



September 2020

The Menorah

Temple Emanuel ~ 600 Lake Hollingsworth Dr.

Lakeland FL 33803 ~ 863-682-8616



Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Avi Weiss once wrote, "Perhaps the most fundamental principle in Judaism is that every person is created in the image of God. Just as God gives and cares, so too do we... The challenge is to unite that divine spark, present in the human spirit." In the midst of this pandemic we are experiencing social unrest and natural disasters that may cause despair, but our faith calls upon us to face adversity with a belief that every individual's actions can make a profound difference for good or bad in our world. What we choose to do can keep someone alive, help cure a disease, protect an innocent, make the world a better place.

Rabbi's Message continues on Page 12



President's Message

As we navigate these unprecedented times with COVID 19, and prepare for the upcoming High Holidays, we find ourselves with time to reflect on the many blessings we have at Temple Emanuel.

We have not allowed the pandemic to prevent us from maintaining a sense of connection and community. Our Rabbi, Board of Trustees, volunteers and members quickly found ways to overcome the challenges the pandemic brought. We immediately transitioned to an online meeting environment. Services, programming, and education continued without interruption and we have had a record number of attendees. Visitors from the greater Polk County Jewish community, Florida, the United States and internationally have participated in our programming.

Rabbi Goldstein graciously took on the task of teaching weekly Adult Education classes. Irma Cole has given generously of her time to arrange weekly social activities including trivia, bingo, and other games. She also produced our wonderful Judaica Collection Presentation and is now working on coordinating a Zoom Jewelry Sale to benefit Temple Emanuel (see page 22 for details).

President's Message continues on Page 2

Inside this issue

President's Message cont.....	2
Volunteer.....	3
School News.....	3
Archives by Cat.....	4-5
Profile.....	6-9
Holiday Preview.....	10
B'nai B'rith News	10
Thank You!.....	10
Save the Date.....	10
High Holiday Schedule.....	11
Rabbi's Message cont.....	12
New Members.....	12
Cantor Geigner.....	13
Sponsors.....	14-15
Book Club.....	15-16
Marilyn Signer.....	17
Igive.com.....	18
Amazon Smile.....	19
Chanukah Sale	20
Facebook.....	21
Jewelry Sale.....	22
Judaica Presentation.....	22
Jewelry Sale.....	23

UPCOMING EVENTS

Selichot

9/12 9 pm

Rosh Hashanah

9/18 7:30 pm

9/19 & 20 10 am

Yom Kippur

9/27 6:30 pm

9/28 10 am & 6:30 pm

See page 11 for more!

Visit our [website calendar](#)

& our [Facebook page](#) for details on all events!

President's Message Continued from Page 1

We recently held a Zoom concert with Cantor Victor Geigner and enjoyed a delightful virtual tour of Jane and Brian Renz's beautiful Frank Lloyd Wright home in Usonia, New York.

We look forward to 5781 and the opportunities the New Year will bring us. Our High Holiday services will be held via Zoom with Cantor Victor Geigner enhancing the beauty of our services with his lovely voice. We will usher in the High Holiday season with Selichot with a wonderful musical program by Cantor Geigner followed by our Selichot service. The program will be held on Saturday, September 12th at 9pm.

The Ritual Committee and Rabbi Goldstein have been working diligently preparing for the High Holiday services. The committee is finalizing all the details and will soon send out emails and post important details on our website and Facebook pages.

Last year David Robinson gave an extremely passionate and moving account of uprooting his wife from a large, vibrant Jewish community and moving to Lakeland. He told us how they were welcomed into our Temple Emanuel family, how their children received a great Jewish education in our religious school, and he outlined for us the importance of Temple Emanuel in their lives and their children's lives. His is not an isolated story. We all have our own stories of what Temple Emanuel means to us. Some have memories of their ancestors that were instrumental in the early development and building of our Temple, some find fulfillment in our religious observances, others cherish the social activities and friendships realized, others value having a place to give their children a good Jewish upbringing. For many of you, it is a combination of some or all of the above.

We will soon begin our High Holiday appeal. With the need to shorten our services due to the online format, our appeal this year will be a mail campaign. You will receive a letter describing the many financial needs of our Temple. I ask that every one of you take a few minutes to reflect on what Temple Emanuel means to you and give generously to help Temple Emanuel remain the center of Jewish life in Polk County.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Trustees, I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. May you and yours be inscribed and sealed for a good and sweet 5781.

Allen Shane
President
Temple Emanuel

YOUR YEAR TO VOLUNTEER

Connect ... Engage ... Make a Difference

Join us to make Temple Emanuel the best it can be. With your time, talent and skills, we can provide fun, fellowship, events and activities. There is something for everyone!

Won't you help us? Please send your response by email to: office@templeemanuellakeland.com

Committees:

- **Ways and Means** - oversee and coordinate fundraising activities; solicit special donations when needed; explore possibilities for increasing income.
- **Marketing** – help publicize events and programs at Temple Emanuel. Work on our website and Facebook page. Create items for the weekly update and publish the quarterly Menorah newsletter.
- **Membership** - identify and recruit new congregants; welcome newcomers and non-affiliated members of the community and acquaint them with various aspects of the synagogue.
- **Planning – Socials and Events** - help plan, publicize and execute various programs and events for the congregation.
- **Sunshine / Visitation** - reach out to our congregants during stressful times in the hospital or at home.
- **House & Grounds** - help monitor and assist with synagogue maintenance and upkeep; make recommendations for improvements/repairs and identify long-range capital needs.
- **Telephone** - coordinate the phone tree for special events to call and recruit participation.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS by Sheri Hewson

Hebrew classes will begin on Tuesday, September 8, time to be determined.

Both the classes will be held every Tuesday, back to back on Zoom, and I will be teaching them both. If and when things are better and we can return to the library, any changes will be announced then.

