

# SHOFAR

Congregation Schaarai Zedek, enriching Tampa's Reform Jewish Heritage for over 125 years



## SOUTHERN TROPICAL REGION



FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 1, 2020  
HOSTED BY SCHZFITY



See page 11 for more info!



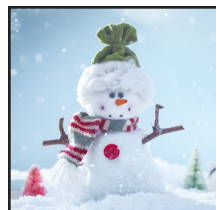
## MITZVAH DAY

Sunday, February 9, 2020

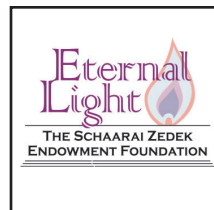
It's not too late to register!  
[www.zedek.org/mitzvahday](http://www.zedek.org/mitzvahday)



**Tu BiShvat**  
Celebrate the  
"New Year of the  
Trees" with CSZ.  
**Pages 6-7**



**Winter  
Wonderland**  
Join us for our  
annual Snow Day!  
**Page 10**



**Eternal Light  
Society**  
Discover how you  
can include CSZ in  
your legacy plan.  
**Page 12**

# Staff Introductions

## Clergy Visits

Do you have family members who are in assisted living facilities, nursing homes, or are home-bound? We offer special programming at their facility for our congregants or their families.

Call Ming Brewer, Clergy Executive Assistant, at (813) 876-2377, ext. 202, with the names and telephone numbers of members or the family of members who may live in one of these facilities. We want to make sure they are included in our planning.

## Congregant Condolence Notices

When congregants pass away, Schaarai Zedek offers the family of the deceased the option of having an email notification of the passing sent to all congregants.

The sending (or not sending) of this condolence notice email is at the choice of the family of the deceased congregant to protect the privacy for the family.

Please call Ming Brewer, Clergy Executive Assistant, at (813) 876-2377, ext. 202.



Each month we will feature a different staff member so you can get to know our family!

### Meet Lisa Kiev-Chen!

As the Engagement and Outreach Coordinator, Lisa plans events for our Nu Frontiers and Seniors groups and for other temple programs as needed. She also helps prospective members learn about our community.

"I truly believe that positive experiences with people keep us young, happy, and healthy, and I love helping others make these connections."

Lisa has 30 years of experience in marketing, customer service, and public speaking while working in large and small corporations. She also has

experience volunteering with Junior Achievement and leading Girl Scout troops.

Lisa was born in Binghamton, New York, and is a University of Georgia graduate ("Go Dawgs!") with her bachelor's degree in finance. She has a wonderful husband of 22 years, and together they have two daughters and a son, two cats, and the newest addition to the family, a black Lab Greyhound mix named Luna.

In her free time, Lisa loves skiing, biking, traveling, learning languages, playing games, baking, music, and reading.

## Worship Calendar

### Saturday, February 1

9:00 am Shabbat Yoga or Torah Study  
10:30 am Come as You Are Shabbat Service  
4:30 pm Chloe Cohen Bat Mitzvah

### Friday, February 7

5:57 pm Shabbat Candle Lighting  
7:00 pm Shabbat Achshav Service

### Saturday, February 8

9:00 am Torah Study  
10:30 am Ian Villasin Bar Mitzvah  
3:00 pm Winter Wonderland Tot Shabbat & Havdalah

### Friday, February 14

6:02 pm Shabbat Candle Lighting  
7:00 pm Shabbat Service  
*February is Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month. Congregants Sarah Busansky and Lynne Merriam will speak.*

### Saturday, February 15

9:00 am Torah Study  
10:30 am Isaac Teichman Bar Mitzvah  
4:30 pm Lana Thomas Bat Mitzvah

### Friday, February 21

5:30 pm Friday Night Tot Shabbat  
6:07 pm Shabbat Candle Lighting  
7:00 pm Family Service Shabbat with Teen Band  
*Sixth-grade students will lead the service, the teen band will lead music, and we'll have February birthday blessings.*

### Saturday, February 22

9:00 am Torah Study  
10:30 am Briana Kahn Bat Mitzvah  
6:30 pm Adults' Night Out: Havdalah & Happy Hour

### Friday, February 28

6:12 pm Shabbat Candle Lighting  
7:00 pm Shabbat Service

# SHOFAR

A monthly newsletter by  
Congregation Schaarai Zedek

**Volume:** 124

**Number:** 7

**View the Shofar Online:**

[www.zedek.org/shofar](http://www.zedek.org/shofar)



# CSZ Sisterhood

February is a busy month for our Sisterhood members. We hope to see you soon!

- **Hamantaschen baking and sales** have already begun! Don't miss out on participating in this great FUN-raiser, sign up today. Hamantaschen baking experience not required. All proceeds from our sales go to our Religious School.

Sunday, February 2, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Thursday, February 6, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Sunday, February 9, 8:30 am - Sales only – Mitzvah Day  
Wednesday, February 12, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
Monday, February 17, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Sunday, February 23, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

See dates and times online and sign up at [www.zedek.org](http://www.zedek.org).

- Monday, February 10, 12:00 pm – **Sisterhood Book Club**, "The Guest Book" by Sarah Blake
- Tuesday, February 11, 6:30 pm – **Sisterhood Trivia Night**  
Join us for a fun evening of trivia. Look for a postcard and emails with location and activity.

## **Positive Parenting Workshops – Part One & Part Two**

- Sunday, February 23, 9:00 am – Positive Parenting Part One: Food for Thought
- Sunday, March 29, 9:00 am – Positive Parenting Part Two: What We're Doing Right

This two-part parenting program led by Andi Parker, educator and Sisterhood Co-President, will have you saying, "I've never thought of it that way!" Andi will share her insightful suggestions to make life a little bit easier for you and your children and grandchildren through positive communication. If you heard Andi's presentation last year, you remember that she had great suggestions that are easy to implement, and now she's offering even more! Babysitting is available at no charge with reservations.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- Tuesday, March 3, 6:30 pm - **Sisterhood Presidents Council Dinner Meeting**
- March 29, 11:30 am - **Sisterhood Social Action Project** benefitting Tampa Bay Party Project

L'shalom,

**Andi Parker, Co-President**  
[andironp@aol.com](mailto:andironp@aol.com)

**Diane Porat, Co-President**  
[drp1223@verizon.net](mailto:drp1223@verizon.net)

# CSZ Brotherhood

We want to thank everyone who came out and joined us for our Top Golf event. This event is usually one of our more popular, and this year was no different. For most of us there, this event was a good reminder that we need to practice our golf swings as a New Year resolution!

