



TEMPLE ISAIAH *BULLETIN*

Office - 487-5373, email: isaiahgn@yahoo.com

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April 2020

As you know, all services and programs in our building are cancelled indefinitely, but we have begun to offer Shabbat evening services on Facebook, and Torah study on Saturday mornings using Zoom.

To "attend" our Friday evening services, join us on Facebook. **Just go to the Rabbi's home page (Jerry Blum – and ask to become his Facebook friend) and you will be able to join our services at 6:30 pm.** We will also be expanding our adult learning offerings as we become more familiar with the Zoom online meeting platform.

Our Saturday morning Torah Study can be joined at 9:30am using Zoom. All you have to do is to **click on the link below** [Join Zoom Meeting] and **then allow the page to open zoom.us**, click on **join audio with my computer**, then **click on allow video in the lower left-hand corner**. You will be in the zoom room and you will see the pictures of all the attendees. The meeting will start shortly thereafter.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/6836685947>

The office will be closed, but you can leave a phone message at 516-487-5373 or email to isaiahgn@yahoo.com. Mail will also be picked up regularly.

Dear Friends,

We hope that you and your family are all well and adapting to our new reality. It is truly a difficult time for all; emotionally, physically and financially. We are disappointed to let you know that our annual Dinner scheduled for May 7th has been postponed due to these unusual circumstances. We do, however, plan on celebrating together later this year.

It is important to all of us that Temple Isaiah is able to continue to operate during these difficult times. The Dinner Journal brings in the needed funds to meet our ongoing financial commitments and balance our budget. It is one of two major fundraisers of the year that makes everything else work through the year.

Although we are unable to hold the Dinner until this crisis passes, we can create a beautiful Journal which will commemorate our gratitude to Marcia Null and David Aubrey for all they do to make our Temple Isaiah special. The Journal will also make it possible for Temple Isaiah to be there for us all.

Please review the Journal ad form on page 6 and consider placing a special greeting or ad for our Honorees and Temple Isaiah, and asking any of your usual business contacts to do the same. We hope you will be generous at this time of need.

***Sincerely,
The Journal Committee
The Dinner Committee
The Officers of Temples Isaiah***

**2020
Journal/Dinner
News**

RABBI'S COLUMN

By Rabbi Jerry Blum

I write to you this evening from the small table I use as a desk, deep in the canyons of apartment buildings that make up the East Side of Manhattan. A lone light shining brightly above my computer, a small island in the apartment we call home these days. It is usually loud on the streets of the city at all hours, but tonight, and for the last many nights, there is nothingness. Just an uneasy quiet that covers all of New York, and so too, many parts of the country and the world.



This is such a confusing time for us all, for it combines contrasting elements. We are told to socially distance ourselves, and yet, to an extent I have never seen or felt before, this pandemic is showing us just how interconnected we all are. Not only with our friends, family, and community, but also how connected we are on a global level. In this age of social distancing, I have also noticed the need for us to connect, and how we found new ways to engage. We are now challenged to find a new sense of balance between our senses of independence and connection.

I was speaking with a rabbi friend the other day and we both commented on how we spent the last few Shabbatot at home, quietly eating dinner together with loved ones, or by ourselves, and we.... rested. We sat and relaxed with nothing pressing for us to take care of (except apparently to buy bread and toilet paper). We walked in parks, or around the block, noticed sunrises and sunsets, and found new ways to connect with the people we love. It felt as if we talked for hours, never once rushing off to another commitment. We both found a way to bring light into that very narrow place we now call "sheltering in place".

When the Israelites were slaves in the land of Egypt, our Torah tells us that they too were in a very narrow place. It is part of our collective DNA to understand that we as a people were always vulnerable, and thus predisposed to find ways to connect and survive in what was a very hostile world. So too in our present environment. We are faced with many dangers that threaten our very existence, but as a Jewish community we have found new ways to connect and survive, albeit through modern technology. We have brought prayer services into your homes via the internet, and have continually reached out, even at times, just to say hello. This, dear friends is so crucial to our survival.

