUNDRAISERS OF THE YEAR AND OUR MOST
EXCITING AFTERNOON IS FAST APPROACHING. PLEASE PLAN TO BE THERE.

BID ON: VACATIONS, THEATER TICKETS, JEWELRY, ELEGANT DINNERS, RESTAURANTS,
SPORTING EVENTS, ART, TOYS, COMPUTER LESSONS & MORE

Great Raffle Prizes!

***RETURN THIS RSVP BY FEBRUARY 19 AND RECEIVE 1 FREE RAFFLE
TICKET VALUED AT \$10.00***

Raffle Tickets

\$10 per Ticket

3 Tickets for \$25.00

Auction Reservations

\$18 Adults,

\$5 Children 11-17, Under 10-Free

Raffle Drawing at Auction

Need not be present to win

No purchase necessary

TEMPLE ISAIAH GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION

MARCH 12, 2017
2:00PM

NAME(S): _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

AUCTION RESERVATIONS @\$18 ADULTS, \$5 CHILD 11-17 \$ _____

RAFFLE TICKETS @\$10/TKT, OR \$25/3 TKTS \$ _____

(NO OTHER PURCHASE NECESSARY-NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN)

TOTAL ENCLOSED (CHECK PAYABLE TO TEMPLE ISAIAH) \$ _____

***OR PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD (3% FEE FOR CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS)
(MINIMUM FOR CREDIT CARD \$25.00)***

No. _____ TYPE: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

PLEASE ENTER YOUR NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER ON RAFFLE TICKETS AND
RETURN THIS FORM AND TICKETS IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TO
TEMPLE ISAIAH, 1 CHELSEA PLACE, G.N., NY 11021
QUESTIONS: CALL 516-487-5373



Temple Isaiah of Great Neck
1 Chelsea Place, Great Neck, NY 11021
Tel: 516-487-5373 Fax: 516-829-0825

C E R T I F I C A T E O F G I F T

From: March 2017 Goods and Services Auction

To Highest Bidder: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

The bearer of this letter is entitled to:

Authorized signature from firm

Collected by member _____

Note to Member: Please mail this certificate to Cathy at the Temple office. It will be recorded in our catalog and put up for auction.



"PICTURE FOR A SUNDAY AFTERNOON"

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19
2:00PM**

**Continuing Our New "Tradition"
February Film:
"Nora's Will"**
A Mexican Comedy from 2008
"Tremendously Appealing"
- Los Angeles Times

\$10 Fee—Movie & Munchies



IMPORTANT NEWS FROM ARZA

On January 11, 2017, in a landmark case, the Supreme Court of Israel gave the State 30 days to find "good cause" why a woman may not read aloud from a Torah scroll as part of praying at the Kotel! A year ago the Israeli government coalition made an agreement with a wide range of Jews from around the world that



included the Reform and Conservative movements, the North American Jewish Federations, and the Women of the Wall to create an egalitarian prayer space in the Southern Kotel Plaza under Robinson's Arch that is equal in size and in access to the Northern Kotel Plaza and would be overseen by non-Orthodox Jewry.

This is a huge step forward for pluralism at the Western Wall! With this decision, women may be able to pray legally with a Torah at the Western Wall. It also will set the stage for more progressive change in Jewish historic and ritual sites.

Shelley Sherman

Winter 2017 Film Series with David Aubrey



For Women's History Month— Documentaries on Notable Women Who Helped Change the World

**Join our Resident Film “Maven”
David Aubrey for Another Wonderful
Series of Cinema and Talk**

**Mondays Feb. 21, 28 and Tuesday Mar. 14 at
7:30pm**

\$10 per Film Includes Snacks & Soda



It is a Jewish custom and part of the foundation of Judaism to perform an act of tzedakah to honor the memory of the departed and to plant trees on Tu BiSh'vat "The New Year of Trees". A tree has been selected in Steppingstone Park in memory of Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka and there will be a plaque dedication ceremony on Tashlich 2017.

Your entire donation will go to the Temple Isaiah General Fund and all donations are tax-deductible.

Check donation level:

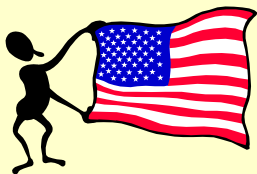
- | | | |
|--|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tu BiSh'vat Donor (15 x Chai) | = | \$240 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Decade Donor (10 x Chai) | = | \$180 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor (2 x Chai) | = | \$ 36 |

Other Events Coming Up in March:

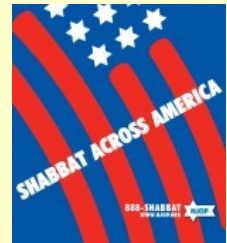
Friday, March 3, 2017

Join tens of thousands of Jews across America as we come together to eat, drink, relax, enjoy, debate and celebrate at the 18th annual

Shabbat Across America



*Bring the family - bring your friends to a
delicious kosher dinner at 6:30PM
followed by Shabbat service at 7:30pm
(A Program of National Jewish Outreach)*



RSVP ***REQUIRED!***—487-5373

Adults: \$36; Children under 13: Free

Bakers wanted: for information

Please call Kathie Davis at 487-1576 or Sheila DeFazio at 643-1459

Thursday, March 2

***“Current Events”
with Helman Brook
7:30pm***

How Is It Going Now?



