



TEMPLE ISRAEL CHRONICLE



“Dor L’Dor – Generation to Generation”

Volume 15, Issue 4

April 2016 ✪ Adar II/Nisan 5776

Temple Israel, an egalitarian Conservative synagogue rooted in a rich heritage of traditional Jewish values, is committed to enhancing the religious, spiritual, educational and cultural life of its members and the larger Jewish community through a commitment to Torah, our community, and continuity and growth amid change.

Staff:

Larry G. Kaplan, Rabbi
Ahron Abraham, Cantor
Gerri Kaplan, Principal
Debra Schonfeld, Administrator

Officers:

Ina Lubin, President
David E. Schwager, Esq.
Chairman of the Board
Deborah Troy
School Board Chair

Schedule of Services

Minyan:

Monday & Thursday Mornings,

7:15 AM

(Other days by arrangement with Cantor Abraham)

Sunday Mornings, 8 AM

Sunday through Saturday

Afternoons, 5:15 PM

Shabbat Services:

Saturday Morning, 10:00 AM

See Detailed Shabbat Schedule Inside

Phone: (570) 824-8927

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Layout Design courtesy of Bedwick & Jones Printing.

Health Care Shabbat April 16, 2016

Please join us in Temple as we honor Health Care Professionals during this special Shabbat service on Saturday, April 16, 2016. We are pleased to announce **Teresa Osborne, Secretary – Department of Aging**, as the featured speaker.

Teresa Osborne was nominated on January 16, 2015 by Governor Tom Wolf, and was confirmed as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Aging by a unanimous vote of the Senate on May 13, 2015.

Secretary Osborne most recently served as the Executive Director of the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Area Agency on Aging; previously served as Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer of the Diocese of Scranton and prior to that was Executive Director of the Lackawanna County Department of Human Services and Executive Director of the Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging.

A native of Scranton, Pennsylvania, Secretary Osborne has over two decades experience working with and advocating for older Pennsylvanians and other vulnerable populations.

She has volunteered with numerous not for profit and community organizations focused on improving conditions for seniors, persons with disabilities and the marginalized. She was recognized by Marywood University with their Recent Graduate Award, received the Legion of Honor Award from The Chapel of Four Chaplains.

She earned her Bachelor of Social Work degree and Masters of Health Service Administration from Marywood University.

Many thanks to **Dr. Buddy Hammerman** for chanting the Haftarah and to all our Temple members who are participating in the service. We look forward to seeing you in Temple as we pay homage to those who dedicate their lives to helping others.



Teresa Osborne

The Klezmatics in Concert

The Grammy award winning klezmer band the Klezmatics are coming to our area! They will appear on Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Wyoming Seminary's Kirby Center for Creative Arts. Tickets are \$10 and are available online or at the door. Visit www.wyomingseminary.org/klezmatics to order tickets online or call 570-270-2192 for information.



Did A.J. Heschel predict Temple Israel's Spiritual Concerns... in 1953?

Our future temple President, **Bob Greenwald**,

attended the SULAM for Presidents retreat in March sponsored by the United Synagogue. Sulam, which means "ladder" is a great program that introduces upcoming congregational Presidents to the issues they will inevitably face when they take office. They have an opportunity to share with other people who are in the same position, and they learn from some of the greatest teachers the Conservative Movement has to offer.

Before his trip to Maryland, Bob emailed me a copy of one of the study materials he was asked to read prior to the conference. It was a speech given to the Rabbinical Assembly in 1953 by Abraham Joshua Heschel, of blessed memory (Heschel died in 1972). Bob wondered if I could take a look at the essay and answer a few questions about it since he didn't feel proficient in Jewish philosophy in general, or the writings of Heschel in particular. I was a bit nervous since philosophy courses weren't my forte at rabbinical school. Then again, one of my professors was Fritz Rothschild, who happened to be a protégé of Heschel's and his official biographer. I was not his best student but I do recall passing the class.

