

L'Shanah Tovah!



*Wishing you a joyful new year,
full of laughter and warmth.*

—Rabbis Zimmerman, Glaser and Gertman, and Cantor Abelson

Clergy Voice

A PUBLICATION OF TEMPLE ISRAEL
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UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM

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Rabbi Zimmerman

Dear Friends,

“My house shall be a house of prayer for all peoples.” These words from Isaiah, emblazoned across our front doors, have never been truer. This past summer we opened the

doors of our sanctuary to Plymouth Congregational Church for Sunday services under the six-pointed star.

Plymouth Congregational needed to have a new sprinkler system installed in their sanctuary and scaffolding filled the worship space, making it inaccessible for several weeks. Plymouth’s pastor and our good friend, Jim Gertmenian, reached out to Temple Israel, and we were able to offer the use of our sanctuary. The timing was perfect.

On Plymouth’s second Sunday here, Pastor Gertmenian invited me to be a visiting “preacher.” I spoke about what Judaism teaches us about being a good neighbor through the story of Abraham and Sarah, where three visitors foretell the birth of Isaac. The rabbis tell us those three visitors were angels. Yes, we believe in angels: not the winged chubby ones but angels who are real people in our text – real people we do not know are angels until they have left our sight. Therefore, welcoming our neighbors from Plymouth Church is our way of following in Abraham and Sarah’s footsteps.

After the service, I gave the congregation an orientation to the symbols of our sanctuary in order to enhance their own worship in our sacred space.

I pointed out that Temple’s five doors represent the five books of Torah, a traditional

symbol in a synagogue. Torah is our path into Judaism, a precious source of Jewish values and a cornerstone of Jewish belief. I removed the Torah from the Ark and showed the congregation the words handwritten on the parchment.

Plymouth has made no changes to our worship space. Pastor Gertmenian spoke to Rose French of the Star Tribune and said that his congregation considers themselves guests in our space, not remaking our space but using our space just as it is.

Being at Temple has had a nice influence on their liturgy. Plymouth’s choral group that day sang “Eso Enai,” and their Hebrew was perfect! We sang “America the Beautiful” which includes the phrase “God...crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.”

Temple Israel has had a long history of involvement in the local religious community ever since Rabbi Minda joined other clergy in educational programs in the early days of his tenure here. We have reached out and maintained bridges with other faith communities, bridges that are strong and stand on a foundation of friendship and mutual trust. In Minneapolis, brotherhood and sisterhood run all the way down Hennepin Avenue and beyond, and our Temple Israel is truly a house of prayer for all peoples.

L’Shanah Tovah – Wishing you a Sweet and Happy New Year,

Rabbi Marcia A. Zimmerman
Rabbi Marcia Zimmerman

Alvin & June Perlman Senior Rabbinic Chair

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Worship Services

September Worship Services

We are very excited to announce that we are live streaming selected services on Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. Anyone with access to an Internet connection can tune in at no cost by visiting templeisrael.com/livestream. Services can be viewed on both Windows and Apple devices. The worship services that will be streamed are noted below with an asterisk. If you are having difficulties please call us at 612-377-8680.

Wednesday, September 4 - Erev Rosh HaShanah

- 4:45 p.m. Erev Rosh HaShanah Sanctuary Service*
- 4:45 p.m. Erev Rosh HaShanah Nefesh Service
- 7:00 p.m. Erev Rosh HaShanah Sanctuary Service*
- 9:00 p.m. Erev Rosh HaShanah Sanctuary Service*

Thursday, September 5 - Rosh HaShanah

- 8:45 a.m. Rosh HaShanah Sanctuary Service*
- 9:00 a.m. Family-Friendly Rosh HaShanah Youth-Led Creative Service *•New Service• see page 4*
- 9:00 a.m. Tot - 2nd Grade Tashlich Service
- 11:30 a.m. Rosh HaShanah Sanctuary Service
- 11:30 a.m. Rosh HaShanah Youth-Led Creative Service*
- 11:30 a.m. Tashlich Service
- 2:30 p.m. Tot - 2nd Grade Family Service *•New Time•*

- 2:30 p.m. Tashlich Service

Lay-led Tashlich services are held on the south side of Lake of the Isles. Please visit our website or call 612-377-8680 for more information.

Friday, September 6

- 6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, September 7

- 9:00 a.m. Torah Study—Haazinu, Deut. 32:1–52
- 10:30 a.m. Congregational Shabbat Morning Service including the Bat Mitzvah of Abigail Feldman followed by a Kiddush luncheon

Sunday, September 8

- 11:30 a.m. High Holy Day Season Memorial Service at Temple Israel Memorial Park

Friday, September 13 - Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre

- 4:45 p.m. Erev Yom Kippur Sanctuary Service*
- 4:45 p.m. Erev Yom Kippur Nefesh Service
- 7:00 p.m. Erev Yom Kippur Sanctuary Service*
- 9:00 p.m. Erev Yom Kippur Sanctuary Service*

Saturday, September 14 - Yom Kippur

- 8:45 a.m. Yom Kippur Sanctuary Service*
- 9:00 a.m. Family-Friendly Yom Kippur Youth-Led Creative Service *•New Service• see page 4*
- 11:30 a.m. Yom Kippur Sanctuary Service
- 11:30 a.m. Yom Kippur Youth-Led Creative Service*

Saturday, September 14 - Yom Kippur continued

- 1:30 p.m. Study Session with Sam & Sylvia Kaplan
- 2:30 p.m. Yom Kippur Family Service *•New Time•*
- 3:45 p.m. Yom Kippur Afternoon, Healing, Yizkor* and Nefesh Ne'ilah Services

Wednesday, September 18

- 6:00 p.m. Erev Sukkot Chapel Service

Thursday, September 19

- 10:30 a.m. Sukkot Morning Service

Friday, September 20

- 6:00 p.m. Two Options:
 - Sukkot Nefesh Shabbat Family Service followed by a dinner, Sukkah decorating and family-friendly activities
 - Chapel Service, Kaddish will be read

Saturday, September 21

- 9:00 a.m. Torah Study—Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot, Exodus 33:12–34:26
- 10:30 a.m. Congregational Shabbat Morning Service including the B'nai Mitzvah of Mia Litman and Shane Litman followed by a Kiddush luncheon

Wednesday, September 25

- 6:00 p.m. Simchat Torah Family Service led by 5th Grade Class

Thursday, September 26

- 10:30 a.m. Simchat Torah Morning Service including Healing and Yizkor Services followed by a light Kiddush

Friday, September 27

- 6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, September 28

- 9:00 a.m. Torah Study—B'reishit, Genesis 1:1–6:8
- 10:30 a.m. Congregational Shabbat Morning Service including the B'nai Mitzvah of Jackson Rosenthal and Joshua Friedman followed by a Kiddush luncheon

* These services will be live streamed on our website, www.templeisrael.com/livestream.

What's Happening...

