



MaCHADASH!

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

מה חדש!

ק"ק היכל שלום

June 2017/Sivan/Tammuz 5777

Shabbat Together!

שבת ביחד!

Saturday, June 24th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Great food and drink, bonding, playing, studying, hanging out.

Special Guests: Rabbi Rachel Isaacs and Melanie Weiss

For the entire community—all ages!

In order to create a Shabbat atmosphere, we ask that participants commit to stay through Havdallah and to not use phones, Tablets, etc.

Please RSVP by June 22.



FROM THE RABBI...



Hi Everyone.

Geshmak. Yiddish for delicious. In the world I grew up in, *geshmak* was used to describe intense, other-worldly delights. Always pronounced with emphasis—and with a smile.

There is a secret contained in the word *geshmak*. True delight does not come from things or stuff or anything money can buy. An experience, a connection, an insight, might warrant the exclamation: *geshmak*. The way someone chants a prayer in shul that touches you in your innermost *kishkes* (intestines); a particularly great story or

Torah explanation that makes you see something you never saw before; a beautiful *zemer* (Sabbath table song) that you never heard before or even a familiar *zemer*, but with a particular combination of voices that gives it a special power; or a food—but not just any food—a food infused with Jewish tradition and meaning.

Geshmak taught us what to value and what we could have lived without. It even made us a little smug because we knew, we really knew, that we could experience a deeper more meaningful state of bliss than most. Because we owned the idea of *geshmak*.

According to the Harvard Study of Adult Development as reported by the New York Times: “Surveys show that most young adults believe that obtaining wealth and fame are keys to a happy life. But a long-running study out of Harvard suggests that one of the most important predictors of whether you age well and live a long and happy life is not the amount of money you amass or notoriety you receive. A much more important barometer of long term health and well-being is the strength of your relationships with family, friends and spouses.” To us this is obvious. And we would add, with our tradition and community as well.

Geshmak is about love and connections, filling life with meaning and purpose, turning the ordinary into the extraordinary. With the secret of *geshmak*, any day, any encounter, any experience, can become infused with wonderful life-giving power—if you are open to it and look for it. A conversation with friends, a hug, a meal, a walk in the woods.

Shabbat is particularly conducive to *geshmak*. The relaxed atmosphere that comes from knowing that you are “stuck” in the same place with same people all day, helps. The fact that everything on Shabbat is imbued with tradition and meaning, helps more. Meat, potatoes and beans are just food, but when combined to form a Shabbes cholent—*geshmak*. A nap is just a nap but a Shabbes nap is *geshmak*. Weekday davening, rushed and work-a-day, is rarely *geshmak* but a beautiful Shabbes rendition of L’cha Dodi or El Adon, or a fiery Torah discussion, *geshmak*.

And on the 24th, at our Shabbat Together, let us find many opportunities to exclaim: *Geshmak*!

Rabbi Sruli



Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members of our Temple. Please call Rabbi Sruli on his cell phone 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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Temple's annual meeting was held on May 24th. I have now been president of our Temple for a year and I thank you for entrusting our Temple to me and the Board. For those of you who were not at the meeting, I want to review where we are at and where we are going.

The Temple is in good shape. Our finances are coming together. Our programs continue to be diverse and numerous. There really is something for everyone. Spiritually, we are on solid ground with Rabbi Sruli leading us. The cemetery is one thing that needs to be worked on and will be a large focus of the upcoming year.

With finances, this fiscal year will be the first time in over 25 years that we have not had to dip into our investments. We have not withdrawn any dividends, growth or principal. Our fund raising, Dollar-A-Day, Yom Kippur appeal and other campaigns have helped bring in more donations than in decades. Now, I want to caution you, one year of generosity does not guarantee our long term financial stability. We need to continue to raise money so that we do not have to touch our investments. Our investments, if remain untouched for a good period of time, ensure our long term survivability. Your generosity is helping preserve the long term future of Temple Shalom. THANK YOU! Remember, keep your hearts open. Keep your checkbooks open.

We have various programming and every week there seems like there is something new to go to or experience. Just a few weeks ago, the rabbi led a Lag B'Omer celebration. We had many members of our Temple attend along with many friends of the Temple. A campfire and s'mores topped off the evening. If you missed it, try to come next year. Of course, we have Thursday morning minyans, speakers and brunch on a few Sundays a year. There was the trip to the Yiddish Book center which was a great success, the community Passover Seder (my favorite) and many other programs. Look at the calendar, as it comes out, and find something to come to. Bring a friend. I am sure you will enjoy sharing time with your community.

Spiritually, we have Rabbi Sruli leading us. As you know, he has jumped into life in L/A with both feet. He does a lot of outreach to many communities, leads us in music and prayer and teaches us about the Torah portions at Thursday morning minyans.

Now comes the cemetery. Through no one's fault, our cemetery does not meet the standards it should to show respect and honor for our community and those who have passed. Part of this is due to finances. By state law, we need to use our funds in such a manner that they last in perpetuity. After all, the cemetery will be here forever. Again by law, cemetery funds are kept completely separate from Temple funds.

Given that the funds need to last in perpetuity, we have to ensure we don't spend too much money each year. Even with that restriction, we want to bring our cemetery up to standards. With this in mind, I have created a Cemetery sub-committee headed by Scott Nussinow with Hank Meyer and Joel Olstein as members of this Sub-Committee. I will oversee this sub-committee closely. (Hopefully without micro-managing.) They have been tasked with developing a plan, including funding, of bringing the cemetery up to standards. And, defining what 'bring up the quality' means. This endeavor may take a few years to complete, but we hope to see progress over the summer and into the fall.

Now, Scott, Joel and Hank cannot do this alone, nor can we expect them to. They will be asking for your help. The help may be in time or energy. When asked, please think of those who have built this community and have passed. Think of how we should honor and respect them, by giving them a beautiful place to rest. I thank each of you for the help you will give Scott, Joel and Hank. It will be greatly appreciated.

David Allen
President

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



The readers are back! On May 8 we had a full round table: Judy Abromson, Bertha Bodenheimer, Adele Silverman, Helene Perry, Margaret Meyer, Bonnie Faiman, Babs Shapiro and me, Lesli Weiner. Since only Margaret and Sandy Traister were there last month, the group wanted to briefly discuss *Chasing the Rabbit*. We talked mostly about what a challenge it is to bring up a special needs child, both at home, for the parents, and in the schools, for the teachers. Our discussion followed the same lines as last month's article, so reference the May Ma Chadash.

The book choice for May, *From Sand and Ash* by Amy Harmon, apparently was not readily available at the library. Most of us bought it for 99 cents for our Kindles. Others had to wait for the book to be ordered and sent. This is why it's important to do a thorough check first. But for those who read it, we really liked this historical fiction, where love and faith conquers all, and hope and resilience can help you rise above even the most difficult of situations. Set in Italy during WWII amidst the atrocities perpetrated by the Nazis, but with good being represented by Angelo the Priest via the Catholic Church. It's a brutal demonstration of what comes when we stop trying to understand each other, when we stop trying to relate, when we take what makes us different and use it as a means to divide us, to hurt each other, to push each other away. We need this message. We need this book. We need this reminder that when we refuse to learn from the past, we are doomed to repeat it. A very relevant message for our times.

Our next book is also historical fiction, but set in the 16th century. *The Midwife of Venice* is Roberta Rich's debut novel after wearing many hats throughout her career(s). The book description on Amazon follows:

"Not since Anna Diamant's *The Red Tent* or Geraldine Brooks's *People of the Book* has a novel transported readers so intimately into the complex lives of women centuries ago or so richly into a story of intrigue that transcends the boundaries of history. Hannah Levi is renowned throughout Venice for her gift at coaxing reluctant babies from their mothers using her secret "birthing spoons." When a count implores her to attend his dying wife and save their unborn son, she is torn. A Papal edict forbids Jews from rendering medical treatment to Christians, but his payment is enough to ransom her husband Isaac, who has been captured at sea. Can she refuse her duty to a woman who is suffering? Hannah's choice entangles her in a treacherous family rivalry that endangers the child and threatens her voyage to Malta, where Isaac, believing her dead in the plague, is preparing to buy his passage to a new life. Told with exceptional skill, *The Midwife of Venice* brings to life a time and a place cloaked in fascination and mystery and introduces a captivating new talent in historical fiction"

