

# KOL SHOFAR

Temple Chayai Shalom



UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM  
האיחוד ליהדות רפורמית  
SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

January / February 2020  
Tevet / Adar 5780

Rabbi **Kenneth Carr**  
**David Rothberg**  
Cantorial Soloist

**Sarit Ferreira**  
Education Director  
**Rabbi Paul Levenson**  
Rabbi Emeritus



**Temple Chayai Shalom**  
239 Depot Street • Easton, MA 02375  
chayaishalom.org • office@templechayaishalom.org  
508-238-6385

Please Join Us on January 10th & February 14th  
Shabbat NaShira @ 6:30 pm  
\*Pot Luck Dinner at 8:00 pm  
\*Sign-up link for pot luck in weekly emails.



## 7th Annual TCS Shoveltown 5k Run Fundraiser

March 29th @ 9:00 am  
Join our dedicated TCS Race  
Committee. Contact Adam  
Kempner (508) 930-5742 or  
a.kempner@comcast.net to join  
or with questions. A committee  
meeting will be posted soon!  
community + run = FUN!

## 2019 TCS Shoveltown Run Committee

Left to right: Teresa K., Melissa G.,  
Ruth A., Marty W., Joy P., Adam  
K., Mike Cohen & Matt G.  
Missing from photo: Jack Whalen  
& Elissa Cohen.



SAVE  
THE  
DATE

Friday, March 6th at 7:30



# HIPPIE SHABBAT



**From Craig B. Barger...**

Hello all,

It's hard to believe that it is the start of a new decade, 2020. As I get older, community becomes more and more important to me, and our community here at TCS and the values we share; innovating education, building community, honoring individuality, drawing meaning from Judaism and upholding our social responsibility have become integral to my (and I hope your) daily life.

We had a very active fall with the High Holy Days, the new Shabbat NaShira services, the many successful pot lucks, the varied and great SULAM programs, new outreach activities, and on and on. Our Chanukah season was full of activities both inside and outside of TCS. A big thank you to last year's 7th grade class for that beautiful outdoor menorah and to Brian DeLano for his significant donation of its design and execution.

Please be on the lookout for new activities to be involved in and bring your friends. Become involved, if you aren't already, in the Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Senior Chai, TORCH and the many other groups at TCS.

And of course, I have to get a fundraising plug in....if you haven't had a chance to donate to the Chanukah Appeal, it's not too late! You can drop a check off or donate through our website.

I look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

*Craig B Barger*

**TeCSY Update...**

Temple Chayai Shalom's Senior Youth Group TeCSY has had a great beginning to the year. Please sign up and join TeCSY for upcoming events. Canobie Lake Park, Easton Food Pantry and Escape Room were past events. Bowling Tournament at Kings was the December event. Upcoming events include Laser Tag and more.



Picture from Fall Kallah (most recent NFTY event)  
Participants: Benson Delaney, Arianna Delaney, Maya Dancey, Jessie Miller and Leila Turet.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Shabbat**

Friday, January 17th at 7:30 pm

We invite you to join us for an inspiring service honoring the legacy of Martin Luther King. The service will feature Kol Shalom singing inspiring African American spirituals and other songs of peace, freedom and hope.



## 12th Annual Team Trivia Night & Dinner

Saturday, January 25th at 7:30 pm

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

Complete information: <https://chayaishalom.org/>



**New**

Thursday, January 16th  
11:00 am to 2:00 pm

A weekly event for folks to gather in the multi-purpose room to play mahjong or other games of interest (canasta, hand & foot, bridge, scrabble). Invite your friends. All are welcome. Please bring mahjong tiles, playing cards or board games that you're willing to share during the session. If you have a card table to donate, that would be great. Please let the TCS office know if you plan to attend. See you at the table.

## SULAM Mitzvah Day...a Great Success

Sunday, December 8th was an active day, with students learning about a social-justice need and the Jewish guidance for helping fulfill this need. Grades K-3 learned about caring for animals – Tza'ar Ba'alei Chayim, grade 4 learned about the value of Bikur Cholim – caring for the sick, and grade 5 focused on the value of Ma-zon – providing food for those who need it. They then did amazing and important work to fulfill these needs in the community.



The students made cat and dog toys for the animal shelter, wild-bird feeders, a gorgeous art work for Hasbro Children's Hospital, 25 get-well cards for Dana Farber Cancer Institute and over 40 lunch bags for Father Bill's homeless shelter. They truly demonstrated how caring and thoughtful this future generation is!



**Sisterhood is off to another great year...** Here is what you can look forward to in the coming months. Look for more detailed information in TCS This Week and on the Sisterhood page of the Temple's website as the dates get closer.

**Game Night: Sunday, February 9th at 7:00 pm**



Come on out for our ever popular Game Night. This year we will include both Family Feud and BINGO so there will be something for everyone.

