

A GIFT of MUSIC



Submitted photo

CEEW FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

Garrett
Waite's
talent
benefits
Temple
in
several
ways

By **SYDNEY SMALL**
 Bulletin Co-Editor

The combination of the holiday season and the current pandemic brings a range of feelings to many this year, and perhaps even more strongly drives our desire for connection and meaning.

One of the most powerful ways we humans can connect to each other is through music. We are lucky in this congregation to delight in the broad scope of musical talent present among congregants and staff. We have also enjoyed various

Please continue reading **GARRETT**,
 on Page 3

SISTERHOOD ZOOM PROGRAM 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12th

Simon Bronner to discuss 'The Rise of Adapted Home Traditions'

By **DEB HACKER**
 Sisterhood Co-President

Simon Bronner, PhD., the Dean of the College of General Studies and Distinguished Professor of Social Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, will be featured at the Tuesday, Jan. 12th Sisterhood (Zoom) program at 7 p.m.



**Simon
Bronner**

His program is entitled, "The Rise of Adapted Home Traditions: Simcha Bat and Other Jewish Ceremonies for Newborn Girls."

This illustrated talk, based on research for his new book, *Jewish Cultural Studies* (Wayne State University Press 2021), will examine these ceremonies and other adapted traditions as a process of Jewish folklorization.

Since the 1970s, a largely adapted or invented tradition for the naming of Jewish girls (Simcha Bat, Zeved Habat or Brit Bat) has spread as a feminist grassroots answer to the male circumcision ritual.

These were largely home-based family ceremonies in line with Ashkenazic and Sephardic cultural frameworks. Rabbis have then adapted these ceremonies in liturgy and synagogue practice.

Women transition through many stages of life, which can include: birth, adolescence / Bat Mitzvah, marriage / commitment, infertility, birth of children, separation, hysterectomy, divorce, midlife, death. New ritual-making, based in Jewish tradition, can empower us as women to appreciate those precious and unique times, but sometimes also very grievous and difficult times.

A Zoom link will be sent to CEEW Sisterhood members and women who have requested to be notified of programming. Contact Cindy Levy at ceew_sisterhood@yahoo.com to receive the link.



LET CANTOR MARTIN, CARING COMMITTEE KNOW: Do you know a Temple member who is ill or in need of spiritual support of any kind (i.e. loss of job, divorce, difficult life transitions, etc.)? Contact Cantor Martin at spiritualleader@waukeshatemple.org, or 608-698-4363, or contact Caring Committee Chair Marsha Fensin at mfsings@wi.rr.com.

With 2021 set to begin, we can look forward to

GOOD TIMES AHEAD

As I write this article, the cold weather has finally hit for good, and my body is grudgingly adjusting to the cold. Chanukah started during the darkest days of winter.

However, the message of Chanukah is light and hope. We have all had to grudgingly adjust to a time of isolation and separation (physically) from our community. We have remained close and strong as a congregation though, and I have hopes that things will turn around soon after the vaccine is available to us.

I look forward to once again being together, worshipping in our beautiful sanctuary and sharing onegs together. We probably will need to tough out the winter first, but at least we now have that glimmer of hope.

If we think about the Maccabees and how they had to hide out in caves during their plight against the Syrians, we can look at how lucky we are to have the comforts of home with plenty of food and drink to enjoy.

January is a slow month on the Jewish calendar, so to help you find things to do while you are home, I am offering a few classes this winter at a reduced rate that might help the boredom and give you something to think about in a positive way.

We have ongoing Midrash classes on Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon, that you can join in at any point. As of now, all my classes will be virtual on Zoom unless there is a change in the COVID situation. Even if we start classes in person, I will have an option for people to remain in the classes virtually. Here are some opportunities:

• **Program on "Love thy neighbor as thyself" in a time of division:** Sunday, Jan. 17th, from 3:30-5 p.m. Free to members; \$10 for non-members. We will discuss how Jewish texts reflect on today's times and how we can come together during this time of divisiveness. This will NOT be a political discussion. Please contact me by Jan. 10th to sign up:



CANTOR DEBORAH MARTIN

From the Spiritual Leader's Desk



spiritualleader@waukeshatemple.org or (608) 698-4363. Checks should be made out to Deborah Martin and sent to Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha, 830 W. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI 53188.

• **Exploring Judaism:** A four-part introduction to Jewish worship, text and culture. Sundays from 3-5 p.m., on Jan. 24th and 31st, Feb. 7th and 14th; \$10 for members, \$25 for non-members. This class is for Jews or non-Jews who would like to learn more about Judaism and Jewish thought. A wonderful introduction to those who are "curious" about Judaism or want to delve into Jewish texts and see how it influences our lives. Please contact me by Jan. 18th to sign up: spiritualleader@waukeshatemple.org or (608) 698-4363. Checks should be made out to Deborah Martin and sent to Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha, 830 W. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI 53188.

• **Class on Jewish Holidays:** This class will give an in-depth explanation of the holidays. It will also discuss how interfaith families or converts to Judaism can enjoy the holidays in their homes and/or with their relatives. Blending traditions and customs with respect and love is important to us and our families. Sunday, Feb. 21st from 3:30 to 5 p.m.: Free to members; \$10 for non-

members. Please contact me by Feb. 15th to sign up: spiritualleader@waukeshatemple.org or (608) 698-4363. Checks should be made out to Deborah Martin and sent to Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha, 830 W. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI 53188.

• **New Biblical Hebrew class:** Learn Hebrew from home and start to learn the prayers so you can participate more fully at services and in Jewish life. We will be using the book *Aleph isn't tough*. Sundays, starting on Feb. 21st, classes will be weekly from 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$100 for members \$150 for non-members. These classes will

run for about 15 weeks. Please contact Cantor Martin by Feb. 15th to sign up: spiritualleader@waukeshatemple.org or (608) 698-4363. Checks should be made out to Deborah Martin and sent to Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha, 830 W. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI 53188.

I suggest we focus on the many blessings in our lives and the opportunities that we have been given during these difficult times. It's easy to focus on our problems and things that are troubling us, but concentrating on the blessings in your life every day will help you get through those challenges and hardships.

If you are able to stay home and safe, please do so. If you need to go out for any reason, be sure to wear your masks. The scientists and experts all agree that a mask will protect you and all those around you.

For those who have lost jobs or are experiencing financial distress, please let us know and we can find ways to help you. If you are feeling depression or extreme isolation, Temple leaders are here to help. Feel free to call or email me.

We are a caring and loving congregation who are here for you if you need us.

I pray for a time soon when we will all be together and looking forward to good times ahead.



SEARCH COMMITTEE: If you would like to join the Spiritual Leader Search Committee, contact committee chair Mark Levy at markallanlevy@yahoo.com.

GARRETT

From Page 1

guests, including member **Beth Ann** and **Anthony Waite's** son **Garrett**, who says that music "stirs the deepest parts of our being and brings out feelings and emotions which we may not be paying attention to."

The gifted singer, composer and guitar player put together his first guitar when he was 5 years old – a creative endeavor composed of a shoe box and rubber bands. His musically-inclined family also includes his sister, **Bayla Jane**, who plays cello and trumpet, and his father, who works on guitar and piano. The family has donated each of the past few years to High Holidays music.

Garrett also has cousins who are heavily involved in the visual arts.

Garrett, 23, was born in Waukesha in an area intersecting the services of multiple municipalities – "good security," he said, "because no one can ever find their house." He attended Prairie Hill Waldorf school in the town of Waukesha, which offers an experiential-based program where the arts are integrated into the entire curriculum. He then attended the Kettle Moraine School of Arts and Performance.

Garrett's self-described "obsession" with music began with icon **Elvis Presley**; Garrett and his father share a passion for the performer, and Garrett remembers donning the star's famed jumpsuit for Halloween. Guitar lessons by Garrett's Spanish teacher followed until his mentor felt she had taught her pupil all she was able, and encouraged him to continue his musical journey by finding a more accomplished instructor.

His first major accomplishment was an album he wrote and recorded when he was 15. This was followed by several awards and events, including the Renaissance Award in high school for his mastery of two or more art forms; a senior recital that included elements of magic as well as music, and an original song performed at the 2018 Berklee Songs for Social Change Showcase. The year 2019 brought more achievements including Garrett's graduation from the Berklee College



Marie Loeffler photo

Garrett Waite accompanied **Marie Loeffler** as she sang during the Shabbat Zoom service remembering the music of **Leonard Cohen**. Garrett's creative video prompted **Marsha Fensin** to tell Garrett, "Your guitar overlay on *If it Be Your Will* is genius."

of Music in Boston with a Bachelor's degree in Guitar Performance. He also completed an album titled *Whatever It Is* – one of his proudest accomplishments. He earned a Division Achievement Award by the Berklee Guitar Department.

Garrett enjoys a range of music, including salsa, jazz, middle Eastern, Indian, hip hop and a host of additional styles, with a particular background in jazz – his college focus. He said "anything that's honest and interesting" is his favorite piece or music type. Flexibility seems to work for him and inspire his creativity, allowing him to "follow whatever ideas come up."

In the post-pandemic future, Garrett hopes to do some touring and possibly spend some time in New York – the traditional route of advancement for jazz musicians. True to Garrett's creativity, he is able to offer magic shows over Zoom for a sliding pay scale, with content specifically geared toward adults. He can provide a private music show that does allow for children as well.

While music has been a lifelong interest, his formal four-year study has not revealed the complex mysteries of this art form. Garrett ponders the physical level, which is the "art of controlling the building blocks of the uni-

verse; the neurological realm, which engages the entire brain and releases chemicals that make you feel good," and the amazing spiritual aspect of music.

In the stories that Garrett says music provides, and the interplay between soul and human form, we find the most profound sense of ourselves and our universe.

Garrett available for Zoom programs

Garrett Waite offers magic shows over Zoom for a sliding pay scale, with content specifically geared toward adults.

He also can provide a private music show that allows for children as well.

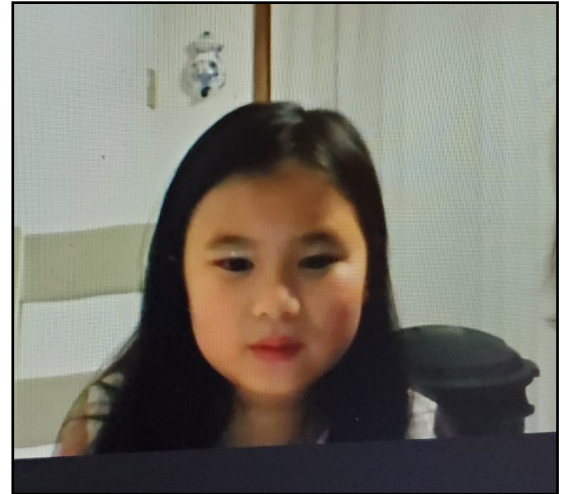
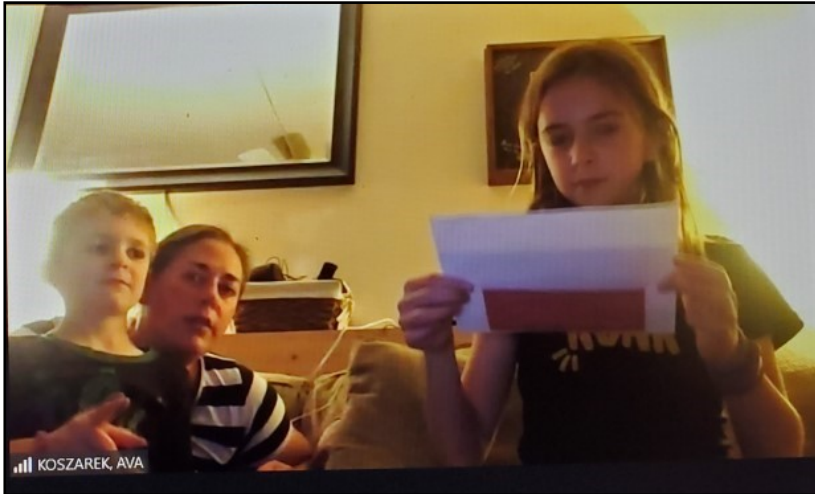
If interested, contact Garrett at garrettswaite@gmail.com.



