



# The Shofar

February 2018  
Volume 40 No. 2  
Sh'vat - Adar 5778

Temple Or Elohim serves the surrounding communities of Jericho, Syosset, the North Shore and beyond.

**Temple Or Elohim**  
Jericho, NY 11753  
[www.templeorelohim.com](http://www.templeorelohim.com)

## **New Website for Temple Or Elohim**

Temple Or Elohim is proud to launch our newly designed website!

Features include a simple user format that is both desktop and mobile friendly, an easy to use calendar of events, access to current and past electronic issues of our Shofar, downloadable forms and great photos and information too!

Our website can be found using either [TempleOrElohim.com](http://TempleOrElohim.com) or [OrElohim.com](http://OrElohim.com). The temple owns both website names.

We are so proud of the new design and modern web presence that certainly represents who we are as a temple of today and the future.



**Temple Or Elohim**  
**18 Tobie Lane, Jericho, NY 11753**

Temple Office (516) 433-9888	Temple FAX (516) 681-1626
Rabbi Cassi Kail	Ext. 11
Harvey Abramowitz, Rabbi Emeritus	
Marvin Antosofsky, Rabbi Emeritus	
Cantor David Katz	Ext. 12
Deborah Tract, Director of Education	Ext. 15
Michael Wilner, President	
Nancy Marshall, Temple Administrator	Ext. 13
Goldie Brandl, Temple Secretary	Ext. 14

**Office Hours:**

**Rabbi's Office Hours:**  
 4-6 PM Wednesdays & Thursdays

**Cantor's Office Hours:**  
 By Request

**Director of Education's Formal Office Hours**  
**(She is always available by appointment, as needed):**  
 1:00-6:30 PM Mondays & Thursdays  
 2:00-8:30 PM Tuesdays

If any of the above hours are inconvenient, please call to schedule an appointment.

**Executive Committee:**

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Vice President	Amy Adler
Treasurer	Roslind Vermut
Assistant Treasurer	David Schwartz
Recording Secretary	Deena Yaris
Immediate Past President	Howard Pastolove
Chairman of the Board	Howard Pastolove
Advisor to the President	Larry Jacobs

**Yarmulkes:**

Do you need yarmulkes for your Bar/Bat Mitzvah or Wedding?  
 Satin 6-panel \$21.00/dozen  
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**Please call Susan Bloomberg at (516)932-7112.**

**Board of Trustees:**

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**Catering Information:**

Our expanded and redecorated Temple can accommodate your celebration: Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Kiddush, Havdalah Service, Luncheon, Wedding, Bris and all other types of parties.

Please contact Hasson Caterers to consider having your simcha at Temple Or Elohim.

Shawn and Scott will be happy to help you plan a memorable occasion for your family.

**Hasson Caterers: (516)937-0120 or 0121**

**Editorial Corner:**

We encourage our members to submit articles, photos, and simchas for us to include in future issues. We also welcome suggestions for future issues. Please contact Esther Reich at: (917)922-4993 or [Shofar@templeorlohim.com](mailto:Shofar@templeorlohim.com).

**Sponsor an Oneg:**

A special way to celebrate your family's simcha is by sponsoring a Friday night oneg. Sponsorship is not only for Bar/Bat Mitzvah families. You can celebrate an anniversary, birthday, aufruf, bris, special birthday, graduation, becoming grandparents or anything else.

The price for an oneg following a traditional Friday night service with an event attached to it is \$300 with fruit and \$250 without fruit. An oneg following a Friday night service without an event may be available at a reduced rate. Your sponsorship will be acknowledged in the pamphlet and will be announced from the Bimah.

You will not only be making a wonderful gesture on behalf of your family, but will be helping out your Temple as well.

