

March 2026 Bulletin



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

We are grateful to our Bulletin sponsors:

Happy Birthday to Janet Stram by *Alan & Julie Piaker*

**For the Yahrzeits of Jeremy Ullmann and Walter Ullmann by
*Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine***

For the Yahrzeit of Jeffrey Shapiro by *Ruth Shapiro*

For the Yahrzeit of George H. Siegel by *Arthur & Suzanne Siegel*

**For the Yahrzeits of Rae Levine and Lilly Ullmann by
*Arieh Ullmann & Rhonda Levine***

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TC/TI Adult Education Program, March 22

Law and Reason



The Torah tells us, "do not cook a kid in its mother's milk" and this has translated to extensive practices among traditionally practicing Jews - from separate sinks to abstaining from chicken parmesan. What do we do with mitzvot that do not seem to make rational sense?

These are just two of the questions that Rabbi Talia Laster, Campus Rabbi at the Grinspoon Hillel Center for Jewish Life at Cornell university will address in light of sources from Jewish philosophy, Talmud, and Halakha.

The entire community is welcome to attend what promises to be an informative, thought-provoking, and most interesting program, and enjoy a lite brunch, on Sunday March 22, from 10am-noon at Temple Israel, 4737 Deerfield Place, Vestal.

Suggested donation of between \$5-20

Kindly RSVP by March 16

Contact Temple Israel at 607 723-7461, e-mail: office@templeisraelvestal.org

or Temple Concord at 607 723-7355

The TC/TI Adult Ed. Program gratefully acknowledges a gift from The Community Foundation for South Central New York - The David and Virginia Eisenberg Fund which helped to underwrite this program



Letter from the Rabbi:

Dear Temple Israel Community,

We welcomed March with joyous celebration of Purim! Thanks to everyone who participated in a full day of celebration with readings of the Megillah, costume, hamentaschen, raising money for Tzedakah, and a collection of comedy! When we come together, we can persevere through difficult times and find great joy and light - like our ancestors who were saved from near destruction in the days of Mordechai and Esther!

The rest of March will be a unique month for our community. At the beginning of April, we will celebrate Pesach, so March will be a season of preparations. On Shabbat March 28th, Shabbat HaGadol, I will offer a special learning opportunity over kiddush to prepare ourselves for the celebrations and practices of Passover. Leading up to April 1st, you will have the chance to authorize me to sell your hametz on your behalf.

In March, Temple Israel will also have two critical opportunities to meet two candidates to succeed me as Rabbi of Temple Israel. I hope everyone will make an effort to join these events and get to know two kind and capable recent musmakhim (rabbinic ordainees) who have been selected by the search committee.

Nissan - the month when we celebrate Pesach - is the first month of the Jewish calendar according to the book of Shemot (Exodus). With Spring on the horizon, we can feel this sense of the renewal of the year. Purim and Pesach, each in their own way, offer us opportunities to be renewed and embrace a new period of vitality. May we build upon the joy of Purim as we prepare for a joyous and liberatory Pesach!



Letter from the President

Dear Members and friends of Temple Israel,

At this writing, the Middle East is once again embroiled in hot and widespread conflict, and innocents are paying a high price. We pray for a peaceful resolution and an end to human suffering, and our hearts are particularly with the victims and their families. The Prayer for Peace in our Shabbat worship has never been more apropos than it is today.

As you know, we are seeking a Pulpit Rabbi to succeed Rabbi Friedman when his contract ends at the end of June. Our **Rabbi Search Committee** has solicited and reviewed applications and resumes, conducted interviews with the most qualified candidates, and have narrowed the field down to two finalists who possess the qualifications and qualities to be our next Rabbi. They are looking forward to engaging with us and getting to know us better. I urge you to participate in these visits so that you can have a voice in this process and give the candidates a favorable impression of us.

One of our finalists, **Rabbi Alex M. Hamilton**, is a Navy Chaplain currently stationed in Japan, so we will conduct a **virtual visit over zoom**. Please plan to join us (at the usual link for Temple Israel Services) on **Sunday evening, March 8th, from 6:00pm-8:00pm**.

