

# HAKOL

The Home of Traditional Judaism in Dallas

## SPUTNIK by Rabbi Shawn Zell

October Surprise is typically defined as an unexpected event that influences and maybe even changes the outcome of a Presidential election, mere weeks away. For me, October Surprise was an event that affected my entire generation, as well as the rest of the world. Sixty-four years ago, on October 4, 1957, this country was caught by surprise, when the Soviets launched Sputnik, the first artificial earth satellite. The ramifications of this seminal event were historic. By launching Sputnik, the Soviets unwittingly also launched the Space Race as well as the Space Age. Even though I was a preschooler, oblivious to such events, I was to learn that Sputnik was to leave behind three painful lessons, particularly for the United States.

Sputnik was in many ways a 20<sup>th</sup> century Tower of Babel. Regardless of intent, by launching the first satellite far above the earth's atmosphere, the Soviets were mimicking the people of biblical city of Shinar who said, "Come let us make a name for ourselves (Genesis 11:4). Tragically, the Soviets failed to realize that they had already made quite a name for themselves. And an odious, contemptible one at that. The Soviets were already infamous for depriving their citizens of individual freedom through Communism, a way of life, that in time, was doomed to implode. To protect their "Utopia", the Soviet government went so far as to erect an Iron Curtain. Sputnik was by all accounts an enormous success. The Soviet Union was by all accounts a total travesty. The Soviet Union made a name for itself by building a reputation that was synonymous with secrecy and

subjugation. The Soviet Union made a name for itself by building a reputation that was identical to fear and distrust. Had the Soviet government truly wished to emulate the people of the biblical city of Shinar, they would have fostered a spirit of cooperation, along with an attitude of achievability and opportunity. Instead, the Soviet government fostered a festering feeling of indifference and insignificance. In Shinar, the people looked up to the sky; in Moscow, the people looked over their shoulder.

Governments have a habit of shoving their faces into areas where they don't belong, instead of assuming responsibility for debacles within their own boundaries. The same government that is quick to dispense foreign aid is also quick to appear empty handed when it concerns portions of its own citizenry, who for all intents and purposes are living in a third world country. When it came to launching Sputnik, the leaders of the Soviet Union were starry-eyed; when it came to dealing with the needs of their own populace, the leaders of the Soviet Union turned a blind eye. How ironic! The same government that appeared to have limitless funds when it came to exploration of Space, suddenly ran out of capital, and pleaded limited funds when it came to dealing with urban blight of state-run institutions. Had it not been for outside intervention – read Divine intervention – the people building the Tower of Babel might very well have succeeded in their venture. After all, there is no evidence that they were dependent on government funding. Other than keeping the masses

suppressed, success is a concept not readily found within Soviet society.

Fear, like all other emotions is irrational. It was more than merely making a name for themselves that prompted the inhabitants of the biblical city of Shinar to build their skyscraper. It was fear. The people of Shinar feared being dispersed throughout the world (Genesis 11:4). As a result, they shot themselves in the foot. Ultimately, they were dispersed throughout the world. Fear is a double-edged sword. Fear is dependent on its source; fear is dependent on how it is used. A country ought to fear that it is not making the best use of its resources. A country ought to fear that it is remiss in motivating its people with proper spirit and attitude. A country should never fear another country. For the longest time, democracies have never attacked democracies. For the longest time well trained armies, well developed and adequately stocked arsenals have served to deter dictatorships from even considering an attack against democracies. Placing humans on the moon and safely returning them to earth was an admirable quest... provided it was not borne out of fear. After a hiatus of two months, we will be asking G-d's blessings for a new month on the second day of October. We will pray for fear of Heaven and fear of sin. Never however should we fear other countries building their own version of a modern Tower of Babel; never however should we fear other countries beating us in ventures that out of this world.

