



# 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.*

**September 2008, Elul 5768/ Tishrei 5769**

## Noteworthy Congregational News and Events

- Come to the Welcome-Back Picnic at the Young's home on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30.

<b>Last Name</b>	<b>What to Bring</b>
A – H	Main Dish
I – R	Side Dish or Salad
S – Z	Dessert

We'll have sign-up sheets for volunteers - please come, sign up, and help us keep all our wonderful temple activities going for another!

- Registration for the MAC Regional Biennial, October 24 - 26, 2008, at the Rocky Gap Lodge & Golf Resort in Flintstone MD, is now available online at [www.urj.org/mac/macbiennial](http://www.urj.org/mac/macbiennial)
- Members of our congregation have been invited to attend a presentation on Sunday, September 21 in Fishersville by the New Covenant Church for a program that is very similar to the one we presented last November by Evelyn Hinds (as part of the Shenandoah Valley Holocaust Education series at THOI). At that time, Ms. Susie Sandager will be speaking on to the life of Corrie Ten Boom at two times. She will speak Sunday morning from 9:00am - 9:45am, and again Sunday evening from 6:30pm - 7:30pm. If you have questions, please call (540) 234-8244. Directions to the church: follow I-81 north and exit at the Weyers Cave exit. Turn RIGHT towards Weyers Cave. Turn RIGHT at the only light in Weyers Cave onto Keezletown Road. Travel about one half mile and turn LEFT onto Brendan Lane. Follow Brendan Lane to the church, New Covenant Community Church.

## From the Rabbi's Desk

My dear fellow Valley Jews and Friends,  
 Shalom. I hope that your summer was wonderful and warm, and that you are refreshed and relaxed.

I had a relatively quiet summer, doing a few projects around our house, catching up on some sleep and reading, and thinking ahead to the coming year. I am excited about all the plans and activities that we have coming up. Now it is time for us all to jump back into our congregational year.

## THE CALENDAR & HOLIDAYS

### ELUL → TISHREI (AUGUST-SEPTEMBER)

Av runs until the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. The 31<sup>st</sup> of August and September 1<sup>st</sup> are Rosh Chodesh (new month/moon) for Elul. Elul runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, and the 30<sup>th</sup> of September is Rosh Chodesh Tishrei (and ROSH HASHANAH).

The evening of September 29<sup>th</sup> is Erev Rosh HaShanah (evening of Rosh HaShanah). Rosh HaShanah is on September 30<sup>th</sup>, and for those who celebrate two days, October 1<sup>st</sup>. [The second day of Rosh HaShanah is a result of our history, with many of the Jewish people being in *galut* (exile) from the land of Israel. Because it was too far from Jerusalem and the Sanhedrin (the body of rabbinic authority) or other authority for news of when the new moon, and thus the new month and new year, were announced for those living far away to hear it timely, to assure that the local celebration of holidays was on the proper day, two days were to be celebrated for this holiday. This also was true for Pesach (Passover), extending this 7 day holiday to 8 days, and for Shavuot (Festival of Weeks), making it a two day holiday. Other holidays, such as Sukkot (Festival of Booths) and Chanukah (Festival of Lights) were not extended because they were already lengthened holidays. In Israel, the holidays are not lengthened, and some congregations in the United States and elsewhere have chosen to adopt the Israeli calendar fully. More traditionally minded communities have remained with the lengthened holidays outside of Israel.]

Rosh HaShanah (the head of the year, or new year) is the start of the Jewish calendar year for most purposes. It kicks off the Yamim Nora'im (days of awe), the ten days starting with Rosh HaShanah, running through the end of Yom Kippur (the day of atonement). This period is one of tight focus on teshuvah (return and repentance). It follows the 30 days of the month of Elul during which we are directed to conduct a cheshbon hanefesh (accounting of the soul), a deep self-examination and introspection that leads us to identify our faults and transgressions, and to work to repair them, to seek forgiveness, and to repent and strive not to repeat them.

Because Rosh HaShanah is considered the anniversary of Creation, we see G-d as the supreme Creator, the sovereign over all, and therefore also the supreme judge. We are encouraged to think of this period as the time when G-d judges us (leading to the image of the book of life). That is the reason it is so often felt as a time of seriousness, of sober reflection, and sincere repentance – leading to the term, Yamim Nora'im. At the same time, it is also a time of joy, because we are rejoicing in and celebrating G-d's creation, though this is often felt to be muted by the more somber thoughts dealing with judgment. The Yamim Nora'im are seen as a time we can 'plead our case' and support our plea by teshuvah (repentance), giving tzedakah (righteous action – often gifts to those in need), and doing gemilut Chasidim (deeds of lovingkindness/piety).

I will write more about the Yamim Nora'im and Yom Kippur in the October newsletter. Erev Yom Kippur (with Kol Nidre) will occur on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October, with Yom Kippur day being the 9<sup>th</sup>.

## SOME ITEMS OF NOTE

I want to highlight a few things that are recent or will be coming up in the months ahead.

I hope you were able to attend the 'end of summer' pot luck picnic on August 24<sup>th</sup> at the Young's home.

I am back on my regular schedule. We began our regular schedule of rabbi-

led services on August 29<sup>th</sup> at THOI (August 22<sup>nd</sup> at Beth El).

If you wish to make an appointment to see me, please feel free to call (886-4091) or email ([rabbijoe@thoi.org](mailto:rabbijoe@thoi.org)). To minimize driving, I am grouping most of my appointments in Staunton on Mondays and Fridays, and in Harrisonburg on Sundays and Thursdays.

The joint calendar committee met in June and set the schedule of services and other calendar events, which determines many of the activities and events for coming year. That calendar should be sent out soon, if it has not already been distributed.

You should find a Jewish calendar available to you at High Holiday services, courtesy of Reynolds Hamrick Funeral Home.

There is a Shabbat service weekly at Beth El. When the rabbi is not present, these services are lay-led. At THOI, there will be a rabbi-led Shabbat service generally every other week. Consult the congregational calendar for details, and see the website, bulletin, and announcements for any changes.

A joint Selichot service will be held at Beth El on Saturday evening, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm. We will begin with Havdalah, and then hold a Selichot service.

[Selichot is the penitential prayer service. It is customary to begin to pray prayers of selichot (penitence, sorrow, remorse, regret, apology, contrition, atonement, or repentance) for the forty days from the start of Elul until Yom Kippur day. These prayers are often recited in the deep of night, at midnight, throughout the entire period. A particular minhag (custom) has arisen in recent times that the most efficacious time to offer these prayers is on the motzei Shabbat (ending or going out of the Sabbath) either just prior to Rosh HaShanah or between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. The hallmarks of this service are the piyuttim (liturgical poems) that are included, and the adoption of the posture of a supplicant for these prayers. There is no single format or liturgy that serves for this service. Last year I adapted a version for our use, based on the format produced by a colleague and friend of mine. I also held a discussion afterwards at Beth El, and asked for feedback on that version. Based on that feedback, I have further adapted the service, and it will debut this year in the new and improved version.]

Rosh HaShanah will begin at 8 pm on Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. Rabbi Joe will be in Staunton that evening, and Rabbi Sue will be in Harrisonburg. As is the local minhag (custom), the rabbis will switch locations and Rabbi Joe will be at Harrisonburg on the 30<sup>th</sup>, and Rabbi Sue in Staunton, with services beginning in both locations at 10 am. Please watch for information on tickets (no cost to members) to be sent out soon.

We will have the Tashlikh (casting away) ceremony at 1 pm following the Rosh HaShanah morning services, in Staunton at Gypsy Hill Park, and in Harrisonburg at Purcell Park.

[Tashlikh is a minhag (custom) that has arisen as a symbolic action. It indicates our desire to ‘cast away’ our transgressions and those acts we performed in past that we do not wish to repeat. The visiting of a body of mayim chayim (living water – a body of water that has fish and other forms of life, and ideally flows out to the sea), symbolizes our hope that we can cast off these behaviours, and that they will disappear (be consumed by the fish) or be carried away to be buried and lost forever (at the bottom of the ocean). It is a symbolic ritual of cleansing and healing; it denotes the hope and faith that we can rid ourselves of those things about ourselves we dislike, don’t want, or find harmful to ourselves or others.

A colleague of mine, Rabbi Dick Israel, z”l, came up with a humorous

approach to this ritual which holds that we can also denote the types of transgressions we seek to eliminate by the type of bread crumbs we use. Thus, he composed a list: for common simple transgressions we use white bread; for errors in misuse of humor we would use rye bread; for deviances we could use twisted rolls or swirl rye/pumpnickel; for evil deeds we could use dark bread; and so on. The full list is quite lengthy, and very amusing.]

On Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in the later afternoon, we will hold an unveiling for the headstone for Bennie Sragovitz at the cemetery where he is buried.

### ***OTHER PROGRAMS & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES***

If you feel a conversation 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. 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 or Don Chodrow or Beth Young. Roles include: reading Torah, reading Haftarah, delivering a Devar Torah, serving as Gabbai (the “MC” for the Torah service), reading an English reading, or having an honor. The Honors we usually confer in our services include being called up for an Aliyah (saying the blessings for the Torah or the Haftarah reading), 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***

As we approach the High Holy Days, the Yamim Nora'im (days of awe), I ask forgiveness for any injuries I may have done to anyone, and I freely offer forgiveness to those who have caused me injuries. May this year be for all of us a year of blessing, a year of love, a year of health, a year of prosperity, a year of healing, and a year of success. Ken Yehi Ratzon (so may it be G-d's will). Le shanah tovah umetukah tikateivu (may you be written for a good and sweet year).

I look forward to seeing you all again soon, and hearing about all the exciting things you did over the summer.

*Rabbi Joe Blair*  
*September 2008*

### **Reaching the Rabbi**

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

The office is not staffed and the building is generally closed when the rabbi is not in. Messages are checked by the rabbi at both congregations, and email is frequently read during the week. 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 the event of an urgent need the rabbi may be contacted by telephone. In that case, please call the cell phone number listed, leaving a detailed message, and be sure to express the need for an immediate response.

Rabbi Joe's Email:

[RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com](mailto:RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com)

Beth El Congregation

540-434-2744

Temple House of Israel

540-886-4091

Cell phone (Please use this # for emergencies)

434-981-3959

<p><b>Message from the President</b></p>	<p>Dear Temple Friends,</p> <p>The strength of our community is evident. So many came to the aide of the Bodens after their disastrous fire in July and so many of you have sent messages and food to Rich and me after Rich's mother's death in August. Our most sincere thank you, with gratitude for all of your help in so many ways.</p> <p>September brings Rosh Hashanah, the head of the year – and thank goodness it's late this year! That will give us time to find ourselves, take stock of our past year and look forward to the New Year with renewed energy and commitment to one another within our families and our community.</p> <p>The 2008-09 Temple House of Israel calendar is included in this newsletter and you'll see that we have more services, an active list of Women's Group events and a host of holiday celebrations. (Read: more opportunities for your volunteer efforts!).</p> <p>Rich and I look forward to seeing you all at our home for the annual potluck dinner on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00.</p> <p>B'shalom, Beth Young</p>
<p><b>News of our Community</b></p>	<p>Not everyone had a quiet summer. There were a number of events in our community that were of a much more turbulent nature.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most recently, Elizabeth Young (Rich's mother) fell and broke her leg. After the initial surgery, she also developed an infection, and required additional surgery for it. She went into a rehab facility. Sadly, she suffered a heart attack and passed away. Her funeral was on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August.</li> <li>• The Boden's (and Drucker's – Ellen's parents) home was heavily damaged by fire (apparently a lightning strike). Baruch Hashem (thank G-d) no one was hurt. They will have to virtually rebuild the entire house interior. Our community has rallied and has been offering them wonderful support, but I am sure more will be needed over the next year plus, which is how long it will take to accomplish the restoral. Ellen and Lou and Ben and Pauline will be living in other quarters during this time.</li> <li>• Philip Chodrow had an extended bout of illness, but is doing better now.</li> <li>• Dianne Mason's mother passed away. Dianne returned to Wales for the funeral. She is back in our area again now.</li> <li>• Shirley Brand fell and broke her leg. She is recovering, and is now getting around with a cane, and able to drive again. Many people helped out with driving and in other ways while she was restricted – another example of our community rallying at need.</li> </ul> <p>On a more positive note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two new member families have joined the congregation: Ben and Pauline Drucker (parents of Ellen Boden), and Barry and Grace Kolman. A warm welcome to them!</li> <li>• Betty Menaker celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. We wish her many happy returns of</li> </ul>