**Please call Deena Yaris at (516)433-0771.**

**Rabbi Requests Information:**

We commemorate the lives of those we have loved and lost. It is also appropriate to commemorate events in the lives of those we love in the here-and-now. We'd like to announce special events in your lives. Please forward all such information to:

Rabbi Kail [rabbickail@gmail.com](mailto:rabbickail@gmail.com) (516) 433-9888 Ext. 11.

**Committee Chairpersons:**

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Membership	Rose Bruy	433-3637
Men's Club	Mark Heller	978-8760
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Strategic Planning	Larry Jacobs	759-3229
Tree of Life/Wall of Light	Toby Suroff	433-6618
Yarmulkes	Susan Bloomberg	932-7112

**Honor the Occasion:**

Honor the occasion of your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah, Birth, Anniversary, Wedding, Special Birthday, etc. by gifting a "Leaf" on the Tree of Life located in the Temple's Lobby.

To Order, call the Temple's Office at (516)433-9888 Ext.14.

**Order Memorial Plaques:**

Bronze Yahrzeit plaques, to be mounted on the Memorial Tablet in the Sanctuary, are available by order.

These plaques are offered to memorialize the names of our departed loved ones.

Each year, upon the anniversary of their passing, as well as at the Yom Kippur Memorial Service, the light beside the name is kindled.

To Order, call the Temple's Office at (516)433-9888 Ext.14.

**Services Schedule:**

Fri.	Feb. 2	Erev Shabbat Service featuring Nishamah	7:30 PM
Sat.	Feb. 3	Bagels & Torah Shabbat Shalom	8:45 AM
Fri.	Feb. 9	Erev Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Sat.	Feb. 10	Shabbat Shalom	
Fri.	Feb. 16	Erev Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Sat.	Feb. 17	Bagels & Torah Shabbat Shalom	8:45 AM
Fri.	Feb. 23	Early Erev Shabbat Service Followed by film	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Sat.	Feb. 24	Shabbat Shalom	

**Thoughts & Prayers:**

We offer our prayers of healing and heartfelt thoughts to acknowledge those of us who have had an illness or are in need of healing (mind, body and soul).

Please do not hesitate to contact Rabbi Kail, Cantor Katz or our Caring Committee with any requests that you may have.

**Keep Handy for Reference:**

(If God forbid, there is a death or illness in the family)  
**CALL AND TELL US**

Daytime – Call  
Temple Office (516)433-9888

Otherwise - Call  
Rabbi Kail at (718)869-6673  
Cantor at (516)849-1332

Consultations with the clergy before final scheduling of services will help ensure availability.

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY TEMPLE FOR MEMBERS:**

- Shiva services at a home for up to 3 evenings.
- E-mail notice sent to membership informing of the loss, if requested.
- Whenever Kaddish is said during services:
  - Temple Members' names read for 11 months.
  - Close relatives of Members' names read for 30 days.

## ***From Our Rabbi:***

Purim is a curious holiday. It is based on the Book of Esther, which documents a dark time in the Jewish narrative. Motivated by a thirst for power and his own narcissism, Haman plots to annihilate the Jews. Worse still, he nearly succeeds when he earns the respect of King Achashverosh. Nonetheless, our Purim celebration is anything but solemn. Filled with costumes, Purim spiels, festive meals, carnivals and even alcohol (for some), Purim is often billed as the most fun holiday of the year.



Just as truth is foundation for good comedy, Jewish values are the foundation of our most joyous Purim celebrations.

The book of Esther teaches:

יְמֵי מִשְׁלַח וְשִׂמְחָה, וּמְשַׁלַּח מְנוֹת אִישׁ לְרֵעֵהוּ, וּמִתְּנוֹת לְאֶבְיוֹנִים.

These are days for feasting and joy, an occasion for sending gifts (*Mishloach Manot*) to one another and presents (*matanot*) to people who are poor (*la'ev'yonim*).

Haman wished to destroy us, just as so many oppressors have in the past. Just as we overcome Haman by coming together as a community, on Purim we continue to strengthen our sense of community. Purim is our holiday of resilience. We celebrate together, hear the shared story of our people, offer one another gifts of food and provide for people in our community who are in need. We do this because of the Jewish teaching “All Jews are responsible for one another” and because if history has taught us anything it is that we are stronger together.

This year, Temple Or Elohim is proud to offer some exciting ways to celebrate the joy of Purim, while taking in its deeper meanings and lessons.

Beginning with community, you are encouraged to purchase mishloach manot baskets for friends and fellow congregants. A community of people who love food, there are few things that can bring us together more than packages of delicious treats.

Purim begins on the evening of February 28<sup>th</sup>. That night we will meet in the library at 7pm where I will do a short megillah reading and lead a class entitled “Where was God? A study into God’s absence in the Book of Esther.”

On Friday night, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, our Shabbat services will include a Purim spiel and a more complete reading of the Megillah.

In order to fulfill the mitzvah of caring for people who are in need, I encourage everyone to bring donations of food to the service. Instead of a grogger, bring a box of pasta. In addition to being a great noisemaker, it will make a wonderful contribution to Hatzilu’s food bank.

On Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Temple Or Elohim will have what I’m sure will be another phenomenal Purim Carnival and 5<sup>th</sup> grade wax museum, filled with fun, festivity and food.

My family and I look forward to seeing you at some of the wonderful events and we wish you a joyous and meaningful Purim.

L’shalom,

**Rabbi Cassi Kail**

[rabbickail@gmail.com](mailto:rabbickail@gmail.com)

(516)433-9888 Ext. 11

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## ***From Our Cantor:***

Each month in my article, I try to reflect on what we have done in the last month as well as what is coming up and if there are any special services or holidays. This month I am going to divert a bit from this norm and let you know about something very special that happens at our temple, that I am inviting ALL who wish to be a part of.



I am referring to our Adult Choir. The Adult choir has been a tradition here at Temple for more than 50 years. Each person in the choir is a volunteer. Unlike some temples, we do not have any paid professional singers in our choir. It is a full-fledged volunteer choir with all people involved giving their time, energy AND beautiful voices week in and week out year after year.

Each week, our choir meets on Thursday night from 7:30-8:30. For one hour, we disappear and dive into the world of beautiful Jewish music and composers.

Not only are we learning new music as well as singing, we also have a ton of FUN! It is a moment in the week to forget everything that is pressing and pulling you and let it all go into the sounds of the music and the friendship of those fellow temple members around you.

Our choir has members who have sung before, as well as those who have never sung in a choir but have always wanted to try. Could you be one of these people!? If you are then I really encourage you to consider joining the choir. There is no requirement to be able to read music. We have many members who can sit right next to you and help you. In fact, some of our current members do not read music, so don't worry about that. It's more of a fun and light way to interject some beauty into your life through music and singing.

The choir sings on various Shabbat services throughout the year in addition to High Holiday services in the morning. But don't even worry about that. If you are unable to make a service at one point or another, it's okay! Do the best you can. What I am trying to say is- PLEASE COME AND JOIN THE CHOIR IF YOU LOVE TO SING AND LOVE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC!!!

You can reach out to me at any time through email or the office or my direct extension-12 when you call the temple.

I hope you consider becoming a member, you will be welcomed with open arms and a huge "HA-LEH-LU YAH!!!"

B'shalom,  
Cantor David Katz  
[cantorkatz@templeorelohim.com](mailto:cantorkatz@templeorelohim.com)  
(516)433-9888 Ext. 12



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## ***President's Message:***

Dear Congregational Families and Friends,

Brrrr. It was cold two solid weeks in January as people were happy to be away vacationing with family and friends only to come home to frost bitten reality with frozen and split pipes and water mains freezing up and flooding, all over the city. There were mountains of luggage no one could seem to find at JFK. People were waiting all month to get back their belongings. I hope none of us were personally affected and the luxurious splendor of vacation went effortlessly.



Life at Temple Or Elohim came alive on January 2, as our Hebrew school resumed. Ritual meetings, Men's Club presentations, a Sisterhood dinner, Exec get-togethers and Parent-Teacher conferences ruled the roost this month.

Rabbi Kail's exceptional D'var Torah on Friday night, MLK's birthday, was highlighted as she blessed the congregation with special Goblets she received as a wedding present from some very special people (ask her it's a really good story). Saturday morning's Bagels and Torah was again judaically interesting and thought provoking as our hearts softened while we delved into how Pharaoh's heart was hardened as Moses demanded to "Let his people go", living through the ten plagues. Oy Vey.

New Member Erev Shabbat on January 19, featuring our K2 class coupled with another Musical Nishamah moment was a smash. The children led us in an unbelievable service as the parents stood by shepping nachas and kvelling. That's what I'M talking about.

Everyone should know that Rabbi Harvey and Rebetzin Joan are still delirious with happiness from the retirement party. He is in LOVE with his Mount Blanc pen and wants everyone to know "we killed it."

Please watch out for your family and be careful vacationing whether it's in cold weather or the Caribbean heat. Stay close and I hope to see you all on Erev Shabbat. Give it a shot. You will get addicted quickly. Best regards to all temple families....Amen

Respectfully,

***Michael Wilner, President***

[michaelwilner@danielgale.com](mailto:michaelwilner@danielgale.com)

### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018 - 7:00 PM EARLY SHABBAT SERVICE FOLLOWED BY *MENASHE***

The Men's Club's annual winter Shabbat movie night takes place on Friday, February 23. Shabbat services will start early that night at 7 p.m., followed by the movie *Menashe*. The movie will be shown immediately after a brief oneg, which will include movie snacks as well as the usual oneg desserts.

*Menashe* was released last summer to rave reviews. Featuring non-actors, it takes place in New York City's Hasidic community. The title character works at a local food store, barely able to keep his job and make ends meet and must deal with the recent death of his wife while fighting for the right to raise his own son in the face of tradition which forbids him from doing so alone. The boy's uncle is given custody but the local rabbi gives Menashe custody for a week. Can Menashe use that week to overcome his inner "screw-up" and show that he is a suitable man of faith and fatherhood?

Brave the cold and come out on a winter night to support the Men's Club programming and enjoy both a delightful Shabbat service and a thought-provoking movie.

## ***Religious School:***

Shalom Friends,

Although January was a short month in our Religious School, we will be celebrating the holiday of Tu B'Shevat (the New Year of the trees) with Israeli dancing taught by Devorah Cohen Keenan and tasting the various fruits of Israel.



I was so excited to spend Shabbat with our K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students on Friday, January 19. Our children were excited to share the bimah with our New Members who were active participants in the wonderful musical Shabbat! Our youngest students learned a variety of songs and prayers that they were excited to share with our congregation, as they rocked away the evening with our own Nishamah Band. Thank you to our dedicated Rabbi Kail, Cantor Katz and our teachers, Laurel Fried and Jill Karp for their continued support and dedication to our children. Thank you to our Nishamah band for your time and RUACH!!!

Our entire temple staff works very hard to make each and every child in our religious school "shine" on their special day. Each child is different. Each child learns at his/her pace. I am always encouraging children to review their studies at home, making the process of becoming a Bat/Bar Mitzvah that much easier. I am proud of our students and commend them for making the commitment to their Jewish education. Parents, we are a partnership, please help us to impart the message of reviewing Hebrew at home. The results will be rewarding! I was happy to see so many parents during Parent/Teacher Conferences in January!

