



The Menorah

Temple Emanuel ~ 600 Lake Hollingsworth Dr. Lakeland FL 33803 ~ 863-682-8616



Rabbi 's Message

Starting with the beginning of Elul and going through Shmini Atzeret is our "Season of Repentance." This is our opportunity to examine our past deeds and recognize where we have failed to be the person we can be.

Each of us has it within ourselves to do the right thing, but sometimes we are not sure what it is that we should do and we need a little help. If we surround ourselves with good, kind, loving people, then we'll be on the right path, as exemplified by the story of "Elijah the Prophet in Minsk."

Rabbi's Message continues on Page 14



President's Message

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and was able to spend valued time off with family and friends. Fall is upon us, and it is a busy time around the Synagogue as we prepare for the High Holidays.

Unfortunately, we are now facing a surge in the positivity rate of Covid19 and the Delta variant. Lakeland, Polk County and Florida have have seen such a high numbers of cases in adults and children that our health care facilities are becoming overwhelmed. To protect our congregants we will have to again make modifications to our Services and plans.

The Board and Executive Committee had to make the very difficult decision to move our Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services entirely to Zoom. Previously we had announced that we would hold the Torah Service live in the Temple, but with the rapidly increasing positivity rate of the Delta variant, and technology challenges that would have been quite costly to overcome, we felt it was best to change the service back to a complete Zoom format. We will have the Torah Service and those congregants with Aliyahs or Torah readings participating via Zoom.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Rosh Hashanah 9/6 & 7 - 7:30 pm 9/7 & 8 - 9:30 am

Yom Kippur 9/16 - 6:45 pm 9/17 - 9:30 am & 6:15 pm

See page 13 for complete schedule.

Wisit our website calendar

& our Facebook page for
details on all events!

President's Message Continued from Page 1

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to make important decisions related to the virus, and the protection of our congregants and friends. We all pray that Covid19 and the variants will soon be brought under control so we may join together and greet each other in person again soon.

We began the holiday season with a musical program and Selichot Service. Cantor Victor Geigner and Sharon Lakin joined us via Zoom and presented an enjoyable program of piano and guitar music as well as Cantor singing several songs. This was followed by a Havdalah Service and Selichot led by Rabbi Goldstein and Cantor Geigner.

We are delighted to again welcome Cantor Paul and Cynthia Goldstein and their son Jason to Temple Emanuel High Holiday Services. Rabbi Goldstein and Cantor Goldstein will be leading our Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services and making the experience very enjoyable and spiritually inspriring for all of us. Cantor Goldstein and his family will join us via Zoom from Boca Raton.

We are planning to have a live Shofar service and individual Tashlich in the parking lot of the Temple on September 9th. Like last year we will meet in the parking lot and park in a "U" formation. The shofar blowers will be in the center for the Shofar Service. We ask everyone to remain in their vehicle and wear masks.

After the Shofar service everyone will line up in the driveway behind the Caretaker's house, and be directed to the lake to have their own private Tashlich and cast their bread into the lake.

It takes many committees and people to plan and coordinate our High Holiday Services. The entire Ritual Committee, co-chaired by Dan Leviten, Jordan Eckert and Amy Blocher have done an outstanding job planning our High Holiday Services, especially in such an ever changing environment. Dan Leviten deserves a huge "Thank You!" as he so willingly has agreed to continue to lead our morning High Holy Day services. Joan Greenbaum is working hard in our Temple office and Tammy Serebrin is always available to assist us. Thank you also to Irma Cole for sharing her talents with publicity and producing the High Holiday edition of *The Menorah*.

Following the High Holidays we will celebrate in October with David, Shelley and the Robinson family as Jarod is called to the Torah and becomes a Bar Mitzvah.

We have much to be thankful for. During the uncertainty of the pandemic, when many Synagogues were losing members and experiencing financial difficulties, we navigated through uncharted waters under the guidance of our treasurer, Gary Rabin, and the entire Board. Our financial status is sound, we have welcomed several new members and we have enjoyed increased participation in our Zoom services and activities.

Return to Elul

The sky was dark, and the month began. A special time of starting over: A month of kindness and clarity; Of consciousness and knowledge; Of bravery and strength. It is said that the truly evil, are already condemned And the truly good are already blessed. So for the rest of us there is Elul. Return to ourselves. In Genesis the moon is called "the lesser light." And that's how I feel tonight. Less than what I should be. What was I thinking? I was afraid, I was hurt, I was anxious... No excuses, I know what I did. Maybe it wasn't so bad But maybe it was.

-Trisha Arlin
Place Yourself, Words of Prayer and Intention

How can I make it better There is Elul.

Review the last five days and think where could you do better.

Courage

And I said:

Oh if only I had wings like the dove I would fly away and find a restful abode. I would wander afar while hastening to find a haven from the stormy tempest. (Psalm 55:7–9)

And so I pray

that my spirit have the strength to soar, that my heart have the courage to seek, and my mind the wisdom to discover, a life of meaning and purpose.

Grant me, O God, strength, courage, and wisdom.

—Rabbi Karyn Kedar, Amen: Seeking Presence with Prayer, Poetry, and Mindfulness Practice (CCAR Press, 2020), p. 59.

How would you define "a life of meaning and purpose"?

Sometimes the gifts of our lives are right before us. What are they for you?

President's message continued from previous page

We are also thankful for the generosity of our members and community friends who have enabled us to complete many of our projects while the Temple was closed for the pandemic. Thanks to your support we were able to accomplish these without having to secure a loan.

As we approach the High Holidays, we ask that everyone please give generously to the best of your ability during our upcoming High Holiday Pledge Drive. The funds raised will help us continue to have a Jewish presence in Lakeland and Polk County as well as help fund our future building renovations and repairs.

L'Shanah Tovah,

Allen Shane President

About the Archives by Cat. Eskin

Grace Under Fire: The Teachers of Temple Emanuel

When we talk about the front lines in the battle against COVID-19, we have generally referred to our health care workers (professional, Para-professional and staff). This month I would like to look at another group of workers who are equally "essential" as we navigate the on-going pandemic. K-12 teachers—a dedicated and often under-appreciated group—have been tasked with the health and safety of students who could be in their classrooms or on a computer screen; they have navigated the brave new world of technology to keep our children connected to the world and to each other. Our current conditions are unprecedented in so many ways, but the dedication and devotion of teachers is not new.

As the school year begins in Polk County, let's pay tribute to some of our members (past and present) who gave of themselves by teaching the next generation. I know that I will miss many, so please: know that my space was limited. I would love to hear about your (or a relative's) teaching experiences if I do not honor you (or your family member) here.



Irene Wolfson Kanter, after graduating from the University of Texas at Austin, returned to Lakeland while she awaited her fiancé's release from service. Irene began her teaching career at a "strawberry school" in Plant City. She talked about the poverty of the children she served and how she often received gifts of turnips and other vegetables during her tenure. When she married Marvin Kanter in 1949 and returned to Austin, Texas, she continued her teaching career, eventually moving into administration (starting the city's first IB program). Outspoken and undeterred by just about anything, she told this story to me in 2010: as an assistant principal, she noticed that at the "Baccalaureate every year [the school had a Christian] minister. They had a Catholic priest and they had Baptists. I went to my principal and I said, 'Hey, we need a Rabbi.' Now my principal—I had one for about ten years who was a true honest blueblood narrow-minded Christian. But this principal had just become a principal when I was teaching at a middle school in the neighborhood. So when we moved to the brand-new high school ten years later, he became the principal. Brilliant young man. So he said, 'okay Irene, get one!' So I did."

Eye-opening experiences were not unusual for Temple Emanuel teachers. **Doris Moss Trohn**, who took a degree in Special Education from the University of Florida, moved to Lakeland with her husband Bob in 1957. She spent her first two years in Auburndale and then a year at Lime Street Elementary. From Palm Beach, Doris was shocked by the poverty of migrant workers and their families. While she left her classroom teaching after the birth of her first child, she vividly recalls the plight of her students when she first arrived in the late 1950s. Her own parents (Ann Dave and Irving Moss) were born in Poland and Russia respectively. Over the years she has lived in Polk, Doris worked hard on the Achievement Academy (she was on their board for 25 years), a school for handicapped children in Bartow which took children as young as age 2, helping parents of children with cerebral palsy or Down's syndrome.



Doris Trohn in 1962

Doris' fund-raising efforts—the Pro-Am Tennis tournament most noteworthy—raised thousands of dollars. For those students who can't afford uniforms and supplies, she raised money for the Needlework Guild (now called NGA) which provided for students in 33 schools in Polk County. (For emergencies, she would run out, buy the supplies and deliver them the same day.)

Not all our teachers were women, either. **Lloyd Goldsmith**—late husband of Rhoda—made a career of it. Lloyd, a Marine who served in the Korean War, had endured frostbite during the war and so the couple moved to Florida shortly after his release. He attended and graduated from Florida Southern with a degree in History. His son Alan remembered that "he originally taught at John Cox Elementary and he taught at Crystal Lake Elementary, then he taught at ... Lakeland Junior High and he was there for many, many years ... eighteen or nineteen years." Lloyd taught in the predominantly black, underfunded school. Alan remembered that "he would take care of the students. But even dealing with the parents was different because it was a different culture, different background." By the late-1970s, the jewelry and coin business Lloyd, wife Rhoda



and dear friend Howard Cohn began a few years before allowed him to retire from teaching.



Maxine from the 1970 LHS yearbook

As Lloyd's teaching career was winding down, **Maxine Weiss'** career was just getting started. She completed her BA in English from USF in 1966—the same year she married Richard. She spent her first two years teaching at Winter Haven High before moving to Lakeland HS (1968-1972). Where Maxine saw suffering or road-blocks for students, she addressed them: from the Open Line Crisis Phone Service to the Christmas Angels for foster children. Moving from classroom teacher to social worker to principal, she never met a problem she wouldn't take on. In her desire to serve the students of Polk, she earned an MA in Rehabilitation Counseling (1977) and a certification in Administration and Supervision (1986). Her impact can be felt in large and small ways. I was helping a friend at the Big Brothers/Big Sisters tent at a downtown festival, when a woman came up to the table and said she was an early beneficiary of the organization in Polk—"Mrs. Weiss was my big sister," she declared. Inspired by Maxine, she had spent a career serving students as a teacher in Polk herself.

Not everyone who serves students is a classroom teacher, as Maxine's career attests. Our own **Amy Morris** started out with degrees in Psychology (BS and MA from UF) and worked as an adult therapist. Within a short time, she was drawn to Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and became certified shortly thereafter. Amy's business—*Trek Behavioral Services*—provides one-on-one therapy, parent behavior support and school consultations in and around Polk County. She is committed to her patients and their families, and also works with pre-professionals to ensure that special needs children will have competent and committed practitioners into the future.



Amy Morris began her own ABA practice to serve students in Polk.

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Jodie Snyder had a similar background—a BA in psychology (Stockton) and an MA in marriage



Jodie Snyder works with students and families.

and family therapy (Antioch)—before moving to Lakeland with her family. Jodie worked with foster care children in South Florida before beginning her own family here in Lakeland. A stalwart religious school teacher, her current work with families as the *Kid Coach*, uses her experience in home, inpatient and outpatient settings to help children and families navigate the host of challenges facing today's students.

The tradition of putting kids first is part of our Jewish DNA. There was a time in certain northern cities when schools closed for the Jewish holidays not because many of the students were Jewish, but because of the practical concerns of keeping schools open when the majority of the teachers were Jewish! As the battle against COVID-19 rages on, let's remember the people who put our children first.

Please let us know of other teachers in our congregation! Contact Cat or Irma. We'd love to highlight and feature more of our essential workers. Thank you!

Rosh Hashanah Trivia - from Kveller.com

Rosh Hashanah, or "Head of the Year", is observed this year from sundown on September 6 through September 8. Rosh Hashanah celebrates the beginning of the next year on the Hebrew lunar calendar, and is a time of great reflection, repentance, and of course, guilt.

In honor of this very important Jewish holiday we eat special foods, don white attire, hear the Shofar, attend or stream services, give Tzedakah, and make brisket and tzimmes. Perhaps most importantly, we contemplate how we can improve our actions in the coming year.

Enjoy these fun facts about Rosh Hashanah:

1. This New Year corresponds to 5782!

The year 5782 counts the years since God created the world, as described in the very first portion of the Torah, Genesis Chapter 1. Just how did we arrive at this number? Many estimates were suggested by scholars, although Rabbi Yossi Ben Halafta's calculation (which he made around 165 CE in Israel) became the most widely accepted.

Through careful study of the Hebrew Bible, with special emphasis on the dating of biblical figures' life-times and kings' reigns, the established date of 70 CE (the destruction of the Second Temple) was used as the *end* point, and counting started backwards from there. Rabbi Yossi Ben Halafta established that God created the world on Monday, October 7, 3761 BCE. (using Gregorian calendar terms). And now it's math time: 3761+2021=5782!

2. The name "Rosh Hashanah" is not mentioned in the Torah.

It's true: this major Jewish holiday is not mentioned by name in the Torah! Instead, it is referred to as Yom Teruah (Day of Sounding the Shofar) and Yom HaZikaron (Day of Remembering). The holiday becomes identified as "Rosh Hashanah" during the 1st century CE in Mishnah Rosh Hashanah 1.1.

- 3. Rosh Hashanah celebrates the New Year, but falls on the first day of the *seventh* month! Like so many Jewish holidays and traditions, there are several and conflicting theories as to how Rosh Hashanah evolved, and how we came to celebrate the new year in the seventh month on the Hebrew calendar. One of the numerous interpretations is this: in the 13th century, Sephardic sage and Rabbi Nachmonidies equated the counting from the months of Nissan (the first month of the Hebrew calendar) to Tishrei (the seventh) to be the same relationship as the first day of the week (Yom Rishon, which literally means "the first day") with Shabbat (the seventh day). The number seven in Judaism holds sacred significance. It is associated with God's six days of creation (special, but not super special) to the seventh day of rest, Shabbat (super special!). Counting seven months from the time of our Exodus from Egypt which, you guessed it, happened in the month of Nissan emphasizes the holiness of the seventh month of Tishrei, and is therefore the perfect excuse for a New Year celebration.
- 4. Rosh Hashanah is a two-day festival, everywhere!

Why is Rosh Hashanah celebrated for two days even in Israel? Maimonides, 12th-century scholar and philosopher, explains that it is the only Jewish holiday that begins on the first day of a new month, and therefore, witnesses were not permitted to travel to alert their communities on the sighting of a new moon. To enable complete worship, two days were established and came to be known as yoma arichta, "a long day" lasting 48 hours. Ask any Rosh Hashanah host at the end of the second day, and I believe you'll find that "yoma arichta" is the perfect description!

("Rosh" is also the Hebrew word for "head," and therefore, there is a literal connection to begin-

nings.) *Pomegranates* are in season during this time in Israel, and are another traditional Rosh Hashanah treat. They were once thought to contain 613 seeds, the same number of mitzvot (commandments) in the Torah.

- 6. But, strangely, it's tradition to avoid nuts!
- It is a custom to abstain from eating nuts during Rosh Hashanah for a couple of reasons. According to the Shulchan Aruch, one of the most consulted Jewish law books written by Joseph Caro in the 16th century, nuts not only increase the production of saliva and phlegm in our mouths but could perhaps hurt our pronunciation of words recited during services.
- 7. The Shofar is an integral part of our High Holiday season, although it's never blown on Shabbat!

As mentioned previously, one of Rosh Hashanah's Biblical names was "Day of Sounding the Shofar," and only two details are included in its observance as written in the Torah: to hear the Shofar and to abstain from work. Shofars are horns taken from kosher animals and can vary greatly in size, color and shape.

The Shofar is an ancient instrument of communication and had a multitude of purposes: to declare battle, welcome Shabbat and a New Moon, announce the reign of a new king and so on. Nowadays, one can hear the Shofar blown after morning services every day (excluding Shabbat) in the month of Elul, the month preceding Rosh Hashanah — except for the last day, the day before Rosh Hashanah.

The unique sound of the Shofar reminds us of an alarm; a reflective wake-up call. Maimonides reasoned that the sound awakens our souls and calls to our attention our actions of our past and what we want to change in the future. We are tasked to analyze our relationship with God, ourselves and others and to change for the better.

As for the reason for abstaining from blowing the Shofar on Shabbat, that's due to the fear of carrying the instrument itself! The Talmud explains that it was not the actual sounding of the Shofar that was forbidden, but the worry of an inadequate Shofar blower *carrying* their Shofar to an experienced Shofar blower for help and training on Shabbat that was prohibited.

Wishing you and your family the most healthy, happy, fulfilling New Year ahead with blessings abound, Shanah Tovah!

Monthly Profile: This month we feature Board Member Cat Eskin

Read other profiles at: https://templeemanuellakeland.com/member-profiles/

Where did you grow up?

When asked, I love to tell people that I was born in the same delivery room as Grace Kelly. I'm not sure if it's actually true, but we were born at the same hospital—Women's Medical College in Philadelphia. I am the youngest of three—I have an older brother, Gregg, and an older sister, JoAnne. My father (z"I) and mother were both youngest children, too—in my father's case, he was 10 years younger than his only brother. I never met my father's parents, though I heard plenty of stories about Atlantic City, NJ and the Boardwalk during the 1930s. I was blessed to have my mother's mom until I was in my 30s—in fact, I took the job in Florida hoping I would be able to see more of her, but she passed away (she was 98) less than a month before I started the job at Florida Southern. My daughter Tilly is named for her.



The Eskins: clockwise from top left: Bernie, Lynn, Cathy, JoAnne and Gregg (c.1968)



HS graduation, 1984

What is one thing people would be surprised to learn about you?

I was not actually accepted into college on my first try. I was wait-listed at the one school where I applied and after a hurried application to an alternate school, I was told I'd have to wait and begin in January. I spent most of my high school career making bad choices.

Where did you go to school-college-degree-major?

I began my undergraduate career with no idea what I wanted to do. I had originally planned to do special education, but found that it was too depressing for me (after an internship at a school for the blind in Philadelphia).

I attended Douglass College, Rutgers University, and after many minors (Criminology, Leisure/ Exercise Science, History, Languages, English), I graduated with a degree in Comparative Literature. I took a "gap year" after college and moved to London. My graduate degrees (an MA and PhD in English Literature and Rhetoric) are from the University of Texas at Austin where I met my husband during my final years in the program.

How did you meet your spouse? Do you have children/grandchildren?

I had been living in Austin for four years when I suddenly found myself without housing (a story for another day, perhaps). I was dating someone else when I moved in with the man who would become my husband; he was renting out a room in his house. We have two children: a daughter, Tilly who just turned 21, and a son, Manny who will be 17 in October. Both are above average.

Continued on next page....

What is or was your occupation?

I always knew that I wanted to be a teacher; I just was never sure what I would teach. I've been an aerobics and swimming instructor, I've taught deaf-blind students, I've taught in foreign language programs (I was an English professor in Scandinavia) and I've even been a Sunday school teacher. I am currently a professor of English, teaching composition, Shakespeare, and early English literature to undergraduates.



Teaching award at FSC (2014)

What was the most interesting job you ever had....or the most unusual?



During my "gap" year, I worked a variety of jobs (and, actually, worked some strange ones as an undergrad in central New Jersey, too!). I was living in London and needed several jobs to stay afloat: waitressing at a pub, typing in an office, teaching aerobics in a leisure center (which my father was concerned meant that I was giving massages to tourists), and for a short stint, working as a production assistant on a rock tour. I was tasked with putting together a Thanksgiving meal in central England (Birmingham, I think). Needless to say, you won't find turkey and cran-

berries at the local shops—at least not in 1988.

What are your interests and hobbies? What book is on your nightstand right now?

