Still a work in progress.

KADIMA Max Together Campaign

Today... 89.9%  Tomorrow... 100%

Although the Kadima Campaign will officially be closing this month, it’s not too late to pledge or to increase your initial gift. We’re so close to getting 100% participation from congregants. See page 12 for additional details.
Community Synagogue of Rye is a caring Jewish community that seeks to add meaning and purpose to your life.

Inspired by Jewish teachings and traditions, we seek to be a center for spiritual transformation; to foster the creation of sacred relationships; and to give people the tools and resources to be God’s partner in healing the world.

This vision is guided by our commitment to the Jewish values of Worship (’Tfilah), Lifelong Learning (Talmud Torah), Community (Kehilah), Loving Kindness (Hesed), Repairing the World (Tikkun Olam) and Love of Israel (Ahavat Yisrael).

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Rabbi .................................. Leora Frankel
Cantor .................................. Melanie Cooperman
Rabbi Emeritus ...................... Robert A. Rothman
Executive Director ................. Glynis Conyer
CJL Director .......................... Amy Rosenbaum
Director of Youth Engagement  .. Yael Farber
And Informal Learning ............. Dale Oberlander
SAJE Coordinator ................. Sarah Poland

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

David Kleinbard  & Anna Hudes
Eli
Mamaroneck, NY

Mazel Tov
To Blind Brook Boys Varsity Basketball players Jake DiGiasante, Zachary Zimmerman, Joe Kohn for making it to the Class B Championship Game at Pace University.

First Friday Torah Study at 7 am

Next session: April 6
At Le Pain Quotidien
30 Purchase St, Rye

The monthly Torah study sessions are designed to allow working members of the synagogue to squeeze in some Torah study before the start of the workday. They are held on the first Friday morning of the month and last roughly an hour. Torah texts are also available for use.

We hope you can join us (no RSVP required, just come).

CONDOLENCES

When Cherished ties are broken, our burden of sadness is made lighter by the sympathy and comfort of friends.

Our congregation mourns the passing of:

Jay Schwab, husband of Jacqueline Schwab and past president of CSR (4th)
James Love, father of Pamela Sunshine (3rd)
Elaine Phillip, mother of Leslie Phillip-Kellman (3rd)
Sam Fredman, father of Neil Fredman (3rd)
Joan Radford, mother of Jennifer Rubin (3rd)
Mark Ruderman, father of Lisa Ruderman (2nd)
| Sunday, April 1 | Passover |  |
| Monday, April 2 | Passover | ECC Closed | CJL Closed |
| Tuesday, April 3 | Passover | ECC Closed |  |
| Wednesday, April 4 | Passover | ECC Closed | CJL Closed |
| Thursday, April 5 | Passover | ECC Closed |  |
| Friday, April 6 | Passover | ECC Closed | Office Closed |
| Saturday, April 7 | Passover | Yizkor Services & Luncheon* | Family Shabbat Services* |
| Monday, April 9 | The Nature of Things |  |
| Wednesday, April 11 | CJL, Grades K-6 | Yom Ha’Shoah Holocaust Memorial Program | Offsite, JCCH |
| Thursday, April 12 | SAJE—Offsite, Atria |  |
| Friday, April 13 | ECC Shabbat | Re-Soul for Shabbat* | Shabbat Services* with T’fillah Band |
| Saturday, April 14 | Torah Study Service* |  |
| Sunday, April 15 | Community - wide celebration of Israel at 70—Offsite Solomon Schechter Upper School in Hartsdale |  |
| Monday, April 16 | Havdalah Service for ECC families |  |
| Wednesday, April 18 | CJL, Grades K-6—Celebration for Yom Ha’atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) |  |

* = Offsite—Chapel at Rye Presbyterian Church

**April 2018 Calendar**

**Thursday, April 19**
- All Day: Israel Independence Day
- 10:00 am: *Talmud* with Training Wheels
- 11:15 am: SAJE—Offsite, Atria

**Friday, April 20**
- All Day: NFTY NAR Spring *Kallah*
- 8:45 am: *Torah* Study Service*
- 10:00 am: CJL Grades 3-6
- 11:15 am: CJL Youth Services
- 11:15 am: CJL J-Life: 3rd Grade

**Saturday, April 21**
- All Day: NFTY NAR Spring *Kallah*
- 8:45 am: *Torah* Study Service*
- 10:00 am: CJL Grades 3-6
- 11:15 am: CJL Youth Services
- 11:15 am: CJL J-Life: 3rd Grade

**Sunday, April 22**
- 10:30 am: *Hesed* Team Meeting

**Monday, April 23**
- 1:45 pm: Havdalah Service for ECC families
- 2:30 pm: SAJE
- 6:15 pm: 7th Grade and CSR Teens
- 8:00 pm: Executive Committee Meeting
- 8:15 pm: COSY Board Meeting

