

Kol Sholom

The Voice of Peace



May 2019 Nisan – Iyar 5779

From the Temple President's Desk

The Little Engine That Could is an American fairytale (existing in the form of several illustrated children's books and movies) that became widely known in the United States after publication in 1930. The story is used to teach children the value of optimism and hard work. Based on a 2007 online poll, the National Education Association named the book one of its "Teachers' Top 100 Books for Children." A 1949 recording of the story was inducted to the National Recording Registry in 2009. The story's signature phrases, such as "I think I can," first occurred in print in a 1902 article in a Swedish journal. An early-published version of the story, "Story of the Engine That Thought It Could," appeared in the New-York Tribune in 1906, as part of a sermon by the Rev. Charles S. Wing. Another version was published under the name "The Pony Engine," in the Kindergarten Review in 1910. Many variations of the story were later published, and it had been concluded, "The story belonged to the realm of folk literature." The current version of the story first appeared in print with the title "The Little Engine That Could," in 1920, collected in Volume 1 of My Book House, a set of books sold in the U.S. by door-to-door salespersons. In the tale, a long train must be pulled over a high mountain after its engine breaks down. Larger engines, treated anthropomorphically, are asked to pull the train, but for various reasons they refuse. The request is sent to a small engine, who agrees to try. The engine succeeds in pulling the train over the mountain while repeating its motto: "I-think-I-can." The story has been told and retold many times.

Our recent Seder and the circumstances of our congregation are very much like "The Little Engine That Could." The overhead projector format was a nice change, shortening the Seder considerably. Seventy-four people were present, friends and family, to include 15 children and 4 teenagers; and the Cantor was energetic, dynamic, inclusive, and motivating. The congregation was warm and giving. Could anything have been any better?

I admit that one person mistook a plastic fly as real, and there was a live bird in the sanctuary. Nevertheless, it was a great Seder! Thanks to everyone for his or her efforts!

Jim Shinder, President

Cantor's Corner

Reflecting on the past holidays, Purim and then Passover, it hit me how the stories went from all about women to making them almost totally invisible. We celebrate Esther and brag on her accomplishments, so why the sudden silence? I have never found the "Women's Seders" very satisfying as they flip the coin the other way and try to eliminate the men from the narrative. The Rabbis of the Talmud seemed to recognize the importance of the Passover story women more than we do today in their phrase "In the merit of the righteous women Israel were redeemed from Egypt, and in their merit the future generations will be redeemed." So who were these women recognized back in the year 200 CE that have somewhat fallen by the wayside today.

The Midwives: Shifra and Puah, as midwives in Egypt, were ordered by Pharaoh to do some, whoops, accidental infanticide. They found excuse after excuse to spare the infants and were rewarded with some major descendants. In one tradition, Puah's descendant was David. Yes, that David. In another, most of the Levite priests. Their compassion saved a nation.

The Moms: Tradition holds that the men did not want to have children since they would likely be slaughtered, but the women were intent on continuing the Hebrew line becoming, well, seducers. Their faith in redemption saved a nation.

Moses' Mom, Jocaved: She alone held the magic key to getting the Israelites out of Egypt. Her faith, vision, and ingenuity saved a nation.

Batya, daughter of Pharaoh: This fearless woman did not much care what others thought. She was going to adopt the baby she found despite the admonitions from the Egyptian priests, astrologers, and even Pharaoh. Her compassion saved a nation.

Tzipporah, Moses' wife: While Moses is being swallowed by a boa constrictor, she circumcises her son (a little detail Moses forgot about), kept the covenant, and all is good for the Israelites to continue out of Egypt. Woman cannot be mohels? This one saved a nation.

Miriam, Moses' sister: She had complete faith and had crafted the drums to use in celebration of victory. Miriam is the bringer of hope...the visionary of the Exodus story. She absolutely believed in the freedom waiting on the other side and crafted the tools for that freedom. Her faith and initiative bring us one of the most powerful visions of the Exodus: the dance at the Reed Sea to celebrate the saved nation.

More than a quick thanks is in order for the ancient women who ensured our Seder will happen year-after-year.

Cantor Monica O'Desky

Please consider making a donation to the Temple

It is a wonderful way to:

- Mark a *simchah* (happy occasion)
- Honor someone's memory
- Wish someone a speedy recovery
- Express Gratitude



Greater Waco Interfaith Conference

The purpose of the Greater Waco Interfaith Conference is to promote harmony, understanding, cooperation and respect among the variety of faith traditions in Waco and the surrounding area.
Visit www.wacointerfaith.org

“Yom HaShoah – Holocaust Remembrance 2019”

Wednesday, May 1st at 7:00 PM
Congregation Agudath Jacob
4925 Hillcrest Drive
Waco, TX 76710

Please Join Us

Featured Speaker:

David Patterson
Hillel A. Feinberg Chair in Holocaust Studies
Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies
University of Texas at Dallas
And

Author of more than 35 books including:
The Holocaust and the Non-Representable (2018), *Anti-Semitism and Its
Metaphysical Origins* (2015), *Genocide in Jewish Thought* (2012) and
A Genealogy of Evil: Anti-Semitism from Nazism to Islamic Jihad (2010)

“Take heed...lest you forget the things which your eyes have seen and...teach them to your
children and to your children’s children.”
Deuteronomy 4:9

Sponsored by: Congregation Agudath Jacob, Temple Rodef Sholom and the GWIC

IMPORTANT: SAVE THE DATES MARK YOUR CALENDAR

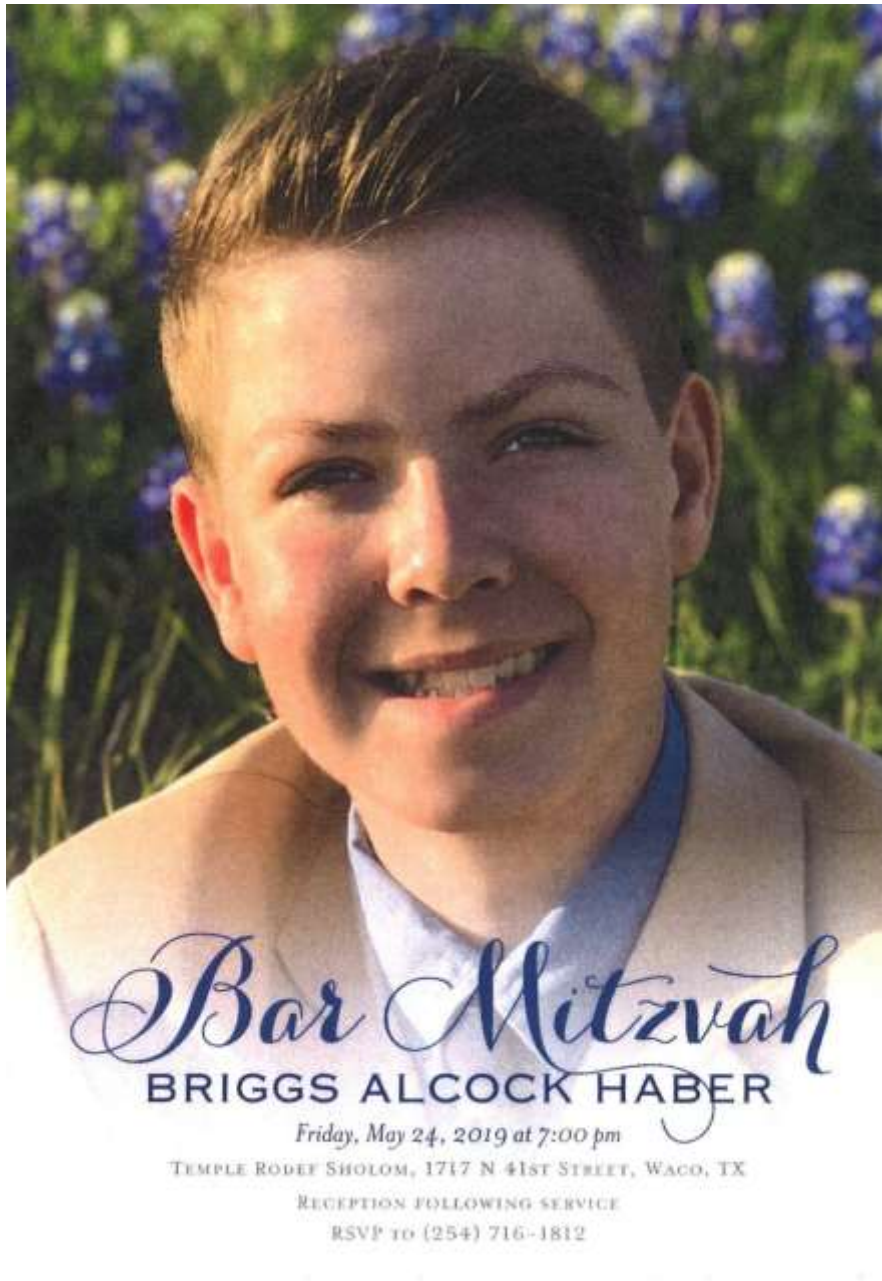
Friday, **May 10th**, at 5:45 PM there will be a short presentation and discussion of the proposed by-laws changes to be voted on at the **June 9th** Annual Congregational Meeting.



Friends & Family Chicken Fajitas Dinner May 10th, 6:00 PM

Join everyone for chicken fajitas and all the fixin's!
Please make reservation with the Temple office or Suzan Shinder
by Monday, May 6th.

Shabbat service led by Cantor O'Desky will follow at 7:00 PM.



Bar Mitzvah
BRIGGS ALCOCK HABER

Friday, May 24, 2019 at 7:00 pm

TEMPLE RODEF SHOLOM, 1717 N 41ST STREET, WACO, TX

RECEPTION FOLLOWING SERVICE

RSVP TO (254) 716-1812

Please join us and the entire Haber family as Briggs becomes a
Bar Mitzvah!

RSVP directly to 254.7165.1812 **NO LATER THAN** May 15th.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 4:30 PM Religious School 7:00 PM "Yom HaShoah- Holocaust Remembrance at Congregation Agudath Jacob	2	3 7:00 PM Shabbat Service led by Dr. Karen Humphrey Oneg hosted by Cheri Gardner	4
5	6	7	8 4:30 PM Religious School 7:00 PM Board Meeting Yom Hazikaron – Israel Remembrance Day	9 Israel Independence Day, 1948	10 5:45 PM By-Laws Discussion 6:00 PM Friends & Family Dinner 7:00 PM Shabbat Service led by Cantor O'Desky Oneg hosted by Ricki Florsheim	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15 4:30 PM Religious School	16	17 7:00 PM Shabbat Service led by Cantor O'Desky Oneg hosted by Sara Jo Englander	18 9:00 AM Torah Study
19	20	21	22 4:30 PM Religious School	23	24 7:00 PM Briggs Haber Bar Mitzvah Shabbat Service led by Cantor O'Desky Oneg hosted by the Haber Family	25
26	27 Memorial Day (Office Closed)	28	29 4:30 PM Religious School	30	31 7:00 PM Shabbat Service led by Oneg hosted by Ellan Burke	

Yahrzeits

April 27th – May 3rd

Adam Kiss
Adolph Friedlander
Charles Mart Harris

Eva Ruth Levin Paule
Robert O. Silvers
Eva Gabert Kuttner

Jennie Kahn
Hughie Woods
Wilford W. Naman

Dr. Walter Kochman
Thomas Davidson

May 4th – May 10th

Louie May
Julia Livingston

Larry Klein

Norman Keen

Eva Feist

May 11th – May 17th

Irving Ginsburg
Shirley Kleiman
Justin Rosenfeld

Dave Spero
Shirley Clurman
Robert Levy

Libbie Lawrence
Melvin Handelman
Nathan Neman

Madelon Fogelman
Harold Stern
Katherine Alexander

May 18th – May 24th

Julia Golob
Isaac Simmons
Nettie Spark

Howard Goldstucker
Richard Schwartz
Nathan Gurwitz

Julius Englander
Klaire Schwarz

Max Sheff
Neva Shinder

May 25th – May 31st

Otto Levy
James Fetter
Shirley Macow

Sarah Sprecher
Robert Levy
William Moon, Jr.

Pauline Ginsburg
Hennie Genecov

Evelyn Levy
Rosa Keen

Simchas

Birthday

May 5th

Gretchen Wieckowski
Martha Bauer

May 8th

Mitchell Haber

May 15th

Scotty Hermann
Jake Bauer

May 20th

Betty Bauer

May 21st

Jim Staude

May 24th

Daniel Barish

May 26th

Bob Kirstein
Linda Scrinopskie Heath
Rachel Martinez

May 30th

Jake Schwartz

Anniversary

May 16th

Suzan & James Shinder

May 25th

Maura & David Jortner

May 27th

Meredith & George Harmon

May 29th

Tracie & Scotty Hermann

New Members

Please welcome Gretchen & Zdzislaw Wieckowski to the Temple family. Gretchen is employed by Chico's and Zdzislaw teaches at Baylor Law School.

THE 2019-2020 ONEG LIST

Kabbalat Shabbat is a space in time for holiness, rest, and joy. The women who create our Onegs help create that space for us. Our Oneg list for 2019-20 is our first step to that joy. There are more than 50 Shabbats on the list, so some people will be asked more than once. If you have a question, ask in the office for the article *“Is Sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat (or a Pre-Neg) at Temple Rodef Sholom New to You?”* If you have a pre-neg this summer, you will find directions in that office article. If you are on a date that will not work for you, please call another woman on the list, and trade with her! If you do not cook, something from the local grocer is a great solution! If you still have a question, or if you are not on the list and you are willing to help, please call Suzan at 881-2131. Remember, it is not about eating, it is about JOY! You are not alone. If someone calls you to trade, please say “yes!” Make it work! We all have to say “yes” for this to work! Say “yes” to joy!

6-7-19 Suzan Shinder	6-14-19 Charlotte Labens	6-21-19 Jennifer Sternberg
6-28-19 Sue Shipp	7-5-19 Abby Garrett	7-12-19 Elysse Englander
7-19-19 Mendy Hanson	7-26-19 Lydia Hayes	8-2-19 Nora Householder
8-9-19 Cindy Wood	8-16-19 Barbara Kirstein	8-23-19 Patty Knighten
8-30-19 Eleanor Levy	9-6-19 Betty Bauer	9-13-19 Shana Bauer
9-20-19 Jane Bounds	9-27-19 Alice Todd	10-4-19 Elysse Englander
10-11-19 Sara Englander	10-18-19 Ricki Florsheim	10-25-19 Cheri Gardner
11-1-19 Abby Sobel	11-8-19 Ellan Burke	11-15-19 Sue Hanson
11-22-19 Nan Haber	11-29-19 Alice Todd	12-6-19 Tracie Hermann
12-13-19 Yvonne Miller	12-20-19 Nora Householder	12-27-19 Suzan Shinder
1-3-20 Dr. Karen Humphrey	1-10-20 Dr. Maura Jortner	1-17-20 Martha Bauer
1-24-20 Patty Knighten	1-31-20 Charlotte Labens	2-7-20 Suzan Shinder
2-14-20 Gretchen Wiekowski	2-21-20 Gayle Marcuis	2-28-20 Ashley McKeown
3-6-20 Eleanor Levy	3-13-20 Rachel Martinez	3-20-20 Yvonne Miller
3-27-20 Pat Segal	4-3-20 Meg Looney	4-10-20 Sue Shipp
4-17-20 Dr. Alla Aksel	4-24-20 Jane Bounds	5-1-20 Barbara Kirstein
5-8-20 Ellan Burke	5-15-20 Lauren Wessinger	5-22-20 Cindy Wood
5-29-20 Lydia Hayes		



A **BIG** thank-you to Alice Todd for creating quilts and donating the sales proceeds to the Sisterhood.



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Kol Sholom
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Established in 1879

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Jim Shinder – *President*

Mendy Hanson – *Sisterhood President*
Religious School Administrator

Paul Dreiseszun – *Temple Administrator*