Saturday, March 11



***Erev Purim:
Megillah Reading
and
Purim Spiel by
Linda Tsuruoka***

General Donations

In Loving Memory Of:

Hilda & Fred Feuerberg, Mother & Father of Linda Burghardt
 Linda & David Burghardt
 Bernard Berkowitz, Uncle of Sheila DeFazio
 Sheila & Victor DeFazio
 Norman Goldfarb, Husband of Leonie Goldfarb
 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
 Rose Greenberg, Grandmother of Mindy Israel
 Mindy & Howard Israel
 Mildred Levinson, Mother of Lee Levinson
 Amy & Lee Levinson
 Abraham "Al" Maller, Husband of Connie Maller
 Connie Maller
 Fred Fein, Father of Steve Fein
 Denise Miller & Steve Fein
 Bernard Rosenberg, Father of William Rosenberg
 William Rosenberg
 Enid Rubin, Mother of Harold Rubin
 Harold Rubin
 Nuhim Causanschi, Brother of Golda Shapiro
 Golda Shapiro
 Paul Eisenman, Father of Bella Bekker-Silver
 Philip Silver, Father of Jonathan Silver
 Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver
 Joseph Kristal, Brother of Evelyn Solow
 Evelyn & Richard Solow
 William Zimberg, Father of Shelley Willcox
 Shelley & Robert Willcox
 Susan Bendor, Mother of Jane and Cathy Bendor
 Amnesty International—Great Neck
 Mona Bokat
 Ruth Isaac
 Meryl & Jack Menashe
 Cornelia Sherman
 Barbara & Alan Tepper

In Honor of :

The Knitting Skills of Ruth Mandelbaum
 Kathie Davis
 Helman Brook's "Current Events"
 June & Allan Feldman
 The Speedy Recovery of Elliott Gayer
 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

In Honor of (Cont'd):

The Speedy Recovery of Brian Horton
 Willa Lewis & Ed Moulin
 The Birth of Henry Maximus Menashe, Grandson of Meryl & Jack Menashe
 The Baby Naming of Skylar Blumenthal, Granddaughter of Rachel Greenwald
 With Appreciation to the Temple Isaiah Community for Welcoming Our New Grandson Meryl & Jack Menashe
 David Aubrey's Generosity in Helping with Rides to Temple
 Rita Rubenstein
 In Honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Talia Shaw and In Appreciation of Cantor Leslie Friedlander
 Stefanie, David & Talia Shaw
 In Honor of Steve Fein
 Evelyn & Richard Solow
 In Honor of Temple Isaiah
 Colleen & Jesse Stoff

Cantor's Chanukah Appeal:

Stephane Lee

Cantor's Discretionary Account:

In Gratitude for Cantor Friedlander's Help and in Memory of Susan Bendor
 Jane and Cathy Bendor and Families

Tree Certificate in Israel:

In Memory of Norman Goldfarb
 In Memory of Faith Marshall
 From Temple Isaiah

Tree Planting in Steppingstone Park to Honor Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka

Belle & Elliott Gayer
 Ruth Mandelbaum
 Meryl & Jack Menashe
 Yvonne Roth
 Judy Snow & Scott Schleifstein
 Golda Shapiro

Jubilee Year Torah Project Sponsor:

June & Allan Feldman

To all the wonderful people who made a contribution in honor of our 50th anniversary:

Please let me apologize for this note being so late. We are spending the winter in Florida and the mail forwarding is not the best.

Thank you so much for all the good wishes.

*Gratefully,
 Alan & Agnes
 Goldschlager*

The next book for the Temple Isaiah Book Club is *Second Person Singular* by Sayed Kashua

Part comedy of manners, part psychological mystery . . . Issues of nationalism, religion, and passing collide with quickly changing social and sexual mores." —*Boston Globe*



A Palestinian who writes in Hebrew, Sayed Kashua defies classification and breaks through

cultural barriers. He communicates, with enormous emotional power and a keen sense of the absurd, the particular alienation and the psychic costs of people struggling to straddle two worlds. *Second Person Singular* is a deliciously complex psychological mystery and a searing dissection of the individuals that comprise a divided society. It is also a gripping tale of love and betrayal, honesty and artifice, which asks whether it is possible to truly reinvent ourselves, to shed our old skin and start anew.

"[Kashua's] dry wit shines... with each of the main characters offering windows into the prejudices and longings of Arabs and Jews..." - *Los Angeles Times*

April Meeting Date To Be Determined (The Plot Against America discussion is postponed until fall.)

RIVERSIDE- Nassau North Chapels

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

PRE-NEED COUNSELING AVAILABLE

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Riverside Memorial Chapel is a participating member firm of The PRE Plan,TM
an FDIC insured fund for pre-paid funeral arrangements.



TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place
Great Neck, NY 11021

www.templeisaiiahgn.org
Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism
Issue No. 169 Published Monthly

**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

**Need Help?
Facing a
Challenge?**

Partners in Caring (PIC) provides licensed social workers to bring the breadth of programs and services from Sid Jacobson JCC's Specialized Services pillar to our local synagogues. PIC helps create a caring, responsive Jewish community by offering support for:

*Bereavement Parenting Life Cycle Issues
Marital/Family Concerns Caregiving
Divorce/Separation
Geriatric/Special Needs Care*

PARTNERS IN CARING STAFF

Margy Ringelheim, LMSW
Barbara Goldstein, LCSW
Leslie Grama-Shapiro, LMSW
Michelle Laser, LCSW, Director of Social Services

Call 516-484-1545, ext. 196
Phone calls are confidential