Heschel was just what the Jewish Theological Seminary was looking for in its faculty. He was brilliant- he had a vast intimate knowledge of Talmud and Jewish law and lore. He was raised in a Hassidic home in Poland. He was descended on his father's and mother's side from Hassidic rabbinical dynasties that went back centuries. After gaining all of the traditional Jewish knowledge, he attended the University of Berlin for his doctorate and attained rabbinic ordination (aside from his Orthodox ordination) from the German pre-cursor to JTS- a non-Orthodox seminary dedicated to the scientific/historical study of Judaism. When he came to America he taught in

the Reform Movement's Hebrew Union College and then at JTS where he taught Jewish philosophy and mysticism. Many of my predecessors at Temple Israel, including Rabbi Barras, of blessed memory, studied under him.

Heschel was outspoken on a number of issues, particularly the role the Prophets played in our Bible. He was actively opposed to the war in Vietnam, and marched arm in arm with Martin Luther King at Selma. He helped to influence the Catholic Church at Vatican II to remove offensive language from the liturgy. But of all that Heschel accomplished on the world and national stage, perhaps his most difficult audience was the Rabbinical Assembly membership. He spoke boldly to them about our worship services, and that was his message that Bob asked me to look at with him.

While Heschel and I might not have agreed on every political issue, I'm glad to know we were on the same page with regard to spirituality, at least today. I wasn't on that page when I was at JTS. I was a stickler for the precision of the service. I served as Gabbai at the services held at the JTS campus in Jerusalem during my year there in 1983. And I was stricter than Johanna at my task! I had been taught the history and background of the prayers and how to lead the worship according to tradition. I was particularly concerned with precise cantillation of the Torah readings and using the correct liturgical forms (nusach) for the various services. I took classes with Cantorial students to enhance my expertise.

It was only after I was in my first pulpit that I quickly realized that all the background and knowledge I had gained about the prayers wasn't going to help bring more people to services. Because nothing I learned at JTS actually taught me how to teach others to pray. I never learned how to show Jews how to have a relationship with God through prayer. To be honest, I never really learned how to achieve that myself. I knew the structure, the music, the words, the script, the movement- to this day I notice when folks bow at the "wrong" times during the Amida and don't bow at all the "right" times (twice only during the first

paragraph at each "Baruch Atta" and not for the third blessing). Don't worry about it. I have learned that it's not what's important. None of that matters nearly as much as what Heschel said 63 years ago. Here are a few of his greatest lines about worship in Conservative synagogues:

- 1) "Our motto is Monotony."
- 2) "The fire has gone out of our worship. It is cold, stiff, and dead."
- 3) "Has the synagogue become the graveyard where prayer is buried? Are we, the spiritual leaders of American Jewry, members of a burial society?"
- 4) "People expect the rabbi to conduct a service: an efficient, expert service. But efficiency and rapidity are no remedy against devotional sterility."
- 5) "Assembled in the synagogue everything is there-the body, the benches, the books, But one thing is absent: soul. It is as if they all suffered from Spiritual absenteeism."

You get his drift. He's got much more audacity in the essay which can be found online at tinyurl.com/TIHeschel and should be available on our website as well. If you'd like a printed copy please call the office.

By the way, if you're unhappy with Heschel's concerns, and aren't looking forward to any changes in our Temple Israel worship, you're not alone. The rabbis back in 1953 weren't happy either, and considering that not much has changed in the last 63 years, Conservative rabbis clearly haven't heeded Heschel's clarion call to spiritualize our worship. So we'll be discussing this further. I hope you'll join in the conversation!

Rabbi Larry Kaplan



All Shabbat services will begin at 10:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted

Cantor's Notes



Cantor Ahron Abraham

Hachodesh hazeh lachem rosh chodashim..... God's description of the month of Nisan (the month including Passover) as the beginning of the year for the Jewish People. Now most of you are saying, "Wait, I thought Rosh Hashanah was the New Year." No, that occurs on the 1st day of the 7th month. Thoroughly confused?

