Emanuel Synagogue

10 9th

Bulletin



SERVICE TIMES

Friday 6:00 PM Saturday 9:00 AM Thursday 8:30 AM



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| Contents | Pg 2 |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| New Members | Pg 3 |
| Rabbi's Rostrum | Pgs 4-5 |
| Presidents' Perspective | Pg 6 |
| Principal's Podium | Pgs 7-8 |
| Ma Koreh | Pg 9 |
| Involvement Opportunities | Pg 10 |
| Neustadt Lecture | Pg 11 |
| Upcoming Events & Holidays | Pg 12 |
| Save The Date | Pg 13 |
| Sisterhood News | Pg 14 |
| Men's Club | Pg 15 |
| Information Needed | Pg 16 |
| Schusterman Center News | Pg 16 |
| Birthdays & Anniversaries | Pg 17 |
| In Memory | Pgs 18-19 |
| Todah Rabah | Pg 20 |
| JFED | Pg 21 |
| | |

THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

February
1 Birthday Shabbat
10 Tu BiShavat
Men's Club Meeting
22 Shabbat Shekalim
23 Torah Cafe`
25-26 Rosh Chodesh Adar
26 Board Meeting



Ardís Marrs Steele Ben Marrs Steele Zínnía Marrs Steele Lee Marrs Please take the time to introduce yourself and let them know how much we appreciate them choosing to join our family.





Rabbi's Rostrum



This month, I thought I would start something new: I would like to introduce you to some of the interesting characters who occasionally interact with any synagogue, but whose names and stories might not be familiar to the members of most Jewish communities. Over the next few months, we will meet the Lulav Seller, the Pastor and His Curious Confirmation Class, and the cast of the United Synagogue: The Untold Story. In the meantime, please meet an interesting young man with a heroic legacy.

The Traveler

In a *shtetl** somewhere in an area that got cold in the winter and was sometimes part of Russia, a baby boy was born. It was sometime after Passover but before it got warm, in the year that the Romanovs came to power. The new father first held his son and could think of nothing but how lucky he was to be a tall man – otherwise, Baby Boy Number Four would not have had room to join his brothers in their father's lap. *Kenahora**. The new mother spent most of her brief labor thinking of how lucky it was that Passover had ended, so that there could be cakes at the *bris**.

Baby Boy Number Four turned fifteen just after the *shtetl* churned up an old scandal. A man betrothed a woman and married her using an small bag of raisins, rather than a ring like his descendants would use when they married. She opened the bag at the wedding feast to eat just a few, only to discover that they were teeming with maggots. She threw them in his face, and her father and rather muscular brothers declared the marriage invalid.

The groom insisted that the marriage had been valid, including when she remarried and at the celebration of the birth of each of her children.

Those children were now teenagers and old enough to start families of their own,

and her brothers had grown a bit less imposing after twenty years; the groom and his family insisted loudly that the children were the results of adultery and, therefore, not fit to marry other Jews. The most learned religious authorities available were consulted, were unsure, and decided to write to a rabbi.

The letter they composed contained every detail that the learned and confused authors could imagine might possibly be relevant – including details of the meal served at the first wedding-that-might-not-have-been-a-wedding and the fact that the woman's new husband moved her into a house that shares a wall with the eastern wall of the synagogue. These carefully chosen words were bundled up and given into the hands of Baby Boy Number Four, now grown into Unmarried Teenager Number Two.

Provisions for the trip were wrapped carefully, including two different small bottles of plum brandy to keep away the chill of the night air, and many hands shook his as he prepared to set off. A single step turned Unmarried Teenager Number Two into the Traveler, and with each successive step, he brought himself closer to the rabbi.

The Traveler followed the main road toward town, then another road toward another town, then another main road to a city off in the distance. Each morning, he felt excited and full of hope. By midday, he ate carefully and gave some thought to whether



he could tell his parents that he would like to marry the second daughter of the family in question – if this fabled rabbi ruled that the family was kosher enough to marry at all. The entire afternoon's walk would be spent looking anxiously toward the horizon, wondering whether he would make it to a town with a Jewish community before sunset.

