An Election in Israel Where Your Voice Can Make a Difference

Michael S. Siegel
Senior Rabbi, The Norman Asher Rabbinic Chair
msiegel@ansheemet.org

In March, citizens of Israel will vote in a national election for the third time in a year. The hope is that one of the parties will be able to cobble together a viable coalition. While Jews around the world have considerable interest in the election, only those with Israeli citizenship can cast a ballot. However, there is another election taking place between January and March in which all of us can vote and have a true impact on Israeli society. It is the election for the delegates to the World Zionist Congress.

I am writing to encourage you in the strongest possible terms to vote. Theodore Herzl created the Zionist Congress in 1896 and it has continued through this day. The World Zionist Congress meets every five years in Jerusalem. The delegates elect leaders to key positions within the World Zionist Organization (WZO) and Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael – Jewish National Fund (KKL-JNF), debate pressing matters in the world of Zionism today, as well as propose and vote on resolutions that impact both governance and policies for the World Zionist Organization in the coming years. The number of delegates a particular group has will also determine the amount of funding that it will receive from the State of Israel.

Our voice at the World Zionist Congress is Mercaz USA.

It is the Zionist Organization of the Conservative Movement, representing Conservative Judaism within the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish Agency for Israel, the American Zionist Movement and the Jewish National Fund. Its mission is to support religious pluralism in Israel and strengthen the connection between Israel and the Diaspora. Mercaz guarantees funding for religious streams that is so crucial to our Masorti Movement’s growth in Israel and around the world.

Your vote will ensure the support of:

• More than 60 Masorti congregations across Israel
• More than 600 B’nai Mitzvah a year, including an innovative approach to ensuring the success of children with special needs
• More than 2,000 members of Noam, the nationwide youth movement
• 500 summer campers at Ramah/Noam
• Outreach to Arab communities
• Advocacy of ecological concerns
• The advancement of religious pluralism in a country where the Chief Rabbinate works actively to control all aspects of Jewish life and to counteract the growth of non-Orthodox approaches to Jewish life.

(Continued on next page)
An Election in Israel... (cont’d)

Tenuat Masorti touches 75,000 Israelis each year, and in a recent poll, 30% of Israelis say that they have attended a Masorti service at some point. Against remarkable odds, the Masorti Movement is succeeding. The World Zionist Congress is the only opportunity that Masorti Judaism has to receive any funding from the Israeli government! The last World Zionist Congress dispersed 40 million dollars.

I am writing to encourage you in the strongest possible terms to vote.

In order to register, all you need to do is:

• Text VOTE on your phone at 917-336-1162
• Or visit the Mercaz website at mercaz2020.org

Once registered, you will then be contacted to cast your vote for Mercaz.

Your vote will ensure the necessary funding to support religious pluralism in Israel and strengthen the connection between Israel and the Diaspora.

All it takes is 3 minutes and $7.50 to make a lasting difference for the Jewish people!

Please vote!

Az Yashir Update

We are so pleased to announce the members of the Az Yashir Leadership Team and Task Force which reflects a rich and diverse cross-section of our congregation:

**Az Yashir Leadership Team:**
Ricardo Rosenkranz, M.D. - Chair
Elizabeth Berke
Boni Fine
Cheryl Krugel-Lee
Ruth Rau
Barry Seeskin
Michele Sackheim-Wein

Rob Weinberg, Consultant

**Ex Officio Az Yashir Task Force Members:**
Rabbi Michael Siegel
Senior Rabbi,
The Norman Asher Rabbinic Chair

Hazzan Alberto Mizrahi
The Arnold H. Kaplan Cantorial Chair

Rabbi D’ror Chankin-Gould
Rabbi David Russo

Art Friedson
President

**Az Yashir Task Force:**
Nate Appelbaum
Ava Berkwits
Lindy Hirschsohn Coetzee
Sarah Hirsen
Emily Feder
Simon Fleischmann
Daniel Golden
Andrea Grostern
Ethan Kahn
Barbara Kantrow
Eli Kaufman
Marsha Nagorsky
Jonathan Norton
Fraeda Porton
Tani Prell
David Schwartz
Hayley Silver
Abe Trieger
Christie Chiles Twilie
Mimi Wallk

All members of our community will have the opportunity to share their thoughts and opinions through focus groups, surveys and other forums. In addition, the Task Force will look outside of Anshe Emet to explore the landscape and trends in Jewish music heard in synagogues across America. All of the information, along with recommendations, will be gathered in a report that will be presented to the Board of Trustees in the Fall of 2020. Rob Weinberg, who did such a masterful job with our LaAtid Task Force in education, will facilitate the process.

We welcome your questions and comments throughout the process. Contact us at:

music@ansheemet.org

For more information, check out the Az Yashir webpage at:

ansheemet.org/azyashir
Nothing Beats Being in Jerusalem

Arthur Friedson
President, Anshe Emet Synagogue
art.friedson@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

I recently took a quick trip to Jerusalem to visit my mom. She’s almost 98, and she is still a fantastic cook. The meals were infused with love, and almost entirely composed of ingredients bought fresh each day in the Machne Yehuda market, better known as “the shuk.”

Upon reflection, my first day there was so instructive about life in Israel, I want to share it with you. After a visit to the shuk and a late breakfast at my mom’s, I took off to visit the Western Wall. I took the ultra-modern light rail less than 20 blocks to the Damascus Gate entrance to the Old City. I walked through Arab markets, past the Via Dolorosa right at the Fifth Station of the Cross, then continued on to the Western Wall. As my prayers ascended alongside thousands of others, they passed the Temple Mount above me, just as holy to Muslims as it is to Jews. Standing in this clear physical intersection of our faiths, it was so obvious that we are cousins. Sadly, no fight is as bitter, contentious, lasting or stupid as a family feud.

All that said, Jerusalem is filled with working cranes, the highways have been dramatically improved, the new high-speed train is finally about to begin service, the busses run on time, there’s plenty of water and it’s safe to drink, all of Jerusalem glows pink at sunset, and my mom is still cooking for me. Nothing beats being in Jerusalem.

B’shalom,

This was adapted from a longer essay published in Medium. tinyurl.com/artfriedsonletterfromjerusalem

Drop-in Bereavement Group
Supporting our Community in Times of Loss

4th Monday of the month
Next meeting is February 24
6:30 PM at Anshe Emet

Please join us for a monthly support group for adults who have experienced the death of a loved one within the past two years. Learn more at: ansheemet.org/bereavementgroup
Thank you to these people for honoring their Minyan commitment. Please join us and help ensure the vitality of our weekly morning Minyan.

Support Local Farmers!
Enjoy a wide range of seasonal, sustainably produced goods from local farmers & vendors at this indoor market. Available items may include winter produce, honey, eggs, baked goods, bread, salsas, and more!

Link Match: All Link/SNAP customers can double their purchases of fruits and vegetables up to $25!

Indoor Winter Farmers Market
at Anshe Emet
February 9 • 10am - 2pm

For more information email kareema@faithinplace.org princess@faithinplace.org
Call: 312-733-4640 x 117/115
Visit: faithinplace.org

Link Match sponsored by

In partnership with

Men’s Club Presents:
World Wide Wrap
February 2 • 8am

Come and be bound up in the Mitzvah of Tefillin. It’s a wrap every February as the Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs lead Conservative/Masorti congregations all over the world on the same Sunday morning in learning about and participating in the mitzvah of putting on tefillin.

Instruction and history about tefillin will begin at 8:00 a.m. followed by our communal Morning Minyan prayer service at 8:30 a.m where you may apply your knowledge of tefillin.

A limited number of tefillin will also be available for purchase at the event at a very special Anshe Emet Men’s Club discounted and subsidized price. Bagels and refreshments will be provided by Men’s Club, and there is no charge to attend. This event is open to all gender identities.

RSVP to mensclub@ansheemet.org

Also, save the date for the Men’s Club Talent Show, Sunday, February 29 • 6:30pm

Cooking with the Stars
February 24 • 6:30pm

with Dylan Maysick, owner of Diaspora Dinners.

Join us and our guest chefs as we explore Jewish food with a twist in an interactive cooking demonstration designed for fun and flavor.

learn more at ansheemet.org/cookingwiththestars

Ben Abrams, Marlene Abrams, Abby Aloni, Bruce Arenson, Sara & Chuck Aron, Barry Ballik, Brandon Bernstein, Brian Caminer, Janet Cohen, Margie Deitch, Nate, Meredith, Jason, Mollie, Emma Dubner, Phil Dunn, Steve Durchslag, Dave Eskoz, Beth Farber, Rhoda Feldman, Cynthia Goldberg, Gail & Dan Golden, Samantha Graines, Barry Gross,

Garry Grossman, Dana & Aaron Hall, Jared & Aaron Hall, Maxine Handelman, Jacob Handelman, Sarah & Ron Hirsen, Ariela Housman, David Kaplinsky, Steve & Marsha Levin, Hagit Lewis, Debby Lewis, Jay Lewkowitz, Noah Liebman, Jane Lippow, Ann Luban, Alan Mintz, Deborah Mizrahi, Gerard Nussbaum, Shelly Parker, Dani Plung,
Shabbat Torah Reading Honor Roll

We would like to thank the following congregants who have honored us by chanting Torah for our community during the past month (this does not include our Bar/Bat Mitzvah students).

Sanctuary and Minyan:

Rose Crown Minyan:
Matthew Bluestone, Meredith Dubner, Mollie Dubner, Maddie Fellner, Sheila Grossman, Noah Liebman, Raffi Magarik, Naomi Margolis, Leora Mincer, Rafi Nagorsky, Ari Rosen, Lynne Schatz, Dan Spiegel

Usher - Floor Gabbai:
Michael Bellows, Gary Wigoda, Barbara Gressel, David Weil

Youth Readers:

Join us for minyan
Monday thru
Friday at 7am
Rosh Chodesh at 6:50am

The Book of Job: The Original Good Guy
Theodicy and Its Relevance to Jewish Belief
February 11, 18 & 25
7pm - 8:30pm
We will study the Book of Job (Iyov) and its classic questions of how we understand our relationship to God and God’s justice.

Rabbi Marianne Novak, who will lead all three classes (phoetoed), received her BA in Political Science from Barnard College and her JD from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis. She has served as the Endowment Director at the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and also helped start the Women’s Tefillah Group at Bais Abraham.

Watering Our Roots: How Family Stories Strengthen the Next Generation
March 1 • 1pm
This dynamic seminar led by professional family biographer Stacy Derby will explore the importance of intergenerational communication, and how to integrate more family stories naturally into your family gatherings.

Stacy has been active in the Association of Personal Historians and founded Bind These Words, LLC to facilitate the preservation of intergenerational legacy through family history.

No fee for those with paid dues.
$10 for those who have yet to pay dues.
Learn more about these programs at: ansheemet.org/sisterhood

Shabbat Neshamah
February 14 • 6:30pm
Shabbat Neshamah is an intimate service that blends traditional liturgy with guitar music and evocative readings for Shabbat. We will sit in the round, and Naomi Weiss-Weil will lead us in new, reflective melodies to familiar songs.

Interested in joining or have questions? Contact Naomi Weiss-Weil at nweiss@ansheemet.org

Save the Date! Back by popular demand... Babka Baking at AES returns March 17

Join us for minyan
Monday thru
Friday at 7am
Rosh Chodesh at 6:50am
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<td>1:15pm Shabbat Mincha</td>
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<td>7:30pm Community Al-Anon</td>
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**Shabbat Shekalim**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>7am Morning Minyan</td>
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<td>5 Shevat</td>
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<td>4:15pm Religious School</td>
<td>8:45am Lerner's of Torah Parsha Class</td>
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<td>6:30pm YAD Basketball</td>
<td>5:45pm Shabbat Evening Service</td>
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<td>6:45pm Shabbat Neshamah</td>
<td>6:30pm Ist &amp; 2nd Grade Shabbat Service &amp; Dinner</td>
<td>6:30pm Ist &amp; 2nd Grade Shabbat Service &amp; Dinner</td>
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<td>7pm Choir (Shireinu)</td>
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<td>7:30pm Community Al-Anon</td>
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The Joseph and Ruth Tumpeeer Scholarship Fund

Assistance for Jewish Camps and Study in Israel
Family Programs

Maxine Handelman
Director of Family Life & Learning
mhandelman@ansheemet.org

At Anshe Emet, we are building pathways to Jewish life and community for families with young children. Find your friends and joy-filled Jewish life at Anshe Emet! Look for all the details at: ansheemet.org/familyprograms

First Friday Family Service & Dinner
February 7 • 5:45pm
This month's dinner is a baked potato bar and veggie chili!
tinyurl.com/firstfridaydinnerfeb2020

Little Builders
Sundays, February 2 - March 22
9:15am-10:45am
Our Spring classes for families with 2-3 year olds kicks off in February. Space is limited so reserve your spot today! tinyurl.com/littlebuildersspring20

Annual Young Families/Shachar Tu B’Shevat Seder
February 9
12pm-2pm
This year we will be joined by author Jackie Theibert for an interactive reading and activities that will help all families with kids 3 yrs – 2nd grade get motivated to take better care of our world! You can order a signed copy of her book, Aneeka and Juanito, with your family’s registration at: tinyurl.com/tubshevatsseder20

Hey Parents, Let’s Talk!
Conversations about Parenting
On Shabbat is Awesome afternoons
February 15
1:30pm -2:30pm
Help us choose the next topic: tinyurl.com/heyparents

Join our email group:
aefy-subscribe@yahoo.com
Join us online:
facebook.com/groups/aefy/

Anshe Emet’s Young Adult Division, for ages 22-36!

First Friday Shabbat Service, Dinner & Schmooze
February 7 • 7:15pm
tinyurl.com/febfirstfriday2020

YAD Dinner Club
February 18 • 7pm
At Kal’ish Restaurant
tinyurl.com/yaddinnerclubfeb2020

Tu B’Shevat Terrarium Making
Sunday, February 9 • 2pm-3:30pm
Join Anshe Emet’s YAD and Laura Miranda of Plant Nite as we get in the spirit of Tu B’Shevat and plant our own succulents in a custom terrarium. tinyurl.com/yadterrariummaking

Meet & Greet with Comedian Pamela Schuller
Thursday, February 20 • 6:30pm-7pm
Meet Pamela Schuller before her performance to the congregation
ansheemet.org/pamelaschuller

Torah On Tap
Tuesday, February 25 • 6:30pm-7pm
Learn with Rabbi Scott Gellman.
Email for more information: ikrandel@ansheemet.org

You can find out more about events and connect with fellow YAD members on Facebook.com/AnsheEmetYAD, or by following ansheemetyad on Instagram.

Interested in planning future programs? Consider joining the YAD Board! For more information contact Young Adult Coordinator, Iris Krandel: ikrandel@ansheemet.org

Join us for Act II of Mizrahi: The Man & His Music!
Learn more at: ansheemet.org/mizrahi
Contact Mimi Weisberg for more information at 773.868.5123

Mazel Tov to our Upcoming B’NAI MITZVAH

Zoli Gottlieb-Fenves
February 1
Daughter of Susannah Gottlieb & Peter Fenves

Juliette Leder
February 8
Daughter of Rivka & Eric Leder

Orli Perach Schwartz
February 22
Daughter of Dafna Lender & Jonathan Schwartz

Julia Riesman
February 15
Daughter of Rachel Kaplan & Robert Riesman

Ma’alot
Not Photoed
Jonathan Goodgold • February 29
Son of Karen & Jay Goodgold

Act II
Special Shabbat Dinner & Anshe Emet Live
with Special Guest, Craig Taubman
FRIDAY, MARCH 20 • 5:30PM
Anshe Emet
Dear Friends,

I want to share some exciting news about the religious school! We have been awarded a grant from JUF’s new Innovation Fund, and we have been selected to participate in JUF’s new program “Shifting the Paradigm: Hebrew Learning”. These opportunities are going to help our religious school continue to grow and innovate in exciting ways.

This February, the JUF Innovation Fund grant will allow us to dramatically expand student choice in 4th grade, as we make progress on enabling multi-modal learning in the classroom. That means giving our students rich opportunities to explore sacred text, in this case the Book of Esther, using art, drama, technology, STEM, and traditional text study methods—in the way that most inspires them, and most enables them to connect to our sacred texts.

Through JUF’s new Hebrew program, we are working to dramatically re-envision how Hebrew education will work for our youngest learners, in JK-2nd grade. When our children learn to read in English, they can draw on a huge wealth of experiences in the English language. They’re familiar with the sounds of the English letters, and have encountered them in many places, at many times, and often in an atmosphere that is joyful and centered on their learning. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if these early childhood associations lay behind our children’s Hebrew learning? If the first Hebrew words they learned to read were words from songs they knew and loved from when they were four years old, if they could recognize their first Hebrew words from signs and labels they’d seen in kindergarten, if Hebrew had been a rich soundscape in which they had been playing for years... wouldn’t that be an amazing foundation on which to build Hebrew literacy?

These dreams for our children’s Hebrew education are going to be reality at Anshe Emet, and sooner than you might think. If you have a two year old, by the time they are ready for religious school at four, they will be coming into a truly transformed, deeply enriched Hebrew learning environment here with us, thanks to our friends at JUF. If you have a young child already in our Hebrew school, in the next year they’ll begin benefiting from our learning!

I’m so excited about the changes to come and looking forward to growing into them with you.

Sincerely,

Emily
SUSTAINING FUND

Ner Tamid

Joan & Linda Friedman
Phillip and Nancy Resnick
Michael & Mary Silver

Aron Ha’Kodesh
Jim & Julie Coffman
Robert & Carlen Katz
Jeremy & Stephanie Lis
Arnold & Kimberly Rubin

Etz Chayim
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Judd & Katherine Malkin
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Stanley & Susan Bedows
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Rimonim

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Robert & Maureen Berger
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Kim Carter: Gary Miller
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Chevra Kadisha: Donald Horchell & Susan Horn
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Rabbi Michael Siegel: Barry & Elaine Seeskin
Rabbi Michael Siegel: Pamm Nan & Debbi Karmin

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Jacek & Zana Gonsky: Daniel & Gay Crumber
Sidney Feldman: Benjamin & Carol Mackoff
Harriet Deier: Edward & Elaine Pierson

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Ari Parker
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Leonard & Elaine Simon
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Rabbi Michael Siegel: Ruth Zaban

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Gertrude Zinbeld:
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In honor of:

Nate Dubner: Anne Berman

clergy discretionary funds

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Barry & Marlene Balik
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The Anshe Emet Community expresses its sincerest condolences to the families of:

Rocco Cirillo
Barbara Maxine Shapiro
Richard Bluestone
Jerry T. Sawicki
Donald Coquillette
Harvard Reiter
Shira Dina Lazar
Zella Wahnon

May their memory be for a blessing.

If you would like to have a name placed on the misheberach (prayer for healing) list, contact Antoinette Nunez.

Names will be kept on the list for two weeks unless otherwise requested.

Antoinette Nunez
773.868.5120
anunez@ansheemet.org

Our Sincerest Condolences

Anshe Emet acknowledges a meaningful gift from the estate of Elaine S. Scheye z”l which has established the Elaine S. Scheye Educational Fund.

ELECTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES

This January you can cast your VOTE FOR MERCAZ -THE OFFICIAL SLATE OF THE CONSERVATIVE MOVEMENT- IN THE UPCOMING WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS ELECTION

Cast Your Vote to Defend
Pluralism • Democracy • Equality
And the future of the Conservative Movement in Israel

To learn more and pledge to vote, text 'VOTE' to 917-336-1162 or visit MERCAZ2020.ORG
WHAT'S COMING UP?

FEBRUARY

Community Jewish Rock Radio Concert featuring Marc Luban and Cantor Liz Berke of Anshe Emet
Wednesday, Feb 5 • 7pm
at Temple Sholom

Indoor Winter Farmers Market
Sunday, Feb 9 • 10am

Shtisel Uncovered: The New Haredim
Monday, Feb 10 • 6:30pm

Drop-in Bereavement Group
Monday, Feb 24 • 6:30pm

Cooking with the Stars
Monday, Feb 24 • 6:30pm

MARCH

Purim Carnival
Sunday, Mar 8 • 11am
10am for small children and those with special needs.

Purim Megillah Readings and Cocktail Party
Monday, Mar 9

Special Shabbat Dinner and Anshe Emet Live with Hazzan Mizrahi and Special Guest, Craig Taubman
Friday, Mar 20 • 5:30pm

Understanding LGBTQ Identities with Allyship with Essie Shachar-Hill of Keshet
Wednesday, Mar 26 • 7pm

Inclusion & Disabilities Month Special Event

PAMELA SCHULLER LIVE!

What Makes Me Tic? Comedy, Disability and the Inclusive Community

February 20 • 7pm
ansheemet.org/pamelaschuller

Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

AnsheEmet.org
Phone: 773.281.1423