Worship | Study | Good Deeds | Community

Kislev | Tevet | Shevat | Adar 5780
December 2019 | January | February 2020

Wise Temple

Kesher

Shining a Light on Tikkun Olam & At Home & Abroad
Shining a light on Tikkun Olam

“No one has ever become poor from giving.”

–Anne Frank

On Saturday, September 14th, 30 men, women and children from our Family Engagement program visited Matthew 25: Ministries in Blue Ash, Ohio. Matthew 25: Ministries is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization helping the poorest of the poor and disaster victims locally, regionally, nationally and internationally regardless of race, creed or political persuasion.

While there, they worked on the warehouse floor to sort and pack toiletry supplies and clothing for the victims of Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas. When their hard work came to an end, our Wise Temple team had helped over 6,000 hurricane victims!

As impactful as the day was, it's just a part of who we are at Wise Temple. In fact, our day at Matthew 25: Ministries is just one of over 63 different "Good Deeds" programs Wise Temple congregants participate in each year. We feed over 2,000 people in soup kitchens, house over 36 families through our participation in the Wise Family Shelter (a partner with Interfaith Hospitality Network) and donated over 13,000 pounds of food to the Freestore Foodbank during this year's High Holy Days.

While these numbers are impressive, they can't possibly tell the whole story. Because, as Jews, we are always looking to make the world a better place. It's helping a lost person find their way, even when you're in a hurry. It's sending flowers to someone who is feeling down. It's paying for a person's meal behind you in line. Simply put, it's the things we do that won't show up in statistics but could be 100% what someone needs, both here at home and abroad.

Cover Photo Credits: MJS Photography Limited | mjsphotography.photoshelter.com
Special thanks to Matthew 25: Ministries for allowing us to come back to the warehouse to create the cover photo. Also thanks to our cover subjects Chana Horowitz, Maddie Snyder and Zach Snyder. Even though they had school off for Columbus Day, they spent their morning smiling for the camera.
D’varim Min HaLev
Words from the Heart
–by Rabbi Lewis Kamrass

For over 140 years, since American Reform Judaism articulated its first statement of principles, we have lifted up the voice of relevant faith, an activist tradition that sought to translate values into deeds, to change the status quo of our world into a place more resonant with our aspirations. This consistent and powerful pulse finds its wellspring not only in early Reform Judaism, but from the earliest Biblical era, with the grand tradition of the Biblical prophets, who vigorously criticized hypocrisy and who challenged people to live the values that they studied and prayed. Since the beginning of Judaism, we have been looking at the world as it is, refusing to accept it as the way it has to be. We have been dreaming of the world as it ought to be, and then working toward it with an activist faith. Seeing ourselves as God’s partner in completing the work of creation is a treasured Jewish lens that reminds us to look larger and longer in our vision, to reject smallness and the status quo, and to join our deeds to our dreams.

In today’s world, this is done by aligning with causes, with movements, and with people of all faiths and traditions who share the hope for a better world for our children and grandchildren. But as Jews, when we do so, we bring our enduring and unique sensitivities, our values that flow bountifully from our tradition. That is why we Jews have always been at the vanguard of every movement for social change. And what powers that consistent Jewish pulse throughout the ages are religious values deeply embedded in the ways that we were raised, in the ways in which we think, and in the sense of resolve we bring to our daily lives. For us, serving as God’s partners in completing the work of creation is not simply an activity or a good deed, but a vocation, a sacred calling that imbues our deeds with meaning and purpose. Let us embrace that sense of calling, in our worship, in our study and in our days.

Faithfully,
Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass

Reaching Out
–by Stuart Susskind, Temple President

Recently, the congregation bid farewell for the next twelve months to Ken and Carol Kabel who set off to Ethiopia, of all places, to volunteer their time and talents to help the locals improve their lives. This Kesher gives you the opportunity to learn how the Kabels and other congregants are giving of themselves to make this world a better place for others in places far from our homes.

Tikkun Olam, the fundamental tenet of Judaism which involves working to improve our societies, is not only needed in Ethiopia or other foreign countries. We have plenty of need for the improvement of people’s lives right here in Cincinnati.

The most meaningful experiences for me in recent years have been serving dinners to our guests at Wise Family Shelter (a partner with Interfaith Hospitality Network). By volunteering to help, it put me in a position to literally “break bread” with people who are homeless, to help provide them with food, shelter and the opportunity for dignity by virtue of their interactions with the volunteers. It reminds me of how lucky I am to live the life I live.

Your congregation provides numerous other opportunities for you to engage in serving to make lives better right here in your own backyard. St. Francis Seraph Soup Kitchen, the Freestore Foodbank, and Lighthouse Youth Services are examples of projects in which fellow congregants are actively participating as volunteers. Check out our website for WiseUP Volunteer projects to see if anything strikes you as something to which you might enjoy giving your time and talents.

When being asked to make life better for others, most of us immediately think of writing a check. Demands on our time make volunteering for these social service projects difficult, but if you can devote some of your free time to one of these projects, you will have done a mitzvah and, equally importantly, you will be rewarded, no doubt, in feeling good about what you have done for others less fortunate than you.
Three doctors from the international trenches of Tikkun Olam bear witness to its challenges and rewards

Mending Kids
One Surgery at a Time

Dr. Jason Frischer and his wife Lori only meant to stay in Cincinnati for a few years, just long enough for him to experience working at, arguably, the world’s most prestigious pediatric hospital, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center (Children’s). “We’re both born and raised New Yorkers. I couldn’t spell Cincinnati or find it on a map. The tri-state to me meant New York, New Jersey and Connecticut!” But 12 years later, they are still here and love what a smaller city like Cincinnati has to offer. To Jason and Lori’s amusement, their children—Elle (14) and Cal (10)—speak with a midwestern accent.

Jason grew up wanting to be a doctor, and by 7th grade had settled on pediatrics. He studied general pediatric surgery, then went on to study pediatric colorectal surgery, for which there were very few surgeons in the country. Jason now directs the Colorectal Center at Children’s.

Jason spends long hours in the operating room between brief snatches of sleep on an office couch and frequently works 7 days a week so he can keep worried parents updated on their children’s conditions. Caring for kids with serious health problems is all he ever wanted to do. Jason says, “I’m not as selfless as it sounds. I like helping people. Their gratitude makes me feel good about myself. When a little boy proudly shows me that after years of wearing diapers, he’s wearing ‘big-boy pants’ or strangers in a restaurant tell me that their daughter I operated on after a horrible car crash is healthy and preparing for college, I realize how lucky I am to do what I do.” He feels this way, even though
A Matter of Priorities

Drs. Andrea Rinderknecht (pediatric emergency medicine trained, now in private practice) and Jordan Bonomo (emergency medicine, neuro- and cardiac-thoracic critical care) have traveled to Honduras, South Africa, Haiti and Kenya on medical missions. But the beginning of their story starts at Brown University where they met and fell in love during their undergraduate studies. After graduating from medical school, Cincinnati came next.

Jordan: “We signed up for the residency draft as a couple. We chose Cincinnati for Children’s and U.C. They’re among the best for our disciplines. Andrea was near the top of our class and I just came in on her coattails.”

They began mission work as residents. Their first mission was in the jungles of Honduras. The temporary clinics administered primary care to hundreds of patients a day, deworming many and sending them home with vitamins and analgesics.

Andrea: “Most health problems were the result of infrastructure issues—without clean water and sewage systems, they would get worms again in two weeks. It’s a vicious cycle. We thought of it as ‘bandaid’ medicine.”

Jordan: “We learned a hard lesson. It’s easy to march into a jungle with a bag of medicines and a stethoscope and think you’re doing important work, but it had no lasting effect. It was so frustrating as young, idealistic physicians who wanted to alleviate all the suffering we saw in front of us. Most times what was needed first was a well for water, then a school, and then a medical clinic.”

