

Tikkun Olam תיקון עולם Action Guide



Our bimah is modeled on the banyan tree, a tropical fig tree whose branches and leaves provide a broad cover; like a chupah, or like the roof of a sukkah. A solar-powered Ner Tamid (Eternal Light) hangs above the ark.

Temple Emanuel

Kensington, Maryland

April, 2014

Dedicated to Rabbi Warren G. Stone

To Honor his Twenty-Fifth Anniversary as our Rabbi

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Introduction

When God created the first human beings, God led them around the Garden of Eden and said: "Behold and excellent are all of the works that I have created. For your sake I have created them all. See to it that you do not spoil and destroy my world; for if you do, there will be no one else to repair it." (Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13)

Our Earth is now in even more urgent need of repair. Climate change, poverty, hunger, the spread of new diseases, continued oppression of peoples and the significant problem of displaced persons and refugees due to armed conflicts, continue to be profound religious issues for the people of our world.

Human consumption of energy and the production of greenhouse gasses have increased the speed of climate change. The impact of these changes will be felt by all nations, all races and all faith traditions and will have a profound impact on our children and all future generations. In our country and worldwide, poverty, injustice, lack of access to health care and social services, racial, gender and socioeconomic inequality, are issues that need to be resolved.

Temple Emanuel and our sister religious institutions represent a powerful force for positive action in the faith-based environmental and social justice movements. We can do many things, individually and collectively, to encourage our communities and governments to take positive action to address these environmental and social issues.

The Tikkun Olam Action Guide provides every Temple family with a set of actions for making our lives more environmentally friendly and for improving social justice in our community. Included are lists of excellent resources and references, both secular and Judaic, for learning about the historic connection between Judaism and caring for the Earth and for our fellow citizens. These will further our understanding about actions that we can do individually and collectively to improve both our environment and the well being of all of our citizens in the future.

This Guide, prepared by the Green Team, the Community Social Action Council and the Global Mitzvah Team, is dedicated to Rabbi Warren G. Stone, in honor of his 25 years of spiritual and environmental leadership at Temple Emanuel.

May God grant us all a bright and sustainable future, and may our collective labors bear fruit in the actions that we as a congregation adopt as we focus on Tikkun Olam and try to improve the world around us.

Green Team Committee
Community Social Action Council
Global Mitzvah Team
April, 2014

Dedication



Rabbi Stone is recognized nationally and internationally for his commitment and dedication to promoting environmental stewardship. He also leads Temple Emanuel in our concerns about issues of social justice. Through his teachings and actions, he has educated and inspired our Temple community to understand and address the many issues and challenges facing humanity in maintaining the quality of life on our planet for our children and future generations.

His actions and accomplishments in promoting environmental stewardship during these years include:

1989–1990: Planted seeds of Temple Emanuel's environmental efforts. Led a prayer service on Judaism and the Earth with members of Temple Emanuel and other Washington, D.C., area Jewish communities in front of the United States Capitol for the celebration of the 20th anniversary of Earth Day, 1990. Helped develop the Green Shalom Committee.

1992: Endorsed Green Shalom committee's proposed environmental policy for Temple Emanuel.

1993: Became a founding board member of the seminal Jewish umbrella organization, the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL), newly organized as part of the National Religious Partnership on the Environment. He continues to represent this national group.

1997: Represented the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), the American Jewish Congress (AJC), and the World Union for Progressive Jewry (WUPJ) as the sole Jewish United Nations representative at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change meetings in Kyoto, Japan, where the famous Kyoto Protocol was designed. He blew the shofar at this conference and spoke with world religious leaders at Kyoto's largest Buddhist temple on behalf of the UN.

1998: Named national co-chair of the Religious Campaign for Forest Conservation. For nearly a decade, he led a group of interfaith clergy coming to Washington for meetings about wilderness issues with members of Congress, White House staff, and the World Bank.

Appointed the founding Chair of the Environmental Committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). CCAR adopted resolutions on a Jewish approach to energy policy, wilderness and forest conservation, global climate change, and the Arctic wilderness area.

1999: Joined President Bill Clinton and other religious and environmental leaders for a trip to George Washington National Forest to announce a sweeping initiative to protect America's forests, including the Tongass Forest in Alaska, the nation's largest.

2000: Co-chaired Senate press conferences with Senator Joseph Lieberman and the Chief of the Gwich'in Native American nation during the congressional battle to preserve the Arctic National Wildlife Preserve.

2004: Served on a task force for the District of Columbia Energy Office's Green Faith Initiative, resulting in the Green Faith Guide, an action manual published for all 600-plus religious communities of Washington, D.C.

2006: Led an interfaith delegation to the World Bank with the ad-hoc Religious Coalition on Creation Care, which he co-chaired. The religious leaders asked the World Bank to address issues of climate change and seek funding for alternative energy projects in developing countries.

Served on the Interfaith Advisory Board of the National Environmental Trust on safeguarding endangered species, protecting biodiversity, and confronting other environmental challenges

2008: Elected to the Global Advisory Committee of Earth Day International and gave the opening prayer of Earth Day in front of the U.S. Capitol. Rabbi Stone has opened Earth Day with two other interfaith leaders in front to the Capitol from 2008-2012. Initiated the Global Mitzvah Project at Temple Emanuel.

2009: Served as a United Nations delegate in COP13 in Copenhagen, Denmark and led a well-publicized international interfaith demonstration in the center of Copenhagen during the conference.

2010: Was invited by the Vatican, the White House and the State Department to participate with the Embassy of the Holy See Vatican in Rome on an Abrahamic Faith and Climate Conference. Grist online environmental journal named Rabbi Stone as one of the world's top 15 religious environmentalists. He presented the Steward of Creation Award to environmental writer Lester Brown at the Willard Hotel.

Wordpress published Rabbi Stone's blog called "climaterabbi". He has published articles in newspapers, web news, blogs and journals including such publications as USA Today, Yahoo News, the India Times, Earth Day Network, the Jerusalem Post, the Washington Jewish Week, Reform Judaism Magazine, the URJ Blog, the Religious Action Center Blog, Grist Environmental News, Business Green, Central Conference of American Rabbis Journal. He also has appeared on the NBC Today Show.

2011: Served as the Jewish representative of world religions at the G20 Summit on Climate and Sustainability in Seoul, Korea traveling throughout Korea and participating at a special world peace ceremony at the DMZ Demilitarized Zone separating South and North Korea. He presented a Steward of Creation award to the head of the EPA, Cabinet Secretary Lisa P. Jackson in a ceremony at the Willard Hotel in Washington, DC

2012: Presented awards on behalf of the National Religious Coalition on Creation Care to Climate Scientist, James Hansen and writer poet Wendell Berry at Washington's National Cathedral.

2013: He was invited to join EcoAmerica's National Leadership team to create a national communication plan on climate change. The Green Team of Temple Emanuel has honored Rabbi Stone for his 25 years of leadership at Temple Emanuel with a meditation garden in the planned renovation of the green space behind the Temple.



UN Conference on Climate
Copenhagen 2009



Rabbi Stone Sounds the Shofar - Middlegrunden
Offshore Wind Farm - Copenhagen 2009

Rabbi Stone explains his love of nature as follows:

"I grew up along the waters on the south shore of Boston and regularly went on trips to the seashores of Cape Cod and Maine. I loved wilderness areas as a boy and went to camp in the woods and mountains of Maine for many years. My father and I would frequently go horseback riding through miles of blue woods. My home backed on a forested landscape, and I would spend hours finding creatures, new plants, caves, and natural wonders. We had cherry, pear, and apple trees in my backyard, which I helped pick every year as well. We also had a summer place on an island off the coast of Cape Cod. At sunrise with my brother and sisters, I would go out to the sand dunes at low tide to find amazing sea- shells and creatures. My second love was Jewish life, the celebration of Shabbat, and my connections to the Jewish community. I believe my deepest spirituality as a Rabbi and a Jew came from these places.

"Elaine and I lived on the Maine shore and visited many islands in Casco Bay before I served synagogues along the California coast and by the Gulf of Mexico in Corpus Christi. We lived along the bay of the Gulf and I frequently went out to Padre Island National Wildlife Refuge to watch the whooping cranes on their migration. I enjoyed taking my children along the water and watching the sand cranes and gulf birds. The sea breeze was constant.

"Love of nature has always been a part of my life, and in our area I have enjoyed Great Falls, the Chesapeake Bay, and our back- yard, Rock Creek Park. In my life travels, I have always sought out places of natural beauty from the Sahara Desert of Tunisia, to the seaside fishing villages of Italy and the hills of Jerusalem over- looking the Judean desert. I regularly go to retreats along Big Sur and feel the spiritual power of the place- -its wild ocean, rugged cliffs, and deep blue sky resonate with my soul."



Earth Day 2010

Temple Emanuel Chronology

Let them make me a Sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. Exodus 25:8

Temple Emanuel began with an informal meeting of nine couples in the Spring of 1952 and by August of that year the congregation was formally organized with 28 families. By 1955 our first Capital Campaign was in full swing, and by April 1957 a groundbreaking ceremony was held.

In the 1960s, Temple Emanuel participated in civil rights and anti-Vietnam war programs. Temple Emanuel housed and fed many activists that came to the DC area. The Social Action Committee held two benefits for war injured children from Vietnam with Napalm burns. In addition, the Social Action Committee held two fundraising events by cooking meals for 250 and 300 people to raise money for Vietnamese children flown to US hospitals and then returned home to their families.

Rabbi Warren Stone comes to Temple Emanuel in 1988 and adopts "Green" policies, making Temple Emanuel a national Jewish leader in environmental policies and activities. Temple Emanuel was one of the first synagogues to have a Pepco audit, initiate a recycling program (before recycling was mainstream), curtail the use of Styrofoam cups, install a solar collector to operate the eternal light, and lead the congregation to minimize its carbon footprint. Grist publication named Rabbi Stone as one of the world's top 15 religious environmentalists.

Temple Emanuel celebrated its 60th Anniversary in 2013. During this year Temple Emanuel won two prestigious Fain Awards for its "exemplary social justice programs". One was for its support of projects in Guatemala, El Salvador, Haiti and Kenya. In partnership with reputable international organizations like Plan USA, American Jewish World Service (AJWS), and Engineers without Borders (EWB), the Temple's Global Mitzvah team has helped poor families and communities throughout the world. The other Fain award was for its participation, with other Maryland congregations, in the 2012 Dream for Equality Campaign, organizing to support voter affirmation of the state legislature's actions providing for in-state college tuition for immigrants lacking legal status and providing for civil marriage equality; in the latter case, this was the culmination of years of commitment by the Temple community to equal civil marriage rights regardless of sexual orientation.

Now in its sixth year, the Global Mitzvah team has demonstrated a strong commitment to social justice while educating and involving a large number of congregants in multi-faceted, community wide activities. Temple Emanuel has always been and continues to be a strong and vibrant congregation actively engaged in social justice, the environment, and Jewish life.

1952: Temple Emanuel is formed by 28 families. Social activist, Leon Adler, served as its first Rabbi.

1961: There were 491 families. Temple Emanuel has always been and continues to be a strong and vibrant congregation actively engaged in social justice and Jewish life.

1967: Received Holocaust Torah on permanent loan from England

1973: New Temple Emanuel Sanctuary was added

1978: Begins providing meals for SOME (So Others May Eat) in Washington, DC.

1987: Temple has its first annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday Shabbat.

1988: Rabbi Warren Stone joins Temple Emanuel as its second spiritual leader.

1989: Mark Mann Pavilion dedicated to a past president killed in a car crash. Temple Emanuel began a cultural arts program of Art Shows and Musical Performances. Temple uses its unique position on Connecticut Avenue to publicize the plight of Ethiopian Jewry by dedicating a large sign, "Help Rescue Ethiopian Jews," as part of the Temple's participation campaign to raise funds to bring Ethiopian Jews to Israel and the successful Israeli effort to enable that endangered community to make Aliyah.

1990: "Green" policies were adopted, making Temple Emanuel a national Jewish leader in environmental policies and activities.

2000: Dr. Itzik Eshel joins as Director of Education, and continues to serve today.

2001: Cantor Rosalie Boxt joins and continues to serve today. Temple Emanuel forms its Kulanu Committee supporting Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender outreach and inclusion. Over the next years, the Temple participates in Pride parades and festivals, and sponsors Shabbat services dealing with LGBT issues, including civil marriage equality.

2002: Dedication of second sanctuary, HaMakom, and major renovations.

2005: Religious School receives Educational Excellence Award and grant from the Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning.

2006: Joins thousands on the National Mall for a rally against the violence in Darfur.

2007: Temple Emanuel's Early Childhood Center is formed based on the Reggio-inspired approach. Madeline Lowitz Gold joins as Director. Global Mitzvah Team initiated and supports an important program to reduce infant mortality and illness in Morales, Guatemala. Temple erects its first "Civil Marriage Is a Civil Right" banner on Connecticut Avenue. Opening chapter of the Union for Reform Judaism's revised *Kulanu: All of Us, A Program and Resource Guide for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Inclusion* is written by members of the Temple.

2010: Rabbi Stone Endowment Fund is started to provide funds to pay for rabbinic services in perpetuity. Fund was named to honor Rabbi Stone's 18 years of service to the Temple.

2011: Ubiquitous community wireless access added to the building.

- Number of volunteers at the URJ Biennial: 45

2012: There are 550 member families, some of which are 4 generations.

Baked over 160 shepherd pies for SOME over a 4 month period. SOME supported for over 30 years.

Global Mitzvah Team raises thousands of dollars for El Salvador, Argentina, Haiti and Cambodia.

A new Community Social Action Council is chartered by the Board of Trustees as the successor to the former Social Action and Justice and Peace Committee. Temple's activities as part of the Marylanders for Marriage Equality Coalition include the placement of banner on Connecticut Avenue, urging "Vote for Question 6 – Marriage Equality and Fairness." Rabbi Stone writes a stirring letter to the Congregation, urging approval of Civil Marriage Equality in the November referendum. Temple participates with Jews United for Justice in the Dream for Equality Campaign, urging support for the Maryland Dream Act and Civil Marriage Equality.

New Executive Director Dianne Neiman and Youth Engagement Advisor Debra Winter.

- Over 30 Temple Emanuel committees
- 2 youth groups (Junior Emanuel Temple Youth for grades 5-8 and KESTY for grades 9-12)
- Number of women attending annual retreat in 2012: 50
- Number of men attending the first annual men's retreat: 15

2013: Temple Emanuel Wins 2 Prestigious Fain Award for its "exemplary social justice programs".

Rabbi Stone celebrates 25 years at Temple Emanuel with year long Mile "Stones" Celebrations.

- 280 students in Religious School
- 98 children in Early Childhood Center
- 27 B'nai Mitzvah
- 14 Confirmands

Environmental Inspirational Readings

For many years, Temple Emanuel has included inspirational environmental readings at High Holy Day services. Here are a few favorite readings, including an original poem by Rabbi Stone. Please read them now and visit them again. May you be inspired by their messages.

A Tu b'Shvat Prayer for Creation

By Rabbi Warren G. Stone

Source of Creation and Life of the Universe

we gather together on Tu b'Shvat,
as Jews of conscience,
with a deep spiritual bond to your natural wonders,
to affirm and preserve creation.

We are grateful for creation in all its majesty;
the ever-flowing waters, the azure blue skies,
the complex life of Earth's forests,
the myriad of life's forms--
amoebae and falcon
black-footed ferret and wild turkey,
human being and soaring eagle.

The life of all creatures and our own lives are One,
profoundly dependent upon each other.

We call our ancient scroll of wisdom
the Torah, an "eytz chaim," a tree of life,
for it, like the Earth's great forests, sustains us.
Torah teaches us that creation,
in its great diversity,
is harmoniously interconnected.

Like the trees, we too need strong and deep roots for nourishment.
The uplifted branches of trees point to our future.

God, let us be strong, as strong as ancient trees.
The Psalmist was right when he said, "Like a tree planted by the waters,
we shall not be moved."

We are grateful for the life we are lent.
We pledge to lift up our voices
both in praise of You and in defense of your Creation.

Selection chosen by De Fischler Herman

You need only ask the beasts,
and they will teach you,
the birds of the sky,
they will tell you,
or speak with the earth
it will teach you,
the fish of the sea will tell you stories.

Job 12:7–8

Selection chosen by Al Grant

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to walk barefoot in the grass and occasionally roll down a soft grassy hill.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to sleep outdoors, under the canopy of heaven.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to watch the sun come up over the ocean...

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to stand in an open meadow on a clear, starry night.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to climb a mountain.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to sit among the branches of a tree.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to swim in a lake or a river or an ocean or a bay and feel your body supported by water.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to take a great gulp of country air at night or after a rainfall.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to jump into great piles of crunchy autumn leaves.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to build sandcastles and feel the sand run through your fingers and slip between your toes.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to plant vegetables and herbs or simply dig in dirt.

I believe, with a deep and abiding faith, that it is a holy act to dance bare-foot in the moonlight, see the horizon, witness a rainbow, ... hug a tree, touch the sky.

— “Nature, Spirit, Body” by Shira Dicker

Selection chosen by Ian DeWaal

Jewish tradition teaches us to care for our Earth -- to preserve that which God has created. The rabbis developed the principle of *Bal Tashchit* (do not destroy), which forbids needless destruction. Rather, we are encouraged "*I'vadah ul'shamrah*," to till and to tend, to become the Earth's stewards. In *Genesis* after the great flood (9:9), God declares that the Covenant established is one between God and all the creatures on the planet. These principles, among many others, highlight the Jewish concern toward creation and our mandate to preserve it, for our own sake and for the sake of the Covenant.

<http://rac.org/Articles/index.cfm?id=1856>

"It is not enough to care about environmental issues such as climate change, forest devastation and environmental threats to clean water, air and seas. Now let every religious institution become a true beacon to our communities illustrating by our actions and example our spiritual commitment to our earth and its threatened and limited resources." (Rabbi Warren Stone)



Social Justice Inspirational Readings

Who is occupied with the needs of the community, it is as though they occupied themselves with Torah. *Talmud*

“People think that to be just is a virtue, deserving honor and rewards; that in doing righteousness one confers a favor on society. No one expects to receive a reward for the habit of breathing. Justice is as much a necessity as breathing is, and a constant occupation.” Abraham Joshua Heschel, *The Prophets*

“Simon the Just taught, “The world is sustained by three things: by the Torah, by avodah, and by g’milut chasadim.” Pirkei Avot 1:2

As a central Jewish tenet, the pursuit of g’milut chasadim (righteousness) cannot be separated from the important work of torah (study) and avodah (worship). These three pillars of Jewish life are intertwined, one wrapped around the next. Is it possible to truly understand the teachings of the Torah without feeling compelled to act on behalf of the powerless and the needy? Is it possible to witness the desperate need of the vulnerable among us without seeking strength and wisdom from beyond ourselves to respond? Is it possible to pray to God without looking into oneself and deciding to take action and make a difference in the world? The combination of Torah, avodah, and gemilut chasadim strengthens each individual value and leads one toward a fully realized Jewish life.

If our congregations, which are the heart and soul of Reform Judaism, effectively integrate these key precepts of our tradition, congregants will experience a holistic vision of the essence of Jewish life. They will be drawn into the synagogue as a place that embodies the totality of Torah, avodah, and g’milut chasadim.

Social justice and social action grow out of and lead into study and prayer. Evely Laser Shlensky, former chair of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, envisions a synagogue where, “Torah lishma (study for its own sake) is not the goal of study. Rather, the study of Torah leads from the classroom to the streets, the shelters, the public square, and the courthouse. [It is a temple where] worship addresses both God and the human condition. It features not just Torah readers, but also Torah enactors—people whose everyday lives are about redemption. It is a synagogue in which social action projects integrate the work of our hands with the wisdom and celebration of our tradition, and where the use of social action blessings serves as a reminder that these acts, too, are an expression of our relationship with the Source.”

K’HILAT TZEDEK: CREATING A COMMUNITY OF JUSTICE, URJ Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism

צֶדֶק, צֶדֶק תִּרְדּוּף

Tzedek, tzedek tirdof: Justice, justice shall you pursue," (Deuteronomy 16:20).

"Reform Jews are committed to social justice. Even as Reform Jews embrace ritual, prayer, and ceremony more than ever, we continue to see social justice as the jewel in the Reform Jewish crown. Like the prophets, we never forget that God is concerned about the everyday and that the blights of society take precedence over the mysteries of heaven. A Reform synagogue that does not alleviate the anguish of the suffering is a contradiction in terms."

--Rabbi Eric Yoffie, speech to the UAHC Executive Committee, February 1998

"It has become axiomatic that to be a Jew is to care about the world around us. To be a Reform Jew is to hear the voice of the prophets in our head; to be engaged in the ongoing work of tikkun olam; to strive to improve the world in which we live.

The passion for social justice is reflected in the ancient words of our prophets and sages and in the declarations of our Movement's leaders throughout its history. The ancient command "Tzedek, Tzedek Tirdof! Justice, justice shall you seek!" constantly reverberates in our ears. It has become deeply embedded in the Reform Jewish psyche. This charge has led to a long and proud tradition of political activism by the Reform Movement.

The idea that people of faith have a mandate to bring their values into the public arena is not unique to the Reform Movement. There is a long tradition of faith groups "speaking truth to power" and advocating for social change, and every major religious organization in American life participates in this civic exercise. Religious voices have been central in the major social justice movements throughout our nation's history, from the abolitionist movement to those involved with desegregation and civil rights. In the international arena as well, faith groups have led the way in advocating for nuclear disarmament, international aid and human rights around the world.

This is not an easy time to stand up to be counted. We are challenged by an overwhelming number of issues, each one central to our understanding of the prophetic message of our faith and critical to creating the kind of society we wish to bequeath to those who follow us. And not only are we overwhelmed by the sheer scope of the issues that are before us, but we are confronted by those who claim to speak in the name of faith, but who offer a different version of what God expects of us; those who proclaim themselves the upholders of family values yet who do not value individual

rights or personal autonomy, and who have little respect for the Constitutional principles that have allowed religion to thrive in this country unfettered by government coercion or corruption.

Ours is a different message. We proclaim that maintaining a strong safety net for those who are most vulnerable is the modern manifestation of our obligation to “leave the corners of our fields for the poor and needy.” We believe that supporting public schools so that every child in America has access to a free and appropriate education and that paying workers enough to support themselves without having to choose between shelter and food, medication or heat, are family values. If we don’t bring these progressive religious values into the public arena with us, we will abandon the public square to those offering a different view of religion and values.”

“WHY ADVOCACY IS CENTRAL TO REFORM JUDAISM”, By Rabbi Marla Feldman (URJ and RAC). Complete paper at: <http://urj.org/socialaction/judaism/advocacy/>

Global Mitzvah Inspirational Readings

"Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity, it is an act of justice. Like Slavery and Apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great. YOU can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom." *Nelson Mandela*

"There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread." *Mahatma Gandhi*

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children. This is not a way of life at all in any true sense. Under the clouds of war, it is humanity hanging on a cross of iron." *Dwight D. Eisenhower*

"The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." *Franklin D. Roosevelt*

"If you go out into the real world, you cannot miss seeing that the poor are poor not because they are untrained or illiterate but because they cannot retain the returns of their labor. They have no control over capital, and it is the ability to control capital that gives people the power to rise out of poverty." *Muhammad Yunus (Author of Banker to the Poor: Micro-Lending and the Battle Against World Poverty)*

If, there is a needy person among you, do not harden your heart and shut your hand. Rather, you must open your hand and lend him, sufficient for whatever he needs. Beware lest you harbor the base thought...so that you are miserly towards your needy kinsman and give him nothing and he cries out to the Lord against you and you have sinned. Give to him readily and have no regrets when you do so ...the Lord your God will bless you in all your efforts and in all your undertakings. For there will never cease to be needy people in your land, which is why I command you; open your hand to the poor and needy kinsmen in your land. *Deuteronomy 15:7-11*

As the saying goes, "Giving bread provides meals; teaching how to harvest provides livelihoods." It is through providing people with the means to maintain themselves with dignity that we fulfill the highest goal of "tzedakah"- righteousness and it is through righteousness, teaches the Bible and Jewish Tradition, that we bring redemption for humankind. *Rabbi David Rosen*

What a devil art thou, Poverty! How many desires -- how many aspirations after goodness and truth -- how many noble thoughts, loving wishes toward our fellows, beautiful imaginings thou hast crushed under thy heel, without remorse or pause!

Walt Whitman

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

She dwells by Great Kenhawa's side,
In valleys green and cool;
And all her hope and all her pride
Are in the village school.

Her soul, like the transparent air
That robes the hills above,
Though not of earth, encircles there
All things with arms of love.

And thus she walks among her girls
With praise and mild rebukes;
Subduing e'en rude village churls
By her angelic looks.

She reads to them at eventide
Of One who came to save;
To cast the captive's chains aside
And liberate the slave.

And oft the blessed time foretells

When all men shall be free;
And musical, as silver bells,
Their falling chains shall be.

And following her beloved Lord,
In decent poverty,
She makes her life one sweet record
And deed of charity.

For she was rich, and gave up all
To break the iron bands
Of those who waited in her hall,
And labored in her lands.

Long since beyond the Southern Sea
Their outbound sails have sped,
While she, in meek humility,
Now earns her daily bread.

It is their prayers, which never cease,
That clothe her with such grace;
Their blessing is the light of peace
That shines upon her face.



Temple Emanuel Environmental Activities

This is a capsule summary of Temple Emanuel's activities, actions, and accomplishments in environmental stewardship during the past 25 years.

1989–1990: Greening campaign began at Temple Emanuel alongside Shomrei Adamah (Guardians of the Earth) of the Washington Area. Rabbi Stone and Temple members led Jewish ecology and Yom HaShoah service in front of the United States Capitol on the National Mall on the 20th anniversary of Earth Day, April 22, 1990.

1990–1992: Committee member Susan Hoffmann coined the name Green Shalom for the committee. Temple Emanuel's Board of Trustees adopted Green Shalom's proposed environmental policy for the synagogue. Committee members organized Mother's Earth Day, a green festival with speakers, vendors, and music. Committee received Fein Award from the Union of American Hebrew Congregations for efforts to "green" the synagogue, including a recycling program, eliminating Styrofoam products in the kitchen, teaching Judaism and ecology in the religious school, doing an energy audit of the building, and organizing Mother's Earth Day.

1993–2002: Organized a whale watch trip. Participated in process to redesign the bimah. Installed a solar-powered ner tamid (eternal light). Led a Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) trip for religious school students on the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. Toured the state-of-the-art CBF headquarters. Sponsored interfaith cleanups of the stream along Kensington Parkway. Led an interfaith walk through the National Cathedral gardens. Taught a Judaism and Ecology course. Contributed green ideas to architect's plans for synagogue expansion. Showed films, such as Blue Vinyl, Breaking Away, and We Are All Smith Islanders. Led annual Tu b'Shvat seders and Green Shalom Shabbat services for congregation. Presented speakers on such topics as EPA's Energy Star program, Judaism and energy policy, and climate change

2003–2004: Temple became a partner of the EPA Energy Star Program for Congregations. Synagogue renovation completed with "green" improvements, including extensive use of fluorescent lighting, recycled and renewable building products, and partial use of wind-generated electric power. Designed, planted, and dedicated a biblically inspired garden, GanHaTorah. Board of Trustees adopted revised Temple Emanuel Environmental Policy statement.

2004-2005: Led Green Shalom Shabbat on global warming in the Chesapeake Region. Coordinated Tu b'Shvat seder and play conducted by 5th grade Religious School class. Led Green Shalom Shabbat on Anacostia River restoration project with invited speaker from the Religious Partnership for the Anacostia. Hosted 100 visitors to Temple Emanuel from COEJL's Bloome Institute.

2005-2006: Reform Judaism magazine, summer issue, featured Temple Emanuel's environmental activism with article entitled "Theology". Temple Emanuel received Creation Care Award from the National Religious Partnership on the Environment "in recognition of faithful, creative and exemplary efforts in caring for creation". Organized a brunch on socially and ecologically responsible investing. Partnered with Carbonfund.org to offset 220,000 pounds per year of carbon emissions by supporting reforestation projects that reduce CO2 emissions and benefit ecosystems, soil erosion and animal habitats. Established a monthly Green Shalom table to share resources and sell compact fluorescent bulbs and other green products. Screened the film "An Inconvenient Truth" on Yom Kippur to a standing-room-only crowd of more than 100.

2009: Renewable Energy Committee is formed to look into methods to improve the Temple's use of energy and to consider the move toward all renewable energy sources. Items discussed included: LEED certification, move toward energy efficient appliances, consolidation of refrigerators, security and outside lighting, lighting motion sensors, possible purchase of wind power for our electricity supplier, consideration of solar panels on the roof. Many improvements to reduce energy usage, such as using more efficient fluorescent lamps in the fixtures and change to compact fluorescents bulbs wherever possible had been implemented in the last few years). Green Team is established.

2010: Looked into possible grants for energy updates but non-profits are not eligible. Tracking of monthly usage of electricity and gas starting with 2009. Contracted for 100% wind power for energy supplier. Investigated the feasibility of installing solar panels on our roof. Meetings with the committee at Adat Shalom where they are in the process of installing their solar system. Preliminary meetings with a number of vendors. Engineering evaluation of the capacity of the roof structure as part of the school wing renovation.

2011: Worked with Building and Grounds on a proposal to improve lighting in the parking lot – retrofit with LED's and install a number of new light poles with LED lights to improve visibility and security in the parking lot. Submitted grant for funding (unfortunately not funded).

2012: Decision to consider solar panels deferred until the installation of a new roof, probably in 2-4 years. Director of Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light met with the Green Team. Members of the team attend Bethesda Green meetings. Environmental discussion group held – Yom Kippur afternoon. Green Team update in Kol Kore.

2013: Joint meeting with the Green Team and The Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church Environmental Stewardship Team. Participation in their shepherd's garden and in their environmental film festival. Article in Kol Kore on wind power for your home. Green Team section for the Temple Emanuel website prepared and submitted. LEED certification-sub group formed to evaluate our physical plant for the possibility of this certification in the future. PEPCO energy audit of the temple building performed in December.

2014: Review the results of the PEPCO energy audit and make recommendations for implementation. Green Shalom Shabbat, in conjunction with the Community Social Action Committee, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Rabbi Warren Stone as the spiritual leader of Temple Emanuel. Tikkun Olam Action Guide presented to Rabbi Stone to commemorate this anniversary.

Temple Emanuel Social Justice Activities

The newly created Community Social Action Council was charged in 2012 by the Board of Trustees with this objective: "Promoting and helping to organize activities locally that allow opportunities to perform mitzvot. Supporting related activities throughout the congregation, and strengthening the ability of all Temple volunteers to make a difference in our community."

In the spirit of all the social action activities over Temple Emanuel's history, the highlights provided in the preceding timeline, the Council immediately set out to fulfill its mission.

In 2012 we endorsed the Maryland "Marriage Equality" and "Dream Act" bills, co-hosting a special Martin Luther King Day Shabbat Service speaker with our Kulanu Coommitte, to promote both bills. The Council also sponsored a special Shabbat on Animal Rights with a speaker from the U.S. Humane Society. We began an initiative to enhance the student mitzvah project component of the b'nai mitzvah program. The Council also hosted a fund-raising concert for Mobile Med, and we organized AED/CPR training for Board members and congregants.

In 2013, we participated in the Religious Action Center Yom Kippur Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation "Swab a Cheek" campaign on Yom Kippur afternoon and recruited 73 participants. We hosted a Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless fundraising dinner and premiere of a documentary "Homeless in a 'Wealthy' County" attended by over 125 donors. We presented educational programs on raising the minimum wage in Maryland and providing equal rights for transgender individuals, and promoted a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees to support the liveable wage campaign.

We endorsed and promoted the National Foundation for Women's Cancer's "National Race to End Women's Cancer" in Washington, D.C. on November, and participated in a pre-Thanksgiving shelter "supplies" drive with KeSTY, our teen youth group, We also promoted a liveable minimum wage resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees and circulated just as the Montgomery County Council voted to adopt tiered increases in the minimum wage over the next 3 years.

In 2014, we have been actively involved in the statewide RaiseMaryland! minimum wage campaign along with Jews United For Justice. We are actively drafting a proposal to establish an environmentally friendly, food-bank vegetable garden on the Temple grounds sometime during the upcoming growing season, which not only would provide fresh produce for the needy in our community, but serve as an educational tool for adults and students alike, on "green" growing techniques.

We collaborated with the Brotherhood to incorporate the annual Martin Luther King Shabbat service this year with the Brotherhood Service in January. We also participated in the Temple Tikkun Olam brunch in April with a keynote address from the Reform Judaism Religious Action Center Director and Counsel, Rabbi David Saperstein, "'Reflections at a Time of Crises: A Jewish Social Justice Agenda for 2014.'" We have scheduled our next annual AED/CPR) training for the congregation at the end of April.

While the CSAC provides an overarching social action umbrella, the heart of Temple Emanuel is equally shared by many of the affinity and membership groups within our community. For example, our WRJ has a continuing support relationship with a women's shelter, our religious school students engage in multiple acts of tikkun olam, from their individual b'nai mitzvah projects, to the annual March Mitzvah Madness campaign. As mentioned earlier, four times a year, the congregation prepares shepherds pies for SOME, and each year Temple cooks and volunteers prepare and serve Christmas dinner at SOME. Each Yom Kippur we participate in the SOME ton of food drive. Our congregation is privileged to provide a home for Meals on Wheels of Wheaton, Maryland. Even our Early Childhood Center students learn to provide for others.

These activities of Tikkun Olam, and so many more, are the spirit of our congregation.



Temple Emanuel Global Mitzvah Activities

Launched in November 2007 by Rabbi Stone, the goals of the Global Mitzvah project are:

1. Enhance the congregation's commitment, education and actions to fulfill the Jewish value of *tikkun olam*.
2. Provide tangible help to poor, at risk, and underprivileged communities, families and children in developing regions of the world.
3. Establish working alliances with effective, reputable international non-governmental organizations to achieve global mitzvah objectives.

2008-2009 (Year 1)

Guatemala Newborn and Maternal Health Program (with Plan USA/International) - Mothers and infants in Morales, Guatemala, a municipality in the Department of Izabal with a population of 80,000, 30% being women of child-bearing age. Temple Emanuel donated \$ 2,000 to support the Maternal and Newborn Health project. The funds were a portion of the \$75,000 that our partner organization, Plan USA, disbursed to provide pre- natal exams, pediatric and gynecology clinics staffed by necessary specialists, and training of community health aids and councils.

2009-2010 (Year 2)

Guatemala Micro-Credit Plus Program (with Plan USA/International) - Municipality of San Pedro Carcha, Guatemala, with a population of 148,000. \$2,220 was donated to provide small grants to help rural, indigenous women begin income- generating businesses.

Haitian Refugee Children (with Plan USA/Plan Haiti) – Creating and expanding safe group shelters for hundreds of homeless children in Port au Prince, Haiti, who need protection from child trafficking. \$440 was donated to create “child friendly spaces” that provide respite, protection, recreation, and trauma relief to children made homeless by the earthquake.

2010-2011 (Year 3)

In addition to maintaining a modest level of support to Guatemala Microfinance Plus (\$ 200), the GMP began supporting two new projects:

Kilili Self- Help Women-Led Biointensive Farming Project (with American Jewish World Service) - \$1,500 was donated to help in the development of a mini-training center in Western, Rift Valley province of Kenya to teach hundreds of farmers, a majority of whom are women, sustainable agricultural methods to provide food security for their families and economic self-sufficiency. Skilled trainers are graduates of the Manor House Agricultural Trainers Centre in Kitale, Kenya.

Integrated Lagoon and Water Project (with Engineers Without Borders – University of Wisconsin at Madison Chapter) – Increasing the supply of safe water for the Nyaimbo School Community in Orongo, Kenya, a population of 3,000 people. \$500 was donated to build and distribute inexpensive biosand filters for water purification.

The Global Mitzvah Project also began sponsoring an 11 year old boy named Kenneth Ochieng Odhiambo from Homa Bay, Kenya. The team has committed to helping Kenneth and his community by paying \$24 a month until he reaches age 18.

2011-2012 (Year 4)

Continued support of the AJWS Biointensive Farming Project in Kenya (donating \$1,400), and the Plan USA/International Haitian Refugee Children (\$435). Two new projects were initiated:

Santa Clara Safe Water Project (with Engineers Without Borders - D.C. Chapter) – \$400 was donated toward the construction of a safe water system for 300 families in a small rural community of El Salvador to eliminate high incidence water-related illness.

Loans to Cambodian Women Entrepreneurs (with Kiva) - Embracing the Kiva mission of alleviating poverty through lending, the Global Mitzvah Project became a Lending Team. Small loans totaling to more than \$400 were provided to three Cambodian women with families who are starting or expanding agricultural and food productivity-type businesses.

2012-2013 (Year 5)

The Global Mitzvah Project receives a Fain Social Action Award from the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism "for its exemplary social justice program". Global Mitzvah contributions grew from \$2,873 last year to \$4,348 in 2012-2013 (a 51% increase). More than 400 temple members, students and friends participated in Global Mitzvah activities, such as the STAR FACTOR Talent Show, El Salvadoran dinner and service, brunch with Ambassador Naim, and the annual car wash.

Loans to Cambodian Women Entrepreneurs. An additional \$228 in microloans were made through Kiva to three Cambodian women farmers.

Yad B'Yad Task Force, World Union For Progressive Judaism (\$500). The Arlene Fern School in Buenos Aires (pre-school to primary) faced serious financial hardship. Only 50% of the 470 children could afford to pay the \$80/month tuition. The school had a model inclusion program for special education students but the building was at risk if debts were not paid off soon.

Plan USA's Safe Areas for Displaced Haitian Children (\$460). Safe areas offering physical and psychosocial support have been created for more than half of the 10,000 boys and girls left without homes after the 2010 earthquake. Car wash receipts were donated for safe, nurturing facilities for these homeless children.

Child Sponsorship, with Plan USA/International (\$288). Continued sponsorship of Kenneth Odhiambo (age 14) of Homa Bay, Kenya, with ongoing correspondence with he and his family.

Safe Water Project, Santa Clara, El Salvador. \$400 donated to Engineers Without Borders, DC Chapter, to complete the safe water system. The 260 families of the rural Santa Clara community now have clean running water. Water meters have been installed to assure equitable and sustainable distribution.

ADEES School Library Project (\$ 2500). The Global Mitzvah Project partnered with the Association for Educational Development (ADEES) in El Salvador to establish a reading and library for Los Granados Elementary School in Morazan, El Salvador (the sister-city for Montgomery County). In addition, plans were made to conduct a book drive next year to collect basic English reading books, from pre-school to 2nd grade.



2013-2014 (Year 6)

ADEES School Library Project. Temple Emanuel students and families conducted an outstanding book drive in early 2014 to develop the school library at Los Granados Elementary. The total amount collected was: 1027 books, 66 puzzles, 41 games, assorted small toys, cash donations totaling \$336 and 1 laptop computer. Evelyn Gonzalez, President of the Association for the Development of Education in El Salvador, was thrilled with the quantity and high quality of the items contributed. It is expected that the library will have a plaque saying that the library was *“Supported by the Global Mitzvah program of Temple Emanuel, Kensington, Maryland, United States of America”*.

At the present time, the GMP is carefully studying possibilities for new international projects which meet the following criteria for support:

1. consistent with Temple Emanuel values and priorities;
2. enhances congregation and student awareness, education and engagement;
3. promotes sustainable, expanding, self-help outcomes;
4. provides detailed, personal, regular feedback to share with the temple community;
5. likely to have a demonstrated, evidence-based positive result;
6. offers a working alliance with effective, reputable non-government organizations.

The Global Mitzvah Project has made it a priority to inform and educate the temple community about the purpose, initiatives and impacts of its work. Methods of community education have included:

1. Monthly articles in Kol Kore.
2. Presentations, timely reports and announcements at dinners, brunches, and community meetings, as well as information tables with handouts, videos or visual displays, lobby posters and story boards.
3. Class presentations and handouts for religious school students.
4. Global Mitzvah Shabbat Services have also been an important means of educational programming. These semiannual services have included inspiring guest speakers engaged in social action to overcome poverty and its ill effects.

Active participation in Global Mitzvah Project events has increased during the life of the project, from about 190 adults and students in Year 1 to more than 400 in the past year. It is estimated that the combined five year participation total for dinners and brunches, concerts, and car washes is greater than 1,500 people, not including attendance at Global Mitzvah Shabbat Services.

Tikkun Olam Actions

Environmental Actions

The recommendations in this section focus primarily on actions to conserve energy and reduce global warming. They were adapted in 2006 by the Green Shalom Team from the book, *An Inconvenient Truth*, by Al Gore, and are grouped into four categories:

- 1) Consume Less, Conserve More (Individual Actions)
- 2) Save Energy at Home (Family Actions)
- 3) Get Around on Less (Transportation Actions)
- 4) Be a Catalyst for Change (Advocacy Actions)

Consume Less, Conserve More

Consume Less: Buy less...make do longer with what you have...before buying, ask if you really need it? <http://www.newdream.org>

Buy Things that Last: Produce less waste and reduce emissions by choosing durable rather than disposable items, and by repairing rather than discarding
<http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve> <http://www.freecycle.org>

Pre-cycle, Reducing Waste Before You Buy: Choose products that use recycled packaging...packaging waste makes up one-third of our polluting landfills

Recycle: Reduces pollution and saves natural resources, including precious trees that absorb carbon dioxide <http://refillables.grrn.org>
<http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/montgomerycountymd.gov/SWS>

Don't Waste Paper: It takes 500,000 trees...an entire forest...to provide us with our Sunday papers each week...use cloth towels...and both sides of paper...and get off junk mail lists. <http://refillables.grrn.org> www.dmaconsumers.org/environmentalissues.html

Bag Your Groceries and Other Purchases in a Reusable Tote (Montgomery County now has a 5 cent fee per plastic grocery bag): Americans go through 100 billion grocery bags each year...most end up in landfills and habitats. Carry Your Own Refillable Bottle for Water and Other Beverages: Single- use plastic bottles require significant energy and resources to produce... more water is used to produce a single-use plastic bottle than will fill it. <http://www.reuseit.com> <http://refillables.grrn.org>

Compost: Organic materials rotting in landfills account for one-third of man-made methane emissions <http://www.mastercomposter.com>

Eat Less Meat: Meat takes far more fossil-fuel energy and other resources than other protein sources <http://epa.gov/climatechange/index.html>

Buy Local: Eating food that doesn't have to travel far is far more carbon efficient <http://www.greenbiz.com/blog/2004/10/31/fight-global-warming-your-knife-and-fork>

Purchase Carbon Offsets...to reduce/eliminate your personal carbon foot- print <http://www.NativeEnergy.com>

Use Native Plants, Don't Over-water or Over-fertilize, Install Rain Barrels or a Rain Garden: Keep rainwater and pollutants from running off your lot <http://www.potomacriver.org>

Save Energy at Home

Choose Energy-Efficiency Lighting: Using compact fluorescent or LED light bulbs, an easy, cost-effective way to reduce energy use, energy costs, and green- house gas emissions. Use Energy-Star rated materials whenever possible. (PEPCO, Home Depot, Lowes, Costco, others)

Choose Energy-Efficient Appliances When Making New Purchases: Save money over time, and reduce green-house-gas emissions <http://www.energystar.gov>

Properly Operate and Maintain Your Appliances: Make your new and older appliances more energy-efficient with regular cleaning and proper location <http://www.aceee.org/portal/residential>

Heat and Cool Your House Efficiently: Heating and cooling accounts for 45% of a household's total energy use. Changes of a couple of degrees add up to real energy savings.

Insulate Your House: Eliminating drafts and insulating hot water pipes saves energy use and costs <http://www.naima.org/index.php>

Get a Home Energy Audit: You can do a simple home energy assessment yourself. There is a link on the PEPCO website: <http://www.pepco.com/welcome/community/conservation/default.aspx>

Reduce Standby Power Waste: 25% of the energy a television uses is consumed when it is not even powered on, so unplug when not in use <http://www.powerint.com/en/faq/5>

Switch to Green Power: More people are electing to use energy created by cleaner sources, such as sun, wind, and biomass. Did you know that you can arrange to have 100% wind power for your residential electricity? In the state of Maryland, you can choose the company that will generate your electricity, while PEPCO continues to

deliver the electricity to your home. There is no change in your wiring, or in the electricity service to your home.

To change your electrical generation from PEPSCO to one of these companies offering renewable energy (wind power) sources for your residential electricity, all you have to do is to go to one of these company's websites and sign up for your electricity to be generated by wind power. They will take care of the change and you will continue to receive only one bill from PEPSCO. Your bill will contain one section for supply charges (wind power company) and another for delivery charges (PEPSCO).

You also can do this if you already have an alternative energy supplier. When your contract is up for renewal, just indicate "do not renew" and then sign up for another supplier as indicated above. If you are accepted, the alternative supplier will switch to the wind power supplier when your prior contract expires.

Wind power suppliers for customers in Maryland (2014):

Allied power Services (WGES): <http://www.alliedpowerservices.com>

Clean Currents: <http://www.cleancurrents.com>

Electric Advisors (WGES): <http://electricadvisors.com/residential/>

Ethical Electric: <https://ethicalelectric.com/>

Next Era Wind Power: <https://www.nexteraenergyservices.com/>

North American Power: <http://www.napower.com/>

Get Around on Less

Walk, Bike, Carpool, and Take Mass Transit Wherever Possible: Avoiding 20 miles of single person driving each week eliminates 1,000 pounds of carbon emissions each year.

Drive Smarter: A car's fuel economy drops sharply above 55 miles per hour...regular maintenance improves performance <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/driveHabits.shtml>

Telecommute: Eliminate driving one or more times each week and save energy, air, and water pollution <http://www.telcoa.org>

Be a Catalyst for Change

Learn More About Climate Change and Share What You Know With Others
http://www.ucsusa.org/global_warming <http://www.stopglobalwarming.org>

Consider the Impact of Your Investments: Invest in companies, products, and projects that address climate change and other sustainability actions

<http://www.socialinvest.org/areas/research>

Take Political Action: Urge your elected officials to support measures that have a positive impact on local streams, air quality, and the climate crisis.

<http://www.lcv.org/scorecard> <http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/mayor/climate>

Support an Environmental Group <http://www.coejl.org> <http://www.hazon.org>
<http://www.tevacenter.org>

Other Environmental Recommendations

This section provides additional recommended actions that address other dimensions of environmental stewardship. They include:

- 1) Minimizing Your Home's Environmental Impact
- 2) Making Your Diet Earth friendly
- 3) Gardening, Naturally
- 4) Keeping Toxic Materials Out of the Waste Stream
- 5) Keeping Our Waters Clean

Minimize Your Home's Environmental Impact

When buying a house or locating a business, try to locate in already urban/suburban, close-in areas if possible. <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org>

Consider how much space you really need before building a new home or renovating. Consider using green building materials, such as are available at Amicus Green Building Center 4080A Howard Avenue, Kensington, MD <http://www.amicusgreen.com>

Use environmentally friendly, Energy Star rated, materials and a contractor familiar with the EPA's Energy Star Homes Program.

http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=home_improvement.hm_improvement_index&s=mega

<http://www.nbm.org/exhibitions-collections/exhibitions/house-and-home.html>

Preserve trees that absorb carbon dioxide, provide shade, and prevent soil erosion. Avoid paving with water-impermeable materials to reduce storm runoff.

Make Your Diet Earth Friendly

Eat low on the food chain (a plant-based diet) to avoid bio-accumulated toxics and make most efficient use of energy. Consider making at least some of your meals vegetarian. <http://www.cspinet.org> <http://www.jewishveg.com/recipe>

Grow fruits, vegetables, and herbs in your own garden or even indoors. Buy local farm products and prepared foods that do not have to be refrigerated and transported long distances. There are many local farmer's markets which are open from the Spring through the Autumn.

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/AgServices/agfarmersmarkets.html>

Learn which fisheries are endangered, safe seafood harvesting practices, and how to shop for fish in an environmentally-conscious way. Avoid overly packaged, processed food products. <http://www.seafood.edf.org>

Gardening, Naturally

Conserve water by planting drought resistant plants.

Use native plants well adapted to our region.

<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/home.htm#lawn>

Avoid pesticides and herbicides. <http://www.cleanairgardening.com>

Use push mowers and rakes rather than noisy, energy-hungry power mowers and blowers. Compost yard and household waste, rather than having it trucked away, and use the compost to amend the soil in garden beds.

<http://www.nationalzoo.si.edu/Publications/GreenTeam/>

Keep Toxic Materials Out of our Waste Stream

Recycle all electronics; take batteries, paints and solvents, pesticides and herbicides, and expired pharmaceuticals to County/City household hazardous waste collection sites.

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/SWS/>

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/pollution-prevention.html>

Keep our Water Clean

Don't dump wastes in gutters, storm sewers, or creeks. Use permeable materials for parking areas and walkways. Keep rainwater and pollutants from running off your lot with rain gardens and rain barrels.

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/rainscapes.html>

Lots more environmentally-friendly tips: <http://www.globalstewards.org/ecotips.htm>

Social Justice Actions

Visit the Religious Action Center ("RAC") website with some frequency to stay abreast of current social action concerns and actions, and to review current RAC policy positions. <http://www.rac.org>

Register at the RAC Webpage for action alerts and advocacy campaigns: "Chai Impact Action Center"

Visit the Israel Religious Action Center of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism to learn about current social action concerns in Israel: <http://www.irac.org>

"Friend" the RAC facebook page.

Join the Temple Emanuel Community Social Action Council, and the Temple Emanuel Community Social Action Facebook Group.

Global Mitzvah Actions

Members of Temple Emanuel have a collective big heart and adhere to the belief that tzedakah is a basic Jewish value. However, a word of caution is in order. Ken Stern, author of a new book entitled *"With Charity for All: Why Charities Are Failing and a Better Way to Give"*, states that donations are often made "hastily, based on poor information...and with little connection to common notions of doing good--- finding good charities takes time." Fortunately, several good sources of information on nonprofits are available to preclude wasted effort and funding:

Charity Navigator - <http://www.charitynavigator.org>

GuideStar - <http://www.guidestar.org>

BBB Wise Giving Alliance - <http://www.bbb.org/us/charity/>

Following is a list of suggested activities for readers, along with sponsoring organization websites. Many of these activities have good potential for student B'nai Mitzvah Project:

- package meals to use for international crisis and hunger relief situations.

<http://www.stophungernow.org>

- collect used bicycles and parts to help poor children and adults get to school and work.

<http://www.bikesfortheworld.org>

- gather stuffed animals to be sent to orphanages and hospitals for kids who have suffered a trauma: Teddy Bear Brigade.

<http://www.gftw.org>

- plan a lesson, join a community team, raise funds to develop disadvantaged children's literacy skills and reading, and support girls to complete high school.

<http://www.roomtoread.org>

- climb a mountain, run a marathon, raft down rapids to help the world's poorest people overcome hunger and poverty.

<http://www.concern.net>

- make small KIVA loans to poor women starting businesses around the world.

<http://www.kiva.org>

- enact the belief that "one cow can transform a life" by making a shared gift of an animal (e.g., llama, water buffalo, flock of geese) to help sustain food and farming for poor families.

<http://www.heifer.org>

- help to expand community mental health clinics to treat survivors of terrorism and mass violence in Africa.

<http://www.petercaldermanfoundation.org>

- organize a book drive to supply books, puzzles, games and computers for needy schools lacking a library in El Salvador. <http://www.egonzalez.adees@gmail.com>
- raise money to allow a bright but underprivileged Kenyan student to attend secondary school. <http://www.hildebackeducationfund.com>
- improve the life of an impoverished child and family in Latin America, Asia or Africa by providing a Gift Sponsorship or becoming a Child Sponsor. <http://www.planusa.org>
- join with student engineers to implement sustainable projects around the world to prevent disease through clean water and sanitation. <http://www.ewb-usa.org>
- fight for child health and survival by becoming an advocate for Save The Children. <http://www.savethechildren.org>
- become an activist to overcome poverty and injustice by entering a Global Justice Fellowship program or traveling on a Study Tour with American Jewish World Service http://www.ajws.org/what_we_do/service_and_travel_opportunities/
- volunteer to become a Kiva Fellow, using your skills to work with a microfinance institutions in one of over 70 countries around the globe. <http://www.fellowshipblog.kiva.org>

References and Resources

This section of the guide includes:

- 1) List of books in the Ecology and Social Justice sections of Temple Emanuel's library
- 2) Additional recommended titles
- 3) Other resource materials and Web sites

We encourage you to use these references and resources to build your knowledge and understanding of Judaism and our mission of Tikkun Olam.

Temple Emanuel Library Collection

Nature in our Biblical Heritage / Nogah Hareuveni; translated from Hebrew and adapted by Helen Frenkley.

Tree and Shrub in our Biblical Heritage / Nogah Hareuveni; translated from Hebrew and adapted by Helen Frenkley.

Selection Guide for Planning your Biblical Garden/ Marsh Hudson-Knapp.

The Splendor of Creation; a Biblical Ecology/ Bernstein, Ellen

Hal Borland's Twelve Moons of the Year: His Own Selections from his Nature Editorials in The New York times / edited by Barbara Dodge Borland.

When Smoke Ran Like Water: Tales of Environmental Deception and the Battle

Against Pollution/ Devra Davis.

State of the World 2002 / Flavin, Christopher

Earth in the Balance : Ecology and the Human Spirit / Al Gore.

Judaism and Ecology : a Hadassah Study Guide in Cooperation with Shomrei Adamah, Keepers of the Earth.

Ecology in the Bible / Nogah Hareuveni in association with Helen Frenkley; photos. by Nogah Hareuveni, Yaakov Reshef, Ran Caspi.

The Lost gospel of the Earth: A Call for Renewing Nature, Spirit and Politics / Tom Hayden ; foreword by Joan Halifax ; introduction by Thomas Berry ; after- word by Daniel Swartz.

Earth Day Guide to Planet Repair / Denis Hayes

Judaism and Ecology/ edited by Aubrey Rose.

Noah's Garden : Restoring the Ecology of our Own Back Yards / Sara Stein ; with illustrations by the author.

The Universe is a Green Dragon : A Cosmic Creation Story / Brian Swimme.

Torah of the Earth : Exploring 4,000 Years of Ecology in Jewish Thought / edited by Arthur Waskow.

Bayou Farewell: The Rich Life and Tragic Death of Louisiana's Cajun Coast/Mike Tidwell, Pantheon 2003.

Kulanu: All of Us – A Program and Resource Guide for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Inclusion (Revised and Expanded) / edited by Rabbi Richard F. Address, Dr. Joel L. Kushner, and Rabbi Geoffrey Mitelman, URJ Press 2007

Mentsh: On Being Jewish and Queer / edited by Angela Brown, Alyson Books 2004

Additional Titles or Articles (not in the Temple Library)

Ecology

Trees, earth, and Torah: A Tu B'shvat Anthology / Elon, Hyman, Waskow, editors, Jewish Publication Society, 1999.

The Botany of Desire: A Plant's Eye View of the World / Michael Pollan, Random House, 2001.

Pollution in a Promised Land; an Environmental History of Israel/ Alon Tal, 2002

An Inconvenient Truth: The Planetary Emergency of Global Warming and What We Can do About It / Al Gore, Rodale Press 2006.

The Ravaging Tide: Strange Weather, Future Katrinas, and the Coming Death of America's Coastal Cities / Mike Tidwell, Free Press, 2006.

The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals / Michael Pollan, Penguin Press, 2006.

Six Arguments for a Greener Diet / Michael Jacobson, PhD, Center for Science in the Public Interest, 2006.

The way into Judaism and the Environment/ Jeremy Benstein, 2006

Hot, Flat and Crowded; Why We Need a Green Revolution – And How It Can Renew America / Thomas Friedman, 2008

Ecology and Religion / John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker, Island Press, 2014

Social Justice and Global Mitzvah

Jewish Dimensions of Social Justice; Tough Moral Choices of Our Time / Albert Vorspan and David Saperstein, 1998

The Way into Tikkun Olam/ Elliot N. Dorff, 2005

Judaism and Justice; The Jewish Passion to Repair the World / Rabbi Sidney Schwarz, 2006

Creating a World Without Poverty / Muhammed Yunus, 2007

Banker to the Poor: Micro-lending and the Battle Against World Poverty. /Muhammad Yunus (Founder of Grameen Bank in Bangladesh). NY: Public Affairs, 2007.

