



JEWISH CENTER OF THE HAMPTONS

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2024





Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi

Shabbat Shira, The Sabbath of Song:

In a few weeks, we will once again hear the beautiful shir melody, as we recount the exodus from Egypt, in the Shirat Ha'yam, the song of the sea.

One of the verses that I have been singing since October seventh, as a verse of comfort, is from the Shir Melody:

עֲזִי וְחַמְרַת יְיָ תַּחֲדִי-לִי לְשׁוּעָה זֶה אֱלֹהֵי וְאֶמְצֶהוּ אֲבִי וְאֶרְמָמְהוּ: (ב)

The Eternal is my strength and might; God has become my deliverance. This is my God, and I will cherish Him; The God of my father, and I will exalt Him.

This verse, or rather the first part of it: The Eternal is my strength and might, God has become my deliverance, appears in Psalm 118 and again in the book of Isaiah. I think that perhaps that is why I have been singing it for so many months. When tragedy strikes, either in a community, or in a family, we look for strength. I consider myself blessed that I have a strong belief in God, that I can call upon God for such strength.

It's been months, and we have seen no resolution to the war in Israel. It's been months, prayer rallies have come and gone, tee shirts have been sold, necklaces and bracelets remembering the kidnapped have been sold. Young Israelis have been called up to serve, reservists have been called back, and still no resolution. I still fear the future, and I still question how this happened. I, like many of you, feel antisemitism in this country is powerful and profound. Yet, I continue to sing: Azi v'zimrat Yah, Vay'hi Li Lishuah. The Eternal is my strength and might; God has become my deliverance.

I encourage all of you to take a moment and discover where your strength lies in your beliefs. I encourage each of you to continue to keep your energies working to end antisemitism on our campuses and in our country. Continue to be a voice for the State of Israel and continue to pray to our God for the strength of all those who suffer.

I hope soon to be able to lift a timbrel in my hand, as did our prophet, Miriam, and invite all of you to dance with me as we sing a song of victory.

Am Yisrael Chai,

Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi

Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi



Rabbi Alexis Pinsky

Dear Friends,

Happy secular new year! What a joy and privilege to join JCOH for shabbatot these next three months. I so look forward to learning with you, praying, lifting our voices in sacred song, and celebrating the richness and beauty of Jewish tradition together. I personally love the opportunity to celebrate a new year, and how beautiful that as Jews, we have multiple opportunities to celebrate new years in the plural; religious and secular.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel noted that Judaism is a religion of sacred time – we find holiness in marking moments and celebrating occasions together. Did you know that the Jewish calendar observes four different new years? Rosh Hashanah, our high holy day, commemorates the birth of the world. Passover, falling in the Spring, brings up notions of rebirth by commemorating the time that the Israelites were freed from Egypt. Tu BiShvat, the new year for the trees, has become a time to awaken our environmental awareness and activism. And finally, we have a biblical new year for tithing cattle that occurs on the first of the month of Elul (*this is understandably less observed in modernity, but I recommend it as a great piece of trivia*).

In our fast-paced world filled with responsibilities, how often do you take the opportunity to simply reflect on the passage of time and what it means to you? Judaism provides innumerable possibilities to contemplate time as it unfolds. In our secular new year of 2024, may we seize the opportunities, be they daily, weekly, monthly or even yearly to reflect on our lives as they have past, and set intentions to bring us blessings in the future.

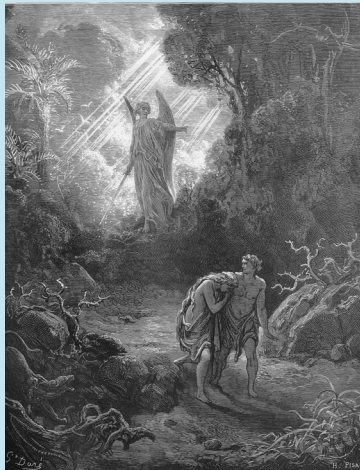
L'shalom,

Rabbi Alexis Pinsky

Rabbi Alexis Pinsky



Rabbi Joshua Franklin



The Number 1 Most Asked Question about My Sabbatical: What Are You Writing About?

Title: Where Are You? Finding Yourself in the Bible

In the timeless tale of Adam and Eve's pivotal moment in the Garden of Eden, an age-old question arises: "Where are you?" Location doesn't even begin to answer the question. It's not about "where are you in the world?" but rather "where are you in your world?" The former poses an inquiry about geography, and the latter about your emotional and spiritual state of mind. God cares little about tracking us and pinpointing our physical location. God cares rather about what our hearts feel and experience.

