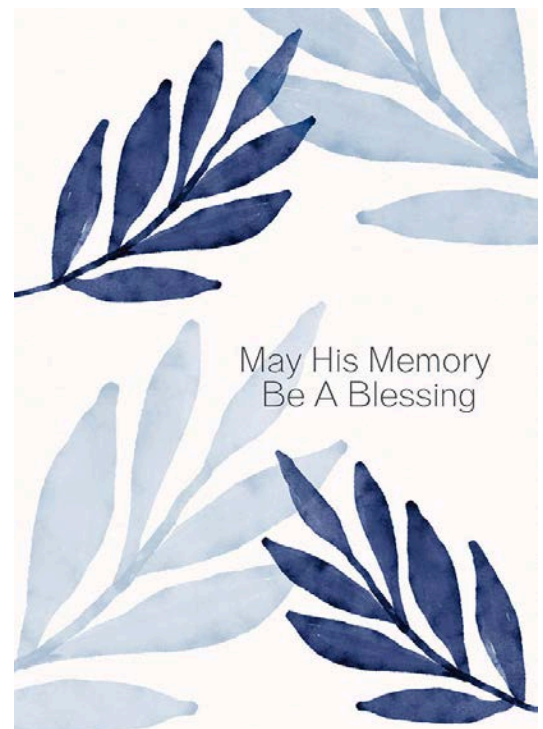




April 2025

Marshall Arthur Rauch
February 2, 1923 - March 18, 2025
זיכרונו לברכה

[Please click here](#) to read Marshall's obituary, to watch a video in which Marshall shares his memories, and to read the many tributes written by friends, family and admirers.



Time to Sign Up for our Pesach Seder!

Saturday, April 13, 6 pm: Second Night Seder at Temple Emanuel.
Registration closes April 10.

Purchase tickets—no later than April 10—by [clicking here to visit Rakefet](#), our new secure, cloud-based data system. After signing in (make an account if you haven't already), choose "make a payment," and then scroll down to *Pesach Seder* (the 5th item down). If you haven't already made an account for Rakefet and need help, please contact Kamina Young at administrator@tegastonia.org.

Sign up to contribute food: Food contributions from our guests make Seder feel like you're sharing with family. If you'd like to contribute something, go to [SignUp Genius](#).

Questions about the Seder? Contact Suzi Nash at (617) 510-1332.



Rabbi Jacqueline Marx joins us again on April 25-27!

Plans for Friday, April 25:

6-7 pm: Potluck dinner. [Please click here](#) to sign up.

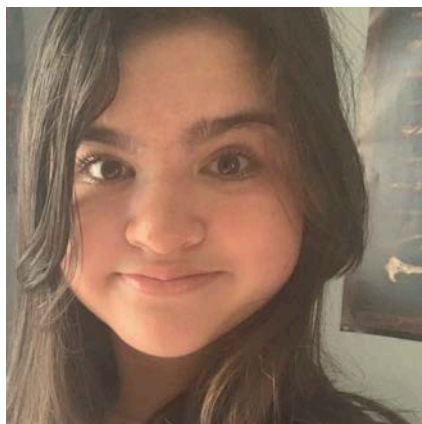
7-8 pm: Services, followed by Oneg.

Plans for Saturday, April 26:

Havdalah service in the Temple Social Hall, followed by Rabbi Jacqueie speaking on *What Kind of Jew Am I: A look at modern American Judaism's denominations, their differences, and their commonalities*.

Plans for Sunday, April 27:

TBD



This Month's Services: April 5, 13, 18 and 25

Join us at services at 10 am on Saturday morning, April 5, for Dasha Verhosek's bat mitzvah! This is a very special day for Dasha, her family and for Temple Emanuel!

Please note that there will not be a service on Friday night, April 4. We will not have services on Friday, April 11, due to the Passover holiday.

Our Second Night Seder is on Sunday, **April 13**. There will be Friday night services on **April 18 and 25**.

[Click here](#) to sign up to host an Oneg Shabbat

In order to ensure that there's enough food and drink for everyone, we are formalizing Onegs and asking those who attend Shabbat services to periodically sign up to host.

When you click above to sign up, you will also see “how to do it” instructions (also posted in the Temple kitchen).

A great way to learn how to do it is to sign up for set-up or clean-up. There are slots just for this purpose.

If you are uncomfortable using the online form, please email [Janet Epstein](#) to sign up. There is also a paper sign up sheet in the Temple kitchen.

You will get a reminder as your date gets closer. And, you can see who else has signed up if you need to switch dates. (You are responsible for finding someone else if the original date you've chosen no longer works out for you.)



If you have any questions, please email [Janet Epstein](#).

And please [click here](#) for detailed instructions on hosting an oneg.

April 2025 Yahrzeits

Members can email administrator@tegastonia.org to add a loved one's name to the list of yahrzeits read aloud at Shabbat services. Loved ones do not need to be Jewish.

Friday, April 4, to be read on Saturday, April 5:

Barry Blau, Peter Blau's father
Jennifer Harnage, Tony and Betsy Harnage's sister-in-law
Irene Claire Marshall, John Marshall's stepmother
Max Marshall, John Marshall's grandfather
Ella Menchus, Marisa Rosenfeld's grandfather
Nettie Simon Nelson, Lyn Fox's aunt-in-law
Frances B. Allweiss
John C. Sanders, remembered by Jonathan D. Sanders
Wolf Schumacher
Joseph Goldstein, remembered by Andrew Osborne
Ben Lieber
Rabbi David Zielonka, Debbie Stringer's father
Abe Slutsky, Myron Slutsky's father
Millicent Cooley Wiener
Edna Nash, Alan Nash's mother
Jane Sweetbaum Rosenberg, remembered by Andrew Osborne
Norman Silver, Debbye Lustig's father
Leonard Jacobowitz, Eileen Morrell's brother
Ben Planer

Friday, April 11, to be read on Friday, April 18:

Fred Lake, Joan Brown's father
Louise Adams, Dale & Lyn Fox's guardian and companion
Carolyn Ballard Robinson
Beatrice Rosenbaum Mandel, Marla Brodsky's grandmother
Lillian Davis Cooley, Tony Marder's grandmother
Irving Sweetbaum, remembered by Andrew Osborne
John Carol Robinson

To be read on Friday, April 18:

Anna Sweetbaum, remembered by Andrew Osborne
Gilbert M. Selznick, Betsy Harnage's father
Patricia Ann Selznick, Betsy Harnage's mother
Hannah Rossman
Leo Kaufman
Estelle Schwartz
Bernard Belaief, Karen Rubin's uncle
Herman Mandel, Marla Brodsky's grandfather
Rose O. Weisman
Leah Silverstein
Michael Syrakowski, Karen Sussman's stepfather
Mitzi Cutler, Marla Brodsky's mother
Jean Weinstein Frey

To be read on Friday, April 25:

Gilda Treiber, remembered by Marla Brodsky
Samuel Wohl, great-grandfather of Stephanie Rauch
and grandfather of Marshall Rauch
Rose Belaief, Karen Rubin's grandmother
Alan David Silverman, Glenn Silverman's father
Samuel Glickman
Jane Scherago, Hardin Rubin's grandmother
Ann Shapiro, Fred Freiburger's sister

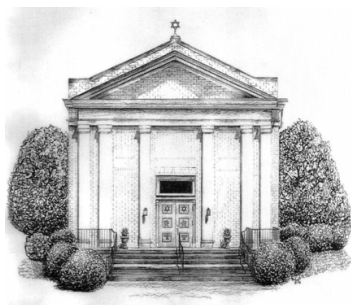


Friday, May 2, to be read on Saturday, May 3:

Victor Osborne, Andrew, Gale & Richard Osborne's father
Marty Zielonka, Debbie Stringer's mother
Rosa Rosenfeld, Marisa Rosenfeld's mother
Elizabeth Anselmo, Susie Schaffer's mother
Evelyn Osborne, Andrew, Gale & Richard Osborne's mother
Babette Mayer Aronson, Caryn Aronson's mother
Rabbi Jerome Mark



There's still time to participate in the drive to renew our beautiful Temple!



We need to reach our goal of at least \$8,500 to meet Eric Witten's extremely generous \$17,000, 2 to 1 match. Please remember that 100% participation attests to the health and vibrancy of our synagogue, and sends a strong message to the foundations we'll be approaching for future stages of our building program. No donation is too small!

You can donate by logging in to Rakefet (see instructions below) or by check to Temple Emanuel, PO Box 550085 Gastonia NC 28055-0085.

We thank the following individuals for their donation to the Building Renewal Fund and we look forward to sharing more names next month!

Stephanie Rauch
Ralph & Eileen Morrell
Michael & Leighanne Lauer
Tony & Marisa Marder
Peter Rauch
Sue Corbin
David Nachamie
Julian & Brittany Rauch
Fred & Barbara Freiburger
Barbara & Peter Blau
Rochelle & Moshe Wilensky

Kevin Kirsh
Sara Tomchin
Clark Simon
Nikki Sherrill
Jim & Katie Needell
Rob Weiss
Deirdre Nachamie
Mark Moskowitz
Brian & Nancy Litwak
Mark Warshawsky
Dr. Charles and Mrs. Joan Brown

Tony & Betsy Harnage
Charles & Sondra Katzenstein
Lyn Fox
Lee Buchanan
Garnette Beall
Bill & Linda Gross
Lucy & Kyle Thomas
Elaine Lyerly
Debbye Lustig



Your Temple Account is on RakefetOnline! Have YOU logged in yet?

Do you need to log into Rakefet to register for the Pesach Seder or to make a donation to the building fund? Well, here's a reminder on how to set up your own Rakefet account if you have not yet done so!

Go to www.rakefetonline.com, click on Sign-in, click US, then click on "Forgot Password." The system will send you a password. For questions or assistance, please email administrator@tegastonia.org.



We gratefully thank the following individuals for their donations:

- Alan & Suzi Nash in memory of Dorothea Oringer, Allen Oringer, Sol Nash & Edna Nash
- Alton Reeder, donation to the General Fund
- Edye Draegert in memory of Juliette Mandle Jackman and to enter her into the Book of Life
- Beverly Green in memory of Anna Green Littman
- Leighanne Lauer in memory of Grace Walls
- John & Jean Rosenberg in memory of Gerta & Rudolph Rosenberg



Member News

Congratulations to 8-year old Keren Wilensky, daughter of Rochelle and Moshe Wilensky, who has been accepted to a unique overnight Jewish summer camp for children with chronic and severe medical issues and disabilities. [Camp Simcha Special](#) is located in upstate New York and is the only camp of its kind in the world. A program of Chai Lifeline, it is free and serves Jewish children of all denominations. Camp Simcha Special is life-changing for the children who attend; not only are they given a genuine camp experience, but they meet and make friends with others in similar circumstances. [Click here to learn more about Camp Simcha](#) and [click here](#) to hear Camp Simcha campers speak about how meaningful the experience was to them.

Bill Hugh "Hubie" Sherrill retired from The Schiele Museum in February 2025 after nearly 50 years of service. Hubie worked in Education and Exhibits, and his vast and varied talents made him invaluable to the museum. At a retirement party in his honor, many stood to share fond and funny memories of working with him. "What would Hubie do?" is a common refrain that Schiele staff use when faced with a stressful situation. His calm nature and kindness are admired by everyone who spends time with him. Congratulations to Hubie! Retired or not, he will always be part of The Schiele Museum family—and of course also of our Temple Emanuel family!

New Members

Are you interested in joining us? Do you have children you might want to enroll in our Religious School? We would love to talk with you and answer your questions. Please email [Mark Epstein](#), our Board member in charge of Membership, and he will reach out to you.

Important Update to Temple Emanuel's Feb. 9 Mitzvah Morning

"Thank you" from family of Israeli hostage David Cunio

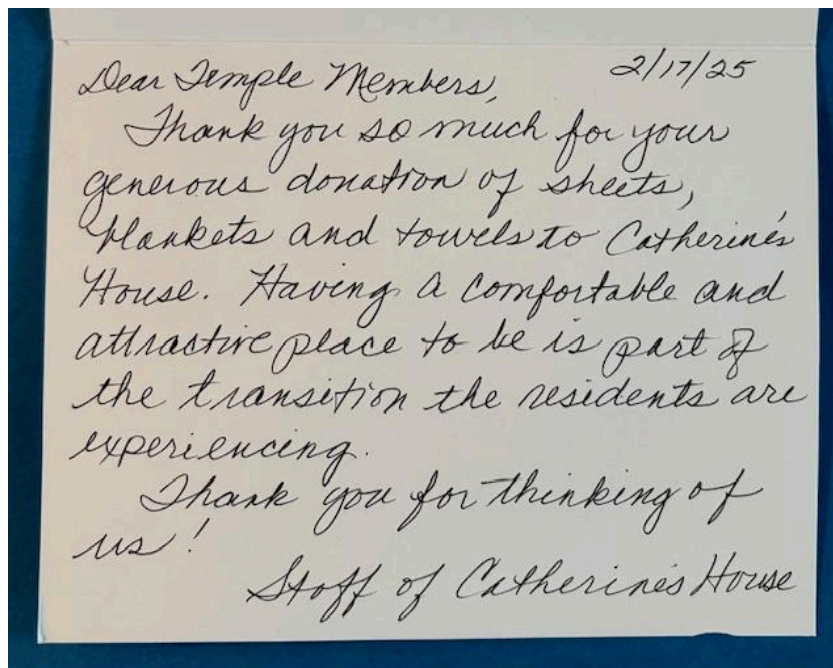
In February the Religious School, in collaboration with our Activities Chair Suzi Nash, held a Mitzvah Morning to which all congregants were invited. Participants were invited to make cards for IDF soldiers and for the family of David Cunio, one of the October 7th hostages. David's connection to Temple Emanuel? He is the husband of the best friend of a friend of our Religious School Director Rochelle Wilensky. David has been held hostage by Hamas in Gaza since Oct. 7, 2023, and he is one of the 21 hostages that as of this writing are hoped to be still alive. His wife Sharon and their then 3-year old twin girls, Emma and Yuli, were also kidnapped from their kibbutz by Hamas and held hostage in Gaza. Released after 51 days, Sharon and the twins have been waiting ever since for their husband and father David to come home. The cards and letters made on Mitzvah Morning at Temple Emanuel were delivered directly to Sharon's house and were much appreciated. It helps the family to know that Jews even as far away as North Carolina know about them and care about them. A thank you to all those who attended Mitzvah Morning and made cards.

TERS students hard at work on Mitzvah Morning in February.



their cards and letters during

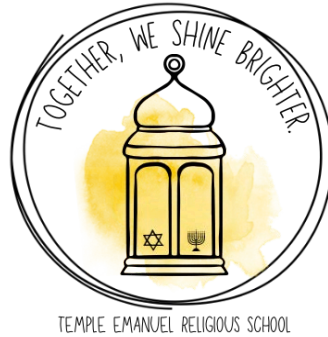
"Thank you" from Catherine's House



March 2025 in Photos



News About TERS (Temple Emanuel Religious School)



TERS families and students: Please join our Model Seder at Religious School on Sunday, April 6. This is not the real thing, but rather an educational experience that will ensure that your children know exactly what to expect, what is happening, and why it is happening when you celebrate Passover on April 12 and/or April 13.

And, whether you will be celebrating Passover at home or not, please join us at Temple Emanuel for our Second Night Seder on Sunday, April 13. All the information you need on how to purchase tickets and sign up to bring food to share is on page 2 of this newsletter.

[Click here for comprehensive information](#) about our Religious School and for all the news about our 2024-2025 school year! If you are interested in joining our wonderful school, contact Rochelle Wilensky, TERS Director, at rochelle.rrr@gmail.com or (202) 747-4630. You are welcome to join us as a prospective family on a Sunday for a “Taste of TERS”!



Early
Hebrew

Y

Middle
Hebrew

ך

Late
Hebrew

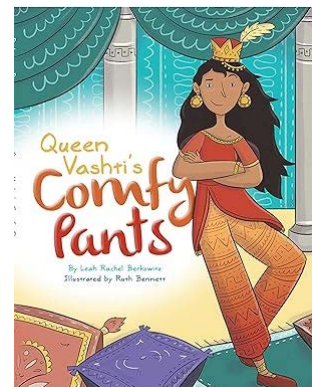
ך

Modern
Hebrew

ך

Vav is for Vashti!

We celebrated Purim and read the Book of Esther last month, so we remember the story! Vashti was the first wife of Persian King Ahasuerus. She refused to appear at the king's banquet to show off her beauty as demanded by the King. The king either executed or banished her as punishment, and she was succeeded as queen by our Esther. While traditionally Vashti has been regarded as wicked and vain, many people today see her as an independent-minded heroine. Rabbi Jacque read us a book with that theme at services last month when we celebrated Purim together. [Here's a link](#) if you'd like to purchase the book and read it again! Or, [watch it being read here on YouTube](#).



Contributions from Congregants

[Click here](#) to hear Cantor Schwartz from the Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City sing Ein Keloheinu to a very familiar tune—a tune that you probably have not heard in synagogue before!



And here is an extraordinary article from the NYTimes in which the writer explores how a Jewish ritual changed her relationship with mortality:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/17/well/mind/surviving-heart-surgery.html?searchResultPosition=1>



Sunday morning presentations, 10-noon:

- **April 20, *Coming Full Circle: Poetry as a Window into Understanding the Holocaust*.** We will listen to Holocaust poetry, visualize images, and recreate them with torn construction paper and glue. After discussion and draft writing, we'll generate original poetry reflecting our deeper understanding of the Holocaust. No artistic talent is needed.
- **May 18, *Israel Today*:** Harry Chernofsky visits us again to share his insights into the current situation in Israel and to offer an opportunity for discussion.

Something delicious to eat is always on offer; bring your own coffee.

Please RSVP to [Bill Gross](#) so that we know whether to set up in the Boardroom or the sanctuary (and how many bagels to buy!). Thank you!

Ongoing classes:

- **Adult Hebrew:** Interested in learning how to read Hebrew? No prior knowledge of Hebrew (or Judaism) is necessary. For more information, email [Bill Marx](#) or call him at 314-749-3566.
- **Biblical Hebrew Grammar:** Can you read Hebrew (at lightning speed, slowly and haltingly, or anywhere in between) but would like to better understand what you are reading? An introductory course in the grammar of Biblical Hebrew is underway. To learn more, contact [Barbara Blau](#).



We are always looking for great speakers and topics for future programs on Sunday mornings. Please send suggestions to [Mark Epstein](#) and [Bill Gross](#), co-chairs of the Adult Education Committee.

Upcoming Events

- **Dasha Verhosek's Bat Mitzvah, Saturday, April 5.** A very special day for Dasha, her family, and for all of us at Temple Emanuel! (No Friday night service on April 4.)
- **Panera Coffee and Conversation, Sunday, April 6, 10-11:30 am,** at the Gastonia Panera Bread. We meet on the occasional Sunday morning to drink coffee or tea and enjoy each other's company. Join us!
- **Passover: Second Night Seder, Sunday, April 13,** at Temple, led by Charlie Brown. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for instructions on how to purchase tickets and on how to sign up to bring food to share.
- **Adult Education on April 20, *Coming Full Circle: Poetry as a Window into Understanding the Holocaust.*** We will listen to Holocaust poetry, visualize images, and recreate them with torn construction paper and glue. After discussion and draft writing, we'll generate original poetry reflecting our deeper understanding of the Holocaust. No artistic talent is needed.
- **Rabbi Marx Weekend, April 25-27:** Rabbi Jacquie's 3rd time with us; mark your calendar! Please see page 2 for more information and for the link to sign up for the potluck supper.
- **Canceled: Silent Auction fundraiser, Saturday, April 26.**
- **Sunday, April 27, 10 am:** The Temple Emanuel Women's Club invites everyone to join them on a hike at Belmont's [Seven Oaks Preserve Trail](#). We hike the trail on the 4th Sunday of each month! Please RSVP to Lisa Jenkins 980-833-6299, Stacey Bhalla 704-616-4732, Lee Buchanan 704-661-9685, or Stephanie Rauch 704-609-8425.



- **Tali David's Bat Mitzvah, Saturday, May 3.** We welcome Tali to our synagogue for this very special day in her life. By celebrating with us, Tali is also able to celebrate with her Carolinas family. (No Friday night service on May 2.)
- **Jewish Film Club, Saturday, May 10,** at Rob Weiss' house. [Email Rob](#) to let him know you're coming (and so he can make sure he has enough chairs!). As always, bring nosh/drink to share! We'll watch the 2019 film *Red Sea Diving Resort*, in which international agents and brave Ethiopians use a deserted retreat in Sudan as a front to smuggle thousands of refugees to Israel in the early 1980s.



- **Adult Education on Sunday, May 18, 10-noon**, Harry Chernofsky speaks about the current situation in Israel.

Caring For Congregants

- Volunteers provide home or hospital visits and deliver meals to congregants who are ill. Please contact [Stephanie Rauch](#) to become a volunteer. Stephanie has a list of congregants who would deeply appreciate a visit.
- Two of our members, Stephanie Rauch and Charlie Brown, offer pastoral counseling to congregants (charging only what insurance will pay or a fee based on a sliding scale). Both are licensed therapists with years of experience. Stephanie offers her services in-person and virtually; Charlie is available virtually. Please email [Charlie Brown](#) or [Stephanie Rauch](#).



Are You (Or Is Someone You Know) Interested in Conversion to Judaism?

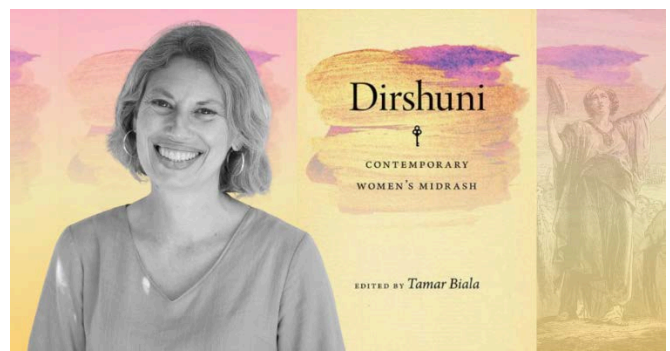
We now have our own program for those interested in converting to Judaism! [Please click here to read more about it.](#) If you have decided to convert, are thinking about it, or would like to speak with someone about our conversion program, please email [Mark Epstein](#).



You can also [click here](#) to register for *Becoming Jewish: An Info Session About Conversion to Judaism*, sponsored by the Union of Reform Judaism. Take this free, no-commitment, online course to learn about next steps, resources, and how to get answers to your Q's. Dates: 2/9, 4/7, 8/28, 10/19.

Opportunities to Learn, Study, and Celebrate Being Jewish Outside of Gastonia

[Central Synagogue](#), a Reform Jewish congregation in New York City, offers a wide range of classes and lectures, many of which are virtual. [Click here](#) to explore what's on offer now and then bookmark the link for future reference. Here's one current offering: *Women of Exodus, Modern Midrash*. Thursday, April 3, 12-1 pm, Virtual. Explore the women of Exodus in a new way, through modern commentary written by contemporary Israeli women. [Register](#)





Group of women saluting the swastika flag.
Bundesarchiv | US National Holocaust Museum



Members of the National Socialist Movement hold swastika flags
at the group's anti-illegal immigration rally.
David McNew | Getty Images



Speaker

Judy LaPietra, Director
The Stan Greenspon Holocaust
and Social Justice Center at
Queens University, Charlotte, NC

Why the Holocaust Still Matters

This presentation explores the enduring significance of the Holocaust in today's world and examines the lessons we can learn from this tragic event. The dangers of hatred, prejudice, and intolerance will be highlighted. The presentation will be 45 minutes with 15 minutes of questions and answers. A reception will follow.

When: April 6 at 3pm

Where: Dina's Place

NEVER AGAIN what **you** do matters

The United States Congress established the Days of Remembrance as the nation's annual commemoration of the victims of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent living memorial to those victims.

Co-sponsored by: Temple Kol Ami and Winthrop's Department of Political Science, Philosophy, Religion, & Legal Studies; International and Global Studies Program; and Peace, Justice, and Conflict Resolution Studies Program

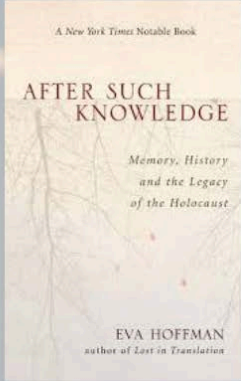
Greenspon Book Club

When: April 8th and April 22, 6:30 - 8pm

Where: Queens University and Zoom

Who: All are welcome! Join our free book club!

Register at bit.ly/SGCspringread25



QUEENS

UNIVERSITY CHARLOTTE

STAN GREENSPON

HOLOCAUST AND SOCIAL

JUSTICE EDUCATION CENTER

Klezmer Cine Concert in Asheville, NC

A program seen all over the US and the world!

E.A. Dupont's once-lost, now-restored 1923 German masterpiece tells the inspired-by-fact story of a rabbi's son (Ernst Deutsch) who shuns the shtetl to become an actor, and finds temptation from an archduchess (Henny Porten). The cast is filled with Berlin's finest stage and screen actors; the exquisite design is by a group of gifted, visionary artists. The film is accompanied by a live, original score composed and performed by the world-famous klezmer violinist Alicia Svigals (co-founder of the Grammy-winning Klezmatics) and pianist Donald Sosin, a silent film music legend. A sensational evening of history, music and spectacle.

Link to buy tickets: <https://www.worthamarts.org/events/klezmer-cine/>

THE ANCIENT LAW

— FILM & CONCERT —

Silent film *The Ancient Law* with an original score performed live by Alicia Svigals and Donald Sosin.



April 22, 2025
7:00 - 9:00 PM

WORTHAM CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

- Adult Ticket \$22
- Student Ticket \$15

FUNDING FROM THE SUNRISE FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION & THE ARTS
SPONSORED BY JSCA, JCC, CBI - THE CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES AT UNCA & WNCJF



Yom Hashoah Community Commemoration

APRIL 23RD, 2025 | 6:30 PM | TEMPLE ISRAEL

GENOCIDE: ORIGINS, MEANING, AND THE DANGER OF MISUSE

Featuring guest speaker Judy La Pietra from the Stan Greenspon Holocaust and Social Justice Education Center, this event will offer a thought-provoking exploration of the history and significance of the term "genocide." Together, we will trace its origins and examine how its meaning has evolved in legal and social contexts.

KINDLY RSVP: WWW.TEMPLEISRAELNC.ORG/EVENT/YH



Stan Greenspon Center
for Peace and Social Justice



Support for Israel

From the Jewish Community Relations Council's "Action Dispatch":

While still acknowledging the tragic suffering of the Palestinian people, to equip our community with the tools and knowledge needed to combat misinformation and disinformation, Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte suggests that we arm ourselves with accurate information and expert insights, so

that we are better equipped to respond to the rise in antisemitism and to stand up for Israel in an informed and meaningful way.

Sources of information:

- Explore the [Israel Facts, Not Fiction](#) webpage, curated by the Jewish United Fund of Chicago to fight the fiction and misinformation that has been running rampant since October 7.
- Fact-check your news using this [Media Literacy Guide](#), created by Jewish Democracy. Remember, misinformation is everywhere, even in commonly trusted news outlets.
- Read and share the [open letter](#) where the American Jewish Committee (AJC) and Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) call out media organizations for continued flaws in Israel coverage.
- [Make your voice heard](#). For too long, media outlets have inadequately covered stories about Israel, putting the Jewish state, Israelis, and Jews around the world at risk. Join the AJC and JFNA in calling on the media to start reporting honestly.



Thank you to all who contributed to this newsletter!



Temple Emanuel

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704-865-1541 Website: <https://tegastonia.org/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TempleEmanuelGastonia/>
Office email: administrator@tegastonia.org