



THE AARONION

TEMPLE OF AARON'S
MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER

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

Vol. 95 • No. 7

March 1, 2020

5 Adar 5780



2nd Annual **THE BIG NIGHT OF JEWISH THOUGHT**



*A Conversation About:
21st Century Jewish Ethics*



Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson

Dean of the Zeigler School of Rabbinic Studies
Author of *Bedside Torah: Wisdom, Vision, and Dreams*



Rabbi Dr. Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi

Senior Fellow, Kaplan Center for Jewish Peoplehood
Author of *Judaism, Gender and Ethics: When the Rules Change*



Rabbi Shmuly Yanklwotiz

President & Dean of Valley Beit Midrash
Author of *Pirkei Avot: A Social Justice Commentary*

The Big Night of Jewish Thought is an opportunity in the Twin Cities to learn from a full spectrum of Jewish thinkers from across denominations and expertise in one evening on crucial topics facing the future of the Jewish community.

Sunday, March 29th 2020

616 S. Mississippi River Blvd, St. Paul

VIP Book Reception - 6pm

Conversation - 7pm

Tickets Available on Eventbrite or KenAgranoff@TempleofAaron.org

The Rabbi's Desk



Rabbi Jeremy Fine

651-252-6412

Email:

RabbiJeremyFine@TempleofAaron.org

Twitter:

@RabbiJeremyFine

Laugh and Learn

March has become an incredibly busy month for Temple of Aaron. Last year, we began a new project called the Big Night of Jewish Thought. BNJT has become Temple of Aaron's way of anchoring our Jewish learning, mirroring our fundraiser's success as the focal point of our programming year. Last year, 215 people attended an evening of accessible and thought-provoking learning. This year will be no different as together we explore "21st Century Jewish Ethics" with a panel that covers the entire spectrum of Jewish life. Rabbis Bradley Shavit-Artson, Rachel Sabath Beit Halachmi, and Shmuly Yanklowitz are all experts in the field. Below you can read more about them!

But before the bios, in March we will not just be learning we will also be laughing. This year Purim is not just for kids! We invite you all to join us at the House of Comedy for Purim with the incomparable

Judy Gold. Gold is a world class comedian whose IMDB page is a mile long (bio also below). At 6:00 p.m. we will have Megillah reading at the House of Comedy in the Mall of America. That portion is free. But we invite everyone to purchase tickets to Gold's performance, which will not be forgotten.

We look forward to the LEARNING and LAUGHING with you this month!

See you in shul (and the Mall of America!),

Rabbi Jeremy Fine

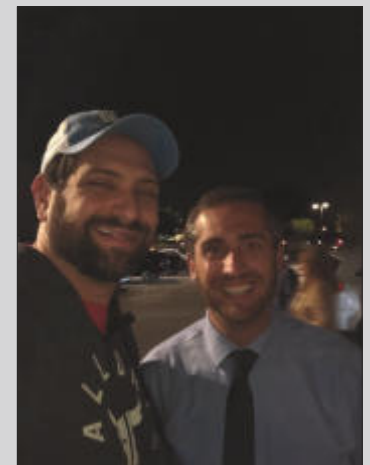
Judy Gold — Veteran comedian, actor, and writer, Judy Gold has had stand-up specials on HBO and Comedy Central. She appears on the new season of *Murphy Brown*, and is a regular on Comedy Central's current series *This Week at the Comedy Cellar*. Recent TV appearances include guest-starring roles on *Broad City*, *The Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *The Jim Gaffigan Show*, and *Inside Amy Schumer*. Judy won two Emmy awards for writing and producing on *The Rosie O'Donnell Show*. She is the author of *Yes, I Can Say That*, forthcoming from Dey Street Books, and you can listen to her weekly on her hit podcast "Kill Me Now."

Rabbi Dr. Bradley Shavit Artson — Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson holds the Abner and Roslyn Goldstine Dean's Chair of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies and is Vice President of American Jewish University in Los Angeles. Rabbi Artson has long been a passionate advocate for social justice, human dignity, diversity and inclusion. He wrote a book on Jewish teachings on war, peace and nuclear annihilation in the late 80s, became a leading voice advocating for GLBT marriage and ordination in the 90s, and has published and spoken widely on environmental ethics, special needs inclusion, racial and economic justice, cultural and religious dialogue and cooperation, and working for a just and secure peace for Israel and the Middle East.

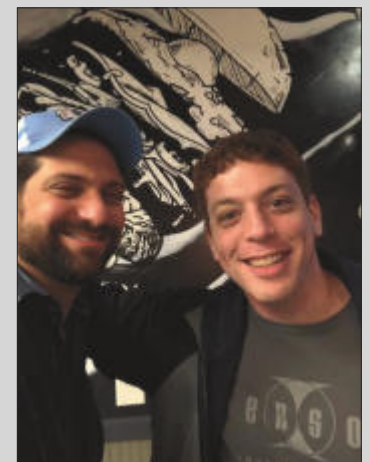
Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit Halachmi — Rabbi Sabath is a Jewish institutional leader, author and sought-after public speaker. Currently, Rabbi Sabath is the North American Content Director for Our Common Destiny, as well as a senior fellow at the Kaplan Center for Jewish Peoplehood. Most recently, Rabbi Sabath served as Assistant Professor and led a four-campus team to achieve strategic goals at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC). Ordained at HUC, Rabbi Sabath also earned a Ph.D. at the Jewish Theological Seminary and is currently completing two books: the first on the development of covenant theology in the thought of Eugene Borowitz, David Hartman and Yitz Greenberg; and the second, co-

— continued on page 7 —

In January, Rabbi Fine went to the Disney Institute for Quality Service and hopes to bring back lessons learned to the ToA community. He stopped to say hello to a friend.



