



MESSENGER

Temple Hesed, 1 Knox Road, Scranton, PA 18505



Community Seder Friday, April 15 at 6 p.m.

For the first time in more than two years, we will gather in person for the First Night of Passover, April 15! (Note: We are NOT currently planning to do the seder in “hybrid” format, but only in-person. If you’d like to attend online, please contact the Temple office ASAP, so that we can discuss that possibility)

Food for the seder will come from Wegman’s and Abe’s Deli, and it will cost \$25/adult and \$18/child 5-12 (children under 5 are free).

Our seder will begin at 6 pm, and we’ll be including special readings from the “Exodus Alliance” that tie together lessons from the Passover story to our current struggles against “carbon Pharaohs.”

Like all our Temple Hesed seders, this will be very participatory, with everyone having a chance to read and sing together, with a chance for some discussion, an afikomen search, and of course, everyone getting up for dayenu with scallions! (If you don’t know what that’s about, you should come to find out!).

Please RSVP to templehesed@comcast.net or by calling 570-344-7201, and please let us know if you’d be able to help with setup and/or cleanup. Non-Temple members are welcome.

In this Issue:

- The Last Two Commandments
- Donations are back
- Help pick a Summer learning topic

Family Program: A Walk through the Seder April 9 at 10 a.m.

Our monthly family education programs continue in April with a “Walk through the Seder.” And we mean that quite literally — we’ll be making the Passover story come alive as we do everything from constructing “plague kits” to walking through the split sea.

We’ll also create custom versions of haroset, grind our own maror, and make a delicious matzah dessert. There is no charge for this program, and it is open to everyone, but please make sure to RSVP to the Temple office so we have enough supplies for everyone.



Donations to Temple Hased

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 Jonathan Rosenstein
Jim and Patty Alperin

BUILDING FUND

In Memory of Jonathan Rosenstein
Steve and Ellen Seitchik

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Henri Deutsch
Steve and Ellen Seitchik

In Honor of David Nasatir becoming Chair of Obermayer
Steve and Ellen Seitchik

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of father, William Katz
Sharon (Katz) and Saul Levy

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Edna Lauscher
George and Helen Lauscher

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Tillie Fogel
Cecil Rydzewski

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Mildred Lambert
Natalie Gelb

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Max Ballot
Robert Ballot

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

In Memory of Jay Leiman, beloved father and grandfather
Carol and Paul Leiman and family

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Gertrude Diener
Patricia Diener Lough

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Carl Diener
Patricia Diener Lough

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Grace Davis
The Davis Family

In Honor of the Yahrzeit of Mark Davis
The Davis Family

TORAH RESTORATION FUND

In Memory of Jonathan Rosenstein
Esther B. Adelman

Speedy recovery wishes to Lynne Fragin
Esther B. Adelman

Multifaith Chanting Circle: Breaking Free — Saturday April 2, 9, 23, 30 at 11:30 a.m.

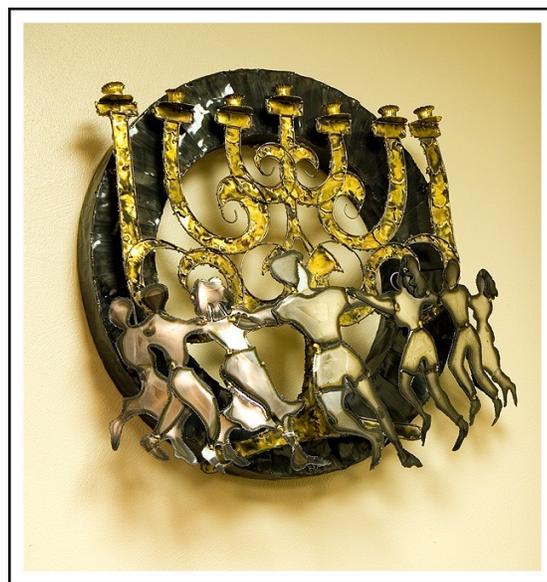
As Jews around the world celebrate Passover, the Feast of Freedom, and as countless other faith traditions also celebrate holidays with similar themes this April, our chanting circle will turn to the theme of “Breaking Free.”

How do we free ourselves from the narrow places within us? How do we find freedom from the oppressions of the world?

We'll learn spiritual techniques for addressing inner and outer “Pharaohs” through chant, contemplation and mutual support.

Please note that there will be no chanting circle on April 16 due to Passover.

Open to everyone, no matter their background or experience. So come try out this



unique experience!

To join us online, click:

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

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



*Rabbinical
Reflections*

Rabbi Daniel J.
Swartz

Past, Present and Future Judaisms

On the surface, it seems obvious that Passover celebrates the past, whether we think of that past in historical or mythic terms. But, as William Faulkner wrote, "The past is never dead. It's not even past." Indeed, the central commandment about Pesach is that we retell it not as history but as OUR story, something that is very much present for us. For only when we do so, can we help shape a better future, one free from all sorts of Pharaohs.

This bridging of many dimensions of time is perhaps why Passover is, according to many measures, the most widely observed of all Jewish holidays. On the one hand, it roots us and grounds us by connecting us to many ancient traditions. We are the next link in a chain that extends back for countless generations. In a rapidly changing and often disorienting world, those ties to the past can anchor us in meaning and purpose.

But any sense of meaning we draw from the past can easily become fossilized or attenuated to the point of insignificance. So it's crucially important to understand what these stories mean today, in this moment. We are not literally enslaved.

We live in a world where we do not witness divine intervention of the sort that seems central to the Passover story. So how can this old story make its way into the present?

One way is by understanding the inner dimensions of the story, putting it in psychological rather than historical terms. We ask ourselves: in what ways are we enslaved to unhelpful or unhealthy habits? What do we need to break free from? What plagues beset us? What seas do we stand at the shore of? What burning bush have we missed, that we now need to turn aside to see, so that we can once more feel connected to holy ground? All of these questions set the story inside of us in the present, rather than once upon a time in a distant land.

This personalizing of the story has taken place, to a greater or lesser extent, since the very invention of the seder in Mishnaic times.

Hagaddahs, traditional and modern, also point to a different path toward relevance — the connection not to the interior of our present lives, but to the global future. For it really does seem to be true, as the Hagaddah recounts, that new Pharaohs arise in every generation. In our day, we are surrounded by numerous pharaohs — and we cannot build a livable, sustainable future unless we face them and break free from them.

This year, at our community seder, we will have special readings address the plagues of climate change and what we need to do make an exodus from their root causes. But we could easily have focused on any number of other sorts of oppression, from the Russian invasion of Ukraine to violence and division in our own country.

We shouldn't view these different dimensions of the past, present and future as being in competition with each other, a choice between one or the others. Rather, they are braided together, like a beautiful challah (even though Passover is the one holiday that we can't eat challah on!), supporting and strengthening each other.

The more deeply we understand the traditions of the past, the more we can find meaning in the present, and the more likely we are to be able to build a better, freer future.

In Hesed,

Rabbi Daniel

2022 EARTH MONTH EVENTS



Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life
Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light
Sisters of IHM
Marywood University Environmental Club

Doug Tallamy Presentation (4/7/22, 6:30 pm)

Join us at Marywood University for an inspirational presentation by nationally recognized author and scientist, Doug Tallamy. Dr. Tallamy will share why planting native species is *Nature's Best Hope* and how we all can participate in our own backyards.

Community Garden Work Day (4/22/22, 3:45 pm)

Faith Climate Action week begins today! In honor of its theme, *Sacred Trust: Our Children's Right to a Livable Future*, we will host a work day with area youth at Marywood University's Community Garden.

Tending the Tree of Life (4/29/22, 1:00 pm)

Join us for an Interfaith service honoring the Tree of Life on Arbor Day at the IHM Center! We have a selection of trees to plant together and to give away so you can tend to your own Tree of Life at home

City Nature Challenge (Training: 4/9/22, 1-3 pm) (Challenge: 4/29/22-5/2/22)

Arbor Day also begins the *City Nature Challenge!* This worldwide competition uses the iNaturalist app to collect data on the diversity of species living in our own cities. Commonly called a BioBlitz, it is a great way for communities to explore, learn, and spend time with local biodiversity and each other. An in-depth training on how to join the challenge and use the app will be offered on 4/9 from 1-3pm at the IHM Center. A short version will be available following the Interfaith Tree of Life planting on 4/29.

Together we are trying to grow an interfaith environmental coalition here in NEPA. For more information about us, or our events, reach out to Emily Holtsmaster at (570)955-6609 or email her at ekholtsmaster@m.marywood.edu

*Stay Tuned for: Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light's first PAIPL-NEPA Chapter meeting and *Annual Bike and Hike Pennsylvania* in May 2022 highlighting our state's Eco Challenges, Eco Solutions, and Eco Beauty!

Adult Ed concludes with Commandments 9 and 10, Sunday April 3 and 10 at noon

Even if you missed the prior weeks, you are most welcome to join us in-person for the last two commandments — not bearing false witness and not coveting, both as relevant in today’s world as they have ever been.



Mother R. Barnes

Both classes will be held online and in-person at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 233 Wyoming Ave, kitty-corner from St. Peter’s Cathedral. St. Luke’s has its own free parking lot.

Mother Rebecca Barnes will be the lead teacher for Commandment 9 and Rabbi Daniel will be the lead teacher for Commandment 10.



Rabbi D. Swartz

Please note that the Scranton Half Marathon is on April 3, so there will be some street closures downtown. To attend by Zoom, click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82264883040?pwd=ejVmeUE3SE9KMxI0RTVUKzhyNW5xUT09>

Or from the Zoom app, enter Meeting ID: 822 6488 3040 and Passcode: Sinai

This class is free and open to all.

What would you like to learn this summer?

Rabbi Daniel is starting to plan for this summer’s adult education classes, and he’d like to hear from you about what you’d like to learn. Here are four ideas he’s contemplating — please let us know which you’d prefer, or if you have other thoughts.

How to Study Torah — Rabbi Daniel will not only study several key Torah passages with us, he will take us through the process of Torah study itself, highlighting new online and print resources that people can use to continue studying on their own.

Jewish Stories, from Ancient to Modern — This class would look at several parables and short stories, from Biblical times through modernity. Each week would focus on one or two stories.

Pirke Avot: the Sayings of the Sages — Pirke Avot contains some of the most-often quoted of Jewish teachings, rich nuggets of timeless wisdom. Rabbi Daniel will introduce to both well-known and sometimes-overlooked teachings, exploring their relevance for today.

Jewish cooking from around the world — This would be a four session, hands-on class that would explore some of the varied Jewish cuisines from around the world during the first three classes. In the final class, people will share some of their favorite Jewish recipes.

To weigh in on which class you’d like to see, please email (templehesed@comcast.net) or call (570-344-7201) the Temple office.

Help Ukraine

<https://jdc.org/Ukraine> and/or <https://wupj.org/news/2022/02/51971/world-union-launches-ukraine-crisis-fund/>

YAHARZEITS

March 27 – April 2
24 Adar II – 1 Nissan
Service April 1

Max Ballot, *Joshua Marks, *Albert Rose, *Arthur Adelman, *William Stein, *Jack Benkaim, *Ruth Folk, *Lois Besen, Joel Ostro, *Ida Richman, Mark Davis, *Samuel N. Kramer, *Hattie O. Levi, *Elsie Schneider

April 3 – 9
2 – 8 Nissan
Service April 8

*Abraham Cornfield, Fred A. Ellenbogen, *Hannah Joseph, *Meyer Slavitz, *Myer Kabatchnick, *Stephen Loebel, *Israel Linder, Seymour Mendelssohn, *Dr. Neal E. Soifer, *Joan Alperin, Florence Brown, *Arnold L. Apfelbaum, *Paul William Weinstock, Sheldon A. Davis

April 10 – 16
9 – 15 Nissan
Service April 15

*Daniel H. Stone, *Dr. Gladys Ball, *Harlan Ackerman, *Rose Swartz, Nellie Wooded, *Edith Leventhal, Dr. Carl Strauss, *Gertrude Diener, *Al J. Dolinger, *Jack M. Yanover, Aaron Pashkow

April 17 – 23
16 – 22 Nissan
Service April 22

*Shirley Mitteldorf, *Frances Joseph, *Elsa Ehrlich, *Alice L. Goldsmith, *Fred Seagaard, Emily Trunzo, Roslyn Mitchell, *Elizabeth R. Levi, *Ralph L. Levy, *Selma Stein, *Aaron H. Vogel, Harold Kaplan, *Rebecca Weinberg, *Janet Slawitsky, *Rae Epstein, *Harry Ackerson, Edward Bernstein

April 24 – 30
23 – 29 Nissan
Service April 29

*Emma Freeman, Dr. Jacob S. Kominz, *Lena Rosenberg, *Joyce Kroll, *Fred B. Levi, Jerome I. Karnoff, *Grace Pawlan, Hannah Feinberg, *Samuel Morris, *Elias Strauss

MAZEL TOV

Congratulations to Bob Ballot and Liz Feller on their recent marriage.

Michael Cornfield	<i>Get</i>
Lynne Fragin	
Kenny Ganz	<i>Wells</i>
Larry Golden	
Ellen Kline	
Phil Knobel	
Maggie LoRusso	
Rich Mates	
Chelsea Minkoff	
Harriet Noble	
Charlene Ostro	
Ceil Rydzewski	
Joel Vener	

Adv.

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Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



CENTURY 21
Jack Ruddy Real Estate

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Services *6 p.m.	2 Chanting Circle 11:30 a.m.**
3 Commandment 9 at St. Luke's. **Noon	4	5	6	7	8 Services *7 p.m.	9 Family Program 10 a.m. "Walk through the Seder" 11:30**Chanting
10 Commandment 10 at St. Luke's **Noon	11	12	13	14	15 Pesach Seder 6 p.m.	16
17	18	19	20 Board Mtg. 6 p.m.	21	22 Services *7 p.m.	23 Chanting 11:30**
24	25	26	27	28	29 Services *7p.m.	30 Chanting **11:30

**on Zoom *available on Zoom & YouTube

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

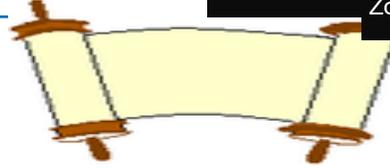
Yom HaAtzmaut — May 4-5

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
Tazna	April 2, 2020	1.Nissan.5782
Metzora	April 8, 2020	8.Nissan.5782
Acharei	April 30, 2020	29.Nissan.5782

YIDDISH SAYING :

“A word helps a good person; but even a stick can't help the bad.”



First Night Seder at Temple Hased on April 15.

Temple Members and Non-Temple members are welcome.

The cost is \$25/adult and \$18/child 5-12 (children under 5 are free.) R.S.V.P.s are Required email templehased@comcast.net or phone the office 570-344-7201.

TEMPLE HESED

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Fax: 570-344-4514

Temple Hased

Website: <http://www.templehased.org>

On the Web at: templehased.org

SPIRITUAL LEADER

Rabbi Daniel J Swartz

570-877-3454 (cell)

570-344-7201 (office)

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

STAFF

Marlene Gianzanti—Temple Administrator

(marlenecmg1@comcast.net)

Edward Snitko—Director of Music

Jennifer Rosen Novak— Director of Social Media

Rich Mates—Editor, Messenger (hasednews@gmail.com)

Jeff Heilbrunn – Webmaster

ABOUT TEMPLE HESED:

Temple Hased, 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 Hased 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. Bring a face mask.

The Temple Hased 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.