



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 → TAMMUZ / June & July 2011

President's Message

Dear Members and Friends ~

It's summertime! But before you check out, please mark your calendars for our annual congregational meeting on Sunday, June 12 at 5:00. We're including a potluck dinner to entice you to come, vote on a slate of officers for the 2011-2012 year (a proxy form is attached on page 6, but we really need you to attend the meeting) and hear what we've been up to during the past year. We'll also present a recap of the Rabbi's Coffee Talks and the directions we hope to pursue in the coming year. Your vote is necessary and input is extremely helpful. We can only do so much so let's direct our energies where they're most wanted.

We're looking forward to the potluck as a dairy meal (no meat). If your last name begins with A-B please bring dessert, C-G bring side dish or salad, H-R bring drinks and S-Z please bring a main dish.

B'shalom, Beth

From the Rabbi's Desk

My dear fellow Valley Jews and Friends,
Shalom! Hard to believe that it is already time for summer plans! This year has just flown by! Not that we are done – far from it! There is still lots going on, and much planned.

The Calendar

IYAR → SIVAN → TAMMUZ

Rosh Chodesh for Iyar was on May 4th and 5th. Iyar (a twenty-nine day month) will run until June 2nd, with Rosh Chodesh for Sivan on June 3rd. Sivan (a thirty day month), will run until July 2nd, with Rosh Chodesh for Tammuz on July 2nd and 3rd. Tammuz (a twenty-nine day month) will run until July 31st, with Rosh Chodesh for Av on August 1st.

Holiday & Special Services

We begin June with a minor observance on the 1st of Yom Yerushalayim, a celebration of the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967, with the conclusion of the Six Day War.

Starting the evening of June 7th, corresponding to Sivan 6, and running until the evening of June 9th, we celebrate the holiday of Shavuot (the Feast of Weeks – shavuah=week, shavuot=weeks). This is the observance of the third pilgrimage festival, and the third leg in the trio of events marking Creation-Redemption-Revelation. Shavuot is the celebration of the revelation of G-d and the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. This holiday comes on the 50th day following the second day of Passover, at the end of a cycle of seven weeks (of seven days each, or 49 days), which is why it is called the feast of weeks. There are customs of staying up all night (or some part of it) on the eve of the holiday and studying Torah, as well as eating foods that reference Torah (Torah is often likened to milk and honey, so cheesecake is a favorite, along with blintzes.☺).

July is marked by only one observance on the Jewish calendar (other than regular weekly Shabbatot and a monthly Rosh Chodesh). This is the fast day of Tzom Shivah Asar

BeTammuz (the fast of the 17th of Tammuz, mentioned in Zechariah 8:19 as the fast of the fourth month), falling forty days after Shavuot, which commemorates both the smashing of the first set of Tablets brought down by Moses in light of the events of the golden calf, and the happening of the day of the breach of the walls of Jerusalem, beginning the three weeks of mourning that lead up to Tisha Be'Av (the ninth of Av – also mentioned in Zechariah 8:19 at the fast of the fifth month), the date of the destruction of the Temple.

RABBI-LED SERVICES

As determined by the Calendar Committee (and after all calendar changes and updates to this point), scheduled Rabbi-led Shabbat Services for the remainder of this congregational calendar year are:

- Friday, June 3rd, 7:30 pm, THOI [Confirmation Service; Grace Lambeth]
- Friday, June 17th, 7:30 pm, THOI
- Friday, July 1st, 7:30 pm, THOI
- Saturday, July 16th, 10 am, THOI
- Friday, July 22nd, 7:30 pm, THOI

Torah Parashiot

The Torah parashiot (Torah portions) read for June and July include the following: Naso, Behalotecha, Shelach, and Korach in June, and Chukkat, Balak, Pinchas, Mattot, and Masei in July, drawn from Bamidbar (Num.) 4:21-36:13. There are no special or named Shabbatot during this period. Haftarot (Haftarah readings selected from the prophets) to be read include segments from Judges 13; Zachariah 2-4; Joshua 2; 1 Samuel 11-12 (in June); and from Isaiah 66; Micha 5-6; 1 Kings 18-19; Jeremiah 1-2; and Jeremiah 2-3 (in July)

Educational Initiatives

- Torah Bites - The next Torah Bites is scheduled to take place on Friday, June 17th from noon to 1:30 pm at THOI. Join us for an impromptu discussion of Text.

Pastoral Care

If you feel a conversation or meeting with the rabbi on any topic would be of benefit, 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.

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 a part of a service, or in taking a role in a service, please be in touch with Ruth Chodrow, Beth Young, or the rabbi.

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, 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 contact, let Rabbi Joe know.

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 if needed. If you have any interest in participating, see Rabbi Joe.

Prayers and Blessings

We rejoice in the simchaot and blessings that have or soon will take place. In particular, we note the recent Bar Mitzvah celebration of Jake Lovinger. Mazal tov to the family! We also note with mixed happiness and sadness that Rachel Peretz Comes will be away more than she is present here in town with her new job – and Lisa Solod will be moving away soon too, we are told. We extend warm wishes to Grace Lambeth, who recently was Confirmed at THOI, graduated from Stuart Hall High School, and is shortly to head off to Boston to college.

At the same time, we are aware that several of our families have suffered losses or illness, and we pray for comfort for them, with sincere hopes for support in their times of trouble. Many among us – too many to name in our extended family - continue to need our prayers for refuah shelemah bimheyrah (complete and speedy recovery, or wholeness in whatever form that may take). We keep them in our thoughts and prayers. We pray for parnassah (work and wages) and hatzlachah (success) for those in need of it. We pray for health and homes, family and support, stability and success, for each. Above all, we pray for peace, praying, even as we know we must work for it; peace for our community, for our nation, for Israel, and for all the world. In light of all that has been going on, we maintain a prayerful and watchful hope that there can be peace, and all can live in freedom, so that lives of many will be better soon, bimheyrah beyameynu (speedily, in our days).

Closing Message

When I was younger, the summer seemed to be a period when time slowed down and stretched out, when an afternoon could last for days. Every moment, every second of that time was filled with light and life, and each felt simultaneously carefree and without cost. I ‘knew’ that there was always another instant coming, one just like the one I was in at that moment, and it felt as if time spread out in front of me and behind me in an unending ribbon. Now, as I am older, it is not quite like that any longer. I have learned that there is a quota for each of us of those instants, a certain number we will have, moments in which we can rejoice. Even as I have learned that there is a limit, it has not saddened me. Those instants are still precious and golden, and each feels like time suspended and held; it is simply that they no longer last so long. The number still to experience is fewer than the number I have had; which makes each one of them all that much more precious as I have them.

It is just that I know at some level that the supply of moments is not infinite, that one day I will have used up my quota, and there will be no more for me. Time itself, and the supply of moments will go on after that, just as it did before I was able to experience it. I have come to know that those moments were meant to be carefree and enjoyed; I am coming closer to comprehending the wisdom of Kohelet, seeing the precious nature of each moment and each instant as I live it.

May we all find this wisdom and learn to live in such a way that every moment will be filled with life lived to the highest level as our best self.

May our days of summer be filled with love and joy, health, happiness, refreshment, and spiritual renewal. Let us say, Amen.

Rabbi Joe

Kids

Religious School

During the month of May, which marked the end of the religious school year, we have shared in a wonderful celebration of Eretz Yisrael and Am Yisrael!

On Sunday, May 15th, we learned about the importance of Israel to us as American Jews. We worshipped together with a short service in celebration of Yom Ha'atzma'ut. We read the Torah portion for the week and did a "treasure hunt" for references to Israel to recognize its importance in Torah. We enjoyed a round of the game "Jew-pardy" to learn more information, and then compared the Israeli Declaration of Independence with America's and the Israeli national anthem, Hatikvah, with the Star Spangled Banner. We found so many similarities to help create connections and make its importance to us more meaningful. We also sang songs and danced in celebration of Israel – the place and the people. Our artistic projects – beads, painting, and foam crafts were all hands-on activities to show our support of Israel. We also enjoyed tasting treats from the seven species of Israel – Shivat Haminim – and enjoyed a taste sensation of pomegranate juice, grapes, figs, olives, dates, and grains. Thanks so much to our parent volunteers – Ruth Berger, Valerie Lovinger, and Heidi Rafferty for their help with this wonderful event!

Then, on May 20th and 21st, we all kvelled as our newest Bar Mitzvah, Jake Lovinger, did such a beautiful job! The teachers and families of the religious school are so proud of you, Jake! Mazel Tov!

Our school year ended on Sunday, May 22nd with our Lag Be'Omer field day events and our potluck lunch. What fun we had working together as teams in support of one another as we ran, jumped, crawled, and tagged one another in a number of action-packed relays and games. Then we sat together to enjoy a lovely lunch together. Thank you so much to Lara Sokoloff for her help in organizing this event and thanks to Sarah Berger and Makena Rafferty for helping with all of the games.

We will have one more event for our Dalet students in June – they will be going to the National Holocaust Museum on a field trip together.

I am so proud of all of our students this year! They have done a phenomenal job of learning together and I look forward to next year. Thanks also to all of our parents for their support. If you know of anyone interested in joining religious school next year – please have them contact Dara Hall, Principal at 540-433-5596 or mddmhall@verizon.net.

Have a happy summer! L'shalom, *Dara*

Kinderlachen

The last Kinderlachen meeting for this year has concluded. Continuation of the program will be dependent on eligible participants. If you are interested in the Jewish-themed pre-school play group, open to anyone in the community who wishes to participate, where you may come to meet and play with others, get a little messy, do some arts and crafts projects, enjoy a story, have a great snack, and have fun (and maybe even learn a little!), then please be in contact with Beth Young or Rabbi Joe. If we don't hear from those who would want this group, we will not know to restart it in the Fall.

SHORTY

Shorty will lead the Confirmation service (June 3rd at 7:30 pm at THOI). The Shorty Overnight trip will take place June 4th-5th. They will pick up again in September.

<p>Reaching the Rabbi</p>	<p>The rabbi is available by appointment. If you wish to meet or speak with the rabbi, please email or call to set an appointment time. In that way, the rabbi will be able to respond and give you his full attention, as you deserve.</p> <p>-The rabbi may be contacted by telephone. To do so, please call the cell phone number listed here: if you reach voicemail, please leave a message, speaking clearly, with your name, telephone numbers, the topic, and if an emergency, please be sure to express the need for an urgent response. The rabbi will respond as soon as possible. The rabbi does not check for messages at home and may not answer the phone; please do not call his home number if you want to be sure of getting a response.</p> <p>- Please note: the rabbi does not read or respond to email on Shabbat or holidays, and asks to receive only emergency phone calls on those days.</p> <p>Rabbi Joe's Email: RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com Beth El Congregation 540-434-2744 Temple House of Israel 540-886-4091 Cell (Please be sure to call this # for emergencies) 925-272-8563 [925-2-RAV-JOE]</p>																
<p>The Bulletin</p>	<p>The THOI newsletter will not be published in July. The next issue will be August with July 20th as the deadline for submissions. If you want to receive the newsletter and are not on the email or snail mail list please contact the editor, Martha Degen at 540-886-8651 or mdegen77@gmail.com. Your suggestions and questions are welcome.</p>																
<p>Oneg Reminder</p>	<table> <tr> <td>Shabbat Services June 3</td> <td>Greg Ciszek 540 943 5559</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHORTY confirmation</td> <td>Lisa Solod 540 886-1603</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shabbat Service June 17</td> <td>Steve Guberman 540 943-3735</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Lou and Ellen Boden 540 255-5555</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shabbat Service July 1</td> <td>Linda Blazer and Jim Osborne 540 885-5670</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Chris Hawke 540 885 1358</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shabbat Service July 16</td> <td>Rachel Peretz-Comes 466-0342</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* Sat. 10:00 a.m.</td> <td>Mike & Bonnie Brown 885-3809</td> </tr> </table>	Shabbat Services June 3	Greg Ciszek 540 943 5559	SHORTY confirmation	Lisa Solod 540 886-1603	Shabbat Service June 17	Steve Guberman 540 943-3735		Lou and Ellen Boden 540 255-5555	Shabbat Service July 1	Linda Blazer and Jim Osborne 540 885-5670		Chris Hawke 540 885 1358	Shabbat Service July 16	Rachel Peretz-Comes 466-0342	* Sat. 10:00 a.m.	Mike & Bonnie Brown 885-3809
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<p>Annual Meeting</p>	<p>June 12th at 5 pm is the THOI Congregational annual meeting at THOI. At this meeting, in addition to reports and elections, the board plans to present the results of the series of 'Coffee Talks' held over the past year – join us to hear what we were told and what plans have emerged as a result. The meeting will be followed by a potluck dinner and social time – see elsewhere for what to bring. We will vote on this slate of officers. Thanks to Doug Degen for chairing this year's nominating committee.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Elections and Slate of Officers</p> <p><i>The slate of officers for the 2011-2013 term, beginning July 1, 2011 is:</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>VP Membership</td> <td>-----TBA-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secretary</td> <td>Adam Gutterman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>At-Large</td> <td>Lou Boden</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trustee</td> <td>Alan Goldenberg</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>The following 2-year positions will continue through 6/12</i></p> <table> <tr> <td>President</td> <td>Beth Young</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VP Buildings</td> <td>Steve Rosenberg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Ellen Boden</td> </tr> </table>	VP Membership	-----TBA-----	Secretary	Adam Gutterman	At-Large	Lou Boden	Trustee	Alan Goldenberg	President	Beth Young	VP Buildings	Steve Rosenberg	Treasurer	Ellen Boden		
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At-Large Vera Flint
 Women's Group Marsha Pillet
The following 5-year positions will continue through 6/15
 Trustee Doug Degen
 Trustee Rich Young

**Member Proxy
 for Annual
 Meeting**

TEMPLE HOUSE OF ISRAEL PROXY FORM
 15 North Market Street, Staunton, VA 24401

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 12, 2011, 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.

Contacts

President Beth Young	885-1481	president@thoi.org
V. P. of Membership	TBA	
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
Caring Committee Lou Boden	255-5555	caring-committee2@thoi.org

June Yarzheit	Aaron Hewitt	Bessie Landsberg	Fannie Goldstein	Jerry Schwartz
	Abraham Switzer	Betty Jo Snyder	Frederick Cohn	Mollie Kamerman
	Archie Prince	Charles Becher	Freida Mordetsky	Philip Levin
	Archie Printz	David Switzer	Gertrude Barber	Samuel Jacobsen
	Bernard Bresky	Dora Klotz	Harry Witt	Samuel Kamerman
	Bernard Kaplan	Dr. Sol Simon	Henry Heilbronner	Jerry Schwartz
	Bertha Mindell	Elan Brand	Herbert Kaslow	Mollie Kamerman
	Bertha (Bracha) Brand	Erwin Solomon	Howard Goldenberg	Betty Jo Snyder
	Bess Rosen	Bessie Landsberg	Ida Rosen	Infant Sam Levy

July Yarzheit	Abe Bressman	Jerome Degen	Simon Sachs	Richard Roth
	Abraham Suskins	Joseph Loener	Vera Duken	Ruby Bornstein
	Ben Raybin	Leah Barber	Simon Sachs	Samuel Weinberg
	Bernice Fox	Maurice Cohen	Eva Geller	Sara Seltzer
	Betty Rosenthal	Mollie Hoffman	Frances Schwartz	Richard Roth
	Delores Levy	Morton Shor	Jacob Kaplan	Ruby Bornstein
	Edith Belfor			

			1 JUNE	2	3 SHORTY Confirmation 7:30 PM Shabbat Service	4 SHORTY Trip
5 SHORTY Trip	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Congregational Meeting 5:00PM	13 Board Meeting 7 PM	14	15	16	17 Torah Bite Noon Shabbat Service 7:30 PM	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1 Shabbat Service 7:30 JULY	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Board Meeting 7:00 PM	12	13	14	15	16 Shabbat Service 10 AM
17	18	19	20	21	22 Shabbat Service 7:30PM	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

