

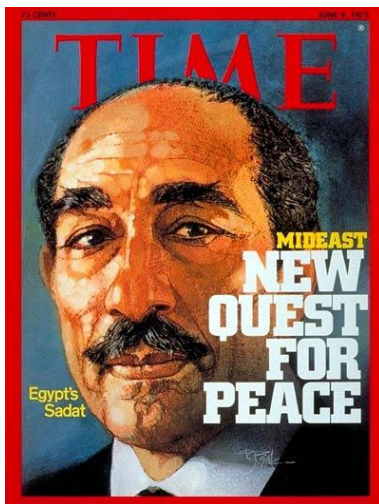


**Ma CHADASHI!** מה חדש!  
What's New! The newsletter of Temple Shalom Synagogue Center, Auburn, Maine ק"ק היכל שלום

December 2014 / Kislev/Tevet 5775

## COLBY PROFESSOR VISITS TEMPLE SHALOM TO DISCUSS ISRAEL AND EGYPT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>



Please join us at Temple Shalom for brunch and a talk on Israel-Egypt relations given by John Turner, associate professor of history at Colby College, **at noon, Sunday, Dec. 7.** Please RSVP with Julie at 786-4201.

Professor Turner's lecture is titled "An Enduring Peace: Egypt-Israel Relations in Historical Perspective." The peace treaty of 1979 between Egypt and Israel is of lasting importance to the Middle East and the world. How was it achieved and why does it endure? Turner will give historical context for understanding the continuing interactions between the two countries, including in this past summer's Gaza conflict.

Associate Professor of History John Turner holds a Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies from the University of Michigan. His research focuses on the interaction of political and religious authority in pre-modern Islamic history. He is particularly interested in the categorization and exclusion of heresy and heretics. His book, [Inquisition in Early Islam \(London, 2013\)](#), seeks to explain the role of the 8th-10th century Caliph and the Caliphate in the definition of what it means to be a Muslim. In addition to his primary field, as a graduate student he studied modern history with a focus on Syria and Iran, where he also studied Arabic (in Damascus) and Persian (in Tehran). His courses range from surveys of the pre-modern and modern periods in the Middle East to country specific courses, and he covers eras from the foundations of Islam to the current day.

Professor Turner's talk is sponsored, in part, by Colby's Jewish studies program through a grant to subsidize talks by Colby faculty on topics that relate to the theme, "Perspectives on Israel."

Please RSVP 786-4201, for the brunch at Noon – we will be treated to the culinary talents of several Temple Shalom MEN! The talk will follow at 12:45 p.m.

## FROM THE RABBI...



Hi Everyone.

In my Hebrew School class, the Bar/Bat Mitzvah candidates and I recently discussed the morning blessings in the Siddur. There is a very long list of short blessings, usually recited at our Minyan by Dr. Behzad. I pointed out that the first one thanks God for the rooster! The blessing specifically praises God for endowing the rooster with the ability to distinguish between night and day.

While thanking God for roosters may seem strange, in fact, it is the perfect blessing to start our day. The rooster, or, more commonly nowadays, the alarm clock, is often our enemy. We hate it, we curse it, we threaten to smash it against the wall (the alarm clock, not the rooster). But the alarm clock is really an important and useful tool. After all, we buy it and carefully set it each night because we know that the alarm clock helps us to successfully navigate the world. It allows us to sleep peacefully secure in the knowledge that it will do its job and wake us in time to get to wherever we need to go. Like school, or work or Minyan. In other words, the alarm clock is useful and annoying at the same time. Or more accurately, the alarm clock is useful precisely because it's annoying.

I asked the kids to write their own blessings thanking God for the things in their life that are simultaneously useful and annoying. Like parents. Or teachers. Or siblings. Or homework. I am asking you to do the same. Thanking God helps us to focus on the useful aspects of alarm clocks, or parents, or siblings, or spouses, or children, or bosses, or plumbers, etc. In other words, we often need to be annoyed in order for us to realize our full potential and it helps if we start our day being grateful for the things, or people, we bring into our life precisely because they are the most annoying. And after we compose our personal blessings thanking God for our spouses and children and parents and siblings, etc, let us resolve to recite them each morning. Then we can be sure to have a day we can crow about.

Shalom.  
Rabbi Sruli

***Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members of our Temple. Please call Rabbi Sruli on his cellphone at 914-980-9509 if you would like to speak with him or to arrange a time for a meeting. You can also call or leave a message at the Temple office and Rabbi Sruli will get back to you.***



Join us for the trip to the Holocaust and Human Rights Center in Augusta to see The Dilemma of Memory: Maine Artists and the Holocaust.

