



PATHFINDER

Rabbi's Corner --

Inside this issue:

Cantor Glikin's Remarks	2
From Our President	3
From Our Executive Director	4
Contributions	19
Calendar	20

In our Torah reading cycle, we have just begun the book of Exodus. Quite often I get asked a simple question. Did the Exodus happen? Yes. Where's the proof? In our souls.

A History of Investigation

Scholars who have searched for physical proof have not pinpointed a precise date for the Exodus. Jewish tradition holds that it began around 1313 BCE. The early twentieth century biblical scholar Edwin Thiele used the dating and genealogies of the various kings in the Bible to arrive at the date 1450 BCE.

Later archaeologists, however, disputed this date, pointing to the lack of any concrete evidence of a mass exodus of Jews in the Egyptian records. The primary voice of this school, William Albright, suggested the date 1250 BCE as a starting point. He argued that the archaeology suggested that Israelite cities did not exist prior to that date.

More recently, a theory put forward by Simon Jackobovichi and popularized in a history channel documentary entitled, *The Exodus Decoded*, proposed the date 1550 BCE as the start of the Exodus.

This theory rests on the notion that the Hyksos, who were a Semitic people expelled from Egypt at that time, are actually the Israelites. This theory was first proposed by the Roman Jewish historian Josephus in the first century BCE, but it has been largely dismissed by scholars as far-fetched and lacking in concrete evidence.

The Radical Scholars

Some scholars have begun to argue that the Exodus as described in the Bible never actually occurred. According to this school of thought, the Israelites were a native Canaanite people. Sometime in the sixth century BCE, a group of scribes wrote the Exodus story as a way of coping with their exile from the land of Israel. The story was meant to give the Israelites hope that at some point in the future, God would restore them to their homeland.

Adherents to this approach point to the lack of archaeological evidence for a mass migration out of Egypt. Nothing in Israel has been found suggesting the arrival of over a million people at the time when their arrival would have occurred.

(Continued on page 4)



Cantor Glikin's Desk-- Camp Works

It was during my first year of cantorial school at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion that I first became aware of the far reaching effects of Jewish overnight camping on shaping Jewish identity. While I never had an overnight camping experience growing up (chalk it up to an overprotective mother), as I was meeting my classmates in our first year of seminary study in Israel, I became aware of a common narrative shared by the aspiring cantors, rabbis, and educators. This narrative would begin with the words: “I grew up attending [insert Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) camp name.] Camp was my second home and it was there that I realized that my Judaism was super important to me and that I wanted to learn more.” Very quickly, I understood that I needed to find out what happened at these Jewish overnight camps since they were obviously doing something right.

During the summer following my third year of cantorial school, I became the Worship Services Director at Camp Eisner in the Berkshires. It was a memorable summer where despite being an adult, I was able to internalize some of the magic of camp and “drink the Kool-Aid” on which so many of my friends and classmates had grown up. And, perhaps, precisely because my first experience of camp was as an adult, I was able to look at the experience in a more objective way than had I been an impressionable child. Below are some of my learnings from that summer, complimented by my experience of serving on the Faculty of Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI) in Oconomowoc, WI last summer.

Jewish Camp Lives on Jewish Time

Much of Religious School is spent talking about what “the Jewish people do.” We talk about celebrating Shabbat and the holidays. We talk about Jewish ritual and traditions. Much of the time, we talk about Judaism as an anthropological phenomenon, a theoretical abstraction. But, at camp we LIVE and BREATHE Judaism. At camp, the entire week builds up to Shabbat. At camp, Judaism and Jewish values are integrated into every moment of the day.

Jewish Camp Makes Judaism Fun

One of the most frequently cited complaints about supplementary Religious School education is that there is never enough time. I hear this complaint from the teachers: “There’s just not enough time to teach everything that I want to teach!” And, I hear this complaint from the students (most frequently, my own children): “There’s just not enough time to have fun!” Jewish overnight camp is a 24/7 experience and there is enough time! There’s enough time to have fun, there’s

enough time to learn things Jewish, there’s enough time to have Jewish fun with Jewish kids and Jewish staff. Everything about camp is fun. And, everything about Jewish camp is Jewish fun.

Jewish Camp Helps Shape Strong Jewish Identities

Research shows that in conjunction with synagogue affiliation, attendance at an overnight Jewish camp is one of the best predictors of Jewish involvement as an adult. Kids who attend Jewish overnight camp grow up to be more committed Jewish adults and are more likely to raise their children Jewish. If you want to have Jewish grandchildren, then sending your children to a Jewish overnight camp while also belonging to a congregation at home is one of the best ways to assure that the Torah that has been passed down to you from your ancestors continues to be passed down to your descendants.

Whether you are the parent or the grandparent, please consider sending the child in your family to an overnight Jewish camp this summer. As at any other overnight camp, your child will have the experience of a lifetime – zip-lining, horseback-riding, swimming, sailing, singing, dancing, painting, developing new skills and interests, making new friends. But, at a Jewish camp, your child will also grow Jewishly, having lived on Jewish time, having celebrated Jewish holidays with Jewish friends, having learned more Jewish values, having had Jewish fun. Please know that many Jewish camps offer financial assistance to those interested in attending and there are also national foundations that help sponsor first-time campers at a Jewish overnight camp. If you have any questions, or would like to learn more, please be in touch with me.

- Cantor Vicky Glikin

Alice Piller Honored as Emerita Member of the Solel Choir

The congregation honored Alice Piller at the Shabbat service on December 13.

The occasion was twofold. In addition to the fiftieth anniversary of Alice's joining Congregation Solel, she devotedly sang in the choir as a volunteer for thirty-five consecutive years. Hence the singular designation of Alice as an emeritus member of the choir.

Alice received a certificate officially marking this milestone.

From Our President --

This is the moment.

Consider enrolling your child – or grandchildren or nieces/nephews – in a Jewish overnight summer camp for 2014.

Among the many fine things my parents did for me during the 1950s was sending me off to the New Jersey Y Camps, an independent Jewish camp in Milford, Pennsylvania, established in 1920. Our family has a long-standing connection to this wonderful camp. One of my uncles attended during the 1930s and we frequently discussed our respective experiences spread across some twenty years. After wonderful years as a camper I then served as a counselor. Our grandson attended the Y Camp for several years and now one of our granddaughters is enrolled – in the footsteps of her mother – to attend Camp Chi for the first time. We are especially proud that my wife's brother – another former camper and staff member – has generously supported the Y Camp for many years.

Oh, I should add one more aspect – of enduring personal consequence – about Jewish summer camp. During the summer of 1963 I met Darryl Tucker. The rest is history! Darryl and I, fifty-one years after that memorable encounter, cherish our bond with the Jewish summer camp experience.

But I wanted to learn about the history of Jewish summer camping.

I turned to the book entitled, *'How Goodly Are They Tents: Summer Camps as a Jewish Socializing Experience'*, by Amy L. Sales and Leonard Saxe (Brandeis Press, 2004). The wonderful title of this book shouldn't mislead prospective readers. It is a rather dry academic volume with a sociological voice. Even so, my perseverance proved rewarding. I learned much from my reading.

For example:

- As of 2004, when this book appeared, the estimated number of youngsters enrolled in Jewish overnight camping was estimated at 100,000.
- "... the sensations of summer camp float through our memories – the warmth of sunshine and friendship; the sounds of laughter, singing, and prayer; the smell of pine trees and sun lotion; and the taste of bug juice. *Camp is a magical place.*" [italics added by Michael Ebner!]
- "Perhaps the most important feature of summer camps is the way in which they create a temporary community that springs up Phoenix-like

each June and closes down by the end of August."

- "The same ingredients that make camp work as a special place and an agent of healthy development also make it work as an institution that motivates and educates Jewishly."

But I also wished to learn something about when and why Jewish summer camps emerged.

So I turned to Leslie Paris, *Children's Nature, The Rise of the American Summer Camp* (New York University Press, 2008). For the general readers, I should say, this book unquestionably is more accessible.

