



Image: a Playschool student poses with her mom and au pair at a Playschool End-of-Year Celebration!

SOCIETY HILL
SYNAGOGUE

KESHER

JUNE • JULY • AUGUST 2024 • • • SIVAN • TAMUZ • AV 5784

IN THIS ISSUE

MAKE NEW MEMORIES AT SOCIETY HILL SYNAGOGUE

HANHAGAH: NOTES FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

President Carmen Hayman	Pages 3-4
Rabbi Nathan Kamesar	Pages 5-7
Hazzan Jessi Roemer	Page 8

KEHILLAH: UPDATES FROM OUR COMMUNITY

Playschool	Page 9
Ann Spak Thal Hebrew School	Page 10
Coolanu	Page 11
L'Dor V'Dor: Generational Cohort Groups	Page 12
Member Spotlights	Pages 13-15
Congregation Annual Meeting Recap	Page 16
Inclusion Corner	Page 17

TIKKUN OLAM: SOCIAL ACTION

Food Insecurity Committee	Page 18
Vare-Washington Elementary School Committee	Page 18
POWER	Page 19

TODOT V'SIMHAS: THANKS AND CELEBRATIONS

Community News	Page 20
Summer Birthdays	Pages 21-22
Summer Anniversaries	Page 23
Contributions	Pages 24-25
Havdalah Down the Shore, Membership & High Holidays	Page 26
Summer Calendar At-A-Glance	Page 27



From the President's Desk

REFLECTIONS AND APPRECIATION

by Carmen Hayman

As we approach the end of another fiscal year and the end of my presidency, I am filled with gratitude and pride reflecting on our achievements and the unwavering spirit of our community. **This past year has been a testament to our collective strength, dedication, and commitment to our synagogue's values and mission.**

As I review the many wonderful services, special events, and celebrations our community has shared this past year, my heart is full. I have tried to highlight many of these in my *Kesher* articles and in announcements from the *bimah* when possible. There is no way to recap them all here, but let me give you a **general overview**:

- **17** Young Families Shabbat Celebrations
- **6** Hebrew School Class Services
- **10** *B'nei Mitzvah* services and celebrations
- **2** Scholar-in-residence weekends
- **2** Kiddush Lunch & Learns
- **1** Rabbi Installation Celebration
- **1** Open House Weekend

- **1** New Members TGIShabbat
- **8** Adult Education Courses
- **11** Coolanu Culture and Community Events
- **7** Young Friends Events
- **1** Choral Concert
- Holiday Celebrations: Sim^hat Torah, ^Hanukkah Happening, Rock Purimspiel and Purim Carnival, and Pesah^h Second Night Seder
- Multiple *Auf Rufs* and Baby Namings

This is not an exhaustive list but highlights the many wonderful ways we have been able to come together, in addition to weekly Shabbat services, this year. None of these would be possible without our amazing staff. First, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our esteemed clergy, **Rabbi Nathan Kamesar** and **Hazzan Jessi Roemer**. Your leadership, spiritual guidance, and unwavering support have been the cornerstone of our community. Through your wisdom and compassion, you have provided solace and inspiration, helping us navigate both joyous and challenging times. Your dedication to our spiritual growth and well-being has been truly remarkable.

To our devoted staff, I express my deepest appreciation for your hard work and commitment. Your behind-the-scenes efforts often go unnoticed, but they are vital to the operation of our synagogue. Your professionalism and enthusiasm ensure that our community continues to thrive. Your contributions are invaluable, and we are incredibly grateful for your service.



Society Hill Synagogue staff at Rabbi Nathan Kamesar's Installation Ceremony; Debbie Zak Cohen Photography.

Please join me in thanking Executive Director **Sahar Oz**, Office Administrator **Leanne Bendetti**, Staff Accountant **Rhonda Bello**, Communications Manager **LilyFish Gomberg**, Playschool Director **Megan Nachod** and the amazing **Playschool staff**, Hebrew School Director **Mike Roe** and his team of **talented teachers**, and last but not least, our beloved Custodial Supervisor, **Kenyatte Burton**, and his fantastic team of **Chris Norris**, **Katelyn Lopez**, and **Chris Collazo**.

We are truly so, so lucky to have each of them looking after our facilities and our community. I have loved the opportunity to work closely with each of these extraordinary individuals and to get to know them better.

I also want to acknowledge and thank our **members**. Your active participation, generosity, and support have been instrumental in growing our community. Whether through attending services, volunteering your time, or contributing financially, your involvement is the lifeblood of our synagogue. Your commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment has created a vibrant, caring, and connected community for all.



Society Hill Synagogue Board of Directors members who were able to attend Rabbi Nathan Kamesar's Installation Ceremony; Debbie Zak Cohen Photography.

This year, the **Board of Directors** has invested time to look at the leadership structure of Society Hill Synagogue. This process was important to ensure a strong foundation for our future. I was delighted to share more regarding our new organizational chart and how we plan to structure our committees and leadership.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the collective efforts of our clergy, staff, Board of Directors, and committee leaders. Each of you has played a crucial role in our success, and I am profoundly grateful for your contributions.

It is my honor and pleasure to **welcome Lisa Eizen as President of Society Hill Synagogue!** I am excited to serve as Immediate Past President and help Lisa implement her vision and strategies for our congregation.

As we look forward to the coming year, I am confident that our community will continue to grow and prosper. Together, we will embrace new opportunities, overcome challenges, and build upon the strong foundation we have established. I am excited about what the future holds for Society Hill Synagogue.



Outgoing President Carmen Hayman embraces incoming President Lisa Eizen at the Society Hill Synagogue Congregation Annual Meeting on June 5, 2024.

In closing, I want to thank my family, **Ric, Lily, and Jacob**, for their unwavering support over the past two years, and always.

I extend my sincere thanks to each and every one of you. Your dedication, passion, and generosity are what make Society Hill Synagogue a special place – our *Jewel of a Shul*.

It has been an honor and a joy to serve as your President.



Carmen Hayman presents the new organizational chart at our Congregation Annual Meeting on June 5, 2024.



From the Rabbi's Desk

RABBI'S REMARKS AT OUR CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

by Rabbi Nathan Kamesar

What a year it has been. I began my time as Rabbi of Society Hill Synagogue during the heart of the pandemic in 2020, and we hoped that that would be the last historic crisis we encountered, at least for a while. It turned out we — and the world — did not get much respite, if we ever do. The tragic events of October 7, 2023 changed the experience of being Jewish in America (to say nothing of being Jewish in Israel). Regardless of one's personal relationship to the State of Israel, or where one falls across the political spectrum — and we have a lot of diversity within this congregation — the horrific attack of October 7, and the subsequent war, put each of our relationships to Israel, whatever shape each of those relationships may take, right back at the center of our lives, calling upon each of us to ask what it means to be Jewish in the 21st century.

This congregation as a whole was no exception to confronting this challenge.

