



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

January 2023
Tevet-Shevat 5783
thejewishcenter.org

CONNECT TO YOUR COMMUNITY · **היה שותף בקהילה**

To Every Thing There is a Season...

- Ecclesiastes 3:1



The Jewish Center

PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

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IN THIS ISSUE

Shabbat Under The Stars	3
Message from the Rabbi	4
Message from the Dir. of Cong. Learning	5
Message from the President	6
Great Minds Salon	8
Upcoming Youth.....	9
Membership	10
B'nai Mitzvah	12
Young Family Programs	13
Synagogue Spotlight.....	14
Great Debate/Lifelong Learning.....	16/17
Calendar	20/21
Engagement Form	22
Contributions.....	26
Israel & US	32
Israel Trip.....	32
Book Club.....	33

JANUARY 2023 ZOOM LINKS

(Please make sure to have the latest version of Zoom.)

Erev Shabbat Services – 6:30 PM

January 6, 13, 20, 27

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613292983>

Meeting ID: 886 1329 2983

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Shabbat morning services – 9:30 AM

January 7, 14, 21, 28

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81874292908>

Meeting ID: 818 7429 2908

Dial by your location+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Sunday Morning Minyan – 9:00 AM

January 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84765294784>

Meeting ID: 847 6529 4784

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Wednesday Morning Minyan – 7:00 AM

January 4, 11, 18, 25

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87871488326>

Meeting ID: 878 7148 8326

Dial by your location +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Live Stream our services:

www.thejewishcenter.org.

Click on the button (shown right).

If we are live, just click the play button.

Cameras go live 10-15 minutes before

services begin.

www.livestream.com/tjc



Watch
Livestream

Renowned international singer, musician, and composer

Sarah Aroeste

LIVE SEPHARDIC MUSIC AND MORE!

Sunday, February 5th at 3:45 pm at The Jewish Center

435 Nassau St, Princeton, NJ

Celebrate Tu B'Shevat!

**REGISTER ON
SHULCLOUD**

TJC members:
\$12 Adult - \$6 kids
(Family max: \$25)

Non Members:
\$18 Adult

Daughter of TJC congregant Jane Silverman

Lively and participatory/hands-on celebration of Sephardic music and cuisine. Lite fare of Sephardic food will be served.

Questions? Email info@thejewishcenter.org or call (609)-921-0100

Sponsored by Arts & Culture, TJC Religious School,
Men's Club, Jewish Center Women, Religious Affairs and Lifelong Learning



MESSAGE from the Rabbi

Rabbi Andrea Merow
609.921.0100 ext. 203
RAM@thejewishcenter.org

About *Mitzvah*: Law, Good Deed, Jewish Action

When I work with a family in preparation for the celebration of a *bat* or *bar mitzvah* celebration, I always ask the child if they can explain what the term *bar / bat mitzvah* means. Their first answer is usually a variation on the theme of: “it is when I turn 13 and I must study a lot, and then I get a party.” While all true, we then move on to additional meanings of the word *mitzvah*. Invariably I am told, “it means good deed,” occasionally a child or parent says that it is “a commandment.” I used to respond by trying to help the child understand that the word *mitzvah* means commandment. After some time, I realized that there is truth in all their answers, and I try to explain a bit about the history of the term *mitzvah*. The word *mitzvah* started out meaning commandment, a law that is given by a commander. For ancient Jews this meant a law given by God. Over time the term *mitzvah* has morphed into a larger concept. For some, the term *mitzvah* remains commandment, either a law from God, the rabbis, or even a newer, unwritten rule from the Jewish community. Keeping Shabbat would be a law from God or Torah, lighting Chanukah candles or observing a post-Biblical festival or fast day is a rabbinic law/commandment. Modern Jewish society has its own set of unwritten *mitzvot*. Two examples of this in the contemporary world are, *zachor*, remember the Shoah, Holocaust, and love the State of Israel. Rabbi Arnold Eisen, former Chancellor of The Jewish Theological Seminary added that *mitzvot* are also the actions that Jews perform, regardless of their original source.

Having multiple understandings of this word and concept help us to understand Jewish history and think about our own Jewish lives and future. Whatever definition of *mitzvah* we ascribe to dictates how we might see our involvement in Jewish life; in that sense, understanding the history and force of this term is important for how we think about our Jewish identities.

For as long as I can remember I have worn eye glasses; they allow me to see both near and far. In addition to my glasses, I think that many Jews, myself included, see the world through “*mitzvah*-colored glasses.” I have learned to incorporate many of the above definitions into how I understand the term *mitzvah*.

In January I am thrilled to begin teaching a new adult

education series entitled, “The *Mitzvah* Initiative.” This class will be based on the study of Jewish sacred text and sacred discussion. The idea is for us to explore the idea of *mitzvah* together as we think about our own Jewish lives. The course was authored by teachers at my alma mater, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Since 1886 JTS is the place where many American rabbis, cantors and educators have been trained.

The concepts that we will study together will help us to integrate classical and modern understandings of *mitzvah* into our own worldviews. It will help us to add one more Jewish pair of glasses with which to understand ourselves and our world. AT TJC, we often use the language of being part of a “covenantal community,” Becoming part of a covenantal community is also an ancient and modern *mitzvah*. Learning, and learning Torah specifically, is another important ancient and modern *mitzvah*. I invite you to come to this class as we engage in the *mitzvah* of creating covenantal community over shared texts, and the *mitzvah* of learning Torah (see page 24).

Rabbi Andrea Merow
RAM@thejewishcenter.org

Save The Date

**Join Rabbi Merow and the TJC Community
for an amazing
Trip to Israel
June 18-29, 2023!**

For more information email
adventureinIsrael@thejewishcenter.org



MESSAGE from the President

Alexandra Bar-Cohen
president@thejewishcenter.org

It felt risky to launch the December Midyear Meeting by asking you all to turn to someone you didn't know and talk about *a time you felt most engaged at The Jewish Center*, but it paid off. You dove into the exercise immediately and it was harder than I thought it would be to return the agenda, such was your enthusiasm for engaging with each other.

Although I asked you to put yourself out there, I didn't share my own "time." Clearly I could not be more involved with TJC than I am currently as President, but here's one:

As a strong advocate for sustainable living, I co-created a school-wide Tu Bishvat program that empowered our religious school students to perform a "sustainability audit" of the TJC campus about ten years ago. Having been in classes about living Jewish values like *Tikkun Olam* or *Ba'al Tashhit* (Do Not Destroy) in the modern world, students were encouraged to report on and make suggestions to remedy issues like our reliance on disposable plasticware, leaky faucets, contamination of the organics recycling (compost) in the teachers' lounge and social hall, and the overall lack of recycling bins resulting in an inordinate amount of paper being tossed into the landfill. The student audit resulted in immediate action: faucets got tightened, better signage was created for waste management, classrooms were equipped with a three-bin waste system (compost, recycling, and landfill bins) to minimize contamination. As for the plastics, the recommendation was made, but it took about a decade before we finally invested in reusable plates and silverware this past year.

Why does this time resonate as one in which I was most engaged? Of course all three of my kids were at varying stages of their religious school journey and I was teaching *Tichon* (high school), grades 3-6 and facilitating a teen girls' *Rosh Chodesh* group,

but perhaps more importantly then School Director, Gila Levin, and President Gil Gordon z"l recognized that the gift I brought to the table was my passion for sustainability and I was able to share it with my TJC *kehilah*.

Ron Wolfson, the author of *Creating Sacred Communities*, a book the board is reading to help TJC transform from a transactional to a covenantal community, relates the story of how his wife, Susan, visited a new dentist who happened to be her daughter's serious boyfriend. When Susan completed the intake forms she answered the question "name you prefer to be called" with a big hint to the man she hoped would be her future son-in-law, she wrote "Mom." The punchline is, the dentist/boyfriend never said a word about it because like many organizations, he never even looked at the "pro forma" form.

That will not be the case with our Engagement Form. We want to know you and your gifts so that we can envision new and exciting ways to build and connect our TJC community.

Thank you for filling it out on page 20 and sending it in or contact Emilie Kovit, Director of Programming and Engagement at ekovit@thejewishcenter.org for the online link. As always, I welcome your ideas and feedback.

L'Shalom,

Alexandra Bar-Cohen
President@thejewishcenter.org



MESSAGE from the Executive Director

Joel Berger
609.921.0100 ext. 205
jberger@thejewishcenter.org

Turning 60!

By the time you read this, I will have celebrated my 60th birthday on January 1st. I truly don't feel a day older than 59. I believe that it's only a number and how you feel about yourself, your life and your family are more important than an age. That's my position and I am sticking with it.

But let's get a few things out of the way. For most of my early life, I was known as the tax deduction. I was told repeatedly that anyone born before noon on January 1st, in 1963, was able to be claimed as a tax deduction. I was born at 11:35 AM. Now I am sure you accountants out there will try to prove otherwise but that is what I was told, and I am sticking with it.

I remember my parents making my birth announcement a stock certificate. Not much more about that but they were always creative about those things.

I was told repeatedly that my mother was 11 days late in delivering me. I was originally due on December 22. So, when she called the doctor on New Year's Eve 1962, he laughed at her. Less than 12 hours later, I arrived.

I am a Capricorn for those wondering. I root for the following professional sports teams:

- Baseball – Miami Marlins
- Football – New York Jets
- Basketball – Miami Heat
- Hockey – Florida Panthers

I enjoy Craps over Black Jack but have not yet tested my skills in Atlantic City.

Aside from the Kennedy assassination, here are some other highlights from 1963:

- Over 200,000 people marched on Washington to hear Martin Luther King's "I have a Dream Speech."
- Unemployment was 6.1%

- In Sports, the World series was won by Los Angeles over the Yankees 4 -1.

- Jack Nicklaus won his first Masters Tournament. The prize was \$125,000.

- Audio cassettes were introduced in 1963

- Valium was made available. No comments from you wise guys.

- Others celebrating birthdays who are turning 60:

- Brad Pitt – my twin
- Michael Jordan
- Johnny Depp

- And finally, zip codes were implemented in the US.

The sad news is that through all the lists I looked at, my birth did not make any of the lists. Pretty sad if you ask me.

So, onto 60. May this year be a happy year for everyone. May all your wishes, and New Years resolutions come true.

From my family to yours, Happy 2023!

Joel

**January
Committee Meetings**

**EC Meeting – 1/12
Board Meeting - 1/26**



MESSAGE from the Director of Congregational Learning

Sharon Diamondstein
609.921.0100 ext. 220
sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Friends,

We are now in January, and I feel like this is the longest part of winter. Maybe this is because everything that was so lit up in December has now gone dark. Days are starting to get just a little bit longer, but the cold somehow seems to feel a little bit colder. This is the part of the year when we think about midwinter blues.

In the Yeshiva world, oftentimes winter break is the third week of January rather than the last week of December. I was told that the psychology behind it was so that we could take a break at the coldest part of the year and regroup. Maybe there was something to this...

Now, as we come out on the other side of a time period that was literally well lit at night, we have to think about how we preserve that light in January. I would like to share my list with you:

- 1) Go for a walk. Even though it gets dark early, still walk. And if you have a dog, so much the better. You will thank yourself. As one who hates the cold, I've found evening walks with my dog a way to reflect upon what lit up my day. The exercise is so beneficial - and helps to beat the winter blues.
- 2) Meet a friend for coffee, tea or another warming beverage of choice. Not only will these drinks warm you on the inside, but they will also help you find light by sharing time with someone you enjoy.
- 3) Cook a meal. Not just throwing together whatever is in the fridge and pantry, but really cook with intention. The smells will warm your soul, and the love you put into the cooking will shine light on all who are lucky enough to eat it.
- 4) If you don't like cooking, order in a meal, relax and put your feet up, and savor every bite!
- 5) Share music. Music seems to bring joy to all; where there is joy, there is light.
- 6) Create art. Paint, draw, sculpt, color, or stamp! Then take your art and gift it to someone unsuspecting. You have now brought your light to someone else!
- 7) Listen to someone's story. I shared a few months ago the importance of stories being told. Asking someone else to share their stories allows them to share their light! I was awestruck listening to Yonatan and Esau's stories when they spoke on Shabbat in December...
- 8) Donate a book. Little Free Libraries are popping up all over, and I've been "shopping" at the one down the street from my house. I often "shop" (see number 1) and am frequently seen walking into the house with a dog leash in one hand and a book stealthily hidden in my coat!
- 9) Smile at a stranger. In December, people are more cheery and kind than the rest of the year. Once January rolls around, people forget the warmth of the preceding month and get stuck in winter doldrums. Sometimes something as simple as a smile can make someone's day!
- 10) Start a family tradition. One that we do weekly is a check-in. "What was great about your week? What do you wish was different?" All great conversation starters, and it allows each person at the table to share their light from the week.
- 11) Light Shabbat candles. It is the gift of light that keeps on giving. We are fortunate to have a holiday each week. We bring in the light every Friday at sunset and bid Shabbat farewell on Saturday night just after dark using the light of the Havdalah candle.

We can continue to create light, even and especially in the darkness. All we need to do

is look within ourselves. So as we enter the month of January, I would love to add to my list. How will you create light? What gifts will you bring in? I can't wait to hear.

Please email me:
sdiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

L'Shalom,

Sharon

(See page 35 for more Young Family activities).

**For Kids K and below!
Bring your friends! All are
welcome!**

Shabbat Katan

**This spirited service is
designed for preschool-aged
children and their families.
Led by music teacher Susan
Sacks and parents, this in-
teractive Shabbat experience
includes stories, prayers,
songs, and a brief Torah
reading. Ages: K and below.**

Open to the community!

January 21

11:00 am

Youth Lounge

Questions? Call Sharon at
(609) 921-7207
or email her at
SDiamondstein@thejewishcenter.org

Arts & Culture

Live Concert - February 5

Sarah Aroeste, singer and writer will be bring a contemporary vision of Sephardic culture to The Jewish Center on Sunday, February 5 at 3:45 p.m. for a lively hands-on program through music and food. This is a perfect time for Sarah to join us at TJC linking Sephardic culture with Tu B'shevat and our parashat of Shabbat Shirah. In addition to beautiful music and singing and learning, a light Sephardic tasting is planned as part of Sarah's program.

With her unwavering commitment to preserving Sephardic life, Sarah Aroeste has received notable attention over the years for her innovation in working to make its music and culture more accessible and exciting to new and larger audiences. For the last twenty years, inspired by her Sephardic roots, Sarah has brought the Sephardic culture with music, books and food to audiences around the world, and we are so excited that Sarah will join us on February 5.

Learn more about Sarah and her music with these links or the QR codes

<https://tinyurl.com/sarah-feb5>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyt9Vryte_o

Look for the flyer on page 3 of this newsletter for more details.

Register for this event on Shulcloud.
Questions? Email info@thejewishcenter.org

Polly Strauss and Roberta Sternthal

Music QR code: Article QR code:



Are you interested in taking a leadership role in TJC services?

Do you want to...

Have an *aliyah*?

Read Torah or Haftarah?

Be *gabbai*?

**If you do, please get in touch with our Ritual Assistant
Ethan Weg, at
eweg@thejewishcenter.org**



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

Spa for the Soul

MEDITATION
SINGING
LEARNING

LED BY
RABBI MEROW

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
9:00 AM
IN PERSON



Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah



TAL MAYBLUM
JANUARY 7, 2023

Tal was born in New York City and moved to Princeton when he was five years old. He is a seventh grader at the Lewis School. He loves to draw and sculpt and he is a regular at the visual arts classes and camps of the Art Council of Princeton. Tal also plays the guitar and he is a geography enthusiast, regularly pouring over maps and atlases, researching about foreign countries, and committing to memory world and state capitals, flags, and other geography trivia. Tal likes to travel to new places and dreams of traveling to India and Egypt. Until then, he spends some of his summers in Israel with his cousins and other family members. His favorite thing to do in Israel is going to the beach almost every day. For his Chesed Project, Tal joined the volunteers of the Friends of Herrontown Woods

foundation. He helped clear a portion of the forest from nonnative plants and learned about some of the challenges to Central New Jersey's natural flora and fauna. Tal wishes to thank all those who helped him prepare for his Bar-Mitzvah, including Ronit Rackowski who worked with him tirelessly on his Maftir and Haftarah, Cilla Karetnick, his Hebrew tutor, Rabbi Merow, Avi Paradise, Sharon Diamondstein and Cantor Jeff Warschauer.



JACOB ROGART
JANUARY 14, 2023

Jacob Max Rogart is a 7th grade student at Princeton Middle School. Jacob spends a lot of his free time playing the guitar and loves music from the 1990's. He also enjoys sports. He has been playing tennis since he was four years old. More recently he has picked up skimboarding and fishing. During summers, Jacob enjoys traveling and spending time with his family who live in Germany. For his Chesed project Jacob cleared trails at the Princeton Herrontown Woods so that others could enjoy them. Jacob is grateful for his family and friends for their love and support. He would also like to express his gratitude to Rabbi Merow, Avi, Ronit, Sharon, and Nancy.


NEW MEMBERS
 Ari and Anna Meisel and their children, Ben, Lucas, Sebastien and Chloe

MEMBERSHIP



Mazal Tov...On Your Great News!

Email your news to us: mazaltov@thejewishcenter.org

To Sher Leiman on his special birthday

To Alan Medvin on his special birthday

To Susan and Jonathan Gross, whose 11th great-grandchild, Fruma Miriam Schwartz, was born on Sunday, November 6th, in Florida.

To Joyce and Clive Usiskin on the marriage of their grandson, Robin Quinn Barrett to Hope Friedman on December 10, 2022 in Miami, Florida. Quinn is the son of their daughter, Irene Usiskin Shockley.

To Rabbi Merow's 25th year in the rabbinate and receiving an honorary Doctor of the Divinity Degree from The Jewish Theological Seminary.

To Ruth and Bill Besser's daughter-in-law, Annie Lennox, who was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Saturday, November 5.

To Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins, rabbi emeritus of TJC, who recently published a new book (his 65th): Peter Bergson – The Jewish Lobbyist Who Advocated To Save Jews During the Holocaust.

To Miki Schnitzer, who was selected to be a Shalom Hartman Institute teen fellow. She attended an opening Shabbaton last weekend and will spend the next six months learning with a group of intellectually curious Jewish teens from across North America. Together with Hartman faculty they will explore the complexities, opportunities, and challenges facing the Jewish people.

To Alison Politziner and everything she does for the refugee families.

To Lori and Michael Feldstein for their AJC honor.

To Cynthia Sage, whose Mercer County Master Gardener class of 2020 has finally "graduated" after a long Covid hiatus. She is now a certified Master Gardener!

To Sarah Lightman, who made her New York debut as a singer songwriter in Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

To Jamie Beran, who recently became the new CEO of Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice. Jamie has been at the organization for 14 years, previously as the organization's Chief Operating Officer and Interim CEO. Bend the Arc organizes our multiracial community of American Jews to pursue justice in the U.S. and envisions a country free from white supremacy, antisemitism, and racism.

To the Usiskin's granddaughter, Dr. Ilana Usiskin who was matched for a fellowship in Rheumatology at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

To Lior Levy, who is the son of congregants Howard and Riva Levy and is a high school humanities teacher at Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom School in the Bronx. Lior is also an assistant coach for the basketball team there. Aware of the explosion in antisemitism and the impact of recent events in the news, the coaches saw an opportunity to educate and spread love and understanding.

To Members of the Refugee Resettlement Ministry of the Catholic Community of St. Charles Borromeo.

The Jewish Center is the place to be in Princeton and Mercer County! Tell your friends and let's grow our synagogue together. Contact the office for more information or email us at info@thejewishcenter.org

Upcoming Jan Events

TJC Youth Programming

— **JCUSY PU Ice Hockey Game | Sat, 7-9:30 PM**

Jan
7

Join your 8th through 12th grade friends as we cheer on the Princeton University Tigers ice hockey team against the Dartmouth College "Big Green."

— **Kadima Ice Skating | Sun, 1:30-3:30 PM**

Jan
8

Lace up your skates and maybe have some hot cocoa with your TJC 5th through 7th grade friends.

— **Nitzanim Cupcake Decorating | Sat, 6-7:30 PM**

Jan
21

TJC 3rd & 4th graders are invited to join us for a cupcake decorating competition.

— **JCUSY Ice Skating | Sat, 7:30-9:30 PM**

Jan
28

Lace up your skates and maybe have some hot cocoa with your TJC 8th through 12th grade friends.

— **Nitzanim Slime Making | Sun, 12-1:30 PM**

Jan
29

Come join your TJC 3rd & 4th grade friends for pizza followed by slime making.

— **Kadima Hummus Making | Sun, 12-1:30 PM**

Jan
29

Come make hummus and pita with your 5th through 7th grade friends.

RSVPs are required to Youth Director Ethan Weg at eweg@thejewishcenter.org



Presented by the Lifelong Learning Committee

A Fresh Look at Pirkei Avot

led by Joe Rosenstein

9:30 AM on January 22, February 5, and February 26



Pirkei Avot is the only tractate of the Mishnah that teaches no laws and tells no stories. Instead, it introduces ethical and judicial principles and advises scholars, would-be scholars, and the rest of us how our tradition was transmitted and how to interact with our contemporaries in both intimate and communal

settings. Following a lifetime of studying and teaching this text, Joe Rosenstein recently completed a book entitled *Reflections on Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers): Not Just What My Rebbe Taught Me*, in which he examines each teaching, as is usually done, but in which he also looks at the text from a broader perspective—identifying the primary ethical principles that are contained therein and musing on their continuing relevance.

There will be three sessions. The first session will provide an overview of Pirkei Avot and will review selected teachings. The second session will focus on

the major innovations in Judaism that took place in the first two centuries of the common era, as reflected in Pirkei Avot. In the third session, we will read and discuss a selection of the 88 ethical instructions Joe has extracted from Pirkei Avot. You are welcome to attend any or all of these sessions.

Copies of the book are available at joeroseinstein.com -- there is a 20% discount for purchases of this book until (and at) first session on January 22.

Joe Rosenstein was a founder and chair of the National Havurah Committee. He, along with Michael Strassfeld and Elaine S. Cohen, organized the first National Havurah Conference in 1979. Annual week-long summer institutes have been conducted by the NHC each year since 1980 and have attracted an average of 250 adults (plus many children) of varying Jewish backgrounds and observance. Joe is also the author of *Siddur Eit Ratzon*, which has been the siddur used by the Havurah Minyan at the Princeton Jewish Center since its publication in 2003, and *Machzor Eit Ratzon* for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, both of which are available at joeroseinstein.com.

A Special Request from the Lifelong Learning Committee

Dr. Rosenstein is concerned about protecting himself against Covid and the Flu. We completely understand Joe's concerns and encourage you to wear a mask during the teaching portion of the program. Refreshments will be served in the lobby before the program.

SHUA KISILEVITZ

Archaeologist: Israel Antiquities Authority
Director of Tel Motza Excavation, Israel



But Wait, There's More!

Changing Perspectives on Cult and Religion in Judah, a View from Tel Moza

Shua Kisilevitz, PhD Candidate at Tel Aviv University, is a native Israeli who has participated in over 15 excavations in the Judea Region of Israel since 2010, including Assistant Director of the excavation of the synagogue at Huqoq between 2011–2019 (Jody Mages, Director).

Shua's involvement in the discovery of the temple at Moza in 2012 led her to focus on the study of cult and religion in Judah and the ancient Near East during the

First Temple Period (Iron Age) and its association with the rise of structured social and political communities and elites in the southern Levant during this period. As part of this study, Shua launched the Tel Moza Expedition Project together with Prof. Oded Lipschits on behalf of Tel Aviv University and they have been continuing to expose the religious precinct at the site since 2019.

**Wednesday, January 11 at 7:30 p.m. – Open to the Community
In person at The Jewish Center (will also be accessible virtually)**

Register on Shul Cloud by Sunday, January 8

For more information, email info@thejewishcenter.org



Synagogue Spotlight



“I see my life is about luck. I was in the right place at the right time, as a series of accidents I ended up here,” states Froma Zeitlin, who is living in Princeton after 41 years educating great minds on Classics, Comparative Literature and Jewish Studies at Princeton University.



Zeitlin grew up on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, daughter of two Orthodox Jews who immigrated from what is now Belarus. Zeitlin grew up during the war, surrounded by refugee children from several European countries.

She attended Ramaz Jewish Day School, where she obtained a strong Hebrew education and became a Bat Mitzvah at age 13.

“I was an early pioneer in going to newly founded Ramaz, it was an amazing experience for me,” remembers Zeitlin. “I went on to Herzliah Hebrew Teachers’ College. It was a unique institution, non-religious, but everything was in Hebrew. I still live off that education. I’m still fluent.”



It was at Hertzliah where she met her husband, George. They married young, before he went off to the army and had three children by the time she was 27: Jonathan, Judith and Ariel.

“I look back on my life, how sheltered I was. I went to Radcliffe in Cambridge and I was a little innocent girl from NY. I didn’t know about fancy schools,” Zeitlin recalls. “That was a totally different world, getting out of the upper west side bubble.” A different world has led her to become one of the most recognized scholars of classical literature.

As a young mother, Zeitlin went on to complete her MA from Catholic University and then earned a PhD (with distinction) from Columbia University. With her children now in school at Ramaz, she began commuting out to NJ to teach Classics. She began at Rutgers University then left for Princeton University until her full retirement in 2019. All by luck? In my brief conversation to get to know Froma Zeitlin for this *Synagogue Spotlight*, I could feel this very humble woman also has a great mind, strength, determination and drive that helped her achieve.

“When I got my first fellowship from the NEH (National Endowment for the Humanities), that was the first time I was really validated as somebody in my own right,” Zeitlin notes. “It was a very interesting time, the beginning of the feminist movement that I was involved in. People forget there was a lot of turmoil in that period, and I was an over-aged graduate student with three children when the feminist movement started at Columbia.”

Yet at Princeton University, Zeitlin created a name for herself. She started in Classics, then took on Comparative Literature and later also becoming the Director of the Program for Jewish Studies. In between, she traveled and taught abroad, became the Charles Ewing Professor of Greek Languages & Literature and was Sather Professor at Berkeley. Her 11-page resume goes on to detail Zeitlin’s 23 Academic Honors, eight books she authored, edited or co-edited along with essays, conferences and other talks she’s given. If you have any experience in the field of Classic Literature, Zeitlin has likely touched your life.

“My favorite part of teaching was always having great students and I have, from doctoral to undergrads to thesis advisees. I’m still in touch with a lot of them,” shares Zeitlin. “The person who is most famous, Daniel Mendelsohn, he was one of my students. Every time he writes something he mentions me, so if I’m known for anything in the world, it’s because he mentions me!”

Perhaps that’s boosted her reputation, but Zeitlin’s



pioneering work in Greek literature along with gendered studies of classic works has made her stand out in her own right. If one goes to the Princeton University website, the Dean of Faculty describes a 2010 conference honoring Zeitlin’s works and states “On the poster for that conference

the organizers summed up her career: “Over five decades she has transformed the field of classics, opening it up to fertile interactions with post-War French thought and feminist theory and imprinting it with her own extraordinary vision.”

While Zeitlin has left an indelible mark on the field of classic literature as a leading mind in Greek drama, she was also a devoted mother who is so proud of who her children have become. Successful in the fields of economics, Chinese literature and library science and having brought four grandchildren into her life.

Zeitlin is now fully retired but still keeps her



pulse on the subject matter. In fact, she’s just finished a collection of a set of essays that’s about to be submitted to

press.

Synagogue Spotlight is a joint project by TJC members and journalists Lisa Jacknow and Michele Alperin. Each month they take turns writing about fellow congregants to help us learn more about one another. This article was written by Lisa.

Lisa lives in Princeton with her husband Bret and their two sons, Gabriel and Cooper. She is Founding Editor/Writer of the monthly online magazine Princeton Perspectives.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg Workshop
 Wednesday, January 18
 7:00 p.m.
 at The Jewish Center

Workshop for new players
 led by Judi Fleitman
 & live game for all.

All levels welcome!

DATES: January 21
 after Shabbat Services



Questions? Email judykutin@gmail.com or yehuditfleit@gmail.com for more info

GIVE AN EVERLASTING GIFT

Personalize a

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“TJC community walkway”

Perfect for birthdays, anniversaries, b’nai mitzvah, and special occasions—A special way to forever commemorate a loved one.

- Small brick (7.5 x 15) - \$250
four lines of text, up to 20 characters/line
- Medium brick (15 x 15) - \$500
six lines of text, up to 20 characters/line
- Large brick (15 x 22) - \$750
six lines of text, up to 30 characters/line

Contact the office for more information:
info@thejewishcenter.org

SESSION III

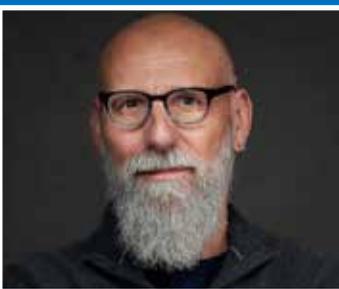
TALMUD, KABBALAH, MUSAR, HISTORY: THE BATTLE FOR AUTHORITY IN JEWISH MODERNITY

Dr. Shaul Magid

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Jewish modernity is often viewed from the perspective of the Enlightenment, the emancipation of the Jews in Europe, and the rise of Reform and what was known as critical-historical Judaism (later Conservative Judaism). But more traditional forms of Judaism responded to the challenges of modernity in different ways as well. One of the main concerns for traditionalists was how to navigate questions of authority and authenticity. In fact, the very notion of religious authority became under scrutiny.

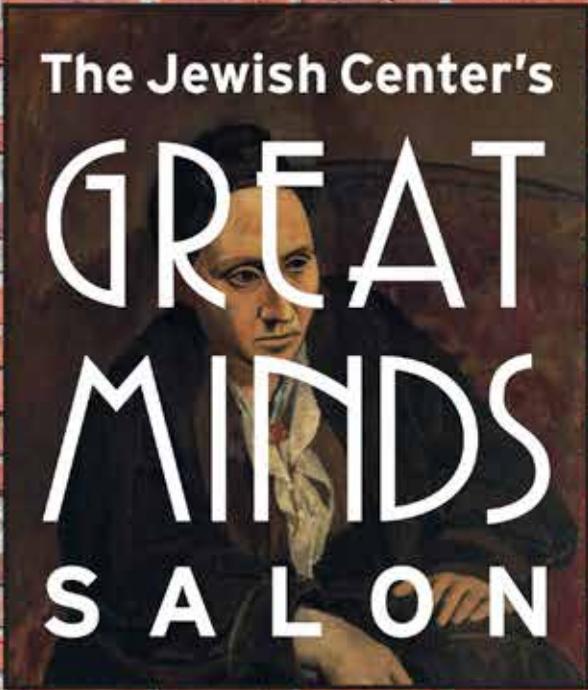
In this session we will look at Jewish modernity as an intellectual battleground of authority. Previously, different ways of understanding Judaism co-existed, with real exceptions, in part because the very notion of authority was never put under such intense and compelling scrutiny. Modernity created a new playing field that ostensibly existed outside the limits of the tradition entirely. Thus, the fragments of tradition that each held its own authority, had to build cases for themselves and argue why they are more authentic than their competitors. This is not by any means to claim that this is all that is going on here, but it is to say that this is a lens through which to observe a set of very complex phenomena. The battle for authority stands at the center at the Jewish struggle to salvage tradition on modernity's terms.



Shaul Magid is Professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College and Kogod Senior Research Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America. Author of many books and essays, his two latest books are *The Bible, the Talmud and the New Testament: Elijah Zvi Soloveitchik's Commentary to the Gospel*, and *Piety and Rebellion: Essay in Hasidism*, both published in 2019. His new book *Meir Kahane: The Public Life and Political Thought of an American Jewish Radical* will be published with Princeton University Press in October, 2021. He is presently working on the political theology of Yoel Teitelbaum of Satmar.

The Jewish Center's

GREAT MINDS SALON



**Thursday, January 5
8:15 p.m.**

**Gabriel Notterman
Siciliano
Owner & Operator, Abe's
Acres Farm LLC**

**Regenerative Growing in
the Garden State**

THE JEWISH CENTER'S "GREAT MINDS" SALON IS A SPEAKER SERIES FASHIONED AFTER THE 1900'S ERA PARIS SALON HOSTED BY JEWISH AUTHOR GERTRUDE STEIN (PICTURED ABOVE), WHICH REGULARLY BROUGHT TOGETHER THE BRIGHTEST ARTISTS AND THINKERS OF THAT ERA TO DISCUSS THEIR LATEST WORK.

Gabriel Notterman Siciliano will be discussing regenerative growing in the Garden State, along with sharing a short history of local Jewish farming in Mercer County. What does it mean to be a Jewish Farmer? How do our traditions take on new meanings and revitalize old ones in an agrarian context?

From a young age, Gabriel was inculcated with a love of gardening and green growing things by his grandfather, spending much of his childhood with him on the farm, and carrying that love with him today. His roots run deep here, and his stewardship of the land reflects that. Though he says he has much to learn as a beginning farmer, he's committed to sustainable stewardship of a legacy for future generations. Gabriel considers it a privilege to grow healthful and delicious food for his community. Abe's Acres Farm has just completed its sixth season.



8:15 p.m. Via Zoom - OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

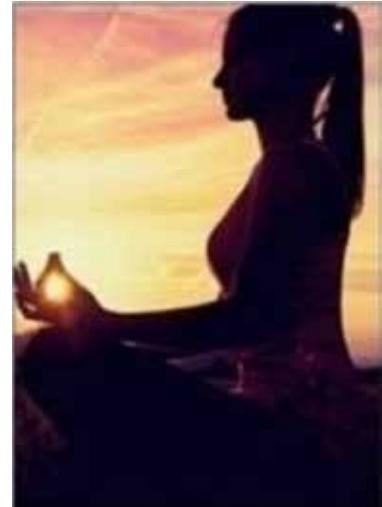
PROGRAM WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM. PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH SHULCLOUD AT WWW.THEJEWISHCENTER.ORG A Zoom link will be sent to all registrants prior to the event.



Shabbat Meditation

Led by Ruth Goldston

**January 7 & 21 • 4:00 p.m.
In TJC Adult Library**



Shabbat is a time for rest and renewal. Our busy lives make it hard to slow down, not just physically, but mentally as well. Join us as we use mindfulness meditation techniques to savor our moment-to-moment experiences, and to connect with our Jewish souls in the richness of silence in each other's company.

The Jewish calendar, the liturgy, or the parshah will provide the focus for our practice. You will leave relaxed, refreshed, and centered as you enter the next week.

Appropriate for beginners as well as more experienced mindfulness practitioners. And if you've tried mindfulness or meditation before, and think you've "failed," you are especially welcome to join us.

Open to the Community!

Ruth Goldston is a long-time congregant, as well as a psychologist in private practice in Princeton. She has been leading Shabbat Meditation (aka Meditation Mincha) for the past 6 years at TJC. She has used mindfulness techniques successfully with her clients for many years, and has drawn on them to create meaningful prayer experiences in TJC's Havurah Minyan.

Shabbat Under the Stars

January 20

Services – 6:30 PM

Dinner – 7:30 PM



POTLUCK DINNER

Fish entree and beverages provided by
The Jewish Center



Bring a dish! Bring a friend! Bring Kosher wine!

Please RSVP via ShulCloud & let us know what
dish you are sharing

Stay after dinner for Chess! All levels welcome

Want to host? Contact Emilie Kovit at ekovit@thejewishcenter.org
or call 609.921.0100 x 209



The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
New Year's Day 1	Office Closed 2	Fast of Tevet 3 12:00 PM Bridge Club	12:00 PM Talmud Study G
8 9:00 AM Pickleball 9:00 AM Religious School 6:00 PM Sulam	9	10 12:00 PM Bridge Club 7:00 PM The Mitzvah Initiative	12:00 PM Talmud Study G 7:30 PM Lifelong Learning Perspectives on Judah
15	MLK Day 16	17 12:00 PM Bridge Club 7:00 PM The Mitzvah Initiative 7:30 PM Book Club	12:00 PM Talmud Study G 7:00 PM Mah Jongg Work
22 9:00 AM Pickleball 9:00 AM Religious School 9:30 AM A Fresh Look at Pirkei Avot 9:30 AM Atidaynu In Person Listening Session (RS Families) 12:30 PM Atidaynu In Person Listening Session (open)	Rosh Chodesh Shevat 23 7:00 PM Atidaynu Listening Session - Zoom	24 12:00 PM Bridge Club 7:00 PM The Mitzvah Initiative	12:00 PM Talmud Study G 7:00 PM Atidaynu Listeni
29 9:00 AM Pickleball 9:00 AM Religious School 9:30 AM Atidaynu In Person Listening Session (RS Families) 11:00 AM Bnai Mitzvah Trope Class 12:00 PM Madrichim Meeting 12:30 PM Atidaynu In Person Listening Session (open)	30 7:00 PM Atidaynu Listening Session - Zoom	31 12:00 PM Bridge Club 7:00 PM The Mitzvah Initiative	

TEVET/SHEVAT 5783

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>Study Group</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:15 PM Great Minds Salon: Gabriel Notterman Siciliano</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 AM Pickleball 4:29 PM Candle Lighting 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Vayechi</p> <p>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker 9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah for Tal Mayblum 5:38 PM Havdalah</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Study Group Learning Changing Views on Cult + Religion in</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 PM EC Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 AM Pickleball 4:37 PM Candle Lighting 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Shemot</p> <p>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker 9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah for Jacob Rogart 10:00 AM Havurah Minyan 5:46 PM Havdalah</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Study Group Workshop</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30 AM Nosh and Drosh 7:00 PM Great Debates 3: The Battle for Authority 7:30 PM LaShir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 AM Pickleball 11:00 AM Kiddush Krew Prep 4:44 PM Candle Lighting 5:30 PM Pre-K - 2nd Grade Shabbat Dinner 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM Shabbat Under the Stars</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Vaera Shabbat Mevarchim</p> <p>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker 10:00 AM Kiddush Krew 11:00 AM Shabbat Katan 12:30 PM Mah Jongg 5:54 PM Havdalah</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Study Group Listening Session (Zoom)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 PM Board Meeting 7:30 PM LaShir</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 AM Pickleball 11:00 AM Kiddush Krew Prep 4:53 PM Candle Lighting 6:30 PM Zamru Service</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Bo</p> <p>8:45 AM Bible BaBoker 9:00 AM Spa for the Soul 10:00 AM Havurah Minyan 10:00 AM Kiddush Krew 6:00 PM Young Family Pajama Havdalah 6:02 PM Havdalah</p>
			<p>All communications are via email. If you are NOT on our email list, please email us at info@thejewishcenter.org</p>

TJC Engagement Questionnaire

Getting to know our community one congregant at a time!
Thank you for filling out this form; it will help us build connections
and strengthen our covenantal community!

What is your name (first and last) and best contact info?

Name: _____

Contact Info: _____

Tell us about a time when you felt most connected and engaged in the congregation:

What gifts (skills, talents, areas of interest, knowledge or expertise, etc) would you like to share
with your community at TJC?

Got a fun fact about yourself you'd like to share with us?

Optional: I would like to be contacted by

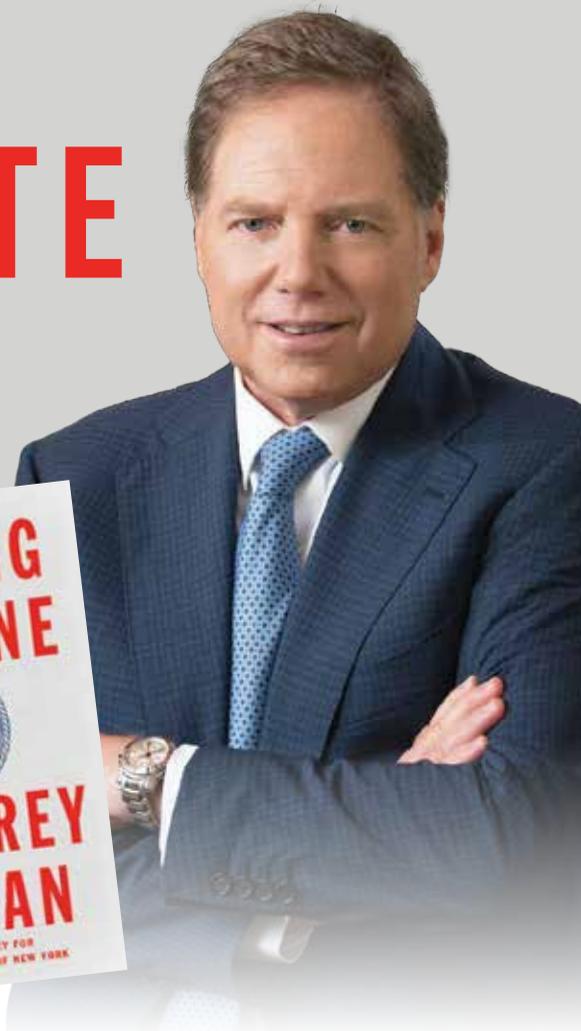
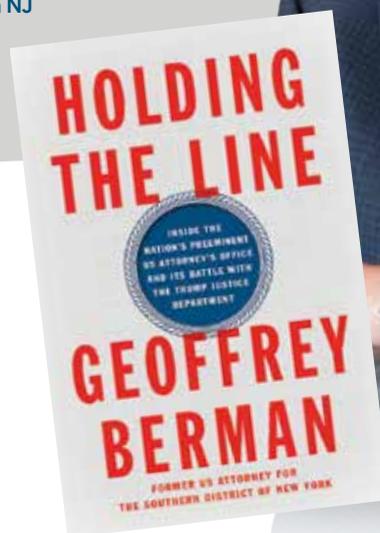
- Emilie Kovit, Director of Programming and Engagement
- Rabbi Andrea Merow
- President Alexandra Bar-Cohen
- Main Office

Optional: I would like to be contacted via phone number or email address (enter below)

SAVE THE DATE

SUN, JAN 22, 2023 AT 7 PM
The Jewish Center
in Princeton NJ


Greenwood House
Senior Healthcare



GREENWOOD HOUSE PRESENTS AN EVENING WITH GEOFFREY BERMAN

For more information please visit greenwoodhouse.org/news-and-events

Questions? Contact Neil Wise, Greenwood House Director of
Development at nwise@greenwoodhouse.org or (609) 883-9014.

A FUNDRAISING EVENT TO BENEFIT THE HIGH QUALITY CARE
AND SERVICES TO SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Greenwood House is a nonprofit, nonsectarian, mission-based long term care organization and is a comprehensive provider of wellness-focused senior lifestyle and health care services. Greenwood House is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Princeton Mercer Bucks.

The Mitzvah Initiative

MITZVAH, MEANING

TUESDAYS - 7:00PM
VIA ZOOM

Join us for a Text based class about the idea of mitzvah:
Commandment? Good deed? Jewish action? All of the above?

A guided course of study for adults from
The Jewish Theological Seminary,
taught by Rabbi Andrea Merow

No knowledge of Hebrew needed. All texts provided.
This course will continue throughout the year.

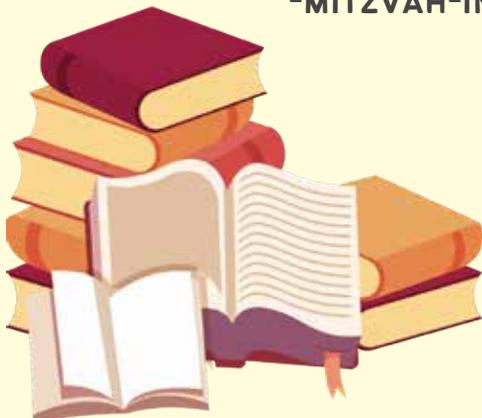
January 10 - Course Introduction- Mitzvah: commandment,
good deed, Jewish action, all of the above?

Jan 17 - A Signature Mitzvah

Jan 24 - The History of Mitzvah

Jan 31 - Lost Objects and Visiting the Sick

SIGN UP AT
[HTTPS://THEJEWISHCENTEROFPRINCETON.SHULCLOUD.COM/EVENT/THE
-MITZVAH-INITIATIVE.HTML](https://thejewishcenterofprinceton.shulcloud.com/event/the-mitzvah-initiative.html)





What is

Atidaynu:

Our Future

Our team is focused on creating a future vision for The Jewish Center. Over the last several months, we've been "casting a wide net" on the many possibilities for our future, inspired by thought leaders, articles, books, and experiences throughout the Jewish world. Now it's your turn to be part of the process!

Please join us for the upcoming Atidaynu: Our Future Listening sessions. These sessions are designed to help us understand our community's priorities and what is most important to build into our vision for the future and how we use our resources going forward.

IN PERSON:

Sun, 1/22 @ 9:30 AM (RS Families) & 12:30 PM (open)

Sun, 1/29 @ 9:30 AM (RS Families) & 12:30 PM (open)

Thurs, 2/2 @ 7 PM (open)

ZOOM:

Mon, 1/23 @ 7 PM (open)

Wed, 1/25 @ 7 PM (open)

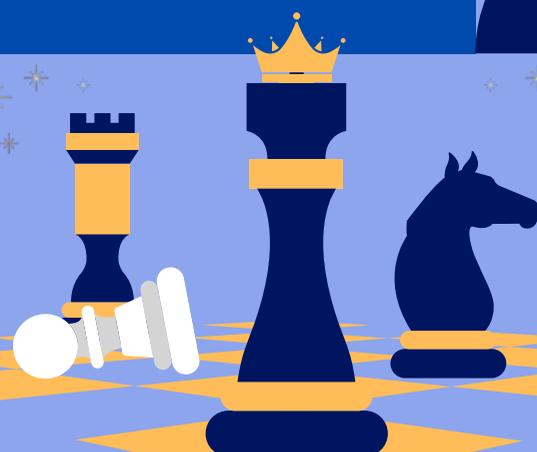
Mon, 1/30 @ 7 PM (open)

Watch your e-mail for
sign-up links after the new year!



NOSH & DROSH

Next Meeting:
January 19 at 9:30 a.m.



Chess
At The Jewish Center

**Friday
January 20**

Once a month after Shabbat Under the Stars dinners!

The Jewish Center
PRINCETON • NEW JERSEY

HOW DO I FIND THE JEWISH CENTER DIRECTORY?



- Log into ShulCloud
- Go to "My Account"
- Scroll down to the third category on that page, "My Communications and Directory Options" and then click on Member Directory.

McCaffrey's Receipts October-December 2022

Thank you for bringing your McCaffrey's receipts to TJC! We appreciate you thinking of us whenever you shop.

PLEASE make sure the receipts are **less than three months old**. They will not accept older receipts and it makes it easier to sort.

Thank you!

Now accepting receipts from October - December 2022
Would you like to sort? We are looking for volunteers to help sort receipts. Contact Roni at vgarrison@thejewishcenter.org



You shop. Amazon gives.

What is AmazonSmile?
AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Follow these easy steps:

- Sign in to smile.amazon.com
- Go to Your Account
- Select Jewish Center of Princeton

Thank you!

Jewish Themed Civil Rights Trip – Fall 2023

Let us know if you're interested!



The Jewish Center is in the early stages of planning a 3-day Civil Rights trip in the fall of 2023 to important sites of the Civil Rights Movement in Georgia and Alabama.

We're gauging preliminary interest. Please email tjctrip@thejewishcenter.org to let us know.



CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support The Jewish Center by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones through their generous contributions:

GENERAL FUND

In honor of

Rabbi Bob Freedman, Linda Milstein, Jerry Neumann, Beatrice Bloom and the Rosenberg/Ableman Family with thanks for your kindness at the time of our mothers passing

from The Tal and Marks Families

Helaine and Hanan Isaacs on the engagement of their son Stuart to Sarah Bowler

from Ginny Mason

Sadie Gallagher on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

from Lois and Arnie Brown, David and Joan Rosenfeld

In memory of

Eugen Blau

from Leslie Blau

Henia Shylit

from Sharon Shylit

Harold Borkan

from Carol and Mark Pollard, Adele Agin

Gil Gordon

from Ginny Mason

Bobby Willig

from Adele Agin, Esta Aranoff, Chex Yu

Minna Wagner

from Carol and Mark Pollard

Dr. Arthur Fein

from Harriet Fein

Chaim (Hymie) Schreiber

from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs, Carol and Herb Horowitz

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

from Rachelle Simon

from Jonathan Katz

In honor of

The Adult Ed. Committee for sponsoring Dr. Mark Leuachter's lecture on Ezra & Nehemia

from Joe and Barbara Schwartz

In memory of

Arthur Turim

from Fran Zeitler Edelman

Evelyn Saldick

from Carol and Herb Horowitz

ANNUAL FUND

In honor of

Rabbi Merow being awarded an honorary doctorate! Wonderful news.

from Alison and David Politziner

TJC Volunteers

from Dana and Alberto Molina

In memory of

Jack David Yarin

from Maryann Yarin

Michael Curtis

from Marilyn and Barry Steiner

Evelyn Saldick

from Andrew Garman

ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

In honor of

Ellen and George Pristach on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Sophia

from Joshua and Abbye Cornfield

In memory of

Michael Curtis

from Ginny Mason

Hymie Schreiber

from Sher and Jeanne Leiman

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

In honor of

Alan Medvin on his big birthday

from Ginny Mason

Rabbi/Cantor Bob Freedman with many thanks for a wonderful service for Bobby

from The Mason/Willig and Extended Families

FRAN AMIR COMMUNITY

SERVICE TRIP FUND

In memory of

Anthony Ullman

from Gladys Ullman

HACHUTZAH EXPLORATORY

TRAIL FUND

In honor of

Josh Zinder for receiving the HAKARAT HATOV Award from the Jewish

Federation of Princeton Mercer Bucks

from Ginny Mason

In memory of

Martin Winn

from Judy and Sandy Kutin

David Schwartz

from Lew and Barbara Gantwerk, Eve Coulson and Nelson Obus, Joshua and Abbye Cornfield, Bret and Lisa Jacknow, Barak and Alexandra Bar-Cohen, Dina and Michael Shaw, Heidi Joseph and David Saltzman, Polly and Rick Strauss, Linda and Art Meisel, Barbara, Andrew and Gerald Seid, Joe and Barbara Schwartz

IRVING N. RABINOWITZ CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW FUND

In honor of

Rabbi Merow's 25th year in the rabbinate and receiving an honorary Doctor of the Divinity Degree from The Jewish Theological Seminary

from Sandie Rabinowitz

THE JEWISH CENTER REFUGEE FUND

from Helene Hughes

from Mindy and Corey Langer

from David Hoffman

from All Saints Church

from Kathy Ales and Richard Levine

from Ariana and Ryan McBride

In honor of

Ronnie Weyl and Liz Cohen

from Jay Taylor

Alison Politziner

from Sarah Cheslock

Erin Dolan, Julie McLaughlin, Paul

Disdier, and Gloria Epp – Core Team from St. Charles Borromeo – for all their hard

work and dedication

from Patricia Scalse

Members of the Refugee Resettlement
Ministry of the Catholic Community of St.
Charles Borromeo

from Erin Dolan

St. Charles Borromeo volunteers

from Charles and Christine Barranco

Alison Politziner and everything she does
for the refugee families

from Lisa and Larry Kramer

Rabbi Merow's 25th year in the rabbinate
and receiving an honorary Doctor of
the Divinity Degree from The Jewish
Theological Seminary

*from Wilma Solomon and David
Goldberg*

In memory of

Arthur Becker

*from Amy Becker-Mattes
and Jeffrey Mattes*

Sarah Tulloss and Mark Tulloss

from Mary Tulloss

David Schwartz

*from Fran Zeitler Edelman
and Fred Edelman*

Bobby Willig

*from Fran Zeitler Edelman
and Fred Edelman*

Hymie Schreiber

*from Fran Zeitler Edelman
and Fred Edelman*

**LIFE AND LEGACY ENDOWMENT
FUND**

In honor of

The 60th Wedding Anniversary of Eliot and
Marsha Freeman

from Ginny Mason

Sadie Gallagher on becoming a Bat
Mitzvah

from Linda and Art Meisel

Rabbi Merow's 25th year in the rabbinate
and receiving an honorary Doctor of
the Divinity Degree from The Jewish
Theological Seminary

from Linda and Art Meisel

**MARCHAND ESPIR FAMILY
HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND**

In honor of

Allen Porter

from Sy Marchand

NEIMARK SENIOR MITZVAH FUND

In honor of

Edith Neimark, a true and dear friend

from Judith Bronston

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In honor of

The marriage of David B. Borsack and
Stephanie Wiener

from Charlene and Scott Borsack

In memory of

Connie Marks

from Rick and Donna Rosenberg

Sheldon Reich, beloved father of Charlene
Reich Borsack

from Charlene and Scott Borsack

**RABBI ADAM FELDMAN
MEMORIAL FUND**

from Steven and Karen Grey

In memory of

Bobby Willig

from Sheila Marrero, Seth Mellman

My brother, Rabbi Adam Feldman, on the
anniversary of his upcoming yahrzeit

from Lisa Feldman

Rabbi Adam Feldman

*from Sara Bucholtz, Talia, Dena
and Ilan Feldman*

**RABBI MEROW'S DISCRETIONARY
FUND**

In honor of

Rabbi Merow's 25th year in the rabbinate
and receiving an honorary Doctor of
the Divinity Degree from The Jewish
Theological Seminary

*from Helaine and Hanan Isaacs, Lew
and Barbara Gantwerk, Myra Weiner,
Joshua and Abbye Cornfield, Nancy and
Neil Lewis, Scott and Charlene Borsack,
Beatrice and Michael Bloom, Donna and
David Gabai, Marcelle Joy Shapiro, Linda
and Joshua Milstein, Jose Matiella, Joel
and Max Orland*

Rabbi Merow

*from The Mason/Willig
and Extended Families*

Rabbi Andrea Merow, with immense
gratitude and appreciation

from Maxine Marcus

Lori and Michael Feldstein for AJC honor

from Randi and Robert Gelbard

In memory of

Harold Borkan

from Bobbi and Barry Freedman

Edith Duberstein

from Paul Duberstein and Nancy Talbot

Rabbi Adam Feldman

from Ginny Mason

Rene Baron Hennessy

from Ed Flax and Deirdra Silver

David Schwartz

from Jon and Ruth Shavel,

Randy and Debbie Brett

Bobby Willig

from Barbara and Jerry Batt

My beloved husband, Chaim (Hymie)

Schreiber

from Gaby Schreiber

Chaim (Hymie) Schreiber

from Colin Schreiber and Karen Lubner,

Jacqui, Peter, Julia and Max Schreiber-

Miller, Linda and Art Meisel, Barbara

Curran, Barbara Litt

Karen Avart

from Stewart Avart

Evelyn Saldick

from Linda and Art Meisel

RABBI TUCKER LIFE CYCLE FUND

In honor of

Joel Berger

from Ginny Mason

In memory of

Irwin and Lenore Gordon

from Sara Gordon

Benjamin Stern

from Moshe and Judy Margolin

**SAPOFF ART PURCHASE &
RESTORATION FUND**

In memory of

Meyer Sapoff

from Ginny Mason



CONTRIBUTIONS

SHABBAT LUNCHEON FUND

In memory of

David Schwartz

from Mindy and Corey Langer

YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS FUND

In honor of

Sara and Steven Just on the birth of their grandson

from Ginny Mason

Sally Steinberg-Brent and Dan Brent on the birth of their granddaughter, Jodie Danielle Brent

from Ginny Mason

In Memoriam:
We extend our deepest sympathy in remembering:

Martin Winn,
father of Joshua (Lara) Winn

David Schwartz,
father of Judy (Sandy) Kutin

Chaim (Hymie) Schreiber,
husband of Gaby Schreiber and father of
Jacqui (Peter Miller) Schreiber

Evelyn Saldick

Bible BaBoker
Saturdays | 8:45 a.m.

Bible BaBoker is a diverse community and carries on the Jewish tradition of Torah study in an open and respectful atmosphere. We strive for discussions based on reading Torah, other Jewish texts, and additional relevant resources from ancient to modern sources. Participants with a variety of backgrounds and beliefs deepen our understanding of Judaism, share insights and opinions, extract and develop wisdom, and consider our purpose in life, ethical principles to live by, and ways to be better human beings. Prior Torah knowledge or background is not necessary and new participants are always welcome. Study with us each week or whenever you can make it! We look forward to learning together.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87570201257pwd=SncvMTM-vNkJlOQklGWJrdDBFMlp2dz09>

To be added to the BBB mailing list or for questions, contact Michael Goldin at mmgold18@yahoo.com.



BE A PART OF OUR

Kiddush Community



Kiddush Community is a way to build more connections between congregants and eat good food. It involves re-imagining how we organize Kiddush luncheons.

This re-imagining of the Kiddush Luncheon BUILDS our community by:

1. Adding a source of Alternative revenue
2. Increasing participate in Shabbat: services or social
3. Allowing us to celebrate more simchot together

- Friend \$180
- Contributor \$360
- Supporter \$540
- Macher \$1000

Each week multiple congregants can mark simchot at TJC by donating towards the kiddush luncheon. The spread stays the same (with some options for upper levels or additional donations).



Israel & Us

Song of the Month – שיר החודש

My name is Andrea Martinez I have been a member of the Jewish Center with my husband, Alan, and two daughters, Talia and Adina, since 2016. We are thrilled for Talia's upcoming Bat Mitzvah in April and look forward to a possible family trip to Israel this summer.

The Israeli song I chose to share is רגע מכון (Rega Mechuvan) or a deliberate moment in English. The singer/songwriters Yonina (a combination of their names, Yoni and Nina Tokayer) are an Israeli-American musical duo who first started sharing their music through weekly home videos posted to social media. Their cover of Matisyahu's "One Day" received over 40 million views (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3WpqZgXRuUM>).

Our family enjoyed seeing Yonina perform live at B'nai Shalom West Orange in 2019. Rega Mechuvan is from their debut album "Emet Pshuta" (Simple Truth), released in September 2017: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tV86kMzmVc8>. This song is about trying to live intentionally. It encourages us to slow down, and make each moment matter while seeking happiness.

לאן ברח היום, הוא רק התחיל וכבר אזל
תזכיר לי מה חיפשתי בכלל
הכל רועש לי בפנים ובחוץ, לא להפסיק לרוץ
ממה אתה לחוץ?
כשכל דקה חודפת ת'שניה
הופכת אהבה למטלה
נוחתת שוב בלילה במיטה
לנוח קצת לפני הקרב הבא
האם אני בדרך למנוחה ולנחלה
רודפת אופקים, עוקפת שבילים, נותנת לפקקים לנגן לי
על העצבים...

וכל רגע השמחה היא רק מעבר לפינה
במרחק של נשימה...

אז איך זוכים לאריכות ימים
שכל רגע מכון וממלא אותי בפנים
רוצה לחפוף בחיים, לאהוב את הימים, לראות טוב- רק
טוב

עוצר, ומרים מבט, רואים יותר כשהולכים לאט
ובמה זה פשוט, פשוט להיות ולחיות ולהודות
מפסיקה לעמוד מהצד, ההווה מונח אצלי ביד
אם החיים הם פיקדון אני לא רוצה לבזבז עוד רגע אחד

אני יודע השמחה היא רק מעבר לפינה
במרחק של נשימה...

Do you have an Israeli song you would like to share? Contact Edna Bryn-Noiman at edna.bryn@gmail.com

Where did the day go? It just began and already seems finished.
Remind me what I was searching for
Everything sounds loud to me- inside and out
Can't stop racing
What are you so worried about?
When every minute chases the next,
Turning love into a chore
At night I land in bed again
To rest before the next war
Am I on the way to relaxation and peace?
Chasing horizons, cutting in line, letting the traffic drive me out of my mind
And every moment happiness is just around the corner, Just a breath away

So how do we live days that are long
Where each moment is intentional and fills me from within
I want to desire my life, love my days, and see good, only good

I stop, and look up
You see more when you slow down
And how simple it is, to simply be and feel and give thanks
I'm no longer standing on the side, in my hand is the present time
If life is a deposit I don't want to waste another moment
I know that happiness is just around the corner, Just a breath away

Many of my happiest moments have occurred during times of quiet and calm. Yet, in our lives it can be very hard to slow down and focus on what is important. I hope that this song reminds us to always seek our defining moment, or רגע מכון, which can lead to more happiness and purpose in the world.



Book Club

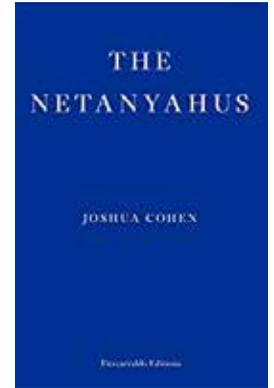
Tuesday, January 17

7:30 p.m.

via Zoom.*

January 17 – *The Netanyahus* by Joshua Cohen

Corbin College, not-quite-upstate New York, winter 1959-1960: Ruben Blum, a Jewish historian - but not an historian of the Jews - is coopted onto a hiring committee to review the application of an exiled Israeli scholar specializing in the Spanish Inquisition. When Benzion Netanyahu shows up for an interview, family unexpectedly in tow, Blum plays the reluctant host, to guests who proceed to lay waste to his American complacencies. Mixing fiction with non-fiction, the campus novel with the lecture, *THE NETANYAHUS* is a wildly inventive, genre-bending comedy of blending, identity, and politics - 'An Account of A Minor and Ultimately Even Negligible Incident in the History of a Very Famous Family' that finds Joshua Cohen at the height of his powers.



For future planning, save these dates and read these books:

February 21 – *An Observant Wife* by Naomi Regan

March 21 – *Origin* by Dan Brown

All are welcome to join our Book Club Discussions.
Please contact Louise Sandburg for more information: louise@sandsmith.com

Havurah Minyan January 14 and 28

The Havurah Minyan will meet every second and fourth Shabbat of the month.

Contact Neil Litt (neillitt@outlook.com) closer to the date to inquire whether these will be hybrid services or Zoom only.

The Zoom link remains the same:

Meeting ID = 861 4274 5562;

Passcode: = 311195.

Talmud Study Group

Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m.

Available via Zoom

The Talmud Study Group continues via Zoom every Wednesday at 12:00. The Zoom link remains the same: Meeting ID = 839 3103 7869; Passcode = 643177.



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Led by Rabbi Andrea Merow

June 18-29, 2023

optional extension until July 1, 2023

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS:

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 - Experience history, modernity & diversity with our welcoming TJC community
 - Encounters with Israeli Jews, Arabs and Druze
 - Unique adventures in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv
 - Celebrate a Bar/Bat Mitzvah in Jerusalem
- Spend time on an active, ideological kibbutz
 - Participate in varied cultures through food & art
 - Activities at Masada, Dead Sea, Ein Gedi and the Red Sea
 - and much more!!



Need help booking flights? Assistance available.

For more information contact Rabbi Merow via Cynthia Richman at 609-921-0100 x218
adventureinisrael@thejewishcenter.org
www.keshetisrael.co.il/4157

SHABBAT ACTIVITIES IN JANUARY!

SINGING!

ACTIVITIES!

2nd Grade & below

FRI, JAN 20, 5:30PM-SHABBAT DINNER

SAT, JAN 28, 6:00 PM-PAJAMA HAVDALAH

AT THE JEWISH CENTER

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FUN!

FOR QUESTIONS & TO RSVP, EMAIL SHARON AT SDIAMONDSTEIN@THEJEWISHCENTER.ORG



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Ganon: 3-4 year old Drop Off Program

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Register below!



Open to the Community!

For more information, contact Cynthia Richman, 609-921-7207 or crichman@thejewishcenter.org



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Your name(s) as you would like it to appear in newsletter: _____

Donor's Address: _____

Occasion: In memory of: In honor of: Name(s) as you would like it to appear in newsletter: _____

Send donation acknowledgement to: _____

(A beautiful new tribute card will be sent for contributions of \$18 or more. A listing will be posted as you would like it to appear in the newsletter for any donated amount.)

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please indicate your choice below and mail this form and a check to The Jewish Center, 435 Nassau St., Princeton, NJ 08540. If you are interested in planned giving opportunities, please call The Jewish Center office, 609-921-0100 ext. 200.

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- New Siddur (\$36) New Chumash (\$75) New Machzor (\$36)
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- The Schnitzer Family Shekel Fund for Adventures in Israel
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