

Messenger

שליח

The Temple of Loving - Kindness



Temple Hesed, 1 Knox Road, Scranton, PA 18505

**Special points of interest:**

- Adult Education Classes
- Sukkot Fireworks
- Queer Eye study at Yom Kippur
- Rosh HaShanah 2.1 explained

The end of an unusually rainy summer is approaching. As Jews, after we dry off and prepare our children to go back to school, we then begin another kind of preparation---for the High Holy Days. This is not a physical preparation (although there are dinners, family visits, and other such arrangements to be made), but a spiritual one. We ponder the year that was, make amends for our behavior, and finally look forward to the year that will be.

The Holy Days always fall at the same time on the Jewish calendar, but are different every year on the secular calendar.

Here is the Holy Day schedule at Temple Hesed:

Selichot: Saturday, September 1-study at 8:30 PM, service at 9:00 PM

Rosh Hashanah Evening: Sunday, September 9 at 8:00 PM
Installation of Officers

and Board

Rosh Hashanah Morning: Monday, September 10 at 10:00 AM

Tashlich: 5:00 PM at South Abington Park

Shabbat Shuvah: Friday, September 14 at 8:00 PM
Cemetery Memorial Service: Sunday, September 16 at 11:00 AM at Dunmore Cemetery

Kol Nidre: Tuesday, September 18 at 8:00 PM

Yom Kippur Morning: Wednesday, September 19 at 10:00 AM
Study with Rabbi

Swartz: 1:00-3:00 PM—*Queer Eye for the Soul: Spiritual Makeovers*

Yom Kippur Afternoon: Wednesday, September 19 at 3:00 PM

Children's services (for ages 4-8) will be held downstairs during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning services.

Please remember that High Holy Day tickets are a privilege of membership at Temple

Hesed. Tickets have been sent only to those members who are in good standing. This means that any dues balances must be paid prior to the Holy Days. You will be required to show your tickets at the door of the sanctuary.

If you have out-of-town guests, they will be admitted to services as a courtesy if they have a letter from their congregation. Otherwise, you must call Marlene at the Temple office (570-344-7201) to make arrangements.

I wish you a 5779 full of *hesed* (*loving-kindness*), *simchah* (*happiness*), and *shalom* (*peace*).

Esther Adelman, Worship Chair

PS: We NEED VOLUNTEERS to coordinate the Sweet New Year (Rosh Hashanah Evening) and Break the Fast (Yom Kippur Afternoon) tables.

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Hebrew School 5779 and Other Children's Programs

As you read this, school has just begun for students in school districts all over Lackawanna County. So it's time for our school programs to start back up as well. This year, our joint Hebrew School program with Temple Israel will be meeting on Thursdays, starting with September 13th, at 4 pm, here at Temple Hesed, where we will

have an open house for current students as well as younger children, complete with aleph-bet yoga and a pizza party! Then our Hebrew School will continue, with the first semester meeting here at Temple Hesed and the spring semester meeting at Temple Israel. This year, our students, in addition to learning Hebrew from a new

program that includes online activities, will be learning about the broad scope of Jewish history. We'll also have some classes that explore different ways to think about God.

In addition to the weekly Hebrew School sessions, we'll also have monthly family programs,

(Continued on page 10)

Donations to Temple Hesed



Call the Temple office at (570) 344-7201 to donate or for more information.

The minimum donation that can be acknowledged by mail and in the Messenger is \$10.

Major credit or debit cards accepted.

