



Temple Israel Doorpost

July 2019

Sivan / Tammuz 5779

From the Rabbi's Study...

Dear Chaverim,

As the summer begins and many are looking forward to some quality vacation time, I am reminded of two very different, yet somewhat similar, quotes on leisure.

The first quote is by Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut (of blessed memory) who served for many years as the rabbi of Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto. Rabbi Plaut wrote in 1986, "If Shabbat is to have significance, it must confront one of modern civilization's greatest curses, its internal and external unrest.

"This unrest arises from the twin facts that the life we lead is frequently without goals and that we are involved in competition without end."

He continues, "I view Shabbat as potentially an enormous relief from and protest against the basic causes of unrest. Once a week it provides us with an opportunity to address ourselves to the meaning of human existence rather than the struggle for survival; to persons rather than things; to Creation and our part in it; to society and its needs; to ourselves as individuals and yet as social beings. This has been called 'the inner source of leisure,' the setting of goals which are both realistic and within one's reach, yet also beyond one's self."

The fact is that our lives have not really changed much in the past several decades except to become more hectic. The personal computer, which was marketed as a way to simplify our lives, has actually

Continued on page 2

Upcoming Events

Security Committee Meeting

6:00 p.m. Monday, July 1, Board Room

The Temple Office will be Closed

Thursday, July 4 - Friday, July 5

Israeli Folk Dance Club

4:00 p.m. Sunday, July 7, Social Hall

Ritual Committee Meeting

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 9, Shmoozatorium

Development Committee Meeting

6:00 p.m. Wednesday July 10, Library

Executive Committee Meeting

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, Virtual Meeting

ELC Summer Camp

8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. daily, July 15 - 19

Education Committee Meeting

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 16, Board Room

Board of Directors Meeting

7:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 16, Board Room

Basic Judaism Class with Rabbi Ira

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 17, Board Room

Israeli Folk Dance Club

4:00 p.m. Sunday, July 21, Social Hall

Basic Judaism Class with Rabbi Ira

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 31, Board Room

No House Committee or Sisterhood meetings this month

Dedication of Memorial Stone for Rabbi Senter

11:30 a.m. Sunday, August 4, TIP Cemetery



Rabbi's Message

(Continued from page 1)

made our lives more complicated. How many of us cannot go to bed at night without first checking our e-mail? Rather than go to the mall for an hour to shop, how many of us spend many hours shopping online to make sure we get the best price?



Rabbi Plaut suggests that there is no better place to redirect our lives than at a Shabbat service. The purpose of a Shabbat service (or any service for that matter) is to help us to define and celebrate our goals. A Shabbat service can help us enlarge our vision and thus gain new insight on life's meaning. According to Plaut, a Shabbat experience like the one offered each week at Temple Israel will in fact tap the "inner source of leisure" within us.

The second quote is 2000 years old. In *Pirke Avot* (the "Sayings of the Fathers") which is a tractate in the Mishnah, Hillel says, "...do not say 'When I have leisure I will study,' because you may never have any leisure." Postponing any task, enjoyable or not, from day to day is always easier than facing the task head on.

When it comes to serious study, Temple Israel never takes a vacation! Throughout the summer when I am not out of town, our Lunch and Learn (weekly Torah Study) continues to enlighten those attending with marvelous insights into the weekly *parasha* and challenges those present to make Torah a part of their lives. In addition, there will be a special Lunch and Learn during the summer to help us better understand the Israeli election process and why the election held in April did not produce a new government. Be sure to watch for the date for this special Shabbat Lunch and Learn.

I hope the summer brings much-needed leisure into your life and an opportunity to enlighten your mind and refresh your soul to be ready for the High Holidays in late September.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Ira Korinow

Service Times

Tuesday afternoon	5:30 p.m.
Friday night	6:15 p.m.
** Friday, July 5	7:15 p.m.
** Friday, July 19	7:15 p.m.
Saturday morning	9:30 a.m.
followed by kiddush and lunch	

TEMPLE ISRAEL TREE OF LIFE



Commemorate an important life cycle event by purchasing a leaf on our Tree of Life. Create a lasting tribute to a loved one's special occasion while supporting your congregation.

You can have a leaf engraved to celebrate a simcha, like the birth of a child or grandchild, a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, a graduation, engagement, marriage, anniversary, a special birthday, or achievement. Or, honor the memory of a loved one.

Your donation of \$180 will purchase a personalized, engraved leaf for the Tree of Life. Call the Synagogue Office for details. (603) 436-5301 ext. 10.



President's Message

Temple
Israel

On Tuesday, June 18, a special congregational meeting was held by member request to discuss our kashrut policy. To the board's surprise, approximately seventy people attended! It was exciting to see that so many people in our community care so much about this issue. Many congregants shared their thoughts, feelings, and suggestions about ways we might adjust the policy or create more community around something we all care about: food.

Suggestions included specific changes to make the potluck policy feel comfortable to more people in the congregation, such as bringing food in disposable containers only as opposed to bringing dishware from home, or restricting potluck gatherings to the Schmoozatorium. Other suggestions were more wide-reaching in nature. For example, some people felt that we should cook more meals together in our kitchen because cooking together is a special way to create community.

Most significantly, we all agreed that the most important thing is that we have *shalom bayit* – peace in our temple home. I am grateful to all who attended and shared their thoughts, feelings, and ideas. This feedback will be passed along to the Ritual Committee. I imagine they will take some time in committee to revisit our kashrut policy and then bring it back to the board for approval.

If you were unable to attend the meeting and want to share your thoughts, you can send comments to the office with the subject line Kashrut and they will be passed to the Ritual Committee. Please look for future programming to increase participants' familiarity with kosher cooking, our kitchen, kashrut, and other issues related to food. If food is one of your interests and you are interested in planning such an event, please let me know.

After reflecting on the special meeting, and the desire for better communication about decision-making, the board decided that we would like to create more opportunities for casual conversation between the board of directors and the congregation at large. Outside of official board meetings, ritual events, and other programming, there aren't many occasions to converse and share concerns and feedback about the temple.

We are creating a new series that we are calling "Schmooze with the Board." Each season, we will host a schmoozing hour during which we can visit, chat, get to know each other, and of course, enjoy a little nosh. The first one is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 20**, beginning with minyan at 5:30 p.m. Afterward, we will have some snacks and drinks outside in the courtyard from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. before our regular August board meeting. Please come to pray, and then stay to converse with us.

In the meantime, enjoy the summer season. I wish you all a lovely July and hope to see you in the temple soon.

L'shalom,

Amy Hyett

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Committee Reports

Ritual Committee

Shalom,

I am pleased to be writing my first *Doorpost* column as your new VP of Ritual. I was able to take on this role because other members of the Ritual Committee – old and new—agreed to take responsibility for many of the tasks included in the job description. The job was more than I could take on alone. *Kol ha'kavod* to David Olken who managed much of it by himself during his four-year tenure in the position. In future columns, I will introduce members of the committee as their areas of focus become prominent. Most importantly, I want to introduce Bridget Jameson who agreed to take on most of the committee's administrative tasks. Bridget and I will work together to set agendas for our meetings, which Bridget will facilitate while Karen Mott takes minutes.

Bridget will also be the chief coordinator for high holiday preparation, managing the timetable of tasks and ensuring that committee members and other volunteers complete each step of the preparations in a timely manner. You might be surprised to learn the myriad of details that the Ritual Committee and others manage in order to ensure that our high holiday services are meaningful and inspiring. Sharen Eidelberg Spratt, Ellen Fineberg, Heather Tomlinson, and I collaborated to update and prepare the letters that you will receive shortly with information about the Yizkor Memorial Book. Ben Martindale will serve as the liaison to the Education Committee subgroup working to plan family services. Cathi Cherry-Liston and Jen Sebeny, while not members of our committee, have agreed to assign the many honors that congregants perform as participants in our services.

Our newly structured committee, including four enthusiastic new members, will meet early in July.

In addition to high holiday planning, we will begin to discuss possible revisions to the kashrut policy in light of the special congregational meeting held on June 18, as well as planning a Tisha B'Av observance in August. Between now and then, I hope you will pause and take time to celebrate and give thanks for summer's bounties by joining your fellow congregants at Shabbat services Friday evenings and/or Saturday mornings. Do a mitzvah and help make a minyan on Shabbat or at our weekly minyan Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. Explore, discover, and enjoy!

Deborah Hirsch Mayer

Membership: Help Us Reach Out!

Most of us have local friends, family, or coworkers who are not members of a synagogue. In some cases, these friends may not seem interested in ever joining a synagogue but would still like to have some connection to the Jewish community. The Membership Committee would like your help in reaching out to these people and letting them know that we welcome them to participate in any of our varied offerings: services, social events, and educational programs.

For some, this could be a first step toward becoming a member someday. For others it may simply enrich their connection to Judaism within the Seacoast community. For us, it could provide a larger and more diverse group of participants at our services and programs. It's all good! So, please think about the "unaffiliated" Jews you know around here, and consider whether you can do any of the following:

- Ask them if they would like to receive emails

(Continued on page 5)

Candle Lighting

July	5	8:07 p.m.
July	12	8:04 p.m.
July	19	7:59 p.m.
July	26	7:52 p.m.



ATLANTIC GRILL

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(Continued from page 4)

about what's going on at the synagogue. You can forward their email address to Heather in the office (templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org), invite them to subscribe at our website, or sign them up yourself. At www.templeisraelnh.org, choose Contact Us and then Subscribe. If we have their email address, we can also invite them to our annual open house.

- Invite them to attend a service or social or educational program with you.
- If you work in a place where you sometimes meet unaffiliated Jews, or if you are the kind of person

who spots matzah in someone's cart at the supermarket and strikes up a conversation, pick up some of the new "business cards" that the Membership Committee has made for people like you to give out. They will be available in the temple lobby beginning in mid-July.

These are all ways that you can help strengthen the Jewish community here where you live. Thanks for your help!

Margie Wachtel, Chair, Membership Committee



USY

SEEKING USY CHAPTER ADVISOR

Temple Israel, Portsmouth (TIP) is a Conservative synagogue serving the seacoast area of New Hampshire and southern Maine. We have 310 membership households and a Hebrew school enrollment of 80 students. Our traditional, egalitarian congregation is deeply committed to fostering joyful Jewish living and learning in an atmosphere of mutual respect and tolerance.

The ideal candidate for this position will have experience in Jewish formal or informal educational settings, will have the training and/or experience working with youth in middle and high school, and will bring enthusiasm, creativity, strong organizational and leadership skills to the position. The ability to work as a member of a team is also essential. The position will run September 1, 2019, through June 1, 2020. **This is a part-time position with stipend based on the candidate's experience and vision for the chapter.**

Advisor Job Description:

- Plan and implement teen programs and events in conjunction with TIP USY Chapter to include Sr. USY grades 9-12, Jr. USY grades 7-8, and Kadima grades 4-6. Events could include educational, religious, social, and cultural activities.
- Conduct at least 1 event monthly per group as well as regular meetings with the TIP USY & Kadima Chapter.
- Oversee the creation and distribution of promotional materials.
- Attend TIP USY, Kadima, and NERUSY Regional programs including Shabbaton weekends, coordinating with the NERUSY regional director of youth activities.
- Generate enthusiasm about USY and Kadima participation through community outreach, mentoring teen leadership, and serving as a Jewish role model to USY participants.
- Distribute and collect parent consent and permission forms and maintain attendance data for all programs.
- Maintain contact with all group members by phone, e-mail, social networks, etc. and be accessible (within reason for a part-time position) to members and their parents.
- Oversee program budget including tracking income and expenses for each group for the fiscal year.
- Report to the TIP Education Committee designee. Liaise with the NERUSY Regional Director of Youth Activities for all regional matters.

Please send a cover letter and resume to TIP, Educational Committee, Attn: Ryan Kaplan via mail or email, templeoffice@templeisraelnh.org.

