

Rabbi Stecker: 'Let Us Fight Hateful Words And Actions Together'

Temple Israel, Great Neck Synagogue Conduct Memorial Services for Victims Of the Pittsburgh Tree of Life Shooting

Following last month's synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, two memorial services for the victims were held in Great Neck.

More than 15 area congregations—including Temple Israel—participated in a service at Great Neck Synagogue for prayer and reflection. A service led by Temple Israel clergy was held in the Sanctuary. It included prayer, singing and a moving memorial service for the victims of the shooting. Following are excerpts of comments by Rabbi Howard Stecker delivered at the Temple Israel gathering:

Like so many of us, I responded to the shooting in Pittsburgh with a mixture of shock, sadness, anger and fear. Among many conflicting emotional reactions,

—Continued on page 6



A large turnout for a Temple Israel service for the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting victims joined Cantor Raphael Frieder in memorial prayers. *Photo courtesy Great Neck News*



Imam Abdullah Antepli, left, and Yossi Klein Halevi, will discuss Muslim-Jewish relations in a conversation to be moderated by Rabbi Howard Stecker.

Temple Israel Program Is Promoting Muslim-Jewish Dialogue November 18th

by Marc Katz, Editor

Bridging the gap in understanding between Muslim and Jewish viewpoints will be the focus of a discussion at Temple Israel on Sunday, November 18.

The program is titled "Across the Abyss: How a Former Jewish Extremist and Muslim Anti-Semite Are Helping Change Muslim-Jewish Relations." It will feature two noted speakers, Yossi Klein Halevi, an author and journalist, and Imam Abdullah Antepli, the chief representative for Muslim Affairs and an adjunct faculty member of Islamic Studies at Duke University. They co-direct the Shalom Hartman Institute's Muslim Leadership Initiative.

Rabbi Howard Stecker, who will serve as moderator of the conversation, has known the speakers through his participation in Israel's Shalom Hartman Institute and invited them to Temple Israel to participate in this program. "To their credit, both speakers are prepared to have difficult conversations such as this one, in which they will be asked

—Continued on page 6

How to Make Holiness Part of Our Lives

A Voice Guest Column by Rabbi Daniel Schweber

EDITOR'S NOTE: On Rosh Hashanah, Rabbi Schweber spoke on the theme "living a holy life can help us be content in spite of life's challenges and obstacles." This Guest Column contains excerpts from his sermon.

Are there other ways to evaluate our lives besides health and wealth so we can be more content with our lives? One possible answer is holiness. The more holiness we allow into our lives, the more we are able to recognize and embrace the gift of life in its entirety; the

**Let us use this day
and everyday to take a breath,
savor the moment
and feel God's presence...**

light, the good, the joyful along with the darkness, the evil and sadness.

What is holiness and how can we make it part of our lives? Rabbi Irwin Kula describes holiness as being filled with God's presence. The Torah tells us "You Shall be Holy." It is a call for us to live as passionately as possible, 'filling

our lives' with acknowledgement of the Divine.

I invite you to join me in making an accounting of the holiness in our lives and how fully we are living. To me, Judaism is a toolbox with rituals and ideas for living a holy and rich life.

One such tool is daily mindfulness. We are mindful when we actively pay attention to the present, carefully observing our thoughts and feelings. Jewish prayer, like deep breathing, is a mindfulness practice. The Hebrew verb to pray, *l'hitpalel*, is a reflexive verb meaning to meditate or examine one's own soul and self.

When we first wake up, 12 words of pure gratitude are traditionally recited.

—Continued on page 10

Engage, Don't Escape

From the Rabbi by Rabbi Howard Stecker

EDITOR'S NOTE: Rabbi Stecker wrote the following column days before the tragic synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh. The horror of that event, and the very real presence of anti-Semitism in the United States, only serve to underscore the importance of vigilance and engagement that he writes about below.

The Torah presents two stark models for how we can relate to the world. We can emulate Noah and his wife who built a boat for themselves, their family and select animals and sailed away as the world was about to be destroyed. To the extent that we choose to focus only on the well-being of ourselves and our families, we are following the example of Noah and his wife. This is the model of escape.

We can, instead, choose to follow the model of Abraham and Sarah. Abraham and Sarah welcomed strangers into their tent, forged treaties with neighboring peoples, and advocated for just treatment even for those

outside the family. To the extent that we choose to involve ourselves with the people around us, we are following the example of Abraham and Sarah. This is the model of engagement.

