# Temple Adath Israel Bulletin

Mid-May/June 2025

Iyar/Sivan/Tamuz 5785

# Congrats, Class of 2025

# FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY



David Wirtschafter

Mazel tov to all our confirmands, graduates and their families celebrating milestones in recent and upcoming weeks. Having been here since 2015, I have known this year's confirmands since they were in kindergarten/first-grade, our high school graduates since third grade and our college graduates since seventh grade. Looking back at pictures of them when they were consecrated, bar/bat mitzvahed, and confirmed can get you teary-eyed. These celebrants have grown up in challenging times: 18 months of war in Israel, the pandemic, the Black Lives Matter and #MeToo movements, lockdowns, an assault on our nation's capital, just to name a few.

Whilewe would be proud of you under any circumstances, we are particularly proud of you during trying ones. We hope there has been much joy along the way: Parents and grandparents who nurtured you,

See RABBI, Page 2

# TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL

**BUILDING CENTENNIAL** 





# 100 years on North Ashland

Temple Adath Israel will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our building with a months-long celebration that will culminate in 2026 with a rededication of the synagogue.

The kickoff event, which also will serve as a celebration of Rabbi Wirtschafter's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary at TAI, is set for Friday, July 4, at the home/farm of Rebecca and Joe Young. It will include an outdoor Shabbat service, cookout, and fun and games for adults and kids. (Look for more details in upcoming emails.)

Also in the works is a Throwback Shabbat, probably in November, that will feature the Union Prayer Book that was in widespread use when TAI held the first service in its new building on Feb. 19, 1926. Plans also include an oral history/multimedia project, projects that engage our Religious School students, and the possibility of replacing the seats in the sanctuary, whose best days are behind them. (No pun intended.)

Temple Adath Israel was chartered in 1904. The congregation purchased a building on Maryland Avenue in 1905 for use as its first permanent sanctuary.

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#### **RABBI**

#### **Continued from Page 1**

teachers and coaches who guided you, friends who cheered for you.

As you continue your professional, academic and religious growth, there are a few things we hope you keep in mind. Judaism is a lifelong journey. We never graduate, we just keep learning. Yes, there are significant milestones, and we rejoice in them with you, but vou are never done when it comes to intellectual, emotional and religious paths. They just keep going. Secondly, we are always here for you on that path. There is nowhere you can go and nothing you can do that puts you beyond our congregation and community. We will love you no matter how many dreams you reach, degrees you earn, awards you win; how much money you make, where you live or who you love. Ahavat Olam, our love for you is unconditional and everlasting. It is yours because you are ours, not because of what you do or don't accomplish.

Finally, in a world that prioritizes speed and size,

remember the importance of caution and depth. Faster is not always wiser, and bigger is not always better. You will learn what you need to learn by being patient with yourselves and others, especially when the going gets tough. Your greatest asset is not your bank account, your degree, your house, your car or your friends. Your greatest asset is yourself. You will accomplish meaningful things because you are you.

In the words of poet Marcia Falk, "Be who you are and may you be blessed in all that you are."

Mazel tov and keep in touch.

#### Confirmation

Nine TAI students will be confirmed during a service at 10 a.m. Sunday, June 1.

#### Celebrating our graduates

TAI's salute to individual members of the Class of 2025 will appear in the July/August bulletin. If you have a child graduating this year from high school, college or an advanced degree program, please email taibulletin@gmail.com to let us know.

#### May 23 speaker to discuss new pope

What can the Jewish community expect from the new pope?

Professor Philipp W. Rosemann, right, chair of Catholic Studies at the University of Kentucky, will be the guest speaker at services at 6 p.m. Friday, May 23, to share his thoughts. Rosemann



will offer an assessment of what Pope Leo XIV's training, service and scholarship tell us we can expect from Leo as the new leader of the Catholic Church.

# CENTENNIAL

**Continued from Page 1** 

That property was sold in 1924, when TAI purchased two lots on North Ashland for a total of \$7,500. Construction of the new temple began in 1925.

During the interim, TAI first held services and Religious School at the Masonic Temple on North Broadway. Services later were moved to Woodland Christian Church while Religious School remained at the Masonic Temple until the new synagogue was ready.

If you are interested in helping with any of the centennial projects or have ideas for more ways to celebrate 100 years on North Ashland Avenue, email Mary Engel at kyengels727@gmail.com.





Charles and Tali Flomenhoft welcomed their second child, daughter Ella Zila Flomenhoft, on March 17. She is the grand-daughter of Deb and Steven Flomenhoft and great-granddaughter of

Ilana Kline and Max Bloom were



Steve and Jane Auer.

married March 28 in Louisville. Ilana is the daughter of former TAI Rabbi Marc Kline and the late Cindy Kline.







#### **Jewish Aging Support Group**

11 a.m. Wednesday, May 21 and June 18, at JFB offices at TAI. Jewish Family Services, in partnership with TAI and OZS, offers a senior support group that is a safe place for those 60 and older to share experiences, concerns and needs related to aging. Led by Paula Mertens, director of JFS. Meets 11 a.m. on the third Wednesday of the month. For more information, contact Paula confidentially at (859) 269-8244 or email her at jfs@jewishlexington.org.

#### **DiverCity Festival**

Noon-7 p.m. Saturday, May 24, at Robert F. Stephens Courthouse Plaza, Main Street and North Limestone.

JFB will have a booth at this free event, which promotes Lexington's diverse cultures. Includes vendors, food, drink and performances, which this year will include the hora danced by Jewish community members. If you would like to volunteer at the JFB booth, contact Daniel Baker at Daniel@jewishlexington.org.

#### Jewish Heritage Night with the Lexington Legends

6:45 p.m. Tuesday, May 27, at Legends Field, 207 Legends Lane. Join the community in celebrating Jewish Heritage Month when the Legends take on the Long Island Ducks. Check your email for more details and registration information, or contact Mindy Haas at mindy@jewishlexington.org.

#### **Lexington PRIDE Festival**

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, June 28, on Oliver Lewis Way from South Broadway (main entrance) to West Main Street. JFB will represent the community. If you would like to volunteer at the JFB booth, contact Daniel at Daniel@jewishlexington.org.



## **WORSHIP, STUDY SCHEDULE**



#### Note: Services start at 6 p.m. through the summer

May 23 Shabbat 6 p.m. Guest speaker: Philipp Rosemann (see Page 2)

Music: Lauren Hill and Harold Sherman

May 24 Jewish Texts/Kollel 9 a.m.

Parsha 11 a.m. B'har-B'chukotai:

Leviticus 25:1-27:34

May 30

Shabbat 6 p.m. Music: Lauren Hill and

Jerry Suhl

May 31 Jewish Texts/Kollel

9 a m Parsha 11 a.m.

B'midbar:

Numbers 1:1-4:20

June 1

Confirmation 10 a.m.

June 6

Sisterhood Shabbat 6 p.m.

Music: Shir Adat

June 7 Jewish Texts/Kollel

9 a.m. Parsha 11 a.m.

Naso:

Numbers 4:21-7:89

June 13

Shabbat 6 p.m. Music: Aviva and Lew

Bowling

June 14

9 a.m.

Jewish Texts/Kollel

Parsha 11 a.m. B'haalot'cha:

Numbers 8:1-12:16

June 20

Shabbat 6 p.m.

Music: Lauren Hill and

Jerry Suhl

June 21

Jewish Texts/Kollel

9 a.m.

Parsha 11 a.m. Sh'lach L'cha:

Numbers 13:1-15:41

June 27

Shabbat 6 p.m.

Music: Lauren Hill and Harold Sherman

June 28

Jewish Texts/Kollel

9 a.m.

Parsha 11 a.m.

Korach:

Numbers 16:1-18:32

July 4

**Building Centennial** Kickoff Shabbat

service

Time, details TBA

July 5

Jewish Texts/Kollel

9 a.m.

Parsha 11 a.m.

Chukat:

**UPCOMING MEETINGS** 

Numbers 19:1-22:1

#### **KOLLEL STUDY GROUP**

Kollel meets at 9 a.m. Saturdays, alternating with Jewish Texts. The group explores cultural, ethical and historical aspects of our 4,000year tradition. The emphasis is on dialogue and exploration. You may join the group any time.

#### **JEWISH TEXTS STUDY**

We will discuss selected readings in rabbinic literature at 9 a.m.

Saturdays, alternating with Kollel Study Group.

The discussion is

always lively and informative, and you may join any time.

# **Executive Committee**

Thursday, June 12, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 10, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, 6:30 p.m.

**Board of Directors** 

Tuesday, May 20, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 17, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 15, 6:30 p.m.

**Annual meeting** 

July (Sunday date TBA)

#### **PARSHA**

Join us each Saturday morning at 11 as we take a look at the Torah portion for the week. Sessions are not held when there is a bar or bat mitzvah service.

#### TAI MISSION STATEMENT

Temple Adath Israel is a Reform Jewish congregation linked to a tradition of welcoming those searching for a community committed to honoring the dignity we all share as children of the one God by embracing these enduring Jewish values: A VODAH (Worship); TALMUD TORAH (Torah Study); TZEDEK (Social Justice); and KEHILAH (Community). Our mission is to inspire our congregants' Jewish engagement and to ensure a vibrant Jewish present and future by nurturing the many generations of our community. We share a commitment to the Reform Jewish foundational beliefs of furthering individual and communal spiritual growth, while recognizing a range of personal philosophies, practices and needs. We are the community center through which our families can celebrate faith, justice, and the blessings of family lives present and future.



# YAHRZEIT ... These we remember ...



#### May 23

Lillian Brill Mae Cerel David P. Davis Emile Elkouby Mildred Emily Frank James Slaughter Frankel Alberta Gerson Jack L. Goldenberg Jane Hart Jack Joffe Sara Joffe Yetta Kravetz Lottie Lattin Leonard Lipton Harry Markovitz Robert A. Mickler Frances Nisman Bobby Morse Payne Max Sandler Fannie H. Scher William Snyder Grigori Tabacnic Fannie Torte

#### May 30

Wurmser

Erna Terese Abraham Annibale Ida Wides Baker Max Bloom Elsie Bloomfield Jean Louisa Brown Anita Fleet Miriam Graff Rabbi Milton Grafman Nathan Herman Howard Kauffman Daisy Frankel Klein Julius Marks Jack Martin Bonnie McCrary Melvina Newman Dorothy Palley **Eleanor Potash** 

Joseph G. Pressman Stanley Irwin Rose Robert Louis Scher Goldie Walters

#### June 6

**Howard Cherin Robert Colley** Jim Delk Rabbi Julian Fleg Myrtle Fox Jake Friedman Marsha Rudnick Gross Stuart Harris Craig Jonas Lillian Kaplan Ruth Kuc Joseph Leep Marilyn Lieber Constance Loventhal Pearl Roorda Vida Schottenstein Nemat Shakib Yafa Shakib Freda Shraberg DeWayne Sparkman Ruby Jewel Sparkman Robert B. Stith Luvishia W. Stivers **Bob Trammell** 

#### June 13

Maxwell Bloom Alan Bloomfield Rose Cantor Alva U. Coyle David Carl Dachner Sidney Greenberg Barbara Hirschowitz Aaron Hymson Joseph Manus "Jay" Liebman Manuel Lowenthal **Elouise Shepherd** 

Dorothy Silver Sallye Barnett Slaughter Irvin Stern Jr. Ronald Troxtell Maxwell Weinberger Irene Wenneker

#### June 20

David Ades

Harold Baker William Biederman Javne Bolotin Bill Booker Mark Bronner Betty Bryan William Clemmons Sr. Dorothy Day Harold Louis Diamond David Fine Tanya Herman Louis Hustedde Agatha Kling Isaacs Albert Isaacs Simon Jacobs Emanuel Jaffe Mae Kahan Alvin Kaplan Bessie Kessler Ruth Kessler Nancy Latouf Sylvia Seligman Levy Barbara Liebman Leslie Ann Lipton Leslie Masover Sarah K. Mickler Joseph Arie Miller Sam Nevel Tinya Norris Shirley Elizabeth Poppas Marian Schiffer Rabiner Morton Rosenberg Benjamin Rubin

David Shakib Rabbi HD Uriel Smith Houston Todd Catherine Weinberger Norma Hundley Whitehouse

#### June 27

Anita Roos Baker Harriet Brazin **Beverly Elaine** Dachner Henrietta S. Davis Frances Jaffe Goldenberg Keitha T. Isenstein Malcolm Kirkwood Anton Lang Clys Nicholson Anna Orlov Myrna Palley Isaiah Scheeline Jr. Ben Shraberg **Edward Steinberg** Edith I. Weil Libby Wenneker Sidney Witzer Art Wrobel

#### July 4

Israel Abittan

Charles H. Barrett Frances Bloom Morris Bryan Max Henry Cohen Robert E. Ellsworth LaVerne Hanes Emberton Rose Gall Harry Gardner Minnie Gelber Nathan Gordon Dr. David E. Guttman Hank Harrison Marion House Dr. Irving F. Kanner Jeffrey Kaufmann Anita Weinberger Mersack Jack Miller Myrtle Shuman Mullens Ruth Silman Janet Floyd Stewart Beth Tesker Betty Mickler Wides

#### In Memoriam ...

Bernice Bloom, aunt of Jane Grisé (Bill) and Anne Graff (Wayne)

Dr. Milton Gellin, father of Dr. Robert Gellin (Sherie) and Dr. Gloria Gellin

Freda Miller, sister of Samy Stith (Darryl), mother of Neil Lerner (Joan), Marc Lerner (Lynn) and Shayna Warner (Seth), grandmother of seven

Rose Milstein, aunt of Debra Booker (Bill), great-aunt of Isabelle and Ben Booker

Sharon Schuman, aunt of Dan Schuman (Angela), great-aunt of Abigail Schuman

May their memories be for a blessing

# TAI'S ENDOWMENT AT WORK

The cumulative value of TAI's endowment, which supplements the temple's financial needs, fell 0.49% in the first quarter of 2025. Endowment Committee Treasurer Stacey Myers-Wilson reported that disbursements totaling \$54,300 were made as follows (amounts rounded to the nearest \$100) through March 31:

- \$18,400 from Enrichment Fund; offset operating expenses.
  - \$7.1K from Hineni Fund; offset operating expenses.
- \$7.1K from Sherman and Fannie Miller Memorial Fund; camp scholarships.
- \$6K from Rose Family Fund; offset cost of Confirmation Class trip.

- \$6K from Rosenstein Family Fund; offset Religious School expenses.
- \$3K from Bloomfield Family Fund; offset cost of LiveControl.
- \$2.5K from Marilyn & Arthur Lieber Board Leadership Fund; offset cost of attending administrator conference.
- \$1.8K from Abraham Music Fund for training/certification program for Jewish musicians
- \$1.4K from Jayne Bolotin Memorial Fund to sukkah repair and replacement
- \$1K from Perpetual Care Fund; care of nine gravesites at Lexington Cemetery

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

#### **BUILDING FUND**

Jan and Jerry Cerel in memory of David Doctrow, Lena Skuller, Robert Cohen, Sylvia Cohen and Rose Brazin

#### **FLOWER FUND**

Stacy Bloomfield in memory of Sophie Bloomfield, Julian Bloomfield and Minna H. Bloomfield Susan Cobin and Randall Roorda in memory of Mortimer I. Cobin and Arlene Cobin Ellen Leichtman in memory of Adolph Leichtman Dan Liebman in memory of Herbert Liebman Scott and Beth Schumacher in memory of Donna Silverman

**David Wachtel** in memory of Sidney Wachtel and Corinne Wachtel

**Elissa and Alan Weinstein** in memory of Betsy Matek, Ord Matek and Lucille Paskowitz

#### GENERAL FUND

**Dianne Bazell and Laurence Kant** in honor of Judy Wortman being elected president of Beth Am Israel (Narberth, PA)

Jacob Carr

Harold, Cynthia and Hershel Guttman Jacqueline Sugarman and Walid Abou-Jaoude in memory of Hannah Abou-Jaoude

#### CINDY JENNINGS KLINE MEMORIAL FUND

Paula and Eli Mertens in memory of Harry J. Mertens

#### MARILYN & ARTHUR LIEBER BOARD LEADERSHIP FUND

John and Mitzie Faurest in memory of Arthur Lieber Donald and Debbie Wilson in memory of Arthur Lieber

#### MERSACK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Rebecca and Joe Young in memory of Ira Mersack

#### SHERMAN E. AND FANNIE H. MILLER FUND

In memory of Freda Miller:

Dianne Bazell and Laurence Kant, Davidson College Music Department, Keri and Tim Eckstein, Rob and Rabbi Lynne Goldsmith, Rachel Henderson and staff at BAI, Ben Kaufmann and Janet Zusman, John and Connie Loventhal, Peter and Deb Nelson, Judi and Stu Passon, Kim and Rob Rosenstein, Janny Scheeline and Bill Spickard, Lou and Bobbi Shain, Janet and Rich Wile, Rebecca and Joe Young

Samye and Darryl Stith in memory of Freda Miller, Carroll Cole, Nathan Gordon, Bess Herman, Ethel Herman, Dr. Richard Kelly, Alma Miller, Joseph Arie Miller, Joseph Herman Miller, Frieda Miller, Dr. Sherman E. Miller, Judith Waisblum Plotkin and Robert B. Stith

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Paul Joseph Minna Katz-Brown Ziv and Ofir Shtacher-Portook Samye and Darryl Stith Rebecca and Joe Young

#### YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

Joe and Yolie Brill in honor of Lowell Nigoff on his 80th birthday

















### **This Space Available**

#### TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL 124 N. ASHLAND AVENUE LEXINGTON, KY 40502-1595 (859) 269-2979

Please notify family of/or \_

Donor's Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Donor's Address
If not a Temple member\_

Address if not a Temple member

David Wirtschafter Nick Fain **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Rabbi **Executive Director ELECTED/APPOINTED** rabbiw@lextai.org nick@lextai.org Anne Banks Mark Schachman Elissa Weinstein Debra Booker President Youth Education Director Carly Conatser Scott Diamond Deborah Nelson Nick Fain David Kaufman Vice President **Brotherhood President** Maggie Levine-Schuele Mary Engel Elissa Weinstein Rhonda Miller Sisterhood President Smith Schwartz Treasurer Jane Shropshire Kristen Hoffman Secretary **EX OFFICIO** Stacey Myers-Wilson (Endowment) Rich Ornstein Dan Schuman (Brotherhood) Immediate Past President Danielle Harlan (Sisterhood) **TEMPLE FUNDS** Contributions may be made to any of the following funds. Acknowledgment will be made to the individual or family honored and will be listed in the Bulletin. Please check the fund of your choice. All donations not specifically directed to one of the funds listed below will be placed in the Temple Hineni: Here I Am Reserve Fund. ☐ Adolph A. & Celia F. Abraham Music Fund ☐ Music & Worship Program Fund Anita & Harold Baker Music Trust Fund Janice Newman Fund ■ Bloomfield Family Fund Outreach Program Fund Jayne Bolotin Memorial Fund Preschool Fund □ Rabbi's Fund ☐ Temple Building Fund ☐ TAI Brotherhood Fund □ Religious School Program Fund Centennial Fund ■ Rose Family Fund ■ Enrichment Fund Rosenstein Family Fund Gerson Family Fund Betty Rosenthal Rabbinic Chair Fund ☐ Dr. Victoria Greenberg Rabbinical Intern Fund □ Ricky Rozen Memorial Fund ☐ Hineni: Here I Am Reserve Fund ■ Larry and Robert Scher Memorial Fund ☐ Maurice, Evelyn and Barbara Hymson Education Fund ■ Skuller-Cohen-Cerel Fund ☐ Sheldon "Cokie" Hymson Fund Marty Solomon Fund for Jewish Youth Experiences ■ Maurice Kaufmann Adult Education Fund and General Fund Purposes Cindy Jennings Kline Memorial Fund ■ David, Ruth & Al Sommer Fund ■ L'Chaim Fund □ Tikkun Olam Fund Marilyn & Arthur Lieber Board Leadership Fund Uniongram/Sisterhood YES Fund Anita W. Mersack Woman of Valor Award Fund ■ Lauren and Douglas Weinberg Temple Adath Israel Fund Mersack Scholarship Fund Wurmser Family Fund Youth Education Fund Robert S. Miller Fund Dr. Sherman E. & Fannie H. Miller Memorial Fund Please accept my enclosed donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the fund checked above. □ For the recovery of In honor of □ In memory of