

TEMPLE ISAIAH BULLETIN

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June 2021

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RABBI'S COLUMN By Rabbi Jerry Blum

<u>Change</u>



The month of June begins with a most interesting Torah portion that speaks directly to the emotions many of us have felt this past 14 months or so, and even more so, this past month.

In parashat "Sh'lach lecha," God is preparing the Israelite nation to enter the land of the covenant. Moshe is instructed to send scouts to check out the land of Canaan, even though God had previously told them that the land is fertile and can support the People of Israel. He is told to take one representative from each tribe and send them into the land to find out if the inhabitants were strong fighters or people of peace. Twelve were selected and then sent into Canaan under deep cover (ok, I added that for effect). They went from place-to-place beholding the beauty of the land, and even brought back

souvenirs, yet the overall message to Moshe was quite startling. Ten of the twelve scouts reported back that though the land itself flowed with milk and honey, it was inhabited by giants, and it would be impossible for the Israelites to defeat such a foe. Caleb stood alone in saying, no, that is not true. The land is indeed beautiful, and it will be an easy transition into Canaan. Of course, the people fell behind the majority and wailed and did not want to travel any farther. I will not go into what happens next, because I'd rather talk a little about the theme and lesson of this moment in our tradition's history.

The Israelite nation had come from slavery into the desert (kicking and kvetching all the way), becoming a people under the Law, learning about how we are a nation of priests and how being our purest selves leads us to a life in relationship with our God and THEN, we have to move into this new land and keep all the laws, etc., e

But dear friends, we know that often, change does not give us the choice to "opt out." As we have seen in the past year plus and I personally in the last three weeks, if we are to survive in this world, change we must, even if we go begrudgingly.

In my prior life I used to say, "change is good, even when it's not" because if we sit in the relative safety of our old, yet personally comfortable ways, we miss so much.

In this month, we will begin the process of opening the doors to our synagogue and meeting once again face to face. At the very least we will have our lay-led summer worship done in person (hopefully with some sort of online connectivity), and we look forward to our High Holy Days services to be done with our congregation, hopefully within the confines of our sanctuary and many new innovations that will make everyone feel welcome and open to praying as a community. We will learn new ways to worship and perhaps a new song or two (I got a million of em – quite literally) and we will try new ways to make sure that we all have access to services. Of course, some of this may seem unfamiliar and perhaps difficult to comprehend all at once, but change is upon us, and like the young Nation of Israel needed to do, cope we will, all together as a holy community.

May these changes bring us personal insights and personal gratification, and may we as a Temple family grow together, now and in the future.

Rabbi Jerry

<u>A Message from the president</u>

Terry Birnbaum-Horton



Thank you all who have participated in the Journal to acknowledge and wish well our special honorees while supporting Temple Isaiah. Thank you to those who were able to join us for a luncheon to recognize and celebrate with our Honorees what they have accomplished and what they mean to us.

We Honor, Cathy Reibstein, our longtime administrator director who knows us and how we work, better than we do ourselves most times. As we all should know, Cathy keeps the inner machine of Temple Isaiah up and running on a daily basis. She watches over us at all times; helping, advising and keeping us on track so that we seem to move smoothly through the many cycles of Temple Isaiah. She has been our constant for nearly 20+ years. Though we are not parting completely, we

Thank Cathy today as she moves to another chapter in her life, one with more fun and family and less stress and worries.

We Honor, Cantor Leslie Friedlander, our Cantorial leader and our Spiritual leader. Cantor Friedlander has been more than just our Cantor, she has been our educator and guide through many years of our Jewish lives. Whether leading services, chanting Torah or leading our choir, Cantor Friedlander is in her element. Her ability to keep us focused and keep our services running smoothly a true gift and she does it all with ease and grace, while keeping us all on key. She never misses a beat! We, have been lucky to have Cantor Friedlander and we honor and thank her for all she has brought to us. We wish her more successes in her work and much happiness always.

