



TEMPLE ISRAEL

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voice

WENDY
& AVRON
FOGELMAN
RELIGIOUS
SCHOOL
CHANUKAH
MACCABIAH

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TU BISH'VAT
A Time for Growth

.....

WRJ-SISTERHOOD
Art Party

.....

MUSICALLY
SPEAKING...



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Between You and Me

Tu BiSh'vat: A Time for Growth



By: Rabbi Wohlner

Our ancient Sages taught that there are four different “New Years” on the Jewish calendar: The first, 1 Tishrei, we know as Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year; the second, 15 Sh’vat (Tu BiSh’vat), the New Year for the trees, originally known as the New Year for the tithing of crops; 1 Nisan, the New Year of the reigns of Jewish Kings; and 1 Elul, the New Year for the tithing of cattle.

Of these four New Years, Rosh Hashanah and Tu BiSh’vat are the only ones still practiced today. Why? How did Tu BiSh’vat evolve from a marker indicating a new crop season to a holiday celebrated with a seder and fruits and nuts found in the land of Israel?

The 16th century mystic rabbis, located in modern day Tzfat, took this holiday and morphed it into something meaningful and relevant to the non-agricultural crowd. Specifically, one of the customs they created, an aspect of the seder, reminds us to use this New Year of the Trees as an opportunity for personal growth. This part of the seder involves dividing fruits or nuts into three categories: fruits and nuts that are hard on the outside, but soft on the inside; fruits that are soft on the outside, but hard on the inside, and fruits that are soft inside and out.

For the first grouping, think of oranges, bananas, almonds, coconuts, etc. These fruits symbolize the barrier we often put up between ourselves and the world around us. They also serve as a reminder to “not judge a book by its cover.”

The second category focuses on any fruit without an outer shell, but with a pit. Think dates, cherries, olives, and apricots. These fruits represent our biggest source of strength and growth - within ourselves. Although we do not eat the pit of these fruits, we plant them and continue the cycle of creation and, in turn, encourage growth.

The last bunch of fruit can be eaten whole since they are soft inside and outside. They teach us that wholeness is achieved by giving it our all. When we let go of our barriers and endlessly give, we create the kind of world that allows us to truly connect with one another.

This Tu BiSh’vat, whether or not you celebrate with a seder, reflect on your journey this year, this 5777. Consider Tu BiSh’vat your check-in, the perfect time to ask yourself: What barriers am I putting up? What inner strength can I tap into? How can I be more giving to others and myself? The New Year of the Trees, as it turns out, is a New Year of growth, not just for the plants, but also for our souls.

“When we let go of our barriers and endlessly give, we create the kind of world that allows us to truly connect with one another.”

Shabbat Shalom

PRENEGS

Friday evenings, 5:45 pm - 6:15 pm

Thank you to WRJ-Sisterhood and to our preneg sponsors who shared their simchot with our Temple Israel family.

EVENING SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday, February 3, 6:15 pm

TOT SHABBAT

Friday, February 3, 6:15 pm

Services for children ages 5 and under followed by Shabbat dinner. Complimentary for Temple members who RSVP by February 1. Late RSVP and non-members' cost: \$8/adult and \$4/child. Visit timemphis.org to reserve. Call Jackie Evans with questions: 901.937.2777.

MUSICAL SHABBAT

Friday, February 10, 6:15 pm

A musical Shabbat service that promises to enhance our prayer by sharing new and old melodies.

EVENING SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday, February 17, 6:15 pm

L'DOR VADOR SHABBAT

Friday, February 24, 6:15 pm

A congregational Shabbat celebration where adults and children enjoy

worshipping together. Perfect for congregants of all ages and features participatory music, both traditional and contemporary. Shabbat dinner follows. RSVP for the dinner (\$8/adult and \$4/child) by February 22 by going to timemphis.org or by calling Jackie Evans, 901.937.2777.

TORAH STUDY

Shabbat mornings, 8:45 am - 9:45 am

B'NAI MITZVAH

Saturday, February 11, 10:00 am

Isaac Dorsey, son of Amy & Richard Dorsey, will become a Bar Mitzvah.

Saturday, February 25, 10:00 am

Zoe Rubenstein, daughter of Tammy & David Rubenstein, will become a Bat Mitzvah in Oxford, Mississippi.

PANCAKES & PRAYER

Saturday, March 4, 10:00 am

Pancakes and Prayer provides an opportunity to celebrate Shabbat morning with our youngest children. Bring your family and enjoy the sweetness of Shabbat followed by breakfast. RSVP for the breakfast by March 2 by going to timemphis.org. Call Jackie Evans with questions: 901.937.2777.

WANT TO SPONSOR A PRENEG?

If you would like to sponsor a preneg before a Friday night Shabbat service, please call Sharon Nickol, 901.937.2797.



Mazal Tov!

Congratulations to these blessings who are becoming B'nai Mitzvah in February.



ISAAC DORSEY

Isaac Dorsey, son of Amy & Richard Dorsey, will become a Bar Mitzvah on February 11. A seventh grader at Lausanne Collegiate School, Isaac focused his Mitzvah Project on helping homeless veterans. In lieu of decorations during his Kiddush, Isaac will donate that money to Alpha Omega Veterans Services to help with their housing program. Additionally, he will collect toiletries and other basic items on his Bar Mitzvah day. Isaac is the grandson of Joy & Leo Bearman, Linda & Jimmy Dorsey, and Diane & David Fletcher.



ZOE RUBENSTEIN

Zoe Rubenstein, daughter of Tammy & David Rubenstein, will become a Bat Mitzvah on February 25. A seventh grader at Oxford Middle School, Zoe is involved in the "I'm A Dancer Against Cancer" campaign and helps raise money and awareness to support the American Cancer Society. She also plans to be team captain for a "Relay for Life" team - marking the fourth year she has participated in this impactful event. Zoe is the granddaughter of the late Theresa Fos & Jules Fos, and Frances Rubenstein and the late Edwin Rubenstein.

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

Mazal Tov...

Leigh Eisenberg & Jeremy Less on their marriage.

Amy & Ben Goldberg on the birth of a son; Lorraine Steinberg, Barry Steinberg, Gayle & Michael Goldberg, and Marcia Goldberg & Greg Payne on the birth of a grandson, and Maxine Hunt and Rita Deal on the birth of a great-grandson.

Kim & Wolf Joffe on the birth of a daughter, and Brenda & Marshall Gordon on the birth of a granddaughter.

HAVE A MAZAL TOV?

If you have a lifecycle "Mazal Tov" in your family that you would like to share, call Carol Geller in the Rabbis' office: 901.937.2771.

Mark Your Calendar

Upcoming TI Events

CAREER TRANSITION GROUP

Sundays, February 5 and February 19, 9:30 am

Join our career transition group for discussions covering: *Creating a 'Reason for Leaving' statement and 'Elevator Speech'* on February 5 and *Career Choice and Change* on February 19. Contact Barbara Hermann, barbaramhermann@gmail.com or Rob Mann, robertdmann@gmail.com with questions.



TU BISH'VAT FESTIVAL

Wednesday, February 8, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Celebrate the festival of the trees at our Tu BiSh'vat Festival! This carnival-style celebration will feature a planting station, crafts, giant Duplo-building, a Wii fitness demonstration, and a healthy snack bar. Open to the entire community and perfect for kids, ages 2 - 6. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

ENGAGE IN JUDAISM WITH DR. JOE LEVY

Sundays through May 7, 2017 (when religious school is in session), 11:00 am

Dr. Levy explores this topic: *Moses: Liberator, Leader, Law Giver, Teacher, Prophet, Poet, Hero, and Human Being*. Please bring a Bible to class.



LUNCH & LEARN

Wednesdays, February 8 & March 8, 12:00 pm

Bring your brown bag lunch; we will supply cookies and drinks while Rabbi Strauss delves into his "Exploring Israel" series. While there is no charge for these Lunch and Learns, please RSVP by February 7 and March 7 respectively by calling Temple Israel, 901.761.3130, or by registering online at timemphis.org.

CAN'T MAKE IT IN-PERSON?

Tune into Facebook Live via Rabbi Feivel's Facebook page.



JACOBS CAMP PREVIEW

Saturday, February 11, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

The Jacobs Camp team will be back in Memphis for a special afternoon of activities at Temple Israel! Enjoy camp games, arts and crafts, sports, and s'mores! No reservation needed.

BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, February 12, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Help save lives by donating blood at the Temple Israel Blood Drive. Contact Temple Israel Blood Drive Co-Chairs, Betsy Libby, bwlibby@yahoo.com or 901.340.8481, or Steve Libby, stevelibby@comcast.net or 901.550.4086, for more details.

JACOBS FAMILY CAMP & NFTY SOUTHERN'S JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP RETREAT

April 7 - 9

Featuring exciting programming for kids in 1st - 8th grades, the retreat will give attendees a peek of a wonderful summer spent at Jacobs Camp. Learn more or register online at jacobscamp.org.

TAKE NOTE

More Details Coming Soon

*Kids' Purim Musical
Performance*

Sunday, March 5

Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 5

Purimspiel

Tuesday, March 7

*Prime Timers' Dinner with
the Quicksilver Quartet*

Wednesday, March 29, 6:00 pm

*MRJ-Brotherhood Annual
Golf Tournament*

Monday, May 15

welcome new MEMBERS

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Temple Israel's newest members:

Sheri & Tom Gadberry
Andrea & Jon Scilken

TI Announcements

JACOBS CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for need-based scholarships from the Memphis Jewish Federation for Jacobs Camp for the summer of 2017 are available now in the Rabbis' office. Please call Carol Geller at 901.937.2771. Completed applications are due in late February.

"TEMPLE CARES" NEEDS YOU!

Temple Cares is looking for volunteers to run short errands for some of our members. If you are interested, please contact Debbie Jackson at 901.604.1511 or djack327@bellsouth.net. And, if you know a Temple member who needs this type of service, please let us know. Temple Cares is here to help!

DO YOU KNOW A PATIENT IN A MEMPHIS-AREA HOSPITAL?

In compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), our local hospitals cannot release patient lists to us. Our rabbis visit the hospitals regularly, but we rely solely on you to give us the information. If someone you know is hospitalized in the Memphis area, please call Carol Geller, 901.937.2771.

COLLECTING CONTACT INFO FOR COLLEGE-AGE ADULTS

WRJ-Sisterhood will send care packages in 2017 to our college-age adults. Please contact Debra Saharovich: dsahar@aol.com, or Laura Tanenbaum: talkntbaum@aol.com, with any address changes, or if your child is abroad.

INTERESTED IN SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS?

Sign up for the Temple Israel social justice email list by emailing: timemphis@gmail.com. News, perspectives, and opportunities will be shared with this list, including applicable stories from the Union for Reform Judaism and commentary from the Temple Israel clergy.

JOIN PURIMSPIEL!

It's not too late to join the cast or help backstage during Purimspiel! This year, Temple Israel will rock out the Book of Esther to Andrew Lloyd Webber rock tunes! No experience necessary. If interested, please contact Liz Rudnick at tipurimspiel@gmail.com.





*SINCE
THE
LAST
VOICE*

TI HAPPENINGS

Bari
Eisenman
President

Lyn

WENDY & AVRON FOGELMAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CHANUKAH MACCABIAH

On December 11, kids from the Wendy & Avron Fogelman Religious School participated in the first Legends of the Hidden Temple Chanukah Maccabiah (color war!). Full of fun games and friendly competition, the Red, Blue, Green, and Yellow teams competed for first place through battles of mind, body, and spirit. Teams were judged by the intensity of their cheering, their sportsmanship, and, of course, their performance in various activities. The Blue team, captained by 2nd grade teacher, Caroline Danziger, along with three madrichim (teenage classroom assistants): Sarah Guynes, Sam Canales, and Batya Salomon, won, and all of the teams got to enjoy amazing latkes, courtesy of Temple's very own WRJ-Sisterhood. Thanks to all the teachers and madrichim for the terrific day... the best day of religious school yet!



BARBARA K. LIPMAN EARLY LEARNING CENTER CHANUKAH PROGRAM

The Barbara K. Lipman Early Learning Center put on quite the Chanukah program! Singing, dancing, and sharing in the miracle of Chanukah, the adorable kids in the Early Learning Center truly showcased the meaning of the holiday. Special thanks to the amazing Barbara K. Lipman Early Learning Center teachers who ensured the success of this fantastic evening!





WRJ-SISTERHOOD MARKETPLACE + CHANUKAH DINNER

CONGREGATIONAL SHABBAT & CHANUKAH DINNER

The annual Chanukah dinner on December 30, courtesy of WRJ-Sisterhood and MRJ-Brotherhood, welcomed 165+ guests and celebrated the miracle of lights with many menorahs and a delicious Corky's meal. Thanks to everyone who attended and made it such a fun evening!



WRJ-SISTERHOOD MARKETPLACE

Once again, the WRJ-Sisterhood's annual Chanukah Marketplace fundraiser was a great success - raising money for Sisterhood to use in support of the congregation. Sisterhood managed to make running the market look easy and fun! Special thanks for all of your hard work and dedication!



EMBRACING LIFE WHILE PREPARING FOR THE END OF LIFE

Led by Rabbi Feivel Strauss and Dr. Scott Morris on December 6; Rabbi Feivel and Dr. Clay Jackson on December 13, and Rabbi Feivel on December 20, “Embracing Life While Preparing for the End of Life” provided impactful programming that resonated with everyone who attended. Thanks to Co-Chairs, Judge Arnold Goldin and Jody Franklin, for all of your work!



CONNECTI



For the second year in a row, over one dozen ConnectTI participants woke up early on Christmas morning to deliver MIFA holiday meals for Memphians in need. Spearheaded by Baylee Less, ConnectTI's new Social Action Liaison, the service project kicked off a renewed energy toward ConnectTI and Temple Israel social action opportunities in 2017.

musically SPEAKING



Whether it is an adult Preneg Ruach or a weekly kids' Music Hangout, Abbie Strauss, Cantorial Soloist, and a talented group of musicians always have a terrific time. Interested in learning more and joining the fun? Contact Abbie to be added to her email list: abbies@timemphis.org.

News From...

WRJ-Sisterhood & MRJ-Brotherhood

PICTURE PERFECT & PRETTY PIECES ART PARTY

**Sunday, February 5,
10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Enjoy brunch and a creative morning with Hallie Charney of Handmade by Hallie and Marci Hirsch of marciART. You will leave with a piece of jewelry and a personalized vase. Attendees need to bring their favorite photo.

About Hallie Charney

Hallie creates mixed media using alternative photographic processes. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art from the University of Tennessee and a Masters of Fine Arts with a concentration in Photography/Printmaking from the University of Memphis.

About Marci Hirsch

Marci Hirsch has created handmade jewelry for over 20 years. Her work features sterling silver and 14k gold with tagua nut, a natural material that resembles ivory.

Julie Boshwit, Amy Kirshbaum, Janice Ringel, and Debbie Rosenthal are the co-chairs. Cost is \$25 for WRJ members/\$30 for non-members. Reserve with a check to WRJ-Sisterhood or online at tisisterhood.org. Contact Julie, boshwit@comcast.net or 901.683.4450, for more information.

PLOUGH TOWERS BINGO

**Tuesday, February 7,
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

Join WRJ as we play bingo with the residents of Plough Towers - they are always very grateful for our company.

Please contact Judy Felsenthal for more information at 901.937.2790.

WRJ BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, February 8, 1:30 pm

The Book Club meets the second Wednesday of each month. February's selection is *Tasa's Song* by Linda Kass. Everyone is welcome. March's selection will be *Circling the Sun* by Paula McLain. Please contact Beverly Buchalter at bevbbuc@icloud.com for more information.

GET YOUR GAME ON!

**Thursday, February 16,
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

Come play bridge, canasta, dominoes, Mah Jongg, and more at WRJ's game night. RSVP to 901.937.2790 or tisisterhood.org. Free for Sisterhood members; guest payment of \$5 collected at door. Contact Cathy Poulin at ckpoulin@aol.com for more information.

ROSH CHODESH

Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 pm

Enjoy a program about Queen Esther, the hidden Jew, other hidden Jews, and the festival of Esther, as well as Sephardic Purim treats at this special Rosh Chodesh. Contact Susan Stein, suestein1@gmail.com, for more information.

MANNA HOUSE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ongoing, Tuesdays

Calling new volunteers to help! Ann Wilson, chair of WRJ-Sisterhood's Manna House volunteer efforts, needs assistance on Tuesday mornings helping the homeless. In addition, Manna House needs clean, gently worn, or new donations of blankets, sweatshirts, gloves, and large size shoes – both men's and women's. Leave them in the Sisterhood office labeled for Manna House. For more information, contact Ann Wilson, anndwilson44@gmail.com, or Elise Meyer, elisesmeyer@gmail.com.

COOKING FOR MIFA SENIORS

Wednesday, March 1, 5:30 pm

Join the ladies who cook for a cause! Meet in the Temple kitchen to prepare meals for seniors. Contact Elise Meyer at elisesmeyer@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

MRJ MEETING, DINNER, & POKER TOURNAMENT

Sunday, February 26, 5:30 pm

RSVP online at timemphis.org. Limited to the first 50 reservations.

PURIM CARNIVAL LUNCH

Sunday, March 5

MRJ volunteers needed. Interested? For more details, contact Josh Lipman: Joshua.Lipman@aus.com.

Donations

According to the Talmud, giving is as important as all of the other commandments combined.

Thank you to those listed below who made donations to these funds in the month of December: Barbara K. Lipman Early Learning Center, Cemetery, Clergy's Discretionary, ConnectI, General, Grounds & Beautification, Mary Shainberg Archives, MeFTY, MRJ-Brotherhood, Museum, Service to the Blind, Beulah R. Vosse Library, Rabbi Wax Memorial, WRJ-Sisterhood, and the Wendy & Avron Fogelman Religious School.

IN HONOR OF

Rabbi Katie Bauman
Lindsay Califf
David Sharfman

Helga Cornell
Suzanne Lazarov

Rabbi Harry Danziger
Barbara Lapides & Family
Toby Osofsky & Jonathan Baer

Dick Eiseman
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Cara Greenstein & Alex Shindler
Marion & Joel Bessoff
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Hilda Kaufman
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May Lynn Mansbach
Robin & Billy Orgel
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Wendy & Cary Rotter

Jerald Sklar
Gail & Myron Lewis

Amelia Smith
Meryl Rosen

Rabbi Feivel Strauss
Cindy Sanders

Rabbi Bess Wohlner
David Sharfman

FOR THE RECOVERY OF

Abby Cooley
Lynn & Vic Butcher

Rudi Scheidt, Sr.
Wendy & Cary Rotter

IN MEMORY OF

Bernice Abrams
Helen & Jerry Frank

Harriet Alperin
Suzanne Lazarov
Joan & Steve Urban

Sandy Averbuch
Rochelle & Frank Perlman

Louis Bedrin
Linda Bedrin & Don Klotwog
Michelle & Brian Blake

Hortense Bloch
Cheryl Bloch

Marx Borod
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Lisa Levi and Family
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Norma Fisher

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Bertha Garfinkel
June Garfinkel

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Helen & Jerry Frank
Suzanne Lazarov
Lisa Levi
Jan Meyer
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Morton Gorden
Helen & Jerry Frank

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Alice Gottlieb

Raye Greenbaum
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Marcia & Allan Hayden

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Sadie & Sam Jaffe
Paul Jaffe

Ruth Kahn
Judy Mosely

Miriam Kahn
Hermine Davidson

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Margie Snetman
Shirley & H. I. Summerfield
Sara & Richard Superfine

Hyman Krivcher, Joseph Alperin
Sonya Krivcher

George Lapides
Helen & Jerry Frank
Suzanne Lazarov
May Lynn Mansbach
Kay & Frank Rosenberg

Paul Lazarov
Stacey & Michael Alpert
Joan & Stanley Baker
Ben Beatus
Anise & Ron Belz
Deborah & Sam Brackstone
Beverly & Bob Buchalter
Deanna & Albert Burson
Doris & Irvin Califf
Janis Finan
Lisa & Jonathan Frisch
Gayle & Martin Grusin
Jan & Daniel LaVene
Roselle Lazarov
Diane Sachs & Bob Vidulich
Mildred Schwartz
Rochelle & Avron Slutsky
Katherine Winningham, Gail
Maman, Jef Kaminsky
and Families
Brenda & Rodney Wolf

Leon Less
Lynette & Michael Less

Evy Levy
Arlene & Jerry Averbuch

Anise & Ron Belz
Helen & Jerry Frank
The Evy Levy Family
Jan Meyer
Rosalie Rudner
Rowlett Scott
Jan & Lee Stein
Shirley & H. I. Summerfield

Julius Lewis
Nicole & Jack Lewis

Barbara & Matthew Lifflander
Justin Lifflander

Herman Lindy
Judy & Jim Lindy

Herb Lipman
Jean & Buddy Ballin
Anise & Ron Belz
Jack Bisno
Maury Bronstein
Hermine Davidson
Leslie & Mark Gillenson
Lynn Gruber
Janis & David Iansmith
Peggy & L. R. Jalenak, Jr.
Bene Kaplan
Hilda Kaufman
Debbie & Sidney Kriger
Suzanne Lazarov
Beth & Steve Margolin
Linda & Melvyn Padawer
Deedee & Ron Perel
Margie Snetman

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Jan & Jack Magids and Family

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Arlene & Jerry Averbuch

Mary Paillet
Jan & Marc Reisman
Julie & Allan Schoenberger
Debbie & Howard Segal

Sandra Patterson
Goldsmith Family Foundation

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Mary Lynn & Arnold Perl

Elizabeth Pinstein
Phil Pinstein

Nancy Pullins
Anise & Ron Belz

Saul Rosen, Leon Shahun, Jr.
Meryl Rosen

Bella Rothschild
Nora Rothschild

Morris Royal
Robert Royal

Mildred Rubens
Terry Luther

Rochelle Rudees
Marvin Rudees and Family

Emma Samuel
Nicole & Jack Lewis

Kay Saslawsky
Marilyn & Herb Notowich

Celia Scharff
Robert Scharff

Carol Schneider
Leslie & Mark Gillenson
Julie & Jerry Klein
Suzanne Lazarov

Shirley Schneider
Anise & Ron Belz
Helen & Jerry Frank
Joyce & Fred Graflund
Jan & Marc Hanover
Julie & Jerry Klein
Debbie & Ron Lazarov
Suzanne Lazarov
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Stella Wexler
Charles Wexler

Sol Wilons
Rochelle & Elliott Wilons

Eugene Zuckerman
Ronni & Joe Kirsch

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS

Barbara Ebert
Carl Johnson
Michael Terry

SYMPATHY & CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy and condolences to the families of these loved ones of blessed memory:

Rina Gutman
Lemly Hutt, Jr.
Paul Lazarov
B.J. Seal
Aileen Sharpe
Sheron Strauss



TEMPLE ISRAEL

1376 East Massey Road, Memphis, TN 38120

Remember When...

86 years ago, Rabbi Harry Ettelson debated Clarence Darrow on the subject, "Is Religion Necessary." Read the speech at timemphis.org and see more, interesting throw backs in the Temple Israel Archives.

Call 901.937.2779 or email tiarchives@timemphis.org for hours.



Temple Israel is a sanctuary for prayer and inspiration, a vibrant center for Jewish learning, and a congregational home for living Torah. We are a source of strength and a force for good for Reform Jews, the greater community, and the world.

Micah D. Greenstein
Senior Rabbi

Katie M. Bauman
Associate Rabbi

Bess B. Wohlner
Assistant Rabbi

Rabbi Feivel Strauss
Senior Educator

Abbie Strauss
Cantorial Soloist

Harry K. Danziger
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