



The Bulletin Riverdale Temple

מִמְזֶרַח שָׁמֶשׁ עַד מְבֹאוֹ מִהַלְלֵי שֵׁם יי

*From the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof,
the name of the Eternal One is to be praised.*

Worship Services (see calendar on p. 2 for details)

Fridays

- Nov. 5 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service
 Nov. 12 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service
 Nov. 19 5:00 p.m. Tot Shabbat
 6:30 p.m. Ruach Shabbat
 Nov. 26 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

Saturdays

- Nov. 6 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
 Nov. 13 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
 Nov. 20 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
 Nov. 27 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service

Riverdale Temple services and events are offered in person and remotely via Zoom. Consult the e-blasts for the latest information, including Zoom links. To subscribe to our e-blasts, email:

administrator@riverdaletemple.org



Open Congregational Pulpit and Ritual Meeting Monday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m., on Zoom (link provided prior to meeting).

See p. 11 for details.

November 3: Josh Greenfield will read from his book *Continue Breathing* (see p. 8).

Vol. 75

November 2021 (5781–5782)

No. 3

THE RABBI'S COLUMN

When I first got my driver's license, I immediately rented a car and drove 300 miles on a surprise visit to a friend. On the highway, I crashed the car. No one was hurt, and I was able to drive the car to the nearest rental company and switch it out for a new one. I kept the accident a secret from my family, because I knew that my mother would be furious with me for doing something so foolish. Not the accident, but driving such a long distance when I had just gotten the license.

"Obviously, driving a long distance on a highway after just receiving your license would lead to an accident," she would have said, and while I would have strongly denied that before I had the accident, it would be harder to deny it once the accident had happened.

Sure enough, my mother found out about the accident about a year later, and she was furious. She had some pretty harsh words for me. A few days later she called me back, and her tone was very different. It was different because her best friend, Jane, had just died. It made my mother think about what was important and what was not important.

I had taken an unnecessary and foolish risk by taking that trip and, sure enough, I crashed the car. But I had not been hurt, I had not hurt anyone else, I did no damage to anything except the car, and insurance paid for that. What was most important was that I was okay, and, in her anger, my mother had not communicated that.

In 1954, the song *Little Things Mean a Lot* reached number one on the Billboard Chart in the United States, and it is true, they do. Small kindnesses, being polite, saying hello—these things are the lubrication that allow us to comfortably move through our lives. Where would we be without a loving word from a spouse, a call from a friend, a cheerful nod from the barista?

On the other hand, there are little negative things that annoy us no end. Someone may cut you off in traffic, or a young and healthy person is sitting in the seat on the bus reserved for the elderly, which you could really use. But we should never confuse the little things with the big things.

Are you there for your family and your best friends when they need you? Are you honest in your business and personal dealings? Do you keep your promises? Can people count on you? These are some of the big things. If the big things are okay—if you and your family are fairly healthy, if you

continued on p. 3

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	26th of Cheshvan 5782 Noon Lunch and Learn: Psalms II 7:30 pm Open congregational Pulpit and Ritual meeting (on Zoom) <i>1</i>	27th of Cheshvan 5782 4:00 pm Simcha Learning Center <i>2</i>	28th of Cheshvan 5782 7:30 pm Adult Ed: Josh Greenfield reads from his book <i>Continue Breathing</i> (on Zoom) <i>3</i>	29th of Cheshvan 5782 4:00 pm Study with Rabbi Gardner: Life after Life <i>4</i>	1st of Kislev 5782 7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service <i>5</i>	2nd of Kislev 5782 <i>Parashat Toldot</i> 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service 7:30 pm Wine, Cheese, and Karaoke <i>6</i>
3rd of Kislev 5782 9:30 am Simcha Learning Center <i>7</i>	4th of Kislev 5782 Noon Lunch and Learn: Psalms II <i>8</i>	5th of Kislev 5782 4:00 pm Simcha Learning Center 7:30 pm Men's Club meeting <i>9</i>	6th of Kislev 5782 <i>10</i>	7th of Kislev 5782 Veteran's Day Building closed 4:00 pm Study with Rabbi Gardner: Life after Life 7:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting <i>11</i>	8th of Kislev 5782 7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service <i>12</i>	9th of Kislev 5782 <i>Parashat Vayetze</i> 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service <i>13</i>
10th of Kislev 5782 9:30 am Simcha Learning Center <i>14</i>	11th of Kislev 5782 Noon Lunch and Learn: Psalms II <i>15</i>	12th of Kislev 5782 4:00 pm Simcha Learning Center <i>16</i>	13th of Kislev 5782 <i>17</i>	14th of Kislev 5782 4:00 pm Study with Rabbi Gardner: Life after Life 7:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting <i>18</i>	15th of Kislev 5782 5:00 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30 pm Ruach Shabbat celebration of SLC <i>19</i>	16th of Kislev 5782 <i>Parashat Vayishlach</i> 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service 1:30 pm Chavurah <i>20</i>
17th of Kislev 5782 9:30 am Simcha Learning Center <i>21</i>	18th of Kislev 5782 Noon Lunch and Learn: Psalms II <i>22</i>	19th of Kislev 5782 4:00 pm Simcha Learning Center <i>23</i>	20th of Kislev 5782 <i>24</i>	21st of Kislev 5782 Thanksgiving Day Building closed <i>25</i>	22nd of Kislev 5782 7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service <i>26</i>	23rd of Kislev 5782 <i>Parashat Vayeshev</i> 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service <i>27</i>
24th of Kislev 5782 <i>Erev Chanukah</i> 9:30 am Simcha Learning Center <i>28</i>	25th of Kislev 5782 <i>Chanukah Day 1</i> Noon Lunch and Learn: Psalms II <i>29</i>	26th of Kislev 5782 <i>Chanukah Day 2</i> 4:00 pm Simcha Learning Center <i>30</i>				

