



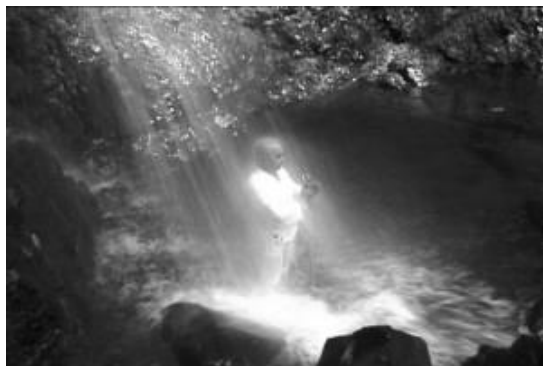
MA CHADASH!

What's New! The newsletter of Temple Shalom Synagogue Center, Auburn, Maine

מה חדש!

ק"ק היכל שלום

February 2016/ Shevat/Adar I 5776



Please join us for a very special brunch program on

Sunday February 7 at 12:00 noon

for the screening of the wonderful documentary film:

TOUCHED BY WATER

**followed by a vibrant discussion by members of our community
who will share their transformative MIKVAH experiences.**

A delicious brunch will be prepared by an ALL-MALE Crew!

This program is sure to make a splash!

***Touched by Water** is a documentary that dives into the lush world of bathing rituals, exploring the traditions of our essential bond with water.*

*From ancient Roman baths to elite European spas, from Turkish hammams and the Ganges to a high-tech multimedia pool, the film explores the hidden meaning behind the simple and universal act of bathing. Filmed in 13 countries, **Touched by Water** conveys our complex relationship with water, its sensual pleasure and spiritual renewal.*

***Touched by Water** immerses us in the rich and diverse ways of loving water, the source of all life.*

FROM THE RABBI...



Hi Everyone.

Do any of you remember when Johnny Carson exposed the great mind reader and magician, Uri Geller? Geller was world famous for bending spoons "with his thoughts." Geller swore that he had actual psychic powers. Of course, all the other magicians with moral compasses knew exactly what he was doing and made it their mission to him down.

When Uri Geller was booked to appear on *The Tonight Show*, host Johnny Carson (a former magician himself) was understandably skeptical about

Geller's adamant claims of true supernatural ability. He contacted professional illusionist James Randi and asked how the trick might really be done. As Randi explained, the easiest way to bend a spoon with your mind would be to spend a few minutes before the show bending the spoon back and forth with your hand until the metal is so weak that it just falls limp when you hold it up to the camera.

Carson surprised the "supernatural" Geller on the show by presenting a table full of assorted spoons and knickknacks rather than letting him bring his own props. Geller slowly descended into panic mode knowing that his trick would not work—and millions were watching!

This past Shabbat morning (as I write this column), we studied the verses in Exodus that describe the miracle of the Manna. The Torah describes the Manna as a wonderful food that would miraculously appear each morning to provide sustenance to the Israelites as they wandered through the barren wilderness.

With some hesitation, I drew the group's attention to one of the notes in our Chumash (the book that we use to study the Torah—published by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism). The note speculates that the Manna may have been the naturally occurring sap of the tamarisk tree that can be found in the wilderness of Northern Arabia. This sap happens to share many of the qualities the Torah uses to describe Manna: it is collected in the early morning, it has a yellowish, flaky appearance, it melts in the heat of the day, decays rapidly and cooks into a kind of bread.

I knew that this information might diminish the sense of the miracle of the Manna but, as the note makes clear, the very fact that this unusual food happened to be available when needed by the Israelites, was what was truly magical. Perhaps more of a miracle than believing the Manna to be an alien food magically dropped from heaven.

And so it was. The reading of this note (note 31 on page 418) led to a truly magical experience. Dr. Fakhery, Behzad, suddenly remembered this food from his childhood in Iran. It was called "Katira," he said, which sounds a lot like the word the Torah uses for fragrant spices, "Katora." He recalled its otherworldly, sweet taste and informed us that dealing in Katira was his grandfather's business.

It made me realize that as the magician makes magic, not by supernatural means but through careful preparation, skill and a lot of practice, we make magic when we get together and study Torah. And, sometimes, when you study Torah, you have to leave the comfort of the supernatural to experience true magic.

May we share many more magical moments of study and insight together.

Rabbi Sruli

Rabbi Sruli and Lisa will lead a Jewish Valentine's Day workshop for the Jewish Community Alliance in Portland on Thursday evening, February 11 at 6:30 pm.

From the JCA website: *A conversation about the positive Jewish significance of intimacy between loving partners. Interactive Program led by Rabbi Sruli and Rebbetzin Lisa of Temple Shalom, Auburn: What makes a happy Jewish couple, happy? Why do some couples connect better than others? How do they do it? And how do they do it year after year? Do they have secrets? Well, yes. Some can be found in the Talmud. Some can be found in Yiddish Proverbs. And some-- well-- come, have a glass of wine, sit, and we'll talk. For those in committed relationships and those aspiring for one. Pre-registration is required for Portland location details. \$10 per person. For more information, please contact the JCA program coordinator via email, Fae Silverman, or phone, 772-1959.*

Rabbi Sruli will also be teaching a class on Klezmer Music for Senior College on Tuesday, February 23 at 1:00 p.m. Please see their website <https://usm.maine.edu/seniorcollege/fall-2011-catalog> for more details.

Rabbi Sruli and Lisa will also present a concert of mostly Jewish music at the First Universalist Church, Turner Center, on Saturday, February 27 at 7:00 pm.

SHABBAT SERVICES REMINDER

Shabbat morning services begin at 9:30 am each week. We have a prayer service from 9:30 to 10:30 followed by Torah Study from 10:30 to 11:30. Please feel free to attend either or both segments.

In accordance with sacred Jewish tradition and practice, times are approximate



Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members or 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.



WISH LIST!

Wooden clothing drying racks (2)
approximately cost - \$40 each at Reny's.

Amazon gift cards (for toys, classroom items)!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Winter has finally set in. There are tell-tale signs at Temple Shalom. The missing faces of our snow birds and others vacationing in warmer climes. The occasional program or service canceled due to inclement weather. The realization that the timer for the outdoor lights needs to be programmed much earlier. Only 4 people at the last Book Group. And only 2 walkways from the parking lot. The next board meeting being canceled due to so many members planning on being away. The extra layers worn while in the social hall.

But Temple Shalom does not go into hibernation. Winter also has its special moments. Tu B'Shvat is our time to get mystical with Lisa. And Purim is that party where we get that inner warmth. Speaking of parties, there's always plenty of music, especially at Cafe Shalom. On a more serious note, Rabbi Sruli does his Lunch 'n Learn series at this time of year, and we sprinkle in a couple of brunches with interesting programs.

Let's not forget the ongoing activities such as Hebrew School, Family and Shabbat services, Thursday minyan and breakfast, Book Group, and monthly Friday night services. To escape the winter doldrums it's important to get out and be with your community, your friends. Since it gets dark earlier, some of our members may appreciate an offer of a ride, or may just need a little urging to go out on a cold night. The company can do us all good.

Being with my Temple friends always gives me that warm, cozy feeling.

Lesli Weiner

Early Bird Discount

for this year's

Maine Conference for Jewish Life

June 17–19, 2016

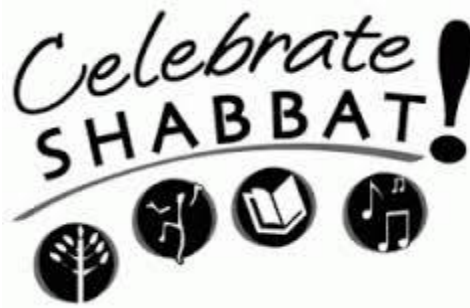
Location: Diamond Atrium, Colby College

Costs:

We are offering an early bird discount! Register now through March 31st and tuition is \$36 per person per day! After that, the price will be \$45 per person per day and will increase to \$60 for registrations received after June 1. This fee includes all meals.

For registration and more information, please visit http://www.colby.edu/administration_cs/special_programs/programs/2015/2745225/Maine-Conference-for-Jewish-Life.cfm.

Lesli Weiner and Rabbi Sruli will be offering workshops!



Shabbat Dinner
and
MUSICAL Shabbat Service

Friday, February 26
Pot Luck Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Musical Service at 7:00 p.m.