Community-Wide S'lichot Service

Saturday, August 31, Evening begins at 8:30 p.m.

Sharei Chesed, 1712 Hopkins Crossroad, Mtka, MN

This year's Community-Wide S'lichot Service will be held at Sharei Chesed. See page 12 for full details.

Tashlich Services

Thursday, September 5

9:00 a.m. Tot - 2nd Grade Tashlich Service

11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. All Ages Tashlich Services

On the South Side of Lake of the Isles on the Bridge

On Rosh HaShanah, it is customary to go to a flowing body of water and symbolically cast our sins away by throwing bread crumbs, sticks or rocks into the water. The service provides us with an opportunity to rid ourselves of imperfections through this symbolic act. For directions, please visit our website or call 612-377-8680.

Rosh HaShanah Youth-Led Creative Services

Thursday, September 5, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

A shorter, more family-friendly worship service filled with contemporary music that our kids know and love. This service is geared to those eight and older, and will be led by our TIPTY teens and clergy.

New Service

Thursday, September 5, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Our traditional creative service filled with contemporary music led by our TIPTY teens and clergy. This service is geared to those twelve and older and is longer in length than the 9:00 a.m. service.

High Holy Day Season Memorial Service

Sunday, September 8, 11:30 a.m.

Temple Israel Memorial Park (42nd St & 3rd Ave S.)

Join our clergy for our Memorial Service held at the Temple Israel Memorial Park.

Yom Kippur Youth-Led Creative Services

Saturday, September 14, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

A shorter, more family-friendly worship service filled with contemporary music that our kids know and love. This service is geared to those eight and older, and will be led by our TIPTY teens and clergy.

New Service

Saturday, September 14, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Our traditional creative service filled with contemporary music led by our TIPTY teens and clergy. This service is geared to those twelve and older and is longer in length than the 9:00 a.m. service.

Nefesh Ne'ilah Service

Saturday, September 14, 3:45 p.m.

Those who have remained in Temple throughout the day of Yom Kippur have felt the power of Ne'ilah, the closing service. We come to Ne'ilah with our final pleas for forgiveness from God and gather communal strength to embrace the year ahead. This year our Nefesh Ne'ilah will feature Temple's summer innovation of the "hands-free" visual Shabbat. The prayers and songs, accompanied by our Nefesh band, enhance breathtaking photography projected onto the walls of the bimah. Members of the gospel group *The Sounds of Blackness* will join us to bring harmony and fellowship to our beautiful closing worship experience, Havdalah, and the conclusion of our fast. Please remain in the sanctuary after Yizkor for a lovely finale to Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish year.

We will also celebrate the theme of birth and renewal with a special ceremony for babies born since last Rosh HaShanah. If you've had a baby since last Rosh HaShanah, please contact Barb at 612-374-0315 or barbn@templeisrael.com for further instruction on your family's participation in this service.

Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast

Saturday, September 14, following Ne'ilah service

Join our clergy and our congregation for a delicious Break-the-Fast sponsored by our Sisterhood. This event is free of charge and no reservations are necessary.

Sukkah Decorating

Monday, September 16, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Temple

Bring your family and join Sisterhood and Men's Club in decorating our indoor and outdoor sukkahs at Temple Israel. For more information, please contact Kim Wolson at kimwolson@gmail.com.

Sukkot Morning Service

Thursday, September 19, 10:30 a.m.

A light Kiddush will immediately follow the service.

Sukkot Nefesh Shabbat Family Service

Friday, September 20

5:15 p.m. Child/Family-Friendly Oneg Shabbat

6:00 p.m. Sukkot Nefesh Shabbat Family Service

6:45 p.m. BBQ Dinner, Sukkah Decorating and

Family Friendly Activities

Bring your family and friends. You won't want to miss this special Sukkot Nefesh Shabbat Family Service and celebration. Stay for Sukkah decorating with our clergy and a light family-friendly BBQ dinner sponsored by Men's Club. Free of charge. Reservations for dinner required: 612-374-0323 or jen@templeisrael.com.

Unite to End Homelessness

Sunday, September 22, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Temple

The Unite to End Homelessness event will bring together congregants, friends and community leaders who share an interest in ending homelessness. This meaningful, interactive event will offer insightful and inspiring programming. Participate in a panel discussion, engage with public officials and hear directly from individuals who have experienced homelessness. Learn about advocacy and find opportunities to speak on behalf of the homeless, whose voices often go unheard. YOU are the key to ending homelessness. Please join the movement now to end homelessness with Rabbi Glaser and neighbors from the Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness.

FREE EVENT

 **Unite to End Homelessness**
Learn. Advocate. Take Action.

Sunday, September 22, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Temple Israel 2324 Emerson Ave S., Minneapolis

The Downtown Congregations to End Homelessness (DCEH) is an interfaith collaboration of 16 downtown Minneapolis synagogues, mosques and churches working together to end homelessness.

On September 22 learn about homelessness and how you can help while enjoying live music, spoken word, interactive art and more.

Sponsored by  Downtown Congregations
To End Homelessness

www.dceh.org

New Horizons Dinner and Entertainment

Sunday, September 22, 6:00 p.m.

Lucy Rose Fischer: Life is a Work of Art
A Witty and Whimsical Artistic Presentation

Temple members over 70, join us for an evening of good friends, good food and fun entertainment. Reservations required; please contact Wendy Schwartz at 612-374-0344.

Simchat Torah Family Service

Wednesday, September 25, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for an exciting and fun-filled Simchat Torah celebration led by our clergy and 5th grade students.

Simchat Torah Morning Service including Healing and Yizkor Services

Thursday, September 26, 10:30 a.m.

Please join us for a Simchat Torah morning service which will include Healing and Yizkor Memorial Services. A light Kiddush will follow the service.

• • • **Save the Date** • • •

Voices of Inspiration - A Benefit for Temple

Saturday, October 12, 2013

Meet Maziar Bahari, the man behind the soon-to-be major motion picture directed by Jon Stewart. See the back cover for more details.

Rabbi Max A. Shapiro Tzadik Award Shabbat Service

Friday, October 18, 6:00 p.m.

Rabbi Max A. Shapiro^{z"l} served the congregation of Temple Israel and the greater metropolitan community for over 40 years. He was a visionary with a passion for learning and a quest for social justice, and had an undying faith in humankind.

The recipient of this year's award is our friend, civil rights activist Josie Johnson. More details will be available in the October HaKol.

New Congregant-Friendly Database System at Temple

We are very excited to announce the integration of Blackbaud, a more congregant-friendly database system for Temple. The new system will provide our families with a simpler online interface where you can register for programs and events, make online donations, interact with our accounting office, and register for adult and youth educational opportunities. We look forward to sharing more details about the launch of this new system after the High Holy Days in the fall of 2013 and appreciate your patience and understanding during our transition.

Our B'nai Mitzvah Reaching Jewish Adulthood



Abigail Marisol Grace Feldman
September 7, 2013

Haazinu Abigail is the daughter of Janet Feldman; granddaughter of Myrna & Alfred Feldman. Abby enjoys soccer, dance, singing and volunteering. She likes celebrating holidays by having special dinners with her family. When she grows up, Abby would like to become a helper to the world or famous. Her favorite subjects at St. Louis Park Middle School are math and gym. When asked about her upcoming Bat Mitzvah Abby said, "I'm so excited."



Mia Litman
September 21, 2013

Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot Mia is the daughter of Gregg Litman and Kari Berman Gross & Stephen Gross; granddaughter of Toby & Frank Berman and Brenda & Ted Litman; sister of Shane. Mia enjoys playing volleyball. When she grows up Mia would like to become a lawyer. Her favorite subject at St. Paul Academy is math. When asked about her upcoming simcha, Mia said, "I can't wait to celebrate my Bat Mitzvah with my friends and family."



Shane Litman
September 21, 2013

Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot Shane is the son of Gregg Litman and Kari Berman Gross & Stephen Gross; grandson of Toby & Frank Berman and Brenda & Ted Litman; brother of Mia. Shane enjoys sneakers, playing baseball, basketball and soccer. When he grows up Shane would like to become a professional baseball or basketball player. His favorite subjects at St. Paul Academy are science, history and art. When asked about his upcoming Bar Mitzvah, Shane said, "I'm excited to accomplish this achievement."



Joshua Friedman
September 28, 2013

B'reishit Joshua is the son of Judith & Jay Friedman; grandson of Pneena & Sheldon Sheps and Nancy & Harold Friedman; brother of Elyse. Josh enjoys reading, playing lacrosse and soccer. He likes spending his summers attending Camp Chi. His favorite subjects at Hopkins North Junior High School are physical education, math and reading. When asked about his upcoming Bar Mitzvah, Josh said, "I am really excited to share this day with family and friends."



Jack Rosenthal
September 28, 2013

B'reishit Jack is the son of Liz & Paul Rosenthal; grandson of Gretchen Menzel, Roger McCall and Ellen & the late Arthur Rosenthal; brother of Eddy. Jack enjoys snowboarding and playing soccer. When he grows up he would like to become a professional soccer player. His favorite subjects at Southview Middle School are gym and social studies. When asked about his upcoming Bar Mitzvah, Jack said, "I am excited to share this day with my family and friends."

We've got ruach, yes we do!
We've got ruach, how 'bout you?



At the ECC we have tons of ruach!

Call ECC Director Trish Mintz at 612-374-0334 for a tour or more information about our fabulous fall options.

Upcoming Youth & Education Dates

SEPTEMBER

- 3** ECC Begins for 2-Day and 5-Day Children
- 4** ECC Begins for 3-Day Children
ECC closes at 12:30 p.m.: Erev Rosh HaShanah
- 5/6** ECC Closed: Rosh HaShanah
- 8** Religious School (Sunday) Begins
9th Grade Program Begins (12:00-2:30 p.m.)
- 9** Hebrew School (M/W) Begins at Temple Israel
- 10** Hebrew School (T/Th) Begins at Western Campus
- 13** ECC Closes at 12:30 p.m.: Erev Yom Kippur
- 15** No Religious School
7th Grade Orientation for Students & Parents (12-2:30 p.m.)
- 16** ECC Parent Orientation
- 18** No Hebrew School: Erev Sukkot
11th/12th Grade Program Begins (6:00-8:30 p.m.)
- 19** ECC Closed: Sukkot
No Hebrew School: Sukkot
- 21** Haggigat Shabbat Begins
- 22** Religious School Consecration Service and Breakfast
- 25** 5th Grade Leads Simchat Torah Service
- 26** ECC Closed: Simchat Torah
No Hebrew School: Simchat Torah
- 28** Haggigat Shabbat Pre-K Class Begins
- 29** 7th/8th Grade Opening Day Program (12:00-2:30 p.m.)
9th Grade Program (12:00-2:30 p.m.)
- Oct. 2** 10th Grade Confirmation Begins

K'tanim (Little Ones) Class to begin this October at Temple Israel

For parents and their children ages birth – 16 months old

Wednesdays, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Starting on Wednesday, October 16

Come for fun, conversation and camaraderie! Each week a different topic will be discussed including child development, Jewish life, general parenting and more.

Join Sharon Rosenberg-Scholl, Director of Curriculum at the Temple Israel Early Childhood Center, and meet other parents with young children. Our class will meet on October 16, 23 and 30, November 6, 13, and 20, December 4 and 11.

For more information, please contact Sharon at 612-374-0374 or sharon@templeisrael.com.

Adult Hebrew Classes at Temple

Hebrew I (Beginners)

Sundays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m., Sept. 2013 - May 2014

Hebrew II (Intermediate)

Sundays, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Sept. 2013 - May 2014

See page 9 for full details.

Break the Fast

Saturday, September 14, following Ne'lah Service

Temple Israel Sisterhood continues the tradition of sponsoring the Congregational Break the Fast. Join us after the Ne'lah Service for a light meal. All are welcome! No reservations necessary!

Sukkah Set Up

Monday, September 16, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Bring your family and join Sisterhood and Men's Club in decorating our indoor and outdoor sukkahs at Temple Israel. For more information, please contact Kim Wolson at kimwolson@gmail.com.

Sisterhood Opening Board Meeting

Monday, September 16, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

This meeting is for all Sisterhood Board members, event chairs, planning committee participants, as well as those who are interested in joining the Sisterhood Board and making your mark on Sisterhood. Please send your \$15 check for dinner to Bev Ryweck, 4020 Terrace Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55305. If you wish to pass on dinner, RSVP for the just the meeting by contacting Bev at bryweck@yahoo.com at 952-938-5250.

Save the Date • Fall Membership Event

Monday, November 4, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Mark your calendar for Sisterhood's Fall Membership Event. Local comedienne Amy Salloway is a sure-fire crowd pleaser...you and your friends are guaranteed a fun and memorable evening. If you would like to help plan this event, contact Suzi at 612-720-6272 or gerbermom@msn.com.

Sisterhood Gift Shop

We have been stocking our shelves with "finds" that will embellish the upcoming holiday. Rosh HaShanah is early this year, so we invite you to visit our shop as soon as possible! Sisterhood members receive a 20% discount on most of our merchandise. Shift volunteers enjoy a 25% discount...so we invite you to join our team. Call Lil Fallek at 952-545-1187 for Gift Shop hours.

A Big Thank You from Sisterhood!

Many thanks to all of you who cleaned out your closets and donated your items, and to those of you who gave your time to make Sisterhood's 26th Annual Garage Sale a big success. The proceeds from this sale support Temple programs and our community, while enriching our lives. We couldn't have done it without the hard work and support of all our volunteers and wonderful staff at Temple Israel!

All roads lead to the Temple Israel

Sisterhood 2013 Donor Campaign

Your contributions help keep us going in the right direction!

Marjorie Abrams	Kim Greene	Lillian Raen
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Susan Goldman	Marjorie Ostrov	Julie Zimmerman
Judy Graceman	Nancy Proman	Berg

Temple Israel

ADULT JEWISH LEARNING

Fall 2013 / 5774

“When I pray, I speak to God; When I study, God speaks to me.” - Rabbi Louis Finkelstein^{z”l}

Study @ Temple Israel

TORAH STUDY

Every Saturday, 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Free and open to all. Come when you can!

Join in an instructive and spirited discussion of the week's Torah portion led by our rabbis. Gain a better understanding of Torah and its relevance to contemporary life through study and dialogue in community.

KABBALAH SPARKS

Select Mondays, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

October 28, January 27, April 28 & July 28

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI GLASER

Free and open to all

Join us for a quarterly study and meditation on Kabbalistic themes. Some familiarity with the basics of Jewish mysticism is encouraged, but all inquisitive seekers are welcome.

HIGHLIGHTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

Select Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

INSTRUCTOR: DR. JOSEPH GOLDMAN

Free and open to all

Join us for lively discussions of some of the most important events in Jewish history. Dr. Goldman is a noted historian and regular lecturer at Temple Israel.

Saturday, October 19: Houdini & Copperfield: Escape Artist, Illusionist, Amazing Jews!

Saturday, November 9: Four Stages of Holocaust Survivor Memory and History

Saturday, December 14: Kirk Douglas and Tony Curtis: Hollywood's "Jewish Gentlemen" in *The Viking* and *Spartacus*

Saturday, February 1: Noble Nobels: Jewish Giants in Science and Literature

Saturday, March 1: Non Jewish actors portraying Jews in Film

Saturday, April 26: Ramp and Ghetto: The Valiant Jew in the Holocaust

EREV SHABBAT SCHOLAR-LED STUDY

First Friday of the Month, 6:00 p.m.

October 2013 - May 2014

Free and open to all.

Throughout the year, on the first Friday night of the month, we offer a variety of options for the celebration and observance of Erev Shabbat. In addition to worship services we offer a scholar-led study session, taught by Rabbi David Wirtschafter. Erev Shabbat starts with an Oneg Shabbat at 5:15 p.m. followed by services or a study session at 6:00 p.m.

This year we will study the works of Rabbi Leo Baeck (1873-1956). He is among the influential Reform theologians in 20th century Germany who shaped the way we think about essential Jewish beliefs concerning God, Torah and Israel. A survivor of Theresienstadt concentration camp, Baeck refused to allow Nazi brutality, or the complacency and complicity that enabled it, to change his core beliefs or diminish his commitment to education, justice and peace. Please join us as we study essays from his masterworks.

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

Monday Evenings

September 2013 - May 2014

INSTRUCTORS: RABBIS ZIMMERMAN, GLASER, GERTMAN, AND CANTOR ABELSON - HEBREW INSTRUCTOR: FRAN ROSEN

An introductory meeting with one of our clergy is required prior to enrolling in this class.

For more information, please contact Wendy Schwartz at 612-374-0344 or email wendy@templeisrael.com.

Introduction to Judaism is for those who want to refresh their Judaic knowledge, are considering conversion to Judaism, or are interested in discovering more about the foundations of Judaism. This class covers the basic beliefs, observances and philosophy of Jewish religion, culture and history, and introduces the Hebrew alphabet and key Hebrew vocabulary.

Hebrew @ Temple Israel

HEBREW I (BEGINNERS)

Sunday Mornings, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

September 22, 2013 - May 18, 2014

INSTRUCTOR: FRAN ROSEN

Fee: \$300 (includes books and materials)

If you've never had the opportunity to study Hebrew before or need a refresher, this class covers the basics of Hebrew letter recognition and reading.

HEBREW II (INTERMEDIATE)

Sunday Mornings, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

September 22, 2013 - May 18, 2014

INSTRUCTOR: FRAN ROSEN

Fee: \$300 (includes books and materials)

Hebrew II includes the study of Hebrew vocabulary, grammar, reading and prayers. The second half of this course will be devoted to "siddur study," with an emphasis on reading prayers and understanding their meaning and place in the service.

Pre-requisite for Anshei Mitzvah program.

ANSHEI MITZVAH: THE ADULT B'NAI MITZVAH CLASS

This class and life cycle ceremony is offered to our Temple Israel members on an every-other-year cycle. The Anshei Mitzvah class provides adult Jewish learners, not yet a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, the opportunity to learn the skills and experience the mitzvah of leading worship and reading Torah. For more information please contact Wendy Schwartz. *Pre-requisite: Hebrew II or equivalent.*

Learn @ Home

With the click of your mouse you can join our community to study online. Email e-learning@templeisrael.com to subscribe. If you have subscribed in the past you will continue to receive Elul and Omer daily reflections.

ELUL REFLECTIONS E-LIST

August 7 - September 4

Receive a brief daily e-mail reflection for each day of the month of Elul, the month preceding Rosh HaShanah, traditionally a time of repentance and self-examination.

Mondays, December 2, 9 & 16, 6:45 - 9:15 p.m.

Fee: \$36 per person (includes a book for your Jewish library) **Please register by Monday, November 18**

Our new format divides the evening into two sessions allowing you to choose two different classes for the three nights of JL@TI.

Please choose ONE class for EACH session. All courses are open to everyone. Classes may be closed or cancelled due to the number of registrations.

Session One

A JEWISH VIEW OF LIFE AND DEATH

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI MARCIA ZIMMERMAN, ALVIN & JUNE PERLMAN SENIOR RABBINIC CHAIR AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Back by popular demand, this course deals with how questions about life and death challenge the Jewish soul. Explore how Judaism confronts these issues, helping us make sense of human mortality through ritual and belief. We will discuss these serious issues in a safe and supportive environment.

ZOHAR SPARKS

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI SIM GLASER, RABBI AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Explore highlights from the fabulous 13th century seminal text of Jewish mysticism along with some basic Kabbalah. Beginners, veterans and reincarnated souls all welcome!

DEFIANCE AND DEVOTION: A STUDY OF THREE GREAT PROTAGONISTS

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI DAVID WIRTSCHAFTER, VISITING SCHOLAR IN JEWISH STUDIES AT THE JAY PHILLIPS CENTER FOR INTERFATHI LEARNING & RABBI AT AMES JEWISH CONGREGATION IN IOWA

Drawing on the works of Avivah Zornberg, we will explore how she understands biblical figures Jonah, Esther and Abraham and the profound choices they make. Zornberg infuses classic and modern commentaries with observations from psychology, film, and literature that challenge us to think in profoundly original ways.

FINDING GOD IN UNEXPECTED PLACES

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI LYNN LIBERMAN, POLICE/FIRE CHAPLAIN AND INSTRUCTOR AT AUGSBURG COLLEGE, SERVED AS A CHAPLAIN INTERN AT MN CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Discovering God in unexpected places: Between prison bars; in natural disasters; in the mundane actions of our everyday lives. What does it mean to find God wherever we are and in whatever we are doing?

EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT ORTHODOX JEWS

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI DAVID FREDMAN, M.ED., AISH MN'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As an Orthodox Rabbi I am faced with misunderstandings of how Orthodox Jews live and view life. Accusations range from male chauvinism to cultish. We will explore the Orthodox mindset and practice, leading to open dialogue, discussion and debate...and maybe even understanding.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN MINNEAPOLIS

INSTRUCTOR: PROFESSOR STEPHEN SIMON, EMERITUS CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA AND IS INVOLVED IN MANY JUDICIAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Minneapolis was known as "the capital of anti-Semitism in the United States" throughout the 1950s. Explore this dark side of our city's history as expressed in real estate abstracts, rental advertisements and other documents. People who experienced the overt anti-Semitism in the first part of the 20th Century are invited to share their memories and experiences.

THE PALE OF SETTLEMENT IN IMPERIAL RUSSIA AND THE EMERGENCE OF 'YIDDISHKEIT' (1762-1917)

INSTRUCTOR: DR. JOSEPH GOLDMAN, REGULAR LECTURER AT TEMPLE ISRAEL AND HAS TAUGHT OVER 40 YEARS AT UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS

We will explore the Jewish 'Dark Continent' buried in Old Russia. Through religion, culture and community Jews evolved into a civilization amidst czarist oppression and escaped the Pale forming the Jewish presence in Ottoman and British Palestine during the 1920s - 1940s.

Session Two

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE? JEWISH THINKING ON THE AFTERLIFE

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI MARCIA ZIMMERMAN

Jewish tradition firmly believes that death is not the end of human existence even though Judaism is primarily focused on life here and now. Come learn the Jewish conceptions of heaven and hell, the immortality of the soul, the World to Come, the resurrection of the dead, along with discussions of memory, legacy and divine judgment.

TALMUD GEMS

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI SIM GLASER

The Talmud is the foundation of rabbinic Judaism and yet many of us know very little of its contents. We will dive into selected pieces of Talmud and get a taste of how the rabbis wrestled with Divine instruction and ancient lore, bringing it to play on the real circumstances of their generations, and how it still bears upon ours!

FAITH AND FINANCES: CHARITY, USURY, AND OTHER MONEY MATTERS IN THE ABRAHAMIC FAITHS

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI DAVID WIRTSCHAFTER

How have Judaism, Christianity and Islam addressed financial questions and practices involving lending at interest, providing for the community, and the distribution of wealth? In our own time of wealth and poverty how should we be generous, responsible and just?

TEXTS OF TERROR

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI LYNN LIBERMAN

Tamar, Yephthah's Daughter, and Hagar are challenging stories of three Biblical women subjected to abuse, dismissal and trickery. These biblical tales portray women whose lives are not their own. Come examine their stories in the context of biblical times as well as their relevance in our own day.

KNOWING WHAT YOU KNOW

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI DAVID FREDMAN, M.ED.

In a world where we are inundated with information and opinions, how can we filter what is "real" and what is not? Is it possible to truly know anything? Based on centuries of Jewish wisdom we will re-examine what you think you believe with a brand new pair of lenses, acquiring critical tools used for ages to understand what we think we already understand.

LETTER OF THE LAW: CRIMES & SENTENCING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

INSTRUCTOR: PROFESSOR STEPHEN SIMON

We will hear cases which vividly illustrate fundamental ills in our society, involving hate based crimes, domestic abuse, prostitution, guns, drugs, theft, mental illness, poverty and discrimination. A discussion follows on what is an appropriate disposition and sentencing, and how basic Jewish values might come to bear on the decision making process.

ISRAEL, THE ARAB SPRING AND THE KALEIDOSCOPIC MIDDLE EAST

INSTRUCTOR: DR. JOSEPH GOLDMAN

How do Middle Eastern analysts view Israel and the Arab/Iranian challenges in today's news? We will explore historical and geopolitical factors going beyond the surface interpretations of our daily news sources and examine the dilemmas faced by all the players in the region and the world over.

SEXUALITY AND SPIRITUALITY: READING ETTY HILLESUM

INSTRUCTOR: SUSAN STEIN ADAPTED HILLESUM'S DIARIES INTO THE PLAY "ETTY" AND WAS ON THE FACULTY OF PRINCETON DAY SCHOOL AND STUDIED ACTING AT NYU AND PURCHASE

Esther "Etty" Hillesum was a young Jewish woman whose letters and diaries, from 1941 - 1943, describe life in Amsterdam during the German occupation. In reading her diaries and letters we become intimately involved with the remarkable thinking of a deeply sensual woman who asks us, in her gentle yet forthright way, not to leave her at Auschwitz.

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Featuring

Yossi Klein Halevi

Journalist and Author

Like Dreamers: The 7 Paratroopers of the 6 Day War Who Reunited Jerusalem and Divided a Nation

Friday, October 25, 2013

5:15 p.m. Oneg Shabbat

6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

Yossi Klein Halevi will speak from the bimah

7:30 p.m. Dinner and Program

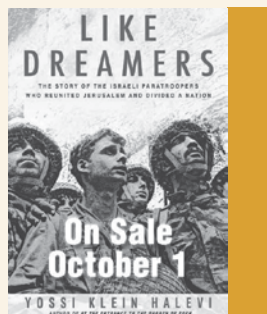
Reservations required for \$25 fish or vegetarian dinner or \$10 child pasta dinner.



Acclaimed journalist Yossi Klein Halevi shares the amazing story of a military unit that returned Jerusalem to our people in 1967, only to embark on divergent social and political paths in the decades that followed: The founding of the religious settlers' movement, the miraculous growth of Israel's economy, the socialist Kibbutzim, ardent peace activism, even an anti-Zionist terror underground in Syria.

Yossi Klein Halevi is a senior fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem and a contributing editor of the *New Republic*. An internationally respected commentator on Israeli and Middle Eastern affairs, he writes regularly for leading American publications, such as *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*. His new book on this topic will be published in October.

To make a reservation for dinner, contact Wendy Schwartz by **Monday, October 21** at 612-374-0344 or wendy@templeisrael.com. Please send your check, payable to Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55405.



Sponsored by The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Fund of the Temple Israel Foundation, and the Temple Israel Maurice L. Melamed Memorial Lectureship Fund.

ANNUAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM

Proudly Presents

Robert D. Kline

Filmmaker and Educator

The Holocaust as Portrayed in Hollywood Film

Friday, November 15, 2013

5:15 p.m. Oneg Shabbat

6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

Robert Kline will speak from the bimah

7:30 p.m. Dinner and Program

Reservations required for \$25 fish or vegetarian dinner or \$10 child pasta dinner.

Saturday, November 16, 2013

9:00 a.m. Torah Study with guest speaker Robert Kline

Robert D. Kline has a long and distinguished career in the entertainment industry. Starting as the original producer of William F. Buckley's *Firing Line*, he has produced feature films and television series for more than twenty-five years. He was Executive Vice President of Production at 20th Century Fox Studios and co-founder of Lifetime Television. He produced Oliver Stone's highly acclaimed film, *Heaven and Earth*, and recently produced *Ronald Reagan: An American Journey*, and *The Kennedys: America's Emerald Kings*, *Betty White's Wonderful World of Animals*, and *The Clintons: An American Odyssey*. He is presently producing and directing the film, *JFK Remembered: 50 Years Later* for Warner Bros., set for release in November 2013. A professor at USC for 25 years, he has taught courses on terrorism, the Vietnam experience, world leadership and the Holocaust.



To make a reservation for dinner, please contact Wendy Schwartz by **Monday, November 11** at 612-374-0344 or wendy@templeisrael.com. Please send your check, payable to Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55405.



The Temple Israel Annual Holocaust Remembrance Program is underwritten by the Irving and Regina Lee Holocaust Remembrance Fund, a gift from their grandchildren, Harrison Grodnick and Tammy Grodnick.

KNOSH AND KNOWLEDGE

Danny Ehrlich, Israel Tour Guide Extraordinaire

Sunday, November 24, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Jews and Christian Zionists: Problematic Alliance or Healthy Partnership?

Daniel Ehrlich is Educational Director for Keshet - The Center for Educational Tourism in Israel and served as the guide for Barbara & Rabbi Glaser's recent group trip to Israel. He was the founding director of the Tehilla Aliyah movement in N. America, Director of Yeshiva University's Communal Services and of the Bnei Akiva Zionist Youth Movement. He has Masters Degrees in Community Social Work and in Jewish History and as a licensed Tour Guide has served as "Israel Educator" for a wide variety of Jewish and Christian groups.

Sponsored by the Israel Committee, this program is part of an on-going series of speakers and events at Temple Israel to provide a broad understanding and diverse perspectives on Israel.

ADULT JEWISH LEARNING

Holiday Events and Workshops @ Temple Israel

COMMUNITY-WIDE S'lichot Service

Saturday, August 31, 2013
Sharei Chesed: 1712 Hopkins Crossroad,
Minnetonka, Minnesota

8:30 p.m. Havdalah & Readers Theater
Presentation of *Citizen Conn*
A Story of Estrangement and Forgiveness
by Michael Chabon, Author of *The Amazing
Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*

10:00 p.m. Reception

10:30 p.m. S'lichot Service

Free and open to all.

As the month of Elul draws to a close, repentance becomes more urgent. A prelude to the sacred themes of the High Holy Day season, prayers for forgiveness, called S'lichot, are recited during this community-wide service.

PREPARING FOR THE TISHREI HOLIDAYS: ROSH HASHANAH, YOM KIPPUR, SUKKOT, SIMCHAT TORAH

Monday, September 9, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

INSTRUCTOR: RABBI MARCIA ZIMMERMAN

Free and open to all.

Our fall holidays are filled with celebration and joy and are a time for introspection and t'shuvah (repentance or forgiveness). Come learn about their historical and religious significance, and the observances, customs and traditions associated with Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

BUILD YOUR OWN SUKKAH!

Experience the joy and the mitzvah of eating (and, if you dare in Minnesota, sleeping) in a Sukkah in your own back yard. For resources on constructing or purchasing a Sukkah, contact Wendy Schwartz at 612-374-0344 or wendy@templeisrael.com. Plan ahead! Erev Sukkot is September 18, 2013.

IN THE DARK ABOUT CHANUKAH? A WORKSHOP TO ILLUMINATE THIS FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

Monday, November 25, 2013

INSTRUCTORS: RABBI ZIMMERMAN AND

BARBARA (MUFFY) RUDNICK

Free and open to all.

Learn everything you need to know to create your own Chanukah celebration including songs, blessings, candle lighting and foods associated with this joyous holiday. Shed light on the "dilemma" of the December holiday season. Bring your questions and concerns to our open discussion about the challenges of the season. We will explore incorporating religious symbols in your home, keeping peace in a home with multiple faiths, and understanding the true meaning and relationship of the 25th of December and the 25th of Kislev.

TEMPLE ISRAEL ADULT LEARNING REGISTRATION FORM 2013 - 2014

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Are you a Temple Israel member? Yes No

Would you like to receive e-learning daily reflections for the Omer and the month of Elul? Yes No

For more information about our Adult Learning Programs contact:

Adult Learning Coordinator Wendy Schwartz at
612-374-0344 or wendy@templeisrael.com

Rabbi Sim Glaser at 612-374-0315 or
sglaser@templeisrael.com

Year Courses:

- | | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrew I - Beginners | \$300 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrew II - Intermediate | \$300 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Judaism (Please contact me with more details) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anshei Mitzvah (Please contact me with more details) | | |

Scholar Erev Shabbat Dinners

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scholar Dinner: Yossi Klein Halevi # ___ fish # ___ veg. @ \$25 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holocaust Rem. Program Dinner # ___ fish # ___ veg. @ \$25 | \$ _____ |

Holiday Workshops

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preparing for the Tishrei Holidays (Free and open to all) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In the Dark About Chanukah? (Free and open to all) |

Fall 2013 JL@TI Classes: Registration Deadline November 18, 2013

(Choose ONE class from each column) \$36 \$ _____

Session One

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish View of Life & Death |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Zohar Sparks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Defiance and Devotion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finding God in Unexpected Places |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orthodox Jews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anti-Semitism in Minneapolis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pale of Settlement & 'Yiddishkeit' |

Session Two

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish Thinking on the Afterlife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Talmud Gems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faith and Finances |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Texts of Terror |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knowing What You Know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Letter of the Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kaleidoscopic Middle East |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Etty Hillesum |

