

# TEMPLE OF ISRAEL BULLETIN

DECEMBER 2021  
Kislev - Tevet 5782

## 8 NIGHTS, 8 WONDERFUL EVENTS...



### HANUKKAH WITH TEMPLE OF ISRAEL

**Sunday Nov 28<sup>th</sup>** - Welcome Hanukkah Celebration - Candle Lighting and Special URJ Program

**Monday Nov 29<sup>th</sup>** - Hanukkah Show and Tell Candle Lighting

**Tuesday Nov 30<sup>th</sup>** - Hanukkah Sacred Learning and Lighting

**Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>** - Bringing Light to the World

**Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Musical Hanukkah Celebration with B'nai Israel

**Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Hanukkah Shabbat Celebration

**Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** - Totally Terrific Talent Show featuring our wonderful Religious School Students

**Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>** - Hanukkah, O' Hanukkah Temple Hanukkah Party (at RC)



### AN EVENING with RABBI SALLY PRIESAND

**Wednesday, Dec 15th at 7:30pm on Zoom**

In honor of this year being the 50th anniversary of women being ordained as Rabbis, we will have a special program with the first ordained woman in the United States, Rabbi Sally Priesand.





# Jubilee

## by Rabbi Emily Losben-Ostrov

When I was nine years old my family moved, and we switched synagogues to join the one closest to our new home. At our new congregation the Rabbi was a man, and the Cantor was also a man. Whereas at our previous congregation the rabbi was a man, and the Cantor was a woman. At our first service at the new temple, I vividly remember saying to my mom, “*you mean men can be Cantors too?*” My mom seemingly chuckled and said “yes.”

I don't think I even asked about whether women could be rabbis. I had never seen one, so maybe I thought it wasn't possible, even though this was in the late 1980s. By that time women had already been ordained as Rabbis for roughly 15 years. It would be at least another five years until I met a female rabbi for the first time and then I also learned that the first female rabbi was Rabbi Sally Priesand who was ordained in 1972.



As I dived deeper into my Judaism, Rabbi Priesand became like a hero to me. She was a trail blazer and a legend. Once I realized I wanted to become a Rabbi, I knew that I owed a debt of gratitude to her, as she had literally paved the way for me. I met her for the first time at a Rabbinic Conference in 2008, just two months before I was to be ordained. It felt like meeting a rock star! She was gracious, kind and even took a picture with me. Over the last 14 years, I am grateful to say that my hero has become both my colleague and my friend.

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rabbi Priesand's ordination. Biblically, this time of 50 years is known as a Jubilee and this is truly a tremendous milestone for all Jews. Even now, fifty years after she became a Rabbi, I often meet people who tell me that they didn't know women could be rabbis. As we all know, YES, women can be rabbis!

I am so excited to share that on **Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm** we will have a very special program with Rabbi Sally Priesand as we hear all about her journey. I hope that you'll attend our program and invite others to join in, as well.

Rabbi Priesand has opened doors for equality and together we have the opportunity to celebrate with her and thereby celebrate everyone who has walked through those doors as well- including me!

To contact Rabbi Emily ~ [RabbiLosben@gmail.com](mailto:RabbiLosben@gmail.com) or 267-374-1621

Rabbi Emily will be out the week of December 27th

# DECEMBER 2021 CALENDAR at TOI

## **Wednesday, Dec 1**

TOI Virtual Book Sale  
4:30pm 2021 Hanukkah Film Festival  
7:00pm Healing Service in Honor of  
Worlds AIDS Day

## **Thursday, Dec 2**

TOI Virtual Book Sale  
9:30am LCS Board Meeting  
1:30pm Membership Committee Meeting  
4:30pm 2021 Hanukkah Film Festival  
7:00pm Musical Hanukkah Celebration

## **Friday, Dec 3**

TOI Virtual Book Sale  
4:30pm 2021 Hanukkah Film Festival  
5:00pm Hanukkah Tots  
7:00pm Hanukkah Shabbat Services

## **Saturday, Dec 4**

TOI Virtual Book Sale  
4:30pm 2021 Hanukkah Film Festival  
6:00pm Totally Terrific Talent Show

## **Sunday, Dec 5**

10:00am Religious School  
10:00am Winter Hoodie & Toy Drive (until 2pm)  
4:30pm Hanukkah Party  
4:30pm Winter Hoodie & Toy Drive  
4:30pm 2021 Hanukkah Film Festival

## **Tuesday, Dec 7**

4:00pm Aleph Bet, Beginning Hebrew  
5:00pm Torah Study

## **Thursday, Dec 9**

1:00pm Klezmer & Appalachian Roots w/  
Zoe & Cloyd  
3:00pm Thoughtful Aging Meeting

## **Friday, Dec 10**

7:00pm Shabbat Services

## **Saturday, Dec 11**

12 noon Joint Program - "The Bible as a  
Resource for a Time of Crisis"

## **Sunday, Dec 12**

10:00am Mazel Tots  
10:00am Religious School

## **Tuesday, Dec 14**

3:00pm RPC Meeting  
4:00pm Aleph Bet, Beginning Hebrew  
5:00pm Torah Study  
6:30pm Tikkun Olam Meeting

## **Wednesday, Dec 15**

12:00pm Building & Grounds Meeting  
7:30pm An Evening with Rabbi Sally Priesand

## **Thursday, Dec 16**

7:30pm Journey Through the Prayerbook:  
Concluding Prayers and Songs

## **Friday, Dec 17**

10:30am LCS Book Club  
7:00pm Shabbat Services

## **Sunday, Dec 19**

10:00am Religious School

## **Tuesday, Dec 21**

5:00pm Torah Study  
6:30pm TOI Board Meeting

## **Friday, Dec 24**

7:00pm Shabbat Services

## **Saturday, Dec 25**

9:30am Meals on Wheels

## **Sunday, Dec 26**

9:30am Meals on Wheels delivery

## **Tuesday, Dec 28**

5:00pm Torah Study

## **Friday, Dec 31**

7:00pm Shabbat Services

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM  
DECEMBER 23rd to DECEMBER 31st**

# 8 WONDERFUL EVENTS

## HANUKKAH WITH TEMPLE OF ISRAEL

**Eight Nights of Light** - Join us each night of Hanukkah to light the candles together, as we celebrate and dedicate ourselves to this wonderful festival!

Feel free to invite friends and family to join in for our celebrations.

To attend in-person for Shabbat or the Hanukkah party, please pre-register (links below)

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83763791722?pwd=VjIEK1dzQ0w1eVpxMEtqUjIzYmxuUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 837 6379 1722      **Passcode:** 580791

**Call In:** 646-558-8656

**Sunday Nov 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm:** [Welcome to Hanukkah Celebration](#)- Candle Lighting and screening of a Special URJ Program as we begin the festival of lights together online, while also connecting with fellow Jews. (Zoom/Facebook)

**Monday Nov 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm:** [Hanukkah Show and Tell](#) - Join us for candle lighting as we are all invited to share some of our own Hanukkah treasures such as dreidels, Hanukkah Menorahs, and more! Do you have a family heirloom? A garage sale find? Or maybe something handmade? We can't wait to see and share our stories and treasured memories. (Zoom)

**Tuesday Nov 30<sup>th</sup> 5pm, with candle lighting at 6pm:** [Hanukkah Sacred Learning](#) – If Hanukkah isn't mentioned in the Torah or the Bible, how do we know what to do? Together we'll delve into some sacred (and not so sacred) Texts to learn about this wonderful festival. This will be in place of our weekly Torah Study. All are welcome and no knowledge of Hebrew is necessary. We will conclude the learning with candle-lighting at 6pm. (Zoom)

**Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7pm:** [Bringing Light to the World - A Healing Service for Hanukkah in Honor of World AIDS Day](#) - Together we will offer prayers of healing for all those in need (for any ailment of mind, body or spirit). We will also focus especially on those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS as we acknowledge World AIDS Day. This service will also feature a debut of a healing song of prayer written by Larry Zimmerman and Connie Heyman. Candle lighting will take place during the service. (Zoom/Facebook)

**Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm:** [Musical Hanukkah Celebration](#) with B'nai Israel. Again this year we will join our friends from both congregations to bring music and delight to our Jewish community. We will hear all your favorite Hanukkah songs performed and sung by musicians of all ages! (Zoom/Facebook)

**Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm:** [Hanukkah Shabbat Celebration](#) - Two celebrations in one! Joyously celebrate our Sabbath with special prayers in honor of Hanukkah while also giving thanks for our weekly gift of Shabbat. Click [HERE](#) to sign up to be in person (Zoom/Facebook/In Person)

**Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm:** [Totally Terrific Talent Show](#) featuring our wonderful Religious School Students - This is a great way to support our youngest Temple members and our Religious School. This will also serve as a Religious School Fundraiser and you can make a donation (in lieu of buying a ticket) by clicking [HERE](#). Our kids have all kinds of entertainment planned to "wow" you! (Zoom)

**Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm:** [Hanukkah, O' Chanukkah](#) – Outdoor Temple Hanukkah Party at the Reibman Center. Please click [HERE](#) to RSVP. There will be donuts, apple cider, hot chocolate, gelt, dreidels and LOTS OF FUN! Candle lighting will take place at 5pm. *The lighting will also be streamed. For everyone's good health we will observe the following: Adults must be vaccinated to attend, Wear a mask indoors, There will be a limit of 25 people at any one time indoors, No eating or drinking in the building (outside only), Social Distancing will be encouraged outdoors* (In-person/Zoom)





**The Bible as a Resource  
for a Time of Crisis:  
*A Torah Study***

**Saturday, December 11**

Beginning at 12 noon

Click [HERE](#) for a direct link  
for registration

with  
**Rabbi Dr. Tamara  
Cohn Eskenazi**

The Effie Wise Ochs  
Professor of Biblical Literature and History  
Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion  
Editor, *Torah: A Women's Commentary*



**REGISTRATION AND MORE INFO AT: [ORAMI.ORG/RSVP](https://orami.org/rsvp)**

### **DECEMBER 3, 2021**

Earl Pancoe  
Joseph Pruss  
Rose Kornhauser  
Lucille McCoun Jacobi\*  
Charles Koppel  
Sigmund Solomon\*  
Ruby Zipser\*  
Norman Robbins  
Paul Rowe Sensbach  
Julius Weil\*  
Louis Levy  
Betsy Willner Shrier\*  
John Thompson

### **DECEMBER 10, 2021**

Sidney Fisch  
Bernhard Goodman\*  
Max Kahn  
Adele Rosenberg  
Eleanore Losben Trigher  
Edith Kallman Goldberg\*  
Morris Robinowich

### **YAHREZEITS for DECEMBER 2021**

Morris Swetlitz  
Louis Thaler  
Nat Weiner  
Anne Zucker  
Janet Bluethenthal\*  
Sophie Z. Wetherhorn  
Pearlstone  
Julius Slominsky  
Lee Brooks  
Rabbi Howard L.  
Fineberg\*  
Oscar Frey  
Anne Fash Rhine  
Sylvia Gelber  
Henry Rabinowitz  
David Samel  
Sieglinde Weiss\*

### **DECEMBER 17, 2021**

Syd Agnoff  
Stephen Jay Losben  
Alexander "Sandy"  
Lichten  
Harry Yashgar  
Helen Alper  
James Boston  
Herbert Bluethenthal\*  
Nielia Heath

### **DECEMBER 24, 2021**

Winifred Stevens  
Natalie Alpern  
Jean Goldstein  
Mollie Finkelstein  
Morris Kaufman  
Sylvia Sperling  
Mac Wallach  
Solomon Kallman\*  
Sol Mann

Anna Rowe Sensbach  
Harold Sparr

### **DECEMBER 31, 2021**

Betty Smith  
Jerry Smith  
Amelia L. Solomon\*  
David Rifkind  
Hyman Smith  
Lillian Brudney  
Louis Gratch\*  
Jacob Mandel  
Helen Stein  
Yehuda Abisch  
Mark Fisch  
Rabbi Mordecai  
Thurman\*  
Victor Michael Goodman  
Joseph Meyerson  
Eva S. Poppe

\* on Memorial Board



A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to all of those who donated, worked, loaned equipment & provided goodies for our Mitzvah Day event! Your mitzvah for our entire community is so appreciated. The apple trees are planted and in the not-so-distant future we hope to enjoy the fruits of our labor! A special thank you to Stan Smith for donating the trees and to Aidan Lacefield & his Boy Scout Troop for their hard work!

## Mitzvah Day 2021

- ♦ Shai Abisch
- ♦ Ray Apfelbaum
- ♦ Marta Cohen
- ♦ Bob Fetterman
- ♦ Tom Fish
- ♦ Sam Grunsfeld
- ♦ Connie Heymann
- ♦ Alan Katz
- ♦ Elliott Koppel
- ♦ Richard Lerner
- ♦ John Muller
- ♦ Burt Rosner
- ♦ Sandy Sharrow
- ♦ Stan Smith
- ♦ Lyna Smith
- ♦ Sheryl Solomon
- ♦ Gwynneth Waters
- ♦ Doug Zucker
- ♦ Tessa Zucker
- ♦ Jonathan, Misty, Aidan & Abby Lacefield
- ♦ Sharon & Morris Levy
- ♦ Marsha & Richard Rothstein
- ♦ Barb & Bob Sneiderman
- ♦ Malinda & Larry Zimmerman



### Conversational Hebrew for Adults (Ivrit M'dubaret)

being taught by our incredible Israelis Shai and Naama  
~ Beginning Thursday Mornings in February ~

- ✧ No Hebrew background necessary- English transliteration will be used
- ✧ This will be for spoken Hebrew - NOT reading or writing
- ✧ Maximum of 12 people
- ✧ \$54 - 5 lessons
- ✧ In-person at the Reibman
- ✧ For those who want/need distance learning, please contact Rabbi Emily to set up future classes

Contact Shai to register or with questions - [foodsoft@aol.com](mailto:foodsoft@aol.com) or 914-582-8673

**Temple of Israel Office** 910-762-0000

**Rabbi Emily Losben-Ostrov**  
[rabbilosben@gmail.com](mailto:rabbilosben@gmail.com)

**Temple Administrator, Nancy Robert**  
[templeoffice@temple-of-israel.org](mailto:templeoffice@temple-of-israel.org)

**Temple Website**  
[www.temple-of-israel.org](http://www.temple-of-israel.org)

**Rabbi Emeritus, James Apple**  
[japple2665@aol.com](mailto:japple2665@aol.com)

**Temple Facebook**  
[facebook.com/TempleofIsraelWilmington/](https://facebook.com/TempleofIsraelWilmington/)



# Honors for Donors ~ Restoration 150 Fund

The Restoration 150 Committee would like to honor donors with a plaque in the vestibule of the Temple. All donations are welcome and will be acknowledged after we reach our initial goal of \$500,000.

We currently have a matching gift of \$100,000 for the money raised over our first \$75,000. With this match, our \$175,000 will become \$275,000. We are well into this match, but need the members to help achieve this goal. We hope you will give generously, especially now.

The Committee is working hard to raise funds, keep you informed, and return us soon to our venerable sanctuary. If you would like to join the Restoration Committee, please contact our Chair, Rachel Rhine, [rachelarhine@gmail.com](mailto:rachelarhine@gmail.com).

☆\$100 and over receive a copy of The History of the Temple of Israel.

☆\$180 to \$359 get a Chai appreciation certificate.

☆\$360 to \$1799 get a double Chai appreciation certificate.

☆\$1,800 and over, recognized as Friends on the wall of the entrance vestibule to the main worship hall.

☆\$5,000 and over, recognized as Sustainers on the wall of the entrance vestibule to the main worship hall.

☆\$10,000 and over, recognized as Upholders, with naming opportunity to a single bench.

☆\$18,000 and over, recognized as Keepers and single bench.

☆\$50,000 and over, recognized as Guardians and a single bench.

