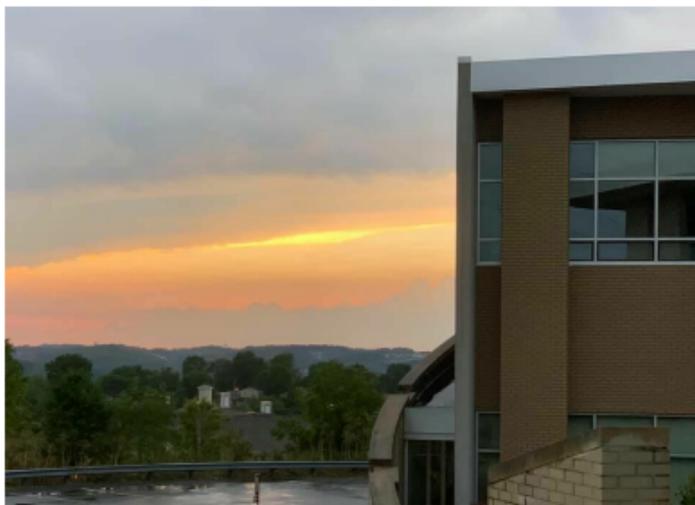




TEMPLE
EMANUEL
of S O U T H H I L L S

LIVING • LEARNING • LEADING



SUMMER
2021



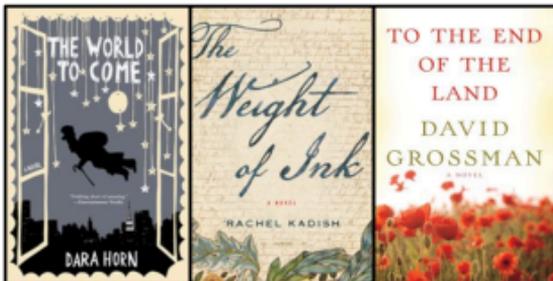
FROM RABBI AARON MEYER

Summertime is Here!

As you make your way to the beach, spend time on an airplane again, or just have a quieter week in the office, I encourage you to pick up a new book. A good read engages our mind in ways even the best programs on Netflix cannot, encouraging us to think and create and expand our perceptions. Scholars even attribute the relative successes of the Jewish community to our ability and drive to read! It also helps a bit with the technology detox we all need as we emerge (God and science willing) from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following works of fiction weave strong characters, Jewish concepts, and engaging writing together for your next summer read:

- 1) **The World to Come.** National Jewish Book Award winner Dara Horn weaves folklore, theology, and Torah – along with romance, mystery, and art – into a riveting depiction of human nature and what happens when we die.
- 2) **The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish.** Strong female characters bridge 1660's London with the modern day in this story blending Jewish history, values, and virtues.
- 3) **To the End of the Land.** Israeli author David Grossman writes a book from the depth of human tragedy about love, war, and loss.



This list is far from exhaustive as there are more good Jewish books than there is time to read them. Visit the Jewish Book Council and the National Jewish Book Awards list to find more:

jewishbookcouncil.org/awards/national-jewish-book-awards.

Are you reading something different this summer? I'd love to hear if it captured your imagination or inspired your thinking. You can always see what I have been reading lately in my email signature or over a cup of coffee!

2021-22 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR TORAH CENTER AND HIGH SCHOOL



Minecraft Temple Photo Credit: Henry Ginsburg

Torah Center (pre-k through 7th)

Find out everything you need to know and register now for Torah Center: www.templemanuelpgh.org/learn/torah-center/

T' FILAH



Join us for our in-person AND virtual* Shabbat Services.

We are excited to welcome you back to the Beit HaT'filah! Please note: Face coverings, over both nose and mouth, are required regardless of vaccination status in this transitional phase of Temple's reopening

Friday Night Shabbat Service

7:00PM Join us every Friday in the Beit HaT'filah or via Temple's website, Facebook or Youtube.

6:00PM Outdoor courtyard service (weather permitting)
July 16th and July 30th.

Saturday Morning Shabbat Service

8:30AM Join us every Saturday in-person or virtually via Temple's website , Facebook or Youtube.

10:30AM In-person Shabbat Morning Services with B'nai Mitzvah.
August 7th, 14th and 28th

Saturday Night Havdalah

8:00PM Join us on Temple's Facebook page.

Sunday Morning Minyan

9:30AM Join us in person in the Beit HaT'filah

*Website - templemanuelpgh.org/community/virtual/

TORAH STUDY

Fridays, 1:00PM - 1:45PM

Temple's Shabbat morning Torah Study frequently focuses on a single idea or verse, leaving much on the cutting room floor for further exploration. Curious what else the sages of our tradition were thinking? Join Rabbi Meyer on Zoom* for a sneak peek!

Saturdays, 9:00AM - 10:15AM

Torah Study will meet in person (immediately following services) or on Zoom.*

[*us02web.zoom.us/j/5326774310](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5326774310)

or call (312) 626-6799 and enter Meeting ID 532 677 4310

SHABBAT IN THE LOT

Bubbles, Crafts, Songs and Tot Friendly Stories

July 17th and August 21th

10:00AM - 11:00AM

Weather Permitting

Join us for a morning of fun and connection. Bring your scooters to ride in the lot, enjoy time on our playground and see friends old and new. Masks, please! Questions? Contact Kate Louik:

412-279 7687

klouik@templemanuelphg.org



Watch for upcoming details on IN-PERSON High Holy Day Services.



Photo Credit: Michelle Emery

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MICHELLE MARKOWITZ

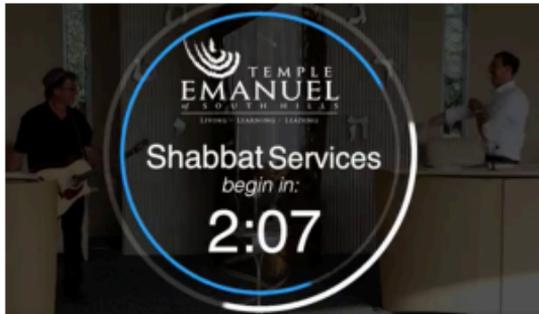
President's Address at Annual Meeting — 6/13/2021

One of my favorite parts of sending my kids to Jewish summer camp is that the camp emphasizes integrating Jewish values into everyday life. The camp focuses on tikkun middot, or desirable character traits, to ensure each camper is on the path to his or her best self. One summer, when a counselor would see a camper demonstrate one of these traits, the counselor would give the camper a rubber bracelet like this one imprinted with the trait demonstrated to wear on the wrist or ankle as a reminder. I actually found these in my son's nightstand drawer - likely an indication, we need to clean it out.

One of those character traits my kids learned, and therefore I learned, which has stuck with me, is the character trait of nitzachon. Nitzachon can be translated as victory, but the essence of the word, and the value emphasized at camp, is not the end result, but rather the effort demonstrated in pushing through or overcoming a challenge. In other words, it is perseverance that is desired and rewarded. At camp, a camper would receive a nitzachon bracelet for having the courage to participate in an activity that seemed scary at first, such as the ropes course or the high wall. We know that camp prepares our kids for "real" life, and in real life, we face challenges all the time. Over the course of this past year, I have thought about nitzachon a lot. I had the privilege of having a front-row seat to see how our Temple community pushed through many challenges and demonstrated nitzachon throughout this past year, and I'd like to share with you some of what I saw.

Last March, your Temple's Senior Staff dedicated themselves to maintaining connection in this community despite the physical doors of Temple Emanuel's building being closed. Literally overnight, Temple Emanuel produced its first ever live streamed services and online programming, and then continued and improved upon those throughout the entire last year.

The magic and success of these efforts fell squarely into the hands of Senior Rabbi Aaron Meyer and Executive Director Leslie Hoffman. Their collaborative partnership allowed Temple to flourish in a time when its ability to do so felt uncertain.



Rabbi Aaron continually found ways and continues to find ways to engage this Congregation Jewishly and creatively. The world around us often felt in turmoil, with a once-in-a-100-year pandemic, a racial justice awakening, and difficult elections both here at home and in Israel. Rabbi Aaron's words and actions provided reassurance and reminded us that our thousands of years of tradition have equipped us as a people to push through these challenges. The key was to find new ways to communicate and engage, and over the past year, it was Rabbi Aaron's ability to quickly adapt, procure, implement, learn and teach that carried our community through this challenging year. It is not an overstatement to say that we might not be having this Annual Meeting today had he not done all of that and more. Over the next year, we can all look forward to seeing how he takes the best of what we learned during this pandemic year and integrates it into a new model of Temple engagement. Oh, and he did all of this while creating meaningful life-cycle events and providing helpful pastoral care. These are just a few of the reasons I could not be more thrilled to share with you that Rabbi Aaron and Temple's Board have agreed upon a new 5-year contract. This new 5-year agreement begins on July 1st - that's right, Rabbi Aaron will be with us at Temple Emanuel until at least 2026.

Rabbi Aaron's work has been pretty visible to this Congregation. Other work that is less visible, but equally as important, is that done by our incomparable Executive Director Leslie Hoffman and her team. Leslie utilizes her myriad talents and works tirelessly to ensure that the needs of both staff and congregants are always met. In a tribute to Leslie at the online annual meeting of the National Association of Temple Administrators, or NATA, Rabbi Aaron wrote, "Thank you for doing virtually everything." No truer words could have been spoken.

Continue

I have to admit that going into this school year, I was hoping that ECDC would just survive. The pandemic wreaked havoc on all areas of education, but early childhood education was hit especially hard. With parents' valid concerns about sending their children to in-person school and online education being particularly difficult at the early childhood level, some programs in our area paused or closed for the year, making their ability to return post-pandemic uncertain. Here at Temple, we already knew we had something special going with our ECDC program, and left it in the capable hands of Iris, whose tenure would end in December, Kate who was both incoming director and director after December, Ellen as Assistant Director, and the ECDC educators to do their best. Their best was beyond amazing. They worked extraordinarily hard to put together protocols and policies to create a safe and fun summer experience last summer. They carried that hard work and creativity through the school year, and even added a meaningful online component to keep those families who weren't ready to send their kids in person engaged. Their hard work paid off - ECDC did not just survive, but it thrived - not only did they have a fantastic summer and school year, but this year's summer program and school year are oversubscribed because of their hard work and creativity. Thank you Iris, Kate, Ellen, and our Educators.



Another challenge was presented to Rabbi Locketz and our Torah Center staff. With the uncertainty surrounding the ability to have in-person school, and concerns over podding and safety, the decision was made early to keep Torah Center online at first through the fall, then through the rest of the school year. Rabbi Locketz led our Torah Center faculty through numerous programs last summer to adapt to online teaching. New ideas and programs were created and Torah Center flourished. Thank you to Rabbi Locketz, Steph McFerron, and the Torah Center faculty for your perseverance and creativity during this year.

All of these people and programs are supported by Temple's wonderful administrative and building staff. Our building might have been closed to most of us, but their work never stopped.

In addition to being Assistant Director of the ECDC, Ellen Drook took on a new role in creating and managing our online and digital communications, Paula Spock took on a new role as Temple's bookkeeper upon Barb's retirement, Lori continued to work her magic in Temple's front office, and Chuck and Steve made sure our building was safe and clean for our ECDC students and ensured it would be here for us when we were ready to come back.

Our entire hard-working and dedicated staff was supported through the extraordinary efforts of our lay leadership and volunteers. Temple's Board continued to work, via Zoom, to carry out its role of governing the affairs of Temple Emanuel. Temple's Board put together an orientation program, held strategic discussions, held two financial town halls, updated the Cemetery bylaws, and as you know, with your help, Temple's Board, supported by the Bylaws Task Force, updated our Temple's bylaws for the first time since 2015.

One area of revenue growth is in the nature of endowments and perpetual contributions. These include a perpetual donation by Norman Ettenson, as well as responsibly utilizing 4% each from the Sperling and Sajowitz Endowment funds towards their proper purposes. And I want to take a minute to express gratitude to Bill Berkowitz. His firm managed the Sperling and Sajowitz endowment funds extraordinarily well for us for many years, and with his retirement, it became prudent to move these funds to join Temple's other two endowment funds at the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Pittsburgh. Those funds include the Diskin Fund and the Legacy Fund.

Perhaps you have already heard about the additional generous Legacy gift left to Temple Emanuel by Betty Diskin in memory of her husband and sons. This generous legacy has positioned Temple Emanuel with the ability to transform the nature of our music program. In this coming year, I am so excited for Temple Emanuel to welcome second-year cantorial student from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Sierra Fox, whose multitude of talents blew us away during the interview process.

Continue

As we look ahead into future years, I hope all of you will take some time to participate in the upcoming music strategy sessions to share with us your hopes and dreams for Temple's music program. Your contributions are vital as we set forth on a journey to explore the future of music at Temple Emanuel, which will hopefully include adding a music professional to Temple's staff.

Temple Emanuel is in the third year on its path to a fourth endowment fund through participation in the Grinspoon Life & Legacy Program and the hard work of the Legacy Team. Already, this team has secured promised gifts from 40 families, and we expect the Fund to build overtime. I want to take a minute and thank these donors for prioritizing Temple's future with the promise of a legacy gift.

These endowment funds are but one piece of the puzzle. It is another piece, the Keep the Light Shining Campaign, where each of you helped Temple Emanuel push through a challenge. As you may remember, we faced an uncertain year and a potential budget deficit due to the pandemic. We asked you to help Temple Emanuel keep the light shining both literally and figuratively. And your generosity carried us through the year, where we raised over \$60,000 towards Temple's general fund. This fundraiser, as well as qualifying for a second PPP loan, permitted Temple Emanuel to end this fiscal year with a positive cash position, which we will carry into the next year.

The challenges over the past year have been unprecedented - the response from this community has also been unprecedented. If I could, I'd give each and every person mentioned tonight, and each and every person in this congregation, his or her own bracelet emblazoned with nitzachon. The perseverance demonstrated by Temple Emanuel in this last year will push us into this next year. I am so excited that this year is ending with some opportunities for us to be in person once again, and I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the summer and fall. I can promise you that the Board and staff are already hard at work to ensure that in the next year Temple continues to thrive and carry out our mission of living, learning, and leading Judaism.

TEMPLE FAMILY MENSCHENINGS

Shalom! New Members

A warm welcome goes to new members of our Temple family.

Lynn & Mark Frumkin

Eileen & Mark Sappir

Talia Padawer & Valerio Tonelli Enrico and their children Alma & Nitai

Mazel Tov

Marriages

Hannah Muehl, daughter of Leah Rubenstein, married Timothy Cummings on 6/16/21

Kate Weissman, daughter of Michael & Nancy Weissman, married Michael Kaplan on 5/31/21.

Births

Emma Liana Pardo Marchini on 3/25/21, granddaughter of Amy & Tony Pardo

Milo Ross Hirschl on 4/1/21, grandson of Andrea & Norman Sobel

Rafael Vincent Kozel on 4/2/21, son of Sarah & Alicia Kozel

Grayson James Battle on 4/17/21, grandson of Claire & Mel Vatz

Stuart Paul Slania on 5/15/21, grandson of Andrea & Jeff Fitting

Éliké Ayi Ajavon on 6/2/21, grandson of Andrea & Jeff Fitting

Liam Thomas May on 6/11/21, grandson of Lisa & Roger May

Charley Adrian Sloan on 6/21/21, grandson of Linda Sloan

B'nei Mitzvah

Mazel Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah students and families.

Lily Hepps, daughter of Terri & David Hepps, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, August 7th

Mia Levine, daughter of Molly & Shawn Levine, will become a Bat Mitzvah on **Saturday**, August 14th.

Marissa Klein, daughter of Sara & Arnie Klein, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, August 28th.

Condolences (as of June 21, 2021)

Our condolences on the following bereavements:

Adam Mark Ruben, son of Arnold Ruben (Sandra), brother of Naomi Pittle (Howard), uncle of Harrison & Merritt Pittle (March 1)

Ron Rogers, father of Jennifer Anderson (Gregory), grandfather of Iris and Wyatt Anderson (March 1)

Seymour "Cy" Clark, father of Lynn Bahm (Carl), grandfather of Jennifer and Zachary Bahm (March 2)

Diane Holsinger, Temple member (April 6)

David Rascoe, son of Eric Rascoe (Ann Bregman) and the late Jeanne Rascoe (April 8)

Robert Schorr, brother of Alan (Bunny) Schorr (April 15)

Robin Gordin Minutello, wife of Richard Minutello, mother of Elizabeth Minutello & Ryan (Gloria) Minutello (April 18)

Sheila Warren, mother of Jeff Warren (Gail Francolini) & grandmother of Kate Warren (May 12)

Richard Solock, father of Marsha (Eric) Morgenstern & grandfather of Zachary Morgenstern (May 30)

Ruth Shulman, mother of Beth (Matt) Schwartz & grandmother of Rebecca and Anna Schwartz (June 16)

Selma Florence Kuby, mother of Beth (Charles) Levinthal, grandmother of David (Sarah) Levinthal, great-grandmother of Aaron, Michael & Zoe Levinthal (June 16)

Bernard Jay Barr, father of Eric (Marion) Barr & grandfather of Jared Barr (June 21)

TODAH RABAH

Temple Garden

A Note of Gratitude from Debra Madaras

Thank you to everyone who donated to the SHIM garden through the Plant Sale! It was a huge success. With those funds we were able to purchase many items needed this year.



Last year we received a grant from Grow Pittsburgh in the form of 2 new raised beds to fill out existing garden space. The raised beds are 8 ½ ft by 3 ½ ft by 2 ft. So, as you can imagine that required A LOT of dirt to fill. In addition, the existing raised beds needed additional fill (compost) which is just part of ongoing maintenance.

We purchased a new lightweight hose which can reach all the way to the garden and 2 sprinklers. With this new set up, watering is much easier. A person can stretch the hose to the garden and hook it up to the sprinkler system, turn it on, then come back in an hour and turn it off. Then just let the water out of the hose and roll it up on the reel. No need to stand there and hose it down manually or even go into the garden unless you want to check it out. Please contact Leslie Hoffman if you would like to help!



This year we used some of the money to purchase plants through the Plant Sale. We also received some plants from SHIM. Every year people grow more seedlings than they can use and are donated to SHIM, who then distributes them to the community gardens. We purchased a few plants from the big box store just to fill in where a couple of plants didn't make it. Sometimes, even with the best care, transferred seedlings die. This year we are growing tomatoes, peppers, winter squash, summer squash, kohlrabi, 2 types of beans, eggplant, oregano, sage, chives, and rosemary. Every year Temple Emanuel grows and donates hundreds of pounds of vegetables to SHIM.

CIRCLES OF GIVING

Thank you to those members who participate in our Circles of Giving. By contributing over and above the basic dues, they help to ensure that Temple continues to thrive as the center of our Jewish community. If you are willing and able to participate, please contact Leslie Hoffman, 412.279.7600.

DONOR CIRCLE 1

Amy & David Bahm	Elaine & Alan London
Ellie Bahm	Caroline & Erik Naft
Lynn & Carl Bahm	Linda & Stuart Nyman
Jane & Joseph Blattner	Carol & Byron Rose
Carol & Michael Bleier	Lori & Daniel Rothschild
Karen & Anthony Captline	Lynn & Harvey Rubin
Carol & Jeff Chase	Deborah & Paul Rudoy
Judith & Ira Cohen	Debra & Ronald Schneider
Janet & Jerry Cooper	Bunny & Alan Schorr
Mary Cothran	Beth & Matt Schwartz
Laura & Brian Davidson	Sharon & Jack Soodik
Katie & Peter Davis	Mitchell Taback
Diane & Frank Dreifuss	Barbara & Eric Udren
Vonya & Nate Eisinger	Rikki Hommel & David Weisberg
Carol & Theodore Goldberg	Nancy & Michael Weissman
Dianna Ploof & Ben Handen	Ellen & Richard Wellins
Susan & Richard Hommel	Barbara & Milton Wolf
Carol & Irv Horowitz	April & Stanley Zaslau
Nancy & Will Joseph	Rachel & Steve Zoffer
Sarah & Alicia Kozel	

DONOR CIRCLE 2

Kim & Robert Breit	Amy & Anthony Pardo
Meredith & David Cohen	Celeste & Rafael Schmulevich
Diane & Arnold Eger	Elisia & Charles Silverstein
Beth & Dan Erlanger	Barbara Trachtenberg
Sandra Kaplan	Jeff & Laura Young
Marlene Naft	

DONOR CIRCLE 3

Tracy & Michael Barnett	Betty Jo Hirschfield Louik
Lisa & David Dvorin	& Howard Louik
Laryn & Moses Finder	Michelle & Pace Markowitz
Andrea & Jeffrey Fitting	Joan & Ronald Rothaus
June Swanson & Richard Gordon	Marcia & Jerry Rubenstein
Robin & Steven Hausman	Joan Scheinholtz
Carol & Peter Kaplan	
Lynn & Larry Lebowitz	

DONOR CIRCLE 4

Veronica & Jonathan Schmerling
Rita & Stuart Zolot

DONOR CIRCLE 5

Erica & Bill Goodman

DONOR CIRCLE 6

Dorothy & Neal Pollon
Amy & Andrew Zahalsky
Lori & Robert Shure

DONOR CIRCLE 7

Jill & Adam Brufsky

DONATIONS TO TEMPLE FUNDS

March 2021-June 2021

Pay tribute to someone special and provide much appreciated financial support for Temple by donating to a Temple Fund.

— GIVE —
Aug. 1st BLOOD 9AM-2PM
& GIVE BACK

Pikuach Nefesh, to save a life, is one of Judaism's highest values, and donating blood during the critical blood shortage facing our community this summer will truly help to save lives. On Sunday, August 1st, Temple Emanuel is hosting a blood drive from 9am - 2pm as part of the Give Blood & Give Back campaign. Go to the

Vitalant website - www.vitalant.org. (Search with group code G0020018 to find our drive.)

You will double the impact of your blood donation, because a financial contribution will be made to SHIM on every donor's behalf.



**Thank you to our Legacy Society donors who
have chosen to make Temple Emanuel a part of
their enduring Jewish legacy.**

Ellie Bahm
Carol & Michael Bleier
Lastenia & Mitchell Bober
Meredith & David Cohen
Mary Cothran
Betty z"l & Arthur z"l Diskin
Lisa & David Dvorin
Fred Fabricant
Ellie Baker Feldman
Laryn & Moses Finder
Andrea & Jeffrey Fitting
Carol & Ted Goldberg
Sandy & Lee Golomb
Roz Goorin
Iris & Chris Harlan
Leslie Hoffman
Lynn & Larry Lebowitz
Sarah & David Levinthal
Roger Liss

Rabbi Jessica Locketz
& Larry Schwartz
Betty Jo Hirschfield Louik
& Howard Louik
Kate & Max Louik
Irene Luchinsky
Michelle & Pace Markowitz
Amy & Tony Pardo
Carol & Byron Rose
Joan & Ronald Rothaus
Lynn & Harvey Rubin
Heidi & Richard Russman
Beth & Matt Schwartz
Linda & Marty z"l Sloan
Mitchell Taback
Barbara Trachtenberg
David Weisberg
Ellen & Richard Wellins
And our anonymous donors

Help to ensure a vibrant Jewish future with a gift in your will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy. Contact Legacy Team Chair

Matt Schwartz (mattschw71@gmail.com, 412-951-4962) or Leslie

Hoffman (lhoffman@templemanuelpgh.org, 412-953-1646) for more