**Tuesday, April 24**
- 4:00 pm: CJL, Grades K-6
- 7:15 pm: Yom Ha Shoa Holocaust Memorial Program
- 8:00 pm: T’fillah Band Rehearsal
- 11:15 am: SAJE—Offsite, Atria
- 7:30 pm: Tzedek Council Meeting

**Wednesday, April 25**
- 9:20 am: ECC Shabbat
- 6:00 pm: Re-Soul for Shabbat*
- 6:30 pm: Shabbat Services* with T’fillah Band

**Thursday, April 26**
- 11:15 am: SAJE—Offsite, Atria
- 7:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal—Offsite

**Friday, April 27**
- 9:20 am: ECC Shabbat
- 6:30 pm: Shabbat Services* With Choir

**Saturday, April 28**
- 8:45 am: *Torah* Study Service*
- 11:15 am: Emery Tuch, *bat mitzvah*—Offsite Congregation CEW

**Sunday, April 29**
- 12:00 pm: CSR Teens—Social Action Sunday—Offsite

**Monday, April 30**
- 1:45 pm: Havdalah Service for ECC families
- 2:30 pm: SAJE
- 6:15 pm: 7th Grade and CSR Teens
- 8:00 pm: Ritual Committee Meeting

[www.comsynrye.org](http://www.comsynrye.org)
As we prepare to celebrate Israel’s 70th birthday this month, I’ve been reflecting on my own deep love for the country and the countless memories I have from my time there. I lived in Israel for two different years of study and stopped counting my visits sometime after I hit number twenty. It is impossible to sum up on one page the influence that Israel has had on my life, so instead I’ll share just a few highlights by way of sacred topography—what I call my three holy mounts.

The first significant mountain in my life was Mt. Scopus, a peak on the Northeast edge of Jerusalem that between 1948 and 1967 was actually cut off from the rest of the city and the fledgling State of Israel. In Hebrew, the mount is called Har Hatzofim, literally the “mountain of scouting” or “viewing” since it overlooks most of the rest of the sprawling city. Mt. Scopus was the site of the original campus of Hebrew University as well as Hadassah Hospital, two flagship Israeli institutions. But most importantly for me, Mt. Scopus was the site for several decades of a dormitory and education center affiliated with Young Judaea, the Jewish youth movement in which I grew up as a child and took on various leadership roles through my teens. I deferred my college enrollment and spent a gap year living in Israel following high school through Young Judaea’s Year Course in Israel. With my home base on Mt. Scopus, I had the chance to live in Israel for 10 months, studying in a Hebrew immersion program, hiking the country end to end, and doing a variety of volunteer work. Spending this first year away from home in the Holy Land was indeed spiritually transformative, connecting me deeply with the land and language of Israel and igniting within me an unconditional, if not complicated, love for the modern country.

Flash forward 8 years to 2007, my first year of rabbinical school at Hebrew Union College, living again in Jerusalem. This time, it is another mountain that most captured my attention—Mt. Moriah, or the “Temple Mount” upon which the biblical Temple once stood and where the Kotel or Western Wall remains. I had visited the site nearly a dozen times before and while it had moved me to tears as a teen, I began to struggle with its contemporary conditions as a female rabbinic student. As you likely know from your own visits or pictures, the Western Wall plaza is strictly divided into separate prayer spaces for men and women, with the women’s section being about a quarter the size of the men’s. Moreover, due to ultra-Orthodox hegemony over most affairs of religion in Israel, women have also historically been forbidden to wear traditional prayer shawls there, read Torah publicly, or participate in any other rituals that are traditionally relegated to men’s observance.

Increasingly sensitive to these gender issues, I became involved with an organization called Women of the Wall, a group still fighting today for greater egalitarianism at the Western Wall and throughout Israel. Once a month that year, and several times since traveling back to Israel, I joined with a group of these women to pray at the Wall—in full religious regalia and with a Torah scroll—in a kind of spiritual protest. You’ve likely seen Rabbi Gropper or me don our colorful Women of the Wall tallitot and our WRJ chapter has generously donated to the cause at recent Women’s Sukkot and Seder events. While it was admittedly out of a sense of disenfranchisement, the Temple Mount and Western Wall plaza galvanized my commitment to full egalitarianism in Jewish life here and in Israel, something that I did not grow up with in my own Conservadox congregation growing up.

Finally, my third mountaintop moment in Israel is a bit more personal. In December 2009, I was back in Israel yet again for two weeks, this time visiting with a man named Andrew Sage, whom I had been seriously dating for several months. He had never been to Israel before and I insisted that I couldn’t possibly marry him without first taking him to see my second home in the Holy Land. So I schlepped him around Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, to the North and South, and eventually to my favorite hiking spot in Israel, the Ein Gedi Nature Reserve.

