

# CONGREGATION SHAAREY ZEDEK

1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 • Ph: 517-351-3570 • Fax: 517-351-5909 • [www.shaarezedek.com](http://www.shaarezedek.com)

MAY 2020 *IYAR /SIVAN 5780*

# SHAVUOT

**RUTH & THE ROLE OF CONVERSION:  
A SHAVUOT STUDY SESSION, THURSDAY, MAY 28  
7:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM**

Please join Rabbi Bigman as we look at parts of the special reading for *Shavuot* from the Book of Ruth. Ruth is considered to be the first convert to Judaism and is a role model for those who become Jewish. We will look at what Judaism has to say about the status of Jews-by-choice and will leave time for those who have chosen Judaism to share their experiences as they are comfortable. A Zoom invitation will be sent via e-mail or you may request one from Rabbi Bigman at [rabbibigman@shaarezedek.com](mailto:rabbibigman@shaarezedek.com).

## **WORSHIP FOR SHAVUOT THIS YEAR**

will be held during *Shabbat* services  
on Friday, May 29 at 7:00 p.m.  
and  
Saturday, May 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Special *Shavuot* and *Yizkor* (Memorial) prayers will be added to the *Shabbat* liturgy

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# RABBI BIGMAN'S LETTER

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## HELPING OTHERS DURING A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

During this time of staying home in order to help our community to stay healthy, I have been trying to find organizations that I can support that are doing important work in our local and larger communities. For those of you financially able to do so, I suggest the following:

**Congregation Shaarey Zedek** -- During this difficult time, the staff is doing its utmost to help members of our congregation and community. From live-streaming our *Shabbat* services to continued contact with our religious school families, providing *Pesach* resources and links to education and social justice opportunities, to the community interfaith Worship Service of Hope (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RTZDYGj59dQ>) to working with upcoming *B'nei Mitzvah* families and more, we are here for you. Jewish tradition teaches that we are to help others, beginning with family and then continuing with our larger communities.

**MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger** ([www.mazon.org](http://www.mazon.org)) provides funding to a range of anti-hunger organizations including food banks, legal-service organizations, groups which provide job skills to enable people to get jobs to provide for their families on their own, and more.

**Greater Lansing Food Bank** ([www.greaterlansingfoodbank.org](http://www.greaterlansingfoodbank.org)) provides food for people in the seven counties of Ingham, Eaton, Clinton, Shiawassee, Gratiot, Clare, and Isabella.

Also, I have found two local organizations that are helping in unique ways:

**Hotels for Heroes** (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/hotelsforheros>) was created by Cindy Hughey and Robyn Hughey of MSU Hillel. They write: "Help us house our Greater Lansing hometown heroes who are on the front lines battling the COVID-19 pandemic. All funds raised will directly benefit emergency responders and health care workers who are looking for alternative housing to keep their families and loved ones safe. We are working directly with Hampton Inn & Suites in Delta Township, Homewood Suites in Eastwood Towne Center, and the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center at Michigan State University to cover the hotel room costs directly." [Please note that the GoFundMe page omits the second "e" in "heroes" on its site.]

**3D Printing Masks & Shields for Lansing Hospitals** (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/3d-printing-n95-masks-for-lansing-hospitals>) -- In conjunction with East Lansing Public Schools, tinkrLAB is making masks and shields that are donated locally.

Our *Tzedakah* Committee, using funds donated by members to our Rabbi Morton and Aviva Hoffman *Tzedakah* Fund, are continuing to support many organizations, including the Greater Lansing Food Bank and these local organizations:

**Fostering Academics, Mentoring Excellence** ([www.fame.socialwork.msu.edu](http://www.fame.socialwork.msu.edu)) notes on its website: "The national coronavirus crisis is greatly impacting MSU students. As the University has moved all classes online, some students have gone home to continue remote learning, or to practice social distancing. However, for some, MSU's campus is their home. Our FAME students are former foster youth, homeless, or are otherwise independent. This public health crisis has eliminated jobs these students depend on to meet their basic needs."

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## RABBI BIGMAN'S LETTER

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**Child and Family Charities** ([www.childandfamily.org](http://www.childandfamily.org)) was to be the recipient of the *Tzedakah* Committee's April Fill-A-Bucket Campaign, to benefit its Housing Young Families Program. Child and Family Charities offers a full-spectrum of support to over 7,000 children, youth, and families each year in the mid-Michigan area. Its primary mission is "to strengthen and support children, families, and individuals as they evolve and grow in a changing community." Among its many programs is the aforementioned Housing Young Families Program, 24-Hour Crisis Hotline, Higher Ground (prevention and emergency shelter services), Crossroads Transitional Living Program, and T.R.U.E. (Teens Understanding and Respecting Each-other; LGBTQ Support Group).

Also, the **American Red Cross** ([www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)) is holding blood drives throughout the country. Please join me in signing up for a time to donate. (I had to wait two weeks for an open spot, but it is worth it!)

These organizations are just a few of the many that are doing important work right now. If you are able to do so, I hope you will support one or more of these organizations or others of which you are aware that are doing the work of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world).

\*If you are in need of help, please contact me confidentially. We do have some funds in the Rabbinic Discretionary Fund and in the *Tzedakah* Fund that can help you at this time.

**"If there is a needy person among you...do not harden your heart and shut your hand against him. Rather, you must open your hand and lend him sufficient for whatever he needs." [Deuteronomy 15:7-8]**

**Shimon the son of Rabban Gamliel says: "It is not what one says, but rather what one does, that makes all the difference in the world." [Pirkei Avot 1:17]**

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### ***Shavuot—the season of the Giving of the Torah***



*Shavuot* falls on the 6th of *Sivan*, seven weeks after the beginning of *Pesach*. It is the end-of-spring harvest festival. At this time the first fruits of the season were offered in ancient times. *Shavuot* is also celebrated as the anniversary of the Jewish people's receipt of the Ten Commandments; it is thus also known as *Z'man Matan Torateinu*, "the Season of the Giving of our *Torah*."



MAY 2020

# Thank you so much, SZRS!

We have had a very unusual but wonderful school year! I am so appreciative of our teachers, staff and families who made the end of the year as smooth as possible. I look forward to seeing everyone again in the fall, if not earlier.

Congratulations to our graduates: **Alex Adam**, **Forrest Colson**, **Sara Cook** and **Bonita Yoder**. We are so proud of you!

Families, please keep your eyes peeled for registration information for the fall and summer learning opportunities.

*Kol Tuv,  
Menahelet Margot*

**THANK YOU**

Thank you all for your happy birthday greetings. It is a good feeling to know I have so many friends in the Shaarey Zedek family.

Mike Woodrow

Dear SZ Family and Friends,

What a delight to receive your Simcha-gram in honor of my 85th birthday. I am so grateful for your friendship and support over these many years, and thankful for your giving me the inspiration to compose and play Jewish music. With love to all,

Joan Gochberg

Dear Patty and friends,

Our special thanks and appreciation for the kind notes during our time of great loss. We are so sad that we will never again be bringing Marlaina or Max to an event at Shaarey Zedek.

Our warmest appreciation  
Tamara, Elana and Miriam  
Kreinin

**MAZAL TOV to.....**

**Nora Pasman-Green and Jeff Green** on the birth of their grandson, Abram Young Pasman, born on April 10. Proud parents Danny and Emily Pasman welcome his as well.

**Dr. Christina DeJong**, recipient of the 2020 College of Social Science Teaching Innovation Award from Michigan State University.

**Todd Wilson** is one of the recipients of the 2020 Jack Breslin Distinguished Staff Award at Michigan State University.

**BIRTHDAYS**

3. Iris Linder, Ephram Rosenberg
4. Erik Shapiro
5. Rhoda Kotzin
6. Kenneth Browde
7. Anita Parkhurst
9. Brynn Delaney, Marguerite Howe
11. Kenna Yoder
12. Daniel Feinberg
13. Nancy Pollack
14. Shane Broyles, Candace Metcalf
16. Rhana Dyme, Braeden Conn
17. Jerry Fine
18. Noah White
19. Laurie Bass, Larry Sernick
20. Jason Pikstein, Carolyn Zohott
21. Karen Shapiro
23. Winnie Rome, Susan Bathke
24. Micah Hefty, Ken Marton, Vesna Srkalovic
25. John Anthony
26. Lindsay Conn, Carey Elder
27. Alan Bloomfield, Hadley Holman, Ellen Rothfeld
29. Lilah Epley
30. Barbara Robinson-Dunn
31. Alan Wolfe

**ANNIVERSARIES**

2. Carol and Ron Horowitz
3. Jayson and Sara Chizick
16. Gabriel Elia and Giselle Claux
19. Jan and Glenn White
23. Michael and Dana Flink
25. Joanne Gilbert and Michael Bishop, Michele and Michael Meyrowitz
26. Mary and Michael Levine
29. Marc and Mary Speiser

**PRAYERS OF HEALING**

Prayers of healing are sent to...

