

שליח

# MESSENGER



Temple Hesed, 1 Knox Road, Scranton, PA 18505



## In this issue:

- Rabbi goes to see Pope
- Sukkot services outdoors
- Sneak Peek at rabbi's sermons.

## HIGH HOLY DAYS-2021 STYLE



By Esther Adelman, Co-President



Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz

As the High Holy Days draw near, we want to provide information regarding our safety plans and COVID policies. The health and safety of our congregation is our top priority. Based on advice from the CDC, the Union of Reform Judaism, and our colleagues in other congregations and other faiths, Temple Hesed will be offering in-person services, as well as a live virtual option via Zoom or YouTube. If you plan to attend services in-person this year, you must abide by our COVID protocol policy:

Anyone (over the age of 11) entering the building must be **fully vaccinated**.

**Masks are required for all attendees**, regardless of vaccination status.

Social distancing will be practiced by spacing out the seating in the synagogue.

**An RSVP is required to attend in person.**

To allow greater ventilation, the sliding doors will be open. And, weather-permitting, the rear doors will also be open.

Services will be abridged, and we anticipate that they will run 90 minutes or less.

Please do not come in person to any services if you are not feeling completely well, if you have a fever, or if you may have been exposed to COVID-19 in the past month.

If you would like a tutorial on how to use Zoom or need assistance joining virtually/online, contact the Temple office at 570-344-7201.

**Please note: We are discouraging in-person attendance by out-of-town guests. However, if you have already made plans with your family, these protocols must be followed: Guests must be approved by the Temple office, and must show proof of vaccination. Existing Temple policies regarding guests will also apply.**

We will continue to monitor the situation and adjust our plan accordingly as new health information becomes available. If we decide to implement or change our protocols, we will update the congregation immediately.

In Hesed,

Esther Adelman, Worship Chair  
and Rabbi Daniel Swartz, Spiritual Leader



## Donations to Temple Hessed

Major credit or debit cards accepted.

Minimum \$10 donation for acknowledgement in the Messenger.

To donate contact Marlene Gianzanti, Temple Administrator at 570-344-7201

### [ROSEANN SMITH ALPERIN ENDOWMENT FUND](#)

**In Memory of Jane Oppenheim**

*Toni Alperin Goldberg*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Roseann Alperin**

*Jim and Patty Alperin*

### [BUILDING FUND](#)

**In Loving Memory of mother, Blanche Katz**

*Sharon (Katz) and Saul Levy*

**In Loving Memory of father, Irving Levy**

*Saul and Sharon Levy*

**In Loving Memory of mother, Rose Levy**

*Saul and Sharon Levy*

**In Loving Memory of brother, Bernie Narrow**

*Ellen Kline*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of husband, Sidney Wasser**

*Paula Wasser*

**With Appreciation to Rabbi Swartz**

*Paula Wasser*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Rose Hersh**

*Robert Hersh*

### [RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND](#)

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of beloved father, Abe Adelman**

*Deborah Orgill*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of beloved husband, John Orgill**

*Deborah Orgill*

### [EMMA K. FRANK FUND](#)

**Wishing good health to Ceil Ryzewski**

*Carol Nelson Dembert*

**Wishing good health to Lou Shapiro**

*Carol Nelson Dembert*

### [MILTON AND MIRIAM FRIEDMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND](#)

**In Honor of Paula and Jim Kane becoming grandparents**

*Paula Wasser*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of mother, Miriam Friedman**

*Paula and Jim Kane*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of father, Milton Friedman**

*Paula and Jim Kane*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of brother, Jerome Friedman**

*Paula and Jim Kane*

### [MARK HAHN MEMORIAL MUSIC FUND](#)

**Remembering completely unique Jane Oppenheim**

*Audrey Harrell*

**Remembering Jimmie Eilenbogen on his Birthday, July 25**

*Audrey Harrell*

### [RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND](#)

**In Memory of Jane Oppenheim**

*Joan Newman  
Paula Wasser  
Esther Friedmann  
Amy and Jack Silverman  
Cheryl and Mike Friedman*

**In Memory of Leon L. Kramer, beloved father and grandfather**

*Carol and Paul Leiman and family*

### [TORAH RESTORATION FUND](#)

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Esther Basha Adelman**

*Esther B. Adelman*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Abe Adelman**

*Esther B. Adelman*

**In Honor of the Yahrzeit of John Orgill**

*Esther B. Adelman*

**In Memory of Paul Fishman**

*Esther B. Adelman*



*Rabbinical*

*Reflections*

Rabbi Daniel J.  
Swartz

# Lessons Learned

Last year, we scrambled to figure out, in response to what we thought was a once-in-a-lifetime situation, how to hold the High Holy Days online. I think all of us were not only hoping but, at least at some points, expecting, that we would all be together in person. Now (unless things get even worse!) we'll have many people joining online, and everyone in person will be both vaccinated and masked — and will have sent in an RSVP (don't forget!) So we're clearly not on the other side of this yet, even though all of us are worn out with dealing with the pandemic.

Though we are far from in the clear, the High Holy Days give us a chance to move from reaction to reflection about our experiences over the last year and half. Have we learned any lessons from these troubled times? And if so, how can we hold on to them when (yes, I still believe that is a when and not an if!) the pandemic no longer dominates our life?

That is what I've chosen to focus on for my sermons this High Holy Day season. As was the case last year, because so many will be on Zoom, and because even for those in person we are trying to limit exposures, our services will be abridged. Therefore, again like last year, my four sermons could be viewed as one sermon given in four shorter segments.

Here are the four lessons I want to highlight: Erev Rosh Hashanah - Gratitude: the Lesson of the Dishwasher; Rosh Hashanah Day - Perseverance: the Lesson of the Goat; Kol Nidre - Regret: the Lesson of Loss; Yom Kippur Day - Climate: the Lesson of the Forty Days. What lessons have you learned? I'd love to hear some and, if you'll agree, to share them.

Rabbi Michael Feshbach, who I used to work with at Temple Shalom outside of DC, once said that humans are "retroactive meaning-makers." That is, we don't have to believe (I certainly don't) that everything happens because it is "meant to be," that, for example, God sent the pandemic to teach us not to sell wildlife in markets. But, when we look back on it, we can learn from everything that happened. I certainly wish, as I'm sure we all do, that the pandemic had never happened. But we don't get to have that wish come true. What we can do, what we need to do, both to prevent future tragedies and to give meaning to all we have been through, is learn whatever lessons an open mind and a loving heart can learn. I look forward to learning together these Yamim Nora'im, these Days of Awe.

*Rabbi Daniel J. Swartz*

## **RH<sup>2</sup> Chanting Circle, September 8 at 10 am**

For the past several years, we've observed the Second Day of Rosh Hashanah with a special chanting circle, one that ends with the blast of the shofar.

Everyone is welcome to this much more intimate exploration of the themes of the Days of Awe. What does it mean to address God as our Parent? How can we "unstick" ourselves and move into a truly new year when the whole world seems stuck? Everyone, including non-members, is welcome at this special service, as long as you have been vaccinated. No prior chanting experience is needed.

You can join us in person or online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83570030002?pwd=TE8xQ2NDTi8xSk83cnRSQXFMY2lUdz09>

Or from the Zoom app, enter Meeting ID: 835 7003 0002 and Passcode: Gratitude

(Note: This is different from the link for all the other High Holy Day services, because those are not open to the public).

## September Chanting Circle - the Call of the Now Year- September 4, 11, and 18 at 11:30 a.m.

No, that isn't a typo. Lots of people talk about the New Year. Rabbi Daniel was born on the secular New Year, and the Mishnah lists four different "heads of the year" (for trees, the state, herd animals, and God). In September, our chanting circle will instead focus on the "Now Year," how we need to be present to each moment, not stuck in the past or lost in dreams about the future. What can help us become more mindful and more "heartful" about all the blessings and all the pain that surround us? Our September chants will give us paths toward full presence, so that the Now Year can be a sweet one. On September 4, we'll meet for a full hour, both in person at Temple Hesed and online. On the 11th and the 18th, we'll meet for about a half hour, only online. There will be no Chanting Circle on the 25th due to Rabbi Daniel's travels.

To join us on Zoom, just click:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83570030002?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83570030002?pwd=TE8xQ2NDTi8xSk83cnRSQXFMY2IUdz09)

[pwd=TE8xQ2NDTi8xSk83cnRSQXFMY2IUdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83570030002?pwd=TE8xQ2NDTi8xSk83cnRSQXFMY2IUdz09)

Or from the Zoom app, enter Meeting ID: 835 7003 0002 and Passcode: Gratitude



WASHINGTON – In response to the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Afghanistan in the aftermath of the withdrawal of U.S. forces, Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner, director of the Religious Action Center, issued the following statement on behalf of the Union for Reform Judaism, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and the wider Reform Movement institutions:

"The humanitarian tragedy unfolding in Afghanistan demands the world's attention and action. The withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan and the takeover of the country by the Taliban have created significant, urgent concerns and grave dangers for the well-being of vulnerable groups including, among others, women, LGBTQ+ individuals, members of religious minorities, Afghan government officials and diplomats in the U.S. backed government, human rights activists, journalists, staff of civil society organizations and those translators and others who worked in partnership with U.S. and allied armed forces.

