

Temple Israel Doorpost

May 2020

From the Rabbi's Study...

Dear Chaverim,

As we remain in isolation, practicing physical distancing and remaining in our homes except to make necessary trips to the supermarket or pharmacy, we are all waiting to hear what our next steps will be toward some semblance of normalcy. These past many weeks have been fraught with uncertainty and are surely something that none of us has ever experienced previously in our lifetime. These weeks and perhaps months will be a defining time not only in our lives but also in the lives of our children and grandchildren. The pandemic of 2020 will be something they will be telling their children

Continued on page 2

Mitigating Coronavirus Spread

A committee has been formed to plan our gradual re-opening as circumstances permit. Meanwhile,

- The building is closed to non-essential business; door fob access is disabled. To make an appointment for entry, please contact the office.
- Committee meetings and regular services will be held virtually. Please check the weekly bulletin header for Zoom links, and the "Live Stream Options" page on the temple website for details.
- Hebrew School, ELC classes, adult education, and other group activities continue on a "remote learning" model.
- Temple office business continues through telework while in-person hours are reduced.
 Voicemail messages and emails are checked regularly. Thank you for your patience.

Iyar / Sivan 5780



TIP Book Club 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 5, virtual meeting *The Paris Architect* by Charles Belfoure

2020 - 2021 Budget Discussion

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 5 * Please contact the office for Zoom link

Annual Meeting

6:30 p.m., Monday, May 11, virtual meeting * Zoom pre-registration needed; please contact the office if you did not receive an email.

Executive Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 13

Education Committee Meeting 11:30 a.m., Sunday, May 17

Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 19

The Temple Office will be CLOSED Monday, May 25, Memorial Day

Ritual Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 26, virtual meeting

Shavuot Morning Service (includes Yizkor) 9:30 a.m., Friday, May 29

Hebrew School Convocation 10:00 a.m., Sunday, May 31

* Mitzvah Day is being rescheduled (originally planned for May 31)



Rabbi's Message

(Continued from page 1)

and grandchildren about.

The news each night tells us the latest count - how many new cases of COVID-19 have been reported that day and sadly, how many more deaths have occurred that day. Families in our community



have lost loved ones to the coronavirus. Most of us know someone who was ill from it and, unfortunately, many of us know people who have succumbed to it. I have lost several colleagues in the rabbinate and have heard from other rabbis of loved ones in their own family and others in their communities who have died from the virus. We all wish we could count on a specific time when this nightmare will end.

Speaking of counting... counting has a specific role in Judaism. As part of our daily prayers, we are currently counting each day during this season. The period between Passover and Shavuot is known as Sefirat ha-Omer, the counting of the omer, a measure of grain in biblical days. As I have written before in this column, counting these days has a unique characteristic. Rather than counting down, as before the launching of a rocket into space or as children (and often teachers, too!) will count down the number of days to the end of the school year, we count UP to Shavuot. The rabbis tell us that when it comes to anything sacred, we always increase in number and never decrease. Hence, we begin on the second night of Passover by saying, "This is the first day of the Omer" and then on the next night, we say, "This is the second day of the Omer" and so on up through 49 days with the 50th being Shavuot,

z'man matan Torah, the festival on which we celebrate receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai.

I wish that we knew how many days we will need to count until the end of this pandemic, but deep in our hearts, we know there is currently no answer. But we do need to count on those who are working untold hours to find a medication with which to treat those with the virus and a vaccine to help prevent it from becoming another pandemic in the future. Even in this difficult time, we need to count our blessings and express our gratitude:

• For being part of a community with loving, caring members

• For being part of a community where Jewish values guide the way we live

• For living at a time when technology and medicine give those afflicted a chance to live longer

I conclude this message with the same words as last month's message. May the words attributed to the Christian theologian Reinhold Niebuhr in "The Serenity Prayer" continue to be our guide:

"May God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

And may these days of counting bring us closer to a better time when we can once again be physically together and embrace one another!

L'shalom,

Rabbi Ira Korinow

President's Message

Jemple Israel

We're having a Zoom Bat Mitzvah!

I don't always know what I am going to write about in this monthly column, but I have anticipated May 2020 for some time. My plan was to write about our community's approach to bnei mitzvah celebrations, my hopes to shift our community culture a little bit, and to finish by inviting you all to my daughter Kayla's bat mitzvah on May 16. Then the world turned upside down. However, I will forge ahead as we all are doing these weeks. Bear with me!

Our community has a quirky trait from which I hope we can move away: Many members feel that they are not welcome at a Shabbat morning service with a bar/bat mitzvah celebration unless they receive a formal invitation. Some families have gone to the inconvenient step of printing two invitations: one for services and a celebration afterward for invited guests, and another version for services and kiddush only for community members. This odd practice does not exist outside of TIP. Growing up, my dad was much more excited to go to services when there was a bar mitzvah, not only because he would get to experience the joy of watching a young man or woman join the adult Jewish community, but also because he anticipated enjoying the more robust kiddush luncheon afterward!

The reason we celebrate this *simcha* on Shabbat morning is so the bat or bar mitzvah celebrant can be welcomed into Jewish adulthood by their entire community, including Hebrew school teachers and all the adults and families who gather for Shabbat services or at Purim, Simchat Torah, and so many other holidays and events through the year. Of course, it is wonderful for friends and family outside of our community to join our celebration too, but it is the synagogue community to which this young Jewish adult will hopefully return week after week after their bar/bat mitzvah ceremony is long past. I hope that when we can once again worship together in the sanctuary, all community members will feel welcome and even expected to attend Shabbat morning services when there is a simcha to celebrate.

In early April, our family wrestled with the decision to postpone Kayla's bat mitzvah celebration from May to October, a process that included stages of grief including denial, anger, sadness, and finally, resignation. Kayla, however, felt strongly that May 16 was her date and she wanted to have her bat mitzvah that day in whatever way she could. We resolved to go forward with a service held via Zoom. While we are still working through the details, this is clearly not going to be the traditional service Kayla was hoping to lead and experience. We are thankful that we are able to use technology in this way and that all of our friends and family can participate. And we are proud of Kayla, not only for the hard work and dedication she has shown up through this moment, but also for dealing with her disappointment and sadness by being flexible and resilient.

We are hoping that many members of our community will join us on May 16 on Zoom for Kayla's simcha (a link will be included in the weekly bulletin header). What would the founders of Temple Israel say if they heard that a thirteen year-old girl was becoming a bat mitzvah at Temple Israel via the internet? Rabbi Ira and Deborah Hirsch Mayer are helping plan what we hope will be a modified but meaningful Shabbat morning service. Please join Kayla, and a week later, Miles Borne for his bar mitzvah, also via Zoom. Going forward, let's show all our youth how their community supports them!

L'shalom, Amy Hyett



Ritual Committee

I'm writing this column on April 26, the 17th day of the *Omer*. The *Omer* is the 7-week, 49-day period beginning on the second night of Pesach and concluding the day before Shavuot. The word omer means sheaf and refers to the sheaves of grain that were brought to the Temple in Jerusalem as directed in the Torah in Leviticus chapter 23: 15-16 which will be read in two weeks on Shabbat *Emor: You shall count from the eve of the second day of Pesach, when an omer of grain is to be brought as an offering, seven complete weeks. The day after the seventh week of your counting will make fifty days and you shall present a new meal offering to God."*

Originally the counting of the omer was about this agricultural timeline. At Pesach, the people were seeing the initial fruits of their planting – barley was the first grain to be harvested. They traveled to the Temple and brought sheaves of barley to celebrate and give thanks that the crops were coming in. The weeks that followed were fraught. If there was too much rain or not enough, vermin or crop-devouring insects, they would not have food to eat. With good growing weather and luck, seven weeks later, the harvest would be at its peak with ample crops of wheat and the other six species of grain, enough to feed people for months to come. At that time, the people made a second pilgrimage to the Temple again bringing sheaves of grain as offerings to God. This second pilgrimage and celebratory festival was called Shavuot, which means "weeks."

Jewish holidays tend to have several layers of meaning: a tie to the agricultural cycle, an historical significance, and a spiritual component. Shavuot began as a celebration of the full harvest of spring crops. Over time, the holiday became associated with the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai and the counting of the omer developed meaning as a connection between Pesach and Shavuot.

At Pesach, the Haggadah tells us that we are obligated to experience the Exodus from Egypt as if we were there ourselves. Similarly, on Shavuot we are not simply to recall that the Torah was given to the Israelites, but to experience the revelation at Sinai ourselves. When the Torah is read on Shavuot, we stand for the reading of the Ten Commandments in order to reenact that moment. The Israelites left Egypt as a motley multitude of slaves. Life in Egypt was harsh, but they knew what to expect. They had shelter, food, and much work to do under grueling conditions. Once they crossed the Red Sea, they were free. But freedom brought uncertainty and insecurity. They did not know where they would make their camp, where their food or water would come from or where they were going. We are told that they wandered for forty years so that the former slaves would die out and a new generation with a different mindset and stronger capabilities would be in the majority. At Sinai, the Israelites became a nation with laws (613 of them!) to guide their behavior and provide norms for their new communal life as a people.

In Hebrew, the word for Egypt is *Mitzrayim*, which means from the narrows. Our ancestors came out of a narrow place and emerged into the expanse of the desert and freedom. As contemporary Jews, in order to find meaning in Pesach and the seven-week journey to Shavuot, we may contemplate what enslaves us in our lives. What *hametz* – stale habits, possessions, ways of being – encumber us and what might we dedicate ourselves to leaving behind as we travel from our personal narrow places to spaces of greater freedom, creativity, and joy? Counting the days from Pesach to Shavuot can serve as a way of noting progress on personal goals one sets as Pesach and spring begin.

This year, counting the *omer* has taken on greater significance for many people. Like the Israelites wandering in the desert, we have lost our regular routines. Feeding ourselves has become more difficult, requiring careful planning, flexibility, and doing without comforts to which we are accustomed. Many of us are having trouble remembering what day it is because the days seem like an endless blur without our usual activities to help us mark time. Celebrating Shabbat can help us mark time. Counting the *omer* can too.

The 33rd day of the *Omer* is a minor Jewish holiday called *Lag Ba-omer*, which falls this year on May 12. The word *lag* comes from the Hebrew letters *lamed* and *gimel* which together form the number 33.

Bulletin Board

Jemple Israel

Can	d	e Z	bighting
М	ay	1	7:27 p.m.
М	ay	8	7:35 p.m.
М	ay	15	7:42 p.m.
Μ	ay	22	7:49 p.m.
М	ay	29	7:56 p.m.
Service Times			
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(Continued from page 4)

Here is a link with instructions for counting the *omer*: https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/how-to-count -the-omer/

You can make your own counter, download an app on your phone, or use the one at right, created every year by artist Rabbi Jonathan Kremer (full-size PDF available for download at: http://www.templeisraelnh.org/wp-content/ uploads/Kremer-Omer-Counter-2020-5780.pdf).

I also discovered the following article by Rabbis Sharon Barr Skolnik and Hillel Skolnik who have created a prayer and practice based on the counting of the *omer*, for counting days in quarantine or lockdown during the



אָפָירַת הָעֹמֶר תש״פ KREMER OMER COUNTER 5780



coronavirus plague. https://www.myjewishlearning.com/ article/counting-the-solitude/

To learn more about *Lag Ba-omer*, see: https:// www.myjewishlearning.com/article/lag-baomer/

Wishing you a meaningful journey through the wilderness and happy counting!

Bivriyut (in health),

Deborah Hirsch Mayer, VP Ritual



Hebrew School

Shalom everyone, and happy May,

which coincides with the Hebrew month of Iyar and the first week of Sivan.

The month of April has been a tremendous month of learning for the Hebrew School, children and adults alike. Yes, we learned about Pesach, counting of the *omer*, and *Lag Ba-omer*, as well as *Yom HaShoah* and *Yom Hazikaron*, and finally joyous *Yom Ha'atzmaut*. All on Zoom of course! But more importantly, it has been a time to learn about ourselves and each other:

- The capacity that we have for adapting to circumstances beyond our control and for learning about new technology in order to continue to teach, learn, and stay in touch.
- The capacity that we have for patience: Kudos to tech-savvy students, from the youngest to the oldest, who counseled their teachers in how to "mute," "share screens," and "admit participants," to Zoom meetings without once rolling their eyes!
- The capacity that we have for kindness: Shout outs to parents who sent messages of thanks and encouragement, and who offered to help teachers and one another in all kinds of ways!

At Passover we ask: *Mah nishtanah*— why is this night different than the others? In years to come, our grandchildren will ask: Why and how was the year 2020 / 5780 different than all other years? And, boy, will we have memories to share with them!

ZOOMING into May: The Hebrew School will continue in remote learning mode through the end of May. We will continue to count the *omer* and learn about Shavuot.



Our Israeli *shlicha*, Avia, will be offering weekly, age-appropriate and fun youth programs on Zoom, for 1st through 12th graders (see page 11). If you know of any teens who are not currently involved in the Hebrew School, do let them know about this. In these days when the children don't have easy access to their Jewish friends or family, and might not have Jewish summer camp, this is a wonderful opportunity to keep them Jewishly connected. Thank you to Avia Sagron for caring about our children and creating these wonderful programs!

Hebrew School Convocation will be on May 31st, on Zoom. We will say our good-byes, we will give thanks to each other for a good year, and to Rabbi Ira for his guidance during the past two years.

As always, please feel free to call or email me at 603-969-2984 or email me at EGT9@aol.com.

I wish you all continued good health.

L'shalom,

Elian Tackeff, Head of School

Early Bearning Center

Jemple Israel



Tammy Labonté Director, ELC

A typical preschool day schedule consists of arrival, morning work, free play and one-on-one work, group/circle time, then outside/ gross motor time, lunch, and departure. Since March 20, we have been holding Virtual Preschool, meeting as a class via Zoom, Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

Due to the "Stay at home" order, the children have lots of free play and gross motor time (weather allowing), so Elian and I are replicating group/circle time during our virtual preschool sessions.

Each Monday I email families individual work for their student(s), including language and alphabet work, counting and basic math concepts, fine and gross motor skill work, practical life (tasks that students can do to help mom and dad around the house), basic science or virtual tour, and a craft project.

We spent time in March and April learning about Moses, some of the plagues (the frog plague is always popular), and the Exodus from Egypt. We read PJ Libraryprovided books about the traditions of a Passover Seder. The students had a few days off to celebrate Passover with their families.

I hope all of you had a happy Passover!

We will continue virtual preschool through June 5, the scheduled end of the school year.



Learning the alphabet while parking cars at home!

Shalom, Tammy

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. Jewish holidays are woven into the curriculum along with language arts, science, math, art, music, and movement. We provide numerous enrichment activities within the classroom and community.





Committee Reports

Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates for 2020 Election to Board of Directors

The election of board members will take place at the annual meeting on May 11, 2020.

The open positions are:

◊ President-elect (officer position)

At-large director (4 positions open; 3 incumbents are seeking reelection)

Officers serve two-year terms (2020 - 2022) and directors serve three-year terms (2020 - 2023). The duties of each position are set forth in the TIP bylaws. (To obtain a copy, please contact the temple office.) The bylaws require that candidates for officer positions must have been a member in good standing of TIP for at least one year prior to assuming office.

Names can be submitted either by interested candidates themselves or by members wanting to nominate someone. The names of eligible candidates will be submitted to the membership at the annual meeting.

Names of all nominees, as well as any questions, should be sent to either Steve Sacks (<u>stevenrsacks@gmail.com</u>) or Marc Hiller (<u>marc.hiller@unh.edu</u>) of the Nominating Committee.

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 <u>christine.a.caputo@gmail.com</u>.

All ages welcome!

Tzedakah Committee

The Tzedakah Committee is available to provide you with limited short-term support during difficult times.

Please notify Rabbi Korinow if you need assistance for food, medicine, or help with a bill. He will forward your request in confidence to the Tzedakah Committee.

Art Review Team: Call for Family Photos and Artwork

In preparation for our next exhibit, "Honoring Unsung Heroes of the Holocaust Era," the Art Review Team is accepting photos encompassing joy and sadness: photos of family members and friends who perished during the Holocaust as well as wedding photos from the 1920s to present. Temple Israel members are encouraged to contribute photos (copies are fine) of their own weddings, or of family members (parents, grandparents, etc.). If you do not have an available wall frame, we have twenty frames kindly donated by Elissa Kaplan Senter (most are 8" x 10," can be matted or un-matted). Photos can be posted to the private Temple Israel Chaverim Facebook group and printed in the office.

Please contact Heather in the office if you would like to participate.

There is a separate exhibit of large-format prints of historical wedding images from the Beit Hatfutsot Museum in Tel Aviv, affirming Jewish survival and joy during and after times of crisis.

Donations

Temple Israel

CULTURAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Bernice Richman in memory of her mother, Rose Richman. Nancy & Mel Alexander. Naomi Fishbein in memory of Al Linden. Karl & Paula Singer in memory of Al Linden. Michael Berman in memory of Al Linden. Maggie & Ian Rubin in memory of Al Linden. Adina Linden in memory of Al Linden. Fran & Sig Westerman in loving memory of Al Linden. "Al was a very special person as well as a very good friend."

DUES ABATEMENT FUND

Rita Benjamin in memory of her brother, Louis Emmer.

DINNERMAN/ROTTENBERG EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Barbara Fox in memory of her mother, Sarah Borwick. Joyce and Ron Meenes in memory of Al Linden. Jonathan and Wendy Linden in memory of Allen Linden and with thanks to Rabbi Korinow.

HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

The Rubin family in memory of Lillie Sorkin, Michael's grandmother and Hannah, Allyson, and Lily's great-grandmother. Gail Bradbard in memory of Norris Bendetson. Gail Spaien in memory of her father, Al Spaien. Selma Freedman in memory of Allen Linden.

INSTITUTIONAL OPERATING ENDOWMENT FUND

The Sakelarios family in memory of Judith Kramer, beloved mother and grandmother. Al & Marlene Rubin in memory of Al Linden, "a dear and brilliant man."

KIDDUSH FUND

Myra Promer and family in memory of Allen Linden. Myrna Promer and family in memory of Eleanor Levy Packer.

LIBRARY FUND

Barbara Fein in memory of her mother, Tillie Fein. Paula & Karl Singer in memory of Paula's father, Harold McCrensky. John, Pam, and David Lowy in loving memory of Allen B. Linden. Susan Evans & Peter Clarke in memory of Allen Linden. The Glater family with thanks to Rabbi Ira Korinow for his kindness and support. Adina Linden in memory of her father-in-law, Sam Linden.

PRAYERBOOK FUND

Fran Berman in memory of Al Linden. Karen Mott in memory of her parents, Lloyd and Ursula Gage. Phyllis, Warren, and Robert Heilbronner, in memory of Allen Linden, "with appreciation of his devotion to weekly Shabbat services as the heart of Jewish observance." Lorrie & Dick Grossman in memory of Al Linden.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Naomi Fishbein in memory of her brother-in-law, Jerome Fishbein. Don & Tobey Harmon in memory of their daughter, Danielle Harman, and in memory of Tobey's mother, Mildred Friedman. Linda Tober in memory of her husband, Edward Tober. Amy Feitelson in memory of her brother, Melvyn Feitelson

TZEDAKAH FUND

Rachel Dennis in memory of her mother, Ruth Dennis. Barry & Claire Siegel in memory of their cousin, Beverly Tobin, and in memory of Barry's mother, Anna Siegel. Burt Wolf in memory of his mother, Mollie Wolf. Cynthia Freedman and Marcia Blacker in memory of their grandfather, Barney Freedman, and in memory of their father, Max Freedman. Maggie Jalbert. Valerie Glauser. Rabbi Ira Korinow and Sally Bock. Claudia Leblanc. Renee and Gary Levy in memory of Al Linden. David Cline in memory of Allen Linden. Deborah Hirsch Mayer in memory of Al Linden.



Yahrzeits

May Yahrzeits

1. Bessie Rosenbloom, Ida Cooper, Harry Singer, Ursula Gage, Lloyd Gage, James Dieterich, Grace Turner

2. Hyman Berlin, Jackson Pastor, Douglas Hamilton

3. Esther London, Sarah Fisher, Lillian Hirsch, Herbert Turner, Louis Weinstein, Andrea Jean Rudl, Rose Singer

4. Charles Zitomer

5. Morton Nannis, Tillie Spaien, Bernard A. Black, Nathan Balansky, Evelyn M. Miller, Michael S. Shine Anna Kessler Krasnoff

6. Ida Karpman, Nathan Neyer, Eugene Barbehenn, Harriet Gorski, Murray Cowen, Ida Fox

7. Rose Lisagor, Benjamin Karpman

8. David Scheen, Miriam "Mickey" Allen, Rose Levy

9. Eva Weisner, Jean Mittelman, Betty Feffer, Mark Freedman, Fannie Belostock, Ruth Karol, Sadie Goldstein Byer, Ed Tober, Joseph Tober

10. Samuel Small, Kenneth Fleisher, Charles Gorman, Louis Shamesman, Milton Manin, Marc Rothstein

11. Doris Jacobs, Morris Coles, Sumner Berenson

12. Annette Task, Helen Naparsteck, Dora Rosenfeld, Melvyn Feitelson, Herman Fink, Louis Schwartz, Honey Shaines, Morris Isenstein

13. Arthur Schwartz

14. Abraham Seltzer, Sam Linden, Leo Levy, Michelle Offenberg, Brenda Gibbs

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15. Ida Gersh, Manashe Polimar, Lilian White, Sydney Cantor, Walter Bailey, Shirley Cooper

16. Max Greenberg, Shirley Vaughn, Harry Winebaum, Melba Meister, Robert Fisher, Leonard Berenson, Irvin Lavine

17. Walter Mayer Sr., Benjamin Babson, Alexander Talis

18. Samuel Klaye, David Tober, Donald Albion

19. Joseph Kernberg, Julius Applebaum,

20. Dora Levine, Elbert Lafargue, Molly Cook, Fannie Sharansky

21. Goldi Saitz, Irving Landes, Richard Nye, Jr.

22. Mildred Levy, Rose Steinberg, Marshall Derby, Beryle Grant, Russell Levenson

23. Mollie Fisher, Harry Portman, Benjamin A. Weiner

24. Gertrude Baer, Louis Pearlman, Sylvia Zack, Ryan Hennessey

25. Moses Nannis, Morris Green, Cecelia Woolfson, Jack Grossman, Johanna Baer, Rose Goren, Abraham Portman

26. Sandra Rosen, Abraham Alpers, Anne Stack, Bernard Kornhauser

27. Esther Liberson, Howard Kaufman

28. Zelda Parker, Samuel Shapiro, Herbert Siegal, Laurel Silverman, Israel Louis Cohen

When you are observing a family member's *vahrzeit*, 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.

Yahrzeits, continued

Temple Israel

29. Alexander Zabin, Solomon Milechman, Abraham Kurtz, Samuel Lockman, George Sibulkin, Susan Fine

30. Benjamin Cohen, Hana Haritonova, Molly Silverman, Hans Heilbronner, Stuart Boughton

31. Joseph Wiseman, Isadore Rosenfeld, Samuel Fishman, Beatrice Wehrwein

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. Click the "Live Stream Options" button on the home page. A prayer to say a personal Kaddish is also available, listed in the "Additional Resources" section.

Temple Israel Book Club - June

All This Could Be Yours by Jami Attenberg



Please join us on **Tuesday**, **June 2, at 1:00 p.m.** for the next meeting of a new book club. We usually meet in the Shmooze on the first Tuesday of each month to discuss the monthly selection. Upcoming titles are viewable on the temple website calendar.

Links to virtual meetings may be found in the header of the Friday bulletin email.

If you have any questions, please email Jill White at jillrobert1@gmail.com.

NH Slicha Avia Sagron is offering new online programs for kids and youth! To sign up, please go to https://forms.gle/35x8b5MeTpyzbeeKA





Bnei Mitzvah



Kayla Hyett, Saturday, May 16

My name is Kayla Hyett. I attend North Hampton School. I enjoy dancing, spending time with my family, doing outdoor activities, and going to Jewish overnight camp. I am proud to pass down Jewish holidays and traditions. I love to learn, and Judaism provides constant opportunities for learning and personal growth.



Miles Borne, Saturday, May 23

My name is Miles Borne. I attend the Heronfield Academy in Hampton Falls. I enjoy playing soccer, basketball, lacrosse, swimming, running, cooking, and playing the flute. Judaism is important to me because our traditions keep me special, it keeps me close to my family and sleepaway camp friends, and I enjoy cooking special food.

In Our Community

Temple Israel

ZOOM Etiquette:

While conducting services and meetings on Zoom, we want our prayer and time together to continue with our usual warmth and decorum. If during a Zoom, you need to tend to children, pets, or other needs, please turn off your audio and video; turn them back on when your background is quiet. We welcome your attendance and look forward to seeing you.



Siddur Lev Shalem Prayerbooks

Regretfully, the prayerbook dedication service for the congregation has been postponed. However, Siddur Lev Shalem publisher The Rabbinical Assembly has kindly made free PDF selections available to us for the duration of the coronavirus pandemic response. Links may be found on the temple website, "Live Stream Options" page, under Rabbi Ira Korinow's "Davenology 101" class listings.

Photos of recent Seacoast scenes





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In Our Community

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Zooming to Freedom: Temple Israel's Virtual Seder

On Thursday, April 9, more than forty congregants and friends gathered online to celebrate the second night of Pesach at a virtual community Seder led by Cantor Naomi Hirsch.



Participants enjoyed an engaging and dynamic Seder,

complete with "breakout rooms" for small-group discussions.

Cantor Hirsch reported that she was touched by the warmth and openness of the participants, especially given the distance between Philadelphia and Portsmouth, as well as meeting the participants for the first time in virtual reality. "The shared experience created a lot of joy," she reflected.

Difficult times call upon us to adapt and grow, develop new skills, and learn new lingo. To quote Mel Prostkoff, "Hag Zoomeiach!"

Many thanks to Cantor Hirsch and Deborah Hirsch Mayer for their thoughtful preparation. Kudos to Zoom moderators Christine Caputo and Ben Martindale, who worked behind the scenes both in advance and during the event to keep technical glitches to a minimum. And warm appreciation for the participants willing to follow such a traditional celebration into cyberspace!

Welcome to returning member Ruthie Spiero of Portsmouth.

Condolences to Norma Lesser on the passing of her sister, Jody Neyer.

Condolences to Adina Linden on the passing of her husband, Allen Linden.

Condolences to Steve Sacks on the passing of his mother, Mona Sacks.

Condolences to Marjorie Levy Beck on the passing of her sister, Eleanor Levy Packer.

Tech Help Offered! Jordan Caracoglia's Bar Mitzvah project involves helping the techchallenged 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!



Art Review Team

Temple Israel

First, we would like to let you know that, thanks to Temple Israel's Cultural Endowment Fund, we have acquired additional "nail-less" hanging systems for the Shmoozatorium and Social Hall. We have ample exhibit space and look forward to showcasing the creative efforts of congregants and others.

Currently, there is a display in the Shmooze of archival photographs of "Jewish Weddings" (1940's - 1970's) from the Beit Hatfutsot Museum in Israel.



These images show the resilience and joy of the Jewish people, in line with the theme of the event "An Evening of Remembrance -Unsung Heroes of the Holocaust Era" that was to have taken place on new date is

Wedding of fencing champion Alfredplace onNobel and Violetta Nagel in Budapest,April 23. TheHungary, 1941new date is

September 9, 2020. (Hopefully, COVID-19 safeguards will be in place, allowing for "in-person" attendance). Congregants are invited to contribute their own wedding photos to add to this exhibit.

Artists in all media, including photographers, writers, and craftspeople, may be producing some interesting work during and in response to COVID-19. Some of us are gardening or making colorful masks to donate to those in need. Others are



Found on a beach walk.

working on projects we were too busy to do before this period of "sheltering in place." Many now have more time to take walks and observe the wonders of the natural world. It is quieter and the air is clearer these days. The earth seems to be breathing easier. Our senses have re-awakened. We may appreciate things that we were previously too busy or preoccupied to notice.

Call for art!

We are planning an eclectic exhibit of creative works done during the COVID-19 pandemic. Work can be submitted beginning in June. Please contact Heather Tomlinson in the Temple Israel office to make arrangements for drop-off. The exhibit opening is scheduled for Sunday October 18, 2020, from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Stay healthy and safe,

Deborah Levine,

Art Review Team Coordinator



Springtime at the Temple

There's so little foot traffic that birds are building a nest over the door to the Shmoozatorium. Flowers burst into bloom: rabbits and squirrels are busy in the courtyard garden.

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Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Temple Israel

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

OFFICE HOURS

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



Proud member of USCJ

Registration now open for fall 2020 - 2021 Preschool

ELC Director Tammy Labonté is asking *Doorpost* readers for help promoting our preschool program when the usual means aren't possible.

Could you consider reaching out to friends, colleagues, and neighbors with preschool-age children (2.9 months to 6 years old) to see if they attend a preschool program?

While keeping your physical distance, perhaps you could make a phone call, send an email, or post about our school on your social network. If you use Facebook, please "like" the Early Learning Center's page and share it with your friends. If you have an Instagram account, follow us at the earlylearningcenternh (yes, all one word).

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 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. Jewish holidays are woven into the curriculum along with language arts, science, math, art, music, and movement. We provide numerous enrichment activities within the classroom and community.