



ITON TZIYON

עִתוֹן צִיּוֹן

Mount Zion Temple Bulletin

March/April 2020 | Adar/Nisan/Iyar 5780

Vol. 164, No. 4

Join our newest MZ Small Group!

The Frozen Chosen

Our first meeting is **Sunday, March 8.**

See page 9 for details.



Panim el Panim

Connecting Face to Face
פְּנִים אֶל פְּנִים

L'Dor VaDor

From Generation to Generation

Mazel Tov To...

Our members who will celebrate a milestone anniversary in March or April: **Michael and Suellen Buelow, Stuart Block and Julie Ostrowsky, Dan Rybeck and Kate Searls, Bruce and Annie Matza, Ray and Rosemary Sevett, Leon and Yolla Levitt.**

Shai and Mirit Avny on the birth of their son, **Raviv**, on December 16.

Joice and Jonas Mendelsohn on the birth of their daughter, **Esther**, on January 4.

Edith and Gary Pang on the birth of their grandson, **Jaleel Noir Swain**, son of **Helen Pang and Julius Swain**, born on October 15.

ZICHRONAM LIVRACHA...

May their memories be a blessing

We note with sorrow the passing of our members:

Beverly Bunin-Gillman

Our condolences to her family, including her son Scott Bunin and sister Lois Seltzer.

Benjamin Elwood

Our condolences to his family, including his wife Susie Steinbach and daughters Sophie and Sam Elwood.

Rita Schenk

Our condolences to her family, including her husband Kenneth Schenk.

Jack Schribman

Our condolences to his family, including her husband Bobbi Schribman.

We Extend Condolences to...

State Senator Richard J. Cohen (Jodi Nelson) on the death of his brother, **Bob Cohen**, on February 11.

Tatyana (Dan) Gelb on the death of her father, **Michael Pilko**, on January 29.

Elliot (Liz) Krelitz on the death of his mother, **Elle Krelitz**, on December 21.

Gary (Lori) Rosenthal on the death of his mother, **Rachel Rosenthal**, on January 16.

Ronald (Susan) Schwartz on the death of his mother, **Ethel Schwartz**, on January 3.

Jack (Andrea) Silverman and John (Vickie) Silverman on the death of their sister, **Jill Silverman**, on December 30.

May God grant peace to all who mourn and comfort to all who are bereaved.

WELCOME...B'RUCHIM HA'BAIM... TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

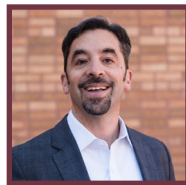
Helen Adler

Jon and Susan Bernhardt

Paulina Marell & Scott Overacker

Letter from the Rabbi

What is this WZO election all about?



I am asking all who are 18 and over and self-identify as Jewish to vote "Reform" in the WZO election by March 11 at www.arza.org.

Here is why:

1. Your vote matters. It affects the allocations of a billion dollars and the appointing of leaders of key organizations. If you want to see your values in action in Israel, vote now.
2. The WZO stands for the World Zionist Organization which was founded by Theodor Herzl in 1897. Today you can think of it as the world Jewish parliament. It is a bit weird that there is a worldwide election that Jews participate in but, believe me, there is no uniformity of opinion or planning. Your vote is needed to balance the many voices in our Jewish family.
3. Every five years there is an election of delegates to attend a World Zionist Congress. This year it will be in Jerusalem in October 2020. You will be voting for a slate of delegates. I am on the "Vote Reform" slate. You can read the platform of this slate online or on the front table at Mount Zion.
4. If you "Vote Reform", you will support progressive Judaism in Israel. **The results of the election are nothing short of essential for the Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism (IMPJ), whose funding streams are determined by the results of the election.** In 2015, the last election, this translated to 5 million a year for five years. This has helped the growth of Reform Judaism in Israel where the number of congregations has doubled to over 50 in the past decade.
5. If you are feeling ambivalent or struggling with your relationship with Israel, and tired of hearing presidential candidates using Israel as a wedge issue, please don't let that be a stumbling block to voting. This is a simple vote not a statement of your stance. By voting, you do say that Israel has a right to exist like every other nation-state, but it does not say how it needs to exist. Voting for a delegation to represent progressive values is the best way to affect change.

So please - right now **before March 11**:

1. Go to **www.ARZA.org** and follow the directions to vote.
 - It takes a few steps but only a few minutes. If you need help, please come by Mount Zion and we will assist. We will have computers set up before services and at other events.
 - There is a cost of \$7.50 to pay for the setting up the online voting apparatus. (\$5 if you are 25 and under). I am happy to support anyone confidentially to cover this cost if this is a stumbling block for any reason aspilker@mzion.org.
2. Please email Shirly Tramer Lerman, who is chair of our Israel Committee, (stlerman@hotmail.com) or me to let us know that you voted. We are trying to keep track of all votes.
3. Invite family and friends to vote too.

Thank you for doing this. In the meantime, I wish you a festive Purim and Chag Pesach Sameach (Happy Passover).

Adam Spilker, Rabbi

Vote Reform

World Zionist Congress Elections | January 21-March 11, 2020 | ARZA.org



Make Shabbat Your Sanctuary

Shabbat Morning Learners' Services

Saturdays, March 14, April 4 at 10 am - All are welcome!

These Shabbat morning services focus on learning the meaning behind the order of the service and deepening our understanding of the prayers. The service, led by Rabbi Adler, is informal and interactive, and will enhance your experience of Shabbat Services.

Spend Shabbat with Friends! Congregational Shabbat Dinner

May 1, Dinner: 5 p.m.; Service: 6:30 p.m.

Cost before April 20: \$12 adults; \$6 kids (11 and under)

Cost after April 20: \$15 adults; \$8 kids

This Shabbat Dinner has been generously subsidized by the Women of Mount Zion Temple. (The unsubsidized cost is \$23 adults; \$12 kids).

Register at www.mzion.nirsham.com/events. For more information, contact the office at office@mzion.org or 651-698-3881.



Monthly Services in Margolis Hall

Visual T'filah - March 20, 7:30 pm

Shabbat for the Soul - April 17, 7:30 pm

After the Israel Election and during the WZO Election: What difference can we make in Israel's future?

Friday, March 6 Following Shabbat Services (approx. 7:45 pm)

Guest Speakers:

David Bernstein is part of the senior professional team of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism.



Rabbi Yair ("Yaya") Tobias, Reform Rabbi in the Sovev Kinneret, St. Paul's Partnership Region.



Passover Services

1st Day Festival Service

Thursday, April 9, 10:00 am

7th Day Festival Service (includes Yizkor)

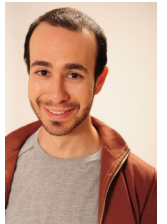
Wednesday, April 15, 10:00 am at Sholom East

More on p. 7.

Pulpit Guest: Shawn Shafner

Friday, March 20, 7:30 pm

Performer Shawn Shafner will share a brief excerpt from the show TRYmester: Jewish Fertility Journeys Out Loud (see p. 14). Shawn and lay leaders representing TRYmester will also be available at the oneg Shabbat to talk about their own experiences.



March

Friday Shabbat Evening Services

March 6, 6:30 pm

Shir Tzion Participates
Speakers after Services:

David Bernstein and Rabbi Yair Tobias

March 13, 7:30 pm

Food for Thought (p. 4)
Teen-led Service

March 20, 7:30 pm

Pulpit Guest: Shawn Shafner, Performer
Visual T'filah
Birthday Blessings

March 27, 7:30 pm

Honoring Brotherhood
Mensch of the Year Award (p. 12)

Saturday Shabbat Morning Services

March 7, 10:00 am

T'zaveh - Ex. 27:20-28:30 & Deut. 25:17-19*
Shabbat Zachor
Logan Murphy, Bar Mitzvah

March 14, 10:00 am

Ki Tisa - Ex. 30:11-31:7 & Num. 19:1-10*
Shabbat Parah
Shabbat Learners' Service

March 21, 10:00 am

Vayah'keil / Pekudei - Ex. 35:1-37:16 & Ex. 12:1-3*
Shabbat HaChodesh
Celebrate Shabbat!

March 28, 10:00 am

Vayikra - Lev. 1:1-2:16*
Celebrate Shabbat!

April

Friday Shabbat Evening Services

April 3, 6:30 pm

Shir Tzion Participates

April 10, 7:30 pm

Celebrate Shabbat!

April 17, 7:30 pm

Food for Thought (p. 4)
Shabbat for the Soul
Birthday Blessings

April 24, 7:30 pm

Celebrate Shabbat!

Saturday Shabbat Morning Services

April 4 10:00 am

Tzav - Lev. 6:1-7:10*
Shabbat HaGadol
Shabbat Learners' Service

April 11, 10:00 am

Shabbat Chol Hamoed Pesach -
Ex. 33:12-34:26*
Kol Tzion Participates

April 18, 10:00 am

Sh'mini - Lev. 9:1-10:11*
Macy Rush, Bat Mitzvah

April 25, 10:00 am

Tazria / M'tzora - Lev. 12:1-13:39*
Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Iyar
Zinni Tanzer-Tragatsch, Bat Mitzvah

Torah Study on Shabbat Morning

9:00 am Drop in any Shabbat to study the week's Torah portion.

*Using a triennial [3 year] cycle, we are reading the first third this year.

Daily Services All welcome!

Monday-Thursday, 5:45-6:00 pm; Sunday, 9:30-9:45 am.

Led by members of our congregation in the Harris Chapel.

Questions? Janet at 651-482-9951 / janetkampf@hotmail.com or John Mast at 612-270-6191 / johnlmast@yahoo.com.

For We Were Strangers in a Strange Land: My Encounter with Refugees and US Policies on the Southern Border

The rabbis teach that one should say the blessing “Blessed are You Who has provided me my every need” when putting on shoes (Brachot 60b) and thus Rashi explains that there is nothing more degrading than walking barefoot in public (Shabbat 129a).



At the end of January, I traveled to the United States southern border as part of a delegation of 52 Jewish and Muslim members of Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom from around the country. I have been active with this group for the past three years and currently serve on their national board. We went to learn about the situation at the border, about policies and advocacy related to US immigration and refugees, and to do some volunteer work.

We trekked for a couple of hours through the dusty desert in Arivaca, south of Tucson, to leave water and food at drop sites for migrants who travel the rugged terrain, often at night, to seek safety in the United States. As our group navigated the winding, rocky trails, many commented on how we weren't equipped with the right footwear, but we quickly reminded ourselves that many make this journey in worn out shoes, flip-flops, or no shoes at all. When we passed a single small, red shoe in an arid riverbed, we imagined the child who must have worn it and wondered whether she or he survived the journey.

In a Tucson courtroom, we witnessed the humiliation of over 70 people, many of them teenagers, as they were paraded in before a judge. The tired feet that had carried them to the United States were shackled as were their hands. These young people were part of the well-oiled machine of mass incarceration called Operation Streamline, meant to send as many as possible, as quickly as possible, to privately-owned jails and then to be deported. Most got only a few minutes, if any, with a lawyer right before the trial, and they all answered a simple “Si” to each question the judge ticked through. One of the only men to add more said, “Your honor, I apologize for entering your country without being inspected at a U.S. point of entry. I had to come because have four children here who I have not seen in six years.”

In Nogales, with the imposing wall that divides the city into the Mexican side and the US side, we learned that people on the two sides used to enjoy interacting with each other across the then-smaller divider, a simple wire. They would put on their dancing shoes and blast upbeat music or put on their running shoes and race each other. Now they can barely see one another, even though the cities abut either side of the wall and are not buffered by a stretch desert as many of us had imagined they would be.



We visited and volunteered at Casa Alitas, a short-term shelter that serves migrant families who have left their home countries — mostly Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador — to escape violence and poverty and are waiting to reunite with family members and asylum sponsors in the US. There, amongst the many gestures of kindness and welcome, we not only saw rows of shoes for guests to take with them, we also learned about the “Unintended Ties” initiative. When asylum seekers enter the US, officials take things such as jewelry, medication, and shoelaces. Shoelaces are removed to prevent self-harm in detention centers but are not returned for people who are sent back to dangerous conditions under the “Remain in Mexico” policy. Families, and especially children, then become easy targets for cartels and traffickers because having no shoelaces indicates no local connections or money, and, therefore, extreme vulnerability.

A half-day HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) training on immigration policies and advocacy amplified my belief that it is our responsibility not only to walk in others' shoes, but to follow in the footsteps of our ancestors who were key in bringing other Jews to the United States, often to escape dangerous and untenable life situations. As HIAS CEO, Mark Hetfield said, “We used to help refugees because they were Jews. Now we help refugees because we are Jews.”

This article is too brief to debate policies or get into more substance. I wanted to convey the humanity of what it felt like to be in proximity to people suffering such degradation.

In Kabbalah, the body is called the “shoe of the soul,” because just as shoes protect the feet from dirt, the body protects the soul while it sojourns in the physical world. Shoes contribute to our basic sense of human dignity. And *that* is a Jewish value.

Rachel Stock Spilker, Cantor

Tot Shabbat

*Tot Shabbat is the second Saturday of every month.
For families with children from birth to seven years old.*

Chaverim b'Yisrael: Friends in Israel!

Saturday, March 14, 10:30 a.m.

Pesach/Passover is Here!

Saturday, April 11, 10:30 a.m.

Please bring a healthy, nut-free vegetarian dish to share.

Trope Troupe

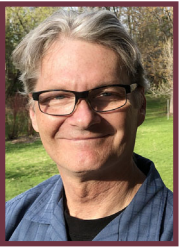
Todah Rabah to our November & December:

Ba'alei Korei (chanting Torah): Sue Benfield, Marjorie Dana-Levine, Stephanie Fink, Karen Gjerstad, Siana Goodwin, Rita Grossman, Glenn Hardin, Kim Kraus-Preminger, Allyson Perling, Shelley Robbins, Maria Rubinstein, Marilyn Salmon, Sydney Sheinfeld, Steve Silverman, Dylan Zimmerman, Jon Zimmerman

Haftarah Chanters: Siana Goodwin, Netta Hardin, Alex Klass, Kent Simon

To sign up e-mail Cantor Strauss-Klein jstraussklein@mzion.org.

From the President



While my son was home from college during winter break, he did a deep dive into my family's history. I affirmed some knowledge (yup, heavy on the German influences), corrected some family lore (my maternal grandfather was not born in Ireland – that one stings! — but his father was), and learned new information: I have ancestors who hail from Belgium. Who knew?

Of course, at some point, my ancestors left Europe and came to the United States. Their motivations are not entirely clear, but like many, it seems they sought new opportunities, a different life than the ones they had been living. It is not far-fetched to speculate that they were thinking not only of themselves but also of their children and their children's children. They took a risk I cannot even begin to calculate, left the community they knew, the language they spoke, and their way of life. They walked onto a ship, and somehow, some way, they ended up here, in Minnesota. They became Americans.

On 8 January 2020, on a clear, cold Wednesday morning, over 120 immigrants from 30+ countries became United States citizens during a naturalization ceremony in our Margolis Hall. The room was packed with immigrants soon-to-be-citizens, their families and friends, a retinue from the U.S. District Court that oversees the ceremonies, and Mount Zion congregants, staff, and clergy. Cantor Strauss-Klein sang the "The Star-Spangled Banner" (goose bumps, Cantor: goose bumps), Rabbi Spilker both welcomed and honored our guests while also providing meaningful context, and Judge Kate Menendez presided.

