

KOL SHOFAR

Temple Chayai Shalom

Rabbi Kenneth Carr
David Rothberg
Cantorial Soloist

Jeri Robins
Education Director
Rabbi Paul Levenson
Rabbi Emeritus



From Rabbi Ken.... Seeing and Being

The Talmudic story of the miracle of the *Chanukah* oil is well-known. When the victorious Maccabees restored the Temple after King Antiochus had desecrated it, they needed to relight the seven-branched *m'norah* that symbolized God's presence among them. Only enough pure olive oil remained to burn for one day, but they lit it anyway, and that little bit of oil miraculously lasted for eight days, enough time to procure more oil to keep the *m'norah* alight into the future.

Not every miracle is as easily visible as that one. In fact, two weeks after Chanukah ends, our Torah portion retells another story about a miraculous burning, this time a bush that is not consumed by the fire. While the Maccabees could quickly tell whether the *m'norah*'s flames were lit or not, it would have taken Moses longer to notice that the bush was not actually burning up. Our commentators suggest that, actually, the bush had started burning long before Moses, but only Moses noticed it and looked at it long enough to realize that something unusual was happening. His patience, and his ability to pay attention, revealed the miracle to him.

Often, at tourist attractions or sightseeing locations, visitors arrive, take some pictures, and leave. Sometimes, they move on to the next site so quickly that they hardly even look at the spot they are photographing! Their only real memories of seeing that place will be in their camera, and not in their mind and soul. They were so busy trying to capture the perfect shot that they missed actually seeing it.

After God speaks to the Israelites at Mount Sinai, God tells Moses to ascend the mountain in order to get the tablets with the commandments. The actual text is interesting: God says "Come up to Me on the mountain and be there..." Why would God need to add "and be there?" If Moses has come up the mountain, where else would he be? This text reminds Moses—and us as well—to be present emotionally as well as physically. Too often, wherever our bodies are, that is not where our focus is. We are distracted by other concerns; we are thinking about our next responsibility; we are taking a picture instead of experiencing the event in real time. When that happens, we miss the meaning of the moment. If, on the other hand, we are able to "be there," to take the time, to pay attention, then we can see the flames burning, and we will notice the miracles that surround us every day, illuminating God's presence in our world.



Friday, November 12th at 6:30 pm

An upbeat, exciting musical *Shabbat* experience for the whole family, featuring a rock band. Featuring a new Rockin' *Shabbat* Band member!



Friday, December 10th at 7:30 pm

Elevate your soul at this spiritually uplifting service featuring enhanced instrumentation.



To the members of the Temple Chayai Shalom Community,

I will be brief in my remarks for this edition of Kol Shofar. On *Rosh ha-Shanah* morning I announced that the leadership of this community had established a High Holy Day Appeal to raise funds to meet our financial obligations for Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022). As you are well aware, our membership has declined from about 159 families last year to a little over 140 families this year. Our school enrollment has also experienced a significant decline which puts added pressure on us to raise sufficient funds to cover those lost revenues.

Fortunately, the culture of philanthropy, which I have articulated many times, is alive and well at TCS. I am absolutely overwhelmed with your generosity. We set a modest goal for the appeal and you responded. We exceeded our target by over 50%. That is an extraordinary achievement by this congregation and our extended community. I am filled with gratitude and appreciation for your amazing response. Thank you for your support, your generosity and your membership in our community. Temple Chayai Shalom is only successful because of your investment. Thank you!

Craig B. Barger

Craig B. Barger
President



SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, March 27th at 9:00 am

Please help us promote our fun community 5k by sharing the date with family, friends, and neighbors. Let's generate excitement about the return of our popular local race!

This year's goal is to register over 525+ runners! By achieving this goal, we will surpass our last in-person race registration count.

Unfortunately, we face competition from other local road races, as we all come back online after a long break. We will send out more event information to our race volunteers when it becomes available. Please contact [Adam Kempner](#) if you have any questions!

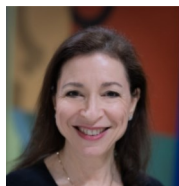
Family Table Needs our Help Every Month

Family Table serves more than 100 towns across Greater Boston, the North Shore, and the South Area. Currently, Family Table is helping more than 400 families each month with groceries and connections to other services. It is the largest kosher food pantry in New England.