Righteous Indignation; A Jewish Call for Justice / Rabbi Or N Rose, editor, 2008

World Poverty and Human Rights / Thomas Pogge. NJ: Wiley, 2008.

There Shall Be No Needy; Pursuing Social Justice Through Jewish Law and Tradition / Rabbi Jill Jacobs, 2009

Where Justice Dwells; A Hands-On Guide to Doing Social Justice in Your Community / Rabbi Jill Jacobs, 2011

Poor Economics : A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty /Abhijit Vinayak Banerjee & Esther Duflo. Random House India, 2011.

More than Good Intentions: Improving the Ways the World's Poor Borrow, Save, Farm, Learn, and Stay Healthy /Dean Karlan & Jacob Appel. Hialeah, FL, Dutton Press, 2011.

With Charity for All: Why Charities Are Failing and a Better Way to *Give* /Ken Stern. NY: Random House, 2013.

"May it be that years hence, our children and our children's children will look back with appreciation to this moment as one in which we heeded a great moral imperative of our time - to fulfill our sacred obligation to pre- serve and protect the earth in all its majesty for those who will follow."

Resource Websites

Ecology

National Green Pages: A Directory of Products and Services for People and the Planet. <http://www.greenamerica.org>

District of Columbia Department of the Environment. <http://www.ddoe.dc.gov>

Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL) <http://www.coejl.org>

Chesapeake Climate Action Network acts on climate change issues in our region. <http://www.chesapeakeclimate.org>

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. <http://www.rac.org>

Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light works with hundreds of congregations of all faiths across Maryland, DC and Northern Virginia to save energy, go green and respond to climate change. <http://www.gwipl.org>

Carbon Fund is a non-profit organization that can guide you in eliminating your carbon emissions through calculating your carbon footprint and purchasing offsets. <http://www.carbonfund.org>

Virtual march to stop global warming. <http://www.stopglobalwarming.org>

Kibbutz Lotan Center for Creative Ecology: A group of like-minded individuals living on Kibbutz Lotan, a co-operative community located in the Arava valley of the Israeli Negev desert. They have devoted many years to teaching themselves and others the value of and practices for living a more sustainable lifestyle. <http://kibbutzlotan.com/creativeEcology/index.htm>

Social Justice

T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, often referred to as **T'ruah**, is a nonprofit organization of rabbis from all streams of Judaism who act on the Jewish imperative to respect and protect the human rights of all people in North America, Israel, and the Occupied Territories. <http://www.truah.org/>

Jewish Social Justice Roundtable: Based on a shared vision, the Jewish Social Justice Roundtable, animated by Jewish tradition and values, makes social justice a core expression of Jewish life, while advancing social justice issues in the broader society. <http://jewishsocialjustice.org/>

Jews United for Justice (JUFJ): A community of folks of all ages and from all over the greater Washington area that provides Jews with an opportunity to weave together Judaism and activism and to act on our shared Jewish values by pursuing justice and equality in our local community. <http://www.jufj.org/>

Hillel International - Social Justice (Tzedek): College students want to change the world. They are building homes around the world. They are saving lives through bone marrow donations. They are planting trees, volunteering in soup kitchens, and raising money for charity. But college students can't do all of this amazing work alone. That's where Hillel comes in. <http://www.hillel.org/jewish/social-justice-tzedek>

Global Mitzvah

Union for Reform Judaism : Ending Global Poverty

Policy statement passed by the 68th Union for Reform Judaism General Assembly

http://urj.org//about/union/governance/reso//?syspage=article&item_id=1925

IPA: Innovations for Poverty Actions - Fighting Poverty with Innovation, Evidence and Action. Innovations for Poverty Action is a nonprofit dedicated to discovering what works to help the world's poor. They design and evaluate programs in real contexts with real people, and provide hands-on assistance to bring successful programs to scale. Over the last 10 years, the results of their research have reached **over 50 million people** around the world. <http://www.poverty-action.org>

The World Bank --Inequality and Shared Prosperity. In April 2013, the World Bank set two new goals: to end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity in the 140-plus client countries they serve. Promoting shared prosperity means that they will work to increase the incomes and welfare of the poorer segments of society wherever they are, be it the poorest of nations or thriving, middle-income countries. <http://www.worldbank.org>

United Nations Development Program - Partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in 177 countries and territories, they offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations. Their focus is helping countries build and share solutions to achieve **Poverty Reduction** and the **Millennium Development Goals, Democratic Governance, Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Environment and Energy** for sustainable development. In all activities, they encourage the protection of human rights, capacity development and the empowerment of women. <http://www.undp.org>

U.N. - The Millennium Development Goals – 2013. The eight Goals form a blueprint agreed to by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions. They have galvanized unprecedented efforts to meet the needs of the world's poorest people. <http://www.undp.org>

Grameen Foundation - Founded in 1997 to help the world's poor address their own unique needs. They believe that all of us desire to improve our lives, and that all of us – even the poorest among us – can reach our full potential if we are given access to the right tools and information. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., with offices in the U.S., Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

<http://www.grameenfoundation.org>

Temple Emanuel Environmental Policy Statement

INTRODUCTION

In 1992, the Temple Emanuel Board of Trustees adopted an environmental policy statement which contained a number of environmental goals and reflected the Temple's strong commitment to the ecological principles of Judaism.

Since that time, a number of goals have been implemented, including the installation of a solar collector for operating the eternal light, an energy audit, and investigation of several recycling activities and environmentally-friendly products. The Temple's Clergy, lay leaders and the Green Team (previously the Green Shalom Committee) have continually promoted environmental stewardship. The Temple has been recognized nationally for its environmental activities.

During 2010 – 2012 we have updated our building with more energy efficient lighting. Motion sensors have been added to turn off lights in unoccupied areas. The parking areas have enhanced lighting with dark sky compliant, energy efficient LED lighting. We are investigating the possibility of installing solar panels on our roof which may generate as much as 35-40% of our electrical needs.

POLICY GOALS

To continue and expand the scope of the Temple's environmental stewardship and education programs, the Temple Emanuel Board of Trustees reaffirmed the following action-oriented goals in 2013:

1. Schedule periodic energy audits of the Temple's facilities and implement further energy conservation recommendations where feasible.
2. Maintain a comprehensive landscaping plan for the Temple that takes advantage of native plant materials, avoids harmful chemical fertilizers and pesticides, conserves water, and provides aesthetic and environmental benefits.
3. Maintain the small biblically-inspired garden on the Temple grounds, and develop an educational experience relating the plantings to major Jewish holidays. Use native plants as substitutes wherever possible.
4. Work with the Kensington Ministerium, Shomrei Adamah, and the Coalition on Jewish Life and the Environment (COEJL) to promote environmental stewardship at the local, regional, and national levels.
5. Periodically review and evaluate Temple recycling programs. Improve/expand recycling where feasible, including the use of high recycled content paper in the Temple Offices, Religious School and Early Childhood Center. Explore the possibility of using "greening" strategies in the selection of food and the disposal of waste. Use recyclable materials as much as possible in food service functions.

6. Maintain the use of environmentally friendly cleaning products at the Temple and eliminate the use of any toxic cleaners.

7. Working with the Rabbi and the Green Team, promote environmental awareness and education for all Temple members by:

- a. Conducting an annual Shabbat service with an environmental theme, and a Tu B'Shevat service with a focus on environmental appreciation and healthful foods.
- b. Arranging periodic service-related environmental readings at Shabbat services and also during the High Holiday services.
- c. Providing environmental study opportunities through adult education courses, coffeehouse programs, book reviews, speakers, etc.
- d. Incorporating the Jewish dimension of environmental stewardship into the religious school curricula, including lectures, field trips, readings, discussion, etc.
- e. Conducting a periodic workshop on Judaism and the environment for religious school teachers.
- f. Promoting carpooling and other transportation alternatives that improve air quality and reduce congestion and parking problems.
- g. Working with the Rabbi and the Community Social Action Council, pursue opportunities for environmental advocacy.