Rabbinical Commentary — Brant Rosen

The building is gone and so am I! Don’t write, don’t call, don’t email, don’t text, don’t summon me by shofar. Just don’t bother. I’m going to Uganda where they appreciate me. If you need anything, see one of my managers: Hallie, Jill, or Adonai. (Just kidding.... If you need assistance, contact me in my office, where I’m curled up in a fetal position in the closet.)

Rabbi Rosen cannot be reached through the JRC office or any form of telecommunication. In case of emergency, pray real hard!
A Note from Do! Re! MEEE! — Howard Friedland

As many of you may know, I was an actor in my former life. My duties here at JRC have left me little time to “tread the boards,” so I have done what all out-of-work actors do: I have penned a one-man show entitled, “Michael Landon—a Life, sort of—in Song.” I start out by re-enacting the javelin throw (into the audience) that won young Eugene Maurice Orowitz (Landon’s real name) a track Scholarship to the University of Southern California. From there, I will highlight Landon’s landmark roles, beginning with Tony Rivers in “I was a Teenage Werewolf.” (No extra hair attachments will be needed.) I’ll move on to Tom Dooley in “The Legend of Tom Dooley.” In that scene, I’ll wear a cowboy hat. Next, I’ll channel Little Joe Cartwright from the pilot, “The Restless Gun,” which later became “Bonanza.” I’ll wear the same cowboy hat and Rabbi Brant Rosen will play Dan Blocker as Hoss, in a non-speaking role.

Moving on (is it intermission yet?) to the next scene, I’ll tackle the challenge of Mr. Ingalls in “Little House on the Prairie,” a vehicle that served as a farm team for child actors whose ultimate goal was a long-term stint at the Betty Ford Clinic (see Melissa Gilbert). It was during “Little House” that Landon was inducted into the Hall of Great Western Performers of the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. It was also during this time that he was inducted as president of his local AA chapter. I’ll re-enact one famous meeting with a dramatic relapse.

I’ll continue on through the “Highway to Heaven” years, with Landon as writer/producer/director. For this scene, I’ll don an ascot, or maybe an apache scarf. This was a particularly “tumultuous” time in Landon’s personal life. The working title of this series was “Touched by an Angel,” but when more than one guest ingenue huffed that the show should be called, “Touched by a Director,” the title was changed and later used for a different series.

The denouement of the evening takes place in Landon’s trailer on the set of “Highway,” where he has gathered his eight children by his three ex-wives to apologize for “not being there” for them. The show ends with a live fireworks display and an after-show “talkback,” at which I will regale the audience with backstage stories of the great sacrifice I made combing my hair into a pompadour eight shows a week; that is, if the run lasts eight shows.

I’m greatly enthused about this project! I invited JRC members Gwen Macsai and Andy White, both show biz professionals, to critique the show at my house (with my son, Ben, playing the non-speaking role of Dan Blocker, which will be filled by the able shoes of Rabbi Rosen in production). Here are their notes:

“Forget any development of character or plot for a second. We were a bit surprised that Howard couldn’t distinguish between stage right and stage left. What’s with all the wearing of cowboy hats? Ben was brilliant! Where did Howard study acting anyway? The Phyllis Diller School of the Arts?!”

Well, yes, Gwen and Andy. I DID study at the Diller School. And I graduated Magna Cum Lately! Heh! Heh! Heh!

My intention is to preview the show at the Michael Landon Shabbat service on June 1. If that goes well, we’re looking at an extended run at the Barn Theater in Augusta, Michigan. Hold onto your hats!

Zol zein mit glick!

Howard
B’nai Mitzvah

Sasha Samuelson-Shoenberg
March 17, 2012 (St. Patrick’s Day!)
Sasha Samuelson-Shoenberg is the child of Mordechai and Yetta Samuelson-Shoenberg, longtime Evanston activists in the movement to raise gender-free children. In lieu of becoming a bar or bat mitzvah, Sasha will become a bart mitzvah later this month. Sasha is homeschooled. Sasha likes the guitar and plays in a band with siblings Casey and Jamie. As a mitzvah project, Sasha is selling friendship bracelets to raise money for guinea pig rescue, after learning that thousands of guinea pigs are being held without cause in public school classrooms throughout the Chicago area. Sasha’s favorite thing about being Jewish is dancing the Hora really, really fast and getting dizzy.

Bubba Grossman
March 24
Bubba Grossman, granddog of Darlene and Ray Grossman, studied at Woof’s Play ‘n Stay. Although he’s been labeled a special-needs dog, Bubba lives a full life and even has his own Facebook page. (Don’t believe me? check it out!) He loves going for walks, pooping, sleeping, and eating, though not necessarily in that order. The best thing about being Jewish, says Bubba is “woof, woof, woof!”

Maple Conn
March 31
Maple Conn is an advanced and scheming child. While still in utero she was planning ways to procrastinate her bat mitzvah preparation.
But her first cries were in trope. Her first complex utterance, misheard by her father as “Ah! No! Why?” was actually “Adonai.” But her purported tzedakah project is an elaborate hoax.

Warren Westerfelt
March 32
Warren Westerfelt is the son of his dad, who’s an idiot and his mother, who’s gotta be crazy. He didn’t even want to have a bar mitzvah, they can’t make him! And he’s not wearing that stupid suit. He’s not dancing with his grandmother, either. His father invited her, let him dance with her. He doesn’t like anything about being Jewish. It sucks. He hates his whole stupid family! Leave him alone!

Just Fair Trade Coffee: A Bitter Experience

It seems that purchasers of the Fair Trade Mirembe Kawomera “Delicious Peace” Ugandan Coffee want their money back. Apparently many drinkers decided the price wasn’t worth the “just fair” taste of the brew.

“It tastes like dirt!” remarked many after their first sip. On being questioned about the problem, Gabe Rosen, JRC’s ace coffee sales person, said he didn’t understand the complaints.

“What’s all the kvetching about? It says ‘fresh ground’ right on the bag.”
JRsea Spring Benefit

It’s not too late to come aboard the JRSea, which will sail from 6–11pm on Saturday, March 17 at JRC. Donations for the event’s live and silent auctions and buy-in parties are still being accepted. Visit http://www.jrc-evanston.org/ to RSVP or to download a donation form. Hope to see you there!

Rabbinical Commentary — Brant Rosen

Ever since Reconstructionist Judaism’s founder Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan famously (some believe infamously) dispensed of the Chosen People idea from his conception of Jewish theology, its meaning has been a point of lively debate in our movement. If you are interested in learning more about the history of this issue, I highly recommend this article by Rabbi Richard Hirsh, JRC’s former rabbi, in 1984.

Here’s an excerpt:

Classical Reconstructionism rejected the attempt to reinterpret chosenness precisely because, in Kaplan’s words, “by no kind of dialectics is it possible to remove the odium of comparison from any reinterpretation of an idea which makes invidious distinctions between one people and another.”

Thus, in the prayerbooks of the Reconstructionist movement, references to the doctrine of chosenness were eliminated in favor of alternative formulations that advocated a sense of vocation as in the phrase substituted in the blessing before reading the Torah, “who hast brought us nigh to thy service…” asher keruvanu la’avodato instead of the traditional asher bahar banu mi-kol ha-amim, “who hast chosen us from amongst the nations.”

I was very interested to read, more recently, a dialogue on the subject between two Reconstructionist rabbis in Zeek Magazine. Here’s what Rabbi Deborah Waxman, who serves as the vice president for governance at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, had to say:

Rejecting chosenness is an explicit embrace of a modern discourse pointing toward universal truths; it is an articulation of harmonious and consistent principles out of competing voices. Rejecting chosenness is about getting down to the hard work of being one of the many peoples of the world, jostling with one another on the path toward the divine, rather than

(Continued on page 15)
A Note from Our Cantor — Howard Friedland

I have been saying Kaddish for my Mom this year. Often I’m doing so at different congregations during the week, at an early morning or evening service, and I am always grateful for the chance to daven near my home. But, the place where I most appreciate saying Kaddish during the week is at JRC during our Religious School’s Tefillah service on Tuesday and Thursdays from 4:15–4:30pm.

I encourage every JRC member to attend these services, whether or not you have children in the school. Several parents regularly attend, and the spirits are high with the kids’ enthusiasm. We pray a bit, talk a bit, and always end with the Mourners’ Kaddish.

The kids are respectful of those saying Kaddish, and they often add names of loved ones to the yahrzeit list. Some congregations think it is bad form for children to recite the Mourners’ Kaddish before becoming bat or bar mitzvah. It is, after all, a prayer that is traditionally recited by children in memory of their parents. I feel strongly that one of the most important roles our young people will assume as they grow older, will be to attend minyanim in support of others who have lost loved ones. And they should, and will, be able to recite Kaddish.

Observing a yahrzeit or saying Kaddish are two reasons to come to the weekday school minyan, but not the only reasons. The length of the service is a great design, making the time commitment minimal. It’s a wonderful way to just take a breath and give thanks for the good people and things in your life. It’s habit forming. So please come and join us.

Gavel in Hand — Freddi Greenberg, President

I recently found the document adopted by the JRC Board in 2003, setting out a vision for JRC’s new home, the building that we now occupy. That document listed the many deficits of our old building that hampered JRC’s achievement of long- and short-term goals. Some of the limitations created by the old building were:

Lifecycle Celebrations – JRC had no functional social hall, but instead a converted basement that functioned as a multi-use room. Members who had life cycle events often looked elsewhere for adequate space to host their simchas.

Early Childhood Program – Our preschool shared the same basement. Plans for growth were hampered by lack of space, leading to a waiting list for several years in a row.

Religious School – On Sunday mornings, JRC was crowded and the religious school competed for space with adult education classes, book groups, committee meetings and community events. Innovative school programming was often rejected, principally due to space constraints.

Youth Programming – Youth programming was restricted as there was no place for the youth group to call its own.
Services – Even then, JRC had more than one service on Shabbat mornings. The Shabbat Minyan had no assigned space and met in various places – an upstairs classroom, the basement, and sometimes the sanctuary.

Congregational Programming – The Sanctuary, the largest room in the building, had a comfortable maximum seating capacity of about 300, too small for many programs, including some B’nai Mitzvah services, Purim shpiels, concerts and community events.

Library – The library was unable to display a sizeable portion of its books due to lack of space.

Accessibility – The absence of an elevator made the second floor inaccessible, so members or guests with disabilities could not attend Shabbat Minyan services on the many Shabbat mornings when the Minyan service was in a second floor classroom. The sanctuary and restrooms were on different levels. The basement “social hall” was accessible by stairs with a chair lift.

JRC Today

JRC today is different:

Life Cycle Celebrations – Our dim basement has been replaced by a bright, cheerful social hall that can comfortably accommodate 300 people for a simcha.

Early Childhood Program – Our early childhood program now resides in an airy dedicated space on the first floor that includes an interactive sculptural mural. Most recently, we have added an outdoor play yard to the early childhood amenities.

Religious School – Our religious school classes meet primarily on the second floor. Two smaller classrooms can be converted into a single large classroom. The building offers opportunities for a variety of innovative programming. Most recently, the sixth grade presented a Family History museum in the first floor chapel where students exhibited family treasures. Enthusiastic and knowledgeable sixth grade docents led visitors through the exhibit. I was amazed to see that family histories of our sixth grade class include a relative who fought in the Civil War.

Youth Programming – We have an enthusiastic youth group whose programs have recently been overflowing, due in no small part to the efforts of Chantal Blaustein, our Youth Group Advisor. And our youth members now have a recently completed lounge for programs and just for hanging out. When it is not used for youth programs, the youth lounge is in demand for other programs. Our Wednesday night bridge players are flourishing in this redecorated space!

Services – Our Shabbat Minyan services now meet in the first floor chapel. B’nai Mitzvah services can take place at the same time in the third floor sanctuary. As JRC’s space has increased, so has the demand to use that space on Shabbat mornings and sometimes on Sundays. We can’t complain about so many people wanting to be at JRC, so we continue to re-invent the way we use our spaces.

Congregational Events – Our sanctuary can hold up to 500 people comfortably for a variety of services and programs.

Library – Our library has its own space on the second floor with the religious school. Books are no longer kept in storage and the collection continues to grow.

Accessibility – We have two elevators so that all levels of the building are accessible to everyone. And our accessibility committee continues to look at ways to enhance the building’s accessibility to members and guests.

I hope you agree that JRC is a lot more than its building. Our new building has allowed JRC to become more than it could have been in the old building. The larger and more flexible space has enhanced our programs and activities in a way that could not have occurred in the old building.

I have to admit that when JRC decided to build a new building, I was concerned (and I expect others were, too) about how we would raise the needed funds and about the fact that we would have a new mortgage. However, I was encouraged by the fundraising success that allowed us to move forward. We have been able to meet our mortgage obligations and we plan to refinance our mortgage in 2013.

I continue to be heartened by how much the new space has done for our community and by the enthusiasm with which our community supports JRC. Examples of this support include the successful 2011 Gam Yachad Phonathon and the many JRC members participating in our strategic planning process—through the survey and in various working groups. I look forward to an enjoyable and successful JRSea Fundraising Gala on March 17 and then to planning for JRC’s 50th anniversary in 2014.
Board Meeting Notes
In the last few months, the Board of Directors addressed the following topics at its monthly meetings:

- **Displaying the Holocaust Torah**  Finding a suitable location for the Holocaust Torah display proved challenging. After looking at various locations, the Board decided that the Torah should be in the lobby outside of the sanctuary. Artist Amy Reichert has been commissioned to design and install the display. It is anticipated that the display will be completed in the late spring of this year.

- **Selecting Consultant**  The Strategic Planning Committee selected a strategic planning consultant after interviewing a variety of candidates. The Board allocated funding for the process.

- **Gift Acceptance Policy**  The Development Committee drafted a gift acceptance policy that was adopted by the Board in December.

- **Endorsing Events**  Occasionally, we are asked to endorse or sponsor events held in the Chicago area. In September, the Board voted to endorse a Human Rights Day event that took place at the Bahá'í Temple in Wilmette. More recently, JRC’s Board voted to become a sponsor of Limmud Chicago. Limmud Chicago is a Jewish adult education event held in February that draws participants from throughout the Chicago area.

- **Meet and Greet**  Planning is underway for individual Board members to host meet and greet events for JRC members.

- **Green Living Policies**  The Environmental Task Force made a presentation to the Board about JRC’s Green Living Policies. The Task Force is undertaking a review of those policies and will be interviewing JRC staff and teachers to see how the policies are working. The information they gather will be used to recommend updates to the policy.

- **Play Yard**  The Board approved the construction and funding of the new play yard at the rear of our building. With the exception of the plants, installation of the new play yard has been completed. Plants will be added in the spring.

- **Youth Lounge**  The board approved a design by congregant Karen Kaplan for the youth lounge and allocated funds for the project. The room was painted and new furniture was installed.

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**Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday, May 20, 10am**

What are you doing Sunday, May 20? If the sun is shining, get on your bikes (don’t forget those helmets) and join us for our Annual Congregational Meeting (walking is good, too). Come early to kibbitz over bagels and coffee before joining other JRC members for a little JRC business, including:

- A “State of the Synagogue” report
- A vote on our proposed Board slate for 2012–2013

Once the meeting is over, you’ll have spent a lovely couple of hours with your spiritual community, socialized, noshed, enjoyed some leisurely exercise, and you’ll be ready to bike or walk home and go on with your day. Doesn’t this sound nice? Of course it does! Who doesn’t like eating and meeting? So it’s settled: Sunday, May 20, you’ll come to the Annual Meeting. We’ll see you then!
Nominating Committee News

The Nominating Committee of JRC’s Board of Directors has convened to begin the process of selecting new Board members for the 2012–2013 Board term. This committee, as per the by-laws, is comprised of three Board members and four general population congregants.

This year, the Nominating Committee will be chaired by Susan Witz. Additional members of the committee are Steve Fox, Ann Kaplan-Perkins, Barbara Pinzur, Sara Polonsky, David Sutton and Mel Furman.

Meetings of the Board of Directors (members at large and officers) are held on the second Wednesday of the month, meetings of the Executive Committee (officers only) are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. If you would like to make a recommendation for a nomination to the Board, please contact one of the Nominating Committee members.

The official slate presented by the Nominating Committee will be posted for consideration to the congregation one month before the annual meeting. The slate will be voted into office by the congregation in attendance at the annual meeting.

If you have questions regarding the nominating process or Board of Directors, please contact Susan Witz (susanwitz@gmail.com) or Vickie Korey, VP Administration (vkorey@comcast.net)

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Strategic Planning Report

Building a Stronger JRC Together —David Tabak, Vice President of Development

JRC is engaged in a strategic planning process to set our priorities for the next three years. Thank you to the more than 350 members who took time to complete the survey at the end of the year. This represents 40% of the adult membership and provided invaluable information for crafting a plan that is responsive and comprehensive. We wanted to give you an update on the strategic planning process, as well as provide some preliminary information gleaned from the survey. In addition to the data presented below, we also received more than 80 pages of comments.

In late January, 70 JRC members gathered to discuss the survey results, including the comments, as well as other information collected by our consultants, the Executive Service Corps. Work is now progressing in six work groups that are considering the following topics: diverse membership, spiritual needs, lifelong education, tikkun olam, governance and fundraising/finance. The plan is to combine the work groups’ output and submit a three-year plan to the JRC Board for approval by the April meeting. We will provide you with more information on the strategic plan at the annual meeting in May.

Again, thank you for all those who are currently working on the strategic plan, those who completed the survey and, most of all, thank you for all you do for our spiritual home.

If you have any questions about the strategic planning process or suggestions for any of the workgroups, please feel free to contact me at tabak@mac.com.

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Which of the following best describe why you chose to join JRC when you first became a member?

(Top 5 reasons for joining JRC)

- Values of the congregation similar to my own: 52%
- The Rabbi: 34%
- Friendliness of the congregation: 31%
- Comfort with JRC ritual practices: 28%
- Had one or more friends and/or family at JRC: 26%

How close would you say JRC comes to being an ideal synagogue for you?

- Very Close: 41%
- Close: 43%
- Just OK: 14%
- Not Close: 1%
- Not at All: 1%

Top 5 Priorities JRC should consider in the future.

- Increase opportunities for social interaction among members: 37%
- Strengthen adult education programming: 29%
- Strengthen youth and teen programming: 29%
- Better integrate Tikkun Olam programs into other JRC activities: 27%
- Work towards becoming warmer, more welcoming, and friendlier: 26%
Adult Programming

“God Talk: The Role of Community” with Rabbi Brant Rosen

Saturdays, March 17 and 24
12:30pm–2:30pm
(Bring your own dairy/vegetarian lunch)
JRC members and students are free; Non-members: $36
Register: www.jrcwintergodtalk.eventbrite.com

Is it essential to believe in God to be a “good Jew?” What role does belief in God play in the Jewish community? How have we negotiated the communal politics of belief throughout Jewish history? Join Rabbi Rosen in an exploration of this critical topic.

For more information, please contact Tom Samuels (tsamuels@jrc-evanston.org), JRC’s Membership & Program Coordinator.

Friday night Shabbat service honoring JRC’s published authors

Friday, April 27, 2012
8:00pm

Are You a Published Author? Let JRC Know!

JRC is fortunate to have so many members who are also accomplished authors. On Friday, April 27, we’ll be honoring all published authors in our congregation during our Erev Shabbat service. Save the date!

For more information, please contact Tom Samuels (tsamuels@jrc-evanston.org), JRC’s Membership & Program Coordinator.

Family Programming

Families Enjoying Shabbat Together

Monthly Family Shabbat Service & Potluck Oneg
Saturdays, 9:00am–10:00am
Open to the Public

Upcoming Dates:

March 24
April 21
May 19
June 9

Join the JRC community for one Saturday morning each month to celebrate Shabbat with other families with young children. Everyone loves these 40 minutes of song-filled Shabbat with Rabbi Brant Rosen and Cantor Howard Friedland. Bring your favorite vegetarian dish for the potluck oneg afterwards.

For more information, please contact Tom Samuels (tsamuels@jrc-evanston.org), JRC’s Membership & Program Coordinator.
JRC Family Kallah 2012
May 25–27, 2012

Beber Conference Center in Mukwonago, WI.

Save the date for the JRC Family Kallah. This annual retreat is a cherished JRC tradition. It is a time to join other JRC families for a spiritually enriching weekend of community, learning and fun. This weekend getaway is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with your JRC friends, spend time with family and develop new relationships in a beautiful natural setting. Keep your eyes peeled for more information and registration links coming in the next few weeks. ✨

For more information, email familykallah@jrc-evanston.org.

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Special Shabbatot

Erev Shabbat Service with Jeremy Gershfield

Friday, March 23, 8:00pm

JRC member and violinist Jeremy Gershfield incorporates classical music into the JRC Shabbat service. (See the Member Profile on pages 8–9.)

Rock & Soul Shabbos with the Jews Brothers

Friday, March 30, 7:30pm

Friday night is going to be like no other at JRC. Awesome drummer (and JRC member) Al Goldberg brings one of his favorite projects, the Jews Brothers, for a true Rock and Soul Shabbos. We promise this service will lift your spirits while you’re gettin’ down!

And since you’ll be working up an appetite during the service, be sure to bring a dessert for the potluck oneg that follows. We’ll be joined by our friends from Makom Shalom and Mitzuit Jewish communities, who will also contribute to the oneg. ✨

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Dedication of New Names to JRC’s Memorial Sculpture

(During Erev Shabbat service on Friday, June 8 at 8pm)

Twice each year we gather to dedicate recently added names to our memorial sculpture. Seeing the names of our loved ones etched in the granite stones serves as a reminder of the impact they have had on our lives.

If you would like to include a loved one’s name on the sculpture, please contact Executive Director Sharon Diaz at sdiaz@jrc-evanston.org no later than Friday, May 11. The minimum donation per name is $500. ✨
Member Profile: Jeremy Gershfield

Jeremy Gershfield and his family are new to JRC, but have quickly gotten involved. JRC is honored to have Jeremy, an accomplished violinist, perform at our Erev Shabbat service on March 23.

Jeremy and his wife, Liz, joined JRC this past fall because JRC members expressed similar values to their own.

“The timing worked out because our eldest son, Levi, is in third grade and was ready for Hebrew school. We like to come to some of the family services, and I enjoy coming with Levi on Thursdays to the Tefillah service. I’ve also recently volunteered to be on the spiritual needs work group from the JRC planning retreat,” Jeremy said.

Jeremy has been playing the violin since he was six years old and the viola since he was 13. “Everyone in my family played a string instrument and continues to do so. My octogenarian parents play in a self-described arthritis string quartet. Chamber music was central to our lives. I can remember being schlepped to countless concerts as a kid in Washington, DC and falling asleep in the back seat of the family car on the way home,” Jeremy said.

Although everyone in his family was musically inclined, Jeremy was the only member of his family to become a professional musician. He studied music in college, and went on to graduate school, where he was a teaching assistant to the Grammy award-winning Vermeer String Quartet.

“I’ve been a central member of the Concerto Soloists of Philadelphia, Associate Principal Violist of the Indiana Symphony Orchestra, and the Artistic Director of the Camerata Society of Chicago. Some of the places I’ve performed include music festivals in Salzburg, Banff, Tanglewood, Taos, and even close to home as a Stean’s Young Artist here at Ravinia. I also teach privately at DePaul University’s community music division,” Jeremy said.

Music is integral to Jeremy’s life. He says, “I’m always thinking about music, listening, going to concerts, and playing chamber music with colleagues from my professional musician’s life when time permits. I perform less than I used to, but am practicing more than ever—mostly with my son, Levi, who is a cellist, and Oscar, who plays both violin and piano.”

Not surprisingly, Jeremy developed a company, the Quartet Approach, to uniquely tie in his love of music with his background in conflict resolution. The Quartet Approach helps businesses succeed by improving how their employees work together as a team. He has worked with a variety of clients, including advertising agencies, consumer packaged goods companies, financial services companies, and a large music festival.

To accomplish its goal of helping companies, The Quartet Approach uses a rehearsing string quartet to facilitate conversations with groups who are interested in learning how to better work together through powerful listening.

Jeremy says, “My idea for the Quartet Approach coalesced when some good friends were in town to play a chamber music concert with me. The chemistry when rehearsing, both intellectually and creatively, was phenomenal. I thought, ‘How could we package this chemistry to teach to teams in the business world?’”

With this question at the forefront of his mind, Jeremy scoured the organizational psychology literature to research and develop this program. “I used the learning from these seminars combined with my training as a mediator with the Center for Conflict Resolution to help mid-market companies find targeted fits for their marketing needs.”

Jeremy is looking forward to performing at JRC’s Erev Shabbat service on March 23.

“Besides performing some of the more overtly Jewish music by composers, such as Ernest Bloch, I’ve never previously incorporated classical music into my Jewish experience. Playing in a Shabbat service at JRC is a chance for me to merge something that is so central to my life with my participation at JRC. I am grateful to Cantor Howard Friedland and Rabbi Brant Rosen for providing me with the opportunity for such an experience,” Jeremy said.
The Progressive Chevra Kadishah (Burial Committee) and Tahara — Larry Goldberg

Tahara, a ritual cleansing of the deceased, fulfills the verse from Ecclesiastes 5:14, “As we come forth, so we shall return.”

JRC is part of the Progressive Chevra Kadishah (PCK), a volunteer inter-congregational society dedicated to conducting the ceremony of tahara in preparation for Jewish burial. PCK is staffed by trained volunteers from Beth Emet, JRC, Lomdim, Or Chadash, and the Ner Tamid Egal Minyan to serve the needs of members and their families. It includes both men and women.

Tahara has been a burial custom of Jews for two millenia. Before the body is buried, it is washed in a ritual act of purification. Just as a baby is washed and enters the world clean and pure, so do we leave the world cleansed by the religious act of tahara.

Until recently, the burial societies functioned mostly in the Orthodox community, and few liberal Jews availed themselves of this incredible ritual. Since 2004 in the Chicago area, the Progressive Chevra Kadisha has trained members who have participated in chevra (the preparation of the body for burial).

How the Progressive Chevra Kadishah Works

When someone dies, PCK members visit the funeral home—at JRC, this is discussed as part of the Funeral Plan, or at a family’s request—and prepare the body of the deceased according to the centuries-old customs of our people. PCK members wash the body (rechitza), perform a ritual cleansing (tahara), and dress the deceased in a set of simple white cotton garments (tachrichim) for burial. Men handle male bodies and women prepare female bodies; modesty is preserved even in death. The Progressive Chevra Kadisha performs this service anonymously as an ultimate act of lovingkindness (g’mitlut chesed) to honor the dead and to comfort the living who remember them.

Several core principles are in play in the tahara ceremony. As all people are created equal, so the met/mettah (Hebrew name for the body of a man/woman) is placed in a simple cotton shroud, the same for all who are buried. Sand from Israel is placed in the aron (coffin) as well as clay pieces over the eyes and mouth, both ancient customs.

My First Experience in a Tahara Ceremony

I would like to share my first experience of participating in a tahara ceremony. A group of five men met in the lobby of the funeral home to greet each other and answer any questions we had. We prepared ourselves for the serious and holy work we were about to perform, agreeing that unnecessary talk would not occur, and proper reverence would be maintained. We donned kippot and quietly entered the funeral home’s preparation room. We put on gloves and gowns as we were to work with the deceased.

The met (body of the deceased) was on a washing table. He wore a hospital identification badge, and still had several gauze pads and bandages in place. He had the aura of a hospital. We quietly removed the bandages and bands and ceremoniously washed and dried the met in a prescribed manner, one member chanting prayers and psalms at appropriate times. This was the rechitza. We then washed the met a second time (ritual cleansing, tahara) and carefully dried. Again, in a prescribed fashion, we placed a kippa on the met’s head, and clothed him with simple cotton pants, shirt and head cover. We then placed a full body gown of the same material. These were the tachrichim.

With great respect and reverence, we lifted the met and placed him into the aron (casket). The met no longer had the aura of a hospital, but the feeling of religious blessing. It was incredible. We placed a tallit in the aron after cutting off a fringe (tzitzit), and again recited blessings, including one asking for forgiveness if we conducted ourselves in any way inappropriately (mechilon), and closed the aron. A peacefulness permeated the sacred space that had been created. A Jewish man was returning to his community of ages. The tahara was over. We met again in the lobby, to share thoughts and feelings, and went home.

The tahara service is included in the JRC Funeral Plan. (There is a small additional fee.) If members do not wish to participate, the funeral home (Chicago Jewish Funerals) will certainly honor that request and prepare the body in a manner that does not include the tahara service.

To learn more about the work of the Progressive Chevra Kadishah, to inquire about arranging a tahara, or to volunteer, call 847.440.4725 or email pckadisha@gmail.com. JRC members Larry Goldberg, Carol Goldbaum, and Elliot Zashin currently serve on the steering committee.
Religious School — Terri Bernsohn, Director

Our first-ever Camp Day was a big success. Kids enjoyed the programming, but I also heard from parents who appreciated the single session, and an opportunity to spend time with families with whom they don’t normally cross paths. Thanks to the staff of Camp JRF for creating a wonderful experience for our older kids. Thanks, too, to Susan Salidor and Fran Landt for their song leading and storytelling, respectively, for the younger students. During our annual Presidents Weekend Kallah at Camp Henry Horner, Billy Kaplan supervised a great program for over 30 JRC teens, as well as for kids from surrounding congregations.

We are actively and enthusiastically preparing for Purim. Some classes are making masks, others are baking hamantaschen. On Sunday, March 11, our vibrant megillah reading (with Klezmer band) and newly-refashioned carnival will draw most of our school families. If you are not yet a member of JRC, or if you know families who might be interested in finding out more about us, this would be a great day to visit.

For Passover, we will be road-testing a newly published family haggadah in some of our classrooms. It provides many contemporary adaptations and alternatives, such as oranges on seder plates, and using roasted beets in place of shank bones, making it a great resource for families who want simple-to-follow instructions, as well as for those who want to integrate new ideas as your family evolves.

Believe it or not, we are getting ready to begin registration for the 2012–13 school year. Forms will be available online in early April. Contact Robyn at rhurtig@jrc-evanston.org for more information. Our Sunday Pre-K classes for 3–5 year-olds is open to non-members. Please contact me (tbernsohn@jrc-evanston.org) if you would like to learn more about our school, or to schedule a visit before Sunday, May 13.
Youth Group — Chantal Blaustein, Director

“Go Team Rabbi!”, “Don’t break your bones, Cantor!” Those are the cheers from our kids at our Broomball extravaganza on January 8. There was high energy and once again we an incredible turnout of about 50 kids.

Laurie Goldstein led our high schoolers in a meditation session on January 29. We had 15 kids on the floor with their eyes closed listening to Laurie’s words: “Now see yourself as perfect and exactly the way you are...as a friend, with your family and with yourself.” After this very relaxing and spiritual session we ate Chinese food and watched a non-educational movie chosen by the kids. This session was to help the kids completely unwind after a grueling week of finals.

January was a busy month as we also had our ski trip to the Grand Geneva. Thanks to our chaperones Jon Brooke and Steve Holland, who donated their afternoon to come play with us on the slopes. The weather was amazing and thankfully no one got hurt!

In early February, we had an interfaith Kabbalat Shabbat with kids from the Lake Street Church. We gave them a taste of what celebrating Shabbat is all about. The kids explained each blessing and after dinner we had a great musical service with Cantor Howard and Rabbi Brant followed by an Oneg. Thank you again to the parents who helped with the event.

Finally, ten of our youth group kids planned an exciting scavenger hunt of our green building during our Tu B’shvat Seder last Friday. After an educational tour by Robin Eisen Perkins, one of our JRC docents, they prepared special signs and bingo sheets. They also supervised and entertained about 40 kids, giving their parents a welcomed respite during the Seder. Thanks to Kelsey Waxman for pitching in and making sure the kids had plenty to do to keep themselves entertained.

We have been extremely busy, but the kids keep asking for more, which is both rewarding and inspiring. Our latest event was our Weekend Youth Kallah on February 17 led by the amazing Billy Kaplan.

We will also soon be creating an art piece for our beautiful and newly decorated Youth Lounge (date to be announced). Finally, on Sunday March 18 from 4–6 pm, those in grades 5 through 12 can join us at Sky High Sports in Niles, a gigantic room filled with Trampolines. Chaperones are needed and welcome. The event is $15 plus a snack to share. Details to come.
Early Childhood — Bonnie Silverman, Director

Registration is now open for our 2012–13 Early Childhood program (http://jrc-evanston.org/content/ecc-forms). We are excited to offer a new class this year! Our mixed age class for 2-1/2 to 5 year-olds is now available in the afternoons from 12:30–3pm. You have the flexibility to choose which three to five days work best for you.

Sign up now for summer camp! If you pay for summer camp by March 30, you will receive a 15% discount.

We are excited that our children have been able to play in our new play yard that we completed this past January. It’s a wonderful, natural setting playground that our children can enjoy for years to come. It’s designed to extend our classroom outdoors by allowing challenging physical activity and exploration through all natural materials, such as real rocks and tree trunks, not plastic. The play yard is filled with textures, beautiful river rocks, and other natural items to touch and feel. Plantings will go in this spring. Please visit this beautiful space. We are still raising money to help pay for our new playground, which you can help by ordering Passover candy—go to www.misschocolate.com and enter the school code of 703774. ✴️
Library News

Recent Arrivals in the Library — Eva Eisenstein, Librarian

Enveloped in Light: A Tallit Sourcebook edited by Dov Peretz Elkins and Steven Schwarzman.
Here is probably almost everything you would want to know about the tallit and tzitzit. Also a great resource for young and adult b’nai mitzvah students. Sponsored by Joan Dumser and Alan Rudin.

Homesick by Eshkol Nevo. This award-winning novel from Israel gives us an intimate portrayal of life in Israel today. Donated by Patti Vick, who recommends it highly.

Becoming Jewish: The Challenges, Rewards, and Paths to Conversion by (Reconstructionist) Rabbi Steven Carr Reuben and Jennifer S. Hanin (a convert to Judaism).
An easy-going, accessible, and witty guide for anyone choosing Judaism, whether one is Jewish or not. Sponsored by Jan Wishinsky.

Maxwell Street Klezmer Band—4 CD’s: You Should Be So Lucky!; Sweet Early Years (Zisse Kinder Yorn); Old Roots—New World; and Eight Nights of Joy with Rabbi Joe Black.
In case you don’t own these recordings by our own Lori Lippitz’s band, you may borrow them from the library to enjoy. Donated by Lori Lippitz (of course).

Empire Settings and Ivory from Paradise by David Schmahmann.
These two novels, which should be read in sequence, take place mostly in apartheid and post-apartheid South Africa, and touch on betrayal, family legends and tensions, racial complexities, and plenty of cultural and historical amnesia. Donated by Leslie Rosen.

And a Few Notable Titles for the Youngsters:

Four Seasons: A Novel in Four Movements by Jane Breskin Zalben.
“An involving and compassionate story of a young girl in crisis.”—The Horn Book. Allegra Katz is a talented pianist, but she doesn’t know if music is her future.

Green Bible Stories for Children by Tami Lehman-Wilzig, and illustrated by Durga Yael Bernhard.
Eight Tanach/Bible stories teach us to use and respect the land, conserve natural resources, and save energy. For ages 6–11.

Many Days, One Shabbat by Fran Manushkin, and illustrated by Maria Monescillo.
A family gets ready to celebrate Shabbat, welcoming guests, enjoying a nice meal, and sharing some nice quiet moments together. For preschoolers.

Feel free to come in to view and/or borrow these books, and any others in our collection.

The Library is on the 2nd Floor, east side of the building. Librarian hours are Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays including the hours when Religious School is in session. Otherwise the library is open when the building is open. 🌟

For more information, Eva Eisenstein can be reached at eeisenstein@jrc-evanston.org or 847.328.7678 x2255.

The Universal Library Appeal

A call-out to all our treasured library users who have borrowed from the library:
Please return any books that you and/or your children are no longer reading and that you have had for longer than a month. We would like to give others the opportunity to check them out.
And, because some of our treasured users have absent-mindedly borrowed books without filling out the book cards, we don’t know who you are, so we can’t contact you! When you read this, please return your books.
Thank you
Rabbinical Commentary  (Continued from page 1)

holding ourselves separate and nurturing a belief in God-given superiority. As postmoderns, we may have the capacity to hold multiple and conflicting values. When it comes to chosenness, I would argue that we should not indulge in this capacity; by moving beyond chosenness, we make a deliberate statement about our highest values.

Rabbi Nancy Fuchs-Kreimer, who is the director of the Department of Multifaith Studies and Initiatives at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, responded thus:

(No) matter what I choose in my own religious practice, I cannot simply ignore a core piece of our tradition. The idea of chosenness has not gone away. As a Jew, I still own it, even if I do not speak of it in my prayers. In the interfaith encounter, I have to resist the temptation to claim only the parts of Judaism I love. If I skip over the Jewish ideas I find objectionable or, more often, if I explain that they belong to someone else—“the mistaken Jews”—I am acting in a way that is both arrogant and untrue to my own pluralistic commitments. My dialogue principles require that I learn to understand the beliefs of my co-religionists even when I do not share them.

I believe both of my colleague’s insights are well taken. I would only add that personally I am proud to be part of a movement that says out loud and in no uncertain terms that religious exceptionalism has no place in religious life today.

As always, I’d love to hear your thoughts.✦

Kvell Korner

To kvell (or shep naches) means to be proud of. This column is devoted to letting our community know about the wonderful things happening in the lives of JRC members.

In January, Maple Conn, daughter of Jeff Balch and Dori Conn, performed in Mudlark Theater’s, “The Inspector General,” a terribly observant comedy by Nikolai Gogol.

Vickie and Irv Korey welcomed their second grandchild, Madeline Leigh, on February 24.

Harriet and Hank Conroe will soon be in Singapore kvelling over their new granddaughter, Nayala Sadie Conroe, born on February 8. Proud new parents are Andrew Conroe and Karen Siegel.

Bonnie Stone Stern and Larry Stern welcomed their seventh grandchild, Jordan Michael Rubens, son of Michael Rubens and Rachael Juda, on November 18. Jordan is the only grandchild to live out of state. So if you come into the office and “Bonnie is in Arizona,” now you’ll know why!✦

If you have any kvell-able information, email Bonnie Stone Stern at BStern@jrc-evanston.org, fax: 847.328.2298, or call: 847.328.7678. Remember, keep on kvelling!

JRC Membership Renewal

While we all wait for that snowstorm that allows us to kvetch to our California cousins, JRC membership renewal and the High Holidays are near: membership is in July and High Holidays are in early September! If you have any questions, concerns, or want to discuss getting more involved in the JRC community, please feel free to contact Tom Samuels (tsamuels@jrc-evanston.org), JRC’s Membership & Program Coordinator.✦
Tzedakah is a central mitzvah of Judaism, humanizing both the donor and the recipient. JRC has established a series of tzedakah funds in response to members’ interests, aiming to serve three functions:

- To support the congregation. All are welcome to membership, to worship, to our school—even those unable to pay full dues. Your contributions make this possible.
- To support important extra-budgetary activities.
- Most importantly, to provide a convenient and meaningful way for JRC members and others to fulfill the traditional obligation of tzedakah as we honor, commemorate, and express gratitude.

Rabbi Brant Rosen and Hallie Rosen
Cantor Howard Friedland and Terry Parisoli
Freddi Greenberg, President, and Daniel Pinkert

Mazel Tov to our December, January, and February B’nai Mitzvah and their families: Emilia Smith, Joshua Byster, Kayla Chinitz, Celia Nicolson

Condolences to:
Ellen Kenemore and her family on the death of her father, Maynard Wishner
David Pepperberg and his family on the death of his mother, Rosalind Pepperberg
Adam Mossbridge and his family on the death of his father, Leslie Moss
Deborah Wolen and her family on the death of her mother, Terese Wolen
Terri Bernsohn and her family on the death of her mother, Lillian Kreiger
Carol Hirsch-Blechman and her family on the death of her uncle, Ira Zeidman
Lydia Stux and her family on the death of her brother, Arnold Stux
Kristen Harris and her family on the death of her grandfather, David Harris
Charles Sennet and his family on the death of his father, Saunders Sennet
Howard Gartzman and his family on the death of his father, Arthur Gartzman

Friends and family on the death of Elaine Hirsch, beloved JRC member
Jay Levy and family on the death of his mother, Rose Levy
Alex Gaytan and his family on the death of his mother, Elisa Gaytan
Sheila Meyer and her family on the death of her brother-in-law, Jerry Manos
Lynntia Sutton and her family on the death of her sister, Joan Kir-Stimon
Susan Cherry and her family on the death of her mother, Betsy Spaeth

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
Carleen Schreder and Ralph Musicant
With gratitude to Rabbi Rosen for officiating the renewal of their wedding vows
The Fox-Perrin Family
With gratitude to Rabbi Rosen for officiating Sara’s Bat Mitzvah
Sandy Spatz and Tracy Hultgren
With appreciation for Rabbi Rosen’s guidance in Seth’s Bar Mitzvah

The Waxman Family
With gratitude to Rabbi Rosen for officiating the unveiling service in memory of Susan’s father, Robert Davis
Susan Stone and Jay Levy
With gratitude to Rabbi Rosen for his support after the death of Jay’s mother, Rose Levy

David Kleiman
In memory of his uncle, Ansel Kleiman
In memory of Elaine Hirsch
Sandy Waxman
In appreciation of Rabbi Rosen for all the wonderful work he does at JRC
The Reverend Cotton Fite
With thanks for all that Rabbi Rosen does for Evanston
Beverly Friend
In memory of her husband, James Friend
In memory of her mother, Dorothy Oberfeld
In memory of her loved one, David Miller
Marcia and Ross Nickow
With gratitude to Rabbi Rosen for the wonderful wedding ceremony of their son, Andre, and Jasmine Alkhatib
Norma and Merle Arlen
In memory of Elaine Hirsch
Rena and David Appel
In memory of Joseph Reuben Frolichstein-Appel
Joan Spigelman
In memory of her son, Alan Margolis
In memory of her father, Isaac Pais
With gratitude to Rabbi Rosen and Cantor Friedland for their support

Cantor’s Discretionary Fund
The Waxman Family
With gratitude to Cantor Friedland for Katia’s Bat Mitzvah
Carleen Schreder and Ralph Musicant
With gratitude to Cantor Friedland for officiating the renewal of their wedding vows
The Fox-Perrin Family
With gratitude to Cantor Friedland for officiating Sara’s Bat Mitzvah
Susan and Benson Friedman
With gratitude to Rabbi Rosen for officiating the unveiling service in memory of Susan’s father, Robert Davis
Susan Stone and Jay Levy
With gratitude to Rabbi Rosen for his support after the death of Jay’s mother, Rose Levy
Sandy Waxman  
In appreciation of Cantor  
Friedland for all the wonderful  
work he does at JRC

Sue Levine and Leon Fink  
In memory of Sue’s mother, Julie  
Levine

David Kleiman  
In honor of Camp JRF

Marcie Weiss  
Condolences to Susan, Allison  
and Erica Cherry and their  
family on the death of their  
mother and grandmother, Betsy  
Spaeth

General Fund

Stephan Bechtolsheim

Vivian Mitchell  
Condolences to Ellen Kenemore  
on the death of her father,  
Maynard Wishner

Ruth Dick  
In honor of Jonathan Markowitz  
and Ruth Wenger for their  
friendship and generosity

Sharon Diaz  
In honor of Maud Tabak on  
becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
In honor of Jack Nolan on  
becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Carolyln Shapiro and Joshua Karsh  
Condolences to Dori Conn on  
the death of her father, Harold  
Conn

Ruth Gilbert  
Condolences to Ellen Kenemore  
on the death of her father,  
Maynard Wishner

Margie Morrison Zivin and Mark  
Zivin  
Condolences to Ellen Kenemore  
on the death of her father,  
Maynard Wishner

Anne Goldberg  
In loving memory of Cecelia  
Goldberg, sister of Anne  
Goldberg, on her Yahrzeit

Barbara and David Pinzur  
Condolences to David  
Pepperberg on the death of his  
mother, Rosalind Pepperberg

Jack Doppelt and Margie Schaps  
Tzedakah

Donald Grossman  
In loving memory of Elaine  
Hirsch

Barbara Bernstein and Fred  
Tanenbaum  
In loving memory of Elaine  
Hirsch

Nina Henry of TBI  
Thank you for the docent led  
tour of JRC

The Fourth Presbyterian Church  
of Chicago  
Thank you for the docent led  
tour of JRC

Wiley Rosenberg  
In loving memory of Harriett  
Rosenberg, wife of Wiley  
Rosenberg, on her Yahrzeit

Marie Davidson  
In loving memory of Mary  
O’Neil, mother of Marie  
Davidson, on her Yahrzeit

Art/Design Fund

Baila and Irv Miller  
In loving memory of Anna  
Miller, stepmother of Irv Miller,  
on her Yahrzeit

Lisa Pildes and Michael Sehr  
Condolences to Jay Levy and  
family on the death of his  
mother, Rose Levy  
Thanks to Karen Kaplan on  
her great job in making the  
decorated Youth Lounge a  
reality

Foundation Fund

Aaron and Sheila Cohen  
Condolences to Donald  
Grossman on the death of his  
beloved Elaine Hirsch  
Condolences to Beth, Jeff,  
and Joe Handt on the death  
of their beloved mother and  
grandmother, Elaine Hirsch  
Condolences to Ann Hirsch on  
the death of her beloved mother,  
Elaine Hirsch

Tamar and Elliot Frolichstein-  
Appel  
In loving memory of their son,  
Joseph Reuben, on his Yahrzeit  
In honor of the dedication of the  
new playground  
In loving memory of Lillian  
Kreiger, mother of Terri  
Bernsohn  
In loving memory of Morrie  
Young, father of Sherry Young  
In loving memory of Terese  
Wolen, mother of Debbie Wolen

In loving memory of Robert  
Moneharsh, father of Cindy  
Solomon

In loving memory of Arnold  
Stux, brother of Lydia Stux  
In loving memory of Harold  
Conn, father of Dori Conn  
In loving memory of Eddy  
Abron, grandmother of Deborah  
Drache

In loving memory of Lanny  
Drews, father of Terri Drews

In loving memory of Tom  
Mitchell, father of Becky  
Mitchell

Kol Haneshamah Prayerbooks

Shirley Gould  
In loving memory of Abraham  
Goldman and Irving Goldman,  
father and brother of Shirley  
Gould, on their Yahrzeiten  
In loving memory of Joseph  
Gould, husband of Shirley  
Gould, on his Yahrzeit

Elaine Morrison  
In loving memory of Arthur  
Morrison, husband of Elaine  
Morrison, on his Yahrzeit

Landscape Fund

Anne Goldberg  
In loving memory of Ida Pollack,  
aunt of Anne Goldberg, on her  
Yahrzeit

Religious School Fund

Maxine and Chuck Lange  
In loving memory of Eugene  
Lange, brother of Chuck Lange,  
on his Yahrzeit

Beth and Josh Grodzin  
In honor of Terri Bernsohn and  
all the wonderful teachers who  
work with Zev and Asher  
Condolences to Terri Bernsohn  
on the death of her mother,  
Lillian Kreiger

Alan and Suzanne Saposnik

Laurie Goldstein and Jon Marshall

Ed Getz and Terri Drews

Marjorie Frank

Fox-Perrin Family

Barbara and Jerry Israelite

Bonnie Stone Stern and Larry  
Stern

Karen and James Jensen

Ruth Gilbert and Marshall Lobin
Joan Dumser and Alan Rudin
Kate and Alvin Spector
Sidney and Leota Hirsch Memorial Fund (Library)
Jill Berkeley Goldman
In loving memory of Laura and Bernard Berkeley, mother and father of Jill Berkeley Goldman and Lon Berkeley, on their Yahrzeiten
Janet Wishinsky
In loving memory of Henry Wishinsky, father of Janet Wishinsky, on his Yahrzeit
Boris and Mel Furman
Condolences to Alan Goldberg and Cookie Gluck on the loss of Dorothy Goldberg, mother of Alan Goldberg
Charlene and Howard Gelber
In loving memory of Elaine Hirsch
Janet Wishinsky
In loving memory of Debra Slavin, grandmother of Janet Wishinsky and Fran Landt, on her Yahrzeit
Charlene and Howard Gelber
In loving memory of Clara Powitz, mother of Charlene Gelber, on her Yahrzeit
Laurie Goldstein and Jon Marshall
Condolences to Lynntia Sutton and Alisha Sutton on the death of their sister and aunt, Joan Kir-Stimon
Matt and Marilee Cole
Condolences to Lynntia Sutton and Alisha Sutton on the death of their sister and aunt, Joan Kir-Stimon
Bonnie Stone Stern and Larry Stern
In honor of the birth of their grandson, Jordan Michael Rubens
Social Action Food Fund
Anne Goldberg
Condolences to Ellen Kenemore on the death of her father, Maynard Wishner
Jon Marshall and Laurie Goldstein
In memory of Jonathan Marshall, father of Jon Marshall, on his Yahrzeit
Sandy Waxman
Beverly Friend
In loving memory of Harold Oberfeld, father of Beverly Friend, on his Yahrzeit
Social Action Food Fund (Soup Kitchen)
Shelly and David Goldberg
In honor of Mia, Ben, and Naomi Goldberg
Social Action Israel Fund
Hank and Harriet Conroe
Condolences to Terri Bernsohn on the death of her mother, Lillian Kreiger
Anne Goldberg
In loving memory of Pearl Zaret, aunt of Anne Goldberg, on her Yahrzeit
Social Action Kehillah Fund
Myron and Joyce Hultgren
With gratitude to Tracy Hultgren and Sandy Spatz for being such great parents to Seth and Emma
Many Thanks to Our Generous Phone-a-Thon Donors
Cynthia Aaronson and William Levine
Megan and Dan Abraham
Jacob and Jillian Adler
Ellen Alexander
Ken and Ann Avick
Dana Baerger and Nick Dicrescenzo
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Naomi Feldman
Sue Levine and Leon Fink
Tessa Fisher and Richard Rosen
Susan and David Forte
Marge Frank
Nancy Freedman
Alise Freilich and Andrew Schulkin
Alan and Carol Friedlander
Laura Friedlander
Jennifer and Cleetus Friedman
Carol and Rick Friedman
Susan and Sy Frolichstein
Tamar and Elliot Frolichstein-Appel
Teresa Gale and Stewart Weiss
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Sue and Howard Gartzman
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Alex Gaytan and Julie Portnoy
Charlene and Howard Gelber
Mary Rita Luecke and Michael Gelder
Patti Vick and Kurt Gelhausen
Elizabeth and Jeremy Gershfeld
Ruth Gilbert
James and Gail Gilbert
Tamara Glassburg and James Sanders
Steven and Melanie Glick
Carol Goldbaum
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Larry Goldberg
Nancy and Alan Goldberg
Gail Lovinger-Goldblatt and Marty Goldblatt
Howard Goldfine
Jill Berkeley Goldman and Larry Goldman
Laurie Goldstein and Jon Marshall
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Beth and Joshua Grodzin
Rachel and Devin Gross
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Emily Harris and James Ridker
Leslie Scolnick Hauser and Marc Hauser
Heather Heiman and Stephen Persell
Paulette Herbstman and Sandy Sloane
Maria Tolpin and Bill Hirsch
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Judy and Bob Holstein
Steven Holland and Sally Pallier
Kim and Scott Holstein
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Robert and Mary Israelite
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Jennifer McCray and William Kaplan
Ann and Jackie Kaplan-Perkins
Terry Soto and Mark Karlin
Josh Karsh and Carolyn Shapiro
Linda and Bruce Kaskel
Rich and Heidi Katz
Nancy J. Katz
Ana and Chip Kaufman
Margit Kir-Stimon and Warren Sherman
David Kleiman
Susan and Michael Klonsky
Ruth Kolodny
Vickie and Irv Korey
Nancy and Rick Kreiter
Judy Mendel and Jorge Kurganoff
Ellen Zlotnick-Lamb and Alexander Lamb
Skip and Fran Landt
Maxine and Charles Lange
Robert Lange
Beth Lange and Bill Martin
Alan Wachs and Ilene Lebovitz
Marilyn Leboy
Paul Lehman and Ronna Stamm
Daniel Levin
Judith Levinson and Larry Rose
Sue and Michael Levinson
Ben and Muriel Levitt
Ursula Levy
Jay Levy and Susan Stone
Robert and Karen Libman
Ann and Seth Lichter
Kathryn Lisco
Joel and Leslie Litoff
Joyce and Daniel Litoff
Cece Lobin and Jay Schwartz
Sherry and Mel Lopata
Sarah Lovinger
Josh and Erica Lowitz
John and Jerry Macsai
Marcy Maller
Wendy Margolis
Pam and Josh Mark
Jonathan Markowitz and Ruth Wenger  
Larry and Mindy Marks and Family  
Judy and Donald Martin  
Sharon and Jim McGowan  
Beth Rubin and Dane McGregor  
James and Diana McNelis  
Jonathan and Chinyoung Meyer  
Sheila Meyer  
Beryl Michaels  
Mia and Jonathan Miller  
Baila and Irv Miller  
Ira Brown and Brenda Mindock  
Rhonda Present and Laurence Minsky  
Becky Mitchell and Jim Zeckhauser  
Brad and Kim Moldofsky  
Elaine Morrison  
Julia Mossbridge  
Rosalie Murphy and Eric Selinger  
Carleen Schrader and Ralph Musicant  
Jody Myers  
Robert Nachman and Tobi Ehrenpreis  
Wilma and Jonathan Nachsin  
Lisa and John Nicolson  
Michael and Bonnie Nolan  
Michael Okrent and Lynn Pollack  
Martin Okun  
Rebecca and Jason Osborn  
Lesley Pearl  
Robin Eisen Perkins and Steve Perkins  
Steve Fox and Jane Perrin  
Diane Pezanoski  
David and Barbara Pinzur  
Neal and Mari Plotnik  
Manny and Tina Pollack  
Sara Polonsky and Kanal Pujara  
Jason Price and Mara Siler-Price  
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Nina Raskin  
Sharyn and Edward Reiff  
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Stephan and Margaret Romm  
Bernard Rose  
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Rachel and Stuart Rosenberg  
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Judy and Paul Kass

Welcome Returning Member
Janet Migdow

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Administrator: Chicago Jewish Funerals, Ltd.,
195 North Buffalo Grove Road, Buffalo Grove, Illinois, 60089; 847.229.8822, or toll free 888.509.5011.

At your time of loss, call them at any hour of the day. Rabbi Rosen will be contacted immediately, or you may also call him directly. A detailed funeral guide is available from the JRC office. ✪