



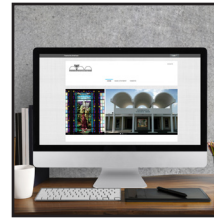
### Shavuot

Rabbi Weiss shares resources to help us bring Torah closer  
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### Confirmation

Celebrate our students at this special service  
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Introducing Shaarai Zedek's new online member portal  
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# SHOFAR

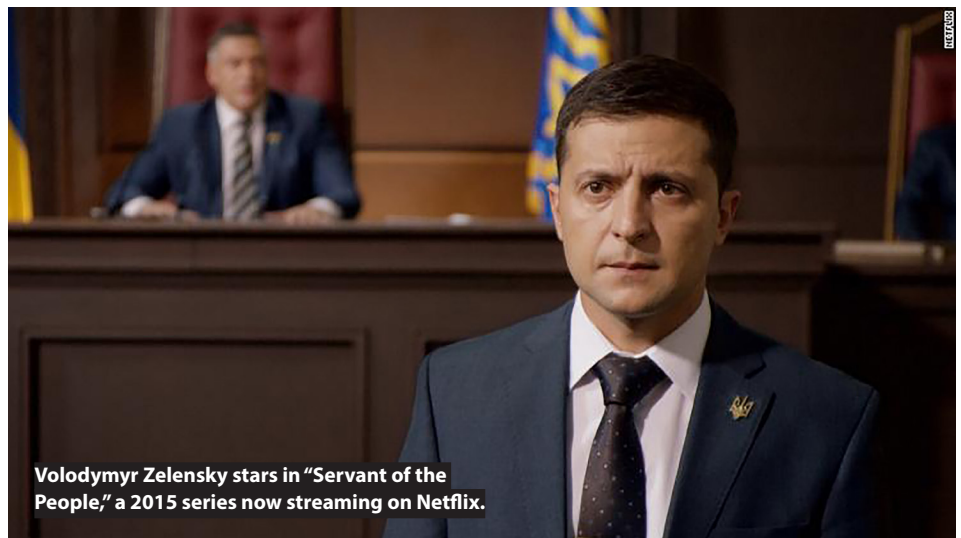
*Schaarai Zedek News*  
**Volume 125**  
**Number 3**  
**May - June, 2022**  
**Nissan - Tammuz, 5782**

## Life imitates art: Servant of the People

Rabbi Joel Simon

I spent the last few weeks watching a new show on Netflix. "Servant of the People" is actually a few years old, originally airing in 2015. It stars Volodymyr Zelensky as a history teacher who is unknowingly recorded in a curse-filled tirade over the lack of efficiency and the corruption present in his country's government. The video "goes viral" two weeks before a presidential election, his message resonates, and he's surprisingly voted president of Ukraine over the two "establishment" candidates, resulting in a show that is a little bit West Wing and a little bit Parks and Recreation.

As I write this article, we are entering the sixth week since Russia first invaded Ukraine, and while I hope that the conflict has come to a peaceful end by the time the Shofar ultimately reaches your mailbox, experts are currently calling for the war to only become more drawn out, and we are learning of more horrors every day. While many were intrigued when a Jewish comedian was elected president of Ukraine



Volodymyr Zelensky stars in "Servant of the People," a 2015 series now streaming on Netflix.

in 2019, Zelensky is now in the world's spotlight, a hero representing his people, staying in the capital city of Kyiv, speaking honestly to his constituency and to the world.

In many ways, to get to know Zelensky's character on his show is to get to know the man Ukrainians elected president. Since Zelensky campaigned mostly on social media, participating in his first debate only days before the election, the electorate's view of him was mostly from his persona on the show, which was OK with Zelensky because his values aligned

with the character he created. Zelensky didn't try to hide that he was running as his character; the political party he founded has the same name as the show - Servant of the People.

As I watched the show, I was amazed at how unpopular his character was at times as president. Now, granted, I've only seen parts of season one, and there are three, but in one episode, President Holoborodko raises the retirement age and implements a significant increase in the tax on vodka in order to pay back a loan

*Continued on back page*

## News in Brief

### Updated COVID-19 protocols

Schaarai Zedek has moved to a mask-optional protocol for all persons coming into our building, including our Amy Gail Buchman Preschool students

and staff, regardless of age or immunization status. We are excited that the growing health of our community, and the Hillsborough County and CDC guidelines allow our synagogue community to begin to regather.

### Something to laugh about

We are excited to partner with Congregation Rodeph Sholom to bring comedian Joel Chasnoff to celebrate Israel's Independence Day on May 4 at Schaarai Zedek. Chasnoff is an American-Israeli

stand-up comedian and writer with stage and screen credits in eight countries, and the author of the comic memoir "The 188th Crybaby Brigade," about his year as a tank soldier in the Israeli Army.

## News in Brief *continued*

### Gaming Project

Join Rabbi Weiss via Zoom on May 11 to discuss "Before Your Eyes," a narrative-driven adventure game that transports the player into the story, reminding us that no moment lasts forever and that our lives can pass by in the blink of an eye. If you need any help downloading or setting up the game, please get in touch with Rabbi Weiss.

### Allegro Hyde Park Shabbat Service

We are happy to announce that once a month, a member of our clergy will lead a Shabbat Service at Allegro Hyde Park. Please check our calendar for specific dates and times.

### Annual dinner and meeting

Join us Friday, June 3, for our Annual meeting, dinner, and installation Shabbat as we celebrate leadership transition and vote on the proposed slate and new bylaws. More details to come.

### Summer fun

Schaarai Zedek is gearing up for an exciting summer with plenty of activities to choose from for individuals and families of all ages. Some programs to look forward to include our Shavuot Spectacular, SchZFTY Summer Fun Day, Movie Nights, Popsicles in the Park, Water Play Day, and more! Keep an eye on your email and check our website for more details.



### Gift of Life Marrow Registry

Through our relationship with Gift of Life Marrow Registry, we can help save the lives of patients who are battling blood cancer including leukemia, lymphoma and myelo-

ma, and a range of inherited immune disorders and other diseases. This incredible act of pikuach nefesh starts with a simple cheek swab kit. Your swabs will be tested to see if you're a match for someone in need of a donor, and you'll become part of the registry. If you aren't a match right away, you could still save someone's life years in the future. The best chance of finding a donor match is with someone of the same genetic heritage or ethnicity, but it's actually rare to match someone else's tissue type. That's why it's important to join the registry – you may be the one person who can help someone battling blood cancer. If you are 18-35 years old and in general good health, we urge you to

join. Find more information online at <https://www.giftoflife.org/dc/CongregationSchaaraiZedek>.

### Tampa Jewish Family Services Community Food Bank Tampa

You can help stop hunger in Tampa by bringing a can of food every time you come to the temple. Bring a can to any temple meeting, event, or service. There is a receptacle for the canned goods in the temple office. (The Food Bank also distributes small cans of dog and cat food.)

### Feeding Tampa Bay

Feeding Tampa Bay works to end hunger and food insecurity in Tampa and beyond. Please watch your eNews for congregation-wide opportunities to partner with this organization.

### Mitzvah Day

Please save the date for Mitzvah Day 2022, taking place on Sunday, November 6. Details will be sent out closer to the event date.

