



# Temple House of Israel Bulletin

A Reform Congregation Affiliated with the UAHC  
15 North Market Street, Staunton, VA 24401 (540) 886-4091

<http://uahc.org/congs/va/va008/>

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October 2003, Tishrei / Cheshvan 5764

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## From the Rabbi's Desk

My dear fellow Valley Jews and Friends,  
Shalom!

I am delighted that I have had the opportunity to meet and speak with many of you, and look forward to doing so with those I have not yet. I want to thank all of you for making me feel so welcomed to the community. I am humbled and very grateful for your many kindnesses.

I am also very happy to report to you that the year has started off with a bang! Religious School is in full swing, services are ongoing, and many projects are in progress! It is truly exciting and very vibrant.

Adding to the already full schedule, we have arrived at the season of High Holidays! Rosh HaShanah is only a week away as I write this, followed by the Days of Awe, leading on to Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and then ending with Shemini Atzeret-Simchat Torah. This is our month-of-holidays – the busiest time of our Jewish calendar year! However, looking at all this, I was still not content! Consequently, I have been thinking ahead, trying to plan for the coming year. Here are a few items that I have decided might be of value, and I invite you to join me in them.

I will be conducting the Read Hebrew America course (from the National Jewish Outreach Program). This is a five-week class that brings participants from complete Hebrew illiteracy to the ability to decode (sound out and recognize specific words) any Hebrew writings. The class will begin November 17<sup>th</sup>, Monday, at 8 p.m. It is free for members and \$10 for non-members. You can register by calling and leaving a message at the office with your name and phone number.

I'll also offer a Torah discussion for the Parashat HaShavuah (weekly portion) during office hours on alternate Fridays at 11-12. This is open to anyone who wishes to come with no prerequisite. Come to the shul, bring your opinions and join in! I also came up with two Adult Education offerings I would like to try. Please let me know if you would be interested in participating. (See Adult Education on page 3 and 4.)

Looking this over, I think that this level of activities should just about overwhelm me! I had best stop here and take time to breathe. ;-)

In another area, there is a grant opportunity open to use to offer a new program or to enhance an existing program, and I would very much like to hear from you what ideas you have about the best use for such a grant in our congregation.

Please feel free to call, email, make an appointment, or drop in to see me to discuss anything on your mind, ask about something you want to know, or just to chat.

Let me close by wishing each of you and all your loved ones Tikateva Le'Shanah Tovah Umetukah ve'Gemar Chatimah Tovah – May you be inscribed and sealed for a Good and Sweet Year.

B'virkat shalom – with Blessings of Peace,  
Rabbi Joe Blair

<p><b>Rabbi's Office Hours, Hospital Visits and Chaplaincy Calls</b></p>	<p>Rabbi Blair's office hours at the Temple are from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. On days when services are held in Staunton (*) office hours are 1:00 to 9:00 PM.</p> <p><b>Drop In times</b>, when the Rabbi is in the office and available without an appointment, <b>are listed in the calendar below</b>. Other times are available by appointment. Call the temple at 886 - 4091 or email: <a href="mailto:rabbijoe@hotmail.com">rabbijoe@hotmail.com</a>.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="430 394 1511 621"> <tr> <td>Friday, Oct 3 * Drop-in 2-4 pm.</td> <td>Monday, Oct 6 Drop-in 1-3 pm.</td> <td>Thursday, Oct 9 Drop-in 3-5 pm.</td> <td>Monday, Oct 13 Drop-in 1-3 pm.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday, Oct 17 * Drop-in 2-4 pm.</td> <td>Monday, Oct 20 Drop-in 1-3 pm.</td> <td>Thursday, Oct 23 Drop-in 3-5 pm.</td> <td>Friday, Oct 24 * Drop-in 2-4 pm.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday, Oct 27 Drop-in 1-3 pm.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>If you should hear or know of anyone who is ill or hospitalized who might wish a visit, please be sure to let Rabbi Joe know as soon as you can. Unless someone tells him, he will have almost no way of finding out!</p>	Friday, Oct 3 * Drop-in 2-4 pm.	Monday, Oct 6 Drop-in 1-3 pm.	Thursday, Oct 9 Drop-in 3-5 pm.	Monday, Oct 13 Drop-in 1-3 pm.	Friday, Oct 17 * Drop-in 2-4 pm.	Monday, Oct 20 Drop-in 1-3 pm.	Thursday, Oct 23 Drop-in 3-5 pm.	Friday, Oct 24 * Drop-in 2-4 pm.	Monday, Oct 27 Drop-in 1-3 pm.			
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<p><b>High Holy Day Services</b></p>	<p>Sunday, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 – Kol Nidre Services with Rabbi Joe Blair Monday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 – Yom Kippur Services with Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell</p> <p>* Break-the-fast will follow in the social hall immediately following the afternoon services. See the note under “Sisterhood News”.</p>												
<p><b>President's Column</b></p>	<p>As the New Year rolls around and Isabel has left a giant calling card in my neighborhood and yard, one cannot be anything but humbled by the high forced around us. It reminds us that we are but a small cog in the much bigger machinery on this planet and as such we should endeavor to be as good a cog while we are here. Sometimes we need a little grease and other times we grease someone else's wheel.</p> <p>It is that time of year when the days grow shorter and the weather gets cooler that gets me in that introspective mood for the High Holy Days. This should be an exciting year for Temple House of Israel with new faces and activities.</p> <p>Have a happy and healthy New Year.</p> <p>Doug Degen</p>												
<p><b>Noteworthy Congregational Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Shabbat Service to be held on October 24<sup>th</sup> will include the installation of Rabbi Joe Blair by Rabbi Scott Sperling of the Mid Atlantic UAHC. We look forward to seeing Rabbi Sperling again and to celebrating this milestone with our new Rabbi. Janet Kohen from Harrisonburg will join Sarah Grove-Humphries as our cantorial soloists for the evening. Please join us! P.S. The Sisterhood flower fund will be happy to accept your donations!</li> <li>• If you have attended services, you have had the pleasure of hearing Sarah Grove-Humphries lead our singing. Please let her know if you are enjoying having her participate in the role of Cantor, and if you have any special requests for songs to include in the services.</li> <li>• From Rabbi Joe: “I urge you to participate in the food drive and fund-raising efforts that take place around the High Holidays. We are supporting Mazon's ‘The Corners of Our Fields’ initiative and collecting non-perishable foodstuff for the local food bank. Please do whatever you can, especially at this time in</li> </ul>												