Our next meeting is JUNE 12 at 4 PM. See you then.....lesli

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of **Gary Buckman, Deborah Frank Burdo, John Calloway, Carson Hudson, Michelle Lisi Deloro, Enid Ehrlich, Fleck Family, Isaak Gekhtin, Anne Geller, Ariella Green, Elizabeth Johnson, Mark Johnson, Bethany Kornstadt, George Laskoff, Susan Lifter, Sandy Miller, Ashley Olstein, Joel Salberg, Rabbi David Ross Senter, Roger Sutherberg, Sandy Traister, Toby Wallach, Neal Weiner, Betty Wise, 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.



Second Generation/First Person -History, Memory and Poetry-



With Anna Bat-Chai Wrobel

Sunday, June 4, 11 AM
Brunch & Lecture
\$10 Donation Suggested

Anna is an American historian and teacher, Holocaust studies scholar and published poet. Her work was included in The Holocaust Human Rights Center of Maine's art and poetry exhibit, The Dilemma of Memory.

She was born in Brooklyn to refugees, to her partisan mother and Soviet soldier father, and is committed to exploring and revealing the many layers of Shoah experience and their reverberations within generations. She writes her unique poetry to ensure the enduring significance and legacy of the Shoah as counsel for humanity's journey within a universal vision of peace and justice.

Anna will share her poetry and narrative with us and then engage us in discussion and Q & A.

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) 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.



This month's traditional and musical
Kabbalat Shabbat Service
will be held on Friday, June 16 at 7 p.m.

The Service will be followed by an Oneg Shabbat.

There will be no Shabbat Services on Saturday, June 17.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Bonnie & Laurence Faiman	June 5
Margaret & Henry Meyer	6
Arthur & Donna Silverman	18
Andrew & Sharon Bodenheimer	21
Melissa & Mark Johnson	21
Babs & Michael Shapiro	22

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Margaret Meyer	June 1
Charlene Goodman	2
Kenneth Levinsky	6
Naysa Worthy	6
Ellen Burke	7
Melissa Burke	8
William Zidle	11
Arthur Silverman	13
Linda Isaacson	14
Molly Platz	14
Matthew Zidle	15
Joseph Platz	16
Mark Carlson	18
Sruli Dresdner	19
Karen Calloway	24
Barbara Shapiro	26
Elizabeth Barter	29
Shelley Rau	30

JUNE 2017 YAHRZEITEN

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

Ruth Schleicher	June 5
Barry Traister	5
Cecile Kates	7
Lillian Cohen	11
May Tetenman	12
Milton Burke	14
Milton Krasner	14
Evelyn Levine	16
Sara Fishman	20
Alan Levenson	20
Rose Bell	23
A.H. Plavin	28

Ma Chadash/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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	David Allen
Vice President	Lesli Weiner
Secretary	Lewis Zidle
Treasurer	Aaron Burke

Board Members	Judy Abromson
	Bertha Bodenheimer
	Elcha Buckman
	Allyson Casares
	Elliott Epstein
	Laurence Faiman
	Joel Goodman
	Joel Olstein

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ritual	Larry Faiman
Membership/Outreach	Bertha Bodenheimer
Budget/Finance/Endowment	Stan Tetenman
Cemetery	Henry Meyer
Hebrew School/Education	Allyson Casares
Personnel	
Programming/Social Action	Phyllis Graber Jensen
	Paula Marcus-Platz
Preschool	Allyson Casares
Fund Raising	

