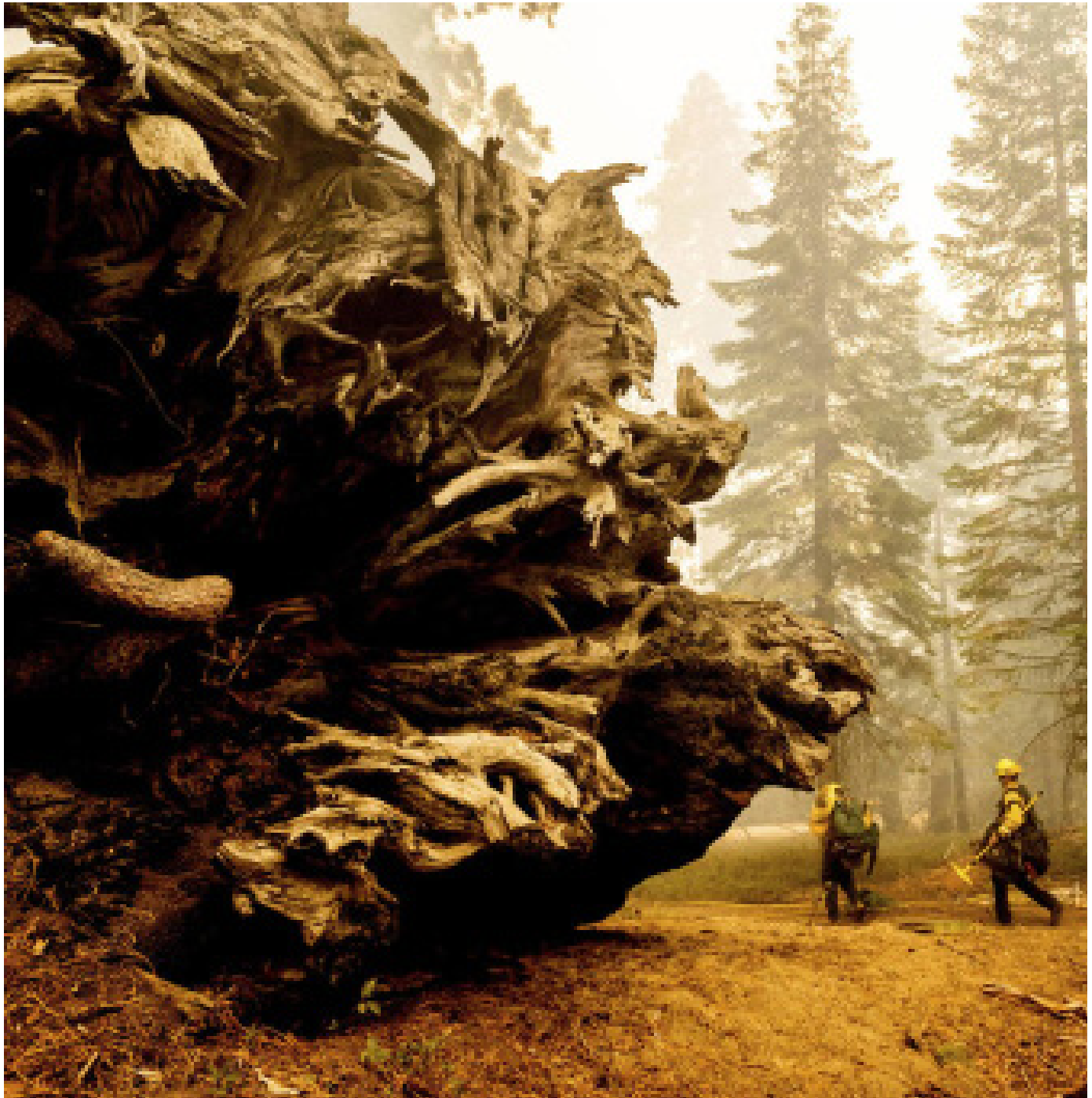


# MESSENGER

volume

106

THE SYNAGOGUE | CONGREGATION B'NAI EMUNAH | JANUARY 2022 | PUBLISHED **MONTHLY**



**WOMEN'S RETREAT | SEE PAGE XX FOR DETAILS**

# MILESTONES

## ■ IN MEMORIAM

**Robert West**  
Brother of Betty Lehman

**Frank Ortolani**  
Father of Brent Ortolani

**Dr. Sam Oleinick**  
Husband of the late Kay Oleinick  
Father of Stephen May, Kara Mings  
and Julie Casey

**Ruby Northington**  
Grandmother of Charria Lane

Callie Williamson  
**Great-Grandmother of Charria Lane**

**Dr. Larry Wilk**  
Husband of Joy Wilk  
Father of Wendy Wilk Markarian, David Wilk,  
Daniel Wilk, Heather Wilk  
Step-Father of Ken Steinberg, Lisa Levi,  
and David Steinberg.

# OUR GROWING FAMILY

## ■ ONWARD AND UPWARD!

Our thanks to those who have joined the Synagogue Family in the last month. We share their confidence in a Jewish community that can sustain its institutions and build a lively and stimulating Jewish life in Tulsa!

**Evan Fadem and Jordan Peila**

**Alexis Gardner**

**Vicki Frederick**

**Sasha Cardin**

**Thomas and Courtney MacDonald**

**Danielle MacDonald and Jim McCarthy**

**Maureen Schechtman**

May the whole of our community grow and prosper in the coming year and match the accomplishments of those who came before us.

# MASTHEAD

Daniel S. Kaiman and Marc Boone Fitzerman..... Rabbis  
Dr. John Henning Schumann..... President  
Ross Heyman..... Vice President  
Mark Goldman..... Vice President  
Sally Donaldson ..... Treasurer  
Nancy Cohen..... Secretary  
Jeremy Rabinowitz ..... Synagogue Foundation President  
Roxanne Friedland..... Sisterhood President  
Sara Levitt ..... Director of Jewish Life and Learning  
Natalie Shaver..... Program Director  
Shelli Wright ..... Preschool Director  
Amber Knecht ..... Director of Refugee Resettlement  
Happie Hoffman ..... Artist-in-Residence  
Cheryl Myers .. Accounts Receivable/Administrative Asst.  
Nicki Johnson and Special XXX ..... Receptionists  
Betty Lehman + Sally Donaldson .... Guest Administrators  
Nancy Cohen..... Sisterhood Gift Shop Chair  
Design and Typesetting ..... Davidoff Typeworks

## ON THE COVER

Our cover image this month is just what you think it is: a giant sequoia toppled by the force of this year's catastrophic fires in California. Many were saved and many fell before the combination of fire and wind. When Tu Be-Shevat, Jewish Arbor Day comes to us in January, it will arrive with a message about the earth's fragility, onrushing environmental degradation and our the great responsibility we bear for healing a ravished planet. What have you done today to create a livable future for our children and grandchildren?

## THE MESSENGER

January 2022 - Published Monthly

### CONGREGATION B'NAI EMUNAH

1719 South Owasso Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120  
Office: (918) 583-7121 School: (918) 585-KIDS  
Fax: (918) 747-9696 Website: [www.tulsasynagogue.com](http://www.tulsasynagogue.com)

# DECEMBER CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

## SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

January 1 marks the beginning of regular services in the Sanctuary once again. Each Saturday morning our community gathers to sing the liturgy of the tradition, study the weekly Torah portion, and spend time amongst family and friends. All are welcome to participate in this experience. For those wishing to attend in-person, we ask that you register in advance on the Synagogue website. Those wishing to attend via Zoom may do so by connecting to the Synagogue Zoom Room. Zoom Meeting ID: **918 583 7121**.

## AFTERNOON/EVENING SERVICES

Twice a week our community gathers for afternoon/evening services. Every Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. we gather together to experience traditional prayer. Additionally, those who are mourning a loved one or observing the anniversary of a loss (**yahrtzeit**) can use these opportunities to recite communal Mourner's Kaddish. Our Wednesday gatherings take place in the Sanctuary and we as that in-person attendees register in advance. Friday services always take place on Zoom only. Those wishing to attend via Zoom may do so by connecting to the Synagogue Zoom Room. Zoom Meeting ID: **918 583 7121**

## BAKER'S DOZEN EVERY MONDAY

After a flurry of baking this past December, we're ready to reload and keep cookies flowing out our doors. We continue to collect cookies, bars, and single-serve baked goods and deliver them immediately to frontline workers around the city. All are invited to participate and any gift in any amount is appreciated. Please wear a mask and deliver your cookies to the front desk at The Synagogue on Mondays from 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Shaver at [nshaver@bnaiemunah.com](mailto:nshaver@bnaiemunah.com).

## 8 PAJAMA HAVDALAH

Join us to say goodbye to Shabbat with your friends at the Synagogue. The time is 5:30 p.m. Families with young children are invited for an evening of coziness, crafts, bedtime story, Havdallah and more! We'll kick off the evening with a Pizza Dinner and wrap up with a special bedtime treat. Children and their adults are encouraged to attend in their favorite Pajama's. The cost is \$5 per person. To hold your spot please be in touch with Morah Sara at [slevitt@bnaiemunah.com](mailto:slevitt@bnaiemunah.com).

## 13 BLATT + BLUE: 1945

Our ongoing film and television series, Blatt+Blue, spotlights the discussion leading skills of film and television enthusiasts David Blatt and Alice Blue. This month they will discuss **1945**. Join us on Thursday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m. for a lively discussion in our Synagogue Zoom room. The meeting ID is **918 583 7121**. See page X for details

## 14 TWO RABBIS AND...

Join us for a new format of our podcast recording, **Two Rabbis And...** After Shabbat dinner at home, log on to Zoom at 7:30 p.m. for a live conversation featuring Rabbis Kaiman and Fitzerman speaking with a special guest about news of the day and ideas relevant to Jewish community life. It's an ongoing conversation about our shared journey in a diverse, multicultural Jewish world. This month we're delighted to be joined by **XXX XXX**. Join us on Zoom at **918 583 7121** for the recording. As always, the resulting podcast is available on Spotify, iTunes, and the Synagogue website. We hope this new format brings stimulating conversation to your Friday evenings.