On Pesach, the most celebrated of Jewish holidays, we often find ourselves at large *sedarim* (seders) huddling around the table packed with family and friends, and full of our favorite Passover foods, wine, haggadot and of course matzot. This year though, many of us will find ourselves once again in a very narrow place. Our own Mitzrayim (Egypt), that feels as if we will never get out and begs the question, "*Mah Nishtantah haShanah haZot, meKol haShanim*" *Why is this year different from other years?* This year, many of us will be huddled around a seder table that may just have one or two people. We might be separated from beloved family, but all is not lost. There are so many ways to be part of a seder this year, albeit virtually. The Reform movement has sent out a guide [link here](#) that has many ideas for your Passover Seder and the cantor and I are working on our own version as well. Keep an eye out for updates on Pesach and a great many other learning and socializing activities online, from your Temple Isaiah family.

In this time of social distancing, let us remember that reaching out to our family, friends, neighbors and acquaintances is so important. Just because we are staying put in our homes doesn't mean we can't connect with others. I urge you to pick up a phone, text, email or if you can, connect virtually (via electronic devise) to everyone you know. Even just for a few minutes. Remember to be kind, gentle and above all, in these anxious times, please spread around as much contagious love as you can. Our Sages say "*gam zeh ya'avur*" *this too shall pass*, for as Psalm 30:11 teaches, "*You (Adonai) have turned my mourning into dancing*".

Chag Pesach Sameach.

Rabbi Jerry

CANTOR'S COLUMN
By Cantor Leslie Friedlander

Our Spiritual Response to the Current Stressful Reality



It might come as a surprise to some of us - and it stunned me - that we had nearly 70 people at our virtual Shabbat service the past two Friday evenings. The rabbi and I were in the otherwise empty sanctuary, candles glowing, and as the service unfolded, more and more names appeared on the margin of the screen, indicating that people were logging on.

Every once in a while a tech-savvy person sent out hearts that floated on the screen, telling us that we aren't alone, that they appreciate and love what we're doing. Those electronically floating hearts were the closest we can get to a hug these days, and in the moment, just as appreciated.

It makes me think of that Joni Mitchell song, *Big Yellow Taxi*. Mitchell sings, "Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone..."

Our virtual service experience teaches us and reminds us that the value of our prayers offers us the benefits of a personal, spiritual connection that transcends the words of the prayers. What began as an adaptation to a new reality offers us a revitalized congregational coming together, a meaningful, virtual personal connection.

May we find the strength and inspiration to continue to transform what we've begun into the mainstream of our synagogue life.

Cantor Leslie Friedlander

*Please join us for Friday Night Shabbat
Services on Facebook at 6:30pm and
Torah Study on Zoom at 9:30 on
Saturday mornings*

Thank you to all the members and friends of Temple Isaiah who voted for the Reform Movement in the recent World Zionist Congress elections. The results are astounding and will make a real difference when the Congress convenes in Jerusalem in October.

THE RESULTS OF THE 2020 WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTIONS

- **ARZA/Vote Reform and Reconstructionist Movement was the clear winner. Nearly 10,000 votes ahead of nearest slate. We are the largest Zionist party in the U.S. and that was made clear and should not be taken for granted.**
- **ARZA/Vote Reform increased its vote nearly 50%, adding 10,000 new voters. That is especially impressive since we had the most votes five years ago.**
- **Israel is important to our Movement and our people deeply care about seeing a Jewish and democratic Israel that cares about the issues of pluralism, equality and freedom.**
- **ARZA/Vote Reform is positioned to lead a powerful progressive block. Adding Mercaz (Conservative Movement) and Hatikvah (The Progressive Bloc), the block has over 54,000 votes or about 45% of the total World Zionist Congress delegates.**

Shelley Sherman



April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Shabbat Service, 6:30pm	4 Torah Study 9:30am
5	6	7	8 Passover begins at sundown 	9 Second Night Seder	10 Shabbat Service, 6:30pm	11 Torah Study 9:30am
12	13	14	15	16	17 Shabbat Service, 6:30pm	18 Lay-led Torah Study, 9:30am
19	20	21	22	23	24 Shabbat Service, 6:30pm	25 Torah Study
26	27	28	29	30		
<div> <p>Until Further Notice, all Friday Night Services begin at 6:30pm on Facetime</p> <p>All Saturday Morning Torah Studies begin at 9:30am</p> </div>						



