



Confirmation
Celebrate our students at this special service.
Page 2



It's Never Too Late...
Mazel Tov to Evy Straus on her special day!
Page 3



Hello Summer!
Take a look at all we have planned for this Summer!
Pages 8-9

SHOFAR

Schaarai Zedek News
Volume 126
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May - June 2023
Iyar - Tammuz 5783

Up All Night for Shavuot

Shavuot commemorates the spring harvest and the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai.

Rabbi Joel Simon



Joel Simon
Senior Rabbi

I was definitely a “crammer” growing up. For those who don’t know the term, or who are even further removed from high school than I am, “cramming,” or “pulling an

all-nighter,” is when a student stays up all night before an exam, studying all the things they should have been studying in the weeks leading up to their test.

In Judaism, we have an annual all-night cramming session connected to the holiday of Shavuot. Shavuot is the third of the pilgrimage festivals along with Sukkot and Passover, but unlike Sukkot, which gives us the building of huts in our backyards, and Passover, which lets us celebrate with our families as we eat matzah and remember the Exodus out of Egypt, the biblical Shavuot doesn’t give us much. As you can imagine, this was a problem for the Rabbis. Not only does a holiday need a reason for celebrating it, but we also need a special opportunity to eat. So, the Rabbis did some creative math, and they determined that the date



of Shavuot coincided with the date that Moses ascended Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments.

A midrash tells the story that the Israelites went to bed early the evening before this big day, wanting to be well rested, but their sleep was so good they slept late, and Moses had to wake them up. And this is where the tradition of our Shavuot all-nighter comes from. The *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* originated with the kabbalist mystics of 16th century Tzfat to compensate for the sleepiness of our ancestors. (While the custom of eating dairy [blintzes, cheesecake, etc.] on Shavuot has many explanations, I’m convinced it’s to help a historically

lactose intolerant people stay awake.)

I first experienced this Erev Shavuot tradition while living in Israel, where there are literally hundreds of options for classes throughout the night, and many people will hop from synagogue to synagogue until it’s time for the morning service. And while we don’t have the same options in Tampa, I hope you’ll join us on Erev Shavuot on Thursday, May 25, at Congregation Beth Am, as we join with our neighboring synagogues with opportunities for any of you to teach something that you find interesting (Jewish or not) as we prepare for this year’s commemoration of the Revelation at Sinai.

Continued on back page

Connect with us

Live Streaming

Services are streamed at 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. Follow us to like, comment, and share!

YouTube

Watch past services, sermons, and more on our YouTube channel at 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 to let us know.

SHOFAR



*A bimonthly newsletter by
Congregation Schaarai Zedek*

*Read the Shofar online:
www.zedek.org/shofar*

Please join us for our Annual Temple Meeting, Shabbat Dinner, and Installation Service Friday, June 9, 2023

Dinner: 5:30 PM

Adults \$36; Children 9 and under: \$18
RSVP by Friday, June 2, at www.zedek.org/RSVP

Annual Meeting: 6:15 PM

Election of Proposed Slate
Honoring of 2023 President's Cup Recipient

Shabbat Service and Installation: 7 PM

Carla Markowitz will offer remarks as she is
installed as our new temple President

You are cordially invited to attend the

2023/5783 Confirmation

Sunday, May 21, at 10 AM



Confirmand

Emma Sophia Alexander
Eve Ferrell Anton
Seth Wilson Barack
Charlie Bern
Chase Fisher
Rachel Goldstein
Aiden Leonard Hendershot
Joelle McCarthy
Sloane Osterweil
Lily Polender
Aviva Rachel Probasco
Collin Rosenberg

Parents

Faith Alexander & Brian Alexander
Becky Ferrell-Anton & David Anton
Lynda & Ryan Barack
Adina & Brian Bern
Megan & Theodore Fisher
Robyn & Warren Goldstein
Robin & Richard Hendershot
Marissa & Kevin McCarthy
Laura & David Osterweil
Allison & Robert Polender
Eliane & Joseph Probasco
Kelly & Simon Rosenberg



It's Never Too Late

Cantor Deborah Cannizzaro



Deborah Cannizzaro
Cantor

Her hand trembled as she approached the Torah and picked up the pointer, prepared to read aloud from the sacred scroll before her family and

congregation for the first time. She had practiced the Hebrew words for months and had waited to celebrate her bat mitzvah her entire life. Not just 13 years, like most Jewish children. Ninety-three years.

