



THE AARONION

TEMPLE OF AARON'S
MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

616 S. Mississippi River Blvd, St. Paul, MN 55116-1099 • (651) 698-8874 • www.TempleofAaron.org

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February 1, 2019

26 Shevat 5779



Temple of Aaron Welcomes the Community to the Installation of Rabbi Micah Miller

Saturday, February 9th

Installation Post Shabbat Services,
Followed by a Special Shabbat Luncheon

With Special Guest Teachers

Rabbi Louis Sachs



Rabbi Mordecai Miller



Sarah Miller



2019 Annual Youth Department Play Information!

February 27th– 6:30pm-Dinner Theater (\$15 per person)

March 2nd– 7:45pm (\$10/adult, \$5/students)

March 3rd– 11:30am (\$10/adult, \$5/students)



If you wish to purchase tickets or be a sponsor contact
joriebernhardt@templeofaaron.org
651-252-6415

The Rabbi's Desk



Rabbi Jeremy Fine

651-252-6412

Email:

RabbiJeremyFine@TempleofAaron.org

Twitter:

@RabbiJeremyFine

Israel in December x 2

This past December I was fortunate to go to Israel twice — once with Honeymoon Israel and once with Temple of Aaron's third Donald and Helen Swartz Family Trip. Both experiences were amazing, and I loved getting to know the diverse members of the Twin Cities community. On the trips I began each morning with a quote and I want to share two from Prime Minister Shimon Peres z'l.

The first quote is often how I feel about Israel when I am in the States: "In Israel, a land lacking in natural resources, we learned to appreciate our greatest national advantage: our minds. Through creativity and innovation, we transformed barren deserts into flourishing fields and pioneered new frontiers in science and technology." As I sit behind my desk and read about Israel daily, it is always from the perspective that we, as Zionists and Jews, can best flourish by using our minds. There is no lack of contrarians or obstacles for Israel and Israelis, and

Israel has no choice but to be better and wiser than those around them.

The second quote is something I feel as I leave Israel: "Israel has its attractions. It's the most dramatic country in the world. Everybody's engaged. Everybody argues. When I leave Israel, I get a little bit bored." Getting on the plane ride home I feel my energy go down. I miss the little arguments from my bus or taxi driver. I miss the excitement of being Jewish 100 percent of the time.

Being the type of Jew that I am, always concerned and engaged with Israel, I always yearn for my next visit. Israel is a gift, one that I will protect like my own child. I will protect its right to exist, its right to make mistakes, and its right to lead. And I will also understand that being the flourishing land in the desert is not popular. But I would rather have an imperfect Israel than no Israel at all.

My request from all of you is to set up a trip for yourself, for your family or for your community. If ten families get together and want to go to Israel, encourage Temple of Aaron to take you. Do not wait for us to plan a trip; be the motivator for your own Israel vision. It is essential that we all visit, that we all see the



diverse perspectives and attributes the land and people provide, and that we spend time with our brothers and sisters living the Zionist dream.

See you in shul!
Rabbi Jeremy Fine

Donald & Helen Swartz Family Trip to Israel



Rabbi Fine led the third Donald and Helen Swartz Trip to Israel. This was a culinary excursion of the country. Here they are at Zichron Yaacov!

Mazel Tov to Heidi Schneider



Heidi Schneider, Rabbi Harold Kravitz

The Masorti Foundation for Conservative Judaism in Israel is proud to announce the election of Heidi Schneider as its incoming Chair of the Board effective Jan. 1, 2019.

Save the Date: May 11 for Dr. Avivah Zornberg

Dr. Zornberg grew up in Glasgow, Scotland, where her father was a Rabbi and the head of the Rabbinical Court. She holds a BA and PhD in English Literature from Cambridge University. She has grown to world acclaim through her writing and teaching of biblical commentary on the books of the Torah and has received the National Jewish Book award.



This is a "Can't Miss" ToA Visions Speaker!

The Rabbi's Notes

Rabbi Miller Teaching Morality in the Bereshit



Team Israel Baseball's MVP Ryan Lavarney Makes a Visit to TUSY



He spent time with our Men's Club, 5 Senses Program and JCC Theater as well.

