

The CONSERVATOR

Newsletter of Temple Shalom - templeshalomrhodeisland.org

May/June 2020 — Iyar/Sivan/Tamuz 5780

Temple Shalom is a trusted community partner and source of information.

Currently the state of emergency is in effect until at least May 8th.

All future events will only be held at the Temple when the Governor announces that faith-based groups can congregate and Temple Shalom has a social distancing plan in place. Until that time, events will be cancelled or held virtually via Facebook Live and the Temple Shalom website. People should monitor the Weekly Notice for current information.

Temple Shalom Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/Temple-Shalom-Middletown-Rhode-Island-114437966769060/>

Presidents Message

My heart skips a beat as I look at the incredible picture that takes a second to emerge in my text messages. It is the most beautiful ultrasound photo from expectant parents, Hadley and Jason Bazarsky, who are among the newest members of Temple Shalom. Nothing could be more poignant: there is light in the darkness. We don't know what the future will be, but we know that Temple Shalom will continue to welcome new life, support each other and our community, and grow together spiritually.

This crisis has clarified what is most important to me about Temple Shalom. I'm surprised how much I miss the Temple building. I miss the feeling of home when we come through the doors. The Temple has become a place of comfort and familiarity for my family. This crisis has also highlighted the importance of regular opportunities to see each other. Simple conversations over Oneg Shabbat to inquire about so-and-so's health and share news of new grandchildren. This small talk allows us to help each other and share in one another's joy and grief.

The immediate mental and physical health of our community is our most important consideration. We are taking several steps to ensure that our most vulnerable members are safe, including connecting regularly with each other on the phone. I am also serving on a committee convened by the Jewish Alliance of Rhode Island to provide direction on the distribution of emergency funds to those in need.

While second to our health and safety, ignoring the building during this absence would be shortsighted. Several major building upgrades will continue, and our new nursery will be ready for Baby Bazarsky!

My mind is on our most vulnerable community members. Those of you who are alone; those unfamiliar with the technology that many of us rely on to stay connected; those with disabilities and infirmities made even more difficult; those of you who are missing human touch and regular visits; those who are missing paychecks. I am also deeply grateful for the health and mental health care providers, social workers, first responders, custodial staff, and food service workers in our community who are maintaining a strong healthcare system.

Above all, this crisis has shown that we are all connected. The Financial Times of London recently published an editorial, articulating that "Beyond defeating the disease, the great test all countries will soon face is whether current feelings of common purpose will shape society after the crisis." Temple Shalom will heed this message and find ways to redouble our commitment to our common humanity and improve the human condition for every person.

Abigail Anthony

Temple Shalom is an embracing, supportive, vibrant community which is committed to observing Conservative Judaism in a contemporary and progressive tradition and which is devoted to the continuation of Jewish values, education and culture. Temple Shalom honors the diversity of its members and is dedicated to their spiritual, intellectual and religious growth.

Schedule of Services at Temple Shalom

MAY-JUNE 2020



Support Our Shabbat Services Someone Needs a Minyan

Friday evening, May 1st at 6:30 pm

Family Service Shabbat –

The Cantor will lead the worship

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Yahrzeits observed

Pizza Dinner for Kids @ 5:45

Oneg Shabbat will follow the services

Saturday morning, May 2nd at 10:00 am

Shabbat morning service

The Cantor, Rabbi Loel Weiss, Laurie Reuben and Nancy Seibert will conduct services

Yahrzeits observed

A Shabbat Luncheon will follow services along with a study led by Rabbi Loel Weiss.

Friday evening, May 8th at 7:30 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat –

The Cantor will lead the worship

Yahrzeits observed

An *Oneg Shabbat* will follow the services

Friday evening, May 15th at 7:30 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat –

The Cantor will lead the worship

Yahrzeits observed

An *Oneg Shabbat* will follow the services

Friday evening, May 22nd at 7:30 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat –

The Cantor will lead the worship

Yahrzeits observed

An *Oneg Shabbat* will follow the services

Friday evening, May 29th

Shavuot Services

YIZKOR – 6:00 PM

Dairy Dinner – 6:30 PM

Services – 7:30 PM

The Cantor will lead the worship

Friday evening, June 5th at 7:30 pm

Family Service Shabbat –

The Cantor will lead the worship

Yahrzeits observed

Pizza Dinner for Kids @ 5:45

Oneg Shabbat will follow the services

Friday evening, June 12th at 7:30 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat –

The Cantor will lead the worship

Yahrzeits observed

Oneg Shabbat will follow the services

Friday evening, June 19th at 7:30 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat –

The Cantor will lead the worship

Yahrzeits observed

Oneg Shabbat will follow the services

Friday evening, June 26th at 7:30 pm

Kabbalat Shabbat –

The Cantor will lead the worship

Yahrzeits observed

Oneg Shabbat will follow the services

Sponsor needed for all Oneg Shabbats
Contact Emily Anthony to volunteer at
emilyanth@gmail.com



THE CANTOR'S CORNER

Once upon a time there was a great rain. As the rain fell the Emergency Action committee suggested evacuating all those along the river bank before they became lost to the rising water. So

they sent a police car to get everyone to escape to higher ground. One resident insisted that he would stay and wait for a sign from above. As the hours passed so did the waters rise. A boat was sent to retrieve those who remained. The same resident told the boatman that he would remain and await a sign from above. By morning of the second day the resident was standing on his roof. A helicopter flew over and dropped a ladder for the resident to climb aboard and be taken from the dangers of the still rising water. The resident, again, for the third time, declined assistance. He yet again said that he was waiting for a sign from above. By evening the flood overtook the resident. As he approached HaShem for a moment of welcome to the eternal abode this question was posed to HaShem: "HaShem, I am grateful to be here in u Shechina for eternity, but, if I might, I have a question." now picture George Burns. HaShem said "Go ahead. Ask away." The resident said, "Hashem. I prayed and prayed. I waited for your sign. Yet, alas, here I am, in heaven." HaShem said "Oy Vey. I sent you a car, boat and helicopter. What else did you need?"

So. Here we are. We are wandering through a desert of the

unknown. Often times, as we read the words of the Torah, we can find ourselves wondering how these ancient words can have meaning in our lives today. We just celebrated our being freed, by HaShem, with the help of Moshe and Aaron. We learned that freedom was a lot of work. It took our ancestors forty years to become prepared for the freedom of self-destiny in the ancient land of Eretz Yisrael. Today we find ourselves fighting for the freedom from a different kind of tyrant. One we cannot see, but whose infection we all fear. Through learning and following some guidelines we can again become free. I hope and pray that it does not take forty years. HaShem gave us so many signs from the story of the Exodus from Egypt. Let us learn the patience that we need, and the strength that we need. Most importantly, the wisdom to know to follow the signs as we move through these precarious times. Let us continue to pray in our virtual services, until we can once again gather to daven together. Keep up with the schedule with our weekly, or more, notices.

Until we are given the official OK, we will gather on Shabbat eve at 5:30 PM at www.facebook.com/Temple-Shalom-Middletown-Rhode-Island.

Stay safe and stay healthy. Follow the signs as they come to us. B'shalom, See you in Shul

Fred

Shavuot May 28th-30th



The holiday of **Shavuot** is a two-day holiday, beginning at sundown of the 5th of Sivan and lasting until nightfall of the 7th of Sivan

Shavuot means "weeks." It celebrates the completion of the seven-week [Omer](#) counting period between Passover and Shavuot.

The Torah was given by G-d to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai on Shavuot more than 3,300 years ago. Every year on the holiday of Shavuot we renew our acceptance of G-d's gift, and G-d "re-gives" the Torah.

The giving of the Torah was a far-reaching spiritual event—one that touched the essence of the Jewish soul for all times. Our sages have compared it to a wedding between G-d and the Jewish people. *Shavuot* also means "oaths," for on this day G-d swore eternal devotion to us, and we in turn pledged everlasting loyalty to Him.

Shavuot Services and Dairy Dinnerv
Friday, May 29th at 6:30 PM

please join us for a dairy, Pot Luck, dinner at 6:30PM.
Bring your favorite Shavuot dish.



Yizkor Services will be held at 6:00 PM.
Dinner at 6:30 PM
Services at 7:30 PM



TORAH TOTS



Temple Shalom's Torah Tots program gained new friends and experiences this winter. The group attempted a Tu B'Shevat hike to Hanging Rock at the Norman Bird Sanctuary, but we were thwarted by very chilly fingers and toes. Despite the cold, we sampled dates, apricots, and pistachios by the pond and read a PJ Library book about the holiday. Later in February, Lindsay Lieberman taught the children about Purim. Lindsay's enthusiasm for this joyous holiday came through in her costumed reading! The children made groggers out of toilet paper rolls, beans, and rice. The children shook their groggers loudly at Temple Shalom's Purim-themed Shabbat Family service. The costumes were hilarious and everyone got their fill of hamantaschen.



FOREIGN POLICY LECTURE SERIES



China in the Middle East Lecture by Isaac Kardon

Here are seven things you would have learned at Isaac Kardon's fascinating lecture on China and the Middle East held on March 8 at Temple Shalom.

China has very concentrated and active business interests in the Middle East, but only a small military presence there. The Chinese government has been content to rely on the United States and other countries for its security in the region.

China has one naval base in the Middle East. It's in Djibouti, in East Africa, and was originally established to counter piracy in the area.

Israel was the first Middle Eastern country to recognize the People's Republic of China, in the 1950s.

China is the biggest trading partner of five nations in the Middle East, including Iran and Saudi Arabia.

China tries to stay out of the way and out of trouble in the Middle East. They are interested in doing business while staying neutral.

China has a huge footprint in the region, with several hundred thousand Chinese living and working throughout the Middle East. "America is fighting and not winning" the battle for influence in the region, said Kardon. "China is winning and not fighting."

China imports 45% of its oil from the Middle East, so it has an interest in protecting the sea lanes.

China is here to stay as a power, and we would do well to know something about it, especially in the Middle East," Kardon told approximately 55 people who attended the lecture.

Kardon is an assistant professor at the Naval War College's China Maritime Studies Institute, in Newport. He researches, writes and teaches on China's foreign policy, focusing on China's maritime disputes, the law of the sea and overseas port development.

He received a Ph.D. in government from Cornell University, a masters in philosophy in modern Chinese studies from Oxford University, and a B.A. in history from Dartmouth College. He studied Mandarin Chinese at Peking University, Tsinghua University and Taiwan Normal University.

This lecture was part of a foreign policy lectures series at Temple Shalom.

The two other lectures, scheduled for March 29 and May 17, have been postponed. New dates will be announced later.

On the schedule are Evan Shallcross, who will speak on "Beyond Imperialism, Exploring the Strategic Significance of Crimea to Russian Security." Shallcross is a lieutenant in the Navy, currently assigned to the Surface Warfare Officers School, in Newport, where he teaches ship driving, navigation, war gaming and other subjects.

Ken Sandler will speak on "Frameworks, Actors and Factors to Explain Foreign Policy Decision Making." Sandler is a lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps, currently assigned as a military professor at the Naval War College, where he teaches national security affairs.

For more information about the lecture series, contact Temple Shalom by email, at TempleShalomRhodelsland@gmail.com.

TEMPLE HAPPENINGS

Temple Shalom Brewery Meet-Up:

Liz and Ken Sandler organized a casual get together for Temple Shalom members and friends at General's Crossing Brewery in Jamestown on a chilly Sunday afternoon. Attendees enjoyed new and interesting beers, snacks, and easy conversation. It was wonderful to see our Torah Tots friends at the brewery, and the kids enjoyed playing games and drawing on the floor.



Rosh Chodesh:

Temple Shalom's new Rosh Chodesh group met for the second time in February with a great turn-out of about 20 women. Lindsay Lieberman educated the group about the risk and devastating consequences of cyber sexual harassment. While the subject matter is not easy to talk about, Lindsay used real world stories and examples to highlight that people of all ages and genders are vulnerable to this cruel, and difficult to prosecute, behavior. Lindsay's lecture was followed by lively questions and discussions.



