



# THE SHAARE TORAH Scroll

A Conservative Shul in Gaithersburg, Maryland

## Staying Down to Earth

By Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal

I recently saw a movie starring George Clooney called "Up in the Air." Clooney plays a character named Ryan, who spends most of his year on the road (or actually up in the air flying from city to city) as a professional "terminator" who helps employers downsize their staffs.

As we meet Ryan, we hear him revel in his "homelessness" – he values the surface cordiality of the hotel receptionists, restaurant servers, and airline attendants; he minimizes his attention to family; he avoids deeper romantic relationships. As the movie unfolds, Ryan slowly grows uneasy with each aspect of this existence. He develops feelings for a woman who supposedly shared his lack of interest in deep relationships. He attends his sister's wedding and reconnects with his family. And when he achieves his goal of becoming only the seventh person in the world to earn 10 million miles on his airline's bonus program, he is surprised by how unsatisfying – and lonely – this achievement feels.

By the end of the film, Ryan is on the cusp of change, though in an unusual move (for a Hollywood "star" film), we are left simply with a bleak sense of the potential for change, rather than a satisfying "happy ending."

I don't pretend that the movie is ready for "Oscar" status, but what struck me about it was how "un-Jewish" Ryan's experience of life was. Judaism is about creating a home; about finding community; about building relationships with families and spouses and children – and drawing closer to God in the process. The rhythm of Shabbat, holidays, and other rituals forces us into relationships and to carefully consider what we are living for. The ethical demands and the responsibilities Judaism outlines for our relationships force real empathy and caring.

In early June we will celebrate Shavuot, the anniversary of the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. The narrative and mitzvot (commandments) in the Torah form the blueprint from which, over thousands of years, Judaism has evolved. Judaism is clear that there are goals that are far more important than earning "10 million miles" on our frequent flyer programs. The Torah is the gift that keeps us grounded. Hag Sameah – A Happy Shavuot!✡

### Upcoming Activities

- May 15:** Sukkot in Spring
- May 22:** Israel @ 63 celebration at the JCC, 2:00pm
- May 22:** Summer Celebration, 12:00pm
- May 22:** HAZAK Movie, Driving Miss Daisy, 4:00pm
- June 7:** Shavout Study Into the Night, 7:00pm
- June 14:** Nursery School Graduation Celebration
- June 27:** Nursery School Summer Program begins



**Join us for our Summer  
Celebration on Sunday, May 22  
12:00pm-2:00pm**

*(early dismissal from Religious school)*

**See page 12 for details!**

For more information visit our website at [www.shaaretorah.org](http://www.shaaretorah.org)

### Welcome New Member!

Ziona Swigart



# President's Message

By Barbara McGowan

## Rabbi

Jacob Blumenthal

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## SCROLL NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

**Managing Editor** Nicki Walter

**Design** Jessica Smith

Spring 2011, Vol. 15, Number 2

The Scroll is published quarterly by Shaare Torah, Inc. P.O. Box 83598, Gaithersburg, MD 20883.

Spring is finally here! It's my favorite season. The weather gets warmer, everything turns green, my favorite flowers bloom, the days get longer, and I get to plant my vegetable garden.

But along with spring often comes change, and Shaare Torah is no exception. Most notably, we will end our school year by saying goodbye to Rabbi Alana Suskin, who has been with us for the last three years as our Director of Lifelong Learning. Rabbi Alana came to Shaare Torah full of enthusiasm for the huge task that she was to undertake. During her time with us, she introduced creative ways to encourage our children to learn, she taught us about social justice, she brought us our CSA, now starting its third season, and she inspired us with her love of Judaism. We wish her much mazel wherever she goes.

Additionally this spring, we will say thank you to Sy and Sheila Harnik, who are stepping down as the chairs of our Hazak group. Sy and Sheila began our Hazak Chapter 5 years ago with just a few people and it soon grew to be a vibrant and active group of 140 members. We are grateful to them for joining our community and building this wonderful group.

More change is coming for our board in late May when we have our annual congregational meeting, where we'll vote on a new slate of officers and trustees. We thank those who are leaving the board for their dedication and service to our community, and we welcome those newcomers who will reinvigorate us with their enthusiasm and fresh ideas.

In June we will install our new yahrzeit memorial board in our lobby. We began this project this past November, and it will be a beautiful tribute to our beloved family members and friends. We are grateful to Leslie Lloyd's father, Phil Stein, z"l, for the very generous gift that helped us to fund this project. It will be comforting to have memories of those we miss adorning Shaare Torah's lobby.

But not all change has to be bittersweet. This summer we will begin our new nursery school summer program. We're all looking forward to the sounds of laughter and the chatter of our youngest members as they explore new worlds of music, art, storytelling, and more.

