

FROM THE SHALIACH TO YOU

Shalom Everyone!

The Masks We Wear

Purim is such a fun holiday. People dress up, laugh, dance, and roam the streets celebrating Jewishness and Jewish pride. But this year, Purim will look different. We will wear our masks, but they will hide more than our appearances. They will hide our feelings and our emotions.

It's important to celebrate life, but at the same time, we cannot forget the ones that sacrificed their lives for us, the ones that were killed just because they were Jewish, and the ones whose lives are still in jeopardy. A lot of us feel scrambled right now, not sure how to feel, where life goes at this point, and in all honesty, I don't know either. We all watched the Oscars and were amazed at the wave of anti-Semitism and hatred. An event celebrating art became a political tool.

We could get mad and start to fight, but this is not what we do. My job as an educator is not to put out fires, but to plant trees. This is an opportunity to show the world who we really are, a nation of truth-seeking people, hoping for peace and praying for better days, days with no more war, no terror organization that wishes to eliminate the Jewish people. This is where we should go, down the path of love, not hatred.

In the following days, I let my anger go. I was disappointed, but what I saw made it crystal clear to me why I'm here as a Shaliach. Maybe we won't wear our masks this Purim. Maybe the pins showing hands covered in blood will be replaced by hands holding flowers. We will show the world who we are and why we are stronger than they think. We will wear our yellow and blue ribbons, our Stars of David, praying for Israel and for the Jewish people, praying that our loved ones will be freed from Gaza, and that peaceful days will embrace us soon.

“בין האפל לנסתר, בעולמנו המר
אומרים שיש עוד תקווה, קוראים לזה אהבה
ומחכים לבואה...”

With love
and hope,
Snir




Movie
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Movie Recommendation

Golda - גולדה

I usually recommend Israeli movies and TV shows, but this time I will make an exception. 55 years ago, on March 17, Golda Meir became the first female Prime Minister of Israel. A complex, fascinating, and sometimes controversial figure, Golda became the most influential and important women of her time. Israeli director Guy Nativ, who won an Oscar for his short film 'Skin,' brought this project to life (so I can call it an Israeli movie, right?) and re-created the Israel of 1973, prior to the Yom Kippur War.



The movie follows Golda as she navigates the State of Israel through one of the hardest times it ever knew. Through powerful performances and intimate storytelling, "Golda" explores Meir's unwavering dedication to the nation of Israel. The movie also features a supporting cast compiled of Israeli actors, like Rami Heuberger as Moshe Dayan, Lior Ashkenazi as David Elazar and much more.

You can watch the movie on Hulu, with a subscription (PG-13, Click the poster to watch!).

✡ What's Happening in Israel? ✡

- 24 MAR**: FIRST EVER EDUCATIONAL TV BROADCAST IN ISRAEL (Image: vintage television set)
- 28 MAR**: REMEMBERING NATHAN ALTMAN (Image: portrait of Nathan Altman)
- 17 MAR**: GOLDA MEIR BECOMES THE FIRST FEMALE PRIME MINISTER (Image: cartoon illustration of Golda Meir)
- 24 MAR**: CAMP DAVID ACCORDS (Image: photo of men shaking hands)
- 31 MAR**: ISRAEL WINS EUROVISION 1979 (Image: photo of Eurovision performers)

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

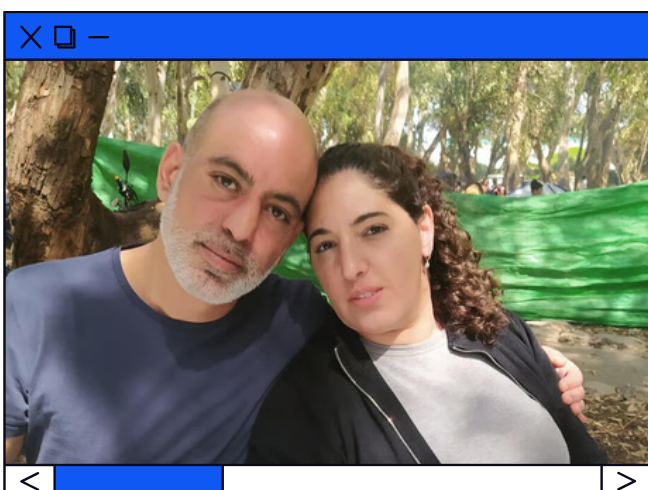
Shlomi's Glasses - Experience the Kidnapping and Captivity in Gaza in VR

Shlomi Ziv, 40, is a resident of Moshav Elkosh in Northern Israel. Shlomi worked as a security guard at the Nova Music Festival with two of his friends. On October 7th, as Hamas terrorists invaded Israel and carried out their brutal plan on innocent civilians, Shlomi still had time to open the party gates to let the partygoers escape. Shlomi's friends were murdered and he was kidnapped to Gaza. Before his kidnapping, Shlomi managed to get a short message to his sisters - "They arrived, I'm running away - we'll talk." Unfortunately, this was the last time they heard from him.

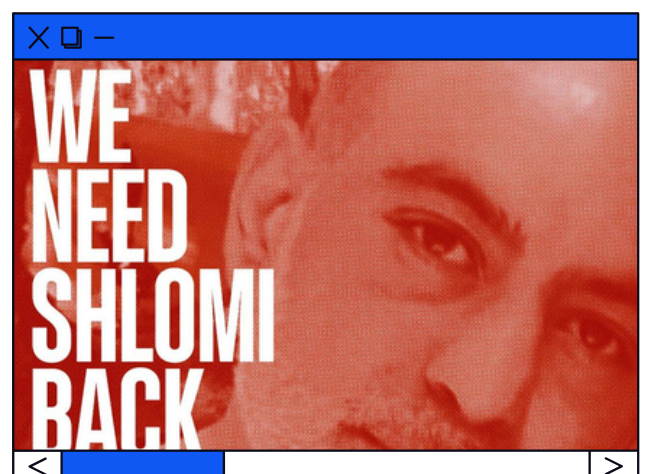


Minister Hili Troper Trying on "Shlomi's Glasses"

"Shlomi's Glasses" project was born in order to put pressure on world leaders to return the hostages. The idea was created and promoted by the family of Shlomi. "Shlomi's Glasses" are Virtual Reality glasses that simulate the experience of the Nova Music Festival, the kidnapping, and the stay in captivity, with 360 and 3D technology from the eyes of a kidnapped person. The binoculars are designed to reach world leaders and humanitarian organizations, such as the UN and the Red Cross. They aim to provide a visualization that will illustrate the condition of the hostages, giving an emotional and physical experience, strengthening their perspective and influencing their decision-making. The initial investment for the development of the glasses was financed by the the Missing and Hostages Families Forum.



Shlomi and his wife, Miran



Poster by the Missing and Hostages Families Forum

What's Going on?

KESTY-led Erev Shabbat Service

Our teens put together a beautiful service, celebrating all things Jewish and Teen! It was so heartwarming to see them coming together and putting life in this amazing service!

Temple Emanuel Retreat at Great Wolf Lodge

We had a magical weekend with the Temple Emanuel community in Great Wolf Lodge! Besides a cool indoor waterpark and an amazing overall experience, we got to pray together, and even to do a morning prayer-meditation with my good friend and Shaliach, Abraham!

KESTY's Purim Prep Lounge Night and Lock In!

On 3/5, our teens enjoyed a lounge night filled with competitive art making, as preparation for our Annual Purim Carnival! Also, two lucky participant won prizes!

After that, our teens gathered at Temple for a night filled with fun programs, and most importantly, a cosmic Temple Makeover! Our creative and enthusiastic teens went all out this year and our Temple never looked better!

Out of This World Purim Carnival!

What a day! As we walked into the "Out of this World" Temple that our teens worked hard on, we knew it's going to be a Purim Carnival to remember! We watched and laughed at the Shpiel, we ate some delicious Hamantaschen, snacks and more, bounced on two moonbounces and got to play so many cool games! Thank you to everyone that made that day possible and also, the biggest thank you, to our amazing and talented teens! We couldn't done this without you! Happy Purim!



More of What's Going on?

Israel Engagement Opportunities

As the heartbreaking war in Israel continues, it's important for me and our Temple staff and committees to provide our community with programs and opportunities to support, discuss and share.

On March 3rd, the Israel Engagement Committee sponsored a brunch, featuring my good friend and Shaliach in Queens, Amit Yaacov. When the Israel-Gaza war started, Amit returned to Israel and joined the IDF reserve forces as an officer stationed in Gaza. Amit shared his story from his experience and from his heart. It was fascinating and so important!

On March 5th and 10th we featured programs focused mainly on teens, college students and their family members, as we discussed Social Media, Israel and the history of the conflict and how it affects teens. We had two Guest Speakers - Dean Bagdadi and Avia Halevi, Shlichim in the DMV area, to run workshops for our teens. The workshops were super valuable in helping our teens deal with the raising waves of anti-Semitism and anti-Israel propaganda we see online.

As we get closer to the Israeli "Yom's," we will continue to provide our community with workshops, programs and resources. Am Yisrael Chai!



On The Horizon

KESTY's Movie Lounge Night!

In the past couple of months we worked hard on adding new furniture and giving the Youth Lounge a makeover. Now it's its time to start using it! Join us for a movie night in our new Lounge on 4/2 at 7:30pm!



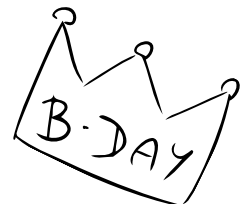
NFTY-MAR Spring Kallah in D.C.!

Join Reform Jewish teens from all across the Mid-Atlantic area (MD to NC) in a weekend of exciting and fun programs and opportunities! We're very lucky that this year's Spring Kallah is in our area and Temple Emanuel is also hosting a big part of the weekend, as well as helping to come up with program ideas with our KESTY board! You don't want to miss this! **Click the picture to register!** (Temple Emanuel provides grants if needed, don't hesitate to reach out!)



KESTY Katan and 345 Last Events of the Year!

Double Birthday Party = Double the fun! Join us in the last event of the year (for our young students) where we will celebrate Israel's 76th and KESTY's 70th with prizes, games, pinata and so much more! **RSVP HERE**



Israeli Recipe - Meat Bourekas

I don't really know how to explain this - I woke up one day last month craving this Meat Bourekas badly, like, really badly. This recipe is a must on every Shabbat table in my house, and for a good reason. The famous Bourekas is an Israeli staple. You can't go by a bakery without smelling them and buying a few. The intoxicating pastry comes in a variety of fillings, known mostly for the cheese and potato ones, but this meat version is so incredible you could serve it as a main dish! It's also so versatile - you can make one big loaf or make individual pastries - whatever works for you! In my house we usually use puff pastry made out of margarine, for Kosher purposes, but you can use whatever kind you'd like, and for a "lighter" version, you can use phyllo dough!



Ingredients

- 1 pack of frozen Puff Pastry, thawed according to the instructions on the package
- 2-3 Tablespoons of Oil (I use olive)
- 1 Small onion, diced
- 1 lbs of ground beef
- 2-3 Tablespoons of Vegetable Oil
- 1 Teaspoon of the following: black pepper, paprika, cumin, salt
- 1 Egg
- Sesame Seeds



Directions

- Start with making the filling: In a pan heat up the oil and add the onions. Fry until the onion turns translucent.
- Add the beef and spices and cook for around 10 minutes until the beef changes color, constantly breaking the beef "chunks".
- After the filling is ready, allow it to cool for at least 10 minutes and preheat your oven to 375°F.
- This part is up to you - the puff pastry usually comes in ready made 2 sheets so it's easier to make it into 2 loafs (what I do). You can also make individual ones. The important thing is to make slits in the pastry so air could come out.
- After you're done assembling, transfer your Bourekas to a baking sheet lined with baking paper. Beat the egg and brush it over your pastry, followed by a sprinkle of sesame seeds.
- Bake for 20-25 minutes. Serve with tahini!
- 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 battle 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, FIDF, 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.

אֲחֵינוּ כָּל בַּיִת יִשְׂרָאֵל - מִחֲפִים לָכֶם

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!

Purim invites a lot of festivity and joy, and while we celebrate we must continue to think about our loved ones waiting to celebrate with their families and loved ones. We still believe, hope and pray to see them back home soon.

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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 @kestymd