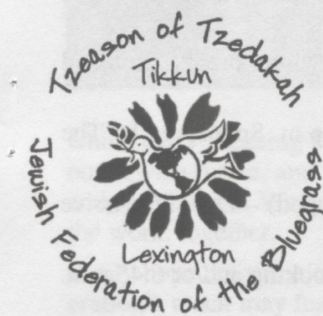




Tzeason of Tzedakah: How will you participate this Tzeason?

By Talia Smolkin



During Tzeason of Tzedakah this year, we have the opportunity to look deeply at each other, at the people serving alongside us, and the people we are serving. It is easy to interact with others without truly seeing them, but Jewish tradition calls upon us to see each other as whole, complex individuals, made in the image of God. When we come together, how do we see each other?

Now is the time for us to stand as a Jewish community and Lexington community. With the range of views, beliefs, and feelings, we can come together. We can see each other. We can and need to take care of each other.

Every year at this time, we come together to volunteer at a variety of organizations in the wider Lexington community. We call this Tzeason of Tzedakah, a season in December filled with tzedakah-related activities. We cook, serve, and deliver food or full meals. We socialize and celebrate with those in need. We donate items to wonderful organizations in town. We do this with old friends and new, with others from across the Jewish community. We help many organizations that sorely need us to fill in as volunteers this time of year. It is fun, fulfilling, and shares with the Lexington community how amazing we are.

At the end of reading this article, of course you will send an e-mail, pick up the phone, or go to OUR WEBSITE to sign up. Many of you reading this article have been dedicated, volunteering with Tzeason of Tzedakah for a number of years. And many of you are fresh-faced, lovely new volunteers.

The question at hand is not whether or not you will participate. The question is, how will you participate? How will you infuse kavanah, meaningful intention, into Tzeason of Tzedakah?

Do more than sign up for a Tzeason of Tzedakah activity. Enter the space with open eyes. Truly search for each other and give each other *kavod*, respect. Bring light into winter's darkness. (*Continued on p. 2*)

Campaign News

By Tamara Ohayon



The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass Annual Community Campaign will end on December 31. If you have not yet done so, please make your tax-deductible contribution this month. Your donation will aid us in fulfilling our obligations to our brothers and sisters around the world, and continue providing quality programming and services here at home. If you are able to give more than in previous years, please consider doing so, as each additional dollar you give increases the depth and reach of what we are able to do for you and others in Central Kentucky.

Giving your gift to Federation should be easy, and we are able to offer many ways in which you can support our work through the Annual Campaign. Here are some of the ways you can make your tax deductible gift to Federation this year:

1. Mail a check to "JFB" or "Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass" at 1050 Chinoe Rd Ste 112, Lexington, KY 40502.
2. Give securely by credit card at www.jewishlexington.org. Just look for the "Donate" link at the top of the page.
3. Call the Federation office at (859) 268-0672 to pay by credit card over the phone.
4. Support JFB in the GoodGiving Challenge by donating online at www.bggives.org between November 29 at 9:00 a.m. and December 31 at 11:59 p.m. We ask that if you participate in this Challenge, **please select the option to cover processing fees so that JFB receives the full amount of your intended donation.**
5. Transfer stock or other investments to JFB by calling the office of Lee Mullins at (859) 243-5007.
6. Donate a car, truck, motorcycle, boat or RV by calling (866) 985-4483 to speak to a dedicated Federation representative or fill out the form on our website.

Thank you for all you do to support the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass. Your donation WILL make a difference. Please give with your heart, and give generously.

(Tzeason of Tzedakah, continued from p. 1) Everyone is invited to participate in numerous volunteer opportunities. Each individual is welcome to join any volunteer opportunity, whether or not they are affiliated with the organization sponsoring the activity. Try something familiar or new:

- **Hope Center's HopeMobile*** - Make sandwiches for distribution from Hope Center's HopeMobile – Dec. 4, at Ohavay Zion Synagogue, 10 a.m. Sponsored by Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

- **Stewart Home** - Share Hanukkah activities with residents of Stewart Home School – Dec. 7. at 5 p.m. Meet at Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass to carpool.

- **God's Pantry*** - Sort goods at God's Pantry for those in need in Lexington – Time and Date TBA. Sponsored by Young Bluegrass Jews.

- **God's Pantry Backpacking** - Pack food for Fayette County students to take home for winter break. Time and location TBA. Sponsored by Temple Adath Israel and Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

- **Sayre Christian Village** - Help run program for residents of Sayre – Dec. 20 at 2:30 p.m. Sponsored by The Lexington Havurah.

- **Moveable Feast*** - Deliver meals to those in need (training required and can be arranged) – Dec. 26, Arrive 4:30-5:00 p.m.

- **Ronald McDonald House** - Cook and serve dinner – Dec. 25, Arrive at 3:30 p.m. for cooking and/or 6:45 p.m. for serving dinner. Sponsored by Lexington Chapter of Hadassah.

- **Catholic Action Center** - Prepare and serve dinner. Sponsored by Temple Adath Israel.

- o Dec. 23 - Cook (time TBA)

- o Dec. 25 – Prep Food and/or serve dinner (time TBA)

- **Mayfair Village** - Help run program for residents – Dec. 25 at 2 p.m.

- **Meals on Wheels** - Deliver meals to those in need – Dec. 26 at 10:15 a.m. at Trinity Hill United Methodist Church. Sponsored by B'nai B'rith.

In addition to volunteering, there are opportunities to donate items. Donation bins will be available at Jewish Federation, Temple Adath Israel, and Ohavay Zion Synagogue.

- **One Parent Scholar House*** - From their website, this organization helps “single parents earn a college degree by providing affordable housing for their families, on-site care and development for their children, counseling, and support.” One Parent Scholar House is in need of:

- o Diapers (sizes 4 and 5)

- o Baby wipes

- o Socks and underwear for boys and girls

- **The Race For Education*** - From their website, “Through academic development programs, tutoring, internships, financial literacy training and scholarships; The Race For Education provides opportunities for educational success for young people with significant financial need and academic challenges.” The Race for Education is in need of:

- o Pencils

- o Notebook paper (wide-ruled or college-ruled)

- o Post-its

- o Colorful 3x5 notecards

- o Small jenga sets

- o 2-pocket folders with prongs

- o Electric pencil sharpeners

Charities marked with an asterisk (*) are participants in the GoodGiving Challenge. Please consider supporting them alongside JFB!

To sign up to volunteer or for more information, visit our website, e-mail talial@jewishlexington.org, or call the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass at (859) 268-0672.

Director's Message

By Tamara Ohayon



As I write this, our country is only beginning to process the results of the elections. Whether your feelings are positive or negative about the outcomes, this election has reminded many of us of the ideals and values we find most precious, most important.

By now I hope we have all begun to think about how we will keep moving forward. Politics aside, I hope our community can come together to recognize that we will always be united in our shared history, rituals, religious and spiritual beliefs, and hope for a better future.

In looking ahead, we must continue to show the world that our country's greatest strengths shine through when we harness our passions and champion the causes which carry meaning for us. As a Jewish community, we have a responsibility to support each other and ensure our Jewish future, and in unity, continue to bring light to the world. We must embody mutual respect, kindness, and compassion. We have as much of a commitment to the future as the past, if not more so. We *must* keep doing the work, together.

I truly hope the value of Federation's work is recognized. For some who are less involved or less informed, Federation's reach may feel small, as our organization and local Jewish community are relatively small. Our work, I would argue, has a much greater impact than any of us could possibly imagine.

Together, with our Board and volunteers, the Federation staff is coordinating and running many diverse programs throughout the year, providing services for individuals and families in need, and supporting an array of educational opportunities for adults and children. We are sending funding to similar programs around the world, efforts which strengthen communities of all sizes and deepen the connection that younger generations have with their Jewish heritage and people. In times of crisis and natural disaster, the Federation worldwide system, of which we are a part, sends funds and assistance to those in most dire need **across borders and regardless of faith or nationality.**

Perhaps most importantly, Federation is always searching for new ways to collaborate, convene, and complement the various groups and activities offered locally.

We have programming committees in need of additional help and fresh ideas to start planning for 2017 and beyond. Our Tzeason of Tzedakah is throughout December, when there are numerous possibilities for volunteering around Lexington and supporting agencies which serve our broader community. (See the article by Talia on pages 1-2 for more information.)

We have a new Bikkur Cholim (visiting the sick and homebound) group which has regular trainings scheduled by our Jewish Family Services social worker, Mimi Kaufman.

You can meet us downtown on January 16, 2017 as we join together under one Jewish community banner in the Lexington Martin Luther King, Jr. March for Freedom.

This week we begin participating in the [GoodGiving Challenge](#), an online fundraising event supporting over 100 nonprofit organizations in the Central Kentucky area. This is yet another fun way to give to Federation and help us fund the work we will do in the coming year.

Not hearing about causes you want to champion? If you feel passionately about it, pitch it to Federation and together we can see if we can make it happen.

Finally, please don't forget to send us your contribution for 2016 by the end of the Annual Campaign season on December 31, to guarantee your 2016 tax deduction and ensure our programs and services continue in the coming year.

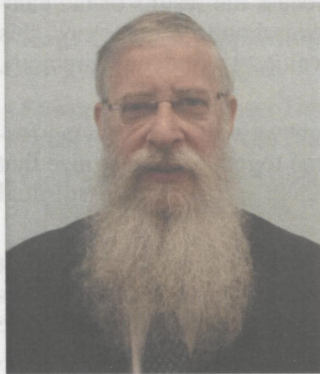
Thank you for all that you do and will do with us in the future.

**Submissions for the February 2017 edition of *Shalom* are due
January 10!**

Contributor articles are always welcome!

Rabbi's Column

By Rabbi Avrohom Litvin



Question to the Rabbi: I am writing this just a few hours after we heard the news of Donald Trump winning the election for the next President of the United States. Literally dozens of people have asked me everything ranging from “How could this happen?” to “How can we go on?” to “Please shed some light on this historic turn of events.” Let’s condense all these questions to: “Rabbi, what are your thoughts on the outcome of the elections and on the future of our country?”

Answer from Rabbi Avrohom Litvin: My first thought is to try to explain why so many among the Jewish community, and so many across the entire country, could not agree on whom the president should be and what steps should be taken to enable this country to be its very best. Within humanity, we find there are many different ways to see a problem and many different ways to solve it. In Jewish philosophy (Kabbala) it is explained that people come from different mindsets. Some people are “givers.” They are kind and generous and enjoy sharing gifts with others if they are deserving of these gifts or not. One such person was the first of the three Patriarchs, Abraham.

In Kabbalistic terms, Abraham came from a place of kindness (*Chessed*). Abraham had a tent open to all sides. All who would pass by would be given food and drink. He did not ask if they were deserving. He saw someone hungry, and he fixed it by giving and sharing whatever he had. The Torah teaches that when it was very hot and there were no travelers, Abraham was pained by not being able to share his kindness with others.

The second of the Patriarchs was Isaac (son of Abraham). The Kabbala describes him as coming from a place of Discipline (*Gevurah*). He was more interested in being just and fair than in always giving. He didn’t interact much with others and spent the majority of his time working on himself to ensure that he would be the best he could be.

The third of the Patriarchs was Jacob (son of Isaac, grandson of Abraham). The Kabbala describes him as a man of harmony or beauty (*Tiferet*). He took the best of his father and grandfather and blended their strengths into the best of them both. He became the father of the 12 tribes and the future Jewish Nation.

Take, for example, the famous dilemma of what to do when finding a hungry man. Abraham would see the problem and say: “The man is hungry. Give the man a fish.” Isaac would see the problem and say “Although he may be hungry, he did not deserve getting a fish. Teach him the skill to fish for himself.” Jacob might say “Give him a fish now to appease his hunger and then let’s teach him to fish for himself.”

Throughout the generations, we can see the same attitudes displayed over and over again. For example, someone came to the sage, Shammai, and asked to be taught the entire Torah while Shammai would stand on one foot. Shammai felt this person was being disrespectful and had him chased from the study hall. He then went to the sage, Hillel with the same request. Hillel looks past if he was being totally sincere or not. Hillel told him: “What is distasteful to you, do not do to your fellow man. The rest is commentary, go and study it.” Hillel was a man of kindness while Shammai was more just and disciplined.

Fast forward to the year 2016. The candidates looked at the problems facing our country and presented different solutions. Some solutions may have come from more of a place of kindness. Other solutions may have come from a place of justice and discipline. So there was a vote and one person was elected.

What now? Now it is up to President-Elect Trump to have the wisdom of Jacob to take the best part of both parties and govern the entire country with harmony and beauty. It is interesting to note that Abraham, the giver, had two sons – Isaac and Yishmael – but they didn’t get along. Isaac, the disciplinarian, had two sons – Jacob and Esau – but they didn’t get along. Yet Jacob, who harmonized the contrasting teachings of both his father and grandfather, after they grew up - his children all got along and blossomed into the Nation of Israel.

If President-Elect Trump can learn from Jacob, then he will indeed pull together the entire country and the best days of America will surely be in front of us. To make this work – we, the nation, have to stay united, and the President has to govern with great harmony and intelligence. I pray this is what ensues throughout the term of his upcoming presidency. May G-d bless the President-Elect. May G-d bless us all. May G-d bless Israel and May G-d Bless the United States of America.

Our local Rabbis write columns pertaining to a variety of topics. We encourage you to submit suggestions for columns you would be interested in reading to shalom@jewishlexington.org.

ASK JFS

By Mimi Kaufman



We often hear, "It's so hard to find good help." This is true. We also hear, "It is so darn expensive." This is often also true. But, here is the other truth that is a tough subject to talk about. When we know someone needs help because they are declining a little bit physically, mentally or both, it is preventative medicine to bite the bullet, so to speak, and try to get some help. Quite often it is tough for some families because their loved one is a determined matriarch or patriarch who is telling everyone how it will be, no matter what. There is no good, clear reasoning or judgment going on when this is the case. Although waiting for something to happen can be exasperating, it is often the only approach some families can use. A serious acute illness can temporarily disable even the youngest and strongest people, but a minor illness can totally disable someone who is mentally or physically declining.

It is certainly easier to find assistance when there is no urgency. Plan ahead as much as you can to avoid a crisis. Accept help when it is appropriate and beneficial to health and well-being. Rely on the family doctor and good friends. Be willing to alter lifestyles in order to maximize rewards and pleasures in life.

Feel free to call JFS, (859) 269-8244 if you need more information or help navigating through what kind of services could be most beneficial to you.

ASK JFS is a monthly column covering a wide range of issues. If you have a problem or a concern that you would like addressed in this Shalom column, please send them either by mail to Jewish Family Services at 1050 Chinoe Road Suite 112, or by email to jfs@jewishlexington.org. You can also always call with your confidential questions at (859) 269-8244.



OZS Women's League is planning a Craft Fair Fundraiser

**Sunday, December 11
(During our Hanukkah party)
at OZS from 11:00 – 1:00**

**We will have tables set up in the social hall for
vendors to sell their goods.**

**Tell your friends and anyone that might be
interested in Participating.**

**We ask that you donate 10% of your sales
from the day to OZS Women's League.**

**Contact Ronit at aeres83821@aol.com
for more detailed information and to sign up.**

Israel 21c: On the olive-oil trail through the Galilee and Golan

By Viva Sarah Press

(Originally published online November 3, 2016)



With the olive harvest underway, Israel's boutique olive-oil producers and small-scale olive-oil presses are open for a peek behind the scenes.

