

TIKVA TIMES



MAY 2023 | IYAR - SIVAN 5783

SPRINGING INTO SUMMER AT CTJ

IN THIS ISSUE

EXCLUSIVES WITH OUR NEW
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION!

FEATURING

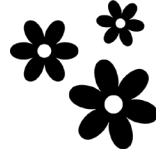
WORDS FROM TAMAH
ABOUT WHAT'S NEXT





RABBI JOSHUA KALEV

Senior Rabbi
Instagram: @rabbikalev
Facebook: fb.me/jkalev



RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

PODCASTS IN SPRINGTIME



The pace in which the world changes is truly incredible. When I was in rabbinical school (May will be my 20th anniversary since ordination), one of the first things they taught you was that you always had to be reading something - so, when a congregant asked you, you could share the latest book you were enjoying. Today, I am rarely asked what I am reading but rather, "Rabbi, what are you listening to?" As we start to wind down the synagogue year and get ready for summer, I thought I would share with you what I am listening to in case you too want something new in your podcast list.

In order of favorites:

#1 – Unholy: Two Jews On the News – I actually wait all week for this podcast to come out, I love it that much. Sponsored by one of Israel's main broadcasting companies, Keshet, author and journalist Jonathan Freedland from London and journalist Yonit Levi from Tel Aviv share their thoughts on the Jewish world and Israel and interview some incredible guests. Jonathan is brilliant, but it is really Yonit who always blows me away with her insights and sense of humor – no wonder she is one of Israel's most decorated TV anchors.

#2 – Gatecrashers – I randomly fell upon this unbelievably engaging series from Tablet Magazine about the Jewish experience at Ivy League schools. It contains incredible stories that will make you cry, smile, and make you feel proud as to the Jewish contribution in shaping the American university experience. The eight-part series is narrated by the host of another one of my favorite podcasts (see #3), the engaging Mark Oppenheimer.

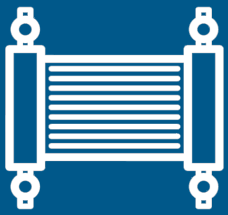
#3 – Unorthodox – This fun podcast from Tablet magazine is led by three great hosts – Mark Oppenheimer, Liel Liebovitz, and Stephanie Butnick all who have very different backgrounds and connections to Judaism (unfortunately, Mark is leaving the show at the end of April). They are smart, funny, and very engaging and always seem to have a unique take on the Jewish world. I love their "News of the Jews" session as well as when they interview a non-Jew of the week. It's lots of fun.

#4 – Identity Crisis – This is a deeply meaningful, weekly podcast from our friends at The Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem led by Yehudah Kurtzer. I sometimes have to listen to this podcast twice because it can be quite deep and academic, but Yehudah is a brilliant mind and I love his and his guests' take on current trends in the Jewish world and how we can think about these issues in a different way. He tackles everything from Israel to synagogue life to American Judaism and so much more!

#5 – For Heaven's Sake – Another amazing weekly podcast from The Shalom Hartman Institute but this time led by three scholars – Donniel Hartman, Yossi Klein Halevi, and Elana Stein Hain. Donniel & Yossi start the podcast off debating issues taking place in Israel today and Elana comes in at the end to add a Jewish text that relates to the issue discussed. The three hosts bring a much-needed perspective to the roller coaster ride of Israel's ever changing government and situation and I always end the podcast feeling as though I learned something substantial.

So, that is the first five on my list. I know what you are thinking... "Rabbi, it is okay to leave the Jewish world and listen to something that isn't related to Judaism and Israel." I do listen to other podcasts and try to keep up with the current world, but my soul is truly filled when I learn more about our amazing tradition and so, I spend most of my time listening to Jewish podcasts.

Wishing you great listening and I am always open to new suggestions, so send me your favorites at rabbi.kalev@ctjmb.org.



B'NAI MITZVAH STUDENTS

MAY - JUNE 2023



Lexi Silver
May 6th, 2023



Harriette Wardwell
May 13th, 2023



Emma Gale
May 20th, 2023



Spencer McGregor
June 3rd, 2023



Juliette Grandy
June 10th, 2023



Tucker Barnett
June 17th, 2023



Jacob Rosenstein
June 24th, 2023



TODD LEVIN

CTJ President

Dear CTJ,

We have celebrated both Purim and Passover since my last update. Although Passover was not as festive for me this year, with a child away at college and family traveling, I must say that I absolutely adore our tradition of delivering Mishloach Manot to our congregation to commemorate Purim. My wife Beth and I feel like the Jewish versions of Santa and Mrs. Claus, if you catch my drift.

This year was no exception. After helping at CTJ's Purim Carnival, we headed to Melissa's to fill up our big blue bag before embarking on our mission to spread joy and warmth throughout the South Bay. On Pacific, on Highview, on Larsson, on Longfellow, we made our way to the homes of congregants, both familiar and new, with open doors and open hearts. Witnessing the smiles on their faces and feeling their gratitude warms our hearts and brightens our day.

Of course, this heartwarming tradition would not be possible without the efforts of Melissa Stein and the myriad of volunteers (elves) who devoted their time and energy to make and deliver the CTJ cheer. I want to extend a huge and heartfelt thank you to Melissa for her ongoing dedication to strengthening our community and for the countless hours she has put into planning and executing the Mishloach Manot. Todah Rabbah, Melissa!

