

The Scribe



January 2025

Tevet 1 - Shevat 2, 5785



TEMPLE EMANU-EL
DOTHAN, AL





THE RABBI'S STUDY

Rabbi Jonathan L. Jackson



The Jewish story in modern history has been framed as one of a tragic leaving at the hands of intolerance or oppression, and return through struggle and hope. We need to think only of the modern Zionist movement, our Rabbinic holiday of Hanukkah, meaning “rededication,” to see this theme borne out. But, the roots of our living tradition, as we see them in our Torah teaches us the importance of “leaving,” **וּצֵא**, for spiritual transformation. True transformation means attaining for yourself the discipline of leaving behind the familiar, and sometimes totally. True leaving is undaunted courage, and Gd asks this of every one of us human beings.

The texture of the world of dreams is wholly unlike the physical, orderly, and well-understood structure of the waking world. Heaven speaks to us in dreams in the ancient world, and in the modern world, we frame this as a dialogue between the conscious mind and the unconscious mind, or the repair and restructuring of the brain.

We read in the the Torah not only that Jacob sets out “**וּצֵא**” but also that he leaves the waking world to the strange universe of the dream: “Jacob left Beer-sheba, and set out for Haran. He came upon a certain place and stopped there for the night, for the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of that place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. He had a dream; a stairway was set on the ground and its top reached to the sky, and messengers of God were going up and down on it. And standing beside him was **יְהוָה**, who said, “I am **יְהוָה**, the God of your father Abraham’s [house] and the God of Isaac’s [house]: the ground on which you are lying I will assign to you and to your offspring (Genesis 28:10, ff.).”

What I want to draw your attention to is the notion of an anchor between the world of the living and conscious and the strange world of dreams—so strange is it that it materializes for Jacob as one in which Gd Gdself appears with a body (!)—notice the stone. Jacob consciously takes a stone to place under his head. Jacob does this to have a point of contact between the old and the new.

One of the things that happens to people when they set about to transform themselves is that they go forth, as our tradition advises, to somewhere new, toward an aspiration or a hope. As the kids from Hebrew School can tell you from our learning this week, at the center of the Hebrew word for hope, **תִּקְוָה**, is the word for a “straight line” that you draw from where you want to be where to need to go as you go forth, and that word is **קו**. But in placing the stone between his dream and his waking life, Jacob maintains a point of connection between the very spot and substance where he lays his head to rest and the location and material where he opened his eyes in the world of the dream. He did not draw a line, but rather chose a point of integrity that was unchanged between the beginning and the end of his journey.

And that is the message with which I want to leave you tonight. To succeed in self-transformation, in going forth from not only where but also from who and what you are, you must lay that stone for yourself. You can’t obliterate the self, abnegate the way Gd made you as a unique individual in the world. You carry with you those best and most unique parts of yourself.

Just as the stone of the waking world was the stone of the dreaming world, so too was Jacob himself the same set of attributes, weaknesses, and strengths in the dream world where he met Gd and was transformed as he was in his waking, physical self. So too must you be when you set out to change and grow, as we all must. Do not draw a line and cast yourself away; hold on to the stone of your integrity and go forth to the new, with the truth that who and what you are was already enough and beautiful.

Yahrzeit Observances

January 3

Gary Maddox
Bessie Betty Kraut
Sanford "Sandy" Halprin Daniel
Mattie Greenfield
Gertrude C. Baer
Joseph Harrison Sikora, Jr.
Ira Cossin
Dora Cohen
Frieda I. Berk

January 10

Fannie F. Meyers
Jacob Mordecai Pitlick
Bessie Pitlick
Michelle Bushman Williams
David Yudeles
Ada Berman Daniel
Fannie Polis
Katherine Chambers
Thelma Wexler Nomberg

January 17

Aaron Samuel Pollock
Dove L. Smith
Isidore Nomberg
Jean Birnberg
Leo Silverfield
Lillian Rosen
Faye Rainbow
Saul Klar
Charles Bernard Daniel

January 24

Isabel Shapera Marblestone
Samuel Allen Behrman
Rose T. Katz
Florence Blumenfeld Angel
Rebecca Kraselsky Kline
Lonnie Williams, Jr.
Ida Cohen Schwartz
Israel Rimson
Zippra Chava Schreiber

January 31

Joel E. Schaffer
Steve Perry
Edwina Schmidtke

May the beauty of their lives shine forever, and may we always bring honor to their memories."

SIMCHAT SHABBAT

JANUARY 2025

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

02 - CANTOR NEIL SCHWARTZ
03 - SUSAN FRUMIN
15 - BILL BARNES
24 - ABBY ANDERSON
28 - HELEN LIFLAND
28 - DAVID BRION
29 - JAY SOLOMON
29 - DR. STEFAN ZWEIG
29 - EMILY ARENSON
29 - CHARNENE BLAISDELL

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

25 - LEIGH & DR. JEFF WILLENS

SIMCHAT SHABBAT IS TYPICALLY CELEBRATED ON THE FOURTH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.

MI SHEBERACH

A PRAYER FOR THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING

EDA FELDMAN
PETER FELDMAN
SARA LOZANO
GILBERT LOZANO
MIKE STUFFEL
KATHY STOUT
JINIESE CRAWFORD
MARCUS WOODWORTH
ADAM JETTER
JUDY ANN DEAL
DEAN MITCHELL
GABE TUFANO
PHILLIP RAY

JANE YECHeli
JOE RUGGIERO
EDDA BECK-GILMORE
ERIC GILMORE
REGINA STEVENS
BEVERLY BUGDA
ALLEN MANNING
PAT GLAZER
DOTTIE BROWN
DEBRA SANSONE
BERYL COSSIN
LISA HOLLAND
ROBERTA MARBLESTONE

STEPHEN HOLLAND
LENARD CARROLL
PATRICIA FRANCIS
KELLI PETERSON
ROSE CANIGLIA
STEPHANIE OWENS
JANICE STEFFEN

TEMPLE EMANU-EL TZEDEKAH, MITZVAHS & MAZELS

TEMPLE EMANU-EL GENERAL FUND

Gary Wakstein
Yahrzeit of Irving Wakstein

Dianna Sue Bryant

Cindy & Hayne Hollis
In honor of Laura & Larry Blumberg

CEMETERY FUND

Beth, Steven Schaffer
Yahrzeits of Nathan Schaffer,
Dr. B. David Polis



Happy Hanukkah

Menorah Lighting Ceremony



Thursday | December 26, 2024 | 6:00PM

Location: Dothan City Hall Inside Dothan Civic Center
126 N Saint Andrews Street Dothan, AL 36303

Please join us, along with Dothan City Mayor
Mark Saliba and other City Officials, to
celebrate Hanukkah with Temple Emanu-El.

Due to security policies, please leave bags and purses at home or in
your vehicle.



TEMPLE EMANU-EL
Dothan, Alabama





THE FIRST EVER GRAND MENORAH LIGHTING

AT THE ALABAMA STATE CAPITOL

600 Dexter Ave, Montgomery, AL 36104

SUNDAY, DEC. 29


Festivities 2:30 PM Menorah Lighting 3:30 PM



CHANUKAH
CELEBRATION



GRAND
DREIDEL
GAME



FUN
CHANUKAH
CRAFTS



FREE ADMISSION

For more information email

ChabadOnWheelsAL@gmail.com

HAPPY Chanukat

As Jews we are called to repair the world,
tikkun olam.

We are in a season of giving, celebrating the miracle of
the oil, and spreading light throughout our community.

Tempe Emanu-El Religious School is collecting much
needed supplies for Tails and Whiskers a local foster
based cat rescue! Donations will be accepted through
Jan 2, 2025.



PURINA CAT
CHOW NATURALS



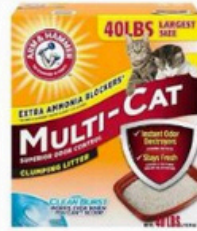
PURINA KITTEN
CHOW NATURALS



SHEBA KITTEN
PATÉ



FRESH STEP
CLUMPING LITTER



ARM & HAMMER
CLUMPING LITTER



FANCY FEAST
KITTEN PATÉ

Tails and Whiskers is based in
Enterprise, AL.

They provides a safe, loving,
and home environment for cats
and kittens in need of a furever
home.

< 2025 >

January



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|--|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | <i>MORNING⁴ SERVICES</i> 9:30AM <i>TORAH STUDY</i> 10:30AM <i>SHABBAT SERVICES</i> 7PM |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | | | | | <i>CHANTING SERVICES</i> 6:15PM <i>SHABBAT SERVICES</i> 7PM | <i>TORAH STUDY</i> 10:30AM |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | | | | | <i>SHABBAT SERVICES</i> 7PM | <i>TORAH STUDY</i> 10:30AM |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| | | | | | <i>CHANTING SERVICES</i> 6:15PM <i>SHABBAT SERVICES</i> 7PM | <i>TORAH STUDY</i> 10:30AM <i>ART AUCTION</i> 6:30PM |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
| <i>INT'L HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY</i> | | | | | <i>SHABBAT SERVICES</i> 7PM | |

TEMPLE EMANU-EL LEADERSHIP 2024-2025



BOARD OFFICERS

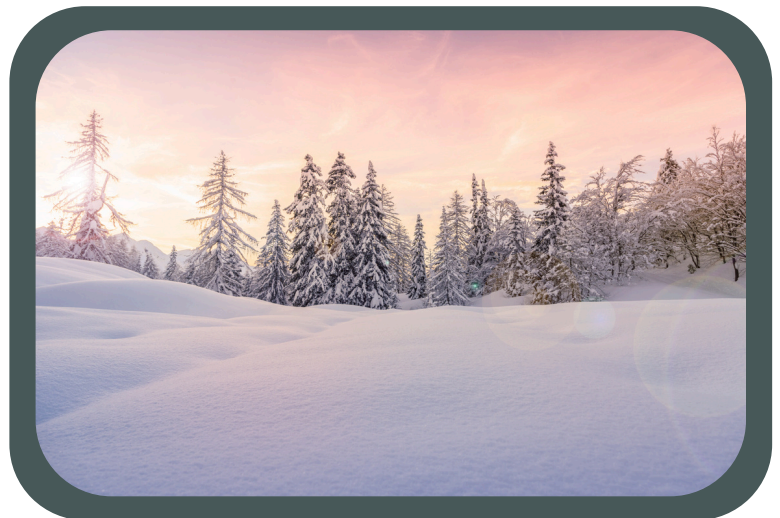
| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| PRESIDENT | STEPHEN HOLLAND (334) 797-0134 |
| VICE PRESIDENT | LARRY PADRO |
| TREASURER | LARRY BLUMBERG |
| SECRETARY | JOSHUA LESSIN |

CLERGY

| | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| RABBI | JONATHAN LEE JACKSON (781) 206-7939 |
|-------|-------------------------------------|

BOARD TRUSTEES & LIAISONS

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| BOB BARBER | SUSAN S. BLUMBERG |
| LES KRAUT | BILL MILLER |
| IRA SUKOFF | BARBARA MINSKY, PH.D. |
| DR. STEFAN ZWEIG | LUCIA SUKOFF |
| PAMELA ROSS | |



TEMPLE OFFICE INFORMATION

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30am-12:30 pm
Secretary: Susan Griffin
(334) 792-5001

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dothansynagogue.org