

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

ON THE ROAD AGAIN | Rabbi Sari Laufer



Are we THERE yet?

The mantra of generations of family road trips is a fitting one at this time of year, as our wall calendars push towards summer and our Jewish calendar leads us to Sinai.

In the days between Passover and Shavuot—the days of the *Omer*—we are commanded to count each night, marking day after day as we

get ever closer to revelation. As commanded in the Torah, the *Omer* was an agricultural phenomenon; it was not until the Mishnah and Talmud that Shavuot became connected with the giving of Sinai. And, so, I imagine that—without knowing their destination—the Israelites wandered through the desert much like children have sat in back seats for generations . . . wondering: Are we THERE yet?

In just a few days, we will be THERE—standing together at Sinai as we celebrate Shavuot. Here at CRS, it is our 10th graders who lead us to Sinai; 14 sophomores will ascend the *bimah* in our annual Confirmation service on Tuesday, June 3 at 6:00 pm (see Page 7). If you've never been to the Confirmation service, I really encourage you to attend. It is a beautiful service, and our kids are always inspiring as they share both their struggles with and commitment to Jewish identity, peoplehood, and community.

But Shavuot, for our ancestors and for us, is not the ultimate destination. The revelation of Torah does not mark an end point. It is a milestone, to be sure, but it is a touchpoint, a rest stop along the way to a much larger goal. And that too seems fitting for this time of year, as many of us mark our own countdowns towards the end of the school year, towards summer vacation, towards a brief—and welcome—change in the frantic rhythm of our days and weeks.

Recognizing that the journey from Egypt is not meant to end at Sinai, but rather to lead us to the Promised Land, the rabbis of the Talmud ask: *Why was the Torah given in the wilderness, and not in the Promised Land?* Because anyone who does not make oneself open to all, like a wilderness, cannot acquire wisdom and Torah. The *midrash* presents the desert as a spiritual state, something that is a little bit wild, a little bit untamed, a little bit removed from the strict schedules of daily life. And it is in that spiritual state, they teach, that we can be ready to accept something radically new, something that will change our lives forever.

It is a wonderful teaching for times of transition. For the students among us, it is a physical transition. In June we leave one classroom, one school, and return in September to something new and different. Even when we are no longer students, summers bring with them that sense of possibility—that sense of something ending and something new beginning. There is always a sense, in June, that come September—and the beginning of the Jewish year—we, and the worlds we inhabit might change, even if just a little.

“Freed a bit from the regular rhythms of daily life, what might you have the chance to learn, to experience?”

That is certainly true here at Congregation Rodeph Sholom this year. Inside the pages of this *Chronicle*, and certainly inside the halls of the building, we pay tribute to the inimitable Tirza Arad. Our longtime Director of Religious Education bids us not goodbye, but *l'hitraot*, as she (and Michael, her partner in life and *Kif Kef!*) begin the next phase of their lives. It is a time of transition for them. We wish them love and success and, because I know that Tirza is truly a lifelong learner, continued growth and development! Ben, Kobi, and I will miss you dearly. You have been our friend, our teacher, and my *chevruta*—someone who challenges me, all of us, to learn and grow.

And, of course, that is the challenge for all of us, whether we are entering the Promised Land of summer, or the Wilderness of transition. We are, over these summer months, offered the chance to make ourselves—even if just in our schedules—a bit open, like the wilderness. Freed a bit from the regular rhythms of daily life, what might you have the chance to learn, to experience? Maybe this summer is the year you join us for our summer Adult Education—a chance to study and experience Jewish time with your rabbis and cantors (see Page 4).

We are challenged, as the Israelites in the desert, to learn, to grow, to experience, to change . . . and return to our routines and our communities renewed and excited for journeys yet to come. Wherever your summer plans take you, whether near or far, Ben, Kobi, and I hope that they are relaxing, refreshing, and inspiring. Are we THERE yet?

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FROM THE PRESIDENT | Karen Berman



Early summer is a time of transition and promise. After a long—and this year unbelievable snowy—winter, a hectic school year, and a crowded work calendar, many New Yorkers begin to adjust to what is a somewhat slower and more relaxed summer schedule.

