

TEMPLE TIMES

Announcements

Most Kabbalat Shabbat Services are on **Friday nights at 7 pm.** Be sure to check weekly email for updates.

Seeking mensches to host **Onegs** or **Shabbat dinners** so we can nosh and kibitz with Cantor Jaffe! Please contact Stephanie Shine at stephanie.shine@ttu.edu if you would like to be a host!



| Lubbock, Texas |



Rabbinic Student Alex Loundy's Final Sermon

Friday mornings in Jerusalem are like waiting for a flight. There's a sense of anticipation in the air. A mixed multitude of people are out running errands with a frantic energy, laying in provisions before the shops close for Shabbat. Already you can feel a vibration, as the engines spool up and people are both hurrying and waiting before the gates open and close.

It is amidst this thrum of noise and movement that I would practice my pre-shabbat ritual: Seated in a cafe with an americano and a cinnamon roll, I would listen to Professor Richard Elliot Friedman's course on the Hebrew Bible.

And one particular morning, he asked the question: If you could only bring one verse of Torah with you to a desert island, what would you bring? My thoughts raced to Genesis. I thought of God sparing Hagar and Ishmael in the desert with a well of water, and how useful a similar well might be on a desert island. I thought of Abraham's profound challenge to God, pleading that the judge of all the earth deal justly with the innocents in Sodom and Gomorrah. I thought of Jacob wrestling, Joseph dreaming: the profound family history of our tradition.

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UPCOMING YAHREZITS



June Yahrzeits

- 2 Sidney Feinberg
David Koppel
- 3 Phoebe (Phega) Cohen
- 4 Fannie Kirschner
Allen Cohen
- 5 A. Bender
- 7 Esther Raben Houstman
- 9 Sally Chartoff
- 10 Joseph Stool
- 11 Jerry Jarrett
Roselyn L. Lubell
- 12 16 Sivan Bertha Skibell
- 13 Charles Bellin
- 14 Ruth Curzer
William A Rothstein
- 15 Iverson "Jack" Shiver
- 16 Nellie M Jarrett
- 17 Josephine Blumrosen
Karl Lowell Richey
Keri Richey
- 18 Joe Wolfe
- 19 Moritz (Moises) Spielman
- 20 Marilyn Joyce Fried
- 21 Abraham Stettner
Jerry Kirschner
- 22 Isaac Arker
26 Sivan Rebecca Miller
- 23 Lisa Wagner
- 24 Bernard (Berny) A. Barasch
Barney Specter
28 Sivan Harold Winer
- 25 Harry Mogill
Henry J. Shine
- 27 1 Tammuz Lini Schloss
- 28 Rose Eskin
Lou Wolfson
Sammy Ray Chaney
2 Tammuz Sarah Koslosky
- 29 Sam Kirschner
3 Tammuz Archie Skibell

Donations

Donations may be sent to:
Congregation Shaareth Israel
P.O. Box 93594
Lubbock, Texas 79493-3594

Rejuvenation Fund:

Thank you very much to all who have generously donated to the Rejuvenation Project - a more complete list will appear in the August bulletin!

A special shout out to those who were once in Lubbock, perhaps many years ago, and who are still with us from afar, cheering us on, supporting our growth - that means so much!

- **Sandy Lehman & Bailey Mayo** in memory of **Sylvia Lehman & Annie Lehman**
- **Lisa Beason**
- **Jan Rosen Luskey** in honor of **Annette Rosen**
- **Deborah Bahme**
- **Elissa Zellinger & Ben Rogerson**

Social Fund:

- **Saul & Barbara Singer** in support of the Congregational Seder

Thank you to all our donors, past, present, and future. When you send us a donation, please make note of:

- The designated fund (without a designation, your donation will be directed to the General Fund)
- The purpose of the donation (Is it dues? Is it in memory or honor of someone?)

We are on Facebook

Check us out.

<https://csitemple.org>



Congregation Shaareth Israel

Refuah Shleimah

We offer Mi Sheberach, a prayer for healing, to those who are sick, and to all the people who love and care for those who are sick. If you would like a name listed please go to the link below. The list will begin afresh each January and August.

<https://forms.gle/GS9IavcqqjtPH6J8>

- Myra Bahme
- Jeanett Henry
- Sandra Longoria
- Philip Marshall
- Mark Neuling
- Cheryl Osran
- Jose Pena
- Esmeralda Sandoval
- Cassandra Sandoval
- Hayden Thornburg
- Gail Tutino
- Carlos Vasquez
- Jane Winer



In loving memory of Bailey Mayo
May 18, 1936 - May 21, 2025

A kind-hearted man
with a ready smile and cheerful quip
who stood by Sandy Lehman with love and
devotion and became a generous friend and
delightful host at Shaareth Israel.
May his memory be a lovely blessing
to all who knew him.

