

HAKOL

הקול

THE VOICE OF TEMPLE ISRAEL MINNEAPOLIS



PURIM ✧ **PESACH** ✧ **VOICES**

Spring 2023/5783



TEMPLE ISRAEL
MINNEAPOLIS

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CLERGY VOICE

Dear Friends,

As we approach the coming holidays, Purim and Passover, I have been reflecting on the cycle of our liturgical calendar. Our three pilgrimage festivals have special names, each appropriate to the theme of the holiday. Sukkot is *z'man simchateinu*, the time of our rejoicing. Passover is *z'man cheiruteinu*, the time of our freedom, and Shavuot is *z'man matan Torateinu*, the time of the giving of the Torah.

I imagine these seasons as the stages of growing up. At Sukkot, the beginning of the cycle, we experience pure, uncomplicated joy, like a young child. As we move toward Passover, we begin to mature, like a teenager, learning to handle the responsibilities of the freedom we are given. It is only once we have done so that we are ready for Shavuot, fully prepared to accept the commandments given to us in the Torah.

Passover is full of themes of redemption and freedom. In our Haggadah, we are told that every one of us must imagine that we had been enslaved in Mitzrayim, and personally went forth into freedom. Collective redemption is not enough; our tradition urges us to enter into a personally meaningful experience of both physical and spiritual liberation. During this period, we are often encouraged to imagine our unique struggles and negative inclinations as an individual "Mitzrayim," a place from which we yearn to free ourselves.

If Passover is our adolescence, a time to accept the realities of choice and free will before we accept the mantle of Torah, then what is Purim? Purim is not one of our three major pilgrimage festivals and has no defined liturgical "season." However, if I were to give it one, I might call it the time of our cleverness.

You may have heard the joke: what is this Jewish holiday about? The response goes, "They tried to kill us, we won, let's eat!" It summarizes both Purim and Passover, each stories of the Jewish people being threatened by a powerful ruler, and overcoming that threat to live and fight another day. Yet, the stories differ in important ways. As we fled Mitzrayim in the Passover story, we were saved by the actions of God. In the Purim story, we rely on human grit and ingenuity. It is Esther and Mordechai's political brilliance that saves the day, rather than divine intervention.

Our pilgrimage festivals are a swirl of miracles. We remember the manna that sustained us in the desert, the ten plagues and the splitting of the Sea of Reeds, the giving of the Torah at Sinai. Perhaps Purim is a humanistic reminder to have confidence in ourselves; to rely on our abilities and talents and to work together as a community toward our common goals. Believing in oneself, after all, is the first step toward becoming truly free.

B'virkat Shalom,



Rabbi Marcia A. Zimmerman
Alvin & June Perlman Senior Rabbinic Chair



RABBI ZIMMERMAN

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Erev Shabbat Service Welcoming Temple's Newest Members

Friday, March 3, 6:00 p.m.

[In Person and Online](#)

We are so grateful as we watch our congregation grow! Please join us to celebrate and welcome new members at our Erev Shabbat service. New members who joined after January of 2022, please be on the lookout for an invitation. Following the service, we will have an Oneg where we can greet each other and enjoy a nosh. We can't wait to celebrate you!

Pre-Purim Tot Shabbat

Saturday, March 4, 9:00 a.m.

[In person at Temple Israel](#)

For our youngest members and their families—enjoy this special and festive Tot Shabbat service as we get ready for Purim! Join us in costume for a morning of fun including a story, singing, a parade, and a nosh.

Monthly Joyful Prayer Minyan & Torah Study: T'tzaveh

Saturday, March 4, 9:00 a.m.

[In Person and Via Zoom—First Saturday of Each Month through May](#)

First Saturdays of each month are a time for an expanded communal gathering that includes a musical morning service, Torah reading, and Torah study. All other Saturday Torah studies are Zoom only.



P U R I M

Family Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 5

9:30–10:30 a.m. Carnival for tots and their adults

10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Family carnival for all ages

[\(Note that JEWL Learners attend their regular sessions and can join the carnival following JEWL.\)](#)

Put on your costumes and join up with family and friends for a fun-filled Purim carnival. Enjoy games, snacks, and inflatable fun. Tickets for games and treats can be purchased the day of the carnival. Please note that there will be a special space for some sensory-friendly games.

Erev Purim

Monday, March 6

4:15–6:15 p.m. JEWL learners convene

Note: JEWL Learners will convene this day at 4:15 p.m. instead of during their regular Tuesday or Wednesday sessions.

5:00–6:15 p.m. Family Service, Megillah Reading, and Shpiel A Very Minnesota Purim: featuring the clergy and educators of Temple Israel

Even though Queen Esther wants to be nice to King Achashverosh, Mordechai is the target of Haman's persecution, and Haman offers the best buy on doing away with the Jews. Are Bigtan and Teresh the original Twins? Should we celebrate to the songs of Prince or Bob Dylan? And how did we get to the land of 10,000 Hamantaschen, anyway? Come to this year's shpiel to find out.

Visit our Heritage Judaica Bazaar to adopt a Jewish ritual item for yourself or a friend or donate a gently used piece of Judaica during our Purim programs.