For Evelyn Straus, this religious milestone was the fulfillment of a life-long commitment to her Judaism. She had lived her life watching every other family member become *b'nei mitzvah*. She had been a Jewish wife, mother, volunteer, grandmother, great-grandmother ... but now it was time to celebrate her own service.

Evy, as she is known amongst her friends, turned 13 in 1943, a time when girls were not called to the Torah. She grew up in an orthodox family and was proud of her Jewish heritage. She was always a member of a congregation but felt as though she was missing out on something. Evy had thought about

having an adult *bat mitzvah* service, but she was apprehensive. She didn't want to do it as part of an adult class, and she wasn't sure she could learn the Hebrew. But when her granddaughter's husband told her a few years ago that his grandfather had just celebrated a *bar mitzvah* at 93, she knew she had to try. "Go for it," he said. "If you want to do it, do it!"

Evy chose her 93rd birthday, March 11, 2023, for her special day. Her biggest challenge was learning the Hebrew. Evy had taught herself how to read Hebrew when she was in her late 20s, but it was difficult to keep up with. Now, at 92, she was determined to do it. She met every week with me, learning her prayers and Torah portion and met with Rabbi Simon to write her *d'var Torah*.

"While I'm scared that I'm going to goof up," she told me the week before her service, "I'm most excited to have my family and friends with me. I want to

show them that you can accomplish anything at any age if you just put your mind to it." And as the oldest *b'nei mitzvah* at Schaarai Zedek, she has proven her point.

Evy loves life! She taught Kindergarten in Maryland for 20 years and loved every second of it. She only stopped teaching to move down to Florida to be closer to her daughter and grandchildren. She has watched her grandchildren grow up, get married and even welcomed a great grandchild into the world a few years ago. She keeps her teaching skills up by volunteering at the Tampa Bay History Center - 14 years and still going strong. Evy has never stopped living and enjoying life.

"What words of advice do you have for *b'nei mitzvah* students?" I asked her.

"Be proud of your Judaism, and don't let it drop after your service. Continue being a proud Jew. Work hard and remember to celebrate YOU on your day. You have earned it!"

Yes, Evy - you certainly have.
Mazel Tov! ●





Embracing Summer

Lindsey Dewey



Lindsey Dewey
Director of
Engagement &
Outreach

I have always considered myself a “summer.” You know, there are people who love the crisp autumn nights and changing of the leaves, people who love the colder weather, family traditions, and the possibi-

ty of snow. Others emerge in the spring excited for growth. While I find joy in the cycles and routine expectations of our yearly seasons, it truly is the summer that brings me to a place of growth and reflection.

When I was little, I swam before I confidently walked. My earliest, most foundational memories occurred on the beach. Before I was seven, we had lived on both coasts, swimming regularly in both the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. By the time I was ten, each brand new school

planner deliberately listed a countdown in the top right corner of each day to the date I would move into a cabin for the summer—to disconnect from technology and connect with myself again. I came home each summer a stronger and more confident version of myself. Summer is good for my soul.

There is something special that happens in our immersive experiences that fortifies relationship-building in a way that is hard to articulate. While not everyone has an opportunity to experience immersive residential experiences, I hope that our regular and consistent programming across the age spectrum invites a similar feeling. These long-term and sustained connections I can share with our community are the building blocks that lead to a stronger congregation.

From our youngest members to our multi-generation foundational leaders, we have something really special in this community. Over the past few weeks, I have been thinking a lot about what it means to complete my 13th year on staff at Congregation Schaarai Zedek and begin my 14th year. “Kids” from my first few years have grown into young adults with whom I am eager to continue building relationships. In several instances, I witness weddings

and now babies where a second generation participates in programs I have helped build.

I now have the fortune of seeing a long-term investment pay off in the value our young adults and parents find in connecting with our Jewish community. As a teacher and adult who has invested in the lives of emerging adults, I have learned they may not be connected in the day-to-day. Still, at times of celebration and great struggle, the foundation we built and relational connections from Schaarai Zedek brings our young adults together when it matters most.

As we continue to find and offer programming that meets all of you where you are and provides opportunities for you to assess what you need from Schaarai Zedek, I will keep relationship-building at the core of all we do. We hope to see you at one of our many summer celebrations or learning experiences. I know that I shine in the summer (and no, it isn’t just humidity), and I hope that at one of these events, you will come to ask me what I love so much about these longer, lazier days. Better yet, tell me whether you are a “summer” as well—or let me know if you think I am crazy and a pumpkin spice latte or hayride is the source of true joy. ●

Brotherhood

Marc Holtzberg, Brotherhood President

I am so happy that the Brotherhood this year was able to bring so much varied programming and a new deli for our infamous Deli event. I am still salivating at the thought of that pastrami from Meshugana Deli. If you need some more, you can take a small road trip to Sarasota to get some more. If you are going, please bring me back a corned beef/pastrami on rye, thank you.

