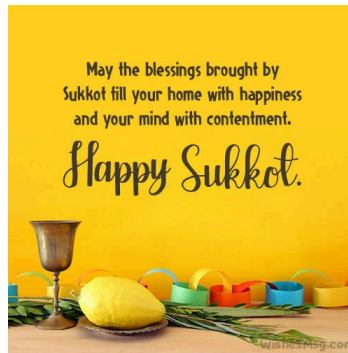


Garden State Region News - September 24, 2026



CHAG SUKKOT SAMEACH



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Message from Sindy Manas, GSR President

Dear Affiliate,

This week representatives of almost every nation are sharing a single stage in New York as the United Nations General Assembly opens its annual debate. It is a remarkable picture: people of different languages, histories and beliefs taking turns to speak, and ideally, to listen. Every voice in an honest conversation is worth remembering. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled to speak on Thursday, September 24th. The events are live streamed on UN Web TV, where links are provided by Heddy Belman, World Affairs Chair in her article.



As Sukkot approaches, we have our own traditions, gathering many voices as we welcome our honored guests into the sukkah. May your own tables, in the sukkah and beyond, always have room to include one more voice.

Our first GSR program will be in person on Wednesday October 21, 2026, at 7pm at the JCC Metro West in West Orange. **Reclaiming Our Voice – The Role of NJ Women in the Fight for Women's Suffrage**, with our speaker, Carol Simon Levin. She specializes in telling the stories of "fascinating women who history forgot." This program is proudly sponsored by the Evelyn Auerbach z"l GSR Education Fund. Please see the flyer in the Newsletter and RSVP to [Bonnie Isaacson](#) if you would like to attend in person.

Our **Fall Torah Fund Event** will be at Temple Beth Ahm in Aberdeen on Sunday afternoon, November 15, 2026. Our theme is **Women in Song, Where we Belong**. Our speaker is Esther Schwartz, a second year Cantorial Student at JTS. Our honorees are

Marlene Oslick and Meryl Balaban. Check in is at 12:45 pm and our program begins at 1:15 pm. A flyer will be sent shortly to register.

As you schedule events this year for your Sisterhood/affiliate, please share your flyer to the GSR to Lynette lynetteleader59@gmail.com and myself gsrcpresident26@wlcj.org.

I look forward to seeing you at future programs and visiting your Sisterhood/affiliate.

B'Shalom & Chag Sameach,

Sindy

Sindy Manas

President, Garden State Region WLCJ

gsrcpresident26@wlcj.org

"Networking to engage, enrich and empower Conservative Jewish women"

GSR EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Tova Rothschild - Social Action. Susan Winter-Social Justice Community Affairs

Affiliate Support/Membership Team: Arlene Bernhart, Joan Gilman, Sebley Hausler, Jacklyn Walzer

Message from Ilene Weber, VP Torah Fund

Dear Sisters,
Recently, I went into a Dollar Tree store and took a look around. I wanted to see all the items that could be purchased for just a few dollars. There was so much to choose from—almost anything you might need or want for your home can be found there!

Later that day, I looked up Dollar Tree's financial information. In the first quarter of fiscal 2026, they reported \$5.0 billion dollars in net sales. That is a huge sum when you think about how many small purchases make up that amount! Granted, Dollar Tree now has more than



Every contribution makes a difference.
Every donation is appreciated and helps strengthen and sustain our Conservative/Masorti movement.

I was looking for a way to describe the power of one small contribution becoming part of something much larger.

9,000 stores, but the point remains: small purchases really do add up!

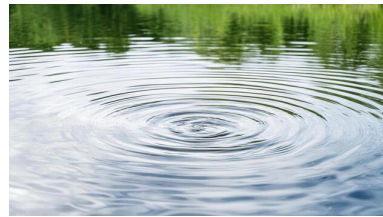
This brings me to Torah Fund. For 84 years, large and small donations have been received, and every donation is important, no matter the size. Those dollars add up for us, too. Since its inception in 1942, Torah Fund has raised more than \$113 million!

We accomplish this one donation at a time—through pin-level donations, e-cards, printed card sales, Sisterhood and Region donations, gifts in honor or memory of someone special, and so much more.

Perhaps it is like a pebble tossed into a still lake. The pebble may be small, but once it touches the water, its ripples move outward, its effects are far reaching.

That is what happens with every Torah Fund donation. Each gift joins thousands of others, and together, those individual gifts create an impact that reaches far beyond any one of us. They help educate and support the future leaders of our Conservative/Masorti movement.

Thank you for your generous support of Torah Fund!



Chag Sukkot Sameach,
Ilene Weber
Torah Fund VP Garden State Region
ileneweber22@gmail.com



Shema Koleinu
שמע קולנו
Hear Our Voice

Help preserve and perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism
through active giving to the Torah Fund Campaign

[CLICK HERE](#) for Torah Fund Flyer
[CLICK HERE](#) to donate to this year's 2026-27 Torah Fund Campaign
[Click HERE](#) to participate in the Torah Fund Legacy Society
[Click HERE](#) to send a Torah Fund E-Card
[Click HERE](#) for the latest Torah Fund Chadashot Newsletter

[Click Here](#) for FAQs about Torah Fund
Any questions please e-mail [Ilene Weber](mailto:ileneweber22@gmail.com). **GSR VP Torah Fund**

TORAH FUND CHANGES LIVES: Here Our Stories, Read Bios and Registration

Torah Fund Changes Lives: HEAR OUR STORIES



Torah Fund Changes Lives:Hear Our Stories

Sunday, November 1st|12 PM ET

Join us for a special program highlighting the impact of the Torah Fund campaign through the stories of four rabbinical students from the Jewish Theological Seminary in NY, the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, and The Schechter Institutes of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem.

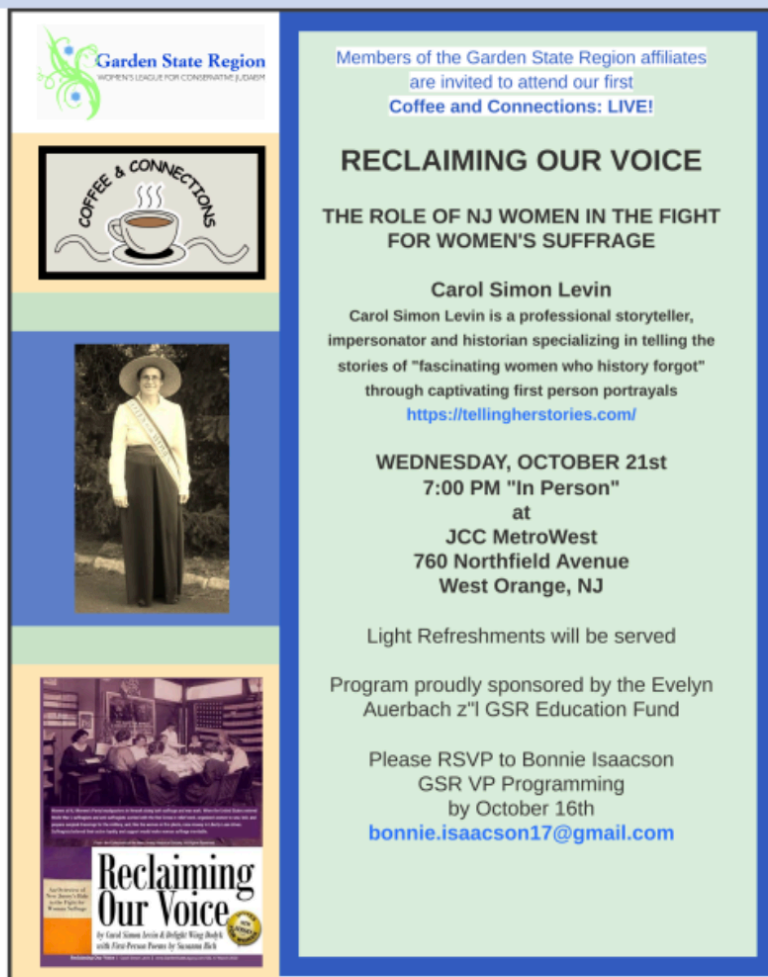
Each student will share their personal journey to rabbinical school and how scholarships have helped make their journey possible. The program will conclude with a moderated question-and-answer session

Click to read their bios in the link and registration links are provided below.

[Click here to View Speakers Bios and Register](#)

Coffee & Connections: LIVE

Join us October 21st at JCC MetroWest, West Orange



[Download Flyer](#)

Message from Heddy Belman, World Affairs Chair Key WLCJ People representing NGO - EASAPP at the United Nations

Shalom,

This article is to introduce you to your Women's League UN NGO representatives and what they do on behalf of Women's League.

You may not be aware that our Women's League for Conservative Judaism has an established history of being represented in a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) at the United Nations. **We are part of a larger NGO which is called EASAPP (Eliminating Anti-Semitism and Promoting Peace).** As members of Women's League, your representatives are able to observe almost all sessions held by the UN. In addition, we have the privilege of attending opening sessions each September when the world dignitaries come to address the General Assembly.

Linda Klempner, our newest NGO, although she is not new to being an NGO. Many years ago she represented WLCJ at the UN. Since then, she has held many positions including Region President, Torah Fund Chair for MetroNorth and a member of the WLCJ Executive Board to name a few. Linda visited the General Assembly during their September meeting.

Sandy Koppell is our longtime UN NGO Representative. Sandy is a past branch president and served on the Women's League's board for many years. She has attended many General Assembly sessions and was privileged to see the Pope when he visited



the UN. She has arranged for visits to the UN for Women's League groups and has spoken to numerous groups about the UN

Florence Wolpoff is also a long-term UN NGO representative. She is also a board member of the WLCJ, having also been a three-term president of her own Sisterhood. As a member of the Metro North Region Board, she has served as VP Membership, VP Sisterhood Support and Parliamentarian. Florence has offered presentations for various Sisterhoods and prepared articles for Women's League's Week on her experiences at the UN including auditing sessions held at the United Nations

In addition to our attendance, Women's League members should consider their own visits and **utilize the opportunity for live stream access via [UN Web TV](#).**

Women's League members can also live stream the highly relevant and informative EASSAP sessions. Links will be provided as events are announced. View [Live Speakers Sept 22-29](#)

We will continue to provide informational bulletins to inform you of activities at the UN, sessions of EASSAP, and about programs at which you can participate, such as the annual Holocaust Remembrance Memorial program held each year in January.

Chag Sameach,

Heddy Belman

International WLCJ Chair -World Affairs

Programs in the Garden State Region



Congregation Torat El Sisterhood Presents

Bella, An Immigrants Tale

Sunday, October 25, 2:00pm

Bella, An Immigrant's Tale is a one woman show that follows the life journey of Bella Indianer, a Russian Jewish immigrant who survived the pogroms in Russia (modern day Ukraine), and later emigrated to America in 1920. The play is performed and written by her granddaughter, Vicki Summers.

The play is followed by a brief slideshow, Q&A and refreshments.

Adults (18+) - \$18

\$25 at the door (limited tickets)

Ages 10-16 no charge but must be accompanied by an adult

Age 17 no charge

Please note this program is appropriate for children 10 and up

Register at upcomingevents.torat-el.org by October 11
301 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst NJ 07755

Good & Welfare - Garden State Region/Donation Opportunities

Share your simchas and sorrows with us!

Let us know if you have any simchas, special birthdays/anniversaries, well wishes, and sorrows to pass on to [Sindy Manas](#) or [Lynette Seader](#)

Birthday Wishes

Wishing all who have September anniversaries and birthdays, **Yom Huledet Sameach!**

Make a Donation to the Garden State Region to:

Send a Mazel Tov, honor someone, provide get well wishes and express your condolences

Our **Scholarship Fund** helps to send women to WLCJ Convention and Leadership Institute where they learn necessary skills to share with our sisterhoods.

The **Sunshine Fund** supports members of the GSR Board in their time of need.

The **Evelyn Auerbach Education Fund** to sponsor an annual GSR Region educational event.

To make donations, contact Donna Franklin, GSR Treasurer mumzynj@gmail.com and specify which fund(s) to make the donation to.

Or mail your check payable to "GSR-WLCJ" to
Donna Franklin, 7 Liddy Place, West Caldwell, NJ 07006
Donations can also be made via Credit Card.

WLCJ Programs and Messages

Sichot Beyn Achayot - Session 1 Registration Conversations Between Sisters SHEMA KOLEINU – HEAR OUR VOICES

There are many ways in which we use our communal voices to strengthen our relationship with God. We will look at three very different instances of using our voices for Tikkun Olam, repairing our world, while imploring God to hear us and support us.

Session 1: Shimor haKolot shel HaNitzolim – Preserving the Voices of Survivors

Sun | Oct 11 | 12:00 pm | Zoom

The Shoah (Holocaust), October 7, and September 11 – three of the most traumatic events of modern history. We will hear personal stories from both Israeli and American survivors of these events and learn how important it is to preserve their stories for future generations.

GUEST SPEAKERS

- **Rabbi Chaya Rowan-Baker**, Dean of Schechter Rabbinical Seminary
- **Irene Shashar**, Holocaust Survivor and Retired Professor from Hebrew University
- **Leni Wesley**, Holocaust Survivor and Psychotherapist at Shalvata Hospital
- **Mandy Book**, Director of Maggid: Generations of the Shoah
- **Sandy Goldwasser Berenbaum**, Holocaust Speaker and WLCJ Member
- **Sheila Kaufman**, Survivor and WLCJ Member
- **Margie Miller**, WLCJ Past International President, Consultant, and Activity Chair

[Member Registration -Click Here](#)

[Non Member Registration](#)

Rosh Chodesh Group Registration

WLCJ ROSH CHODESH GROUP

1st in series, featuring

WLCJ Educator Rabbi Margie Cella

Tue | Nov 10 | 8:00-9:30 pm ET | Zoom

REGISTER

As a lead up to live-streaming with WOW during the year, WLCJ will be providing a series of Rosh Chodesh Group programs on Zoom, on some evenings before we join WOW at the Kotel individually.

We will participate as a group, enjoying the women's holiday of Rosh Chodesh while welcoming the new month together – B'Yachad.

Please consider inviting the members of your Sisterhood Affiliate to join you.

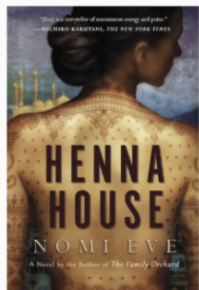
Doreen Bornfreund

Women of the Wall Chair, WLCJ





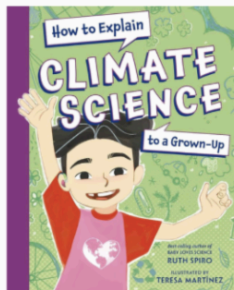
BOOK/AUTHOR EVENTS FOR 2026-2027



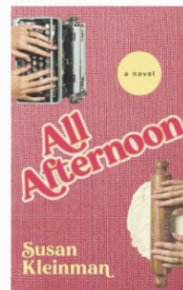
November 29, 2026
Henna House
Nomi Eve



January 10, 2027
Concealed
Esther Amini



March 28, 2027
WL Youth
Ruth Spiro



June 13, 2027
All Afternoon
Susan Kleinman



"Henna House" by Nomi Eve
November 29, 2026. 12 Noon ET

"Concealed" by Esther Amini
January 10, 2027, 12 Noon ET

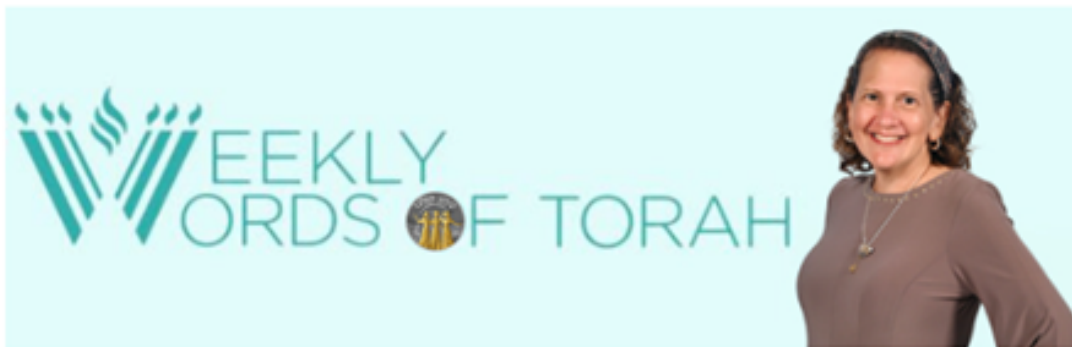
Special WL Youth Session with Ruth Spiro
March 28, 2027 - 12 Noon ET
Learn about the Environment
Engage Your Children and grandchildren

"All Afternoon" by Susan Kleinman
June 13, 2027, 12 Noon ET

REGISTER ON WOMEN'S LEAGUE WEEK-Click Here

Lynette Seader Chair WL Reads
Corinne Hamerschlog-Chair WL Youth - We hope you can join us!

WLCJ Members are invited to join the WL Reads Google group.
Please contact Sherrie Cohen Co-VP Communications
scohen@wlcj.org to join!



Shabbat Shuvah, the Shabbat of return between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, sits at a moment of intense spiritual listening and reflection. It takes its name from Shuvah Yisrael—"Return, O Israel"—calling us back toward God and toward our truest selves. In this liminal space, Parashat Ha'azinu offers its final poetic message from Moses: "Ha'azinu ha'shamayim—Give ear, O heavens." The Torah itself becomes a song of listening.

Read On - Weekly Words of Torah

Makom b'Yachad



Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday

12 noon ET, 9am PT, 10am MT, and 11am CT

A virtual service for our WLCJ Sisters to recite *Mishaberach* (the Prayer for Healing) and Psalms, and study *Kaddish*.

<https://zoom.us/j/630830287>

Meeting ID: 630 830 287

Password: 875936

Find additional WLCJ resources and shortcuts [here](#).

SHARE YOUR SISTERHOOD HAPPENINGS WITH US!

[Click here to connect with the Garden State Region Facebook page.](#)

[Click here to visit the Garden State Region website.](#)

Make sure to click both **Like** and **Follow**.

It's another great way to learn about everything happening in our Region.



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