This book ventures beyond the map of geography to chart the locations within the Bible as metaphysical states of being. The Bible chronicles the experiences of life that we find reflected in our own lives. The Garden of Eden is not a long lost paradise, but a state of mind we glimpse at moments of life. To dwell in Haran (crossroads) is not about living in the modern region of Southwest Turkey, but about being stuck at a transition point, unable to move forward. Going down to Egypt is not about visiting the pyramids, but it's where we enter the deep dark recesses of spiritual and emotional depression. As each of these places are explored, you'll discover not only the metaphysical meanings behind the places of the Bible, but we'll see the reflections of ourselves through the biblical landscape. Join this trans-formative journey of unraveling the timeless wisdom of the Bible, and rediscover yourself in its sacred stories.

I'm looking forward to sharing more with you when I return from Sabbatical.

Rabbi Joshua Franklin

KIDNAPPED**OMER NEUTRA**

As many of you know, I grew up on Long Island, where my family attended a conservative congregation, Midway Jewish Center. Midway played a key role in nurturing my love of Judaism and helping to direct my decision to dedicate my career to serving the Jewish people as a Hazzan, and then later to go on to receive rabbinic ordination.

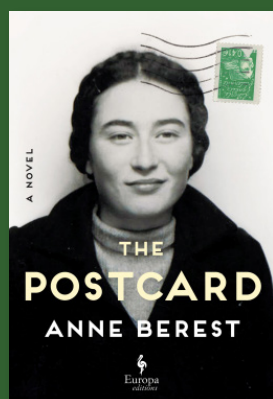
You can understand how devastating it was to learn that one of the hostages taken on October 7 was 21-year-old Omer Neutra, who grew up in Plainview and attended Midway Jewish Center. This connection with Omer has moved me to appeal to you, our congregational family, to rally around him as an act of solidarity.

During Shabbat, we will take Omer and all the hostages into our hearts and prayers as we pray for their speedy and safe return.

Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi

**BOOK CLUB**

WITH CANTOR DEBRA STEIN, RABBI

**THE POSTCARD**

BY ANNE BEREST

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18 | 4:00pm

Winner of the Choix Goncourt Prize, Anne Berest's *The Postcard* is a vivid portrait of twentieth-century Parisian intellectual and artistic life, an enthralling investigation into family secrets, and poignant tale of a Jewish family devastated by the Holocaust and partly restored through the power of storytelling.

Register at jcoh.org/bookclub

All Book Club meetings will be virtual only





MAUREEN'S HAVEN
HOMELESS OUTREACH

MAUREEN'S HAVEN FOOD PREPARATION TUESDAY, JANUARY 23 | 3:00pm

We have signed up to host the homeless shelter on **January 24**. This means that on **Tuesday, January 23, at 3pm** we need volunteers to help make lunches at the Jewish Center. We also need volunteers to sign up for preparing dinner for the **January 24**, which will need to be dropped off at the synagogue on the **January 23** so we can get it to the shelter before Wednesday.

We need the following dinner items for 30 people:

- Soup • Salad • Main Course (Lasagna or Meatloaf)
- Side Dish / vegetable or starch • Dessert

If you can help provide any of the above, please reach out to cantor@jcoh.org by January 15.

PARTNERS AGAINST HUNGER

"Is this the fast I have chosen?" –Isaiah

FOOD
DRIVE



Our local food pantries need our help.

It is always the right time to help others, now more than ever.

We must remember those in our community who suffer from food insecurity.

Hunger is real, even in the Hamptons.

When you go food shopping, we ask that you consider picking up one or two non-perishable items for donation.

Donations may be left on our front porch.

Help to answer the call to feed the hungry during this time.



LET'S DINE TOGETHER!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24 | 6:30PM

Join us as we gather to support one another through the winter months. On each of these dates, we will meet at an East Hampton restaurant for dinner and sisterhood. Each participant is responsible for their own tab. The restaurant will be determined by how many are joining. Reservations will be made two weeks in advance, so please send your response no later than JANUARY 9 to cantor@jcoh.org

UPCOMING WOMEN'S DINE AROUND DATES
FEBRUARY 28 • MARCH 27





Shul House

at Jewish Center of the Hamptons

Where Jewish learning feels like home

A heartfelt welcome to all new families who have recently become part of our Shul House family! It brings us great joy to witness the beginnings of so many young children embarking on their journey to discover their Jewish identity.