There is no more important point in Jewish history than the Exodus from Egypt; it's when the Jewish People began. Under the leadership of Moses, the Israelites quickly evolved from a large, mostly related but very disorganized group of former slaves into a nation with a societal structure and a new religion. The Exodus was the first event in the 40-year process of transformation from an enslaved band of tribes to an organized nation under God's law. No wonder God designated this month as our starting point!

Passover and the story of the Exodus are seared into the collective memory of the Jewish People. It embodies so many concepts that are essential to our religion – the value of liberty and freedom, the importance of God's law and salvation, the ideals of social action which became part of being Jewish because we knew what it was like to be downtrodden and

oppressed. This is why, even if we all were experts on every aspect of Jewish history and law, it would still be incumbent upon us to re-tell the story. We need to feel that we personally experienced the miracle of the Exodus, and we need to transmit that feeling to our children from generation to generation.

Passover is not just ancient history – the stories, songs, rituals and even the food of the Seder help us both physically and mentally experience the holiday. Certainly, there is a "labor-intensive" aspect to Passover that overwhelms many of us, and a week of Passover food does take its toll. But, like everything in life, a positive approach to the holiday will pay back exponentially. Actually prepare for your seder; don't just read through it that night. Do research, bring in some new appropriate readings, learn a new song, decorate your table in a creative way to help tell the story. There is so much you can do to bring up the level of your seder. Don't feel obligated to absolutely follow the format. It's there to help guide you, but a personal touch is very much in the spirit of the holiday. The more effort you put into preparing for the seder, the more you and your family will get out of it.

I've posted musical samples of the Hagaddah on our website, [Templewb.org](http://www.templewb.org) which I hope will help you prepare. Here's another great website to help spark your creativity. <http://www.aish.com/h/pes/f/g/48967161.html>

Additional Thoughts on Heschel from Bob Greenwald

I am so grateful for the opportunity to have attended Sulam, the experience was exhilarating.

As preparation for the retreat, each attendee was asked to read Rabbi Heschel's speech. It's a powerful piece of literature and I encourage all to read it. I want to thank **Rabbi Kaplan** for his insightful observations, making time during some difficult personal events to annotate the speech. Rabbi's observations were helpful during our discussions at Sulam.

I was able to read and study the essay before the trip, armed with my yellow highlighter. Just as Rabbi picked out statements of import from his perspective, I did as well and here are a few of them:

"There is something which is far greater than my desire to pray, namely, God's desire that I pray. There is something which is far greater than my will to believe, namely, God's will that I

believe. How insignificant is the outpouring of my soul in the midst of the great universe! Unless it is the will of God that I pray, unless God desires our prayer, how ludicrous is all my praying"

"prayer has the power to generate insight"

"To live without prayer is to live without God, to live without a soul"

"if the presence of God is a myth, then prayer to God is a delusion. If God is unable to listen to us, then we are insane in talking to Him."

"Prayer must have life"

I could have yellowed out the entire reading, there is so much to still learn. Please take time to read it, find some meaning for you and your family, and let us know how we can find a common path forward.

Attention Members:

Temple Israel is now on **facebook**.

Follow us at

Temple Israel Wilkes Barre. Get

updates and news

about all that's happening at your synagogue!

Be sure to Like our page and visit often!

If you  us,
then  us.

Attention Returning Snowbirds

Please let us know when you will be returning to Pennsylvania. We want to make sure you receive your Temple mailings, including your Chronicles. Due to regulations by the U.S. Postal Service, any mail that cannot be delivered because of an incorrect address will be returned and a "return fee" will be charged to Temple Israel. We do not want to have to pay these fees for undeliverable mail. Thanks for your cooperation.

SCHOOL NOTES

Happy
April Birthday
to Our Students



April 1 Cole Kranson
April 4 Hannah Salesky
April 5 Gavyn Daley
April 6 Valerie Yelen
April 30 Zachary Kornfeld



Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Lieberman

My name is Ethan Lieberman, and I will be Bar Mitzvah on April 9th, 2016. **David and Darlene Lieberman** are my parents, and I have a sister named Brooke. I attend Crestwood Middle School, and my favorite class is Social Studies. Some of my interests include wrestling, soccer and playing video games. I've also been taking karate lessons for 8 years and achieved the rank of black belt. Since I like animals, I chose to help them for my Mitzvah project. I am collecting animal supplies for the Blue Chip Farm Animal Refuge in Dallas. I am looking forward to seeing all my family and friends on my special day.

Stephen "Zeke" Berger wins Kitty and Morris Nelson Award at JCA Annual Meeting

The Kitty and Morris Nelson Award is given to a high school member of the Jewish Community Center who has best served the Center and the community in the advancement and growth of the Center's programs by participation, service and leadership.

Zeke has served as President of our local BBYO and as a regional officer of BBYO. He personally recruited 17 new members to help the Chapter reach its largest number of members in more than 30 years. He led our local chapter to achieve the Chapter Excellence Award and both Stand Up Awards. He drafted the first ever Chapter Constitution, which led him to be recruited to help draft the newly revised International BBYO Constitution.

Currently, Zeke serves as Regional President of BBYO's Liberty Region encompassing Central and Eastern PA, Delaware and Southern New York. He has joined with the other highest elected teens leaders to plan the year ahead for the entire BBYO movement at the North American Executives Conference.

Mazel tov from the entire congregation to Zeke on this well deserved award.

Temple Website

You can check on the Temple's activities, services, calendar and events. Go to www.templewb.org. It is a simple and quick way to get information.

Scholarship Aid Available for USCJ Summer Programs

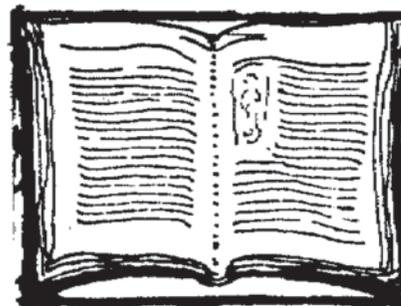
Limited financial aid is available for USCJ-approved summer programs, including Camp Ramah, USY on Wheels, and student trips to Israel. Assistance is based on both financial need and merit. Letters of request must be submitted to the Temple office by April 15, 2016.

Funding Available for Jewish Studies

The Max & Tillie Ungar Family Memorial

Endowment provides tuition reimbursement for college students who have successfully completed courses in Jewish studies.

Requests for reimbursement and a copy of the grades for courses taken during the 2015-16 school year must be received by the Temple office by May 27, 2016. All awards will be made after May 31st. For more information, please call Debbie Schonfeld at the Temple office.



SHABBAT SCHEDULE

SHEMINI SHABBAT PARAH

Friday, April 1
 Candle lighting time.....7:11 p.m.
 Saturday, April 210:00 a.m.
Dinners for Kids Shabbat
Haftarah will be chanted by David Tevet
Guest speaker Susan McDonald, PhD., L.S.W.
 Minchah5:15 p.m.

☆☆☆☆

TAZRIA SHABBAT HACHODESH

Friday, April 8
 Candle lighting time.....7:18p.m.
 Saturday, April 99:30 a.m.
Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Lieberman
 Minchah5:15 p.m.

☆☆☆☆

METZORA SHABBAT HAGADOL

Friday, April 15
 Candle lighting time.....7:26 p.m.
 Saturday, April 1610:00 a.m.
Health Care Shabbat
Haftarah will be chanted by Dr. Buddy Hammerman
Guest speaker Teresa Osborne, Sec. Dept. of Aging
 Minchah5:15 p.m.

