



# Temple House of Israel Bulletin

A Member Congregation of the Union for Reform Judaism  
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*Our mission is to perpetuate Jewish life and identity through a welcoming community of spirituality, learning, service, joy and worship.*

**March 2008, Adar 1/Adar 2 5768**

## **Noteworthy Congregational News and Events**

With so many big things happening in the congregation, we begin this newsletter with news and events. The Rabbi's letter follows.

- ***Back by popular demand!*** Join us for a **second song session on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Come at 2:30 if you want to learn how to better carry a tune. Come at 3:00 to sing and learn words and music for the service. **Sarah Grove-Humphries** will lead us again like she did so well in February.
- Mazel tov to **Amber Pearson** who will be called to the Torah as a **Bat Mitzvah** on Friday and Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Our first **Shabbat morning service** was attended by almost 20 people and the luncheon provided by the Women's Group was enjoyed by everyone who attended. We'll do this again in April.
- **Sarah and the Dixie Shiksas** (better known as Lyrisa) performed a wonderful, uplifting concert of traditional and contemporary Jewish music in February. We welcomed almost 50 people to our sanctuary and added approximately \$450 to the temple building fund. A huge thank you to Sarah Grove-Humphries, the Dixie Shiksas and to Ruth Chodrow and Buddy Thomas who accompanied the group, all of whom donated their time and considerable talents. (Sarah thanks all those who helped with the publicity, food, set up, clean up, and handing out programs to make their program such a success). But the last THANK YOU goes to Sarah!
- If you know a group that would like to rent our sanctuary or social hall, please ask them to get in touch with Ruth Chodrow. The churches that have rented from us during the past year have found other facilities and we'd love to have another group share our space.
- The Shenandoah Valley Holocaust Education Week is set for March 6-12<sup>th</sup>. On **Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> Norman Weinberg**, executive director of the Poland Jewish Cemetery Restoration Project, **will be speaking at Blackfriars Theater at 7:30**. He will tell us about the work he and others are doing with Polish people, many of them youth and children, who are lovingly restoring cemeteries that were systematically destroyed by the Nazis, who used the headstones and walls to build roads and buildings. This is an incredible story of hope and reconciliation.
- Start bringing your gently used items to the temple on March 9<sup>th</sup>. **The Women's Group Yard Sale is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> from noon on**. We

	<p>need your help in donating items, setting up and pricing on Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> and selling on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Call Shirley Brand (949-0529) if you can help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>March 16<sup>th</sup> is the Religious School celebration of Purim</b> with the <b>Youth Group sponsored Purim Carnival</b> immediately following.</li> <li>▪ Ralph Cohen will give a lecture about <i>The Jew of Malta</i> <b>Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00</b> at the temple. Following Ralph's talk, we will walk up the block to the Blackfriars Theater and attend the <b>2:00 pm matinee performance</b>. With fifteen or more people, we are eligible for a group discount for tickets. Reserved seating (downstairs) would be \$25. each and general admission (upstairs) would be \$15. If you are interested in attending and would like to be a part of the group ticket purchase, please be in touch with Beth Young 885-1481 or <a href="mailto:bulletin@thoi.org">bulletin@thoi.org</a> no later than March 10<sup>th</sup>. After that, you may still join us, but you will pay normal tickets rates of \$30/downstairs reserved or \$18/upstairs general.</li> <li>▪ <b>Coming April 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>: The Staunton Jewish Film Festival.</b> Through the universal language of film, we hope to build bridges of understanding within our community by offering a culturally diverse and entertaining festival series. Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> will be our opening night with a lecture and food at the temple and the first film at the Visulite; Saturday and Sunday will include 3 films, food and lectures, all at the Visulite, and Monday-Thursday, the 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> will include one showing each night.</li> <li>▪ The next <b>THOI board meeting</b> will be <b>March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm</b>. Meetings are open to all congregants. If you have any issues for board discussion, contact Lisa Warren ahead of time so they can be considered for the agenda.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>From the Rabbi's Desk</b></p>	<p><b>Shalom</b> to my dear fellow Valley Jews and Friends. Be happy, it's Adar (both Adar 1 and 2). Spring is on its way! ☺</p> <p>Rosh Chodesh (the New Month) for Adar 1 took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of February. Adar 1 ends on March 7<sup>th</sup> and Rosh Chodesh for Adar 2 will be on March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Adar 2 ends on April 5<sup>th</sup>; April 6<sup>th</sup> is Rosh Chodesh for Nisan.</p> <p>Purim falls on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Adar 2 – in non-leap years, it is celebrated on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Adar. This year, it is on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March. We will celebrate Purim in the Religious School on March 16<sup>th</sup> and at our Shabbat service on evening of the 21<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>A little noted day falls this year on March 20<sup>th</sup>, the 13<sup>th</sup> of Adar 2. It is known as Ta'anit Ester (the fast of Esther). This is a commemoration of the fast that Esther took on and commanded all the Jews to participate in as she prepared herself to enter to see King Achashverosh. This is observed as a fast from sunup to sundown on that day.</p> <p>The day following Purim is known as Shushan Purim. That is because the news of the events reached Shushan (and presumably all other walled cities) a day later (the messengers had to wait to enter until sunup), so Purim is permitted to be celebrated on the 15<sup>th</sup> of Adar in walled cities.</p> <p><b>The Congregational Calendar/Events</b></p> <p>We hold Shabbat services regularly: see our website (<a href="http://www.thoi.org">www.thoi.org</a>) or the calendar for the specific schedule. Our upcoming services in March at THOI are scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, and March 21<sup>st</sup> (Purim and Shabbat).</p>

Please note a change in the schedule of services at Beth El: there will be a regular Friday evening Shabbat service on February 29<sup>th</sup>, but the Shabbat morning service listed on the calendar for March 1<sup>st</sup> has been moved to March 15<sup>th</sup>, and the theme for that Shabbat morning will be a healing service – which means it will not be our usual type of Shabbat morning service. This service is more geared towards adults than youngsters. All who need or want healing are encouraged to come and join us. Following the service I have scheduled a Talmud Torah Limud (Torah study), which will take place (I hope) over a Kiddush luncheon.

Please see the Noteworthy Congregational Events listing on page 1 for a complete (at least at the time of printing!) listing of events.

Watch for further information about other events in Shenandoah Valley Holocaust Education project. During the week of March 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>, there are many different programs scattered between Waynesboro, Fishersville, Staunton, and Harrisonburg. Included are plays, readings, survivor speakers, and discussions. A flyer and emails should be coming out soon. Hold room in your busy calendar for this - it will certainly be worth your time!

Please know that we always seek congregant and guest participation in services throughout the year. If you are interested in taking a role in a service, please be in touch with Rabbi Joe. Roles include: reading Torah, reading Haftarah, delivering a Devar Torah, serving as Gabbai (the “MC” for the Torah service), an English reading, or having an honor. The Honors we usually confer include being called up for an Aliyah (saying the blessings for the Torah or the Haftarah), serving as Hagbah (lift, hold, and carry the Torah), Gelilah (undressing and dressing the Torah), or Petichah Usegurah (opening and closing the Ark).

### **Closing Message**

Have you noticed just how many things are on our calendar? We are busy! What that tells me is how vibrant and active our community has become. I am delighted to see it. Now, all I need is the energy to keep up. ☺

B' virkat shalom (with blessings for peace),

Rabbi Joe Blair

### **Reaching the Rabbi**

The office is not staffed and the building is generally closed when the rabbi is not there. In the event of an urgent need the rabbi may be contacted by email or telephone. Messages are regularly checked at both congregations, and email is frequently read. Please understand that the rabbi will not be available or reply on Shabbat or on Jewish holidays unless it is an emergency that cannot wait. In that case, please be sure to express the need for an urgent response.

The Rabbi is available by prior arrangement. If you wish to meet or speak with the rabbi, please email or call for an appointment.

Rabbi Joe's Email:	<a href="mailto:RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com">RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com</a>
Beth El Congregation	540-434-2744
Temple House of Israel	540-886-4091
Cell phone (for emergencies)	
[Does not have full coverage – leave a message]	434-981-3959

<p><b>Message from the President</b></p>	<p>Dear Congregants:</p> <p>On February 23, the Board will have its second annual retreat. Last year's retreat resulted in many good ideas, including our mission statement, a five year plan for the building, and the foundation of the handicapped accessibility plan which, as you know, we have begun to put into place and is nearly completed. Our new Board members will be introduced to the current ones and brought up to snuff on the Temple and its physical and financial status, but we will also spend more time trying to come up with interesting fundraising ideas and ways to include more and more of you in the exciting events up-coming. Please let me or a Board member know if you have an idea for the Temple or a way to make an existing idea work. And please, once again, think of ways you can expand your current involvement in our Jewish community. We have a very full and interesting Spring schedule of events and wish to see all of you there and participating. Watch the bulletin and the Rabbi's weekly notices for what is going on!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">.....<i>Lisa Solod Warren</i></p>
<p><b>News of our Community</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mazel Tov to Ben Goldsmith! He is the recipient of the Harry F. Byrd Leadership Scholarship, a statewide leadership award worth \$10,000. Good work, Ben!</li> <li>▪ Ruth Chodrow showed the temple as part of a tour of local historic houses of worship sponsored by the Augusta County Parks and Recreation Department. Twelve people learned about the history and architecture of the temple and were very appreciative of the opportunity.</li> <li>▪ Flora Haas, longtime friend of Temple House of Israel, has moved to Warm Hearth Retirement Village in Blacksburg to be closer to her son. Because of the move, Flora's home on Vine Street – just a few blocks from the temple – is for sale. This is a large (2300 square feet), early 20<sup>th</sup> century brick Victorian home with lots of special features. If you're interested, contact her realtor: Debi Branstetter at 540-457-1123</li> <li>▪ Steve Guberman is representing the Augusta County area, coordinating a self help group for those with Multiple Sclerosis. If you know anyone who has MS or would like additional information, the group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 at the Mary Switzer Building at the Woodrow Wilson Rehab Center. Please call Steve at 943-3735 for more information.</li> <li>▪ Congratulations to Rosalie Waterman who is the new Recording Secretary for the Augusta Medical Center's Auxiliary. The Auxiliary speaks for the volunteers at the hospital and makes decisions about spending their monies for good causes. She took office in January.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Film Festival</b></p>	<p><b>The Film Festival will run from April 11 – 17</b> and will include food, tours of the temple, discussion groups as well as seven different films. <b>We need your help to make this fundraiser a success!</b> Please contact Laurie Berman at 885-2925 or the Rabbi to offer your assistance.</p>
<p><b>Adult Education</b></p>	<p>If you are interested in studying for and having your own B'nai Mitzvah, or in learning to leyn (read/chant) Torah and/or Haftarah, or to lead services, or serve as a gabbai, or you wish to discuss conversion, please be in touch with Rabbi Joe. Similarly, if you feel a conversation with the Rabbi would be of benefit to you, please be in touch with the Rabbi to make an appointment. You can call or email</p>

	<p><b>Torah Parashiot</b></p> <p>Torah parashiot (Torah portions) read for the period covered by this newsletter include: Vayakhel, Pekudei, Vayikra, Tzav, and Shemini. Interestingly, the readings for this month are drawn from four of the five books of Torah: Shemot (Exodus) 30:11-16, and 35:1-40:38, Bemidbar (Numbers) 19:1-29, and 28:9-15, Vayikra (Leviticus) 1:1-11:47, and Devarim (Deuteronomy) 25:17-19.</p> <p>Haftarot read this month include readings from 1 Kings 7, 2 Kings 12, Isaiah 66, 1 Samuel 15, Jeremiah 7-9, and Ezekiel 36.</p>												
<p><b>Book Group</b></p>	<p>The temple book group is meeting <b>February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 at Ed Keenan's</b> home in Churchville (540-689-0173 for directions) to discuss <i>Now They Call me Infidel</i>. On <b>March 26<sup>th</sup></b> we'll discuss <i>The Reluctant Fundamentalist</i> at Leah's. So you can catch read ahead, the April book is <i>In Her Shoes</i>, to be discussed at AJ's home and in May, discussion will center on <i>Last Night at the Lobster</i> at Dianne Mason's home. It was really nice to get together again after the winter break and we look forward to welcoming new participants.</p>												
<p><b>News from the Women's Group</b></p>	<p>Please come our <b>next meeting on Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup></b> to plan for the food and refreshments to be offered during the Film Festival. We welcome your help in deciding some of the menu and making some of the food. This will potentially be a large money maker and we need all the help we can get.</p> <p>We're having our <b>Indoor Yard Sale on March 16<sup>th</sup> and you can bring your goodies beginning March 9<sup>th</sup></b>. Shirley Brand has agreed to chair the event, but needs your help. Please call her at 949-0529 if you can help set up on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10 and/or help sell on Sunday beginning at noon.</p> <p><i>Birthdays to be happily celebrated in March:</i></p> <p>Janet Brody on March 2nd  Rebecca Pereles on the 14th  Laura Jean Brand on the 19<sup>th</sup>  Laurie Berman on the 28<sup>th</sup></p> <p><i>Happy Anniversary and Congratulations to</i></p> <p>Asher and Laura Jean Brand celebrating 24 years on March 12<sup>th</sup>  Mike and Bonnie Brown celebrating 22 years on the 23<sup>rd</sup></p>												
<p><b>Oneg Reminder</b></p>	<p>Acknowledging that this information may be outdated, according to the master schedule, the following people have oneg responsibilities.</p> <p>For March 7<sup>th</sup> Linda Blazer and Jim Osborne (885-1661) and Lou and Ellen Boden (886-6059)</p> <p>For March 21<sup>st</sup> Marsha Pillet (249-4946) and Janet Brody (851-0877)</p>												
<p><b>Requested Recipe</b>  (esp. for Janet Phillips)</p>	<p><u>Spinach Quiche</u> (from the Chanukah Potluck, from the <i>Fannie Farmer Cookbook</i>)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1 partially baked pie shell</td> <td>2 cups light cream</td> </tr> <tr> <td>½ cup grated Swiss cheese</td> <td>4 eggs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>½ teaspoon salt</td> <td>1/8 teaspoon nutmeg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pinch cayenne pepper</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 cup cooked, chopped spinach, well drained</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 tablespoons minced onions sauteed in 1 tablespoon butter</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	1 partially baked pie shell	2 cups light cream	½ cup grated Swiss cheese	4 eggs	½ teaspoon salt	1/8 teaspoon nutmeg	Pinch cayenne pepper		1 cup cooked, chopped spinach, well drained		1 tablespoons minced onions sauteed in 1 tablespoon butter	
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	<p>Sprinkle cheese over bottom of pie shell. Combine eggs, cream, salt, nutmeg and cayenne pepper and beat to mix thoroughly. Add spinach and onions to custard. Pour into shell. Bake at 425 for 15 minutes then lower to 350 and bake 30 minutes more or until knife in center comes out clean.</p>																								
<b>Judaica Shop</b>	<p>Special <b>children's gift bags for Passover are available for \$15</b>. They include Passover coloring and activity sheets, crayons, stickers, make-your-own Afikomen bag kit and a Passover themed toy. Also available is a <b>Passover Starter Kit for \$30</b> which includes a hostess set, tin seder plate and matzo sweeper.</p> <p>Please place your order by April 1<sup>st</sup> so we can have time to prepare the gift bags and kits in plenty of time for you to pick them up. Contact Natasha at 886-1157 or <a href="mailto:judaica@thoi.org">judaica@thoi.org</a>.</p>																								
<b>Notes from the Editor</b>	<p>If you have comments and suggestions, I'd love to hear from you at <a href="mailto:bulletin@thoi.org">bulletin@thoi.org</a>. Also, if you are interested in helping put together the bulletin each month beginning in July, we would love to hear from you, too.</p>																								
<b>Donations</b>	<p>Thank you to these generous people who have contributed to Temple House of Israel during the past month.</p> <p>To the General Fund ..... Anna Moss  .....Ken and Elizabeth Schwartz  In honor of Hannilea Guggenheim .....Marsha Pillet  In honor of Fannie and Hyman Greenstone.....Albert and Judith Greenstone  In memory of Viola Blazer .....Alva and Howard Loudon  .....Jim Osborne  To the Library Fund in honor of Ruth Chodrow .....Jim Osborne  .....Paul Klein  To the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund .....Linda Blazer  To the Cemetery Fund in memory of Viola Blazer .... Stephen Butt  .....John and Carolyn Campbell  In honor of the Caring Committee .....Linda Blazer</p>																								
<b>Yahrzeits for March</b>	<table> <tr> <td>Louis Cohen</td> <td>Annie Kaplan Klotz</td> <td>Regina Ruttenberg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Louis Cohen, Jr.</td> <td>Abraham Kreitzer</td> <td>Ralph Aaron Seltzer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rose Wecksler Freiburger</td> <td>Abraham Levin</td> <td>Albert Laub Shultz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Emanuel J.Gutnick</td> <td>Adrian Neuman</td> <td>Sophie K. Strauss</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irving L. Janus</td> <td>Bertram Peretz</td> <td>Irving Waxman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irving Kamerman</td> <td>Harry Raskin</td> <td>C. Herman Weinberg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joseph Kamerman</td> <td>Moses Rosenthal</td> <td>Samuel I. Zeldin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leah Kamerman</td> <td>Rebecca Rosenthal</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Louis Cohen	Annie Kaplan Klotz	Regina Ruttenberg	Louis Cohen, Jr.	Abraham Kreitzer	Ralph Aaron Seltzer	Rose Wecksler Freiburger	Abraham Levin	Albert Laub Shultz	Emanuel J.Gutnick	Adrian Neuman	Sophie K. Strauss	Irving L. Janus	Bertram Peretz	Irving Waxman	Irving Kamerman	Harry Raskin	C. Herman Weinberg	Joseph Kamerman	Moses Rosenthal	Samuel I. Zeldin	Leah Kamerman	Rebecca Rosenthal	
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<b>March</b>						1
2 3:00 Song Session	3	4	5	6	7 Shabbat services at 7:30	8 Bat Mitzvah of Amber Pearson at 10:00
9 Norman Weinberg to speak at the Blackfriars' Playhouse at 7:30	10	11	12	13	14	15 Set up for yard sale
16 Purim at Rel Sch; Purim Carnival to follow at Beth El YARD SALE at noon at THOI	17 Board Meeting at 7:00	18	19	20	21 Shabbat services at 7:30 for Purim	22 1:00 lecture by Ralph Cohen 2:00 <i>The Jew of Malta</i> at the Blackfriars
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

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