TEMPLE OF AARON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

Vol. 91 • No. 10 June 1, 2016 24 lyar 5776

# ToA Goes AoT Around our Town

# PARKS AND ICE CREAM! Shabbat Fun for Young Families

ToA Youth Department invites all young families to enjoy ice cream at parks Around our Town.

Bring your own lunch and we'll provide dessert!

June 18—Hillcrest Park (1974 Ford Pkwy)
Relay Races & Menchie's Frozen Yogurt
July 23—Wabun Park (4655 46th Ave S., Mpls)
Splash Pad & Rita's Italian Ice

August 13—Horace Mann Elem.(2001 Eleanor Ave)
Kickball and Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream
All Activities begin at 11:00am.

Contact Joshua Fineblum with Questions.



# NIGHTS OUT WITH CLERGY

Join Temple of Aaron's Clergy on Wednesday Nights this Summer as they go Around our Town.

Each event begins at 7:00pm, includes a free drink and opportunity to socialize with clergy and friends in a fun and intimate setting.



Bowling at Pinstripes with Rabbi Avi Strausberg June 29th at Pinstripes (3849 Gallagher Dr, Edina)

BAD WEATHER BREWING COMPANY

Bad Weather Brewery Trivia Night with Cantor/Educator Joshua Fineblum
July 20th at Bad Weather Brewery (414 7th St W, St. Paul)

Color Me Mine Painting with Rabbi Jeremy Fine

August 17th at Color Me Mine (3324 Promenade Ave, Eagan)

RSVP to Clergy Assistant Danae Thorpe: 651-698-8874 x107 or DanaeThorpe@templeofaaron.org. Each event is limited to 20 people. All activities are paid for by individuals.

# From the Rabbi



Rabbi Jeremy Fine
651-698-8874 x112
Email:
RabbiJeremyFine@TempleofAaron.org
Twitter:
@RabbiJeremyFine

#### **Another Great Year at ToA**

Another successful programming year! Over the last year we have accomplished so much together. We began by welcoming Rabbi Avi Strausberg to the synagogue and transitioning Joshua Fineblum into his new role as Cantor/Educator. Our new spatial improvements, both in the Freeman Family Lounger and Smith Playground, have been great additions providing bright and exciting new areas for young families. Our programs created quite the buzz. Our Simchat Torah celebration more than doubled in attendance, making it double as amazing! Our Annual Fundraiser in Honor and Memory of Principal Wendy Goodman surpassed our expectations, and Crossriver Kosherfest was once again the largest Jewish communal program in St. Paul. To top off an incredible year, our beloved TUSY took home EMTZA Region USY Chapter of the Year for the first time since 1993!

Of course, none of this could have been done without our incredible staff. Pirke Avot teaches us, "The world is judged with goodness, but in accordance with the amount of man's positive deeds." To that extent, how lucky am I that I get to work with some of the most amazing people, volunteers and leaders. I would like to thank our hard working staff.

Thank you to our Hebrew and Religious School teachers for your dedication to our youth.

Thank you to Larry Eisenstadt for your continued excellence as our Ritual Coordinator.

Thank you to Svetlana Kazistova and Bill Jorke, along with their hardworking kitchen/custodial staff, who ensure all preparations for each program and event are done with the highest of standards.

Thank you to Susie Haim for your never-ending support for our youth, cemetery, Board, and office.

Thank you to Kim Thomey for controlling the financial books and for assuring much of the behind the scenes areas are handled well.

Thank you to Rabbi Strausberg and Josh Fineblum for the compassion through lifecycle events and flexibility you both bring to the team. I am so lucky to have co-clergy who work so well together.

Thank you to Executive Director Ken Agranoff for your guidance and professionalism.

A big thank you to Sam Berenson, who will be moving out East, for your hard work with our USY, College Kesher and TAXY programs. We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors. Luckily, our great youth advisor, Adam Bender, will be transitioning into the Engagement Director role with all he has learned from Sam.

On a more personal level, thank you to Susan Tervola, who has transitioned into her new role. Susan and I have worked incredibly close over the last four years. She has done a great job for the Temple of Aaron community. We are excited you will continue to contribute to the synagogue in a different marketing role, but I will certainly miss your daily enthusiasm and commitment.

Again, thank you to the whole staff.

It goes without saying that there is one more special thank you and that is to our out-going President Rosalyn Segal. Roz and I have been very close since the Segal family hosted Jessie and I (technically Annie was there too in Jessie's belly) during our interview. Flash forward three years, and we meet weekly, talk daily, and are also neighbors. Roz's leadership and friendship have been monumental in my life and growth. Her dedication to Temple of Aaron goes unmatched. She has been a kind, caring, and proactive leader. The synagogue has only thrived under her leadership. On behalf of the entire congregation, our deepest thank you.

But work is never done at ToA! We welcome our newest President Gary Portnoy who will continue Roz's great work. Gary, Ken and I will begin meeting regularly to ensure a smooth transition. This summer the staff will work hard to put together the 2016/2017 calendar year. A few dates to mark down: November 6, 2016 will be our Annual Celebrity Fundraiser featuring legendary film director Spike Lee, and January 29, 2017 is Crossriver Kosherfest 3! We have some great additions to the calendar and look to grow in areas off education and engagement.

In particular, this summer we will provide an opportunity for members to meet our clergy on a more intimate level. Once again, we will have opportunities for young families to come together for fun family programming. The staff will be visiting summer camps, and we are proud that Adam will spend the summer representing the synagogue as he staffs USY on Wheels. But most importantly, the Clergy would like to meet with members over the summer for coffee, drink and meals. While we will be reaching out, please do not hesitate to contact us to set up a date and time. Looking forward to another incredible year!

### Clergy Night Out with Rabbi Fine Wednesday, Aug. 17

Rabbi Fine will host up to 20 members for a fun evening of painting and chatting. Get to know Rabbi Fine better in a relaxed and enjoyable setting.



Where: Color Me Mine (332 Promenade Ave, Eagan When: Wednesday, August 17 at 7pm Cost: Price varies by item purchased by each participant. RSVP:

DanaeThorpe@TempleofAaron.org or 651-698-8874 x107

# **Engaging All Members** on Pinterest

Temple of Aaron has started a new Pinterest profile with creative ideas for celebrating holidays. This is a new venture and many more boards and pins will be added in the future. Check us out at www.pinterest.com/Synterest/boards/



Contact Rabbi Fine with questions or ideas for the new Pinterest resource.

# **Boomers**

## Saints Game June 14, 7:05 pm

Boomers Saints Game If you're a Boomer, give or take some years, and want to see a baseball game at the new Saints stadium, join us on Tuesday, June 14 for the St. Paul Saints vs. the Sioux City Explorers at 7:05 p.m. Contact Danae Thorpe for ticket availability.

# **Temple of Aaron Full of Pride**

June 26, at 11:00 a.m.

Catch Temple of Aaron at the Twin Cities Pride Festival and



Parade as we join with J-Pride and other Jewish organizations to show our support of the LGBT community.

2016 Ashley Rukes GLBT Pride Parade 3rd Street and Hennepin Avenue

# **Bowling Outing** with Ravi

Wednesday, June 29, at 7:00 p.m.

Want to spend some time meeting and hanging out with other folks from the synagogue all while seeing your rabbi



somewhat humiliate herself with her middling bowling skills? Come join Rabbi Avi Strausberg for a couple of games of bowling.

Pinstripes Bowling 3849 Gallagher Drive, Edina \*Lanes & rental paid by participants

## Shabbat Parsha Study

8:15 a.m. on Shabbat

Join Rabbi Strausberg for weekly Torah study and some morning breakfast treats. Together, we'll explore midrashim, poetry, and ancient commentary on the weekly Torah portion in hopes of uncovering new understandings and finding new meanings for our lives.

# **Adult Education**

#### **Five Megillot for the Price of One!**

We're just a week and a half away from celebrating the receiving of the Torah on Mount Sinai and our coming together as a Jewish people. Coming up fast on Saturday, June 11, we'll stay up into the wee hours of the night (or, at least until 10pm) learning Torah together as we attempt to study all five megillot in just two and a half hours that we normally read in the course of an entire year.

Traditionally, we read Song of Songs on the Shabbat of Pesach, the Book of Ruth on the morning of Shavuot, the book of Lamentations on Tisha b'Av, the Book of Ecclesiastes on the Shabbat of Sukkot, and the Book of Esther on, you guessed it, Purim! On these special days, we not only read our regularly scheduled Torah portion but we get an extra special dose of the megillah that corresponds with that particular holiday. The megillot are read in their own special melodic trope that are different from the trope that we use to read our weekly Torah and haftorah portions.



