

April 2024
Bulletin



4737 Deerfield Place
Vestal, NY 13850
607-723-7461
TempleIsraelVestal.org

We are grateful to our Bulletin sponsors:

In memory of Faye Gerstein by Alan & Julie Piaker

A FUN EVENING FOR ALL AGES!!
DINNER AND A...

CHOCOLATE SEDER

DO YOU LOVE CHOCOLATE?

TEMPLE ISRAEL
VESTAL, NEW YORK
On Sunday,
April 14, 2024
at 5:00 pm

A DELICIOUS WAY TO LEARN ABOUT,
AND CELEBRATE THE ARRIVAL OF
PASSOVER

DRINK FOUR CUPS OF CHOCOLATE MILK

EAT CHOCOLATE COVERED MATZAH

TASTE SOME CHOCOLATE CHAROSET

A light dairy dinner is
included



\$15/person
maximum
\$40/family

Please bring your favorite,
UNOPENED, bottle of
KOSHER WINE to share with
your Temple Israel friends

RSVP BY April 8, 2024
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
TEMPLE ISRAEL
TAMMY @ 607 723-7461
office@templeisraelvestal.org



Letter from the Rabbi:

Hodesh Tov! A good new month to all! As we feel the season beginning to change around us, we can look back on a March that was filled with a number of special community events as well as look ahead to an April in which we will celebrate the first of our festivals:
Passover!

In March, for 3 Sundays in a row, we gathered in large numbers for joyous communal celebrations. First, we had a successful Adult Education event in partnership with Temple Concord. Then, a week later, we transformed Temple Israel into a pizza parlor with a great social and fundraising event which was enabled by the pizza chef and mastermind Dave Channin. Finally, we celebrated Purim on 3/24 with more than 50 folks joining us in-person and online for a full reading of Megillat Esther followed by a delicious opportunity to enjoy Hamantaschen together. During our Purim celebration, we were able to fulfill each of the core Mitzvot of Purim: hearing the story of Esther, eating a celebratory meal, giving gifts of food and good-will to our friends, and giving money as tzedakah. Over the course of the day, we raised more than \$250 which we contributed to Jewish Family Services and to CHOW. It was a joy to celebrate together, especially as we continue to pray for a peaceful resolution to the ongoing war in Gaza.

As we look ahead to April, the biggest event on the calendar of the Jewish people is Passover! By the morning of April 22nd, we will eat our last Chametz before the holiday and in the evening we will gather in smaller circles to eat Matzah, Maror, and a festive meal. If you do not know where you will be for Seder this year, we can try to find a host. We want to make sure that everyone can join in celebrating on the very same night when we were liberated from bondage in Mitzrayim.

At Temple Israel, we will be convening an opportunity to celebrate together over Pesach on the morning of Day 1, Day 7, and Day 8 when we will be saying Yizkor. On the 7th Day, I will be leading us in a learning exploration of the way that our traditional practices of Passover help us to draw connections between the natural seasonal cycle and the ancient events of the Exodus. I hope we will be able to gather a good group to daven and learn together on these mornings!

One more exciting event to look forward to will be on Shabbat on April 13th! We will be hosting again students from Binghamton University who will be leading much of our services and joining us for kiddush. Towards the end of Kiddush, I will facilitate learning to help us Prepare Spiritually and Materially for Passover: Internal and External Cleaning of Hametz. This will be a new experiment of inviting folks to stick around at the end of Kiddush for a chance to learn together.

The next day we will also have a special opportunity to come together and eat chocolate as we engage in an educational and entertaining Chocolate Seder which will help us to prepare for our Passover seders soon to follow!

With so much going on in our community, we have plenty of opportunities to gather together, to continue to build relationships with each other and with Jewish tradition, and to strengthen our Binghamton Jewish community. I hope we can all seize these opportunities and spend some enriching time together in the month ahead!

Letter from the President:



Dear Temple Israel Community,

I must begin by noting the continuing plight of the October 7th hostages taken by Hamas terrorists. This week will mark six months - half a year - that these innocents have been held captive. We pray for their safe release, and for the relief of suffering for all victims of this tragic conflict. Please hold them in your hearts, and speak out against anti-Jewish speech and actions.