7:00 p.m. Purim After Dark: Megillah Palette Party

Join us for a whimsical evening of art making and Megillah reading, as you nosh on our pickle and popcorn bar, and sip a nice drink. Congregant and jewelry maker Laura Wolovitch will be there to bedazzle you, and art teacher Anita White will coach us all on how to draw Purim scenes as our clergy and congregants pose for them. No experience required.

TEMPLE TUESDAYS

Sign up for **ONE** of these four-part series of study with our clergy or special guests.

Find the link to register at templeisrael.com/adult-learning.

Tuesdays, March 7, March 28*, May 2, June 6, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. (Note: Second class is in March due to Passover)

\$54 per person

All classes in person at Temple Israel

Deeper than Your Favorite Hummus: Israel at 75 with Rabbi Zimmerman

What is the significance of Israel for Jewish life? As we imagine the State of Israel beyond its 75th anniversary, Rabbi Zimmerman will lead us through conversations inspired by the Shalom Hartman Institute's iEngage Project. The project explores Jewish narratives about the people, land, and state of Israel. We will discuss the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with a focus on Jewish values such as justice, being a light unto the nations, self-preservation, and compromise. Using video and prompts for discussion, we will engage with the differing perspectives from within Israel and outside the land.



RABBI ZIMMERMAN

Beyond Black Hats: Chasidic Masters on the Weekly Torah Portion with Sara Lynn Newberger

Although it is largely associated with religious ultra-Orthodoxy today, the Chasidic movement emerged in the 18th century in what is now Ukraine as a Jewish spiritual revival movement that has so much to say to us today. Its early leaders and teachers sought to democratize Jewish study and observance and make mysticism more accessible by centering the experiential and sanctifying the everyday. Join Sara Lynn Newberger to explore four Torah portions through the lens of Chasidic masters, looking at their methods of interpretation and lessons for our lives.



SARA LYNN NEWBERGER

SARA LYNN NEWBERGER received her first chumash (volume of Torah) in third grade—and thus was born a lifelong love of studying Torah. Born in Chicago, she landed in St. Paul in 1989 where she came to work at the Talmud Torah of St. Paul Day School because the mission and vision resonated with her soul. At TTSP Sara Lynn has had many jobs. She served as the Director of Hineni from its inception in 2014 to 2022. Her favorite role has always been exploring Jewish texts, customs, values, and ideas with students of all ages.

This class is co-sponsored by Hineni.

Tefilah 201: Diving into Jewish Prayer with Rabbi Klein and Cantor Sharett-Singer

Jewish tradition describes prayer as a thrice-daily obligation. A progressive Jewish lens might suggest looking at it as a thrice-daily opportunity to reflect, petition, and express gratitude. Join Rabbi Klein in March and Cantor Sharett-Singer in May and June, along with fellow Temple Israel adults to take a closer look at the structure of the liturgy for weekdays, Shabbat, and holidays, and a deeper dive into the prayers that interest members of the class. Some issues we will consider are the tension between fixed and spontaneous prayer, personal and communal prayer, the importance of our words or our language, the music of prayer, and the role of God.



RABBI KLEIN



CANTOR SHARETT-SINGER

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Pilgrimage:

An Interfaith Civil Rights Journey

Sunday, March 12, 4:00–5:30 p.m. at Temple Israel

Panel about the Civil Rights Trip, Part 1

Sunday, March 19, 4:00–5:30 p.m. at

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Panel about Civil Rights Trip, Part 2

Sunday, March 26, 4:00–5:30 p.m. at

Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church

Interfaith Service of Song and Reflection

Please join us for a series of three presentations, panel discussions, and worship to commemorate the convergence of Ramadan, Passover, and Easter on three consecutive Sundays in March.

Over Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, Minneapolis senior clergy traveled to Atlanta, Birmingham, Selma, and Montgomery for an interfaith civil rights journey.

We heard Bryan Stephenson, author of *Just Mercy*, present at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta; walked the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma; memorialized the innocent children killed at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham; visited the new



INTERFAITH SENIOR CLERGY

Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery; and bore witness at the myriad of powerful museums and monuments paying homage to the leaders and foot soldiers of the Civil Rights Movement.

Our hearts and souls were touched as we prayed together at significant moments, sharing each of our traditions' words of healing and reconciliation. We are bringing our pilgrimage back to Minneapolis to share the lessons and insights we gleaned on this remarkable multi-faith journey.

HIGHLIGHTS IN JEWISH HISTORY WITH DR. JOE GOLDMAN

The Angel of Death: Josef Mengele, the Holocaust, and History

Saturday, March 11, 11:00 a.m.

[Via Zoom](#)

Josef Mengele was the notorious practitioner of medical experiments and torture to thousands of Jews at Auschwitz. His medical experiments on women and children were based on "racial hygiene" and indecency. Who was this man and what transformed him from healer to murderer?

From Schlemiel to Sabra: The Remaking of the Jewish Archetype

Saturday, April 8, 11:00 a.m.

[Via Zoom](#)

Ben Gurion wanted future Israeli men to shed their father's diasporic body shapes and transform themselves into "muscular Jews." Israeli cinema after the War of Independence reflects the shift from the fastidious and studious stereotypes in Europe to the mighty Sabra who works and protects the land, while the land itself emerges as a symbol of the feminine. How has this archetype evolved since the foundation of the state? And where are the women?

