



The Installation of Cantor Rachel Brook



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

An Opportunity to Reflect on **Our Congregation's Musical** Past, Present, and Future

On my first Rosh Hashanah at Anshe

Emet, I remember walking out of the community hall service at one point and seeing a couple rushing to the Sanctuary. They called out as they went by: "Rabbi, welcome to Anshe Emet. Forgive us but we can't miss Moe's Hineni." Of course. they were referring to Cantor Moses J. Silverman's chanting of one of the liturgical highlights of the service. As those people ran by, I began to appreciate the powerful role that the Cantors of our congregation have played in the spiritual life of this community. For so many, the High Holy Days would not feel complete without hearing their beloved Cantor chanting the sacred words of our liturgy.

Hineni: I am here, I am fully present, I am ready to do your will. These are just a few of the ways that the word Hineni has been translated. The word is emblematic of the extraordinary Cantors that have served our community. How many congregations can say that they have had two of the leading Cantors in the country lead them for nearly 80 years?

It was my privilege to serve with Cantor Silverman in his final years and Hazzan

Mizrahi for more than 30. I have stood on the Bimah and have been witness to the power of the Cantorial art. To observe a congregation being elevated by a magnificent voice interpreting our sacred liturgy has been a truly great privilege. Cantor Silverman and Hazzan Mizrahi brought their remarkable presence and significantly added to the musical repertoire of the Anshe Emet Synagogue.

On Sunday, May 15th, our congregation will install Rachel Brook as our Senior Cantor. History will be made as Cantor Brook becomes the first woman to occupy this position in the nearly 150-year history of Anshe Emet Synagogue. On her first holiday with us last September, Cantor Brook continued a tradition that Hazzan Mizrahi began. Just as he had sung Cantor Silverman's setting of Hineni, she did the same. Since then, Cantor Brook has been fully present for our congregation in so many ways. She has been a presence reimagining our Friday night experience; creating a youth choir to accompany her; and gracing our prayer services with her magnificent voice and the joy of her personality. Every Sunday morning, you can listen to her

leading the students of our religious school in song and prayer. There was an online concert celebrating the music of Stephen Sondheim, and our joyous Purim Spiel, both created by Cantor Brook. Hineni: Cantor Brook has fulfilled all the nuances of that word since coming to Anshe Emet.

At the Installation, Hineni, we will be present to participate in a powerful ritual marking the sacred nature of this moment for our community. We will have the opportunity to celebrate the American Cantorate as Cantor Brook preforms with some of our country's leading Cantors. A new musical composition commissioned for the occasion by one of our leading Jewish composers will be played for the first time. Cantor Brook has also prepared a special tribute to the legacies of Cantor Silverman and Hazzan Mizrahi. In this way, Cantor Rachel Brook will lead the Anshe Emet community in paying homage to our congregation's rich musical past, while celebrating our exciting present and very bright future.

Hineni: Our hope is that our community will be fully present on a truly joyous and historic day.

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A Message from the Board President

"I didn't feel like going, but I am glad I did..." Michal Leibowitz, New York Times, April 5, 2022.

Danielle Lazar President Anshe Emet Synagogue dlazar1971@gmail.com



I don't know about you, but I find

myself saying this a lot lately. Over the past few years, we have had to isolate ourselves from each other at various times, less, recently, but still quite a bit. This is not to say we have lost community, but the special spark of being together in person is not found on Zoom or TEAMS or FaceTime. We have gotten used to the ease of technology. It certainly has allowed us to manage through these past few years and opened opportunities for things we didn't think were possible. Things like having relatives from across the globe participate in simchas, conversations with scholars in real time, listening to concerts that we wouldn't be able to attend otherwise - and connecting with friends who have moved out of town.

In doing so, though, perhaps we have lost some of the motivation for getting out the door and being together in person. It is easy in the morning to open the computer and hop onto a call or start work. In the evenings, it is easier to log into a program or discussion than use energy to go somewhere other than home.

I am not suggesting that this does not have its place, but what do we lose when we don't have human connection? Break bread together? Hear the cacophony of voices in a filled room? Sing together in harmony (or not)?

We are not meant to live our lives in isolation from one another. We are meant to be together in all sorts of different ways.

