



**MA CHADASHI!** מה חדש!

What's New! The newsletter of Temple Shalom Synagogue Center, Auburn, Maine ק"ק היכל שלום

August 2017/Av/Elul 5777

*Bonnie and Larry Faïman  
Cordially Invite the  
Temple Shalom Community to our  
Fourth-Annual  
Kiddush Levana Event!*



*When: Saturday, August 5, at 7:00 pm  
Where: At the home of Bonnie and Larry Faïman,  
1 Shore Path Road, in Auburn.*

*Dessert and scintillating conversation will be served.*

*The Kiddush Levana/Havdallah service will be  
accompanied by Instrumental music, singing, and dancing.*

*Please RSVP, 786-4201 or [temple6359@aol.com](mailto:temple6359@aol.com)*

## FROM THE RABBI...



Hi Everyone.

There was a mutiny at services last Thursday morning. The weekly Torah portion describes the importance of keeping your solemn vows. If you are a man. If you are a woman, however, your vow is only valid if your husband affirms it. The Torah gives a husband the absolute right to void any of his wife's vows.

As you might imagine, there was a spontaneous uproar from virtually all of the women present. My luck, it was a particularly well attended service.

Despite my valiant attempts to put some kind of positive spin on this—the importance of inviolable oral vows to a semi-literate society, or, isn't it wonderful that the Torah provides a mechanism to annul vows that may have been rashly made or were perhaps coerced or manipulated?—the fact remains that this passage is undeniably sexist.

So what do we do about this? For me, ignoring passages such as these is not an option. So long as we venerate our Torah scroll—insist that it be written on parchment with the traditional goose quill pen and ink, cover it with beautifully embroidered velvet and adorn it with silver crowns, parade it at Kol Nidre, and dance with it on Simchat Torah—we have, in my opinion, a responsibility to thoroughly examine its contents. (And let's not forget that the more Orthodox segments of our Jewish society, whom we rightly admire for their commitment to tradition and their success in transmitting their values to their children, do so at the cost of relegating their women to subservient and, to me, demeaning roles, sourced, in part, on Torah passages such as these.)

So, I point out that the Torah is a very old document. That women's rights are a very new idea in Western society. That, for its time, the Torah is often very progressive. In this case, it is likely that in ancient societies women's vows were not to be taken seriously at all. Also, the right the Torah gives the husband to void his wife's vows is very circumscribed. He must annul the vow on the day he is told of it or he forfeits his right. The lesson then is, just as the Torah is at the leading edge of women's rights for its time, we need to be at the forefront of women's rights for our time.

Still, passages like these are a very hard pill for women to swallow. I was even concerned that perhaps our community had been irreparably damaged.

But then, we opened the Ark, chanted the prayer, and paraded the Torah around the chapel. Each of the women took a corner of their tallit, a ritual garment which was, until recently, only worn by men, and lovingly kissed the Torah.

Phew.

Rabbi Sruli

P.S. On Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., Rabbi Sruli and Lisa will be performing at the Gazebo on the lawn at Poland Spring Resort. This concert is free and open to the public.



**Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members of our Temple. Please call Rabbi Sruli on his cell phone 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



Summer is half over, but we still have many great programs. Did you get to the Olstein's for Shabbat on the Lake? It was a cloudy morning, but the sun finally came through. There's nothing like celebrating Shabbat on the lake...outdoors...nature...looking out at Taylor Pond. Don't forget we have Rosh Chodesh at Berth's cottage and Havdallah at the Faiman's...both on Taylor Pond. Both cottages are on the east shore, so you will see beautiful sunsets. Try to join us for at least one.

As many of you know, we have started the first phase of bringing the cemetery up to higher standards. We are starting with the section to the right as you walk into the Beth Jacob cemetery. We are scraping off the old grass, adding soil and seeding. This is a multi-phase project and will take a couple of years to complete. When you have a chance, take a ride to the cemetery and let us know your thoughts. Scott Nussinow has been leading this effort and is doing a great job. Thank you, Scott!

It is now time for the Second Annual Dollar-A-Day to begin. Last year's Dollar-A-Day was a great success with many people contributing who have not contributed in the past. With Dollar-A-Day you commit to donating just one dollar every day to the Temple. Now, just about everyone in our community can afford a single dollar a day. Maybe skip a couple of cups of Starbucks coffee...maybe just use the change that accumulates in your pocket at the end of the day. Last year we had 31 families participate in Dollar-A-Day. Our goal this year is 50. (Temple Shalom has about 90 member units that includes families, couples and singles.)

To join Dollar-A-Day, just call or email me ([David@AllenMfgUSA.com](mailto:David@AllenMfgUSA.com) or 207-333-3385) or Julie ([Temple6359@AOL.com](mailto:Temple6359@AOL.com) or 207-786-4201). You can pay daily, monthly or all in one lump sum. For this, we can even take credit cards. (Keep in mind, we pay the credit card company 3%. So if you pay \$100 by credit card, the Temple only gets \$97.)

Why should everyone participate in Dollar-A-Day? Running the Temple costs money. If you want a Temple or if you use the Temple just a couple of times a year, maybe just for High Holidays or Yahrzeit or just to have a rabbi for a funeral, then it is your responsibility to help out as much as you can. Can you really say that you cannot afford a single dollar every day? Can you really tell yourself that it is not MY responsibility? Can you really just let someone else support the Temple?

Over the past year, we raised enough money to not pull any money out of our investments... nothing...not principle, interest or growth...for the first time in over 25 years. This is a great achievement and it is thanks to all of you for supporting the Temple. However, to make sure we continue on the road to financial stability, we need to continue to raise money. Your one dollar a day helps us reach that goal.

Again, last year we had 31 families participate. This year our goal is 50. Will you help? Will you do your part? Will you support Jewish life in Central Maine?

David Allen  
President



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Our next meeting will be on  
Monday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m.

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



Summer is here. A great time to relax and read a good book like *As Close To Us As Breathing*. Gathering on July 10 was Bertha Bodenheimer, Adele Silverman, Helene Perry, Sandy Traister and me, Lesli Weiner. The author, Elizabeth Poliner, who teaches creative writing, had us all hooked as the story opens with the death of Davey, the youngest member of this

family saga. She reveals the details throughout the novel, along with how the extended family members deal with their grief and guilt. Yes, read this book!

Our next book comes highly recommended, so I can't wait to start it. *The One Man* is by Andrew Gross who is a bestselling writer of thrillers, plus has coauthored 5 number one bestsellers with James Patterson. *The One Man* is a haunting tale of WWII, and while it's fiction, I am told it really had the feeling of a true story. Here is the book description:

"Poland. 1944. Alfred Mendl and his family are brought on a crowded train to a Nazi concentration camp after being caught trying to flee Paris with forged papers. His family is torn away from him on arrival, his life's work burned before his eyes. To the guards, he is just another prisoner, but in fact Mendl—a renowned physicist—holds knowledge that only two people in the world possess. And the other is already at work for the Nazi war machine.

Four thousand miles away, in Washington, DC, Intelligence lieutenant Nathan Blum routinely decodes messages from occupied Poland. Having escaped the Krakow ghetto as a teenager after the Nazis executed his family, Nathan longs to do more for his new country in the war. But never did he expect the proposal he receives from "Wild" Bill Donovan, head of the OSS: to sneak into the most guarded place on earth, a living hell, on a mission to find and escape with one man, the one man the Allies believe can ensure them victory in the war.

Bursting with compelling characters and tense story lines, this historical thriller from *New York Times* bestseller Andrew Gross is a deeply affecting, unputdownable series of twists and turns through a landscape at times horrifyingly familiar but still completely new and compelling."

Don't you want to read it too? So join us on MONDAY, AUGUST 14 at 4:00 PM.....lesli

## SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of **Gary Buckman, Deborah Frank Burdo, John Calloway, Carson Hudson, Michelle Lisi Deloro, Enid Ehrlich, Fleck Family, Marcia Fuller, Isaak Gekhtin, Anne Geller, Ariella Green, Elizabeth Johnson, Mark Johnson, Bethany Kornstadt, George Laskoff, Susan Lifter, Sandy Miller, Ashley Olstein, Joel Salberg, Rabbi David Ross Senter, Roger Sutherberg, Sandy Traister, Toby Wallach, Neal Weiner, 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.