Ein Gedi is a desert oasis, not far from the Dead Sea and Masada, where out of the depths of the hot Judean sands, suddenly spring forth waterfalls. Its name in Hebrew, Ein Gedi, translates to two of the place’s most distinct features: Ein, meaning “springs” and Gedi, meaning “mountain goats”—the place is crawling with them. Despite both being somewhat afraid of heights, I convinced Andrew to join me on the steepest trail and up the mountain we hiked for several hours until we somehow reach the summit. Exhausted and quite dehydrated, we sat down on a large slab of rock to take out our water bottles. But as I began to drink, I realized that Andrew had actually reached into his pocket for something else...an engagement ring! He proposed right there atop the Ein Gedi mountain, where we were surrounded only by the clouds, the rocks, and a few dozen friendly mountain goats. It was a different kind of “spiritual experience,” though definitely an out of body one which forever changed me.

These are but three mountains and three moments in Israel of so many more that have shaped my life and rabbinate. While I seek to bring Israel to Westchester through our CJL, Hartman lecture series, music and film, there is simply no substitute for going there in person. The sights, sounds, smells, and tastes of Israel are unmistakable and unforgettable. As we celebrate Israel’s 70th year I hope you will consider making plans to visit (or visit again) in the near future!

L’Shalom,

Rabbi Leora Frankel

Rabbi Leora Frankel • lfrankel@comsynrye.org

www.comsynrye.org
In this season of Passover, as we recount the many challenges faced by the Jewish people in days gone by, we recite the story of our slavery in Egypt, and our ultimate redemption, and close with this refrain, “Next year may we be in Jerusalem.”

But what does that mean for the modern Jew? Can we all expect to be in Jerusalem next year? Well, maybe not literally but metaphorically, perhaps we can all return to the Israel of our dreams, a place of peace and beauty, a land of milk and honey.

While we hold forth that promise in our hearts, we can also work to effect change, tikkun olam, and repair the world as we experience it right here in our own community. As a religious institution it is built right into our mission, one of the six points of our Vision Statement that says, “We share a commitment to seek social justice through individual and communal acts of tzedakah (righteous giving) and gemilut hasadim (loving kindness).”

And as a synagogue we offer many opportunities to get involved, be engaged, and give back. Here are some of the available programs and committees that would welcome your help and participation.

**Tzedek Council**, is now the name of the umbrella group, headed by Cantor Cooperman and Board Trustee Jackie Kabot, that brings together all of the many functions that we used to call Social Action. Now part of that larger group are the following committees and synagogue teams.

- Green Team: with a focus on the environment, also sponsors our annual Tu'Bishevat Seder
- Hesed: brings support and caring to those in need of healing or experiencing loss
- Jewish Justice League: focuses on social issues that reflect Jewish values and concerns
- Social Action: synagogue-wide projects such as food drives and care packages for those in need
- Israel Action: supports education and learning around issues of significance to Israel
- Interfaith: community-based outreach to dialog and connect with those of other faiths
- Kulanu: provides outreach to the LGBTQ community

These committees provide a wonderful opportunity for community engagement. They are perfect for new (or newish) members who would like to get more involved but may not be ready or able to make a full-time commitment. Many of these programs allow for a single-shot experience. You can participate in areas that pique your interest and come back for more once you’ve tried it. It’s also a great way to meet other congregants who may share your passion for a special cause or program. Even those with many years of affiliation might enjoy trying out a new connection point to recharge their batteries. Contact Cantor Cooperman or Jackie Kabot for more information.

And what about our Kadima campaign? As you have read through our recent mailings, we are winding down the initial phase of this fund-raising effort and hoping for 100% participation by all of our members. If you’ve been staying on the sidelines, waiting to be asked or wondering if the time is right to make your contribution, I would encourage everyone to put those good thoughts into action and fulfill your commitment now. Kadima co-chairs, Susan Rudolph and Karen Cherney-Zaltz, or any of our Kadima Champions, are ready to assist you with a pledge or donation.

And while thoughts of warmer weather are on the horizon, we are planning an innovative approach to our annual Spring Fundraiser. We will be providing a number of opportunities for in-home dinners, focused on a specific theme, like Shabbat, or a social activity, that brings people together around a common interest, such as cooking, baking, wine tasting, or creative crafts. When our team leaders finalize dates and options, we will let everyone know in our weekly synagogue blast. And we plan to host events to appeal to all of our synagogue cohorts.

Just like the Israelites who began their journey in Egypt and ended in Israel, so too should we begin this season with a journey that takes us to new places, literally and spiritually, and makes all of our days count.

With best wishes,

Laurie Frolich
As I enter my fourth month as executive director, I am enormously proud of and appreciative of the team with whom I share space and whose generosity of spirit and commitment to Community Synagogue of Rye are infused into every aspect of their daily work. They are a true reflection of the members of this remarkable community.