"Family Table is more to me than the food deliveries--it is knowing that we are not alone... My youngest son says that he is more proud than ever about being Jewish because of Family Table."
- a grateful client

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.





From Jeri Robins, Director of Education

Al Sh'losha D'varim - The World Stands on Three Things (at least)

In *Pirkei Avot* (Teachings of the Fathers) 1:2, we read that Shimon the Righteous used to say: על שלשה דברים העולם עומד, על התורה ועל העבודה ועל גמילות חסדים:

Al sh'losha d'varim ha-olam omed, al haTorah, al ha-avodah, v'al g'milut chasadim, “the

world stands upon three things: the Torah, the Temple service, and the practice of acts of piety (frequently translated as “acts of loving-kindness”).

Like a stool that perfectly balances on its three legs, these three things support a Jewish life that is full and rich. In our SULAM and Geshar curriculum, we strive to put these three principles into action. Activities within the realm of Torah include Torah study and learning about the Biblical characters. We also have bookshelves filled with stories that interpret the Torah and help our students dive more deeply into the stories. When our students celebrate becoming *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*, they work closely with Rabbi Ken and share their words with the congregation in a *D'var Torah* (words of Torah). If you have a question about something in the Torah or Judaism, in general, we encourage you to reach out to Rabbi Ken, our Cantorial Soloist David Rothberg, or me as the Director of Education. We would love to help answer your question and we are likely to learn something ourselves!

In the area of *Avodah*, we expose our students to prayers, holy days, and explore how to make these observances meaningful in their lives. We encourage you, too, to think about what you do now and how you could add one thing that could enhance what you are already doing. For example, starting with *Shabbat*, perhaps add a challah to your weekly shopping list (whatever remains after Friday night makes wonderful French Toast). Alternatively, you could light *Shabbat* candles, say *kiddush* (blessing the wine) or attend services. Add a new latke recipe to your *Chanukah* repertoire, create a *Tu B'Sh-vat* salad or seven species bread, or add a new symbol to your *Seder* plate. If you need help with any of these things, please let us know and we will be happy to provide you with resources, including recordings for how to sing the prayers.

You could also commit to finding ways to observe *Shabbat* more fully, such as having a technology free *Shabbat*, taking a family walk, or one of our family favorites, playing games after a leisurely lunch. Other ways to feel more connected to your personal observance include baking challah, learning more about a prayer, or making *Havdalah* to mark the end of *Shabbat*. At TCS, we share *Havdalah* each week; check your weekly email for the time and Zoom link.

Given the social justice orientation of our congregation, you may already be well aware of the myriad of ways to give back to make our world a better place and perform *G'milut Chasadim* (acts of loving kindness). You can, of course, contribute money to a charity of your choice, including Temple Chayai Shalom or one of our other projects. Get involved with the Social Action Committee, T.O.R.C.H. Our annual *Mitzvah* Day is a fantastic opportunity to make a tangible impact, helping organizations in need. Spend a Sunday morning helping out at Family Table, packing and delivering groceries to people in the area who are dealing with economic instability. Even picking up the phone to check on a friend or neighbor is an act of *g'milut chasadim*.

These ideas are by no means exhaustive, so I hope that you will reach out if you are looking for something else that resonates with you. A colleague of mine likes to say that “there is the Torah that we teach and, together, we can find ways to make it the Torah that we live.” In the last verse of Chapter 1 of *Pirkei Avot*, we learn that Rabban Shimon ben Gamaliel used to say:

על שלשה דברים העולם עומד, על הדין ועל האמת ועל השלום

Al sh'losha d'varim ha-olam omed, al hadin, v'al ha-emet, v'al hashalom.

“On three things does the world stand: On justice, on truth and on peace, as it is said: ‘execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates’ (*Zechariah* 8:16).”

It is not hard to see how acting in ways to study Torah, observe *Avodah* and perform *G'milut Chasadim* lead to a world that is just, honest, and peaceful. May we all create that kind of a world for ourselves and each other.

A Note From David Reichman, TCS Treasurer

In his letter in this edition of Kol Shofar, TCS president Craig Barger expressed his appreciation for the congregation's tremendous response to our High Holy Day Appeal. I would like to echo those sentiments and extend my deepest thanks to everyone who participated. Your donations will be extremely important in sustaining the temple and our community in the months ahead.