He managed to find a synagogue everywhere he stopped for the night, but he was amazed each time at the warm welcome he received from the community. He would find the local shul* and wait there for the weekday evening service to begin, watching the men of the town try to figure out who he was and what might have brought him there. After the service, a few of them would introduce themselves and ask what brought the Traveler to their town. When they found out that he carried a rabbinic inquiry – a shaila, he found the richest men in town arguing over who would host him that night, and he was made to promise that he would return there on his way home.

After almost four days' walk, the Traveler found the great city, with its great rabbi. The answer was long and took many days, but soon enough, the Traveler went home. At each stop along the way, he once again found himself in the richest of homes. while a small army of scholars copied out the great rabbi's entire answer. Each local community would spend the next weeks pouring over and debating each paragraph of the rabbi's answer – this was the only new Jewish information the community had received in a long time, and they would savor it in small morsels over each Shabbos afternoon. The Traveler would return home a hero in the eyes of several Jewish communities, and in the eyes of every family whose child married into the Family That Would Accept No Maggoty Raisins.

The Traveler married that family's second daughter and had many young Travelers of his own. Through the years, this family's ranks grew, shrank, and grew again, until Hitler shrank their ranks almost forever. A single male descendant of the Traveler would be liberated from a concentration camp and move to the Holy

Land before the British established the naval blockade. He would eventually have a great-grandson who was also a Traveler.

This Young Traveler led a different life, though. He left home to answer the question of whom he could marry, as well he finished his military service in the Israeli Defense Force and needed a good job to be able to afford an apartment. A rich man and several learned men wrote him a careful document, as well, to carry with him - a letter of employment and an American work visa. Once he arrived in the great city of Oklahoma City, however, he did not look for a synagogue – he, his parents, and his grandparents had lived in Israel all their lives, so they had no experience of Travelling by seeking out the local Jewish community. Instead, he worked in the Mall where he was assigned and lived in the recently vacated bedroom in the apartment where other Israelis selling hair styling products or skin creams always lived.

Ironically, since his ancestor had gone to such lengths to find a rabbi, a rabbi happened upon him late one night. She was hurrying, headed in the direction of the movie theater, and from somewhere deep in his blood, the Young Traveler manifested the question that had kept Travelers in his family moving since the beginning: "Excuse me, are you Jewish?"

*Shtetl: a small Jewish town in Central or Eastern Europe

*Kenahora: a contraction of "Bring on the Evil Eye," this expression is said to ward off bad luck and the Evil Eye, especially after thinking of or saying how good something is (Example: My children are healthy, kenahora.)

*Bris: Yiddish for "covenant," a reference to the b'rit milah or ritual circumcision of Jewish males on the eighth day

*Shul: Yiddish for "synagogue"



5 SHABBATS IN FEBRUARY

This has only happened nine times since 1772, according to a New York Times story I found. Can you believe it? In order for this to happen you first have to have February 1st on Saturday and it has to be a Leap Year which only occurs once every 4 years. Making these two necessary timelines to occur in the same month happens once every 28 years.

This very unique occurrence gives us an extra Shabbat to read and study Torah. Most of this month we are reading in the Book of Exodus, my personal favorite. The Book of Exodus could be considered the most thrilling chapter in the history of the Jewish people. Please join us each Shabbat morning during February for Torah reading and commentary to learn more about the Book of Exodus.

I particularity enjoy the month because it means that winter is on the downhill slide and springtime will be here shortly. As a matter of fact, Springtime weather has already peaked it's head in Israel. While February is still cold here in Oklahoma and so many of us deal with the effects of cabin fever, during the Hebrew month of Shevat, it starts the rainy season in Israel.

That's why Aquarius is the astrological sign for the month of Shevat but also the reason we celebrate Tu B'Shevat on the 15th of Shevat. This is when we are required to plant trees in Israel but it does not have to be only in Israel. Here in Oklahoma we could plant trees, too. Tu B'Shevat this year correlates with the secular calendar of February 10th. Tu B'Shevat is more of an observance than a holiday. We are suppose to plant trees and eat fruit that has been yielded from trees planted in previous years. Basically, we are giving thanks to G-D for giving us substance.

