



EAST MIDWOOD JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN

*THEY SHALL BUILD ME A SANCTUARY
AND I SHALL DWELL AMONG THEM*

1625 Ocean Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11230
718.338.3800
www.emjc.org

VOLUME XXIV, Issue 5

July/August 2014
Tamuz/Av/Elul 5774

A Year End Report from our Presidents

Toby Sanchez

Randy Grossman and I have been exceedingly busy since becoming co-Presidents on May 21, 2013. Our main goal has been to keep East Midwood financially strong so that it will be here to transmit Jewish traditions to the next generation. Therefore, we have tried to open the building to the larger community and publicize our activities widely so that people know what we have to offer. We focused on the following items during the past year:

Credit Cards: Thanks to Stephanie Kaner, we quickly introduced credit cards (Discover, Visa and Master Card) and time payments to make it easier to pay for Shabbat dinners, dues, donations and other things.

Rental Income: We increased the income from all our renters and obtained new ones. For the first time we are earning real income from the pool, the gym, classes, and concerts. We will add new educational offerings in the fall. All kinds of people now come into our building every single day, get our emails and look at our fliers. More and more people are getting to know East Midwood Jewish Center as an interesting and welcoming place for people of all ages, especially those with children.

Website & Facebook: Among the accomplishments of the year were the new look and appeal of our website and Facebook page by Stephanie Luxenberg and Alyssa Katz, with updating help from Gabriel Pariente.

Family Events: Thanks to Cantor Sam Levine and Educational Director Audrey Korelstein, our monthly Shabbat-a-BimBom events attract an ever increasing attendance (as many as 90 people at a time) and the new Bagels, Lox & Talk (BLT) Sunday get togethers for parents and children, created by Dr. Lois Jackson and Audrey, are also very popular. We now have a bi-monthly Shabbat service for young children in the Dr. Fersko room, thanks to the efforts of Becky Phillips & Dan Wilkins, Courtney Walsh, Murray Lantner & Moran Ben Shaul, Naomi Mantuano, and Tziona Royzman.

Communication with Members & Friends: The weekly blasts, created at the suggestion of Michael Marcus, report the events of the past week and announce the plans for the coming weeks.

The results of these efforts and others can be seen in the increased attendance at religious services and concerts, the wider use of the pool and gym by outsiders, the attendance at new classes, and the generally warm and friendly atmosphere. Rents and donations are larger than last year and we have some new, younger members.

Capital Improvements: We worked hard to make the building more attractive. Unfortunately, we never know when something in this 90 year-old building will break. Then we have to decide, with the aid of the House Committee and Anderson Waithe, whether to do what will probably turn out to be only a temporary repair or go for a thorough upgrade. For example, during the past year the elevator repairman was here every few weeks, at a total cost of \$20,000. Obviously, it was time to stop wasting money and fix the real problems. The total cost was \$60,000, but thanks to our campaign for donations, we have raised \$33,000 and hope to raise more.

Then, right before the summer camps were scheduled to start (which is a major source of income for us) the pool filters failed and had to be replaced. This new system will ensure that we can continue to rent the pool to the camps, as well as have evening swims for members and others.

We received a \$10,000 gift from Sisterhood for the renovation of the Regency Room with an urgent appeal to put it to work quickly. The Regency Room has been a shabby embarrassment for years, and has prevented us from earning income from it and the Grand Ballroom and from attracting caterers.

(continued on page 3)

MORNING SERVICES

Sundays & Legal Holidays	8:00am
Mondays – Fridays	7:30am
Saturdays	7:30am & 9:00am

EVENING SERVICES

Sundays – Thursdays	7:30pm
Fridays	6:30pm
Saturday	
Jul 5, 12, 19 & 26	8:15pm
Aug 2 & 9	8:00pm
Aug 16 & 23	7:45pm
Aug 30	7:30pm

TISHA B'AV SERVICES

Mon, Aug 4	
Mincha/Maariv	8:00pm
Tues, Aug 5	7:30am
Mincha & Lamentations	1:30pm
Maariv	7:30pm

