



VOICE of the SHORE

Congregation Torat El - Jersey Shore Jewish Center

JANUARY 2026 • TEVET/SHEVAT 5786

CONGREGATION TORAT EL

LIVE MUSIC & Coffee House

JANUARY 10
7:30PM

GRAB DINNER THEN
JOIN US FOR DESSERT,
COFFEE AND GREAT
LIVE MUSIC! BYOB

\$25 PER PERSON

RESERVATIONS BY JANUARY 7

AT UPCOMINGEVENTS.TORAT-EL.ORG



CONGREGATION TORAT EL CONTACT INFORMATION

Torat El Professional Staff

Rabbi

Aaron Schonbrun

Executive Director

Pam Cardullo

Director of Ritual Engagement

Ben Laskowitz

Religious School Director

Lisa Arnold

Administrative Asst.

Lisa Arnold

Bookkeeper/Admin.

Joanne Bass

Torat El Executive Board

President

Michelle Winters

1st V.P.

Alan Morris

V.P.

Susan Berkowitz

V.P.

Judy Solomon

Treasurer

Michael Breslow

Secretary

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Ken Marowitz

Kim McConnell

Beverle Richelson

Susan Sferas

Neil Warar

Monica Weiss

Sisterhood Pres.

Robin Bauer

Men's Club Pres.

Neil Becourtney

Committee Contact Info

Beth El Cemetery - Alan & Sonny Winters

732-670-9200

Hazak - Marjorie & Stanley Cotler

732-922-6590

Adult Ed - Kim McConnell & Mark Flamendorf

908-433-5979

Technology - Howard Lang

admin@torat-el.org

Koreen Family Library - Madeline Schulman

732-618-5062

Other Contact Info

Temple President - Michelle Winters

732-531-4410

Sisterhood President - Robin Bauer

732-778-2127

Men's Club President - Neil Becourtney

973-896-7923

Meet the Author - Susan Sferas

732-239-0750

Contribution Cards - Beverle Richelson

908-675-5387

JNF Tree Donations - Sandy Rosen

732-870-2166

Facility Rental - Pam Cardullo

732-531-4410

Kiddush Information - Pam Cardullo

732-531-4410

Bulletin - Pam Cardullo

732-531-4410

Beth El Cemetery Business - Joanne Bass

732-531-4410

Donations - Lisa Arnold

732-531-4410

Chesed - Lisa Arnold

732-531-4410

Congregation Torat El Main Office 732-531-4410

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January Service Announcements

Friday, January 2, 2026

Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15pm

Candles 4:22pm

Yahrzeits: Avram Bercovicz, Louis Breslow, Marda Brown, Morris Cohen, Julius Droisen, David Fields, Max Gonski, Else Graupe, Frida Haber, Simon Klein, Mortimer Kobb, Rebecca Kramer, Lois Nelson, Raymond Pannone, Kenneth Poznak, Ben Rassas, Mildred Richelson, Lee Rubenstein, Samuel J. Sarch, Sigmund Schreiber, Stephanie Silver, Mathilda Simha, Nathan Spector, Fannie Tauber, Dr. Harry L. Vineburg, Marilyn Weinstein, Shari Lynn Woda, Chiam Ben Zev

Saturday, January 3, 2026

Shabbat Service ~ 9:00am

Parsha: Vayhi 47:28-48:22 (p. 293)

Haftarah: 1 Kings 2:1-12 (p. 313)

Friday, January 9, 2026

Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15pm

Candles 4:28pm

Yahrzeits: Shai Lanem Binns, Louis Breslow, David Cooper, Rose Frank, Kenneth Kobb, Annette Kurman, Arnold Levi, Shirley Levine, Michael Maltzman, Gussie Michelson, Samuel Miller, Stuart Nelson, Dora Osattin, Joseph Pollack, William Potter, Herman Preiser, Morris Rauch, Sol Reinman, Sarah Samuel, Jack Shanker, Saul Shapiro, Shirley Shapiro Fein, Alan Sherman, Esther Singer, John Stazyn, Arthur Tauber, Sidney Zislin

Saturday, January 10, 2026

Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00am

Parsha: Shemot 1:1-2:25 (p. 317)

Haftarah: Isaiah 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23 (p. 343)