## 15 MILLENNIALS: OUR INHERITANCE

Join other Young Jewish Tulsans for a one-of-a-kind Tu Be-Shevat celebration at Inheritance Juicery in downtown Tulsa. Inspired by the traditional Kabbalistic seder, we'll sample four delicious juice blends, nosh on organic food and cocktails, and learn about local environmental initiatives. Finally, we'll discuss how each of us can live out our value of sustainability in the coming year. For more information and to make a reservation, please contact Natalie Shaver at [nshaver@bnaiemunah.com](mailto:nshaver@bnaiemunah.com).

### Health Care Aides

If you've had a good experience  
with a home health care aide, Please share  
her/his name with Rabbi Fitzerman  
at [marboofitz@bnaiemunah.com](mailto:marboofitz@bnaiemunah.com)

(continued on page 4)

# DECEMBER [CONTINUED]

(continued from page 3)

## 17 MLK PARADE

The Synagogue is proud to continue its ongoing sponsorship of the MLK Jr. Parade. We're delighted that this event is one of the largest such parades in the country and encourage all to march, attend, or tune in on TV from home. Those wishing to march are invited to join the Jewish Federation of Tulsa for this event. To register, visit [jewishtulsa.org/mlk2022](http://jewishtulsa.org/mlk2022)

## 23 B-MITZVAH FAMILY PROGRAM

Sixth Grade families and those preparing for b'nai mitzvah are invited to join us for the first of three sessions in this series of preparation, reflection and learning for b'nai mitzvah families. Students and parents will learn together to help lay a foundation for the preparatory year of student ahead of a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. The B-Mitzvah program begins at 10:00 a.m. alongside the morning of ShulSchool studies. For questions, please be in touch with Morah Sara at [slevitt@bnaiemunah.com](mailto:slevitt@bnaiemunah.com).

## 28 SHABBAT FOR EVERYONE

A festive Shabbat dinner preceding our Shabbat for Everyone celebration is an opportunity to let us handle the hard work and let yourselves enjoy a sit-down dinner with family and friends. The time is 6:15 p.m. With indoor and outdoor seating options available, we hope this setting can be safe and comfortable for all who choose to participate. Please register for this meal in advance by visiting the Synagogue website. Our monthly, musical, Shabbat gatherings which follow are a place to engage with community, experience prayer, and connect with one another. For those wishing to attend in-person, we ask that you register in advance on the Synagogue website. Those wishing to attend via Zoom may do so by connecting to the Synagogue Zoom Room. Zoom Meeting ID: **918 583 7121**.

## 30 MINDFULNESS WITH DR. S-A SCHUMANN

Are you interested in learning about mindfulness, reducing stress, or starting a daily meditation practice? In this 6-week class, you will learn about mindfulness of breathing, the body, thoughts, and emotions, as well as self-compassion and loving-kindness. Each class session will include guided mindfulness meditations, suggestions for home practice and plenty of time for questions and answers. No prior experience is needed. The class will be taught by Dr. Sarah-Anne Schumann who is completing the Mindfulness Meditation Teacher Certification Program with Tara Brach and Jack Kornfield. There is no charge for this in-person course, but please sign up only if you are available to attend the majority of the sessions. Sessions continue weekly through March 6. Visit [tulsagogue.com](http://tulsagogue.com) to register.

# FROM RABBI FITZGERMAN

## ■ BOOKS

Like synagogues everywhere, we are a depot for deaccessioned books. People drop by with bags and boxes and we're glad to take them off their hands. If they're current titles or useful references, we sometimes place them in the Synagogue library. If they're duplicates or titles that are outside our borders, they frequently accumulate until we're ready to do something with them.

At this point, we are probably ready to do something, which means releasing that second group into the wider community. Over the next several months, you'll see two rolling book carts in the front entrance of the Synagogue. You're free to browse and to take whatever attracts you—not as a loan, but as a gift from the Synagogue. And if you have books to share, feel free to drop them off. We have children's titles, novels, reference books and one-offs which may well give you pleasure. If something stays too long, we'll try another course, but the Synagogue defaults to reverence for books. We can't simply discard the written word.

My own hope is that we'll get started on one of those Little Library trading stations that you sometimes see on the streets of Maple Ridge. Take a book; leave a book, and the whole world is somehow improved. Rabbis of my generation, in the midst of career transition, seem to take a special interest in projects like these, so you'll see some volumes that I've collected along the way. When it comes to learning and self-education, we all need to contribute to flow and circulation.

## ■ ON THE STREETS WITH THE SYNAGOGUE

I hope that many of you enjoyed our street fair on the final night of Chanukah. After months of dormancy when it's come to big public events, we were suddenly together in three dimensions—hundreds of people singing our hearts out and celebrating the holiday. The setting was the beautiful front face of the Synagogue, strung with lights, and enhanced with torches, sparklers, and menorahs. You couldn't have asked for a better debut for the next part of our life as a public institution.

