



Messenger

Vol.159 no.11

Tammuz-Av-Elul 5778 / July-August 2018

Adelman & Seitchik to Serve as Co-Presidents Again

Also In the Messenger:

☆ **Back-to-School backpacks**

☆ **Hot Topics**

☆ **BBQ and Shabbat Under the Stars combined**

The following were elected at the June 20 Annual Meeting of Temple Hesed:

Officers
Co-Presidents
 Esther Adelman and
 Steven Seitchik
1st Vice President
 Larry Milliken
2nd Vice President
 Cheryl Friedman
Treasurer
 Jeffrey Leventhal
Secretary
 Joan Davis
Assistant Secretary
 Jennifer Novak

Board members: Start Date Expiration of Term

Kenneth Ganz
 9/1/16
 8/31/19
 Dale Miller
 9/1/16
 8/31/19
 Robert Hersh (fill unexpired term)
 9/1/17
 8/31/19
 Natalie Gelb
 9/1/17
 8/31/20

Paula Kane
 9/1/17
 8/31/20
 Carol Leventhal
 9/1/17
 8/31/20
 *Judith Golden
 9/1/18
 8/31/21
 *Donna Kostiak
 9/1/18
 8/31/21
 *Loren Selznick
 9/1/18
 8/31/21
 Honorary Life Board Member
 Jane Oppenheim
 *Elected 6/20/18

High Holy Day Sermon "Request Line" Open

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Temple Information Back Page

Different people tend to want to hear about different things during the High Holy Days.

Though in his more-than-a-decade with Temple Hesed, Rabbi Daniel has heard a LOT of feedback about different sermons and topics, he still can't read our minds about what we want to hear about this year! So he's decided to open up the "request line."

What is on your mind this year? What would you love to hear about? Is there any aspect of Judaism, spirituality, religion or

philosophy you'd like to see explored? What have you endured this year that you'd love to get some guidance about and perhaps even find some comfort?

Please email your suggestions to rabbidaniel@comcast.net -- or if you'd like your suggestion to be anonymous, call Marlene at the Temple office, 570-344-7201, and she'll relay your message anonymously.

Here's your chance to shape the messages of the coming High Holy Days – don't miss it!

Donations

BUILDING FUND

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Mother, Blanche Katz

Sharon and Saul Levy

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Mother, Rose Levy

Saul and Sharon Levy

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Father, Irving Levy

Saul and Sharon Levy

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Sister, Miriam Stern

Janet Slawitsky

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Father, Max Lerner

Janet Slawitsky

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Mother, Clair Bayer Ballot

Bob Ballot

In Memory of Jayne E. Green

Bob Ballot

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Janet Richman

Joel, Ginger, Sarah and Tori Richman

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Gertrude L. Freedman

Paula Wasser

TORAH RESTORATION FUND

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Barbara J. Graham

Esther B. Adelman

ENDOWMENT FUND

Congratulations to Jane Oppenheim on her award from Jewish Family Service

Bob Ballot

To donate to Temple Hesed, just contact Marlene Gianzanti, Temple office manager, at (570) 344-7201

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



B'nai Mitzvah



**Reece Weinberg
July 28, 2018**

On the morning of July 28th, Reece Weinberg, son of Eric and Angela Weinberg, South Abington Township, will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah with friends and family at the Temple.

Reece, a seventh-grade student at Abington Heights Middle School, has been preparing for his big day for many years with Rabbi Swartz and with the assistance of his brother Jacob.

He is an avid baseball fan who loves the Boston Red Sox and plays baseball competitively.

**Zachary Cahn
August 18, 2018**



Rabbinical Reflections — Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz

The Power of Not-Knowing



לֹא-נֹדַע מִהַ-נִּעְבַּד אֶת-יְהוָה עַד-בְּאֲנוּ שָׁמָּה

Exodus 10:26 – Lo-nayda mah-na'avod et-Yah ad-bo'aynu shama

We will not know how we will serve YHVH until we come there(wards)

For the most part, Moses is portrayed in the Torah as a pretty straightforward guy. Unlike his brother Aaron, who occasionally sounds like he's trying to please everyone simultaneously, Moses speaks his mind. But there is one prominent exception. We're used to thinking that Moses just says, "Let my people go," as in "let us go free." But the text in Exodus depicts him asking Pharaoh for permission for the Israelites to go into the desert for three days to worship God. The climax of this seeming-ruse comes in Exodus 10:26, when he tells Pharaoh that, in addition to the men, women and children, they will need to take all their livestock, because "we will not know how we will serve Adonai until we come there." That sounds like a kind of weasel-y negotiating tactic – gee, since we're not sure what kind of sacrifices God will ask for, we better take everything with us, just in case. Why not just say, "we demand to be set free."

Maybe it just was Moses knowing what he had to say to at least open the door a crack. But another way to look at it is that we never really know what will be required of us till we're actually in the midst of a situation. The Hebrew itself might back up that view – because it doesn't actually say "there," as in a specific destination, but rather "there-wards," as in we're not even sure just where we're going.

I believe that there is a certain power in going ahead with this "not-knowing" attitude. It's the opposite of being a know-it-all, of being sure that you can solve this next problem just the way you solved the last one. As the great psychologist Abraham Maslow wrote, "it is tempting, if all you have is a hammer, to treat everything as if it were a nail." Tempting, but not likely to get you very far.

For the Reform movement in general and Temple Hesed, "not-knowing" represents both a challenge and an opportunity. As a movement, we have tried to move from the orthodox "hammer" model that pretends, despite mounds of historical evidence to the contrary, that Judaism has always been and should always be exactly the same. We know, to the contrary, that it has always changed and that that is a good thing! We practice what you might call Judaiism – with one "T" looking to the past, one to present and one to the future. Learning about the past is critically important, for it helps us to know who we are, and it indicates some of the choices we can make. But we should never be trapped by the past. Indeed, sometimes

the best lessons we can learn from it are, gee, let's not make that mistake again. For example, Jewish leaders "knew" – and even today some "know" – that women can't be rabbis. They're wrong, and I'm proud to be part of the movement that helped bring about that long overdue change. Similarly, people "knew" it was wrong for a woman to love another woman – and I'm proud that I, with the blessing of the Temple Hesed community, was able to perform the first public same sex wedding ceremony in Lackawanna County.

In this era of challenging demographics, our own future as a congregation is a big question mark. We could constantly worry about that – which would be depressing and sap our energy. Or, we can strive to move forward with the power of "not-knowing" and see this as an opportunity. Knowing that just because something worked in the past doesn't guarantee that it will keep working gets my creative juices flowing and keeps things from becoming stale. Just as importantly, knowing that something failed in the past doesn't mean it isn't worth another try today under different circumstances.

But to keep moving ahead, we have to keep our faith that a) we are still serving God and b) we are still on our way "there-wards," even if we don't know exactly how we serve or where "there" is. And this I firmly do believe. For Temple Hesed plays a unique role not only for our own families but for the whole community of NEPA. We are leaders in interfaith efforts from welcoming Muslims to protecting the environment. We've created a uniquely accepting community through our chanting circle, bringing together people of different faiths, races, nationalities and orientations. We bring our unique perspective on Judaism to hospitals, schools, universities, rallies, Thanksgiving services and more. And in so many ways, large and small, we continue the ancient tradition of Tikkun Olam, healing the world.

Yes, it's more than a bit of a wilderness we're going through, and yes, that can be scary, even intimidating. But we've got what it takes to make the journey, as long as we're comfortable with the power of "not-knowing."

Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz

Co-President's Report



Esther Adelman

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.

First and foremost, a President is a diplomat, on-call at all times. Then you are an advisor, on-call at all times. Others perceive you 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. You must be open and honest with those who look up to you as their leader.

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 Hessed out of your blood. There's something intangible about what it means to be a part of this family.

This is the time that we review the past year at Temple Hessed and assess our accomplishments, while planning our next year of activities. If you come to services, read the Messenger, or have participated in some aspect of Temple life, you have a good idea of what has gone on during the past year.

