



Iyyar—Sivan 5781

May 2021

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Rabbi's Message

Fourth time's a charm!

After the most recent round of elections held in Israel, at least one thing was accomplished: Rabbi Gilad Kariv, former Executive Director of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism (Reform), was elected to the Knesset. Rabbi Kariv was ordained at the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem in 2003 and went on to use his

background in law, serving as Director of the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC), and fighting for religious pluralism in the State of Israel. In 2009, he was appointed Executive Director of Israel's Reform Movement, a position he held for more than a decade. An attorney by training, Rabbi Kariv has spent his career working toward change in the Jewish homeland. For nearly twenty years, he has fought for the recognition of Progressive Judaism in Israel, and for equal rights for all Jews throughout the country. This struggle has played out primarily at the kotel, the Western Wall, where scores of Reform and Masorti (Conservative) Jews have joined in the fight for egalitarian worship.

Now, Rabbi Kariv can add another title to his portfolio: M.K. (Member of Knesset). It is a role in which, I'm certain, he'll serve with distinction. "Rabbis in the Knesset are far from an oddity in Israel, where multiple ultra-Orthodox parties serve in each term. But," states an article in The Times of Israel, "Kariv is not a member of any of those parties, nor is he quite like the rabbis who have sat before him in the Knesset. When he is

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sworn in, Kariv will be the first Reform rabbi to ever serve in Knesset. The leader of the Israeli Reform movement and a longtime religious pluralism activist, Kariv has been running in Israeli elections over the span of almost nine years but has never won until now.” (<https://www.timesofisrael.com/labor-candidate-gilad-kariv-set-to-become-first-reform-rabbi-in-knesset/>)

“I’m ready to be more engaged in my other world of social impact, meaning the political work,” Kariv told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency during his campaign in an earlier round of elections a year and a half ago. “For us, the fact that equality isn’t a legislated constitutional value in Israel, that’s a disgrace. It’s a Jewish disgrace, not only a democratic disgrace.” (Ibid) And this is at the heart of his agenda. Rabbi Kariv hopes to make Israel more pluralistic, beginning with government policy.

Many of us are all too aware of the terrible treatment that non-Orthodox Jews in Israel receive. On more than one occasion, Women of the Wall and others looking to pray in an egalitarian minyan at the kotel, have been the victims of hate speech and violence. On more than one occasion, leaders of the Reform Movement have been detained or even arrested by police, for daring to bring a Torah scroll to the kotel, to be used in a minyan of women or women and men. This is not the Israel which Theodor Herzl envisioned some one hundred and twenty years ago. This is not the Israel which David Ben-Gurion established in 1948. Israel is meant to be a homeland for ALL Jews, a place where anyone, regardless of background or religious observance, is supposed to find refuge and peace. And this is the Israel that Rabbi Kariv hopes to bring back.

“...whatever his role will be, Kariv says that his very presence in Knesset is itself a victory... We have made it into Israel’s Knesset,” he writes, “with our messages, with our values. We’re sounding a Jewish, egalitarian, democratic voice that strives for social justice, loves humanity and strives for peace.” (Ibid)

May he have great success.

~Rabbi Carmit Harari

President's Message

I hope everyone had a good Passover. As the spring weather improves, it is a good time to update the congregation of our re-opening status. I know we all want to be able to get together in person soon, but the pandemic guidelines are still in place. We have planned re-opening meetings several times, only to have a COVID spike delay our plans. However, with the vaccinations progressing, we are hopeful we can put in place a plan to resume services in a safe manner.

The office is getting back to normal operations. The COVID rules remain in place. Please call Diedre before coming to the building and sign in upon entering the facility. A face mask must be properly worn inside the building and practice social distancing. Bob has recently installed new security cameras at each entrance. A new HVAC unit has been ordered for the sanctuary to be installed this spring.

As we continue to plan, we will incorporate what we've learned has worked with virtual services. We will continue to use Zoom to broadcast services and events. This allows people from across the country to attend our services and activities. I have attended services and meetings from Michigan and Florida. Zoom will continue to allow those who are homebound or have restricted driving an opportunity to attend events. As we move forward, services will be designed for both in person and virtual Zoom attendance.