Spring is upon us and marks a season of change and renewal, as the world around us is transformed by the blooming of flowers, bees buzzing and the warmth of the sun. In Judaism, this season of change is particularly significant as we soon celebrate Shavuot, the holiday that memorializes the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.

Shavuot commemorates transformation and revelation, as the Israelites were transformed by the giving of the Torah, an event that established the covenant between G_d and the Israelites and set them on a path toward holiness and righteousness. It is a time to reflect on the power of change and the importance of embracing new opportunities and experiences. This is particularly true for our CTJ community, where we have recently undergone significant changes. This year, our community is experiencing a considerable transition with the arrival of our new Executive Director, Ruth Irving, and our new Director of Education, Rachel Hershman.

Ruth comes to us with a wealth of experience and knowledge, and we are excited to see the new energy and direction she will bring to our community. She succeeds Tamah, who served our community for many, many years with love, dedication and devotion. While it is always difficult to say goodbye to someone who has been such an integral part of our community, we are grateful for all that Tamah has done and excited for the fresh perspective that Ruth will bring.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FINAL MESSAGE AS CTJ PRESIDENT



Along with Ruth's arrival, we are also welcoming Rachel, who brings a passion for Jewish education and a commitment to creating meaningful and engaging programming for our community's youth. She is replacing Stella August, who stepped in last fall to fill a crucial role in our Ohren Education Center. Todah Rabbah Stella! We are excited to see the impact Rachel will have on our educational programs.

Both Tamah and Stella will continue to play significant roles at CTJ. Tamah will have the opportunity to attend services in person in the sanctuary (and not through the lens of a camera), while Stella will maintain her position as bookkeeper.

In addition to these changes, we are also experiencing a transition in our leadership as I will soon be ending my term as CTJ's President. I cannot believe it has been almost two years since I took office. I would like you to join me in celebrating the wonderful synagogue that we have today and the community that we have built together. It has been an absolute pleasure serving as President and collaborating with Rabbi Kalev, Cantor Beth, our incredible staff and our amazing Board and Executive Committee. While my time as President has been a blur, I am grateful for the opportunity to have served my fellow congregants and bring about lots of change and positivity.

We all know some changes can be difficult, as we say goodbye to familiar faces and adjust to new leadership. But they are also an opportunity for growth and renewal, for new ideas and fresh perspectives. We are grateful for the dedication and service of those who came before us, and excited for the possibilities that lie ahead.

In Judaism, change is often associated with renewal and transformation. As we welcome Ruth and Rachel into their new roles, we are reminded of the importance of embracing new opportunities and letting go of the past. Just as the Israelites were transformed by the giving of the Torah, so too can we be transformed by the challenges and changes that we face in our own lives and in our community.

As we immerse ourselves in this new season, let us wholeheartedly embrace the changes and opportunities that lie before us. May we remain receptive to new perspectives and innovative ideas and may this season of renewal and growth usher in blessings and abundance for all who seek them. As a community, let us continue to thrive, guided by the principles of our faith and the cherished values that we hold dear. Together, may we forge ahead with a renewed sense of purpose and unity, ready to face any challenges that may come our way.

B'shalom,

Todd Levin, President



THE CTJ SISTERHOOD

SPRING/SUMMER EVENTS AND JOINING FOR THE NEW YEAR!

It's been a great year for the CTJ Sisterhood! Our events included our membership dinner, installation in the Sukkah, a beach clean up, our annual Torah Fund dinner and Friday night service, a Passover cooking and wine pairing event, a pelvic floor workshop with our own Liz Glozman, and an art event where we created beautiful marbled silk scarves.

If you've been meaning to come to Sisterhood, we still have a few more upcoming events this year:

- **Wednesday, May 17, 6:30pm**
Book Discussion: *Shanda* by Letty Cottin Pogrebin. Offsite in Manhattan Beach. Free to attend, dessert provided.
Please RSVP: tinyurl.com/ctjsisterhoodbook2023
- **Sunday, June 11, 3:00pm**
Year-end party with the Sisterhood! Offsite in West Torrance. There will be drinks, Middle-Eastern style noshes, and other surprises to close out our 2022-23 year.
- **Sunday-Tuesday, July 16-18**
At CTJ. Chemocessories **donation drive and assembly event.** Details to come.
- **September 10, 9:30am**
In El Segundo. **Reverse Tashlich** (beach clean up)!

CTJ Sisterhood brings together women of all ages to join in social, educational, spiritual, and social action events throughout the year. Our goal is to provide our members with connection to other women and to the CTJ community at large, while also enriching the synagogue and the local Jewish community. While we are affiliated with the Women's League and CTJ, other interested women (as well as people of other genders) are welcome to join.

Joining is easy! Just make sure the box is checked when you fill out your membership form (coming in summer) - or send a check made out to CTJ Sisterhood to CTJ. Membership is \$54 for CTJ members, \$72 for non-members. Your membership fees defray costs for our events, help us donate back to the synagogue, and give you access to lots of fantastic virtual and regional programming from the Women's League for Conservative Judaism (www.wlcj.org).

We are always looking for new Sisterhood board members!

Next year we have openings for:

- Vice President
- Social Media Manager
- Women's League Liaison
- Board Member at Large

Our board meets once a month to plan events.

For more information about Sisterhood, contact Hilary Grayver, CTJ Sisterhood president, at sisterhood@ctjmb.org. We can't wait to see you soon!




Congregation
Tikvat Jacob
Beth Torah

Look out for
online forms
coming in
summer!


RENEW YOUR CTJ MEMBERSHIP FOR THE NEW YEAR!

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☎ (310) 824-3294
✉ info@olivetreesa.com





OHREN EDUCATION CENTER (OEC) SAYS “SEE YA ‘ROUND!” TO STELLA

END-OF-THE-YEAR AND A THANK YOU TO OUR TEACHERS!

STELLA AUGUST

Interim Director of Education and CTJ Bookkeeper

As we wrap up this school year at the OEC, students continue to delve into Jewish holidays, hands-on art and cooking activities, learning Hebrew, community engagement, their chosen chugim (electives), and, for our 7th grade students, Holocaust education including a meaningful trip to the Museum of Tolerance.

For Passover, students were given a “blank” seder plate with clues that directed them around the synagogue to eight different locations - 6 for every item on the seder plate, 2 for matzah and wine - to gather all 8 items and complete their seder plates! The hunt included an egg pass, wine making, spicy hot sauce tasting, charoset making, and short skits to retell the story of Passover! Students became more connected to the holiday and the meanings behind the ritual items on the seder plate/table. All grades also got to experience making matzah from scratch - all in under 18 minutes to keep it Kosher!

Our 3rd-7th graders had a fabulous time on Retreat - visiting Camp JCA for a day of learning about some of our Jewish core values and lots of fun and adventure. We sang songs, learned how to make apple juice and charoset using a bike blender, took a wonderful hike, and climbed the rock wall. Students love this time outside of class to bond and step out of their comfort zones!

OEC spent the year learning together, making new friends, eating together and of course having lots of fun together. I have enjoyed spending this year with all the OEC students; it has truly been a special year. I know that next year will be amazing with Rachel Hershman as Director of Education.

Thank you to our teachers!!! Thank you for caring about your students. Thank you for sharing your knowledge and your lives with us. Thank you for showing patience, understanding, and flexibility. Thank you for creating a climate of calm for students to study, learn, and grow. Thank you for encouraging your students to always be their best. Thank you for being YOU!!! We appreciate the work you have done this year and the invaluable wisdom and learning moments you have created with our students. You have made a lasting impression in the lives you have touched this year. THANK YOU FOR BEING A TEACHER AND A PART OF OUR CTJ COMMUNITY. I will see you around - with my Bookkeeper hat only!

Stella August





INTRODUCING RACHEL HERSHMAN

WELCOMING OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

RACHEL HERSHMAN

Incoming Director of Education



As the new Director of Education at CTJ, I am excited to join this warm and welcoming congregation. From my interview process to my first week on the job, I have been continually impressed by the passion and dedication of our congregants. The close-knit community at CTJ is reminiscent of the synagogue that I grew up in as a child back in the suburbs of New York (which is actually where I started working in a religious school). And to top it off, my commute to work is now less than six miles!

For the past two years, I have worked in the Valley, serving as the Assistant Director of Education for Temple Judea in Tarzana. There, I contributed to the educational vision of the religious school and conducted an ongoing curriculum review across the K-12 programs. I facilitated a LGBTQ+ youth group, developed the teen Madrichim (teaching assistant) program, and directed a summer camp. I learned a lot during my time there and know that learning carries me into this next journey.

At CTJ, my goal is to create engaging and personalized curricula for our community and youth. I plan to foster an environment where all of us can learn and grow together. To that end, our calendar for this upcoming school year will feature more family Shabbat celebrations, Sunday learning opportunities for parents (yes, you read that right – fun for adults too!), and inclusive holiday experiences for the whole family. So be on the lookout for more information!!!

Thank you for welcoming me into this remarkable community! I am thrilled to be closer to home - to have more time to walk by the beach with my girlfriend and our two puppies - and to focus on creating meaningful & memorable moments for the

next generation of the Jewish people. I hope to cultivate a place where we can have fun and share many laughs together!

Over the next couple of months, please be in touch with ideas or to introduce yourself. I'd love to meet you and learn from you too. Plus, I have this summer mission to find all the best places to get an ice tea near CTJ, so I am always thrilled to get a cup and chat!

Rachel Hershman

MA Religious Education

MA Jewish Nonprofit Management

Rachel.Hershman@ctjmb.org

calendly.com/rachel-hershman-ctj



OEC IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 14 Mother's Day - no school

MAY 28 Memorial Day - no school

JUNE 4 Maccabiah and End-of-Year Picnic!

CTJ-ERS IN ACTION!

IN COSTUME AT THE PURIM CARNIVAL, MAKING MATZAH FROM SCRATCH, MONTANA TUCKER YOM HASHOAH EVENT, BUIDLING LEGO AND COOKING FOODS FROM AROUND THE WORLD IN OEC CHUGIM, MAKING SILK SCARVES WITH THE SISTERHOOD, AND MORE!