DEBBIE FRIEDMAN NIGHT: Mike Cummins will be joined by Garrett Waite, Marie Loeffler, Marsha Fensin and friends as the music of Debbie Friedman is sung and played on January 15th, the occasion of her 10th yahrzeit.

KIDS SERVICE ON FRIDAY, NOV. 20th K-2 and 3rd / 4th grades

Photos by Marsha Fensin



Children in the religious school's younger grades displayed artwork reflecting the Torah portion they learned. Clockwise from top left: **Ava Koszarek** (with brother **Cooper** and mother **Becky Burris** in the background), and **Laura Gacek**, **Rylan Ecker** and **Jonah Sulman**.





DINING GROUP ON HIATUS: Anyone interested in joining the Temple's Dining Group should contact Elly Kraines (ellyanna340@gmail.com). There are no outings currently scheduled.

2020 CHANUKAH FUN DAY

Photos by Carrie Barbakoff



Teacher **Ilene Jauquet** demonstrates how to make latkes.

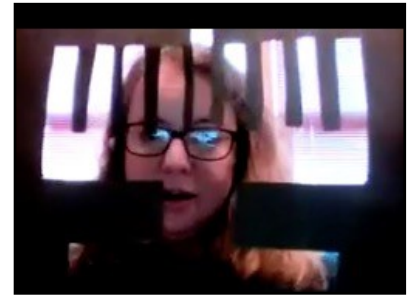


Taylor Ogden, daughter of **Jon and Nicole Ogden**, works on an art project.



Above: **Milo Patz's** art project, a "stained glass" menorah to hang in a window to shed light onto his community.

Below: teacher **Marie Loeffler** demonstrates the negative space to fill in with tissue paper for the art project



What does Judaism hold for us in 2021?

We as Jews are lucky. We get Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur, times of new beginnings and the opportunity for asking forgiveness each year.

Yet, we also are living in a modern secular society that celebrates the new year in January and gives us another chance to reflect on our successes and challenges.

The year 2020 definitely provided challenges for everyone, and we are all looking forward to 2021 with a sense of eagerness for a return to "normalcy."

But, this time of uncertainty and abnormal experiences has forced everyone to reevaluate and question. Judaism is very much about questioning. We question how to balance living in a secular world:

- Where the Jewish calendar is not a focal point, we must choose to ask for



CARRIE BARBAKOFF

From the Education Director's Desk

Jewish holidays off of work for the coming year;

- We must choose to not eat the shrimp, cheeseburger or crab cakes at the restaurant;
- We must choose to send our children to Hebrew school and religious school;
- We must choose to send our children to a Jewish day or overnight camp this summer;
- We must choose to pause at the end of the week to observe the Sabbath;
- And many other things that reflect on our Judaism.

I would like to challenge everyone in our congregation to take this opportunity

of the new year, where many of our peers also are taking time to refocus / rebalance / recreate "normalcy," and see that not only do you make that goal to live a healthier life, but also a life with a Jewish lens, where you can question what is the Jewish perspective on how to be the best version of ourselves in 2021.

Please email me (eddirector@waukeshatemple.org) your Jewish goals for 2021, and I will do my best to support you in achieving these goals.

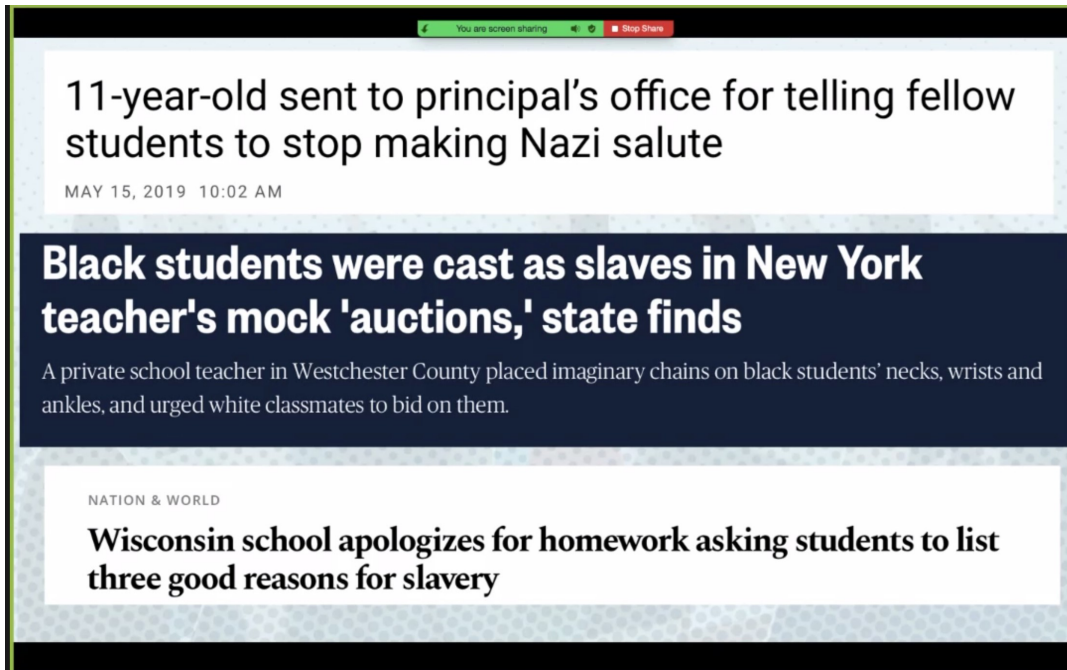
Happy and Healthy Secular New Year of 2021.



JEWISH TRIVIA: Our Adult Education Committee's Jewish Trivia Night has been postponed, but here is a practice question: Ryan Braun and Ian Kinsler were two of three Jewish players to appear in the 2008 MLB All-Star Game. Who was the other? Answer on Page 8.

