



The Centre Call

GERMANTOWN JEWISH CENTRE

www.GermantownJewishCentre.org

Volume 25, Issue No. 3

TEVET 5777

JANUARY 2017



By Rabbi Adam Zeff

Justice through relationships

In the yearly cycle of reading the Torah, we are about to begin the Book of Exodus, the story of how an enslaved people managed to free themselves from the grip of the most powerful nation on earth, a story of justice triumphing over injustice. That story starts with Moses hearing a call from God, but its unfolding depends on the relationships that Moses has to create with and among the people of Israel.

Moses's first attempt to convince the people that God is with them and that they really can gain their freedom ends in failure. The people cannot hear a message of hope from Moses, and they turn on him instead. Why? The Torah reports that their spirits are crushed (Exodus 6:9). I take this to mean that their capacity to connect with others and to apprehend a message from outside of themselves has been cut off. As a result, some of the Israelites turn on each other, colluding in the oppression of their kin in order to gain advantage for themselves. Amazingly, many of them blame Moses for the injustice of their situation rather than the true culprit, Pharaoh. Divided from each other and alienated from themselves, the people cannot hope to throw off the oppression and injustice that they face. They cannot see their way to a Promised Land.

Then things begin to change. With the onset of the plagues, the people

begin to see their solidarity with each other, the thirst for justice and freedom that binds them together despite their differences. They also begin to see in their leader Moses someone who genuinely represents them and who is selflessly putting his life at risk to push forward their cause. It is these connections, even more than the miracles that God creates, that transform the Israelites into a people who can leave Egypt to follow a vision of justice and freedom, a vision that we continue to cling to today.

As we move into an uncertain future in our nation, one of the few things that citizens of this country can agree on is that we are living in a time of great division. Many different populations in our country feel threatened, including Jews at a time of resurgent anti-Semitism and bigotry. At such a time, when we feel assailed by forces of intolerance and injustice, it is tempting to retreat from relationships, especially relationships with those unlike ourselves. It is tempting to follow the path of the Israelites, to turn on each other and on our leaders in a mistaken grasping for safety. But we must resist this temptation. It is only by reaching out to others, by creating relationships across difference, that we can find our way to a place of safety and community, a place that can enable us to advocate for the justice and freedom we all seek.

At Germantown Jewish Centre, we

are particularly well-situated to do this work of reaching out across difference. We have been doing it internally for decades, finding ways to respect our differences and to come together around the values that we share, realizing that our diversity is a strength and not a weakness. Now we need to apply the lessons we have learned in order to reach out to those around us—in our neighborhood, in our city, and beyond. We must strengthen our bonds with other religious communities and find ways to work together toward common goals. We must forge new connections with people and groups that feel threatened, those like us and those unlike us, and learn from them what we can do to support them.

As we learn from the ancient Israelites, true safety lies not in isolation but rather in our relationships to others. We cannot achieve our dreams of justice and freedom alone. Only by grasping the hands of those who share our dreams can we hope to throw off the yoke of Egypt and march together toward the Promised Land.

Program Highlights

Ralph Granger Memorial Shabbat & Program	Jan 14
Men's Club Day at JRA	Jan 15
Hazak Film & Discussion: 12 Angry Men	Jan 15
MLK Day of Service	Jan 16
Tot Shabbat	Jan 20
Women's Clothing GiveAway	Jan 29
Israel Program: Katz Scholar Julie Cooper	Feb 5
Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture: Takht Ensemble	Feb 11
Tot Havdallah JAM	Feb 18
Magil Chapel Torah Mantle Dedication & Torah Photos	Feb 26
Hazak Program	Feb 26

President's Message

By Chip Becker, GJC President



I have a few thoughts to convey in this letter. First, I

am grateful for the support you provided Germantown Jewish Centre during our High Holiday Appeal. Year after year, the synagogue asks you to make contributions beyond your annual dues to sustain its operations. Once again you have pledged and given generously. Your additional contributions are essential to GJC's ability to support its staff, programming, and the congregation itself.

Even a casual observer of 400 West Ellet Street is quickly struck by the vitality of the building and the people who use it. That vitality is a gift that we collectively give to ourselves – through our energy, our commitment, and our financial generosity. GJC is an anchor in our lives because you remain committed to its strength and continuity. On behalf of the Congregation, let me say: Thank you!

As I said during Kol Nidre, it bears reminder that GJC is not simply an anchor institution for its members, but more broadly for Northwest Philadelphia. That was true most famously during the in 1950s, when Rabbi Charry and this synagogue's membership resisted blockbusting practices in the real estate industry, which enabled West Mount Airy to emerge as both an integrated and prosperous community. It remains equally true today. Through our collaboration with other religious institutions, our Early Childhood Program, our active programmatic schedule, and by attracting people to live and build their lives in Northwest Philadelphia, this synagogue has helped to create a mod-

ern West Mount Airy. It serves to strengthen our neighborhood. If you have noticed GJC's terrific sign oriented toward Lincoln Drive – Justice, Justice, Pursue it! – you know that GJC is inspiring the neighborhood as well.

The energy we feel upon entering this building is your energy. It is your collective vision come to life. So I am glad to report that the High Holiday Appeal has done well, and that GJC is doing well. We are growing in the diversity of our prayer offerings. We are growing in programmatic vision and quality. In the world of synagogue-based Judaism, we remain a national model for how multiple prayer communities can coexist within an institution and strengthen the institution. In an age when many congregations are shrinking, we recently have been growing in our membership. I hope that will continue. Once again, I thank you for your personal and financial commitment to this vision. (For those of you who have not yet made a pledge to the Appeal, there is still time! We appreciate your participation and support, which is as essential as ever.)

My second thought involves a larger issue. Like many of you, I have been surprised at the entire arc of the presidential campaign, from each party's primary contests through the outcome of the general election. I share with many of you the sense that what has transpired reflects more than the compass swings typical of recent American politics. We seem to be witnessing significant shifts in our country's political alignments. Perhaps these shifts had been grinding for decades, and they now have been revealed through the seeming earthquake of November 8.

Unfortunately, our country has witnessed a now widely-reported spike in

xenophobic, racist, and anti-semitic expressions since the election. From this development, it is apparent that the values that have animated this institution for 80 years have never been more relevant to our communal and national life. In this regard, let me express my appreciation for Rabbi Zeff, those involved with the Tikkun Olam Coordinating Committee, and everyone in the congregation who is feeling and expressing concern for our collective commitment to the dignity of every person. Time will tell whether we are observing a moment or a trend. Either way, it is heartening to be part of a community that has been addressing these issues for decades and remains committed to that work. A core characteristic of GJC's community is the ongoing effort, within the framework of Jewish tradition and observance, to recognize the humanity in every person and to honor our collective need for mutuality, reciprocity, and shared dialogue. Martin Buber would be proud.

Some of you may be aware that Rabbi Zeff and GJC were recently featured in *The Atlantic* in an article dated November 10, 2016 titled "The Jewish Struggle to Understand Trump's Election." *The Atlantic* is among the country's oldest and most respected monthly journals. It says a lot about GJC that when the staff writers at *The Atlantic* thought to address this issue, it was to GJC they turned.

Finally, have you seen the new Torah mantles in the Charry Sanctuary? They are stunning. On behalf of the Congregation, I thank the Women's Club for planning this wonderful project and orchestrating it to such a beautiful conclusion.



Shabbat Chai-Lites

January 7

- Beit Midrash

January 13 & 14

- Kol Ha-Lev
- Beit Midrash
- Ralph Granger Memorial Shabbat
- Parashat ha-Shavua B'Ivrit

January 20 & 21

- Tot Shabbat
- Beit Midrash
- Kol D'mamah
- Musical Marching Minyan

January 27 & 28

- Kol Zimrah
- Beit Midrash
- Dorshei Derekh Stefan Presser Memorial Shabbat

February 4

- Beit Midrash

February 11

- Beit Midrash
- Parashat ha-Shavua B'Ivrit

February 18

- Beit Midrash
- Kol D'mamah
- Musical Marching Minyan
- Minyan Masorti Anniversary Shabbat & Potluck
- Tot Havdallah JAM

February 24 & 25

- Kol Zimrah
- Beit Midrash
- Charry Service: 3rd Grade Tanakh Ceremony

Kabbalat Shabbat / Kol Zimrah / Kol Ha-Lev
Fridays at 6:00 PM (*unless otherwise noted*)

Shabbat Morning
Services at 10:00 AM (*unless otherwise noted*)
Kol D'mamah at 11:00 AM
Musical Marching Minyan at 11:00 AM
Parshat ha-Shavua b'Ivrit at 11:00 AM

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.



(November – December 2016)

IN CELEBRATION...

Harris & Jane Steinberg on the aufruf of their son, Isaac, to Hilary Chipetz

Reena & Aryeh Friedman on the engagement of their daughter, Tamar, to Aaron Wilson, son of Susan and Arnie Wilson

Ethan Rochman on becoming Bar Mitzvah

Naomi Walinsky King & Gary King on the birth of their son, Jacob Lotonu'u King

Nina Gordon & Lou Walinsky on the birth of their grandson, Jacob Lotonu'u King, son of Naomi Walinsky-King and Gary King

Nina Gordon & Lou Walinsky on the birth of their grandson, Simha, son of Sonia Gordon-Walinsky and Mordy Schram

Maurice & Maxine Feldman on their 60th wedding anniversary

Sam & Connie Katz on the wedding of their daughter, Elizabeth, to Micah Kaplan

Cecelia Brooke Barnett on becoming Bat Mitzvah

IN MEMORIAM

Irwin Manheim, father of Paula Spivack

Grete Hirsch, aunt of Naomi Hirsch

Edward Fleishman, father of Ellen Fleishman

John Von Essen Sr., father of John Von Essen

Alan Buyum, father of Bonnie Buyum

Frederick Brozer, uncle of Mindy Shapiro

Join us in welcoming
new members

Kenneth Crimaldi & Shelley Oxenhorn
Rhonda Mandel
Sally Siddiqi

Welcome back to
Paul & Merle Savedow



ISRAELI DANCING

Sundays (Sept-June) & Wednesdays (July-Aug)
January – February 2017 at 10:00 AM
No session on January 1 or 8.

Taught by our wonderful, experienced dance teacher, Grant Shulman, GJC's Israeli dance group welcomes dancers of all ages and levels. We begin each session with 45 minutes of beginner dances, followed by instruction, review, open dancing and requests with increasing levels of difficulty. GJC's dance group is proud to be friendly and inclusive.

For more information, contact Tamar Magdovitz at tamarmagdovitz@gmail.com.

Men's Club News

By David Fish and Dick Menin (co-presidents)

The Men's Club programs are designed to be informal gatherings where people across the spectrum of Jewish involvement can meet and get to know each other. The meetings include entertainment, religious, and scholarly themes. We'd like you to learn and have fun. In November, Daniel Roy (nom d'show), a college student, amazed the group with card slight of hand and included a history of the world of card magic. In December, the "Dancing Children" Hanukiyahh went up and in

January we will begin our relationship with the Jewish Relief Agency, getting out food packages to those for whom food security is not just an abstract concept. In the upcoming weeks we'll be having our annual wine and cheese experience. Later in the year, we'll be getting an insight into world affairs from Eli Lake, a correspondent with Bloomberg News. Keep your eyes and ears open for program announcements. All are welcome.



Daniel Roy demonstrates his talent to Dan Bacine and Sandy Meyer



Invitation to join us at Kol D'mamah: Listening for the Still, Small Voice

By Rabbi Malkah Binah Klein

Whether or not you generally attend services on Saturdays, I warmly invite you to join us the 3rd Shabbat of each month at Kol D'mamah at 11:00 AM in the Quitman Library. Kol D'mamah is an hour-long Hebrew chant and meditation service in an intimate setting, an opportunity for quieting the mind, opening the heart, and nourishing the spirit. Hebrew knowledge is not required to participate, as transliteration and translation is provided for all of our chants. Plan to arrive around 10:45AM to get comfortable and settle into the silence.

I stepped up this year as the leader/coordinator of Kol D'mamah because I have been blessed to experience the transformative power of chant circles and meditation groups and I am moved to share this gift with our community. These practices support me in becoming gentler, more courageous, and more loving. If you would like to learn about the art and magic of Hebrew chant, my teacher, Rabbi Shefa Gold, offers many resources on her website at www.rabbishefagold.com.

We are also hosting a Tuesday morning meditation group each week, from 9:00-9:40AM in the Quitman Library. Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg, a GJC member and beloved meditation teacher, is one of our leaders. You can experience one of her teachings on meditation at www.awakenedheartproject.org/podcasts/practice-instructions/meditation-instructions.

What is the meaning of the name "Kol D'mamah"? This Hebrew phrase is from I Kings 19:12, the story in which Elijah the Prophet experiences a powerful wind, earthquake, and fire, yet the Divine Presence is not in the wind, nor the earthquake, nor the fire, but rather in the kol d'mamah, the still small voice that follows these dramatic events. Kol D'mamah at GJC is a sacred gathering that supports listening for this still small voice within each of us.

Please be in touch at malkahbinah@gmail.com if you have any questions or if you would like to be added to our Kol D'mamah e-mail list to receive updates and teachings.

Women's Club News

By Marcy Fish and Sandy Meyer (co-presidents)



The highlight of November for Women's Club was the Torah Mantle Dedication and restoration of the display cases in the Charry Lobby. The Table Covers and each new Torah mantle have a leaf of woven material from the previous Torah mantles incorporated into them. We are truly honoring our past as we move toward the future, which has always been a hallmark of our GJC community. Dor L'Dor!

We continued our health-related theme of programs with our November program on *Addiction in the Jewish Home*. The December program was *What You Need to Know About Hereditary Cancer Risk in the Jewish Community*. Both programs helped to inform us and start the conversations on these relevant topics.

The creativity of Amy Cohen and Ilene Blitzstein Poses knows no limits as they work their magic for our children. In late September, they mailed Rosh HaShanah packages to about 40 college students and a high school aged boy who attends board-

ing school - gifts from the Women's Club. These students attend schools as far west as Utah and as far north as Vermont, though most are in Pennsylvania. Each package included greetings from the Women's Club, a Jewish calendar and variety of tasty treats and fun items. Festive party bags were also distributed to the pre-school and Religious School students. Appropriately themed packages went out for Chanukah.

A Torah Skills workshop to encourage people to have aliyahs and other honors during religious services was initiated, and is being taught by Eve Pinkenson. Contact Eve if you are interested in being a part of the workshops.

Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, February 26th** at which time the new Torah covers in the Magil Chapel will be dedicated. The photo accompanying this article shows Deb Schwartzman working on them using the same fabric she used in creating the panels of the Seven Species in the back of the Magil. The Torah covers will continue the story of the panels.

Please also mark you calendars for the Purim Bash on **Saturday, March 4th**. This year's theme, "The Sounds of Music" should bring us much entertainment through music, dancing, food,

silent restaurant auction and limited live auction items, and other activities for all ages.

New members to Women's Club are always welcome. We are more than 40% toward our **goal of 100%** of all eligible synagogue women. Please join us and support your shul!

This year's Building Beautiful Project (restoring and lighting the Ten Commandments on the Lincoln Drive side of the synagogue) is moving along, thanks to generous donations from throughout the GJC community.

Be sure to open your emails from Women's Club so that you will be informed of all activities. If you are not receiving these emails, please let us know.



The Torahs in the Charry sanctuary display their new mantles.



Rabbi Zeff adjusts the newly bedecked Torahs.

Refuat HaNefesh Jewish Healing Service

7-8 pm in the Charry Sanctuary
on the 1st Tuesday of the month

A contemplative evening service that draws on elements of Ma'ariv and provide mourners the opportunity to say Kaddish.

All are welcome.



**2016-2017
schedule**

January 3
February 7
March 7
April 4
May 2

Member Spotlight

By Linda Kriger



Abby Weinberg & Nathan Martin

Abby Weinberg, 46, and Nathan Martin, 50, are fixtures at Dorshei Derekh. They came together from the East and West coasts and are happy to live now across the street from GJC.

Abby, born in Rochester NY, lived in Scranton from 6 months to two years of age. Her parents made aliyah to Jerusalem for two years, returned to Scranton, and divorced. Abby, her brother, Ezra, and her mother, Sheila Peltz Weinberg (now a Reconstructionist rabbi, educator, poet and nationally recognized pioneer in the field of Jewish mindfulness practice) moved to Mt. Airy when Abby was seven and lived here until she was 19.

When they moved here, they immediately joined the Germantown Minyan in 1977 when there was only one minyan (before it split into Dorshei Derekh and Minyan Masorti.) Abby's father lived in New Jersey and while Abby was in high school, her mother attended rabbinical school after which she got a job as rabbi at Beth Am Israel. She subsequently took over as rabbi in Amherst, MA.

Abby attended the Forman Jewish Day School in Elkins Park (now the Ray and Ruth Perelman Jewish Day School) and went to Akiba (now the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy). She is proud to have acted in Akiba drama director Dewey Oriente's first musical, *Grease*. (Dewey has now been at Akiba/Barrack for 30 years and will be honored at a gala next spring.) After graduating, she at-

tended Barnard College and received her teaching certificate.

After college, Abby worked in Nature's Classroom in northwestern Connecticut and then spent a year in Israel in Sherut La-Am, where she volunteered at Maskeret Batya, then a development town outside of Rehovot. She moved back to Mt. Airy, even though her mother and brother had moved away.

Abby taught for two years at Akiba, and one year at Schechter but "I couldn't hack it as a teacher," she said. "I started working in the Jewish non-profit world at the Shalom Center and then got a job offer from Jeffrey Dekro at the Shefa Fund and worked there from 1998-2003 as the Tzedek organizer. At Shefa, my job was to encourage Jewish communities and organizations to invest in low-income communities through community development financial institutions.

It was while Abby was at the Shefa Fund that she met Nathan who moved to Philadelphia from Berkeley CA to attend the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (RRC). "I was single," Abby said mock plaintively, "waiting until 2001 for my rabbinical student."

Although they lived on opposite coasts, two people knew them both. Me'ira Ilinitsky, an RRC rabbinical student and a native Californian "matched us," Abby said. They also both knew Elisheva Horvitz, who gave Abby a cassette tape that belonged to Nathan. After she met Nathan at Dorshei Derech, Abby was ready to date him. "We made a plan to meet after shul. I invited him to Shabbat lunch." Nathan showed up, expecting a small crowd and noticed there was "nobody else coming for lunch. We had a very nice time," Nathan said, "but I was just starting rabbinical school, getting over a relationship in California and not really ready to date."

Abby was undeterred. "That was his response to the situation. Mine was, if the shoe fits, wear it. This shoe definitely fit. However, it was just before Sept. 11, 2001," she said. "We ended up hanging out a lot. We became friends. I invited myself to lunch at his house. Over the next few months, we went salsa dancing, contra dancing, and rented movies together, but we were just friends."

Nathan, meanwhile, was listening to his friend, Me'ira. "Nathan, she's a nice girl, she's lovely," he said, smiling. "She was working me. I had my own timetable." Abby and Nathan continued to spend time together. "He drove me to the train, and gave me a card that said *Ten things I like about Abby Weinberg*," she recalled.

They finally got together in March 2002. Nathan postponed his rabbinical school year in Israel until 2003, when he had to go. "Basically," Abby recalled, "I decided to leave the Shefa Fund and went to Israel with him. I was doing social justice human rights work funded by the Israel Fund in Israel."

They became engaged in Israel with a public and private ceremony. There was no ring. "I got her an engagement gift that is circular," he said. "It's a Kiddush cup fountain made with eight small cups around it. I had it engraved Ani l'dodi v dodi li. (I am yours and you are mine.)" They still use it.

They married in June 2005. Abby went to Temple University graduate school in urban studies. Nathan graduated RRC in 2006, when Abby was seven months pregnant. They have a daughter, Hadassah, 10 and a son, Yehudah, 7.

Nathan was born in Chicago and at age two moved to Seattle until he

continued on next page

Members Spotlight

Continued from page 6

was 11, when his parents were divorced. His mother, three sisters and Nathan moved to San Diego, where he stayed through high school.

Nathan attended an Orthodox day school in Seattle and San Diego until his bar mitzvah. "My parents were deeply secular," he said. "I think they liked the small class size. I came home wearing tzitzis and ate cheeseburgers." He went to a secular private high school. "I learned to live in two worlds," he said.

He went to Stanford University, and studied in Jerusalem his junior year. After graduating in Political Science, Nathan spent a year in Cairo working for American University, helping groups do short-term educational tours. These two experiences helped re-awaken his interest in Judaism. "In Egypt, I was conscious of being a Jew and wondered who I could out myself to. I think I even visited the Israeli embassy for some programs in 1989 during Mubarak's regime."

After his year in Cairo, Nathan came back to the U.S. and did a masters degree at Johns Hopkins in Advanced International Studies. He was unemployed for a year, and then worked in a Presidential management internship for the Federal Government. He took a test for the Foreign Service. He ended up in the Department of Energy doing international energy efficiency policy.

At 26, he went to Berkeley and worked for the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories doing research on how heavy industry can save energy. "It didn't feed my soul to be a researcher," Nathan said. "I liked that I was doing good for the world but doing spreadsheets was not psychically rewarding, so I started exploring other careers. I'd become more involved in the Berkeley Jewish community, which included teaching b'nai mitzvah. Berkeley is a place

where you do a lot of self-exploration and growth."

He dated a Catholic woman seriously for a couple of years. When that didn't work out, Nathan said, "I felt this need to go back to my people, my roots, so I started going to the Conservative shul. I would walk to shul and it became a beautiful thing every week. I started hanging out at a friend's house for lunch and did Torah Study and was held by the community at the end of that relationship."

At that point, Nathan's Jewish life broke wide open. "I started to go to minyan, joined the religious committee, taught b'nai mitzvah, did the renewal shul, and started going to a small feminist havurah," he said. "I took a summer off and worked at Camp Ramah in Berkeley as a drama instructor." He had decided to go to rabbinical school and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (RRC) was his choice. Coming from both a Conservative and Renewal background, he liked that "RRC was a big tent that could hold different practices. And they wanted you to grow into your practice organically."

After graduating from RRC in 2006, Nathan was offered a job as assistant director of Hillel at the University of Michigan. They held a baby naming for their 2-week-old daughter and moved to Michigan the very next day.

In Michigan, Abby worked for the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation and the Hebrew day school in Ann Arbor. They moved back to Mt. Airy in 2010 when RRC asked Nathan to become director of student life. "We didn't expect to move back," Abby said. "But I didn't want to stay in Michigan because we were in the middle between the two coasts, away from everybody."

Abby works part time doing Jewish non-profit work. She was interim executive director at GJC when Nina Peskin was on maternity leave several years ago. For the last three years, she's been the coordinator of the Board of Rabbis in Philadelphia. Nathan is

the second rabbi at Congregation Beth Israel in Media. Their children attend the Greenwoods charter school in Roxborough.

For four years, Abby and Nathan worked hard to create a co-housing community in Mt. Airy and discovered it was not financially feasible to build new construction in this neighborhood. They bought a house within a stone's throw of the synagogue.

"The shul is a big piece of our lives," Nathan said. "The kids go to religious school. I try to get to morning minyan. Being close by makes a lot of sense to us. I just joined the Tikkun Olam (formerly Social Action Committee) coordinating team. For about four years, I was on the religious school committee." Nathan leads services and leyns Torah when he's not working at his job. Both children attended ECP and both Abby and Nathan served on the family retreat committee.

"In my mid-20s when I didn't have a partner and I was just doing a job in Philadelphia, people would tell me I should move to California," Abby said. "If I were married no one would tell me that. I said I couldn't leave the community as I'm committed and rooted in Mt. Airy; both the geography and community have been a grounding center pole of my life, a key pillar of my life."

"When I made the decision to live Jewishly, I was drawn to a place that had an active liberal Jewish community and life," Nathan added. "GJC has a lot of vibrancy. I like that I can study the parasha in Hebrew and daven and meditate. It's very rich. I remember my first Shabbat here. (Rabbi) Lenny (Gordon) was teaching Pirke Avot (Ethics of the Fathers, traditionally read during the weeks before Shavuot) and there were 40 people crowded in a living room in somebody's house. There are only five cities in the country where you can find that. Dorshei and GJC have become my home."



**Our Windows and Doors are
Built Tougher, Last Longer,
and Protect Better.**

Making them the obvious choice
for your project.



from **MARVIN**
Windows and Doors

Built to perform.

Matus Windows

Our Family Serving Your Family for Over 60 Years

Ardmore, PA
52 E. Lancaster Ave
610.642.0900

Glenside
367 N. Easton Rd.
215.576.6555

www.matuswindows.com

Keith
Matus

David
Matus

Alex
Matus



© 2014 Marvin Windows and Doors. All rights reserved © Registered trademark of Marvin Windows and Doors. 1-800-268-7644

**GREAT MEALS
START WITH
GREAT MEAT**



Pick up at GJC every other week,
or ship directly to your home.

GROW & BEHOLD brings you
**Beef, Lamb, Rose Veal, Poultry and
Provisions** raised on pasture on family farms
with no hormones or antibiotics. Every
cut is carefully packaged and trimmed to
perfection. Use the code **GJC15** for **\$15 off**
your first order of **\$100 or more**.



Order online or call:

www.growandbehold.com

888-790-5781

Nedivot Lev (Offerings of the Heart)

By Rebecca Paquet

Todah rabbah to everyone who generously gave to the Tikkun Olam High Holiday Appeal! Below are more gift dedications, representing the many ways each of us connects to Judaism and to this beautiful community. If you have not yet but would like to contribute, please contact the office. We will list your name and dedication in the next issue of the Centre Call.

Adina Abramowitz & Naomi Klayman

- * **Bobbi Breitman & Avruhm Addison**, in celebration of the birth of their granddaughter, Talia Rae

Louie Asher & Family, in memory of Steve Asher

David & Keira Axelrod, in memory of David's father, Bart Axelrod

- * **Josh Barash & Devorah Lissek**

- * **Jessica Baskin Taylor**, in honor of the Religious School

Michael & Frances Baylson, in honor of Chip Becker being president

- * **Richard & Eileen Bazelon**, in honor of their parents, Miriam & David Bazelon and Edith & Ernest Ferrin

- * **Lonnie Beer**, in honor of Rabbi Zeff

- * **Lizanne Berger**, in honor of her dear friend, Rennie Cohen, for all her love and support

- * **Dan & Lila Berman**

- * **Melanie Berman**, in memory of her parents, Leon & Elinor Sherry

- * **Howard Bilofsky & Margaret Shapiro**, in memory of Arnold & Ruth Segel

Perry & Phyllis Black, in memory of Rose & Ovido Black, Percy Black, and Hester Stirber

Michael Blackman, in memory of his sister, Susan Blackman Adelstein

Liz Bloch-Smith & Mark Smith, in memory of their fathers, Don Smith and Ted Bloch

- * **Stuart Bogom & Dorel Shanon**

- * **Josh Bolton & Natalie Lyalin**, in honor of the Early Childhood Program

- * **Chana Bonn**

Albert & Ellen Brown, in honor of their parents and granddaughter

Evelyn Caplin, in honor of Rabbi Zeff and his staff

Linda Cherkas, in honor of Rabbi Adam Zeff – Hazan, conductor, composer, arranger, singer, and musician extraordinaire

@ **Sarah Sandi Cohen**

- * **Heshie & Fredi Cooper**

- * **Steve & Linda Corsover**

Howard & Yona Diamond Dansky

Avi & Naomi Decter

Henry & Katherine Donner

- * **Scott & Sandra Donover**

- * **Robert Dudnick & Anna Herman**, in honor of all the hard work the staff and volunteers at GJC do to benefit our community

- * **Michael & Linda Dzuba**, in honor of the office staff

- * **Ron Eisenberg & Judy Groner**

- * **Art & Lynne Ellis**

Sheila Erlbaum, in memory of George, Miriam, and Nathan Erlbaum and Neely Snyder

- * **Richard & Linda Feder**

- * **Michael & Helen Feinberg**, in honor of the wonderful GJC community

Maurice & Maxine Feldman, in gratitude of our 8 grandchildren

- * **Stuart & Shari Feldman**

- * **Walt & Rochelle Fellman**, in memory of their parents, Jerry & Shirley Fellman and Arthur & Esther Abrams

- * **Maxine Field**

- * **David & Marcy Fish**

- * **Joel Fish & Debbie Aron**, in honor of Rabbi Zeff and singing with the choir

- * **Jacob Fisher & Ronnie Rubin**, in honor of Rabbi Zeff

@ **Jeremy Frank & Jen Zarro**, in honor of the Religious School, and the awesome work of Rabbi Alanna and the teachers

Jon & Cheryl Frank, in memory of Jon's dad, Dr. Harold Frank

John & Elaine Frank, in honor of Alanna Sklover for her responsiveness to the large number of upset Religious School students the day after the election

- * **Aryeh & Reena Friedman**, in honor of their daughter Shira's wedding to Glen Romonosky and their daughter Tamar's upcoming wedding to Aaron Wilson

- * **Marsha Friedman**, in honor of the wonderful GJC community for its support of her family over the years

- * **Richard Glaser**, in memory of his wife, Karen Glaser

- * **Shai Gluskin & Sarah Braun**

@ **Jim Goodman**, in honor of his son, Avi, who has inspired him to engage with his Jewish community and heritage in an entirely new way

- * **Seth Goren**, in honor of David Mosenkis and Andi Moselle for all their work for Tikkun Olam

Allan & Jane Greenspan, in honor of Rabbi Zeff

- * **Rod Griffith & Moira Rosenberger**

- * **Mike Gross & Peninah Kelberg**, in memory of Eileen S. Kelberg, z'l 20 year yahrzeit

- * **Josh Gutoff**

David Hahn & Barbara Weiss, in memory of Hanna & Calvin Hahn and Sam Weiss

- * **Linda Hahn & George Feuer**

- * **Jonathan Harmon & Martha Lask**, in honor of Rabbi Malkah Binah Klein for strengthening and uplifting the place of Kol D'mamah at GJC

- * **Steve & Marlene Hilkowitz**, in memory of Rose Hilkowitz

- * **Shellie & Jeremy Holl**

- * **Juha & Elana Hollo**, in memory of Irwin Manheim, father of Paula Spivack

@ **Wendy Horwitz**, in honor of the refugees seeking a home

Nina Israel, in honor of Dorshei Derekh

- * **Lynne Jacobs & Alan Silverblatt**, in memory of their parents

- * **Howard Langer & Barbara Jaffe**

- * **Don & Harriet Joseph**, in dedication to three families who have lost loved ones this year: Paul Minkoff, Lucille and Ellen Weber, and Carol & Marty Kaplan

- * **Jacob Kanofsky**, in memory of his parents, Philip Kanofsky and Mollie Edelstein Kanofsky

Dean Kaplan & Barbara Mattleman

- * **Marty & Carol Kaplan**, in memory of their son, Marc David Kaplan

Diane King, in honor of Tikkun Olam

Neil Kitrosser & Diane Ajl, in honor of their parents, Bea & Ben Kitrosser and Samuel & Adele Ajl

- * **Julie Klein**

Nedivot Lev *Continued*

Bernard & Ellen Kolodner

- * **Ellen Kopeland**, in memory of her husband, Philip A. Myers
- * **Jake & Linda Kriger**, in honor of their children
- Janet Kroll**, in honor of Rabbi Alanna Sklover
- * **Linda Kugler**, in honor of her parents, Sarah and George Kugler
- * **Sarit & Kenny Kunz**
- * **Peter & Peshe Kuriloff**, who, in this broken world, dedicate their pledge to increasing our work in Tikkun Olam
- * **Jerry Kutnick & Wendy Weingarten**, in honor of their grandchildren, Ami Weingarten and Miles Selkowitz
- * **Brenda & David Laigaie**, in memory of Brenda's father, Sidney Numerof
- * **Ed & Dena Lake**

Christopher & Sally Lane

- * **Della Lazarus & Russell Woessner**

Pesha Leichter

- * **Doug Lerner & Ken Cohen**
- * **Steve & Chris Levin**
- * **Herb Levine & Ellen Frankel**, in honor of David Mosenkis and Andi Moselle for their Tikkun Olam work at GJC
- * **Judd Livingston & Hillary Kruger**, in gratitude to GJC
- * **Mark Lipshutz & Nan Myers**
- * **Itzik Lorant & Elayne Blender**, in honor of the GJC choir
- Sam & Tamar Magdovitz**, in honor of the fabulous GJC staff
- * **Richard & Alice Norman Mandel**, in honor of Rabbi David and Betsy Teutsch

Leah Mandelblatt

- * **Geof & Katie Margo**
- * **Maxine Margolies**, in memory of Stephen Presser and the ongoing work of the ACLU
- @ **Bill & Leslie McDevitt**, in memory of William Francis and in honor of Ari Ruben and Dani Miriam McDevitt
- * **Alan Mendelsohn & Mindy Shapiro**, with love and gratitude to Mindy's beloved husband, Alan Mendelsohn, and their dear friends, Nahariyah and David Mosenkis, for their dedication to her healing after surgery. Heartfelt thanks to their extended community for their many mitzvahs.
- * **Gina Michaels**, in memory of Sylvia Tover

Charles & Lyndall Miller

- * **Dan Moscow & Sharon Strauss**

Carl & Joyce Norden

- * **Barbara Pearson**
- * **Ellyn Phillips**, in memory of her husband, Alan L. Phillips
- * **David Picker & Ann Trail**
- * **Rona Pietrzak**, in appreciation and gratitude for GJC and the wonderful communities within it

Dan Piser & Deborah White

- * **Louis & Leonore Piser** and **Milton White**
- * **David Podell**, in memory of his mother, Carol Podell
- * **Ari & Corey Pontz**
- * **Coleman Poses & Ilene Blitstein Poses**, in appreciation of the work GJC is doing with POWER

Dan Hoffman & Abby Pozefsky

- * **Allan Hoffman** and **Leo & Beatrice Pozefsky**
- * **Abigail Horn & Maria Pulzetti**, in honor of Rabbi Lewis and Rabbi Zeff

Michael & Carol Robinson

- * **Jack & Susan Rome**
- * **Paul Rudick & Denise Wolf**, in memory of Denise's beloved mom, Ruth Wolf
- * **Henry Salama & Shirley Brown**

Gloria Salmansohn

- , in memory of her husband, Rubin
- * **Alan & Barbara Schindler**, in honor of their children and grandchildren
- * **David & Allyson Schwartz**
- * **Elliot Schwartz**, in honor of Chip Becker
- * **Norm & Leah Schwartz**, in honor of Rabbi Zeff for the beautiful and inspiring High Holiday services that he conducted
- * **Judy Schwartz & Jay Seitchik**, in honor of their families
- * **Hideko Secrest**
- * **Stephen & Patty Segal**, in honor of Stephen's mother, Hattie Segal, on the occasion of her 100th birthday
- * **Elliot & Ellie Seif**, in honor of their grandsons, Marcus and CJ
- * **Alex & Stefanie Seldin**
- * **Brian & Elana Shaw**, in honor of the GJC community they continue to cherish from afar
- * **Marilyn Silberstein**, in memory of her parents, Eli & Edith Jacobs, who loved GJC very much

Joan Silver

Alanna Sklover & Rebecca Kirzner

- , in honor of all of the wonderful children and families at GJC
- * **Ira & Bev Somerson**, in honor of Adam Zeff
- * **Howard Spodek**, in thanks for the wonderful world of GJC
- Jacob Staub & Michael Spitko**
- * **Gary Stein & Ellen Reese**

Harris & Jane Steinberg

- , in honor of their son Isaac's marriage to Hilary Chipetz
- David Stern & Kathryn Hellerstein**, in memory of their parents, Florence & Kurt Stern and Mary & Herman Hellerstein
- * **George & Debbie Stern**, in honor of the dedicated congregants of the Tikkun Olam team

Joan W. Stern

- * **Marna Sternbach & Dave Davies**, in honor of Jeff Kitrosser and Lauren Berger's wedding
- @ **Justin Stuhltrager & Ali Stumacher**, in honor of the ECP teachers
- David & Betsy Teutsch**, in honor of Mikael Elsila, for all his great work on behalf of Dorshei Derekh and Germantown Jewish Centre
- * **Howard & Ronit Treatman**

Michael & Gail Tunick

- , in memory of Gail's father, Edward Seltzer
- * **Andy & Lauren Ufberg**

Lou Walinsky & Nina Gordon

- , in honor of their children, Sonia Gordon-Walinsky & Mordy Schram and Naomi Walinsky-King & Gary King, and their grandchildren, Tzahi & Simha Schram and Reena, Amira & Jacob King
- Rivkah Walton**, in honor of GJC's extraordinary programming

Ellen Weber

- , in honor of her father, Aaron Weber
- @ **Sheila Weinberg**
- * **Joey Weisenberg & Molly Weingrod**, in honor of the warmth and wonderful generosity of the GJC community, of which they are "so grateful to be a part"

Ken & Susan Weiss

- * **Gary Yeoman & Roberta Kaneff**, in honor of Roberta's parents, Ida and Samuel Kaneff
- @ **Wayne Zukin & Sue Smith**

**Thank you also to our donors who
wish to remain anonymous.**

@ Thank you for your new pledge!

* Thank you for your increased pledge!

Nedivot Lev *Continued*

“The humblest of stones has become the chief cornerstone [‘Rosh Pinah’] (Psalm 118:22)

GJC expresses its deep gratitude for the generous support of its congregants who have chosen the Rosh Pinah (Cornerstone) level of membership. Their contribution provides crucial support, enabling us to serve the entire GJC community. We cannot adequately thank the following members for their commitment to Germantown Jewish Centre:


Marcy & Dan Bacine
Jane & Richard Baron
Marta & Chip Becker
Michael Beer
Peninah & Albert Berdugo
Harold Berger
Dveera Segal & Brad Bridge
Dayle Friedman & David Ferleger
Sarah Braun & Shai Gluskin
Myra & Gert Jacobsohn
Linda & Jake Kriger

Barbara Jaffe & Howard Langer
Chris & Steve Levin
Rachel Falkove & Michael Masch
Barb & Dick Menin
Cyrilla Rosen
Allyson & David Schwartz
Denise Scott Brown & Robert Venturi
Patty & Steve Segal
Stefanie & Alex Seldin
Jessica & Mathieu Shapiro
Betsy & David Teutsch


Remembering Germantown Jewish Centre in your will, a trust, or retirement assets is a meaningful way to ensure that your commitment to our community continues to help our synagogue thrive for generations to come. For more information on how you can include GJC in your estate plans, please contact Nina Peskin at 215-844-1507 x12 or director@germantownjewishcentre.org.

The Humans of
THE LITTLE SHOP

Hours	
Sun	9am-12:30
Mon	closed
Tues	12-5 pm
Wed	12-7:30 pm
Thurs/Fri	12-5 pm



Ronnie Rubin and son, Aaron Fisher, browsing in
The Little Shop.



Linda Cherkas, when asked what she likes most in The
Little Shop, answered, "Everything!"

Special Discounts

Jan. - 20% off all items
(except books, wine, mezuzot scrolls and tefillin)

Feb. - 10% off jewelry & Ahava products
(Sundays only: 20% off all items, except normal exclusions)



LOTS FOR TOTS at GJC

SING • DANCE • LAUGH • LEARN • Explore and connect with other families.

Tot Shabbat	Friday, January 20, 2017 (6:00 PM)
Kol Zimrah Musical Service	Friday, January 27, 2017 (6:00 PM)
Tot Havdallah JAM (Jewish Arts & Movement)	Saturday, February 18, 2017 (6:00 PM)
Kol Zimrah Musical Service	Friday, February 24, 2017 (6:00 PM)



Spotlight on Tot Shabbat! Friday, January 20 at 6:00 PM

LISTEN while puppets teach the week's Torah portion through story. **SING** familiar songs. **LAUGH** as tambourines tumble. **DANCE** while parading through the space. **CONNECT** with other families in the community around the table during a delicious, tot-friendly Shabbat dinner. Advance RSVP is necessary by Wednesday, January 18.

www.germantownjewishcentre.org/secure-tot-shabbat-jan



Tot Storytime at the Big Blue Marble	Fridays at 10:30 AM: 1/20, 2/3
Musical Marching Minyan (0-preK)	Monthly, every third Sat. at 11:00 AM: 1/21, 2/18
Ginat Shabbat (through age 7)	Saturdays, 11:00 AM (10 AM on third Sat. of month)
Shabbat Childcare (ages 2-5)	Saturdays, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM



To be a Jew or to be a member of a Jewish community is to use the Jewish "toolbox" of mitzvot and practices to perfect ourselves and to perfect the world. To help us realize this vision, we have created a series called "Mitzvah of the Month." Each month we will highlight a mitzvah that moves us along the road toward making the world a more perfect place, and we will provide an easy opportunity for each member of our community - from youngest to oldest - to fulfill that mitzvah. Together, we will both learn about the mitzvot and realize our capacity to use them to change the world.



January

Patoah tiftah et yadcha - **Opening Our Hands to the Needy** **Household Goods Drive**

in coordination with HIAS-PA. All donated items are used to set up apartments for newly arrived refugee families in the Philadelphia area.

Items can be new or gently used. Please package breakables well. Items needed: Weatherization supplies, clothes hangers, storage tubs, tool kits, flashlights, extension cords, power strips, mixing bowls, baking dishes, plates, cups, cutlery, pots & pans, cooking & serving utensils, oven mitts & potholders, wall clocks, DVD players, small TVs (if analogue, with antenna & converter box) and radios.

February

Talmud Torah - Supporting Students **School Supplies Drive** **in coordination with C.W. Henry School**

Supplies needed: white & color copy paper, lined paper, sharpies, dry erase markers, color folders, 1" & 1.5" white binders, sanitizing wipes, white board erasers, recess equipment like games, balls, jump ropes, etc.



Collection bins are in the Magil Chapel & Charry Sanctuary lobbies:
Sundays 9:00 AM-2:00 PM / Mondays-Thursdays 8:00 AM-8:00 PM

Early Childhood Program (ECP)

By Jodi Gordon, ECP Director



The ECP celebrated Hanukah using a multisensory approach. The children created their very own menorahs and dreidels using many different recycled materials. We read stories, sang songs and enjoyed the smell and taste of frying latkes. We even made our very own applesauce to go along with the latkes! By late December we were ready to perform our songs for all of our families at the ECP Family Hanukah Party and Pot Luck. It was a joyous occasion for all!

CARING
Laughter
Talk

play

BABY & ME

SUPPORT
circle
Share
Sit
believe
together
Chat
friendship
Listen

@GJC

LOVE
Learn

Fridays are baby days at Germantown Jewish Centre! Baby & Me is a bi-weekly group that provides a space for new parents and caregivers to connect with their babies and each other. The group will have familiar facilitators, and will occasionally host special topic workshops, such as baby massage and baby wearing. The group meets bi-weekly; check our online calendar for exact dates. All are welcome!

Fridays at 11:00 AM

www.germantownjewishcentre.org

400 W. Ellet Street • Philadelphia, PA 19119 • 215-844-1507

Germantown Jewish Centre thanks the Wolfe Family Foundation for their support in all GJC programming.

PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

January 10

The Marriage of Opposites
by Alice Hoffman

February 14

Jews and Words
by Amos Oz

March 14

The Nightingale
by Kristin Hannah

April 4

My Grandfather's Gallery
by Anne Sinclair

May 9

Lineup
by Liad Shoham

June 13

The Paris Architect
by Charles Belfoure

Tuesdays at 7:15 PM
in the Quitman Library



SAVE THE DATE: MAY 12-14, 2017 GJC FAMILY RETREAT

All GJC families with kids from new-borns to tweens are welcome to join us! The weekend is a time to play, pray, make new friends and spend time with old ones. Babysitting and after-bedtime social activities give parents a chance to relax. Registration will begin in March.

Questions? Contact Maria Pulzetti,
maria.pulzetti@gmail.com



The Annual Women's Clothing Exchange

at Germantown Jewish Centre will be held this year on **Sunday, January 29**.
Doors open at 11:00 AM. Some participants have said that this event is a **win! win! win!**

This annual community and charitable event serves many functions. Every year women in the community are asked to donate any clothing and accessories that are in good condition, but which they no longer use. (Donations will be collected this year from Sunday 1/22 through Friday 1/27). A large group of volunteers then sorts the donations into categories:

- Shoes • Sweaters • Coats • Jeans • Dresses • Skirts • Blouses
- Jewelry & Accessories • Pajamas and Lingerie • Bathing Suits & Exercise clothing

The Marcus Auditorium is all set up like a giant bazaar, and women from all over the city come and pay \$20 to "shop" through all these things and take home whatever they like. It is a festive atmosphere--- with music, friends and a private place for trying on clothes. The event raises thousands of dollars, all of which is donated toward different important social justice work. This year the proceeds will be divided between HIAS, POWER and the GJC Women's Club.

When the event is over, all the leftover items are then donated to Whosoever Gospel Mission in Germantown. That program supports people who have been homeless and who have struggled with addiction...allowing them to get the help they need to get clean, sober and obtain vocational training.

It's true! It is a **win! win! win!**

SAVE THE DATE



THE 2017 PURIM BASH
THE SOUNDS OF

MUSIC

SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH • 7:15 PM – 11:15 PM
SPONSORED BY THE GERMANTOWN JEWISH CENTRE WOMEN'S CLUB

Fun for everyone from 6 (months) to 120!

- **Great Sounds** in the **MixTape Lounge** (Silver Kiddush Lounge), with a contemporary nightclub vibe and in **Feel the Beat Hall** (Marcus Auditorium), with sounds from today and yesterday spun by our favorite DJ, Michael Lazar
- **Great Food** with an Open Bar and medley of delicious hors d'oeuvres, entrees and desserts that will be music to your senses
- **Great Activities** hosted by **Dave Davies, respected WHYY reporter and frequent Fresh Air guest host**
 - **Hear** the light-hearted Purim Spiel with Rabbi Zeff and the GJC Choir
 - **Hum a Tune** during the Restaurant Silent Auction – with dozens of area restaurants represented
 - **Sing Out** during the Live Auction of impressive activities and experiences (for example Super Bowl tickets and vacation homes)
 - **Applaud** the winners of the Costume Contest (costumes optional)
- **Great Care and Activities for Children – Free for Event Participants**
 - **Lullaby** childcare for children 6 months to 6 years in our Early Childhood Program area
 - **A Got the Beat Event** for children 7 to 11 years old in the Temin Canteen Room

Patrons \$200 per ticket (plus a ticket for a non-member); Sponsors \$150
\$45/Person, \$40/Person for 10-person table
\$36/Person 36 years old and under

Sponsored by the GJC Women's Club

Please note – RSVPs are required by February 20 for all activities to Beverly@securityoffice.com

Additional details at www.germantownjewishcentre.org/purim-bash

With additional thanks to the Wolfe Family Foundation's support

Religious School

Havayah: What an Experience!

By Rabbi Alanna Sklover, Director of Lifelong Learning



one of many programs sprouting up in Jewish communities across the country – and the first of its kind in Philadelphia. It promotes change and innovation in Jewish Education by offering new models for learning that dovetail with today's changing Jewish and educational landscapes.

This fall in Havayah, our students in Kitah Hei (taught by long-time educator and GJC member Lee Silverman) have been delving into the top-

students gathered around laptops creating power-point presentations or sculpting forms out of clay, and sometimes it feels like summer camp as nearly 150 students break up into tribes for team-building activities and experiential lessons at sites across the city.

They say that “a picture is worth 1000 words.” Check out these wonderful photographs of our students in action, both in the classroom and at December's “Mifgash” (gathering) at Main Line Reform Temple.

We look forward to sharing more about our journey in Havayah as this pilot year progresses. What a joy to be a part of this vibrant and diverse cohort of synagogue schools exploring the boundaries of the many ways Jewish education can look in our communities.

This year, Germantown Jewish Centre is thrilled to be one of eight congregations from across the region participating in Havayah. Drawing its name from the Hebrew word for “experience,” Havayah is a pilot program for 5th graders that blends Project-Based Learning with in-person, multi-school meet ups to bring our students together and transform their learning through shared experience. Havayah, a joint project of Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, Jewish Learning Venture and Gratz College, is

ics of “Sacred Space & Sacred Time.”

Through blending close study of traditional Jewish texts with a student inquiry driven approach to problem solving, our 5th graders have spent the first seven-week unit engaging with the question of “What is a Sacred Space?”

But, what does Havayah look like? So many different things! On some days, it looks like whole-class and chavruta learning, on other days it looks like

**Germantown Jewish Centre
would like to extend thanks and gratitude to the
Wolfe Family Foundation
for generously supporting and making
our programming possible.**

Remembering and celebrating
an innovator who:

- passionately engaged in Jewish life
- challenged stereotypes
- believed in spreading GJC's mission for generations to come

SAVE THE DATE

**Stanley R. Wolfe
Memorial Shabbat**

Saturday, March 18, 2017

Germantown Jewish Centre
400 West Ellet Street
Philadelphia, PA 19118
www.germantownjewishcentre.org

Tikkun Olam Update

A Message to GJC Members – From the Tikkun Olam Coordinating Team

While we usually see our role as facilitating, supporting and growing our members' engagement in Tikkun Olam, at this moment, after hearing from some of our leaders and participants, we feel it was important to share our thoughts about how we hope to move forward in the current national climate.

While we will not take partisan stands, we will continue to stand up for the values rooted in our faith about how we treat our fellow humans. We will speak out against discrimination in all its forms. We have a long history in this regard, beginning with Rabbi Charry's courageous leadership and activism and continuing with our support of the Northwest Interfaith Movement and our annual Granger Shabbat focused on issues related to race. We will continue to be a congregation that is anti-racist and does not tolerate discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, race, religion or national origin.

We will continue with our aspiration to infuse the entire synagogue with increased awareness of how we can fulfill the Jewish imperative to "pursue justice" (Deuteronomy 16:20). Our solutions will, as always, continue

to be consistent with the teachings of the Torah. It's important that we assess policies and laws based on values we hold dear. For us at GJC, those values are often informed by Jewish teachings. Rabbi Zeff frequently addresses this approach, most recently in e-newsletters and, earlier this year, in his Rosh Hashanah sermon on *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world.

One way that we can all respond to national and local moral challenges is through participation in one or more of the many GJC Tikkun Olam activities. We encourage you to consider joining with other congregants to participate in Tikkun Olam initiatives and also to bring ideas for new programming to the Tikkun Olam Coordinating Team. For example, there are a variety of ways to get involved in our racial justice work, both as a participant and in helping to plan and execute programs and activities. Some current options include working with other congregations through POWER and GJC programs such as adult education, a book club/discussion group and this year's Granger Shabbat, scheduled for January 14. POWER is also working on education funding and addressing income disparity, poverty and criminal justice inequities. You can offer your sup-

port for refugees and immigrants by assisting in our resettlement program, currently involving both a Syrian and an Afghan family. You can respond to homelessness through the Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network, of which GJC is a founding congregation (we will next house homeless families in the spring). On January 28, you can attend the annual Stephen Presser Shabbat, which will focus on environmental justice. Look for more information in the near future about supporting Fair Trade Judaica, our newest program, the result of a recent proposal from two GJC members.

As scholar-in-residence Daniel Matt reminded us recently, Tikkun Olam has its origins in Kabbalistic theology that understands that our moral actions "make whole" God and our connection to the divine. What we do truly matters. Each of us can be part of the mitzvah of repairing the world. Keyn y'hi ratzon: So be it!

Tikkun Olam Coordinating Team – Maxine Margolies, Andrea Moselle, David Mosenkis, Genie Ravital, Elliott Seif, Margaret Shapiro, George Stern, Abby Weinberg



Meet our Afghani Family

In the last issue of the Centre Call, the article about Tikkun Olam spoke of our Afghani Family. Margaret Shapiro and Howard Bilofsky thought it would be nice to provide a couple of pictures.

Nahid, Ali and Maria enjoyed Thanksgiving with the Shapiro/Bilofsky family, and also appreciated the many gifts that the GJC congregation donated for their new baby Maria through the Mitzvah of the Month. They brought Afghani food to the turkey feast, including an elegant cardamom pudding that was delicious. We look forward to more meals and time with them, and to watching Maria grow.

Presser Shabbat to focus on the interconnection between local justice issues and the global climate crisis

By Rabbi Malkah Binah Klein and Don Joseph

Minyan Dorshei Derekh will be sponsoring the 10th Annual Stefan Presser Memorial Social Justice Shabbat on January 28. The program will begin at 1:00 PM in the Canteen Room, preceded by Shabbat morning services at 10:00 AM and a light kiddush lunch at 12:30 PM. All are welcome to attend.

Stefan Presser, who died in 2005, was a beloved member of Dorshei Derekh and legal director of the Pennsylvania ACLU. Our community carries forth Stefan's legacy by offering educational programs that inspire the values that Stefan held dear.

This year's program will focus on the connection between the global climate crisis and injustice on the local level, with Philadelphia as a case study. Our program will include action steps that we can take as individuals and as a community.

The principal speaker for this year's program will be Rev. Alison Cornish, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light (PA IPL), a community of congregations, faith-based organizations, and individuals of faith responding to climate change as a moral issue.

GJC Alumni

GJC Alumni in Israel: Tamar Friedman

Members of the GJC Israel Committee thought that readers of the *Centre Call* would enjoy learning about the lives and work of young people who grew up in our congregation and are now living in Israel. This is the first of what is hoped will be several such articles. Our author this issue is Tamar Friedman, who is the daughter of long-time GJC members, Reena and Aryeh Friedman. She has been living in Israel since October 2015, and is planning to make aliyah this spring.

Igrew up at GJC and have many fond memories of my years at the synagogue.

Over the past year, I've been living in Jerusalem and working as a marketing associate at the Taub Center for Social Policy Studies in Israel, a think-tank that does socioeconomic research about Israel. It has certainly been an exciting year, with a lot of learning and new experiences. At the Taub Center, I am responsible for disseminating the Center's research to English-speaking audiences on the Center's website, newsletter, and social media, as well as editing and reviewing publications, assisting with events and meetings, and analyzing data to assess the Center's impact.

The Taub Center has been a great

place to work as I start my life in Israel because I'm also learning very quickly about different socioeconomic trends in the country. The research put out by the Center touches on many important areas – education, health, labor markets, social welfare, and macroeconomics. One of the most interesting studies published this year was on the socioeconomic condition of young Israelis, including findings about how many people are pursuing higher education and the difficulties that people in their 20s and 30s face in affording housing. Another fascinating study looked at how Israel's parental leave policies compare with those in other OECD countries. There was also a study that built on similar research conducted in the U.S., examining jobs at risk of disappearing due to com-

puterization and proposing ways to train Israelis better for the future labor market.

On a more personal note, my fiancé, Aaron, and I met at Penn, and are now planning to make Aliyah. We have made many friends here, with whom we celebrated our recent engagement. When we decided to set out on this journey a year ago to "check out" living in Israel, we had no idea how many challenges and wonderful experiences we were in for. We've built a great community for ourselves, improved our Hebrew, and take every opportunity we can to recruit friends and go hiking and camping all over the country. I'm very excited to return to Israel after our wedding in March and about all the new adventures to come!

HAZAK News

By Helen Feinberg & Coleman Poses

Our HAZAK group's activities this fall have offered diverse opportunities to read, learn, talk, and (of course) have a meal! Here's a recap.

On October 30, about 25 people attended "Heart-to-Heart," our event co-sponsored with the Religious School to foster conversations among family and friends about handling important issues of aging. First, Rabbi Becca Richman led us in an "ice-breaker" that actually highlighted many of the situations and roles we might play throughout our lives, pointing out the Jewish values inherent in all our dilemmas about family. Then, our outstanding panelists – Dr. Lesley Carson, Dr. Melissa Gartenberg Livney and Mr. Larry Helmick, CPA – used a case study to describe how they might help a family dealing with a parent's physical health, emotional and social health, and financial needs. The audience raised important issues, which were well-addressed by the panel. Bottom line: we'll do this again!!

A small group had a private tour of the Kimmel Center on November 16. We learned about the design, and design faults of the Kimmel, as well as all the efforts that have been taken to correct the original problems. Our guides took us through the

whole building, including the Hamilton Dorrance Garden, describing the art work around the building as well as the various uses of the stages. After the tour, we went out for lunch! Thanks to Martha Schleifer for arranging the tour.

Meanwhile, on the same morning our HAZAK book group was meeting to talk about *Commonwealth* by Ann Patchett. It seems that HAZAK is able to absorb multiple activities at the same time. The book group met next in December to discuss *Denying the Holocaust* by Deborah Lipstadt. Next meeting is on the second Wednesday in January, 2017.

On Sunday, December 4, Ari Pontz (son of Curt and Leslie) talked with HAZAK about his book *Fishing with Hand Grenades* - a real life account of the demons that an 18-year-old Marine veteran who fought in Vietnam must encounter, both during and after his tour of duty. GJC's Debbie Fishman, who works as a nurse at the Veterans Administration, added her insights from her years of experience, not only with Vietnam Vets, but with soldiers who had encountered hostilities as far back as the Second World War and as recently as the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

And on Sunday, January 15, our film series resumes with a showing of the



great jury drama, *Twelve Angry Men*, with Henry Fonda. Attorney Dveera Segal will lead us in a discussion of the film and the conversation is sure to be as lively – as ever!

Correction to the profile of Coleman Poses and Helen Feinberg:

Rhea Shils, HAZAK's founder, asked Sam Feinberg to take over the newly formed organization at GJC when she was no longer able to do it. Sam agreed and sought the assistance of Mindelle Goldstein. Together, they ran HAZAK for more than three years before turning the leadership over to Cherie Goren. Sonia Dishler has been a leader in the book selection for HAZAK's book group. Mindelle & Sam were inadvertently left out of the history of HAZAK that appeared in the November Centre Call.

EVERYONE CAN SUPPORT OUR GJC COMMUNITY THROUGH WOMEN'S CLUB!

In 3 easy steps

Once you register with Amazon Smile it will link your Amazon account to Smile Amazon and .5% of every purchase will go to GJC Women's Club with no additional cost to your purchase or limits to purchases.



Here's how:

1. Go to *Smile.Amazon.com*
2. Search for Germantown Jewish Centre
3. Select charity: Germantown Jewish Centre

Ready to shop: Go to *smile.amazon.com*....shop away!

ALL DONE! Every purchase you make on *smile.amazon.com* is now linked to GJC. .5% will go to Women's Club, who will continue to do wonderful things for all our GJC community.



At GJC, it's all about **The Connection**. Whether you are looking for a "Sacred Spark" to kindle your curiosity or are interested in taking a "Deeper Dive" into the wellspring of Jewish tradition, there is something for you! Within these pages, we are proud to announce a wide range of workshops, courses, and immersive experiences that present opportunities for engagement with the wellspring of Jewish text, creative expression, history and culture in a way that is relevant to our lives in the 21st century. This year, may we grow both as individuals and as a community through our learning, through our journeys and through our connection to one another.

Beit Midrash Learning for Adults and Children

with Rabbi Adam Zeff, Rabbi Alanna Sklover and Rabbinic Intern Becca Richman (begins Saturday, January 7)

Join us as our building becomes a center of Shabbat study and prayer for children and adults. Join Rabbi Zeff and student rabbi Becca Richman for eight weeks of community learning. Past topics have included "Multi-Denominational Perspectives on Current Social Issues" and "Parenting Through Jewish Values."

8 sessions, FREE: Saturdays 9:30 AM on Jan 7, 14, 21, 28; Feb 4, 11, 18, 25

SACRED SPARKS Workshops & Immersive Experiences

Exploring the Impact of Christian Hegemony on U.S. Culture

with Dr. Andrea Jacobs (begins February 7)

We live in a culturally Christian society and that has implications for everything from the calendar we use to our habit of seeing things in oppositional binaries of "good" and "evil." In this course, we'll examine the dynamics of power and privilege as Jews living in a dominant Christian society. Using excerpts from Paul Kivel's groundbreaking book *Living in the Shadow of the Cross*, we'll discuss critical concepts for understanding the impact of elite hegemonic Christianity on U.S. culture and what it means for us as Jews. *This course is designed as a follow-up to Rabbi Seth Goren's Racial Justice class, but is not a pre-requisite for taking it.*

3 Sessions: Tuesdays 7- 8:30 PM • Feb 7, 14, 21
GJC Members \$60 / Non-Members \$75

Tough Social Issues in Israel

with Rabbi Adam Zeff (Sundays, March 5 & 19)

In the sixth year of this class, we will examine more of the complex social issues Israeli society faces each day. Over two sessions, primary source materials, films, and guest speakers will help us gain insight into current issues that don't often make the news in the U.S. Prepare to rethink assumptions and engage with these difficult issues together. Both those who have taken the previous years' classes and new students are welcome!

2 Sessions: Sundays 10 - 12:00 PM • March 5, 19
GJC Members \$40 / Non-Members \$55

DEEPER DIVES Multi-Session Courses that Delve Deeper into Study

Creating Midrash: Reading and Writing Our Way into Text

with Dr. Andrea Jacobs & Rabbi Elyse Wechterman (begins January 12)

Ever wanted to try your hand at creating Midrash? Is there a puzzle in the Tanach you want to explore? In this course participants will read Midrash from voices that have historically been silenced in Jewish writing and try their own hand at creating new Midrash. Using the framework the Rabbis used in Classical Midrash as a basis, we'll explore feminist, queer and other contemporary midrash. And then we'll devote 30-45 minutes each class to work on our own creative midrash, addressing "gaps" we see or feel in the texts.

6 Sessions: Thursdays 10 -11:30 AM • Jan 12, 19, 26; Feb 2, 9, 16
GJC Members \$120 / Non-Members \$135

Mind and Deed in Rabbinic Texts

with Rabbi Josh Gutoff (begins March 1)

This is a 6-session class looking at classic Jewish texts on *kavanah*, or intention, and its role in prayer and in the performance of *mitzvot*. As we'll see, *kavanah* becomes a lens for looking at much broader issues, like the purpose of ritual, the meaning of prayer, and the relationship between the human and the Divine. It should be very exciting. All the texts will be studied in English, and no previous background, or level of belief, is required.

6 Sessions: Wednesdays 7-8:30 PM • March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Apr 5
GJC Members \$120 / Non-Members \$135

Lifelong Learning at Germantown Jewish Centre • Register by emailing program@germantownjewishcentre.org

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 October, 2016 through November, 2016

Todah Rabbah!

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

FUND	BY	OCCASION
Adult Education Fund	Mitchell Hirsch	in memory of Robert Hirsch, father
	Hershel & Elizabeth Richman	in honor of Gabe Piser being granted his PhD
Bess Schick Memorial Fund	Peter Kuriloff	in memory of Arthur Kuriloff, father
	Peshe Kuriloff	in memory of Ruth Rabstein Pellettieri, mother
	Dena Lake	in memory of Abraham J. Rosenman, father
Camp Scholarships Fund	Susan Sternthal	in memory of Eva Lamar, aunt
Chesed Fund	Lizanne Berger	in memory of Faye Weiss, mother
	Fredi & Heshie Cooper	in memory of Joan Marcus Berger, mother
		in honor of Judge Michael Baylson, on the occasion of being named the recipient of the James Wilson Award from the University of Pennsylvania Law School
Early Childhood Program Fund	Maura Sostack	in appreciation of Kathy Amrom
	Susan Sternthal	in memory of Samuel Gross, father
	Diane Ajl	in memory of Adele Ajl, mother
	Bonnie Buyum	in memory of Benjamin Kaufman, grandfather
	Maxine & Maurice Feldman	in honor of Nina Gordon & Lou Walinsky, on the birth of their grandsons.
	Aryeh & Reena Friedman	in memory of Edward Fleishman, father of Ellen Fleishman
	Louise Leibowitz	in memory of Ethel Leibowitz, mother
Early Childhood Program Fund	William Moody	in memory of Jack Leibowitz, father
Floral Fund	Brigitte Thalheimer	in memory of Violet West, mother
General Fund	Gloria Salmansohn	in memory of Arie Saadoun, brother
	Martin & Elizabeth Aron	in memory of Lena Salmansohn, mother-in-law
	Kathy Menin Axelrod	in honor of Debbie Aron, Joel Fish, and their family
	Berle & Pam Berger	
	Marcy Boroff	in honor of Maxine & Maurice Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
	Jane F. Century	
	Jolene Daroff	in memory of Aaron Weber, husband of Lucille Weber
	Nini Engel & Neil Actor	in honor of Debbie Aron, for help after the schach incident of 5777
	Mindy Flexer	in honor of Michael Spear, for help after the schach incident of 5777
	Fran Gallun & Len Weinberg	
	Richard Glaser	in honor of Naomi & Avi Decter, on their 50th wedding anniversary
	Mimi & Jack Halpern	in memory of Karen Moss Glaser, wife
	Debbie & Bob Kaplan	in honor of Maurice & Maxine Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
	Marcia Landesberg	in honor of Sam & Connie Katz, on the aufruf of their daughter, Liz
	Doug Lerner & Ken Cohen	in memory of Tillie Passon, mother
	Rabbi Judd Levingston	in appreciation of Sheila Erlbaum, for her generosity
		in honor of Jessie Singer, daughter of Leah Lande & Marc Singer, and granddaughter of Ken & Gabriella Lande, on her Bat Mitzvah
	Marion Lindblad-Goldberg	in memory of Aaron Weber, husband of Lucille Weber
	Geof Margo	in memory of Margaret McCusker, mother of Claire McCusker
	Greg Meyer, Kit Topaz, Davis Meyer, and Nadia Meyer	in memory of Grete Hirsch, aunt of Naomi Hirsch
	Linda Millison	in memory of Irwin Manheim, father of Paula Spivack
	Janet & Dennis Novack	in memory of Edward Fleishman, father of Ellen Fleishman
	Phyllis Weber & Stanton S. Oswald	in memory of Therese Posnansky, mother of Ann Itzkowitz
	Abby Pozefsky	in memory of Anne Margo, mother
		in honor of Jim Meyer, on his 4x Chai birthday
	Marge Richman	in memory of Fredric Raichlen, brother
		in memory of Aaron Weber, husband of Lucille Weber
		in appreciation of Kol D'mamah
		in memory of Beatrice Pozefsky
		in memory of Leo Pozefsky
		in memory of Sy Richman, husband

Contributions *Continued*

General Fund	Annette Rosch & Jean Leavitt	in honor of Maxine & Maurice Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
	Helen & Louis Shankroff	in memory of Aaron Weber, husband of Lucille Weber
	Maura Sostack	in appreciation of Natalie Lyalin
	Beth Stearman	in appreciation of Vilma Lieberman
	Zelda Stern	in memory of Irving Stearman, grandfather
		in memory of Bruce Kutler
		in memory of Gordon Kutler
		in memory of Joyce Kutler
	Steven Weinberg	
	Judy & Don Weiss	in honor of Maurice & Maxine Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
	Denise Wolf & Paul Rudick	in honor of Sam & Connie Katz, on the wedding of their daughter, Liz
		in appreciation of Phill Goldberg, for mentoring Levi with the blowing of the shofar
		refuah shleimah to Mindy Shapiro
Hazak Fund	Sonia Dishler	in memory of Rose Feinberg, mother
	Helen & Michael Feinberg	in memory of Aaron Weber, husband of Lucille Weber
	Helene Feinberg	in honor of Rabbi Zeff's and Nina Peskin's High Holiday singing
	Cherie Goren	in memory of Frank Rosenberg, father
		in memory of Mark Fields, brother
	Rebecca Ladenheim	in memory of Judith Fleischman, mother
	Jim & Sandy Meyer	in memory of Aaron Weber, husband of Lucille Weber
		in honor of Hersh Richman, on his special birthday
		in honor of Barb Menin, on her special birthday
Hazak Fund		in honor of Maxine & Maurice Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
	Susan Rothschild	in memory of Moritz Heimann, father
Interfaith Hospitality Network Fund	Louie Asher	in memory of Betty Obus, grandmother of David Mosenkis
	Nan Daniels	in honor of Rachel Falkove & Michael Masch
	Cecile Merion	in memory of Nechama Naomi Kapstein Rosenbach, sister
	Carol Robinson	in memory of Barbara Ann McCracken, mother
	Freida Sanders	in memory of Anna Sanders, mother-in-law
		in memory of Jeanette Goldenberg, sister
		in memory of Solomon Goldenberg, father
Israel Affairs Fund	Maura Sostack	in appreciation of Debbie Stern
	Cyrilla Rosen	in memory of Rose Gaber, mother
	Judy Schwartz & Jay Seitchik	in honor of Sam & Connie Katz, on the aufruf of their daughter, Liz
Israel Garden Fund	Martin Itzkowitz	in memory of Anne Itzkowitz, mother
Kiddush Fund	Marcy & Dan Bacine	in memory of Irwin Manheim, father of Paula Spivack
	Paul Minkoff	in honor of Barb Menin, on his special birthday
		in honor of Jim Meyer, on his special birthday
		in honor of Carol Kaplan, on her special birthday
		in honor of Maxine & Maurice Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
		in honor of Sam & Connie Katz, on the aufruf of their daughter, Liz
		in honor of Aryeh & Reena Friedman, on the engagement of their daughter
		in memory of Hilda Minkoff, wife
		in memory of Kay Strauss, sister
		in memory of Meyer Winderman, grandfather
Men's Club		in memory of Sam Buyum, grandfather
	Judd & Hillary Kruger Levingston	in memory of Aaron Weber, husband of Lucille Weber
	Eli Havivi	in honor of Judy Groner & Ron Eisenberg
Minyan Masorti		
Memorial Shabbat Fund		
Music Fund	Arnold Barr	in memory of Frances M. Barr, mother
	Charles & Martha Schleifer	in honor of Jessie Singer, daughter of Leah Lande & Marc Singer
	Charles Schleifer	in memory of Elaine Ives-Cameron, sister
	Charles & Martha Schleifer	in honor of Professor Ken Weiss
	Martha Furman Schleifer	in memory of Klara Furman, mother
Prayerbook & Ritual Items Fund	Robert & Jackie Mintz	in honor of Ellis Dashevsky's great-great-grandson, Brandon Delia, becoming a Bar Mitzvah on May 21, 2016

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-arrangements 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.
- ☆ 0% Interest on all purchases
(Interest-Free Financing offered, in accordance with Jewish Law)
- ☆ 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@yahoo.com

Contributions *Continued*

Prayerbook & Ritual Items Fund	Robert & Jackie Mintz	in honor of Ellis Dashevsky's great-great-grandson, Benjamin Mintz, becoming a Bar Mitzvah on January 7, 2017
	Gloria Salmansohn	in memory of Herman Salmansohn, father-in-law
	Chava Weissler	in memory of Pearl Weissler, mother
	Ellen Wolin	in memory of Louis Wolin, father
Program Fund	Lynne & Art Ellis	in memory of Edward Fleishman, father of Ellen Fleishman
	David Stein	
Rabbi Zeff's Discretionary Fund	Michael Beer	in honor of the Seldin family
	Harriet & Louis Berneman	in honor of the Rosh Hashanah Children's Service
	Nan Daniels	in memory of David Shapiro, father
	Henry Donner	in honor of Hershel Richman, friend of Henry Donner
	Naomi Druckman	in memory of Leon Druckman, husband
	Rochelle Fellman	in memory of Esther Abrams, mother
	Mindelle Goldstein	in memory of Charles Meilachowitz, father
	Marcus Kaplan	in memory of Herman Harry Kaplan, father
	Ed & Dena Lake	in honor of Maxine & Maurice Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
	Marcia Landesberg	in memory of Dorothy Snellenberg, sister
	Rebecca & Barry Lenick	in memory of Philip Myers, husband of Ellen Kopeland
	Sylvia Lifschitz	in memory of Joseph Lifschitz, father
	Richard Menin	in memory of Elinor Menin, mother
	Cecile Merion	in memory of Samuel Merion, husband
	Jim & Sandy Meyer	in honor of Rabbi Adam Zeff, on his Jubilee birthday
	Martin Millison	in memory of Carl Millison, brother
	Linda & Jeffrey Needleman	in memory of Philip Myers, husband of Ellen Kopeland
	Carl Norden	in memory of Daniel Norden, father
	Michael Robinson	in memory of Elaine Robinson, mother
	Amy Rogovin	in honor of Isador & Myra Kranzel, on their 55th wedding anniversary
	Charles Schleifer	in memory of Philip N. Schleifer, father
	Joan Silver	in memory of Philip Myers, husband of Ellen Kopeland
	Maura Sostack	in appreciation of Rabbi Adam Zeff
	Joan N. Stern	in memory of Miriam Leah Gafni, sister
Religious School Fund	The Women's Club of GJC	in memory of Aaron Weber, husband of Lucille Weber
	Oppenheim Foundation	in honor of Maurice & Maxine Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
	Patricia Segal	in memory of Caryl Bateman, mother
Social Action Fund	Maxine & Maurice Feldman	in honor of Connie & Sam Katz, on the marriage of their daughter, Liz, to Micah
	Phyllis Kauffman	in memory of Esther Reitman Tatarsky, mother
Special Education Fund	Jeffrey Needleman	in memory of Nathan Needleman, father
	Eleanor Seif	in memory of Max Cohen, father
Tikkun Olam Fund	Sheila Erlbaum	in memory of Miriam Erlbaum, mother
Torah Restoration Fund	Oppenheim Foundation	in honor of Maurice & Maxine Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
	Eve Pinkenson	in memory of Jane Blumenthal, mother
	Yale & Eve Pinkenson	in memory of Abraham Blumenthal, grandfather
	Joan Silver	in memory of Joseph Pinkenson, father
	Joan Silver	in honor of Connie & Sam Katz, on the marriage of their daughter, Liz, to Micah
	Bev Somerson	in honor of Maxine & Maurice Feldman, on their 60th wedding anniversary
Women's Club	Aryeh & Reena Friedman	in honor of Connie & Sam Katz, on the marriage of their daughter, Liz, to Micah
	Frances Gold	in memory of Morris Malmaud, cousin
	Michael & Marta Sivitz	in honor of Connie & Sam Katz, on the marriage of their daughter, Liz, to Micah
Youth Activities Fund	Cy & Rennie Cohen	in memory of Beatrice Riseman, sister
	Curtis & Leslie Pontz	in memory of Alan Buyum, father of Bonnie Buyum
	Leslie Pontz	in memory of Ezekiel Levinson, father
Young Families Retreat Fund	Hershel Richman	in memory of Abraham Richman, father
	& Elizabeth Richman	in memory of Jerome Rosner, father



Germantown Jewish Centre

400 West Ellet Street
Philadelphia, PA 19119

First Class Pre-Sort
U.S. Postage
PAID
Ft. Washington, PA
Permit No. 7944

Inside Centre Call

Rabbi's Message.....	page 1
President's Message.....	page 2
Shabbat Chai-Lites.....	page 3
What's New in the Mishpoche.....	page 3
New Members.....	page 3
Kol D'mamah.....	page 4
Men's Club News.....	page 4
Women's Club News.....	page 5
Member Spotlight.....	page 6
Nedivot Lev.....	page 9
Early Childhood Program.....	page 13
Religious School.....	page 15
Tikkun Olam@GJC.....	page 16
GJC Alumni.....	page 17
HAZAK News.....	page 18
Contributions.....	page 20

*Please submit all articles via email to
program@germantownjewishcentre.org.
Deadline for the March issue is February 1st.*



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

Charles L. Becker
PRESIDENT

Adam Zeff
RABBI

Nina Peskin
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alanna Sklover
RABBI, DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING

Gloria Geissler
FINANCE DIRECTOR

Jodi Gordon
EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

Kate Lawn
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Leonard D. Gordon
RABBI EMERITUS

Marcy Fish & Sandy Meyer
WOMEN'S CLUB CO-PRESIDENTS

David Fish & Dick Menin
MEN'S CLUB CO-PRESIDENTS

Affiliated with the United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism

Save the Date: January

People of the Book
January 10

Hazak Book Group
January 11

Ralph Granger Memorial Shabbat
"Conversations on Race"
January 14

Men's Club Day at JRA
January 15

Hazak Film & Discussion
"12 Angry Men" with Dveera Segal
January 15

MLK Day of Service
January 16

Stefan Presser Memorial Shabbat
January 28

Women's Clothing Giveaway
January 29

Save the Date: February

Israel Program with
Katz Scholar Julie Cooper
"Jewish Political Thought
in a Changing World"
February 5

Hazak Book Group
February 8

Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture:
Takht Ensemble
February 11

JAM Tot Havdallah
February 12

People of the Book
February 14

Morning Minyan & Torah Mantle
Dedication w/Torah Photo
Opportunity
February 26

Hazak Program
February 26