Early Learning Center

Temple
Israel



Tammy Labonté
Director, ELC

Shalom,

Congratulations to the Early Learning Center's Class of 5779 (2018 – 2019)! Of the eleven students enrolled, six are moving on to kindergarten! We wish our graduates Akiva, Adhvin, Etan, Jack, Kaushik, and Maddie all the fun and learning kindergarten

will bring.

A wonderful end-of-the-year celebration honored all our students. Parents, family members, teachers, and siblings watched intently as the eleven students, beaming with happiness and pride, marched into the chapel. After performing Israeli folk dances led by Ellen McQueeney, the students received diplomas and special recognition. The program continued with a slideshow of photographs from the year's activities and concluded with ice cream cake for everyone.

Thank you to the Early Learning Center families for letting me learn with and teach your children this past year. It has been a gift that has created so many warm and loving memories. I am looking forward to our week of summer camp, July 15 – 19 and to returning in the fall for the 2019 – 2020 school year. I also want to thank Elian Tackeff, my wonderful assistant teacher. You have touched my life with



your teaching and friendship and I am forever grateful!

The Early Learning Center is often the first place contacted by Jewish families new to the area, and it's a wonderful connection to Temple Israel. Our program is very special and unique. We welcome children of all faiths and have a diverse classroom where we learn from each other and respect and honor our differences. Our preschoolers acquire not only social/emotional and academic skills, but a strong foundation in Jewish values, holidays, and traditions in a nurturing and joyful environment.

We still have openings for the fall 2019 – 2020 school year. Tours and more information can be received by contacting director Tammy Labonté at preschool.director@templeisraelnh.org or calling 603-436-5301 Ext. 23.

I hope everyone enjoys a grand summer break!

L'shalom, Tammy (and Elian)



Scenes from the ELC end-of-the-year celebration





In Our Community

The gift of a Torah

Contributed by Ken Litvack

On a crisp, sunny day in April, a growing reform Synagogue in Netanya, Israel received the gift of a Torah from four former members of Temple Israel Dover. The congregation, led by Rabbi Dr. Edgar Nof, welcomed the gift with a joyful ceremony after a Bat Mitzvah as congregants were recovering from recent vandalism and a fire in their temple.

Congregation Natan Ya is an inclusive synagogue that welcomes members of all backgrounds and divergent views, founded in 1969. Its mission states that it is proudly rooted in Jewish values and tradition, Israeli history and identity. “We are an Israeli Reform center for Jewish renewal, fostering community and extending our congregational values of justice, education and inspiration throughout the city of Netanya and its surroundings,” the statement says. “We come together to learn, celebrate and worship, honoring each individual’s search for an authentic relationship to the divine.”

Recent acts of vandalism have not deterred the community, which joined together to clean, repair and restore their temple, the only reform temple in Netanya. Police have not identified any suspects but the rabbi attributed the increase in vandalism to the Temple’s success in attracting members. “The more bar mitzvahs we have the more attacks seem to increase,” he told *The Times of Israel* in February. He said members have been targeted by ultra-Orthodox worshipers.

The Torah belonged to Temple Israel Dover, which closed its doors last June. It was donated through the generosity of Bertha and Ken Litvack of Stratham and Boca Raton, Florida. The Litvacks met Rabbi Nof in 2011 when they were looking for a rabbi to perform a Bar Mitzvah for their grandson. An Israeli



friend introduced them to the rabbi who had recently been appointed to the temple they were visiting, and their friendship has endured. Mr. Litvack, then president of the Dover temple, learned of Rabbi’s need for a Torah at the same time he was looking for a home for the Dover scrolls. The Torah was presented by the Litvacks, Peter Pastor, a former board member in Dover, and Janet Insolia during a Passover trip to Israel. All are current members of Temple Israel Portsmouth.

“We are gratified that the Torah that served the Dover community for so many years will live on through the innovative congregation of Natan Ya,” said Mr. Litvack.

Rabbi Nof was born in Brooklyn, NY, grew up in Argentina, and made Aliya to Israel in 1982. He has served as Rabbi of Congregation Natan Ya since 2013. In 2014 he was named “Ambassador for Peace” by the Universal Peace Federation while representing Israel at the world summit in Seoul. Among his many rabbinical accomplishments, he has performed hundreds of Bar and Bat Mitzvah services for underprivileged children and has converted more than 700 people to Judaism. He and his wife Debra, who hails from Brookline, MA, live in Haifa. They have four children. Netanya is a resort city on the Mediterranean Sea about nineteen miles north of Tel Aviv.

Donations

Temple
Israel

CULTURAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Helen Hanan in memory of her father, Nathan Hanan. Barbara Franzoso in honor of Ira Schwartz.

HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

David Baer in memory of Johanna Baer. Jeffrey & Kellisue Friedman.

INSTITUTIONAL OPERATING ENDOWMENT FUND

Elaine & Shel Krasker in memory of Samuel Shapiro, Elaine's grandfather. Phyllis Heilbronner in memory of her husband, Hans Heilbronner and his mother, Helen Heilbronner. Marlene & Al Rubin in memory of Jeffrey Lehman. Gloria Moldoff in memory of her grandmother, Molly Fisher.

KIDDUSH FUND

Lenny Baer in memory of Gertrude Baer.

LIBRARY FUND

Marjorie Cypres in memory of her father, Nathan Lorde.

MUSICAL SHABBAT FUND

Fran Berman in honor of Maddie and Rachel Bachrach's Bat Mitzvah.

PRESCHOOL FUND

The Bonitatibus family in memory of Alex Talis. Jim & Myra Fishbein in honor of the birth of their grandson, Crosby Ari Gibson. Naomi Fishbein in

honor of Philip Shore's 90th birthday.

RABBI DAVID SENTER MEMORIAL FUND

Elissa Kaplan Senter in memory of Jessie Nizewitz.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Michael Klarov. Barbara Gutin in memory of her husband, Irving Gutin and stepson, Jeffrey Gutin. Kellisue & Jeffrey Friedman. Sue & Stephen Tober with appreciation for Rabbi Korinow officiating at the wedding of their daughter, Jamie Tober, and Josh Schaer.

TZEDAKAH FUND

Debbie Gross in memory of Alex Talis.

Elissa Kaplan Senter cordially invites you
to the dedication of the stone in memory of

Rabbi David Rafael Senter

11:30 a.m. Sunday, August 4, 2019

Temple Israel Cemetery

Banfield Road, Portsmouth

*A special thank you to
June kiddush sponsors
Gina & Jeffrey Sheldon
Kellisue & Jeffrey Friedman
Sarah & Jared Nabel
Elise & David Bachrach*



For Shavuot the preschoolers made Torah scrolls with the Ten Commandments and also mini cheese-cakes that we shared in the Temple office. Miss Heather and volunteer Miss Sharon said they were very yummy!



Yahrzeits

July Yahrzeits

1. Harry Teitelbaum
2. Meyer Liberson, Barney Saperstein
3. Robert Levy, Mary Goodman, Allan Morris,
Robert William Ryder, Rose Lechner, Ida Hooz
4. Joel Cooperman
5. Eli Levine, Ethel Shapiro, Mandel Shoer,
Nathan Feldman
6. Lizzie Weiner, Raymond Katz, Philip Weinberg,
Selma C. Nasberg
7. Minnie Gelman, Phillip Moldoff, Evelyn Paul,
Anna Poyourow, Gretchen Hughes
8. Beatrice Lisagor, Sam Fisher, Herman Windt,
Ann Bradbard, Helen Meyrowitz, Max Winer,
Leonard M. Marcus, Barbara Frank O'Leary,
Anja Legerstee, Marilyn Smith
9. Laurel Silverman, Gertrude Kaplan
10. Elizabeth Pinn, Evelyn Poster, Edward Shaines,
Molly Singer, Susie Seidner, Philip Atkins,
Michael Lechner, Frances Greene
11. Adele Goodman Hoeflich, Ethel Gold
12. Rose Lang, Fay Briskin, Dora Vetstein,
Dorothy Davis Gordon
13. Lionel Levitt, Fannie Green, Isaac Shamash,
June Dinnerman, Leopold Kaplan
14. William Kline, Barney Levenson, Frieda Schertz,
Clara Saperstein
15. Maude Bierhans, Rabbi Byron T. Rubenstein,
Lillian Shapiro Horwitz, Ted Johnston
16. Fannie Zeidman, Benjamin Gurtman,
Annie Klaiman

28 Sivan / 28 Tammuz

17. Anna Cutler, David Levy, Eva Gutin,
Judee Weiner Lafargue Peters, Sadie Goldstein,
Rochelle Lifson
18. Philip Cooper, Peter Alford, Mary Babson,
Annie Feinberg
19. Vivian Rous, Mae Lillian Evans Ryder,
Goldie Saunders, Thelma Fishman
20. Alvin Collier
21. Doris Chase, Lewis Meenes, Marsha Cohen,
M. Eleanor Sava
22. Julie Davidson, Morris Lampert, Louis Tober,
Ira Stone, Charles Pastor, Joyce Green
23. Theodore Herzl, Jeremiah Berman, Leo Seligson
24. Sam Rosenfeld, Sidney Koach
25. Tomy Levingston, Annie Pearlman,
Henry Miller, June Goodman, Dr. Martin
Leimer, Harold Segal, Gladys G. Poucher
26. Moses Goodman, Harry Bierhans, Leo Jacobs,
Sidney Lane, Fred Zuckerman
27. Faina Shumskaya, Samuel Rosenfield,
Leo Sussman
28. Pearl Robbins, Seymour Hirsch, Gussie Smokler,
Harry Verner
29. Saul Slater, Ernest George Smith, Phyllis Cohen,
Nancy Denenberg
30. Philip Rosenberg, Helen Levy, Joseph Durocher,
Ruth Honig Zeff, Rose Greenblatt
31. Rubin Jaffe, Jacob Eli Stein

When you are observing a family member's *yahrzeit*, you are welcome to say kaddish at Shabbat services Friday night or Saturday morning, at Tuesday minyan (5:30 p.m.), and when Hebrew School is in session, on Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. or Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.

In Our Community

Temple
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Temple Honey Fundraiser

Send the sweetest of all
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festive 8-ounce jar of
kosher clover honey, a
gift card and the blessing
for the New Year, anywhere in the United States.



The package will arrive in time for Rosh
Hashanah.

Ordering is quick and easy online. Your cost is \$12
per jar and a portion of your purchase benefits Temple
Israel.*

Order online by August 5 to avoid extra shipping
fees. Visit www.templeisraelnh.org to order.

If you have any questions or prefer to write a check,
please contact the temple office to request a honey
order form.

Mail order deadline to receive free shipping:
*checks must be received in the temple office by
Monday, July 22.*

Thank you for your support!

** For tax deduction purposes of determining value
of goods provided, you should use \$6 per jar. Up to
\$4.50 per jar goes directly to support Temple
Israel's Operating Fund.*

Call for artwork for a new group exhibit in the
Shmoozatorium slated for August 2019.

Theme: "Land, Sea, and Sky," appreciating the
blessings and beauty of God's creations. Any media
considered, including photography, crafts, poetry,
and sculpture. Work can be original or part of a
personal collection.

Please download a simple application describing
your work from the temple website, or pick up a
form from the bulletin board by the office. Exhibit
policy guidelines are also available online or from
the office. For more information, please contact the
office or Exhibit Coordinator Deborah Levine,
dlevine12@yahoo.com.



Call to Temple audiophiles:

Joanne Samuels would love some advice about
equipment we might need to better set up the Social
Hall for live musical performances. If you can
advise, please contact her via email at:
jgoodman2@comcast.net. — Thank you!



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The preschoolers love exploring their community. Thank you, Bennett's Sandwich Shop in downtown Portsmouth, for inviting our students to lunch! The grilled cheese sandwiches were delicious. The class also made a stop at Club Boutique and City Shoes to say hello to Alissa Gold!



Temple Israel

200 State Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801
603-436-5301

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



Proud member of USCJ