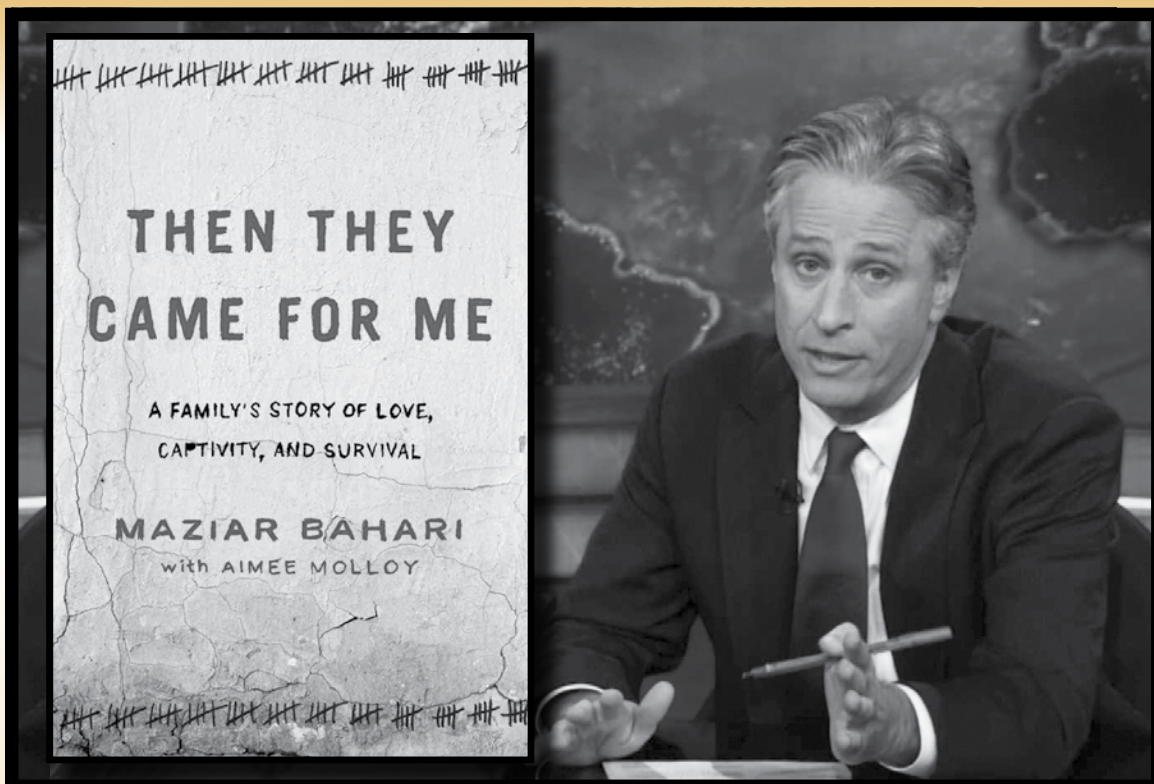
- | | |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A contribution to support the participation of others | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Payment plans and limited scholarships are available; please send me a payment plan/scholarship form | |

Total enclosed (Make checks payable to Temple Israel.) \$ _____

Return Registration and Payment to:

Wendy Schwartz • Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Ave. S., Mpls, MN 55405 • 612-374-0344 • wendy@templeisrael.com

WHO IS MAZIAR BAHARI - AND WHY YOU WANT TO HEAR HIM SPEAK



If you're a regular *Daily Show* viewer, you likely know Jon Stewart was off for a large portion of the summer because he was overseas directing the film, *Rosewater*. The movie tells the story of Iranian-Canadian journalist, Maziar Bahari, whose connection to Stewart began in 2009 when the *Daily Show* sent Jason Jones to Iran to "report" on Iranian opinions about America and the west (all done in *Daily Show* style humor, of course).

Jones' first interview in that series was with Bahari. At the time it was a good "bit," but nothing about it was terribly remarkable. A few months later, however, after the controversial 2009 Iranian elections, there were massive arrests in Tehran. Among those detained was Bahari. Part of the evidence cited by his captors was a televised interview of him with an "American spy" — the Iranians had seen the segment on the *Daily Show*, took it for fact and built a case around Bahari. The irony was, of course, that the "spy" in the bit was Jones, a Canadian comedian!

And so on October 12, 2013, our congregation will hear Bahari's story, and we will tell one of our own. We'll hear firsthand the story of Bahari and his family, of their love, captivity and survival, and in doing so, we'll tell the story of a synagogue finding unlikely inspiration in the story of an Iranian journalist, filmmaker and human rights activist...the story of a congregation daring to discuss real and painful subjects and how they affect a future that concerns us all.

VOICES OF INSPIRATION

A BENEFIT FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL

TICKETS:

www.templeisrael.com/benefit.htm

For information and sponsorship opportunities contact:
benefit@templeisrael.com or 612-374-0310

See back cover for details.

Sharing Our Lives

September Anniversaries

10th	Susan & Todd Gurstel	9/14
10th	Tala & Mitchell Kuretsky	9/14
15th	Samantha & Rob Rosen	9/6
15th	Patti Tetta & Bob Striker	9/12
20th	Robin Livingston-Richter & Sam Richter	9/5
20th	Alexis & Scott Seiler	9/5
20th	Heather Adam-Bank & Michael Bank	9/11
20th	Andrea Kaufman & Jim Jacobson	9/12
25th	Julie & Hugh Kirsch	9/3
25th	Melanie & George Werl	9/17
25th	Inna & Sasha Kuznetsov	9/24
30th	Carolyn & David Aberman	9/4
30th	Susan Henken-Thielen & Jim Thielen	9/4
30th	Doreen Frankel & Jake Hurwitz	9/24
35th	Carrie & Ralph Jacobson	9/3
35th	Donna & Michael Kaplan	9/16
35th	Betsy & David Abramson	9/17
35th	Marilyn & Jeff Rivkin	9/17
35th	Cindy & Joel Shapiro	9/17
40th	Eileen & Loren Colman	9/2
40th	Beth & Mark Saliterman	9/9
40th	Carie & Billy Rose	9/14
45th	Shirley & Byron Frank	9/1
45th	Linda & Jeff Noddle	9/1
45th	Penny & Mark Ziessman	9/2
45th	Barbara & James Malisow	9/22
50th	John & Tammy Kaiyalethe	9/3
50th	Betsy & Mayer Tapper	9/7
60th	Sandra & Paul Friedman	9/7
65th	Dory & Robert Rose	9/12

In Memory

Condolences to our Temple families who have recently lost a loved one.

Blanche Davis, *Mother of Thomas Davis (Gail Bernstein)*

Judie Evans, *Wife of Murray Evans*

Frederica Ferree, *Wife of Clayton Ferree*

Sarah Kaufman, *Grand-niece of Bonnie Sussman and Step-granddaughter of Barbara Kaufman*

Patricia Lieber, *Stepmother of Daniel (Lauren) Lieber*

Sarah Rozman, *Sister of Irwin Ketrosor*

Stanley Starkman, *Brother-in-law of Ronna Rossman*

New Members

Joel & Sonya Chechik	Myra & Roger Greenberg
Mitzi Diamond	Emily & David Josephson
Elizabeth & Eliot Funk	Mary Nash
Amy & Daniel Farsht	Marni & Gal Noyman
Ruthie & Jim Feinstein	Elyse Scheuer &
Elizabeth &	Harley Dresner
Matthew Furman	

Mazel Tov To...

- Jake and Sam Benedict, twin sons of Lisa & David Benedict, whose team won the MBT State Tournament and the MN Gopher State Tournament. Jake and Sam play for the Osseo/Maple Grove Storm traveling team and will be honored at the Minnesota Twins game on September 14.
- Brie Cohen, daughter of Sandy & Stuart Cohen, on her engagement to David Vlach, son of Kate & Dick Vlach. Brie works as a photographer and publications coordinator and David is an executive chef. A wedding is planned for the summer of 2014.
- Courtney & Sean Dveris on the birth of their son, Daniel Shea Dveris, on July 2, 2013. Daniel is the grandson of Debbie & Marc Hasko and the great grandson of Michael & the late Carol Orren.
- Rachael Freed, on the publication of her new book, "Your Legacy Matters, Harvesting the Love and Lessons of Your Life: A Multi-Generational Guide for Writing Your Ethical Will."
- Melissa Goldberg, daughter of Gloria & Daniel Goldberg, on her engagement to Devin Del Rosario. A wedding is planned for the summer of 2014.
- Dr. Terrie Rose, on the release of her new book, "Emotional Readiness. How Early Experiences and Mental Health Predict School Success."
- Donna Pohlada on the success of her business dpHUE, a hair care and coloring solutions company, and on being featured on the cover of "Herlife" magazine.
- Dani Schwartzman, daughter of Jon & Jane Schwartzman and Roni & Alan Gingold, on her engagement to Fernando Nuñez. A wedding is planned for the summer of 2014.
- Gillian Singer, daughter of Catherine & Steven Singer, who participated in a Mitzvah trip to Peru and delivered personal care kits from Temple Israel. The kits were assembled by our Na'aseh V'nishma students for those in need.
- Debbie Stillman on her new role as the Senior Philanthropy Officer and Director of Community Partnerships and Engagement at the Minneapolis Jewish Federation.

NEW YEAR REFLECTIONS



Alan Silver, President

Dear Friends,

This is a time of year when I often find myself reflecting on the past. I am thankful for the many blessings in my life – my wife Janny, my two wonderful children and their spouses – and now, two grandchildren. I am blessed with the opportunity to serve this congregation as your president, and to have the privilege of working with our clergy, and with our dedicated professional staff and lay leaders.

It is a time of year for reflection – Have I done my best? Have I balanced my obligations to my family, to this congregation and to my clients? Have I listened enough? I think about past High Holiday seasons, and of loved ones who meant so much to me, and who are no longer here. As individuals, we look within ourselves, and we also look to the future. What can we do to make a difference for ourselves, our families and our community?

The same is true of our congregation. Our leadership must constantly look to both the past and to our future. We must balance the need to preserve the traditions that have made this congregation so great and the need to constantly evolve and change. Many of the choices that we have made as a congregation are reflected in our strategic plan which drives all of the decisions that our Board is now making.

You may have read about Temple's strategic plan in HaKol or in the Temple E-News. Let me try to summarize it for you in just one sentence: Our plan is to examine every single thing we do as a congregation and decide if there is a way to do it better.

We're not trying to change things because they are broken. In fact, we have seldom been healthier as a congregation. We have strong clergy and dedicated employees, and our lay leaders work well with both clergy and administration. We are financially stable, with a balanced budget and a revitalized Temple foundation which is building our endowment.

Rather, because things are going so well, we have the luxury of concentrating on the big things. We can dream about what we want this congregation to be like in 5, 10 or 20 years – to dream about what we want for our children and grandchildren.

So let me share with you some of the things our congregation has done in the past year – and what we hope to do in the future:

Clergy – We are looking at the roles of our rabbis and cantor. We retained the Alban Institute, one of the nation's leading consulting groups on religious institutions to help us evaluate how our clergy and staff can serve our congregants even better.

Worship – We are outgrowing our current worship space. On many Shabbat evenings we have multiple services going on in the sanctuary and in Minda and Joseph Halls. We need a new, flexible, mid-sized worship space. A task force looked at trends around the country in Reform Jewish worship services, music and technology, such as live streaming, or projection of the worship service so that if we build a new space, it will meet not

only our current needs, but also our future needs. Those of you who attended Shabbat evening services this summer saw “Shabbat off the wall” where the prayers were projected on the stone on both sides of the Bimah.

Education – We convened a task force to look at “best practices” around the country in Jewish education. We have two pilot programs in place, Judaism in Real Time (JIRT) in which a small group of parents and students learn and celebrate their Judaism together, in place of the traditional classroom experience. We also are starting a pilot program which combines religious and Hebrew school, in a longer Shabbat morning program. We are looking at on-line learning as an alternative to at least some of our classroom education, as well as other innovations.

Governance & Technology – Another task force has made recommendations for changes in Temple's committee structure and governance, and we are in the process of upgrading our technology to better serve our congregants.

Budget & Finance – Dues make up an increasingly smaller percentage of our revenue. We now rely more on fundraising and legacy gifts. We are examining our dues structure, and we are preparing a 10-year financial projection to estimate how future changes in membership and facilities will impact our long-term future.

Social Justice – We have conducted a survey of how congregations around the country are providing community service and social justice advocacy in order to achieve our goal of Tikkun Olam – repairing the world. Our congregation has long been a leader in the city of Minneapolis and in the faith community, and we are looking at how we can continue to play this important role.

Facilities – We retained the HGA architectural firm to prepare a master facilities plan that was accepted by our board this spring. The plan includes a new education building to replace our 1950s classrooms, a flexible mid-sized worship space, a multi-use event space that will move Minda and Joseph Hall from the basement to an above-ground space, as well as improvements at Camp TEKO and our Memorial Park. We are in the process of a campaign feasibility study to determine the next steps in implementing the facilities plan.

So, while we as individuals look within, and take stock of our own strengths and failings, it is also a time for our congregation to take stock of where we are – to keep the best of our tradition – what has made our congregation great - as we also embrace change and look to the future. I feel privileged to be your president at such an exciting time - when we can look for ways to make what is already a wonderful congregation even stronger.

L'Shanah Tovah - Wishing you a Happy New Year,

Alan Silver, Temple Board President

VOICES OF INSPIRATION

A BENEFIT FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL

ORDER YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Meet the man behind the soon-to-be major motion picture directed by Jon Stewart

MAZIAR BAHARI

Journalist • Documentary Filmmaker • Human Rights Activist

Bahari's riveting and inspirational memoir of extreme courage in the face of repression is set against the backdrop of contemporary Iran.

HONORING THE LEGACIES

Honoring the legacies of four past presidents Marvin Borman, Marty Finch, Burton Joseph and Stan Schweitzer, of blessed memory, for their vision, their voices of inspiration and their leadership of our Temple community.

EVENT CHAIRS

Dana Rubin, Caren Schweitzer, Debbie Stillman



Temple Israel
MINNEAPOLIS

2324 Emerson Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55405-2695

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Saturday, October 12, 2013

5:30 p.m. – Registration and Reception for Sponsors

6:00 p.m. – Sponsor Dinner

Complimentary Book Signing and Photo

8:00 p.m. – Program with Maziar Bahari

9:00 p.m. – Delicious Dessert Reception

Book Sales & Signing

Event proceeds provide scholarships, programming and education for youth and families

TO PURCHASE TICKETS

www.templeisrael.com/benefit.htm • benefit@templeisrael.com • 612-374-0310

Watch your mail in early September for an invitation to this great evening

More details about this event can be found on page 13