The synagogue staff in the “Cabin” (office) are individuals from diverse backgrounds with varied skillsets. Communication associate Jeff Frumess, clergy assistant Jon Rekedal and executive assistant Michelle Simon each focus on achieving excellence for CSR. All have their own daily/weekly tasks that are important to the operations of the synagogue, such as sending yahrzeit reminders, mailing acknowledgement letters for donations, and emailing weekly notices of current events at CSR. But no one operates alone—willingly jumping in and helping each other as needed.

Jon writes: As Clergy Assistant since August 2016, it has been a great experience getting to know Community Synagogue of Rye and its members. I have had a lot of fun so far and learned so much. But more importantly I have felt that the work I do has meaning. Whether it is a mundane task like scheduling or helping with the most important services of the year, I have come to realize that at Community Synagogue of Rye, unlike some of the places that I have worked in the past, there is a purpose to everything we do. The purpose is to help our members connect with one another, the clergy and most importantly Judaism, via participation in synagogue life. I am grateful to be a part of this process.

Four years ago, writes Michelle, I came to CSR from a manufacturing company for the Department of Defense. I was looking for something different that would be friendlier and in an academic environment. I found both here at CSR. Daily I encounter friendly little toddler faces going into the ECC, and congregants who wish me Shabbat Shalom. This place may not be collegiate but this is a learning center, from the ECC to CJL to Adult Education. From the custodial staff to the clergy, I am thankful to be surrounded by caring, intelligent individuals in a lifelong learning community.

Jeff, who is also the owner and purveyor of the “petrified hot dog” you see in the window when you walk up the ramp to our office Cabin explains: I joined the staff of CSR at a pivotal time in the congregation’s history. Watching the synagogue go through its vast transformation has been nothing short of a profound experience. For I am also witnessing a transformation of necessity in order for it to keep up with the changing times. But as it turns out, I am only one side of the office triangle. Together, with Jon and Michelle, we make up the shape with the strongest structure. Being the triangle has allowed us to be fluid and functional through location and administrative changes so that we can continue to be of service to CSR.

The Cabin staff is a warm, attentive and cooperative team. Always ready for a good laugh and ready for a teamwork challenge.

Guess who we are? Please put the staff initials in front. The answer is on the back of the bulletin.

1. ___Written and directed an award-winning feature film ___Jon Rekedal (JR)
2. ___Loves all things of Buffalo, NY ___Jeff Frumess (JF)
3. ___Sci-fi and Fantasy book fanatic reader ___Michelle Simon (MS)
   (have an autographed 1st edition “Among Others” by Jo Walton)
Inside Community Synagogue of Rye

Using meditation practices, mindfulness skills and some simple Mussar texts, we will sit, mostly in silence and contemplation to wind down from the week and lift us into Shabbat. Please join Rabbi Gropper from 6:00 pm to 6:20 pm on Apr 13 and May 18 to welcome in the spirit of Shabbat.

You are then invited to remain for regular Shabbat worship at 6:30 pm.

The topic for April is Simplicity (Histapklut)

Re-soul for Shabbat will take place at the Chapel at Rye Presbyterian Church, the same location for Friday night services. 882 Boston Post Rd, Rye, NY 10580.

For more information, or to RSVP please email clergyassistant@comsynrye.org.

Each year, area temples come together to remember the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

The community-wide Yom HaShoah service falls on Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 7:15 pm at the Jewish Community Center of Harrison.

For more information, please contact Carol Meyers at 914-921-2006 or ryemeyers@gmail.com.
The Girl with Four Names:
An Inspirational Holocaust Story of Survival & Bravery

Date: Friday, April 20, 2018 at 7:30pm
Place: Chapel @ Rye Presbyterian Church
882 Boston Post Rd, Rye, NY 10580
Contact: RSVP to Communications@Comsynrye.org
Phone Number: (914) 967 - 6262

Ellen Kaidanow is the daughter-in-law of two Holocaust survivors (Ellen and Jerry).

She tells the story of her mother-in-law’s life and her miraculous tale of becoming the sole survivor of her family at age six: Ellen was saved by a Christian woman, who risked her life by hiding her for two years.

Ellen feels that part of her purpose is to be witness to her mother-in-law’s inspirational story, thus allowing others to have a personal connection to the lessons of the Holocaust.

The Sel Hubert Humanitarian Speaker Series

Sel Hubert, beloved CSR past President and Holocaust survivor, was a frequent speaker/teacher on the Holocaust and human rights.
April promises to be a stimulating month for the ECC. In celebration of Israel’s 70th birthday, we will be doing more than making sheet cakes and flags this year. Instead, we are going to transform room 109 into the “Israel Room.” Each class will visit after having learned about Israel in their classroom. Large iconic images of Israel will be projected on the walls, there will be a souk offering baskets of spices, dates, fruits, salads and pita for the children to try. There will be sensory experiences that include rocks and sand. We will make mosaic crafts and listen to music from Israel. We are looking forward to creating this new experience for the children.

April is also when our growing season begins. We have several growing light stations throughout the ECC and each one of them will be used to start a variety of seedlings. This year we are hoping to grow sugar pumpkins, zucchini, peas and carrots from seeds. Most exciting is a plan to grow some large gourds that we will make into bird houses along with some mammoth sunflowers that will provide the seeds for the birds. We are always happy for gardening help and advice so don’t be shy if you would like to get your hands dirty this Spring.

ECC Important Dates

April 2—6  ECC CLOSED—Spring Break
April 13  Sharing Shabbat 5:15 pm hosted by Patel & Rossi
April 14  ECC Parent’s Night Out
April 17  Parent Teacher Conference—Rubin
April 18  Parent Teacher Conference—Merians
April 19  Parent Teacher Conference—Patel
April 25  Parent Teacher Conference—Hanson
April 26  Parent Teacher Conference—Rossi

www.comsynrye.org
Having recently returned from our Civil Rights journey to Alabama and Georgia with eleven 11th graders, a few words to describe the experience are inspired, motivated, and hopeful. Our incredible CSR teens, and the teens from Woodlands Community Temple in White Plains, spent 3 days being inspired by the powerful history of the Civil Rights Movement, motivating each other to ask challenging questions and grapple with difficult answers, and giving all of us hope for the future. Instead of sharing my perspective on what the group took away, I’ve asked a few of them to share their own thoughts.

“I loved meeting people from a different part of the world. It was so interesting to meet Joanne and hear about her experience growing up in Selma.”—Amber Hufford reflecting on meeting Joanne Bland, a woman who marched at the Edmund Pettus Bridge on Bloody Sunday.

“I really liked seeing the difference between the rural areas and urban areas of Alabama. There weren’t people walking around the rural areas but the cities were so lively. It was really interesting to see the variety of life based on the geography.”—Julia Rosenberg, after driving from Montgomery to Selma to Birmingham in one day.

“To be immersed in southern culture and to learn about their culture and the civil rights movement through their religion was eye opening.”—Jack Wells, after visiting the King Center and Ebenezer Baptist Church.

“I am an activist, yes, but I have the ability to not always be an activist. When your entire life is these issues, you are forced to either always be an activist or be entirely complacent in your own subjugation.”—Rachel Harris, reflecting on the weekend as a whole.

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**CJL and J-Life Important Dates**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>CJL CLOSED for Passover</td>
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<td>4th Grade J-Life</td>
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<td>April 18</td>
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<td>April 21</td>
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<td>Challah Day and CJL Open House for K-2</td>
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**Photos from our CSR Civil Rights Journey**

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**COSY & CSR Teens Upcoming Events**

April 29  12:00 pm COSY Social Action Sunday with the Larchmont Temple — RSVP @ YFarber@comsynrye.org
Our B’nei Mitzvah

Aaron Cohen

My name is Aaron Cohen and I will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on April 14. I am the son of Danielle Rudolph and Richard Cohen and have a younger brother, Micah. I am a seventh grader at Central Middle School in Greenwich, CT and I enjoy baseball, fishing and singing. My Torah portion is Sh’mi from the Book of Leviticus. This is the dramatic story of Aaron’s sons Nadav and Avihu who bring offerings unauthorized by God to the first mishkan in the desert and for this they suffer a terrible fate. For my mitzvah project I volunteer at Neighbor to Neighbor in Greenwich. This program provides area residents in need access to nutritious food, clothing and basic essentials. I have volunteered time each month since last spring and plan to continue in the future. Volunteering at Neighbor to Neighbor is something I am able to do myself, without my parents, and this experience has given me a sense of independence, responsibility and appreciation for all that I have.

Cassandra Brook

My name is Cassandra Brook and I will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on April 21. I am the daughter of Nicole Hazard and Jonathan Brook and I have one older sister, Juliette. I am a seventh grader at Rye Middle School and I enjoy reading. My Torah portion is Metzora from the Book of Leviticus. It is about purification and how to become pure. For my mitzvah project, I helped socialize rescue cats at Pet Rescue in Harrison. I played with them so they would not be vicious when they were adopted. I chose this project because I believe that those cats deserve a better life, and in order to do that they need to feel safe. I had a lot of fun with the cats and I am very grateful that I had the opportunity to spend time with them.

Emery Tuch

My name is Emery Tuch and I will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on April 28. I am the daughter of Robin and Steven Tuch and have two older brothers, Sam and Aidan. I am a seventh grader at Rye Middle School and enjoy playing softball, playing with my dogs and spending time with my family. My Torah portion is Kedoshim from the Book of Leviticus. It describes the ethical and ritual laws the Jewish people must follow to live a life that his holy. For my mitzvah project, I have been working at Harrison Pet Rescue. I volunteer several times a month, helping to socialize the cats so that they may be adopted. I have also taken on the special project of refurbishing the cat scratching station. In addition, I am collecting donations of pet-related items and money for the center.

Highlights of CJL 6th Grade Family Retreat

www.comsynrye.org
Like so many congregants, you’ve been waiting patiently, and perhaps at times curiously for our new and revitalized space for worship, learning, and connecting. Construction began over the summer and has progressed remarkably. Congregants unanimously approved financing for this milestone project at a recent congregational meeting. We expect to be able to hold worship and life cycle events in our new sanctuary in September 2018.

While you may have been keeping up to date with the renovations from the weekly bulletins, we’d like to share just a few of the highlights of what you’re in store for—as well as recent updates on our Kadima Capital Campaign. So, let’s take a short tour together.

As you step through the new entrance of the synagogue, you’ll immediately notice how its design takes advantage of the building’s southeastern exposure to let in more natural light. With this in mind, the new entrance and façade will feature floor to ceiling windows that will allow the interior to be filled with light. Windows have also been incorporated into the sanctuary design to allow certain services to be enhanced with natural light.

Next, as you walk into the sanctuary, you’ll immediately notice how the seating has been changed from a fixed-pattern to one with greater flexibility to conform with the various ways we learn and worship. The sanctuary will accommodate more people comfortably—to literally congregate.

As you leave the sanctuary, and look to your left, you’ll notice one of the many significant upgrades to our synagogue – the new common area. The vision for this new space is to create a relaxed, light-filled setting that provides an open, accommodating area to greet family and friends for life cycle events. It’s a place where parents could socialize comfortably while waiting to pick up their children from CSR’s educational programs.

Thanks for taking this brief tour with us. Please stop for a moment and reflect on how the majority of these improvements would not be possible without congregants like you who have given, or will give, so generously to the Kadima Capital Campaign. And while the Campaign will officially be closing this month, it’s not too late to pledge or to increase the amount of your initial gift. We’re so close to reaching our goal of $6.2M—in fact, almost 90% there. So, let’s nail this goal!

We can do it, as together we exemplify the very name of this campaign: “Kadima! Forward!”

Please contact Glynis Conyer at Community Synagogue (914-967-6262) to find out where to send your gift or pledge.
SAJE (Senior Activities in a Jewish Environment)

Sarah Weiss-Poland • SAJE@comsynrye.org

SAJE is designed to provide social and educational opportunities to active seniors in our community. The group meets every Monday at 2:30 pm and Thursday at 11:15 am. Thursday includes lunch after the program. You are always welcome to bring a friend.

Monday, April 2
In partnership with New York State, the American Red Cross will present a Citizen Preparedness Corps training titled Prepare, Respond, Recover: What to do When Disaster Strikes. The presentation will give a comprehensive overview on how to prepare for natural and man-made disasters and how to respond to and recover from them. The session will provide information on types of common disasters, ways to prepare as an individual, family and community member, and what to do when disaster strikes.

Thursday April 5 @ The Bruce, 11:30am $12 per person
Arthur Stampleman will once again be docent for an intriguing exhibit at the Bruce Museum. Patriotic Persuasion: American Posters of the First World War features a selection of works donated to the Bruce Museum by Beverly and John W. Watling III. The United States involvement in World War I lasted only a brief twenty months, from April 1917 to November 1918, but the nation’s military and propaganda strategies were of enormous consequence.

Monday April 9
SAJE welcomes Michele Thomas, Executive Vice President of Osborn Home Care to speak about “Aging Safely at Home: What You Need to Know.” Michele will talk about home safety and fall prevention. Let’s have a lively discussion about aging at home. We will talk about everything from helpful household items, to falls, nutrition and when to ask for help.

Thursday, April 12
Dine Around TBD

Monday April 16
Join Andi Hessekiel for our second session of personal essay writing for this year. If you’ve ever thought about putting in writing the stories of your life, this session will help you get started. By using simple prompts, Andi encourages us to write and “publish” our work by sharing it with one another. Andi’s warm feedback will help you get reacquainted with the writer that lives inside you—and the stories shared by others become a great way to stimulate conversation among all of us. No previous experience is necessary—and you can be a writer or a listener in the session. But writers are welcome!

Thursday, April 19 @ The Atria
Rabbi Daniel Gropper, Rabbi of Community Synagogue of Rye, will share lessons learned from the Central Conference of American Rabbis. He will share his perspective on the latest issues facing American Rabbis today. What can we learn from these new challenges and how do we face them?

Monday April 23
Danielle Tagger-Epstein was born in Brooklyn but spent many of her childhood years overseas in London and Israel. She served in the IDF and returned to the US to study theatre at Emerson College and ASU. She brings those unique experiences with her as an adult to us here as a member of Community Synagogue where she sits on the Board of Trustees. Danielle was elected to the Rye City Council November 2015. She is currently serving her first term. Last year Danielle resurrected the Human Rights Commission in the City of Rye, where she serves as its Chairperson.