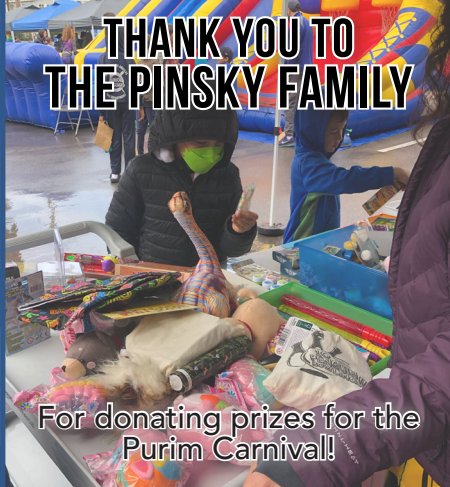


BEACH SHABBAT!



On these Fridays at The Strand and 27th:
May 12, Aug 4, & Aug 18
 Bring chairs, blankets, and quarters/credit card for parking!

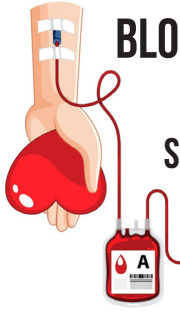
THANK YOU TO THE PINSKY FAMILY



For donating prizes for the Purim Carnival!

BLOOD DRIVE

SAVE A LIFE!



Sunday, August 20,
 8am-2pm at CTJ

Look out for signup link in weekly emails closer to date

People Love Dead Jews

REPORTS FROM A HAUNTED PRESENT

Dara Horn

THURSDAY DISCUSSION CLASS WITH RABBI KALEV

Every Thursday, 7pm on Zoom
 Starting again on June 15

We will be reading Dara Horn's book *People Love Dead Jews*.

Buy the book here:
tinyurl.com/thursclass

OEC MACCABIAH & END-OF-YEAR PICNIC WITH FAMILIES

Sunday, June 4 at Polliwog Park

9am for Maccabiah Games, leading into family picnic at 12pm

Students will compete on Rabbi, Cantor, or Stella & Rachel's Team!
 Then join the rest of the congregation for our end-of-year picnic!

A LOOK BACK AT OUR GALA 2023

CELEBRATING TAMAH AND CANTOR BETH! FEATURING FOOD TRUCKS AND COMEDY FROM JOEL CHASNOFF & BENJI LOVITT! Photography by Jeff Graham



CALENDAR MAY - JUNE 2023



ONGOING EVENTS



Jewish News

Every Tuesday morning at 9 am

Zoom

Every week Rabbi Kalev hosts a short session with news of the Jews - movies, events, Israel - Rabbi Kalev covers it all. Grab your morning coffee and we promise these 15 minutes will be well spent!

Tot Shabbat

First Friday of every month at 5:30 pm

CTJ

Shabbat celebration with Cantor Beth and Rabbi Kalev. This musical start to Shabbat is for our youngest CTJ-ers and the grownups who love them. Lots of music, an exciting story, and tons of silliness make for a very fun beginning to the day of rest.

Virtual Friday Night Service

Some Fridays at 6:30 pm

Zoom

A fun, community-based, fast-paced zoom service.

In-Person Friday Night Services

Some Fridays at 6:30 pm

CTJ and Zoom

See weekly email or website calendar for schedule.

Family Shabbat

First Friday of each month, 6:30 pm

CTJ and Zoom

Ring in Shabbat with an exciting Shabbat raffle and a fun in-person family service!

Shabbat Morning Services

With B'nai Mitzvah 9:30 am

With No B'nai Mitzvah 9:30 or 10 am

CTJ and/or Zoom

Check website calendar or weekly email for in-person/Zoom schedule.

Havdalah

Saturdays, time dependent on season, check weekly email

Zoom

As Shabbat ends and darkness falls we gather together on Zoom to mark time with a very short 10 minute gathering. Celebrate a new week with your CTJ friends.

Project Needs

Third Tuesday of every month, 2:30 pm

Project Needs

We continue to prepare hot meals to-go at Project Needs in Redondo Beach.

Please contact Stacy.Weitsman@cshs.org.

Poker Nights

Every Monday 7 pm

CTJ or Zoom

A social game of small-stakes poker. All are welcome. No experience is necessary, we will help you learn the games.

Email paulmsachs@gmail.com for more information.

RomCom Club

One Sunday a month, 7-8 pm

Zoom

CTJ loves RomComs! Watch the movie beforehand and then hop on zoom to discuss! See movie and date in weekly email.

MAY

Beach Shabbat

Friday, May 12, 6:30 pm

The Strand

Our first Beach Shabbat of the year! Experience a lively Shabbat by the shore with your CTJ family! Meet us at the Strand and 27th Street in Manhattan Beach. Bring chairs, blankets, sweaters, and quarters/credit card for parking meters.

Next Beach Shabbat dates: Aug 4 and Aug 18.

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 14

Sisterhood Book Discussion - Shanda

Wednesday, May 17, 6:30 pm

Offsite address sent with RSVP

The Sisterhood will be discussing *Shanda: A Memoir of Shame and Secrecy*.

In her deeply engaging, astonishingly candid memoir, author and activist Letty Cottin Pogrebin exposes the fiercely-guarded lies and intricate cover-ups woven by dozens of members of her extended family.

Free for all to attend and dessert provided!