While sometimes our response to that challenge meant engaging with the events in Israel directly — I still remember changing our entire Simḥat

Torah program within hours of the event, transforming it from its typical exuberant, celebratory spirit to one of somber commemoration. And, as you know, I write weekly now with my own *divrei Torah*, words of reflection, on the State of Israel, the state of the world; something I never did before — sometimes this means doubling down on, recentering, the timeless rhythms of what it means to be Jewish: gathering together for Shabbat, for holidays, for lifecycle moments, and the daily practices and expressions of being Jewish, the ritual and the moral, and feeling the joy, the connections, the holiness that come from that experience.

Shabbat at Society Hill Synagogue

A few years ago, I said that for this community to thrive, and for us to succeed in our mission of enriching people's lives through the experience of Jewish community, we needed to **revitalize our experience of Shabbat**. Shabbat is the communal watering hole, the container of the Jewish soul, the holding space for how we engage with our Jewish tradition in a lived, sacred way. It's the

meeting point of **three key elements of Jewish tradition:**

- (1) T'filah:** prayer, music, reflection, the experience of holding space for the soul to explore itself in connection with others, and with the Divine;
- (2) Torah:** sacred learning—engaging deeply and intellectually with what our tradition has to teach us, and how we might bring those values to bear on ourselves and the world around us; and
- (3) Kehilah:** community. Sacred togetherness. The experience of feeling connected to a fabric of people, strengthening us when we're in need — and we're always in need — and strengthening them in return.

Society Hill Synagogue has been a model for demonstrating the capacity of Shabbat in strengthening a community.

This is true across generations. For our youngest community members, **Young Family Shabbat** gatherings led by **Micah and Joanna Hart** regularly bring in dozens, sometimes over 100 people, to experience the light and joy and music of Shabbat. This year, we expanded the program from a once monthly service on Friday

nights to include a monthly Saturday morning service as well. Many people have joined as members through this program.

From there, we have our **Ann Spak Thal Hebrew School**, for whom our immersive Shabbat Hebrew School experience is now a regular part of our learning. The students bring light and wisdom to our Torah discussion, and their families fill our social hall each Saturday afternoon for a life-filled *Kiddush* lunch. Our weekly Friday night TGShabbat services, from September through May, now incorporate two services per year partly led by each Hebrew School grade, bringing families out on Friday nights as well so everyone can celebrate through music and dinner.

And for adults, in addition to the intergenerational community and continuity of having younger families be present on Shabbat, we've also begun to invest more in expanded learning opportunities on Shabbat and beyond. This past year, we held two **Scholar-in-Residence weekends**, with renowned **Rabbis Michael Strassfeld** and **Simcha Raphael**, leaders in their fields, helping us to reflect on questions that confront us as we navigate the world today.

Jewish Learning

Synagogues should be a fount of learning across the generations.

We are faced with so many challenging questions in the world today: What does it mean to be Jewish? What is the Jewish story and how does it speak to this moment? How can we live out this story's values and intuitions, which includes our own values and intuitions, informed by the generations that came before us? How do we navigate the tensions, and complementary relationships, of being Jewish in a secular, universalistic, democratic society? What does Jewish history have to say about democracies being under threat? How do we understand a Jewish democracy being under threat, from without and within? How do we understand Zionism? What does that word mean, and how do we relate to it?

The Society Hill Synagogue community has the capacity to speak to all these questions and more, both as a beating heart of Jewish engagement in Philadelphia and as a place that gives us the strength and the ballast to confront these challenging yet life-enriching questions. I aspire to see Society Hill Synagogue as a community that continues to be associated with depth, **rigor, spirit, and joy**. We're shoring up the educational experiences up and down the generational spectrum at Society Hill Synagogue. We're continuing our partnership this year with the renowned educational organization, **Makom Community**, to help us rewrite our Hebrew School

curriculum, built around the principles of the Jewish story, and the values and responsibilities that flow from it.

We're also continuing to teach classes for our adult learners on everything from Zionism to our annual *Nuts and Bolts: A (Re)Introduction to Judaism*, to Hebrew language, and more. And this year, Hazzan Jessi and I are expanding our family education curriculum from one year to three years, so that parents have the opportunity to learn and build community with one another as they transition from the challenges and opportunities of moving from the pre-teen, pre-B'nei Mitzvah years, to the post-, and asking what that journey means for them and their children.

Communications

All of this would be limited in the scope of its success were it not for the approval by the Board of Directors first of the creation of a **Communications Committee** — with a number of you as volunteers — who crafted a new draft of marketing materials in partnership with an outside marketing firm, Greater Good Strategy, and then second, and more importantly, the approval of what this work paved the way for, which was the hiring of **our first full-time Communications Manager, LilyFish Gomberg**, who has advanced our digital storytelling capabilities by orders of magnitude, working under the

supervision of Sahar Oz. I am so proud of the work all of our communications volunteers and staff have contributed, spearheaded by LilyFish and Sahar. Thank you.

Our Holy Community

Speaking of storytelling, there is one moment from this year that, to me, tells the story of who Society Hill Synagogue is, at perhaps the most important place of a synagogue community: the home of a mourner. There we were at the home of longtime Society Hill Synagogue Religion Committee Co-Chair **Marc Schwartz**, Past President **Staci Schwartz**, and Hebrew School Gan Teacher **Jamie Schwartz**, sitting shivah for Marc's late mother, **Gloria**, *zikhronah livrakhah* (of blessed memory). We reached the end of our service, just before the closing Mourner's Kaddish, when we hold space for family and friends to offer words of comfort and consolation to the mourners. The room was overflowing with people, many of whom are congregants, and one of them, **Paula Ninerell**, raised her hand to speak. Noting that she didn't know Marc's mother, she nonetheless wanted to offer love and support to Marc, observing that if it weren't for Marc, who teaches the beginner's Hebrew class here at Society Hill Synagogue, she wouldn't have been able to participate in the very prayer service being held that evening

in his home. It was the confluence of those three key things that happen in Jewish community: **prayer, learning, and community**. That's the one moment that, for me, most embodied the spirit of Society Hill Synagogue this year.

There is so much you do and don't know about Carmen. You likely do know she's quick to tear up, but do you know that she's present at so much of what takes place here at Society Hill Synagogue; do you know she's given a lifetime of service to this community?

You may not know all of the skills she brings to bear on this role of President, all of the accomplishments she's stewarded on our behalf, all of the quiet ways she shows up. **Carmen understands leadership, intuitively**. All of the presidents I've worked with have faced steep challenges: **Debbie Stewart** faced declining membership; **Harry Oxman**, the retirement of our Rabbi and Executive Director; **Jeremey Newberg**, the Capital Campaign and the pandemic; **Carmen** began the job as president and discovered that the contracts of the three top leadership positions at the synagogue — Rabbi, Executive Director, Hazzan — were all expiring, and managed to quietly, without fanfare, and with consensus and support from the Executive Committee, negotiate three long-term contracts to keep the

leadership in place and invested in the future of our shul.

This year, Carmen took on the laborious task, which she demonstrated tonight, of bringing our leadership structure into the 21st century. No one asked her to do this; this isn't the kind of work that gets your name on the front page of the *Jewish Exponent* or on a building. It's the quiet work of making sure we remain organized and strong as we continue to grow into the future.

Now, if it were just these big ticket items, *dayenu*, that would be enough, but Carmen is also present on the small scale, the quiet moments as well: she's the first to show up at the home of a sick congregant, the first to volunteer for an open greeter slot at Shabbat services, or a food packing shift at Old Pine Community Center, first to reach out if there is someone who needs support.

With her family and with her community, Carmen shows up, time and again, to embody the spirit of Society Hill Synagogue.

At Friday night prayer. **T'filah**. Saturday morning learning. **Torah**. And in community. **Kehilah**. We are grateful to her for her service. Thank you.

Thank you to all of you for the ways you embody the spirit of community here.

Shalom!



From the Hazzan's Desk **FOLLOW THE MUSIC!** by Hazzan Jessi Roemer

Looking Toward Autumn

Summer just started, but I'm already looking ahead to resuming TGIShabbat and other programs in September! I especially want to put **Erev S'lihot** (Saturday, September 28) on your radar. Jewish tradition holds that **during Elul, the Hebrew month preceding the New Year, "the Sovereign is in the field" — meaning YHVH, the Source of Life, is thought to be closest to our hearts.** With this in mind, Jews traditionally spend the entire month of Elul correcting their relationships with the land and with each other.

In Ashkenazi tradition, *Erev S'lihot* is a culmination of that effort, a time to gather in spiritual preparation for the Days of Awe. At Society Hill Synagogue, we do this through music: **for nine years now, Society Hill Synagogue has partnered with congregations BZBI and Leyv Ha-Ir to create a very special musical gathering on Erev S'lihot.** It is an event not to be missed, an evening of communal song and moments of meaning led by professional spiritual artists and musicians from our three congregations and beyond! Even if you've never heard of *S'lihot*, I encourage you to experience it!

Until then, may summer bring joy and light, and I'll see you on Saturday mornings!

We are cultivating fabulous musical traditions at Society Hill Synagogue!

Our **TGIShabbat** services have taken off — on Friday night, Society Hill Synagogue is undoubtedly the place to be! I am grateful to our fabulous musical ensemble for another year of inspiring music, as well as our **Rabbi**, our **incredible staff** and **sound assistant**, our **Friday Night Levites**, our **Board of Directors**, and **YOU, the community**, for showing up, sponsoring *Oneg* dinners, participating, and sharing prayer, song, and food!

And of course, our twice-monthly musical services for **Young Families** are their own happening scene – thank you, as always, to **Micah and Joanna Hart** for continuing to lead this thriving program!

On May 19, over 110 people attended a wonderful concert in our Sanctuary by the New Jersey-based **Sharim v'Sharot Choir!** Thanks again to Society Hill Synagogue members **Steve Cohen, Naomi Basickes, Ellen Fennick, and Marty Rosenberg** for bringing your beloved choir to perform at Society Hill Synagogue!

Summer Rhythms

We have now moved into our summer rhythm: Saturday morning services continue throughout the summer, while we pause Hebrew School, TGIShabbat, and Adult Education to allow the clergy, teachers, and staff some rest and focused planning time for the year ahead. In addition to weekly Saturday morning services this summer, we will gather for our annual **Erev Tishah b'Av commemoration in the Sanctuary on the evening of Monday, August 12.** If you are in the city, I invite you to join us for *Tishah b'Av* – an intimate, reflective gathering centered on readings, music, and chanting the ancient text of Lamentations in its own beautiful trope (cantillation).



Sharim v'Sharot performing in our historic Sanctuary on May 19; submitted.



Society Hill Synagogue Playschool

FUN IN THE SUN AT SUMMER CAMP

by Megan Nachod



Our summer camp is in full swing, and we are busy enjoying as much of the summer weather as possible. Between water play, our trips to neighborhood parks, and weekly themes like dinosaurs, sharks, construction, and gardening, we are looking forward to a summer filled with fun and laughter — plus lots of sunscreen! We are so fortunate to have all of these outdoor spaces at and near our synagogue, and we intend to enjoy every moment of them that we can.



A Pre-K student receives his certificate and workbook from a Playschool teacher at the Milky Way class' end-of-year celebration.



A Playschool student throws cherry blossoms in the air during outdoor play this spring.

Summer has just begun, but we know that the school year is around the corner. We have been doing a lot of planning for the 2024-2025 school year, and **our teaching team** is a group of tremendous professionals. We have Lead Teachers with Master's Degrees, experience in Applied Behavioral Analysis, backgrounds teaching a wide range of ages and grades, as well as a teacher with 16 years' experience at our school. Many of our Assistant Teachers hold a BA in fields related to education, and they include art educators and performers. These faculty members help to create an environment of warmth,

compassion, and learning throughout the whole school.

This year, our school earned the **Certificate of Compliance from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services**. The process of applying for the Certificate involved examining every practice of our program to ensure that it met the standards required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I am very proud of all the work that we did together to ensure our school achieved this, especially our teachers' contributions to the process.

**Wishing you sunshine, smiles,
and so many fun summer days!**



Ann Spak Thal Hebrew School

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER: MAZAL TOV AND TODAH RABAH!

by Mike Roe

The bittersweet moment of reflection at the end of a school year always manages to sneak up on me. Our year ended with celebration as our students stuffed themselves with ice cream — a fitting end to a year stuffed with excitement and celebration! There is much to be thankful for this year and many people to acknowledge for their hard work as we wrap up our year. I want to start off by thanking **our students**. We are so lucky to get to spend our time with your spirit, energy, and insightful contributions each week. **Parents and families**, thank you for your continued support of our school. We thank you for entrusting us with the important task of guiding and educating your children.

We are fortunate to have a staff of such talented and dedicated teachers. They work tirelessly each week to enable our school to run smoothly and to make Jewish education meaningful. Thank you to **Jamie Schwartz, Jason Roe, Rose Schonfeld, Jacob Hayman, Megan Nachod, Morgan Cepollina, Lily Hayman, Halana Dash, Dionna Dash, Alicia Rosenbaum, Elena Marcovici, Gabe Stemmer, and Larry Kaplan**, and also to our

wonderful teen aides, who spend time working with our youngest students each week: **Emma Schwartz Chrismer, Samuel Hamilton, and Dylan Howe**. Emma and Samuel recently graduated from high school and are moving on to college, and Alicia is moving this summer. We'll miss you all, and we wish you good luck!

Lastly, I would like to extend thanks to our **entire synagogue community**. Our Shabbat regulars, Torah discussion participants, guests, and everyone who attended services on Shabbat. You are always so generous with sharing your thoughts and appreciation of our students. They are very lucky to be part of a community that values them and what they have to say, which is why they feel so comfortable sharing each week.

We have two groups of students who have reached milestones in their Jewish and secular education. To our students who completed **Kitah Zayin** (7th grade), thank you for making our Hebrew School your home for the past few years. We look forward to seeing you next year in Hebrew High. To our **students graduating high school**, *mazal*

tov to all of you and your families! We hope to hear more about your journeys as you move on to your next adventures. We wish you all the best!

Before our year ended, the students met to decide on how to donate their *tz'dakah* donations for this school year. After meeting in groups and discussing multiple options, they decided to split their contributions in half between the **Jewish Relief Agency** and **Magen David Adom**. For families that were unable to donate *tz'dakah* at the end of the school year, you can still donate through the synagogue payment portal. Please make sure to label any donation as "Hebrew School Tz'dakah."

We are already working toward the 5785 (2024-2025) school year and are excited for our future. **Our enrollment forms are available on our website!**

I hope everyone has an enjoyable summer, and I look forward to seeing you all at our first day of school on Saturday, September 7, 2024.

Coolanu: Culture and Community

TAKE US OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

by Elliot Landes and Lesli Reich

Spring Events Recap

In March, the **Hamantaschen Bake-off** took place during the dinner preceding our **Rock Purimspiel**. Morgan Landes was the victor for the second year in a row. The winning cookie was a key lime pie hamantaschen. We hope you'll consider baking an entry next year!



Some of the hamantaschen from our Bake-Off; submitted.

In April, we had a sold-out **Architecture and Public Sculpture walking tour** led by **Marty Rosenberg** and **Carter Reich**. It was an immersive trip through the architectural history of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway area. Last fall, Marty and Carter led a tour of Market East, and we hope they will continue this excellent series to other parts of the city. Keep an eye out for future tours!

In May, **Caryn Alter** and **Steve Cohen** gave a presentation titled "**Jews Clues: An Introduction to Jewish Genealogy**." Steve and Caryn explored some genealogical clues that might be "right under your nose."

In early June, **Jerry Silverman** led congregants on a **walking tour of Philadelphia's Old Jewish Quarter**.



A photo from a past Jewish Heritage Night of the Phillie Phanatic holding an Israeli flag.

Summer Fun

On June 18, a group of 40 Society Hill Synagogue members and friends are headed to the **Phillies Jewish Heritage Night**. Tickets went incredibly quickly this year, so make sure you act early next year. What a season the Phillies are having! GO PHILS!

Coolanu events are taking a small break over the summer, but there are still plenty of opportunities for fun at Society Hill Synagogue all summer long. Keep checking the eNews and peruse this *Kesher* for exciting things happening in our community!

We will plan our fall calendar very soon.

If you have ideas or would like to join the Coolanu Committee, we want to hear from you.

Reach out to Elliot (elliotlandes@gmail.com) or Lesli (leslireich2@gmail.com). Have a great summer!



Marty Rosenberg speaking to the crowd on the Architecture and Public Sculpture walking tour; submitted.



YOUNG FRIENDS

The Young Friends of Society Hill Synagogue, led by **Anna Wiener** and **Alexis Rosen**, bring together **20- and 30-somethings** (singles and couples) for Shabbat dinners, holiday celebrations, happy hours, and other gatherings.

If you would like to learn more and get to know fellow 20- and 30-somethings in a fun, welcoming ambiance, please contact Anna and Alexis: youngfriendsatshs@gmail.com.

We look forward to getting to know you!

YOUNG FAMILIES

Led by Society Hill Synagogue parents **Joanna and Micah Hart**, our Young Families Group is a warm and welcoming "community within the community" geared toward families with children from newborns to 6-year-olds.

Our **Young Families Shabbat** celebrations in the courtyard (or social hall, depending on weather) blend guitar grooves, singing, instruments for all ages, blessings, dancing, and the company of new friends and familiar faces! A delicious dairy vegetarian dinner or lunch is always included.

TRIPLE CHAI

Join us for a day of history on **Sunday, July 21 at noon**. We will begin with a **guided tour of the historic Powel House** (224 S. 3rd St.). Discover fascinating insights into the rich history of this 18th-century mansion with a 45 minute tour, for just \$5/person.

After the tour, we will head over to **National Mechanics** for a delicious lunch and an opportunity to socialize with fellow congregants.

Don't miss this chance to explore local history and enjoy great company. RSVP to **Robin Cohen** at rocoh44@gmail.com.



Images were captured at Friday Young Families Shabbat gatherings, before the sun set.

JUNE • JULY • AUGUST 2024 • • • SIVAN • TAMUZ • AV 5784



MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



Every week, Society Hill Synagogue spotlights one of our marvelous members on social media and in our eNews! Here are the members who have been spotlit this past quarter.

You can learn more about them on our social media or at societyhillssynagogue.org/member-spotlights



JAMIE SCHWARTZ

"I love that I've gotten to grow up in this wonderful community! From starting out in the Playschool and Sunday School, going all the way through Hebrew School and Hebrew High, and then working as a teacher's aide and camp counselor, I have lots of fun memories here, so it is a very cool full-circle moment to be teaching the Gan class now!"

PAULA NINERELL

"I joined Society Hill Synagogue because of the way I felt when I walked into our Sanctuary the first time; the simplicity, the music, the members, and the clergy. I also love the Adult Education programs, in particular Nuts and Bolts on Zoom during COVID with Rabbi Kamesar. It was uplifting and connecting during a very isolating time."



TIM CRAVENS

"Society Hill Synagogue is a very warm community of loving, caring seekers of Jewish wisdom and spirituality in which people are invited to grow in their relationship with one another, themselves, and the Jewish tradition at their own pace and in ways that are personally meaningful."

NEIL COHEN

"We have an amazing Rabbi, Hazzan, and Executive Director! They are talented, focused, and totally committed to making this the best holy community for ALL congregants. I am also so grateful to be working with an incredible group of lay leaders: past and current president on down. They have become friends and extended family!"



JARED SUSCO

"Society Hill Synagogue is a community committed to Jewish life and growth, where I know that my family and I truly belong."



LILLIAN HAYMAN (LILY)

"I love Society Hill Synagogue because of all of the amazing members of our community. From the members I see regularly at Shabbat Saturday morning services to folks I am continuing to meet, our community here is like no other. With the constant stream of inclusion, love, and support, I am so thankful to call Society Hill Synagogue my community."



LINDA JOY GOLDNER

"I joined Society Hill Synagogue due to our members' warmth, curiosity, wide interests, deep engagement in meaningful pursuits, broad diversity, and great intelligence."



ELANA HUNTER

"My kids have had terrific experiences at the Ann Spak Thal Hebrew School, including the outstanding B'nei Mitzvah prep program. Celebrating with family, friends, and our Society Hill Synagogue community at my children's B'nei Mitzvah were some of the happiest experiences of my life!"



ARIANA EIZEN

"I love coming to Society Hill Synagogue to see my friends and spend time with my grandparents. I have been coming here since I was born and my brother was in the Playschool. I couldn't wait to attend Playschool, and now I try to come back to visit my teacher, Ms. Ali, when I am off from school."





MICAH AND JOANNA HART

"When we first moved to Philly, we were overwhelmed with Jewish choices! In Charlottesville, there was one synagogue serving a tight-knit Jewish community, with many traditions to accommodate. Here, we found a growing Jewish community that felt small enough to be home and with traditions and approaches that felt comfortable and familiar."

ELLEN FENNICK

"Society Hill Synagogue is a community where I can be the kind of Jew that I want to be. The environment itself is so friendly and engaging; people can sit with anyone at meals, and we always have really great conversations with everyone we sit with."