Tuesday, December 2

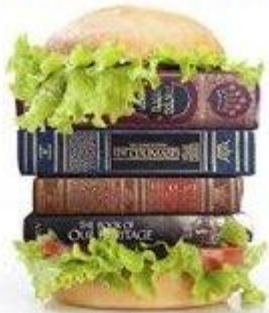
We will meet at 12:30 p.m. in the shul parking lot where we can rearrange ourselves so that we can make the trip in the fewest cars.

Wednesday, December 3 (the last day of the exhibit) as a snow date.

# ANNOUNCING OUR FIRST LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES OF THE NEW YEAR, 5775!

4 Tuesdays: December 9 and 16 and January 6 and 13 from 12:30 to 1:30.

## Lunch 'n Learn



We will study Chapter 1 of Pirkei Avot. Pirkei Avot is usually translated as "Ethics of the Fathers" and is perhaps the most studied portion of the Talmud. The wisdom that we will encounter will both inspire and challenge and will undoubtedly spark lively discussion. There is even a floating skull (okay, that's in Chapter 2, but we will get there soon enough).

Anne Allen has graciously offered her home so we will meet at  
1 Locksley Road, Auburn.

She has even more graciously offered to provide a "spread" so all you have to bring is yourself!

Please RSVP to Julie AT 786-4201, if you plan on attending so that Anne will have an idea of how much to prepare.

Community, Torah Study and Food--what can be bad?  
See you there.

## HOLD THE DATE

Maine Conference for Jewish Life--June 12 to 14, 2015

Details to come, but it will be an amazing opportunity to immerse yourselves in an environment filled with Jewish learning, spirit, camaraderie, music, prayer, food and each other--for an entire weekend! Rabbi Sruli

## SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of, **Tom Bailey, Leo Friedman, Elizabeth Johnson, Peggy Kraemer, Sandy Miller, Guy Pilote, Richard Rau, Joel Salberg, Esther Shapiro, David Sisk, Toby Wallach, Neal Weiner, Shamilla**, and all others who are not well at this time.

We like to hear good news! Whenever you request that a name be put on this list, please let us know when that name can be removed.





Join Us for Our Hanukkah Party  
Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
5:00pm ~ Mega-Menorah lighting  
followed by a catered dinner and  
music.



Remember to bring your  
menorahs  
and Hanukkah candles so we can  
all enjoy the light together!  
Crafts and dreidel games  
available for the kids



It's LATKE TIME ~ See you there!

Please RSVP - 786-4201 or  
[temple6359@aol.com](mailto:temple6359@aol.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



December. This is the time of year when a lot of us come face to face with religious diversity within our families. Whether it's within our own households, or it's a grandchild with one Jewish, one Christian parent, the Chanukah/Christmas dilemma is sure to come up. There is no one right way to handle this, as we must determine what works best for our situation. Do we stress what makes us unique, or the commonalities of the holidays? Do we talk about the religious aspects of each celebration, or do we keep it totally secular? There are many aspects to consider, and most seem to work themselves out. We live in such a multicultural world that even in our day-to-day lives we must learn to respect and appreciate other customs and traditions. So in religiously mixed families, we tend to divide up our time between both sides, getting a little taste of each tradition. And truly, isn't spending time with family what really makes this time of year so special?

Actually, that's what I like about any holiday. And since I live so far from my immediate family, I'm so glad to spend my holidays with you, my extended family. Not only can we celebrate Chanukah at the annual party, and by lighting the mega-menorah each night, but we can also spend the afternoon on Christmas Day at a movie and dinner afterwards. And in the meantime, I'm enjoying the beauty of the holiday lights and decorations, and watching *It's a Wonderful Life* one more time.

May your holidays, all of them, be memorable.

Lesli Weiner

## Yahrzeiten

If you are observing a yahrzeit and are planning to come to Thursday morning minyan to say Kaddish, we urge you to contact **Bob Laskoff** ([ral@laskofflaw.com](mailto:ral@laskofflaw.com)) and let him know so that he can include that information in his weekly reminder email. It is your responsibility to call friends and neighbors to make sure there are enough people for the minyan.



We all enjoy our Thursday morning Minyans and breakfast schmoozes. **HELP!** We need volunteers to shop and setup. A sign-up sheet is in the kitchen.

## RABBI SRULI & LISA TO PERFORM AT AUBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY!

Please join Rabbi Sruli and Lisa as they perform a family concert at the Auburn Public Library on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. "An Old World Hanukkah Celebration" - free and open to the public!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Our next meeting will be on  
Monday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m.  
(No meeting in December)



## !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!BOOK GROUP NEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

On November 10th, Judy Abromson, Helene Perry, Bonnie Faiman, Bertha



Bodenheimer, Malca Wilner, Lisa Mayer and me, Marsha Auster met to discuss *The Arrogant Years* by Lucette Lagnado. Many of us looked forward to reading this book because we enjoyed her first memoir *The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit*.

Most of us enjoyed the *The Arrogant Years*. It started with a review of the history of the Jews in Cairo. The years when Muslims and Jews lived together harmoniously until the regime change and many Jews had to leave Egypt. They moved to Brooklyn NY.

Some of us felt that the writing was a little "lazy" in that she did not explain some situations and jumped from idea to idea. The title was discussed because as teenagers one sometimes feels that you can conquer all and know all. Teenagers can be arrogant.

Our next book is *The Seventh Secret* by Irving Wallace. Emily and her father have set out to write a biography of Adolph Hitler. Before they finish the manuscript they receive a letter from a German dentist which casts suspicion on whether Hitler and Eva did commit suicide. Joined by an American architect, a Mossad agent and a Russian museum curator they uncover some questionable information.

Join us on MONDAY, DECEMBER 8th at 4 PM to find out the answers did Hitler commit suicide? *The Seventh Secret* by Irving Wallace. Lesli will be back from visiting her beautiful family to facilitate this discussion.

## What do Jews do on Christmas? CHINESE AND A MOVIE!!!!

DECEMBER 25th

This is a great time to gather with your Jewish friends and just do something fun.

The local theater can't tell me what will be playing yet, but I'm hoping for a matinee to see *INTO THE WOODS*.

I also have to work on which restaurant will be open, as our 2 favorites have chosen to give their staff the day off. We'll eat after the movie.



So stay tuned for future email updates. Or email me with suggestions:

[lesli.w@prodigy.net](mailto:lesli.w@prodigy.net)

### WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

Please welcome our newest member Judith Friedlaender of Auburn to the Temple Shalom family!

# Central Maine Jewish Teen Event

Saturday, December 6, 2014

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Temple Shalom, Auburn, Maine

In our Fabulous Teen Lounge!

Battle of the Sexes and other games!

All-Request DJ



Pizza, snacks and Ice-Cream

Ages 13 to 19

Free!!!

Hang out with Jewish Teens from across Central  
Maine!

RSVP [sruli@aol.com](mailto:sruli@aol.com)

## JCA TRIP TO JEWISH CVBA, MARCH 8-15, 2015

Travel to Cuba with the Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine for a once-in-a-lifetime experience, learning from and about Cuba's small and determined Jewish community. Explore their challenges and history, experience the people, architecture, arts and rhythms of life on this fully authorized visit to Cuba.

We are also pleased to announce a travel stipend opportunity. Join us on the trip as a community ambassador and return to enrich the life of the Maine Jewish community! Whatever your passion, we invite you to think big, share ideas and craft a project that will bring your dynamic vision to life! Apply today!

For more information, please visit our website, [www.mainejewish.org](http://www.mainejewish.org) and click on Life and Culture, then Travel or call Fae Silverman at 772-1959 x253.

## DECEMBER 2014 VAHRZEITEN

Dec.	1	Michael Abromson
	1	Max Lezberg
	2	Hilda Kleeger
	3	Philip Rosen
	8	Lipman ben Lieb
	10	Morris Supovitz
	14	Daniel J. Bell
	14	Leroy Bieringer
	15	Charles W. Marcus
	16	Nathan Benson
	17	Ernestine Friedlaender
	17	Ethel Plavin
	18	William Markle
	19	Morris Zallen
	21	Frances Silverman
	23	Frances Stern
	24	Sylvia J. LaPerriere
	25	Arlene Fine
	26	Marcia Bell
	26	Mazie Schwartz
	29	Harry Drabkin
	31	Keyla Fuks

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Estelle Rubinstein	Dec	3
Sherman Shapiro		3
Andrew Bodenheimer		6
Joshua Goodman		7
Mark Shraiberg		7
Lillian Zidle		7
Peter Casares		10
Jennifer Nussinow		11
Colby Miles		14
Carla Marcus		15
Alexander Miles		16
Suzan Katzir		17
Sarah Levine		30



MaChadash/What's New is published monthly by Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center. Temple Shalom is an independent congregation and a member of the Lewiston-Auburn Jewish Federation.

The mission of Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center is to foster a strong Jewish identity and an active Jewish Community.

Rabbi Sruli Dresdner

Office Manager Julie Waite

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Temple Shalom office hours are  
9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Telephone: 207-786-4201

Fax: 207-786-4202

[www.templeshalomauburn.org](http://www.templeshalomauburn.org)

E-mail address: [temple6359@aol.com](mailto:temple6359@aol.com)

Rabbi Sruli: [sruli@aol.com](mailto:sruli@aol.com).

Telephone: 914-980-9509

# **CONTRIBUTIONS**

## **GENERAL FUND**

The Bell Family

In memory of Reva Finks Roth

In memory of Irving Bell

Cathy & Stan Tetenman

To Behzad & Harriet Fakhery in honor  
of their granddaughter's bat mitzvah

Phyllis & Leonard Bell

In memory of Sina Amsel

In memory of Irving Bell

Judy Abromson, Elinor Goldblatt,

Barbara Shapiro, Sandy Traister

To Harriet Fakhery in honor of her  
special birthday

Joy & Lewis Zidle

In honor of the wedding of Daniel  
& Thu Klain

## **ABROMSON MEMORIAL FUND**

Judy Abromson & Family

In memory of Michael Abromson

In memory of Natalie Cohen

## **BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND**

Joan Levenson

In memory of Sadie Baker

Bertha Bodenheimer

To Behzad & Harriet Fakhery in honor  
of their granddaughter's bat mitzvah

In memory of Keyla Fuks

David & Anne Allen

To Bertha Bodenheimer in honor of her  
complete & speedy recovery

To Bob & Sandra Allen in honor of their  
complete & speedy recovery

To Aaron & Ellen Burke in memory of  
Ruth Burke & Martin Burke

## **FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL FUND**

Li'el Boudreau

In memory of Lipman ben Lieb

In memory of Arlene Fine

## **LIBRARY FUND**

Toby & Ernie Wallach

To Aaron & Ellen Burke in memory of  
Ruth Burke & Martin Burke

Sandra & Allen Miller

In memory of Abraham Miller

**MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND**

Carla Marcus

In memory of Rose Marcus

**MITZVAH FUND**

Phyllis Graber Jensen

In memory of Anita Graber

**NUSSINOW NURSERY SCHOOL FUND**

*Funds are used to support the Temple Shalom Nursery/Preschool*

Estelle Rubinstein

In memory of Hyman Rubinstein

**PULPIT/PRAYER BOOK FUND**

Harriet & Behzad Fakhery

Bible given in honor of their granddaughter's  
bat mitzvah

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Sam & Bob Allen

In memory of Dorothy Allen

Genise Stern

In celebration of Jeff Stern's birthday

**RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND**

Dorothy Fishman

To Albert Shems in honor of a  
continued recovery

**BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND**

**CEMETERY FUND**

**COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND**

**ENDOWMENT FUND**

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*For interior decoration and maintenance*

**YOUTH FUND**

*Thank  
You*

## Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center

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## DECEMBER AT TEMPLE SHALOM

Tuesday, 12/2	12:30 pm	Meet at Temple for trip to the Holocaust & Human Rights Center
Thursday, 12/4	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 12/6	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
	6:00 pm	Central Maine Jewish Teen Event - RSVP!
Sunday, 12/7	10:00 am	Family Hebrew School
	12:00 Noon	Brunch prepared by a group of Temple Shalom MEN and guest speaker John Turner, Colby College – RSVP!
Monday, 12/8	4:00 pm	Book Group
	5:15 pm	Program Committee meeting
Tuesday, 12/9, 16	12:30 pm	Lunch & Learn (at Allen home) – RSVP!
Thursday, 12/11	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 12/13	10:00 am	Family Shabbat Service
Tuesday, 12/16	6:00 pm	Auburn Public Library – “An Old World Hanukkah Celebration” – a free family concert with Rabbi Sruli & Lisa!
Thursday, 12/18	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
	5:00 pm	Mega-Menorah Lighting,, Chanuka Party – RSVP!
Saturday, 12/20	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Thursday, 12/25	7:00 am	NO morning minyan & breakfast
	TBA	Chinese food & Movie Program – RSVP!
Saturday, 12/27	9:30 am	Shabbat Service