There are ongoing and special worship and education opportunities for both children and adults. Our children studied with those from Temple Israel at combined weekly Hebrew classes. A dedicated group of adults met monthly for very interesting and diverse Chai Mitzvah classes, ably led by Rabbi Swartz. A new Adult Ed class will start in the fall; we're looking for your input as to what you'd like to study. It is a great opportunity for you to learn about your Jewish heritage and to meet and socialize with your Temple family.

There were the award-winning Back-to-School project, the fun-filled and financially-successful Comedy Night, the inspiring Oppenheim Institute, the family-oriented Chanukah and Purim dinners, Rabbi's always-clever Purimshpiel, the monthly inclusive and meditational Chanting Circles, Shavuot study with Temple Israel, the lovely Tu B'Shevat and Passover seders.

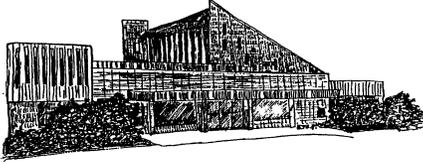
None of this just happens. There are wonderful dedicated Temple members who step up to the plate to make sure that they happen. The problem is that we rarely see new faces. We love and appreciate the core of people who we can count. We just wish that there were more of you!

I'm again asking that in the coming year we all voluntarily do something at/for Temple Hessed. 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 or other event, attending one of Rabbi Swartz's classes, taking an honor on Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur, 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 Steve Seitchik's report is on page 7

Yahrzeits and Personal Notes



Get Well Wishes

Jane Knobel
 Jim Mates
 Rich Mates
 Charlene Ostro
 Joel Ostro
 Emily Trunzo
 Janet Slawitsky
 Edward Snitko, Sr.

B'Nai Mitzvah 5778

Reece Weinberg — July 28
 Zachary Cahn — August 18

Sheloshim

To Janet Slawitsky on
 the passing of her
 daughter, Sharon
 Naughton.

MAZEL TOV

To Alana Swartz, Alex
 "Sasha" Waskovich, and their
 families, on graduating from
 Abington Heights High School
 on June 22. Mazel tov as well
 to their families, Rabbis Dan-
 iel Swartz and Marjorie Ber-
 man and Laurie and Mike
 Waskovich.

Yahrzeits:

Week Ending July 7 (Service July 6)

*Rema R. Siegel, *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 14 (Service July 13)

*Joseph Roos, *Jerome Edward Giles, *Charles Lerner, *Norman H. Hollander, *Mary Cohen, *Blanche W. Kleeman, *Leone Frank Loebel, *Rose Sugar, *Janet H. Rothenberg, *Bertha Gevanthor, *Doris Weisberg, *David A. Cohen

Week Ending July 21 (Service July 20)

*Maurice D. Breschel, Robert Alston, Leonard Frieder, Alfred Heilbrunn, *Levi Hershfield, *Celia Kleeman, Samuel Lerner, *Eugenia C. Milliken, *Morris Richman, *Abe Adelman, *Ralph Goldsmith, *Esther Basha Adelman, F. Harry Anspacher, Bernard Lerner, *Beatrice Goodfriend

Week Ending July 28 (Service July 27)

Sally Fine, *Ilse Michel, *Goldie Golden, Morris Gross, *Howard A. Jacobson, 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

Week Ending August 4 (Service August 3)

Nettie Friedman, *Murray Smith, *Gustave Jackson, *B. Leo Swartz, *Rose Smith, *Ruth Whitman, *Stanley Dickstein, *Simon Rice, *Philip Swartz, Gerald Minkoff

Week Ending August 11 (Service August 10)

*Fred Michel, *Yetta K. Lauer, *Emma K. Frank, *Sara "Simi" Deutsch, *Harry Ehrlich, *Myron Ball, M.D., *Samuel Diamond, *Rabbi Jacob J. Ackerman, *Ida Aerenon, *Sidney Wasser, Mary Dolinger, *Rabbi Milton Richman, *Julia Ackerman, Goldie Freund, *Jacob Hefter, *Clara Kleeman, Esther Seitchik

Week Ending August 18 (Service August 17)

*Shirley Alperin, *Anna Marks, Hattie Green, Harry Cohen, *Beatrice B. Aronson, 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, Raymond Young

Week Ending August 25 (Service August 24)

*Clifford Weinstock, *Bina Loebenstein, *Leon M. Levy, *Fannie Spiegel, *Milton M. Friedman, *Harry Mauer, *Ben Fassler, *Erwin Schoenhof, *Gertrude Rice, *Roseann Smith Alperin, Samuel B. Samter, *Lillie Peck, Sol Peck

Week Ending September 1 (Service August 31)

*Ralph Cohen, *Beatrice Davis, *Sylvia Gordon, *Leon L. Kramer, *Rose Feinstein, *Elihu Friedmann, Paula Albert, *Harry Weinberg, *Leo Swartz, *Minnie Brown



JULY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6 SERVICES 6 p.m.	7 Sue Myers Bat Mitavah 10:30 Chai M. Lunch
8 Hot Topics 11 am	9	10	11	12	13 SERVICES 8 p.m.	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 SERVICES 8 p.m.	21 Chanting Circle 10:30 am
22 Hot Topics 11 am	23	24	25	26	27 SERVICES 8 p.m.	28 Reece Weinberg Bar Mitzvah
29	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

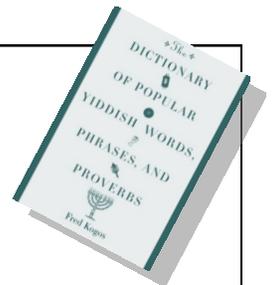
Tu B'Shvat — *Tisha B'Av*—
Jan. 31, 2018 July 22, 2018

Purim— *Selichot* —Sept. 1
Mar. 1, 2018

Passover—
Mar. 31-Apr. 7, 2018
(Holidays begin at sundown the night before)

YIDDISH SAYING OF THE MONTH

“A meowing cat
can’t catch mice.”



Yiddish Proverb from
a book by Fred Kogos



Torah Portions

Name	Civil Date	Hebrew Date
Pinchas	July 7, 2018	24.Tammuz.5778
Matot-Massi	July 14, 2018	2.Av.5778
Devarim	July 21, 2018	9.Av.5778
Vaetchanan	July 28, 2018	16.Av.5778

Temple Budget for FY 2018/2019 Approved At Annual Meeting on 6/20/2018

	PROJECTED BUDGET 2017-2018	PROPOSED 2018-2019
INCOME		
Temple Dues	93000	93000
Endow. Dist.	77250	77250
School Tuition	1070	720
Life Cycle Fees	350	370
High Holy Days/Mem.	2000	2000
Donations to Funds	6000	5000
Federation Grant	7120	6000
Fund Raising/Dinners	5000	6000
Misc./Center Rental	2100	350
Rental of school	47500	50000
Total	241390	240690
EXPENSE		
Office/Admin.	51000	52500
Rabbi	102500	112000
Insurance	10000	10000
Maintenance	32000	30000
Utilities	29000	29000
URJ	3000	3000
Music	6000	6000
High Holy Day/Memorial	4000	4000
Religious School	700	500
Miscellaneous	2500	1500
Total	240700	248500
Cemetery Expense	16800	16800
Cemetery Distribution	16800	16800
Surplus/(Deficit)	690	(7810)

Notes to Financial Report

The Projected Budget for 2017-2018 (Column 1) shows a projected surplus of \$690 due primarily to:

- a. The increased revenue from the rental of the Nativity Miguel School for use of additional space.
- b. The voluntary reduction of \$10,500 from Rabbinical expense due to additional compensation from COEJL.

The Proposed Budget for 2018-2019 (Column 2) showing a deficit of \$7,810 is based on the following assumptions:

- a. Temple Dues---holding at \$93,000
- b. Endowment Distribution---as projected by Investment Committee to be level at \$77,250
- c. Rental of School---10 months at \$5,000 per month per agreement with Nativity Miguel School. Lease expires on June 30, 2019.
- d. Rabbi---based on voluntary reduction from Rabbi of \$1,000 per month for two remaining months of contract with

COEJL. (Further reductions possible pending Rabbi's continued affiliation with COEJL)

Steven Seitchik
Co-President

Investment Committee Report for Wednesday, June 20th, 2018 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 Gianzanti,

office manager.