**Anita Baron, Royalyn Vert, Alan Zohott, Ken Browde, Winnie Rome, Allen Frank, Celia Guro, Igor Guro, Elaine Pearlman**

It is our custom to read the names of those in need of healing at our Friday evening and Saturday morning *Shabbat* services. If you would like the name of a loved one included, please contact Patty in the synagogue office. **Please note:** In order to keep our list current, a new list will be started each month. Thank you.

**DIRECTORY UPDATES**

Josh and Christine Wease  
Emma  
5094 Chaggal Lane  
Okemos, MI 48864  
E-mail and cell phone numbers are the same.



**MAZON**  
A Jewish Response  
To Hunger

Congregation Shaarey Zedek is grateful for your generous contributions to our designated funds. These funds enable the congregation to offer services and programs that would not otherwise be available. While donations of any amount are most welcome, due to rising costs, a minimum donation of \$18 will be required in order to receive a listing in the "Commentary" and acknowledgment to a recipient. This policy applies to the :

- Jeanette Abeles Scholar-in-Residence Fund
- Bette Sue Rittman All Children Are Special Fund
- Bernard Friedland Educational Fund
- Bubbe Lynn Rycus Beautification Fund
- Building Fund
- Cantor Pamela Schiffer Caring Community Fund
- Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund
- David and Carrol Kahn Cultural Fund
- Henry Fine and Annette Fine Burke Memorial Library Fund
- Joseph & Jeannette Lutvak Fund
- Joseph and Mable Meites Religious School Fund
- Jerry Cohen Photography Fund
- Esther and Justin Morrison Fund
- Landscape Fund
- Prayer Book Fund
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Robert Goodman Music Fund
- Rabbi Morton and Aviva Hoffman Tzedakah Fund
- Sophie Radway PJ Library Fund

Also included are these endowed funds. Please make **separate** checks payable to these funds:

- Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund
- Maureen Gladstone Flower Fund
- Ruth E. Rome Endowed Music Fund
- Florence Rudman Education Fund
- Shapiro Endowed Religious School Fund
- CSZ Endowment Fund
- L' Dor Vador Fund

### BUILDING FUND

A generous donation was received from Sue Safir

### ROBERT GOODMAN MUISC FUND

In memory of Luiz Costa  
Don and Joan Gochberg

### ETHEL WOLFE KITCHEN FUND

In memory of:  
Luiz Costa  
Marlaina Kreinin  
Phillip Margules  
Harold Trippe  
Alan and Gail Wolfe  
In memory of Penny Bowman's father  
Aviva Panush

### ESTHER AND JUSTIN MORRISON FUND

Happy Birthday to:  
Jerry Fine  
Winnie Rome  
Alan Wolfe  
Happy Anniversary to Carol and Ron Horowitz  
In memory of Gerson Bernstein  
In memory of Dr. Bert Bez

Esther Morrison

### SOPHIE RADWAY PJ LIBRARY FUND

In honor of Madison Merryman becoming *Bat Mitzvah*  
Aviva Panush

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Wesley R. Fishel  
Laurence Fishel  
In honor of the baby naming of our son Isaac  
Eve and Jason Greenberg  
A generous donation was received from Gretchen Smith

### JOE AND MABLE MEITES RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In honor of Margot Valles and SZRS *Megillah* Readers  
Aviva Panush

### JOE AND JEANNETTE LUTVAK MEMORIAL FUND

Happy Birthday to Eric Lutvak  
Mark and Phylis Lutvak

### RABBI MORTON AND AVIVA HOFFMAN TZEDAKAH FUND

In honor of Rabbi Bigman and Patty Warsaw  
Dalia Hoffman  
With love to Harold Holzer  
Janet Abramson and family

### BUBBE LYNN RYCUS FUND

In memory of Steve Barkin  
Ron Rycus

## GREETINGS JEWISH FAMILY



How lucky have I been to serve as President of this Congregation?! The last two years have been incredible. **Patty Warshaw** and **Marc Speiser** really, truly deserve credit for doing the actual WORK of keeping the synagogue running. You may not know that I had a lot of very cool and very challenging career changes over these two years and I spent A LOT of time in Chicago and the Upper Peninsula – so much time in fact that I had an apartment in the U.P.! Patty and Marc did so much to keep everything moving along.

As a people, we are resilient! That's important to keep in mind and remember the GRIT it takes to live through 40 years in the desert, pogroms, forced assimilation....and more! As we move through this new challenge, let's remember how closely aligned our "survival" (spiritual, mental and physical) is with our relationship to our religion, our Jewish community and our identify as Jewish Americans. This is a time to pull together and be together. We can find ways to socially connect despite any physical distance.

I'm looking forward to the next phase of our wonderful 100+ year old congregation and TOGETHER we can make it wonderful!

Erica Holman

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## REMEMBRANCES

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### YAHRTZEITS

#### May 1-2

Jack Baker, Anne Bigman, Peter Blyveis, Sally Broad, Sylvia Brothers, John Eliasohn, Meyer Garbel, Helen Handelsman, Eva Hattner, Jim Johnson, Robert Kramer, Irving B. Kremer, Joseph Marton, Thelma Saper, Alan Schwartz, Leonard Silk, Don Weinshank

#### May 8-9

Gerson Bernstein, Rebecca Dinetz, Augusta Dorfman, Edna Dyme, Andre Elia, Louis Eyl, Francis Fine, Shirley Gaynor, Audrey Gienapp, Marlene Hoffman, David Kaplowitz, Milton Kaufman, Harriet Lieberman, Mildred Molner, Leonor Reizen, Rose Smith, Avi Teles

#### May 15-16

Robert Blau, Jules Danowitz, Irene Ely, Art Falk, Charles Fenberg, Lillian Fenberg, Judy Frank, William Rosenthal, Jerold Saper, Mildred Spalter, Leonid Spivak, James Wilson

#### May 22-23

Max Drelich, Edith Reid Flaster, Fannye L. Gittlen, Tom Gochberg, Toddy Gold, Bernice Israel, Alexander Kahn, Bernice Kaufman, Ethel Kirschman, Lillian Mattes, Blanche Oxer, Bekah Rosenfeld, Simon Silverman, Louis Zidell

#### May 29-30

Louis Jack Abramson, Max Feintuch, Stanley Gold, Raymond Grigg, Arthur Hendrick, Aviva Hoffman, Charles Ruben, Judith Smookler, Agnes Wepman

### CONDOLENCES

Condolences are sent to...

**Vida (Jeff) Rothstein** on the death of her aunt, Violet Myrold, on April 2.

**Norman Abeles** on the death of his sister-in-law, Simone Soltan, on April 6.

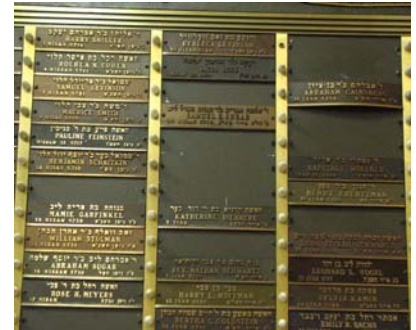
**Joe (Cheryl) Wald** on the death of his sister, Margo Rubens, on April 11.

**Bea Linder** on the death of her sister and **Steve (Iris) Linder** on the death of his aunt, Eleanor Metcoff, on April 17.

**Marv (Sandy) Gladstone** on the death of his brother, Harold Gladstone, on April 18

**Alan (Gail) Wolfe** on the death of his cousin, Harold Trippe, on April 16.

### MEMORIAL BOARD PLAQUES



Memorialize your loved one and honor their name with a plaque in the Shaarey Zedek sanctuary. Please contact Patty Warshaw in the Shaarey Zedek office for further information.

### ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of Congregation Shaarey Zedek will be held on Sunday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m. You can access the meeting via Zoom, either on your device or telephone. A Zoom invitation will be sent to members-in-good-standing separately. The agenda, minutes and reports will be sent electronically no later than May 14.

**SIMCHAGRAMS**

**July ~ December 2020**

SimchaGrams are greetings sent to members of our Congregation honoring their special birthdays: 30, 40, 50, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100... *SimchaGrams* also are sent for the following wedding anniversaries: 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, 65, etc. The cost to put your name on a *SimchaGram* is \$1 per recipient. Proceeds benefit the Youth Scholarship Fund as well as Women of Reform Judaism.

**Birthdays**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| _____ <i>Diane Silverstein</i> (75 on 7/4) | _____ <i>Alexander Spivak</i> (65 on 11/4) |
| _____ <i>Ethel Brody</i> (95 on 7/7)       | _____ <i>Sue Safir</i> (75 on 11/7)        |
| _____ <i>Ken Rudman</i> (65 on 7/8)        | _____ <i>Elaine Pearlman</i> (75 on 11/13) |
| _____ <i>Marilyn Ruben</i> (70 on 7/25)    | _____ <i>Carol Horowitz</i> (80 on 11/20)  |
| _____ <i>Sarah Hopkins</i> (40 on 7/30)    | _____ <i>Judy Walker</i> (70 on 11/23)     |
| _____ <i>Michael Rubner</i> (80 on 8/3)    | _____ <i>Jack Behar</i> (50 on 11/21)      |
| _____ <i>Rachel Asbury</i> (70 on 8/8)     | _____ <i>Anita Mitchell</i> (80 on 11/27)  |
| _____ <i>Mitzi Goldstein</i> (60 on 8/13)  | _____ <i>Vicki Neiberg</i> (80 on 11/29)   |
| _____ <i>Joanna Stark</i> (90 on 8/31)     | _____ <i>Sara Lurie</i> (60 on 12/3)       |
| _____ <i>Ken Norris</i> (70 on 9/24)       | _____ <i>Cathy Sernick</i> (60 on 12/8)    |
| _____ <i>Joe Levine</i> (80 on 10/4)       | _____ <i>Ron Rycus</i> (75 on 12/10)       |
| _____ <i>Pat Cohan</i> (70 on 10/25)       | _____ <i>Patty Warshaw</i> (60 on 12/14)   |
| _____ <i>Marty Ross</i> (85 on 11/2)       | _____ <i>Linda Woodrow</i> (80 on 12/26)   |

**Anniversaries**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| _____ <i>Jane &amp; Bernie Finn</i> (40 <sup>th</sup> on 8/15)   | _____ <i>Michal &amp; Emil Eiden</i> (10 <sup>th</sup> on 11/3) |
| _____ <i>Miriam &amp; Razvan Adam</i> (20 <sup>th</sup> on 9/17) | _____ <i>Donna &amp; Alan Stark</i> (50 <sup>th</sup> on 12/12) |

**Please check the names of the individuals and couples you wish to honor, and pay \$1 per person or couple checked, or \$30 for all (or \$36 for *double chai*).**

**Please return this form by *June 15, 2020*.**

**Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*Pay by check, payable to "Shaarey Zedek Sisterhood," or by credit card:*

Name on card (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Visa \_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed form to:

Suzanne Lowe, 1040 Southlawn Avenue, East Lansing, MI 48823

Mistakes or omissions? Contact Suzanne (517-214-9616 or [suzanne-lowe@att.net](mailto:suzanne-lowe@att.net))



# MAY 2020 *IYAR /SIVAN* 5780

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Evening Service	2 9:30 am <i>Shabbat</i> Morning Service
3	4 Office Closed	5	6	7	8 7:00 pm Shaarey Zedek LIVE Service	9 9:30 am <i>Shabbat</i> Morning Service
10 Happy Mother's Day	11 Office Closed	12 <i>Lag B'Omer</i>	13	14	15 7:00 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Evening Service	16 9:30 am <i>Shabbat</i> Morning Service
17 Annual Meeting	18 Office Closed	19	20	21	22 7:00 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Evening Service	23 9:30 am <i>Shabbat</i> Morning Service
24 _____	25 Office Closed	26	27	28 <i>Shavuot</i> Program 7:00 p.m.	29 7:00 pm <i>Shabbat /</i> <i>Shavuot</i> Evening Service	30 9:30 am <i>Shabbat /</i> <i>Shavuot</i> Morning Service
31	Memorial Day					

*Commentary*

CONGREGATION  
SHAAREY ZEDEK

1924 Coolidge Road,  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823  
www.ShaareyZedek.com

*Commentary*   *Worship*   *Schedule*

**Friday, May 1**

*Shabbat* Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, May 2**

*Shabbat* Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

**Friday, May 8**

SHAAREY ZEDEK LIVE! *Shabbat* Service  
7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, May 9**

*Shabbat* Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

**Friday, May 15**

*Shabbat* Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, May 16**

*Shabbat* Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

**Friday, May 22**

*Shabbat* Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, May 23**

*Shabbat* Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

Friday, May 29

*Shabbat /Shavuot* Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 30

*Shabbat/Shavuot* Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