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

Telephone: 207-786-4201

Fax: 207-786-4202

www.templeshalomauburn.org

E-mail address: temple6359@aol.com

Rabbi Sruli: djsruli@gmail.com

Telephone: 914-980-9509

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND

Dr. Karen & Lara Reeves

In memory of Drs. Edward & Helene Reeves

Babs & Michael Shapiro

In memory of Wilfred Goodman

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

In honor of Elinor Goldblatt's 90th birthday

Joel & Elisabeth Salberg

In memory of Elliot Katz's mother

Bonnie & Larry Fairman

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

Speedy recovery to Aaron Burke

Speedy recovery to Elcha Buckman

Joy & Lewis Zidle

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

John Shapiro

In memory of Sherman Shapiro

Tom & Paula Marcus-Platz

In honor of Elinor Goldblatt's 90th birthday

Sheri & Joel Olstein

In memory of Jonathan Cohen's mother,

Louise Cohen

Marianne Miller

Speedy recovery to Isaak Gekhtin

Lesli & Neal Weiner

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

Phyllis Bell

In memory of Morris Amsel

Bertha Bodenheimer

To Rabbi Sruli Dresdner & Lisa Mayer

In honor of Zach's accomplishments

To Helene & Lewis Perry in honor of

Jonah's high school graduation

To Cathy & Stan Tetenman in honor

of Jake's bar mitzvah

To David Allen given with love and pride

Cathy & Stan Tetenman

Mazel tov to Melissa Johnson in honor of

receiving the "Person of the Year" award

BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND

Joan Levenson

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

Sharon Bodenheimer

In memory of Herman & Hilda Kleeger

Cathy & Stan Tetenman

To Brooke & Greg Bernard in honor of their
granddaughter's marriage

Bertha Bodenheimer

To Brooke & Greg Bernard in honor of their
granddaughter's marriage

Joan Levenson

In memory of D. Alan Levenson

Helene & Lewis Perry

Mazel tov to Melissa Johnson in honor of
receiving the "Person of the Year" award

In honor of grandson Jonah M. Perry
graduation & Suffield Academy recipient of
Headmaster Award

LIBRARY FUND

Sandra & Allen Miller

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

Bob & Jackie Laskoff

In memory of William Leavitt

MITZVAH FUND

Tom & Paula Marcus-Platz

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

NUSSINOW NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

Funds are used to support the Temple Shalom Nursery/Preschool

Estelle Rubinstein

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

Adele Silverman

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Willard Hertz

In appreciation

Fredda Wolf

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

James & Susan Lifter

In memory of Helen & Leslie Rosenthal

Sharon Day

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

In memory of Robert Edward Fisher, Esq.

Joel & Sheri Olstein

In appreciation

RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND

Malca Wilner

In memory of Roy Zallen

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

In honor of Elinor Goldblatt's 90th birthday

In honor of Dorothy Fishman's 95th birthday

SHIRLEY GOODMAN MEMORIAL FUND

For interior decoration and maintenance

Mary, Greg & Lorraine Desjardin

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

Marianne Wise

In honor of Joel Goodman's 90th birthday

ABROMSON MEMORIAL FUND

BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND

CEMETERY FUND

COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND

ENDOWMENT FUND

EVE & GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

MINYANAIRES FUND

PULPIT/PRAYER BOOK FUND

Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center
74 Bradman Street
Auburn, ME 04210-6330

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL
JUNE 2017

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Auburn, ME
Permit #4

JUNE AT TEMPLE SHALOM

Thursday, 6/1		No morning minyan
Saturday, 6/3	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sunday, 6/4	11:00 am	Brunch with guest Anna Wrobel – RSVP!
Wednesday, 6/7	4:15 pm	Program Committee Annual Retreat
Thursday, 6/8	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Friday, Saturday, 6/9, 6/10		Maine Conference on Jewish Life
Saturday, 6/10		No Shabbat Service
Monday, 6/12	4:00 pm	Book Group
	7:00 pm	Temple Board Meeting
Thursday, 6/15	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Friday, 6/16	7:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Saturday, 6/17		No Shabbat Service
Thursday, 6/22	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 6/24	10:00 am	Shabbat Day Together – RSVP!
Thursday, 6/29	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast

