# TEMPLE OHEV SHOLOM

BULLETIN

SIVAN - ELUL 5782 **SUMMER 2022 - VOL. 12 NO. 10** 

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### FROM YOUR RABBI: AS I SAY GOODBYE

It's not easy saying good-bye after 21 years as your rabbi.

It's been a difficult time for many of us as we all prepare for a transition, but I want to leave you with these thoughts...

I care about you. Time allows us the opportunity to look back from our days of uncertainty, and with the passing of time, we often find clarity. I know that each of us will be able to find our own path forward in the months and years to come, and I hope we can look back on our time together with a sense of joy.





### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In my final message, I want to thank everyone in our temple family for the honor of serving as President of the Board of Trustees. I was truly humbled to be asked to become the lay leader of our congregation in the fall of 2019. Since that time, during three years of unexpected challenges, I have tried to fulfill this important responsibility to the best of my ability.

I very much appreciate the support and generosity of our members; the leadership and wise counsel of my fellow trustees; the energy and enthusiasm of our Sisterhood; and the hard work and dedication of our full-and part-time staffs. Without all of you, there would be no organization to lead. Because of you, this is a very special place.

With Rabbi Kessler's time as the spiritual leader of Ohev Sholom also coming to a close this month, I want to reiterate the Board's gratitude for his two decades of service. We had intended to honor him with a farewell event before he moves to his new congregation in Texas, but we are respecting his expressed desire to forgo such formalities. I hope that each of you has a chance to say good-bye and to thank him in a way that you find personally meaningful.

I am confident that everyone wishes Rabbi Kessler and his family nothing but the best in the next exciting chapter of their lives. The Board would be remiss if we did not again recognize his legacy of hosting a high-spirited Tot Shabbat program, building relationships with other organizations in the Harrisburg area, and, perhaps most importantly, emphasizing the importance of diversity and inclusivity among our membership. I am confident that those important initiatives will continue.

I look forward to playing a supporting role on the Board as Immediate Past President beginning on July 1. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Rob Teplitz President, Temple Ohev Sholom

### **SIGN UP FOR THE E-BULLETIN**

Please let Michelle Darr know if you are willing to receive future issues of the bulletin electronically. Doing so will help both the temple budget and the environment. If you change your mind later, we would be happy to re-subscribe you to the hard copy, no questions asked. Thank you in advance!

### RABBINIC SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Dear fellow Ohev congregants:

You'll recall the board arranged for the Central Conference of American Rabbis ("CCAR") to post our position vacancy on its password-protected job posting site. Consistent with CCAR guidance, we advertised for a full-time interim rabbi.

Six weeks passed without a CCAR referral. Out of the blue, a rabbi with family ties to members of our congregation connected us with a retired rabbi who expressed interest in our vacancy. After a brief initial Zoom meeting with us, and an extended Zoom interview with the whole search committee, the committee concluded he was not a good fit for our congregation.

CCAR recently shared resumes of two other rabbis who seems promising. The committee meets with one of them via Zoom this week; a Zoom interview with the other will be scheduled. Meanwhile, we have other possibilities for meeting our spiritual needs for the coming year. Engaging part-time professional spiritual leadership is a possibility, and we're actively pursuing this avenue. We've heard from members who welcome the opportunity to participate in leading worship services. In response, it's likely we'll incorporate a monthly lay-led Shabbat service. Occasional joint services with our friends at Beth El and, perhaps, other local congregations, can add richness and diversity to our worship experiences. This could be a component of our programming solution.

We pledged to expand the search committee, and have done so. Four new members were randomly selected from a list of 19 TOS members who expressed interest in serving on the committee. Since the random drawing on May 15, one new member withdrew and was replaced with our first alternate. All names were sourced at the first special congregation meeting on April 13th, through Constant Contact solicitation to all members, and snail mail to a small group of members who don't rely on electronic communications.

The four new members are Linda Goldstein, Jamie Gordon, April Hutcheson, and Tony Lepore. They join, in addition to the undersigned, Dillan Briggs, Irith Harpster, Reyna José, Steve Miskin, Ari Nepon, Bekah Saidman-Krauss, and Austin Wolfe. Our newly expanded committee is scheduled to meet on May 24th.

We're open to receiving questions and opinions. Please reach out to us using our contact information below. Your support and encouragement is vital to the success of our mission to identify new spiritual leadership for our congregational family.

Thank you.

Bruce Feldman [brucebaf@hotmail.com; (M) 717.856.0423]

Shelley Adler [sladler@aol.com; (M) 717.576.7286]

### BOOK REVIEW NEWS... MARK YOUR CALENDARS...



Thursday, November 10, 2022

Temple Ohev Sholom Sisterhood and the Symons/Rose families are proud to welcome author, Cathy Barrow for our **25**<sup>th</sup> **Symons/Rose Book Review**.

We are very excited for her to join us to speak to us about her book, *Bagels*, *Schmears and a Nice Piece of Fish*.

More information will come in the next couple of months.

## SISTERHOOD NEWS

The following are the Sisterhood Installation speeches of Co-Presidents Reyna Jose and Jeanette Krebs from May 15.

**Jeanette:** Thank you to everyone who helped put this event together. I am excited to join Reyna as co-sisterhood president. We are already talking about a lot of great ideas for the coming year.

I have been involved with sisterhood since my girls were little and have gone to many events, speakers, board meetings, and helped put together more than a few sukkahs. But I wanted to do a little research as I took on this new role with sisterhood.

When it comes to allies, the "sisterhood is the temple leadership's best friend." That was the comment written in *American Hebrew* magazine in 1928. That writer had a point. Voluntary organizations such as the sisterhoods kept the American Jewish community afloat back then and still does today.

Sisterhood is more than just an outlet for the talents and energies of women in a synagogue. This volunteerism enables the American Jewish community to pursue an agenda of good works.

In the past, sisterhoods were like social services, feeding and clothing the poor; aiding and comforting the sick; tending to the social life of the synagogue, and promoting the cause of Israel. Without the contributions of sisterhood members' time and resources, the vitality of American Jewish life would be considerably less.

As part of my time getting ready for today I looked up something called *Sisterhood: A Centennial History of Women of Reform Judaism.* I learned that in 1931, in the depths of the great depression, reform temple sisterhoods got involved in an effort to help blind people read. They spent years translating books and Jewish texts to braille, becoming one of the biggest supporters of reading efforts for the blind.

What's more, long before "women's lib" had become a household word, one sisterhood member in New Jersey said, "sisterhoods enabled Jewish women to shine."

Quite a legacy.

Today our sisterhood members still help educate Jewish children, comfort the bereaved, work on social action causes and allow the synagogue to celebrate holidays together. We have been the glue of Ohev Sholom, the mortar, and we have a lot to do in the next two years to make sure that cementing of the synagogue continues.

I took a trip to Connecticut this weekend for my niece's college graduation, and as I was starting out on my travels, I took out a notepad that I keep in my glove box to write down some addresses. It was a notepad I picked up at a sisterhood board meeting pre-COVID. At the top of each blue page it reads "I belong to Temple Ohev Sholom... we are a family."

### SISTERHOOD NEWS

It struck me as very poignant. Part of our work is to help remind everyone of these words and that there is a connection between all of us. We are indeed a family. Given the history of sisterhood and all the incredible things that have been accomplished, and given our role as the temple glue, I have no doubt we can do this.

**Reyna:** We are keeping this sisterhood legacy alive and are thrilled about what we have accomplished, and what we will do in this new chapter for our synagogue.

I like to think that COVID didn't slow us down too, too much. We still had our Symons/Rose book reviews, even if they were online. Speakers from around the United States Zoomed in and discussed traveling to Israel, we had authors who discussed books they wrote about movie moguls, books they wrote about Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and a wonderful speaker who took us on a virtual tour through the Art Museum of Philadelphia. We also had speakers who discussed Alzheimer's and Dementia with us. In the dark winter days of the pandemic we even had a couple of bingo nights that were well attended by congregants who just wanted to Zoom in to connect with others. Thank goodness for the magic of Zoom.

But it wasn't all about Zoom. Throughout the year, we gathered together to build our beautiful sukkah, we collected kosher food for the JFS food bank, we collected and delivered clothing to Beth El for an effort to help refugees from Afghanistan who are settling here in our community, we even did a mini Mitzvah Day with our 7th grade Religious School students where we prepared bagged lunches for Downtown Daily Bread and collected toiletries, as well. If we were not a strong organization, we would not have been able to accomplish all that we did... and we did a lot. We all should be very proud.

But there is still more to be done. In the coming year we have plans for more great programming, including a way to bring Jewish and Muslim women together for a discussion. We have our next Symons/Rose Book Review planned for Thursday, November 10. Author Cathy Barrow will discuss her book, *Bagels Schmears*, and a Nice Piece of Fish. We also plan to embark on more social action programming. Importantly, we would love to hear from you. If you have ideas for programs and activities, please let us know.

We want to build on sisterhood and are happy to see some new members here today. One of our goals is to get more people involved with sisterhood and its great works. We are a vital support of the synagogue and would love to see more people joining our efforts.

I want to thank everyone who has been on the board and a part of sisterhood during my presidency. I certainly could not have done this on my own and I appreciate all your support and energy during these two years. I know Jeanette and I would be so happy if you would continue to be a part of our sisterhood's efforts.

As we look at today, we hope the incredible sisterhood past... both inspires you to be proud and to volunteer in the future. Thank you very much.



Pictured are Frankie Glass (Recording Secretary), Doreen Evrard (Vice-President), Kim Poolman (Advisor), Jodi Nueschwander (Vice-President), Jeanette Krebs (Co-President), Reyna Jose (Co-President) and Patti Hivner (Past-President & Presenter). Missing are Linda Stewart (Corresponding Secretary) and Denyse Miskin (Advisor).

What a pleasure to finally gather within our temple's social hall to celebrate with our sisterhood and congregants with food and fun. And most of all, to celebrate our outgoing and incoming Sisterhood Executive Board. We noshed on bagels, lox, pastries, and fruit courtesy of Susan Symons. After a brief general meeting conducted by our outgoing President, Reyna Jose, the slate of nominated board members was read, a vote taken and unanimously approved. The installation presentation began with Sisterhood Past-President Patti Hivner as presenter. Patti came up with a new and fresh approach for this installation. What better time to do so after not being together in-person for 2 years because of the pandemic? The newly elected TOSS Executive Board members were paired with animals who shared their personality type, as you can see in the picture. The paring was made from Patti's experience with each member over the years as well as the position they hold on the board. The excitement built in the room as the attendees anticipated what animal would be paired with each board member. The ah's, joy and laughter filled the hall. Once all was revealed, the new Co-Presidents, Jeanette Krebs and Reyna Jose, spoke wonderful and heartfelt words to all. The strongest part of their message was to always remember we are a family and we will remain strong as we continue to support our Sisterhood and Temple Ohev Sholom together. We look forward to seeing everyone in the future months. So, keep your eyes and ears open for what is ahead. Enjoy your summer!!





### JUNE KADDISH

#### June 3

Joseph Alexander Mollie Cohen Moe L. Cooper Samuel Dealham, Jr. Millard Jay Gordon Louise Buch Grass E. Mortimer Israel **Toby Jacobs** Roy J. Kibler Charles Krauss Harold Kravitz Sarah Lehrman Hedy K. Lenz **Evelyn Lightman Richards** Fanny Sachs Florence Symons Rabbi Jeffrey J. Weisblatt

#### June 10

Tasos Coulianos
Lena Eisenberg
Howard Fineshriber
Jack Fleishman
Morton A. Friedman
Beatrice Goldsmith
Morris Hoffman
Ellen Brody Hughes
Margaret Kelly
Joseph G. Levy
A.L.Nassau
Matilda Pyke
Ria M. Wolff

#### June 17

**Charles Berg** Manya Burickson Zoel Burickson Rene Cohen Seibert Feldman S. Joseph Freedman Jean Goldberg Geri Henken Sarah Jaffe Terry Kassel Jeanette Laubheim I.E. Meyers Herbert Narrow Marvin Rappaport Marcus Rosenbaum Stanley Roth Leah Ruda **Howard Spitalny** Sol Wiener

#### June 24

Lena D. Adler Cheryl Anzel Sarah Baturin Kassnar Rita Levitiss Beck Jessica Goodman Daniel A. Greene Fran Z. Guttman Berniece Hyman **Dolly Krause** Jack Levy Bessie Rouse Mary Sachs Sarah Saxe Gina Steiner Michael Ufberg Sophie Viadimerov

### **JULY KADDISH**

### July 1

Mark R. Becker
Lee Braff
Esther Cohen
James Elwood
Davidheiser
Mitzi Frahm
Tomisieto
Cecilia T. Friedman
Lewis Ibsen
Alan Jacobs
Manuel Kraus
Aileen Osofsky
William B. Schleisner
Sylvia Tolk
Dorothy I. Zalman

### July 8

Martin S. Abel Charles Adler Alexander Aronson Gustav J. Beck Robert D. Brenner Harry Bryant Augusta Cohen Albert Percy Doranz Margaret Friedman Greta Gallia Joan S. Goldsmith Caroline Greene **Arthur Hess** Norman Krause Annette Lang Bessie Abel Lehrman Samuel Levinson Rebecca Levy

### July 15

Kitty G. Myers Gloria Olewine Lois Rockmaker Nathan Segal David Shapiro Bonita (Bonnie) Strohecker Matilda Wolf John Woodard Bryant Jr. Paul Zucker

### July 22

Gordon D. Adler Moses Baturin Richard Casher Monroe Cohen **Betty Frahm** Rosenblatt Ruth Friedman Oscar Goodman Rose S. Gross Evan Helmuth Lester Hess Rosebelle Holdsworth Kenneth Johnson Joseph Katz Samuel Latt Martha Lehrman Leon Abraham Mayer Henry M. Miller Ethel Segal **George Sherman** Herman Stein

Emanuel Stern Israel Sweig

### July 29

Sadie Frank Adler Stanley D. Adler Abraham Bornstein Lois Breder Adams Harris Cohen Harold M. Feinberg Alice May Heath Harry Heinemann Idelle J. Hess Pearl Kaplan Selma Katzman Klein Rose Klotzman Joseph Lowengard Joseph Oppenheim Martha Miller Roth Benjamin H. Schneiderman Melba Ball Schwartz Albert Simms

### **AUGUST KADDISH**

#### August 5

Alec Cohen Lizzie Dealham Johanna Garfield Seymour Goldberg Paul Gourley Steven M. Harpster Bernice Ibsen Emma Israel Gail Holt Koppelman Abraham J. Lehrman Edith Marcus Sadye H. Menaker Herman J. Nathan Sherlee S. Seglin Arthur Siegel Harvey Tesman

### August 12

Esther Astrchan
June Bedwell
Jeanette Bronstein
Justine O. Cohen
Donald Ehring
Bernard Forner
Felix Gallia
Ralph C. Koppleman
Daniel Krause
Joseph G. Lowengard
Diane K. Sauertieg
Jeanette Shellhammer
Bernard Symons
Yetta Yamin
Harold Zerfuss

#### August 19

Harry Bagley
William I. Bienstock
J. Stanley Cohen
Sheila Culberson
Ray Fisher
Mark Galowitz
Joseph Goldberg
Beatrice Hersham
Morton Klausner
Annette Nager
Linnea Nueman

#### August 26

Frances Cohn Marvin Feinman Herman Freedman Lou Goldstein Julius Goodman Alex Grass Lucetta Gross **Eleanor Jacobs** Samuel Jaffe Ray Melnicove Henry Nachman Richard H. Podolle Elizabeth Schwartz J. David Snyder Sylvia Goldstein Stern Gloria Palkes Weiss

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