

TOURO SYNAGOGUE

Volume 187, Issue 5

May/June 2016 - Nisan/Iyar/Sivan 5776



Confirmation, Affirmation, or Evolution? Yes.

Confirmation. The springtime ritual of Reform congregations for two centuries now. A ritual that asks adolescents to confirm their Judaism. At the end of tenth grade, the framers of Reform Judaism posited, teens are ready to lock it in for life. And, processing in white robes as Shavuot approaches, they approach the bima to do just that. It's beautiful.

During my first year as rabbi of Touro Synagogue, we offered an adult Confirmation class. Given that so many adults had been through our adult B'nai Mitzvah program, I thought those friends might want to experience another cohort learning group with advanced Jewish inquiry. I loved it - loved the group, loved the discussion, loved the endeavor.

As years have turned to decades in my rabbinic journey, however, I've come to grapple with certain ritual terms -- and what they really connote. For instance, some of you know I have found great challenge in the word "conversion." Becoming a Jew by choice does not -- in fact, cannot -- require converting from one person into another being entirely, from one identity to another. Poof! You're a Jew. You converted to it! [I have come to

realize that, rather than "conversion," I'd prefer something like "ritual actualization of a faith identity" -- but, I do recognize that that's a bit unwieldy. Still....]

Similarly, I'm not sure how I feel about the word "confirmation." Is it really the case that anyone at any given moment can confirm Judaism the way you confirm an airline reservation? Be sure it's there. Be sure it's locked in.

Maybe so; maybe for some of us. And, that's a gift. However, for the rest of us, I think I might prefer something like "natural progression of an evolving Jewish life." But again, it's just too clunky. So, instead of changing any names of time honored Jewish traditions, we try to move through these moments with the utmost spiritual honesty. What does that involve? In general, it involves seeing these moments not as a product but as a process -- not as a singular snapshot, but as a signpost along the way.

I think my concern about the traditional terms is that they convey a sense of finality. And, I just prefer an ongoing journey. Locking something in makes it feel like no further exploration is necessary, no further evolution is needed. I just don't believe any of us



Alexis Berk

can ever really say that and mean it.

On Shabbat evening May 6, we will welcome this year's confirmands (the term we use for the students ostensibly locking it in). As you hear their words, you will hear not confirmation, but commitment; not completion but evolution; not certainty but faith. I deeply love the experience of teaching our ninth and tenth graders, and every year I look forward to this ritual. Mostly, I love the idea of them standing on the bima, wrestling with integrity and interest with the same Judaism that we all encounter. There's nothing that must be confirmed, and yet so much is affirmed. It's a joy to be together in all of it.

Love,
Rabbi Alexis Berk

TOURO SYNAGOGUE CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE

*129th Service for Confirmation
Friday, May 6 at 6 p.m.*

Doors close promptly for processional

Chelsea Tate Deitelzweig
daughter of Stacy & Steven Deitelzweig

Stephen Zachary Neal
son of Michelle & Burt Neal

Jaymi Beth Zweifler
daughter of Kim & Richard Zweifler

Celebratory Shabbat dinner will be served immediately following services

A Message From Our President

I have always been a proponent of celebrations. Of course birthdays and anniversaries and life-cycle events (yes, even a funeral most often is a celebration of a life well-lived) are a given. Then I include holidays, both secular and religious. Some of the not so ordinary ones might be the first or last day of school (or a new job), leaving on a trip (or returning from one), moving in to a new home, etc. etc. Yes, I do enjoy making the most of any occasion. And why not?

Although many of you may not agree, coming together for the Touro Annual Meeting is definitely an additional reason to rejoice. I am not speaking of my own personal celebration – that the Synagogue and I have survived this first year of my presidency! However, this is a time to come together and all congratulate one another for a year of outstanding accomplishments. Touro is 188 years old (young). Let’s be proud of what this

congregation, both past and present, has done to further our hopes and dreams.

To some this may seem just another meeting of repetitious information, but I would rather think of it as a birthday or anniversary party of sorts for the synagogue and our community. Just think of the similarities. It will be attended by many of your family members and friends. There may or may not be some singing (what do you say, Cantor Mintz?). We will marvel at being another year older and hear some facts about our last year’s growth. We will talk about our aspirations for continued prosperity. And then of course there will be entertainment (for our younger congregants) and always delicious food. There might even be a yummy piece of cake to devour.

Along with all this conversation and fun, we will thank our outgoing board members and welcome a few new ones.



Susan Good

We will also present awards to some very special members. I do hope you will plan to be with us on Sunday, May 22nd at 10:00 AM for this year-end celebration. I look forward to greeting each of you personally and thanking you for your support and love for Touro Synagogue.

B'Shalom,
Susan

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TOURO SYNAGOGUE'S 188TH ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2016

CELEBRATORY MEETING AND BRUNCH

**Join us for our Annual
Meeting at 10 a.m. in the
Forgotston Chapel**

- Election of Trustees
- Annual reports from officers
- Committee reports
- Shepard H. Shushan Award presentation to Thaia Pick
- Caring and Mitzvah Award presentation to Lisa Keleher

**Children's Activities begin at
10 a.m. in the Jacobs Social Hall**

- Supervised fun for kids of all ages
- Bounce House Fun
- Face Painting
- Sno-balls

BRUNCH at 11:30 FOR ALL!

Join us for a delicious and plentiful
celebratory brunch

RSVP - we want to have enough food!
Please RSVP: info@tourosynagogue.com.



Dear Congregant:

In accordance with the by-laws of Touro Synagogue, the nominating committee for the Board of Trustees has made the following recommendations for the 2016-2018 term.

We will submit the nominations for a **vote at the annual congregational meeting on May 22, 2016.**

Board of Trustees Nominations

First 2-year term (ending June 2018):

Chris Kornman, Laura Levy, and Scott Saltzman

Returning for another 2-year term (ending June 2018):

Richard Cahn	Ron Gubitz	Anamaria Villamarin-Lupin
Michael Cohen	Lisa Herman	Stacey Weinreb
Ann Fishman	Julie Koppman	Naomi Yavneh
Jared Glassman	Thaia Pick	

The following individuals have one-year remaining of a two-year term as members of the Board of Trustees of the Congregation:

Aaron Ahlquist	Robert Gross	Austin Marks
Steven Bain	Andy Jacobs	Naomi Orlansky
Joy Braun	Lisa Katz	Kathy Shepard
Gilbert Braunig	Lisa Keleher	Dan Weiner
Rebecca Finger	Dani Levine	

The following individuals are nominated to serve as Touro Synagogue Commissioners on the Board of the Hebrew Rest Cemetery Association, Inc. for a two-year term:

Carol Good, Andy Jacobs, and Laurie Rosenberg

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee

Scott E. Silbert, Chairman
Shira Bergman-Cohen, Ann Fishman, David Hammer,
Teri Hunter, Larry Kullman, Laura Levy, Jenny Zurik

THANK YOU!