Among other things, here is what I have learned:

- Jewish summer camping emerged between world wars of the twentieth century.
- Reform Jews exercised a consequential role in establishing private overnight camps.
- An early camp in New Hampshire served Orthodox families.
- The youthful Franklin Delano Roosevelt, volunteered as a staff member at Groton School Camp, some of whose campers came from poor families. Professor Paris wonders if he learned something that shaped his sensibilities.
- Distinctions by race, ethnicity, and class – and frequently gender – figured into the camp experience during the interwar years. The *New York Times* reported (1930): "camps served tenement waifs, and hearty young suburbanites, Boy Scouts, and tiny cripples, State wards, and scions of Park Avenue."
- Professor Paris writes: "Most important, summer camps allowed American Jews to balance ethnic community and their children's acculturation into American life."

I hope that you will contemplate the benefits of Jewish overnight camping. By sending off your daughters and sons for this distinctive Jewish *and* American summer experience you will be continuing an enriched cultural tradition that soon will reach the one-hundred year mark. If your son and daughter love camp, I predict that they will reflect upon its shaping experiences for decades to come. And thank their parents ever after for having the foresight to send them to a Jewish summer camp!

(Continued on page 6)

Rabbi's Corner (Continued from page #)

Furthermore, no Egyptian records of the Exodus exist, which is surprising given their recording of other significant events. Scholars suggest perhaps a small group of Israelites migrated to Egypt, stayed a while, and returned to their home in Canaan. But a wholesale migration and return, they argue, lacks any serious evidence.

Why the Facts Don't Matter

This view seems far-fetched to me. *The absence of evidence is not evidence of absence.* Archaeologists have still discovered only about one percent of what is under the earth in the ancient Near East. Evidence reshaping our current perspective may turn up in 30 days or 30 years.

In any case, the precise facts of the Exodus story do not affect the spiritual lessons it conveys. The story has been told for thousands of years because it captures essential human truths. We can become enslaved. And with help from God and one another, we can set ourselves free.

- Rabbi Evan Moffic

Capital Projects Planning Budget Committee

At its November meeting of the congregation's board, the directors unanimously approved formation of a Capital Projects Planning Budget Committee.

Not unlike other not-for-profit organizations, this advisory planning committee will identify key infrastructure needs of the congregation and then advise our Finance Committee for further deliberation – and possible action – on its findings.

Annually the Capital Projects Planning Budget Committee will also publish a report in the *Pathfinder*, including a rank ordered priority list of the top five most pressing capital projects.

Larry Mason, immediate past president of Congregation Solel, will serve a four-year term as chair. Members also appointed include: Ed Bederman; Ken Dickman; Lisa Wasserman; and David Zirin. Allan Litwack, our Executive Director, will serve as the ex officio secretary. The president of the congregation also is an ex officio member of the committee and the vice president/finance – in this instance Lisa Wasserman – is a voting member.

The organizational meeting of the committee will be held later this month. For further information, please contact Allan Litwack at allan@solel.org.

From the Executive Director--- My Experiences in Jewish Camping

In my youth I attended Camp Ramah in northern New Jersey. Ramah is affiliated with the Conservative Movement, in which my family attended synagogue and I attended Hebrew school. My recollections are most favorable and many an exciting time was had during the summer of 1964 when I attended the camp as a counselor-in-training. The boy's camp was at the top of the mountain (not the Rockies) and the girl's camp in the valley. We did all the regular camping things—swimming, horseback riding, sports, crafts, color wars, et al. This included midnight raids up and down the hill to the “other” camp. But in addition, we celebrated Shabbat each Friday evening by lighting candles, blessing the wine (grape juice) and conducting services. Then fun evening of parties, dances and games.

It was an opportunity not to be missed in meeting Jewish kids from all over the state of New Jersey, to compare notes on how we were learning about Judaism, attending 3 day a week Hebrew school (and what lines we used with our mother's to escape attendance). Believe it or not the food was memorable, as the dietitian that ran the mess hall was an orthodox woman, with dietitian training who was 5x5x5. She truly enjoyed her own cooking. Some of the friends made that summer remained friends throughout junior high school and into my high school years. It was an experience not to be missed or forgotten.

Happy New Year!

- Allan

Save the Dates!

Solel celebrates human rights with two special events focused on modern day slavery and how we can work to eliminate it.

On March 2, 2014 we will have our **Women's Seder**, which will address the trafficking of women, and on March 7, we will have our first **Human Rights Shabbat** service addressing modern day slavery in our supply chains.

Solel Women's Seder

Sunday, March 2, 2013 at 4:30 pm

WHY IS THIS SEDER DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER SEDERS?

It is an opportunity to:

- **celebrate** together as women
- **tell and hear** our story of freedom in a different way
- **learn** about the women who made the Exodus happen and who continue to do so every day
- **sing** with Cantor Glikin and your fellow congregants
- **enjoy** a delicious meal with old and new friends!

We will use a special Haggadah created for and by the women of Solel in this spirited celebration.

Details:

- Mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts and friends welcome
- Daughters in 5th grade or older are welcome to attend
- Charge: \$36/person, or \$360 to reserve a table of 10
- Please bring a Passover-friendly side dish to serve 8-10 people

Please register at www.solel.org, or by calling the Solel office. Tables will be assigned.
If you would like to be seated with someone else, please register your ENTIRE party at the same time.



Be Happy, It's Adar!!

Rosh Chodesh Celebration for Women
Thursday, January 30, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm



ראש חודש

Rosh Chodesh is a celebration of ourselves, our uniqueness as women, and our relationship with the Divine. Join the women of Solel as we celebrate the beginning of the Jewish month of Adar Aleph. You will see familiar faces and make new friends, learn more about the month of Adar, grow spiritually, and engage in meaningful activities and discussion.

Please bring a food donation to benefit the Deerfield Food Pantry.

7:00 pm - Social time—get to know the other women of Solel and nosh

7:30 pm - Rosh Chodesh ritual led by Cantor Glikin

8:00 pm – Special activity hosted by Rachel Meltzer and Rhonda Malina

RSVP to Solel's office at solelooffice@solel.org and feel free to be in touch with Cantor Vicky Glikin at vglikin@solel.org or (847) 433-3555 with any questions.

We look forward to seeing you at this wonderful event for women!

Seeking Volunteers to Work on the Solel Directory for 2014-2016

Congregation Solel will publish a 2014-2016 edition of its directory early in the spring of next year.

The directory committee is seeking volunteers to help solicit for advertisements from area businesses as well as professional offices.

Are you interested in working on this worthwhile project? Satisfaction is guaranteed if you sign up for this important initiative.

Please contact Tim Cohen to learn more at timothyiancohen@gmail.com.

Review a College Essay - Change a Life

For several years, Congregation Solel has partnered with Envision Scholars to help high-potential students from Waukegan High School turn their dream of attending college into a reality. On January 2nd, from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm, Solel will host an inspiring half-day workshop. Volunteers will be paired with Waukegan High School students and work together with them on their essays for the Gates Millennium Scholarship. Recipients of this life-changing scholarship receive a full ride to the college of their choice. Reservations are required.

For more information, please contact Robin Shapiro at robinshapiro2@gmail.com or Wayne Rhodes at wsrhodes@gmail.com.

President's Article (Continued from page 3)

In Rabbi Moffic, Cantor Glikin, Geoff Prass and Allan Litwack, our congregation has a deep bench of knowledge and know-how about Jewish overnight camps. I know that they would enthusiastically welcome the opportunity to talk with you.

Congregants have called me – I encourage you to do the same – or e-mailed me to talk about Congregation Solel. One congregant invited me to have a most enjoyable cup of tea at Starbucks. Whatever your topic, I am open to talking.

- Michael Ebner
president@solel.org
(847) 275-7441

The Case of the Missing Parokhet

If you've looked into the sanctuary recently, you have noticed that our parokhet is gone. Where is it? Where has it gone? This is the story. In the early 60's when our beautiful building was being planned, two of our founding couples, Elaine and Bud Levis and Claire and Herman Edwards took a trip to New York. They happened upon an art gallery that was featuring the work of Lenore Tawney who was, even at that time, a well known fiber artist of the Bauhaus school. Her work is in the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art as well as many other museums, universities and private collections. Our parokhet has been illustrated in fiber art books where it is known as "Ark Curtain". The style of the curtain is known as slit tapestry.