Craig is too modest to mention his and Elaine's extraordinary contribution to the success of this year's Appeal. Their bold and incredibly generous \$40,000 challenge match set the pace for all of us, increasing the total amount raised to \$100,500, and bringing us that much closer achieving our budget goals for the temple's current fiscal year.

A total of 82 families and individuals gave to our 2021 High Holy Day Appeal, including 13 gifts from non-members. The 69 gifts from those in our temple community represent 49% of our total membership. In addition to the challenge match from Craig and Elaine Barger, TCS received exceptional donations from Howard and Veronica Wiseman, Ben and Denise Kravitz and Ross Mayer, who gave \$15,000, \$5,000 and \$5,000, respectively.

Fourteen additional families donated \$1,000 or more to the Appeal. They include Brian and Alexandra Beckenstein, Aaron and Liz Bornstein, Mike and Ruth Feldman, Marcia and Bob Hicks, Adam and Teresa Kempner, Libby and David Reichman, Bruce and Mary Catherine Ring, Mel and Joyce Westerman and the Yarlans family, as well as five other donors who wish to remain anonymous.

The conclusion of the Appeal seems a good time to follow up on my Congregational Meeting budget presentation this past May and provide an update on where TCS now stands financially.

About one-third of the way through the fiscal year, we're in a financially healthy position. We have 18 fewer member families than last year, as anticipated. Although annual commitment (dues) income is lower as a result, it's on track with our budget. Temple operating expenses, 74% of which are staff salary and benefits, are on track as well.

The key challenge we face is that Religious School enrollment and, therefore, tuition income, are less than we expected. The good news is that we've more than offset this shortfall with the funds raised through this year's High Holy Day Appeal, which were well above what we had budgeted.

The culture of philanthropy that Craig described continues to drive our financial model. The size of our congregation is smaller than it once was. Nonetheless, your donations to TCS are providing the resources we need to continue fulfilling the temple's mission and welcoming everyone to our community regardless of their financial means – without dues or tuition rate increases.

Our upcoming 2021 Chanukah Appeal will focus on raising the funds we need to maintain the warmth and quality of our Religious School and teen programs despite the decline in tuition income. And as always, we are grateful for your giving throughout the year, as well as your participation in temple fundraising events such as the TCS Shoveltown 5K Run, which we plan to resume this spring.

I look forward to keeping you updated on our finances in the months ahead. If you have questions, please feel free to email me at treasurer@templechayaishalom.org.

Sisterhood started our year off with a “kick off event” at Langwater Farms.

We spent the afternoon picking flowers and pumpkins, snacking on cider & donuts, and enjoying time together.

Weren't able to join us? Still would like to become a Sisterhood member? Click on this link for a [form to join](#). Annual membership is \$36 or become a Life Member for \$300 and enjoy such benefits as a Life Member only brunch, a Life Member pin or bracelet, not having to remember to renew each year and have a life long commitment to the TCS and the Sisterhood community.



Sisterhood's Lifetime Members Luncheon Under the tent at La Familia in Easton



TCS Sisterhood has lots of things planned...

Please be on the lookout for our 'Sisterhood Survey' with regards to event suggestions and carpooling. Your responses will help shape our future events. We welcome your feedback.

Walk Through Borderland State Park, Easton Saturday, November 13th at 11:00 am Event is open to all female temple members and free of charge, parking is \$5.

Join us on a casual walk through Borderland State Park before the cooler weather keeps us



indoors. Borderland has over 20 miles of hiking trails, 6 different ponds, and a 3-story mansion. We will follow a trail that is appropriate for all levels. Feel free bring along your 4-legged companions.

RSVP to tcssisterhood@gmail.com no later than Wednesday, Nov 10th.

The rain date is Saturday, November 20th.



Virtual Chanukah Harriet Secret Gift Exchange Sunday, December 5th at 7:00 pm via Zoom Event is for Sisterhood members only.

Join us to celebrate *Chanukah* with Sisterhood's *Chanukah* Harriet secret gift exchange. This is an opportunity for us to have fun and strengthen our TC Sisterhood community.

Those who choose to participate will receive the name of a sisterhood member and their address. Each participant will give a gift and receive a gift. No money is necessary. We encourage exchange of creative gifts: baked goods, crafts or a gently used item that you own. We also encourage a creative note to accompany the gift. The purpose of the note is to provide cheer and /or clues about the identity of *Chanukah* Harriet. If you choose to purchase a gift, there is a \$10.00 maximum.

You could surreptitiously leave the gift on the recipient's door step or mail it (return address of recipient). We ask that you wait to open your gifts until we come together virtually Sunday, December 5th at 7:00. We will enjoy a *Chanukah* themed snack, light our menorahs, guess our respective *Chanukah* Harriet and *kibbitz*.

Please RSVP to tcssisterhood@gmail.com no later than Sunday, November 14th to receive your name.

**Virtual Life Coach Event: Creating Your "To-Be" List
Tuesday, January 11th at 7:00 pm via Zoom
Open to all - \$15 for sisterhood members
and \$20 for non-members.**

Join us in January to create your "To Be" list. This event is next in a series with life coach Sara Smeaton (sarasm Eaton.com). **Attendance at last year's "Should Monster" event is not a requirement to join us.** Watch for emails with more information.

Create Your "To-Be" List

Thinking about who you are being in the world as much as you think about what you are doing is key to showing up powerfully and with intention. In this workshop, we put aside the to-do lists and focus on "who" we want to be first. We do this through surprising and playful exercises that bypass the "Should Monsters" and help participants see which qualities they value and want to embody. They leave the workshop with their very own custom "To-Be" list, ideas about how being that person might inform what they will do, and some fun practices for keeping their list alive.



**Sisterhood Game Night
Sunday, February 13th at 2:00 pm
In person at TCS
Open to all - \$5:00**

Watch for emails with more information.

Remember that Sisterhood meetings are open to all.

Please consider coming to a meeting to see what we are all about.

Our next two meeting dates are Tuesdays, November 16th and December 21st.

Meetings are at 7:00 pm and held at TCS with a Zoom option.



Programming for Young Families..

**Our first big program was held at Ward's Berry Farm
at the end of September, in celebration of Sukkot.**

It was a huge success, with over forty families in attendance. They went on a hayride and got to pick a pumpkin to take home. We had a variety of crafts, including making bird feeders out of pine cones; designing (and eating) edible *Sukkahs* out of graham crackers, frosting, and pretzel sticks; and torn paper *Sukkot* art with construction paper (no scissors required). It was so much fun to see grandparents, parents, and children enjoying themselves together!



L'dor Vador - Building TCS' Next Generation

The familiar words of the *V'ahavta*, which we chant during evening and morning services, includes the phrase *וְשִׁנַּנְתָּם לְבָנֶיךָ* (*v'shi-nan-tam l'va-necha*), which means to teach, or impress upon, our children. What are we supposed to teach them? The central idea is to teach our children about Judaism, to help them develop their own sense of Jewish identity, and to live a life that is good and moral and just.

It is never too soon to get started, and the leadership and staff of TCS is making connecting with, engaging, and supporting young families a priority. This year, we are expanding our programming for young families, including three large programs, Tot Shabbats, and library story times. The hope is that we will reach new families with creative and fun educational activities and that they will make friends and choose to make TCS their spiritual home and where they want to educate their children.

We encourage you to think about who you know that you could share these exciting programs with. The other two big events are on Sunday, December 5th, when we will be celebrating *Chanukah* together, and on Sunday, April 10th, when we will be having an Escape Room for *Passover*. Be on the lookout for dates for the Tot *Shabbat* and story times.

More Pictures from Ward's Berry Farm

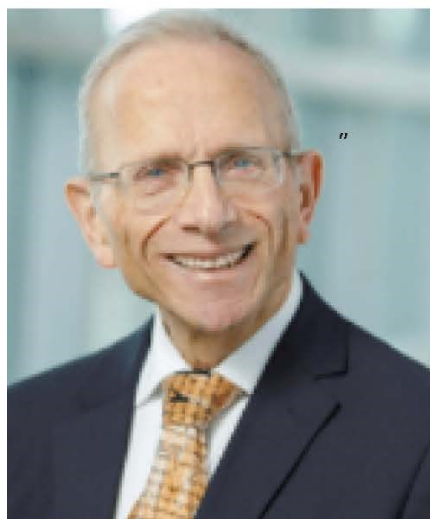


[Click Here to Register](#)



Don't miss hearing
this world-renowned
Scholar!

