

FROM THE SHALIACH TO YOU

Shalom Everyone!

Stand With Israel - Now and Forever

This Newsletter is different. I started working on it before the devastating terror attack of October 7th. The theme was supposed to be "50 Years to the Yom Kippur War," an event that changed Israel forever. No one expected, that exactly 50 years after that war, horror and terror would strike us again. During Simchat Torah, one of the holiest days of the year, a time of new beginnings, over 1500 Israelis were brutally and inhumanly massacred. This terror attack started a war, not just on Israel, but on every Jewish community around the world.

You are used to me writing fun and insightful opening remarks, but this time it's different. Hamas, a terror organization that, in its charter, calls for the destruction of the State of Israel and also the extermination of Jews, took proud responsibility for the assault. Unfortunately, and in ways I can't even start to understand, some people support the attack and Hamas, from reasons like straight up anti-Semitism or Palestinian "liberation", calling the terrorists resistance fighters and chanting things like Death to Israel, America or Jews. Let me be clear - we are NOT in a war with the Palestinian people, we are at war with Hamas, the organization that wants to destroy Israel, the Jewish people and also been continually destroying Palestinian lives as well.

I invite you to report any of pro-Hamas propaganda you see and support Israel. Hamas is Isis - and needs to be stopped. Those next weeks of fighting are going to be hard and public opinion will change, as Hamas is good at lying and spreading false information about Israel, the IDF and the retaliation efforts. **Israel has every right to defend itself, and we will win this war. You don't have to be Israeli to stand with the truth, you don't have to be Jewish to stand against terror.** This is a time to stand strong, turn on lights together, and defeat the darkness.

On a personal note - I want to thank everyone in the congregation for your support and care during this difficult time. My family is safe right now and most of my friends are safe and healthy in the front lines. I pray for better days soon, days of peace, tranquility, להיות עם חופשי בארצנו, and no more wars.

"אין לי ארץ אחרת, גם אם אדמתי בוערת"
עם ישראל חי!

With love
and hope,
Snir




Israeli TV
Recommendation

Israel News

What's Going On &
On The Horizon

Recipe and
Amazing Story

Ways We Can
Support Israel



Israeli TV Recommendation

Valley of Tears

(Sha'at Neilah) - שעת נעילה

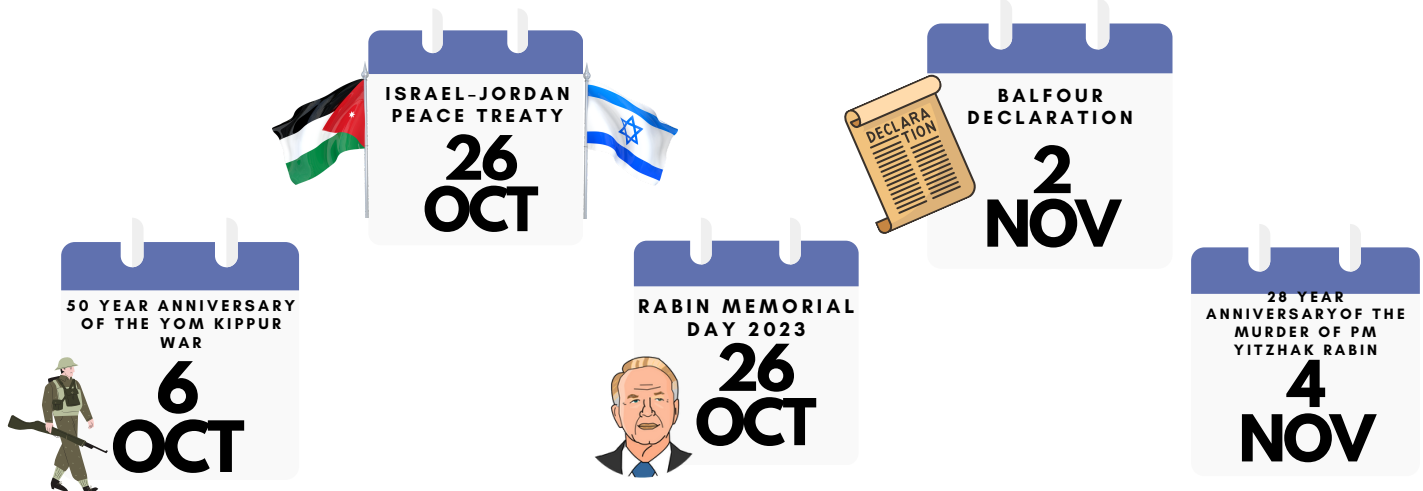
(this page was written before the war broke out)

This year marks the 50th anniversary since the Yom Kippur War broke out and changed Israel forever. The story of the Yom Kippur War touches every Israeli family and household, but and for years people shied away from talking about it. In October of 2020, exactly three years ago, the show "Valley of Tears," restarted the conversation, created waves in Israel, and broke the viewing record since the "Kan" Channel (Israel's Public Broadcasting Corporation) was relaunched.



The plot revolves around 3 groups of soldiers in the Northern Front during the war. In an amazing and authentic way, the show captures the times of the war and the feelings of fear and trauma the soldiers felt. The show has received praise for being able to reflect and introduce those ideas into the plot, and to create a personal and relatable story. Even decorated IDF personnel (like Avigdor Kahalani) commented that the show is "doing justice with the soldiers." During the initial release of the show, after every airing of an episode, a podcast and talk show episodes called "After the Neilah" and "Neilah Conversations" were released and discussed the events of the episode. There was also a big campaign to support army veterans dealing with trauma through NATAL. Due to the immense success of the show, HBO MAX purchased streaming rights, and you can watch it there! (Click the picture to watch).

✡ What's Happening in Israel? ✡



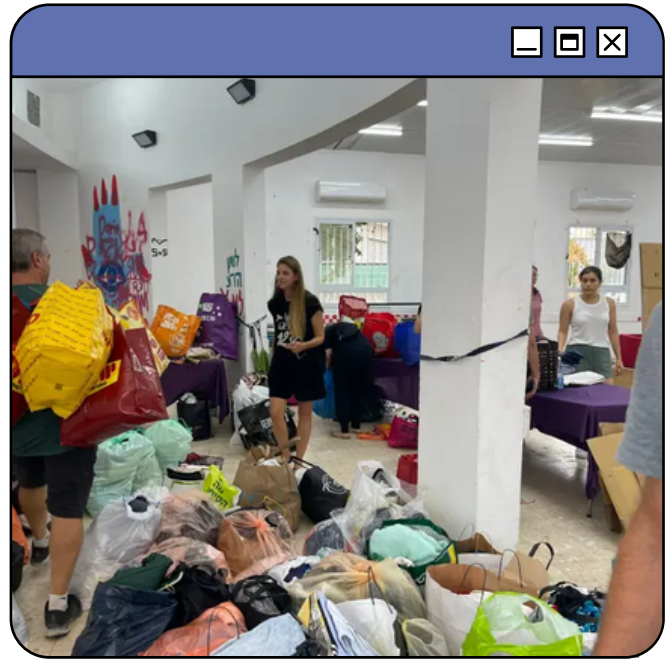
The calendar images are clickable and have more details! Also, for more information about those special days, please don't hesitate to reach out! (Contacts on the last page).

Israel News

The Israeli Civilian Support כל ישראל ערבים זה לזה

Israeli people have this magical gift of putting all differences aside when in need. Since the murderous and brutal terrorist attack by Hamas on the area surrounding Gaza that took place on Saturday, October 7th (the day of Simchat Torah) many civil initiatives have sprung up alongside hundreds of projects by companies in the business sector, all free for the residents of the southern part of Israel, the members of the security forces, and the victims of the war.

Thousands of Israelis joined the effort to support our soldiers, first responders, caregivers, and those who had to relocate because of the threat and victims of terror. Different initiatives raised millions of shekels, all to be spent on gear, food, hygiene products and more for those in need. Also, many independent citizens joined the effort and collected clothing for people, toys and books for kids, and even opened their homes for people who had to relocate. An Army marches on its stomach - lots of Israelis that love to cook got big pots and started to make food for battalions, and restaurants made themselves Kosher in order to make food for our brave soldiers! This is an example of solidarity and support that the Israeli people are capable of. Yasher Koach!



Donation Center in Ramat HaSharon,
Collecting Clothing Articles



Free Food for Reserves Soldiers



Orthodox Organization Packing Food for Soldiers

What's Going on?

KESTY-Led High Holy Day Services

Our KESTY Teens did an incredible job carrying and leading our Family Services. I am so proud of them, putting in so much effort and structuring and executing such an impressive service, that is engaging for all age groups. I must give a big shout out to Adam Dincin, the KESTY President and Gus Bookbinder, Culture and Religion VP, for putting in extra time and thought.

KESTY's Annual Kick-Off Bonfire!

On 10/3 we had our first KESTY event of the year – the Annual KESTY Bonfire! It was well attended, and we had a lot fun getting to know KESTY, The Board, and our new teens! We enjoyed Hebrew music, s'mores and hot cocoa! We are looking forward to a great year of programming, and our next event is on 11/14, see you there!

Etrog-Cello Making Class

Also on 10/3, my good friend Abraham, the Shaliach at Congregation Shaare Torah in Gaithersburg, gave our adults an Etrog-cello making class with lots of Israeli Drinks tasting, stories and overall a good time! It was a blast!

Teen Forum on Israel

Here at Temple Emanuel, it was important for us to talk with our teens about current events in Israel and how it could affect them. We opened up our Temple for teens to ask questions and share their feelings and concerns about the situation. If you are still struggling or have so concerns, please reach out to me or to another Temple Emanuel staff member, we are here to help and support. You don't have to go through this alone.

We Stand With Israel - Friday Service

On 10/13, after the deadly and brutal attack in Israel, we dedicated the Friday service to show solidarity with the Jewish Homeland and the victims of the horrible terror attack. It was my honor to give the sermon, and I invite you to watch the service and my sermon on our facebook page, if you haven't already - [WATCH HERE](#).



On The Horizon

Love, Family and Everything In-Between

As part of our Learn Over Lunch lineup I started my adult ed class, revolving around Hebrew (and Israeli) literature and film! Join me 10/26, 12/7 and 1/4, to learn more about Israeli themes of Love and Family. In this class we'll explore how the Israeli culture intertwines in art to create a meaningful and impactful look on society and life. You don't have to commit to all classes - come whenever is comfortable for you! (Hybrid - both in person and on Zoom).

LOVE, FAMILY, AND EVERYTHING IN-BETWEEN
 WITH OUR SHALIACH SNIR HOLTZMAN
October 12 & 26, December 7, January 4

Explore universal themes of love and family through an Israeli lens with our shaliach, Snir. In this class we'll explore how the Israeli culture intertwines in art to create a meaningful and impactful look on society and life. We'll explore a lot of literary media - from poetry and music to short stories, novels and film.



KESTY Glow-in-the-Dark Lounge Night

Join us 11/14 at 7:30pm for our KESTY Glow-in-the-Dark Lounge Night! This will be a night fall with fun sports activities, and you'll do them while covered in glow stickers - which makes it super cool! We will also enjoy each other's company and will get to know each other and our KESTY programs for the year! Fun and snacks guaranteed! See you all there!

KESTY LATEST EVENTS

We had an amazing time at our opening KESTY Bonfire!

We also celebrated Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur with Teen-led Services

UPCOMING EVENT
 KESTY Glow-in-the-Dark Lounge Night
 NOV 14
 7:30-9:00



KESTY Katan, 345 and J First Event of the Year

Mark your calendar for our Kickoff Event for KESTY Katan (K-2), KESTY 345, and KESTYJ (6 & 7) on November 12, right after school (there's no Hebrew class that day). We are planning a fabulous day of tie dye and challah baking. We will spend time with our friends and will get to Tie Dye awesome Challah Covers (or they can be whatever you want them to be), and we also encourage you to bring over anything you want to Tie Dye yourself! We'll also bake Challah with yummy toppings! Lunch is included for all participants. See you all there!

FIRST EVENT OF THE YEAR
DIY MADNESS!