RSVP here: tinyurl.com/sisterhoodbook

Israel on the Inside with Assaf Boker

Sunday, May 21, 10 am

Zoom

So much is currently happening in Israel - come hear all of Assaf's great takes!

Shalem Bingo Night

Monday, May 22

Doors open 6:30 pm, Bingo starts 7:30 pm

CTJ

Bingo is a night of food, fun and community building! The evening includes a light dinner, raffle baskets and a silent auction. And of course - BINGO! This evening will honor the incredible Melissa Stein. The proceeds from this year's event will go toward purchasing and installing an enhanced kitchen prep and learning area

Special prizes: An electric scooter and 2 tickets to Taylor Swift!!

Get tickets: shalesmpreschool.org/bingo-night

Erev Shavuot Service & Torah Study

Thursday, May 25, 7 pm

CTJ and Zoom

Office Closed - Shavuot

Friday, May 26

Shavuot Service Day 1

Friday, May 26, 9:30 am

CTJ and Zoom

Friday Night Shabbat & Shavuot Service

Friday, May 26, 6:30 pm

CTJ and Zoom

Enjoy some delicious crepes after the service and meet Ruth and Rachel!

Shabbat, Shavuot Day 2 & Yizkor Service

Saturday, May 27, 9:30 am

CTJ and Zoom

No OEC - Memorial Day Weekend

Sunday, May 28

Office Closed - Memorial Day

Monday, May 29

JUNE

Congregational Meeting

Thursday, June 1, 7 pm

Zoom

The congregation is invited to Zoom in to vote on the budget and elect a new Board of Directors for the new year!

Shabbat-a-Palooza!

Friday, June 2, 6:30 pm

CTJ and Zoom

Experience the musical stylings and other amazing talents from our OEC 7th graders!

Maccabiah - Last Day of Religious School

Sunday, June 4, 9 am

Polliwog Park

On the last day of OEC, students will come in their team colors ready for some fun and friendly competition! Go Teams Rabbi Kalev, Cantor Beth, and Stella + Rachel!

End-of-Year Picnic

Sunday, June 4, 12 pm

Polliwog Park

Following Maccabiah, the students will join their families and the rest of the congregation for our End-of-Year Picnic featuring the Mac & Cheese Truck! Bring a picnic blanket and get together with your CTJ family for the last event of the school year!

Sisterhood End-of-Year Party

Sunday, June 11, 3 pm

Offsite

Party with the Sisterhood! There will be drinks, Middle-Eastern style noshes, and other surprises to close out our 2022-23 year.

We're also looking for a few new board members! Come to the event to have a hand in planning next year's activities. And bring your Sisterhood-curious friends!

Thursday Discussion Class Resumes with New Book *People Love Dead Jews*

Thursday, June 15 and following Thursdays, 7 pm

Zoom

Rabbi Kalev's Discussion Class is coming back with a new book by Dara Horn *People Love Dead Jews*.

Buy the book from CTJ here: tinyurl.com/thursclass

Father's Day

Sunday, June 18

Juneteenth

Monday, June 19

Israel on the Inside with Assaf Boker

Sunday, June 25, 10 am

Zoom

Assaf once again updates us on all things Israel - come hear Assaf's great takes!

**SHAVUOT SERVICES
AT CTJ & ON ZOOM**

Erev Shavuot Service & Torah Study
Thursday, May 25, 7pm

Shavuot Service Day 1
Friday, May 26, 9:30am

Friday Night Shabbat & Shavuot Service
Friday, May 26, 6:30pm

Shabbat, Shavuot Day 2 & Yizkor Service
Saturday, May 27, 9:30am



Send in your Kvells for next issue!

To the **CTJ Community** –

I am part of a community full of menschen. I can't begin to explain my appreciation for all that the CTJ family has done for our family these past couple of months. From Mi Sheberach through Shiva, we were not alone. Clergy and staff were right there for us and helped us navigate the process with sensitivity and understanding and personal (as well as professional) concern. Meal trains and calls and donations didn't stop. The community included friends from well over 45 years ago to people whose names I am just learning. Across the generations, we received condolences and "how are you?" and "what can we do?" Even our Zoom community was full of embraces and cared about our well-being. I had to learn to navigate the comment section. After Shloshim, when people move on and tend to forget, our CTJ didn't forget us. The outpouring of compassion continues. I've learned we don't say thank you for these mitzvot.

I can say that our hearts are with love for all of you.

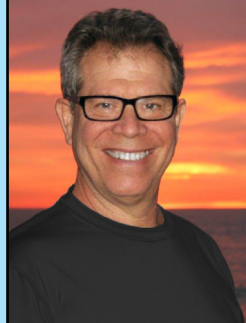
– Lewis, Becker, & Bennett Families

We are super proud of our son **Izzy Stein** who graduated from University of Wisconsin on May 13th!

– Melissa & Jon Stein

Mazel Tov to **Carol Risher, Tricia Stoddard, Stacy Robin, & Gwen van Leeuwen** for participating in the JWW Walk End Genocide on April 30th. Team CTJ & TBH raised over \$1000 for Jewish World Watch.

Thank you also to our generous supporters!



