



# PATHFINDER

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## What Death Teaches Us About Life

I didn't become a rabbi when I finished seminary. I became a real rabbi after my first eulogy.

Nothing can totally prepare you for the task of comforting mourners and making sense of death. And nothing better teaches us what makes for a meaningful and well-lived life.

At its best, a eulogy is a work of great art. It takes the events of a person's life and reveals its beauty and meaning. It gives us a glimpse of the holy amidst the commonplace.

Even if we do not deliver eulogies often, we should read them. And in reading them, we can learn. We can learn about what endures and what does not. We can learn what is important and what is not. And we can begin to ask ourselves how we want to be remembered.

Consider President Obama's eulogy for Reverend Clementa Pinckney. Reverend Pinckney was one of the nine people killed at Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston.

Reading his eulogy leaves us with a sense of gratitude and awareness. We not only feel gratitude for a life well-lived. We gain insights as to how we might better live our own. Here a few insights we can garner from the President's eulogy:

1. Look for Grace: Grace has been defined as "the free and benevolent favor of God." The Hebrew equivalent is *hesed*, which is also translated as "loving-kindness."

The President pointed out that Rev. Pinckney consistently taught and embodied grace. He taught that grace is not passive. Grace is active. It is a gift we unwrap through the way we live.

Grace is also unlimited in scope. God does not give grace to one person and take it away from another. The more grace we feel, the more grace we give away. We give and receive, and when we see this truth, our lives take on a new meaning.

(Continued on page 13)



# Cantor Glikin's Desk — Tisha B'Av: What's It All About and Why We Should Care

Last week, Jewish communities around the globe commemorated Tisha B'Av. Tisha B'Av literally translates as the 9<sup>th</sup> of the Hebrew month of Av. We learn from the Mishna<sup>1</sup> that five misfortunes befell our ancestors on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av. First, the Mishna teaches that in Biblical times it was decreed on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av that our ancestors should not enter the Promised Land. Then, the Holy Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in 586 BCE and again in 70 CE, both times on Tisha B'Av. The fourth calamity was the destruction of Beitar. Beitar was Bar Kochba's last stronghold and with its decimation, any trace of hope for Jewish independence was extinguished for nearly two thousand years. The fifth tragedy mentioned by the Mishna was the fall of the city of Jerusalem. In more recent times, the Edict of Expulsion from England in 1290 and the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492 both occurred on Tisha B'Av. Some have even tried to connect the events of Kristallnacht and 9/11 to Tisha B'Av. In short, this solemn day, the saddest of the year, commemorates numerous calamities that have befallen the Jewish people throughout our history.

In traditional communities, Jews mark Tisha B'Av by gathering in dimly lit rooms to sit on the floor in rent clothes and chant the Book of Lamentations in the mournful Eicha trope. The Ark is covered with a black cloth – a symbol of deep mourning. The tremendous sadness is exacerbated by a 25 hour-long fast.

While our tradition associates a long list of calamities with the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av, Tisha B'Av primarily commemorates the destruction of the Temple and the end of the sacrificial cult in Jerusalem. Seeing that this is the case, the fate of Tisha B'Av within Reform communities has been complicated. Reform Judaism has from its outset renounced the sacrificial cult and any hope of seeing the Temple rebuilt. To Reform Jews, prayer and the sacrifice of the heart have become not only the necessary, but indeed the superior methods of reaching God in the absence of the Temple in Jerusalem and its sacrificial cult. To this end, any references to the rebuilding of the Temple have been stripped from Reform liturgy. By the same token, commemoration of Tisha B'Av has historically been viewed by Reform Jews as dispensable.

To justify their position, early Reform Jews reached back to the words of the prophets such as Isaiah who taught that seeking justice was more important than

bringing animal sacrifices. In the words of Isaiah: "The multitude of your sacrifices - what are they to me? says the Eternal.... Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do good, seek justice, correct oppression, bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."<sup>2</sup>

Reform spiritual leaders pushed the envelope even further than the prophets. Rabbi Abraham Geiger, a 19<sup>th</sup>-century German rabbi who led the founding of Reform Judaism, once wrote, "Stop crying for Zion in Jerusalem; God is building the wall of the eternal Jerusalem forever." In saying this, Geiger meant that Jews should forget the city of Jerusalem and abandon any notion of a Jewish state. Stephen S. Wise, a prominent American 20<sup>th</sup> century rabbi said: "The grief for the destruction of the city [of Jerusalem] and the Temple that was marked in the spirit of our nation, even in the Middle Ages, in days of persecution, became after the emancipation, useless." According to Wise, we – Americans living in the "land of the free and the home of the brave" – have no use for grief over the destruction of Jerusalem and its Temple. In the words of Wise, such grief is simply "useless."

Interestingly, in recent decades, the attitude of Reform Jews toward Tisha B'av has been shifting. Reform Jews are certainly not looking to reestablish the sacrificial cult, but many Reform congregations have been re-engaging with Tisha B'Av and thinking about ways in which the day and its legacy are still relevant to us today. Rabbi Meir Azari, one of the first Reform rabbis ordained in Israel, described recently the way Tisha B'Av is commemorated in his community, Beit Daniel, located in Tel Aviv. Azari noted that at Beit Daniel, Tisha B'Av is marked as a day to reflect upon the Israeli past in a large spiritual gathering. "We remember the work that was done in the Temple - but without looking toward renewal, as so many others do. Instead, we reflect on classic stories that might enlighten us about what we can do today to make life richer and more meaningful. For us, Tisha B'Av is not a source of inspiration for renewing the Temple. Rather, it is an opportunity to secure the State of Israel, as well as democracy, tolerance, pluralism, women's rights, and human rights." In other words, Azari suggests that Tisha B'Av is an opportunity to reflect on the world as it is and envision how we can bring it closer to our vision of the world as it *should* be.

