

The Pomegranate



FEBRUARY 2012

Published monthly by Temple Etz Rimon, a Reform Congregation in Carlsbad, California — Rabbi Karen Sherman
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TU B'SHEVAT SEDER, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

The mystical (and delicious!) tradition of the *Tu B'Shevat Seder* reminds us not only of Judaism's connection to nature, but also of our connection with the land of Israel. We will be celebrating the New Year of the Trees together this year with our annual *Tu B'Shevat Seder* and potluck on Friday, February 10, at 6 pm in Pilgrim Hall.

Call or email the Temple office by Friday, February 3, to make your reservation so that we can plan for attendance. No charge for Etz Rimon members; \$5 non-members.

If your name begins with:	A-H	J-M	N-Z
Please bring:	Main Dish	Drinks	Side or Salad



TEN GREAT WAYS TO CELEBRATE TU B'SHEVAT

from *Grandpa and Me on Tu B'Shevat* by Marji E. Gold-Vukson

1. Invite friends to a fruit-and-nut tasting party. Learn the brachot (blessings) to be said before eating each variety. Try an Israeli or traditional Jewish recipe using fruits and nuts.
2. Find out how other nations and cultures honor trees (such as the celebrations of Arbor Day in the United States, *Shikmokil* in Korea, and *Chih Shu Chieh* in China).
3. Learn about the work of the Jewish National Fund (JNF). Donate money to buy a JNF tree in honor or in memory of someone special.
4. Start an ecology or environmental club. Help save a rain forest. Weed a public garden.
5. Read a book about Johnny Appleseed.



6. Choreograph a dance, sing a song, draw a picture, or write a poem about trees.
7. Walk through the woods. How many different species of trees can you identify?
8. Find out what the Torah teaches us about the importance of trees.
9. Make a flowerpot out of recycled materials. Put a small, easy-to-care-for plant in it, and bring it to a resident of a nursing home.
10. Hug a tree. Better yet, plant one! Find out which species grow best where you live. Ask if the seeds for your tree need special care or preparation before they can be planted. The nursery will give you good directions for planting seeds.

INTERFAITH SHELTER NETWORK FEBRUARY 12-26

Once again, we will assist Pilgrim Church when it hosts The Interfaith Shelter Network. The Network is a program of the Ecumenical Council of San Diego that has been providing shelter and assistance to people in need for more than 20 years.

The dates of the Shelter are Sunday, February 12, through Sunday morning, February 26. Set-up is Saturday, February 11. Break-down is Sunday, February 26.

Some of the services provided are shelter, a warm dinner, breakfast, and a sack lunch.

Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

- ❖ setting-up Pilgrim Hall
- ❖ nightly dinners
- ❖ nightly overnight hosts (two adults)
- ❖ Saturday and Sunday breakfasts
- ❖ laundry
- ❖ taking down the shelter and clean-up

If you have questions about the program or would like to volunteer, please contact **Mary MacGillis** of Pilgrim Church or **Marilyn Clement**.

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FROM OUR RABBI

By Rabbi Karen Sherman

BECOME A SERVICE LEADER

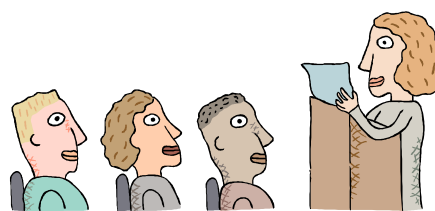
I have been a rabbi for only two and a half years, but I have been leading services for 30 years. How is that possible?

Throughout the past 30 years, I have had multiple opportunities to be a *sh'lichat tzibur* (or in the masculine form, *shaliach tzibur*) – a service leader. Currently, a major part of my role as Rabbi of Temple Etz Rimon is to lead services on Shabbat, Holy Days, Festivals, and other holidays. Before I began serving this congregation, I was a rabbinic intern at three different congregations where I led services. During that time, while a rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College, I led services for our student congregations in Jerusalem and Los Angeles. However, my service-leading experience began even before that.

Even before I entered rabbinical school, I led different kinds of services in different places. As a youth group director, I helped teenagers plan services that they could lead. As a religious school teacher, I helped my students lead services. As a camper at Jewish camps, I led services with other campers outdoor in a camp environment. As a board member of the local and regional youth groups, I led services for other youth all over southern California and across the country, and as a religious school student, I participated in services at my own congregation.

I am not just trying to provide you my service-leading resume. I am trying to say that leading services is not a responsibility that rests solely with rabbis and cantors. In many praying communities where there is no rabbi or cantor, congregants lead their own services. In some very small congregations that are served monthly by student rabbis, congregants lead their own services on the weeks when the student cannot be there. Anyone, young or old, with intention and with some knowledge of Jewish prayer, can lead a service.

The service leader's job is not an easy one, but it comes with abundant blessings. Rabbi Reuven Hammer, a prolific writer of *siddurim* (prayer books) and commentaries on prayer, writes: "Ultimately prayer is a way of experiencing the reality of God in the world and of relating to that reality." This sounds like an overwhelming goal, one that might be impossible to achieve! But experiencing the reality of God and relating to that reality might be different for each person; thus, prayer itself is different for each person. I believe the role of the service leader is to create an atmosphere where each person can find that reality for him/herself, and to set a tone where each person can find prayerful moments. For me, service leading is a selfless act—a service I provide the congregational community, a



mitzvah. But it is not without reward. From the bima, seeing people engage with prayer, struggle with prayer, find prayerful moments, and relate to the reality of God is tremendously gratifying.

Leading a service for a community does take preparation, planning and some education. That is where our next lifelong learning opportunity comes in. I invite you to join us for a 3-series course on Shabbat Liturgy and Service Leading. This course will take place on the second Wednesday of the month in February, March and April. Bring your lunch to Pilgrim at 11:30 as we delve into the meaning, history, choreography, substance, and sentiment of prayer.

Each class will offer opportunities to learn about and engage with prayer. In our first class, we will examine some of the history of prayer, the clothing of prayer (*tallit* and *kippah*), and finding a meaningful balance between fixed prayer in the *siddur* and spontaneous prayer that comes from within. In our second class, we will review the necessary preparations and planning for prayer, and provide an overview of the structure of the Shabbat evening service in our *siddur*. We will discuss how the service leader makes choices about which prayers to include, how much or how little Hebrew to use, and how much and what kinds of music to include. We will begin to examine the liturgy in the first half of the service, looking closely at the translations and meanings of each prayer. In our final class, we will study the liturgy in the second half of the service and will conclude with some "practice" service leading opportunities.

By the time we finish three courses, you will have been introduced to the information and preparation you need to lead a Shabbat evening service. Even if you are not interested in leading services, join us as we explore the background and the beauty of prayer in our tradition. You may attend one, two, or all three classes and do not need to attend the entire series.

The most important part of prayer is not the words themselves or their recitation, but the meaning and intent behind the words. For this reason, prayer is often called "*avodah she-ba-lev* – service of the heart." Through our prayer, we reach out to God with our hearts as much as with our words. We long to be heard, understood, and accepted. If the words of Jeremiah the prophet are true, that "God searches the heart," then the true intention behind our prayer will be revealed.

THE POMEGRANATE

GETTING INVOLVED AT TEMPLE ETZ RIMON

MONTHLY *MITZVAH* PROJECT:

The Mitzvah/Terumah committee is still developing a list of monthly projects for the coming year. If you would like to join the committee, are willing to take responsibility for one month's project, or even just want to offer ideas or help with one project, contact mitzvah@templeetZRimon.org or get in touch with **Barbara Browne**.

Our January Mitzvah project was to take advantage of the many White Sales in January to collect white bath linens for the local homeless shelters. Our donations will enable the shelters to provide clean, fresh bath linens to the temporary shelter residents and also allow those residents to take the towels with them when they leave the shelter. We will continue to accept contributions throughout the month of February.

February's *Mitzvah* project will be our participation in hosting the Interfaith Homeless Shelter at Pilgrim. If you have not already signed-up for a shift or to provide a meal, please contact **Mary MacGillis** of Pilgrim Church to see what slots are still available.

