



Temple House of Israel Bulletin

A Member Congregation of the Union for Reform Judaism
15 North Market Street, Staunton, VA 24401 (540) 886-4091
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1412, Staunton VA 24402
www.thoi.org

Our mission is to perpetuate Jewish life and identity through a welcoming community of spirituality, learning, service, joy and worship.

IYAR > SIVAN / May 2010

President's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

The temple board is hosting a New Member / Potential Member Brunch on Sunday, May 23rd at the Staunton Grocery at 10:30 am. New and potential members will be guests of the temple. Current temple members are also invited, Dutch treat, to join in a delicious brunch. Select from the regular menu or for \$20 enjoy a starter and main selection plus a mimosa or bloody mary! Check out www.stauntongrocery.com for details. Reservations are a must since seating is limited. Please respond to me no later than Tuesday, May 18th. Happy Spring!

B'shalom, *Beth*

Women's Group

- There is a WG meeting scheduled for Sun., May 16 at 2:00. RSVP to Marsha!
- We welcome suggestions for restocking the Judaica shop or if you are aware of catalogs or suppliers we should be using to restock the shop.
- Kudos and thanks you to everyone involved in the WG Saturday morning Kiddush luncheon. Practice makes perfect and we've had a lot of practice lately.

From the Rabbi's Desk

My dear fellow Valley Jews and Friends,

Shalom. May, already! Where has all the time flown to this year?

THE CALENDAR

Iyar (a twenty-nine day month) began April 15th, and runs until May 13th. Sivan (a thirty day month) begins on May 14th, and runs until June 12th. Rosh Chodesh for Sivan is May 14th.

HOLIDAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES

If you recall, Pesach (Passover) fell in late March. We are in the midst of the counting of the Omer which tells us our progress from Pesach until Shavuot (Feast of Weeks). After seven weeks, we arrive at Shavuot on the evening of Sivan 5 (May 18th). It runs until sundown on May 20th. Sundown is late (we are in daylight savings already!), so Shavuot will begin at 8:04 on the 18th, with Havdalah on the 20th to occur at 9:06.

May 2nd is Lag Be'Omer, the 33rd day of the counting of the Omer, often a time for a picnic and Macabiah games. I believe this is the day of the Religious school picnic and games, so come and enjoy!

On May 21st we will have a Shabbat service, led in part by the members of Shorty. At this service, we will confirm two of those in Shorty who are about to graduate and leave for college in the fall: Naomi Ornstein and Justin Goldberger. You are invited to come and help them celebrate, and hear a few of their thoughts as they begin the next phase of their journey.

TORAH PARASHIOT

The Torah parashiot (Torah portions) read for the period covered by this newsletter include the following:

- Emor, Behar-Bechukotai, Bamidbar, Naso, and Beha'alotecha, drawn from Vayikra (Lev.) 21:1-27:34; and Bamidbar (Num.) 1:1-12:16.
- Haftarat read on Shabbatot (Sabbaths) include selections from Ezekiel 44; Jeremiah 16-17; Hosea 2; Judges 13; and Zechariah 2-4.

RABBINIC & EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

Sunday May 2nd at 6 pm at THOI will be the next **book discussion** group. We will look at chapter 6 in *Witnesses to the One*. The meeting after that will be on May 16th at the same time and place.

Thursday May 6th at noon to 1:30 the **Interfaith Association** will meet at **Park View Mennonite**. The program will be focus on how the current economic situation is affecting communities of faith. Beth El's own Bill Ney will be one of the panelists. Lunch is available for a small donation – arrive early and go through the cafeteria line. For questions about the Interfaith Association, please contact Rabbi Joe.

Saturday, May 15th is the next **Kinderlachen**, a Jewish themed pre-school play group. It meets at 10 am at THOI. .

Sunday, May 16th at 2 pm at Beth El is the next **Women of the Tanakh** session

Friday, May 21st is the **Confirmation** service at Beth El. **SHORTY** will lead; and we will offer our good wishes to Naomi Ornstein and Justin Goldberger as they prepare to leave for college. Following the Confirmation service, **SHORTY** will have their annual Weekend in Williamsburg! **SHORTY** members and parents, please be on the lookout for more information.

Sunday, May 23rd, the next **Interfaith/Intercultural Summit** will take place in Harrisonburg from 2 to 8 pm. For more information, please contact Bill Ney.

PASTORAL CARE

If you feel a conversation or meeting with the rabbi on any topic would be of Benefit to you, please be in touch to make an appointment. You can call or email Rabbi Joe as listed elsewhere in this newsletter. Also, if you are ill, or know someone who may be, and might like a visit or call, please let Rabbi Joe know so he can be in touch.

SERVICE PARTICIPATION

Please know that we seek congregant and guest participation in services throughout the year. If you are interested in leading a lay service, or in taking a role in a service, please be in touch with Lisa Solod, Beth Young, Don Chodrow, or Ellen Werther. You are also welcome to talk with Rabbi Joe about participation. If you are interested in singing at our services, please be in touch with Sarah Grove-Humphries our coordinator for music at worship services.

RITUAL MATTERS

Celebrations: If you are interested in studying for and celebrating an adult B'nai Mitzvah, or in learning to leyn (read/chant) Torah and/or Haftarah, or to lead services, or serve as a gabbai, please be in touch with the rabbi.

Jewish Study: If you are interested in or wish to consider conversion, or you just want to learn more about Judaism (whether you are Jewish or not), please be in touch with the rabbi.

Caring Committee: This group has been doing wonderful things in helping and supporting those in our community who may have some needs for assistance or support. If you can volunteer at THOI, please speak with Rosalie Waterman, Lou Boden, or Beth Young. As always, if you know of someone who is ill, or who might wish to be contacted, please also let Rabbi Joe knows about that.

Chevrah Kadishah: This group functions to prepare and dress a body for burial in accordance with the Halachic (Jewish legal) requirements, showing care and concern for

the deceased. Members are not publicly acknowledged nor is it made public who has been involved in this mitzvah. Thank G-d, we have not had too many opportunities to respond, but we do need to be ready when the need arises. If you have any interest in participating in performing this mitzvah, please speak with Rabbi Joe.

CLOSING

As we look around and see the new growth, the leaves unfurling, and the flowers budding, we are grateful for the beauty of the world around us, and the manifold examples of life renewed. As it is in nature, so may it be with each of us. May we be renewed, awakened, enlivened, and stronger. May we feel the joys and satisfactions of growth and new learning, of maturation and ripening, of deepening roots and a richer connection. And may we feel the warmth of the love and care of those around us, among whom we dwell, in our families, friends, congregations, communities, and world. So may it be. Let us say, Amen

Rabbi Joe Blair

Ritual Honors Schedule

Date of Service	April 30	May 14	May 28
Honors			
Shaliach Tzibbur	Rabbi Joe	Rabbi Joe	Rabbi Joe
Cantorial/Music Support	Sarah	Sarah	Sarah
Petichah/Segurah (Ark)	Vera Flint	David Waterman	Rachel Peretz Comes
Hagbahah (Lift/Carry/Hold)	Tom Pereles	Linda Blazer	Rich Young
Gelilah (Undress/Dress Torah)	David Waterman	Bonnie Brown	Steve Guberman
Aliyah (Torah blessings) 1	Ruth Chodrow	Rosalie Waterman	Sarah Grove Humphries
Aliyah (Torah blessings) 2	Greg Ciszek	Ellen Werther	Lisa Solod
Aliyah (Torah blessings) 3	---	---	---
Leyning (Read Torah in Hebrew)	Sarah Grove Humphries	Ruth Chodrow	Sarah Grove Humphries
Koreh (Read Torah in English)	Greg Ciszek	Rosalie Waterman	Lisa Solod
Maftir(ah) (Haftarah blessings)	Rachel Peretz Comes	Steve Rosenberg	Blaire French
Leyning (Read Haftarah in Hebrew or English)	Ruth Chodrow	Steve Rosenberg	Blaire French
Gabbai	Don Chodrow	Don Chodrow	Don Chodrow
Devar Torah	Rabbi Joe	Rabbi Joe	Rabbi Joe
Lehadlik Ner (Candles & blessing)	?	?	?

Slate of Officers for the Board

The THOI bylaws dictate that the voting membership be given notice of the slate of nominations for the THOI Board of Directors at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting on June 13, 2010. The Nominating Committee, Ruth Chodrow (chair), Mike Brown and Leah Farmer propose the following slate of officers. Nominees and the office are in bold.

- **President:** **Beth Young** **agreed to serve another 2 year term**
- Past President: Lisa Solod **term ends June 2012**
- VP Membership: Rachel Peretz Comes **term ends June 2011**
- **VP Buildings:** **Steve Rosenberg** **agreed to serve another 2 year term**
- Secretary: Ruth Chodrow **term ends June 2011**
- **Treasurer:** **Ellen Boden** **agreed to serve another 2 year term**
- **Trustees:** **Doug Degen** **agreed to another term beg. June 2010**
- Richard Young **term ends June 2014**
- Alan Goldenberg **term ends June 2011**
- Janet Brody **term ends June 2011**
- Member at Large: Janet Brody
- **Members at Large:** **Vera Flint** **agreed to serve new 2 year term**
- Marsha Pillet** **agreed to serve new 2 year term**

The Annual Meeting on June 13th at 4:00 PM in THOI is open to all members. Your voice and vote is needed. Please direct your questions to Ruth Chodrow or Beth Young.

<p>Religious School</p>	<p>Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Lazeh</p> <p>The past couple of weeks of religious school have been very busy. We have been commemorating important days including Yom Hashoah, Yom Ha'atzma'ut, and Yom Hazikaron, through age appropriate discussions, stories, movies, and artistic endeavors within our classrooms. We have learned that All Jews Are Responsible for Eachother. We have also been preparing for our upcoming Religious School Shabbat Service which is on Friday, April 23rd at Beth El. We will begin services at 6:30 that evening and we hope that we have lots of members of the congregations out to support us.</p> <p>We will conclude religious school on May 23rd, but before then we have several wonderful celebrations that we hope you will join us for! Our Lag Be'Omer celebration and picnic will be held at Beth El on Sunday, May 2nd. We will also be having a Family Education experience about Shavuot on Sunday, May 16th from 10-12:30. We look forward to seeing you there!</p> <p>Many thanks and best wishes to Roberta Stein who has been a major part of our religious school music program, administration, and preschool over the last many years. And thank you to Gary – our resident RS photographer! Roberta and Gary will be moving away in May and they will be missed – Nesi'ah tovah!</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>L'shalom, Dara Hall, Principal</i></p>															
<p>Summer Newsletter Changes</p>	<p>The June issue of this newsletter will serve as the summer issue including information for June, July and August. Submissions for the summer issue are due by May 20, 2010.</p> <p>The newsletter will resume regular monthly publication beginning with the September issue. Deadline for the September issue (will include the annual calendars and High Holiday news) is August 20th.</p> <p>Please contact the editor Martha Degen (mdegen77@gmail.com) with corrections and concerns. The newsletter is online at the THOI website. If you want to receive the newsletter through the USPO please contact the editor.</p>															
<p>Yarzheits</p>	<p>Abraham Kravitz Blanche Cohn Clara Sebell Edward Patterson Ellna Byrne Ethel Kelly Flora Switzer</p>	<p>Frank Rubin Gertrude Barber Gloria Goldsmith Heidi Kaplan Ida Harris Jack Printz Joseph Cohn</p>	<p>Joseph Oppenheim Leah Barber Max Raybin Mildred Shor Mildred Hoffman Morris Klotz Moses Walters</p>	<p>Nettie Williams Rosaline Kamerman Rose Pickus Velma Byrne William Robins</p>												
<p>Contact the Rabbi</p>	<p>The rabbi is available by appointment. If you wish to meet or speak with the rabbi, please email or call him. In that way, the rabbi will be able to respond and give you his full attention, as you deserve. The rabbi does not read or respond to email or phone messages on Shabbat or holidays.</p> <p>In the event of an emergency, the rabbi may be contacted by telephone. In that case, please call the cell phone number listed: if you reach voicemail, please leave a message speaking clearly with your name, telephone numbers, the specific topic, and be sure to express the need for an urgent response. The rabbi will respond as soon as possible.</p> <table data-bbox="360 1675 1542 1831"> <tr> <td>Rabbi Joe's Email:</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Beth El Congregation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">540-434-2744</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Temple House of Israel</td> <td style="text-align: right;">540-886-4091</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cell phone (Please use this # for emergencies)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">434-981-3959</td> </tr> </table>				Rabbi Joe's Email:	<u>RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com</u>	Beth El Congregation	540-434-2744	Temple House of Israel	540-886-4091	Cell phone (Please use this # for emergencies)	434-981-3959				
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Board Contact Information	Rabbi Joe Blair	886-4091	RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com
	President Beth Young	885-1481	president@thoi.org
	Past President Lisa Solod Warren	886-1603	pastpresident@thoi.org
	V. P. of Membership Rachel Pertz Comes	363-4881	membership@thoi.org
	V. P. of Building/Grounds Steve Rosenberg	943-0507	building@thoi.org
	Secretary Ruth Chodrow	886-2252	secretary@thoi.org
	Treasurer Ellen Boden		championsresource@hotmail.com
	Doug Degen, Trustees	886-8651	trustees2@thoi.org
	Alan Goldenberg, Trustee		trustees3@thoi.org
	Richard Young, Trustees	885-1481	trustees@thoi.org
	Cantorial Soloist Sarah Grove-Humphries	885-4223	cantor@thoi.org
	Webmaven Marcia Conner		website@thoi.org
	SHORTY (youth group) Sheri Alt		youth-group@thoi.org
	Religious School Dara Hall	433-5596	halldm@jmu.edu
Young Adults Group Natasha Benenson		young-adults@thoi.org	
Caring Committee Lou Boden	255-5555	caring-committee2@thoi.org	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 2010						1
2 Book Discussion 6:00 PM	3	4	5	6 Interfaith Association Panel Discussion 12 – 1 PM @ Park View Mennonite “How Economy Effects a Community of Faith”	7	8
9	10 Board Meeting 7:00 PM	11	12	13 Newsletter Summer Issue Submission Deadline	14 Rabbi Led Services 7:30 PM	15 Kinderlachen 10 AM
16 <i>Women of the Tanakh</i> 2:00 PM @ Beth El Book Discussion 6:00 PM	17	18	19	20	21 <i>SHORTY</i> <i>Led Services</i> <i>@ Beth El</i> SHORTY to Williamsburg	22
23 <i>New Member Brunch</i> <i>@ Staunton Grocery</i> <i>10:30 AM</i> Interfaith Summit in Harrisonburg 2 – 8 PM	24	25	26	27	28 Rabbi Led Services 7:30 PM	29
30	31	Congregational Trip to Israel 2011 A congregational trip to Israel, open to members of both Beth El and THOI, as well as family and friends who would want to join us is being planned for late February or March of 2011. If you think this sounds interesting, please speak to Rabbi Joe.				