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PASSOVER

Friday, April 22
 Siyyum for the First Born.....7:15 a.m.
First Seder
 Candle lighting time.....7:33 p.m.
 Saturday, April 23
Festival Shabbat Service.....10:00 a.m.
Haftarah will be chanted by Rabbi Kaplan
 Minchah5:15 p.m.
 Thursday, April 28
 Minyan/Yizkor.....5:15 p.m.
 Candle lighting time.....7:40 p.m.
 Friday, April 29
Festival Service/Yizkor10:00 a.m.
 Candle lighting time.....7:41 p.m.

ACHAREI MOT

Saturday, April 3010:00 a.m.
Haftarah will be chanted by Ted Israel
 Minchah5:15 p.m.

Book Club:



The book club will meet on Sunday, May 22, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Sally Connor. The selection is *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai.

Synopsis

A MEMOIR BY THE YOUNGEST RECIPIENT OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

"I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midday."

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education.

On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive.

Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.

I AM MALALA is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.

I AM MALALA will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world.



Temple Israel Wilkes Barre

Mazel Tov to:

- Matthew & Susan Berger on their son Zeke receiving the Kitty and Morris Nelson Award at the JCC
- Rose Hanovice on her daughter, Dena Hanovice Palermo's Investiture as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Texas
- Rabbi & Gerri Kaplan on the birth of their granddaughter, Madalee Feigenblatt
- Matt Kruger on the Bar Mitzvah of his grandson Max Kruger

Condolences to:

- Iris Levy on the passing of her sister, Vivian Soble Hoffman

☆ APRIL ☆
YAHARZEITS

Week of April 1 – April 7: Gerald Amerman, Sidney Falkowitz, Toby Geller, Lillian Goldstein, Bernice Gordon, Florette Marcus, Ethel Mardo, Marie Morgan, Myra Smulyan, Jack Trompeter, Irving Valen

Week of April 8 – April 14: Seymour Bachman, Len Batta, Aaron Beck, Madge Benovitz, Max Benovitz, Tillie Bergsman, Isidor Blum, Rose Celender, Jack Edley, Elizabeth Feldman, Hannah Fierman, Minnie Grossman, Larry Hollander, Abraham Israel, Rose Klavonski, Leroy Landau, Gertrude Meyer, Myer Mittelman, Joshua Ian Morris, Morris Moses, Edward Nakkache, Louis Popky, Janet Salsburg Gale, Jeanette Shapiro, Rae Shepard, Lottie Sherin, Samuel Singer

Week of April 16 – April 21: Benjamin Cohen, Mary Coplan, Ada Eichler, Lois Finkelstein, Lillian Finley, Monroe Freed, Eleanor Freedman, Sylvia Ungar Glassberg, Sadie Greenwald, Bernard Harris, Fred Harrison, Naomi Hatfield, Estelle Karp, Dora Krasno, Sam Levenson, Sarah Libenson, Francis Mitchneck, Virginia Nelson, Lucille Newman, Abraham Novzen, Rebecca Rome, Sam Rothman, Phyllis Savitz, Max Smith, Lillian Stein, Gregory Tsigelman, Rose Turoff, Aaron Weiss, Alice Carter Zemler

Week of April 22 – April 30: Fred M. Adler, Sarah Amdur, Rae Baicker, Tina Beck, Mildred Bloom, Dr. Milton Burnat, Maurice Caplan, Isadore Cimmet, Samuel Cutler, Claire Fainberg, Elmer Frederick, Milton Freedman, Gladys Friend Ball, Josef Br. Salman Gurevich, Morris Hacker, Clement Karnofsky, Nathan Klein, Jonas Lang, Bessie Mardo, Anna B. Mittleman, Joseph Monsky, Benjamin Moskow, Arnold Nachlis, Leonard Nataupsky, Belle Newman, Hyman Park, Calvin Pezzner, Rose Rudolph, Sam Rudolph, Irving Salsburg, Sam Savitz, Betty Sirota, Eileen Sten, Ervin Stern, Moritz Stern, Betty Stuttman, David Turoff, Zelda Weiss, Jodi Willner, Arthur H. Zimmerman

From Our President. . .



Ina Lubin

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE

In a previous *Chronicle* column, I mentioned that on Gratitude Shabbat I was presented with a Crystal Ball. It was a symbolic gift meant to assist with the journey we are taking to plan for Temple Israel's future.

This is a difficult and challenging journey much like Abraham's when he was called to *Lech Lecha...* GO, Move to a land you do not know. Temple Israel's *Lech Lecha*, asks us to GO as well, but to go inward, to be introspective about a future it is difficult to know.

The visioning process that we have been engaged in for almost two years is guiding us on this journey. Our Board of Trustees and many additional congregant volunteers are imagining what we need to look like as a congregation 10 to 15 to 30 years from now keeping in mind the national trends and our own congregational demographics. We want the legacy that our founders envisioned when they charted our course 90+ years ago, to continue.

We are imagining a congregation that must give meaning and purpose to all ages, that allows our intermarried couples to feel comfortable in their congregational home, that offers a quality education for our children, that more fully engages our 50+ older members, and that provides for all of our members, a place of inspiration and personal connection.

We are asking ourselves important questions that reflect our five areas of focus: *Worship, Congregational Engagement, Partnership Building, Fiscal Management and Leadership*. More importantly, we are considering the best strategies to bring the answers to these questions to fulfillment.

How do we improve the involvement of our members and build a sense of congregational family?

How do we provide a strong education for our students?

How do we live within our means?

Women's League:

It is hard to believe that spring is just around the corner but, since the Passover food is out in all the markets, it has to be spring. The extra daylight at the end of the day does not hurt either. Women's League knows it's spring because we are busy planning our closing meeting. This year the meeting will be May 25th at 12:00 noon. **Rabbi Kaplan** will be installing a new presidium. We are busy planning a program which we are sure will be interesting. Watch your mail for more information. We look forward to seeing all of you.

Last month we had our game day. From the beginning to end everyone had a great time. Our new tables, purchased by Women's League, were just perfect. We are sure that the Temple will be able to use them for many years to come. This great afternoon would not have happened without our chairperson, **Darlene Kranson**. Yasher Koach for a job well done.

Torah Fund is being chaired this year by **Charlotte Cutler**. Please respond when you receive your letter. The money raised by Torah Fund helps to support the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Mark your calendar for May 10th. Temple B'nai B'rith will be hosting the Interfaith Tea at 1:00 p.m. Please plan on supporting this afternoon social event. The theme for this year is Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. The featured speaker will be Howard Grossman.

Have a wonderful Passover and we look forward to seeing you at the tea and the closing meeting.

Anita, Bedonna and Cooky

continued

How do we engage the Board at a different level?

How can we enhance spirituality and meaning in our worship?

How do we partner with our fellow Jews in the larger community to enhance the lives of all Jews living in northeastern PA?

We are making good progress as I have communicated in past Chronicle columns, in my remarks from the Bimah and at our congregational sessions this past fall.

Here are the latest updates:

Worship:

The worship committee is engaging in a *Worship Diary*. Members of the committee (and anyone else who would like to be involved) take special note while attending our services of those aspects of our worship that move them spiritually or that affect them negatively. Our goal is to get a better sense of what works and what needs improvement.

Our Shabbat starting time has been moved to 10:00 a.m. for a number of reasons. For practical purposes, it ends the confusion of when we schedule special services that would begin at 10, while people who didn't get the message arrive at 9:30. For spiritual purposes, it means that the majority of those in attendance will not be missing the crucial prayers chanted at the beginning of the service, including our central prayer, the Shema. For years, people have arrived at services between 10 and 10:15, usually when we've already begun the Torah service. But the essence of our Shabbat worship is contained in the prayers we offer during the first half hour.

We are encouraging our congregational family to make every effort to join us at 10 a.m. so we can begin and end together. So the service does not stretch into the afternoon, we have condensed some of the prayers and are focusing on those blessings that we sing or read together as a congregation. We expect to be finished on most Shabbatot by 11:45.