Upcoming projects will include a food drive in April, in conjunction with spring cleaning in preparation for Pesach.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hamantaschen Baking Blitz, March 7, 10 am
Passover Seder, April 7, 5:30 pm

SISTERHOOD

Thank you to Estelle Altork for hosting the January 8 meeting of Sisterhood. The next meeting will be held on February 5 at 11:30 am the home of Madeline Rosenberg. RSVP to Madeline.



SISTERHOOD 'S EVENT OF THE YEAR

Please join us on Saturday, March 24th at 7:30 p.m. at the Pilgrim Church for FASCINATING RHYTHM--A CONCERT OF YOUR FAVORITE BROADWAY TUNES AND MORE FEATURING THE SHOWCASE SINGERS. Tickets are \$24.00 per person. Refreshments will be available at intermission at no additional charge. For reservations, see the enclosed order form.



LIFELONG LEARNING

SHABBAT LITURGY AND SERVICE LEADING CLASS

Join Rabbi Sherman for a 3 course series on Shabbat Liturgy and Service Leading. This course will take place on the second Wednesday of the month in February, March and April. Bring your lunch to Pilgrim at 11:30 as we delve into the meaning, history, choreography, substance, and sentiment of prayer.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THESE CONTRIBUTIONS

The Temple thanks our members, their relatives and friends, and our community for donations recently received.

GENERAL FUND

Provides funds for day-to-day expenses for the ongoing operation of the Temple.

- ❖ Sharon & Mike Kroopkin, in memory of their fathers, Hy Kroopkin & Harold Magid
- ❖ Larry Vinikow, in memory of his first wife, Jan Vinikow

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Provides funds for use at the discretion of the Rabbi for rabbinic, pastoral, community, and charitable purposes.

- ❖ Shelly & Bill Richman, in memory of Shelly's mother, Rochelle Fishman
- ❖ Fran & Steve Sherman

CAMP POMEGRANATE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Provides funds to assist families (who qualify) with religious school tuition.

- ❖ Rochelle Linick, in memory of her mother, Bess Cohn, her in-laws Ernest Linick & Esther Linick Horwich, and Susan Pack's sister, Cindy Levy
- ❖ Fran & Steve Sherman

THE POMEGRANATE

TEMPLE TALK



CARING COMMITTEE

The Caring Committee helps Temple members on joyous and sad occasions. If you have information about your family or another member of the congregation—birth, illness, death, or other life-changing situations—send email to caring@templeetZRimon.org.

- ❖ We send condolences to Shelley Linick on the loss of her sister-in-law, and Karen Linick on the loss of her aunt, Sharon Shepard. Our thoughts and prayers are with Shelley and Karen and their families during their time of sorrow.

Yahrzeits

Zichronam Livracha

May their memories be a blessing.

FEBRUARY 3

Gilbert Cohn, brother of Shelley Linick,
uncle of Karen Linick
Ann Kirschner, mother of Judy Devor,
grandmother of Rabbi Karen Sherman
Jesse Hellman, father of Lori Hellman
Sam Rosenberg, father of Esther Ladman



FEBRUARY 10

Allen Koor, brother of Rita Koor
Martin Corney, husband of Leni Corney
Helen Berstetin, mother of Jodi Bernstein
Selma Binikow, mother of Larry Vinikow

FEBRUARY 18

Marilyn Spitz, mother of Lori Hellman
Morris Cohen, father of Mark Cohen
Henry Weiner, first husband of Barbara Hayes
Morton Heyman, father-in-law of Eve Heyman
Bernard Jordan, father of Inge Schwartz

FEBRUARY 24

Henry Katzeff, father of Marilyn Gordon
Lillian Levine, mother of Harold Levine
Ruth Minin, mother-in-law of Harold Levine



ONEG SHABBAT COMMITTEE

We always need *Oneg Shabbat* and *Kiddush* sponsors!

Host by yourself or share the work—and the joy—with a friend! To arrange a date please contact Roberta Cohen at Onegs@TempleEtZRimon.org or 760-944-1455. If you are unable to be at a service but still wish to be a sponsor you may donate \$75 to cover costs.

Thanks to the following members who have sponsored a recent *Oneg Shabbat* or *Kiddush*, or will be sponsoring one soon, which are enjoyed by all.

- ❖ The Clark Family, in honor of their son's Bar Mitzvah
- ❖ Marilyn Clement, in memory of her mother on her Yahrzeit
- ❖ Brenda MacBaisey, in memory of her father on his Yahrzeit
- ❖ PERTY Families—The Allens, Beigels, Cohns, Henkels, Levitts, Nerenbergs, Romeros, and Shermans

My Tag-Lit Birthright Trip to Israel

By Becca

This winter break, I had the opportunity to go on my Tag-lit Birthright trip to Israel. I traveled with other students from my college, UCSB, and we took a whirlwind trip around the country.

We started in the north and hiked the Golan Heights, went on a jeep ride, and visited Tzfat, an old city full of Jewish mysticism. My bus participated in a Tzedek project, where we painted the inside walls of a Jewish housing project and gardened the surrounding area. We then spent a night in the Bedouin tents in the Negev desert, where we enjoyed camel rides. I hiked up Masada early in the morning and got to see the most beautiful sunrise. After hiking Masada, we cooled off by covering ourselves in mud and floating in the Dead Sea.

Our final days were spent in Jerusalem going to the Western Wall, through the old city, and so much more. A highlight of my trip was spending many days with 8 Israeli Defense Force soldiers who joined our bus, and I think that the soldiers really showed us all how different life is in Israel from the United States. Overall, this trip deepened my connection with Israel and was a fantastic trip that I highly recommend to everyone ages 18-26!



THE POMEGRANATE

GIVING

YES, I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE! HERE'S MY DONATION...

Last Name (Please Print)

First Name (Please Print)

Address (Please Print)

(Phone)

Date: _____ Amount of Donation: _____

PLEASE DIRECT MY DONATION TO THE FUND CHECKED BELOW:

- General Fund High Holiday Prayer Book Fund Capital Improvements
 Camp Pomegranate Camp Pomegranate Scholarship Fund Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
 Mitzvah/Terumah project (please indicate which project) _____

Donation made by: _____

In Memory of: _____

Relationship: _____

In honor of: _____

On the occasion of: _____

Speedy Recovery to: _____

Send Acknowledgement to: _____

PLEASE CUT OUT THIS FORM AND MAIL IT TO THE TEMPLE WITH YOUR CHECK.

Temple Etz Rimon 2020 Chestnut Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92008-2715

Temple Etz Rimon is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit corporation.

YOUR GENEROSITY IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

SHABBAT SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday, February 3, 7:00 pm, *Shabbat* Shira Evening Service with sermon

Friday, February 10, 6:00 pm, Potluck followed by *Tu B'Shevat Seder* (reservations required)

Saturday, February 18, 10:00 am, Shabbat Morning service with *D'var Torah* (commentary on *Torah* portion)

Friday, February 24, 7:00 pm, *Shabbat* Service, with 6th/7th Grade Class participation

DO YOU NEED A RIDE?

We'd hate for anyone to miss services just because they can't get there. If you don't drive at night or have other transportation issues and would like to attend services, call the Temple at 760-929-9503. We'll do our best to put you in touch with someone who can offer you a ride.



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2020 Chestnut Avenue
Carlsbad, CA 92008-2715

Return Services Requested



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February - March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 7 pm <i>Shabbat Shira</i> Service , traditional sermon Grade 4-6 Shabbaton	4 Grade 4-6 Shabbaton
5 10:30 am Sisterhood Meeting 1:30-4 pm Camp Pomegranate Grade 4-6 Shabbaton	6	7	8 11:30 am - <i>Shabbat</i> Liturgy and Service Leading Class-Pilgrim	9	10 6pm- <i>Potluck</i> followed by <i>Tu</i> <i>B'Shevat Seder</i>	11 Shelter Set-up
12 1:30-4 pm Camp Pomegranate	13	14	15	16	17	18 10 am, <i>Shabbat</i> Service PERTY/Pilgrim Youth Shelter Dinner
19	20	21	22 6:30 pm Board Meeting	23	24 7 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Service, 6 th /7 th Grade Class participation	25
26 1:30-4 pm Camp Pomegranate 4:15-6 pm Pre- Confirmation	27	28	29	MAR 1	2 7 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Service, discussion/text study	3
4	5	6	7 Hamantaschen Baking, 10 am Purim begins at Sundown	8	9 7 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Purim Service/Megilah Reading	10