



Adar I-Adar II 5782

March 2022

web: shir-tikvah-homewood.org

email: office@shir-tikvah-Homewood.org

1424 183rd Street, Homewood, IL 60430

708-799-4110



Rabbi's Message

It's hard to believe that it's already March! 2022 seems to be flying by. In just a few weeks, we'll be celebrating the holiday of Purim with a festive, virtual megillah reading, hamantaschen, and costumes. And this year, Purim with its joyous themes and traditions, feels especially welcome. The story of Esther, who bravely speaks up and saves the Jews of Persia from Haman's evil plots, resonates more deeply with me this year as well. In light of rising Antisemitism, I think we need to hear the messages of the megillah.

Purim is often considered a kids' holiday, but it is actually a tale with deep meaning. From Mordechai's direct disobedience of Haman to Esther's brave confession of Jewish identity, this story is filled with moving messages of hope and miracles. In an article on reconstructingjudaism.org, Rabbi Elliott Tepperman notes that among the many lessons the story of Esther teaches, four stand out: The role of chance, having fun, the world looks different when it is upside down, and solidarity. ([Four Lessons We Learn From Purim | Reconstructing Judaism](#)).

Pur, the Hebrew word for lot, is a reminder of the way Haman determined the date of the Jews' demise. Drawing lots, Haman landed upon the 14th of Adar by chance. "Of course, the fact that the tables were turned and that this became the date for Haman's demise further reminds us of the unpredictability of life," writes Rabbi Tepperman. "We work hard to exert control in those areas that we can, but it is just as important to learn how to roll with the punches and how to accept our blessings."¹ Purim serves as a reminder to embrace the unexpected.

(continued on page 2)

The Rabbis teach: Mishenichnas Adar, marbin b'simcha! When Adar begins, we increase our joy! "Why be happy during the month of Adar? Why not?!" says Rabbi Tepperman. And indeed, this seems a fitting attitude for a month including the celebration of Purim. Certainly, the holiday itself is joyous: The Jews are saved from demise at Haman's hand in a triumph over evil. And Rabbi Tepperman expands the message: "Though we may have little control of the fortunes the world hands us," he tells us, "We still have some control over how we choose to respond...Purim reminds us that if we can laugh at these villains, we can take away some of their power." ² Laughter is good for your health and for your psyche so make sure to take some time out this Purim to laugh and have fun!

A third lesson found in the Purim story is that the world looks different when it is upside down. Because Haman was the victim of his own plot to destroy the Jewish people, Purim celebrates opposites. His plan got flipped upside down. "In part," writes Rabbi Tepperman, "the turning of things upside down reminds us of the moral ambiguities of life. There are genuine evils and injustices in the world that demand we speak up like Esther. But even as we take action or speak up, we do so knowing that heroes and villains are often more defined by perspective than fact. Sometimes it is only when we step into another's shoes (or entire outfit as we do when we dress in costumes on Purim)," he concludes, "that we can really appreciate the ethical complexities of life."

A final lesson Rabbi Tepperman notes we can take away from the Purim story is that of solidarity. We all know the value of sticking together and the strength that can be found in numbers. But there is a deeper lesson to be found here. "There is a rabbinic reading of the Purim story," writes Rabbi Tepperman, "that is critical of Esther. It asks how it can be that our savior intermarries, hides her Jewish identity, and participates in such a sordid beauty contest? Esther engages in all kinds of activities that the Rabbis warned us were harmful to Jewish survival. Yet it is exactly those choices that put her in a position to save her people...Esther teaches us that our power and privilege are meaningless protections if we do not use them to ensure the safety of our people. She recognizes that as long the Jews are oppressed, she too is in danger. Part of our challenge as Jews is to figure out what it means to protect our fellow Jews when they are in danger. Her example also reminds us of the importance of creating communities where all Jews feel welcome."

These messages are just a few of those that we, as adults, can take away from the story of Esther in the megillah. May you find deep meaning in the celebration of Purim this year. May they bring much meaning and fulfillment to your celebration.

This year, we will join with Joliet Jewish Congregation on Zoom for "A Fiddler on the Palace Roof," a Fiddler on the Roof themed Purim celebration complete with songs and megillah reading. Join us online Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00pm. Zoom link to follow soon.

Rabbi Carmit Harari

President's Message

Spring is in the air as the snow melts and the bulbs are breaking through the soil. Shir Tikvah has several upcoming events to look forward to. This Friday, March 4, the Cooperative Jewish Council is having a joint Shabbat hosted by the Joliet Jewish Congregation. We are having our annual Shalach Manot sale along with a baked goods sale for Purim. Please get your orders in with a payment by March 7. There are plans for a joint Purim service with Joliet Jewish Congregation for March 16 and a Seder on April 16.

The Re-Opening Committee has followed the state and Shir Tikvah will no longer require mask to be worn inside the building. If it is your preference to wear a mask, please feel free to continue.

The Shir Tikvah building is open for in person events or if you wish to visit. We are searching for a new office administrator. I would like to thank Carol Zucker for working in the office daily from 10:30AM to 3:00PM. Thank you to Gayle Weil, Irwin Friedman, Penny Shnay and Robin Higgins for volunteering to help in the office.

Services will continue in person and on Zoom. We encourage you to attend the service in person at the synagogue. We have had some difficulty having a minyan on Saturday mornings. We realize it is easier to view from home, however, it would be nice to see everyone in person. The restrictions on food service are removed. This will allow onegs to follow services, so please come and mingle with friends after the service. The Over 50's group will be able to enjoy lunch and the Women of Shir Tikvah will be able to host the Seder in April.

I know all our prayers go out to the people of Ukraine. It is difficult to imagine, in this modern era, one country invading another for political purposes. Hopefully, a cease fire will be negotiated soon.

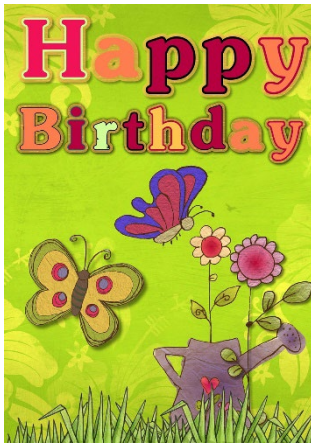
Jewish settlements in Ukraine can be traced back to the 8th century, when Jewish refugees fleeing from persecution settled in the area. Jews in Ukraine have prospered and endured antisemitism. Some of my ancestors emigrated to the United States from Ukraine in the late 1800's during a period of pogroms orchestrated by the Russian emperors. There are different estimates for the number of Jews currently living in Ukraine. Estimate range from 50,000 to 400,000. The Jews in Ukraine live freely in the society. This could change under Russian control.

The Ukrainian people even elected a Jew as President. Many people were skeptical of Volodymyr Zelensky when he was elected President. I can understand why, as his background was as a comedian who played the President on a television show. During this tragic time, Zelensky has proven to be a strong leader who the people are proudly following. He openly expresses his Jewish heritage, as he told the history of the massacre at Babi Yar, after a Russian missile damaged a memorial at the site.

Let's hope the fighting ends soon. If you are looking for ways to assist the Jews of Ukraine, the JUF and ADL, among others, have set up funds you can contribute to help the citizens and refugees leaving Ukraine.

Let us hope the people of Ukraine can maintain their independence and live peacefully.

Jerry Tenny, President



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/5 Barry Bayer

3/7 Marvin Goldberg

3/8 Lori Sugarman
Burt Zeiger

3/11 Larry Machtinger

3/12 Dalia Podwol

3/13 Joseph Zamir Miller

3/14 Elliott Greenberg

3/16 Marcy Reisler

3/19 Samuel Gilbert
Dan Greenberg

3/21 David Schoeneman

3/22 Barb Wolf
Ellen Kahn

3/26 Chase Levy

3/27 Jeff Goldberg



MARCH ANNIVERSARY

3/16 John & Lauren Kern

Tributes

General fund

From

Ida Raff
Barbara & Gary Schwarz
Rick Sallinger
Debbie Jacobson
Diane Medina
Keigh & Larry Malis
Larry & Barbara Cohan

In Memory of

Yuly Raff
Ilse Werner
Jeanne Sallinger
Elaine Hass
Jack Freeman
Morris Shiff
Alice Cap

Choir Fund

From

David & Ryba Epstein

In Memory of

Mary Jo Tregilgas

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

From

Marc Mirsky
Donelle Macey

David Stein

Henry & Sharon Lorsch
Sherry & Ron Dieckman
Sheila & Harris Spanier
Elliott Yurman
Gerald Kohn
Ida Raff

In Memory of

Berniece Mirsky
Joyce Macey
Donald Steinberg Macey
Louise Stein
Dr. Robert Tigay
Rosa Lorsch
Joseph Rosenstein
Reuben Esrick
Jennifer Joy Yurman
Rudolph Kohn
Frida Faynshteyn

Sisterhood Tributes

From

The Sisterhood Board

Gayle Weil

DeeDee DuBrow

Susan & Barry Bayer

Penny & Jerry Shnay

From

Judy-Lohr Safcik

DeeDee DuBrow

Susan & Barry Bayer

Donelle Macey

Penny & Jerry Shnay

In Memory of

David Lorsch

In Honor of

Grace's Bat Mitzvah

The Sisterhood Board

Judy Lohr-Safcik

Donelle Macey

Bea Kamen

Susan & Barry Bayer

Penny & Jerry Shnay

Gayla Cahan, thinking of you

Yahrzeits

3/4/2022

Sam Brown	Mignon McDade	Erna Leffler	Jenny Hesky
Max Gould	Fannie Oseas	Ruth Marcus	Arthur Hirsch
Caryl Gross	Irving Sadowsky	Solomon Selim Masliah	
Morris Handler	Evone Sager	Kim Miller	Eli Kaplan
Morris Daniel Itzkowitz	Louis Sandack	Minnie Moline	Mollie C. Kaplan
Edwin Johnson	Phylis Schneider	Max Pollack	Donald Karpen
Jessica Kempler	Ida Shlosberg	Milton Pomeranz	Bernice Landy
Ida Lewis	Bess Soloway	Mary Rosen	Mark R. Leibowitz
Erich Mathias	Jack Stein	Samuel D. Rothman	Reuben Paper
Irwin Mirsky	Sara Tejada	Dr. Jack Saleh	Gloria Rosenstein
Louis Paskin	Jerrold Wax	Sali Salm	Hannah Schmidt
Yuly Raff	Henry Wolff	Ben J. Sichel	Philip Schneider
Nathan Roth	Alfred Zucker	Norma Jean Simmons	Hank Schwab
Ruth Sherman	3/18/2022	Dr. Max Spangenthal	Max Schwartzberg

Adeline Shifris	Mildred Abrahams	Esther Teplitsky	Ethel Seaver
Henrietta Tumerkin	Gerry Aronberg	Gertrude Weinberg	Milton Seaver
Bertha Yanofsky	Henry Astor	Henry Wolf	Benjamin Shore
3/11/2022	Bashele Berkovitz	Raphael Wolkow	Marie Smerling

Richard Dreyfus	Mandel Brin	3/25/2022	Gilbert Smith
Robert Eisenstein	Ilse Buchsbaum-Levi	Raymond Brin	Alfred Stone
Esther Fox	Itzik Cohn	Melvin Chesler	Harry Sugar
David Hatchwell	Isaac Escandarani	Herman Dessauer	Amalie Tersch
Adeline Horwitz	Ida Felton	William Elfman	
Frida Iskhakova	Muriel Ginsburg	Isidore Ginsberg	
Leopold Kahn	Rabbi Wolfgang Hamburger	Alvin L. Gitlitz	
Irving Klein	Allen Koltun	Lawrence Greenspan	



Sisterhood Stronger Together

The Women of Shir Tikvah are excited about returning to a new normal. It's been a long two years. Starting Friday, March 11, we will have our first Oneg where the food no longer needs to be individually wrapped.