Rabbi Avi Strausberg
Director, Congregational Learning
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Email:

RabbiAviStrausberg@TempleofAaron.org

Megillat Ruth, our reading for Shavuot, opens with a famine that has taken hold of Israel and sent Elimelech, his wife Naomi, and their two sons headed to Moab, looking for greener pastures. For a while, things were good for them in Moab, this land that was not their own, until Elimelech died leaving Naomi with their two sons. These two sons married Moabite women bringing Ruth and Orpah, two non-Jewish women into the mix. Ten years go by, and again all seems well, until we're suddenly told that both of Naomi's sons die as well. This leaves our Jewish heroine Naomi, widowed and childless, in a foreign land, with two daughters, who are themselves now widowed and childless.

As this point in story, these women have experienced losses that no one should have to live through. And, yet, many of us do. Naomi decided it's time for her to return to her people, her land, after living for so many years in Moab. Initially, both Ruth and Orpah set out with her, but Naomi pushes them to remain. She knows what it's like to leave one's people and to find oneself a stranger in a foreign land; she doesn't want that for her daughters. After much convincing, Orpah decides to remain but Ruth's resolve remains strong. She says to Naomi, "Wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God."

Ruth is a model of courage. She's just lost her husband, her life and everything she knew is forever changed, and yet here she is ready to pick herself up, follow her mother-in-law to a totally new land, and begin again. She doesn't know where she's going, what it's going to be like, she may not even speak the language. And, yet, she has enough trust in Naomi, faith in God, and belief in herself that she can make this happen.

The relationship between Naomi and Ruth offers a powerful vision of how two people can support each other through loss and find hope and love in one another. Their story is a powerful one, a story of real loss and real love; a story in which two people are forced to face death and struggle on, much as many of us must do in the course of our own lives. All of the Megillot are filled with characters wrestling with the messiness of life, finding their way in and out of love and sadness, despair and hope. They're rich with stories that resonate with our own stories and bring meaning to our lives.

Whether you've done a lot of learning or you're just beginning, Shavuot is a night where we get to celebrate our stories and our people. Join us for a Tikkun Leil Shavuot, a night of learning, on Saturday, June 11, from 7:30pm-10:00pm in which we'll dive deep into the Megillot, eat our hearts content of cheesecake, and come together as a people and a community. We'll begin and end the night together but in the middle, we'll break out into different sessions on the various megillot so you can follow your interest and go where you choose. Hope to see you there with our inspiring teachers!

# Youth Education



Joshua Fineblum, CJE
Cantor/Educator
651-698-8874 ext. 103
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JoshuaFineblum@TempleofAaron.org

The 2015-2016 school year has ended and we are already finalizing our calendar for next year.

Thank you so much to everyone who attended our end-of-year BBQ with a special thanks to the David A. Berg Family for sponsoring such a wonderful event. It was also nice to see people come out and say goodbye to our Engagement Director Sam Berenson. Over the past two years it has been wonderful working with Sam. I watched her grow as she helped guide our youth leaders to reach such great successes. Sam has helped our students reach their potential and I have learned much from watching her. It is with sadness that we see Sam go, but are excited to know about the next chapters of her journey.

We are so grateful for our youth leaders and staff who helped TUSY become the 2015-2016 EMTZA Regional Chapter of the year. This award, which had not been won by TUSY since 1993, is an amazing accomplishment. This accomplishment came

because of difficult changes a few years ago, which synergized our education and youth departments into one. Thank you to all who were helpful and supportive of this shift. We will continue to be on the cutting edge of programming as we continue to shine in the community and beyond. Information on how to sign up for our new exciting TiKone Fall classes will be out soon for grades 8-12.

Over the past year I have also had the privilege to be on the Bemah each Shabbat as the Shaliach Tzibor for the congregation. It has been wonderful helping lead the congregation from the pulpit. I am looking forward to added participation from congregants as the High Holydays approach quickly. If you are interested in becoming part of the choir or participating in services for the Holydays please let me know. We are once again joining the community this year for Selichot and would love to see Temple of Aaron members participate in the community choir and attend the event.

Have a great summer and look for information about exciting summer events in this *Aaronion!* 

#### Trivia Night w/Joshua Fineblum Wednesday, July 20

Join Cantor/Educator Joshua Fineblum for a fun night of Trivia and drinks at Bad Weather Brewery (414 7th St. W.) Cost is \$5/person. RSVP to: DanaeThorpe@templeofaaron.org Or 651-698-8874x107





#### Register Today for 2016-2017

Remember to register your children for next year to get tuition discounts.

Encourage friends and non-members to try our school and receive one month **FREE** tuition (restrictions apply)

Questions: Susie Haim susiehaim@templeofaaron.org 651-698-8874 ext 100

# Preview of 2016-2017 1st Semester TiKone USY Schedule — (8th-12th Graders) 9:00-11:00 am – Skill Building/Practicum • 11:00-12:00 pm – Core Class

## **Hebrew**

Come learn with
Shlicha Eden Kohali
in this interactive class
which will help you
master the Hebrew
language as you walk
the streets of Israel.

## **Fantasy Football**,

Flag Football, and Midrash

Play Fantasy and Flag Football with Rabbi Fine each week at ToA and engage in study about Midrash, explanation of Jewish text by the Rabbis. This group will participate in a competition at the end of the semester.

## Golden Kepah

Come earn your Golden
Kepah and learn how to be
a regular Torah reader
here at ToA. This class is
for those who have begun
their journey or new
students who wish to take
on the challenge and have
their name on the Golden
Kepah wall of honor.

# T. U.S.Y



Thank you to everyone who attended CMT 2016! It was a fantastic weekend filled with amazing programming, kickball, dancing, and more! We love all of our FRIENDS! Thank you to the planners: Annie Balto, Hannah Burbul, Sam Gantman, Sasha Gekht, Lauren Goldberger, Marisa Goldberger, Max Lerman, and Liza Sivriver!

# Congratulations to the 2016-2017 TUSY Executive Board!

President Max Lerman

Vice President/Israel Affairs Director Sam Gantman

Religious/Education Director **Ethan Less** (not pictured)

Membership/Kadima Director Rachel Bloom

Social Action/Tikun Olam Coordinator
Sasha Gehkt

Social Media Coordinator Val Merman



# Youth Happenings

Mazel Tov and thank you to TUSY on an amazing year! From 2014-2015 to 2015-2016, we changed gears from a good chapter to an incredible chapter. Our variation in programming, increased attendance and presence in TUSY and EMTZA regional events, and commitment to our chapter as a whole has exponentially improved. This has been our year. From Biblical Larping to Sumo Wrestling & Painting to A Taste of Life Israel Night to Healthy Relationships Workshop to Kindergarten Lounge Night, we've taken our programming to new heights. This was highlighted in the Chapter of Excellence awards we took home at Spring Kallah 2016 and ultimately, in our winning of EMTZA Region USY's 2015-2016 Chapter of the Year. Mazel Tov to the 2015-2016 TUSY Executive Board: Marisa Goldberger (President), Max Lerman (Israel Affair/Vice President), Sam Gantman (Religious/Education Director), Lauren



Sam Berenson
Engagement Director
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Goldberger (Membership/Kadima Director), Sasha Gekht (Social Action/Tikun Olam Coordinator), Liza Sivriver (Communications Coordinator), and Ethan Less (Freshman Representative). You all have set the bar high for the next generation of TUSY members. Your achievements and efforts have gone above and beyond anything I could have imagined when I took on the role of Engagement Director at Temple of Aaron two years ago. You are some of the most admired, benevolent, dedicated, and passionate human beings I have had the privilege to come across so far in this life. Keep dreaming. And more importantly, keep making your dreams come true. I believe in each and every one of you and know you will all go so far.

Thank you to my wonderful coworkers Ken Agranoff, Adam Bender, Rabbi Fine, Joshua Fineblum, Susie Haim, Bill Jorke (and crew), Rabbi Strausberg, Susan Tervola, and Kim Thomey. You have all provided me with so much knowledge over the past two years, I could burst! Thank you for encouraging me to work harder and be the best Engagement Director I could be. You've helped me in more ways that I can express on this one piece of paper and for that, I thank you all.

Thank you to all of the congregants of Temple of Aaron. Without all of you, I wouldn't even have a job! Thank you for all of your support. Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to snuggle your babies, teach your children, and be a part of Temple of Aaron. Thank you for welcoming me into your (our) community.

Thank you to everyone for making so many memories with me in my two years at Temple of Aaron. I will miss you all! I hope everyone has a fantastic summer filled with fun, friends, and as always, lots of food! Shalom, Temple of Aaron.



# **Destination Shabbat**



Arielle Shofman

Arielle Shofman, daughter of Andrei & Irina Shofman, will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on June 24 & 25, 2016.

Arielle is in seventh grade at McGuire Middle School, where she participates in acting, dancing, and choir. She also enjoys swimming and scuba diving, and hanging out with friends.

For her tzedaka contribution, Arielle has designated turnaroundarts.pcah.gov, which works to get artists into underserved public schools, and makes art education a priority and possibility for those who can't afford it.

Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush refreshments will be sponsored by Arielle's parents, Irina & Andrei Shofman.

#### Rabbi Fine Hosts Food for Your Soul Dinner Party for Under 40s



#### **Community Tour Groups at Temple of Aaron**

We have a proud 60 year history of welcoming tour groups on Friday nights for Shabbat Services and during weekdays. We have had a variety of highly dedicated volunteer tour leaders who help adult and student groups. Highland Catholic has been visiting for decades and their favorite tour leader is Sandy Aaron, recent Ner Tamid Award recipient. The annual tour was held April 18 and shortly thereafter over 30 students each wrote a personal thank you letter.

Our tour group program strengthens community as people of all ages learn more about Judaism and how our religion  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left$ 



Sandy Aaron

influenced the formation and refinement of many other religions. Thank you to Sandy and other valued tour leaders over the years: Mark Adelman, Don Frishberg, Reenie Gitlin, Renee Kvasnik, Merrill Kuller, Jan Phillips of blessed memory, Richard Strimling, and many more too numerous to mention in this article.

# Relay Races & Frozen Yogurt for Young Families Saturday, June 18, 11:00am



Join Temple of Aaron young families for a fun Shabbat afternoon at Hillcrest Park for relay races and Menchie's Frozen Yogurt. Bring your own lunch and enjoy Menchie's provided by Temple of Aaron. Contact Cantor/Educator Joshua Fineblum with questions. We look forward to seeing you at the park!

## **Service Schedule**

Friday Night Services

June 3—6:30pm in Leifman Chapel
June 10—6:30pm in Leifman Chapel
June 17—6:30pm in Leifman Chapel
June 24—8:00pm in Sanctuary—Arielle
Shofman Bat Mitzvah
Saturday Morning Shabbat
Service begins at 9:00am
in the Main Sanctuary
Minyan Monday-Thursday begins at
6:00pm in Leifman Chapel

# **Shabbat Morning Features**

Rabbi Jeremy Fine Sermon — June 4
Rabbi Avi Strausberg Sermon — June 11
Rabbi Jeremy Fine Sermon — June 18
Arielle Shofman Bat Mitzvah — June 25

#### **Shavuot Service Schedule**

Sunday, June 12 at 9:00 a.m. followed by Blintze Bletter sponsored by Tilsen Family. Monday, June 13 at 9:00 am with Yizkor followed by Kiddush sponsored by David A. Berg Family Endowment.

## Celebrate Shavuot June 12-13, 2016

On the holiday of Shavuot, coming up on June 11, we celebrate the gift of Torah on a day commonly referred to as Matan Torah (the giving of the Torah) in Hebrew. As described in the Torah, Shavuot was one of the three agricultural pilgrimage festivals, along with Passover and Sukkot, in which the Israelites would make the long journey to the Temple with an offering from the harvest in hand. Today, however, with our agricultural days behind many of us, Shavuot is more commonly associated with the receiving of the Torah on Mount Sinai and that fateful day when we all became a Jewish people. To mark this occasion and the gift of Torah, some communities stay up all night learning, doing something called a Tikkun Leil Shavuot, only stopping with the breaking of dawn to eat some breakfast and begin the new day while others mark the holiday by eating lots and lots of dairy in the form of cheesecake. For lots more on cheesecake and Shavuot, check out Rabbi Fine's Pinterest page for all the cheesecake inspirations you could ever want.

#### **Israel Committee**

Temple of Aaron Israel Committee invites guest contributor Ritual Coordinator Larry Eisenstadt to reflect on his recent trip to Israel:

At the conclusion of the Passover Seder each year, we utter an ancient "L'shana HaBaah wish. B'Y'rushalayim," Next Year in Jerusalem. It is our heartfelt wish that in coming year, we will have the opportunity to celebrate in our homeland. Thanks to the generosity of the St. Paul Federation, Temple of Aaron Donald & Helen Swartz Fund, and my two daughters, Sabrina and Gabrielle (birthday gift), I was able to conclude my 2016 Seder with different words, "BaShanah Hazeh, Hayitee B'Y'rushalayim," This Year I Was in Jerusalem.

Being part of the Partnership 2Gether's 20th anniversary I, along with five other St. Paul colleagues, saw the great accomplishments this partnership between Jewish communities in U.S. and Israel had achieved. The last time I was in Israel was in 1965 and the changes were simply amazing. Freeways, toll roads, airport jetways, tall construction cranes were now part of the Israeli landscape. Ted Flaum (JFS), Sean Murphy (Beth Jacob), Alyssa Golob (JCC), Julie Swiler (Federation), Larry Solomon (Mt. Zion) and I saw how close Jewish American-Israeli relationships can result in great educational, environmental, and cultural growth.

Since the last time I was in Eretz Yisrael was in 1965 (prior to the Six Day War), I did not have the opportunity to visit the old city of Jerusalem and our Kotel, both being under Jordanian rule at that time. As our group made its way from the Galilee area to the Partnership's celebration in Tel Aviv, we made a stop in Jerusalem. How could one go to Israel and not visit Jerusalem and the Kotel? As I felt the stones of the Kotel for the first time, I imagined how many of our people have died not having the opportunity to touch this holy spot and how many of our brethren have died preserving it for the Jewish people. In accordance with our tradition, I left my special prayer in a crevice in the stones.

— continued on page 9 —

# **Group & Committee Voices**

## **Temple of Aaron Sisterhood**

Swing Dancing & Dinner – Thursday, June 2, 6:30pm, Temple of Aaron. Dinner and swing dance presentation/lesson by The Cinema Ballroom of St. Paul. RSVP immediately by contacting Margie Schneider, 651-698-4358 or 7381jbs@comcast.net. All paid-up members and their guests are invited; new members who RSVP are welcome at no charge. Cost - \$18. Come join Sisterhood at this end-of-year program.



Gift Shop Sale - Free gift if you spend \$25 or more. Support Sisterhood and Temple of Aaron by purchasing your Judaica items for all events from the Temple of Aaron Gift Shop. New Hamsa silver necklaces, new fusion glass items from Demdaco (www.demdaco.com) and new mahjongg pieces from Source 4 Judaica (www.source4judaica.com) are now available. The Gift Shop stocks a wide variety of Judaica pieces from the following vendors: Jillbeads - necklaces/earrings Touch Tervy (www.jillbeads.com); pieces from Classic (www.classictouchdecor.com/tervy-collection; Tamara (www.tamarabaskin.com), decorative items from Rosenthal, Aram and Judaica custom lego sets from JBrick (www.jbrick.com). A variety of books are also stocked for children, young adults and adults. Gift cards and registries for all life cycle events always available. Contact the Gift Shop directly at: 651-699-9192. Hours: (Note Tuesday time change) - Sun., 9am - noon; Tues., 10am - 1pm; Wed., 10am - 1pm & 6pm - 8pm, or by appointment - call Chair Marcia Taple (651-688-3030).

**Sisterhood Knits** – Thursday, June 23rd, 6:30pm at Temple of Aaron. Questions, contact Susan Gonzalez (612-701-5606 or suziemgonzalez@comcast.net) or Susan Tervola (susantervola@templeofaaron.org). All levels welcome.

**Building Fund Cards** – Send a beautiful card for any occasion - only a phone call away – no hassles. All funds raised go directly to benefit our beautiful building. To purchase our cards, call Sis Goren (651-686-0425) or Susan Kushner (651-454-8336). For billing questions, call Sis Goren.

Mahjongg - Summer Dates: June 26 & August 7. Begins at 1pm in Smith Library.

#### IntraContinental Region Conference 2016 Recap

Temple of Aaron Sisterhood was represented by 10 delegates at the WLCJ IntraContinental Region Conference in April. The goals of Women's League are to Enrich, Engage and Empower each and every woman.

A few of the highlights of the Conference:

- Rabbi Avi Olitzky spoke eloquently about how the support of Women's League and Torah Fund enabled him to become a rabbi.
- Region Membership VP Roxanne Portnoy was one of three panelists who spoke about Membership.
- Jordana Green, WCCO radio personality mesmerized the delegates with the story of her Jewish upbringing and how it has affected her work in the media.
- Meryll Page, member of Beth El Congregation in Minneapolis, presented her Taste of Torah program which connects weekly Torah portions with foods related to the parsha.
- Steve Hunegs, Executive Director of JCRC gave an Israel Update.

# Thank you תודה רבה

## Donations in memory of loved ones (\$10 or more) April/May 2016 Nisan/lyar 5776

Aleiner, Galina Averbach, Rose Baskina, Ella Becker, Elly Bell, Bob & Lucia Benjohar, Albert Berke, Beryl Cherner, Zhanneta Edelstein, Rebecca Eisenstadt, Linda & Larry Fridman, Alla Ganopolskiy, Adel Garbuz, Khaye Garbuz, Khaye Geller, Rosie & Loren Goldman, Barry & Darlene Goldman, Irene Gonzalez, Susan

Gurstelle, Alice
Hirschhorn, Gerry
Kanivetsky, Rozita
Kaplan, Cheryl
Kaplan, Harvey & Sue
Kaster, Barb
Katov, Norman
Katz, Burt
Kiges, Gary
Klein, E. Gary & Marion
Kopilenko, Bella & Alexander
Krasnow, Brian
Kushnir, Rozaliya
Lane, Harriet

Leyderman, Roman

Mack, Ellen & Tom Bates

Linden, Harry

Malinoff, Candy Moore, Kathy, Joy & Steve Nemer. Helen Phillips, Jan & Janet Ringer, Sherman Robbins, Eileen Sanders, Fern & David Sanderson, Anne Rae Schwartz, Sue & Jerry Schwartz, Tobi Segal, Jerry Shneur, Revekka Simkhovich, Raisa Simon, Jerome & Yetta Stacker, Howard Tilsen, Sandra Vigdorovich, Leopold Wolkoff, Patty

# <u>Blessings</u>

#### **JUNE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

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

# מזל טוב

- 66 Alvin & Bonnie Abrahamson
- 65 H. Hillard & Helene Ward
- 64 Harry & Connie Katz
- 62 Sanford & Phyllis Brody
- 60 Senator Rudy & Ellen Boschwitz
- 58 Leonard & Linda Schloff
- 58 Gerald & Isabelle Shear
- 58 Igor & Sima Blyakher
- 58 Jerome & Louise Segal
- 57 Howard & Suzanne Malmon
- 56 Leon & Carole Katzovitz
- 56 Neil & Barbara Gitlin
- 55 Harvey & Sharon Defren
- 55 Ronald & Helen Lifson

- 55 Stuart & Elaine Steinman
- 54 Roman & Agnes Pilko
- 53 Howard & Ina Pfefer
- 53 Venianim & Rozita Kanivetsky
- 52 Gerry & Gail Frisch
- 51 Michael & Maya Dubinsky
- 45 Stephen & Patti Lyons
- 40 Jerry & Sue Schwartz
- 20 Jeffrey Toenges & Julie Rose
- 10 Andrew & Abigail Katz
- 10 Chuck & Joey Lyons
- 10 Jim & Jill Walders
- 5 Sara & Daniel Frank

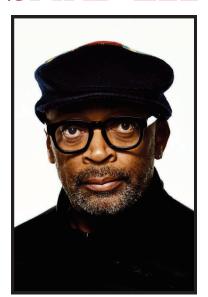
Our deep and sincere sympathy to the families of the following members who have passed away

> Rosaline Mesnik Howard Bream Fruma Eydelman

IYAR BANNER: Titled "Jerusalem" (Dan Reisinger design). It depicts Jerusalem wrapped in a Talit in honor of Israel Independence Day. Dedicated by Leonora Greenberg in honor of her family.

- ... to Carrie Rodman, Jen Roberts and Eden Kohali, for putting together a successful Israel Program for young families.
- ... to Jessica Lerman, Missy Kieffer, Jeffrey Perlman, and Ben Saxon for all of their assistance with our successful May TAXY Trivia Program.
- ... to Men's Club flippers for cooking at the May end-of-year BBQ Spectacular for school and entire membership.

# TEMPLE OF AARON WELCOMES SPIKE LEE



November 6, 2016

SAVE THE DATE FOR TEMPLE OF AARON'S CELEBRATION OF 60 YEARS IN HIGHLAND PARK WITH DIRECTOR, WRITER, PRODUCER AND ACTOR SPIKE LEE.

LOOK FOR MORE DETAILS SOON!



### 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 chairperson Harriet Levy. Harriet will mail a card for get well, celebration or condolence. Help us help others!

## **Members & Non-Members**

## at Cemetery

Temple of Aaron's Cemetery sells graves to both members and nonmembers. That enables you to create a family section for loved ones. Take action



Ken Agranoff

this month and contact Executive Director Ken Agranoff for an 18 minute meeting to make important decisions in advance to save later emotional pressure.

#### Tikun Olam Fund for Environment

Temple of Aaron has made progress with our recycling and composting for lunches, programs and daily business operations. Please consider making a modest donation to help us be greener with our plates, cups, napkins, towels, bags, etc.

#### **Israel Committee**

— continued from page 7 —

The Partnership taught us how we must view Israel not just as a political entity in the Middle East but also as a thriving vibrant society with our people (yes, they are our siblings) working to maintain a modern country. Our K'far Kish host families (from the Galilee area, St. Paul's partner) shared a wonderful Shabbat evening meal with us where we were treated not only with delicious food but also with thoughts on politics, Jewish tradition, and the Israeli way of life. We saw home-grown, award-winning goat cheese manufacturing and the actual goats that supplied the milk. We toasted "L'Chayim" using wine from a small scale vineyard operation.

In the city of Tiberias, we were treated to a wonderful song and dance presentation from a pre-school with whom St. Paul's JCC has a "twinning" relationship. How thrilled the children were to see us from "half-way around the world." We saw how immigrants from India, Chile, and other parts of the world

# ...and More

# Mazel Tov to the 2015-2016 EMTZA Region Chapter of the Year: Temple of Aaron USY

**Chapter of Excellence Awards:** 

Best Social Program - TUSY Goes Vogue • Best Religious Program - Sex in the Text
Best Tikun Olam Program - Swing Dancing for Charity
Largest Tikun Olam Donation • Largest Per Capita Tikun Olam Donation
Communication Award - Best Facebook



Pictured: Back Row - Allen Shofman, Emma Narvey, Val Merman, Phil Merman, Liza Sivriver, Annie Balto, Lauren Goldberger, Beta Katz, Annabelle Epstein; Front Row - Hannah Burbul, Max Lerman, Marisa Goldberger, Sam Berenson (Engagement Dir.), Adam Bender (Youth Adv.)

were being welcomed into the Tiberias' society.

Water is such a valuable commodity in Israel that no drop can be wasted. A 29 year old college student, majoring in water engineering, taught us how Israel reduces the wasted use of water. He also taught us how higher education is so valued in Israel and that was not unusual for a person his age to be in an undergraduate program. What a change of pace from our publications that rank U.S. colleges to the degree they are "party" schools.

The Partnership brought us to see a 12-year-old violinist virtuoso who gave us such a performance that Yitzchak Perlman and Isaac Stern would "kvell." We participated in elementary school classroom activities teaching English to a fifth grader. A born Brooklynite can teach English. If I only could speak conversational Hebrew as well as this fifth grader could speak English. We saw staff work with students with disabilities using the latest educational research.

Perhaps the highlight of Partnership birthday celebration was the opportunity to hear from Shimon Peres, former President of Israel. Although in his early 90's and physically frail, Mr. Peres was as mentally sharp as ever. He spoke about Israel's very promising future and told us to think big. He said peace will come, and, in a very surprising move and to widespread applause, Mr. Peres said that religion and state must separate if Israel is to succeed.

The Partnership 2Gether continues to teach us that Israel is a vibrant society. We may disagree about the politics. (What two Jews won't disagree about We may argue about politics??) government policies either in Israel or in the U.S. about Israel, but we can all agree that Israeli society and people has much to teach us and we have much to teach Israel. The Partnership gives us the vehicle to do that, "Am Yisrael Chai" The nation of Israel lives and the Partnership continues to give it sustenance.

June 2016	Iyar-Sivan 5776
mble of Auron Calendar of Frients	
H	4

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
For more information p	For more information on these and other events and programs, please visit our website  templeofaaron.org	nts and programs,	1 6:00pm Minyan	6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Sisterhood Closing Program Dinner & Swing Dancing 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	3 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Services 8:36pm Candle Lighting	8:15am Learning with Rabbi Avi Strausberg 9:00am Shabbat Services
5 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast	6 Business Office Close 6:00pm Minyan	7 6:00pm Minyan	8 6:00pm Minyan	9 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class 7:30pm TAXY Happy Hour	6:30pm Erev Shabbat Services 8:41pm Candle Lighting	8:15am Learning with Rabbi Avi Strausberg 9:00am Shabbat Services 8:00pm Shavuot Learning
9:00am Shavuot Services Shavuot	9:00am Shavuot Services with Yizkor Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan Shavuot	14 6:00pm Minyan 7:05pm Boomers to St. Paul Saints Baseball Game	15 6:00pm Minyan	6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Sholom Food for Your Soul Dinner Parties 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	6:30pm Erev Shabbat Services 8:44pm Candle Lighting	8:15am Learning with Rabbi Avi Strausberg 9:00am Shabbat Services 11:00am Park & Ice Cream for Young Families - Hillcrest
19 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast	20 Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	21 6:00pm Minyan	52 6:00pm Minyan	6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	6:30pm Erev Shabbat Services Arielle Shofman Bat Mitzvah 8:45pm Candle Lighting	8:15am Learning with Rabbi Avi Strausberg 9:00am Shabbat Services - Arielle Shofman Bat Mitzvah
26 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast	27 Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	28 6:00pm Minyan	6:00pm Minyan Rabbi Avi Strausberg's Clergy Night Out	30 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class		

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