<u>ROSEANN SMITH ALPERIN ENDOWMENT FUND</u>	In Memory of John Orgill <i>James Ellenbogen</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Grandfather, Morris Richman <i>Joel, Ginger, Sarah and Tori Richman</i>
In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Roseann Smith Alperin <i>James and Patricia Alperin</i>	<u>ROSELLE B. AND LOUIS A. FINE MEMORIAL FUND</u>	<u>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND</u>
In Memory of John Orgill <i>James and Patricia Alperin</i>	In Memory of William Pulitzer Ballot <i>Attorney and Mrs. Richard Fine</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeits of Gertrude and Isaac Sobel <i>Sylvan and Joan Sobel</i>
In Memory of William Pulitzer Ballot <i>James and Patricia Alperin</i>	<u>MILTON AND MIRIAM FRIEDMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND</u>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Beloved Brother, Charles Lerner <i>Janet Slawitsky</i>
In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Rabbi Milton Richman <i>Joel, Ginger, Sarah and Tori Richman</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Milton M. Friedman <i>Paula and Jim Kane</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Beloved Brother, Bernard Lerner <i>Janet Slawitsky</i>
<u>BUILDING FUND</u>	<u>MARK HAHN MEMORIAL MUSIC FUND</u>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Beloved Brother, Samuel Lerner <i>Janet Slawitsky</i>
Mazel Tov and Best Wishes to our Newly Selected Officers <i>Audrey Harrell</i>	Thank you to Larry and Char, what a delicious and unexpected surprise. How kind. <i>Audrey Harrell</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Father, Abe Adelman <i>Deborah Orgill</i>
In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Janet H. Rothenberg <i>Elizabeth and Howard Rothenberg and Family</i>	Jimmie Ellenbogen, enjoy a very Happy Birthday with best wishes always. <i>Audrey Harrell</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Husband, Sidney Wasser <i>Paula Wasser</i>
In Loving Memory of John Orgill <i>Cindy Stone</i>	My sympathy to the entire Orgill and Adelman families. <i>Audrey Harrell</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeits of Rose and Milton Hersh <i>Robert Hersh</i>
In Honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Sue Meyer <i>Geri Berg</i>	<u>LINDA LEE LEVENTHAL TOY FUND</u>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Leon L. Kramer, Beloved Father and Grandfather Carol and Paul Leiman and Family
In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Howard Jacobson <i>Loving Wife, Claire Jacobson</i>	In Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Jeff and Carol Leventhal. <i>Steve and Ellen Seitchik</i>	<u>TORAH RESTORATION FUND</u>
In Honor of the Yahrzeits of Edna and Charles Siegel <i>Claire Jacobson</i>	In Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Jerry and Lynne Fragin. <i>Steve and Ellen Seitchik</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Abe Adelman <i>Esther B. Adelman</i>
In Memory of Daughter, Sharon Naughton <i>Janet Slawitsky</i>	In Memory of William Pulitzer Ballot <i>Lindsay Leventhal</i>	In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Esther Basha Adelman <i>Esther B. Adelman</i>
In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Stanley Dickstein <i>David and Gail Dickstein</i>	In Memory of John Orgill <i>Lindsay Leventhal</i>	Mazel Tov and Best Wishes to Sue Meyer <i>Audrey Harrell</i>
In Memory of John Orgill <i>Leonard and Roberta Feinman</i>	<u>RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND</u>	

Rabbinical Reflections

A High Holy Day Preview

Truth. Beauty. Love. Fear. Four primal ideas, concepts that have been part of human culture since the earliest days of humanity. And yet, they have taken on added weight in our era, on both a personal and political level. So for my sermons this year, I've decided to do two two-part talks. On Rosh HaShanah, we'll explore truth and beauty from two different sides, and on Yom Kippur, we'll investigate love and fear in a similar manner. I wanted to give you a preview of what I'll be covering, so we can all be thinking about it together, and so, if you have any thoughts or concerns about these subjects, we can start the discussion even before the Holy Days begin. Let me know what you think!

On Erev Rosh HaShanah, we'll look at how, as a community, it can be empowering to move from Certainty to Story. We hold certain things to be True with a capital T – but in an ever-shifting world, sometimes that certainty keeps us from recognizing what needs to change. Take our Temple Hesed community. We've functioned in particular ways for a long time – but do they still make sense today? How do we respond to changes in demographics, the new role of social media, the divisions in our society? And how can

those responses be new steps forwards and not merely rote reactions based on past ideas? There is a power in "not-knowing," in thinking with a blank slate about where we are and where we should be going, in writing a new story for ourselves as individuals and as a community, in finding beauty and truth in new places

Then on Rosh HaShanah morning, as we read the story of the binding of Isaac, we'll look at another side of the question – the move from Fact to Fiction. How have ideas such as the Reform movement's way of interpreting our tradition contributed to what has been labeled a "post-truth" society? Is truth, like beauty, only in the eye of the beholder? How can we converse with each other when we base our opinions on different "facts"? And how do we fight back against such destructive distortions as the denial of the holocaust, when solid, reliable evidence is dismissed in favor of feelings and ideologies?

On the evening of Kol Nidre, as Yom Kippur begins, I'll speak about the roles love and fear play in our own lives and relationships. I share with you the Kotzker rebbe's thoughts on "fish love" and how and why that

masquerades as real love. By recognizing where we let fear rule, we open ourselves to growth and deeper love.

Then on the morning of Yom Kippur, we'll discuss some ways that the same dynamics of love and fear play out in our society at large. How is fear dividing us, and how is it possible to step back from that fear and regain love? Is love just a naïve vision, or can it actually work in a world where, in addition to whatever false fears that have been stoked by various "conspiracy theorists," there really is danger and evil?

I look forward to sharing my thoughts on all these subjects and questions with you – and, as always, I welcome your thoughts as well. Our tradition has been built, from the very beginning, on the notion that discussions between people with different views are key to learning and growth – so let's learn and grow together.

By Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz, Spiritual Leader, Temple Hesed,



"On Rosh HaShanah, we'll explore truth and beauty from two different sides, and on Yom Kippur, we'll investigate love and fear in a similar manner."

Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz

Co-President's Page

By Esther Adelman,
Co-President



"Since our membership numbers are waning, it is more important than ever for all of us to participate in some way in the life of our beloved Temple. "

A Few Words in a Pivotal Year

Steve Seitchik and I have agreed to continue in the positions of Co-Presidents for another year. We feel that this will be a pivotal year in the life of Temple Hesed, and since we have both been so invested for so long, it was natural for us to want to be a part of what's happening by offering our experience. However, we cannot and should not lead alone. We offer our sincere thanks to the dedicated officers and board members who play such a large part in the life of the Temple. They stand behind us and besides us, offering their own wisdom and experience to make our job easier.

Now I'd like to repeat some of my words from last year, since they still apply:

"In all religious denominations, Judaism included, there is less and less interest in organized religious institutions. Temple Hesed has not escaped this trend. In this case, it's *not* comforting to know that we are not alone. Steve and I feel that it is our *obligation* to make certain that our congregation continues as a vibrant part of our lives and of the lives of

generations to come, just as those before us ensured our survival. We can't do it alone, or even with the core group of dedicated members who constantly step up to the plate to do anything that is asked of them.

We all know what we have here. It's not the building, although it is beautiful and functional and has certainly served us well over the years. It's *you*, the members, who make Temple Hesed what we are. We are indeed the Temple of Loving-kindness. This is reflected in what we do and how we are perceived.

Since our membership numbers are waning, it is more important than ever for *all* of us to participate in some way in the life of our beloved Temple. Please make an effort to get involved by helping out with a social event, joining a committee, attending a class of the Rabbi's, working on a fund-raiser, coming to Shabbat services, sponsoring an oneg."

Rabbi Swartz has detailed a plan for the coming year's programs. Most of them are traditional events, but some are new. The common

thread will be the need for volunteers. Of course, there is usually food involved. (That's what we Jews do, right?) What's Purim without a dinner before the shpiel? What's Tu B'Shevat without the seder? What's Succot without dessert in the succah? You get the idea. If we don't have people to coordinate these events, they will not happen. Free up Rabbi Swartz so that he has more time to do what a Rabbi should be doing.

Again, we'd love to hear from you. Perhaps there's something that you'd like to see happen here, something that's never been done before, whether religiously, educationally, or just for fun. New ideas are always welcomed. We Reform Jews are all about progress and improvement. Feel free to contact us. My email address is ebabunny@aol.com. Steve may be reached at seitchiks@verizon.net.

L'Shana Tova!

Esther Adelman

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Class 8:30 pm Selichot 9pm
2	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7 Services 6 p	8
9 Rosh Hashanah Eve 8pm	10 Rosh Hashanah 10 a	11 Rosh 2.1 10:30 a	12	13	14 Services 8 p	15 Shabbat Shuva
16 Memorial @ cemetery 11 a	17	18 Yom Kippur Eve 8 p	19 Yom Kippur 10 am study 1 pm	20	21 Services 8 p	22 Fall Begins
23 Sukkot Eve	24 Sukkot Thru Sept 30th	25	26 Board Mtg. 6 p.m.	27	28 Services 8 p	29 Harvest- Vote 5; poyluck 6; Sukkot Svc. 7;Fireworks
30						
30						

Holidays 5779 (2018–2019)

Rosh Hashanah— Sept. 9–10, 2018	Yom HaShoah— May 1–2, 2019
Yom Kippur — Sept. 18–19, 2018	Yom HaZikaron May. 7–8, 2019
Sukkot— Sept. 23–30, 2018	Yom HaAtzmaut May 8–9, 2019
Sh'mini Atzaret—Simchat Torah —Sept. 30–Oct. 1, 2018	Lag B'omer — May 22–23, 2019
Hanukkah — Dec. 2–10, 2018	Shavuot— June 8–9, 2019
Tu B'Shat —Jan. 20–21, 2019	Tisha B'Av— Aug. 10–11, 2019
Purim— March. 20–21, 2019	Selichot —Sept. 21, 2019
Passover— Apr. 19–26, 2019	Jewish Holidays begin at sunset. Dates specified are for evenings. That means they run from sundown until dusk on the last day if the Holiday.