So too are we at a time of transition in the Jewish calendar. We have just observed Passover, the story commemorating the Exodus and our redemption. And now, with the celebration of Shavuot and the receiving of Torah at Sinai, we begin to look to the future and to our long-term relationship with God.

Each time I come upon this cycle, I continue to be renewed and excited by it. The fact that it comes each year, like all of our observances, does not take away from its appeal; rather it provides an opportunity to find new meaning each time it comes around.

In 1960, Jerome Bruner, a renowned educational theorist, proposed a concept that has become known as spiral learning. It is a model in which the same subject matter is revisited over time, but each time the student returns to it additional depth or theories are presented, thereby increasing comprehension and providing more detailed understanding. Without taking away credit from Dr. Bruner, this method was practiced long before 1960—Jews have been practicing this method for hundreds, perhaps thousands, of years.

Our yearly cycle of study, worship, and observance based around Torah enables us to deepen our knowledge and increase our connection to our

history and our ritual. With each year, each sequence, each spiral, we have the opportunity to find new meaning and relevance that can enrich our lives.

For the past four years, I have had the unique privilege of participating in this annual cycle as not only a congregant but as a leader of this community. I have been fortunate to witness a dedicated clergy team, able to lift our spirits, connect us with one another and with God. I have had the honor of

“With each turn around the calendar, there were delights and surprises in addition to familiar routine.”

supporting a committed staff that works tirelessly to engage this congregation through education, ritual, and community service. I have had the joy of partnering with hundreds of officers, trustees, and volunteers who give tirelessly of their time and resources to make Rodeph Sholom a loving, welcoming community. And I have had the pleasure of connecting with so many of you that I might not have met otherwise. With each turn around the calendar, there were delights and surprises in addition to familiar routine.

And so, like any of us, I can't be sure what the next “spiral” will bring. But I do eagerly look forward to familiar observances enhanced by new meanings as we all move to the next level in our community and our connectedness.

ANNUAL CELEBRATE ISRAEL PARADE

Sunday, June 1 at 11:00 AM–4:00 PM

This year we honor Israel's 66th anniversary and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Celebrate Israel Parade. Starting with a few thousand people marching down Riverside Drive in 1964, now over 30,000 marchers celebrate the vitality and diversity of Israel. The Israel Committee invites all congregants to march with our Clergy and Youth Groups in this annual festive event.

The Parade will go up Fifth Avenue from 57th to 74th Streets, rain or shine. Marching under our own banner, we will be showing our support for the Reform movement. While marchers need to be in 3rd grade or above, everyone is invited to join in the celebrations—marching and cheering us along the parade route. Please look for details about the starting time and meeting place on the CRS website. Contact 646.454.3039 or israelcommittee@crsnyc.org.

Join us and show your support for Israel!

*“If you will it, it is no dream.
To be a free people in our land of Zion and Jerusalem.”*

(Im Tirtzu)

IT'S NOT GOODBYE | Tirza Arad

Six years ago I knew the exact day I was going to retire. But as plans go, I was wrong and the date was delayed by one year. You would think then, that I had plenty of time to think about what I would say when that time would arrive. It is, therefore, astonishing to me that now when that moment is here, I am at a loss for words. How can I describe fourteen years of being a part of this amazing community, both personally and professionally, in one article, even when not being limited to my usual 350 words?

There are many feelings swirling around in my mind and heart, but the overwhelming feeling is one of gratitude. I am grateful for this community that not only welcomed me and Michael into its midst, but my entire family as well. These past fourteen years have enriched both mine and my family's lives in immeasurable ways.

I am grateful for the personal friendships we have made with congregants, clergy, and educators. Friendships were formed through Israel trips, partnership programs, and through experiences too numerous to count. They are friendships that will surely outlast my professional career.