ROSH HASHANAH

Thursday, September 25th
Friday, September 26th

YOM KIPPUR

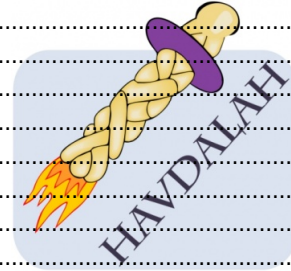
Saturday, October 4th

CANDLE LIGHTING

Jul 4	8:12pm
Jul 11	8:10pm
Jul 18	8:06pm
Jul 25	8:01pm
Aug 1	7:54pm
Aug 8	7:46pm
Aug 15	7:37pm
Aug 22	7:27pm
Aug 29	7:16pm

SHABBAT ENDS

Jul 5	9:20pm
Jul 12	9:17pm
Jul 19	9:12pm
Jul 26	9:05pm
Aug 2	8:57pm
Aug 9	8:47pm
Aug 16	8:37pm
Aug 23	8:26pm
Aug 30	8:15pm



EMJC OFFICE CLOSED

Fri, Jul 4 Independence Day
Mon, Sep 1 Labor Day

INTRODUCING RABBI MATT CARL



Our new rabbi, Matt Carl, was born and raised in Long Beach, California, graduated from Vassar College with Honors in 2000, majoring in religion and minoring in environmental geography, and from the Jewish Theological Seminary and Machon Schechter in 2008, where he specialized in Talmud and Rabbinics. While at JTS he trained as a chaplain at Sloan Kettering Medical Center. For several years he was the day-to-day rabbi for 150 families at Congregation Mount Sinai, creating programs for the younger generation and unaffiliated Jews. He co-founded the Brooklyn United Jewish High School Program with several other local synagogue educators and created the Brooklyn Bridge Community Supported Agriculture program, which to this day is Mount Sinai's most popular program. He served as rabbi of Battery Park Synagogue, a part time position, and also as Director of Community Engagement at Hazon. These are just some of his prior experiences.

What do people say about him? One of his former employers said his strengths are a very good work ethic, intellectual curiosity, his ability to work well with others and with all kinds of people. Another employer said he appeals to young audiences, is easygoing and casual, friendly, approachable, socially and environmentally conscious. Other people said he works wonderfully with children and is fun loving and an easy person to be with. Our long time and very active member Sally Hipscher said, "Matt Carl showed up two days after Hurricane Sandy with a group of 20-30 year olds to help muck out the basement of my friend's Brighton Beach home. We all worked for six hours, cleaning it out, carrying out mud and bailing out this soaking wet basement. I didn't know who he was or that he was a rabbi until at least three hours into the work when someone called him Rabbi."

A Message from our President...

(continued from page 1)

Capital Improvements (continued): The Grand Ballroom is elegant and formal, so after studying the website of various new, popular event spaces, we decided that the Regency Room had to have a more modern look, adaptable to any sort of décor, chosen by the bride or celebrants. We received bids from six contractors, checking their references and past experience, and decided to engage a man who has renovated many of the beautiful Victorian houses in Ditmas Park. His bid was lower than the others (who averaged \$60,000 to \$70,000, not counting the floor). However, as anyone who has ever renovated any room in their house, the formal bid means little as unforeseen problems arise and costs inevitably escalate. After removal of the torn and dirty wallpaper, we found six hidden windows, crumbling walls, rotten floors and dangerous electrical wires. It took 80 pieces of sheet rock and 22 vats (1,350 lbs.) of joint compound to cover the walls, which then had to be prepared for painting. Electrical lines were upgraded and a few new lines installed. We added 47 new light fixtures. New molding was created for the windows and wainscoting was installed on all the walls and around the bar. The floor behind the bar was rebuilt and new shelves installed. The original maple floor was patched in two sections, the floor was then sanded four times and received several coats of polyurethane. The job began in January and was not completed until late March at a cost of \$90,000. All the work and the purchasing decisions were carefully supervised throughout by Audrey Korelstein. Obviously, this was not a simple repainting job or putting up a few panels of wallpaper on top of old. Thanks to a generous donor, we will advertise both beautiful ballrooms and the sanctuary on Wedding Wire, a popular wedding site, used by Grand Prospect Hall, the Picnic House in Prospect Park and the Palm House of the Botanic Garden, and others.




