Temple Shaarei Shalom
Your Jewish Connection

News & Views

November 2026 *Heshvan-Kislev 5787*



*T*emple *S*haarei *S*halom

and the

*T*endrich *C*enter for *L*ifelong *L*earning

A Reform Congregation

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News & Views is Edited by Wendy Alfarone, Susan Brust, & Caryn Feldman

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Become a TSS Pillar and share in the fulfillment of a mitzvah.
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RABBI'S FORUM

Rabbi Anthony Fratello
MAHL, DD

When November rolls around, most of us begin to think about the holidays. And it is understandable: Hurricane Season officially ends. Thanksgiving comes. We start to make plans about what we will do for Hanukkah, and of course, what New Year's might bring.

Jews, however, have an additional reason to pause and think in November. November 9-10 are the anniversary of Kristallnacht or "The Night of Broken Glass." This event, also sometimes referred to as the November Pogrom, was a coordinated attack on the Jewish Community in Nazi Germany. Most scholars agree that the attacks were planned far in advance, but the pretext given was the assassination of Ernst vom Rath, a German Diplomat byHerschel Grynszpan, a 17-year old Polish Jew living in Paris. On the night of November 9-10, 1938, synagogues were looted and burned, there were arrests, and widespread violence committed against Jews. The next morning revealed streets littered with shards of broken glass from Jewish owned stores and businesses; hence the common name.

Looking back now 88 years later, it is easy to draw a line between the events of that night and the horrors to come. Though this was not the first instance of violence committed by the Nazis—or their collaborators—it did mark a clean delineation between what had been theretofore rhetoric and what the future would bring. Since that time our people, ever watchful, has feared a repeat of a similar trajectory. Thankfully, as of the time that I am writing these words to you, nothing remotely like what took place that terrible early evening so many years ago as appeared on the horizon, the unmistakable signs of anti-Semitism are only far too clear. Though we got used to watching for signs in foreign places, in places, "Over there…," few of us ever dreamed that it might come to pass here at home.

If our history has taught us anything it is to be ever vigilant. True, in our hyper politicized environment, many have pointed to the signs of danger that appear on the Left. It is worth noting that there are signs of danger on the Right as well. No matter how safe we might feel in our communities of like minded individuals, we must always keep our eyes keenly focused on the road ahead; taking any and all opportunities to call out danger wherever it might rear its ugly head.

That being said, we must also relish the opportunities afforded to us to celebrate and give thanks. We are well within our rights to protect our lives, but must also take pains to make sure that life is always worth living.





photos by Thelma Myerson



Cantor's Corner

Cantor Carrie Barry, MSM

Most everyone enjoys Thanksgiving, me included. What's not to like? We gather with our loved ones to savor delicious food, wonderful company, and to count the many blessings in our lives.