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

## Connect with us

### Live Streaming

Services are streamed at [zedek.org/streaming](https://zedek.org/streaming) and are available for a limited time for "on demand" viewing.

### Public Access Television

TBCN broadcasts our Shabbat Services on public access television in Hillsborough County. Tune in Fridays at 7 PM to the following channels: Frontier Channel 30, Spectrum Channel 639, and Comcast Channel 20. Replays on the above channels air Sundays at 4 PM.

### Roku

Simply plug a Roku Streaming Stick into your TV and search for Congregation Schaarai Zedek. Follow the instructions to add it to your channels.

### Facebook

Find us at [facebook.com/CSZtampa](https://facebook.com/CSZtampa). Follow us to like, comment, and share!

### YouTube

Watch past services, sermons, and more on our YouTube channel at [youtube.com/congregationschaaraizedek](https://youtube.com/congregationschaaraizedek).

### Podcast

Listen to past sermons on our podcast by searching for Schaarai Zedek on iTunes, SoundCloud, Google Play, and Stitcher.

### eNews

Our weekly eNews email goes out Wednesdays with updates on upcoming events. If you are not receiving email communications, please email [office@zedek.org](mailto:office@zedek.org) to let us know.

## SHOFAR



A bimonthly newsletter by  
Congregation Schaarai Zedek

Read the Shofar online:  
[www.zedek.org/shofar](http://www.zedek.org/shofar)





# Accepting Torah anew

Rabbi Michael Weiss

Every once in a while, I like to look back on how I found my path towards a life of loving Torah. I think about being the only 12-year-old at my dad's weekly Torah study sessions, to the chagrin of some regulars. I think about being all too eager to answer and ask questions in religious school. And more than that, I remember spending time on my dad's computer. Anyone who knows me would know that computers and video games have always been a passion of mine and there was something spectacular about loading up the CD-ROM of Davka's *Judaic Classics Library* and having the world of Jewish text available to me on a screen. The user interface was old school because it was even old when I was using it, but it had everything: *Tanakh*, Talmud, law codes, mysticism, and just about everything else.

Now as a teenager, I was mostly looking for references to bodily functions or

Jewish opinions on cool or dangerous animals. Let's just say our tradition has a lot of interesting things to say about snakes and I will not elaborate here. I was given the opportunity to find my own interests at every stage of my life reflected in the intensive study and labor the great thinkers of our tradition undertook through the generations. And I was able to find it on a computer which, for me, was an important connection to the knowledge the world had to offer.

Shavuot is a holiday that celebrates this kind of study of Torah, that which is solely for its own sake. Originally a holiday only connected to the agricultural cycle, Shavuot shifted from a holiday celebrating wheat and bread to one celebrating the nourishment we find in study. It commemorates the giving of the Ten Commandments and for some, the whole Torah, at Mount Sinai, the covenantal moment that, as Rabbi Simon always says, made the Jewish people into a people. We read from the Book of Ruth, the story of a righteous Moabite woman

who chose a Jewish life, seeking out a place for herself in then-Judean society. And at many synagogues, Shavuot marks a recognition of the Confirmation class, as teens complete a year of study and begin to understand how their Judaism will play a role in their adult lives.

But my favorite Shavuot ritual is something called *Tikkun Leil Shavuot*, a late-night Torah study session that in some communities lasts all night. It is meant to hearken back to the night of vigil the Israelites took before receiving the terms of the Covenant at Mount Sinai. There is something incredibly beautiful about engaging with our sacred text from sunset to sunrise because we know it should inspire in us the desire to live out our Torah from sunrise to sunset. So what I ask of each of you at this season of accepting Torah is to bring just a little bit more Jewish learning into your life. We have our weekly Torah study on Saturday mornings, but there are also plenty of places online to find a quick bit of Torah to whet your appetite:

- **Sefaria** (sefaria.org) is the gold standard with almost every Jewish text imaginable available and source sheets put together by great teachers on just about any topic.
- **929** (929.org.il/lang/en/) offers a tour of every chapter of the Hebrew Bible, one chapter a day, with English commentaries on each of them.
- **MyJewishLearning** (myjewishlearning.org) offers easy-to-understand articles on nearly every Jewish topic.

There are many options and, even if it's once a week, you'll be surprised how much a little Torah can do to help put your life in perspective or make you think about something in a new way.

As we read in Deuteronomy 30:12:  
*It is not in the heavens, that you should say, "Who among us can go up to the heavens and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?" Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who among us can cross to the other side of the sea and get it for us and impart it to us, that we may observe it?" No, the thing*

*is very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart, to observe it.*

May each of us find ways to bring our Torah close to us. I assure you, you will get out what you put in. And, after all, the Torah is our inheritance. Let us use it and live it. ●

You are cordially invited to attend the

# 2022/5782 Confirmation

Sunday, May 15, at 5 PM



<u>Confirmand</u>	<u>Parents</u>
Madeline Flitman	Emelia & David Flitman
Joshua Katz	Caren & Robert Katz
Chloe Krawetz	Lisa & Leo (z"l) Krawetz
Alex Rose Linsky	Wendy Sue Linsky & Mark Linsky
Ally Min Linsky	Wendy Sue Linsky & Mark Linsky
Lila-Star Morgan	Courtney & Larry Morgan
Sienna Gabrielle Nash	Leah & Floyd Nash
Jack Siegal	Nancy & George Siegal
Zachary Singer	Shayna & Jonathan Singer
Lana Thomas	Melody & Raymond Thomas
Riley Zophin	Melissa & Brian Zophin
Samantha Zophin	Melissa & Brian Zophin

Please join us for our

## Annual Temple Meeting, Shabbat Dinner, and Installation Service

Friday, June 3, 2022

**Dinner: 5:30 PM**  
 Adults \$36; Children 9 and under: \$18  
 RSVP by Friday, May 27, at [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) or call the temple office at (813) 876-2377

**Annual Meeting: 6:15 PM**  
 Election of President-Elect, Trustees, and Endowment Committee Members  
 Honoring of 2022 President's Cup Recipient

**Shabbat Service and Installation: 7 PM**  
 Installation of Trustees and Endowment Committee Members

**Proposed for Election:**

**President-Elect**  
 Carla Markowitz

**Board of Trustees (Three-Year Term)**  
 Alex Bourne  
 David Glickman  
 Caren Katz  
 Monica Sams  
 Nicole Seiler  
 Cindy Spahn

**Board of Trustees (Two-Year Term)**  
 Dana Gruman

**Endowment Committee Members (Two-Year Term)**  
 Steve Rovner  
 Pattie Schreiber



# Youth & Family

Looking forward to Shavuot and fun for the entire community

Just returned from two large conferences centered around education and programming for our congregational community. Sometimes, the process of creating and implementing opportunities for connection can seem daunting. The ability to engage with colleagues from all across North America to better understand JUST how dynamic our experiences at Schaarai

Zedek are for our community brings new joy as I reflect on our returning to experiences we are known for.

As we enter the summer months and look to our 2022-2023 program calendar we find an opportunity to reflect on the successes we have found in programming differently since March of 2020 while simultaneously taking those lessons to return to capstone programming we are proud to offer.

Looking to the successes we found in our drive-thru events and our 2022 Purim



Lindsey Dewey, Director of Youth & Family Engagement and Outreach

Carnival, we are excited to introduce an all-new Congregation-wide Shavuot event on June 4. While we won't be staying up ALL night studying Torah, we are excited to invite unique vendors to Schaarai Zedek who will help introduce concepts that are reoccurring themes in the texts we study. We hope you will join us for Mr. C's Grilled Cheese, Queen Bee Ice Cream Truck, Petite Fleur, and more.

Continue reading for more information about other exciting upcoming events this May and June. ●



## Religious School

Molly Levy, Director of Youth & Family Education

Religious School Consecration and anticipating a great Summer 2022!

Teach in our school! We are looking for great teachers for the 2022-2023 school year. If you love working with kids and want to get more involved at Schaarai Zedek, teaching Religious School is a great way to do it. We are looking for teachers for all grades, Judaics, and

Hebrew. If you are interested, please contact me at [mlevy@zedek.org](mailto:mlevy@zedek.org).

### Consecration

Mazel tov to the Consecration Class of 2022! We were thrilled to welcome so many students to our school this year and celebrate with Consecration (honoring the first year of Religious School) on the last day of school. As we say when we finish a book of the Torah, "chazak, chazak, v'nitchazeik," (be strong, be strong, and we will be strong).

### Hebrew Tune-Up

During the month of July, we will be offering our Hebrew Tune-Up Saturdays for students looking to keep up with their Hebrew skills over the summer. Join us for one on one tutoring, fun Hebrew games, Israeli music, and a pizza lunch. Sign-ups are coming soon!

Thank you for a great school year! Remember to register for the 2022-2023 Religious School year! ●

# Amy Gail Buchman Preschool



### May 2022

- May 2-6: Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 11-13: Muffins with Mom
- May 25: Pre-K Graduation Ceremony
- May 26: Last Day of School Classroom Celebrations

### June 2022

- June 3: Open House / Meet the Teacher
- June 6: First Day of Summer Session
- June 6-7: Boo-Hoo Breakfast
- June 20: Juneteenth (School Closed)



# Sisterhood recap

Dana Gruman and Mary Osiason,  
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

**T**here are 45 Reform synagogue Sisterhoods in the Southeast region of Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ). And guess which Sisterhood is the largest? Schaarai Zedek Sisterhood! Just because we are the largest, however, does not automatically translate to strength. However, we can unequivocally and definitively state that Schaarai Zedek Sisterhood is the strongest. We have survived a disruptive two years and have more to offer than ever before. If you have never joined Sisterhood or have allowed your membership to lapse, keep reading to learn about all the fabulous accomplishments we have achieved during the pandemic period.

It has been an honor to be your Sisterhood co-presidents. With a membership of over 480, we have refused to hibernate and figured out myriad ways to stay connected. Sisterhood programming is a

group effort. Nothing we have achieved has been done single-handedly. We want to acknowledge the determination and hard work of our volunteer board!

Here's a recap of Sisterhood programs, fundraisers, donation drives, social action projects, and more!

As lockdowns spilled into the fall of 2020, Sisterhood moved Book Club gatherings fully online; there was no interruption in meetings. At the moment, Book Clubs are meeting in person again.

In place of our usual Meet & Greet, we had a drive-thru Rosh Hashanah Meet & Greet in 2020. We got to visit with one another, take photos, and pick up honey and tea.

In fall of 2020 and 2021, we collected shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, and deodorant for Tampa Jewish Family Services.

Instead of our Sisterhood Shabbat, we had a mini-Shabbat Service on Zoom in 2020. Thank you to Allison Singer for contributing her beautiful voice!

In the fall of 2020, we had a Sisterhood tea and played a little trivia.

In January 2021, Sisterhood hosted its first Elevate You! fundraiser. Our energetic guest, Carin Rockind, was our motivational speaker and provided just the right amount of levity for the moment.

In 2020-2021, Sisterhood organized two social action projects. The first benefited patients at Moffit Cancer Center and the second endeavor showered local teachers (including our own preschool teachers), with messages of support and sweet treats.

In the fall of 2020 and again in the fall of 2021, we carried out two "contact-free" Staff Appreciation days. Temple staff received gift cards and, for the first time, in 2021, Religious School teachers received sweet treats from Sisterhood.

In January 2022, Sisterhood hosted its second Elevate You! fundraiser featuring entrepreneur and author Mindy Corporon, who captivated us with her very personal and tragic story. Mindy's collaborative visit included meetings with teens, young adults, and temple board members.

After a one-year hiatus, Sisterhood





Far left photo: Sisterhood's Social Action Party Project on March 27

Center top photo: Sisterhood members Sandy Gersten and Mary Osiason baking Hamantaschen for Purim

Center bottom photo: Sisterhood at the final showing of "Diary of Anne Frank" at Stageworks Theatre on February 13

Far right photo: Sisterhood Co-Presidents Dana Gruman and Mary Osiason

undertook the making and baking of Hamantaschen in 2022. We sold out, so, presumably, congregants love our Hamantaschen!

In fall of 2021, Sisterhood made blankets for a local hospice and those experiencing homelessness. In the spring of 2022, Sisterhood threw a benefit for Tampa Bay Party Project. Sisterhood assembled gifts, crafted birthday cards, and tie-dyed t-shirts so that underserved children in our area could have the experience of a birthday party – some for the first time!

In March 2022, Cantor whipped up Purim-inspired recipes and gave us a cooking (and cocktail) lesson! The fare was delicious and vegetarian!

In April 2021 and 2022, Sisterhood hosted its annual Y.E.S. (Youth, Education, and Special Projects) Events. In 2021, we honored our Cantor, which included a lovely tribute from the Koleinu Choir. In 2022, we celebrated 126 years of Sisterhood and honored our Past Sisterhood Presidents. What a fun reunion!

Sisterhood hosted two virtual Mah Jongg mini-tournaments during the height of the pandemic, complete with Amazon electronic gift cards as prizes.

This past February, we met in person - Mah Jongg under the tent was a social and relaxing afternoon.

And finally, our Tikkun Olam donations: Over the past two years, Sisterhood made donations to Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services, Tampa Jewish Family Services, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay, Suncoast Hillels, TampaBay Job-Links, Camp Jenny, Ukraine Relief through the WRJ Y.E.S. Fund, Facing our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE) and Metro Inclusive Health.

All our community donations are in addition to the direct support we provide to our congregation. Each year, we provide a generous grant to the Teacher Assistant program in the Religious School. We make donations to the Rabbis' and Cantor's Discretionary Funds and Youth Groups. We send a generous gift to Camp Coleman every year.

And for the first time in 10 years, we have proudly made a down payment as a 2022-2023 Torah Circle Challenge Donor.

Thank you to our membership, volunteers, clergy, office staff, and maintenance staff for partnering with Sisterhood so that we can be the best! ●

RABBI RICHARD J. BIRNHOLZ  
*Torah Circle*  
ANNUAL GIVING

## Torah Circle Annual Giving

The innovative programming we have offered during the past two years would not have been possible without your generous contributions to the Rabbi Richard J. Birnholz Torah Circle.

At a time when we felt vulnerable to uncertainty of the future, our congregation answered the call with a near record-setting year for our Torah Circle. The support Torah Circle gives to our annual budget is essential, and this year has served as a reminder that it's equally crucial that we are prepared for any unforeseen events the future might bring.