I stood in the back, listening and watching. I felt a catch in my throat, my lungs swelled, and tears filled my eyes. The term "patriot" gets bandied about as if we all agreed on one clear definition; however, I don't know if I have ever felt more patriotic than when I witnessed so many making a choice to join me, to join us, in this enduring endeavor to form a more perfect union.

I wasn't the only one who was moved by the ceremony. Many Mount Zion congregants mentioned how stirring it was and how right it felt for Mount Zion to host. Many asked, "when will we do this again?" Soon. My hope is that we will keep hosting ceremonies for years to come.

Still, I know first-hand how complicated the decision to become a naturalized citizen can be. I witnessed my spouse, who had from birth been a citizen of the United Kingdom but who has lived in the United States for 35 years, become a U. S. citizen last July. It was an exciting day as she was surrounded by friends and family when she took this important step. Yet, I was there, too, during that very same month when

she watched on television the Women's World Cup, listened as the English squad sang "God Save the Queen," and saw the tears form in her eyes. We move toward something new; simultaneously, we leave something behind.

When we look at our history as Jewish people, there is something about emigration and immigration that so clearly resonates, from Adonai exhorting Abram to "Go forth from your

native land" to our responsibility to "befriend the stranger; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." The experiences of immigration are our experiences, too.

I encourage you to look at the history panels that are on the east wall of Margolis Hall. Those four panels sketch Mount Zion's history. The first panel makes it clear: this congregation was created by immigrants new to the United States. There is a handmade "fifth" panel, one that suggests our history is not finished and continues in the making. What will our future look like? How will our community evolve, grow, and deepen? Where do I fit into Mount Zion's history? These are questions that I consider often. For reasons I cannot fully explain, witnessing the naturalization ceremony gave me hope for our future, not just for our country, but also for us as a Jewish community.

May we join together to build a strong, wise, and compassionate Jewish community for ourselves, our children, and our children's children.

Michael Kuhne, President

Mount Zion Hosts a Naturalization Ceremony

See page 14.

Walking Together The Mount Zion Community Endowment Campaign to Make Firm Our Steps

Roughly a year ago, Mount Zion's Board of Directors approved undertaking a \$5 million endowment campaign entitled Make Firm Our Steps, the first such effort to support program and people in the Temple's 163-year history. This campaign is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to invest in Mount Zion's future. Starting last spring, campaign committee members began to meet with congregants, and we are now pleased to announce the upcoming launch of the campaign's community phase. Watch your mail mid-March for additional information on how to get involved.

There will also be two community information sessions in April:
Sunday, April 19, 11 am and **Wednesday, April 29, 6 pm**



B'nei Mitzvah

Logan Murphy
March 7, 2020

Picture removed
online

Logan Reid Murphy is the son of Justina Bernstein and Jeff Murphy. Logan's family and friends have all played a huge role in Logan's journey to reach this important milestone! A special thank you to Logan's grandparents, Mickey Bernstein, Jean Wilkinson, John and Mary Murphy, and to his siblings, Ryan and Alison Selig. Logan is an 8th Grader at Twin Oaks Middle School in Prior Lake. Logan's favorite subjects are Graphic Design, Mathematics, Geography, and Band (percussion). Logan loves gaming and talking to buddies online! He also enjoys technology, playing soccer, swimming, biking, traveling, drawing, cooking, movies, and spending time with family and friends! Logan's Mitzvah Project was working in the Dementia Wing at All Saints Senior Living in Shakopee. Logan enjoyed conversing and playing games with the residents! In honor of his Bar Mitzvah, Logan will be donating a portion of his gift money to The American SIDS Institute, in loving memory of his brother, Brett Alan Selig.

Macy Rush
April 18, 2020

Picture removed
online

Macy Rush is the daughter of Amy and Justin Rush. She is the granddaughter of Ina and Howard Pfefer and Pat Rush. Macy also has a younger brother Adam. She is in the seventh grade at Friendly Hills Middle School. Macy enjoys listening to music, tennis, swimming, reading, and playing with her dog and cat. Macy plans to give a portion of her gift money to the Humane Society.

Zinni Tanzer-Tragatsch
April 25, 2020

Picture removed
online

Zinni Tanzer-Tragatsch is the daughter of Rene Tragatsch and Tobi Tanzer. Zinni's Hebrew name is Aliza Shana, which is a variant of her Ethiopian name, Zinash Enkutatash; the names both celebrate joyful people and a new year each autumn. Zinni is the sister of Emmet Tanzer-Tragatsch. She is the granddaughter of Lois and Jason Tanzer, of Connecticut, and of Margaret Kelen and Hans Tragatsch, both of blessed memory. Zinni is in the eighth grade at Parkview Center School, where she especially enjoys choir and phy ed. Zinni loves music, ice skating, swimming, dancing, Camp Chi and helping with the Mount Zion food shelf. Zinni is nearly always happy, but she is extra happy when she is making art and helping other people, so she will be doing something that combines both of these interests to honor her Bat Mitzvah.

Nathaniel Rothstein
May 2, 2020

Picture removed
online

Nathaniel (Moshe) is the son of Shelley Rothstein and Joseph Rothstein. Nathaniel is the grandchild of Olivia Rothstein, Morry Rothstein, Debbie Lynch, Caroline Carlson, and the late Dennis Carlson. He also has two older siblings, Elizabeth and Elijah Rothstein. He is a seventh grader at Parnassus Preparatory School and his favorite subjects are logic, history, and band. He participates in drama, quiz bowl, and baseball after school. He enjoys traveling, playing his sax, and playing baseball in his free time. Nathaniel is donating to the American Heart Association for his Bar Mitzvah.

Mount Zion Open Town Hall Meeting Updating our Bylaws on the Role of Members, who are not Jewish, in Governance

Sunday, March 22, 10:30-11:45 am – Johnson Social Hall

Our interfaith and mixed roots families help create our welcoming and vibrant Jewish spiritual home. The Board of Directors is considering a change in bylaws that would allow non-Jewish members to participate more fully in temple governance. The last time they were updated was over twenty years ago. If passed, the changes will go to our Annual Meeting on Friday, May 8, 5:30 pm for a congregational vote.

Please join Interfaith/Mixed Roots Coordinator Jessica Griffith, President Michael Kuhne, and Rabbi Spilker for this Town Hall-style meeting. We will have printed copies of the proposed revisions and an opportunity for congregants to share their thoughts. We look forward to your input on this important topic.

Passover

The First Seder of Passover is Wednesday night, April 8 / 15 Nisan

Passover ends at sunset on Wednesday, April 15 / 21 Nisan

(According to the Torah, in Israel, and in the Reform Movement, Passover is 7 days)

Mount Zion's Congregational Passover Seder

Wednesday, April 8, 6:00 p.m.



Join us in a communal celebration of Passover. A sumptuous Passover feast will be served!

Register at mzion.nirsham.com

Price: \$30 Adults (members) [\$38 non-members];

\$20 Children by Wednesday, April 1.

(After April 1 \$38 members, \$48 non-members, \$22 children)

Price includes having a filled Seder plate and grape juice at every table. Feel free to bring your own Seder plate or other Passover items to personalize your experience. If you wish to have wine, please bring your own kosher-for-Passover bottle.



Wishing You a Happy Passover!

Get recipes, blessings, family activities, & more...

ReformJudaism.org
Jewish Life in Your Life

Festival Morning Services

Both the 1st and 7th days of Passover are full holy days. The intermediate days are "regular festival days" and do not have a special service.

1st Day Festival Service

Thursday, April 9, 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat during Passover

The Voice of the Turtledove is Heard

Saturday, April 11, 10:00 a.m.