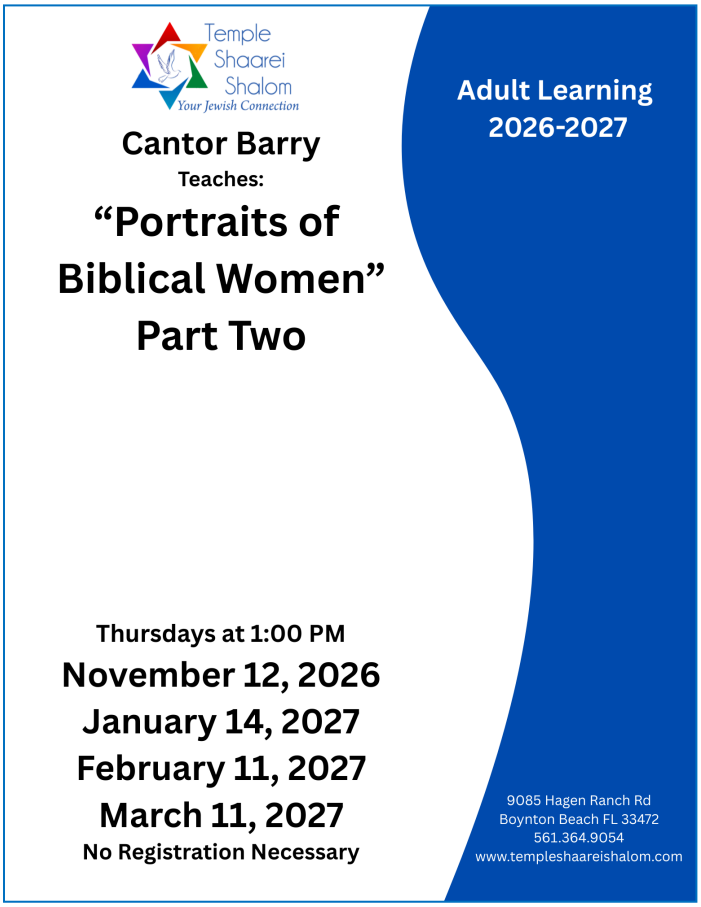
But how often do we stop to appreciate the little things that make up our everyday lives? The first breath of the morning, the ability to get out of bed, a familiar face, or simply the opportunity to begin a new day. In Judaism, gratitude isn't reserved for holidays or special occasions. It's built into our daily lives, reminding us to slow down, notice our blessings, and recognize the holiness in even the most ordinary moments.

One of my favorite examples is the collection of blessings known as Nissim B'chol Yom, often translated as "Daily Miracles." These blessings invite us to thank God for things we might otherwise take for granted: the ability to see, to stand upright, to walk, to get dressed, and to begin each new day. Think about that for a moment. How often do we move through our morning routines without giving much thought to the remarkable things our bodies allow us to do? (There's even a morning blessing for when we go to the bathroom for the first time!) Judaism asks us to pause and recognize that even the most ordinary parts of our day can be extraordinary gifts.

These blessings teach us that miracles do not always have to be dramatic events that change the course of our lives. Sometimes, a miracle is simply opening our eyes in the morning, feeling the warmth of the sun, hearing a familiar voice, or having another opportunity to make a difference in someone's life. When we learn to acknowledge these small wonders, the world around us begins to look a little different. Gratitude becomes less about what we have and more about how we see what we have.

Perhaps this is one of Judaism's most important lessons: gratitude is a practice. Like prayer itself, it becomes more meaningful when we return to it again and again. We do not have to wait for Thanksgiving, a birthday, or a major milestone to express appreciation. We can begin each morning by noticing one blessing, end each day by recalling one moment of goodness, or take a breath to appreciate something we usually overlook.

Judaism invites us to live with our eyes open and our hearts attentive. When gratitude becomes part of our daily lives, even the routine can become sacred, and even an ordinary day can reveal extraordinary blessings.







Education Director

Alissa Frankel, MSW

Bringing Judaism into Your Thanksgiving Festivities

Thanksgiving is a time to gather with the people we love and reflect on what we are grateful for. While Thanksgiving is not a Jewish holiday, many of its themes connect through a Jewish lens, including gratitude, family, community, generosity, and giving back.

Here are a few simple ways to bring a little Judaism to your Thanksgiving celebration:

Begin with a Blessing

Before the meal, take a moment to say Hamotzi, the blessing over bread. You might also include a blessing over the wine or the Shehecheyanu, as a blessing for a special occasion.

A Moment of Gratitude

As you gather around the table, invite everyone to share something for which they are grateful. It could be a person, an experience, or something simple that brought them joy. Taking a moment to recognize the good in our lives helps us appreciate what we sometimes take for granted.

Make a Difference

One way to show our gratitude is by helping others. Consider volunteering as a family, donating food to a local food pantry, or finding another way to support your community. Helping others is one way to put our Jewish values into action.

Create a new family tradition

Maybe your family shares a favorite blessing, sings a song, tells a favorite family story, or chooses a mitzvah to do together each Thanksgiving. There is no "right" way to celebrate. Family traditions don't have to be elaborate. Sometimes the simplest traditions are the ones that are the most impactful.

Thanksgiving is a wonderful time to appreciate the many blessings in our lives. As we gather this year, may we remember to express our gratitude to the people who surround us and share our blessings with others.

Wishing you and your family a happy, meaningful, and gratitude-filled Thanksgiving!





photos by Ari Rubin



From our President

Dr. Melissa Bowers

One of the things I've enjoyed recently is having the opportunity to try mah jongg at the temple. It got me thinking about all the different ways people find their place in a community, and how important it is to have opportunities to connect beyond the traditional ways we might think about synagogue life.

For some, the temple is a place to pray, celebrate holidays, and observe Jewish traditions. For others, it's about lifelong friendships, social gatherings, learning something new, or simply having a place where familiar faces greet you with a smile. And sometimes, it's about discovering something you never expected to enjoy, like sitting around a mah jongg table and realizing that the tiles are only part of the fun. The real magic is in the conversations, the laughter, and the connections that happen along the way.

I believe one of the greatest strengths of Temple Shaarei Shalom is that there isn't just one way to be part of our community. We all come with different interests, schedules, backgrounds, and ideas about what makes a synagogue meaningful to us. The more opportunities we create to bring people together, the more chances we have to discover those shared connections.

That's why I hope you'll take a moment to think about what you would like to see at our temple. Is there an activity you've always wanted to try? A social gathering you think people would enjoy? A new way for members to connect, contribute, or get involved? Sometimes, all it takes is one person sharing an idea to get something wonderful started.

A few weeks ago, during my high holy day remarks, I spoke about the opportunity for members to join a working group and help shape the future of our congregation. This is an invitation to be part of the conversation, share your ideas, and help turn possibilities into reality. You don't need to have all the answers or a long list of experience. You just need an interest in making our temple an even more welcoming, engaging, and connected community.



Welcome New Members

By Randye Wilner

Dana and Tim McCarthy have been married for 10 years. They have four boys between them. Shaun is 22 and Daniel is 24, both from Tim's first marriage. Tyler is 15 and is from Dana's first marriage. Chase, who is 9, is from this marriage. Fun fact - Shaun and Daniel both attended Hebrew school at TSS, and Daniel had his Bar Mitzvah there as well! Tim grew up New Jersey and works as a Speech Language Pathologist. Dana grew up in New York and is a clinical psychologist. Chase is looking forward to starting Hebrew school at TSS with many of his buddies, and the family is looking forward to celebrating their fourth and final Bar Mitzvah when it is his turn! Dana and Tim Thank everyone for welcoming them into the TSS community.

Diane and Stephen Akseizer are from Long Island, living in Glen Cove and Syosset. They have been married for 35 years and have four sons between them and five grandchildren. Stephen enjoys playing bridge, while Diane enjoys Book Club events and fitness. Stephen is a retired dentist, having practiced for over 50 year, and Diane was the Administrator at Long Island Jewish Hospital in Radiation Therapy. They are newbies to South Florida, having been here four months.

Shelly and Marc Stave have been in Florida since 1994. They are originally from Philadelphia. Marc is a retired accountant and Shelly was an elementary school and Hebrew school teacher many years ago. They owned a Physician Supply Company, and when they moved to Florida, opened a Dental Supply Company. Their two sons, Andrew and Joseph (also members of TSS) now run the business. They also have four grandchildren. Their grandson, Eli became Bar Mitzvah on October 17th here at TSS. The Stave's lived in Wellington for 18 years and now live in Boynton Beach. They enjoy going to shows, playing Mexican dominoes with friends, spending summers in Atlantic City and, Shelly enjoys Mah Jongg.



Donna Greenspan Solomon and Mark Solomon were originally from New York before moving to Florida. Mark moved here in 1975 and Donna in 1985. They have three children. Mark has one and Donna has two. They have a four month old granddaughter named Diana Jade. They also have a Golden Doodle named Harry. Mark is a Criminal Defense Attorney and Donna is a Civil Law and Appeals Attorney. Prior to becoming an attorney, Donna was a CPA and worked for Price Waterhouse. Donna and Mark belonged to a dance group for twelve years. They also enjoy traveling, playing Hand and Foot, and Donna would love to learn how to play Mah Jongg. Donna was a member of TSS twenty years ago, and Rabbi Fratello officiated her daughter's Bat Mitzvah. We are very happy to have them back at TSS!

Mandy and Josh Albert have lived all over the place, however Mandy is originally from near Atlanta and Josh is from near Philadelphia. Mandy is a high school English teacher at Saint Andrew's School, and Josh is a data scientist at NextEra Energy. They both have a PhD. Mandy's is in medieval literature and Josh has his in physics. (Only their students call them "doctor!" They have one son, Isaac, who is five, who would like everyone to know that he loves sushi and cars. Their hobbies include watching Star Trek and cheering for Isaac at the ninja gym. Mandy also enjoys writing, movies, writing about movies, and contra dance. Josh also enjoys playing the tuba and doing science experiments with the neighborhood kids. Mandy and Josh were convinced to join TSS after they played on Cantor Barry's team at a TSS trivia night and attended a few services, where they found the whole atmosphere very friendly, welcoming, and good-humored. They are happy and excited to be raising their son in such an environment.

Please join us in welcoming our newest members

Temple Shaarei Shalom
Your Jewish Connection

STARY 8TH-12TH GRADE SHABBATCHI

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14TH, 2026
6:00PM-7:30PM

PICKUP & DROPOFF AT
KIMURA JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE
545 N CONGRESS AVE
BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33426

JOIN FRIENDS FOR HAVDALLAH AND A HIBACHI DINNER EXPERIENCE.
SOUP, SALAD, ENTREE, DRINK INCLUDED

$40 FOR TEMPLE MEMBERS
$45 FOR FRIENDS

RSVP BY 11/11/26

For more information contact: youth@templeshaareishalom.com
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We're raising dough!

TEMPLE SHAAREI SHALOM INC

20%
OF NET SALES WILL BE DONATED*

November 10, 2026
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
8784 Boynton Beach Blvd, Boynton Beach, FL

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CELEBRITY CRUISES BEYOND

NOTHING COMES CLOSE !

DECEMBER 6 THRU DECEMBER 13, 2026
7 NIGHTS CARIBBEAN

FORT LAUDERDALE ~ NASSAU ~ AT SEA ~ COZUMEL ~ AT SEA ~ GRAND CAYMAN ~ AT SEA ~ FORT LAUDERDALE

INSIDE	**$1496**
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CONCIERGE C2	**$1766**

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BOOK THRU JUNE 6, 2026 AND GET UP TO $150 OFF PER PERSON
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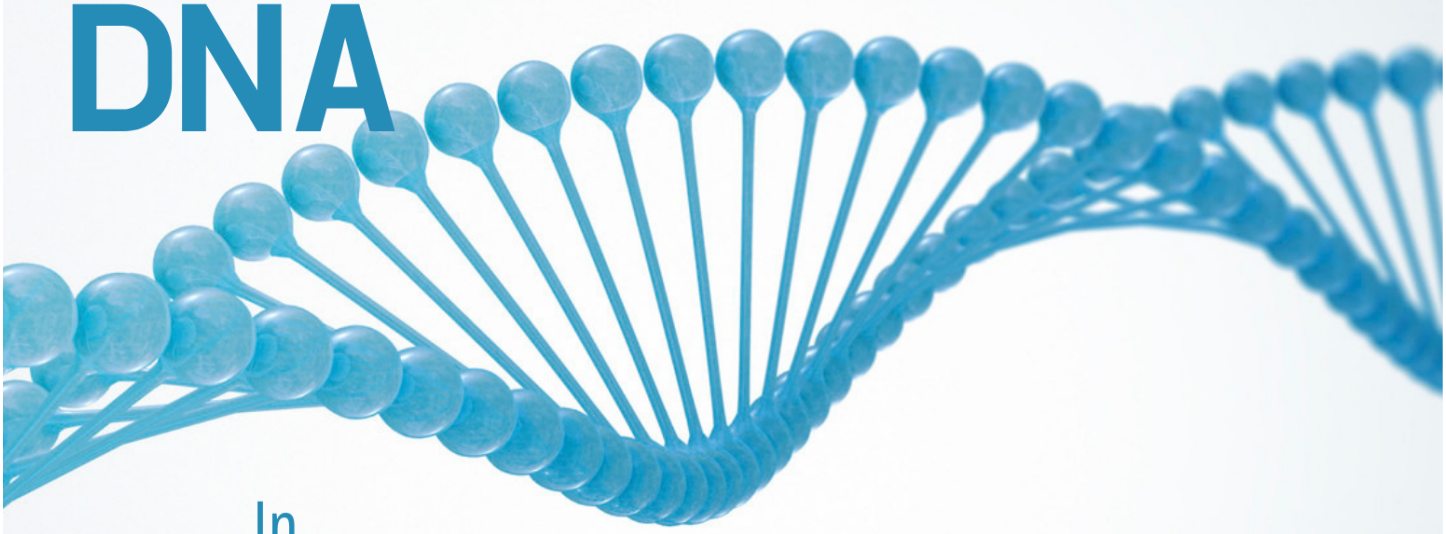
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Sisterhood of Temple Shaarei Shalom
Your Jewish Connection

Thursday, November 19, 2026
11:30 AM

Sisterhood presents a lunch and program with Stephen Singer:

The use of DNA



In CRIMINOLOGY

$20.00 Sisterhood Member
$25.00 Guest

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER
or call 561-364-9054
Register by November 16
9085 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach FL

TSS Scholar In Residence 2027*
Dr. Robert Watson
Wednesday, January 13 @ 7:00pm

FIRST AMENDMENT….IS THERE NO LIMIT?

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof…

Why does the Constitution deal with religious freedom? Why is it the First Amendment? What does religious freedom mean? You do not need to be a constitutional scholar to enjoy this program…if you have had the privilege of hearing Dr. Watson speak, you know he will provide background and context as he shares his thoughts on this vitally important current topic.

Robert Watson, Ph.D. is Distinguished Professor of American History, Avron Fogelman Research Professor, and Assistant Director for the Center for Citizenship and Civility at Lynn University. In addition, he has published numerous books and scholarly articles, is a media commentator, and has led national conferences on the presidency.

We are trying a new format for our Scholar in Residence program this year. Dr. Watson will speak at 7:00pm. Following his presentation, we shall adjourn to round tables for snacks by 24 Karat Catering and follow up discussion.

Please see the flyer on page 13 to register and plan to join us for this very special event.

The Scholar In Residence Committee
Joan Milowe (Chair)
Judith Beiner, Addison Fox, Ron Fox, Mike Gottlieb, Herman Graff, Jeffrey Rubin

*This program is sponsored in part by the Harvey & Joan Milowe Scholar In Residence Endowment



Temple Shaarei Shalom
Your Jewish Connection

Dr. Robert Watson

Scholar in Residence

THE FIRST AMENDMENT...
IS THERE NO LIMIT?

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...

