

I believe in experiencing life. I love to travel, usually the road less traveled. I enjoy engaging in dialogue with individuals who do not share my views. The more I experience, the more I grow.

It is for that reason and more that I visited Zuccotti Park (Occupy Wall Street protest) several times and went to Lincoln Center to witness the Granny Peace Brigade protest several weeks ago. I went more as a “journalist” and not a supporter. I feel my responsibility is more of a witness.

The issues motivating the Occupy Wall Street protesters (or the 99 percenters, as they are calling themselves) are the issues we talk about every day - the need for good jobs, affordable housing, fair lending practices and more equitable taxation. They are calling for an end of poverty and inequality, which prevent millions of Americans from living lives of dignity.

Before the recession, the number of homeless individuals and families living in poverty was unacceptable. Today that number has skyrocketed, along with the unemployment and under employment rate.

It is no surprise that Judaism has seen this as a call to action, much in the same way we interpret the call of our Prophets. It was no surprise to see so many Jews the night of Simchat Torah, singing and dancing with the other protesters. Across America and globally, people want to reclaim the values of fairness and opportunity for which our country has always stood. It is part of Judaism to recognize and articulate a need for change.

Well organized, OWS has an office, soup kitchen, clothing for protesters, art supplies, music, open mic forums (recorded and sponsored by CNBC) and money flowing into their cause (interesting to note, the “Occupy” does not have a leader). Personally, I had interesting discussions for example with the man who received his MBA from the Harvard Business School, top 10 in his class, who challenged every point made by Jeffrey Immelt of GE, regarding his stand on global economics. I listened to a school teacher whose student enrollment increases exponentially every year due to reduced funding for public schools; who from her own pocket, pays for classroom supplies. I listened to college graduates talk about how heavily indebted they are from their student loans. Did you know that U.S. graduates owe nearly \$1 trillion in student loans? More than 8.8% of current graduates will default on their loan.

The overall questions we could be asking are: what sort of society do we want to create? What does a just society look like? A just society can emerge from our rabbinic texts which discusses a “tax” on “citizens” in order to maintain soup kitchens, clothing funds, and the like. According to rabbinic Judaism, being a “citizen” of a town holds the obligation to fulfill the needs of others who are in need, through the social welfare institutions of the government.

I am not stating that I support OWS, as a matter of fact, there is much with which I disagree. I am suggesting that we should take a hard look at our society. 14 million Americans are unemployed (9.1%), of that number, 44.6% are considered long-term unemployed (27 weeks and more). According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics another 14 million Americans are under employed.

Our US and global economics are very complicated, and I am the first to say, this is not my forte! Within this deeply complicated system must lay a degree of understanding and respect. After all, Judaism teaches that helping fellow human beings in need, is not simply a matter of charity, it is a matter of responsibility, righteousness and justice.

Temple Sinai

2011-2012

5772

December

January

February

~

Rabbi

Janise Poticha

Cantor

Orna Greene

~

President

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3rd Vice President

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Irene Harmon

Recording Secretary

Barbara Ringlen

Financial Secretary

Asha Rotstein

Treasurer

Marcia Cannava

Schedule of Services

December 2011

- 2 5:45 4th /5th grade - Shabbat dinner
- 7:30 Family Service 5 & 6 graders co-leading
- 9 8:00 Shabbat Service
- 16 8:00 Shabbat Service* Use of new prayer book
- 18 Chanukah Party during religious school
- 23 7:30 Family Chanukah Shabbat *bring 5 candles
- 30 No Service

January 2012

- 6 7:30 Family Service
- 13 8:00 Shabbat Service
- 20 8:00 Shabbat Service (Using Mishkan Tefila)
- 27 8:00 Shabbat of Social Justice and Song

February 2012

- 3 6:00 Shabbat Dinner with 5th grade
- 7:30 Shabbat Family Service - grade 4 co-leading
- 5 Tu B'Shevat Seder during Religious School
- 10 7:30 Scout Shabbat
- 17 8:00 Shabbat Service (Using Mishkan Tefila))
- 24 8:00 Shabbat Service (Using Mishkan Tefila))

A Note from our President

REFLECTIONS ON A SINGER/SONGWRITER

IT was 10 months ago that the Jewish faith lost a remarkable woman who was both spiritual and inspirational. I had thought about writing something about her before, but like her music, the inspiration we continue to get from her does not get old.

Debbie Friedman was 59 years old when she passed away from pneumonia, which was a result of a complication of a neurological condition she had. Throughout my lifetime I can not think of any other Jewish composer who made such an impact on the singing of our decades old songs and psalms, giving them a fresh melody along with fresh new ways to sing them.

My wife, Aline started listening to her tapes about 10 years ago, and of course I would have nothing to do with bothering to listen to the songs. But slowly some of the tunes and melodies seeped in, and it got to a point that I actually enjoyed hearing some of her songs.

Whether it is the Mi shebeirach, the V'ahavta, or Not by Might, just to name a few, her words and music brought our Jewish faith into the new century.

I've never really thought this about any other person before, but I felt that G-d said, you've had her for long enough, we can use her up here. And I think she is making heaven a little brighter.

Thank you, Debbie. Jeff Chesner

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR
2012!**



**Salute to Israel Parade
Sunday, June 3, 2012**

Coats for Kids!

We are presently accepting gently used coats, hats gloves and scarves. There are boxes in the temple for deposit. The collection is ongoing thru the month of December. Please call Bonnie Lisogorsky at 516 731-2987 if you have any questions, or if you want to volunteer to help.

Welcome New Members! Friday - Dec. 23, 2011

Please Join us for the for Shabbat/Chanukah services on Friday, Dec. 23 - Bring your Menorah and candles.

Followed by Meet and Greet.

Oneg sponsored by Temple Sinai's Board of Trustees and Executive Committee!

Religious School

2011/2012 December/January/February

December 2011/January/February 2012

Mazal Tov to Aggie Lesser on becoming a Bat Mitzvah on October 22nd! Our students had fun decorated the sukkah, shaking the lulav and esrog and eating in the sukkah. Several students also had the opportunity to dance with the Torahs at the Simchat Torah service. We welcome our new students, Chase Liardi, Samatha Findling, MacKenzie Noss and Justin Martin. On December 4th we will be having an Israeli Artists Workshop with a presentation and hands on activity. We look forward to our Chanukah Party on Dec. 18th with latkes and dreidel playing. All parents and siblings are welcome to attend. In preparation for Chanukah students will be making their own Menorahs and are encouraged to bring them to the Chanukah Lighting Service on Friday, December 23rd. Another special event will take place on January 22nd as we visit Broadlawn Nursing Home to play Bingo and sing karaoke with the residents.

Our seventh and sixth grade students did a wonderful job leading services on Nov. 4th and the third grade class enjoyed a family dinner all together prior to the service. An Oneg sponsored by the 6th and 7th grade classes was enjoyed by all! We look forward to the 5th graders leading services on Dec. 2 and the 4th Graders on February 3rd. On January 8th Mid-Year Report Cards will be distributed and Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held from 11 A.M. – 12 P.M. We look forward to sharing your child's progress.

Shalom - Rebecca Bernstein

Religious School Calendar

Sundays: December 4, 11, 18, 25(no school)

January 1(no school), 8, 15(no school), 22, 29 February 5, 12, 19(no school), 26

Onegs

December

2 – 5th Grade

9 – the Harmon Family

16 – Sherri and Steven
Kaufman in honor of family
birthdays

23 – Congregation – Chanukah
30 – No Service

January

6 - Open

13 -Wasserman Family, in
memory of Sandy 's mother, Rose
20 - Roni and Irwin Schneider
27 - The Board of Trustees and
Executive committee in honor
of our Interfaith Neighbors

February

3 – 4th Grade
10 **Scout shabbat**
17 - Open
24 - Open

Chanukah Recipes

Judith's Cheese Latkes - 3 eggs, well beaten • 1 c. milk • 1 c. dry pot cheese • 1c. flour • 1 tsp. baking powder • 1/2 tsp. salt - To the beaten eggs, add milk and cheese. Sift the dry ingredients together and stir into the eggs. Blend to smoothness. Drop by spoonfuls into hot fat in a frying pan. Cook to delicate brown on both sides. Serve with syrup or jam. Serves 4 or 5 In some European countries where Jewish families settled, it was difficult to obtain cottage cheese in wintertime. Devoted as they might be to latkes made with cottage cheese, they had no choice but to find a worthy substitute for this ingredient. Their success may be judged by the present-day popularity of potato latkes.

Potato Latkes - 6 medium size potatoes • 1 small onion • 1 tsp. salt • 1 egg • 3 Tbs. flour, matzo meal, or bread crumbs • 1/2 tsp. baking powder - Wash, pare, and grate raw potatoes. Strain but not too dry, and use juice for soup or sauce. If juice is retained, a little more flour will be needed for thickening. Grate and add the onion; add salt and the egg. Beat well. Mix remaining ingredients and beat into potatoes; mix well. Drop by spoonfuls into hot fat that is deep enough to almost cover the pancake. Brown on both sides. Drain on absorbent paper. Serve with applesauce if desired. Serves 4 or 5. **3**

Temple Board Meetings - Mondays at 7:30 PM in the Oneg room - Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 13

Thank you to the following congregants who helped with the Chinese Auction held on Sunday, October 9, 2011

We want to take this opportunity to thank all the people who pitched in and helped us run the Chinese Auction held recently.

Our moving crew consisted of Bob Sailor, Artie Laine and Ron Cholewa. My set up committee were my daughter, Elisa, Shirley Gelman, The Mathisen Family. my friend, Ronnie Strohschnitter, her friend Tracy and Artie Goldberg. Special thanks should be extended to the Hebrew School and the parents committee for the excellent job they did with the baskets that were donated. I would also like to thank my daughter-in-law, Mary Ringlen for the wonderful baskets she put together which were very popular. At night we had many Temple members helping run the auction. Leo and Asha Rotstein, Irma and Roanne Kulakoff, Gail Cholewa, Elliot and Roslyn Rogers, Irene and Erica Harmon, Gloria Goldberg.

Special Kudos to Marcia Cannava for her excellent job as the caller. I particularly want to thank the cleanup crew who did a speedy and efficient job cleaning up afterwards.

None of this could have been accomplished without the dedicated assistance of all the people involved. I want to thank all of you for your help. If I omitted anyone, it was not intentional. You know who you are and I thank you.

Our auction was a great success. **YOU ALL MADE IT HAPPEN!**

Barbara Ringlen, Auction Coordinator

Sat, March 24, 2011

CAFE NIGHT

at **TEMPLE SINAI**

**IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL TALENT AND WANT
TO PARTICIPATE CALL ASHA**

Call Asha to help or for more info 631 673 4620

cell 631 766 3653



Our First Comedy Night was Lots of Laughs-Get your Tickets now for Thursday, December 15



Our comedy FUNraiser last year was wonderful! Lots of laughs and lots of fun. Most of us left with weary cheeks from laughing. The Brokerage Club was packed with only a few seats left for Temple friends and members. Please join us again this year. Contact Roni Schneider for Tickets. \$20.00 fully for Temple. If you wait to buy them at the door their \$25 and the Temple does not benefit. Either way, come and have fun! Win a basket with your raffle tickets.

Jewish-Ancestry

Hello. I'm Warren Green. Most of you know me as the Cantor's husband, but what you may not know is that I am the founder of Jewish-ancestry.com. As a former staff historian of the Conference on Jewish Claims Against Germany, I helped develop a Holocaust Archive database that is still used by the organization's American, European and Israeli staffs to document and authenticate Survivors' claims., Preparing reports for negotiations with the German government I trained researchers, attorneys, claims agents and caseworkers involved in the organization's Program for Former Slave & Forced Laborers, International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims and the Swiss Bank Settlement Program.

I also served as the Executive Director of the American Friends of the Alliance Israélite Universelle. The Alliance school network operated at one time or another in 24 North African, Middle Eastern, Balkan, West European and North American countries..

As some of you already know, I am a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Brooklyn College, and the Yeshiva of Flatbush. I have also studied at the Uriel Weinreich Yiddish Language Program at Columbia University and the Jagiellonian University's Polish Language Program in Krakow. During my studies I researched the fate of European Karaites, Krimchakim (Crimean Jews), Judeo-Tats(Daghestani Mountain Jews), Georgian, Bukharan, Afghani and Iranian Jews during the Holocaust, which has shed a new and different light on the Shoah.

My familiarity with the American, European, Ashkenazi, Sephardi and Mizrahi communities and decades of experience chronicling family histories, translating letters, working with government documents, European banking, insurance and property records, enables me to research family's origins and to figure out once and for all family histories.

Through my organization: Jewish-ancestry.com, I can help you in your quest to learn more about your family's origins, be they in Odessa, Ukraine or Odessa, Texas; Athens. Greece or Athens, Georgia; Alexandria, Egypt or Alexandria, Virginia.

Jewish-ancestry.com is able to provide you with personalized service whether you need an in-depth multi-generational transcontinental study of your family history or coaching you when you think you have reached a "dead end" in your research. You may consider this sort of family research as a special gift for your parent's birthday or anniversary, your children's wedding or your grandchildren's bar or bat mitzvah.

As an introduction of my services to the community, Jewish-ancestry.com will donate 15% of all proceeds from the members of Temple Sinai of Massapequa back to the Temple.

For further details visit my website: www.jewish-ancestry.com, e-mail me at jewish.ancestry@gmail.com or contact me at (201) 692-0791

Newsletter contributors!

If you would like to contribute to our newsletter, please send articles to Temple Sinai Newsletter, PO Box 70, Massapequa, NY 11758-0070 or call 516 795 3248,. The deadline for the next newsletter is Wednesday February 15. We request that all information be neatly printed or typed. It may be submitted by email in the body of your letter or MSWord in a .doc document. Please no .docx files,. Thank you mreiss@att.net.

Please sponsor an Oneg Shabbat...

Oneg is defined as a “pleasure” or “delight”. In keeping with our joyous Sabbath tradition, we conclude each Friday night service with Kiddush (the blessing we say or sing over a cup of wine) and other sweets we eat. This happy gathering of family and friends is called an Oneg Shabbat. At Temple Sinai, members take turns hosting the Oneg in celebration of meaningful events, such as Bar/Bat Mitzvah, birthdays, anniversaries, and graduations, and for the personal pleasure it brings. If you would like to host an Oneg, please call Marcia Goldberg at 516 541-8123. If you would like to be a part of this tradition but are unable to do the physical set, we would gladly accept your donation (\$35.00) and arrange the Oneg on your behalf. We ask all Temple Members to sponsor an Oneg every year.



Yahrzeit Donations

In Memory of	From
Abraham Singer	Michelle & Michael Berkowitz
Alan Wolfe	Gail & Mark Fermaglich
Arthur Hudes	Lynn & Philip Hudes
Elaine Helfand	Lynn & Philip Hudes
Laurance Kohl	Cynthia Kohl
Noah Greenstein	Ellen Teitelbaum
Julie Zipper	The Zipper Family

General Donations

From David and Shirley Gelman in honor of the birth of Asha and Leo Rotstein's new granddaughter Myrah

Holiday Donations

Renee and Ronald Prager
Cindy and Charlie Fleischer
Shirley and David Gelman
Mary Silverstein
Cynthia and Sam Kohl
Ira and Bonnie Lisigorsky
Harvey Findling
Jeff and Judy Vogel
Mel and Irma Kulakoff
Leo and Asha Rotstein
Irwin and Roni Schneider

Please send donations to Temple Sinai, P.O. Box 70, Massapequa, NY 11758

Rabbis Article continued

The handful of anarchists and young confused youth should not stamp out the voice of what may become a movement. And yes, the protests are costing host cities money and property. I do not agree with either! But, remember: It took a 22 year old college graduate's blog to persuade Bank of America to back down from it's \$5 monthly debit card fee. It took 650,000 frustrated Americans moving their bank accounts into accounts at credit unions to make their point. And, remember many of us are 99%ers.

As I was writing this article, the world population reached 7 billion individuals. With environmental and economic resources already stretched thin we must ask ourselves: Can our global community support this? What is our role in improving our community and the world? In what ways should we re-prioritize our consumption habits and investments? In what ways can we more positively contribute to our nation and the world? How is it that the seed of Occupy Wall Street has germinated into a protest movement in 70 cities across America?

The supporters of the Occupy movement may have lost faith in key institutions of America, in their elected officials, in the media, and the financial industry but they have not lost faith in the people; in the energy and optimism which were the foundations of the Civil Rights Movement, the Peace Movement and the Women's Movement.

Maybe, instead of occupying Wall Street or any other street maybe we should consider “Occupying America” - all of us, infusing the righteous, ethical values of our religions into our financial system.

If you would like to view my photos of OWS protest and the Lincoln Center protest of the Granny Peace Brigade, please see the “photo gallery” of our Temple Sinai website and choose the appropriate link.
Rabbi Janise Poticha

Yahrzeit List

DECEMBER 2011

2 David Rogers
3 Abraham Goldstein
3 Louis Lipshitz
6 Frances Berezow
8 Fanny Hoffman
9 Roslyn Shapiro
9 Stanley Sokolik
12 Freda D. Sadinsky
13 Clara Goldberg
13 Marjorie Goldberg
13 Kurt Preston
14 Ida Jacobson
15 Richard Bloom
16 Madeline Berliner
16 Samuel Bloom
16 Rose Siegel
17 Matilda Matalon
17 Frances Ziegler
18 Robert Workman
19 Carl Poticha
20 Milton Hinden
22 Anna Lambert
22 Gisella Liebman
23 Daniel Silver
24 Lillian Lorde
24 Yolanda Wellsch
26 Alan Rutkovsky
27 Molly Sacks Lipschitz

JANUARY 2012

2 Tillie Wasserman
3 Frances Austin
3 Hanna Preston
3 Henry Schward
4 Joseph Shears
5 Harry Sklar
7 Howard A. Paitchel
8 Joanne Goodman
8 Michael Hoffman
9 Matthew Lambert
10 Benjamin Bernstein
10 Jean Burke
11 Rabbi Leonard Stern
12 Rose Wasserman
13 Aaron Lomazov
15 Lisa Fleischer
15 Joseph Mandel
16 Leonard Schatz
18 David Cohen
18 Hyman Hametz
19 Benjamin Braunstein
19 Anna Genser
22 Harry Gold
23 Mollie Feinberg
24 Mary Altman
24 Stan Hametz
24 Mildred Sanker
24 Lena Schwerd
25 Samuel Borak
25 Usher Brauner
25 Sheldon Gottlieb
25 Meyer Sivan
26 David Kushner
28 Aaron Davidson
29 Michael D. Muckley
29 Sydney Alex Royden
30 Nina Bloomingdale
30 Edward A. Faust

FEBRUARY 2012

2 Allene Lawrence
2 Lewis Stern
3 Jacob Farowich
7 Mortimer Wein
8 Tillie Braun
8 Kelman Hoffman
9 Nolan Wyler
15 Clarence Bard
15 Edith Cohen
15 Lillian Kushner
16 Ruben Barkus
16 Anna Cutrin
16 Lillie Lipshitz
17 Louis Hoffman
17 Elsie Lomazov
18 Morris Paitchel
18 Toby Wolfson
18 Dr. Joseph Wrana
19 Claire Welt Appel
20 Henrietta Rand
21 William Krame
22 Rose First
22 Toby Handler
26 Sam Nathan Beckerman
26 Jacob Krodman
27 Bertha Granoff
27 Nettie Leff
27 Herman Mollins
28 Jenny Rutkovsky
29 Bernard Polsky

**To Add Names to our Yahrzeit List Call
Barbara Frisch at 516 798-6050
For memorial plaques the cost is \$275.00
Contact Irma for details (516 799-4452)**

Mishkan Tefila - new prayerbook coming to Temple Sinai!

Our Temple board has agreed to our exploration of this new prayerbook at Temple Sinai. This book is currently being used by 78% of reform congregations in the U.S.

We will begin to pray with Mishkan Tefila on Dec 16, and use it on the 3rd and 4th Fridays of the month. Please try to attend these services so you can begin to explore this book with us. I will also lead a Sunday morning session to learn about the development, layout and use of Mishkan Tefila (watch your e-mail for the exact date).

Please come early and stay late on a Friday night to read through the book, to sit with it, to get comfortable with it. The books we will be using are on loan to us and CANNOT leave our building.

I look forward to implementing the Mishkan Tefila, with you. I also thank our Board for their support.

Shabbat of Social Justice and Song - Friday, January 27, 2012

Focusing on the labors of Dr. Martin Luther King and so many others who have employed the best values of their faiths to create communities of social justice, Temple Sinai is hosting a Shabbat of Social Justice and Song. From several local churches, we have invited singers to join our Cantor Green in making this truly a special Shabbat.

Join us and bring your friends for our Shabbat of Social Justice and Song: January 27, 2012 at 8:00 PM. E-mails will be sent out with more details.

Lighting the Chanukah Menorah

During the eight days of Chanukah, we light the “chanukiah”. The tallest candle (which is sometimes separated from the others) is called the: “shamus”. Each night, the shamus is lit first. Using the shamus, light the other candles. On the first night, the shamus is lit then the first candle. Each night, you add one candle. By the eight night all candles are lit. Candles are added to the chanukiah from right to left (like Hebrew writing) and are lit from left to right.

While holding the lit shamus candle, say/sing the blessings, then light the appropriate candle for the night (you light the newest candle first). Continue by singing Chanukah songs, celebrating the Festival of Lights. The first night, three blessings are said/sung – which includes the “shecheyanu.” The chanukiah should be placed at a window or a place of display. Remember: Place the chanukiah in a safe place since the candles burn until they go out on their own!

First Blessing: Baruch ata Adonai, Elohenu melech ha-olam asher kideshanu be-mitzvotav, ve-tzivanu le-hadlik ner shel Hanukah. Blessed are you, Eternal our G-d, Ruler of the Universe, Who sanctified us through the commandments and has commanded us to kindle the light of Chanukah

Second Blessing: Baruch ata Adonai, Elohenu melech ha-olam she-asa nisim la-avotenu by-yamim ha-hem ba-zeman ha-zeh. Blessed are you, Eternal our G-d Ruler of the Universe, Who performed miracles for our ancestors in day of old, at this season.

Third Blessing: First night only: Baruch ata Adonai, Elohenu melech ha-olam she-hecheyanu, v'kiyemanu, v'higiyanu la-zeman ha-zeh. Blessed are you, Eternal our G-d, Ruler of the Universe, Who has given us life and preserved us, and enabled us to reach this season.

These lights are sacred; we are not to “use” them but only to behold them, so that their glow may rouse us to give thanks for the wondrous acts done for us by G-d.

