



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.

SUMMER ISSUE

SIVAN → TAMMUZ (June) → AV (July) → ELUL (August)

President's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

Slowing down for the summer? Somehow it just doesn't seem like that's the case. Our Rabbi-led Shabbat services go through July 9th, we have Zach Pereles' Bar Mitzvah on August 6-7 and Rabbi-led services resume on August 27th. In addition, we'll have lay-led services July 23rd and August 20th.

Before we "slow down" **please remember to attend our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 13th at 4:00.** We'll be electing officers for the next term and we need your votes. If, for some reason you can't make it, please fill in the proxy below. If you have an issue that you'd like brought up at the meeting, don't hesitate to contact me. The board is meant to serve the congregation, so let us know what you'd like to see and hear.

At every event, from celebrating simchas and mourning the loss of treasured members, to regular Shabbat services, High Holy Days, Kinderlachen, Women's Group dinners, the Staunton Jewish Film Festival, our Holocaust Education Project, temple building projects and our normal holidays, there is a continuous thread. We gather to eat. Bring a dish to share and mark your calendars for our next eating experience, a potluck picnic July 9th, followed by another one August 29th. I look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

B'shalom, *Beth*

TEMPLE HOUSE OF ISRAEL
Market Street – Staunton , VA.

PROXY FORM

I, _____ hereby grant my proxy to _____, who is another member in good standing or an Officer of the Board of Directors for the sole purpose of casting my vote at the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 13, 2010, as follows:

Please check one or both boxes:

- To constitute a quorum.
- To vote on any issue that may come before the Congregation during the course of this meeting, including the election of Directors.

Member Signature

Date

This proxy must be filed with a Member of the Board of Directors or delivered to THOI prior to the meeting. Leaving a proxy uninstructed authorizes the proxy holder to vote as s/he sees fit on all issues that come before the meeting.

<p>Slate of Officers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Richard Young term ends June 2014 <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Alan Goldenberg term ends June 2011 • Members at Large: Vera Flint agreed to serve new 2 year term <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Marsha Pillet agreed to serve new 2 year term
<p>Summer Newsletter Changes</p>	<p>This summer issue includes information for June, July and August. 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.</p>
<p>From the Rabbi's Desk</p>	<p>My dear fellow Valley Jews and Friends, Shalom. Summer is acumin' – if it is not already here. The congregational year is winding down from a rolling boil to a simmer, and some of our activities and events will go on hiatus for a bit. All the same, things will stay busy, although at a quieter level.</p> <p>THE CALENDAR</p> <p>SIVAN→ TAMMUZ (JUNE) Sivan (a thirty day month) began May 14th, and runs until June 12th. Tammuz begins on June 13th, and runs until July 11th. Rosh Chodesh for Tammuz is June 12th and 13th.</p> <p>TAMMUZ→AV (JULY) Tammuz is followed by Av (a twenty-nine day month) which begins on the 12th of July, and runs until the 10th of August. Rosh Chodesh for Tammuz is June 12th and 13th.</p> <p>AV→ELUL (AUGUST)</p> <p>Av is succeeded on the calendar by Elul which begins the 11th of Aug., and runs until the 8th of Sept. (Erev Rosh HaShanah). Rosh Chodesh for Elul is the 10th and 11th of Aug.</p> <p>HOLIDAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES</p> <p>The only annual item on the Jewish calendar in June this year is the fast of Tzom Shiva Asar Be'Tammuz (17th of Tammuz) on June 29th. This fast day initiates the three week period leading up to Tisha Be'Av (the 9th of Av), which occurs this year on July 20th. These three weeks commemorate the breaching of the walls of Jerusalem, and the destruction of the Temple. It is considered a time of great sadness and mourning for the loss of the Temple where G-d's immanence was experienced, and the ending of Jewish national autonomy for over 1800 years, until 1948 and the establishment of the modern state of Israel.</p> <p>The three weeks of mourning that began in June continue in July until the 20th, which is Tzom Tisha Be'Av (the fast of the 9th of Av). The custom for this holiday is to fast, act as a person in mourning, and read the Book of Lamentations. There is a special, particularly mournful, melody used for this reading which is quite haunting and beautiful. Traditionally, the text would be read at midnight; most congregations in the US tend to have an evening event, after dark, but long before midnight. This year that will take place on the 19th of July. If you are interested in attending a reading of this text, please be in touch with me and I will be happy to tell you about places you might wish to go for that purpose.</p> <p>There are no special events or holidays on the calendar in August this year; though</p>

that gives not much time for relaxing, as the High Holy Days come in the first full week of September!

The start of Elul is identified as the time we begin the hard work of Teshuvah (repentance and return) leading up to the Yamim Nora'im (days of awe), culminating with Yom Kippur (the day of atonement). This is when we are encouraged to conduct our Cheshbon Hanefesh (accounting of the soul), and undertake the effort to correct and repair the injuries and damage we have done through our actions. If we take this task seriously, it is both hard work and quite difficult, but it is especially rewarding spiritually and emotionally, and leaves one with a lighter heart.

TORAH PARASHIOT

The Torah parashiot (Torah portions) read for the month of June include the following: Shelach, Korach, Chukat, and Balak, drawn from Bamidbar (Num.) 13:1-25:9. Haftarat read on Shabbatot (Sabbaths) in the month of June include selections from Joshua 2, Isaiah 66, Judges 11, and Micah 5-6.

For July, the Torah parashiot are: Pinchas, Matot-Masei, Devarim, Vaetchanan, and Ekev, drawn from Bamidbar (Num.) 25:10-28:15, and Devarim (Deut.) 1:1-11:25. Haftarat in July include selections from Jeremiah 1-4, Isaiah 1, 40, and 49-51. We also read the book of Lamentations for Tisha Be'Av.

August Torah parashiot include Re'eh, Shofetim, Ki Tetze, and Ki Tavo, drawn from Devarim (Deut.) 11:26-29:8. August Haftarat are: Isaiah 51-2, 54-5, and

RABBINIC & EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

- **Thursday, June 3rd at noon the Interfaith Association** will meet at the Bridgewater Mennonite Community Museum. Among the business at that meeting will be elections for officers for the coming year. This is the last meeting for the current year –next meet is the first Thursday in September. Lunch is available for purchase from our hosts. For questions about the Interfaith Association, please contact Rabbi Joe.
- **Sunday, June 13th** is the **annual meeting** of the THOI Congregation. Elections are scheduled for a number of offices. Thanks to all who are willing to serve. I will produce a report on my activities for the year which I will submit to the Secretary. If anyone wishes to have a copy of that report, I will be happy to email it to you, or to provide a printed version.
- **Thursday, June 24th at 7 pm** at Beth El will be the next **Adult education session** viewing the video lectures by Professor AJ Levine. I will be available to facilitate a discussion after we view the videos. We are continuing with the books of the prophets; in May we looked at the monarchy following King David, and in June we will look at Solomon and the subsequent dissolution of the monarchy. This will be the last session before the summer break.
- **Sunday June 27th at 6 pm** at THOI will be the next meeting of the **book discussion** group. We will look at chapter 8 in Witnesses to the One.
- **July 9th** will be the **last rabbi-led Shabbat service** of the current year at THOI.
- There will be **lay-led Shabbat services on July 23rd** at THOI.
- **Sunday, July 11th at Noon** will be the final **Women in the Tanakh** for the current year. We will meet at Beth El. Please note the earlier time; noon rather than 2 pm.
- **Sunday, July 11th** there will be a **book discussion**. This will be at 6 pm at THOI. The topic is chapter 9 of the book, Witnesses to the One. We will conclude this book at that meeting, and discuss (and it is hoped, choose) another one to begin in the fall.
- **August 6th and 7th** will be the celebration of the **Bar Mitzvah** of Zach Pereles. Fri. Shabbat service will begin at 7:30 pm, and the Shabbat morning service at 10 am.

- There will be a **lay-led Shabbat service August 20th at 7:30 pm** at THOI.
- **August 27th** is tentatively scheduled to be a **rabbi-led Shabbat** service at 7:30 pm at THOI. This will be finalized with the congregational calendar which should be distributed before this date.
- **Sun., August 29th at 4 pm** will be the *THOI End of Summer Picnic*. Place=TBA.
- **Saturday, September 4th at 8 pm** there will be a **Selichot service** at Beth El for both congregations.
- **Wednesday, September 8th is Erev Rosh Hashanah!** Information will be available closer to the date.

Look for more details on these events elsewhere in this bulletin, or in the September bulletin that will be sent out late in August.

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, or see you when he is in town.

SERVICE PARTICIPATION (Please refer to page 8 for current honor assignments.)

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 (at THOI) Lisa Solod, Ellen Werther, Beth Young, or the rabbi. If you are interested in singing at our services, please be in touch with Sarah Grove-Humphries.

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 know 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

With the end of the Religious School year and the upcoming break for summer, our congregational activities slow, but they do not stop. Religious services continue year round; we continue to provide care and support for members of our community; the board continues to manage the business of the congregation; we plan for the year ahead; and we prepare for the spurt of activities that will start with the new school year and the beginning

	<p>of the new year at the high holidays.</p> <p>If you have ideas, suggestions, comments, or constructive criticisms, this is an excellent time to bring them forward and share them so they can be taken into account. I would personally appreciate receiving your comments, good and bad, now, when I am planning ahead, and at a time that I will be able to consider them and learn from your observations and experiences, prior to being in the middle of the hectic pace that comes about when the calendar is full and in progress and it is difficult to make changes. This is your congregation; if you see a way I can help make it better, please let me know.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Rabbi Joe Blair</i></p>
<p>Women’s Group</p>	<p>We have an indoor, pot luck, <i>rain or shine</i> picnic, July 9th at 6:15 p.m. before the last rabbi led service for the summer. The WG will be providing drinks and crunchies. Dessert provided by the oneg hosts will follow the service. Your assignment follows :</p> <p>A-F entree/main dish G-Q salad R-Z vegetable/side dish</p> <p>Please read over our last meeting notes. We did a recap of the year’s efforts and would like to hear from you to help plan and focus for next year. Please respond to Marsha (macmeda@ntelos.net) or Rosalie (drwaterman@comcast.net) with your comments.</p> <p>We are evolving an inventory list of items available through the Judaica shop and will make the list available at the shop, also a wish list for requests and suggestions with contact information if you'd like an item not in our inventory. There is now a receipt pad to keep track of purchases. F.Y.I. for anyone helping out with a sale, our shop collects no sales tax.</p> <p>Start thinking and signing up for which holidays interest you as a volunteer opportunity. Since the Jewish holiday season starts so quickly after our return to rabbi led services, we need to start the sign up list early.</p> <p>Look to the weekly announcements for the details for the (Jewish) New Year and community picnic.</p> <p>Wouldn't live flower arrangements add to our sanctuary for the high holidays? Consider donating flowers or contributing towards arrangements for the high holidays in honor of, in memory or towards a more beautiful setting for our prayers. Contact Marsha who will coordinate.</p>
<p>Religious School</p>	<p>The summer has almost arrived! The last day of religious school will be on Sunday, May 23rd. If you know of any families with students interested in participating in religious school next year, have them contact Dara Hall, Principal at halldm@jmu.edu or 540-433-5596 (home).</p> <p>We had a fantastic field day and potluck to celebrate Lag Be’Omer on May 2nd. Students enjoyed playing our version of Maccabean games: capture the flag, water balloon toss, “King David, King David” (a.k.a. Red Rover), musical chairs, and many more fun-filled activities. Thanks to all of the teachers, parents, and children who helped.</p> <p>Then, on May 16th we learned all about Shavuot – a holiday that occurs 7 weeks after Passover. We had a very special day sharing in a service, hearing the Book of Ruth from our students, singing and dancing, eating delicious “milk” snacks (including crème puffs, cheesecake, challah with butter or cream cheese, and drinking milk), and enjoying tons of arts and crafts. Students created the ten commandment tablets using several different mediums, made paper and foam flowers, colored pictures and created a picture of Moses on Mount Sinai, strung beads, and particularly enjoyed a wonderful sand art project where they made beautiful, colorful torahs. It was a wonderful day!</p> <p>It has been another wonderful school year – we have so many super teachers,</p>

Yarzheits	June	July	August
	Abraham Switzer Archie Prince Archie Printz Bernard Bresky Bernard Kaplan Bertha Mindell Bertha (Bracha) Brand Bess Rosen Bessie Landsberg Betty Jo Snyder Charles Becher David Switzer Dora Klotz Dr. Sol Simon Elan Brand Erwin Solomon Fannie Goldstein Frederick Cohn Freida Mordetsky Gertrude Barber Harry Witt Henry Heilbronner Herbert Kaslow Howard Goldenberg Ida Rosen Infant Sam Levy Jerry Schwartz Mollie Kamerman Philip Levin Samuel Jacobsen	Abe Bressman Abraham Suskins Ben Raybin Bernice Fox Betty Rosenthal Delores Levy Edith Belfor Eva Geller Frances Schwartz Jacob Kaplan Jerome Degen Joseph Loener Leah Barber Maurice Cohen Mollie Hoffman Morton Shor Richard Roth Ruby Bornstein Samuel Weinberg Sara Seltzer Simon Sachs Vera Duken	Albert Gomberg Anna Harris Bernard Goldsmith Charles Brand Charles Switzer Cynthia Grossman David Greenstein Donald Mindell Doris Patterson Dr. Samuel Loewner Esther Rosenthal Eva Robins Julius Kane Louis Kamerman Louise Cohen Lucy Nicely Mabel Kaplan Madeline Shultz Mildred Fay Degen Miriam Wasserman Rachel Rothenberg Samuel Sebell Sandra Schoenberg Shirley Peretz Vivian Schorsch
Board Contact Information	Rabbi Joe Blair President Beth Young Past President Lisa Solod Warren V. P. of Membership Rachel Pertz Comes V. P. of Building/Grounds Steve Rosenberg Secretary Ruth Chodrow Treasurer Ellen Boden Doug Degen, Trustees Alan Goldenberg, Trustee Richard Young, Trustees Cantorial Soloist Sarah Grove-Humphries Webmaven Marcia Conner SHORTY (youth group) Sheri Alt Religious School Dara Hall Young Adults Group Natasha Benenson Caring Committee Lou Boden	886-4091 885-1481 886-1603 363-4881 943-0507 886-2252 886-8651 885-1481 885-4223 433-5596 255-5555	RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com president@thoi.org pastpresident@thoi.org membership@thoi.org building@thoi.org secretary@thoi.org championsresource@hotmail.com trustees2@thoi.org trustees3@thoi.org trustees@thoi.org cantor@thoi.org website@thoi.org youth-group@thoi.org halldm@jmu.edu young-adults@thoi.org caring-committee2@thoi.org

