

# Congregation Agudas Achim - Ezrath Israel

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☆ MAY – JUNE 2014 ☆ BULLETIN ☆ IYAR - SIVAN 5774 ☆

## Rabbi's Message

Dear Friends,

Ten days ago we observed Yom Ha-Shoah, in our early Holocaust Remembrance day program jointly sponsored on an annual basis by Congregation Agudas Achim – Ezrath Israel and Temple Tifereth Israel. Sylvia Sandler of AA-EI and Ed Morris of TTI chaired a very moving and poignant event. We began with a religious ceremony including children's poetry of the Holocaust, (including, I Never Saw Another Butterfly) and music sensitively presented by Phyllis Werlin and Bryna Tabasky. Members of both congregations kindled six yellow memorial candles after sharing readings dedicated by each candle to a category of victims of the Shoah.

Our guest speaker was Michael Good. Dr. Good is a physician from the Hartford area. He grew up in California, the son of Holocaust survivors. As Dr. Good recounted to us in his talk, he didn't take an interest in the experience of his parents until later in life. Then, in his forties, he took his parents, his wife, and children on a trip to Lithuania. In Vilna (today Vilnius,) his mother brought the family to the work camp where she served as a slave laborer. She spoke of the mysterious Major Plagge, a German officer who was the commandant of the camp, and who, she claimed, had saved her and hundreds of other Jews from death. "He was better than Schindler" she proclaimed. What had become of this Major Plagge? He had vanished with the retreating German army at the end of the war and was never heard from again. It troubled Dr. Good that no one knew of his fate – and especially that he might have had children, or others who didn't know of Plagge's heroic acts and might have believed their father to be a war criminal. So began Dr. Good's difficult and ultimately rewarding quest to search for records of Major Plagge, and to document his remarkable actions, and to accord him the recognition he deserved including designation as one of the Righteous Among the Nations at Yad Va-Shem in Israel.

After Dr. Good's presentation we had the opportunity to purchase his book and to talk with him about our impressions. I highly recommend his book to anyone who wishes to find a glimmer of hope in the darkness of the Holocaust – hope that someday we will find a way to encourage more people to take personal responsibility to act on what they know to be humane, honorable, just, and kind, even in the face of overwhelming pressure to succumb to hatred, bigotry, and despite the crushing weight of bureaucratic demands.

As we prepare to celebrate this week the renewal of our people in Israel, and the amazing resilience of the Jewish people in the face of adversity and loss, let us rededicate ourselves to seeking Shalom – Healing for ourselves and others in the world. We shall continue to move forward with determination and courage, as the Partisan's song goes, "Let our marching steps thunder – we survive!" We survive with a purpose – we remember with a purpose – we march forward with a purpose – to bring blessing to ourselves and others, to answer hatred with love, intolerance with acceptance, and death with rebirth.

**Am Yisrael Chai – The People of Israel Live!**

**Rabbi David Kudan**

**P.S. You can read more about Dr. Good's research at:**

**www.searchformajorplagge.com His book is available in print and electronically at Amazon.com**

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### **Bikkur Cholim/ Visiting the Sick**

**Please call the office or have someone call on your behalf if you are ill, or know of a congregant who is ill and would like a visit by Rabbi Kudan. The only way Rabbi Kudan will know if you are hospitalized or ill is if he is notified.**

**Please rest assured that the Rabbi does his best to protect a person's privacy.**

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### **Temple President's Message**

**Dear Congregation,**

**It's here! It's here! Warm weather, getting outside, going on vacation and coming to temple. During the summer months the temple needs your help. The regulars that come to Sabbath services, and work bingo look forward to a little time off. But this is only possible with your help. Step-up and give these workers a Sabbath or a night off. Remember only you can help. Have a healthy and safe summer.**

**President Philip**

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### **April, 2014 Building Fund Donations**

**To: The Litt Family, in memory of Mitchell Litt  
From: Arlene Meltzer**

**To: Lee Goldman, in memory of mother, Helen Jacobson  
From: The Rubin Family, Vernon & Honey Stohn, Linda & Allan Zalk, Lester & Delores Mack, Al & Helen Baum, Bella & David Westerman**

**To: Barbara & David Servita, in memory of daughter Marcy  
From: Laraine & Allan Alpert, Barbara & Don Weiner**

**To: Temple, in honor of family  
From: Rachel Baker**

**To: Arlene Rubin, in memory of mother, Sylvia Glassman  
From: Allan & Linda Zalk**

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To: Barry Kirshon, in honor of daughter Melanie's marriage  
From: Allan & Laraine Alpert

To: Temple, in honor of birth of great-grandson, John Alexander  
From: Raymond Harris

To: Temple, in honor of Danielle Alexander's grandmother, Doris Harris  
From: Raymond Harris

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**Cong. Agudas Achim-AA-EI & Happy Times Club 24th Second Passover Seder**

Many thanks to Marilyn Masters, our chief kitchen cook and coordinator as well as her assistants, Sheila Kipnis, Laraine Alpert, Dottie Scott, Bobbi Epstein, Dina Fox, Barbara Weiner and Jessica McCarthy for a delicious and delectable Seder Dinner. Thanks to Rabbi Kudan and Wayne Freedman for leading in the Seder.

We had over 80 people in attendance and hope that next year our 25th will be just as good or even better.

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**Please --- Help your synagogue by paying your Dues!!!! PLEASE HELP US OUT.**

Thanks!



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**CANCELLATIONS OF SERVICES, ETC. FOR ANY REASON, WEATHER ESPECIALLY, WILL BE PUT ON TV CHANNELS 4, 5, AND 7.**

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**Recycle**

Recycle your Ink Jet cartridges, dispose of your cartridges in the marked box in the Temple office. Not only are you recycling, we will be getting back a donation that will be used for office supplies.

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## Brotherhood News

Brothers,

After a protracted illness and recovery, I am back as the President once again. I would like to congratulate Steve Levy for doing such a marvelous job as the President Pro Tem during my absence.

On April 20, Phil Butkovitz gave another one of his informative talks on picture-taking. As usual, it was a rip-roaring success. Twelve people showed-up. Thank you, Phil.

As you all know, we are always accepting electrical / electronic discards for our recycling program. Call me if you have any questions or pick-up problems.

Our next Brotherhood meeting will be May 18. This meeting is very important, and will decide if we continue to exist...or dissolve and go away. We are currently meeting every other month. Surely, you can spare one hour every sixty days!

Your President,

Les Lerman

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## Ritual committee

The shovels are put away and now it's time to welcome spring and welcome back our congregation snow birds. We hope the winter was kind to you; it wasn't to us who stayed back here! But it's over now and we have new beginnings ready to unfold. Our Saturday services have been pretty well attended, even with the bad weather, and I'd like to thank all those stalwarts who come almost every Shabbat, rain, snow, cold, or sun. We have some very nice events coming up – on May 30 we will once again be collaborating with Temple Tifereth Israel for a special Friday night service, and of course, our annual Sisterhood Sabbath will be coming up in June.

It has come to my attention that some people have been coming to the temple when we are closed because of a religious holiday. Please be aware that even though you may think that the first two days of Passover and the last two days of Passover, or the first two days of Shavuot, or Simchat Torah are not really important, our Congregation considers all these holidays to be important, and that's why we are closed. When the temple is "Closed for the Holidays," no one is allowed to be there. That has been a time honored tradition of our Congregation, and until such time as the Ritual Committee and the Congregation changes those designations, that remains strictly in force. The only exception to that would be when our custodial staff needs to be in the building to clean, as was the case after the second Seder. We thank you for your cooperation.

Hope to see you in "shul."

Paula Z. Sack, Ritual Committee Chairperson

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## The Tree of Life

The TREE OF LIFE is on the wall in the lobby at the entrance. Not only does this enhance the beauty of our Temple, but the purchase of a Leaf is a way to permanently commemorate a joyous occasion, a special day or a Memorial. Please consider the purchase of a Leaf on our Tree of Life.

**CONTRIBUTION - \$200.00**

For more information, inquire at the Temple Office (781) 322-7205

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**\*\*\* DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO A CONGREGATION FUNCTION OR SERVICE? \*\*\***

Call Don Weiner at (781) 324-0108. He will try to arrange transportation for you.

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### **ATTENTION:**

Our fiscal year ends in June. If you owe "dues" please take care of your obligation as this time of the year is a financial hardship for the Congregation. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

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Do you have a Simcha coming soon? Let us help you celebrate such Happy Occasions. Sponsor an Oneg or Kiddush and enjoy with Family and Friends. Call Marilyn Masters (781) 322-2035.

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### **\*\*\*\*\* TEI Cemetary \*\*\*\*\***

Please note that as of July 1, 2014 lots at Ezrath Israel Cemetery will be increased to \$1000.00 for members and \$1200.00 for non members. We also have a new section and if you are interested in purchasing, please contact Don or Barbara Weiner @ 781-324-0108.

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Have you given your E-mail address to the office for our TEI Lifeline? We are trying to keep everyone updated on all important Temple news electronically. So, if you want to be included on this listing, please leave your information with Dina in the office at (781) 322-7205 or send to Laraine Alpert at [Lja609@aol.com](mailto:Lja609@aol.com).

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## Oneg/Kiddush Sponsors

Please consider full or partial sponsorship of an Oneg Shabbat (Friday night after services), a Kiddush (Saturday morning after services) or even a Friday Night Dinner in honor of a simcha in your life, in memory of a loved one, or just because you want to. Call the shul office at 781-322-7205 for details.

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### \*\*\*\*\*Saturday Minyans\*\*\*\*\*

We are in need of YOU, our members, to attend Saturday Morning Services as often as you can (Men & Women). Services begin at 9:30 am, followed by Kiddush.

Come and enjoy the services and friendship of our weekly "Minyannahs."  
Hope to see you soon!

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### \*\*\*\*\* Kaddish \*\*\*\*\*

You can now arrange for Kaddish to be said for a loved family member or friend at our weekly Shabbat Services. Call the shul office at 781-322-7205 for details.

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### Bingo News:

Bingo is one of our Temple livelihoods; think of this as giving a few hours a month as a nice donation to the Temple. PLEASE HELP!!! -- If anyone would like to lend a hand on Tuesday nights -- please get in touch with me. We especially need sellers on the floor for the first half.....for as long as you can stay...maybe 1 – 2 hours, once or twice a month. I will be more than happy to hear from you.

Bobbi Epstein (781) 324-7562

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### Officers of Sisterhood Congregation Agudas Achim-Ezrath Israel (2013-2015)

President	Elaine Lerman	(781) 480-4552
First Vice President	Ilysa McCarthy	(781) 321-0042
Second Vice President	Amanda Alpert	(781) 775-0174
Treasurer	Marilyn Masters	(781) 322-2035
Financial Secretary	Carol Sugerman	(781) 321-4535
Asst. Financial Secretary	Bobbi Epstein	(781) 324-7562
Recording Secretary (Body)	Barbara Kahn	(781) 321-1177
Recording Secretary (Board)	Phyllis Werlin	(781) 321-0238
Corresponding Secretary (Board)	Helen Baum	(781) 322-8914

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## Sisterhood Contacts

### Club-o-Grams:

Club-o-Gram cards are sent out for any and all occasions. Cost is \$2.50 each. Sent by chair Barbara Weiner - (781) 324-0108 or Bobbi Epstein - (781) 324-7562.

### Kitchen Fund:

Other Donations can be made to support the Sisterhood kitchen – contact Kitchen Fund chair Beverly Visnick at (781) 388-6995.

### Kitchen Committee:

The Sisterhood Kitchen Committee can always use assistance for Kiddushes, Temple Functions, and Sisterhood meetings and dinners. If you can offer some help, either in food preparation or setting tables, contact Marilyn Masters at (781) 322-2035.

### Judaica Shop:

The Sisterhood Judaica Shop, which resides in its beautiful home in the front lobby of the building, has many items for all occasions. Call Laraine at 781-231-1140 or email [lja609@aol.com](mailto:lja609@aol.com) if you are looking for a New Year/shower/wedding/hostess or baby gift. We have lots of mezuzahs in stock plus many other Judaica items including jewelry.

### Hostess Fund:

Donations to help defray the cost of meetings in honor of Birthdays and other occasions can be made to the Hostess Fund.

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## Sisterhood Kitchen Fund Donations

To: Alan & Lorinda Visnick, in honor of son Bryce's Bar Mitzvah  
From: Mom (Beverly)

To: Kitchen Fund, in honor of grandson Bryce Visnick's Bar Mitzvah  
From: Beverly Visnick

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## Sisterhood Club-O-Grams

### CONGRATULATIONS:

To: Jon & Karen Williams—on Jackie's engagement  
From: Marilyn Masters

To: Mr. & Mrs. Edward Cohen, in honor of granddaughter Charlotte's becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
From: Arlene & Herbert Baron

**To: Lorraine Bendell, in honor of great granddaughter Charlotte's becoming a Bat Mitzvah**  
**From: Cong., Sisterhood, Arlene & Herbert Baron, Barbara & Don Weiner, Sheila & Maurice Kipnis, Dina Fox, Bobbi Epstein, Dottie Scott, Sylvia & Hy Sandler, Helen & Al Baum, Lee & Frank Goldman, Marilyn Masters**

**To: Beverly Visnick, in honor of grandson Bryce becoming a Bar Mitzvah**  
**From: Cong., Sisterhood, Elaine & Buddy Aronson & family, Marilyn Masters, Barbara & Don Weiner, Dina Fox, Bobbi Epstein, Sheila & Maurice Kipnis, Laraine & Allan Alpert, Helen & Al Baum, Carol & Alan Sugerman, Arlene & Herbert Baron, Lorraine Bendell, Lee & Frank Goldman, Hy & Sylvia Sandler, Paula Sack, Barbara & Arthur Kahn, Dottie & Bob Scott**

**To: Alan & Lorinda Visnick, in honor of son Bryce becoming a Bar Mitzvah**  
**From: Auntie Elaine & Uncle Buddy Aronson**

**To: Danielle Alexander, in honor of birth of son, John**  
**From: Cong., Barbara & Don Weiner, Dina Fox, Bobbi Epstein, Laraine & Allan Alpert, Sheila & Maurice Kipnis, Marilyn Masters**

**To: Raymond Harris, in honor of birth of great grandson, John**  
**From: Congregation**

**GET WELL:**

**To: Charles Loduca**  
**From: Sheila & Maurice Kipnes**

**To: Lorraine Cantera**  
**From: Bella & David Westerman**

**To: Rhoda Augustine**  
**From: Helen & Al Baum**

**To: Eli Wickham**  
**From: Grandma & Grandpa Cheryl & Ernie, Great Grandma, Marion**

**To: Dr. Barbara Abrams**  
**From: Carol & Alan Sugerman, Cheryl Rivers**

**To: Al Baum**  
**From: Estelle Barzelay, Arlene & Herbert Baron, Beverly Visnick**

**To: Ruth Baum**  
**From: Helen & Al Baum**

**To: Marshall Aronson**  
**From: Beverly Visnick, Elaine, Mark, Steven Lisa, Sharon & Jacob**

**To: Roberta Gothels**  
**From: Bella & David Westerman**



**To: Dottie Scott**

**From: Cong., Sisterhood, Barbara & Don Weiner, Marilyn Masters, Sheila & Maurice Kipnis, Laraine & Allan Alpert, Dina Fox, Bobbi Epstein, Carol & Alan Sugerman, Lee & Frank Goldman, Sylvia & Hy Sandler, Helen & Al Baum, Paula Sack, Lorraine Bendell, Arlene & Herbert Baron, Beverly Visnick**

**CONDOLENCES:**

**To: Lee Goldman & Family, in memory of mother, grandmother & great grandmother, Helen Jacobson**

**From: Cong., Sisterhood, Laraine & Allan Alpert, Dina Fox, Bobbi Epstein, Marilyn Masters, Barbara & Don Weiner, Carol & Alan Sugerman, Dottie & Bob Scott, Sylvia & Hy Sandler, Helen & Al Baum, Phyllis Bertman, Regina & John Kaufman, Barbara Murstein, Paula Sack, Beverly Visnick, Philip Butkovitz, Miriam & Ed Cohen, Lorraine Bendell, Arlene & Herbert Baron, Barbara & Arthur Kahn, Margie Casper & Elyse Baron, Sheila & Maurice Kipnis, Estelle Barzelay**

**To: Walter Falta & family, in memory of brother, Sonny**

**From: Cheryl Rivers & family**



## **JF&CS Family Table Helping Those in Need**

**Congregation Agudas Achim - Ezrath Israel has partnered with JF&CS Family Table and will be collecting food for their monthly distributions.**

**Jewish Family & Children's Services Family Table provides low-income families, isolated seniors, disabled adults, unemployed, working poor and Waltham residents with emergency or monthly groceries.**

**JF&CS has grown dramatically since its inception, and have gone from assisting 40 families in 1993 to assisting over 400 families in Greater Boston today. With the donations of food from 48 collection sites, JF&CS Family Table currently provides Kosher food, fresh produce, dairy products, meats, and Jewish ritual and holiday items each month.**

**We have been asked to make a commitment to collect 1 lb boxes or bags of rice or raisins every month. Our goal is to collect ten of each item before delivering them for distribution. We hope you will help us reach our goal.**

**Next time you purchase your family groceries; won't you please add one of these items to your shopping cart and bring it with you to the temple? Please help us fulfill our responsibility to provide the corners of our field for the poor and needy. Help us make a difference and help feed the hungry in our community.**

**A collection bin has been set up in the Temple office.**

**Thank you,**

**Phyllis Werlin  
Family Table Site Coordinator for AAEI**