

## Rabbi's Message

Dear friends,

For more than 50 years, the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism ("the RAC") has been the hub of Jewish social justice and legislative activity in Washington, D.C. As the DC office of the Union for Reform Judaism, the RAC educates and mobilizes the Reform Jewish community on legislative and social concerns, advocating on more than 70 different issues, including economic justice, civil rights, religious liberty, Israel and more. As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the RAC's advocacy work is completely non-partisan and pursues public policies that reflect the Jewish values of social justice that form the core of our mandate.

Passover is almost here. This spring the RAC suggests that Reform Jews consider adding racial justice themed readings to their seders and has provided several resources to aid this them. Here is one designed as a supplement to the Four Questions:

### **THE FOUR CHILDREN: A Racial Justice Haggadah Insert**

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**The Wise Child asks: "What are the statutes and laws in our country that protect individuals from discrimination based on race?"**

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**You should respond by referencing some of the most important pieces of legislation aimed at addressing racial injustice in the United States, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. You should note that these laws were won through the efforts of individuals committed to social change, including many Reform Jews, and that the various protections they provide are critical to combating discrimination on the basis of race. At the same time, you should remind this child that the protections we already have are imperfect and, in many cases, are coming under attack. It is our responsibility as Reform Jews to fight against the erosion of existing civil rights laws and to advocate for reforms in education, criminal justice, voting rights and economic policies that advance true racial equality.**

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**The Wicked Child asks: "Why must I be involved in pursuing racial justice?"**

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**In asking this question, the wicked child has denied a basic principle of Judaism: that we have a collective responsibility to address injustice, even when we are not directly affected by that injustice or might benefit from it because of our own privilege. You should teach this child that it is for the sake of everyone that we advocate for racial justice. In protecting voting rights, improving access to education and calling for sensible criminal justice and law enforcement reforms, we affirm the fundamental Jewish belief that all people are created *b'tzelem Elohim*, in**

**the Divine image, and thus are deserving of equal rights.**

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**The Simple Child asks: “What do we even mean by racial justice?”**

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**You should tell this child that racial justice is the pursuit of equality for all people, regardless of race. You should further explain that racial injustice can take many forms, from explicitly racist comments to laws and institutions that perpetuate racial inequalities. With a firm hand, we as Reform Jews must protect every single person’s civil rights, ensuring that no individual is excluded from the benefits of society or suffers under discriminatory laws and actions solely because of race or ethnicity. We must also consider the ways in which we are ourselves complicit in racial injustice and work to build communities and congregations that reflect our commitment to equality.**

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**And the Child Who Does Not Know How to Ask:**

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**To respond to the child who is too overwhelmed to ask a question, you should start at the beginning, telling the child that we are not required to complete the work of racial justice, but neither are we free to desist from it. There are many ways that we can play a positive role in the campaign for racial justice. We can help make racial justice issues a priority in our own synagogues by embracing Jewish racial diversity and by learning together about structural racism. We can build relationships across lines of faith and race. And we can initiate or participate in community, state and national efforts to advocate for civil rights laws. In all of these ways, we honor the legacy of our parents and grandparents – who in previous generations participated in acts of civil disobedience, marched arm-in-arm in support of equal rights for all Americans, and traveled to register voters – while at the same time ensuring that our children and future generations are granted an America in which our vision of racial justice is truly realized.**

(Religious Action of Reform Judaism Center A RACIAL JUSTICE HAGGADAH INSERT  
[rac.org/racial justice](http://rac.org/racial%20justice))

Want even more thought-provoking material for your seder table? Check here:

<http://www.rac.org/sites/default/files/Living%20Talmud%20Four%20Questions%20Mar%202016.pdf>.

As it has done time and again in our history, may empathetic curiosity lead us to greater awareness, deeper understanding and redemptive action.

Wishing you and yours a *zissen* Pesach – a Passover filled with sweetness.

Sincerely,

**Rabbi Kim S. Geringer**

**President’s Message**

Break out the matzah (and the dates and prunes), because Pesach is upon us! As you know, we will be having our Second Night Seder at the Captain's Inn this year, on 4/23 at 5pm, which I'm sure will be amazing! Please remember to RSVP!

As some of you may know, Philip finally got his apartment sold in NY and bought a new one in FL. Please join me in wishing him love and luck in his new, warmer surroundings! Mazel tov Philip!

The Congregational Meeting will be 5/22/16 at 7pm; the venue will be announced separately. Please write the date and time on your calendar and plan on attending if possible.

We have a few changes coming in the very near future. The departure of our music director, Philip is hard, and sadly, Rabbi Kim has also decided that this would be an appropriate time to end her tenure with our Congregation. I want you all to know that we have a committee to find a replacement for the Rabbi, and we will be interviewing two fine individuals that we've found thanks to Rabbi Kim. This is challenging, and I know some of you are going 'oy!' (Rest assured the board also said the same thing)! But sometimes change is good. I say it's sometimes good because as individuals over time we all get comfortable, and because of that, sometimes new ideas are harder to come by particularly when significant change happens. Philip's departure is a big change for all of us, and going forward, paving a new path is going to be a new challenge that we must meet head on with a clean slate. I want you to know that the board is working feverishly to make sure there is a smooth transition and also trying to make sure we continue and grow our Jewish community in southern Ocean County. As a people, we have defied all odds throughout all of history because of our community (despite a bit of kvetching), and I have no doubt we will navigate these changes successfully either!

The board will be meeting again on April 28th at 7pm at the Dunn home. Since we do not have a permanent place to meet, please speak to the homeowner hosting the meeting if you would like to attend.

L'Shalom,

Wendi Higgins

### **Membership**

Can you find a friend to join our spiritual family....we need to grow...sooner than later! As we look into our future it will be difficult to sustain ourselves without any growth in membership. We need everyone's help to keep us going. Think about what we offer....a Jewish identity in our community, friends that we never would have had, bi-monthly services.... support from our Rabbi and Board of Trustees. Consider helping on a committee to reach out to increase our membership. You can speak to Syble Bleiweis, Joan Silverman or Cyndy Friedland to participate.

### **Hebrew School**

For information on Hebrew School, please contact Dayna Otto at 609-709-9410

### **Tributes**

*Do a Mitzvah...* Send a Tribute Card to acknowledge a special event. Call Syble Bleiweis 609-978-4240 or Joan Silverman 609- 698-0000. Every Tribute sent is a charitable donation that helps support our Congregational community.

### *Congratulations...*

To: Dayna and Kurt Otto  
Mazel Tov on the occasion of Reece and Brianna's B'Nai Mitzvah  
From: Dolly and Mike Weiss  
Ruth and Gary Schlyen

To: Syble and Ernie Bleiweis  
Mazel Tov on the occasion of Grandson Kyle's Bar Mitzvah  
From: Joan and Terry Silverman

### *In Memory of...*

To: Rabbi Kim Geringer  
In memory of father, grandfather and father in law Leonard Geringer  
From: Ruth and Gary Schlyen

To: Barrie Zukoff  
In memory of beloved father, Nate Broder  
From: Joan and Terry Silverman



*Birthdays are always something to celebrate*

David Jonas

**April**

April 11

Maralyn Ricciardi

**May**

May 25

For Information and Membership: 609-698-4459



*Love grows with every year*

**April**

Fran and Joe Breese  
Helen and John Cocuzza

April 7 (54 years)  
April 28 (9 years)



**Yahrzeits**

יתגדל בראבא

*May the memories of our loved ones be a blessing*

**First Year**

05/07/2015  
07/25/2015

Christine Kaplan Sister of Dolly Weiss  
Clark Webb Brother-in-Law of Cyndy Friedland

**April**

04/08/2008  
04/10  
04/12  
04/22  
04/27/1975 (16 Iyyar)

Gladys Zeik Mother of Debbie Dieckmann  
Paul Taub Cousin of Cyndy Friedland  
Jon Brody Cousin of Justin Friedland  
Nancy Oliva Friend of Cyndy Friedland  
Jack Silverman Father of Terry Silverman

**May**

05/1984  
05/01/11  
05/04/45  
05/07/15  
05/28/08  
05/28/85

Aaron Shapinsky Uncle of Helen Cocuzza  
Albert Hanok Uncle of Helen Cocuzza  
Ted Cohen Father of Phil Cohen  
Christine Kaplan Sister of Dolly Weiss  
David Crespy Father of Jack Crespy  
Adele Berlin Aunt of Syble Bleiweis

### Fundraising News

**Second Night Seder**..there are some seats left..bring your family and friends to The Captain's Inn for our Seder which will start at 5PM. Rabbi Kim Geringer will be conducting our Seder. Contact Madelyn Dunn at 609-660-1614 to place your reservations.