Through our actions and programming, we strive to make our synagogue a safe, egalitarian environment for worship, study, and community. An important aspect of this is our relationship with the Binghamton University Jewish students. Through our close cooperation with Hillel at BU, students from the Hillel Koach (Conservative-oriented) group, along with the Hillel Rabbinic interns, have participated in our services from time-to-time, including leading the davening, chanting Torah and Haftorah, and even reading the Megillah at Purim. Several parents of University students have attended services, and a few have joined as Associate Members. To see and hear these talented students in action, I invite you to join our Shabbat services on April 13th, when they will next take on leadership roles. Chazak, chazak - we strengthen each other.

March was a busy month, especially in our kitchens! First up was our Pizza Meat & Greet Fundraiser where new and old members savored fresh-baked kosher pizza sponsored and prepared by Dave Channin, salads prepared by Jim and Carol Mason, and beverages provided by Jonathan Weissberg. Many of you enjoyed our joyous Purim celebration last week. It was the most well-attended in recent memory, with members young and old filling the room with energy. Megillah was read by Rabbi Friedman, several congregants, and BU Hillel students; our Rabbi (perfectly costumed as a Rabbi Ken doll) augmented the story in English; and more than ten dozen Hamentashen baked in our TI kitchen were devoured. We also had a special fleishig Shabbat kiddush (Dave imported the deli - yum!) to honor Rabbi Friedman on his birthday last week.

Upcoming events include a special study session with Rabbi Friedman after the kiddush on April 13th, a Chocolate Seder on April 14th (always a delicious crowd-pleaser - get your reservations in by April 8th!), and holiday services for Pesach in only three weeks time. Don't forget to stop in to the office or hit the website after April 8th to sell your chometz before Passover. We thank all the volunteers who make our programs possible. The work of many committees - such as House, Ritual, and Safety & Security - occurs behind the scenes to ensure that our services and programs are delivered in comfort and safety.

Whether you are looking to refresh your spirit, study with friends new and old, or placate your sweet tooth, Temple Israel offers something for you. We rely entirely on your dues and generous donations, so please keep us in your thoughts to commemorate a yahrtzeit, send get-well wishes to a friend, or mark a simcha. We graciously accept gifts large or small - they all add up.

Wishing you each and all a zissen Pesach - a sweet Passover!
Art

Arthur B. Siegel
President - Temple Israel

Executive Board

President

Arthur Siegel

1st Vice President

Michael Azersky

2nd Vice President

Debra Martinez

3rd Vice President

Randy Friedman

Secretary

Bonnie Brown

Treasurer

Alan Piaker

Past President

Richard Schneierson

Counsel

Mark Hubal

Professional Staff

Rabbi

Micah Friedman

Office Manager

Tammy Kunsman

Congregational News

Mazel Tov to:

Fran Goldman on the upcoming marriage of her granddaughter Samantha Goldman to Juan Frausto Jr.

Get Well Wishes to:

Jeff Shapiro, Barbara (Bobbi) Markowitz, Moira Shirvan, Ann Spitz, Maxine Rosenberg

Congratulations of our March

lottery fundraiser winners

**Rachel Kwapien, Jonathan Weiss,
Art & Suzanne Siegel**

The Caring Community

Please inform the Rabbi:

If your health condition changes, you undergo a medical procedure, are hospitalized, you move to an assisted living facility or rehab, or if you are aware of anyone in our congregation who needs attention.