We still have our TPA tour and dinner event for May and then we are planning to take the summer off with programming to resume with our infamous kick-off event.

We are still looking for a couple of new Brotherhood members to fill some open positions on the Brotherhood Board which allows you to contribute to this great programming.

As my year draws to a close, I bid everyone health and happiness. ●



Keep an eye on your email for details about upcoming Brotherhood and Sisterhood events! You can also see an updated schedule online at: www.zedek.org/brotherhood or www.zedek.org/sisterhood.

Sisterhood

Beth Levin & Andi Parker,
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Sisterhood is proud to present the slate for the 2023-2024 Sisterhood Board. We are excited to welcome several new people to our Board this year and welcome back a few who have decided to get more involved again. We encourage participation from all - there is lots of opportunity to join a committee or help with an event or two. Participation from a wide array of our membership enables us to provide events and services that meet the needs and expectations of all. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us and let us know you want to get involved!

Have you been to our Judaica shop lately? It's stocked with lots of new and beautiful merchandise. It's the place to shop for all your Shabbat, B'nei Mitzvah and Jewish holiday needs! Helping with the shop is another great way to get involved in Sisterhood and meet new people in our growing Synagogue. There are opportunities to help staff the shop, shop for merchandise, or volunteer at the Chanukkah Bazaar. Please let us know if you're interested. ●

2023-2024 Sisterhood Executive Board

Co-President: Beth Levin

Co-President: Sharon Weiss

Vice President of Administration: Carlyn Neuman

Vice President of Social Programming: Jessica Liszt

Vice Presidents of Religious Programming: Karen Shanberg & Sarah Shanberg

Vice President of Youth, Education & Special Projects: Ashley Sandkuhl

Vice President of Membership: Lisa Kiev-Chen

Treasurer: Jamie Haischer

Assistant Treasurer: Caroline Schwartz

Assistant Treasurer: Heather Kattan

Recording Secretary: Nancy Siegal

Corresponding Secretary: Nancy R. Weiss

Parliamentarian: Liz Cavaliere

Board Members Emeritus: Lynne Merriam, Judith Mish,

Judy Rosenkranz, & Paula Zielonka

Immediate Past Presidents: Dana Gruman & Andi Parker

Affiliates and Committee Chairs

Book Club: Barbara Shine-Hicks and Evelyn Straus

Chanukah Bazaar Chair & Event Coordinator: Denice Goldberg

Hamantaschen Chair: Jane Griebel

Hamantaschen Kitchen Captains: Nadine Feldman & Pat Taback

Media: Stephanie Tannenbaum

Presidents Council and Social Action: Diane Porat

Religious School Liaison: Lynne Merriam

Staff Appreciation Chair: Pat Taback

Star Event Chair: Sharon Ravner

Amy Gail Buchman Preschool



May 2023

- May 1-5: Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 10-12: Muffins with Mom
- May 24: Pre-K Graduation
- May 25: Last day of School Celebrations
- May 26: School Closed
- May 29: Memorial Day / School Closed

June 2023

- June 2: Open House / Meet the Teacher
- June 5: First Day of Summer Session (3 & 5-day students)
- June 6: First Day of Summer Session (2-day students)
- June 19: Juneteenth / School Closed



Keith Coleman amazed us with his Elvis performance at February's Senior Luncheon! The crowd was absolutely thrilled by his tribute to the King of Rock and Roll.

Senior Luncheon

Thursday, May 18, 11:30 AM

Guest Performer: Carlene Mitchell

Join us for a fantastic performance by Carlene Mitchell, an award-winning tribute artist and nationally acclaimed jazz and R&B headliner. With her exceptional talent, Carlene has earned recognition from industry professionals and the media, including multiple awards in Las Vegas for her production and performance in "Dreamgirls Tribute."

Thursday, June 15, 11:30 AM

Guest Performers: Erin DiPrizio and Samba Syndicate

Erin DiPrizio, a professional Brazilian Samba dancer, and her pro team, Samba Syndicate, will join us for a dazzling performance following our PreK singers and lunch. You will be impressed from the time the performance starts until the big finish!

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

Flom Religious School

Flom Religious School Enrollment begins May 7

It is time to register for the 2023-2024 Religious School year! All children who will be 4 years old by September 1, 2023, are eligible to attend. Religious School begins August 27! Registration forms must be received in the Religious School Office no later than August 7. We may not be able to honor classmate requests received after August 7. Register online at https://congregationschaaraize-dek.shulcloud.com/school_enrollment.php.

Save the Date:

- Religious School Open House Sunday, August 20
- 11:30 AM - 12 PM: Meet your teacher
- 12 - 1 PM: Lunch with other Religious School families

Interested in teaching or substituting?

Do you have a desire to further Judaism and enjoy spending time with great children? Then 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 dwood@zedek.org or, after June 5, Debbie Steinfeld at dsteinfeld@zedek.org.

Lifecycles

B'nei Mitzvah

Ella Siegal

Parents: George & Nancy Siegal
May 6, 2023

Hailey Michaels

Parents: Matthew & Tiffani Michaels
June 3, 2023

Joshua Singer

Parents: Jonathan & Shayna Singer
June 3, 2023

Brody Roth

Parents: Justin & Jennifer Roth
June 24, 2023



Brody Roth

Welcome New Members

Stuart & Micaela Core
Courtney & David Fairleigh
Theodore & Megan Fisher
Mark & Sebrina Gordon
Blossom Leibowitz

Paul & Tammy Mott
Barbara Simmonds
Arthur & Janet Simon
Reginald & Florence Vincendom

Mazel Tov to Our Members

Professional Societies of the Tampa Jewish Federation honored the following individuals for their steadfast commitment to the medical, financial services, entrepreneurial, real estate, and legal communities:

- **Deborah Rosenthal**, Montefiore Society
- **Cindy Sper**, Real Estate Society

The Tampa Bay Lightning honored **Alex Warren** as the Lightning Community Hero during the game against the New York Islanders on April 1, 2023.



Joshua Singer



On April 2, our Flom Religious School students enjoyed a mock Passover Seder, led by Rabbi Weiss and the eighth grade students.



Calendar Highlights

Please visit www.zedek.org/RSVP for more information and to register for all events!

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 12 PM



ROMEos + Jew-liets

Join Rabbi Birnholz and friends for lunch and a lively discussion. Topic: Jewish Immigrants who fought for Cuban Independence. Women are welcome to this session!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 7 PM &

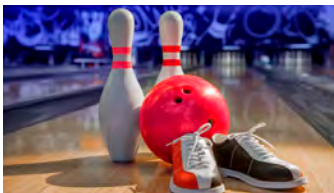
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 12 PM



Adult Education / Lunch & Learn: Turning the Wholly New into the Newly Holy

Rabbis Weiss and Simon will explore how Judaism has evolved in response to new ideas or inventions that were not explicitly discussed in the Torah or by the Rabbis of the past.

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 6:30 PM



20s+30s Bowling

Join us at Splitsville! Dinner (heavy appetizers) and dessert will be provided. \$20 per person.

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 9:15 AM



Shabbat Yoga & Bagel Minyan

Enjoy a yoga for all ages and a casual Shabbat morning service at Scharai Zedek.

FRIDAY, MAY 19, 6 PM



Off-to-Camp Shabbat Dinner & Service

In celebration of our summer campers, join us for a complimentary camp-style Shabbat dinner! During our service, we'll offer a special blessing and gift to those spending the summer at camp. We'll also honor the high school class of 2023 with special blessings for reaching this milestone! RSVP by Monday, May 15.

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 7:30 AM



Tikkun Leil Shavuot

It is customary to study all night on the eve of Shavuot, celebrating the Israelites' waiting for Moses at the base of Mt. Sinai. We'll join our neighbor synagogues for a brief Erev Shavuot service, followed by an evening of teaching and learning open to all. At Congregation Beth Am (2030 W Fletcher Ave).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 6 PM



Summer Kick-Off at Hyde Park

Meet us in Hyde Park Village for a sweet summer treat! We will offer coupons for all in attendance to grab dessert on us to celebrate summer!

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 5 PM



Shabbat Dinner & Service Honoring Educators

All educators and their families are invited to join us for a Shabbat dinner. A special blessing will be offered to all of our teachers during the service. RSVP by Tuesday, May 30.

