

Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island

*Virtual Gala Journal
and Fundraiser*

**IN CELEBRATION OF OUR
DEDICATION,
DETERMINATION &
RESILIENCE
2020-2021**



2021 Virtual Gala

Journal & Fundraiser Committee

Claire Guttsman, Jodi Siegel and Jennifer Straniere

Co-Chairs

Dr. Terry Baver
Bryn Biren
Linda Brill
Phyllis Elrich
Joseph Gamoran
Jeffrey Ganz

Shariann Ganz
Libby Gershansky
George Kurlander
Harriett Kurlander
Sandy Mazzucco

Judith Pessah
Jim Rohan
Nina Rohan
Jesse Siegel
Fred Simon
Hon. Philip Straniere

Committee Members

THE VIRTUAL GALA JOURNAL COMMITTEE
MOURNS THE LOSS OF
OUR DEAR FRIEND AND CO-CHAIR

Jennifer Straniere

SHE WILL ALWAYS BE A PART OF US

THE VIRTUAL GALA JOURNAL COMMITTEE
MOURNS THE LOSS OF OUR DEAR FRIEND

David Meltzer

MAY HIS MEMORY BE A BLESSING

Rabbi's Message

This year, instead of honoring specific individuals for their contributions to Temple Israel, we honor our entire community for the extraordinary efforts made to sustain our congregation during a year like no other in the history of our synagogue. We do this because, when the pandemic forced us to relinquish our sanctuary, social hall, and classrooms in the space of a few short days, the future of Temple Israel hung in the balance. We could have just given up, decided to wait out the pandemic before resuming any services, classes, or other activities. Instead, the entire congregation rallied to build a community in virtual space, populated with Zoom services and Torah study, youth and adult classes, choir rehearsals, board meetings and other opportunities for fellowship and learning too numerous to mention. So many of you stepped up to help make that transition successful that its fitting and appropriate, rather than identifying one or a few from the many who made last year possible, that this year's Temple Israel Gala pays tribute to our entire community, to all of us together.

What a past year we have had! The past 15 months compelled us to become familiar with technology and software most of us never even heard of before the pandemic began. We also had to learn how to mute and unmute ourselves on computer, tablet, and telephone, how to position our devices to show more than the top of our heads and how to remain together online even as we had to stay apart physically. An initial two-week stay at home order became a month, then multiple months, then more than a year. Yet, through it all, we remained a congregation, united by a common purpose to sustain and uphold our traditions and our members. Now, as we contemplate a return to in-person activities again, this year's Gala gives us an opportunity to look back and gratefully acknowledge all that so many of you did to keep our hope and connection alive through a period of uncertainty and anxiety that kept us apart.

I am immensely grateful to all those who faced the past 15 months with creativity and flexibility, who saw problems and offered solutions, who showed up and who contributed their time and their money to keep us together online even if we couldn't be together in our building. It was truly a group effort with everyone helping to extend our reach to every member's home and even to those affiliate and former members formerly separated by distance. It was so affirming to see your faces on my computer screen multiple times a week and so important to prove to all of us that none of us was alone. In years to come, we will certainly look back on the past 15 months with sadness for those that we lost but we will reflect on those months with a sense of satisfaction and appreciation for all we accomplished together.

It is therefore my honor to say to all of you, both far and near: "Chazak u'varuchem"! May we continue to be strong and be blessed in all that we do as a community! May the dedication that so many of you showed during the past 15 months continue to sustain and inspire us in the years ahead and may the Holy One of Blessing continue to sanctify and protect this holy congregation!

Rabbi Michael Howald

Co-Presidents' Message

This Journal will be in your *virtual* hands just about 16 months since the isolation of the pandemic kicked into full gear. Our last in-person Erev Shabbat service was March 13, 2020. Our first post-isolation in-person service was July 2, 2021. This journal is a personal and public testimonial to our journey of those 476 days.

During that period of time, we have written 16 E-Shalom columns, 14 reports to the Board of Trustees and two annual meeting messages, so there is not much we have not said. This, however, is our opportunity to summarize those 15 and a half months.

Temple Israel has always been a strong community. Rabbi Howald often articulates that when he describes Temple to others; they marvel at our activities and the spirit of our Congregation. We were not only strong, but we were also smart and resourceful.

Within days of the shutdown, we were reaching out to everyone via Zoom. We had services, we had coffee 'hours' and we had just general gatherings. We had virtual Onegs and Seders. We walked on boardwalks, socially distanced of course, and we did not miss a Shabbat! A side benefit of Zooming our services has been allowing our 'Temple Israel South' congregants to join us.

And we must not forget the most intensive effort of all: our streamed High Holy Days services last year.

We are not out of the woods yet. As we write this at the end of June, warnings mount about the Delta variant. The New York State emergency mandate has ended, but other guidelines must still be observed to maintain the safety of our congregants and our Clergy. The road ahead looks like the 'new normal' may soon approximate our 'old normal.'

We thank everyone who pitched in. And, even more, we thank everyone who 'hung in.' Our community found the inner strength to enable us to get to where we are today. Together, we will be able to move on to tomorrow. We appreciate your patience as we continue to develop the safest path for Temple Israel as we move ahead.

