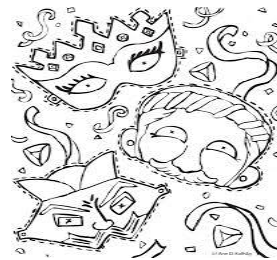




MaCHADASH! מה חדש!

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

March 2015 / Adar/Nisan 5775



Purim 2015

Friday, March 6 at 7:00 PM

Sing-along Megillah composed by Rebbetzin Lisa

Traditional readings from the Megillah Scroll by Rabbi Sruli

Masked Ball

Ballroom Dancing/Come in Costumes or Masks

Wine, Hamantaschen, Nosh

Bring canned or other non-perishable items to help
feed the hungry (an important Purim Mitzvah!)

Giant Food Basket will be auctioned! (Mishloach Manot)

FROM THE RABBI...



Hi Everyone.

This month is the month of Adar—the Jewish month under whose full (or almost full) moon Purim is celebrated.

We associate many things with Purim: reading the Megillah (the Scroll of Esther), giving each other food gifts called Mishloach Manot (Shalach Manos in Yiddish), giving charity to the poor and partaking of a festive meal. Some even have the custom of getting drunk!

But, perhaps most of all, we associate Purim with *Hamantaschen*. We all know what *Hamantaschen* are but why are they called *Hamantaschen*? And why are they shaped the way they are? In Modern Hebrew, *Hamantaschen* are called Oznai Haman—Haman's ears. Most of us were taught in Hebrew School that they represent Haman's hat. Why, however, would we assume that Haman had triangular-shaped ears or a triangular-shaped hat? (*Hamantaschen* is, of course, a Yiddish word that means "Haman's pockets." Again, same question.)

The answer is that *Hamantaschen* were originally called Mun (or Moon) taschen. Mun is the Yiddish word for the sweet poppy seed pie filling that filled the *Hamantaschen* of our childhoods. And this filling (eaten year-round in all sorts of pastries) was hidden inside triangular-shaped pastry pockets in honor of Purim. It is easy to imagine how "MUN Taschen" morphed into "Ha- MUN taschen," perhaps jokingly at first. (It also helps to know that the Yiddish pronunciation of the second syllable of "Haman" was identical to the pronunciation of "Mun.")

But why do we eat *Hamantaschen* on Purim? Why hide the delicious Mun filling? *Hamantaschen* represent the essence of Purim, a holiday in which we celebrate God's hidden nature. The story of Purim teaches us that Adonai's hand is always there, even when it is not obvious. *Hamantaschen* teach us to look deeper, that things are not always as they seem, and to peel away outer layers in order to reach the delicious surprise inside. Both Purim and *Hamantaschen* teach us to never give in to despair. Even when things seem the bleakest, Adonai is always hiding inside!

A Freylekhn Purim—Happy Purim—Chag Purim Sameach!

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Our next meeting will be on
Monday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m.
(Please note change in meeting date)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Okay, tell me the truth. Is this winter getting you down, too? I mean, enough is enough already! However, it is refreshing seeing the snow through the eyes of our newest family to Maine winters.....our Rabbi's. It reminds me of when Neal and I first moved to Maine. Everything was an adventure. We embraced the winter by outfitting ourselves at LL Beans, getting all the right gear to snowshoe and ski and always driving a four wheel drive vehicle. We never mushed a dogsled, but we did try to stay active throughout the long cold winter. Of course, we were younger then. Now I'm more than happy to enjoy the beauty of winter from behind the patio doors, watching the snowmobiles on the lake and the cardinals at the bird feeders. This winter has been so cold I sit in my house covered by an afghan and I never venture out without legwarmers. Unfortunately, most of my active time outdoors has been pushing the snow blower a few times every week. So, yes, I'm ready for Spring, which officially starts this month. But if you want a taste of it now, go to the mall. The stores are bright with Spring colors and sandal displays.

But for us humans, winter is no time to hibernate. Getting out of the house and socializing, like at Cafe Shalom, can lift your spirits. Attending a class, like our Lunch 'n Learn series, can be stimulating. Winter is a great time to curl up with a book and read, but then come to Book Group and discuss your ideas. And why do you think some Jewish prayers require 10 people? You, too, can help make a minyan twice a week, every week. And this month we have another chance to 'make merry' at Purim. Come show your face at the Masked Ball!

So, have faith! The days are getting longer, the sun is getting stronger, and soon our friends the snowbirds will be flying home to us. I just want to say that being at Temple for whatever reason with so many of you, warms me from the inside out. It is well worth venturing out in this cold. Weather permitting..... Lesli Weiner

CIRCULAR DRIVEWAY PARKING

Due to fire regulations put forth by the Auburn Fire Department, we are asking that no vehicles park in the circular driveway in front of the building. Thank you for your attention!

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



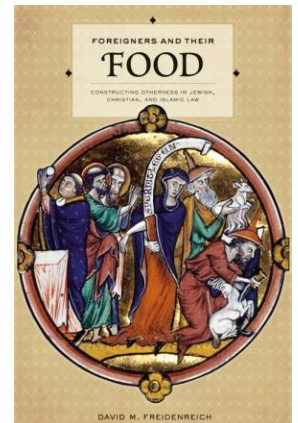
COLBY PROFESSOR VISITS TEMPLE SHALOM TO DISCUSS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FOOD TO RELIGIOUS GROUPS



Please join us at Temple Shalom on **Sunday, March 22**, for a **noontime** brunch followed by a 12:40 p.m. talk on the significance of food and religious tolerance to be given by David Freidenreich, Pulver Family Associate Professor of Jewish Studies, Colby College. A group of men from the synagogue will prepare the meal. Please RSVP with Julie at 786-4201.

Professor Freidenreich's presentation is based on his award-winning first book "Foreigners and Their Food: Constructing Otherness in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Law" (University of California Press, 2011).

Freidenreich explores how Jews, Christians, and Muslims conceptualize "us" and "them" through rules about the preparation of food by adherents of other religions and the act of eating with such outsiders. He analyzes the significance of food to religious formation, elucidating the ways ancient and medieval scholars use food restrictions to think about the "other." Freidenreich illuminates the subtly different ways Jews, Christians, and Muslims perceive themselves, and he demonstrates how these distinctive self-conceptions shape ideas about religious foreigners and communal boundaries. This work, the first to analyze change over time across the legal literatures of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, makes pathbreaking contributions to the history of interreligious intolerance and to the comparative study of religion.



Freidenreich is the director of the Jewish studies program at Colby College. A member of the religious studies department, he teaches a wide range of courses on Judaism, Jewish history, and comparative religion. After receiving a B.A. from Brandeis University, he earned his Ph.D. at Columbia University and rabbinic ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary. He is currently studying the ways Christians have used ideas about Jews to think about Muslims.

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of, **Tom Bailey, John Calloway, Fleck Family, Christie James, Elizabeth Johnson, Peggy Kraemer, Sandy Miller, Guy Pilote, Richard Rau, Joel Salberg, Esther Shapiro, David Sisk, Roger Sutherberg, 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.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

Barry & Roz Kutzen

Mar 31

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



This winter's weather has even taken a toll on the Book Group. Our January meeting was snowed out and we had to postpone our February meeting a week because of (yup, you guessed it....) snow. So we had a very intimate group on February 16, with Margaret Meyer, Judy Abromson and me, Lesli Weiner. We first spent a little time discussing January's book by Bill Bryson, *One Summer: America 1927*. If you read this book you will definitely learn something, as Bryson is a meticulous researcher, and then divulges these facts in an entertaining manner. There were two main stories that were stretched out throughout the book: Babe Ruth's assault on the home run record, and of course Charles Lindbergh and the race for transatlantic flight. Our only real complaint about this book was that these stories were broken up by other events in 1927, but Bryson was trying to write us a timeline, and there was a lot going on that year. And along the way we discovered why hot dogs are sold at ball parks and all about flagpole sitting.

Patrimony by Philip Roth was the book we chose for February. This was a memoir Roth wrote about his irascible father battling a brain tumor that would kill him. One reviewer wrote, "In this work we see a kinder and more humane Philip Roth than we see in his fictions. His devotion to his father through the father's illness and loss of his own powers is moving. In the course of it Roth himself suffers a near fatal heart attack. With Roth there is always a special intensity and often beauty in the writing. This is one of his best books. It portrays a painful and difficult human reality that most come to know at one time or another, with dedication and real art." We loved this book and recommend it, especially for those dealing with the end of life of a loved one.

