

# KOL SHOFAR

Temple Chayai Shalom



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

Rabbi Kenneth Carr  
David Rothberg  
Cantorial Soloist

Jeri Robins  
Education Director  
Rabbi Paul Levenson  
Rabbi Emeritus



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## Monday, August 3rd at 7:30 pm A Temple Chayai Shalom Virtual Author Event: an Evening with June Hersh

June writes cookbooks with a charitable flavor. She will share her experiences writing "Recipes Remembered: a Celebration of Survival," a compilation of remarkable stories and authentic recipes gathered through interviews with over 80 Holocaust survivors.

Please RSVP for zoom link to:

[rachel.colchamiro@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.colchamiro@gmail.com)

Open to the community and sponsored by the TCS Sisterhood. *A portion of proceeds from book sales, to be ordered after the event, will be donated by June to support Sisterhood.*



## Monday, August 10th at 7:00 pm Zoom Senior Chai Book Club

Two Easy reads by Faye Kellerman: "Sacred and Profane" and "Milk and Honey." If you have any questions please contact Rhonda Spigel. These books can be borrowed on line, from your local libraries, or from your kindle. Open to all TCS adult members.

Meeting ID 824 6004 1180,

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/82460041180>



The TORCH committee is proud to offer TCS members with two upcoming virtual conversations to help address the current racial injustice and inequality. Our guest speaker will be Billy Planer, founder of Etgar 36, a political and social justice program focused on educating and inspiring thoughtful change.

Each conversation is between 60 - 90 minutes and includes time for Q&A.



## ETGAR 36

An American Journey

## Wednesday, August 19th at 6:30 pm Jews and Blacks in the Civil Rights Era and Now: Midrash and Fact

Explore the reality of the relationship between the Jewish and Black communities during the Civil Rights era.

- Why were there Jews on both sides, and the sidelines, of the Civil Rights movement?
- What was the role of Judaism in the activism of young people in the 1960s?
- What are the implications for the streets of America today?



## Tuesday, August 25th at 6:30 pm How to be Comfortable Having Uncomfortable conversations: Turn Down the Heat

America is so split that trying to speak across the divide feels impossible. Whether it is one on one, with friends, family or your community, discussions about race, politics or Israel seem to be too heated and contentious to have.

- How can we have these important and necessary conversations without "all the heat"?
- How can you practice self-care as you enter into uncomfortable conversations?
- How to rethink what success looks like during a difficult conversation.





### High Holy Days

At Passover, we say "How different this night is from all other nights!" As a result of the coronavirus,

so much has been different not only that night, but every day for the past several months. The need to continue to keep our community and ourselves safe means that, as with everything else, our experience of the upcoming High Holy Days will be different than it has been in past years. The professional team, Ritual Committee, and other lay leaders and volunteers have been working hard on crafting a plan that will incorporate the best of what has traditionally made the High Holy Days meaningful, while also seizing the opportunity for some more creative, deeper engagement possibilities. We are excited to share our plan and to walk this sacred journey together.

It will not be possible for us to have our services at our temple in person, so we will gather together online. As disappointed as we are not to be in our building, this format has a number of positive consequences.

(Continued on page 4.)



### Hello members of the TCS community!

I hope this finds you healthy and safe. The Board and I have been working on a

number of initiatives as we face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you are aware, David Reichman and I were able to secure a PPP loan of \$56,400 from our bank through the CARES Act. The loan allowed us to maintain our professional staff through the end of the last fiscal year and we anticipate that the loan will be forgiven during the current fiscal year.

We were also able to secure a \$5,000 grant from CJP which enabled us to improve the Temple security system by adding cameras on the exterior of the building, and adding additions to our alarm system at the Sanctuary emergency door and the area surrounding the Ark. My thanks to Mike Kamens for his work on this crucial project.

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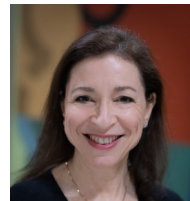
### Connecting with the TCS Community in this Most Unusual Summer

As July turns to August, we're at what feels like summer's mid point. And what a strange summer it is, as many of us are trying to balance safety and sanity, being sensible and having a social life, protecting ourselves and having a bit of fun.

The end of July brought with it Tisha B'Av, the traditionally tragic day of the Jewish calendar, commemorating the destruction of the First and Second Temples in ancient Israel, marking a time a spiritual, religious, political and social crisis. This year we've had so much loss to reflect on – the loss of life, the loss of jobs and economic security, the loss of physical social connection.

Now at the beginning August we're in the time of Nachamu, which means comfort, when traditionally we recover from the focus on loss of Tisha B'Av by emphasizing God's love for us and acceptance of us, and we rebuild and heal after our losses.

(Continued on page 5.)



### So Happy to be Part of the TCS Family; Updating Families on School

It is such an honor to have joined the Temple Chayai Shalom community and to

follow in the footsteps of esteemed colleagues. Thank you to everyone involved in the hiring decision for your dedication and for making the process work in the middle of a pandemic! I am looking forward to getting to know all of you and meeting you in person. Professionally, I bring more than a decade of experience as a teacher and an educational leader, both within congregations and as the Education Director of an independent Jewish Sunday School program for the last four years. I hold a Master's degree in Jewish Education, as well as cantorial ordination, from Hebrew College and have a prior background in business.

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**Calling all TCS parents and grandparents...  
Bring a tot to our "Attend with a Friend"  
Summer Tot Shabbat Friday, August 14th from  
4:45 pm to 5:30 pm.**

Tots, parents, grandparents and friends will enjoy songs, stories and a craft in this fun Shabbat celebration.

**Meeting id#: 88404422304**

**Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/88404422304>.**



We had a great turnout – over 50 friends, family and fellow congregants - at our first Virtual Trivia Night. Besides everyone having a fun evening hanging out, we raised almost \$600 to help those in our congregation affected by Covid-19. Be on the look for our next Virtual Trivia night and this time, based on feedback, we will have some questions that are more current ☺.

Thank you for participating,  
Brotherhood

### **From Joni Goldman...**

Hope everyone is doing well in times of COVID. David and I and our families are coping and healthy. As of August 1st I will no longer be the Chairperson of Senior Chai. Stanley S. and I have been reaching out to some members and their answers for being the Chair has been NO.

If someone does step up to the plate, Anita will stay as Treasurer, and I will be secretary for meeting minutes (if they want). Please call and let me know 781-975-6171.

Thank you for the privilege of serving and being there for the TCS.





First, we can all be together! Since we will all fit in the online “room,” we do not need split services. Second, we can record our services and put the recordings online, so that anyone who is unable for whatever reason to attend at the designated time will still be able to experience them later. Third, to avoid “screen fatigue,” these services will be shorter than usual, more focused on the elements of the service unique and special to the High Holy Days.

We are making an exciting change to our service offerings. In many communities, especially of Sephardi origin, it is customary to have a Rosh ha-Shanah seder, a meal with special foods that symbolically express wishes and blessings for the year ahead. So we will be creating and leading a Rosh ha-Shanah seder instead of our “usual” Erev Rosh ha-Shanah service. This evening will be a fun, engaging, delicious way to welcome in the new year.

We are also revamping our children’s programming. Those plans are still in process, but we are leaning toward doing them at a different time than the “main” services, so that families can experience either or both offerings together. We expect to create opportunities for the kids to engage more actively in shaping their service experience themselves. More information to come...

In addition to our “traditional” services, we eagerly anticipate sharing an entirely new way to deepen the meaning of the High Holy Days. We often focus on Rosh ha-Shanah and Yom Kippur, but Jewish tradition speaks of the time they bracket as the “Ten Days of Repentance” and the “Days of Awe.” Also, the Talmud famously teaches (some people may know how to sing this text): “Al sh’loshah d’varim ha-olam omeid (On three things the world depends)--al ha-Torah, v’al ha-avodah, v’al g’milut chasadim (on Torah, on prayer, and on acts of lovingkindness).” Combining these two ideas, we will be offering an experience on each of the Ten Days. We have identified ten major themes of this sacred time. Each morning, an email will go out to the congregation. After briefly describing the theme of the day, it will provide three ways to reflect on the theme, following the Talmud’s guidance. Relating to the theme, we will offer

- 1) Torah: a text to study with questions to reflect on
- 2) Avodah: a prayer to say or hear with personal reflections
- 3) G’milut Chasadim: an action people could do to bring the theme to life

We hope that exploring these suggestions will provide another meaningful and accessible way for people to incorporate the values of the High Holy Days into their lives.

Finally, we will have at least one in-person gathering. As we have done in past years, we will be meeting at Shovelshop Pond on the Governor Ames Estate for Tashlich, the beautiful introspective ritual of symbolically casting away our sins into a body of water. Additionally, as part of the theme of the day, we plan to offer a nightly gathering in which people can come together to share and reflect on what they learned, thought, or did about that value. As I write this message, it seems that those gatherings will also need to be online, but if there is a way for them to be in person, we will change.

As important as our building is, it is not what makes us a temple family. That is shown in how we connect and care for each other every day, whether online or in person, whether at High Holy Days or throughout the year. I am really looking forward to reaffirming our relationships with each other and our strength as the TCS community as we enter the new year 5781 together, even in these very different ways.



This year that's a challenging thing to do as our present-day losses have not ended. As a nation, as a world, we are still struggling.

The TCS community is a lifeline in these times. As I talk with members of our congregation and see posts on social media, I'm heartened by the strength and love I see in people's connections with each other.

We're having a special summer event to provide a source of connection for families with young children – a summer Tot Shabbat celebration on Friday, August 14th at 4:45 pm. If you are a friend, parent or grandparent of a Tot, or know someone who is, join us. Bring a friend, as our theme is to “attend with a friend” for a fun session of song, story and craft. I hope to see you there.

Rabbi Ken and I are also busy planning for a very special High Holy Days this year, and look forward to connecting with you at our regular weekly events, such as Shabbat services and Havdalah, Torah Study, Mah Nishmah, and Musical Morning Minyan. We may need to physically distance, but let's have social and spiritual connections!

Wishing you and your family all the best,  
David Rothberg  
Cantorial Soloist



The Board, at our last meeting, has authorized the creation of a Reopening Task Force which is comprised of an impressive group of congregants and staff with medical, public health, education and facility skills. The goal is to develop a comprehensive plan to reopen the synagogue and SULAM in a safe and thoughtful way. The Task Force has already met twice and, as part of the plan, will be sending out a questionnaire to members about your concerns, issues and priorities for reopening.

Lastly, I am very excited about this final initiative. As you are aware, when David Reichman and I sent out temple commitment letters in June, we acknowledged that the pandemic had financially impacted members of our community and we asked congregants, who could afford to, to contribute an additional amount beyond the normal commitment to help those challenged by this virus. I am delighted to inform you that four families have stepped up with a terrific challenge. Aaron and Liz Bornstein, Ross Mayer, Veronica and Howard Wiseman and Elaine and myself have offered to match, dollar for dollar, donations made to TCS up to a maximum of \$31,000. This generous challenge will allow us to meet a large portion of our fundraising goal and help those congregants impacted by the pandemic to remain members of our community. I am indebted to Aaron, Liz, Ross, Veronica and Howard for joining us in this campaign for TCS.

Be well and continue to stay connected through our many Zoom programs, social media posts and community calls.

# zoom

## **Shabbat Service**

**Friday at 6:00 pm**

Meeting ID: 611-101-919

<https://zoom.us/j/611101919>

## **Havdalah Service**

**Saturday at 7:00 pm**

Meeting ID: 562-910-242

<https://zoom.us/j/562910242>

## **Mah Nishma? How are you?**

**Monday-Friday from 10:00 am to 10:30 am**

Meeting ID: 638-507-878

<https://zoom.us/j/638507878>

## **Musical Morning Minyan**

**August 4, 11, 18, 25 from 9:00 am to 9:30 am**

Meeting ID: 983-9352-5745

<https://zoom.us/j/98393525745>

## **Torah Study with Rabbi Carr**

**Saturday Mornings at 9:00 am**

Meeting ID: 892-384-926

<https://zoom.us/j/892384926>





I come to TCS with experience in creative and innovative curriculum development, which will align well with our project-based learning educational philosophy. Examples of innovative programming I have successfully developed and implemented include a STEAM day (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) to celebrate Chanukah, a social justice themed Purim celebration, and Mitzvah Day projects. In addition, my management and business background will help to guide our school in budgeting as we navigate through these difficult times.

As you may have heard already, the Education Committee recommended, and the Temple Board approved, that we will start the school year in September with classes meeting online.

In keeping with the Jewish value of *pikuach nefesh*, saving life, we evaluated what protocols we would need to implement in order to start school in person and determined that opening in this way would not provide the ideal learning and community building experience for which we strive. Although we know that nothing can replace the benefits of the in person social and learning experience, please rest assured that we will be spending the remainder of the summer adapting our school curriculum so that we can provide rich and meaningful classes for your students and ensure that our teachers are prepared for the online environment. In so doing, we will be guided by best practices in Jewish education and by keeping the social, emotional, and physical well-being of our students at the core of our decisions.

The synagogue has formed a Task Force to evaluate what reopening looks like across all areas of the community - the office, meetings, programs, and services, in addition to the school, so that actions can be taken holistically and with everyone's best interest in mind. In conjunction with this effort, we will continue to explore whether there are ways for us to implement a hybrid model which would allow groups of students to be together. As these plans evolve, we will keep you informed both about the timing and specific safety procedures that we will be putting in place before such a program can begin.

If you have not yet had a chance to complete the registration process, please let me know if you have any questions or if there is anything that I can do to help. Please feel free to [email](#) me at any time to set up a time to talk. As a gentle reminder, the Education Director is now a part-time position at TCS. When not here, I am also the Cantor at Beth El Temple Center in Belmont, MA. I will be setting up some Zoom meetings shortly, so please be on the lookout for those dates, beginning in mid-August.

Thank you for your patience and support. Our families are the foundation of our strong community and we appreciate the trust and confidence that you place in all of us who have the privilege of educating your children. Even though I have only been part of the TCS family for a short time, I am grateful for the thoughtful and engaged way that everyone works together. Enjoy the rest of the summer!

L'shalom u'labriut / in peace and health,

Jeri Robins  
Education Director

### **Giving Tz'dakah is a Primary Jewish Value**

A donation to the temple is a meaningful way to mark any occasion. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed. [You can click here to donate online.](#)

### **General Giving Fund**

Donations in memory of Claire Basch Barger, mother of Craig B. Barger from:

Ruth Albert  
 Bob & Gayle Dichter  
 Rhonda Fleming  
 Gary & Marjorie Fradin  
 Joan & David Goldman  
 Marcia & Bob Hicks  
 Judy Lehrer Jacobs  
 Paul & Sara Kaufman  
 Terry Starr-Klein  
 Ben & Denise Kravitz  
 Myra Lapides  
 Joni & Ross Mayer  
 TCS Investment Club  
 Libby & David Reichman  
 Rita & Stan Spiegelman  
 John & Cindy Thomas  
 Kathy & Marty Weiner  
 From Ruth Albert:  
 To David, in appreciation of another meaningful and enjoyable week of morning Minyan and Thursday evening sing-along  
 In appreciation of Rabbi Carr & David Rothberg for another week of a Zoom Friday night service that is relevant and community connecting  
 In appreciation of Rabbi Carr for another week of Mah Nishma on Zoom of community connecting  
 To Rabbi Carr, in appreciation of another outstanding Torah Study class on Zoom  
 To Rabbi Carr and David Rothberg for another Zoom Havdalah ritual service  
 In memory of Aunt Sylvia Albert on the second anniversary of her death and in honor of what would have been her 100th birthday  
 In memory of Judy Romaine's brother, Dr. Eldon Bernstein  
 To Zoe Colchamiro on her Bat Mitzvah and participating in Shabbat Service June 7th  
 In appreciation of letting my brother attend Torah Study  
 In appreciation of Brian Zive and his help at Mah Nishma  
 From Maxine Bloom, in memory of Charlotte Bloom, her mother in law  
 Maxine Bloom, in appreciation of TCS and staying safe  
 From Mark Bloom  
 From Irwin Cohen, in honor of the yahrzeit of his mother  
 From Bob & Gayle Dichter, in memory of Dr. Eldon Bernstein  
 From Lisa Dubin, in memory of Lisa Tosches' ex-husband John Tosches  
 From Mike & Ruth Feldman, in memory of Mike's mother, Lillian I. Feldman  
 From Rhonda Fleming, in memory of Lloyd Jay Schultz on the anniversary of his Yahrzeit  
 From Joni & David Goldman, in memory of Judy Romaine's beloved brother, Dr. Eldon Bernstein  
 From Marcia & Bob Hicks, in memory of Dr. Eldon Bernstein  
 From Nathan & Judy Katzen, in memory of Gary Winston  
 From Nathan & Judy Katzen, in memory of Bernard Forman

From Paul & Sara Kaufman, in memory of Ronald Slovin, Josh Slovin's uncle  
 From Denise Kravitz, in honor of the Yahrzeit of Maureen Levangie  
 From Erica Krull, in memory of her father, and in apperception of Rabi Carr & David Rothberg  
 From Myra Lapides, in memory of her sister, Isabelle Camenson  
 From Joni Mayer, in memory of Bea Wilensky  
 From Adele & Martin Miller, in fondest memory of our beloved mother & father, Rhoda & Louis Miller  
 From Lori Power, in memory of her mother, Ellen Rose Ruben  
 From Chuck Reingold, in memory of his father and mother, Eli & Dora Reingold  
 From Chuck Reingold in memory of Judy Romaine's brother, Dr. Eldon Bernstein  
 From Senior Chai, for TCS Emergency Fund  
 From Tal & Deb Shechter, in memory of Esther Shechter  
 From Stan & Rita Spiegelman, yahrzeit donation  
 From Janet Sturman, n memory of her parents, Morris & Sylvia Edelstein  
 From Cindy Thomas, in memory of the yahrzeit of her father, Abraham Levine  
 From Kathy & Marty Weiner in memory of Judy Romaine's brother, Dr. Eldon Bernstein  
 From Howard & Veronica Wiseman, in memory of Albert Anastasio  
 From Maggie & Randy Yarlas, in appreciation of Trivia Night

### **Malie Baier Education Fund**

From Ruth Albert, in honor of Sarit Ferreira's years of devotion to the students of TCS  
 From Ruth Albert, in honor of the confirmation class of 2020  
 From Ruth Albert, Mazel Tov to all seniors, Class of 2020, who are TCS members  
 From Sarit Ferreira, to Maya Dancey, in honor of her efforts to supply beautiful and well made masks to all who need during COVID19 pandemic

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Rom Steve & Rebeca Braidman  
 From Sheri Richards in memory of Murry Steinberg  
 From John & Cindy Thomas, in appreciation of Rabbi Carr and David's amazing efforts during this challenging time  
 From Rona & Richard Slotnick appreciation of Rabbi Carr  
 From Rhonda Spigel & Norman Berk in memory of Claire Basch Barger, mother of Craig B. Barger  
 From Mel & Joyce Westerman in memory of Claire Basch Barger, mother of Craig B. Barger  
 From Mel & Joyce Westerman in memory of Ruth Westerman

### **Adult Education Fund**

From Esta & Howard Jacobs, in memory of Max & Mary Jacobs and Michael Jacobs

### **Social Action - T.O.R.C.H.**

From Mike & Elissa Cohen, in memory of Craig B. Barger's mother, Claire Basch Barger

All donations received after August 1st will be acknowledged in the next newsletter.

### Update from Youth Committee

The Youth Committee congratulates those who recently graduated high school. Their Sr. Sendoff service was held by Zoom at the end of May. Seniors usually have a dinner with the Rabbi and David, at which time they receive a gift from the Youth Committee. While we don't know when the dinner will be able to be held, gift bags were recently left in families' mailboxes for the students. Again, mazal tov to the students and their families!

In addition, TeCSY has been active this spring; a leadership team has been established; and plans are being made for fall programming. For further information, contact one of these teens or advisor: Maya Emerson ([mayaemerson0915@gmail.com](mailto:mayaemerson0915@gmail.com))

Leila Turet: President

Benson Delaney: Membership Vice President

Gabriella Zive: Membership Vice President

Jesse Colchamiro: Programming Vice President

Maya Dancey: Religious and Cultural Vice President

Still to be determined: Social Action and NFTY Representative positions

### GREETINGS FROM BROOKLINE, MANSFIELD, SHARON AND NEWTON!



**We'd love to hear from you, please contact us if you have any concerns, suggestions, or just want to say hello!**

**Rabbi Ken Carr:** [rabbiken@templechayaishalom.org](mailto:rabbiken@templechayaishalom.org)

**David Rothberg:** [music@templechayaishalom.org](mailto:music@templechayaishalom.org)

**Jeri Robins:** [education@templechayaishalom.org](mailto:education@templechayaishalom.org)

**Meryl Levenson:** [adminasst@templechayaishalom.org](mailto:adminasst@templechayaishalom.org)