**Noteworthy  
Congregational  
Business**

our year, to help alleviate hunger.

- The first installment of our **Film Festival** will begin next month:  
 Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 we will show “The Quarrel”  
 Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 will be “Late Marriage” (subtitled)  
 Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 will be “Kadosh” (subtitled)

All videos will be shown on a 61” screen. Although they are not “rated “, these are not recommended for children according to our viewing committee. *Both Debby Bishop and Shirley Brand would appreciate input from you about your interests in film. Do you want to see foreign films? With subtitles? Films about Jews in other cultures? Serious films about Jewish traditions? Entertaining or humorous films?* They are open to suggestions and would like to hear from you at either [djbishop@ntelos.net](mailto:djbishop@ntelos.net) or [rafa@ntelos.net](mailto:rafa@ntelos.net).

Thanks to Shirley and Debby for arranging everything so far!

- Please come to the **Temple Board meeting, Wed., October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30** . Note the change in day and come with your ideas and open ears.

**Sisterhood  
News**

- Some items are still needed for the **Break the Fast** meal following Yom Kippur services on October 6<sup>th</sup>. If you can bring side dishes, desserts, lemonade or a fruit plate, please contact AJ Hartung at 337-6836 or Iris Rubin at 885-3161. Thank you to all who have already signed up to bring food.
- **Come join us for Shabbat dinner on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**. Enjoy chicken or spinach kugel and all the sides for only \$8.00 per person. Dessert will be served immediately following dinner. Oneg for this Friday will include only a kiddush over the wine and motzi over the challah, since dessert will be served with the meal. Make your reservations by calling Beth Young at 885-1481.
- Thanks to Karen Blair’s instigation, we’re going to put together a cookbook! **PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RECIPES**, especially the recipes of those dishes brought to our potluck dinners which we know are great! Ruth Chodrow will be collecting all recipes in/on her computer, so contact her at [rchodrow@cfw.com](mailto:rchodrow@cfw.com) or 811 Selma Blvd., Staunton 24401 or 886-2252.
- Sisterhood voted to purchase 15 copies of the Gates of Song book that is used by Sarah Grove-Humphries for our Sabbath songs. Six copies will be available in the sanctuary for those who would like to sing along with both music and transliteration. The remaining songbooks will be for sale in the Judaica Shop.
- We’d like to say HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the known October birthdays:  
 Marsha Pillet on October 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Paul Klein on October 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Bonnie Brown on October 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Won’t you share your dates so we can celebrate with you?

**Adult  
Education**

- Thank you to Sarah Grove-Humphries for her tour of the Taylor and Boody Organ Shop in September. It was truly fascinating and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. (I’m the editor and I count this as adult education...).
- The Rabbi will be offering a Torah discussion for the Parashat HaShavuah (weekly portion) during office hours on alternate Fridays from 11 to 12. This is open to anyone who wishes to come, and there is no prerequisite. Simply come to the shul and join in. Don’t forget to bring your opinions!
- Another class offering is entitled “How to get more out of being Jewish, even if...”. This would be largely a discussion/seminar-style class held over 6

	<p>weeks. Please contact Rabbi Joe if you are interested in participating.</p>
<b>Adult Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A workshop about Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography (as of this moment!) is yet another offering. The number of meetings would depend on how many people sign up to participate. A minimum of four meetings, spaced out to give time for participants to write their autobiography, is anticipated. Call for details if you are interested in pursuing this topic.</li> <li>• An Introduction to Judaism class is also planned. Because of the large-scale effort involved, it makes sense to offer this class in alternate years at one of the two temples. This course would have the dual purpose of enhancing the Judaic knowledge of Jewish participants, and of serving as a first step for anyone who is curious about Judaism or may be considering conversion to Judaism. This would be a twenty week program, and would start sometime in mid-November. It would tentatively be offered on Sunday afternoons or evenings and would be open to anyone who wished to attend. There would be a fee to cover the costs of materials. Call the temple office at 886-4091 to express your interest.</li> </ul>
<b>News of our Community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On September 6<sup>th</sup> Ruth Chodrow addressed a world religion class at Fishersville United Methodist Church. She spoke to 20 adults about Jewish belief /practice.</li> <li>• Ellen Schorsch, pianist, will be giving a lecture-recital, “Literary Inspirations” at the Shenandoah Valley Art Center, 600 West Main Street in Waynesboro on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM.</li> <li>• Iris and Ray Rubin sent in this note of thanks: “We want to thank Rabbi Joe and the congregation for your kindness and support following the loss of Iris’ mother and her aunt. Your words of encouragement, phone calls, and cards brought us much comfort.</li> </ul>
<b>Judaica Shop</b>	<p>We carry cards, mezuzahs, menorahs and Chanukah candles, jewelry, Judaica books, keepsake boxes and lots more. Please let Dianne Mason know of items that you would like stocked in the Judaica Shop. Dianne can be reached at 885-6254. The shop is normally open during Friday night services. Feel free to call Beryl Gutnick at 886-8958 if you would like to meet at another mutually agreeable time.</p>
<b>Pre-School Activities</b>	<p><b>PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND AND BRING YOUR PRE-SCHOOLERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious School Sukkot Service on October 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. in Harrisonburg</li> <li>• Religious School Consecration Service and Simchat Torah, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30</li> </ul>
<b>Notes from the Editor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you would prefer to receive this bulletin via e-mail, please let me know and I’ll be happy to send it on in that format. Thanks to those who have responded!</li> <li>• I am always open to any suggestions you may have for new items, changes, additions or deletions to our bulletin. I look forward to hearing from you at <a href="mailto:templenews@ntelos.net">templenews@ntelos.net</a>.</li> </ul>

<b>Contributions</b>	Contributions will be listed in the next bulletin.		
<b>Bulletin and Membership</b>	If you are not currently a member and would like to continue receiving this bulletin, the subscription rate is \$15 per year (August-June) made payable to Temple House of Israel. Please contact Scott Goldenberg, our treasurer, at <a href="mailto:scottg@cfw.com">scottg@cfw.com</a> or 886-0202 or mail your check to THOI, PO Box 1412, Staunton, VA 24401.		
<b>Yahrzeits for October</b>	Annette Biatch Nina Rattner Finkel Samuel Goldenberg Shirley Scherer Goldenberg Nathan Harrison	Annie Rosenthal Klotz Mary Tornow Kravitz Leonard Legum Irving Schwartz Henrietta Loewner Siegel	Benjamin Sragovitz Babette Switzer Daughter of M & R Walters Moses Walters Leon Weinberg
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## October 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 L 6:39p Rabbi's office day; Shabbat Services 7:	4
			5 Tishrei	6 Tishrei	7 Tishrei	8 Tishrei
5 8:00p Kol Nidre Services 9 Tishrei	6 Yom Kippur Rabbi's office day; services at 10:00 10 Tishrei	7 11 Tishrei	8 12 Tishrei	9 Rabbi's office day 13 Tishrei	10 L 6:28p 14 Tishrei	11 Sukkot 15 Tishrei
12 Sukkot 16 Tishrei	13 Sukkot Rabbi's office day 17 Tishrei	14 Sukkot 18 Tishrei	15 7:30p Temple Board Meeting Sukkot 19 Tishrei	16 Sukkot 20 Tishrei	17 L 6:18p 6:00p Sisterhood dinner at 6:00; Services at Sukkot 21 Tishrei	18 Shmini Atzeret 22 Tishrei
19 Simhat Torah 23 Tishrei	20 Rabbi's Office Day 24 Tishrei	21 25 Tishrei	22 26 Tishrei	23 Rabbi's Office Day 27 Tishrei	24 L 6:09p 7:30p Installation and Services 28 Tishrei	25 29 Tishrei
26 Begin Standard Time Rosh Chodesh 30 Tishrei	27 Rosh Chodesh Rabbi's office day 1 Cheshvan	28 2 Cheshvan	29 3 Cheshvan	30 4 Cheshvan	31 L 5:01p 5 Cheshvan	

Oct 3	Shabbat Services at 7:30 PM –Dianne Mason and Phil and Margie Schwartz oneg hostesses
Oct 5	Kol Nidre Services at 8:00 PM
Oct 6	Yom Kippur Services beginning at 10:00 AM; Afternoon Services beginning at 3:00 PM Break the Fast immediately following services – AJ Hartung and Iris Rubin hostesses
Oct 17	Sisterhood Shabbat Dinner at 6:00 PM Simchat Torah and Shabbat Services at 7:30 PM
Oct	Temple Board Meeting at 7:30 PM
Oct 24	Shabbat Services at 7:30 PM / Installation of Rabbi Joe Blair – Lynn Hewitt and Tom and Susan Pereles hosts