The olive harvest is underway in Israel, and Israel's olive-oil producers and small-scale olive-oil presses have opened their doors to the public for a peek behind the scenes.

Israeli olive oil may not flow as abundantly as that of some of its Mediterranean neighbors – Spain, Greece and Italy are among the world's top producers – but the yellow-green oil coming out of the Galilee and Golan Heights is top quality.

"We know how to make good oil. It's not about one type of olive or another but about how to make the oil," Dr. Mazen Ali, a dentist in Deir Hanna and an olive oil expert, tells ISRAEL21c. "We cannot compete by quantity, but we can compete by quality."

In 2016, 10 Israeli olive oil producers won gold certificates at the prestigious TerraOlivo international extra-virgin olive oil competition.

"We know how to make high-class olive oil," Peleg Ovrutzki, owner and farmer at Ein Camonim, tells ISRAEL21c. "We have some very good oils in Israel and we win international awards with them."

History of oil

The olive oil industry in Israel dates back thousands of years.

Today, Israel produces about 19,500 tons of olive oil annually. Adi Naali, olive division manager of Israel's Plants Production and Marketing Board, says Israelis consume about 2.5 kilograms of extra-virgin oil per person yearly. Greece leads the world with more than 23 kg consumption of olive oil per person per year.

Like in other sectors of agriculture, Israel's growers and oil producers are constantly looking for better techniques to yield premium unrefined extra-virgin olive oil (EVOO). "Virgin" refers to oil from the first pressing, while "extra" signifies low acidity.

Ali says that the local olive-oil producers follow a traditional Arabic saying: "From the tree to the stone." In other words, the sooner the picked olives get to the mill the better the oil.

"We have our own specific taste in Israel," Hilla Wenkert, an international olive-oil judge, told ISRAEL21c in 2013. "Compared to, let's say, Greek or Italian oils that are smooth and fruity and quite aromatic, ours are more pungent and a little more aggressive. I think it's because of the water, the soil and the specific climate here."

Olive Branch Festival

Ali says there are some 120 olive oil presses in the Galilee and Golan Heights.

During the Olive Branch Festival through November 19, visitors can watch olive pressings, participate in picking and bottling olives, meet with different ethnic communities in the Galilee, enjoy food tastings and free tours, and take guided hikes through olive groves to learn the history of the trees and the area. Reservations for specific workshops and tours must be made in advance.

Visitors can make their own marinated olives at Deir Hanna, a community of 10,000 Christians and Muslims, which is once again taking part in the annual festival. Some of the olive trees surrounding this village are said to date back 2,000 years.

At Kfar Kedem in the lower Galilee, visitors can pick their own olives and press them using an ancient olive press.

At Ein Camonim, visitors can watch the olive press in action as it uses 250-year-old millstones as well as modern techniques and machinery to produce tasty and aromatic oil.

If you're in the area of the Druze village of Julis, stop by the olive-oil press to watch the action as locals pull up with crates of freshly picked olives ready to be crushed. (*continued on p. 7*)

(Israel 21c, continued from p. 6) "This hands-on experience of making your own olive oil lets you understand what you eat, what you're using in cosmetics, pharmaceuticals for your health, and how olive oil was made thousands of years ago," Menachem Goldberg, director of the recreated ancient Galilean village Kfar Kedem, tells ISRAEL21c.

Visitors to the Kfar Kedem tourist center can also make goat's milk cheeses.

Israel's farmers know that olives and cheese go well together. At the Ein Camonim farm in the upper Galilee between Rosh Pina and Karmiel, there is a boutique dairy alongside the olive groves. Ein Camonim, one of the first farms in Israel to make boutique cheeses, offers over 30 varieties.

As the Olive Branch Festival's name suggests, this event really extends an olive branch to all the communities and religions making up this country.

Doors are opened. Olive oil is shared. And everyone is welcome into one another's homes.

Source: <http://www.israel21c.org/on-the-olive-oil-trail-through-the-galilee-and-golan/>

Blue Grass Community honors Michael Ades during 2016 National Philanthropy Day



Michael L. Ades was recently honored by Blue Grass Community Foundation during National Philanthropy Day, a once-a-year celebration recognizing those who have had a significant impact in philanthropy in their regions. Mr. Ades was recognized for his role in helping to establish Blue Grass Community Foundation in 1967, which since that time has awarded over \$67 million in charitable dollars for community good. In addition to providing pro bono legal services, Mr. Ades served for many years as board chair and secretary. "We are so appreciative of Mike's sustained service and commitment over five decades," said Lisa Adkins, President/CEO of the Community Foundation.

Members of our Jewish community continue to play an important role in the growth of Blue Grass Community Foundation, which today has assets of almost \$90 million. Art Salomon serves as the Community Foundation's current board chair, and Joe Rosenberg is a director and chair of the investment committee.

The Jewish Federation, Ohavay Zion Synagogue and Temple Adath Israel all have permanent charitable endowment funds at the Community Foundation. To support one or more of these endowments or to start your own charitable fund, contact Lisa Adkins at (859) 225-3343 or ladkins@bgcf.org.

**Get ready for the 2016
GoodGiving Challenge!**

**THE 2016
GOOD
GIVING
CHALLENGE**

**November 29 – December 31
www.bggives.org**

Save The Date!

JFB Open House

December 14 - 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Come by the JFB Office for a delicious dessert nosh and learn about how your contributions during the GoodGiving Challenge support your Federation and the local Jewish community!

Please give generously at

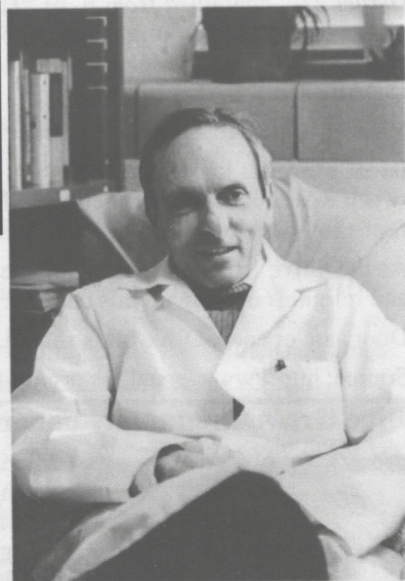
www.bggives.org.

Remembering Joe Engelberg, z"l 1928 - 2016

On behalf of our community, we are honored to publish these moving tributes to beloved community member Joe Engelberg. Many of these eulogies were presented during the memorial service for Joe Engelberg at Temple Adath Israel on October 7, 2016.

Joe was an asset to our community and will be missed greatly.

May his memory be a blessing.



By Laurence H. Kant



Joe Engelberg was born on June 2, 1928 in Vienna, Austria, to parents who ran a successful baby carriage (Kinderwagen) shop and factory not far from Sigmund Freud's home at a time of great cultural ferment. Joe was immersed in the cultural history of his city that included so many great artists and thinkers from musicians like Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Bruckner, Mahler, and Strauss to scientists like Schrodinger, Lorenz, and Landsteiner to philosophers like Popper, Husserl, and Wittgenstein to artists like Klimt, Schiele and Kokoscha to film makers like Wilder. As a boy, Joe was friends with another boy who would later become one of the preeminent holocaust historians, Raul Hilberg (whom Joe always would call "Rauly," because his mother would call him that from a distance).

Later Joe would become a biophysicist. He was one of the inventors of the prototype for the kidney dialysis machine and the iron lung. After that, he emphasized integrative studies and the importance of understanding medical cases in the broadest possible contexts and as a part of a web of subtle relationships.

