



Temple Talk

June - July 15 2010

Sivan - Tammuz 5770

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Temple Talk is the
Newsletter of
Temple Beth Israel
in Waltham.

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Rabbi's Reflections: Embracing the Vision of Mah Tovv

At the end of this month on June 26 we'll be having a special Shabbat morning service and lunch to look back at and savor the experiences and personal growth we've shared together during my 12 years as your rabbi.

It seems very fitting that the Torah portion for this Shabbat will be Balak, the portion when the prophet Balaam opens himself to the word of G!D and proclaims the blessing of Mah Tovv:

Mah Tovv O ha le cha Ya a kov
How goodly are your tents O Jacob
Mishkenotecha Yisrael
Your places of dwelling O Israel.

This is one of the most central teachings we've shared during our years together: to start by appreciating the physical structures we have; but then to go on to appreciate that what truly makes us the House of Israel (the place of the G!D wrestlers/Beth Israel) is our commitment to make our community a Mishkan, a place for welcoming the indwelling presence of G!D and the G!Dly in each other, in our community, and in the world.

And the reality of this teaching is no empty platitude. One of the most fulfilling parts of my rabbinate here, besides the wonderful personal relationships I've developed from our youngest members through our B'nai Mitzvah students through adults of all ages, has been precisely our growth as a community and our capacity to overcome obstacles to become more and more of a Mishkan. To make the vision real we do need to be mindful of the obstacles. We have a wonderfully diverse community, but sometimes over the years some of us

have had a tendency for bickering and dismissing those who have different orientations than we do, instead of making room for them in the Mishkan. The part that has been really fulfilling for me has been when I've seen many transformations right before my eyes. I well remember a community meeting some years back after a period of conflict when several people came to me individually to check in that they were doing the proper Teshuvah (repentant reconciliation work) to move beyond bickering and conflict and embrace our study about making a Mishkan, about Teshuvah (reconciliation), and about following the loving rebuke (to resolve differences from the vantage point of caring for one another). Wow! When this spirit comes together it's amazing!

When it doesn't it drives people away, but when it does come together, it really draws us in, all of us veterans and new people. I have so often heard from visitors "What a warm welcoming community this is!" This my friends is the reality of the vision of the Mah Tovv! I simultaneously salute you and challenge you to continue to embrace this vision ever more strongly!

Your Rabbi,
Jeff Foust

SPECIAL TRIBUTE FOR RABBI JEFF FOUST

Please save the date for Saturday, June 26, when we will have a special Kiddush lunch honoring Rabbi Jeff Foust as he completes 13 years of service. If you would like to help plan this program, please contact Marilyn Racette.

Marks Remarks: The Mahzors are Here!

By: Mark Frydenberg

If you've stopped by the Temple office recently, you probably saw a pile of cardboard boxes filled with books sitting on the counter on the cabinet near the back wall. As I wrote in the bulletin last fall, the Religious Committee made the decision to shift from the Orthodox Birnbaum Mahzor (High Holiday Prayerbook) that the synagogue has been using for about sixty years, to the new Mahzor Lev Shalem.

Lev Shalem means "A Full Heart." The editors chose this name because they "would like contemporary Jews to prayer with full hearts." Their goal for Mahzor Lev Shalem was to make Jewish liturgy accessible and joyful to all who enter the synagogue. The book is visually appealing, the translations are in modern English, and each page is bordered by commentary and interpretations in the margins. The book was ten years in the making. While the Rabbinical Assembly had planned a first run of 30,000 copies, the demand was such that over 100,000 were ordered, but that so many congregations had ordered copies at the pre-publication deadline that they increased the number printed to 130,000. A second printing is underway.

Rabbi Foust has been teaching a class on Wednesday evenings in May and June to introduce this Mahzor to us. You're welcome to attend the remaining sessions which continue through June 23 at 7:30 pm.

What does a new Mahzor mean for us?

For our community, a new Mahzor is an opportunity to meet the High Holidays as if we are celebrating them again for the first time, savoring the familiar words and melodies, but also learning from the explanations, and allowing the kavanot to help inspire the prayers we are offering with new intentions.

A new Mahzor means we may see some new language, in both Hebrew and English, during services. There are some new "new" poems, and some new "old" poems, as the Mahzor contains both contemporary and early prayers that were not included in earlier Conservative Mahzorim, and possibly not in ours as well. There are also many choices, to reflect the diversity of practices found in different congregations.

A new Mahzor means some things we're used to are omitted. (People who like shorter services should be

happy about this!) As we study Mahzor Lev Shalem in closer detail over the summer, the Religious Committee will determine if there are any specific selections that we customarily include from the Birnbaum Mahzor that did not make their way into Mahzor Lev Shalem. Then we'll decide whether to truly omit them, or chant the verses anyway if they are part of our synagogue's custom. Duchening, the blessing of the congregation by the Kohanim, is included in the Mahzor. Carl Goldstein would be proud to see that the tradition that involves his whole family will continue.

One new section of the Mahzor, entitled "Prayers of Brokenness and Wholeness", is named for the notes of the shofar whose names mean broken ("shvarim") and whole ("tkiah"). It contains new prayers and poems from contemporary rabbis, liturgists, poets, and theologians. Selections include a variety of "mi sheberachs" for the community, its leaders, those who are ill, our families, and prayers for healing in a community. These selections are intended to be recited before the sounding of the Shofar.

We are grateful for donations from funds set up by the Gordon family and the Goldstein family which subsidized this major purchase. If you would like to donate a Mahzor to the synagogue in honor or in memory of a family member or friend, please contact Andrea in the Temple office. For a donation of \$44, we will place a book plate noting your contribution. Israel Bookshop and Kol Bo have the Mahzor Lev Shalem available for sale for members who wish to purchase their own copies, at \$44 each.

Our old Mahzorim are going to a good home. Temple Beth Shalom of Cambridge, the "Tremont Street Shul" will inherit many of our Birnbaum Mahzorim that are in good condition. We are glad to see these books will still be used in another congregation in the Boston area.

Like a new pair of shoes, this Rosh Hashanah we'll be trying a new Mahzor on for size. It may pinch in some places, or feel awkward in others. But after walking around for a while, we'll get used to it. And for many years to come, we will return to it as its pages become worn, its words become familiar, and our prayers truly come from "a full heart."

June and July Yahrzeit List

Plaque Loc.	Name	Yahrzeit Date	Plaque Loc.	Name	Yahrzeit Date
5-4	Irma Salus	13-Jun Tammuz 01	6-4	Sylvia Seidman	15-Jul Av 04
6-3	Barbara Griff Kappitt	14-Jun Tammuz 02	5-2	Samuel Elkins	15-Jul Av 04
2-1	Elizabeth Berman	15-Jun Tammuz 03	4-3	Mary Simon	15-Jul Av 04
1-4	Max Wolk	15-Jun Tammuz 03	2-1	Joseph Bloomthal	16-Jul Av 05
5-2	Elizabeth Barack	16-Jun Tammuz 04	3-1	Sarah Pearl Becker	16-Jul Av 05
3-3	James Cohn	16-Jun Tammuz 04	3-3	Abraham Isaac Pedell	17-Jul Av 06
1-4	Louis Rouffe	16-Jun Tammuz 04		Roberta Lederman	17-Jul Av 06
1-1	Ephraim Burofsky	17-Jun Tammuz 05	1-4	Aaron Sheer	18-Jul Av 07
1-2	Benjamin Kaitz	17-Jun Tammuz 05	4-3	Benjamin Lawrence Lerman	19-Jul Av 08
6-3	Bernard Wolf	18-Jun Tammuz 06	4-2	Joseph Kaplan	19-Jul Av 08
4-1	Joseph Norman	19-Jun Tammuz 07	2-3	Etta Meyerovitz	19-Jul Av 08
3-1	Louis Kaswell	19-Jun Tammuz 07	6-1	Paul Lewis Ginsburg	20-Jul Av 09
6-4	Sumner Ginsburg	20-Jun Tammuz 08	3-4	Chaya Zacharewich	20-Jul Av 09
	Rubin Mallick	21-Jun Tammuz 09	3-3	Rachel Leah Ingber	20-Jul Av 09
1-2	Manuel Greenblott	21-Jun Tammuz 09	2-1	Bernard Bloomenthal	22-Jul Av 11
6-3	Harry Marion	21-Jun Tammuz 09	2-3	Paul Onigman	22-Jul Av 11
6-1	Manuel Shlager	22-Jun Tammuz 10	6-3	Howard Paul Mermelstein	23-Jul Av 12
	Ben Goldstein	23-Jun Tammuz 11	4-3	Coleman Wexler	25-Jul Av 14
1-3	Frank Milesky	23-Jun Tammuz 11	4-3	Ellen Leavy	26-Jul Av 15
5-2	Elsa Stux	24-Jun Tammuz 12	2-4	Fannie Zelinetsky	28-Jul Av 17
3-4	Morris Joel Tuchfeld	24-Jun Tammuz 12	1-1	Dina Ella Backer	28-Jul Av 17
3-1	Annie Margolis	26-Jun Tammuz 14	2-4	Samuel Tatelman	29-Jul Av 18
2-3	Philip Merowitz	26-Jun Tammuz 14	5-3	Nathan Ullian	29-Jul Av 18
3-3	Aaron Mendelsohn	26-Jun Tammuz 14	3-1	Sadye Canter	30-Jul Av 19
	Philip Weinstein	27-Jun Tammuz 15	1-4	Hannah Mollie Sheer	30-Jul Av 19
3-4	Harry Smith	27-Jun Tammuz 15	5-3	Harold Bloom	30-Jul Av 19
	David Freedman	27-Jun Tammuz 15	3-3	Molly Sheer	30-Jul Av 19
1-4	Moishe Simon	28-Jun Tammuz 16		Hyman Kulin	31-Jul Av 20
5-4	Irving Altman	28-Jun Tammuz 16		Adele Ullian	31-Jul Av 20
3-2	Philip Fischer	29-Jun Tammuz 17	1-1	Samuel Blackstone	1-Aug Av 21
	Louis Goldstein	29-Jun Tammuz 17	2-3	Moses Nochemsohn	2-Aug Av 22
5-2	Hannah Canter	30-Jun Tammuz 18	5-3	Anna Esther Katz	2-Aug Av 22
3-3	Dora Levine	30-Jun Tammuz 18	1-3	Israel Pill	2-Aug Av 22
6-4	Beatrice Bloom	1-Jul Tammuz 19	2-2	Walter Kaplan	5-Aug Av 25
3-1	Bessie Levine Hauser	1-Jul Tammuz 19	3-3	William Michaelson	6-Aug Av 26
1-1	David Bronfman	2-Jul Tammuz 20	6-3	Harris Greene	6-Aug Av 26
3-4	Harry Joseph Rosenfeld	2-Jul Tammuz 20		Katherine Sidell	7-Aug Av 27
4-4	Marc David Marion	2-Jul Tammuz 20	5-1	Jacob Solomon Merowitz	7-Aug Av 27
4-3	Morris Canter	3-Jul Tammuz 21	4-2	Blanche Levison	7-Aug Av 27
1-2	Bessie Gordon	4-Jul Tammuz 22	6-1	Corinne Freeman	7-Aug Av 27
3-4	Max Sulkin	5-Jul Tammuz 23	2-3	Aaron Mendelsohn	8-Aug Av 28
5-3	Ruth Milesky	5-Jul Tammuz 23	3-2	Ethel Griff	9-Aug Av 29
4-2	Rebecca Wolk	6-Jul Tammuz 24		Oscar Davidson	10-Aug Av 30
4-1	Mason Griff	6-Jul Tammuz 24			
5-2	Charlotte Pearl Shlager	8-Jul Tammuz 26			
5-1	Bella Larks	9-Jul Tammuz 27			
	Father of Richard Goldberg	9-Jul Tammuz 27			
4-1	Abraham Caplan	11-Jul Tammuz 29			
6-3	Andrew Wolf Decker	11-Jul Tammuz 29			
2-1	Esther Canter	11-Jul Tammuz 29			
5-3	Gladys Milesky	12-Jul Av 01			
6-3	Sylvia Levin	13-Jul Av 02			
3-2	Fannie Weiner	13-Jul Av 02			
3-3	Maurice Tushin	14-Jul Av 03			
3-4	Benjamin Sheer	15-Jul Av 04			

If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one listed above please send it along with a brief note of who you would like remembered to the Temple Office.

Friday Night Services

There will be no Friday Night Services over the Summer...See you in the Fall.

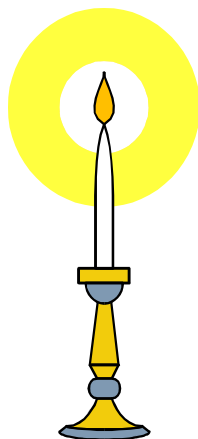
We Need Minyanaires

Services are held at 7:00am on weekdays (except Tuesday) and at 9:00am on weekends & holidays.

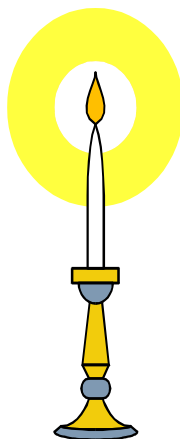
Kaddish

If you need to recite Kaddish, please let the Temple know at least 2 days ahead of time.

Candle Lighting Times



June 4	7:58pm
June 11	8:03pm
June 18	8:06pm
June 25	8:07pm
July 2	8:07pm
July 9	8:05pm
July 16	8:01pm
July 23	7:56pm
July 30	7:49pm
August 6	7:41pm



Kiddush Sponsors

If you would like to sponsor a Kiddush lunch contact the Temple office. Suggested donation is \$100.

Freedman-Kaitz JWV Post 556 - in honor of Memorial Day.

Nessie and Herb Baron - July 3 - in honor of Nessie's Birthday

In Honor of Morris and Edith Hollender's 60th wedding anniversary from:

Sheila and Irving Lesnick
Herb and Nessie Baron
Harry and Ann Baker
Ben and Erika Cohen

Donations

Joshua & Heather Gustin, Noah, Benjamin & Mackayla Gustin, Rebecca & Tom Gill and Hannah Gill, in loving memory of Sandra E. Gustin.

George Kaitz, in memory of Samuel Kaitz.

Dianne and Burt Gesserman in honor of the marriage of Aaron Goldstein and Jessica Leiken.

Sisterhood

There will be a Sisterhood Breakfast Meeting on Sunday July 11th at 10:00am. There will be entertainment by Mr. Steve Rando.

Please contact Nessie Baron if you plan to attend. 781-899-3866

Thank You

Thanks to a generous donation from the Lexington Area Now women's group, Al Bloom, Bernice Sisson and Norman Kandler, Erika Cohen and Rebecca Jones-Bloom we have set up a Haftorah Program Fund in memory of Jeanne Bloom.

At this time we are collecting names of Temple members that would like to learn to chant Haftorah and will put together a class in the fall. Contact the office if you are interested.

Unveiling

On Sunday June 27th at 11:00am at Beth Israel Memorial Park, there will be an unveiling for Lillian Levine.

Temple Beth Israel
P O Box 540182
Waltham, MA 02454-0182
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Temple Beth Israel Donation Form

For your convenience, please use this form to make your donations and send to:
Temple Beth Israel, P O Box 540182, Waltham, MA 02454-0182

I have chosen the fund indicated at the right:
(Please use a separate form for each fund. Minimum donation: \$10)

Attached is my check in the amount of: \$ _____

The donation is being made
In Honor Of _____

In Memory Of _____
Other _____

This donation is made by:
Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip _____

Please send acknowledgement to:
Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip _____

- Beautification
- General Fund
- Guest Speakers
- Library
- Prayer Book
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Adult Programs
- Morris Hollender Music Appreciation Fund
- Ellen Leavy Memorial Fund
- Carl Goldstein Siddur Fund
- Irving Etkind upgraded sound system fund
- Other, please specify: _____