Temple Times

June Shabbat Services

- | | |
|------|------------------------|
| 6th | Naso - 7:00 pm |
| | Numbers 4:21 - 7:89 |
| 13th | Behaalotecha - 7:00 pm |
| | Numbers 8:1 - 12:16 |
| 20th | Sheloch - 7:00 pm |
| | Numbers 13:1 - 15:41 |
| 27th | Korach - 7:00 pm |
| | Numbers 16:1 - 18:32 |

Thank You!

- Thank you to **Leon Shturman, Steve Balch and Stephanie Shine** for leading Shabbat services in May.
- Thank you to the hard-working Search Committee: **Deborah Bahme, Steve Balch, Beth Cobb, Anne Epstein, Andrew Friedman, Jessica Gross, Rachel Hirshorn-Johnston, Robin Phillips, Stephanie Shine, Fela Shturman and its indefatigable leader, Elissa Zellinger**, for taking us through a successful search!
- Thank you to the Rejuvenation Committee: **Deborah Bahme, Eileen Nathan, Sandra Sabatini, Stephanie Shine, Sherril Skibell, and its determined leader, Charles Skibell** for leading us in the first renovation in 40 years!

Welcome Cantor Ken Jaffe!



Cantor Ken becomes the spiritual leader of Shaareth Israel July 1, 2025.

He will be traveling to us once or twice a month from Los Angeles and will be available by Zoom in between visits.

Join a virtual discussion with Cantor Ken!

Topic: *Tzimtzum: The Spiritual Practice of Making Space for Us and Others*

Sunday July 27 at 11:00 am CT.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89844761064?pwd=dnpFS2pWLzlOYVgyekFERENrRjNWUT09>

Cantor Ken is in the house!

Join us for Shabbat on August 15

to celebrate, sing, and learn
during our first service with
Cantor Ken.

Greetings to the entire Congregation Shaareth Israel family!

I cannot fully express to you my excitement that I will be joining you all as your Cantor and spiritual leader in a few short weeks. Becoming a part of the community's almost 100 year history is very exciting for me, especially since it is not nearly as easy for one to hold on to one's Jewish identity in a place where there are not so many of us.

The name of the congregation, Shaareth Israel, literally means, "the Remnant of Israel", and is a term that has long been used in the Jewish tradition. I am sure that when the founders of the community debated on a name, this one came up, because being so far away from major centers of Jewish life, such as New York, Philadelphia, or even Galveston, one must have felt very separated from the larger Jewish world.

And I can imagine it might have often felt isolating at times for the community. But this very isolation so often has proven to be a galvanizing force to bring Jews together, to bond and bind their fates and coalesce into a small but mighty union.

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In the short time that I have had to meet many of you, I saw that sense of pride in having one's identity being fully in the place of Lubbock as well as being proudly Jewish and dedicated to our ethics, values, and our allegiance to God and community. I feel very privileged to now be part of the newest chapter of CSI's life, and am eager to dedicate myself to doing what I can to keep the sparks of vibrancy, engagement, beloved traditions, as well as innovations that will help propel the community for years to come.

Starting off in July, and continuing throughout the year, I will be offering a monthly adult education program, focusing on various Jewish themes or values, and exploring how they can directly impact our lives and help us to better navigate how we navigate our world and how we think about ourselves and our interactions with others.

Our first Zoom class, held Sunday, July 27 at 11:00 AM, will be titled, Tzimtzum: The Spiritual Practice of Making Space for Us and Others. This is a powerful concept found in Kabbalah, Jewish mysticism, and speaks not only of a very profound concept of God's relationship to all of Creation, but is a theme that has immense implications for each of us and how we deal with others in our daily lives. It is a concept that is very dear to my heart, and I am excited to be able to explore it with all of you, my new congregation!

Please know that although I am going to be there usually once a month, please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have anything you need to discuss with me, whether it is regarding the synagogue or is of a personal nature. I can be reached at 613jaffe@gmail.com. I hope to hear from you!

I wish you all a sweet beginning to your Summer, and I look forward to getting to know you all as the months progress!

L'shalom, Cantor Ken



Continued from page 1 (Rabbinic Student Alex Loundy)

So imagine my surprise when Professor Friedman said his favorite verse was from parashat Kedoshim in the book of Leviticus. Found amidst a smattering of other laws with no clear organizing principle, Leviticus 19:18 reads:

לֹא־תִקֶּם וְלֹא־תִטֹּר אֶת־בְּנֵי עַמֶּךָ וְאָהַבְתָּ לְרֵעֶךָ כָּמוֹךָ אֲנִי יְהוָה:

Don't hold a grudge, don't take vengeance, instead love your neighbor like yourself. I am Adonai.

