



# 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, 2018

16 Shevat 5778



**Safari Rides**  
**Pony Rides**



Appearance by  
**Lindsay Whalen**  
of MN Lynx!

Purim Presents:

# Animal Kingdom

Appearances by:

Nordy of  
MN Wild



Mudonna of  
St. Paul Saints

Shrimp Louie of  
Bubba Gump  
Shrimp Co.



February 25th, 2018  
Doors Open at 11:00 am  
\$5 Per Person  
Minimal Food Cost

School begins at 9:00 am  
Lion King Play  
Sing-a-long  
at 10:00 am

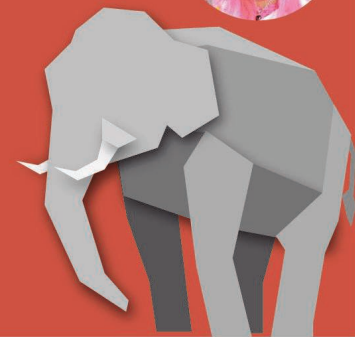


Shows by:



The Raptor  
Center

Silly Miss Tilly  
Balloon Artist



Puppy Meet & Greet  
Stuffed Animal Vets  
Bouncy Houses  
Arts & Crafts  
Video Games  
& More!



# From the Rabbi



**Rabbi Jeremy Fine**

651-698-8874 x112

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RabbiJeremyFine@TempleofAaron.org

Twitter:

@RabbiJeremyFine

## Students Are Looking for a Home

I can remember every minute of my Senior Rabbinical interview week in 2012. Interviewers came to visit New York and the Jewish Theological Seminary from all over the country. And at 9:00 am on Tuesday morning I walked into a room to sit with 2012 Search Co-Chairs Gary Portnoy and Steve Kafitz (Nancy Lane was still back in Minnesota).

Temple of Aaron was not the only synagogue I met with. I met with synagogues from Maryland to Los Angeles to Chattanooga (yes Chattanooga!). Each synagogue presented their story in the best light, highlighting the perks of their community and the opportunities for a young Rabbi. What drew me to Temple of Aaron were two characteristics; honesty and core values. I felt the synagogue did not shy away from its issues and at the center of the synagogue was a pure love for Judaism, Israel and community. I believe these things still hold true and are two qualities that make us a special synagogue.

This February I will journey to Los Angeles with President Gary Portnoy and co-chairs Lisa Lane and Mark Divine. All of us are eager to sit in front of Rabbinical Students, hear their stories and paint a picture of who we are today and what we stand for. On a personal note, I will experience a wave of emotions sitting on the other side of the table, thinking about a role reversal and remembering what it is like for a candidate to meet these strangers in hopes of finding a home.

Pirkei Avot teaches; "Receive everyone with a warm and cheerful countenance." This message is incredibly important to the work we do at Temple of Aaron and extends further to the stranger, like the Senior Rabbinical students. The search committee hopes to extend invitations to potential Assistant Rabbis and it is important to heed the words of Pirkei Avot. In the age of the Internet it is easy for all of us to google the candidates before they arrive and form preconceived notions before they engage with us. I urge our community to give all candidates an opportunity to share their best selves and for us to be the inviting and welcoming community I know we are. To receive everyone with a smile and ensure each individual can picture Temple of Aaron as their home.

I know first-hand what it is like to be traveling during a whole month to find a potential home and first job. Some of the institutions were kind and respectful; others did not create positive first impressions. Some asked questions that were too personal about our growing family and others committed to showing their synagogue in the best light. I hope together we can create a wonderful visit for all candidates. I hope our community takes very seriously the opportunity to open our home and schedules to get to know each candidate.

Our journey starts with being present. It is vital to our success that as many congregants as possible fill the sanctuary on Shabbat morning to hear from candidates and get to know them first hand at lunch and during the teaching sessions. It is also important for the candidates to see a vibrant Shabbat community. This includes all ages, especially our longtime members who know our community well and our young families who display growth for our potential Rabbi. There will be multiple public opportunities to engage with each candidate. I look forward to this journey together seeing the best Temple of Aaron has to offer.

See you in shul!

*Rabbi Fine*

**Sponsors needed for our  
New-Look Purim Carnival!**



**Be a part of this amazing  
face-lift as we turn to  
Temple of Aaron into:  
Animal Kingdom**

To help make this event affordable  
and meaningful for our entire  
community to be a part of  
contact  
Cantor/Educator Joshua Fineblum

A special thank  
you to Camp  
Ramah for making  
a special donation  
to our Shabbat  
lunch fund on



February 3. It's a wonderful way for  
our partner organizations to celebrate  
with Temple of Aaron. We encourage  
everyone to share their life milestones  
and simchas with us by making a  
donation to our Shabbat Lunch Fund  
and celebrate at Temple of Aaron.



*Rabbi Fine and Bradley from  
SSSdude-Nutz Doughnuts delivered  
vegan doughnuts through the  
community. Here they are at the JCC  
with Michael Waldman and Tracy  
Agranoff. This initiative is a part of the  
Vegan grant ToA received this year!*

# Adult Education

## Holy Playground

This year, we're pioneering a new learning program on Shabbat in which you can come for davening, learning, or conversation depending on your preferred Shabbat experience. We'll be offering a series of three-class mini courses from 10-11am on Saturday morning that will run concurrent with davening.

All classes are on Saturday mornings from 10-11am.

### **Do We Believe in Angels? with Rabbi Strausberg February 3, 17, 24**

If you ask a modern Jew if angels play a big role in Jewish tradition, I'd expect that they would say not so much. But, you may be surprised to learn that the Jewish tradition is rich with references to angels. What is the role of angels in Jewish tradition, how has that shifted, and do we still believe in them today?



### **Real News, Real Torah with Moment Magazine March 3, 10, 17**

*Moment Magazine* was co-founded by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Elie Wiesel in 1975. It is a fiercely independent magazine that provides wide-ranging perspectives on the political, cultural and social issues facing the Jewish community. Over the past year, *Moment* has covered such important issues as the resurgence of anti-Semitism around the world and the growing threat to free speech on college campuses. It explores critical topics that need to be brought out into the open, including the growing gap between Israel and American Jews, what the Jewish world might look like in 2050, and whether democracy is broken. As a build-up to our *Moment Magazine* speaker on Saturday, April 28, we're excited to offer three "magazine club" Shabbat discussions in which we'll dive into *Moment's* most recent issue and discuss and debate the issues ourselves. All participants will receive a complimentary copy of the magazine.

## Be Slow to Judgment

Every year, as I stand before the river, preparing to perform the ritual of Tashlich, whereby I'll throw my sins to the river and reflect on how I can be better, the same weakness of mine always comes to mind: the sin of judging others. And, every year, I promise myself that this year I'll try to be better, I'll try to remember that everyone has their own story and circumstances and it's not my place to judge, and yet every year I end up at the same place, standing before the river, my sins in my hands.

This week we encounter a weary Moshe, he alone has the task of judging between the people in all of their disputes. All day long he stands before them, arbitrating questions of who is owed what, who has wronged whom, while the masses stand awaiting their turn, wanting to be proven right. Moshe's father-in-law and trusted advisor Yitro advises him that this system of judgment isn't good for Moshe and it's not good for the people. Rather, he must trust in others and delegate, establishing a court system that distributes the responsibility of judgment to respected and fair advisors.

The rabbis were all too aware how tricky judgment is both with regards to situations in which judgment is being asked of us as well as in situations in which it would be better if we refrained from offering judgment at all. Much of the Mishna of Pirkei Avot, the Wisdom of our Fathers, is filled with warnings and encouragements to be slow to judgment, to be careful in our decisions, and to remember that God alone is judge. When I read through this Tractate, I feel as if it is speaking to me, as if it knows how quick I am to form judgment, even when it's not my place.

This year, I won't wait till Rosh Hashana to evaluate my actions and to strive to be a less judgmental person. Because for me, this is something to work on each and every day. Just as Moshe stands before the people from morning to night, so too from the moment I wake up until when I go to sleep, I'll work to check myself and to catch myself in those moments of passing judgment. May we all take a lesson from Pirkei Avot, may we have the ability to offer careful and fair judgment in moments in which it is asked of us and to withhold passing judgment in moments in which it is not.



**Rabbi Avi Strausberg**  
Director, Congregational Learning  
651-698-8874 x111  
Email:  
RabbiAviStrausberg@TempleofAaron.org  
blog: inhaiku.wordpress.com

## Boomers

It doesn't matter when you were born, If you're looking for a little daytime learning, join us for our monthly meetings at Highland Park's Quixotic as we explore together the wisdom of Pirkei Avot, the Wisdom of our Fathers. This is a book filled with many quotable quotes and important nuggets of reflection and learning.

Please RSVP by email to [danaethorpe@templeofaaron.org](mailto:danaethorpe@templeofaaron.org).

**February 21 / March 21 / April 25 / May 23**



# Youth Education



**Joshua Fineblum, CJE**

Cantor/Educator

651-698-8874 ext. 103

Email:

JoshuaFineblum@TempleofAaron.org

## The Mystery of Purim

Later this month we will be celebrating one of the craziest holidays of the Jewish Calendar, Purim. This holiday is one which has many levels and mitzvot attached to it. On the surface it is a holiday where we eat Hamantashen, dress up in costume, celebrate our freedom, have a festive meal and give gifts to our friends and the poor. But this holiday is about so much more.

The name of one heroine in the story, Esther, is even a mystery and hidden from us as her name derives from the Hebrew L'hasteer, which means to hide. Her real name is Hadassah, as she hides her religion by changing her name and maybe even her relationship to her uncle/cousin/adoptive father/husband, Mordechai. There are many mysteries about their relationship which many scholars have not been able to answer throughout the ages. Furthermore, God is hidden in the entire Megillah story as well as it took Esther and

Mordechai to come out of hiding and not God to save the people.

As I studied more about the story and mystery that lies within Megillat Esther I took a look at the calendar. Haman drew lots on the first day of the first month, Nisan, that the Jews were to be killed and annihilated on the 13th day of the 12th month, Adar. So they were to be killed almost one year later. In the next two weeks after the pulling of the lot, in Nisan, Esther and Jews of Shushan fast and Esther invites the King and Haman for two meals on back-to-back evenings in the middle of the month – The Seders of Pesach, perhaps, as they were said to be feast of wine.

Today instead of fasting for three days we also fast just like Esther did on the 13th of Adar. We also celebrate the holiday, as was intended by Esther and Mordechai, on the 14th of Adar and in walled cities on the 15th, also known as Shushan Purim.

We are very much looking forward to celebrating Purim with all of you once again this year at ToA. We have been planning an amazing Purim Carnival – Animal Kingdom – to take place on **Sunday, February 25**. Much like our new-look carnival last year, this year will be filled with experiences, rides, games, and more fun than last year! All family and friends are welcome and encouraged to join us for this fun annual event. There will be a minimal cost for entry and food and even some hidden surprises in store!

The Carnival will be preceded by a Purim celebration including mini Megillah reading, costumes, prizes, and a sing-a-long with our teen actors of this year's youth department musical, "The Lion King." On Purim night **February 28** we will be having our family-friendly

Megillah reading followed by dinner theater with the Lion King. For tickets to the dinner and play on Feb. 28 please contact Jorie Bernhardt at JorieBernhardt@TempleofAaron.org.

Don't miss out on all of the fun and please join us for these fun days of Purim programming here at ToA.



## February Calendar

4 World Wide Wrap

17 No School – Presidents' Week

25 Youth Play Sing-A-Long

Purim Programming

Annual Purim Carnival

28 Erev Purim, Megillah Reading

Youth Department Play

Dinner Theater

## Need Scholarship for Israel and Camp?



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

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

Questions?

JoshuaFineblum@templeofaaron.org

## Israel Visit



Max Gantman, seen here with Shlichah Tal Dror, was our ToA representative on the teen mifgash trip this past December/January. Max and the group spent a week in Israel meeting with a teen group from our partnership region, Sovev-Kinneret.

Max is quoted as saying: "I had an eye opening and life changing experience in our Partnership region. We got to meet with many people and see many of the amazing sites of our homeland. This trip, the people, and the land are something that have been meaningful to me, but this trip took it to a new level. I now have a better understanding of so much that I have learned over the years and by being there it has brought it to life for me. I am grateful that I had this opportunity and am looking forward to the next time I am there."

Thank you Max, Shlichah Tal, and the Federation for making this a continued priority in our community.

## Shabbat School Calendar

**February 3, Yitro**

Learn about the Ten Commandments

**February 10, Mishpatim**

What does it mean to keep Kosher?

**February 17**

No school, Presidents' Day Weekend

**February 24**

No school; come to our Purim Carnival on Sunday the 25th!

## TiKone USY Calendar

**February 7**

6pm DIY Painting Night

**February 14**

6pm VAL-entine's with Shalom Home

**February 21**

No Lounge Night

**February 19-22**

6-8:30pm Lion King Tech Week

## Sign Up for Passport to Israel Today!

Passport to Israel is a savings incentive program that encourages families to start saving early for a child's educational Israel experience. This program helps make a trip to Israel more affordable with help from the Jewish Federation of Greater St. Paul. Jewish children ages 8-16 are eligible to enroll in Passport to Israel. Families and sponsoring congregations contribute a combined total of \$200 per year, per child, \$150.00 from you and \$50.00 from Temple of Aaron's Belzer Family Fund. The Jewish Federation adds \$150 per child for up to eight years.

### Everyone gains from Passport to Israel:

- Teens strengthen their Jewish identity through a concrete connection to Jewish history, and contemporary Israeli society and culture.
- Families earn additional funds to send their children on Israel trips.
- Temple of Aaron values trips to Israel and encourage families to enroll in Passport
- The Jewish Federation of Greater St. Paul fulfills its mission to strengthen bonds between Jewish communities in St. Paul, Israel, and around the world.

Sign up today by contacting Susie Haim, Administrative Assistant at 651-252-6401 or [susiehaim@templeofaaron.org](mailto:susiehaim@templeofaaron.org).

# Youth Happenings

## Nants Ingonyama Bagithi Baba!

While the warmth of the African savannah feels far away in this less than tropical Minnesota winter, our TUSY teens have been working hard on transforming Temple of Aaron into the pride lands, elephant graveyard, and shadow lands. We invite you to Pride Rock to celebrate the *Circle of Life* at one of our three performances: sing-along with the cast before the Purim Carnival on Sunday, February 25 at 10:00am, dinner theatre performance on Wednesday February 28 (Cost \$15) as doors open at 6:30pm, and our grand finale on Saturday, March 3 at 8pm (Adults \$7 and Under 18 \$5). Watch a young lion who *Just Can't Wait to Be King*, two comedians who believe *Hakuna Matata* is the best motto, a misguided lion who tells his hyenas to *Be Prepared*, and be ready to ask *Can You Feel the Love Tonight?*

Don't miss out on our show, it's sure to be a real *Luu Hawaiian Treat!*



**Jorie Bernhardt**

Director of Youth and Family Programming

Email:

[JorieBernhardt@TempleofAaron.org](mailto:JorieBernhardt@TempleofAaron.org)  
651-698-8874 x115

**THE LION KING**  
Please support our youth

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

February 25, 9AM	Sing-A-Long
February 28, 6:30PM	Dinner Theater
March 3, 8PM	Closing Performance

Questions? Jorie Bernhardt,  
Director of Youth and Family Programming  
[JorieBernhardt@templeofaaron.org](mailto:JorieBernhardt@templeofaaron.org)  
651-252-6415

**Sunday, February 25th**  
Sing-a-Long with the Cast  
10:00am  
Main Sanctuary  
Donations Welcome!

**Saturday, March 3rd**  
Final Performance  
8:00 pm in Stein Hall  
\$7 per adult/\$5 per student

**Wednesday, February 28th**  
Purim Night Dinner Theater  
6:30pm— doors open  
\$15 per adult/\$10 student  
RSVP Needed by February 22nd

To RSVP/Purchase Tickets  
Please Email  
[JorieBernhardt@templeofaaron.org](mailto:JorieBernhardt@templeofaaron.org)

# Destination Shabbat



## Special Needs Programs at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin

**Taste of Tikvah:** One month session for first time campers ages 11-15  
**Tikvah:** 8-week session for older campers through high school  
**Atzmayim (Vocational):** 8-week session for high school graduates ages 18-22

Camp Ramah in Wisconsin is an inclusive community, welcoming children, teens and young adults with learning, social and communication difficulties, including those who are higher functioning on the autism spectrum. Our programs focus on enhancing Jewish identity and teaching Jewish values in a supportive, fun environment.



For more information: [www.ramahwisconsin.com](http://www.ramahwisconsin.com) 312-690-8321



## Tzedakah

Do you know the 8 Levels in the duty of TZEDAKAH according to Maimonides?

**The 1st**, and lowest degree, is to give but with reluctance, or regret.  
 This is the gift of the hand, but not of the heart.

**The 2nd**, is to give cheerfully – but not proportionally – to the distress of the sufferers.

**The 3rd**, is to give cheerfully and proportionally – but not until solicited.

**The 4th**, is to give unsolicited but directly to the poor man's hand, undoubtedly eliciting a painful emotion of shame.

**The 5th**, is to give so that those who receive the charity will know the benefactor, but the donor will not know them.

**The 6th**, is to know who are the recipients of your philanthropy, but they will not know the donor.

**The 7th**, and very meritorious level, is to bestow charity in such a way that the benefactor will not know the relieved persons, nor will they know the benefactor.

**Lastly, the 8th**, and highest, rung of the ladder of TZEDAKAH is to prevent poverty by assisting the needy with a loan, or by teaching him a trade, or by putting him into business so that he may earn an honest livelihood and not be forced to seek charity.

# Destination Shabbat

## Service Schedule

**Friday Night Service** begins at 6:00 pm in Leifman Chapel.

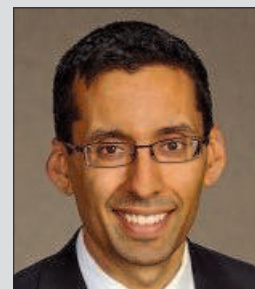
**Saturday Morning Shabbat Service** begins at 9:00 am.

**Minyan Monday – Thursday** begins at 6:00 pm in Leifman Chapel.

**Sunday Morning Minyan** begins at 9:00 am in Leifman Chapel.

## Shabbat Morning Features

**Traditional Shabbat – Feb. 3**  
 Sermon by Rabbi Jeremy Fine  
 Parenting the Parsha  
 Songs with Choir  
 (Holy Playground)



**Vision Speaker:**  
**Michael Singh – Feb. 10**  
 Jerusalem as Capital: What It Means for the Jewish People.  
 With Former Senior Director for Middle East Affairs Michael Singh.  
 11:00 am talk with lunch and learn following services.  
 Co-sponsored with Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas.  
 Meditative Service with Rabbi Jeremy Fine (Holy Playground)

**Traditional Shabbat – Feb. 17**  
 Sermon by Rabbi Avi Strausberg

**Traditional Shabbat – Feb. 24**  
 Sermon by Rabbi Avi Strausberg

Temple of Aaron's  
**Programming Guide**  
*Winter & Spring 2018/5778*



**Inside This Issue:**

- New Shabbat Experiences
- Food Events
- Young Family Programs
- Holiday Programming for Everyone



## Find Your Spiritual Niche

*\*Check Calendars*

Meditative Service with Rabbi Fine Feb. 10, May 12

Songs with Choir Feb. 3, Apr. 3

Parenting the Parsha Feb. 3, Apr. 3

Walking Highland Apr. 21, May 19

Yoga Feb. 17, Apr. 28

## Weekly Gatherings

*\*Check Calendars*

8:15 am - Torah Study

9:00 am - Coffee with Clergy

11:30 am - Shabbat Luncheons



### February 10: Michael Singh

Join us for this special Shabbat as we partner with the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas to bring in Michael Singh, the managing director of The Washington Institute and a former senior director for Middle East affairs at the National Security Council. Michael will give us his inside, expert perspective on President Trump's decision to move the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and his recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Find out what this move might mean for American policy in Israel, what does it mean for the Jewish people, and what are the implications of this decision going forward. Lunch and Learn to follow after services.



### April 28: Moment Magazine

Moment Magazine was founded in 1975 by Nobel Prize laureate Elie Wiesel and acclaimed writer Leonard Fein. The magazine has profiled hundreds of other people—from Rebbe Menachem Mendel Schneerson to Ruth Bader Ginsburg to Sergey Brin to Jon Stewart. Without ties to any organization, denomination or point of view, it offers a balanced accounting of the Jewish experience in America.



### May 19: Rabbi Norman Cohen, "When the Heavens Opened, There Was Ruth"

Join us for a special Shavuot Shabbat learning with Bet Shalom Rabbi Emeritus Norman Cohen. On Shavuot, we turn to the Book of Ruth for wisdom. In keeping with this tradition, Rabbi Cohen will introduce the Book of Ruth during Saturday morning services with a chance for a more in-depth exploration of its themes the evening of Saturday, May 19th in honor of Shavuot.





# Shabbat Morning Learning

Shabbat morning classes from 10-11 am

*This year, we're pioneering a new learning program on Shabbat in which you can come for davening, learning, or conversation depending on your preferred Shabbat experience. We'll be offering a series of 3-class mini courses from 10am-11am on Saturday morning will run concurrent with davening.*



## **Do We Believe in Angels with Rabbi Strausberg** February 3, 17, 24

If you ask a modern Jew if angels play a big role in Jewish tradition, I'd expect that they would say not so much. But, you may be surprised to learn that the Jewish tradition is rich with references to angels. What is the role of angels in Jewish tradition, how has that shifted, and do we still believe in them today?

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## **Israel Inside: Discussions About the Israeli Society** with Ilan Sharon April 14, 21, 28

These meetings are great for both people who visited Israel and people who did not visit Israel. Explores the positive characteristics of Israeli society from a humanistic, psychological, and emotional perspective. Learn about the Israeli Society "Actualizers" of Tikkun Olam, Chutzpah, Family, Education, Adversity to Advantage, and Taking Action. The meetings will be led by Ilan Sharon, an Israeli who now resides in Minnesota and is a member of the advisory board and producer of the film "Israel Inside." In the film, Ben Shahar explores the core character strengths – called "Actualizers" – that enable Israelis to succeed against incredible odds. Information about each meeting and pre-meeting material will be available at: [www.ilansharon.com/ta2018](http://www.ilansharon.com/ta2018)

## **A Taste of Project Zug with Fellow Congregants** May 5, 12, 19

We've launched an exciting Beit-Midrash model of learning on Sunday mornings in which havurot (small groups) study together on the material of their choice from a wide selection of courses through Project Zug. If you've been participating in the Beit Midrash, this is a chance to find out what other people have been learning and if you're new to it entirely, this is an opportunity to check it out and learn from your fellow congregants. From the Theology of Psalms to Love and Relationships to the Jewish Bookshelf, we've got you covered!

## Other Shabbat Learning

### **Shabbat Parsha Class**

Dive into the parsha with Rabbi Strausberg as we meet over coffee at 8:15 am every day Saturday to explore both classic and modern commentaries on the parsha.

### **PJ Library Shabbatot & Programming: April 20**

Families with children Birth-Kindergarten will enjoy special Shabbat morning programs. Make connections with other ToA parents and be a part of this fun program for you and your children.

### **Parenting the Parsha Class**

If you've got young children in our Shabbat School, join Rabbi Strausberg for some learning and conversation in which we'll explore the week's Torah portion and find connections to the joy, struggles, and of course, questions of parenting. While your kids learn and deepen their connection to Judaism, you can too! Every Saturday while school is in session from 9:15-10:00 am.



# New Shabbat Playground Experiences



## **Meditative Service with Rabbi Fine**

Join Rabbi Fine as we explore prayer through meditation and reflection. Rabbi Fine will lead a guided and accessible service outside the norms of traditional prayer to enhance your experiences and focus on our inner-selves.



## **Songs with Choir**

Calling all past, present, and future choir members. Join Choir Director Tom Bartsch and Cantor/Educator Joshua Fineblum in singing, sharing, and learning classic Jewish choir music. All are welcome for this spiritual time together.

## Adult Education & Programs

### Sunday Infinity Classes, Part II

This year is all about empowerment and skill-building. For Part II, we continue the second semester of the courses which we began in the Fall. For those who enrolled in a Project Zug course, these learning groups will continue at 10am followed by the second session of our Torah Reading course at 11am in we continue tackling the Torah Trope. If you weren't involved in the Fall but wish to join us now, email [rabbavistrausberg@templeofaaron.org](mailto:rabbavistrausberg@templeofaaron.org) for more info. For all sessions, Beit Midrash is 10-11 followed by Torah Reading Training from 11-12.

Session 2 February 4, 11, 18, 25 & March 4

### Boomers

It doesn't matter when you were born, If you're looking for a little daytime learning, join us for our monthly meetings this fall at Highland Park's Quixotic as we explore together the wisdom of Pirkei Avot, the Wisdom of our Fathers.

This is a book of so many quotable quotes and important nuggets of reflection and learning. Please RSVP to [danaethorpe@templeofaaron.org](mailto:danaethorpe@templeofaaron.org).

February 21, March 21, April 25, & May 23

### Sisterhood

#### **Passover Cooking Program**

*March 18th, Stein Hall from 10:00am-12:00pm.*

Join us to see special food demonstrations and tastings for a Passover seder or meal, and take home all the recipes to try for yourself. RSVP to Barb Pogoler, [abpogoler@msn.com](mailto:abpogoler@msn.com). Interested in being a presenter? Call Barb at 651-699-9525.

*\*Watch for details about the Sisterhood's Closing Program on May 24th at 6:30 pm.*

#### **Fourth annual Sisterhood Plant Sale**

*May 27th from 10:00 am-2:00 pm*

All plants pollinator friendly from our wonderful organic growers.



# Spring Experiences



## Celebrate with Musician-in-Residence Abbie Strauss

April 21-22

Abbie Strauss is a singer & songwriter and serves as a Cantor in Memphis, TN. She is the founder of Judaism: Inside Out, a musical philosophy that engages the mind, the body and the soul. Abbie holds a Master of Education degree and has studied Hebrew and Jewish texts in Jerusalem. Her fresh sound takes Jewish music to new heights. Abbie will also be part of the Israel at 70th Community Celebration.

### Friday:

5:45pm Prayers in PJs  
6:30pm Crossriver K kosher Dinner  
8:00pm Musical Service

### Saturday:

9:00am Shabbat Services  
11:30am Lunch & Learn

### Sunday:

9:00am School Israel  
Programming and Concert

## Experience

### Community 2nd Seder

Saturday March 31, 2018 at 6PM

Join us for an interactive, participatory, community Seder led by our Clergy. Delicious dinner consists of brisket, chicken matzah ball soup, deviled egg bar, and more. Vegetarian options area available. Reserve your seat with Ken Agranoff@TempleofAaron.org



## Frog Show for Kids!



## Women's Seder

Thursday, March 15th at Temple of Aaron

Please RSVP by March 5th to Danae at [danaethorpe@templeofaaron.org](mailto:danaethorpe@templeofaaron.org)

Come shmooze and get settled at 6:15; we'll begin seder promptly at 6:30!

Join us for a pre-Pesach seder that will be jointly led by Rabbi Strausberg and lay leaders as we think through the stories of our exodus from Egypt with a feminist lens. This will be a time to come together and look at many different perspectives, share experiences, and maybe even share favorite recipes all in the name of our making our own seders and holiday more meaningful and connected. This women's seder is free of cost and includes a great dinner, featuring food items made from community members' family, time-honored recipes! Use this to get ideas for your own seder!

## ToA Family Kallah 2018 Sign-Up

May 4-6, 2018

Families with young children school and young couples are invited to join us for an amazing weekend away.

\*\* Babysitting and fun activities for kids, Adult only programming, All-inclusive stay at the Perlstein Center, Sunday optional programming in the Wisconsin Dells! We will begin at 1pm on Friday. Late arrival up until 6pm before Shabbat.

(Optional programming past brunch on Sunday)

Questions and sign up? Contact Cantor/Educator Joshua Fineblum [joshuafineblum@templeofaaron.org](mailto:joshuafineblum@templeofaaron.org) or 651-252-6403.



# Fun Food Programs



## Vegan Grant

Temple of Aaron has been chosen as one of five National Synagogues to receive a grant for Vegan eating and programming! Through Shamayim V' Aretz Institute and the VegFund we will be hosting 12 Vegan programs throughout the year. Below are a few programs and how YOU can benefit your program ideas.

*Funding is open to the Community to Submit Programming Ideas and up to \$500 in Funding! Lookout for more information or contact Rabbi Fine!*



February 10th Vegan Superbowl Leftovers

April 21 Israeli Vegan Lunch

July Vegan Grant Food Truck Event

## End of Year BBQ and Annual Meeting

June 3rd

10:15 am – Annual Meeting

11:00 – End of Year BBQ

**Bouncy House, Family Games, Burgers and Dogs, and more!**



**Sponsored by Temple of Aaron Education and Youth Departments, Steve & Nancy Lane Dor L'dor & Grandparent Endowment, with and Help from the Men's Club flipping Crew!**



### Save the Date:

Crossriver Kosher Shabbat Dinner Featuring Food Network's Chopped Grand Champion Adam Greenberg  
April 20th, 2018



# Nights of Learning

**Highland Multi-Faith Clergy Present: A Night of Learning Together**

**Panel Discussion**

**ARE THERE REALLY ANGELS? A COMPARATIVE RELIGION PERSPECTIVE**



**Thursday February 22nd, 2018**

**7pm**

**@ Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

**700 Snelling Ave \* St Paul**

**Open to All Faiths and Denominations**

Join us for a night of learning with religious leaders from the Saint Paul Highland Community

For more details contact one of the host churches or synagogues below.

***Hosts: Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Lumen Christi Catholic Community,  
St. Luke Lutheran Church, Temple of Aaron Synagogue,***

## Shavuot

**“When The Heavens Opened, There Was Ruth” with Rabbi Norman Cohen**

*Saturday, May 19th at Temple of Aaron*

Shavuot is one of our greatest holidays as we celebrate receiving the Torah in the desert. Traditionally, we turn to the Book of Ruth on Shavuot, a book that's rich with teachings on love and loss, identity and peoplehood. Join us at 7:30pm on May 19th as our local scholar and Bet Shalom Rabbi Emeritus Norman Cohen leads us in a study of an ancient text with contemporary questions. Torah and cheesecake for all!



Temple of Aaron Presents:  
**THE  
 LION KING**



Max Gantman  
Simba



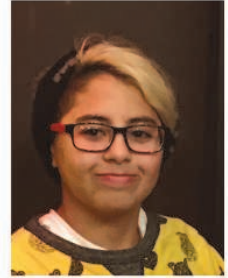
Rachel Lowenthal  
Nala



Tory Leventhal  
Sarabi



Michael Raykfeld  
Mufasa



Ruby Lipshultz  
Scar



Emily Najlis  
Zazu



Arielle Shofman  
Rafiki



Annabelle Epstein  
Pumba



Val Merman  
Timone



Alicia Lazarus  
Hyena (Banza)



Gabbi Kotovsky  
Hyena (Shenzi)



Sam Zein  
Crew



Sam Dobkin  
Crew

February 25th  
10:00 am

Sing-A-Long with Cast

February 28th  
6:30 pm

Purim Night Dinner Theater  
\$15 adult/\$10 Student  
RSVP by February 22nd

March 3rd  
8:00 pm

Final Performance  
\$7 adult/\$5 student

To RSVP/Purchase Tickets  
Email [JorieBernhardt@templeofaaron.org](mailto:JorieBernhardt@templeofaaron.org)



## Israel Committee

by Brendan Stieren



It has been almost a month since I made aliyah to Israel. This is fulfilling a dream of mine I've had for a long time, one that I've been working toward for years. The Jewish Agency has acted as a crucial aid during my aliyah transition, and nefesh b'nefesh has guided me through the process (although long and at times painstaking) with as much ease as possible.

Aliyah is the immigration of Jews to Israel since it was reborn as a modern state in 1948. Each year, thousands of people around the world move to Israel to join the army, pursue a higher education, and settle as their permanent home. And I realize why, because this is an amazing country. That was the impression I had when I first visited three years ago as a volunteer on an army base. Leaving, I wanted nothing more than to be a part of the nation, and that were the sentiments of the many future Olim (immigrants) I met during that trip too.

As one would expect, Judaism surrounds you in Israel. From the imagery on agorot (Israel's "penny") to giant Hanukiah's rising from the boulevards, Jewish community runs deep; it is a way of life that consumes you. Restaurants and buses shut down on Shabbat. People greet each other with "chag sameach" during the numerous holidays. Entire streets will come to a halt, and people will stand in silence as the sirens wail on Yom Hazikaron and Yom Hashoah. Spontaneous barbecues in neighborhoods will encourage you to join. If you have no place to go for Shabbat, a family will readily welcome you to their table.

But there is much more than Judaism that shapes this country's identity. Moslems, Christians, Druze and

— continued on page 9 —

# Group & Committee Voices

## Temple of Aaron Sisterhood

**Baby Shower for Chana & Rabbi Avi** — Join us for a special baby shower to welcome Chana & Rabbi Avi's new addition on February 18 from 4-5pm in Capp Lounge. Beverages and snacks available. We will shower them with books for infants, toddlers or children a little bit older. If you are unable to attend but would like to participate, drop off books and best wishes at gift shop. If you are interested in baking or with questions, contact Margie Schneider 651-698-4358 or 7381jbs@comcast.net.

**Building Fund Cards** — Did you know that Sisterhood raises money for ToA through our lovely building fund cards? They are a great donation for a memorial, get well wishes or any other special occasion! Minimum donation is \$5 and all fund raised benefit our beautiful building. To purchase, call Susan Kushner at 651-454-8336.

**Hamantashen are now for sale!** Our fabulous hamantashen are available for \$15/dozen through the gift shop. Varieties include fruit with & without nuts, chocolate with & without nuts, poppy seed, and apricot. We bake every Monday at 9:30am throughout February. Contact Sue Schwartz to help at 651-451-2188 or jasch924@aol.com.

**Mahjongg** — Sunday, Feb. 11, 1pm in Smith Library. Contact Margie Schneider at 651-698-4358 or 7381jbs@comcast.net so we can plan enough tables and seats. All levels welcome, including true beginners.

**Sisterhood Book Club** — Feb. 25, 10am at Highland Bakery & Café. We will discuss *Modern Girls* by Jennifer S. Brown. Join us even if you haven't read the book to help decide future picks. Contact Barb Pogoler at abpogoler@msn.com to save you a seat or if you can't get a copy of the book.

**Sisterhood Knits** — Thursday, Feb. 8, 6:30pm in Smith Library. All levels of knitters/crocheters welcome. Questions: Contact coordinators Susan Gonzalez (suziemgonzalez@comcast.net) or Susan Tervola (susantervola@gmail.com).

**Food Shelf** — Help Sisterhood, along with ToA's Social Justice Committee, to fill our food shelf bins to donate to Francis Basket Food Shelf, the only food shelf in Highland Park. If you would prefer a monetary donation, send check, payable to ToA Food Shelf, to Harriet Levy, 1826 Merlot Curve, Eagan 55122. Questions? Call Harriet at 651-454-6829.

**SAVE THE DATE** — Sisterhood will host another fun Jewish food experience March 18 from 10am-12pm. Our focus will be on Passover. You will receive an All-You-Need-To-Know for the Passover Seder, cook, and taste several Passover recipes.

**Gift Shop** — Now available: subscriptions to "Moment Magazine" available for purchase in the Gift Shop for \$15/year. Gift registries available for all life cycle events. Stop by and see our beautiful display of Passover items and more. Open Sunday, 9am-12pm, Tues 10am-1pm, Wed 10am-1pm and 6-8pm. By appointment: Marcia Taple 651-688-3030.

## Social Justice Committee

### Volunteers Needed for Produce Distribution

Hunger is a constant force in our community. Temple of Aaron members can take direct action by volunteering to help distribute fresh produce with the Neighborhood House, which also runs the Francis Basket food shelf in Highland Park. You can sign up for distribution events during the afternoon on Feb. 13 and March 13 at Metro State University. Go to the Neighborhood House website at [neighb.org](http://neighb.org) and click on "volunteer" to see the food distribution sign-up.

# Thank you תודה רבה

Donations in memory of loved ones (\$10 or more)  
December 2017/January 2018 Kislev/Tevet 5778

Baldinger, Bob	Grossman, Kay	Rosenberg, Gail
Barenbaum, Bettie	Hirse Korn, Barbara & Fred	Rubenstein, Bob
Baskina, Ella	Kanivetsky, Rozita	Sadoff, Lynn & Ruth
Binkin, Vladimir & Bella	Kaplan, Sue & Harvey	Saltzman, Jodi & Dan
Blyakher, Igor & Sima	Kaster, Barbara	Schloff, Lizann
Butwinick, James	Katz, Sidney	Schwartz, Jerry & Sue and family
Cohen, Loretta	Katzovitz, Carole & Leon	Shear, Isabelle & Jerry
Daniels, Perry & Marjorie	Klein, Ilene	Silverman, Morton
Dryester, Vladimir & Galina	Klein, Marion & E. Gary	Simon, Jerome & Yetta
Edelstein, Rebecca	Knurenko, Izabella	Smith, David & Dede
Eisenstadt, Linda & Larry	Kushner, Barry & Susan	Stein, Lillian
Feldman, Nancy	Kushnir, Rozaliya	Steinfeldt, Sharron
Flynn, John & Susan	Lekah, Helena & Alexander	Strohm, Leslie, Jim, Ezra & Maya
Fridman, Alla	Marver, John & Jeannie	Suponitsky, Aleksandr
Gak, Feliks & Alla Vysotsky	Marvy, Florie & Bob and family	Swartz, Susie & Stuart
Geller, Rosie & Loren	Miller, Diane	Tilsner, Ryvelle & William
Gilman, Rose	Miller, Mildred	Udodovsky, Mira & Vladimir
Gleeman, Harriet	Miller, Ron	Vinitzky, Shirley
Goldberg, Richard & Gayle	Netzman, Steve	Ward, Helene & H. Hillard
Goldenberg, Herb	Ostrovskaya, Galina	Weil, Barbara
Goldetsky, Jeff & Melanie	Phillips, Jan & Janet	Wolkoff, Patty
Gordon, Frank & Cookie	Pogoler, Barbara	Yellin, Susan
Graham, Esther	Raskin, Maria	
Grin, Alexandra	Ripps, Sherri & Lenny	
Grobovsky, Nancy & Richard	Rose, Gary	

... to the Kotovsky family for honoring their daughters' Bat Mitzvah by making a special donation to our Shabbat Lunch Fund.

... to Anita Ernst and Burt Katz for adding address labels to 900 *Aaronions* to keep people informed of our programs all over the United States.

... to RAJMN (Russian American Jews in Minnesota) and Project Coordinator Ilana Volodarsky for making a special donation to our Shabbat Lunch Fund in support of Daniela and Gabriela Kotovsky celebrating their January 2018 Bat Mitzvah with proud parents Konstantin and Angela Kotovsky.

... to each of our Purim sponsors, volunteers, and co-chairs Tiffany & David Goldman.

## Kiddush Lunch Helps Solidify Shabbat Community

We have been joining together weekly for Shabbat Kiddush Lunch since 2013.

It is an ideal setting for Shabbat regulars, prospective members, school parents, and students to experience services and then relax at lunch with existing and new friends.

President Gary Portnoy and Executive Vice President Steve Kafitz have been diligently seeking gifts to support this wonderful Kiddush Fund. The average cost per person is \$10. Thank you to everyone who made a thoughtful 2017 donation. Please talk to one of the two chairs or contact Executive Director Ken Agranoff about how you can help us continue building Shabbat Community by making a special donation to our Kiddush Fund.

## 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 651-698-8874 ext. 106 or [kenagranoff@templeofaaron.org](mailto:kenagranoff@templeofaaron.org) for an 18-minute meeting. Seize the opportunity to avoid a last-minute emotional meeting.

# Blessings

## FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

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

מזל טוב

- 57 Lew & Marge Blustin
- 57 Thomas & Ronna Sherman
- 53 Lev & Raisa Kurinskiy
- 52 John & Virginia Bordeaux
- 45 Daniel & Susan Lepow
- 45 Olga & Mikhail Sagalovsky
- 25 Mitchell & Andrea Goldberger
- 10 Ann & Jacob Rude

## Memorial Plaques Generate Strong Memories

Memorial plaques provide permanent reminders for your loved ones and help assure we will recite memorial prayers every year. You can order a plaque for a tax deductible \$1,000 and multi-month payment plans can be designed. Contact Yahrzeit Specialist Susie Haim at 651-698-8874 ext. 100 or [susiehaim@templeofaaron.org](mailto:susiehaim@templeofaaron.org).

**TEVET BANNER:** Presented by Manya and Ben Sturrey. Titled "Destruction of Temple" (Anna Andersch-Marcus design). It depicts the destruction of the Temple with falling of pillars during the winter.



**Israel Committee**  
(continued from page 7)



Bahai all share this land in peace, contrary to what media show. Thousands of years of history both preserved and unearthed stand proudly over ancient walls and sleep in deep caves where archeologists restlessly uncover the past. Children in kippot run and dance in malls while soldiers carrying M-16's share falafel before they go back to base for the week. Synagogues, churches and mosques all rise from the numerous towns resting in the labyrinths of hills and mountains in this beautiful land.

Since arriving in December, I have lived on a kibbutz in the north called Ein Hashofet, central to many surrounding kibbutzim close to Afula. I am taking an Ulpan, or a Hebrew course, while working to arrange a first meeting with the army for hopefully an August draft. I am joined by immigrants from Russia, Ukraine, Serbia, Germany, the United States, Colombia, Venezuela, among other nations.

I am incredibly blessed to call this place my home, and while it is challenging to be so far from family and friends, it is remarkably simple to make friends in Israel. Something that a man had said to me in Jerusalem while I was still a tourist had stuck with me. He said that if you are Jewish, this is eternally your home. So I encourage you to come home, if only to visit. The memory will always stick with you.

## 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!



# ...and More



## Temple of Aaron Hosts Sinfonia

The Minnesota Sinfonia Orchestra will perform a free-admission concert, "Marvelous Miniatures," on Saturday, February 10, starting at 7:30 p.m. at Temple of Aaron. The performance will feature Israeli cellist Amit Peled playing Franz Joseph Haydn's "Concerto in C Major" and Ernest Bloch's "Prayer." From the United States to the Middle East and Asia, Mr. Peled is acclaimed as one of the most exciting instrumentalists on the concert stage today. He is honored to share with audiences the sound of the historic cello of Pablo Casals — a Goffriler ca. 1733 — personally handed to him by Maestro Casals' widow. The 90-minute concert program also will include the premiere of a new composition by Phil Fried, "Staycation Rumba," (made possible through the Minnesota Sinfonia's New Works Program with support from the McKnight Foundation), Antonin Dvorak's "Legends 2 and 3," and Maurice Ravel's "Mother Goose Suite." For more information about the concert, call the MN Sinfonia 612-871-1701 or visit [www.mnsinfonia.org](http://www.mnsinfonia.org).

## Prudent Security Needs Your Support

We have provided High Holyday security for decades. As society changed over the past decade, we added security each Sunday morning we offer school classes. Our membership has positively responded to the annual security plea each year. In 2016, experts suggested we add security every Shabbat morning.

Once per year in August we ask for your financial security donations to hire the off-duty officers. We respect the viewpoints of those who believe the added precautions are not needed. We appreciate each member's general support and encourage you to consider the current value of taking security precautions.

We gladly accept your support for security throughout 2018.

## Center for Jewish Studies Lecture Series

### "Sephardic Food and Identity in Medieval Spain"

Wednesday, February 7, 2018  
7:30pm at Temple of Aaron

This event is free and open to the public.

*"What was Jewish cuisine like in medieval Spain and what did Christians think it was like? In this paper I explore what foods were recommended by Sephardic authors as part of a healthy and spiritually rewarding lifestyle, as well as explore how Sephardic cuisine had a prominent place in the literary and cultural imagination of medieval Christian Spaniards, for whom Jewish food and foodways came to be associated with a host of misperceptions about Jews and Jewish life and belief."*



Michelle M. Hamilton

Michelle M. Hamilton is the Director of Medieval Studies and Professor of Spanish & Portuguese at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. She is author of two monographs, "Beyond Faith Belief, Morality and Memory in a Fifteenth-Century Judeo-Iberian Manuscript," (2015) and "Representing Others in Medieval Iberian Literature" (2007), and several articles on medieval literature and culture. She is also the co-editor/organizer of a volume of essays on Iberia and the Medieval Mediterranean (In and of the Mediterranean 2015). Her areas of specialty include the Arabic, Hebrew and Romance literatures and cultures of medieval Iberia.

Thank you to the Spanish and Portuguese department for cosponsoring this event.

# Temple of Aaron Calendar of Events

February 2018  
Shevat - Adar 5778

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b> 6:00pm Minyan 6:30 pm Talmud 7:30 pm Bible	<b>2</b> 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Services  Candle Lighting 5:05pm	<b>3</b> 8:15am Learning w/Rabbi Strausberg 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am Shabbat Services 9:15am Parenting the Parsha 10:00am Do We Believe in Angels with Rabbi Strausberg ★ 10:00am Songs with Choir 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
<b>4</b> 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Infinity Adult Ed	<b>5</b> Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	<b>6</b> 6:00pm Minyan	<b>7</b> 4:00pm School 6:00pm TiKone USY 6:00pm Minyan 7:30pm Sephardic Food and Identity in Medieval Spain at ToA	<b>8</b> 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud 6:30pm Sisterhood Knits 7:30pm Bible	<b>9</b> 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Services  Candle Lighting 5:15pm	<b>10</b> 8:15am Learning w/Rabbi Strausberg 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am Shabbat Services with Speaker Michael Singh 10:00am Meditative Service with Rabbi Fine ★ 11:30am Kiddush Lunch 7:30 pm Sinfonia at ToA
<b>11</b> 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Infinity Adult Ed 1:00pm Sisterhood Mahjongg	<b>12</b> Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	<b>13</b> 6:00pm Minyan	<b>14</b> 4:00pm School 6:00pm TiKone USY 6:00pm Minyan	<b>15</b> 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud Class 7:30pm Bible Class	<b>16</b> 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Services  Candle Lighting 5:25pm	<b>17</b> 8:15am Learning w/Rabbi Strausberg <b>No Shabbat School</b> 9:15am Shabbat Services 10:00am Do We Believe in Angels with Rabbi Strausberg ★ 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
<b>18</b> 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast <b>No Sunday School</b> 10:00am Infinity Adult Ed	<b>19</b> <b>Presidents Day</b> Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	<b>20</b> 6:00pm Minyan 7:00pm TAXY Talks	<b>21</b> 1:00pm Boomers at Quixotic 4:00pm School 6:00pm Minyan	<b>22</b> 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Talmud 7:00pm A Night of Learning Together at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 7:30pm Bible	<b>23</b> 6:00pm Erev Shabbat Services  Candle Lighting 5:35pm	<b>24</b> 8:15am Learning w/Rabbi Strausberg 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am Shabbat Services 10:00am Yoga 10:00am Do We Believe in Angels with Rabbi Strausberg ★ 11:30am Kiddush Lunch
<b>25</b> 9:00am Minyan/Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School/ Purim Programming 10:00am Lion King Sing-Along 11:00am Purim Carnival	<b>26</b> Business Office Closed 6:00pm Minyan	<b>27</b> 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm ToA Book Club - <i>Moonglow</i> by Michael Chabon 7:00pm Lion King - Parent Preview	<b>28</b> Fast of Esther 4:00pm School/Purim Programming Toddler-6th Grade 6:00pm Minyan 6:30pm Megillah Reading & Lion King Dinner Theatre			★ <i>Symbol Indicates Holy Playground Program</i>

For more information on these and other events and programs, please visit our website:  
[templeofaaron.org](http://templeofaaron.org)



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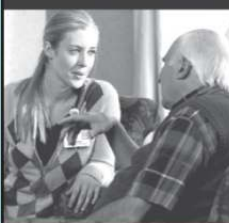
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# Destination Shabbat

## Shabbat Vision Speakers: Real News, Real Torah

This year, our Vision Speaker is going bigger and better to bring you dynamic and expert speakers on the topics that are most pressing and relevant. From BDS on campus to Muslim-Jewish relations, these speakers will help foster important conversations in our community and help us think about key real world issues from a Jewish lens.

**February 10:** Join us for this special Shabbat as we partner with the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas to bring in **Michael Singh**, the managing director of The Washington Institute and a former senior director for Middle East affairs at the National Security Council. Michael will give us his inside, expert perspective on President Trump's decision to move the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and his recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Find out what this move might mean for American policy in Israel, what does it mean for the Jewish people, and what are the implications of this decision going forward. Lunch-and-Learn to follow after services.

