

**Saturday, February 20th
Preview at 7:00pm
Auction at 7:30pm**

Temple Isaiah Goods & Services Auction (Virtual Edition)



**Think of all the great things you can bid on and at the same time
contribute to Temple Isaiah's important work!**

Contact Lloyd Perell or June Feldman with your donations by 1/31



**Send in your
Raffle tickets by
February 12th
and receive one free
ticket.**



RABBI'S COLUMN

By Rabbi Jerry Blum



Did you feel it? You know what I'm talking about, that massive and collective sigh of relief that many of us felt at around noon on Wednesday, January 20th, 2021, as we watched our newly minted Vice President and President get sworn in to office. It was truly a historic moment and oasis of pride and joy, especially after weeks (if not months and years) of angst and fear that culminated on January 6th in an act of violent insurgency that was cheered on by the leader of the "free" world along with his aiders and abettors. And yet, we sighed, and we cried tears of joy and hope as we listened to our new president tell us that "without unity, there is no peace", that "unity is the path forward" and that we do this as "The UNITED States of America".

These were much needed words of hope that we pray will bring us a new way forward. But these fear-ridden years have left their mark on us. Because of these dark days, we move slowly and carefully as if we don't want to fall on an uneven walkway, holding on as if there were a lifeline and hiding ourselves away inside our four walls, even worried about opening our doors to accept the grocery delivery. How do we get past these fears? How can we forget the feelings of terror as we watched the images of violent uprising during the last few weeks?

Rabbi Nachman of Breslav, who taught us to find joy in even the darkest corners of our existences, said we must live with faith in our hearts and seek out the blessings that surround us each and every day. He acknowledged fear itself but said that we can get past it by finding strength from within along with the support of those who love us. He said:

Kol haOlam kulo, gesher tzar meod, v' halkar, lo lefached clal – The entire world is [like a] narrow bridge – The essence is, do not let yourself be [paralyzed by being] fearful

Rabbi Nachman believed that we can overcome fear and move forward by putting one foot in front of the other. By doing and participating in life's work. By seeking out the small blessings in our lives and by reaching out to friends and family. We can walk this narrow bridge together, hand in hand, but first, we must all find our starting place for this journey. Mine began today, as I watched the inauguration ceremonies and listened to the speeches, the poetry and the music, all of which touched my soul.

As I listened to the words of Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman, I could hear our Psalmists. She said, [our nation is] "not broken, but not [yet] finished. She was telling us that we, our nation and ourselves are an unfinished work of art. There is no end, to the work, and no end to the possibilities. Our Kabbalists taught *Ein Sof* – *there is no end* to the work of making this world a better place, and there is no end to the possibilities of living a full and meaningful life.

Oh yes, and this February, we also begin the happy month of Adar, which means that Purim and Pesach can't be too far away. (Please, don't panic). Both these holidays stir within us feelings of hope and redemption. The story of Esther speaks about being afraid yet standing up to the forces of darkness. Esther showed us that together, we as a community, and country can beat back the foes that surround us, It just requires some faith and hope.

President Biden in his inauguration speech quoted the words of salvation and redemption from Psalm 30 when he said, "In [the darkness of] the Night we will weep, but in [the light of] the morning, [comes] joy". As the darkness lifts, we slowly begin to feel the joy that comes with the morning light.

God of our ancestors, grant us the strength, the hope and the faith to see beyond the darkness of our collective past and allow our hearts to be filled with the light and redemption that comes with the morning. May we be inspired by the words and actions of our country's new leaders and may we find new pathways towards living a fulfilling and meaningful life. May our great nation once again be an influence for good throughout the world uniting all people in peace and freedom and helping them to fulfill the vision of Your prophet: "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they experience war anymore."

Rabbi Jerry

We invite you to Temple Isaiah's first ever
Online ***Incognito*** Purim Carnival,
Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm!



The price of admission is full costume attire (that is, from the waist up). Please be fully masked so that your identity is unrevealed, and even your name will be changed upon arrival. If you don't know how to change your name on Zoom, we will show you how to easily do that. You may choose your undercover name, or we will be happy to choose one for you.

The evening will include a clever and engaging megillah reading, games, prizes (well, maybe), more games, and a lot of fun. We might even have a costume contest, of course, we're all winners!!!!

Please have a grogger, or some sort of noise maker available (and don't forget to boo what's his name's name.... you know, Haman [Booooooooooooo]). If you don't have a grogger, a pot cover (or the whole pot) with a wooden spoon totally works.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at this year's Purim celebration!

Rabbi Blum and Cantor Friedlander



**JOIN US ON ZOOM FOR A SERIES OF ENGAGEMENTS,
AFTERNOONS & EVENINGS**

Wednesday, February 17th - 7:30pm to 8:45pm.

JOKE NIGHT

**"Nothing is better than a good chuckle or laugh,
To heal our souls,
Forget our sorrows,
Boost our immune systems,
And to bring us together."**

Bring a joke or two!

Bring a short funny tale!

BOTTOMLINE: Bring something to Zoom to make us laugh!!

FREE ADMISSION WITH A STORY, JOKE, TALE.

Preferred topics: Jewish

Banned topics: partisan politics, racism,

ADMISSION PRICE: ATTEND AND LAUGH

**Important to note;
2 minute preferred time
limit per joke or tale.**

***Speak into your mic clearly
and slowly, to help those of
us who are hard of hearing.***

***We won't mute everyone
but only laughter is per-
missible noise!!!!***

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Terry Birnbaum-Horton



Gratitude:

Always looking for inspiration, especially these days, I realize we are getting tired of platitudes. We are tired of trying so hard to be what we don't feel. I reach deep inside and have no answers, until suddenly I do. Sometimes answers come from inside and sometimes from what we hear or respond to. Today, though curious, I was ready to discount the words of former Monk Jay Shetty, now successful author. I listened and answers came to me from his words and from the chatter in my brain.

Gratitude is a word thrown around too often without a way to actualize the meaning. This man delivered words on anxiety & gratitude in a way we can relate to, words that can move you to action which in turn leads us to cope and feel better.

Here at Temple Isaiah is proof his words work. We show gratitude in small and large ways all the time, it is almost our shadow mission.



How do we find gratitude and what can it do for us? Like a deep breath, if we are present in gratitude, we can't be anywhere else and this can relieve our anxiety. We can feel like we are part of the solution to heal ourselves and each other. Make it personal and you will find meaning and gratitude.

Here is what we do at Temple Isaiah and here is what you can do to have and show gratitude, and ease anxiety and fear in these 'tumultuous' times:

Allow yourself - to feel anxious. It's ok. Communicate with others. (**we're here at Temple Isaiah**)

Focus - What do you want to bring to this year? (**we can help at Temple Isaiah**)

Reach-out - make your circle bigger, add 5, 10, 15 people, share and be accountable & vulnerable in an important intimate community. (**we're here at Temple Isaiah**)

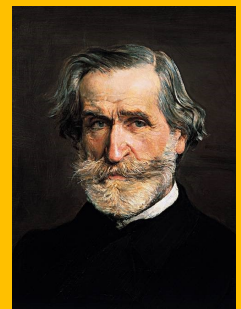
Service - Wanting to help someone else. Time, Love, Energy - (**it's possible at Temple Isaiah**)

Gratefully,

Terry Birnbaum-Horton

**It's Not Too Late!
Two More Sessions of Sina Kiai's Class
"Verdi, Man, Musician, Citizen"
Thursdays, February 4th and 11th**

**Please sign on by 7:25pm
RSVP required to receive link
(\$18 per session, \$50 for all three)**



February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Board Meeting, 7:30pm	3	4 Sina Kiai “Verdi” Class, 7:30pm	5 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	6 Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
7	8	9	10	11 Sina Kiai “Verdi” Class, 7:30pm	12 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	13 Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
14 Book Group, 11:30am “The Color Of Love”	15	16	17 Engagement Series, “Joke Night,” 7:30pm	18	19 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	20 Torah Study & Service, 9:30 Goods & Services Auction, 7:00pm
21	22	23	24	25 Online Purim Carnival, 7:00pm 	26 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	27 Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
28	<div> GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION SATURDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 20TH 7:00pm <i>Don't Miss It!</i> </div>					

NOTES FROM THE CARING COMMITTEE

Greetings Everyone,

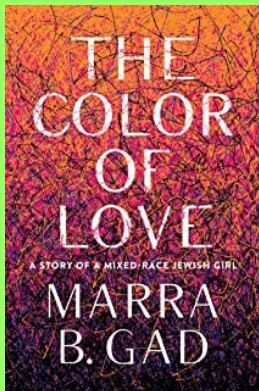
This is my first article about the Caring Committee, which unfortunately has been busy lately. I would like to thank the Caring Committee members who have worked very diligently. They are Sheila DeFazio, Amy Gorman, Rachel Greenwald, Terry Birnbaum-Horton, Jean Lesser, Rona Levy, Scott Schleifstein, and Sherry Wallack. The Caring Committee reaches out to members who are ill or incapacitated or who have had a death in the family. If you are in need of some support, please let us know how we can help.

Best regards,
Kathie Davis
Chair, Caring Committee

If anyone would like to join the Caring Committee, please call Kathie Davis at 516-487-1576 or email to: katkat581@gmail.com.

Please join us on Sunday February 14th at 11:30 when the Temple Isaiah Book Group discusses

The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl by Marra B. Gad



Marra's biological mother was unwed, white, and Jewish, and her biological father was black; she was adopted by a Jewish family at 3 days old. While still a child, Marra came to realize that she was "a mixed-race, Jewish unicorn." In black spaces, she was not "black enough" or told that it was OK to be Christian or Muslim, but not Jewish. In Jewish spaces, she was mistaken for the help, asked to leave, or worse. Even in her own extended family, racism bubbled to the surface.

The Color of Love is an unforgettable memoir about a mixed-race Jewish woman who, after fifteen years of estrangement from her racist great-aunt, helps bring her home when Alzheimer's strikes.

RSVP to Shelley Sherman at seeshell98@yahoo.com

Help to Fight Food Insecurity by Buying a Mask Chain

Temple Isaiah is embarking on a project to do our part in the fight against food insecurity. We are selling handmade mask chains, made by a temple member, with all proceeds going toward the project. These chains will sell for \$15 each, and make for nice gifts, as well as being useful for everyone. Similar to eyeglass chains, they hold your facemask around your neck when not in use. Please make a contribution toward this worthy cause (whether you make a purchase or not).

Please contact the co-chairs of this project if you want to place an order, be on the committee or need more information.

Denise Miller - denibethesq@gmail.com
Rona Levy - ronalevy@yahoo.com
Terry Joseph - zippyjo99@yahoo.com



General Donations

In Loving Memory of:

Rachel & Benjamin Barouch, Parents of
Cantor Emeritus Albert Barouch
Herman, Marvin & Solomon Barouch,
Brothers of Cantor Emeritus Albert
Barouch

Cantor Emeritus Albert Barouch
Hilda & Fred Feuerberg, Parents of
Linda Burghardt
Bella Drucker, Mother of Susan Drucker
Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Mindy & Howard Israel
Terry & Richard Joseph
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman

Robert Ensler, Brother-in-Law of
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Sylvester DeFazio, Father of Victor DeFazio
Bessie Berkowitz, Grandmother of Sheila
DeFazio

Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Lawrence Greenstein, Husband of
Helene Dorfman
Helene Dorfman

Philip Friedman, Son of Diane Haber
Diane Haber

Rose Greenberg, Grandmother of Mindy
Israel

Mindy & Howard Israel
Abraham Maller, Husband of Connie Maller
The Maller Family

Sadie & Max Shiller, Grandparents of
Steve Fein

Charles Miller, Grandfather of Denise
Miller

Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Enid Rubin, Mother of Harold Rubin
Harold Rubin

In Loving Memory of (cont'd): 2020/2021 Appeal:

Harold Schwartz, Husband of Barbara
Schwartz
Barbara Schwartz
Paul Eisenman, Father of Bella Bekker-
Silver
Philip Silver, Father of Jonathan Silver
Celina Zborowski, Mother of Ziggy
Zborowski
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan
Silver
William Zimberg, Father of Shelley
Willcox
Shelley & Robert Willcox

Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Judith Densky
Lia & Mortimer Hans
Johanna Hurwitz
Mindy & Howard Israel
Nina Koss
Evelyn & Richard Solow

Food Insecurity Project (Mask Chains):

Shelley Sherman

In Honor of:

The Speedy Recovery of Lori,
Elliot and the Katz Family

Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Mindy & Howard Israel
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman

The Speedy Recovery of David Aubrey

Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Mindy & Howard Israel
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman

Temple Isaiah
Mona Bokot
The Continued Efforts of Belle &
Elliott Gayer on Behalf of
Temple Isaiah
June & Allan Feldman



**Passover is
Coming!
First Seder is
On March 27th**



UJA-Federation of New York's

Partners in Caring

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

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an FDIC insured fund for pre-paid funeral arrangements.



TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

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Great Neck, NY 11021

templeisaiahgn.org
isaiahgn@yahoo.com
Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism

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

BULLETIN

President: Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Rabbi: Jerry Blum
Cantor: Leslie Friedlander
Production: Cathy Reibstein