**I will be moderating
a conversation between...
Yossi Klein Halevi
and...Abdullah Antepi**

For centuries, Jews have followed both models, choosing which to emphasize based on a variety of internal and external factors. When we felt insecure and frightened, we focused primarily

—Continued on page 8

On Visiting Morocco

From the President by Rob Panzer

My wife and I recently returned from a trip to Morocco under the auspices of the Ramah Israel Institute. Morocco is a fascinating place, with a Jewish history extending back more than 2,000 years in cities like Fes, Casablanca, Rabat, Meknes and Marrakech. It is the only Muslim country that has a Jewish museum, which is both supported by and protected by the government. Many synagogues—although few are in regular use—and cemeteries, as well, are maintained by the government. There are even a few Jewish day schools left in Casablanca. Our group

**...in the midst of the leader
chanting these services
in Morocco, I recognized
a familiar melody...**

had the pleasure of visiting one of them and had the opportunity to hear children sing to us in Hebrew.

I would like to focus, however, on the Ramah Institute. This organization creates programming and trips to Israel for congregations, schools and families, based on the Ramah philosophy. The tours center on Conservative Jewish values, bringing visitors to sights of Jewish history and interest, and is based on an egalitarian approach. The synagogue our group attended for Shabbat, Temple Beth El Synagogue Henri Cadoch, was located in Marrakech. All the synagogues in Morocco are non-egalitarian, but all who are interested in participating were welcome. Our tour staff highlighted a few unique things to take note of and encouraged us to "just take it all in stride" as a new experience.

When I entered, the rabbi of the congregation directed me to a seat. It was slightly closer to the front than my usual spot. It was a bit of a surprise when, in the midst of the leader chanting these services in Morocco I recognized a familiar melody to Lecha

—Continued on page 7

In Memoriam

Temple Israel extends condolences
to the families of:

LEONARD ABRAMS

husband of Linda Abrams
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

MARTIN BERGSTEIN

husband of Bobette Bergstein
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

YOUSSEF OHEBSION

father of Haleh Damaghi

BARBARA FORST

mother of Joshua Forst

PAULINE COHEN

esteemed member of Temple Israel

SHARYN ROSEN

sister of Dr. Joel Abrahams

NASIM DAYANI

father of Noushin Botesazan
and Nader Dayani

LILLIAN SILVERBERG

mother of Temple Israel
Executive Director Leon Silverberg

May their memories be for a blessing.

Candle Lighting Times

Friday, November 16

4:19 P.M.

Friday, November 23

4:14 P.M.

Friday, November 30

4:10 P.M.

Friday, December 7

4:09 P.M.

Friday, December 14

4:10 P.M.

Next Voice Issues, Upcoming Deadlines

The next issue of The Voice will be published on December 10. The deadline for that issue is November 18.

The following issue will be published on January 11. The deadline for that issue is December 19.

Upcoming Events at Temple Israel

November 17

“Shabbat Talk” 12:45 P.M.
about Camp Ramah

November 18

Men’s Club Blood Drive 8:30 A.M.

November 19

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

November 26

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

November 29

Men’s Club Vodka 7:30 P.M.

and Latkes Program

“Shabbat Talk”: Choosing 12:45 P.M.

Jewish History and the Jewish Story

December 3-10

Hanukkah

December 3

Sisterhood Luncheon Program: Noon

“Analyzing the Election”

December 8

EmptiNesters Hanukkah Party 6:30 P.M.

December 9

Congregational Noon

Hanukkah Pizza Lunch

Interactive Hanukkah Concert 12:30 P.M.

Congregational 6:30 P.M.

Hanukkah Candle Lighting

Temple Israel Players Auditions 7:30 P.M.

December 10

Sisterhood Board Meeting 10:00 A.M.

Temple Israel Players Auditions 7:30 P.M.

December 12

Temple Israel Players Auditions 7:30 P.M.

December 13

Men’s Club Meeting 7:30 P.M.

December 16

Temple Israel Film Series 7:00 P.M.

Presents “Rock in the

Red Zone”

December 20

Board of Trustees Meeting 8:15 P.M.

Waxman Youth House Taking Teens To Israel During February School Break

For over 2,000 years Jews have made pilgrimages to the Jewish homeland. There is something deep within that reverberates to the call of going to the Holy Land. This year Temple Israel is answering that call with a Waxman Youth House trip to Israel.

The trip, scheduled to take place from February 12-24, will be bringing students as well as community teenagers across Israel to connect to the people, the history and the land. “We want to create a rounded experience that starts in the Youth House with our Israel seminar, takes the teens to Israel for real hands-on learning about complex issues, and finishes right back here in Great Neck about how we continue our connection,” said Youth House Director Avi Siegel, who will be leading the tour. “It is going to be a one-of-a-kind journey that we cannot wait to share.”

The question, Mr. Siegel said, is: Why go to Israel with the Youth House? “Well, Israel trips are emotional, eye opening and life-changing. What takes it to the next level are the people with whom you share this roller coaster ride. That’s why we go together as a Youth House. We want you to stand at the Kotel with 30 other teenagers who, when you come home, can come back together and recreate some of the magic.”

This trip is more than just seeing the sights of Israel. “It is about tapping into an ethos that has sustained Jews in the Diaspora for 2,000 years,” Mr. Siegel said. “It is about asking ourselves, ‘What is the Jewish homeland and how do I fit into it.’ It is about making the journey just like our patriarch Abraham did when God said ‘Lech Lecha!’ This is the amazing impact that traveling with the Youth House will make. I can’t wait to go on this pilgrimage with you!”

For further information about the trip contact Mr. Siegel at asiegel@tign.org or call 482-7800.

B'nai/B'not Mitzvah In Our Temple Israel Family



Joshua Haghani

Joshua Jon Haghani will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 24. He is the son of Niloofar (Nilu) and Amir Haghani and has a brother, Jayden, 11, and a sister, Julia, 4. Joshua is an eighth grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys playing soccer, tennis and basketball and is on a travel soccer team. Joshua plans to travel to Israel with his family during the coming year.

Raphael Kermani

Raphael Kermani will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on December 15. He is the son of Plotit (Poly) and Payam Kermani and has a brother, Ariel, 10. Raphael is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is attending the Waxman High School and Youth House and, in celebration of his Bar Mitzvah, will travel to Israel at the end of December with his family.

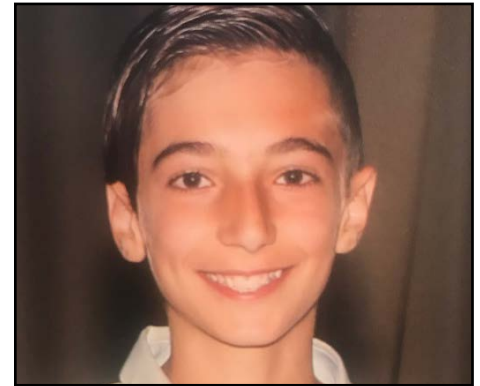
Mazal Tov To...

- **Susan and Robert Lopatkin** on the marriage of their daughter, Stefanie, to Mark Garibyan.
- **Sarah and Bruce Rothstein** on the marriage of their daughter, Isadora (Izzy), to Adam Riesenberg.
- **Vivian and Yuval Brash** on the engagement of their son, Benjamin, to Rebecca Broad.
- **Laurie and Gary Damast** on the birth of their granddaughter, Brette Olivia Damast.
- **Lois and Gary Sazer** on the birth of their granddaughter, Lielle Hester Sazer, and their grandson, Maximus Dov Sazer.
- **Angela Jones and Jared Vazquez** on the birth of their granddaughter, Amelia Sophia DeAngelo.



Alexander Victory

Alexander M. Victory will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on December 1. He is the son of Orly and Ebi Victory and has two sisters, Nicole, 17, and Lauren, 15. Alexander is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He enjoys playing basketball, tennis, and soccer. Alexander is participating in a mitzvah project with UJA to provide Thanksgiving meals to families in need. He is attending the Waxman High School and plans to visit Israel this summer.



Aaron Mashieh

Aaron Mashieh will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on December 8. He is the son of Rebecca and Kamran (Joe) Mashieh and has twin sisters, Madison and Hudson, 10. Aaron is a seventh grade student at Great Neck North Middle School. He is attending the Waxman High School and Youth House and plans to visit Israel this summer.

COME TO THE MOVIES AT TEMPLE ISRAEL!
Sunday, December 16 • 7 P.M.

Free of charge!

Crystal Ballroom

TILL Film Series
presents



ROCK IN THE RED ZONE
MUSIC IS THEIR SHELTER

Enjoy an evening movie with your friends at Temple Israel. View this outstanding film & participate in a discussion. The film is FREE to Temple Israel members, family & friends. Theater snacks will be served.

Temple Israel Students Plant to Remember Holocaust



Religious school students planted daffodils in memory of Holocaust victims with the help of parents, below.