While I am not one to reflect much on personal legacy, I am so blessed with the knowledge that maybe not all, but many souls and lives were touched during my time here at Rodeph Sholom. I have been blessed with an education team who was always ready to go and implement a forward looking vision of renewal and growth. I am so proud to know that they will continue this holy work. And along with the lay leadership, whose support in all our educational endeavors has been nothing short of miraculous, I have no doubt that they will bring this to new and exciting levels.

While my professional time here has come to an end, Michael and I plan to stay in New York City and be a part of the Rodeph Sholom

community we love so much. We of course plan to travel, visit our beloved Israel for extended periods of time, spend more time on the West Coast where two of our children and most of our grandchildren live, and just do all the things we never had enough time to do.

Even having been granted more words for this article, they are not enough to personally mention every person that has had an impact on my life here these past fourteen years. I hope I will have the opportunity to thank you all in person.

There are three people that I would like to mention by name, because without them my time here at Rodeph Sholom would not have been the same or even possible.

The first is Rabbi Robert Levine who, together with lay leadership, took the chance on hiring me. He has supported me personally with his friendship and professionally with his wisdom and vision.

The second person is Kerith Braunfeld, whose loyalty and friendship throughout the years has been unwavering. She has been instrumental in turning our educational dreams into reality.

The last person to thank is my life partner and love, Michael Arad. He is my rock, the one I come home to, and whose love for me knows no boundaries. I plan to repay him with some of the time taken from him by my demanding – but most rewarding – work as a Jewish educator.

One more thank you ... *Tov l'hodot l'Adonai*. It is good to thank God!



TEACH YOUR CHILDREN WELL...

FROM THE EDITOR | Yvette Perry

... *And know they love you.* At the end of each school year, Tirza sends her students off for the summer with the message, *"forget for a little while about Religious School, but don't forget about living Jewishly."* And living Jewishly is what Tirza does and who Tirza is. Not only encouraging learning for a lifetime, Tirza inspires her students to live Jewishly all the time.

In the Fall 2004 *Chronicle*, she wrote that the theme for the school year was *"to explore how, as modern Jews, we can find new ways of committing ourselves to our ancient traditions ... how can we take what we have and re-work it?"* She titled her article *Tradition and Innovation*. Throughout the years, it is that very idea that she brought to each school year and that has tied her work here together.

A teacher imparts a sense of wonder, who motivates and promotes curiosity. Who has enthusiasm and a positive nature. Who has compassion and dedication. It is a great teacher who imparts such qualities to all she has contact with. That she made me feel special, that she inspired me, and that she cared about me, well, it is what makes her great, period.

Tirza, your warm and welcoming smile is a constant beacon to all who know you and love you. It is how I always picture you. *L'hitraot*. See you again soon, My Teacher.

[Teach Your Children lyrics © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC]

SAVE THE DATES

Friday, May 30, 6:00 pm: EREV SHABBAT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL HS GRADUATION and YOUTH GROUP INSTALLATION SERVICE. Followed by a festive Oneg to celebrate the Religious School HS Graduates. See Page 7.

Sunday, June 1, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm: ANNUAL CELEBRATE ISRAEL PARADE. Honoring Israel's 66th birthday. See Page 2.

Tuesday, June 3, 6:00 pm: EREV SHAVUOT/CONFIRMATION SERVICE. Followed by a celebratory Oneg. See Page 7.

Wednesday, June 4, 10:15 am: SHAVUOT YIZKOR SERVICE.

Friday, June 6, 6:00 pm: ANNUAL LGBTQ PRIDE SHABBAT SERVICE AND DINNER. See below.

Tuesday, June 10, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm: LUNCH TOGETHER. In the Eisner. A dairy lunch will be served. A contribution of \$8 is suggested. Co-sponsored by Adult Education, the Caring Community Committee, and Sisterhood. Please join us for great socializing and an engaging presentation. Contact: lunchtogether@crsnyc.org.

Thursday, June 12, 1:00 – 4:00 pm: MAH JONGG. Novices and veteran players are welcome. Cards will be available for purchase. RSVP: mahjongg@crsnyc.org.