March will be a busy month. We are working with the temple fundraising committee on the Shalach Manot fundraiser. We hope you have not only ordered Shalach Manot bags and cards for friends and family but have also ordered baked goods from Shalom Bakery.

On Sunday, March 27, we will have a book review facilitated by Nancy Burrows. This will be our first in person event. Nancy will be reviewing *Florence Adler Swims Forever*. This is a first novel by author Rachel Beanland. The novel is set in Atlantic City in 1934. This event will take place at Shir Tikvah at 2pm. Refreshments will be provided.

On Tuesday, March 29, a workshop entitled *Make Your Tallit* with Natasha Lehrer Lewis of Esther's Place will be presented at Shir Tikvah. Natasha will teach us how to dye fabric and we will have a unique tallit/scarf as our final project. The workshop is a grant from JUF through the South Suburban Mini-Grant Kehilla program. The program will be from 10am to 3 pm. Lunch will be provided. On

April 16, WoST will again have our 2 Seder. See the flyer in this bulletin.

Happy Purim!

Gayle



HEALING THROUGH THE SEASONS: AN EVENING OF SUPPORT IN SPRING

Grieving can be disorienting and isolating, and experiencing the death of a loved one during the pandemic has been particularly challenging.

Tuesday, March 8, 2022 | 7pm CST

The evening will include wisdom from a JCFS grief specialist, reflections from a support group participant, and music for healing from Cantor Laurie Akers.

This event is free of charge. Register today to receive the Zoom link to the program.
jcfs.formstack.com/forms/healing_through_seasons

For more information contact Diane Halivni | DianeHalivni@JCFS.org | 847.745.5459

Rabbi Dr. Joseph S. Ozarowski



Rabbi Dr. Joseph S. Ozarowski is Rabbinic Counselor and Board-certified Chaplain for JCFS Chicago. He is a prolific author and teacher, and serves the patients and families at Skokie and Glenbrook Hospitals.

Laurie Garber-Amram, LCSW



Laurie Garber-Amram is a Grief and Mental Health Specialist at JCFS Chicago, and a Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Instructor certified through the Institute for Jewish Spirituality.

Jennifer Weiner



Jennifer Weiner is a retired TV news producer and an active volunteer in the Jewish community as BBYO advisor and Sunday school teacher at Congregation Beth Shalom in Naperville. She will share the lessons she has learned about grieving her father's death to Covid in 2021.

Cantor Laurie Akers

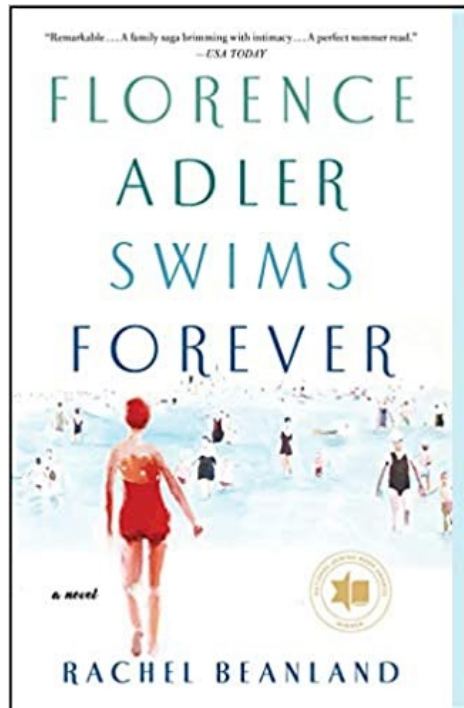


Cantor Laurie Akers is a widely celebrated music director, Jewish Rock Radio artist and performer. Her new album "The Key of We" is filled with inspiration, hope and comfort. Laurie serves as the Cantor for Congregation Or Shalom in Vernon Hills.

Sunday, March 27 at 2pm

Come join the Women of Shir Tikvah for a book review.

Refreshments will be served



Florence Adler Swims Forever is a first novel by Rachel Beanland set in Atlantic City in 1934. It is based on a true story that happened in the author's family. Nancy Burrows will be our facilitator.

[Sign up here!](#)



Shir Tikvah Family 2nd Seder
Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 6:00pm



We will be using a different seating arrangement this year. We will be sitting at tables of 8 with family. We are also limiting capacity. Please get your reservation in early. All food will be cooked in our kitchen as always. We ask that you bring your own seder plate. The cost for the meal will be \$35 for adults and \$20 for children.

RSVP with names of those sitting at your table and checks by Thursday, March 31. Payment must be made at time of reservation.

Number of Adults @ \$35 _____

Children @ \$20 _____ **Total \$** _____

Name _____

Phone number _____

Sitting with _____

Send checks to Harlene Friedman

18420 Center Avenue Homewood, IL 60430

Make Your Own Tallit Workshop!

March 29 at 10am for an in-person workshop to make our own tallit with Natasha Lehrer Lewis from Esther's Place. Natasha will help us to create a beautiful unique tallit of our own. Each person will be able to customize colors and designs on the 100% silk-fringed shawl as we learn shibori dyeing and color theory. All supplies are included in a fun and colorful class. Bring an apron and a small pair of sharp scissors. Lunch will be provided.



Please register by March 22 at shirtikvah1424@gmail.com

Shir Tikvah is pleased to partner with JUF in serving our community through the South Suburban Mini-Grant Kehilla program.

Letter from Louie

Dear Shir Tikvah community,

JUF Voices Alumni is a teen-led board which allocates money that we have raised as the board to Jewish organizations. Our mission is to mend the injustices of the world that expand access to education and combat antisemitism and poverty in our community, the Chicago area, and around the world. We hope to support programs that are dedicated to repairing the world, giving in the pursuit of justice, and the preservation of human life.

I have been selected for the second year, to join this board. I am part of the Education & Literacy committee. I humbly ask that you help support our mission with a donation to JUF's Voices Alumni Board.

How do you donate? Here's How!

1. Click on this link: https://www.juf.org/teens/voices_teens.aspx
2. Click on the drop-down menu, and click "Louis Bloomberg"
3. Fill out the information in the fields below.
 - a. For "Teen Board Member," Type: "Louie Bloomberg"
4. Click Continue and Fill Out Gift

Any Questions? Please email me at: louiebloomberg@icloud.com.

Sincerely,

Louie Bloomberg



March

2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	1 Adar II 4 CJC Shabbat at JJC 7pm	5 Conservative Service 9:45am Pekude
6	7 Shalach Manot Orders Due	8 Shalom Over 50 10am Healing Through the Season 7pm	9 Knitting Club 1pm	10	11 Shabbat Service 7:30pm	12 Reform Service 10:15am Vayikra Shabbat Zachor
13	14 ST Board 8pm	15 Shalom Over 50 10am Shalach Manot & Baked Goods Pickup	16 Megillah Reading and Purim Spiel	17 Purim	18 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Shushan Purim	19 Conservative Service 9:45am Tzav
20	21	22 Shalom Over 50 10am	23	24	25 Shabbat Service 7:30	26 Reform Service 10:15 Shemini Shabbat Parah
27 Book Review 2pm	28	29 Make Your Own Tallit 10-3	30	31	April 1 Shabbat Service 7:30pm	April 2 Conservative Service 9:45am Rosh Chodesh Tazria Shabbat Hachodesh