On May 15th, we will be celebrating the installation of our beloved new Senior Cantor, Rachel Brook. Cantor Brook has already brought so much to our community. Anyone who has had the privilege of talking to her or davening with her or learning with her knows what a gift she is to our community.

Sometimes it is hard for me to leave my house. I am relearning the joy of being together. Maybe I didn't feel like going somewhere, but believe me, I am always glad I did.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 15th and throughout the next couple of months as we emerge from this long winter and into spring.

All my best.

Danielle Lazar

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AES Has an Affinity Group for You!

CARING COMMITTEE



Once again, the Anshe Emet

Community came together this year to be there for each other, and at a moment's notice. A year ago, the Caring Committee made calls to each congregant over the age of 65 to check in. They helped with technical support for joining zooms and aided in making appointments for getting vaccines. This year began with a COVID surge, and our generous cadre of volunteers eagerly signed up to deliver Ladles of Love, chicken soup and challah. Smiles abounded. aiding in a speedier recovery due to the delicious Jewish penicillin.

Ladles of Love and Mishloach Manot— Thank You Volunteers

A special thanks to Julie Ann Sklaver, Julia Colpoys, Amy Karp, Boni Fine, Corev Friedman and Larisa Kenen who made it all possible. Thanks also to the staff who coordinated entry to the synagogue which was then closed.

As COVID waned, it was time to celebrate more than ever with Purim and our building being open full force. Elaine Seeskin took the reins and headed up the Mishloach Manot project to make Purim goodie bags for our Seniors, 75 and older. Elaine and her 25 amazing volunteers assembled and delivered 225 bags, spanning and an area from the South Loop all the way north to Bannockburn.

In an age where many organizations are strapped to find volunteers, Anshe Emet is blessed with an engaged congregation who come together as a true community of friends who care about each other.

Thank you, one and all, for all you do!! It makes a difference!!

Deborah Gubin and Laura Kordon, the Co-Presidents of the AES Sisterhood, are grateful to our members who participated in our Second Annual Torah Fund. We felt it was very special to have Rebecca Russo as part of our panel. Our members are what make AES Sisterhood so

special. See photos below.





SISTERHOOD

S

CENTRAL GREAT LAKE REGION: BEYOND THE RABBIT-HOLE— INTO CGLR'S SUN-DAY!

Sunday, May 15 · 9AM (CDT)

Come release your curiosity and discover: Secrets to Success for Container Gardening; Spices, Wine, and Fruit of the Vine; Gon Tikva - Growing a Vegetable Garden; Moving Through the Tree of Life; Summer Reading Recommendations; and Nourishing the Spirit -Baking a Rainbow Challah.

Learn more and register here!

THE WOMEN'S GROUP AT KAM **ISAIAH ISRAEL PRESENTATION** WITH CAROL SCHNITZER OF THE **COMMUNITY MIKVAH IN WILMETTE**

Wednesday, June 8 · 7:30PM

People come to the Mikvah for many different reasons, including the final step of conversion, before a wedding, before holidays, and before making a trip to Israel. Married women may use the Mikvah on a monthly basis. People also seek out the Mikvah as a part of their healing process, coming before or after surgery, upon completion of chemotherapy, or to observe a yahrzeit.

Learn more and register here!

KIDDUSH CUP FUNDRAISER

Sunday, July 17

The AES Sisterhood remains committed to continuing to provide Kiddish Cups to all future B'nai Mitzvah at Anshe Emet. You can help in the preparations: If you have celebrated your B'nai Mitzvah at Anshe Emet, send of photo of yourself (either from that time or now) with your Kiddish Cup (or not) to Deborah Gubin at 205 W. Randolph, Suite 1205, Chicago, IL 60606 to be included in the celebratory collages we are creating. Put your name and year of your celebration on the back of the photo. This includes photos of children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and siblings who may no longer be in the Chicago area. Gesher participants are included.

AES Holidays & Celebrations



ADULT SERVICES & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, June 4 Erev Shavuot

7:30PM

Community Tikkun dinner and study with rabbis

8:30PM

Shiur (learning with rabbis)

9:30PM

Ma'ariv and candle lighting

10PM - 4AM

Community Tikkun Leil (overnight learning at AES)

Sunday, June 5 Shavuot I

9:30AM

Shavuot Morning Sanctuary Service

6PM

Ma'ariv and candle lighting (in person and via Zoom)

Monday, June 6 Shavuot II

9:30AM

Shavuot Morning Sanctuary Service with Yizkor

9:30AM

Shavuot Morning Rose Crown Minyan Service with Yizkor

CHILDREN SERVICES

Saturday, June 4 Erev Shavuot

5:30PM - 7:30PM

Our annual **Tikkun Lil Program** returns! Kick off Shavuot with this chance to study, tailored to kids of all ages. The fun starts with dinner. Tikkun Lil is designed for families with 3 year olds through eighth graders. Compete in an insane Bible contest (open to students of all Jewish backgrounds), build-your-own tasty Mount Sinai Cake, and more.

Sunday, June 5 Shavuot I & Monday, June 6 Shavuot II

11:15AM

Shalom Shavuot

11:15AM

Shalom HaNoar

Visit us online to learn more ansheemet.org/shavuot

AES Music Center



Rachel Brook Senior Cantor The Arnold H. Kaplan, M.D. Cantorial Chair rbrook@ansheemet.org

The walls of Anshe Emet are

vibrating with music! The sounds of voices IN PERSON, of prayers rising every Shabbat, of greetings between friends meeting each other in the halls and, sweetest of all to my ears, of voices of every generation singing together with joy. As we look towards the summer, I am grateful for all we have experienced: from our weekly musical Friday night services, to a successful virtual Sondheim concert, to a rousing Purim Shpiel, to a visit from Jewish musician Noah Aronson, who ignited us with song and brought us together in person for the first time in months.

At the same time, I am looking forward to the coming months where we will grow together as a musical community. Our Anshe Emet Youth Choir continues to grow in size and strength with every rehearsal, gracing our bimah on the first Shabbat of every month, as well as cameo appearances in videos and concerts.

As I write this article, we are deep in the preparations for a celebratory concert and Installation on Sunday, May 15th. I hope to see you there as we sing in this new era of my serving you as your cantor in this venerable community.









Photos of Cantor Brook with the Anshe Emet Youth Choir singing a Seder song for Pesach; photos from our Purim "Under the Sea" Shpiel.

Social Programs for Everyone



Medicare Made Simple with Ari Parker Monday, May 9 · 7PM

An encore program for those who may have missed it last year. Medicare is boring, bureaucratic, and confusing. That's exactly why Anshe Emet has invited Ari Parker to host a seminar on key deadlines, how to save money, and the top 5 Medicare mistakes to avoid. Ari Parker, an Anshe Emet congregant and Stanford Law alum, will present and answer any Medicare-related questions.



Russian Jews in the Time of Possibilities: 1991-2022 With Professor **Arkady Kovelman** Thursday, May 12 · 7PM

The last thirty years have been the best era in the history of Russian Jewry. With the support of Jewish businessmen, powerful religious associations arose: Federation of Jewish Communities of Russia, Congress of Jewish Communities of Russia, etc. Jewish elementary, secondary and higher schools appeared, as well as the Programs of Jewish Studies at the most prestigious Russian universities. The recent events, however, have called this heyday into question. Join Prof Arkady Kovelman from Moscow State University.

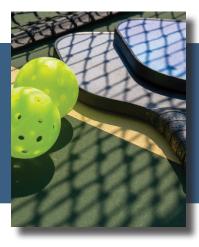


Anshe Emet's Men's Club and the **Federation of Jewish** Men's Clubs Present Comedian Shaun Eli Monday, May 16 · 7PM

"Live From New York, It's Comedy Night!" Starring F.J.M.C.'s Favorite Comedian, Shaun Eli.

Profiled in The New York Times... Jay Leno and other TV hosts used Shaun's topical material in their monologues for almost 2 decades... Graduate of the Wharton School... Sample some of Shaun's comedy on his web site BrainChampagne.com.

Has it been too long since you had a good laugh? Join us in person at Anshe Emet, Chicago, or via Zoom as Shaun provides us with a mix of stand-up comedy and stories from the life of a professional comedian via the Internet—live from New York!

