

**Terry Birnbaum-Horton is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting:**  
**Zoom event: Wednesday June 10 @ 7:30-8:00**  
**Topic: What is Spiritual Resistance?**

We are going to begin to offer short evening programs to engage our community in interesting topics and discussions. The talks will be about 15 minutes, but program length will vary based on the audience. Suggestions appreciated.

Our first program is: *What is Spiritual Resistance and how can it help us during these difficult times?* We can gain control by distancing ourselves from our present and creating positivity in the moment through engaging in many pursuits.

***Zoom in On Wednesday, June 10@ 7:30.***

**Information to join in:**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**[What is Spiritual Resistance](#)**

**Meeting ID: 817 4188 1137      Password: 131626**  
**One tap mobile**  
**+19292056099,,81741881137#,,1#,131626# US (New York)**



**Dial by your location—+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)**  
**Meeting ID: 817 4188 1137      Password: 131626**  
**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81741881137>**

*There is at least one thing we know about the future—the High Holidays will be coming in mid-September and your clergy, officers and ritual committee have been hard at work already making plans (and Plan B and Plan C, etc.).*

*In the event that we will not be able to have in-person services in our sanctuary we are researching all of the alternative modalities and resources available in order to assure that our holiday observances will be meaningful to us all.*

*Shortly, you will be contacted by phone or email to address those aspects of the HH services that are most integral to your observance. If we go to a virtual model, we know that services will have to be different—at the very least shorter and more varied. Please be thinking about this and be prepared when you are contacted to discuss or answer questions about your feelings about these holiday services.*



**Thank you!**  
**Shelley Sherman and Ruth Isaac, Co-chairs of the Ritual Committee**  
**Terry Birnbaum-Horton & Scott Schleifstein**  
**Rabbi Blum & Cantor Friedlander**

## **RABBI'S COLUMN**

By Rabbi Jerry Blum

It's occurred to me that in the past few months, the line between work and home life has disappeared. My "*to-do*" list gets longer every day and there's less time devoted to self-care. There's less time to breathe, to exercise, nor is there any time devoted to self-development.



I'm sure we all know of people who exercised every day, lost weight (I call it my covid 19 [lbs]), become gourmet chefs, or yoga masters, and although I did bake a fairly decent challah, I have been focused on daily zoom sessions (about how to have better zoom sessions), temple work, countless clergy webinars, life cycle events and of course services. Not that I'm complaining, because I love what I do and it is meaningful to me both emotionally and spiritually, but I still have to take the time for make sure I will be able to carry on my life's work.

A dear friend, Rabbi Mitchel Feld wrote, "possibly the biggest loss in the end is, if we come out on the other side of this (pandemic) unchanged". For me, this statement was just like the sound of the shofar, and it made me think about how I spend my time, how I choose to see myself and the way I react to my surroundings and this environment. This simple statement helped to open my eyes to the possibilities of using my time differently and embracing the concept that change is good (even when it's not), and let's face it, sometimes it feels right to stay comfortably the same. (And, between you and me, there's not a thing wrong with that because we need the safety of the familiar). But this inspired me to change my "*to-do*" list, into my "*to-be list*" and perhaps it can do the same for you.

One could begin to devote more time to self-awareness and self-growth. Perhaps learn new things, develop different talents and expand our horizons. The internet is full of great courses and amazing virtual tours of the great museums. (I for one will be working on my [Jewish] meditation skills). Now might be the time *to-become* open to new ideas and schedule into our days, some time to be present for ourselves. We could also try to go beyond the limits we have placed on ourselves and to challenge the status quo in our lives. As I have often said, we are always under construction, and our sages of the Mishnah agree. Rabbi Hillel in the Pirke Avot says: "*Im lo achshav, ei matai – If not now, when?*" Let us take Rabbi Hillel's word to heart and turn our *to-do(s)* into *to-be(s)*.

*Rabbi Jerry*

## **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

**By Terry Birnbaum-Horton**



**I start my term as President of Temple Isaiah with trepidation. My thoughts are scattered with so much to do. Where do I start?**

**This year will be remembered in infamy, can we change that? It is a difficult time for individuals, let alone a small home of worship. Let's change it!**

**How can I make a difference? How can we make a difference?  
We can support each other and we can support all that keeps us**

**together.**

**The difference that I hope to achieve during these extraordinary and difficult times and beyond is to bring us all together in the pursuit of all things Temple Isaiah. Our place to worship, meditate, learn, discuss and gather to celebrate and gather for fun.**

**Thoughts to ponder: *What can each of us do?***

***We can participate together—in projects at home, Zoom worship and events to come for now and plans for our future, back in our building.***

**What is your talent, what is your joy? Jewish themed or not? *Writing, art, cooking, gardening, crafts, communicating, organizing, technology.*  
*How can I present it to others?***

***What can I do for others and for myself?***

**We don't have our building for now but we will. In the meantime there is much we can do together to satisfy the now and prepare for our future. I look forward to continuing my reach-out to everyone and I encourage everyone to reach out to me.**

**Let's all make a difference!**

**Sincerely, Terry**

***Please remember to check your emails for Temple Isaiah news, programs, and events as we develop our new normal.***

***We hope that you reach out and join some of the future events or even consider hosting one. We also hope you reach out if you have technology issues and questions that we can help you with so that you can participate.***

***- Terry***



## Enhancing your Friday Night Services with Zoom

We hope everyone has been enjoying the ability to join our virtual Friday night services with Rabbi Blum and Cantor Friedlander. Please note that when you join via the Zoom link you are both muted, and your video is shut off. Please remember to leave both off until after services when the rabbi invites you to turn on your video and audio. Here is a helpful tip on how to improve the view on your computer screen during services.

- 1) Put your screen on Gallery View. You can toggle between speaker and gallery view with the icon at the top right-hand corner of your screen.
- 2) Hide Non-Video Participants by following these easy instructions:
  - A. When you are in Gallery View, right-click on any participant that has their video off, or you can click on the 3 dots at the upper right of their participant box.
  - B. Choose Hide Non-Video Participants to hide all users with their video off.

If you have followed these instructions correctly, you should only see on your screen the rabbi and cantor side by side and not see anyone else.

*Happy Zooming.*



## CARES Act Expands Tax Deductions for Charitable Giving in 2020



If you take the standard deduction on your 2020 tax return (the one that you'll file in 2021), you can claim a brand new "above-the-line" deduction of up to \$300 for *cash* donations to charity you make this year.

If you itemize on Schedule A of your tax return, you can claim a deduction for your charitable donations. However, the amount you can deduct for cash contributions is generally limited to 60% of your adjusted gross income (AGI). Any cash donations over that amount can be carried over for up to five years and deducted later.

The CARES Act lifts the 60% of AGI limit for cash donations made in 2020 (although there is still a 100% of AGI limit on all charitable contributions). That means itemizers can deduct more of their charitable cash contributions this year. As with the new above-the-line deduction, donations to donor advised funds and supporting organizations do not count.

Please be sure to discuss this with your tax preparer when filing your 2020 tax return next year.

# **Temple Isaiah Board of Trustees 2020-2021**

## **Executive Committee**

**President: Terry Birnbaum-Horton**

**Executive Vice President: Scott Schleifstein**

**Treasurer: Howard Gorman**

**Financial Secretary: Bill Hersh**

**Recording Secretary: Linda Burghardt**

## **Trustees:**

### **Term Ending 6/2021**

**Steve Fein**

**Belle Gayer**

**Elliott Gayer**

**Denise Miller**

**Terry Joseph**

**Martin Secofsky**

### **Term Ending 6/2022**

**Ruth Isaac**

**Meryl Menashe**

**Marcia Null**

**June Feldman**

**Kathie Davis**

### **Term Ending 6/2023**

**Sheila DeFazio**

**Rachel Greenwald**

**Rona Levy**

**Shelley Sherman**

**Lloyd Perell**

## **Immediate Past President:**

**Steven Warshavsky**

## **Founding President:**

**Bernard Rosenberg**

***Reminder:  
Our New Fiscal Year Begins  
June 1st.  
Watch the mail for  
your membership papers  
and please send them in  
promptly.***

# June 2020

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



*As our new fiscal year begins, let's review some of the words from our Temple Isaiah promotional literature and remember to encourage new members of the community to join us:*

Temple Isaiah of Great Neck was founded in 1967 and is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ). We are committed to the equality of all congregational members without regard to age, sex, family circumstances or financial status. We welcome interfaith families and count many Jews by choice among our members and trustees.

From our bylaws:

*"This congregation has been organized to promote the faith of Judaism; to provide an appropriate means for religious worship; to afford religious education for the congregation; to stimulate fellowship in the Jewish community and support worthwhile efforts for the betterment of humanity."*

We look forward to sharing our special qualities with you, whether through membership or by your participation in our worship services, social or community events.

Temple Isaiah is an environment in which it is easy to get involved and to be heard. Fair warning: if you suggest a new program or service, you may find yourself in charge of it!

If this is the kind of atmosphere that appeals to you—one in which you and your family can maintain your Jewish connection in a small, friendly and non-competitive environment—Temple Isaiah may be the right choice for you, and you'll be warmly welcomed here.



***Last Minute News: Our next Book Club selection (date to be announced—probably early July) is *Button Man* by Andrew Gross***



***Button Man* is a stirring story of a Jewish family brought together in the dawn of the women's garment business and torn apart by the birth of organized crime in New York City in the 1930s**



Reminder: Join Our First Zoom Event on Wednesday, June 10—Details on Page 1

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*Did you miss the Virtual Journal honoring David Aubrey and Marcia Null?*

*Steve Warshavsky created a beautiful tribute to our honorees, and our members provided a wonderful level of participation.*

*In case you haven't seen it, please check it out at:*

<https://online.flowpaper.com/7a06076e/TempleIsaiah2020Journal/>



*"FREE HAMMOCKS, all over town. It's like a miracle!"*

*Have you seen a cartoon that lightened your spirits in these trying times? If so, send it to the temple office and we'll try to share it with your fellow congregants.*



## **General Donations**

### ***In Loving Memory of:***

Ruth Mandelbaum  
Suzanne Branch  
Judy Ensler, Sister of Sheila DeFazio  
Sheila & Victor DeFazio  
Irving Warshavsky, Father of Joan Domow  
And Steven Warshavsky  
Joan & Joel Domow  
Clare & Steven Warshavsky  
Sara Epstein, Mother of Irwin Epstein  
Israel Epstein, Grandfather of Irwin Epstein  
Philip Epstein, Uncle of Irwin Epstein  
Mary Morella & Irwin Epstein  
Yizkor Donation  
Ruth Isaac  
Rose Buchbinder, Grandmother of Howard  
Israel  
Mindy & Howard Israel  
Gabrielle Kutcher, Daughter of Blossom Kutcher  
Blossom Kutcher  
Nissim Menashe, Father of Jack Menashe  
Meryl & Jack Menashe  
Hair Causaanschi, Father of Golda Shapiro  
Golda Shapiro  
Pearl Tosky, Mother of Eric Tosky  
Sandia & Eric Tosky

### ***In Honor of:***

The Special Occasions Celebrated by  
Belle & Elliott Gayer  
The 50th Anniversary of Judy & Helman Brook  
Suzanne Branch  
Terry Birnbaum-Horton  
Kathie Davis  
June & Allan Feldman  
Gail & Robert Gordon  
Carol & Bill Hersh  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Shelley Sherman  
Clare & Steve Warshavsky

### ***In Honor of (Cont'd):***

The Birth of Jordyn Mia Wallack,  
Granddaughter of Sherry & Paul Wallack  
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 Claude Springer  
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  
Steve Warshavsky's Remarkable Job as  
Temple President  
Kathie Davis  
Cantor Leslie Friedlander's AJR Tribute  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Paula Newman  
Temple Isaiah  
Belle & Elliott Gayer for the Wonderful  
Tu B'Shevat Seder  
Paula Newman

### ***The Tree of Life:***

In Honor of the Birth of Ellie Joy Brenner,  
Granddaughter of Arlyn & Rabbi Jerry Blum  
Amy, Howard & Jacob Gorman  
Paula Newman  
Lloyd Perell

*It is a Tree of Life to those  
who hold it fast.*

*And all who cling to it find  
happiness.*

**Would you like to  
celebrate a joyous event?  
Honor a dear friend,  
relative or loved one?**

**Contact the temple office  
for details.**

**(Information on  
Memorial Plaques is also  
available.)**



## **PARTNERS IN CARING (PIC)**

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  
Marital/Family Concerns   Caregiving Issues and more**

**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**



**SJCC.ORG**

# RIVERSIDE- Nassau North Chapels

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## TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place  
Great Neck, NY 11021

[templeisaiahgn.org](http://templeisaiahgn.org)

Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism  
Published Monthly

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

### BULLETIN

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