Our New, Full Time Rabbi: Last (only because it is the most recent accomplishment) is the hiring of Rabbi Matt Carl, who began his work on July 1. This was the culmination of a process that began in early 2013 with a Search Committee chaired by Michael Sucher and Larry Isaacson, and completed by a new Search Committee, created in the fall of 2013 and chaired by Steve Appell. The Committee reviewed 16 resumes, conducted numerous interviews in person, by telephone and by Skype and hosted 5 candidates for weekend visits. We selected Rabbi Carl, because of his past experience, his wide range of interests and his contacts in many Brooklyn communities. Working with him, Sam and Audrey, we hope to attract the many people in this area and elsewhere who have not yet discovered us. We are looking for families with young children, college age people and recent graduates, singles, Russian and Israeli families.

A word about demographics. The pessimists say that no matter what we do, the demographics are against us, as this is an overwhelmingly Orthodox neighborhood. That is not the whole story. According to the most recent detailed population study by the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, there are 108,000 Jews in the Flatbush, Midwood, and Kensington areas, 58% of whom are Orthodox, but 42% are not. Just south of us in Kings Bay and Madison, there are 29,000 Jewish people, 1/3 are Orthodox, 2/3 are not. In Coney Island/Brighton/Sheepshead Bay, there are 56,000 Jews, only 13% of whom are Orthodox.


This is a total of 113,510 non-Orthodox Jews, who reported that they feel very attached to Judaism and want to know more about it. These are people that we can attract, if we let them know that we are here, ready to help them enter into a vibrant Jewish community. East Midwood is not destined to merely limp along, but can grow and thrive. **It is up to all of us to make it happen.**

**EAST MIDWOOD
JEWISH CENTER**

**90TH
Annual
Journal
Dinner
Dance**



*honoring
Rabbi Dr. Alvin Kass*



Sunday, June 8, 2014

A journal honoring Rabbi Kass may be viewed on our website
emjc.org



Photos by Jess Wolk (For these pictures and more visit her website – jesswolk.com)

Report On EMJC's Classes In 2013-2014

During 2013-2014 our Adult Institute offered both intellectual and physical education classes, food for the mind and for the body. Rabbi Kass presented 6 lectures on "The Search for a Viable 21st Century Theology" and Cantor Sam Levine taught a weekly class on the Book of Genesis, as interpreted by Rashi. There were a few Kibbitz with the Cantor get together at the home of Anne Binder, and Goldie Knoebel taught a weekly Hebrew language class. Sally Hipscher continued her weekly **Shvitzing with Sally** classes, tailoring the exercises and movements to the strength level of each student.

We introduced several new classes in March, all of which will resume in the fall.

Ulpan Hebrew classes with Moran Ben Shaul, who previously taught Ulpan for beginners, intermediates and advanced Hebrew speakers at the Park Slope Jewish Center, Young Israel of Flatbush, UJA, the Manhattan Jewish Experience. Here at EMJC her students have learned the alphabet, numbers, colors, times of day and basic conversational phrases. The students do homework and get emails from her regularly in both Hebrew and English. Each class starts off with students conversing with each other about what they did during the past week and then moves into the lesson of the day. Moran also led **Yoga** classes. She is a certified yoga instructor and has been teaching yoga for last seven years to adults and children of all ages. She studied yoga in Israel, India and the U.S. No special qualification or level of physical fitness is required to take her classes, as classes are personalized to suit each person's level. They do stretches, twists, standing poses, floor work, back bends and much else to strengthen the body and increase flexibility.