A statement made with the force of law and signed by the Judge with a capital J. This is not a suggestion, or an aspirational goal. This is a commandment. *V'ahavta L'reyacha Camocha*. Not a golden rule, a golden law.

I want to use this sacred obligation as a prism through which to view this community. These three words, *V'ahavta* (you will love) *L'reyacha* (your neighbor) *Camocha* (like yourself) are three pillars on which this community stands. Let's begin with *V'ahavta*.

Jewish theologian Shai Held describes Judaism as a religion of love. He contrasts this love with the way we often think of love - some sort of positive attraction we feel towards another. Held notes that we never feel this way all the time, even with our own parents and children. Yet we act for their sake anyways. He refers to this as the disposition of love. Sure, we may from time to time give in to frustration and anger, but our actions belie a deep well of love from which we act.

When I walked through the doors of Shaareth Israel for the first time, I felt that love in this community. The deep well of love that fuels the fulfillment of *V'ahavta*. You welcomed me with open arms. You showed up to services, teaching sessions, latke cooking and storytelling. You brought food, you gave rides. However you showed up, you showed love - to me and to each other. We call this love by another name, *gmilut chasadim* (acts of loving-kindness). Love is not something we merely feel, love is something we do. And this leads us to the question of how far this love extends, and to our next pillar: *L'reyacha*.

Some scholars have argued that this word for neighbor applies exclusively to other Israelites. They argue that our moral and ethical obligations extend only as far as our fellow Jews and no further. Professor Friedman points out that this is utter nonsense. For starters, only sixteen lines later we are commanded with regard to the stranger in our midst to: *v'ahavta lo camocha* - you shall love him as yourself. Professor Friedman goes on to remind us that the priests drew upon the Exodus to press home the expansiveness of this command. We consider everyone our *reyah*, because we remember the harsh treatment we received in Egypt. We see the patterns of trauma and we affirm and reaffirm our commitment to breaking them.

But this community doesn't need a scholar to tell you who your neighbor is. You demonstrate it through your actions. You have an interfaith choir and interfaith couples. You welcome guests, and welcome the Second Baptist congregation every year. And lest you think that *reyacha* applies only to physical proximity, you welcome me. Each time I woke up at the crack of dawn to cross cities and time zones, I knew it was in service of being your *reyah*. And although I did a lot of talking, it was in listening that I believe I was able to serve you most. As the great neighbor himself, Mr. Fred Rogers once said: *Listening is where love begins: listening to ourselves and then to our neighbors.*

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Present in this quote are all three elements of *V'ahavta L'reyacha Camocha*. *Listening is where love begins: listening to ourselves and then to our neighbors*. Through listening, Mr. Rogers links love, our neighbors, and ourselves. This is a profound idea. Is it not our desire, our deep need, to feel heard? Is it not an act of *gmilut chasadim* to listen to our neighbors? When we listen to others, we are loving them, *camocha*, like ourselves.

Camocha suggests another way in which this mitzvah is expansive. Just as *reyacha* might seem at first narrow, but is actually all-encompassing, so too does *camocha* appear to be a singular command but is actually plural. Parashat Kedoshim begins with God explaining to Moses that all the laws he is about to receive are to be shared with the entire community of Israel. And the first law given to this expansive community is referred to as *Camocha*: Be Holy, because God is holy. This applies the same logic as *V'ahavta L'reyacha Camocha*. Act the way you would act before God, that is how you emulate God and fulfil the idea of *Kadosh* - Holiness. This is a lofty burden. Too lofty for any one individual to bear, which is why it is a collective command given to the entire community.

I pray that Shaareth Israel is blessed with wise leadership that strengthens the incredible leaders in this community, with special thanks to Stephanie, Leon, and the Board, without whom my time here would not have been possible.

Sitting in that cafe in Jerusalem, I never could have imagined the great honor and surreal journey of being the student rabbi of congregation Shaareth Israel in Lubbock, Texas, a place I had never heard of and will now never forget. With gratitude and enduring love, thank you.

Though I am sad to leave, holiness is not leaving with me. The responsibility of *kedoshim* lies not with the person on the bima, but with you in the pews. I am not holy on your behalf. We are holy on each other's behalf. This is *camocha*. *Camocha* is bringing your passion, curiosity, love and respect for tradition into community, and acting to nurture those qualities in each other.

Know that it is incumbent upon each and every one of you to continue nurturing those holy qualities. That regardless of who leads you, you are the ones that make this community thrive.