The Re-Opening Committee is putting together rules that would allow members to attend services. In addition to the general rules for the building (mask, social distancing) the in-person attendance will be limited. To coordinate this, you will need to register in advance to attend

the service in person. We plan on using an online service to maintain the attendance or you can call Diedre to register.

All attendees must self-screen themselves by completing the COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire. If you answer YES to any of the questions you will not be allowed to register for the service. On the day of the event, please re-screen yourself for symptoms. If you answer YES to any screening questions, please stay home to protect others. I know this sounds like a lot of work to attend services, but our goal is to provide as safe an environment as we can for our members.

Upon arrival, individuals should proceed immediately to their seats to avoid congregating. Please do not congregate by the entrance, foyer, or hallway. Only sit with people within your household and six feet away from others. The seats will be set up in clusters with the proper distance between them.

We must develop some new habits. No handshaking, hugging or kissing when greeting others. There will be no choir at this time, or any food service allowed in the building. Bring your own kippah and tallit when attending services. No shared ones will be available. We are planning on using the current prayer books.

The Re-Opening Committee brought these suggested policies to the April Board meeting resulting in a constructive conversation. There were several issues brought up that required further investigation. The Board asked the Re-Opening Committee to further develop a policy for a safe opening.

To get a better understanding of the issues

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involved, it was decided to have a trial hybrid in-person/Zoom service with the members of the committee attending the service. At the Sabbath service on Saturday April 24, for the first time in over a year, we had members attend a service in person. It was a small group of eight members, and the service seemed to go well. The committee will reconvene to review how the service went including feedback from members who attended on Zoom.

The Re-Opening Committee will present their revised plans at the May Board meeting. There are many issues of concern to maintain a safe environment for our members, so this is an exceedingly difficult decision. The URJ and USCJ will offer some updated information on re-opening in the next week so this could provide additional guidance. We will continue to track the COVID activity in the area.

In the meantime, we plan on scheduling services outdoors in May and June. As usual, we will follow COVID protocol, for the outside services. This will require registering in advance and be dependent on the weather. The first outdoor event was Lag BaOmer on Thursday April 29.

The hardest part of re-opening will be ensuring all the rules are followed. We will be having Board members attending each service to ensure the rules are being followed. We need all our members to enter a social contract with Shir Tikvah, affirming they will follow all the rules to ensure the safety of their fellow members. With the cooperation of all of us, hopefully we will allow a limited number of members to attend services. This is the latest update, but circumstances can change quickly, so I will keep the congregation informed.

~Jerry Tenny, President





Welcome to May. The last few weeks have been quiet. Several of us attended the Midwest District Kehillah Kedoshah Interim weekend over Zoom. The

weekend was co-chaired by Carol Berger from BJBE and Gayle Weil. Donelle Macey and Gayle were part of a panel discussion on community. Judy Lohr-Safcik arranged for the virtual tour of Australia. The district is looking to have virtual tours of countries and their Jewish population in other parts of the world.

It is a bittersweet time for WoST. Barb and Gary Schwarz are moving to Evanston. Barb has been an important cog in our Sisterhood wheel. We will miss her but Zoom will allow them to keep in touch. Barb has been the WoST secretary forever! I know I will miss her minutes and friendly reminders. Good luck in your new home. Maybe, we can plan a road trip to the north when things open up.

Our board has decided to remain as is for the coming year. Susan Bayer will replace Barb as the Sisterhood Secretary. We will be planning events for the next year. We hope that some will be in person and some virtual. We'll keep you posted on our plans.

B'shalom,

Gayle Weil

May Birthdays

5/1 Barbara Schwarz
5/2 Tommie Gbur
5/3 Gayla Cahan
5/6 David Rader
5/7 Stuart Switt
5/12 Karlyn Hurowitz
5/15 Joshua Cahan
5/15 Michael Lieb
5/15 Sandi Reich
5/17 Sarah Smason
5/19 Mel Muchnik
5/20 Roy Robinson
5/23 Isaac Latman
5/25 Ken Fleischer
5/29 Keith Reich
5/31 Philip Elias



June Birthdays

6/1 Caryl Chudwin
6/2 Tony DeFilippo
6/3 Michelle (Shelley) Ritter
6/6 Rabbi Shalom Podwol
6/10 Gerald Kohn
6/11 Margo Rannells
6/12 Andreatte Brachman
6/13 Jerry Tenny
6/13 Nancy Burrows
6/14 Susan Johnson
6/14 Sharon Lorsch
6/15 Marilyn Goldberg
6/16 Benjamin Ritter
6/18 Michael Sitrin
6/21 Sanford Mitchell (Sandy) Rusnak
6/26 Tracey Levy
6/27 Elliott (Eli) Yurman

May Anniversaries

5/1 Mel & Janet Muchnik
5/16 Laura & Jake Eisenwasser
5/16 Henry & Sharon Lorsch
5/18 Sid & Trudy Barch
5/20 Chuck Licht & Fran Moeckler Licht
5/20 Irwin & Harlene Friedman
5/24 Risa & Lloyd Graff
5/24 Matt & Tracey Levy
5/25 Steve & Judi Altman
5/25 Harris & Alice Davis
5/26 Barry & Marilys Sturm
5/27 Harriet & Sherman Susman



June Anniversaries

6/2 Bernie & Marcia Heilicser
6/8 Doug & Eila Koltun
6/8 George & Ilene Uhlmann
6/8 Larry & Keigh Malis
6/9 Mike & Sheri Larks
6/12 Dan & Debbie Greenberg
6/18 Bob Mayer & Shari Cohen
6/18 Tom & Carol Gilbert
6/18 Richard & Ellen Kaplan
6/19 Arnie & Cheryl Bernstein
6/21 Doris & Larry Machtinger
6/21 Barry & Susan Bayer
6/23 Joel & Gail Kaufman
6/24 Harold & Marcy Reisler
6/24 Gary & Barb Schwarz
6/25 Brian & Robin Latman
6/29 Barry & Sara Marks
6/29 David & Janet Herbstman
6/29 Scott & Sherry Wolf

If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please email Diedre at
office@shir-tikvah-homewood.org and let her know!

Yahrzeits

Week of May 7

Bessie Abraham
Eric Adler
Max Barsuk
Harry Brotman
Hyman G. Brown
Anne Ehrlich
Peggy Eisenstein
Lester Fink
Abraham I. Freis
Mary B. Gitlitz
Morris Gitlitz
Emil Goldman
Seymour Greenspan
Abraham Kamenetsky
Yetta Kaplan
Faye Finkelstein Laner
Frances Ann Leibowitz
Ted Lewin
Allen Lotz
Harold Pattis
Hilde Pollack
Isaac Pressman
Selma Sandack
Jack Sevelow
Sam Shapin
Harriet Shapiro
Ruth Shuchter
Arthur Silverman
Levi Spector
Jacob Tenny
Frances Wessel
Sorah Yalowitz

Blanche Elliot
Phillip Engelberg
Bernard Epstein
Isador Epstein
Carl Fidler
Samuel Flaschen
Anna Fried
Rose Golland
Gertrude Greenburg
Al Holtz
Herman Hyman
Hilda Kaufmann
Morris Klutznick
Regine Lion
Dan Malis
Diane March
Harry Marks
Mel Noven
Irene Reznick
Marvin Rothman
Morris Rubin
Gretel Schrimmer
Moshe Serlin
Marion Simon
Edwin Sokol
Harold Sonduck
Joanne Spark
Solomon Spector
Belle Stein
Frances Feldman Thorpe
Willard Vinik
Dr. Alfred Weinberg
Samuel Zeiger

Week of May 21

Leah Aaron
Isabelle Abrams
Rose G. Burrows
Edward Cohn
Marga Lea Cohn
Alfred Eisen
Max F. Eisner
Mary Feldstein
Lillian Fendelman
Dieter Frankel

Rebecca Gabovitch
Richard E. Gutstadt
Kurt Hollander
Hans Jacoby
Ruth Kaiser
Noreen Kirshenbaum
Louis Kravitz
Sylvia Lasker
Rosalie E. Lewin
William Platt
Eugene Runes
Louis Schneider
Dora Shnay
Kate Goldman Singer
Edward Stangle