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DEDICATIONS

FEBRUARY - APRIL 2023
as of print date

ABRAMS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

in loving memory of

Ellen Abrams from **Anne Steirman**

Mary Schulman from **Barry & Rebecca Schulman**

Ellen Abrams from **Paul Abrams**

Phyllis Gottstein from **Vera Abrams**

Serafina Clarke, Harold Moses, Albert Frank from **Vera Abrams**

in memory of

Sid Vanet from **Ileene Morris**

Ellen Abrams from **Leon Gold**

Alyce Weinger from **Vera Abrams**

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

for CTJ

from **Morris & Tracy Chernick**

in loving memory of

Irving Weiss from **Andrea Rawitt**

Fran Piper and Irene Shelby from **Andy & Rabbi Arinna Shelby**

Sandy and Jesse Morris from **Ileene Morris**

ALAN REINSTEIN MEMORIAL FUND

in loving memory of

Arnold Schwartz from **David & Bonnie Schwartz**

My amazing Mom, Sylvia Weinberg from **Laurie W Rice**

Sali Biener from **Mori & Robyn Biener**

ANNA SHURE FUND

in loving memory of

Isadore Sharff from **Barbara Millman**

Richard Oudiz from **Susan Oudiz Johnson**

BUILDING FUND

in loving memory of

Adele Lee from **Vincent & Sondra Lee**

Rose Weingarten from **Vincent & Sondra Lee**

CANTOR BETH DISCRETIONARY FUND

in loving memory of

Harriet Berk from **Carol Berk & Mike DeDonato**

in memory of

Janice Koss and Louis Sirota from **Joy Kravetz**

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT FUND

for CTJ

from **Jonathan Gidan & Freddi Segal-Gidan**

in honor of

Ben and Emilia's wedding. Mazel Tov from **Fred & Gail Szkolnik**

Bruce Greenberg and his appointment to the Manhattan Beach Unified School District School Board from **Hildy and Jeremy Stern**

Dakota Hailey Zakim, CTJ-OEC First Grade Class of 2029! :) from **Morah Debbie Granow**

in loving memory of

Phyllis Blackman from **Ellen Blackman**

Jessie Kaufman Stern from **Jeremy & Hildy Stern**

Lee Lewis from **Sherry & Jim Goldwasser**

in memory of

Lee Lewis from **Debbie & Les Granow**

Lee Lewis from **Judie Rice**

FORMANN SIROTA MUSIC FUND

in loving memory of

Ethel Seigel from **Barbara Stone**

Cantor Julius Blackman from **Ellen Blackman**

in memory of

Janice Koss and Louis Sirota from **Joy Kravetz**

Patricia Ann Weitsman from **Stacy Robin Weitsman Young**

GENERAL FUND

for CTJ

from **Douglas & Madeline Walker**

from **Robert Gilbreth**

from **Ronen Carmi**

in appreciation of

Dr. Claire Ho from **Michael & Jacquelyn Cohen**

Tamah - Best Boss ever!!! from **Stella August**

in honor of

Steve Schrier's 50th Bar Mitzvah anniversary from **David & Bonnie Schwartz**

Tamah and Cantor Beth from **Jackie Leon**

in loving memory of

Lee Lewis z"l from **Barry & Lisa Cohen**

Rosalie Sacks, mother of Carole Allen from **Dann & Carole Allen**

Eva Shrogovitz from **Harry & Yetta Shragg**

Gertrude Friedman, Max Friedman, Regina Schild from **Irwin & Naomi Friedman**

My son Keith from **Jill Moilanen**

Alyce Weinger from **Judy Harold Harris**

Max Marion from **Kathie Nyenhuis**

Dorothy Magid from **Marc & Shannon Magid**

Walter Weinhart from **Marc & Shannon Magid**

Jennifer Luria from **Mayzlin/Cohen Family**

Frank Glaser from **Michelle Glaser-Weiner**

Barry Papermaster, brother of Linda Papermaster from **Nahum Gat & Linda Papermaster-Gat**

Rita Diane Roy from **Robin Roy**

Tillie & Morris Rosenfeld from **Ronald & Priscilla Rosenfeld**

Sarah's father, Irving Echt from **Sarah Echt & Brad Eastman**

Marcia Moses, sister of Vera Abrams and Phyllis Gottstein, mother of Vera Abrams from **Vera Abrams**

Larry & Fae Kaufman, Bessie Gladstone, Ester Kirzhner from **Vitaly & Elizabeth Glzman**

in memory of

Lois Starr from **Melissa & Jon Stein**

Allison Greene from **Melissa & Jon Stein**

Lee Lewis from **Nahum Gat & Linda Papermaster-Gat**

Charles Babbitt from **Robin Roy**

Marion Rita Ryzek from **Vivian Kalev**

in thanks for

Brass recycling from **Mickey & Sandy Seigel**

on the occasion of

Happy Purim from **Jerry & Cynthia Cohen**

Stein Optometric Center being named Best of the Beach 2023 from **The Weinbaums**