For being a short month, we sure do pack a lot of activities in a short period of time. The ICSS Sunday School program is in full swing; everyone working diligently towards a wonderful Couple of the Year Dinner honoring Jeff and Hali Goss (please mark your calendars now for March 12th for a fun filled evening with a sixties theme).

So let's make this month as special and unique as 5 Shabbats in February can be.

Julie and Tammy



Principal's Podium



ICSS

Temple B'nai Israel and ICSS are excited that we have so many families joining us at Tu BiShevat Family Retreat at Greene Family Camp February 7-9. Our ICSS community will be joining together for a weekend of fun and there will be no regularly scheduled ICSS at Emanuel Synagogue on February 9. If you will not be joining us for Tu BiShevat Family Retreat, we encourage you to visit bimbam.com/tu-bshvat/ to learn about Tu BiShevat with your family, and we hope you are able to join us next year March 5-7, 2021.

We move on from Tu BiShevat as we enter February and begin to focus on Purim. In art, our students will be creating Purim masks that they can use during our congregational festivities on Monday, March 9. In cooking, our students will be baking homemade hamentaschen with a variety of fillings. Finally, in music, our students will be learning fun Purim songs as we prepare for the holiday.

Highlighted Teacher of The Month (NEW!)

Ardis Marrs Steele is a member of Temple B'nai Israel. She teaches our fourth-grade class, which focuses on Jewish History from the time of Moses, approximately 3,400 years ago, until the present. When she is not working at ICSS, Ardis is the Senior Care Coordinator at the Jewish Federation of Oklahoma City. She says her favorite part about working at ICSS is "getting to share my love of history with the kids and watching them react when they hear something surprising or make a connection to their own!



Dear Bloom Family Hebrew School Families:

Here is what is in store for this month of February, which is short but juicy: **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5** (4:15-6:15 PM) Hebrew School Class.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

(4:15-6:15 PM) Hebrew School Class.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

(4:15-6:15 PM) Hebrew School Class.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

(4:15-6:15 PM) Hebrew School Class.

This month we will be celebrating our SECOND HEBREW SCHOOL SHABBAT of the school year. Join us on SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15TH during Shabbat services when our students will be leading services and reading Torah. Hebrew School invites everyone for a dairy kiddush lunch after services. Come and support our students.

As always, if you have any questions or comments about the education of our Emanuel children, do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Yours in education,

Rabbi Juan 405-245-8138





Involvement Opportunities

BLOOM FAMILYHEBREW SCHOOL

Wednesdays from 4:15 - 6:15 @ ES The Bloom Family Hebrew School is for children aged 3-13. If your children aren't already enrolled, they are always welcome!



Gan Shabbat is a fun, musical, and family-friendly service for ages 0-7 Saturday mornings at 10:30 in room 7 led by Rabbi Juan.



Junior Congregation is for students (ages 8-12) have their own space and extraordinary service every Shabbat morning from 10:30 – noon, led by Morah Naomi Fox. Come celebrate and learn in Classroom 3.

Introduction to Judaism Classes

For Jews or for those interested in conversion. Sundays from 3-5 PM. Contact Rabbi Abby Jacobson if you are interested.



Sundays from 10:00AM - 12:00PM, children ages 4-16 from Emanuel Synagogue and Temple B'nai Israel gather to learn at one of the longest joint Reform-Conservative supplementary education programs in the country. This year, classes are held at Emanuel Synagogue.



Meet at the synagogue on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Contact Fred Poplin, post commander, cell phone 405-550-5648 or email at arlette5@cox.net.

THE NO RSVP Shabbat Club

Everyone is invited to THE NO RSVP Shabbat Club following Kiddush every Shabbos in Hart Auditorium. Stay for a light dairy lunch, friends, fun, and community. The kids play while the adults enjoy board games, sing songs, study Talmud, and schmooze. It is a great way to share Shabbos with your Emanuel Family.