After seeing her work, the board agreed to commission an ark curtain from this artist. Over the subsequent years we have enjoyed its beauty and transparency and it has contributed to the aura of our sanctuary. In the course of many services, it has received a great deal of handling and has shown signs of wear and tear. We needed to either restore it or replace it. After consulting with fiber art experts, we chose Patricia Ewer of Minneapolis to accomplish the work. She has been in touch with the Lenore Tawney Foundation and will be able to secure some of the original yarn for the repairs.

We believe that the work on the parokhet will be completed and returned to its rightful place in time for the Solel Rededication Weekend (March 21-23, 2014). This project has been made possible by the generosity of congregants who are dedicated to enhancing Congregation Solel's collection of artistic Judaica.

Solel Women's Seder

Ten women met December 3rd to start planning for the 2014 Solel Women's Seder, scheduled for Sunday, March 2 at Congregation Solel.

The group included both experienced and new members and was brimming with new ideas to ensure that the event is better than last year's successful Women's Seder. Cantor Vicky Glikin, Ellen Diamond Waldman, and Meta L. Levin are once again chairing the affair, which is open to the women of Solel, their mothers, daughters, nieces, aunts, grandmothers, cousins and friends.

An all-volunteer project, the committee welcomes any who want to be part of planning this joyful event. Contact Cantor Glikin at vglikin@solel.org if you are interested in lending a hand.

Solel Russia/Ukraine Trip

May 18-29, 2014

A Few Spaces Left!!!

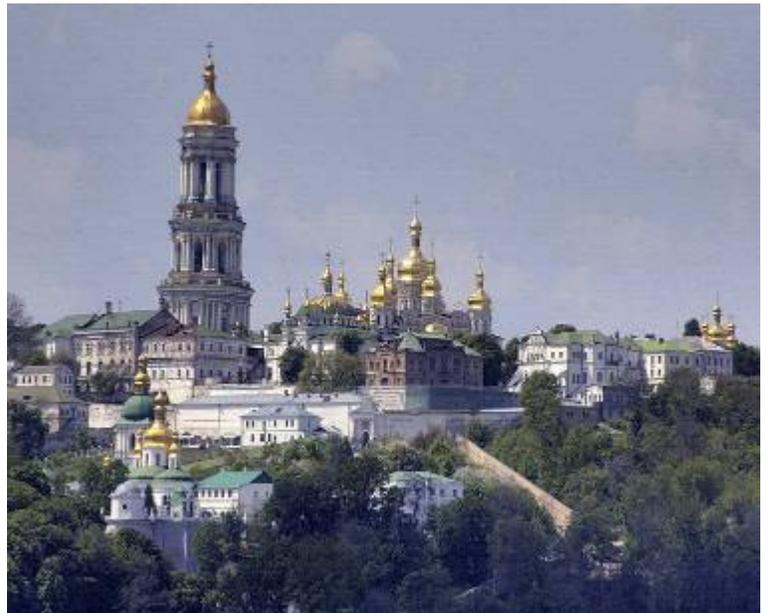
Please Help Spread the Word!!!

The Solel Russia/Ukraine trip, led by Cantor Vicky Glikin, has a few spaces left – we are currently a group of 22. We encourage you, both members of Solel ***and non-members of Solel***, to join us for what promises to be an incredibly special trip. We will be visiting three cities, St. Petersburg (3 nights), Moscow (3 nights), and Kiev (4 nights). This trip will visit cultural sites as well as sites of Jewish interest.

Cultural highlights include: the 18th Century palace of Catherine the Great, the Hermitage, the summer residence of Czar Peter the Great, an evening of Russian folklore, the Pushkin Fine Arts Museum and its world class collection of Impressionist and ancient Egyptian art, Red Square, and the Museum of Historical Treasures in Kiev.

Of Jewish interest, we will see: the Grand Choral Synagogue and other aspects of Jewish cultural life in St. Petersburg, the new Museum of Jewish History in Moscow (explores history of Jews in Russia from 18th Century to present), and many Jewish sights in Kiev, including, Babi Yar and a museum dedicated to Sholom Aleikhem. We will meet with members of the local Jewish community.

The cost of the trip for 20-24 people is \$4899 per person, for 25-29 people is \$4599 per person, and for 30-34 people is \$4399 per person. The prices above do not include airfare of \$1611. If you are interested, please call Cantor Glikin at (847)433-3555, Barb Kessler at (847)433-2405 or bkess@bkess.com or Mitchell Slotnick of Ridgebrook Travel at (847)480-2100.



YOU SHALL LOVE WITH ALL YOUR HEART

Friday, February 14, 2014

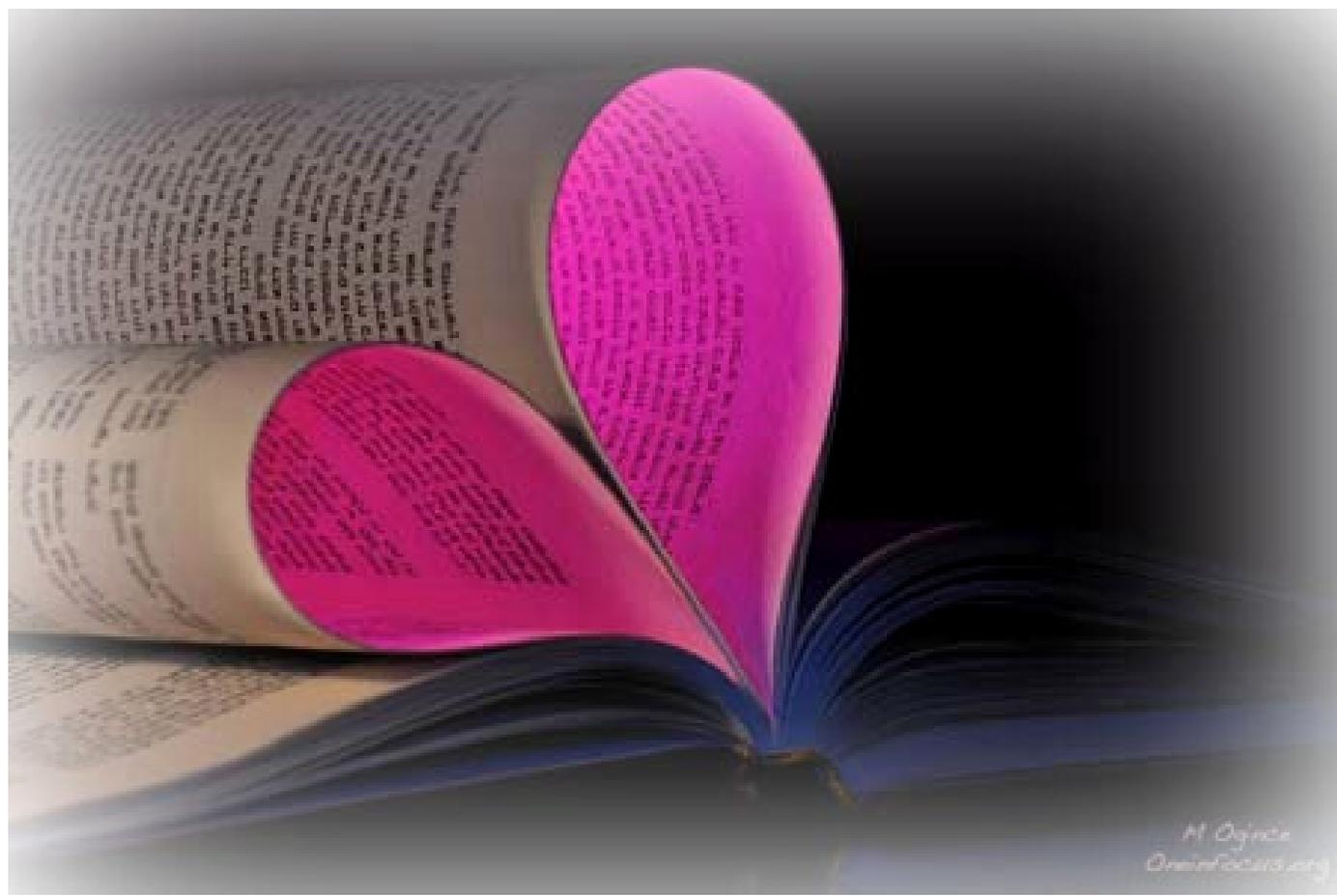
7:30 pm

at Congregation Solel

Join us for a special Shabbat service featuring Congregation Solel's and Lakeside Congregation's adult choirs as our communities join together to celebrate the power of connection and LOVE.

The service will feature special music prepared just for this occasion. Cantors Vicky Glíkin and Michael Davis will deliver a sermon-in-song on the theme of love.

Celebrate the love of partners and friends with your community as we welcome



Letter to the Editor

Dear Congregation Solel,

We would like to thank you for inviting us to speak on Shabbat before Chanukah. The beautiful way in which you welcomed Shabbat was an inspiration to us. We hope that our work was an inspiration to you as well.

For those who were not able to attend that evening, NATAL is an apolitical nonprofit—the “go to” body in Israel for trauma treatment and training. Our overarching mission is to create a healthier Israel by addressing the all too prevalent problem of psychological trauma related to terrorism and war. We at NATAL take this mission very seriously, because not to do so could have debilitating effects on individuals and society as a whole. Since NATAL was founded in 1998, we have helped over 160,000 people.

Among NATAL’s many programs and services is our Unique Helpline for immediate and ongoing support, serving an average of 7000 people a year. This model is so innovative that NATAL is now collaborating with the Wounded Warriors project to develop a similar Helpline for U.S. veterans. NATAL also has mobile units treating children and families in the South, where people live under the constant threat of rocket fire, and clinical units throughout the country. In addition, NATAL works extensively with women as agents of change, provides training for trauma nurses, and is the lifeline for IDF veterans who have experienced trauma.

If you are interested in learning more about NATAL, or would like to get involved in our mission, please go to our website, www.afnatal.org, or contact Naomi Kayne at Naomi@afnatal.org.

Sincerely,

Judith Yovel Recanati, Founder and Chairperson
Colonel Orly Gal, Executive Director



Congregation Solel's Fifth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Shabbat

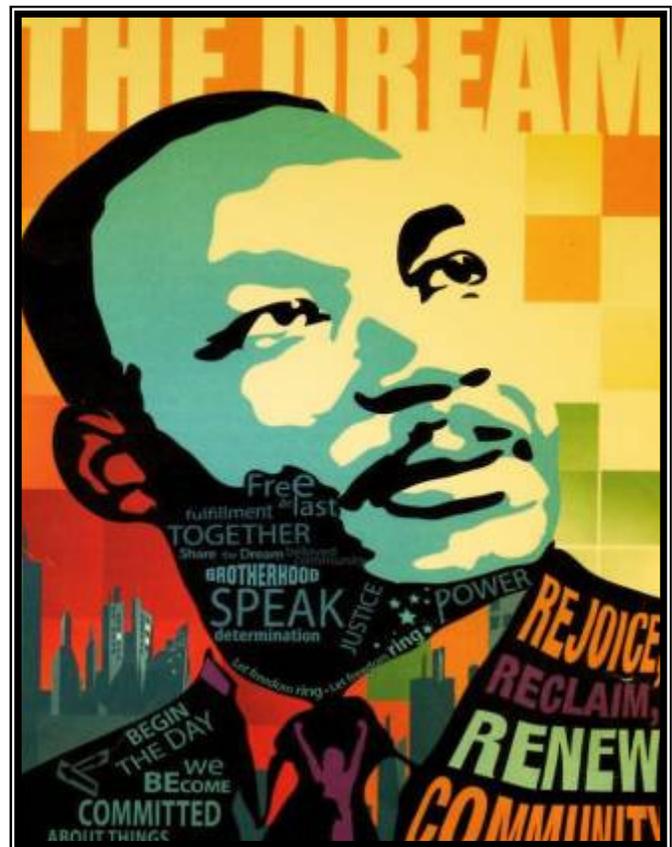
Friday, January 17, 2014 at 7:30 pm

Featuring the Solel Choir singing music of the Civil Rights Era and a world premier of "Pray with My Feet" by Philip Orem, Solel's accompanist and composer-in-residence.

Featured Speakers from the Envision Scholars program at Waukegan High School:

Topiltzin Gomez (Yale-bound)
Andrea Flores (Stanford-bound)

Nearly twenty-five of our congregants participate as volunteer mentors in the Envision Scholars program. Congregation Solel salutes them for their dedicated service.



Connecting Our Path: Past, Present and Future

Congregation Solel in Highland Park will dedicate its new congregational building in a three-day educational program [The ceremony will tell the story of the congregation "The Germination and Birth of Solel" by Herman Edwards, "The Search for Rabbinical Leadership" by Ben Gingiss, "A New Building: Will It Unify or Destroy?" by Allen Levis, "The Pangs of Fund Raising and Construction to Date" by Howard Landau, "Where Does Solel Go From Here?" by William Swartz

*Highland Park
News, April 16, 1964*

Fifty years ago this spring, Solel's founding members dedicated our congregational home. This spring, on March 21, 22 and 23, Solel will mark this anniversary and the renovation of our sanctuary with a rededication weekend of celebration, reflection and anticipation of the future.

The rededication weekend will begin with a multi-generational Shabbat service on Friday evening, featuring our youth and adult choirs and honoring our multigenerational families, founding members and past presidents, followed by a festive oneg. Saturday activities will include an extended Torah study led by Rabbi Moffic, a Kiddush luncheon and a panel discussion (with much audience participation!) moderated by Rabbi Moffic and featuring our Rabbi Emeritus Dov Taylor, Rabbi Larry Edwards, and Corinne Siegel-Gerson, a founding member and Solel's first woman president. There will be special religious school programming on Sunday. A keynote address by Martha Minow, Dean of Harvard Law School and alumna of Solel's Religious School, on Sunday afternoon, followed by Havdalah, will cap the weekend.

Check your mail later this month for your invitation and plan to join us for this special weekend.

2014 SNOWBIRD SHABBAT!

February 7-8, 2014

\$125/person deposit

Hotel Indigo

(941) 487-3800 for rooms



Call the Solel office to sign up (847) 433-3555!

Virtual Senior Center

CJE SeniorLife (CJE) is offering the Virtual Senior Center, an exciting new program for individuals age 55+ who have difficulty getting out into the community. Through the technology of interactive web-based classes and events, participants can join classes in which they can participate as if they were physically present.

Classes will be facilitated by instructors from a variety of backgrounds and interest areas on topics designed specifically with program participants in mind. CJE SeniorLife, in collaboration with Selfhelp Community Services Inc. of New York, is launching the program via a 6-month demonstration project in which it will provide the following free of charge:

- Easy to use large touch screen computer with built-in webcam and microphone
- Internet connection and set up if participant does not currently have one
- In-person training and support
- Live interactive programming from sites around the country

Participants will be trained and equipped to interact with other participants as well as instructors and staff as if they were physically present in a classroom. Participants at home can see, hear, and communicate with others while they are in each class, actively participating in real-time discussions and activities. In addition to attending classes, participants will also receive full access to the internet so that they can connect, reconnect, re-engage, and explore as much as they like. As part of the demonstration project, participants will be asked to participate in classes or use the Internet for a minimum of 30 hours per month.

Applications are now being accepted for the Virtual Senior Center. Candidates can be living alone or with others.

Program volunteers are also needed to provide technology support or facilitate classes. 'Tech Buddies' will work with participants to set up computers in their homes and field technical questions from participants. Facilitators will teach weekly interactive classes on any number of wide ranging areas of their professional or personal interest in consultation with the program staff. Classes can be facilitated from the volunteer's home, office or a CJE site.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating or volunteering, please contact Kate Fischer at (773) 508-1234 or Kathleen.fischer@cje.net. Please see the flyer to the right of this article for detailed information.

We Had a Blast at Biennial!

Cantor Vicky Glikin and past president and now Greater Chicago Area URJ Community Chair Wendy Rhodes spent December 11-15 at the URJ's 72nd Biennial in San Diego. Words can't really describe the experience, but we'll try...

Channel the fun, energy, and spirit of camp.

Imagine Shabbat services with Josh Nelson's music, a 100 voice choir and 13 bimot throughout the "sanctuary" where close to 1000 "congregants" were called up for alliyot.

Consider Shabbat dinner with 5,000 of your nearest and dearest new friends.

Think how it would feel to have a face- to-face talk with Israel's PM Benjamin Netanyahu (ok, he was on Skype).

Sprinkle in outstanding late-night entertainment.

Imagine how thrilling it would be to see Cantor Glikin on the Jumbotron world-premiering a new setting of the V'al Kulam as a member of the amazing American Conference of a Cantors Choir.

Try to select among hundreds of learning sessions with speakers ranging from Mark Bittman (The New York Times) to Julian Bond (NAACP and Civil Rights movement fame) to David Sapirstein (our social action voice in DC as leader of the Religious Action Center) to Anita Diamant (author of *The Red Tent*), Annat Hoffman (spear-headed the Women of the Wall initiative and in-



Our very own Cantor Vicky Glikin singing in the American Conference of Cantors choir.

spired so many of us to get involved) and more and more.

All this plus wonderful (and plentiful) opportunities for great food, fantastic shopping, and incredible sunsets.

The only thing missing? More Solelites. Please mark your calendar now for November 4-8, 2015 in Orlando. Whether you go to sing, reconnect with old friends, learn, have a new and different worship experience, or a combination... you won't regret it. More details over the months to come.

Warmly,
Cantor Glikin and Wendy Rhodes

A Day to Remember

For members of Congregation Solel's Youth Choir "Rimonim," December 22 was a day to remember! Led by Cantor Vicky Glikin, the Youth Choir had the unique opportunity to sing the National Anthem at Northwestern University's (NU) men's basketball game against Brown University. Over 20 of our kids led the 8,100 person stadium in the Star Spangled Banner with great enthusiasm. To top it all off, the choir members had the opportunity to meet and take pictures with the color guard, Willy the Wildcat, and NU's players Drew Crawford and Aaron Liberman. Liberman is the only Orthodox Jew playing Division I basketball and it was great to hear him speak about the ways in which he combines his love of basketball with his commitment to Judaism. It was a very special day!



Solel's Youth Choir with Willy the Wildcat

Solel Continues to Embrace Green

As we move into the secular New Year of 2014, we join the majority, inclining ourselves to new behaviors and positive change. How lucky we are to have two chances for this each year. And as the planetary problems of global warming, species extinction, resource depletion, and all matters of pollution face us, we can look to the teachings of our tradition for inspiration and applicable instruction on ways we can make a difference. We are taught that everything counts and that our purpose is to repair the world.

At Solel, watch and participate as we orient closer to Jewish teachings on how to tend and care for God's magnificent creation. There will be various educational opportunities, lectures, films and sermons, as well as "how to" hints in the *Pathfinder*. Earth Day will be extra special, but will also weave itself into other holidays.

We hope you will root yourselves in Jewish ecological teaching and be as a tree of life in 2014 and beyond.

- *The Green Team*



Think Like a Tree

By Karen I Shragg

Soak up thee sun
Affirm life's magic
Be graceful in the wind
Stand tall after a storm
Feel refreshed after it rains
Grow strong without notice
Be prepared for each season
Provide shelter to strangers
Hang tough through a cold spell
Emerge renewed at the first signs of spring
Stay deeply rooted while reaching for the sky
Be still long enough to hear
your own leaves rustling

LCU, MLK and the Solel Connection

"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and most inhumane."

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A day of study, reflection and conversation, the Lake County United (LCU) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day retreat has become a popular event for LCU members, including a number of Solelites. This year, LCU has asked that each member organization hold its own program, focusing in on access to healthcare, a prime concern of Dr. King. Watch the Shavu'on for more details on Solel's plans.

LCU, of which Solel is a member through its Just Congregations program, is an alliance of faith based and secular not-for-profit organizations that works to improve the lives of Lake County residents. Like Just Congregations, it takes its cues from member organizations and the concerns of its members, focusing in on diverse issues, such as education, access to healthcare, eldercare and affordable and supportive housing.

As most Solelites know, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke at Congregation Solel in June 1966. The event is commemorated by a plaque in the lobby and the story has been told and retold and become a part of Solel's lore, which is probably part of the reason that we have been so well represented at the Lake County United's (LCU) annual Martin Luther King Day retreat.

LCU is working on several other projects, including:

1. Partnering with the Lake County Center for Independent Living to build a second affordable and supportive housing development, this one in Mundelein. The first, located in Grayslake and a partnership with Mercy Housing Lakefront, serves low-income seniors, as well as people with physical handicaps. It opened last year and is full.
2. Inputting data from the recent Access to Healthcare survey, a joint project with the Lake County Health Department. Preliminary statistics should be ready for the Martin Luther King Day program.
3. Continuing to work with the Lake County Board and other organizations towards a new Winchester House, the county nursing home that serves as the safety net facility for low-income elderly.
4. Education programs for youngsters who would be the first in their families to attend college.

For more information, contact Meta L. Levin at meta.levin@comcast.net.



DUAL NARRATIVE TRIP TO ISRAEL AND PALESTINE

Sponsored by Hands of Peace and Glenview Community Church
October 13—October 24, 2014 (Register by January 31, 2014)

Through our trip, we hope to bring together a multicultural group eager to explore the diversity and complexity of the region while experiencing its spiritual and historical richness, its current political realities, and its cultural abundance.

Join us! As we travel together, we will engage with people whose personal stories bring both sides of the conflict to life. By trip's end, we hope to provide all of our travelers with a broadened perspective that will raise awareness and foster the belief that peace is possible!

Only \$2,900 per person. \$700 deposit is due January 31, 2014

For more information or to book your tour, visit our website: www.mejditours.com/open-tours or contact group leaders Wendy Rhodes at 847-945-8464 or wendyrhodes53@gmail.com and Betsy Martin at 847-657-7595 or betsywisemartin@att.net.

TRIP INCLUDES

- 9 Nights Lodging (double occupancy)
- Breakfast every day
- 12 additional meals throughout program
- 2 full-time MEJDI-trained guides: 1 Israeli & 1 Palestinian
- Private bus and driver
- Entrance and speaker fees
- Tips to drivers, guides and hotel staff
- \$400 tax-deductible donation to Hands of Peace

Brought to you by:



HANDS OF PEACE

Homework and Happiness

"Will you help me with my homework?", he asks before he even takes off his coat. It is Monday, and I am at Nuestro Center for the After-School Homework Club. He is "reserving" me because on Monday there are not enough volunteers. At 4:00 pm, 25-30 children from Highland Park Schools pour in the door and are greeted by Elsi Rodriguez, Nuestro Center Supervisor. They have a substantial snack, provided by the Northern Illinois Food Bank, and then work on homework.

There are 2 staff members. The center relies on volunteers for all other tutors. Many volunteers come from local high schools including Highland Park, Lake Forest Academy, and Stevenson. Most of the children are in grades 1-5. Elsi encourages the volunteers to develop a relationship with the children. The program strives to "bring them joy."

The children receive help with homework Mondays through Thursdays. On Fridays, they have special projects such as arts and crafts, field trips, or a special program provided by one of their partner organizations. In addition to the Homework Club, Nuestro Center also hosts a senior group on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 am -12:00 pm. The seniors participate in fun activities, educational programs (health, financial, etc.) and have the opportunity to socialize with other members of the community.

Nuestro Center began in 1997 and is part of Lake County Family Services. Family Services is 83 years old and provides programs to underserved populations across Lake County. Nuestro Center recently moved to 742 Sheridan Rd., Highwood.

Solel's Just Congregations committee is exploring the needs of Nuestro Center as well as the other tutoring programs at the middle and high schools. The Human Needs Committee recently gave Nuestro Center a grant of \$1800.

We know for now that they need volunteers for all programs. Volunteers can be freshmen in high school or older.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Meta Levin at meta@metalevin.com or Sharon Stein at sstein24@gmail.com.

Mazel Tov to Solel Alum Danny Greene Curating Major Exhibition at US Holocaust Memorial Museum

Danny Greene will be the curator of the next major initiative and special exhibition-- on the topic of "Americans and the Holocaust" at the US Holocaust Museum. The exhibition, planned to open in spring of 2018 as part of the 25th Anniversary of the Museum, will examine the myriad ways the lives and deeds of Americans, from top political leaders and social activists to everyday citizens, intersected with the victims of the Holocaust. It will raise questions about the roles and responsibilities of the U.S. and its people both then and now.

Mazel Tov to Kurt Plonsker on his Bar Mitzvah!



Kurt Plonsker, son of James Plonsker and Judith Tyson Plonsker, will become a Bar Mitzvah on January 18, 2014. He is in 7th grade at Northwood Middle School. Some of Kurt's favorite hobbies are soccer, tennis, and coding computers. For his Mitzvah Project, Kurt is collecting children's books and volunteering his time at Bernie's Book Bank. From his Mitzvah Project, Kurt learned it is good to help people and share his love of reading. Kurt's Torah portion is *Yitro*, from the Book of Exodus. Kurt is going to share this special day with his identical twin brother, Mark. The most important thing Kurt learned from his Torah portion is that it is very important to be organized. The greatest challenge Kurt faces in preparing for his ceremony is getting organized and juggling all of his interests. From this experience, Kurt learned that if you put your mind to something, it can be done.

Mazel Tov to Mark Plonsker on his Bar Mitzvah!



Mark Plonsker, son of James Plonsker and Judith Tyson Plonsker, will become a Bar Mitzvah on January 18, 2014. He is in 7th grade at Northwood Middle School. Some of Mark's favorite hobbies are soccer, tennis, basketball, and reading. For his Mitzvah Project, Kurt is collecting children's books and volunteering his time at Bernie's Book Bank. From his Mitzvah Project, Kurt learned it is good to help people and share his love of reading. Mark's Torah portion is *Yitro*, from the Book of Exodus. Kurt is going to share this special day with his identical twin brother, Kurt. The most important thing Kurt learned from his Torah portion is that it is very important to be responsible. The greatest challenge Mark faces in preparing for his ceremony is working hard and handling all of the different activities. From this experience, Mark learned that he can handle lots of things at once.

Mazel Tov to Phoebe Rudman on her Bat Mitzvah!



Phoebe Rudman, daughter of David and Caren Rudman, will become a Bat Mitzvah on January 11, 2014. She is in 7th grade at Elm place Middle School. Some of Phoebe's favorite hobbies are dance, basketball, and guitar. For her Mitzvah Project, Phoebe participated and worked on an art exhibit and race to raise awareness for breast and ovarian cancer. This year's race will take place on Mother's Day. Phoebe has experienced how cancer can affect a whole family and her involvement in Voices and Visions and Embrace the Race has taught her how she can help make a difference. Phoebe's Torah portion is, B'shalach, from the Book of Exodus. The most important thing Phoebe learned from her Torah portion is that you can't let fear stop you from trying new things. Phoebe learned from her experience in becoming a Bat Mitzvah that she can overcome her own fears to succeed. The greatest challenge she faced in preparing for her ceremony was learning to read Hebrew.

After Five Years: Yahrzeit Reflections on Rabbi Arnold Jacob Wolf z”l Shabbat Vayigdash / December 6, 2013

More light! More heat! Hanukkah may be past, and with it the 5th *yahrzeit* of our beloved teacher. But the principle remains, as taught by the School of Hillel regarding the lights of Hanukkah: in matters of holiness, ascend! In matters of light, increase! And if producing light involves producing some heat as well, then turn up the heat.

I was nine years old when Arnold Jacob Wolf came to the suburban frontier to become the Rabbi of Congregation Solel. My father was President of the congregation, so I heard a few stories. Someone on the search committee asked a question, to which Arnold replied, “I don’t know.” They were impressed by that. Arnold knew an awful lot, though. He read, and remembered what he read. Here in his study at KAMII, he showed me his files. Everything fit into 3 file drawers; he didn’t need more because he remembered all the essentials. And of course he was continually reading, studying texts and engaging new ideas. And his learning was not only from books, it was from people.

Eizehu chacham? Halomeid mikol adam... (Avot 4.1)
Who is wise? One who learns from everyone. Everyone has something to teach, and Arnold was a master at drawing your teaching out of you – because he genuinely wanted to know it. Perhaps that was the Socratic method that he learned at the University of Chicago.

Confirmation class with Arnold really was a challenge, hence the title of his Confirmation textbook, *Challenge to Confirmands*.¹ He taught that understanding Judaism requires active engagement. That is why the subtitle of the textbook is “An Introduction to Jewish Thinking” – not “Thought” but “Thinking.” Judaism is not simply a body of texts to be mastered – though it does include that – but a stance, an active way of being in the world. And while thinking is important, indeed essential, it must finally be for the sake of doing. The *derash* is not the main thing but the *ma’aseh*.

Sometime before or after Confirmation, my friend Bob Loeb² and I decided we wanted to study more. We asked Arnold and he said, “Of course!”, inviting us to come to his home before school, at 6 in the morning. We pedaled over on our bicycles and he was there waiting for us. We studied the Torah portion for the week. He said if we came back he would be there, every

week. In that regard, I think, he called our bluff: 6 in the morning? We made it maybe twice. But if we had been more steadfast, I’m sure Arnold would have been too.

The essay that Jonathan chose to put at the beginning of *Unfinished Rabbi*³ is “The Rabbi Is a Teacher.” “If we really teach,” Arnold wrote, “we have little time for anything else.”⁴

Teaching could be – and was – formal and informal, in classes and at dinner parties, in sermons and chance meetings. Arnold told me that his teacher, Abraham Joshua Heschel, told him that one must never let Judaism be boring. Humor, and stories, and just the right turn of a question could elevate the significance of Torah:

Nothing succeeds like Torah! It is the only merchandise we have, and to sell it does not require much charisma, salesmanship, or brilliance. It does require consistency, diligence, and a combination of modesty and guts.⁵

Well, that may be true, but charisma and brilliance do help. (I’m sure Bach meant it too when he said, “Anyone can do what I do if they work as hard at it.”)

I have tried to understand what was going on in those early years at Solel. Not just what Arnold was thinking and doing – we have a record of that – but the chord his teaching apparently struck among a certain group of upwardly mobile post-War suburbanites.

The outside world knew him as an activist; they did not get to experience his pastoral side, which was very present, even in brief encounters. People truly found his words and his presence in times of trouble comforting, as well as challenging. Visiting the sick, offering counsel, walking a picket line – all were ways of teaching and living Torah.

Sometime during my father’s term as President of Solel, Arnold was on the picket line with workers at Sinai Hospital. My father got a call from someone, I guess at the Federation: “Can’t you control your

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

Rabbi?" My father responded, "We believe in freedom of the pulpit." And of course, the pulpit extended well beyond what was then rented space at the Highland Park Women's Club. Maybe that is why, when my father's term ended, Arnold's wonderful mother, Nettie, (she and her sister, Rose, were a regular presence in those days) – who was worried, wanted to find a way to extend my father's term. But she need not have worried. If you are there for people, they will be there for you too. There were disagreements, to be sure, with various board members, but no disagreement about the fundamentals of how a Rabbi must be free to teach.

His teaching was not what one might expect successful, acculturating American Jews to appreciate:

[Some Jews] ... read the complex Jewish sources as blandly asserting that man is really beneficent, that his iniquities are mere mistakes. They would have us believe, against the testimony of wisdom and experience both, that human beings are basically kind, affectionate, self-sacrificing and generous. What little evil man manifests is only a heritage from his primitive past that time and education will surely and swiftly overcome. Indeed, that is what most nineteenth-century westernized Jews thought and how many still define traditional Judaism. That kind of naïve liberalism ... is hard to support ... in our years of holocaust and their aftermath.⁶

In other words, the optimism of the Enlightenment was suspect. The God of the Enlightenment was dead. The Guarantor of Progress, who wanted us to be comfortable in our affluence, could no longer be the object of our adoration. Always an impersonal abstraction, He/It had descended into a godlet created in our image, who made no demands other than just "Keep doing what you are doing, be happy, take good care of yourself, you deserve the best" – this was no Jewish God. But the God of the Bible – unpredictable, demanding, merciful but with high expectations – this is a God still worth wrestling with. And Arnold showed us how that might be done. Authentic Judaism is a continual stream of encounter, of commandment, of choosing, of responsibility.

This was not the teaching of a comfortable status quo. Yet these comfortable middle- and upper-middle-class Jews bought in. They were charmed, and they were also excited – intellectually and spiritually. Probably they felt a little guilty about their success, and about fleeing to the suburbs. But they thought: Maybe we can

be Jews after all. And maybe it is a good thing to be Jews, in the safety of post-War America, if being Jewish is challenging and interesting enough. They actually wanted Jewish commitment to involve more than just paying dues; they wanted to build something. And Arnold Jacob Wolf was the teacher for them. As he said, "I triumph, when I do, by reading the signs of the times."⁷ He read the signs of 60s suburbia.

Then he read the signs of the campus of the 70s. To my surprise and delight, I became his colleague – at Hillel at Dartmouth, which was just up the road from him at Yale. At the annual Hillel directors' conference I could observe close up how he was a teacher of teachers. We had the greatest group of colleagues in those days that one could imagine or hope for. Arnold was bold and funny, brilliant in his teaching and equally in love with soaking up the Torah of his fellows.

Those were also the prophetic years of Breira – not radical, but ahead of its time on Israel and Palestine. He deserves a lot of credit for that, but not as much as some of the hagiographers give him. He was not the founder; it was not his idea. Breira was created by a few members of the next generation (my generation, actually). I think that Arnold, and a few others of his generation, sincerely wanted to stand with the kids, and they did for as long as they could. The pressures were intense. The organization collapsed, but the ideas remained, and the mainstream began to catch up with them over the subsequent decades. A story for another time.

Theologically, Arnold was post-modern before the term was invented, but post-modern in a way that turned out to be a recovery of ancient wisdom. As he wrote in the Introduction to *Rediscovering Judaism*:

"...because we are old, we are new. Nothing is more radical, in the strict sense of the word, than naked tradition. Novelty inheres in our recovery of Biblical categories, the refurbishing of Talmudic direction ..."⁸

And in another essay, "On God and Theology," he admits,

Perhaps our new interest in theology is only a "cop-out" from the commandment. ... But the believing Jew, eschewing all ideologies and above all his own, seeks humbly to do the commandment nevertheless.⁹

He concludes, with Buber, that we can and must bend our effort toward "establishing, in this our place, a

(Continued on page 17)

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dwelling for the Divine Presence.” To which he adds, “That is a task not for the theologians alone but for men. The Presence burns our theologies to a crisp, but it suffers men to suffer, praise and live.”¹⁰

Arnold had been accused of “elucidat[ing] a dooming theology.”¹¹ Yet we who knew Arnold know that he lived with joy as well as sadness, that he exulted in the perfection of Mozart as well as the irony of Mahler, the magnificent architecture of Bach’s music as well as the struggle toward transcendence of late Beethoven sonatas and string quartets. He could be as happy as any Chicagoan about a White Sox pennant, even while knowing that its ultimate significance (or even penultimate significance) is nil. He could root for his neighbor, Barack, while knowing that all the hopes he had for the young President could not possibly be realized. The “doom” of his theology was just the traditional Jewish understanding that *Moshiachzeit* – redemption – is not yet, that the best we can do is humble ourselves before the Divine Mystery, accept upon ourselves the yoke of obligation, live – but really live – in the intermediate realm of this earth.

Three years ago I had the privilege of offering a *d’var Torah* on the occasion of Arnold’s second *yahrzeit*. I used the occasion partly to review what some of us had been studying in Arnold’s memory – the thought of Buber, Rosenzweig, Levinas. The Torah portion was the same: as he does every year at about this time, Judah is the brother who steps forward, approaching his still-unrecognized brother Joseph, Lord of Egypt. He gives a long speech, eloquent and full of anxiety. You can feel his heart pounding so loud that it probably drowns out his own words in his ears. But it breaks through; Joseph can no longer hold it in, wailing: “I am Joseph!” (Gen. 45:3)

Sometimes words break through. Arnold’s words broke through more times than I can count. They shed light and they generated heat: words, actions, and also leaving room for the words and actions of others. Yes, his personality was large, but it never occupied all the space. On the contrary, his questions drew you out, his challenges made you feel that you could live up to them.

Hanukkah has ended, but that is no reason to stop increasing the light. And if shedding light comes by generating heat, then – more heat, too! Arnold was not afraid to generate some heat, but it was always in the service of light. For five years now we have missed him; his passion warms us still. More heat! More light! In matters of Torah, *na’aleh*! Let us ascend!

¹ Arnold Jacob Wolf, *Challenge to Confirmants: An Introduction to Jewish Thinking* (New York: Scribe Publications, 1963)

² In those days, Bob Loeb and I were almost inseparable. Bob became President of the Solel youth group, I was Vice-President. Later, Bob would become Executive Director of Breira.

³ Arnold Jacob Wolf, *Unfinished Rabbi: Selected Writings*, ed. By Jonathan S. Wolf (Chicago: Ivan R. Dee, 1998)

⁴ *Unfinished Rabbi*, 4 (Originally published in *Sh’ma*, May 14, 1982).

⁵ *Ibid.*, 4.

⁶ Arnold Jacob Wolf, *What Is Man?* (A B’nai B’rith Book, 1968), xii.

⁷ *Unfinished Rabbi*, 4.

⁸ Arnold Jacob Wolf, ed. and Introduction, *Rediscovering Judaism: Reflections on a New Theology* (Chicago: Quadrangle Books, 1965), 7.

⁹ Arnold Jacob Wolf, “On God and Theology” in B. Martin, ed., *Contemporary Reform Jewish Thought* (Chicago: Quadrangle Books/Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1968), 46.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 46.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, 46.

Project



Zug

Project Zug connects Jews in different countries through online *havruta* (one-to-one) learning. Project Zug seeks to reduce geographical distances and strengthen the bonds between our many vibrant Jewish cultures by pairing Jews in Israel and Jews around the world to learn together over a three-month period starting at the end of January.



Study is greater than action, because it leads to action
-Bavli Kiddushin, 40b

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Check Out These Activities at Congregation Solel

Shabbat Shalom! A Service for the Whole Congregation Friday, January 31



With its high energy and casual atmosphere Shabbat Shalom! is the perfect way for Solelites of all ages to celebrate Shabbat.

5:30 pm - Pizza dinner
6:15 pm - Enjoy a warm and meaningful service led by Cantor Glikin and Rabbi Moffic, with participation by Solel's Youth Choir "Rimonim"

Shabbat. Friendship.
Community. Family. Song.

Future Dates:
February 28
March 28
April 25

Hava Nashira!

A NEW ENGAGING AND SPIRITED SERVICE
FEATURING FRESH AND FAMILIAR MELODIES.

JOIN US ON FEBRUARY 7 AT 7:30 PM
FOR AN EVENING OF SONG
AND INSPIRATION,
ACCOMPANIED BY SOLEL'S OWN
INSTRUMENTALISTS AND SINGERS.

It's Shabbat....Let's Sing!

Future Dates:
April 11
June 6



Pray 'n Play Saturday, January 11, 10:30 am

This isn't your ordinary Tot Shabbat!

Join other families with children 0-5 years of age for a fun, interactive "Gymboree-style" Shabbat program, featuring music, maracas, puppets, & parachutes.