Friday, January 16, 2026

Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15pm

Candles 4:36pm

Yahrzeits: Max Adler, Vicki Akel, Burton Alexander, Ronald Arnold, Reuben Blaustein, Abraham Block, Rubin Brenner, Belle S. Franks, Dr. Eugene Goldman, William Gross, Daniel Hochberg, Mildred Holub, Edward Horowitz, Harvey Jacob, Sam Kantrowitz, Barry Kollins, Sandra Jacob Lazarus, Angela Malek, Marie Mercogliano, Rose Sarah Negnewitzky, Steven Scheer, Max Schletter, Jerome Sommer, Bertha Steingart, Samuel Sulkin, Gary Andrew Taylor, Dr. Ron Weinberg, Edythe Wiser, Milton Ziment, Ruth Zimmerman

Saturday, January 17, 2026

Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00am

Parsha: Vaera 6:2-7:7 (p. 351)

Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21 (p. 370)

Friday, January 23, 2026

Family Friday Night Service ~ 5:15pm

Candles 4:44pm

Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15pm

Yahrzeits: Ruth Adler, Harris Israel Anderman, Warren Lewis Dennis, Chester Stanley Friedman, Floretta Glinsky, Doris Tauver Gribin, Rose Horenstein, Bessie Kirschner, Farha Koreen, Bunnye Levi, Mr. Maurice Marx, Dr. Milton P. Paperth, Norman Scheer, Sidney Schwaber, Deborah Shanker, Toby Sobel, Harry Steinberg, Abe Trachtenberg, Joy Tretsky, Charles Wilk, Ellen F. Winters

Saturday, January 24, 2026

Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00am

Parsha: Bo 10:1-11:3 (p. 374)

Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28 (p. 395)

Friday, January 30, 2026

Erev Shabbat Service ~ 6:15pm

Candles 4:53pm

Yahrzeits: Alex A. Block, Shirley Brown, Jeanne Chernin, Jerome Dampf, Stanley Drossman, Jerome Einhorn, Lillian Fried, Michael Friedman, Elaine Friedman, Anne Goldman, Milton Goodman, Arnold Kantrowitz, Annette Korn, Raymond Messner, Anne Mintz, David Negnewitzky, Boris Ozarow, Frances Pellmar, Myron Rubenstein, Anita Schonbrun, Joseph Semel, Marshall Silver, Robert Solomon, Samuel Starrett, Dorothy Stazyn, Elizabeth Weiss

Saturday, January 31, 2026

Shabbat Morning Service ~ 9:00am

Parsha: Beshallah 13:17-15:26 (p. 399)

Haftarah: Judges 4:4-5:31 (p. 424)

Join Services In-Person and Online

Shabbat: Friday, 6:15pm and Saturday, 9:00am

In-Person or Livestreamed at <https://livestream.torat-el.org>

Morning Minyan: Monday-Friday, 8:00am, Sunday, 8:30am

Monday & Thursday - In person only

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Sunday - Zoom only (same mtg info as below)

Evening Minyan: Monday-Thursday, 7:00pm

Zoom Meeting ID 859-0261-9504 - Service held on Zoom only

WHY 'MAKING MINYAN' IS MEANINGFUL



A few weeks ago I found myself on a morning Zoom minyan with one of our regulars, Neil Weitzenkorn, who needed to say Kaddish for a loved one -- *from a cruise ship!* As the service began, we only had three out of the ten required for a minyan. Slowly but surely, as we "called for reinforcements" on the Whatsapp group people started to hop on to the Zoom and we quickly had the required ten for Neil to say Kaddish. When the minyan concluded, I commented that this was really quite an astonishing thing, and not something that we would have been able to do years ago. While we maintain a physical minyan on Torah reading days and on Shabbat, our evening minyanim and morning minyanim (Sun., Tues. Wed., and Friday) are often on Zoom. While the experience is certainly different

than physically gathering together, these minyanim have allowed us to both maintain a regular minyan practice as a community, and made it somewhat easier for individuals to help support friends and community members when they are "Zooming in" from out of town, or even, apparently, when they are out at sea!!

Congregation Torat El has always strived to be a place that provides multiple avenues for people to connect with one another as we support each other on our spiritual journeys. Daily minyan is one such example. But as I have shared before, getting a minyan is often a struggle these days. I have had a number of individuals comment to me that they were "surprised" that we didn't have a morning minyan, or even (once in a while) on a Friday night! My response is always the same. I apologize, and then encourage them to join at other times, so that we can help ensure that this does not happen to other people. In a community of shared spiritual practice, we cannot expect others to be there for us if we are not willing to make the effort to be there for them. And, as the cliché goes, "it takes a village."

But don't just take my word for it. Here are the voices of some of our "regulars" who have been trying to keep our morning and evening minyan going for the entire congregation for many years. To give you a sense of the ratio, I would say that we have about 20 individuals who are holding the minyan for our more than 400-family congregation. As you read what they have to say, ask yourselves whether or not you might be able to join them.

I do believe that being a member of a community requires giving, not just taking. I am at the shul every Monday morning in case any of our members need to say Kaddish. ~ Marvin Goldin

My situation at home doesn't allow me to attend services as much as would like. I still feel a connection to the synagogue because of Zoom minyan and livestream Shabbat services. Ever since COVID and the world shut down, the Zoom minyan allows me to feel connected and at peace. It takes such little effort to join Zoom minyan. It makes me feel good to help make a minyan for someone else. The Zoom minyan also allows me to see that our synagogue family is ok. ~ Lanie Laskowitz

Minyan has become important to me over the past years so I can connect with my Jewish spiritual soul more than just on Shabbat. I especially enjoy on Mondays and Thursdays when we read Torah. Unfortunately when there is not a minyan we cannot read Torah and all who are there miss the opportunity. ~ Stuart Koperweis

I attend for several reasons. The first is to express my gratitude to G-d for the blessings in my life. The second is to pray for healing in a community setting. The third is to support others and to receive support and the fourth is to socialize. ~ Martin Fried

My minyan attendance is very important to me. It is a touchpoint in the day when I can take a brief respite from a hectic schedule and 'check in' with people, say mi-sheberach for the people who need prayers and support anyone who needs to say Kaddish as they support me when I have that need. Having it on Zoom makes it more accessible for me. ~ Susan Sferas

It's a great way to start the day! ~ Mike Gordon

I find even on ZOOM that evening minyans are a great way to unwind from busy and hectic days and to end my day with peace and calm. ~ Lynne Kraft

WHY 'MAKING MINYAN' IS MEANINGFUL

I feel a sense of community and I know if someone is saying Kaddish, I can help. It's a way to help people without getting anything else in return. ~ Randi Kervick

I enjoy going to minyan to ensure that we have 10 people so our congregants can say Kaddish, or especially if anyone has a yahrzeit. It's actually a really good feeling to support our minyan!! ~ Marjorie Cotler

I attend minyan primarily for the communal connection. It was important for me to attend regularly to recite Kaddish for my parents, and the efforts made by others enabled me to do that. Also, it's gratifying to pay the kindness back to people who currently need a minyan to recite Kaddish for their loved ones. ~ Steven Schwaber

I started coming to minyan in 1991 after my dad passed away. I felt a hurt that I had never felt before, I did not know what to do... When my mom passed in 2009 I was back at minyan (morning minyan) this time. Minyan provided a comfortable place for me, people understood what I was feeling, they were there for me. You make friends, you share experiences, in a safe haven, a spiritual haven... Sometimes now, when you're that much older, lots of things get in the way, but I try to be there. I want to offer to others what I found in my time of need. We pray, we laugh, we sometimes cry, we share friendships... It's a nice way to get a day started. Try it, you might like it. ~ Beverly Greenstein

Attending minyan makes my day complete. It is important to me that I can help someone else who needs a minyan. It's a nice way to begin and/or end your day and allows you to refocus. Now is the time for you to join us! ~ Sherrie Robinson



Such beautiful reflections that speak for themselves. Please consider joining us to ensure that our minyan remains functioning and vibrant for many years to come.

Currently:

- Monday - Thursday evenings on Zoom (7:00pm)
- Sunday mornings on Zoom (8:30am)
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday (8:00am) on Zoom
- Monday, Thursday, and Torah-reading days in person (8:00am)

The Zoom link is in your weekly emails. And, if you are on WhatsApp you can either look for "CTE Minyan," or click on the QR code to join the group and get notifications when we need help making a minyan. We look forward to having you join us!

MUSAR: A WINTER ADULT EDUCATION ZOOM PROGRAM

Musar is a Jewish spiritual discipline that helps to nurture depth of soul and spirit. Strengthening character and engaging in the practice of mindful living through the study and practice of Musar allows us to bring balance, healing, inner-peace, and a deeper appreciation for life's struggles and blessings into our lives. But just what are these virtues and how do these 17th century concepts (such as gratitude, self-restraint, forgiveness, kindness, social compassion) apply in our lives today? For that, we turn to book published by Alan Morinis, entitled *The Jewish Spiritual Path of Musar: Everyday Holiness*. Come and join us on Zoom as we explore our own moral ideals through this ancient lens.

Register at upcomingevents.torat-el.org. Your confirmation email will provide you with the Zoom link.

Wednesdays, January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 4, 18, 25 ~ 7:30pm

OUR SYNAGOGUE FAMILIES

Mazel Tov to:

Michael Breslow on being selected CTE Men's Club's "Man of the Year"
Jeanne & Rick Isaacson on the birth of their granddaughter Isabella May Gutierrez

Condolences to:

The family of Lauren Sferlazzo
Marc Feldman on the loss of his mother Jeannette Sandler Feldman
The family of Sandy Epstein
Neil Becourtney on the loss of his father Melvin Becourtney

Our family would like to express our deepest and most sincere thank you to everyone for their condolences and prayers for our parents, Warren and Sandy Epstein. ~ Brian & Doni Epstein

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CHAI LITES

December was filled with Chanukah fun and festivities! Between learning, singing, and dreidel spinning, our students had a great time! Please plan to attend our next Family Friday Night Service on January 23. All of our students will be participating! Here's a look at what's coming up:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| • Saturday, January 3 | NO SHABBAT SCHOOL – Winter Break |
| • Wednesday, January 7 | Religious School resumes |
| • Saturday, January 10 | Shabbat School (Library books returned) |
| • Wednesday, January 14 | Religious School |
| • Saturday, January 17 | NO SHABBAT SCHOOL – MLK Day Weekend |
| • Wednesday, January 21 | Religious School |
| • Friday, January 23 | Family Friday Night Service (5:15pm) |
| • Wednesday, January 28 | Religious School – Tu B'Shevat Seder ALL STUDENTS |
| • Saturday, January 31 | Shabbat School |

As we enter the winter months, please remember we will communicate via email regarding any weather-related school closings. As always, please contact us if you are aware of any upcoming absences.

RITUAL ENGAGEMENT CHAI LITES

During the month of November, the following individuals performed the Mitzvah of reading Torah, chanting the Haftarah, and/or leading Shacharit and Musaf:

Mark Engel
Cameron Fields
Sam Fields
Moshe Gold
Rachael Goldman
Jeffrey Klein

Stuart Koperweis
Ben Laskowitz
Alana Malek
Alan Morris
Larry Ozarow
Bonnie Reiss

Rabbi Aaron Schonbrun
Andrew Robins
Lori Schuldiner Schor
Steven Schwaber
Neil Weitzenkorn

Yasher Koach To All!!!

If you are interested in chanting your Bar/Bat Mitzvah Haftarah, or if you are interested in learning to become a CTE Leader/Reader, please contact Ben at 732-861-7450 or benlaskowitz@torat-el.org.

NEW BOOKS AT THE KOREEN FAMILY LIBRARY

The Koreen Family Library at Congregation Torat El is always open. Here is a list of some newly acquired titles:

- *Hostage* by Eli Sharabi (954.96 SH) A "must-read," says Rabbi Schonbrun
- *One Day in October* by Yair Agnon (946.46 AG) Forty heroes. Forty stories. A bestseller in Israel
- *As a Jew* by Sarah Hurwitz (306.89 HU) Subtitled, Reclaiming our stories from those who blame, shame and try to erase us
- *It Take Two to Torah* by Abigail Pogrebin (222.1 PO) Subtitled, An Orthodox Rabbi and Reform journalist discuss and debate their way through the Five Books of Moses
- *The Red House* by Mary Morris (F MO) A recent "Meet the Author" book

The Catalog is available on the Congregation Torat El website. Please check us out, and check out a book if you like.

SISTERHOOD CHAI LITES

A hearty Todah Rabah to all who supported CTE Sisterhood's Thanksgiving Mitzvah Project collecting apples and yams which were donated to Jewish Family & Children's Service of Monmouth County for their holiday food distribution to families in need. In total we collected and delivered 62 lbs of apples and 62 lbs of yams – an increase from last year of 22 lbs of apples and 7 lbs of yams! Thank you all for your generosity at this time of great need – and for being part of this successful and meaningful effort!

Thank you to **Eva Wiener** and **Lynn Zimmerman** for chairing our annual Torah Fund Event. Our very own Eva Wiener was our guest speaker this year and she talked about her experience as a young child during the Holocaust as her family made the voyage on the SS St Louis. Her speech enlightened all those who attended.

Thank you to **Kathleen Burke** for chairing our book club on 12/7 and to **Carri Silverberg** for hosting. The book we read was *Secret Jewish Sisters*. Thanks to all those who attended and for the good discussion about the book.

Thank you to **Janet Attner** for coordinating gift wrapping at Boscov's and to Susan Sferas, Margo Gelfman, Judy Solomon, Diane Resnick, Janet Attner, Cara Malek and Alana Malek for volunteering.

Min Pincow Raffle: **Laurie Gross** and **Kathleen Burke** have mailed the letters to join the 2026 raffle. Please renew your number or choose a new number or get in the game for the first time by yourself or with a small group of friends. This has become one of our major sources of funding for Sisterhood and the temple. Tickets are \$100 for 10 chances to win throughout the year. Thanks to everyone in advance for your participation.

2026 Mah Jongg Cards: Standard Cards -\$14, Large-\$15. Please make checks payable to CTE Sisterhood and mail them to **Ellen Shuzman, 17 Whistling Straits Drive, Monroe, NJ 08831 by 1/9/26**. Please provide your name, phone number, email and home address. If you want the card sent to a different address, provide that with your order. If you are ordering several cards, state how many cards of a size you are requesting.

Birthday Buddies: An email was sent to all Sisterhood members with instructions on how to participate. Each listing is \$2.50. Please reply to **Jackie Rosenheck** by 12/24/25 so she can get the January Birthday Cards mailed. Any questions can be directed to Jackie at jackierosenheck@gmail.com.

Knitting Circle: Members and friends are gathering at the Temple to knit blankets, hats and other items that are donated to Israel and local hospitals. This program is held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month (1/14/26 and 1/28/26). Yarn and materials are provided. New members are always welcome. Contact **Judy Cohen** at 732-567-7200 to let her know of your interest or for more information.

Scholarship: Sisterhood is proud to offer a Scholarship again this year. This scholarship is a monetary award for a congregation member's child who is continuing their Jewish education in Israel. The student will be asked to provide the community services that they have participated in such as leading services, helping with younger students in our Hebrew school and helping with Sisterhood projects such as baking Hamantaschen. The family of the student must be in good standing with Congregation Torat El. The award winning student will be asked to provide one program to a Sisterhood meeting on their Israeli experience. The application will be available in the Temple office. The amount of the award will be based on the number of applications received, student essay and the Sisterhood budget. The maximum award will be \$1000. The deadline for receipt of the application is April 12, 2026 Please refer any questions to **Janet Attner** at djattner@verizon.net.

Hold Onto Your Bags: Thank you to everyone who attended our first Sisterhood Pocketbook Tricky Tray event. Those in attendance enjoyed mingling and taking a chance to win their favorite bag (or bags!). The event would not have been possible without the generous donations we received. Special thank you to committee members Beth Cotler, Marjorie Cotler, Madeline Schulman, Melanie Engle, Cara Malek, Robin Bauer, Sue Sferas, Marcia Saks, Elaine Schreiber and Janet Attner, who donated their time to collect, sort, tag, and set up for the event. Also, appreciation to those who helped us set up, clean up, and facilitate the night of the event. ***We will hold this event again in a few years, so keep those bags to donate!*** Diane Resnick event lead.

SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 22	Hamantaschen Baking
March 15	Annual Mah Jongg Tournament
May 17	Book Club

Sisterhood Winter Luncheon

“Let’s Welcome in the New Year!”

Food ~ Friendship ~ Fun Activity

Thursday, January 15, 12:00pm

\$20 Sisterhood Members

\$25 Non-Sisterhood Members & Guests

Your payment is your RSVP

Make checks payable to CTE Sisterhood
and mail or drop off to temple office.

Questions please email Elynn Taylor at
kumquatsandolives@gmail.com

*Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions



*Create a special craft,
something to keep or 'gift.'
All materials will be provided.*

Instructor: Zelda Becourtney

Soup-er Bowl Fundraiser! **Homemade by CTE Sisterhood**

Pick Up Info:

Super Bowl Sunday
February 8, 12:00-1:00PM at CTE

Warm up for the big game with a quart
of homemade soup!
Proceeds to go to Sisterhood initiatives.

Choice:

Mushroom Barley Soup
Vegetable Soup (Gluten Free)

All soups are parve and \$13 per quart.

Orders must be placed
by January 26.

To place orders:

upcomingevents.torat-el.org
or drop off your order and
check (CTE Sisterhood) to the
temple office



SAVE THE DATE! **HAMANTASHEN BAKE-A-THON**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22
9:00AM-2:00PM

CONTACT LYNN ZIMMERMAN
TO VOLUNTEER
848-208-9130 or elzee4@hotmail.com

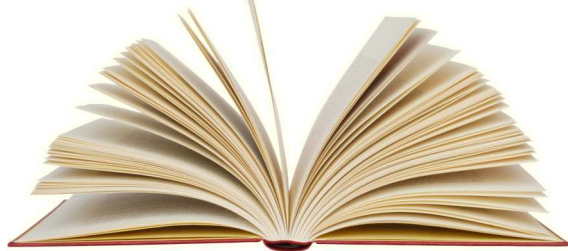


SHALACH MANOT PURIM BASKETS

ORDER FORMS WILL BE MAILED
TO YOUR HOME

For questions or to volunteer to drive
call/email: Marian Warshauer at
marianwar9@gmail.com or 732-241-7279

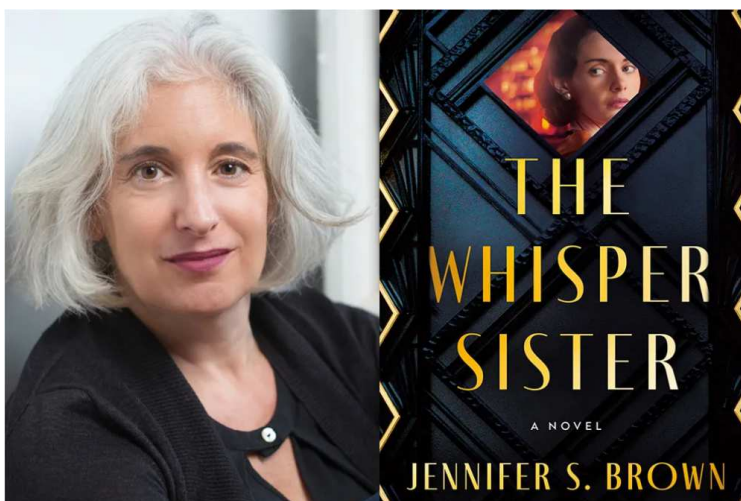
MEET THE AUTHOR **ZOOM EVENT ONLY!!**



CONGREGATION TORAT EL

Sunday, January 11, 11:00am

Meet Jennifer S. Brown, author of *The Whisper Sister*



The author of *Modern Girls* delivers *The Whisper Sister*, an atmospheric coming-of-age story set in Prohibition-era New York, tracing one immigrant family's fortunes and a young girl's journey from the schoolyard to the speakeasy.

The streets of New York in 1920 are most certainly not paved with gold, as Minnie Soffer learns when she arrives at Ellis Island. Her father, who left Ukraine when Minnie was a toddler, feels like a stranger. She sleeps on a mattress on the kitchen floor. She understands nothing at school. They came to America for this?

As her family adjusts to this new life, Minnie and her brother work hard to learn English and make friends. When her father, Ike, opens his own soda shop, stability and citizenship seem within reach. But the soda shop is not what it seems; it's a front for Ike's real moneymaker: a speakeasy.

When tragedy strikes the Soffers, Minnie has no choice but to take over the bar. She's determined to make the speakeasy a success despite the risks it brings to herself, her family, and her freedom. At what price does the American dream come true? Minnie won't stop until she finds out.

Jennifer S. Brown's debut novel, *Modern Girls*, was a USA Today bestseller, a Massachusetts Book Award "Must Read," and a 2016 Goodreads Choice semifinalist for Historical Fiction. *The Whisper Sister* is her second historical novel. Jennifer teaches writing, both in person in the Boston area and online through the Loft Literary Center.

Buy your copy of her book from Bookshop.org (to support independent bookstores) or amazon.com.

**No charge for this event but reservations required to receive Zoom link.
Reservations at www.mta.torat-el.org**

This ongoing series has been made possible by a grant from the B'nai Sholom/Beth El Foundation.



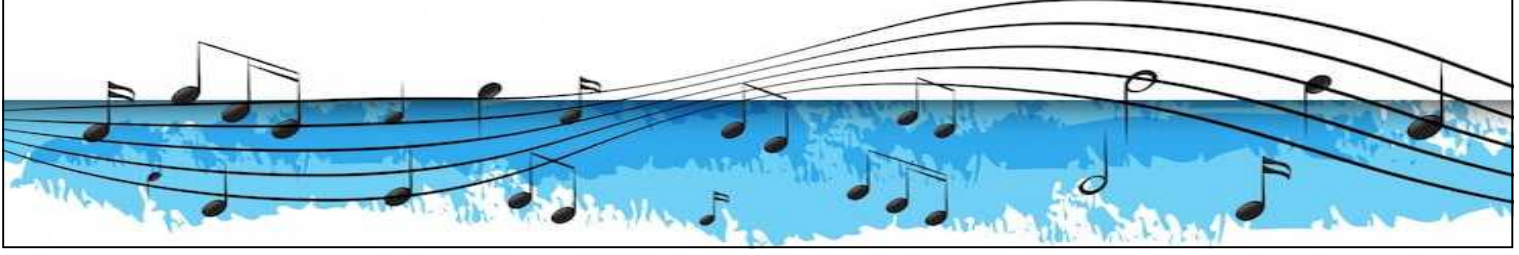
HAZAK PRESENTS..

FRED MILLER, LECTURES-IN-SONG

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 3:00pm

DESSERT will be SERVED

THERE is NO CHARGE for this PROGRAM but
for PLANNING PURPOSES,
RESERVATIONS ARE REQUESTED by JANUARY 14.



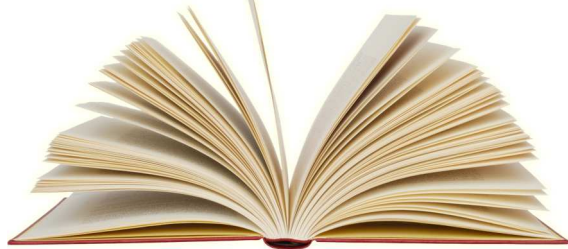
Join our Social Action Committee at Fulfill

Monday, January 19

Shift times and details to follow

To volunteer or for more information
contact Nancy Redman at nbredman@aol.com

MEET THE AUTHOR **ZOOM EVENT ONLY!!**



CONGREGATION TORAT EL

Sunday, January 25, 11:00am

Welcome back Ronald Balson, author of *The Righteous*



At the end of 1943, nearly all of Europe's Jewish population had been deported, captured or killed by Hitler, or had fled; only Hungary retained almost 800,000 Jews. They lived under edicts and restrictions, but without fear of being murdered. That changed in 1944, after the Nazi defeat at Stalingrad, as a desperate Hitler accelerated his plan for mass extermination.

With the notorious Adolf Eichmann supervising the process, Hungary began rounding up its Jewish population. In this dramatic new novel by Ronald H. Balson, *The Righteous*, US State Department diplomat Teddy Hartigan and his wife Julia set out to rescue as many people as they can. Working with the newly-formed War Review Board, diplomats from neutral nations, and underground resistance groups, Teddy and Julia make contact with Swedish businessman Raoul Wallenberg. Wallenberg's connections and skills make him the perfect candidate to work within the complex network of public and secret diplomacy, as he, Teddy, Julia, and others take enormous risks to save tens of thousands of lives.

Ronald H. Balson is an attorney, professor, and writer. His novel *The Girl From Berlin* won the National Jewish Book Award and was the Illinois Reading Council's adult fiction selection for the Illinois Reads program. He is also the author of *Eli's Promise*, a Target Book Club selection, *A Place to Hide*, *An Affair of Spies*, *Defending Britta Stein*, *Karolina's Twins*, *The Trust*, *Saving Sophie*, and the international bestseller, *Once We Were Brothers*. He lives in Chicago.

Buy your copy of his book from Bookshop.org (to support independent bookstores) or amazon.com.

**No charge for this event but reservations required to receive Zoom link.
Reservations at www.mta.torat-el.org**

This ongoing series has been made possible by a grant from the B'nai Sholom/Beth El Foundation.



Mah-Jongg Madness 2026

7 Rounds of play (4 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon with lunch in the middle)

\$\$ Cash Prizes will be Awarded \$\$

Sunday, March 15th

Congregation Torat El

301 Monmouth Rd, Oakhurst, NJ 07755

8:30-4:30

Play begins at 9:00 a.m. SHARP

Register by March 1st

Please RSVP by mail only using registration form below

Registration Fee: \$48.00 CTE Sisterhood Members, \$55.00 for Non-Members

Fee includes entrance, light breakfast nosh & lunch

*******Remember to bring your 2025 card*******

Questions? Contact Carol Klein at:

732-213-7434 or carolklein725@gmail.com

Mah Jongg Madness Reservation Form (Return this portion of flyer only)

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Check Amount \$ _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Current CTE Sisterhood Member? Yes or No (please circle one)

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***Being East requires bringing a Mah Jongg set and assisting with scoring.**

Mail completed form along with check made payable to: CTE Sisterhood

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No Refunds will be given for cancels within 3 weeks of Tournament

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Congregation Torat El General Fund

In Honor of:

Fran Meyer by ***Linda & Paul Mayerowitz***

The birth of Jeanne & Rick Isaacson's granddaughter by ***Maura & Jeff Resnikoff***

Michael Breslow being named CTE Men's Club's Man of the Year by ***Jay-Ann & Harvey Shooman***

Myron & Ellen Samuel's grandson's engagement by ***Jay-Ann & Harvey Shooman***

Marvin Talansky's retirement by ***Jay-Ann & Harvey Shooman***

Rabbi Ellen Wolintz-Fields's marvelous D'var Torah by ***Marcia & Douglas Sacks***

In Memory of:

Ruth Eilenberg – mother of Matthew Eilenberg by ***Neil & Marcia Weitzenkorn & Family***

Shirley Sachs by ***Maura & Jeff Resnikoff***

Rabbi Schonbrun's Discretionary Fund

Marc & Joan Feldman, Bryan & Doni Epstein

Garden Fund

In Honor of:

Tanis Deitch for her wonderful Hazak program by ***Marjorie & Stanley Cotler***

In Memory of:

Jeannette Sandler Feldman – mother of Marc Feldman by ***Sheryl Kaplan & Lonnie Zimmerman, Ellie & Michael Breslow***

Library Fund

In Memory of:

Sandy Epstein by ***Madeline & Joel Schulman***

JNF Trees

1 tree has been planted in memory of Bonnie Glass – niece of Stanley & Bobbi Meckler by ***Lesli & David Poznak***

1 tree has been planted in memory of Bonnie Glass – cousin of Carrie & Bruce Silverberg by ***Lesli & David Poznak***

2 trees have been planted in memory of Molly Rishty – mother of Esther Kassin by ***Margo Gelfman***

Adie Gordon Fund

In Memory of:

Adrienne Gordon – wife of Michael Gordon by ***Michael Gordon***

Fanny Osher – grandmother of Michael Gordon by ***Michael Gordon***

Samuel Osher – grandfather of Michael Gordon by ***Michael Gordon***

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January

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
				1 Temple Office Closed	2 Temple Office Closed Candle Lighting 4:22pm Shabbat Service 6:15pm	3 Shabbat Service 9:00am
4	5	6 Board of Trustees Mtg 7:30pm	7 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Religious School 4:15pm Adult Ed on Zoom 7:30pm	8 Sisterhood Mtg 7:15pm	9 Candle Lighting 4:28pm Shabbat Service 6:15pm	10 Shabbat Service 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am Musical Coffee House 7:30pm
11 Meet the Author on Zoom 11:00am	12	13 Ritual Mtg 7:30pm	14 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Knitting Circle 2:00pm Religious School 4:15pm Adult Ed on Zoom 7:30pm	15 Sisterhood Luncheon 12:00pm	16 Candle Lighting 4:36pm Shabbat Service 6:15pm	17 Shabbat Service 9:00am
18 Hazak Fred Miller Program 3:00pm	19 Temple Office Closed	20 Exec Board Mtg 7:30pm	21 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Religious School 4:15pm Adult Ed on Zoom 7:30pm	22	23 Candle Lighting 4:44pm R/S Family Friday Night Service 5:15pm Shabbat Service 6:15pm	24 Shabbat Service 9:00am
25 Meet the Author on Zoom 11:00am	26	27	28 Lunch & Learn 12:00pm Knitting Circle 2:00pm Religious School 4:15pm Adult Ed on Zoom 7:30pm	29	30 Candle Lighting 4:53pm Shabbat Service 6:15pm	31 Shabbat Service 9:00am Shabbat School 9:15am