Rabbi Tarfon used to say: It is not for you to finish the work, but neither are you free to neglect it. Congregation Shaareth Israel, my time here is drawing to an end, but the work goes on. My wish for you is that you embrace the work as your own. That this community will embrace *kedoshim* with the singularity of *camocha*. Lead services and text studies, read Torah and watch movies, host Seders and Chanukah parties. Volunteer in your community and protect the vulnerable. Remember that all these acts are in service of our highest law: *V'ahavta L'reyacha Camocha*.

May the love between yourselves and your neighbors be a wellspring from which this community draws life for generations to come.

Ken Yehei Ratzon.
Shabbat shalom.

~Alex Loundy

Thank you Alex!

We thank Alex with all our hearts for traveling each month from Los Angeles this year, for his care and thought in preparing sermons and adult education that enthralled, edified, touched, illuminated and will keep us thinking for years to come (Torah as a story of families!) as well as for listening so closely and entertaining innumerable questions (dreams, angels, names for God, Golem, interpretations of Torah, ancient history, geopolitics, religious garb, rabbinic studies . . .). We wish him the best as he completes his studies and begins his next adventures!



Shaareth Israel Rejuvenation Project!
L'dor V'dor - Sustain Shaareth Israel!



At Shaareth Israel, so many of our most cherished memories start in the kitchen —where hamantaschen bake, latkes sizzle, and matzoh balls simmer and where traditions are passed from one generation to the next.

We're launching a rejuvenation campaign to bring new life to our aging 40-year old kitchen and social hall. With your help, we'll create a warm, modern space where children and adults can continue to cook, connect, and celebrate for years to come. Please join us in this meaningful effort. Every contribution, big or small, brings us closer to our \$20,000 goal—and to a brighter, more vibrant Shaareth Israel.

Each donation made between May 1 – July 15 will be matched, dollar for dollar by a generous donor!

Honor previous generations and support those to come by sustaining our synagogue. A plaque will honor the rejuvenation donors. Thank you heartily to those who have already donated! Donate through Venmo (phone 1251)

Or by check (please mention the Rejuvenation Project):
Congregation Shaareth Israel
P.O. Box 93594
Lubbock, Texas 79493-3594

Leon Shturman
@Leon-Shturman



Thank you from the Board of Directors and the Shaareth Israel Rejuvenation Team!

What's the Board Up To?

The Board met on May 28 and reviewed the schedule for the coming year; the Board heard a report on the roof replacement from Charles Skibell who also reported on the Rejuvenation Project. Eileen Nathan reported on potential art donations. The next Board Meetings are August 26, September 30, October 28, November 18, and December 16.

Hebrew Name Registry

There are times in Jewish observance when we invoke a person's Hebrew name and the Hebrew names of their parents. To make sure that we have names on record, we are offering the opportunity to store the Hebrew names of members and their families. If you would like to participate, contact stephanie.shine@ttu.edu for the link to the Hebrew Name Survey. If you need help deciphering a Hebrew name or giving a child a Hebrew name. Shaareth Israel will maintain this list as a service to members and their families.

ONEGS!

We will have Onegs after services with Cantor Jaffe with a little help!

We need someone to set up (set out the paper goods, etc.)

And someone to clear up the food.

There will be a check-off list in the kitchen to help you remember what to do.

(We will ask people who attend to bring the treats for the Oneg.)

If you would like to volunteer for either set-up or clear-up, or if you have questions or suggestions, please email Barbara Singer at bsingerfamily@gmail.com or call 775-722-2816.

Thank you!

How to Donate to Israel: JNF-USA Israel Resilience Campaign

- Evacuation from hardest-hit communities on the border, including transportation and emergency housing
- Hygiene, bedding, and care packages to those in need
- Firefighting and protective equipment to those on the front lines
- Psychological treatment
- The promise of rebuilding local communities for tomorrow

Click here to learn how to donate:

<https://www.jnf.org/ways-to-help/support-israel>



Congregation Shaareth Israel
P.O. Box 93594
Lubbock, TX 79493
(806) 794-7517

csitemple.org

Clergy

Cantor Ken Jaffe
 Deborah Goldmann, Rabbi Emerita
 Vicki Hollander, Rabbi Emerita

Board Members

Stephanie Shine, President
 Beth Cobb, Vice President
 Deborah Bahme, Secretary
 Leon Shturman, Treasurer
 Elissa Zellinger, Religious School Delegate
 Charles Skibell, Member
 Eileen Nathan, Member
 Steve Balch, Member

Contact info for members:

Spiritual Leader - Please contact Cantor Jaffe for information.

Urgent Matters - Please contact **Stephanie Shine** at (806) 470-1340 or email **stephanie.shine@ttu.edu**.

Bulletin Submissions - News, reports, information, etc. can be submitted to the bulletin editor at **csi_bulletin@hotmail.com**.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month!

Bulletin Design: Jonathan Meyer

June 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	28
29	30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4 Shabbat Service 7:00 pm	July 5