Doctor on a Mission

About seven years ago, Jason was feeling overworked and burned out, suffering a mid-career crisis. He found himself on the web, googling pediatric mission trips, and discovered a non-profit in California called “Mending Kids,” that specializes in providing life-saving surgical care for kids all over the world.

Jason set out on a fact-finding trip, and after five flights and 42 hours, landed in Mwanza, Tanzania. There he toured the Bugando Medical Center (BMC), a 900-bed hospital serving 16 million people in Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya. He was introduced to Sister Alicia Massenga, a general surgeon (and nun) with an intense desire for a pediatric surgery program to address the long list of children in need of life-changing surgeries. The trip inspired him to return with a team, six trips to date.

Jason’s team—mostly staff from the Colorectal Center at Cincinnati Children’s and their collaborative partners who return year after year with him—including surgeons, nurses, anesthesiologists, radiologists, and operating room technicians. Just flying in for a week to operate on as many kids as they could (a grueling, exhausting task by itself), would only put a bandaid on the problem. “We can’t fix every kid in the week we’re there. Our goal is to work toward the hometown surgeons, doctors, and nurses taking care of the kids themselves. We train them to do surgical procedures and post-op care, and how to teach patients to manage their conditions to achieve normal lives.” They’re also working with Sister Massenga’s staff to develop better ways of handling medical records and improve operating procedures so the pediatric program at the BMC can eventually function independently of the Mending Kids mission teams. Sister Massenga and her head nurse Carol have visited the Colorectal Center at Children’s, and a tremendous amount of questions and advice flow back and forth between the staffs through email and social media.

Jason’s career has been reenergized, thanks to his Mending Kids involvement. “It’s humbling, going back to basics. It grounds me to learn from someone who has so few resources to work with. They have workarounds and tricks I don’t know. I’m thankful for my team, and all we’ve learned and accomplished there.”

Root, root, root for the home team!

LEFT: Jason, a Yankees fan, with his “home team,” Elle, Cal, and Lori. “My dream job would be shortstop for the New York Yankees. But really, I love making sick kids feel better. I’d happily do it for a dollar a year if I could. And it wouldn’t be possible without the support of my family. They make sacrifices every day so I can be there for kids and their families.”

ABOVE: Andrea and Jordan in Haiti. Haiti means a lot to Jordan. “I want to go back so much. There is so much left to do. My heart lives in Haiti still. I miss my friends there and I miss the Haitian spirit. They are such strong people.”
Be proud to be Jewish

In the far northeast corner of South Africa, near the Mozambique border, is a rural hospital founded by Anglican missionaries, where a handful of doctors ministered to 4.5 million Zulus. For six weeks, Andrea and Jordan's duty: to relieve the local physicians.

**Jordan:** “I was assigned the men’s ICU ward. Multiple patients per bed, head to toe. HIV, tuberculosis, cancer, all mixed together. The nurse (a nun) asked me ‘Do you believe in our lord Jesus Christ?’ and my heart sank. She was my link to the patients, and I wasn’t sure what to say. I thought about my rabbi when I was a kid who always said ‘Be proud to be Jewish. Never deny it unless it’s a safety issue.’ I took a deep breath and said, ‘Actually, I don’t believe in Jesus the way you do, I’m Jewish.’ She clucked, did a little dance, and began to cry with joy. ‘You are the first Jew we have met besides Jesus. All these patients will get better now.’ They saw Jews as the mythical chosen people from the Old Testament. All these faces were shining with hope, thinking I would be able to do something that doctors working in the hospital for years couldn’t do.”

**Andrea:** “Patients in austere, resource-limited environments have an amazing appreciation for even simple things we can provide, like immunizations. They see the diseases that kill their kids—meningitis, malaria, polio, tetanus...they’d do anything to get them vaccinated.”

Biblical suffering

In 2010, Haiti experienced a catastrophic earthquake. The death toll was well over 100,000 and millions were displaced. When Jordan and Andrea got there, over a million people were living in tents, violence was endemic, the largest cholera epidemic in the modern world was running rampant, and the fresh water flown in by the U.N. was being hijacked by bandits.

**Jordan:** “In a place fraught with chaos, we’re bound by our ethics and moral compass to do the right things—no administrators looking over our shoulders. We were completely out of our comfort zones. It was a growth opportunity, but a really stressful one.”

**Andrea:** “One-on-one connections were incredible. I spent time with a little boy suffering from hydrocephalus. He had no family. I carried him in my arms over ditches and through the mud to get him a CAT scan. The physical touch was so important to him and me. Here in the states, most physical contact with patients comes from nurses and we miss out on that.”

**Jordan:** “After Haiti came out of disaster mode, people had to start paying for care and couldn’t afford it. The hospital compound was surrounded by armed guards. Stability was an issue, and medical personnel lost their lives. Civil unrest forced a travel warning at the same level as Yemen. That made missions unsustainable.”

The world is dying...to get better

Andrea and Jordan had no plan to stay in Cincinnati beyond their residencies.
Help Kids in Need with Your

**BEDTIME BUNDLES**

Provide comfort to children ages 0-16 at the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter.

Donate your bundle in the crib located in the Wise Center lobby from **November 3 – December 18.**

**How to make a Bedtime Bundle**

**Fill a new pillowcase (available at the Temple office) with the following NEW items:**
- Pajamas
- Underwear or diapers/wipes
- Socks
- Toothpaste/toothbrush
- Small toy, stuffed animal, or book

**Other ways to help:**
Donate new bath towels, washcloths, twin bed sheets, toiletries, shampoo, deodorant, diapers, and baby bottles, for which there is always a need.

**Cash donations are also encouraged!**
Help Sisterhood make additional Bundles and fulfill other shelter needs. **Please make checks payable to Wise Temple Sisterhood and mail to:**
Wise Temple Sisterhood
ATTN: Bedtime Bundles
8329 Ridge Road,
Cincinnati, OH 45236

**Questions?**
Call Cindy Rovai at (513) 328-5473 or email cynthiarovai@gmail.com

**PARENTS!**
Here’s a chance to teach your children about Tikkun Olam - helping others in need.

**BEDTIME BUNDLES TARGET RUN**

Shop with your child(ren) as you fill a pillowcase with comfort items for a child (age 0-16) who is currently staying at the YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter. Families can shop together, putting the “social” in social action! Bedtime Bundles are being collected at Wise Temple.

After Religious School, enjoy lunch from Brotherhood, then head to Blue Ash Target where the group will gather in the Target café area to put the shopping experience into the context of Jewish values for parents and kids, and after we shop we can enjoy a snack together and talk about the Bundles we’ve assembled. Come for what will be a fun and meaningful time for all ages!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Family Social Action</strong></th>
<th><strong>Blue Ash Target</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 8</td>
<td>9099 Plainfield Rd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 PM – 1:45 PM</td>
<td>Blue Ash, OH 45236</td>
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**RSVP:** wisetemple.org/targetrun
A Special Multi-Generational Chanukah Service for All Ages

Bring your menorah and set the chapel aglow!

Imagine menorahs of all designs lighting up the chapel with the flickering lights from hundreds of candles.

Imagine sharing this beautiful moment with your family — your entire Wise Temple family.

Imagine making a memory you’ll keep in your heart forever.

Congregational Chanukah Shabbat Service (including Chanukiah candle lighting)
Friday, December 27
6:15 PM – 7:15 PM

Chanukah Dinner/Activities
7:15 PM – 8:30 PM
RSVP: wisetemple.org/chanukahdinner

RSVP by Monday, December 23 to enjoy a delicious dinner (including latkes), crafts, activities and more. The celebration is intended for ALL ages. Remember to bring your own chanukiah (Chanukah menorah) and candles to kindle during the service!