A Part or Apart: Portraits of Jewish Settlers on the West Bank

Saturday, May 13, 11:00 a.m.

[Via Zoom](#)

Since the West Bank of the Jordan River was occupied by Israel after the Six-Day War, Jews have established settlements ranging in size from one family on a hilltop to cities of tens of thousands. Some argue that Jews living in the Occupied Territories are a primary obstacle to peace and justice for Palestinians and Israelis; while others argue that they are a vehicle toward peace and justice. We will examine portraits of this group across a diversity of observance, political ideology, and socioeconomics.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Food for Thought

It's All About Shabbat Part 3: A Kabbalat Shabbat Musical Workshop with Cantor Sharett-Singer and Jayson Rodovsky

Tuesday, March 14, 11:00 a.m.

[In person](#) and [Via Zoom](#)

Join Cantor Sharett-Singer to learn about L'cha Dodi as a text and as a musical piece. We will explore and sing together various musical selections that interpret this late medieval poem. No musical background is needed; open to all!

Passover Workshop

Tuesday, March 28, 7:40-9:00 p.m.

[Via Zoom](#)

Join Temple Israel's Introduction to Judaism class for one evening as Rabbi Moss and Wendy Schwartz teach about Passover, model the order of a Passover Seder (seder means "order," after all!), and share some favorite family traditions. Whether you are brand new at this, want a refresher, wish to enhance your family's observance of Pesach, or are considering how to observe the holiday from a distance, this is an opportunity to learn with fellow congregants. RSVP to Wendy Schwartz (wendy@templeisrael.com).

Pre-Pesach Tot Shabbat

Saturday, April 1, 9:00 a.m.

[In Person at Temple Israel](#)

Join us for a fun morning of story and song. For our youngest members and their families—enjoy our Tot service with a Passover

twist! Sing Passover songs in preparation for the Seder, create a Passover project and have a nosh together.

Monthly Joyful Prayer Minyan & Torah Study: Tzav

Saturday, April 1, 9:00 a.m.

[In Person](#) and [Via Zoom](#)—[First Saturday of Each Month through May](#)

First Saturdays of each month are a time for an expanded communal gathering that includes a musical morning service, Torah reading, and Torah study. All other Saturday Torah studies are Zoom only.

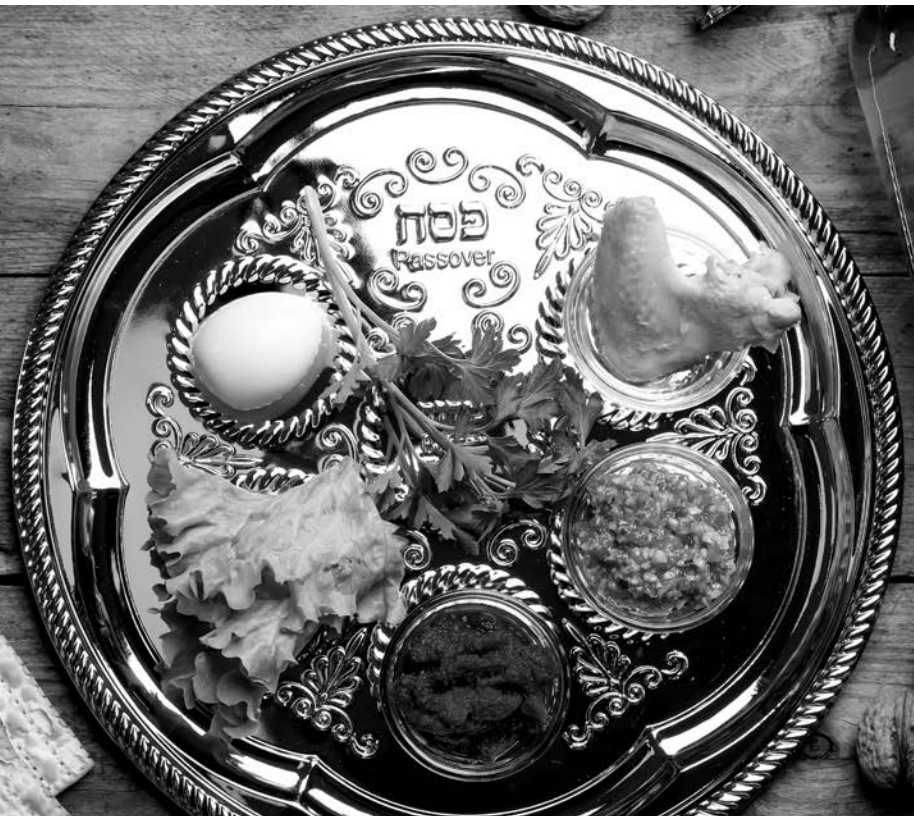
Counting the Omer E-List

Thursday, April 6-Thursday, May 25, 2023

With the coincidence of the Abrahamic holy seasons of Ramadan, Passover, and Easter, this year our Omer meditations will amplify voices from a diversity of faith traditions as they strive to make meaning in this world.

The seven weeks that link Passover and Shavuot are a period of gratitude, preparation, and reflection. Count the forty-nine-day period between Passover, which commemorates the Exodus, and Shavuot, which commemorates the giving of the Torah with a daily e-mail that includes a reflection from Jewish sources. E-mail e-learning@templeisrael.com to subscribe. If you have subscribed to e-learning in the past, you will continue to receive Elul and Omer daily reflections.

CHAG PESACH SAMEACH



UPCOMING EVENTS



Temple Offices will be closed in observance of the 1st day of Pesach on Thursday, April 6

First Day of Pesach Morning Service

Thursday, April 6, 10:30 a.m.

[Via Zoom](#)

Join together for a festive service on the first morning of Pesach. Services will include special melodies, and Hallel Psalms of praise.

Erev Shabbat Service including the blessing for those traveling to Israel

Friday, April 7, 6:00 p.m.

Please join us for this Passover-inspired service as we bless our clergy and congregants who will be traveling to Israel with the Federation’s Mega Mission. We will send them off with prayers for safe travel and safe return. We hope you will join us.

Experience Israel Minnesota Mega Mission 2023

April 13-23

Rabbi Zimmerman, Rabbi Moss, and 50 Temple Israel congregants will be among the 250 participants on the Experience Israel Minnesota Mega Mission 2023. Coinciding with the 75th anniversary of Israel’s independence, this trip brings first-timers and many-timers to Israel to dance, explore, learn, volunteer, and forge connections with each other and Israel.

Erev 7th Day of Pesach Service

[Via Temple’s Website \(Pre-recorded service\)](#)

Tuesday, April 11, 6:00 p.m.

Mark the beginning of the last day of Passover with an special blessings for the last day of the holiday and by saying Kaddish. Visit templeisrael.com/weekly to view the service.

Temple Offices will be closed in observance of the 7th Day of Pesach on Wednesday, April 12

7th Day of Pesach Morning Service with Healing and Yizkor Prayers

Report Out of Egypt with Representative Frank Hornstein

[In Person and via Zoom](#)

Wednesday, April 12, 10:30 a.m.

Join Temple Israel’s clergy for a service for the seventh day of Passover, a day we associate with our ancestors crossing of the Sea of Reeds as we continue the journey toward freedom. Representative Frank Hornstein will join us to share his experience at the Climate Talks in Egypt (COP27). The service will include Healing and Yizkor (memorial) prayers. We look forward to learning and worshipping with you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE: Elana Arian **A Leading Voice in Contemporary Jewish Music** **SONGS AND STORIES OF CONNECTION**

Friday, April 14–Sunday, April 16

Join us for spiritually uplifting songs, soulful melodies, and profoundly moving lyrics in a musically rich weekend with Elana Arian.

Erev Shabbat Service: **Sermon in Song with Elana Arian**

Friday, April 14, 6:00 p.m.

Join us following the service for an Oneg sponsored by Bruce Goodman.

Havdalah Concert with Elana Arian

Saturday, April 15, 5:45 p.m.

A one-of-a-kind opportunity to experience Elana's inspirational music to open our hearts and rejoice in song.

Free and open to all. Dessert reception follows the concert. RSVP by Thursday, April 13, to Drea Johnson at djohnson@templeisrael.com.

ELANA ARIAN

A composer, multi-instrumentalist, and prayer leader, Elana Arian is one of the leading voices in contemporary Jewish music. Elana's music is part of Jewish life across the globe, and her compositions are sung in spiritual communities, summer camps, and synagogues.

Elana just released her fourth album of original music, *The Other Side of Fear*. Elana serves proudly on the faculty of Hava Nashira (Oconomowoc, WI), the Wexner Heritage Foundation (Aspen, CO), Shirei Chagiga (London), and as an instructor at the Hebrew Union College in New York, where she teaches at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music. Elana has performed at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Tanglewood, and perhaps most memorably, five separate times for the Obama White House. She lives in New York with her wife, Julia, and their two daughters, Maya and Acadia.



ELANA ARIAN

Yom HaShoah: Holocaust Remembrance Day **Twin Cities Annual Yom HaShoah Commemoration**

Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

[Beth Jacob Congregation, 1179 Victoria Curve, Mendota Heights](#)

The Yom HaShoah Commemoration is co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas, Beth Jacob Congregation, Children of Holocaust Survivors Association in Minnesota (CHAIM), Minneapolis Jewish Federation, St. Paul Jewish Federation, Generations After MN, and the Micki and Mort Naiman Holocaust Education Fund. For more information, contact the JCRC at (612) 338-7816 or susie@minndakjrc.org.

Erev Yom HaZikaron: **An Evening for Remembering Fallen Israeli** **Soldiers and Victims of Terror**

Monday, April 24, 6:00 p.m.

[Temple of Aaron, 616 South Mississippi River Blvd., St. Paul](#)

Yom HaZikaron (Israeli Memorial Day) memorializes those who gave their lives in defense of the State of Israel, as well as civilian victims of terrorism.

Yom HaAtzma'ut

Tuesday, April 25–Wednesday, April 26

Yom HaAtzma'ut (Israeli Independence Day) marks the anniversary of the establishment of the modern state of Israel in 1948. It is observed on or near the 5th of the Hebrew month of Iyar on the Jewish calendar. It is preceded by Yom HaZikaron (Israeli Memorial Day). The Twin Cities Jewish community will celebrate on Sunday, April 30. (See details on page 9.)

Israel Shabbat in honor of Yom HaAtzma'ut: **From Memory to Celebration and** **Thank you and Farewell to Rabbi Klein**

Friday, April 28, 6:00 p.m.

In celebration of Yom HaAtzma'ut, our Erev Shabbat service will feature Rabbi Zimmerman and Rabbi Moss offering reflections on their trip to Israel. Cantor Sharett-Singer will include special musical selections that highlight modern Israeli musicians' contributions to liturgical music.

We will also be thanking Rabbi Klein for his five years of service to our Temple Israel community and wishing him well on his next adventures.

UPCOMING EVENTS



YOM HA'ATZMAUT - 2023

Twin Cities Yom Ha'atzma'ut Celebration Israel at 75

Sunday, April 30, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Israel 75th Birthday Bash at Nickelodeon Universe in the Mall of America

Come together as a community when we transform Nickelodeon Universe into the perfect destination to party! Israeli music, performance, activities for adults and kids, wristbands for rides and so much more! This is the celebration you won't want to miss. Pre-registration will be required. Details coming soon!

Sponsored by the Minneapolis Jewish Federation, the St. Paul Jewish Federation, the Minnesota JCC.

May Tot Shabbat Returns to Friday!

Friday, May 5 at 5:30 p.m.

at Temple Israel

Join us on Friday evening for Israel for Tots! For our youngest members and their families, our Israel Tot Shabbat Service will include an array of activities: a story, crafts, a nosh and lots of fun together. We're excited to celebrate Israel in story and song with you!

Monthly Joyful Prayer Minyan & Torah Study: Emor

Saturday, May 6, 9:00 a.m.

In Person and Via Zoom—First Saturday of Each Month through May

First Saturdays of each month are a time for an expanded communal gathering that includes a musical morning service, Torah reading, and Torah study. All other Saturday Torah studies are Zoom only.

Food for Thought

7.5 Songs for 7.5 Decades of Israeli History

Tuesday, May 9, 11:00 a.m.

In person

Rabbi Moss and Ben Bitton will take you on a journey through 75 years of Israeli history through the lens of music, roughly one song per decade. How can there be 7.5 songs, you ask? Did you know that, after presenting the song for the first time in May 1967, just a few weeks later Naomi Shemer added an extra verse to "Yerushalayim Shel Zahav" (Jerusalem of Gold) after the Six-Day War celebrating the access to sites that Jordan had occupied from 1948 until 1967?

SHAVUOT: SAVE THE DATE!

Watch your email for more information.

Erev Shavuot Service including the Confirmation of our 10th Grade Learners, followed by a Tikkun Study Program

Thursday, May 25, 6:00 p.m.

Shavuot Morning Service including Yizkor and Healing Prayers

Friday, May 26, 10:30 a.m.

TEMPLE
ISRAEL

VOICES

IDEAS OF OUR TIME

VOICES 2023:

Honoring Cantor Abelson and the Life of Leonard Bernstein

Wednesday, May 10 & Thursday, May 11

See the back cover for more information.



CANTOR ABELSON



FAMOUS
FATHER
GIRL
*A Memoir of
Growing Up Bernstein*
JAMIE BERNSTEIN

YOUTH EVENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO RSVP, CONTACT DANI WALLACE AT DWALLACE@TEMPLEISRAEL.COM

KiND Fun Science

Sunday, March 12, 1:00–3:00 p.m.

KiND is going to explore, learn, and create together. We will even learn how to make our own slime!

TIMSY Rock Climbing

Sunday, March 19, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Join TIMSY for an indoor rock climbing adventure!

TIPTY Chocolate Seder

Wednesday, March 22, 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Celebrate Passover with TIPTY! The teens are taking over High School JEWL for a delicious chocolate seder.



TIPTY Mystery Bus Ride & Overnight

Saturday, March 25–Sunday, March 26

Pack your toothbrush and a sleeping bag—TIPTY's annual Mystery Bus Ride & Overnight is back, and it's going to be an epic adventure!

NFTY Spring Kallah at OSRUI

Friday, April 14–Sunday, April 16

TIPTY is loading up the coach bus with other Twin Cities Jewish Teens and making the trip to OSRUI in Wisconsin for NFTY's annual weekend-long retreat. We'll celebrate Shabbat, participate in social and educational programs designed by and for Jewish teens, and connect as a kehillah (community) with youth groups from Illinois, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, and Canada.



GRADUATING SENIORS PROGRAM

Temple Israel would like to continue to be a part of your learner's journey. Whatever your learner's plan once they have graduated high school, be it further education, travel, or another track, we would like to deepen our bond with them.

To that end, we have created the **You're Off to Great Places Program** to build upon your learner's connection with Temple Israel and to help them celebrate their Jewish identity in this next chapter. Over the course of their first year after high school, your learner will receive:

- High Holy Day kit including festive New Year greetings
- Shabbat kit for weekly celebration
- A personal invitation to the graduate, and the graduate's parent(s)/guardian(s), to our Thanksgiving weekend
- Chanukah kit to celebrate each day of the holiday
- A Purim treat
- Festive Passover greetings in the spring

Meredith Forgosh surprised her daughter Samantha this year with the program and it felt good to know that her daughter would "have a connection to home and Temple Israel." Samantha received her first package for the High Holy Days at midterms and she said it made her feel like she had people and tradition with her at a college with few Jewish students. She also said the nosh made studying for exams that much easier!

To cover the cost of creating and sending each package, we are requesting that each family contribute \$136 for each graduate. This could be a graduation gift from parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins—anyone in their lives who wants them to feel a piece of home wherever they are.

To enroll your learner, please go to congregationconnect.tfaforms.net/391298 or contact Roberta Bonoff at rbonoff@templeisrael.com

HIGH SCHOOL CLASS TRIP

During the weekend of January 27–30, about 20 Temple Israel high schoolers traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in L'Taken, a program of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. The program teaches learners from around the country about the legislative process and concludes with lobbying their representatives and senators in Congress on the final day of the gathering through the lenses of Jewish values and personal experience. Part of what made this trip extra special is that Representative Dean Phillips set aside extra time to give our learners, his fellow Temple members, an “insider” tour of the Capitol. We even ran into Representative Jamie Raskin (pictured). We sat in the House of Representatives while Rep. Phillips shared his story of how he came to serve, taught us about procedures, and recounted the horror of his experience on January 6, 2021 on the House floor. He also reminded us of the paradox that the symbol of freedom that is the Capitol was built by enslaved Americans.

This year, our teens lobbied the teams of Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith and Representatives Dean Phillips and Ilhan Omar on issues of mental healthcare access, voting rights, the environment, anti-Semitism, and Israel.



75 WAYS TO CONNECT

FIFTEEN THINGS TO SAY IN ISRAEL

Many of these words have come from Arabic into Hebrew

1. **Sababa** comes from Arabic and means excellent.
2. If you hear a glass break in public, you might shout, “**Mazel tov!**”
3. “**Selicha**” is a polite way of asking to excuse yourself when pushing through a crowd.
4. “**Nahag**” or “**naheget**” are the masculine and feminine words for driver. If you’re riding a bus, and the driver closes the door prematurely, this is the word that gets the driver’s attention.
5. **B’t’e’avon** means *bon appétit*.
6. **Mamash** means “really” and takes its accent on the second syllable, unlike the more Yiddish influenced “mamesh” with the accent of the first syllable.
7. **Bagela** are types of bread that aren’t quite a bagel and aren’t quite a pretzel.
8. **Ahalan**—is an abbreviation for Ahalan wa’sahalan—Arabic words of welcoming.
9. **Yalla** is an adaptable expression, meaning anything from “let’s go” to the signal that it’s time to end a conversation not to be confused with . . .
10. **Walla** which can mean “I agree,” or express disbelief such as “huh?!” or “wow!”
11. **Fashla** or **fadiha** are Arabic words that mean something is messed up or outrageous.
12. A **balagan** is a fiasco.
13. A **simcha** is a happy occasion while **b’simcha** is a response to thank you that means “with pleasure.”
14. **Matzav** means situation and often refers specifically to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
15. **Shtuyot** means nonsense.



FIFTEEN WAYS HISTORY IS ALIVE IN ISRAEL

16. **Tel Aviv**’s name reflects Theodor Herzl’s *Altneuland*, Old-New Country. “Tel” is the word for an archaeological hill created from succeeding eras of life on the same site. “Aviv” is the Hebrew word for spring.
17. Performances in the **Jerusalem Citadel**: from the laser light show depicting the history of Jerusalem to exhibitions of music and the arts, the Citadel is another one of Israel’s old-new spaces.
18. While there are no guarantees of the water parting, **scuba diving in the Red Sea** is one way a site connected to our most ancient stories meets the latest technology.
19. **Ben Gurion airport**, the state-of-the-art international gateway to Israel, was renovated in 2002, yet the ramp that leads to departures and from arrivals is faced with Jerusalem stone.
20. **Baba Sali**—Rabbi Israel Abuhatzera (1889 to 1984) was from a family in Morocco and moved to Israel in the 1950s, returned to Morocco, and came back to Israel in the 1960s, where he settled in Netivot. He was known as a great counselor and giver of blessings. Some 100,000 people celebrate his life on his Hilula, the anniversary of his death each year, by making a pilgrimage to Netivot. From Etsy items to cell phone cases, his image is one of the most popular of tzadikim (righteous people) that endure in popular Israeli culture.
21. **Hatikvah**, the national anthem of the state, is adapted from Naftali Herz Imber’s poem. Among its verses are the reminder “od lo avda tikvatevu,” we have not lost our hope, a message of optimism even when we struggle.

WITH ISRAEL AT 75

22. The **Jaffa-Jerusalem railway** was completed about 130 years ago and historically linked to other rail lines in Lebanon and the Arabian Peninsula. Neither terminal of the railway operates anymore, but both the municipalities of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv-Yafo have converted their old stations into places of gathering with shops, restaurants, and performances.
23. The **Port of Jaffa** goes back to the time of the Hebrew Bible. Here, the prophet Jonah famously boarded a boat going away from where he was told to go. Today, Jaffa continues to be a bustling center of fishing and is the home to Nalagaat, a cultural center that includes the world's first deafblind theatre ensemble.
24. **Bet HaGefen** is an Arab-Jewish center in Haifa that hosts a variety of programs. Its 2018 "Third Space" exhibition encourages visitors to go beyond limiting descriptions of their identity, character, or stories, and to embrace the complexity of our experience.
25. **Jews of different colors and backgrounds** live all over Israel and bring with them distinctive foods, stories, and traditions.
26. **Jerusalem's Old City** is barely one square kilometer, yet home to some of the most revered sites in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic tradition. Sites such as the Western Wall, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and Al-Aqsa Mosque are connected to thousands of years of history yet visited by pilgrim and tourist alike to this day.



27. Twelve stained glass windows designed by **Marc Chagall** depicting our twelve ancient tribes are located at the synagogue of Hadassah University Medical Center in Jerusalem, one of the most sophisticated medical centers in the world.
28. In ancient times, Mondays and Thursdays were **market days**. To this day, most Israeli banks keep late hours on Mondays and Thursdays.
29. Recently, several **date palm seeds** were discovered from the Herodian period, approximately two thousand years ago, that have since germinated.
30. For nearly 1,500 years, the Muslim Nusseibeh family has been responsible for **guarding the key** to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.



FIFTEEN ANIMALS/VEGETABLES/MINERALS

31. Five hundred million birds migrate through the **Hula Valley** nature reserve each year on their way between Eurasia & Africa.
32. It is said that if you toss a stone in Jerusalem, you are bound to hit a synagogue...or a **stray cat**.
33. The **Eilat Underwater Observatory** park at Israel's southernmost tip hosts over 800 species.
34. The **Dead Sea** is the lowest place on earth and measures about ten times the salinity of ocean water.



75 WAYS TO CONNECT

35. The names of local animals and plants form many **popular Hebrew names** from Tamar and Dekel to Yonah and Ayala.
36. The largest freshwater body in the land of Israel is the **Kineret**, called the Sea of Galilee in English.
37. You **can ask a chicken why it crossed the road** in Jaffa, where many chickens roam free and roosters cockadoodledoo at all times of day and night.
38. **Makhtesh Ramon**, in the Negev desert, is the world's largest erosion cirque at 500 meters deep.
39. Thanks to the seismic activity along the Jordan Rift Valley, there are **hot mineral springs** located in the Golan Heights.
40. **Palm trees** are part of the landscape of the land of Israel. The biblical Psalmist compared righteous people to date palms.
41. The **Mediterranean Sea** runs up and down Israel's West coast from Lebanon in the north to Gaza and Egypt in the South. Tel Aviv beaches contribute to the city's European feel.
42. Jerusalem's Malha neighborhood is the home to over 2,000 animals who reside in the **biblical zoo**.
43. The worldwide Baha'i community maintains the **gardens** that run all the way up Mount Carmel in the City of Haifa.
44. The prickly cactus fruit with a soft inside called **sabra** became has been nickname for Jews born in the land of Israel for nearly 100 years.
45. Israel is home to over **1,700 species of fish!**



FIFTEEN CULINARY DELIGHTS

46. The Levant has made the preparation of **chickpeas** into an art form. Enjoy a falafel sandwich with hummus and topped with more chickpeas!

47. If it's spice you're after, you might ask for **zhug**, a spicy sauce from Yemen.
48. **Jaffa oranges** predate the founding of Israel by about 100 years. They were developed by Arab farmers in the 19th century.
49. How many times can you say hamotzi? From "ordinary" pita bread, to big, floury loaves, to giant laffa and layered Jachnun, the **variety of breads** you can find in Israel is only matched by their deliciousness.



50. Israel is famous for its savory breakfasts, so the spicy tomato and egg **shakshuka** is a great way to start your day.
51. Sesame seeds form the base of the savory **Tahini** and sweet **Halva** desserts.
52. Letting no part of the animal go to waste, Jerusalemites enjoy the mix of chicken hearts, kidneys, and liver with a savory spice blend called the **Jerusalem Mixed Grill**.
53. Vegetarians and omnivores alike delight in **mujaddara**, a simple but filling dish made up of rice, lentils, fried onions, and a host of spices.
54. **Olive trees** have been cultivated for thousands of years in the land of Israel. Olive and olive oil production make up 70% of Palestinian fruit production.



WITH ISRAEL AT 75

55. While dining out, your meal will likely begin with several cold **salatim**—small dishes of salads, pickles, dips, and more.
56. Bite-size savory pastries called **bourekas** are a Sefardi tradition that makes a tasty light snack that can be found in most every bakery.
57. **Sufganiyot** are prepared for Chanukah and year-round with extra-special fillings such as dulce de leche.
58. Jewish and Palestinian Israelis alike enjoy thick, rich **Arabic and Turkish coffees** which are often flavored with saffron, cardamom, or rosewater.
59. **Shawarma**, spiced meats roasted on a rotisserie and shaved in thin slices, is a favorite lunch or light meal.
60. And if meat is not your thing, Tel Aviv is considered one of the most **vegan-friendly** cities in the world.