"The Biden administration has taken steps to expand and expedite Special Immigrant Visas. The Canadian government has announced the resettlement of up to 20,000 vulnerable Afghan nationals. But such steps are falling well short of the immense need posed by those whose lives and whose families are at risk. Countless Afghans now living under Taliban rule are likely to face persecution and even death simply for being who they are or because of the beliefs they hold. The international community, including active U.S. and Canadian participation, must use its influence to pressure the Taliban to protect those vulnerable groups. At the same time, we urge our congregations to help resettle the thousands of Afghan refugees who will be arriving and we will help facilitate partnerships between our congregations and HIAS and other refugee resettlement groups to make that possible.

"On the precipice of the new Jewish year, we are in a period of reflection and accounting. It is clear that whatever the intent, the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan has contributed to a terrible level of chaos and danger for the people of Afghanistan. An accounting by the U.S., Canada and the international community, no matter how painful, is essential. Throughout, we will continue to lift our voices with the people of Afghanistan and to pray and act for a future of peace and security for all."



Rabbi Pesner



# Rabbi heads to the Vatican

As noted in earlier Messengers, Rabbi Daniel will be traveling to the Vatican to meet with the Pope and other religious leaders about climate change.

He will be leaving on September 25 and returning to our area on October 11.

He will have minimal access to email or phone during this time. Please reach out to Marlene in the Temple Office (570-344-7201 — [temple-hesed@comcast.net](mailto:temple-hesed@comcast.net)) if you need anything — she will know how to contact him if necessary, as well as which rabbis are “on call” while he is away.

# Service Times

We will be conducting polls during High Holy Days services about the different options for service times that we experimented with over the summer, but we also welcome your opinion more directly — email Rabbi Daniel at [rabbidaniel@comcast.net](mailto:rabbidaniel@comcast.net)

For September, we will revert back to our typical schedule of Friday Night services, 6 pm on September 3 and 8 pm on the 10 and 17.

Because September 24 is our Family Sukkot service, it will begin at 7 p.m.

Services on the 3, 10 and 17 will also be on Zoom and YouTube as usual. Since the service on the 24th is outside, it will only be on Zoom, since we don't have wifi outside to connect with YouTube.

As always, the Zoom link is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89442525110?pwd=T1U0a0x1RjhoSnNPYXp4S2R4UG9tQT09>

Or from the Zoom app enter Meeting ID: 894 4252 5110 and Passcode: Hesed

To view from YouTube on the Temple Hesed channel go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwWXduQKzeDWe6lfbDSNLT>



## JAHRZEITS

**August 29 – September 4**  
**21 – 27 Elul**  
**Service September 3**

Paula Yudkin Albert, \*Harry Weinberg, \*Leo Swartz, \*Minnie Brown,  
\*Edward Loebenstein, \*Henrietta A. Phillips, \*Arnold Cembalest,  
\*Barbara A. Jacobson, \*Dr. Samuel Friedmann, \*Carolyn B. Ferber

**September 5 – 11**  
**28 Elul – 5 Tishri**  
**Service September 10**

\*Max Bernstein, \*Edith Schmerin, \*Dorothy J. Freeman, \*Louis Gold,  
\*Nathan G. Goodman, \*Blanche F. Halle, \*Caroline Landau Cohn,  
\*Bertha Jacobs, \*Nathalie Joel, Helen Yudkin Lear, \*Samuel H. Harris,  
\*Wolf Ackerman

**September 12 – 18**  
**6 – 12 Tishri**  
**Service September 17**

\*Isaiah C. Rosenthal, Benjamin Weinberg, \*Joseph Leventhal, Rose  
Seiber, \*Henry Friedmann, George Goldenziel, Sarah Woll, Kenneth  
Brown, \*Sadie Lerner, \*Cal D. Malcom, \*Haydee L. Oettinger, \*Milton  
Adelman, \*Miriam W. Ackerman, \*Eli Lipsins, \*Manny Cohen, Delbert  
Wooden

**September 19 – 25**  
**13 – 19 Tishri**

**Service September 24**

\*Isidore Krotosky, \*Sanford S. Mitteldorf, \*Lily Seagaard, \*Yetta Gold-  
berg, \*Solomon Goldsmith, \*Rose K. Roos, \*Gertrude Cembalest,  
\*Sara G. Roos, \*Dora Feldman, \*Louis I. Alperin, \*Irving M. Pincus,  
\*Harry Kroll, \*Samuel Behar