$10 for Adults, $6.50 for children (ages 2 and under free), $35 maximum per immediate family
Featuring Wise Temple’s soloist, Simon Barrad, opera singer and our cantorial vocalist for several years at the High Holy Days and various Shabbat services. While he now lives in California, Simon returns to Cincinnati for the weekend to lead us in a special service that will highlight a hidden gem of worship music in Cincinnati.

The entire service will feature music that comes from "Cincinnati’s Hidden Musical Treasure: The Birnbaum Collection."

In 1918, Cincinnati Hebrew Union College's librarian acquired the music manuscript collection of Eduard Birnbaum, a cantor, musicologist, and collector of Jewish music. This collection, housed at HUC-JIR’s Klau Library, is the largest assemblage of historical documents pertaining to Jewish liturgical (worship) music in the world, and contains more than 65 percent of all extant Jewish liturgical music manuscripts written prior to 1850. The catalog tells the story of the development of Jewish music in Europe and reflects the surrounding secular and Christian liturgical music of the time.

Enjoy the music of this significant collection rendered through the warm and inviting voice of Simon Barrad.

Friday, January 24
6:15 PM | Wise Center
**Hey, Families!**

Say Goodbye to Winter at the Family Retreat!

This two-day event, designed for families with kids ages 4-14 (younger siblings always welcome!), will include:

- Interactive family activities
- A dedicated “teen track” for those in 6th – 8th grade
- Music
- Art
- Social action
- A beautiful Havdalah service
- Jewish learning
- Meaningful discussions
- Water park time and more!

Come for two days and one night of bonding, community, and family fun. You’ll create lasting memories for your family as you connect with one another and with friends, new and old.

Thanks to the generosity of the Gloria and Alvin Lipson Youth Fund and the Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati, the cost of the Family Retreat is highly subsidized.

Saturdays, February 29 – Sundays, March 1

Great Wolf Lodge | Mason, OH

Register:

wisetemple.org/familyretreat

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**New Adult Learning Series!**

Here at Wise Temple, we take the commandment to study Torah both seriously and joyously. We are proud that the courses of study we offer lead to acts of loving kindness, social action, prayer, and self-improvement. We believe lifelong learning in our House of Study leads to richer Jewish living.

In October, all congregant households were mailed the Adult Learning Program Course Catalog for the New Year 2019 – 2020. The catalog includes all the information you need for every program.

**NEW!**

- Israel Salon
- Civil Discourse Seminar

All new sessions of:
- Talmud and Rabbinic Judaism Class
- Downtown Lunch and Learn
- Tuesdays with Torah

- Mussar Yoga
- Shabbat Experience
- Distance-Wise
- Shabbat Morning Torah Study

Plus special one-off events:
- Jewish Parenting Workshop
- Shavuot Sensation

Take part in Eitz Chayim offerings that are new to you and to see where it takes you!
WOMEN…Your life is busy—perhaps even crazy at times. There are demands from every angle and you’re trying to meet each one. In the midst of it all, we ask, “What about YOU?”

Take off your Wonder Woman cape, walk away from your to-do list, set down your phone...just for a moment...and do something for YOU.

Through Women Thrive, you will find friendships with other women who get you...who understand your challenges. Wouldn’t it be nice to have some Wise Temple girlfriends through life’s crazy ride?

What you can look forward to:

Fitness Event
Sunday, January 26
9:45 AM – 11:15 AM
Mayerson JCC
A heck of a workout for all levels and laughter that gives your abs a workout too!
RSVP: wisetemple.org/womenthrivefitness

Women’s Sexual Health
Tuesday, February 11
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Home of Stephanie Kaplan
Candid conversation about women’s sexual health with Jill Schiller of the Patty Brisben Foundation.

• Cooking Class: Tips and tricks, and plenty of time for tasting and talking
• Ladies Night Out: A unique outing in the city, complete with all the makings for a great story to tell later
• Facebook Group: An opportunity for networking, support, and sharing impromptu get togethers

All events have a special focus on interaction, conversation, and relationship building.

Sounds good, right? Now the trick is making it happen. You make all kinds of things happen for others. Now make this happen for YOU.

What about the Sisterhood? The Sisterhood leaders completely support this new initiative. They’re thrilled that new energy is emerging among women in the congregation. The current Sisterhood will continue to offer some programs and do all the good deeds our community relies on from them. We encourage all women to continue to support the Sisterhood and this new Women Thrive initiative too.
Introducing the NEW
wisetemple.org

You’ll be surprised by what you find on the new website.

- Info about the hundreds of worship, social action, and learning opportunities we offer each year
- A direct feed to our Facebook page and groups
- Informative and fun videos
- Easy access to the member portal
- Ways to offer your time and talents
- Interesting facts about our Temple history
- A community café which is a unique online place where we share our congregants’ stories,
- Ways to connect with others in our community

Yes, the new site is more current, sleek, and clean. But most importantly, it is one of the many tools that keep you connected to Wise Temple and one another.
Holiday

Congregational Chanukah Celebration
Friday, December 27
See page 8 for details.

Worship Services

Shabbat Evening Services
Fridays, 6:15 PM at Wise Center
(unless otherwise indicated)

DECEMBER

6 Shabbat service
6 Family Shabbat
   6:00 PM Shabbat dinner;
   6:45 PM service
13 Shabbat service
13 NextGen@Wise Shabbat
   6:30 PM | Plum Street Temple
20 Shabbat service with birthday
   and anniversary blessings
27 Shabbat service with
   Congregational Chanukah
   Celebration
   See page 8 for details.

JANUARY

3 Shabbat service
3 Family Shabbat
   6:00 PM Shabbat dinner;
   6:45 PM service
10 Shabbat service
10 NextGen@Wise Shabbat
   6:30 PM | Plum Street Temple
17 Shabbat service
24 Shabbat service
24 Special Shabbat service
   with Simon Barrad
   See page 9 for details.
31 Shabbat service with
   Brotherhood participation,
   and birthday and anniversary
   blessings

FEBRUARY

7 Shabbat service
7 Family Shabbat
   6:00 PM Shabbat dinner;
   6:45 PM service
14 Shabbat service

Shabbat Morning Services
Saturdays at Wise Center
9:30 AM service
10:45 AM Torah study
December 7, 14, 21, 28
January 4, 11, 18, 25
February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

YoFi Shababa Services
2nd and 4th Saturdays, 10:00 AM
December 14, 28*, January 11, 25,
February 8, 22
YoFi Shababa service and
   Chanukah Brunch Party*
   See page 9 for details.

Shabbat Morning B’nai Mitzvah Services
See page 12.

Brotherhood

Joel Fogel, President
president@wisebrotherhood.org
wisetemple.org/brotherhood

Monthly Meeting and Dinner
Thursdays | 6:00 PM
December 12, January 9,
February 13

Lighthouse Youth Services Dinner
Thursday, December 19
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM | Offsite

Chicken Soup Cook Off
Sunday, January 26
12:15 PM – 2:15 PM
See back cover for details.

Shabbat Service with
   Brotherhood Participation
Friday, January 31 | 6:15 PM

Community

Guitar Circle
Thursdays, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
December 5, January 16, February 6

Chanukah Boutique
Sponsored by Sisterhood
Sundays, 9:00 AM –12:00 PM
December 8, 15
See page 9 for details.

Christmas Day Family Bowling
Sponsored by Brotherhood
Wednesday, December 25
12:00 PM – 3:00 PM | Crossgate Lanes
Join other Wise Temple members and
   families at Crossgate Lanes for a fun
   afternoon of bowling, Chinese food,
   and snacks. It’s a December 25th
   tradition!

Chicken Soup Cook Off
Sponsored by Brotherhood
Sunday, January 26
12:15 PM – 2:15 PM
See back cover for details.

