

C O N G R E G A T I O N

SHAAREY ZEDEK

1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 • Ph: 517-351-3570 • Fax: 517-351-5909 • www.shaarezedek.com

JUNE 2021 *SIVAN /TAMMUZ* 5781

Shabbat Shalom and



Join us on Friday, June 4, 7:00 p.m.
for our outdoor *Shabbat* Service
(weather permitting)
see page 3 for details



RABBI BIGMAN'S LETTER

Rabbi Bigman's D'var Torah from our annual congregational meeting, delivered on May 16:

This evening begins the festival of *Shavuot*. Of the three pilgrimage festivals -- *Sukkot*, *Pesach*, and *Shavuot* -- this festival is probably the least known. *Shavuot* comes seven weeks after the beginning of *Pesach*. Originally agricultural in nature, as are the other pilgrimage festivals, it has become associated with the Giving of the Ten Commandments, which are representative of the entire *Torah*, and is thus known in Hebrew as *Z'man Matan Torateinu* (the Season of the Giving of Our *Torah*, the Season of the Giving of our Teaching).

The *Torah* reading for *Shavuot* morning comes from Exodus 19:1-20:23. It begins as follows:

On the third new moon after the Israelites had gone forth from the land of Egypt, on that very day, they entered the wilderness of Sinai. Having journeyed from Rephidim, they entered the wilderness of Sinai and encamped in the wilderness. Israel encamped there in front of the mountain, and Moses went up to God. God called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus shall you say to the house of Jacob and declare to the children of Israel: 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Me. Now then, if you will obey Me faithfully and keep My covenant, you shall be My treasured possession among all the peoples. Indeed, all the earth is Mine, but you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the children of Israel." [emphasis added]

The portion continues on and in the twentieth chapter of Exodus the Ten Commandments are given. In addition to this special *Torah* reading, there is another reading which is also associated with *Shavuot*: The Book of Ruth. The *Torah* reading is about communal observances, but the Book of Ruth focuses on the experiences of a small number of people. The three main characters are Boaz, who is firmly and successfully rooted in his community; Naomi, whose husband and sons have died, who returns to her home community and tries to become part of it again; and Ruth, who chooses to become part of this community.*

In the spring issue of "Moment" magazine, the cover article asks: "What Does Community Mean in the 21st Century?" "New York Times" columnist David Brooks begins his response to this question in the following way:

I'll start with the Book of Exodus. I was taught a lot about community by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, who said, "First, the community is a group of people with a common story." So the Exodus story is a story that holds the Jewish people together. And then Sacks made the observation that the creation of the universe is described in Genesis in nine verses, but the building of the Tabernacle is described in Exodus in hundreds of verses. The lesson is that not only is a community a group of people with a common story, but it's a group of people with a common project, and the process of building the Tabernacle created a community out of the tribes of Israel. [p. 38]

Congregation Shaarey Zedek is a community with a "common project." Based upon our mission statement, we are to nurture our members in the heritage of Judaism, striving to provide a center in the Greater Lansing area for Jews to learn about and to celebrate their Judaism. Shaarey Zedek is a community where we can "learn, pray, celebrate *simchas*, and comfort each other in times of need. Congregation Shaarey Zedek offers a rich and varied program of education, cultural and social events while reaching out to the Greater Lansing community to strengthen interfaith ties."

Continued on next page

RABBI BIGMAN'S LETTER

At this time of our annual meeting and with the *Shavuot* festival upon us, let us each do our best to be part of and to help our *kehillah kedoshah* (holy community). Congregation Shaarey Zedek is our home, our community, our family. May it continue to thrive and may it bring meaning to all who are part of it. And let us say: *Amen*.

This time of pandemic has made these community goals difficult, but not impossible. As you will see in the written staff and committee reports sent out to you in preparation for this annual meeting, the work of the Shaarey Zedek community has continued throughout this difficult time and has, in many cases, flourished.

At this time of our annual meeting and with the *Shavuot* festival upon us, let us each do our best to be part of and to help our *kehillah kedoshah* (holy community). Congregation Shaarey Zedek is our home, our community, our family. May it continue to thrive and may it bring meaning to all who are part of it. And let us say: *Amen*.

*With thanks to Rabbi David Greenstein of Congregation Shomrei Emunah in Montclair, New Jersey, for inspiring these thoughts about community in his sermon "Where E'er You Go."

Join us as we celebrate *Shabbat* with our congregational family on the east lawn

Friday, June 4, 7:00 p.m.