**We express our sincerest appreciation to our outgoing
Board members for what they have done and
continue to do to ensure Touro's success:**

David Hammer, Jay Shames, and Jenny Zurik

REBUILD DAY



Habitat for Humanity and Touro Synagogue Join Forces for a Rebuild Day

Sunday, May 15, 9 AM - 3 PM
1904 Tricou Street

[Learn about the homeowners - The Truga Family](#)

Join us as we come together for a build day with Habitat for Humanity. We've done it before and it is time to do it again! Habitat will offer a special build day for Touro members and friends. If you've never built a house with Habitat, we promise you are in for a treat. It is a fun and fulfilling experience. No building skills are needed and anyone 16 years and older can join us! All you need is a willing spirit and a desire to build a dream.

Contact Teri Hunter to sign up or to find out more information at tlhunter22@gmail.com.



**A MONTHLY SERVICE FOR OUR YOUNGEST
MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

**MAY 14 AT 9:30 AM
IN THE SHUSHAN ASSEMBLY**

Come celebrate Shabbat with Cantor Mintz,
Rabbi Silverman and all your Tot Shabbat friends!

Join us for singing, dancing, stories, art
projects — and, of course, juice and challah!

Don't miss out!
This is our last gathering until the Fall.



Summer Union Shabbat Services

During the months of June, July and August,
the three reform congregations in New Orleans will join
together for Summer Union Shabbat Services.
Shabbat Services will rotate between Touro Synagogue in
June, Gates of Prayer in July, and Temple Sinai in August.

Torah Study will continue to meet through
the summer at Touro at 9:30 a.m. every Saturday
(see page 10 for more information).

JUNE AT TOURO SYNAGOGUE

Friday Evening Shabbat Services at **6 p.m.**
Saturday Morning Shabbat Services at **10:30 a.m.**

JULY AT GATES OF PRAYER

Friday Evening Shabbat Services at **8:00 p.m.**
Saturday Morning Shabbat Services at **10:30 a.m.**

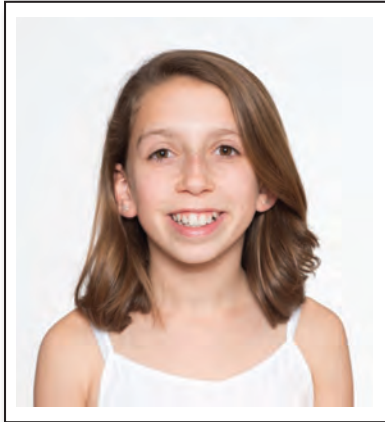
AUGUST AT TEMPLE SINAI

Friday Evening Shabbat Services at **6:15 p.m.**
Saturday Morning Shabbat Services at **10:15 a.m.**

B'NAI MITZVAH AT TOURO

Ana Lee Finger

Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, May 21, 2016



Since September 2015, I have been working with Alex Beard's Watering Hole Foundation to create my own conservation effort, Ana's Army. Through my research, I learned that African elephants are being poached for their tusks at alarming rates. It is estimated that 100 elephants are being poached every day. Ivory is currently worth more than gold on the black market. This makes ivory extremely desirable for poachers, which makes elephants a prime target. If the poaching is not stopped, African elephants could be extinct by 2030. My goal is to raise funds and awareness for this crisis throughout my age group and beyond. I have been spreading awareness through my Instagram & Facebook pages, and through my website, www.anaforelephants.com.

As I become a Bat Mitzvah, it is important to me that future generations are able to see the environment as we see it now. Saving the elephant is one step toward preserving the Earth and how it was first created. Please consider visiting my website & joining Ana's Army, and together, let's save the African elephant!

Ana is the daughter of Rebecca and Simon Finger; sister to Jack and Charlie Finger; granddaughter of Aunene and Michael Finger and Karen and Ernest Theriot.

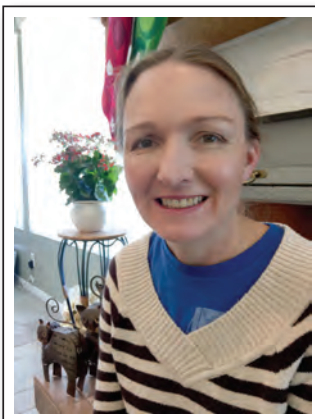
Help support Ana's mitzvah project by visiting www.anaforelephants.com.



Join Ana's Army and
let's save the
African elephant!

ADULT BAT MITZVAH OF LISA KELEHER

Saturday, June 18, 2016



Please join me and my family at services on June 18 at 10:30 a.m. in the Forgotston Chapel. This special event celebrates two years of concentrated Hebrew study, practicing Torah trope, and delving into our sacred texts.

A simple reception will follow services at our home. For more details and to RSVP, please email me at lisatkeleher@gmail.com or call (504) 296-5472.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HAVING AN ADULT BAR OR BAT MITZVAH?



Becoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah marks the powerful moment of a Jewish individual being recognized and embraced as an engaged, active member of the adult Jewish community. While one traditionally becomes Bar or Bat Mitzvah at age thirteen, the ritual of marking Bar or Bat Mitzvah may happen at any time following that age.

If you are interested in having an Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Touro, please contact Cantor David Mintz (dmintz@tourosynagogue.com) or Rabbi Todd Silverman (tsilverman@tourosynagogue.com).

**A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR
OUR ELDEST MEMBERS**

You're Invited



Touro Synagogue's
New Aging Beautifully
Wellness Series

**SPIRITUALITY
& STRETCHING**

Wednesdays in May

9 AM - 10:15 AM

May 4, 11, 18, 25

9:00 AM

Join us for coffee and
conversation with Rabbi Berk

9:30 AM

Physical Therapist and Touro Member—
Sam Guichet, PT— will lead a gentle movement
class—mostly (or all) seated and focused on
stretching, strength and balance.

Need more information? Interested, but the time
isn't right? Call Sam at 504-722-1237.

Please RSVP to Touro Synagogue at
info@tourosynagogue.com. We can't wait to see you!

Need a ride? Transportation vouchers
provided through Jewish Family Service's
Catch-a-Cab Program. Call the Touro office for
more information at 504-895-4843.

LIVESTREAM SERVICES

Livestream Shabbat
services on Friday nights
or Saturday mornings
from our website at
www.tourosynagogue.com
and be part of the
experience, wherever you are.



SAVE THE DATE

**TOURO SYNAGOGUE
SISTERHOOD SHABBAT**

**MAY 13, 2016, 6:00 P.M.
FOLLOWED BY A CELEBRATORY
SHABBAT DINNER**

Join us at the final Touro Sisterhood Shabbat
Service as we honor the history and dedication
of Touro women who have long played a vital role
in the life of this congregation.



Join Cantor Mintz for

**SHABBAT
KUMZITS**

OUR MONTHLY GATHERING
OF COMMUNAL SINGING!

**May 13, 2016
after Shabbat Services**

Literally meaning "come and sit"
in Yiddish, a Kumzits is an opportunity to
gather together in an intimate setting for
some beautiful, passionate singing
and a powerful, spiritual experience.

We hope you'll join us following
Shabbat services and dinner!

And while you're at it,
mark your calendar for the
next Kumzits on June 17!



TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT



**SATURDAY
JUNE 11**

JOIN IN THE TRADITION OF NIGHT TIME STUDY AT TOURO SYNAGOGUE

WE'LL COME TOGETHER FOR A DAIRY POTLUCK DINNER FOLLOWED BY
HAVDALAH AND AN EVENING OF LEARNING AND EXPLORATION

7:00 PM - POTLUCK DAIRY DINNER

Touro Synagogue will provide vegetarian lasagna and salad. Bring a dairy/vegetarian potluck dish to share.

7:30 PM - STUDY SESSION

We talk a lot about "accepting" things: we accept help, we accept people's explanations, we accept when things don't turn out the way we had hoped. But we must ask ourselves: what does it really mean to "accept" something? And on Shavuot, we Jews must consider: what has it meant, throughout Jewish history right up until today, for us to 'accept Torah'? Join Rabbi Silverman for an exploration of biblical, medieval, modern and contemporary texts which speak to this issue on a personal and communal level.

8:30 PM - SACRED MOMENT OF TORAH & HAVDALAH

Come for participation in and exploration of the purpose and place of Torah in our lives.

RSVP to the Touro Synagogue office at (504) 895-4843 or info@tourosynagogue.com

SHAVUOT FESTIVAL SERVICE & YIZKOR

**SUNDAY, JUNE 12
10:30 AM
FORGOTSTON CHAPEL**



If you would like the name of your loved one read during the Yizkor service, please contact the Touro office by Tuesday, June 7 at (504) 895-4843 or donnap@tourosynagogue.com.

SUPERVILLAGE CHESED SHAVUOT PICNIC

**SUNDAY, JUNE 12
6PM TO DUSK
AUDUBON PARK**

We'll picnic near the playground in Audubon Park near St. Charles Avenue. Be on the lookout for an Evite to the event. Supervillage Chessed includes member-families living in the 70115 zip code.

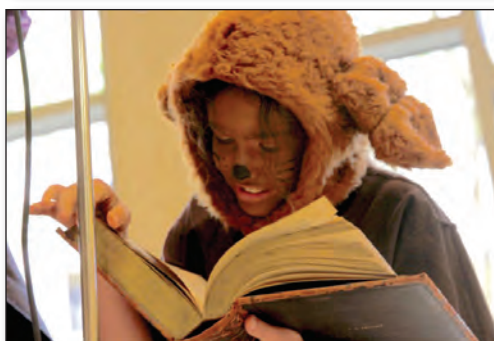


Questions?

Or want to help your village organize a social get-together? Contact Lisa Keleher at 504-296-5472 or

lisatkeleher@gmail.com

CELEBRATING PURIM AT TOURO



We celebrated Purim with our fuzziest friends at the Muppet Purim Shpiel held on March 20, 2016. A great time was had by all.

Right, Supervillage Chesed Hamantaschen Baking Party at the Keleher's home.

THANK YOU TO OUR JAZZ FEST SHABBAT PATRONS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Without your support Jazz Fest Shabbat would not be possible!

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**BEST WESTERN PLUS
ST. CHARLES INN**

**NEW ORLEANS
MUSIC EXCHANGE**

**SESSIONS, FISHMAN,
NATHAN & ISRAEL, LLC**

Bourgeois Bennett, LLC - Ellen Yellin, CPA and Eric Smith, CPA

JAZZ

Phyllis Alltmont
Diane & Alan Franco

Morgan Stanley and Guy Brenner
David Hammer

ZYDECO

Jack Alltmont
Susan & Lou Good

Jill & Dave Israel
Rubenstein's Mens Stores

Julie & Scott Silbert
Amy & Mark Stein

R&B

Ana & Juan Gershanik
Robert Hammer

Betty Kohn
Millie & Robert Kohn

Laura & Walter Levy
Kathy & Hal Shepard

BLUES

Elizabeth & Aaron Ahlquist
Anonymous
Shellie Shockey & John Antonucci
William Taylor Barry
Cathy & Morris Bart
Hertha Bart
Lorna Blake & Robert Batterman
Joy & Andy Braun
Vivian & Richard Cahn
Linda & Richard Friedman
Adrien & Errol Genet
Susan Gingold
Michelle & Jacob Goehring
Arleen Goldberg
Danielle Goldberg
Clem Goldberger
Shannie & David Goldstein
Val & Bob Gross
Leslie & Ron Gubitz

Jenni Hammer
Lisa & Mike Herman
Julie Hoffman
Kenneth Hoffman
Paula Hoffman
Jenny Butler Hunter
Teri & Jonathan Hunter
The Jaffe Family
Beverly Katz

Sharon & Randy Katz
Sandra & Dennis Kay
Tim Anderson & Rick Kovitz
Marilyn Kullman
Jo & Mark Lichtman
Debbie & Richard Longman
Judith Lubcher & Kenneth Margolis
Carrie & Austin Marks
MaryAnne & John McCoppin
Sue Brocoglia & Herbert Miller
Kathy Chazen & Larry Miller
Laurie Norwick
Rita Olmo
Naomi & Larry Orlansky
Margaret Lieux & Steven Pavlovich
Paula Picker
Joyce & Sidney Pulitzer

Julie Schwartz & David Radlauer
Renee & Greg Rich
Mr. & Mrs. Rodney Rich
Bonnie Rudkin
Shelley Cohn & Bennett Schmidt
Phyllis & Jay Shames
Nancy & Gary Silbert
Cathy Lazarus & Eric Simon
Janice & Jeffrey Smith
Marjorie & Aron Suna
George Fitzgerald & Edward Trapido
Marjorie & Roy Weiner
Daniel Weiner
Peter Sather & Elly Zakris
Joan & Lawrence Zaslow
Jack Zoller
Jenny & Lee Zurik



Patron list as of April 20, 2016

25TH ANNUAL JAZZ FEST SHABBAT

FEATURING JON CLEARY AND THE MONSTER GENTLEMEN

TORAH STUDY AT TOURO

MAY / JUNE

May 1 - May 7: *Acharei Mot*
Lev. 18:1-30 / Ezekiel 22:6-19

May 8 - May 14: *K'doshim*
Lev. 19:1-20:27 / Amos 9:7-15

May 15 - May 21: *Emor*
Lev. 21:1-24:23 / Ezekiel 44:15-31

May 22 - May 28: *B'har*
Lev. 25:1-26:2 / Jeremiah 32:6-27

May 29 - June 4: *B'chukotai*
Lev. 26:3-27:34 / Jeremiah 16:19-17:14

JUNE / JULY

June 5 - June 11: *B'midbar*
Num. 1:1-4:20/Hosea 2:1-22

June 12 - June 18: *Naso*
Num. 4:21-7:89/
Judges 13:2-25

June 19 - June 25:
B'haalot'cha
Num. 8:1-12:16/
Zechariah 2:14-4:7

June 26 - July 2:
Sh'lach L'cha
Num. 13:1-15:41/
Joshua 2:1-24

JULY / AUGUST

July 3 - July 9:
Korach
Num. 16:1-18:32 /
I Samuel 11:14-12:22

July 10 - July 16:
Chukat
Num. 19:1-22:1/
Judges 11:1-33

July 17 - July 23:
Balak
Num. 22:2-25:9/
Micah 5:6-6:8

July 24 - July 30:
Pinchas
Num. 25:10-30:1/
Jeremiah 1:1-2:3

July 31 - August 6:
Matot-Mas'ei
Num. 30:2-36:13/
Jeremiah 2:4-28; 3:4

STUDY TORAH WITH US

Everyone is invited

Did you know Torah study is counted amongst
the 613 mitzvot (Biblical commandments)?

Join Touro's Torah Study group every Saturday morning at 9 a.m.
in the Mautner Learning Center and unwrap the ancient
wisdom from our texts in a post-modern world.
All who are interested are welcome, no prior Torah knowledge or
Hebrew skills needed. A light breakfast of bagels and coffee is served.

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

August 7 - August 13: *D'varim*
Deut. 1:1-3:22 / Isaiah 1:1-27

August 14 - August 20: *Va-et'chanan*
Deut. 3:23-7:11 / Isaiah 40:1-26

August 21 - August 27: *Eikev*
Deut. 7:12-11:25 / Isaiah 49:14-51:3

August 28 - September 3: *R'eih*
Deut. 11:26-16:17 / Isaiah 54:11-55:5
or I Samuel 20:18-42

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS AT TOURO

News and the Jews with Rabbi Berk



THOUGHT-PROVOKING QUESTIONS

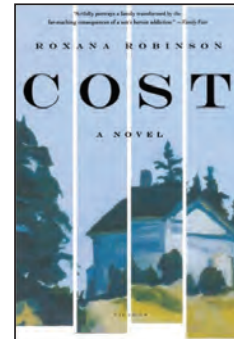
**May 5 and May 19 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.
in the Mautner Learning Center**

Each week, there are stories in our community and our world that confound us and comfort us, confuse us and confront us.

What would Judaism say about these world issues?
What is a Jewish response?

Join Rabbi Alexis Berk in the Mautner Learning Center for a lunchtime study. Each session will be completely unique in that we will explore a story from the week's news through a Jewish lens, with a Jewish mindset. Come join us! All are welcome. Bring your own lunch and we will provide the drinks.

Touro Book Group for Women



COST

by Roxana Robinson

on May 23 at 10:30 a.m.

in the Mautner Learning Center

Marjorie Weiner will lead the discussion.

**If you have any questions, please contact
Marjorie Weiner at mgweiner@aol.com**

SOCIAL ACTION AT TOURO

LGBTQA Advocacy



It was a real joy to celebrate LGBTQA Shabbat at Touro Synagogue on Friday, April 1. Our clergy led a beautiful, service rich with elements that inspired us and deepened our commitment as Reform Jews to equality and acceptance. Following the service, we enjoyed dinner and an informative panel discussion. We are grateful to Dani Levine and Seth Belgard for offering their personal stories, and to Marjorie Esman for reminding us of legal challenges ahead in LGBTQA equality. Keep your eye on this space for more about their remarks in future bulletins!

Thanks to all who participated in a wonderful evening of learning, questioning and celebrating together.

For more information, or to join our LGBTQA advocacy group, contact Laura Levy at laura.silven.levy@gmail.com.
All are welcome.

Alzheimer's Care Givers Support Group



**May 10 and 24, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
in the Chapel Study (meets every other Tuesday)**

Caregivers for Alzheimer's face special challenges. You are not alone. Whether you need information about early-stage care giving, middle-stage care giving, or late-stage care giving, the Care Givers Support Group meets to discuss the issues caregivers deal with on a day-to-day basis.

For more information on the group, please contact the Group Facilitator, Claire Jacobi at clairebjacobi@gmail.com or visit the Touro calendar for the on-going schedule.

SOCIAL ACTION IS FOR EVERYONE

Our social action initiatives at Touro Synagogue would not be possible without the dedication of our passionate congregants. As we strive to continue our missions, the help we give the community is immeasurable. Please take a look at ongoing volunteer efforts as well as initiatives we are undertaking in the future and find out how you can help.

For more information about social action at Touro contact Teri Hunter or the individuals listed with each initiative. Also, don't forget about our VolunteerSpot button on our homepage for the most up-to-date volunteer opportunities.

NEW ORLEANS CRIME COALITION

Touro Synagogue is an active member of the New Orleans Crime Coalition. Dr. Jay Shames is the Touro representative on NOCC. NOCC plays a key role in a broad cross-section of criminal justice issues in New Orleans, works to address violent crime in New Orleans by engaging and helping integrate all components of the local criminal justice system, identifying best practices, and holding accountable those responsible for implementing such practices at each level, and helps develop focused, strategic planning for the continuum of our justice system leading to the fair, efficient and effective administration of justice. NOCC receives monthly updates regarding recruitment and retention of the New Orleans Police Department and monitoring of compliance with the Consent Decree, on activities of the Juvenile Justice and Children's Defense programs, and on the efficiency, transparency and accountability of the Courts in the Criminal Justice System by Court Watch. **Recent changes in prisoner electronic monitoring and the capacity of the New Orleans Prison are of note. The results of its bi-annual Citizen Perception of NOPD Survey also were recently released and discussed by the Coalition. For more information, on NOCC, their focus, and opportunities for involvement, please contact Jay Shames jay.shames@att.net.**



Dr. Jay Shames

SOPHIE B. WRIGHT CHARTER SCHOOL

Have you seen the construction lately? Little by little, Sophie Wright's renovation is taking shape. And the new gym is clearly visible at the back of the school! It's exciting to see and know that the students and faculty will be coming home before long. Plans are for them to move back into their building this summer. In anticipation of that move, Touro will be sending special treats to the school in May. Simple treats meant to say "We look forward to having you back in the neighborhood!!" We'll be gathering together cookies and other baked goods, bags of fruit and all kinds of yummy treats to send to the school as they end this school year and look to returning home to our neighborhood.

Won't you help send some kindness to our neighbors? Please contact Teri Hunter (tlhunter22@gmail.com) or Sam Guichet (ssguichet@me.com) to contribute something simple or to find out more information about how you can help our friends at Sophie B. Wright.

Renderings of the new Sophie B. Wright gym from the Jena Street side.



GET INVOLVED

BROADMOOR FOOD PANTRY

Shalom everyone! In my role as the Wellness Director at the Broadmoor Improvement Association, I oversee the Broadmoor Food Pantry at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Just over a year ago, the Broadmoor Food Pantry (BFP) and Touro Synagogue began a beautiful partnership to address the issue of hunger insecurity in our community. At first Touro's actions meant helping stock the pantry's shelves with cans and dry goods, thanks to generous donations by synagogue members. Since then, our partnership has evolved to include Touro's donation of fresh, healthy, organic vegetables grown in our innovative, high-yielding vertical garden that adorns the Pitt Street side of the building. Just to give you a sense of what an impact these gardens have made, consider this:



Anamaria Villamarin-Lupin

- In one month, BFP served 201 households - including 219 children, 284 adults and 37 seniors.
- In that same month, Touro's vertical garden contribution totaled roughly 50 pounds of fresh greens, including butterhead lettuce, Tropicana lettuce, mustard greens and collard greens.

These produce donations are highly valued by BFP consumers, and we at Touro are always in need of volunteers to help harvest it on a regular basis. This is where YOU come in! If you would like to help with harvesting, we would love to hear from you. Harvesting is a fun, easy, communal experience. Will you volunteer some of your time to help?

Broadmoor Food Pantry also continues to collect dry goods, especially healthy protein items. During the months of May and June we are asking that you bring any of our most needed items which include: peanut butter, canned tuna (and other canned meats), ground coffee, and shelf stable milk. We hope you will consider dropping off these items next time you are at Touro. You can place them on BFP shelves located next to the chapel in the Shushan Assembly.

I look forward to hearing from many of you about volunteering to help harvest our gardens soon! I can be reached at wellness@broadmoorimprovement.com or at 504-259-6604 with any questions.

With thanks,
Anamaria Villamarin-Lupin

NAMI NEW ORLEANS OFFERS SUPPORT GROUPS

Touro's Mental Health Awareness Committee has partnered with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to connect our congregants struggling with their own or a loved one's mental health condition with community offerings. NAMI offers hope, help and healing to people with mental illness — and to those who share their lives — through family support, education, advocacy and quality psychosocial services. If you or a loved one is seeking counseling or guidance, please see NAMI's support group offerings for the month of May.

Family Support Groups (for loved ones of those living with mental illness)

May 4th, 6:30-8:00pm at 1538 Louisiana Ave in New Orleans (NAMI New Orleans Uptown Office)
May 9th, 5:30-7:00pm at 2200 Lafitte St in New Orleans (Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center)
May 17th, 6:30-8:00pm at 2051 8th St in Harvey (NAMI New Orleans Westbank Office)
May 26th, 6:30-8:00pm at 4004 W Esplanade Ave in Metairie (Congregation Beth Israel)



Connection Recovery Support Groups (For individuals living with mental illness)

Every Thursday 1:30-3:00pm at 1538 Louisiana Ave in New Orleans (NAMI New Orleans Uptown)
Every Friday 10:30am-12:00pm at 2051 8th St in Harvey (NAMI New Orleans Westbank)

NOLA Survivors of Suicide Loss

May 11: 6:30-8:00pm at 1538 Louisiana Ave in New Orleans (NAMI New Orleans Uptown Office)
May 25: 6:30-8:00pm at 1538 Louisiana Ave in New Orleans (NAMI New Orleans Uptown Office)
(Please call 504-410-7025 or email survivors.nola@gmail.com before attending your first meeting.)

Special Events: May 3: Behavioral Health Day at the State Capitol. Ride there and back for free with NAMI New Orleans! Call 504-896-2345 or email education@namineworleans.org for more information. May 20: 6:00-8:00pm Spring Fundraiser at Cars of Yesteryears in Metairie. Tickets are \$60 a person or \$100 for a couple. Call 504-896-2345 or email meghan@namineworleans.org for information.

