



Ma CHADASHI!

What's New! The newsletter of Temple Shalom Synagogue Center, Auburn, Maine

מה חדש!

ק"ק היכל שלום

January 2017/Tevet/Shevat 5777

Israel 2017!

December 24, 2017 to January 3, 2018
(a two-day Tzfat extension is also available).

We will be traveling together with Beth Israel Congregation and Rabbi Rachel Isaacs!

Limited number of spaces available, so please sign up right away. All signups are due by January 15, 2017: \$100 per person--initial deposit required to reserve your space.

The cost will run approximately \$2,200 per participant (the final cost varies slightly depending on the actual number of participants), plus airfare.

We will purchase our airline tickets as a group in February (or you can arrange your own travel if you like).

Note: As the trip costs are difficult for some, please let me know privately if you might be willing to help subsidize a trip(s) for someone who would like to go but cannot afford the cost.

Please contact Rabbi Sruli with any questions or concerns.

This will be an amazing one-of-a-kind trip into the heart of Israel that will remain in *our* hearts for years and years.



FROM THE RABBI...



Hi Everyone.

We live in a world where we have become accustomed to reading about the worst atrocities on a daily basis. Bombings, suicide bombings, aerial bombings, mass shootings... Yet one news item from several weeks ago caused me to especially recoil in horror. It was reported that two girls, aged 7 or 8, blew themselves up in a bustling market in Nigeria, killing themselves and injuring at least 17. Almost certainly the work of the Islamist terrorist group, Boko Haram. An eyewitness described the scene:

"They got out of a rickshaw and walked right in front of me without showing the slightest sign of emotion," he said. "I tried to speak with one of them, in Hausa and in English, but she didn't answer. I thought they were looking for their mother." One of the girls "headed toward the poultry sellers, and then detonated her explosives belt.

I have no doubt that my intense personal reaction was due, at least in part, to the fact that I am the father of two children who are currently 7, almost 8. Could I, as their father, persuade my children to don suicide belts and trigger them in the middle of a crowd of people? Easily. These are children who still believe in the tooth fairy, who trust me implicitly, who would (and do) believe any number of lies I choose to tell them.

So what could possibly motivate someone to use and abuse children in this gruesome manner? In this case, it is an Islamist political agenda. Boko Haram (whose name loosely means "Western ways are forbidden" and who gained notoriety in 2014 for kidnapping more than 200 schoolgirls), is fighting to establish an Islamic state. Its official name is *Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad*, which in Arabic means, "People Committed to the Propagation of the Prophet's Teachings and Jihad." In what universe would people actually conclude that their faith allows (or demands) children, their own children, to kill themselves and murder others as a means of establishing a religious state or culture?

Religion, at its best, recognizes, teaches and enforces moral values that must be adhered to even in our quest to "propagate" our teachings, even when we find ourselves severely threatened, or at war. Religion, at its worst, grants permission to indulge in humanity's coarsest and basest bloodlusts so long as it's "for the cause," so long as we believe we are doing God's will.

This kind of twisted thinking can penetrate any cause, anywhere. If the death of these innocent children (and the innocents that they murdered) is to have any meaning, it is to remind us that God want us to recognize limits, to be passionately humane, even, perhaps especially, when we believe we are fighting for God's honor.

May our zeal to "propagate" our tradition be tempered by kindness and *mentschlichkeit*.

Rabbi Sruli

P.S. Rabbi Sruli will be teaching a course at Senior College in Lewiston on January 24 from 12 to 2 p.m. The course is entitled: "Souls on Fire—The Mystical World of the Hasidim in Story, Music and Song." This class is only open to members of Senior College.



Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members of our Temple. Please call Rabbi Sruli on his cellphone at 914-980-9509 if you would like to speak with him or to arrange a time for a meeting. You can also call or leave a message at the Temple office and Rabbi Sruli will get back to you.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Anne sent me the following that was read at one of her yoga classes. It struck a chord with me and maybe it will with you as well. Take minute to read and absorb it. It is a quote from Rachel Brathen, a Swedish author and yoga instructor. "If you're feeling frightened about what comes next, don't be. Embrace the uncertainty. Allow it to lead you places. Be brave as it challenges you to exercise both your heart and your mind as you create your own path towards happiness. Don't waste time with regret. Spin wildly into your next action. Enjoy the present, each moment, as it comes; because you'll never get another one quite like it. And if you should ever look up and find yourself lost, simply take a breath and start over. Retrace your steps and go back to the purest place in your heart... where your hope lives. You'll find your way again."

Temple Shalom runs on two types of energy. The first is money. Rarely do I pass on an opportunity to ask for money. So as not to disappoint you...don't forget to donate to Temple Shalom. Your Board continues to use your funds wisely, but more is needed. OK, breathe easy. That is my money pitch for the month.

The second is people. We are a small, but vibrant community. We have a great rabbi and rebbetzin. Our office manager, Julie, is second to none. Joe does a great job opening and closing and taking care of the maintenance. We have many dedicated volunteers. The Board is composed of volunteers. Each committee is composed of volunteers. Those making breakfast on Thursday mornings are volunteers and the cleanup crew is made up of volunteers. However, we need more people to help out, not just the same people. We need more people to help cook on Thursday mornings or to help set up for Passover or to serve on a committee.

Jonathan Sacks, a British rabbi and philosopher, said about volunteerism, "Jews know this in their bones. Our community could not exist without its volunteers. They are the lifeblood of our organization..." This is true about many organizations and especially true about Temple Shalom.

Temple Shalom, your temple, needs your help. Call me or the rabbi or a committee chair or a Board member and ask how you can help with your talents and time. Here are some of the committees: Kitchen, Cemetery, House (maintain the building and grounds, but not the physical work), Ritual, Land (investigating the potential sale of some land that does not impact our use of the building or land we currently use), Program and Social Action, Fund Raising and others.

If not one of those committees, maybe you want to start something else to benefit the Temple and the local Jewish community. Maybe you want to start a Jewish Thrift shop or put together a game night at the temple or have monthly Sunday morning breakfasts without a speaker, but maybe with a discussion topic. The opportunities are limitless.

When you finish this article, don't just go onto the next one or skim the rest of the newsletter. Sit back, think about how you can help. Think about how your abilities, talents and/or time can help the Temple grow and continue to be the home we love.

For our Temple to continue to be a success, we need more people to step up and donate their time. We need more people to step up and donate their talents. We need more people to step up and donate their energy. Will you help? Will you be a part of the continued success of a small community in Central Maine?

David Allen

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Our next meeting will be on
Monday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m.



2017

Musical
Kabbalat
Shabbat

Celebrate the First Shabbat of 2017!
Friday, January 6th
This will be our first
Musical Shabbat Service
to be held at a *Family-Friendly*, 5:30 pm!
Pot Luck dinner following the Service
(Please bring a dairy or vegetarian dish or dessert)



**Temple Shalom is Happy to Accept Donations of
Judaica, Books, Art and Other Property**

If you have Judaica, Jewish Books, Art, Jewelry or other valuable items, please consider donating to the Temple. Your donations (whether of money or property) are always appreciated! Deductions of property may be tax-deductible, where appropriate. *Please be advised, that all donations become the property of the Temple, and that the Temple may dispose of any donated property in any manner that it sees fit, including selling, giving or throwing away.*



MLK Day at Bates

Sunday, January 15–7 to 8 P.M.

Once again, the Temple Shalom community will observe MLK Day by participating in the annual Bates College Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Service. Please join Rabbi Sruli and Lisa in a musical offering from our community—song sheets will be provided. The service will be held in the Peter J. Gomes Chapel, corner Campus Avenue and College Street, from 7-8 p.m. The guest preacher is Rev. Dr. Chaz Howard, the Chaplain and Dean of Religious and Spiritual Life at the University of Pennsylvania. The service will be full of music, art, reflection, and word!

CONDOLENCES

We extend our condolences on the recent passing of Gladys Freedman, Joy Zidle's sister.
May God comfort you together with all the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

From Amy Waterman, Guest Curator of the Upcoming Exhibition and Programs on Maine's Jewish People, Communities, and Culture at the Maine State Museum:

In the spring of 2018 and continuing through much of 2019, the Maine State Museum in Augusta will present a major exhibition, *Maine + Jewish: Two Centuries of Jewish Life in Maine*. This will be the largest public exhibit on the subject ever presented, addressing the distinct qualities and circumstances of Jewish life in Maine, and the contributions of Jewish Mainers to the state – from the earliest Jewish immigrants to today's cultural, business, and civic leaders. The MSM is committed to representing all parts of Maine, including, of course, Lewiston-Auburn, and would be delighted to incorporate your stories and materials: items associated with life cycle events and simchas, Jewish-run businesses, Jewish education, social justice movements, summer camps, synagogues, community agencies, home practices and foodways ... the gamut. If you have ideas, suggestions, treasures, or memories, please be in touch with Guest Curator Amy E. Waterman (aew.writes@gmail.com or 207-725-6601).

MAZEL TOV

To long-time member Sherman Shapiro, who celebrated his 99th birthday on December 3rd!

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!BOOK GROUP NEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mother Nature is at it again! Book Group got canceled in December, so we decided to meet a half hour earlier in January and discuss *The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen then.



We will also talk about Ayad Akhtar's *American Dervish*. Get this book on Kindle or from the library, as this seems to be an important look into being Muslim in America. Here's the book description:

"Hayat Shah is a young American in love for the first time. His normal life of school, baseball, and video games had previously been distinguished only by his Pakistani heritage and by the frequent chill between his parents, who fight over things he is too young to understand. Then Mina arrives, and everything changes.

Mina is Hayat's mother's oldest friend from Pakistan. She is independent, beautiful and intelligent, and arrives on the Shah's doorstep when her disastrous marriage in Pakistan disintegrates. Even Hayat's skeptical father can't deny the liveliness and happiness that accompanies Mina into their home. Her deep spirituality brings the family's Muslim faith to life in a way that resonates with Hayat as nothing has before. Studying the Quran by Mina's side and basking in the glow of her attention, he feels an entirely new purpose mingled with a growing infatuation for his teacher.

When Mina meets and begins dating a man, Hayat is confused by his feelings of betrayal. His growing passions, both spiritual and romantic, force him to question all that he has come to believe is true. Just as Mina finds happiness, Hayat is compelled to act -- with devastating consequences for all those he loves most.

American Dervish is a brilliantly written, nuanced, and emotionally forceful look inside the interplay of religion and modern life. Ayad Akhtar was raised in the Midwest himself, and through Hayat Shah he shows readers vividly the powerful forces at work on young men and women growing up Muslim in America. This is an intimate, personal first novel that will stay with readers long after they turn the last page."

So join us on JANUARY 9 at 3:30.....lesli



**This month's traditional and musical
Kabbalat Shabbat Service
will be held on Friday, January 20 at 7 p.m.**

The Service will be followed by an Oneg Shabbat.

There will be no Shabbat Services on Saturday, January 21.

Yahrzeiten

If you are observing a yahrzeit and are planning to come to Thursday morning minyan to say Kaddish, we urge you to contact **Bob Laskoff** (ral@laskofflaw.com) and let him know so that he can include that information in his weekly reminder email. It is your responsibility to call friends and neighbors to make sure there are enough people for the minyan.



We all enjoy our Thursday morning Minyans and breakfast schmoozes. **HELP!** We need volunteers to shop and setup. A sign-up sheet is in the kitchen.

Check out the display on table in the lobby – pick up your bag today!



CLYNK!!

The newest, easiest way to support Temple Shalom.
Redeem your empty bottles and cans at any Hannafords.

1. Pick up a green CLYNK bag at the Temple.
2. Take home and FILL with empty bottles & cans.
3. Bring to Hannaford redemption.
4. Scan barcode label.
5. Drop full bag into bin.

That's it!

Because of the bar-code, Hannaford knows to send the money to our Temple.



Third Multi-Faith Round Table at the Auburn Public Library on Tuesday, January 10, 12:30 P.M.

The Auburn Public Library is very excited to announce the return of the Multi-Faith Roundtable discussions. The All-Clergy Round Table will continue Tuesday, February 7. All programs run from 12:30 to 1:30PM.

Rabbi Sruli will be joined by Pastor Roger Cousineau of East Auburn Baptist Church, Rev. Doctor Jody Cohen Hayashida of First Universalist Church in New Auburn, and Pastor Richard Waller of the Auburn Church of the Nazarene.

Copies of the Biblical texts will be provided, and the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions.

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of Gary Buckman, Deborah Frank Burdo, Michelle Lisi Deloro, Enid Ehrlich, Fleck Family, Anne Geller, Ariella Green, Christie James, Elizabeth Johnson, Mark Johnson, Bethany Kornstadt, George Laskoff, Sandy Miller, Ashley Olstein, Joel Salberg, Roger Sutherberg, Sandy Traister, Toby Wallach, Neal Weiner, Malca Wilner, Betty Wise, and all others who are not well at this time.



We like to hear good news! Whenever you request that a name be put on this list, please let us know when that name can be removed.

A BISSEL OF MAINE - Upcoming Events

Maine Jewish Film Festival, www.mjff.org - March 18-25, 2017

Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning (in Maine), www.meltonschool.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome our newest members to our Temple Shalom Family!

Briana Robillard and daughter Pepper from Yarmouth

Keith Seltzer of Brunswick

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Ellen & Aaron Burke	Jan	21
Robert & Jackie Laskoff		29

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Sarah Olstein	Jan.	1
Henry Meyer		3
Becca Platz		9
Cynthia Hart		10
Susan Lifter		10
Sofe Silverman		10
Neal Weiner		12
Elyse Bodenheimer		14
Rachel Fakhery		16
Adrienne Rau		17
Victoria Cohen		20
Gillian Schair		20
Susan Teich		22
Bertha Bodenheimer		23
Rosa Cohen		23
Kristine Rausch		23
Behzad Fakhery		25
Sandra Traister		25
Jackie Laskoff		29

JANUARY 2017 YAHRZEITEN

(Yahrzeits begin at nightfall on the evening prior to the date listed below)

Marcia Bell	Jan.	2
Mazie Schwartz		2
Harry Drabkin		5
Keyla Fuks		7
Deborah Isaacson		9
Joseph Wilner		14
Peter Olejer		16
Pauline Cohen		16
Ida Wilner		17
Michael Shain		18
Ida Benson		19
Walter Jaeger		19
Sylvia Kutzen		20
Ruth S. Williams		20
Marie Rau Stein		21
Elsie Goodman		22
Ida Finks		28
Morris Fishman		28
Ellen Schleicher Bodenheimer		29
Celia Supovitz		31
Bernard Weiner		31

Ma Chadash/What's New is published monthly by Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center. Temple Shalom is an independent congregation and a member of the Lewiston-Auburn Jewish Federation.

The mission of Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center is to foster a strong Jewish identity and an active Jewish Community.

Rabbi Sruli Dresdner

Office Manager Julie Waite

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Vice President	Lesli Weiner
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Budget/Finance/Endowment	Stan Tetenman
Cemetery	Henry Meyer
Hebrew School/Education	Allyson Casares
Personnel	
Programming/Social Action	Phyllis Graber Jensen Paula Marcus-Platz
Preschool	Allyson Casares
Fund Raising	

Temple Shalom office hours are
9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Monday-Friday

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Telephone: 914-980-9509

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND

Jerryanne LaPerriere

In memory of Sylvia LaPerriere

Ellen & Aaron Burke

In memory of Aunt Adele

Tom & Paula Marcus-Platz

In memory of Marcy Plavin

Nancy & Ken Levinsky

In honor of Aaron Burke's birthday

Philip Laine

In memory of Renee Laine

Joy & Lewis Zidle

In memory of Allen Bean

In memory of Max Lezberg

Elcha Buckman

In memory of Harvey Shain

Donna & Arthur Silverman

In memory of Morris Silverman

Lesli & Neal Weiner

In memory of Gladys Freedman

Cathy & Stan Tetenman

In memory of Gladys Freedman

Beverly Hurwitz

In memory of Morris Supovitz

BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND

Bertha Bodenheimer

Speedy recovery to Marilyn Simonds

To Carol & Seth Alberts in honor of their
20th anniversary

MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

Tom & Paula Marcus-Platz

In memory of Marcy Plavin

Carla Marcus

In memory of Charles W. Marcus

In memory of Rose P. Marcus

NUSSINOW NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

Funds are used to support the Temple Shalom Nursery/Preschool

Lois & Ben Barr

Speedy recovery to Malca Wilner

Speedy recovery to Marilyn Simonds

Estelle Rubinstein

Speedy recovery to Marilyn Simonds

Amy & Scott Nussinow

In memory of Abraham Krasner

Helene & Lewis Perry

In memory of Gladys Freedman

In memory of Helene's parents, Mazie
& Maynard Schwartz

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Joel & Sheri Olstein

In appreciation

Nancy & Ken Levinsky

In memory of Morris Silverman

Sam & Bob Allen

In memory of Morris Zallen

Adele Silverman

In memory of Morris Silverman

RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND

Malca Wilner

Speedy recovery to Marilyn Simonds

SHIRLEY GOODMAN MEMORIAL FUND

For interior decoration and maintenance

Joel Goodman

In memory of Elsie Goodman

CEMETERY FUND

Andrea Levinsky

In memory of Morris Silverman

ABROMSON MEMORIAL FUND

BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND

COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND

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EVE & GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

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MITZVAH FUND

PULPIT/PRAYER BOOK FUND

*Thank
You*

Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center

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JANUARY 2017

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JANUARY AT TEMPLE SHALOM

Tuesday, 1/2		Office Closed
Thursday, 1/5	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Friday, 1/6	5:30 pm	Musical Service followed by Potluck Dinner – RSVP!
Saturday, 1/7	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Monday, 1/9	3:30 pm	Book Group
	5:15 pm	Program Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Board Meeting
Tuesday, 1/10	12:30 pm	Multi-faith Round Table at APL
Thursday, 1/12	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 1/14	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sunday, 1/15	7:00 pm	MLK Day Interfaith Service at Bates College
Thursday, 1/19	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Friday, 1/20	7:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Saturday, 1/21		NO Shabbat Service
Thursday, 1/26	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 1/28	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sunday, 1/29	10:00 am	Hebrew School