LOOK WHO'S TALKING... IN NOVEMBER



DR. JONATHAN D. SARNA

**University Professor and Director of the Schusterman Center
for Israel Studies, Brandeis University**

Jonathan D. Sarna is University Professor and Director of the Schusterman Center for Israel Studies at Brandeis University. He also chairs the Academic Advisory and Editorial Board of the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati and serves as Chief Historian of the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. Dr. Sarna has written, edited, or co-edited more than thirty books and is best known for his acclaimed *American Judaism: A History*, recently published in a second edition. Winner of the Jewish Book Council's "Jewish Book of the Year Award" in 2004, it has been praised as being "the single best description of American Judaism during its 350 years on American soil."

Contemporary Jewish Conversations

**Topic: "White Supremacy and Antisemitism: Lessons from the
Insurrection"**

Date: Sunday, November 7, 2021

Time: 7:00pm - 8:15pm

THIS IS A VIRTUAL EVENT
ZOOM INVITE WILL BE EMAILED 24 HOURS BEFORE EVENT

Save these dates for future speakers:

12/15/2021	Jordan Rich	7:00 - 8:15 pm
1/26/2022	Israeli film -TBD	7:00 - 8:15 pm

SHARE THIS PROGRAM INFO WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Price for this event: \$18

Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College
A Book Launch Event Commemorating
KRISTALLNACHT

Squirrel Hill

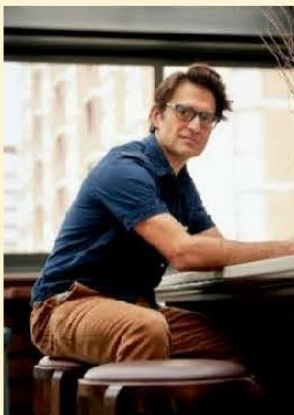
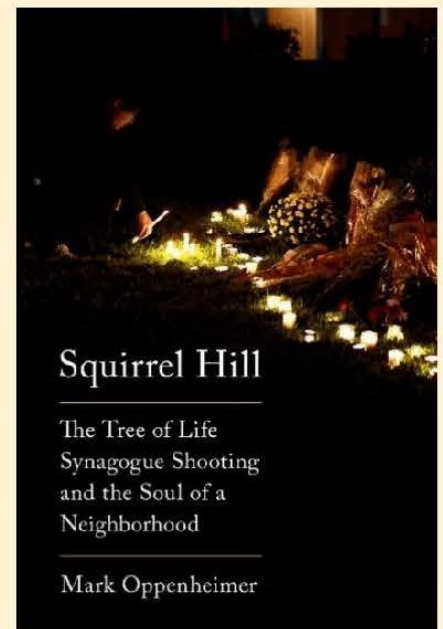
THE TREE OF LIFE SYNAGOGUE SHOOTING AND THE SOUL OF A NEIGHBORHOOD

Mark Oppenheimer
Tuesday, November 9, 2021

5:00-6:30 pm

**Murray Function Room, Yawkey Center
Boston College Chestnut Hill Campus**

On November 9, 1938, Nazis desecrated and destroyed synagogues and Jewish business throughout Germany. On October 27, 2018, a gunman killed eleven Jews who were worshipping at the Tree of Life synagogue in Squirrel Hill—the most deadly anti-Semitic attack in American history. Squirrel Hill, Pittsburgh, is one of the oldest Jewish neighborhoods in the country, known for its tight-knit community and the profusion of multigenerational families. Mark Oppenheimer's book is a piercing portrait of the struggles and triumphs of a singular community in the wake of unspeakable tragedy that highlights the hopes, fears, and tensions all Americans must confront on the road to healing.



MARK OPPENHEIMER directs the Yale Journalism Initiative and has been a lecturer in Yale's English department, political science department, and divinity school. He received his B.A. in history and his Ph.D. in religious studies from Yale. He was the religion columnist for *The New York Times* from 2010 to 2016 and has written for *The New York Times Magazine*, *GQ*, *The Washington Post*, *Slate*, *Mother Jones*, *The Nation*, and *The Believer*, among others. He has been a commentator on NPR and is also the host of *Tablet* magazine's podcast, *Unorthodox*. He is the author of five books, including *The Newish Jewish Encyclopedia*. He was also the 2014-2015 Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations at the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College. He lives in New Haven, Connecticut.

Please click below to register to attend virtually:

https://bccte.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4P4Y9x4uRsazneVMtEOdOQ

Giving Tz'dakah is a Primary Jewish Value

A donation to the temple is a meaningful way to mark any occasion to celebrate a life cycle event, to honor someone, to remember a loved one, to thank the professional staff, or for any other reason and is always appreciated. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed.

[Click Here to Donate Today](#)

5782 High Holy Day Appeal from:

Ruth Albert
 Brian & Alexandra Beckenstein
 Norm & Sharlene Azer
 Neal Blackman
 Maxine Bloom
 Aaron & Liz Bornstein
 Steven & Rebeca Braidman
 Joel Brandwine & Marti MacIntosh
 Rabbi Ken and Rebecca Carr
 Mike & Elissa Cohen
 Paul & Jen Delaney
 Andy & Jen Faber
 David & Michaela Farber
 Mike & Ruth Feldman
 Norman & Helen Finkelstein
 Rhonda Fleming
 Donna Florence
 Marilyn & Stan Gilman
 Ann Gottlieb
 Barry & Suzi Grunin
 Marcia & Bob Hicks
 Anita Hirschorn
 Esta & Howard Jacobs
 Gene Jacobs & Judy Lehrer Jacobs
 David & Rhonda Jellenik
 Leslie Bahadosingh & Ruth Karacek
 Nathan & Judy Katzen
 Adam & Teresa Kempner
 Dan Katz & Lisa Klein
 Paul & Sara Kaufman
 Lambrecht Family
 Myra Lapidés
 Dayle and Jon Lipsky
 Lew & Caren Levine
 Marc & Meri Levine
 Ted & Trine Lustig
 Jeri and Glenn Malin
 Ross & Joni Mayer
 Barry & Mary Ellen Meltzer
 Nancy Methelis
 Michael & Margaret Meyer
 Jon & Denise Morgan
 Josh & Sara Parker
 Tony & Tracey Pavao
 Mel & Ellie Peltz
 Mark & Lori Powers
 David & Libby Reichman
 Charles Reingold
 Bruce & Mary Catherine Ring
 Paul & Meri Schreiber
 Diane & Mike Seigal
 Susan Shanbar

Stuart & Laurel Silverman
 Jason Silverman
 Joshua & Marci Slovin
 Richard & Rona Slotnick
 Audrey Speigelman
 Cindy and John Thomas
 Duane & Hannah Thomas
 Howard & Harriet Warsofsky
 Marty & Kathy Weiner
 Weintraub Family
 Mel & Joyce Westerman
 Randy & Maggie Yaras

General Giving Fund from:

Maxine Bloom, wishing everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year
 Amy Glaser for flowers for Yom Kippur
 Marcia & Bob Hicks, in memory of Lucille Herr, mother of Beth Herr, and in honor of David & Libby Reichman's anniversary
 Anita Hirschorn, in memory of her husband, Gerald Hirschorn
 Ira & Erica Krull, in memory of Ira's father, Arthur Krull
 Myra Lapidés, in memory of her sister, Leslie Sherman
 Susan Polikoff, in memory of her husband, Steven Polikoff
 Jason Silverman
 Tal & Deb Shechter for High Holy Day flowers
 Rona & Richard Slotnick, for *Mi Shebeirach* prayers for their grandson, Jonathan Gardner
 Joshua & Marci Slovin, in appreciation for efforts for Jacob Slovin's Bar Mitzvah:
 Paul & Sara Kaufman, ushers
 Rob Newton, Zoom coordinator
 Craig Barger, board rep
 David Rothberg
 TCS religious school & staff
 Rabbi Ken
 Joshua & Marci Slovin, in appreciation of the Kaufmans and Rob Newton
 TCS Sisterhood for Hepa Filters for the classrooms

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund from:

Joshua & Marci Slovin, in appreciation of the Rabbi and David

Malie Baier Educational Fund from:

Ruth Albert, in appreciation of the creative and good job you do teaching the youth of our congregation especially during these challenging times.
 Joshua & Marci Slovin, in appreciation of TSC SULAM/ Gesher staff & teacher

To the Rabbi Levenson/Sol Krumins Youth Scholarship Fund from:

Mike & Elissa Cohen, in memory of Sara Parker's beloved grandmother, Muriel Sutton-Davis