Volume 22, Issue No. 2 HESHVAN 5774 NOVEMBER 2013

Thanksgivukah Greetings & Gratitude

By Rabbi Annie Lewis

n the night of

Thursday, vember 28th, American Jews will celebrate the once in a lifetime holiday of Thanksgivukah. During this momentous month of November, the second candle of Hanukah and the celebration. of Thanksgiving will coincide. Some people, like nine-year-old Asher Weintraub, have seen this confluence of holidays as a prime opportunity for kick-starting a business. In honor of the hybrid holiday, Asher, a nine-year-old entrepreneur from New York, invented the menurkey, a ceramic menorah that is shaped like a turkey. Meanwhile, foodies far and wide have been dreaming up recipes to showcase the culinary traditions of both holidays including cranberry-glazed brisket, sweet potato latkes and pumpkin-filled

Beyond this calendrical quirk, the holidays of Hanukah and Thanksgiving share a strong thematic connection. Hanukah was originally instituted as an occasion for gratitude. In the Talmud, our sages ask the question, "Mai Hanukah? What is Hanukah all about?" In Masechet (Tractate) Shabbat, the rabbis answer the question with a back-story about the holiday.

donuts.

"When the Hellenists entered the sanctuary, they defiled all of the oil that was found there. When the Hasmonean Dynasty (Maccabees) triumphed, they searched for oil and found only one container with the seal of the high priest intact. The vial contained just enough oil for one day, but a miracle occurred, and they were able to generate light for eight days

from it. The following year, those days were established as a festival for (hallel) praise and (hoda'ah) thanksgiving." - Babylonian Talmud, Shabbat 21b.

Throughout the eight days Hanukah, we recite the celebratory psalms of Hallel. We also add a special section to our daily Amidah prayer known as Al Hanissim (for the miracles). Al Hanissim tells the story of Hanukah and expresses gratitude to God for the miraculous deliverance of the people of Israel during the days of Mattathias. I find it powerful to note that this Hanukah addendum is couched in the eighteenth blessing of the Amidah, the Modim section, in which we thank God for the gift of life and for the daily miracles, wonders and gifts that are available to us in each moment. As we celebrate a blockbuster occasion of triumph for the Jewish people, we are called to connect with our gratitude for the small miracles that attend to each one of us every day. How profound and varied are the wonders of life unfolding in each instant on our planet and in our very bodies.

As I write this column, I am humbled and grateful for the brushes with the miraculous that have colored my past day. On a Sunday in October, I studied with students and their parents in preparation for Bar and Bat Mitzvah, celebrated at a baby shower, sat with mourners at shiva, then danced at a surprise wedding of friends. I saw a spider web stretched across a door frame, threads glowing with sun. I drove through a rainstorm until pink light poked out from behind dark clouds. I held a baby with huge cheeks. I ate a piece of lemon pie, waking up sleeping taste buds.

Throughout the day, I thought often of

Jonah Adels, of blessed memory, for whom circles of people had gathered to mourn and to comfort those in mourning. Jonah - a twenty-nine-year old artist, visionary, farmer, environmentalist, brother, son, partner and friend. In his life and in his death, Jonah inspired all those who encountered his spirit to live fully, deeply and courageously. Through his music, his ideas and the love that flowed from him to all of creation, Jonah continues to bring light to this world.

At shiva for Jonah we sang "Courage, my friend, you do not walk alone. We will walk with you and sing your spirit home." As we sang, I was moved with gratitude for Jewish community and its promise that we are not alone. No matter where we are in our lives, others are waiting to walk with us and to sing our spirits home.

May this Thanksgivukah be a holiday of light and gratitude for one another in our GJC community. May we remind one another of the miracles that are available to us each day.

Program Highlights

Hebrew for Advanced Beginners
Begins October 29

Tot Shabbat *November 8*

Minyan Masorti Memorial Shabbat November 9

Chapters of the Heart: Jewish Women Sharing the Torah of Their Lives

November 10

StorahTelling

Begins November 17

Awakening the Dreamer Workshop

November 24

President's Message

How is GJC doing? Quite well, thanks!

By Mitch Marcus, GJC President

"How is GJC doing?" As the current synagogue

president, I hear this question all the time. Since the level of activity, participation and energy in our community is obviously as strong as ever, the question is always really about finances and membership. In terms of dollars, the answer is simple – thanks to staff who operate our facility and run our programs extremely frugally, and thanks to the generosity of you, our congregants, we have been running a slight operating surplus almost every year now, slowly building up an adequate operational reserve for the first time, I believe, in the past 20 years. The short story about membership is that we are also doing well, but the details reveal much about who we are and why we're thriving.

We are all bombarded in newspapers and magazines, both Jewish and secular, with the news that the American Jewish community is falling away from Jewish commitment and synagogue membership. The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the USCJ, lost about 15 percent of its households nationally between 2000 and 2010, with losses twice that high in the Northeast. But you would never suspect these trends by looking at us.

GJC's membership has held rock steady for a number of years at around 520 households, looking at membership levels each year right after the High Holidays. Note that while our total membership has remained constant, a considerable number of families (between 20 and 30 in the last several years) come and go every year, with almost two-thirds of those leaving the shul due to people moving away or death. This rate of turnover, about 10% for GJC, is less than half of the typical rate for most American synagogues, I'm told.

Very recent news continues to be strongly encouraging, although far too little data yet to see any longer trend. Folks typically join synagogues at the beginning of the fall, just before the High Holidays; as expected, our membership increases the most each year between September 1 and October 1. Interestingly, our growth during this period this year, 13 households, was twice the increase during the past two years. In fact our current membership, 528 households, is now the highest it has been since Rabbi Zeff asked the office staff to begin keeping careful month-tomonth membership statistics three years ago.

Rabbi Zeff has been tracking careful statistics about those joining and leaving our community for the past several years, including why they join or leave, and the ages of adults within each household. Here, the patterns are far from what I expected. According to folk wisdom, at least, people join synagogues in their mid- to late thirties for the sake of their children's Jewish education; they often leave after this education is deemed to be complete at bar or bat mitzvah or after confirmation. Not so at GIC! Of the 75 new members of GJC during 2010-2012, only three said they joined for our religious school (and 5 for our Early Childhood Program), while 13 said they joined because of our adult education program. Only half of our new congregants were in their 30s or 40s; we had new congregants in every decade from their 20s to their 90s! And finally, somewhat more than half of our new congregants over these three years gave their davenning group affiliation as either Dorshei Derekh or Minyan Masorti, although this seems to be shifting in the past six

The picture of GJC that emerges from these statistics is clear: we are a congregation that attracts committed Jews who join not just for their children but for themselves as well. Our community keeps its members involved and active for years; our members primarily leave us only when they have little choice. The statistics reveal that we are a thriving, vibrant and very healthy community. How are we doing? Just fine!

ISRAELI DANCING



Save the Date! Under the Boardwalk



Purim Bash March 8, 2014

The Centre Call Germantown Jewish Centre



IN CELEBRATION...

Michael & Marta Sivitz on the July 2013 birth of their grandson Beckett Lev Bieber Michael & Marta Sivitz on the December 2012 birth of their grandson Gabriel Sidney Leisman

(August 2013-September 2013)

Annsley & Benjamin Klehr on the birth of their son Sawyer Hillman Klehr

Tobie Hoffman on her special birthday

Mindy & Gary Pitkofsky on the birth of their grandson, Parker Henry Cohen

Sidney August on his 95th birthday

Peter Maas & Lesley Carson on their son Dan's graduation from a masters program in Disaster & Crisis Health Management at Tel Aviv University. Dan has been in Israel for most of the last three years and plans on remaining in Tel Aviv.