Sincerely, Terry Birnbaum-Horton



Temple Isaiah has many "gems". Our members have always been talented and special. Members shine at different times and so it was this past month when Meryl Menashe, a Holocaust Studies scholar, gave a group of 7 members and 2 guests a tour of the Children's Garden at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center in Glen Cove. Meryl donated the tour and her time at our annual Auction this past winter.

It was a spectacular day which aided in the beauty of the garden and meaningful quotes along the path. Meryl's deep knowledge of both the project and the Holocaust brought the true spirit and meaning of the Garden to us.

We have had other 'gems' in our

congregation donate their time, experience, education and Forgive me if I left your name out... let me know! You talents from lectures to acting.

Thank you to Richard & Alice Weiner, for bringing the cast of The Lantern Theatre to us recently, for an afternoon show, The Cemetery Club. This was done from the heart and gratis. The cost to our attendees was FUN.



Some 'gems' work quietly and not so quietly to help keep things humming along from Ritual, Fundraising, Programs & Engagements, Finances, and Membership work, to name a few. We must thank them all. They are Board Members and Committee Chairs; Scott, Lloyd, Shelley, Ruth, June, Meryl, Howard, Bill, Terry J, Denise, Steve F, Steve W, Kathie, Rona, Rachel, Belle, Sheila, Marty, Linda.

> Thank you; to those who ran discussions & programs; Claude, Howard I, Elliott, Alisa, Gail, Richard W, Helman, Judy, Paula, Kit, Shelley, Eric, Richard S. Let's not forget the hard labor of our annual Sukkah building & break-down, adding Jonathan, Sherry & Richard R. to others that have already been mentioned.

deserve to be heard!!! And if you feel left out, come volunteer. We hope to have pot-luck dinners, our bazaar and more in the building next fall and will need help.

I would like to take this time to ask for all our hidden 'gems' to reach out to me. What's your talent? What can you add or help with to keep TI shining?

Temple Isaiah of Great Neck Presents

A Discussion with Esther Amini, author of

ONC

CONCEALED

Memoir of a Jewish Iranian Daughter Caught Between the Chador and America

Monday JUNE 14, 2021 7:30 PM via zoom

"Amini confronts her problematic family history and its consequences in a new memoir titled "Concealed: Memoir of a Jewish-Iranian Daughter Caught Between the Chador and America." The book is the poignant tale of a mid-20th century modern, Western child of immigrant parents who can't escape the trauma of their Middle Eastern past... The intergenerational transmission of the social and psychological impact of this dual identity is the crux of Amini's memoir." —The Times of Israel

"Amini's debut memoir chronicles her parents' life in Iran, their journey to America, and her own coming of age... Here, that voice wields a quiet power, examining her world with unflinching curiosity and care... A moving, engaging investigation of culture and family." —Kirkus Reviews

For more information templeisaiahgreatneck@gmail.com

ESTHER AMIN

Registration is a must to receive the link for the event.

Esther Amini

Dear Friends,

We are in the midst of constant changes yet it seems that these changes have accelerated in the past year. Some of us are not comfortable with change even though we know that nothing stands still. We also know that we as a people are strong, persist, and grow; and change is a common denominator of all.

As we enter our new fiscal and membership year think about our strengths, think about how we can grow through our changes. We now have a new team working as Director and Administrator, as Cathy Reibstein, our senior administrator happily takes a back seat to our new director, Jacquelyn Golub.

Sadly, we will miss Cantor Friedlander, her voice and her dedication to our congregation. Our strength, talents and creativity will help us navigate this change.

We look forward to a year where we slowly come back to our building to observe Shabbat, holidays and other celebrations, where we can gather for our many programs and engagements. We hope to all come together for our annual Bazaar, where through camaraderie, we manage to do the hard work, set up, selling and break down of a massive number of hidden treasures while Temple Isaiah also gains!