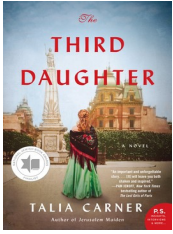
☆\$100,000 and over, recognized as Pillars of Strength and a single bench.

~~~ All donors receive recognition in a commemorative program for the opening service at the restored Temple.

# LADIES CONCORDIA SOCIETY

**Co-Presidents:**

Sharon Levy & Sherry Rotz



The LCS Book Club will meet Friday December 17th at 10:30am in the Reibman Center. We will read Talia Carner's **THE THIRD DAUGHTER**. In *The Third Daughter*, Talia Carner ably illuminates a little-known piece of history: the sex trafficking of young women from Russia to South America in the late 19th century. Thoroughly researched and vividly rendered, this is an important and unforgettable story of exploitation and empowerment that will leave you both shaken and inspired." - Pam Jenoff, New York Times. In January, we will read **MARJORIE MORNINGSTAR** and meet at Sandy Apple's house, Friday January 21<sup>st</sup> to watch a movie based on the 1955 novel by Herman Wouk about a woman who wants to become an actress. *Marjorie Morningstar* has been called "The first Jewish novel that was popular and successful, not merely to a Jewish audience but to a general one."

Our Rosh Chodesh get together at the beach had to be moved to the Reibman Center due to unfavorable weather. Thank you to Jane Brody for leading an interesting, inspiring service and group discussion. Thank you to Linda Bronstein for the delicious donuts - that we were sampling ahead of the December Chanukah party!



A special thanks to Sandy Apple and many thanks to everyone who helped make our Chanukah gift sale a success! If you were unable to attend, there is still merchandise that can be purchased in the Temple Gift Shop. Contact Sandy Apple [candya2665@aol.com](mailto:candya2665@aol.com) or Nancy Robert in the Temple Office.

LCS is joining with the Temple Men's Club and Membership Committee to host a Temple Chanukah party for your whole family at the Reibman Center Sunday December 5th at 4:30-5:30pm. Dreidel games, donuts, hot chocolate, hot apple cider, singing, menorah lighting.....You don't want to miss this!



## TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE

*Happy Hanukkah from the Tikkun Olam Committee!*

November was another over-achieving month for Tikkun Olam at the Temple of Israel. Through the generosity of our congregation, we raised over \$1,600 to help find a cure for Alzheimer's disease. This contribution was well above our size. We contributed over 1% of the total Alzheimer's funds raised in Wilmington. What an amazing congregation we are. We also started our community garden by planting 10 Apple trees at the Reibman! A special thank you to the Boy Scout Troop 200 for their help in preparing the soil for planting.

Don't forget - December is our annual hoodie and toy drive. We are collecting new and gently used hoodies for New Hanover High School students. Please donate sizes that are appropriate for high schoolers. Along with our hoodie drive, we are also hosting a Toy Drive this year to collect educational toys for elementary school kids to donate to Family Promise (<https://familypromise.org/>). The Hoodie and Toy Drive collections will be on 12/5 from 10am - 2pm as well as during the Hanukkah Party.



This January, Martin Luther King Day falls on Tu Bishvat. We are planning something special. More details are to come in the January bulletin.





## TOI VIRTUAL BOOK SALE

**DEC 1st—5th**

Celebrating Jewish Book Month & Hanukkah

Visit: <https://bookshop.org/shop/storyhouse>

A portion of each sale benefits our congregation.

### KLEZMER AND APPALACHIAN ROOTS WITH ZOE & CLOYD



**Thursday, Dec 9th at 1:00pm**

Join Asheville-based husband-and-wife musicians, Zoe & Cloyd, for an exciting journey from the old world to the new, via their klezmer, old-time, and bluegrass roots.

During this program, they will share songs and stories of their heritage, focusing on the repertoire of Natalya's grandfather, David Weinstein, who was a professional klezmer musician in Philadelphia and Atlantic City during the mid-1900s. They will also explore parallels between Appalachian folk music and klezmer, visiting the repertoire of John's grandfather, who was a professional bluegrass fiddler in Western North Carolina.

The program will run 45-50 minutes, with time for questions at the conclusion.

--- Sponsored by the Creative Aging Network

**Register [HERE](#)**

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.*

## Adult Advanced Beginner Hebrew with Ruben

We have had so much fun with Beginner Hebrew that we will continue to study together at the next level beginning in January. This class will focus on Hebrew reading for prayers and basic vocabulary. Knowledge of the Hebrew Aleph-Bet is required, but comprehension (understanding of vocabulary) is not necessary.

Please let Rabbi Emily know if you are interested in taking this class or if you have any questions at [rabbilosben@gmail.com](mailto:rabbilosben@gmail.com). Specific details about timing will be forthcoming.



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A TORAHNIK?

Join our Torahnik emailing list... and receive reminders, additional learning materials, and other updates about Torah study and life long learning.

Contact Jane Brody at [janekb@aol.com](mailto:janekb@aol.com) to get your name on the list.

## TORAH on TUESDAYS



**December**

**7, 14, 21, & 28 at 5:00pm**

We would like to invite you to join us as we study the Torah to bring its insights into our daily lives while learning more about our world and creating a sense of community.

New attendees welcome...

**Click [HERE](#) for Zoom Meeting**

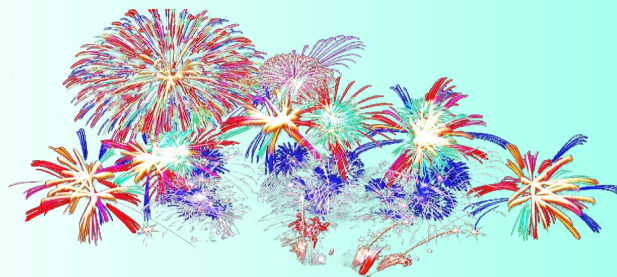
**Meeting ID: 974 991 253**

**Passcode: 899037**

**Call In: 646-558-8656**

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Glenn Esterson & Cassidy Lott | 12/21 |
| Rabbi Jim & Sandy Apple       | 12/26 |
| Michael & Beth Jaskolka       | 12/31 |



**8 Nights, 11 Movies**

**NOVEMBER 28th - DECEMBER 5th, 2021**

Celebrate the Hanukkah season with eight nights of exclusive, award-winning new films, available to view from the comfort of home via your TV, computer or mobile devices. Watch on Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Apple TV, Android TV, Samsung TV, iOS, and Android.

Your ticket purchase provides limited-time access to this series of 11 films, plus exclusive filmmaker discussions and more, with new content added each night of Hanukkah.

This series is available throughout North America, in partnership with film festivals, synagogues and Jewish organizations across the U.S. and Canada. Enter the special promo code provided by your local organization at checkout to receive a discount and support your local community!



**\$36** (regularly \$48)

~ 25% off with promo code

**PROMO CODE:  
TOISRAEL**

Website: [www.HanukkahFilmFestival.com](http://www.HanukkahFilmFestival.com)

Festival Trailer: <https://youtu.be/zaJNyoY6ZM8>

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY...

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| Jackie Servais     | 12/1  |
| Michael Jaskolka   | 12/3  |
| Noa LaMaskin       | 12/3  |
| Gerald Patruznick  | 12/3  |
| Rachel Rhine       | 12/3  |
| Lyna Smith         | 12/4  |
| Ellen Abisch       | 12/8  |
| Slade Suchecki     | 12/8  |
| Zachary Hager      | 12/9  |
| Talia Rose Crowe   | 12/10 |
| Robert Fetterman   | 12/11 |
| Drew Kramer        | 12/11 |
| Sharon Lerner      | 12/11 |
| Arlene Gershenbaum | 12/12 |
| Kennedy Donaldson  | 12/15 |
| Lynda Graubert     | 12/15 |
| Michael Rosenberg  | 12/15 |
| Carl Samet         | 12/16 |
| Arlene Stein       | 12/16 |
| Thomas Trombley    | 12/16 |
| Holli Kagan        | 12/17 |
| Maia Siegel        | 12/17 |
| William Serkin     | 12/20 |
| Bryan Steiner      | 12/20 |
| Matthew Weissman   | 12/21 |
| Rita Katz          | 12/22 |
| Morris Levy        | 12/22 |
| Erica Linett       | 12/23 |
| Sheryl Solomon     | 12/23 |
| Isabella Steiner   | 12/23 |
| Gwynneth Waters    | 12/23 |
| Bruce Cassler      | 12/25 |
| Stuart Gans        | 12/25 |
| Rabbi Emily Losben | 12/25 |
| Tanya Vetter       | 12/27 |
| Jefferson Harvell  | 12/30 |
| Samariy Kogan      | 12/30 |
| Domenik Suchecki   | 12/30 |





# Mitzvah

## Day

November 11, 2021





# Getting to Know the Temple of Israel

By Naomi Kleid with a lot of help from Beverly Tetterton

How well do you know the Temple of Israel? Most, if not all, of the people who read this Bulletin have seen our building, which sits at the corner of Market and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets in downtown Wilmington's historic district. It does not look like the buildings around it, because our synagogue was built during 1875 and 1876 in the Moorish Revival style popular for synagogues in Europe and the United States at that time.

It was the first synagogue of any kind in North Carolina, and one of very few Moorish Revival style synagogues still standing in the U.S. (the others being in New York City and Cincinnati, which interestingly was the population center of the U.S. at the time).

Moorish Revival style is recognized by its two towers with an onion dome topping each one. Its windows are tall with well-rounded arches atop. The windows in our Temple are filled with stained glass in an abstract design of blue, yellow, and red. The windows let in a wonderful warm light during the day and reflect magical colors at night. A rounded arch also tops the main door above the twin stairs from street level.



A plaque from the Historic Wilmington Foundation, Inc., outside the front door of the Temple, lists the architect as Samuel Sloan of Philadelphia. The photograph of the plaque (accompanying) also shows the rounded arches above one of the smaller windows and above the main door.

The plaque says the synagogue was built for German Jewish immigrants who settled in Wilmington. Most of them came from Bavaria. They had names like Abram Weill, Solomon Bear, Frederick Rheinstein, Nathaniel Jacobi, and others (see *The History of the Temple of Israel Wilmington, North Carolina* by Beverly Tetterton, our current president).

To found the Temple, the leaders, who mostly lived within walking distance of the site and who owned stores along Front Street, met at the home of Abram Weill on Nov. 9, 1871. Forty men pledged support to build the Temple. They reached out to their fellow Jews and to members of the larger community.

According to Beverly Tetterton's book (page 6), on November 26, 1872 a local newspaper the *Morning Star* stated that *"In view of the fact that our fellow citizens of the Israelitish faith have always evinced a liberal disposition when called upon to assist in enterprises for the benefit of other denominations, or the city generally, their call for help to build them a suitable house of worship should meet with a hearty and generous response. It must be remembered that they are, but a handful as compared with other denominations, and must of necessity rely upon a certain outside aid. That this will be liberally bestowed we have no doubt."*

In less than three years, land was purchased and plans were drawn to build the Temple of Israel's \$20,000 building (\$500,000 in today's money). Limited by the technology of the time, heating was by coal, lighting was by candles, and sanitary facilities were not provided (an outhouse not being located on the property).

*continued on next page...*



## Getting to Know the Temple of Israel (...continued)

If these accommodations sound crude, it is helpful to remember that 1876 was almost 150 years ago. It was only 100 years after the 13 colonies, North Carolina among them, declared their independence from Great Britain. It was eleven years after the Civil War officially ended; several years went by before this news spread across the nation. Women still wore dresses with bustles and tight waistlines; men wore whiskers and high collars. 1876 was the same year that the newly patented telephone, megaphone, and phonograph went on the market. The first Remington typewriter came out in 1874. Albert Einstein was yet to be born in Germany (1879). (All this according to [americasbesthistory.com/abhtimeline1870.html](http://americasbesthistory.com/abhtimeline1870.html))

1876 was a long time ago, yet our Temple's founders had the courage and foresight to build an unusual and proud synagogue on the corner of the main street in town. They built it the best they could and left it to succeeding generations to care for it, which they did by installing oil lighting (in 1883) and electricity in 1905, and making repairs to the magnificent, tall, stained-glass windows and slate roof as time went on and the inevitable hurricanes swept through. But the founders and many people in Wilmington loved this building, which became a long-standing symbol of Jewish integration and prosperity in this southern town. Today, many people still love it and acknowledge the people who built it.

You've seen the outside, but have you been inside the Temple of Israel? Some of our newest members have not yet had a chance to fully experience our building due to damage from water and deterioration from old age. In assessing the issues with our building, mold and other forms of decay were discovered on the ground floor. These problems were due, in large measure, to unrecognized water intrusion that has been stopped temporarily but which needs to be corrected before we can reopen the building. Raising the necessary funds has become imperative. The 150-Restoration Committee has taken on this task and is successfully raising money from congregants, friends, and neighbors.

Next time, we will focus on the incredibly tall stained-glass windows and the other sources of light in this warm and comforting temple that has impressed visitors and congregants for so many years.

יְהוָה וְיִתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֹה רַבָּא. בְּעֶלְמָא דִּי בְרָא כְרֻעֹתָהּ,  
וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְחַיִּי דְכָל בֵּית  
יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעֶזְרָא וּבְזִמְנוֹן קָרִיב, וְאַמְרוּ: אָמֵן.  
יְהֵא שְׁמֹה רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמָא וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא.  
יְתְבָרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרוֹמֵם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא וְיִתְהַדָּר  
וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֹה דְקֻדְשָׁא בְרִיךְ הוּא, לְעָלְמָא מִן כָּל  
בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירָתָא תְּשַׁבְּחָתָא וְנִחְמָתָא, דְאַמְיִירוּ בְּעֶלְמָא,  
וְאַמְרוּ: אָמֵן.  
יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא, וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
וְאַמְרוּ: אָמֵן.  
עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִזְרָמֵינוּ, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל  
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאַמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

### Journey Through the Prayerbook: Concluding Prayers and Songs

Thursday, December 16th  
at 7:30pm on Zoom

Join us for our final session in this series on the Shabbat prayers. In this class we will focus on the Aleinu, Mourner's Kaddish and a few of our favorite closing songs.

You do not need to have attended any previous classes to attend.

Click [HERE](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86838791425) to join the Zoom Session  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86838791425>  
Meeting ID: 868 3879 1425  
Call In: 646-558-8656



### HANUKKAH TOTS

Friday, Dec 3rd at 5pm  
at the Reibman Center

A special gathering for our youngest Temple members, with programming geared towards kids up to 5 years of age (or so).

RSVP to Rabbi Emily ([rabbilosben@gmail.com](mailto:rabbilosben@gmail.com)) is required to attend. All Covid Safety protocols will be followed.

# Hanukkah Religious School News

**Felecia Becker, Assistant Director**



Shalom, everyone! We have been having such an amazing school year so far and are excited to be finishing off the secular year so strong! We are very excited to share how our past month went.

Like I mentioned last month, this school year we are focusing our studies for on each weekly Torah story (portion). We started November off by talking all about “Shalom Bayit,” peace in the home. The students learned the story of the twin brothers Jacob and Esau. Along with learning about the twins, the students also had the opportunity to talk about how they keep peace in their own homes. The main idea they focused on was with siblings and parents. All the students had great conversations about this topic, and it is incredibly interesting how insightful the students are at all ages. For Religious School this year, we are making sure that students get more individual time in their respected classes with their teachers. The students have loved the breakout rooms and have been learning a great deal!

Continuing from the story about Jacob and Esau, the students learned about the concept of “Mitzvah” and how to be a Mensch. We watched a thought-provoking video and then played a Kahoot. The students LOVE Kahoots (a platform we use for educational games), and all did a great job. Next, the students got to perform a Mitzvah of their own. Rabbi Emily has a friend whose son, named Drew, is sadly at St. Jude’s right now and is not doing very well. For their Mitzvah, Rabbi Emily asked students to make cards for Drew saying “Happy Hannukah” and sending well wishes. (Let Rabbi Emily know if you would like to make a card for Drew.) The students learned firsthand how to make someone’s day better and how to be a Mensch.

In other VERY exciting news, the best time of the year is coming up! It is almost time for Temple of Israel’s Second Annual Totally Terrific Talent Show!!! With such an amazing virtual turnout last year Rabbi Emily and I decided to have it again!! The Totally Terrific Talent show will be virtual on Saturday, December 4th after the candle lighting. Like last year, the talent show will serve as our Hanukkah Fundraiser for the Religious School. As a way of buying your “virtual ticket,” we hope you will donate using a link that will be coming out very soon. Once we have the link set up, please feel free to share it with your family and friends! You can also send a check to the Temple and note that it is for the Talent Show Donation.

If you have a student that would like to participate and show off their talent, please use the link below to sign-up! We cannot wait to see everyone’s amazing talents!! If

Overall, we are having an amazing school year so far and cannot wait for is what to come for the rest of it!!

CLICK [HERE](#) TO SIGN-UP FOR THE TALENT SHOW

CLICK [HERE](#) TO DONATE IN HONOR OF THE TALENT SHOW PERFORMERS