This year, our challenge gifts, donated by five notable congregant families: Cookie and Booky Buchman; the Alicia, Bob, Angela, Lauren, Matt, Thomas, William, Lisa, and Marc LeVine family in memory of Michael LeVine; Lee and Saul Rachelson; and two anonymous families; will go to our Eternal Light Endowment.

The Eternal Light Endowment ensures that we can provide an inspiring Jewish home for generations to come. For every new or increased dollar added to this year's campaign, our challenge will provide funds toward securing our congregation's future.

Thank you for joining us as we build for today and tomorrow, and more importantly, thank you for being a part of a Jewish community that brings value and meaning to our members' lives and our greater community.

Thank you so much for your generous contributions.

If you would like to discuss making a contribution, please contact Marc LeVine at [mlevine@zedek.org](mailto:mlevine@zedek.org) or (813) 876-2377 ext. 206.



# Brotherhood is back in action

Michael Schine, Brotherhood President

**"**It's been two years." Seems this has been a popular refrain this past year. A popular phrase at Brotherhood's early, off-campus, in-person events, outdoors this year; and overwhelmingly repeated comment at our temple's first inside event, Deli Night!

Brotherhood wants to thank all the sponsors who helped make Deli Night so well received this past March. We pivoted in less than two weeks from a planned outdoor event to the first large event held inside our temple. "It's been two years," after all.

Brotherhood worked hard all year to make these events happen as we navigated COVID protocols. Should we blame or credit our business model of "good food + good drink = good times?" It

was certainly the motivation for many. Our event numbers ticked up with each planned event. Beginning with our kick-off event hosted poolside undercover in Channelside, it was great to see and visit with old and new friends in person again. We set up a tent to pair food with Asian whiskies and cigars under the stars in Ybor City, nearly equaling our pre-pandemic attendance. Mayor Jane Castor was a hit, especially with the first reception under the tent on our temple's lawn. We had a wonderful time eating, drinking, and playing shuffleboard indoors at Shuffle in the Heights, with plenty of fresh air.

Not everything Brotherhood did this year was only about consumption, we also volunteered to serve our greater community. We helped supply and staff Christmas dinner for the underserved, giving others the day off to be with family. We doubled our assistance in

serving food to the underserved at Trinity Cafe in two locations. These shared experiences create bonds of friendship for all who share their time.

"It's been two years" since Sisterhood and Brotherhood hosted an event together, and this year we went BIG! Our Big Italian Dinner Night at Trattoria Pasquale was a hit. We hope future Brotherhood boards will repeat and expand this popular event.

You have the opportunity to help influence, plan, and execute future Brotherhood events. We invite you to join our Brotherhood board as we recruit new leadership and plan 2022-2023 events. Our in-person Brotherhood board meetings enjoy good food, drink, and camaraderie. Our next Brotherhood board meeting is Monday, May 9. Please contact me at mhschine@gmail.com, to express your interest. ●



## BROTHERHOOD Deli Night THANK YOU SPONSORS

### CORNER BEEF KING SPONSORS:

Alicia LeVine

Michael Schine

Carlyn Neuman  
of 360 Realty

Chuck & Shelly Segal  
of Segal Funeral Home

### MATZO BALL MENSCH SPONSORS:

David Gemunder

Lex & Susan Goldenberg

Gary & Laura Kleinman

### PICKLE PATRON SPONSORS:

Gary & Phyllis Gould

Janet & Michael Kass

Jonathan & Carlen Mines

Mark & Deborah Rosenthal

Anthony & Nancy Weiss

### CHOPPED LIVER CHAMP SPONSORS:

Faith Alexander, Robert Applebaum, Hal & Celia Applebaum,  
Marc & Karen Blumenthal, Mark & Cynthia Carron,  
Jolene & Neil Fabricant, Craig Federer, Alissa Fischel,  
Ellie Fishman, Steve & Sandy Gersten, Ben Gersten,  
Kip & Brina Goulder, Marc & Luiza Holtzberg,  
Scott & Laureen Jaffe, Drew & Diana Kronick,  
Lynne Merriam, Mark & Michele Miller,  
Jill & Rod Neuman, Mary Osiason, David & Ann Rosenbach,  
Jack & Shana Ross, Carl & Paula Zielonka



# Lifecycle Events

## B'nei Mitzvah

### **Adina Miller**

Parents: Daniel & Kimberly Miller  
May 7, 2022

### **Danielle Stein**

Parents: Abe & Meghan Stein  
May 7, 2022

### **Ben Best**

Parents: Joe & Katie Best  
May 14, 2022

### **Violet Jonas**

Parents: Brian Jonas & Jenie Liang Jonas  
May 14, 2022

### **Max Bishko**

Parents: Jack & Nicole Bishko  
May 21, 2022

### **Lexi Fisher**

Parents: Warren & Julie Fisher  
May 21, 2022

### **Ciera Rosenberg**

Parent: Clay Rosenberg  
June 11, 2022

### **Rachel Watts**

Parent: John & Francine Watts  
June 11, 2022

### **Brennan Port**

Parents: Lou & Lauren Port  
June 25, 2022



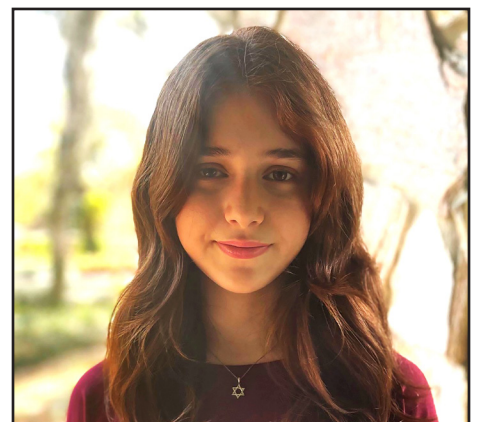
**Ben Best**



**Max Bishko**



**Violet Jonas**



**Adina Miller**

## Welcome New Members

**Isaac & Lilac Gal**

**Talia Goldenberg & Brilly Gomez**

**Gregg Hutt & Alexa Larkin**

**Robert & Jenna Rose**

**Adrian Weinberg**

**Nancy Weiss**

**Jeff & Jenna White**

## Mazel Tov to Our Members Who Have Experienced Joy!

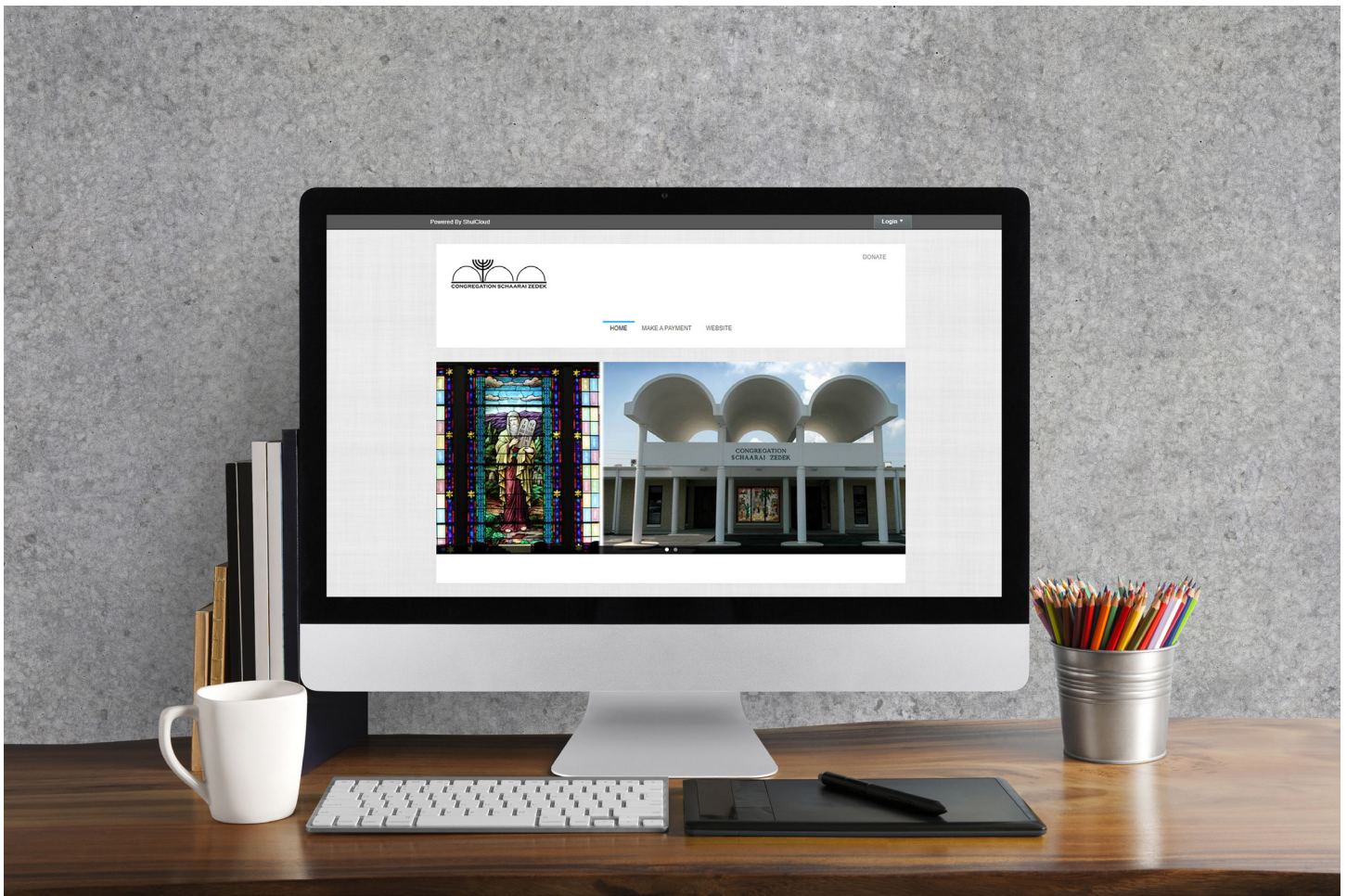
jGirls Magazine published a poem by **Lauren Alexander** titled "The Struggle of Advocacy."

**Dr. Murray Shames** has been appointed as the Richard G. Connar Endowed Chair in the USF Health Morsani College of Medicine's Department of Surgery.

The City of Tampa issued a proclamation declaring March 18, 2022, "The Wolfson Building Centennial Day" recognizing the historic significance of the Wolfson Building established in early 1922 by Adam and Eva Wolfson, parents of congregant **Mark Wolfson**.

These congregants were honored at the Tampa JCCs & Federation Professional Societies Event:

- **Dr. Debbie Hoffman** (Maimonides Society)
- **Cory Kleinman** (Montefiore Society)
- **Jason Kuhn** (FIBA Entrepreneur Society)
- **Cherie Silberman** (Cardozo Society)



# Introducing ShulCloud

ShulCloud is an easy-to-navigate member portal where you may control everything related to your Schaaraai Zedek account.

**S**chaaraai Zedek recently introduced a new online database system called ShulCloud to serve as our new membership database and accept online payments. We are thrilled to add another layer of communication and transparency to our community and hope that you will enjoy it as much as we have.

Used by over 1,300 synagogues throughout North America, ShulCloud is a powerful tool opening the door to a series of benefits we've not been able to offer our members previously.

By logging into our new ShulCloud portal, members can:

- Manage and update individual and family profiles including contact details, occupation, birthdays, anniversaries, and yahrzeits.

- Securely provide and store credit card

- information using the (integrated PCI compliant payment) gateway.

- View transaction history, set up recurring payments, and pay balances

- View the Member Directory

- Make donations

- Register for events

- Enroll students in our Flom Religious School (coming soon!)

As a part of this database, you will start receiving more information via email, including monthly statements of your temple account. If you prefer to receive paper statements or communications, please let us know and we will adjust your account settings.

Each member should have received an individual email with a unique login link to connect to their account. If you did not receive the email or you did not take

advantage of logging on to the system to check out your online bill and update your personal information, please email [office@zedek.org](mailto:office@zedek.org) to request a new login link. You can access the site directly by visiting [congregationschaaraizedek.shulcloud.com](http://congregationschaaraizedek.shulcloud.com).

If you have comments to share about access to the new system features, please feel free to send us an email at [office@zedek.org](mailto:office@zedek.org). We hope you find it helpful to be able to access your account, make payments directly to your account, and update your information as you may need. Thank you for partnering with us to make the user experience more efficient for the CSZ community! ●





Purim Carnival 3/6/22



Purim at the Palace 3/19/22



Purim at the Palace 3/19/22



Purim Carnival 3/6/22

## Schaarai Zedek is Back in Action!

We are excited to be back  
in person for all of our  
events... We hope to  
see you soon!



Purim at the Palace 3/19/22



Challah in the Hood 4/1/22



Challah in the Hood 4/1/22



Rooted in Play 3/19/22



Rooted in Play 3/19/22



Yeladim Makerspace 4/3/22



Yeladim Makerspace 4/3/22



# Calendar Highlights

Please visit [www.zedek.org/RSVP](http://www.zedek.org/RSVP) for more information and to register for all events!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 6:30 PM



## SchZFTY Open House

Hang out and enjoy breakfast for dinner to celebrate our outgoing seniors and board members.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 7 PM



## Yom HaAtzma-ut Comedy Event

Get ready to laugh! Congregations Rodeph Sholom and Schaarai Zedek celebrate Israel's Independence Day, Yom HaAtzma-ut, with comedian Joel Chasnoff. There is no charge for this event – all are invited to join. Space is limited, so RSVP online today.

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 7:30 PM



## The Band's Visit

Join us for an evening at Straz for the smash-hit Broadway musical *The Band's Visit*. Limited tickets remain. Following the show, enjoy a special production talk with producers and dessert reception, in partnership with Federation and the JCC. RSVP online to let us know if you will need bus transportation.

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 6 PM



## Challah in the Hood

Meet in Westchase and join Rabbi Simon in lighting candles and breaking bread in celebration of Shabbat. This multi-generational experience is an excellent opportunity to connect with your local community while enjoying Shabbat dinner together.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 8 PM



## Schaarai Zedek Gaming Project

Join Rabbi Weiss for another program part of the Schaarai Zedek Gaming Project as we find Jewish meaning and inspiration in video games and other interactive media. This program will be on ZOOM ONLY. RSVPs are not required but are helpful!

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 12 PM



## ROME O's and Jew-liets

The Music, Comedy, and Food of the Catskills Borscht Belt: If you liked musicians like Duke Ellington and Dean Martin, and comics like Rodney Dangerfield, Woody Allen, Sid Caesar, and Red Buttons, then you will love our ROME O's Lunch. Join us indoors for a great Borscht Belt lunch and share memories.

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 11:30 AM



## Senior Luncheon

All Seniors of Schaarai Zedek are invited to join us for lunch, followed by a fun program. Our Senior Luncheons are provided by the Esther N. & Leo M. Weiss Seniors Endowment Fund.

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 7 PM



## Off to Camp Shabbat

Please join us as we honor members of the high school class of 2022 and celebrate those who will be spending the summer at camp, and have a special Shabbat dinner with one another. Come early to enjoy a camp-style Shabbat dinner before services.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 10 AM



## Tot Shabbat on the Playground

Join us for a morning on our playground to celebrate Shabbat and be together. We'll bring challah and juice; you bring your family and a smile. We can't wait to spend Shabbat morning together!

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 5 PM



## Movie Night

Join us for a glass of wine and dinner, followed by a movie and discussion led by Rabbi Simon. More details to come.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 6 PM



## Shavuot Spectacular

Celebrate Shavuot, the Jewish festival marking the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. Join us for food trucks, activities, and opportunities for congregants of all ages to engage in the Torah! Mr. C's Grilled Cheese, Queen Bee Ice Cream, Petite Fleur (and more!) will all join us to celebrate. More details to come.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 9 AM



## SchZFTY Summer Fun Day

Join us for a full day of fun! We'll start with community service, enjoy lunch together, and socialize!



MAY 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 AM Religious School Consecration 1	2	3	6:30 PM SchZFTY 4 7 PM Yom HaAtzma-ut Comedy Event  Yom HaZikaron	7:30 PM The Band's Visit 5  Yom HaAtzma-ut National Day of Prayer	6 PM Challah in the Hood 6 7 PM Shabbat Service	9 AM Torah Study 7 10:30 AM Adina Miller Bat Mitzvah 4:30 PM Danielle Stein Bat Mitzvah
8  Mother's Day	12 PM Sisterhood Book Club 6:30 PM Brotherhood Board Meeting 9	10	8 PM Schaarai Zedek Gaming Project 11	12 PM ROME0s & Jew-liets 12	11:45 AM Executive Committee Meeting 13 4 PM Shabbat Service at Allegro Hyde Park 7 PM Shabbat Service (Teacher Appreciation)	9 AM Torah Study 14 10:30 AM Ben Best Bar Mitzvah 4:30 PM Violet Jonas Bat Mitzvah 5:30 PM SchZFTY
5 PM Confirmation Service 15	16	17	18	11:30 AM Senior Luncheon 19 6:30 PM 20s+30s Lag BaOmer	6 PM Off to Camp Shabbat Dinner 20 7 PM Shabbat Service (off to Camp Shabbat)	9 AM Torah Study 21 10 AM Tot Shabbat 10:30 AM Max Bishko Bar Mitzvah 4:30 PM Lexi Fisher Bat Mitzvah
22	7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting 23	24	25	5 PM Movie Night 26	7 PM Shabbat Service 27	9 AM Torah Study 28
29  Yom Y'rushalayim	30  Memorial Day Office Closed Preschool Closed	31				

JUNE 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	5:30 PM Annual Meeting 3 Dinner 6:15 PM Annual Meeting 7 PM Shabbat Service	6 PM Shavuot Spectacular 4  Shavuot (Sundown)
10:30 AM Shavuot Yizkor 5 Bagel Minyan  Shavuot	6  Shavuot	7	9 AM SchZFTY Summer Fun Day 8	12 PM ROME0s 9	11:45 AM Executive Committee Meeting 10 4 PM Shabbat Service at Allegro Hyde Park 7 PM Shabbat Service	10:30 AM Rachel Watts Bat Mitzvah 11 4:30 PM Ciera Rosenberg Bat Mitzvah
12	12 PM Sisterhood Book Club 6:30 PM Brotherhood Board Meeting 13	14	15	11:30 AM Senior Luncheon 16	7 PM Shabbat Service with Choir 17	6 PM Movie Night 18
19  Father's Day	20  Juneteenth Office Closed Preschool Closed	21  First Day of Summer	22	23	5 PM Tot Shabbat 24 6 PM Newly Married/ Engaged Couples Shabbaton 7 PM Shabbat Service	10:30 AM Brennan Port Bar Mitzvah 25 6:30 PM Popsicles in the Park
9 AM Water Play Day 26	7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting 27	28	29	5 PM Movie Night 30		

# Donations

*It is a common Jewish tradition to make a charitable donation both in times of joy and in times of sorrow. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness, and your support of our congregation. Schaarai Zedek is strengthened by your support, and your gift makes a difference – each and every day. The following gifts were received from February 1 - March 31, 2022.*

## AMY GAIL BUCHMAN PRESCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

- from **Ronald Corin**
- in memory of*
- Thomas A. Valenti and Milton Carp from **Arthur & Janet Simon**
- Thomas A. Valenti from **Booky & Cookie Buchman**
- Daniel Rachelson Sr., Maggie Sample, and Joseph Nagelsen from **Saul & Lee Rachelson**

## AMY GAIL BUCHMAN PRESCHOOL FUND

- from **Bobby & Merideth Newman**
- in memory of*
- Lynn Morgan from **Brian & Haylie Katz**
- Leon Wiskup and Eugene Gamell from **Chuck & Barrie Slonim**
- Leon Wiskup from **Dennis & Nadine Feldman**
- Barry Meyerson from **Lisa Titen**
- Ruth Miller and Mrs. Betty Ann Ennis from **Lyn Meyerson**
- Corinne Blumenthal and Harriet Neuman from **Scott & Laureen Jaffe**
- Ellen Stern's mother from **Stephen & Jane Sergay**

## ASSISTANT RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

- from **Larry & Lynne Hyman**
- from **Ronald & Frankie Linsky**
- in appreciation for*
- Rabbi Weiss from **Al Felman**
- Rhen Linsky's Bat Mitzvah from **Ronald & Frankie Linsky**
- in honor of*
- Colsen Haber's Bar Mitzvah from **Michael & Kellie Haber**

## BROTHERHOOD YOUTH ENDOWMENT FUND

- in memory of*
- Julie Saul and Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Michael Schine**

## CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- from **Larry & Lynne Hyman**
- from **Mark Sena & Linda Saul-Sena**
- in appreciation for*
- Marley Jean's Bat Mitzvah from **Michael & Julie Kittredge**
- Rhen Linsky's Bat Mitzvah from **Ronald & Frankie Linsky**
- in honor of*
- Colsen Haber's Bar Mitzvah from **Michael & Kellie Haber**

## CEMETERY FUND

- in memory of*
- Diane Weissman from **Daniel & Jamie Curley**

## ENDOWMENT FUND

- in memory of*
- Jean Yadley from **Mark & Myra Wolfson**

## FLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- in memory of*
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Sandy & Andrea Dolgin**

## FLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND

- in honor of*
- the wedding of Ann Goldman and Joe Oppenheim from **Beth Wagner**

## FLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TZEDAKAH FUND

- in memory of*
- Ignacio "Iggy" Almorza, son of Margarita Almorza from **Harrison Tannenbaum**

## FOOD BANK FUND

- in memory of*
- Thomas A. Valenti and Lilly Dines Salama from **Jay & Lois Older**

## GOLDMAN FAMILY WELLNESS PROGRAM ENDOWMENT FUND

- from **Enid & Maxwell Bentley Family Foundation**
- in honor of*
- Barbara Godman's 75th Birthday from **Carrie Goldman Segall & Andrew Segall**
- in memory of*
- Victor Rosenthal from **Lee Rubin & Joan Altshuler**

## LILLYAN DEE NEUSNER ENDOWMENT FUND

- in memory of*
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. and Judy Moore from **Mimi Osiason**

## MEMORIAL FUND

- in memory of*
- Jean Yadley, a friend to all from **Barbara Yadley**
- Jean Yadley from **Dave & Judy Felman**
- Jean Yadley, father of Greg Yadley from **Gary & Lisa Teblum**
- in honor of*
- Morgan Sayer's Bat Mitzvah from **Michael Lipson**

## RABBI DAVID L. ZIELONKA CAMP COLEMAN FUND

- for the speedy recovery of*
- Barbara Rosenthal from **Suzanne Gellens**

## *in memory of*

- Victor Rosenthal from **Arnie & Bev Tannenbaum**
- Lynn Morgan, Harriet Neuman, Julie Saul, Thomas A. Valenti, Lilly Dines Salama, Martin Kessler, Jean Yadley, and Judy Moore from **Carl & Paula Zielonka**
- Dick Rosenthal from **Cindy Spahn**
- Lilly Dines Salama and Jean Yadley from **Maril & Kay Jacobs**

## RABBI EMERITUS DISCRETIONARY FUND

- in memory of*
- Jean Yadley from **Ann Rubin Goldman**
- Jean Yadley and Lilly Dines Salama from **Betty Cohen**
- Dr. Howard Gobioff from **Bruce & Sharon Gobioff**
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Joel Karpay**
- Gary Bogner from **Linda Bogner-Norton**
- Olympia "Petie" LaFuenta from **Russell LaFuenta**

## SCHZFTY FUND

- in memory of*
- Lynn Morgan from **Joe & Ellie Probasco**
- Lynn Morgan from **Michael Schine**
- Lynn Morgan from **Paul & Janice Sherman**

## SENIOR RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

- from **Colton Langsam & Allison Griffith**
- from **Larry & Lynne Hyman**
- from **Mark Sena & Linda Saul-Sena**
- from **Ronald & Frankie Linsky**
- from **Saul & Lee Rachelson**
- in appreciation for*
- Marley Jean's Bat Mitzvah from **Michael & Julie Kittredge**
- Rhen Linsky's Bat Mitzvah from **Ronald & Frankie Linsky**

## *in honor of*

- the Parker/Murphy Wedding from **David & Silvia Halpern**
- the wedding of Jessica Womble and Robert Emery from **Donald & Linda Rich**
- the birth of Caleb White from **Marc & Gail Fischer**
- Colsen Haber's Bar Mitzvah from **Michael & Kellie Haber**
- Alan Beer from **The Beer Family**

## *in memory of*

- Louis Greenberg, Mrs. Edith S. Greenberg, and Jean Yadley from **Allen Root**
- Jean Yadley from **Betty Solomon**
- Martin Kessler from **Bob, Robyn, Jen, Beth, and Alex Kessler**
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Carlo & Beth Franzblau**



- Stanley Dreier from **David & Alyce Kushner**
- Thomas A. Valenti, Julie Saul, Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr., Harriet Neuman, and Lynn Morgan from **Gary & Meg Moskovitz**
- Julie Saul from **Gary & Phyllis Gould**
- Thomas A. Valenti and Ruth Miller from **Ira & Denise Federer**
- Tom Valenti from **Leslie Aidman**
- Leon Wiskup from **Lex & Susie Goldenberg**
- Alice Norton from **Linda Bogner-Norton**
- Leon Wiskup from **Lyn Meyerson**
- Victor M. Rosenthal Jr. from **Marc & Marcy Kaufman**
- Shirley R. Schwartz from **Mike & Janine Schwartz**
- Jean Yadley and Thomas Valenti from **Ruth Adrian**
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr., Thomas A. Valenti, Jean Yadley, and Judy Moore from **Scott & Lauren Jaffe**
- Judy Moore from **Steve & Laura Salzer**
- Thomas A. Valenti, Julie Saul, and Jean Yadley from **Todd & Debbie Rosenthal**
- Thomas A. Valenti from **William & Vicki Lee Paul**

#### SHABBAT ONEG

##### *in honor of*

- Colsen Haber's Bar Mitzvah from **Michael & Kellie Haber**

#### SISTERHOOD FLORAL FUND

##### *in honor of*

- Colsen Haber's Bar Mitzvah from **Michael & Kellie Haber**
- Alan Beer from **The Beer Family**
- Selma Bauer from **Adrienne Sundheim**
- Julius Saunders and Alexis Morgan Saunders from **Alan & Stephanie Saunders**
- Renee and Abraham Albert Freedman, Harris M. Freedman, and Rosalie Lester, and Sally Cushing from **Albert & Anita Saphier**
- Charles Berlin from **Alicia LeVine**
- Roman Naroditsky from **Anatoly & Marcia Naroditsky**
- David Nachumson from **Arlene Berkowitz**
- Our father, Carl M. Miller, and our beautiful daughter Jillian Blyth Miller from **Arthur & Rosalynne Miller**
- Esther Kravatz and Ruth Getz from **Barbara Rosenthal**
- Doris and Myer Bloomston and Joe Scionti from **Benjie & Teddi Bloomston**
- Sam Cherry from **Carole Cherry**
- Milton "Mike" M. Simmons from **Charles & Faith Simmons**
- Marguerite Degan from **Connie Mansfield**
- Bernard Rohatiner from **Craig Behrenfeld & Lisa Rohatiner**
- Milton Appel and Rose Moore from **David Moore & Marianne Fisher**
- Burton Finkle and Judith Finkle from **Debra & Scott Zepeda**

- Ruth Zack, mother of Nadine Feldman, and Samuel Chershnia, grandfather of Nadine Feldman from **Dennis & Nadine Feldman**
- Nathan Weinbren from **Don & Leigh Ann Weinbren**
- Esther Roffer and Harry Ronson from **Dr. and Mrs. Stuart Goldsmith**
- Elaine Newman, Dr. Thomas Newman, Rose Evelyn Weiner, and Greg Courson from **Eric & Lyris Newman**
- George and Lorayne Pegler from **Errol & Sandra Pegler**
- Mercedes Roth and David Lawrence Slone from **Frederick & Sheree Slone**
- Stanley Dreier from **Gerald & Joy Lolli**
- Linus Sabeau from **Gwen Kotler**
- Barbara Friedman from **Harry Friedman**
- Dr. Francis Rosner, Gertrude Leon Rosner, Dr. Lester Older, and Gertrude Cohen Older from **Jay & Lois Older**
- Donald Oleson and Eleanor Oleson from **Jeff & Nancy Seligsohn**
- George Barnard Karpay from **Joyce Hartmann Karpay**
- Barney Zalesky from **Marc & Gail Fischer**
- Charles Berlin and Michael LeVine from **Marc, Lisa, Thomas, and William LeVine**
- Joseph Schocken from **Mark & Linda Schocken**
- Harold I. Borkowf and Rachel Lea Borkowf from **Maurice & Kailie Shaw**
- Florence Farkas from **Nanci Collier**
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- Norman Linder from **Owen & Marcie Linder**
- Stanley H. Cohen and Ruth Wies from **Ralph & Adele Ribas**
- Edythe and Sidney Kasser and Ben Dobkin from **Richard & Francine Dobkin**
- Estelle Norman from **Robert & Carol Norman**
- Jerry Radin from **Ron & Diane Porat**
- Anne M. Perfit from **Rosemary Perfit**
- Alexia Wax from **Sam & Becky Wax**
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Schaarai Zedek Sisterhood**
- Sheldon Speilberg and Rose Horowitz from **Scott & Robin Katz**
- Monroe Roffer from **Stu & Jerilyn Goldsmith**
- Harold Markman from **Stuart & Lori Markman**

#### SISTERHOOD SOCIAL ACTION FUND

##### *in appreciation for*

- Dana Gruman as Sisterhood President from **Owen & Marcie Linder**

##### *in honor of*

- Lindsey Dewey being Sisterhood speaker at our Shabbat Service in December from **Owen & Marcie Linder**

#### *in memory of*

- Lynn Morgan and Tomas Zepeda from **Daniel & Traci Klein**
- Tammy Bunting, Lynn Morgan, Jean Yadley, Ignacio "Iggy" Almorza, Thomas A. Valenti, and Harriet Neuman from **Judith Mish**
- Harriet Neuman from **Mark & Myra Wolfson**
- Lynn Morgan, Ann Marie Walters, Harriet Neuman, and Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Ron & Diane Porat**
- Harriet Neuman from **Sandy & Andrea Dolgin**
- Harriet Neuman and Lynn Morgan from **Schaarai Zedek Sisterhood**

#### SUSTAINING FUND

##### *in appreciation for*

- the Havdalah Dance Party from **Jeffrey Berger & Susan Kessler**

##### *in honor of*

- Marc LeVine from **Ronald & Frankie Linsky**

##### *in memory of*

- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Abe & Betsy Marcadis**
- Jean Yadley from **Betty Wood**
- Lilly Dines Salama from **Carole Cherry**
- Judy Moore, Mother of Heidi Shimberg from **David & Audrey Schechter**
- Jean Yadley from **Fred & Mary Sue Rothenberg**
- Jean Yadley from **James Moody**
- Jean Yadley from **Jean Efron**
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Jeff & Pam Himeles**
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **Jim & Elizabeth Shimberg**
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. from **John & Leslie Osterweil**
- Jean Yadley from **Lawrence & Carol Muroff**
- Jean M. Yadley from **Lawrence & Pamela Lavine**
- Barry Meyerson, husband of Lyn Meyerson, and father of Jill Meyerson from **Lex & Susie Goldenberg**
- Ruth Miller, Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr., Kathe Slonim, and Harriet Neuman from **Lex & Susie Goldenberg**
- Leon Wiskup and Harriet Neuman from **Marc & Marcy Kaufman**
- Jean M. Yadley from **Paul & Sheryl Favorite**
- Victor M. Rosenthal, Jr. and Jean Yadley from **Richard Rudolph**

#### WEISS SENIOR PILLAR FUND

##### *in memory of*

- Martin Kessler from **Steve & Fredda Weisbond**

#### YOUTH PILLAR FUND

##### *in memory of*

- Lindsey Dewey's dear mother, Lynn Morgan from **Michael & Jennifer Jain**

*For more information about our different funds and various ways to give, please visit:*  
[www.zedek.org/donate](http://www.zedek.org/donate)



## Congregation Schaarai Zedek

3303 West Swann Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33609-4643

### CLERGY

Senior Rabbi..... Rabbi Joel Simon  
Assistant Rabbi..... Rabbi Michael Weiss  
Cantor..... Cantor Deborah Cannizzaro  
Rabbi Emeritus..... Rabbi Richard J. Birnholz

### TEMPLE OFFICERS

President..... Scott Shimberg  
VP, Administration & Building..... Charles Weissman  
VP, Fundraising..... Dan Singer  
VP, Religion, Education, & Youth..... Carla Markowitz  
VP, Membership & Programming..... Allison Singer  
Treasurer..... Don Weinbren  
Financial Secretary..... Lou Port  
Secretary..... Melinda Sheer  
Immediate Past President..... Michael Haber

### ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director..... Marc LeVine  
Operations Manager..... Debra Zepeda  
Bookkeeper..... Teddi Bloomston  
Director of Finance..... Traci Klein  
Clergy Executive Assistant..... Khan Whiteside  
Administration..... Marty Wittek  
Administration..... Morgan Szuch  
Communications Coordinator..... Sarah Alexander

### MEMBERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT

Senior Dir. of Membership & Programming..... Donna Wood  
Director of Engagement & Outreach..... Lindsey Dewey  
Director of Youth & Family Education..... Molly Levy

## Rabbi's Message *continued from front page*

to the IMF, earning the ire of pensioners and vodka drinkers alike. His parents stopped talking to him for weeks as a result, and thousands protested outside of the capitol building. As the season went on, citizens were happy with his fight against corruption but often unhappy with the personal consequences that resulted from many of his decisions.

In electing Zelensky, Ukrainians knew that he was going to challenge them to think about issues differently than they might have before, and they knew that he wasn't always going to make the same choice that they would make, but they believed that he had integrity. They believed that the choices he made would be made out of love, with nothing but concern and compassion for his country. To disagree with someone whom you respect is the best kind of disagreement there can be, as you both know you have the same ultimate goal, even if you disagree

on how to get there. In so many ways it is Zelensky's character and integrity that has made him so inspiring, both to Ukrainians and to the world.

Throughout the Israelites' 40 years in the wilderness, Moses' decisions were also often questioned as the Israelites complained, challenged, and insulted. The Midrash asks, "Why was Moses chosen as leader of the people in the first place?" The Rabbis tell a story of Moses the shepherd chasing after a lamb that had run away from the rest of the flock. When he finally caught up to the lamb he saw that it was drinking eagerly from a river. "You must be thirsty," Moses said to the sheep, "let me carry you back to the flock." It was after seeing Moses' compassion that God chose to entrust God's flock, the people of Israel, to him." Surely Moses showed that same love to the Israelites, even when they were disrespecting him.

As we pray for more leaders like Zelensky and Moses in our own time, we

prepare to honor our congregation's leaders at our annual meeting on June 3, as we'll thank our outgoing board members, welcome and install new ones, and celebrate those who have to make the often difficult decisions our congregation faces every day. We are so lucky to have leaders in this congregation who genuinely care about this flock and whose character and integrity require respect.

We pray that we all may live our lives in this way, knowing that we too will make decisions that others will question and have opinions with which others will disagree, but we pray that we too will make our decisions and form our opinions out of a place of integrity and good character, love for the flock we lead and the one with which we roam, and in so doing, act in a way, we pray, that would be pleasing to God and move our families, our communities, and our world that much closer to a time of peace. ●