**IYAR-SIVAN 5779 MAY 2020** 

# The First Hebrew Congregation



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Members and friends of the FHC, I have spent the last two months hanging out with

Myself, and I am so sorry to every person I have ever spent time with in the past!

What challenging times we are living in with the Covid-19 crisis. Being a good Jew is not easy, but trying to maintain standards when Covid-19 is forcing us to lower them is almost impossible. Because of challenges we have not been able to schedule and to produce our usual events for the coming year. We will update our website,

www.firsthebrewcongregation.org

, as soon as we know what the State of Michigan will allow.

### Still Keeping Busy

It saddens me that out beautiful building is closed to the public. The board has undertaken various projects, and with the help of Steve Tolen's carpentry skills, the projects were done to perfection! We have put some additions into the Teitel Hall. We have already reported about the Tree of Life. Don't forget that you can purchase a leaf to honor through smile.amazon.com. a special person or an event. There is Select "First Hebrew room for four lines of 20 characters engraved into each leaf, with a fifth line saved for a date. As a way to thank you for your contributions, we added to the wall next to the Tree of Life a new plague with names of the donors of special projects: the Window Fund, the Restoration Fund, and the Warshawsky Roof Fund.

#### Services

We still hope to start Shabbat services at 10 a.m. on June 27th. Please bring your face mask and maintain social distancing. Kiddush should start about noon. We look forward to

Mr. Rothner filling the Rothner/Tolen Kiddush Cabinet!

We plan a reform service on Friday, June 26, at 8 p.m. with Rabbi Anita Silvert—by Zoom if necessary. Check our web site:

www.firsthebrewcongregation.org for updated information regarding services.

#### Lox Box???

We will postpone the July Lox Box till later this summer and will inform you when a date is selected.

#### Amazon.Smile

Painless donations can be made to FHC through your Amazon purchases - 0.5% of all purchases designation FHC as recipient. PROCEEDURE: When making a purchase, do so Congregation of South Haven" as the recipient of your generosity. There is no cost to you and the synagogue benefits. Thanks and happy buying.

## **Book Club Starting**

Led by Sharona Shapiro, our first book club discussion will be held via Zoom June 14, at 10 a.m., EST. The book is The Art of Leaving by Ayelet Tsabari. Email Sharona for your zoom invitation at shapirolerner@gmail.com .

#### Condolences

Our deepest sympathy go out to the Kaplan family with the passing of Barbara Render, Renee's mother.

#### Thank You

Thank you to Lawn Boys and the Hodgman family for their donation and the planting of our reading garden. As usual, it will be the talk of the town, and we encourage you to relax in the garden. Carole and Don, thank you for the new garden lights—they add to the garden's beauty.