Rabbi Fine was in LA for a conference and met with congregants Mark Gulner (above) and Jeffrey Baldinger (below) for dinner.



The Rabbi's Notes

Women of Worth: Reading the Women in the Bible with Anna Marsh

March 14th – 9:15

March 28th – 10 am

The Bible can often feel like a bunch of stories by, for, and about men — their interests, fears, sons, land, laws, and legacies — but it is also full of stories about complex, creative, and resourceful women. How can both of these things be true? In this two-part series, we will think together about how the Bible presents women in a variety of texts, discuss what their lives may have been like, and how we can read these texts well today.



The History of the Bible in Translation

With University of Minnesota PhD candidate and author, Noam Sienna

March 1, March 15, April 5,
and April 12 at 10:00am

For the last two thousand years, the question of how to understand and interpret the text of the Hebrew Bible has been tied up in the question of how to translate it. Through this four-session class, explore the history of how the Hebrew Bible has been rendered into Jewish and non-Jewish languages, and all the complex political and social issues that translation brings up.



Community Greatness

Several years ago, I had the opportunity to attend Atlanta twice in the span of three weeks. This is not because I have a great affinity for Coca-Cola (although I do prefer it to Pepsi J). Rather, I was heading south for two separate work-related trips.

The trips were very different, but there was one thing that each conference made sure to provide the attendees: the opportunity to tour Ebenezer Baptist Church, where Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached. The words and message that Dr. King and his wife shared over the years is part of the fabric and culture of Atlanta.

While on a tour one of our guides shared a quote from Coretta Scott King, “The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”

I have been thinking about this quote a lot in the past several weeks. Most notably I find her words to be true. It is easy to say you are compassionate or caring, but what really matter are the actions to support those words.

I also have been thinking about it in terms of our community and Mission Mitzvah that happened at the end of January. You cannot believe the naches, or great pride, Rabbis have in their community when they see them coming together to better the world.

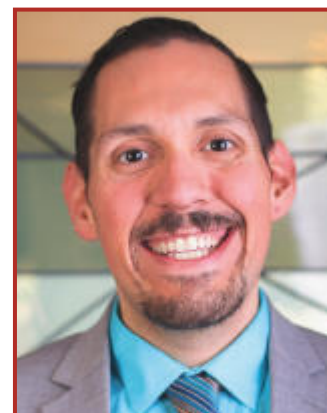
I am so grateful to the over 70 volunteers that came out that day to help out with our various service projects. We made 300 sandwiches for the homeless, 96 homeless kits to hand out around the Twin Cities, made over 200 dog and cat toys for our furry friends currently in shelters, wrote letters to our Jewish service members serving this country, and we made 10 blankets to be taken to children in the hospital.

Thank you to our board members that helped lead stations: Barry Divine, Gary and Roxanne Portnoy, Steve Kafitz, George Bier, Susan Gonzalez, and Brian Zaidman.

Again thank you to all who attended this year and a special thank you to our littlest helpers and their parents/grandparents that brought them to this meaningful day: Ethan Bell, Coco Bilges, Trudy and Annie Fine, Benny and Max Goldman, Julia and Vinnie Groves, Aria Miller, Billie and Stevie Paper, and Luna Taillon.

I firmly believe that the compassionate actions of our members show that we are a great community.

Kol Tuv,
Rabbi Micah Miller



Rabbi Micah Miller

Assistant Rabbi

651-252-6411

Email:

RabbiMiller@TempleofAaron.org

Mission Mitzvah on January 26



Youth Education



Joshua Fineblum, CJE

Cantor/Educator

651-252-5403

Email:

JoshuaFineblum@TempleofAaron.org

Being involved in many organizations over the past 25 years has given me the chance to meet so many people. I have had interactions with people all over the States, Israel, and beyond during many conferences over the years. While all of these were fun and educational, none of them have created closer comradery and friendships then with my friends in the JEA – the Jewish Educator Assembly.

Over the past ten years conferences and the organization itself have helped me and the synagogue grow through idea-sharing, innovation experts, and for me personally through the colleagues and now friends I have met along the way. Building relationships with others has helped me grow to become a more well-rounded educator. It also gives me people to go to who can help and assist in making me and the community better through their wisdom and experience. It has been an honor to have also served on the board and

committees of the organization and look forward to seeing what else I can learn in the years ahead.

For the past three years I have also been attending USCJ and Beth Am's Kol Tefillah Shabbaton in Los Angeles. This third year, board member and volunteer service leader Erin Baldinger joined me for this spiritually uplifting and warm weekend. For me, this weekend of music and seeing tefillah and education innovation at work, excites me for what we can continue to do as an organization. Their Sovev service on Friday night, which helped us create our Kehillat Shabbat service, was thought provoking, warm, and made us focus on the beauty of space in their new sanctuary pictured here.

Learning and having conversations with participants from all over the United States and our Scholars in Residence, Yosef Goldman and Chava Mirel, were meaningful. It was wonderful to share ideas and hear from our scholars throughout the weekend. On Sunday, we spent the morning on the beach going from station to station about different types of tefillah and some programming and techniques to bring home to our communities.

Here are some of Erin's thoughts about her experience at Kol Tefillah 3.0:

What is the purpose of prayer? Do we pray because it is required, and so the purpose of praying is to fulfil the commandment to pray? Do we pray because it helps us make meaning in our lives, or it helps us develop a connection with God or with community? These questions were at the heart of my weekend at the Kol Tefillah conference hosted at Temple Beth Am in Los Angeles. Over the course of the weekend, we experienced many different styles of services and prayer, each one designed to push us to consider why we were doing what we were doing. In every case, I asked myself what is the purpose of doing prayer in this way. What am I gaining? What am I missing?

The Kol Tefillah experience emphasized innovation in prayer. How do we welcome those to prayer whose purpose is to fulfil their obligation to pray? How do we welcome those who are seeking meaning? Pursuing these questions is at the heart of what innovation in prayer is all about, and also at the heart of what we need to do as a Temple of Aaron community. We have to hold multiple overlapping, competing, and conflicting purposes in our hands and navigate among them. Doing so will strengthen our community as we thoughtfully consider why we pray, and how we can do it together.

Don't hesitate to ask either Erin or myself about our experience and continue to ask yourself how we can continue to make prayer meaningful for our community at Temple of Aaron.

Haftorah Reading 201 with Cantor/Educator Fineblum

March 1, March 15, March 22, March 29, and April 5
11:00 am-12:00pm

Do you like to sing? Do you know how to read Hebrew? Then this class is for you! Join Cantor/Educator Fineblum for a 5-week Haftorah reading class where you learn the notes and intricacies of reading Haftorah. Learn trope and begin the journey and become one of our regular haftorah readers.

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!

Cantor/Educator Joshua Fineblum and Erin Baldinger at Santa Monica Pier for Sunday's Shuk Ha'Tefilla



March Education & Youth Calendar

- 4 Religious School/TiKone USY**
**7 NO Shabbat School
Clocks "Spring Ahead"**
**8 Annual Purim Carnival with
5 Senses of Judaism**
9-10 Purim
11 Religious School/TiKone USY
14 Shabbat School
18 Religious School/TiKone USY
21 Shabbat School
**22 - April 5 NO SCHOOL
SPRING BREAK**

A HERCULEAN THANK YOU TO OUR PLAY SPONSORS

Ken & Tracey Agronoff · Arnold, Rodman, & Kretchmer
 Baldinger Sons Bakery · Basil pizza
 Adam Bender · Lisa & Alan Bernick & Family
 Camp Ramah in Wisconsin · Lisa Capp · Cecil's Deli
 Dunn Realty · Bruce Fink & Family
 Neil Fink & Family · Mitch Fink · Fun Jumps
 David & Kristen Gantman · Geri Goldberger
 Shelly & Ira Golden · Susan Gonzalez
 Mark & Amy Gulner & Family
 Rabbi Jeremy & Jessie Fine
 C/E Joshua Fineblum & Andrea Golden Fineblum
 Steve & Barbara Fineblum
 Heicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School
 Hello Photo · Herzl Camp
 Hodroff-Epstein Memorial
 Hub International · Insty Prints
 Inver Grove Ford Lincoln
 Jewish Federation of Greater Saint Paul
 Steve & Eve Kafitz
 Esther Kravitz, Jay Goldberger, & Family
 Roberta & Fred Kravitz · Natalie Krugman
 Nancy & Steven Lane & Family · Howard Lazarus
 Sharon Lazarus · Mark & Lisa Lerman
 Adi Leviatan & Eli Muchtar · Betty Sue & David Lipschultz
 Matthew Lipschultz · Milbern Clothing
 Rabbi Micah & April Miller
 Minnesota Hard Bop Collective
 Miriam & Jon Muscoplat · Gary & Roxanne Portnoy
 Jody Cohen Press · Protec Environmental Consultants
 Cynthia Rosenblatt · Susan & Hart Rosenblatt
 Howard Roston · Lynne & Stuart Sanders
 Daniel & Jodi Saltzman · Rosalyn & Yoav Segal
 Alisha & Jesse Simon · Spirit of Asia
 Sunny Hollow Montessori · ToA Sisterhood
 Team Edelstein · Bill Tervola
 Twin Cities Costume & Magic · Wholesale Imprints
 Jeffery Winston · Eddie Winthrop & Family
 Woodstone Renovation · Chaya & Terry Zien

Youth Happenings

Last month we brought you the world of Hercules, which told the story of Greek Myth and Olympians. This month, for Purim, we bring you to the world of Olympic Athletes as we take over St. Thomas University's Field House on Sunday, March 8th. In honor of our Purim event, I would like to highlight a few Jewish Female Olympians who revolutionized their sport.

Charlotte Epstein (1884-1938)



Charlotte was known as the "Mother of Women's Swimming in America," as she was a founder of the Women's Swimming Association of New York to promote the health benefits of the sport. Although Epstein was not a champion swimmer herself, she coached the Women's Olympic Swimming Team throughout the 1920s and mentored many of its members to 30 national championships and 51 world records. In 1935, she served as team selection chair for the Maccabiah Games in Tel Aviv, but notably withdrew from the Olympic Selection Committee in 1936 to boycott the Berlin Nazi Olympic Games.



Jorie Bernhardt

Director of Youth and Family
Programming

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

Agnes Keleti (b. 1921)



Agnes was born in Hungary and began her gymnastics training in Budapest. By the time she reached sixteen years of age, she had already won ten national titles. In 1944, her gymnastics training was abruptly cut short due to Nazi Germany's invasion. To survive, she obtained false papers and worked under the guise of being a Christian maid for a family in a small Hungarian Village. By the end of the war, Agnes returned to her gymnastics training and represented Hungary in national gymnastics competitions twenty-four times. By the time of her retirement from competition, Keleti was the most successful Jewish female athlete in Olympic history, as she won ten Olympic medals from three different games.