*Temple Isaiah of Great Neck Proudly
Announces Its Upcoming Journal
Honoring
David Aubrey and
Marcia Null
We Invite Your Participation in
Our Journal*

Advertisement Rates

- ☐ **Menorah Page** \$18,000
 - ☐ **Shofar Page** \$9,000
 - ☐ **Platinum Page** \$3,600
 - ☐ **Gold Page** \$1,800
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 - ☐ **Full Page** \$ 500
 - ☐ **Half Page** \$ 360
 - ☐ **Quarter Page** \$ 200
 - ☐ **Eighth Page** \$ 100
- (Business card size)*

*Ad Copy
(Please print or clip here—No staples)*

(No staples, please)

- ☐ **Congratulations to Our Honorees** \$75

Name _____

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE—Ads Must Be Submitted by May 15, 2020
(All or part of the ad may be tax deductible. Consult with your tax advisor.)

- ☐ Check Made Payable to Temple Isaiah of Great Neck enclosed
- ☐ Visa ☐ Master Charge ☐ American Express (3% fee for credit card payment)

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Temple Isaiah of Great Neck 1 Chelsea Place, Great Neck, NY 11021 516-487-5373

Ad Obtained by: _____

General Donations

In Loving Memory of:

Edgar Bendor, Father of Jane and Cathy Bendor
Jane Bendor & Brian Graham
Gary McTiernan, Husband of Suzanne Branch
Suzanne Branch
Sylvia Gersman, Mother of Norman Gersman
Suzanne Branch
Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Willa Lewis & Edward Moulin
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
Clare & Steve Warshavsky
Charles Shapiro, Father of Barbara Feldman
Merrill Goldman, Life Partner of Barbara Feldman
Barbara Feldman
Barry Weinstein, Brother of Harriet Gellert
Harriet Gellert
Lawrence Schwartz, Husband of Helene Schwartz
Mindy & Howard Israel
Adolph Fuchs, Father of Connie Maller
Harriet Balogh, Mother of Andy & Richard Balogh
Connie Maller
Max & Rech Fein, Grandparents of Steve Fein
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Bruce Reider, Husband of Leslie Reider
Leslie Reider
Mary Rosner, Mother of Harriet Shindler
Harriet Shindler
Jacob Soifer, Father of Herman Soifer
Arene Soifer

In Honor of:

Belle & Elliott Gayer for the Wonderful
Tu B'Shevat Seder
Michelle & Rod Birnbaum
The Speedy Recovery of Beth & Sam
Samos
June & Allan Feldman
The Birth of Millie Ortenburger, Granddaughter
of Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
Clare & Steve Warshavsky
The Speedy Recovery of Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Ruth Isaac
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
Clare & Steve Warshavsky



The Tree of Life:

In Honor of the Birth of Ellie Joy Brenner,
Granddaughter of Arleyn & Rabbi Jerry Blum
Michelle & Rod Birnbaum
Suzanne Branch
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Amy & Howard Gorman
Diane Haber
Ruth Isaac
Terry & Richard Joseph
Jean Lesser
Willa Lewis & Edward Moulin
Meryl & Jack Menshe
Paula Newman
Lloyd Perell
Cathy & Gene Reibstein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver
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Clare & Steven Warshavsky
Alice & Richard Weiner

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Sid Jacobson JCC's Partners in Caring offers an array of specialized services including support groups, counseling, information and community referrals, workshops, autism and Alzheimer's programs, as well as other social services. Together with UJA-Federation of New York and your synagogue, we are your partner in caring for you and your family.

PIC helps create a caring, responsive Jewish community by providing support for:

**Bereavement Parenting Life Cycle Issues
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For assistance, contact us at 516-484-1545 ext. 196.

A licensed social worker will respond promptly to provide you with information and support.

**Partners in Caring is funded by a grant from UJA-Federation of New York and
partnering synagogues**



SJJCC.ORG

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TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place
Great Neck, NY 11021

templeisaiahgn.org

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***Deadline for submissions
10th of the Month***

BULLETIN

President: Steven Warshavsky
Rabbi: Jerry Blum
Cantor: Leslie Friedlander
Production: Cathy Reibstein