Friday, June 13, 10:00 am: ANNUAL RSS 8TH GRADE GRADUATION SERVICE. See Page 8.

ANNUAL LGBTQ PRIDE EREV SHABBAT SERVICE AND DINNER

Friday, June 6 at 6:00 PM

Celebrate 15 years of LGBTQ Community Shabbat Services and Dinners at CRS. Everyone is welcome. At 6:00 pm is the Community Erev Shabbat Service. Our special guest speaker is Idit Klein, Executive Director of Keshet, a national grassroots organization that works for the full equality and inclusion of LGBTQ Jews in Jewish life. There will be sign language interpreters at the Service. Dinner immediately follows in the Schafler at 7:30 pm. Reservations for dinner are required. Please join us! Contact: lgbtq@crsnyc.org or 646.454.3105.

WEEKDAY MINYAN

If you are celebrating a joyous occasion, marking a yearzeit, or in need of a prayer for healing, you are invited to come worship in a supportive and caring community. You may request a service any evening Monday through Thursday. Please contact Cantor Shayna De Lowe at 646.454.3039 or maariv@crsnyc.org.

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

How to Raise a *Mentsch*: The Parenting Discussion Group

Rabbi Benjamin Spratt | Tuesday, 9:00–10:30 am
June 10

Informed by Jewish wisdom and inspired by real life, this group offers an opportunity to ask the big questions of parenting in an intimate environment. Parents of children of all ages are welcome, and you can join us at one or all of the classes.

Beginning Hebrew

Sara Rosen | Mondays, 6:30–7:30 pm
Thursdays, 9:15–10:15 am

Beginning Hebrew students will need to purchase a practice book for \$40 available from Sara Rosen.

Continuing Hebrew

Sara Rosen | Mondays, 1:30–3:00 pm

Modern Hebrew

Sara Rosen | Mondays, 7:30–9:00 pm

SUMMER ADULT ED

**Tuesdays at 7:00 PM | July 15, 22, 29
August 5 (Tisha B'Av Study and Service)**

Can We Make Shabbat on Tuesday?: The Hows and Whys of Jewish Time

The Jewish calendar is multi-layered, comprehensive, and experiential. The times and tides guide our ritual, spiritual, and maybe even emotional lives. In the dog days of summer, come and learn with your rabbis and cantors as we explore some of the ins and outs of Jewish time. No prior experience is necessary. Bring yourself (and a friend if you want!) and your questions. RSVP to adulted@crsnyc.org or 646.454.3029.

For more information, go to rodephsholom.org, the Adult Ed brochure, Shabbat Shalom, or call 646.454.3029.

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5775

Information regarding Services, seating and activities for the 5775 High Holy Days will be mailed in late June. If you are thinking about changing your seating location to the Main Sanctuary, it is not too early to contact the membership office with your request. Please email membership@crsnyc.org or call 646.454.3055 today! Please take note of the following dates:

Saturday Evening, September 20	Selichot
Wednesday, September 24	Erev Rosh Hashanah
Thursday, September 25	1 st Day of Rosh Hashanah
Friday, September 26	2 nd Day of Rosh Hashanah
Friday, October 3	Kol Nidre
Saturday, October 4	Yom Kippur

LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE PROGRAMS AND OTHER EVENTS AT RODEPHSHOLOM.ORG



THE YEAR IN PICTURES



DEVELOPMENT | Deborah Siegel

The women of Rodeph Sholom rock. Just look around at our wonderful clergy, our leadership, our volunteers, and certainly our retiring Director of Religious Education, Tirza Arad. I'm also thinking about a woman whose caring and generosity will continue to be felt long after her passing.