Followed by a complimentary bagel brunch and playtime.

Older siblings are welcome to attend!

Come, sing, play, make friends!!

Led by Cantor Vicky Glikin



Future Dates:
February 8
March 1
April 12
May 10

SOLEL'S ONE BOOK COMMITTEE

The Attack by Yasmina Khadra

**Join us for discussion on
Sunday, April 13, 1:00 pm**

The story initially takes place in Tel Aviv where the life of a prominent Arab Israeli surgeon is shaken to its roots by a catastrophic incident. How the Israeli authorities and the medical staff deal with the incident and how it leads the doctor to explore his very being makes for a compelling story.

Thank You For Your Contributions

Annual Appeal

James and Donna Gottlieb
Howard and Carolyn Haas
Larry and Susan Mason, in honor of Allan Litwack's birthday and positive commitment to a healthy lifestyle
Bruce and Benilda Schiff
Lewis and Gail Segal

Education

Howard Epstein and Gabrielle Sigel, in memory of Alice Berkin
Geoff Prass and Alison Abrams, in memory of David Prass

Human Needs

Natalie Belrose, in memory of Marc Belrose
Linda and Harold Chizewer, in honor of Gail and Lewis Segal's 50th anniversary
Darryl and Michael Ebner, in honor of Alice Piller's birthday
Gail and Lewis Segal, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene

Music Fund

Betsy and Scott Lassar, in honor of Alice Piller's birthday
Larry and Susan Mason, in honor of Alice Piller's birthday

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Carol and Lawrence Adelman, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene and in honor of Alice Piller's birthday
David and Lisa Helfand, in memory of Allen Goodman
Edie and Courtney Shanken, in memory of Alice Berkin

Rabbi Dov Taylor Legacy Fund

Donald and Gail Goldstein
Richard and Carol Hillsberg
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Carol and Michael Kohn
Albert and Gwen Miller
Toddy Richman and Alex Hilkevitch
Gabrielle Sigel and Howard Epstein

Tribute Fund

Sally and Gershen Abraham, in memory of Leonard Abraham
Lawrence and Carol Adelman, in memory of Lynn Adelman
Bruce and Marcia Balonick, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene
Lila Bondy, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene and Alice Berkin
Marcia and Ken Denberg, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene
Barbara and Steven Dibble, in memory of Harold Kramer
Ross and Susan Erlebacher, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene
Arnold and Judith Fox, in memory of Arnold Krause
Donald and Gail Goldstein, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene and Alice Berkin
Ellen and Lee Gussin, in honor of Don and Gail Goldstein's Jubilee anniversary celebration
Howard and Carolyn Haas, in memory of Adolph Haas and Simon Werbner
David and Lisa Helfand, in memory of Rachel Hollander

Tribute Fund *(Continued)*

Gregg and Pamela Hollander, in memory of Allen Goodman
Lee and Sheldon Karon, in memory of Alice Berkin and Lawrence and James Goldwasser
Dennis and Barbara Kessler, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene
Thomas and Renee Krauss, in memory of Rosa Goldschmied and Fred Helbraun
Jack and Sheila Marks, in memory of Alice Berkin and Evelyn L. Greene
Evelyn Padorr, in memory of Hush Segil
Joyce and Richard Prince, in honor of Gail and Lewis Segal's 50th anniversary
Wendy and Wayne Rhodes, in memory of Alice Berkin and Evelyn L. Greene
Mary Ann and Steve Ruskin, in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Lewis Segal's 50th anniversary
Edwin and Diana Ruthman, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene
David and Mickey Unger, in memory of Bob Simon
Suzanne T. Weiskopf, in memory of Otto Weiskopf
Richard and Susan Wellek, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene
Jerry and Jan Wolf, in memory of Evelyn L. Greene

As of December 26, 2013

Condolences to...

Bernard Berkin, founding member, on the passing of his wife, Alice Berkin.

Alan and Carol Greene, on the passing of his mother, Evelyn L. Greene.

Susan O'Neill, on the passing of her husband, Jonathan Lavin.

Susan and Arvin Weindruch, on the passing of her mother, Harriet Hambourger

Stock Transfers to Congregation Solel

In order to make stock transfers from your accounts to Congregation Solel, the congregation works with First Mesriow Financial, Inc.

Please note: This is a NEW location for gifting stocks to Congregation Solel:

Mesriow Financial, Inc.
847-681-2502 Jennifer Kaufmann
DTC # 0727
Account # 3318-5445

As always, your contributions to Congregation Solel are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. If there are any questions, please call Allan Litwack, Executive Director, at (847) 433-3555, ext 225.

Thank you for your continued support.

January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Kindle Shabbat Candles at dinner or at the following times (CDT): 3.....4:14 pm 10.....4:20 pm 17.....4:28 pm 24.....4:37 pm 31.....4:46 pm		1 Office Closed	2 10:00 am Envision Scholars Essay Writing Session	3 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	4 9:15 am Torah Study 10:30 am Torah Study
5 No Religious School	6 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 No Lunch & Learn 4:15 pm Religious School	8 12:00 pm Downtown Lunch & Learn	9	10 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	11 9:15 am Torah Study 10:30 am Pray 'n Play 10:30 am Phoebe Rudman Bat Mitzvah 10:35 am Morning Minyan
12 9:45 am Religious School 10:15 am Board Meeting	13 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	14 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn at Solel 4:15 pm Religious School 7:00 pm Just Congregations	15	16	17 7:30 pm MLK Jr. Service with Choir	18 9:15 am Torah Study 10:30 am Mark & Kurt Plonsker Bar Mitzvahs 10:35 am Morning Minyan
19 9:45 am Religious School	20 10:00 am 5 th Annual MLK, Jr. Day of Service	21 4:15 pm Religious School 7:00 pm Jewish War Veterans Meeting	22	23	24 7:30 pm Hands of Peace Presentation & Shabbat Service	25 9:15 am Torah Study 10:35 am Morning Minyan
26 9:45 am Religious School	27	28 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn at Solel 4:15 pm Religious School	29	30 7:00 pm Women's Rosh Chodesh Celebration	31 5:30 pm Pizza Dinner 6:15 Shabbat Shalom	

January Shabbat Services Schedule

Friday, January 3

Shabbat Service.....7:30 pm

Bo, Exod. 10:1-13:16

Saturday, January 4

Torah Study9:15 am

Morning Minyan.....10:35 am

Friday, January 10

Shabbat Service.....7:30 pm

B'shalach, Exod. 13:17-17:16

Saturday, January 11

Torah Study9:15 am

Pray 'n Play10:30 am

Phoebe Rudman Bat Mitzvah10:30 am

Morning Minyan10:35 am

Friday, January 17

MLK, Jr. Shabbat Service with Choir.....7:30 pm

Yitro, Exod. 18:1-20:23

Saturday, January 18

Torah Study9:15 am

Mark & Kurt Plonsker Bar Mitzvahs10:30 am

Morning Minyan.....10:35 am

Friday, January 24

Shabbat Service & Guest Speaker.....7:30 pm

Mishpatim, Exod. 21:1-24:18

Saturday, January 25

Torah Study9:15 am

Morning Minyan10:35 am

Friday, January 31

Pizza Dinner 5:30 pm

Shabbat Shalom Service6:15 pm

T'rumah, Exod. 25:1-27:19

Saturday, February 1

Torah Study9:15 am

Rachel Todd Bat Mitzvah10:30 am

Morning Minyan.....10:35 am

Want to inquire more deeply into a passage after the Shabbat service? Find the weekly parashot and commentaries at these links:

Weekly D'var: <http://urj.org/learning/torah/> or <http://www.reformjudaism.org/>

Parashot Summaries: <http://urj.org/learning/torah/summaries/>



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We are a spiritual home that engages our members and community in *prayer, learning, and the pursuit of social justice*. We prize *inclusiveness, innovation, and involvement* in our programs, life cycle events, and leadership. Everyone who walks into our building should feel *inspired, uplifted, and connected*.

Pathfinder

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