In July we will welcome our new Director of Secondary and Young Adult Education and Engagement, who will spend the remainder of the summer working together with our other staff to plan the upcoming school year. Watch for more details about our new director soon.

While I know that summer is the time for kids (and some of our adults) to go to camp and families to go on vacations, we'll still be busy at Shaare Torah adjusting to the changes and making plans for the upcoming year. I hope you'll stop by and be a part of it all. Enjoy the rest of the spring and the summer.☆



## Shaare Torah Message Line

301-869-9842

Check out our website at:

[www.shaaretorah.org](http://www.shaaretorah.org)

e-mail us at: [Info@ShaareTorah.org](mailto:Info@ShaareTorah.org)

# B-I-N-G-O!

By Troy Smith

On Sunday, April 3rd, the Shaare Torah all purpose room was temporarily converted into a bingo hall to host an afternoon of family fun to benefit the Nursery school. Unlike the days of smoke filled rooms with the loud blowing fan of a bingo machine, this event was smokeless and digital...when they say they have an app for that, they really mean it!



What better way to spend some quality time with each other than to have a hot dog dinner with family and friends while playing some bingo and winning some fantastic prizes! The variety of prizes for both kids and adults showcased a broad spectrum of interests, and every child left with a prize at the end of the event. Raffles for smaller prizes were held in between games to keep the excitement level high.

The grand prize of the evening was an Amazon Kindle. The winner had to be determined by a coin toss because two people called bingo at the same time. Congratulations to all that won a prize, or prizes. All of the money raised went to the Nursery School so that they can continue to provide wonderful programs to our young children. We are looking forward to a bigger, better event next year! ☆



Mazal tov to our b'nai mitzvahs, Matthew Lowinger, Hannah Weisman, Ben Cubert, Mira Tash, Aaron Rose and Alex Myers. Way to go!

Mazal tov to Fran and Elan Feder on the birth of their sons, Avi Mason and Pace Keaton. Mazal tov as well to big brother, Rhys!

Mazal tov to Jeffrey and Tara Lang on the birth of their son, Reed Alexander.

Mazal tov to Jacob and Sarah Straus on the birth of their son, Benjamin Issac. Mazal tov to big sister Lilly too!

The congregation extends its condolences to Jeffrey Lowinger on the death of his beloved mother, Audrey Lowinger, z"l.

The congregation extends its condolences to Rabbi Mark R. Raphael of Kehilat Shalom on the death of his beloved mother, Norma Raphael, z"l.

The congregation extends its condolences to Kathleen Whitmire on the death of her beloved step-sister, Sandy Marsh, z"l.

## Join Us For A Shaare Torah Shabbat!

Junior Congregation

**May 14 & Jun. 11**

**at 10:15 am**

*Children in grades 3-6. Led by MollyBeth Rushfield.*

Gesher

**May 14 & Jun. 11**

**at 10:15 am**

*Children in grades K-2. Led by Debra Geiger. (parents of kindergarteners are encouraged to attend)*

Tot Shabbat

**May 14 & 28, Jun. 11 & 25,**

**July 9 & 23**

**at 10:15 am**

*Children ages 2-4 with parents. Led by Meredith Polsky and Bari Handelman.*

# Nursery School Notes

By Pamela Gorin, Director of Early Childhood Education

When I am not sitting behind my desk at work or visiting the classrooms, I like to spend time reading and reflecting on books about early childhood education and on different aspects of Judaism. I'd like to share two of the books that I've been reading recently:

## **Mind in the Making, by Ellen Galinsky**

In this book, Ellen Galinsky proposes that there are seven life skills that every child needs. Skill 1 is Focus and Self Control. Children need this skill in order to achieve their goals, especially a world that is filled with distractions and information overload. It involves paying attention, remembering the rules, thinking flexibly, and exercising self-control. Skill 2 is Perspective Taking. Perspective taking goes far beyond empathy; it involves figuring out what others think and feel, and forms the basis for children's understanding of their parents', teachers', and friends' intentions. Children who can take others' perspectives are also much less likely to get involved in conflicts. Skill 3 is communicating. Community is much more than understanding language, speaking, reading and writing—it is the skill of determining what one wants to communicate and realizing how our communications will be understood by others. It is the skill that teachers and employers feel is most lacking today. Skill 4 is Making Connections. Making connections is at the heart of learning—figuring out what's the same and what's different, and sorting these things into categories. Making unusual connections is at the core of creativity. In a world where people can google for information, it is the people who can see connections who are able to go beyond knowing information to using this information well. Skill 5 is Critical Thinking. Critical thinking is the ongoing search for valid and reliable knowledge to guide beliefs, decisions and actions. Skill 6 is Taking on Challenges. Life is full of stresses and challenges. Children who are willing to take on challenges (instead of avoiding them or simply coping with them) do better in school and in life. Finally, Skill 7 is Self-Directed, Engaged Learning. It is through learning that we can realize our potential. As the world changes, so can we, for as long as we live—as long as we learn.

## **I Asked for Wonder—A Spiritual Anthology of Abraham Joshua Heschel, edited by Samuel H. Dresner**

Trying to find a few words to describe Rabbi Heschel is so very difficult. He was a theologian, a poet, a mystic, a social reformer and a historian. Abraham Joshua Heschel insisted that the opposite of good is not evil, it is indifference. Born into an esteemed Hasidic family in Poland in 1907, he wrote transcendent, poetic words about God. At the same time, he marched alongside Martin Luther King Jr. and organized religious leadership against the war in Vietnam, embodying the social activism of the biblical prophets he studied. In this book, Rabbi Dresner pulled together excerpts from Heschel's many published books. They are grouped into the major themes of God, Prayer, Sabbath, Religion, Man, Bible, Holy Deeds, The People,

and The Land. The title of the book comes from a preface to his book on Yiddish poems, and he wrote, "I did not ask for success; I asked for wonder. And You gave it to me." Young children are filled with wonder—everything in life is mysterious and fun and they are ready to delve deep and learn about the world around them. I often ponder how to keep that sense of wonder alive as we grow—that sense of wonder that Rabbi Heschel had all of his life.

Here are some little "bites" of Heschel that that I've been reflecting on: "Worship is a way of seeing the world in the light of God". "Prayer teaches us what to aspire to. So often we do not know what to cling to. Prayer implants in us the ideals we ought to cherish. Redemption, purity of mind and tongue, or willingness to help, may hover as ideas before our mind, but the idea becomes a concern, something to long for, a goal to be reached, when we pray." On the Bible, "To believe, we need God, a soul, and the Word." And lastly, "We have so much to say about the Bible that we are not prepared to hear what the Bible has to say about us." ☆



## **REGISTRATION FOR NURSERY SCHOOL 2011-2012**

**Registration for our Nursery School program has begun. We have programs for toddlers, twos, threes and fours.**

For more information, contact Pam Gorin at 301-869-9842, x113 or [pgorin@shaaretorah.org](mailto:pgorin@shaaretorah.org)





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## All aboard the Shaare Torah Summer Program Express!



Shaare Torah Nursery School in the Lakelands (1409 Main Street, Gaithersburg) is offering a summer program for children ages 2-5 from June 27 through August 5, 2011. Stopping at a different, exciting "destination" each week, themed sessions are taught by qualified, caring and enthusiastic nursery school teachers assisted by counselors. Activities include water and outdoor play, art, creative dramatics, storytelling, and music. In addition, each session will include special programming and events.

A 3-day program (9:15 am-12:00 pm) is available for rising 2's (2 years old by September 1, 2011) and 3- and 5-day programs (9:15 am- 1:00 pm) are available for 3-5-year olds. Pricing is as follows:

- **3-day 2's:** Members: \$75/week;  
Non-members: \$100/week
- **3-day 3's:** Members: \$85/week;  
Non-members: \$110/week
- **5-day 3's/4's/5's:** Members: \$145/week;  
Non-members \$170/week

For more information, contact Pam Gorin at pgorin@shaaretorah.org or 301-869-9842 x113.

## Partnership with JSSA

Shaare Torah's exciting partnership with JSSA, the Jewish Social Service Agency, is now in its fifth year. The Synagogue Liaison Program offers congregants an opportunity for a free and confidential consultation with an experienced JSSA clinician.



*Jewish Social Service Agency*

Susie Rosloff has worked with many families and can help with questions about a variety of issues from raising children to aging parents. Susie is available to all members, either by telephone or through an in office visit to discuss any issues that face individual synagogue members.

While this service is not meant to be ongoing therapy, Susie can offer strategies and guidance for specific issues and provide referrals to JSSA and other community resources.

Please call Susie at 301-610-8329 or srosloff@jssa.org. JSSA's office is in Falls Grove at 200 Wood Hill Road in Rockville. Feel free to set up a private and completely confidential consultation with Susie about any issue you or your family is encountering – individual or couples counseling, parenting, students with special needs, advice or resources regarding aging parents, or any other topic of concern. Initial consultations are at no cost.

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**301.461.0011**

# L'Chu L'Mayim

By Rabbi Alana Suskin, Director of Life Long Learning



## Come for Water

Mari the grandson of R. Huna the son of R. Jeremiah b. Abba learnt: Before taking leave of his fellow a man should always finish with a matter of halachah (Jewish law), this way, he will remember him. (Talmud Berachot 31a).

Who is remembering whom here? From the words of the Talmud it is unclear. The mishna (Pirke Avot 3:3) tells us, "when two study torah together, God's presence dwells with them." Why should those taking leave of one another share a matter of halachah? There are two possibilities. The plain meaning would seem to be that the opportunity to study a little will help them remember one another. Whenever one thinks of the piece of Jewish tradition that they have studied, it will be as if the other is with him. But there is another possibility: perhaps what the talmud is suggesting is not just that the two will remember one another even though they are parted, but that God will remember them, and they will be bound together through God's mind.

In the days of the rabbis, there was no Facebook or email to keep in contact. Even a long journey was hazardous, and there was no guarantee that you would ever see your friend face to face again. Perhaps if you were fortunate, another traveler might bring you back greetings from wherever your friend went. Today, we can be far from one another and still remain in contact. But even so, in the learning that we do together, in engaging in the holy act of Torah study, there is a third Partner whose memory strengthens the blessing of the time together.

This year comes to a close, and we grow and change, but Torah is eternal. In the Torah and the learning we have done, we maintain our connections, as what we have learned from one another grows within us. May we all fill our days with learning from one another so that we live on in each other. ✧

## Alternative Musaf Service

*Please join us on the third Saturday of every month for an Alternative Musaf Service. This lay-led, participatory and experimental service is held in an intimate and relaxed setting on the third floor of the building. Each of these traditional, egalitarian services may include elements like a full repetition of the Amidah, creative teachings, and innovative tunes.*

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# Committee News

## Hazak Senior Group

By Sy & Sheila Harnik

In January our Hazak Chapter at Shaare Torah turned five years old. At our first meeting, which was held at our home, 45 people attended. Many of those attending met people they had not seen in many years. The excitement and warmth was strongly felt by all. Today, five years later, we have 140 members. We have had many exciting programs, interesting trips and we have met many wonderful people. We hope our Hazak Chapter will continue to grow and be able to offer new programs that you all can look forward to attending.

### Past Events

- On February 6th an outstanding book called "As a Driven Leaf" by Milton Steinberg was reviewed and discussed with Bernice Blumenthal as our discussion facilitator.
- On March 13th we went to see the play "The Chosen" by Chaim Potok at the Arena Stage in Washington, DC. Everyone had a great time.

### Upcoming Events

- **Movie: Driving Miss Daisy:** On Sunday May 22, at 4:00pm, we will be showing the movie "Driving Miss Daisy". The racism and prejudice that permeated American society during the time period in which the story takes place is explored in the film. A must see movie. Discussion and Refreshments to follow. Family and fiends are welcome.
- **HAZAK Spring Retreat:** From June 29-July 6, 2011 at Block & Hexter Vacation Center, Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania, we will be having our Retreat.

### Announcements

At this time we regret to announce that as of June 2011, we will be stepping down as chairpersons of the group. While we hope to remain active and involved as members of Hazak, we feel that it is time for new leaders to take the helm of this important and successful group. It's important that each of you consider how you can help our group continue to move forward—serving as chairpeople, helping to organize our programs, or volunteering to help with publicity. Please send a note to us with your ideas and ways you'd like to be involved. You can also share your ideas or volunteer by contacting Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal at rabbijacob@shaaretorah.org.

Membership dues still remain at \$10.00 per person annually. Keep sending us the names of the over 55 year olds so we can add them to our mailing list. Our membership will continue to grow with your help.

Sy & Sheila Harnik  
15100 Interlachen Drive, Bldg. 4, Apt. 309  
Silver Spring, MD 20906  
301-598-0050

## Men's Club

### Spring Men's Club Events

#### Golf Outing

Join us for 9 holes after work and then dinner. Tentative date is Thursday May 26, 2011.

#### Frederick Keys Baseball Game

June 5, 2011

Father/son/daughter trip to see the Frederick Keys Baseball team! Join us for a trip to this kid friendly stadium.

#### Annual Texas Hold'em Tournament

July - Date to be announced.

#### Softball

Softball is in full swing. If anyone is interested in playing softball, there are still openings for new players.

To find out more about any event, contact STMC at mensclub@shaaretorah.org

The Shaare Torah Men's Club meets once a month, usually on the 1st Monday of each month at 8:00pm. Meetings are open to everyone.



#### THE HEART OF SHAARE TORAH:

### *An Invitation to You!*

We feel very blessed to be able to be there for our members, lend a helping hand, provide a listening ear, and extend heseed to our families in times of joy, challenge or sorrow.

Shaare Torah is proudly reflected through this wonderful committee.

*Know of a congregant in need of heseed  
or interested in joining?*

PLEASE CONTACT:

Elissa Ehrenstein at Ehrenstein4@verizon.net  
or 301-540-0771

# Do Unto Others...

by Stephanie Epstein

## Creating Balance through Mitzvah

Maimonides wrote that a person should always see himself, and the entire world, as equally balanced between good and evil. With just one positive deed, one can tip the balance and save the entire world. Adding acts of goodness and kindness can also help bring balance to a person. The Social Action Committee strives to lead the congregation in tipping the scale through charitable events and opportunities throughout the year.

## Mishloach Manot

The mitzvah of giving Mishloach Manot is explained in the Book of Esther. It describes two different mitzvot: the sending of two different, ready-to-eat foods and/or drinks to one friend and the distribution of two charitable donations (either money or food) to the poor. Shaare Torah's Mishloach manot project was a success and is the only congregation fundraiser that designates 100 percent of the funds to social action tzedakah. This year we raised \$4,900 for the Social Action Fund which exceeded projections by \$1,400.

The Social Action Committee used proceeds from the Mishloach Manot fundraiser to make a \$1,000 donation to aid victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. The contribution was made through the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The remaining funds will be used over the year to make donations to Gaithersburg HELP; Interfaith Works; Sukkot in Spring, an Israel-based organization; and other organizations that share our mission of assisting those in need in the local, national and international community.

The response to Mishloach Manot was positive:

- 61 people participated in the program, an increase of 16 people from last year
- Several volunteers set aside three Tuesday nights to bake 850 hamantaschen, which was a popular and delicious enhancement to our Mishloach Manot program
- A stylish greeting card was designed this year by Renana Harris-Blumenthal to accompany the gifts
- 250 Mishloach Manot boxes were assembled by the committee and were distributed during the Megillah reading,

at the Religious School, and at the Purim Party. These gifts were available to all congregants, as well as friends and prospective members. Boxes were also mailed to college students whose friends and family requested a special order.

Many thanks to Corrin Ferber for managing the Mishloach Manot box production and to Leah Nichaman for managing the greeting orders, greeting card production and baking parts of the project.



Thank you also to all of our volunteers, including Tracey Alalouf, Beverly Brown, Loren Rodwin, Emma Rodwin, Talia Rodwin, Lynn Weintraub, Rachel Navarro, Laurie Roshfeld, Ziona Swigart, Dee Weiss, Ann Goodman, Eleanor Cohen, Lois Geller, Jamie Hamelburg, Katie Hamelburg, Julia Hamelburg, Marci Harris-Blumenthal, Renana Harris-Blumenthal, Lisa Itkin, Toby Morse, Rachael Spiegel, Judith Bernstein and Nomi Rivera.

## A Child's Favorite Food Lends itself to a Good Cause

What is Purim without a grogger? Similar to last year, the Social Action and Ritual Committee partnered to ensure that our popular mac 'n cheese groggers were used during Purim. Not only did this program allow us to stamp out Haman's name, but we were also able to play a small role in helping to stamp out hunger. Shaare Torah donated 275 boxes of mac 'n cheese to the food pantry at Gaithersburg HELP.

## Mark Your Calendars for Mitzvah Day

The Social Action Committee is very excited about our plans for Mitzvah Day which will be held on Sunday, May 1. This series of events are an excellent opportunity for the entire Shaare Torah community to participate in 11 different mitzvah projects including:

- Sukkot in Spring (refurbish a low-income home in Silver Spring)
- Bake muffins for local area shelters
- NIH marrow donor program
- Blood donation
- Operation 2nd Chance (making cards for soldiers recovering in hospitals or in rehabilitation facilities or for soldiers overseas)
- Operation 2nd Chance (DVD drive for service people in hospitals or in rehabilitation facilities)
- Stream clean-up
- Head Start Program (donate baby items for new parents)
- Ring House (make paper tissue flowers with residents)
- Children's Inn at NIH (make a craft to put in a child's mail box at NIH)
- Breast Cancer Awareness (get a pink hair extension with portion of proceeds donated to Breast Cancer awareness)

Many volunteers are needed to make Mitzvah Day a success and we welcome your help. Please contact the event chair, Tracey Alalouf at [traceyalalouf@gmail.com](mailto:traceyalalouf@gmail.com) for more information or to volunteer.

Photos: (Left) Leah Nichaman poses with some of the 850 hamantaschen that were baked.

(Right) Laurie Roshfeld and Ann Goodman bake hamantaschen.



# Herb's Holidays

By Herb Baum

How to make one observance more meaningful

Usually this column focuses on some unique aspect of one of the official Jewish holidays. According to Wikipedia, our current source for knowledge, a holiday is a day having special significance for which individuals, a government, or a religious group have deemed that an observation is warranted. As we know, the word derives from holy day. Thus, in addition to the traditional Jewish holidays, four observances have been added to the Jewish calendar in recent years. These relate to the Holocaust and the formation of the State of Israel. The four observances are: Yom Ha-Shoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Yom Ha-Zikkaron (Israeli Memorial Day), Yom Ha-Atzama'ut (Israeli Independence Day), and Yom Yerushalayim (Reunification of Jerusalem). This article focuses on Yom Ha-Shoah.

Our history contains many tragedies where numerous people lost their lives for being Jewish. The Holocaust was by far one of, if not, the worst. After the State of Israel was founded it took two years to decide on what day this remembrance should occur. Many favored the day of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. This, however, occurred on the day before Passover and would have interfered with the celebration of our freedom from Pharaoh. The 27th of Nissan<sup>1</sup> was chosen because it is after Passover, but still within the timeframe of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Both my parents escaped from Germany after 1936. Other than my father's brother, my grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins all died in the Shoah. It is not that I need a day to remember that fact, but I need a day to remember that I am not alone. It is also a day that reminds me that the lessons of the Shoah have not been learned as people throughout the world are still being killed because they are viewed as "different". It is a reminder that on at least one day people stand together and say "never again", and maybe during the next 364 days more people will have taken that message to heart and do something to protest the killings going on throughout the world. It is a day that is not uniquely Jewish, but one that should be observed regardless of your faith or nationality.

So on May 1st, light a memorial candle and then spend the next day listening to lectures about the Holocaust or learn what is still happening today. Most importantly, spend some time thinking of those who perished in the Shoah and those that continue to perish throughout the world in the name of ethnic cleansing. Pledge that during the year you will write at least one letter or give donation to help stop this. Let our observation of Yom Ha-Shoah be an example for the world.✧

**Sources:** 1 So as not to impact Shabbat, if the 27th of Nissan falls on a Friday then the observance is moved to Thursday. Likewise if it falls on a Sunday it is moved to Monday.

## Members working with Members



**Julie Goodwin Weber**  
*Attorney at Law*

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Free initial consultation for all Shaare Torah members

# Donations

## General Fund

- Lisa Abelson in memory of Jerome Danoff, z"l
- Joan Barr in memory of David Barr, z"l
- Herbert Baum
- Gary & Evelyn Brager in honor of Bernard Lloyd's 80th birthday
- Suzanne & Max Chorowski in memory of Gussie Barnet, z"l
- Noam & Wendy Fischman in memory of Edward Fink, z"l; in memory of Herbert Nechin, z"l
- Steven Greenfeld in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Kelli & Richard Kahalas in honor of Casey's bat mitzvah
- Ira and Frances Kemp
- David & Janice Kimmelman
- Leslie and Lee Lloyd in honor of Paul & Sarah Fronstin's marriage; in memory of Edward Fink, z"l; in honor of Andrea & Brian Yadin's marriage
- Marcie Nadler in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Milton & Rhoda Nichaman in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Albert Pollin in memory of Fannie Pollin, z"l
- David, Suzanne & Ellie Rand in memory of Audrey Lowinger, z"l
- Phyllis Rand in memory of Audrey Lowinger, z"l
- Heather Scott in honor of Nora Gorfinkel's 1st birthday
- Rachael Spiegel in honor of Nora Gorfinkel's 1st birthday
- Erica Tafoya in honor of Nora Gorfinkel 1st's birthday
- Melissa Spence in honor of Nora Gorfinkel's 1st birthday
- Seth & Julianne Weiner

## Hesed Fund

- Julie Becker & Family in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Rhoda & Norbert Eckstein in memory of Mae Mukasey, z"l; in memory of Sadie Eckstein, z"l; in memory of Werner Blumenthal, z"l; in memory of Samuel Meyers, z"l
- Kelli & Richard Kahalas in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Connie & Alan Liss in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Barbara & Kevin McGowan in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Luran Penn in memory of Edward Fink, z"l; in memory of Judith Klein, z"l
- Luran Penn in memory of Herbert Stein, z"l
- Adiva Sotzsky

## Nursery School Fund

- Diane & Joel Aronson in honor of Bernard Lloyd's special birthday
- Phyllis & Bobby Shockett in honor of Bernard Lloyd's special birthday
- Troy & Jessica Smith in memory of Samuel Meyers, z"l
- Anthony & Michal Strom in honor of Nora Gorfinkel's 1st birthday

## Prayer Book Fund

- Karen Chase in memory of Herbert Nechin, z"l
- Johann & Kenneth Dretchen
- Judy, Brian, Kayla and Ian Liss in honor of Connie Liss's birthday
- James Vissari

## Adult Education Fund

- Judith Bernstein in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Amy & Michael Kass

## Education Excellence Fund

- Jan & Kevin Lipson in honor of Nora Gorfinkel's 1st birthday

## Rabbi's Fund

- Ken & Fran Finkelstein in memory of Edward Fink, z"l; in memory of Judith Klein, z"l
- Gail Isaacson in memory of Loretta Katz, z"l
- Aaron & Rebecca Kotok in memory of Edward Fink, z"l
- Connie & Alan Liss in memory of Audrey Lowinger, z"l; in honor of Seymour and Shelia Harnik's new home
- Kevin & Barbara McGowan in memory of William McGowan, z"l
- Susan & Michael Sandler in honor of their daughter, Demi
- Jay & Marlene Schwartz in memory of Jay's mother, Gladys Schwartz, z"l
- Phyllis & Bob Snider in honor of the bar mitzvah of their grandson, Jesse Cogan

## Building Fund

- Kenneth Beecher in memory of Herbert Nechin, z"l; in memory of Edward Fink, z"l; in memory of Frances Belansky, z"l; in memory of Audrey Lowinger, z"l

- Barbara Friedlander in memory of Jerome Allan Danoff, z"l; in honor of Jennifer Schnur for her hard work on the auction fundraiser
- Ellen & Erik Rubinson in memory of Michael Messitte, z"l

## Hazak Fund

- Seymour & Shelia Harnik in memory of Irving Harnik, z"l

## Social Action Fund

- Beverly Brown
- Barbara & Kevin McGowan in memory of Sandy Marsh, z"l
- Leah Nichaman & Loren Rodwin in memory of Edward Fink, z"l; in honor of Katie Hamelburg

## Religious School Fund

- Lisa Cohen-Dumani in honor of Miriam & Scott's wedding

## Day School Shabbat

### Kiddush Sponsors

- David & Judith Bernstein
- Wendie Rosofsky & Mark Bilsky
- Wendy & Noam Fischman
- Mike & Sherry Fox
- Barbara & Norman Friedlander

- Jamie & Mark Hamelburg
- Rich & Rachel Handloff
- Rabbi Jacob & Marci Harris-Blumenthal
- Rebecca & Aaron Kotok
- Lee & Leslie Lloyd
- Kenneth Nechin & Annette Bicher
- Richard & Rebecca Prigal
- Gary Robinson & Alison Dorsky
- Rena & Pepe Strauss
- Monty & Staci Yolles
- Ilene Altman & Daniel Glueck
- Steven & Rebecca Weissman

## Kiddush Sponsors

- Kevin & Barbara McGowan in honor of our newest Torah and Beth Shalom of Carroll County
- Kenneth Nechin & Annette Bicher in honor of their daughter Hannah's bat mitzvah
- Robert & Phyllis Snider, Helen Cogan, Amie Cogan & Michael Cogan in honor of their son and grandson Jesse's bar mitzvah
- Lee & Leslie Lloyd in honor of Sorin's 5th birthday and Talia's 8th birthday
- Neil Keller & Nan & Steve Fine in honor of Neil and Nan's daughter Sara's bat mitzvah

*Would you like to make a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one?*

You can purchase a chumash or siddur with a special dedication in the inside cover. The costs are \$36 per siddur and \$70 per chumash. If you would like to pay tribute to someone, send a check payable to Shaare Torah.

## SPONSOR A KIDDUSH

Sponsoring a Kiddush is a great way to make a donation to Shaare Torah, while honoring a milestone in someone's life, such as a birthday or anniversary. It's also a nice way to honor someone's memory.

If you would like to sponsor a Kiddush, please contact Pepe Strauss at 301.869.9842 ext. 115.

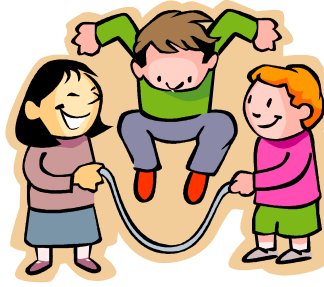
### The following are the available donation funds:

- **General Fund** – Supports synagogue activities.
- **Building Fund** – Provides for acquisition and maintenance of physical space.
- **Education Excellence Fund** – Supports education programs and teacher retention.
- **Prayer Book Fund** – Provides for prayer book requirements. Hardcover books contain a dedication bookplate.
- **Library Fund** – Maintains and grows our library resources.
- **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund** – Assists members of the congregation who are in need (confidentially), initiates programs and provides other benefits to the congregation.
- **Hesed Fund** – Supports members in times of need (such as a birth or death in the family). In addition to making sure there are minyans during shiva, we provide a mea during shiva. On the happier side, we provide a Shabbat meal for families with a new baby.
- **Social Action Fund** – Supports the activities of the Social Action Committee. Some funds may also be donated to tzedakah in the congregation's name.
- **Nursery School Fund** – Supports nursery school programming.



# Happy Birthday!

Lev Gutin	5/2	Matthew Edick	6/14
Jake Moses	5/2	Lindsay Finkelstein	6/15
Aaron Robinson	5/2	Anna Zimblar	6/15
Ethan Stoller	5/2	Gabriel Zimblar	6/15
Eric Weiss	5/2	Sophie Zimblar	6/15
Gabriela Glueck	5/3	Samara Kass	6/16
Tori Isaacson	5/5	Brandon Smith	6/16
Alina Miller	5/5	Danielle Ram	6/19
Jordana Kravitz	5/6	Jakob Saks	6/21
Ariel Bernstein	5/8	Ian Rubinson	6/22
Jonathan Brodsky	5/9	Jacob Levy	6/23
Carrie Edick	5/10	Aaron Adato	6/24
Sophie Handloff	5/10	Ryan Siegel	6/24
Jack Taliano	5/10	Andrew Weinstein	6/24
Lindsey Walter	5/10	Jenna Dantus	6/25
Benjamin Sokobin	5/11	Braden Silbert	6/25
Joshua Cohen	5/12	Marissa Stoller	6/26
Sam Walter	5/12	Emma Weber	6/26
Ruby Kotok	5/13	Hope Rosner	6/27
Katie Hamelburg	5/14	Ethan Fontek	6/28
Maiyan Suskin	5/14	Michael Taliano	6/28
Samuel Ashery	5/15	Zachary Wasserman	6/28
Devin Yolles	5/15	Lauren Goldberger	6/29
Rachel Katz	5/17	Rachel Goldberger	6/29
Noah Cubert	5/19	Kyra Smith	6/29
Scott Horowitz	5/19	Lauren Levy	6/30
Samuel Cogan	5/21	David Solomon	6/30
Abigail Weisman	5/21	Zachary Goodman	7/1
Zoey Forrester-Fronstin	5/22	Ariana Katz	7/1
Natalie Goury	5/22	Julia Bergel	7/4
Lucy Polsky	5/22	Sam Silber	7/5
Alana Petroff	5/23	Jessica Brown	7/7
Hannah Weisman	5/23	Harlow Leichter	7/7
Marissa Goldman	5/24	Arielle Wassertzug	7/8
Ethan Katz	5/24	Danielle Wassertzug	7/8
Joseph Stearman	5/24	Michael Silberstein	7/10
Lily Sweeney	5/25	Rachel Ellinport	7/11
Rachel Margolis	5/27	Jordan Novak	7/11
Matthew Kessler	5/28	Reese Udler	7/11
Ava Goodman	5/30	Adi Fine	7/12
Aaron Rose	6/1	Alana Cohen	7/14
Max Greenfeld	6/2	Ariel Lanes	7/15
Avishai Bilsky	6/3	Kyla Alalouf	7/16
Tyler Eckstein	6/3	Elan Lurie	7/16
Alex Myers	6/3	Mitchell Wasserman	7/16
Madeline Bonchick	6/5	Arieh Fischthal	7/19
Sarah Finkelstein	6/5	David Horn	7/22
Jordan Finkelstein	6/6	Lila Bilsky	7/23
Zachary Kraus	6/6	Yael Bilsky	7/23
Sarah Nachbar	6/6	Adam Landa	7/23
Alexa Schnur	6/6	Ellie Sweeney	7/24
Jennifer Weiss	6/6	Alexa Perry	7/25
Benjamin Brown	6/7	Hannah Hallam	7/26
Yael Fischman	6/7	Rebecca Katz	7/26
Ethan Shulman	6/7	Kate Messitte	7/28
Ethan Udler	6/8	Gabriela Admi	7/29
Doron Fox	6/9	Joshua Kijak	7/29
Joshua Lasday	6/9	Hailey Schwartz	7/29
Alexander Goldman	6/10	Joshua Weintraub	7/30
Kevin Brooks	6/12		
Neila Kline	6/13		
Rebecca Navarro	6/13		



**Shaare Torah Annual Summer Celebration**  
**Sunday, May 22, 2011**  
**12:00 - 2:00 PM**

**Pony Rides, Moonbounce, Relay Races,  
 Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Salads, Desserts,  
 Sno-Cones, and more!**

**Religious School ends early at 12 noon.  
 Join us for some food and fun after pick up.**

**Entire Shaare Torah community encouraged to attend including Religious  
 School, Nursery School, neighbors, and friends.**

**Pre-registration admission:**

\$8 per person; maximum family fee of \$30

**At the door admission:**

\$9 per person; maximum family fee of \$35

Children 2 and under are free!

If you would like to attend this event and need financial assistance, please speak confidentially with Ken Beecher, VP for Finance, [vpfinance@shaaretorah.org](mailto:vpfinance@shaaretorah.org) or 301-527-0288.

Register for this event using the form below or online at:

<https://spreadsheets.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dGUxMFExd1VVeVBsczNpZ3NIS2lpcFE6MA>

**All are encouraged to attend the Israel@63 celebration at the JCC in Rockville, 2 - 5pm**

**Shaare Torah's Annual Summer Celebration Pre-registration Admission Form**

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE, E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**My enclosed check, payable to Shaare Torah is for:**

Number of participants \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8 per person = \_\_\_\_\_ OR  \$30 family maximum

**Forms must be postmarked by May 16, 2011 and mailed to:**

Shaare Torah, Attn: Picnic

P.O. Box 83598, Gaithersburg, MD 20883