MINYAN AND MIKVAH FORMS ON THE ES WEBSITE

Requesting a minyan or using the mikvah is only a click away. Use the drop down menu under **Services & Events** https://www.emanuelokc.org/





UPCOMING EVENTS & HOLIDAYS

Holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the date specified

March

- 7 Birthday Shabbat Shabbat Zachor
- 9 Erev Purim

Ta'Anit Esther

Erev Purim services & dinner

- 10 Purim
- 11 Youth kitchen closed for Passover Preparation Shushan Purim
- 12 Couple of the Year Party
- 14 Shabbat Parah
- 20-21 Bar Mitzvah Bryant Moore
- 22 Kitchen closed for Passover Preparation Torah Cafe

April

- 4 Birthday Shabbat Shabbat Hagadol
- 5 Sisterhood Volunteer of the Year
- 8 Erev Pesach

Ta'anit Bechorot Burning of hametz

- 9 Pesach I (Synagogue Offices Closed) Synagogue Second Seder
- 10 Synagogue Offices Closed 1st Day of the Omer Count
- 13 Men's Club Meeting
- 15 Pesach 7 (Synagogue Offices Closed)
- 16 Pesach 8 (Synagogue Offices Closed)
- 17 Kitchens back to normal
- 18 Remembrance Shabbat
- 21 Yom HaShoah
- 22 Board meeting
- 24 Celebrate Israel Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Iyar
- 25 Celebrate Israel Shabbat
- 26 Torah Cafe
- 28 Yom HaZikaron
- 29 Yom HaAtzma'ut

Israeli Independence Day Picnic

May

- 2 Birthday Shabbat
- 9 Nathan Hodge Bar Mitzvah
- 10 Mother's Day
- 11 Men's Club Meeting
- 12 Lag B'Omer
- 15-16 Medical Professional Appreciation Day
- 22-23 Jerusalem Shabbat
- 23 Yom Yerushalvim
- 24 Rosh Chodesh Sivan
 - Torah Cafe
- 25 Memorial Day (Synagogue Offices Closed)
- 28 Erev Shavuot
- 29 Shavuot I (Synagogue Offices Closed)
- 30 Shavuot I

June

- 5-6 Adam Johnson Bar Mitzvah
- 6 Birthday Shabbat
- 8 Men's Club Meeting
- 14 Synagogue Annual Meeting and Lunch
- 21 Father's Day
- 22-23 Rosh Chodesh Tamuz
- 24 Board Meeting
- 28 Torah Cafe

July

- 3 Independence Day Observed-Synagogue Offices
- Closed
- 4 Birthday Shabbat
- 13 Men's Club Meeting
- 22 Rosh Chodesh Av
- 25 Shabbat Chazon
- 26 Torah Cafe





SISTERHOOD NEWS

What a Shabbat!

We started the Book of Sh'mot with so many names and people to thank. It was Sisterhood Shabbat and we soared. The program showed us how many women were able to lead the service, read Torah, Haftarah, read poetry, prayers, lift the Torah, dress the Torah. open the ark, and deliver an original and stimulating sermon. The list is impressive: Roberta Sloan starting us off with a meaningful poem, Jody Weise Gonzales who drove in from Tulsa to chant the maftir, Kira Seelig and Rachel Rose, our OU students who returned in glory, the first reading an aliva and the other leading Musaf; Barb Brandenburg reading an entire Aliva, (and she didn't even attend our Hebrew school,) Karen Jonscher whose Hebrew is as beautiful as her voice, lead the Torah service, our Synagogue vice presidents, Cheryl Boswell and Jennifer Weiss Dennis taking alivot and carrying/lifting the Torah. Debra Wolraich, Elly Weise, Beth Targoff, Anita Barlow, Tiffany Logsdon, Arlette Poplin also with aliyot, Helene Harpman reading the haftarah, and Shira Michael challenging us and giving her insights with a thought provoking d'var Torah. Whatever we didn't do. Rabbi Jacobson lead beautifully. Other sisterhood members who participated with readings and opening the ark included Shirley Skalovsky, Jean Routman, Miriam Grossman, Yuliya Hallowell, Laura Levine, Frances Stewart, Lois Pendergraft and Joyce Friedman. Girl Scout Troop 613, **you** are our future. We are all Wonder Women.

Special mention has to go to Brenda Hooper who arranged the entire service with input from our Rabbi. Lois Pendergraft and Laura Levine made Hart Auditorium into an invitation to Spring with table decorations of pussy willows and branches in simple, elegant vases. Naturally the color scheme matched the napkins, artfully folded in the glasses, and the table cloth colors. And they can cook! Lunch was delicious and professionally and graciously served and cleaned up by The Men's Club led by Jeff Goss. The men were willing, able and fast. Thank you.

Our favorite part of Sisterhood Shabbat is the naming of the Martha Weiss Volunteer of the Year recipient. Jan Green is the 2020 honoree and we will celebrate her and all that she does...more than just being 100% in charge of our gift shop and the Sisterhood Rummage Sales... on Sunday, April 5 at the newly remodeled Bethany Library. For now, you can honor her by buying many things for Purim, Shabbat, and every day, at the gift shop!

Preparing lunch for Sisterhood Shabbat. Pictured: Tiffany Logsdon, Ezra Logsdon, Laura Levine and Lois Pendergraft.



Hamantashen

Sisterhood never stops. Shortly we will be starting to bake hamantashen for Purim. Your order sheets should be in the mail by February 1. PLEASE fill them out quickly and return them with to the synagogue office with your payment.

We would be so pleased if new people would volunteer to learn how to make these delicacies. The baking times will be listed in Emanumail. Please call Debra Wolraich at 405-821-4041/djwolraich@hotmail if you can help. Y'all come!

Sisterhood Gift Shop

Buy your Bar & Bat Mitzvah, Wedding, and Baby Gifts. Plus, Yahrzeit and Shabbos candles, Jewelry, pottery and so much more.





Looking Ahead:

Men's Club

Emanuel Synagogue



Date: 3/9/20 Time: 4:00pm - 7:00pm

Pajama Party Purim! We will be having a pajama party themed. We will be providing hot dog dinner meal for \$8 and tickets to play games for \$.50 each.

More games and events!

Best Pajama Contest starts at 6:00pm

We need volunteers! Call Matthew Hallowell 405 317-8506







The Mens Club is raising money for a new Sukkah. We are looking for donations to build a new sukkah. Please donate at the bellow address;

www.emanuelokc.org/sukkah-gazebo.html



REMEMBER

It has become the custom to commemorate the yaherzeits of

Holocaust victims (whose dates of death are not known) on the fast day of the 10th of Tevet. We would like to add all of the Holocaust victims from your family to our vaherzeit list for that day. This will supplement our reading of the names on Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day). Please send us those names, along with how they are related to you. Along those same lines, we would like to read the names of Holocaust survivors from your family who moved to Oklahoma. The names of those who have passed away will be read on both Yom HaShoah and their individual yaherzeit days. Please help us collect and confirm these names, as well. Thank you for your help. Rabbi Jacobson



*Feb 9th James Simon Concert, Time TBD, Sharp Concert Hall, Catlett Music Center





FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Martin & Shirley Rich
- 5 Mark & Linda Kanter
- 17 Drs. Steve & Roberta Sloan



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Michael Alpert Shaelynn Meek
- 4 Tom Carlson Leon Shepkaru
- 5 Marc Levine
- 6 Marcy Price Jay Shanker
- 7 Shoshi Beasley
- 8 Liliana Schechter
- 11 Jonathan Sparks
- 14 Phyllis Epstein Stefani Nachatilo
- 15 David Seelig
- 16 Gus Buthman
- 17 Gail Meltzner
- 19 Tammy Weiss
- 20 Nancy Meoli
- 21 Ananais Edwards
- 22 Cheryl Boswell Murray Cohen
- 23 Louis Price Sharon Sheldon
- 26 Hillary Levenson
- 27 Samuel Lavendar-Smith
- 28 Ana Ryes



In Memory Of Our Loved Ones

ALBERT BATESHANSKY Judith Bateshansky

CARRIE BYERSHarry & Hedra Merson

FREHA ELMALEH Fred & Arlette Poplin

LARRY EMMER Murray & Sharon Cohen

EVELYN GIACOMINOGloria Greenhut

ROBERT GIACOMINO Gloria Greenhut

MARY JUANETA GOLDSBERRY James Goldsberry

BLANCHE GREENHUT Gloria Greenhut JACOB GREENHUT
Gloria Greenhut

SAM GREENHUTGloria Greenhut

YETTA GREENHUT Gloria Greenhut

DOROTHY KURLENDER Anita Barlow

ARCHIE LEHATGloria Greenhut

GOLDA LEHATGloria Greenhut

GUS LEHATGloria Greenhut

SAM LEHATGloria Greenhut

SOPHIE LEHAT Gloria Greenhut

CAMILLE MERSON Harry & Hedra Merson

EMMA MILLER Eleanor Miller

ABE SHAPIRO Gloria Greenhut

BEN SHAPIROGloria Greenhut

ELKE SHAPIROGloria Greenhut

MAX SHAPIRO Gloria Greenhut

LISA SLATER
Slater Family Fund &
Leonard Slater

MARTIN WEISEElaine Weise



With Affection We Recall...



Saturday, February 1, 6 Shevat

Evelyn Craig James Rodgers Bruce Routman

Sunday, February 2, 7 Shevat

Albert Bleiweiss Ida Shanker

Monday, February 3, 8 Shevat

Kitty Arvine

Tuesday, February 4, 9 Shevat

Alice Gardner Sylvia Golsen Nandor Klein

Wednesday, February 5, 10 Shevat

James Beauchamp Jarvis Craig I. H. Gardner Rebecca Gardner Amparo Restrepo

Thursday, February 6, 11 Shevat

Jacob Colodesch

Saturday, February 8, 13 Shevat

Charles Jacobson

Sunday, February 9, 14 Shevat

Herbert Langsam Nathan Rothbard Leon Settles Monday, February 10, 15 Shevat

Janis Beren Joy Guile

Wednesday, February 12, 17 Shevat

Bernice Butler Gardner Edward Skalovsky

Thursday, February 13, 18 Shevat

Dr. Herman Fagin Frances Marwil Joe Rodman

Friday, February 14, 19 Shevat

Israel Slutzky

Saturday, February 15, 20 Shevat

Sterling Byers

Sunday, February 16, 21 Shevat

Sadie Block Kent Doyle Jeanette Lemson

Monday, February 17, 22 Shevat

Charlotte Leser

Tuesday, February 18, 23 Shevat

Shirley Redlich

Wednesday, February 19, 24 Shevat

Eva Green Stanley Slater Edward Sureck Thursday, February 20, 25 Shevat

Ben Byers

Friday, February 21, 26 Shevat

Solomon C. Goldstein

Saturday, February 22, 27 Shevat

Louis Bendorf

Sunday, February 23, 28 Shevat

Maxine Fagin Reba LeFever

Monday, February 24, 29 Shevat

Anna Leviton Papermaster

Wednesday, February 26, 1 Adar

Donald T. Kumm

Friday, February 28, 3 Adar

Frankie Cotten Sarah Rabicoff

Saturday, February 29, 4 Adar

Richard Evans Kate Finkelstein



Donation to CemeteryFund

Bernard Backer Slater Family Fund in memory of Lisa Slater

Donation to Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Slater Family Fund in memory of Lisa Slater

Donation to Chevra Kadisha Fund

Slater Family Fund in memory of Lisa Slater

In Honor of Kendall Rodger Birthday

Jennifer Doyle

Get Well to Amy Settles

Brenda Hooper

General Donation

Allison Amend
David & Glynnis Ingall
Lee & Gail Marrs
Jay Shanker & Sara Jane
Rose
Kathleen (Kasi) Shelton
Slater Family Fund in
memory of Lisa Slater

Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City

Monday Torah Study with Helene Harpman, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.: This study session is held every Monday at the Jewish Federation's office.

Jewish Book Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Jewish Federation's office. Book selections and dates can be accessed at https://jfedokc.org/ programs/jewish-book-club.

Young Jewish Professionals (YJP) – Thursday, February 13, 6 p.m. Young Jewish Professionals are getting together at The Art Hall to see their new Mardi Gras themed exhibit. One of the artists will be attending to tell us more about her work.

This will be social gathering - we'll have beer, wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres. For more information and to register, please contact Rachel Johnson, Assistant Executive Director at rachel@jfedokc.org.

Our mission is to support Jewish living, learning, and welfare in the greater Oklahoma City Jewish community; to support Jewish communities throughout the United States, Israel and the world; and to foster understanding and cooperation between the Jewish community and the community-at-large.

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