

The Doorpost

Temple Israel

Monthly Newsletter

October 2020, Tishrei - Heshvan 5781



Harvesting our Blessings

Sukkot, like the beloved child, has many names. Hag HaSukkot: Festival of booths, Hag Ha-Asif: Harvest Festival, Z'man Simhateinu- The Time of our Joy. How are all of these names and themes connected?

Immediately after the strenuous inner work of Yom Kippur, we are commanded to engage our bodies in an act of building a sacred space. That is to say, now that we have tended to a rebuilding of the inner life, let us immediately engage in a re-fashioning of our world. Let us build a space that represents our relationship with our Source, one that reflects humility and Divine support. After the inner harvest of Yom Kippur, let us recognize our blessings and give thanks for the physical harvest. On Sukkot we build and gather and bless.

Our Sukkah reminds us that buildings of brick and mortar only create the illusion of security. The



frailty of the Sukkah itself challenges us to face the fragility of life while at the same time focuses our attention

Continued on page 2

Upcoming Events

Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat/Sukkot Service

5:30 pm Friday, October 2, Shapiro House, Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth

Outdoor Sukkot Gathering and Havdalah

6:00 pm, Saturday, October 3, Shapiro House, Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth

Outdoor Sukkot Celebration with Lulav & Etrog

Parade at Wagon Hill Farm, Durham

11:00 am, Sunday, October 5

Re-imagining Committee Meeting

7:00 pm, Tuesday, October 6

Sh'mini Atzeret Service (Includes Yizkor)

10:00 am, Saturday, October 10

Simchat Torah Service

7:00 pm, Saturday, October 10

Executive Committee Meeting

7:30 pm, Wednesday, October 14

TIP Book Club

11:30 a.m. Tuesday, October 20, TIP courtyard
The Two-Family House by Lynda Cohen Loigman

Board of Directors Meeting

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 20

Virtual Baking Program with Helen Hanan

5:30 pm, Thursday, October 22

Education Committee Meeting

10:00 a.m., Sunday, October 25

Ritual Committee Meeting

7:00 pm, Tuesday, October 27

From Rabba Kaya's desk

(Continued from page 1)

on the blessings we have received.

We build a Sukkah to cultivate the awareness that the only true security we have stems from the kindness we cultivate in our society. Sukkot also recalls a time of intense divine-human intimacy, a moment when God shielded the Israelites under a protective presence in the wilderness for 40 years. Kabbalistic sources offer a beautiful image of this communion between God and Israel. It is taught in the Talmud that the minimum requirement of Jewish law is that a Sukkah have two complete walls and one partial one, even as small as a handbreadth (BT, Sukkah 6b). The shape formed by these walls is like the arm, the forearm,



**Rabba Kaya
Stern-Kaufman**

and the hand wrapped around us, constituting a divine embrace. In entering the Sukkah, then, we are held in God's embrace.

On Sukkot, we celebrate the full harvest, the blessings of the earth and the blessings of heaven, the release that comes with forgiveness, and a realignment with the goodness in ourselves and in our world.

What greater joy is there?

As Jews, this is not a rhetorical question. The true fulfillment of our season of joy is that we must share the harvest with others. Please join me in this important mitzvah by donating to our High Holiday Food Drive. We cannot truly celebrate our harvest, our festival of joy, knowing that others are struggling with poverty and food insecurity. Donations can be made via check mailed to the office or via credit card on the Temple website [Donate page](#).

Hag Sameiah!

With Blessings,

Rabba Kaya

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.

Thanks to local photographer Ken Goldman for sharing the photograph at left. Ken happened to walk by as Rabba Kaya was blowing the shofar for Hebrew School students. This shaded corner of the parking lot has served as a meeting space for several groups over the summer and into the fall.



President's Message

Rosh Hashanah Speech 2020

Shanah tovah.

One of the traditional highlights of the holidays for me is taking my turn on the bimah, whether that is a shift sitting up here as a board member or during my Torah reading on Yom Kippur. I absolutely LOVE watching people come into the Sanctuary, all dressed up, with family members and children. I love seeing your faces, all in one place. That feeling we get when we are all together is magical and inspiring. As I stand here today, I can envision you all here with me. Take a minute to imagine yourself sitting in an uncomfortable pew, high holiday clothes on, imbued with the importance of the day. I see you.

When I reflect on the year, it is pretty easy to separate it into before and after.

Before: Simchat Torah – klezmer music, dancing in the aisles with the Torah, parading on the street as a community, arm-in-arm Israeli dancing in the social hall, eating ice cream, with the kids loading up their candy toppings.

Before: A full Hebrew School filled with hustle and bustle each Sunday and Wednesday. A half-empty snack cart. The smell of challah baking downstairs. Getting to schmooze with so many of you in those minutes before we picked up our children.

Before: In-person board meetings. Conversations in the parking lot. Hugs and kisses.

Before: Purim – our last hurrah as we began to realize things were changing quickly.

And of course there is the AFTER. Where we are now. We all know what the after is like because we are living it every day. The after is full of challenges

and also opportunities. Some examples:

Keeping connected through our virtual services. The most surprising for me was my daughter Kayla's bat mitzvah last May during the stay-at-home order. Our family had no idea what to expect, or how we could possibly conduct such a spiritual event over Zoom.

And yet, as the morning service proceeded, we felt so supported by the rest of the community. We really felt you all there with us. And it was amazing. I was so thankful and grateful to everyone who joined us to celebrate. It solidified for me the importance of our community, of sticking by one another during challenging times.

Our online Annual Meeting. I am so thankful to **Beth Salzman** and our board for putting together our Powerpoint presentation. It was fantastic to see so many members participate and take part in this important event.

We have set up new technology for adults and for our youth. I want to thank Head of School **Eliau Tackeff** and all of the school faculty for embracing new curricula and working to implement it online. We are all on this learning journey together.

So many more virtual events have connected us from our homes and, beginning in June, in-person outdoor events were added to our calendar.

I want to spotlight a few people who highlight, for me, the model of giving and contributing to which we all should aspire.

First is **Bob Zimman**. Last May, shortly before the Annual Meeting, Bob Zimman saw that we were seeking a president-elect. He reached out to me

Continued on page 4

President's message, cont.

and said he'd be willing to take on the role, which means, of course, that he will be the candidate for president at our next annual meeting in May. Though he had not yet served on our board of directors, Bob has extensive synagogue leadership experience in previous synagogues, and served on our Rabbi Search Committee. I am so thankful that Bob is willing to tackle this job. THANK YOU. And I wish for you an easy term. Fingers crossed...

Second is **Dinah Berch**, who managed our website redesign and helped tremendously with the ShulCloud implementation while working and caring for two young children at home. As you have seen already, our new website is amazing. Dinah has shared her skills with more than one synagogue before us, and we are so lucky to have her knowledge, dedication and experience. THANK YOU DINAH.

Third is **Rachel Dennis**. Rachel has stepped up to complete so many tasks on behalf of the Ritual Committee and the temple at large. Whether she is organizing outdoor services, coordinating permits with city hall, making phone calls, or distributing prayerbooks, she does so with purpose, thoughtfulness and zeal. Rachel, we are so fortunate to have you in our community.

Finally, I want to take a minute to thank **Lenny Baer**, an unsung hero who spends a great deal of time taking care of our cemetery. Our cemetery is something you may not think about until you need it... and with in-person funerals limited to the graveside service, the cemetery itself has taken on a new level of meaning. For so many of us who visit loved ones on Banfield Road, Lenny has made it a more beautiful and holy space.

So... here we are... moving forward to construct a new community, a roving TIP tabernacle. We have prayed at Prescott Park, Wagon Hill Farm, Strawberry Banke and the African Burial Ground. We have set up sacred spaces in our homes. And look at this amazing array of programming designed to help us prepare for and celebrate these holidays. I'd like to recognize the Ritual Committee. Over the past six months, the Ritual Committee has worked tirelessly and with great effort to recraft and produce new kinds of services and ritual events under the constraints of COVID. And thank you to **Rabba Kaya** and **Cantorial Soloist Kochava Munro**, along with the High Holiday Steering Committee and Ritual Committee, for the extraordinary amount of work it has taken to give us these High Holiday experiences. Wow.

To learn more about your interests and concerns, we have been reaching out to you in varied ways. We sent out a community-wide survey several months ago and learned that our community was split, with half seeking to come together in person as quickly as possible, and the other half preferring to participate from home. Our reimagining committee worked very hard to come up with protocols that are tied to current state metrics, enabling us to safely commune when appropriate.

Speaking of communing safely, I want to recognize our Early Learning Center director **Tammy Labonté**. Not only did she do an amazing job with online learning last spring (difficult with preschoolers!), but she worked extremely hard to reopen the ELC. She ran a successful summer camp in August, she was awarded 18K in COVID-related grants, and she is now running a fully enrolled ELC this fall. Wow.

Bulletin Board

Candle Lighting

October	2	6:04 p.m.
October	9	5:52 p.m.
October	16	5:40 p.m.
October	23	5:30 p.m.
October	30	5:20 p.m.

Service Times

Tuesday	5:30 p.m.
Friday night	6:15 p.m.
Saturday morning	10:00 a.m.

*** Zoom links to virtual services are in the weekly bulletin**

We assigned each board member a number of congregants for personal outreach. Hopefully you got a phone call! We care so much about each one of you and we want more than anything for you to feel connected to your community.

Your leadership team has attended webinars, oh so many webinars, about financial matters, security concerns, public health protocols, school protocols... I even listened to a webinar about how to write this speech! Seriously, I did.

Now I am asking four things of you:

I am asking you to commit. COVID has forced us to reassess what is important in our lives and what our true priorities are. Find a NEW way to connect with the community... something different or in addition to what you've done before. Join a new group. Volunteer on a new committee. Attend a new type of service.

I am asking you to give your best financial support to the temple. Donate if you can. Please, participate in our new Dues Plus model if that's possible, and/or in our Annual Fund. We so appreciate the many who have already done so.

That said, we don't want to lose a single member due to financial constraints. Please let us know if we can help.

I am asking for your feedback. Please, write to me and tell me about your experiences. What has given you the biggest sense of meaning in your membership at Temple Israel? I'd like to know what "fills you up" regarding your Jewish self.

Lastly, I am asking for your grace and patience in these difficult times. Everyone has a strong opinion about what SHOULD happen. Naturally, in a congregation as diverse as ours, those opinions vary widely! The Board of Directors has been working so hard to keep the temple moving forward. If you have a strong opinion, please share it. But also, do take a minute when you can to thank your hard-working volunteers and leaders.

I wish you all a sweet and healthy new year. And I pray the day will come soon when we can all be together in the Sanctuary again.

Shanah Tovah.

Amy Hyett, President

Hebrew School



Elian Tackff
Head of School

Shalom Everyone! Happy October (Tishrei / Heshvan)!

And Happy 5781! May this new year be an improvement on the secular year 2020!

After a frenetic beginning to the new academic year, what with ever-changing Covid

information, plus the uncertainty of public school schedules, coupled with the excitement and anxiety of Zoom High Holiday observances, we are looking forward to finally settling down to a period of calm Jewish learning, both on Zoom and in person.

September was a short academic month due to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Each grade met once, in person, either in the courtyard or the parking lot. Our first get-togethers were made extra special by Rabba Kaya joining each group for a little High Holiday discussion and shofar blowing! And most importantly, the weather cooperated!

When not teaching Hebrew School, our dedicated teacher group met numerous times, on Zoom, getting ready to share our new curricula. I can't thank them enough for all the extra time that they put in to make sure that our students have an

awesome year. TODAH RABAH Jodie Aviles, Rachel Dennis, Lisa Fieseher, Marjorie Raven, Karen Mott, Jen Beard, Seth Wizwer, and Deborah Hirsch Mayer!

The Hebrew School is starting the month of October with a Sukkot Celebration and Lulav Parade at Wagon Hill in Durham, on Sunday the 4th, which is the second day of Sukkot. Zoom classes start Wednesday the 7th, and each grade will once again meet in person, outside, hoping that the weather holds up!

A big thank you goes to Dinah Berch, Sam Berg and Heather Tomlinson for getting the new ShulCloud school module up and running and helping with online registrations, as well as updating the new Hebrew School schedule on the Temple website. Thank you also to Dan and Jeannie Hastie for cheerfully setting up the tents and putting chairs out for all our outdoor sessions.

As always, please feel free to call or email me at 603-969-2984 or egt9@aol.com with any questions, comments or ideas.

L'Shalom,

Elian Tackeff, Head of School



Early Learning Center



Tammy Labonté
Director, ELC

The Early Learning Center opened on September 8 with a full class. We have been getting to know one another and establishing our daily routine.

Rabba Kaya came and blew the shofar, helping us learn about and celebrate the High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom

Kippur. We look forward to adding decorations to the temple's sukkah and learning about Sukkot.

As teachers, Elian and I are so glad to be back in the classroom and on the playground with our students, both those returning and those new to the ELC. Despite many changes in protocols and procedures, which we've made to prevent the spread of Covid-19, our students are resilient and up to the challenge!

They're having fun, too, as they interact with



classmates or get deeply absorbed in exploring the classroom materials.

I think the photos tell that story better than I can!

Tammy Labonté



In Our Community

Annual Fund Campaign Will Focus on Covering Expenses for Covid-19 in 2020

The Temple Israel 2020 Annual Fund drive is underway! This once-a-year campaign funds special, high-priority projects that are beyond the reach of our regular budget.

Last year's campaign funded beautiful new tiles in the Court Street entrance and improved landscaping that you will soon see come to life alongside the preschool playground. It also paid for upgraded audio/video systems including state-of-the-art live streaming capabilities in the sanctuary and Levenson Social Hall, which are being used to bring temple services and programs to all of us remotely.

The challenges created by Covid-19 are evident to all of us, both in our personal lives and in our communal experience. Our community is deeply in need of connection and outreach. **We have therefore set an Annual Fund goal of raising \$50,000 to support enhanced synagogue programming and technology to engage and support our Temple Israel community during these unusual times.**

Become a leader! Join the Rabbi's Circle with a gift of \$1,000 or more, or donate \$180+ to be listed as a Friend.

Look for our mailing in early October with an Annual Fund donation envelope enclosed or go to templeisrealnh.org/donate to make your gift now. Every gift moves us closer to our goal!

Fran Berman, Chair, Development Committee

Sisterhood - Election of Officers

by Kerry Hansen

The TIP Sisterhood met on Thursday, September 24, and held elections for officers. Congratulations to all!

Ellen Farber has been unanimously elected as the Sisterhood president. Ellen brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience and we are so pleased to have her as our President.

Jewel Beth Davis will be continuing in her role as vice-president by unanimous vote. Her continued role will be a boon to Ellen in her role.

Kerry Hansen has been unanimously voted in as Sisterhood secretary.

Ashley Barajas will be stepping from the secretary role into the treasurer role with a unanimous vote.

Helen Hanan will be the new liaison to the board of directors again with unanimous support.

We would also like to extend a huge thank you to the past officers for their service and ongoing support!! **Courtney Kapral** as outgoing president, **Cathi Cherry-Liston** as outgoing treasurer, **Julie Serrano** as outgoing liaison to the board of directors, and also to **Jewel Beth Davis** and **Ashley Barajas** for their continued and new positions. Thank you all so very much!

The Sisterhood is also holding a **Zoom Bake Off**, Thursday October 23rd, at 5:30 pm. It gives those wanting a yummy autumn harvest treat a perfect time to bake. The program, led by Helen Hanan, will be approximately one hour. Recipe and instructions will be sent to attendees in advance.

Donations

BUILDING FUND

Roger Epstein in memory of Al Spaen. Lessa Brill in memory of Phyllis W. Brill.

CEMETERY FUND

Leonard Baer in memory of his wife, Roberta Baer.

CULTURAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Jeannette & Bernard Goodman in memory of Bernard's father, Samuel Goodman, and in memory of Jeannette's brother, William Lederman.

DINNERMAN/ROTTENBERG EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND

Joyce & Ron Meenes in memory of Marty Brown and in memory of Evelyn Slome Karu.

DUES ABATEMENT FUND

Julie Serrano in memory of her mother, Helen Holmes. Richard LeSavoy in memory of Elizabeth LeSavoy. Eve Kennedy Spaen in memory of Fritzie Spaen.

HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

Adina Linden in memory of her father, Carl Prietz. Gail Spaen in memory of Al Spaen.

HIGH HOLIDAY CONTRIBUTIONS

Peggy & Colin Munro in honor of their daughter-in-law, Kochava Munro. "L'shana Tova to you all." Michael Rogers, "Thank you and Rabbi Kaya for putting your services online." James Sagner.

INSTITUTIONAL OPERATING ENDOWMENT

The Sher family in memory of Maureen Sher, beloved mom and grandma. Nancy & Andy Jaffe in memory of Nancy's brother, Robert Morris, Nancy's grandmother, Sylvia Morris, and Nancy's mother, Ruth Morris.

KIDDUSH FUND

Nancy & Dennis Roffman in memory of Dennis's mother, Salle Roffman.

LIBRARY FUND

Glen Mackles in memory of his father, Louis Mackles.

MUSICAL SHABBAT FUND

Sharen Eidelberg Spratt & Randy Spratt, "Wishing Ayalah, Jonah, Kalev, & Ori Shannah Tovah with love."

PRAYERBOOK FUND

Samuel Rimland. Lessa Brill in memory of Leon Brill. Laura Spelke.

PRESCHOOL FUND

Phyllis Kravetz in memory of her parents, Charles & Sally Gouse.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Mike Steinberg in memory of his father, Leon Steinberg. Sharen Eidelberg Spratt & Randy Spratt. Leonard Baer with appreciation to Rabba Kaya for leading the cemetery memorial service. Linda Cote in memory of her father, Louis Mackles. Stephen Goren with appreciation for Rabba Kaya's lovely graveside service at Pine Hill Cemetery. Noa Bourke in memory of David Joseph. Pauline Elkin in memory of her husband, Martin Elkin. Roberta Issokson in memory of her late partner, Mel Phippin, and also in memory of her beloved daughter, Michele Issokson Sbrega.

TIKKUN OLAM FUND

Lessa Brill in memory of Howard W. Brill.

TZEDAKAH FUND

Agnes Cabot in memory of her mother, Elsa Vero. Julie Mittelman Whitehouse in memory of her father, Michael Mittelman.

Yahrzeits

October Yahrzeits

13 Tishrei / 13 Heshvan 5781

1. Anna Handleman, David Goldberg, Rose Krasker, Leah Selzer, Carl Prietz, Gerald Landgarten, Michael Emmer, Julius Berenson, Doris Stocklan, Pearl Zack
2. Shirley Fleischman, Minnie Lederman, Louis Golub
3. Hortense Bernheimer, Peter Solomon
4. Irene Kline, Alec Cohen, Maurice Stone, George M. Robbins
5. Adele Goldberg Smith, Rachel Beaupre, Bess Grossman, Molly Leitman, Grete Hirsch, Morris Lisagor
6. Abraham Shapiro, Bessie Greenfield, Debbie Ginsburg
7. Eva Slosberg, Simha Benshimol, Jack Briskin, Harry Kauffman, Ida Tober, Alex Salden
8. Murray Goldberg, Irene Torf, Dorothy Cohen, Lawrence H. Barrows, Simon Cohen, Morris Greenberg
9. Nathan Thrope, Morris Cohen, Sarah Jackson, Michael Pines, Jack Gotz, Samuel K. King
10. Alfred Fluster, Debra Faye Jacobs, Forrest Krutter, Lena Bernstein
11. Alice Sussman, Oscar Chaikin, Ben Benjamin, Margaret Jacoby, Helen Winebaum, Michele Issokson Sbrega
12. Sarah Applebaum, Jack Berman, Louis Wein, Robert Turner
13. David Borne, Sylvia Seperson
14. Thelma Walden, Joyce Belostock, Samuel Black, Bernard Shamesman, David Saczyk
15. Florence Salden, Sophie Cohen Anderson, Ethel Goldstein, Melvin Harrison, Samuel Osher, Martha Shuldman, Murray Wexler, Deborah Cline, Gutman Grossman
16. Morris Schwartz, Sherry Parsons, Gussie Shutzer, Gregory Parsons, Edward Black, Clara R. Fisher, Charles Schwartz, Harold Glaser, David Goldstein
17. Gloria LoPatin, Arthur Promer, Diane Franklin, Louis Cohen, Boris Traven, Patrick Zirpolo, Evangelos Kontarinis
18. Bessie Salden, Charlotte Meenes, Jakki Wiese, Stanley Rosenfield, Norman Stein, Marc Goldsmith, Phillip Shapiro, Estelle Goldberg
19. Samuel Cohen, Irving Shultz, Ruth Rosengard, Inez Sherman, Sylvia Pedell, Leon Hirsch
20. Lillian Goldin, Debbie Natansohn, Anita Freedman, Florence Pastor
21. Mindel Winebaum, Rose Hirshberg, Ruth Morris, William Gross, Joseph M. Baer
22. Rose Riback, Rachel Wener, Bernie Davis, Alice Weismann, Deborah Diamond

When you are observing a family member's *yahrzeit*, you are welcome to say kaddish at Shabbat services Friday night or Saturday morning, or at Tuesday minyan (5:30 p.m.) in the week preceding the *yahrzeit*. *Yahrzeits* published in the Friday bulletin are for the upcoming week.

Yahrzeits, continued.

- 23. Baby Spousta, Fred Linden, Maurice Lifson,
Irving Gutin
- 24. Abraham Cutler, Leonard D. Kaplan,
Barney Grossman
- 25. Eva Kramer
- 26. Jacob (Jack) Zeidman, Samuel Smokler,
Evelyn Robbins, Sidney Kates
- 27. Ruben Novak, Samuel Koiles, Esther Bradbard,
Marion Schwartz, Molly Portman
- 28. Hyman Stromer, Helen Wyle, Abraham Kaplan
- 29. Robert Tober, Abraham Siegel,
Abraham Richman, Chaim Weizman
- 30. Rivka Meyerson, Philip Borwick, Keven Miller,
George Zitomer, Yitzchak Rabin, Mabel Philips,
Harold Jacob Edelstein, Lorraine Goren
- 31. Samuel Taube, Paul Pollack, George Hooz,
Lt. Albert N. Edelstein, Judith Wiseman,
Donald Martin

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.



Re-Imagining Committee Update

The committee’s plan for reopening the building in stages, tied to NH state COVID-19 metrics published on the Covid Act Now website, has been posted on the temple website and is available for community review. The committee meets regularly to update this guidance

- Outdoor services and programs have been well-attended and also made available via live-stream to those who feel safer at home.
- Thanks to all for respecting the reservation process and complying with mask-wearing and other safety measures.
- An event planning form can be downloaded from the website. It includes a review of expectations for event planners and attendees, plus a checklist of safety protocols and supplies.

Condolences to **Stuart Scharff**, on the passing of his mother, **Edwina Kuhn Scharff**.

Condolences to **Glicka Kaplan** on the passing of her sister, **Abigail Glosserman Michelson**.

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Art Review Team

It's been a busy month at Temple Israel, including for the Art Review Team and associated event volunteers. The first event in the Elul Series to prepare for the High Holidays was "Yoga in the Courtyard" on August 23, 2020. It was an honor to be the yoga facilitator, enhanced with music/meditation by Rabbi Kaya Stern-Kaufman. Many enjoyed the opportunity to be together safely, for both spiritual and social connection. Participants requested more classes in the future.

The final Elul Series activity took place September 13, 2010 in the Temple Israel parking lot, under canopies. This was a multi-generational community mitzvah project, called "Cards for Justice." Temple members participated from home, as well as in person at the workshop. (Donna Goldfarb, Barbara Weisman, Rachel Kurshan, Ellen Farber, Howard Leibowitz, Nancy Rosen, Bridget Jameson and Julie Serrano - you are rock stars!) Heartfelt thanks to all those who made this event far-reaching and successful, including Rachel Dennis and Heather Tomlinson.



First, the Art Review Team identified individuals within our own congregation who might welcome additional encouragement and spiritual

uplift, especially during Covid times. These included members living in nursing homes or out of state, homebound, ill or isolated, as well as veterans. or bereaved from the loss of a loved one over the last year. Thanks also to Susan West and Nicki West who designed a card and message specifically for hospital and health care workers. Thanks, also, to

Tammy Labonté whose students made beautiful New Year cards that were distributed to local nursing home residents.

Patricia Moed, a talented writer/photographer, created sample messages to inspire our card makers completing their hand-written cards. These messages were addressed from the Temple Israel congregation to health care providers, social service agencies, organizations, and community leaders in the greater Seacoast area (with special attention to those serving African-Americans, Native Americans and other minorities facing racial and ethnic discrimination and violence). Our goal was to send a message of hope in the coming year for health, happiness and justice for all! In this small way, we wanted to express our Jewish values of equality, mutual respect and concern to our neighbors and friends. We are all connected.

On another note, we enjoyed a long-awaited book presentation by Sandell Morse, Temple Israel member and author of *The Spiral Shell* on September 10, 2020. In spite of some technical difficulties and inclement weather, 11 people attended in person with an additional 5 on Zoom. Sandell stood on an impromptu stage on top of the stairwell at the parking lot entrance and the audience sat below under canopies. We were comforted by the individually packed refreshments and were well entertained by excerpts from the book as well as personal anecdotes by the author. A lively Q&A Session followed the presentation. Stay tuned for future activities and exhibits, including photographs and art of modern Israel as well as art by Israelis, and works, including writing, done in response to the pandemic.

Deborah Levine, Art Review Team Coordinator

Ritual / High Holidays

As we turn towards the sweet joys of Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah, it is time to offer our heartfelt gratitude to all those who made our observance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur so rich and meaningful. Executing the crafted plans for the High Holidays is always a huge undertaking that depends on contributions, large and small, of numerous people. Doing so this year, during a global pandemic, required an even more expansive, heroic effort – imagining and creating new ways for us to be together while safely apart, offering the comfort of dearly held traditions while creating new ones, harnessing the possibilities that technology offered us, and coordinating the myriad of details, tasks, and people that brought it all to fruition. As chair of the Ritual Committee, I was privileged to be involved in multiple facets of the planning – directly, as well as by working with Rabba Kaya, with Cantorial Soloist Kochava Munro, with the Ritual, High Holiday Steering, and Yizkor Book Committees, and with numerous volunteers.

It is a daunting task to try and name all those who deserve to be thanked, but I am going to try. It is inevitable that I will omit someone who should be thanked, and I ask you to forgive me – before next Yom Kippur – for doing so. If you or someone you know was omitted, please let me know, so that I can make amends.

Thank you to **Rabba Kaya** for her vision and creativity, her organization of our worship and ritual observances, and the *kavanah* and inspiration she brought us with her davening and words. Most of us cannot imagine the thought, time, and effort involved in preparing to lead us through these days of awe. Thank you to **Kochava Munro**, whom we were delighted to welcome as our hazzan for a second year, and who again captivated us with her warmth and beautiful voice. Thank you to **Heather Tomlinson** without whose capable work and endless good cheer, none of the rest of us could have done what we needed to do.



THANK YOU to those who participated in our services, live or by pre-recording:

Torah Readers: **Kayla Hyett, Ginger Friedman, Rachel Steindel Burdin, Deborah Hirsch Mayer, Amy Hyett**

Haftarah chanter: **Jennifer Beard**

Torah Honors: **Amy Borne, Ken Kowalczyk, Jennifer Beard, Noah Raven, Seth Wizwer, Courtney Kapral, Margie Wachtel, Dick and Lorrie Grossman, Lessa Brill**

V'Ahavta: **Noah Raven**

Contributors to the *One Thing I Ask* and *Avinu Malkeinu* choir video clips

Prayers/Selected Readings: **Julie Serrano, Emma Rous, Mel Prostkoff and Helen Hanan, Jared Nabel, Steve Sacks, Ira Schwartz, Bridget Jameson, Marc Hiller, Jeffrey Salloway, Jim Bailey, Jill White, Ben Martindale, Zoe Selig, David Cline, Ellen Farber, Beth Salzman, Dinah Berch, Rachel Kurshan, Ashley Barajas, Randy Spratt, Loren Selig, Jeffrey Friedman, Elian Tackeff, Cathi Cherry-Liston, Deborah Levine**

Shofar blowers at the temple: **Rachel Burdin, Ellen Farber, Alan Nasberg, Mel Prostkoff, Randy Spratt, Remi Young**

Shofar blowers who made home visits: **Ellen Farber, Richard David Grossman, Deborah Hirsch Mayer**

Leading Tashlikh: **Ellen Farber, Kochava Munro, Peter Schultz, Rabba Kaya**

Ritual / High Holidays



Eliana Light for providing engaging, meaningful, and delightful family services via Zoom

Jennifer Beard for being our congregation's co-host for family services with Eliana Light.

THANK YOU to those who planned, implemented the

plans, and provided the support and infrastructure that allowed them to do so.

The Ritual Committee: **Rachel Dennis, Jennifer Beard, Ben Martindale, Lessa Brill, Karen Mott, Fred Feldman, Deborah Levine, Richard David Grossman, Ellen Farber, Deborah Hirsch Mayer**

The Ritual Subcommittee for Honors Distribution:
Rachel Dennis, Jennifer Beard, Deborah Hirsch Mayer

The Ritual/Education Joint Subcommittee for Family Services: **Jennifer Beard, Marjorie Raven, Elia Tackeff, Deborah Hirsch Mayer**

The High Holiday Steering Committee: **Bridget Jameson, Cathi Cherry-Liston, Paul Drager, Deborah Levine, Donna Goldfarb, Richard Moed, Kerry Hansen, Ellen Farber, Fran Berman, Alison Rubin, Sharen Eidelberg-Spratt, Fred Feldman, Jennifer Beard**

The Gift Bag Committee:
Bridget Jameson, Cathi Cherry-Liston, co-chairs

Packing: **Allison Rubin, Donna Goldfarb, Ellen Farber, Howard Leibowitz, Deborah Levine, Rachel Dennis, Joyce Meenes**

Distribution: **Donna Goldfarb, Joyce Meenes, Pam Battin Sacks, Ellen**

Farber, Fran Berman, Jennifer Beard, Jeffrey Salloway

Delivery: **Richard Moed, Kerry Hansen, Steve Sacks, Alan Cohen, Audrey Hart, Amy Hyett**

Deborah Levine for coordinating the Cards for Justice card making project and to card-makers listed in the Art Review Team article, page 12.

Paul Drager for coordinating the shofar blowers for the drive-through blowing.

Donna Goldfarb for coordinating the shofar blowers for individual home visits and to blowers.

The Yizkor Book Committee: **Ellen Fineberg, Rachel Dennis, Sharen Eidelberg-Spratt, Rabba Kaya**

Sharen Eidelberg-Spratt for coordinating visits to the Ark

Jim Bailey for changing the Torah and bimah covers in the sanctuary

Gloria and Harold Moldoff, for the bimah flowers.

Sam Swanson for being our Tech Support Person for services



Ariel Shrum for creating the *Avinu Malkeinu* choir video, and singers **Kochava Munro, Lessa Brill, Stephen Kaufman, Fran Berman, Cathi Cherry-Liston, Jewel Davis, Rachel Kurshan, and Rabba Kaya.**

Alan Nasberg for creating the *One Thing I Ask* videos, with **Pamela Battin-Sacks, Jennifer Beard, Cathi Cherry-**



In Our Community

Liston, Rachel Dennis, Ellen Fineberg, Helen Hanan, Amy Hyett, Brian Hyett, Stephanie Hyett, Rachel Kurshan, Deborah Levine, Adina Linden, Aimee Margolis, Kathryn Mulhearn, Karen Mott, Mel Prostkoff, Emma Rous, Walter Rous, Steve Sacks, Beth Salzman, Julie Serrano, Elan Tackeff, Heather Tomlinson

Donors to the Annual Fund, whose generosity enabled us to upgrade our technology so that we could provide High Holiday services via Zoom and Facebook Live and pre-record parts of them.

Dinah Berch & Heather Tomlinson for updating the website information and links that enabled us to find what we needed to prepare for and participate in High Holiday services and events and **Beth Salzman** for updating the Facebook page.

Joyce Meenes and Rachel Dennis for providing support in the office, assistance to Heather.

Joanne Samuels, VP House: for being a constant presence, working in the background to support and help others and ensuring that all went as it should.

The House Committee: for having effective operating and security systems in place to ensure that our building functions as needed and safely, with Covid precautions.

With gratitude to all of you who contributed time and money, and to all who joined us in praying for a good year, a year of increased justice, peace, and blessing for ourselves, for humankind, and for our world.

Deborah Hirsch Mayer, VP Ritual

Congratulations to **Christine Caputo** and **Ben Martindale** on the birth of their daughter, **Vivienne Luna Marie**.



Adult Hebrew Classes Fall 2020

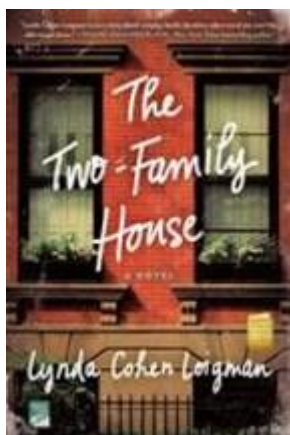
Intro to Reading Hebrew Alef Bet - Are you new or returning to Hebrew? Studying alef bet is an excellent project for those sheltering at home! Whether you want to brush up your skills or begin learning the language, with just a little instruction your experience of using the siddur will be much richer. Classes begin **Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** on Zoom and end December 10. You will need to purchase a \$15.00 textbook ahead of time, so please register as early as you can to get more information. Our instructor is Kathryn Mulhearn, who has been teaching alef bet and biblical and prayerbook classes for 14 years at TIP.

Prayerbook Hebrew Grammar meets via Zoom on Wednesdays from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., using the textbook *Prayerbook Hebrew the Easy Way*. Instructor Jennifer Beard has a strong background in Hebrew education for children, adults and bar/bat mitzvah students. Jennifer is a member of our Hebrew School faculty and serves on the Ritual Committee.

Intermediate and Advanced Biblical Hebrew

Grammar & Reading meets via Zoom on Wednesdays from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. This fall we will be tackling the passive and intensive verb stems (i.e., *nifal*, *hifal*) which drive the beauty and complexity of the biblical narratives and poetry. Our textbook is *The First Hebrew Primer, Third Edition Revised with New Explanatory Notes* (EKS, 2005). Our instructor is Kathryn Mulhearn.

The above classes will be conducted entirely on Zoom. If you are not familiar with Zoom, register early, so that you can get instruction on how to use the Zoom platform. To register or ask questions, please contact the temple office.



TIP Book Club - October



The Two-Family House, by Lynda Cohen Loigman

Please join us on Tuesday, October 20, at 11:30 am, outside in the temple courtyard, for a lively discussion!

Brooklyn, 1947: In the midst of a blizzard, in a two-family brownstone, two babies are born, minutes apart. The mothers are sisters by marriage: dutiful, quiet Rose, and warm, generous Helen. Raising their families side by side, Rose and Helen share a seemingly unbreakable bond.

But as the years progress, small cracks start to appear in their once deep friendship. No one knows why, and no one can stop it.

Moving and evocative, Lynda Cohen Loigman's debut novel is a heart-wrenching, gripping multigenerational story, woven around the deepest of secrets.

Temple Israel Portsmouth

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Temple Israel

200 State Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801
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OFFICE HOURS

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



Proud member of USCJ

TIP "Classified"

Religious school graduate & former madricha seeks position as au pair / babysitter

Sarah Albion is taking a gap year after graduating from high school, and would love to work within the Jewish community. She has extensive childcare experience, is certified in first aid and CPR, and is a certified Water Safety Instructor and Life-guard. She knows a bit of Hebrew, French and German. Sarah is patient, kind, and loves working with children. Typically, she works with kids ages four through ten, but she also has experience with ages two through fifteen in individual or group settings.

If you have any leads for Sarah, please contact her directly via email at sarahaalbion@gmail.com.