March is a month of fun and excitement in our school! Our 5<sup>th</sup> graders will participate in our annual "Living Wax Museum" on Sunday morning, March 11, 2018! Our children will come dressed up and prepared to tell you about their favorite Jewish hero.....perhaps, Adam Sandler, Barbara Streisand, Moses! Come and see. Everyone is invited! Following our Wax Museum, we will have our spectacular Purim Carnival. This year promises to be the best! Thank you to Kimberly Brodsky and Allison Damast for Co-Chairing this amazing fundraiser for our school. We have some great surprises planned. Please come and support our school. This is our largest fundraiser of the year. All proceeds from this event will go toward supporting our school and students. We will have amazing raffle prizes. Take your chance - you may be a winner! This event is open to the community; invite family, friends and your neighbors. Our school is growing; introduce our temple family, let them come and see what we are all about!

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our fun-filled events.

B'Shalom,  
**Deborah E. Tract, Director of Education**  
**(516)433-9888 Ext. 15**

## **ATTENTION all Facebook users:**

If you have Facebook and have not already "liked" the Temple Or Elohim Facebook page, please do! There are lots of great updates and reminders.

Second, when you are on Temple Or Elohim's Facebook page, please click on TURN ON NOTIFICATIONS (see the "following" box, use down arrow and check notifications) so that you will get all the latest and greatest info appearing right in your news feed.

There's no need to constantly look us up!



## 7th Graders Delight in Making Personalized Yads



### ***Save the Dates:***

- **Dr. Albert Einstein: The Model of a Modern Jew -  
Taught by: Rabbi Arthur Schwartz  
Saturday, March 10th – 9:00 AM**

Einstein had much to say about everything, especially about being a Jew in the modern world. Though not a believer in a traditional sense, he frequently wrote about his nuanced concept of God and how similar it was to Baruch Spinoza's. The late Abraham Joshua Heschel taught that religious imagination begins with wonder. If that is true, Albert Einstein was a very religious man. He helped develop the Jewish community of Princeton University and was passionately devoted to the Zionist dream. Albert Einstein has much to teach about our own nuanced connections to God, Judaism, the Jewish community, and Israel.

Rabbi Arthur Schwartz is a graduate of Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion and was a pulpit rabbi for more than 40 years. A man of many interests, he has delivered lectures "The Strategy of Muslim Terrorism" as well as the "Clash of Civilizations" at the summer War Studies program at Oxford University. Rabbi Schwarz has a great sense of humor and is an engaging speaker. Join us for this entertaining and illuminating talk.

- **Where was God? A study into God's absence in the Book of Esther AND a Short Megilla Reading  
Taught by: Rabbi Kail  
Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM  
(Refreshments to be served)**
- **Purimshpiel  
Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.**  
Instead of a grogger, bring a box of pasta. After using it as a noisemaker during the service, donate it to hatzilu by placing it in the big food bin outside of our sanctuary.

## **February Birthdays**

1 Karin Arlin	8 Melissa Pollack	18 Joe Hoenig	24 Michael Leff
1 Adam Gluck	8 Sylvia Rosenberg	18 Jerome Krantz	24 Bonnie Leitstein
1 Esther Reich	9 Karen Alper	19 Sherri Graber	24 Caryn Mark
1 Peyton Wayne	9 Noam Kail	19 Jeffrey Lomasky	24 Ted Richman
2 Shaun Landman	9 Sydney Sabesan	20 Jeff Fried	25 Jeanette Aronowitz
2 Marilyn Milstein	9 Edward Weintraub	20 Charles Goodman	25 Laurel Fried
4 Boris Sklar	11 Amy Chodosh	20 Riley Leavitt	25 Seth Fried
5 Lauryn Fried	11 Jason Haber	21 Madison Birnbaum	25 Lori Lampert
6 Jeremy Martin Friedman	11 Samantha Mender	21 David Samuel Friedman	25 Debra Pastolove
6 Robin Grossman	11 Eileen Pisarz	21 Edward Kislik	25 Bryan Peress
6 Linda Jankowitz	11 Amanda Weiss	21 Richard Krause	26 Daniel Green
6 Tara Kass	13 Tyler Corey	21 Jennifer Liebman	26 William Sobel
6 Leslie Rosner	13 Ira Eilberg	22 Andrew Pisarz	27 Matilda Wolfson
7 Larry Jacobs	13 Harlye Greenberg	22 Rachel Debra Ross	29 Jessica Gerschitz
8 Evan Beller	13 Benjamin Kestenbaum	22 Jaime Weinstein	29 Shana Misorek
8 Mitchell Beller	14 Steven Blidner	22 Samantha Wolff	
8 Daniel Berg	15 Jared Lichten	23 Jeffrey Scherr	
8 Stephanie Drew Katz	16 Seth Jared Wactlar	24 Noah Adler	
8 Max Mogavero	18 Michelle Hirsch	24 Catherine Feltman	



## **February Anniversaries**

2 Harold & Marilyn Finkelstein
3 Mordechai & Laura Cohen
3 Edward & Judy Kislik
3 Sheldon & Matilda Wolfson
19 Mark & Wendy Bruno
27 Michael & Lucy Wilner

**Yahrzeits – February 2018:**Week of February 2

Richard Ball, Toddy Blidner, Helen Bukzin, Louis J. Cohn, Jerome Deutschman, Charles Fielding, Rowie Finkelstein, Roger Fiss, Edith Fradin, Abraham Friedman, Freda Goldman, Nora Goldring, Joseph G. Granofsky, Benjamin Hill, David Israel, Sophie Kerner, Irving Leventhal, Albert Lichtenstein, Stella Matzner, Sandra Moss, Louis Peller, Carl Potashnick, Edward Rose, Dora Siegel, Max Solomon, Abraham Sternfeld, Leon Strauss, Marilyn Taub and Rose Weintraub

Week of February 9

Gussie Adler, Irving Antosofsky, Lisa Antosofsky, George Auerbach, Bessie Bernstein, Phyllis Besserman, Gertrude Blackman, Irma Bloch, Elsa Board, Sally Cohen, Harry Danis, Mary Eisenberg, Rose Jacobson Entman, Martha Fagen, Sandra Finkelstein, Murray Forster, Nathan Franco, Robyn Garfinkel, Morris Glickman, Stanley Gold, Leo Goldgrub, Goldie Hans, Joseph Harris, Herbert Koenigsberg, Michael Lehner, Hilda Leventhal, Anna Orange, Harry Ritterband, Frederick Rosenberg, Jennie Rosenberg, Lillian Rosenthal, Kate Ross, Pauline Serota, Shep Siegel, Shirley Silpe, Jerome Sobel, Joseph Spieler, Selma Steinbach, Louis Strell and Rose Yaglom

Week of February 16

Harold Abrams, Frank Allen, Harold Bachrach, Roberta Bilfeld, Samuel Deutschman, Maxwell Gaffin, Gary Goodman, Irving Goodman, Abraham Gottlieb, Beverly Herling, Joseph Jackman, Robert Jedeikin, Ben Kanter, Leon Kaplan, Bernard Keller, Harold A. Levine, Pauline D. Levine, Pearl Neier, Daniel Pollack, Roberta Rudin, Marion Saltz, Nancy Saunders, William Shanken, Laura Wasserman and Charles Wisotsky

Week of February 23

Aaron Ackerman, Julius Barcham, Louis A. Berkman, F. Blake Cloonen, Rebecca Cohen, Harriet Cole, Rose Fern, Lila O. Fried, Rose Goldfarb, Bernard Gottfurcht, Ethel Bloom Herman, Stephen Herman, Nesbith Hurwitch, Arlene Mitchel, Nathan Nadelman, Harry David Nathanson, William Newman, Rose Obornik, Joseph Passaro, Mary Polatnick, Sylvia Ring, Joseph Rosenberg, Rita Rosenstein, Stan Sachs, Beatrice Saltz, Jack Walter Siegel, Celia Sklar, Pearl Sklar, Stephen Sophir, Bruce Unger, Emil Winzelberg, Gunter Wolff and Alfred S. Wolfner

***We Sorrowfully Mourn the Passing of:***

Norman Heilweil, stepfather of our member Robin Grossman

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A great way to honor a simcha is by sponsoring a basket on the bimah. Proceeds go to assist local needy families.

Any congregant can have a basket displayed on the bimah for a non-Bar/Bat Mitzvah Shabbat by bringing a minimum of \$36 to the Temple Office, at least one week in advance.

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Contact the Temple Office at (516)433-9888 Ext. 14.

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**GENERAL CONTRIBUTION**

Jodi and Kevin Breslin  
In memory of Leah Goltzman, mother of Gary Goltzman  
Barbara Feinstein  
In celebration of the wedding of Sam Brandl and Rachel Hollcraft  
William and Susan Siegel  
In honor of Mitch and Susan Bloomberg and their daughter and granddaughter, Leah and Renee Mac

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Laurel Fried, Jill Karp & Rose Bruy  
In celebration of the K-2 class and New Member Shabbat  
Mark & Leslie Rosner  
In loving memory of Kurt Rosner

*Thank You*

## ***Torah Notes:***

### January 29-February 3 Yitro (Exodus 18:1-20:23)

The portion is named for Moses' father in law, Yitro (Jethro), who comes to the Israelite camp with Moses' wife Zipporah and their two sons. Yitro watches Moses working in his role as judge and convinces him to create a hierarchy of courts filled with many judges. The newly liberated Israelites walk through the desert until they arrive at Mount Sinai. They agree to God's law and prepare for God's holy instructions. On the third day of preparation, Moses begins to climb up Mt. Sinai. He receives the Ten Commandments, all of which appear in this Torah portion.

### February 4-10 Mishpatim (Exodus 21:1-24:18)

Roughly translated as "laws" or "judgements" the Torah portion *Mishpatim* contains civil and criminal laws, as well as ritual-related provisions. The Torah discusses slavery, serfdom and injury law. Laws about theft, property, idolatry, false rumors and treatment of an enemy also appear in this text. There is particular focus on how we treat those most vulnerable in our society, which at that time included strangers, orphans and widows. Finally, the text turns to ritual matters such as Shabbat and the three festivals (Sukkot, Pesach and Shavuot). God then instructs Moses on how to approach Mount Sinai so that he can receive the Ten Commandments.

### February 11-17 Terumah (Exodus 25:1-27:19)

God asks the Israelites to "make for Me a sanctuary so I may dwell amongst them." This portion contains a blueprint for construction of this Tabernacle. It discusses some important symbols that should appear in the tabernacle, including the menorah ark and altar. Complete with materials, dimensions and detailed instructions, this portion is any architect's delight.

### February 18-24 Tetzaveh (Exodus 27:20-30:10). Shabbat Zachor

Moses receives instructions for kindling the sanctuary's eternal light, the *ner tamid*. This text is the origin for the eternal light that appears in most Jewish sanctuaries, including our own. Aaron and his sons are introduced as priests and the Israelites are asked to create for them sacred vestments to wear while performing their duties in and around the tabernacle. The priests are ordained through a ritual ceremony, that includes sacrifice.

The Shabbat before Purim: This week's Torah portion includes a maftir (Deuteronomy 25:17-19), that describes the brutality with which the Amalekites attacked the Israelites as they were leaving Egypt. Based on the Talmudic teaching that Haman descended from the Amalekites, we take this opportunity just before Purim to remember their attack. The Torah teaches "Do not forget."

## ***Tidbits from Larry Jacobs***

According to researchers at Israel's Ben Gurion University, waste produced by turkeys, chickens and other poultry could partially replace coal. The excrements could be converted to biofuels and replace 10 percent of coal used in generating electricity. Converting poultry waste to solid fuel is an environmentally superior alternative that reduces reliance on fossil fuels. The Poop Test showed 24 percent higher net energy generation than with coal alone and significantly reduced methane and ammonia emissions. Would there be enough poop to make a difference? Over 250,000 turkeys are produced each year in the United States of America.