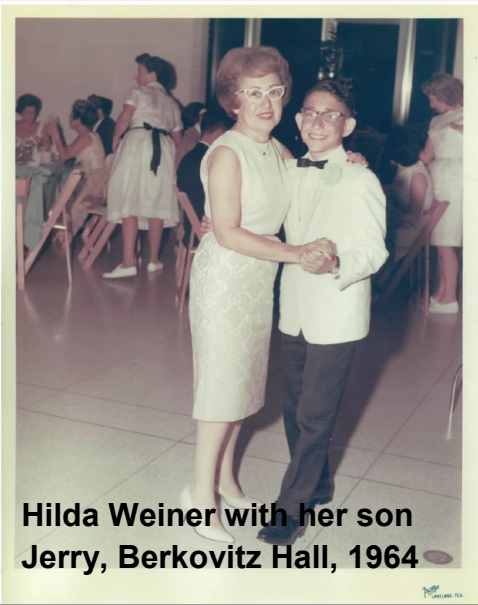
On behalf of the entire Religious School, I want to thank all the parents for their support and assistance. With your continued help, the students will stay on target and meet their needed goals for the year.

In addition, a personal thanks to those who participated in classes through June; it helped tremendously.

I look forward to another year of fun and learning as each child gets closer to becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

About the Archives by Cat. Eskin

In these days of social distancing—or rather, “physical” distancing—we are all learning more and more about community. Defined as areas or groups bound by ethnic or racial similarities, “communities” are made up of individuals who share certain characteristics and view themselves as part of a unified group and are often insular. Probably the most common way to think about a community is in relation to its physical or geographical location. A community, the thinking goes, lives together in close proximity. As Jews, this definition is historically fraught. Even before the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and the exile from the land of Israel, Jews inhabited nearly every place on the planet. Rabbinic Judaism made smaller groups of Jews viable units, insisting a Jew can fulfill mitzvot from anywhere; only certain prayers and practices require a minyan of ten. The flexibility of Judaism has made possible the great longevity of our religion; our traditions, texts and practices are continually considered and reconsidered in the light of contemporary experience. It comes as no surprise, then, that we are reconsidering what it means to be a community in our COVID reality.



**Hilda Weiner with her son
Jerry, Berkovitz Hall, 1964**

At Temple Emanuel we have been blessed with leaders who work hard to keep us connected (shout-out to President Shane and Rabbi). That we can still come together to worship through Zoom is both a technical marvel and a source of comfort for many of us. Seeing the faces—or just hearing the voices—of my fellow congregants has been a source of solace to me and my family during the last months. Sure, I miss in-person minyans—hugs, touching the Torah, aliyot, hugs, reading the Torah, hugs—but I am so proud of my extended Jewish family. We call to check in with each other. We collect food to distribute to those in Polk County who are struggling financially. We share values. Even when we don’t agree (which, let’s face it, is most of the time), we care for each other.

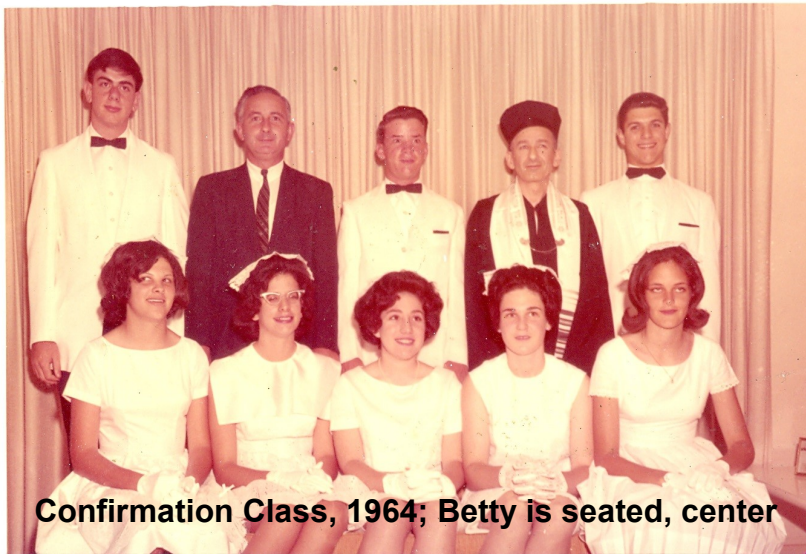
The memories I’d like to share from Betty Weiner Grus (collected in 2015) illustrate the resiliency of Judaism and the ways that distance can make the heart grow fonder. Her father, Sam Weiner (pronounced “whiner”), was born in Boston, but moved down to

Florida when he was very young. According to Betty, “For her whole life, my grandmother had a broken accent. Like she just got off the boat.” Sam celebrated his bar mitzvah, “at someone’s house in Sebring”—it would have been before Temple Emanuel had a building. Sam met Hilda during the war, when he was in the service. He brought her back to Florida and went into the family business with his father. “My mother was from St. Louis. She did not love Wauchula. She did not love her in-laws. But because my grandparents were there, we stayed in Wauchula.” Born there in 1948, Betty was shaped by that geographic isolation from other Jews. I think we can learn from her what it means to commit to Judaism and to appreciate your community.

“Well, as a Southern Jew who grew up in a town where there were not Jewish people,” I learned tolerance, Betty explained. “As much as I didn’t have any anti-Semitism, I still knew I was different.” While the Jewish residents in Lakeland might reasonably expect to see other children of their faith in their neighborhood or school, Betty was acutely aware that “being Jewish [made me] more different than the girls at my sleepover. There was a girl I was friends with who was Mormon, so her family went to a different church, but they still celebrated Christmas. Whereas, those weren’t my holidays. And when I was in [Temple] Sunday school, maybe I liked Sunday school more because I had this comfort level.” She remembers being excited to attend “Blue Star [Jewish camp in North Carolina] in the summer, [because] I was around Jewish kids.”



**Teen Table at Jerry’s bar mitzvah, Betty
is third from right, 1964**



Confirmation Class, 1964; Betty is seated, center

Surrounded by Christians, she says, “I appreciate [d] my own culture in a different way.” And she viewed Christian culture differently as well. “I know all the Christmas carols,” she told me, with something between pride and defiance. “I know hymns, little songs that kids sang when they were little: ‘Jesus Loves the Little Children of the World.’ And I’m not offended by Christmas carols.” Her husband, who is from a larger Jewish community, “does not like to look at Christmas lights. I like to drive around and look at Christmas lights.” Because she was “surrounded by it, we could appreciate it for what it was and not take it super seriously.”