	<p>the day, as they say, ad meah ve'esrim (until 120)!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several of our members took vacations by going away, some of them to quite exotic and exciting locales. These include Beth Young, Lisa and Michael Warren, Natasha Benenson, Leah Farmer, Martha and Doug Degen, Linda Blazer and Jim Osborne, Rosalie and David Waterman, Gail Brusoe, and Asher and Laura Jean Brand.</li> <li>• Jordan Kristoff, daughter of Marsha Pillet, won the state championship in extemporaneous speaking at the FFA conference held in July, speaking in front of an assembly of 1,700 people. Jordan will now go on to compete at the national level in Indianapolis this coming fall</li> <li>• The summer lay-led services started as scheduled on July 18<sup>th</sup>, and continue every other week. We had wonderful participation by many congregants, and the services were inspiring and enjoyable. Thanks to all of those who have taken a role, whether leading services, reading Torah or Haftarah (Prophets), delivering a Devar Torah (Word of Torah), serving as Gabbai, hosting the Oneg Shabbat, or making the Challah. This includes Lou Boden, Don Chodrow, Gail Brusoe, Philip Chodrow, Ruth Chodrow, Rafael Brand, Linda Blazer, Jim Osborne, Natasha Benenson, Leah Farmer, Vera Flint, Marsha Pillet, Rosalie Waterman, Sarah Grove-Humphries, and Lisa Warren.</li> <li>• Mazal Tov to Ellen Werther who is now working as a teacher in the Madison County school system.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Religious School</b></p>	<p>The <u>Religious School</u> will begin classes on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30. The daily religious school schedule order has changed somewhat, but remains essentially the same, ending at 12:30. The bagel bar will be offered starting at 9 am.</p> <p>This year there will be a <u>preschool program</u> from 9:30-10:30, including music and other activities. For more information please contact Roberta Stein.</p> <p><b><u>Please note:</u></b> if you have a student who will be entering the religious school (K-7) this year, please be in touch with the principals as soon as you can. Also, if you are interested in being a teacher in the religious school, please be in touch with the co-principals. They are: Dara Hall, Ruth Berger, and Linda Kohn.</p>
<p><b>Adult Education</b></p>	<p><b>Torah Parashiot</b></p> <p>Torah parashiot (Torah portions) read for the period covered by this newsletter include the following in September: Shofetim, Ki Tetze, Ki Tavo, and Nitzavim, drawn from Devarim (Deuteronomy) 16:18-30:20, are all read before we arrive at Rosh HaShanah.</p> <p>Haftarot read on Shabbatot (Sabbaths) in September include selections from Isaiah 51-52, 54, 60, and 61-63.</p> <p>The Torah parashah (portion) for Rosh HaShanah morning is from Bereshit (Genesis) 22, concerning the binding of Isaac. In congregations that celebrate two days of Rosh HaShanah, this parashah is read on the second day, and Bereshit (Genesis) 1-2 (concerning creation) is read on the first day.</p> <p>The Haftarah (reading from the prophets) for Rosh HaShanah is 1 Samuel 1 (concerning Channah, and the institution of prayer from the heart). Some congregations instead choose to read from Nehemiah 8 (concerning the celebration of the day). In congregations that celebrate two days of Rosh HaShanah, this Haftarah is read the second day, and Isaiah 55 (concerning calling on G-d in joy) or Jeremiah 31 (concerning praising G-d for saving the people) is read on the first day.</p>

## **Rabbinic Education Initiatives**

Rabbi Joe has taken into account the requests and comments that he received concerning classes and interest from congregants in the course of the last year. As a result, he has scheduled a fairly extensive set of classes/courses to be taught in the coming year (as long as there is sufficient interest). Please consider joining him and studying in one or more of them.

1. If you have been meaning to learn how to read Hebrew (or improve your reading) in order to better follow services, speak with the rabbi: a beginner's class has been scheduled for the fall, to begin in November, on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. This is envisioned to be a six session course, including mastery of the alefbet and vowels, an initial introduction to some vocabulary of the liturgy, and some writing practice (new this year) to reinforce what we have covered. This course is similar to what has been offered in past under the titles Introduction to Hebrew, Crash Course in Reading Hebrew, and Read Hebrew America.

2. If you are interested in studying for and celebrating a 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. Classes are planned for later this year. More information will be forthcoming soon.

3. If you are interested in or wish to consider conversion, or just want to learn more about Judaism (whether you are Jewish or not), you are invited to take the Introduction to Judaism (ITJ) course, offered beginning September 14<sup>th</sup>. This is useful if you simply want to know more about Judaism, and is a prerequisite to those who may be thinking about conversion. This will be a twenty class session course covering holidays, life cycle events, some history, practices, beliefs, customs, literature, and a smattering of other matters. Students will also be asked to attend some services and events, and go on a limited number of field trips during the course of the year. The classes will meet regularly on Sunday afternoons at 4-6 pm. The location will be determined by the preference of the majority of those who sign up (either Staunton or Harrisonburg or some combination). The first class meeting will be at Beth El in Harrisonburg. If you know of anyone else who might want to take such a course, please encourage them to contact Rabbi Joe.

4. In a series of classes that follow a theme, but each one is stand alone, I intend to look at the Tanakh in some detail, and especially at the doings of the women included in various sections, and try to tease out a bit of their stories, as well as look at the historical and contextual world in which those stories are unfolding. The setting for this class would be akin to a seminar in which we would look at the story of one woman in each class, and read the text (in English), talk about the background, and discuss the story. I am scheduling this as a Sunday afternoon class, from 2-4 pm. It will be held monthly. Some months we will be at THOI, but the bulk of the classes will meet at Beth El in Harrisonburg. The first class will be on September 14<sup>th</sup> at Beth El at 2 pm. We will be looking at Chava (Eve) and the 'other' woman, focusing on chapters 1 and 2 of Bereshit (Genesis).

5. Another series of monthly stand alone classes will be titled "Everything you wanted to know about 'X' in Judaism (but were afraid to ask)" (EYWTKA). We will look at food, sex & relationships, business ethics, speech, community, prayer, and many other topics. Because each class stands alone, no one would be compelled to commit to all the topics; you could attend when it is convenient and still fully participate. We will start this class in January, at 7 pm, and it will alternate between Thursdays at Beth El and Mondays at THOI.

6. A shorter series of two to three classes, will be an examination of the Prayer service, in which we would examine the source, structure, development, and practices of the three daily services, and the variations for holidays. This will begin late in January.

7. Two other classes will be a 'How to be a Gabbai' (HTBA) (master of ceremonies for the Torah service) class, and 'How to be a Shaliach Tzibur' (service leader) two-part series. These will also begin in January.

8. A multi-session class that will meet about twice a month starting in January will be Torah with Commentary (TWC). In it, we will look at a Torah parashah, and read along with it several of the commentators writings on that section. We will discuss what their questions may have been, as well as what our questions would be. This is another set of standalone classes – one need not attend all of the sessions.

9. Torah Limud – a monthly Torah study session at Beth El that looks at that week's Torah Parashah and tries to fit it into the context of the larger story. Open for discussion. This will usually take place on Friday evening from 6:30 to 7:30, and you are welcome to bring a meal to eat while we talk. On some occasions, it will be moved to Saturday morning, when we have a Shabbat morning service, and in that case, will follow the service, and any Kiddush that is offered. The first session will be Saturday morning, September 20<sup>th</sup> following the Shabbat morning service at Beth El.

10. Torah Lishmah – a monthly text study session at THOI that looks at something in the way of a Jewish text, drawn variously from Torah, Nevi'im (Prophets), Ketuvim (Writings), Talmud, the Zohar, and other Jewish texts. Open for discussion. This will usually take place on Friday evening from 6:30 to 7:30, and you are welcome to bring a meal to eat while we talk. On some occasions, it will be moved to Saturday morning, when we have a Shabbat morning service, and in that case, will follow the service, and any Kiddush that is offered. The first session will be Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm, prior to our Shabbat evening service at THOI.

Please let Rabbi Joe know if these possibilities would be of interest to you. If you have an idea or a desire for another class, please also let Rabbi Joe know – then it can be taken into account for a future offering.

### **Adult Education Initiatives**

In an entirely different direction, we have several congregants and local experts who have volunteered to present a variety of programs. For example, Richard Marks, Gordon Bowen, Lou Boden, and others have said they would be happy to offer a lecture or presentation to our congregants. Perhaps we can encourage someone to lead a series on Islam and Judaism – a topic that the URJ has suggested would be valuable for congregations to study as a group. I am hoping we can arrange these kinds of programs throughout the year, in addition to the rabbinic offerings, and present an ongoing 'lernhaus' on a variety of different topics. We will likely also try to arrange for a group visit to the Blackfriars theater again, as that seemed to be very well received. We can also ask if Ralph Cohen is available to speak to us about the plays, as he did recently for The Jew of Malta.

The Shenandoah Valley Holocaust Education Week is a major initiative. It needs more hands and energy than any one person can provide. If you would like to be part of making this happen, please speak to Rabbi Joe. Planning is going to get under way very soon.

The Staunton Jewish Film Festival was a significant success. We are hoping to repeat it next spring. Be on the lookout for a call for volunteers in various areas, and be prepared to offer your time, energy, and enthusiasm to help the chairperson,

	<p>Laurie Berman, to make this an even greater success next year.</p> <p>We don't currently have a social action committee or chair; if you would like to work in this area, please speak to Beth Young. There are many opportunities that are open to us to perform Tikkun Olam (repair of the world) and Gemilut Chasidim (acts of lovingkindness), from supporting the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank to working at the Volunteer Farm, and much more. The possibilities are limited only by imagination and energy.</p> <p>There are many other possibilities to volunteer and help our community continue to grow and be vibrant – please consider signing up and taking on one or more of these roles.</p>
<p><b>Library</b></p>	<p>It has been extraordinarily busy at the THOI library as Grace Kolman and I have accessioned the nine boxes of books that are the gift of Professor William E. Cox. Here are a few titles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>American Jews: Their Story</i> by Oscar Handlin</li> <li>• <i>The Family Moskat</i> by Isaac Bashevis Singer</li> <li>• <i>Overcoming Fear Between Jews and Christians</i> by James H. Charlesworth, ed.</li> <li>• <i>Franz Rosenzweig: His Life and Thought</i> by Nahum N. Glatzer</li> <li>• <i>To Life! A Celebration of Jewish Being and Thinking</i> by Harold S. Kushner</li> </ul> <p>Enjoy yourselves as you browse through the shelves of the library. They are jammed with new titles.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Leah Farmer</p>
<p><b>From Sarah Grove-Humphries</b></p>	<p>Dear Friends at THOI,</p> <p>I want to thank you for sending me to the Mifgash Musicale on Music for the Major and Minor Festivals of the Jewish Year. This workshop was held from July 27-31 at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion of the URJ in Cincinnati, Ohio. There were 36 participants from large and small congregations, as well as 10 faculty from the US and Canada at the workshop. These temple musicians held a wide variety of roles including cantors, soloists, accompanists, guitarists, and choir members and I enjoyed hearing, seeing, and learning about the wide range of musical possibilities in reform services.</p> <p>The week became a microcosm of the Jewish year (excepting High Holidays) with each morning and evening prayer service devoted to a different holiday: Chanukah, Purim, Simchat Torah, minor festival evenings, 7th Day of Pesach, Yom Haatzmaut, and Yom HaShoah. You really had to be on your toes to know what day it was!</p> <p>Composers Ben Steinberg and Bonia Shur were among the faculty and we sang choral works by both composers. The highlight for me was the performance (with only 2 rehearsals!) of Ben Steinberg's Shalosh Regalim Cantata for chorus, children's choir, piano, cello, flute, and percussion. I sang the children's choir part with 2 other women, and even had a little solo. It was quite special to be able to sing a piece of that complexity with so many able musicians and to have the composer himself conducting us.</p> <p>Again, thank you for your support in sending me to Mifgash. I learned a great deal</p>

	and I hope to continue to share what I learned with our congregation.  Sarah Grove-Humphries																																							
<b>News from the Women's Group</b>	Remember that we have <b>THOI Cookbooks for sale</b> . They make great gifts, especially at only \$8 a piece.  <i>Birthdays to be happily celebrated in September:</i> Tony Jordan on the 11 <sup>th</sup> Clarke Conner on the 16 <sup>th</sup> Scott Goldenberg on the 17 <sup>th</sup> Zachary Pereles on the 18 <sup>th</sup> Catrina Janicker on the 28 <sup>th</sup> <i>Anniversaries in September:</i> Beth and Richard Young celebrating on September 20 <sup>th</sup>																																							
<b>Judaica Shop</b>	We have two new CDs in stock: <i>The Real Complete Shabbat Songs and Blessings</i> , which has several of the songs we sing in services, and <i>Birthday of the World: Rosh Hashana CD</i> . Each is \$20. There are also several new mezuzot from which to choose. Shoppers may contact Natasha at 886-1157 or <a href="mailto:judaica@thoi.org">judaica@thoi.org</a> .																																							
<b>Notes from the Editor</b>	If you have comments or suggestions, I'd love to hear from you at <a href="mailto:bulletin@thoi.org">bulletin@thoi.org</a> . If you have items for the October bulletin, please get them to me by <b>September 20th</b> .																																							
<b>Yahrzeits for September</b>	<table> <tr> <td>Flossie Cohen</td> <td>Julius Margolis</td> <td>Anna Seltzer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reuben Harris</td> <td>Minnie Patterson</td> <td>Michael Seltzer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Harry Harrison</td> <td>Hermina Printz</td> <td>Stephen Shapiro</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Henrietta Harrison</td> <td>Samuel Printz</td> <td>Samuel Shultz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Herman Levy</td> <td>Concetta (Connie) Rubin</td> <td>Bennie Sragovitz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miriam Loewner</td> <td>Joseph Ruttenberg</td> <td>Sadie Witt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Milton Mann</td> <td>Nathan Schilling</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Flossie Cohen	Julius Margolis	Anna Seltzer	Reuben Harris	Minnie Patterson	Michael Seltzer	Harry Harrison	Hermina Printz	Stephen Shapiro	Henrietta Harrison	Samuel Printz	Samuel Shultz	Herman Levy	Concetta (Connie) Rubin	Bennie Sragovitz	Miriam Loewner	Joseph Ruttenberg	Sadie Witt	Milton Mann	Nathan Schilling																			
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		Waterman	886-1713
	Film Series	Shirley Brand	949-0529 or films@thoi.org

Sept. 7	Religious School begins
Sept. 12	Torah Lishmah 6:30 Shabbat services 7:30
Sept. 14	Tanakh: Women in the Bible class 2:00 pm at Beth El Intro to Judaism course 4:00 p.m at Beth El
Sept. 26	Shabbat Services 7:30
Sept. 27	Joint Selichot Service 8:00 at Beth El
Sept. 29	Erev Rosh Hashanah Services 8:00 w/ Rabbi Joe
Sept. 30	Rosh Hashanah Services at 10:00 w/ Rabbi Sue Tashlich at 1:00 Gypsy Hill Park

## September 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Rosh Chodesh 1 Elul	2 2 Elul	3 3 Elul	4 4 Elul	5 <sup>↑↑</sup> 7:21p 5 Elul	6 6 Elul
7 9:30a Religious School Begins 7 Elul	8 8 Elul	9 9 Elul	10 10 Elul	11 11 Elul	12 <sup>↑↑</sup> 7:10p 6:30p Torah Lishmah 7:30p Shabbat Services 12 Elul	13 13 Elul
14 2:00p Women in the Bible class at Beth El 4:00p Intro to Judiasm at Beth El 14 Elul	15 15 Elul	16 16 Elul	17 17 Elul	18 18 Elul	19 <sup>↑↑</sup> 6:59p 19 Elul	20 20 Elul
21 21 Elul	22 22 Elul	23 23 Elul	24 24 Elul	25 25 Elul	26 <sup>↑↑</sup> 6:48p 7:30p Shabbat Services 26 Elul	27 8:00p Selichot Service at Beth El 27 Elul
28 28 Elul	29 8:00p Rosh HaShanah Evening Service 29 Elul	30 10:00a Rosh HaShanah Services 1:00p Tashlich in Gypsy Hill Park Rosh Hashanah 1 Tishrei				

# TEMPLE HOUSE of ISRAEL CALENDAR

2008-2009 / 5768-5769

All services are listed and begin at 7:30 pm  
unless otherwise noted;

**Bold letters indicate service in Staunton**

- Aug 1 Lay Shabbat Service**  
Aug 8 Lay Shabbat Service  
Aug 15 Lay Shabbat Service  
Aug 22 Shabbat Service  
**Aug 24 Pot Luck Picnic @ 5p.m.**  
**Aug 29 Shabbat Service**  
Sept 5 Shabbat Service  
Sept 7 Religious School begins  
**Sept 12 Shabbat services**  
**Torah Lishmah 6:30**  
Sept.14 Tanakh Women in the Bible class @ 2 pm  
Intro to Judaism course @ 4p.m.  
Sept 20 Morning Shabbat services @ 10:00  
Torah Lishmah  
**Sept 26 Shabbat Services**  
Sept 27 Joint Selichot 8:00 @ Beth El  
**Sept 29 Erev Rosh Hashanah 8:00**  
w/ Rabbi Joe  
**Sept 30 Rosh Hashanah @ 10:00**  
w/ Rabbi Sue  
**Tashlich @1:00 Gypsy Hill Park**  
Oct 3 Shabbat Services  
**Oct 5 Yizkor @ 3:00**  
THOI Cemetery  
**Oct 8 Kol Nidre @ 7:00**  
**Oct 9 Yom Kippur @ 10:00 & 4:00**  
**Break-the-fast follows Havdalah**  
Oct 10 Lay service  
**Oct 12 Sukkah set-up & decoration**  
**Oct 13 Dinner in the Sukkah @ 6:00**  
**Sukkot service @7:30**  
Oct 17 Sukkot, Simchat Torah & Consecration  
Service @ Beth El  
**Oct 31 Shabbat Services**  
**Torah Lishmah 6:30**  
Nov 7 Shabbat Service  
Talmud Torah Limud 6:30  
Krystallnacht  
**Nov 14 Shabbat Services**  
**Fall Women's Group Dinner**  
Nov 21 Shabbat Services  
Community Awareness Shabbat  
Nov 30 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
**Dec 5 Shabbat Services**  
**Community Awareness Shabbat**  
**Torah Lishmah 6:30**  
**Dec 14 Congregational Meeting 2:00**  
Dec 21 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
**Dec 25 Hannukah 4:00-8:00**  
**Congregational Pot Luck**  
**Party, movie, games**  
Dec 26 Shabbat Services  
Dec 28 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
Jan 2 Shabbat Services  
**Jan 9 Shabbat Services**  
**S.H.O.R.T.Y Fund raising dinner @ 6**  
Jan 16 Shabbat Services  
S.H.O.R.T.Y. Fund raising dinner @ 6  
S.H.O.R.T.Y Ski weekend  
**Jan 23 Shabbat Services**  
Jan 31 Shabbat Services  
Talmud Torah Limud 6:30  
**Feb 6 Shabbat Services**  
**Community Awareness Shabbat**  
**Feb 7 Board Retreat?**  
**Feb 9 Joint Tu bi'Shevat Seder@ 5:00**  
Feb 13 Shabbat Services  
**Feb 20 Religious School Shabbat**  
**Mar 9 Purim Service 7:00**  
Mar 13 Shabbat Service  
Talmud Torah Limud 6:30  
**Mar 14 Morning Shabbat services @ 10:00**  
**Torah Lishmah**  
Purim/Spiel @ BE  
Mar 20 Shabbat Service  
**Mar 20-26 (Tentative) SJFF**  
**Mar 27 Shabbat Services**  
Apr 3-4 Bar Mitzvah Max Kohn  
**Apr 8 Pesach Seder @ 6:00**  
Apr 9 Pesach Seder @ 6:00  
**Apr 10 Shabbat Services**  
Apr 17-18 Bat Mitzvah Sarah Berger  
Apr 19 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
**Apr 21 Yom Ha Shoah?**  
**Apr 23-30 Shenandoah Valley**  
**Holocaust Ed Project**  
**Apr 24 Shabbat Services w/Yizkor**  
**Torah Lishmah 6:30**  
May 1 Shabbat services  
**May 8 Shabbat Service**  
**Women's Group Spring Dinner @ 6**  
May 10 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
May 15 Shabbat Services  
Talmud Torah Limud 6:30  
**May 22 Shabbat Services**  
**Torah Lishmah 6:30**  
May 24 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
May 29 Joint Shavuot  
May 31 LAST DAY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL  
**June 5 Shabbat Services**  
**Torah Lishmah 6:30**  
June 12 Shabbat Services  
**June 19 Shabbat Services**  
June 22 Shabbat Services  
June 26 Shabbat Services  
July 3 Lay Service  
**July 10 Shabbat Service**  
**Pot Luck Shabbat Dinner**  
July 17 Shabbat Service