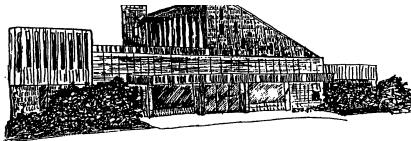
Torah Portions

Name	Civil Date	Hebrew Date
Ki Tavo	Sept. 1, 2018	21.Elul.5778
Nitzavim	Sept. 8, 2018	28.Elul.5778
Vayelech	Sept. 15, 2018	6.Tishrei.5779
Haaazinu	Sept. 22, 2018	13.Tishrei.5779

More information is available from www.reformjudaism.org

“No one sees the hump on his own back” from <http://www.yiddishwit.com>

Yahrzeits and Personal Notes



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

Week Ending September 8 (Service September 7)

*Edward Loebenstein, *Henrietta A. Phillips, *Arnold Cembalest, *Barbara A. Jacobson, *Dr. Samuel Friedmann, *Max Bernstein, *Edith Schmerin, *Dorothy J. Freeman, *Louis Gold, *Nathan G. Goodman, *Blanche F. Halle, *Caroline Landau Cohn, *Bertha Jacobs

Get Wells

Week Ending September 15 (Service September 14)

—Larry Golden **—Emily Trunzo** *Samuel H. Harris, *Nathalie Joel, *Wolf Ackerman, *Isaiah C. Rosenthal, Benjamin Weinberg, Rose Seiber

—Jane Knobel **—Janet Slawitsky**

—Rich Mates **—Edward Snitko,**

Week Ending September 22 (Service September 21)

—Charlene Ostro

Sr.

Sarah Woll, Kenneth Brown, *Milton Adelman, *Sadie Lerner, *Cal D. Malcom, *Haydee L. Oettinger, *Miriam W. Ackerman, *Joseph Leventhal, *Manny Cohen, George Goldenziel, *Henry Friedmann, *Family of Adolf Gabriel Winter, Delbert Wooden, *Isidore Krotosky, *Sanford S. Mitteldorf, *Lily Seagaard, *Yetta Goldberg, *Solomon Goldsmith, *Gertrude Cembalest, *Sara G. Roos

MAZEL TOV:

To Jeff and Carol Leventhal and Jerry and Lynne Fragin. Both couples are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversaries.

Week Ending September 29 (Service September 28)

*Dora Feldman, *Louis I. Alperin, *Irving M. Pincus, *Harry Kroll, *Samuel Behar, *Mendel Harris, *Abe Shapiro, *Ludwig Berger, *Edward Miller

Sheloshim

Week Ending October 6 (Service October 5)

To the Orgill and Adelman families on the loss of John Orgill.

*Harry Ferber, *Seymour E. Stahller, *Dorothy Mendel Jacobs, *Samuel H. Frank, Karl Strohl, *Harry Jacobs, Isidore Lerner, *Hattie L. Marks, *James Swartz, *Minnie Rosen, *Anna Benjamin, *William Spelman, *Harry Needle, *Bernhardt Lehman, *Nathan Cohen, *James H. Carlyon, *Benjamin Endfield

To Robert Ballot on the loss of his son, William Pulitzer Ballot.

Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life for William Pulitzer Ballot will be on Thursday, September 27th at 1:30 p.m. at the Temple. All are invited.

Yom Kippur Afternoon Study: Queer Eye for the Soul – Spiritual Makeovers

Rabbi Daniel and Rabbi Marjorie are always on the lookout for when something in pop culture raises thoughtful questions or offers a different sort of way in to an important discussion.

And sometimes, the most spiritually intriguing TV or movie comes in the most surprising places. Like, for example, the Netflix reboot of “Queer Eye.” Instead of being a basic makeover show, it has morphed into a show about connection and transformation.

So this year, for our afternoon Yom Kippur study, from 1 to 3

pm, Rabbi Daniel will share some of the most intriguing moments from the show and then will lead discussions about what lessons we can draw from these stories for our own transformation in the New Year.

The session promises to be equal parts comedy and drama, funny, moving and thought provoking all at once.

As always, our Yom Kippur study is open to the public, so let anyone you think would be interested know and invite them to join in our exploration of “Queer Eye for the Soul.”

What better time for a “spiritual makeover” than Yom Kippur!



The Fab Five

Selichot: Listening to the Great Shofar and the Still Small Voice, September 1, 9 p.m.

The High Holy Days are filled with sounds and words: from the piercing cry of the shofar to the haunting melody of Kol Nidre, from New Year's greetings to confessions of sin.

Before we get through into that ocean of sound, Selichot gives us a chance to reflect and listen, to tune into the “still small voice” as much as the sounding of the Great Shofar.

That's exactly what we'll do on Saturday, September 1st, beginning at 8:30 pm.

We'll start with the Havdallah blessings, saying farewell to Shabbat. Then we'll study what our sages have taught about the nature of listening, as we ourselves search for the “still small voice.”

After study, we'll inaugurate our new Selichot services, which are in the brand new Mishkan

ha-Lev prayerbook that we've been using during the month of Elul. Come discover the beautiful poems and prayers in this new service, as together we prepare for a truly New Year.

The service concludes with our re-dressing all our Torah scrolls in High Holy Days white and with a long Tekiah Gedolah, so that our souls are purified and awakened.

Everyone is welcome.

“We'll inaugurate our new Selichot services, which are in the brand new Mishkan ha-Lev prayerbook that we've been using during the month of Elul.”

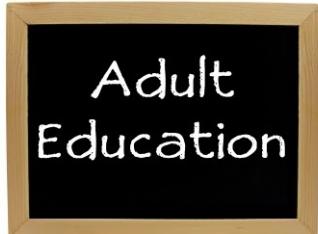
Rosh HaShanah 2.1, Tuesday, September 11 at 10:30 a.m.

ast year, we introduced an experimental, alternative 2nd day of Rosh HaShanah, which we called Rosh HaShanah 2.0. We're altering the format a little from last year, based on what we learned during the first round of experimentation, so now it's RH2.1, on the 11th at 10:30 a.m. This year, our focus will be on “breaking through.” Sometimes it seems that, the “new” label of the New Year

notwithstanding, we're in a rut and can't get unstuck. Through chant, study, guided meditation and the call of the shofar, we will explore paths that can give us another chance, a fresh start for whatever part of our life is feeling “stuck” – our job, our family, our relationships or even something that we can't quite identify. Here's your chance to get the support and tools you need to break free. This service

is free and open to the public – no High Holy Day tickets are required. Indeed, last year, in addition to some Temple Hesed members, we had a Catholic, a Sufi Muslim, and a Jew from California that happened to be in the area. Who knows who will turn up this year – will it be you?





**"Having finished
a class on "Hot
Topics" this
summer ... he'll
now turn to
history, myth,
and poetry."**



Adult Education Preview: Chanting, Jewish Women in Story and History, and Psalms

After a couple of years of year-long classes, Rabbi Daniel will be teaching several shorter classes this year.

Having finished a class on "Hot Topics" this summer that covered everything from abortion to euthanasia, democracy, immigration, rules of war and rules about waste, he'll now turn to history, myth, and poetry.

First up is a single session class on transformation through chant that Rabbi Daniel will be teaching at the Gathering Place in Clarks Summit on October 3rd, from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. Contact Rabbi Daniel directly to sign up for this one-session class.

While the details are still being worked out, Rabbi Daniel is planning to teach another set of

classes this fall and one more in the spring.

Coming up in the fall, he'll be teaching about "Jewish Women from History and Story."

Each session will explore one or two notable Jewish women, ranging in time and space from biblical myths to American history.

Are there women, historical or legendary, you'd like to hear more about? Make sure to tell Rabbi Daniel so he can include them.

In the spring, Rabbi Daniel will teach a class on the Psalms, some of the most beloved chapters in the Bible. Psalms have played a key role not only in Jewish life, but also for Christians, Muslims, and others. We

will explore not only basic questions such as just what is a psalm, and what was biblical poetry like, but also look at the Psalms modern relevance.

What about these ancient poems still speaks to us today? How can we use them in our own lives? Stay tuned for more details!