Out of an abundance of caution and because of our Jewish obligation to be role models for each other, EVERYONE is required to wear a mask. Masks will be provided for those who arrive without. Please social distance and bring your own seating. No refreshments will be served.





Announcing a
CONGREGATION SHAAREY ZEDEK
SHABBAT MORNING
IN-PERSON, OUTDOOR
T^HFILOT EXPERIENCE

for students, families, teachers, staff and friends of
the Shaarey Zedek Religious School in celebration of
the 2020-2021 school year.

Join us in the temple's backyard for a fun, musical, and
participatory service designed for **kids of all ages**

on

Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

This event is held weather and COVID permitting.



Out of an abundance of caution and because of our
Jewish obligation to be role models for each other,
EVERYONE is required to wear a mask.
Masks will be provided for those who arrive without.





BE A STAR IN SISTERHOOD

CONGREGATION SHAAREY ZEDEK
SISTERHOOD
WILL CELEBRATE THE
83RD ANNUAL SISTERHOOD
DONOR EVENT AND
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

SUNDAY, JUNE 27 AT 1:00 P.M.

INVITATIONS WILL BE ARRIVING
IN THE MAIL SOON.

SPECIAL THANKS!

As the outgoing Sisterhood President,
I wish to thank the current
Sisterhood Executive Board
for their dedication & commitment
to our community.

Sincerely, Kelly Feinberg

SIMCHAGRAMS

July ~ December 2021

SimchaGrams are greetings sent to members of our Congregation honoring their special birthdays: 30, 40, 50, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, etc. *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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stewart Flate (75 on 7/8) | <input type="checkbox"/> Gayle Morrison (70 on 10/3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Molner (70 on 7/14) | <input type="checkbox"/> Barbara Wieland (50 on 10/20) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anita Baron (80 on 7/19) | <input type="checkbox"/> David Richmond (50 on 11/6) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Larry Shanker (80 on 7/31) | <input type="checkbox"/> Monica Resnick (50 on 11/7) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ed Keller (70 on 8/10) | <input type="checkbox"/> Todd Cohan (70 on 11/11) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Randi Simon (65 on 8/21) | <input type="checkbox"/> Randy Israel (70 on 11/13) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scott Mandel (65 on 8/21) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tina Oxer (80 on 11/24) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zach Dyme (75 on 9/11) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandy Soifer (70 on 11/20) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lauren Warshaw (30 on 9/12) | <input type="checkbox"/> Nora Pasma-Green (70 on 11/30) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> David Mittleman (65 on 9/28) | |

Anniversaries

- Judy & Jack Nolish (50th on 8/14)
- Myra & Gary Shapiro (55th on 8/28)
- Laura Lund & Charles Feger (25th on 9/6)
- Tamie & Barry Kaufman (50th on 9/11)
- Sandy & Marv Gladstone (20th on 10/13)
- Joan & Don Gochberg (65th on 12/26)

Please check the names of the individuals and couples you wish to honor, and pay \$1 per person or couple checked, or \$25 for all. Please return this form by *June 15*.

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)

GIFTS, HONORS AND MEMORIALS

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 these funds:

- Jeanette Abeles Scholar-In-Residence Program
- 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
- Henry Fine and Annette Fine Burke Library Fund
- Joseph & Jeannette Lutvak Fund
- Jerry Cohen Photography Fund
- Joe and Mable Meites Religious School Fund
- Esther and Justin Morrison Fund
- Landscape Fund
- Prayer Book Fund
- Robert Goodman Music Fund
- Sophie Radway PJ Library Fund
- Rabbi Morton and Aviva Hoffman *Tzedakah* Fund

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

- Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund
- Maureen Gladstone Flower and Social Engagement Fund
- Ruth E. Rome Endowed Music Fund
- Florence Rudman Early Education Endowed Fund
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Shapiro Endowed Religious School Fund
- SZ Endowment Fund
- L' Dor Vador Fund

SOPHIE RADWAY PJ LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Linda Woodrow
Roger Kennedy

ESTHER AND JUSTIN MORRISON FUND

Happy Birthday to:

Amy Morrison
Jordan Glass
Gail Wolfe
Ron Horowitz

Happy Anniversary:

Anita and Don Baron
Madeline and Steve Flaster
Gail and Alan Wolfe
Esther Morrison

CANTOR PAMELA SCHIFFER CARING COMMUNITY FUND

A generous donation was received from Leo and Libby Sklar

In memory of Naomi Rachman
Stephen and Deborah Gordon
In memory of Renee Firestone
In memory of Naomi Rachman
David Kositchek