*(Continued on page 18)*

<sup>1</sup> Mishna Ta'anit 4:6

<sup>2</sup> Isaiah 1:10-17

## From Our President

For many of us, summer is a break from the school year with a little more free time and a little more flexibility. At Solel, summer is all that and a whole lot more.

In addition to taking advantage of the good weather for outdoor services and Pray 'n Play activities, summer is the time when we renew our congregant dues commitments, welcome our biggest cohort of new congregants, and hundreds of students register for religious school. These activities are central to the vibrancy of Solel and make summer a busy and important season.

### Congregant Dues Commitments

As you probably noticed, our dues commitment package was expanded this year. The Rabbi, Cantor, Executive Director, Financial Vice President, and I worked hard to explain the needs of the congregation, the care with which we manage our finances, and the opportunities we have to make the Solel community even stronger with a more generous budget.

We encouraged all congregants to see how they can help support Solel financially to the best of their ability. And we reminded everyone that their commitment to Solel is as vital as any other priority in their lives.

If you have not had a chance to read these thoughtful letters, I encourage you to do so – and if you can't find them or have questions, email me at [president@solel.org](mailto:president@solel.org) and I will try to help.

### Share Solel with Prospective Congregants

This is also the season for welcoming new congregants, and the membership committee, board of directors, and I all want to encourage you to Share Solel with your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and family. We all know what a wonderful choice we made when we joined Solel – in 1957 or 2015 or likely sometime in between – and together we can make our community stronger by introducing Solel to new prospective congregants.

In recent years our congregation has grown with young families, with pre-school and school-age children, empty nesters, and parents and grandparents of current congregants. All are welcome and all add to our sacred community.

We have several welcoming events over the summer and the office and our membership committee are ready to talk with anyone who is interested. I want to highlight our Prospective Member Open House on Tuesday, August 4 at 7:00 pm as a great invitation for potential Solel families.

### Religious School 5776

And last but not least, summer is a busy season for our Religious School. In addition to hiring and rehiring our wonderful faculty, Ashley Plotnick, our new Director of Congregational Learning, is revamping our post-B'nai Mitzvah (8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade) classes, and has already registered enough kids to assure Pre-K and Kindergarten classes for the new year.

As a reminder for those of you encouraging others to join Solel, our Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Religious School classes are open to tuition-only students whose families are considering joining in the coming year.

I hope you have a wonderful end of summer and look forward to seeing you at Solel in August and a lot more in September!

- Josh Lowitz  
(312) 339-5411  
[president@solel.org](mailto:president@solel.org)

Joyce Schragar's classes will  
resume in September.

Short Stories on Wednesday,  
September 9

Current Events on Monday,  
September 21



## From the Desk of the Executive Director

Happy and Healthy Holidays to all the Solel family! Thank you to all who have submitted their membership commitment forms and those that have submitted their High Holy Days admissions forms, special seating needs forms, Book of Remembrance forms, etc.

If you have not submitted membership renewal or High Holy Days forms please do so **in the next two weeks** so the office will have time to mail your admission cards, reserve your special needs placement and so on.

For those with children, please send your religious school enrollment forms, if you have not done so. Also, you may wish to stop in to meet our new Director of Congregational Learning, Ashley Plotnick. Many exciting and new projects are coming for the religious school children.

If you have neighbors or friends that are looking for a spiritual home, bring them to Friday night services to meet our clergy; invite them to call me about membership and to attend the Prospective Member Open House on Tuesday, August 4 at 7:00 pm.

May you and yours have a happy healthy joyous and prosperous New Year!

L'Shanah Tova from my family to yours,

Allan Litwack  
Executive Director

## Downtown Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Moffic

### August 5 at noon

Join Rabbi Evan Moffic for these special classes as he reflects on events of both Jewish and broader public interest.

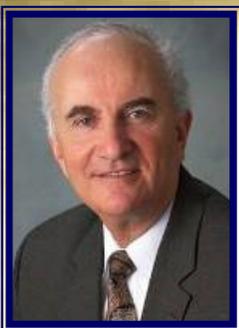
Please RSVP to Evelyn Brewer  
at [evelyn@solel.org](mailto:evelyn@solel.org).

## JOIN THE TORAH TEAM!

You're cordially invited to be a part of an elite group of Torah superstars!! Torah Team is looking for volunteers like **YOU** to help read Torah at various times throughout the year!

Please contact Cantor Vicky Glikin at  
[cantorglikin@gmail.com](mailto:cantorglikin@gmail.com)

if you're interested to  
learn more.



## SAVE THE DATE FOR TWO EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES WITH RABBI DOV TAYLOR:

**November 13-15, 2015**  
**Scholar in Residence Weekend at Solel**

**February 28-March 10, 2016**  
**An Interfaith Experience of Israel & the West Bank**

Details can be found [here](#):

<http://www.mejditours.com/open-tour/an-interfaith-experience-of-israel-palestine/>

# ATTENTION: STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND GRANDPARENTS

## BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT AND SANCTIONS: A MOVEMENT AGAINST ISRAEL ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES



### Guest Speakers:

**John Lowenstein**, JUF VP of Campus Affairs and Student Engagement and Executive Director of the Hillels of Illinois

**Michael Simon**, Executive Director, Northwestern University Hillel

**Nathan Bennett**, student at Northwestern University

**Jacqueline Soria**, student at Northwestern University

## Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 7-9 pm

### at Congregation Solel

#### Program:

- WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
- What is the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement?
- Why is it Important to College Students, their Parents and the Broader Jewish Community?
- What Can We Do About It?

### FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

*Co-sponsored by: Am Shalom, Congregation Solel, Israel Education Center, North Shore Congregation Israel, and Temple Jeremiah.*



# *West Deerfield Township Food Pantry Food Drive — Please Help!*



## **Food donations are needed now more than ever.**

These are tough economic times and many families are just barely able to make ends meet. This includes many working families, often times referred to as the working poor. One of our main goals is to reduce homelessness by helping families remain in their homes by providing food so they can use their limited financial resources for rent, utilities, etc.

**We are in need of food donations.** Any type of non-perishable food items or toiletry products will be welcomed. Our normal food sources have decreased significantly so we really need your help!

We are forced to purchase more food which is placing a strain on our financial resources.

Additionally, we accept grocery store gift cards as well as monetary donations.

**When: Please bring your donations to the Solel Annual BBQ on Friday, August 28 at 5:30 pm.**

**Questions? Please contact Sue Ulman at (312) 953-1991 or Anne Kleinerman at (847) 922-8768.**

**If you are unable to attend the BBQ, please feel free to bring donations to the synagogue office.**

### **What to Bring:**

- Grocery store gift cards & monetary donations
- Canned meat, tuna, stew, hash, baked beans, chili, etc.
- Canned peaches, pears, fruit cocktail, applesauce, other fruit.
- Cereal & side dish mixes (rice, potato, pasta)
- Canned vegetables & fruit
- Peanut butter
- Juice
- Soup
- Toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, etc.
- Laundry detergent- small size, dish detergent, cleaning products
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes





**yeehaw!** *come on down to a* 

**SUMMER** 

**BACKYARD**

 **BBQ**

 **AND PARTY!**

**Friday, August 28, 2015**

5:30 pm - BBQ

7:00 pm - Shabbat service followed by oneg

BBQ will be at Congregation Solel, outside if weather



**RSVP by Friday, August 21:** Return this form to the synagogue office, register online at [www.solel.org](http://www.solel.org), or email [soleloffic@solel.org](mailto:soleloffic@solel.org).

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Adults(\$10/adult) (\$25/family): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children : \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Vegetarian Meals: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept my check in the amount of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my: VISA \* MasterCard \* Discover Card

CC #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## August Artist Exhibit in Lounge: Ted Lowitz

Ted has been a member of Congregation Solel since he was in kindergarten, and he and his family have been deeply involved in the congregation's life. His father, Donald, served as president in the 1970's and his brother, Josh, is the current president (although Ted's Solel exhibit was scheduled long before Josh was slated to become president, so, please, no accusations of nepotism!). Ted was active in the Solel youth group when he was in high school, was a student teacher in the religious school, and has served on several committees over the years.

Ted's path as an artist has been influenced by the painters Mark Rothko, Barnett Newman, Richard Diebenkorn, and Caspar David Friedrich. His most significant influence was his maternal grandmother, Ella Labovitz. Ella was a daring and passionate painter. Her paintings have an enormous range and depth of emotion. Even when painting a vase of flowers or a wild-flower meadow overlooking Lake Superior, she was less interested in beauty, and more interested in truth. Her encouragement of Ted's pursuit of art, coupled with his parents' encouragement, gave Ted the confidence to pursue the path of an artist.

Credit is also due to Lawrence Charak, a member of Congregation Solel who was Ted's sixth grade religious school teacher. Lawrence was an immensely talented, imaginative, spirited artist, and his ability to fashion a creative life as both an artist and a businessman inspired Ted to follow a similar path.

In 1990, Ted founded Lowitz & Company, a hand-made art tile company. With guidance from his business-minded brother, Josh, and his organization-minded sister, Amy, he built the company from a one-man operation in his apartment to a small staff of tile-makers in a studio in Chicago's Ravenswood neighborhood. The company sells three collections of ceramic and bronze tile—Talisman, Foundry Art, and Bronzework Studio. Ted designs the tiles with the help of his staff, and the tiles are sold at tile specialty showrooms across the United States, the United Kingdom, and in Japan.

In recent years, Ted's personal art has centered on photography. His work mostly focuses on two subjects: relaxed, contemplative portraits; and the interplay of nature and culture. For his presentation of photographs at Solel, Ted has chosen six outdoor scenes taken over a period of about ten years.



## Pray 'n Play

This isn't your ordinary  
Tot Shabbat!

**Saturday, August 1**  
**10:30 am at Fink Park**

Join other families with children 0-5  
years of age for a fun, interactive  
"Gymboree-style" Shabbat program,  
featuring music, maracas, puppets &  
parachutes.

Followed by a complimentary bagel  
brunch and playtime. Older siblings  
are welcome to attend!

**Come, sing, play, make friends!!**

**Led by Cantor Vicky Glikin**



**Future Dates:**  
October 31  
November 21  
December 19

## Values and Connections in Our School

It is such a blessing to be part of this community of pathfinders, who value working together to make the world a better place. To that end, it is my goal to create sacred space within the religious school where children are encouraged to ask big questions, develop meaningful relationships, and of course feel a positive connection to their synagogue home. For the education of my own children, I continually ask myself the question "Why?" Why do we invest so much of our time and resources into the Jewish education of our youth, even amidst the challenging competition with soccer, dance, homework, and our busy lives? What is it that we want our children to inherit for their own Jewish journeys?

Of course we will continue to teach Torah, history, holidays, Israel, and the beloved Hebrew in our school, but the goal is much larger than the content. We invest because we want our children to feel connected to the Jewish people, to feel connected to this special place, Solel, and to feel connected to one another. Maybe, just maybe, even to feel connected to something greater than themselves, to a sense of God. We create connection not by dumping content into their always evolving brains. Rather, we create connection by being present to our children and in our classrooms. We create connection by modeling the values we want our children to inherit.