Lifeguard Training was taught by Batsheva Kohn, who is certified by the Red Cross and the American Heart Association to teach CPR, first aid and lifeguarding techniques and has been a water safety instructor for over 30 years. Since November of 2013, she has trained 50 new lifeguards, all of high school age. Batsheva is a very young grandmother, who does 100 laps daily in summer. During the rest of the year she is busy teaching others. Her EMJC classes, for girls only were held on week nights and late Saturday evenings. She is available to teach co-ed classes, as well.

Summer Greetings from Your EMJC Social Worker ...

Summer greetings everyone. I am Shira Felberbaum, a social worker from The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services (JBFCs) available to your community through a grant from UJA Federation of New York called Partners in Caring (PIC).

As your PIC social worker, I am able to meet with you individually to offer short-term supportive counseling around a host of matters including loss and bereavement, coping with illness, caregiving challenges, and advance directives. I am also able to refer you to other resources in the community that may be able to provide you with ongoing support.



Over this past year I was privileged to connect individually with a number of you and also to partner with EMJC professionals and lay leaders to develop and deliver an array of community-wide programs. Cantor Sam Levine, Education Director Audrey Korelstein, and I along with support from Co-presidents Toby Sanchez and Randy Grossman, held a number of programs that were open to the community, many of which we intend on delivering again to the community this coming year. Below are some of the highlights:

Shabbat Honoring Caregivers We created a space designed to honor those who act as formal and informal caregivers. We used music, text study, and discussion as mediums for conveying the aspects entailed in caregiving including the significance of self-care.

Holiday Series for Bereaved Jews We held a series of three gatherings at the times of Sukkot, Passover, and Chanukah each of which focused on drawing upon the themes unique to the holidays as a way to remember, honor, and celebrate the lives of our deceased loved ones.

Healing Service We brought together clergy and congregants from several synagogues in Brooklyn to draw comfort through the recitation of poems and prayer, the singing of songs, and the participation in meditation and storytelling. Healing was intended to be from pain, stress, illness, and grief.

As we begin to plan for the coming year, I want to say that I welcome ideas from you as to what other programs would be of value to you and your loved ones at EMJC. You can reach me by either calling me at (212) 632-4735 or by emailing me at sfelberbaum@jbfc.org.



Amid some big changes at EMJC this past year, Room J consistently provided many engaging opportunities for kids and families. I'm pleased to share some of the highlights here.

Our Sunday/Tuesday class, composed of middle-school aged kids, met 57 times from September to May. The students continued with their work on learning prayer, developing *siddur* skills, reading stories in Modern Hebrew, discussing Torah, and contemplating Jewish ideas. We completed the year with two extra projects. The first was a read-aloud of the biographical novel, *Yellow Star*, by Jennifer Roy. It is written in the voice of a child who is living in the Lodz ghetto during WWII. The book gave us a powerful way to learn about the Holocaust and the war, and every student brought mature thoughtfulness to our conversation about the horrors of that time. The other project, "Hineni: a Collage Portrait" encouraged the students to create an art-based representation of their identities as young Jewish Brooklynites.

This Sunday/Tuesday group is composed of a wonderful group of kids. They've been together a long time and their bonds are very close. Two of the kids—Julian Bauman and Jakob Grossman—became bar mitzvah this year. Three more students will be called to the Torah over the next 15 months. It's been exciting to watch them develop as young Jews and to form strong connections with them and their families. Tremendous thanks go to our two associate teachers, Jesse Schechtman and Daniela Cohen, who have helped teach these students (and others) so much. This year, especially, the blend of personalities created an outstanding community of learners. Kol HaKavod!



There is a new group of very young kids who started coming to Room J on Sunday mornings for an introduction to the Jewish holidays, the *Aleph Bet*, and Jewish culture. Soon after becoming EMJC presidents last summer, Toby Sanchez and Randy Grossman made it clear that they valued the work of Room J; their intention to support the space was a vital pre-requisite for moving forward with plans to offer a new class. These Little Learners – ranging from ages 4 to 8 – came together on 27 Sundays. Younger kids first joined with older kids for morning prayer, and then students broke off into their own learning groups. While Jesse and Daniela guided the older kids, I continued with the younger kids. Their favorite part was likely the time they spent at the art table (doing activities such as drawing a Shema picture after learning about the prayer). My favorite part was challenging them with "Big Questions for Little Kids." Their questions and answers about topics such as the purpose of rules (inspired by the 10 Commandments), or the challenges of leaving one's home (while studying the story of Exodus) were thoughtful, often hilarious, and surely harbingers of terrific learning in the years ahead.

So where did the kids in Little Learners come from? This is an important question. Some kids came from families who had been participating in other family programming (Shabbat-a-BimBom, Saturday morning's parent-led Shabbat Katan, parent/child aquatics), and others learned about us from word of mouth, via other parents. It's deeply satisfying that we could offer all these families a new program to meet the learning needs of their children.

Credit also goes to our always-improving EMJC website. For years, prior to its redesign, you could search high and low on the website and find no mention of a congregational school at EMJC, nor any information about youth and family activities. By ignoring the internet as the single most important way people search for information, EMJC remained way behind for far too long. But those days are gone! We've begun to reap the benefits of EMJC's use of social media. Our primary website rescuers came in the form of two EMJC parents, Alyssa Katz and Stephanie Luxenberg. As social media mavens, volunteers Alyssa and Stephanie have also developed a proper Facebook page for



EMJC. The ability to post content about youth and family activities – as well as all EMJC events – has greatly extended the reach of our center. We still have a way to go, but enormous strides have been made. Be sure to thank Alyssa and Stephanie when you cross paths. They've been generous volunteers for these, as well as other, activities. Other parents are also picking up EMJC content that appears on the website or Facebook, and reposting it on parenting and/or Jewish websites or listservs. Courtney Walsh has been especially diligent about this, and our hearty thanks go to her, as well as to Becky Phillips, Moran Ben-Shaul, and Rachelle Grossman. (I'm sure I'm leaving key folks out...sorry!)

Weekly classes have been complemented by informal programming. Following Room J's mission to foster joyful connections to Judaism, we offered a range of opportunities for family experiences:



There were 9 monthly Shabbat-a-BimBoms. One Friday evening a month, from October to June, we had a rip-roaring time welcoming in Shabbat. Cantor Levine treated us to fun services and, with the outstanding, essential, and forever appreciated help of Sally Hipscher, we followed with some made-at-EMJC-home-cooking. Typically, services happened in Ohel Katan (the room across from Room J), but you may have noticed our lively group holding a Friday evening service in the lobby a couple of weeks ago, when 90 of us wrapped up a year of BimBom with a bbq in the courtyard.

Pitching in is part of the deal at our BimBom events, and I especially want to thank Naomi and Steve Lehrer, Moran Ben-Shaul, Murray Lantner, Alissa and Marshall Levine, Alex Petraru, Alex Trakhtman, Galina Zbarskaya, Adrienne Scholtz, Eldad Yaron, Stephanie Luxenberg, Dan Migden, Ronnie Kippel, Connie Duval, Courtney Walsh, Mike Hipscher, and everyone else who cleared tables, washed dishes, attended to the garbage, and took care of the kids. I confess I'm frequently overwhelmed by warm feelings of extended-familyness (a word that fuses family and happiness?) at these wonderful gatherings, especially when it's time to bless the large group of children. Building BimBom with Cantor Levine has been a gratifying collaboration, and when the moment of blessing the kids takes place – when I see the hands of moms, dads, grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts, and uncles placed on the heads of the children in their families – it always serves as a powerful visual reminder about how terrific the partnership between Sam and me has been. And when we get to welcome new babies -- Shaia, Ryan, and Javi! – well, that's some serious joy.

Other Jewish holidays also brought in lots of people. From the High Holy Days in the fall, to the erev Shavuot party in early June, we invited kids and their families to celebrate, learn, reflect, give thanks, and leave EMJC a bit more linked to Judaism and Jewish living. Kids decorated the sukkah, lit Hanukkah candles, did yoga that honored trees (thanks, Moran!), designed Purim masks, debated the taste of matzah, and ate way too much ice cream in appreciation of receiving the Torah.



Of the many holiday programs we offered, I'm especially pleased by the alternative New Year service that Cantor Levine and I created. This was a service designed to present the core ideas of the high holidays through accessible language, and to remove any barriers that can make sitting in a traditional service a challenge. There was heartfelt feedback from so many people who attended, and it gave me great satisfaction that we had touched people in deep, personal ways. A legally blind woman was (finally!) able to make out the words and images in our extra-large size type. One family's thanks drew from how much they appreciated a way to celebrate the New Year in a setting that offered easy-to-follow explanations and engaged all members of their family. I saw other people tearing up during Cantor Levine's singing of an alternative recasting of *Avinu Malkenu*. Holy cow! It was all quite wonderful for so many reasons, including the gift of support from many people in our community. (Ben Lapidus, Teresita Levy, Joseph Pariente, Sally Hipscher, Lois Jackson, Rachelle Grossman, Rebecca Grossman, Julia Sanua—thank you all!) Our intention is to make this all-ages, inclusive service a regular part of EMJC's High Holy Days services and we already scheduled it this year for Sunday, September 28. Please join us.



It doesn't have to be a holiday for something special to be happening in Room J. Once Sunday a month, we threw open our doors for Bagels, Lox, & Talk (Served with a Side of Entertainment). This new program was developed with an eye toward forming connections with our larger Midwood community. We welcomed friends and neighbors to a casual meet-up anchored by a children's entertainer. Kids enjoyed face painting, balloon art, magic, music, story, or puppetry, and gave parents the opportunity to meet other parents with young kids. BLT focused on strengthening our ties to our neighborhood and letting people know about the range of Jewish and non-Jewish activities offered at EMJC. From the feedback parents shared with me, this pilot program was well-received and helped reduce some of the "outsider mystery" about our enormous building. Its success wouldn't have been possible without a lot of helpers. Thanks go to all the grown-ups who cheerfully rolled up their sleeves to help

cut bagels and vegetables, lay out brunch, clean up, and act as EMJC ambassadors. Teri and Howie Cohen, Alissa and Marshall Levine, Dena and Andrew Levinson, Moran Ben-Shaul, Murray Lantner, Pamela Koplik, Alex Trakhtman, Galina Zbarskaya, Shelley Braff, Stephanie Luxenberg—I'm talking about you! Lois Jackson, I'm certainly talking about you! And to anyone I forgot, please accept my unintentional oversight.

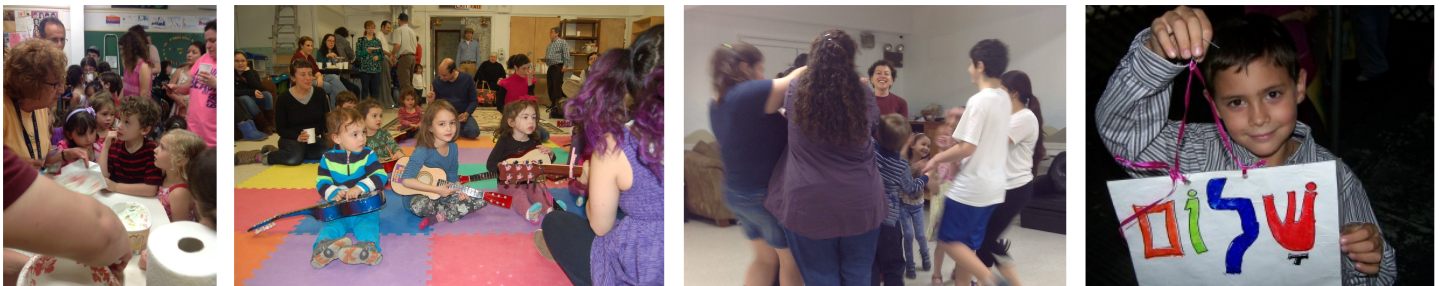
Another group of programs gave me the opportunity to work on addressing adult needs. Throughout the year, Cantor Levine, Social Worker Shira Felberbaum, and I spent much time together to create a series of programs that addressed illness and bereavement and the issues that can emerge when people experience these struggles. I thought our trio's partnership was superb. We created an activity-full Caregiver Shabbat Weekend and invited people to three bereavement workshops coinciding with Sukkot, Hanukkah, and Passover. We completed the year with another new event for EMJC, a community-wide Service for Healing that was attended by over 40 people. With the help of special guests (Rabbi Shlomo Segal, Rabbi Regina Sandler-Phillips, Cantor Lisa B. Segal, Arthur Strimling, Dror Shahaf, Rachelle Grossman and Rebecca Grossman) we were able to create an extraordinary evening full of music, poetry, prayer, and meditation.