**Clothing Drive**..Clean out your closets and drawers...Dayna Otto will be taking donations, bagged of course, of clean clothing, bedding, (no pillows), linens, shoes, for our Spring clean Up Clothing Drive. The dates she will be receiving donation are April 22nd, (First Night of Passover, so during the day) till May 2nd. You can reach Dayna at 609-709-9410 for details.

**Waretwon Founders Day**...Saturday May 28th...9 AM to 3 PM..two more volunteers needed...without help we cannot do this event!! Contact Cyndy Friedland 609-698-4459 if you have a few hours to assist!

**SAVE THE DATE....ART AUCTION.....AUGUST 18TH AT THE CAPTAIN'S INN....Plan on having an early dinner..its Prime Rib Special Night!! More information to follow...**

**Amazon Smile** - When shopping at [www.SMILE.Amazon.com](http://www.SMILE.Amazon.com) you can designate REFORM JEWISH COMMUNITY of BARNEGAT (there are no additional fees, the congregation makes a percentage).

**ShopRite** Cards are available for purchase at services or by calling Syble Bleiweis at 609-978-4240 or Dayna Otto at 609-709-9410 to arrange your pick up.

**Tribute Cards** are a great way to celebrate any life cycle event, birthday, or anniversary. The minimum donation is \$5 and up to whatever you'd like to donate. Syble Bleiweis, 609-978-4240 or Joan Silverman, 609-698-0000 will gladly assist with your cards and have them mailed out immediately. Saves you a trip to the store and stamp!!

### 2016 Shabbat Services Dates/Times

#### April 2016

Friday, April 8, 7:30 PM

Saturday, April 23 (2<sup>nd</sup> Night Seder), 5 PM

#### May 2016

Friday, May 6, 7:30 PM

Friday, May 20, 7:30 PM

#### June 2016

Friday, June 3, 7:30 PM

Friday, June 10, 7:30 PM

B'nai Mitzvah for Wendi Higgins, Syble Bleiweis, and Joan Silverman

<b>Shabbat Candle Lighting Times and Holiday Calendar</b>						
April 2016						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 22 Adar II Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:04 PM	2 23 Adar II Shabbat Parah
3 24 Adar II	4 25 Adar II	5 26 Adar II	6 27 Adar II	7 28 Adar II	8 29 Adar II Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:11 PM	9 1 Nisan Rosh Chodesh Nisan Shabbat HaChodesh
10 2 Nisan	11 3 Nisan	12 4 Nisan	13 5 Nisan	14 6 Nisan	15 7 Nisan Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:18 PM	16 8 Nisan Shabbat HaGadol
17 9 Nisan	18 10 Nisan	19 11 Nisan	20 12 Nisan	21 13 Nisan	22 14 Nisan Ta'anit Bechorot Erev Pesach Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:25 PM Earth Day	23 15 Nisan Pesach I
24 16 Nisan Pesach II	25 17 Nisan Pesach III (CH" M)	26 18 Nisan Pesach IV (CH" M)	27 19 Nisan Pesach V (CH" M) Administrative Professional's Day	28 20 Nisan Pesach VI (CH" M)	29 21 Nisan Pesach VII Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:32 PM Arbor Day	30 22 Nisan Pesach VIII



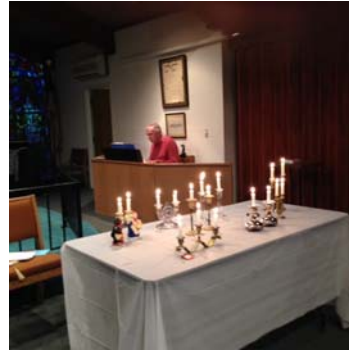
<b>Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam Board of Trustees</b>			
The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Thursday April 28, 2016 at 7 PM at the home of Robert Dunn. If you are interested in attending, please contact Wendi Higgins (732-232-1861 or <a href="mailto:cbreezego@gmail.com">cbreezego@gmail.com</a> ) or Robert Dunn (609-660-1614 or <a href="mailto:rdunn2960@aol.com">rdunn2960@aol.com</a> ).			
<b>President</b>	Wendi Higgins	732-232-1861	<a href="mailto:cbreezego@gmail.com">cbreezego@gmail.com</a>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	Philip Altland	609-492-2751	<a href="mailto:paltland@elliman.com">paltland@elliman.com</a>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>	Dayna Otto	609-597-3239	<a href="mailto:yoursdayna@comcast.net">yoursdayna@comcast.net</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Helen Cocuzza	609-978-8653	<a href="mailto:heja0615@aol.com">heja0615@aol.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Robert Dunn	609-660-1614	<a href="mailto:rdunn2960@aol.com">rdunn2960@aol.com</a>
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Cyndy Friedland	609-698-4459	<a href="mailto:cfriedland119@comcast.net">cfriedland119@comcast.net</a>
<b>Board of Trustees at Large</b>	Allan Levy	609-549-6539	<a href="mailto:ahlbeach@hotmail.com">ahlbeach@hotmail.com</a>
	Laura Miller	609-660-9072	<a href="mailto:millerlaura303@gmail.com">millerlaura303@gmail.com</a>
<b>Past President</b>	Philip Miller	609-698-3933	<a href="mailto:pmmlegal@aol.com">pmmlegal@aol.com</a>

<b>Temple Committees</b>	
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair/Membership</b>
<b>Choir</b>	<u>Philip Altland</u> Cyndy Friedland, Wendi Higgins, Pat Barndt-Higgins, Madelyn Dunn, Robert Dunn, Syble Bleiweis, Rena Kreisler, Helen Cocuzza
<b>Finance</b>	<u>Treasurer, Robert Dunn</u> Financial Secretary, Cyndy Friedland President, Wendi Higgins
<b>Fundraising</b>	<u>Cyndy Friedland</u> Pat Barndt-Higgins, Syble Bleiweis, Madelyn Dunn, Cyndy Friedland, Wendi Higgins, Joan Silverman, Ruth Schlyen, Helen Cocuzza
<b>Greeters</b>	Hope Gardiner, Rhona Levy, Myles Levy, Edna Schaffler
<b>Hospital Visits</b>	Jack Crespy
<b>Membership</b>	<u>Cyndy Friedland</u> Syble Bleiweis, Joan Silverman, Helen Cocuzza
<b>Music</b>	Philip Altland
<b>Newsletter</b>	Helen Cocuzza
<b>Oneg &amp; Dinners</b>	<u>Madelyn Dunn</u> Pat Barndt-Higgins, Wendi Higgins, Filomina Jonas
<b>Religious School</b>	<u>Dayna Otto</u> Phil Miller, Helen Cocuzza
<b>Ritual</b>	<u>Allan Levy</u> Philip Altland, Charles Flum, Helen Cocuzza
<b>Tributes &amp; Get Well</b>	<u>Syble Bleiweis</u> Joan Silverman
<b>Yahrzeits</b>	Pat Barndt-Higgins



### Kibbitz Corner

*On Friday April 8 our Congregation said “au revoir” to our dear music director, Philip Altland with a special Shabbat celebrated with song and illuminated by the glow of our community candle lighting. Philip, we wish you the very best as you begin the next chapter of your life.*



### *Ocean County Jewish Federation*

Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>...Let's together, invite all of Ocean County to a party in celebration of the **68th birthday of the State of Israel**. Peter Kitay of the JFOC Board is chairing that important celebration. Drew, our JFOC Executive Director, has been in contact with the Blue Claws regarding the annual Jewish Heritage Day.

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, our own Cyndy Friedland and Helen Cocuzza (yes, that's me...your editor), along with Madelyn Dunn, Sheila Ehrlich, Hope Gardiner and Rhona Levy attended the “A Place To Be” fundraiser. We were very luck and won some really nice gifts!



*Passover Recipes from Dolly Weiss*

**CHOCOLATE TOFFEE MATZOS**

**Ingredients**

- Enough sheets of matzo to cover the bottom of the pan. To cover the empty spaces just break up another piece of matzo to fill it in to cover the entire pan in a single layer.
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup brown sugar (light or dark, no difference)
- 12 – 14 ounces of semi-sweet chocolate chips
- One cup toffee candy pieces (in baking section of supermarket)

**Instructions**

Pre-heat oven to 450°

Line a jelly roll pan (15” x 10”) with aluminum foil following first ingredient instruction.

- Melt butter and brown sugar in saucepan. Bring to a full boil and boil about 4-5 minutes, stirring occasionally and not too high a flame ...just high enough to keep it boiling.
- Pour mixture over matzo and spread evenly and as quickly as possible with a spatula. It might “pool” in places if the matzoh is uneven. Just try to cover all the matzoh and don’t worry too much about it. The next step should even it out.
- Bake at 450° for four minutes; remove from oven (do not shut oven off)
- Sprinkle chocolate chips on top and put back in the oven for one minute.
- Remove from oven and carefully spread melted chocolate to cover as completely as possible. Sprinkle with toffee candy.
- Cool completely. Refrigerate cooled candy until VERY cold. Once very cold, break into pieces and store in a covered container in the refrigerator.

**PASSOVER AWESOME BROWNIES**

**Ingredients**

4 eggs

2 cups white sugar

1 cup unsalted butter, melted

6 TBS matzo **cake meal**

1 cup cocoa powder (Ghiardelli is best)

1 cup chopped walnuts or pecans (OPTIONAL)

**\*\*FROSTING**

4 oz. Semi-sweet chocolate melted (either squares or chocolate chips)

1 TBS Crisco® melted

**Instructions**

Preheat oven to 350°. Line with aluminum foil and grease a 9” x 9” inch\* baking pan.

In a medium size mixing bowl, blend eggs, sugar and butter. Mix in matzo meal, cocoa powder

and nuts. Transfer batter to prepared baking pan.

Bake for 35 minutes.\*

For frosting, blend chocolate and Crisco® in microwaveable dish, slowly, until melted. Spread over COOLED brownies.

\*If you use an 8 x 8 pan it may seem to be very jiggly after 30 minutes. If it's VERY jiggly and a toothpick inserted in center is VERY wet, return to oven for about 5 minutes. It will still look not completely cooked, but it is and will set up nicely. You don't want to overcook these brownies.

\*\* You can use the above recipe for a frosting on the completely cooled brownies OR you can use Duncan Hines icing and decorate each individual cut brownie. I use the vanilla and it tastes and looks great. **ALSO** it looks great to simply dust the brownies with confectioner's sugar **AFTER** they've been cut

NOTE: Brownies should be cooled before cutting into 2" pieces (2x2)

### *"A trip to Savannah"...travel recommendation from Phil Miller*

If you ever happen to be in Savannah Georgia, take the time to visit a fellow reform temple, Congregation Mickve Israel. Founded by a group of settlers arriving here London in 1733, it is the third synagogue established in America, and the first in a southern colony. The group included eight Ashkenazim, and thirty-four Sephardim who had escaped from the Inquisition in Portugal.

The current sanctuary dates back to 1876, and is a rare American synagogue built in the Victorian era neo-Gothic style.

While at the synagogue, be sure to see the valuable relics, including a torah scroll brought by the Jewish settlers in 1733, which dates from the 1400s and is one of the oldest torah scrolls in America. Also, the ark contains a torah brought from Czechoslovakia, saved from the Nazis during World War Two.

Tours are available every weekday.



### *Community Announcements*

*The following article was sent to me by New Jersey Organizing Project (NJOP) which was formed following Super Storm Sandy to advocate for those who were displaced by the storm and who are still displaced and trying to get back home, or who are home and are still fighting to recover.*

Dear Helen,

Yesterday [Monday April 11] we attended a hearing in Trenton about the budget and spending for Sandy recovery efforts. We weren't allowed to ask questions directly to the Department of Community Affairs but we made our presence known by wearing shirts with serious but slightly humorous sayings like, "If Sandy didn't kill you the RREM program might" and "Ask me what I'd do with \$1.1 billion in Sandy relief funds."

It's our sense of humor that has helped us get through the past three and a half years. However, there is nothing humorous about families scrounging for every dollar to rebuild only to find out the DCA is using up to 5% of recovery funding to cover their own staff and administrative costs.

I guess the joke is on us that 3 1/2 years later only 32% of the families in RREM are home.

[Sign this petition to tell the DCA: Show us the money and the progress.](#)

Thank you for all you do,

Newsletter April 2016

[www.shaareyhayam@gmail.com](mailto:www.shaareyhayam@gmail.com)

<http://shaareyhayam.org>

For Information and Membership: 609-698-4459

Amanda and Joe for NJOP

P.S.

Check out this media coverage of us at the hearings yesterday:

[NBC10 Philadelphia "Superstorm Sandy Victims Face Rebuilding Delays" April 11, 2015](#)

[WBGO.org "NJ Officials Say 76% of NJ Home Rebuilding Grants Have Been Awarded"](#)