During the service, led by Cantor Strauss-Klein, we will hear *Shir Hashirim*, the Song of Songs, along with songs inspired by this beautiful text sung by Kol Tzion, our adult choir. A Shabbat Passover potluck lunch will follow the service. *When considering what to bring for the Passover Potluck, please avoid foods containing Chametz: anything from wheat, barley, rye, oats, and spelt (except for Matzah, of course). If you have any questions, please check with our clergy.*

7th Day Festival Service (including Yizkor Prayers)

Wednesday, April 15, 10:00 a.m.

This service will be held at **Sholom East**.
740 Kay Ave., St. Paul

Clergy will lead a Festival service for Mount Zion at Sholom East. All are welcome to attend. The 7th day of Pesach features the commemoration of crossing the Red Sea which is the Torah portion that will be chanted.



צדק צדק תרדק

**JEWISH
COMMUNITY
ACTION**

JUSTICE, JUSTICE SHALL YOU PURSUE

**Jewish Community Action presents
Freedom Seder**

Sunday, March 15, 2:00 pm at Mount Zion

The Freedom Seder is a chance to come together and reflect, to share the story of Passover with our friends and allies in the fight for justice, and to dream together of a more liberated year to come. Suggested donations for tickets begin at \$36, but everyone is welcome regardless of ability to pay. If cost is a barrier, please register by selecting the "Sliding Scale" ticket and enter a contribution amount that works for you.

Light Passover fare will be served. Child care provided. Details at jewishcommunityaction.org. Questions? Contact Lauren Muscoplat at lauren@jewishcommunityaction.org with any questions or needs, and stay tuned for more information to come.

THANK YOU...FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

RABBIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:
Rabbi Adam Stock Spilker
 Lawrence Jacobs
 Barbara Penn & Family
Mount Zion Clergy
 Judith & Arnold Brier
 In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of:
Gabriel Fink
 Stephanie & Jeremy Fink
 In honor of the birth of:
Raviv Meir Avny
 John Mast
 In honor of the naming of:
Eliava Galit Coleman
 Jennifer & Matthew Coleman
 In honor of a wedding anniversary:
Don & Rhoda Mains
 Connie Ross
 Ray & Rosemary Sevett
 In memory of:
Beverly Bunin-Gillman
 Scott Bunin & Family
Donald G. Horwitz
 Dee Horwitz
Mischa Penn
 Olivia Rothstein
Sivia Rybeck
 Daniel Rybeck
Jack Schribman
 Bobbi Schribman
Ethel Schwartz
 Ronald & Susan Schwartz
 In yahrzeit memory of:
Rose G. Brown
 Judith Hoffman
H. Victor Kerns
Ann Marie Bauman Kerns
 David Kerns
 Susan Kerns
 Janice LeBlanc

CANTORS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of:
Gabriel Fink
 Stephanie & Jeremy Fink
 In memory of:
Beverly Bunin-Gillman
 Scott Bunin & Family
Leonard Klein
 Mavis & Shane Goldstein
 John Mast
 Andrew Rapoport
Sivia Brody Rybeck
 Daniel Rybeck
Ethel Schwartz
 Connie Ross

MAXINE APPLEBAUM ART ENHANCEMENT FUND

In memory of:
Jill Ann Silverman
 Jimmy & Sally Beloff
Beverly Bunin-Gillman
 Robert & Susan Donsker
Sherm Ringer
 Stuart Applebaum & The Beloff Family

BLOOM LIBRARY FUND

In yahrzeit memory of:
Ben Rubinstein
 Mitch & Sally Rubinstein

CARING COMMUNITY FUND

In honor of a special birthday:
Rita Grossman
 Lois Moheban
 In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of:
Gabriel Fink
 Jennie Nerenberg
 In honor of the birth of:
Delaney Rose
 Joseph Maddy & Lisa Taran-Maddy
 In memory of:
Elle Krelitz
 Janet Kampf
Sivia Brody Rybeck
 Dan Rybeck

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE FUND

In yahrzeit memory of:
Richard Cholems
 Ray & Rosemary Sevett
Cynthia Cowan
 Barbara Winthrop
Harold Frishberg
 Joan & Paul Wernick
Michael Hoffman
 Jan Hoffman
James Jackson Smith
 Victoria Fodor
Ida Katz
 Betty Marz
Eleanor Tilsner
 Ralph Burstein

IRENE FINBERG CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of:
Elle Krelitz
 Marc & Mayda Raffe
Philip Raffe
 Marc & Mayda Raffe

Z. WILLARD FINBERG EDUCATION FUND

In yahrzeit memory of:
Murray Moskoff
 Debrah Albert

HARRIS CHAPEL FUND

In memory of:
Beverly Bunin-Gillman
 David & Mary Ann Wark
Jill Ann Silverman
 David & Mary Ann Wark

HARRIS SUMMER CAMP FUND

In memory of:
Beverly Bunin-Gillman
 Andrew Goldstein & Ann McCormick
Jill Ann Silverman
 David & Mary Ann Wark

SARA & YALE JOHNSON MEMORIAL FUND

In honor of a special birthday:
Rita Grossman
 John Mast
 In memory of:
Jim Gesell
 Michael & Todd Johnson
Frances Marsden
 Michael & Todd Johnson
Mother of Lauren Moularadellis
 Michael & Todd Johnson
Lois Gertrude Newberger
 Michael & Todd Johnson
Father of Jodi Rosen
 Michael & Todd Johnson
Mother of Susan Wilder
 Michael & Todd Johnson

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Deborah Sampson
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In appreciation of:
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In honor of a special birthday:
Rita Grossman
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 Janet Kampf
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In memory of:
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 Rita Grossman
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Bob Cohen
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 Amelia Wise
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Bert Walter
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Corinne Wolfson
 Eunice Gelb
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 Andrea Kaufman & Jim Jacobson
 Fern Silverman
 In yahrzeit memory of:
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 Steve & Gail Brand
Cynthia Cowan
 Barbara Winthrop
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 Ruth Malinoff
Monnie Rudock
 Brian & Judy Krasnow
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 Lois, Jody & Robbie Seltzer

Ruth Stein
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FUND FOR MOUNT ZION

Donation:
 Lois Malcolm

NATHANSON FUND

In yahrzeit memory of:
Adele Fishbein Mattingly
 Joe Fishbein

NOAZIM 20S 30S FUND

In honor of:
Gail Gendler
 Michael Kuhne & Amanda Roll-Kuhne

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 Raline Paper
Jack Schribman
 Raline Paper

SILVERMAN FAMILY COMMUNICATIONS FUND

In memory of:
Jill Silverman
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In yahrzeit memory of:
Roy F. Cogen
 Holly Ross

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Donation:
 Sarah Hurwicz Kogut

TORAH RESTORATION & MAINTENANCE FUND

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Elle Krelitz
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In memory of:
Bob Cohen
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YAHRZEIT FUND

In memory of:
Jill Silverman
 Bill Fox
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Arlene Abramovitz
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Adolf Adler
 Stephanie Greenstein
Herbert Adler
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Victoria Fodor
Marianne Willenson
Daniel Linwick

Caring Community

We'll be here for you...

Caring Community supports Mount Zion congregants in times of challenge and joy. We can provide meals, rides, visits, shiva support, or work with you in other ways. While it can be very difficult to ask for help, it is a mitzvah and a gift to others to give them the opportunity, and strengthens our community. Please reach out to our Congregational Engagement Director Shai Avny (savny@mzion.org), clergy, or staff.

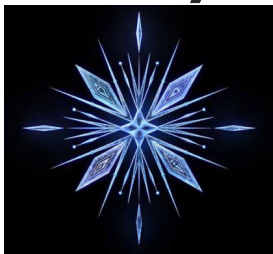
PURIM at Mount Zion:

The Best Jewish Holiday for All Ages!



Purim commemorates the story of Esther, who rescued the Jews of ancient Persia (now Iran) from persecution. Traditions include dressing in costume and eating hamantaschen (triangular stuffed pastries). It is our Spring time (!) chance for some fun!

Sunday, March 8



10:00 – 11:00 am - A Frozen Chosen Purim Sing-Along

Hoo-hoo! Big Purim Blowout! For the first time in forever we'll be doing a Frozen Chosen Purim! Join us for a Frozen-themed sing-along and silly service!

11:00 – 1:00 pm - Purim Carnival

Open to everyone! Invite your friends!

Monday, March 9



5:30 - 6:30 pm - Shushan Deli

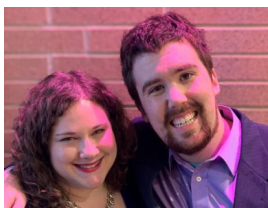
Food and drink available for purchase. Gluten-free, dairy-free options will be available.

6:30 – 7:15 pm - Megillah Reading and Spirited Purim Service!

7:15 – 9:00 pm - “Yes, and...” Improv Workshop for Teens and Adults!

Does the wild story of Purim put you in the mood to do some theatrics of your own? Join us after the service and megillah reading for an improv workshop led by Mount Zion's own Erica Solomon and Jackson Collins. We'll warm up with fun games together and then split into smaller groups to learn the basics of improv including creating characters, building scenes, and the classic “yes, and...” rule of improv! End the evening by playing together in a “jam” of basic scenes.

Erica and Jackson teach and perform at HUGE Improv Theater in Minneapolis, and spent last summer organizing a series of showcases in support of the local improv community.



Religious School News

Religious School Calendar Highlights

March

Feb 28-March 1 NFTY-NO JYG Kallah – OSRUI (6-8th grade)

Feb 28-March 2 RAC L'Taken – Teen Trip to DC

March 4 6:00pm Chai School Tri III Begins

March 7 SPORTY Overnight at Mount Zion

March 8 Daylight Savings Begins – Clocks Forward

10:30am Purim Service, 11:00am Purim Carnival

March 9 5:00pm Erev Purim Shushan Deli

5:45pm Service, Megillah Reading & Shpiel

March 13 7:30pm Teen Led Service

March 14 B'nei Mitzvah Sefer Seminar – Bereshit/Genesis

March 15 10:30pm *Mahloket* Maters 11th/12th Grade Class

March 22 1:00 JYG Pool Party

March 25 No Hebrew & Chai School—Spring Break

March 29 No Religious School—Spring Break

April

April 4 B'nei Mitzvah Sefer Seminar – Shemot/Exodus, Vayikra/Leviticus

April 4-7 NFTY-NO Spring Kallah – Minneapolis

April 5 10:30am PreK/K Model Passover Seder

10:30pm *Mahloket* Maters 11th/12th Grade Class

11:45am All-School T'filah & Passover Song Session

12:15pm Noar Tzion Chocolate Seder

April 8 Passover Begins at Sundown—First Seder

April 8-15 No School – Passover

April 19 9:45am 5th Gr. Parent/Guardian

B'nei Mitzvah Orientation

10:30pm *Mahloket* Maters 11th/12th Grade Class

11:45am All-School Yom HaShoah Commemoration

12:15pm JYG/SPORTY Event

April 21 Yom HaShoah – Holocaust Remembrance Day

April 26 9:30am 6th Gr. Family Workshop -

Putting God on the Guest List

10:30pm *Mahloket* Maters 11th/12th Grade Class

April 28 Yom HaZikaron – Israel Memorial Day

April 29 Yom HaAtzmaut – Israel Independence Day

May

May 1-3 NFTY Spring Kallah (OSRUI)

May 1 5:00pm Congregational Dinner

6:30pm PreK, K, & I Shabbat Service Participation

May 3 Tzedek Day at Neighborhood House (p. 15)

12:15 Noar Tzion Event

May 6 5:15pm 9th Gr. Parent/Guardian Meeting

5780 Tri III Chai School Electives

Israeli Cooking, Keshet Berlinsky Edry, Shlichia We will make traditional recipes from many Jewish backgrounds that exist in Israel. We will learn about their histories and cultures through our hands. Join me in discovering the flavors of Israel!

Sacred Choices Bet, Charlotte Irwin Continuing our comprehensive sex education curriculum, Sacred Choices Bet tackles more issues surrounding sex and sexuality. Come with questions, be ready to learn a lot and be prepared for open and honest conversations. We will explore Jewish values in connection to relationships and sexuality and delve into topics such as healthy relationships, gender identity and safe sex practices. You will be able to ask questions and wrestle with your own identities and values.

Jewish Theater, Aaron Josephs What makes Jewish theater Jewish? Come explore Jewish contributions to the history of theater! What better way to begin our class than with the most theatrical of our Jewish holidays, Purim? We'll delve into Jewish texts related to performance, discuss the Jewish origins of physical comedy, the Jewish values at play when creating these scenes, and put what we learn into practice.

Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof – Justice, Justice, You Shall Pursue, Anna Fox Each week we will hear from a different community member about the way they live the value “tzedek” (justice). We will hear about social action in many forms and reflect on how we can advocate for justice now and in the future.

Israeli Dance, Maya Goldbaum From the Hora to modern day Israeli hip hop, we will get to know the history and the culture of Israel through dance. An awesome opportunity to get energized while learning new and exciting dances to Israeli music.

What are you doing this summer?

From Camp Butwin to OSRUI to URJ's 6Points Specialty camps and from Israel to Mitzvah Corps Ecuador, there are so many amazing opportunities! Contact Sue to discuss what your Jewish Summer could look like and how Mount Zion can help you get there! St. Paul Federation Scholarship Applications are due March 29

Find information about these and other scholarships at mzion.org/learn/summer-camp!

OSRUI
osrui.org



Kutz Leadership Camp
kutzcamp.org



Camp Chi
campchi.jccchicago.org



Herzl
herzlcamp.org



Camp Butwin
campbutwin.org



Mitzvah Corps
mitzvahcorps.org



URJ 6-Points Sci Tech
6pointsscitech.org



URJ 6-Points Sports Academy
6pointssports.org



URJ 6-Points
Creative Arts Academy
6pointscreativearts.org/

Youth Engagement News

Youth Groups

Noar Tzion (4th-6th grade youth group)

Chocolate Seder

Sunday, April 5, 12:15 - 2:15 pm

Join Noar Tzion for this annual tradition where you will learn about and participate in the traditional elements of a Passover Seder while eating many forms of chocolate!

End of Year Celebration

Save the date: Sunday, May 3, 12:15 - 2:15 pm

Gesher JYG (7th-8th grade youth group)

Roller Skating Party

Sunday, March 22, 12:30 - 3:00 pm

Join us at the roller rink and show off your skills.

SPORTY (9-12th grade youth group)

Lock-in

March 7 - 8

9th-12th graders will have the chance to spend the night at Mount Zion also, SPORTY Board will lead dynamic programming that will be super fun and thought provoking.

Spring Kallah

May 1 - 3 at OSRUI

SPORTY + JYG Combined Event

April 19, 12:15 - 2:15 pm

This combined Youth Group Event is a great way to look towards the future and see what SPORTY has to offer. It will be a great opportunity for both youth groups to get to know each other a little bit better!

College Search:

Find the right college & strategies to reduce cost!

Wednesday, April 29, 6 - 7:15 pm at Mount Zion

Free to attend!

We invite parents of 8th - 11th graders to join us to hear national college-search expert, Jay Benanav, for must-know details on how to navigate the complicated college search process. College funding goes to those who know the most about the process today! You may think you know how it works, but the reality is, things have changed in the last 20 years. This misconception can cost you thousands!



Women of Mount Zion Temple

Hamentaschen for Sale!

Hamentaschen will be sold on Sundays and Wednesdays during Religious School by the Summit Avenue Doors through March 8.



Apricot, Chocolate, Prune, Ginger-Pear,
Poppy seed, Chocolate-Cherry
Cost: \$6.00/bag \$1.00/cookie

WRJ Midwest District Kallah

April 24-26 at OSRUI

A great opportunity to meet, socialize and pray with Women of Reform Judaism across the midwest district. For more information, contact Peggy Kipp (pegk56@comcast.net) or Margie Abrahamson (doxarella@gmail.com).

What To Do Until Medical Help Arrives

Sunday, April 5, 10 am-12 pm at Mount Zion

Mount Zion Brotherhood, along with the Women of Mount Zion Temple, will be hosting an event with CPR Twin Cities.

In today's climate, it is important that everyone is prepared to assist in the community when needed. Do you know what to do? Do you know where the first aid and AED equipment are in our temple? What are the safety protocols for our building?

This Brunch Lecture will include:

- how to recognize an emergency;
- how to help a victim until qualified help arrives.
- You will also learn about the Good Samaritan Law and how it protects you when providing care in an emergency. The Good Samaritan Law is intended to encourage people to help in an emergency.

Speaker Information: John Fineberg, BA, NREMT, is the founder, owner and senior instructor of CPR-Twin Cities. John began his teaching career as American Red Cross instructor in 1985. A seasoned and popular instructor, John has taught thousands of people how to save lives and render care for those who become suddenly ill or injured.



We are asking for an \$18 contribution to help defray the costs of the lecture and additional sponsorship for the YES Fund. You can donate online at paypal.me/mzsisterhood. Please bring an item for the Food Shelf. Accommodations are available.



Red Cross Blood Drive

April 1, 2-7 pm

We promise you that Deb's famous Matzoh Ball Soup will be there waiting for you (after you donate, of course)! If you know anyone who has any interest in donating and hasn't in a long time or never has donated, please let them know that we'd love to see them, and blood is always needed.

You are cordially invited to
MOUNT ZION'S
164TH ANNUAL MEETING
Friday, May 10

5:30 p.m. - Annual Meeting

6:15 p.m. - Shabbat Dinner

Cost before May 1: \$25 adults & \$10 kids (11 and under)

Cost after May 1: \$30 adults & \$12 kids (11 and under)

Honoring our Volunteer of the Year

7:30 p.m. - Shabbat Services

Followed by Festive Oneg honoring
Cantor Strauss-Klein's 10 years at Mount Zion
*Share your memories and pictures of Cantor Strauss-Klein
to Jana at jnelson@mzion.org.*

Mount Zion L'Chaim 5780 Annual Campaign

Thank you to all who have contributed to our Mount Zion L'Chaim 5780 Annual Campaign. We're proud to report that more than 230 households have participated and your generosity has raised \$122,963!



There is still time to show your support of Cantor Strauss-Klein's 10 years at Mount Zion and our community. Please contribute today on our website mzion.org/donate. Our goal is 280 households and \$150,000.

We're excited to announce something new — a thank you event for all who participate — at literally any amount - in the Annual Campaign this year.

Light Lunch and Ice Cream Social

Sunday, May 17, 11:30 am-1:00 pm

After the Religious School end-of-year assembly
With a special presentation by MPR's Cube Critics on the Top Jewish Movies of All Time, a DJ, and Games for kids.

Our members Stephanie Curtis and Euan Kerr are the original MPR Cube Critics who have provided of entertaining and witty insight into the cinematic scene. They will provide a light and enjoyable presentation of the top Jewish films of all time. See if your favorite is on their list! All are invited first to have lunch, then listen to the presentation. Kids are welcome to the program or to hang out in Margolis Hall with a DJ and games with staff supervision. Afterwards all can indulge in some amazing ice cream!



Brotherhood

Brotherhood Roundup

Monthly Brotherhood Meetings - Join us the last Tuesday of each month at Mount Zion from 6:30-7:30. We plan our programs and enjoy a complimentary light dinner. Next meeting dates are March 31, April 28, May 26, and June 30.

The Bagel Bar every Sunday - Our Bagel Bar is open every Sunday when there is Religious School. Enjoy fresh bagels, cream cheese and lox, hot coffee or tea, and other treats. Proceeds support many programs at Mount Zion.

Timberwolves Game - Sunday, March 1, 2:30 pm - Join us for Jewish Community Night at the Minnesota Timberwolves vs. Dallas Mavericks. A \$30 ticket package includes Two (2) 100 Level tickets, Two (2) T-Shirts and a Postgame photo. Come join us and support our local professional basketball team.

Purim Carnival - Sunday Morning March 8 - Brotherhood sponsors a portion of the Religious School Purim Carnival. We need assistance for the games, food and activities. You can even dress in costume!

Honoring Brotherhood at Shabbat - Friday, March 27 Brotherhood will participate in the Shabbat Services with featured readers, musicians and a choir from the Brotherhood, and we will honor Richard Newmark for his long-standing service to Brotherhood and MZ Temple as our **"Mensch of the Year."**

2020 Mensch of the Year: Richard Newmark



Mother's Day Brunch - Sunday, May 10, 10:30-11:30 am
Held at Temple, this is a big event with Mothers and spouses enjoying a big complimentary breakfast.

Flags on Veteran's Graves - Friday before Memorial Day, May 22 - We go to lunch together, then place flags on veteran's graves at the Mount Zion Cemetery.

Men's Retreat, June 12-14 - We are excited to be moving our retreat to the Dunrovin Retreat Center just north of Stillwater. (See p. 17). Details to come.

Grand Old Days Parking - Sunday, June 7. Grand Old Days parking on our MZ lot is a major fundraiser for Brotherhood.

Warm personal regards,
Bruce R Matza, Brotherhood President



NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE
MARCH
FOOD
DRIVE

Did you know 1 in 9 residents and nearly 1 in 6 children in Ramsey County struggle with hunger? Even today, food insecurity continues to be a critical issue affecting children, adults, and seniors throughout our community.

In 2018, Neighborhood House shared over 1 million pounds with families throughout St. Paul. This March, we need your help to raise 186,000 dollars – or pounds of food – to keep our shelves stocked for the thousands of families who rely on our Food Markets each year.

All contributions received by Neighborhood House by April 12th will be eligible for a matching donation through the Minnesota Food Share Program. Please give generously!

March 1 - April 12, 2020

How YOU can make a difference in combating Hunger in Minnesota

- Drop off food and cash donations in March at the **Mount Zion Mitzvah Food Shelf Project table**. A complete list of needed items can be found at the food donation table located in the main lobby.
- Give online: mzion.nirsham.com/form/donate.
- Your gift of \$36 can feed a family of 4 for an entire week!

Questions? Contact Sue Grupe at 651-503-1382 or susangrupe@comcast.net

Accessibility & Inclusion

While attending the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) Biennial, Mental Health Task Force co-chair, and Accessibility & Inclusion Committee member Anna Fox learned about The Blue Dove Foundation, an Atlanta-based nonprofit organization. At Blue Dove they work towards inclusion and resource accessibility for people with mental health conditions and they are reaching out across the nation. "Created to help address the issues of mental illness and substance abuse in the Jewish community and beyond," the foundation works through three initiatives: (1) education, awareness, and outreach; (2) financial assistance for treatment; and (3) scalable programs. Their programs work to break down the stigma around mental health and substance use disorders and create space for more people to find a sense of belonging. The Blue Dove Foundation reminds us that "the Jewish community is not immune to the problems the rest of society wrestles with when it comes to mental health and substance abuse."

If you want to help bring this important work to Mount Zion's community, please contact Anna Fox at annafoxmz@gmail.com. To learn more about the Accessibility & Inclusion Committee at Mount Zion please visit mzion.org/connect/accessibility-and-inclusion.



Find out more at thebluedovefoundation.org or facebook.com/TheBlueDoveFoundation.

Mount Zion Hosted a Naturalization Ceremony



It was our great honor to host a US Naturalization Ceremony on January 8. Margolis Hall was standing room only as over 120 people from over 30 countries became citizens of the United States of America. Rabbi Spilker gave the opening remarks and Cantor Strauss-Klein sang the National Anthem. It was a truly powerful and inspiring moment! Thank you to Mount Zion's Tzedek Committee for sponsoring this great event.

In the Community

Welcome the Stranger: Acting on a Jewish Imperative

Sunday, March 22, 2:00 pm

Temple Israel (2323 Fremont Ave. S., Minneapolis,)

How can Jewish individuals and communities support those seeking a better life in Minnesota?

This program (part of National Refugee Shabbat at Temple Israel and other area synagogues) will feature a panel discussion, moderated by **KARE 11's Jana Shortal**, followed by the opportunity to connect with organizations working with immigrant and refugee populations.

Panelists:

Robert Aronson, Immigration attorney and HIAS board chair
Rabbi Sim Glaser, Temple Israel, sanctuary congregation
Michelle Rivero, director of Minneapolis' Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

Presenting Partners*:

Adath Jeshurun Congregation, Beth El Synagogue, Beth Jacob Congregation, Jewish Community Action, Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas, Minneapolis Jewish Federation, National Council of Jewish Women Minnesota, Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis, Jewish Family Service of St. Paul, Mount Zion Temple, Shir Tikvah Congregation, St. Paul Jewish Federation, Temple Israel, and Zioness Twin Cities

*list in formation, see website for updated list

RSVP: welcome-stranger.eventbrite.com

TRYmester: Jewish Fertility Journeys Out Loud Sunday, March 22 at Sabes JCC in Minneapolis

Performance 7 pm / Talk Back Session 8:15 pm

Tickets: \$18 Advance / \$25 Door

All proceeds from this event go to support TRYmester.

TRYmester: Jewish Fertility Journeys Out Loud is a heart-opening, multi-disciplinary performance based on true stories of people who have struggled with fertility challenges in the Jewish community. The piece explores myriad lived journeys and the often unexpected emotions that arise from these struggles. The artistic team

shaped an original work from these stories, challenges, gifts, and lessons learned into a tapestry of songs, dance, poetry and spoken inspirations. By witnessing this piece, audience members give space, voice and healing to countless souls – a true gift.

For more information and to purchase tickets: sabesjcc.org.



Tzedek Day at Neighborhood House Race Against Hunger

May 3, 8:00 am – 12:15 pm

8:00 am – 9:00 am - Family 5K Run and 1K Run/Walk

Proceeds go to two organizations: Rise Against Hunger and St. Paul's Neighborhood House.
Watch your email for more details.

9:30 am – 12:15 pm - Packing Meals at Neighborhood House

Everyone is invited to join the religious school at Neighborhood House (179 Robie St., Saint Paul) to bring food to the Food Shelf, learn about Neighborhood House, and then pack 25,000 meals to be donated to **Rise Against Hunger**.



Mary Ann Wark teaches tzedakah to the Religious School kids and that this giving is an important life-long habit. We are encouraging all religious school students in addition to bringing in food for March for Hunger, to help fundraise for this extraordinary day of Tzedek and action. We are thinking locally with Neighborhood House, nationally with Mazon, and globally with Rise Against Hunger.

Our goal is to raise \$18,000 and encourage each student to try to raise \$108.

Sign up or donate online:

mzion.org/form/tzedek-day

Everyone is invited to join the Religious School Families as they tour and learn firsthand how our funding and food donations help those supported by Neighborhood House in our community. We will then proceed to work together as a community and pack 25,000 meals to be donated to Rise Against Hunger!

- **Neighborhood House**, (neighb.org) founded by The Women of Mount Zion in 1897, mission is to help people gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence to thrive in diverse communities. Neighborhood House helps people with basic needs, education, multiple youth programs, and health and well-being. All programs are offered for free to participants.
- **Mazon** (mazon.org) a Jewish Response to Hunger is a national advocacy organization working to end hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds in the US and Israel.
- **Rise Against Hunger** (riseagainsthunger.org) is an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life changing aid to the world's most vulnerable, mobilizing the necessary resources to work to end hunger by 2030.

We are excited to be partnering with these amazing organizations to help locally, nationally, and globally as our Mount Zion Religious School works to help eliminate hunger and instill the importance of giving back!

We will be sharing additional details over the next few weeks on these events on May 3 and ask our kids to help raise the funds needed to support. If you would like to help volunteer for any of the planning, please reach out to Jennifer Mason at jfarber2004@yahoo.com or 651-335-4556. We will be sending out a link shortly via SignUp for volunteer opportunities.



MAZON



Food for Thought

Learn and Nosh before Shabbat Services

5:45 - 6:15 p.m. Food before the Thought

6:15 - 7:15 p.m. Food for Thought Discussions

Friday, March 13

The Miracle of McKinley

Speaker: Kate Dietrick,
Archivist, Berman Upper Midwest Jewish Archives

Hear the story of how the National Council of Jewish Women, including many from Mount Zion, began a pre-K program in the 1960's at the Rondo area McKinley school that later became a model for the nationwide Head Start program.



Friday, April 17

Why Do We Help?

A Young Adult Perspective on Social Work & Mental Health in the New Decade

Speaker: Sarah McVicar, Chair of MZ's
Accessibility and Inclusion Committee

This special Food for Thought panel presents firsthand accounts from young adults currently entering the mental health, substance use disorder, and social work fields. Panelists will share insight into their personal experience, motivation, and hopes for these professions going forward, as well as the challenges they see both for themselves as professionals and for the larger healthcare system as they strive to facilitate positive change and healing for individuals, families, and communities.



Israel Book Club

Monday, March 2, 7:00 pm

Beauty Queen of Jerusalem, by Sarit Yishai-Levi

Join the Mount Zion Israel Book Group for our discussion 7 pm Monday, March 2. We'll be talking about *The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem*, "a dazzling novel of mothers and daughters, stories told and untold, and the binds that tie four generations of women... Set against the Golden Age of Hollywood, the dark days of World War II, and the swingin' '70s, *The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem* follows generations of unforgettable women as they forge their own paths through times of dramatic change. With great humor and heart, Sarit Yishai-Levi has given us a powerful story of love and forgiveness—and the unexpected and enchanting places we find each." (Goodreads) Copies available at Mount Zion library.

Questions, call, text, Jonathan Eisenthal @ 651-260-6263, or johnnyirondale@gmail.com.



Coffee with the Clergy

Sundays from 10-10:30 am

Sisterhood Lounge

Stop by for a conversation and nosh with the clergy. They will have a brief teaching about Reform Judaism.



- March 15 – Rabbi Spilker
What does RJ say about Israel?

- April 26 – Cantor Strauss-Klein
What does RJ say about Ritual?

Past conversations

- January 26 – Rabbi Adler
What does RJ say about God?
- February 23 – Cantor Spilker
What does RJ say about Torah?

Library Happenings

New Books in the Library:

Among new books recently added to the Library are Genie Milgrom's *Recipes of my 15 Grandmothers: Unique recipes and stories from the times of the Crypto-Jews during the Spanish Inquisition*, about the Crypto-Jews and Conversos who pretended to be Catholic during the Spanish Inquisition, but continued practicing their Judaism sub-rosa to the present day. The late Hy Berman's *Professor Berman: the Last Lecture of Minnesota's Greatest Public Historian*, written with the help of Jay Weiner, covers the life of this popular university teacher. In another biography, *The Color of Love*, by Marra Gad, tells the story of a mixed-race Jewish girl adopted by a white Chicago family in the 1970s, and the difficulties she faced growing up and as an adult, as someone who didn't quite fit in, no matter where she found herself. From January's guest speaker and lecturer at Mount Zion, Rabbi Dana Evan Kaplan, is his *A Life of Meaning: Embracing Reform Judaism's Sacred Path*, discusses the issues of "What are our core beliefs, our most important values, and our range of practices? Why do the choices we make matter so much? And why is Reform Judaism critical to the Jewish future?" For children there is Kaethe Zemach's *Just Enough and Not Too Much*, in which Simon the Fiddler buys too many material things and struggles to find a way to simplify his life and win back his friends. Marianne Dubuc's *The Lion and the Bird* tells what happens when a lion saves a wounded bird as autumn turns into winter, but the bird returns to its flock the following Spring. Can their friendship survive this separation? In the first of two easy children's historical books, Tami Shem-Tov's *Concert in the Sand* tells the story of the first concert by the group which eventually becomes the Israel Philharmonic in 1936 Palestine. Finally, in Debbie Levy's *The Key From Spain: Flory Jagoda and her Music* recounts the fictionalized (but true) family history of Flory Jagoda, from Inquisition-period Spain, to fleeing Europe during the Holocaust, to safety in America. These and other new titles await you in the Library!

-Bob Epstein, Librarian

Brotherhood presents a newly imagined Mount Zion Men's Retreat

Mussar for Men: Improving the Relationships in Your Life to Self, Others, and the Divine

Friday-Sunday, June 12-14

New closer location - Dunrovin Retreat Center (near Stillwater)

Mark your calendar now! Registration information coming in late March.



This will be a weekend of camaraderie, spirituality, and enjoying the great outdoors especially designed for men of all ages from 20s on up!

Some activities and sessions include:

- Learn about and experience Mussar, Judaism's thousand-year-old practice of character development
- Fish on the St. Croix River (bring your gear)
- Join in on conversations about substantive topics in our lives
- Take time to enjoy the quiet and serenity of the retreat grounds
- Bike, yoga, hike, play cards and games, and schmooze!
- Celebrate Shabbat with a musical, interactive service and study
- Watch "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," a film about Mr. Rogers starring Tom Hanks, and discuss its messages for us
- Relax and make new friends from Mount Zion
- Optional bike ride to and from the retreat starting from Mount Zion



Questions? Please contact: Bruce Matza at BruceMatza@InnovationsInManagement.com or Shel Finver at finvers@hotmail.com.

Begegenen!

For Active Adults

Formerly Prime Timers

For more information about the group or questions about any events, contact Begegenen Chair Phil Goldman at pgold1926@gmail.com or 651-491-0864.

Upcoming Events

Food for Thought: The Miracle of McKinley Friday, March 13, 6:15 pm

Kate Dietrick, Archivist, Berman Upper Midwest Jewish Archives
See p. 16 for details.

Listen to the Voices: Immigrant Stories

Wed., April 22, 7 p.m.

Join us as we attend a Rimon Artist Salon at St. Paul's East Side Freedom Library, featuring Mexican Jewish composer Sergio Barer in dialogue with composer/moderator (and Mount Zion member) Adam Wernick. Sergio Barer is a 2019-20 McKnight Fellow in music composition. He was commissioned to create a suite of chorale pieces inspired by his interviews with more than two dozen immigrants whom he met in the Twin Cities. The Salon will feature live performances of vocal quartets of Barer performed by Cantors Audrey Abrams (Beth El), Joanna Dulkan (Adath Jeshurun), Richard Schwartz (Bet Shalom), and Rimon's Executive Director David Jordan Harris.



Begegenen Goes Mystical (again)

April (date and time TBD)

The Weisman Art Museum is presenting artist Harriet Bart: Abracadabra and Other Forms of Protection, whose inspiration includes Jewish mysticism, and whose works include an installation that evokes the Jewish tradition of geniza, the practice of safeguarding Jewish written texts. Building on the response and success with our recent visit to the Museum of Russian Art, contact Phil Goldman if you are interested in determining a date for our own docent led tour of this exhibit.



The Focus for Neighborhood House this Spring is the March Food Drive.

In 2019 Neighborhood House Food Markets served: 4,725 kids • 7,546 adults • 748 seniors.
You can make a difference.

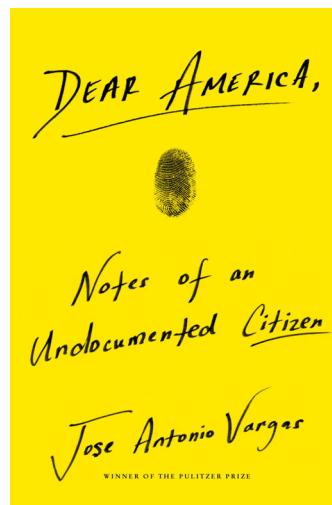


Share this information with neighbors, friends, and across your social media networks.

Social Action Update

Tzedek = Justice

Join the Community Book Read



This March we invite all members of Mount Zion to participate in reading the book, *Dear America: Notes from an Undocumented Citizen* by Jose Vargas. Copies of the book are available in the MZ office. In choosing this book, we have partnered with our fellow members of the St. Paul Interfaith Coalition on Immigrant Rights, and *Dear America* will be read in multiple Saint Paul congregations. Our hope is that MZ members will read the book and then join in spirited discussion at any or all of the following events:

- Unity Unitarian (732 Holly Ave, St Paul, MN) will host a discussion of the book on **Wednesday night, March 18**, with a dinner prior to programming from 5:45-7 pm and the book discussion following from 7:15-8:30 pm.
- Mount Zion will host a discussion on **March 22, 1-3 pm**.
- Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (700 Snelling Avenue S., in St Paul) will host a discussion on **Monday, March 23, 7-9 pm**.

The Tzedek Committee remains active at Mount Zion and in our broader community. Housing, the significance of home, and homelessness are themes that the Tzedek Committee has been wrestling with. We previously invited MZ members to watch the film, *Jim Crow of the North*, that shows how housing discrimination was (and is) a serious problem in the Twin Cities. The film is part of a project on Mapping Prejudice that examines the use of restrictive covenants to prevent groups of people, based on race, from owning homes in some communities. If you have not yet seen this film, we encourage you to view it and we will continue to host viewings and discussions at MZ. Members of the Tzedek committee are also actively working with JCA to tackle housing justice throughout the Twin Cities.

Our February Tzedek meeting focused on climate justice and we heard about the work of Interfaith Power and Light. We are exploring ways that MZ can become more deeply involved in this work. April 22, 2020 will mark the 50th Earth Day so stay tuned for upcoming events and opportunities.

For more information about any of the other work we are doing, please email Diana Dean, dianamdean@msn.com or Vic Rosenthal, vic.rosenthal@gmail.com.

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See p 17 for details.

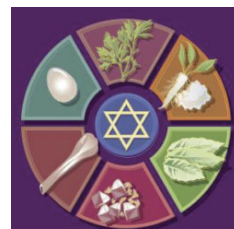
Passover

The First Seder of Passover is

**Wednesday night,
April 8 / 15 Nisan**

Passover ends at sunset
on Wednesday, April 15 / 21 Nisan

See p 7 for details.



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Tzedek Day at Neighborhood House **Race Against Hunger**

May 3, 8:00 am – 12:15 pm

**Family 5K Run and 1K Run/Walk
Packing Meals at Neighborhood House**

See p. 15 for details.



MAZON

Rise
AGAINST HUNGER