Voice photos by Ofra Panzer

by Morgan Kurpiel

On a chilly Sunday morning in autumn, you might find yourself sipping a hot cup of tea while reading the paper, or perhaps taking a short stroll in your scarf and hat. But the children in the Religious School were busy one recent chilly Sunday getting their hands dirty planting daffodils.

Temple Israel recently joined forces with the nonprofit Holocaust Education and Awareness Organization Am Yisrael Chai. Am Yisrael Chai hopes to plant 1.5 million daffodils, one for each of the children who perished in the Holocaust. Daffodils were chosen because their shape and color represent the yellow stars that Jews were forced to wear during the Holocaust. Yellow is the color of remembrance and daffodils represent poignant hope for the future. They are resilient and return with a burst of color each spring, signifying hope, renewal and beauty.

One by one, guided by several parent volunteers, each school class came outside to Temple Israel's front lawn, where the congregation's Holocaust Memorial stands. The students learned of the significance of the daffodils before each placed a bulb in the ground. Their actions were said to be a mitzvah, each flower representing a small source of innocence and beauty to help erase the horrible deeds of many years ago.

It will be several months before the 250 daffodils planted at Temple Israel will bloom. But come springtime, the children will be able to look out of their classrooms and people passing by on the street will be able to pause to look at the beauty that has been created from darkness.



Youth House Celebrates Simhat Torah with 'Special Needs' Adults

by Avi Siegel, Waxman Youth House Director

With the start of the new school year, we reflect on the year ahead and also look at the year that has gone by. A beautiful aspect that makes the Waxman Youth House so special is that we focus on kindness and helping those in need. In that vein, the Youth House brought back one of its cherished traditions: a Special Needs-Youth House Simhat Torah Celebration.

This year we had our newly established Team Tikkun join with our Kitah Zayin B'nai Mitzvah class to welcome our neighbors with special needs from Great Neck's Adults and Children with Learning and Developmental Disabilities, Inc. (ACLD) home. The night was filled with dinner, dancing, games and a Simhat Torah celebration.

The highlight of the evening was when one of our guests, who was deaf, won a round of bingo and was able to express her jubilation to one of our students who could sign with her.

Watching the universal language of joy bring people together was profound. Judaism commands us no fewer than 36 times to welcome the stranger. We learn that



Waxman Youth House seventh graders said a blessing before eating with their guests from Great Neck's ACLD home.

when we do so, it is a double blessing, one for the stranger and one for ourselves. We are so proud that this tradition lives on in the Youth House and cannot wait for another opportunity to invite our friends and bring blessing into our lives and our shared world!

Temple Israel Program: Promoting Muslim-Jewish Dialogue

—Continued from front page
to confront the challenges of the Jewish-Muslim relationship,” Rabbi Stecker said. “Despite the challenges, however, they feel it is important for Muslims and Jews to speak to each other and to get to know each other beyond the superficial. Their relationship is a testament to what can come out of thoughtful and respectful engagement.”

The Temple Israel program will discuss the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Movement, challenges on the college campus, and Jewish-Muslim engagement.

Mr. Klein Halevi, a Brooklyn-born writer now living in Israel, is the author of a number of books and has written columns for The Jerusalem Post, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, and The Los Angeles Times. In his latest book, “Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor,” the author opens a dialogue with an imagined Palestinian neighbor discussing topics including modern Zionism, the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, and his memories of growing up as an American Jew. This is the first attempt by an Israeli author to directly address his Palestinian neighbors and describe how the conflict appears through Israeli eyes. The book is available as a free download in Arabic and the author has invited Palestinians, Arabs and Muslims to write a response to the publication to initiate a dialogue.

Imam Antepi served as the first Muslim chaplain at Duke University, and then held the same distinction at Wesleyan University. He is the founder and an executive board member of the Association of College Muslim Chaplains. At Duke, he seeks to provide a Muslim perspective to discussions on faith, spirituality and social justice.

The Shalom Hartman Institute, a Jewish research and education organization based in Jerusalem, fosters the philosophy of the late Rabbi David Hartman. Rabbi Hartman’s work emphasized religious pluralism, both among Jews and in interfaith relations. The Institute operates four centers: The David Hartman Center for Intellectual

Leadership, a center for contemporary Jewish thought, a center for Israeli-Jewish identity, and the Shalom Hartman Institute-North America, which has as its goal the strengthening of Jewish communities in North America.

In 2013, the speakers established the Hartman Institute’s Muslim Leadership Initiative, which brings North American Muslims to Israel to learn about Judaism, Zionism and Israel.

Temple Israel Vice Presidents Veronica

Bisek Lurvey and Lynn Weitzman are coordinating the program. “There is so much here to discuss, so much to unpack,” said Ms. Lurvey. “It is a pleasure to hear these men discuss issues thoughtfully and respectfully and take each other’s views into consideration.”

The program, which begins at 10 A.M. in the Sanctuary, is free, but advance registration is required. Tickets are available by going to <https://templeisraelofgreatneck.thundertix.com/events/139083> or by calling 482-7800.

Rabbi Stecker: ‘Let Us Fight Hateful Words and Actions Together’

—Continued from front page

I wanted to retreat, to stay in bed and pull the covers over my head. But I realize, and I urge all of us to affirm, that we must not shut down. We must remain open. With proper security measures, of course, we must keep our synagogue open for the sacred work of praying, gathering, welcoming, celebrating, mourning, supporting and making the world a better place. We must fight hate consistently and courageously, but we also must keep our hearts open to those who are most vulnerable. We must cultivate and maintain allies who, like us, are committed to justice and freedom. We must remain alert and engaged.

When the 46-year old man entered Tree of Life Synagogue, he yelled out anti-Semitic comments before he started to shoot. Anti-Semitism, sadly and frighteningly, is a very real threat in the United States. It seems that the shooter did not know if he had entered a synagogue that is Conservative or Reform or Reconstructionist or Orthodox. He just wanted to kill Jews. Despite the inevitable tendency we seem to have to break ourselves down into silos, I urge us to consider what unites us as Jews at least as much as we focus on what divides us. Our enemies generally do not expend much effort distinguishing among Jews. Why do we?

When something horrific happens, it becomes the main story that we focus on, as well it should. We must focus on the tragedy in Pittsburgh so that we can offer comfort and support to the community, shore up our own institutional security, and face the challenges posed by this kind of hatred with united resolve.

But at the same time, I do not want us to lose sight of the other stories that occur, day in and day out, at synagogues like Tree of Life and our very own Temple Israel. When people greet one another on Shabbat morning and ask, “How’s your mom?” or “Can I help you get to your seat?” that’s a story. When a little child walks over to “The Candy Man” to see what treats he has in his special basket and he gives them one (or more) and they offer him a sweet “thank you,” that’s a story. When people show up at a house of mourning with a hug and a tray of food and say “tell me what else I can do,” that’s a story. Synagogues like Tree of Life and Temple Israel of Great Neck are the sum total of all of these stories and more. Let us not allow a hateful shooter to distort our overall story.

With understandable sadness, anger and fear, but with irrepressible resolve, let us fight hateful words and actions together, keep our sacred institutions safe and open together, and continue to tell our glorious story together.

Advocating for Better Government: A Hanukkah Message

by Rabbi Daniel Schweber

The Maccabean Revolt and the American Revolution are similar in some respects and quite different in others. How were the two revolts similar?

In both revolts the aggrieved parties rose up against persecution and exploitation. Mattathias and his five sons revolted because of the prohibition to practice traditional Judaism. Circumcision, kosher slaughter and Torah study were outlawed under penalty. The American Patriots revolted against unfair and undemocratic tax and trade policies.

Both revolts were waged between a small rebel army on one side and a large imperial force on the other. Guerilla tactics were successfully used in both revolts and an "underdog" defeated an empire.

The two revolts differ in the type and duration of the new "replacement" government that came about after the revolt. Most lessons about the Maccabean revolt and the story of Hanukkah fail to mention that the Hasmonean brothers were not the best political leaders. The 103 years of Hasmonean rule from 166 to 63 BCE was full of power struggles, violence and assassinations.

The American revolution formally began with a beautiful document, the Declaration of Independence and was followed 15 years later by the still enduring U.S. Constitution. The country that was established on July 4, 1776 has endured, strengthened and improved for nearly 250 years.

Among the many reasons the U.S. form of government has thrived is that there is a way for people to redress their grievances peacefully without the need for revolt. The U.S.A. has fair and frequent elections. (We are collectively responsible for ensuring and maintaining our election systems.) The Constitution guarantees the right to assemble and protest and the right to a robust and free press.

COMMUNITY HANUKKAH CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, December 9, 2018

12:00 PM
PIZZA LUNCH

12:30 PM
INTERACTIVE HANUKKAH
CONCERT
for all ages with

AMICHAEL MARGOLIS
"THE MUSIC GUY"



HANUKKAH CANDLE LIGHTING

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Light supper, candle lighting, singing, dancing, music & teen participation.

FREE OF CHARGE

To ensure we have enough food for everyone, please RSVP to Jodi Engel in the synagogue office at ext. 1105 or jengel@tign.org.

If you allow, I will create a mash-up of the U.S. Constitution and the Gettysburg Address and state that the goal of our country is to "form a more perfect union with a government by the people and for the people." Our goal is to improve and get better at providing for the people. Because our governments are run by people, perfection is and will be elusive. Yet we cannot stop working to improve our country.

I am writing this column before election day. You are reading it after election day.

Regardless of the fair and right outcome, we should always remember our right as a people to change and improve our government. Fortunately in 2018 change comes through advocacy and the ballot box and not on the battlefield.

The word hanukkah means dedication. During this upcoming holiday, let us dedicate ourselves to advocating for causes that speak to us most.

Chag Urim Sameach, Happy Hanukkah!

From the President: On Visiting Morocco

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dodi. It was the very same one that we often use at Temple Israel at N'ranenah Kabbalat Shabbat services. The languages most often heard were French and Moroccan Arabic, with a sprinkle of English in the big cities. We also heard quite a bit of Hebrew coming from the Israeli tour bus that paralleled some of our stops.

As always, you can usually find me in the back of our Sanctuary on Shabbat or can reach me at robpanzer18@gmail.com.

Temple Israel Museum Acquires Donation of German Menorah

An unusual wrought iron Sabbath menorah from Germany made during the first quarter of the 20th century has been donated by Marion Stein and family in memory of Mrs. Stein's husband, Yoram. The round base has hammered raised ribs with a central twisted shaft branching to seven sockets from arms bound with strap-work.

This unusual menorah and many other pieces are on view in the Temple Israel Museum. To visit the museum call 482-7800.



From the Rabbi: Engage, Don't Escape

—Continued from page 2
on ourselves. When we felt strong and capable, we interacted more confidently with the wider community.

This is America, 2018. While Jews may have legitimate reasons to be afraid in the current moment, due in part to a recent rise in anti-Semitic statements and actions, we are much better off following the example of Abraham and Sarah, rather than that of Noah and his wife.

This is a time to engage, not to escape. Right now there are several areas which can benefit from our engagement. First, we should continue to involve ourselves in efforts that bring food, clothing and support to those who are in need, within and beyond the Jewish community. Our newly constituted "Repair the World" committee spearheaded a High Holy Day food drive and is planning numerous upcoming initiatives, including a communal Day of Service to coincide with Martin Luther King Day.

Second, we should continue to commit ourselves to engagement with other faith groups. While this often presents certain challenges, which need to be addressed, the downside of ignoring one another far outweighs the challenges of engagement. The MLK Day of Service will involve numerous houses of worship in our community, following in the tradition of decades of joint programming among the various Great Neck faith communities.

Daily Minyan Times

Friday, November 16

7:00 A.M. 4:30 P.M.

Friday, Nov. 23, 30 & Dec. 14

7:00 A.M. 4:15 P.M.

Friday, December 7

6:45 A.M. 4:15 P.M.

Sunday, December 2 & 9

8:15 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Monday, December 3 & 10

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, Nov. 20, 27 & Dec. 11

7:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday, December 4

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Wednesday, Nov. 21, 28 & Dec. 12

7:00 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Wednesday, December 5

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Thursday, November 22

8:41 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Thursday, December 6

6:45 A.M. 8:00 P.M.

Thanking the Polishers

The officers and Board of Trustees thank Ofra Panzer and Eleanor Tritt, who polished the congregation's Torah silver before Rosh Hashanah.

From Generation to Generation

Temple Israel Gratefully Acknowledges The Following Contributions

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Morteza Moallem
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Jack Moallem
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In appreciation of:

Cantor Frieder's kindness
and caring support during
this difficult time and
officiating at Susan Smith's
funeral
Arden Smith
The clergy's compassion
and comfort during this
most difficult time
Elise Tepper

In memory of:

Cantor Mordechai Sobol
Eve Keller and David
Waxman

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In appreciation of:

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Laurie Frankel

In honor of:

The birth of Ari Lev Alani,
grandson of Nancy and
Manny Alani
Carol and Steve
Smolinsky
Rabbi Charry's second Bar
Mitzvah
The Adler, Fishler and
Lipetz families

In memory of:

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Helene Schachter
Susan Smith
Monika and Paul Bloom
Donna and Larry Ludwig
The Adler, Fishler and
Lipetz families
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Helene Schachter
Barbara Wallner
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Jack Moallem giving her an
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Bar Mitzvah
Ellen and Milton Rosen's
70th anniversary
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Milton Putterman

Guest Column: How to Make Holiness Part of Our Lives

—Continued from page 2

“modeh/modah ani l’fanecha melech chai v’yakayam sheheh’chehzarta bi nishmati b’chemla rabbah emunatecha. I am grateful to You, living, enduring God and Ruler, for restoring my soul to me in compassion. You are faithful to us beyond measure.”

We wake up to another day and are glad for our souls, which are our “organ” of holiness. The blessings are short and easy to recite. Yet, I believe they are sufficient to help us be grateful and mindful that the most mundane actions are actually holy miracles of creation and life. For many of us, Jewish prayer feels daunting, both the length and the language. As a rabbi, I give us permission to begin by just doing some prayers in any language that is comfortable.

Another ritual to help make our lives more sacred is Shabbat. Shabbat is a weekly opportunity to infuse our lives with holiness. On Shabbat we rest to rejuvenate ourselves physically and to refresh our spirits. Over the next few weeks try making Shabbat holy. Make

a meal and taste the extra “spice” that Shabbat brings to our food. And yes, maybe observe some of the “do nots” of Shabbat. They exist to help make Shabbat holy and restful. Consider turning off that phone, even if it just for a while and experience the freedom and connection that comes about.

There is a lot of uncertainty in life. It is

tempting to brood on the past and be anxious for the future. Being mindful and being in the present are excellent ways to cope with the feelings of the season. These Holy days and the renewal they bring are gifts. Let us use this day and everyday to take a breath, savor the moment and feel God’s presence and the serenity that God brings us.

Sabbath Services

—Continued from back page

Friday, December 7

Evening Service 4:15 P.M.

Bar Mitzvah: Aaron Mashieh
son of Rebecca and
Kamran (Joe) Mashieh

Saturday, December 8

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.
First Mourner’s Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.
Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Mikkets
Genesis 41:1 - 47:17;
Numbers 28:9 - 15; 7:42 - 47
Haftarah: Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Susan Brustein, Desiree Rastegar,
Diana Stein, Deanna Stecker, and
Ellen Birnbaum

Afternoon Service 3:50 P.M.
Se’udah Shelishit 4:20 P.M.
Evening Service 4:53 P.M.
Havdalah 5:09 P.M.

**Worship
at Temple Israel
This Shabbat!**

D’var Torah

—Continued from back page

Jacob begins to become worthy of the blessing he has been given and of being a successor to Abraham and Isaac.

Vayishlah Saturday, November 24

In this portion, we conclude the independent stories about Jacob. In the remainder of the Book of Genesis his life is intertwined with the biography of Joseph. Jacob prepares to encounter Esau by dividing his camp as a safety precaution and sending a large gift of livestock to his brother. He wrestles all night with a mysterious assailant from whom he wrests a blessing at daybreak in the form of a change of name from Jacob to Israel. Following the successful meeting with Esau, Jacob travels on and settles down. His daughter, Dinah, is ravished by a local prince, and two of her brothers take fearful revenge. Other events serve to sever decisively the connection of the patriarchs with Mesopotamia. By the end of this portion, our focus is shifted from the lives of

individuals to the emerging people of Israel.

Veyeshev Saturday, December 1

The cycle of Joseph stories begins in this portion. Joseph, Jacob’s favorite, angers his brothers by tattling and by recounting dreams in which he is clearly designated lord over his family. In retaliation, the brothers sell him into slavery and he is brought to Egypt. The story is interrupted at this point to recount an incident in the life of Judah. The narrative resumes with the account of Joseph’s fortunes in Egypt. He is sold to a high official and becomes his major domo, but he runs afoul of his master’s wife and is jailed. There, Joseph interprets the dreams of two fellow prisoners, Pharaoh’s chief cupbearer and chief baker. The cup-bearer is subsequently restored to his office, but he completely forgets about Joseph. The events of this story demonstrate the working out of God’s carefully devised plan for His people and serve as the prelude to

the drama of oppression and redemption which is the heart of the Biblical narrative.

Mikkets Saturday, December 8

In this portion, the Joseph narrative is continued after two years. Pharaoh has two dreams which no one can interpret. The cup-bearer finally remembers Joseph, who is called from jail and interprets the dreams to mean that there will be seven years of plenty, followed by seven years of famine. Joseph advises Pharaoh to store up food during the years of plenty, as a reserve for the famine. Pharaoh designates Joseph to implement such a plan. When the famine comes, Jacob sends his sons to Egypt for food. By way of testing their character, Joseph, whom they don’t recognize, although he recognizes them, puts his brothers through a series of tests involving their father and youngest brother, Benjamin. In these episodes, we see the prediction of Joseph’s dreams realized as God moves His plan inexorably forward through human agency.

Congregation Thanks Many Recent Kiddush Sponsors

Contributions toward the kiddush on May 19 were made by Kathrin Zelouf in memory of her husband, Yousef, and in honor of the birth of her grandson, Skylar Gray Zelouf, and by Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni and Sassan Sassouni in observance of the sal/yahrzeit of Rebecca's grandmother, Malek Berookhim Yousefzadeh.

Contributions toward the kiddush on May 26 were made by Esti and Barry Nysenbaum in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Emanuel, and by Shirley and Ed Goldfeder in honor of Mr. Goldfeder.

The congregational kiddush on June 2 was sponsored by Laura and Robert Gal, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Sophia.

A contribution towards the kiddush on June 9 was made by Sima and Hamid Delafraz in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Bradley.

Contributions toward the kiddush on July 14 were made by the family of Gil Berookhim in memory of Jurga Kulyste and by Cheryl Eisberg Moin and Seth Moin in honor of the 90th birthday of Mrs. Moin's aunt, Lillian Sum.

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D'var Torah

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Saturday, November 17

We follow the fortunes of Jacob as he leaves the land of Canaan to travel to the ancestral home in Mesopotamia, spends 20 years there and leaves to return to Canaan in this portion. Jacob, fleeing for his life, stops for a night at a place near the border and has a dream in which the angels ascend and descend a ladder to heaven. God confirms the blessing of Abraham for Jacob, and Jacob, upon awakening, names the place Beth El, the House of God. Arriving in Mesopotamia, Jacob encounters Rachel, his cousin, at a well and falls in love with her. He negotiates with his uncle, Laban, for Rachel's hand, is tricked by Laban, and then decides it is time to return home. He leaves with two wives, two concubines, 11 sons, one daughter, and much livestock. These events show how

—Continued on page 10

Temple Israel of Great Neck

Voice

Marc Katz, Editor

Associate Editors:

Paula Charry, Angela Jones, Ronnie Katz,
Marion Stein, Rabbi Daniel Schweber

Photographers:

Robert Lopatkin, Ofra Panzer

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF GREAT NECK

108 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

P: 516.482.7800 | F: 516.482.7352

info@tign.org | www.tign.org

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TEMPLE ISRAEL STAFF

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Sabbath Services

Friday, November 16

N'Ranenah/Evening Service 6:30 P.M.

Saturday, November 17

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

Shabbat Morning Group Aliyah

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Vayetze

Genesis 28:10 – 32:3

Haftarah: Hosea 12:13 – 14:10

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Gail Zahler, Burton Weston,
Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni,
Edith Robbins, and Joyce Weston

Shabbat HaMishpacha 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

"Shabbat Talk" 12:45 P.M.

about Camp Ramah

Niggun Circle following kiddush

Afternoon Service 4:00 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:30 P.M.

Evening Service 5:02 P.M.

Havdalah 5:18 P.M.

Friday, November 23

Evening Service 4:15 P.M.

Saturday, November 24

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Vayishlah

Genesis 32:4 – 36:43

Haftarah: Obadiah 1:1 – 21

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Daniel Goldberger, Harold Citron,
Ellen Birnbaum, Irene Tannenholtz, and
Diana Stein

Bar Mitzvah: Joshua Haghani

son of Niloofar and Amir Haghani

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Afternoon Service 3:55 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 4:25 P.M.

Evening Service 4:57 P.M.

Havdalah 5:13 P.M.

Friday, November 30

Evening Service 4:15 P.M.

Saturday, December 1

Shaharit Morning Service 8:45 A.M.

First Mourner's Kaddish 9:25 A.M.

Weekly Portion: Vayeshev

Genesis 37:1 – 40:23

Haftarah: Amos 2:6 – 3:8

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Lynn Weitzman, Andi Katz, Brent
Greenspan, Sima Taid, and
Susan Lopatkin

Bar Mitzvah: Alexander Victory

son of Orly and Ebi Victory

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Shabbat Talk 12:45 P.M.

Afternoon Service 3:50 P.M.

Evening Service 4:54 P.M.

Havdalah 5:10 P.M.

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