

Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey

Journal

PO Box 2, 115 Youmans Avenue, Washington, NJ 07882
(908) 689-0762
www.jcnwj.org

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Vol. XLII Issue 6



Rabbi's Message

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I write to report on the progress that our JCNWJ Israel Trip Planning Committee has already made in just our first two meetings so far.

During our first meeting on Sunday, December 11, 2016, it was decided that the 11-day trip will take place during the summer of 2018, and that it will be designed to appeal to people of all ages, from child to senior citizen. In addition, recognizing this will be the first Israel experience for some participants while others will have already been there before, we will be sure to schedule appropriate activities so that ***everyone*** can remain engaged throughout. And finally, we will make sure that those who wish to extend their stay to enjoy additional travel on their own, either before or after the JCNWJ trip, will be able to do so.

On Sunday, January 23, 2017, when the Committee came back together for our 2nd meeting, we were honored and excited to welcome Ehud Klinger, from ARZA World Travel. ARZA, by the way, stands for the "Association of Reform Zionists of America." It was a pleasure to have Ehud with us, and very helpful to have his insight as we began the hard work of trying to figure out what kind of trip would be most appropriate to who we are as a community. The beauty of working with ARZA World Travel is that they will customize the trip exactly to our needs.

(continued on next page)

Mark Your Calendar

- **Sunday, February 5th**
9:30am – Sunday School
10:30am – Confirmation
10:30am – Sisterhood Meeting
- **Monday, February 6th**
7:00pm – Board of Trustees Mtg.
- **Friday, February 10th**
7:30pm – Shabbat Service
Oneg – Onweller, Perfetti, Baeck
- **Sunday, February 12th**
9:30am – Family Sunday School
Tu B'Shevat
- **Tuesday, February 14th**
7:00pm – Mah Jongg
- **Saturday, February 18th**
10:30am – Torah Study
- **Friday, February 24th**
7:30pm – Shabbat Service
Oneg – Kahan, Shelofsky, Nurenberg
- **Saturday, February 25th**
Shabbaton (see Pg. 5)
- **Sunday, February 26th**
9:30am – Sunday School
- **Tuesday, February 28th**
7:00pm – Mah Jongg
- **Sunday, March 5th**
9:30am – Sunday School
10:30am – Confirmation

Rabbi's Message (cont.)

As I write this update to you, Ehud is hard at work writing up a proposed itinerary – based on what he learned from our meeting – for us to consider. Once we have reviewed his recommendations and tweaked as necessary, we will then begin the process of sharing our progress in more detail with the community. At that point, of course, we will take feedback and continue the tweaking process as needed (if needed!). In the meantime, if you have input you would like to offer already at this point, I invite you to share it with me at RabbiDubin@jcnwj.org.

One final note about our Planning Committee: Allow me to offer a public note of thanks to Lynne Kowski and Roy Loomis for stepping up to co-chair the effort. Lynne and Roy bring a wide array of leadership talents and skills to the organizing effort, and we are grateful. I have a feeling you will be hearing more from them over the coming months.

On a second – yet clearly related – topic, as we are now in the beginning stages of our 18(ish)-month period of preparation, I am happy to announce that I will be teaching a weekly Adult-Ed Hebrew course, open to all. There is no requirement that students will commit to joining us in Israel (though we'd LOVE it if you do!). While participation certainly will offer students some of the tools necessary to communicate in Israel in Modern Hebrew, primary curricular emphasis will be placed on the teaching of the Hebrew of Torah and prayer. A detailed invitation to register will be coming out soon.

I look forward to the next 18 months of preparation, as we gear up for this most wonderful journey together.

Todah Rabah,

Rabbi Dubin

A Reminder from the Sunshine Committee



Please let us know when someone has passed away, is ill or otherwise in need of a little sunshine so that the Jewish Center may be there to support and assist as best we can. Please contact Ruth Schutzbank at (908) 329-6036 or Howie.ruth@hotmail.com.

President's Message

Community

What is a community? To me, a community is a group of people who work, pray, live, and more importantly, support one another. We hopefully all belong to more than one community. In my life, I have my family, my friends outside temple, my friends from temple, my work community and then various other communities such as parents of my children's teammates throughout the year. I consider myself a lucky person to have the support system that I have when things go bad, as they will from time to time.

One of the things that I think is critical in this time in our country is to enlarge our communities so that we are talking to folks outside the Jewish community. Over the past year, we have made outreach events with the AME church in Washington, and we are beginning to make inroads with the Lutheran church in Washington. In addition, Rabbi Dubin has done a radio show with Pastor Fowler from the Methodist Church in Hackettstown. I believe that these relationships are critical to surviving as a Jewish organization in Warren County. We need to be extra vigilant regarding any anti-Semitic events or articles that are published. Having relationships outside of the Temple to other religious organizations, so that other folks see we are not that different, is critical.

I wish that every one of you could have attended the services we held on the weekend of Martin Luther King's birthday. Having Reverend Terrilisa Bauknight speak at our temple was a moving experience and Rabbi Dubin's sermon at the AME church was just as amazing.

I came away from that weekend feeling great about the progress we have made, but we still have a long way to go. I ask that you join us on this journey.

Love, Howie

To all my friends (who are like family) at the JCNWJ:

I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you did for my family when sweet Max passed away. You pulled together and came through when we needed you the most. The outpouring of love and support at Max's funeral was overwhelming. The luncheon afterwards was wonderful. Thank you to all of you who helped organize, provided the delicious food, and worked so hard in the kitchen to make the luncheon possible. You are amazing and I feel so blessed to have you as my friends. I love you all... ~Marsha Gross

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Upcoming Sunday School Dates:

- February 5th
- February 12th
- February 26th
- March 5th

Tu B'Shevat Celebration on February 12th
No Sunday School on February 19th

Confirmation on February 5th & March 5th

TORAH STUDY

Torah Study meets for two hours once a month on a Saturday morning in the simcha room, 10:30-12:30.

Next Meeting: February 18th

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg at the Temple on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month continues. We start at 7:00pm. No experience needed! Contact Rhonda Jordan at helpmerhonda171@yahoo.com if interested!

SISTERHOOD

Reminder Sisterhood Meeting - February 5, 2017 at 10:30 AM at the Temple. Please come for our regular bi-monthly meeting, some social times with friends, and a light breakfast.

Wanted: Advertisers for JCNWJ Journal

Kindly take note of the ads at the end of our Journal and whenever possible, support these establishments with your patronage. It's also a good idea to mention that you saw their Temple Ad. If there are any businesses that you use regularly that might be interested in taking an ad in the Journal, please contact Rita Berkowitz (berk721@aol.com) or Ruth Schutzbank (Howie.ruth@hotmail.com). You can also go to our homepage, print out an advertising form and give it directly to them to mail in.

Shabbaton – February 25, 2017

Come to everything, or pick and choose. Bring a friend or two, or three. If you plan to be present for lunch and/or wine and cheese, please RSVP to Sharon Herson: sharonherson@comcast.net (we need to know how much food to get)

SHABBATON

Saturday, February 25th
with Cantor Ted Labow

10:30 a.m.



Shabbat morning *musical service* and
informal *Torah study*

12:30 p.m.

Light lunch



1:30 p.m.



Shabbat study:
An overview of Hebrew poetry through the ages

S H A B B A T R E S T

5:00 p.m.

Wine and cheese



5:30 p.m.

THE SONGS AND POEMS OF
LEONARD COHEN
1934 - 2016



7:00 p.m.

Havdalah

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In Memory of my parents Rona and Stanley Schick – Carla Schick & Diana Covier

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In Memory of my mother Jean Siegel – Rhonda Jordan

In Memory of Max Gross

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