



MA CHADASHI! **מה חדש!**

What's New! The newsletter of Temple Shalom Synagogue Center, Auburn, Maine ק"ק היכל שלום

February 2019/Shevat/Adar I 5779

Shabbat Together!

שבת ביחד!

Saturday, February 9th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

**Special Guests: Rabbi Rachel Isaacs and Melanie Weiss,
Maine's premier Jewish power couple**

For the entire community—all ages!

*In order to create a Shabbat atmosphere, we ask that
participants commit to stay through Havdallah and to
Avoid using phones, Tablets, etc.*

Please RSVP by Monday, February 4th.



FROM THE RABBI



Only in Israel—from Rabbi Natan Slifkin, my favorite Israeli Rabbi:

One morning this week I was looking for a parking spot in the industrial zone, and I finally parked my car in a place of questionable legality. I wasn't sure if it was okay, but then I noticed a police officer in his car. So I walked over to his car, knocked on the window and asked if it was okay to park there. He rolled down his window and apologetically gestured that he didn't know and couldn't talk - because he had his Tefillin on and he was in the middle of davening—morning prayers!

Tefillin, called—rather unhelpfully—phylacteries in English, are traditionally worn during weekday morning prayer services. Tefillin, from the Hebrew word for prayer, Tefillah, consists of two precision-made black leather boxes which house handwritten scrolls. The scrolls reference Torah passages related to Tefillin. Each of the boxes is attached to long black leather straps. One of the boxes is tied over the left bicep, its straps wrapped around the forearm and hand. The other box is placed on the forehead like a crown.

The idea for Tefillin comes from various Torah verses, the most familiar of which is in the Shema prayer: “and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and as a totem between your eyes.” While the Torah almost certainly intended this to be understood metaphorically—your actions (“hand”) and your outlook (“between your eyes”) shall be fully connected to Torah—for more than two thousand years, Rabbinic Judaism took these verses to mean to literally bind these Torah passages on to your hands and heads. Needless to say, this ritual is traditionally only performed by men, although it is increasingly common in progressive Jewish communities for women to wear Tefillin as well.

Some consider the ritual of Tefillin to be very primitive, even pagan, but I see Tefillin as an idea that was way ahead of its time. Modern science has repeatedly demonstrated the importance of physical touch—that we bond most strongly, emotionally as well as spiritually, to what we touch, hold, embrace, caress. A Jew wearing Tefillin feels both loved and loving. Many religious people imagine that they are “touched by God,” —in an abstract way—but for a Tefillin wearer, this touch seems real, even visceral.

And there's more. A JTA headline this past October announced: “*Study shows regular tefillin use can protect men during heart attacks.*” Apparently, the restricting of blood flow and oxygen to the heart, due to the tight wrapping of Tefillin around the arm, is good for heart health! At least according to this small study out of the University of Cincinnati. Additionally, Israeli studies have shown that Orthodox men (who tend to wear Tefillin) have a lower risk of dying of heart disease compared to non-Orthodox men.

In Auburn, Maine, sadly, there is virtually no chance of encountering a Tefillin-wearing police officer, but, happily, you can see Tefillin in action every Thursday morning at our weekly minyan!

Rabbi Sruli

P.S. On Tuesday Feb 12th, 1-3:00 p.m., Rabbi Sruli Dresdner, Pastor Stephen Carnahan, and Father Robert Parent will have a panel discussion entitled: A Pastor, a Priest, and a Rabbi: What Unites Us? This is a Lewiston Senior College Program.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



All of us have mothers...some with us and some long past. Mothers are always there. Mothers always think the best of you and, of course want the best for you. Mothers give hugs and help when the tears come. Mothers read to you. Mothers teach you to stand, walk and run...literally and figuratively. Mothers teach you manners and how to be a good person. Mothers cook and clean and work hard...sometimes in the home, sometimes outside of the home and sometimes both. Mothers do it all. Mothers are superheroes.

When I was younger, I remember my mother making sure my birthday was so very special. Even today, I celebrate almost every birthday with my mother as she makes my favorite meal of turkey, mashed potatoes and something green. The green usually gets thrown away as it does not make sense to ruin a perfectly good turkey dinner with anything green.

My mother has always told me she is proud of me and to this day, still encourages me. And, I so wish that I can be as active at 86 as she is.