FIFTEEN CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

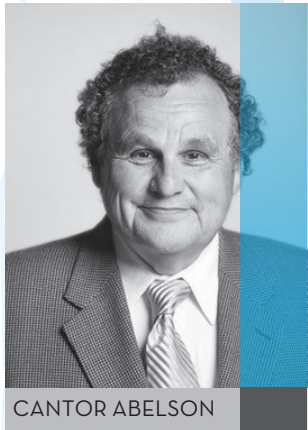
61. Watch a **classic Israeli society movie** from the early days of the state such as *Sallah Shabati* or *The Big Dig*.
62. Watch a contemporary **Israeli television series** such as “Shtisel,” “Fauda,” “Valley of Tears,” or “The Spy.”
63. **Enjoy the verses of Zelda** (1914–1984), whose poem “Each of Us Has a Name” links ancient Jewish traditions with the most important moments in our lives today.
64. Watch a **more recent Israeli society movie** such as *Broken Wings*, *Walk on Water*, *The Band’s Visit*, *the Bubble*, or *Five Broken Cameras*.



65. Get to know the work of **Belaynesh Yitzhak Mekonen**, a visiting scholar in Minneapolis this year, who came to Israel as an eight-year-old from Ethiopia and whose academic work focuses on the transmission of culture through the mother tongue.
66. Read a **Yossi Klein Halevi book** such as *Like Dreamers* (about the paratroopers from the Six Day War) or *Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor*
67. Celebrate **Sigd**, the Ethiopian Jewish holiday that is now an official holiday in Israel.
68. Take a close look at the lyrics of “Shirat HaSticker,” the **hip-hop collaboration** between HaDag Nahash and David Grossman whose lyrics are mostly drawn from bumper stickers.
69. Explore some **poetry by Yehuda Amichai**, lauded as Israel’s greatest poet. You can find a lot online and books in English language translation.
70. The New York Times once described **Etgar Keret** as “if Kafka were Israeli and wrote about talking goldfish.” You can enjoy this surrealist writer’s stories as texts and graphic novellas such as *Jetlag*.
71. Follow **Eurovision**, the annual spring song contest that Israel has won four times in Eurovision’s 66-year history.
72. Take a **graffiti tour** of south Tel Aviv or along the West Bank separation barrier to see how art can be a mover for social change.
73. Enjoy **Vardi Kahana’s** collection of photography called *One Family*, filled with images of a family of Holocaust survivors around the world.
74. In 2009, after surveying the public, the Academy for the Hebrew language gave names to the **planets Uranus and Neptune** which were not yet named in Talmudic Hebrew. They are named Oron and Rahab, referring to a dim light and a biblical sea monster.
75. Israel has won a total of **13 Olympic medals**.

Musical VOICES 2023

HONOR CANTOR EMERITUS BARRY ABELSON AND THE LIFE OF LEONARD BERNSTEIN

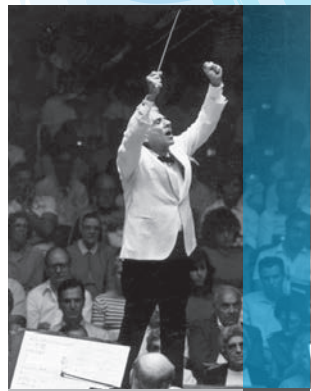


CANTOR ABELSON

Few congregations are as fortunate as Temple Israel to have enjoyed 37 years with our beloved Cantor Abelson. In addition to his incredible voice, he has been a warm and comforting presence in so many of our lives over the years. As he has transitioned to emeritus status, we are excited to take this opportunity to honor him in a special way—and what better way than with a musical celebration at Temple’s annual benefit, VOICES?

In addition to honoring Cantor and his many years of service to our community, VOICES this year will also celebrate the life of the renowned conductor, composer, and performer, Leonard Bernstein. Best known for his musicals *West Side Story*, *On the Town*, and *Candide*, as well as his leadership of the New York Philharmonic, he has remained an iconic cultural figure for decades.

This year, we are thrilled to welcome Jamie Bernstein, daughter of Leonard Bernstein. Jamie is the author of the memoir *Famous Father Girl: A Memoir of Growing Up Bernstein*, which offers a rare perspective on Bernstein’s life and legacy. We will also welcome Broadway star Andréa Burns (*In the Heights*, *West Side Story*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Electric Company*). Jamie Bernstein will speak about her experiences growing up in the Bernstein family; Burns will perform some of Bernstein’s most beloved works. “I am honored to be a part of celebrating Cantor Abelson, and to be part of furthering the incredible legacy that he has built during his long and distinguished career,” said Cantor Sharett-Singer. “I am so excited to bring a bit of Broadway glamour to Temple Israel this spring.”



LEONARD BERNSTEIN

Please join us as we celebrate Cantor Abelson and all things Bernstein. More information will be available on our website, www.templeisrael.com/voices; tickets will go on sale this spring.

VOICES 2023 will be held on Thursday, May 11.

An additional special event honoring Cantor and featuring our VOICES guests will be held on Wednesday, May 10, in a private home.

Please see www.templeisrael.com/voices for details.



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Leonard Bernstein, son Alexander and daughter Jamie