Thursday April 26 @ The Atria
From Om to Shalom: Chair Yoga with Naomi Norman. Certified yoga instructor Naomi Norman will discuss “What is Jewish Yoga?” and then lead us through a gentle chair yoga practice, ending with a short meditation. No experience necessary!

Monday April 30
Amy Rosenbaum, new Director of the Center for Jewish Learning at Community Synagogue of Rye will teach about the upcoming holiday of Shavuot. Explore text and extrapolate new meaning for the holiday. Amy will bring her experience as a Jewish Educator and her spiritual connection to tradition and experiential education.

**Directions to Atria Rye Brook: 1200 King Street, Rye Brook NY**

**VIA 287 West:**
Take 287 West to Exit 9N (Hutchinson River Pkwy) Take Hutchinson River Pkwy North to exit 30S (120A) Turn left onto 120A/N. King Street

**VIA 120A:**
Head north on Forest Ave toward Boulder Rd Turn right onto Grace Church St Continue onto S Main St Use the middle lane to turn slightly left onto King St Turn left onto Willett Ave Continue straight onto NY-120A N/King St

www.comsynrye.org
ADULT EDUCATION FUND (CECELE FRAENKEL MEMORIAL) FUND
Joan & Ron Cohen in memory of
Eleanor Fraenkel, sister-in-law of Francis Fraenkel

CANTOR COOPERMAN’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Rhoda and Steve Steinberg in appreciation to
Cantor Cooperman on behalf of Natalie Steinberg
Rosey & Stuart Rudnick in appreciation for
the clergy’s Purim celebrations
Susan & Gary Taplin in appreciation for
their ongoing active care and support

ISRAEL ACTION FUND
Dorothy Wolf in memory of
David Wolf, Norma Weinstein and Joseph Weinstein
Cindy Vaik-Danish & Leslie Danish in memory of
Simcha Balaish, mother of Amos Balaish

ISRAEL TRIP FUND FOR TEENS
Debra & Stephen Sherman in memory of
Ivory Edward Gordon

KADIMA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
Judith Werbitt & Barry Fishkind
Robin & Steven Tuch
Stephanie Victor
Susan & Michael Siegel
Vivian & John Linder in memory of
Joseph Salih and Maurice Mashal
Randy & Robert Komitor
Joan & Ron Cohen in memory of
Dr. Mark Ruderman
Elyssa Gray
Judith & Harry Strauss
Julie & Jeffrey Goldstein
Angelica & Gregory Leckart and family in appreciation of
Rabbi Gropper
Abby & Jason Fishkind
Julie & Roy Cantu

MICHAEL GINSBERG MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND
Fern & Howard Bindelglass in memory of
Joy Bindelglass Klein

RABBI FRANKEL’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Shari & Amos Balaish in appreciation for
leading Shiva service for Amos’s mother
Simcha Balaish
Rosey & Stuart Rudnick in appreciation for
the clergy’s Purim celebrations
Susan & Gary Taplin in appreciation for
their ongoing active care and support
Amy Kabcenell in appreciation for
the consideration, warmth and support in the time
surrounding the death of Jack Kabcenell

RABBI GROPPER’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Burton K. Haimes in memory of Anna Hirscher
Barbara & Joseph Latwin in memory of Henry Stender
Louise Lieblich in memory of Simcha Balaish
Shari & Amos Balaish in appreciation for
the comfort and support to our family on the loss of
Amos’s mother Simcha Balaish
Rosey & Stuart Rudnick in appreciation for
the clergy’s Purim celebrations
Susan & Gary Taplin in appreciation for
the ongoing active care and support

REFORM JEWISH COMMITMENT (RJC) FUND
Joan & Ron Cohen in memory of
Naomi Wrubel and Jay Schwab

SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT (SAJE) FUND
Herbert Blecker in memory of
his mother, Mary Blecker and his wife, Gloria Blecker
Elaine Lerner in memory of Anna and Louis Gelman
Joyce L. O’Neill
Francine Tancer

SYNAGOGUE FUND
Susan & Norman Cicelsky in memory of
Naomi Wrubel, Jay Schwab and Samuel G. Fredman
In memory of Phoebe Chason
Renee & Jeffrey Epstein
Michael Schmidt
Ruth & Andrew Suzman
Edith Lauten

For the Scholarship Fund for children’s Jewish education
Sondra & Ronald Freeman in memory of
Frank Sands, father of Jackie Orris
Diana Tapper & Jason Gorevic

YAHIRZE FUND
Debra & Stephen Sherman in memory of
Ivory Edward Gordon
Sue Ellen & Peter Goldman in memory of Bernard J. Cohn

SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR TEMPLE YOUTH

Once again the Sampliner Youth Leadership Development Fund is making camp scholarships available to young people who are planning to attend either the Eisner Camp or the Crane Lake Camp in Massachusetts, Kutz Camp in Warwick, NY, or the NFTY Summer Program in Israel. These programs are run by the Union for Reform Judaism, the umbrella organization of all reform congregations in the United States and Canada. These scholarships are not based on need.

Since the scholarship funds are limited, and were originally intended to support attendance at URJ Camps, priority will be given for attendance at those Camps. If there are funds still available for other Jewish Camps, they will be honored.

The Eisner Camp and the Crane Lake Camp offer programs for children seven to seventeen years of age. Each day includes sports, recreation, swimming, theater, crafts, and programs designed to foster a solid Jewish living experience.

Every summer, teens from all over North America become leaders at the NFTY Leadership Academy at Kutz Camp in Warwick, NY. Teens come to join this college campus style community, selecting experiences in theater, song leading, visual arts, Jewish studies, social action, youth group leadership programming, and more.

The Scholarships come in denominations of $250.00 or $500.00. Application should be made to the Fund c/o Iris & David Sampliner.

For further information call the Sampliners at 914-939-0349.

The experience of a summer immersed in Judaism cannot be too highly praised. Youngsters who have been to any of the three programs have come back enthusiastic, involved, and furnish us with an outstanding corps of young leaders for our synagogue.
CSR TIME MACHINE—69 years ago at CSR

PASSOVER
Passover begins at sundown Wednesday, April 22nd, and continues through Wednesday, April 29th.

The essential message of this great Festival in our religious calendar is Freedom. In Judaism, freedom of personality is one of the most characteristic doctrines. Throughout all Jewish legislation this note is struck. Man must be free, free to serve his God and to lead his life in accordance with his unique tradition. His allegiance to one God, the Father of all, precluded any submission to the yoke of tyranny and despotism. Moreover, the Fatherhood of God carries with it the idea of human equality, an idea stressed by the SEDER celebration during which the master of the house sits in a reclining position, reminiscent of the freeman in ancient Rome.

To a Jew, this conception of freedom is meaningless unless it is accompanied by religious practice. "Send my people out — that they may SERVE ME." The road from Egypt led straight to Sinai. Only they are free, says the Talmud, who give themselves over to the study of the Torah. The Psalmist echoes this sentiment: "I will walk at liberty, for I have sought Thy precepts." A man's troubles begins when he throws off all responsibility and seeks out to do as he likes. Passover teaches that liberty exists in proportion to wholesome restraint. The Jew must accept not only the privileges but all the responsibilities that are part of freedom.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.cyjsproutlake.org/sproutwestchester or call 914-271-7563
Sproutwestchester@youngjudaea.org

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Community Synagogue of Rye has a variety of funds which are used to enrich our congregation.

You may wish to make a contribution in honor or in memory of someone or to celebrate a joyous occasion (birth, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Confirmation, wedding, anniversary). The funds are listed on the right.

I (We) wish to make a special contribution of $___________ to the __________________ Fund.

☐ In Honor of __________________________
Occasion __________________________

☐ In Memory of __________________________
Relationship __________________________
Donor’s Name (s) __________________________
Donor’s Address __________________________
Donor’s Phone __________________________
Donor’s Email __________________________

Please send an acknowledgement note to:
Name __________________________
Address __________________________

Your gift is tax deductible to the extent of the law. Please mail and make checks payable to Community Synagogue of Rye.

Endowment Funds
David & Iris Sampliner Youth Leadership Development Fund
Etz Ha Dorot Endowment Fund
Goodkind Scholar-in-Residence Fund
The Obrasky Fund
Pond & Beyond Fund
Reform Jewish Commitment (RJC) Fund
Victor & Marjorie Wolder Fund in memory of Herbert Millman
Victor & Marjorie Wolder Joy of Living Fund

Restricted Funds
Adult Education (Cecele Fraenkel Memorial) Fund
Beautification Fund
Cantor Cooperman’s Discretionary Fund
Early Childhood Center Enrichment Fund
Grayer Teen Initiative Fund
Hesed Fund
Israel Action Fund
Israel Trip Fund for Teens
Kol Nashim (Women’s Programming) Fund
Marilyn Zelman Early Childhood Center Scholarship Fund
Michael Ginsberg Memorial Library Fund
PJ Library® Fund
Prayer Book Fund
Rabbi Frankel’s Discretionary Fund
Rabbi Gropper’s Discretionary Fund
Religious School Enrichment Fund
Religious School Special Education Fund
SAJE (Senior Activities in a Jewish Environment) Fund
Social Action Fund
Steven Harry Klein Membership Fund
Synagogue Fund
Yahrzeit Fund

Learn more about these funds at comsynrye.org/csr-funds