

FROM THE SHALIACH TO YOU

Shalom Everyone!

Time We Lost

It's been over 100 days since October 7th, but that black hole in our chest can't seem to close. We are standing strong, but something inside still seems broken.

Recently, I attended an event featuring families of five different people being held captive in Gaza. One of those family members was Yael, mother of Idan (20), who's been held hostage for over 100 days. Yael has no idea what is going on, as the Red Cross never visited the hostages and no information is provided to the family. She told us about Idan, her first born child, and she concluded her words by saying "maybe I'll get to see him again, maybe I'll get to hug him again". I was stunned - how can she use the word "maybe", how can a mother comprehend "maybe" seeing her kid again? It doesn't make any sense.

I listened to the story of Devorah. Her son, Tzachi (50) is also being held hostage. On October 7th terrorists infiltrated his house and murdered his oldest daughter in front of him, his wife and 3 other kids. If that wasn't enough, the terrorists live streamed it on Facebook, so Devorah had to watch the whole thing online. Those are not horror movies, those are things that actually happened, and are still happening.

I heard stories of five hostages, but there are over 100. Kfir Bibas is a baby kidnapped at nine months old. He celebrated his first birthday in captivity, no one knows his situation, or the status of his mother and 4-year-old brother, who are also being held captive. No one will bring this time back to their families. We can't even start to understand the lengths of the trauma and pain. It's something only time will reveal. I pray for Idan, for Tzachi, for Kfir and for the other hostages to be returned home immediately - before it's too late. No one can bring them the time they lost back - but we can work hard to bring them back home. It'll never be enough, but it's a start.

**עוד יבואו ימים בסליחה ובחסד
ותלכי בשדה, ותלכי בו כהלך התם!
עם ישראל מאחורייכם!**

With love
and hope,
Snir




Israeli Movie
Recommendation

Israel News

What's Going On &
On The Horizon

Israeli Recipe

Ways We Can
Support Israel



Israeli Movie Recommendation

The Five Houses of Lea Goldberg

לאה גולדברג בחמישה בתים

On January 15th we commemorate 54 years from the passing of the incredible Lea Goldberg, Hebrew artist, poet and writer. Lea’s work has, to this day, a huge impact on Israeli life, culture and society. Her poems and stories are intertwined in the very fabric of Israeli existence, and they will live on forever. Goldberg was undoubtedly one of the leading poets of twentieth-century Hebrew literature, her influence extending beyond the realm of Hebrew “women’s poetry” alone.



I tend to recommend scripted movies, rather than documentaries, but this one is different. This documentary is a fascinating and one of a kind in-depth look into Lea’s life in five chapters or “houses”, while intertwining her creations performed by a lot of well-known Israeli artists like Carolina and Chava Albertstein. The movie navigates between important check points in Lea’s life and how she became one of the most influential and important artists of her time, a deeper look into her work, her family and friends and much more. You can watch the movie for free on YouTube (Click the poster 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

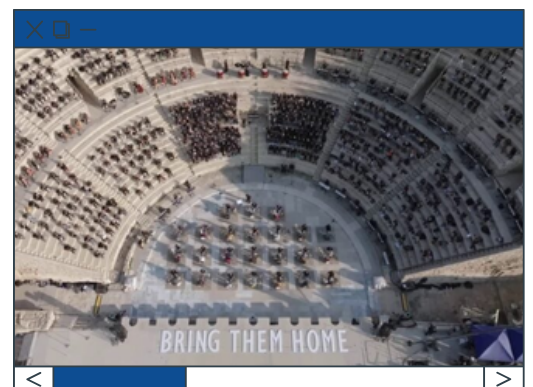
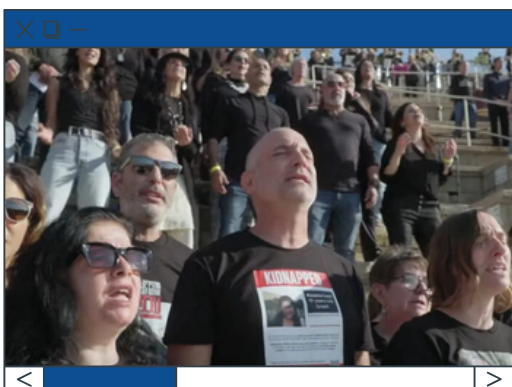
Musical Extravaganza for Israeli Hostages

In the wake of the unfathomable reality we're living right now, everyone is trying to contribute to the effort in any way possible. We witnessed the people of Israel, from every background, ethnicity, political views or gender coming together to help our soldiers in the front lines, the ones that had to flee and leave their houses, the families that lost loved ones and the ones that are still waiting for them on their doorsteps. Amongst all those initiatives, one was really special and touching. Music can be so many things, but one thing is for sure - music invites hope and brings us together.



Aerial view of 1,000 musicians performing in Caesarea on behalf of Israeli hostages.

The 'Homeland' Concert, staged in the Caesarea Amphitheater under the "Bring Them Home" banner, featured 1,000 musicians singing in unison the song "Home", written by Israeli Poet Ehud Manor, in a mashup with "HaTikvah", calling for the immediate return of the hostages. The video of the concert, which was Israel's biggest live music show ever, was directed by Shilo Gallay and Danny Casson. It has already amassed tens of thousands of views on social media. (You can watch it by clicking the pictures). "The idea to produce the project came out of the pain," explains producer Talia Yarom. "Shortly after the start of the war, I decided that I had to create something with a very great light that would warm all the frozen hearts. The vision I had in my head was to let music, which is an international language, speak." This initiative is very amazing and moving, and I hope with all my heart that the sound of this music will reach the ears of the hostages and we will get to see them back home soon. Also, my friend Roni, who served with my in the IDF, is one of the singers, and I'm proud of her for being a part of this amazing project.



What's Going on?

Israel Engagement Brunch

The Israel Engagement Committee hosted an Israel Engagement Brunch program, featuring Dr. Ned Lazarus, Associate Professor of International Affairs at the Elliott School of International Affairs of George Washington University. He discussed the current Israel-Hamas conflict and the possibility of peace in the Middle East. During difficult times like these, it's important to come together and have conversations about the situation and be strong together. Thank you for the Israel Engagement Committee for facilitating this important gathering. We at Temple Emanuel will continue to offer opportunities for discussions like these, furthering the conversation about Israel and the unfolding crisis. Am Yisrael Chai.



On The Horizon

Temple Emanuel's Camp Weekend!

January 20th

Join us for Simchat Shabbat with Grade 3 - Camp Style! Wear your Camp T-shirt and join us at 10AM for a service that will make you wish it was summer again! The service will be followed by a special lunch (S'mores!) and a Camp Fair with camp representatives from the area! If you're debating about which camp to sign up for or want to know more - this is exactly for you!

January 21st

On Sunday, January 21st we'll have a special program for our Religious School students, led by the URJ specialty camps, 6 Points Sports Academy, 6 Points Creative Arts and 6 Points Sci-Tech with special stations for students to get to know the camps and a special presentation for parents, in order for them to get familiar with the variety of camps.



More On The Horizon



KESTY's Sip and Paint Lounge Night! (Moved from 1/9)

Join us on 1/23 at 7:30PM for a relaxed night of painting while sipping on a delicious variety of drinks and hot beverages! We will have a chill night with relaxing music and you'll get to take home your beautiful art creation!



KESTY'S Mystery Night!

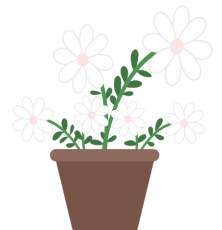
Join us on 2/6 at 7:30PM for a thrilling night of mysteries and activities all around Temple! We will try to crack the case of a horrible murder mystery! Our amazing teens will write and execute this amazing evening and you don't want to miss that!



KESTY Katan, 345 and J - Tu B'Shvat Events!

Join us for some fun with friends, celebrating nature and mother earth! KESTY Katan is having a Plant-Fest, in which kids will make their own little flower pots, and KESTY 345 & J will enjoy a movie watch party of the movie "The Lorax" and a gourmet popcorn bar! (Note that kids must be enrolled in KESTY and RSVP is required for the events).

RSVP HERE.



Israeli Recipe - Bissli Schnitzel

In hard times, food can be a source of comfort and even strength. Its something we're looking for and also something that brings us together with our loved ones. This month I decided to share a very simple recipe with you, but add a twist to it. The Schnitzel - an Israeli staple on every lunch table, Schnitzel is something that everyone can enjoy. I still remember coming back home from elementary school and seeing my grandmother leaning over the hot oil, frying up a fresh batch for me and my brothers. Bissli is also an Israeli must - it's a snack (that you can find in supermarkets in America in the Kosher section) that comes in a variety of flavors, but the best one is "grill" (orange packaging, also called BBQ). Bissli is made out of wheat and is essentially deep-fried pasta. It has the signature crunch that we love, and that how the combination with a Schnitzel was inevitable - crispy chicken with a Bissli crunch - you can't top that!

Ingredients

- 4 Chicken Breasts - thinly sliced
- 3 Eggs
- 1 Tablespoon Mustard (any type you like)
- 1 Cup Flour
- 1 Cup Panko Bread Crumbs
- 1 Cup Bissli Crumbs (Crushed Up Bissli)
- Salt and Pepper, to taste
- Frying Oil



Directions

- Make your Bissli crumbs - take a few bags of Bissli and run them in a food processor until crumbs are made. You can also do it by hand, but this will result in bigger chunks - up to your liking. You will need one cup, but you can definitely use more.
- Make the egg mixture - combine the eggs with mustard, salt and pepper.
- Prepare your work station - set three bowls, one with the egg mixture, one with the flour and one with the Bissli and bread crumbs.
- Start assembling - dip your chicken breast (one at a time) in the flour and then in the egg mixture. When all covered, dip in the Bissli mixture to coat. Make sure to pack the breading in.
- Heat your oil and fry the chicken pieces, do not crowd the pan! Fry until golden brown and transfer unto a wire rack or a plate.
- Serve in a Challah sandwich with Tahini or with some Mashed Potatoes!
- 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 are 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 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, FIDE, the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, the Missing and Hostages Families Forum 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.

לְהַחְזִיר אֶת כּוֹלָם הַבַּיְתָה - עִכְשָׁיו!

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@templeemanuelmd.org

That's it for this time!

During times like these it's easy to lose hope and give up. This is exactly the time to rise up and fight darkness. The new year welcomes new opportunities, and I hope you'll take advantage of all of them. Don't lose hope.



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!

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