# Night Tree at Temple Shalom

## Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.



**Rooted** in original works spanning from the **Celtic world**, sextet Night Tree creates **original music** that borrows from the Swedish, Jewish and American folk tradition. **Night Tree** was named the 2016-2017 **Wildcard Honors Ensemble** at the **New England Conservatory of Music**.

*“I am still reeling from your concert and all I heard and experienced there.”*  
*“Simply wonderful!! In addition to having a strong, beautiful musical sensibility, the six of you all seem to have been hand-picked by the Cosmos to play together; your spirits are in perfect sync.”*

### \$5 Suggested Donation

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#### **MAZEL TOV TO**

Andrew Casares who was awarded the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Award during his 6th grade promotion. He was chosen for this award because he "exemplifies the ideals of tolerance, acceptance and kindness and because he sees the person and not the disability." We are very proud of his work with the children in his school who have intellectual and physical disabilities.

With great pride we have made a donation to the Mitzvah Fund in honor of Andrew's award.

Ally and Peter Casares



**This month's traditional and musical  
Kabbalat Shabbat Service  
will be held on Friday, August 11 at 7 p.m.**

**The Service will be followed by an Oneg Shabbat.**

**There will be no Shabbat Services on Saturday, August 12.**

### **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](mailto: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.

**ATTENTION.** May Temple Shalom live l'dor v'dor!!! To help support this ancient Jewish wish, the Temple Shalom Board has created a Legacy Committee. I am proud to have been asked by the Board to be its Chairperson. We are tasked to design and offer an inspiring and exciting workshop for all members and unaffiliated area Jews to answer any questions about implementing a legacy for Temple Shalom in your estate plans and wills. Until then, PLEASE feel free to contact me with any suggestions, questions or concerns you may have. Your inquiries will be confidential.

Dr. Elcha Buckman at 781-799-2110 and/or [dr.elcha@yahoo.com](mailto:dr.elcha@yahoo.com)

# JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL FEMALE-ONLY EVENT TO WELCOME THE NEW MOON ROSH CHODESH

at Bertha Bodenheimer's summer cottage on Taylor Pond.  
74 Waterview Rd., Auburn, cell phone: 203-918-0460

MONDAY, AUGUST 21  
5:30PM  
POTLUCK



It's a fun gathering full of song, food  
and conversation.

Please RSVP with intended  
potluck contribution  
786-4201 or [temple6359@aol.com](mailto:temple6359@aol.com)

Directions: from Hotel Road take East Shore Road. This is the same road you take to the Faiman's home and to the Olstein's home.

Take the first right which is Waterview Drive. My cottage is 7 houses down on the water side. Both cottages are gray and there is a marker on the tree.

For those of you who know the Olstein's cottage I am only 4 down from them. Parking is tight so those of you who do not mind walking can park at the Olstein's. In my yard, please park close together and one behind the other 2 deep so we can park about 10 cars.

## **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

Neal & Lesli Weiner	Aug	3
Harvey & Elaine Bell		5
Naomi & James Nesbitt		5
Lewis & Helene Perry		7
Jerrold & Jennifer Cohen		11
Joel & Jennifer Simons		15
Christopher & Mara King		23
Lisa & Ray Belanger		30
Amy & Robert Jensen		31

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO**

Jacob Allen	Aug	12
Daniel Abromson		14
Jacob Teich		15
Seth Meyer		18
Danale Jensen		19
Joseph Jensen		19
Jed Kutzen		19
Deena Weinstein		20
David Allen		22
Sam Allen		23
David Gardner		26
Jerrold Cohen		30

## **AUGUST 2017 YAHRZEITEN**

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

Muriel Ross	Aug	3
Charles Wilner		4
Bernice Harris		5
Clara (Brownie) Marcus		6
Fannye Roberts		10
Seymour Tetenman		13
Nathan Kutzen		15
Lester Miller		20
Jay Graber		21
Martha Bodenheimer		26
Minette Lezberg		26
Irving Kraunz		28
Pearl Brody		30



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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Fund Raising	

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

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Rabbi Sruli: [djsruli@gmail.com](mailto:djsruli@gmail.com)

Telephone: 914-980-9509

# CONTRIBUTIONS

## GENERAL FUND

Joy & Lewis Zidle

To Candy Platz in honor of her birthday

The Shems Family

In memory of Bob Allen

Estelle Rubinstein

To Melissa Johnson in appreciation for her volunteer  
hours towards a healthy, functioning kitchen

Sandy Traister

In honor of Candy Platz's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday

In memory of Steve Hurwitz's mother

Adele Silverman

In memory of Bob Allen

In memory of Pearl Brody

Elinor Goldblatt

In honor of Candy Platz's birthday

In memory of Bob Allen

Michael Gagne

In honor of Elinor Goldblatt's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday

In honor of Candy Platz's birthday

In memory of Bob Allen

Elcha Buckman

Thank you to Candy Platz for hosting a wonderful  
party

Mazel tov to Gary & Michelle Buckman for their  
2 new Goldendoodle puppies

Andrew & Sharon Bodenheimer

In memory of Bob Allen

Marianne Miller

Speedy recovery to Behzad Fakhery

In memory of Lester Miller

Tom & Paula Marcus-Platz

In memory of Clara "Brownie" Marcus

## BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND

Helene & Lewis Perry

In memory of Bob Allen

## CEMETERY FUND (Grounds Improvements Project)

Estelle Rubinstein

To Ira Rubinstein in honor of his retirement  
after 35 years in public service

Bertha Bodenheimer

In memory of Bob Allen

To Ira Rubinstein wishing him a happy birthday  
and retirement

Elcha Buckman

In memory of Esther Shain

## COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND

Stuart Cohen

In memory of Elaine Cohen

**ENDOWMENT FUND**

Marcia & Manny Plavin

In memory of Bob Allen

**LIBRARY FUND**

Sandra & Allen Miller

In memory of Philip Rosenthal

**MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND**

Carla Marcus

In memory of Clara "Brownie" Marcus

In memory of Fannye Roberts

**MITZVAH FUND**

Allyson & Peter Casares

In honor of Andrew's award

**NUSSINOW PRESCHOOL FUND**

*Funds are used to support the Temple Shalom Preschool*

Allyson & Peter Casares

In memory of Bob Allen

Amy & Scott Nussinow

In memory of Dorothy Krasner

**PULPIT/PRAYER BOOK FUND**

Roz & Barry Kutzen

In memory of Nathan Kutzen

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Nancy & Ken Levinsky

In memory of Bob Allen

Joel & Sheri Olstein

To Madeline Strange in honor of her  
joining the tribe

**RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND**

Malca Wilner

To Candy Platz in honor of her birthday

**SHIRLEY GOODMAN MEMORIAL FUND**

*For interior decoration and maintenance*

Joel Goodman

Birthday wishes to Candy Platz

In memory of Bob Allen

**ABROMSON MEMORIAL FUND****BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND****EVE & GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND****FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL FUND****MINYANAIRES FUND**

**Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center**

74 Bradman Street  
Auburn, ME 04210-6330

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL  
AUGUST 2017

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Auburn, ME  
Permit #4

## AUGUST AT TEMPLE SHALOM

Thursday, 8/3	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 8/5	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
	7:00 pm	Kiddush Levana at the Faiman home - RSVP
Thursday, 8/10	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Friday, 8/11	7:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Saturday, 8/12		No Shabbat Service
Monday, 8/14	4:00 pm	Book Group
	5:15 pm	Program Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 8/16	7:00 pm	Night Tree Concert
Thursday, 8/17	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 8/19	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Monday, 8/21	5:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh at Bertha Bodenheimer's cottage pot luck – RSVP!
Thursday, 8 /24	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 8/26		No Shabbat Service
Thursday, 8/31	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast

