


THIS MONTH AT TEMPLE BETH AM

111 Avenue B
Bayonne, NJ 07002
201-858-2020
May 2024

Don Miller, President
Rabbi Cathy Felix





*A man's work is from sun to sun,
but a mother's work
is never done*

**HAPPY
MOTHER'S DAY**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAG

Let me start by thanking all those who sent us good wishes on our grandson Judah's Bar Mitzvah this past March. It was so nice to be back in our beautiful sanctuary for a joyous occasion. Sue and I also want to thank all those who sent Sue get well wishes. If you did not know, Sue had a knee replacement on March 26 and then fell 3 days later and broke her hip. She then spent 3 weeks in a rehab facility and is now home.

It is so nice to feel the warm fresh air and see the beautiful blossoms on the trees. The change in weather is one of the nicest things about the month of May. Spring brings to us a renewal of life around us and hopefully gives us a new sense of purpose. Get out and walk. Plant a garden. Take a ride to the shore. Attend Shabbat services (Oops...did I just slip that in there?)

May 6th is the Yom Ha Shoah remembrance at Bayonne's City Hall. Bayonne's Interfaith Council, the Board of Education, and the UJA combine to give us an informative program that is always reflective and poignant, yet uplifting. The program begins at 6 p.m.

May 12th is Mother's Day. It is a day for all of us to recognize the love, care, and devotion our mothers have given us. Rabbi Boruch Leff said, "Mother's Day should be a day full of love and endearment that helps you continually experience such feelings throughout the year. That is Mother's day Jewish style!" I wish all our wives, mothers, sisters, grandmothers, great grandmothers, and daughters a day of love and appreciation for all they do.

May 18th is Armed Forces Day. On that day we pay tribute to the men and women who are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States to protect us all. It is a day for us to show our appreciation for their dedication, devotion, and bravery. They keep us free. May 27th is Memorial Day. For most it is the unofficial start of summer, with barbecues, concerts, and other special events. But it seems that the real meaning of Memorial Day has gotten lost for too many of us. Memorial Day was created as a holiday to honor the women and men who paid the ultimate price to ensure our freedom. It is an opportunity for each of us to take a moment to stop and give thanks to the many who have died protecting the freedom we so deeply cherish. Enjoy the holiday, but please remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice and the families who have an empty seat at their table.

Finally, please keep the hostages in your prayers and pray for an end to the conflict in the Middle East.

Don

Rabbi's Message

Dear Friends,

May 6 is Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day. In memory of that horrific time, I wish to share with you an amazing story.

In 1941, a petite, elegant woman left her home in Galicia, where she was known as the Jewish mathematician Janina Spinner Mehlberg.

Three days later, she arrived in Lublin — a center of Nazi mass murder in Poland — with a new identity. She was now Countess Janina Suchodolska, a self-assured Polish aristocrat, and she would negotiate the release of thousands of prisoners from the Nazis and save thousands more through deliveries of food and medicine.

Beneath her masquerade as an aristocratic welfare official, Janina concealed that she was an officer in the underground Polish Home Army, where she, in turn, concealed that she was a Jew.

Born in 1905, she enjoyed a privileged childhood. Her father was a wealthy estate owner who socialized with Polish nobles; their children were her friends. Janina absorbed the Polish patriotism of her class

Janina's childhood was shattered by World War I. Along with other Jewish landowners, her father was abducted by Russians and died in 1918. A wave of pogroms swept through Central and Eastern Europe after the war, killing as many as 100,000 Jews.

Still, Janina thrived as a star mathematics student. Despite the closed doors to women and Jews in academia, she obtained a doctorate. In 1933, she married another brilliant Jewish student, Henry Mehlberg.

In Lvov, the couple enjoyed a comfortable existence as intellectuals. Then, the world closed in. In 1939, the Soviet occupation brought hunger, fascism and a war on intellectuals. Then German forces took Lwów in 1941. They fled with the help of Janina's family friend, Count Andrzej Skrzyński, who provided false papers, jobs and a place to live in Lublin.

Transformed into Count Piotr Suchodolski, Henry kept a low profile. But Janina — now Countess Suchodolska — was not content to evade death narrowly. “The value of one life is less than the value of multiple lives, and life, if I survived without seeking to save others, would have no value.”

The concentration camps were designed for mass death: prisoners who were not immediately murdered died from starvation, exhaustion, disease. But the Nazis needed prisoners who survived to work — ideally through a group that fed them without SS spending.

Janina used this bargaining chip to deliver increasing amounts of food and clothes to Polish inmates of Majdanek. On top of her authorized deliveries, she smuggled more food and messages from the Polish resistance. Janina negotiated the release of at least 9,707 Poles. Her group could solely aid those considered racially Polish — so Janina’s efforts could not be directed toward her fellow Jews. She knew that Jews lived together with Poles at Majdanek, and that each compound’s kitchen fed prisoners from the same cauldrons. As she strove to deliver more and more food into the camp, she could only hope that it would enrich soup fed to all the prisoners, staving off starvation for thousands of Jews alongside Poles. She was never discovered, and after the war, she and Henry lived out their days happily as professors in universities in Chicago.

On this Holocaust Memorial Day we remember such heroes as Janina Spinner Mehlberg, who worked to save lives at the risk of her own.

Rabbi Cathy Felix



Rabbi Cathy Felix *May 5*

Sherry Kosinski *May 7*

Miriam Haimowicz *May 8*

Arthur Levin *May 8*

Matthew Solarski *May 20*

Jenna Downey *May 20*

Ruth Blackstone *May 31*



Murray & Ruth Blackstone

May 30

*Rabbi Cathy Felix and
Rabbi Elliot Schoenberg*

May 30

TRIBUTES

FROM

TO

MUSIC FUN

Sue & Don Miller

Ms JoAnn Capodice & Family

In loving Memory of
Sister Patricia

Sue & Don Miller

Ms. Maureen Diaz

In Loving Memory of
Husband Dennis

Joyce Nestle

Robert & Sherry Kosinski

Memory of Bob's Sister

Sue & Don Miller

Robert Kosinski & Family

Loss of Bob's Sister

Floretta Glinsky

Sue Miller

Get Well Wishes

Floretta Glinsky

Debby Werner

Wishes for a Speedy Recovery

FLOWER FUND

Sue Shapiro

Robert Kosinski & Family

On the loss of your
Beloved Sister

Harriet & Debby Werner

Sue Miller

Best Wishes for a Speedy
Recovery

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Rabbi Cathy Felix

Rabbi Ned Stolz

Express my gratitude for the honor of having you substitute for me at Temple during my absence.

GENEROUS DONATIONS

Varda & Arnold Wendroff
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Carole & Andy Drogin

Wishing you a Happy Passover

James Sanderson

Your generosity to Temple is much appreciated

Yahrzeits

Laurie Feinberg

In Memory of Della Levit

Floretta Glinsky

In Memory of Ethel Guest

TEMPLE NEWS

Saturday morning 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Services are held via ZOOM. The Rabbi will email you the link to join in as she has in the past. You will be notified as soon as in-person services are resumed. Look forward to seeing you.

All other Temple services are still available as required.

Yahrzeits - May 2024

The Individual Yahrzeits will be read during the upcoming Shabbat Service

Saturday - May 4, 2024

Samuel Guberman - Joseph Holzman - Eva Parnes Shapiro - Irwin I. Kinigstein

Lillian Walitsky - Paul S. Maybaum, Jr. - Stephen M. Gutterman (Nisan 23)

Rose Tischler (Nisan 25) - Tillie Tulbowitz (Nisan 25) - Alan Chapman (Nisan 26)

Saturday - May 11, 2024

Lee Newman - William Friedman - Dr. Harry Feinberg - Yetta DeLuna - Max I. Canter

Martin Schnitzer - Samuel Benjamin Halperin - Sophie H. Appel - Irving Horwech

Mendel Shainberg (Iyar 3) - Nathan Troum - Harry Dvorin - Abraham Siegal

Anna Astor Kozinn - Peter S. Paul (Iyar 3) - Mildred Iskowitz (Nisan 28)

Harry Turkish (Nisan 29)

Saturday - May 18, 2024

Morris Steinman (Iyar 5) - Edith K. Bershinsky (Iyar 8) - David Gabler (Iyar 8)

Adele Elkind - Mollie Stark - Bernice W. Belkoff - Abraham I. Pezner

Charlotte Ruben - Nathan Secunda - Shirley Zuckerman

Saturday - May 25, 2024

Henry Greenstein - Robert I. Horowitz - Abraham Platt - Barnett Weissman

Helene Beth Janes - Hyman Penschansky - Emil Gibian - Alan Franklin - David Brown

Esther Bernknopf (Iyar 12) - Fannie Chertoff (Iyar 14)

Plaques and Gifts

Yahrzeit Plaques (\$250 for members)
Zachor Wall Plaques (\$100-\$150)
Shabbat Prayer Book Dedications (\$50)
High Holy Day Prayer Book Dedications (\$25)

Contact the Temple office for details.

Funds and Tributes

The Temple maintains a number of funds supporting various programs at the Temple.

Endowment Fund (\$25)
Library Fund (\$18)
Rabbi Morris M. Tosk Fund (\$10)
Carol Weinberger Flower Fund (\$10)
Robert Blum Music Fund (\$5)
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund (\$5)

Unless otherwise specified, all tributes will be \$5 and listed under the Music Fund.

For Tribute & Fund donations please call the Temple Office,
201-858-2020 or Email the Temple at templebay111@gmail.com

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Templebethambayonne.org

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