As many of you know, Joe had a life-long affection for Catholicism and for Catholic monasticism, had long friendships with many of the monks at the Abbey of Gethsemani, and had a correspondence with Thomas Merton.

At the same time, Joe confided to me how horrified he was when the cardinal of Vienna, Theodor Innitzer, welcomed Hitler and the Nazis into Austria and Vienna with open arms in 1938 (after the so-called Anschluss), signing a letter with "Heil Hitler" and celebrating Hitler's birthday with church bells and Nazi swastikas. With all that, Joe's sister, Paula, realized what was happening, exclaimed that she had seen enough (even though her parents didn't agree with her and thought that Hitler could be good for business), and eventually got herself across the border into France. Her words and actions helped save Joe and his family. One late night in December 1938, Joe's parents woke him at 2 a.m. and took him to the West train station in Vienna, where Joe describes an apocalyptic scene with hundreds and hundreds of little boys and girls saying good-bye to their parents as they took trains to England in order to escape Hitler.

Joe's mother, Goldie, was crying, and Joe had no idea what was happening. This became known as the Kindertransport in which thousands of Austrian, German, Czechoslovakian, among other places, children took trains to England. Most of these children would never see their parents again, as the Nazis would murder them in the camps. Joe told me, and Dianne, this story several times, talking about the scene and how confused and frightened he felt at the time.

When Joe arrived in England, he lived with a family who took him in. Joe did not have a close relationship with the family and was often lonely, but he loved England where he also learned to become an Anglophile and lover of things British and, later, Irish. (Continued on p. 9)

(Eulogy by Laurence H. Kant, continued from p. 8) Joe had no idea whether he would ever see his parents and sister again, but fortunately for him his parents managed to get out of Austria and they were able along with his sister to reunite in 1940 in New York City. Later he would meet the love of his life, Judy, in 1954 in Philadelphia.

Joe would probably deny this, but these experiences haunted Joe. Joe spent much of his life wanting to reach out to others, especially Christians. His life was about kindness and compassion to the extent that Joe would talk to everyone he encountered from the loftiest to the homeless and would engage them in meaningful discussion. Those of us in conversation with Joe often found ourselves deeply impressed by Joe's commitment to dialog and his life-long attempt to understand the Shoah. For those of us with different backgrounds, these conversations could be illuminating, but also sometimes frustrating and a bit exasperating, because Joe was wounded by his experiences, in spite of his protestations, and it would show up in odd and unexpected ways. For example, he would sometimes rationalize Jew hatred on the grounds that Jews had misbehaved in various ways.

But it was always important for me to remember that in many ways Joe never left that train station in Vienna. It was forever a part of him. How could it be otherwise? When Joe and I would have disagreements about something or other, including why people hated Jews, I would always go back to that train station and the little boy saying good-bye to his crying parents. And I recalled what had happened to my own family during that period as well.

Several times Joe told Dianne and me, that he didn't regard himself as a "survivor," because he wasn't in a concentration camp. And, truth be told, there is a hierarchy of "survivor" victimhood within the Jewish Shoah world. We explained to him that anyone—and that means anyone including Judy—who went through the kinds of things he did made that person a survivor. And finally our Jewish community here began to broaden its interpretive scope, and Joe was able to light candles at the Lexington Yom HaShoah. This meant a lot to him I think.

Truth be told, the Shoah is not always a unifying force in our community and can at times divide Jews. Joe and I had disagreements about Shoah-related issues, as well as about basic issues of cause. And we all still struggle to talk about this horror and recognize its effects on individuals and generations of families. Our community is still wounded. Joe wanted to heal and wanted Jews to heal. Though we may not always have agreed on the means, we both believed strongly in the healing process. And it's that healing which we must all continue, especially those healing from the Shoah or its affects.

I have written a short farewell address poem to Joe in German. I apologize to native speakers if I make errors; my German is a little rusty right now. I'm doing this for two reasons: 1) to speak to Joe in his native language. If he can speak to us in ours for all those years, I can speak to him briefly in his; and 2) to continue the healing to which Joe devoted his life. German language and culture are a big part of Jewish heritage, and we should reclaim it, make our peace, and appreciate its beauty and profundity. I will offer a translation afterwards.

Auf Wiedersehen, lieber Freund. Gute Reise. Wir haben Dich geliebt. Wie so viele Male zuvor, werden wir Dich alle bald wiedersehen. In unserem schlagenden Herz und im pulsierenden Herz unserer warmen Erde und den riesigen, intergalaktischen Räumen, wirst du immer dasein. Du bist nun frei neue Wege zu beschreiten, und Dich von alten Lasten zu lösen, die Dich so lange schwer belastet haben.

Der kleine Knabe, ganz allein und verwirrt im Wiener Westbahnhof, dann der schlanke Mann, der manchmal wie ein Wanderer aus einem anderen Sonnensystem schien, freundlich und mitfühlend; er ist endlich zu Hause angekommen. Damals fand er seinen Eingang mit wunderbaren Geschichten von Sehnsucht und Liebe, die von 62 Jahren von seiner Lebensgefährtin, seiner Familie, seinen Freunde, seinen Kollegen, und seinem Tempel, gewidmet zu Wissenschaft und Weisheit, er gelernt hatte. Aus dem Kind wurde ein Wissenschaftler und Gelehrter mit einem grossen Herzen und einem scharfen Verstand.

Wie viele Änderungen müssen wir in unserem Leben machen? Müder Nomade, es ist genug. Du kannst nun ruhen.

Farewell, our friend. Good travels. We love you. We will all see you soon, as so many times before. In our beating hearts and in the beating heart of our warm earth and of vast, intergalactic spaces, you will always remain. You are free to tread new paths, and you can let go of the burdens that have weighed down so heavily upon you.

Now the little boy, all alone and confused in the Vienna West train station, the slender man who sometimes seemed like an alien from another solar system, friendly and compassionate, has finally come home. He makes his entrance with wondrous tales of yearning and love, which he learned from his soulmate of sixty-two years, family, friends, colleagues, and temples dedicated to learning and wisdom. The child grew into a scientist and scholar with a big heart and a keen mind.

How many changes must we make in our lives? It is enough, weary nomad. Now you can rest.

By Dianne Bazell



Like some others here, I owe part of my spiritual journey, solidifying my self-identity as a Jew, to Joe Engelberg. I joined this temple because of Joe and Kollel. Larry had signed on immediately on our arrival in Kentucky in 1999 and was soon advised by Rabbi Jon Adland: "You should meet Joe Engelberg." Larry came back from tea with Joe and Judy utterly entranced and began attending Kollel.

I was working long days, commuting to Frankfort, and didn't want to get up on Saturday mornings. Larry always returned from Kollel enthused. I finally agreed to the after-Kollel ritual of coffee at Cosmo's. These gatherings always included the memorable Sr. Jo Gagnon-Taddy (of blessed memory), our French-Canadian, existentialist, 1960's flowerchild of a Catholic sister; often Tom Zentall, and sometimes Stephanie Barrett; and others in and out. Discussions stretched to a couple of additional hours and were wide-ranging—books and articles, films, and political events, with special attention to world religions (in particular, Judaism and Christianity), education policy, and everyone's views and interpretations regarding the meaning of life. And a lot of humor and laughter.

I hadn't spent so much time blathering since my undergraduate days, and I couldn't believe I was wasting so much time but enjoying it so thoroughly. So I started attending Kollel, which began with a meditation, then focused on a text that Joe pre-selected, and concluded with Kaddish. The stalwarts (during the years Larry and I attended) included (though not exclusively) Larry and me, Sr. Jo, Tom, Stephanie and her quiet and kind grandfather, Matthew, Harriett Rose, Lowell Nigoff, a taciturn Christian named John, and the good friends Eleanor Benblatt and Sylvia Atkinson (both of blessed memory), and the very much alive Etta Pollan. These latter three would cluster at the far end of the tables in the temple library, keeping up a steady patter of conversation and commentary amongst themselves until Joe was forced to ring his bell to bring things back to order. One thing led to another, and I eventually formally joined the temple.

One of the interests Joe, Larry, and I all shared was an appreciation (and the experience) of complex and circuitous spiritual quests, and one of the things Joe and I particularly shared was an appreciation of—really, an attraction to—monasticism. Before coming to Kentucky, I'd spent many years studying, teaching, and writing on religious ascetic practices, particularly those of the Carthusian monastic order. One of the great delights toward the end of my first year was the Integrative Studies retreat Joe led at the Abbey of Gethsemani, and I was grateful to learn that he also left copies of some of my publications with its librarian.

Joe was the ultimate conversationalist. Until a few years ago, he was well-known for taking 45 minutes or so to exit the Temple on a Friday night because one conversation with a friend just led to another. But he could strike up a conversation with total strangers. More than once, he wore out the Jehovah's Witnesses who knocked on his door—inviting them in and engaging them until they left voluntarily. Judy said recently that she'd taken him, at his insistence, with her to an appointment and wondered what he'd do while waiting for her. When she came out, she found him in conversation with no fewer than three people who had come into the waiting room, exchanging email addresses with at least one of them.

Part of this ability to connect with people was his gift for both recounting stories and eliciting them from others. Joe and Judy's New Year's Eve parties (which eventually became New Year's Day—New Year's Eve for Joe ended at 10:00 p.m.) drew a wide range of characters from many walks of life. Usually the guests were given the assignment of relating a revealing anecdote that would illustrate some fundamental truth in their lives, and sometimes these narratives led to tears, as well as laughter. Joe's life, as you've heard from Larry, was a moving, poignant, and inspiring collection of stories: of rescue from near-certain death; immigration as a young child alone to a new continent; learning, discovery, and invention as a youth and a man; and much, much love throughout.

Like many husbands, Joe would not have lived as long as he did without his life partner. When Larry and I last saw Joe, a week ago today, and asked him for his thoughts, he focused on Judy, and stressed that his and her lives had been intertwined. He worried about leaving her, and we assured him that she was surrounded by friends who loved her, and that she would remain so. One of my favorite episodes involving Joe and Judy together is the one he enjoyed telling on multiple occasions. In her 20's, Judy was even more youthful and pixie-like in appearance than she is today. Some months after their wedding, they travelled to the Catskills for their honeymoon and checked into a hotel. The hotel clerk asked Joe if the woman accompanying him was his daughter, and Joe replied, "No, she's my wife." The clerk looked at Judy, turned back to Joe, and snarled, "You ought to be ashamed of yourself!" Joe loved that story, and he loved and was proud of his captivating Judy, (*Continued on p. 11*)

(Eulogy by Dianne Bazell, continued from p. 10) and his daughters, Elise and Mimi, and his grandson, Aaron.

Joe stressed what he called “the fundamentals.” He always worked to identify the core idea of a text, the root issue of a problem. Occasionally his distillations—particularly in the areas of eastern religions and gender typologies—struck some of us as a bit too concentrated, coming from a man whose life was as intellectually broad and scientifically rigorous as his was. But his ability to cut to the heart of the matter, to recognize underlying principles, helped him read and interpret a text, understand and explain the mechanics of a stem cell, and see into the heart of a person in his presence and make that person feel understood. It also allowed him to draw the unexpected integrative connections among disparate spheres for which he is so known.

Now Joe joins Sr. Jo, Sylvia Atkinson, Eleanor Benblatt, Matthew Barrett, and all the others who remain vivid in our memories. “One by one they were all becoming shades,” wrote James Joyce (one of Joe’s favorite authors) in the powerful story, “The Dead,” that concludes the magnificent collection, *Dubliners*. These “shades” are the beloved deceased, whose presence, because of our love and longing for them, remains vibrant in our hearts and can sometimes seem even more real and present to us than those living around us.

But Joe would tell us to be present also to each other. I reviewed my “Engelbergs” email folder and found a note from Joe dating from March, 2014, inviting Larry and me to come to Kollel again: “Dear Larry and Dianne,” he began. “How about joining us tomorrow morning at 9. The Rabbi’s words on Pirke Avoth are worth hearing. I also would enjoy your words. People would enjoy your presence. Life is short. Don’t pass up this opportunity. Love, Joe”

We couldn’t make it that Saturday, but Joe’s words are still wise and pertinent now as we begin to remember him: “People would enjoy your presence. Life is short. Don’t pass up this opportunity. Love, Joe.”

By Lorne Dechtenberg, D.M.A.

Artistic Director & Conductor, *The Bluegrass Opera*



So...you’ve heard me sing [I had chanted Eil Malei Rachamim earlier in the service], and now you get to hear me speak - it won’t be as pretty, but I’ll try to be brief. Joe Engelberg was one of the first people I fell in love with when I joined Temple Adath Israel back in 2010. He was always extraordinarily kind to me. He used to walk down the hall after services and address me as “Amadeus.” At the first congregational annual meeting that I attended in 2011, the president (who I believe was Ken Slepian at the time) had reached the end of the meeting and asked if there was any other business, and Joe raised his hand. Joe said he wanted to point out that “an angel has descended upon this congregation, from heaven directly.” And he proceeded to say all sorts of nice things about me and my musical contributions to the temple.

I have no doubt that Joe is one of the people who was responsible for the creation of the position that I now occupy, “Musician in Residence.” But as I’ve gotten a little older (and, I’d like to think, I little wiser), I realized something else about what happened at that annual meeting. There was an angel in the room, but it wasn’t me. The angel is never the one who’s being lifted up; it’s the one who does the lifting. The angel isn’t the one who glitters; it’s the one who shines the light. Joe was the angel in the room, and he lifted me up, just as he’s lifted up so many of us who are here today. And so I think the best way that we can honor Joe, because there is no surer demonstration of the divine spark that’s in each of us than when we lift someone else up, is to follow the example not that he wrote about, or that he talked about, but that he lived, and that is to go out and lift someone else up. Thank you, Joe. I love you.

**To read additional eulogies written by members of our community,
please visit www.jewishlexington.org**



**Thank you to everyone who joined us
on November 20 at Ohavay Zion
Synagogue for
Global Day of Jewish Learning!**

**We appreciate all of the community
members who attended, and give
special acknowledgements to our
wonderful discussion leaders:**

**Austin Cantor
Deb Flomenhoft
Jon Glixon
Art Shechet**



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CONTRIBUTORS WANTED

**We are always looking for contributors to write articles on a wide variety of topics!
To include YOUR voice in *Shalom*, contact Barbara Goldman, Editor-in-Chief, at
shalom@jewishlexington.org.**

Laurel's Bat Mitzvah Drash

By Laurel Embury

October 29, 2016

My Torah reading talks about the creation of the world, and today I'm going to be talking about how we got here. How did we get here? Some of us came in cars; some of us walked here... just kidding. I'm talking about how it is that we exist.

After reading my Torah portion, I was wondering: What was God doing before God created the Earth? Where was God before that?

I was in my mom's belly before I was born, but I don't know where I was before that. I wasn't alive. I don't know where God was before the creation. I don't think we can know because we didn't exist and because God hadn't made us yet.

There are different ideas about how the world was created and by whom. Other people in other religions think that the world was created in a different way and maybe by a different being, and maybe it was.

According to scientists, the world was created by an explosion from a dot. This is called the Big Bang. But how did the dot get there? How do they know what happened before the singularity that caused the Big Bang? What happened before the Big Bang? How do people know what happened if they weren't alive?

I've seen models of dinosaurs at the museum. There are questions about why they became extinct, but there's an idea that an asteroid hit the earth, and there was so much pollution from the explosion that it suffocated the dinosaurs. At the museum, I've seen replicas of dinosaur bones. The bones are old, and they don't want people to touch them and break them, so they show replicas.

This is like the Torah. We don't want to touch it with our hands, because the oils on our skin might ruin it. Instead, we use a Yad, a metal hand with a pointed finger that you can use to touch the Torah so that you don't actually touch it with your hands. That way we won't ruin it.

In any case, the scientists are able to date the actual bones. We know about dinosaurs because we have evidence that they existed. We have their bones. We know about the Big Bang because we have evidence that the universe is expanding. If we think back to what it was before it was expanding, we find everything starting at one point, the dot.

My parents are older than me. I know that I was little once, and I'm getting bigger. Therefore, I know they were little once too. And also, I've seen pictures. So there's evidence.

Scientists don't really understand the Big Bang, because they don't know what happened before that. They don't know what caused it because they don't have any evidence for what happened before.

There is a tradition that the Torah begins with the letter Bet to remind us that we only know what happened from the day of creation onwards. We only have evidence from that point on. But what was before, we can't know because we don't have any evidence.

Why do we want to know? We want to know about our past because it tells us more about our present. By knowing about our past, we can know why things are the way they are. I know that I can't know what God was doing before the creation, but I would imagine that God wanted a world. Why would God want a world?

People may have kids because they want something to take care of. They could just get a pet, but they don't because they want to create another being like them.

God was missing people... and everything else before the world was made. Maybe God was lonely. Or, maybe God was just bored.

Who or what is God anyway? I think that God is something. I see God like the Lion King – the little lion's dad dies, and when he was older – he saw a vision of his father, and his father was made up of stars. Maybe God is like that.

Maybe God is like air, but God can see and talk. God can see everywhere and is everywhere.

I think God is both real and not real at the same time. I think God is real and made the universe. And I think God is not real because the stories in the Bible don't seem real, like God talking to Moses and telling Moses to separate the water with his staff, or God moving water around to create the world, or burning bushes that don't burn up (they just sit there on fire), or people like Adam and Eve made from the earth. (*Continued on p. 14*)

(Bat Mitzvah Drash, continued from p. 13) There are so many questions: Who or what is God? How was the universe made? How did we get here? I think it's important for us to wonder about our past, and how it is possible for us to be alive today. I thank my parents that I am here. But then, I thank God because ultimately God made my parents.

We may not have all the answers, but the questions are important to think about. In any case, thank God we are here.

Let us conclude by showing our gratitude for reaching this special moment with a blessing called the Shehechianu: *Praised are you Adonai, Sovereign of the Universe, who kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this moment.*

Baruch Ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech HaOlam, Shehechianu, V'Kiyimanu, V'Higianu LaZman HaZe.
Shabbat Shalom!

Parents: We would love to feature your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah Drash in our next *Shalom*. Please send the text to shalom@jewishlexington.org. Consider sending a photo of your child along as well!

Lexington's Local Markets

By Reva Schottenstein



One of my favorite trends in Lexington has been the rise of local markets. Throughout the year you can attend monthly local markets such as The Night Market and Market 301. These area events create a space for our community to gather and support local artisans. With the holiday season upon us, there are even more markets to attend this month. These markets are the perfect place to take in the holiday season and get your Hanukkah gift shopping done. Here is my local market break down:

The Night Market, located on North Limestone, is held every first Friday of the month. Here you can walk below twinkling street lights while you listen to local musicians and browse the many booths filled with unique products. With so many food choices, the hardest decision you may make all night is which food truck to eat from.

Market 301 is located in the Distillery District. This is a larger market, with over 30 local vendors. Here you can find everything from clothes and jewelry to stationery and baked goods. It is a great place to find that gift that is perfectly Kentucky. The December Market 301, will be held on Friday, December 9, but there is not a reoccurring day of the month for this event. Be sure to check their Facebook page or website for up-to-date info.

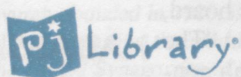
In addition to these monthly markets, there are several special holiday markets to attend in the month of December.

On Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4, Kentucky Native Café will host their annual Christmas Market. Inspired by the Christmas markets of Germany, this beer garden is an ideal place to take in the holiday season. A cup of hot mulled wine will keep you warm, as you browse local products and artwork. Be sure not to leave without a box of holiday cookies!

You may have driven by Castle Post many times, but on Saturday, December 17 you should stop and go inside to enjoy the Castle Post Winter Market. This is a first time event at the legendary Inn along Versailles Rd. This market will feature local products and gifts, along with offering food from several local food trucks. There is an admission fee for this market, although, the money benefits two local nonprofits.

Don't miss out! This December, gather with your friends and family and take a stroll through a local market.

Follow Reva's local travel blog at thoroughlykentucky.com.



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December 26, 2016

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Contact Talia at 268-0672 or
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for more information.



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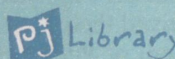
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10:15 - 11:30 am**



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PJ Playgroup is best for kids under 4.
A joint endeavor of Ohavay Zion Synagogue,
Temple Adath Israel, and PJ Library.

THE LEXINGTON CHAPTER OF HADASSAH

Dianne Bazell, President

What a year it's been! Our chapter convened for the installation of our new board, when Hadassah National Vice President Dr. Pennie Branden, R.N., spoke on "The Power of Hadassah Advocacy," and I spoke on the important role Hadassah continues to play in nurturing and growing our networks of trust and reciprocity (what sociologists like Robert Putnam refer to as "social capital"). Our younger members gathered for a cheese tasting at Boone Creek Creamery in February; members of Temple Adath Israel and Ohavay Zion Synagogue led our annual Hadassah Shabbat evening and morning services in March; and our community gathered in May, some in mother-daughter pairs, for our biennial Women's Seder, led by Rabbi Lynn Newburge. In June, we honored our Keepers of the Gate donors with a Moroccan feast prepared by Odette Kaplan and Judy Saxe, and we celebrated all our members with a privately chartered Dixie Belle cruise along the Kentucky River in July.



Later that month, several of us attended Hadassah's national convention in Atlanta, where we were updated on the hospital facilities, medical research, and youth education programs we support in Israel, as well as health and social welfare campaigns in the U.S. In August, our Associates threw a barbeque, where Dr. John Slevin, professor of neurology and director of the movement disorders program at the University of Kentucky, presented some of the advances in Parkinson's Disease research (one of Hadassah's targeted neurological disorders). In September, we sponsored a public information panel on human trafficking in the Commonwealth. One of our 2017 book club selections is a first-person account by a trafficking survivor who spoke at Hadassah's national convention.

November saw our popular biennial progressive dinner fundraiser. Celebrating Hanukkah early this year, our mitzvah project centered on the Doll Project, led by Ruth Scott and Diane Friedman, with donations of materials to produce the diagnostic dolls our chapter provides to the Kentucky Children's Hospital. As part of the Tzeason of Tzedakah, we'll serve dinner at the Ronald McDonald House on Christmas to families whose children are KCH patients.

Many thanks are due to Ruth Scott, Kathy and David Feinberg, Lisa Satin, Mimi Kaufman, Sue Westerman, Faith Erdmann, Melanie Shapiro, Jane Chaput, Shirley Bryan, Pat Shraberg, Evalyn Block, Diane Friedman, Kathie Kroot, Janice Newman, Kathy and Mike Grossman, and others who helped as needed, for their contributions to such strong and creative programming bringing long-standing and new members of our Lexington chapter together in social and substantive gatherings.

Throughout the year, Gail Byers and Vivian Bitensky led a popular book club. Our final 2016 session is scheduled for December 18, when Karen Geesey leads a discussion of Geraldine Brooks' *The Secret Chord*. Check with Gail and Vivian for next year's selections.

In 2017, we're lining up an array of informational and social events, including a family bowling night, line dancing, wine and yoga, a summer evening at the ballpark, and more. Let us know what appeals to you. We're also planning a panel discussion for the whole community addressing the practical and existential questions (medical, financial, and philosophical) surrounding the end (in both senses—limit and purpose) of life. Mark your calendar for May 21.

Hadassah's medical and public health mission in Israel continues. Last September, candidates from 19 countries received their International Master of Public Health (IMPH) degrees from Hadassah-Hebrew University Braun School of Public Health and Community Medicine. With these graduates, 845 alumni from 96 countries have been prepared to spearhead public health advances in their homelands. Ambassador Gil Haskel, head of Mashav, Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation, praised Hadassah and the Hebrew University for their outstanding work and long-term commitment to creating leaders who make an impact in the world. Dealing with the scourges of Ebola and Zika will be the focus of these newest IMPH graduates.

Hadassah is quite literally healing the world. When you support Hadassah, you can count yourself among the "Women Who Do."

Please remember Hadassah in your end-of-year tax planning. And Happy Hanukkah!

THE LEXINGTON HAVURAH

Steve Shedlofsky, President • shedlof@uky.edu

The Lexington Havurah, founded in 1978, is a network of diverse people dedicated to Jewish learning and renewal, community building, and "tikkun olam" (repairing the world). A havurah is defined as a gathering or community of friends. The Lexington Havurah is affiliated with the United Synagogues of Conservative Judaism and the National Havurah Committee. Members plan, conduct, and share responsibility for all services. For additional information about services or membership in the Havurah, please contact me at shedlof@uky.edu.

By Judy Goldsmith

What do the winter months mean to you? I would love to say that they mean candlelight dinners, hot chocolate, novels, autobiographies, and histories. (Someday, I hope to retire and go back to all that.) Winter is a time of planning for the Spring, but also of recounting what has gone on over the last year. The Havurah met with archivist Sarah Dorpinghaus on November 18, to remember our history. Perhaps we will recount some of that in future columns.

Speaking of candles, sometime between Christmas and the New Year, we will be lighting candles together, at our annual festival of fried foods, the Chanukah party. We can work off some of the calories, or at least the karma, by participating in the Tzeason of Tzedakah at the Sayre Christian Village. Last year, we ran their weekly Bingo game on Christmas day, I think.

As we contemplate the ever earlier sunsets and the cooler weather, let's remember to bring light to the darkness, whether that is the curtailment of daily sunlight or political policies based on anger and fear. We can and must keep lighting the candles that can show us the way. Whether or not they will burn for 7 days and 7 nights, we will light them.

Every year on winter solstice, I want to run around yelling and making noise and reminding the sun that it will come back. It's not quite the same spinning a dreidel or consuming milk chocolate in the shape of coins.

Speaking of which: the first winter I lived in Lexington, I stopped by to ask the manager at Kroger if they had Hanukkah gelt.

"What's that?"

"Well, there's a Jewish holiday," I started, and explained that this was a holiday treat.

Looking back over his shoulder to the assistant manager, he hollered, "Do we have any Jewish guilt?"

I hope you have a guilt-free celebration of resistance, redemption, and light. For more information about upcoming events, contact our president, Stephen Shedlofsky, shedlof@uky.edu.



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WELCOME

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming congregation in Lexington, Kentucky. Through the framework of Conservative Judaism, we explore our Jewish identities and form a community. We celebrate our diversity and welcome newcomers. Please join us!

HANUKKAH CELEBRATIONS

There will be a Hanukkah Party on **Sunday, December 11**. Please contact the OZS office at office@ozs.org to learn more about our Hanukkah celebration this year.

OZS CRAFT FAIR

Please join us on **Sunday, December 11 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**, for the OZS Women's League Craft Fair Fundraiser. Contact office@ozs.org for more information and to reserve your table. We ask that you donate 10% of your profits from the day to OZS Women's League.

KIDS' SHABBAT

Please join us for our upcoming Kids' Shabbat services on **December 2, 2016 and January 20, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.**

Kids' Shabbat is our monthly Shabbat Service for younger children. We light candles, drink grape juice, eat pizza, sit together on beautiful carpets, sing songs, and read amazing stories from the PJ Library. Newcomers and friends are always welcome!

The upcoming 2017 Kids' Shabbat services will be held Fridays at 5:30 p.m. at Ohavay Zion Synagogue on the following dates: **February 19, March 18, April 15, and May 20.**

For more information or to RSVP, email Dominique Olbert at domino456@aol.com.

KABBALAT SHABBAT

Please join us in **December on the 9 and 23 and in January on the 13 and 27 at 5:30 p.m.** for our Kabbalat Shabbat Services. What a terrific way to begin the weekend, with a brief but spirited service and with beautiful melodies and wonderful friends. Everyone is welcome. Let's bring in Shabbat together!

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

Please join us any Saturday morning of the year, as Ohavay Zion Synagogue celebrates Shabbat. We begin at 9:30 a.m.; though please feel free to join at

any time during the service. Our worship is filled with joyous song and fascinating Torah discussions. The service concludes around noon, and all are invited to schmooze over lunch after the service. This is a wonderful way to celebrate Shabbat and to meet some nice Jewish folks here in Lexington. Newcomers and friends are always welcome!

TUESDAY MINYAN WITH LEARNING FROM REB NACHMAN

Tuesday Minyan is a special time at OZS. During this brief service, students and adults both pray and learn together. There is a warm atmosphere and something for everyone to enjoy. Please join us **Tuesday afternoons from 5:45 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.** All are welcome!

STUDYING THE PROPHETS

Please join us **Wednesdays at noon** as we explore the book of **Ezekiel** through the teachings of our Jewish tradition. We have a wonderfully diverse group of learners and terrific conversations. All are welcome!

TALMUD STUDY

The Talmud Study group meets **each Friday** morning for prayer, food, and study. The morning begins with a brief Shacharit service at **7:30 a.m.**, followed by a light breakfast, and then fascinating study of the Talmud. Newcomers are always welcome!

BACKPACKING FOR GOD'S PANTRY

Join us each month during the school year as backpacks are filled with food that children take home on weekends from Mary Todd Elementary School. All of the food is child-friendly, nonperishable, easily consumed and vitamin fortified. Check weekly announcements & Facebook for date & times.

INTERESTED IN OZS?

Ohavay Zion Synagogue is a warm and welcoming Jewish community. If you are interested, or if you know someone who may be interested in learning more about Ohavay Zion Synagogue, please call the office at (859) 266-8050 or email Rabbi.Smolkin@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL

124 N. Ashland Ave • Jonathan Miller, President • (859) 269-2979

WHO WE ARE

Temple Adath Israel is a Reform Jewish congregation - We celebrate Torah, Justice, Tradition, and Faith. Our mission is to inspire Jews, to ensure a vibrant Jewish present and future by nurturing a multi-generational love for our tradition. Our "Community Center" approach to Judaism gives families a host of unique ways in which to love living relevant, soulful and experiential Jewish lives. Please call the Temple Administrator for more information if you are interested in affiliating with the Temple at (859) 269-2979.

PJ LIBRARY READING TIME

TAI has dedicated space in our Youth Library and our Anita Mersack Outdoor Reading Garden for families to share in our growing collection of PJ Library Books, before, during, and after religious school. The collection is in our Youth Library and these books provide our young children with wonderful introductions to the magic of Jewish storytelling.

KOLLEL STUDY GROUP

Kollel meets at 9 a.m. every two weeks in the TAI Library. The group explores cultural, ethical, and its historical aspects of our 4000-year tradition. The emphasis is on dialogue and exploration. Please join us any time. Our next sessions will be **December 3, 17, & 31 and January 14 & 28.**

JEWISH TEXTS

We explore selected readings in rabbinic literature on alternate Saturdays at 9 a.m. in the library. The discussion is always lively and informative and you can join the group anytime. We will meet on **December 10 & 24 and January 7 & 21.**

PARSHA

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 a.m. in the library as we take a look at the Torah portion for each week. Various Temple members will lead some discussions and everyone will take turns. We will meet on **December 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 and January 7, 14, 21 & 28.**

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Shalom Sisters! There is a chill in the air and winter is approaching. This time of year calls for cozy sweaters and good company. As we approach the end of the calendar year and move into 2017, I want everyone to remember that this is OUR Sisterhood. We are a team in everything that we do from our programs, dinner out, learning opportunities to larger events such as District Conventions. Just as WRJ (Women of Reform Judaism) says, "We are stronger together."

In early November, Laura Creamer and I were fortunate enough to attend the WRJ Central District Convention held in Louisville. While we were unable to stay for the entire weekend, the time that we did spend was amazing! There's something magical about gathering together with women like yourselves and sharing ideas. We visited gift shops, had Shabbat dinner, attended services and even read from the Torah. I don't know about Laura, but my Jewish cup is overflowing! I encourage my fellow Sisters to attend a district or leadership event if they're able to. The experience is not one to miss!

On a cool November evening, a fun group of ladies gathered for our first dinner out of the year. We met at Asian Wind in Palomar. Not only was the food great, but so was the group of ladies that came! The nice thing about these dinners out is that there are always new faces popping by to enjoy some time together. I dare say that our dinners out (which were started by our previous President, Laura Creamer) are our best attended event. If you missed our dinner in November, don't despair! We'll be heading back out to try another great Lexington restaurant in January.

On December 8, we are holding our annual Lunch and Learn. I look forward to this program every year. It is such a wonderful opportunity to get together with our fellow Sisters for a delicious lunch, great company and learning from our Rabbi.

If you are interested in becoming involved with Sisterhood, please don't hesitate in contacting me at (859) 263-1859 or taisisterhoodpresident@gmail.com.

B'shalom, Elissa

CHAVURAT CHOCHMA

Chavurat Chochma (A Friendly Gathering of Wisdom) is just that - a gathering of Temple Adath Israel members and friends who are 60 years old and better. We meet to socialize, enjoy a wonderful meal and learn. Our presenters over the years have been university professors, artists, philanthropists, environmentalists, musicians, representatives of the Muslim community, physicians, members of the military, as well as many others from within the Lexington Jewish community and beyond. Our next Chavurat Chochma will be held on **Friday, December 9 at 11:30 a.m.** Our guest speaker will be Eleanor Sutter, a career Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State. Her talk will be "A Life in the Foreign Service." Although the program is primarily for those "of a certain age," all are welcome! Please join us! RSVP to Laura at (859) 269-2979 or laura@lextai.org.

Chabad of the Bluegrass

By Rabbi Shlomo and Mrs. Shoshi Litvin
568 Columbia Ave.

Chabad of the Bluegrass

Chabad of the Bluegrass is one of more than 4,000 branches of the Chabad Lubavitch Movement, the world's largest international organization involved with Jewish education and outreach programming. Chabad offers numerous options for Jewish learning on every level, including adult education, youth programs, and young adult activities.

Practical Parsha

This weekly series gives you a concrete lesson from the Torah portion. Join us on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Chabad. Open to the entire community.

Women, Wine & Wisdom

We continue our discussion on taking charge of our lives. We began to speak about managing our emotions, and this month we will gain a deeper understanding of how to control anger. Women ages 21+ are invited to join the discussion. This month will be hosted at the home of Lisa Satin on December 1 at 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Shoshi Litvin via email or at (347) 746-3771.

Chef Shoshi

A fun new course, open to the whole community! Come and learn the history, customs, and recipes for old favorites, and new flavors. This month, join us as we discuss, bake and enjoy, Challah! Chef Shoshi will be held at Chabad on December 8 at 5 p.m.

Chanukah Menorah

If you or someone you know does not have a Chanukah Menorah, Chabad would be happy to provide one free of charge. Help light up the darkness with your very own light this Chanukah!

Children's Gifts

Do you have a child celebrating Chanukah? Are you a child at heart? Call or email Rabbi Litvin for a dreidel and some chocolate Chanukah gelt to enjoy.

Wishing our entire community a Happy Hanukkah!

For more information, visit ChabadBluegrass.com or call (859) 813-0770.

Make a Donation to JFB in Someone's Honor or Memory

Make a donation to the Jewish Federation in honor or memory of someone, or in celebration of a special occasion, and help JFB nurture the values of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world), *tzedakah* (charity and social justice) and *Torah* (Jewish learning) within our Jewish community at home and abroad.

Send us your special contributions with a note specifying its intent. Also, let us know if you would like your contribution published in this box in Shalom. You may also make your special contribution online.

Celebrate your loved ones and support our Jewish community by giving a special contribution. Thank you for your support.

--- AROUND THE COMMUNITY ---

Please note: Information for Around the Community comes to us from a variety of individuals and Jewish institutions. It's a pretty haphazard arrangement; except for b'nai mitzvah, we do not have the resources or staff to collect information or research each item. If you would like to see an event or life passage in your family acknowledged here, please be sure we get the full and correct information as you would like to see it printed.

Send notices to shalom@jewishlexington.org. Remember, we welcome photos too!

B'nai Mitzvah Announcements

With your upcoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah, the Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass wishes to announce your event in *Shalom*. Please email Barbara Goldman, shalom@jewishlexington.org, the following information by the 10th day of the month prior to the event for inclusion in *Shalom*. Please include the child's name, when and where the event is being held, mitzvah project, names of parents and grandparents, and a photo.

Mazel Tov

Rabbi Shlomo and Mrs. Shoshi Litvin on the birth of their twin daughters, Sarah and Chanah.

In Memoriam

Natalie Effron, sister of Estelle Hamburg, on October 17, 2016

Mindy Kavinow, mother of Marc Kavinow and Lynne Kavinow Snyder, on November 9, 2016.

Show Your Support

Help us keep Shalom solvent. You may contribute online or mail a check to JFB, 1050 Chinoe Rd Ste 112, Lexington, KY 40502. Please make checks payable to JFB and write "Shalom" on the memo line.

GIVING LEVELS

Chai - \$18; Double Chai - \$36; Three Times Chai - \$54; Haboneh (Builder) - \$72; Gibor (Hero) - \$90

Thank you to our generous donors!

James Levenson, Sr.

ATTENTION PROUD GRANDPARENTS, PARENTS, & STUDENTS

We want to publish any original writing produced by our community's elementary and high school-age children. If you're proud of something written by one of our kids, either fiction or non-fiction, please email it to Barbara Goldman at shalom@jewishlexington.org.

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Shalom

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The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

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For website or email questions, please contact daniel@jewishlexington.org or (859) 268-0672.

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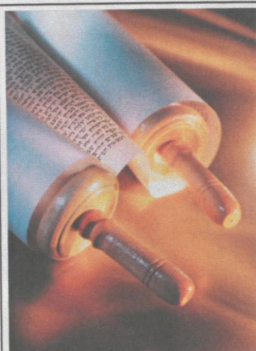
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The Jewish Federation
OF THE BLUEGRASS

Lunch and Learn with our
Lexington community rabbis

December 27 with Rabbi Uri Smith

At 12 noon on the last Tuesday of each month, in the JFB office, rabbis, on a rotating basis, will be discussing the holidays, the Torah portion of the week, and other topics of interest. A dairy lunch is offered at a nominal charge. If you are interested in attending, please call Rabbi Sharon Cohen at 859-268-0672 so we can order lunch for you.