Jewish Collaborative Services is honored to serve the community during this time of crisis. As stated in Deuteronomy, “A community is too heavy for anyone to carry alone.” We will continue to do our best to meet the needs of our community during this unprecedented time. Together and with your help, we will work together and continue to “be here” to serve all those in need.

If anyone in the community is in need, please have them complete this form and either return it to us via email at info@jfsri.org, fax to (401)331-5772, or simply call us with the information. If you are referring someone in need, please make sure that person is aware that you are sharing their name and contact information. As always, call 911 for any emergency.

1. Name _____

2. Home Address (physical address – not PO box):

3. Phone: Home# _____ Cell# _____

4. E-mail address _____

5. Synagogue affiliation, if any _____

6. What type of help do you need? **Highlight all that apply:**

Donated food or basic household supplies delivered to my home

Someone to pick up and deliver prescriptions, groceries or supplies to my home

Transportation to or from a non-emergency medical appointment

Assistance with a light household chore

Help navigating social services

Someone to talk to by phone or to check-in

Other _____

7. If this is a referral, what is your name and relationship to the person you are referring?

Name: _____ Relationship _____

Phone: _____

Someone from JCS will be in contact with you to address this request.

For Rhode Island Covid 19 Information please reference:

Rhode Island Department of Health: <https://health.ri.gov/covid/>

The Jewish Alliance of Rhode Island is fundraising to help its partner organizations provide financial relief to families and individuals. Those able to donate can visit: <https://www.jewishallianceri.org/emergency-fund/>



Prayer for Health-care Professionals

Holy One,
bless and strengthen those who tend me.
Send them healing and inspiration.
Courage and heart.

Imbue those who surround me
with understanding and compassion.

May they be safe-guarded from despair, fear, or fatigue.
Companion them, and aid them in their work.

May all who care for me
join me, speak with me, listen to me,
be with me,
that we might touch each other's lives.

May we all know
healing of body and healing of spirit.

Travel with us, accompany us,
hearten us, help us,
aid us keep open hearts and souls.

That we might better move
to where it is we need to travel.

May we be filled, surrounded by and with love.

We are all in Your hands,
our blessings to You.

Rabbi Vicki Hollander



Upcoming Events at Temple Shalom



July 10th @ 7:30 PM

July 24th @ 7:30 PM

August 7th - Family Service @ 5:45 PM

August 21st @ 7:30 PM

Temple Shalom Annual Cook Out -

Sunday, August 30th at 4:00 PM



If ever there was a time to think about repairing the world that time is now. Months ago the Temple Shalom community began collecting items for those in need. We gathered coats, hats, cleaning supplies, and pet food. With COVID's disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable community members, we recognized that financial assistance is most helpful. When public schools shut down over a month ago millions of children across the country lost access to the only meals they receive each day. Our friends at the Martin Luther King Center continue to work tirelessly to ensure children in Newport County never go hungry. Temple Shalom joined with the Jewish community at Touro Synagogue and the Newport Havurah and together we donated over \$2,000 to the Martin Luther King Center!

When asked about the impact of support Alyson Novak, Director of Development responded: *When there is a need, our friends in the local Jewish community are the first to rush in. When the crisis began, you approached us immediately to help. We've seen unprecedented need. Because of you, we've provided food to over 2,000 people in a month, many of whom (400+) are new to the Center. In broader context: that's nearly 50% of the number we helped in all of 2019. The MLK couldn't exist without the members of Touro Synagogue, Temple Shalom, and the Newport Havurah. You are a blessing to us all, and you truly "heal the world"*

While we are not able to physically come together during this time, know that our unified generosity resonates throughout the community. Please consider supporting this initiative as you are able. In addition, we are looking for members of the community to consider writing notes of gratitude to our front line health care teams. These brave men and women are risking their own lives to care for our community and we want them to know they are seen, valued and appreciated.

Sara Meirowitz



**We can't possibly repay our care teams
for what they are doing for our community**

**But we can
thank them for it!**

Here is how you can help

- 1) Have the kids in your life make cards, write notes & draw pictures
- 2) Place in an envelope with your name and address (so the children can be thanked later)
- 3) Send to
Newport Hospital Foundation
Our Kids Care Packages
11 Friendship Street
Newport, RI 02840

**Gratitude messages will be delivered to
all front line teams**



WE REPAIR THE WORLD BY HELPING OUR COMMUNITY

**PLEASE HELP US SUPPORT
THE MLK CENTER TODAY**

With public schools shut down, millions of children across the country have lost access to some of the only meals they receive each day.

Our friends at the Martin Luther King Center are working hard to make sure children in Newport County never go hungry.

-HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP THEM TODAY-

In an effort to mitigate COVID-19 expose risk, the Martin Luther King Center is not currently accepting donations of food. If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can do so here:

<https://www.mlkccenter.org/>

Please consider putting the name of your congregation in the notes section so we can truly recognize the support of our community.

SHALOM FUND

Get Well to Emily Anthony.

By Ruth Ziegler

Lois Schneller

Karen Dannin

In Memory of Paul Mankofsky's sister, Sheryl

By Fran & Michael Mendell

In Memory of Louis Blumen

By Marcia Cohen

Karen Dannin

Whatever the occasion, birthday, anniversary, get well, condolences, a Shalom Card says it perfectly. Cards are \$5 and all donations help support the Temple. For information about participating in the Shalom Fund call Ruth Ziegler – 846-5858 or email – ruthziegler@cox.net.

CONSERVATOR NEWS

MISHABEIRACH LIST - At weekly services a prayer is offered for those who are ill and fighting disease. During this prayer for recovery the names of those in need are mentioned. We request that names to be included on the list be submitted to the Temple prior to Shabbat, and, that the names, which we already have be updated on a regular basis.

SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT/KIDDUSH - Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush: We learn more about each other and grow stronger as a community when we break bread together. Towards that goal, each Shabbat service ends on a sweet note with dessert and coffee. Saturday services are followed by a Kiddush luncheon. It can be inconvenient to go make an extra trip to the market and arrive at services early to set up. It is very easy, however, to contribute to the Oneg/Kiddush fund so that the same volunteers aren't burdened by the cost week after week. You may also consider donating the cost of a specific Oneg or Kiddush in commemoration or in honor of a loved one.

Please contact Emily Anthony – 401-447-0323 or emilyanth@gmail.com.

HELP OUR SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP GROW - The temple would like every member to assist them in their goal of increasing the membership of our congregation. In order to accomplish our goal, we ask that you inform the Temple office of all families who have moved into your neighborhood, as we would like to welcome them to our community

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP - We are very grateful to Rabbi Loel Weiss for donating his time and expertise to lead Saturday Shabbat services. Temple Shalom also invites guest Rabbis and rabbinical students to lead weeknight discussions and services from time-to-time. We offer a very modest honorarium to cover our guests' travel and preparation time. Our guest leaders provide fresh sermon perspectives, introduce us to new ideas and styles, and stimulate curiosity that draws old and new faces into the building. Please consider donating towards spiritual leadership

SAFETY and SECURITY - Jewish congregations across the country are increasing security measures. We have received

some initial funding from the Jewish Alliance to get started and need to raise matching funds.

Grant provided by U.S. Homeland Security Department for security at the Temple. Grant response prepared by Ethan Brown, Abigail Anthony and Stephen Schneller. This will include new steel doors at entrances, bullet resistant glass, cameras on each door among other details.

Funds provided by Touro Fraternal Organization of Rhode Island for physical security monitoring during the High Holidays. Request for such funds prepared by Stephen Schneller.

Associated funding for security enhancements provided by Jewish Alliance of RI. Grant responses prepared by Ethan Brown, Abigail Anthony and Stephen Schneller,

The presence of professional security personnel at regular services and special occasions is also costly and is not covered by grants. Please consider donating towards building upgrades or security personnel

Thanks to those who worked on preparing various grant requests to assist in ensuring safety and security at the Temple:

TO REMEMBER IS TO KEEP ALIVE - According to Jewish tradition, we honor our loved one's memory by reciting Kaddish and by lighting a Yahrzeit candle on the anniversary of their death. Temple Shalom offers opportunities to fulfill this Mitzvah by arranging contributions and dedicating Memorial Plaques to perpetuate the memory of a loved one.

A Memorial Plaque is a constant reminder and a timely symbol of a cherished devotion to those we wish to remember. On the anniversary date of the Yahrzeit a light is kindled next to the nameplate. In accordance with Jewish tradition, whenever Yizkor is observed, a light should be kindled and Kaddish recited.

The present contribution for a Memorial Plaque is \$550.00. For additional information please contact the Temple. Contributions of many meaningful and needed items can be dedicated at the Temple.

Community News

Please inform the Temple of any community news you wish to share

Welcome New Members:

Hadley & Jason Bazarsky

Nancy Seibert

Maude Weisser & Eyal Almog

Get Well to:

Emily Anthony

Arlene Zatz

Condolences to:

Joseph Blumen on the passing of his brother, Louis

Paul Mankofsky on the passing of his sister, Sheryl

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received from:

General Donations

Arlene Gross

In Honor of the OCS class of 4/20 and Zachariah Emanuel

Rachel Saks

Yahrziet Remembrances

David Bazarsky

Karen Dannin

David Nathanson

Arlene Hicks

Lori Moyer

Thank you to all whose very generous Yom Kippur Appeal responses have been received. In addition to designating these funds toward our security needs, it is the desire to have 100% congregant participation and to this end we are almost there. So be sure you have mailed your check, regardless of the amount, to reach our 100% goal. We'll report as soon as it happens!

Yahrzeits



Within the Jewish world there is an annual opportunity specially made for remembrance of those who are no longer with us in life. On the anniversary of their departure, family and friends recite the *Kaddish*.

The following *Yahrzeits* will be observed at Temple Shalom on the Friday closest to this date.

According to the Hebrew calendar the following *Yahrzeits* will begin at Sunset and continue thru the following day.

May the observance of this day and the memories of your loved one be a source of comfort, strength, and inspiration.

May 2020

May 6 Manfred Ziegler
 May 9 Benjamin Askins
 May 10 Jeanette Tick
 May 14 Muriel Martin
 May 21 Max Ziegler
 May 24 Dora Blumen
 May 25 Louis Spader

June 2020

June 7 Lucille Malise
 June 16 Jonathan L. Cohen
 June 17 Irving Solup
 June 18 Enid Bucci
 June 19 Esther Walters
 June 21 Elliot Kaminitz
 June 23 Max Brant
 June 24 Morris Reiter
 Salamon Flink
 June 26 Morris Brown
 Ruth Jurmann

July 2020

July 3 Edward Tick
 July 8 Shep Goldberg
 July 19 Samuel Spector
 July 20 Ruth Abramson

August 2020

Aug 2 Paul Girard
 Aug 3 Leonard Schneller
 Beatrice Bazarsky
 Aug 5 Florence Field
 Aug 6 Harold Dorkin
 Aug 10 Bess F. Carlin

Aug 13 Abe Zatz
 Aug 16 Goldie Kaminitz
 Aug 17 Leia Marcovici
 Florence Flink
 Aug 18 Harry Nemptzow
 Aug 24 Beatrice Zucker
 Aug 29 Kurt Steinitz
 Elias Blumen
 Samuel Greenbaum
 Ethel Brant
 Aug 30 Phillip Goldberg

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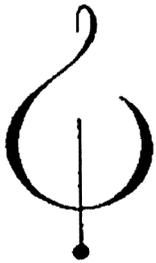
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TEMPLE SHALOM

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FIRST CLASS

May/June

PANDEMIC

*What if you thought of it
as the Jews consider the Sabbath—
the most sacred of times?
Cease from travel.
Cease from buying and selling.
Give up, just for now,
on trying to make the world
different than it is.
Sing. Pray. Touch only those
to whom you commit your life.
Center down.*

*And when your body has become still,
reach out with your heart.
Know that we are connected
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.
(You could hardly deny it now.)*

*Know that our lives
are in one another's hands.
(Surely, that has come clear.)
Do not reach out your hands.
Reach out your heart.
Reach out your words.
Reach out all the tendrils
of compassion that move, invisibly,
where we cannot touch.*

*Promise this world your love—
for better or for worse,
in sickness and in health,
so long as we all shall live.*

—Lynn Ungar