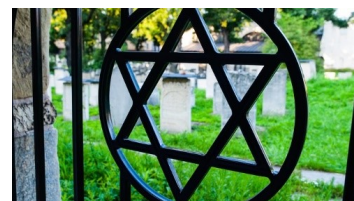
Week of May 28

Jack Abrams
Moses Adler
Sheila Bernstein
Pearl Bildner
Mary Brown
Lotte Buchsbaum
Bertha Chiz
Anna Engelberg
Gladyce Friedman
Jeanette Friessner
Amelia Gaby
Irving Ginsburg
Max Goldstein
Angelo Juarez
Judith Kaminsky
Rose Krucoff
Florence Kusel
Helen Lang
Sidney Lasker
Abraham Lippman
Pauline Litton
Miriam Mercado
Bruce Marshall
Leoni Masliah
Sarah Mayoff
Norma Meisner
Rose Moeckler
Gaetana Mollin

Leon Morse
Jacob Noven
Adolph Pahn
Lt. Col. Harry W. Paper
Esther Papermaster
Mae Podwol
Ida Pressman
Arthur Rauch
Priscilla Reben
Ruth Reisler
Irwin Rothschild
Miriam Rutzky
Morris Shabelman
Fannie Sherman
Sol Shlosberg
Celia Silverman
Harold Silverman
Lawrence Somerman
Terry Spark Rader
Minnie Steinberg
Beatrice Stone
Leo Wagner
Oscar H. Zwick

Week of May 14

Aheron Alfille
Kadem Algamis
Dorothy Ascher
Ida Blonsky
Elinor Calabrese
Esther D. Cerier
Julius David
Esther Davidson



Tributes

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

Phylis Schneider from Alene & Ron Rutzky

Philip Schneider from Alene & Ron Rutzky

Milton Lowe from Jeffrey, Bettie, Barbara & Melissa Gilbert

Amy Greenberg from Debbie & Dan Greenberg

Amy Greenberg from Elliott Greenberg

Dolores Gbur from Tommie & Dan Gbur

Cassie Gbur from Tommie & Dan Gbur

Lazarus Stein from David Stein

Nathan Rappaport from Ed & Evelyn Rappaport

Leo Shifris from Merle & Karlyn Hurowitz

Joseph Warshaw from Cheryl Warshaw

Anne Levin from Cheryl Warshaw

Ralph Wilkins from Peter Wilkins

Richard Wolf from Diane Wolf

General Fund

In Memory of

Ruth Ratowitz from Ernest Ratowitz

Valentine Brazzale from Joan M. Brazzale

Marjorie Proctor from John Chiera & Elizabeth Proctor

Harold Kenis from Dorothy Kenis

Mordecai Marks from Barry Marks

Lillian Sharmasky from Barry Marks

Lenny Zeiger from Miriam Garbow

Morton Malis from Keigh & Larry Malis

Marguerite Kessler Harris from Elizabeth Proctor & John Chiera

Max Hesky from Susan Johnson

In Honor of

Jerome "Jerry" Levitt on his 100th birthday from Jack Levitt

Ruth Levitt on her 100th birthday from Jack Levitt

Ginny Gilbert in celebration of her birthday from Sarah Smason

Get Well

To Ginny Gilbert from Edith Feldmann

Sympathy

To the Sporn family, in memory of Alan, from Jake & Laura Eisenwasser, Dale & Roy Robinson, Robin Langer

Choir Fund

In Memory of

Anna Ratowitz from Ernest Ratowitz

Robert Eisenstein from Larry & Nancy Burrows

Esther Corbin from Nancy & Larry Burrows

Howard Rosen from Evelyn Rosen

Sisterhood Tributes

Speedy Recovery

To Sandy Rusnak from Judy Lohr-Safcik, Carole Fefferman, Penny & Jerry Shnay, Alene & Ron Rutzky, Donelle Macey, Barb & Gary Schwarz, Gayle Weil, Carol & Rich Zucker,

To Ginny Gilbert from Judy Lohr-Safcik, Penny & Jerry Shnay, Donelle Macey, Carole Fefferman, Gayle Weil,

Sympathy

To the Sporn family in memory of Alan, from Alene & Ron Rutzky

To Barb Schwarz in memory of her friend, Jill, from Judy Lohr-Safcik

To Jack Levitt in memory of his son, Alan, from the Sisterhood Board

To Lynn Mesirow in memory of Sisterhood president, Doris Kennedy, from the Sisterhood Board

To Tom Gerber and family in memory of Vivian Gerber, from Judy Lohr-Safcik

In Honor of

To Susan & Barry Bayer in honor of Danya's Bat Mitzvah, from Judy Lohr-Safcik, Penny & Jerry Shnay, Donelle Macey, Gayle Weil, Ruth & Sherman Friedman, Carol Fefferman

To Ginny Gilbert in honor of her birthday from, Judy Lohr-Safcik and the Sisterhood Board



Douwe Douglas Koltun Heemskerk, born April 20. Proud Grandparents are Eila & Doug Koltun. Baby and daughter, Rachel, and rest of the family are doing well.



Thank you for all the cards and well wishes for my speedy recovery!

Jean (Ginny) Gilbert

Hebrew teacher Carole Fefferman has challenged our students by assigning them different prayers from previous services and completing the

K'dusha for their last Shabbat service May 1. The Conservative service will begin at 9:45. The Beginning Hebrew class is halfway through the alefbet and getting familiar with prayers and common words. The last classes were April 28 and April 29.

Sunday School with the Rabbi and Sherry Dieckman continued its virtual focus on the geography of Israel thru videos and readings about Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Arkady Hasidovich, the remote Shaliach from Haifa, covered Yom HaAtzma'ut and answered questions about Israel and Israeli life posed by student and parents.

Our end-of-the-year celebration and last class Sunday May 2 will be held outdoors, weather permitting, with outdoor games and schmoozing with students, parents, and the Board.

We are beginning to plan for the 2021-2022 Hebrew and Sunday School classes. We also are awaiting decisions from our reopening committee.

Todah rabah to our President, Jerry Tenny, for the support he has given us this year. I also give a big todah rabah to our wonderful Sunday School teachers Rabbi Harari, Sherry Dieckman, and Donelle Macey, and our amazing Hebrew teacher Carole Fefferman; they truly enjoy working with the students and made virtual learning enjoyable and engaging. Thanks to Diedre for all her help, and todah to Irwin who always updated the website. I also want to say "todah rabah" to our guest speakers for providing a real connection to Shir Tikvah and the Jewish world. Todah rabah to our parents who trusted us with their children. Lastly, todah rabah to my husband for all his support. Please forgive me if I have forgotten anyone.

Have a fantastic summer! Barb Cohan, School Coordinator



TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021 5:00 PM

**The Apostle Paul:
A First-Century Reform
Jew?**

Rabbi Joshua Garroway,
Ph.D., Sol and Arlene
Bronstein Professor of Judaeo-
Christian Studies, Professor
of Early Christianity and
Second Commonwealth,
HUC/Los Angeles

Paul's disparagement of the Torah and his conferral of the Abrahamic covenant on Gentiles have earned him the reputation among Jews as a perfidious huckster who abandoned Judaism to create another religion. Is it possible we've been too hard on Paul? Might modern Jews come to see him as a loyal Jew – indeed a Jew much like ourselves?

[REGISTER](#)

New Address or Phone? Please take a moment to call or email the office with your new information!



TOGETHER for GOOD

Shalom Transportation

Are you over 55 and need a ride? Need to get to an activity at night, or just don't want to drive somewhere? The South Suburban office of JUF has partnered with GoGo Grandparent to offer 10 rides a month, up to 25 miles, for just \$5.00 a ride! How does this work? Call Amy Bloomberg at 708-249-6086 or email amybloomberg@juf.org to get registered and learn the easy program details. This program is generously funded by the Albert and Lucille Deligher and Marcella Winston Foundation, a Supporting Foundation of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago.



Ruth: The Quintessential Eshet Chayil?

Shir Tikvah Hosts Ranana Dine on Sunday morning,
May 16, at 10:00 AM on Zoom



Ranana Dine is a doctoral student in religious ethics at the University of Chicago divinity school, a research assistant in medical ethics at the University of Chicago's MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics, and the managing editor of *Images: A Journal of Jewish Art and Culture*. Her scholarship, teaching, and writing focuses on topics ranging from Jewish medical ethics, the relationship of Judaism and the visual arts, and comparative Jewish-Christian thought. Her writing has been published in both popular and academic outlets, including the *Lehrhaus*, the Hadar Institute, *Mosaic*, the *British Medical Journal: Medical Humanities*, and the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*. In Chicago she founded and helps run the Trad Egal Shteibel, a monthly halakhic egalitarian house minyan in Lakeview/Lincoln Park, and the Lakeview Beit Midrash, a local learning community.



The Zoom link will be provided a few days before the program.

A Partner with the Jewish United Fund in Serving our Community.

All programs are free and open to the public.

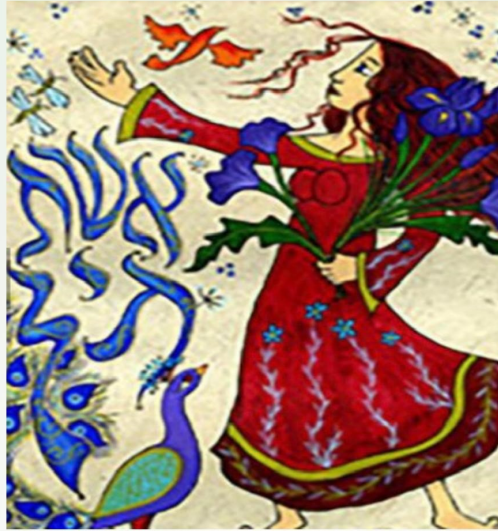
Joliet Jewish Congregation presents

JEWISH WOMEN OF VALOR

a discussion series

With

DR. MONICA WENDY SWIRE



Join Dr. Monica Wendy Swire for 5 weeks discussing the Jewish Women of Valor in Modern Society and How they have influenced and still influence our life as Jewish Women.

WEEK ONE MONDAY APRIL 19th 6:30 -7:30 -Bella Abzug & Beatrice Alexander

WEEK TWO MONDAY APRIL 26th 6:30-7:30-Ray Frank & Molly Picon

WEEK THREE MONDAY MAY 3rd 6:30-7:30-Gertrude Weil & Dana Weiler-Palak








WEEK FOUR MONDAY MAY 10th 6:30-7:30 Gertrude Eilon & Rosalie Abula

WEEK FIVE MONDAY MAY 17th 6:30-7:30-NehamaTec

To reserve your free ticket

email: JolietJewish@att.net

A partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Shavuot Services on May 17th and May 18 include yizkor.						Morning Conservative Service 9:45a with Religious School 1
Sunday School 10a 2 JCC Hidden Gems Tour 11a Hate in the Pews 2p	3	HUC Program 5p 4 Virtual Oneg 7p	5 Sacred Housekeeping 7pm	6	7 Evening Service 7:30p  7:37p	8 Morning Reform Service 10:15a
9 Mother's Day	10 WoST Board Mtg. 10:30a Board Meeting 8:00p	11 Virtual Oneg 7p	12 Sacred Housekeeping 7pm	13	14 Evening Service 7:30p  7:44p	15 Morning Conservative Service 9:45a
16 Erev Shavuot Rayana Dine Mini-Grant 10a  7:46p	17 Shavuot I Reform Service 10:15a JJC Program 6:30p  8:55p	18 Shavuot II Conservative Service 9:45a  8:56p	19 Sacred Housekeeping 7pm	20	21 Evening Service 7:30p  7:51p	22 Morning Reform Service 10:15a
23	24	25 Virtual Oneg 7p	26 Sacred Housekeeping 7pm	27	28 Evening Service 7:30p  7:57p	29 Morning Conservative Service 9:45a
30	31		ZOOM Information: Call In: 312-626-6799 Fridays 813 5752 1894, 482310 Saturdays 834 8666 8692, 835590 Tuesdays 841 6306 7317, 105466 Board Meeting 876 9274 3109			