New Picture Wall of Recent Great Events and Smiling Faces Leads to Offices



My Office

I remember when I came out to interview at Temple of Aaron last year. One of the stops on my tour was looking at what is now my office. At the time it just seemed like another room in the synagogue. A nice office but just an office.

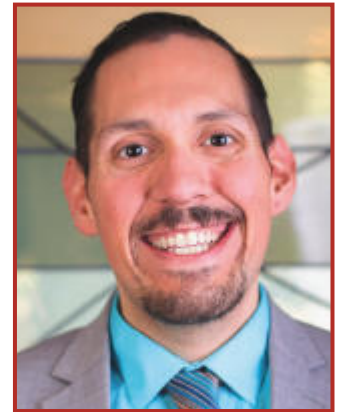
It was not until I talked with my father during the weekend that he informed me that it was the same office where he had started his career in the 1970s. This fact is something that I do not take lightly. The fact that both my father and I started here at Temple of Aaron is something that is incredibly special. It was one reason I wanted to be here, and it is a motivation in all that I have done here and will strive to do in the future.

There is now another major motivation for all that I do here. You.

You, the community who has welcomed me and my family with open arms. The community that greeted us when we interviewed and moved here. The community that has attended one of our adult education classes, family programs, or Shabbat service. It is all of you. Our Temple of Aaron family.

As you all are my family, I hope that you will join me for a special moment in my life. The Shabbat of February 9 will serve as my installation Shabbat. That morning I am honored that my friend Rabbi Louis Sachs, my father Rabbi Mordecai Miller, and my sister Sarah Miller will all be teaching classes. Truly enacting one of my goals, to further turn our synagogue into a *beit midrash*, a house of learning.

I look forward to sharing this milestone with you all.



Rabbi Micah Miller

Assistant Rabbi

651-252-6411

Email:

RabbiMiller@TempleofAaron.org

Exodus in Culture with Rabbi Miller

February 3, 17, and 24 at 10:00 am in the Wine Room

The stories of the Bible have been a source of creative inspiration throughout history. This class will look at various forms of creative expression (film, literature, music, and art) and see how they used the text from the Exodus narrative and created their own form of modern midrash. Once we examine the various forms of expression we will discuss how their interpretation now informs our view of the classical biblical stories.

Rabbi Miller Teaches at Engage:

An Evening of Jewish Learning

Saturday, February 2 at 7:00 pm

The Making of a Murderer: Investigating the first murder in the Torah with Rabbi Micah Miller. Through an examination of Torah text, classical rabbinical works, and modern interpretations we will try to crack this age-old case to determine the murderer's motive.

The event will be held at Talmud Torah St. Paul, 768 Hamline Avenue South, St. Paul, MN 55116. To register go to <https://tsp.org/node/1144>



Youth Education



Joshua Fineblum, CJE

Cantor/Educator

651-252-5403

Email:

JoshuaFineblum@TempleofAaron.org

I recall the first time attending the Bar Mitzvah of one of my classmates, in the fall of 1988. I had been to family B'nai Mitzvah, but this time was very different. For the seven years I had been in day school and had never been in this situation before, not attending with my family, but sitting with friends. Many of them left throughout services but I sat there and listened intently.

I had not fully begun training at this point for my own bar mitzvah weekend as it was not until July. I was lucky enough to already know the service inside and out from sitting in services all of those years watching my father, Rabbi Steven Fineblum, but I did not fully grasp or understand Haftorah or Torah trope yet. As I sat there and listened to my friend read Torah the tune sounded so familiar but I couldn't place my finger on where I had heard it before.

Over the next month I begin my training of Haftorah trope with my tutor, my dad. All of us from my Hebrew school class came and learned with him. It

was nice being in a class where we all learned the trope together. I knew that most of my friends in the class had already started tutoring with him but I hadn't at this point and was wondering when I would get to start. In early December my father gave me my Haftorah booklet and started working with me. By February I knew it and wondered what was next. To which my father quickly replied, "You get to learn Torah, son."

We started back at the trope having me learn the signs again with this new tune that still sounded so familiar. At this point I have been to 15 of my friends' B'nai mitzvah from the synagogue and school so I pretty much knew the trope inside and out. Unfortunately, all three synagogues used different tune for reading Torah. Could I pick and choose? Which one was right? I then decided to go with the one that felt the most familiar because I finally figured out where it came from, the V'Ahavta paragraph of the Shema that we read each morning and night.

