



**March  
2024**

**4737 Deerfield Place  
Vestal, New York 13850  
TempleIsraelVestal. Org  
607-723-7461**

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**We are grateful to our Bulletin Sponsors**

**In memory of Howard Engel (obm)  
We wish everyone a Happy Purim and good health from  
Jim Mason & Carol Engel Mason**

**Adult Ed March 10, 2024**

The Temple Israel/Temple Concord Joint Adult Education Group is presenting a **Brunch program at 10:00 am on Sunday, March 10, at Temple Concord**, featuring **Great Jewish Short Stories** read ***live, in person!*** by **Liz Rosenberg, Deb Williams, and Steve Gilbert**. For those unable to attend in person, the program will be streamed over Zoom at: <https://bit.ly/4aDvnJp> Meeting ID: 884 9233 9659 Passcode: 564599. A voluntary contribution between \$5 and \$20 is welcome for in-person attendees of the Brunch, and reservations are most helpful and appreciated; you may RSVP to Temple Concord 607-723-7355 or to Temple Israel 607-723-7461.

**Here are our readers.**

STEVE GILBERT is a Professor Emeritus of Psychology at SUNY-Oneonta, a Past President of Temple Israel, a frequent davener at TI, and an amateur performer known as Ukulele Steve by residents of several Senior Living facilities in our area.



LIZ ROSENBERG is the author of numerous award-winning books for both adults and children—including poetry, novels, non-fiction, and biography. She is a professor of literature and Creative Writing at Binghamton University where she has won the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.



DEB WILLIAMS and her husband Gil have been selling used books online for over 25 years. She is an amateur actor and enjoys directing Temple Concord's Purim spiel each year, as well as organizing TC's annual November Artisan Marketplace. She is an active member of Binghamton's Shakespeare Dramatic Club. When she's not planning the next big event, Deb relaxes by knitting, cooking, and spoiling her two cats, Simon, and Cagney.

**Looking forward to seeing you on March 10!**



**Rabbi Micah Friedman**

Happy March!

This year, March brings us to the festival of Purim, one of the most joyous, celebratory and fun days of the Jewish calendar! Towards the end of March, we will celebrate together and in partnership with Hillel at Binghamton with a joyous Sunday morning Megillah reading and meal! I hope you will all be able to join us on March 24th at 10 AM for this great event.

Traditional ways of celebrating Purim include dressing in masks and costumes, sending gifts of food to our friends, giving gifts to people experiencing poverty, hosting festive meals and eating Hamentashen. Yet, the centerpiece of the celebration of Purim is the communal reading of Megillat Esther - the book of Esther.

In this odd book of the Bible, we do not find any mention of the name of G-d. Yet, we do find a familiar narrative arc through which we can sense the mysterious workings of the Godly. There was an evil effort to kill the Jewish people which was defeated in an apparently miraculous sequence of events. In generation after generation, our people have found inspiration in this story to overcome times of intense hatred and animosity.

As we continue to find ourselves in a time of acute concern for our brothers and sisters in the land of Israel, this story may take on a unique resonance this year. Strikingly, the way that the villainous Haman describes the Jewish people could be understood as a positive description of the unique character of our people in Esther 3,8:

There is a certain people scattered and dispersed among the other peoples in all states and countries and their religion is different from any others.

While Haman believed that our people's difference was a cause for our destruction, the Megillah implies (in my eyes) that the ways in which we are different make us stronger. Our dispersal throughout the world has enabled us to survive tyrants and foolish kings since ancient times and to even find reasons to celebrate and rejoice together.

So while we enter March still marred in the darkness and tragedy of ongoing war in our ancient homeland, our holy day of Purim offers us an opportunity to celebrate and rejoice in this dispersed, diasporic community of Temple Israel.

Please, join us this month for our Purim celebration and for our regular Shabbat celebrations and be in touch if you would appreciate my support with the events of your life.

Rabbi Micah R. Friedman

הרב מיכה שמחה פרידמן



**Arthur Siegel, President**

Dear Members and friends of Temple Israel,

While our concerns for the welfare and hope for release of the hostages still held captive by the Hamas terrorists remain top of mind, the growing humanitarian crisis precipitated by that atrocity is horrific. We hope that the leaders of all sides, with guidance and support of other world leaders, will somehow be able to eke out a peaceful resolution. Though none of us have ready answers or foresee an easy solution, many find solace in our traditional prayer services, and some seek guidance from our Rabbi, who makes his counsel readily

available. Our weekly Shabbat services now include a prayer for the hostages authored by Rabbi Friedman, and our collective Mishebayrach for the sick goes out to all affected by this tragedy.

February, usually quiet, was still a busy month at our synagogue, with a full slate of services, a few classes and programs in-person and on zoom, and, unfortunately, several funerals. Our calendar is filling up for March, with joint TI/TC Adult Ed, Jewish Quest for Wisdom, and a Pizza Meet & Greet focused on engaging newer members. We are pleased to see that an ever-increasing number of you are visiting our improved website [templeisraelvestal.org](http://templeisraelvestal.org). There you can find news of upcoming and recent events, Rabbi Friedman's sermons, a link to our on-line calendar, and, from time-to-time, hidden gems from the archives or other sources. Please bookmark the website so that it becomes your go-to source for the latest information. Of course, we will also maintain our weekly "Upcoming" email as a convenient summary of significant items in the week ahead, our monthly Bulletin to recap, and our text alert system for brief messages in the case of singular or urgent notices.

I would like to particularly express my appreciation to our Caring Community and our Ritual Committee for their ceaseless efforts on behalf of our community. Visiting the ill and shut-in is truly a mitzvah, and during the winter months there are fewer locals available to depend on, so if you are interested in joining this group, please contact Rita Bleier or Judy Simon. The Ritual Committee helps Rabbi Friedman organize service leadership and ensures that all runs smoothly, whether the Rabbi is here or away. Special thanks to Howard Schwartz, Steve Gilbert, Dave Channin, Richard Schneierson, Mark Hubal, and others who take to the bimah whenever needed.

Once again, I thank each of you for your timely fulfillment of your Dues commitments, and for your many other donations, of whatever size. A financial gift can recognize a yahrtzeit, send speedy-recovery wishes, or mark the celebration or anniversary of a simcha. It's a nice way to mark the event and help your synagogue at the same time. Most important, we seek your participation in our services, classes, and affairs. If you'd like to volunteer, you are welcome. If you would like us to offer a specific class or program, let us know. The Pizza Meet & Greet on March 17th would be a perfect opportunity to broach new ideas.

The Rabbis tell us to BE HAPPY in Adar, and in 5784 we have two months of Adar, so TWO chances to BE HAPPY!

Art

Arthur B. Siegel  
President - Temple Israel

## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

### Condolences to...

Neil & Sima Auerbach on the passing of Neil's sister Fran Lane

The Schapiro family on the passing of Barbara Schapiro

### Mazel Tov to...

Michael & Wendy Wolff on the birth of their granddaughter  
Elaina Michal Wolff

### Get Well Wishes to...

Jeff Shapiro, Barbara (Bobbi) Markowitz, Moira Shirvan,  
Ann Spitz

### **PIZZA Meet & Greet Fundraiser Sunday March 17th from 5:00pm—7:00pm**

Support TI and enjoy a handmade, kosher pizza, soda and beer  
in the company of our Temple Israel community!

Details and the order form is on [TempleIsraelVestal.org](http://TempleIsraelVestal.org).

**Orders must be made by March 12th**

*Half price for new members (since 2019)*

Payment will be collected at the door

### **The Caring Community Please Inform the Rabbi:**

If your health condition changes, if you undergo a medical procedure, if you are hospitalized, if you move to an assisted living facility, or if you are in rehab, please contact the Temple at 607-723-7461 or email Rabbi Friedman at [rabbimicahfriedman@gmail.com](mailto:rabbimicahfriedman@gmail.com) or the office at [office@templeisraelvestal.org](mailto:office@templeisraelvestal.org)

# March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					Light candle 5:37pm Erev Shabbat Services 5:30pm	<a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Eitan Kaminsky</i>  Shabbat services 9:30am-12pm Havdalah services 6:45pm
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<i>Rabbi out of town</i>		<a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Robert Weiss</i>			<a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Robert Friedman</i> <i>Lori Lewis</i>	
		Executive Board meeting 7pm  Minyan 5:30pm			Light candle 5:45pm & Erev Shabbat Services 5:30pm	Shabbat services 9:30am-12pm Havdalah services 7:00pm
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Turn clocks ahead  Adult Ed @ TC 10:00 -12:00 Short Story readings		Minyan 5:30pm			Light candle 6:53pm Erev Shabbat Services 5:30pm	Shabbat services 9:30am -12pm Havdalah services 8:00pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
TI Pizza Meet & Greet Fundraiser 5:00pm-7:00pm  JCC Purim Carnival 1:00-3:30pm	<a href="#">Happy Anniversary</a> <i>Louis &amp; Maxine Rosenberg</i>	Rabbi off  <a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Eden Schutzer</i> <i>Emily Wolff</i>  Board of Trustees meeting 7pm  Minyan 5:30pm		<a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Wendy Wolff</i>	<a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Stanley Gilinsky</i>  Light candle 7:01pm Erev Shabbat Services 5:30pm	Shabbat services 9:30am-12pm Havdalah services 8:15pm
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Purim <a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Irwin Simon</i>		Jewish Quest for Wisdom 6:00pm  Minyan 5:30pm			<a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Rabbi Micah Friedman</i>  <a href="#">Happy Anniversary</a> <i>Yaron &amp; Alice Kweller</i> Light candle 7:09pm Erev Shabbat Services 5:30pm	<a href="#">Happy Birthday</a> <i>Shira Green</i>  Shabbat services 9:30am-12pm Havdalah services 8:15pm
31						
<a href="#">Happy Anniversary</a> <i>Merri Pell-Preus &amp; Tony Preus</i>  <i>Rabbi Friedman vacation</i>						



## General Fund

### *For the Yahrzeit of...*

**Ruth Rosenberg** by Barbara & Marvin Guter

**Yetta Gilinsky** by Charles & Susan Gilinsky

**Patricia Kline** by Herbert Kline

**Herman Kline** by Herbert Kline

**Faye Rittberg** by Howard Rittberg

**Goldie Bograd** by Marilyn Bell

**Elizabeth Spitz** by Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek

**Barbara Blazar** by Jennifer & Jim Schutzer

**Rhoda Seidel** by Fran & Joseph Newmark

**Sara Schapiro** by Barbara A. Schapiro

### *In honor of...*

**The birth of Karen Lounsberry's granddaughter Lillian** by Mimi & Dan Bartschi

**Suzanne Siegel's birthday** by Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek

**Al Lavker** by Brenda Levy & John Simon, Steven Feuer

**The birth of Michael & Wendy Wolff's granddaughter Eliana**

**Michal Wolff** by Len & Naoma Feld, Sandy Feld & Karen Piasecki, Dan & Mimi Bartschi

### *In memory of...*

**Maida Piaker** by Jeffrey & Tina Feinberg, Suzanne Krause & Celia Klin

**Steven Rappaport** by Jeffrey & Tina Feinberg

**Paulette Klin** by Randy Friedman & Brenda Schlaen, Larry & Rita Bleier

**Neil Auerbach's sister Fran Lane** by Alan & Julie Piaker, Marilyn Bell, Robert & Diana Weiss

**Josef Marks** by Len & Naoma Feld, The family of Francine & Steve Stein, Dan & Mimi Bartschi, Lisa, Tom, Ethan & Claire Cummings, Sarah, Andy, Jacob & Julia Clark

## CONTRIBUTIONS

**Continued good health to...**  
**Amy Derkowski** by Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

#### *For the Yahrzeit of...*

**Jeanette Smith** by William Jaffe

**Estelle Silverman** by Stuart & Vicki Rouff

**Clara Brachin** by Esther Gilinsky

**Rose Gilinsky** by Esther Gilinsky

**Rhoda Seidel** by Fran & Joseph Newmark

#### *Get well wishes to...*

**Moir Shirvan** by Judy & Irwin Simon

### Landscaping Fund

#### *In memory of...*

**Maida Piaker** by Steve & Sandra Malkin

**Steven Rappaport** by Steve & Sandra Malkin

**Paulette Klin** by Steve & Sandra Malkin

### Mitzvah Corps

#### *For the Yahrzeit of...*

**Donald Bronsky** by Peter Bronsky, John Frazier

**Rhoda Seidel** by Fran & Joseph Newmark

### Adult Library

#### *For the Yahrzeit of...*

**Norman Pearlman** by Nan Pearlman

### *In memory of...*

**Alan Robinson** by Harriet Horowitz, Rochelle Goldberg, Heather Robinson

### Children's/Family Library

#### *For the Yahrzeit of...*

**Norman Pearlman** by Nan Pearlman

### Bernie Shifrin Music Fund

#### *For the Yahrzeit of...*

**Norman Pearlman** by Nan Pearlman

### Hebrew School Fund

#### *For the Yahrzeit of...*

**Edward Bittman** by Nancy Bittman

### Cemetery Fund

#### *For the Yahrzeit of...*

**Lillian Goodman** by Philip Goodman

**Hannah Goldman** by Philip Goodman



## Adult Library

*The Jewish Daily Forward* more recently known as *The Forward* was the most renowned American Yiddish newspaper of its time. Founded in 1897 by Abraham Cahan, it was the literary newspaper of note for millions of Jewish immigrants for 120 years. Its daily short stories and novellas, in addition to its advice column, a Bintel Brief, were a reflection of the assimilation plights encountered by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century immigrants.

*Have I Got A Story For You* edited by Ezra Gliner is a compilation of 42 of those short stories and novellas translated into English. Abraham Cahan, Morris Rosenfeld, B. Kovner, Sholem Asch, Isaac and Israel Singer, and Chiam Grade are just a few of the well-known fiction authors whose works appear here. Brief biographies of each author with commentaries on their themes precede each of their stories. Original publication dates of each piece are noted, and in many cases, help set the proper tone. All told, *Have I Got A Story For You* is an emotional psychological view of a century of the American Jewish experience seldom recorded elsewhere. Look for it along with our other books on the immigrant experiences.

As a footnote, after 1983, *The Forward*, still in Yiddish, was published on a weekly basis. Today, with a changed format and in English, it is available online only.

Ann Cohen

## Congratulations to our February lottery fundraiser winners:

**Darcy Paul, Bonnie Brown, Diana Weiss, Donald Sukloff**

### Temple Israel Funds:

<b>Adult Library</b> (\$10 minimum, \$36 for a bookplate)	<b>Bernie Shifrin Music Fund</b> (\$10 minimum)
<b>Bulletin Sponsor</b> (\$36 minimum)	<b>Cemetery Fund</b> (\$10 minimum)
<b>Children's Library</b> (\$10 minimum, \$36 for a bookplate)	<b>Clergy Sustaining Fund</b> (\$10 minimum)
<b>General Fund</b> (\$10 minimum)	<b>Hebrew School Fund</b> (\$10 minimum)
<b>Kiddush Fund</b> (\$10 minimum)	<b>Landscaping Fund</b> (\$10 minimum)
<b>Mitzvah Corps</b> (\$10 minimum)	<b>Rabbi's Discretionary Fund</b> (\$10 minimum)
<b>Rabbi Hurwitz Scholarship</b> (\$10 minimum)	<b>VINES Garden</b> (\$10 minimum)

## **March 2024 Yahrzeits**

### **March 1**

**George Gilinsky\*** observed by *Esther Gilinsky*  
**Melvin Manasse** observed by *Matthew Manasse*

### **March 3**

**Anna Goldman** observed by *Fran Goldman*  
**Ileen Sandra Wachtel** observed by *Rabbi Geoffrey Brown*

### **March 4**

**Patricia Kline** observed by *Herbert Kline*

### **March 5**

**Faye Gerstein** observed by *Susan Kasper, Alan Piaker*

### **March 6**

**Clara Krassin** observed by *Terry Shelley-Krassin*

### **March 7**

**Margaret Rappaport\*** observed by *Lois Rappaport*  
**Harold Schwartz** observed by *Lynne Green*

### **March 8**

**Yetta Gilinsky\*** observed by *Charles Gilinsky, Stanley Gilinsky*

### **March 11**

**Leonard Kostick** observed by *Richard Kostick*

### **March 12**

**Keith Osber\*** observed by *Arlene Osber*

### **March 14**

**Anne Felsen** observed by *David Weintraub*

### **March 15**

**Eve Gerblet** observed by *Leon Vainer*

### **March 16**

**Martin Davis** observed by *Larry Davis*  
**Marcia Shuman** observed by *Andrew Shuman*  
**Walter Ullmann** observed by *Arieh Ullmann*  
**Owen Wolff** observed by *Michael Wolff*

### **March 18**

**Herman Kline\*** observed by *Herbert Kline*

### **March 20**

**Ben Hechtman\*** observed by *Ron Sall*

### **March 22**

**Natalie Levine** observed by *Renee Williams*

### **March 23**

**Anna Berger** observed by *Roy Paston*  
**Oscar Epstein\*** observed by *Maxine Rosenberg*

### **March 27**

**Shirlee Galanty** observed by *Madeline Miller*  
**Sarah Warner\*** observed by *Howard Warner*

### **March 30**

**Robert Greenblott** observed by *Cookie Greenblott, Jeff Greenblott*

An asterisk (\*) indicates that the name has a memorial plaque in the Sanctuary

### **Mourners' Kaddish**

If you wish to recite Mourner's Kaddish during a weekday Zoom service, please contact Howard Schwartz at [schwerz@stny.rr.com](mailto:schwerz@stny.rr.com) or call the Temple office at 607-723-7461. An e-mail notice will be sent to the congregation encouraging attendance to have enough participants to make up a Minyan. It would be helpful if you contact Howard or the office ten days or more before the date to provide enough time to send out the notice. Temple Israel holds weekday Minyan services on Zoom and in-person on Tuesdays and Fridays at 5:30pm. If you would prefer a different day to coincide with a Yahrzeit date, let us know and we will work to make those arrangements. To see a video on how to recite the Mourner's Kaddish, go to the Temple Israel website, [templeisraelvestal.org](http://templeisraelvestal.org), under Worship.