Aaron & Lucille Weber on their 65th wedding anniversary **Dr. Greg Lattanzi** on completing his Ph.D in Anthropology at Temple University

Sam Katz, Executive Producer/Director of History Making Productions, on being awarded 3 EMMY's (Best Documentary, Best Historical Program Special and Best Musical Composition/Arrangement) for his production of FEVER: 1793

Mati Zeff on becoming Bar Mitzvah

Arthur Waskow on his special birthday

Dick Menin on his special birthday

Bunny & Sidney Stein on the birth of their great grandson Max Stein **Scott Rochman** on becoming Bar Mitzvah

Diana Epstein on becoming Bat Mitzvah

Jamey DiLorenzo, son of Vincent DiLorenzo and Andrea Brockman, on passing the CPA

Hilda Minkoff on her special birthday

IN MEMORIAM

Don Friedman, father of **Rabbi Dayle Friedman** and grandfather of **Anya**, **Anat & Avram**

Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel

Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof, father of Brenda Laigaie, and grandfather of Grace & Jake



Sł

Shabbat Chai-Lites

November 1 & 2

- Carlebach Shabbat
 - Kol D'mamah
- Musical Marching Minyan
 - Torah Yoga for Kids
- Dorshei Derekh Mazal tov to Diana Epstein, daughter of Bob Epstein & Alexa Kvande, on becoming Bat Mitzvah

November 8 & 9

- Tot Shabbat
- BBMM Torah Yoga for Kids
 - Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit
- Minyan Masorti Memorial Shabbat

November 16

- Torah Yoga for Kids
- Dorshei Derekh Stefan Presser Memorial Shabbat

November 22 & 23

- Interfaith Family Shabbat Kol Zimrah
 - BBMM Torah Yoga for Kids

November 29 & 30

- Thanksgiving Weekend
 - Hanukah

December 6 & 7

- Carlebach Shabbat
 - Kol D'mamah
- Musical Marching Minyan

December 14

- Charry Service Mazal tov to Amira Heep, daughter of Jeremy Heep & Darlene Heep, on becoming Bat Mitzvah
 - BBMM
 - Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit

December 27

• Kol Zimrah

Kabbalat Shabbat/Carlebach Shabbat/Kol Zimrah Fridays at 6 PM

Shabbat Morning

Services at 10 AM
Kol D'mamah at 10 AM
Torah Yoga for Kids at 10 AM
BBMM at 10 AM

Musical Marching Minyan at 10:15 AM Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit at 11 AM

NEW! Shabbat Morning Kids Space - Room 305

Kids are welcome to play Shabbat-friendly games in Room 305 - bring your own and some will be provided. Please respect the space, clean up after yourselves and put all games away after use.



CHAPTERS OF THE HEART: JEWISH WOMEN SHARING THE TORAH OF THEIR LIVES

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 AT 10 AM AT GERMANTOWN JEWISH CENTRE

Join book editors Rabbi Nancy Fuchs Kreimer and Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell along with other local contributors to celebrate the launch of this unique collection of personal spiritual essays by leading feminists from across the spectrum of Jewish life.

We invite you to participate in an interactive panel discussion, book signing and of course a little nosh!

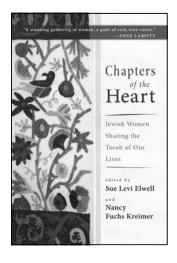
Books to be sold for \$18 (cover price is \$25). Cash and personal checks accepted.

PANELISTS

Rabbi Nancy Fuchs Kreimer
Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell
Ellen Frankel, PhD
Rabbi Julie Greenberg
Rabbi Vivie Mayer

Moderated by: Rabbi Annie Lewis, GJC

Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg



RSVPs APPRECIATED BY NOVEMBER 5

CONTACT NAOMI KLAYMAN AT RESEARCH@NAOMIKLAYMAN.COM

Co-sponsored by: Dorshei Derekh, Minyan Masorti, Women's Club and Hazak



400 West Ellet Street Philadelphia, PA 19119 215-844-1507 www.germantownjewishcentre.org



The Weisman-Brunner Family

eah Weisman and Eric Brunner have each reinvented themselves in remarkable ways during the last three decades, ultimately ending up at GJC, married and the parents of their four-year-old daughter, Anna.

Leah, 53, was born in Springfield Illinois. She attended Illinois College, a small liberal arts college close to home. "I would not make that choice now," she says, "based on the fact that I am very Jewishly involved. Let's just say that I never considered how it would feel to go to a very small school that had an underlying focus of Christianity and be the only Jew," although she did find like-minded people there.

After graduating, Leah became an elementary school teacher in Virden, IL, a rural town about a half hour from Springfield. After two years, she headed off to the ski resort town of Breckenridge, Colorado, where she taught in an elementary school, a nursery school and then the ski area, working with 3-6 year olds who were being taught to ski. "For my sanity, I started taking and teaching aerobics after I taught school all day," she says. "When I love something, I then teach it."

In Breckenridge, Leah met someone who introduced her to therapeutic massage, which she hadn't considered as a profession. She was also introduced to back-to-the-earth living. She took a course on whole foods nutrition. She grew organic veggies, sun-dried them and canned them for the winter. "The seeds were being planted for what I'm doing now, living and teaching a holistic lifestyle."

Leah stayed in Breckenridge for

Member Spotlight

by Linda Kriger

three years. Meanwhile, her parents had moved from Springfield to Hartford, CT. On her weekly call, she told her mother about the massage therapy idea. "A month later, a catalogue for a good massage school in Connecticut that my mother had ordered came in the mail. She was really listening. I didn't even know that was the direction I'd take." Leah moved in 1987 to attend the Connecticut Center for Massage Therapy in Newington, CT. It was almost the first time she had traveled east of Michigan.

"My dad couldn't say 'massage therapist' for a decade," she says, smiling. "He was afraid people would think I worked in a massage parlor. He'd say it was sports medicine, because that sounded more respectable. Now he loves that I was ahead of the times, and is quite proud of what I do."

The massage school "changed my life because there were vegans and macrobiotics and I got into holistic health and curing through food and yoga. That's where I took my first yoga class. As soon as I did, I said, 'Oh my gosh, I have to do this.'

Entranced with yoga, Leah moved to Lenox, MA in the late 1980s and worked fulltime as a massage therapist, studying yoga at Kripalu and teaching classes in town. She also worked at Kripalu as a massage therapist. She had a very brief marriage to someone she met in massage therapy school. She loved being at Kripalu, although it was apparent that "it was a wonderful yet dysfunctional family." Again, what was missing was her connection to her Jewish roots.

Her life changed again when she left Lenox and separated from her husband. She was living in Pittsfield, MA when a piece of bulk mail addressed to a former resident of her apartment arrived. It advertised a retreat called Days of Awe, run by Reb Zalman Schachter Shalomi, (founder of the Jewish Renewal Movement).

"I didn't know him and I didn't know about Renewal," Leah says. "But having spent the previous two years immersed in a Yogic lifestyle, all of a sudden I knew I had to go." In 1992, she moved to Philadelphia and lived in the Renewal Bayit, (Renewal House) on Upsal St. "It was inexpensive, and I did shabbas, totally immersed in this kibbutzy-type thing. I attended P'nai Or (a renewal havurah) for five solid years."

During this phase of her life, Leah studied with Shefa Gold, a Renewal movement teacher. She began teaching yoga at Motion Studios, (now Fit Life) in Mt. Airy. She and Eric met in 1993 but they dated only a month. They didn't become a couple until they met again in Feb. 2004. They married in 2005.

Leah had always wanted to be a mother and discovered that local children could be taken on as foster children and then adopted, with the parents' consent.

"It was one of those things like yoga, or Days of Awe with Zalman," she said. In other words, it was an epiphany that got Leah moving.

After taking on a 2½ year old boy for seven weeks who returned to live with his grandmother, they got the call that changed their lives on August 24, 2009. A newborn needed immediate placement.

"I headed to Crozer Chester hospital by 3:30 that afternoon. I didn't show up to teach my yoga class that had been together for 10 years, but I had none of their phone numbers," she recalls. "They all stood by the door, waiting, wondering, 'Do you think they got a child?'

It took 3 years to finalize the open adoption with Anna's birth parents, who have since moved to California. Leah and Eric send photos and cards to keep them informed.

Eric says that before he married Leah, he'd gradually accepted the fact that he probably wouldn't be a father and "I had to make peace with myself." He knew "that even if I weren't a father, my life would be rich and full. But when Leah and I got together and it was clear it was something she really

continued on page 6

Member Spotlight

Continued from page 5

wanted, we did a lot of talking as a couple and it became something we both wanted."

Besides being a mommy, Leah teaches yoga and has increased her massage therapy practice. At GJC, she leads Torah and yoga classes and occasionally leads Hebrew chanting on Shabbat morning. She led part of Kol D'mamah, a meditation service, on Yom Kippur and co-led a chanting contemplative service on Sukkot for Dorshei Derekh this year. When Leah moved from P'nai Or to Dorshei Derekh, she celebrated her bat mitzvah when she turned 39.

Less peripatetic than his wife, Eric, 56, grew up in Mt. Airy on Heyward St., and attended the Henry School and Central High School before transferring to Penn Charter on a scholarship. His father died a month after he enrolled at Penn Charter, but the school made it possible for him to graduate. He went to Boston University for a year, then Temple, mainly for economic reasons, but dropped out after 2 ½ years.

"I almost never went to class," he says. "As long as I was a student, I could get \$3,400 in Social Security a year and Temple cost just \$600 a semester. I never got an undergraduate degree. I just never pursued it. I enjoyed some classes but don't have a lot of positive memories."

Eric then moved away, living with a girlfriend in Massachusetts. "I was used to Philadelphia, and the diverse environment of Mt. Airy," he says. "I was living in a suburb south of Boston and didn't care for it." So he returned to Philadelphia in 1980 and at 23 took a job with a restaurant supply business on 2nd St.

Eric noticed people showing up at his workplace dressed in nice clothes and driving sharp cars. It turned out they were manufacturers' representatives. "I was a natural salesperson," he says, so after two years, he took a job with a small firm as a manufacturer's representative. Eric worked there for 10 years, until he was 35, working his

way up in the business. He transferred to another company and became their chain accounts manager.

Maybe it was reaching near middle age, but Eric's world was about to radically shift. "I decided I wanted to do something with my life other than restaurant supplies, even though I was really good at it."

Eric had done some theater in high school and in 1993 began studying two different types of improvisational theater, Sociodrama and Playback Theater. He studied Sociodrama at Temple University's Center for Intergenerational Learning's Full Circle Theater (now the Intergenerational Center). He studied Playback Theater in Center City with his future wife, Sarah Halley, and Shawn Zevit, now the rabbi at Mishkan Shalom.

In the course of studying improv, he often acted as the facilitator, drawing out stories from audience members for Playback and issues for scenes in Sociodrama. "I learned through practice and experience that I had good group facilitation skills," he says. "This opened my eyes to a possible new career in organizational development and training."

This revelation would eventually lead to a career change, but there was still a little more life to live. He fell in love with Sarah Halley and left his full-time job in 1994. "After our wedding and because I quit my job, Sarah and I decided to take an extended honeymoon. We drove cross country in the summer of 1994, something neither of us had done before," he recalls. "I was the worst traveling partner. I was miserable because I didn't have a job and was worried about money."

Eric returned to Philadelphia and worked part time with his old firm and began to study organizational development with some local authorities in the field. Meanwhile, he was performing regularly with Playback Philadelphia.

Then in 1998, he was hired as a summer group leader with Operation Understanding, whose mission is to promote understanding among African American and Jewish young people so they can develop a greater understanding of diversity and acceptance. For three successive summers Eric traveled with groups of

twelve students on two different summer trips - twice to New York City and then south to follow the history of southern Jewry and the Civil Rights Movement - and once to Senegal and Israel.

In 2000, he was asked to join the search committee for a new executive director for Operation Understanding. "I thought the person they wanted to hire was wrong for the job, so I wrote to one of my colleagues on the board, Marie Amey-Taylor, and said, "I don't have a degree. Do you think you and the board would consider me as a viable candidate for the position?" They did and Eric became the executive director from 2000 to 2003.

At this point, Eric realized he needed to go back to school. His mentor, Amey-Taylor, taught in a non-traditional master's program in Human Services at Lincoln University that accepted people with extensive field experience, but without a bachelor's degree. At 44, he was accepted. He received his master's degree in 2003.

Eric began working at Temple in the Human Resources Department, reporting to the very same mentor who had helped him get the job at Operation Understanding and guided him towards a master's degree.

"I was successful. It wasn't charity. I was given opportunities and I took them, but there is no question that she saw something in me and was able to open up doors that had previously been closed." he says of Amey-Taylor.

He has been at Temple ever since. He now runs the division of Human Resources. His title, quite impressive for a person with no bachelor's degree, is Assistant Vice President of Learning and Development and University Compliance Training. "I love my job," he says. "The job was made for me."

Four years ago, Eric began working on a doctorate. Today, he is in the final stages of completing his study on the effectiveness of a long-standing leadership development program at Temple. Eric's hope is that the study will become a guide on how to effec-

continued on page 7

Member Spotlight

Continued from page 6

tively evaluate such programs in organizations.

At GJC, Eric was part of the inaugural Sulam leadership group led by Adam Zeff and Seth Lieberman for aspiring leaders at GJC. He gave a d'var in Dorshei Derekh on Yom Kippur. "I was raised secularly," he says. Both parents were atheists. "I don't know any Hebrew, just what I pick up from tunes and melodies." He didn't have a bar mitzvah. So his connection to GJC is more communally than religiously based.

"I like going to the synagogue, I like the community at GJC and at Dorshei. When Anna first came to live with us, people from GJC made us meals, which allowed Leah and me to direct all of our attention toward Anna," he says. "During the next three years as we fostered Anna, people listened to our stories and asked us about the progress of the adoption.

"Finally, in December 2012, our friends and community sat in the sanctuary with us as we held Anna's Brit Bat ceremony. We couldn't ask for a more loving community to bring Anna into."

After "all the years of experience I have in all these different worlds, I'm finally able to be a father in my 50s," he says, smiling. "I now know I am lifelong learner and feel fairly relaxed and confident in my ability to learn to be an effective parent. It's not difficult at all to muster the motivation —all I have to do is look at Anna.

"So at some point maybe when I'm done with my dissertation," he concludes, "I'll think about my next learning experience. Maybe I will connect to learning more about Judaism."

Special Thanks to the Wolfe Family Foundation for generously supporting programming at GJC

Early Childhood Program (ECP)





ECP classes (and everyone else who utilizes our playground) have been having fun on the new tire tiered hill!



"Unlocking the Cantillation Code" Minyan Masorti's Annual Memorial Shabbat November 9, 2013

inyan Masorti welcomes everyone to join us for davening, eating, studying, singing and celebrating in community on *Shabbat Vayeitzei*, November 9, 2013, for Minyan Masorti's Memorial Shabbat. We will honor the memory of beloved members of the Minyan Masorti who have passed away, Baruch Bricklin, Dan Kamesar, Avriel Keogh, Bill Lakritz, Gerda Lakritz, Batsheva Segal, Marty Weingarten, and Katie Zimring (Z"L, Zichronam l'ivracha- May their memory be blessed).

On Shabbat morning, the Minyan's regular Shabbat *davening* in the Canteen Room will be followed by a special kiddush, potluck lunch and a talk and discussion on "Unlocking the Cantillation Code," led by Professor Joshua Jacobson.

Dr. Jacobson, Professor of Music at

Northeastern University and Visiting Professor and music consultant at Hebrew College, is author of *Chanting the Hebrew Bible: the Art of Cantillation* (Jewish Publication Society, 2002) which was a finalist for National Jewish Book Award.

Anyone seeking to honor departed members of Minyan Masorti through a contribution to GJC may send donations to the Memorial Shabbat Fund of Minyan Masorti, a fund established to support this event. Please send your donation to the synagogue office.

To contribute to the potluck lunch, please contact either Adina Newberg at new.adina@gmail.com tel. 215-803-6736 or Wendy Weingarten at wend53@gmail.com cell 267-471-4821 to confirm what you are bringing.

Tot Shabat & Hollays

at Germantown Jewish Centre

2013-2014

Fri. Nov. 8 Tot Shabbat*

Wed. Dec. 4 GJC Celebrates! Hanukkah*

Fri. Jan. 10 Tot Shabbat*

Sat. Feb. 8 Tot Havdallah*

Sun. Mar. 16 GJC Celebrates! Purim &

Carnival (9:30 am)

Fri. Apr. 11 Tot Shabbat*

Fri. May 9 Tot Shabbat*

Fri. July 11 Tot Shabbat*



400 West Ellet Street Philadelphia, PA 19119 215-844-1507 www.germantownjewishcentre.org *Requires advanced registration & payment Tot Shabbat & Holiday programs are especially geared towards toddlers and pre-schoolers and their families.

It's your opportunity to celebrate and learn while allowing your kids to be kids! Join Rabbi Adam Zeff for food, fun, and learning!

Unless otherwise noted we begin at 6 PM in the Marcus Auditorium with singing, marching and a puppet show led by Rabbi Adam. This interactive program is followed by a simple yet delicious catered meal that begins at 6:30 PM.

Cost is \$5 per person (adult & child alike) and reservations are required.

Contact Elana Shaw at program@germantownjewishcentre.org or 215.844.1507 X19 for more info or to RSVP



Charry Service High Holiday Thank Yous

Honors Committee

Yona Diamond Dansky Dena Lake Mindelle Goldstein Tamar Magdovitz Carol Tinkleman

Honors Ushers

Yona Diamond Dansky Rachel Falkove Helen Feinberg Josh Goldblum Mindelle Goldstein Dena Lake Tamar Magdovitz Dveera Segal Berel Sternthal Carol Tinkleman Howard Treatman Ken Weiss

Sermons

Mitchell P. Marcus David Mosenkis Chris Levin Steven Levin

Davening & Service Leading

Abe Gafni Nina Peskin

Gabbaim

Josh Goldblum **David Kraut Judah Labovitz** Beth Rosenbaum Mathieu Shapiro Howard Treatman

Haftarah

Nan Daniels Dan Livney Melissa Livney Alan Oster Beth Rosenbaum Amy Wine Sandy Wine

Readings

Erika Bauml Joshua Bauml Dan Blitstein Mia Blitstein Nina Gordon Burton Horn Naomi Klayman Chris Levin Steven Levin Tom McLaughlin Justin Mixon Melissa Schiffman Lou Walinsky

Leyning Lucy Cohen-Spiller Rabbi Fredi Cooper Sonia Dishler Emma Dudnick Eli Eisenstein **Emily Fish** Noah Friedman-Nathan Iosh Goldblum Sam Katz Isaac Levy Guston Lowe Adam Mermelstein Jim Meyer Eve Pinkenson Chuck Schleifer Patty Segal Max Seldin Jake Shapiro Mathieu Shapiro Avi Zeff

Bregman Program

Zeke Zeff

Lila Berman Michael Masch Billy Yalowitz

Shofar

Raffi Barcan Phill Goldberg Matti Hollo Naomi Hollo

Choir **Music Director:** Rabbi Adam Zeff Conductor: Martha Schleifer Debbie Aron David Barcan Elayne Blender

Eleanor Brownstein

Linda Cherkas Steve Corsover Nan Daniels Sonia Dishler

Lynne Ellis Nini Engel Helen Feinberg

Maurice Feldman Betty Ann Fellner Anna Goldberg

Mitch Hirsch Ed Lake

Laurance Rosenzweig Selma Schlee Charles Schleifer

Stephen Schwartz Berel Sternthal **Judy Sussholtz**

Ken Weiss Max Woessner

Clergy & Staff

Rabbi Adam Zeff Rabbi Annie Lewis Nina Peskin Gloria Geissler Mindy Pitkofsky Rabbi Alanna Sklover Flana Shaw

Kate Lawn Takia Raneri Eric Word lose Toro Byron Williams Bill Jenkins Dennis Plowden

Ushers

Mitchell Berk **Ned Borowsky** Sarah Braun Andrea Brockman Cy Cohen Milton Cohen Vincent DiLorenzo Sonia Dishler Joyce Eveloff Sheldon Eveloff Linda Feder Sam Feinberg Betty Ann Fellner Aaron Finestone David Franklin Jane Greenspan Rod Griffith Connie Katz Toby Kessler Addie Lewis Klein David Kraut Linda Kriger Chris Levin **Ruth Loew** Laura Lomax Rachel Marcus Sue Marcus Jim Meyer Sandy Meyer David Mosenkis Nan Myers leff Needleman Linda Needleman

Dina Pinsky **Curt Pontz** Ilene Blitzstein Poses Sandy Rodin Michael Rodin Moira Rosenberger Selma Schlee Chuck Schleifer Martha Schleifer Judy Schwartz Norm Schwartz Steven Schwartz Steve Segal Anne Shlay Marilyn Silberstein Beth Stearman Rabbi George Stern Robert Tabak Andy Ufberg Ellen Weber Ken Weiss Susan Weiss

Kol D'mamah

Ken Cohen Dayle Friedman Michael Masch Martha Lask Herb Levine Gina Michaels Elanah Naftali Neysa Nevins Danielle Stillman Rivkah Walton Leah Weisman



Thank you



Susan Pardys

Thank you to Carol Tinkleman, who has organized our Kol Nidrei Food Drive for many years now. In 2012 GJC donated enough food to Philabundance to

provide more than 2,500 meals to those in need in our region. We look forward to continuing to serve those in need.

Minyan Masorti High Holiday Thank Yous

Davening Leaders

Debbie Aron Sarah Braun Lawrence Charap Shai Gluskin David Hahn Kathryn Hellerstein Elana Hollo Bill Kavesh Jake Kriger Ned Kripke Sylvia Lifschitz Norman Newberg Eve Pinkenson David Stern Dan Werlin **Bob Zimring**

Shofar

Adam Zion

Chana Bonn Matti Hollo Naomi Hollo Judd Levingston

Haftarot

Neil Actor Lynda Miller Bob Pomerantz Dveera Segal

Torah Readers

Kathy Amrom
Chana Bonn
Linda Cherkas
Ron Eisenberg
Art Ellis
Lynne Ellis
Nini Engel
Barbara Jaffe
Sherry Pomerantz
Ben Sacks
Chava Weissler
Ivan Wolnek
Patty Wright
Eli Yaron
Minna Ziskind

Divrei Torah

Ellen Frankel Josh Gutoff Jerry Kutnick Herb Levine Chava Weissler

Gabbaim

Neil Actor Linda Cherkas Chaim Dworkin Josh Hirsch Ned Kripke Rachel Pomerantz

Karyanim

Neil Actor Kathy Amrom Mitchell Berk Aaron Finestone Ned Kripke Tamar Magdovitz Judy Miller Adina Newberg Beth Stearman

Torah Holders

Chaim Dworkin Ron Eisenberg Albert Berdugo Peninah Berdugo Hideko Secrest Minna Ziskind

Greetings/Appeals

Maxine Feldman Rod Griffith Mitch Marcus Bob Zimring

Organizing Committee

Neil Actor Mitchell Berk Chana Bonn Aaron Finestone Elana Hollo Ned Kripke Judy Miller Eve Pinkenson

Thank you

A special thank you to **Frank Krafchik** of **Centre Catering** for sponsoring kiddush for the community on Rosh ha-Shana Day 1

Dorshei Derekh High Holiday Thank Yous

Daveners

Abby Weinberg
David Mosenkis
Dayle Freidman
Dina Pinsky
George Stern
Marc Newman
Melissa Klein
Michele Greenfield
Mike Masch
Nomi Teutsch
Nathan Martin

Gabbaim

Bob Tabak Danielle Stillman David Mosenkis David Teutsch Howard Spodek Karey Bacon Nathan Martin Ruth Loew

Darshanim

Betsy Teutsch David Ferleger Eric Bruner Sonia Voynow

Greeters

Chana Dickter Debbie Stern Genie Ravital Naomi Klayman Rona Pietrzak

Torah & Haftarah Readers

Anya Friedman-Hutter, Betsy Teutsch,
David Axelrod, David Mosenkis, Helen Feinberg,
Howard Spodek, Joel Schneier, Julie Cooper,
Melissa Klein, Michelle Friedman, Michelle Greenfield,
Reena Spicehandler, Robert Dudnick, Stuart Shils,
Tamar Kamionkowski, Tamara Cohen

Additional Thanks

William Epstein & Alexa Kvande, Leah Weisman & Carol Tinkleman, Debbie & George Stern

Sharing the simha of Simhat Torah



Klein Center City Senior Program participants had the privilege of examining a torah scroll up close and personal, thanks to the loan of a torah from

GJC. Rabbi Beth Janus, the program's chaplain and GJC member, led a very meaningful service, complete with an informal hakafah. After lunch the celebration continued with live Klezmer music and dancing with the sefer torah. For information about this weekly Friday program, talk with Rabbi Beth, or contact Lynne Ellis, Program Director, at 215-832-0539.

Women's Club News

The Platform Lift, Women's Gatherings, Sound of Music Just a few of our favorite things!

Barb Menin and Dena Lake, co-presidents of Women's Club

hank you! Thank you! Your generosity and your support made our building beautiful project a reality. We will begin installation of the platform lift and expect to have it operational in the next few months. This means that any individuals with mobility issues will be able to have access to the second floor of the Religious School Building.

Our Women's Gatherings continue to gain popularity. Since Anne Shlay is on sabbatical in Israel, we are meeting at Adina Silberstein's home in Mt. Airy. The format is simple and effortless, yet as we share our stories and reflections, we begin to develop unexpected connections with one another. A few comments from the participants:

"I have always wanted to get to know the wonderful women in Women's Club. This is a group I am willing to get up early on a Sunday to go to and never want to miss!" ~ Sheila Erlbaum

"I really never expected to laugh as much as I have, and to come away from each gathering I've attended with a new friend, who may easily be 30 years older than myself. What a gift! " ~ Adina Silberstein

"I really enjoyed the sharing and supportive atmosphere of my first Women's Gathering. I loved being with women I've known but can get to know on a deeper level." ~ Rochelle Fellman

"I began to search for my identity in my early 30s and everything I learn has such great meaning for me. So when I first learned the Kol Nidre prayer, I somehow segued what I was learning to my personal history. I thought about it and told myself to just express how I feel. I felt myself becoming emotional but it felt good to express it. I could feel the sense of love, caring and community in the room." ~ Maura Sostack

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Women's Club programs:

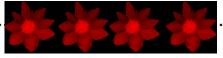
Sunday, November 17thBook and brunch program featuring book presenter par excellence, Bev Rosen. More details to follow. Stay tuned.

Sunday, November 24thWomen's Gathering at Adina
Silberstein's home

Sunday, December 8th at 4PM
The Sound of Music Sing-a-long
Get ready to yodel at GJC! This is
your change to sing a long with

your chance to sing-a-long with prompts and props to the most successful movie musical of all time. Perfect for the whole family!

We welcome all GJC members to Women's Club programs.



Save the Date for Women's Club Torah Fund Brunch

honoring Kathy Amrom and raising funds for the Jewish Theological Seminary

> Sunday, May 8, 2014 at the home of Chris & Steve Levin



SO much is happening at the Little Shop!

We're having a flea market on November 3

And this year, Hannukah is really REALLY EARLY

And we have the presents you need for your spouse, your children, your grandchildren





The November special is MENORAHS at 10% off.

The December special is CANDLESTICKS at 10% off.

As always, the early bird special of 10% off is in place from 12 to 3 Tuesdays through Fridays. It can be combined with the November or December specials for 20% off!

This year the Little Shop wants to contribute more money than ever before to GJC Shop often to help us reach our goall

Hours

Sunday: 9:30 - 12:30 Mon: Closed Tues: 12:00- 5:00 Wed: 12:00 - 8:30 Thurs: 12:00- 5:00 Fri: 12:00 - 5:00*

*Friday hours will be 12:00 to 4:00 when Daylight Savings Time ends.

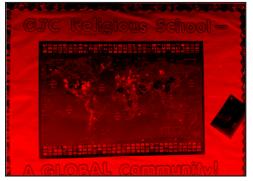
Pinat Hinuch - Education Corner

A Window into the Religious School

By Rabbi Educator Alanna Sklover

Rabbi Hiyya bar Abba says, in the name of Rabbi Yohanan, 'One should only pray in a room that has windows.'

Talmud Bavli, B'rahot 34b In many places in this *masehe*t (tractate or volume) the ancient rabbis of the Talmud debate the format, style, and wording of prayer. They discuss the content of blessings, the *kavannah* (intention) with which one ought to say certain prayers, and even what to do if one makes a mistake at a critical moment. But this teaching of Rabbi Hiyya bar Abba feels different to me.



On the first day of school, students stuck pushpins in a map for each place in which they have family or ancestry. 86 students strong, we are truly a global community!

Rabbi Hiyya seems to suggest that it is not only the content (whether verbal or emotional) of prayer that counts, but also its context – in this case, in a room with windows.

Following this teaching, the Talmud points to a proof-text from the Book of Daniel (6:11), "Now his windows were open in his upper chamber towards Jerusalem." For Rabbi Hiyya, it seems that it is not enough to direct one's mind and heart during prayer in the right direction (in this example, eastward, towards Jerusalem), you need to literally have a window open to touch, smell, see, taste, and hear that towards which we strive. Only by praying in a room with win-



2nd graders make model *Sukkot* in the Israel Garden, connecting the environment with the Jewish Holidays

dows, are we able to connect our internal image with the external realities of the world around us.

But, I don't think it's only in prayer that Rabbi Hiyya bar Abba's teaching rings true. As human beings, we are always better able to understand things when we can experience them through multiple senses – when we can see them out a window and not just in our mind's eye.

In lieu telling you what has been happening in the Religious School this month, I want to show you – to give you all a "window in."

I want to give a special thanks this month to:

- Corri Gottesman for building model Sukkot with Dove's 2nd graders in our Israel Garden
- Nina Gordon for the beautiful fabric panels that adorn our Sukkah
- All of the parents who have volunteered their time in the Bagel Café and on *Toranut* during the month of September, and to Mindy Brown for coordinating this volunteer effort:
- Adena Klem & Alex Molot
- Nilmini Klur
- Janet Kroll
- Stefanie Seldin
- Elana Shaw
- Denise Wolf
- Our fabulous Religious School



GJC Celebrates! Sukkot service – everybody on the bimah with their lulavim doing the Lulav Slide

Committee Co-chairs: Alex Avelin and Stefanie Seldin for all of their hard work launching this wonderful school year!

PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

GJC's Jewish Book Reading Group

e meet at Germantown Jewish Centre in the Quitman Library. We read fiction and nonfiction books of Jewish interest written mostly, but not solely, by Jewish writers and chosen by the group.

Volunteer group members lead the discussion. For more information, contact Vilma Lieberman at vilmabluex@yahoo.com or 215-885-5753.

November 12
Lucky Child
by Thomas Buergenthal
& Eli Wiesel



December 10 Clothes on their Backs

by Linda Grant

Hazak

Programming for Adults 55+

By Hazak Co-Chairs, Cherie Goren & Sonia Dishler

azak's paid up membership brunch at the end of September was a stellar success, with over 50 Hazak members in attendance. Stuart Shils, the son of the late Rhea and Milton, was our guest speaker. Along with the fabulous program, delicious brunch and schmoozing, we honored the memory of Rhea, who started GJC's Hazak chapter 10 years ago, and for whom our chapter is now named. Thank you to Mindelle Goldstein and Sam Feinberg who paid tribute to Rhea and spoke about her commitment to GIC and Hazak. Stuart Shils is an artist and teacher with national recognition, who we were grateful could join us for this program and who shared some amazing slides and commentary on extraordinary ordinary art.

We have scheduled more programs on Sunday mornings this year and hope this change will lead to greater attendance at our programs overall. We certainly kicked off the year right and look forward to continuing to bring you good programs! We also look forward to seeing you at 10 AM in the Silver Kiddush lounge on the second Wednesday of the month for our book group meetings.

Hazak is the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's organization for Jewish men and women, 55 years and older. The name HAZAK is an acronym. The het stands for Hokhma (wisdom), that zayan for Ziknah (maturity) and the kuph for Kadima (looking ahead). The Rhea Shils Chapter of Hazak at Germantown Jewish Centre has offered programs that appeal to a wide audience since 2003.

Adult Education 2013/5773

Please review the chart below for our courses at a glance. Advanced registration is requested for all courses. Contact the office to register.

TITLE	Instructor(s)	Timing	DATES	COST MEMBERS/ NON MEMBERS
CENTER CITY LUNCH & LEARN: LAWYERS & ETHICS IN FILMS	Rabbi Zeff & Others	Wednesdays 12:15-1:30 pm	Monthly—Oct 2, Nov 13, Dec 4, Jan 8, Feb 5, Mar 5	\$150/200 (CLE credit can be obtained for additional fees)
Now That You've Learned to Read Hebrew (For advanced Beginners)	Eve Pinkenson	Tuesdays 7-8:30 pm	Oct 29; Nov 5, 12, 19, 26; Dec 3, 10, 17	\$100/125
A TASTE OF STORAHTELLING	Rabbi Lewis	Sundays 10-11:30 am	Nov 17, 24; Dec 8, 15; Jan 5, 12	\$75/90
DAVENING (PRAYER) IOI	Rabbi Zeff & Rabbi Lewis	Tuesdays 7-9 pm	Jan 14, 21, 28; Feb 4, 11, 18, 25; Mar 4	\$100/125
JEWISH PRACTICES IN DEATH & MOURNING	Rabbi Lewis & Rabbi Zeff	Sundays 10-11:30 am	Feb 2, 9, 16, 23	\$50/65
IMPROVISATIONAL PAINTING: UNLEASH YOUR INNER ARTIST	Dina Pinsky & Mikael Elsila	Sundays 10 am– 12 Noon	Feb 9 and/or Mar 2	\$10/15 (per session— you may register for one or both)
SEEING IS BELIEVING: COLLAGE CUT & PASTE	Meri Adelman	Mondays 3-4 pm or Tuesdays 7-8 pm	Mar 17, 24, 31 or Mar 18, 25; Apr 1	\$50/60
SHABBAT IN COMMUNITY: PAPERCUT MURAL	Mindy Shapiro	Sundays 10 am— 12 Noon	Mar 2 and/or 9	\$18/25 (per session— you may register for one or both)

Social Action Update

Justice - What's Important to You?

By David Mosenkis

he Social Action Committee is exploring how to make justice work more central at GJC, including exploring whether GJC should join a citywide interfaith organization called POWER. POWER has brought together 40+ Christian, Jewish, and Muslim congregations in Philadelphia to identify today's most pressing justice issues and organize effective, impactful action. As part of the process, we are now conducting a listening project within GJC,

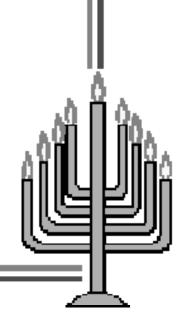
meeting with a broad range of our members to build community, hear each other's stories, and learn what the passions of our members are. While we are actively reaching out to sample a diverse cross-section of GJC households, we also welcome volunteers to participate in these 45-minute in-person one-to-one conversations. Interested? Email David Mosenkis at dmosenkis@gmail.com.

Hanukiyah Fundraiser 2013

Hanukah is just around the corner and the lawn in front of GJC will once again be home to the Dancing Children Hanukiyah. Synagogue members and unaffiliated neighbors have come to look at this menorah as an integral part of Mt. Airy at holiday time. Support the Men's Club in this important annual fundraiser and bring light to the holiday.

Please join us by sponsoring a candle in honor or memory of someone special in your life. Each night at the lighting the names of those honored will be read. Lightings at 7 PM, Nov. 27-Dec. 4 except Fri. Nov 29 at 4 PM.

To sponsor a candle please fill out the form below and send a check for \$36, per candle, to the GJC Men's Club.



Hanukiyah Fundraiser 2013

Name:	Phone#:
Address:	
E-mail:	
Honoree(s):	
Name(s) and address(es) of people to notify:	
Preferred Night to Sponsor: Nov 27, 28, 29, 30, I Lightings at 7 PM, except Fri. Nov. 27 at 4 PM	Dec 1, 2, 3, 4
Amount Enclosed (\$36 per honoree):	



400 W. Ellet Street Philadelphia, PA 19119

215 - 844 - 1507

www.germantownjewishcentre.org

The Centre Call Germantown Jewish Centre

The fastest way for your contribution to be processed is for you to fill out a Contribution Form (available in the office or on our website) and return it to the office along with a check. Or just send in a check with a note.

Contributions For the period of August through September, 2013 *Todah Rabbah!*

Sincere thanks and appreciation to those who remember to honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions.

Sincere thanks and appreciation to t	hose who remember to honor their fri	ends and loved ones through their generous contributions.
FUND	BY	OCCASION
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Fund	Mikael Elsila & Dina Pinsky	in honor of Rabbi Zeff & Cheryl Bettigole, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Mati Zeff
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Fund & Bess Schick Memorial Fund	Richard & Alice Mandel	in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Evelyn Mandel
Beck Scholar-in-Residence Fund	Sheldon Eveloff	in memory of Mollie Eveloff, mother in memory of Louis Eveloff, father
Bess Schick Memorial Fund	Kathy Axelrod	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Barbara Block	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Dave & Lucy Casper	in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof and father of Brenda Laigaie
	Lyn Davis	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel in memory of Dr. Edward Fish, father of Joel Fish
	Joan Griff	in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof and father of Brenda Laigaie
	Abigail Horn & Maria Pulzetti	in honor of Joan and Burton Horn, on their anniversary
	Richard M. Kranzel	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Peter Kuriloff	in memory of Arthur Kuriloff, father
	Peg Laigaie & Family	in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof and father of Brenda Laigaie
	Ed & Dena Lake	in honor of Albert & Peninah Berdugo, on the wedding of their daughter, Michal and Arash Sanieoff
	Glenda Marshall	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Amy Rogovin Jack & Susan Rome	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Bernard & Esther Sargrad	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Lillian & Jack Sargrad	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Mildred Seidman	in honor of Shelley, Michael, Hannah & Isaac Spear
	Gene Silver	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Steven Stern	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
	Teena Weinstein & Jake Ganz	in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof and father of Brenda Laigaie
	Patrica Wish & William Yancey	in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel
Camp Scholarship Fund	Marlene & Eric Address	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Tina & Paul Appenzeller	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Stephen Berg	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Marcine & Bernie Eisenfeld	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Rebecca Landenheim	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Allen & Arlene Lowenstein	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Marjorie Toll & Gary Mamula	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Linda & Seymour Samuels	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Martin S. & Lois I. Sheffer	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	Michael Sivitz Marla D. Sones	in memory of Bess Feinstein Sivitz, mother in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
	John A. Uecker	in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC
Chesed Fund	Rose Lifschitz	in memory of her parents
Chesed Fund	Lisa Pettinati	in memory of Irene Botel Schwartz, mother
	Lisa i cuman	in memory of Joel Schwartz, father
Early Childhood Program Fund	Bonnie Buyum	in memory of Benjamin Kaufman, grandfather
Larry Childhood Frogram Fund	Marty & Carol Kaplan	refuah shleimah to Phill Goldberg
	Toby Kessler & Esther Wiesner	in honor of Anna & Phil Goldberg, on their wedding
	Annsley, Ben, Layla & Sawyer Klehr	in nonor or rimin or rimin doracetig, on unen wedning
	Louise Leibowitz	in memory of Ethel Leibowitz, mother
	Sam & Tamar Magdovitz	in honor of Kate Lawn & Family, on their new home
	6	in honor of Brad Bridge & Dveera Segal, on the marriage of their son,
		Rafi to Tessa Orlach
		in memory of Leonard Gold, father of Richard Gold
	Max Minkoff	in memory of Harry Minkoff, father

Contributions Continued

Early Childhood Program Fund	Early	hood P	rogram	Fund
------------------------------	-------	--------	--------	------

Floral Fund

General Fund

Hazak Fund

Robin Minkoff in memory of Jacob Ostrow, grandfather

> in memory of Leivy Smolar, father in memory of Sarah Ostrow, grandmother

in memory of Violet West, mother

Bob & Sherry Pomerantz in honor of Kaite & Geof Margo, on their new granddaughter

in memory of Stanley Charap, father of Lawrence Charap

Curt & Leslie Pontz in honor of Dan & Marcy Bacine Joan Silver refuah shleimah to Susan Sternthal Ira & Bev Somerson refuah shleimah to Susan Sternthal

Joyce Videlock in memory of Marilyn Wainer, mother

Richard Rosenbaum in honor of Audrey Baker and Lance Ebel, on their ceremony

& celebration

Ellen Wolin in memory of Minnie Wolin, mother in memory of Louis Wolin, father

The Peninah and Albert Berdugo in support of Germantown Jewish Centre

William Moody

Fund of The Philadelphia Foundation Beth Stearman in memory of Irving Stearman, grandfather

in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel Babara Bloom

Sue & Neil Borowsky & Family in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof

and father of Brenda Laigaie

Stuart & Eileen Kranzel in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel Michael Laigaie in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof

and father of Brenda Laigaie

Dena & Ed Lake in honor of Anne Shlay, on her sabbatical in Israel

in honor of Tobie Hoffman, on her special birthday

refuah shleimah to Ira Somerson

Judd Levingston & Hillary Kruger in honor of Allen Gottlieb & Ellen Fleishman, on the wedding

of their son Elie Gottlieb to Erika Medina

in honor of Albert & Peninah Berdugo, on the wedding of their

daughter Michal to Arash Sanieoff

in honor of Brad Bridge & Dveera Segal, on the marriage of

their son Rafi to Tessa Orlach

in honor of Brenda & David, Laigaie, on the Bat Mitzvah of

their daughter Grace

in honor of Rabbi Dayle Friedman, on her Reboot Mitzvah in honor of Jake & Linda Kriger, on the marriage of their

daughter, Rachel Kriger to Nick Corso

Jim & Sandy Meyer in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof

and father of Brenda Laigaie

in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel

Marty Millison in memory of Carl Millison, brother

Rosalie August in honor of Sidney August, on his 95th birthday

Sid & Rosalie August in memory of Rhoda Berger

Cy & Rennie Cohen in honor of Hazak, for all of their great work Art & Lynne Ellis in honor of Sidney August, on his 95th birthday in memory of Barry Baron, husband of Carol Baron Sam & Helene Feinberg

in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel

Mindelle Goldstein in honor of Sidney August, on his 95th birthday in honor of Sidney August, on his 95th birthday Cherie Goren

> in memory of Mark Fields, brother in memory of Moritz Heimann, father

Susan Rothschild

Aaron & Lucille Weber in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC

in honor of Sid August, on his special birthday

in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel

Aaron Weber in memory of Phillip Weber, brother Lucille Weber in memory of Evelyn Applebaum, aunt

Interfaith Hospitality Network Fund

Sam & Cecile Merion

Mike Rodin in memory of Frances Rodin, grandmother Frieda Sanders in memory of Jeanette Goldenberg, sister Milton & Frieda Sanders in memory of Justin Panzer, grandson Milton Sanders in memory of Anna Sanders, mother Ann Trail in memory of Omi Corley trail, mother

The Centre Call Germantown Jewish Centre

Contributions Continued

Israel	Affairs	Fund
131 401	Tildiis	I unu

Israel Garden Fund

Minyan Masorti Memorial

Prayerbook & Ritual Item Fund

Shabbat Fund

Music Fund

Kiddush Fund

Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman Art & Lynne Ellis

Judy Schwartz & Jay Seitchik

Norman & Leah Schwartz

Martin & Ann Itzkowitz

Rebecca Ladenheim Sandy Rodin

Ann Itzkowitz

Dena Lake

David Barcan

Marty & Carol Kaplan Cyrilla Rosen

in honor of Dveera Segal & Brad Bridge, on the aufruf & marriage of their son Rami Bridge to Tessa Orbach

refuah shleimah to Ira Somerson

in honor of Michael & Marta Sivitz, on the birth of their grandchildren Beckett Lev Bieber & Gabriel Sidney Leisman

in honor of Sidney August, on his 95th birthday

in honor of Carol & Marty Kaplan on their 58th anniversary in honor of Lucille & Aaron Weber on their 65th anniversary

in memory of Rose Creshkoff Gaber, mother

in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof and father of Brenda Laigaie

in honor of Rabbi Zeff & Cheryl Bettigole, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Mati Zeff

in honor of Rabbi Alanna Sklover, for teaching to the Chai Chapter of Jewish Women International

in memory of Hanna Seckel Drucker, mother of Nina Israel

in memory of Ralph Seckel, father of Nina Seckel

in honor of all of the wonderful and plentiful Kiddushim and brunches during this holiday season and opening meetings of Hazak and Women's Club

in honor of Albert & Peninah Berdugo, on the wedding of their daughter, Michal and Arash Sanieoff

refuah shleimah to Phyllis Kauffman, for her continued good health & good things

in honor of Hilda Minkoff, on her 80th birthday

in honor of William Moody & Louise Leibowitz, on the marriage of their daughter Miriam Moody to Ovadia Gowar in Jerulsem in honor of Marty & Carol Kaplan, on their gracious & generous

hospitality to their friends in the Philadelphia Chapter of Parents of

N. American Israelis

in memory of William Posnansky, father in memory of Raymond Pepp, friend

in honor of Adam Cohen and Casey Friedman, on their wedding

in memory of Burnice Biehl, father

Josh Barash in memory of Annabelle Argand, grandmother

in memory of Leo Argand, grandfather in memory of Hilda Barash, grandmother in memory of Claire Rosenman, mother

in memory of Abraham & Goldie Barcan, parents

in memory of David Simcha Greenwald, father

in memory of Eva Lamar, aunt

Mike Robinson in memory of Elaine Robinson, mother Patty Segal in memory of Caryl Bateman, mother Marilyn Silberstein in memory of Edith Ruth Jacobs, mother Marta Brand Sivitz in memory of Anna Brand, mother

Chana Bonn Jerry Kutnick

in memory of Aaron Kutnick, father

Norman & Leah Schwartz in honor of Brad Bridge & Dveera Segal, on the marriage of

their son Rafi to Tessa Orlach

Wendy Weingarten in memory of Martin Weingarten, husband Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Bari in honor of Sidney August, on his 95th birthday

in memory of Don Friedman, father of Rabbi Dayle Friedman Chuck & Martha Schleifer in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC

in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel

refuah shleimah to Ira Somerson

in memory of Frank Rosenberg, father

refuah shleimah to Ira Somerson

Judy Schwartz & Jay Seitchik Joan Silver

Mikael Elsila & Dina Pinsky

Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman Helene Feinberg

in memory of Lara Furman, mother

in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof and father of Brenda Laigaie

Alan Furman Beverly Roth

www.GermantownJewishCentre.org

Contributions Continued

Prayerbook & Ritual Item Fund

Program Fund

Rabbi Lewis' Discretionary Fund

Barbara Schaeffer

Joan Silver & Ellen Kopeland

Aviva Perlo Howard Dansky &

Yona Diamond Dansky Beverly Diamond Art & Lynne Ellis

Richard Gold & Cheryl Kritz

Marcus Kaplan Ed Lake

Adam & Nicole Perry

Enid & Bill Perry

Rabbi Zeff's Discretionary Fund Sherman Aronson &

Joyce Lieberman

Michael Beer

Dinny Ben-Chorin

Gisha Berkowitz

Togo Travalia & Meryl Bonderow

Marcia Brason

Fran Chelder

Sandi Cohen Howard Dansky &

Yona Diamond Dansky

Sonia Dishler

Carol Dudnick, Terry Dudnick Taffer, Susan & Jan Boer, Robert Dudnick

& Anna Herman

Art & Lynne Ellis

Lee & Elaine Dushoff

Ellen Feihman Arlene Friedman

Frances Friedmann Neiman

Allan & Jane Greenspan

Marty & Carol Kaplan

Annsley, Ben, Layla & Sawyer Klehr

Isadore Kranzel

Linda Kugler Leah Mandelblatt

Eric Maron Jim & Sandy Meyer Martin Millison

Jeff Needleman Linda Needleman Linda Needleman

Norman Newberg

Roslyn Nissen

Carl Norden David Podietz

Sarah Rosenbaum & Yukio Tezuka Gloria Salmansohn

Marvin Sclan

in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel

in memory of Solis D. Kopeland, father

in honor of Rabbi Zeff, for his stellar leadership & humble wisdom in memory of Sidney Numerof, husband of Roselle Numerof

and father of Brenda Laigaie

in memory of Stanley Diamond, husband in honor of Sidney August, on his 95th birthday

in memory of Herman Harry Kaplan, father in memory of Mary Lakernick, mother

in appreciation of Rabbi Annie Lewis, for preparing the

welcome ceremony for Hannah

in appreciation of Rabbi Annie Lewis, for preparing the

welcome ceremony for Hannah

in memory of Leonard Gold, father of Richard Gold

in honor of Steve & Patty Segal, on their new grandson, Levi Shapiro

in memory of Dana Charry, brother

in honor Rabbi Zeff & Cheryl Bettigole, on the Bar Mitzvah of their

son of Mati Zeff

in memory of Simon & Helene Bonderow, parents of Meryl Bonderow

in appreciation of Rabbi Zeff, for officiating the unveiling of

Simon and Helene Bonderow

in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel in appreciation of Rabbi Zeff, for helping to make her mother's

farewell so meaningful

in memory of Gerald Cohen, husband

in honor of Rabbi Zeff & Cheryl Bettigole, on the Bar Mitzvah of

their son Mati Zeff

in memory of Robert Dishler, husband

in honor of their mother, Jeanette Dudnck, on her 92nd birthday

in honor of Rabbi Dayle Friedman, on her Reboot Mitzvah

in honor of Carl Norden, on his improving health in honor of Mati Zeff, on becoming Bar Mitzvah in memory of Edythe Fleishman, mother

in memory of Rose Kaplan, mother in memory of Alexander Goodrich, father in memory of Joseph M. Goldberg, uncle

in honor of Rabbi Zeff & Cheryl Bettigole, on the Bar Mitzvah of their

son Mati Zeff

in honor of Rabbi Zeff & Cheryl Bettigole, on the Bar Mitzvah of their

son Mati Zeff

in appreciation of Rabbi Zeff

in appreciation of Rabbi Zeff, for helping to make his mother's farewell

so meaningful

in memory of George L. Kugler, father in memory of Milton Mandelblatt, husband in memory of Michael Shmuckler, oldest friend in honor of Mati Zeff, on becoming Bar Mitzvah in memory of Mamie Millison, mother

in memory of Nathan Needleman, father in appreciation of Rabbi Adam Zeff, for his kindness

in appreciation of Nina Peskin, for her kindness in memory of Mildred Mitchell, sister in memory of Joseph Hoffman, father in memory of Hazel Magnusson, mother

in memory of Emmy Lenore Podietz, wife in honor of the baby-naming of thier daughter

in memory of Rubin Salmansohn, husband in memory of Soloman Balkin, father-in-law in memory of Fleurette Kurtzman, sister

The Centre Call Germantown Jewish Centre

Contributions Continued

Religious School Fund

Special Education Fund

Rabbi Zeff's Discretionary Fund Steve & Patty Segal in honor of Rabbi Zeff & Cheryl Bettigole, on the Bar Mitzvah of their

son Mati Zeff

Jacob Staub & Michael Spitko in honor of Rabbi Dayle Friedman, on her Reboot Mitzvah

Joan W. Stern in memory of Minnie Stern, grandmother

Sylvia Voynow in memory of Don Friedman, father of Rabbi Dayle Friedman

John & Elaine Frank in honor of Mati Zeff, on becoming Bar Mitzvah

Mark Lipshutz & Nan Myers in honor of Marilyn Kraut

Myrna Snyder in memory of Neil Litten, brother

Ira & Bev Somerson in honor of Rennie & Cy Cohen on the Bar Mitzah of their grandson Evan Jewish Women International in honor of Rabbi Alanna Sklover, for her informative and interesting

program relating to Sukkot

Social Action Fund Gisha Berkowitz in memory of Sigmund Linchis, father

Howard Bilofsky & Margaret Shapiro in honor of Maxine Margolies, on her birthday

Joyce & Sheldon Eveloff in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel John & Cheryl Frank in memory of Don Friedman, father of Rabbi Dayle Friedman

Dena Lake in memory of Abraham J. Rosenman, father

Cecile Merion in memory of Nechama Naomi Kapstein Rosenbach, sister

Carol Robinson in memory of Barbara Ann McCracken, mother

Joan Silver in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel Seymour & Mollie Tinkleman in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel

David Young in memory of Rochelle Carlton, wife
Phyllis Kauffman in memory of David Kauffman, husband
in memory of Esther Reitman Tatarsky, mother

Ellen Ufberg in memory of Samuel Rubin, father Judah Labovitz in memory of Rivka Gurau, aunt

Torah Restoration Fund George & Kathy Amrom in honor of Sarah Braun, for davening on Kol Nidrei

in honor of Debbie Aron, for davening on Rosh ha-Shanah in honor of Ned Kripke, for davening on Rosh ha-Shanah and organizing Minyan Masorti Yaanim Noraim services

in honor of Chava Weissler, for her D'var Torah on Erev Yom Kippur in honor of Rabbi Josh Gutoff, for his D'var Torah on Yom Kippur in honor of Jerry Kutnick, for his D'var Torah on Rosh ha-Shanah in honor of Ellen Frankel, for her D'var Torah on Rosh ha-Shanah in honor of Herb Levine, for his D'var Torah on Yom Kippur in honor of Erica Solis, for her meaningful participation in

Minyan Masorti Kol Nidrei Services

Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman

Chana Bonn in memory of David Simcha Greenwald, father

Sheila Erlbaum in memory of George Erlbaum, father
Maurice & Maxine Feldman refuah shleimah to Susan Sternthal
refuah shleimah to Ira Somerson

in honor of Hilda Minkoff, on her special birthday

Lynne Jacobs

Eve Pinkenson in memory of Bessie Blumenthal, grandmother Ruth Rosenthal in memory of Sidney W. Wernick, brother

Joan Silver in memory of Don Friedman, father of Rabbi Dayle Friedman

in honor of Hilda Minkoff, on her special birthday

Ira & Bev Somerson in memory of Don Friedman, father of Rabbi Dayle Friedman

in honor of Hilda Minkoff, on her special birthday

Women's Club Frances Gold in memory of Samuel Munder, cousin

Bambi & Bob Granovsky in honor of Judy Schwartz
Marty & Carol Kaplan in honor of Hilda Minkoff, on her special birthday

Phyllis Kauffman in memory of Max Tatarsky, father

Youth Activities Fund Mitchell Berk & Beth Stearman

Curt & Leslie Pontz in memory of Don Friedman, father of Rabbi Dayle Friedman

in memory of Sonia Kranzel, mother of Judge Isador Kranzel

in memory of Jake Taylor Pontz, grandson

in memory of Rebecca Berg Nissenbaum, a long time member of GJC

19

Curt Pontz in memory of Jeanette S. Pontz, mother Sidney Stein in memory of Charles Stein, brother

www.GermantownJewishCentre.org











YOUR caring PROFESSIONALS

one call to one place—for everything

CEMETERY • CREMATORY • FUNERAL HOME

MONUMENTS • SERVICES & RECEPTION AREAS • JEWISH & GREEN SERVICES









West Laurel Hill Cemetery is a privately owned, non-profit cemetery, a 187-acre arboretum and an outdoor sculpture garden rich in cultural and social history. Chesed Shel Emet, West Laurel Hill's Jewish Cemetery, was conceived to meet the needs of families who observe the traditional requirement of internment in an area dedicated to members of the Jewish faith.



WEST LAUREL HILL CEMETERY BRINGHURST FUNERAL HOME

225 BELMONT AVENUE BALA CYNWYD, PA 19094

610.668.9900

WWW.FOREVER-CARE.COM

R.R. Bringhurn Funeral Hume & Co., Inc. William A. Sickel, Supercisor

Montefiore Cemetery Company

Family-Owned and Operated for 103 years

Our Promise To You...

Mitchell Berk and our dedicated, professional staff will treat you with warmth, compassion, understanding and sensitivity.

Whether you want to talk with someone about pre-arangements or just need help finding a loved one, we at Montefiore are here to help.

Montefiore Cemetery is proud of upholding Jewish traditions ★ The cemetery offers Jewish families a beautiful resting place with character and a wide variety of options.

And, as always...

- **☆** No vaults required
- **★** 100% Interest in taking care of your family with dignity and respect.



Protect Your Family Through Pre-Planning

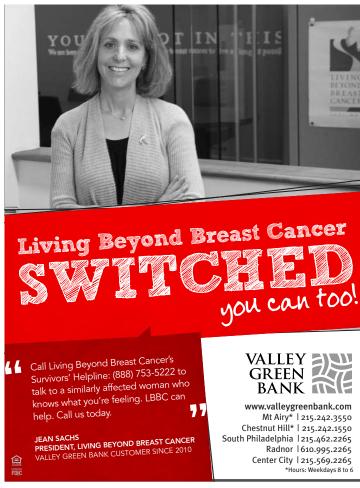


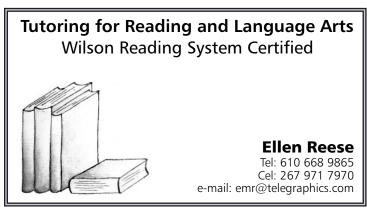
MONTEFIORE...

Serving the Jewish Community...
Preserving Our Tradition

600 Church Road • Jenkintown, PA 19046 215-663-1250 Ext. 201 email: MitchellJBerk@vahoo.com











Join the Ner Tamid Society by Making a Planned Gift to GJC

Please consider making a planned gift to the Germantown Jewish

Centre's endowment fund. Planned gifts come in many forms, including for example – charitable gift annuities, life insurance, trusts, or even a bequest in your will.

For more information about how you can join the Ner Tamid Society please contact the office.

THE 6 MOSI IMPORTANT YEARS IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE

From age 5 to 11, your child experiences an explosion of developmental growth. He forms his own ideas, makes choices, builds connections. The K-5 years shape how he learns and how he sees himself...in middle school, college and the world. He gains the skills to communicate, collaborate and succeed in a global society.

Growing up Perelman

Our unparalleled dual-language curriculum strengthens your child's cognitive development, sharpening his ability to solve problems, focus attention, reason creatively and process abstract information

Research confirms that this bilingual advantage enhances how he *thinks* – about math, reading, even the arts.

Our students learn how to learn. And they dit all through a rich lens of Jewish keritage and values.





Accredited by Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools (PAIS) Member of the Association of Delaware Valley Independent Schools (ADVIS) Member of the Solomon Schechter Day School Association Endorsed by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

©2013 PJDS



Stern Center, Wynnewood (K-5) 12/4, 1/14, 3/19 – 9:30-11:30 am 11/13 – 9:30-11:30 am and 7:00-9:00 pm

Forman Center, Melrose Park (K-5) 12/3, 1/15, 3/18 – 9:30-11:30 am 11/12 – 9:30-11:30 am and 7:00-9:00 pm





610-658-2518, ext. 225 pjds.org/OpenHouse



400 West Ellet Street Philadelphia, PA 19119



Inside Centre Call

Rabbi's Message
President's Message
Shabbat Chai-Lites
What's New in the Mishpoche Page 3
Member Spotlight
ECP
Tot Shabbat
High Holiday Thank YousPage 9
Little Shop
Women's Club
Education Corner
People of the Book
HazakPage 13
Adult Education
Social Action Update
Men's Club Hanukiyah
Contributions (begin on)

(215) 844-1507 fax: (215) 844-8309 Web: www.GermantownJewishCentre.org

Mitchell P. Marcus

PRESIDENT

Adam Zeff

RABBI

Annie Lewis

ASSISTANT RABBI

Nina Peskin

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alanna Sklover

RABBI EDUCATOR

Gloria Geissler

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Mindy Pitkofsky
EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

Elana Shaw

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Leonard D. Gordon

RABBI EMERITUS

Rod Griffith & David Fish

MEN'S CLUB CO-PRESIDENTS

Barb Menin & Dena Lake

WOMEN'S CLUB CO-PRESIDENTS

Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Please submit all articles via email to program@germantownjewishcentre.org.

Deadline for the January Issue is December 2.



Save the Dates

Telephone Torah with Rabbi Zeff

December 3

GJC Celebrates! Hanukah

December 4

Women's Club Sound of Music Sing Along

December 8