The special satisfaction came from our Maple Ridge neighbors whom we formally invited us to join us in the street. Many of them have lived near the Synagogue for decades, but never attended an event at B'nai Emunah. Putting ourselves in the street made all the difference. The enchantment came from lively music and big banquet tables groaning with food. Even if you could not be present, I hope that you can imagine the power of this kind of hospitality. I felt the blissed-out pleasure of it deep in my soul, and I know that many others felt the same. They walked from their own front doors to the Synagogue and the whole felt like the Fourth of July in December.

Thanks to all who helped make this possible. And please join us in the street when we do this again. We're indoors, outdoors, and everything in-between, and we hope you have a chance to sample all of these pleasures.

# RABBI MARC FITZGERMAN [CONCLUDED]

(continued from page 4)

## ■ UPCOMING

With a little bit of luck (and the generous support of the Synagogue's professional family), I hope to take time for project work away from the Synagogue in January and February of the coming year. At this point, the precise schedule is open-ended, but I know that I will be back at my desk at the beginning of March.

If you need help of any kind during this period, please count on my beloved colleague, Rabbi Kaiman, to respond with alacrity. If there is something that needs emergency attention, the best way to reach him is by phone at (918) 200-4238. I will be paying attention to e-mail, with the hope of making sure that emergencies are attended to without fail. The address to tuck away is [marboofitz@bnaemunah.com](mailto:marboofitz@bnaemunah.com).

Thanks in advance for your support in this experiment. Preparing for the many transitions ahead has me thinking about time in and out of the Synagogue, and the best way to apportion resources. I hope I get this right by being responsible and honest at each step of the way.

## ■ PLANNED PARENTHOOD

As you may have seen in the news, the abortion crisis in Texas has rippled north to Oklahoma. Our state clinics have been inundated with desperate women seeking to exercise their Constitutional rights before they are (likely) swept away in the coming Supreme Court decision gutting Roe v. Wade.

That legal battle is a separate issue, but in the meantime we can be helpful in easing one small part of the strain at the Tulsa clinic just north of the Synagogue. For the past three months, we have taken the lead in delivering a once-monthly lunch to the twenty staffers who operate that facility. I've done a couple of the deliveries myself and can feel the sense of appreciation and relief.

If you'd like to fund a lunch, we've pegged the contribution at \$275. If it turns out to be more, we'll figure it out. The easiest way to do this is to make an online contribution to the Discretionary Fund. If you'd like to do the delivery yourself, just let me know. I don't mind saying that driving up to the door with eight pizzas from Hideaway feels really good for the soul.

## ■ LIFELONG LEARNING: THE LANGUAGE EDITION

As an language learner, I'm now deep into my experience with the Duolingo course in Yiddish. Skeptical at first, I'm gratified that a little bit of commitment goes a very long way. The course has its deficits (the graphics are terrible and there's

this weird, controversial commitment to Yiddish as its spoken in the chareidi communities of metro New York) but the positives far outweigh the parts of the program that don't work particularly well for me. I've done about 200 bite-size chunks and I don't seem to be slowing down.

More important, this experience gives me faith that an adult learner could do a lot of useful work in Hebrew, at whatever age. Try Duolingo. Try Rosetta Stone. And, if you're up for a live, group challenge, try the new online course **Jumpstart your Biblical Hebrew**. It's ten sessions beginning Monday, January 24 in the middle of the day, and it's built around the idea of **big ideas** in the language of our classics. This is a good next step for those who can already sound out Hebrew words and want to do a little more than order falafel at a walk-up window in Tel Aviv. But because all versions of Hebrew have much in common, it will help with that, too.

The course is not super expensive and some scholarship aid is available from the course organizer, the Jewish Theological Seminary. A \$100 is also available from the Synagogue. Write me at [marboofitz@bnaemunah.com](mailto:marboofitz@bnaemunah.com), and I'll help you get a leg up. Click to [jtsa.edu](http://jtsa.edu) and search for **Jumpstart**. The silver lining of COVID-19 is the reminder is that local is one good place to start for Jewish education, but there is a world of opportunity on the screens in our own homes.

## LOOKING TO FEBRUARY

### 4-5 WOMEN'S WELLNESS RETREAT

Save the date for our second annual Women's Wellness Retreat. We'll explore everything from mental health and food to Mikvah (ritual bathing) to song and dance. The retreat will kick off by welcoming Shabbat and end with a powerful Havdalah experience drawing on the life of the prophetess Miriam. Please keep an eye out on the Synagogue website at [www.tul-sagogue.com](http://www.tul-sagogue.com) for more information.

### 10 BLATT + BLUE

### 11 TWO RABBIS AND...

### 12 SISTERHOOD AND THE OPERA

### 26 BAR MITZVAH OF STONE LOOSVELT

### 27 SEVENTEENTH STREET DELI

# FROM MORAH SARA LEVITT

## ■ WOMEN'S WELLNESS RETREAT

It should not surprise anyone that music and song play an essential role in my life. Often for me, when I hear a song, it evokes strong memory, much like a delicious piece of food or a particular smell (for better or worse). When I think back to my childhood, the Debbie Friedman anthem **Miriam's Song** evokes several powerful memories, from my first Women's Seder experience with Debbie herself to late-night song sessions at my first Jewish summer camp. When I hear this song, a particular image forms in my mind of our ancient mothers and grandmothers, dancing and singing as they left Egypt and traveled through the desert to the Promised Land. I often think about this memory and these images when I think about experiences designed for women. The joy and camaraderie of these women, celebrating their freedom and, in my mind, their womanhood, is powerful.

