TAI is not conducting in-person services or other events until further notice. Shabbat services are broadcast via Zoom.



Temple Adath Israel Bulletin

January 2021

Tevet/Shevat 5781

Bringing home injustice of COVID on MLK Day

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY



David Wirtschafter

"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane."

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., speech to Medical Committee for Human Rights, 1966

In the early days of COVID-19 we heard a number of people say, "This impacts all of us. The virus does not discriminate." While the call to unity and the desire to get people to practice social distancing was well-intentioned, the assertion about the virus turned out to be inaccurate. Rates of COVID-19 infection are higher among people of color. They also get sicker and are more likely to die of the virus their than

See RABBI, Page 3



WHO IS THAT

MASKED



CONGREGANT?

Are you ready for some fun and a game?

- Look for more photos on Pages 2 and 9
- Find contest instructions, names of those pictured on Page 9



2021 will look different at TAI, that's for sure

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Patricia Shraberg

With the news of multiple vaccines being distributed in late December, we have hope for the end of the pandemic. Because it will take some time to get people vaccinated, we are not quite ready to return to business as usual and will continue to closely follow CDC guidelines related to reopening and to resuming services and other activities. When we finally are able to be together again, you'll see some changes inside our building.

The Property Committee has completed its recommendations about renovating some of our most-used spaces, with an eye toward creating spaces for multiple uses. Last month, the TAI Board of Directors approved a bid from BEX Construction to update the social hall, library, Sisterhood lounge, board room and connecting hallway. The social hall, for instance, has been largely untouched since the temple underwent a major remodeling and renovation in 1983-84. It seems to me that we are overdue.

So, while we remain out of the building, all of those spaces will be repainted. New carpet will be installed in the Sisterhood lounge and library. The social hall will get new flooring and new ceiling tiles with updated lighting, plus a few mechanical changes to make the space compliant with current building codes. We will be sharing more specifics, including flooring choices

and color schemes, in upcoming communications.

The cost, almost \$210,000, will be covered by various endowment funds.

The next step in the project will be updating the décor and providing seating areas outside the social hall. Paying for that will require fundraising. Congregant Ann Rosenstein-Giles will be assisting with that effort, which will include opportunities for naming certain areas, and sponsoring artwork and other components. You will be hearing more about this later.

It is exciting to think that when we return to the building in person, we will be inaugurating these updated spaces.

Thank you to the Property Committee and its chair, Jeb Messer, for all of their good work on this project. It has been a nine-month process, and we are ready to see it become a reality.

RABBI Continued from Page 1

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Caucasian counterparts.

Adding to the disparity is the economic impact that COVID-19 is having on people of color, who are more likely to be furloughed, laid off or let go from their jobs. People of color are less likely to be working from home, which puts them at greater risk of contracting the virus. They are less likely to have health care or, if they are insured, are less likely to be able to afford their medical bills. They also are more likely to be living paycheck to paycheck, more likely to be unable to pay rent or utilities, and more likely to be made homeless by the crisis.

When King spoke his famous words about injustice in health care, we were not facing a pandemic, but his message is all the more haunting now that we are. This month's annual celebration of King's birthday is a sad reminder that the virus has been with us for a year and that health care injustice

remains an ugly reality more than 50 years after King's death. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is always a time of mixed emotions. Gratitude for inspiration and courage is mingled with pain at his murder and our lack of social progress. That is even more so the case this year with the overwhelming disparities of COVID-19.

To offer a moral and social assessment of this crisis, we have invited the Rev. Dr. James Thurman to give the sermon at this year's MLK Shabbat service. Thurman is a living embodiment of the words of Ecclesiastes, "to everything there is a season." He has served his country in war and in peace, as a soldier and civilian, as a business owner and a nonprofit board president. His experiences as a chaplain, activist and educator make him wonderfully suited to address the complicated crisis of this moment. Please read more about him (right) and join us Jan. 15 when he speaks to our congregation.

Meet our MLK Day speaker

The Rev. Dr. James Thurman, right, is a past president of the Lexington chapter of the NAACP. In August he was recognized by the chapter, working in partnership with Theta Chi fraternity at UK, as an "unsung hero" as part of an



education campaign on social media to raise awareness about the history of the NAACP, civil rights and voting issues, and the push for racial equality.

After being drafted during the Vietnam War, Thurman spent two years on active duty, and two years each on active and inactive reserve. Working his way through college on the G.I. Bill, he earned a B.A. from Kentucky State University, an MBA from Cornell, a master's in biblical studies from Trinity Seminary & College of the Bible, and doctorates in biblical studies and education.

In addition to serving in church and chaplain positions, Thurman has been a staunch advocate for veterans. A member of the Class of 2016 of the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame, he is a member of the Lexington-Fayette County Commission on Veterans Affairs, state commander of NABVETS (National Association for Black Veterans) and active in other organizations.

FROM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



Elissa Weinstein, Director

Shalom and Happy New Year! Our Religious School time in December flew by. We met for our two remaining sessions of the semester and finished the year strong. Our teachers, students and families have adapted so well to virtual learning this past semester. When we return for classes on Jan. 10, we will continue to be online. We are hopeful that when spring rolls around, we will be able to hold some classes outside (masked and distanced, of course).

In December, our sixth-grade students and their teachers, Dan Isenstein and Diane Arnson Svarlien, did an excellent job of leading us in prayer at our monthly family Shabbat service. This month, on Jan. 8, our fifthgrade class will be leading us.

As part of TAI's 8 Nights of Caring initiative, we were treated last month to a great concert by Jewish musician Dan Nichols. Additionally, several of our students met on Zoom for some rousing games of dreidel and Hanukkah trivia. I am not sure who had more fun, the children playing or me getting to host and call the trivia!

As we look upon this new year with hope and anticipation, I would like to remind everyone that there is a light at the end of this tunnel. The pandemic will end, and we will return to learning with one another in person. For now, we will focus on what we have been doing right: engaging students, learning Hebrew, holding discussions and coming together as a Religious School community.

B'shalom, Elissa



Interested in birding? TAI Zoom course starts Jan. 10

It's time to sign up for National Geographic's "Birding in North America," a free TAI adult education Zoom offering that starts at 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10. The weekly course will continue through February; there is no obligation to take part in each session.

After learning the basics – and when weather and the COVID permit – field trips are planned to birdwatching hot spots with local birder and congregant Lou Shain.

Registration is required; email Deb Nelson, chair of the Adult Ed Committee, at deborah.i.nelson@twc.com to get the link. It also will be available in the temple's weekly emails.

News From



Torah Talk

1:30 p.m. Thursdays via Zoom. Participant-led, discussion of "Judaism's Great Debates: Timeless Controversies from Abraham to Herzl" by Rabbi Barry L. Schwartz. For the Zoom link, contact Daniel Baker at daniel@jewishlexington.org.

JFB operations

The Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass office is closed to visitors until further notice, but the staff is available and ready to assist community members in need. For inquiries, contact Daniel Baker, chief engagement officer, at daniel@jewishlexington.org or call (859) 268-0672. Please note that email is best, as staff are

limiting their time in the office.

Note: The JFB office will be closed and staff will be off for all major federal holidays. Responses might be limited during this time.

Emails and e-news

If you're not getting our weekly Shabbat emails or our monthly Shalom e-News, contact Daniel Baker, daniel@jewishlexington.org, to be added to the list!

Assistance requests

If you or someone you know needs help with housing, utilities, grocery shopping, picking up a prescription or transportation to a medical appointment, Jewish Family Services can help. Contact Paula Mertens, JFS director, at jfs@jewishlexington.org or call (859) 269-8244. She will get back to you as soon as possible.

EVENTS ONLINE

The temple remains closed, and all events are online. Here's a list of regularly scheduled events and how you may participate virtually.

SHABBAT SERVICES

7 p.m. Friday; watch via Zoom

SATURDAY STUDY SESSIONS

Kollel or Jewish Texts at 9 a.m., Parsha at 11 a.m. Held via Zoom; to sign up for the link, which is the same each week, email Laura at laura@ lextai.org by 4 p.m. Friday.

JULIETS

This social group for women older 60 meets via Zoom from 4 to 5 p.m. Monday and Thursday. To get the link, email Toby Troffkin, tobymay@ windstream.net.

TAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meets the third Tuesday of the month. Email Laura at Laura@lextai.org for the Zoom link.



WORSHIP, STUDY SCHEDULE

Jan. 1

Shabbat 7 p.m.

Jan. 2

Jewish Texts/Kollel 9 a.m. Parsha 11 a.m. Vavechi — Genesis 47:28-50:26

Jan. 8

Family Services 7 p.m.

All worship services and study groups meet live via Zoom.

Jan. 9

Jewish Texts/Kollel 9 a.m. Parsha 11 a.m.

Shemot — Exodus 1:1-6:1

Jan. 15

Shabbat 7 p.m.

Jan. 16

Jewish Texts/Kollel 9 a.m. Parsha 11 a.m. Vaera — Exodus 6:2-9:35

Jan. 22

Shabbat 7 p.m.

Jan. 23

Jewish Texts/Kollel 9 a.m. Parsha 11 a.m. Bo — Exodus 10:1-13:16

Jan. 29

Shabbat 7 p.m.

Jewish Texts/Kollel 9 a.m. Parsha 11 a.m. Beshalach - Exodus 13:17-17:16

Feb. 5

Shabbat 7 p.m.

Feb. 6

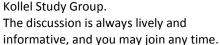
Jewish Texts/Kollel 9 a.m. Parsha 11 a.m. Yitro — Exodus 18:1-20:23

KOLLEL STUDY GROUP

Kollel meets at 9 a.m. Saturdays, alternating with Jewish Texts. The group explores cultural, ethical and historical aspects of our 4,000-year 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.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Executive Committee

Thursday, Jan. 14, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m.

Board of Directors

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 16, 6:30 p.m.

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.

Directory updates

New address

Gary Dunn 2021 Saint Stephens Green, 40503 Gd40503@outlook.com

New phone number

Eve Podet (859) 433-7873

TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL 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...



Jan. 1 Dr. William Bloom Dana Bloomfield Jack Cohan Ruth Cohan Adrienne Mazo Cohen Mark Sandor Darlow Hannah Doctrow **Howard Eichner** Helene S. Fogel Elaine Gellin Rose Goldberg Norman S. Goldman Mary Goldschmidt Davita Hamburg **Evelyn Baker** Hymson Zalman Kremer Bernice Spero Lentner Ellen Liebman Joseph Natow **Edward Novick** Dora G. Pollack Rose Pressman Idah Rubin Sol Victor Jonas Weil

Jan. 8

Robert Young

Usha Prakash Akolkar Ignatius (Nash) Arellano Jacob Concors Ruth Edelman Harriet Marcus **Fields** Harold Fine Allan Forman Don Forman **Fdith Frankel** Harold Frankel Nathan Frankel Jr. Harry Gantz

David Gerson Benjamin Goldfarb **Thomas Hamburg** Louis Kossay Paula Leichtman Joseph Lowenthal **Edward Robert** Markhoff Karyn Martin Kathaleen McDonald Franklin Moosnick Bertha Olshan Julia Petsonk Rosita Rosenzweig Sanford Rubin **Rose Sachs** Marie Salmon Carolyn Siegel Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern Albert Sugarman Rosalind

Jan. 15

Ada Mae Ely

Weisenberg

Anderson Fern Ruth Ashner Harriet Baker Sidney Ross Bazell Leon Block Saul Burg Jennie Cohen Dr. Jospeh M. Fine Joseph I. Goldman Leah Goodman Bernard Kaplan **Shirley Lakes** James Levenson Sr. Maurice B. Loevenhart Frederick A. Meyer **Luther Pushell** Steven Richard Rozen **Ariel Sharon David Shraberg**

Isabel Siegel Mrs. Al Smitha Moses Eleazar Snyder Dan Sondergard Bertha Lauer Speyer Nanette Wile **Strauss** Herschel Weil **Brett Steven** Weinstock Ruben Weisenberg Eric Wolken Philipp Wurmser

Jan. 22

Amine Abou-Jaoude Jeffrey Ballon J. Frank Belin Samson Biederman Max Cerel Elizabeth "Betty" Cloud Nusek Dekhtyar Marcus Engelberg Peggy Fain **Goldie Friduss** Norman S. Gordon Jason K. Johnson **Charlotte Kant** Hazel J. "Nicki" Kaplan Ann R. Levenson Rose Markovitz **Nancy Shraberg** Marx Jennie Meyer Leo Michaels I. Jay Miller Jr. Morgan Frumberg Miller Yolanda Font Musgrave Joe Nisman Arnold G. Pessin Robert M. Rosenstein

Peter Schogol Jack Shapero **Bess Shraberg** Gerald W. Smith Saul D. Stein Lowell Sugarman Virginia Vasquez Miriam Zuckerman

Jan. 29

Celia F. Abraham Willard David Barnes Frances Bramlage Leon Eskenazi Sam Feller Dora Levy Freund **Howard Allen** Gerson Mark Halleck Henrietta Rubel Harrison Vicki S. Hershinow Corrine Higdon Burton "Buddy" Isaacson Elliott Joffe Meyer M. Katz Bert Klein David Allen Kline Susan Kelly Knoll Rose Lampel Krinsky Alan Lubin Lore Pappas **Ethyl Paritz** Bertha Pessin Patricia Peterson-Thorley **Irven David Sachs** Morton R. Sarett Larry Scher

Harold Hyman Sogin Aaron Weinberg Fanny B. Winters

Feb. 5

Florence C. Belin Siegfried Bing Abraham Blucher Clara Blucher Arnold Bockar Solomon Cantor Philip Eilenberg **Howard Flomenhoft** Louis J. Fox Nathan Frankel Sr. Kenneth N. Freedman Carl Goldschmidt Esther Rosenberg Goldberg Vladimir Goloborodko Hattie Gordon Meyer Max Harrison Robert Joffe Charles Upton Lowe Alan Lubin **Ruth Mandel** Lee R. Masover Mishel Rozenzhak Elsie Salzman Freda Schumard George Shipman **Emanuel Suhl** Ella Jean Taulbee Morris Waisblum Rosa Salmon Weil Joseph Wile Sr. Florence Zusman

In Memoriam ...

Joe Grobstein, husband of Connie Grobstein

Smokey Lynne Bare, wife of Ira Mersack

May their memories be for a blessing

Volume 88, Issue 4 Page 6

David Saslaw

CONTRIBUTIONS

ADULT EDUCATION

Anne and Wayne Graff in memory of William Roorda

CARING CONNECTIONS

Odette Kaplan

END-OF-YEAR DONATION

Ray Archer and Colby Cohen-Archer in honor of the Social Action Committee

Diane Arnson Svarlien in honor of Zoom services **Stacy Bloomfield** in memory of Alan Bloomfield **Leonard and Judy Boral** in honor of Lenny's 75th birthday

Jan and Jerry Cerel in memory of Robert and Sylvia Cohen, Max and Mae Cerel, and Lena Skuller Judith Craft in memory of Sarah and Aaron Franzblau Janis and David Doctrow in memory of Martin Kaplan Cindy Ellsworth in memory of Bob Ellsworth Judi Gewirtzman in memory of Ira A. Gewirtzman Erin Gold in memory of William Kauffman Estelle Hamburg in memory of Joseph Hamburg Sharon M. Helfand in memory of Sol and Estelle Helfand

Odette Kaplan in memory of Martin Kaplan Minna Katz-Brown in memory of Trevor Brown James and Rosemary Levenson Jr. in memory of Jim and Ann Levenson

Jeff and Rhonda Miller in memory of Kenneth Dachner Pete and Deb Nelson in honor of Kristen Hoffman Eve Podet in memory of Norma and Mordecai Podet Beth and Scott Schumacher in memory of Donna Silverman

Patricia and David Shraberg in honor of our rabbi **Robert and Jeannette Sloat** in memory of Fara Amsalem

David and Libby Wachtel in memory of Tamara Wachtel

Dianne Bazell and Larry Kant, Joseph and Yolanda Brill, Eli and Mary Lynne Capilouto, Martin and Diane Friedman, Lynn Furness, Robin and Steven Gall, Mimi and Micah Kaufman, Joel Kohler and Dawn Paluch, Dan Liebman, John and Connie Loventhal, Marc Plavin and Toni Reiss, Norman and Adele Potter, Karen and Jerry Sander, Lou and Bobbi Shain, Susan Sloss, Darryl and Samye Stith, Janet Zusman

FLOWER FUND

Stacy Bloomfield in memory of Yetta Hagedorn **Robin and Steven Gall** in memory of Zelda Gall and Susan Adams

Sharon Helfand in thanks for anniversary Uniongrams **Odette Kaplan** in memory of Clara Kaplan and Samuel A. Kaplan

Ilyse Lonsbury in memory of Diane Nichtberger and Jerry Wurmser

Annette Milch in memory of Tomas Milch H. and Estelle Steinberg

Joann Miller in memory of Harry M. Miller **Marian and Abe Rabiner** in memory of Vera Schiffer and Samuel Rabiner

Marc Plavin and Toni Reiss in memory of Daniel Plavin Nat and Judy Sandler in memory of Elissa Ann Sandler and Ann Sandler

Charles Stern in memory of Leona Stern
Alan and Elissa Weinstein in memory of Harry
Paskowitz, David Forman and Marci Mainus
Janet Zusman and Ben Kaufmann in memory of Bert T.
Combs

GENERAL FUND

Marc Abrams in memory of Martin Kaplan
Wayne and Ann Graff in memory of Joe Grobstein
Dianne Bazell and Larry Kant in memory of Janet
Clawson, Myrna Palley, Rabbi Uri Smith, Dr. Martin
Kaplan, Rosa Pastrana Reyes and William Roorda;
in celebration of Harriett Rose's 100th birthday; and in
honor of all our students, teachers and faculty who are
actualizing the Jewish values of acquiring, transmitting
and advancing knowledge in these challenging times.

Dr. Landrum I., Peggy J. and Nancy Anne McCarrell in memory of Martin Kaplan

Stephanie Moon in honor of Patricia and Michael Marx **Pete and Deb Nelson** in memory of Rosa Pastrana Reyes, William Roorda and Joe Grobstein

Leon and Linda Ravvin in memory of William Roorda, Rosa Pastrana Reyes and Joe Grobstein

Arthur and Simone Salomon in memory of Martin Kaplan

Sandee Wildes in memory of Martin Kaplan and Emily Shraberg

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Joseph and Yolanda Brill in memory of Joe Grobstein
Odette Kaplan in memory of Joe Grobstein
Rob, Kim, Kyle, Mary Jane, Sterling and Bode
Rosenstein

YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

Jan and Jerry Cerel in memory of Martin Kaplan Ilyse Lonsbury in memory of William Roorda





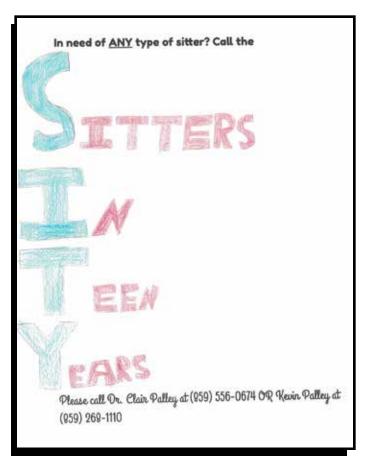






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Z.

HOW TO PLAY, WIN

Match these names to letters on pictures on Pages 1, 2 or 11. Submit answers by Friday, Jan. 15, to TAIbulletin@gmail.com. The person with the most correct matches will get 2 tickets to TAI's next Jewish Food Festival.

Brian Nigoff
Bruce Engel
Carly Conatser
Colby
Cohen-Archer
Deb Nelson
Diane Arnson
Svarlien
Elaine Crystal
Eve Podet
Janet Chasen
Jennifer Miller
Lou Bograd
Kim Rosenstein
Laura Creamer

Angie Ornstein

Lynn Furness Mark Schachman Micah Kaufman Mickey Hernandez Rabbi David Wirtschafter Rebecca Young Rhonda Miller Rich Ornstein Sarah Lowe Shirley Bryan Sylvia Cerel Suhl Toni Reiss



TEMPLE ADATH ISRAEL 124 N. ASHLAND AVENUE LEXINGTON, KY 40502-1595 (859) 269-2979 FAX (859) 269-7347

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Pat Shraberg Kristen Hoffman

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Rich Ornstein Elissa Weinstein

Vice President Youth Education Director

Debbie Masters Nick Fain

Treasurer Brotherhood President

Mary Engel Elissa Weinstein
Secretary Sisterhood President

Deborah Nelson

Donor's Address

If not a Temple member

Immediate Past President

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		Mersack Scholarship Fund
	Anita & Harold Baker Music Trust Fund		Robert S. Miller Fund
	Bloomfield Family Fund		Dr. Sherman E. & Fannie H. Miller Memorial
	Jayne Bolotin Memorial Fund	Fur	nd
	Temple Building Fund		Music & Worship Program Fund
	TAI Brotherhood Fund		Janice Newman Fund
	Centennial Fund		Outreach Program Fund
	Enrichment Fund		Preschool Fund
	Gerson Family Fund		Rabbi's Fund
	Dr. Victoria Greenberg Rabbinical Intern Fund		Religious School Program Fund
	Hineni: Here I Am Reserve Fund		Rose Family Fund
	Maurice, Evelyn and Barbara Hymson		Rosenstein Family Fund
Education Fund			Betty Rosenthal Rabbinic Chair Fund
	Sheldon "Cokie" Hymson Fund		Ricky Rozen Memorial Fund
	Maurice Kaufmann Adult Education Fund		Larry and Robert Scher Memorial Fund
	Cindy Jennings Kline Memorial Fund		Skuller-Cohen-Cerel Fund
	L'Chaim Fund		David, Ruth & Al Sommer Fund
	Marilyn & Arthur Lieber Board Leadership		Carolyn & Herman Straus Memorial Fund
Fund			Tikkun Olam Fund
	Anita W. Mersack Woman of Valor Award		Uniongram/Sisterhood YES Fund
Fund			Wurmser Family Fund
			Youth Education Fund
Please accept my enclosed donation in the amount of \$ checked above.			for the fund
	For the recovery of		
	In honor of		
	In memory of		
Ple	ase notify family of/or		
Address if not a Temple member			
Donor's Name			

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jan Cerel
Carly Conatser
Randi Gaiser
Rhonda Miller
Elaine Potts
Mark Schachman
Reva Schottenstein-Reed
Rebecca Young

EX OFFICIO

Nick Fain (Brotherhood)
Garry Hoover (Endowment)
Judi Gewirtzman (Sisterhood)

FUND FACTS

Over the years TAI congregants have established funds to support specific programs or for specific purposes. Each month, FUND FACTS presents a snapshot of a fund to familiarize congregants with TAI's resources.

Scholarships!! That is the purpose of the David, Al and Ruth Sommer Educational Fund.

The fund was created in 2005 by Rabbi Michael Sommer, a former Lexingtonian. Income from the fund "is to provide financial aid to Jewish students continuing their Jewish education via Jewish camp, youth group activities, college, graduate school studies, study abroad in Israel, or continuing education courses."

The Sommer Fund is under the jurisdiction and control of the temple's Youth Education Committee. Only the income may be utilized. As of December 2019, the fund had a balance of \$15,119, of which \$1,724 was accumulated income.