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<i>Rabbi on vacation</i> <i>Happy Birthday</i> Josh Hubal	<i>Rabbi on vacation</i> <i>minyan 5:30pm</i> <i>Executive Board meeting 7pm</i>	<i>Rabbi on vacation</i> <i>Happy Birthday</i> Stephanie Horowitz Zev Rosales	<i>Rabbi on vacation</i>	<i>Happy Anniversary</i> Mel & Myrna Dubofsky <i>Happy Birthday</i> Naoma Feld Beverly Rozen Heidi Thirer <i>Services 5:30pm</i> <i>Light candle 7:17pm</i>	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Ben Kasper <i>Shabbat services 9:30am</i> <i>Havdalah 8:30pm</i>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		<i>Happy Birthday</i> Joan Jacobson <i>minyan 5:30pm</i>	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Elissa Brown	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Joshua Goldin Aviva Kaminsky Alice Kweller Andre Rosales Lawrence Wiesner	<i>Happy Birthday</i> William Weissberg <i>Services 5:30pm</i> <i>Light candle 7:25pm</i>	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Richard Kostick <i>Shabbat services 9:30am - Learning session w/Rabbi Friedman after kiddush</i> <i>Havdalah 8:30pm</i>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<i>Chocolate Seder 5:00pm at TI</i> <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jordyn Goldberg	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Stuart Rouff	<i>minyan 5:30pm</i> <i>Board of Trustees meeting 7pm</i>	<i>Ritual Committee mtg 10:00am</i>	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Julie Piaker	 <i>Services 5:30pm</i> <i>Light candle 7:32pm</i>	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Don Zelter <i>Shabbat services 9:30am</i> <i>Havdalah 8:45pm</i>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<i>Happy Birthday</i> Jeff Greenblott Moshe Shmaryahu Howard Warner	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Michelle Green	<i>Pesach Day 1</i> <i>Rabbi on vacation</i> <i>Office closed</i> <i>Happy Birthday</i> Ezra Gindi <i>No minyan</i>	<i>Pesach Day 2</i> <i>Rabbi on vacation</i> <i>Office closed</i>	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Bonnie Brown Jeff Feinberg Rochelle Goldberg	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Isaac Green <i>Kabbalat Shabbat & Ma'ariv</i> <i>Services 7:30pm</i> <i>Light candle 7:40pm</i>	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Mark Hubal <i>Shabbat services 9:30am</i> <i>Havdalah 9:00pm</i>
28	29	30				
<i>Happy Birthday</i> Celia Klin Dan Miller	<i>Pesach Day 7</i> <i>Office closed</i>	<i>Pesach Day 8</i> <i>Office closed</i> <i>Happy Anniversary</i> Jim & Jennifer Schutzer <i>No minyan</i>				

Contributions

General Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Norman Kline by Herbert Kline

Margaret Rappaport by Lois Rappaport

Eve Gerblet by Leon Vainer

Stephen Meltzer by Shelley & Mark Hubal

Owen Wolff by Michael & Wendy Wolff

Yetta Gilinsky by Stanley Gilinsky

Robert Greenblott by Cookie Greenblott, Robin, Jeff, Adam & Elana Greenblott

In memory of...

Barbara Schapiro by Bonnie & Howard Brown, Lawrence & Annette Wiesner, Michael & Wendy Wolff, Marcy Cohen, Shirley Bronsky, Jeff & Ruth Shapiro, Marcia Hofstein, Len & Naoma Feld, Gerald & Susan Hubal, Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine, Lynne Green, Hyman Rubin, Lynn Dumoff, Alan & Julie Piaker, Mark & Shelley Hubal, Robert & Diana Weiss, Rhoda & Edward Lemkin, Charles & Susan Gilinsky, Delores Diamond, Marc Grumet, Jill Sacher, Rita & Larry Bleier, Debra Martinez, Sandra Townsend, Margo Zimmerman, Ruth Colbus, Janet & Don Beal,

Helen & Richard Ross, Robin & Jeff Greenblott, Myra & Irving Memis, Barbara Mullen, Jim & Jennifer Schutzer,

Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason, Dennis &

Linda Robi, Helene & Bob Philips, Stuart & Vicki Rouff, Sandra Shapiro

Sylvia Horowitz by Gerald & Susan Hubal, Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine

Fran Lane by Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine

Ruth Goldstein by David Goldstein & Larry Goldstein

Howard Engel by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

In honor of...

The birth of Michael & Wendy Wolff's granddaughter Eliana

Michal by Jeff & Ruth Shapiro, Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek, Mark & Shelley Hubal, Robin & Jeff Greenblott

Rabbi Friedman's birthday by Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek, Lynne Green

Dr. Mark Samuel Litwin as he returns to full-time scholarship, pedagogy and practice by The

Bronsky/Cafritz Family
Fred & Sandra Weitsman by Len & Naoma Feld

Al Lavker by Len & Naoma Feld

David Channin for all his hard work and great pizza for the Pizza Meet & Greet by Bonnie & Howard Brown

David Channin for his extraordinary Pizza Meet & Greet event by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

Wendy Wolff's birthday by Ann Spitz & Charlie Pladek

Speedy Recovery to...

Maxine Rosenberg by Marcia Hofstein

Moira Shirvan by Rita & Larry Bleier

Landscaping

For the Yahrzeit of...

Oscar Epstein by Louis & Maxine Rosenberg

Germaine Rosenberg by Louis & Maxine Rosenberg

In memory of...

Barbara Schapiro by Hersh & Beverly Rozen, Al Lavker, Louis & Maxine Rosenberg, Arlene Osber, Harvey & Janet Levine

Sybil & Bob Tobias, Sylvia & Len Kostick by Richard Kostick & Andrea Tobias Kostick

Carol Krause by Hersh & Beverly Rozen

Paulette Klin by Louis & Maxine Rosenberg, David & Teri Tanenhaus

Speedy Recovery to...

Maxine Rosenberg by Arlene Osber

In honor of...

Rabbi Friedman's birthday by
Hersh & Beverly Rozen, Arlene
Osber

Hebrew School Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...
Eileen Wachtel by Rabbi
Geoffrey Brown

VINES Garden Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...
Clara Krassin by Terry
Shelley-Krassin

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of...
**Sybil & Bob Tobias, Sylvia
& Len Kostick** by Richard
Kostick & Andrea Tobias
Kostick

Speedy Recovery to...
Maxine Rosenberg by Judy
& Irwin Simon

For the Yahrzeit of...
Walter Ullmann by Arieh
Ullmann & Rhonda Levine
Anna Berger by Roy &
Sandra Paston
Beatrice Welssman by Roy
& Sandra Paston
Germaine Rosenberg by
Rolph Rosenberg

Kiddush Fund

In memory of...
**Sybil & Bob Tobias, Sylvia
& Len Kostick** by Richard
Kostick & Andrea Tobias
Kostick

Children's/Family Library

In memory of...
**Sybil & Bob Tobias, Sylvia
& Len Kostick** by Richard
Kostick & Andrea Tobias
Kostick

Mitzvah Corps

For the Yahrzeit of...
Keith Osber by The Osber
Family
Bert Rosenbaum by Scott
Rosenbaum
Roz Rosenbaum by Scott
Rosenbaum

In memory of...
Barbara Schapiro by Carole
Reeder

Adult Library

In memory of...
**Sybil & Bob Tobias, Sylvia
& Len Kostick** by Richard
Kostick & Andrea Tobias
Kostick

APRIL 2024 YAHRZEITS

April 1 - 7

Werner Herz* observed by *Carol Herz*
Elsie Miller observed by *Madeline Miller*
Germaine Rosenberg* observed by *Louis Rosenberg, Rolph Rosenberg*
Hyman Sall* observed by *Ron Sall*
Leroy Bertin observed by *Dick Lewis*
Burton H. Blazar* observed by *Jennifer Schutzer*
Nathan L. Sall observed by *Ron Sall*
Beatrice Weissman observed by *Sandra Paston*
Barbara Bograd observed by *Marilyn Bell*
Neil Gabay observed by *Sima Auerbach*

April 8 - 15

Abraham Levey observed by *Fran Goldman*
Nathan Berman* observed by *Brenda Margolis*
Mildred White observed by *Linda Robi*
Norman Kline* observed by *Herbert Kline*
Sandra Perl Gladstone* observed by *Beverly Rozen*
Silvio Ghianda observed by *Darlene Weber*
Leon Weisslender observed by *Ruth Shapiro*
Mark Balin observed by *Florence Balin*
Steven Bleier observed by *Larry Bleier*
Greta Herz* observed by *Carol Herz*

April 15 - 20

Rae Levine observed by *Rhonda Levine*
Richard Mendelson observed by *Suzanne Austenfeld*
Lilly Ullmann observed by *Arieh Ullmann*
Lillian Jacobson observed by *Bonnie Brown*
Gregorita Martinez observed by *Debra Martinez, Michael Martinez*
Nathan Dumoff observed by *Lynn Dumoff*
Zelda Lowy observed by *Ann Spitz*
Ann B. Stein observed by *David Weintraub*
Michele Turnbull* observed by *Tony Turnbull*

April 21-30

Harriet Greenberg* observed by *Art Siegel, George Siegel*
Evelyn Kaplan observed by *Phyllis Heller*
Julius Lipetz observed by *Cookie Greenblott*
Morton Brown observed by *Howard Brown*
Sarah Flaggman observed by *Marcia Brown*
Roseanne Rubinstein observed by *Dorie Osisek*
Stephen Meltzer observed by *Shelley Hubal*
Alice Richman* observed by *Karen Maddalone*
Jerome Seidel observed by *Fran Newmark*

An asterisk(*) indicates that the name has a memorial plaque in the Sanctuary.

If you wish to recite Mourner's Kaddish during a weekday service, other than Tuesday or Friday, please contact the Temple Israel office. A notice will be sent to the congregation to make up a Minyan. It would be helpful if you contact us two weeks prior to the date.