Jerry & Alan

Temple Israel

2020/2021 5780/5781

Rabbi Michael D. Howald

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents..... Jerrold Gross & Alan Siegel
 First Vice PresidentLibby Gershansky & Larry Hanibal
 Second Vice President..... David Meltzer*, Felicia Otto & Nina Rohan
 Treasurer..... Jeffrey Ganz
 Financial Secretary Jennifer Straniere *
 Recording SecretaryBrian Cortijo
 Corresponding Secretary..... Bryn Biren

TRUSTEES

Marnie Blit	Sandy Mazzucco
Maxine Checchi	Judith Pessah
Barbara Feigelman	Blanche Ricci
Deanna Feder	Pamela Rogozin
Barbara Fried	Judy Scher
Shariann Ganz	Alina Shteynberg
Joseph Gamoran	Jodi Siegel
Claire Guttsman	Inez Singer
Rebecca Hand	Remy Smith
Cheryl Levine	Philip Straniere
Beverly Mazer	Rhonda Trontz-Allen

Lissa Winchel

Honorary Trustee: Arnold Grossman

PAST PRESIDENTS

Cornelius Bregoff *	Bruce J. Frimet
Dr. David Machol *	Gerald Lustig, MD *
Morris Singer *	George Lachman
Ira L. Tilzer, Esq. *	Susan Sappin
Leo Glazer *	Phyllis Elrich
Lawrence B. Simons, Esq. *	Linda Brill
Joseph Werb, Esq. *	Ann Targownik
Dr. Robert Taub *	Dr. Terry Bayer
Carleton I. Spark	Wayne Schwartz
Fred Greenspan	John Greenbaum
Benjamin J. Feitelson *	Jeffrey Ganz
Marie Schwarz *	Wilhelm Figueroa
Norman I. Saunders *	Jerrold Gross
Dr. Leonard Leef	Fred Simon

Bryn Biren

* Of blessed memory

Temple Israel

2021/2022 5781/5782

Rabbi Michael D. Howald

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents.....Jerrold Gross & Alan Siegel
 First Vice President Larry Hanibal
 Second Vice President.....Felicia Otto & Nina Rohan
 Treasurer..... Jeffrey Ganz
 Financial Secretary Jennifer Straniere *
 Recording SecretaryRemy Smith
 Corresponding Secretary..... Bryn Biren

TRUSTEES

Jeffrey Chason	Sandy Mazzucco
Deanna Feder	Joanna Meltzer
Barbara Fried	Judith Pessah
Shariann Ganz	Blanche Ricci
Joseph Gamoran	Pamela Rogozin
Samuel Gornstein	Judy Scher
Claire Guttsman	Alina Shteynberg
Rebecca Hand	Jodi Siegel
Russell Kaminsky	Inez Singer
Cheryl Levine	Philip Straniere
Beverly Mazer	Rhonda Trontz-Allen

Lissa Winchel

Honorary Trustee: Arnold Grossman

PAST PRESIDENTS

Cornelius Bregoff *	Bruce J. Frimet
Dr. David Machol *	Gerald Lustig, MD *
Morris Singer *	George Lachman
Ira L. Tilzer, Esq. *	Susan Sappin
Leo Glazer *	Phyllis Elrich
Lawrence B. Simons, Esq. *	Linda Brill
Joseph Werb, Esq. *	Ann Targownik
Dr. Robert Taub *	Dr. Terry Bayer
Carleton I. Spark	Wayne Schwartz
Fred Greenspan	John Greenbaum
Benjamin J. Feitelson *	Jeffrey Ganz
Marie Schwarz *	Wilhelm Figueroa
Norman I. Saunders *	Jerrold Gross
Dr. Leonard Leef	Fred Simon

Bryn Biren

* Of blessed memory

Brotherhood Officers & Directors

2020-2021 5780-5781

President..... Jeffrey Ganz
First Vice President..... Dr. Larry Flaum
Second Vice President..... Russell Kaminsky
Secretary..... Jeffrey Chason
Treasurer..... David Meltzer *

DIRECTORS

Sam Gornstein
Dennis Guttsman
Irwin Magnus *
Jerry Mulnick
Fred Simon

And the immediate Past President

Honorary Members
Rabbi Michael D. Howald
Lincoln Richman

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Jay Bernstein	David Meltzer *
Richard Braun	Wayne Schwartz
Harry Elrich	Adam Schulman
Jeffrey Ganz	Alan Siegel
Jerrold Gross	Alan Tepper
Scott Levine	William Weerth *

*** Of blessed memory**

Brotherhood Officers & Directors

2021-2022 5781-5782

President Jeffrey Ganz
First Vice President Dr. Larry Flaum
Second Vice President Russell Kaminsky
Secretary Jerry Mulnick
Treasurer Jeffrey Chason

DIRECTORS

Dennis Guttsman
Larry Hanibal
Fred Simon

And the immediate Past President

Honorary Members
Rabbi Michael D. Howald
Lincoln Richman

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Jay Bernstein	David Meltzer *
Richard Braun	Wayne Schwartz
Harry Elrich	Adam Schulman
Jeffrey Ganz	Alan Siegel
Jerrold Gross	Alan Tepper
Scott Levine	William Weerth *

*** Of blessed memory**

Temple Israel Gala Annual Honorees

1969: Leo Glazer

1984: Estelle Gootenberg, Albert Melniker, Sanford Nalitt, Norman Saunders,
Robert Straniere, Gloria Tilzer, Allan Weissglass

1986: Dr Gerald J. Lustig

1987: Selma Blumin, Siggie Kahn, Herman Wetschler

1991: Max & Ada Kadin, George & Carole Lachman,
Dr. Stephen & Harriett Pollack, Beatrice Victor

1992: Dr. Ronald & Helene Leventhal, Alvin & Eleanor Nalitt,
David & Susan Sappin, Joan Tenney

1993: Edward & Phyllis Elman, Jerrold & Karen Gross,
Michael & Janet Sirota, Louis Stolzenberg

1994: Phyllis & Harry Elrich, Linda & Jerrold Mulnick,
Eileen & Stewart Sandman, Rev. Terry Troia

1995: Bryn & Richard Biren, Ellen & Bart Horowitz,
Hon. Susan Molinari

1996: Terry & Steve Bayer, Lois Gold, Eleanor Goldberg,
Joyce & Vernon Scholar

1997: Linda & Alan Brill, Geri Kitoff, Susan & Stewart Marks

1998: *Jubilee Year Celebration*

1999: Cheryl & Michael Levine, Adrienne & Gordon Nash,
Judith Pessah

2000: Diane & Michael Eisenkraft, Norman Linscheid,
Ann & George Targownik, Florence & Lewis Werb

2001: Pam Carlton, Arnie Grossman, Jennifer Straniere,
Barbara & Alan Tepper

2002: Rabbi David & Nancy Katz

2003: Judy Scher, Janet Harris Smith, Dr. Fred Hecht

2004: Jodi & Alan Siegel, Janice Gross & Larry Flaum

2005: Cantor Suzanne Bernstein

2006: Gale & Wayne Schwartz, Assemblyman John Lavelle

2007: Nancy & Ron Avis

2008: Claire Guttsman, Ada & Max Kadin - representing the
Founding Members of Temple Israel

2009: Karen & Jay Duskin, Sheila & Arnie Grossman,
Nina & Jim Rohan

2011: Shariann & Jeffrey Ganz, Linda & Larry Hanibal,
Lynn & Robert Silberman

2012: Deanna Feder, Ida Grober, Josephine Grober,
Joanna & David Meltzer, Muriel & Maurice Schlestein

2013: Jaimie Blackman, Jerry Gross, Ilene Pappert,
Tracy Schulman

2014: *Golden Gala Celebrating 50 Years in our Spiritual Home*

2015: Libby & Ira Gershansky, Richard Maren, Lenore Miller,
Cindy & Searle Selmon, Inez Singer

2016: Andrea & Fred Simon, Barbara Fried, Rebecca Hand,
Beverly Mazer, Rhonda Trontz-Allen

2017: Kim & Victor Avis, Linda & Alan Brill, Pamela J. Carlton,
Pamela Rogozin, Barbara Tepper

2018: The Adult Choir & Accompanists, Claire Bleiman,
Karen & Joe Gamoran, Blanche Ricci

2019: Bryn Biren

2020: Rabbi Michael Howald

2021: *The Resilience of Temple Israel*

A photograph of a modern church interior. The sanctuary features a large, textured stone wall with a central wooden double door. Above the door is a colorful stained glass window. The floor is covered in a dark, patterned carpet. Rows of wooden pews are visible in the foreground. The word "Sponsors" is written in a large, blue, cursive font across the center of the image.

Sponsors

The trustees of the
Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel
are very grateful for our entire community.

Our leadership has worked incredibly hard to keep everyone connected,
to provide religious services and Torah study,
and to be there for members who have suffered loss and illness.

We are so very thankful for our teachers, our wonderful student cantor,
and for our Sisterhood, Brotherhood
and Temple Board members.

We salute you all.

Victor Avis, Rabbi Michael Howald,
Bryn Biren, and Terry Baver

Congratulations

Thank you to Rabbi Howald, Student Cantor Richman and each person who worked so hard during this past year.

Your services and programs that educated, strengthened and uplifted the congregation of Temple Israel during this stressful year are greatly appreciated.

Dr. Ron Avis

In Memory of
Carole R. Lachman

We are humbled by the spirit of service and community that exemplifies Temple Israel.

Over the past 16 months, we have sheltered in place and found sanctuary with this congregation through the miracle of Zoom. Your commitment to sustaining Temple Israel and all our members through days of heartbreak and anxiety, challenge and trial, continue to inspire us every day.

We are so proud and happy to be a part of this active, thriving and caring community.

To each of you, and to all of us, we offer this ancient Hebrew blessing:

יְבָרְכֶךָ יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ

May God bless you and keep you.

יְאָר יי פָּנָיו אֵלֵיכֶם וַיַּחַנְכֶם

May God's light shine upon you, and may God be gracious to you.

יֵשָׁא יי פָּנָיו אֵלֵיכֶם וַיִּשֶׁם לָכֶם שְׁלוֹם

May you feel God's Presence within you always,
and may you find peace.

Rabbi Michael and Robin Howald



ShopRites of Staten Island

Owned & Operated by the Mannix Family

**Our Congratulations &
Best Wishes To Your
Organization For
The Excellent Hard Work & Services
That You Provide To Our
Wonderful Community of
Staten Island Year-Round!**

From Your Friends at Mannix Family Supermarkets!

**ShopRite of
Forest & Richmond Ave.**

985 Richmond Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10314
Phone: (718) 982-8662

**ShopRite of
Hylan Blvd.**

2656 Hylan Blvd. Suite 100
Staten Island, NY 10306
Phone: (718) 569-4560

**ShopRite of
Veterans Rd.**

3010 Veterans Rd. West
Staten Island, NY 10309
Phone: (718) 948-4945

**All Stores Open 24 Hours Per Day.... 7 Days A Week.... For Your Shopping Convenience
"Only Supermarket on Staten Island with Certified Dieticians and Beauty Advisors"**



This is your **neighborhood**  This is your **ShopRite** 



Sisterhood of Temple Israel



**is proud to be a sponsor
of this year's Gala Journal
and even prouder of all our
members who played a
leadership role in keeping our
community actively engaged
over the past year.**



T HANK YOU *Temple Israel for providing a spiritual home, with*
E VENTS *that bring us together as a community,*
M EMBERS *who are welcoming, with whom we gather to*
P RAY *as a congregation, supported by*
L EADERSHIP *that guides us, keeping us*
E NGAGED *even when we remain socially distant, by offering us*

I NTERESTING *and creative programming, with the support of*
S ISTERHOOD *either financially or physically, and finally the*
R EOPENING *of our doors after a long absence, with special thanks to the*
A VIS FOUNDATION *for their outreach and programming, and to the*
E AGERNESS *of member volunteers, creating the*
L OVE *we feel for our community and the relationships we have built*

TEMPLE ISRAEL
PRAYER, FRIENDSHIPS, UNITY
SPIRITUAL HOME
in memory of all those that left us too soon...

THE BARRIS FAMILY

ALAN, JODI & JESSE
SIEGEL

ARE PROUD TO BE MEMBERS OF THE
EXTRAORDINARY
TEMPLE ISRAEL COMMUNITY.

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO TOOK THE LEAD
AND HELPED US REMAIN STRONG OVER THE
PAST 15 MONTHS.

We are very grateful!

A photograph of a church interior, viewed from the back of the sanctuary looking towards the front. The pews are made of light-colored wood and are arranged in rows, with some having blue hymnals or booklets. The floor is covered with a dark blue carpet featuring a white diamond pattern. The front of the church features a large, light-colored stone wall with a central wooden door and a stained glass window above it. The text "Full Page Donors" is overlaid in a large, pink, cursive font across the center of the image.

Full Page Donors



**SINCE 1977, TEMPLE ISRAEL HAS BEEN OUR
FAMILY'S SPIRITUAL HOME AND BEACON.....**

Through 7 baby blessings, 3 B'nei Mitzvahs and Confirmations, 2 weddings and so much more.

*We are so grateful for the support of the Temple Israel Community through all these times, and
proud to be a member of our synagogue.*

*Karen & Jerry Gross
Renee, Allan, Ethan and Simon
Marc, Cara, Henry and Ian
Shari*



2020

*Congratulations
Temple Israel!*

2021

You did it!!!

*Victor, Kim,
Sydney, Samantha,
and
Morgan Avis*

**TEMPLE ISRAEL HAS MEANT EVERYTHING TO OUR FAMILY
FROM 1948-2021**

**THIS PAST YEAR HAS MADE OUR CONGREGATION EVEN
STRONGER**

**THANK YOU RABBI HOWALD,
SHIREL & LINCOLN RICHMAN
AND EVERYONE WHO PLANNED AND PRODUCED
SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND LECTURES**

L'DOR VA DOR

**TEMPLE ISRAEL REFORM CONGREGATION
CONTINUES FROM
GENERATION TO GENERATION
UNITED IN STRENGTH AND PURPOSE**



There's a wonderful book, *The Rent Collector*, by Camron Wright that has changed my life.

A character in it, the Grandfather, always says, "It's a good day."

I learned that choices, or events that happen to us, may look bad, feel bad now, but are really good "down the road". We can't see the big picture for ourselves. That is exactly what has happened to me this year, the year of the pandemic.

After a long struggle about making a permanent move, we decided it was time.

We finished clearing the house, hired a realtor, and left.

Timing. We left three days before THE PANDEMIC LOCK DOWN.

Timing. We arrived one day before THE PANDEMIC LOCK DOWN in Florida.

Timing. We shopped and saw that most essentials were gone from the shelves.

Luckily, we had brought some things from New York.

Luckily, our daughter had filled up the condo for us with essentials.

What would we do? We were cut off from everything, everyone.

Then, my Temple and its community, saved me.

Zoom! Zoom! Zoom!

Yes, "Can you see me? Can you hear me? Where's your face? Unmute yourself!"

Endless, it seemed, until we grasped the techniques of Zoom.

BUT...although we couldn't understand what was going on, we still connected with each other through ZOOM.

There are not enough words to thank the people who quickly picked up the gauntlet and CONNECTED US!!

I wasn't leaving my Temple. It was coming with me!

We met for coffee. We met for wine. We met to laugh and we met to cry when Covid took some of our dear friends. Over 350 people attended the Zoom funeral for our dear Phyllis Elman, a former member...over Zoom.

We attended Friday night services and Saturday morning Torah study. We had High Holiday services, and all of the following holiday services as well. Classes were zoomed. Fun times were zoomed. The best Passover Seder was zoomed and shared TOGETHER. We had seder dinner with our friends in chatrooms and the Presidents and the Clergy stopped by to say "Hello"!

My Temple Israel, my main reason for not wanting to leave the Island, came with me.

When the Pandemic hit, I felt alone and helpless. The silver lining was each and every person who connected and helped me adjust. I am indebted for this connection and will always praise my community.

Thank you especially to those taking the reins and never giving up. You are special blessings.

Because of you, I could say, even through the pandemic, "It's a good day."

With love and gratitude and so much respect, I remain Phyllis Elrich, Past President of Temple Israel.

THE BROTHERHOOD

HONORS

TEMPLE ISRAEL

**IN A YEAR NOT LIKE ANY OTHER
WE HAVE CONTINUED TO SUPPORT OUR
TEMPLE FAMILY**

*Thank you to Rabbi Howald and all the
Temple leaders who have helped
navigate us through these very
challenging times*

*With appreciation
Jay Chazanoff*

Best wishes to all and
in loving memory of
Ellie Goldberg

Joel Goldberg

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ALL THOSE AT TEMPLE ISRAEL WHO HAVE NOT
ONLY MADE LEMONS INTO LEMONADE BUT HAVE ALSO MADE:

OUR IPADS INTO TOUR BUSES...

OUR COMPUTER SCREENS INTO CONCERT HALLS...

OUR SMARTPHONES INTO WORSHIP SPACES...

MAY WE GO FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

LIBBY AND IRA GERSHANSKY
LINDA AND LARRY HANIBAL

Thanks to Rabbi Howald, our Temple Board,
and all Temple members who
stepped up
to keep us all together
during a most difficult time.

Claire and Dennis Guttman

In Memory of My Best Friend, Starbucks: Chocolate Lab 13yrs old
Dr. Fred Hecht

WHY DOGS LIVE LESS THAN HUMANS

Here's the surprising answer of a 6 year old child.

A veterinarian was called to examine a ten-year-old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog's owners, Rob, his wife Lisa and their little boy Shane, were all very attached to Belker, and they were hoping for a miracle.

He examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. He told the family they couldn't do anything for Belker, and offered to perform euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home.

As they made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told him they thought it would be good for six-year-old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt as though Shane might learn something from the experience. The next day, He felt the familiar catch in his throat as Belker's family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm, petting the old dog for the last time, that He wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes, Belker slipped peacefully away.

The little boy seemed to accept Belker's transition without any difficulty or confusion. They all sat together for a while after Belker's Death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that dogs' lives are shorter than human lives. Shane, who had been listening quietly, piped up, "I know why." Startled, they all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned him. He'd never heard a more comforting explanation. It has changed the way He tries and lives, as it has I. He said, "People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life--like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?" The six-year-old continued, "Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don't have to stay for as long as we do."...

...Live simply.

Love generously.

Care deeply.

Speak kindly.

Remember, if a dog was the teacher you would learn things like:

- When your loved ones home home, always run to greet them.
- Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.
- Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure Ecstasy.
- Take naps.
- Stretch before rising.
- Run, romp, and play daily.
- Thrive on attention and let people touch you.
- Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
- On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass.
- On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.
- When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.
- Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
- Be faithful.
- Never pretend to be something you're not.
- If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
- When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently

That's the secret of happiness that we can learn from a good dog.

Dr. Fred Hecht

**With great thanks to G-d
for the life of**

Jennifer Straniere

**With deep gratitude to G-d
for the great mitzvot
of Temple Israel
and
its spiritual leader
Rabbi Michael Howald**

Reverend Terry Troia

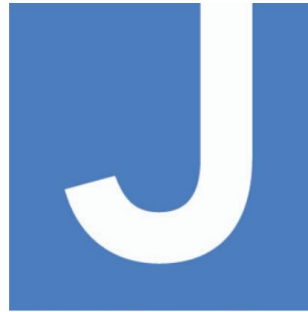
Rabbi Gerald Sussman



Project Hospitality
100 Park Avenue
Staten Island, New York

Congratulations to our friends at Temple Israel!

**We are grateful for your commitment to
Jewish life on Staten Island!**



Joan & Alan Bernikow
Jewish Community Center
of Staten Island

Susan Sappin

President, Board of Directors

Orit Lender

Chief Executive Officer

With Sincere Appreciation to our Temple Israel

Adult Education Committee

Avis Foundation

Fundraising Committee Sisterhood and Brotherhood Officers and Board of Directors

Rabbi Michael D. Howald and Student Cantor Shirel Richman

“for lifting our spirits to help us all through this difficult period of time”

Rhonda Tronz Allen & Michael Allen

Shari Stein Ballow & Lawrence Ballow

Ellen & Jeff Birch

Deanna Feder

Barbara Fried

Linda & Larry Hanibal

Debra Smith & Scott Levine

Susan & Stewart Marks

Beverly & Howard Mazer

Joanna Meltzer

Inez & Stephen Singer

Mindy & Alan Novin & Jonathan & Jacqueline Weinberg

THANK YOU

to

Rabbi Michael Howald
Student Cantor Shirel Richman

and the

Leadership of Temple Israel

for keeping our Temple Community spiritually and virtually connected
during this most difficult of times.

I am proud and blessed to be a member of our amazing Temple.

With my deepest Gratitude and Love,

Sandy Mazzucco

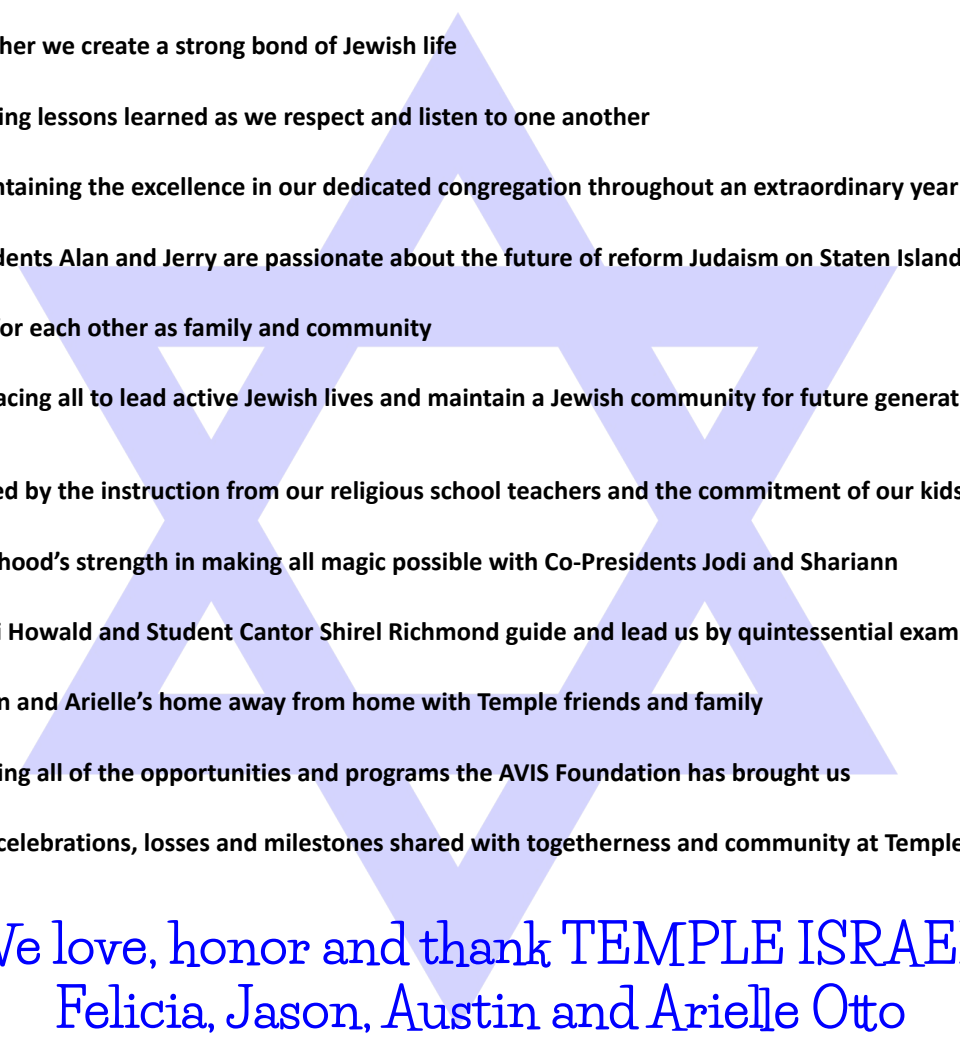


**The Northfield Bank
Foundation
is proud to support**

**Temple Israel Reform
Congregation of
Staten Island**



www.NorthfieldBankFoundation.org



Together we create a strong bond of Jewish life

Ensuring lessons learned as we respect and listen to one another

Maintaining the excellence in our dedicated congregation throughout an extraordinary year

Presidents Alan and Jerry are passionate about the future of reform Judaism on Staten Island

Love for each other as family and community

Embacing all to lead active Jewish lives and maintain a Jewish community for future generations

Inspired by the instruction from our religious school teachers and the commitment of our kids

Sisterhood's strength in making all magic possible with Co-Presidents Jodi and Shariann

Rabbi Howald and Student Cantor Shirel Richmond guide and lead us by quintessential example

Austin and Arielle's home away from home with Temple friends and family

Enjoying all of the opportunities and programs the AVIS Foundation has brought us

Life's celebrations, losses and milestones shared with togetherness and community at Temple Israel

We love, honor and thank TEMPLE ISRAEL.
Felicia, Jason, Austin and Arielle Otto

*Looking
Forward to the
Future*

Nina & Jim Rohan

The Sanhedrin identified ten things
a community needs to consider it scholar-worthy,
including a synagogue, a tzedakah fund,
and a teacher of children.

Through these, and more, our congregation
is creating a better world, day by day.

In deep and sincere appreciation
for the warmth and strength of
Temple Israel
Reform Congregation of Staten Island



Ann & George Targownik
& Family



The students and families of Temple Israel's Religious and Hebrew School
thank and honor our school leaders and teachers:

Rabbi Howald, Student Cantor Shirel Richman,
Shariann Ganz, Remy Smith and Lincoln Richman
For all of their teaching and guidance this extraordinary school year.

We also thank and honor:

Dr. Ronald Avis, Terry Baver, Bryn Biren and the AVIS Foundation
Temple Co-Presidents: Jerry Gross and Alan Siegel
Brotherhood President: Jeffrey Ganz and all Brotherhood members
Sisterhood Co-Presidents: Shariann Ganz and Jodi Siegel and all Sisterhood members

For supporting so many of our activities and providing enrichment programming to our families.

We can't wait to see everyone in person in September!

With appreciation and gratitude,
The 2020-2021 Religious School Students and families:



Talia Astman and family	Ma'ayan Feldman and family	Sal and Jaclyn Mazzola and family	Peri Sgambelluri and family
Charlie Baver and family	Elliot and Nathaniel Lee and family	Austin Otto and family	Alexander Sherer and family
Maya Castelli and family	Samson and Rahm Leibovich and family	Jordan Padilla and family	Alexa and Mia Shperling and family
Jacob Chason and family	Jayden Lenner and family	Nora Sarfati and family	Ahava and Orly Walpola and family
Ethan and Jonathan DeVito and family	Gennie and Freda Lopez and family	Ethan and Nate Schwartz and family	Priya and Sydney Weinberg and family

In Memory of
Jennifer Straniere

Murray Berman

We are grateful for all the members of our community.
Thank you to Libby for leading the committee
that worked to support voter registration this year.
Thank you to Larry and Linda for often reaching out to us;
thank you to the presidents of Sisterhood and Brotherhood for all their work supporting the
congregation;

Thank you to the temple presidents and board of directors
for the creative and innovative way that they kept things working.

Thank you to our Student Cantor and Rabbi Howald
for their love and support for our community;

Thank you to Felicia for her incredible and creative work supporting our religious school
and thank you to all the teachers who kept our children engaged with learning.

Thank you Bryn for everything (especially the yoga classes!)
We send our love to the families of David, Bobby and Jennifer.

Terry and Steve Baver

GALA 2021

· A VIRTUAL CELEBRATION ·

For more than a year we had to be apart, but because of Temple,
we were able to be together virtually,

Physically we were alone, but because of temple,
we were together spiritually,

We suffered losses that saddened us, but because of temple,
we were there to comfort one another.

With thanks to our clergy, our leadership, our committees and
every member of Temple Israel

Linda & Alan Brill

2021 *Gala*

**As past presidents of Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island,
we are pleased to participate in this year's virtual gala.**

**While we have all experienced difficult times in the past 16 months, as things return to normal, may we as
a Temple go from strength to strength. May we be there for each other as a congregation, serve our
community and demonstrate our commitment to our faith and to each other.**

With thanks to our Temple's leadership and its clergy, its board, committees and each of you.

Terry Baver

Wilhelm Figueroa

Susan Sappin

Bryn Biren

Jeffrey Ganz

Wayne Schwartz

Linda Brill

John Greenbaum

Fred Simon

Phyllis Elrich

Jerrold Gross

Ann Targownik

George Lachman

2021 GALA

The Temple Israel Torah Study Group & friends send our love to the entire Temple family, and express our sincere thanks to Rabbi Michael Howald for his dedication and scholarship in leading us each week for our Saturday morning study and prayer service.

Joseph Aronson (remembering Janet Aronson)

Jaimie Blackman & Iris Hershenson

Linda Brill

Maxine Cohen

Jay & Karen Duskin

Steven Fanta

Deanna Feder

Barbara Fried

Libby Gershansky

Jerry & Karen Gross

Arnie Grossman

Kathi & Dennis Kass

Judy Lee

Brianna & Brian Levinsky

Rochelle Maltz

Dr. Fred Marks

Joyce Miller

Dr. Ken Pickover

J. R. Rich

Muriel Schlefstein (remembering Maurice
Schlefstein)

Penny Schuster

Helen Silberlight

The Family of Muriel & Mannie Trachman

Luigia Wiesner

A photograph of a church interior, viewed from the back of the sanctuary looking towards the front. The church has a modern design with light-colored stone walls and dark wood pews. The altar area features a large wooden structure with a central doorway and a colorful stained glass window above it. A podium is on the left and a piano is on the right, both decorated with flowers. The text "Half Page Donors" is overlaid in a white, cursive font across the center of the image.

Half Page Donors

We Salute

TEMPLE ISRAEL

Continuity, Strength and Spirituality

Shariann, Jeffrey, Matthew and Bryan Ganz

The FUNdraising Committee would like to thank the
Temple Israel family,
for all the love and support that helped us to stay
connected.

With love and gratitude,

Rhonda Trontz-Allen, Lissa Winchel,
and Karen Frey Gamoran,
co-chairs

Larry Flaum
Rebecca Hand
Joseph Gamoran
Barbara Fiegelman

**We want to send our love and
appreciation to all our
Temple leaders;
our love and warm regards to
all our Temple friends.**

You all are truly family.

**Thank you for your support
through the
decades we've been
members.**

**Janice Gross, Larry Flaum and
family**

**HONORING OUR
TEMPLE ISRAEL
COMMUNITY**

**MAY WE GO FROM
STRENGTH TO STRENGTH**

Linda & Jerry Mulnick

In honor of
Rabbi Michael
and
Robin Howald
Arline Bronzaft

*Our gratitude to Rabbi,
Student Cantor Richman
and to all of the members
of our Temple Community
and the
Ronald Avis Foundation
for zooming us through this
pandemic*

and

*in loving memory of
Jennifer Straniere*

Jay and Karen Duskin

VIRTUAL GALA BENEFIT

Throughout the year, the Ritual Committee works to assure that we will have beautiful and meaningful services. The past year has been extraordinarily challenging, as we had to meet our congregation's needs remotely. We thank Rabbi Howald, Student Cantor Richman, Lincoln Richman, our choir, those who provided music for our services, and the amazing team that allowed us to broadcast our High Holy Days services online and helped us to equip our Temple to allow us to Zoom and now to live-stream our services for those in the area who cannot attend and those who are spending time away from this area. Their work is vital to our congregation.

With best wishes from the
Temple Israel Ritual Committee



What strange experiences we've had in the past 16 months! What had been normal became difficult or dangerous! We responded to difficulties with facemasks, hand sanitizers and social distancing. We learned to use zoom to visit with one another.

Temple Israel provided us with the ability to celebrate the High Holy Days remotely, and to begin to take part in regular online services. Fortunately, we are getting to the point of resuming a more normal life. May we do so together as friends in peace and in health.

**Linda & Alan Brill
Eddie Elman**

**Phyllis & Harry Elrich
George Lachman**

Susan Sappin

In honor of

ALAN SIEGEL

*for making all the pieces fit and
keeping all the balls in the air.*

We're so proud of you.

*Thank you
for everything you do
for Temple Israel and for us!*



Jodi and Jesse

To the incomparable

JODI SIEGEL

Thank you for all you do to
keep Temple Israel and US
going!

Love,
Alan, Jesse,
and Miss Adelaide

**Congratulations to our Temple Israel Friends and Family
for their
Dedication, Determination and Resilience
during this difficult year.**

Best Wishes,
Iris Hershenson
Jaimie Blackman
&
Alixandra,
Josh, Mili, Miriam, Clara



The Past Presidents of Sisterhood thank
Temple Israel Leadership,
Rabbi Howard and
Shirel & Lincoln Richman
for all their efforts to sustain us during
this difficult year

Ruth Andriani
Linda Brill
Pamela J. Carlton
Deanna Feder
Susan Freedman
Karen Gross
Claire Guttsman
Cheryl Levine

Susan Marks
Beverly Mazer
Judith Pessah
Nina Rohan
Susan Sappin
Muriel Schlefstein
Jodi Siegel
Inez Singer

THIS CHALLENGING YEAR HAS GIVEN
US THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN THE
TRUE MEANING OF FAITH, LOVE,
SUPPORT AND FAMILY.

FELLOW CONGREGANTS, CLERGY
AND STAFF MEMBERS, WE DID IT
TOGETHER.

CLAIRE BLEIMAN
PAMELA CARLTON
MAXINE COHEN
BARBARA FEIGELMAN
BARBARA FRIED

To Us

So many months of Pandemic have gone by.
To keep our sanity we all did try.
Who made it come true?
Of course the Temple Israel Family and all we do!

And so Temple Zoom, you filled our lives each night,
With Poetry (like this), Photography, Yoga, Meditation,
They felt so right.
The "Judys" help in understanding our Pandemic emotions,
The study of Film, TV, and Art,
And even a virtual trip to Paris was a part.

With thanks to Rabbi, Sisterhood, the Adult Learning
Committee,
And the Avis Foundation,
Our evenings came alive.
To comfort us all we did strive!

So much gratitude to our beloved Temple family,
We need to show,
And now into to our beautiful sanctuary.
We all soon will go!

With love, Judy Pessah

It is with deep gratitude that we thank the Clergy, our Executive Board, as well as our Sisterhood, Brotherhood and all the Committees for keeping Temple Israel both afloat and vibrant during the most trying year that anyone can remember.

Andrea and Fred Simon

*Become part of our community
by participating in our community.
Temple Israel is where community happens.*

*With appreciation for those on whose shoulders we stand,
With gratitude for our ability to stay together during this difficult year,
With great hope for a wonderful future,*

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE SALUTES

Temple Israel-

House of Meeting, House of Study and House of Prayer

*Bryn Biren, Linda Brill, Maxine Cohen, Barbara Fried,
Libby Gershansky, Claire Guttsman, Rochelle Maltz,
Joanna Meltzer, Felicia Otto & Nina Rohan*

We sang the songs that made the Temple sing,
We sang the songs to liven everything.
Shirel and Lincoln you helped us sing along.
We always strive to sing more songs.

The Adult Choir looks forward to a joyous

2021-2022



To our Temple Israel congregants and
Rabbi Howald and
Student Cantor Shirel Richman,
What a historic year this has been- difficult,
frightening: inspiring

What stood out so clearly for us was how Temple
Israel stepped up and so embodied
what it means to be a **community**.

We did not feel alone- we were nourished
spiritually, creatively, and educationally.

Who knew that our connections would grow in
this most darkest of times.

Thank you Temple Israel from the bottom of
our hearts for being there for us.
We were able to continue to learn, pray, laugh
and even eat together.

With much love and admiration-
Judy and Steve Scher

**THANKS TO EVERYONE AT
TEMPLE ISRAEL FOR
HELPING US GET THROUGH
THIS DIFFICULT YEAR. IT IS
WONDERFUL TO BE A PART
OF THIS COMMUNITY.**

Ilene Pappert

To our Temple Israel Family

You have welcomed us with open arms 22 years ago & always were there
to celebrate – Baby Namings – B’nai Mitzvah – Confirmations
and those times when we really needed your support.

With much love & appreciation - Joanna, Adam & Daniel



David... forever in our hearts.

Best Wishes
Temple Israel Reform Congregation
Of Staten Island



ANDREW J. LANZA

State Senator, 24th District
3845 Richmond Ave. Suite 2A
Staten Island, NY 10312
718-984-4073
Lanza@nysenate.gov



   @SenatorLanza



JANITORIAL SERVICE, INC.

CLEAN SWIFT JANITORIAL SERVICE, INC.

398 MANOR ROAD • STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314 • (718) 442-8600

To all of our friends at
Temple Israel Reform Congregation

of Staten Island

May we all have good health

and happiness

THE PORITZ FAMILY

Alan, Freya, Rachel, & Matthew

A photograph of a church interior, viewed from the back of the sanctuary looking towards the altar. The church features a modern design with light-colored stone walls and a wooden ceiling. The altar area is elevated and has a large, colorful stained glass window above the entrance. Two wooden pulpits with floral arrangements are positioned on either side of the altar. Rows of wooden pews with blue hymnals are visible in the foreground. The text "Quarter Page Donors" is overlaid in a large, white, cursive font across the center of the image.

Quarter Page Donors



Congratulations to
Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island

Senator Diane J. Savino
36 Richmond Terrace, Suite 112
Staten Island, New York 10301
Phone: 1-718-727-9406
Fax: 1-718-727-9426
Email: savino@nysenate.gov
Website: www.nysenate.gov/senator/diane-j-savino

Temple Israel, thanks for
being there through these
difficult times
-Blanche Ricci

Congratulations and Continued Success
Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island
from your friends at

Louis F. DeSantis DDS, FACP

Board Certified Prosthodontist

216 Rose Ave 10306, 718-980-9769

www.drdesantis.com

Congratulations to
everyone!

Sandy & Les Feuerstein

Wishing our Temple Family
much love & good health.

Mark & Sandy Frank

RIZZO

Fine Jewelers

305 New Dorp Lane
S.I., N.Y. 10306

Tel: 718-987-7260

Fax: 718-987-7218

Wishing you a
successful event!

BENTSON
& COMPANY INSURANCE

MORE JEWISH FAMILIES SELECT

Menorah Chapels, Inc.

All organization and society
burial benefits serviced



Serving New York City
Long Island
Florida and Israel.

Worldwide Shipping and
Services Prearranged
Large Parking Facilities

Call 24 Hours A Day

(718) 494-7700

1-800-MENORAH

2145 Richmond Avenue
Staten Island, N.Y. 10314



GRAVE RISE
AND ORIENT
SERVICES
AVAILABLE

KESTENBAUM & WEISNER

Diamonds & Fine Jewelry

PHILIP J. WEISNER

580 Fifth Avenue, Suite 415 • N.Y., NY 10036

Tel: 212-921-1224 • pjw1118@gmail.com

www.kwdiamonds.com

Louis Kestenbaum

Ideal Cut Diamonds, Ltd

20 West 47th Street Suite 405

New York, NY 10036

idealcutdiamondsltd@aol.com

c: (516) 375-5040 o: (646) 912-9008

*With gratitude for Temple Israel's commitment to
continuity, connection and community,*

Dennis and Kathi Kass



718. 351.1500 FAX 718.667.0467

24 HOUR TOWING 718.351.3444

colonialservice@verizon.net

www.colonialservicestation.com



COLONIAL SERVICE STATION

Family Owned & Operated Since 1967

Complete Auto Repairs & Body Work

SNOW PLOWING - STATE INSPECTION

Custom Made Hydraulic Hoses

2430 RICHMOND ROAD, SI, NY 10306

TOM DEANGELIS, PROP.

IVC #715204 DCA #1216103 DOT #14090051NY

2nd HAND DEALER #1273989 DCA COMPLAINT #311

Dr. Mark & Noreen Marpet

Shirel and Lincoln

Thank you for many services & fun

Marnie Blit

Thank you to Temple Israel

Muriel Schlefstein

***WE ARE BLESSED TO BE MEMBERS OF
TEMPLE ISRAEL***

REFORM CONGREGATION OF S.I.

INEZ & STEPHEN SINGER

A very big **THANK YOU** to everyone
for creating so much to enrich our
experiences & enhance our Temple
community during this difficult year.

Barbara Feigelman

**Thank you Temple leadership,
for keeping Temple Israel safe,
secure and vibrant.**

John Greenbaum

**Volunteers do not have the time,
they have the hearts.**

Bob & Anita Zuckerberg



**THANKS TO EVERYONE &
HOPING WE WILL BE
TOGETHER VERY SOON!
CHERYL LEVINE & FAMILY**

*Kudos to all the for their
dedication and hard work.*

Ellen & Bruce Sheirr

Thank you...

*to these generous donors for their support of the virtual
journal and Temple Israel*

Ellen and Jeff Birch

Marnie Blit and Family

Julie and Jim Cohen

Karen and Joe Gamoran

Suzie and Maurice Goldstein

Silvia and Sam Gornstein

John Greenbaum

Michael Henken

Robin Hertzberg

Barbara Menna

The Popler Family

Roni Schorr

Vogelman Family



Thank you for your
support!