Wednesday, January 13, 2027
7:00-9:00 PM

SCAN QR Code to Register
Students $5
Members $10
Non-Members $20

Dr. Watson's presentation will be followed by a discussion
Refreshments will be provided

9085 Hagen Ranch Road, Boynton Beach, FL 33472
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www.templeshaareishalom.com

Temple Shaarei Shalom
Your Jewish Connection

Adult Learning 2026-2027

Rabbi Fratello

The Book of Judges/Joshua

Tuesdays @ 12 noon

October 20 and 27, 2026
November 10 and 17, 2026
December 1, 8 and 15, 2026
January 12, 19 and 26, 2027
February 9 and 16, 2027
March 9, 16 and 23, 2027



No Registration Necessary

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Click Here for a letter of intent form:
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Eric Bender, Son of Maddy & Shelly Bender
from Mrs. Susan Zinner

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in honor of

The Viggiano family from Mrs. Judith Blackman

High Holy Days; Rabbi Fratello and Cantor Barry
from Mrs. Sydney Ross

Ron R. Cohen's Aliyah for dressing the Torah
from Ron R. Cohen

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in honor of

Ethan Levine's Bar Mitzvah
from Mr. Jay & Mrs. Stephanie Levine

Ethan Levine's Bar Mitzvah
from Mrs. Karen Blank

Cantor Barry in appreciation to her
High Holy Day services from Mrs. Sara Wane

Cantor Carrie Barry's inspiring music during the
High Holy Day services
from Ms. Anne Gorenstein

Addison Fox's Bat Mitzvah from Ms. Lisa Bell

in memory of

Elaine and George Cagen, parents of Steve Cagen
from Dr. Steve & Mrs. Gabrielle Cagen

CONGREGATIONAL FUND

in honor of

Temple Shaarei Shalom from Althea Lyons

Shelley Lomove's granddaughter Emily's engagement
from Joel & Ilene Simon

Marty Eisenberg's special birthday
from Mr. Mike Gottlieb

Ethan Levine's Bar Mitzvah
from Mr. Stephen & Dr. Fara Bender

Barbara Metsky for her friendship with
Barbara Lacher (z"l) from Tropham Foundation, Inc

in memory of

Teresa Catalano, sister of Bruce Alfarone
and sister-in-law of Wendy Alafarone
from Mr. Dennis & Mrs. Maxine Baker

Israel Schneider, grandfather of Mike Gottlieb
from Mr. Mike Gottlieb

Donald Metsky, husband of Barbara Metsky,
so sorry for your loss.
Deepest condolences from Rosalyn Katz

HARVEY & JOAN MILOWE ENDOWMENT

in honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of Addison Fox from Mr. Mike Gottlieb

ISRAEL PROGRAMMING

in honor of

Temple Shaarei Shalom from Sara Millett

in memory of

Bob Goldberg, husband of Lorraine Goldberg
from Mr. Mike Gottlieb

LIEBERMAN-GARVEY ENDOWMENT

in memory of

Tom Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey from Ken Kronhaus

Tom Garvey a loving husband and father. May memories
of him be blessings from Loren Schechter

Tom Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey. We are sadden to
hear of the loss of your beloved Tom. We remember him
as a warm, kind and caring man who had great love for
his family. You were lucky to have him in your lives.
Please know our thoughts are with you during this
difficult time. Love Melinda and Kevin Kapatoes

Tom Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Mr. Arthur & Mrs. Adrianne Yaffe

Tom Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Mr. Dennis & Mrs. Maxine Baker

Tom Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Mr. Gustie & Mrs. Susan Brust

Thomas (Tom) Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Mr. Mike Gottlieb

Tom Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Mr. Ronald & Mrs. Pamela Cohen

Thomas Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Mr. Steven & Mrs. Dana Clarfield

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from Mrs. Judith Ship

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Tom Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Mrs. Mildred Seader

Tom (Thomas) Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Mrs. Sara Wane

Tom (Thomas) Garvey, son-in-law of Lana Lieberman
from Mrs. Sara Wane

Tom Garvey, a loving husband and father
from Ms. Anne Gorenstein

Thomas Garvey, husband of Eve Garvey
from Ms. Charlotte Tract

OUR CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

in honor of

Ethan Levine becoming a Bar Mitzvah
from Mr. Bruce & Mrs. Laura Braverman

RABBI ANTHONY FRATELLO ENDOWMENT

for get well wishes to

Ron Cohen for his complete and speedy recovery
from Mrs. Lynn Aronson

in memory of

Frank Baker, father of Dennis Baker
from Mr. Dennis & Mrs. Maxine Baker

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

in honor of

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from Bruce & Maxine Cohn

Riley Harper, Mazel Tov to Ruth and Herb Zaritsky
from Carol Lovitch

Ruth and Herb Zaritsky for their anniversary
from Carol Lovitch

Harry and Sylvia Sussman, parents of Carole Sussman
from Carole Sussman

Martin Eisenberg's 90th birthday from Jeffrey Bell

Rabbi Fratello, for your inspiring sermons during the High Holy Day services
from Anne Gorenstein

Rabbi Fratello for his meaningful service for the passing of Martin Ross, husband of Lorraine
from Lorraine Ross & Family

Rabbi Fratello from Mr. Alan & Mrs. Harriet Wagner

Ethan Levine's Bar Mitzvah. Much nachas and many, many more from Mr. Borrah & Ms. Barbara Finkelstein

Ethan Levine's Bar Mitzvah
from Mr. Jay & Mrs. Stephanie Levine

Ethan Levine in honor of the outstanding Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Levine from Mr. Ronald & Mrs. Pamela Cohen

Rabbi Fratello from Mrs. Barbara Swartz

Rabbi Anthony Fratello and Rabbi Joanna Tract for their loving and supportive dedication through Tom's funeral
from Mrs. Eve Garvey

Ethan Levine's Bar Mitzvah from Mrs. Karen Blank

Rabbi Fratello in appreciation to his High Holy Day Service from Mrs. Sara Wane

Roz Blau's 80th birthday from Ms. Judy Mannes

Marty Eisenberg's 90th birthday from Ms. Judy Mannes

in memory of

Edgar Bachmann, father of Joyce Portnoy
from Dr. Ivan & Mrs. Joyce Portnoy

Dorothy Portnoy, mother of Ivan Portnoy
from Dr. Ivan & Mrs. Joyce Portnoy

Beloved parents, Robert and Jeanne Schupper, beloved grandparents Irving and Eva Cooper, and Charles and Anna Schupper from Dr. Robin Schupper

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from Mr. Fredric & Mrs. Randye Kagan-Wilner

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Beatrice Wilner, mother of Fredric Wilner
from Mr. Fredric & Mrs. Randye Kagan-Wilner

Cantor Eli Kagan, father of Randye Kagan-Wilner
from Mr. Fredric & Mrs. Randye Kagan-Wilner

Frieda Newman, grandmother of Fredric Wilner
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Hanan Pele, father of Glenn Peleg
from Mr. Glenn & Mrs. Andrea Peleg

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Hannah Bloom, loving and beautiful mother of Stuart Bloom from Mr. Stuart Bloom

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in honor of

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from Emily Scruggs

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Barbara Metsky for her friendship with Barbara Lacher (z"l) from Tropham Foundation, Inc.

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in honor of

The wonderful Yom Kippur Services
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URJ OVERNIGHT CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

in honor of

Ethan Levine's Bar Mitzvah Mazel Tov!
from Lisa & Emily Bell

in memory of

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from Mrs. Sara Wane

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from Mrs. Sara Wane

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from Mr. Bill & Mrs. Arline Burstein

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Irving Horowitz, uncle of Arline Burstein
from Mr. Bill & Mrs. Arline Burstein

Dave Smiley, uncle of Arline Burstein
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Estelle Horowitz, aunt of Arline Burstein
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husband of Eve Garvey & father of Gabrielle & Shane

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friend of Jay Levine

Arthur A. Kaplan
husband of Roz Kaplan & brother-in-law of Millie Seader

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husband of Barbara Metsky

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