



KOL TIKVAH

THE VOICE OF HOPE



TEMPLE B'NAI TIKVAH

April, 2020 • Nissan/Iyar, 5780

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RABBI'S MESSAGE — Some Jewish Words for a Time of Fear



By Rabbi Mark S. Glickman

Lately, everything seems to have changed. In the old days – like, three weeks ago – we used to greet one another with handshakes, and sometimes with hugs. Nowadays, even elbow-bumps have become things of the past. In the old days, we used to go to work, hash things out next to our coworkers, and maybe even share some office gossip by the water cooler. Now, most of us only go to work virtually, and, increasingly, many can't even do that. In the old days, we usually had a pretty good idea what was going to happen when we awoke in the morning. Now, however, nothing seems certain.

At this time of uncertainty, however, some things are just as true as they

have always been. In fact, many teachings of our Jewish tradition continue to shine forth with wisdom. And what those old words teach can continue to be of great benefit to us all. Here are some examples:

Pikuach Nefesh. In Judaism (as in other religions) saving a human life is of paramount importance. In fact, our tradition calls upon us to break almost any commandment if in doing so we can preserve the life of another human being. That's why even the most observant of Jews will drive to the hospital on Shabbat if their life is in danger. It's also why an ailing Jew is supposed to eat on Yom Kippur if fasting would be at all dangerous. This commitment to preserve a person's life at almost any cost – called *pikuach nefesh* in Hebrew – reflects Judaism's embrace of human life in its great splendor.

These days, *pikuach nefesh* calls upon us to do whatever we can to protect people from the risks and ravages of COVID-19. Stay home. Distance yourselves from others. Wash your hands. These are sacred acts at this time of pandemic, and our Jewish tradition calls upon us to perform them scrupulously.

Al tifrosh min hatzibur. These were the words that the great Rabbi Hillel taught in antiquity – "Do not separate yourself from the community" (Pirke Avot, 2:5). In these days of growing physical isolation, the lesson is more

important than ever. Even while you stay at home, don't close yourself off from others. Reach out. Make phone calls. Send texts. Check in with people you care about and others who might be vulnerable.

These days, we need one another more than ever. These days, we dare not separate ourselves from the community.

Od lo avdah tikvateinu – Our hope is not yet lost. The words are familiar to many of us – they come from the Israeli national anthem, "Hatikvah." This is a difficult ordeal that we're enduring, but it won't last forever. Though some – far too many of us, to be sure – will certainly fall prey to this virus, as a group we'll eventually come out of it. And when we do, we'll get together in person again. And we'll restart the economy. And we might even start shaking hands and hugging again, just like we did in the good old days. Let's picture that moment now, even as we sit in the darkness of this pandemic, and let's remember that better times await us. With luck, this hope will get us through these very rough times.

My friends, if there is anything I or our congregation can do to be of support to you, please let us know. In the meantime, stay healthy, stay connected, and remember that, in time, these dark days shall pass. God willing, it will happen soon.

Temple Events Update

As the threat of COVID-19 spreads, the Temple B'nai Tikvah Board of Trustees has made the difficult decision to close the Temple office and to cancel all in-person services and other events at Temple at least until the end of Pesach (April 15). This includes worship services, both Seders (the Women's Seder and the Second Seder), Shabbat School, yoga classes, Torah 'N Java, and most other group gatherings.

In the interim, we will be hosting all of our Temple B'nai Tikvah services and some events through virtual gatherings. You can find a link to all of these meetings at bnaitikvah.ca. More details will be shared in Temple's eblasts.

SOCIAL ACTION UPDATE

CBC CALGARY READS BIG BOOK SALE HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR THIS YEAR.

Please save all of those books that you've been collecting for next year's sale.

There will be no more Sandwich Brigade until further notice.

While we can no longer meet as volunteers to make a difference to the 56 Calgary students who receive the lunches we make, we can still support Brown Bagging for Calgary Kids through the Response Fund they have set up at:

<https://bb4ck.org/take-action>

LIFE & LEGACY PROGRAM and COVID-19

Our Temple Legacy Circle continues to grow – 30 families have signed Letters of Intent to participate in the LIFE & LEGACY program. THANK YOU to all 30 families. Their commitments will eventually result in an estimated \$1.1 million in legacy gifts! We have now succeeded in reaching more than 20% of the amount needed to guarantee an endowment income which would cover 20% of our current annual operating budget.

What does this have to do with COVID-19? We are currently in the midst of this health crisis, and many of us are limiting our contacts with others. It will be harder for some of our LIFE & LEGACY Team members to meet in person with potential program participants.

But many Temple members have already had that personal one-on-one meeting, or have heard a public presentation. And you are very interested in the program, and are thinking about it. Now is the time for these thoughtful people to come forward. Do you have new questions? Call the team member you met with. Do you need a clean LOI form? Email me and I'll send it to you electronically. There is much we can do by phone and email!

Go online to learn more about legacy giving, and how you can help ensure the future of our community for generations to come! Or, at Temple, contact Bonnie Kaplan (bonniejoykaplan@gmail.com).

IMAGINE IF YOU COULD PROVIDE A GIFT TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY THAT WOULD LAST FOREVER



TEMPLE B'NAI TIKVAH IS PROUD TO BE A PARTNER IN CALGARY'S LIFE & LEGACY™ ENDOWMENT INITIATIVE

LIFE & LEGACY is designed to help you create permanent legacy gifts, demonstrating your belief in the continuity of Jewish life in Calgary for generations to come.

The Temple Legacy Circle

Anonymous (3)	Steve Eichler & Tracey Rumig	Michele Doctoroff & Ted Switzer	Norman & Kathy Schachar
Judy & Ron Bing	Jane Paterson	Betsy Jameson	Roz Mendelson & David Hodgins
Bonnie Kaplan & Richard Conte	Daniel & Roslyn Oppenheim	Jack & Donna Newton	Nadine & David Drexler
Gertrude Cohos	Tibor Kaldor & Megan MacFarland	Lisa Welikovitich & Mark Paida	Sid Horovitz
Shauna L. Switzer	Alex A. Osten	Joshua Hesslein	Carolyn Devins
Cheryl & Morley Shore	Larry & Tina Stanleigh	Annie Brodsky	Sara Hastings-Simon
Peta Glezerson		Naomi Johansen	Jennifer Eiserman
Susan Light			

To learn more about how to create your Jewish legacy and join the Temple Legacy Circle, contact Bonnie Kaplan at 403-245-0568 or bonniejoykaplan@gmail.com.



temple b'nai tikvah
a reform jewish community



LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

Todah Rabah for Oneg Sponsorships

- Al Osten, in memory of Esther Loebe
- Rhonda & Rick Zabrodski, in memory of Arthur Gotlieb

Mazel Tov

- Hannah Billings, on her Bat Mitzvah

Condolences

- Judy Bing, on the loss of her mother, Caroline Lutz
- Nadine Waldman, on the loss of her mother, Helen Walker
- Natalie Levitt, on the loss of her mother, Ruth Levitt
- Jenny Laing, on the loss of her step-mother, Joan Laing

Healing Prayers

David Adelman, Harvey Balakofsky, Allan Banbury, Sherry Banbury, Eleanor Bannister, Steve Baylin, Marsha Carnat, Sarabeth Carnat, Yael bat Chava, Murray Cornberg, Bob Dudder, Debbie Dudder, Donna Dudder, Darren Ginter, Sophia Lang, Jason McKinney, Valerie Murphy, Hadassah Amy O Reilly, Carla Pasternak, Hineini bat Ruth, Bev Sheckter, Pat Smolensky, Elijah Waverman, Miriam bat Yael

YAHREZITS

TO BE READ ON APRIL 3-4

Frank Ashkin	Virginia Boughner	Nate Frankel
Mary B O'Reilly	Haim Slavatek	Carmine Bennett
David G Bruce	Herbert Kert	Alan Rackow
Martin Stoffman	Leo Birnbaum	Harry Dubo
Ricky Loomer	Samuel Silberberg	

TO BE READ ON APRIL 10-11

Jack R Century	Samuel Hapton	Gerald Newton
Betty Riesenberg	Fred Shannon	Ben Goorevitch
Jack Hirschberg	Gilbert Paterson	Ora Handy
Solomon Riesenberg	Albert Switzer	Miriam Haavik
Michael McGuinness	Tzirl Podlog	Gary Rosenbaum
Clara Chames Szulc		

TO BE READ ON APRIL 17-18

Witaszka Brukaz	Belle Hapton	Eric Hurdman
Ethel Kerr	Morris Richmond	Molly Finkleman
Samuel Himelfarb	Jane Kelley	Stephen Morris

TO BE READ ON APRIL 24-25

Frieda Becker	Margaret Klein	Clara Levy
Isidore Match	Meyer Switzer	Harry Brown
Renee Krel	Donald Jon Lipkind	Anne Mayer
Harry Tulchinsky	Robert Hesslein	Marian Levitan
Roy Liscum	Edward Mendelson	Saul Horovitz
Gertrude Yanofsky		

Temple's First Zoom Service – Friday, March 27, 2020



JFSC is Virtually Open!



In our new reality of self-isolation and social distancing, know that you are not alone. JFSC programs and staff continue to be available to support our community during these uncertain times. For more information about our services and how we can help, visit www.jfsc.org, call 403-287-3510 or email info@jfsc.org. We will also be offering online workshops shortly. Please stay tuned to our social media outlets for more information.

JFSC's Annual Fundraiser to Honour the Memory of Sam Ousher Switzer z"l - June 11, 2020

JFSC is excited to host our First Annual Virtual Fundraiser that checks off a few essential items on our list: we keep everyone safe, come together to raise the funds required to meet the needs of our community's most vulnerable, and at the same time, honour the memory and legacy of Sam Ousher Switzer z"l.

There will be a strong social media presence unfolding in the weeks leading up to the event so please follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#), add your email address to our newsletter list, and get ready for the ride.

CARING COMMUNITY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Now Purim seems a long time ago, but I still have to congratulate Deb Finkleman and all the volunteers who helped to bake, wrap, sign cards and make deliveries of Hamantaschen. I was out of town and felt assured it would go off smoothly in the group's capable hands. Great job, everyone!

Before the COVID -19 restrictions hit us in March, I had been thinking of spring and how to wrap up the year. We operated within our budget, greatly due to many of the volunteers' generosity with cooking ingredients. Next year we would ask Co-op to save chicken bones for our soup broth and I thank Marsha Carnat for her initiative on securing that partner for us. In reading about Soup Sisters organization I was surprised at the cost for participants. It made me realize that we are exceptionally economical!

I'm hopeful that in the fall we will be out of the pandemic crisis and able to physically visit each other again. One project that we postponed until then is the creation of a visitor get well card. Susan Podlog said she would head that up. At any rate we should replenish our supply of generic greeting cards and holiday cards. We will continue using snail mail more than ever these days and so we will be needing a stash of cards. With many of us shopping and dropping groceries on doorsteps, or ordering food online for ourselves and our parents, I wonder if some members are having more difficulty navigating those online grocery or banking options. Social distancing restrictions suddenly ruled out giving rides to the bank or the store. I really liked the brainstorm we had in the chat window, during a Friday night Zoom service on how we were reaching out and staying socially connected. If there's anything we can do to assist you, please reach out to me at susanklassen@icloud.com or 403-685-8488.

—Susan Klassen, Committee Chair



THE KOL TIKVAH TEAM

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Cynthia Simmons, Temple President

There is a book on my shelf called *Life is with People*. It is about Jewish life in the Eastern European Shtetl. The title of this book captures much of what we are as a faith community. We Jews gather together in times of joy, sorrow, and the everyday to drink, dance, cry, and pray. Together we make and deliver sandwiches and hamantashen. We debate (and argue) both Torah and politics. We enjoy and are lifted by each other's presence. We are not a religion who praises the practice of isolation – we are not a faith of hermits.

Covid-19 is currently disrupting the how of our practice and tradition with mandated halts to large gatherings and physical distancing/isolation recommended. It is important, however, that we continue our connected and supporting community. During our very first live broadcast of Friday night services we got up to 93 individuals watching at once! I could feel the congregation surround me even as I watched from my glorious unfinished basement. Covid-19 is currently disrupting the how of our practice but it is not affecting our spirits. If we cannot come together as often physically, we will need, as the rabbi says, to continue to come together socially. To call, Skype, or Zoom each other more. We need to commit to help when we can by offering to spend time contacting the health lines for someone exhausted or unwell, or perhaps delivering food or medicine to a member's front door or deck. I have heard said that for every handshake or hug forgone that we need to use that effort to reach out in different ways.

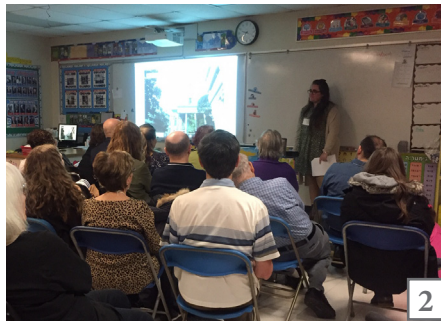
Members of our Board and others took on the pleasant task of calling all those listed in our directory to check on how they are doing (and you should know that we plan to repeat this practice regularly). Most of those we called are fine, some are nervous, some scared. A number of the individuals we spoke to are in self-imposed isolation upon returning from travels. I found that those I talked to are taking the health advice seriously and are working hard to adapt to the "new normal". Those members in need of help are receiving it, and those who are able are ready to provide help where needed. If as this outbreak continues you find that you no longer feel well, or feel burdened with loneliness, please don't hesitate to let us know. Susan Klassen, head of our Caring Community, will be checking regularly and will be working to match those in need with those that can help.

So much has changed – no gathering in classrooms for Shabbat School, no sharing of wine or the fabulous flavours of Itzhak's cooking, no hugging of/by those in need of support. All are hoping that these exceptional times will fade into memory in just a few weeks, but most expect that months will pass before our lives return to normal. Some of the changes being put in place to deal with Covid-19 may become permanent – the difficult part is we don't know which ones. A cleaner building would be great, likewise the practice of live streaming. No more sharing of food, wine, or the occasional hug before would be a real loss.

DONATIONS

TO	FROM	OCCASION
BROWN BAGGING FOR CALGARY KIDS FUND		
Robbie Waisman	Jay Barsky & Fran Goresht	Condolences on the loss of his wife Gloria
BUILDING FUND		
Judy & Ron Bing	Bonnie Kaplan & Richard Conte	Condolences
Judy Bing	Carla & Miguel Atkinson	Condolences
Judy Bing	Betsy Jameson	Condolences
Judy Bing	David Hodgins & Roz Mendelson	Condolences
Judy & Ron Bing	Jeff & Helen Faber	Condolences
Judy & Ron Bing	Richard Bronstein & Judy Shapiro	Condolences
Judy & Ron Bing	Marg Semel & Adam Singer	Condolences
Judy & Ron Bing	Leslie & Lee Handy	Condolences
Judy & Ron Bing	Nadine & David Drexler	Condolences
Judy & Ron Bing	Jane Paterson	Condolences
Judy & Ron Bing	Tina & Larry Stanleigh	Condolences
Michele Doctoroff	Ron Plucer	Thank you

Drew & Ronnie Staffenberg	Jane Paterson	Condolences
Judy & Ron Bing	Karen & Sheldon Roth	Condolences
Nadine Waldman	Ron Plucer	Condolences
Nadine Waldman	Richard Bronstein & Judy Shapiro	Condolences
Nadine Waldman	Leslie & Lee Handy	Condolences
Nadine Waldman	Marg Semel & Adam Singer	Condolences
Nadine Waldman	Jennifer Eiserman	Condolences
Natalie Levitt	Ron Plucer	Condolences
Natalie Levitt	Helen & Jeff Faber	Condolences
Natalie Levitt	Leslie & Lee Handy	Condolences
Natalie Levitt	Marg Semel & Adam Singer	Condolences
Natalie Levitt	Jennifer Eiserman	Condolences
DANIEL ARATO FUND		
Judy & Ron Bing	Judith & Peter Arato	Condolences
DONNA RIBACK SHABBAT SCHOOL FUND		
Natalie Levitt	Jane Paterson	Condolences
EDUCATION/SHABBATON FUND		
Temple	Michele Doctoroff & Ted Switzer	Celebrating Shabbaton
Temple	Rochelle Rabinovitz	Celebrating Shabbaton
Temple	Mona & Howard Bell	Celebrating Shabbaton
GENERAL OPERATIONS FUND		
Temple	Peter Driftmier	In memory of John Driftmier
Drew Staffenberg	David Hodgins & Roz Mendelson	Condolences
Nadine Waldman	Polina & Lazar Ersh	Condolences
KIDDUSH/ONEG FUND		
Danny & Roz Oppenheim	Jane Paterson	Mazel Tov on the occasion of Ami's birth
PIANO FUND		
Robbie Waisman	Anne Goresht	Condolences on the loss of his wife Gloria
RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND		
Carla Atkinson	Rebecca Krel	Condolences
Rabbi Mark & Caron Glickman	Jane Paterson	Mazel Tov on the occasion of Lila's birth
Temple	Judith Spevakow	In memory of Edna McNeilly
Temple	Judith Spevakow	In memory of Mansell McNeilly
Temple	Jerry Spevakow	In memory of Oscar Kirshner
SMOLKIN MEMORIAL WALL FUND		
Judy Bing	Debby & Barry Smolkin	Condolences
Temple	Debby & Barry Smolkin	In memory of Tilly Levine
Temple	Debby & Barry Smolkin	In memory of Robert Smolkin
Natalie Levitt	Debby & Barry Smolkin	Condolences
Sandy & Bernie Corenblum	Debby & Barry Smolkin	Condolences
SOCIAL ACTION FUND		
Nadine & Hartley Waldman	Jane Paterson	Condolences
Nadine Waldman	Betsy Jameson	Condolences
Natalie Levitt	Betsy Jameson	Condolences



Limmud Winnipeg: Calgarians Find New Opportunities for Jewish Learning

By Michele Doctoroff

Winnipeg may soon be a new winter travel destination for Alberta Jews. While the air outside was definitely brisk, the warmth radiated through the tenth annual Limmud Winnipeg at the Asper Jewish Community Campus, Feb. 29-March 1.

This year 3 current/former Calgarian speakers shared their insights and expertise in 5 separate sessions. Accompanying them were 5 Temple members, many experiencing their first, but probably not last Limmud weekend.

Limmud is an international Jewish learning experience, happening worldwide for the past 40 years in over 90 different communities in 38 countries. This past December Limmud England held a 5-day Limmud with over 1000 sessions. Winnipeg Limmud is more modest with over 30 sessions spread over 1 ½ days, attracting approximately 450 participants.

From live Kirtan music, Kosher cooking demos, cultural, historical and political presentations and more, there was something for everyone as participants chose 7 different sessions to attend. The Saturday-night dessert table offered amazing tortes and cheesecakes, including the Winnipeg famous shmoo torte. Sunday's breakfast, lunch, and snacks were also included in the very reasonable \$60 registration fee.

Rabbi Mark Glickman engaged his audiences with the fascinating story of the Cairo Genizah, where nearly 300,000 individual documents, many over 1,000 years old have been recovered, and what this discovery has meant for our understanding of our past. In his second session he shared an epic tale of cultural destruction and survival of how the Nazis plundered tens of millions of Jewish books, highlighting the many books from the collection that survived.

With deep emotion, Andrea Davis from Calgary shared her terrifying experience of having to make a decision to jump into the ocean from a sinking cruise ship. Her gratitude for all the smallest kindnesses extended to her and her husband as they survived the horrific night and its aftermath, brought a tear to the faces of all in the room. As Andrea shared her resiliency and healing, she brought audience members to a place of gratitude and love.

Sydney Switzer, originally from Calgary, was one of several international speakers, arriving from her current home in Glasgow. She shared from her unique experience working as a Jewish educator in the vibrant Jewish community in Mumbai, telling of the many customs and traditions unique to Indian Jewry. Her second presentation discussed new approaches and thinking for engaging young adults in a Jewish world that has meaning for them, and she highlighted many opportunities that are available to young Jewish adults worldwide.

All the Calgary participants and speakers were very impressed with the diversity and expertise of the speakers. The biggest challenge was deciding which sessions to attend.

For more information on how to present at Limmud Winnipeg, March 6 and 7, 2021, or to attend as a participant contact Florencia Katz coordinator@limmudwinnipeg.org

For more information on connecting with Albertans attending, contact Michele Doctoroff switzert@telus.net

Michele Doctoroff is a three-time Winnipeg Limmud attendee and passionate about bringing people together for unique & meaningful Jewish experiences.



- #1. Calgarians are warmly welcomed and quickly make friends with Winnipeggers
- #2 Sydney Switzer engages her audience with fascinating stories from the Jewish Communities of India
- #3 Rabbi Mark Glickman shares the fascinating story of the Cairo Genizah
- #4 Fate, Fortitude, Forgiveness; Andrea Davis
- #5. The famous Winnipeg Shmoo Torte is simply irresistible

Service Participation Form

Ushering and English readings



High Holy Days
2020 / 5781

Temple B'nai Tikvah tries to provide opportunities for its members to participate in the Days of Awe Services. Please return this form to the Temple office on time so that you can be assured of an opportunity to participate.

Please return via email to office@bnaitikvah.ca or fax 403-252-1709

Name of member: _____

Best phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

READING - I would like to read an English part

USHERING - I am willing to serve a shift as an usher during services

I would be available to **READ AND/OR USHER:**

ROSH HASHANAH

- Friday evening, September 18th
- Saturday morning, September 19th
- Sunday morning, September 20th

YOM KIPPUR

- Sunday evening, September 27th (Kol Nidre)
- Monday morning, September 28th
- Monday afternoon, September 28th**

DAYS OF AWE ONEGS - I would like to donate toward the cost of an Oneg:

- \$36 \$72 \$108 \$180 \$360 Other \$_____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY FRIDAY, MAY 15th, 2020

***For the Yom Kippur Concluding Service, congregants are invited to bring their shofars and join in the final sounding at the end of the service.*