



Temple Hesed
"The Temple of Loving Kindness"
 Scranton, Pennsylvania

שליח

Messenger

Sukkot
Edition

Volume 159, Issue 2

Tishrei - Cheshvan 5778/September 2017

URJ Day of Learning is Oct. 29

Also In the Messenger:

- ✧ *Chanting explained*
- ✧ *Chai Mitzvah resumes*
- ✧ *Have your mind read at JCC*

Join us for a unique and exciting opportunity coming to Temple Hesed and dozens of congregations across the country. For the first time ever, all URJ Communities are joining forces to offer a single URJ day of learning in multiple locations across



North America. And Temple Hesed is one of only three places in Pennsylvania where this experience will be available!

On October 29th, 1- 5 pm, "How Successful Congregations Embrace Change: A URJ Day of Learning" will take place simultaneously in multiple locations

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Squeezebox Sukkot on Oct. 6

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Pyrotechnics on the accordion and in the sky!

Sukkot is the most joyous holiday in the Jewish calendar – and we do Joy with a capital J here at Temple Hesed! This year, our Sukkot celebration will be on October 6th, beginning with a potluck dinner at 6 pm.

Then at 7 pm we'll head to the Sukkah (weather permitting) for an outdoor service accompanied by Ed Snitko on the accordion and the rest of us on a variety of fun rhythm instruments.



We'll have some delicious desserts in the

Sukkah, this time accompanied by special Sukkot Fireworks, presented by the pyrotechnic team of Alana and Rabbi Daniel Swartz.

There is no charge for the celebration,

and everyone is welcome.

Call or email the Temple office to make reservations for the potluck – and come celebrate joy!

Corners of the Field Food Drive continues through October 24!

Each year, Temple Hesed starts the New Year off by fulfilling one of the most basic and important of all mitzvot – feeding the hungry.

At a time of year when most food pantries in our area have bare shelves, our efforts have helped hundreds of families provide countless healthy meals for their children.

For the most part, this year will be no different – we'll ask for food and monetary donations throughout the High Holy Days through Sukkot, until October 24th. But then on October 24th at 4 p.m., the students of our joint Temple Hesed/Temple Israel Hebrew school will sort and deliver the food.

This will be the first time that Temple Israel students will join with ours in the food drive, a continuation of the lessons we began before the New Year, when all the students studied from Mishnah Peah, which explains the mitzvah of leaving the corners of the field for the poor and describes it as a mitzvah “beyond measure.”

Everyone is welcome to join us on the 24th for sorting and delivery, but most importantly of all, please be generous with your donations – so many families in our area will be grateful for the difference you will be making.

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

NOTICE

The minimum donation for acknowledgment by mail and in *The Messenger* is now \$10.

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



Rabbinical Reflections — Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz

HOPE AND JOY



Rabbi Marjorie is one of those people who is still in regular contact with people from all parts of her life, including friends from early childhood. Two of her earliest friends are sisters, Hope and Joy. Of course, they came to our wedding, which thus became an occasion filled with Hope and Joy!

Hope and Joy's mother, of blessed memory, wasn't thinking of Jewish tradition when she named her girls – but, especially at this time of year, our faith recognizes how closely bound together these concepts are. Even if you are happy at a given moment, you can't really feel joy unless you are hopeful about the future. And if a sense of hope doesn't also fill you with joy, then it must be a pretty pallid imitation of hope.

The festival of Sukkot is the ultimate synergistic combination of hope and joy. On it, we celebrate first of all the bounty of the recent harvest. It is this aspect of Sukkot that inspired both the U.S. and Canadian holidays of Thanksgiving. That bounty is not only a reason for joy, but an expression of the fruition of the hope displayed at the beginning of the planting season.

Sukkot is also the time of year when the rains for the coming year began in ancient Israel (though, with climate change, these rains are more unpredictable today). While awaiting the rains could be a time of trepidation as well as hope, the ancient celebrations of Sukkot

were so full of faith that joyous celebrations of the rains began before the rains themselves did! These often involved displays of fountains of fire – which is why we celebrate Sukkot at Temple Hesed with fireworks, reviving a two-thousand year old tradition.

Last but far from least, Sukkot was also the time for prayers of peace, not just for the Jewish community but for all the nations of the earth. The hope was that all nations could celebrate bounty, cooperation, and peace – and that expressions of joy were one way that the Israelites could convey their well-wishes for the world.

We have many opportunities to put these lessons about the importance of hope and joy into practice. Join us on October 6th for our annual Sukkot potluck dinner, accordion-led service, and fabulous fireworks over the Sukkah while we're having dessert inside it. Or come to our exploration of Torah chanting the following Friday for Simchat Torah.

Or join us on the 14th for a chanting circle focusing on joy, or on the 22nd as our Chai Mitzvah class studies how mindfulness can increase the joy in our lives. This month, no matter what our names are, we can all be Hope and Joy!

Rabbi Daniel Swartz

Presidents' Page

By Esther Adelman, Co-President



A New Year's 'Thank You'

I am “wearing two hats” as I write this message. As Co-President and as Chair of the Worship Committee, I would like to express my deepest thanks to all who participated in the High Holy Day services. Past presidents, officers, board members, and new and old members of our congregation added their special touches to these solemn moments. It is your devotion that makes our Temple truly a place of Hesed.

Rabbi Swartz's leadership, as always, was outstanding. His sermons were exceptional. He deserves our greatest praise. He continues to be an inspiration to our congregation as we grow in our spirituality and in our thirst for learning.

Ed Snitko's deep feelings for our music are most evident. Some melodies are comforting; others are uplifting. All are truly inspirational, and add another dimension to the services.

We owe a huge thank-you to Marlene Gianzanti, who takes care of all of the many details that make Temple Hesed function at this time and all throughout the year.

If you have been moved by our High Holy Day services, please try us on Shabbat, when there is a more intimate setting, with services lasting about an hour or less, mainly interactional sermons, and a lot of schmoozing afterwards.

We welcome your comments. Your input is important to us, so please share your thoughts and ideas. There is always room for improvement.

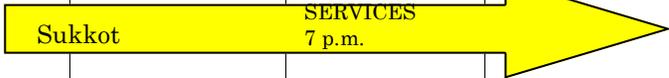
May 5778 be a good year for us.

Esther Adelman



October 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6 Potluck dinner 6pm SERVICES 7 p.m.	7
				Sukkot 		
8 Sukkot 	9	10	11	12	13 Simchat Torah SER- VICES 8 pm	14 Chanting Circle 10:30 a.m.
15	16	17	18 Board Mtg. 6 pm	19	20 SERVICES 8 p.m.	21
22 Chai Mitzvah 11 am	23	24 Deadline for Food drive	25	26	27 SERVICES 8 p.m.	28
29 URJ Day of Learning 1 p.m.	30	31				

Holidays 5778

Rosh Hashanah — *Yom HaShoah* —
Sept. 21, 2017 Apr. 12, 2018

Yom Kippur — *Yom HaZikaron*
Sept. 30, 2017 Apr. 18, 2018

Sukkot — *Yom HaAtzmaut*
Oct. 5-11, 2017 Apr. 19, 2018

Simchat Torah — *Lag B'Omer* —
Oct. 13, 2017 May 3, 2018

Hanukkah — *Shavuot* —
Dec. 13-20, 2017 May 20-21, 2018

Tu B'Shvat — *Tisha B'Av* —
Jan. 31, 2018 July 22, 2018

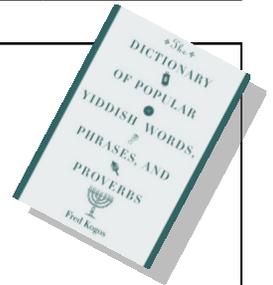
Purim — *Selichot* — Sept. 1

Passover —
Mar. 31-Apr. 7, 2018

(Holidays begin at sundown the night before)

YIDDISH SAYING OF THE MONTH

“It is better to live in joy than to die in sorrow.”



Yiddish Proverb from a book by Fred Kogos



Torah Portions

Name	Civil Date	Hebrew Date
Chol HaMo'ed Sukkot	Oct. 7, 2017	17.Tishrei.5778
B'reisheet	Oct. 14, 2017	24.Tishrei.5778
Noach	Oct. 21, 2017	1.Cheshvan.5778
Lech Lecha	Oct. 28, 2017	8.Cheshvan.5778

Chai Mitzvah: Mindfulness and Conscious Living

After a break in September for the High Holy Days, our Chai Mitzvah class resumes on Sunday, October 22nd at 11 am (location to be determined).

For October, we'll be studying ancient Jewish traditions on a subject that has been much in the news of late: mindfulness.

Long before modern neurological and psychological studies have shown the effectiveness of mindfulness practices in reducing stress and promoting well-being, our sages found moral and spiritual reasons to promote mindfulness. Come learn what they taught, and how these practices can help you.

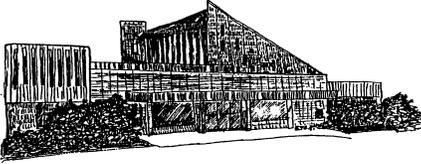
Everyone is welcome – just contact the Temple office to find the location and reserve your place.

Your Help is Requested!

We've set the dates for most of Temple Hesed's major events this year – so you can put them into your calendars right now! And we've also got a list of what sort of volunteer help we need for each event – so take a look and see what you'd like to help with! Call or email the office to volunteer or make reservations.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Help needed</u>
Sukkot Family Service, fireworks, potluck	October 6	Volunteer to coordinate potluck
November Family Service, potluck	November 3	Volunteer to coordinate potluck
Hanukkah Family service, potluck, games	December 15	Dinner chair and helpers
January Family Service, potluck	November 3	Volunteer to coordinate potluck
Pre-Thanksgiving Interfaith Service	November 17	Greeters, help with Oneg Shabbat
Tu B'Shevat Seder	February 2	Help with fruit preparation
Purim carnival, dinner, and Shpiel	March 3	Dinner chair and helpers
2 nd Night Community Passover Seder	March 31	Dinner chair, chefs, and helpers
Yeast Feast/Mimouna	April 7	Set-up and cleaning volunteers
End of school year service and Potluck	May 11	Volunteer to coordinate potluck
Tikkun Shavuot Study	May 19	Help with dessert

Yahrzeits and Personal Notes



Get Well Wishes

Charlene Ostro

Emily Trunzo

Edward Snitko, Sr.

Week Ending October 7 (Service October 6)

*Samuel H. Frank, Karl Strohl, *Harry Jacobs, Isidore Lerner, *Hattie L. Marks,
*James Swartz, *Minnie Rosen, *Anna Benjamin, *William Spelman,
*Bernhardt Lehman, *Nathan Cohen, *James H. Carlyon, *Benjamin Endfield,
*Mark Hahn, Elaine Levy

Week Ending October 14 (Service October 13)

*Emma Ackerman, *Myer Davidow, *Simon B. Elsberg, *Miriam E. Friedman,
*Sheldon Pell, *Kalman Livingston, *Celia L. Goldsmith, *Clothilda Landau,
*Charlotte Berger, *Evelyn Ackerman, *Morris Gutman, Jerome Ganz, *Katie
Lauer Rose, *Dr. Alexander Bernstein, *Ida S. Weilheimer, *Edith Wormser,
*Irving Vidro, *Mary Broderick, *Rose Gold

Week Ending October 21 (Service October 20)

*Carrie W. Goodman, *Margaret Lange Davidow, Herman Olick, *Harry Needle,
*Bruce Gilbert, *Samuel H. Lunitz, *Irene Goodman, *Jerome M. Friedman,
*Oscar Kleeman, *Esther Gutter, Arnold "Archie" Cooperman, *Manny Gelb

Week Ending October 28 (Service October 27)

*Atty. Joseph Needle, Alfred Rice, Jr., *Samuel Ginsburg, *Scott Jay Tepper,
*Lois Wilensky, *Sonnie Sieber, *Rose Kroll, *Sadie Dinner, Myer Alperin, *Ray
D. Goldstein, *Caroline Roos Jacobs, Bonnie Pashkow

Week Ending November 4 (Service November 3)

*Richard S. Graham, *Daniel Jacobs, Maxine Ostro, Robert Siragusa, *Jeanne
Weiss Antenson, *Isadore Goodman, *Irving Adelman, *Ethyl Gelfand, Hyman
Mates, *Phillip Salsburg, *Hilda Landau, *Sadie Cohen, *Max A. Folk

Simchat Torah, October 13: An En-chanted Evening

Anyone who has been to High Holy Day services here at Temple Hesed or to a bar or bat mitzvah service has probably heard the Torah being chanted. You may have also heard haftarah chanting or even the chanting of the Megillah.

- Ever wonder what it was all about?
- Do all Jews chant the same way?
- When, and why, did the practice start?
- How hard is it to learn?

Our October 13th Simchat Torah service, at 8 p.m., will explore all the mysteries of Torah chanting – including whether or not a sign permits us to fish, and the difference between project and project! Confused? Curious? Come on the 13th for answers – no prior Torah experience necessary!

URJ Continued

(Continued from page 1)

across four time zones. Each location will be hosted by a URJ Community lay leadership team, with the help of URJ staff, and will run parallel programs, enabling with discussions around changing landscape of our world and its implication on Jewish life.

This day of learning will also offer you a special taste of the **URJ Biennial** by livestreaming an interview with award-winning author and Biennial

presenter **Anita Diamant**, who will be with us in person at our Boston-area event location. Her new book, ***The Jewish Wedding Now***, will serve as a springboard for conversation, using the lens of Jewish lifecycle ritual to consider congregational change in the 21st century.

On the 29th, you'll watch the live interview with Anita Diamant and have the opportunity to reflect on what you learn, to discuss the changing

needs of congregational institutions with other leaders, and to begin identifying changes your congregation needs to make in order to be successful 21st-century institution. Call the Temple office to register.



October 14: Chanting Service: Joy!

Our first Chanting Service of 5778, at 10:30 a.m. on October 14th, should be one of our most enjoyable – because our focus will be on Joy!

In sync with the joyous holidays of Sukkot and Simchat Torah, our chants will explore different “flavors” of joy, ways to get past

what blocks us from feeling joyful, and how we can bring a practice of joy into our daily lives.

We’ll also connect to the Joy of creation, on the Sabbath where Jews all over the world will be studying the creation story.

The Evasons Will ‘Read Your Mind’ Oct 21

The Jewish Federation of NEPA invites you to join world famous mentalist duo Jeff and Tessa Evason for mind-blowing feats of ESP and Second Sight that’ll have you buzzing long after the show ends.

Everyone who participates will be absolutely floored when Tessa reveals their birth date, a serial number on any bill in their wallet or even the name of the first person they ever kissed – all while standing blindfolded on stage.

Her intuitive gifts will make you gasp with surprise and maybe even unleash a spooked-out shriek!

The Evasons consistently deliver an interactive entertainment experience that has audience members sitting on the edge of their seats from start to finish.

- When: October 21, 2017
- Doors Open: 8 p.m. Showtime: 8:30 p.m.
- Where: JCC Koppelman Auditorium, 601 Jefferson Ave., Scranton
- Tickets: online: <https://evasons.eventbrite.com>
- or call 570-961-2300 x4
- Price: Table of 10 - \$100
- Single advanced sale ticket: \$15 / \$20 at the door

More information can be found at jewishnepa.org - tickets can be purchased online or by phone.

UJA CAMPAIGN 2018



the
EVASONS
MENTALIST DUO

SATURDAY OCT 21, 2017

JCC KOPPELMAN AUDITORIUM

601 JEFFERSON AVE, SCRANTON, PA 18510

SEE WHY FOX TELEVISION CALLED

"THE MOST **AMAZING**
MIND READING ACT
YOU WILL **EVER SEE!**"



DOORS @ 8PM

SHOWTIME @ 8:30PM

ADVANCE PURCHASE SINGLE TICKET - \$15
GENERAL ADMISSION (AT DOOR) - \$20
ONLINE: EVASONS.EVENTBRITE.COM
BY PHONE: 570-961-2300 X 4

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

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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:

Energy: The United Nations estimates that by 2050 there will be more refugees from climate change than from war. To fight climate change and reduce your carbon footprint (and your energy bills), complete a home energy audit:

<http://hes.lbl.gov/>

Eco-tip provided by GreenFaith: www.greenfaith.org