The Technion Israeli Institute of Technology is ranked as number 1 in the world in teaching digital skills to its graduates and preparing them for the digital workplace. Ranked second was the University College London. The only American university in the top ten was Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In 2017, two thousand seven hundred females joined the Israeli military's coed battalions combat positions. It should be noted that, in 2017, 54 percent of Israeli judges were female... Guys, PAY ATTENTION.

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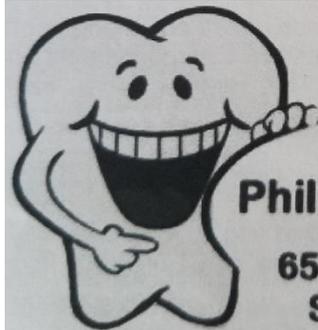
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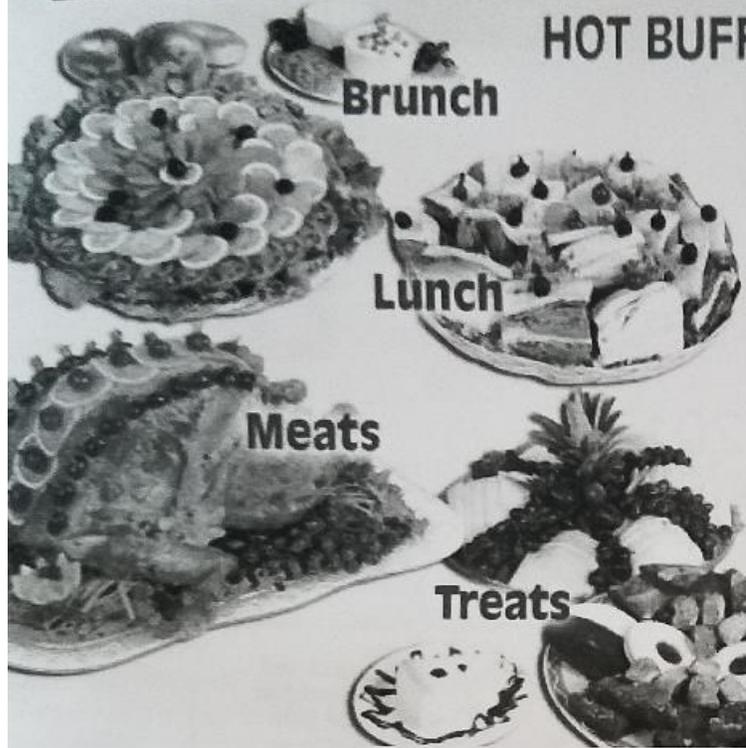
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## February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Erev Shabbat Svc featuring Nishamah 7:30 PM	3 Bagels & Torah 8:45 AM
4 DACA presentation 10:00 AM	5	6 Men's Club New Member Dinner offsite 7:30 PM	7	8	9 Erev Shabbat Svc 7:30 PM	10 Coffeehouse 8:00 PM  Deadline for Shofar Articles
11 Familyhood Hamantashen Baking 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	12 Sisterhood Meeting 7:30 PM	13 Ritual Committee Meeting 8:00 PM	14 Exec Committee Meeting 8:00 PM	15	16 Erev Shabbat Svc 7:30 PM	17 Bagels & Torah 8:45 AM  Sisterhood Museum Tour 11:00 AM
18 Roundtable Rap 10:30 AM	19 Presidents' Day Winter Break begins	20	21	22	23 Early Erev Shabbat Svc 7:00 PM followed by film	24
25	26 Religious School resumes	27 Board of Trustees Meeting 8:00 PM	28 Purim - Megillah reading & Adult Study Session with Rabbi			