



## Islamic Researcher In Q&A Presentation at Oppenheim Institute on June 9

### Also In the Messenger:

- ✧ Chanting Circle
- ✧ Pride service
- ✧ Chai Mitzvah

The entire community is invited to come to Temple Hesed on June 9th at 7 pm for a program entitled, "Engaging with our Muslim Neighbors: Hot Topics that



Nancy Fuchs Kreimer

divide, Shared Values that unite." The program will be the 16th Annual Oppenheim Institute Social Justice Sabbath, and it features two experts on the subject, Alejandro Beutel and Rabbi Nancy Fuchs Kreimer. Beutel is currently a researcher for Countering Violent Extremism at the National

Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) at the University of Maryland. Before



Alejandro Beutel

his work at START, he served as the Policy and Research Engagement Fellow at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU), an applied research think-tank specializing in the study and promotion of evidence-based development strategies for positive civic, social, and political

engagement outcomes for American Muslim communities. There, he was the lead author of "Islamophobia: A Threat to All" and the "Safe Spaces Initiative." He also has a fascinating

personal background, as his father is Jewish, his mother is a Hispanic Catholic, and he himself is Muslim.

Rabbi Kreimer is the Director of the Department of Multifaith Studies and Initiatives for the

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Long-Range Plans to Be Discussed June 28 at Annual Meeting

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The Annual Congregational Meeting of Temple Hesed will be June 28 at 7 p.m.

The temple's board of directors will meet at 6 p.m.

The Temple's Long Range Planning Committee continues to meet on a regular basis to further explore our options in the near- and long-term, says Mark Davis, chairman.

"The Temple received a formal appraisal by Robert Hinkelman in early April," he said. "The committee is reviewing that appraisal in light of

other information and deciding whether to list the Temple at this time and, if so, at what value."

Davis continued, "As noted previously, the Temple's zoning is R1, placing significant restrictions on what the property can be used for without a potentially costly and time-consuming re-zoning appeal to the city. In addition, as we've been informed, "re-working" the property so that it is amenable to another use (e.g., apartment buildings) could be quite costly and might minimize the

*(Continued on page 9)*

## Donations

### BUILDING FUND

#### **In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Mother, Blanche Katz**

*Sharon Katz Levy and Saul Levy*

#### **In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Father, William Katz**

*Sharon Katz Levy and Saul Levy*

#### **In Memory of Lola Behar**

*Sharon and Saul Levy*

#### **In Memory of the Mother of Harryette Cooperman**

*Sandy Cooperman*

#### **In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Rella Mates**

*The Mates Family*

### ROSELLE B. AND LOUIS A. FINE MEMORIAL FUND FOR HOLOCAUST STUDIES

#### **In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Roselle B. Fine**

*Toni Cerra*

### LINDA LEE LEVENTHAL TOY FUND

#### **In Memory of Lola Behar**

*Jeff and Carol Leventhal*

*Steve and Ellen Seitchik*

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

#### **In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Grace Pawlan**

*Deborah and John Orgill*

**Thank you to everyone for a most delicious and inspiring Seder.**

*Audrey Harrell*

#### **In Memory of Lola Behar**

*Ken and Dale Miller*

#### **In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Beloved Sister, Miriam Stern**

*Janet Slawitsky*

#### **In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Beloved Father, Max Lerner**

*Janet Slawitsky*

#### **In Memory of Lenore Arena**

*Arlene Michaels and Don Lapinski*

### TORAH RESTORATION FUND

#### **In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Barbara J. Graham**

*Esther B. Adelman*

### MARK HAHN MEMORIAL FUND

**A special thank you to Michelle Morgan, what a lovely surprise; along with get well wishes to your mom.**

*Audrey Harrell*

*To make a donation  
Contact the Temple office  
(570) 344-7201*

Temple Hased  
accepts these  
credit/debit cards for  
most payments or  
donations



Rabbinical Reflections — Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz

## CREATING TORAH



Last month, I wrote about the idea of giving and receiving Torah. Implicit in the Reform understanding of Torah is that we are also the latest link in a long chain of people who create Torah. That's right, you and I are continuing to write Torah.