Next month, I am excited for the women of our congregation to tap into the wisdom of our ancient foremothers and the joy of community at our second annual Women's Wellness Retreat. Our staff and committee members are working hard to craft an experience throughout Shabbat that will fill our toolboxes of understanding how our tradition understands and supports women in wellness. We'll explore everything from mental health and food to Mikvah (ritual bath) to song and dance. The retreat will kick off by welcoming Shabbat and end with a powerful Havdalah experience akin to the prophetess Miriam! I hope you'll join me Friday, February 4th, and Saturday, February 5th for this powerful experience. Please keep an eye out in your emails for registration information. Tell your friends, tell your sisters, tell your book club! We can't wait to see you there.

## MAZAL TOVS

To Jesse Schuman, on being selected a first-year representative to the Willams College Jewish Community.

To Miles Zeligson, on the launch of his new dog walking business, **The Woof Pack – Tulsa**. Visit him at [thewoofpack-tulsa.com](http://thewoofpack-tulsa.com).

To the Prescott Family, who have two upcoming weddings in their family. Both couples will be in Tulsa in the middle of January to celebrate **aufufen** at the Synagogue. Rachel Prescott is engaged to Jonathan Cooper, and Ari Prescott is engaged to Jai Retter. Mazal tov to Harris and Mindy Prescott, Isrella Taxon, and the entire family. The joint **aufuf** is scheduled for Shabbat morning, January 15, 2022.

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## ■ BLATT+BLUE: 1945 ON JANUARY 13

At the close of the Second World War, the focus of Jewish self-redemption shifted in many directions: family reunification, immigration to America and Palestine, memorialization, and the restoration of ownership.

**1945** is a 2017 Hungarian film directed by Ferenc Török[2] It concerns two Jewish survivors of the Holocaust who arrive in a Hungarian village in August 1945, and the paranoid reactions of the villagers, some of whom fear that these and other Jews are coming to reclaim Jewish property. The film garnered stratospheric ratings on Rotten Tomatoes and was featured on the festival circuit the year it came out

The next session on January 13 of B'nai Emunah's long-running film series will look at Torok's film as part of the postwar response to the Holocaust

Month after month, **Blatt + Blue** spotlights film and television enthusiasts David Blatt and Alice Blue, who begin each session with a summary of the featured material. It means that you'll be able to follow the conversation even if you have to delay your viewing of the film itself. After that, it's questions and comments from the Zoom Room audience.

**1945** is easily available on Amazon Prime for a very modest rental fee. Join the Zoom discussion on Thursday evening, January 13, at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom meeting ID is 918-583-7121 and the session will conclude at 8:00 p.m. Please note that security protocols are always in place during Synagogue events.. If there is a film you'd like to see in these sessions in the future, please reach out to Rabbi Marc Fitzerman at [marbooftz@bnaiemunah.com](mailto:marbooftz@bnaiemunah.com).



# FROM RABBI KAIMAN

## ■ THE WAYS WE COPE

We all have different ways of coping with life's challenges. However, after the past two years of navigating pandemic, many of us know more about the ways we cope with what comes our way than we ever did before. In a way, everything changed 22 months ago, and we're still reeling from the whirlash of the experience.

Often, new pathways are forged in moments of crisis and need, and we begin to think in new ways about ourselves and our world. Undoubtedly this is true from our experience of the pandemic. Zoom and other broadcast platforms bring us closer to one another and open up new possibilities, from live concerts in New York City to virtual city tours of destinations worldwide. This wasn't precisely unimaginable two years ago, but the forced acceleration of change has undoubtedly broadened our sense of what is possible. Some cope with change by seeking new ways of being, doing, and experiencing the world.

But at the very same time, many of us have also experienced a world more disconnected and routinized than ever before. The repetitive rhythms of the week cycle repeatedly, and it can be hard to have a perspective as we think back on the time that has passed. Some are so ingrained in these patterns that the entire year can seem like it has been lost in a blur. So some cope with change by establishing fixed practices they return to repeatedly.

These two ways of coping are valid, legitimate, and essential. Yet, they are at odds with one another. If what I have described sounds familiar, it may be helpful to point out that these ways of being both represent significant approaches our tradition takes to prayer. We live between the intention-setting moments of inspiration or creativity and the habits and routines of established ritual practice. Both are important, and finding a balance is often the best way forward.

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll see us describe some of the changes to prayer life at the Synagogue beginning this January. But what I want to remind us all is that we're always balancing many things when it comes to creating moments of communal connection. We are coping with the real-life challenges of our moment and looking for ways to walk forward together.

# REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

## ■ THE LATEST

Since welcoming our first arrivals in the middle of November, there has been a flurry of activity in our Refugee Resettlement Program. As of the publication of this issue, we have welcomed 41 Afghans to Tulsa in our program. This number includes families and single individuals. Together, we now have 20 adults and 21 children current going through the process.

Our families are living in apartments and homes throughout Tulsa with a focus on placing people within walking distance of one another in order to facilitate a sense of community. We're grateful to say that at every step of the journey, members and friends of the congregation are taking part in this community-wide effort. From directly volunteering in our warehouse or setting up a new home, to serving as landlords, physicians, and driving instructors there are many diverse ways to deploy many skillsets in this work.

This month, in addition to continuing to welcome arrivals, the kids in our program will begin school and we'll continue to assist our adults with employment, medical care, and accessing social services. Our program continues to receive high marks from our clients. And this is most certainly the result of the outpouring of support across the Tulsa.

If you'd like to be involved directly in these efforts, please fill out an interest form on our website: [tulsagogue.com/refugee-resettlement](https://tulsagogue.com/refugee-resettlement) or simply contact Amber Knecht or Rabbi Kaiman in the Synagogue office. In the coming weeks we'll be scheduling opportunities for socializing, community building, and recreation with our new Afghan neighbors.

Our thanks to the MANY volunteers who have played a role in our efforts this past month. We have had over 100 volunteers work over 1000 hours of service in our program. And we have received countless donated good which have helped us respond directly to the specific needs of the people we serve. Thanks to one and all!

TIME TO JOIN SISTERHOOD

CALL RANDEE CHARNEY AT (918) 636-0945

JANUARY NEW STUDENT SHUL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

CALL MORAH SARA LEVITT AT (918) 583-7121



# MILLENNIAL TU BE-SHEVAT CELEBRATION AT INHERITANCE JUICERY

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**JANUARY 10 AT 6 PM**



# CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SYNAGOGUE

## Bikur Cholim Fund

Anonymous  
Eric and Dr. Jacqueline Scholl

## Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund

Dr. EN Lubin & Marjorie Lubin  
Charitable Fund

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Janet Dundee and Jeff Darby  
Carla Weston

## Dave Sylvan Joyful Music Fund

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### Discretionary Fund

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Elaine Muhlberg

## Rubin Fund for Children and the Visual Arts

Jerry and Susan Sokol

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Phyllis Raskin  
Carla Weston

Diana Wolff  
Betsy Zeligson

## In Honor Of

Members of Sisterhood,  
for their love and concern  
B'nai Mitzvah Celebrants in 2021  
Dr. Jamie Cash

## In Memory Of

Donna Brown  
Kenneth Brown  
Aaron Contente  
Marvin Hart  
Claudia Heyman  
Ruth and Seymour Marcum  
Ann Marine  
Lillian Moskowitz  
Berthold Neuwald  
Donald H. Newman  
Beverly Jeffy Raines  
Allan Scholl  
Joe Secan  
Fred Sokol  
Ronald Sokol  
Richard Stidham  
Robert West  
Lawrence Joseph Wolf  
Joel Zeligson



# NINETEEN FORTY-FIVE

# BLATT + BLUE ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

# SISTERHOOD BRINGS “EMMELINE” LIVE TO THE SYNAGOGUE

## TULSA OPERA AT THE SYNAGOGUE

After two years, Tulsa Opera will return to the Tulsa Performing Arts Center this February for the Oklahoma premiere of Grammy Award winning composer and Artistic Director Tobias Picker’s first opera *Emmeline*. To preview this remarkable artistic performance, Tobias will be giving a talk on Saturday, February 12th at 7:30 pm at the Synagogue as part of *Tulsa Opera LIVE: Conversations with Tobias Picker & Friends*, a virtual talk show launched during the pandemic to give a behind-the-scenes look at opera and its major artists. *Tulsa Opera LIVE* has evolved into a hybrid event, with in-person and online audiences. Space will be limited to 50 at the Synagogue and virtual registration is required on the Tulsa Opera website: [tulsaopera.com/live](https://tulsaopera.com/live).

Please join us to meet this important Jewish-American composer and hear about his process writing an opera based on the true story and book by his friend and collaborator, Judith Rossner, author of *Looking for Mr. Goodbar* among other works. The evening will also include Tulsa Opera singers performing selections from *Emmeline* as well as a Q&A session with Tobias.

Based on true events and the novel *Emmeline*, the opera tells the story of Emmeline Mosher, who gives her illegitimate child up for adoption at birth. Twenty years later, when she and her new husband discover a terrible secret, Emmeline is abandoned and shunned by her community, but fiercely chooses to live out her life on her own terms.

*Emmaline* was premiered by Santa Fe Opera in 1996, and was subsequently televised nationally on PBS’ Great Performances. *Emmeline* has been praised as “a work of gripping emotional intensity and extraordinary musical expressivity” (*Dallas Morning News*), “one of the best operas written in the past 25 years” (*Wall Street Journal*), and “the greatest American opera of the 20th century” (*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*).

Tobias Picker has been commissioned to write operas for the Santa Fe Opera (*Emmeline*), LA Opera (*Fantastic Mr. Fox*), Dallas Opera (*Thérèse Raquin*), San Francisco Opera (*Dolores Claiborne*), Opera Theatre of Saint Louis (*Awakenings*) and Metropolitan Opera (*An American Tragedy*). He has been called “our finest composer for the lyric stage” by *The Wall Street Journal*, and is a prolific composer in all genres. The photo opposite is from his wedding to his partner of 42 years, Aryeh Lev Stollman at the United States Supreme Court in a ceremony that was performed by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in 2016. Tobias Piker is on the left. Dr Stollman is a senior physician at Mount Sinai specializing in the brain. He’s also an award-winning author of three novels, a collection of short stories, and the librettos for Tobias’ opera, *Awakenings*.



## TAKING GOOD CARE.

### MOVING FORWARD

Step by step, we are working to restore the regular routines of the Synagogue and balance risk and reward. Our Preschool took a brief break in the spring of 2020, but it has been functioning in a normal way since the summer of the same year. Very few cases of COVID-19 have been reported and we feel continued confidence in our safeguards.

The same is true of ShulSchool and HebrewLab. Since September of this year, our young people have been attending school without incident, with children five and up fully vaccinated. Everyone wears masks in the building and we hope that younger children can be vaccinated soon.

Many meetings now take place at the Synagogue, along with events for millennials. We still have to deal with the distractions of masks, but that may be the price we pay for in-person gatherings. We also provide digital access whenever possible.

Beginning this month, Shabbat morning services will take place in the Sanctuary every Shabbat morning, with a digital option for Zoom. Same for Wednesday afternoon yahrtzeit services at 5:30 p.m. in the afternoon. If you have missed the experience of being physically in the Synagogue, we are ready to resume with those who have been vaccinated and are willing to mask. If future variants or crowding in local hospitals present issues we cannot foresee, we’ll adjust accordingly, but for now the majority of what we do will be business as usual.

# JANUARY | TEVET-SHEVAT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 9:30 AM Shabbat Morning 6:02 PM Havdalah  Torah: Vaera
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  Rosh Chodesh Shevat	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 4:00 PM Hebrew Lab 5:30 PM Aft/Evening Service	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 5:07 PM Candles 5:30 PM Aft/Evening Service	<b>8</b> 9:30 AM Shabbat Morning 5:30 PM Pajama Havdalah 6:08 PM Havdalah  Torah: Bo
<b>9</b> 9:00 AM ShulSchool	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 7:00 PM Board of Directors	<b>12</b> 4:00 PM Hebrew Lab 5:30 PM Aft/Evening Service 7:00 PM Midrasha	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM Blatt and Blue	<b>14</b> 5:14 PM Candles 5:30 PM Aft/Evening Service 7:30 p.m. Two Rabbis and...	<b>15</b> 9:30 AM Shabbat Morning - Prescott Aufruf 6:00 PM Millennials: Tu Be-Shevat Seder 6:15 PM Havdalah  Torah: Beshalach
<b>16</b> 9:00 AM ShulSchool	<b>17</b> 11:00 AM MLK Parade	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 4:00 PM Hebrew Lab 5:30 PM Aft/Evening Service 7:00 PM Midrasha	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 5:21 PM Candles 5:30 PM Daily Service - Zoom	<b>22</b> 9:30 AM Shabbat Morning 6:22 PM Havdalah  Torah: Yitro
<b>23</b> 9:00 AM ShulSchool 10:00 AM B-Mitzvah Family Program	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 4:00 PM Hebrew Lab 5:30 PM Aft/Evening Service 7:00 PM Midrasha	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 5:28 PM Candles 5:30 PM Aft/Evening Service 6:15 PM Shabbat Dinner 7:00 PM Shabbat for Everyone	<b>29</b> 9:30 AM Shabbat Morning 6:30 PM Havdalah  Torah: Mishpatim
<b>30</b> 9:00 AM ShulSchool 10:00 AM Intro to Mindfulness	<b>31</b>					

# THE SYNAGOGUE

## CONGREGATION B'NAI EMUNAH

1719 South Owasso Avenue  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120  
P.O. Box 52430  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74152

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### YAHRTZEIT CALENDAR — 28 TEVET THROUGH 29 SHEVAT

**Saturday, January 1 - 28 Tevet**  
David Trope Iola  
Georgia Mizel  
Peter Wozobski

**Sunday, January 2 - 29 Tevet**  
Elizabeth Frank  
Kay Oleinick  
Gene Serlin  
Anne V. Zarrow  
Pearl Zeff

**Monday, January 3 - 1 Shevat**  
Solomon Apt  
Ms. Ray Brown  
Vinita Carruthers  
Leonard Kitz  
Isadore Paskel  
Darrell H. Smith  
Mary Wax

**Tuesday, January 4 - 2 Shevat**  
Marion Brodsky  
Sanford I. Brophy  
Leona Adelaide Hurst  
Rabbi Isaac Paru

**Wednesday, January 5 - 3 Shevat**  
John Mason Mings, V  
Ethel Moran  
Edward S. Zechman

**Thursday, January 6 - 4 Shevat**  
Arthur Brimer  
Lois Contente  
Nellie Mandel  
Melvyn C. Resnick  
Jose Rouso  
Zel Rozin  
Sadye Sanditen  
Rose Winer

**Friday, January 7 - 5 Shevat**  
Rachel Bedrick  
Louis Levy  
Fannie Miller  
William Israel Weisman  
Florence Williams

**Saturday, January 8 - 6 Shevat**  
Jenny Brouse  
Joseph D. Davis  
Myrtle Della Hudson  
Morad Nejad Khalil  
Elkan Massil

Phyllis Mendlowitz  
Julius Oleinick

**Sunday, January 9 - 7 Shevat**  
Herman Leff  
Frank Salle  
Ruth R. Shwatskhin  
Flora Solow

**Monday, January 10 - 8 Shevat**  
Anna Appelman  
Meyer Spector  
Katherine Ruth Spencer

**Tuesday, January 11 - 9 Shevat**  
Hyman Dundee  
Sylvia Golsen  
Moses Abraham Hyman  
Martin Kallmeyer  
Jacob Israel Singer  
Alexander George Wolf  
Jack Zarrow

**Wednesday, January 12 - 10 Shevat**  
David "Toots" Borochoff  
Charles Goodall  
Ursula Guterman  
Dorothy Wolowitz

**Thursday, January 13 - 11 Shevat**  
Arieh Kozlowski  
Sarah Levinson

**Friday, January 14 - 12 Shevat**  
Lena S. Aaronson  
LaNelle Love Donaldson  
David Fist  
Sheldon M. Paru  
Susan Platt  
Tessie Schwartz

**Saturday, January 15 - 13 Shevat**  
Helene Bloch  
Pearl Gordon  
Sam Poznik  
Ben Rubin  
Minnie S. Speciner  
Samuel Hyman Wittels

**Sunday, January 16 - 14 Shevat**  
Mildred Hurewitz  
Siegfried Kohlhausen  
Fannie Moran  
Sylvia Smith  
Oscar Velarde

**Monday, January 17 - 15 Shevat**  
Robert Stanley Berger  
Iraj Javaherian  
Albert Rabinovitz  
Isador Sanditen  
Dr. Mable Stovin  
Harry Waldinger  
Daniel Zeligson

**Tuesday, January 18 - 16 Shevat**  
Jerry Feenberg  
Pansy Lorraine Kaplan  
William Kessler  
Fred Strauss

**Wednesday, January 19 - 17 Shevat**  
Irving Brown  
Tillie Fein

**Thursday, January 20 - 18 Shevat**  
Martin Bresloff  
Sara Lewis  
Joseph Miller  
Miriam Rabkin  
Henry Zarrow

**Friday, January 21 - 19 Shevat**  
Alice Drucks  
Nellie Gribin  
Libby Lebow  
Seymour Shapiro  
Norman Tugenberg  
Mania Wozobski

**Saturday, January 22 - 20 Shevat**  
Sandy Blumenthal  
Nathan Kleiner  
Samuel Marks  
Fred Mudgett  
Sarah Sokol

**Sunday, January 23 - 21 Shevat**  
Millicent L. Aaronson  
Joseph Brickman  
Herman Jeffy  
Sarah Martha Kerbel  
Rita Glazer Reznikoff  
Rose Sobel  
Tillie Stekoll

**Monday, January 24 - 22 Shevat**  
Emma Reeves  
Samuel J. Singer  
Loretta Sitrin  
Minnie Freigher Weinstein

**Tuesday, January 25 - 23 Shevat**  
Sam Alster  
Abraham Brodsky  
Robert Alexander Hanson  
Harold L. Margolis  
Richard S. Travis

**Wednesday, January 26 - 24 Shevat**  
Miriam "Mim" Brown  
Sidney Gore  
Delphine Phyllis Loomstein  
Pan Marks  
Robert Renberg  
Moses Abraham Reuben  
Rebecca Tublin  
Reva F. Vinick  
Anna Winer

**Thursday, January 27 - 25 Shevat**  
Cliff Carter  
Albert Fadem  
Bernard Schacht  
Ida Springer

**Friday, January 28 - 26 Shevat**  
Leah Gilenson  
Robert Green  
Flora Mizel  
Anna Moyer  
Sharon Robinowitz  
Jack Saikin

**Saturday, January 29 - 27 Shevat**  
Frank Grabel  
Elmer Price  
Goldie Shapiro  
Chaye Esther "Edith" Taubman

**Sunday, January 30 - 28 Shevat**  
Jack Eiziks  
Norman Finkel  
Judy Pertofsky  
Brian Sweet  
Joseph Teichman  
Rose Weiss

**Monday, January 31 - 29 Shevat**  
David Berman  
Sarah Bernice Butkin  
Harry B. Davis  
Bertha Roberts  
Julius Sanditen  
Shirley Stavinsky Horwitz

May their souls be bound up in the bond of life everlasting. Please note that each yahrtzeit begins at sunset on the day before the date listed.