We will again gather for prayer, learning, and social moments this coming year.

So, as we go into the new Temple Isaiah year, let's use these changes to make TI stronger.

President Terry Birnbaum-Horton

Sunday

June 13, 2021

at 10:15AM

Join together on Sunday morning outside Temple Isaiah for bagels and coffee and meet our new director Jacquelynn Golub.

We hope to see you there!

Meet

and

ree



Temple Isaiah continues to look for ways to engage their congregants with a wide variety of offerings. Watch your email for upcoming programs and more information.

Summer Service Schedule All Summer services are at 6:30 pm

July 2- Gail Gordon July 9 - Belle and Elliot Gayer July 16 - Judy Snow and Scott Schleifstein July 23 - TBD July 30 - TBD August 6 - Claude Springer August 13 - TBD August 20 - TBD August 27 - TBD



TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK 1 Chelsea Place, Great Neck, N.Y. 11021

Membership Dues Form: June 1, 2021–May 31, 2022

We're thrilled to have you join the Temple Isaiah family. As you review the membership categories below, remember that our founders mandated a voluntary dues system. While we provide recommended dues based on our budget requirements, the recommendations are always subject to your self-evaluation, and your pledge is entirely confidential.

\$ 995

\$ 3,600

Please select from one of our membership categories below.

- First year "check us out" membership
- \$ 995 35 and under Sustaining member \$ 2,500
- Sustaining member
- Mitzvah member

Isaiah's Circle member	\$ 4,500
Torah member	\$ 5,400
Gift from the heart pledge (see the FAQ)	\$
Voluntary ARZA dues: I would like to support ARZA an enclosed \$50	d have

Payment Options

Check One	Plan	Method (Circle One)	Billing
	Full payment enclosed	Check, PayPal**, Credit card***	Make check payable to Temple Isaiah of Great Neck
	Automatic Online Banking Payment	As scheduled	Monthly/quarterly/semi-annually scheduled with bank
	1/2 Enclosed	Check, PayPal**, Credit card***	Second half due on December 1, 2021
	1/3 Enclosed	Check, PayPal**, Credit card*** Subsequent thirds due on October 1, 2021 and F	
		Credit card payments or	10 Automatic payments billed on the first of each month, June
	Monthly	Online Banking only***	through March (Your first payment must include any prior months
			from June through the date of payment)

**To use PayPal go to the Temple Isaiah web page at https://templeisaiahgn.org (just type in templeisaiahgn.org in your browser and you will automatically get a secure connection) and click on Donate in the upper right hand corner. This will take you to a new page with a link to click on and instructions for using PayPal - it's easy. IMPORTANT - Please notify the temple office of the amount you are sending.

***Credit card information must be provided below if you wish to pay this way. All follow-up payments will be automatically charged to your credit card on the payment due date. All Credit Card payments will include a 3% surcharge.

If paying with stock, please inform the temple office when you submit the transfer request to your broker.

If you are 72 or older, you can donate directly from your traditional IRA to Temple Isaiah and it will count towards your RMD but it will be nontaxable - We encourage you to discuss this with your accountant.

Temple Isaiah Building Maintenance Fund Pledge

In 2003 our Congregation implemented a Building Fund for the maintenance and/or improvement of our new home at 1 Chelsea Place. In line with our self-evaluation dues policy, this contribution is voluntary, but we suggest a minimum of \$1,800 payable over 5 years.

- I/We Pledge \$ to the Building Maintenance Fund. This Pledge will be paid at the rate of \$_____ over a period of years, by:
 - Check
 - Credit Card (3% surcharge applies, fill in information below)
 - PayPal (no surcharge; see the Dues Form for instructions or go to templeisaiah.org and click on Donate in the upper right corner.
 - I/We have fulfilled our commitment to the Building Maintenance Fund, by a payment of \$1,800 or more to the Building Fund of another URJ Synagogue. (please submit a letter from prior synagogue) Name of Synagogue

Credit Card Billing - Card Number	Credit Card Type	: Visa/MasterCard/American Express
	Expiration Date:	Security Code:
I authorize Temple Isaiah to charge n	ny credit card for the above	e dues/building fund amount.

Print Name:

Signature:

Date:

Please return Membership Pledge Form by June 30, 2021

MEMBERSHIP DUES FAQ

Q. How is the Sustaining Member Dues derived?

A. Each spring the Board of Trustees prepares a budget for the coming fiscal year (June 1st to May 31st and decides what portion of our budgeted cost should be met from dues with the balance coming from fundraising. The Board then sets the Sustaining Member Dues level. Both the Budget and the Sustaining Member Dues are voted on at the Annual Congregational Meeting in May.

Each year, members who have the means contribute more than Sustaining Member Dues through donations, fundraising and by pledging at the Mitzvah, Isaiah's Circle, or Torah levels. In this way they recognize their commitment to Judaism and Temple Isaiah. Through this structure, we seek to minimize fundraising activities and maximize the low and no-cost Temple activities that we value.

Q. What does "self-evaluation" and "gift from the heart" mean?

A. Self evaluation refers to the process by which a member determines how much they are financially capable of paying. In case they cannot pay full Sustaining Dues, we ask that they pay as close to the full amount as possible to reduce added financial burden on others. The self-evaluation process similarly leads some members to pay amounts above both the Sustaining Member Dues. This has been true during the entire existence of Temple Isaiah.

Our parent organization, the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), references the Torah portion *T'rumah* in which Moses receives detailed instructions from God about how to build and equip the Tabernacle, and that it should be constructed by the Israelites with "gifts from the heart." Hence, following self-evaluation, we both suggest amounts for dues, as well as refer to any other amount as a gift from the heart.

Q. What if I/We join in the middle of the fiscal year?

A. We trust your integrity to pledge as much as you can to contribute to the maintenance of Temple Isaiah. The more that we raise directly through your pledges and direct contributions, the less fundraising we need to do. Our budget is "no frills" – your money goes to essentials.

Q. What if my/our financial circumstances change?

A. We value your voluntary desire to affiliate with a synagogue. Our philosophy recognizes everyone's financial cycles. You pledge what you can afford. In good times we hope that you will pledge generously. In difficult times we welcome your commitment to affiliate as a Jewish act.

Q. What if I/we only want to come to the High Holidays or to say Yizkor on Yom Kippur?

A. We need the support of our members. Our synagogue functions 365 days a year and incurs expenses throughout the year. Even those who only occasionally use the Temple should understand its needs and help provide for them, just as good citizens of Great Neck accept the obligation to contribute to our community even though we may not take advantage of all its programs. As members of Temple Isaiah, we ensure the future of this congregation through adequate financial support, just as those before us preserved this congregation for us.

Q. What is the Building Maintenance Fund?

A. Every member of Temple Isaiah is asked to make a voluntary payment to the Building Maintenance Fund, with a minimum suggested pledge of \$1,800 payable over 5 years. The purpose of the Building Maintenance Fund is for maintenance and improvement of our home at 1 Chelsea Place. Members are asked to submit a Building Fund pledge form with their membership application, which form details the amount of the building maintenance fund pledge and the proposed payment schedule. For historical perspective, 92 member families contributed on average about \$13,000 each to build Temple Isaiah. Members who previously contributed \$1,800 or more to a building fund of another URJ Synagogue are exempt.

Konor your loved one in our Memorial Book

As the High Holy Days approach, we continue our tradition of publishing a Memorial Book to honor our departed loved ones that have made an imprint in our heart and been a part of our lives. As in past years, the booklet will contain the names of our loved ones and appropriate memorial prayer, which will be made available to you for Yom Kippur.

In order to be certain that the names of your loved ones are included in the Memorial Book, please complete and return the form no later than Wednesday, August 4, 2021. Please note that all information must be submitted in written form.

**For those that placed remembrances in last year's booklet, a copy of your entry will be sent for your review. If needed, please make the appropriate changes and send back to Temple Isaiah.

**For those that have not previously placed a list of remembrances in our booklet but would like to this year, please list below the names that you would like listed in the book. If they have departed during this past year, please indicate that below.

It is an old Jewish Tradition and Mitzvah to honor our loved ones that have departed, by making a contribution in observance of Yizkor. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

\$18	<u> </u>	ф <i>с 1</i>	\$72	\$108	\$180	¢	
318	\$36	\$54	3//	3108	3180	3	

Please make checks payable to Temple Isaiah. All credit card transactions are subject to a 3% administrative fee and must be a minimum of \$25.

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Order today in time for Yom Kippur

Remember your loved one in perpetuity with a solid bronze memorial plaque on our Illuminated Memorial Tablet in our Sanctuary.



Orders placed **by Monday**, July 12th will be received in time to be placed on our Memorial Board in time for Yom Kippur.

For more information contact the office at TempleIsaiahGreatNeck@gmail.com

ORDER AN ENGRAVED PLAQUE TO HONOR AND REMBEMBER YOUR LOVED ONE

It is deeply rooted in Jewish tradition to place in the sanctuary of the synagogue a plaque with the names of loved ones who have passed away. Once a plaque is dedicated, it becomes a permanent memorial. The Yahrtzeit lights will be illuminated on the yahrtzeits of your loved one's death and at Yizkor services throughout the year.

Your Name:	Ph	one Number:		
Address:		Email:		
Cost per plaque - \$700	Dete of Deeth	Delationshin		Would you like to be notified on the Hebrew or English date?
Name of deceased:	Date of Death:	Relationship:		H or E
Name of deceased:	Date of Death:	Relationship:		H or E
Name of deceased:	Date of Death:	Relationship:		H or E
I wish to reserve a space for use in the	e future to be grouped with currently of	ordered plaques.	(# of spaces)	

Please return form and payment to Temple Isaiah. Please note that all credit card charges have a 3% administrative fee.

Temple Isaiah's Jewish New Year's Card

Share the sweetness of the New Year and wish your Temple Isaiah family a L'Shana Tova by being a part of our Temple's New Year's Card.

A donation of \$36 is appreciated and your name or family name will be listed as one of the congregational well-wishers. Names will be listed alphabetically.

Please complete this form and drop off your check no later than Wednesday, August 4th to have your name included. (watch your email for more information)



I would like to be included in the Temple Isaiah Jewish New Year's Card. Please print clearly in order to have your name appear correctly. (Please remember one per family.)

Name(s)

Example: Dr. and Mrs. Hank Greenberg OR May Greenberg OR May, Hank, Jessica & Joe Greenberg OR Greenberg Family

Please check here if you would like to purchase a box of 10 personalized cards that you can send to your non-Temple friends and family. Cost \$25.

Form and payment must be received by Friday, August 6th for your name to be included.

Wish family, friends and business associates a Sweet & Happy New Year!

Send the sweetest of all Rosh Hashanah greetings!

FREE shipping through July 7th



Just in time for Rosh Hashanah, we will ship an 8 oz jar of Kosher clover honey with a personalized card reading:

> "Shana Tova - Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year." - signed with your name.

Cost is **\$14.00 per jar.** Order by July 7th for free shipping within the U.S. Additional fees apply for international orders.*



Ordering is quick and easy! Go to www.honeyfromtheheart.org/TIG

*

Not able to order online, but still want to participate? Please contact the office and we will place the order for you.

For more information please email TempleIsaiahGreatNeck@gmail.com

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Board Meeting, 7:30pm	2	3	4 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	5 NO Torah Study
6 Luncheon at Stresa, 12pm	7	8	9	10	11 Online Shabbat Service honoring Cantor Friedlander 6:30pm	12 NO Torah Study
13 Meet & Greet, 9:30 AM	14 Visiting Author "Concealead", 7:30 PM	15	16	17	18 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	19 NO Torah Study
20	21	22	23	24	25 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	26 NO Torah Study
27	28	29	30			

General Donations

In Memorv of: Judy Ensler, Sister of Sheila DeFazio Sheila & Victor DeFazio Morris Epstein, Father of Michael Epstein Benjamin Miller, Father of Rhoda Epstein Rhoda & Michael Epstein Billy Gowryluk, Brother of June Feldman June & Allan Feldman Merrill Goldman. Life Partner of Barbara Feldman Barbara Feldman Joan Cowen, MOther of Amy Levinson Amy & Lee Levinson Harriet Gellert, Founding Member of Temple Isaiah Connie Maller Nissim Menashe, Father of Jack Menashe Meryl & Jack Menashe Susanna Alcalay, Mother of Yvonne Roth Yvonne Roth Haim Causanschi, Father of Golda Shapiro Golda Shapiro Eli Welkis, Father of Jerry Welkis Susan & Jerry Welkis In Honor of: The Speedy Recovery of Rabbi Jerry Blum Suzanne Branch Terry Birnbaum-Horton Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis June & Allan Feldman Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh Ruth Isaac Mindy & Howard Israel Denise Miller & Steve Fein Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shelley Sherman The Speedy Recovery of June Feldman Terry Birnbaum-Horton Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh

The Speedy Recovery of June Feldman Continued Ruth Isaac Mindy & Howard Israel Denise Miller & Steve Fein Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shellev Sherman The Speedy Recovery of Micki Victor Terry Birnbaum-Horton Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis June & Allan Feldman Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh Mindy & Howard Israel Denise Miller & Steve Fein Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shelley Sherman The Lantern Theater Company June & Allan Feldman The Publication of Daughter Nicole's New Book Mona Bokat The 70th Birthday of Shelley Sherman Terry Birnbaum-Horton Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis June & Allan Feldman Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh Mindy & Howard Israel Denise Miller & Steve Fein Alisa & Martin Secofsky The Speedy Recovery of Suzanne Branch Terry Birnbaum-Horton Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis Your donation June & Allan Feldman could go here! Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh Remember Tem-Mindy & Howard Israel ple Isaíah when Denise Miller & Steve Fein Alisa & Martin Secofsky you have a life Shelley Sherman cycle event to Tree of Life: In Memory of Harriet Gellert commemorate. The Gellert & Gershonowitz Families

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:

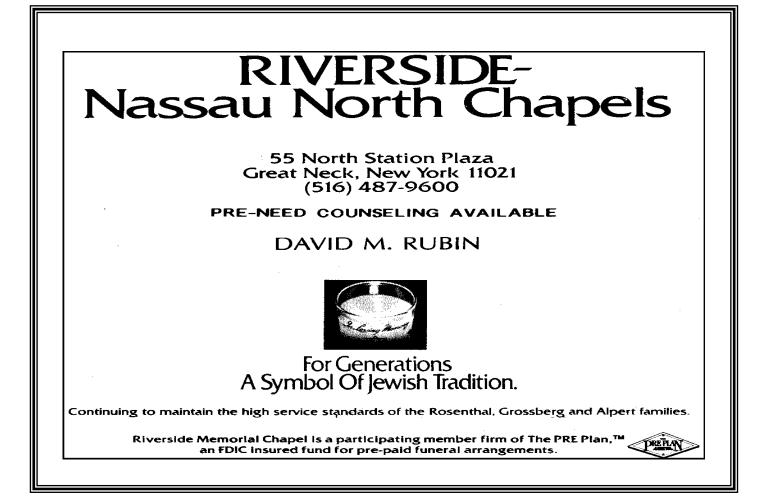
Bereavement Parenting Life Cycle Issues Marital/Family Concerns Caregiving Issues and more

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



SJJCC.ORG



TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place 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