This semester, our focus revolves around the theme of “Prayers & Blessings,” an exploration into the most beautiful, profound, and meaningful aspects of Jewish prayers. Our students will not only delve into traditional prayers but will also have the opportunity to create their own, allowing for moments of meditation and connection with the Divine.

We’ve introduced a new learning opportunity on Sundays following regular classes: B’nai Mitzvah Prep with Morah Margaret. After enjoying a pizza lunch, 6th and 7th graders will immerse themselves in all things Bar and Bat Mitzvah, setting the stage for their sacred occasion.

We’re looking forward to a beautiful semester filled with discovery, growth, and shared memories within our Shul House community.



Margaret Barcohana

EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR



Spring Registration Open Now!

JCOH.ORG/SHULHOUSE

For further information: Margaret Barcohana, mbarcohana@jcoh.org



POP-UP CHANUKAH

DECEMBER 8-14, 2023





IN COLLABORATION WITH LTV STUDIOS

CONCERT FOR ISRAEL

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13, 2023



Photos: Durell Godfrey • Lisa Tamburini



WE REMEMBER THEM...



Stone on Slate

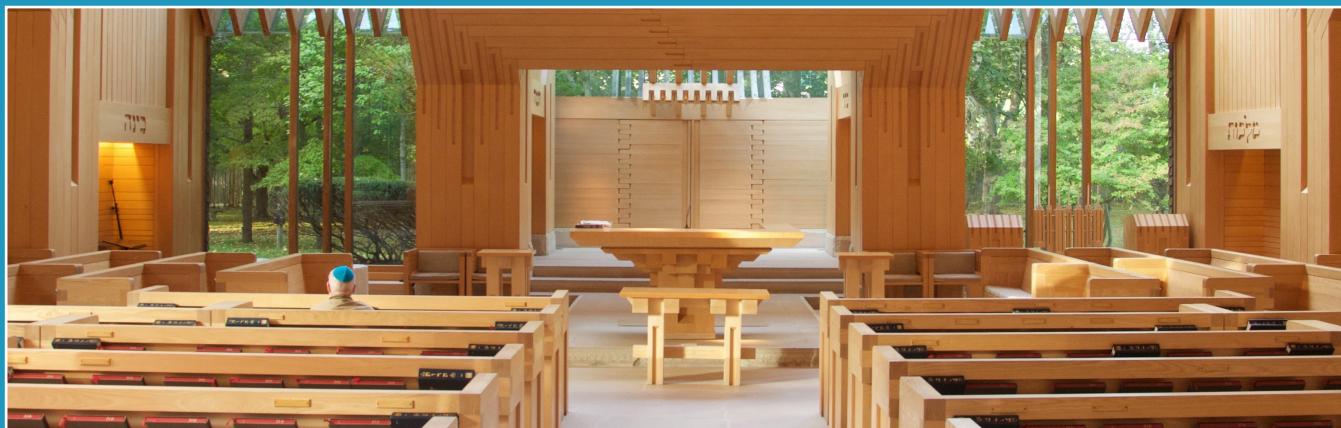


As one remembers their loved one who has passed away, it is a tradition to not only say Kaddish, but to also place a stone on their grave site. Since many of us are not able to observe this tradition, we have added a ritual for our mourners called Stone on Slate.

This includes a bowl of polished stones and a tile so anyone in mourning or saying Kaddish can also come forward and place a stone on the slate.

Saying Kaddish is a communal ritual and when one places a stone on the slate, they are also performing an individual act of remembrance, and we, the congregation, are witness to this act.

JOIN OUR SYNAGOGUE FAMILY



In this tumultuous time, we turn to one another for comfort.
In the wake of growing antisemitism, we find sanctuary together.
Now, more than ever, your connection and support of our community
and the Jewish people is vital to our survival. AM YISRAEL CHAI!

To become a member, please call our office and speak
with Lindsey Marino at 631-324-9858

RABBI FRANKLIN'S DISCRETIONARY

Steven & Louise Bergerson**Melanie Auerbach**
in honor of Mema Dansky &
Grandpa Auerbach**Michael Federman****Jeffrey & Karen Levitt**
in memory of Alfred Levitt**Katy Kamen**
in memory of Harry Kamen**Norman & Cathy Yohay**

CANTOR STEIN'S DISCRETIONARY

Richard Latner
in memory of Sam Latner**Benjamin Levine & Abbey Harris****Charlotte Markowitz**
in memory of Gloria Kanfer**Steven & Louise Bergerson****Sima Redlien****Norman & Cathy Yohay**GIVING
TUESDAY**Brenda Madison****Karen Silverman**PRAYERBOOK
DEDICATION**Michael Green**
in memory of Herbert Kornguth**Michael Green**
in memory of David M. Green**Michael Green**
in memory of Charlotte Baron

GENERAL DONATION

John & Nancy Alderman**Peter Strugatz****Roni Gerard****Jessica Dyme****Jessica Santell****Kacey Karp****Jeff Dachis****Troy & Sharon Grindle****Randi Ginsburg****Philip & Judith Hahn****Jim Vrettos****Hy & Sharon Mariampolski****Theodore Lehmann &
Anna Rottersman****Melissa Hager & Curtis Johnson****Stephen Wilson**
in memory of Aileen Brody**Norinne Freeman****Suzi & Brian Stadler****Marci Douglas & Lawrence Pollack****Alex Shterenberg & Marina Piller****Ira Cohen****Nancy Alderman****Bernard Cornick**

HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL

Benjamin Lewis & Jane Goldman**Michael Senft & Rivalyn Zweig****Hal & Nina Fetner****Ann Bialkin****William Etkin****Stuart Suna****Michael & Michelle Roberts****Scott & Emily Stackman****Jennifer Kraus****Andy Sabin****Lydie Shufro****George & Joan Segal****Russell & Alexandra Horwitz****Sara Beth Zivitz****Richard Adrian****David & Ilia Yohay****Anna Spector & Jonathan Seabolt****Mark & Ann Lieberman****Kenneth & Vicki Kline****Steven & Tina Price**YAHREIT
DONATION**Claire Behar &
Marc Behar**
in memory of June Arlene Yohay**Eugenie Horowitz**
in memory of Harvey Horowitz**Maleta Pilcz**
in memory of Hana Pilcz**Cukier Charitable Fund**
in memory of Sam CukierYEAR END
APPEAL**Marsha Soffer**
The Fine & Greenwald Foundation**David Jaffe &
Cori Miller****Holly Minott****Henry & Kara Rakowski**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Robin Matza	Sima Redlien	Lauren Shy
Barrie Rosen	Deanna Elkowitz	Susan Blum
Nadav Night	Michael Grotell	Allen Urkowitz
Lee Feldman	Lisa Borenstein	Gregory Shufro
Harry Katz	Ellin Delsener	Ilayne Etkind
Lauren Schwartz	Samuel Kramer	David Kostin
David Huntley	Morris Mark	Steven Price
Deborah Klein	Andrew Sussman	Eunice Golden
Gloria Lang	Lloyd Elkowitz	Brooke Kroeger
Andrew Saunders	Adam Goodfriend	Sharyn Lawall
Galia Stawski	Wendy Shenfeld	Alan Garfield
Tina Price	Jeffrey Rimland	Judith Banki
Susan Burris	Stanley Deutsch	Deborah Cohen
Ellen Weisburd	Robert Swanson	Andrew Marks
Jerry Brown	Aaron Stone	Millie Schwartz
Nanette Rosenberg	Joshua Resnick	Jack Wasserman
Joy Yablonsky	Kerin Fredman	Geoffrey Troy
Hilary Levy	Laurie Koen	Stephen Adler
Carole Ostroff	Gayle Kalisman	Jan Breslow
Helen Sher	Rona Kurtz	Lindsay Kraus
Jennifer Shufro	Neri Oxman	Diane Wiener
Joel Wintner	Cori Miller	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Martin Forman &
Jean Forman

Mark Hirsch &
Dena Hirsch

William Ackman &
Neri Oxman

David Jaffe &
Cori Miller

Neil Goldmacher &
Bari Goldmacher

Ron Delsener &
Ellin Delsener

Andrew Saunders &
Colleen Saunders

Richard Lerner &
Jennifer Lerner

Todd Kingsley &
Michelle Kingsley

HEALING WISHES

Keeping those who are ill or homebound in our prayers is a precious mitzvah. We need your help in helping us embrace those who are ill or homebound by calling their names in our prayers and lifting our communal and individual voices as one.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Please call the Jewish Center office at 631-324-9858 to let us know of any lifecycle events such as joyous occasions, illnesses or deaths so that our Rabbi, Cantor, staff, and congregation can respond appropriately.

HEALING LIST

Steve Abromowitz
Dominick Coluchio
Yehuda Erlichman
Asher James Fetter



Barbara Gibbs
Barbara Joseph
Carl Piccone
Avram Ruda

Sharon Solomon
Terri Schneck
Seth Tabor
Sally

If you would like the name of your loved one on our list, please email office@jcoh.org or call 631-324-9858.

YAHREZEITS

Leo Eiferman
 Jacob Lowry
 Anne Nierenberg Plesser
 Joyce Heller Roaman
 Benjamin Barak
 Irving Fein
 Richard J. Goldstein
 Patrice Lawall
 Fred Rossler
 Harvey Milton Spear
 Robert Joseph Brill
 Robert Oppenheimer
 Solomon Robert Testa
 Ira Wallach
 Joanne Wieder
 Roslyn Barak
 Samuel Frohman
 Esther Rehner
 Harry Rosen
 Stella Cukier
 Evelyn Myrin
 Debby Neumark
 Marvin Boris
 David Kenigsberg
 Alfred Levitt
 Ida C. Lewis
 Leo Solomon
 Elliot Tahl
 Edward Sam Wiener
 Gladys Trachtenberg Feigenbaum
 William Greenberg
 Charles K. Rehner
 Solomon Sol Hillson
 Marvin Mickey Neuwirth
 Robert Zarin
 Alan Goldman
 Norman Goldstein
 Hyman Levy
 Ethel Silverman
 Randolph Harris
 Gertrude Olshan
 Theodore Pearle
 Leon Beltzer
 Arthur Gabriner
 Polly Grotell
 Susan E. Patricof
 Hana Pilcz

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 Charlie Abbate
 Stella L. Cooper
 Louis Klein
 Miriam Menin
 Barbara Goldner Meer
 Patricia Lawall
 Joel Margareten
 Max Weiser
 Gertrude Wolfson
 Edward Stern
 Miriam Herman
 Judith Sullivan
 Jean Fuchs
 Nancy Greenberg
 Ernest Stern
 Marvin Azrak
 Joel Leifer
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 Hilda Eisenberg
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 Paul David Pickerelli
 Joseph Durst
 Bernard Maggin
 Lena Sklerov
 Lillian Austin
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 Tina Swerdlick Polan
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 Eleanor Karasic Gould
 Dollsey Rappaport
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 Ackley Vincent Delsener
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 Betty Wagman
 Albert Yohay
 Lilian Gabriner
 Daniel Nathan Levitt
 Hal Cohn
 Hilda Klein
 David Senft
 Harold Silberzweig
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 Edna R. Green
 Jack Wagman
 Harold Bresnick
 Shoshana Kalisman
 Dula Blum
 Jane Lutnick
 Alexander Goren
 R. Harlow Hermanson
 Amy Elisabeth Rothholz
 Joseph Dratel
 Julius Gardiner
 Helen Gershon
 Warner LeRoy
 David Silver
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 Anne Nancy Durst
 Ida Goldfarb
 Cecil Lambert
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 Evelyn Lustbader
 R. Lila Weinstein



JEWISH CENTER OF THE HAMPTONS

44 WOODS LANE, PO BOX 5107, EAST HAMPTON, NY 11937

JCOH.ORG • 631-324-9858 • FAX 631-329-6654

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Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi

SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday Evening Service

Fridays at 6:00pm

Shabbat Morning Service

Saturdays at 10:00am

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday

9:00am–5:00pm

Rabbi Joshua Franklin

rabbi@jcoh.org

Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi

cantor@jcoh.org

Diane Wiener, Director of Development,

Executive Director Emerita

development@jcoh.org

Margaret Barcohana

Education & Engagement Coordinator

mbarcohana@jcoh.org

OFFICE DIRECTORY

Phone 631-324-9858

Fax 631-329-6654 | jcoh.org

Lindsey Marino, Office & Membership Coordinator

lmario@jcoh.org

John Paul D'Amico, Director of Communications

jpdamico@jcoh.org

Wil Weiss, Digital Content Manager

wweiss@jcoh.org

Nicholas Ward, Head of Maintenance

maintenance@jcoh.org

Carlos Alfaro, Maintenance