Donations & Sponsors

TOURO SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Honor of:

Tour with Adie Genet

By: Kathy and Mike Perloff
Annette and Geoffrey Botnick
Jan, Fred and Matt Weitz
Flo Leberberg
Phyllis and Henry Stein
David Schiller
Shelley and Jorian Catzel

Delightful services at Touro Synagogue

By: Linda and Gerry Owen

In Memory of:

Philip Maitland-Lewis

By: Joni and Stephen Maitland-Lewis
Monroe Samuels

By: Barbara Samuels

Abraham Bernard Kupperman

By: Jill and Dave Israel
Joy and Andy Braun
Sarah and Joe Pasternack, Jr.
Lindsay and Joe Pasternack III

Ira Kohn

Maurice Bloch

By: Betty Kohn

Julian Opatowsky

By: Kathy and Randy Opatowsky

Donations:

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Minka Sprague
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In Memory of:

Abe Rubin

By: Jane Kaplan

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In Memory of:

Anna Kay Goldstein

By: Martin Goldstein and family

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In Memory of:

Judith Hertzberg

By: Joan Wightkin

PRAYER BOOK SUPPORT FUND

In Memory of:

Louis Pick

By: Thaia Pick

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SUPPORT FUND

In Memory of:

David Herman

Avram Herman

Bernard Herman

By: Sherril Herman

TORAH STUDY SUPPORT FUND

In Honor of:

Tour with Bob Hammer

By: Helen and Les Kay

Donations:

By: Sheri and Stephen Levine
Mary McCormick and
Jonathan Nussdorf
Roger White

DONALD MINTZ FUND

In Memory of:

Donald Mintz

By: Susan Mintz Kantrow and family

Joseph Sher

By: Susan and Byron Kantrow

JACKIE WOLFF SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of:

Abraham Bernard Kupperman

By: Frankie Wolff

ROBERT KATZ AND ALICE M. KATZ SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of:

Robert A. Katz

Judy Cohen

Amy Bonoff

Sue White

By: Jan Katz and Jim Derbes,
Alexa and Rob Craig, Jared and
Sarah Katz

RABBI BERK'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of:

Naming of Cora Zwain

By: Jaymi and Mark Baum

In Memory of:

Meyer "Mike" Sutton

By: Lois and Joey Sutton

FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER DONATIONS

In Honor of:

Birthday of Ann Fishman

By: Margot Garon

Robin Levy and Bobby Garon

GENERAL DONATIONS TO FOUNDATION

Donations:

By: Helen Weil Young Memorial Fund

Thank You

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*We thank these generous supporters
for their help in making Shabbat a
wonderful experience:*

Pulpit Flowers

Family of Harold Alan Schwartz, Jr.
and Patti Ann Schwartz

Ellen and Stephen Manshel

The Kirschman Family

Ana and Juan Gershanik

Richard Buchsbaum

Mazel Tov to:

Ava and Michael Alltmont

on the birth of their daughter, Genevieve Marks Alltmont on April 5, 2016. She is sister to Tatum Alltmont, granddaughter of Phyllis and Jack Alltmont, niece of Jeff and Rachel Alltmont, and cousin to Jacob, Sydney and Hannah

Miriam and Garrett Fine

on their marriage held March 26, 2016

Ann and Steven Harris

on the birth of their grandson,
Isaac Alan Harris on April 2, 2016

Lisa Keleher

who will be presented with the Caring and Mitzvah Award at this year's Annual Meeting on May 22 for her contributions through the Caring and Mitzvah Committee and her work with the Touro Villages which has positively impacted our Touro Community

Thaia Pick

who will be presented with the Shepard H. Shushan Award at this year's Annual Meeting on May 22 for her dedication and loyalty to Touro Synagogue, which best exemplifies the extraordinary legacy of devotion of Shepard H. Shushan

Dr. Jay Shames

who was honored with the first ever Outstanding Clinician of the Year Award from the Louisiana Thoracic Society in January of this year. That award made him eligible for the national award which he will receive in San Francisco on May 16. Jay is being celebrated as The Outstanding Clinician at the American Thoracic Society's Annual Conference.

Lois and Joey Sutton

on the birth of their grandson,
Isaac Alan Harris on April 2, 2016, and
the birth of their great-nephew,
Micah Drew Rosenblum on April 3, 2016

In Memoriam

*Touro Synagogue extends its
deepest sympathies to the
families and friends of...*

Daryl Sue Morais White,

mother of Jason White (Christine),
grandmother of Jonah White, and
aunt of Kelly Abramson (David)

Yahrzeits

Perpetually enshrined on the Yahrzeit Tablets of Touro Synagogue are the following loved ones for whom Kaddish will be recited for the months of May, June, July and August.

FRIDAY, MAY 6 / SATURDAY, MAY 7

LOUIS SEIDENBACH, HAROLD GREER GOLDENBERG, AVRAM CHARLES HERMAN, JACOB W. NEWMAN, LOUIS SCHERCK, ELKIN RUBENSTEIN, ABRAHAM ULLMAN, MAX MARX, MAX U. MARCUS, RUTH FREEDMAN SCHWAM, MAX ZELDEN, ISIDORE MANASSES, GULNARE LEVENSTEIN BERNSTEIN, PETER E. MOSS, MAURICE BLUMENFELD, BARBARA BORINSKY STILES, BERYL ALAYNICK MARCHIZ, IRA MAURICE KOHN, ESTELLE FRIEDMAN GERVIS, ALVIN COHEN, M.D., SARA MEYERS

FRIDAY, MAY 13 / SATURDAY, MAY 14

JULIAN OPOTOWSKY, JENNIE A. BENNETT, LUCIEN ZILBERMANN, KATE FRIEDLANDER KOPPEL, GOLDIE PHILIPSON STEUER, ABE GOLDEN, JOSEPH FRANK, BERNICE FINKELSTEIN, SAMUEL EDELSTEIN, HENRY WEIL, BERNARD HIRSCH HERMAN, MEYER HANDELMAN, SHIRLEY WEIL GREENGUS, WILLIAM ADLER, JOSEPH ZELDEN, LEON E. BER, JULIUS GOLDMAN, BERTHA K. HOCHSTEIN, IONE SINGERMAN FELLMAN, RUTH BENNETT KATZ, LEAH OFFNER DEUTCH

FRIDAY, MAY 20 / SATURDAY, MAY 21

SAMUEL JULIUS WEISS, WILLIAM MAYER, ROSE KASDAN ENELOW, BERNARD DAVID MINTZ, MORRIS WILLIAM LEVY, M.D., ARNOLD FALK, MORRIS B. SONTHEIMER, ELIZABETH EDELSTEIN, ADELE SCHWARTZ, HARRY H. GOLDSTEIN, MINA LEVY BOLLAG, HENRY HIRSCH, DAVID BERTRAM YOUNG, MITCHELL P. SAMUELSON, CHARLES A. ZUCKER, ALEX LITH, PERCIVAL STERN

FRIDAY, MAY 27 / SATURDAY, MAY 28

BYRON MAYER, ANNIE CAMPELL FISHMAN, LENA MILLER BURK, MAX MARGOLIS, ANNA KAY GOLDSTEIN, KARL EDWARD HEINEMANN, CAROLINE H. THALSHEIMER, JONAS WEILL, CONSTANCE WOLFF SAMUEL, RUTH MOSBERG COHEN, AUGUSTA R. HIRSCH, ISADORE M. ENELOW, MARGUERITE R. FALK, BENJAMIN ABBOT, DORA GARRITSON LEVY, FLORETTE SIMON GEISMAR, EVA S. WEIL, EDNA E. LEVY, DORA RUBENSTEIN, GARY STEVEN BENNETT

FRIDAY, JUNE 3 / SATURDAY, JUNE 4

JOSEPH THEODORE HEINEMANN, NORMA GROSBERG GRANT, MINNIE LONDON REINER, JOSEPH HASPEL, JR., DORA FRANK FREEDMAN, HELVENA GRETZNER BRESSLER, MAURICE BLOCH, GERTRUDE HARRIS, ROGER BISSINGER, FLORENCE FRANK, HAZEL HENINGER MEYER, ROBERT ALFRED KOTTWITZ, HARRIET GREENBLATT, HAROLD SALMON, JULIUS LEONARD LEVY, DOROTHY ADLER STETTER, ISAAC L. LEUCHT, MEYER DAVID TEITELBAUM

FRIDAY, JUNE 10 / SATURDAY, JUNE 11

JENNIE HOCHSTEIN, ROBERT SUGAR, GEORGE YOEDICKE, JENNIE BERLIN, NATHAN KOHLMAN, CLARA FEIBLEMAN ADLER, HULDA WEXLER MANSBERG, ISADORE SEELIG, CICELY L. WEIL, EVA G. WALDHORN, LOUIS LEVY, LEON WEILL, HENRY B. ASHER, SAMUEL H. KAMIN, RUTH MALKIN BOROD, SIMON HELLMAN, ROGER S. BERNSTEIN, EDMUND J. DREYFUS, MEYER GOLDSTEIN, ELY C. WINER, SERAPHINE H. GEISMAR, ROSALIE FRANK PHILLIPS, ALFRED JOHN KROWER, ESTELLE L. GREENBLATT, JACOB LEVY FISCHMAN, M.D.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17 / SATURDAY, JUNE 18

HILDA SEELIG CORENSWET, CORYNNE HANAUER HYMAN, NATHAN ROSENBERG, LOUIS KOHN, AARON ABRAMSON, LEON H. RITTENBERG SR., JEANETTE LEVY, MENA COHEN LEVY, SAMUEL RUBENSTEIN, EMMIE HIRSCH ISAACS, MARSHALL SIMON PULTZER, STELLA BERGMAN SAMUEL, BESSIE G. ZELDEN, BLANCHE L. SCHWARTZ

FRIDAY, JUNE 24 / SATURDAY, JUNE 25

CAROLYN RUBENSTEIN RUMM, HARRY DeROY, MARCELLE KLOTZ HAGEDORN, MORRIS BART, JR., MEYER NEWHOUSE, LIONEL S. WEIL JR., HILDA NACHMANN MAYER, PAUL DAVID MAY, NEAFTHALIE LEVY, KARL BAUM, GUSSIE BURKA GOLDMAN, WILLIAM D. NORMAN, SR., M.D., CHARLES STERN, REBECCA KAHN HENINGER

FRIDAY, JULY 1 / SATURDAY, JULY 2

M. DAVID HASPEL, M.D., DORA SAZER, LEE CAHN SCHLESINGER, M.D., MARY MEYER, FANNY BOHRER BENNETT, ADA FRANK SEGALL, STANLEY ROTH, ESSIE M. ALETRINO, BENJAMIN LOUIS LEVY, JR., RUBY SPIRO PICK, MIRIAM CAHEN RADLAUER, JESSIE HEYMANN MICHAELIS, MAX M. ROSS, FAYE SCHLESINGER NIXON, DORIS LURIE CHESKY, MICHAEL JACOBS, ROSALIE LEVY HILLER, JOSEPH BERLIN, HERBERT OBERDORFER

FRIDAY, JULY 8 / SATURDAY, JULY 9

ALFRED KROWER, SR., HENRY REINBERG GOLDSTEIN, DORIS LANGER, NATALIE W. ROSENBLUM, HAROLD ALAN SCHWARTZ, SR., CARRIE WOLFF DREYFUS, JONAS HILLER, ANNA F. GROSS, CAROLYN OLDENBURG, JEAN SAMUELSON, DORA FERBER, MEYER WILLIAM ISRAEL JACOBSON, KATHERINE POLACK RITTENBERG, DANIEL NOWAK, MARY YOUNG, CHARLES W. COHEN, SIMON ROSENBERG, MOLLIE TANNENBAUM MINTZ, EVA S. FEITEL, GERTRUDE RUBENSTEIN, HELEN NAGEL McCLURE, HOWARD DAVID WOLCHANSKY

FRIDAY, JULY 15 / SATURDAY, JULY 16

BURTON GILBERT WAGGER, EARL MARVIN ZANDER, LINDA MALKIN ZOLLER, NATHAN CLARENCE GERNSBACHER, CARRIE WILDENSTEIN ALLTMONT, SUZANNE KAGAN WEXLER, SAMUEL BARKOFF, M.D., SOLOMON ADLER, LEONARD HOCHSTEIN, ERHARD MICHAEL MAYER, WILLIAM D. SINGER, CLAUDIA S. LINDY, SAMUEL ALFRED COHEN, HARRY WEINER, ERNEST CHARLES SAMUEL, M.D., LEO HEYMANN, TANIA R. GRISHMAN, TOBA SEGAL JACOBS, HAROLD SINGER, EUGENE J. BERNSTEIN

FRIDAY, JULY 22 / SATURDAY, JULY 23

TEAL FREEDMAN BENNETT, RAOUL J. ADLER, MURREL H. KAPLAN, M.D., CHARLES CHASKEL DEAN, MORRIS JACOB WEISLER, M.D., LESTER LOWELL GREEN, SYLVIA COPELAND PULTZER, HATTIE MAYER HARTSON, MAURICE FEINGERTS, ALFRED J. KAUFMAN, AARON FRANK MARCUS, MADELEINE L. GOLDBERG, SARAH NEWMAN MASLANSKY, BERTHA GOLDSMITH GOOD, ADOLPH JULES LEVY, MARION E. HOCHSTEIN, LOUIS KOHLMANN, CHARLES BERLIN, AUGUSTUS AARONS, A.L. SHUSHAN III, EMMA LITH, ESTHER ADLER SEIDENBACH, J. BRANCH NIXON

FRIDAY, JULY 29 / SATURDAY, JULY 30

JOSEPH FINKELSTEIN, LOUIS LEVY, MAURICE HEYMANN, LAZARE LEVY, JR., JESSIE ANISH, LILLY OPPENHEIM ISAACS, MAX LEON HASPEL, SARAH S. REED, MARJORIE MAYER LEVY, ARNOLD BERNARD BASHEIN, HUGO KOPPEL, BELLE MARCUS, MAX I. WEXLER, DAN LINCOWE, EHYL KLINGER YUSPEH, JACOB BERLIN, LEON FRANK, JOSEPH MARCUS BRENNER

FRIDAY, AUG. 5 / SATURDAY, AUG. 6

SEDONIA LEVY ISAACS, RALPH JAC STICH, MENA WILDENSTEIN, REGINE KOHLMANN, FANNIE L. HASPEL, LOUIS HAUSMANN, JOE PASTERNAK, CHARLENE KAHN SIKORSKY, SARA KAHN FEITEL, MARJORY SCHWARZ STICH, GEORGE S. CARR, MALVINA G. LEVY, RACHAEL SILVERSTEIN, LAKIE COHN LURIE, FANNIE P. COPELAND, HARRIS CERF WEIL, SAM ROSEN, SYLVIA GRISHMAN TELES, MIRIAM GRODSKY BUCKMAN, DORA VAN OS HAAS, RUTH OPPENHEIMER FINKELSTEIN, CAROLYN COHEN PICK BRONFIN, JULIA LEBERMUTH, HENRIETTA W. NEWMAN, MINETTE MORAIS BERGER, MORRIS SHERMAN

FRIDAY, AUG. 12 / SATURDAY, AUG. 13

ALBERT A. KRONACHER, J. EDMUND ULLMAN, LEON MITNICK, ALEX S. FREEDMAN, OSCAR KAGAN, SAM L. ROSENBAUM, JACK E. SONTHEIMER, MILTON J. STERN, WILLIAM C. RIPPNER, ANITA SOLOMON MARX, PEARL W. RUSS, MARY ROGERS SPIEGEL, ALFRED L. SOLOMON, ISAAC RABIN, MIRYAM ROSENBLUM, FRANCK K. MARX, JULIUS M. COHN, TERRI LYNN KATZ, CHARLES MAYER SAMUEL JR, JULIUS "JAY" HANDELMAN, TOBIAS PICK, CLEMENS ADLER, HAROLD W. FORGOTSTON, GEORGE A. DUFF

FRIDAY, AUG. 19 / SATURDAY, AUG. 20

ELSIE WALDHORN COHN, ADELE LEVY ADATTO, HUGH BERNARD KOHLMAYER, SIDNEY G. KELLER, MOLLY FRIEDMAN ROSS, ISAAC KELLER, JEAN KRAUSS COHEN, EVA SINGERMAN BERENSON, HERBERT CHARLES YELIN, NATHAN LEONARD KERN, SR., HENRIETTE LEVY KLOTZ, JAMES MICHEL BER, HARRY COLTON, ENNIS L. KOPS, JESSLYN LOEB SCHILLING, HYMAN R. GORDON, HENRY HAUSMANN, LEOPOLD MAAS, BEULAH BLOCH WEIL, DOROTHY KAUFMAN LEVY, MARTIN S. ROTHSCHILD, FANNIE WEIL COHN HORNIKEL, RICKEY LUKOW BAIN, JULIAN H. GOOD, PAUL KLING, SR., L. BARRY PICK, MICHEL "MIKE" LEVY

FRIDAY, AUG. 26 / SATURDAY, AUG. 27

HARRY LOUIS PHILLIPS, HAZEL NAGEL BADEAUX, CLIFFORD A.J. BERGER, NAT MARKS GREENBLATT, RUTH GLATTER SAMUELSON, RICHARD M. WISE, SAM BLUM, EDWARD MAX FEINMAN, SR., ROSE HARRIS LEHMAN, ALICE MAYER KATZ, LILLIAN BIGMAN, FRED LITH, FANNIE WEAKER, SARA REINHERR ROSS, JONAS F. LITH, CHARLES SAMUEL, BERTHA SCHOTTLANDER HARRIS, ISAAC COLEMAN BOWSKY, CHARLES ALLTMONT, NATHAN KATZ, MELVIN ANISH, BELLA G. RATNER ZUCKER

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2 / SATURDAY, SEPT. 3

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**NOTICE OF
ANNUAL
MEETING
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Shabbat Services May and June 2016

Friday, May 6

6:00pm Shabbat Service and Confirmation, Main Sanctuary

Saturday, May 7

10:30am Shabbat Morning Service, Forgetston Chapel

Friday, May 13

6:00pm Sisterhood Shabbat, Forgetston Chapel

7:30pm Friday Night Kumzits, Shushan Assembly

Saturday, May 14

10:30am Shabbat Morning Service, Forgetston Chapel

Friday, May 20

6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service, Forgetston Chapel

Saturday, May 21

10:30am Shabbat Morning Service and Bat Mitzvah
of Ana Lee Finger, Main Sanctuary

Friday, May 27

6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service, Forgetston Chapel

Saturday, May 28

10:30am Shabbat Morning Service, Forgetston Chapel

Friday, June 3 (Summer Union Services)

6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service, Forgetston Chapel

Saturday, June 4 (Summer Union Services)

10:30am Shabbat Morning Service, Forgetston Chapel

Friday, June 10 (Summer Union Services)

6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service, Forgetston Chapel

Saturday, June 11 (Summer Union Services)

10:30am Shabbat Morning Service, Forgetston Chapel

Friday, June 17 (Summer Union Services)

6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service, Forgetston Chapel

Saturday, June 18 (Summer Union Services)

10:30am Shabbat Morning Service and Bat Mitzvah
of Lisa Keleher, Forgetston Chapel

Friday, June 24 (Summer Union Services)

6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service, Forgetston Chapel

Saturday, June 25 (Summer Union Services)

10:30am Shabbat Morning Service, Forgetston Chapel

SUMMER UNION SERVICES

*Shabbat Services will be held at
Congregation Gates of Prayer during the month of July,
and at Temple Sinai during the month of August.*