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Judy Frank
Allen Frank

JERRY COHEN PHOTOGRAPHY FUND

In honor of Matriarch's Month—
In memory of my mother Delia Koo, my sister Vicki Hitchens and aunt Gretchen Koo and Mrs. Bea Rabin
Emily Koo

HENRY FINE AND ANNETTE FINE BURKE LIBRARY FUND

In honor and thanks to Rabbi Bigman, Margot Valles and Patty Warshaw
Rachel Minkin

JOE AND MABLE MEITES RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In honor of Patty Warshaw
The Minkin-Wheeler Family
In memory of Naomi Rachman
In memory of Linda Woodrow
Mazel Tov to Hannah and Birk Larusson on the arrival of Izzy Sloan Larusson
Sue and Jerry Weiss

ROBERT GOODMAN MUSIC FUND

A generous donation was received from Gretchen Smith

ETHEL WOLFE KITCHEN FUND

In honor of our grandson, Ezra Wolfe, who became a *Bar Mitzvah* on April 24 at Temple Israel in Minneapolis
Gail and Alan Wolfe

MAUREEN GLADSTONE FLOWER AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT FUND

Thank you to Marv Gladstone and Kim Gladstone Shapiro for adding funding for social engagement support in addition to flowers on the *bimah* from the fund.



BUILDING FUND

In appreciation of the Shaarey Zedek community

Nancy and Andrew Thall

A generous donation was received from Sue Davis

A generous donation was received from Matt Aldrich

RUTH E. ROME ENDOWED MUSIC FUND

In memory of Naomi Rachman

Sue Lerch Leiborwitz

David Leiborwitz

The Koelzer Family

Dansville Schools

The Jacobs Family

Harold Kugelman

In honor of Nolan Zatkan becoming *Bar Mitzvah*

Margot Valles

REMEMBRANCES

June 4-5

Louis Jack Abramson, Rose Bernstein, Benjamin Blechman, Bernard Bloomfield, Ruth Booth, Ted Brody, Philip Cohen, Henry Fine, Lillian Friedland Franklin, Katherine Guertin, Rachel Feuerman Kaplowitz, Sandy Klein, Walter Kron, Patrick O'Brien, Helen Schlachter, Joseph Schrabner, Harlan Schrabner, Ella Shriman, Irving Silverman, Freida Silverman, Dinah Stark, Cantor Bruce Wetzler

June 11-12

Mel Applebaum, Herman Baron, Marvin M. Browde, Estelle Danowitz, Leon Friedman, Sydney Goodman, Rosamond Hack, Daniel H. Kruger, Theodore Post, Barney A. Ross, Louis Schwartz, Bernice Weinberg

June 18-19

Margaret Grigg, Blanche Gulvezan, Naomi Hack, Dennis Israel, Larry Levy, Mable Meites, Margot Ormos, Gail Pearlman, David Schafer, Lynne Shapiro, Nina Charlotte Skuller, Ellen Smith, Dorothy Bloom Zachar

June 25-26

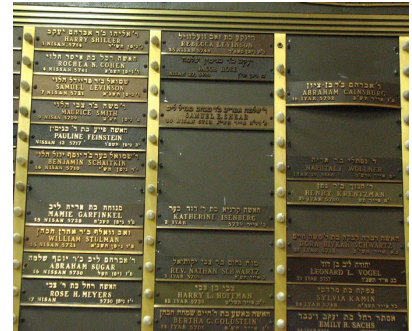
Jerry Bass, Eda Bueller, Edith Casher, Blanche Engel, Rabbi Alfred E. Friedman, Bessie Rittman Gershen, William V. Greene, Barbara Greenstein, Lynn Hecht, Samuel Hecht, Jack Martin, Ruth Polin, Goldie Schwitzer, Sandra Thompson, Rosalind Weisberg, Philip Zachar

CONDOLENCES

Condolences are sent to:

The family of former member, Renee Firestone, who died on May 13.

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.



Commentary

CONGREGATION
SHAAREY ZEDEK

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

Commentary Worship Schedule

Friday, June 4

Outdoor *Shabbat* Evening Service 7:00 p.m. (see page 1 and 3)

Saturday, June 5

Shabbat Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Outdoor *T'filot* Experience 10:30 a.m. (see page 4)

Friday, June 11

SHAAREY ZEDEK LIVE! 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 12

Shabbat Morning Service including the *Bat Mitzvah* of Lilah Epley, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, June 18

Shabbat Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 19

Shabbat Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

Friday, June 25

Shabbat Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 26

Shabbat Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