MICHAEL ROE

"I first came to Society Hill Synagogue when I was in 8th grade as part of the BZBI and Society Hill Synagogue joint Hebrew High program. I actually met my wife, Joy, in 9th grade in our Social Hall!"

STEVE COHEN

"I joined Society Hill Synagogue because it's progressive, and proud to be so. I also like that we are an independent congregation, and thus not subject to the '*khisroynes*' (faults) of a larger movement."



DAVID PRESSEL

"I joined Society Hill Synagogue because it was a welcoming place when I was saying *Kaddish* for my late wife, Karen. Since that time, I've been blessed to find my second *besht* (soulmate), Jill Feldman, who is also a member of Society Hill Synagogue."

CONGREGATION ANNUAL MEETING

On Wednesday, June 5, the Society Hill Synagogue community gathered for our Congregation Annual Meeting to celebrate collective achievements and plan for the future. The evening began with a delightful dinner fostering fellowship among attendees. The meeting highlighted the community's commitment to strengthening our foundation, with updates and important votes. This past year, our focus has been on enhancing governance structures to better leverage the talents of volunteers, clergy, and staff.

A major achievement was the revision of the bylaws, undertaken by a dedicated committee led by **Lesli Reich, David Ladov, and Nella Bloom**. The revised bylaws, approved by the Board of Directors in May, were officially voted on at the meeting.

In addition, we celebrated the impactful and inspiring contributions of three dedicated congregants with the **Extraordinary Service Award**. To read about each of these honorees, please scan the QR code to the right.



Ellen Fennick



Lesli Reich



Barbara Spector

Another highlight was the election of new leadership. **Lisa Eizen** was elected as the new President of Society Hill Synagogue. Additionally, new **Board of Directors** members were elected: **Len Friedland, Harry Oxman, Lesli Reich, Becky Rohtbart, and Nella Bloom** (as Solicitor). Re-elected Board members include **Neil Cohen, Micah Hart, Rafi Licht, Judy Lalli, Harvey Weiner, Laurie Krivo, Jared Susco, and David Levine**, and continuing Board members include **Elana Hunter, Anna Wiener, David Ladov, Robin Feinberg, and Dawn Mechanic-Hamilton**.

The success of the Annual Meeting is a testament to our vibrant and engaged congregation. Together, we continue the sacred work of building and nurturing our Jewish community.

The Inclusion Corner

***OHEL PATU'AH* – THE OPEN TENT**

by the Inclusion Steering Committee

Recognizing that our synagogue and the surrounding community were established on land originally belonging to the Lenape people, the Inclusion Committee is exploring what it could mean if Society Hill Synagogue were to adopt a land acknowledgment statement. What should we learn to have an informed conversation? Could this be a call to action? Could it foster educational opportunities within our community or lend support to efforts of the Lenape of Pennsylvania or indigenous communities across the country?

Updates from our Subcommittees:

Interfaith Inclusion

At a Lunch and Learn on May 11, the Interfaith Inclusion Subcommittee presented *Wrestling with Tradition: Sharing Interfaith Issues and Experiences*. Panelists including **Samuel Hamilton, Morgan Landes, Holman Massey, Marty Rosenberg, and Staci Schwartz** — along with moderator and lunch sponsor **Jared Susco** — shared stories about their personal interfaith or “inter-observant” challenges and relationships. Audience members responded warmly with their own stories and thoughtful observations. Abundant wisdom and many imaginative ideas were shared!

Disability Inclusion

Our synagogue purchased an **evacuation chair**, located behind the *tallit* rack, so in the event of an emergency when elevators are shut down, anyone who is unable to walk down stairs can be safely evacuated. To use the chair, simply unfold the seat from the backrest, buckle in the person being transported, and then use the extendable handles to carry the chair.

“Zoom Etiquette 101” is available on the synagogue website to provide people on Zoom — as well as those present in classrooms and meetings



Custodian Katelyn Lopez sits in our emergency evacuation chair, carried by Office Administrator Leanne Bendetti and Custodial Supervisor Kenyatte Burton.



where Zoom is being used — with helpful tips to make in-person and remote experiences better for everyone.

Inclusion of People of Color

In our monthly meetings, we have been exploring our goals and setting our agenda. Meeting participants enjoy discussing and debating issues raised in relevant source materials. Looking forward, we will plan a fall conversational dinner that will include screening a sermon from a rabbi of color and a spring event that introduces the synagogue to the many hues of Jews around the world.

Gender Equity and LGBTQ+ Inclusion

In conjunction with our Steering Committee, we will be reaching out to stakeholders in the synagogue to explore ways in which we can expand understanding of inclusion and Jewish diversity among our children and youth and to facilitate their engagement in special synagogue programs.

If you would like to participate in the Inclusion Committee or a Subcommittee conversation, please contact Debbie Stewart at beachethic@gmail.com.



Vare-Washington Elementary School Committee

SEEKING SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS by Diane Harrison

Where

Vare-Washington Elementary School is looking for volunteers to help out in classrooms for the 2024-2025 school year.

Vare-Washington is conveniently located less than a mile south of Society Hill Synagogue at 5th and Federal Streets and serves a diverse community of students.

When

Head Start Pre-K: Any time between 8:30 am and 1:00 pm, Monday through Friday. A weekly (or bi-weekly) commitment is preferred.

Kindergarten - 8th grade:

Days and times are flexible, but a weekly (or bi-weekly) commitment is preferred.

What

Pre-K: The Pre-K teachers would love help supervising children, keeping children engaged in classroom learning projects, preparing educational materials, and maintaining order and cleanliness in the classroom.

K-8: Varies with class and teacher, but includes 1:1 reading and math assistance.

Requirements

No experience needed, but to volunteer in a School District of Philadelphia school, you must complete a set of volunteer clearances, which are good for five years. Assistance with the paperwork can be provided.

Contact

If you are interested or want more information, please contact congregant Diane Harrison or reach out to our synagogue office at office@societyhillssynagogue.org.

Food Insecurity Committee

FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS

Society Hill Synagogue continues to expand our collaboration with **Old Pine Community Center (OPCC)** by providing healthy food with dignity to neighbor households in the Courtyard Apartments. We just increased from packing groceries for 75 families per week to 100 – that is 20% of all households living in the apartment complex! Stay tuned for more growth soon, including preparation of small meals. Since the last Keshet, our work with OPCC has also expanded to provide food bags to 50 Vare-Washington Elementary School

families once a month during the school year. Thank you to all of our experienced and new volunteers for making a difference in our community.

We are excited that OPCC will be honoring our great work with them as the **Inaugural Partner Awardee at their 47th Anniversary Celebration** in September!

How can you contribute?

1) Volunteer to pack and prepare food at Old Pine Community Center any Tuesday afternoon from 4:00-5:30 pm

(see the eNews for a new time later this summer). You must register in advance using the provided link.

2) Donate to the Society Hill Synagogue Food Insecurity Fund, through your dues or as a direct donation. The synagogue purchases fresh foods that are highly desired by families (eggs and bread) to include in the grocery bags.

Get In Touch

If you have questions, contact Bob Kaufman or Laurie Krivo at rlkaufman758@gmail.com and lkkrivo758@gmail.com, respectively.



POWER

VICTORIES AND CHALLENGES IN SOCIAL JUSTICE

by Wendy Greenspan

POWER Interfaith has been fighting for racial and economic justice on a livable planet since 2010.

This is hard work, but POWER claims many victories!

Education Justice

The Education Justice Team was a key player in creating and passing Pennsylvania's Fair Funding Formula for Basic Education. Last year, a Commonwealth Court ruled that Pennsylvania's school funding system is unconstitutional. This year, the Basic Education Funding Commission issued a report that exposed a \$5.4 billion school funding gap in Pennsylvania.

Economic Dignity

The Economic Dignity Team was instrumental in raising Philadelphia's minimum wage to 150% of the federal minimum wage (plus benefits) for city employees, contractors, and any organization housed on city property. In one of its earliest campaigns, POWER enabled Philadelphia International Airport workers to organize unions resulting in a 250% wage increase, plus sick time and benefits.

Climate Justice and Jobs (CJJ)

The Climate Justice and Jobs Team played a pivotal role in the EPA's investigation into environmental racism at the SEPTA gas plant in Nicetown. In 2023, the team intervened in the Public Utility Commission's (PUC) review of PGW's requested 10.2% rate increase, resulting in a much lower 3.5% increase. In April, the CJJ team brought approximately 175 people to PECO public input hearings, with 74 testifying in support of affordable, renewable energy for all. At the in-person hearing, Rabbi Avi Winokur spoke powerfully about PECO's moral obligation to its customers and to the planet!



Photo courtesy of Wendy Greenspan

Justice Reform

The Live Free (Justice Reform) Team helped institute the Philadelphia Civilian Police Oversight Commission. They successfully advocated for Governor Wolf to veto the State Police Anonymity Bill, which would have made it a felony to release the name of a police officer involved in a civilian killing.

Voter Engagement

The Voter Engagement Team reached out to 300,000 voters in 2021. The team engaged voters in 17 counties through the Freedom Express Bus Tour in 2022, 700 motorcycle clubs with Black Bikers Vote, and 100 faith communities to learn about White Christian Nationalism and how to resist it. The Voter Engagement Team is gearing up for a strong Get Out the Vote campaign in the 2024 general election.

While there have been many accomplishments, there is always more work to be done!

To get involved with POWER, go to www.powerinterfaith.org or contact Wendy Greenspan at wgreenspan72@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Welcome New Members:

Danny Belinkie and Joanna Parga-Belinkie
and their children, Mira, Simon, and Zelda

Felise and Holden Nagelberg
and their children, Marin, Maya, and Ethan

Alex Imas and Aislinn Bohren
and their children, Saul and Oran

Hannah Rosenberg and Bryce Loebel
and their daughter, Sivan

Benjamin Cohen and Stacey Ramirez



Mazal Tov to:

Bonnie and Harvey Weiner on the birth of their
granddaughter, Chloe Isabella Weiner

Megan Helzner and Jason Flamendorf on the birth
of their daughter, Claire Miriam Flamendorf

Maxine Mann and Jay Goodman and their
daughters, Mallory, Rebecca, Samantha, and
Sydney, on Maxine and Jay's wedding

Laurie Krivo and Bob Kaufman on the birth of their
granddaughter, Mira Faye Kaufman-Stewart

David and Pam Levine on the birth of their
granddaughter, Leia Sydelle Ruddy-Levine

Max Genecov and Casey Leeds and their son, Zev,
on Max and Casey's wedding

Condolences to:

Beverly Michaels and her children, Julia Michaels-Koenig (Scott Koenig), Annika Michaels, and Carolyn Michaels, and grandchildren, Lysander, Edgar, and Cora Michaels-Koenig, on the passing of Beverly's husband, Geoffrey Michaels

Helaine nee Shoag, her children Bettina Greenberg (Steven D'Agustino) and Jeffrey Greenberg (Terese Svensson), and grandchildren Gillian and Matthew Shenkman and Alexander and Adam Greenberg, on the passing of Halaine's husband, Jack Greenberg

Hop Sears and Randi Kamine and their family on the passing of their grandson, Solas Lange Sears

Susan and Stew Fisher and their family on the passing of Susan's father, Edward Greenberg

Ron and Robin Feinberg and their family on the passing of Ron's father, Saul Feinberg

Marc and Staci Schwartz and their daughter, Jamie, and their family on the passing of Marc's mother, Gloria Schwartz

Jerry Kranzel and Rian Berger and their children, Alexander and Jenavieve, and their family on the passing of Jerry's mother, Myra Kranzel



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June Birthdays

Hannah Cohen
 Joyce Norden
 Eli Oz
 Rachel Robbins
 Sarah Hersh
 Suzanne Sztul
 Shane Malach
 Bonnie Weiner
 David Weinfeld
 Lara Goldwert
 Stephen Silberstein
 Leonard Pogach
 Ira Richards
 Jack Aaron
 Jud Aaron
 Francine Cohen
 Lila Kamesar
 Dan Rottenberg
 Robert Behar
 Robin Feinberg
 Andrew Hohns
 Maddie Sweitzer
 Fred Lovitch
 Matthew Skolnik
 Deena Friedland
 Adina Goldstein
 Maya Salzman
 Jasmin Schoenhaus
 Elizabeth Heller-Mesznik
 Noah Kauderwood
 Stephen Cohen
 Chuck Schaeffer
 Nick Schaeffer
 Benny Herrmann
 Hop Sears
 Tal Pipano
 Leo Skolnik
 Hannah Angert
 Michael Davidson
 Micah Honig

Jenavieve Kranzel
 Eve Friedman
 Beverly Levy
 Asa Schneeberg
 David Serlin
 Anna Wiener
 Ezra Goldenberg
 Ramin Mohajer
 Todd Borow
 Gabriel Cohen
 Ralph Horwitz
 Lesli Reich
 Noah Goldstein
 Samuel Hamilton
 Olivia Grode
 Marlene Lachman
 Judith Axler
 Esther Bisker
 Len Friedland
 Libby Cone
 Daniel Gross
 Stephen Shiekman
 Philip Wiener

July Birthdays

Neil Epstein
 Eva Mohajer
 Emilio Robbins
 Charlie Dreisbach
 Carmen Hayman
 Noah Kornblith Pulido
 Ruth Schneeberg
 Noah Davidson
 Claire Golding
 Melissa Kessler
 Stefanie Seldin
 Valerie Yasner
 Alton Sutnick
 Joseph Gifford
 Carla Krasnick

Marsha Silberstein
 Michael Gorsen
 Eva Kornblith Pulido
 Mitchell Bach
 Seth Cohen
 Rise Newman
 Lilly Tablin-Wolf
 Shelley Aronson
 Karl Janowitz
 Matthew Zalesne Siff
 Dan Litwack
 Marc Schwartz
 William Fedullo
 Max Genecov
 Alexis Kornberg
 Betty van de Rijn
 Juliet Englander
 Matthew Morano
 Judith Woloff
 Joe Oxman
 Marilyn Schapira
 Violet Goldstein
 Harry Oxman
 Jim Wilson
 Naomi Basicckes
 Aaron Peskin
 Abigail Hamilton
 Libby Harwitz Blender
 Gideon Siff
 Xing Xing Zhang
 Ron Feinberg
 Isaac Hohns
 Robin Cohen
 Jordy Gorsen
 Alan Gottlieb
 Amelia Landes
 Brendan Lowe
 Josh Smullens
 Tony Lalli
 Raina Lehrer



August Birthdays

Rebecca Huzzy
 Olivia Bendetti
 Cory Bortnicker
 Rochelle Fedullo
 Sam Goldwert
 Irv Shapiro
 Debra Stewart
 Frank Giorgilli
 Fran Newberg
 Adam Saltzman
 Claire Englander
 Linda Freedman
 Mark Steinberger
 Myer Magen
 Jerry Roller
 Matthew Salzman
 Grace Bonovitz
 Valerie Pipano
 Daniel Weinstein
 Bjorn Seaberg
 Leo Aaron

Andrew Bruton
 Rosie Grosberg
 Shai Mallin
 Julia Dranoff
 Coby Fisher
 Nina Saligman
 Gabe Mohajer
 Daniel Cohen
 Isaak Popkin
 Aviva Weinstein
 Nancy Wygant
 JJ Garcia
 Harvey Weiner
 Gloria Briskin
 Susan Eizen
 Carly Neidorf
 Joseph Freedman
 Terry Graboyes
 Steve Greenspan
 Jackson Roe
 Jonathan Auerbach
 Susan Denbo
 Karen Kohn

Howard Briskin
 Keira Schindler
 Hannah Dubinski
 Elana Hunter
 Zev Pipano
 Nathaniel Popkin
 Rabbi Avi Winokur
 Rachel Cohen
 Phoebe Zaring
 Jason Flamendorf
 Vivian Polakoff
 Larry Dubinski
 Rebecca Makuen
 Dana Ovadia
 Lucas Gorsen
 Bonny Hohenberger
 Jacob Marion
 Jerry Kranzel
 Hershel Gross
 Asher Mink
 Neil Einleger

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June Anniversaries

Brian and Juliet Englander
 Michael and Leslie Hafter
 Richard and Florence Frantz
 Robert and Joan Greenstein
 Sam Mink and Anthony Padilla
 Deena and Len Friedland
 Larry Spector and Ann Rosen Spector
 Larry and Jackie Goldfinger
 Marc and Anita Cohen (35th)
 Polina and Leon Sakkal
 Lila Goldenberg and William Fedullo (1st)
 Tal and Valerie Pipano
 Blair and Lance Goldstein
 Ira and Leslie Richards (30th)
 Bob Blacksberg and Terry Novick
 Michael Grosberg and Carly Neidorf
 Stephen and Marsha Silberstein
 Rabbi Avi Winokur and Susan Berman
 Brian and Jessica Mono
 Aaron and Elina Picht
 JJ Garcia and Charlie Dreisbach
 Joseph and Sheri Gifford
 Micah and Joanna Hart
 Mark and Stacey Jansen
 Melissa and Dan Kessler
 Mariel Kornblith Martin and Miguel Pulido
 Jeremy Tobacman and Jean Galbraith
 Stanley and Judith Woloff
 Marc and Nancy Goldenberg
 Stephen and Pelley Brown
 Roberto Pace and Eve Friedman (20th)
 Adam Ziegfeld and Michele Margolis
 Tom Borawski and Libby Cone

July Anniversaries

Jessica and Tom Tropea
 Steve and Wendy Greenspan
 Dawn Mechanic-Hamilton and Roy Hamilton
 Elliot and Morgan Landes
 Ben Honig and Dana Ovadia
 Marilyn and Ralph Schapira
 Valentina Bonello and Vince Tassone (5th)
 Leah and Brent Jordan
 Beth Schwartz and Ramin Mohajer
 Jonathan Wetstein and Ashley Toal
 Theodore Danoff and Diane Siegel Danoff (40th)

August Anniversaries

Allison and Justin Herrmann (10th)
 Ralph Horwitz and Sarah McCue Horwitz
 Vicki Markovitz and Larry Dubinski (30th)
 Ana Atach and Dan Litwack (15th)
 Rick Summers and Merrily Williams
 Todd and Leily Schoenhaus
 Rachel and Eli Robbins
 Susan and Stewart Fisher (35th)
 Debby Freedberg and William Diebold (35th)
 Rafi Licht and Gabrielle Applebaum
 Mark and Tobey Dichter (55th)
 Jesse Abrams-Morley and Meredith Buse
 Harry and Eleanor Oxman
 Abe Summers and Xing Xing Zhang
 Bart and Betty Kaplan
 Jerry and Joan Roller
 Stanton and Merle Salkin (60th)
 Dan and Anya Rosin
 Fred and Dinah Lovitch
 Gail and Leonard Pogach (50th)
 Myron Bloom and Nancy Moses
 Marty Rosenberg and Ellen Fennick
 David and Sayde Ladov
 Burton Blender and Libby Harwitz Blender
 Adriel Mesznik and Elizabeth Heller-Mesznik
 Valerie and Michael Yasner



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

General Fund

Sale of Hametz
Iris Levine

In Appreciation of
Society Hill Synagogue and Everyone's Involvement
in Phoebe Zaring's Bat Mitzvah
David & Jacoba Zaring and Family

Society Hill Synagogue and April 19 Shabbat Service
Frann Shore

Society Hill Synagogue
Merle Jaffe
Aaron & Tania Hyman and Family

In Honor of
Evelyn Segal's 95th Birthday
Beth Shuster

Bat Mitzvah of Ariana Eizen
Larry & Sheila Burstein
Terry Graboyes

Judy Rohtbart, For Sharing Her Story on Yom HaShoah
Barbara Spector

Wedding of Will Steinberger & Annie Norbitz
Leslie Weiss & Neil Bunis

Birth of Mira Kaufman-Stewart, Granddaughter
of Laurie Krivo & Bob Kaufman
Francine Cohen

Birth of Leia Ruddy-Levine, Granddaughter of David &
Pam Levine
Howard & Gloria Briskin

Birth of Claire Flamendorf, Daughter of Jason
Flamendorf & Megan Helzner
Susan Leshnoff

In Memory of
Saul Feinberg, Father of Ron Feinberg
Ron & Robin Feinberg
Francine Cohen
Nancy Morgenstern
Mark Steinberger & Ann Lebowitz

Edward Greenberg, Father of Susan Fisher
Beth & Billy Landman

Gloria Schwartz, Mother of Marc Schwartz
Lois Vederman
Susan Roe
Ray & Nancy Swerdlow

Yahrzeit Remembrance of
Eugene Paller, Grandfather of Robert Paller
Robert Paller

Sarah Paller, Mother of Robert Paller
Robert Paller

Menashe Rohtbart, Father-in-Law of Judy Rohtbart
Judy Rohtbart

Jennie Levy, Mother-in-Law of Beverly Levy
Beverly Levy

Mildred Alper, Mother of Barbara Behar
Robert & Barbara Behar

Frank & Sadie Katz, Parents of Eleanor Oxman
Harry & Eleanor Oxman

Reva Barrett Goldner, Mother of Linda Joy Goldner
Linda Joy Goldner

Mollie & Saul Hilf, Parents of Susan Roe
Susan Roe

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Appreciation of

Shabbat Services
Tina Guterman

In Honor of
Rabbi Kamesar's Installation
Ron & Robin Feinberg
Beverly Levy

Rabbi Avi Winokur
Stew and Susan Fisher

Birth of Claire Flamendorf, Daughter of Jason
Flamendorf & Megan Helzner
Jill Feldman & David Pressel

In Memory of
Gloria Schwartz, Mother of Marc Schwartz
Carl Levitsky

Yahrzeit Remembrance of
Samuel Goldner, Father of Linda Joy Goldner
Linda Joy Goldner

Ruth Stark, Grandmother of Jonathan Auerbach
Jonathan Auerbach

Rose Michaels, Mother-in-Law of Beverly Michaels
Beverly Michaels

Jane Simon, Mother of Robert Bass
Robert & Wilma Bass

Hazzan's Discretionary Fund

In Appreciation of
Hazzan Jessi's Rock Purimspiel
Judy Rohtbart

Shabbat Services
Tina Guterman

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

In Honor of
Marriage of Maxine Mann & Jay Goodman
 Jill Feldman & David Pressel

One Year Anniversary of the Naming of Jerome Tekiah Fiskin
 Jack Treatman & Ruth Isaac

Annual Giving Fund

End of Year Appeal
 Harry & Eleanor Oxman

Social Action Fund

Yahrzeit Remembrance of
Edward Roller, Father of Jerry Roller
 Jerry & Joan Roller

Albert Miller, Father of Paula Ninerell
 Paula Ninerell

Food Insecurity Fund

In Honor of
Lesli Reich Winning Society Hill Synagogue's Men's NCAA Tournament Pool
 David & Pam Levine

Micah Hart Winning Society Hill Synagogue's Women's NCAA Tournament Pool
 David & Pam Levine

Wedding of Will Steinberger & Annie Norbitz
 Staci, Marc & Jamie Schwartz

Laurie Gold, For Her Assistance with Rabbi Kamesar's Installation
 Staci, Marc & Jamie Schwartz

Birth of Mira Kaufman-Stewart, Granddaughter of Laurie Krivo & Bob Kaufman
 The Hayman Family

Birth of Leia Ruddy-Levine, Granddaughter of David & Pam Levine
 Nancy Morgenstern

In Memory of
Geoffrey Michaels, Husband of Beverly Michaels
 Staci, Marc & Jamie Schwartz

Saul Feinberg, Father of Ron Feinberg
 Carol & Joe Marlowe

Yahrzeit Remembrance of
Mendel Reich, Father of Carter Reich
 Carter & Lesli Reich

Kiddush Fund

In Honor of
Bat Mitzvah of Mimi Hunter
 David & Pam Levine

Society Hill Synagogue's Second Night Seder
 Barbara Spector

In Memory of
Saul Feinberg, Father of Ron Feinberg
 David & Pam Levine

Solas Lange Sears, Grandson of Hop Sears & Randi Kamine
 David & Pam Levine

Gloria Schwartz, Mother of Marc Schwartz
 David & Pam Levine

Yahrzeit Remembrance of
Peter Eizen, Son of Steven & Lisa Eizen
 Steve & Judy Silberman

Lewis "Chip" Williams, Brother of Merrily Williams
 Merrily Williams & Rick Summers

Anthony Giorgilli, Brother of Frank Giorgilli
 Frank Giorgilli

Riva Auerbach, Mother of Jonathan Auerbach
 Jonathan Auerbach

Selma Markowitz, Mother of Sayde Ladov
 David & Sayde Ladov

Mendel Reich, Father of Carter Reich
 Carter & Lesli Reich

Adult Education Fund

In Memory of
Gloria Schwartz, Mother of Marc Schwartz
 Len Weinberg & Fran Gallun
 Barbara Spector

Yahrzeit Remembrance of
Milton Bass, Father of Robert Bass
 Robert & Wilma Bass

Petey Rosenberg, Uncle of Robert Bass
 Robert & Wilma Bass

Dr. Effy Oz Hebrew School Fund

Yahrzeit Remembrance of
Anne Levine, Mother of David Levine
 David & Pam Levine

David Ewens, Father of Wilma Bass
 Robert & Wilma Bass

Jay R. Baer Fund

Yahrzeit Remembrance of
Jay R. Baer
 Carol Baer Mott

**THE 5785/2024-2025
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL PACKET
WILL BE MAILED AND AVAILABLE
ONLINE LATER IN JUNE!**

HIGH HOLIDAYS



Start the new year 5785 sweetly at Society Hill Synagogue! Join us this High Holiday season as we come together to celebrate, reflect, and grow.

As always, in addition to three services for Rosh Hashanah, Tashlikh, and services for Kol Nidrei and Yom Kippur in our historic Sanctuary, we will also have two service options for kids and parents on the mornings of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur: one for families with children ages seven and under, and one for families with children ages eight to twelve.

Detailed information for High Holiday services, meals, and celebrations will be mailed to members later this month.

SUMMER SPOTLIGHT: HAVDALAH DOWN THE SHORE



Saturday, August 24 @ 6:30 pm



Judy Lalli is graciously hosting our congregation's Havdalah Down the Shore this summer, so come together for this special evening!

We will meet at 6:30 pm (RSVP for location) for a light potluck dairy meal, proceed to the beach for our 8:30 pm lay-led Havdalah service, and return for dessert.

RSVP by **August 14** to Judy at judele@aol.com, and she will provide you with the address and record your voluntary offering of dairy food items or alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverages.

SUMMER 2024 CALENDAR

JUNE

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

JULY

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUMMER CALENDAR KEY:

▲ = Building is Closed

★ = Synagogue Event

Synagogue Events

June 2: Coolanu Walking Tour

June 5: Congregation Annual Meeting

June 7: Young Families Shabbat

June 8: Bat Mitzvah of Lara Goldwert

June 12: Shavuot Service with Yizkor

June 14: Book Club Meets

June 18: Phillies Jewish Heritage Night

July 21: Triple Chai Powel House Tour and Lunch

August 12: Erev Tishah B'Av Service

August 16: Last Day of Playschool Summer Camp

August 24: Havdalah Down the Shore

There will be Saturday morning Shabbat services all summer long, and TGIShabbat will resume on September 6.

This calendar is subject to change.

For up-to-date information, check

www.societyhillsynagogue.org/calendar

or contact our office.

**Add our events to your
Google Calendar!**

You can now add our Society Hill
Synagogue Community Calendar to your
own personal Google Calendar!

Visit societyhillsynagogue.org/calendar
and click "Add this calendar to your
Google Calendar"

SOCIETY HILL SYNAGOGUE

418 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

215.922.6590
www.societyhillsynagogue.org

Carmen Hayman, President
Rabbi Nathan Kamesar
Rabbi Avi Winokur, Rabbi Emeritus
Hazzan Jessi Roemer
Sahar Oz, Executive Director
LilyFish Gomberg, Communications Manager



Mail To: