Newsletter of Temple Shalom - templeshalomrhodeisland.org

January/February 2021 - Tevet/Shevat/Adar 5781

Presidents Message

I go running six days of the week. I lace up for 6 or 8 miles in the early morning darkness, wearing a blinking LED vest that rivals the holiday lights on my route. Mostly, I pass the miles analyzing decisions I need to make at work. Sometimes I'll have a thought I don't want to forget. I stop, pull off my gloves, and peck out a note-to-self on my phone with frozen fingers. More often than not I never review these notes, but on a recent morning run I started thinking about Deyanu, and mile after mile I keep returning to my ambivalence with the 15 verses of this 9th century song.

I love Deyanu's melody and its message of gratitude, but I pondered its insincerity. If G-d had parted the Red Sea but not led the Israelites across, would that really have been enough? If G-d had led the Israelites into the desert and let them starve, would that have been enough? If G-d had given the Israelites the 10 Commandments at Mount Sinai, but not established them as a nation, would that have been enough? As we approach Martin Luther King Jr. Day, I'm thinking about Deyanu in a more contemporary context. Is it enough that slavery was abolished? No. Is it enough that President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act? No. Is it enough that Black men earn 67 cents for every dollar earned by white men? No.

The Jewish concept of tikkun olam recognizes that Dayneu doesn't tell the whole story. G-d's creation is awesome, but unfinished. While Dayenu reminds us to be grateful for what is, tikkun olam tells us that what exists isn't good enough. But we don't need to choose between naive satisfaction or endless discontent. We can stand in wonder of all the beauty, love, and miracles in our lives, while working for a more just world. Dayenu is the beginning of the story, but not the end.

When we come together for our annual Martin Luther King Jr. Shabbat, join me in writing your own Dayenu. If we had a world without violence, that would be enough. If all people are treated fairly and equitably, that would be enough. If no child has to go to bed hungry, that would be enough. Of course not, it won't be enough. But we are writing the story and it isn't over yet. In 2021, join me in celebrating all that is miraculous and holy, while working together to bring the world closer to enough.

Abigail Anthony

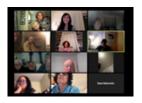


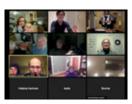
Schedule of Services at Temple Shalom *JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2021*

All services will be held virtually via Zoom and Facebook Live. Please monitor the Temple Shalom website, email, and social media for to services.

FACEBOOK LIVE:

HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TEMPLE-SHALOM-MIDDLETOWN-RHODE-ISLAND-114437966769060/





Friday evening, January 8th at 5:30 pm Kabbalat *Shabbat*

The Cantor will lead the worship - Yahrzeits observed

Friday evening, January 15th at 5:30 pm Kabbalat *Shabbat* –

The Cantor will lead the worship - Yahrzeits observed

Friday evening, January 22nd at 5:30 pm Kabbalat *Shabbat* –

The Cantor will lead the worship - Yahrzeits observed

Friday evening, January 29th at 5:30 pm Kabbalat *Shabbat* –

The Cantor will lead the worship - Yahrzeits observed

Friday evening, February 5th at 5:30 pm Kabbalat *Shabbat*

The Cantor will lead the worship - Yahrzeits observed

Friday evening, February 12th at 5:30 pm Kabbalat *Shabbat* –

The Cantor will lead the worship - Yahrzeits observed

Friday evening, February 19th at 5:30 pm Kabbalat *Shabbat* –

The Cantor will lead the worship -Yahrzeits observed

Friday evening, February 26th at 5:30 pm Purim – Shabbat Come in Costume

The Cantor will lead the worship - Yahrzeits observed



THE CANTOR'S CORNER

The lights of the menorah are not that far behind us and as we look ahead we see off in the future Purim and Pesach. All of these holidays involve aspects of freedom. Freedom to believe in G-d as one wishes and to pray accordingly. Right on our doorstep, in January, we commemorate a modern freedom fighter,

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We are taught to seek freedom and justice for all. Please remember to celebrate the life and work of Dr. King as we seek equality and freedom for all people. May our daily work to this end be, as it is written, Amos 5:24, but let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

See you in Shul.

B'shalom

Fred



Friday, February 26th PURIM SHABBAT Start planning your costumes

Purim is one of the most fun holidays celebrated by the Jewish people, but is often under recognized. Purim, held on the 14th day of the Hebrew month of Adar, commemorates the day Esther, Queen of Persia, saved the Jewish people from execution by Haman, the advisor to the Persian king. Esther bravely exposed her previously hidden Jewish heritage to her husband the king and asked him to save her people, which he did. A little bit of Mardi Gras, Easter, and Halloween all rolled into one, these are some of the traditions that make the holiday so fun.

Many Jewish holidays incorporate stricter rules, but Purim is much more relaxed. The holiday itself is known

for a party atmosphere, with big feasts where you can eat and get drunk (within reason, but it is encouraged). One of the best treats for Purim is hamantaschen: triangle-shaped cookie pastries with fruit or savory filling. The treat is said to look like Haman's tri-cornered hat or his ears ("oznei Haman" in Hebrew). Sweet hamantaschen are most popular, with poppy seed, chocolate, date, apricot, or apple filling,

During the synagogue service, the "megillah," or scroll, of Esther is read aloud, telling the story of Esther and Haman. Because the book says Haman's name was "blotted out," everyone in the synagogue stamps their feet, yells, and heckles using "graggers" all 54 times his name is read in the story.







WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH AT 8:00 PM Join us on zoom. More details to come!

Temple Shalom's Book/Article Club.

We had a wonderful time discussing Sarah Hurwitz's book "Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life -- In Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There).

Next up we are starting an Article Club! Please submit your article ideas to TempleShalomRhodeIsland@gmail. com. We can discuss articles about Judaism, current events, art, anything at all!



SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST AT 10:00 AM, Join us for a Tu B'shevat Tikkun Olam Activity. Please check your email or the Temple website or social media for more details.



TEMPLE SHALOM PRESENTS:

A Conversation about the Electoral College with Jeff Rogg

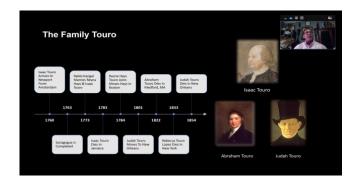
Jeff Rogg is a postdoctoral fellow in the National Security Affairs Department at the U.S.Naval War College. He is also finishing his Ph.D. in history at The Ohio State University.

Wednesday January 20, 2021 8:00PM on Zoom

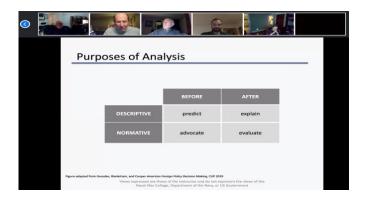
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Keith Stokes presented a program on the history and evolution of Religious and Racial Freedom in Rhode Island



Ken Sandler presented a program on Frameworks and Actors: Introducing Foreign Policy Analysis.



Jeffrey Rogg presented a conversation about *Conspiracy Collusion: Mixing Intelligence and Politics in American History*



Temple Happenings



Hanukkah

We came together to celebrate Hanukkah on Sunday, Dec. 13th.



Macarons from Rose Macarons



















Lee & Marcia Meirowitz



The Herk Family



The Bazarsky Family





Toby Brown

Temple Members preparing Hanukkah Boxes for delivery. Thank you for the delicious goodies.



Thank you Hadley Bazarsky for organizing our 50/50 Hanukkah Raffle with help from daughter, Brooke.



Helping to sell Raffle tickets

Congratulations to our Hanukkah Raffle winner Lois Schneller.

Thank you to all our raffle participants.

Swag for Sale





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Email: templeshalomrhodeisland@gmail.com

Marcia Meirowitz is selling beautiful handmade mask necklaces. Contact us at templeshalomrhodeisland@gmail.com to purchase



SHALOM FUND

Mazel Tov to Sharon Margolis on the birth of a great-granddaughter, Isla

By Ruth Ziegler Karen Dannin Fran & Michael Mendell

In Memory of **Jack Singer**By Ruth Ziegler

Whatever the occasion, birthday, anniversary, get well, condolences, a Shalom Card says it perfectly. Cards are \$5 and all donations help support the Temple. For information about participating in the Shalom Fund call Ruth Ziegler – 846-5858 or email – ruthziegler@cox.net.

CONSERVATOR NEWS

MISHABEIRACH LIST

At weekly services a prayer is offered for those who are ill and fighting disease. During this prayer for recovery the names of those in need are mentioned. We request that names to be included on the list be submitted to the Temple prior to Shabbat, email Cantor Scheff at fredsilio@cox.net, and, that the names, which we already have be updated on a regular basis.

HELP OUR SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP GROW

The temple would like every member to assist them in their goal of increasing the membership of our congregation. In order to accomplish our goal, we ask that you inform the Temple office of all families who have moved into your neighborhood, as we would like to welcome them to our community

SAFETY and SECURITY

We received a \$385.00 from the Jewish Alliance towards security. We are grateful to the Alliance for their support.

TO REMEMBER IS TO KEEP ALIVE

According to Jewish tradition, we honor our loved one's memory by reciting Kaddish and by lighting a Yahrzeit candle on the anniversary of their death. Temple Shalom offers opportunities to fulfill this Mitzvah by arranging contributions and dedicating Memorial Plaques to perpetuate the memory of a loved one.

A Memorial Plaque is a constant reminder and a timely symbol of a cherished devotion to those we wish to remember. On the anniversary date of the Yahrzeit a light is kindled next to the nameplate. In accordance with Jewish tradition, whenever Yizkor is observed, a light should be kindled and Kaddish recited.

The present contribution for a Memorial Plaque is \$550.00. For additional information please contact the Temple. Contributions of many meaningful and needed items can be dedicated at the Temple.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please inform the Temple of any community news you wish to share

Welcome New Members:

Josh Burger Jennifer & Jonathan Kabak

Mazel Tov to

Sharon Margolis on the birth of a great-granddaughter, Isla Jo.

Ruth Ziegler on the birth of a great granddaughter, Naama.

Get Well to:

Nina Cohen David Nathanson Arlene Zatz

> The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received from:

General Donations

Arlene & Len Gross
Ed & Helene Scheff
Samuel Specter
Susan & Michael Weiss
Naomi & Norman Zucker
Joseph A. Dannin Memorial Fund at the
Jewish Federation Foundation of Greater RI.

Yahrziet Remembrances

David Nathanson Linda Goldman

YOM KIPPUR APPEAL CONGRATULATIONS!

Our hopes to reach the 100 % congregation participation are almost a reality. Our last reminder produced results when people went to their check books and realized they had not sent their check. There are just a few more that have not done so. Please check your check book, and if you are one who did overlook your oh so valuable Yom Kippur Appeal, please do so now. Thank you

Anne Berman Dale & Joseph Blumen Martin & Nina Cohen Leslie & Steve Saunders Ed & Helene Scheff



YAHRZEITS

Within the Jewish world there is an annual opportunity specially made for remembrance of those who are no longer with us in life. On the anniversary of their departure, family and friends recite the Kaddish.

The following Yahrzeits will be observed at Temple Shalom on the Friday closest to this date.

According to the Hebrew calendar the following Yahrzeits will begin at Sunset and continue thru the following day.

May the observance of this day and the memories of your loved one be a source of comfort, strength, and inspiration.

January 2021		February 2021	
Jan 3	Samuel Kaplan	Feb 1	Max Rubin
Jan 4	Sadie Adelman		Beverly Adler
Jan 5	Dr. Lewis Abramson	Feb 7	Sylvia Wolf
	Bonnie Nichols	Feb 8	Harry Wilfand
Jan 6	Fred Jurmann		Gertrude Rogers
Jan 9	Sam Cadesky		Edward Martin
Jan 14	Howard Kay	Feb 9	Julia Walters
Jan 17	Saul Goldberg	Feb 12	Murray Kuperinsky
Jan 18	Fannie Nemtzow	Feb 13	Lewis Gold
Jan 20	Harold Rogers	Feb 14	Monroe Adler
Jan 22	Kathe Ziegler	Feb 17	Paul Zatz
Jan 24	Fannie Karp		Robert Walters
Jan 25	Eva Seigel	Feb 18	Susan Reidy
Jan 27	Armand Minkin		Anna Jagolinzer
Jan 28	Leon Siletchnik	Feb 19	Clara Spader
		Feb 20	Joan Sue Botvin
		Feb 22	David A Cohen
		Feb 23	Ray Kahn
		Feb 27	Dr. Mark Goldman
		Feb 28	Harry Cohen

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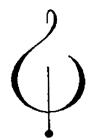
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FIRST CLASS

January / February



February 26th