NOVEMBER

Temple events take place in person, in person and on Zoom (e.g., services), or only on Zoom. Check the bulletin and emails for specific information.

have enough to eat and a place to live, if you are more or less on good terms with family and friends, thank Gd!

It is when the big things are pretty good that we have time to obsess over the little things. The person who interrupted you at the meeting, the friend who never called or sent a card on your birthday, the clerk at the store who was rude. Annoying little things are annoying. Pleasant little things are pleasant. But always keep in the back of your mind the fact that they are little things.

We go through the world trying to be the best people we can be. We try to become our best selves. Some cultures suggest that this means being calm and equipoised in the face of good things and

bad, whether they are small or large. Judaism does not say this. We are told to mourn the bad and rejoice in the good. We do find a good balance if we can ignore the little bad things, appreciate the little good things, and deal gracefully with the big things, whether good or bad.

Chanukah approaches at the end of November! Celebrating with family and friends is important. Make time to get together with people who are important to you, and let them know how important they are! This is the best Chanukah gift of all!

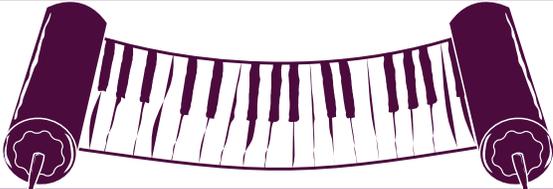
—Rabbi Tom Gardner

THE CANTOR'S COLUMN

SAVE THE DATE

RUACH SHABBAT

Sing, dance, and pray in a joyful, musical Shabbat service with our full, LIVE Ruach Shabbat Band!



2021–2022	SERVICE SCHEDULE	5782
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19	6:30 p.m. Ruach Shabbat celebrating the Simcha Learning Center	
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3	6:30 p.m. Chanukah Ruach Shabbat honoring our new members	
FRIDAY, JANUARY 21	6:30 p.m. Ruach Shabbat	
FRIDAY, MARCH 11	7:00 p.m. Pre-Purim Ruach Shabbat	
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16	5:30 p.m. Purim Festivities: 5:30 p.m. pizza dinner, 6:00 p.m. costume parade, followed by service, Megillah reading, and SPIEL!	
FRIDAY, APRIL 8	7:00 p.m. Pre-Passover Ruach Shabbat	
FRIDAY, MAY 6	7:00 p.m. Ruach Shabbat Celebrating Israel	

away the burdens of our mundane day-to-day life, and connect to spirituality, tradition, and the Divine. And also, of course, it is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our community through sharing food and schmoozing!

To that end, we are adding communal POTLUCK meals after Ruach Shabbat services! We are bringing back our POTLUCK meals on Shabbat eve! In a *New York Times* article, Judith Shulevitz wrote: “Breaking bread is probably the most effective bonding ritual society has ever come up with.”

We all feel that we have lost so much during the pandemic. We have lost connections and warmth with others, we have lost loved ones, and our lives have been taken over by isolation and fear. We have all suffered different kinds of loss, and we have all struggled.

With this in mind, to counter that painful time, we encourage all of our members to join together and direct our attention to bringing closeness and a sense of community and friendship back into our temple, our spiritual Jewish home.

And so, I encourage you, in the days before November 19, to please keep a lookout for the link we will provide for the potluck sign-up. Please sign up and share your food with us! We will sit socially distanced at tables all over our ballroom as well as outside.

I look forward to coming together and making new connections with our members, throughout the generations, to elevate our spirits with an open heart.

Lastly, Chanukah comes very early this year, as the first candle is already lit on November 28! Please save the date to celebrate together at our December 3rd Ruach Shabbat, honoring our new members and celebrating Chanukah!

L'hitraot,
Cantor Inbal Sharett-Singer

Shalom Chaveirim,

I am so happy to share that Ruach Shabbat is back! On November 19, at 6:30 p.m., we will have our Ruach Shabbat featuring the Simcha Learning Center. Ruach Shabbat is our LIVELY and musical Shabbat eve service with our full band.

It is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our community through congregational singing and grooving, where we can melt

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Since the earliest development of Judaism, our culture has worked to set us apart. Many of our customs (e.g., *kashrut*) had that effect, but the Torah also importunes the Israelites to keep separate, lest they follow false gods. And then there was circumcision, which would be a permanent indicator of difference. When Christianity was developing and seeking converts, one of their selling points was that you didn't need to be set apart. You could be like everyone else. No need to suffer the inconvenience of dietary laws, commandments, or circumcision.

In the ensuing millennia, when Jews lived under the rule of Christians and Muslims, they were often kept apart. Sometimes it was by insisting that Jews wear special clothing to demarcate them. Sometimes it was by forcing Jews to live in separate areas set aside for them, often gated and locked at night. Sometimes it was by restricting employment to certain activities. Sometimes it was by imposing taxes or fees just for being Jewish. Often it was all of the above.

But these relentless attempts at enforcing separation had an upside. It kept Jews Jewish. Yes, there was constant pressure to convert, but for many Jews, these restrictions helped to create community and to strengthen their bonds to their religion. Jewish ideas were so powerful, other religions borrowed from them wholesale. Jewish ideas were so powerful, they created a tradition of scholarship and ritual that acted as a superglue. Of course, religious boundaries are permeable, and many moved out of the fold, but enough Jews remained faithful that the religion persists to this day. At least so far.

This is not a news flash, but the relative freedom and economic success of American Jewry has had its downside. In a sense, we now are all Jews by choice. We can completely de-Judaize ourselves. We can give ourselves Anglo-Saxon names. We can get nose jobs. We can join the throngs of religiously nonobservant

Americans. We can run errands on Shabbat. Festival services are for the Orthodox. B'nei mitzvot are about who has the most elaborate party.

I was raised in a culturally Jewish, but religiously nonobservant, family. I always felt "Jewish," but I didn't know what that actually meant. I have spent the last several decades making up for that ignorance by trying to learn more about Judaism and gradually incorporating some Jewish practices into my life. So, I now have the fanaticism of a convert and want my fellow Reform Jews to also draw closer to our religion. As president of Riverdale Temple, I have tried to create programs and to support activities that I think will attract more Jews to connect to our faith. I am constantly telling people to come to a service. I am a real pain in the neck. I do realize this; I just don't care.

I have written in prior articles about how radically subversive Judaism is. How it rubs against many American ideas and values. It demands sacrifice and discipline. It asks for submission to something beyond ourselves and our wants. Americans not only "want it all," we believe we can "have it all" and are entitled to "getting it all." Sadly, life requires setting priorities and making choices. We are not any happier for living more secular lives and reducing the influence of Judaism on our decisions. When I first started to observe Passover with a Seder, I found it a bit overwhelming, but I decided that I would do what I could and each year add one small thing. This is what I ask of you, my fellow congregants. Do what you can, but try to add one small thing of Judaism to your life.

—Dr. Ronna Weber



Make Riverdale Temple Your Choice on AmazonSmile!

Kol Nidre Appeal

Thank you for your Kol Nidre donations. To those of you who haven't responded yet, please do your share to be part of the whole! We would love to have 100 percent participation! Kol Nidre donations will be listed in a later issue of the *Bulletin*.

BULLETIN BOARD

Many temple activities will take place via Zoom and in person. Please consult the calendar on p. 2 and the temple website at <https://riverdaletemple.org>, and also check e-blasts for updates.



Go to <https://urj.org> for announcements, news and press releases, a calendar of virtual programs and events, and general information.

Congratulations

Calder Weiss and family on the celebration of his Bar Mitzvah

Joyce White and family on the wedding of her son **Sam White** to **Ashley Centrella** on September 10, 2021

Copy for the next issue of *The Bulletin* is due by **November 15**. You can email it directly to administrator@riverdaletemple.org (put "Bulletin" in subject line).



Visit our website: <https://riverdaletemple.org>
Join Us on Facebook!

Did you know that Riverdale Temple has a Facebook page? Find us by searching for "Riverdale Temple Bronx, NY" on Facebook and join this page by clicking on "like." This is a space where we can exchange ideas, blog, discuss events, share photos, etc., and strengthen our bonds as a community. Join and make our numbers grow.

To give a contribution to Riverdale Temple, send your donation to Riverdale Temple, 4545 Independence Avenue, Bronx, NY 10471. Please make your check payable to Riverdale Temple. Give the name/category/event to which your donation applies. We now accept payment by credit card; call the office (718-548-3800, ext. 0) or go to www.riverdaletemple.org. You can support Riverdale Temple by buying a mug with our logo for just \$10.

Riverdale Temple	Rabbi	4
Telephone Extensions (718-548-3800)	Cantor	5
Temple Office	0 or 1	Center
Bookkeeper	2	Emergencies
Nursery School	3	General Information
		Other
		9

Riverdale Temple House Committee

Our mission is to ensure that the building and grounds of our synagogue best respond to the spiritual, educational, cultural, and social needs and activities of our congregation. We are concerned about safety, cleanliness, comfort, and appearance and maximizing the functionality of our facilities. The committee works closely with the maintenance staff to ensure that the facilities are well managed and meet the needs of our community efficiently and economically. The committee benefits from members with varied experience in facilities management, engineering, construction, and related fields. **Please volunteer to serve on this committee by writing to: administrator@riverdaletemple.org or president@riverdaletemple.org**

Registry of Holocaust Survivors

If you are a Holocaust survivor or a family member of a survivor, you can register to be included in the Benjamin and Vladka Meed Registry of Holocaust Survivors, at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. For more information, go to ushmm.org/resourcecenter.

Contact information: Holocaust Survivors and Victims Resource Center, Registry of Holocaust Survivors, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Riverdale Temple is now part of the organics/compost pilot program in the Bronx. We can now recycle our food scraps. Please observe the different signs on the garbage receptacles and put throwaways in the proper container. We are pioneers in a wonderful program—please join the effort in caring for our environment. Thank you!



Recapture the joy of reading through the JBI Library for visually impaired, blind, and reading-disabled individuals, all provided free of charge and delivered to your doorstep. Call toll free at 1-800-433-1531 or visit JBI's website at www.jbibrary.org



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SIMCHA LEARNING CENTER

October was a full month at the Simcha Learning Center. With a robust registration of more than 40 students, we gathered each week to start our morning with a Tefilah service. We started the day with a fun back-and-forth chant of *Boker Tov* (good morning). This chant woke us all up with various fun call-and-responses and hand motions.

The cantor, rabbi, and I teamed up to lead the Tefilah service. The cantor led our children with wonderful tunes, taught them new tefilot, and invited various children to help her. In addition, this was a terrific opportunity for our younger children to hear and see how our B'nai Mitzvah children lead the *Shema* and *Vaahavta*.

Throughout the service, the rabbi offered words of Torah and explanations of the service, and I wove in stories related to the Torah portion, upcoming holidays, or important values to discuss and explore. This was all followed up by the interactive activities our classroom children have once they go to their classroom. Each child gleaned something different from the

Tefilah experience, but all were personally touched by being together with the clergy and entire community.

—Judy Weinberg, Education and Engagement Specialist



NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

It is hard to believe that another month has already passed. The Nursery School is truly a magical place. Every morning the children come in smiling and ready for the day ahead. The children are busy learning and growing and have really gotten used to all of the new routines.

As you walk around school, you feel like fall is in the air. Children are using nature to create projects, class trees, and cute little leaf creatures. Many teachers have brought in apples and pumpkins to study, to inspire painting, and for baking some delicious treats. This month our Pre-K classes are exploring their five senses. They have been going on listening walks, having taste and smell tests, and creating touch collages with different materials.

Our Mommy and Me classes have begun, and we are still enrolling more children. If you know anyone who may be interested, they can register on our website or email me at nsdirector.rtns@gmail.com. Classes are held at RTNS every Thursday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Fundraisers

We have a few fundraisers that are going on and will continue throughout the year. We are beginning our challah club again,

so our families can go home with a delicious challah every week. This month we will also have our book fair, which will be virtual (Nov. 8–11) and in person (Nov. 14). Come visit us at our tent at the Riverdale Y market on Sunday, November 14. We will have crafts and story time.

November is all about giving at RTNS, and we will be collecting pajamas and toys for children in need. We will also show how grateful we are for our teachers and staff by having our families write grateful notes that we stick into their mailboxes. Feel free to send a gratitude note to nsdirector.rtns@gmail.com.

Tours

Virtual tours will begin this month for the 2022–2023 school year. If you have friends who are interested, please tell them to call the school at 718-796-0335 or email me at nsdirector.rtns@gmail.com to schedule a tour. We have already had many families apply for next year. Spread the word, as we do tend to fill up quickly.

—Alexandra Abikzer, Director

WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM (SISTERHOOD)

My column will return in the December issue.

—Joanne Heyman, President

Book Club

Hi All,

Thanks for the wonderful participation on October 27. Our discussion of Dara Horn's *People Love Dead Jews* could have gone on for a few more hours, I'm sure. There was so much to uncover. If you are interested, Dara Horn is making in-person and virtual appearances everywhere, so I urge you to search the internet for more about her and the interest her book is evoking.

Our next meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 1, at 7:30 p.m. This schedule change is being made in deference to those who will be busy "erev" Thanksgiving on the 24th.

Our next book selection is *Our Country Friends* by Gary Shteyngart. The book will be published November 2 but can be preordered today in all formats, including audio.

Molly Young of *The New York Times* describes it as follows: "A perfect novel for these times and all times, the single textual artifact from the pandemic era I would place in a time capsule as a representation of all that is good and true and beautiful about literature."

See you all in December, or sooner.

Best,

—Ronni Stolzenberg

Karaoke, Wine, and Cheese!

Join your Riverdale Temple family for a fun night of Karaoke! You bring your own wine, we'll provide the cheese and crackers. Come for the singing, stay for the laughs! It'll be a night you won't want to miss!

Saturday, November 6, at 7:30 p.m.

\$10 Admission Fee

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Please note: Masks are mandatory. Only fully vaccinated individuals, with valid proof of vaccination, will be admitted inside the temple at this time.



MEN OF REFORM JUDAISM (MEN'S CLUB)

"We're building the men's club of the future"

This past week there was an informal meeting of past, present, and future members of the Men's Club. This meeting was not announced, and it coincided with a very special event honoring our own Fred Schweitzer as the founder of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Interfaith Education Center at Manhattan College. This year was the 25th anniversary of the founding of the center, and many members of RT were in attendance to honor Fred.

This provided me with an opportunistic moment where I could chat informally with friends and colleagues who also wish to see a new and more participatory Men's Club as we move forward. These are indeed new and exciting times for all of us at RT. Membership is growing, its facilities are undergoing upgrades, and the opportunities for creating a more impactful Men's Club abound.

The only thing missing is YOU! We have tentatively set up the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. as our meeting time. Meetings will take place in the temple ballroom. Our first meeting will be November 9.

Please try to be there, as we are hoping to get as much input from members in creating our agenda as soon as possible. Remember that the suggested annual dues is \$50.00.

Let's make this year a transformational year for our Men's Club.

Shalom,

—Steven Rosenfeld, President

SOCIAL ACTION

A BIG THANK-YOU & A BIG APPLAUSE: Thank you to the congregants, the Nursery School, and the greater community who donated the strollers, warm coats, shoes and sneakers, and women's handbags for the Afghan refugees. We faced a big challenge, since Riverdale Temple volunteered to be a donation site, and we thought an organization was going to come to collect the donations. This didn't happen, so we recruited volunteers from within Riverdale Temple and our greater community to help drive the donations to Scarsdale.

So a bigger thank-you and applause to those who helped to drive all the donations to the Westchester Scarsdale JCC: Joanne Heyman (multiple trips), Jeff Sklar, Frances Segan (RT); Tamar Dinowitz and Aviva Schwab (CSAIR); Rick Feldman and Michael Goldblum (HIR); and Julie Glick Davis, from Ardsley.

Thank you also to Eurides Osorio, Mr. Santana, Linda Eisenkraft, Phil Clarke, Michelle Roos, and Tali Strom.

MONTHLY GROCERY COLLECTION: In November, we have both Thanksgiving and the start of Chanukah. People like to donate during holidays, as they enjoy special times with family and friends. Please remember that HUNGER is with us 24/7 and throughout the long, cold winter and the entire year.

SOMETHING NEW: Each month we will focus on having you buy and donate specific items. For November, please donate: **oatmeal, sardines, canned sweet potatoes, and applesauce:** If you donate from your kitchen cabinet, please check freshness

dates. Unfortunately, your donation will not be able to be used if you donate items with expired dates. Volunteers to help check donated groceries should contact Linda Eisenkraft.

KRMH FOOD & HUNGER PROJECT: We are distributing grocery gift cards through the Interfaith Clergy and Riverdale Y to help those still affected by the pandemic. Some people may have returned to work; others are faced with back rent, unpaid bills, and increased grocery costs.

THE PAJAMA PROGRAM: Please donate at least one new pair of pajamas for children and teens, up to adult size. The collection, begun in October, goes through November 14. Volunteers are needed to help sort the items. Please contact Linda Eisenkraft if you are available to help. The Pajama Program will help us get the new pajamas where they are most needed—people who have experienced floods, forest fires, and those in our own community living in poverty.

LOOKING AHEAD: We anticipate having a winter coat and jacket drive in December. Please start to review any winter coats and jackets that you may have to donate. We will let you know if the collection will include winter caps, gloves, and scarves via an eblast.

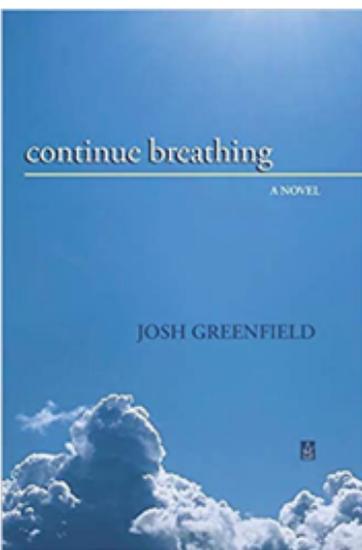
Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Joyous Chanukah!

—Frances Segan, Ph.D., Chairperson, Social Action Committee

ADULT EDUCATION



Hello everyone, This year is moving along rapidly, and we are working diligently to continue planning the adult education events. This last month, the YIVO lecture featured the scholar Dr. Jeffrey Shandler, who presented an interesting and informative talk about the origins and future of Yiddish. At this event, for those of you who were not present, I recommended that you also might enjoy the monthly Yiddish Club that is being sponsored by the YIVO. Look for it on the YIVO.org website. On November 21, they will feature a program on Yiddish puppetry.



As you know, we often highlight the accomplishments of Riverdale Temple members. This month, on November 3, at 7:30 p.m., via Zoom (as all our programs are this year), we are recognizing the accomplishments of writer

Josh Greenfield. He will be reading from and commenting on his newest novel, *Continue Breathing*. *The Riverdale Press*, in an article about his work, noted that Greenfield began writing in 2008, and that this novel is being published by Adelaide Books. It was partly inspired by the author's own life and experiences: "But standing at the core of his novel is the same theme that informs much of his other work: recovery."

Coming Attractions

In December, we will be looking forward for a baking experience with our talented member and past president of our synagogue, Rachel Radna. Stay tuned to learn more about this event closer to the holiday season.

Further into the new year, in January, one of our events will be featuring congregant Muriel Adams, who will, with Rabbi Gardner, conduct a Tu B'Shvat Seder, a repeat of the very successful Seder we celebrated last year.

In February, the YIVO lecture will be featuring Annie Polland, the president of the Tenement Museum in the lower East Side, who will speak about the history of this wonderful treasure from the times when Jews were immigrating from Europe in large numbers and what it was like for them as they arrived in New York City.

And remember, our weekly **Study with the Rabbi** continues:

Class 1: Lunch and Learn: Psalms 2.

A close look at some of the most important Psalms. The class meets on Mondays, from noon to 1:00 p.m.

Class 2: Life after Life?

What does Judaism say happens when we die? The class meets on Thursdays, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

—Dr. Yvette Marrin, Chair Adult Education Committee

The **Chavurah** will meet on **November 20**, at 1:30 p.m., in the ballroom, following the Shabbat communal lunch. The Torah portion for that week, read by Jews around the world, is Vayishlach. In this action-packed reading, Jacob returns to his home with trepidation, fearing Esau’s anger, but when they meet, they embrace. Jacob wrestles with an angel who blesses him and renames him Israel. Dinah is abducted. Rachel gives birth to Benjamin. Lots to read, ponder, and argue about. So please join us for lively conversation and fellowship.

—Dr. Ronna Weber

CONTRIBUTIONS

The following funds are represented in the entries below: Bible and Prayer Book Fund, Jean P. and Francis J. Bloustein Camp Scholarship Fund, Cantor’s Special Fund, Decorating Fund, Jacob-Fogel Program Fund, Rabbi Stephen D. Franklin Music Fund, General Fund, Dorothy and Joseph Kay Prayer Book Fund, Leon and Beatrice Bereano Pulpit Flowers Fund, Rabbi’s Special Fund, Religious School and Nursery School Parents Associations Fund, Soviet Émigré Fund, Charles Tenenbaum Fund, Torah Repair Fund, Youth Activities Fund.

DONOR	IN HONOR	DONOR	IN MEMORY
Muriel Adams	Riverdale Temple, for the beautiful and inspiring High Holy Days Services	Roberta and Morris Goldman	Ruth Siegel
Irene Brenner	Francine’s birthday	Dr. Dan Goldstein and Mary Ann Goldstein	Fanny Cohen and Leopold Goldstein
Stanley Ferber	Riverdale Temple	Steven Goldstein	Irwin Goldstein
Margaret and Michael Griffel	Fred Schweitzer, for his richly deserved honor	Maxine Toal-Greenberg	Jack Blumenthal
Martin Linda	High Holy Days Services	Margaret and Michael Griffel	Giza Hirsch, beloved grandmother of Margaret Griffel
Beth and Bob Nevins	Riverdale Temple, for streaming the High Holy Days Services to the community	Susan W. Kaufman	Dr. Louis S. Werner and Isabel Virshup Werner
Fred Schweitzer	Rabbi Tom Gardner, for his High Holy Days sermons and his Adult Education classes	Sandra Lerner	Ada Herman
Sandra Stern	Rabbi Tom Gardner	Ruth Loebmann	Michael Abrahamson
Ronna Weber	Fred Schweitzer	Yvette Marrin	Charles Stuart Heyman
Women of Reform Judaism	Riverdale Temple	Wendy Parker	Joseph Rappaport
DONOR	IN MEMORY	Jonathan Parker	Annette Parker, beloved mother
Dorothy Baer	Pauline Baer	Wendy Parker	Annette Parker
Irene Brenner	Mildred Zuckerman	Jonathan Parker	Annette Parker
Dorothy Feldman	Samuel Feldman	Marilyn and Emil Propper	Bessie Cohen
Phyllis Fisher	Cybele Fisher	Margery Riker	Robert C. Baker
Jim Fogel	Edward A. Fogel	Paul Rosenberg	Leonard Rosenberg
Beth Fertig Friedman and Mitchell Friedman	Douglas Popolow, Hattie Fertig, and Joseph Fertig	Linda Rozenfeld	Stephen Rozenfeld
Michael Friedman	Rose Bloch	James Schnitzer	Hedy Schnitzer
		Helen Silber	Hank Grossman
		Lydia Soifer	Eva Semmel
		Helaine Teperman	Grace Feinberg.

Condolences

To

Marilyn Ross Cahn and Steven Cahn; Margaret Ross Griffel and Michael Griffel; Victor and Susan Ross; Ernest and Ilya Ross; David and Lauren Ross; Sharon and Yoram Partush; and children

Joanne Heyman and Joe Greene; Anne Daigle and Richard Heyman; Beverlie and Morris Marks; Sydney and Morgan Greene, Scott and Julia Heyman, Andrew, Ilana, and Alex Marks, and Rashid Perkins

On the Loss of

Marianne Ross, beloved aunt, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother

Charles Stuart Heyman, beloved father, father-in-law, grandfather



The Departed Whom We Now Remember: November Yahrzeit Observances

1 Martin Paul Brier	8 Mildred Zuckerman	20 Yaahov Hirsch
1 Elaine Katz	9 Randall Leland Kirp Bereano	20 Leopold Holzman
1 Esther Schlesinger	9 Dr. Bernard Looks	20 Ida Kurtin
2 Helen Fein	10 Michael Braunstein	20 Louis Maier
2 Robert Fein	10 Rebecca Mandel	20 Fay Schweitzer
2 Barbara Glickenstein	10 Avis Shulman	20 Eleonor Lola Zeller
2 Max Warshaw	10 Moe Silvers	21 Maurice Bender
2 Dorothy Wolf	11 Heda Cohen Chazen	21 Sarah Hartman
3 Margot Baldinger	11 Cilli Majerczyk	21 Rose Hutter
3 Irving Friedman	11 Freda Warshaw	21 Robert Morse
3 Saul Jaffe	11 Jack Weintraub	22 Sol Dubrov
3 Phil Katz	12 Ada Herman	22 Ali Levi
3 Paul Sertner	12 Marion Molsky	22 Ida Pearlman
3 Sondra "Sunny" Spector	12 Mark Thomas	22 William Schweitzer
3 Minnie Ulanoff	12 Lawrence Tick	23 Adele E. Miller
3 Solomon Weinstock	13 Irving Schneider	23 Herman I. Rothman
4 Gita Chakrabarti	14 Fannie Bialek	24 Edith Pargh
4 Arthur I. Poblner	14 Leba Burstin	24 Samuel Silver
4 Kaethe Spiegel	14 Seymour Felder	25 Irving Geller
4 Steven Joseph Spitz	14 Diane Malafronte	25 Milton B. Liman
4 Vide Wiggs	14 William Mallin	25 Rose Stanger Weiss
5 Abraham Borut	14 Max Oppenheimer	26 Samuel H. Regan
5 Harry Feinberg	15 Margaret Spath	26 Dorothy Storm Konel
5 Jerry Feinberg	16 Channah Brenner	27 Jack Blumenthal
5 Marilyn Gefter	16 Grace Feinberg	27 Harry Burgeman
5 Theodore Gruen	16 Sidney Maskit	27 Jerry Daniels
5 David Hoffman	16 Stanley Silber	27 Abraham Rappaport
5 David Turiel	16 Turner Joseph Soloway	27 Benjamin Reinhart
6 Louis Egel	17 Bertha Arrow	28 Phyllis Rogofsky
6 Edward Fogel	17 Nathan Katz	28 Harold Schwartz
6 Harry L. Salb	17 Lillian Kalish Spachner	28 Bernard Statsky
7 David Hartman	18 Sydney Gevertz	28 Giza Hirsch
7 Sol Liebowitz	18 Debabrata Mukherjee	29 Frieda Sugarman
7 William Parker	18 Bertha Friedlich Rothstein	30 Eva Murstein
7 Joseph Saraga	19 Charles Gold	30 Albert Spatz
7 Emma Weiner	20 Brigitta Thea-Dora Andrews	
8 Dinah Avrach	20 Jeanne Aronson	
8 Abraham Gordon	20 Arthur Hatz	

Open Congregational Pulpit and Ritual Meeting

Monday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m.
on Zoom!

The Riverdale Temple Pulpit and Ritual Committee will hold its Annual Open Congregational Pulpit and Ritual Meeting on Monday, November 1, at 7:30 p.m., on Zoom.

We invite all of our congregants to join this meeting, as it is your opportunity to share your thoughts and experiences regarding our Shabbat, Festival, and High Holy Days Services. We welcome your comments and suggestions and hope that you will make every effort to attend.

A Zoom link will be provided prior to the meeting.

Riverdale Temple Cares

Are you lonely or feeling isolated during the pandemic? Are you or a family member ill? Riverdale Temple is here to help. The temple's Caring Committee offers support during difficult times by calling members and their families to talk—about your concerns or just to have a friendly chat. Good news, such as a milestone birthday or a birth in the family or other simcha? We'd like to share in your joy!

If you or someone you know would welcome a caring call, please reach out to Muriel (917-353-6843) or Beth (bethfertig@gmail.com). If you prefer, you may contact Rabbi Gardner (718-548-3800).

**NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY | RIVERDALE
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE**

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION FOR SENIORS

ARE YOU OR YOUR NEIGHBORS

ELIGIBLE?

- Are you over 60?
- Are you a New York State resident?
- Do you make less than \$1,396 a month, or \$16,744 a year?



Jeffrey Dinowitz
District 8



**RIVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE
5521 MOSHOLU AVENUE BRONX, NY 10471**

call 917-982-2562 for more information

Starting in October, Riverdale Neighborhood House, with the support of Councilman Dinowitz's office, began partnering with NY Common Pantry to distribute food packages for eligible seniors. The first session of this monthly program was on October 26.

RIVERDALE TEMPLE

4545 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE

BRONX, NY 10471

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

RIVERDALE TEMPLE
4545 Independence Avenue
Bronx, NY 10471

affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism,
patron of the Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion

Telephone: 718-548-3800 Fax: 718-543-1492
Email: administrator@riverdaletemple.org
Web Page Address: <https://riverdaletemple.org>

Rabbi of the Congregation

Thomas A. Gardner, B.A., M.A., M.A.H.L.

Cantor of the Congregation

Inbal Sharett-Singer, B.Mus., M.S.M.

Rabbis Emeriti of the Congregation

Stephen D. Franklin, D.D., D.H.L.
Judith S. Lewis, D.D.

President of the Congregation

Ronna Weber, Ph.D.

Nursery School Executive Director

Alexandra Abikzer

Religious School Education and Engagement Specialist

Judy Weinberg, M.A.

Bulletin Editor

Margaret Ross Griffel, Ph.D.

Bulletin Proofreaders

Shelley Ast, Susan Birnbaum,
Sylvia Gottlieb, L. Michael Griffel,
Olivia Koppell

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