While reading Torah is not an easy skill to learn, we hear the notes twice a day. While it is a challenge, it is also so rewarding when I read Torah. I know it's like that for many of our members who have stepped up over the past few years to read Torah including Roxanne Portnoy and Michael Levin who will each be receiving their Golden Kephah this spring.

It has been so nice to see so many people want to continue to read Torah here at Temple of Aaron. We are now looking for ten more people who want to be regular Torah readers starting this spring. It is a wonderful honor to be able to read Torah for your congregation and I look forward to working with each of you to achieve whatever goals you put before yourself.

Please be in contact with me about challenging yourself and for filling the commandment of reading Torah at Temple of Aaron!

100 people now attending Kallah so reserve the last few spots for you and your family today! Use link in Ma Chadash or contact Cantor/Educator Joshua Fineblum to sign up today!

Need Scholarship for Overnight Camp & Israel?



Go to this link and scroll down for the latest scholarship application.

<http://templeofaaron.org/education/schools/>

Questions?

Joshuafineblum@templeofaaron.org

Apply Today!

Kehillat Shabbat Musical Service and Dinner

February 8, 2019

6:00pm Kehillat Shabbat Musical Service

7:00 pm Chinese Shabbat Dinner

Cost: \$18/adults; \$15/Child

RSVP to Susiehaim@templeofaaron.org

Let your spirit soar as your voice is heard singing with Cantor Joshua Fineblum and members of the community in this interactive and musical experience of the heart.

Youth Happenings

February Education & Youth Calendar

- 2 Shabbat School – Shabbat Shalom**
- 3 Religious School/TiKone USY K-12th Play Practice**
- 6 7th-12 Grade Play Practice Shabbat School– Torah Yoga**
- 10 Religious School/TiKone USY K-12th Play Practice**
- 16-17 NO SCHOOL; President's Day Weekend**
- 17 K-12th Play Practice**
- 18 TECH WEEK 7th-12th Grade Play Practice**
- 19 TECH WEEK 7th-12th Grade Play Practice**
- 20 TECH WEEK K-12th Grade Play Practice**
- 21 TECH WEEK 7th-12th Grade Play Practice**
- 23 Shabbat School– Shalom Bayit Evening Havdalah Program**
- 24 TECH WEEK K-12th Grade Play Practice**
- 26 Parent Preview Night**
- 27 Willy Wonka Dinner Theater Performance**

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR YOUTH MUSICAL WITH A PLAY AD

PLAY SPONSOR	\$500
TICKET SPONSOR	\$300
FULL PAGE COLOR 8.5" X 5.5"	\$200
FULL PAGE 8.5" X 5.5"	\$125
HALF PAGE 4.25" X 5.5"	\$75
QUARTER PAGE 2.125" X 5.5"	\$50
SINGLE LINE UP TO 75 CHARACTERS	\$18

Contact Jorie Bernhardt
 Director of Youth and Family Programming
 JorieBernhardt@templeofaaron.org



Jorie Bernhardt

Director of Youth and Family Programming

Email: JorieBernhardt@TempleofAaron.org
 651-252-6415

It's hard to believe that another calendar year has come and gone, and here we are approaching February. As a whole, 2018 was a year filled with new chapters, successes, and adventures. We bought a house, adopted a dog, traveled both domestically and internationally, celebrated my brother's marriage (and welcomed a sister-in-law), and flourished in our jobs. In 2018, *5 Senses of Judaism* took root and reenergized and reengaged both Temple of Aaron and greater Twin Cities families in new ways. I am so excited and humbled to announce that National Center to Encourage Judaism (NCEJ) has awarded a grant for *5 Senses of Judaism* programming throughout the 2019-2020 year. This grant ensures another year of free programming for all families with birth through kindergarten aged children. Thank you to everyone who has supported this program in so many different ways. Whether you've been a participant, a volunteer, staff, a community partner, a mentor, or donated your recycling... THANK YOU. Thank you to NCEJ for making my dreams feel so very big and believing in the mission. We cannot wait to make this coming year bigger and better than our first.

At the end of December, Aaron and I joined Rabbi Fine and other young professional couples on the Donald and Helen Swartz Family Trip to Israel. Throughout this trip we further developed relationships with our cohort, ate delicious food, sampled local ciders, spirits, and beers, saw Israel through a different lens from Birthright, and made incredible memories. While in the Kinneret region, we visited Galita, a Chocolate Factory in Kibbutz Degania Bet. As we sampled and made chocolates, I couldn't help but think of the upcoming Youth Department Play, "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory."

Our teens and K-6th grade students have been working so hard on learning their lines and songs. As we draw nearer to our performances, the excitement is palpable. All are welcome to join us for the shows, so don't miss out on the fun. Join us Wednesday, Feb. 27 for 6:30pm Dinner Theatre, Saturday, March 2 at 7:30pm, and/or Sunday, March 3 at 11:30am. Contact joriebernhardt@templeofaaron.org for advance ticket sales, or tickets will be sold at the door.

We are also looking for play sponsors. Please e-mail me at joriebernhardt@templeofaaron.org if you would like to purchase a play ad in this year's program. All proceeds from ad sales directly support the youth department play. Thank you for your support and making this show possible!

All Families of Invited to

Havdalah under the stars...

February 23rd @ 6:30 pm

Join us to learn and have fun with Havdalah!
 Music with Wiggle Jiggle and Jam, make wax hands, make your own Havdalah set, be under the stars in the Exploradome Digital Planetarium, and more.

RSVP to Susiehaim@templeofaaron.org
 This event is FREE and sponsored by Temple of Aaron Education & Youth Departments

Destination Shabbat



Samson Axelrod

Samson Axelrod, son of **Boris and Julie Axelrod**, will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on February 22 & 23, 2019.

Samson is in the 7th grade at Dakota Hills Middle School, where he participates in the University of Minnesota math program, soccer, theater, and band. He also enjoys reading, spending time with family, mushroom and agate picking, piña colodas and getting caught in the rain.

Samson has designated St. Jude for his tzedakah contribution.

Kiddush lunch will be sponsored by Samson's grandparents, **Semyon and Lydia Axelrod**, and **Paul and Nancy Savre**.



Lily Axelrod

Lily Axelrod, daughter of **Ben and Bree Axelrod**, will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on February 22 & 23, 2019.

Lily is in the 7th grade at Dakota Hills Middle School, where she participates in speech team and inventors debate. She also enjoys gymnastics, crafting, and spending time outdoors with her family.

Lily has designated Pets for Vets for her tzedakah contribution.

Kiddush lunch will be sponsored by Lily's grandparents, **Chris and Brian Turnquist**, and **Semyon and Lydia Axelrod**.



Sisterhood Shabbat – February 2

Please come out to support Sisterhood as we lead most aspects of the Shabbat service! Our featured speaker is Margie Stein Solomon, Volunteer Engagement Specialist at Jewish Family Service of St. Paul. In her role, she works with JFS staff to identify client and agency-wide needs. She then works to recruit and train volunteers to help serve the clients. Her topic will be "Doing Good Together." Margie is a life-long member of Temple of Aaron.

March 9 – Arno Michaelis – "Life after Hate"

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Arno Michaelis was a leader of a worldwide racist skinhead organization, a reverend of a self-declared Racial Holy War. However, single parenthood, love for his daughter, and the forgiveness shown by people he once hated all helped to turn Arno's life around, bringing him to embrace diversity and practice gratitude for all life. Arno currently is part of Serve 2 Unite where he is a character development educator.



April 6 – The Israel Project Shabbat



Founded in 2002, The Israel Project (TIP) is a non-partisan American educational organization dedicated to informing the media and public conversation about Israel and the Middle East. TIP is the only organization dedicated to changing people's minds about Israel through cutting-edge strategic communications. We don't attack the media, we become a

trusted partner and resource – bringing integrity and facts to the coverage using proven strategies like building relationships, testing messages and giving journalists everything they need to get the story right.

Service Schedule

Friday Night Services

begins at 6:00pm in Leifman Chapel

Saturday Morning Shabbat Services

begins at 9:00am

Minyan Monday – Thursday Services

begins at 6:00pm in Leifman Chapel

Sunday Morning Minyan Services

begins at 9:00am in Leifman Chapel

Shabbat Morning Features

Sisterhood Shabbat – February 2

Vision Speaker: Margie Stein Solomon.

Ulpan Hebrew Class.

Rabbi Miller's Installation – February 9

Vision Speakers: Rabbi Mordecai Miller

& Rabbi Louis Sachs.

Parenting the Parsha Class.

Ulpan Hebrew Class.

Traditional Shabbat – February 16

Sermon by Rabbi Micah Miller.

Ulpan Hebrew Class.

Traditional Shabbat – February 23

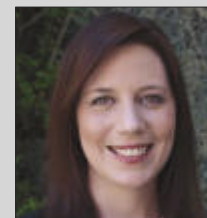
Sermon by Rabbi Fine.

Ulpan Hebrew Class.

Thank You to the First Half Vision Speakers!



Dr. Jonathan Schanzer



Rabbi Sarah Bassin



Andrew Luger



Dr. Eitan Fishbane



Shane Lesko

Israel Committee



By Ian Fishman (Honeymoon Israel Participant - Trip led by Rabbi Fine)

My first shabbat service in more than 20 years was in Jerusalem. An atheist Jew, sitting on a hard, limestone terrace with my wife, a secular agnostic, under a hazy, thick night sky with 19 other couples who, outside of similar demographics, we barely knew.

Our Rabbi invited us to join him in prayer if we knew the words, or felt so inclined. I silently declined. Even when I went to shul, I was never one to speak or sing much — I could never keep tune, and the one time I did at another synagogue, it was a completely different tune than I'd known, and I was so embarrassed I didn't join in again (Side note: I am very happy I am no longer 12 years old.).

Sh'ma yisrael, adonai eloheinu, adonai echad.

Hearing the sh'ma — to the tune I knew, no less — brought about an incredible sense of home I didn't know I missed. Or wanted. Or even needed, for that matter.

For the longest time, I treated being Jewish as something about me — like freckles, or a love of eggplant parm — rather than a part of me. My Zeida gave me a book about a year ago entitled, "How to Get More Out of Being Jewish - Even if You're...," which had a whole list of qualifiers that indicated, essentially, 'Yes, you still are Jewish, even if you don't think you are.' I realized in reading, so

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Group & Committee Voices

Temple of Aaron Sisterhood

HAMANTASCHEN NOW ON SALE — No other organization in town makes better tasting hamantaschen than Temple of Aaron! We now offer half-dozens and gluten-free in the following flavors: mixed fruit, apricot, poppy seed and chocolate. Prices this year are: half-dozen \$8; dozen \$15; gluten-free, \$9.50/half-dozen. Sold through the gift shop during gift shop hours, or to make special arrangements, contact Etta (612-229-4340) or Margie (651-698-4358.)

WINTER COOKING CLASS FROM THE MIDEAST TO THE MIDWEST — Sisterhood is co-sponsoring this series of classes led by Tal Dror (St. Paul Jewish Federation Shlichah) and Zehorit Heilicher, local Jewish/Israeli chef and teacher. You can pick one class or sign up for the whole series and get a discount. All classes are held on Sundays from 1-4pm. Temple of Aaron is hosting Feb.17, in our Temple kitchen. Other classes are Feb. 3 and March 3 at Mt. Zion, March 31 at Beth Jacob and April 14 at Talmud Torah of St. Paul. Individual classes are \$25, or all five are \$120. Get tickets on line at www.jewishst.paul.org/israelicooking. Need help accessing tickets? Contact Margie Schneider (651-698-4358.)



Sisterhood President Margie Schneider presents a check for Shabbat Lunch Fund and Sisterhood Shabbat to Exec. Director Ken Agranoff.

ST. PAUL WOMEN'S ONEG — February 23, 2-4pm. at Beth Jacob, 1179 Victoria Curve, Mendota Hts., 55118. This oneg is co-sponsored by Temple of Aaron Sisterhood, Beth Jacob Women's Group, The Women of Mt. Zion Temple and the St. Paul Chapter of Hadassah. A discussion will be led by Sally Abrams from the JCRC Speaker's Bureau around the book *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor* by Yossi Klein Halevi. You can read the book ahead of time or come to hear her review and then read it if you so desire. This event is free and open to the whole community. Bakers are needed — contact Margie Schneider (651-698-4358 or 7381jbs@comcast.net).

MAHJONGG — Sunday, Feb. 10, 1:00pm in the Smith Library. All levels of play welcome, even beginners. Please contact Margie Schneider (651-698-4358 or 7381jbs@comcast.net) if you are planning to play, to ensure we have enough tables, chairs and sets.

SISTERHOOD BOOK GROUP — Sunday, Feb. 10, 9:30am. NOTE NEW LOCATION at Baker's Square. This month's selection is *Young Jane Young* by Gabrielle Kevin. Contact Barb Pogoler (abpogoler@msn.com or 651-699-9525) to reserve your spot at the table.

SISTERHOOD KNITS — Feb. 7, 6:30pm in the Smith Library. All levels of knitters and crocheters welcome! Bring your own materials. For questions, contact Susan Gonzalez (suzimgonzalez@comcast.net.)

BUILDING FUND CARDS — Support this ToA fundraiser by sending a beautiful card for any occasion, minimum \$5 contribution. To purchase, contact Susan Kushner at 651-454-8336. All donations benefit the Temple building.

MOMENT MAGAZINE — Annual subscription available through the gift shop at the rate of \$15 (of which \$5 comes back to Sisterhood).

SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP — Looking for meaningful Judaic merchandise for gifts or for yourself? Look no further, come to the Temple of Aaron Sisterhood Gift Shop. You will find beautiful mezuzahs, kiddush cups, Shabbat candle holders, menorahs, jewelry, tallitot, books and much more. We have a new selection of Shira Judaic jewelry. Our Gift Registry is available for anyone to register for Life Cycle Events. Hours are: Sun., 9am-Noon; Wed., 10am-1pm and 6pm-8pm; and by appointment with Marcia Taple (651-688-3030 or 651-402-6891) or Etta Lambright (612-229-4340).

Thank you תודה רבה

Donations in memory of loved ones (\$10 or more)
December 2018/January 2019 Tevet/Shevat 5779

Abramson, Bernard & Lynn
Appelbaum, Arlene
Baldinger, Robert
Barenbaum, Bettie
Baskina, Ella
Brody, Sanford & Phyllis
Daniels, Marjorie
Devitt, Sherman & Lois
Divine, Barry & Cheryl
Drucker, Barb
Edelstein, Rebecca
Epstein, Richard &
Mellisa Weisman
Flynn, John & Susan
Fridman, Alla
Geller, Loren & Rosie
Ginzburg, Alex & Riva
Goldberg, Richard & Gayle
Goldish, Jeff & Cincy
Goldman, Howard & Lynn
Goldstein, Carol
Grobovsky, Rick & Nancy
Hirsekor, Fred & Barbara

Hoffman, Marshall & Julia
Horowitz, Leonard
Jacobson, Marvin & Mildred
Kanivetsky, Veniamin & Rozita
Kantor, Errol & Gretchen
Kaplan, Harvey & Sue
Kaster, Barbara
Katz, Irving & Karen
Kaufman, Stuart
Klein, E Gary & Marion
Knurenko, Izabella
Kushner, Barry & Susan
Kushnir, Rozaliya
Levey, Cindy
Levey, Richard
Levine, Marvin & Harriet
Margolin, Irina
Marvy, Bob & Florie
Moos, Shirley
Orkin, Etta Fay
Ostrovskaya, Glaina
Paster, Jacqueline
Pogoler, Barbara

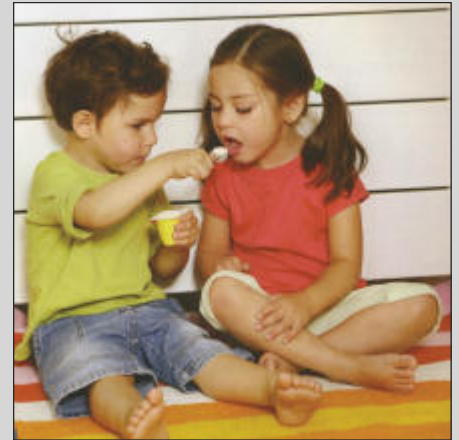
Rein, Myndel
Rosenberg, Gail
Sadoff, Lynn
Sadoff, Ruth
Schraber, David & Paula
Schwartz, Jerry & Sue
Segal, Yoav & Rosalyn
Silverman, Morton
Simon, Jerome & Yetta
Stein, Lawrence
Strohm, Jim & Leslie
and Ezra & Maya
Swartz, Stuart & Susie
Tilsen, Bob & Sandy
Tilsner, Bill & Ryvelle
Udodovsky, Mira
Usem, Arnold & Harriet
Vaynerman, Jane
Vinitsky, Shirley
Ward, Hillard & Helene
Werthauser, Helen
Winthrop, Steve & Sonie
Wolkoff, Patty

... to member Dora Lender for nearly 30 years of dedicated work at St Paul Jewish Family Service as a bilingual specialist helping seniors from the former Soviet Union.

... to Cherokee Bank for making a donation to Sunday Minyan Bagel Fund to honor the memory of Walter Kvasnik in support of employee Jonathan Kvasnik.

... to all Torah and Haftarah readers who make Shabbat morning special.

Help Those Who Need Food Shelf Every Week



Thousands of Minnesota families rely on food shelf for a simple meal. We can help working families, children and seniors who might go without food. Bring food to synagogue, go to website and donate, or mail check to chair-person Harriet Levy. Harriet will mail a card for get well, celebration or condolence. Help us help others!

Blessings

FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

We display every 5 years and all anniversaries of more than 50 years

מזל טוב

- 58 Thomas & Ronna Sherman
- 58 Lew & Marge Blustin
- 53 John & Virginia Bordeaux
- 50 Loren & Rosie Geller

נחמו נחמו עמי

Our deep and sincere sympathy to the families of the following members who have passed away

Jacqueline Bregman

A Memorial Plaque Has Been Displayed For

**Bernice Upin
Mary Ackos Calof**

Cemetery Planning Reduces Stress

We sell affordable graves to members and non-members with multi-month payment plans. Act now to solidify family plans. We have a mixed faith section for members.



Ken Agranoff

Contact Executive Director Ken Agranoff at 651-252-6406 or kenagranoff@templeofaaron.org for an 18-minute meeting. Seize the opportunity to avoid a last-minute emotional meeting.

SHEVAT BANNER: In memory of Joseph Rutman by his family. Entitled "Shir," it honors Jewish Music Month and depicts various shades that make up the Jewish people. A David Neeman design.

Israel Committee
(continued from page 7)

much of my Judaism came from family holidays; it wasn't something I got to share with friends at all growing up (save for the bar mitzvah party), but it was the time I was guaranteed to see people I loved, and who loved me... and eat some incredible things I couldn't have anywhere else. Moving to Minnesota meant that my entire, natural connection to Judaism stayed back in New York and New England. And for a while, I didn't miss it.

Most of my childhood connection to Judaism was a form of pain and/or burden ("Hey, you have ADHD, and you sat still for six hours of school. Nice work! As a reward, you'll learn a language in a way that gives you no practical use...outside of the place that'll take away your Friday nights for the rest of time. Also, have some stale bread."). The idea of going to a shul I don't know, surrounded by people either older than my parents or younger than 12... while also giving up those all-important Friday nights? Let's just say, it wasn't a hard sell to stay in and grab a pizza.

But if there's a time and place to give a Shabbat service another chance... my first night in Jerusalem seemed a worthy site.

After our [very brief] service, we all chatted a bit in an open discussion. One person mentioned how, even if he didn't understand the words, he could appreciate the group reverence ("Ignorance can be bliss," I think is how it was termed, with a much nicer meaning than that phrase is usually said.). When his words helped me articulate an inner question I'd had — "How can I say the sh'ma and participate in the service, if I don't believe in God?" — immediately, a (now) friend in our group chimed in that he'd had the exact same experience. And the more we all chatted, the more we found kindreds among our group.

That feeling — of connecting to your past, present, and future, to feel and question your heritage while forging new community — was so comforting, even more so because that comfort can be so fleeting. I was finding a home I'd forgotten I had, with friends I never knew were mine, in a place I didn't know I belonged.

I'm going to hold on to that night as long as I live.

...and More

Social Justice Committee

Food Distribution Volunteers Needed

For many people, fresh fruit and vegetables are a luxury during the colder months. To address this pressing need, the Neighborhood House hosts free farmers' market style produce distributions indoors at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul. The Social Justice committee is organizing volunteer teams to work at the fresh produce distributions on February 19, March 19 and April 16, all from 1 to 4 pm. The work involves bagging and setting out fruit, vegetables, and other vital food items, handing them to the shoppers and cleaning up the room afterwards. Please contact Brian Zaidman (bmzaidman@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating on any of these dates.

Stay Up-to-Date with Social Justice e-mail List

The Social Justice/Social Action committee is creating an email mail list to inform synagogue members of issues involving social justice matters that are being addressed by our governmental bodies and to keep members informed about committee events and opportunities for involvement. To join the list, please send an email to TOAshofar@yahoo.com.

Recent Bar Mitzvah Jacob Braginsky Playing Piano at Mall of America for the Holiday Season



Mazel Tov to Michael Saxon for being nominated for the 2019 TIME Car Dealer of the Year award



Appreciation for Advertisers in Aaronion

Each *Aaronion* has a full page in which businesses and people elect to place ads. This revenue enables us to have our monthly newsletter printed for free.

Please take a moment each month to review ads and consider taking full advantage of their services. We currently have three member families who have ads and we would like more. Thank you to the Leventhal Family for Cecils ad, Steve and Jody Cohen Press for Press Law Office ad, and Tracey and Ken Agranoff for private ad.

Make Credit Cards Work Smarter for Temple of Aaron

More and members are electing to make donations with a credit card or debit card. We appreciate the generosity. Please note the 3% processing fee is a growing expense for us as more people like the convenience, points and miles.

As expected, Temple of Aaron is very careful in using your donations. Please consider adding 3% to each donation to cover the fees so that we can utilize 100% of the donation to continue providing quality prayer services, educational classes and exciting social programs.

Temple of Aaron Calendar of Events

February 2019
Shevat - Adar 5779

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
		For more information on these and other events and programs, please visit our website: templeofaaron.org				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00am Minyan/Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School/ TiKone USY 10:00am Exodus Class with Rabbi Miller	Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	6:00pm Minyan	4:00 pm Hebrew School 6:00 pm TiKone USY 6:00 pm Minyan 6:30 pm Judaism 101	6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 6:30pm Sisterhood Knits 7:30pm Bible Class	6:00pm Erev Shabbat Services 6:00pm Kehillat Shabbat Musical Service 7:00pm Chinese Shabbat Dinner Candle Lighting 5:12pm	Rabbi Micah Miller's Installation 8:15am Learning w/ Rabbi Miller 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am Shabbat Services 9:45am Parenting the Parsha 9:45am Ulpan Class 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
10	11	12	1	14	15	16
9:00am Minyan/Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School/ TiKone USY 1:00pm Sisterhood Mahjongg	Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	6:00pm Minyan 6:00pm TAXY Talk	4:00 pm Hebrew School 6:00 pm TiKone USY 6:00 pm Minyan 6:30 pm Judaism 101	6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	6:00pm Erev Shabbat Candle Lighting 5:22pm	8:15am Learning w/ Rabbi Miller No Shabbat School 9:15am Shabbat Services 9:45am Ulpan Class 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00am Minyan Breakfast No Sunday School/TiKone USY 10:00am Exodus Class with Rabbi Miller 1:30pm Sisterhood Cooking Program	Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan Presidents Day	6:00pm Minyan	4:00 pm Hebrew School 6:00 pm TiKone USY 6:00 pm Minyan 6:30 pm Judaism 101	6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	Lily & Samson Axelrod B'nai Mitzvah 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Services Candle Lighting 5:32pm	Lily & Samson Axelrod B'nai Mitzvah 8:15am Learning w/ Rabbi Miller 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am Shabbat Services 9:45am Ulpan Class 11:30am Kiddush Lunch 6:30pm Havdalah
24	25	26	27	28		
9:00am Minyan/Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School / TiKone USY 10:00am Exodus Class with Rabbi Miller	Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm ToA Book Club - <i>Marjorie Morningstar</i> by Herman Wouk 6:30pm Parent Play Preview	No Hebrew School/TiKone USY 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Willy Wonka Dinner Theater	6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class		Symbol Indicates Holy Playground Program ★

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Contact joshuaFineblum@TempleofAaron.org