**September 26 – October 2**

**20 – 26 Tishri**

**Service October 1**

\*Mendel Harris, \*Abe Shapiro, \*Dorothy Goldsmith, \*Rochelle Gardner  
Margolis, \*Ludwig Berger, \*Edward Miller, Karl Strohl, \*Harry Ferber,  
\*Seymour E. Stahliller, \*Dorothy Mendel Jacobs, \*Samuel H. Frank,  
\*Harry Needle, \*Harry Jacobs

*Get*

*Wells*

Michael Cornfield

Lynne Fragin

Kenny Ganz

Larry Golden

Phil Knobel

Maggie LoRusso

Rich Mates

Chelsea Minkoff

Harriet Noble

Charlene Ostro

Ceil Rydzewski

Joel Vener

# September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Service, 6pm**	4 Chanting circle, 11:30am**
5	6 Erev Rosh Hashana 8pm** <b>LABOR DAY</b>	7 Rosh Hashana, 10am**	8 RH <sup>2</sup> .10am**	9	10 Service, 8pm**	11 Chanting circle, 11:30am*
12	13	14	15 Erev Yom Kippur 8pm**	16 Yom Kippur 10am** 5pm**	17 Service, 8pm**	18 Chanting circle, 11:30am*
19	20 Sukkot eve	21 Sukkot	22	23	24 Family Sukkot Service 7pm**	25
26	27	28	29 Simchat Torah	30	** Live and Zoom/ YouTube * Zoom only	

## 5782 Holiday Calendar

Rosh HaShanah —  
Sept. 6-8

Yom Kippur — Sept. 15-  
16

Sukkot — Sept. 20-27

Sh'mini Atzeret-  
Simchat Torah — Sept.  
27-28

Hanukkah — Nov. 28

Dec. 6

Tu B'Shevat — Jan. 16-  
17

Purim — Mar. 16-17

Passover — Apr. 15-22

Yom HaShoah — Apr.  
27-28

Yom HaZikaron —  
May 3-4

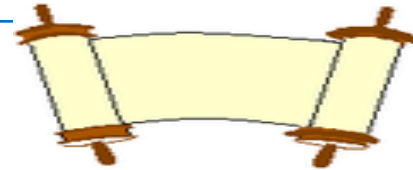
Yom HaAtzmaut —  
May 4-5

Lag BaOmer — May 18-  
19

Shavuot — June 4-5

Tishah B'Av — Aug. 6-7

Selichot Service — Sep. 17



### Torah Portions

Name	Civil date	Hebrew date
Nitzavim	Sept 4, 2021	27.Elul.5781
Vayelech	Sept. 11, 2021	5.Tishrei.5782
Ha'azinu	Sept. 18, 2021	12..Tishrei.5782

*More information available from URJ.org*

“Never take anything  
for granted.”

— Benj. Disraeli (1804  
-1881) British PM

# Family Sukkot Service 7 p.m. September 24

Because Sukkot comes so early this year, the weather should be delightful, and we are planning to hold it outside, surrounding the Temple Sukkah. We will be inside if the weather doesn't cooperate.

During the High Holy Days, we will be polling members on whether or not to have a picnic dinner beforehand (not a potluck, for COVID reasons), and whether or not people would like to see fireworks at the end of the service.

But no matter what, we'll have lively music, a chance to shake the lulav, a story, some sweet treats for oneg, and the beauty of the outdoors. Come at 7 and join us in person!

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**TEMPLE HESED** Office: 570-344-7201  
1 Knox Road Fax: 570-344-4514  
Scranton, PA 18505  
Website: <http://www.templehesed.org>

## 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.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, appointments should be made for all meetings with the rabbi.

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.

## Temple Hesed

On the Web at: [templehesed.org](http://templehesed.org)

SPIRITUAL LEADER

### Rabbi Daniel J Swartz

570-877-3454 (cell)  
570-344-7201 (office)  
[rabbidaniel@comcast.net](mailto:rabbidaniel@comcast.net) (email)

## OFFICERS

Esther Adelman, Steven Seitchik and Cheryl Friedman — **Co-Presidents**; Jeffrey Leventhal — **Treasurer**; Jennifer Novak — **Secretary**; Joan Davis — **Assistant Secretary**

**Board Members:** Kenneth Ganz, Robert Hersh, Natalie Gelb, Paula Kane, Carol Leventhal, Judith Golden, Donna Kostiak, Loren Selznick, Josh Levine

**Honorary Life Board Member:** Jane Oppenheim

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**Marlene Gianzanti**—*Temple Administrator*

([marlenecmg1@comcast.net](mailto:marlenecmg1@comcast.net))

**Edward Snitko**—*Director of Music*

**Jennifer Rosen Novak**—*Director of Social Media*

**Rich Mates**—*Editor, Messenger* ([hesednews@gmail.com](mailto:hesednews@gmail.com))