



# Messenger

Volume 158, Issue 11

Tammuz-Av-Elul 5777/ July-August 2017

## Congregational Meeting Actions

### Also In the Messenger:

- ✧ Chai Mitzvah
- ✧ Yearly Reports
- ✧ Election of Officers & Directors

A large group of congregation members elected new officers, approved a new budget and discussed the future of Temple Hesed.

"This is not something that is going to fall from the trees," Larry Milliken, first vice president, told the group about easy answers to the Temple's money woes.

Like many congregations, Temple Hesed has an aging, shrinking membership.

It's roughly six families a year for the last 20 years, Mark Davis, chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, said about the decline in membership.

Rabbi Daniel Swartz said the current temple building is too large for a congregation our size.

Challenged about what action is needed, Davis said the building would be put up for sale now but the two appraisals are different by a factor of two. The committee

is trying, to learn why there is such a large difference in the two valuations.

"We are right on the edge right now," Davis said about the financial picture of the Temple.

The \$239,400 budget approved at the meeting includes a \$9,410 deficit. The deficit will have to be made up with fundraising, Milliken said.

(Continued on page 6)

## Let's help save lives on July 19th – Join us for a Temple Hesed Blood Drive

### Inside this issue:

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On July 19th, we'll roll up our sleeves and help with perhaps the most important mitzvah of all, *pikuach nefesh*, the saving of lives!

As a way of making our mission of *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world, more personal, we will give of ourselves to help others. We will proudly partner with the American Red Cross to hold our first blood drive in over five years.

Each pint of blood we collect can help save up to three lives and will touch the lives of so many more.

What a great way to pay it forward and make an impact on people in our community and across the country. We are very excited about the drive and hope you are

too. The Red Cross has over 130 years of experience providing humanitarian aid – including more than 70 years of supplying blood to those in need.

They'll take care of everything except for the most critical ingredient – donors willing to save lives by giving blood.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Temple office about joining the team or with any questions. Most importantly of all, we hope you come out to donate and encourage your friends, inside and outside of the Temple family, to join you in donating.

(Continued on page 15)

## TEMPLE HESED WORSHIP COMMITTEE

### ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

The Worship Committee, under the expert guidance of Rabbi Daniel Swartz, oversees all worship services, formulates relevant policies, plans special events, and handles all matters relating to the worship practices at Temple Hesed.

We offer a variety of worship services: the celebration of Shabbat using Mishkan T'Filah, with its unique format, featuring interesting, unusual interpretations, lovely poetry, and educational comments; the "rocking" informal Shabbat services utilizing our in-house updated prayer guides; family holiday and festival services, with the beautiful, holiday-specific Gates of Joy; and special Shabbat services marking various occasions.

Rabbi Swartz uses many different formats for teaching the parashah of the week, including thought-provoking interactive dialogue. When he reads Torah in the Ziegler Lounge, we gather around the table to see the interesting and diverse ways that the scribes have used to put this amazing scroll together. Rabbi explains the traditions behind these variations: to emphasize an important verse, to mark the end of a passage, to call attention to a particular word or phrase.

Music in our services plays a major role in taking us from our mundane routines to the world of Reform Jewish worship. We have continued our regular Shabbat music schedule. On the first Shabbat of the month, Rabbi Swartz has led us musically down new paths, teaching us new melodies for old favorites and introducing us to some other options as well. Ed Snitko most capably leads us in song on the second and fourth Fridays, incorporating those new melodies that we have enjoyed. Harry Adelman demonstrates his expert musicality on the third Shabbat of each month, when we hold our informal services.

We have continued with scheduling the 6:00 service on the first Friday of every month, and the 8:00 service on the remaining Friday evenings, except when a special service, such as the Oppenheim Institute or a festival observance, begins a bit earlier.

Many Temple members graciously participated in all phases of the five services held during the High Holy Days. We thank all of the English readers, Hebrew chanters, ark openers, Torah dressers and carriers, ushers, and all others who made these services more meaningful. We are grateful to Ed Snitko, whose moving interpretations of the High Holy Day melodies added beautifully to the worship experience.