We chose our next book because we liked Yasmina Khadra's previous book, *The Attack*, which took place in Israel. *The Sirens of Baghdad* is based in Iraq and is about a phenomenon that mystifies so many Westerners--the educated, intelligent Arab terrorist. Publishers weekly says this about the book: "Khadra's latest political thriller set in the Middle East couldn't be more timely. The versatile Khadra brings the reader inside the mind of an unnamed terrorist-to-be, an Iraqi Bedouin, radicalized by witnessing the death of innocents and the humiliation of the civilian population by the American forces in the Second Gulf War. Without apologizing for the carnage caused by either side in the conflict, the author, a former officer in the Algerian army, manages to make the thoughts of a suicide bomber accessible to a Western readership, even as the scope of the terrorist's intended target, meant to dwarf 9/11 in its impact, and the method's plausibility will send a shiver down the spine of most readers. Despite the essential bleakness of the book's themes, Khadra (*The Swallows of Kabul*; *The Attack*) manages to inject a note of hope toward the end, without betraying his powerful message of how the occupation of Iraq has brutalized both the Iraqis and the Americans." So do read this book and join us on MONDAY, MARCH 9 at 4 PM.....lesli

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.



NEW - TWO-SESSION LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES:

EXAMINING THE PASSOVER HAGGADAH.

The Haggadah is one of our best-known texts. It has inspired thousands of commentaries over the last thousand years. My father, z"l, amassed a collection of at least 500 different commentaries.

We will take an in-depth look at the Haggadah from a traditional perspective and discuss new ways to make the Haggadah and the Seder meaningful to us.

This is sure to enhance both your own seder as well as our community seder.

The Lunch and Learn will be held on **Mondays, March 16 and 23 from 12:00 to 1:30.**

We will meet in the classroom at the Temple.

Please bring your own lunch to eat while we study.



JEWISH GENEALOGICAL TIDBITS by Joe Fibel

At a recent service, it was asked if we can do research on our relatives who were lost in the Holocaust. The answer is absolutely Yes! Thousands have been able to find information about their lost families, but it may not be easy.

Searching began right after the cessation of hostilities of W W I I. Survivors were wandering Eastern Europe trying to find out if anyone else in their families had survived. Several countries jointly set up an official organization to coordinate the efforts of these survivors and bring them together. This organization was the International Tracing Service (ITS) which is located in the German spa town of Bad Arolsen. The International Red Cross was designated to operate this facility which they have been doing for more than 50 years. Survivors would send them an inquiry and their staff would do two things. They would first record and file the inquiry. Second, they would try to match the inquiry with any previously received inquiry from a different member of the same family. If there were a match, they would notify both inquirers and there could be a reunion. This happened hundreds of times and it continues to this day. They have accumulated more than ten million such records. Of course, many of them duplicate the same name.

In addition to the above activity, ITS was the recipient of a large number of records after the war from Nazi Government sources. Over the years, ITS was underfunded and understaffed. Responses frequently took over a year. Nevertheless, thousands of families were reunited.

Five years ago, ITS's sponsoring governments agreed that ITS's records should be digitally copied and sent to an officially approved and designated archive in each of the participating countries. In the U.S., this archive is the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. In Israel, Yad Vashem in Jerusalem was chosen. Inquiries can be sent to either place or even to ITS. ITS's service has improved substantially in recent years.

Addresses:

International Tracing Service
Grosse Alle 5-9
34454 Bad Arolsen, Germany
Emails: ITS-arolsen.org

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
100 Raul Wallenberg Pl.
Washington, D.C. 20021
USHMM.org

(Note: Joe is married to my mother's first cousin and lives in New Rochelle, NY. He is an authority on Jewish genealogy.)

A BISSEL OF JEWISH MAINE (by Nancy Levinsky)

Maine Jewish Film Festival March 14-March 21, 2015.

Tickets on sale now - www.mjff.org, filmfest@mjff.org

207-523-3422

Mar 28, 2015 at Hannaford Hall, University of Southern Maine campus Portland, ME

Weaving together the shared musical pasts of the Jewish, Christian and Muslim religions in Medieval Spain, *Sacred Bridge* conveys the poignancy and hope of intersecting cultures that remains relevant today. Its music includes elements of Jewish minstrels and folk songs, Christian psalms, Gregorian and Koranic chants among other forms. The Camerata is joined by the Sharq Arabic Music Ensemble for this contemplative program.

Time: 4 p.m., **Admission:** \$42; students, \$10

TEMPLE SHALOM PRESCHOOL 2015 Summer Sessions!

a social-skills-based program with
a 50-year reputation of excellence
no religious affiliation

SESSION 1 June 22–25
June 29–July 2

SESSION 2 July 13–16
July 20–23

SESSION 3 August 3–6
August 10–13

Monday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

ages 3–5 (or entering first grade)
must be 3 by 1/1/2015

\$250 per session / 20% discount for siblings

snacks provided / pack a lunch

art
music
weekly themes
group activities
outdoor play
story time

REGISTER NOW
to reserve your spot!



For more info: 207-786-4201

info@templeshalompreschool.com

www.templeshalompreschool.com

Located at 74 Bradman Street, Auburn ME

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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Fax: 207-786-4202

www.templeshalomauburn.org

E-mail address: temple6359@aol.com

Rabbi Sruli: sruli@aol.com.

Telephone: 914-980-9509

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Helene Fakhery	March	6
Marsha Auster		7
Kai Shraiberg		8
Scott Wise		9
Julia Isaacson		11
Patti Levenson		13
Adam Allen		14
Michelle Lisi		15
Rachel Graham		17
Joseph Zidle		18
Raymond Belanger		19
Able Kaplan		19
Joy Zidle		23
Elinor Goldblatt		25
Charlie Dresdner		27
Johnny Dresdner		27
Kenneth Goodman		28
Cassandra Jensen		28
Sheri Olstein		29
Tsela Shraiberg		29

MARCH 2014 YAHRZEITEN

Abe Tetenman	3
Milton Faiman	3
Hugo Schleicher	4
Annette Hertz	5
Jules Asher	6
Rabbi David Berent	6
Celia Simonds	7
Joseph Zidle	7
Judge Morton Brody	9
Shirley Goodman	9
Benjamin Abromson	11
Frances Smullin	13
Leonard Nemeth	15
Nathan Day	15
Jacob Markle	16
Rose Nussinow	16
Poppy Traister	17
Natalie Woolf	17
Lillian Kutzen	20
Marjorie Kraunz Bassar	20
Pearl Steinman	22
Lillian Zidle	22
Sheldon Nussinow	24
Gertrude Berent	27
Ida Perry	27
Dr. Edward Reeves	29
Pauly Rosenthal	29

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND

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In memory of Samuel Simonds

In memory of Max Simonds

In memory of Celia Simonds

Elinor Goldblatt

In memory of Jayne Wilner

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Cathy & Stan Tetenman

To Brian Ablitz in memory of his
grandfather

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In memory of Jayne Wilner

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To Jackie Laskoff in memory of her aunt

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In support of Café Shalom honoring
Julie Waite

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In honor of Julie Waite

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In memory of Maxwell Passerman

In memory of Hillel Passerman

*Thank
You*

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Funds are used to support the Temple Shalom Nursery/Preschool

Estelle Rubinstein

In memory of Jennie Rubinstein
Harriet & Behzad Fakhery

In memory of Bashi Elyeshmerni
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For interior decoration and maintenance

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In memory of Elsie Goodman

BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND**CEMETERY FUND****ENDOWMENT FUND****FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL FUND****MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND****MINYANAIRE FUND****MITZVAH FUND****RABBINIC RETENTION FUND****RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND****YOUTH FUND**



Community Passover Seder

Saturday, April 4 at 5:00 p.m.

*Adults: Members - \$25

*Adults: Non-Members - \$30

*Children 12 & under: \$15

*Children under 5: No Charge

Paid reservations MUST be made by Monday, March 23rd!

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 23rd!



Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center

74 Bradman Street

Auburn, ME 04210-6330

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MARCH 2015

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MARCH AT TEMPLE SHALOM

Sunday, 3/1	10:00 am	Hebrew School/Purim Party
Thursday, 3/5	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
	2:15 pm	Preschool Committee Meeting
Friday, 3/6	7:00 pm	Masked Ball/Megillah Reading – RSVP!
Sunday, 3/8	10:00 am	Family Hebrew School
Monday, 3/9	4:00 pm	Book Group
	5:15 pm	Program Committee meeting
	7:00 pm	Temple Board Meeting
Thursday, 3/12	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 3/14	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sunday, 3/15	10:00 am	Family Hebrew School
Monday, 3/16	Noon	Lunch & Learn – RSVP!
Thursday, 3/19	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 3/21	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sunday, 3/22	10:00 am	Family Hebrew School
	Noon	Brunch & guest speaker David Freidenrich – RSVP!
Monday, 3/23	Noon	Lunch & Learn – RSVP!
Thursday, 3/26	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 3/28	10:00 am	Family Shabbat Service
Sunday, 3/29	10:00 am	Family Hebrew School