2020 BOOK FAIR

A different — but successful — event



Cindy Levy photo

Liza Wiemer talked virtually to the congregation about her book, *The Assignment*. Her talk included instances when unjust assignments (left) have been given to students.

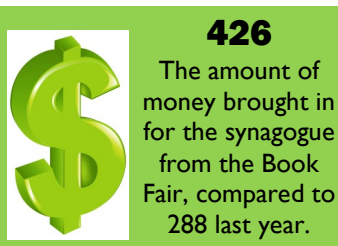
By **CINDY LEVY**

Book Fair Chair

To say that this year's Book Fair was like none other is an understatement.

Typically, the Book Fair is a one-day affair, and because I have been running it since the early 2000s, I pretty much had it down to a science, and could run it in my sleep. The pandemic caused me to completely re-imagine the Book Fair.

With help and guidance from **Lisa Baudoin**, owner of Books & Company in Oconomowoc, I began working on the development of a virtual format over the summer. The result was that a one-day Book Fair turned into a two-week event along with virtual book talks for children and adults as well as a virtual author visit by **Liza Wiemer**, the author of a young adult book called *The Assignment*. All these extra pieces needed to be advertised, and so with the help of **Mark Levy**, we created



a webpage with all the events for our congregants to view.

Books and Company created a special area on its website that listed all the available Jewish books by category. It served as a great way for people to browse virtually. The book talks provided an opportunity for children and adults to hear about several Jewish book offerings. The 7th/8th-grade students had an opportunity to discuss with Wiemer her book *The Assignment*, which touches on anti-Semitism and how to deal with it. The initial part of the presentation was open to the

entire congregation and told the story of how Liza developed her book, including instances when unjust assignments have been given to students.

Thanks to everyone who made this year's event the most successful Book Fair we have run. We had 19 people participate in the purchasing of books, for a total of \$2,131. The Book Fair brought in for CEEW \$426 (compared to \$288 last year) to be spent on programming and other synagogue needs. Although, I am planning to run an in-person Book Fair next year, I expect aspects of the virtual event will continue.

In conjunction with the Book Fair, **Noah Sulman** ran his Bar Mitzvah Project, the goal of which was to collect funds to purchase books for children at Children's Hospital. (Please see Page 7.)

Noah's project exceeded all my expectations, and he should be commended.



SUPPORT B'NAI MITZVAH STUDENTS: All members of Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha are invited to support our B'nai Mitzvah students and families by attending their services on Shabbat. Check Temple calendar for dates and times.

BAR MITZVAH SERVICE PROJECT

By NOAH SULMAN

My Bar Mitzvah Service Project was to raise money to buy books for Children's Hospital of Wisconsin.

The reason I chose this project is because I wanted to help people feel happy and safe in the hospital. I had the assistance of **Cindy Levy** from Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha to set up a way for people to donate money to Books & Company in Oconomowoc for my Bar Mitzvah Project.

I feel very grateful for the generosity of the many people who donated. We were able to raise \$920 in total, which was more than I expected. **Lisa Baudoin**, the owner of Books & Company, personally helped me at the bookstore.

I was happy to find books with a lot of diversity, including gender equality, race and ethnicity. I picked out many books in Spanish, and those that featured Native Americans and Black people. I also picked out books that showed girls in roles that are powerful.

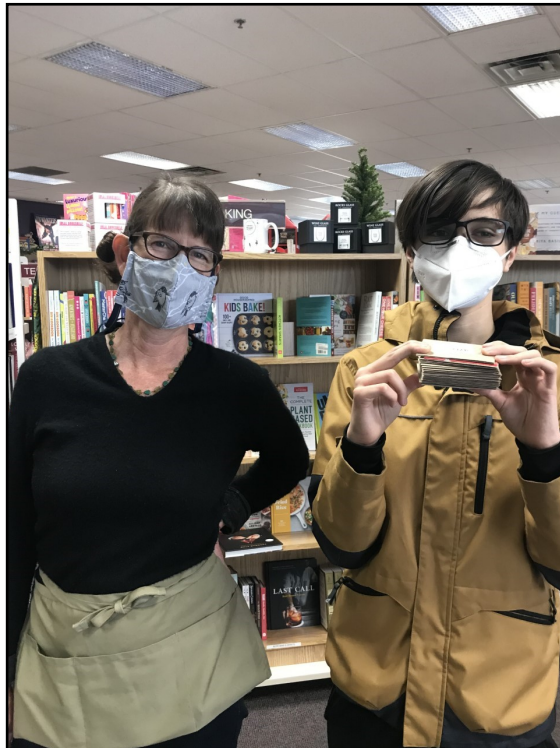
We delivered the books to Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. We were met by nice people who were grateful for the donation of books. The books will be given to children in the hospital as well as in the clinics.

I learned several things from this project:

- Giving to others in need is very helpful.
- Organization is crucial.
- If you are donating, it is important to pick things that are valuable to those to whom you are donating.

In the future, it would be nice to do more fundraisers to help make people happy and give them things they are not able to get on their own.

(Noah is the son of Aaron and Cecille Sulman.)



Cecille Sulman photos

Noah Sulman's Bar Mitzvah Service Project was to raise money to buy books for Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Clockwise from above left: Books & Company owner **Lisa Baudoin** and Noah with gift cards that Book Fair participants donated; Noah boxes the books he picked out; Noah delivers the books to the hospital.





JEWISH TRIVIA ANSWER (from Page 6): Kevin Youkilis was named the Jewish MVP for 2008, beating out fellow All-Stars Ryan Braun and Ian Kinsler. Yet a sportswriter once wrote of Youkilis: "He does not look like an MVP candidate; more a refrigerator repairman, a butcher, the man selling hammers behind the counter at the True Value hardware store."

Cooperation, respect, caring can lift our spirits

By DEB HACKER

I am studying the First Book of Samuel. In chapter 16:23, it says "the spirit of melancholy came over Saul, and David would take the harp and play it with his hand, and Saul would feel relieved and it would be well with him, and the spirit of melancholy would depart from him."

Music has that ability to lift the spirits, take us away from worry and stress, and we understand this even from ancient times.

But the December Sisterhood Board meeting did much the same for me. NO one was out of tune. No harsh sounds. The women's voices were truly music to my ears — reassuring, caring and respectful voices of the Sisterhood members



as they rose in chorus together.

They were voicing concern, caring and mutual respect for each other. In her touching opening prayer words, **Marsha Fensin** shared her thanks for all the good in her life. **Sandy Villa**, Social Action Chair for the Midwest WRJ and Sisterhood member, accented the problems of persistent hunger in our community.

Brainstorming about virtual fundraising for food pantries struck a strong note. Sisterhood hopes to add a "director" to a small chorus of volunteers who could lead these efforts. Barb Dailey suggested we tie in the next food pantry fundraising event with Pesach.

Music has a strong presence in our Jewish life. Our congregation offers many opportunities to sing — learning to chant the Torah, sing our prayers at services, listen to concerts.

However, for me, the December Sisterhood meeting was the sweetest song ever.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy (and sweet) New Year.

Letter to Sisterhood members A Call to Action

By **DEB HACKER**
Sisterhood Co-President

We did some wonderful and "Covid-creative" brainstorming at the December Sisterhood Board meeting.

Sandy Villa, past chair of our Tikkun Olam committee and current chair of the Women of Reform Judaism Midwest Tikkun Olam Committee, discussed the past projects at CEEW and at Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute. With the current pandemic, the synagogue and OSRUI closed to in-person participation, we have new challenges for Tikkun Olam in our community.

Some women voiced reluctance to be present at various community or-

ganizations due to health concerns. Sandy determined, and members agreed, that "food insecurity" / hunger are increased in our community and should be the focus of our efforts.

One of our successful responses to the food insecurity was this Fall's "cash-only" food drive that benefited both the Jewish Community Food Pantry and the Food Pantry Serving Waukesha County.

Barb Dailey's suggestion of having another food drive at Pesach was brilliant. She noted that members would not be paying for an in-person Seder at the Chenequa Country Club, but instead could donate the money through a food drive,

So you can see, we have fertile, cre-

ative minds and caring individuals in the Sisterhood.

However, what we need now is a committee of caring women to implement some of these ideas.

The commitment would not be in person, but rather virtual, also requiring the committee head to report at the Zoom Board meetings. Largely this is a coordination role, perhaps planning one or two more fundraising events focusing on hunger in our community in 2021.

Please reach out to me or co-Sisterhood president **Sara Anson** regarding helping with this important Mitzvah.

ceew_sisterhood@yahoo.com.



MEMBER DUES RELIEF AVAILABLE: Members having trouble paying the rest of their 2020-21 dues or considering dropping their memberships because of job loss or future uncertainty are encouraged to contact our treasurer, Alan Meyers (treasurer@waukeshatemple.org), to make confidential arrangements.

SISTERHOOD PROGRAMMING

OSRUI nurse remembers camp's humble beginning

By **DEB HACKER**
Sisterhood Co-President

At Sisterhood's December program, women were offered an insider's view of OSRUI — our URJ camp in Oconomowoc, dating back to 1970 when **Jerry Kaye** was hired as director.

Unbeknownst to his wife, **Paula**, she was part of this hire as well, and was to become the "camp nurse."

Paula related their first trip to OSRUI on a snowy December day. As they drove up and down the road in Oconomowoc trying to find the camp, they stopped to ask a resident if he knew where the camp was. He said, "Oh, you mean the 'Jew camp?'"

The humble beginning of the health center was on the second floor of the large mansion called the "Bayit," but eventually nursing care was given at the camp lodge / residence because Paula was unable to climb the steps due to an injury.

As the camp grew over the decades, she noted the many improvements in nursing, medical care and facilities, and contrasted that humble beginning to the "state of the art" and HIPPA compliant health center that exists today.

Paula and Jerry raised their two daughters at camp in the summer, calling it "the best place for Jewish kids, and I never had to worry about them."

Notably, Paula was responsible for forming the "Special Needs" committee to address complex health concerns of campers. She was a proponent of having every camper immunized, a policy eventually adopted by the URJ.

She shared her many responsibilities at camp to build Jewish community, such as being a hostess for faculty (educators, rabbis, cantors and other professionals) to "make them all welcome" with special meals and get-togethers.

She also relished working and climbing for many summers at the "Alpine Tower" where she was able to "relate to the children when they were well."

OSRUI camp, and specifically Paula, have positively influenced many campers and staff over the years, and Paula counts many of them as friends. She recalled happily about a camper, then counselor, who became a nurse because of knowing Paula. Paula was able to "pin" her at her graduation.

It's well known that **Debbie Friedman** got her start as a song leader and musician at camp. However, Paula spoke touchingly of one camper and then counselor at camp — the

late **Jeff Erlanger**. Although he was a wheelchair user since childhood, he thrived at camp despite many mishaps. (OSRUI has long championed inclusion before it was a concept.) Jeff starred on *Mister Rogers Neighborhood* as a child. (See Wikipedia for more of his story.)

Paula helped us understand her tireless work and joy at camp, emphasizing the essential nature of Jewish informal education and fun in forming a Jewish identity.

She exhibited true "chessed" in her work at camp, and was truly an unsung hero at OSRUI.

She was joined on the Zoom session by her daughters, **Michelle Silverman** and **Rabbi Leora Kaye**.

Three of the participants: — me (a registered nurse), **Mari-Claire Zimmerman** RN and Congregation Emanu-El B'nei Jeshurun member **Jean Lauterbach** PA — who worked with Paula also joined this upbeat and meaningful Zoom program.



Cindy Levy photo

Former OSRUI nurse **Paula Kaye** (bottom left), spoke via Zoom to Sisterhood on Dec. 8th as Sisterhood co-president **Deb Hacker** (bottom right) listened. Among others listening were, above from left: **Cindy Levy**, CEEW president **Laurie Schwartz** and Paula's daughters, **Michelle Silverman** and **Rabbi Leora Kaye**.



JOIN CARING COMMITTEE: If you are interested in joining CEEW's Caring Committee, please contact chair Marsha Fensin at mfsings@wi.rr.com.

CEEW COMMITTEE FOCUS: The Caring Committee

Group concentrates on comforting fellow congregants

By SYDNEY SMALL / Bulletin Co-Editor

The glitter-laden and frantic days of December, followed by the relative stillness and chill of January, can be long and challenging.

It can be hard to cope with certain memories and increased social pressure. This year we also are presented with medical and financial stress related to the pandemic and economic insecurity.

One great benefit synagogue involvement brings is the aid of the Caring Committee, chaired by **Marsha Fensin**, who was at one time a standby chaplain for Waukesha Memorial Hospital.

Other Committee members are **Lee Fensin, Ilene Jauquet, Denise Stodola, Marie Loeffler, Ardis Horwich, Ed Weiss** and **Pati Allen Brickman**.

Cantor Martin and former temple administrator **Marcy Hotz** helped launch the committee, which began two years ago to help bring comfort in trying times, particularly when there is an illness or death in our community.

Initially, committee members met with Cantor Martin to facilitate the growth of the group and plan team roles. Cantor's presence continues to serve as a guide, and the committee is very thankful for her direction.

The Caring Committee receives news from Cantor Martin when a congregant could use a kind hand, whether that is in the form of a wellness or condolence card, or a call to check in with a member. Former committee member **Paula Duval** provided a number

of cards. Committee members might also share news of someone in need.

Other activities of the committee have included bringing food to ailing congregants' homes and even – prior to the pandemic – giving CEEW members the chance to get out of their homes by taking them shopping or to eat out.

One significant goal of the committee is to organize a mourning booklet for the congregation, which would provide resources for people to access during that difficult time.

Maintaining confidentiality is paramount in the delicate work of this committee. Other challenges include coordinating the knowledge of someone's illness or hardship so that the committee can provide timely comfort to that individual.

Of course, there can be something rewarding even in difficulty – a favorite committee memory overall is learning that someone to whom members reached out has recovered and is doing well.

The Caring Committee is a valuable asset to our congregation as the human condition dictates that all of us have challenging life experiences.

Our community is small but mighty in its determination to care for each other.



The CEEW Book Club next meets on Wednesday, Jan. 6th, via Zoom at 1:30 p.m.

By **ADRIAN RICHFIELD**
Bulletin Co-Editor

What has been on your reading list? What books have you read recently? What books can you recommend? Have you read anything recently that was really good? What books are the on best seller lists today? Do you know a good book to read?

In January, the Book Club will have an informal meeting during which everyone will talk about their recent and well-liked books and provide a new reading list for members for the upcoming year.

Because we all seem to have more time to read these days, it may be helpful to hear about some good suggestions from others. Bring your books, your thoughts, a cup of tea or coffee and enjoy a good discussion of.....**BOOKS!**

For more information, please contact: Diana Stroshine (dstroshine@yahoo.com).

"It is really hard to be lonely very long in a world of words. Even if you don't have friends somewhere, you still have language, and it will find you and wrap its little syllables around you and suddenly there will be a story to live in." — *Naomi Shihab Nye* poet, songwriter and novelist.



ADOPT A BILL: Adopt-A-Bill has returned to CEEW. Partial payments are welcome. You can find a list of bills on the Sunday email blast. To adopt a bill, you may pay using [PayPal from our website](#). Alternatively, checks should be made payable to CEEW with "Adopt-A-Bill" in the memo area. Mail to CEEW Treasurer, 830 West Moreland Blvd, Waukesha, WI 53188.

IN APPRECIATION

of generous contributions to Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha

November donations, submitted by CEEW Treasurer **Alan Meyers**

IN MEMORY OF

- **Mary Steinberg**
Donations from Mary and James Hotz, Marsha and Lee Fensin (Education Fund) and Alan and Ann Meyers
- **Jack Brandner**
Donation from Andi and Tabb Patz
- **James Lamb**
Donation from Carol O'Neil
- **Ruth Grigo**
Donation from Deb and Rich Hacker

IN HONOR OF

- **Cindy Levy**, WRJ Sisterhood area leader
Donation from Alan and Ann Meyers
- **Sandy Villa**, WRJ Sisterhood Tikun Olam leader
Donation from Alan and Ann Meyers

Recent donations are listed in the CEEW bulletin every month. If you do not want your name to appear, please indicate that with your contribution.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOTES

November 9th Meeting

By **ADRIAN RICHFIELD**, Bulletin Co-Editor

(from minutes taken by Board secretary Denise Stodola)

- **Cantor Martin** will be offering several new classes starting next year. (*More on Page 2.*)
- **Carrie Barbakoff** reported on several virtual school events: **Noam** the shin shin's visit, visit with author **Liza Wiemer** as part of the Book Fair.
- **Alan Meyers** gave the treasurer's report, including a check received for \$360 from the honey fundraiser.
- Sisterhood reported the Hanukkah card is ready to be sent to the printer and there will be a Zoom program December 8th and January 12th.
- Facilities chair **Bernie Sandler** reported that the Star of David from the front of the building has been taken down to be rebuilt.
- The URJ will not hold an in person Biennial in 2021.

B'NAI MITZVAH Upcoming at CEEW

2021
MOLLY SCHMIDT
Daughter of **Loren**
and **Mark Schmidt**
May 8th, 10:30 a.m.

2022
TORIN ECKER
Son of **Jennifer**
and **Wes Ecker**
March 5th, 3:30 p.m.

MAZEL TOV

- To **Mari-Claire** and **Bill Zimmerman**, who will celebrate their 16th wedding anniversary on Jan. 1st.
- To **Larry Kraines**, son of **Nate** and **Elly Kraines**, who celebrated a birthday on Dec. 20th.

TEMPLE LEADERSHIP

SPIRITUAL LEADER

Cantor Deborah Martin
spiritualleader@waukeshatemple.org

EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Carrie Barbakoff
eddirector@waukeshatemple.org

PRESIDENT

Laurie Schwartz
president@waukeshatemple.org

ADMINISTRATOR

Jan Lowell
administrator@waukeshatemple.org

VICE PRESIDENT: Mark Levy (markallanlevy@yahoo.com)



QUOTABLE: From Justice Shirley Abrahamson, the first woman to serve on the state Supreme Court and its longest-serving justice, who died Dec. 19th: “My mother was a good Jewish mother. She told me how wise she was that she got to the United States in time for me to be born here, so that I would be eligible to be president of the United States.”

תודה רבה

**Todah Rabbah
Many Thanks to . . .**

- All those who had a part in giving Chanukah bags to congregants on Dec. 9th. The Temple supplied bags, gelt and candles; **Laurie Schwartz** provided prayer sheets, along with Hershey kisses and ring pops for the kids; home made rugelach was provided by **Ann Meyers** while Laurie and **Carrie Barbakoff** distributed the bags as cars drove through the Temple parking lot.
- **Beth Ann Waite, Ady Richfield, Sandy Villa, Elaine Goldberg** and **Marcy Hotz** who helped Cantor Martin lead the Dec. 18th Shabbat service.



Please send your Todah Rabbah items to:
temple-news@hotmail.com.



Marsha Fensin photo

The Cantors of Wisconsin, which includes cantors and cantorial soloists from around the state, gave a virtual Chanukah concert on Dec. 13th. **Cantor Martin** (bottom left) and **Marsha Fensin** (bottom, third from left) represented CEEW. Concert organizer **Cantor David Barash** from Congregation Emanu-El B'nei Jeshurun said, “Many, many thanks to **Jan Lowell** for the beautiful program.” Jan is CEEW’s administrator.



CONTACT ADMINISTRATOR ON RECENT DEATHS: Contact Administrator Jan Lowell prior to a service to add a name of a relative or friend to the recent list of those who have died.

May Their Memories Be for a Blessing

YAHREZEITEN Tevet / Shevat (January)



PLEASE NOTE: Some of the listings don't have a Hebrew date; that is because we have been changing the database and offering English / Gregorian dates to those who prefer them. In such cases, only the English / Gregorian dates will be listed.

Marshall Astrin: Sunday, January 17; Shevat 4
Observed by the congregation

Dora Bergman: Sunday, January 31; Tevet 18
Grandmother of Cindy (Mark) Levy

Samuel R. Fensin: Thursday, January 21
Father of Lee (Marsha) Fensin

Kaye Figatner: Wednesday, January 27
Grandmother of Ardis Horwich

Clara Heuman: Monday, January 18
Aunt of Marcy (James) Hotz

Howard Hurwitz: Wednesday, January 27; Shevat 14
Uncle of Elaine (Jack) Goldberg

Emanuel Jacobs: Friday, January 22
Observed by congregation

Ruth Kalstein: Monday, January 4
Aunt of Elaine (Jack) Goldberg

Tillie Kulakow: Tuesday, January 19; Shevat 6
Mother-in-law of June Kulakow

Dora Levin: Sunday, January 17; Shevat 4
Grandmother of Mark (Cindy) Levy

Joseph Levin: Friday, January 19; Shevat 16
Grandfather of Mark (Cindy) Levy

Michelle Lotz: Friday, January 22
Mother of Doug (Sara) Anson

Gary Lustig: Friday, January 31
Grandfather of Jan (Bill) Lowell

Etta Mazursky-Daitch: Friday, January 22; Shevat 9
Grandmother of Steve (Ann) Merkow

Jeanne Pokorny: Sunday, January 10
Aunt of Lee (Marsha) Fensin

Bernard Raskin: Saturday, January 23
Father of Mari-Claire (Bill) Zimmerman

Dr. Richard Reinherz: Sunday, January 31; Shevat 18
Observed by the congregation

Florence Rothman: Sunday, January 17; Shevat 4
Observed by the congregation

Charlotte Rudoy: Monday, January 11
Mother of Marcy (James) Hotz

Itzhak Rudoy: Friday, January 15
Grandfather of Marcy (James) Hotz

Patrick Sprosty: Sunday, January 31; Tevat 18
Fiancé of Jennifer Ecker

Adelaide Starr: Friday, January 29
Grandmother of Mari-Claire (Bill) Zimmerman

Richard J. Steinberg: Thursday, January 14, Shevat 1
Father of Rick Steinberg

Esther A. Waxman: Saturday, Jan. 23, Tevet 10
Grandmother of Michael Goldstone (Susan Vetrovsky)



JANUARY SHABBAT SERVICES

JANUARY 1
No Service

JANUARY 8
7 p.m.: Volunteer Shabbat (Led by Cantor Martin)

JANUARY 15
7 p.m.: Member Led

JANUARY 22
7 p.m.: Social Action Shabbat (Led by Cantor Martin)

JANUARY 29
7 p.m.: Led by Cantor Martin

These services will be online only. See Temple website for updates and instructions on how view them online.



BEGIN THANKSGIVING SERVICE: Cantor Martin and Marie Loeffler, along with CEEW religious school students Lia Ecker, Molly Schmidt and Noah Sulman and aide Natalie Hirsch, took part in the Brookfield-Elm Grove Interfaith Network (BEGIN) virtual Thanksgiving service on Nov. 23rd.

JNF offering virtual tours of Israel's water solutions

By RICH HACKER

As **Ben Franklin** noted long ago, there is a simple fact of life; that is, water is life and we only appreciate its worth when we do not have it.

More recently, the signatories to the Abraham Accords realize it as well. While the Middle East has been blessed with many things, an abundance of clean, fresh water is not one of them.

Out of necessity, Israel has been a pioneer and has become a leader in water management. Today Israel supplies 70 percent of its entire annual water requirements and 80 percent of its annual drinking water requirements (160 billion gallons) from desalinated water. This includes water supplied to Gaza as well as to Judea and Samaria.

It also supplies 6 billion gallons of fresh drinking water to the Kingdom of Jordan as part of the peace agreement. For reference, the City of Milwaukee pumped 34 billion gallons of fresh water in 2019.

Israel is also the world leader in using recycled water. Of water that is initially used for other purposes, Israel recycles close to 90 percent of that water for secondary uses (Spain is No. 2 in the world at 19 percent.)

I can give other examples but why spoil the fun? For those of you who have never traveled to Israel, whose last trip was years ago, or even those who have visited recently, the Jewish



National Fund is providing a unique opportunity for all of us to explore the many water management innovations and techniques developed by Israel.

For \$100 per Zoom seat, JNF is sponsoring *"Israel H2O: A Virtual Tour of Israel's Water Solutions."*

Tours are planned for each month of January (4-7), February (8-11), and March (15-18). The four-day tours are two hours per day, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (CST) on Monday through Thursday.

From the comfort of your home or office, meet and interact with the innovators, researchers, business leaders and government officials who are on the cutting-edge of Israeli water management.

Confront the challenges presented by the geopolitics, hydro-politics, and

transboundary politics of the region. Explore the region's natural water resources by visiting wetlands, restored rivers, and drilling sites. Marvel at the innovations of their reservoirs, water treatment plants, and desalination stations and the curiosity of the young water pioneers who are studying water education and technology in their schools.

In other words, visit and develop an appreciation for a country that has embraced the challenges of providing fresh water not only for the people of Israel, but also for the entire region, and is willing to share that expertise with the world.

For more information and/or to register, please visit: <https://www.jnf.org/virtualwatertours>

Marie Loeffler photographed a challah she baked recently. Before Covid, Marie's creations were among the highlights of the Shabbat services.





ADULT B'NAI MITZVAH POSTPONED: The Joint Adult B'nai Mitzvah, which was scheduled for Dec. 5th, has been postponed until we can get back into the synagogue safely. The service is to include the six members of Cantor Martin's Adult Hebrew class. They are Joe Dailey, Marcy Hotz, Elizabeth Lamb, Adrian Richfield, Laurie Schwartz and Denise Stodola.

FUNDS to which you can donate to help our synagogue

There are many ways to help the synagogue, among them donating to the various funds available at CEEW. Please circle the fund to which you would like your donation to go. Make checks payable to CEEW. Return form with check to:

Treasurer
Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha
830 W. Moreland Blvd.
Waukesha, WI. 53188

.....
General Fund: All donations not otherwise designated.

Endowment Fund: A fund that is invested to serve as a continual source of stability and income for the synagogue.

Mensch Fund: Some of our members are not able to afford fees to attend synagogue events. The fund is used to help defray these costs.

Education Fund: Tuition does not cover the full cost of the Religious School. This helps support school expenses.

Library Fund: Used to purchase books and supplies.

Torah Fund: Used to repair our current scrolls or, perhaps, to buy a new Torah some day.

Bill and Riva Merkow Endowment Fund: The intent is to grow this fund so that the income will fund a significant portion of the synagogue's yearly expenses. Our first goal is to fund the spiritual leader full time.

Goldblatt / Adams Memorial Fund: Supports the development of teachers' skills that will benefit the synagogue, and helps young people attend Jewish summer camps, Israel programs or youth activities and/or conventions.

Spiritual Leader's Discretionary Fund: The spiritual leader can use this fund as needed as long as it meets the tax guidelines.

Lapham Reserve Fund: The Board controls this fund. It is used to meet unexpected expenditures.

Enclosed is a \$ _____ contribution.

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Other: _____

Please send acknowledgement card to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

From:

Name: _____






Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____



OUR WEBSITE: Check out our creative website developed by Mark Levy at www.waukeshatemple.org.

5781 2021		JANUARY		TEVET SHEVAT		
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Tevet 17 NO SHABBAT SERVICE	2 Tevet 18  Veyechi
3 Tevet 19 No Religious School	4 Tevet 20	5 Tevet 21 Online Sisterhood Board meeting, 6:30 p.m. Online Hebrew School, Level 3, 5:30 p.m.	6 Tevet 22 Online Midrash Class, 10:30 a.m. Online Temple Book Club, 1:30 p.m.	7 Tevet 23	8 Tevet 24 Volunteer Shabbat (Cantor led) 7 p.m.	9 Tevet 25  Shemot
10 Tevet 26 Online Religious School, 9:30 a.m. February Bulletin Content Deadline	11 Tevet 27 Online Board of Trustees meeting, 6:30 p.m.	12 Tevet 28 Online Hebrew School, Level 3, 5:30 p.m. Online Hebrew School, Level 2 Online Sisterhood program, Simon Bronner, 7 p.m.	13 Tevet 29 Online Midrash Class, 10:30 a.m. Online Hebrew School, Level 2	14 Shevat 1	15 Shevat 2 Online Mike Cum- mens-led musical Shabbat service, featuring the music of Debbie Fried- man, with Garrett Waite, Marie Loeff- ler and Marsha Fensin, 7 p.m.	16 Shevat 3  Va'era
17 Shevat 4 Online Religious School, 9:30 a.m. Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself program, 3:30 p.m.	18 Shevat 5	19 Shevat 6 Online Hebrew School, Level 3, 5:30 p.m. Online Hebrew School, Level 2	20 Shevat 7 Online Midrash Class, 10:30 a.m. Online Hebrew School, Level 2	21 Shevat 8	22 Shevat 9 Social Action Shabbat (Cantor led), 7 p.m.	23 Shevat 10  Bo
24 Shevat 11 Online Religious School, 9:30 a.m. Exploring Judaism class, 3 p.m.	25 Shevat 12	26 Shevat 13 Online Hebrew School, Level 3, 5:30 p.m. Online Hebrew School, Level 2	27 Shevat 14 Online Midrash Class, 10:30 a.m. Online Hebrew School, Level 2	28 Shevat 15	29 Shevat 16 Cantor-led Shabbat service, 7 p.m.	30 Shevat 17  Beshalach
31 Shevat 18 Online Religious School and Tu B'shvat program, 9:30 a.m. Exploring Judaism class, 3 p.m.						

The content deadline for the February bulletin is Sunday, Jan. 10th.