In lieu of an event in February, Brotherhood is asking for volunteers for three upcoming events: Mitzvah Day on February 9, Spring Kallah on February 29, and the Purim Carnival on March 8. If you would like to learn more about these events and how you can participate with the Brotherhood, please contact Craig Federer or Jared Miller.

Our March event is still in the works, so stay tuned for further details.

Besides finding event information in the Shofar and emails, please find event information and links on the Congregation Schaarai Zedek website and join the Brotherhood Facebook page.

**Please save the date for the 11th Annual Brotherhood Signature Event, our famous Deli Night, on Saturday, April 25.** If you wish to be a key sponsor, call Steve Gersten at (813) 334-9745.

If any congregant would like the honor of ushering a Friday night service, please get in touch with Steve Gersten at (813) 334-9745 or [steve@gerstengroup.com](mailto:steve@gerstengroup.com). We would also love to hear your feedback on your favorite delis as we start that selection process for Deli Night. Email Steve Gersten with your suggestions!

We invite all male adult congregants of Schaarai Zedek to get involved in our dynamic and active Brotherhood and to join all our festivities and community events during the year. If you haven't joined Brotherhood yet, please call the temple office to participate.

Call us anytime to discuss Brotherhood and how you can be involved.

**Craig Federer, Co-President**  
[craig.federer@raymondjames.com](mailto:craig.federer@raymondjames.com)

**Jared Miller, Co-President**  
[jared.e.miller@gmail.com](mailto:jared.e.miller@gmail.com)



**Deli Night Returns!**  
**SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2020**

**Main Event Sponsor:**  
**CONTINENTAL WHOLESALE DIAMONDS**  
Mention Deli Night for a 20% discount

**Corned Beef King Sponsors:**  
**SEGAL FUNERAL HOME** **360 REALTY**

**11th Annual BROTHERHOOD Signature Event**

**Do you have a favorite deli? Help us choose!**  
**Contact Steve Gersten with your ideas or for sponsorship opportunities:**  
**(813) 334-9745 or [sgersten@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:sgersten@tampabay.rr.com)**



**WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTION**

# **WHY VOTE?**

**Your vote is the only democratic opportunity you have to influence Israeli society as we continue our efforts towards equality, pluralism and tolerance.**

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**Vote January 21 through March 11, 2020.**

Learn more about why voting in this election matters on [arza.org](https://arza.org).

 **#VoteReformWZC**





# VOTE REFORM NOW

*From the Clergy*

## The World Zionist Congress Elections

The upcoming 2020 election marks a pivotal moment for Reform Jews across the world.

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Rabbi Joel Simon

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If you were to hear that I was writing about the importance of voting in an election, you might think I was talking about our own country's upcoming elections (and of course, everyone should be registered to vote). But this month, I'm writing about elections in Israel. While we as Americans can't vote between Labor, Likud, the Blue and White Party, or any other of Israel's nine parties represented in their last election (which is fewer than usual!), we do have the potential to make our voices heard.

Theodore Herzl created the World Zionist Congress (WZO) in 1897, and today it is made up of 500 delegates from around the world who gather once every five years. Among their responsibilities is the allocation of nearly \$1 billion a year for the five years between elections along with filling essential leadership positions among some of Israel's most prominent organizations.

I'm writing this month, asking you all to vote in this year's WZO elections. This election is a significant opportunity for

the Reform Movement to have its voice heard concerning domestic policies in Israel.

According to its mission statement, the Association of Reform Zionists in America (ARZA) "unconditionally supports Israel and champions activities that further Israel as a pluralistic, just, and democratic Jewish state." That means that at a time when Israel has, unfortunately, become a divisive subject, ARZA aims to show how one can be ardently Zionist, regardless of politics, supporting the values of Reform Judaism.

A strong representation of the Reform movement in the World Zionist Organization (WZO) can help lead to funding for the Reform movement. While the government pays and funds Orthodox rabbis and synagogues, the same is not true for Conservative and Reform rabbis and synagogues. A few exceptions have been made over the past five years, but there is still far more work to do. Non-Orthodox weddings are not allowed to be performed in Israel, and a true equal, egalitarian space has still not been created at the Western Wall. The WZO is only a small piece of this puzzle, but it is an important

one in starting to move Israel forward to being a place in which we, as Reform Jews, are accepted next to our Orthodox brothers and sisters.

We are excited to plan a trip to Israel in the summer of 2022 (more information coming soon!). My hope is that when we visit, we will be visiting a country in which all forms of Judaism are able to thrive, a country in which men and women are able to find equal opportunities to have meaningful experiences, and a country that is continuing its mission of being, as is described in its 1948 Proclamation of Independence; "based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture."

Please visit [arza.org](http://arza.org) for more information, and feel free to reach out to Rabbi Farb or me if you have any questions about the election or how to make your voice heard. •

# Adult Engagement

*Congregation Schaarai Zedek offers a variety of social, cultural, and educational activities, giving congregants an opportunity to participate and connect with other like-minded people. Refer to the **Our Community** and **Calendar** pages on our website for more information. RSVP online at [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or call (813) 876-2377 for all programs (unless otherwise noted) so we can prepare.*

## Adult Education:

### Guest Speaker, Rabbi Jack Bemporad



Rabbi Jack Bemporad, Professor of Interreligious Studies at the Vatican's Angelicum University, will deliver several lectures at Schaarai Zedek and Saint Leo University during the first week of February 2020:

#### **"God, Science, and Religion"**

Monday, February 3, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
at Congregation Schaarai Zedek

#### **"Faith and the Message of the Prophets"**

Tuesday, February 4, 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
at Saint Leo University

#### **"Prophetic Judaism and its Significance for Our Time"**

Thursday, February 6, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm  
at Congregation Schaarai Zedek

Rabbi Jack Bemporad is the director of the nonprofit Center for Interreligious Understanding (CIU), which he founded in 1992. It aims to bring people of all religious faiths together to promote open dialogue, mutual respect, and theological understanding of the common foundations shared by the world's religions. Rabbi Bemporad began teaching at Vatican universities in 1998 and has been Director of the John Paul II Center and Professor of Interreligious Studies, both at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), in Rome since 2009. Concurrently, he also serves as Rabbi of Congregation Micah of New Jersey, in Cresskill.

Fleeing the fascist takeover in Italy prior to WWII, Bemporad and his family traveled to the U.S. when he was five years old. Thus, having personally suffered as the result of persecution and prejudice, he has dedicated his career to improving relations among Christians, Muslims, and Jews worldwide. Rabbi Bemporad is recognized internationally for his diplomatic skill and leadership in matters of religious understanding and reconciliation. He is one of the rare Jewish leaders to have had a personal audience with Pope John XXIII, numerous personal audiences with Pope John Paul II, and was one of three rabbis to have blessed him shortly before his death. Most recently, he met with Pope Francis at the conclusion of the "Refugees and Migrants" conference, co-sponsored by the CIU in Rome this past November.

These events are co-sponsored by the Saint Leo University Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies and Congregation Schaarai Zedek. Please RSVP and indicate which event(s) you will attend by February 1, to the temple office online at [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP), or by phone at (813) 876-2377.

## Nu Frontiers & Senior Mitzvah Corps

### Mitzvah Day Volunteering

**Sunday, February 9, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Come together with members of Schaarai Zedek to volunteer at Hope Children's Home Thrift Store. Ages 50+. Sort clothing, organize shelves, and help with general clean-up and other light activities. Space is limited. First come first served, so register now to guarantee your spot! There will also be another mitzvah project option at the temple. RSVP to Lisa Kiev-Chen at [lkievchen@zedek.org](mailto:lkievchen@zedek.org) or (813) 876-2377, ext. 249.

## Merlot and Mysticism:

### A Tu BiShvat Wine Tasting Experience

**Monday, February 10, 7:00 pm**

**Cost: \$10 per person**

A good bottle of wine has complexity and depth. The first sip doesn't necessarily give you the true sense of the wine you're tasting, as the wine changes its qualities as it's exposed to air. To fully experience a wine, you have to combine all of the senses. The Kabbalists, Jewish mystics, teach us that our world is like a fine glass of wine. There is the world we see at first glance, but there are hidden levels to our world that we can only see when we take the time to try to do so.

While we know Tu BiShvat as the "birthday of the trees," the Kabbalists of Safed embraced the holiday as a time to explore this way of looking at the world, while also incorporating four cups of wine, like the Passover seder, into their observance. At our wine tasting seder, we will combine the world of the mystics with that of the oenophile, learning a bit about Kabbalah and a bit about wine, as we enjoy a guided wine tasting (no Manischewitz!) along with the fruits and nuts that are traditional for Tu BiShvat. This event is for adults who are 21 and older. Hope to see you there!





## ROMEO Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, February 12, 11:45 am

Buffet-style lunch at Schaarai Zedek

CSZ Members \$10 / Non-Members \$15

Join Rabbi Birnholz and our ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) for good food and good conversation at Schaarai Zedek. This month, Rabbi's topic will be "Jews of The Wild West." Find out about early Jewish Americans and the surprising ways they helped shape the American Frontier. RSVP online by visiting [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or call (813) 876-2377.

## 20s+30s Tree Climbing at Tree Hoppers

Saturday, February 15, 5:00 pm

Celebrate Tu BiShvat differently this year - not just by appreciating trees, but by climbing them! We'll enjoy a glowing tree climbing course at Tree Hoppers and have a short Havdalah service. We'll provide bus transportation for those who would like to ride together.



## Senior Luncheon

Thursday, February 20, Seating at 11:15 am

Please join us for a wonderful performance by the St. Petersburg Opera Company. Mark Sforzini (maestro), Teresa Ancaya (keyboardist), Aleksandra Ritums (soprano), and Wayne Hobbs (tenor) will immerse us in a magical musical experience! Our Amy Gail Buchman Preschool Singers will perform at 11:30 am as the program begins. Please RSVP by February 18, online at [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or call (813) 876-2377.

Our Senior Luncheons are provided by the Esther N. & Leo M. Weiss Seniors Endowment Fund.



## Adults' Night Out: Havdalah & Happy Hour

Saturday, February 22, 6:00 pm

Enjoy a special evening for adults who are looking for a night out! Join us for happy hour and appetizers, as well as a short Havdalah service. Adults' Night Out is fun social programming for adults who no longer have kids at home or have kids old enough to babysit themselves, as well as singles and adults without kids. Location to be determined.

## Nu Frontiers Solomon's Castle Tour & Lunch

Sunday, February 23, 9:45 am – 3:45 pm

4533 Solomon Rd, Ona, FL 33865

CSZ Members \$28 / Non-Members \$42

Visit the home, galleries, and workshop of internationally renowned artist Howard Solomon and share his humorous view of the world. Tour the Castle and enjoy a delicious home-made lunch at the Boat-in-the-Moat Restaurant on property. Pay for your own lunch from the menu; entrees begin at \$10. Bus transportation and tour included in price. Please RSVP by Sunday, February 16, at [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or by calling (813) 876-2377.



## Nu Frontiers Bike Ride & Lunch

Saturday, March 07

10:30 am - Bike Upper Tampa Bay Trail

12:00 pm - Lunch at Ballyhoo

Enjoy a ride along the Upper Tampa Bay Trail and lunch at Ballyhoo Grill. Want to ride but don't have a bike? Rent a bike and helmet at Citrus Park Bikes by calling (813) 749-6732. Participants are strongly encouraged to bring a helmet and bike lock. We invite everyone (whether you're biking or not) to meet up and enjoy lunch at Ballyhoo Grill (menu and pricing available online). Riders and non-riders need to RSVP so that we can make reservations. RSVP requested online by visiting [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or by calling the temple office at (813) 876-2377.

# ReligiousSchool

## Cafe Zedek

Sundays, February 2 & 23, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

All adults are welcome. Have a bagel and a cup of coffee at Café Zedek on Sunday morning. Join the conversation. Greet friends, fellow parents, and other congregants. Café Zedek will be open on Sunday mornings when Religious School is meeting. See you there!

## Interested in teaching or substituting?

Do you have a desire to further Judaism and enjoy spending time with great children? Become a teacher or substitute at our Flom Religious School on Sunday mornings! It's easy and fun. We supply the lesson plans and materials for you. Join the team and start making a difference. For more information, contact Donna Wood at (813) 876-2377, ext. 210 or email [dwood@zedek.org](mailto:dwood@zedek.org).

# B'naiMitzvah



### Chloe Cohen

**Bat Mitzvah:**  
February 1, 2020

**Parents:**  
Dana and Jonathan Cohen

**Torah Portion:**  
*Bo*



### Lana Thomas

**Bat Mitzvah:**  
February 15, 2020

**Parents:**  
Melody and Ray Thomas

**Torah Portion:**  
*Yitro*



### Ian Villasin

**Bar Mitzvah:**  
February 8, 2020

**Parents:**  
Melissa Villasin and Eric Villasin

**Torah Portion:**  
*Yitro*



### Brianna Kahn

**Bat Mitzvah:**  
February 22, 2020

**Parents:**  
Audra Kahn and Jason Kahn

**Torah Portion:**  
*Miketz*



### Isaac Teichman

**Bar Mitzvah:**  
February 15, 2020

**Parents:**  
Lynn and Harry Teichman

**Torah Portion:**  
*Yitro*



## There's still time to sign up for Mitzvah Day!

Join us Sunday, February 9, for a fun morning of volunteering!

- Over 20 volunteer projects to choose from
- A chance for all members of Schaarai Zedek to come together as a community to benefit a wide range of agencies
- A wonderful opportunity to make new friends and reconnect with old friends!

Visit [www.zedek.org/mitzvahday](http://www.zedek.org/mitzvahday) to see a full list of projects and online registration!



## Gesher L' Mishpachah: Jewish Family Fun

Your family is invited to join in the adventure!

Who can participate? First timers and past participants can all participate! Even if you've completed the program before, with each passing year the experience comes with a new perspective and understanding!

What will you do? Each family completes 18 easy activities in the areas of Torah (Study), Avodah (Worship), and G'milut Chasadim (Acts of Loving Kindness) from a list of more than 70 activities during this school year. You have probably already completed these activities without even realizing it!

What happens then? After you complete and submit the checklist, you will be honored at the Family Shabbat Service in May, and your family's name will be engraved on our Gesher plaque in the Religious School hallway.

For more information, contact Donna Wood at (813) 876-2377, ext. 210 or email [dwood@zedek.org](mailto:dwood@zedek.org).

### Celebrating a *Shehecheyanu* Moment

Schaarai Zedek is a partner in the transitional moments of our members' lives.

Whether a baby naming or bris, bar or bat mitzvah, conversion or wedding ceremony, or a recovery from illness, our clergy and staff strive to ensure that each sacred "*Shehecheyanu* Moment" is deeply fulfilling and personal. A donation to one of the Schaarai Zedek Funds is a lovely way to mark a personal life-cycle experience, to honor friends or family celebrating a happy milestone, or in gratitude for the services the clergy provide during these profound moments.

### Friendly Visitors Program

Visiting the sick and the elderly are two ancient and important mitzvot in the Jewish tradition.

Schaarai Zedek is organizing opportunities to participate in this sacred mitzvah.

- Visit assisted living homes to spend time with residents
- Visit home-bound members of our community
- Brighten someone's day

You will receive personalized Friendly Visitor training and learn about prayer and empathetic presence.

If you are interested in being a part of our Friendly Visitors Program, or if you know of anyone in the congregation who may be in need of some extra support, contact Rabbi Farb at (813) 876-2377, ext. 229 or [nfarb@zedek.org](mailto:nfarb@zedek.org).

# Shabbat & Worship

## Shabbat for the Body, Mind, and Soul

Saturday, February 1

9:00 am – Shabbat Yoga or Torah Study

9:00 am – Kids' Shabbat Yoga and Art Project (ages 2-6)

10:30 am – "Come as You Are" Shabbat Service



Make Shabbat morning a part of your week! Start with Shabbat Yoga or Torah Study. We are offering a Shabbat program for children (ages 2-6) whose caretakers are attending Shabbat Yoga or Torah Study. Children over the age of six are encouraged to join in the regular Shabbat Yoga class! After Shabbat Yoga and Torah Study, we invite everyone (all ages!) to join us for a casual "Come as You Are" Shabbat Service (we'll provide the bagels and coffee). RSVP at [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or call the temple office at (813) 876-2377.

## Beginning Talmud: Torah Study with Rabbi Farb

Saturdays, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 9:00 am

Every seven and a half years, Jews around the world begin a new cycle of Talmud study. Join us as we start this journey together. Each week we will explore a new lesson from the Talmud and what modern Jews can learn from this ancient text. Come and enjoy coffee and refreshments with friends. For more information, contact Rabbi Farb at [nfarb@zedek.org](mailto:nfarb@zedek.org) or (813) 876-2377, ext. 229.

## Shabbat Achshav Service

Friday, February 7, 7:00 pm

Shabbat Shirah, literally Shabbat of Song, is the Shabbat on which we read the story of the crossing of the Red Sea from the Torah. Our Shabbat Achshav band will be joined by an intergenerational troupe of Schaarai Zedek actors and actresses for a soulful and thoughtful Shabbat evening experience for congregants of all ages.

## Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month Shabbat Service

Friday, February 14, 7:00 pm

February is Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month (JDAIM), a unified initiative to raise disability awareness and support efforts to foster inclusion in Jewish communities worldwide. Please join us for this special Shabbat service with guest speakers, congregants Sarah Busansky and Lynne Merriam.

## Family Shabbat Service with Teen Band

Friday, February 21, 7:00 pm

Sixth-grade students will lead the service, the teen band will lead music, and we'll have February birthday blessings.

# Youth

Congregation Schaarai Zedek's Youth Groups offer a multitude of activities including social, religious, cultural, community service, and more. All are designed to provide opportunities for our Jewish youth to meet and socialize. RSVP online at [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or call (813) 876-2377 for all programs (unless otherwise noted) so we can prepare.

## Jr. SchZFTY Day at the Park

Sunday, February 2, 11:30 am – 6:30 pm



(Grades 6-8) Pay \$75 for the day and play all year with your Busch Gardens Fun Card! Jr. SchZFTY will hit the park for a day of fun. Please bring money for lunch. We will have chaperones in the park and scheduled group check-ins.

Hop on the bus with us for free if you already have your own Busch Gardens pass!

## SchZFTY Open House

Wednesday, February 5, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

(Grades 9-12) Relax and hang out with friends at our monthly Open House. Bring your homework and friends. RSVP so we can get an idea of how much to order for dinner! Open House is an excellent opportunity to chat and decide how you would like to plug into our Spring Kallah playbook!

## Winter Wonderland Tot Shabbat

Saturday, February 8, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm



(Kids 0-5 and siblings of all ages) Yes, it snows in Tampa! Put on your mittens and jackets and come to Schaarai Zedek to play in the snow for our annual Winter Wonderland Tot Shabbat and Havdalah. We'll have pizza, juice, and a dessert food truck! Our Jewish activities for families with young children are always fun for all - invite a friend or two to come along.

## Jr. SchZFTY Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, February 9, 7:00 am - 9:00 am

Join us for breakfast before a day of Mitzvah Day service. Our sixth through eighth-grade students will do the cooking, and we invite all of you to do the eating. Cost of breakfast is a voluntary donation that supports our Schaarai Zedek youth programs.

## SchZFTY Mitzvah Day

Sunday, February 9, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

(Grades 9-12) Come together to support the students and staff at a local Title I charter school. Let's make an impact in our community by sprucing up this school!

## Teenokot Park Playdate

Thursday, February 13, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

(Ages 0-4) Meet at Friendship Park (4124 W Bay to Bay Blvd) for a morning of bubbles, chalk, food, and more! We'll have snacks for everyone, and we look forward to a beautiful outdoor morning!

## Friday Night Tot Shabbat

Friday, February 21, 5:30 pm

**Followed by a complimentary Shabbat dinner.**

Come and enjoy our interactive Shabbat experience for families with young children (ages 0-5 and siblings of all ages). Learn Shabbat rituals and prayers: Light the candles, sing the Kiddush with grape juice and bless the challah. After the service, enjoy a Shabbat dinner together with other families at NO COST to you! This service is a fun time to meet other families with young children at Schaarai Zedek.

This Tot Shabbat Service is also fun for older siblings and grandparents. Invite your unaffiliated friends to join us!

RSVP online by visiting [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or the temple office at (813) 876-2377.

## SchZFTY PJ Party – Dinner & Movie

Saturday, February 22, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

(Grades 9-12) Let's relax and recharge as we prepare for Spring Kallah! Join us at Schaarai Zedek for dinner, a movie, and some downtime relaxing together. We'll make sugar scrubs, bath fizzies, watch a movie on our big screen, and enjoy dinner! Keep an eye out for SchZFTY mailings for opportunities to vote on the evening's film.



## News from the Amy Gail Buchman Preschool

- Feb. 3-28:** Fitness and Fundraiser Month
- Feb. 6:** AGB Benefit and Auction
- Feb. 7:** School closes at 12:30 pm for Teacher Work Day
- Feb. 10-14:** Friendship Week
- Feb. 17:** School closed for Presidents' Day

RSVP to any Youth event online at [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or by calling the temple office at (813) 876-2377.



# SpringKallah

Be a part of an extremely special weekend as Congregation Schaarai Zedek and our SchZFTY Youth Group welcomes NFTY-STR for

## Spring Kallah 2020

Join us for an extra special teen-led Shabbat service on February 28, and see the volunteer insert for ways in which you can help make this weekend extra special for our teens and teens from throughout the state!



# SocialAction



Thank you to the following volunteers who served meals at Metropolitan Ministries on Christmas Day:

Alex Chen	David Newman	Parker Shaw
Joshua Chen	Jessica Newman	Randi Shaw
Lisa Kiev-Chen	Lori Newman	Sadie Shaw
Rebekkah Chen	Shoshana Newman	Maxine Weiss
Sarah Chen	Jacob Sams	Richard Weiss
Brian Jacobson	Monica Sams	
Cindy Jacobson	Noah Sams	
Judy Manowitz	Eli Shaw	

Many thanks to Debbie Steinfeld for organizing the volunteer event at Wesley Memorial Church on Christmas Day. The volunteers listed below prepared and served food and provided gifts to 250 people!

Balber Family	Klein Family
Birnholtz Family	Sarah Kline
Eggnatz Family	Steve Osiason
Fisher Family	Michael Schine
Gersten Family	Schroering/Gordon Family
Goldstein Family	Steinfeld Family
Holmes/Phillips Family	Weinstock Family

# Our Synagogue



## The Early Days of Schaarai Zedek

Excerpts from the minutes of the Temple Board\*

**February 26, 1905**

...the President stated that he had called the meeting at the request of co-religionists, that Mrs. E.H. Strinberg had called on him, stating that Congregation Rodef Sholom intended purchasing a lot for a synagogue but before this was done she desired to see if ways and means could not be devised whereby the two Congregations could become affiliated and requested that committees be appointed from the congregations with this purpose in view.

\*These minutes were prepared by Dr. Carl Zielonka, Archives Chair, for your information about our history.

RABBI RICHARD J. BIRNHOLZ

*Torah Circle*

ANNUAL GIVING

How do we grow the next generation of Jews?

Home observances, attending Religious School, and participating in services are all important, and so is involvement in youth groups. Schaarai Zedek youth groups provide essential social, recreational, and spiritual opportunities for our young people. These activities set our children on a path towards a vibrant and engaged Jewish adult life.

Schaarai Zedek recognizes just how critical these formative experiences can be for our children. We also understand that youth group programming must be thoughtful, engaging, and age-appropriate. For this reason, Schaarai Zedek has five separate youth programs: Teenokot (birth through four-years-old), Yeladim (kindergarten through second grade), Chaverim (third through fifth grade), Jr. SchZFTY (sixth through eighth grade), and SchZFTY (ninth through twelfth grade).

Planning and managing these programs requires professional leadership. The Rabbi Richard J. Birnholz Torah Circle is proud to provide financial support to enable Congregation Schaarai Zedek to staff our outstanding Temple youth programs. Your Torah Circle contributions make our youth programs possible.

Torah Circle is not just about raising money; Torah Circle is always about raising Jews.

Thank you,

*Rabbi Richard J. Birnholz Torah Circle Committee*

Eternal  
Light

THE SCHAARAI ZEDEK  
ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

In honor of our 125th anniversary, we are encouraging the members of our community to help ensure our next 125 years by supporting our Eternal Light Schaarai Zedek Endowment Fund through our Legacy Campaign.

Rabbi Simon, Marc LeVine, or Rabbi Birnholz are happy to discuss how you can make Schaarai Zedek a part of your legacy giving plan.

We want to recognize those who have already included us in their legacy plan by including them in our Eternal Light Society. If you have included Schaarai Zedek in your estate plan and you're not sure if we're aware, please let Marc know so we can properly recognize you.



# Lifecycles

## Mazel Tov to Our Members Who Have Experienced Joy

**Melissa and Charles Feldman** on the birth of their son, Bennett Fane Feldman.

## Condolences to Our Members Who Have Suffered Recent Losses

**Carlyn Neuman** on the death of her husband, Brian Neuman.

**Leon Bensonoff** on the death of his parents, Lilia and Michael Bensonoff.

**Arthur Jacobowitz** on the death of his brother, Marvin Robert Jacobowitz.

**Michael Schine** on the death of his father, Jerome Schine.



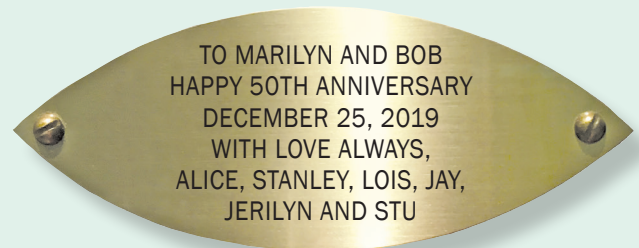
We had so much fun celebrating the first night of Chanukah at Armature Works with all of our congregants on December 22!



## Tree of Life

### Commemorative Brass Leaves

Celebrate special occasions in your life or honor friends by purchasing a leaf (\$250) or a stone (\$1000 or \$1800) on our "Tree of Life" in the Buchman-Rachelson Social Hall. Call Debra Zepeda at the temple office for details at (813) 876-2377, ext. 234.



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# Donations

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their loved ones and friends through contributions made to our Temple Funds. If you would like to make a donation, please contact the temple office at (813) 876-2377 or visit [www.zedek.org/donate](http://www.zedek.org/donate). The following gifts were received from December 6, 2019 - January 3, 2020.

## RABBI SIMON'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

---

### Lindsay & Jordan August

#### Alan Bomstein

*in honor of Will Bomstein's Bar Mitzvah*

### Lindsay & Joshua Bomstein

*in honor of William Bomstein's Bar Mitzvah*

### Jerilyn & Stuart Goldsmith

*in honor of Alex Teitelbaum's Bar Mitzvah*

### Jamie Haischer

*in memory of James Haischer*

### Mindy & Mark McLaughlin

*in honor of Madison McLaughlin's Bat Mitzvah*

### Iris Saltzer

*in honor of Evan Saltzer's Bar Mitzvah  
in appreciation of Rabbi Joel Simon, Cantor Deborah Cannizzaro, and  
Cantor Groper*

### Elaine Stupp

*in appreciation of Mort Stupp's unveiling service*

### Becky & Rick Weinberg

*in honor of their grandson, Lev Chow's, Brit Milah*

### Elaine & Otto Weitzenkorn

*in honor of Donna Birnholz, Susan Kessler, and Lynn Mollett receiving the  
Women of Distinction Award 2019  
in memory of Simon Dingfelder, father of John Dingfelder*

### Lara Zielin

*in honor of Charles Zielin's Bar Mitzvah*

## RABBI FARB'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

---

### Lindsay & Joshua Bomstein

*in honor of William Bomstein's Bar Mitzvah*

### Melissa & Charles Feldman

*in honor of the baby naming of Bennett Fane Feldman*

## CANTOR CANNIZZARO'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

---

### Jerilyn & Stuart Goldsmith

*in honor of Alex Teitelbaum's Bar Mitzvah*

### Linda Rice & Wendy Rice

### Lara Zielin

*in honor of Charles Zielin's Bar Mitzvah*

## RABBI EMERITUS DISCRETIONARY FUND

---

### Phyllis Feldman

*in appreciation of Rabbi Richard Birnholz*

### Jerome Schine

*in memory of Lillie K. Kessler*

### Elaine Stupp

*in appreciation of Mort Stupp's unveiling service*

## RABBI RICHARD & DONNA BIRNHOLZ EDUCATION FUND

---

### Jerilyn & Stuart Goldsmith

*in honor of Alex Teitelbaum's Bar Mitzvah*

## MEMORIAL FUND

---

### Parker Gold

*in memory of Brian Neuman, husband of Carlyn Neuman*

## SUSTAINING FUND

---

### Brina & Kip Goulder

### Laurence Hoffman

### Rhea Hurwitz

*in memory of Bruce Breslow*

### Elisabeth Reading

*in memory of Joseph Hoffman*

### Miriam Zack

*in memory of Brian Neuman, husband of Carlyn Neuman*

## HIRSCH FAMILY TORAH ENDOWMENT FUND

---

### Karen Haubensstock and Artie Jacobowitz

*in memory of Iris Bernstein*

## LILLYAN DEE NEUSNER LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & LONG-RANGE PLANNING FUND

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### Carolann Osiason

*in memory of Simon Dingfelder, father of John Dingfelder*

## SCHZFTY FUND

---

### Grace & Samuel Puterman

*in memory of Murray Puterman*

## RABBI DAVID L. ZIELONKA CAMP COLEMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

---

### Cindy Spahn

*in memory of Brian Neuman, husband of Carlyn Neuman*

## JULIA M. & SAMUEL L. FLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

---

### Janice & Paul Sherman

*in memory of Frederick Martin Mohel, brother of Dianne Baruch*

## AMY GAIL BUCHMAN PRESCHOOL FUND

---

### Lyn & Richard Hirsch

*in honor of Chloe Cohen's Bat Mitzvah*

### Merideth & Robert Newman

*in honor of Lyris & Eric Newman*



## SISTERHOOD FLORAL FUND

*The Sisterhood Floral fund provides flowers to beautify the bimah on Shabbat and holidays in the memory of loved ones and friends.*

**Susan Alden & Robert Hauser**  
*in memory of Marilyn Alden*

**Arlene Berkowitz**  
*in memory of Fay Nachumson*

**Carole Cherry**  
*in memory of Mary Safer*

**Francine & Richard Dobkin**  
*in memory of Edythe Kasser*  
*in memory of Sidney Kasser*  
*in memory of Ben Dobkin*

**Jolene & Neil Fabricant**  
*in memory of Edith R. Oppenheim*

**Marilyn & Robert Farber**  
*in memory of Sol Farber*  
*in memory of Craig Farber*

**Jean & Leonard Gilbert**  
*in memory of Clara Gilbert*  
*in memory of Louis Buchman*  
*in memory of Freda Buchman*

**Kimberly & Daniel Goldberg**  
*in memory of George Reed*

**Shelley & Lee Grossbard**  
*in memory of Albert Kalmus*

**Terrill Hameroff**  
*in memory of Marcia Hameroff*

**Barbara Ingber**  
*in memory of Marilyn Morse*  
*in memory of Julius Morse*

**Gwen & Mort Kotler**  
*in memory of Elizabeth Sabeau*

**Ilana & Moshe Ladetzky**  
*in memory of Mario Vatnick*

**Lynn & Richard Levine**  
*in memory of Beverly Brill*

**Elaine & James Payne**  
*in memory of Boris Chezar*

**Kathryn & Gerald Poch**  
*in memory of Robert Cotten*

**Steve Present**  
*in memory of Helene Present*

**Bobbie Reed**  
*in memory of George Reed*

**Stephanie & Alan Saunders**  
*in memory of Celia Kaplan*

**Gerri & Steve Savitt**  
*in memory of Louis J. Buchman*  
*in memory of Freda Buchman*



Nu Frontiers enjoyed a trip to Tarpon Springs on January 8.



Our Young Families celebrating Chanukah at Pinarama Bowling on December 24.

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# FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> <b>Shabbat Yoga</b> 9 AM <b>Torah Study</b> 9 AM <b>Come As You Are Shabbat Service</b> 10:30 AM <b>Chloe Cohen Bat Mitzvah</b> 4:30 PM
<b>2</b> <b>Religious School</b> 9 AM <b>Cafe Zedek</b> 9 AM <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Baking</b> 9 AM <b>Yeladim Event</b> 11:30 AM  Groundhog Day	<b>3</b> <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> 6:30 PM <b>Guest Speaker - Rabbi Jack Bemporad</b> 7 PM	<b>4</b> <b>AIPAC Briefing</b> 7 PM	<b>5</b> <b>Adult Hebrew</b> 6 PM <b>SchZFTY Open House</b> 6:30 PM	<b>6</b> <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Baking</b> 8:30 AM <b>Lunch &amp; Learn with Rabbi Jack Bemporad</b> 11:30 AM	<b>7</b> <b>Shabbat Achshav Service</b> 7 PM	<b>8</b> <b>Torah Study</b> 9 AM <b>Ian Villasin Bar Mitzvah</b> 10:30 AM <b>Winter Wonderland Tot Shabbat &amp; Havdalah</b> 3 PM
<b>9</b> <b>Jr. SchZFTY Pancake Breakfast</b> 7 AM <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Sales</b> 7:30 AM <b>Mitzvah Day</b> 9 AM	<b>10</b> <b>Sisterhood Board Meeting</b> 11:30 AM <b>Sisterhood Book Club</b> 12 PM <b>Brotherhood Board Meeting</b> 6:30 PM <b>Tu BiShvat Wine Tasting Experience</b> 7 PM  Tu BiShvat	<b>11</b> <b>Sisterhood Event</b> 6 PM	<b>12</b> <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Baking</b> 8:30 AM <b>ROMEO Lunch</b> 11:45 AM <b>Adult Hebrew</b> 6 PM  Lincoln's Birthday	<b>13</b> <b>Teenokot Event</b> 10:30 AM	<b>14</b> <b>Shabbat Service</b> 7 PM  Valentine's Day	<b>15</b> <b>Torah Study</b> 9 AM <b>Isaac Teichman Bar Mitzvah</b> 10:30 AM <b>Lana Thomas Bat Mitzvah</b> 4:30 PM <b>20s+30s Event</b> 5 PM
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Baking</b> 5:30 PM <b>Board of Trustees Meeting</b> 7 PM  President's Day	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Adult Hebrew</b> 6 PM	<b>20</b> <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Sales</b> 11 AM <b>Senior Luncheon</b> 11:15 AM <b>Brotherhood Event</b> 6 PM	<b>21</b> <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Sales</b> 5 PM <b>Friday Night Tot Shabbat</b> 5:30 PM <b>Family Shabbat Service</b> 7 PM	<b>22</b> <b>Torah Study</b> 9 AM <b>Briana Kahn Bat Mitzvah</b> 10:30 AM <b>Adults' Night Out: Havdalah &amp; Dinner</b> 6 PM <b>SchZFTY Event</b> 6:30 PM  Washington's Birthday
<b>23</b> <b>Religious School</b> 9 AM <b>Cafe Zedek</b> 9 AM <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Baking &amp; Sales</b> 9 AM <b>Sisterhood Parenting Seminar</b> 9 AM <b>Nu Frontiers Event</b> 9:45 AM	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Adult Hebrew</b> 6 PM	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Shabbat Service</b> 7 PM	<b>29</b>

# MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>Religious School</b> 9 AM <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Sales</b> 9 AM	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Sisterhood Presidents Council</b> 6:30 PM	<b>4</b> <b>Adult Hebrew</b> 6 PM <b>SchZFTY Open House</b> 6:30 PM	<b>5</b> <b>ROMEO Lunch</b> 11:45 AM	<b>6</b> <b>Friday Night Tot Shabbat</b> 5:30 PM <b>Shabbat Service</b> 7 PM	<b>7</b> <b>Torah Study</b> 9 AM <b>Nu Frontiers Biking &amp; Lunch</b> 10:30 AM <b>Marin Shear Bat Mitzvah</b> 10:30 AM
<b>8</b> <b>Religious School</b> 9 AM <b>Cafe Zedek</b> 9 AM <b>Sisterhood Hamantaschen Sales</b> 11 AM <b>Purim Carnival</b> 11 AM <b>SchZFTY Elections</b> 1 PM Daylight Saving Time Begins	<b>9</b> <b>Sisterhood Board Meeting</b> 11:30 AM <b>Brotherhood Board Meeting</b> 6:30 PM <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> 6:30 PM	<b>10</b> Purim	<b>11</b> <b>Adult Hebrew</b> 6 PM Shushan Purim	<b>12</b> <b>Teenokot Event</b> 10:30 AM <b>20s+30s Event</b> 6:30 PM	<b>13</b> <b>Challah in the 'Chood</b> 6 PM <b>Shabbat Service</b> 7 PM	<b>14</b> <b>Torah Study</b> 9 AM <b>Benjamin Rieger Bar Mitzvah</b> 10:30 AM <b>Jonathan Lavender Bar Mitzvah</b> 4:30 PM
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Adult Hebrew</b> 6 PM	<b>19</b> <b>Senior Luncheon</b> 11:15 AM	<b>20</b> <b>Shabbat Service</b> 7 PM First Day of Spring	<b>21</b> <b>Shabbat Yoga</b> 9 AM <b>Torah Study</b> 9 AM <b>Come As You Are Shabbat Service</b> 10:30 AM
<b>22</b> <b>Nu Frontiers Event</b> 1:15 PM	<b>23</b> <b>Sisterhood Book Club</b> 12 PM <b>Board of Trustees Meeting</b> 7 PM	<b>24</b> <b>Brotherhood Event</b> 6 PM	<b>25</b> <b>Movie &amp; Discussion</b> 5:30 PM <b>Adult Hebrew</b> 6 PM	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Preneg</b> 6 PM <b>Shabbat Achshav</b> 7 PM	<b>28</b> <b>Torah Study</b> 9 AM <b>Alden Abramowitz Bar Mitzvah</b> 10:30 AM <b>Young Families Event</b> 3 PM <b>Adults' Night Out: Game Night</b> 6 PM
<b>29</b> <b>Religious School</b> 9 AM <b>Cafe Zedek</b> 9 AM <b>Sisterhood Positive Parenting Seminar</b> 9 AM <b>Sisterhood Social Action Project</b> 11:30 AM <b>Jr. SchZFTY Event</b> 11:30 AM	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				



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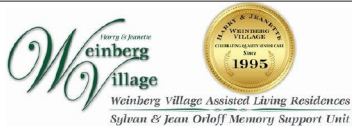
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Assistant Rabbi..... Nathan Farb  
Cantor..... Deborah Cannizzaro  
Rabbi Emeritus..... Richard J. Birnholz

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use to communicate with our members:**

#### Live Streaming

Each Shabbat and holiday service is live streamed on our website at [www.zedek.org/streaming](http://www.zedek.org/streaming) and will be available for a limited time after its conclusion for "on demand" viewing. Private family lifecycle events (i.e. b'nai mitvah services or funerals) will not be made available to watch "on demand."

#### Roku Channel

Watch Scharai Zedek on the big screen! Roku is a streaming service used to connect your TV to a variety of free and subscription channels. You can purchase a Roku Streaming Stick and simply plug it into your TV. Once your Roku has been set up, search for Congregation Scharai Zedek and follow the instructions to add it to your channels.

#### Facebook

Our live stream feed is available via Scharai Zedek's Facebook page on Facebook LIVE. Join this interactive viewing experience to like, comment, and share!

#### Podcast

You can look forward to each Friday night's sermon being posted the following Monday. You can find it by searching for Scharai Zedek wherever you listen to podcasts: iTunes, SoundCloud, Google Play, and Stitcher.

#### YouTube

On our YouTube channel, you can find past Shabbat and holiday services, sermons, adult education, and more. Find us by searching for "Congregation Scharai Zedek."

#### eNews

Scharai Zedek sends out an e-newsletter each Wednesday with updates on upcoming events. Members are automatically sent the email each week. If you are a member and are not receiving email communications, please email [office@zedek.org](mailto:office@zedek.org) to let us know.

#### Shofar

At the beginning of each month, the Shofar is sent to the homes of our members. It has newsworthy information such as words from our clergy, upcoming events, updates from the our Sisterhood and Brotherhood, and more!

In preparing for the Shofar, we welcome all Scharai Zedek members' announcements of communal, academic, and professional achievements. Please email [office@zedek.org](mailto:office@zedek.org) or mail it to the synagogue, marked "ATTN: Shofar."