Shirley Morson was a doer and a giver, without much thought to recognition. In her professional career, Shirley worked as a diagnostic bacteriologist at Lincoln Hospital. Upon retirement in 1978, she volunteered as a remedial reading teacher for 1st to 3rd grade children in The Learning Leader Early Intervention Program in East Harlem schools. She remained devoted to her "kids" for more than thirty years, until the end of her life. The kids loved her, as did her fellow volunteers, who valued her perspective and warm wisdom. Her love of *yiddishkeit*, travel, opera, and the arts was renowned. As was her generosity – family and friends note that Shirley gave to "lots of charities, always thinking of everyone else first." And yet, in the end, it was Rodeph Sholom of all these charities that Shirley remembered in her will, with the bequest of both a sum of money and an impressive *mezuzah* from medieval Spain that had proudly hung on her doorpost.



Shirley and her husband, the late Dr. David Morson, a general practice internal medicine physician in private practice in the Bronx and at Montefiore Hospital, belonged to a synagogue near their country house, where David served as Cantor. When they sold that house, the Morsons turned to their good friends, Sandra and the late Dr. Paul Schipior, to help them find a new spiritual home in Manhattan. The Schipiors suggested their own synagogue, Rodeph Sholom, and it was a great fit. The Morsons admired Rabbi Levine and even after Dr. Morson passed away and Shirley had difficulty getting around, she didn't miss services if at all possible.

Sadly, I came to know Shirley only after she passed away. I could have learned much from her about what is meaningful in life. And I wish I had known about the bequest so that we could have honored Shirley with membership in the *Ner Tamid Society* and let her know how much her thoughtful generosity is appreciated.

Planned gifts help perpetuate all that Rodeph Sholom stands for in your own life so that future generations will benefit from the same spiritual and emotional support that means so much to you and your family. There are many ways to include Rodeph Sholom in your estate, from naming the Synagogue as the beneficiary of a set amount or percentage of your estate, or the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, retirement fund, or IRA. If Rodeph Sholom is already in your estate plans or if you are in the process of including the Synagogue, please be in touch (646.454.3050) so we can thank you and add your name to the plaque in the lobby. We would also like to invite you to a special breakfast on Tuesday, June 24 at 8:30 am at the New York Athletic Club, where we can show our appreciation to you.

With best wishes for a refreshing summer. For questions or a chat, please give me a call.

The **Roll of Remembrance book**, given to worshippers on Yom Kippur, is an acknowledgement of our ongoing love for those who have passed away. The form offering the opportunity to list names is included with the High Holy Days information sent to you at the end of June. Please look for this form and be sure to return it prior to our deadline of August 20 **even if you do not have any changes**. For questions about the Roll of Remembrance, contact the Development Department at 646.454.3052 or remembrance@crsnyc.org.

You don't need to wait until Yom Kippur to make your gift to the 2014 **Yom Kippur Appeal**. Just go to rodephsholom.org/secure/ donate any time after July 1 to make your gift. You may also mail a check with a note stating it is for the Appeal or add a pledge to your synagogue account.

UNION FIELD CEMETERY

Owned and operated by Congregation Rodeph Sholom, Union Field Cemetery is located at Cypress Avenue in Ridgewood, Queens. The Cemetery Committee invites you to visit anytime to experience the quiet serenity of our grounds, to meditate, to remember departed family members, and to consider plans for the future. There is a refurbished chapel on the premises for memorial services. Grounds hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Sunday through Thursday (closed on Shabbat and major Jewish and secular holidays). Contact Antonio Jones during office hours, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (3:00 pm on Fridays), at 718.366.3748 or ufc@unionfieldcemetery.org.

SUMMER FOOD DRIVE

The Food Bank for New York City



The Food Bank for NYC continues to be NYC's major hunger-relief organization working to end food poverty throughout the five boroughs. They distribute food donations from manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers and government agencies to more than 1,000 food programs supplying over 400,000 meals a day for families, the elderly, homeless and homebound, low-income workers and people living with HIV/AIDS.

Please drop off canned and packaged non-perishable foods in the donation box in the Temple lobby.

“If we would guide by the light of reason, we must let our minds be bold.”

(Justice Louis D. Brandeis)

Religious School

FAREWELL TIRZA!



Our Religious School leaders: Jay Rapoport, Kerith Braunfeld, Marcia Stein, and Tirza Arad.

You are cordially invited to our
**RODEPH SHOLOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND
 YOUTH GROUP INSTALLATION
 EREV SHABBAT SERVICE**

Friday, May 30 at 6:00 PM | 1 Sivan 5774

We will honor our Tuesday Night High School Graduates and Madrichim Teaching Assistants, and offer blessings to all graduating seniors recognizing their long-term connection to the Rodeph Sholom community. A festive Oneg Shabbat will follow the service.

Tuesday Night Graduates:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Molly DeVries</i> | <i>Jonathan Kupfer</i> |
| <i>Jessica Heller</i> | <i>Charles Lutvak</i> |
| <i>Aaron Hersh</i> | |

Madrichim Teaching Assistants:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Maxwell Beer</i> | <i>Adam Horowitz</i> |
| <i>Aaron Hersh</i> | <i>Samuel Shapiro</i> |

**MAZEL TOV TO THE RODEPH SHOLOM
 CONFIRMATION CLASS!**

Tuesday, June 3 at 6:00 PM | Erev Shavuot - 5 Sivan 5774

Join us as we celebrate their commitment to Judaism and to Congregation Rodeph Sholom.

Honoring our Confirmands:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Angelika Alberstadt</i> | <i>Jacob Perman</i> |
| <i>Alex Copperman</i> | <i>Elisabeth Riska</i> |
| <i>Josh Copperman</i> | <i>Leah Saberski</i> |
| <i>Sophie Drew</i> | <i>Paulette Schuster</i> |
| <i>Oliver Erle</i> | <i>Emma Shaerf</i> |
| <i>Chloe Gaynor</i> | <i>Rachael Sternlicht</i> |
| <i>Eli Metzner</i> | <i>Rebecca Thau</i> |

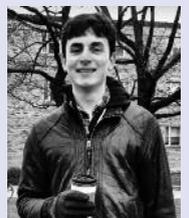
**PLEASE REGISTER FOR
 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL BEFORE JUNE 15!**

CRuSTY | Charles Lutvak

One of CRuSTY's goals this year has been to connect with more teens outside the Rodeph Sholom community. NFTY-NAR has in many ways been the center of that effort. CRuSTY brought 15 teens to NFTY's Fall Kallah in October and the relationship continues to grow. Matt Mandel's election as NFTY-NAR NYC Membership Vice President is evidence that the partnership is strong and ongoing. As a longtime member of CRuSTY, Matt began attending NAR events this past fall. Since then he's become an active member of the NAR community and his election is a testament to his dedication and to the community's openness. It is a real accomplishment that Matt has made such an impact on NAR in such a short time and we hope that it is a sign of the direction this relationship

is going. On behalf of CRuSTY, I wish Matt congratulations and good luck in the coming year.

Matt Mandel, son of Alicia Scotti and Joe Mandel, is a 17-year-old Junior at Trevor Day School. Born into the Rodeph Sholom community, he is a CRS Bar Mitzvah and Confirmand. Matt loves to act, write, play basketball, and is interested in politics. He interned at local political offices and volunteered at the CRS Religious School office and DOROT. Matt has been an active member of CRuSTY and the Tuesday Night High School program. As the new NFTY-NAR NYC Membership Vice President, Matt looks forward to connecting CRuSTY with NFTY-NAR.



The Rodeph Sholom School and Congregation
Rodeph Sholom cordially invite you to attend

**THE ANNUAL 8TH GRADE
GRADUATION SERVICE**

Friday, June 13 at 10:00 AM

Honoring our Graduates:

<i>Sarah Bank</i>	<i>Frederick Meckler</i>
<i>Elizabeth Barnett</i>	<i>Gabriella Mitnik</i>
<i>Emily Bleiberg</i>	<i>Julia Proshan</i>
<i>Joel Brody</i>	<i>Hannah Reiff</i>
<i>Henry Burns</i>	<i>Jane Rosenberg</i>
<i>Nicole Dagen</i>	<i>Jake Sanders</i>
<i>Jacob Eichmann</i>	<i>Jacob Scherr</i>
<i>Eliza Epstein</i>	<i>Hannah Schor</i>
<i>Samantha Fischer</i>	<i>Bradley Shulman</i>
<i>Kate Goodman</i>	<i>Marlee Silverman</i>
<i>Molly Grob</i>	<i>Noa Simon</i>
<i>James Heilberg</i>	<i>Rebecca Srour</i>
<i>Erica Kagan</i>	<i>Avery Stern</i>
<i>Layla Krantz</i>	<i>Cole Wachtel</i>
<i>Jacob Lerman</i>	<i>Daniel Wrocherinsky</i>
<i>Brooke Levine</i>	<i>Jillian Zuckerman</i>

“Whoever teaches
his son teaches not
alone his son
but also his son’s son,
and so on to the end
of generations.”

(Hebrew Proverbs)

I N M E M O R I A M

Max Goldenberg,
father of Leon Goldenberg

Sheldon (Shelley) Cohen,
husband of Doris Cohen

Martin Jerome Weiss, father of Steven Weiss

Kitty Stein, aunt of Bonnie Glasky

Israel (Izi) Cikvasili,
father of Lynn Cikvasili Baruh

Jules Dahlman, father of Dr. Karen Dahlman

Gary Levin, father of Geoff Levin

Sheldon Miller, father of Ken Miller

Allan Schenck, father of
Jodi Schenck Gallagher

Sylvia Meyer, aunt of Mike Gellman

Ellen Cohen, mother of Sharon Levin

Herbert L. Abramson,
father of Stephen Abramson

Joan Erle, mother of Steven Erle

Ernestine Goldstucker, grandmother
of Jenna Mark

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 SUMMER 2014 | 5774

WE SAY
 GOODBYE TO
**TIRZA
 ARAD**

OUR TEACHER
 FOR 14 YEARS

See Page 3

CONTRIBUTE
 TO THE
 RODEPH SHOLOM
 FOOD DRIVE
 THIS SUMMER

ABOUT CONGREGATION RODEPH SHOLOM

Rodeph Sholom, one of New York's most distinguished Reform congregations, embodies a strong commitment to purposeful Jewish living and the pursuit of human dignity. Our congregation is a true community, excelling in meaningful worship, educational opportunity for all ages, social and tzedakah programs. We strive to be an extended family of people who care about each other and our community.

Founded in 1842 on the Lower East Side, Rodeph Sholom has always sought to blend the teachings of our Jewish heritage with the best lessons of modern culture. We are proud of our beautiful worship services, our commitment to social action, and our emphasis on Jewish education for people of all ages. Rodeph Sholom was the first Reform congregation to open a Jewish Day School. Our schools, like our congregation, are flourishing. Remaining true to our name which is Hebrew for "pursuer of peace," Rodeph Sholom takes great pride in our history and is hard at work to fulfill the promise of our future.



Congregation Rodeph Sholom

Robert N. Levine, D.D. Senior Rabbi
Sari R. Laufer Associate Rabbi
Benjamin H. Spratt Associate Rabbi
Rachel G. Meyer Assistant Rabbi
Rebecca Garfein Senior Cantor
Shayna De Lowe Associate Cantor
Ephraim Biran Cantor Emeritus
Greg Weitzman Rabbinic Intern
Benjamyn Ellerin Cantorial Intern
Michael Kimmel Executive Director
Marc Fried Chief Financial Officer
Deborah Siegel Director of Development
Rabbi Leora Kaye Director of Community Engagement
Rabbi Lyle Rothman Director of Youth Engagement
Ruth Bernstein Director of Membership Services
Gail Becker Sexton
Rodeph Sholom Religious School
Tirza Arad Director
Kerith Braunfeld Associate Director
Marcia Stein Assistant Director
Rodeph Sholom School
Dr. Jerrold I. Katz Head of School
Susan Weiss Newman Head of Schnurmacher Early Childhood Division
Colleen Dundon Head of Hirschberg Elementary Division



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Maxine Borenstein Head of Middle School Division
Leslie Silverstein Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

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