Still, Betty’s mother, Hilda, “was affected by the women in the town.” As much as she was accepted because her husband owned a prosperous business, their family was on the outside. Her mother responded by instilling pride in their identity and maintaining Jewish traditions. “My mother would light candles on Friday night,” even if the family wasn’t able to make the hour-long trek to Lakeland each week for services. Betty always had new clothes for Rosh Hashanah. “I mean, when you went to synagogue in Lakeland for the holidays, everyone dressed nice.” Betty continued that tradition, even in college: “every year I would get new clothes for the high holidays. And some [Jewish peers] didn’t even go to service. A lot of people never went because it didn’t mean anything to them. Whereas for me, the religion part was my Jewishness. And so I held to [my identity] because of it.”

Her parents went to great lengths to ensure that their children had a Jewish education. Betty’s father drove them to Lakeland on Friday nights and Betty would stay the weekend with a Temple classmate so she could attend Junior Congregation services on Saturday morning and then be there for Sunday school. “And once I could drive, then after synagogue, we would go to McDonald’s or someplace like that.” Treats were a big part of her memories. “After Sunday school it was always Morrison’s Cafeteria or McDonald’s. When I was a teenager we went to the Holiday Inn because they had a really nice buffet and Caesar salad.”

“When the synagogue was being built—and it might’ve just been that we had too many people [to fit into the mansion’s upstairs sanctuary]—we used to meet at the Lakeland Civic Center for High Holiday services. And for a break, there was a Howard Johnson’s; I think right next to it. And all these people who had medical reasons why they couldn’t fast, I mean, they were all in there.” After services, she recalled with a gleam in her eye, they would go for a treat: “my mother, her favorite ice cream was the chocolate chip [at the Ho Jos], which was the tiniest chips you could imagine.”

Betty learned more about Judaism as she attended services regularly. Saying goodbye to a classmate on Rosh Hashanah, “I found out there were two days of Rosh Hashanah! Because I didn’t know that. My father didn’t close his store. And it wasn’t until someone said ‘Are you coming tomorrow?’ And I said ‘What’s tomorrow?’ And they said, ‘It’s the second day.’ And I said, ‘There’s a second day?’”

Ultimately, though, Betty felt safe at Temple Emanuel. “I think [I felt] safe because [I was] among [my] people.” And “the people in Lakeland were really nice. The people of the synagogue were just really nice people. They were very welcoming. My mother knew Sisterhood [ladies] and she did Hadassah and she would make an effort to go [to Lakeland].” Because Betty lived in such cultural isolation, “Temple Emanuel played a big part in my life ...; it was the core of my Jewishness. ... I participated. I went to things.” The people “were special.” And so, according to Betty, was the place; “when I went in, recently, ... I just sat there in a calm. [I remembered the] Men’s Choir. They were upstairs [in the current sanctuary]. And to this day, I can hear them singing Hashkiveinu. I can hear those voices singing.”

Years later, Betty married in St. Louis, where her mother’s family lived. “But you know,” she said, “I kind of wanted to get married in Lakeland just because the synagogue actually meant something to me.”

Monthly Profile: This month we feature office volunteer and Board Member Joan Greenbaum. Thanks Joan! Read other profiles at: <https://templemanuelakeland.com/member-profiles/>

I was born in Tampa but moved to Lakeland when I was two.

Both of my parents were immigrants. My mother came to the United States as a child from Russia. She always said she was from Kiev, but I found out that she was actually from a small town, a “Shtetl”, in the Ukraine. Her father was a “Shochet”, (a person officially certified as competent to kill cattle and poultry in the manner prescribed by Jewish law), and very religious. My mother idolized him, but he died when she was young. My mother, grandmother, sister and two brothers then came to the United States. My mother went to work to help support her family when she was very young.

My father was from Worms, Germany where his family owned a leather goods business. He went to private schools. He and his father were taken to what he called a “Brown House” by the Nazis, but they were able to escape and go to Palestine. My mother went to Palestine too, with Golda Meir and a Zionist group. She met my father and they married in Israel.

My parents came from very different backgrounds, but they both spoke Yiddish. My oldest brother Joseph (Joe) was born in Israel and my mother was pregnant with my sister when she was told she had to return to the United States or she would lose her US citizenship.

After sitting in the consulate's office in Israel all day with my four year old brother and pregnant with my sister she was able to get my father papers to come with her to the United States.



She was nine months pregnant with my sister when she returned to the US. My sister and younger brother were born in Brooklyn, New York. My parents and siblings moved to Hicksville, Long Island, New York. My father was drafted into the Army and wounded in WWII. That was the last time he went to Germany.

After my father was wounded our family had to move to a warmer climate. They moved to Gainesville and then Tampa. My mother was active at the Rodeph Shalom Synagogue. My father attended the University of Tampa and then graduated from the University of Florida. He always wanted to be an attorney, but he graduated with a degree in Agriculture.

My parents lost a child before me and I was a premature baby. My mother gave me three Hebrew names because she didn't know if I was going to live or not. It is miraculous that I did make it and had no issues because I was born weighing three pounds. That was seventy years ago.

My sister, Korina Masters lives in Lakeland. My brother Joseph Greenbaum lives with his wife Helga in Mountain House, California. My brother Melvin passed away in 2008.

I did not have interaction with family other than my nuclear family. I never knew my father's family growing up. When I was a teenager, he found out he had a cousin in Philadelphia. His family lived in Israel. At the present time I do have a cousin from his family living in New Jersey.

My mother's family were all in New York. I can remember when I was a child that my grandmother came for a visit one time. My siblings left home by the time I was in Junior High. A lot of my friends thought that I was an only child.

Growing up in Lakeland was hard. My parents were immigrants, both had accents, they were older than most parents of kids my age, and they were not Americanized. We lived on the east side of town where only one other Jewish family lived. I went to Sunday School and Hebrew School at Temple Emanuel. I did not have a Bat Mitzvah because I didn't want to sing in front of a crowd. I didn't feel as if I fit in with the other kids in the religious school because I didn't go to the same primary schools that they did or live near them. I had close friends where I lived and they all knew that I was Jewish and accepted that.

After sixth grade when I was 11 years old, my mother put me on a bus to go stay with my brother in California. She wanted me to get to know my brother. He left home when I was very young. After that she would put me on a bus or take me to my sister's in Massachusetts almost every summer. I loved going to my sister's because I made friends with other girls there and my sister would take me to the beaches in New Hampshire and Maine.

My mother ran a new and used store on North Florida Ave., Lillian's Bargain Store. At that time there were several Jewish merchants on North Florida Ave. She closed the store after my father began working for the USDA and she experienced health issues. My father began working for the USDA when I was in Junior High. In ninth and tenth grade I started the school years in other states and learned to be independent at an early age. I went off to the University of Florida at seventeen where I met my ex-husband the summer after my freshman year. He had just gotten out of the Marines and was back from Vietnam.

The fall after my sophomore year I dropped out of college and ran off and got married. My husband was not Jewish and my parents said they would consider me dead. My father later contacted me to tell me that my mother was sick and I should bring my husband and come see her. I did.

I went back to college and had my first child, Michelle, while my husband and I were still in school. I graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology. I supported the family for a year.

My ex-husband got his first job in Clewiston, FL. When we went to look for a home we discovered that the principal, assistant principal and secretary had all left the school he was supposed to be working at. We returned to Lakeland and he got a job at Santa Fe High School.

I became a member of Temple Emanuel in 1976. When my children were small my husband converted to Judaism and we remarried at Temple Emanuel. I went to work as a paraprofessional for the school system. I left that job due to pregnancy issues. I was working on the Physical Education field, but the principal would not accommodate me. I lost the baby shortly after that. I then became pregnant again. Six weeks after my son Jason was born, I went to work at Polk County Social Services. My husband went to work for the Polk County Schools.

My mother died in 1976, six months after I started working. I was 26 years old. I worked at Polk County Social Services for five and half years. Then I went to work for the state. I worked as a Social Worker for a program called the Pentastar Project, where I had forty caseloads. These clients would normally go to a nursing home. I was their case

manager making sure that they got care in their homes. The state abandoned the project, which by the way was successful and saved the state money by not paying for nursing homes for these clients.



At the 70th birthday party for high school class. Part of my Sunday School class. From left to right, Michael Schneider, David Stone, myself and Todd Estroff.

Continued on Page 9



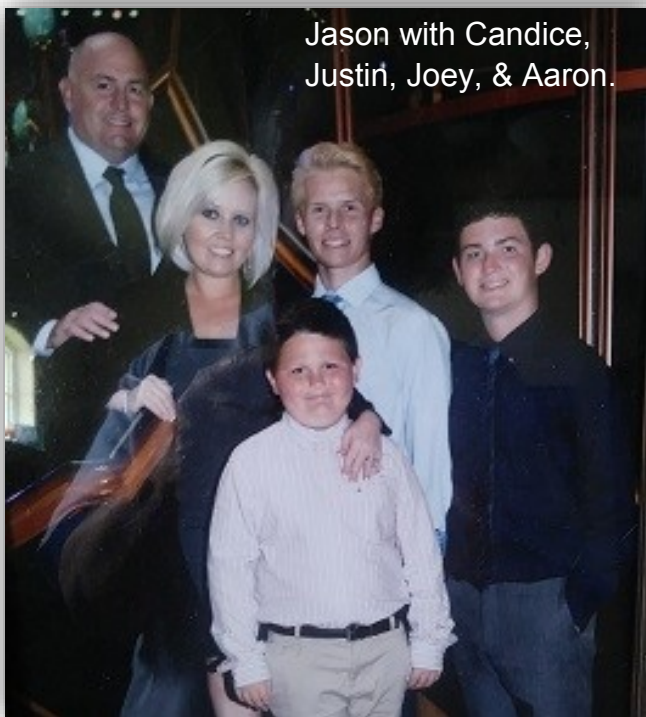
Bar Mitzvah at the old Temple: Korina, Melvin, parents Lillian & Herman, & Joan



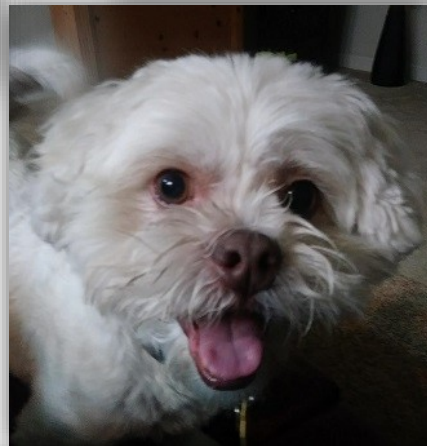
Brother Joe's wedding to Helga 62 years ago! Joan with parents, Korina & Melvin.



Joan with son Jason & daughter Michelle



Jason with Candice, Justin, Joey, & Aaron.



Above the 5 grands!

Left Lewey

Below Michelle & family: Brad, Taylor and Maddie.



I then went to work in Foster Care and then Aging and Adult Services. I handled adult abuse and neglect cases. Then I went to work at the courthouse as a Counselor/Investigator doing paternity and modification cases. Allen Shane came to our office to do the HLA blood work for paternity testing. During that time my father, who was also a member of Temple Emanuel, lived with my family. He died in 1987 when I was 37. I divorced at age 39 in 1989.

When the funding was stopped for the Paternity Project, my boss, coworker and I developed a program to enforce child support and alimony cases for people in Polk County. People got court orders to see me regarding their delinquencies. I also became a certified Family Mediator. I did that job for over fourteen years and I loved it. I learned to be more aggressive and assertive. The job ended because of budget cuts. So then I went to work in Domestic Violence. I retired and went back to work part time there for nine more years. I retired once again after being given an ultimatum to either work full time or you are out of here.

My children are married and I have five grandchildren. Michelle (Oliver) is a Realtor with Coldwell Banker and her husband Brad is VP of nonperishable items for Publix. My oldest grandchild, Taylor is starting her second year at U of F law school. Maddie, her sister, is attending Polk State College and works at Publix on 540A. The girls are Michelle's children.

My son, Jason (Dougherty) is the Deputy Chief at Hillsborough County Fire Rescue. His wife Candice, is a Nail Tech. His son Justin is at Collegiate High School and also works at Publix on 540A. His son Joey is at Lakeland Highlands Middle School and his stepson Aaron (Curtis) attends Gateway High School and works at Publix on Shepard Road.

So if anyone goes to any of these Publix stores say 'Hi!' to them and tell them that you know me. You may also see Jason on TV at times. Jason and Michelle attended Sunday and Hebrew School at Temple Emanuel. They were both confirmed and had their Bar and Bat Mitzvahs at Temple Emanuel. I am very proud of my children and grandchildren. They are all successful and live wholesome lives.

I travel with a college friend usually twice a year. We both love to dance. We do things like we did in college. I used to read a lot but after college it seems the only time I read is when I am on vacation. When at home I feel I need to take care of what needs to be done. My new dog, Lewey, keeps me busy. I walk him at least twice a day and try to keep him out of trouble.

Retirement has been hard for me. I found that I need to be productive and like to be around people. After my divorce I met lots of great people and traveled to many places. Volunteering at the synagogue has helped fill my retirement void. I am still searching for an answer to "What do I want to do when I grow up?"

Judaism plays an important part in my life. I believe it gave me the foundation to be a better person. I have helped others throughout my life and tried to treat others with respect. I learned that from my parents and Judaism. My family has been members of Temple Emanuel since 1951. I moved to the Orlando area for four years but kept my membership. Temple Emanuel has been a constant in my life.

My mother was very traditional but at times did things because that is what she grew up doing, not giving a reason for doing those things. My father always said "You need to keep a good name." I do believe my father was my biggest positive influence in my life. He always took the high road. I learned perseverance from my mother. My mother was street smart.

Looking back on my life I realize that being loyal and not wanting to give up can sometimes be detrimental. One needs to realize that it is okay at times to let something or someone go. At times you need to stand up for yourself. After completing and reviewing this profile I feel that my life has had a lot of sad moments but I am blessed with a lot of "nachas" as well.

Shalom to my friends at Temple Emanuel.

HIGH HOLIDAY PREVIEW by Amy Blocher

The High Holidays are here!!! The Ritual Committee, Rabbi Goldstein, and President Allen Shane have been working tirelessly to try to make our Holidays a wonderful experience for us this year.

Yes, the services will be on Zoom, but we will have both Rabbi Goldstein and Cantor Geigner lead us in the prayers we are all familiar with from previous years.

Yes, this is a different way to begin our New Year, but we are still going to be together as we say and sing our prayers.

The Ritual Committee wishes each and every one of you a Healthy and Happy New Year!

B'NAI B'RITH NEWS

B'nai Brith meetings will be via Zoom until further notice:

September 13, 2020 at 10:00 am - Dr. Bob Doyle will be speaking on the U.S. Constitution. Dr. Doyle is a constitutional scholar who holds a law degree and a PhD. He has taught constitutional law, been a Tenth Judicial Circuit Court Judge, as well as practiced law. His talk will be strictly non-partisan.

October 18, 2020 Meeting - A representative of the League of Women Voters will speak about amendments to the Florida Constitution.

If you are not on the B'nai B'rith email list and wish to be, email Bob Baum at rbaum428@gmail.com.

THANK YOU TO SHARON LAKIN

We have been enjoying Sharon Lakin's piano playing during Friday night Zoom services. If you haven't been joining us, please do. Her music is wonderful and adds so much to our time together. Thank you Sharon!

SAVE THE DATE!

We are delighted to announce that Dr. H. Alexander Rich, Executive Director and Chief Curator of our fabulous Polk Museum of Art has kindly agreed to join us via Zoom on Sunday, October 18th at 4 pm.

Alex has an impressive resume that we can share later, but for now, you might be interested in reading about how the museum came to be!

Founded in 1966 as the Imperial Youth Museum and renamed the Polk Public Museum in 1969 to better reflect its emphasis on art, history, and science, Lakeland's premiere not-for-profit art museum doubled its exhibition and classroom facilities with the purchase of a vacant Publix Super Market building in 1970. Together with the School Board of Polk County, staff members worked to establish and sustain a curriculum-based art education program. The institution received accreditation from the American Association of Museums in 1983, and was renamed the Polk Museum of Art. Its current facility on Palmetto Street was formally dedicated in September 1988.





2020 HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

SELICHOT

Saturday, September 12, 2020
9:00 PM Musical Program / Selichot

ROSH HASHANAH

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 18, 2020
7:30 PM Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

ROSH HASHANAH FIRST DAY

Saturday, September 19, 2020
10:00 AM Rosh Hashanah Service
6:45 PM Mincha / Maariv Service

ROSH HASHANAH SECOND DAY

Sunday, September 20, 2020
10:00 AM Rosh Hashanah Service

SHOFAR SERVICE / TASHLICH

Watch your email for further information on our Drive-In Shofar Service and Individual Tashlich.

SHABBAT SHUVAH

Friday, September 25, 2020
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, September 26, 2020
10:30 AM Shabbat Service
8:00 PM Havdalah

KEVER AVOT

Sunday, September 27, 2020
11 AM Temple Emanuel Cemetery

YOM KIPPUR – KOL NIDRE

Sunday, September 27, 2020
6:30 PM Kol Nidre / Yom Kippur Service

YOM KIPPUR

Monday, September 28, 2020
10:00 AM Service / Yizkor
6:30 PM Mincha and Neilah Service

SUKKOT / SHABBAT

Friday, October 2, 2020
7:30 PM Erev Sukkot Service

SUKKOT (FIRST DAY) / SHABBAT

Saturday, October 3, 2020
10:30 AM Sukkot / Shabbat Service

HOSHANAH RABBAH / SHABBAT

Friday, October 9, 2020
7:30 PM Service

SHEMINI ATZERET / YIZKOR

Saturday, October 10, 2020
10:30 AM Service / Yizkor

SIMCHAT TORAH

Sunday, October 11, 2020
7:30 PM Simchat Torah Service

Rabbi's Message Continued from Page 1

The High Holy Days serve as a reminder that our faith is a source of strength, drive and hope that allows us to accomplish miracles. If we are willing, we can use this time to remember our potential to make a lasting difference for good.

In the Prayer book, the Mahzor, that we use twice a year there is a prayer called “Unataneh Tokef”, one of the most central prayers of the High Holy Day liturgy, this prayer says there are three things in the world that we control: Teshuva – your character, Tefilah – your prayer, and Tzedakah – your acts of righteousness that temper or remove the severity of judgements against us. The human condition is risky and it is vulnerable, fragile, painful and difficult but no matter what life does to us we have the freedom and power to assign a meaning to life.

We need to let our actions create the good that is possible, to create joy and hope in a time of darkness. Our prayers can serve as our guide to understand how we can achieve this. May we each choose to inscribe ourselves in the Book of Life for this coming year, for blessing, peace, health and prosperity.

L'Shana Tova
Rabbi David Goldstein

Welcome New Members

Temple Emanuel extends a warm welcome to Melissa Morris and her 3 children as members of Temple Emanuel. Melissa moved to Winter Haven from Boca Raton several years ago with her children, Samuel (Sammy) 4, Elizabeth (6) & Johnathan (10).

Melissa is a professor in the Department of Engineering and Technology with Embry Riddle University. She received her undergraduate degree from Florida Atlantic University and her Masters and PhD degrees from Florida International University. She also spent three years living and studying in Israel.



The Morris Family—Welcome to TE!

Please join us in making them all feel welcome as part of our Temple Emanuel family!

TEMPLE EMANUEL WELCOMES CANTOR VICTOR GEIGNER FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS



Cantor Victor Geigner hails from Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he began his career in 1982, at the age of 16. He first learned the art of the Hazzanut, taking classes with several Hazzanim with long experience in Argentina and the world.

During his 20 first years as a Hazzan, Cantor Geigner integrated the staff of some of the most important synagogues in the City of Buenos Aires and he trained hundreds of children for their Bar and Bat Mitzvahs. Throughout the course of his career, he attended and studied at the “Seminario Rabinico Latino Americano” in Argentina, at the School for Hazzanim. He received vocal and lyrical training with several singing professors. His performances during the High Holidays, Shabbat, and all other religious services, are evidence of his abilities and knowledge.

Victor loves to use traditional Jewish melodies and modern Hazzanut during religious services. He has taught himself to play the guitar and ukulele. He has performed in several concerts of Hazzanim and lyrical songs throughout Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, United States, Canada and Israel. In all those countries he performed songs in Hebrew, Italian, Yiddish, Ladino and Spanish.

Cantor Geigner is the proud father of Mijal Nathalie (27).

In 2002 Victor moved to Cochabamba, Bolivia where he became the Executive Director of the Israeli Community. There he was the Cantor, Rabbi, Teacher, and Madrich, as well as the only advisor relating to the whole Kehilah. He was also in charge of teaching 22 Bolivian adults the required religious course for Jewish Conversion.

Cantor Geigner came to America for the High Holidays in 2004, and after his performance, Temple Judea in Fort Myers, Florida hired him to be their full-time Cantor and the Religious School Principal.

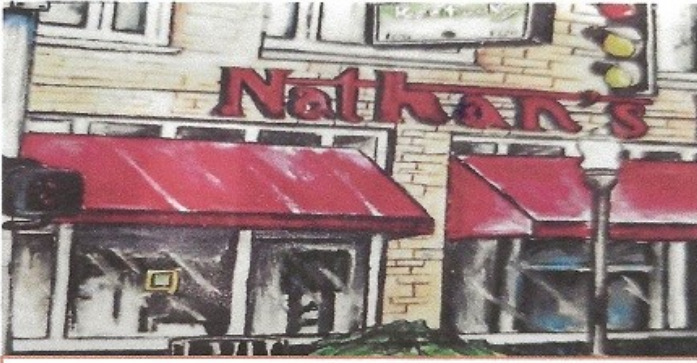
Victor joined Temple Emanuel of Lakeland during Passover in 2008 and was hired to serve as our Hazzan sharing the bimah and helping Rabbi Fox. Unfortunately, we lost Rabbi Fox after a terrible illness and we decided to keep Cantor Geigner as our Spiritual Leader.

In 2013, Victor was hired by Temple Beth El, the Reform temple in Fort Myers and there he served as the Cantor, B’nai Mitzvah trainer, Music teacher at the Religious School, Counsellor and one of the Spiritual Leaders of the Congregation.

In 2016, Victor moved to Seattle, WA where he served at Temple Beth Am, a Reform Temple with 900 + family members as the Cantor, Musical Director, Music Teacher, counselor, Leader of the 10 + tutors who trained the B’nai Mitzvah and in charge of several other tasks.

In March of this year Cantor Geigner moved back to Argentina to be close to his family. He will be joining his many friends here at Temple Emanuel for the High Holidays this year via Zoom. He is planning to come back to the US for some visits and is planning to come to Lakeland. We all look forward to seeing him in person, but in the meantime we are delighted to hear his voice during our services and see him via Zoom! Welcome back Victor – we are thrilled to celebrate the New Year together!

Temple Emanuel is extremely grateful to our generous sponsors and urges readers of The Menorah to consider utilizing their services! Thank you all!



An era ends after 78 years of service! Thank you for your patronage over the years - Harris Estroff



Active Member of Temple Emanuel for 46 years
Affordable, Accessible, Experienced

Ira A. Serebrin *Attorney At Law*

Serving Polk County For Over 46 Years

Providing professional legal service you can count on.
Marital & Family Law • Criminal Law • Personal Injury

www.Contactiratoday.com • 863-666-1939



**Investment
Advisors**

Michael A Riskin
CPA/PFS, CFP®, MST
Partner

205 East Orange Street
Lakeland, Florida 33801

LOCAL 863-688-1725

TOLL-FREE 877-564-6277

FAX 888-972-5548

EMAIL mriskin@cpsinvest.com

www.CPSinvest.com



Florida's Natural Growers
A division of Citrus World, Inc.
www.floridasnatural.com

Dr. Robert M. Behr
Chief Executive Officer

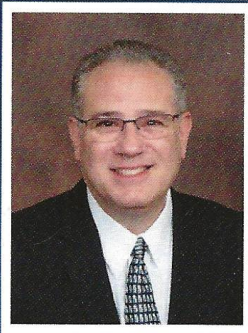
bob.behr@citrusworld.com

Phone (863) 676-1411

Cell (863) 604-1433

Fax (863) 676-0544

PO Box 1111
Lake Wales, FL 33859-1111



JAY S. GOLDBERG
Realtor



RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE

Direct: 863-904-2832

Cell: 631-879-5888

jay.goldberg@floridamoves.com

3003 S Florida Ave #104
Lakeland FL 33803

Owned by a subsidiary of NRT LLC



MLS

GRAY ROBINSON
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



GrayRobinson supports
TEMPLE EMANUEL

Gary S. Rabin
Shareholder

P: 863-284-2224

gary.rabin@gray-robinson.com

www.gray-robinson.com



Buying and Selling Worldwide
Irma Cole ~ Lakeland FL

Cell: 978-394-2661

trilliumantiques4u@yahoo.com

<http://www.rubylane.com/shop/trilliumantiques>



Debbie Malone

Executive Account Manager

2929 S. Combee Rd.
Lakeland, FL 33803-6000

P: (863) 686-1799 Ext. 104

F: (863) 687-0816



State of Florida
Minority & Women
Business Certification

www.glttooffice.com

dmalone@glttooffice.com

WATSON CLINIC LLP

Quality Healthcare for Every Generation

Eric Lipson, M.D.
Pulmonary Medicine
1600 Lakeland Hills Boulevard
Lakeland, Florida 33805
www.watsonclinic.com
863-680-7102



PERSONALIZED COLLEGE ADVISING FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

Robert Baum, Ph.D

863 398-9415

Ana Lipson, M.D.

Lipson Pain Institute
210 First Street N
Winter Haven, FL
33881
863-293-4800



Lipson Pain
Institute
RELIEVING PAIN • CHANGING LIVES

B'NAI B'RITH LODGE 1515
CONGRATULATES TEMPLE EMANUEL

For Serving the Jewish Community
of Polk County for over 50 years

398-9415 to receive our
calendar of events via your email

BOOK CLUB

Our next Book Club will be held on Tuesday, October 6th at 11 a.m. Location to be announced. Our new book selection is entitled "Gateway to the Moon", by Mary Morris. The AmazonSmile link is below:

<https://smile.amazon.com/Gateway-Moon-Novel-Mary-Morris/dp/0525434992>

In 1492, two history-altering events occurred: the Jews and Muslims of Spain were expelled, and Columbus set sail for the New World. Many Spanish Jews chose not to flee and instead became Christian in name only, maintaining their religious traditions in secret. Among them was Luis de Torres, who accompanied Columbus as an interpreter. Over the centuries, de Torres' descendants traveled across North America, finally settling in the hills of New Mexico. Now, some five hundred years later, it is in these same hills that Miguel Torres, a young amateur astronomer, finds himself trying to understand the mystery that surrounds him and the town he grew up in: Entrada de la Luna, or Gateway to the Moon.

Poor health and poverty are the norm in Entrada, and luck is rare. So when Miguel sees an ad for a babysitting job in Santa Fe, he jumps at the opportunity. The family for whom he works, the Rothsteins, are Jewish, and Miguel is surprised to find many of their customs similar to those his own family kept but never understood. Braided throughout the present-day narrative are the powerful stories of the ancestors of Entrada's residents, portraying both the horrors of the Inquisition and the resilience of families. Moving and unforgettable, Gateway to the Moon beautifully weaves the journeys of the converso Jews into the larger American story.

Contact is Jane Renz: jane7751@aol.com



===JOIN



FOR===

BOOK CLUB



TUESDAY OCTOBER 6TH
11 AM TO 12 PM

OUR SELECTION IS "GATEWAY TO THE MOON"
BY MARY MORRIS

LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED

Made with PosterMyWall.com

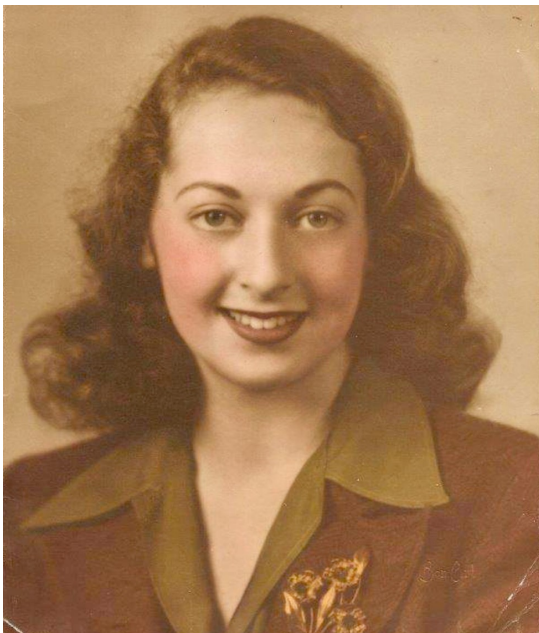
Marilyn Signer: A Living Legacy

By Kim Royce

Marilyn Signer has lived a long and amazing life. From Richwood, West Virginia to Lakeland, Florida, Marilyn's life has been full of experiences and, after meeting her husband, Allan Signer, in 1943, she has been non-stop action.

She raised two children while simultaneously helping Allan run multiple businesses to support their family. The husband and wife team were prominent figures at the synagogue, with Marilyn eventually becoming not only the first woman on the board of directors at Temple Emanuel, but the first one to have a vote on that board. After retirement, she and Al bred and showed German shepherds competitively for several years while Marilyn was a full-time volunteer for many local organizations. Despite hardships, the deaths of her beloved husband and most recently, her kid brother, Marilyn's resilience is unwavering.

When I asked what she wanted her legacy to be, she immediately answered "family." Marilyn has two children, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren (with possibly more on the way); she is simply happy these days knowing that her grandchildren and especially great-grandchildren will have met and remember her in some way and not just know about her through stories. With her 95th birthday coming up this month (September 16th), Marilyn Signer is truly a living legacy. Happy Birthday Marilyn!



Grandchildren: Greg Signer, Laura McCann, Abby Signer
Gleicher, Marilyn, Joy Signer Farnsworth, and Scott McCann



HELP TEMPLE EMANUEL

Sign up to earn money for Temple Emanuel when you shop online at thousands of stores. It's easy and it's FREE!

Invite your family and friends to sign up too.

<https://www.iGive.com/W9r58C>

iGive is a FREE service. There are no hidden costs or fees. You generate donations by shopping online at over 1900 stores. You don't need to enter any codes or notify the store. It is all automatic. By using an iGive link to the store's website, you shop as you normally would. There are no extra steps. Donations happen behind the scenes.

Temple Emanuel
600 Lake Hollingsworth Drive
Lakeland FL 33803
863-682-8616



PosterMyWall.com

Shop for Temple Emanuel!



**Did you know your purchases
can make a difference?
AmazonSmile donates to
Temple Emanuel when you
do your online shopping at
[smile.amazon.com
/ch/59-0915228](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-0915228)**

PosterMyWall.com
Background by Pixeden

Chanukah items remaining from our Silent Auction that we are now offering for sale:

- \$ 5 - Made in Israel box of 48 solid blue and white candles about 5 inches tall. Will burn for over one hour. New – unopened.
- \$3 - Vanilla Scented Candle in a hand painted ceramic holder with dreidels, stars, and menorahs. 4" x 3.25". Unused. Ceramic holder has a line.
- \$5 - Ceramic Star shaped Candy Dish, 8.75 x 2.25 inches. White and blue. Heavy.
- \$12 - Boxed Set of 4 Stainless Steel Gourmet Spreaders. Handles are highly decorative with stars and menorahs. Blues, gold, white colors. Measure about 5" long.
- \$28 - Set of 4 Ceramic Festival of Lights Plates designed by Chris Bubany. Measure 9.5" and each shows a different side of a Menorah. Very colorful and in perfect condition. No chips, cracks, or utensil scratches. Look to be new and unused. Dishwasher and microwave safe.

Please contact irmacole26@gmail.com to purchase! Thank– you!





Follow Temple Emanuel on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and events.

<https://www.facebook.com/TempleEmanuelLakeland>

Also check out our Website for our History, Calendar, Photo Gallery, Member Profiles, Videos, Archives, and more! You can pay dues and donate right from the website too!

www.templeemanuellakeland.com

CAN YOU HELP?

Do you have a few hours to spare once in a while? Temple Emanuel can use your help with small projects like:

1. Delivering collected food donations to VISTE.
2. Stuffing Envelopes.
3. Calling Members & Friends
4. Power Washing.
5. Odd Jobs and Maintenance.
6. Planning events

Let us know what your interests and availability are. Do a Mitzvah!

Contact: office@templeemanuellakeland.com

Help support your Temple with your time! Speak to Allen, Tammy, or Rabbi.

Thank -you!



JEWELRY SALE!

Join us on Sunday, October 25th at 4 pm via Zoom for a fabulous hour of fun and SHOPPING! All profits will go to help Temple Emanuel. What a great way to spend your time and money and wait till you see what you get for it!

We have been gifted a wonderful collection of lovely costume jewelry, many pieces are beautiful Italian Glass. We are also grateful to have received some very fine quality items from members and friends of Temple Emanuel. If you would like to donate as well, please contact irmacole26@gmail.com

Watch our Facebook page for some teasers! You will get to see some of what we have to offer you. <https://www.facebook.com/TempleEmanuelLakeland/> Thanks!

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9678912345?pwd=ZEpce2tqDkoHd1DAExLpWjOWV5rjAKtEvBC>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

JUDAICA PRESENTATION

We are delighted to announce that our Judaica Presentation is now available to be viewed from our Temple Emanuel Website.

<https://templemanuellakeland.com/judaica-collection-prese.../>

This is a Collection Created by Members and Friends of Temple Emanuel, Lakeland Florida, May 2020.

WHAT IS JUDAICA? For our purposes, we have chosen to define Judaica as all those objects that enhance the celebration of being Jewish. As Jews we adhere to rituals that affirm our identity and connection to our history and traditions.

We have included everything that was submitted by 23 members and friends of Temple Emanuel Lakeland. Please note that not everyone is a professional photographer and no major touch ups were made, just some cropping and a few images were lightened. The glare is real, but we all understand how that happens.

We hope you enjoy this collection as we view ourselves as a community, celebrating our past and present through Jewish objects. May your spirit be kindled as if you were lighting the Shabbat candles for the first time. There was much joy and learning putting the presentation together. I thank you for allowing me this creative journey into your hearts and homes.

As a postscript, please pardon the imperfections! We recorded this during a Zoom presentation so there are some glitches. We hope you enjoy anyway! Thanks for tuning in.

FUNDRAISER

New & Gently Used

Temple Emanuel
is proud to present
a Very Special
Jewelry Sale



YES! SHE LOVES JEWELRY!

Live via Zoom -

Sunday- October 25th - 4 pm

Register at: <https://rb.gy/ekr117>

**After registering you will receive an email
with details about joining the meeting.**

All proceeds will go to our ongoing hurricane repairs. Thank you !



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TEMPLE EMANUEL OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR 2020-2021

PRESIDENT ALLEN SHANE
1ST VICE PRESIDENT SHELLEY ROBINSON
2ND VICE PRESIDENT TAMMY SEREBRIN
3RD VICE PRESIDENT FLOYD STERN
TREASURER GARY RABIN
SECRETARY JANE RENZ

CAT ESKIN HARRIS ESTROFF JAY GOLDBERG JOAN GREENBAUM
MAVRA KEAR DAN LEVITEN MARC RAPKE JODIE SNYDER

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR LORI DOUGHERTY

Honorary Trustees

Marvin Wyman
Marvin Odro
Gerald Rabin*
Jack Pines*
Harry Moskowitz*
Philip Berkovitz*

Honorary Presidents

Nat Wolf*
Harvey Greenspan*
Harry Slakman*

[* - Deceased]

