



Congregation Temple Israel
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Barry Marks, Rabbi
 Barbara Seidman, President

January 2012
 Tevet/Shevat 5772

Calendar of Events

- Friday, January 6 **Shabbat Eve Services**6:00 pm
 Oneg Shabbat hosted by Lois & Richard Bass
 and Alyson Bass-Rettig & Jeff Rettig
- Saturday, January 7 **Shabbat Morning Services**9:00 am
 Veyechi Genesis 49:1—49:26
- Friday, January 13 **Shabbat Eve Services**6:00 pm
 Oneg Shabbat hosted by MaryJo & Stan Wasser,
 Beryl & Howard Feldman and Zale
 Glauberman
- Saturday, January 14 **Shabbat Morning Services**9:00 am
 Shemot Exodus 3:1— 4:17
- Friday, January 20 **Shabbat Eve Services**6:00 pm
 Oneg Shabbat hosted by Annette & Jerry Schwartz
 and Brian Schwartz
- Saturday, January 21 **Shabbat Morning Services**.....9:00 am
 Va'era Exodus 7:8— 8:15
- Friday, January 27 **Shabbat Eve Services**.....8:00 pm
Please note later time
 Oneg Shabbat hosted by Anne Draznin and
 Laurel Garber & Stan Gralnick
- Saturday, January 28 **Shabbat Morning Services**.....9:00 am
 Bo Exodus 11:4 — 12:28

Other Events

Wednesday, January 18 **Board of Directors**.....7:30 pm



**Candle
 Lighting
 Times**

January 6	4:31 pm
January 13	4:38 pm
January 20	4:46 pm
January 27	4:54 pm

SAVE THE DATE



***TI's 2nd Annual
 Texas Hold'em Poker
 Tournament***

March 3, 2012



The Rabbi's ReMarks



During the closing months of 2011, we at Temple Israel have sponsored several enjoyable and successful events – the 50th anniversary Shabbat eve service honoring our founding families, the 1950's -style gala celebration and dinner-dance at the Springfield Hilton, two well-attended “Bubby and Me” programs, and, most recently, the congregational Chanukah dinner. In conjunction with Temple B’rith Sholom, we celebrated Simchat Torah with Israeli dinner and folk dancing, and we honored the work of the Jewish Federation of Springfield. I deeply appreciate the efforts of the individuals and committees, who worked so hard to assure the success of these events. I’m grateful for the leadership and initiative of our officers, Board members, and committee chairs, and I’m looking forward to more exciting programs and events during the course of 2012, including the Adult Education Lunch n’ Learn sessions noted elsewhere in this bulletin.

2011 was a tumultuous year marked by the Occupy protests in New York and in other cities around the nation and world, the Arab Spring uprisings that overthrew authoritarian regimes in the Middle East and North Africa, and the opening rounds in the long and protracted process of electing the President of our nation. 2012, of course, will be all-politics all-the-time with candidate debates, media advertising, sound bites, and extensive coverage of the “horse race” for the Republican nomination and for the Presidency. Economic concerns— joblessness, home foreclosures, health care, taxation, entitlements, pensions, and national and state budgets – will dominate, but national security and America’s role in the world will also be significant issues.

Supporters of Israel had their hands full this past year dealing with the Palestinian Authority’s unilateral move to seek recognition of statehood at the United Nations and with continuing efforts in various international forums to delegitimize the Jewish state. Unfortunately, we will see more of the same during the coming year. We will continue to have grave concerns as well about the Iranian quest for nuclear weapons, about the Hamas regime in Gaza, and about the prominent role of a rearmed and dangerous Hezbollah in Lebanon. The implications and consequences of the Arab Spring for regional politics, for America, and for Egypt- Israel relations have yet to be fully realized and will bear careful watching.

On a personal note, it has been 26 years since I was last in Israel, and a return visit is long overdue I’m hoping that Nancy and I and our friends will be able to arrange an Israel tour for ourselves that fits our schedules and engages our interest and that we will be traveling there in late spring. I know that so much in Israel has changed in the interim and that I will barely recognize many of the places with which I was familiar in 1985 (let alone the places I frequented during my student year in 1968). I’m looking forward to the experience.

I write these lines during the last days of Chanukah, the festival that reminds us of the value of freedom and of the struggle waged to maintain our religious and cultural distinctiveness. The struggle for spiritual survival and Jewish continuity is an ongoing one. Thankfully, here in America, we do not have to contend with the tyranny and external hostility against which the Maccabees fought. But transmitting a love of the Jewish heritage and fostering commitment to the Jewish community and to Jewish life and learning are nonetheless a formidable challenge for rabbis, communal leaders, and Jewish educators. Facing that challenge will certainly be one of my priorities during the coming year.

Rabbi Barry A. Marks



Mazel Tov:

.....to **Mark Wancket** on his retirement.

Save the date:
Chaverim Chai Tea



Sunday, February 12
3-5 pm
Temple B’rith Shalom

President's Message

As I write this article we are getting ready to light the candles for the third night of Hanukkah. I don't usually spend too much time thinking about the details of the holiday since it's really not a major one and my kids are all old enough that we don't make a big deal about it. But the Hanukkah story led me to think about how one little jar of oil lasted for a very long time. How did they get that one little jar to last for so long? How do we get more with less?

I think over the last couple of years Temple Israel is doing just that, getting more with less. Our membership numbers have stayed fairly steady but overall they continue to decrease due to the lack of additional members to our community. Our income continues to decrease as we have fewer families and more singles paying dues, and our expenses continue to increase.

So, we've tried to cut any extraneous expenses, cut back on our support staff, do as much of our own repairs and upkeep, and going "green" whenever possible. At the same time we've created three new committees and have a number of new things going on including new social action projects and adult education programs. We have expanded our website and outreach to the community, started a new program for families with young children and grandparents, and are planning additional activities with Temple B'rith Sholom. This year we had two very successful events to celebrate our 50th anniversary, and the board has decided to try something different for our annual meeting in April to encourage more members to attend. Not too shabby. We may have fewer members and less additional income, but we have members that continue to care about TI. These are people who are willing to give of their time, their expertise, and their energy.

I imagine this trend will continue, but let's be reminded as we recall the story of Hanukkah, that although our resources aren't increasing, we should continue to think big. We must continue to keep Temple Israel an active, viable and inviting place for our members to come and participate. Thanks, as always, to the many people who give of themselves for the betterment of our congregation as a whole.

Barbara Seidman

B'rit Yisrael School News

Our last session for the fall semester ended with a Hanukkah party for all the children. Thank you go to Julie Abrams, Susan Isaacks, Wende Stern and Stephanie Metnick for planning the party. The children enjoyed cutout sugar cookies that they decorated, musical chairs, Hanukkah bingo, a Dreidle piñata, and, of course, Dreidle. Half the children's winnings have been turned back to the school for Tzedakah. We had some very powerful piñata bat swingers at the younger ages so not everyone got a chance to whack the Dreidle but everyone got to share the multitude of candy contained within.

Our first session of the New Year is Sunday, January 8 at Temple B'rith Sholom. Please Note - **this is a departure from our calendar.**

Please mark your calendars for the Annual SBJE fundraiser. It is scheduled for March 10. We are looking at altering the format for this year and you will be hearing more about that soon. Also in March is our annual Purim party. It is scheduled for March 4 and we need your help. Please let me know if you are willing to serve on the committee.

Elissa GoldbergBelle

Sisterhood

We had a very successful opening meeting in December with around 30 women in attendance. A giant thank you goes out to Carol Kitterman, Gloria Schwartz, Annette Schwartz and Grace Wenz for arranging the food and table décor. We enjoyed a soup and sandwich meal. We held a meeting where we decided to give some money to Temple Israel for its general operating fund, and we selected several dates for future program. You will hear more about that in the future, so stay tuned.

We welcome two new members to our sisterhood: Nancy Sage and Jane Treadwell.

Community News

Sisterhood Tributes

In Memory of Ron Levine

Jay & Carol Kitterman

Speedy Recovery Joe Wallace

Jay & Carol Kitterman

Social Action Committee

Thank you to all the members of the congregation who donated to the winter clothing drive for Dubois school students. We provided 8 winter coats, 8 knit shirts, 6 sweatshirts, and a variety of other clothing items. The school staff was very grateful and distributed the coats on the same day they were delivered!

In January, we will be starting to volunteer on Thursdays at the Douglas Avenue Methodist Church after-school program between 3:15 and 6:30 p.m. It is not necessary to participate on a specific schedule in order to be part of this volunteer effort. If you are not comfortable volunteering directly with the children, 'behind-the-scenes' help is also needed, such as with the dinner served each week. We will have an orientation meeting with the Compass Program coordinator on Tuesday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m. at Douglas Avenue Methodist Church, in order to be familiar with the facility and the program activities. Please RSVP to me at abmorgan@aol.com or at 787-7191. In order to learn more about the after-school program, you can visit the website at:

www.compass4kids.org

I've been delighted that so many members have come forward in support of social action efforts; thank you all for making it a pleasure to chair this committee.

Anne Morgan



For Oneg at Friday night services we would like to have 2 desserts and 2 appetizer/hors d'oeuvres.

Please arrive at the synagogue ½ hour before service to set up. Plan to stay and serve following services which should be over around 7:00pm. If you are unable to attend, please contact your co-host(s) DIRECTLY to make other arrangements.



TI Adult Education Spring 2012 Lunch and Learn Series

Three M'gillot

This series will focus on the three m'gillot or scrolls that are read on the upcoming spring Jewish holidays: Esther (Purim), Song of Songs (Pesach), and Ruth (Shavuot). Study of these books together will offer an opportunity to develop new insights about these texts, their place in the Tanach, and the holidays associated with them.

Attendees are encouraged to read each of the m'gillot in advance of the discussion and to bring a copy to the session.

All sessions: Noon to 1:30

Lunch will be available for purchase. (RSVP required to purchase lunch.)

Location: Temple Israel

The Book of Esther

Wednesday, February

29

Purim, March 7

The Song of Songs

Wednesday, March 28

Pesach begins, Friday,

April 6

The Book of Ruth

Wednesday, April 18

Shavuot, May 26



In addition to the m'gillot themselves, the following additional readings are recommended:

The Song of Songs: The World's First Great Love Poem (Modern Library Classics) by Ariel Bloch, Chana Bloch, Robert Alter and Stephen Mitchell, 2006.

Congregation: Contemporary Writers Read the Jewish Bible, by David Rosenberg, 1991.

Behold Your Queen: A Story of Esther, by Gladys Malvern, Susan Houston, and Shawn Connors, 2011. (Original publication, 1951.)

Yahrzeits—January

2 William G. Diamond
 2 Sophia Gingold
 2 Henry C. Lapidus
 2 Joseph Robinson
 2 Abraham Stern
 2 Bernice Foster Burdick
 3 Faye M. Eisenberg
 3 Phillip Smith
 4 Lena Feuer
 4 Minnie Gordon
 5 William Fishman
 6 Abraham Goldstein
 6 Bessie Oberman
 6 Samuel Oberman
 7 Daphna Mayersdorf
 7 Alex Rabins
 7 Ester Sherman
 8 Esther Weiner
 8 Jack A. Wolff
 9 Walter Feuer
 9 Rose G. Paris
 9 Cecile Greenberg Rubin
 10 Herman Chudacoff
 10 Lillian R. Korish
 10 Nettie Sorkin
 11 Abe L. Egherman
 11 Rachel Rubinsky
 11 Irvin Spiegel
 11 Ruth Wald
 12 Esther Oguschewitz
 12 Francine Bernstein Post
 14 Isadore Hornstein
 15 Morris Brozgold
 15 Eva Weiner Holtzman
 15 Nathan A. Holtzman
 16 Carol Sorkin Marks
 16 Joseph Pudick
 17 Sarah Hyman
 17 Rose G. Kleinman
 17 Rebecca Stein Marcus
 17 Ida Oberman
 17 Samuel N. Yaffe
 18 Harry Potish
 19 Rachel Feuer
 19 Barney Kalin
 19 Sara R. Pearlman
 20 Max Shiffman
 23 Helene Claire Epstein
 23 Milton Wolfson
 24 Morris Feuer
 24 Lynda Krueger
 24 Ben Strum
 25 Louis Roberts
 25 Eva Rubin

26 Ida Gralnick
 26 Gustava Skovronsky
 27 Mollie Pollack
 28 Leah Bodner
 28 David Holtzman
 28 William Hornstein
 28 Alec C. Oberman
 29 Dr. David J. Evans
 29 Mildred Goldstein Jacovitz
 30 Harry Rubin
 31 Solomon Hornstein
 31 Harold Kuhn
 31 Molly Linder

Tributes

GENERAL FUND

In Honor Of

Shirley Dunas by Becky Friedlander & Family

FAMILY FUND

Yahrzeit Of:

Yetta Seidman by Barbara & Barry Seidman

Mildred Goldstein by Barbara & Barry Seidman

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Marks & Nancy Sage by Barbara & Barry
Seidman

Mark Wancket by Annette & Jerry Schwartz

Mark Wancket by Harriet & Alan Josephson

Fanny Levin by Harriet & Alan Josephson

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Marks & Nancy Sage by Liz, Harvey &
Emily Cohen

Rabbi Marks & Nancy Sage by Melanie & Tim
Zook

Rabbi Marks & Nancy Sage by Merle & Marty
Oberman

Rabbi Marks & Nancy Sage by Richard Damashek

Rabbi Marks & Nancy Sage by Doranne & Jerry
Jacobson

Rabbi Marks by Deborah & Robert Kunath

Rabbi Marks & Nancy Sage by Jeanette & Matt
Prastein

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Gift Shop News

*Stop by the Temple Israel Gift Shop for all
your Judaica needs*

Cards : \$1 each or 6 for \$5



**Cookbooks
Still Available**
\$20 each
\$18 each additional

For all your Gift shop needs, please call Beryl (546-9574) or Annette (546-5774).