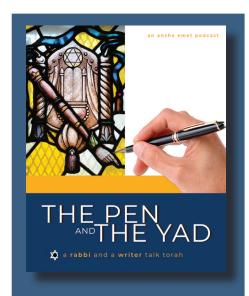


Pickleball @ AES Wednesdays, May 11, 18 & 25 6:30PM - 8:30PM

Come and play pickleball in the AES gym throughout the month of May! Pick up games only; contact Amy Karp to learn more! For more information and to register for ALL programs, visit: ansheemet.org

Contact Amy Karp with questions: akarp@ansheemet.org 773.868.5139

Social Programs for Everyone



The Pen & The Yad **Podcast**

New Episodes Every Week!

Rabbi Michael S. Siegel is joined by Anshe Emet member and acclaimed author, Jonathan Eig, for this weekly podcast. Listen and learn as they discuss the deeper meanings and religious significance of each week's parsha.

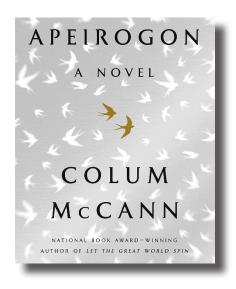
ansheemet.org/ thepenandtheyad



The Tree of Life and **Prosperity: 21st Century Business Principles** from the Book of **Genesis with Author** Michael Eisenberg

POSTPONED UNTIL FALL 22'

Michael Eisenberg—one of the most successful venture capitalists in Israel, and one of the first investors in Lemonade, and Wix—reveals in The Tree of Life and Prosperity the eternal principles for successful business, economics, and negotiation hidden in the Torah—and shows their relevance to the modern world in which we live.



AES Book Club Presents: Apeirogon by Colum McCann Monday, May 23 · 7PM

Join the AES Book club for a discussion with Ron Hirsen and Susan Weininger on Apeirogon by Colum McCann. The novel explores the conflict in the Middle East. It follows the story of two men who each lost a daughter. One is Palestinian, the other Israeli.



The **SEND-A-KID-TO-ISRAEL** PARTNERSHIP (SKIP) savings incentive program was created to anticipate and save for our children's Jewish education. SKIP

allows families, their congregations, and JUF to become partners in planning for a young person's future Israel experience.

Please contact Naomi Richman (nrichman@ansheemet.org) for more information about partnering with JUF and AES to fund a child's Israel experience.

The 19th Annual Dr. Arnold H. Kaplan Concert

Sunday, May 15 • 4PM • ANSHE EMET

THE INSTALLATION OF CANTOR RACHEL BROOK

Join us to celebrate the installation of our Senior Cantor, Rachel Brook.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

Net proceeds from this installation support the Az Yashir Music for the Future Fund, assisting Cantor Brook's musical vision for the synagogue. Your contribution also helps maintain the excellence of the Anshe Emet musical experience, encouraging personal, emotional participation.

Miriam's Timbrel • \$10,000 or more

Includes 8 tickets for the Sponsor Reception and VIP seating; One parking place in the AES Parking Lot; Honorary mention in publicity

King David's Kinnor • \$5,000

Includes 4 tickets for the Sponsor Reception and VIP seating; One parking place in the AES Parking Lot; Honorary mention in publicity

The Shofar of Jericho • \$3,600

Includes 3 tickets for the Sponsor Reception and VIP seating; One parking place in the AES Parking Lot; Honorary mention in publicity

Deborah's Song • \$1,800

Includes 2 tickets for the Sponsor Reception and VIP seating; One parking place in the AES Parking Lot; Honorary mention in publicity

Moshe's Silver Trumpets • \$720

Includes 2 tickets for VIP seating; One parking place in the AES Parking Lot

Visit us online to make your purchase: ansheemet.org/kaplan-concert

EVENT PROGRAM:

2:30PM

Sponsor Reception

4PM

Installation and Kaplan Concert

5:30PM

Community Dessert Reception

TICKETS:

Individual: \$54 YAD Member: \$36 Children 12 & Under: \$10

Note: On Shabbat morning, May 14, 2022, we will be celebrating Cantor Brook at the Main Sanctuary service. Please join us for services and a celebratory luncheon!

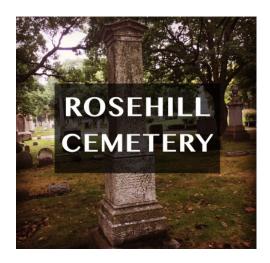
Babysitting will be available at Anshe Emet for your 18 month olds – 8 year olds so that you can come and enjoy this special event!

General parking will not be available in the Anshe Emet parking lot. Please consider public transportation or other ride-share options.

Financial constraints will never be a barrier to attend an Anshe Emet event. Please contact Mimi Weisberg if you'd like to attend!



AES Community Announcements



For several years, Rabbi Siegel recognized

a growing need in the community for Jewish gravesites within the city. In response, Anshe Emet, through its Endowment Fund, purchased 40 plots at Rosehill Cemetery in 2018. Those plots sold very quickly and with just a few remaining, the Endowment Fund has now purchased a number of additional plots available to congregants to purchase.

Founded in 1859, Rosehill Cemetery is the largest—and one of the older cemeteries in the city of Chicago. Located in the North Ravenswood neighborhood, the park comprises 350 acres of beautifully manicured grounds that encompasses peaceful lakes, green gardens and decades of history. An architectural wonder, the Rosehill Cemetery Gatehouse dates back to 1864 and was designed by famed architect William Boyington, who also designed the Chicago Water Tower, one of the city's most recognizable historical landmarks. Unfortunately, many of the buildings designed by Boyington were destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and the Gatehouse is one of the few Boyington pre-fire buildings that remain. Tours of the property are available and we encourage you to visit.

If you are interested in learning more about purchasing plots in the Anshe Emet section at Rosehill, please contact Mimi Weisberg at (773) 868 – 5123 or mweisberg@ansheemet.org.

HaZaK FOR Seniors

Mondays at 1PM

HaZaK is an Anshe Emet daytime program for mature adults with active minds. Co-taught by our clergy, and other community educators and is generously funded by Beatrice Mayer, z"l.

Join us in person or via Zoom at ansheemet.org/livestream Meeting ID: 663 098 957 Password: Hazakclass

5/2 - Cantor Liz Berke

5/9 - Elie Berkman

5/16 - Rabbi Michael Siegel

5/23 - Cantor Rachel Brook

5/30- No Class (Memorial Day)

6/6 - No Class (Shavuot)

6/13 - Rabbi D'ror Chankin-Gould

6/20 - Cantor Liz Berke

6/27 - Rabbi David Russo

Siman Toy U'Mazel Toy

Mazel Toy to these families who have welcomed newborns in the past weeks:

Friedman Family **Schwartz Family**

Sincerest Condolences

Anshe Emet expresses its sincerest condolences to the families of:

Sanford Lee Berman Thelma Spill Marshal M. Stein Jovce Veda Abel Joan G. Berke Elsie E. Aleck

Sponsorship Opportunities

Anshe Emet is blessed to celebrate many special occasions, s'machot, in our community. Anshe Emet is now offering several sponsorship opportunities for you to consider in memory or honor of someone vou love or in celebration of a simcha. Please fill out our form (the link is listed below) or visit our website to make arrangements. For any questions, please contact Mimi Weisberg at mweisberg@ ansheemet.org or 773.868.5123.

Fill out our form at: tinyurl.com/aessponsorships

Monthly Online Bereavement Group

May 23 & June 27 7:30PM via Zoom

Please join us online for our monthly support group for adults who have experienced the death of a loved on within the past two years. Learn more and join us at: ansheemet.org/bereavementgroup

Misheberach List

If you would like to have a name placed on the misheberach (prayer for healing) list, contact Antoinette Nunez. at **773.868.5120**

anunez@ansheemet.org

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

Mazel Tov to Our B'nai Mitzvah Families!

MAY 2022



Sydney Tennenbaum Daughter of Elana & Jason Tennenbaum May 1, 2022



Levi Agulnek Son of Abby & Jeremy Agulnek May 7, 2022



Daniel Noah Landler Son of Shane Borkowsky & Matthew Landler May 7, 2022



Sydney Rose Sicner Daughter of Stephany Rimland & Alex Sicner May 7, 2022



Lola Eig Daughter of Jennifer Tescher & Jonathan Eig May 14, 2022



Oliver Pincus Son of Claudia Mendelson & Joshua Pincus May 14, 2022



Boaz "Bo" Friedman Son of Michelle & Jason Friedman May 28, 2022

JUNE 2022



Bina Cara Brill Daughter of Julie Katz & Todd Brill June 4, 2022



Josie Malkin Daughter of Jessica & Joshua Malkin June 4. 2022



Samuel Corken Son of Karen & David Corken June 11, 2022



Eden Rebuck Daughter of Hailey & David Rebuck June 11, 2022



Benji Deutsch Son of Rebecca & Cliff Deutsch June 18, 2022

Your Donations — Thank You!

GENERAL DONATIONS

SIMON SYNAGOGUE FUND

Anschel-Eilian Family

Charitable Foundation

Shade Dongo

Phil Gross & Ruth Koloms Gross

Liane Kosaki & Charles Franklin

Moris & Alice Kricheli

Christine Ludwig

Roberta Randall

Samantha Stankowicz

Lowell Stein

Alex Valle

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BONNIE KAMMER:

Stuart & Diane Grauer

YOUR RABBIS & CANTORS:

Rabbi Ralph Ruebner

In memory of:

THELMA SPILL: Elliot & Renee Roth

BENJAMIN ROTHMANN:

Mark & Ayala Rothmann

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In memory of:

HERMAN BLOCK: Elyce Block

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MR. HENRY GROSSMAN:

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KIDDUSH LUNCHEON FUND

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Jonathan Eig & Jennifer Tescher

Arthur Elstein

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Sonya Frazin

Matthew Goodman & Wendy Diamond

Lindsay Hagy & Paul Elsberg

Andrew & Tracie Harris

Alissa & Josh Jubelirer

Julie Katz

Evan Kleeberg & Amy Frankel

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Matthew & Jennifer Seidner

John & Judith Shear

Cheryl Siegelman

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In honor of:

THE ARONIN SCHWARTZ FAMILY:

Simon & Rose Ann Aronin

TATE & GEORGIA: Deena Canvasser

YAHRZEIT FUND

Edith Black

Alex & Mira Dragunsky

Stephen & Rhonda Gordon

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In memory of:

CHARLOTTE ABRAMS: Marlene Abrams

MARJORIE ALSCHULER:

Matthew & Rachel Alschuler

LOUIS LESHNER, BEN/MAXINE

ARKES, MARY GREENBERG, & JACK

ARKES: Michael & Helen Arkes

GOLDIE ARON: Chuck & Sara Aron

HARRIET SCHAB: Dena Balzano

MILDRED SHAPIRO:

Stanley & Susan Bedows

GOLDIE BEERMANN:

Miles & Helene Beermann

LYRICE BEHRMAN: Terry Behrman

ABE BERKOWITZ:

Paul Berkowitz & Carolyn Erikson

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Michael Berkwits & Elizabeth Alpern

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& Miriam Aronin

SELWYN S. SCHWARTZ & SARAH

CHARNISS: David & Marim Schwartz

SELWYN S. SCHWARTZ:

Renee & Esther Joy Schwartz

DR. SAM SELTZER: Meyer Seltzer

RUTH SHAPIRO: Don Shapiro

LILLIAN LEVIN: Allan & Bonnie Sweet

FREDRIC TATEL: Rebecca & Sam Tatel

THELMA SPILL: Jandee Todd

JEANETTE TULLMAN:

Howard & Judy Tullman

JOHN WEINBERG:

Norman & Karan Weinberg

MINNIE WEINBERG:

Norman & Karan Weinberg

MARLENE K. WEIL:

Naomi Weiss-Weil & David Weil

PAUL T. WIGODA, FATHER:

Gary Wigoda & Barbara Gressel

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Rhoda Feldman

Roz Lax

Michael Sargent

Jack & Leslie Shankman

Isabel Singer

Bonnie Smith

Dianne Tesler

In honor of:

SAMANTHA DEKOVEN:

Fredrick & Michelle Weber

In memory of:

THELMA SPILL: Leah Herz

THELMA SPILL: Seth & Ashley Shapiro

DR. RICHARD SHERMER:

Rebecca & Sam Tatel

JOAN BERKE: Rebecca & Sam Tatel

KIDS' FUNd

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Spend some time with us, as we welcome in Shabbat together. Enjoy a spirited and musical Kabbalat Shabbat led by our AES clergy, featuring our Friday night musical ensemble.



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Pray together, as one community; hear thought-provoking sermons from our clergy and D'vrei Torah from guest-speakers. Celebrate B'nai Mitzvah, honorees of the congregation, and more. Every Saturday, we have something special for you at Shul!