Eitz Chayim – Adult Education

Alex Burte: 513-793-2556
aburte@wisetemple.org
wisetemple.org/adulteducation

Tuesdays with Torah
Noon – 1:00 PM
RSVP: wisetemple.org/twt

Judaisms’s Great Debates
Rabbi Michael Danziger
December 3, 10, 17
Abraham debated with God, Hillel
   with Shammai, Isaac M. Wise with
   Theodor Herzl, and so many more.
   Jewish history is filled with – and
   Jewish thought is often recorded in
   different viewpoints on important
   topics. Pro and con come together
   to offer us richer understandings
   of important Jewish issues through
   the ages.

The Evolution of Reform Judaism
in Its Pronouncements and Its
Principles through 130 years
Rabbi Lewis Kamrass
January 14, 21, 28
Through a study of the primary texts
of Reform Platforms and Statements
Continued >
of Principles, we will consider the Challenges Reform Judaism has addressed and the Values Reform Judaism has embraced and proclaimed. Look through a historic lens to see the ethical courage proclaimed by Reform Jewish leadership and consider what this might demand of us in our own day.

Wonder Women
Rabbi Michael Danziger
February 4, 11, 18
Gal Gadot, an Israeli actress, who has portrayed Wonder Woman in recent films, is far from the only Jewish superwoman. In Jewish historical accounts, women's starring roles are relatively few until recently, but some women have been major forces in the life of our people. Prophets, sages, rescuers, and rabbis will be among the heroines we'll survey.

Jews as Stewards of Creation
Libby Fisher
February 25, March 3, 10
The need to take care of our environment is not only a 21st century concern. Explore how Jewish tradition has dealt with environmental issues throughout history and discuss what it says to us about our role today.

Civil Discourse Seminar
Mondays, 5:15 PM – 6:30 PM
December 2, January 13, February 3, March 2
RSVP: wisetemple.org/adulteducation or wisetemple.org/civildiscourse

Rabbinic Concepts of the Beit Midrash Way
Can text study of Biblical stories and their diverse interpretations empower us to engage more constructively in disagreements today? Today, civil discourse between the political divides is turning less and less civil. In response, the Pardes Center for Judaism and Conflict Resolution (PCJCR) has created a new initiative: Mahloket Matters: How to Disagree Constructively – The Beit Midrash Way. At the core of the traditional beit midrash (study hall) are havrutot (study pairs), critically studying together mahloket (conflicting opinions), found on every page of classic Jewish texts. This methodology of studying text can be used to increase the desire and ability to understand and engage more constructively with conflicting political opinions today, improving civil discourse. Sign up once for the entire year of studies, but if you can't make every session, you are still welcome to attend as many as you can. Rabbis Kamrass and Thomashow will co-teach this course.

Talmud and Rabbinic Judaism Class
Tuesdays, 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
RSVP: wisetemple.org/adulteducation or wisetemple.org/talmudstudy
Rabbi Lewis Kamrass
December 17, January 7, February 18
The ancient rabbis completely reshaped biblical Judaism to respond to new needs and to changing times. Their work through the centuries sets the foundation for the Judaism we practice and follow. Learn Talmud, Midrash and other areas of their creative, intellectual and spiritual genius that shapes who we are as Jews today. Join Rabbi Kamrass once each month for a class that will open your eyes to the enduring richness of Jewish ideas and practice and to their origin. While no prior knowledge is required, bring curiosity, questions and a desire to learn deeply.

Israel Salon
Thursdays, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
RSVP: wisetemple.org/adulteducation or wisetemple.org/israelsalon
December 19, January 23, February 20, March 19
In recent years, complex issues in the political arena of Israel and its governments have caused some people to feel ambivalence or to disengage in their relationship to Israel. However, our bonds to Israel are much deeper than any political issue. Our lives as Jews throughout the world have been significantly transformed by cultural influences within Israel. The founding of the Modern State of Israel has included several meaningful ideas. From “the new Jew” to the “gathering of diverse Jews” to “a literary haven” to “a start-up nation,” great leaders have contributed much rich content to the development of our homeland and to all of Jewish life. The Israel Salon will include an accessible conversation led by our rabbis each session, bookended by the Israeli culture of tea/coffee and music offered by Lior Zoref, Israeli musician and educator.

Downtown Lunch and Learn
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM
1 East Fourth Street, 14th Floor
Optional lunch available.
RSVP: wisetemple.org/adulteducation or wisetemple.org/lunchandlearn

The Poetry of Yehuda Amichai
Rabbi Karen Thomashow
December 5
Israeli Poet Yehuda Amichai is given the distinction of having been the greatest poet of the modern State. His poetry reflects his struggle with faith and politics, his attachment to his homeland, and his evolution of identity. This class explores a number of Israeli topics through the medium of the language arts.

The David Story
Courtney Anthony
January 23
The story of King David's life in the Hebrew Bible is the earliest known full biography – from birth to death – of any historical figure. Together, we will explore the life, legend, and
legacy of this most famous King of Israel, who continues to capture people's imaginations thousands of years after his death.

Distance-Wise RSVP: wisetemple.org/adulteducation or wisetemple.org/distance-wise

Holy Ground: The Spirituality of Accompaniment through Mental Illness
Rabbi Elliot Kukla and Rabbi Eric Weiss
Thursday, December 12
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Exploration of the crucial role a faith community can play in the life of those who live with mental illness.

Israeli Politics and Their Impact on Religious Freedom
Rabbi Uri Regev, Esq.
Sunday, January 19
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Rabbi Regev explores the reasons behind the void separating Israel's founding promise for religious freedom and equality on one hand, and the modern reality in which Jews enjoy less religious freedom than Christians.

Mussar Yoga blends the practices of two spiritual ancient wisdom traditions. The Jewish practice of Mussar (self-study) and the physical practice of Yoga. Each week we will study and practice Middot (character traits). No prior experience necessary. All levels of physical ability welcome. Bring a yoga mat if you'd like: not required.

Empty Nesters
Kari Fagin: 513-793-2556
kflagin@wisetemple.org
wisetemple.org/emptynest

Speakeasy
Saturday, February 1 | 7:30 PM – 10:30 PM
Get your flapper dresses and three-piece suits ready for this underground evening of the roaring '20s.
See page 18 for details.

Families
513-793-2997
wisetemple.org/familyengagement

Family Shabbat
First Friday of each month
6:00 PM Shabbat dinner;
6:45 PM service
December 6, January 3, February 7

Congregational Chanukah Celebration
Friday, December 27
See page 8 for details.

Family Social Action
Bedtime Bundles Target Run
Sunday, December 8
12:15 PM – 1:45 PM
See page 7 for details.

Jewish Parenting Workshop
Jewish “Power Tools” For Building Resilient Kids Today
Dr. Julie Hirschfeld
Sunday, January 12 | 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM
RSVP: wisetemple.org/jewishpowertools

In this Jewish parenting workshop, Dr. Hirschfeld links resources in Jewish text, Jewish ethics, and Jewish holidays with parenting needs. She will provide resources for handling academic pressure toward the goal of building a family life that addresses mental health needs in this era of teen depression and anxiety. Breakfast with coffee for all parents and grandparents at 9:15 AM. This session will speak to parents of elementary, middle school, and high school aged children.

Family Social Action
MLK Day
Monday, January 20
For more information, please visit wisetemple.org/familymlk

Family Retreat
Saturday, February 29 – Sunday, March 1
Great Wolf Lodge, Mason
See page 10 for details.

Religious School
Sundays 9:15 AM – 11:45 AM
December 8, 15
January 5, 12, 19, 26
February 2, 9, 23

YoFI (ages 0 – 5)
wisetemple.org/yofi

YoFI Shababa Worship
2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
December 14, 28 | January 11, 25 | February 9

YoFI Shababa Service and Chanukah Brunch Party*  
Saturday, December 28
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
See page 9 for details.

YoFI Playdate
Monday, February 17
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
For more information, please visit: wisetemple.org/yofi

3s Classes
Sundays | 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM
December 8 | January 5, 19 | February 2
YoFi Challah Bakeshop
Thursdays, 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
January 2, February 6
This Challah Workshop is for our youngest children and a parent, led by our baker Rebecca. It includes making challah, eating a yummy dinner, and an optional craft if time permits. You will take home two Challahs! Free, but space is limited, so you knead to register by the day before (or until the kitchen is filled).

Register: wisetemple.org/challahbakeshop

YoFi Diapers for Families In Need
Saturday, February 1 | 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Bring size 4, 5, or 6 diaper donations. We'll learn about Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank and make diaper packs to help give babies a chance to be healthy, happy, and safe.

RSVP: wisetemple.org/diapersforfamilies

Open Room – Grade 3
Family Programs
Sundays, 9:30 AM – 11:45 AM
Open Room | December 15, February 23
1st Grade | February 2
2nd Grade | February 9

1st Grade Pajama Party
Saturday, January 11 | 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

2nd and 3rd Grade Social Event
Sunday, January 26 | 11:45 AM – 2:15 PM

Family Programs
Sundays, 9:30 AM – 11:45 AM
6th Grade | December 8

J.WOOT at Lion King
Sunday, January 12 | 11:45 AM – 3:30 PM
Offsite.

J.WOOT at Castle Skateland
Sunday, February 16 | 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Castle Skateland, Loveland

NFTY-OV JYG Kallah
Grades 6 – 8
Friday, February 28 – Sunday, March 1
Offsite.

Grades 9 – 12

Kulanu
Sundays | 5:30 PM – 7:10 PM
Optional dinner 5:00 PM (except on February 2*)
At Wise Center: December 8, 15
At Rockdale Temple: January 5, 12, 26
At Valley Temple: February 2*
1:00 PM – 2:40 PM classes, Optional lunch, 12:30 PM
February 9, 23

WOOTY Havdalah
Saturdays, December 7; February 8
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

JWoot and WOOTY Chanukah Party
Saturday, December 14
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
All 6th – 12th Grade teens are invited to light the Chanukiah, make latkes, play dreidel, and have a blast with other J.WOOT and WOOTY friends!

WOOTY MLK Lock-in
Sunday, January 19 – Monday, January 20
All high schoolers are invited to a weekend full of Jewish learning, social action programming, and camaraderie as we pray with our feet and prepare to march in solidarity with the commemorative civil rights demonstration downtown.

NFTY-OV Winter Kallah
Grades 9 –12
Friday, January 24 – Sunday, January 26
Cincinnati

WOOTY Movie Night
Saturday, February 22 | 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

NextGen@Wise
Rabbi Michael Danziger: 513-793-2556
mdanziger@wisetemple.org
wisetemple.org/nextgen

Shabbat Services
2nd Fridays of the month
6:30 PM, Plum Street Temple
December 13, January 10, February 14

Social Action: Linus Project
Sunday, December 8 | 2:00PM – 4:00 PM
Mayerson JCC
Young adults, ages 21-35, join us as we create blankets of comfort for children in distress while we enjoy conversation, hot chocolate, and snacks.

Study/Sip
Tuesday, January 28 | 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Offsite

Happy Hour
Wednesday, February 26
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM | Offsite

Board Meeting
Thursday, January 16 | 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Bedtime Bundles
November 3 – December 18
8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Chanukah Bash
Sunday, December 8 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
See page 9 for details.

Mah Jongg
Thursdays, 11:00 AM
Sherri Tieger: 513-821-8881; sherritieger@gmail.com

WiseGen
Alex Burte: 513-793-2556
aburte@wisetemple.org
wisetemple.org/wisegen

Chanukah Bash
Sunday, December 8 | 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
See page 9 for details.
Israeli violinist Guy Braunstein performs free concert at Plum Street Temple

Guy Braunstein, youngest-ever appointed concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic, and former student of Pinchas Zukerman, is the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra’s Artist-in-Residence for the 2019-2020 season.

Braunstein’s residency includes a free recital at Plum Street Temple on the evening of Thursday April 16, 2020 at 7:30 PM

Free tickets available at cincinnatisymphony.org beginning Dec 2, 2019.
WHO SAID GROWN-UPS DON’T HAVE ANY FUN?

FOR EMPTY NESTERS 49-69

SPEAKEASY

Get your flapper dresses and three-piece suits ready for this underground evening of the roaring ’20s.

Cocktails of this era masterfully prepared by Chief Mixologist, Aaron Strasser.

Aaron, considered one of Cincinnati’s Best Male Bartenders, brings to life the next twist on classic cocktails.

As an expert mixologist, history major, and lover of the prohibition era, Aaron will wow you with his skills, stories, and creativity. He will demonstrate 5 classic cocktails, speak about their place in history, share little known facts, and provide recipe cards outlining the original cocktails and his unique variations on them.

Don’t miss this unique and unforgettable 1920’s evening of spirits, and entertainment – all with your Empty Nest friends.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1
7:30 - 10:30 PM
Register: wisetemple.org/speakeasy

FOR WISEGEN 70+

NEWPORT GANGSTER TOUR

Explore the streets where the mob made their millions, gamblers lost their lives, and ladies of the night earned their reputations. A raucous, high energy presentation inside an old casino to explain the historical significance of Newport and discover how this little town gave birth to the modern-day gaming industry.

This American Legacy tour is customized specifically to our WiseGen group (those age 70+). Swap stories with other Wise Geners over a pint or two after the tour.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Register: wisetemple.org/gangstertour
WiseUP to the RESCUE!

This winter offers a variety of tried-and-true WiseUP social action projects, and if you’d like to try something new, check out WiseUP’s newest project.

Are you handy with a paint brush, or good at organizing or assembling furniture?

New Life Furniture Bank, (Cincinnati’s only furniture bank) collects donations to help people out of homelessness, disastrous situations, and extreme poverty. We’ll sort donations, pack housewares, assemble and/or paint furniture - jobs for all interests!

Freestore Foodbank
Saturday, December 7
1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

St. Francis Seraph Soup Kitchen
Wednesday, December 18
3:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Sunday Morning Club
Wednesday, December 25
9:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Queen City Kitchen
Wednesday, December 25
10:00 AM – 1:45 PM

Shelter House
Wednesday, December 25
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

NEW! City Gospel Mission
Wednesday, December 25
5:00 PM – 7:45 PM
1805 Dalton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45214

La Soupe
Sunday, February 2
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Spaces fill up fast!
Sign up today at wisetemple.org/wiseup via the member portal. See the Calendar/Pull-Out Wise Up section on page 17 for details.
CONTRIBUTIONS
We acknowledge with appreciation...

Aufsprung Adult Education Fund
In honor of:
Birthday of Sue Voos by Amanda and Dov Rosenberg

In loving memory of:
Ephraim and Helen Roth by Lynn and Andrew Heyman

Barbara Glas Critical Topics
In loving memory of:
Dr. Steve Rosner by Terry and Stuart Susskind

Bess Shavzin Library Fund
In honor of:
Anniversary of Jan and Jerry Levin by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Anniversary of Barbara and Spencer Fried by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Anniversary of Karen and Fred Abel by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Anniversary of Marianne and George Meyers by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Anniversary of Robbie and John Michelman by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Birthday of Terry Susskind by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Birthday of Pat Passer by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Birthday of Marion Rosenbaum by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Golden anniversary of Barby and Jim Hilb by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Golden anniversary of Andrea and Michael Rapp by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Julie and John Cohen

In loving memory of:
Sanford Weinstein by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin

Edward L. Kanter Fund
In honor of:
Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Anne and Marty Pinales

Fine/ Marshall/Allen Scholarship Fund
In honor of:
Ofira Tal Morvay by Sharon and Steven Marshall

In loving memory of:
Dennis Dampf by Inez Allen and Stefan Eckert
Duke Steiner by Jon Marshall
Ephraim Roth by Jon Marshall
Husband of Kathy Suisman by Inez Allen and Nan Donovan
Joanie Horwitz by Leslie Brenner

Joanie Horwitz by Jon Marshall
Joanie Horwitz by Sharon and Steven Marshall
Karen Deutsch by Jon Marshall
Marlin Marshall by Jon Marshall
Marlin Marshall by Ann and Bob Unger
Ray Fine by Inez Allen and Stefan Eckert

Gene/Neddie Mae Elkus Leadership Development
In loving memory of:
Neddie Mae and Gene Elkus by Helene, Mike, Adam, Callie, Marley, Reid, Carleigh, Cooper, and Hudson Elkus

Gloria Alvin Lipson Youth and Experiential Education Fund
In honor of:
50th Wedding Anniversary of Alice and Barry Lucas by Gloria Lipson and Lou Gottlieb
Gloria Lipson by Daniel Lipson
Robyn Friend by Nancy and Sandford Kopnick

Judith S. Carsch Library Fund
In honor of:
54th Wedding Anniversary of Jean and Dave Simmons by Gail and Fred Zeifman
Adult Bat Mitzvah of Susan Kulick by Donna and Ken Hyams
Bar Mitzvah of Alan Weinstein by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Birthday of Jane Friedman by Ellen and Stuart Dunsker

In loving memory of:
Irwin Jacobson by Harriet Friedman

On the occasion of:
Bat Mitzvah of Stephanie Kaplan by Patty Kaplan
Bar Mitzvah of Stephanie Kaplan by Amy and Michael Pescovitz
Adult Bat Mitzvah of Susan Kulick by Karen and Eddie Saeks
Bar Mitzvah of Alex Tasner by Irene Block
Bar Mitzvah of Alex Tasner by Karen and Eddie Saeks
Bat Mitzvah of Isabel Peerless by Karen and Eddie Saeks

Kanter Fund for Innovation
In honor of:
Recovery of Selma Shankerman Mayer by Dian Levine

Lusia Hornstein Holocaust Remembrance Fund
In honor of:
Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Jean and Abraham Peck

Music Fund
In honor of:
Anniversary of Carolyn and Howard Wetzler by Alberta and Bob Schneider

Ori Mielziner GIVTY Fund (Temple Youth)
In honor of:
Bar Mitzvah of Adam Goldstein by Nancy Apfel

In loving memory of:
Sanford Weinstein by Barb and Sandy Casper

Playground Fund
In honor of:
Ofira Tal Morvay by Gail and David Spivack
Tzedakah by Linda and Andy Berger
Tzedakah by Lanie and Jan Katzew
Tzedakah by Betsy Shapiro
Tzedakah by Jo Ellen and Mort Spitz

Plum Street Temple Historic Preservation Fund
In honor of:
100th birthday of Sue Ransohoff by Amy and Doug Magenheim
100th birthday of Sue Ransohoff by Phyllis and Pete Tobias
70th birthday of Sue Voos by Susan and David Smith
70th birthday of Sue Voos by Barb and Mark Williams
90th birthday of Eddie Saeks by Amy and Doug Magenheim
Adult Bat Mitzvah of Linda Rothstein by Randi and Jon Chaiken
Adult Bat Mitzvah of Karen Sim by Randi and Jon Chaiken
Adult Bat Mitzvah of Stephanie Kaplan by Patty Kaplan
Adult Bat Mitzvah of Stephanie Kaplan by Amy and Michael Pescovitz
Adult Bat Mitzvah of Susan Kulick by Karen and Eddie Saeks
Bar Mitzvah of Alex Tasner by Irene Block
Bar Mitzvah of Alex Tasner by Karen and Eddie Saeks
Bat Mitzvah of Isabel Peerless by Karen and Eddie Saeks
Bat Mitzvah of Isabel Peerless by Carol and Ted Striker
Elissa Habib by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
Elissa Habib by Kathy and Pete Teitelman

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CONTRIBUTIONS

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- Grandson of Karen and David Hoguet by Jackie Mack and Ted Silverstein
- Harvey Diamond by Dian Levine
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Alice and Barry Lucas
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Nancy and Don Seltz
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Irene Block
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Lynn and David Callif
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Carolyn and Stuart Lowitz
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Karen and Eddie Saeks
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Elizabeth and Paul Sittenfeld
- Tzedakah by Frances Goldman
- Tzedakah by Cincinnati Marathon Inc
- Tzedakah by Mimi and Andrew Lerner
- Tzedakah by Betsy Shapiro
- Tzedakah by Mimi and Andrew Lerner

**In loving memory of:**
- Bertram Gutin by Ted Koerner’s Team
- Bertram Gutin by Leah Levine
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Diane and Jim Duberstein
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Ellen Essig
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Michele, Bob, Ben and Cindy Lammert
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Leah Levine
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Gloria Nadel
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Betsy and Marvin Schwartz
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Fran and Terry Thurmond
- Dr. Steven Rosner by Sharon and Mark Natursus
- Duke Steiner by Alice and Barry Lucas
- Duke Steiner by Jackie Mack and Ted Silverstein
- Duke Steiner by Betsy and Marvin Schwartz
- Duke Steiner by Nancy and Don Seltz
- Duke Steiner by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
- JoAnn Bass by Karen and Eddie Saeks
- JoAnn Bass by Friends of Plum Street Temple
- Jonathan Braude by Rosemary and Frank Bloom
- Jonathan Braude by Mary and George Croog
- Jonathan Braude by Paul Sittenfeld
- June Caha by Nancy and Howard Weinberg
- Karen Deutsch by Esther Lipson
- Laurence Tarshis by Maggie and Mike Oestreicher
- Lawrence Zimmerman by Joan and Marvin Silverman
- Louis L. Mervis by Jackie Mack and Ted Silverstein
- Marcia Chesley by Marcia and Rich Goldberg
- Marcia Chesley by Nancy and Jerry Klein
- Marcia Chesley by Dian Levine
- Michael S. Goldhagen by Nelson Leist

- Molly Golden by Florine Jacobson
- Rabbi Paul Kaplan by Susan and Mike Callahan
- Ruth Miller by Kathy and Pete Teitelman
- Sanford Weinstein by Nancy and Howard Weinberg
- Sanford Weinstein by Barry Stregevsky
- Stanley Berman by Randy and Peter Bloch
- Stanley Berman by Rosemary and Frank Bloom
- Stanley Berman by Philip Cohen
- Stanley Berman by Catherine and William Pearson
- Stanley Berman by Betsy and Paul Sittenfeld
- Sue Teller by Thelma Bergman
- Sue Teller by Rosemary andFrank Bloom
- Sue Teller by Flo Hoffheimer
- Sue Teller by Marlene Kantor
- Sue Teller by Geri and Andy Kolesar
- Sue Teller by Susan and Lenny Landau
- Sue Teller by Paul Sittenfeld
- Sue Teller by Barry Stregevsky
- Sue Teller by Maureen and Dan Teller
- Sue Teller by Ethel Zemsky

**Prayerbook Fund**

**In honor of:**
- Ava Kamrass by Lynne and Bob Kanter
- Birth of Sue Voos by Nancy Goldberg
- Birth of David Rosenberg by Lynne and Bob Kanter
- Birth of Sue Voos by Lorie Kleiner Eckert
- Marriage of Sarah Habib and Eric Elias by Judi and Mack Evans
- Marriage of Sarah Habib and Eric Elias by Sue Voos
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Lynne and Bob Kanter
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Terry and Stuart Susskind

**In loving memory of:**
- Sue Teller by Helene and Tom Ohren

**Rabbi Danziger Discretionary Fund**

**In honor of:**
- Rabbi Danziger by Mayerson JCC and Young Adult Division
- Tzedakah by Bree and Michael Bergman
- Tzedakah by Andrea Blinkhorn and Dr. Brandon Kappy
- Wedding of Ben and Jenni Rosenberg by Penny and Steven Rosenberg
- Wedding of Jessica and Ben Ross by Susan and Fred Melowsky

**In loving memory of:**
- Joanie Horwitz by Jackie and Dick Snyder
- Rabbi Paul Kaplan by Andrea Kaplan
- Stanley Berman by Andy and Cindy Berman

**Rabbi Kamrass Discretionary Fund**

**In honor of:**
- Bar Mitzvah of Sammy Smith by Michelle and Tom Smith
- Bat Mitzvah of Carsyn Auer by Lynne and Michael Lipson
- Adult Bat Mitzvah of Christy Goldner by Teresa and Mark Deutsch
- Bat Mitzvah of Hailey Eiserman by Irene and Mel Frieman
- Conversion of Mary Kate Tompkins by Julie and Barry Brook
- Conversion of Mary Kate Tompkins by Loren Brook
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Ina and Ed Loftspring
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Pam and Barry Meyer
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Jody and Joel Tsevat

**In loving memory of:**
- Alice Weston by Carol Roberts and Barbara Sasser
- Annette Horwitz by Grace and Andrew Betts
- Barbara Steinberg by Ellen Mazer
- Carolyn Liedeker Epstein by Lauren Scharf
- Dr. David Meyer by Kathie and Donald Kaplan
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Zell Schultman
- Duke Steiner by Ellen and Corky Steiner
- Florence Bloom by Ellen Heines
- JoAnn Bass by Lisa and Walt Hodge
- JoAnn Bass by Lauren Scharf and Family
- Jonathan Braude by Margie and Kevin Welling
- Marcia Chesley by Shirley and Herb Behr
- Marcia Chesley by Barbara and Jack Hahn
- Marcia Chesley by Joni and Mel Shuller
- Marcia Chesley and Michael Goldhagen by Laura and Sam Lobar and Family
- Marilyn Weinstein by Alan Weinstein
- Michael Cassidy by Robin Levine
- Philip Branch by Richard Bullock and Jennifer Branch
- Rabbi Paul Kaplan by Andrea Kaplan

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| Sue Teller by Kathie and Donald Kaplan |
| Sue Teller by Carol and Ted Striker |
| Sue Teller by Maureen and Dan Teller |
| Sue Teller by Pilates Center of Cincinnati |
| Sylvia Callif by Lynn and David Callif |

Rabbi Thomashow Discretionary Fund
In honor of:
- Baby naming of Amelia Keller by Deb Pinger
- Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Fershtman by Ann and Alan Fershtman
- Bat Mitzvah of Hailey Eiserman by Irene and Mel Frieman
- Marriage of Justin and Danae Junker by Teri and Kevin Junker
- Rabbi Thomashow by Deborah and Mark Prinz
- Tzedakah by Drs. Irvin and Barbara Kappy
- Tzedakah by Marlene Baer and Seven Hills School
- Wedding of Maria Belen and Michael Spitz by Harold Spitz

In loving memory of:
- Harry Jack Kahn by Sandy Kahn
- Rabbi Paul Kaplan by Andrea Kaplan

Renee and Rabbi Lewis Kamrass Social Action Fund
In honor of:
- Marriage of Jessica Melowsky and Ben Ross by Judy and Michael Kadetz
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Marcy and Mark Kanter
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Paula and Steven Morvay
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Andrea and Michael Rapp
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Mary Lee and Louie Sirkin
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Erica and Doug Messer
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Danielle and Ken Revelson
- Presidency of Stuart Susskind by Rachel and Steven Schild

In loving memory of:
- Michael Goldhagen by Sharon, Mark, Michael and Aaron Natarus
- Sue Teller by Terry and Stuart Susskind

Soup Kitchens/Wise Family Shelter (I.H.N.)
In honor of:
- Lynn and David Callif by Harriet and Alan Lazarus
- Ofira Tal Morvay by Maggie and Mike Oestreicher
- Wedding of Sarah Habib and Eric Elias by Patty Kaplan

In loving memory of:
- Dr. Raymond B. Fine by Deanna Parobeck
- Dr. Steven Rosner by Jody and Joel Tsevat

Wise Temple Youth Scholarship Fund
In honor of:
- Granddaughter of Barbi and Greg Sherman by Joyce and Fred Kamen

In loving memory of:
- Sanford Weinstein by Maria and Rick Bloom

YES (Youth, Education and Special Projects)
In honor of:
- Birthday of Sue Voos by Lisa Cooper and Lorraine Forst
- Birthday of Sue Voos by Scott and Trish Joseph

Donate online at wisetemple.org/donate

The World Zionist Congress Elections are happening in early 2020, and our votes are critical to strengthening Reform Judaism's communities and presence in Israel.

Voting takes place online from January 21 to March 11, 2020.

When it is live, we will send the direct voting link via congregational email. If you’re 18+ and identify as Jewish, we hope you’ll vote, and Vote Reform. More information is at ARZA.org.

With questions or to help mobilize Wise Temple's vote, contact Rabbi Danziger: mdanziger@wisetemple.org

![VOTE REFORM](image)

Our chance is coming to make the progressive Jewish voice heard in Israel!

In less than 90 seconds, each of us can exercise the only democratic opportunity we have to impact Israeli society towards equality, pluralism, and tolerance.
When I was thirteen years old, a man named Peter Stark was the principal of the community-wide Jewish middle school/high school in the city where I grew up. He had a relationship at the time with a Jewish community in Vilnius, Lithuania. It was the early 90s and a time of dramatic change across the former Soviet Union. The tides of change enabled the Jewish community of Vilnius to become more visible and for citizens from other countries, including the United States, to spend time in person with them. As a result, a semester-long class was born in which my peers, thirteen- to eighteen-year-olds, and our principal, created a month-long program for the Jewish youth of Vilnius which we would run in the winter. That winter, my peers and I flew to Vilnius, stayed in a hotel which had been a former KGB headquarters, ate pre-packaged food that we had brought with us for two weeks, and walked a half hour every day in the deep snow to the Vilnius "JCC" to run the camp we had prepared. It was a profound experience that established my foundation for Jewish and world history, an appreciation for my own upbringing in the U.S., and an understanding of our Jewish values in action.

Two and a half decades later, I think of the experience of engaging in Tikkun Olam far away from home as an example of how our tradition teaches us to engage in service and charity wherever it is needed. In the Babylonian Talmud, Rabbi Yosef taught that sometimes we don’t have enough time, money, or other resources to give to everyone, so we must make choices. For example, if we run into a poor person and a rich person, we might give the poor person our resources first. If we encounter a poor relative and poor neighbor in our town, we might give to the poor relative first. And if we encounter a poor person in our town and a poor person in another town, we might give to a poor person in our town first. However, another Rabbi, Moses Shreiber, taught in the modern era that if we are faced with making a choice of how to divvy up our resources, the neediest should take precedence, regardless of relation or geography. In other words, sometimes those in need in another city or country require our help “first.”

What I believe we learn from both of these teachers of Torah is that we have a responsibility to engage in Tikkun Olam and Tzedakah everywhere there is a need. Sometimes that need is at home and sometimes it is abroad. Both are worthy. And both have the potential to enrich the lives of others, as well as our own.

1 Bava Metzia 71a
We kicked off fall at Tailgate Shabbat.

We sorted and organized clothing for the victims of Hurricane Dorian at Matthew 25: Ministries.

Next-Gen’s Matzah Ballers played in OTR’s kickball league.
A look back at all the kibitzing, kvelling, and schmoozing that happened at Wise Temple these past few months.

WiseGen's Songs of Pete Seeger had a standing room only crowd!

The Ice Cream Social welcomed students back to Religious School.

WOOTY said goodbye to summer with a bonfire and Havdalah

Empty Nesters went back in time to enjoy their youth at Summer Camp

We sang songs and made friends at YoFi's Summer Jewish Music Class
**Engagements**

Sharon and Mark Natarus on the engagement of their son, Michael Natarus to Danielle Bender.

Margie and Lester Burgin on the engagement of their daughter, Leah Burgin to Kyle Deming.

Julie and Steve Lazarus on the engagement of their daughter, Allison Lazarus to Matthew Antoszyk

Cheryl and Steve Czulewicz on the engagement of their son, Marc Czulewicz to Candice Elrod.

**Weddings**

Judi and Dan Cohen on the marriage of their daughter, Allison Cohen to Harris Mandel.

Meryl Gruber and Bruce Maisel on the marriage of their daughter, Hayley Maisel to Kyle Fatoullah.

Nancy and Tom Horwitz on the marriage of their son, and Leah Levine on the marriage of her grandson, Joshua Horwitz to Eliana Sigel-Epstein.

Teri and Kevin Junker on the marriage of their son, Justin Junker to Denae Belliti.

Susan and Fred Melowsky on the marriage of their son, Scott Gutman to Denise Fabian.

Gerry and Marvin Kraus on the marriage of their granddaughter, Emilee Kraus to Jake Maxwell.

**Births**

Renee and Richard Greenberg on the birth of their grandson, Samuel Herman Rosen.


Jenna and Jacob Morvay on the birth of their daughter, Renee and Rabbi Lewis Kamrass on the birth of their granddaughter, Anna Lee Kamrass and Vivian Slotin on the birth of their great granddaughter, Ofira Tal Morvay.

Sylvia and Michael Sears on the birth of their grandson, Emmett Taylor.

Betsy and Paul Sittenfeld on the birth of their grandson, George Sittenfeld.

Barbara and Al Pearlman on the birth of their grandson, Miles Paxton Sommerville.

**Condolences to...**

Nancy and the late Michael Goldhagen on the death of his mother, and Susan Dlott and Stanley Chesley on the death of his sister, Marcia Chesley.

David Horwitz on the death of his mother, and Avery and Noah Horwitz on the death of their grandmother, Joanie Horwitz.

Tara Johnson on the death of her mother, and Becca Foskuhl, Jacob and Sam Nitzberg on the death of their grandmother, Tracy K. Johnson.

Ellen and Corky Steiner on the death of their nephew, Duke Steiner.

Family of June Caha.

Agnes and Stan Richter on the death of her sister, Molly Golden.

Nancy Goldhagen on the death of her husband, Michael Goldhagen.

Debbie and Drew Brown, on the death of his mother and Nina Brown on the death of her grandmother, Jane Felson Brown.

Eileen and Jim Chalfie on the death of her brother, Dr. David Meyer.

Linda and Mike Green on the death of his father, Thomas H. Green.

Robin Levine on the death of her husband and Jensen Cassity on the death of her father, Michael Cassity.

Cindy and Andy Berman on the death of his father, Stanley A. Berman.

Marilyn Braude on the death of her son and Cyndi Braude on the death of her husband, Jonathan Braude.

Lisa Miner Rosner on the death of her husband, and Barbara Burke and Dr. Miles Burke on the death of her brother, Dr. Steven A. Rosner.

Shelley and Dr. Alan Tarshis on the death of his father, Laurence Tarshis.

Family of Suzanne Teller.

Deborah Weinstein on the death of her husband, Sanford L. Weinstein.

Family of Alice F. Weston.

Michael Mazer on the death of his mother, Frieda Garber on the death of her sister, and Elissa and Jeff Mazer on the death of his grandmother, Rose Mazer.
In July 2019, Carol and Ken Kabel left for Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. Not for vacation, but to stay for a year and fulfill their duty as Jews to repair the world. Their home of 26 years was sold, as was the business Ken owned. All their belongings were put into storage. They know they’ll be living in Cincinnati when they come back but aren’t worrying about their next step until then.

Why do it? Why Africa? Why now?
Tikkun Olam has always been a part of their married life, and a value they instilled in their children Grace (29) and Hope (27). Carol is a deeply committed, active volunteer with a 20-year history of leadership roles at Wise Temple, the children’s schools, and other organizations. In that spirit, Grace committed two years after college to the Peace Corps and was stationed in a small village in northern Ethiopia. Carol and Ken visited Grace while she was there. “We saw the impact it had on Grace, and that planted the seed to do something similar,” Carol explains. Ken adds, “We wanted to make a real commitment to volunteer service—to be in a community and get to know the culture and way of life. We were familiar with Ethiopia, and it made sense to do it now, while we still have our health.”

Through the JDC (American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee), Ken learned of an American Jew, Dr. Rick Hodes, the JDC’s medical director who operates a clinic in Addis Ababa and specializes in cancer, heart disease, and spinal conditions. Ken says, “Rick is literally healing the world one person at a time. He’s a remarkable man doing remarkable work.” Ken volunteers at the clinic, helping with budgeting, strategic planning, the website, and much-needed fundraising. “Dr. Rick and his staff are clinicians, so they’re glad to have someone with a business outlook work to improve initiatives like fundraising so they can focus on what they do best.” Ken won’t ever forget the day he was reduced to tears by both a young man who couldn’t be helped and by one who had been healed and given the opportunity for a normal life.

To obtain resident visas, one of them had to have a paying job. Ethiopia suffers high unemployment and visitors are only hired for jobs requiring specific skills that can’t be filled by native Ethiopians. Carol is contracted through June of 2020 to teach conversational English to kindergarten students. She’s the only American most of the teachers and children have ever met, and Ken says, “She’s too modest to say so, but she’s showing them what a good American is like.”

Addis Ababa does have third-world problems like unreliable electricity, a plethora of disabled beggars, and poverty. But Carol and Ken feel safe walking to and from work and exploring the city. Carol did insist on hot water, electricity and a toilet that wasn’t a hole in the ground. “We’re not roughing it,” she says. “We have every thing we need. We haven’t met many people yet, but we have each other. It’s like we’re dating again!” The only thing they’ve found wanting is friends to share their adventure. Their apartment is comfortable, with room for visitors (hint, hint)—and the Kabels are ready to show their guests what an interesting place Africa is. The dry season (October – May) brings weather like southern California’s—sunny and dry during the day, cool at night. They’re excited to go hiking outside the city now that the rains have ended.

But the best part is fulfilling a major life goal. Ken notes, “We came here to do Tikkun Olam. We get to do what we’re supposed to do, and it’s a privilege and an honor to be in the position to do it.”
Soups’s On!

16th Annual Cincinnati Chicken Soup Cook Off

Sunday, January 26 | 12:15 PM – 2:15 PM

Come for all-you-can-eat soup, stay for the silent auction, free bagels, and a healthy portion of camaraderie! An afternoon of fun that helps support the Brotherhood’s ongoing charity work, as well as the community at large. Following the event, leftover soup is delivered to the Queen City Kitchen soup kitchen. (Last year, more than 95 gallons were donated!)

The Chicken Soup Cook Off welcomes both amateur and professional cooks to enter their soups.

Want to donate to the silent auction? Gift certificates, one-of-a-kind items, art, tickets to events, and jewelry are all excellent auction items.

The Brotherhood can always use more help! Visit chickensoupcookoff.org for details on how you can volunteer, donate, or enter your soup in the competition.

“Chicken soup is the Jewish penicillin – it cures everything.”
– Rick Seelig, Chicken Soup organizer and Brotherhood member