Tie Dye and Challah Making

November 12th, 11:55am-3:00pm after school

Fun with friends and a guaranteed good time!

Activities for K-2, 3-5, AND 6-7 Graders!

More info at you@templeemanuel.org

Rachel's Cookies - How Being Generous Saves Life

On normal occasions I share recipes that I have a personal connection to, but this time I want to talk about an amazing woman from Israel. On the morning of October 7th, Rachel, and her husband, David, were taken hostage by 5 Hamas members when the surprise attack against Israel was carried out. The two, who live in Ofakim, were held at gunpoint after Hamas members stormed their home. Rachel was able to keep them distracted for about 15 hours due to her incredible hospitality and generosity, even to those who wish to kill her. Rachel, who's a grandmother, says she served coffee and cookies during the standoff. Apparently, this tactic worked because when her son (a cop) and other officers eventually stormed the place, the terrorists were all eating and weren't able to fire back. People are still debating which type of cookies Rachel served the terrorists; some say it was Ma'amul (recipe I shared here before), some say those were chocolate chip cookies, and some say they were these Moroccan cookies I will share here with you. One thing is for sure: Rachel Edri is a hero, and me and all of the State of Israel salute her!

Ingredients

- 8 cups of plain flour
- 2 tablespoons of baking powder
- 2 cups melted butter/margarine
- 1 cups of sugar
- 1 cup of vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ cup of sesame
- ½ cup of shredded coconut

Click on the picture of Rachel to see the interview with her.



Directions

- Preheat your oven to 350°F.
- In a bowl, mix all of the ingredients together until the dough is formed, don't overknead it.
- Let the dough rest for 15 minutes.
- You have 3 ways to shape the cookies:
 1. Using a special machine.
 2. put the dough in a piping bag and create long "snake" shapes on a baking tray
 3. take 2 pieces of baking paper and roll the dough in between them. Once rolled, cut the dough into stripes using a pizza cutter and move to a baking sheet.
- Bake for 20 minutes, until golden brown.
- Let the cookies cool completely before eating.
- Serve with tea and enjoy! בתיאבון! if you make it, make sure to send me a pic!





Ways We Can Support Israel

Israel is going through one of the biggest challenges it has ever faced. There's so much that we can do to support Israel from across the sea. The first thing that we can do, is to **REPORT** and make sure that social media posts that spread lies, fake news and false information would be taken down. This is a battlefield that Israel keeps on losing, as anti-Semites use lies like "liberation" or "resistance" or even claim that the events of 10/7 never occurred and that it's all Israeli propaganda to justify the attack - this is wrong and disrespectful, as this was an organized terror attack on innocent civilians.

The second thing that we can do is to donate to organizations that are helping Israel and our soldiers. Organizations like The Jewish Agency (that Gal Gadot shared in her social media pages), FIDE, the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and more. This way we can guarantee that the soldiers that risk their lives for us will be equipped, will have food and supplies, and that broken families will get support and any helpline they need. I'm glad to inform you that our Temple donated approx. \$9,000 to various organizations that support Israel and its people during this difficult time, and I'm forever grateful for that, as those donations really change lives.

לְבִי בְּמִזְרָח וְאֲנֹכִי בְּסוּף מִיַּעֲרָב

See You Later & Keep In Touch!

For any question or just to chat:
 Mobile: +1-240-204-3033
 WhatsApp: +972-54-984-6312 (Add to contacts and then you'll see me on the app)
 Email: youth@templemanuelmd.org

That's it for this time!

In those difficult times of dread and uncertainty, I pray for better days, for peace and for the safety of my family and friends, all people of Israel and my brothers and sisters in the front lines.

עוֹד לֹא אֲבִדָה תְּקוּוֹתֵינוּ!

La'Shalom,
 Snir

Prayers for Israel

If you're interested in adding the Prayer for the Welfare of the State of Israel and Mi SheBerakh for the Welfare of Israel Defense Forces Soldiers to your prayer cycle, you can find them HERE.

Make Sure to Follow Us on Instagram to Get All the Latest Updates!

 @templemanuelmd

 @kestymd