Financial Planning:

Our board voted at its March meeting on a financial plan that will keep us viable into perpetuity. Whether we have the current 350 member units in thirty years, which is most unlikely, or 50 engaged families, we want to be sure they can thrive financially as a congregation.

This plan will mean making some difficult decisions about our priorities. Our revenues will continue to decrease, but our expenses will not see a comparable reduction. We are looking at ways to enhance revenue, but even with that, cutting expenses is inevitable. The last few years we have made significant reductions both in operational and personnel costs. However it will not be enough going forward. Our greatest cost, as with all non-profits, is in personnel. We are considering our future needs and will plan accordingly. We will keep the congregation apprised of our efforts.

Leadership:

The development of our current and future leaders becomes even more important as we think strategically about our future. We are considering a board leadership

development program offered by the United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism (USCJ). Our governing structure and bylaws need to be reviewed so they complement our future vision. We are also assessing the skills that will be needed in the future by our administrative staff and the priorities for our clergy. It is important to be proactive especially as our financial resources become more limited.

Partnerships:

Our first priority has been to explore a religious school partnership with B'nai B'rith as the enrollments in our school diminish each year, with only a handful of children now entering our lower grades. This is no surprise as our overall young Jewish family population is only a very small percentage of our entire Jewish community. Our first step was to survey the parents of both congregations for their thoughts on scheduling and transportation. Once these results are in, we will move forward with our deliberations.

Security:

In an effort to be both welcoming and security conscious, a number of measures are being put into place.

The number of doors to the Temple that will be open for entry to Shabbat services is now limited to our rear handicapped entrance and the driveway door on the left side. This decision was taken, with support of the Board, in an abundance of caution given the times we are living in. Of course all doors are able to be used to exit the Temple in an emergency.

Handicapped parking spaces in the lot behind the building have been increased. We currently have two and will expand them to the entire row on Saturday mornings. This should make it easier for those with mobility challenges to access the handicapped entrance to the sanctuary.

Arrangements have been made for cameras to be installed on the outside of the synagogue building along with indoor video monitors to support a more secure environment in the sanctuary, chapel and vestry.

Alarms are in place on the Bimah to be accessed by the clergy to alert police if a situation should occur. Ushers will receive training to help them be vigilant and prepared in case of an emergency.

Evacuation and other procedures to ensure the safety of our school children are also in place. Wilkes has given us permission to use their Henry Student Center as a shelter if needed during school hours. If a lockdown should be needed in the school building, we have replaced one of the doors in an upstairs classroom that is lockable and solid. Hopefully we will never have to use any of these measures, but they are now in place if needed.

These are some brief highlights regarding our progress. We are moving along at a pace that is realistic as we carefully consider what is best for the future of our congregation. Please, if you have any questions, feedback or just want to get involved, don't hesitate to contact me, our clergy or any of our board members.

My Best Regards,

Ina

Temple Israel
 236 S. River St.
 Wilkes-Barre PA 18702

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Wilkes-Barre, PA
 Permit No. 105

Change Service Requested

April 2016										
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
SAVE THE DATE May 1, 2016 7:30 p.m. Max Rosenn Lecture at the Dorothy Dickson Dart Center. Featured speaker is Ron Prosor		SAVE THE DATE Law Day Shabbat, May 7, 2016, guest speaker, PA Supreme Court Justice Christine Donohue			1	Dinners for Kids Shabbat, 10:00 a.m.	2			
3	4	Hebrew School, 4:00 p.m. Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.	5	6	Hebrew School, 4:00 p.m.	7	8	Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Lieberman, 9:30 a.m.	9	
10	11	Hebrew School, 4:00 p.m.	12	13	Hebrew School 4:00 p.m.	14	15	Health Care Shabbat, 10:00 a.m.	16	
17	18	Hebrew School, 4:00 p.m.	19	20	21	Service for the First Born, 7:15 a.m. First Seder	22	Passover Festival Service, 10:00 a.m.	23	
24	25	Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m.	26	27	Minyan/Yizkor, 5:15 p.m.	28	Passover Festival Service/Yizkor, 10:00 a.m.	29	Shabbat Services, 10:00 a.m.	30

Temple Israel Funds

The following is a listing of Temple Israel funds to which donors may contribute for memorials, simchas, recoveries, etc. Minimum contribution is \$5.00 unless otherwise noted.

DR. AND MRS. HAROLD BERSON FUND
 THE MURIEL BRAVMAN MEMORIAL FUND
 BUILDING FUND
 BIBLE FUND (\$10)
 CHAI CONTRIBUTIONS (\$18)
 SALLY & RALPH CONNOR HIDDUR MITZVAH FUND
 JOSEPH N. COPLAN PRAYER BOOK FUND
 CHARLOTTE & JOE CUTLER FUND
 FEED THE HOMELESS FUND
 FRIEDMAN INTERFAITH ENDOWMENT
 ROBERT FRIEDMAN LITURGICAL MUSIC FUND
 IRWIN H. GELB EDUCATIONAL FUND
 HAPPY DAY FUND
 ENID HERSHEY KIDDUSH CUP FUND
 HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYER BOOK FUND (\$7.50)
 LAWRENCE HOLLANDER B'NAI MITZVAH
 PRAYER BOOK FUND
 MARION & JACOB ISAACS ENDOWMENT
 DORIS & SIDNEY KEISER KERUV FUND
 EMIL & NATALIE KELLNER HEBREW SCHOOL FUND
 ESTHER & NATHAN KLEIN PASSOVER ENDOWMENT

RALPH & MURIEL KLEIN MEMORIAL FUND
 HANNAH & WILLIAM S. KLINE LIBRARY FUND
 CINDY & MATT KRUGER B'NAI MITZVOT CANDLESTICK FUND
 LANDAU PAVILION FUND
 JONAS & MILDRED LANG CHILDREN'S FUND
 LEVY CHAPEL FUND
 BEN LIBENSON MEMORIAL ART FUND
 FRANK & HILDA LUBIN FEED THE HOMELESS FUND
 LYONS EDUCATION FUND
 MINNIE MORRELL MUSIC FUND
 MINYAN FUND
 BARBARA NEWSBAUM MILLER PRAYER BOOK FUND
 SAM NELSON CARE PACKAGE FUND
 DORIS & JEROME NEWMAN
 EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT FUND
 PASCALE/KAPLAN EDUCATIONAL FUND
 ALICE, DR. WILLIAM, I. MALCOLM
 AND STANLEY PEARLMAN ENDOWMENT
 CHARLES & ROSE POPKY EDUCATIONAL FUND
 PRAYER BOOK FUND
 RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

RABINOWITZ TALLIT FUND
 JOAN F. & HERBERT L. RITTENBERG FAMILY
 ENDOWMENT
 SALLYANNE, HAROLD & FRANK SCOTT ROSENN
 COMMUNITY SERVICE ENDOWMENT
 SAIDMAN-GREENWALD TORAH FUND
 (\$18 MINIMUM)
 SANCTUARY FUND (\$25)
 FRED & MARGOT SCHWAGER MEMORIAL FUND
 SHAFFER SHABBAT KIDDUSH FUND
 SHAFFER SUKKAH ENDOWMENT
 EVA & NATHAN SHAIMAN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND
 SILBERMAN MEZUZZAH FUND
 SIMS ENDOWMENT
 MARK SLOMOWITZ MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT
 HAROLD & VELMA SMITH HEBREW SCHOOL FUND
 THE DAVID & LILLIAN THALENFELD JEWISH
 ENRICHMENT ENDOWMENT FOR STUDENTS
 MAX & TILLIE UNGAR FAMILY
 MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT
 USY/KADIMA FUND
 MORRIS VILENSKY MEMORIAL FUND