We invite all members and their families and friends to join us at weekly services, where we experience the beauty and uniqueness of Mishkan T'Filah, the timely, often-brilliant Torah commentaries of Rabbi Swartz, the ever-evolving spiritual music, and the warm camaraderie of our Temple Hesed family.

We do encourage input from the Congregation, since it is crucial to the work of this committee. Our goal is to be a part of making Temple Hesed an integral part of the lives of the congregation---spiritually, socially, and educationally.

*Esther Adelman, Chair*

Rabbinical Reflections — Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz

# The Dawning of the Age of Contrarious?



Many times over the course of history, different people have proclaimed the imminent dawn of an age of perfect harmony. So far, all those predictions have been wrong. For example, just in the past few years, some claimed that we were rapidly transitioning to a post-racial, post-nationalistic world. Yet today, racial tensions and nationalistic fervor are rising here and in many parts of the world.

So, should we give up hope of ever getting today a time of messianic harmony and peace? No. Hope is not merely a vague, perhaps naïve concept – it can be shown empirically that hope in and of itself makes a difference in the real world. One has to look no further than the history of the Reform Jewish movement in America. Our founder, Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise, was one of those who thought that, as the 1800s were coming to an end, the age of harmony was just around the corner. He was wrong. And yet the hope and meaning and purpose that his vision gave to Jews across America helped establish a strong and vibrant foundation for Jewish life in America, a foundation that still supports us and keeps us moving forward even today.

The question, therefore, is not whether to hope, but rather how best to find a sustaining source of it. I believe this is one of the key missions of Temple Hesed – to offer ways that we can anchor ourselves in hope even in our very contrarian age. And it is a mission that is as challenging today as it ever has been. For it sometimes seems that even the most innocuous of statements

raises an outcry that displays the rancor and deep divisions in our society. What then can Temple Hesed do to soothe such rancor and to help us all connect to a common source of hope?

We have tried to explore this very question in a variety of ways this past year. I'd like to review two – and to reflect on how they might be expanded in the coming year. The first category of programs has dealt with the need to realize that harmony is not the same as unanimity. To the contrary, our tradition values the expression of diverse opinions and points of view. So Temple Hesed should become a model for showing how it is possible to argue without getting into a fight. We do this in our frequent Shabbat Torah discussions, in classes for both adults and youth, and in special programs like our highly successful Oppenheim Institute on “Engaging with our Muslim Neighbors,” which brought nearly 200 people to the temple. But all of these have only indirectly modeled this critical teaching about finding harmony in the midst of difference. In the coming year, beginning with one of my High Holy Day sermons, I want to explore this more explicitly.

We've also tried to find new ways to connect to each other and to hope through programs designed to open our Temple doors ever wider. For example, as we look around the room in the chanting circle that I've now run monthly since October, we've seen that about half those attending are synagogue members. We are joined by unaffiliated Jews, including one woman who had not entered a synagogue for over a decade. And each month, we get a variety of people from other faiths, ranging from Muslim to Wiccan,

or no particular faith at all. All of them have found meaning and comfort in this program.

Our interfaith outreach efforts, culminating in our Oppenheim Institute, have also brought a wide variety of people into Temple Hesed. It was interesting to see the comments on our Facebook page after the event. A number of non-Jews – Christians, atheists, pagans, Muslims, Bahai, and more, were thrilled about how welcome they felt here at Temple Hesed. But we can and should still do more to open doors even wider.

We will need to take the work of the Temple outside of our walls and into the community. Over the summer, for example, I'm going to be consulting with Thom Welby about how we might get involved with Scranton's First Friday and Third Thursday. And if we are going to build on the success of our “Engaging with our Muslim Neighbors” program, we will have to go to their neighborhood in order to take next steps together. Lisa Mazzarella from WVIA is also interested in working with us to help build a stronger culture of engagement with civil society in our area. And I'd love to hear your thoughts about other ways for us to step outside these walls and build harmony in our region. None of this will be easy – but with each step, we not only help ensure that Temple Hesed remains vibrant and relevant, but also plant new seeds of hope and open new pathways to harmony.

— Rabbi Daniel Swartz

# Co-President's Report



Esther Adelman

## Co-President's Report

Another year of the Temple Presidency has flown by. As the old saying goes: "Time goes by fast when you're having fun."

I do enjoy this job. Yes, it is a job, since there is a lot of work involved. It is time-consuming in so many ways, not only physically, but also emotionally and intellectually. To be done efficiently and correctly, it has to be a labor of love as well. As such, there are not too many people competing for this position.

You are a diplomat, on-call at all times. You are an advisor, on-call at all times. You apparently are perceived by others as all-knowing, so you have to do your homework in order to keep up. You draw on your life experiences to give you the wisdom to handle whatever is thrown at you. You have to make decisions which affect other people. You are continually solving problems, creatively if need be, because sometimes there is no previous experience to draw upon. It is your job to hold everything together and to be the picture of confidence and authority to everyone else.

There are good, dedicated people to help you through all of this. You have the diversity of the officers and Board of Directors at your disposal. You have the wisdom of the Rabbi; you have the wisdom of Past Presidents. But, as Harry Truman famously said, "The buck stops here".

Fortunately, I have Steve Seitchik as Co-President. Together, we are a great team. We compliment each other, since our areas of expertise are so different. We consult each other about everything, seeking the other's input. We agree on the basics, and the rest falls into place. It is a good match, but we can't do it forever. It is a challenge, but a very rewarding one.

That being said, most of our Past Presidents continue to be active in one way or another, so it must be a good experience. Once you open yourself to it, it's hard to get Temple Hesed out of your blood. There's something intangible about what it means to be a part of this family.

This is usually the time of year for the President to say what a good year we had at Temple Hesed, and to list all of our successes. If you come to services, read the Messenger, or have participated in some aspect of Temple life, you know what we've done this past year. Aside from the ongoing and special worship and education opportunities for both children and adults, there were Back-to-School, Comedy Night, Purse Bingo, Oppenheim Institute, Chanukah and Purim dinners, Chanting Circles, to name a few.

None of this just happens. There are wonderful dedicated Temple members who step up to the plate to make sure that they happen. The problem is that we rarely see new faces. We love and appreciate the core of people who we can count on. We just wish that there were more of you!

I'm asking that in the coming year, we all voluntarily do something at/for Temple Hesed. I'd love for more people to experience a regular Shabbat service. You can start "easy" by attending an informal one, which is shorter and has livelier music. Try your hand at filling backpacks, baking for an oneg, attending one of Rabbi Swartz's classes, taking an honor on Rosh Hashanah, setting up for a dinner, taking a seat on the Board. There are so many opportunities available, at whatever level that's right for you. Start small. Maybe someday you'll even find yourself *wanting to be the President!*

Esther Adelman

# Co-President's Report



Steve Seitchik

## Co-President's Report

The enclosed budget summarizes our current financial position with the Projected Budget 2016-2017 (Column 2) and our Proposed Budget for 2017-2018 (Column 3): The projected budget provides a surplus of \$5,344 which has been only made possible by a one-time anonymous gift of \$12,000 included in "Donations to Funds".

Our proposed budget for 2017 – 2018 projects an operating deficit of \$9,410.

The two largest categories of our revenue, Temple Dues and Endowment Distribution, we project to be level.

This deficit would be much larger if it were not for the revenue generated by the Nativity Miguel School providing \$35,500. With the school's scheduled departure in June 2018, the Temple will be facing a much larger non-sustainable deficit.

We have recognized the challenge and resulting financial problem this deficit would create, and have sought approval of the Board to seek a professional appraisal for our Temple Building and explore our options for listing the facility.

The Long-Range Planning Committee, under the leadership of Mark Davis, is currently evaluating these options to ensure Temple Hesed's stability in the future.

Steven Seitchik

# Proposed Budget for 5778 (Sept. 2017-Aug. 2018)

	<u>BUDGET</u> 2016-2017	PROJECTED ACTUAL <u>BUDGET</u> 2016-2017	PROPOSED <u>BUDGET</u> 2017-2018
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
Temple Dues	97000	97000	95000
Endow. Dist.	77250	77250	77250
School Tuition	1070	1900	1070
Life Cycle Fees	500	350	350
High Holy Days/Mem.	3000	3000	3000
Committee Income	250	0	0
Donations to Funds*	15000	17000	2000
Federation Grant	7120	7120	7120
Fund Raising/Dinners	8000	9200	8000
Misc./Center Rental	700	0	700
Rental of school	<u>30624</u>	<u>30624</u>	<u>35500</u>
Total	240514	243444	229990
<b><u>EXPENSE</u></b>			
Office/Admin.	51000	51000	51000
Rabbi	112000	112000	113000
Insurance	8600	8300	8600
Maintenance	24000	24000	24000
Utilities	30000	30000	30000
URJ	3000	3000	3000
Music	6000	6000	6000
High Holy Day/Memorials	2500	2100	2100
Religious School	1000	700	700
Miscellaneous	<u>1000</u>	<u>1000</u>	<u>1000</u>
Total	239100	238100	239400
Surplus/(Deficit)	1414	5344	-9410
Cemetery Expense	16800	16800	16800
Cemetery Distribution	16800	16800	16800
<b>*Includes one-time anonymous gift of \$12,000</b>			

## Mtg. Contd.

(Continued from page 1)

Jennifer Rosen Novak said the Comedy Night and Purse Bingo fundraisers were both financial successes.

Esther Adelman and Steven Seitchik were elected Co-Presidents. First Vice President Larry Milliken and Second Vice President Richard Goldenziel were

also elected. Also elected were Treasurer, Jeffrey Leventhal; Secretary, Joan Davis; and Assistant Secretary, Jennifer Novak.

The officers and board will be installed in September.

The main takeaway from the annual meeting was that more involvement is needed from all members.



Mark Davis

**TEMPLE HESED BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-2018 (5778)****Officers**

<b>Co-Presidents</b>	<b>Esther Adelman and Steven Seitchik</b>
<b>1st Vice President</b>	<b>Larry Milliken</b>
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	<b>Richard Goldenziel</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Jeffrey Leventhal</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Joan Davis</b>
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	<b>Jennifer Novak</b>

<b>Board members:</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Expiration of Term</b>
<b>Cheryl Friedman</b>	<b>9/1/15</b>	<b>8/31/18</b>
<b>Michael Krakow</b>	<b>9/1/15</b>	<b>8/31/18</b>
<b>Frances Olick</b>	<b>9/1/15</b>	<b>8/31/18</b>
<b>Kenneth Ganz</b>	<b>9/1/16</b>	<b>8/31/19</b>
<b>Dale Miller</b>	<b>9/1/16</b>	<b>8/31/19</b>
<b>*Robert Hersh</b>	<b>9/1/17</b>	<b>8/31/19 (to fill unexpired term)</b>
<b>*Natalie Gelb</b>	<b>9/1/17</b>	<b>8/31/20</b>
<b>*Paula Kane</b>	<b>9/1/17</b>	<b>8/31/20</b>
<b>*Carol Leventhal</b>	<b>9/1/17</b>	<b>8/31/20</b>

**Honorary Life Board Member**  
**Jane Oppenheim**

**\*Elected 6/28/17**

## 2017 “Back to School” Backpack Project Starting

The current school year has just ended and August will be upon us before we know it, so it is time to start planning for the 2017 Social Action Committee Back-to-School Backpack project.

All members and friends of Temple Hesed are urged to participate if you can. You can call Marlene at the Temple (570-344-7201) to express your interest, and you will help us to streamline the project if you will also email either Marlene ([templehesed@comcast.net](mailto:templehesed@comcast.net)) and/or me ([ldmilliken@comcast.net](mailto:ldmilliken@comcast.net)) to let us know if you will be shopping and providing a full backpack, donating financially, and/or helping with the committee shopping, collating, and distribution of the backpacks. More people shopping is better!