The other finalist is **Max Ari Davis**, who will come to **Vestal the weekend of 20-22 March**. A Hebrew College candidate for ordination this Spring, Max will lead our Shabbat services on Friday and Saturday, and participate in our Adult Ed program on Sunday.

More background information, and a schedule of events, will be forthcoming from the Search Committee. Please join us!

Thanks to all of you for your support and participation, your Annual Dues, and your generous donations to our standing funds and fund-raisers. We appreciate your donations of any size. They all add up to sustain your synagogue.

Chag Purim Sameach! Celebrate Purim!

Art

		MARCH		2026			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Megillah reading 6:30 event Birthday of Eitan Kaminsky	PURIM "Megillah & our Times" class 4:30pm minyan 5:30pm Exec Board meeting 7:00pm	Hebrew School 4:00pm	Birthday of Adam Greenblott, Robert Weiss	<i>Rabbi Friedman off</i> Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm Light candle 5:42pm	<i>Rabbi Friedman off</i> Shabbat services 9:30am No Havdalah svc	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Turn clocks ahead 1 hour <i>Rabbi Friedman off</i> Rabbi candidate on Zoom 6pm-8pm Birthday of Bob Friedman, Lori Lewis	Hebrew with the Weekly Parsha 6:30	Torah & Our Times class 4:30pm minyan 5:30pm	Learning Circle 11:00am Hebrew School 4:00pm		<i>Rabbi Friedman off</i> Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm Light candle 6:50pm	<i>Rabbi Friedman off</i> Shabbat services 9:30am Havdalah 8:00pm	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
<i>Rabbi Friedman off</i>	Office hours 2-4pm Hebrew with the Weekly Parsha 6:30	<i>Office closed</i> Torah & Our Times class 4:30pm minyan 5:30pm BOT meeting 7:00pm	Ritual Comm mtg 10am Hebrew School 4:00pm	Birthday of Emily Wolff	Rabbi candidate weekend <i>Rabbi Friedman off</i> Erev Shabbat svcs & 5:30pm Light candle 6:58pm	<i>Rabbi Friedman off</i> Birthday of Wendy Wolff Shabbat services 9:30am Havdalah 8:00pm	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
<i>Rabbi Friedman off</i> Adult Ed @TI with Rabbi Talia Laster 10:00am	Hebrew with the Weekly Parsha 6:30	Birthday of Naomi Dershowitz, Irwin Simon Torah & Our Times class 4:30pm minyan 5:30pm	Hebrew School 4:00pm		Erev Shabbat svcs 5:30pm Shabbat Dinner Light candle 7:06pm	Shabbat services 9:30am Havdalah 8:15pm	
29	30	31					
Birthday of Rabbi Micah Friedman Anniversary of Yaron & Alice Kweller	Birthday of Shira Green Hebrew with the Weekly Parsha 6:30	Anniversary of Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus Torah & Our Times class 4:30pm minyan 5:30pm					

Contributions

General Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Yetta Gilinsky by Charles & Susan Gilinsky

Patricia Kline by Herbert Kline

Norman Kline by Herbert Kline

Fritz Rosenberg by Rolph Rosenberg

Ruth Rosenberg by Barbara & Marvin Guter

Jeremy Ullmann by Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus

Deborah Zapotocky by Merri Pell-Preus & Tony Preus

Eve Gerblet by Leon Vainer

Nathan Goldstein by Dave, Ofelia, Mark, Cindy & Rachel Goldstein

Hamama Yona Mah'pud by Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu

Donald Bronsky by Shirley, Mark & Shari Bronsky

Faye Rittberg by Howard Rittberg

Goldie Bograd by Marilyn Bell

Anna Berger by Roy & Sandra Paston

In memory of...

Charlotte Schneierson by Larry & Kathy Hurwitz, David & Rivka Channin, Len & Naoma Feld, Arie Ullmann & Rhonda Levine, Alan & Julie Piaker, Mark & Shelley Hubal, Ben & Susan Kasper, Roy & Sandra Paston, Charles & Susan Gilinsky, Don & Barbara Zelter, Steven Gilbert, Ann Cohen, Robin & Jeff Greenblott, Larry & Rita Bleier

Carrie Rosefsky Wickham by Roy & Sandra Paston, Steven Gilbert, Ann Cohen, Marcy Cohen, Myra & Irving Memis, Stuart & Vicki Rouff

Best Wishes to...

Rabbi Micah & Rav Talia on their next adventure together by Jim Mason & Carol Engel - Mason

Thank you to...

All who participate in the Tuesday & Friday services by Jim Mason & Carol Engel - Mason

Wishing good health to...

Arthur Siegel by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

Howard Warner by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

Philip Goodman by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

Susan Gilinsky by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

George Rosenberg by The Rosenberg Family

Rabbi Geoffrey Brown by Len & Naoma Feld, Al Lavker

In honor of...

Florence Balin's 100th birthday by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

Rita Bleier & Carol Herz for their tireless efforts preparing Flo's birthday kiddush by Jim Mason & Carol Engel-Mason

The birth of Mike & Madeline Azersky's grandson Miles Jules Azersky by Howard & Bonnie Brown

Suzanne Siegel by Ruth Shapiro

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Estelle Silverman by Vicki & Stuart Rouff

Clara Brachin by Esther Gilinsky & Family

Rose Gilinsky by Esther Gilinsky & Family

In memory of...

Charlotte Schneierson by Judy & Irwin Simon

Wishing good health to...

Maxine Rosenberg by Judy & Irwin Simon

Landscaping Fund

In memory of...

Charlotte Schneierson by Maxine Rosenberg, Beverly Rozen, Arlene Osber, Al Lavker
Carrie Rosefsky Wickham by Arlene Osber & Family, Maxine Rosenberg, Beverly Rozen & Family

For the Yahrzeit of...

Fritz Rosenberg by The Rosenberg Family

Barbara Blazar by Jennifer & Jim Schutzer

In honor of...

Fred & Sandra Weitsman by Len & Naoma Feld

Al Lavker by Len & Naoma Feld

Adult Library Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Alan Robinson by Harriet Horowitz

Cemetery Fund

Contributions

Kiddush Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Steven Rappaport by *Ralph Azersky*
Ruth Azersky by *Ralph Azersky*
Katie Brown by *Marcia Brown*
Philip Wulwick by *Nancy Basmann*
Jeanette Smith by *William Jaffe*
Lillian Goodman by *Philip Goodman*
Hannah Goldman by *Philip Goodman*

In honor of...

Ina Bellis's birthday by *Nancy Basmann*

Mitzvah Corps

For the Yahrzeit of...

Donald Bronsky by *Peter Bronsky, John Frazier*

For the Yahrzeit of...

Leza Weisslender Morgan by *Ruth Shapiro*
Jeffrey Shapiro by *Phyllis & Jerry Heller*

In memory of...

Dr. Herbert L. Foster by *Arthur & Suzanne Siegel*
Charlotte Schneierson by *Phyllis & Jerry Heller*

Bernie Shifrin Music Fund

For the Yahrzeit of...

Selbert Krassin by *Terry Shelley-Krassin*
Brian Rapp by *Barbara Roberts*
Deborah Zapotocky by *Myrna & Mel Dubofsky*
Bernard Shifrin by *Myrna Dubofsky*

In memory of...

Gloria Blank by *Mel & Myrna Dubofsky*

Congregational News

Mazel Tov to:

Mike & Madeline Azersky on the birth of their grandson **Miles Jules Azersky**

Get Well wishes to:

Maxine Rosenberg, Fred Weitsman, Lee Foreman, Susan Gilinsky, Robert Weiss, Laurence Wyman, Ann Spitz, Charlie Pladek

Condolences to:

Ron Sacks on the passing of his aunt **Gladys Feinman**

Congratulations to our February Lottery Fundraiser winners:

Art & Suzanne Siegel, Celia Klin

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.

MARCH 2026 YAHRZEITS

March 1 - 6

Adar 12 - 17

March 14 - 23

Adar 25 - Nissan 5

Edward Bittman observed by *Nancy Bittman*
Goldie Bograd observed by *Marilyn Bell*
Rose Gilinsky* observed by *Esther Gilinsky*
Natalie Levine observed by *Renee Williams*
Anna Berger observed by *Roy Paston*
Oscar Epstein* observed by *Maxine Rosenberg*
Belle Margolis* observed by *Brenda Margolis*
Bernard Shifrin* observed by *Myrna Dubofsky*
Herbert Foster observed by *Arthur Siegel*
Rose Sall* observed by *Ron Sall*
Roslyn Siegal* observed by *Eileen Head*
Louis Beilin observed by *Marcy Cohen*
B. Norman Pearlman* observed by *Nan & David Pearlman*
Jeffrey Shapiro* observed by *Ruth Shapiro*
Shirlee Galanty observed by *Madeline Miller*
Sarah Warner* observed by *Howard Warner*

March 7 - 13

Adar 18 - 24

Hannah Goldman observed by *Philip Goodman*
Lillian Goodman* observed by *Philip Goodman*
Dora Kator observed by *Pamela Marcus*
Hamama Yona Mah'pud observed by *Rabbi Moshe Shmaryahu*
Robert Greenblott observed by *Cookie & Jeffrey Greenblott, Marley Whiting*
George Kaufer observed by *Naoma Feld*
Hersh Rozen* observed by *Beverly Rozen*
Elizabeth Spitz observed by *Ann Spitz*
George Gilinsky* observed by *Esther Gilinsky*
Barbara Schapiro* observed by *Jeffrey, Michael & Robert Schapiro*
Werner Herz* observed by *Carol Herz*
Elsie Miller observed by *Madeline Miller*
Germaine Rosenberg observed by *Maxine Rosenberg, Rolph Rosenberg*
Hyman Sall* observed by *Ron Sall*
Leroy Bertin observed by *Dick Lewis*
Burton H. Blazar* observed by *Jennifer Schuzer*
Anna Goldman observed by *Fran Goldman*
Patricia Kline observed by *Herbert Kline*

Faye Gerste in observed by *Alan Piaker, Susan Kasper*
Hirschel Kasper observed by *Ben Kasper*
Clara Krassin observed by *Terry Shelley-Krassin*
L. Nathan Sall observed by *Ron Sall*
George Siegel* observed by *Arthur Siegel*
Beatrice Weissman observed by *Sandra Paston*
Harold Schwartz observed by *Lynne Green*
Barbara Bograd observed by *Marilyn Bell*
Neil Gabay observed by *Sima Auerbach*
Yetta Gilinsky* observed by *Charles Gilinsky*
Nathan Berman* observed by *Brenda Margolis*
Abraham Levey observed by *Fran Goldman*
Mildred White observed by *Linda Robi*
Norman Kline* observed by *Herbert Kline*
Sandra Gladstone observed by *Beverly Rozen*
Silvio Ghianda observed by *Darlene Weber*
Elizabeth Rappaport* observed by *Harry Rappaport*
Leon Weisslender observed by *Ruth Shapiro*

March 24 - 31

Nissan 6 - 13

Mark Balin observed by *Florence Balin*
Steven Bleier observed by *Larry Bleier*
Greta Herz* observed by *Carol Herz*
Rae Levine observed by *Rhonda Levine*
Richard Mendelson observed by *Sue Austenfeld*
Lilly Ullmann observed by *Arieh Ullmann*
Lillian Jacobson observed by *Bonnie Brown*
Marsha Grass observed by *Julie Jurman*
Gregorita Martinez observed by *Debra Martinez*
Robert Basmann observed by *Nancy Basmann*
Nathan Dumoff observed by *Lynn Dumoff*
Zelda Lowy observed by *Ann Spitz*
Anna B. Stein observed by *David Weintraub*
Marion Singer observed by *Marjorie Singer*
Michele Turnbull* observed by *Tony Turnbull*
Harriet Greenberg* observed by *Arthur Siegel*
Evelyn Kaplan observed by *Phyllis Heller*

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