Wait a minute, you might be saying. Me, an author of Torah? Given how often I come to temple, how much I struggle with Hebrew, or doubts I have about God, how can I be an author of Torah? Well, as anyone who came to the Shavuot Torah study knows, one way of looking at Torah is as an almost jazz-like stream of connection. (If you'd like to know what you've missed, ask me and I'll set up a time we can study together!)

Connecting the past to the future, connecting our texts to our lives, connecting each of us with the sacred, however we define sacred. And yes, in my experience, everyone has something that's sacred — something that has a meaning and preciousness unrelated to anything “useful” about it. For one person, it might be their family, for another beautiful music or art, or perhaps nature, or even the Jewish tradition!

We create Torah whenever we connect to that “sacredness”, or

we help others connect, or even better when both happen at the same time. We “write” Torah not only or even primarily through words, but through the way we are and behave in the world. When we help someone without thinking about receiving anything in return, we create Torah. When we help someone to reframe something in their lives so that it becomes a source of strength and growth and not only a source of pain or sorrow, we create Torah.

We can create Torah on our own, but there is a special power, joy, and connection to the sacred when we do so together. This month, we have many opportunities to do just that.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, we can take a stand against xenophobia and help create a more tolerant, accepting, and unified NEPA just by coming to services! It will be a unique chance to not only hear from internationally recognized speakers but also to experience Muslim prayers and to share a light meal with diverse people from across the area.

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, we are holding our annual Pride Shabbat, another way to show how welcoming we can be even as we celebrate Shabbat and each other. Help us create a Torah of love and under-

standing together.

Perhaps your sense of the sacred is more personal or quiet than that. Join us at our Shabbat Under the Stars on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Or, more personal still, on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, join our chanting circle as we explore what it means to trust and find stability in a world filled with chaos and sorrow.

If you find the sacred more through learning than praying, come to our Chai Mitzvah class on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Every class covers a different subject, and the group learning together has already created some interesting Torah in our back and forth discussion. Plus each Chai Mitzvah student has a chance to come up with a topic of individual study that I help him or her with.

Every member of Temple Hesed has wisdom with sharing, as well as acts of caring and daring enough to write many new chapters of Torah. Let's join together to make our Torah as life-affirming and sacred as possible.

*Rabbi Daniel Swartz*

## Celebrate Pride on June 30

On June 28, 1969, the modern LGBT rights movement was born at the Stonewall Inn in New York City. To commemorate what has become known as the 'Stonewall Riots,' June is celebrated as national LGBTQ Pride Month. Temple Hesed will host a "Pride Shabbat" on June 30<sup>th</sup>, the Friday closest to the 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stonewall. Put on your best rainbow colors, invite friends, and join us!

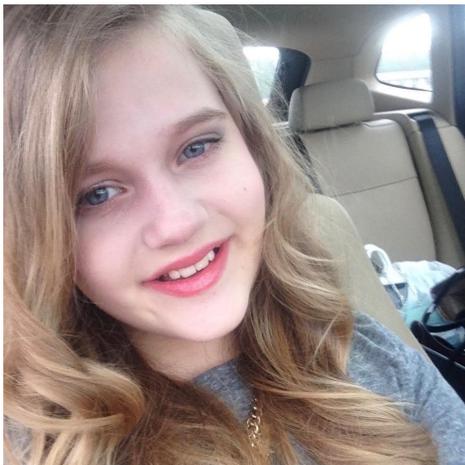
As the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism noted, "one of the cornerstones of Jewish tradition is the belief that all human beings are created *B'tzelem Elohim*, in the Divine image (Genesis 1:27). While we take steps throughout

the year to advocate for equality and inclusion of LGBTQ people in our communities, it is important that we take time during June to join the LGBTQ community in celebrating Pride month, and commit ourselves to be even more inclusive and embracing in the year ahead."

Temple Hesed has played an important leadership role in promoting LGBTQ rights and acceptance both within and outside of faith communities in our area. We will continue with this tradition on the 30<sup>th</sup> in a special service, open to all, with music, readings, and a discussion focused on inclusivity.

Everyone is welcome.

## Sadie Shapiro Becomes Bat Mitzvah



It seems like yesterday that Sadie Marie Shapiro was called to Temple Hesed for her Baby Naming.

Fast forward (really fast) to June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017, when Sadie will find herself at Temple Hesed for her Bat Mitzvah. Sadie has grown into a beautiful young lady who loves to dance, act, and spend time outside with friends and family.

She is always a breath of fresh air. Her family is so proud of her accomplishment. Mazel Tov, Sadie!



# June 2017

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

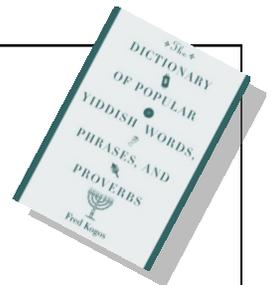
				1	2 SERVICES 6 p.m.	3 Chanting Circle 10:30 a.m.
4	5	6	7	8	9 Oppenheim SERVICES 7 p.m.	10 Sadie Shapiro Bat Mitzvah 10 a.m.
11 Chai Mitzvah 11 a.m. @ Rabbi's home	12	13	14	15	16 Outdoor SERVICES 8 p.m.	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 SERVICES 8 p.m.	24
25	26	27	28 Annual Meting 7 p.m. Board Mtg. 6 p.m.	29	LGBTQ Pride SERVICES 8 p.m.	

## Holidays 5777

Rosh Hashanah— Apr. 11-17, 2017  
 Oct. 3, 2016      Yom HaShoah—  
 Yom Kippur — April 24, 2017  
 Oct. 12, 2016      Yom HaZikaron  
 Sukkot— & Yom  
 Oct. 17-22, 2016      HaAtzmaut —  
 Simchat Torah — May. 1 & 2, 2017  
 Oct. 25, 2015      Lag B'Omer —  
 Hanukkah — May 14, 2017  
 Dec. 25, 2016-Jan      Shavuot—  
 1, 2017      May 31, 2017  
 Tu B'Shvat — Tisha B'Av—  
 Feb. 11, 2017      Aug. 1, 2017  
 Purim—Mar. 12      Selichot —Sept. 16  
 Passover—  
 (Holidays begin at sundown the  
 night before)

## YIDDISH SAYING OF THE MONTH

“There are no enemies for free; you have to pay for them.”



Yiddish Proverb from a book by Fred Kogos



## Torah Portions

Name	Civil Date	Hebrew Date
Nasso	June 3, 2017	9.Sivan.5777
Beha'alotecha	June 10, 2017	16.Sivan.5777
Shelach	June 17, 2017	23.Sivan.5777
Korach	June 24, .2017	30.Sivan.5777

## June Chanting Circle, June 3rd: The Rock!

Nowadays, mentioning the “the Rock” is most likely to conjure up images of a certain wrestler/actor or an insurance/investment company. But for thousands of years, in the Jewish tradition “the Rock” always referred to God. It is a metaphor for God’s eternality and dependability, and it even gives hints of God’s protective and nurturing side.

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:30 a.m., our Chanting/Healing Circle will explore this metaphor and examine what it is we feel we can depend on and trust in our lives. We will focus on chants that ground us and help us find connections to foundational support. As always, no prior chanting experience is necessary. Join us for an hour of reflection, chanting, comfort and support.

## Chai Mitzvah Class June 11th at 11, at Rabbi Daniel’s House



Our June Chai Mitzvah class will be held at Rabbi Daniel’s house in Clarks Summit. The topic this month is “Judaism and the environment,” and Rabbi Daniel will, not too surprising, supplement the standard Chai Mitzvah texts with some of his own choosing.

It will be at 11 a.m. on June 11.

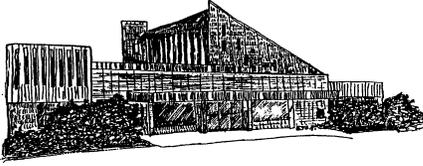
If you’ve missed previous classes, it’s still not too late to sign up. This is a great chance for adults to learn together, to actively join in the discussions, and to explore areas

they’ve always wanted to learn more about but didn’t have the opportunity or resources to do so.

Each Chai Mitzvah student, in addition to the monthly classes, takes on some individual learning project, and they also select a particular mitzvah they’d like to explore. Intrigued?

Call the office or email [rabbidaniel@comcast.net](mailto:rabbidaniel@comcast.net) to sign up and get more details.

# Yahrzeits and Personal Notes



## *Get Well Wishes*

*Jimmie Ellenbogen*

*Betty Kravitz*

*Rich Mates*

*Charlotte Milliken*

*Charlene Ostro*

*Emily Trunzo*

*Edward Snitko, Sr.*

## **Week Ending June 3 (Service June 2)**

\*William Krotosky, \*Simon Smith, \*Cora F. Reinthal, \*Rochelle Goldman, \*Louis Goldsmith, \*Selma Blank Maring, \*Sophie Driesen, \*Rose Slavitz, \*Betty Goldsmith, \*Leonard Cohen, \*Lenore Forman.

## **Week Ending June 10 (Service June 9)**

\*Theodora Swartz, \*Bela M. Davidow, \*Clare Rice, \*Jennie B. Rosen, \*Dr. Bernard Shair, Benjamin Slawitsky, Joann Monahan, \*Gertrude R. Sobel, \*Harry Adelman, \*Claire Bayer Ballot, \*Morris Stein, \*Doris Cohen.

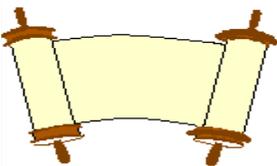
## **Week Ending June 17 (Service June 16)**

\*Sophie Bloch, \*Janet Richman, Robert Baron, \*Bettie Landau, Frank Seitchik, Bess Fragin, \*Edward Apfelbaum, \*Jerome Friedman, \*Sara Jacobson, \*Viola Goldsmith, \*Esther Apfelbaum.

## **Bat Mitzvah**

Sadie  
Shapiro

June 10, 2017



## **Week Ending June 24 (Service June 23)**

\*Ruth A. Cohen, \*Sam Dinner, \*Margery Phillips Freedman, \*Dr. Maurice Marmelstein, \*Ralph Gardner, \*Muriel Stone Smith, \*Bert Falk, \*Abraham Hillsberg.

## **Week Ending July 1 (Service June 30)**

\*Doris Cohen, \*Lena Mitteldorf, \*Maude Perlin, Sara Greenstein Rosenstein, \*Irene B. Newman, \*Sander Dembert, \*Dr. Harry Goodfriend, \*Martha Noe, \*Irving Rosen, \*Rose Levy, \*Irving Levy, \*Louis Jacobs, \*Louis Kleeman, Marjorie Meyer, \*Constance Oppenheim, \*Edward Gordon, \*Harold Joseph, \*Eleanore F. Bashkoff, \*Maud Carlyon, Morris Mendlowitz, \*Bertha Goodman, \*Frank Peck, \*Gertrude L. Freedman, \*Rema R. Siegel.

## **Mazel Tov**

To Harry and Mary Beth Adelman on the marriage of their son Mickey to Lindy.

## **Sheloshim**

Our sympathies go to Denise Krafchin on the loss of her mother, Lola Behar.



## Shabbat Under The Stars



Join us at Temple Hesed for the  
Fifteenth Annual Outdoor Service  
(Weather Permitting)  
Friday, June 16, 2017  
8:00 P.M.



**Engaging with our Muslim Neighbors:**  
HOT TOPICS THAT DIVIDE, SHARED VALUES THAT UNITE

Join Us on June 9, 2017 @ 7 p.m.

@ Temple Hesed, 1 Knox Rd.

for the annual Oppenheim Social Justice Sabbath Service, featuring:



**Alejandro Beutel**, Researcher for Countering Violent Extremism at the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START); lead author of "Islamophobia: A Threat to All" and the "Safe Spaces Initiative"



**Rabbi Nancy Fuchs Kreimer**, Director, Department of Multifaith Studies and Initiatives, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College; founding board member, Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom; host of the interfaith podcast "Spirit in Practice"

Join us as our panelists **bust myths** and **share truths** about our Muslim neighbors. The program will end at 8:30, followed by Maghrib (sunset) prayers and a light Iftar (Ramadan break-fast) meal.

**Everyone is welcome!**

For more information, call 570-344-7201 or email

[templehesed@comcast.net](mailto:templehesed@comcast.net)

Co-sponsored by the Scranton Area Ministerium, the Islamic Center of Scranton, the Congregation of the Sisters, IHM, and the Campus Mosque at the University of Scranton

## Oppenheim Talk Continued

*(Continued from page 1)*

Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. She has played important roles in many global interfaith projects, including serving as a founding board member of the Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom. Most recently, she initiated and serves as the host of the award-winning interfaith podcast, "Spirit in Practice"

The program will begin with a brief social-justice-themed Erev Shabbat (Friday night) service. After the service, Kreimer and Beutel will counter myths and share truths about relations between Jews and Muslims and the role of Islam in America and around the world. Because the program takes place dur-

ing Ramadan, the holy month for Muslims, during which they fast from sunrise to sunset, the program will conclude at sunset on Friday evening, at 8:35.

Immediately following the program, Dr. Riaz Hussein of the University of Scranton will lead the Maghrib Prayers (Evening Muslim Prayers, similar to Ma'ariv prayers in the Jewish tradition) that precede Iftar, the breaking of the daily fast.

This will be the first time in our area that Muslim prayers will be held in a synagogue building. Everyone is welcome to join us for the Oneg Shabbat/light Iftar meal that will follow.

In addition to the host, Temple Hesed, the program is co-sponsored by the Scranton Area Ministerium, the Islamic Center of Scranton, the Congregation of Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the Campus Mosque of the University of Scranton. For questions or more information, please contact the Temple Hesed office at 570-344-7201 or [templehesed@comcast.net](mailto:templehesed@comcast.net)



WASHINGTON – In response to the recent threats and harassment directed at Linda Sarsour (a Palestinian-American political activist, and former executive director of the Arab American Association of New York) and her family, Reform Movement leaders issued the following statement:

*In Jewish tradition, a preeminent principle is respect for the holiness of every individual. In that spirit, we unequivocally condemn the threats against Linda Sarsour and her family.*

*We have often vehemently disagreed with the positions and statements Ms. Sarsour has advocated, such as her support for BDS and anti-Zionism. When necessary, we have not hesitated to express that disagreement. We have also found areas in which we have worked together to advance principles of justice, including the rights of women. Throughout, we engage with respect for the Divine spark present in all people.*

*Threats and attacks, verbal or otherwise, are unacceptable. In the spirit of our Jewish faith that affirms the sanctity of all humans created in the image of God, we call for an end to such attacks.*

Union for Reform Judaism  
Rabbi Rick Jacobs, President  
Daryl Messinger, Chair, North American Board of Trustees

Central Conference of American Rabbis  
Rabbi Steve Fox, Chief Executive  
Rabbi David Stern, President

Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism  
Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner, Director  
Isabel P. “Liz” Dunst, Chair, Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism

Women of Reform Judaism  
Rabbi Marla J. Feldman, Executive Director  
Blair C. Marks, President

American Conference of Cantors  
Rachel Roth, Chief Operating Officer  
Cantor Steven Weiss, President

Association of Reform Zionists of America  
Rabbi Josh Weinberg, President  
Rabbi John Rosove, Board Chair



## Annual Meeting Continued

*(Continued from page 1)*

property’s attractiveness to potential buyers. Finally, the committee continues to review ideas submitted from the congregation at large and from committee members themselves as to how best to move the Temple forward in anticipated and ever-increasing financially-stressful times.”

Votes will be taken on a number of issues, including the fiscal year 2017-2018 budget. This year’s budget was saved from a massive deficit by an anonymous donor who pledged to cover the pro-

jected red ink.

Congregation members will also hear the latest from the Temple’s Long-Range Planning Committee, which has been looking at the viability of our present building.

Congregation members will also vote on new terms for some directors and officers.

The full agenda will be available before the meeting. It is open to all members in good standing.

Temple Hesed wishes you:

L'shana Tova Tikatevu! (Wishing us all a good year.)

# Hesed, Hallah and Honey

Continuing a Rosh Hashanah fund-raising tradition started by Roseann Smith Alperin (O.B.M.), a former Temple Hesed Sisterhood president, Hesed, Hallah and Honey, benefits Temple programs and continues Roseann's good work.



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We can't do this ourselves!

We need gift bag packers to begin assembling the bags at 10 a.m. on Tuesday September 19, 2017 and

We need people to make deliveries starting at 9 a.m. Wednesday September 20, 2017.

Both activities will take place at the Leventhal residence at 125 Welsh Hill Road, Clarks Summit.

If you can help, please call: 570-587-2931 or email [jeff@graphicsart.net](mailto:jeff@graphicsart.net)

## The Gifts

✧ The Gift Bag — contains a challah, container of honey, yom tov candles, an apple and candies.

—\$20 delivered (Kosher challah—add \$1.)

✧ Flowering Plant — A beautiful Mum in a basket. Perfect for those who cannot accept gifts of foods.

—\$22 delivered

Deliveries available to any Scranton or Abington-area address.

**Orders due: Sept. 13, 2017**

**Delivery on Erev Rosh Hashanah.**

**Use Order Form on next page**

# He sed, Hallah & Honey — 2017

## Order Form

YOUR NAME

(name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (phone) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose check, payable to:  
 TEMPLE HESED  
 Mail to:  
 Jeff and Carl Leventhal  
 125 Walsh Hill Road  
 Clarks Summit, PA 18411

Order by Sept. 13. Delivered Sept. 20

GETTING GIFTS

(name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (phone) \_\_\_\_\_

- Challah \_\_\_ Plain \_\_\_ Raisin = \$20/ea.
- Kosher challah — add \$1/ea.
- Mums \$22/ea.

(name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (phone) \_\_\_\_\_

- Challah \_\_\_ Plain \_\_\_ Raisin = \$20/ea.
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- Mums \$22/ea.

(name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (address) \_\_\_\_\_  
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 (phone) \_\_\_\_\_

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(name) \_\_\_\_\_  
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 (phone) \_\_\_\_\_

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**TEMPLE HESED  
"SCRANTON'S FIRST SYNAGOGUE"**

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**Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz**  
570-877-3454 (cell)  
570-344-7201 (office)  
([rabbidaniel@comcast.net](mailto:rabbidaniel@comcast.net))

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**Jennifer Rosen Novak**  
Social Media Maven

**Jeffrey Heilbrunn**  
Webmaster  
([Jeff.Heilbrunn@gmail.com](mailto:Jeff.Heilbrunn@gmail.com))

**ABOUT TEMPLE HESED:**

Temple Hesed, a Reform Synagogue founded Aug. 20, 1860, is Scranton's first and oldest Jewish congregation. It is one of the earliest congregations to join the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, now the Union for Reform Judaism. It has been a member since Dec. 12, 1874.

The synagogue serves the needs of individuals and families in Lackawanna County and surrounding areas. Situated on Knox Road, off Lake Scranton Road in the East Mountain section of Scranton, the current building opened in 1973. Temple Hesed operates a cemetery on West Warren Street in Dunmore.

The office is open Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Rabbi Swartz is happy to set appointments at any convenient time. Contact him to set a time. The rabbi also has "drop-in" hours every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Friday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The Rabbi holds these times open for visits or calls for which an appointment was not or could not be made.

The Temple Hesed Cemetery is open for visitation six days a week. Visitation hours are: Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. till dusk and it is closed for Shabbat on Saturday. For more information, call the office.



**Eco-Tip:**

**Grounds Maintenance:** Did you ever notice those small white warning flags on nearby lawns? Those warnings indicate that a lawn has been sprayed with pesticides that are harmful to children and pets. Reduce your exposure, and improve the environment, by eliminating chemicals on your lawn and encouraging your neighbors to do the same. See [www.safelawns.org](http://www.safelawns.org) for more information. If you use a lawn care provider, choose one that specializes in natural lawn care, such as NaturaLawn: <http://www.nl-amer.com/>

Eco-tip provided by GreenFaith: [www.greenfaith.org](http://www.greenfaith.org)

