

Kol Sholom

The Voice of Peace



April 2019 Adar II – Nisan – 5779

From the Temple President's Desk

Dear Congregants,

The last month has been remarkable. Since the last newsletter, we had a very interesting, enlightening presentation by Mr. Sherwin Pomerantz, who spoke on contemporary issues regarding Israel. Approximately 40 people attended the program and the lively Q&A discussion.

The social hall was set up with 80 chairs for the continental breakfast prior to the "Hate and Intolerance" presentation by Kate Chance of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), and we had to get extra chairs! Her presentation in the sanctuary was very well received and there was considerable new information presented. There appears to be increasing enthusiasm in our small congregation, and many of the persons who attended both events were not members.

You may ask why it is important to make these efforts, to include others, beyond membership. Simply stated, the research shows that one of the major differences between growing, stable, and dying congregations is the extent to which they reach out to marginally active (and/or inactive) Jews in the community, and the extent to which they include persons who will never be members, but who have shared human hopes and personal concerns. How the community at large views Judaism is based on what their Jewish community does. As we become more active, predictably, our membership will increase.

More importantly, the Friday night service, just prior to the SPLC presentation, had an almost magical quality. There were 24 people present at the service, 7 of whom were guests, each of whom were welcomed and encouraged to return. The service by Cantor O'Desky was incredible. She put forth considerable effort regarding this service and honored a personal request with a beautiful trio (Cantor, Eliza, and Lynette) singing the Elohai, n'tzor l'shoni meira. We are fortunate to have her as our spiritual leader. With your continued support we will continue to prosper!

That service provided the basis for some of my remarks the following morning at the SPLC presentation, which were as follows:

"I wish that I could have greeted each person here individually, but that was not possible. Please know that you are welcome here. The planning for today began shortly after the Pittsburgh shooting.

Every week people come to this temple and other worship centers in search of extraordinary experiences and hope to leave with a sense of peace. I hope for the same for everyone here today. We are an increasingly diverse community, which is a good thing, and each of us must answer in our own way, the question as to how we can help others. I hope that today may give you each some new thoughts and ideas that you can take home from this presentation to your family, your congregation, and your community.

Our speaker is Ms. Kate Chance, the Outreach Coordinator of the Southern Poverty Law Center. Ms. Chance worked for a Muslim non-profit organization for 3-years prior to coming to the Southern

Poverty Law Center, and has a Masters from the University of Oxford in Hinduism and Islam. A question and answer session will follow Ms. Chance's presentation.”

I was personally pleased to see how many of our congregation enjoyed bringing guests and welcoming visitors. I hope to plan other such events in the future.

Cantor's Corner

We have just come out of Purim where strong women really rule the story. Without Vashti's sense of self, Esther never would have come into the picture. Without Esther's courage, the Jewish population of Shushan could have been destroyed. So we segue this month into Passover and suddenly it seems like a story of strong men being narrated to sons. What just happened? Are the women really invisible in this story? Actually no. The Talmud says “In the merit of the righteous women, Israel were redeemed from Egypt, and in their merit the future generations will be redeemed.” That's a strong statement even now, but in that era was nothing short of amazing. First, we have Shifra and Pua, the midwives. Told by Pharaoh to do some paring down of the Hebrew community in the form of infanticide, they instead managed to work around the issue not killing any of the babies and were actually rewarded. We have Yocheved, the mother of Moses. She was actually the key to the Exodus by her cleverness in hiding her newborn-son. Yocheved had strength, faith, and vision and with those keys, saved a nation. We can even applaud Batya, the daughter of Pharaoh, without whose humanity and heart for this tiny infant we would not have survived. She was fearless, not caring what people said about adopting this baby, defying Egyptian priests, astrologers, and her father. Her compassion saved our people. We would expect Moses to have a superior wife, and Tziporah fills that bill. While Moses is accosted by a fierce angel challenging that he had not circumcised his son (in all fairness, he was a bit busy), Tziporah knew what to do and took care of that issue, appeasing God's anger. Is it possible to have a vision of the Exodus without Miriam and her timbrels, or tambourines, dancing at the Reed Sea. Miriam is the vision of hope in this story, preparing her timbrels knowing the Israelites would be victorious. So this Passover, let's make sure to give more than a nod to those women who made it possible for us to be here today and celebrate freedom for years to come.