We all have different memories of our mothers, but are they mostly the same memories, just slightly different versions? Chances are your mother was there with a hug and a kiss when you scraped your knee. Mine was. She probably celebrated with you when got into that college you wanted to attend. Mine was. Of course, she was there, probably with tears in her eyes, when you told her you were getting married to a wonderful girl (or boy). Mine was. Hopefully, she was always a presence in your children's lives...sharing in all of the good times and being supportive in the tougher times. Mine was.

Even though we all have one, mothers are one of a kind. Never to be forgotten. Always to be honored. Always to be cherished. Always to be loved.

If your mother is still with us, call her and tell her how much she means to you. Tell her you love her. If your mother is gone, take a few minutes to remember some of the good times, to remember the things she taught you and how she showed you how to be the person you are today.

David Allen

Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members or our Temple. Please call or text 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.



This month's traditional and musical
Kabbalat Shabbat Service
will be held on Friday, February 15th at 7 p.m.

The Service will be followed by an Oneg Shabbat where Marianne Wise will share more photos and stories of her recent African Safari Experience!

There will be no Shabbat Services on Saturday, February 16th.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Community Passover Seder
Saturday, April 20 at 5:00 pm



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

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

Paid reservations must be made by April 1st

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

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

Well, we started off the New Year with one of our best books yet: *The Submission* by Amy Waldman. Present on January 14 were Helene Perry, Babs Shapiro, Judy Abromson, Bertha Bodenheimer, Lindsey Walker, Margaret Meyer and me, Lesli Weiner. Waldman imagined a juried contest to choose a memorial for the victims of the Islamic terrorist attack on 9/11. They chose *The Garden*, only to discover that the anonymous architect who created the design is an American Muslim. Waldman looks at the nation's reaction to this revelation from many perspectives so that we all found ourselves changing our views as the novel progressed. Not only was this a compelling story, but it was also an interesting examination of some of the issues and emotions sparked by this devastating attack.



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Our next book is *I Am Forbidden* by Anouk Markovitz. Here is the synopsis on Amazon of this 4 star novel:

A family is torn apart by fierce belief and private longing in this unprecedented journey deep inside the most insular sect of Hasidic Jews, the Satmar.

Opening in 1939 Transylvania, five-year-old Josef witnesses the murder of his family by the Romanian Iron Guard and is rescued by a Christian maid to be raised as her own son. Five years later, Josef rescues a young girl, Mila, after her parents are killed while running to meet the Rebbe they hoped would save them. Josef helps Mila reach Zalman Stern, a leader in the Satmar community, in whose home Mila is raised as a sister to Zalman's daughter, Atara. With the rise of communism in central Europe, the family moves to Paris, to the Marais, where Zalman tries to raise his children apart from the city in which they live. Mila's faith intensifies, while her beloved sister Atara discovers a world of books and learning that she cannot ignore.

A beautifully crafted, emotionally gripping story of what happens when unwavering love, unyielding law, and centuries of tradition collide, *I Am Forbidden* announces the arrival of an extraordinarily gifted new voice and opens a startling window on a world closed to most of us.

We'll be meeting on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11 at 4 PM. Following is a list of our next few books, as there have been some changes:

March 11.....*Mission to Paris* by Alan Furst

April 15.....*Disobedience* by Naomi Alderman

May 13.....*The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish



Special Brunch Program

Sunday February 24th at 11:00 a.m.

Featuring Guest Speaker

Fatuma Hussein,

Founder, Immigrant Resource Center of Maine

(formerly, United Somali Women of Maine)

Brunch will be catered by

Mike Gagne

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

Please RSVP by Monday, February 18th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Joel Salberg	Feb	3
Richard Abromson		4
Samantha Kahn		4
Gary Shapiro		5
Barry Kutzen		5
Scott Kaplan		6
Corinne Weiner Mockler		9
Gavriella King		14
Nancy Levenson		22
Andrew Casares		24
Lawrence Mohr		26
Cathy Tetenman		27
Joel Goodman		28

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

Sheri & Joel Olstein	Feb	1
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Yahrzeiten

Jennie Rubinstein	Feb	1
Bashi Elyeshmerni		2
Jacques Renard		2
Samuel Simonds		4
Helene Reeves		5
George Rosenberg		6
Philip Renard		7
Max Simonds		8
Jean Brown		9
Estelle Pennamacoor		9
Jacob Olstein		12
Hillel Passerman		14
Abe Tetenman		17
Milton Faiman		18
Hugo Schleicher		18
Rabbi David Berent		20
Clelia E. Simonds		21
Reba Koss		21
Shirley Goodman		23
Mary Silverman		24
Joseph Shapiro		25

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

Programming/Social Action Phyllis Graber Jensen
Paula Marcus-Platz
Preschool Allyson Casares

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Temple Shalom office hours are
9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of **Georgette Belanger, Phil Bray, Gary Buckman, John Calloway, June Wilner Chason, Lloyd W. Cohen, Cheryl Dufour, Louise Forgues, Robert Galumbeck, Isaak Gekhtin, Anne Geller, Ariella Green, Sharon Hemond, Elizabeth Johnson, Suzan Katzir, Henry Lefkowitz, Susan Lifter, Bruce Meyer, Sandy Miller, Maude Olsen, Sybil Rahilly, Joel Salberg, Sara Tedlow, Sandy Traister, Neal Weiner**, and all others who are not well at this time.



*Wishing you a speedy
and complete recovery.*

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

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND

Thomas H. Platz

In memory of John A. Platz

The Bell Family

In memory of Ida Finks

Harriet & Steve Passerman

In memory of Maxwell Passerman

Elcha Buckman

In memory of Michael Shain

In memory of Harvey Shain

Jack Shapiro

In memory of Sherman Shapiro

Bertha Bodenheimer

Happy New Year to Behzad & Harriet

Fakhery

Happy birthday to Eitan Zlatin

Happy birthday to Elyse Bodenheimer

In memory of Abe Tetenman

James & Susan Lifter

In memory of Helen & Leslie Rosenthal

Beverly Hurwitz

In memory of Celia Supovitz

Babs & Michael Shapiro

In memory of Elsie Goodman

Andrew & Sharon Bodenheimer

In memory of Ellen Schleicher Bodenheimer

Stephen & Susan Scolnik

In memory of Samuel Scolnik

In memory of Mary Abromson Scolnik

Harriet & Behzad Fakhery

Complete & speedy recovery to Arthur Kohn

Sandra Traister

Happy birthday to Bertha Bodeheimer

Happy birthday to Behzad Fakhery

Cathy & Stan Tetenman

In memory of Abe Tetenman

ABROMSON MEMORIAL FUND

Judy Abromson

In memory of Dr. Ernest B. Williams

CEMETERY FUND

Adele Silverman, Nancy & Ken Levinsky

In memory of Morris Silverman

Barbara & Stanford Plavin

In memory of Doreen Plavin

In memory of Morey Plavin

LIBRARY FUND

Hank & Margaret Meyer

In memory of Walter Jaeger

Bob & Jackie Laskoff

In memory of Anne Leavitt

Sandra & Allen Miller

In memory of Martin Miller

NUSSINOW PRESCHOOL FUND

Amy & Scott Nussinow

In memory of Jennie Krasner

Helene & Lewis Perry

In memory Maynard Schwartz

PRAYER BOOK/PULPIT FUND

Roz & Barry Kutzen

In memory of Shirley Asher

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

James & Candace Platz & Max Kagan

Family foundation

In appreciation

RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND

Jerryanne LaPerriere

In memory of James LaPerriere

SHIRLEY GOODMAN MEMORIAL FUND

Joel Goodman

In memory of Elsie Goodman

BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND

BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND

BREAKFAST FUND

COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND

ENDOWMENT FUND

EVE & GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

MINYANAIRES FUND

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DATED MATERIAL
FEBRUARY 2019

FEBRUARY AT TEMPLE SHALOM

Saturday, 2/2	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Monday, 2/4	12:30 pm	Mahjong
Thursday, 2/7	8:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast (please note time)
Saturday, 2/9	10:00 am	All Day Shabbat – RSVP!
Monday, 2/11	12:30 pm	Mahjong
	4:00 pm	Book Group Meets
	5:15 pm	Program Committee Meeting
	7:00 pm	Temple Board Meeting
Thursday, 2/14	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Friday, 2/15	7:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Saturday, 2/16		NO Shabbat Service
Monday, 2/18	12:30 pm	Mahjong
Thursday, 2/21	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 2/23	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sunday, 2/24	11:00 am	Brunch with guest Fatuma Hussein – RSVP!
Monday, 2/25	12:30 pm	Mahjong
Thursday, 2/28	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast

