Kol Shofar

õLet the prophet who has a

dream, tell the dreamö

January 2015 Tevet/Shevat 5775 Volume 75, Number 5

Rabbi Eric Mollo
Cantorial Soloist David Rothberg
Director of Congregational Learning Kim Bodemer
Rabbi Paul Levenson, Emeritus





n January 19th, our nation takes a day to remember the life, vision and accomplishments of Martin Luther King Jr. A modern-day prophet in his own right, King exemplified the prophetic vision of our Biblical

text. He had a dream that things could

change for the better and he pursued it at all costs. Even though this pursuit cost him his life, King continues to inspire millions of people with his dedication towards a better future.

Throughout the Biblical text, many of the leaders pursued visions and dreams in the hopes of seeking a change for the better. Indeed, all three patriarchs – Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – underwent some form of transformation due to these experiences and epiphanies. Among the many visions he had, Abraham had a vision of three angels visiting him and forever changing his destiny. It was only through visions that Isaac was able to be matched with Rebecca. Jacob was renamed Israel in his visions which completely changed the trajectory and destiny of his tribe.

No matter who received the vision, each patriarch was tasked with bringing the results of their vision to fruition. Each patriarch was also tasked with a journey so that they might grow to be the great figures they dreamt they could be in their visions. Perhaps the most expansive and detailed growth journey was that of Jacob. When Jacob flees his ancestral home after stealing the birthright from his brother, Esau, he embarks on a long journey in the wilder-

ness. During this journey, Jacob undergoes many transformations as he learns about his personal faith, the value of pursuing goals, and humility.

Jacob's faith journey began when he realized how alone he was in the wilderness. In such a situation, Jacob was faced

with all sorts of challenges and was entirely vulnerable. What was he to do? He made a deal with G-d that he would worship Adonai if G-d protected him. It was from that point on that the bargain was struck and Jacob came to worship Adonai. Fear can be a major motivator for bargain-

ing but it can also drive us to do incredible things. Martin Luther King Jr. certainly feared for his life and those of his supporters, but that fear only drove him to reach higher.

The next step for Jacob was that of perseverance. Jacob pledged to work for seven years in order to marry the woman of his dreams and was tricked into marrying Leah. He then had to work for seven more years to marry Rachel. During this time he did hard work as a shepherd and learned a great deal about what it meant to run a successful camp. Though many of the protests and acts of civil disobedience Martin Luther King Jr. organized had some sort of impact, change did not come over night. He had to wait patiently as the world caught up with his actions.

Even with hard physical and spiritual labor, things did not always pay off right away for Jacob. He was often humbled (Continued on page 2)



Connecting to Each Other - Our Peoplehood Project

y dad fondly recounts the days of his youth growing up in Dorchester on Greenwood Street in a two family house where he and his family lived on the first floor and his mother's parents lived on the second floor.

He talks about how much of his mother's family, immigrants from Lithuania, lived within a few blocks of his house and how the community was so close to one another and everyone felt connected. Not only did his family live close to each other but his friends were all within walking distance, went to the same school and the same Hebrew school too. Today, families are generally more geographically spread out than in generations past so that many create pseudofamilies from close friends. It makes sense. After all as social animals, we strive to make connections to others.

(Continued on page 2)

Jeremiah 23:28

The Rabbi's Cat; or, There's More to Jewish Peoplehood Than Ashkenazi and Sephardi It some point in my growing awareness of Jewish life, I got the idea that Jews were either Ashkenazi or Sephardi. That is, their descendants were either Eastern European (Ashkenazi, or from German speaking

lands) or Spanish-Portuguese (Sephardi). All the Jews I knew were Ashkenazi. If your parents or grandparents spoke Yiddish (a German-Hebrew hybrid), you were Ashkenazi. Everyone else got lumped into this "other" category, Sephardi. Eventually I learned that the grandparents of Sephardim spoke a language called Ladino (a Spanish-Hebrew hybrid).

I might have had a vague idea that this might be an oversimplification. After all, did every single Jew in the Diaspora (Continued on page 2)



by his own naiveté but his ultimate act of humility came when we encountered his brother, Esau after many years. Jacob was convinced that Esau had been brooding and plotting to revenge

himself upon him. When the time came to face his brother, Esau embraced Jacob and kissed him. Martin Luther King was surely humbled time and time again by those we would not stand with him in the fight for civil rights. Slowly but surely his popularity, and that of the civil rights movement, grew into the celebrated success that we now cherish.

Dreams require dreamers. Dreams also require time to manifest, be nurtured, and to gain steam as increasingly more people embrace them. Martin Luther King's path and vision for the future has taught us many lessons. In our community, we embrace a plethora of ideas from ancient and modern visionaries that continue to inspire greatness in us. And if we have learned anything, let it be this: It is up to us, the dreamers, to make our visions known so that all of humanity may benefit from the brighter future we have in mind.

Zichrono L'vracha

aldy from Walk

May his vision continue to inspire countless generations.



This semester, our community will take a closer look at the connection that Jews have to one another through an exploration of "Peoplehood". We will take a closer look at the following questions,

- Who are the people in our people hood and how am I connected to them?
- What are the stories of Jewish communities in other parts of the world and how am I part of those stories?
- What responsibilities do I have as part of the Jewish people?

Not only will our students have a chance to ponder these queries but every member of our community can engage in some way. There will be adult learning sessions, food, field trips, films and more to choose from. Don't miss this chance to consider your place in our rich history. Watch future Kol Shofar articles, "This Week at TCS" and other TCS communication for events. Wishing you all a wonderful start to 2015!

L'shalom,



(in which the Jews were expelled by the Romans from Israel) go to either Spanish or German speaking lands? The answer is no. Indeed, it is an oversimplification.

Jews did go to other places. Even within Europe, there is an Italian Jewish tradition that is older than the diaspora that created *Ashkenaz* and *Sephard*. But the biggest missing piece of the puzzle is Jews who went to Arab lands, known as *Mizrachi* Jews. There were about a million Jews in Arab lands in 1945; today there are perhaps 4,500. Anti-Jewish violence and expulsion caused most to flee to Israel, where they became a major ethnic element. Some went to America, where they tended to get lumped together with the *Sephardi* Jews (at least in the minds of *Ashkenazi* Jews).

Going back to the title of this piece, what does this have to do with the Rabbi's Cat? No, I'm not talking about Rabbi Eric; he's a dog person. I'm talking about an excellent graphic novel by artist/author Joann Sfar, called The Rabbi's Cat. Set in Algeria, in 1930, it really captures the life of a Mizrachi Jewish community while telling the fantastic story of a Rabbi, his daughter, and their cat, who gains the ability to speak after eating a parrot. The cat immediate starts to tell lies, so the Rabbi decides that he needs to teach him Torah. The cat instead wants to learn Kabbalah (Jewish Mysticism) and have a bar mitzvah. The Rabbi's daughter falls in love with a French Jewish man, so there are scenes of the contrasting cultures of the Mizrachi and Ashkenazi communities. There is a second volume. The Rabbi's Cat 2, which I haven't read. The book has also been made into an animated film, which is available on Netflix; the film has a completely different story from the book, so it may be based on the second volume.

(IMPORTANT NOTE: THE RABBI'S CAT IS AN ADULT WORK OF LITERATURE. I FOUND AT LEAST ONE WORD AND ONE IMAGE THAT YOU WOULD PROBABLY CONSIDER INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN. PLEASE PREVIEW IT IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT WANT YOUR CHILDREN TO SEE OR READ IT.)

Kol tuv (all the best),



David





Sunday, January 25th at 7:00 pm at TCS Special congregational meeting to discuss changes to the temple constitution.

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The Co-Presidents' Column

hat away to end 2014 and welcome in 2015. Last year brought us a new Rabbi, new melodies, enhanced teaching and numerous congregation "wishes" that became realities. We welcomed Rabbi Eric Mollo and his wife Rabbi Carolan Glatstein on July 1st. He has made a smooth transition into TCS bringing his own style of prayer and outstanding harmony with David Rothberg. And to add more joy, this coming July, Rabbi Eric and Rabbi Carolan are expecting a new addition to their family.

I have learned that volunteerism is very difficult to cultivate these days as people have so much going on in their family's lives, from scheduling their children's after school activities, chauffeuring them around, and taking them to Hebrew school which represents just some of their days work. In addition, in many families both parents work. We have other volunteers who add temple activities to responsibilities such as managing extended families. Yet our temple is run by these volunteers who devote their time, efforts and financial support just to mention a few. What drives these people to carve out a piece of their lives to ensure that the temple thrives?

I watched as Jen Faber and her team of volunteers worked so hard to make the auction a success and raise money to help our budget. The Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Grandparents Group, Ritual, Interfaith, T.O.R.C.H., School, Membership, House, and Technology committees play such critical roles that many of us are not aware of the passion that they bring to the temple critical needs. We are so fortunate to have these members take time out of their busy lives to ensure that TCS thrives.

On December 24th the T.O.R.C.H. committee sponsored a successful Red Cross blood drive. It was really an eye opener as we watched people hooked up with their IV's using their Smartphones texting. We also listened to one 40 year old person who had donated 108 times.

We extend a big thank to Heather Lambrecht for her years of service in the Ritual Committee. She has stepped down as co-chair but will remain very active.

If you would like to discuss what you might do to volunteer at TCS, please contact us and we would be happy to get back to you. Some activities are one time things and others are on committees that meet either monthly or with less frequency. The president's email account is: president@templechayaishalom.org. My personal account is mike@kamens.org and Marcia's is marciahicks@comcast.net. We look forward to hearing from you.

In the past six months we have seen a new digital billboard located in the lobby that displays new events, our current calendar and "Congratulations to our Bar and Bat Mitzvah's". This is just the beginning as we continually add additional features and enter the "digital age".

- The technology committee spent countless days and nights to support the TCS staff by rebuilding the computer infrastructure, replacing all computers with new ones, enhancing our wireless abilities and building the new digital display in the lobby.
- Meryl Levenson worked on the web site and created a plan of what it should look like and Leah worked to create and maintain our Facebook presence.
- The house committee installed new air conditioning units in the Rabbi's office and the administration office, installed new fluorescent lights, maintained the furnace, all plumbing and electrical work in addition to every request necessary to keep our infrastructure in good repair.
- Numerous volunteer "product experts" created specifications for a new roof, telephone system, AED and the addition of an access control system at the rear exit in Kim's office. A new video camera, covering the trailer and rear temple exit door, is being added to enhance security.

So where do we stand on all these projects?

1.We were putting so many band aids to stop leaks in our roof that it came to a head when we ran out of tape. A vendor was selected and they started replacing the roof on Tuesday, December 19th and completed the following days before lunch. We received approximately \$8,800 from the auction to offset the \$17,320 cost. The money pledged during the auction really made a difference.

2.Our existing telephone system, which was over 20 years old, could no longer be repaired and had to be replaced. A new NEC PBX will be installed on Monday, January 5th. There are so many new features that will enhance our ability to service the needs of our congregation.

- 3.We needed an additional "hunt" line on the phone (this allows us to have 2 calls handled and still be able to answer another call). By utilizing our fax phone line that solved that problem and we signed up for an electronic fax service where all incoming faxes now are sent as email attachments to an email account.
- 4. A security camera and electric door strike in Kim's office leading to the trailer will be installed by the 1st week of January.

(Continued on page 5)

Family Table Needs our Help Every Month

30 Cans of Tuna Fish & 30 Cans of Vegetarian Beans are needed for Family Table. Bring your contribution to the temple and place it in the bin in the foyer. *Thank you*

Carrying the T.O.R.C.H. (Tikkun Olam - Respect, Caring and Healing)



The T.O.R.C.H committee would like to spotlight the many acts of kindness and generosity that our TCS community is committed to. In addition, we will be providing opportunities for those of you that may be looking to get more involved with charitable organizations or activities. Please send your notices of involvement, names of those deserving recognition and any opportunities or ideas you'd like to share with our community to Eric Silverman at bems526@gmail.com for inclusion in our monthly newsletter.

Jodie Rosen's Mitzvah Project

Each of my sons had *mitzvah* projects as they studied for their *Bar Mitzvah*. I read an article in the Sunday paper that sparked my *mitzvah*

project.

Help our Military Families Save!

Did you know that overseas military members can use expired coupons up to six months past their expiration date?

There are two main stores on the military bases: the Commissary (similar to our grocery stores) and the Exchange (similar to our Walmart or Target stores). Both the Commissary and the Exchange accept coupons up to 6 months past the printed expiration date. Unfortunately for the families who are stationed overseas though, coupons are not readily available like here in the US, so the families have to rely on the kindness of others who are willing to mail their expired and extra coupons over to them.

Our military families stationed overseas <u>CAN</u> use the following types of coupons:

- •Coupons that state that they are manufacturer's coupons
- *Coupons for a specific product that is also a manufacturer's coupon (for example \$1.00 off 1 package of Kraft cheese or 35¢ off Dannon yogurt)
- Coupons from all sources provided they are manufacturer's coupons (insert coupons, tear pads, printable coupons, booklet coupons, etc.)

Our military families stationed overseas <u>CANNOT</u> use the following types of coupons:

- *Store specific coupons (for example: Walgreens, Target, Publix, etc.)
- •Restaurant coupons (for example: Olive Garden, Pizza Hut, Dominoes, Red Lobster, etc.)
- Local coupons (for example: coupons good at a dry cleaner in your town)

I have collected, clipped and sent thousands of expired coupons to our military. You can help too. There is a collection basket in the lobby for coupon donations. Thank you.

Gift Cards that GIVE BACK





Purchase them for your own shopping needso give them as gifts.

Either way, a percentage of every gift card purchased will benefit TCS Sisterhood! Example: Purchase an LLBean Gift Card for \$100.00 The **GIVE BACK** percentage is 18% and Sisterhood receives \$18.00!

When you **GIVE BACK** to Sisterhood, you help fund things like the purchase of books as congratulatory gifts for the confirmation class, academic scholarships for TCS students, charitable contributions to community and religious causes, *Shiva* Meals, TCS *Yom Kippur* Break Fast and *Latke Nosh*, donations to the Rabbics Discretionary Fund and more.

Order online:

Sign up on line at **www.scripzone.com** and choose the gift cards you would like Register as a new user

Join % group+using the following Group Id: 508238TCS

OR...Send or bring your order form to TCS:

Print the online order form, attach a check and send it to the temple

You will be notified when your order is ready

For additional information contact our scrip coordinator Lily Krentzman, 508-339-4479 or lilykrentz@gmail.com

THE Co-Presidents' Column (Continued)

5.We have purchased a new AED (defibrillator) and cabinet and within the next several weeks the American Red Cross will train and certify 20 teachers, staff, and board members in AED and CPR. We thank the brotherhood for their donation of \$500 which certainly helped us pay the cost of \$3,000.00 for all hardware and training.



Several temple members were invited by Representative Claire D. Cronin on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 to celebrate the lighting of the first candle in the State House Menorah. It was quite a ceremony that highlighted hearing the Solomon Schechter Choir sing

many songs and watch as the Labovich Rabbi, the Governor and Speaker of the House lite the 1st days candle.

We have scheduled a special congregational meeting to discuss two revisions to our Constitution. Please note your calendars for Sunday, January 25th at 7:00 pm at the temple.

Marcia and I wish all of you a healthy and safe New Year.









Young Explorers Holiday Programs Holiday Exploration Program for Families with Young Children

Join Director of Congregational Learning, Kim Bodemer and Cantorial Soloist David Rothberg for a Family Exploration into Tu B'Shevat: the Birthday of the Trees



Sunday, February 1st 10:00 am to 11:15 am Richardson-Olmsted

The morning will feature crafts, music, movement and storytelling. This program is open to both members and non-members. Geared for children ages 2 through 5 Cost: \$18 per family RSVP to Kim Bodemer: education@templechayaishalom.org by Tuesday, January 27th

Sun., March 1st
Exploration into Purim
Sun., April 12th
Exploration into Yom Ha'atzmaut
(Independence Day in Israel)

From the Interfaith Community

Save the Date: Sunday, February 1st at the Richardson-Olmsted School

"A Year of Discovery: Uncovering the Jewish Holidays from an Interfaith Perspective"
Shabbat 101

Candle lighting, blessings over children, wine and challah, washing hands, synagogue (ritual)

All meetings will be at the Olmsted and will begin at 9:15 am with the exception of those dates that fall on Havdalah days, in which case we will start right after Havdalah concludes. If you have a favorite food associated with the ritual topic please feel free to bring it to the meeting to share.

All are welcome to attend!



Taste of TeCSY kids!!! Bowling Time... Loosen those arms up and get ready to fire away!

Join us Sunday, 11th, meet at the Temple @ 12:00pm We will have pizza, drinks and an hour of bowling. Pick-up back at the Temple at about 2:30.

\$14/person. Price includes pizza, drinks, shoes and bowling!!
Pay: Drop check at Temple or PayPal thru Temple Website.

RSVP by 1/5/15 Contact: Brian Schwartz (617) 699-1101 Brian.tcsyouth@gmail.com

Brotherhood to Match Donations to Levenson/Krumins Youth Scholarship Fund

Frame of the sincerely thank Sisterhood and Brotherhood for their recent donations to the Levenson/
Krumins Youth Scholarship Fund. These donations will allow us to continue to contribute toward trips to Israel, as well as participation in various NFTY programs, for the teens of Temple Chayai Shalom.

In addition to their generous donation, Brotherhood is offering a matching-grant challenge to the congregation. For a limited time, <u>Brotherhood will match your donations</u>. They hope that you will help support the youth of the congregation by making donations to the scholarship fund, using the donation form included in this newsletter.

Recent recipients of scholarship funds include Maya Emerson, Abby Faber, Amanda Flicop, Alyssa Jellenik, and Stephen Zenack. These young people have been active members of our congregation—in our school and in our youth groups. Some of them will be attending NFTY programs this winter, and some will be traveling to Israel this summer. We know that they will gain so much from their experiences, and we wish them well in all of their future endeavors!

The Rabbi Levenson/Sol Krumins Youth Scholarship Funds are to be used for members of Temple Chayai Shalom through college age to fund any Jewish educational program including, but not limited to: trips to Israel; NFTY summer programs, national conventions, Institutes; Hillel/Kesher conventions; and URJ national biennials. The fund is intended to be used for organized, peer experiences, such as those sponsored by camps, colleges, and youth organizations and is not intended to be competitive nor dependent on financial need.

Grandparents' Community

The Grandparents' Community had our annual *Chanukah* Nosh at our last meeting! *Latkes*, fruit, jello mold, candy and *falafel* were just a few of the very tasty treats.

While enjoying the food, we made plans for our very first winter event: a night at the Paris Cabaret. Twenty-four GPC members are looking forward to the dinner theatre on January 17th, the event chaired by Charlotte Sheer!

Anita Hirschorn and Carol Whalen have been communicating with the Boston Pops to schedule another GPC Night at the Pops in the spring! This event is open to all TCS members. More information to follow in the next month.

Please Note our New Fax Number 508-297-9128 or 5082979128@onlinefaxes.com

Temple Chayai Shalom's 7th Annual Team Trivia Night and Dinner Saturday, January 24th -7:30 pm at the Temple



Bring your brain AND your stomach! Put together your own team of four, or we'll place you with other couples or singles, and compete by answering questions in various categories including current events, sports, entertainment and more! Prizes for the winning team!

> Entry fee for Brotherhood members is \$20/person or \$36/couple. For non-members it is \$24/person or \$40/couple.

Your entry covers Dinner and the game.

We ask that each competitor bring either a non-alcoholic drink, dessert or an appe-

You are also allowed to bring alcoholic beverages for your own table.

This event is hosted by the TCS Brotherhood AND is open to all members of the congregation.

Detach the portion below and return it with your entry fee by Friday January 16th to: Temple Chayai Shalom, attn: Trivia Night, 239 Depot Street, South Easton, MA 02375

Temple Chayai Shalom Trivia Night & Potluck Dinner Saturday, January 24th - 7:30nm at the Temple

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•		e. If you do not have a specific group of 4, check you with other members to form a team.
Name	Phone	Bringing (Circle One)
		DRINKS APPETIZER DESSERT
Contact Email:		
Total Brotherho	od Entrants @ \$20 : Tot	al Brotherhood Couples @ \$36 : = \$
Total Non-Brotherho	od Entrants @ \$24 : Tot	al Non-Brotherhood Couples @ \$40 : = \$
	Enclosed Check payable	e to TEMPLE CHAYAI SHALOM
<u> </u>		he Temple Website Brotherhood Page
		staring congretaly that you appear to form a team with

Welcome back to the latest edition of This Month in TeCSY!!!

What a crazy year it's been so far!! We started our year off with a bang and have been going strong ever since. We've done everything from apple picking and laser tag to relaxed TeCSY lounge nights at TCS. We've also spent a few nights away from home including a Pre-Leadership Training Institute Board lock in to our favorite event so far - Fall Conclavette in Connecticut.

This past month we decided to play dress up and watched the movie "Frozen". We also had an open board meeting and discussed the success of previous events and some new goals for the rest of 5775 followed by a Yankee Swap. In a couple of weeks we are headed to NFTY's December Institute from December 26th to 30th.

Our first program in 2015 is an afternoon with the Providence Bruins on January 4th at 1:00 pm.

I hope everyone has a wonderful *Chanukah* and a Happy New Year!

Aron











Opportunities for Adult Learning

Save the Dates and Bring a Friend

Sunday Jan. 11th

10:00 am

Richardson-Olmsted School

Class Coffee for Grade K, 1 & 2 Parents

Come schmooze with members of the community and enjoy informal conversation and learning facilitated by Rabbi Eric.

Friday Jan. 16th

5:30 pm

TCS

Torah Talk with David Rothberg

"I Have Been to the Mountaintop": The Exodus Narrative and Martin Luther King's Rhetoric of Freedom

In the fight for Civil Rights, Martin Luther King followed a long tradition, dating back to Negro Spirituals, of African American slaves identifying with the enslaved Israelites in Egypt. We'll take a close look at the texts that Martin Luther King used to persuade and America and the world of the righteousness of his cause.

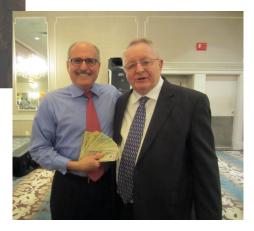
Followed by a special musical Shabbat service that honors Martin Luther King and his Jewish supporters.

TCS Auction a Great Success













What's Happening at Temple Chayai Shalom

JANUARY 2015 - TEVET / SHEVAT 5775

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Office Closing at Noon	1/10 Tevet New Yearøs- Ten	2/11Tevet 6:30 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	3/12 Tevet 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service
4/13 Tevet No SULAM Sr. TeCSY Event	5/14 Tevet 7:15 pm Grandparents' Community Mtg.	6/15 Tevet No regular Madorim ALL STUDENTS attend from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm	7 /16 Tevet	8/17 Tevet	9/18 Tevet 6:30 pm Family Shabbat Service led by Tuesday's Madorim	10/19 Tevet 10:00 am Jellenik Bar Mitzvah
11/20 Tevet 9:30 am Grade K, 1 & 2 Class Coffee Taste of TeCSY Event	12 /21 Tevet	13 /22 Tevet	14/23 Tevet	15 /24 Tevet	16/25 Tevet 5:30 pm Torah Talk w/ David Rothberg 7:30 pm Shabbat Service w/ Kol Shalom singing	17/26 Tevet 10:00 am Doherty/ Wiseman B'nai Mitzvah
18/27 Tevet No SULAM	19/28 Tevet 7:30 pm Sisterhood Mtg.	20 /29 Tevet	21/1 Shevat 7:30 pm Youth Committee Mtg. 8:00 pm Brotherhood Mtg.	22/2 Shevat	23/3 Shevat 7:30 pm Shabbat Service	24/4 Shevat 7:30 pm Trivia Night
25/5 Shevat 7:00 pm Special Cong. Meeting	26 /6 Shevat	27 /7 Shevat	28/8 Shevat 7:00 pm School Committee Mtg.	29 /9 Shevat	30/10 Shevat 7:30 pm Special Musical Shabbat	31/11 Shevat 10:00 am Hopkins/Thomas B'nai Mitzvah



Sunday, January 25th at 7:00 pm at TCS! Special congregational meeting to discuss changes to the temple constitution.