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

Donations

A donation was made to the General Fund in memory of Harvey Goleb by Pat Klein and Family



April

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---|---------|---|----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 7:00 PM Shabbat Service led by Karen Humphrey Oneg hosted by Sue Hanson | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 4:30 PM Religious School | 11 | 12 7:00 PM Shabbat Service led by Cantor O'Desky Oneg hosted by Mendy Hanson | 13 |
| 14 | 15 Deadline for Passover Seder Reservations | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 6:00 PM Passover Seder led by Cantor O'Desky (Reservations Required) | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 7:00 PM Shabbat Service led by Cantor O'Desky Oneg hosted by Suzan Shinder | 27 9:00 AM Torah Study |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

SAVE THE DATES MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Friday, May 10th – Friends & Family Dinner
 Sunday, June 9th – Annual Congregational Meeting



MNEMONIC

A play directed by TRS member, David Jortner, at Baylor's Mabee Theatre. *"It is one of the most ambitious projects I have ever undertaken and I am thrilled to present the work to you all."*

David Jortner

April 2-6, 2019, at 7:30

April 6-7, 2019 at 2:00

Performances Exploring the intersections of memory, identity, history and geography, *Mnemonic* is a beautiful sprawling play which asks us who we are and how we understand each other. From London to Warsaw, from the contemporary neuroscience to our prehistory, with moments in French, German, English, Greek, Polish and Yiddish, this play explores how we are all linked together.

Tickets are now on sale (\$20 each) for Baylor Theatre's *Mnemonic*.

<https://ev12.eventue.net/cgi-bin/ncommerce3/SEGetEventList?groupCode=BT-MN&linkID=baylor-theatre&shopperContext=&caller=&appCode>

The play is approximately 2-hours and is for mature audiences only due to adult language and content.

Registration

7th Annual Putt Putter™ TOURNAMENT

Saturday, April 13 • Waco Lions Park

1716 North 42nd Street

254.776.5341

to register and for information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

\$50 per team of 2 • 6 pm until 10 pm • Registration Starts @ 5pm

Includes: 36 holes Putt-Putt®, cocktail buffet, prizes with combined gross score used.

Team members: _____

Please enclose tournament fee for all teams with the registration form.

I am enclosing a check for \$_____ to cover registration for _____ teams.

If you would like to be paired with another team, please provide player/team names.

Make checks payable to: Waco Founder Lions Foundation

And mail to: **Waco Founder Lions Club**
1716 North 42nd Street
Waco, Texas 76710

On-line registration available at bit.ly/pptournament

Thank You!



A project of

Waco Founder Lions Club

Proceeds benefit

Lions Projects for Charity



TEMPLE RODEF SHOLOM COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER APRIL 19, 2019, AT 6:00 P.M.

This year the meal will be catered, and volunteers will provide all of the traditional Passover items to a grateful Congregation: Matzo, Haroset, wine (grape juice for the kids), matzo ball soup, bitter herbs, etc.

Cantor O'Desky will preside!

Cost:

Adult temple members: \$20

Adult non-members: \$25

Children: 12 and under Free, 13-17 \$10

Please make checks payable to Temple Rodef Sholom.

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE WITH THE TEMPLE OFFICE
(254.754.3703) NO LATER THAN MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2019**

Call Suzan S., 881-2131 with questions, or to volunteer!
More details may follow; so, watch your e-mails!



Caritas Feast of Caring Soup Cook-Off
Tuesday, April 23, 2019
6:00 p.m.
Waco Convention Center – Brazos Room

Hunger is a growing problem in our community, with poverty rates above the average for our nation. Nearly 30% of our residents live at or below the poverty level. Caritas exists to help reduce those numbers.

For over 40 years, Caritas has hosted a symbolic event to raise awareness and funds to help our neighbors who are less-fortunate. Thousands of guests have attended the annual "Feast of Caring" to share a simple meal of soup and bread to humanize the needs of so many in our community.

In 2019, the "Feast of Caring" event will continue with its popular "Soup Cook-Off" format, inviting local restaurants and caterers to showcase their specialty soups and/or desserts while raising awareness of those who face hunger every day. The event also includes silent and audible auctions. The 2018 "Feast of Caring" raised \$93,000 and was attended by close to 400 guests. These funds helped to provide food to 258 families for one year. Our goal for 2019 is to raise \$95,000.

Mark your calendars for April 23, 2019. Join us for great food, wonderful silent and audible auction items, moving stories from our clients, and a few surprises as we move those in need **beyond hunger to hope.**

Tickets are \$35.00 per person
For more information, contact Ann Owen
254.753.4593, extension 213 or aowen@caritas-waco.org
After April 9th, please contact Cindy Wood
254.744.8193 or cwoo3@aol.com

Caritas of Waco is an IRS-designated 501(c)(3) organization. Our mission is to provide urgent support to people in need in our community.

Caritas of Waco • 300 South 15th Street • Waco, TX 76701

www.caritas-waco.org

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

Purim 2019



First Place winner Briggs Haber (Mordechai)



Rabbi & Mrs. Lanxner as the Lone Ranger and Tonto (or are they!)



Cantor Monica O'Desky and Shul president Susan Silver. (Cantor, are you hamentashen or taco?)



Miriam Looney Utrillo who looks just like a famous vampire (who is a nice vampire!)



Miss Emelyn Looney Utrillo, also known as the Beautiful Princess.



Beautiful Gabby Jortner! The photographer also saw your beautiful sister Felicity, but was too slow to catch her. (Sorry, Felicity.)



Our intrepid religious school teacher Asa Sternberg and his mother Jennifer.



Miss Corrine Goldberg McKeown as a ballet dancer.



Miriam Looney Utrillo

A special thank-you to Cindy Wood for her work shepherding the event, and Ellan Burke for her help!

THE May 2019 ONEG LIST

Kabbalat Shabbat is a space in time for holiness, rest, and joy. The women who create our Oneg's help create that space for us. Our Oneg list for 2019 is our first step to that joy. If you are on a date that does 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! Remember, it is not about eating, it is about JOY! If you are not on the list and you are willing to help, or if you have a question, please call Suzan at 254.881.2131. 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!

5-3-19 Cheri Gardner
5-24-19 Elysse Englander

5-10-19 Ricki Florsheim
5-31-19 Ellan Burke

5-17-19 Sara Jo Englander

Yahrzeits

March 30th – April 5th

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| David Mellin | Frances Schwartz | Lois S. Zigel | Abbye L. Freed, Jr. |
| Mary Mack | Ida B. Fred | Neta McGee | Sam Unell |
| Beulah S. Nussbaum | Simone Bauer | Lindsay O'Daniel | Leo Goldberg |
| Sarah Levine | Bernard Rapoport | Simone Bauer | Bernice S. Goldberg |
| Ida B. Sharman | Josephine L. G. Art | Anne P. Harris | Jake R. Schwartz |

April 6th – April 12th

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Martha Davidson | Harvey S. Golob | T.C. Evans, Sr. | Jeanne Levy |
| Max Goldstein | Ida R. C. Locum | Kurt Hirsch | |

April 13th – April 19th

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Sam J. Davidson | Herbie L. Goldstrich | Maurene L. Wood | Abe Jacobs |
| Marvin D. Keen | Flora B. Livingston | Sallie Goldstein | Morris Miller |
| Kate R. C. Kestner | Lester Englander | Gwen Hirsch | Malcolm M. Gordon |
| Mose M. Macow | | | |

April 20th – April 26th

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Berthold Scheinbrum | Rebecca Brickman | Eda K. Green | Sally S. Lutzer |
| Jennie Wizig | Elaine McCorkle | Bertha Sheff | Nettie E. Florsheim |

April 27th – May 3rd

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Adam Kiss | Eva Ruth Levin Paule | Jennie Kahn | Dr. Walter Kochman |
| Adolph Friedlander | Robert O. Silvers | Hughie Woods | Thomas Davidson |
| Charles Mart Harris | Eva Gabert Kuttner | Wilford W. Naman | |

Simchas

Birthday

April 1ST

Sue Hanson

April 2nd

Frank Levy

April 3rd

Pat Knighten

April 8th

Max Harmon

April 12th

Caleb Gardner

April 15th

Joel Florsheim

April 24th

Fanchon Florsheim

April 25th

Terry Burke

April 26th

Natalie Keen

April 27th

Halle Harmon



1717 N. New Rd. Waco, TX 76707-1619 254.754.3703



Kol Sholom
The Voice of Peace

Established in 1879

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Jim Shinder – *President*

Mendy Hanson – *Sisterhood President*
Religious School Administrator

Paul Dreiseszun – *Temple Administrator*