If you count it up, that's a lot of programming! And, most significantly, it's programming that stays true to a vision of vibrant Jewish life at EMJC. I've also been busy with all kinds of other activities at EMJC as well, including overseeing parent/child aquatics, helping with the renovation of different areas of the building, and creating many of the posters, flyers, and other visual materials displayed around the building. There's a lot of variety in what I do at EMJC and there's always something to do. As ever, I invite everyone to Room J to see the space, share in an activity, and most importantly, chat with families about what brings them to East Midwood and downstairs. We are all ambassadors for EMJC.

And now it's summer! Last summer's opportunity to work as the website educator for George Clooney's film, *The Monuments Men* was great fun. It's always a privilege to create curricula about Jewish issues for larger (and largely not-Jewish) audiences and I take that charge very seriously. On the chance he calls again, I'm available (according to my contact at Sony Pictures, Mr. Clooney likes my work). In the meanwhile, my summer plans are to continue to focus on the renewal of EMJC, and to work closely with Cantor Levine, and now, with Rabbi Carl. As I said, there's always something to do here. I wish everyone a restorative and happy summer!

Audrey Korelstein

Director of Youth & Family Education



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Rise & Shiner: [] \$72 [] \$18					
Other (Please specify amount of donation): _____					
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Exp. Date Card Code: </div>				<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> </div>	
CREDIT/DEBIT CARD DONATION MAY ALSO BE MADE ON OUR WEBSITE, WWW.EMJC.ORG					



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Joseph & Rochelle Benezra
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Dr. Howard & Joanne Honigman
Ben & Teresita Lapidus
Michael & Rita Paris
Seymour & Beverly Sheren
Lester & Florence Yudenfriend

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Andrew & Faith Chertoff
Kenneth & Sally Frishberg
Robert & Barbara Fromowitz
Judge Michael Gerstein & Dr. Lois Jackson
Randy & Rachelle Grossman
Max & Gina Gurvitch
Frank & Sandra Jacobowitz
Rabbi Alvin & Mlryom Kass
Jay & Amy Nitzky
Mitchell & Debbie Schechtman
Martin & Blossom Shelton

IN THE MONTH OF JULY TO

Elaine Adelin
Anne Brandstein
Alice Brezak
Faith Chertoff
Sidney Friedfertig
Stephen Friedland
Ehud Hazan
Sharon Heiden-Johnson
Joanne Honigman
Jon Jacobs
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Leonard Susseles
Adrienne Traktman
Lester Yudenfriend

IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST TO

Marcia Adler
Samuel Ainbinder
Goldie Arrow
Aliza Avital
Rochelle Benezra
Dr. Harry Berkowitz
Harvey Berkowsky
Helen Ezrick
Reva Friedman
Riva Gilman
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Galina Zbarskaya



WELCOME

to our newest members, ELLIOT & MARSHA SOLOMON
& to returning members, MATTHEW & TINA WELLS

A Reluctant Goodbye to David and Ora Goldman, Ayelet and Shaia.

The Goldman family is moving to Montclair, New Jersey, but they wrote a wonderful letter about EMJC, which they have given us permission to share with you:

"The warmth and generosity exhibited by the EMJC congregation and community over these past three years has made this decision (to buy a house in NJ, rather than continue renting in Brooklyn) all the more difficult. It is truly the most welcoming community of which I've ever been a part. Ora commented just a few weeks ago how comforting it is to know that we would have 20 pairs of arms offering to hold Shaia if we needed to take Ayelet out of services.

We love partaking in many of the aspects of Jewish life at EMJC, from the pool to services to the lecture series. It's a vibrant community and I'm convinced that even brighter days still lie ahead of it.

So it's with great sadness that I must resign my positions on the board, the rabbi search committee and the ritual committee I thank you so much for the opportunity to serve, and I very much enjoyed playing a small but hopefully meaningful part in steering the direction of the synagogue. I'm disappointed that I won't be able to see the fruits of the labor first hand, but I also know EMJC is in very very good hands."

All the best,
David

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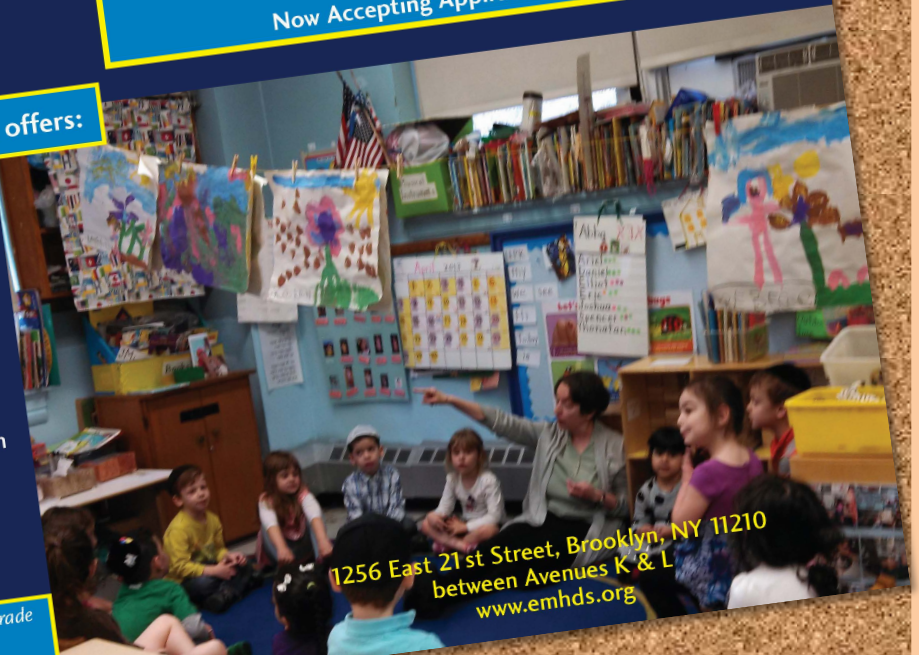
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June 27, 2014

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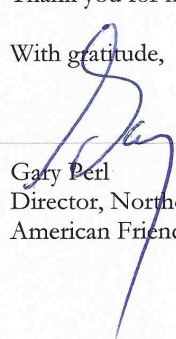
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I want to extend my appreciation and many thanks to my EMJC family for the many get well cards, telephone calls, and concern during my recovery from my eye surgery.

Thanks,
Reva Friedman

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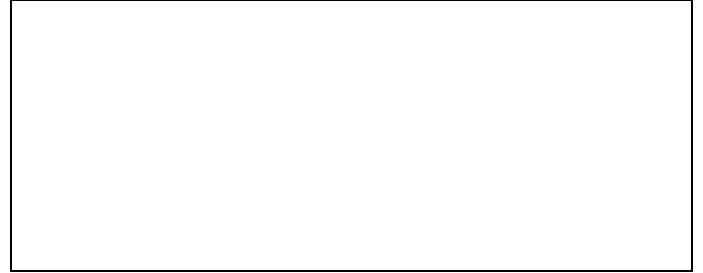


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