Please join us as we usher in Shabbat with a fun Pot Luck Shabbat Dinner followed by spiritual and spirited musical prayers and dance by Rabbi Sruli, Lisa and Zachary!!!

Please RSVP to Julie by February 24.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

No meeting in February.
Our next meeting will be on
Monday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m.



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, April 2, 2016
6:00 p.m.



TEMPLE MEMORIAL FUNDS

In the last two issues of Ma Chadash we have outlined the uses of monies donated to ten of Temple Shalom's Memorial Funds. Some funds have been established in honor of family members, others were established by the congregation to help finance special needs of the Temple.



In order to continue to familiarize our friends and members with these accounts we list here another group of Temple funds.

BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND: In memory of Bert Bodenheimer, husband of our devoted and active member Bertha Bodenheimer. The money in this fund is used to help finance the Temple's annual congregational Seder.

MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND: In memory of 'Brownie' and Dr. Barney Marcus, parents of our devoted and active members Paula Platz and Carla Marcus. A garden in memory of the Marcus's is situated at the entrance of the Temple and its maintenance and beauty is continued by this fund.

COHEN MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND: In memory of Elaine Cohen and Richelle Cohen Levoy, loving wife and daughter of our member Dr. Stuart Cohen. The fund continues to maintain and beautify the garden at the Temple entrance honoring and remembering Elaine and Richelle.

GENERAL FUND: This fund was created as a depository for donations made to the Temple without any specified use. The money in the fund is deposited into the Temple's daily operations account.

EVE AND GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND: In memory of George and Eve Shapiro, parents of our 'out-of-town' devoted member Harriet Passerman. There is no specified use for the money in this fund, but it is available for any Temple project with the acceptance of Mrs. Passerman.

HEBREW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND: Created many years ago to provide scholarships to our Hebrew School for students whose families are unable to afford full tuition to the school. Temple policy does not bar any individual from participation in religious events for financial reasons.

Although not listed as separate funds, it should be noted that memorial (Yahrzeit) plaques attached to the wall in the Temple chapel, and the Tree of Life leafs for happy events, located on the wall near the entrance to the sanctuary, are available to memorialize or honor both family and friends. The Temple Board has set these donations at \$200 and \$115 respectively.

HAPPY AND SAD OCCASIONS

If you have a family life-cycle event (such as a birth, graduation, hospitalization, death, etc.) that you would like to share with our community, please contact Julie so that your happy or sad event can be publicized in Ma Chadash.



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

The Innocents by Francesca Segal was the book we discussed on January 11. You can tell winter has set in, as only 4 of us showed up: Bertha Bodenheimer, Babs Shapiro, Margaret Meyer and me, Lesli Weiner. The fact that this debut novel was a re-telling of the classic novel *The Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton, really made no difference to us as none of us could remember back that far to when we may have read it. What we did find interesting about this present-day story was the portrayal of life in the Jewish community of North London. It did seem to be a throwback to late 19th century New York.



Our next selection is from an Israeli author, *The Hilltop: A Novel* by Assaf Gavron. This is Amazon's synopsis of this humorous satirical 'great Israeli novel':

"On a rocky hilltop stands Ma'aleh Hermesh C, a fledgling outpost of Jewish settlers in the West Bank. According to government records it doesn't exist; according to the military it must be defended. On this contested land, Othniel Assis—under the wary gaze of the Palestinians in the neighboring village—lives on his farm with his ever-expanding family. As Othniel cheerfully manipulates government agencies, more settlers arrive, and a hodge-podge of shipping containers and mobile homes takes root.

One steadfast resident is Gabi Kupper, a former kibbutz dweller who savors the delicate routines of life on the settlement. When Gabi's prodigal brother, Roni, arrives penniless on his doorstep with a bizarre plan to sell the "artisanal" olive oil from the Palestinian village to Tel Aviv yuppies, Gabi worries his life won't stay quiet for long. Then a nosy American journalist stumbles into Ma'aleh Hermesh C, and Gabi's worst fears are confirmed. The settlement becomes the focus of an international diplomatic scandal, facing its greatest threat yet."

Pick up your copy and join us on MONDAY, MARCH 14 at 4 PM (No meeting in February). See you then.....lesli

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of **Deborah Frank Burdo, Michelle Lisi Deloro, Fleck Family, Christie James, Elizabeth Johnson, Mark Johnson, Bethany Kornstadt, Leonard Bell, Dennis McCreery, Sandy Miller, Richard Rau, Joel Salberg, Shamilla, David Sisk, Toby Wallach, Neal Weiner**, 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.



YAHREZEITEN

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) 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.



Community Passover Seder

Saturday, April 23 at 5:00 p.m.

*Adults: Members - \$25
*Children 12 & under: \$15

*Adults: Non-Members - \$30
*Children under 5: No Charge

Paid reservations MUST be made by Monday, March 28th!

No one turned away for inability to pay, but we must have the reservation.

✂-----tear off and return-----

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

of Adults: x \$30.....\$ _____

of Adults..... x \$25.....\$ _____

of Children 5-12:..... x \$15.....\$ _____

of Children under 5 (No Charge, but we need to set places at the table
and plan activities) _____

of Vegetarian Meals _____

Clip and mail with your check to
Temple Shalom Synagogue-Center,
74 Bradman Street, Auburn, ME 04210

Remember: We MUST receive your paid reservation by
Monday, March 28th!



USA POSTAGE STAMP HONORS UNSUNG RESCUE OF JEWS FROM THE NAZIS

Thought you might be interested in this heroic person.

Who was Hiram Bingham and why is he getting a stamp?

Just an interesting piece of evidence of the curious behavior of the Roosevelt administration toward the Jews during WWII.



Former Secretary of State Colin Powell gave a posthumous award for "constructive dissent" to Hiram (or Harry) Bingham, IV. For over fifty years, the State Department resisted any attempt to honor Bingham. For them he was an insubordinate member of the US diplomatic service, a dangerous maverick who was eventually demoted. Now, after his death, he has been officially recognized as a hero.

Bingham came from an illustrious family. His father (upon whom the fictional character Indiana Jones was based) was the archeologist who unearthed the Inca City of Machu Picchu, Peru, in 1911. Harry entered the US diplomatic service and, in 1939, was posted to Marseilles, France, as American Vice-Consul.

The USA was then neutral and, not wishing to annoy Marshal Petain's puppet Vichy regime and because of rampant anti-semitism of certain State Department officials, including Assistant Secretary of State Breckenridge Long, the State Department illegally (and without the knowledge of President Roosevelt) ordered its representatives and consuls in Europe, including Marseilles, Lisbon, Zurich et al, not to grant visas to any Jews. Bingham found this policy immoral and, risking his career, did all in his power to undermine it.

In defiance of his bosses in Washington, he granted over 2,500 USA visas to Jewish and other refugees, including the artists Marc Chagall and Max Ernst and the family of the writer Thomas Mann. He also sheltered Jews in his Marseilles home, and obtained forged identity papers to help Jews in their dangerous journeys across Europe. He worked with the French underground to smuggle Jews out of France into Franco's Spain or across the Mediterranean and even contributed to their expenses out of his own pocket. In 1941, Washington lost patience with him. He was sent to Argentina, where later he continued to annoy his superiors by reporting on the movements of Nazi war criminals.

Eventually, he was forced out of the American diplomatic service completely.

Bingham died almost penniless in 1988. Little was known of his extraordinary activities until his son found some letters in his belongings after his death. He has now been honored by many groups and organizations including the United Nations and the State of Israel.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Sheri & Joel Olstein

Feb 1



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Joel Salberg	Feb	3
Richard Abromson		4
Gary Shapiro		5
Barry Kutzen		5
Scott Kaplan		6
Judith Friedlaender		8
Corinne Weiner		9
Gavriella King		14
Stacey Hensen		18
Nancy Levenson		22
Andrew Casares		24
Lawrence Mohr		26
Cathy Tetenman		27
Joel Goodman		28



FEBRUARY 2016 YAHRZEITEN

(Yahrzeits begin at nightfall on the evening prior to the date listed below)

James LaPerriere	3
Morris L. Cohen	3
Michael Steinman	3
Jennie Rubinstein	5
Bashi Elyeshmerni	6
Jacques Renard	6
Samuel Simonds	8
Helene Reeves	9
George Rosenberg	10
Philip Renard	12
Max Simonds	13
Jean Brown	13
Estelle Pennamacoor	13
Elizabeth Kraemer	16
Jacob Olstein	16
Hillel Passerman	18
Abe Tetenman	21
Milton Faiman	22
Hugo Schleicher	22
Rabbi David Berent	24
Celia Simonds	25
Shirley Goodman	27
Joseph Shapiro	29



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

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Rabbi Sruli: sruli@aol.com

Telephone: 914-980-9509

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND

Babs & Michael Shapiro

In memory of Elsie Goodman

Brian Smalley

In memory of Morris Silverman

Frederick Levine

In memory of Morris Silverman

Eileen & Peter Lehrer

In memory of Morris Silverman

Harriet & Steve Passerman

In appreciation

Elaine McCarty

In memory of Morris Silverman

Sheryl Battit

In memory of Morris Silverman

Carol Bodenheimer Alberts

In memory of Morris Silverman

Peter & Allyson Casares

In memory of Esther Shapiro

Catherine Collins

In memory of Morris Silverman

Linda & Allen Milburn

In memory of Morris Silverman

Jocelyn & Nick Mitchell

In recognition of my parents, Lesli

& Neal Weiner

The Passerman Family

In memory of Maxwell Passerman

In memory of Morris Silverman

In memory of Esther Shapiro

Peter & Paula Lunder

In memory of Morris Silverman

Lesli & Neal Weiner

In honor of Jim Platz on his 66th birthday

Joy & Lewis Zidle

In memory of Morris Silverman

ABROMSON MEMORIAL FUND

Beverly Hurwitz

In memory of Celia Supovitz

BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND

Bertha Bodenheimer

To Malca Wilner-many thanks for your kindness

To Jim & Candy Platz in honor of the birth of a new grandson

To Hank Meyer in memory of his uncle

LIBRARY FUND

Sandra & Allen Miller

In memory of Martin C. Miller

Estelle Rubinstein

In memory of Judith Isaacson

Bob & Jackie Laskoff

In memory of Anne Leavitt

MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

Carla Marcus

In memory of Dr. Bernard Marcus

NUSSINOW NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

Funds are used to support the Temple Shalom Nursery/Preschool

Estelle Rubinstein

In memory of Morris Silverman

Peter & Allyson Casares

In memory of Morris Silverman in appreciation
for his loving support of our Temple Shalom
Preschool

Amy & Scott Nussinow

In memory of Jennie Krasner

PULPIT/PRAYER BOOK FUND

Roz & Barry Kutzen

In memory of Sylvia Kutzen

In memory of Shirley Asher

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Joel & Sheri Olstein

In appreciation

Adele Silverman

In memory of Henry Brody

Andrew & Sharon Bodenheimer

In memory of Ellen Schleicher Bodenheimer

RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND

Ellen Crosby

In memory of Judith Isaacson

BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND**CEMETERY FUND****COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND****ENDOWMENT FUND****EVE & GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND****FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL FUND****MINYANAIRE FUND****MITZVAH FUND****SHIRLEY GOODMAN MEMORIAL FUND**

For interior decoration and maintenance

Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center

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Auburn, ME 04210-6330

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DATED MATERIAL

FEBRUARY 2016

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FEBRUARY AT TEMPLE SHALOM

Thursday, 2/4	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 2/6	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sunday, 2/7	10:00 am	Hebrew School
	Noon	Brunch/Program "Touched By Water" – Please RSVP!
Monday, 2/8	5:15 pm	Program Committee Meeting
Thursday, 2/11	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
	6:30 pm	Rabbi Sruli & Lisa to do a Valentine's Day workshop – JCA Portland
Saturday, 2/13	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Thursday, 2/18	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 2/20	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Tuesday, 2/23	1:00 pm	Rabbi Sruli to teach "Klezmer Music" at Senior College
Thursday, 2/25	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Friday, 2/26	6:00 pm	Pot Luck Dinner – Please RSVP!
	7:00 pm	Musical Shabbat Service
Saturday, 2/27	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
	7:00 pm	Rabbi Sruli & Lisa perform at First Universalist Church in Turner
Sunday, 2/28	10:00 am	Hebrew School