The Jewish people had a law, a set of ethics, and values, before we had a place. At our best, we are a people of integrity and honesty, while striving to live up to our name-sake, *Yehudim*, the Jews, from the same Hebrew root as *hoda'ah*, meaning gratitude. If we want our children to be grateful, we must practice gratitude ourselves. If we want our children to be kind, we must practice kindness. If we want our children to be generous, we must practice generosity. This is not to expect perfection of ourselves or our children, because of course we will not always be patient, loving-kind, grateful people, and our children will certainly not always follow our example. But it is to say that values matter, and classrooms which reflect these values help our students grow into the next generation of *Solelim*, people devoted to kindness, community, and making the world a better place. I am so excited to begin this work together, and look forward to a wonderful year ahead.

-Ashley Plotnick  
soleeducator@gmail.com

## SHABBAT SHALOM

A SERVICE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

With its high energy and casual atmosphere it is the perfect way for families and Solelites of all ages to celebrate Shabbat.

**SEPTEMBER 25**

5:30 PM Pizza Dinner

6:15 PM Shabbat Service

Shabbat. Friendship. Community.  
Family. Song.  
**SHABBAT SHALOM!**



Future Dates:  
October 30  
November 27  
December 25

## Calling all Photographers & Videographers!!

Do you like to videotape and take pictures? You can help Solel capture its treasured moments! If you would be willing to help take pictures or videotape at events throughout the year, then this is an opportunity for you! We are happy to provide the equipment.



Please help us to capture the moments that make Solel the special community that it is!

To sign up and with any questions, please be in touch with Rachel Meltzer at [rachel.meltzer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rachel.meltzer@sbcglobal.net).

# Rabbi Moffic Headlines Lake County United Assembly

Congregation Solel's Rabbi Evan Moffic headlined Lake County United's July 18 assembly, using teachings of the three Abrahamic religions – Judaism, Christianity and Islam – to set the stage for the program designed to address homelessness and barriers to access to mental healthcare.

Six Solelites joined more than 250 Lake County residents who met to tell county officials that they want something done to solve access to mental healthcare issues in the county. "We need the power assembled here today," Rabbi Moffic told the assembly. "We need to take a stand and create a society where we recognize, as the Bible puts it, that 'every human being is created in the image of God.'"

Ed and Judy Bederman, Faye Grossman and Larry and Meta Levin, all from Solel, were among those at the assembly, sponsored by Lake County United (LCU), which was held at Santa Maria del Popolo School in Mundelein, in part to celebrate work done by LCU toward building a 40 unit supportive and affordable housing apartment building in the area. Congregation Solel has been an active LCU member since 2007.

Lake County United is a non-partisan organization composed of faith-based and not-for-profit organizations dedicated to finding solutions for community problems identified by members. It believes in partnering with local movers and shakers to work towards practical and effective solutions to these issues.

Currently Lake County Sheriff's officials estimate that about 40 percent of those in the jail have mental and or behavioral health problems. Often they need treatment and don't belong in jail, but have no place else to go. Furthermore, the county's own statistics show that each person diverted from jail saves the county \$150 a day or \$54,750 per year.

Lake County officials, including Lake County Board Chair Aaron Lawler, Lake County State's Attorney Michael Nerheim and 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court Judge Christopher Stride, as well as representatives from various agencies, including Tony Beltran, Lake County Health Department Director, showed support for a three-pronged program to attack access to mental healthcare problems and homelessness in the county.

The plan, drawn up in concert with Lake County United and a number of county officials and agencies, has the

potential to save the county thousands of dollars annually, an assertion underscored by Nerheim and Stride.

Under the proposal, county officials would work together with public and private agencies to identify funding for three programs:

- Critical Incident Training (CIT) for law enforcement officers
- A crisis care center
- Supportive and affordable housing

During the meeting Lawler and Nerheim committed to work to identify resources to address these needs, and Judge Stride described how the lack of resources impacts the legal system.

CIT training provides mental health crisis training for law enforcement officers, giving them the skills necessary to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness, as well as to de-escalate crisis situations.

A crisis care center provides a place for those with mental or behavioral health programs to get help, such as a psychiatric evaluation, counseling and medication, long-term treatment if needed and a temporary place to stay, avoiding jail and hospital stays.

Official estimates show that a crisis care center could save the county as much as 80 percent of the cost of jail for each person served, reducing health and emergency costs by 73 percent.

Supportive housing combines affordable housing with services allowing people to have a stable place to live. Research has shown that it helps build strong, healthy communities and improves the safety of neighborhoods. People with stable housing have fewer interactions with law enforcement.

In places where supportive housing programs are in place, research shows that it reduces the costs of providing services for those most at risk. In Lake County that would mean a reduction of \$40,000 annually to about \$11,000.

Lake County United leaders from diverse backgrounds shared stories of family members with mental health issues, including what stable housing meant to their overall well-being. For more information, contact Meta Levin ([meta.levin@comcast.net](mailto:meta.levin@comcast.net)).

- Meta Levin

## Rabbi Moffic's Address to Lake County United's July 18 Assembly

In the Bible, God promises Abraham two things: land and people. If we look at these two promises symbolically, we see how critical they still are today.

Land is a place to live, a place to call our own. Abraham was a nomadic person. God promises him a home. Perhaps God recognized each of us needs a home. We need not only the shelter, though that is critical. We need not only the bed and the privacy, though these are important, as well. We need a home base, a place of rest that gives us a foundation to become truly human.

When we have no place to live, we are constantly thinking about where we can live. We can't develop our unique gifts, form relationships or contribute to the world. To help someone get housing not only benefits them. It benefits the community. It allows us to live more peacefully and productively with one another. As people of faith, dedicated to enhancing and sustaining human dignity, what more important task do we have?

The second promise--a people--represents community. It is God's promise to Abraham that he will not live alone in this world. He will have friends, a social network, a community. Mental illness, when it is untreated and ignored, makes this kind of life impossible. It can lead us away from one another, into a cocoon, into anger, into pain, into isolation. Frequently it leads to prison.

What if we recognized God's ancient promise? What if we worked to bring those who are mentally ill into communities where they can heal and grow? What if we recognized that mental illness is a not a defect? It is not make someone bad or evil. It is simply a difference, a reality, a part of a person that need not relegate them to a life on the streets or in prison.

We can realize these ancient promises today. We have the capabilities. We have the knowledge. We simply need the political will! We need the political backbone! We need the power assembled here today! We need to take a stand and create a society where we recognize, as the Bible puts, that "every human being is created in the image of God!"

I am not a politician. I am not a social worker. I am a rabbi dedicated to help create a home for God here on earth. To make a home for God, we need to make homes for one another. We need to build a society where people are not shut off from one another in prison and on the streets. Let's do it. Today. Now. For, as a great rabbi once said, "If not now, when?"



**Pictured above (from left): Rabbi Evan Moffic; Aaron Lawlor, Lake County Board Chair; Judge Christopher Stride, 19<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, Mental Health Court; Michael Nerheim, Lake County States Attorney.**



*- Rabbi Moffic*

# **Please join us for Sukkah decorating and a potluck lunch!**

## **Sunday, October 4 at 12:00 pm**



We will start with a potluck lunch and Sukkah decorating at 12:00 pm followed by a Sukkot service under the Sukkah at 1:00 pm.

Please bring a nut-free dish that can be shared with 8-10 people and we will provide the dessert!

**RSVP appreciated to Michelle Raz at [soleoffice@solel.org](mailto:soleoffice@solel.org)  
or (847) 433-3555.**

Congregation Solel  
1301 Clavey Road • Highland Park, IL 60035  
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## Rabbi Moffic

*(Continued from page 1)*

We become more generous and loving. We become more merciful and understanding. Grace changes us, and thereby transforms the world.

2. Find a Community: Rev. Pinckney's life cannot be separated from his church. In Judaism and Christianity, a house of worship offers acceptance, hope, joy, security and transformation. It provides a home for God. It embodies the qualities each of us strives for. It is community.

We can appreciate the power of community even if we do not practice a faith. Business consultant Jim Rohn said we are the average of the five people we spent the most time around. If we spend our time in a good community, we will become more loving, giving, and kind.

3. Aim for Fullness: We often confuse longevity with significance. A long life, we think, is a full life. That is not always true. As Abraham Lincoln put it, "In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."

Reverend Pinckney put a lot of life into his 42 years. He was a pastor, teacher, politician, husband and father. He touched people both twice and half his age.

In thinking of his life, I thought of a saying of the Jewish sages: "The righteous, even when they die, are called living." In other words, the righteous live on in the inspiration and loved ones they leave behind.

Reverend Pinckney lived in such a way. So may we.

*- Rabbi Evan Moffic  
emoffic@gmail.com*

### REMINDER:

Stop by the synagogue and fill out your membership renewals and High Holy Days ticket requests.



## Simchat Torah

**Simchat Torah  
Friday, October 9  
6:30 pm Evening Service &  
Consecration**

**Bring friends & family of all ages to  
celebrate the completion of the  
reading of the Torah and beginning  
the new reading cycle!**

*We would welcome your donations to help make the  
Shabbat oneg special! Please return this form  
to the synagogue office if you are interested in  
sponsoring.*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please accept my check in the amount of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please charge my credit card in the amount of:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**We accept VISA \* MasterCard \* Discover Card**

**CC #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiration Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

What are you doing to celebrate the High Holy Days?

Come to Congregation Solel's 2015/5776 Family Services!



*Rosh Hashanah: Monday, September 14 at 2:00 pm*

*Yom Kippur: Wednesday, September 23 at 2:00 pm*

Join us for lively, informal services for families with children. Guests are welcome and tickets are not required. Bring friends and family!

*Tashlikh and Shabbat Shuvah: Friday, September 18 at 5:45 pm*

We will begin with the Tashlikh ceremony at 5:45 pm by the pond at Fink Park, which will be followed by a Shabbat Shuvah service for the whole family at 6:15 pm in the Chapel. Bring your own shofar! If the weather doesn't cooperate, Tashlikh will be inside Congregation Solel.



*Sukkot Family Experience: Tuesday, September 29 at 6:00 pm*

Join us with family and friends for this short, engaging, and song-filled family experience for families with pre-readers. If you like Pray 'n Play, this is the service for you! Come celebrate and have fun with your children and grandchildren!



*Simchat Torah: Friday, October 9 at 6:30 pm*

We will celebrate the completion of the reading of the Torah and the beginning of the new reading cycle. Join us for singing, dancing, and celebration!



RSVP appreciated to Michelle Raz at  
soleloftice@solel.org or (847) 433-3555.



# Days of Awe 5776/2015

## Schedule of Worship and Fall Festivals

### Selichot

Join us on **Saturday, September 5 at 7:00 PM**. We will begin with a light meal, then move into the Sanctuary for Havdalah, study and a worship service with the Solel choir. This is a great informal opportunity to learn, reflect and prepare for our sacred days.

### Adult Services

A formal service with sermons geared to adults and children in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older. Our seating policy allows you to save one seat for a designated driver. **Cards of Admission are required.**

**Doors open one hour before services begin.**

### Rosh Hashanah

**Sunday, September 13**

Evening Service 8:00 PM

**Monday, September 14**

Morning Service 10:00 AM

Board Reception 12:30 PM

**Tuesday, September 15**

Second Day Service 9:30 AM

### Yom Kippur

**Tuesday, September 22**

Kol Nidre 8:00 PM

**Wednesday, September 23**

Morning Service 10:00 AM

Afternoon Service 3:30 PM

Memorial/Yizkor Service 4:30 PM\*

Concluding Service 5:00 PM\*

*\*Times are approximate*

### Family Services

**Monday, September 14 at 2:00 PM and**

**Wednesday, September 23 at 2:00 PM.**

Join us for lively, informal services for families with children. Guests are welcome and Cards of Admission are not required. Bring friends and family!

### Second Day of Rosh Hashanah Worship

**Tuesday, September 15 at 9:30-11:00 AM.** The service will be in the Chapel. Cards of admission are not required.

### Tashlikh and Shabbat Shuvah

**Friday, September 18**

The Tashlikh ceremony will start at 5:45 PM by the pond in Fink Park, followed by a short child-friendly service. Bring your own shofar! If weather doesn't cooperate, Tashlikh will be at Congregation Solel.

Shabbat Shuvah Services will be in the Chapel immediately following Tashlikh at 6:15 PM.

### Sukkot

All are invited not to one but two Sukkot celebrations! The first one will be our **Sukkot Family Experience on Tuesday, September 29 at 6:00 PM**. Join us with family and friends for the first night of Sukkot for this short, engaging, and song-filled family experience for families with pre-readers. If you like Pray 'n Play this is the service for you! The service will be followed by child-friendly snacks. Come celebrate and have fun with your children and grandchildren!

If you can't come on Tuesday, don't worry, you can join us at our **Sukkah Decorating and Potluck Lunch on Sunday, October 4 at 12:00 PM** (right after Religious School). We will start with a potluck lunch and Sukkah decorating followed by Sukkot Service under the Sukkah at 1:00 PM. Bring a dish that can be shared with 8-10 people and we will provide dessert. **Guests are welcome for both events.**

## Pastoral Care at Congregation Solel



Rabbi Moffic, Cantor Glikin, and your Solel community want to support you in times when you or someone close to you is in need of physical, spiritual, or emotional healing.

Your congregation cares about you! Please help us to know when you are in need of extra care at [clergy@solel.org](mailto:clergy@solel.org).

## Mazel Tov to Molly Seligman on her Bat Mitzvah!



Molly Seligman, daughter of Steve and Marsha, will become a Bat Mitzvah on August 22, 2015. She is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Edgewood Middle School in Highland Park. Molly will share her Bat Mitzvah with her sister, Sophie. Molly's favorite hobbies are singing and knitting. From her Mitzvah Project, Molly learned that people should be grateful for what they have because there are people all around the

world that need so much. Molly's mitzvah project was knitting and collecting hats for the homeless. Molly's Torah Portion is *Shoftim*, from the Book of Deuteronomy. The most important thing Molly learned from her Torah portion is that people should finish what they start. Another important lesson Molly learned from her experience becoming a Bat Mitzvah is having the responsibilities of being a Jewish adult. The greatest challenge she faced in preparing for her ceremony was learning her Haftarah.

## Mazel Tov to Sophie Seligman on her Bat Mitzvah!



Sophie Seligman, daughter of Steve and Marsha, will become a Bat Mitzvah on August 22, 2015. She is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Edgewood Middle School in Highland Park. Sophie will share her Bat Mitzvah with her sister, Molly. Sophie's favorite hobbies are art, music, baking and spending quality time with her family. For Sophie's mitzvah project she volunteered at an assisted living

facility. She learned that her compassion and patience made the residents feel happy. Sophie's Torah Portion is *Shoftim*, from the Book of Deuteronomy. The most important thing Sophie learned from her Torah portion is that when you get a second chance, use it wisely. The important thing Sophie learned from her experience becoming a Bat Mitzvah is being able to finally be seen as a young Jewish adult, and being able to participate in services in the future. The greatest challenge she faced in preparing for her ceremony was learning her Haftarah.

## Mazel Tov to...

**Dr. and Mrs. Richard Issacson**, on the birth of their grandson.

**Alice and Robert Kohn**, on the birth of their granddaughter, Ellie Sylvie Kohn .

**Lindsay Schoenberg**, on her marriage to David Kanter.

**Howard and Lynn Tatar**, on the birth of their grandson, Cameron Jacob Tatar. Cameron's parents are Ben Tatar and his wife, Ilene Auerbach.

### Stock Transfers to Congregation Solel

In order to make stock transfers from your accounts to Congregation Solel, the congregation works with Mesirow Financial, Inc.

**Please Note: This is a NEW location for gifting stocks to Congregation Solel:**

**Mesirow Financial, Inc.**

**DTC# 0226**

**F/B/O NFS Account#WMP-002738**

**Congregation Solel**

As always, your contributions to Congregation Solel are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

If there are any questions, please call Allan Litwack, Executive Director, at (847) 433-3555, ext 225. Thank you for your continued support.

# Thank You For Your Contributions

## Cantor's Discretionary Fund

**Carol Adelman**, in memory of Larry Adelman  
**Adam and Katherine Keyser**, in honor of Jordan Keyser's bar mitzvah

## Education Fund

**James and Sue Kach**, in memory of Seymour Tabin

## Human Needs Fund

**Michael and Darryl Ebner**, in honor of Corinne Q. Siegel Gerson's very significant birthday  
**Alan and Carol Greene**, in honor of Chuck and Sondra Sonneborn's 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary  
**Nancy Kullman**, in memory of Larry Adelman  
**Nancy Loeb**  
**Toddy Richman**, in memory of Selma Melvoin

## Music Fund

**Joanne and Bob Bernstein**, in memory of Larry Adelman  
**Mary Haber**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**Larry and Susan Mason**, in memory of A. Thomas Bernstein and Larry Adelman  
**Shelley Rochelle**, in memory of Larry Adelman

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Carol Adelman**, in memory of Larry Adelman  
**Robina and Steven Fisher**, in memory of Dorothy Barr  
**Roberta G. Heinrich**, in honor of Bruce and Ellen Mondschain's wedding anniversary  
**Neal and Sharon Hirsch**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**Adam and Katherine Keyser**, in honor of Jordan Keyser's bar mitzvah  
**Laura and Michael Gold**, in memory of Herbert Mayer  
**Stuart and Patricia Lenhoff**, in memory of Morey Lenhoff

## Tribute Fund

**Richard and Andrea Amend**, in memory of Edith and Nathan Amend; in honor of Lynn and Gary Salit's daughter's wedding and in honor of Eli Zaken  
**Natalie Belrose, Robin Belrose Pierce, and Bruce Belrose**, in memory of Albert Belrose  
**Susan and Marc Benjamin**, in memory of Larry Adelman and Stuart Horwich  
**Mark and Lexis Blitstein**, in memory of Larry Adelman  
**Hugh and Arlene Block**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**Lorry Borowitz**, in memory of Julia Tabin  
**Robert and Belinda Brock**, in memory of Ruth Michelson  
**Natalie Caplin**, in memory of William Earl Caplin  
**Barbara Cohn**, in honor of Sharon and Jeff Karp renewing their wedding vows of 54 years.  
**Barbara and Steven Dibble**, in memory of Gertrude Dennison  
**David and Lois Eichengreen**, in memory of Peggy Eichengreen Ottenheimer  
**Coleen and Marc Friedman**, in memory of David Erdman and Pat Robinson

## Tribute Fund (continued)

**Paula and Tim Friedman and Patsy and Don Mintmire**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**Peter and Carol Goldman**, in memory of Harold Diamond  
**Joan and Thomas Goldwasser**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**James and Donna Gottlieb**, in memory of Sandi Weinberg  
**Carol and Alan Greene**, in memory of Clarabelle Lake  
**Howard and Kaye Haas**, in memory of Robert Haas  
**Kathleen Hart Solovy**, in memory of Sheldon Karon and Jerry Solovy  
**Richard and Carol Hillsberg**, in memory of Frank Hillsberg  
**Richard Horn**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**David and Arline Kallick**, in memory of Elizabeth Kallick  
**Lee Karon**, in memory of Larry Adelman and Bert Karon  
**Scott and Betsy Lassar**, in memory of Larry Adelman  
**Leonard and Ricki Levine**, in memory of Larry Adelman  
**Marilyn and Gary Meyers**, in memory of Dorothy Gerber  
**Michael and Kimberly Moore**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**Linda Muskin and John Cody**, in honor of Lee Gussin's birthday  
**Andrew Otting and Laura Hohnhold**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**Evelyn Padorr**, in memory of Helene Segil  
**Wendy and Wayne Rhodes**, in honor of Bruce and Ellen Monschain's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and the marriage of Rachel Salit, and in memory of A. Thomas Bernstein  
**Janice Ross and Martin Zabin**, in memory of Dorothy Rose Hippoletus  
**Lynn and Gary Salit**, in memory of Mae Wolfson  
**Sue Samuels**, in memory of Ethel Samuels  
**Janie and William Seiden**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**Barbara Tuch Cohen**, in memory of Margaret Pollak and Ralph Tuch  
**Brenda and Fred Turner**, in memory of Louis Spiegel, Joseph Spiegel, and Renate Spiegel  
**Michael and Marilyn Vender**, in memory of Sheldon Karon  
**Robert and Roberta Washlow**, in memory of Sidney Port  
**Liz and Dan Weil**, in memory of Edward Matz, Jr.  
**Suzanne Weiskopf**, in memory of Joseph Tyser and Larry Tyser  
**Susan and Richard Wellek**, in memory of Mae Wellek  
**Laurence and Deborah Wilneff**, in memory of Esther Wilneff  
**Jerry and Janet Wolf**, in memory of Allan Harris and Fanny Wolf  
*As of July 22, 2015*

## Condolences to...

**Rita Brief and Andrew Eichner**, on the passing of Rita's father, A. Thomas Bernstein.  
**Judy and Howard Friedman**, on the passing of Judy's mother, Maxine Dicker.

## Cantor Glikin

(Continued from page 2)

Azari's vision of using the day to reflect on the ills of Israeli society is one vision. Another vision could be using the day to reflect on the ills of our American society – on white privilege and racism, on constant encroachments on women's reproductive rights, on proliferation of gun violence, on an economic system that works for a few at the expense of the many. Yet another vision could be to use Tisha B'Av to reflect on the dismantling of the internal Temple of our heart for the purpose of its healing and rebuilding: the dismantling of unhelpful narratives within our lives, the healing of our souls toward the end of creating more compassion for ourselves and the people around us, the rebuilding of our broken relationships.

The beauty of Judaism is that throughout history it has constantly changed and evolved, always responding to contemporary needs. As Reform Jews, we recall Tisha B'Av not only for the purpose of remembering the grief of the national catastrophe, which the destruction of the Temple undoubtedly was, but even more importantly as a reminder of the tremendous strength that our people has exhibited over the course of its history to recover from tragedy and to thrive, time-and-time-again. We are the inheritors of this tremendous heritage. We are the children of all those who time and again despite unimaginable adversity, got up again and again, every time when they were pushed down. We are the children of the visionaries, of the dreamers, of all those who knew that they *could* even when they were told over and over again that they could *not*.

With this in mind, whatever our vision may be at this time – whether for a more perfect country, or a stronger personal relationship, or a more peaceful heart - Tisha B'Av is an opportunity to engage with this vision and to come one step closer to bringing it to reality. Tisha B'Av is a special time to meditate on our losses and challenges, as well as to consider how these can carry us forward. As we turn the corner from Tisha B'Av, we find ourselves at the gate of the Hebrew month of Elul. Elul is a month of reflection and moral accounting ahead of the High Holy Days. In this way, we ascend from the emotional low of Tisha B'Av into the month of Elul, which will eventually lead to the spiritual high of Rosh Hashana. In this holy ascent, may each of us have the strength and the clarity of mind to craft a vision for ourselves and for our world, and to realize this vision in our lifetime.

- Cantor Vicky Glikin  
cantorglikin@gmail.com

**SAVE THE DATE!!**

**Gran Fiesta**



**Thursday, August 13 at 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
at Oak Terrace School, Highwood**

**Volunteer and/or attend this year's Gran Fiesta  
which benefits Family Service's Latino Programs.  
Games, food, live music and many other  
activities.**

**Gun Safety Program  
Sunday, October 25 at 10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
at Lakeside Congregation**

**Congregation Solel's Just Congregations and  
Lakeside Congregation's Social Action Committee  
are presenting a program about Gun Safety. This  
is open to congregation members only. Please  
plan to attend this adult education program.**

For more information, contact Sharon Stein at  
[sstein24@gmail.com](mailto:sstein24@gmail.com)

## **NEW AMAZON PROGRAM ENABLES YOU TO EASILY DONATE TO SOLEL!!**

Follow these 3 easy steps and Amazon.com will  
donate 0.5% of your purchase back to  
Congregation Solel:

- 1) Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)
- 2) Log into your Amazon account
- 3) Select "Congregation Solel" and start shopping!



**YOU SHOP,  
AMAZON**

# August 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Kindle Shabbat Candles at dinner or at the following times (CDT): 7..... 7:45 pm 14..... 7:36 pm 21..... 7:25 pm 28..... 7:14 pm					<b>1</b> 9:15 am Torah Study 10:30 am Pray 'n Play 10:35 am Morning Minyan
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:00 pm Jewish War Veterans Executive Meeting 7:00 pm Prospective Member Open House 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 12:00 pm Downtown Lunch & Learn	<b>6</b> 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service	<b>8</b> 9:15 am Torah Study 10:35 am Morning Minyan
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 7:00 pm Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement Program with Guest Speaker Michael Simon & others	<b>13</b> 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service	<b>15</b> 9:15 am Torah Study 10:35 am Morning Minyan
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00 pm Jewish War Veterans Meeting 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Service	<b>22</b> 9:15 am Torah Study 10:30 am Molly & Sophie Seligman Bat Mitzvahs 10:35 am Morning Minyan
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b> 5:30 pm Annual BBQ 7:00 pm Shabbat Evening Service	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Executive Committee Meeting 10:15 am Board Meeting	<b>31</b>					

# Shabbat Services Schedule

## Friday, July 31

BYO Picnic (Fink Park) .....5:30 pm  
Shabbat Shalom (Fink Park) .....6:15 pm

## Saturday, August 1 — Va-et'chanan, Deut. 3:23-7:11

Torah Study .....9:15 am  
Pray 'n Play .....10:30 am  
Morning Minyan .....10:35 am

## Friday, August 7

Shabbat Evening Service.....7:30 pm

## Saturday, August 8 — Eikev, Deut. 7:12-11:25

Torah Study .....9:15 am  
Morning Minyan .....10:35 am

## Friday, August 14

Shabbat Evening Service .....7:30 pm

## Saturday, August 15 — R'eih, Deut. 11:26-16:17

Torah Study .....9:15 am  
Morning Minyan .....10:35 am

## Friday, August 21

Shabbat Evening Service .....7:30 pm

## Saturday, August 22 — Shoftim, Deut. 16:18-21:9

Torah Study .....9:15 am  
Molly & Sophie Seligman Bat Mitzvahs .....10:30 am  
Morning Minyan .....10:35 am

## Friday, August 28

Annual BBQ .....5:30 pm  
Shabbat Evening Service .....7:00 pm

## Saturday, August 29 — Ki Teitzei, Deut. 21:10-25:19

Torah Study .....9:15 am  
Morning Minyan .....10:35 am

Want to inquire more deeply into a passage after the Shabbat service?  
Find the weekly parashot and commentaries at these links:

Weekly D'var: <http://urj.org/learning/torah/>  
or

<http://www.reformjudaism.org/>

Parashot Summaries: <http://urj.org/learning/torah/summaries/>



*Many Paths. One Community*

We are a spiritual home that engages our members and community in *prayer, learning, and the pursuit of social justice*. We prize *inclusiveness, innovation, and involvement* in our programs, life cycle events, and leadership. Everyone who walks into our building should feel *inspired, uplifted, and connected*.

## Pathfinder

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President: Josh Lowitz ([president@solel.org](mailto:president@solel.org))  
Rabbi Emeritus: Rabbi Dov Taylor ([rabbitt@solel.org](mailto:rabbitt@solel.org))



**Deadline for Submissions: The next *Pathfinder* will be published September 2015. Please submit material by email on or before August 15, 2015 in order for it to appear in the September *Pathfinder*.**