SUNDAY, JUNE 4



Water Play

10 AM - Non/Unsteady Walkers
2 PM - Walkers/Speedy Runners
Come enjoy water play at CSZ! Smaller water features will be set up in the morning and larger water play stations will be open later in the afternoon.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 5 PM



St. Petersburg Opera: Rossini's Italiana in Algeri

Join us for an evening with the St. Petersburg Opera at The Palladium. Options are available to join our bus for transportation and dinner before the show. Tickets are \$35 per person, and dinner is \$30.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 12 PM



Lunch & Learn

Kosher Bacon – A look at the evolution of Kosher laws from the Torah to Today
We'll find out how the Kosher laws came to be what we know today and think about what Kashrut can mean to us as Reform Jews in the 21st century.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 1 PM



Game Afternoon

Gather your friends and bring your favorite card game/board game OR borrow one of ours for an afternoon of conversation and friendly competition. We will provide light snacks and drinks, games, and game tables to play cards and more!

THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 6 PM



Midtown Meetup

Come say hello at Midtown Tampa. We'll offer coupons for all in attendance to grab dessert on us to celebrate summer!

FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 6 PM



Independence Day Sha'BBQ Dinner

Join us for a traditional BBQ dinner before Shabbat services as we welcome the holiday weekend.

| MAY 2023 | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | 6:30 PM Brotherhood Board Meeting 1 | 2 | 12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn 3 | 12 PM ROMEos + Jew-liets 4 6 PM Sisterhood Event National Day of Prayer | 5:30 PM Primary Shabbat 5 7 PM Shabbat Service | 9 AM SchZFTY Mystery Bus Ride 6 9 AM Torah Study 4:30 PM Ella Siegal Bat Mitzvah |
| 8 AM Blood Drive 7 9 AM Religious School 10 AM Adult Hebrew | 12 PM Sisterhood Book Club 8 | 6 PM Sisterhood Board Meeting 9 Lag B'Omer | 12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn 10 7 PM Adult Education | 12 PM Lunch & Learn 11 6:30 PM 20s+30s Bowling | 11:45 AM Executive Committee Meeting 12 4 PM Allegro Hyde Park Shabbat Service 5:30 PM Tot Shabbat 7 PM Shabbat Service | 9 AM Torah Study 13 9:15 AM Shabbat Yoga 10:30 AM Bagel Minyan |
| 14 Mother's Day | 15 | 16 | 12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn 17 | 11:30 AM Senior Luncheon 18 | 6 PM Off-to-Camp Shabbat Dinner 19 7 PM Shabbat Service | 9 AM Torah Study 20 |
| 10 AM Confirmation Service 21 | 7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting 22 | 23 | 12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn 24 | 7:30 PM Tikkun Leil Shavuot (at Beth Am) 25 Shavuot | 10:30 AM Yizkor Service 26 7 PM Shabbat Service Honoring Jews by Choice Shavuot | 9 AM Torah Study 27 Shavuot |
| 28 | 29 Memorial Day - Office Closed | 30 | 12 PM Midday Mussar Lunch & Learn 31 6 PM Summer Kickoff at Hyde Park | | | |

| JUNE 2023 | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------|-------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | 12 PM ROMEos 1 | 5 PM Shabbat Dinner Honoring Educators 2 7 PM Educator Appreciation Shabbat Service | 9 AM Torah Study 3 10:30 AM Joshua Singer Bar Mitzvah 4:30 PM Hailey Michaels Bat Mitzvah |
| 10 AM Water Play (Littles) 4 2 PM Water Play (Big Kids) | 5 PM St. Petersburg Opera: Rossini's Italiana in Algeri 5 | 6 | 12 PM Lunch & Learn 7 | 6 PM Movie Night - A Man Called Otto 8 | 11:45 AM Executive Committee Meeting 9 4 PM Allegro Hyde Park Shabbat Service 5:30 PM Annual Dinner & Meeting 7 PM Shabbat Service | 9 AM Torah Study (with Rabbi Simon) 10 |
| 11 | 12 PM Sisterhood Book Club 12 | 13 | 14 | 11:30 AM Senior Luncheon 15 | 7 PM Shabbat Service 16 | 9 AM Torah Study (with Rabbi Simon) 17 |
| 18 Father's Day | 19 Juneteenth - Office Closed | 20 | 21 First Day of Summer | 10 AM Sisterhood Board Meeting 22 1 PM Game Afternoon | 7 PM Shabbat Service 23 | 9 AM Torah Study (with Rabbi Birnholz) 24 10:30 AM Brody Roth Bar Mitzvah 6 PM Movie Night |
| 25 | 7 PM Board of Trustees Meeting 26 | 27 | 28 | 6 PM Midtown Meetup 29 | 6 PM Independence Day BBQ Dinner 30 7 PM Casual Shabbat Service | |

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, 2023.

AMY GAIL BUCHMAN PRESCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of Nona Barth from **Susan & Robin Schwartz**

AMY GAIL BUCHMAN PRESCHOOL FUND

from **Alyson & Nate Walsh**

from **Paola Gruner & Peter Eicher**

general donation from **Caitlin McMullen & Jack Farinhas**

general donation from **Candice & Tony Kumming**

general donation from **Caycee Hampton & Kyle Tumbleston**

general donation from **Debra Miloscia**

general donation from **Emily & Hannibal Baldwin**

general donation from **Laura & Matthew Hurd**

general donation from **Lauren & Preston Reid**

general donation from **Liz & Leo Dosoretz**

general donation from **Taylor & William Hess**

in honor of Evelyn Yolofsky Straus on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah March 11, 2023 from **Ann L Mandel**

in honor of Fletcher and Bowen Boyle from **Annie and Xander Boyle**

in honor of Evelyn Yolofsky Straus on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah

Saturday, March 11, 2023 from **Lyn and Bill Horowitz**

in memory of Howard Gbioff from **Sharon & Bruce Gbioff**

ASSISTANT RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

in memory of Selma Bauer from **Adrienne Sundheim**

in memory of Gary Paul Bogner from **Linda Bogner-Norton**

BIRNHOLZ EDUCATION FUND

in memory of Stanley H. Cohen from **Adele & Ralph Ribas**

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

for the speedy recovery of Judith Mish from **Sarah Kline**

in honor of Robin Tisdale on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah from **Jody Beck & Ross-Alan Tisdale**

DUGLIN FAMILY CAMP COLEMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

in honor of Jon Philipson's Birthday from **Anonymous**

in honor of Paula Zielonka's Birthday from **Anonymous**

in honor of Dr. Paula Zielonka's 80th Birthday from **Leslie Aidman**

in memory of Albert Saphier from **Anonymous**

ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of Al Saphier from **Caroline & Benjamin Rudolph**

FLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

in memory of Albert Saphier, MD from **Beth Wagner**

FLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND

general donation from **Nicolle Strikowski**

FLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TZEDAKAH FUND

in memory of Evelyn Mayer on the anniversary of her death from **June Kraff**

FOOD BANK FUND

in honor of Evy Straus' Bat Mitzvah from **Beth Wagner**

in honor of Stuart Novick's birthday from **Lyn Meyerson**

in memory of Albert Saphier from **Jerilyn & Stu Goldsmith**

in memory of Lee Weinstein from **Jerilyn & Stu Goldsmith**

in memory of Dr. Albert Saphier from **Leslie Aidman**

in memory of Carl Miller from **Rosalynne & Arthur Miller**

in memory of Jillian Blyth Miller from **Rosalynne & Arthur Miller**

GOLDMAN FAMILY WELLNESS PROGRAM ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of Dr. Albert Saphier from **Carol & Samuel Weinstein**

HIRSCH FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

in memory of Gail Hirsch from **The Corrigan Family**

in memory of Patricia Randel from **Tricia & Andy Hirsch**

RABBI DAVID L. ZIELONKA CAMP COLEMAN FUND

in honor of Paula Zielonka's 80th Birthday from **Andi & Ron Parker**

in honor of Paula Zielonka on the occasion of her birthday

from **Andrea & Michael Katz**

in honor of Paula Zielonka's 80th birthday from **Betty Solomon**

in honor of Paula Zielonka's birthday from **Blossom Leibowitz**

in honor of Dr. Paula Zielonka's 80th Birthday from **Dana & Eric Gruman**

in honor of Paula Zielonka's special birthday from **Janet & Michael Kass**

in honor of Paula Zielonka's 80th birthday from **Judith Rothburd**

in honor of the bat mitzvah of Evy Straus from **Myra & Mark Wolfson**

in memory of in memory of Al Saphir from **Betty Cohen**

in memory of Ruth Yadley from **Myra & Mark Wolfson**

in memory of Dr. Albert Saphier from **Paula & Carl Zielonka**

RABBI EMERITUS DISCRETIONARY FUND

in honor of Evy Straus' Bat Mitzvah from **Anita Saphier**

in memory of Albert Lewis Saphier MD from **Anita Saphier**

SCHAARAI ZEDEK PILLAR FUND

from **Jacob Babbín**

SENIOR RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

general donation from **Evelyn Straus**

general donation from **Jennifer & Jason Salemi**

general donation from **Linda Falk-Howard**

in appreciation for the Passover Seder from **Tammy & Paul Mott**

in appreciation for Rabbi Simon for his guidance and support, and also

in appreciation of both Cantor Deborah and Donna Wood for their

continued assistance at this time of need from **Deborah L. Baron**

in appreciation for Rabbi Simon conducting the naming ceremony for

Aiden Talcott from **Marlene & Clifford Wolf**

in honor of Riley Wagner's Bar Mitzvah from **Amanda & Jason Wagner**

in honor of Howard's 90th Birthday from **Anita & Howard Adlin**

in honor of Rabbi Simon officiating the Zinober-Trauner wedding in

March 2022 in St. Augustine, Florida from **April Zinober & Walter Trauner**
 in honor of Robin Tisdale on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah from **Jody Beck & Ross-Alan Tisdale**
 in honor of the bris of our son, Benjamin Hurley from **John & Danielle Hurley**
 in honor of Evelyn Straus's Bat Mitzvah from **Lonnie & Rick Kiracofe**
 in honor of the baby naming of Olivia Lane Rosental from **Lonnie & Rick Kiracofe**
 in honor of Evy Straus, on her Bat Mitzvah from **Susie & Lex Goldenberg**
 in memory of Dr. Albert Saphier from **Allen Root**
 in memory of Edith Shapiro Greenberg from **Allen Root**
 in memory of Lucy Shainwald from **Anita & Howard Adlin**
 in memory of Albert Lewis Saphier MD from **Anita Saphier**
 in memory of Albert Saphier from **Karen & Michael Linsky**
 in memory of Alice Norton from **Linda Bogner-Norton**
 in memory of Al Sapphire from **Marcia & Jack Cohen**
 in memory of Norman Linder from **Marcie & Owen Linder**
 in memory of Al Saphier from **Susie & Lex Goldenberg**

SENIORS ENDOWMENT FUND

in honor of the bat mitzvah of Evy Straus from **Alicia LeVine**
 in honor of Evelyn Yolofsky Straus' Bat Mitzvah at the youthful age of 93 from **Renee & Mark Wiskup**
 in memory of Sylvia Feldman from **Scott & Heidi Shimberg**

SISTERHOOD FLORAL FUND

in memory of Ruth Wies from **Adele & Ralph Ribas**
 in memory of Michael LeVine from **Alicia LeVine**
 in memory of Charles Berlin from **Alicia LeVine**
 in memory of Stanley Dreier from **Alyce & David Kushner**
 in memory of Edmund Levy, Lillian Levy, and Benjamin Adlin from **Anita & Howard Adlin**
 in memory of Rosalie Lester from **Anita Saphier**
 in memory of David Nachumson from **Arlene Berkowitz**
 in memory of Ruth Getz from **Barbara Rosenthal**
 in memory of Esther Kravatz from **Barbara Rosenthal**
 in memory of Myron Harry Raab from **Carla & Mike Raab**
 in memory of Sam Cherry from **Carole Cherry**
 in memory of Ben Safer from **Carole Cherry**
 in memory of Olga Zinober from **Cynthia & Peter Zinober**
 in memory of Jerry Radin from **Diane & Ron Porat**
 in memory of Judy Greenberg from **Elaine Greenberg**
 in memory of Ben Greenberg from **Elaine Greenberg**
 in memory of Milton "Mike" M. Simmons from **Faith & Charles Simmons**
 in memory of Barbara Friedman from **Harry Friedman**
 in memory of Alan Beer from **Jamie Beer and Family**
 in memory of my mother, Ann Marie Walters from **Jane Griebel**
 in memory of Henry Ronson from **Jerilyn & Stu Goldsmith**
 in memory of Esther Roffer from **Jerilyn & Stu Goldsmith**
 in memory of Monroe Roffer from **Jerilyn & Stu Goldsmith**
 in memory of Esther Goldsmith from **Jerilyn & Stu Goldsmith**
 in memory of Rhoda L. Karpay from **Joel Karpay**
 in memory of George Bernard Karpay from **Joel Karpay**

in memory of Murray Fabricant from **Jolene & Neil Fabricant**
 in memory of Donna Lynn Fabricant from **Jolene & Neil Fabricant**
 in memory of Stanley Dreier from **Joy & Gerald Lolli**
 in memory of Harold I Borkowf from **Kailie & Maurice Shaw**
 in memory of Jack Goldberg from **Kim & Dan Goldberg**
 in memory of Charles Berlin from **Lisa & Marc LeVine**
 in memory of Michael LeVine from **Lisa & Marc LeVine**
 in memory of Bernard Rohatiner from **Lisa Rohatiner & Craig Behrenfeld**
 in memory of Murray Israeloff from **Marcia Israeloff & Paul Jacobsen**
 in memory of A. Robert Lapinsky from **Marcie & Owen Linder**
 in memory of Rose Moore from **Marianne Fisher & David Moore**
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 in memory of Suzanne Roseman from **Nancy & Peter Berman**
 in memory of Albert Saphier from **Paula & Nathan Davis**
 in memory of Rose Horowitz from **Robin & Scott Katz**
 in memory of Sheldon Spielberg from **Robin & Scott Katz**
 in memory of Bernard Udell from **Robin Golin**
 in memory of Hilna M Wolper from **Rosemary Perfit**
 in memory of David Lawrence Slone from **Sheree & Frederick Slone**
 in memory of Alexis Morgan Saunders and Julius Saunders from **Stephanie & Alan Saunders**
 in memory of M. Ebert from **Wendy Katz**

SISTERHOOD PROGRAMS

in honor of Evy Straus from **Laura & Steve Salzer**

SISTERHOOD SOCIAL ACTION FUND

in honor of Diane Porat receiving the Audrey Maas Shine Sisterhood Award on February 21, 2023 from **Dana & Eric Gruman**
 in memory of Joel Mish, Judith's beloved husband. We all miss Joel! from **Dana & Eric Gruman**

SUSTAINING FUND

general donation from **St. Mary's Episcopal Day School**
 in memory of Sally Cushing from **Anita Saphier**
 in memory of Henry Robert Troner from **Cheryl & Robert Russell**
 in memory of Emile Lewkowicz from **Claude Lewkowicz**
 in memory of Melinda Sue Hirsch from **Paula & Nathan Davis**
 in memory of Al Saphier from **Richard Rudolph**

YOUTH PILLAR FUND

general donation from **Rebecca & Adam Lantzman**

RABBI RICHARD J. BIRNHOLZ
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If you would like to contribute to the 2022-2023 Rabbi Richard J. Birnholz Torah Circle, please visit zedek.org/torahcircle.
 If you have questions about donating, please contact Marc LeVine at mlevine@zedek.org or (813) 876-2377 ext. 206.

Schaarai Zedek offers a variety of donation opportunities so all members can participate in the mitzvah of tzedakah at whatever level is comfortable.
 For more information about our different funds and various ways to give, please visit: www.zedek.org/donate



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Shavuot *Continued from front page*

But the challenge with cramming and pulling all-nighters is retention. I would often do well on the tests I had stayed up all night studying for, but if I was asked later on to recount what I had learned, I'd be left looking like a deer in the headlights, hardly remembering the topic, let alone the details. And this is where we come to a second important observance connected to Shavuot.

The Book of Ruth tells the story of Naomi, a widow whose two sons married Moabite women. When her sons also died, she encouraged her daughters-in-law to return to their people, but Ruth, in the most recognized verse of the Book, says, "Do not urge me to leave you, to turn back and not follow you. For wherever you go, I will go; wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God." Ruth represents a lifetime commitment to Jewish life and study, taking the moment of Revelation and continuing to learn and grow from that moment with genuine love.

This story is still connected to the path of Jews by Choice today, and we will honor the Jews by Choice in our community on Friday, May 26, at the Shabbat service concluding Shavuot, hearing the journey of those who most recently entered this first stage of their Jewish life and offering a blessing to all those who have repeated the words of Ruth, and according to the midrash, fulfilled their destiny, as it is taught that all Jewish souls were at Mt. Sinai that day, whether they were born Jewish or not.

As we celebrate this festival of Shavuot, we know that we cannot cram a lifetime of Jewish study into one evening, and rather than an all-nighter, we celebrate our ability to be all-lifers, committed to a lifetime of learning new ways in which our Judaism can enrich our lives, bringing value and meaning to every day. Just as Moses' face was glowing as he descended Mt. Sinai, may we all find that same light and inspiration from our Torah and its lessons every day of our lives. ●