I enjoy biking, hiking and walking; each summer, I work on an organic farm, getting dirty and playing with my food. Making greeting cards out of found and discarded materials allows me to be creative, though the clutter and piles are not ideal for my small house! I just finished reading Cynthia Ozick's *Antiquities* with the Temple Book Club and I was really impressed with the book, even if it wasn't the easiest read. I am loving Sharon Olds' *Odes*, a book of wonderful poems.

How long have you been a member of Temple Emanuel? What committees or leadership roles have you had or perhaps would like to have at Temple Emanuel?

I joined Temple Emanuel when I moved to Lakeland in the Fall of 1999. I was pregnant with my first child before High Holy Days and a regular at services first on Friday nights and then Saturday mornings. I first joined the Temple Board in 2004 and served for an alarming number of years before cycling off. I am back on the Board now. I founded (2007) and try (with varying degrees of success) to maintain the Temple Emanuel Archive, which has given me insight into Southern Jews, provided me with excuses to have people tell me stories, and fed my obsession with old pictures. I have served as a Sunday School teacher for the youngest (3-5) and oldest children (Confirmation class) and was even an officer in the Polk County Hadassah chapter.



The Eskin-Barickman family from Manny's bar mitzvah (2017)

Cat Eskin Profile Continued from Page 9

What does being Jewish mean to you?

I was raised as a Conservative Jew in suburban Philadelphia with a HUGE Jewish population in a tolerant and generally informed community. I first became aware of being a minority only after I left the relative comfort of my cosmopolitan experience. Even when I moved to Austin, Texas, which seemed to me at the time to be a backwater (I moved there from London, England), I had no trouble finding a Conservative synagogue (biking distance from my house).

My identity as a Jew is tied to Jewish practice, though I spent most of my teens and early 20s trying to pretend it wasn't. I had formative experiences growing up with Holocaust survivors and symbolically shared my bat mitzvah with a Soviet Jew.

Still, the most visceral experience I had was with the remnant of the Jewish community in Trondheim, Norway. Those men (4 of the 7 who returned after the war were still living in 1995



Sharing Sukkot with the FSC Pre-School Lab (2007)

when I arrived) made me acutely aware of the cost of being different from your neighbors.

Now, I am grateful that I had the opportunity to learn about the experiences of the children of Temple Emanuel because it has made me a better mother to my children; my commitment to my religious and cultural identity has had a profound effect on their lives as well as my own.

Had I stayed in the cities of the North, I don't know that I would have been tied to my identity in the same way.

What is your proudest moment?

I think the births of my children and the first time I nursed them. Magic.

Looking back, what is the best advice you would give your younger self? What are the most important lessons you have learned in life?

Ask for help. So many people are smarter than I am and the only way I can get smarter is by asking questions!

Thank you so much Cat for sharing your story with all of us! If you would like to be our next profile, please contact irmacole26@gmail.com

Deadline for the next issue of *The Menorah* is November 30, 2021.

Please send inquiries, info, articles, images, comments, etc. to irmacole26@gmail.com

Update on Temple Emanuel Repairs by Allen Shane

I would like to give you a brief update on the status of repairs at the Temple. We are well on our way to completing the Sanctuary repairs. We have removed the old ceiling, updated the lighting to LED, reinsulated all the air conditioning ducts and replaced the ceiling. We have also replaced the roof on the Caretaker's house and installed a new roof on the Temple building.

We still have several more tasks before the santuary is complete: installing new carpeting; installing a new sound system; refinishing the walls and other woodworking repairs, and bolting the chairs to the floor.

A few years back the Fire Marshall made us remove the stove from the kitchen, as the kitchen did not meet current fire codes. We are in the process of having a new kitchen hood, ductwork and a fire suppression system installed to meet fire codes for the City of Lakeland. After the fire suppression system is installed and we pass inspections, we will once again have a fully functioning kitchen.

Future plans include carpeting the upstairs offices, and Signer Board Room. Other plans include renovating the Caretaker's house so we can rent it out, preferably to a law enforcement officer so they can provide a security presence as well as a revenue stream. Another future project is to improve handicapped parking and building access.

Corrections and Additions - June issue of The Menorah

We apologize for a few oversights in our June issue of *The Menorah*. Oops, sorry, and thank you for reading so carefully!



- Incorrectly identified the woman with Marilyn Signer in the picture on Page 4. She is not Janet Sinder, but instead Arlene Krusch.
- Identified: Korina Masters and Joan Greenbaum's' mother is on the far right in the kitchen picture on page 5.
- On Page 24: Harris Estroff's granddaughter should be Hallie instead of Hally.
- On Pages 26-27: The captions of Harris Estroff's parents and grandparents were reversed.

High Holiday Preview by Amy Blocher

Good Yom Tov to everyone. The services for the High Holidays have gone through several changes. We had hoped to have the Torah Services in Berkovitz Hall with those saying the Aliyahs and their families present, and the rest of the daily services on Zoom. That idea was wonderful, and it would have been fantastic to see each other, but it was ultimately decided that this would not work.

All services will be via Zoom unless it is otherwise noted on the schedule (see next page). Mahzors are outside the front door of the Temple and can be picked up any time. One *Book of Remembrance* will be mailed to all member families after Rosh Hashanah.

Be sure to look for any information which the Temple may email about the High Holidays. Those with Aliyahs and English Readings will be doing them via Zoom.

We are looking forward to seeing each other in person once it is safe for us to be together. Meanwhile, we will look for you on Zoom!

Welcome Cantor Paul Goldstein

Temple Emanuel is delighted to welcome back Cantor Paul Goldstein and family for our High Holiday Services. They will be joining us via Zoom from southern Florida this year and will no doubt add a richness to our services.

Cantor Goldstein, a native of Miami, began playing the piano at the age of 3. He went on to H.L. Miller Cantorial School of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and studied in New York and Israel. He graduated in 1996 with a degree in sacred music. Hazzan Goldstein was born and raised in North Miami Beach. He is married to Cynthia Chiefa, a Miami Bankruptcy attorney, and they have a son, Jason, who also sings beautifully.

Spiritual Connection Most of us have had some experience of profound spiritual connection,

whether that was in a redwood forest, at a baby's birth, or in a sanctuary.

These moments are often fleeting. We may feel the boundaries of our own egos soften or disappear. Some people call that "God" or "Oneness" or "Mystery."

It is in these experiences that we get a sense of the unity that shimmers below the separateness of our

daily lives. "All God ever says is, "Return to Me."

- Rabbi Lawrence Kushner Five Cities of Refuge

What are some of the experiences you have had where you feel a sense of awe and connection?



2021 HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

SELICHOT

Saturday, August 28, 2021
7:00 PM Musical Program with
Cantor Victor Geigner and Sharon
Lakin
8:30 PM Havdalah / Selichot Service

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Monday, September 6, 2021 7:30 PM Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

ROSH HASHANAH FIRST DAY

Tuesday, September 7, 2021 9:30 AM Rosh Hashanah Service 7:30 PM Maariv Service

ROSH HASHANAH SECOND DAY

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 9:30 AM Rosh Hashanah Service

SHOFAR / TASHLICH SERVICE

Temple Emanuel Parking Lot Thursday, September 9, 2021 5:00 PM Shofar Service / Individual Tashlich at Lake Hollingsworth.

SHABBAT SHUVAH

Friday, September 10, 2021 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, September 11, 2021 10:30 AM Shabbat Service

7:15 PM Musical Program Havdalah at 8:15 pm Cantor Paul Goldstein

KEVER AVOT

Sunday, September 12, 2021 11 AM Temple Emanuel Cemetery

YOM KIPPUR – KOL NIDRE

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 6:45 PM Kol Nidre / Yom Kippur Service

YOM KIPPUR

Thursday, September 16, 2021 9:30 AM Service / Yizkor 6:15 PM Mincha and Neilah Service

SUKKOT

Monday, September 20, 2021 7:30 PM Erev Sukkot Service

SUKKOT (FIRST DAY)

Tuesday, September 21, 2021 10:00 AM Sukkot Service

HOSHANAH RABBAH

Monday, September 27, 2020 7:30 PM Service

SHEMINI ATZERET / YIZKOR

Tuesday, September 28, 2021 10:00 AM Service / Yizkor

SIMCHAT TORAH

Tuesday, September 28, 2021 7:30 PM Simchat Torah Service

NOTE: All services will be held via zoom unless otherwise noted.

Rabbi's Message Continued from Page 1

A Chassid went to the Baal Shem Tov and said, "Rebbe, I want to see Elijah the Prophet."

"It's simple," said the Baal Shem. "I'll tell you what to do. Get two boxes and fill one with food and the other with children's clothes. Then, before Rosh Hashanah, travel to Minsk. On the outskirts of town, right before where the forest begins, is a dilapidated house. Find that house, but don't knock on the door immediately; stand there for a while and listen. Then, shortly before candle-lighting time at sunset, knock on the door and ask for hospitality."

The Chassid went home and told his wife he would be away for the holiday. "How can you leave your family?" she said. "The children want their father to take them to synagogue!" He told her, "I have a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see Elijah the Prophet!" Finally, she agreed that it was something that he could not pass up.

So he went and did as the Baal Shem Tov told him. He filled the parcels with food and clothing and went to Minsk, where he found the broken-down house at the edge of town. He arrived shortly before evening and stood in front of the door, listening. Inside, he heard children crying, "Mommy, we're hungry. And it's Yom Tov and we don't have decent clothes to wear!" He heard the mother answer, "Children, trust in G-d. He'll send Elijah the Prophet to bring you everything you need!"

Then the Chassid knocked on the door. When the woman opened it, he asked if he could stay with them for the holiday. "How can I welcome you when I don't have any food in the house?" she said. "Don't worry," he said, "I have enough food for all of us." He came in, opened the box, gave the children the food and they ate. Then he opened the other box and the children all took clothes for themselves; this one a shirt, that one a jacket, the other one a hat. He was there two days, waiting to see Elijah the Prophet. He did not even sleep. How could he sleep? How often do you get a chance to see Elijah the Prophet? But he saw no one.

So he returned to the Baal Shem Tov and said, "Master, I did not see Elijah the Prophet!" "Did you do everything I told you?" asked the Baal Shem Tov. "I did" he said. "And you didn't see him?" "No, Rebbe." "Are you sure?" "Yes, Rebbe! I didn't see him!" "Then you'll have to return for Yom Kippur," said the Baal Shem Tov. "Go back before Yom Kippur, with a box of food, to the same house. Again, be sure to arrive an hour before sunset, and don't knock immediately. Wait for a while and just stand in front of the door, listening."

The Chassid went back to his wife and told her he would be away for Yom Kippur. "How can you leave your children again?" she asked. "But the Baal Shem Tov says I'll be able to see Elijah the Prophet, like one of the great Tzaddikim!" he said, "How can I not go?" His wife agreed that it was worth going away for two or three days if he could see Elijah the Prophet.

So he went back to Minsk before Yom Kippur. This time, he went earlier and stood in front of the door, listening. Inside he heard children crying, "Mommy, we're hungry! We haven't eaten the whole day! How can we fast for Yom Kippur?" "Children!" said the mother. "Do you remember you were crying before Rosh Hashanah that you had no food or clothes? And I told you, 'Trust in G-d! He'll send Elijah the Prophet, who'll bring you food and clothing and everything else you need!' Wasn't I right? Didn't Elijah come and bring you food and clothing? He stayed with us for two days!" Now you're crying again that you're hungry. I promise you that Elijah will come now, too, and bring you food!"

Then the Chassid understood what his master, the Baal Shem Tov, had meant. And he knocked on the door.

Each of us has within ourselves the ability to be the person we wish to become. It is my wish for you on this Rosh Hashanah that you and I each, over the course of the next ten days, the Aseret Yimay Teshuvah, the Ten Days of Repentance, apologize and forgive and realize that we can be Elijah the Prophet and make a difference in the lives of others and in our own life.

Wishing you a Shanah Tovah Tikatevu v'TiHatemu – May you be written and sealed for a good New Year! Rabbi David Goldstein

Student Profile – one in a continuing series from Cat Eskin's FSC students

Dan Leviten by Megan Handley
"The Way You Do the Things You Do: Dan Leviten"

Dr. Daniel Leviten is a long-time Lakeland resident and member of Temple Emanuel. Through my interviews, I discovered quite a lot about him and his history as he shared his experiences with me. The initial goal of our interviews was to share our narrator's experience in the Jewish faith, though the focus quickly evolved from that initial goal into a study of my narrator's kindness and dedication.

Dr. Leviten, who was born in New Jersey in 1950, spent most of his childhood in the Midwest, primarily Wisconsin. His uncle helped instill his passion for the study of medicine at a young age, and he pursued that passion first at the Southern Illinois University, where he earned a BS in Chemistry (1972), before continuing his studies for an M.D. at the Wisconsin Medical School (1976).

By the time he completed his second degree, he'd met and married his wife Joy (nee Eagle, married 1971) and had his first child, Aaron (b.1974). Aaron inspired his interest in pediatrics, Dr. Leviten's specialization. The couple have two more children, Joel (b.1977) and Sara (b.1981).

In 1984, Dr. Leviten founded Lakeside Pediatrics, a practice that grew exponentially and flourishes today Dr. Dan retired in 2017 after 41 years in practice. He now spends his time doting on his four grandchildren and delving into his hobbies of music and cooking.





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BOOK CLUB

The next Temple Emanuel Book Club meeting will be held on Thursday, October 14th at 11am via Zoom.

Our selection is All-of-a-Kind-Family, Books 1 and 2, by Sydney Taylor.

These book are suitable for ages 8-12 and grades 3 -7, so we invite you to share them with your children and grands! If you have a chance to read a chapter of your choosing to a grandchild, friend, neighbor or family member, we will discuss the experience at our meeting.

To purchase, use the Amazon Smile links below. Everyone is invited to join our lively discussion!

Book 1: https://smile.amazon.com/All-Kind-Family-Sydney-Taylor/dp/0440400597

Book 2 in this series is also suggested for reading if you have time: https://smile.amazon.com/More-All-Kind-Family/dp/1939601150

Meet the All-of-a-Kind Family -- Ella, Henny, Sarah, Charlotte, and Gertie -- who live with their parents in New York City at the turn of the century.

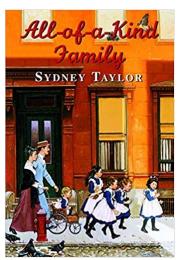
Together they share adventures that find them searching for hidden buttons while dusting Mama's front parlor and visiting with the peddlers in Papa's shop on rainy days. The girls enjoy doing everything together, especially when it involves holidays and surprises.

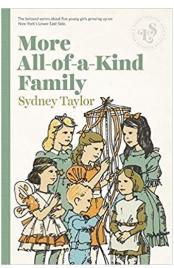
But no one could have prepared them for the biggest surprise of all!

The second book in the series presents a vivid and humorous portrait of life at the turn of the century, as WWI approaches, a single uncle finds love, and a new friendship blooms among latkes and the library.

Born in 1904 on New York's Lower East Side, **Sydney Taylor** was one of the first authors of children's books centered on Jewish characters, and is especially known for the immensely popular All-of-a-Kind Family series.

Contact is Jane Renz: jane7751@aol.com





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Bar Mitzvah News

Jarod Robinson

With great joy we look forward to Jarod Robinson becoming a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 9, 2021.

Jarod is in seventh grade and attends Lawton Chiles Middle Academy.

In his spare time, he enjoys wake boarding, basketball, karate, flag football, tubing, and spending time with his friends.



With the uncertainty of the Delta variant of COVID-19, we invite the congregation to join us via livestreaming. A link to the service will be sent to the congregation the week of his service.

The Robinson Family

Donations to Temple Emanuel

Temple Emanuel sincerely thanks members and friends for their generous donations over the years. Our needs have been many with the Temple renovations and we thank everyone who has generously given to many of our funds, such as:

- Capital Improvement Fund
- Building Fund
- Religious School
- Kitchen Fund
- Prayer Book Fund
- Charity Fund
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Also Donations for Yahrzeits, Condolences, and many Happy Occasions

As with any non-profit, membership dues covers only a portion of the operating expenses. All donations, no matter the amount, are truly greatly appreciated. Listed below are the donations received by Temple Emanuel from January 1, 2020 through August 10, 2021. Thank you one and all!

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An International Bat Mitzvah by Irma Cole

Friday evening August 20th, Mark and I attended a Bat Mitzvah from our temple in MA, Congregation Shalom. This was not just any routine Bat Mitzvah, though! It was originally planned to be held at the Temple, of course, but you know how this will go....due to the pandemic....okay, so it was via Zoom, but please read on....it all started for us with the following email from our congregation Rabbi (she is the rabbi who performed our marriage ceremony so we have a special feeling for her!)....

Dear Friends,

For many years, when we thought of the Congregation Shalom community, we thought about the immediate area around Chelmsford. In time, our geographic range began to reach beyond the greater Merrimack Valley and ultimately after installing live-streaming, we began to stretch our reach around the country and even around the world.

Many of you may know that our friends David and Fran Hirschel's son Rob lives in Japan with his family. Rob and his wife Megumi were married in our sanctuary and their two children Misa and Yoshi were named there as well. Over many years, our educators and teachers have tried hard to help Misa and Yoshi feel connected to classmates here in the local community through Zoom, pen-pal communications and more.

Misa has reached the age of becoming Bat Mitzvah and has worked very, very hard to achieve this milestone in her life. Now, next Friday night at our August 20th Shabbat service, Misa Hirschel will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah and as a member of our community.

Where Misa lives with her parents and brother in Kumamoto, Japan, there is no Jewish community; we have been her Jewish community. Misa's dedication, as well as her family's dedication to live Jewishly in a place where there is no community is inspiring. I know that often-times our members feel hesitant to come to the B'nai Mitzvah services of folks they do not know, but I am hoping that you will consider coming next Shabbat eve to celebrate with Misa and her family; to let her know that far, far away, there is a Jewish community that cares about her, her achievements and her connection to Jewish life. Fran and David will be participating from England with Misa's great-grandmother, who is about 100 years old! Although there have been many challenges over the past year and a half, the ability for Congregation Shalom to open its embrace to such a large locale is truly inspiring.

Please come and join in our community's simcha.

Rabbi Perry

Well, we couldn't resist and we were one of 90 windows on the Zoom call. There were people there from all around the globe. The number of people who helped organize this evening will become apparent. Think about the time differences first....it was early Saturday morning in Japan and midnight for Misa's grandparents in England while it was 7 pm here in Florida and 6 pm for her uncle and family in Mississippi.

The planning and thought that went into making this a lovely and meaningful event was obvious. Misa's teacher in Chelmsford showed via Google maps where the families live. Misa helped select the songs that were beautifully sung during the service by the congregation's cantorial soloist. Slides showed all the songs and prayers during the service so no one needed a book.

Continued on next page

The Rabbi offered poems and prayers and spoke sincerely of Misa's efforts and accomplishments.

Some of Misa's friends in Japan were present so everything in English was translated into Japanese in the chat. When Misa's mother spoke to her in Japanese, that was translated into English and put in the chat.

Misa hand tied the knots on her Tallis and it was lovingly placed on her shoulders by her father while her grandfather in England spoke to her about the generations before her, including those who were lost during the Holocaust. It was so moving. As the Rabbi held a Torah in Chelmsford, Misa's father handed Misa a book version as a substitute.

Misa was most impressive speaking three languages! It was not lost on anyone, the time and devotion it took preparing for this over the past six years, with her teacher and classmates from Congregation Shalom being thousands of miles away and not having another Jewish person living anywhere near her.

The evening was 'magical', as one congregant said, not just for Misa's family, but for the congregation family as well. Everything was done with warmth and meaning, but it is easy to imagine the technological nightmare it could have been! Congrats to all who made it happen.

Mazel Tov to Misa Hirschel, who became a Bat Mitzvah while living in Japan. We are so glad we were able to share in this very special Zoom!



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