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

August 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 SERVICES 6 p.m.	4
5 Hot Topics 11 am	6	7	8	9	10 SERVICES 8 p.m.	11 Chanting Circle 10:30 am S'Mores 9 pm
12 Hot Topics 11 am	13	14	15	16	17 BBQ & SERVICES 6 p.m.	18 Bar Mitzvah Zachary Cahn
19	20	21	22	23	24 SERVICES 8 pm .	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 SERVICES 8 p.m.	

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

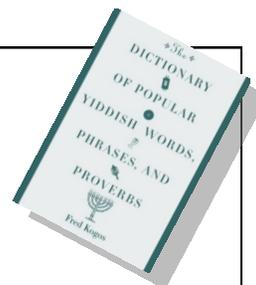
Purim— Selichot —Sept.1

(Holidays begin at sundown the night before)

Passover—
Mar. 31-Apr. 7, 2018

YIDDISH SAYING OF THE MONTH

“God loves the poor and helps the rich.”



Yiddish Proverb from a book by Fred Kogos



Torah Portions

Name	Civil Date	Hebrew Date
Ekev	Aug. 7, 2018	23.Av.5778
Re-eh	Aug. 11, 2018	30.Av.5778
Shoftim	Aug. 18, 2018	7.Elul.5778
Ki Tetze	Aug. 25, 2018	14.Elul.5778

Chanting Circle: July 21: The Flames of Anger

July 21st is the ninth day of the month of Av, the date our tradition associates with destruction of the First and Second Temples and other historical tragedies. (Though the commemoration of Tisha B'Av, literally the ninth day of Av, takes place this year on the 10th of Av, because Shabbat overrides mourning). And according to tradition, the Second Temple was destroyed because of baseless hatred and boundless anger.

So for our July Chanting Circle, on the 21st at 10:30 a.m., we will look at the destructive power of anger and how to reduce its power over us. Whether we are talking about

anger directed at us, our own tendencies toward anger, or just a general angry atmosphere, the flames of anger spread easily and rapidly. Those flames can cloud our judgment and distance our hearts from our higher impulses and our connection to the Sacred. Through chant practices, we can learn to protect others and ourselves and can move from reaction to contemplation, intention, and healing actions. As always, everyone is welcome and no prior experience is necessary.

Please note -- this month, we're meeting on the third Saturday instead of our usual second Saturday.

HOT TOPICS AND THE JEWISH TRADITION, JULY 8, 22, AUGUST 5, 12

As the weather heats up this summer, so will the political discussions across our nation. So for our summer, 4-session adult education class this year, Rabbi Daniel will try to shed some light on some of the "hot topics" that are sure to be in the news, from immigration to abortion to the environment.

Each session will focus on one or two topics and will explore relevant texts from our tradition to help us better understand some

of the values underlying each important issue.

The class will be free and open to all, but everyone who signs up in advance can vote on which topics they would most like to see covered.

The class will be a great opportunity to see how our ancient tra-



dition still is amazingly relevant today and still has the power to challenge our thinking and move our hearts.

The class will meet on four Sundays – July 8 and 22 and August 5 and 12 – from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Email rabbidaniel@comcast.net to sign up – non-Hesed members are also welcome to sign up.

BBQ & Service Under the Stars, Aug. 17 at 6 p.m.

RSVP your place by calling 570-344-7201.

\$10/adult—\$5/child. \$20/maximum/family. Free for new and prospective members.

Chai Mitzvah Class Celebration and Sue Meyer's Bat Mitzvah – July 7 @ 10:30 a.m.

For over a year, a dozen Temple Hesed adults have come together once a month to study topics ranging from mindfulness to charity to the relationship between individuals and the community.

Having completed the class in June, they will now join together to celebrate through a special service and luncheon on July 7th.

Over the course of that year, one of the adult students, Temple Hesed member Sue Meyer,

has studied to become an adult bat mitzvah, in the process learning how to understand and chant Torah and lead prayers. Sue will read from one of the most fascinating and feminist stories in the whole Torah, the tale of the five daughters of Tzelofchad, who petition Moses and God for their own inheritance in the Promised Land.

Temple President Esther Adelman will share some of her insights into this story,

while Sue will share how transformative the whole process has been.

All congregants, both adults and children, are invited to join in the celebration, including a fabulous luncheon following the service, catered by Sue's fiancée, Carol.

So we can set up for the right number of people and to aid Carol in preparing the right amount of food, please let the Temple office know if you plan to attend.

August 11th Chanting Circle – Moonchants

In August, it's a wonderful morn for some moonchants (shout out to all Van Morrison fans out there!).

August 11th is Rosh Chodesh Elul, the New Moon of the month of Elul, the time of Hesed and reconciliation that marks the four weeks before Rosh Hashanah (which this year starts on the evening of Sunday, September 9th). So for our August chanting circle, we will celebrate the

New Moon with some moon-focused chants. And since in our tradition, the New Moon symbolizes rebirth, our chants will also serve as gateways to renewal, hope, and new beginnings.

So join us at 10:30 a.m. on the 11th, as together we start on the path toward a sweet and renewing New Year.

If you've never tried a chanting circle before, this will be a great time to give it a try and find the comfort, support and shalom that you've been missing! Our chanting circle has "regulars" from many different faith traditions, so bring your friends, whether or not they're Jewish – it's a morning everyone can enjoy.

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR THE HOT TOPICS CLASSES THIS SUMMER



Shabbat AND BBQ under the stars! August 17th @ 6 pm

Our annual “Shabbat Under the Stars” service is usually the most popular of the whole summer – with the only possible rival being our annual BBQ!

So this year, we decided (ala Reese’s candies) to combine two great things, and have our BBQ dinner before our Shabbat Under the Stars.



We’ll have great freshly-grilled hamburgers and hotdogs, along with tasty side dishes, starting at

6 p.m.

Then we’ll head outside for an informal service in the bucolic and beautiful setting of the land around our Temple.

We’ll also have some fabulous desserts immediately following

the service.

The family-friendly prices are unchanged since last year -- \$10/ adult, \$5/child, with a \$20 limit per family.

New and prospective members are free, so bring friends!

Please email (templehesed@comcast.net) or call (570-344-7201) the Temple office by August 15th to RSVP, and let us know if you’re vegetarian.

Shooting Stars & S’mores on Aug.11 from 9-10:30 p.m., at the end of Shabbat

As noted in our August chanting circle, August 11 is the New Moon of the month of Elul — which means the skies should be nice and dark that night.

Why does that matter? Because it is right in the middle of one of the most spectacular of the annual meteor showers, the Perseids. In a congregation with amateur stargaz-

ers and professional astronomers, we thought it would be fun to celebrate Havdallah (the end of the Sabbath) with a campfire, s’mores, and a meteor-gazing party.

Dr. Mark Davis will bring his telescope for seeing other heavenly sights, as at least four planets may be visible that night. So join us in the Temple Hesed parking lot on

the night of the 11th, from 9 till roughly 10:30, and feel free to bring your own treats to add to the mix. No charge and no RSVP necessary.

If the night is cloudy but not rainy, we’ll still at least have the campfire and s’mores (and hope the skies clear enough for good shooting star appearances) but the program will be cancelled if it is raining.

Back to School Backpack Project



The Temple Hased Social Action Committee is gearing up for its annual back to school backpack project for 2018. Lackawanna County children in need, identified by local social service agencies, are provided with new clothing and a backpack filled with supplies for the first day of school. Please consider supporting this very worthwhile project.

You can be matched with a child (grades K to 6th) to provide all or some of the needed items, or you can make a cash donation and we will purchase the items for you. Any monetary donation would be greatly appreciated, and the following guidelines will help you see what your donation will provide.

Sponsor a child (backpack with clothes & supplies)	\$100
Backpack with school supplies	\$ 50
Backpack or school supplies	\$ 25

Please contact Temple Hased at 570-344-7201 if you wish to sponsor a child, and provide an email address where we can send you the child's information. Or you can email Larry Milliken directly at ldmilliken@comcast.net and let him know how many children you want to sponsor and if you have gender or grade preferences. Checks should be made out to Temple Hased, with "Back to School" designated in the memo line, and should be sent to the Temple by July 31. If you want to purchase the needed supplies, the Temple will provide a list of what is needed for each child. Donations of backpacks and school supplies can be dropped off at Temple Hased or the JCC reception area during normal business hours through August 17th, but earlier is much appreciated.

Your contribution will help ensure that children start the school year with the confidence and tools they need to succeed. Thank you in advance for your participation. "It takes a community to raise a child."

Temple Hased, Social Action Committee, 1 Knox Rd., Scranton, PA 18505

Worship Committee Report

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.

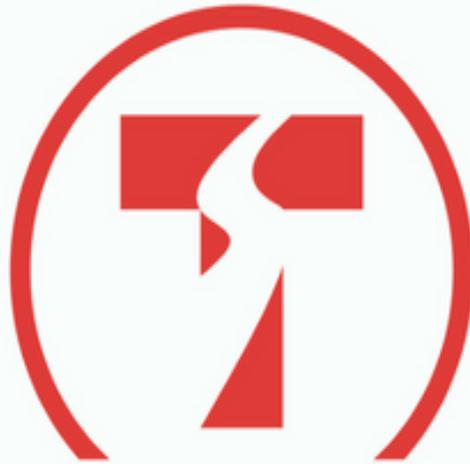
We invite all members and their families and friends to join us at weekly services, where we experience the beauty and uniqueness of *Mishkan T'Filah*, the timely, often-brilliant Torah commentaries of Rabbi Swartz, the ever-evolving spiritual music, and the warm camaraderie of our Temple Hesed family.

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

Mark Your Calendars – Selichot is on September 1 at 9 p.m.

The cycle of High Holy Day services doesn't start at Rosh Hashanah – it actually begins at the beautiful and meditative Selichot service, traditionally held late in the evening on the Saturday before the New Year begins. This year, that date happens to be September 1, which means it will be very soon after you receive the September issue of the Messenger. So mark your calendars now – details to come!



ToyotaScranton

PROUD TO BE YOUR COMMUNITY PARTNER

We appreciate being a member of the Temple Community. In recognition, we are offering all Temple members invoice pricing on all new vehicles, in our inventory, through 31 July 2018.

Please see Andrew Weinberger at the dealership.

URJ on Separated Migrant Families

June 20, 2018, McALLEN, TEXAS – On Thursday, June 21, an interfaith delegation of 40 religious leaders representing the Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Muslim traditions, including the **Reverend Al Sharpton; Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner**, Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism; **Monsignor Kevin Sullivan**, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York; and **Imam Johari Abdul-Malik** will visit the U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s Centralized Processing Center and hold a press conference outside to demand that the Trump administration immediately end the zero tolerance policy and stop separating families at our nation’s borders.

Schedule for Thursday, June 21

9:00 a.m. - Catholic Charities Humanitarian Respite Center (1721 Beaumont Ave, Suite A, McAllen, TX 78501)

10:30 a.m. - U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s Centralized Processing Center (3000 W Military Hwy, McAllen, TX 78503)

11:30 a.m.* - Press Conference outside the detention facility

**Time is approximate. Press conference will begin immediately after the facility tour.*

Interested media must RSVP to Jenna Galper at jgalper@rac.org. Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner and other leaders are available for interview. Press conference will be livestreamed at www.facebook.com/theRAC.

“The separation of children from their families at the border is horrendously cruel. As people of faith, we are traveling to McAllen, Texas, to bear witness to the suffering and pain of these immigrant families,” said **Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner**, Director of the **Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism**. “Those at the highest levels of the Trump Administration are responsible for this moral travesty – and we must hold them accountable.”

“The Trump administration’s outrageous acts of cowardice at immigration detention centers around the country have weakened our moral standing and caused enormous pain for families being ripped apart,” said **Rev. Al Sharpton**, President and Founder of **National Action Network**. “Enough with the sanctimonious Bible-quoting – President Trump or Jeff Sessions wouldn’t do this to white children at the Canadian border. We must hold them accountable for these horrific abuses.”



**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/>

