



Temple Israel Doorpost

August 2020

Av / Elul 5780

From the Rabbi's Desk

This month we are reading the final book of the Torah, *D'varim*. In it, Moses delivers an exhaustive farewell speech to the people of Israel, recounting their history, reviewing laws, and adding new statutes for a future life in the promised land. The book begins with the words *Eileh ha-d'varim*, these are the words that Moses spoke.

Many Sages point out that when Moses was first initiated into the role of God's emissary to Pharaoh, he resisted the task, claiming *Lo ish d'varim anokhi* – I am not a man of words. And yet, forty years later Moses has indeed become a man of words. In *D'varim Rabbah*, (an ancient commentary on Deuteronomy) the Rabbis explain that Moses experienced a healing of his defective tongue through learning Torah. After receiving and learning Torah for forty years, Moses himself underwent a transformation of body and soul.

The Midrash states that Moses was like a well whose pleasant water could only be drawn out little by little. The Holy One saw that Moses had the quality of faithfulness and so, repaired his tongue so that the water would flow freely and without end. It is written in Exodus 4:12, that The Holy One responded to Moses' protest saying, *V'anokhi eheyeh im pikha*, "I will be with your mouth."

God responds to Moses saying, I will be with you in your weak place, in your wounded place. God gives Moses a task that appears too challenging for him, but God reminds Moses that he will not be alone.

Continued on page 2

Upcoming Events

Extra Board of Directors Meeting

7:00 p.m., Monday, August 3

Ritual Committee Meeting

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 4

Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:00 p.m., Friday, August 7, Shapiro House

Membership Committee Meeting

4:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 12

Executive Committee Meeting

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 12

Deadline to order *Mahzor Lev Shalem*

3:00 p.m., Friday, August 14

Beginner-friendly Outdoor Yoga & Meditation

11:00 a.m., Sunday, August 16, Courtyard

ELC Sumer Day Camp

8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., August 17 - 21

Board of Directors Meeting

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 18

Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:00 p.m., Friday, August 21, Shapiro House

Education Committee Meeting

10:00 a.m., Sunday, August 23

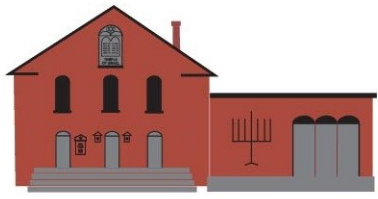
TIP Book Club

1:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 25

And After the Fire by Lauren Belfer

Sisterhood Meeting

6:00 p.m., Thursday, August 27



Rabba Kaya

(Continued from page 1)

For, as Moses is a faithful servant, so too will God be faithful to him. “I will be with your mouth,” God promises Moses to strengthen him in his weakest place.

It is often the case, that we are faced with challenges that appear beyond our capabilities. We may focus on our weakness, preferring to remain in the predictability of narrow straits - of *Mitzrayim*/Egypt, rather than venture out into a wilderness of change and new possibilities. The midrash above reveals a critical understanding of change itself. The possibility for the greatest strength is often embedded in the weakness itself. The repair of Moses’ tongue was only possible because he was willing to trust in God, to trust in his destiny. Through trust in a process greater than his own personal story, Moses’ weakness was transformed into his ultimate strength. This man of “uncircumcised lips” becomes *Moshe Rabbeinu*, Moses Our Teacher.

The *Midrash Tanchuma* states that when Moses spoke these words of Torah, *eileh ha-d’varim*, he relayed them in 70 languages for all the world to learn and understand. The Rabbis suggest that his tongue was so completely healed that his capacities for communication expanded to the whole of mankind. His personal healing allowed him to speak the language of universal truth.

As a sacred community, we are facing many challenges and confronting many opportunities for change. This is the dynamism of our times. It is full of holy potential. Let us consider that each challenge holds the potential for healing, growth, and positive transformation. The essential thing we



learn from Moses is to remain faithful to the guiding hand that supports us in every moment. Holding fast to the principles expressed in our Torah, we can lean into those solid roots, while allowing the branches of the community to express their unique beauty and blossom in new ways.

During these initial weeks as your rabbi, I am exploring a variety of ways to meet your spiritual needs within the constraints of a pandemic. These times demand new approaches for so many reasons. As we move forward, I expect to share new approaches while maintaining the comfort and stability of our traditions. Please share with me your feedback, positive or negative, as well as your needs and desires. Together, as a community guided by Jewish values and the Holy One of Being, I trust that we will not only weather the current storm but will thrive and grow in new and beautiful ways.

Ken Yehi Ratzon!

Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman



Community art project taking shape at the base of the “Hands of Hope” sculpture in the courtyard.

President's Message

Temple
Israel

Services in Prescott Park – a COVID-19 Silver Lining

During “normal” times, my family typically does not attend services on Friday evenings. I have written previously about our Shabbat dinner tradition, which has only become more solidified since the pandemic began. Not only do I make a challah each week, we also gather on Zoom with my parents and sisters to light the candles and compare our home-made challahs. Yes, now my sisters also bake challah each week. We have tried different recipes and different braids, and it is something we all look forward to doing and eating. While the first week of baking was nerve-racking, now I have the recipe memorized. We all have agreed that weekly homemade challah is a “COVID silver lining” as it is something that likely only happened because of our upside-down world.

On July 10th, we were also out of our normal Friday night rhythm as we hustled to get to Portsmouth for the first “in person” service at Prescott Park. The weather was cool and a little bit raw. We were running late. My kids had to squeeze into the tiny kid-sized lawn chairs we remembered as much larger (or maybe the kids just got that much bigger). It was slightly awkward to greet friends with masks on and to be sure we kept our distance. But the experience of praying, outside, in Prescott Park together, was truly amazing. Seagulls squawked. Boats moved with the water. Memorial Bridge was mist-shrouded and majestic. It reminded me of Friday night services at camp, overlooking the lake. Passers-by stopped and watched, unsure what they were witnessing. Though our voices were muted by the masks, we all sang together. There is something so special about praying outside, especially in such a natural space. Large bodies of water invite reflection and peace. There was also something

empowering about displaying our Judaism in public in downtown Portsmouth. Though we’ve invited the outside community to Hanukkah candle lightings in the courtyard and other interfaith ceremonies, Rabba Kaya led this Kabbalat Shabbat service just for us. It was personal, and private, and in a public space. I felt proud to be standing among our community. This experience was truly another COVID silver lining. I thought to myself, that when life returns to some sense of normalcy, we’ll have to remember how special it can be to hold an outdoor service in one of so many beautiful spots to which we have access.

As summer continues, I hope you all are experiencing your own COVID silver linings, and outdoor gatherings with friends, and beach days, and lots of ice cream. I hope to see you in person or on Zoom sometime soon.

L’shalom,

Amy Hyett

Photo / video / audio help wanted!

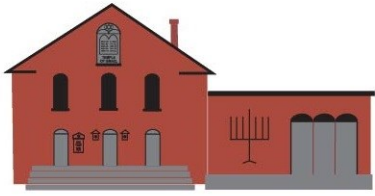
The Ritual Committee seeks help from members with photography / videography/ or A/V skills or interest to help make our outdoor programs and services accessible to those sheltering at home.

Please contact the office if you might be available to help with this effort!

Help Make Temple Israel Green!

A group is forming to improve environmental sustainability practices at Temple Israel. To join or learn more, please contact congregant Christine Caputo at christine.a.caputo@gmail.com.

All ages welcome!



In Praise of Volunteers

A View from the Office: Behind the Scenes

As *Doorpost* editor, I solicit, proofread, and format the articles sent in by a team of contributors. This month, I would like to give readers a peek “behind the scenes” at temple operations.

As you know, Temple Israel runs with a very small paid staff (clergy, teachers, the maintenance duo of Dan and Jeannie Hastie, and me), plus regular vendors like the bookkeeper, caterer, and snowplow driver. All other temple operations are conceived and implemented by volunteers who selflessly give their time and energy for the benefit of the membership—for you!

Some volunteers see themselves continuing a tradition of family service. Long-time members have shared with me how proud they are, to see what Temple Israel has become, and how they want to keep it going for the next generation. Others, newer to the community, have jumped in with fresh energy and welcome skills.

In fact, volunteers and lay leadership can be so busy “doing” that they often don’t take time for “telling,” for communicating with you, the membership, their work in progress. Let me share a few examples I’ve seen recently of how board members and other volunteers are contributing:

Joanne Samuels, sitting on the floor in the Shmooze with piles of audio equipment spread out around her, organizing and labeling mics and cables to help program leaders set up and clean up the new outdoor events.

Rachel Dennis and **Ben Martindale**, especially, wrangling all the details to secure event permits with the relevant town, city, and specific venues for the outdoor Friday night services. They’ve also kept busy managing the RSVP system, so as many

people as possible can enjoy **Rabba Kaya’s** services in person, while maintaining a safe environment for all. **David Cline** has been schlepping the gear: sound system, prayer books, hand sanitizer, and more to the venues and back.

Joyce Meenes and **Lorrie Grossman**, appearing faithfully in the office to help me with filing and mailing projects.

Steve Sacks, Financial Secretary, giving his legal expertise to review the new COVID-19 language in agreements, contracts, and waivers, along with any other matter, large or small, where his background comes in handy.

The website redesign team of **Dinah Berch**, **Fran Berman**, **Beth Salzman**, and **Margie Wachtel**, building on the original work of former webmaster **Fred Feldman**, to deliver a streamlined, crisp, and thoughtfully organized new site. I can’t praise them too highly—the elegant results you see give no hint of their massive, sustained effort behind the scenes!

Cemetery Committee members, including **Barney Share**, **Dick Grossman**, and **Cathi Cherry-Liston**, so often helping families in sad and stressful situations, very kindly and respectfully.

And your leadership—from **President Amy Hyett**, **Treasurer Amy Borne**, **President-Elect Robert Zimman**, **VPs Deborah Hirsch Mayer**, **Joanne Samuels**, and **Seth Wizwer**, to all the other board and committee members, working hard for you! The number of hours they’ve devoted to temple business over the past few months, in particular, would easily double or triple the temple’s annual budget for paid labor if they were filling out timesheets. The phone calls, the emails, the meetings... So. Many. Meetings.

(Continued on page 6)

Bulletin Board

Temple
Israel

Candle Lighting

August	7	7:39 p.m.
August	14	7:29 p.m.
August	21	7:18 p.m.
August	28	7:06 p.m.



Service Times

Tuesday **virtual service** 5:30 p.m.
Friday night 7:00 p.m.
* **Virtual and outdoor services for duration of the building closure**
Saturday morning 10:00 a.m.
* **Virtual service**

Tzedakah Committee Response to COVID-19 in our Community

The Tzedakah Committee of TIP recognizes the financial needs of congregants, local businesses, and their employees at this challenging time. We have funds to help take some pressure off of those in need. We can provide help in many forms including gift cards for food and gas as well as pay bills.

Please contact Rabba Kaya and she will pass the request on to our Committee. All requests will be held in strict confidentiality.

Mahzor Lev Shalem

Order your copies **by August 14** by contacting Heather in the office or ordering on the Temple Israel website “Donate” page.

The price of \$36 per copy includes shipping to the temple, where prayer-books will be available for pickup before the High Holidays.



Please see the article on the last page of this issue for complete details.

Rabba Kaya’s “Open Office” Hours

On Tuesdays from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Rabba Kaya is available to meet with community members outside in the temple courtyard. Make an appointment through the temple office or simply drop in.



Thank you, Volunteers

(Continued from page 4)

Your leadership and paid staff coordinate, mostly via Zoom, all details of programs, services, policies, budgets, software and other technology upgrades—every aspect of temple operations. It's not easy work, especially when people feel very strongly about how the temple should be run during this pandemic, and, as within the membership, opinions differ widely about where "safety" lies. From what I've observed, your volunteers take the community's best interests to heart and are committed to making consensus-based decisions.

I hope this description of the challenges and effort involved doesn't scare anyone away from volunteering. On the contrary, I urge you to think about what time and talent you might offer, perhaps from home with planning and organizing, or at an in-person event. Do you disagree with a decision or direction? Speak up! Join a committee! Not only will you have the chance to influence the temple's direction, but you will gain the satisfaction of seeing how much your efforts matter. I think you will also come away with a new appreciation of the energy invested by your fellow members in the community's well-being.

Temple Israel is what the members make of it. Your financial support keeps the staff paid and the A/C running (for which I thank you most sincerely!). Your time, your interest, and yes, your emails and phone calls and smiling faces on the Zoom screen, knit this community together in shared purpose. I feel very privileged to work here.

With appreciation,

Heather Tomlinson, Administrative Director

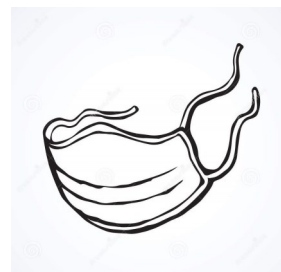
Condolences to **David Cline** on the passing of his mother, **Dorothy Cline**.

Condolences to **Jody Kahn** on the passing of her father, **Michael Kahn**.

Tech Help Offered! **Jordan Caracoglia's** bar mitzvah project involves helping the tech-challenged among us get up to speed. Need a Zoom tutorial or other tech help? Please contact the temple office for details.

Fabric Face Masks:

Congregant **Cheryl Berman** is kindly offering to make masks for community members. Please email cberman1953@gmail.com to request. Porch pickup in Rye-- no delivery or mail service available.



Thank you, Cheryl!



HELEN HANAN
REALTOR®

COLDWELL BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



(603) 334-1900 EXT. 1935 OFFICE
(917) 453-3975 MOBILE
Helen.Hanan@NEMoves.com

2 International Drive, Suite 205
Portsmouth, NH 03801
ColdwellBankerHomes.com
HelenHanan.cbintouch.com
Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC.

Early Learning Center

Temple
Israel



Tammy Labonté
Director, ELC

Shalom, everyone!

Summer Camp update:

Normally held in July, this year's ELC summer camp will run from Monday, August 17 – Friday, August 21, 2020, with daily programming from 8:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. This schedule change has given us more time to evaluate the guidance from the

NH Task Force and CDC to set up safe protocols for the ELC, indoors and out! **Spots are still available.**

During camp week, we will work with parents and students to acclimate to our new “norm” and resolve any issues before the start of school on Tuesday, September 8.

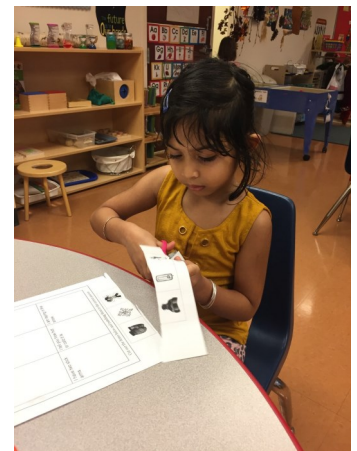
I would like to introduce several families new to the Early Learning Center this fall. Shalom and welcome to:

- Anna & Thomas Nash, daughters Rachel and Sofie
- Michael Cantor & Sajour Flemings, son Leo
- Soumya Vellate Radhakrishnan & Vijayan Velatte, daughter Ritu
- Rochel Shanowitz-Slavaticki and Rabbi Berel Slavaticki, son Mendel Slavaticki
- I would also like to welcome returning students Tully Bedrick, Blake Vessels, Joshna Venkatesh, and Hudson McCord.

I am looking forward to being back in the classroom and teaching these wonderful preschoolers!

Tammy

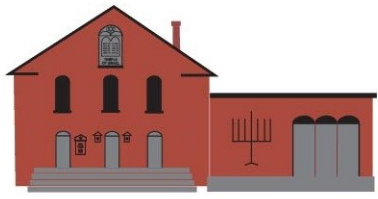
Photos from last year, below, show our students engaged with the activities we call “morning work.” Parents go to work and have a job. Children come to preschool and also have a job and work.



Registration now open for the fall 2020 - 2021 preschool program

Information about the Early Learning Center can also be found on the Temple website: www.templeisraelnh.org, or by calling Tammy Labonté at 603-380-5589 or emailing me at preschool.director@templeisraelnh.org.

The ELC is a unique preschool in the seacoast area, the only place Jewish values, traditions, and celebrations are integrated into everyday activities and learning. Due to COVID-19 mitigation, the ELC expects to limit class size next school year.



Ritual Committee

From Desolation to Determination

Despite the disruption that the coronavirus has caused in our customary seasonal rhythms – summer travel, softball games and pool parties, back-to-school shopping, Labor Day picnics, and the start of the school year – the Jewish calendar offers a comforting framework. Last week, we observed both Tisha b'Av, a fast day marking the climax of three weeks of national mourning, and Shabbat Nachamu, beginning seven weeks of comfort, bringing us to the High Holidays.

I have often had trouble relating to Tisha b'Av, interrupting glorious summer days (often when I am on vacation) to mourn the destruction of the Temple and numerous other calamities that we are told took place on this day in our history. This year, the holiday resonated deeply with me and others as we also focused on the calamity of the pandemic, grieving the loss of thousands of lives and worrying about the wellbeing of our families, communities, and the world.

This year, with the help of Zoom, I observed the holiday for the full day, not only hearing *Eikhah*, the Book of Lamentations, read on the eve of the 9th of Av, but participating in prayer and study events all through the following day. Prior to this experience, I didn't appreciate that if one observes the holiday fully, the mood shifts as the hours pass. The darkness and deep mourning expressed in the Book of Lamentations move to themes of redemption and hope as one reaches the Mincha (afternoon) service, much like the final intense prayers of Ne'ilah lead to a sense of redemption and joy as Yom Kippur ends. We move from despair and lament and wondering why to finding hope, inspiration, and courage to continue journeying forward, striving to improve ourselves and to repair our broken world.

As we move into the seven weeks of consolation, the rest of the month of Av is called *Menachem Av*, the Av of Comfort. Then, the month of Elul, which begins on August 21, invites us to prepare for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur – to begin a process of *heshbon ha-nefesh*, taking account of ourselves, reflecting on where we have

gone astray over the past year, asking whether there are people with whom we might need to make amends, to offer or ask ourselves and others for forgiveness for the ways in which we have not been the best version of our selves. Communal people that we Jews are, we must also think beyond our personal lives to see where we have fallen short in our attempts to repair brokenness in our world and how we can recommit to pursuing justice and to caring for others and for earth herself.

In the upcoming weeks of Av and Elul, Rabba Kaya, cantorial soloist Kochava Munro, the Ritual Committee, and many others in our congregation will also be working to prepare our community's observance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We will not be able to gather and celebrate as we have in the past, but we will have meaningful and joyous holidays nonetheless.

Our current plans include livestreaming services with Rabba Kaya and Kochava Munro leading us virtually while being together alone in the sanctuary. The livestream will include prerecorded video inserts of congregants reading selections in English, singing, and chanting Torah and haftarah. We are exploring where and how we might offer in-person gatherings outdoors for congregants to perform Tashlikh and hear the shofar live. We are contemplating offering smaller Zoom sessions that would allow congregants to study and/or reflect together.

We wish you a meaningful time of reflection and taking stock. And we invite you to join the High Holiday planning committee to share your ideas, time, skills, and talents to in our effort to create a joyous celebration of soul-renewal for us all. Please contact the office to let us know how you want to help!

Deborah Hirsch Mayer, VP Ritual

Donations

Temple
Israel

CULTURAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Barbara Levenson in memory of her grandparents, Barney & Bertha Levenson. Sam Winebaum in memory of his father, Sumner Winebaum. Richard Collier in memory of his mother, Beatrice Zaff.

DINNERMAN/ROTTENBERG EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Joyce & Ron Meenes in memory of their dear cousin, Gloria Turner. Peter & Jennie Dinnerman in memory of Peter's mother and father, June & Maurice Dinnerman. Stan & Rita Robbins in memory of Stan's mother, Pearl Robbins, and in memory of their cousin, Gloria Turner. Joyce & Ronald Meenes in memory of Ronald's father, Lewis Meenes.

DUES ABATEMENT FUND

Rabbi Haskell Bernat in memory of his mother, Gertrude L. Bernat. Jane LeSavoy in memory of her father, Martin Liemer. Allison Rubin in memory of her mother, Marsha Cohen.

HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

Selma Freedman in memory of her mother, Annie Klaiman, and in memory of her mother-in-law, Goldie Freedman.

INSTITUTIONAL OPERATING ENDOWMENT FUND

Nancy & Mel Alexander in memory of their friend Gloria Turner. Elaine & Shel Krasker in memory of Elaine's father, Albert Sados. Bob & Marge Goldberg in memory of Al Linden. Nancy Alexander in memory of her father, Leo Sussman. Bert & Deborah Freedman in memory of Dorothy Cline. David & Monika Olken in memory of David's father, Harry Olken. Andrew Jaffe in memory of his father, Rubin Jaffe. Bob & Judi Weisner in memory of Judi's mother, Pearl Robbins.

KIDDUSH FUND

Michael Blackman & Molly Samson in memory of Michael's parents, Anne & Herman Blackman, and in memory of Molly's parents, Helen & Edward Samson.

LANDSCAPE FUND

Joanne Samuels in memory of her parents, Bernard & June Goodman, and her grandmother, Dora Chase. Joanne Samuels in memory of Dorothy Cline.

LIBRARY FUND

Marsha Brann, Heidi, Didier, Anastasie, and Arianna in memory of Robert Brann. Joel H. Goldstein in memory of his mother, Sadie Goldstein.

TIKKUN OLAM / SOCIAL ACTION FUND

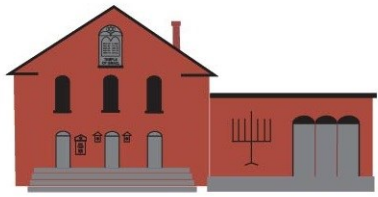
Aaron & Susan Gurwitz in memory of Rabba Kaya's father, Larry Stern. Deborah Hirsch Mayer in memory of Rabba Kaya's father, Larry Stern, z'l.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Karl Singer in memory of his father, David Singer. Jennie & Peter Dinnerman in memory of Rabba Kaya's father, Lawrence Stern. Joan Hankin in memory of her brothers, Fred Gersh and Milt Gersh, and in memory of her mother, Ida Gersh.

TZEDAKAH FUND

Julie Whitehouse. Claire & Barry Siegel in memory of Arlynn Siegel. Marcia & Andrew Baron in memory of Marcia's father, Ira M. Stone. Barbara Gutin in memory of her mother-in-law, Eva Gutin. Ellen & Bill McQueeney in memory of Rabba Kaya's father, Lawrence Stern.



Yahrzeits

August Yahrzeits

1. Samuel Bradbard, Harry Smith,
Benjamin Edelstein, Ruth Seligson,
Samuel Gilbert Kushious, Israel Bradbard
2. Sarah Spack, Alice Forman, Melvin Goodman,
Anna Zitomer, Sally Jacoby, Judy Pedell,
Sadie Rockenmacher
3. Minnie Zeidman, Fannie Gerber, Saul Berman,
Anna Segal, Hilda Kleinhandl, Max Flescher,
Sherwood Spelke, Peggy Handlen
4. Nathaniel London, Sylvia Brown, Irving Paul,
Sadie Medved
5. Ida Stone, Nathan Handler, Flori Isselbacher,
Gertrude Reinhart, Irma Dansky, Berla Mae Grant
6. Charles Katz, Zelda Wagman Harrison,
Rose Verner, Thomas Peters
7. Sylvia Collier, Arthur Saklad, Max Isacoff,
Albert Issokson
8. David Jaffe, Miriam Fox, Bruce Samuels,
Marlean Willensky
9. Rose Cohen, Laurie Schwartz, Curtis Most,
Elsia Klein Glosserman
10. Israel Belostock, Eli Brown, Max Cohen,
Raymond Newton
11. Henry Gerber, Jeannie Daniels
12. Zena Lang, Jeannette Rosenfield, Lillian Rubin,
Meyer Hiller, Bertha Wolfson Shapiro,
Bertha Stein

11 Av / 11 Elul 5780

13. Sam Wiseman, Earle Fox, Dorothy Bailey,
Saul Smokler, Irene R. Lindy, Ivor Frank,
James Troilo
14. Isaac Blankenberg, Mollie Grossman,
Alice Cohen
15. Leonard Rosenson, Benjamin Blankenberg,
William Hymanson, Eva Milton
16. Perry Sussman, Monroe Albert
17. Abram Kushious, Eli Diament, Max Goodman,
Sidney Robbins, Virginia Lipman, Pearl Edwards
18. Lewis Levine, Auxlia Marie Nye
19. Simon Shapiro
20. Kenneth L. Downs, Ethel Feldman,
Charles Cohen, Ruth Goldman, Murray Daniels
21. Beatrice Gelman, Eva Pastor
22. Ida Belostock, Estelle Ross, Cecilia Finkelstein,
Esther Weinstein, Minnie Gelman, Jordan Sandler
23. Ada Rammer, Moses Silfen, Charles Gouse,
Max Fluster, Marvin Poster, Charles Zinck
24. Baby Alkon, Annie Freedman, Samuel Gerstein,
Frank Moroze, Judah Wise, Samuel Sibulkin
25. Celia Goldman, Milton Klaiman, Michael Davis,
William Kleinhandle
26. Celia Halprin, Helen Miller, Betty Doris Kates
27. Eleanor Goodman Sorrell, Krissy Yanofsky
28. Ruth Kovnit, Abraham Isaac Feldman,

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.

Bette Weissman, Mary Nicole, George Nielsen,
Arthur Yaffee, Dyna Dykerman

29. Joseph Feitelson, Bertha Levenson,
Fannie Salloway, Herbert Kahan, Fanya Mason,
Myer Saunders, Nathan Issokson,
Samuel Goldstein

30. Philip Levine, Esther Intriligator, Harry Stein,
Frederick Lewis Diengott

31. Pauline Berlin, Bernard Winebaum,
Mary Rottenberg, Sheldon Goodman

Saying Kaddish during a time of physical

isolation: If you would like to join a “virtual” minyan to say Kaddish, you can find the schedule for live-streamed services on the temple website calendar. A prayer to say a personal Kaddish is also available; please contact the office to receive a copy via mail or email.

Announcing the Winebaum Family Endowment

The Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges the creation of the Winebaum Family Endowment, following a generous bequest from the estate of Sumner and Helen Winebaum in the fall of 2019.

It is the stated goal of the Winebaum Family Endowment to financially support the following types of programs, projects, and activities:

- Educational and cultural events and activities at Temple Israel
- Enrichment programming for the Hebrew School and Early Learning Center
- Adult education programming at Temple Israel
- Community programs originating from Temple Israel that foster knowledge, understanding, and awareness of Jewish values, traditions, and customs

The Winebaum Family Endowment Fund will be housed under the “umbrella” of the CJE Endowment Fund. Management and distribution of the funds

will take place according to the rules that govern the CJE Endowment Fund.

Helen and Sumner Winebaum were active Temple Israel Members for many years. Sumner’s “Hands of Hope” sculpture is a focal point of the garden courtyard and holds the menorah for the annual Community Candle Lighting and Prayer for Peace.



Photos from left: Helen Winebaum; Sumner Winebaum and his “Hands of Hope” sculpture



Bnei Mitzvah



Seth Berg

August 8, 2020

My name is Seth Berg. I attend Portsmouth Middle School. I enjoy playing tennis, going into downtown Portsmouth, and cooking. Judaism is important to me because it keeps me close to the community and my family.



Jordan Caracoglia

August 15, 2020

My name is Jordan Caracoglia. I attend York Middle School. I play hockey, lacrosse, and soccer, but my favorite sport is hockey. I also enjoy playing the trumpet, working with computers, and playing video games. Judaism is important to me is because it helps me learn about my family's heritage.



Matthew Grossman

August 29, 2020

My name is Matthew Grossman. I attend Heronfield Academy Middle School. I enjoy ice skating, reading, and biking. Judaism is important to me because it keeps me in touch with my heritage.



Jordana Grossman

August 29, 2020

My name is Jordana Grossman. I attend Heronfield Academy. I like figure skating, baking, and biking. Judaism is important to me because it is what connects me to my family and gives me a community.



Committee Reports

Art Review Team

We are pleased to announce that the Cultural Endowment Fund has recently approved our funding request for the third year at Temple Israel. It has been a labor of love to coordinate a variety of exhibits and related cultural/art activities for congregants and friends to enjoy. Hopefully, the upcoming year will be stimulating and fun, with important adjustments to keep us safe and in compliance with COVID-19 restrictions.

Currently on display in the Shmooze is the exhibit "Jewish Weddings," archival images from Beit Hatfutsot Museum in Tel Aviv, Israel. Plans are in the works to add smaller-format photographs taken by Temple Israel members to wall spaces now available in the Social Hall.

Looking ahead to Thursday, September 10, at 4:30 p.m., we will have a book signing and reception with Sandell Morse, author of *The Spiral Shell*, a book about "Unsung Heroes during the Holocaust era in France." Please RSVP to Heather in the office as we are limited to 20 participants. The event will take place with benefit of two tents in the Court Street parking lot and we are hoping to provide individually prepared picnic boxes with beverages.

October 18 will be an opportunity to view works including poetry, visual art, photographs, craft and writings created by congregants and friends during and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. All submissions are welcome by September 7, 2020. Please share your unique expressions!

Deborah Levine, Exhibit Coordinator

The Ritual Committee is pleased to announce

that Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman will lead two more outdoor Friday night services this summer. The services will have limited attendance to ensure safe distancing.

We are thrilled at the positive responses to the two outdoor services held in July and by the number of people who have expressed interest in attending the services in August. We are doing our best to enable as many congregants to attend as possible and to ensuring a fair way of assigning reservations if more people want to come than we can safely accommodate. Please understand and respect the reservation system.

The remaining dates/locations are:

- Friday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Shapiro House in Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth, NH
- Friday, August 21 at 7:00 p.m.: at the Shapiro House in Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth, NH

The details are as follows:

- Each service is limited to 40 people.
- Parking is available in the temple lot.
- You will need to bring your own chair or blanket to sit on.
- In case of inclement weather, the service will be cancelled and not rescheduled.
- Bathrooms at Strawberry Banke will NOT be available due to their COVID-19 precautions.
- The service will last one hour.
- Masks must be worn.
- Seating must be 6 feet apart except for members living in the same household.
- The services will be livestreamed on Facebook.
- Siddurim will be provided.
- Amplification will be used.
- A reservation is mandatory
- You will receive a confirmation email to let you know which service(s) you may attend.
- Reservations, the wearing of masks and the placement of chairs/blankets will all be carefully monitored.

"Dues Plus"

Temple
Israel

Introducing "Dues Plus": A New Way to Help Sustain Your Temple Israel Community

The membership renewal packet you receive will include a new opportunity to contribute to the health and well-being of the Temple Israel community: Dues Plus, a voluntary pledge to pay a higher level of dues.

The basic dues structure — which is based primarily on the number of children and adults in a household — will not change. Another thing that will not change is that members who cannot pay their dues in full may make a confidential request for a dues adjustment. Many dues adjustments are granted each year, with few questions asked. That's because the cost of dues should never be a barrier to an individual or family becoming or remaining a Temple Israel member. (We anticipate that in the coming year, adjustment requests may increase as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on people's incomes.)

The Dues Plus model — based on a practice that was successful at Rabbi Korinow's previous shul in Haverhill and elsewhere — acknowledges that *just as paying the full dues amount is challenging for some people, paying the full amount or more is no hardship for others*. The Dues Plus model provides a way for those who are financially able to offset the adjustments requested by other members. In this way, the synagogue can hope to raise the full amount budgeted for income from member dues without introducing an income-based sliding scale and the loss of privacy that would come with that.

In all cases, whether a member pays the set dues amount, requests an adjustment, or chooses to participate in Dues Plus and pay more, amounts paid are confidential. This reflects the fact that

every member of Temple Israel is needed, important, and equally valued. We are one community, and we are stronger together!

Please look for more information about Dues Plus in your renewal paperwork and consider participating if you can. Meanwhile, if you have questions or comments about this new program, please write to Membership@TempleIsraelNH.org.

Re-Imagining Committee update

The committee's plan for reopening the building in stages, tied to publicly available community and state COVID-19 metrics, is being reviewed by the board of directors prior to rollout to the membership.

- Outdoor services and programs have been well-attended and also available via live-stream to those who feel safer at home.
- Thanks to all for respecting the RSVP process and complying with mask-wearing and other safety measures.
- An outdoor event planning form will be released with a checklist of safety protocols and supplies.

Committee members include Amy Hyett, Amy Lester, Jeff Salloway, Rabba Kaya Stern-Kaufman, Joanne Samuels, Ben Martindale, Ryan Kaplan, Robert Zimman, and Heather Tomlinson.

Sibson - Hall Monument Co.

Memorials, Markers, Lettering
Cleaning and Repairs

John A Hall

1950 Lafayette RD.
suite 106 box 6
Portsmouth, N.H. 03801

603 436 3377
1 800 550 3377
• nwgranite@hotmail.com



TIP Book Club—August



This month, the book club will be reading *And After the Fire* by Lauren Belfer. Please join us for a lively discussion!

The National Jewish Book Award Winner and *New York Times* - bestselling author of *A Fierce Radiance* and *City of Light*, Lauren Belfer, returns with a new powerful and passionate novel—inspired by historical events—about two women, one European and one American, and the mysterious choral masterpiece by Johann Sebastian Bach that changes both their lives.

Temple Israel Portsmouth Board of Directors

Amy Hyett, President
David Bachrach, Immediate Past President
Bob Zimman, President-Elect
Joanne Samuels, VP House
Seth Wizwer, VP Education
Deborah Hirsch Mayer, VP Ritual
Beth Salzman, Recording Secretary
Steve Sacks, Financial Secretary
Amy Borne, Treasurer
Tobey Harman, Director
Marc Hiller, Director
Rachel Kurshan, Director
Amy Lester, Director
Mel Prostkoff, Director
Ira Schwartz, Director
Julie Serrano, Director



Temple Israel

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

OFFICE HOURS

August, 2020: Please call or email to make an appointment for building access.



Proud member of USCJ

Mahzor Lev Shalem!

This past year we decided replace our old, increasingly frayed prayer books with *Siddur Lev Shalem*, providing us with a contemporary prayer book that uses more gender-sensitive language and includes more transliteration and more modern commentaries. For the High Holidays we plan to use the companion volume, *Mahzor Lev Shalem*. The Rabbinical Assembly will make PDFs of the mahzor available to download for free. You may choose to print the pages or to view them on your computer screens while attending our Zoom/livestreamed services.

We would like to encourage you to consider purchasing one or more copies of the actual mahzor for your households. They are currently on sale but because shipping charges for copies sent to individual addresses are very high, copies may be ordered through the temple and picked up prior to the holidays. We will be using this mahzor for years to come, so families that buy them can plan on bringing their own mahzor to services in the future – or donate them to the temple once the pandemic is over and we can safely share prayer books again. In due time, we hope that the temple will be buy copies to have on hand, but that may happen only gradually given other financial challenges that our shul community is facing. You can learn more about the mahzor here: <https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/resources-ideas/lev-shalem-series/mahzor-lev-shalem>.

Orders can be placed **by August 14** by contacting Heather in the office or ordering on the TIP website “Donate” page. The price of \$36 per copy includes shipping to the temple.