Last year we were able to help 100 kids through this program thanks to your generosity and participation. We hope to do that again this year. We will have the students' names and information by July 22 for those shopping for backpacks and supplies, so please contact us before then so we'll know how many helpers to expect. There are never too many. We ask that all financial donations be made to the Temple by July 31, either by check with “backpacks” noted on the memo line, or charged to your Temple account. Thanks in advance to all who can help in any way.

Larry Milliken  
Project Chair

## Join us for Confirmation on July 14th

For the past eight years, Temple Hesed's confirmation students have had a wonderful opportunity – the chance to go to Washington DC for the Religious Action Center's L'taken Teen Social Justice seminars. The students, along with hundreds of other Reform Jewish teens from all across the United States, learn about what our tradition can teach us about the great moral questions of the day.

The program culminates with visits to the offices of our Senators and Representatives, where the students get to speak about one of the issues they have studied.

This year, Jacob Weinberg not only got the great L'taken experience but also had a chance to participate in a protest against the Dakota Access Pipeline and had an unexpected encounter at Union Station.

Come join us on July 14th at 8 p.m. as we celebrate Jacob's confirmation, and hear about his experiences.



## Mr. Weinberg Goes to Washington



At the Supreme Court

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Near Capitol Hill

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With Other Teens

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# July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 SERVICES 6 p.m.	8 Chanting Circle 10:30 a.m.
9	10	11	12	13	14 SERVICES 8 p.m.	15
16 Chai Mitzvah @ 11 a.m.	17	18	19 Blood Drive Board Mtg. 6 p.m.	20	21 SERVICES 8 p.m.	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 SERVICES 8 p.m.	29
30	31					

## Holidays 5777

Rosh Hashanah— Apr. 11-17, 2017  
Oct. 3, 2016

Yom HaShoah—  
April 24, 2017

Yom Kippur —  
Oct. 12, 2016

Yom HaZikaron  
& Yom  
HaAtzmaut —  
May. 1 & 2, 2017

Sukkot—  
Oct. 17-22, 2016

Simchat Torah —  
Oct. 25, 2015

Lag B'Omer —  
May 14, 2017

Hanukkah —  
Dec. 25, 2016-Jan  
1, 2017

Tu B'Shvat —  
Feb. 11, 2017

Tisha B'Av—  
Aug. 1, 2017

Purim—Mar. 12

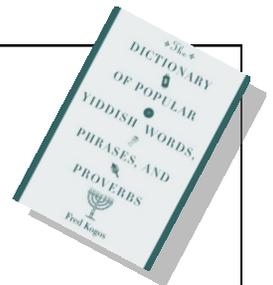
Selichot —Sept. 16

Passover—  
(Holidays begin at sundown the  
night before)

### YIDDISH SAYING OF THE MONTH

“It isn’t done as  
easily as it’s said.”

Yiddish Proverb from  
a book by Fred Kogos

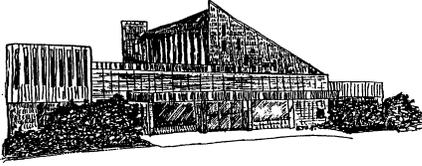


### Torah Portions

Name	Civil Date	Hebrew Date
Chukat	July 1, 2017	7.Tammuz.5777
Balak	July 8, 2017	14.Tammuz.5777
Pinchas	July 15, 2017	21.Tammuz.5777
Malot-Massei	July 22, 2017	28.Tammuz.5777
Devarim	July 29, 2017	6.Av.5777

More Torah resources at [www.urj.org](http://www.urj.org)

# Yahrzeits and Personal Notes



## 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.

## Week Ending July 8 (Service July 7)

\*Maximillian S. Bresch, \*Walter Jacobson, \*Dr. Eugene K. Weiss, \*Hoda Friedmann, \*David Sugar, Maurice Friedman, \*Amelia Gutman, \*Charles Siegel, \*Nannie Ziegler, \*Harold Phillips, \*Leonard E. Newman.

## Week Ending July 15 (Service July 14)

\*Joseph Roos, \*Jerome Edward Giles, \*Charles Lerner, \*Mary Cohen, \*Blanche W. Kleeman, \*Leone Frank Loebel, \*Rose Sugar, \*Doris Weisberg, \*David A. Cohen, \*Maurice D. Breschel.

## Week Ending July 22 (Service July 21)

Robert Alston, Leonard Frieder, Alfred Heilbrunn, \*Levi Hershfield, \*Celia Kleeman, Samuel Lerner, \*Eugenia C. Milliken, \*Abe Adelman, \*Ralph Goldsmith, \*Esther Basha Adelman, F. Harry Anspacher, \*Norman H. Hollander, Bernard Lerner, \*Beatrice Goodfriend, Sally Fine, \*Ilse Michel, \*Goldie Golden, Morris Gross, \*Howard A. Jacobson, \*Janet H. Rothenberg.

## Week Ending July 29 (Service July 28)

\*Bertha Gevanthor, Melvin Weinberg, \*Florence Pell Angert, Max Kravitz, \*Albert A. Linder, \*Alfred G. Rice, Charles D. Sherer, \*Florence Dembert, \*B. J. Smith, \*Sarah Friedman, Paul Krafchin, \*Morris Richman, Nettie Friedman, \*Murray Smith.



# August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 BBQ and SERVICES 6 p.m.	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 SERVICES 7 p.m.	12 Chanting Circle 10:30 a.m.
13	14	15	16 Board Mtg. 6 p.m.	17	18 SERVICES 8 p.m.	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 SERVICES 8 p.m.	26
27 Chai Mitzvah 11a	28	29	30	31		

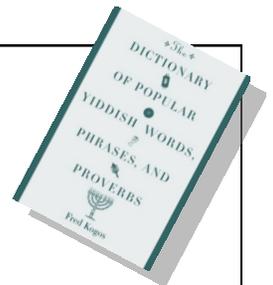
## Holidays 5777

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

*(Holidays begin at sundown the night before)*

### YIDDISH SAYING OF THE MONTH

“Money buys everything except brains.”



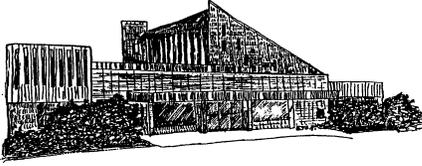
Yiddish Proverb from a book by Fred Kogos



### Torah Portions

Name	Civil Date	Hebrew Date
Vaetchanan	Aug. 5, 2017	13.Av.5777
Ekev	Aug. 12, 2017	20.Av.5777
Re'eh	Aug. 19, 2017	27.Av.5777
Shoftim	Aug. 24, .2017	4.Elul.5777

# Yahrzeits and Personal Notes



## *Get Well Wishes*

Joan Davis  
 Jimmie Ellenbogen  
 Rich Mates  
 Charlotte Milliken  
 Charlene Ostro  
 Emily Trunzo  
 Edward Snitko,  
 Sr.

### **Week Ending August 5 (Service August 4)**

\*Gustave Jackson, \*B. Leo Swartz, \*Rose Smith, \*Ruth Whitman, \*Stanley Dickstein, \*Simon Rice, \*Philip Swartz, Gerald Minkoff, \*Fred Michel.

### **Week Ending August 12 (Service August 11)**

\*Yetta K. Lauer, \*Emma K. Frank, \*Sara "Simi" Deutsch, \*Harry Ehrlich, \*Myron Ball, M.D., \*Samuel Diamond, \*Rabbi Jacob J. Ackerman, \*Ida Aersonson, Emmy Fremes, Mary Dolinger, \*Rabbi Milton Richman, \*Julia Ackerman, Goldie Freund, \*Jacob Hefter, \*Clara Kleeman, Esther Seitchik, \*Shirley Alperin, \*Anna Marks.

### **Week Ending August 19 (Service August 18)**

Hattie Green, \*Beatrice B. Aronsohn, Rose Hersh, Mildred G. Silberman, \*Fred Salomon Kugelman, \*Evelyn Gill, \*Rosa Morris, \*Charles F. Wormser, \*Julian Brown, Milton Hersh, \*Lucille Weinberg, Max Green, \*Golda P. Young.

### **Week Ending August 26 (Service August 25)**

\*Clifford Weinstock, \*Bina Loebenstein, \*Leon M. Levy, \*Sidney Wasser, \*Fannie Spiegel, \*Milton M. Friedman, \*Harry Mauer, \*Ben Fassler, \*Erwin Schoenhof, \*Gertrude Rice, \*Roseann Smith Alperin, Samuel B. Samter, Harry Cohen, \*Ralph Cohen, \*Beatrice Davis.

### **Week Ending September 2 (Service September 1)**

\*Leon L. Kramer, \*Rose Feinstein, \*Elihu Friedmann, Paula Albert, \*Harry Weinberg, \*Leo Swartz, \*Minnie Brown, \*Edward Loebenstein.

## Investment Committee Report for Wednesday, June 28th, 2017 Temple Hesed Congregational Meeting Jeff Leventhal Chairperson

The Temple Hesed Investment Committee continues to split the Temple's various endowment and building funds between Stifel Nicolaus and Merrill Lynch for investments and advice.

An interest payment schedule has been set up and timely payments have been made from these funds to insure that the Temple's expenses and financial obligations are met in prompt fashion. This schedule can be modified and adjusted going into this new fiscal year as per recommendations from the Treasurer, the acting President(s), and Marlene.

The encouraging news is that all of Temple Hesed's investments have done well enough to experience a small increase in their values.

In order to avoid any possibility of having to invade the corpus of any of the funds, the annual amounts of interest payments available will be closely monitored and adjusted as needed in order to help pay the Temple's daily and routine operating expenses and bills.

The Temple Hesed Investment committee will continue to meet with our funds' financial advisors and account managers, act on their recommendations, and continue to monitor the funds' status and progress on an ongoing basis. Our investment committee plans to meet once each with our two financial advisors again this coming July.

My thanks to the following investment committee members who continue to offer their time, wisdom, advice, and support to insure that these Temple's assets are protected and invested wisely in accordance with direction from the Temple Hesed Board. Members of this committee are:

David Dickstein                      Richard Fine

Jeffrey Jacobson                      Richard Levy

Sincerely, Jeff Leventhal, Chairman

## Chai Mitzvah – July 16th: the individual and the community; August 27: Adult Rites of Passage

Jewish tradition discusses many different aspects of the important relationship between the individual and the community.

Our July 16th 11 a.m. Chai Mitzvah class will examine the concept of *tochecha* (public rapprochement, offering criticism) as one way to investigate this relationship.

How do we talk to another person about his/her behavior in a way that will make for a positive behavior change? Judaism provides us with guidance about how to disagree and yet remain in relationship. It also opens up for us the possibility of shifting how we behave and respond to others in ways that move our rela-

tionships and our community forward.

This class will be held at the Milliken's house – call the Temple office to RSVP and for directions.

On August 27th, we will look at Rites of Passage, with a focus on those we still undergo even as adults. We'll examine how they mark transitions not only between different stages of life but also between different ways of being.

Anthropologists call these "liminal moments – in-between times when we stand in the doorway to new possibilities.

Jewish traditions wisely understand that rituals for marking such moments help us navigate through times that can exhilarating, disorienting, joyful, or filled with mourning – and that often all these different emotions swirl together.

As we approach the High Holy Days, collective liminal moments for our entire community, we will look not only at tradition but also ourselves through this lens.

The location is yet to be determined; please contact the Temple office for more details.

## Chanting Circle: Curses into blessings – July 8 at 10:30 a.m.;; Mourning and Memory – August 12th at 10:30 a.m.

Our July chanting circle will focus on the problems we face in our lives, our "curses," and how we can shift them, sometimes even transforming them into blessings.

Whether you face too much stress or traffic or bills, whether you are dealing with tensions at home, in relationships or at work, all of us face trials in our lives.

As we learn these chants, we'll share strengths and sorrows, comfort and challenges. Together, we'll seek ways to transcend our "curses" and reconnect to our blessings.

In August, shortly after the communal mourning period associated with the 9th of Av, which commemorates a series of historic tragedies, our chanting circle will look at the critical role that mourning and memory play in our

lives and spiritual growth.

In a society that sometimes engenders unrealistic expectations of constant happiness, it can be tempting to avoid the sadness and heartache of mourning. But shutting ourselves off from these memories and emotions stunts us, and healthy mourning can not only be cathartic but deeply transformative.

Our chants this month will help us connect powerfully and positively to the loss in our lives and how that connection enables us to live more fully.

As with all our chanting circles, for both July and August, no prior experience is needed, and everyone of all faiths or no faith are welcome.

## Blood, contd.

(Continued from page 1)

Call the office now to sign up for a time. It's not every day that we do something that has such a lifesaving impact. What a great way to share the *Hesed*, the overflowing lovingkindness, of Temple *Hesed* with our community.



## Back to School Project

Temple Hessed's Nationally Recognized "Back to School" Project needs your help!

We are looking for people to "adopt" a child by:

- Donating a Back to School Backpack of school supplies and a "first day of school" outfit for the child you "adopt"
- Donating money-\$100 sponsors a child, but feel free to give what ever you choose to help with school supplies and/or apparel (great option for non-shoppers or those unable to give the whole package! )
- Volunteering to help collate, coordinate and or distribute the supplies to the children at various agencies in Lackawanna County.

**Sample Back to School Backpacks for:**

Younger Children

Backpack\*  
Paper-wide lines

Pencils/erasers

Markers/crayons

Rulers

Glue

Something Fun

Uniforms\* or Casual "school clothes"

Underwear/Socks/Tights

Travel-size shampoo and soap

Comb/brush

Older Children (5<sup>th</sup> grade and up)

Backpack\*  
Notebooks or binder with paper

Pencils/pens

Colored pencils/fun pens

Rulers/highlighter

Inexpensive calculator

Assignment pad

Uniforms\* or School Clothes,

Older kids love "Old Navy" jeans./shirts

Underwear/Socks

Comb/Toothpaste/mini shampoo/hand lotion

*Feeling extra generous?*

Some extras that our congregants have put in the bags in the past included:

Wallet with "lunch money"; Gift certificate for Shoes; Personal notes; Alarm Clock; Thesaurus; Dictionary...

**Be creative, have fun!**

*\*You will be told the age and clothes size of the child and the school district. Also, which school districts require uniforms and/or mesh or transparent backpacks)*

**Yes. Count Me In! Contact the Temple Office at (570) 344-7201.  
Or Mail form and check to Temple Hessed, 1 Knox Road, Scranton, PA 18505**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to "adopt" a child for the Back to School Project and will provide supplies.

Enclosed is my \$100.00 check made out to Temple Hessed Back to School Project to sponsor a child or \$\_\_\_\_\_ to partially sponsor a child which I will mail to the Temple.

I would like to volunteer to help with the project. Please contact me.

# Join us August 4<sup>th</sup> for Temple Hessed's Annual BBQ & Family Service

BBQ – 6pm

\$10/person

\$5/child under 11

\$20 max/family

Service 7pm – open to all

Dessert 8pm

Call or email to RSVP

(and to let us know if

you're vegetarian!) by August 2<sup>nd</sup>

570-344-7201–templehessed@comcast.net



Free for new and prospective members!

Temple Hessed – 1 Knox Rd., Scranton

<https://www.facebook.com/TempleHessed/>

[www.templehessed.org](http://www.templehessed.org)

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**

# HeSED, Hallah & Honey — 2017

## Order Form

YOUR NAME

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

Enclose check, payable to:  
 TEMPLE HESED  
 Mail to:  
 Jeff and Carol 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.
- Kosher challah — add \$1/ea.
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(name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (address) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (phone) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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**SPIRITUAL LEADER**

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

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Webmaster**  
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**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:** One of the biggest threats to local wildlife is development—as homes go up, habitat is destroyed, and wildlife is unable to find places to feed, live, and raise young.

Make your property as wildlife-friendly as possible by certifying your backyard as a wildlife habitat.

See National Wildlife Federation's Certified Wildlife Habitat™ program:

<http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/>

