



Templet Online

November-December

Fall Issue

NOV/DEC. 2023 - CHESHVAN/KISLEV 5784

NOVEMBER SERVICES

Fridays, 6:15pm

- 3 – Shabbat B'Yachad w/Birthday Blessing
- 10, 17 – Shabbat Service
- 24 – Shabbat Service ([Zoom](#))

Saturday, 10am

- 4 – Bet mitzvah of Desmond Apter

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

- 2, 16 – Mah Jongg, 11:30am ([RSVP](#))
- 8, 29 – Histories of Israel: A Multifaceted Exploration, 8pm ([Zoom](#))
- 10, 17 – Tot Shabbat, 5:30pm
- 11 – Fundraiser Concert for Israel ([RSVP](#)), \$36/person, 13 years and older
Potluck dinner and Havdalah, 6pm
Concert with Cantor Olivia Brodsky, 7pm
- 12 – Food For Families, 12pm
- 19 – Men's Club lunch and movie, 12pm

DECEMBER SERVICES

Fridays, 6:15pm

- 1 – Shabbat B'Yachad w/Birthday Blessing
- 8, 15 – Shabbat Service
- 22, 29 – Shabbat Service ([Zoom](#))

Saturday, 10am

- 16 – Bet mitzvah of Dylan Rotenberg

DECEMBER PROGRAMS

- 3 – Food For Families, 12pm
- 6 – Sisterhood Getting to Know You, 12pm ([Zoom](#))
- 6 – Men's Club Night Out at Clinton Hall, 7pm (*mem. only*)
- 6, 13 – Histories of Israel: A Multifaceted Exploration, 8pm ([Zoom](#))
- 7, 21 – Mah Jongg, 11:30am ([RSVP](#))
- 8, 15 – Tot Shabbat, 5:30pm
- 10 – Chanukah Family Program, 3pm ([RSVP](#))

Shirley Roth, EET long time member, is turning 102! Join us for Shabbat B'Yachad on Friday, December 1, at 6:15pm to celebrate Shirley with a special blessing and a cheer. ♥



SIMCHAT SHABBAT

w/CANTOR OLIVIA BRODSKY!

Friday, November 17 at 6:15pm

Join Cantor Olivia and the 17th Street Band for joyful musical Shabbat services followed by light dinners.

Save the dates for the coming Simchat Shabbats: January 26, April 19, and May 31.

CHANUKAH AT EET

It is not too early to plan for our next Jewish holiday so please save these dates for our Chanukah celebrations:

- **Thursday, December 7, 6pm** – Candle lighting on the stoop
- **Friday, December 8, 6:15pm** – Shabbat Services w/candle lighting
- **Sunday, December 10, 3-5pm** – Chanukah Family program w/community candle lighting in Stuyvesant Park with the SPNA at 5pm
- **Tues.-Wed. December 12-13, 6:15pm** – Candle lighting on the stoop
- **Thurs., December 14, 6pm** – Candle lighting on the stoop





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FROM the CO-PRESIDENT

Rebecca Shore



Sanctuary. The actual definition of the word is “a place of refuge or safety.” In evaluating my sources of a feeling of safety, I think of concentric circles: home, loved ones, community, and city/state/country. Like many, I consider Israel a place of sanctuary, a place of refuge in the face of persecution and antisemitism and a safety net if all other of the sources of sanctuary fail. As we learned about the atrocities in Israel over the weekend of Simchat Torah, the threat to Israel as a sanctuary was yet another blow, and left me searching for the sanctuary I needed in the moment. Like I have done in other times of grief, I turned to East End Temple.

Sanctuary also refers to the place in a synagogue in which we conduct services and pray. Fittingly, it should be a place of safety. In addition to feeling safe physically, the ability to connect spiritually or in times of need requires a feeling of being at ease emotionally. Our space must be one where each congregant feels comfortable praying (or not praying) the way that they feel comfortable, and at their level of knowledge or experience with Judaism. Our sanctuary should be a place of peace.

Our rabbi, cantor, and educator have made it a priority to ensure that East End Temple is a true sanctuary. At services, the clergy have been explaining the meaning of prayers and rituals more frequently, and are emphasizing that congregants should follow rituals (such as standing/not standing during prayers, or fasting) only if they feel comfortable. Congregants of all ages are welcome at all services, with the wonderful explanation that a baby’s cry is their way of expressing song and prayer. Fidgets are available in the sanctuary on the bookcase for anyone to use throughout services. Within the religious school, students are made to feel welcome and are taught in the way that they need. Under the guidance of Mindy Sherry, teachers teach to each student’s ability and disability. As a result, each Bet Mitzvah is an individual experience for each student, and every student can celebrate their accomplishment and hard work.

Hopefully these efforts will provide each of you a sanctuary: a place for you to go when you need a moment of quiet or a place to feel safe; a place for comfort and support; and a place that you will be welcomed for being you. As we learn about the news of the day, especially in the recent days, we often need that sanctuary, and East End Temple should be one of those safe places for each of us.



Yahrzeit Memorial Candles Initiative



Plaza Jewish Community Chapel is providing our EET members with a yahrzeit memorial candle to light on the anniversary date of your loved one’s death. The candles are free of charge and can be picked up from the temple office during the week of the yahrzeit.



AMY ISRAEL CHAI - THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL LIVE

By Mindy Sherry, RJE, Cantor Olivia Brodsky, and Rabbi Joshua Stanton

Fifty years ago, almost to the day, Egypt and Syria launched a surprise attack against Israel on Yom Kippur, the holiest of days in the Jewish faith. That attack transformed the landscape of the Middle East, as well as Israel itself. The heinous surprise attack Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023 by Hamas, with thousands of rockets raining down on Israeli population centers and credible reports of terrorists infiltrating southern Israel, comes as the Middle East is already moving toward transformation. We fear it will now be for the worse. More than 1,400 Israeli civilians have been killed, over 200 were taken hostage, and countless others suffered rape and other grievous injuries. There is something uniquely heinous about attacking Israeli civilians during Jewish holidays and on the anniversary of the Yom Kippur War. It is deliberately intended to desecrate one of the holiest days of the Jewish year and impede what would otherwise be joyous religious and cultural practices. As the rockets rained down, some Israelis were sitting in their Sukkot – temporary dwellings to mark the change of seasons, bless the harvest and remind observers of the ephemeral nature and ongoing changes inherent to life. Many were preparing for Simchat Torah, the restart of the lectionary cycle and an occasion for dancing as Jews publicly celebrate the continual learning at the heart of the faith. There will not be dancing in the streets with the Torah tonight, but instead hiding in bomb shelters.

There is no way to make sense of such viciousness, but it bears noting that Hamas attacked Israel as serious, high-level peace negotiations were being conducted between Israeli and Saudi leaders. Hamas, backed by Saudi Arabia's arch-rival, Iran, may be intent upon disrupting peace talks with violence, thereby possibly regaining some of Hamas' power after the Abraham Accords had relegated it to the sidelines. Some are asserting that these attacks on Israeli civilians are a natural and necessary response to the Israeli occupation and injustice that Palestinians face on a regular basis. Saturday's attacks only buttress the imperative of pursuing the long-sought two-state solution that guarantees an independent Palestinian state and an end to the Israeli military presence in the West Bank – much as it withdrew from Gaza in 2005. But there is never a justification for deliberately attacking civilians.

Our hopes amid this moment of suffering for Israeli civilians are threefold:

- First, we hope for an immediate cessation of terrorist attacks and an Israeli response that disables Hamas violence with as few civilian casualties as possible.
- Second, we hope that Israeli and Saudi leaders boldly continue with their peace talks, perhaps even with a renewed sense of urgency.

- Lastly, we hope that American Jews find a way both to show unconditional love for our brethren without faltering in our support for Israeli democracy and the need to maintain the separation of powers within the Israeli government. Supporting Israel's right to self-defense does not mean supporting every government policy, nor even the current governing coalition.

While we fear that the conflict will get far more painful in the coming days for Israelis and Palestinians alike, such suffering need not be the end of the story. The Middle East is filled both with storm clouds and rays of hope. We need to magnify the light.

To this end, we suggest donating to Israeli humanitarian organizations, especially [United Hatzalah](#), [Magen David Adom](#) and other groups that save lives, irrespective of religious, national or ethnic background. We advocate learning with nuance and care, not only about the Middle East conflict, but also the cultures, languages, beliefs and ways of life across the diverse tapestries of Israeli and Palestinian societies.

Visiting in person is still the most powerful and effective way to behold the beautiful complexity (and multiplicity) of Israeli and Palestinian stories. For educational experiences closer to home, there are numerous Israeli cultural opportunities in the United States – from restaurants and performance venues to museums and films.

We affirm Israel's right to defend itself and secure its borders militarily, and yet we grieve the loss of every innocent life, irrespective of background. We feel deep compassion for the Palestinian people caught (sometimes literally) in the crossfire. Violence begets violence, and we pray that this conflict soon comes to an end.

Am Yisrael Chai – the people of Israel live and, we pray, will soon live in peace.



FROM THE DESK OF THE TEMPLE ADMINISTRATOR

Sharon Shemesh

Thank you to my EET community and friends who reached out with heartache, concerns for my family, and hugs (for me) following the horrendous massacre at the Nova music festival and the surrounding *kibbutzim* in the region that is only a few miles away from the Gaza border on October 7, 2023. Thank you – it means so much knowing you care.



Shabbat B'Yachad: Intergenerational Shabbat November 3

Join us the first Friday of each month as we welcome Shabbat with music and stories for all ages! We will start with a pre-neg snack (instead of an oneg) before services at 5:45pm, and begin singing together to welcome Shabbat at 6:15pm. This service is designed for all ages to worship together, and will include songs, stories, and birthday blessings.

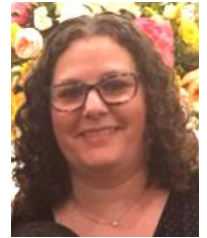
Shabbat B'Yachad dates for the year:
12/1, 1/5, 2/2, 3/1, 4/5, 5/3

EDUCATION NEWS

Mindy Sherry, RJE

Tot Shabbat at 5:30pm

November – 10, 17
December – 8, 15



Shabbat B'Yachad

Fridays: Nov. 3, Dec. 1,
5:45pm pre-neg snack, followed by 6:15pm
camp-style service for all ages

Camp Information Session for Parents

Thursday, Nov. 16 at 6:00pm

Chanukah Family Program

Sunday, Dec. 10: 3:00-5:00pm



CONGRATULATIONS TO

Desmond Apter and Dylan Rotenberg,
our November and December bet
mitzvah celebrants.

Mazal Tov from your EET Community!

Wish List:

People sometimes ask how they can help the school, so I have created an [Amazon Wish List](#). If you have any questions about it, please let me know. You can also support the East End Temple Religious School and any of our programming for kids by donating to the [Sara A. Spencer Fund](#). Thank you.

Todah Rabah and many thanks to all our EET members who helped with our High Holy Days preparation and services: ushers, Torah and blessing readers, behind the scene-ers, and those who lent a helping hand wherever it was needed. You know who you are. Your giving enhanced our services and made them successful.

A shout-out special thank you to Ron Orland who made sure our live broadcasting was smooth, **Don Sussman** for providing us with the beautiful bimah greens, **Jodi Malcom** for sponsoring the bimahs flowers, and to the **Kolins** for uncovering the Memorial Board lights for the holiday season.

Many thanks to the Men's Club for building our Sukkah and for the **Bell Family** for once again providing our community with delicious chocolates for our Simchat Torah celebration.



Moving Forward With Excitement

This month, we are grateful for the submission from our Sisterhood Leadership Team member, Ellen Ettinger.



We began our new year with our second annual Welcome Back Scavenger Hunt. In spite of a rainy day, 30 adults and children of all ages joyfully competed, danced, created, acted silly and shared pizza.

Coming up...

- **Mah Jongg** – In October, we expanded our popular daytime Mah Jongg games to twice a month, on the first and third Thursday of the month. We welcome learners and players of all levels and genders. We also have plans to offer evening games and a day of Mah Jongg with food and prizes. Let us know about your interest by completing [this form](#).
- **Getting to Know You – With Cantor Olivia** – Join us on Zoom, **Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 12:00pm**, for our continuing monthly series, highlighting a fascinating member of our community. In December, we learn more about our wonderful new cantor, who is excited about getting to know you! All are welcome. This program will continue on the first Wednesday of the month through April, so tune in for upcoming speakers!

This year we are increasing our focus on leadership development, and we have implemented a new shared leadership model. You will notice “The Leadership Team” on our signature line as well as rotating authors on our bi-monthly columns. This gives more people a voice in making contributions to do all that we do, from programming and outreach to managing our finances and connecting to the temple leadership and community.

Wishing all a happy and joyous Thanksgiving and Chanukah with family, food and fun! Whether you are cooking or visiting family during this busy, festive season, may your candles burn brightly as we move forward into the new secular year!

Thank you to all of our members who have “checked the box” on their EET billing statement and support us. Check out our [webpage](#) regularly for updates and links, and let us know if there is any way we can support you. Email us at sisterhood@eastendtemple.org.

**The Sisterhood of East End Temple
Belong. Connect. Grow.**



LIBRARY BUZZ

Barbara Ringel

I am delighted to announce that award-winning author Jennifer Rosner will be our featured speaker at the 20th annual Helene Spring Library Event, March 17, 2024, 2pm.



Based on true stories, Jennifer’s new novel, *Once We Were Home*, is an insightful, penetrating look into four cases of Jewish children hidden during World War II in Christian settings. The bonds that were formed, and the postwar repercussions of the children being “retrieved” or “returned” to Jewish families and Judaism, form the heart of the novel. The complex set of circumstances surrounding the plan, designed to ensure the survival of these children, is guaranteed to generate a variety of opinions and a rich discussion. Jennifer Rosner will be our guide as she delves into her novel, explores the plan, its repercussions, and the concept of what home is for these children after the war.



There is a copy of the novel in our library, as well as a copy of her previous well reviewed novel, *The Yellow Bird Sings*. New copies will be available for purchase and signing by Jennifer at the event reception. Mark your calendars now for this not-to-be-missed event. More details will follow closer to the event.



FOOD FOR FAMILIES

By Celia Vimont



Thanks to all the volunteers who helped us kick off the 2023-24 season of East End Temple Sisterhood's Food For Families program on October 15.

Join us on November 12 as we make sandwiches to feed hungry New Yorkers. It's a great way to do a mitzvah and meet new people from East End Temple! Advance sign-up is required (<https://signup.com/go/DjQsOSg>). All participants must be age 12 or older (ages 12-15 must be accompanied by an adult) and everyone must wear a mask. Each participant should bring at least five loaves of whole wheat sliced bread (six loaves per person would be greatly appreciated) and 20 pieces of fruit (preferably apples and oranges) and wear a hat to comply with Dept. of Health regulations.

Your donations to Food For Families through Sisterhood (<https://eastendtemple.org/contribute/>) help us buy supplies to make meals.

More from your Sisterhood...

JUDAICA SHOP

Fran Kolin

The winter months bring us the holiday of Chanukah, the perfect time to stop by the Sisterhood Judaica Shop for goodies, decorations, menorahs, and the loveliest candles in the neighborhood. We'll also have some pretty ceramic pieces for you to buy, for yourself or as gifts. In our Shop case are also some selected pieces of jewelry from our Carnival of Jewels Sale. Don't forget that The Shop is the place to pick up free yarn for making into hats or scarves for New York's needy. The need is great, and we collect these handmade winter accessories all year long, so there is no deadline for your contribution. We hope everyone stays healthy, and we look forward to seeing you when you stop by to shop The Shop.

Potato Latkes for Chanukah (or for any other time)

2 eggs
4 cups grated potatoes, drained (see below)
4 Tbs. grated onion
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
4 Tbs. matzoh meal
1/2 cup vegetable oil

Beat eggs. Add potatoes, onion, salt, pepper, and matzoh meal and stir to combine. Heat half the oil in a frying pan and when pan is hot, drop potato mixture into pan by large tablespoonfuls. Turn heat down slightly. When upper side of latke changes from pink to gray, bottom side is done. Turn and fry until browned on both sides. Add more oil as required.

How to drain your potatoes:

Grate the potatoes and squeeze the water out of them with your hands, reserving the squeezed water. Let the water/starch solution set a few minutes, drain the water and add starch to grated potato mix.

Beteavon!



VOICES

Marcia Muskat

Nancy Schneider's Ever-Growing Wheelhouse

In the 1960s at Nancy's family's shul in Kew Gardens Hills, bat mitzvahs were not *de rigueur*. Nevertheless, Nancy and her three sisters learned to keep a kosher home and to prepare for the holidays. These days, making a Jewish meal for 20 is right up there in Nancy's wheelhouse.

Academically, the male-dominated NYU School of Business (BS 1971) spoke to Nancy's interests. In 1979, after Nancy married Larry Schneider from Bayside, Queens, they found East End Temple – where everyone knew every song. And they found their forever co-op where they could walk to their jobs: Nancy's in advertising and Larry's in residential sales.

At the behest of EET's Rabbi Hirsch, Nancy and Larry hosted a welcoming party for younger members. Nancy and Larry each served on the Board of Trustees in the 1980s and 1990s. Nancy is currently serving on Sisterhood's Board working on membership, finance and Mah Jongg.

Attending a Women of Reform Judaism and Union for Reform Judaism Biennial in 1991, Nancy was enlightened by the many people there whose voices and skills advanced

Jewish values. Nancy sensed a path for herself as a Jewish professional. Upon returning home, Nancy reworked her resume to reflect her seasoned business background.

Temple Shaaray Tefila, on the Upper East Side, hired Nancy as its executive director. From 1992 to 2021, Nancy ensured that the temple had a financial standing that grew, a new nursery school that flourished, and a staff and congregation that always felt at home. Working with Shaaray Tefila's learned clergy, Nancy received the Jewish schooling she had missed out on in her childhood.

As for some of Nancy's many other interests, she and Larry have explored Japan, China, Vietnam and India. Always making it a point to visit old synagogues along the way, Nancy's wheelhouse remains ever-growing.



Share your story with us in future Voices articles, email me at info@eastendtemple.org and include your phone #.





WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Amanda Alpern, Samuel and Libby
- Danny & Rachel Arkus, Arryn
- Alana Baum, Ari and Lev
- Ana Blanco & Harry Gutman
- Jillian Cardona
- Sophia Cohen
- Rami & Nicole Gerber, Shai
- Rachel Godfrey, William
- Kalman Goldberg & Reid Carpenter, Ross
- Danielle & Andrew Goodman, Skyler and Jordan
- Andrea Herman & Alan Zucker
- Frimette Kaplan and Arielle
- Solomon Kell & Ashley Stanhope
- Georges & Judith Knafo
- Patricia Kuhn & Bert Dice-Goldberg
- Elaine Lavin
- Rebecca Levi & Peter Tay, Tyler
- Madison Lipson
- Max Mittleman
- Kait Moat & Brian Bantz
- Lisa Pollak & Chuck Salter, Leo
- Barri & David Turner, Alise and John
- Bari & Jeff Westerberg, Jacob and Eliana
- Amberlee Wilson
- Michal & Itai Yanai, Adam, Daniel and Ben

MAZAL TOV AND CONGRATS TO

- ☺ Ashley Stanhope and Solomon Kell on the birth of their child
- ☺ Jeff Thomases on the engagement of daughter Lili to Ily Itzhaki
- ☺ Peter Tipograph and Ruth O'Connell on their marriage

DEEPEST CONDOLENCES TO EET MEMBERS WHO LOST LOVED ONES OVER THE SUMMER MONTHS...

- Melissa Feldsher and family on the death of her mother Helene Feldsher
- Francie Leader on the death of her mother Gloria Leader
- Elyn Rosenthal and family on the death of her brother Philip E. Zelman

And for those who have loved ones who died recently and are not mentioned above, may their memory be for a blessing.



What Do the High Holy Days Mean to Me?

By Michael Flaxman

On a Schmooze between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, our topic was "Why are the High Holy Days important to you?" Because I didn't grow up observing the High Holy Days, I struggled until I decided to approach the question as a new idea: a clean slate to collect my thoughts. Interestingly enough, a clean slate comports well with all beginnings. A new year. Fresh starts to relationships. Reassessing who one has been or desires to be in the world. In other words, a time that might be called special. Important. Even holy.

Clean slate? New thinking. I've always described myself as a secular Jew, not an observant Jew. But is that really who I am? Now (something new for me), I'm thinking of myself as a secular observant Jew.

Secular in that I don't perform the rituals of Judaism. I don't, for example, observe the Sabbath with candles and prayers. But I am observant in that I endeavor to live out the values of Judaism. And it's my hope that the more I practice, the better I might be able to do that.

I've been a woodworker all my life. I see myself as making things, building something – in this case not an object, but an objective. Something to be built over time. A life.

I've never been more aware of the value of a belief system, in this case a religion that emphasizes right deed over right belief. Questions over answers.

Most days I ponder questions such as these: Am I being my best self? Am I giving that self to others? To whom have I not given my best? How can I right a wrong?

I guess I'm in the process of discovering that the High Holy Days do have a meaning for me, a very personal meaning. Perhaps during the coming year, I'll revisit my present thinking and assess what, if anything, has changed about who I am as a Jew and who I have been in my relationships with others.

This is my practice. This is my work as a practitioner of Judaism. This is the way I am observant.

Wishing you all a belated sweet and happy new year.



OUR TEMPLE COMMUNITY

A recognition letter and plaque given to Helene Spring from the JCPC. Helene was aware of this honor.



LAST CALL FOR 2023 CONTRIBUTIONS!

December is a great month to take advantage of tax-deductible contribution opportunities.

Your gift will benefit East End Temple by providing support for services, educational and social action programs. Contributions may be made by credit card [online](#) or by check payable to East End Temple.

Credit card payments made and checks dated and postmarked by December 31 are tax-deductible for 2023 to the extent allowed by law.

and

DOUBLE YOUR DONATIONS TO EET—Check Your Company's Matching Gift Fund

It's not too late to double your donations before the close of the calendar year. Corporate matching gifts provide the opportunity to double your donations to EET with a company matching donation. Please consider contacting your employer's Human Resources Officer to find out if there is a Matching Gifts Program, and obtain the form to send to the EET office for completion. Thank you

Sponsor an Oneg and Sanctuary Flowers

Celebrating a birthday, graduation, anniversary, new baby or grandchild, other celebrations, or honoring a loved one? Mark the event with an oneg after Friday night services or with fresh flowers for the sanctuary.

Contact our office at 212.477.6444.



CAN'T GET TO EET SERVICE OR PROGRAM?

Join us via Livestream (some via Zoom). Check our website <https://eastendtemple.org/east-end-temple-everywhere/> for current listings. We look forward to staying connected and welcome you to invite family and friends to join us as well. Instructions on how to access all platforms is through the link above.

To support our critical Livestreaming service, please complete the donation form by checking the Leonard & Helene Spring Mem. Fund on pg. 13 or [online](#).

A BIG THANK YOU

to everyone who participated in our 2023 High Holy Day Kol Nidrei Appeal

thank you



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The East End Temple Men's Club has started this fall with some fun programs for the EET Community. We had a great time constructing the Sukkah in September, and we had an awesome family picnic, along with members of the Peace Island Institute, in early October. We have more exciting events coming up, and we want YOU to join us. Below are details of our upcoming programs, but we really also want to know how we can best connect with you. If you have any suggestions for the best way to get our message out to you and other members of the EET community, please email us at mensclub@eastendtemple.org.

- **Movie Lunch - November 19 at 12pm at EET:** Lunch provided. We will watch "Gentleman's Agreement" and discuss portrayals of antisemitism, as represented in the late 1940s and as represented in media today. Adult and teen members of the EET community welcome.
- **Men's Club Night Out - December 6 at 7pm:** We will convene at [Clinton Hall](#) (90 Washington St, New York, NY 10006). Drinks and snacks covered. All members of the EET Men's Club are welcome.
- **Boggle and Beverages - Date and Time TBA:** An evening of word games (Boggle, Scrabble, BananaGrams, etc.) along with light drinks and snacks. More details coming. This will be a family event, open to all families and friends of the EET community.
- **Upcoming Men's Club Meetings:**
 - November 16 at 7pm (Zoom and in person)
 - December 14 at 7pm (Zoom and in person; note that this is the 2nd Thursday of December, not the 3rd)
 - January 18 at 7pm (Zoom and in person)
 - February 15 at 7pm (Zoom and in person)
 - Zoom details: <https://pace.zoom.us/j/95908609131>, Meeting ID: 959 0860 9131, Password: 123123.



OUR JEWISH HOLIDAYS... excerpts taken from [ReformJudaism.org](https://www.reformjudaism.org)



Chanukah (begins on Thursday, December 7), one of the most widely observed Jewish holidays, is a festive eight-day celebration that for many people falls during the darkest, coldest season of the year. Also called the Festival of Lights, the holiday brings light, joy, and warmth to our homes and communities as we celebrate with candles, food, family, and friends. Light comes literally, with the lighting of an additional candle each day, and metaphorically, through a newer emphasis on charitable donations and a commitment to [tikkun olam](#) during the holiday. Chanukah (alternately spelled Hanukkah), meaning "dedication" in Hebrew, commemorates the victory of a small group of Jewish rebels (led by Judah Maccabee and his brothers, collectively known as "the [Maccabees](#)") over the armies of Syria in 165 B.C.E. and the subsequent liberation and "rededication" of the Temple in Jerusalem. Modern celebrations of Chanukah focus on family and friends and include the lighting of the Chanukah [menorah](#) (also called a [hanukiyah](#)); singing and playing special songs and games ([dreidel](#)); and eating foods prepared in oil including [latkes](#), [sufganiyot](#), [bimuelos](#) (fried dough puffs) and [keftes de prasas](#) (leek patties).

TEMPLE FUNDS

Cantor Discretionary Fund

used for charitable giving; enrichment of the congregation & community.

El Emet Fund

helps beautify and maintain our temple; underwrite holiday festivities, projects. Note: simcha, mishebeirach, yahrzeits.

Floral Fund *(contact the office)*

purchases flowers to decorate our pulpit on Shabbat and the High Holy Days.

Fund For The Future

helps ensure future growth in all temple activities.

Hamermesh Music Fund

provides special music programs and resource materials.

Kehila Fund *(contact the office)*

ensures the growth and permanence of our Temple. At the \$1,800 level, your name will be inscribed on the honor roll mounted on the Sanctuary lobby wall. Starting at \$5,000, your name and/or the name of an honoree will be engraved on a bronze plaque.

Leonard and Helene Spring Memorial Fund

dedicated to providing safety and comfort-based enhancements for the sanctuary and throughout the temple building. Materials that aid the physically and mentally challenged are the focus of this fund.

Oneg Shabbat Fund *(contact the office)*

provides refreshments after Shabbat evening services.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

used for charitable giving; enrichment of the congregation & community.

Sara A. Spencer Children's Educational Fund

provides educational materials for the Religious School.

Simchat Shabbat Programs

provides musical Shabbatot, diversified community programs.

Social Justice Fund

Used to provide service to those in need in our neighborhood, city, nation, and world.

SISTERHOOD FUNDS

Food For Families Fund

purchases the food and meal supplies volunteers need to use for filling the bags of meals prepared to feed the hungry.

Food For Families Day Sponsor

underwrites this social action program. Contribution designates you as co-sponsor for the day.

Helene Spring Library Fund

helps purchase new and archival books, library equipment and additional materials for our library.

Sisterhood Birthday Fund

contributes to a social action fund benefiting women and girls, selected annually.

Sisterhood Leadership Development Fund

supports the enhancement of leadership skills of current Sisterhood members and to develop future Sisterhood leaders.

FUNDS ARE ACCESSIBLE VIA OUR WEBSITE

(unless otherwise noted), at <https://eastendtemple.org/contribute/>

Naming Opportunities *(contact the office)*

Memorial Board Plaque; Simcha Tree Leaf

For next publication of contribution listing, please have your messages and payments sent to us by January 10.

EAST END TEMPLE DONATION FORM

Please use this form to make contributions to all East End Temple funds. Make checks payable as indicated below and write the name of the fund(s) on your check. Some funds require separate checks. Send checks directly to KESEF, POB 418 Montvale NJ 07645, or to East End Temple, 245 East 17th Street NYC 10003. All contributions are per listing and your canceled check is your receipt. Email info@eastendtemple.org, or call the temple office at 212.477.6444 for further information.

FOR THESE FUNDS MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO EAST END TEMPLE

- | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cantor's Discretionary Fund _____ | \$36 min. | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi's Discretionary Fund _____ | \$36 min. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> El Emet Fund _____ | \$10 min. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sara A. Spencer Children's Ed. Fund _____ | \$18 min. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund For The Future _____ | \$75 min. | <input type="checkbox"/> Simchat Shabbat Programs _____ | \$54 min. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hamermesh Music Fund _____ | \$18 min. | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Justice Fund _____ | no min. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leonard and Helene Spring Mem. Fund _____ | \$18 min. | | |

For the following gift opportunities, please contact the EET office via phone or [email](mailto:info@eastendtemple.org):

Floral \$108, Kehila \$1800 min., Memorial Board Plaque \$720 each, Oneg \$400/\$250, Simcha Tree Leaf \$234 each

FOR THESE FUNDS MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO EET SISTERHOOD

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|---|------------|---|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food For Families, Chair: Celia Vimont _____ | \$18 min. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sisterhood Birthday Fund _____ | \$18 min. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food For Families Day Sponsor _____ | \$360 min. | Chair: Jodi Malcom | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helene Spring Library Fund _____ | \$18 min. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sisterhood Leadership Development Fund _____ | \$36 min. |
| Chair: Barbara Ringel | | Chair: Cynthia Dubensky _____ | |

Name of contributor: _____ Phone Number: _____

Message: _____

Name & address of recipient to be notified: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____