And as always Rabbi Daniel is happy to teach classes on almost any Jewish subject imaginable – so if there's something you'd like to learn more about, just ask him!

Sukkot – Harvest the Vote! Community Potluck and Fireworks, Saturday September 29th

Our annual Sukkot fireworks have become a beloved Temple Hesed tradition and now are being copied by other Jewish organizations in town. But this year, our fireworks will have a new twist. With an important election coming up this November, Sukkot is a perfect time for Temple Hesed to join with Reform synagogues all across the country in helping to increase voter registration and turnout. In cooperation with the Scranton Area Ministerium and a number of community groups, Temple Hesed will be hosting a non-partisan voter registration drive/voter education pro-

gram we're calling "Harvest the Vote," on Saturday, September 29th, starting at 5 pm. Then at 6, everyone is invited to join us for a potluck dinner. At 7 pm, we'll have our Family Sukkot Service, with lively music like the "Lulav Shake" and "Goodness, gracious, my Sukkah's on fire!" After the service, we'll head out to our brand-new Temple Hesed sukkah for dessert and to watch the fireworks. It will be a fabulous and fun evening for everyone. RSVP if you're planning to come to the dinner, so we can organize the potluck properly.

Jacobs: New Israeli Law Will Harm Jewish-Arab Relations

Rabbi Rick Jacobs, URJ President, issued the following statement on Israel's new Nation-State law, on July 18.:

This is a sad and unnecessary day for Israeli democracy. The damage that will be done by this new Nation-State law to the legitimacy of the Zionist vision and to the values of the state of Israel as a democratic—and Jewish—nation is enormous.

We will continue to fight back by promoting the values of the Israeli Declaration of Independence and by forging new ties between Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel. We will deepen our engagement with Israel, using every means possible to promote a Judaism in Israel that is inclusive and pluralistic and reflective of our values of equality for all. The Israel Re-



Rabbi Rick Jacobs

form Movement and the North American Reform Movement passionately oppose this new law because of the harmful effect on Jewish-Arab relations in Israel, as well as its negative impact on the balance between the various core founding values of the State of Israel.

The Nation-State law has led to a wave of calls to reconsider this ill-founded new law,

along with statements of opposition by Jewish organizations and communities throughout the world. It is regrettable that the government of Israel has been unresponsive to the voices of protest from Israel and world Jewry that are rooted in love for Israel, Zionism and respect for the Jewish and democratic state envisioned by Israel's founders.

The Israeli nation is deeply divided. But, there are millions of us who are united in our opposition to this new law and fortified in our determination to continue to fight for an Israel that will be true to its own founding declaration of equality for all within its land, with the freedom to worship and to live with true hope for the future.

National and International News



A Proud Member of the URJ



Blame Hamas for Gaza Violence

New York, NY; August 9, 2018 - The statement below is issued by Rabbi Joshua Weinberg, President of ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America, on behalf of ARZA and the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ):

"The deadly escalation of violence in Gaza should be of deep concern to all who strive for peace in the region. Nearly 200 rockets and other projectiles have been launched from Gaza into Israel, injuring dozens and sending tens of thousands of Israelis as far inland as Ashkelon into bomb shelters. No nation can or should be ex-

pected to allow such attacks. There is no doubt where the blame sits for the worst wave of violence since the 2014 Gaza war. This week Hamas has again shown its true colors. As we stated recently: There appears to be no doubt that Hamas has made cynical and violent use of those Gazans who seek a more hopeful future. The continued tragedy of Gaza shows the strong need for a regional agreement, including Egypt and other Arab states, and for the U.S. to play an arbiter's role in finding a just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian situation.

Our prayers are with the Israelis huddled in bomb shelters today. We also pray for the residents of Gaza, who are being used by Hamas. And we urge Israel to protect her citizens, as she must, and to always bear in mind that there are many in Gaza who seek nothing more – or less – than to live in peace."

"There is no doubt where the blame sits for the worst wave of violence since the 2014 Gaza war."

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"The Temple of Loving Kindness"
On the Web at: templehesed.org

Temple personnel and officers

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Cheryl Friedman - 2nd Vice President

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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.

Our Partners Include;



School continued

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ranging from a Rainbow Shabbat/Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 13th to a Pajama Havdallah party in February. A full calendar of events will go out to the congregation once any

joint program with Temple Israel have been set. We look forward to an exciting school year, and, as always, we welcome any interested potential students to come take a look and join in the fun.