We can't wait to see you at TOA Purim, where you can meet Olympians and discover your inner athlete!

— New Summer Option —



Save the Date:
Camp Ramah UnderNight
July 1, 8 & 15

Ages 3-8

\$75 - Includes Dinner, all Evening Activities
More details coming soon.

Contact Rabbi Fine for more details.

Shabbatot this Month

Theme: *Investing in our Community*

Through our new Community & Covenant Interfaith Committee, we will be announcing a theme every month so parents and congregants know what sermons will generally touch upon.

Interfaith Shabbat Practices with Rabbi Fine

Saturdays, March 28 & April 4 at 9:15am

Through dialogue, Rabbi Fine will host an inclusive discussion about how Interfaith Families are celebrating Shabbat. This is an opportunity to share ideas and practices or to learn from others. We will begin with a light snack as an opportunity to meet other couples and a welcoming space to connect. This is open to all ages and demographics.



Vision Speaker – Ambassador Ido Aharoni March 14

Ambassador Ido Aharoni serves as a global distinguished professor at New York University's School of International Relations in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Ambassador Aharoni is a 25-year veteran of Israel's Foreign service, a public diplomacy specialist, founder of the Brand Israel program and a well-known nation branding practitioner. Ambassador Aharoni,

who served as Israel's longest serving consul-general in New York and the tristate area for six years, oversaw the operations of Israel's largest diplomatic mission worldwide.



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

Traditional Shabbat – March 7
Sermon by Rabbi Fine
Hacking the Holidays: Purim

Vision Speaker – March 14
Ambassador Ido Aharoni
Women of Worth Class with Anna Marsh

Traditional Shabbat – March 21
Sermon by Rabbi Miller
Learning with Rabbi Miller

Traditional Shabbat – March 28
Sermon by Rabbi Fine
Women of Worth Class with Anna Marsh
Interfaith Shabbat Practices w/Rabbi Fine

**Reserve April 9 for
Temple of Aaron's
Community Seder
in Stein Hall
led by Clergy.
\$36 for adults
and \$18 for
children under 13.**



KEHILLAT SHABBAT IN THE ROUND
MARCH 20

JOIN US FOR THIS
ENGAGING AND
PARTICIPATORY SERVICE
AS WE USHER IN
SHABBAT TOGETHER

COST \$18 FOR ADULTS/\$15 FOR CHILDREN
RSVP TO SUSIEHAIM@TEMPLEOFAARON.ORG

Group & Committee Voices



Sisterhood Shabbat on February 8th with Rabbi Ellen Wolintz Fields

— continued from page 2 —

edited with Rachel Adler, on gender and ethics in Jewish thought, to be published by the Jewish Publication Society.

Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz — Rabbi Yanklowitz has twice been named one of America's Top Rabbis by *Newsweek*, and has been named by *The Forward* as one of the 50 most influential Jews and one of The Most Inspiring Rabbis in America. Rabbi Yanklowitz is the author of seventeen books on Jewish ethics and his writings have appeared in outlets as diverse as the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post*, the *Guardian*, and the *Atlantic* among many other secular and religious publications. He serves as the President and Dean of Valley Beit Midrash (Jewish learning center), the Founder and President of Uri L'Tzedek (the Orthodox Social Justice movement), the Founder and CEO of Shamayim (Jewish animal advocacy), and the Founder and President of YATOM, (Jewish foster and adoption network).

Temple of Aaron Sisterhood

HAMANTASCHEN ON SALE NOW! - Sisterhood bakes the best hamantaschen in the Twin Cities and you can purchase them right now through the gift shop or the kitchen. WE HAVE GLUTEN FREE! Fillings include apricot, mixed fruit with or without nuts, chocolate with or without nuts, and poppy seed. Cost for regular is \$8.00/half dozen, or \$15.00 for any combination of two half dozens. Gluten free are \$9.50/half dozen. If you need to make special arrangements outside of gift shop hours, contact Margie Schneider (651-698-4358) or Etta Lambright (612-229-4340).

MAHJONGG - Sunday, March 15 at 1:00pm, in the Smith Library. Contact Margie Schneider with questions or to reserve your spot and ensure we have enough tables and sets (651-698-4358 or 7381jbs@comcast.net).

SISTERHOOD KNITS - Thursday, March 12 at 6:30pm, in the Smith Library. All levels of knitters and crocheters welcome, even very beginners. Bring your own materials. Contact Susan Gonzalez for more information (612-791-5606 or suzimgonzalez@comcast.net).

SISTERHOOD BOOK GROUP - Sunday, March 1 at 9:30pm, at Baker's Square in Highland. The selection this month is *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* by Ballin Kaur Jaswai. Contact Barb Pogoler to ensure your spot or with questions (abpogoler@msn.com).

BUILDING FUND CARDS - Purchase a card with a \$5 minimum donation for any happy or sad occasion. Contact Susan Kushner (651-454-8336) and she will send one out. You will be billed for the cards. All monies raised are presented to the Temple for enhancements to the building!

FOOD SHELF - PLEASE NOTE CHANGE! Susan Gonzalez is the new chair for the Sisterhood Food Shelf drive. To make a monetary donation in honor of or in memory of a loved one, send a check and information to Susan Gonzalez, 5015 42nd Ave. S., Minneapolis, 55417. Susan will send out the card. Questions? Call or e-mail Susan (612-701-5606 or suzimgonzalez@comcast.net).

SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP - Looking for meaningful Judaic merchandise for gifts or for yourself? Come to the Temple of Aaron Gift Shop, where we not only have some lovely new merchandise, but all of our merchandise is discounted 20%, except books are reduced 10%, and there is no discount on mezuzah parchment. We are having our Passover/Spring sale which will run from March 15-April 30. You will find a wonderful variety of merchandise from various vendors. Our Gift Registry is available for anyone to register for Life Cycle Events. Hours are Sun., 9am-12pm; 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).

TORAH FUND

It's not too late to send in Torah Fund donations for this year.

A letter and envelope were included in your January billing.

Remember, any donations help support the education of our conservative clergy and lay staff throughout the world.

Questions? Call Sue Schwartz, Torah Fund Chair (651-451-2188).

Social Justice Committee

Help Distribute Fresh Produce to Our Neighbors in Need

Please join with us as we work with Neighborhood House to distribute fresh fruit and vegetables to community members on March 24 and April 28, indoors, at Metro State University. This is a rewarding three-hour activity. Contact Brian Zaidman to sign up (bmzaidman@gmail.com).

HaHARONION

A Rabbi's Attempt at Humor. Emphasis on Attempt.

616 S. Mississississippi River Blvd. Crossriver MN. 55116

www.TempleofMoshesBrother.com

5 Senses Goes Down to 4

In a controversial move, the 5 Senses of Judaism program is being cut down to 4 Senses. Board member Emily Paper said, "5 is just too many senses. The board made the right move." Program supporter Lindsey Horowitz was visibly upset, "We came for 5 senses and you only gave us 4! What is next? Dan Johnson won't make the Fantasy Football playoffs?!" The sense that gets cut has yet to be determined.



Brosnahan and Pollak to Convert

After her shocking reveal on Jimmy Fallon about Temple of Aaron's event, Rachel Brosnahan has officially decided to convert to Judaism. She stated her biggest influence was Deb Taillon. "I knew when I met her that Judaism was for me" said Brosnahan. Oddly, Pollak has decided to leave the faith. "I spoke with Rabbi Fine and I knew right then and there, that if this is what Judaism has become I wanted no part of it." Rabbi Fine refused to comment on Pollak's decision. Rabbi Miller spoke up. "Can you blame Kevin after Rabbi Fine's line of questioning?"



HaHAaronian is not sponsored by a male or female in our community. We will happily accept donations to ensure the laughs keep coming. Jokes are free but color printing is not! Thank YOU.

Wednesday Night Minyan Rumble

The board has officially announced that Temple of Aaron will be hosting Wednesday night wrestling every Wednesday. Past President Roz Segal said, "It might sound crazy but our wrestling numbers will help our Minyan numbers." A delighted Past President Steve Baldinger stated, "I am prepared to support anything that gets Steve Shaller in a wrestling ring." Wednesday night wrestling will begin immediately following minyan and occasionally, if numbers are low, move inside the ring. Ritual Coordinator Larry Eisenstadt noted that we must find Jews where they are...and apparently they are in the ring.



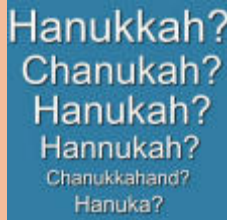
Disney Deal In the Works

Disney found out about ToA's Hercules performance and showed up! CEO Mr. Mouse was so impressed he offered to purchase 99% of ToA Stock. CJE Fineblum informed the Mouse family that "Stock" was just a youth program term, but Disney would not budge. Talks will continue!



Hanukkah vs Hanukah vs Chanukah

Our sincerest apologies to all those who witnessed the Bimah fight of the century. As Cantor Fineblum began singing “Oh Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah” a mysterious man in the back of the synagogue screamed “Chanukah with a CH!!!” A passionate Dr. Alan Divine awoke and jumped from his seat, “Hanukah with an H and one K.” Susan Gonzalez then said, “Our new tradition includes two Ks.” The congregation then began to argue. Services were cancelled for the remainder of Hanukkah/Hanukah/Chanukah. When asked of President Steve Kafitz how the community will proceed he remarked, “We will spin a dreidel to decide.”



Sisterhood to Launch Rare Hamantaschen



At a recent board meeting, Sisterhood President Margie Schneider announced a new flavor of Hamantaschen will be featured for Purim this year. She did not go into depth about the flavor but noted the flavor will be a surprise and change the way we look at the three-cornered treat. The sisterhood board also voted it will be gluten-free, sugar-free, dairy-free, peanut-free, preservative-free, non-GMO, organic, Kosher (3 certifications), vegan, low-carb, low-calorie, and come with the ability to make us age slower. Stay tuned for more.

4th Annual ToA Awards:

Best Orange County CA Member— Mark Gulner
Most Likely to be on the Price is Right—Dustin Nides
Best Barber Poles —William Marvy Co. Inc.
Best Sisterhood Giftshop Volunteer—Haha
like we’d really answer this question.
They all win!!!



Block Party Changes; Highland Forever

Due to the overwhelming success of Crossriver Block Party, Highland Fest will be shutting its “doors.” Irene Goldman noted, “We knew a vegan event would be a game changer. We didn’t know it’d be a community changer.” While Highland Fest is cancelled, Block Party may or may not have been the cause.

Twitterverse is Speaking

- ToA has #VeganRabbis @RabbiMiller #YesTheyDo
- @SShaller keep doing #TempleofWrestling & get @KennyAg in the ring!
- @MarkDivine ToA Shabbat Desserts > @Target Hamantaschen Battle
- #ToA is ready for another #Kosherfest @RabbiJeremyFine where you at?



Synagogue School Dress Code to Be Enforced

CJE Fineblum announced the school’s new dress code: “Everyone must wear Purple & Yellow.” The Samuels & Rodmans were not happy with the changes and are protesting with their Team’s Colors. “Fineblum is an Eagles fan. I don’t get it,” said Dan Johnson. Mike Bell just smiled. The new rule goes into effect until the Vikings win it all!

Minneapolis Expansion

Due to the growth of Minneapolis families, ToA will be looking to move closer to the river. Building committee member Tim Oskey stated, “While we are close to the river, we feel our congregants want us closer to the river.” Plans have begun researching locations to make everyone feel like they haven’t crossed a river. Saint Louis Park resident Emma Temkin shared, “I applaud the synagogue’s effort. We hope the shul can find a way to be more centrally located.” The first attempt will be to buy land under the river to eliminate crossing.



Thank you תודה רבה

Donations in memory of loved ones (\$10 or more)

January/February 2020

Shevat 5780

Allen, Jeffrey & Carol	Goldman, Howard & Lynn	Pogoler, Barbara
Appelbaum, Arlene	Goldstein, Carol	Rein, Myndel
Axelrod, Lenny & Linda	Jacobson, Marvin & Mildred	Sanders, David & Fern
Baldinger, Bob	Kanivetsky, Rozita	Schneider, Bart & Margie
Baskina, Ella	Kaplan, Harvey & Sue	Schwartz, Jerry & Sue
Bubar, Anna	Karon, Robert	and family
Bubar, Sana	Kaster, Barbara	Silverman, Mort
Chulok, Mikhail & Ida	Katz, Burt	Simes, Josephine
Granovskaya	Katz, Connie	Swartz, Stuart & Susie
Cohen, Barbara	Khaskin, Iosif & Sofiy	Tilsen, Bob & Sandy
Engelbretson, Karen	Klein, E. Gary & Marion	Tilsner, Bill
Feldman, Nancy	Kushner, Barry & Susan	Tragar, C.A.
Fine, Sandra	Levine, Marvin & Harriet	Upin, Andrea
Flynn, John & Susan	Marsh, Herbert	Usem, Arnold
Garelick, Eileen	Marvy, Bob & Florie	Vaynerman, Jane
Getsug, Ray & Elissa	Miller, Barbara	Vinitzky, Shirley
Ginzberg, Alex & Riva	Moos, Irene	Wandersee Walter, Nancy
Goldetsky, Bruce	Pistner, John & Kim	Winthrop, Sonia

... to Burt Katz and Anita Ernst for adding over 800 labels to February 2020 *Aaronions* to help keep our community informed about upcoming programs, services, classes and so much more.
 ... to volunteer hamantashen makers: Margie Schneider, Etta Lambright, Joannie Davidson, Teri Specktor, Sue Schwartz, Gail Rosenberg and more.
 ... to Bill & Mary Lerman and Jesse & Alisha Simon for their donation to the Scotch-Fund.
 ... to everyone who supports our crucial Security Fund.
 ... to all supporting our Shabbat Lunch Fund.

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!

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. Contact



Ken Agranoff

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.

Blessings

MARCH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

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

מזל טוב

- 61 Herbert & Marcia Bernick
- 60 Iosif & Masha Shimelfarb
- 56 Vladimir & Bella Binkin
- 53 Feliks Gak & Alla Vysotsky
- 52 Barry & Susan Kushner
- 51 Tom & Sue Stillman
- 50 Stephen & Adrienne Muscoplat
- 10 Eli Muchtar & Adi Leviatan
- 5 Howard & Tillie Stacker

נחמו נחמו עמי

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

Igor Blyakher
 Sherm Ringer
 Leonard Schloff
 Helen Werthauser

Memorial Plaques Have Been Displayed For

Edward Devitt
 Elaine Devitt

ADAR BANNER: In honor of Donald & Patricia Wolkoff & children, Adam & Dina. Titled "Purim Megillah" (Renanah Halpern design). It depicts a huge Megillah for the Festival of Purim.

— **SAVE THE DATES!** —

Shavuot Pajama's, Pizza, and Projects!!

May 28 at 4:30-6:00pm



All parents and children come in your favorite PJs for our first kids party celebrating the holiday of Shavuot. Come and experience Shavuot—the holiday celebrating the giving of the Torah in a fun and experiential way!

Adult Shavuot Learning

2020 Torah — May 29

Ancient Texts applied today



Join us for a fancy dairy/pareve meal on the second day of Shavuot. Through a progressive study session (learning from multiple teachers) you will have the opportunity to learn from the teachers how our ancient tradition's texts still apply today. Any questions, contact Rabbi Miller (rabbimiller@templeofaaron.org).

Shabbat Lunch Builds Community

Temple of Aaron is thrilled members of all ages have enjoyed the lunches and socializing as we relax in the Shabbat spirit. The lunch program is a pay as you go program not tied to member dues. We rely on members to make donations to cover costs of lunch food and kitchen staff. We can bill you monthly or you can make donations online when convenient. The true cost of each meal is \$13 per person per week. We are deeply appreciative for over 300 different donations in 2019 providing the resources to prepare lunch all 52 weeks. Please help us in 2020. Contact Executive Director Ken Agranoff with any suggestions, concerns or a pledge.

...and More



**It's Your Legacy:
Emily & Howie Paper**

Why is contributing to *It's Your Legacy* important to you?

We chose to commit to *It's Your Legacy* because we believe it's important to commit to the Jewish future for our children and future generations to come. Many opportunities provided to us are thanks to those who came before us.

What would you tell other congregants who are undecided about contributing to *It's Your Legacy*?

To those who are undecided, we encourage you to recognize that as your needs form and your commitment to the Jewish community fluctuate at different times, you need there to be a supportive base to grow from. We must understand that our financial commitments are the future of our community and help our leaders plan for the long-term future so others will be able to benefit. Your commitment doesn't have to be huge and you can adjust it as necessary going forward.

How would you hope to see your contribution make a difference at Temple of Aaron?

We hope our commitment to Temple of Aaron will be able to help support our school, kiddush lunch fund, and other programs that are the heart and soul of why we love being there.

Temple of Aaron has an active *It's Your Legacy* Committee with chair people Roz Segal, Sue Rosner, and Nancy Lane. We also have three engaged committee members: Bart Schneider, Roxanne Portnoy, and Judy Werthauser supported by Rabbi Jeremy Fine, Clergy Assistant Danaé Thorpe, and Executive Director Ken Agranoff.

Security On Multiple Levels

Temple of Aaron gave each member the opportunity to make an annual donation in January to support our security approaches. We accept advice from experts at the FBI, St Paul Police, Homeland Security, JCRC and others. There are multiple good ways to add security and the experts do not always agree on the priority of each suggestion. It is important to note the experts have agreed that we are taking many of the key priority security steps 52 weeks per year.

Experts agree on one item. If you see something that is different or unusual, tell the officer on duty, tell the clergy, tell the maintenance/kitchen staff and tell the Aliyah ushers. The quicker we share information, the quicker we will react.

The experts have advised us about the different risks faced by different organizations at different locations and different times. The list of suggestions is lengthy and we have followed their top priorities. If donations for security exceed the needs created by the top priorities in 2020, then we will institute items on the list that the experts say are helpful yet not critical. We receive weekly security reports that help us balance advice from experts that is not always in agreement. We appreciate all of your security donations and encourage you to make this need one of your top giving priorities.

We Appreciate Advertisers

Several of our members have stepped forward and placed ads in the monthly newsletter. These donations are very helpful and we encourage you to support them (Cecils = David/Sheila, Brad/Patti and Aaron Leventhal, Steve/Jody Cohen Press Law Firm, Woodstone Renovation = Tim/Wendy Oskey, Property Solutions & Services = Asher/Jaclyn Gavzy) and all of our generous advertisers.

Rabbi Fine Visits Members in Florida



Rabbi Fine visited snowbirds in Naples. Left to right: David Lipschultz, Stuart Marofsky, Joann Marofsky, Eileen Bream, Norene Karon, Janie Warren Berg, Linda Gersick, Rabbi Fine, Betty Sue Lipschultz.



Rabbi Fine had lunch with the Garelicks, Silberniks and the owner of Ben's Deli, Boca Raton.

Save the Date August 16, 2020, for our annual entertainer event at the O'Shaughnessy.

TOA volunteers January 28

The crew bagging carrots at the Neighborhood House Produce Distribution at Metro State University on Jan. 28: Cookie Usem, Bill Lerman, Becky Stuart, Susan Schwartz, and Margie Schneider. Also present and working on other foods were Etta Lambright, Bart Schneider and Brian Zaidman. Along with the other volunteers, we distributed 7,500 lbs. of food. Next distribution date: March 24.



**Temple of Aaron's
Womens
Seder**

March 26th at 6:00 pm
Open to All Women Ages 16 & Up

This year Temple of Aaron's women pre-Pesach Seder is inviting women from our community to join this year to create connection. We will be hosting women from community churches.

Please bring a personal story, reading or poem to share at their tables during the Seder.

Members are requested to make donation of \$5 to help with expenses. Please send your donation to the temple office.

RSVP to
danaethorpe@templeofaaron.org
by March 18th

CROSSRIVER
Wednesday • June 10, 2020 • 5-8 pm
BLOCK 3.0 PARTY
616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. St. Paul

MUSIC BY:
SolSta Records

FOOD TRUCKS
Herbivorous Butcher Food Truck • J. Mobile • MSPrezatz • & More!

FUN TRUCKS
Peddle Pub • Northern Star • Tumble Fun Bus • & More!

FIRST Wrestling
Crossriver Events

Temple of Aaron Calendar of Events

March 2020
Adar ~ Nisan 5780

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast 9:00am TiKone USY 10:00am Bible in Translation Class 11:00am Haftorah Class ToA at AIPAC	2 Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan ToA at AIPAC	3 6:00pm Minyan ToA at AIPAC	4 4:00pm Hebrew School 6:00pm TiKone USY 6:00pm Minyan	5 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	6 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Service 7:00pm Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner Candle Lighting 5:49pm	7 No Shabbat School 9:15am Hacking the Holidays: Purim 9:15am Shabbat Services 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
8 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast No TiKone USY 11:00am Purim Carnival at St. Thomas	9 Erev Purim Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan 6:00pm Megillah Reading at House of Comedy & Comedian Judy Gold	10 Purim 6:00pm Minyan	11 Shushan Purim 4:00pm Hebrew School 6:00pm TiKone USY 6:00pm Minyan	12 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	13 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Service 7:00pm Shabbat Potluck Candle Lighting 6:59pm	14 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am Women in the Bible Class 9:15am Shabbat Services 10:45am Vision Speaker: Ambassador Ido Aharoni 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
15 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast 9:00am TiKone USY 10:00am Bible in Translation Class 11:00am Haftorah Class 1:00pm Sisterhood Mahjongg	16 Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	17 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm TAXY Talk	18 4:00pm Hebrew School 6:00pm TiKone USY 6:00pm Minyan	19 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	20 6:00pm Kehillat Shabbat Service 7:00pm Shabbat Dinner Candle Lighting 7:08pm	21 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am Learning with Rabbi Miller 9:15am Shabbat Services 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
22 9:00am Minyan Breakfast No TiKone 11:00am Haftorah Class 12:30pm Sisterhood Program	23 Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	24 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm ToA Book Club: <i>People of the Book</i> by Geraldine Brooks	25 No Hebrew School or TiKone USY 6:00pm Minyan	26 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:00pm Women's Seder 7:30pm Bible Class	27 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Service Candle Lighting 7:17pm	28 No Shabbat School 9:15am Interfaith Shabbat Discussion 9:15am Shabbat Services 10:00am Women in the Bible Class 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
29 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast No TiKone 11:00am Haftorah Class 7:00pm Big Night of Jewish Thought	30 Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	31 6:00pm Minyan	<p>For more information on these and other events and programs, please visit our website: templeofaaron.org All programs at ToA unless otherwise noted.</p>			

TWIN CITY MONUMENT CO.

1133 University Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55104
651-646-1542
4827 Minnetonka Blvd.
Mpls., MN 55416
952-920-4738

Clair's Automotive



American & Foreign Cars • Towing
Complete Auto Care
651-698-5632
1341 St. Clair Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105

PRESS

Law Office, PLLC

Plan Your Family's
Tomorrow...
Today

Estate Planning Attorneys

Attorney
Steven M. Press

Attorney
Jody A. Cohen Press

estateplanningmn.com
estateplanningtwincities.com

Sholom Short-Term Rehab & Home Care



Individualized care &
therapy services to get you
stronger, longer!

855-5-Sholom
sholom.com



Property Solutions & Services, Inc

Offering property management and real estate services to owners and nonprofit organizations within the Twin Cities since 1988. Specializes in center-city affordable housing communities and provides property management, property maintenance, compliance, consulting and accounting services.

612-746-0400
asher@propertyyss.com
www.propertyyss.com

Edina Realty

a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate

651-239-5600

gailpolo@edinarealty.com

Parishioner Discount



Gail Polo
Realtor



651-376-1120

Daniel A. Sogin - Owner/Designer

GotchaCovered.com/historic-saint-paul

A Member of Our Community Since 1995

HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY & HOME

CALL NOW! 1-888-891-6806



HOME SECURITY TEAM

Seeking Outside Sales Consultants

Full Time | Commission Only
Weekly Draw



Help homeowners through claims process due to hail storms

- \$75K - \$125K + realistic first year income with no experience, no cap on commissions
- 4-5 leads provided daily
- Top reps make \$300K+ per year
- An outgoing personality and positive attitude is a must
- No experience necessary - we offer extensive and ongoing sales training
- Valid driver's license, dependable vehicle required
- Travel within Mpls-St Paul metro area
- Able to walk on roofs and handle ladders



Lic. #BC639341

To set up an interview, call 612-324-5048

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact Matthew Church to place an ad today!
mchurch@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x5898

WOODSTONE RENOVATION, LLC.

Quality custom craftsmanship.
Personalized trusted service.
Exceptional value.

Residential & Commercial Building
Woodstone-Renovation.com
952.697.5075

SPREAD THE WORD

A Thriving, Vibrant
Community Matters



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



651-797-6428

750 Cleveland Ave. S,
in the heart of Highland Park
Locally Owned and Operated
ASK ABOUT OUR CATERING
AND FROZEN YOGURT CAKES

Invest Your Time
To Build Community
at Temple of Aaron

Tracey and
Ken Agranoff

CECILS

DELICATESSEN • BAKERY
RESTAURANT
Home & Office Catering
651 S. Cleveland, St. Paul, MN
www.cecilsdeli.com
Delicatessen Phone:
651-698-6276
Restaurant Phone:
651-698-0334

Compliments of Your Friends at

740 River Drive
Apartments



www.740riverdrive.com

MAIRS & POWER

GROWTH fund / BALANCED fund / SMALL CAP fund
INVESTMENT COUNSEL



This is their year!

Enroll Now!

651-698-MATH (6284)

www.mathnasium.com/stpaul

MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center
Changing Lives Through Math.™



Enriching Lives
Every Day!

651.698.8859

www.stpaulcornerdrug.com

Commercial and Residential Tree Care Services in Minneapolis & St. Paul



Dormant season is one of the best times to prune trees
to help avoid insect or disease concerns.
It is also a good time to remove trees
while the ground is hard to help minimize lawn damage.

Now is the time to schedule your Tree Care Services.
Call Today and Save 10% by mentioning this ad.

651-691-8063 | www.BirchTreeCare.com



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

Temple of Aaron, St. Paul, MN

A 4C 02-0762

Temple of Aaron Congregation

616 S. Mississippi River Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55116-1099

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Permit No. 1328
Twin Cities MN

ToA Goes to the Olympics for..

P R M

March 8th at 11:00 am

Shows, Experiences, Meet Pro & Amateur Athletes and More!

Anderson Athletic & Recreation Center 2115 Summit Ave, St. Paul