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

in loving memory of

Lee Lewis from **Melissa & Jon Stein**

PROJECT NEEDS

in memory of

John Young from **Melissa & Jon Stein**

RABBI HYMAN DISCRETIONARY FUND

for CTJ

from **Terry Pincus**

IMO Max Geffner from **George Mhlsten & Nola Geffner-Mhlsten**

in loving memory of

Lois Starr from **Debbie & Les Granow**

Bennie Kanfer from **Michael & Janet Lekov**

in memory of

Fred Oplatka from **Mark & Michele Oplatka**

RABBI KALEV DISCRETIONARY FUND

for CTJ

from **Andrew & Ronda Kopito**

Stellan Atlas Matthew from **Andrew Bronstein**

from **Anthony Schaffer & Natalie Brill**

from **David Kalani**

from **Larry & Lisa Kohorn**

from **Michael & Anita Kline**

from **Morris & Tracy Chernick**

from **Nyle & Daveda Shapiro**

RDF from **Joseph & Nancy Mandelbaum**

in honor of

Ben & Emilia's wedding. A big Mazel Tov!! from **Fred and Gail Szkolnik**

Ellen Kubo, Allen Kirschenbaum on the occasion of the marriage of Emilia Midori and Ben Gitis from **Hildy and Jeremy Stern**

In honor of Devin Manasse's Bat Mitzvah from **Ronna & Don Coe**

Molly Schwartz's Bat Mitzvah from **Stephen Boren and Amanda Luftman**

in loving memory of

Rhoda Medvene from **David & Deborah Stern**

Our mother and grandmother, Rose Garry from **Diann Garry Gross**

Sam Kirschenbaum from **Ellen Kubo & Allen Kirschenbaum**

My Mother, Rita Soule from **Elyse Gura**

Pauline from **Fred & Gail Szkolnik**

Lee Lewis from **Herbert & Nancy Trachtenberg**

Dr. Robert Stone from **Hildy & Jeremy Stern**

Adele Holden, mother of Gina Ruben from **Israel Saperstein & Gina Ruben**

Lee Lewis from **Jackie Leon**

Eric Maher from **Jackie Leon**

Etka Mandelbaum and Anna Goldstein from **Joseph & Nancy Mandelbaum**

Stan and Leona Rice from **Laurie W Rice**

Lee Lewis from **Marvin & Rita Wachs**

Rose Wagner from **Michael & Anita Kline**

Cecile Oudiz (Ron's mom) from **Ronald Oudiz**

Lee Lewis from **The Mahjong Mavens**

In memory of dad, Bruce Bronstein and the Parkland shooting victims of 2/14/18 from **Andrew Bronstein**

in memory of

Lee Lewis from **Aaron Gitnick**

Lee Lewis from **Debbie & Les Granow**

Lee Lewis from **Fred and Gail Szkolnik**

Lee Lewis z"l from **Kimberly Doneche**

Lee Lewis from **Renee and Leigh Sorgen**

Eric Maher from **Terry and Todd Gilman**

RITUAL/PRAYER BOOK FUND

in appreciation of

Tamah Kushner's EXTRAORDINARY employment @ CTJ from **Melissa & Jon Stein**

in memory of

Irv Weiss from **Lois Rawitt**

on the occasion of

Steve Schrier's Bar Mitzvah from **Melissa & Jon Stein**

SEVENTH GRADE GIVING

for CTJ

from **Jason & Sarah Lefton**

Yahrzeit Fund

in loving memory of

Gordon Millman from **Barbara Millman**

Arnold Schwartz from **Barbara Schwartz**

Jacqueline DeDonato from **Carol Berk and Michael DeDonato**

Irving Tessel, Stanton Rubin, and Rosa Franco from **Daniel & Bonnie Franco**

Margaret Pollak from **the Shallon Family**

Helen Sarah Nasatir from **Leonard & Gloria Nasatir**

My Father, Joseph Druckman from **Marcia Gelfand**

David Kaplan from **Mark and Elissa Teitelman**

Beatrice Rader from **Michael & Catherine Rader**

Loved ones from **Susan Lewis**

Roslyn Lubow from **Zvia Hempling**

in memory of

Howard Gould - Chaim Yehuda ben Avraham Yacov from **Adam Gould**

David Kaplan from **Carol Rosen**

Kenneth Jacobson from **Michael & Catherine Rader**

Jack Weinberg from **Roberta Smith**



Thank you for your support!

THANK YOU TO OUR
MITZVAH CIRCLE
MEMBERS!

Jonathan Bain & Sara Boscoe
Stephen & Evelyn Block
Todd & Terry Gilman
Harvey & Angela Jacobson
Vivian Kalev
Larry & Lisa Kohorn
Michael & Catherine Rader
Linda Simon
Jonathan & Melissa Stein
Richard Weiner & Judith Forman

ISRAEL ON THE INSIDE WITH ASSAF BOKER

On these Sundays
at 10am on Zoom:

MAY 21, JUNE 25, AUG 20, SEPT 10

Stay up to date on all
the current happenings in
Israeli politics with Assaf!



TOT SHABBAT!



First Friday of every month
5:30pm at CTJ

SHABBAT-A-PALOOZA

Friday, June 2, 6:30pm



Hear musical stylings and more talents
from the OEC 7th graders!

BIBLICAL HISTORY CLASS

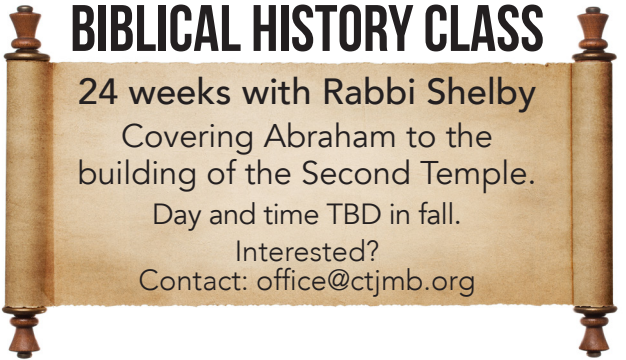
24 weeks with Rabbi Shelby

Covering Abraham to the
building of the Second Temple.

Day and time TBD in fall.

Interested?

Contact: office@ctjmb.org



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Thursday, June 1, 7pm on Zoom



Elect your next Board of Directors!

FAMILY SHABBAT FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

First Friday of every month
6:30pm at CTJ



SUPPORTING FOSTER FAMILIES



Second Nurture

Babysitting, organizing clothing,
and mentoring opportunities!

More info: lizglozman@gmail.com

HAVDALAH

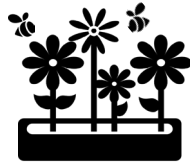
Every Saturday Night
10 minute service on Zoom
Time dependent on season





RUTH IRVING

New Executive Director



MEET OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RUTH IRVING

I want to thank Tamah Kushner for her dedication and commitment to CTJ during her tenure as Executive Director. As a friend and colleague, I am grateful for her partnership during this transition and for all she has done to strengthen CTJ. Thank you to Rabbi Kalev, Cantor Garden, the entire staff and board for their warm welcome and support. I'm excited to continue strengthening CTJ now and for the future.

L'Shalom,

Ruth

Dear CTJ,

My name is Ruth Irving, and I'm proud to serve as your new Executive Director. A Southern California native, I've worked in the Jewish community for close to 15 years, most recently as Executive Director of Temple Beth Shalom, in Orange County. My passion for Jewish community involvement began in my teens working in religious school. After graduating from UC Santa Barbara with a degree in Religious Studies, I worked for Hillel, then transitioned to synagogues soon after in both Northern and Southern California. I later received my MBA in Nonprofit Management from American Jewish University.

Having moved from the Westwood/UCLA area to Orange County five years ago, it is wonderful to be back! My husband, Ben, and I, along with our son, Noah, look forward to settling down in the area. We are big foodies and would love to know what your favorite restaurant is!

I'm honored to become part of the CTJ family and this amazing community. I look forward to getting to know each of you and hearing your CTJ story. Please give me a call, drop me a note, or stop in and join me for coffee. You can reach me by email at ruth@ctjmb.org or contact me in the office at 310-546-3667. From the short time I have been here, the vibrancy of the community and enthusiasm and energy from the staff and members are apparent.





TAMAH'S FINAL REMARKS AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TAMAH KUSHNER

Departing Executive Director

Being the Executive Director of CTJ has been an amazing experience. No day is ever the same. I always say that in 16 years I've not been bored for even one moment - although sometimes I've prayed for boredom.

It has been a privilege to serve our community - to be part of lifecycle moments, so many Jewish holidays, and many many High Holy days. This is truly the best job ever.

I've served through two mergers, two remodel phases, and one pandemic during which I perfected my Zoom skills.

Thank you CTJ for allowing me to be a part of your lives.

Thank you all - community, staff, and board for making this an amazing journey.

I don't know what's next. If you have any suggestions, let me know! I just want it to be 40 hours or less a week!

I remain a steadfast and committed member of CTJ. I'll make myself scarce for a bit so my successor, the amazing Ruth Irving, will establish her own space. But I cannot imagine being anywhere else than with my CTJ family.

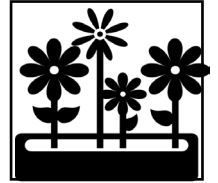
Tamah Kushner





CONGREGATION TIKVAT JACOB BETH TORAH

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Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
(310) 546-3667
ctjmb.org
office@ctjmb.org
help@ctjmb.org



CTJ is Kvelling!

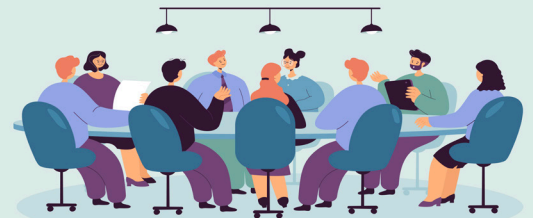
MAZEL TOV RABBIS JOSHUA & SELILAH KALEV!



This month, Rabbis Kalev are receiving their Honor Doctorates from American Jewish University for completing their 20th year serving the Jewish people since graduating from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies together in 2003! A huge Mazel Tov from CTJ!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Thursday, June 1, 7pm on Zoom



Elect your next Board of Directors!

OEC MACCABIAH & END-OF-YEAR PICNIC WITH FAMILIES

Sunday, June 4 at Polliwog Park
9am for the Maccabiah Games,
leading into family picnic at 12pm

Students will compete on Rabbi, Cantor, or Stella & Rachel's Team!
Then join the rest of the congregation for our end-of-year picnic featuring the Mac & Cheese Truck!



DON'T MISS SHALEM PRESCHOOL'S
FOURTH ANNUAL

BINGO! NIGHT!

May 22, 2023

Doors open 6:30pm

Bingo starts 7:30pm

Special prizes: electric scooter,
two tickets to Taylor Swift!