-Rabbi Shawn Zell

## President's Message

After not having High Holy Day services last year, it was special for me to be able to attend some of the services over the Holy Days. Working through all the changes due to COVID with the handling of the Torahs and Aliyahs, Rabbi Zell, Cantor Adam Goldstein and Roy Levin did an outstanding job. Rabbi Zell's messages and Cantor Goldstein's Torah reading and liturgical music gave us beautiful and meaningful services. I also thank Ian Bock for being our Shofar blower concluding the Nei'lah service. We sat masked and socially distanced. I do appreciate the fact that the current status of the Variants kept many of you at home due to your personal comfort level. I must admit that I was not sure whether or not I would attend or how long I would stay. Erv did not join me and I hope that we do not have to make these decisions in the future.

The sponsorships of the Bimah flowers, which is listed in the Yizkor booklet, and Break Fast, which is listed in the Hakol are very much appreciated. Flowers were also sent to Rabbi and Shirah to enjoy in their home from the Congregation. For the past fifteen years, Rabbi and Shirah have collected many memories while at Tiferet Israel. We would like to present them with a scrapbook and ask you to share some of those memories with them. If you would like to include a photo, card, letter or email to them, please send to Tiferet Israel, attention Kaila or email her at [officemanager@tiferetisrael.org](mailto:officemanager@tiferetisrael.org). **The messages will be added to the scrapbook in the format they are received and will not be edited or reproduced . The deadline is October 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Since so many of you were unable to attend services, a copy of my Message and the Yom Kippur Appeal was sent to all Congregants. If you have not already done so, please consider a contribution toward our Wish List which centers on the maintenance needs of our building. If you have already made your commitment, we thank you.

L'Shalom,



Shirley Rovinsky, President

*If there are any lulavs left over after Yom Tov, please call Shirley and she will pick them up.*

## Welcome Alicia Miller



Welcome our new bookkeeper, Alicia Miller.

Alicia was born and raised in Wethersfield, Connecticut. Alicia and her husband, Carl, just celebrated their

25th Wedding Anniversary on September 7th. They have two children. Their son Dylan is a sophomore at Dallas Baptist University and is studying Children's Ministry. Their daughter Kaitlyn is a senior at Hebron High School. The family moved to Dallas 11 years ago and currently resides in Frisco with their three dogs, Rocky the black German Shepherd, Sadie the chi-weenie, and Bogey the Dachshund, as well as Shelly the turtle. Alicia is very excited to be joining the staff of Tiferet Israel.

## Book Club- November 16th 4 p.m. via Zoom

### Jacobo's Rainbow by David Hirshberg

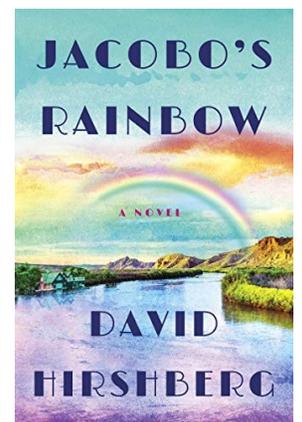
*Jacobo's Rainbow* is a historical literary novel set primarily in the nineteen sixties during the convulsive period of the student protest movements and the Vietnam War. It focuses on the issue of being an outsider. Written from a Jewish perspective, it speaks to universal truths that affect us all.

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of a transformative event in Jacobo's life, the day he is sent to jail, he writes about what happened behind the scenes of the Free Speech Movement which provides the backdrop for a riveting

story centered on his emergence into a world he never could have imagined. His recording of those earlier events is the proximate cause of his being arrested. Jacobo is allowed to leave jail under the condition of being drafted, engages in gruesome fighting in Vietnam, and returns to continue his work of chronicling America in the throes of significant societal changes.

*Jacobo's Rainbow* is a story of triumph over adversity (hypocrisy, loss, lies, murder, concealment, prejudice) that is told with vivid

descriptions, perceptive insights, humor and sensitivity, which enables the reader to identify with the characters who come to life in a realistic fashion to illustrate who we are, how we behave, and what causes us to change.



## September Donations

### General Donations

Rabbi Zell  
Debra Weinberger  
Sandy Kuntz

### In Memory of

Dennis Karlan  
Helen Karlan  
Abraham Geller  
Marcia Terner  
Sara Strower  
Alan & Dorothy Garment  
Edward Wyman  
Syma Wyman  
Leo Weber  
David Weber  
Muriel Prescott  
Stephanie & Dan Prescott  
William Goodman  
Brenda Goodman Norton  
Dr. William R. Berk  
Joan Berk Berman

### In Honor of

Tina & Steve Israel's 50th Wedding  
Anniversary  
Andrea & Stuart Roosth on their  
new home  
Shirley & Erv Rovinsky  
Friedel Marx's 100th birthday  
Gerald Vaiser  
Danielle Weiner  
Shirley & Erv Rovinsky's 60th Wedding  
Anniversary  
Tina & Steve Israel  
Shirah & Rabbi Zell  
Carolyn Jefferson  
David Weber

Jenifer Blum  
Abe Hershman  
Jeanette Pincus  
Jonathan Wilson  
Robert Golden  
Sondra Brumbelow

Stephanie Prescott  
Moshe Golan  
Linda Greenberg  
Anita Marx  
Stewart Steinberg  
Susan Candy-Luterman  
Rita Zaslowsky  
Naomi Cohen  
Sondra Kuntz  
Cheryl Lynn Sylvia  
Abraham Wilson  
Sam Schachter  
Allen Luterman  
Michael Hopkovitz  
Harold Kless  
Gerald Zahler  
Gerald Vaiser  
David Weber  
Mariana Podolsky  
Aaron Kisin  
Moshe & Vered Golan  
David & Sury Sacher  
Doug & Idalee Cathcart  
Ari & Dana Feinstein  
Fred & Aviva Dunsky  
Michael & Sunny Esquenazi  
Gloria & Lionel Reiman

### For the Speedy Recovery of

Terye Dubner  
Linda Davidsohn

### Frishman Scholarship Fund

#### In Memory of

Boruch Frishman  
Bina, Chaim, and  
Michelle Domb

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Susan Schy

#### In Memory of

Dr. Hyman & Connie Tolmas  
Dr. Jeanie Tolmas

The brother of Elizabeth Zinn  
David Weber

### In Honor of

Friedel Marx's 100th birthday  
Albert & Rebecca Vaiser  
James Sykes & Staff  
Kaila Butterfield  
Joshua Abrams  
Warren Abrams  
Ian Bock  
Jerry Candy  
Harold Kless  
Roy Levin  
Robert Mason  
David Weber

### Sadie Samuelsohn Book Fund

#### In Memory of

Frieda Fischer  
Suzi & Jerry Candy

### Stanley J. Schepps Scholarship Fund

#### In Memory of

Grace Schepps  
Harmon Schepps  
Terri & Sheldon Schepps

#### In Honor of

Shirley & Erv Rovinsky 60<sup>th</sup> wedding  
anniversary  
Terri & Sheldon Schepps

### Building Fund

#### In Memory of

Harry Polsky  
Debra Polsky

## Unsung Hero Award- Tina Tobolowsky Israel



Tina Tobolowsky Israel's family tree is rooted in Congregation Tiferet Israel, where her parents Esir and Florence Tobolowsky and five generations have been active leaders for a lifetime. L'Dor, V'Dor, Tina has naturally assumed roles as youth educator, board member, serving as vice president of education and youth and recording secretary for 10 years. She is currently Sisterhood president, office volunteer and source of the congregation's history. Her strong dedication and enthusiasm are visible as she works with other volunteers and their committees, serving as a wonderful role model for all who know her.

Tina will be honored at the Dallas Jewish Community Foundation which will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

## October Birthdays

|                                      |  |   |   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| <b>October 1</b><br>Michael Blashka  | <b>October 17</b><br>Janet Gadol<br>Daniel Prescott<br>Naomi Sanit | <b>October 21</b><br>Steven Fenyves<br>Janet Hershman | <b>October 27</b><br>Andrea<br>Hopkovitz            |
| <b>October 9</b><br>David Sacher     | <b>October 18</b><br>Robyn Mirsky                                  | <b>October 22</b><br>Jeffrey Seymour                  | <b>October 29</b><br>Ronald Dubner<br>Tanya Lampert |
| <b>October 10</b><br>Joanna Robinson | <b>October 20</b><br>David Podolsky<br>Hana Degani                 | <b>October 23</b><br>Jay Abrams<br>Steven Goldfine    | <b>October 31</b><br>Micah Sacher                   |
| <b>October 12</b><br>Minnette Kless  |  | <b>October 24</b><br>Ariel Schachter                  |   |
| <b>October 13</b><br>Carl Schwanke   |  |   |   |

## September Kiddush Sponsors

### August 7

Blair Carey with gratitude to the congregation and Rabbi Zell

### August 14

Tina and Steve Israel in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary

### September 4

Gilit and Ulli Mandelbaum in honor of the marriage of their daughter Caren to Stas Kostikov

### September 18

Dana and Ari Feinstein in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son Cobie

### September 21

Ed Jerome in memory of his father, Robert Jerome

## October Anniversaries

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>October 10</b><br>Ilya & Nelya Kisin    | <b>October 29</b><br>Sam & Melissa Schachter |
| <b>October 11</b><br>Raymond & Eta Cahen   | <b>October 30</b><br>Avner & Carol Wolanow   |
| <b>October 23</b><br>Zeev & Jennifer Saggi |  |

## October Yahrzeits

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>October 1</b><br>Bina Marx<br>Marc Selinger                      | <b>October 13</b><br>Irving Dunsky<br>Ted Steinberg      | <b>October 24</b><br>Ann Rovinsky<br>Francis Shirley<br>Schwartz<br>Ruth Steinberg<br>Julia Teig |
| <b>October 3</b><br>Esther Brown<br>Nathan Victor Laredo<br>Hy Vile | <b>October 15</b><br>Sonia Epstein                       | <b>October 25</b><br>Edith Marcus  |
| <b>October 4</b><br>Joseph Boris                                    | <b>October 17</b><br>Rose Kress<br>Ruth Lowengrub        | <b>October 26</b><br>Abe Byers<br>Sophie Ginchansky<br>Rachel Schoichet                          |
| <b>October 6</b><br>Rebecca Prengler                                | <b>October 18</b><br>David Weingarten                    | <b>October 27</b><br>Seth Aaron Horwitz<br>Raymond Samuel<br>Lambert                             |
| <b>October 7</b><br>Mollie Kissner                                  | <b>October 21</b><br>Natan Davidson<br>Marcus Earl Stein | <b>October 31</b><br>Sadie Samuelsohn  |
| <b>October 10</b><br>Al Golden                                      | <b>October 22</b><br>Isadore Blend<br>Nechama Geller     |  |
| <b>October 1</b><br>Dina Terner                                     | <b>October 23</b><br>David Eglit<br>Cecile Teitelbaum    |  |
| <b>October 12</b><br>Jennie Glass                                   |  |  |

## Break the Fast Sponsors

### Benefactors

Jack & Janet Baum

### Underwriters

Anonymous

Suzi & Jerry Candy

Dr. Elliot Ginchansky

Debbie Ginchansky

Harold & Minnette Kless

Friedel Marx

### Sponsors

Warren & Rose Abrams

Gary, Joan Berman & Marcy Berman

Dr. Steve Goldfine & Deborah Deitsch -Perez

Hanna Lambert

William & Heddy Roth

Gloria & Lionel Reiman

Erv & Shirley Rovinsky

### Break the Fast To-Go Snacks Provided By

Dr. Jeanie Tolmas

## Tiferet Israel Service Times

### Morning Minyan:

Tuesday 7:00 am  
Friday 7:00 am  
Sunday 8:00 am

### Friday Evening:

Friday at 6:00 pm

### Shabbat Service:

Saturday 9:30-11:00 am