**Wine Tasting Workshop: Thursday, March 5th at 7:00 pm**



To put us into the spirit of Purim, please join us for an educational night to learn about different wines and how best to pair them. At the home of Marjorie Fradin, cost is \$25/person, class is limited to 25 people.

If anyone needs a ride for either event, please reach out to any Sisterhood board member and we will make sure you have one. Also, please bring along a can of tuna or vegetarian beans for Family Table



### Bring your Friends to Tot Shabbat

January 3rd ~ New Beginnings  
February 7th ~ Tu B'sh-vat

5:30 pm: Pizza & salad

6:00 pm: Music and movement-filled Shabbat service

6:30 pm: Snack and craft activity

### Watch for details for...

JCC Tot Shabbat Hop  
March 6th



## Young Explorers



Our preschool aged children (ages 3-5) meet once a month to learn about the Jewish holidays, Torah, and Jewish values through stories, songs, food and crafts. This is an invaluable opportunity for the children to form friendships and connect to the Jewish community. (This program is a parent & child or a drop-off option.)  
**Open to all, membership not required.**

### Havdalah - A New Week

Saturday, January 11th from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm  
Celebrate Havdalah with the school. For Parshat Sh'mot (names) make name crafts, eat a special snack, listen to a story, sing and play!



### Tu B'sh-vat - a Day for Trees!

Sunday, February 9th from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm  
Decorate planters and plant seeds. Eat a fruity snack, listen to a story, sing and play!



### It's Purim!

Monday, March 9th from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm  
Celebrate Purim with the TCS community. Eat a Purim snack, listen to the Megillah, sing and play!







### From Rabbi Ken.... Voting for Israel

When Americans think about a vote coming in 2020, we probably have in mind the presidential election this November, and that one will certainly be of major importance. But before then, for Jews, there actually is a different election that matters greatly in 2020, one in which voting begins this month. Every five years, the World Zionist Organization holds elections to the Zionist Congress, which determines policy for the WZO and the Jewish Agency for Israel, controlling hundreds of millions of dollars in support of Israel. The WZO is the primary institution for Diaspora Jewry around the world; consequently, voting is open to any Jew over the age of 18. Whoever has the largest number of representatives in the Congress will set goals and have access to the centers of power and money. So the direction of Israeli society for these next five years will be strongly influenced by this election.

As with any election, how we vote should be determined by our perception of what policies should be changed and what should continue. That begins with a recognition of the issues. As wonderful and vibrant a place as Israel is, she also, like all of us, has areas where she needs to improve. Israel faces a number of internal, domestic challenges. Religious pluralism remains an issue, as the liberal movements of Judaism continue to be face discrimination in the areas of governmental financial support, land grants to build facilities for synagogues and schools, and approval to officiate at life cycle events. Weddings, funerals, conversions, immigration—all require the approval of Orthodox rabbis, despite the fact that most Israelis are not and have never been Orthodox. Women continue to face obstacles in Israel, as the ultra-Orthodox seek to impose their restrictions for women on all of Israeli society: limiting women's religious expression at the Western Wall, sending women to the back of buses, trying to keep women off the radio airwaves. Anti-Arab racism is increasing within Israel, as demonstrated by the presence of anti-Arab parties in Israel's national elections (fortunately, they did not get enough votes to win places in the government).

The Reform movement in Israel is uniquely positioned to help Israeli society address these issues. Reform seeks a democratic Israel which respects and supports all expressions of Judaism, which respects and guarantees women's rights, which prosecutes violators of anti-racism laws, and which strives to obtain a peaceful solution to the Palestinian issue. A successful election is our best means to assure the realization of the Reform movement's goals for Israeli society. The election determines the Reform movement's influence within Israeli institutions and government bodies and provides the Reform movement with the ability to impact important policy appointments. In addition, the election affects the amount of funding that the Reform movement receives in Israel and the diaspora.

The Reform Movement's slate in these elections is represented by ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America. In the most recent elections, the American delegation (145 delegates) was the largest single group outside of Israel, and of those, ARZA has been the largest American delegation to the Congress, with 56 places. This representation has enabled ARZA to speak loudly and effectively on behalf of the Reform Movement, and to start to bring much-needed changes to these institutions. They have increased visibility and secured \$20 million for our Israeli community. But it is just a drop in the bucket of what is needed, especially when compared with the more than \$1 billion the Israeli government allocates to Orthodox institutions each year. A strong showing in this year's elections can continue and expand upon the progress that has been made so far. To accomplish this goal, we must vote for ARZA's slate in the elections. Anyone who is Jewish and over the age of 18 can vote; everyone who is Jewish and over the age of 18 should vote. Voting begins on January 21; please go to [arza.org](http://arza.org) and register for a reminder and instructions for how to vote. (There is a minimal processing fee for voting; if that cost poses an obstacle, please let me know and I will handle it for you.) For the sake not only of our Reform institutions, but also for Reform values, and for a meaningful Judaism in Israel, I hope you will join me in voting for ARZA in these essential elections.

### Tucci's Talks with Rabbi Ken

Thursdays, 11:30 am: January 9th and February 6th



### Torah Study with Rabbi Carr

9:00 am on Saturday Mornings at TCS





## Rabbi Levenson/Sol Krumins Youth Scholarship Funds

The committee for the Rabbi Levenson/Sol Krumins Youth Scholarship Funds has been very busy contributing to various youth experiences at NFTY and in Israel.

Attending various NFTY programs this fall/winter are: Arianna Delaney, Benson Delaney, Jessica Miller, and Leila Turet. All have been active at TCS, in TeCSY, and in NFTY. Arianna and Jessica currently are co-presidents of TeCSY; Benson and Leila are currently serving TeCSY in various other leadership capacities.

After spending many summers at Camp JORI, Leila is also looking forward to her upcoming summer experience in Israel with Camp JORI/BBYO. In her application, she wrote: "...I want to be able to experience Israel not only with my camp friends (my "summer family") but also be immersed in the Jewish culture and traditions of my heritage...and experience being in a country immersed in our history. These connections to my roots are very meaningful for me and help me understand and form my own Jewish identity."

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.

Donations to the fund are always welcome. Applications for grants are available on the temple website.

## Planning your IRA withdrawals for 2020?

Consider donating to TCS through a Qualified Charitable Distribution! Donations from generous members of our congregation are vital to keeping our doors open to all at TCS. Thanks to 2017 tax law changes, donating to the temple through a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) could save you money – while helping support our temple community. What is a QCD?

It's a tax-free withdrawal from an individual retirement account (IRA) that is sent directly to a charity. [401(k) accounts are not eligible.]

Who can make a QCD?

Anyone who owns one or more IRAs and is 70½ or older, and therefore must make required minimum distributions (RMDs) from their IRAs.

How does a QCD help?

By donating to TCS directly in the form of an IRA withdrawal (RMD), you can exclude the amount of the gift from your taxable income – even if you're taking the standard deduction.

What do I have to do?

Instead of taking your RMD personally and having to pay tax on it, you can instruct the IRA custodian to make a direct distribution of any amount (up to \$100,000 annually) directly payable to Temple Chayai Shalom (a qualified charity).

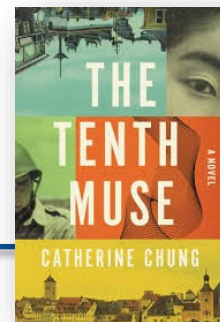
*The information above is not meant to be professional tax or legal advice. It is highly recommended that you consult your tax advisor, estate planner or investment advisor to determine if a QCD is the right move for you or those you know.*



## Senior Chai Book Group

Sunday, Jan. 12th at 10:30 am  
"The Tenth Muse"

Email Rhonda Spiegel  
for details.



# FREE DROP-IN Activities

FOR PRESCHOOLERS + THEIR ADULTS at TEMPLE CHAYAI SHALOM

Every Friday morning • 9:30am – 10:30am  
Temple Chayai Shalom, 239 Depot Street, Easton

Free and Open to All

JANUARY'S THEME: Winter

LEARN MORE

Free drop-in activities for preschoolers and their adults every Friday. Open to all. This engaging one-hour program will include a different activity each week, including stories and crafts, art, cooking, music and movement. These fun activities are offered for free to the whole community. More information call the temple office 508-238-6385, Ext. 101 or email [adminasst@templechayaishalom.org](mailto:adminasst@templechayaishalom.org).





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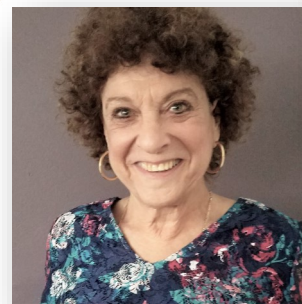
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All TCS kids will  
be invited to  
sing with the  
band!

An upbeat, exciting musical Shabbat  
experience for the whole family,  
featuring the Rockin' Shabbat Band!

Friday, January 24th at  
6:30 pm

## Core Values of TCS



**We value** innovating education, learning and teaching our Jewish traditions creatively to promote meaningful self-discovery for our members of all ages.



INNOVATING  
EDUCATION

**We value** building community, growing and strengthening the bonds of family, friendship, And community within the temple and beyond.



BUILDING  
COMMUNITY

**We value** honoring individuality, welcoming and celebrating our community's diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and religious practices, so that all my feel comfortable within our Jewish home.



HONORING  
INDIVIDUALITY

**We value** drawing meaning from Judaism, looking to Jewish culture, spirituality and learning as a source of guidance, insight, and meaning.



DRAWING MEANING  
FROM JUDAISM

**We value** upholding our social responsibility, working as individuals and together to improve the world inside and outside our temple.



UPHOLDING OUR  
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY