



## Temple Israel Bulletin

December 2022 - January 2023 / Kislev - Tevet - Shevat 5783

[www.JewishDuluth.org](http://www.JewishDuluth.org)

*"Temple Israel is a welcoming and vibrant center of Jewish life for our region,  
l'dor vador... from generation to generation"*

# Happy Hanukkah

Hanukkah begins at sundown December 18th.



### Weekly Schedule

Join us for  
Torah Study Fridays at NOON via Zoom;  
and for in-person

Shabbat Services Fridays at 6:00pm &  
Saturdays at 10:00am. Simulcast on Zoom  
Requests for the recurring Zoom links can  
be directed to the Temple Israel Office  
[admin@jewishduluth.org](mailto:admin@jewishduluth.org)

For the complete  
Temple Israel  
Calendar  
Click [HERE](#)

### Office Hours

8:30am - 12:00pm

Tuesday - Friday

We are here to help

(218) 724-8857

[admin@jewishduluth.org](mailto:admin@jewishduluth.org)

Please remember that proof of  
vaccination is required in the Temple  
Israel building.

### FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Every so often, I hang out in The Tent, the URJ's affinity group website on Yammer. I recently saw the following post:

*We are a small congregation that seems to be getting smaller every year. Just a few years ago we had 130 units, and now we are down to 95. We are a small southern city with a military installation and a large university medical center complex, so we do have a number of transient members. Our elderly members are passing away and young families are not joining. Our religious school has dropped to only 16-18 students with the majority pre-K and kindergarten....We do have*

*a full-time rabbi, but he will be leaving us in June when his contract is up. It was not our desire for him to leave but we could not meet his desired salary, but more than that was the fact that his talent as our spiritual leader was not being stimulated enough. Pre-Covid ...Shabbat Services and monthly dinners and other activities were well attended.... We now get about 18-25 on a Friday night [2-3 times what we get – Mark]. We plan activities for children, families, adults and seniors and maybe 2 or 4 folks show up. We have a very small cadre of folks that are the core volunteers...and we are burned out.... Apathy seems to be our biggest problem. Long time members lament about how it used to be and new members just don't care....I am really afraid*

*that after being a congregation for 177 years we will end up closing our doors.*

Is this us? No.....not yet. But nothing in the future is promised. It is only with the active engagement of our entire community that our survival will be assured. So since this is my last President's Message, consider it my appeal to all of you to support Temple Israel, both with your time and with your dollars.

—Mark

### FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY:

Chanukah this year begins at sundown on Sunday, December 18th and ends at sundown on Monday, December 26th.

The literal meaning of the word "*Chanukah*" is "dedication," referring to the dedication (actually, the rededication) of the Temple in Jerusalem in 165 B.C.E. by the Maccabees after they captured it from the occupying army of the Seleucid dynasty. However, as with many other Jewish holidays, along with the official name of the holiday we have one or more traditional nicknames for it. In the case of Chanukah, the traditional nickname is "*Chag Urim*" "Festival of Lights."

When we think of the word "*urim*" "lights" or its singular form "*or*" "light," many traditional associations come to mind:

- Gen. 1:3 --- "*Vayomer elohim 'yehi or', vayehi or*" "God said 'let there be light' and there was light"
- From the traditional *shacharit* morning service: "*Or chadash al tziyon ta'ir v'nizkeh khulanu bimheyra l'oro*" "Let a new light shine upon Zion, and may we soon be worthy of its light"
- Psalms 97:11 in the Kabbalat Shabbat service: "*Or zarua latzadik u'leyishrey lev simcha*" "Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright of heart." (We also sing this verse as the Torah scrolls are processed to the bima on Kol Nidre night at the start of Yom Kippur.)
- Psalms 36:10 which some Jews recite after putting on the *tallit*: "*ki imkha mkor chayim b'orkha nir'eh or*" "For with You is the source of life, by Your light we shall see light."

--- And scores of other references...

The lights that we kindle on each of the eight nights of our Festival of Lights are no run of the mill lights. Rather, as we learn from the words of "*Hanerot Halalu*" ("These Lights"), traditionally recited or sung after lighting the Chanukah menorah --- "During all eight days of Chanukah these lights are sacred, and we are not permitted to make ordinary use of them, but rather to look at them in order to express thanks and praise to Your great Name, for Your miracles, Your wonders and Your redemption."

We might think first of the miraculous story of the single cruse of oil that was said to have lasted for eight days, or of the wonder of the military victory of the few against the many, or of the redemption of our people from slavery and oppression.

Or maybe when we light our *chanukiyot* we might think of the miracle of the cycles of nature, or the wonder of the diversity of the created world, or the redemptive qualities of hope and courage in the face of adversity. Jewish tradition devised a clever method for making sure that we didn't unintentionally transgress the prohibition against using the light of the Chanukah menorah candles for practical purposes: An additional light, the "*shamash*" "servant" candle, is lit first, is used to light the other candles, and is placed at a higher elevation than any of the other Chanukah candles. Any practical use that we get from the light of the menorah can thus be ascribed to the *shamash* candle, and not to the other "sacred" candles.

The *shamash*/servant candle can be a metaphor for the role of service in our own lives.

There are many ways that we can serve our synagogue community (joining a committee, sponsoring an *oneg*, giving a lift to services to someone who doesn't drive...). There are many ways that we can serve the larger society in which we live (giving *tzedakah*, taking part in recycling and energy conservation efforts, being active in civic and community organizations...). When we give of ourselves in ways such as these, we often find that we receive more than we give.

Just like the *shamash* on the Chanukah menorah, when we share our light with others, our own light is undiminished – and the sum total of light in the world is increased.

As I write these words we are busy planning for our annual meeting to take place on Sunday, December 4th. At that time, we are planning for Mark Weitz to conclude his presidency of Temple Israel and to be succeeded by Bart Polacsek. It has been an honor and

a pleasure to work with Mark these past two years in his capacity as president. He truly embodies the character of the shamash on the Chanukiyah.

Thank you, Mark, for your service to our congregation and for all the support and encouragement you have given me. Thanks also to all who are completing their terms on the Temple Board and all who are commencing them.

And best of luck to Bart as he takes on his new role.

*Chag Urim Sameach/ Happy Chanukah,*  
Rabbi David Steinberg  
[rabbidavid@jewishduluth.org](mailto:rabbidavid@jewishduluth.org)

P.S. I hope to see many of you at this year's Temple Israel Chanukah dinner (back for the first time since before the Covid pandemic). This year we will be having our Chanukah dinner on the first night of Chanukah – Sunday evening December 18<sup>th</sup> --- rather than during the Shabbat of Chanukah week. Further details can be found elsewhere in this edition of the Temple Bulletin.

## NOTES FROM THE BOARD

At its November meeting, Jack Seiler updated the Board on a very interesting project. A former Duluth resident is funding a preliminary study to see if we could attract young Jewish families to Duluth. This would be aimed at people who could work remotely, who are attracted by outdoor activities and who see Duluth as a haven from the excesses of climate change.

Also, the Chester Creek Montessori preschool, which is located in our Annex, did a wonderful job of renovating the space and began operations. As importantly, they began paying rent!

Jack also reported on the Anniversary of Jews in Duluth fundraiser, which netted a couple of thousand dollars.

With respect to building grounds and security, we are trying to get bids for a stronger fence for the open space below Sanctuary. Our new doors, paid for by a Department of Homeland Security Grant, have been ordered and are being manufactured, with possibly a December delivery date.

## NEWS FROM RELIGIOUS & HEBREW SCHOOLS

Sometimes you hit upon a lesson that goes so incredibly well you need to share that success -- widely!

Our older Religious School students engaged in a Torah/history/values/customs lesson last month involving our Jewish ancestors Abraham and Sarah. Using the week's Torah portion Lech, Lecha, along with some midrash and Talmud selections, they were assigned to work in teams to answer a series of questions about our first Jewish ancestors.

Questions ranged from listing the promises God made to all parties involved (including Hagar and Ishmael) to what Jewish value Abraham and Sarah are credited with establishing to what Jewish life cycle custom Abraham and his sons and male servants engaged in. And we concluded with a debate on why these two are considered our first "Jewish" ancestors out of everyone who preceded them in Torah.

I was impressed by how quickly a camaraderie developed within each group, the students' high level of focus on the task as they raced to be the first to complete the assignment, and the quality of the answers they formed and discussion that followed.

The students even asked if they could do more of their lessons in this manner.







Our youngest students are learning about the components of Shabbat and making the related ritual objects for their Shabbat boxes. Our two middle groups of students are focused on Torah, one learning about Abraham and Sarah's tent of hospitality and other Bereshit stories and the other learning about our lives as slaves in Egypt and other Shemot stories.

### Some dates to note in December:

- The Children's Hanukkah Party is 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21.
- There is no school Saturdays, Dec. 24 and 31, or Wednesday, Dec. 28.

### Can you lend a hand?

We still need a couple of parent volunteers to cook and serve the meal for The Children's Hanukkah Party. Because the Congregational Hanukkah Dinner occurs before the party, this task is easier in that the latkes will already be made and will just need to be reheated. Please let me know if you're willing to step up and volunteer. Your children's teachers will be engaged in running the party stations.

Andrea Novel Buck  
Youth Education Director

Click [HERE](#) to make you  
Hanukkah Dinner Reservations  
or visit  
<https://forms.gle/97kBoDLNCwmkvW296>

Temple Israel's Annual  
*Hanukkah Dinner*  
SUNDAY, December 18, 2022  
6:00pm

Brisket \* Latkes \* Candles  
and Fun!

\$22 Adult (14+)  
\$15 Child (13 & younger)

**A note from the FUNdraising Committee -  
submitted by Allyz Kramer Polacsek**

Temple's Fundraising Committee is pleased to report a successful 2022 meeting our fundraising goal - \$10,000 set by the Board to meet our Temple's budget!

Our latest event November 6th was a team effort between Fundraising and Program Committees commemorating 130 years of Jewish heritage in the Twin Ports - a wonderful celebration of community, a meal, and a movie - and we raised \$1,780!

Thank you to all who attended, all that made generous donations, and most of all, bringing your good cheer together to celebrate!

Special thank you to those contributing to the program development, food preparation, donations for the raffle and commemorative art, and set-up: Jack and Cindy Seiler, Alexis Pogorelskin, Neil Glazman, Terese Tomanek and Steve Davis, Michelle and Mike Baddin, Tracy Goman, Janet and Steve Rosen, Mike Rosenzweig, and Linda Eason.

If you're interested in purchasing any of the 130 year commemorative art greeting cards, they are available for sale in the Temple gift shop for \$6 for 3 cards - a lovely way to continue to support Temple and send greetings to friends and family from afar while highlighting our 130 years of Jewish heritage in the Twin Ports!

Thank you also to our Temple staff - Nicole, Marko, and Peter - for your logistics support, guidance when hosting this recent large event, and patience! We are grateful for your service to our community.

Thank you to all Temple members for this past year supporting our congregation. Your acts of service, kindness, donation of time, goods, and money made 2022 Temple FUNdraising a success. From the summer Art Bazaar, Tall Ships parking cars, "rounding up" when paying dues, and the 130 year commemoration - we did it - together! Thank you.

**Camp Scholarship**

If you are interested in applying for scholarship for your child to attend Jewish Summer camp, please use **THIS FORM**.



CHUM's warming center has opened and is hosting 50-60 people most nights already. More volunteers are needed to help in the morning or evening. Folks who are interested can apply through the CHUM website. Please also check out the link below for other ways to help as well.

[Visit the WARMING CENTER website HERE](#)



**Chanukah  
Hat & Glove Drive**



**Chanukah Hat & Glove Drive - Share the Warmth!**

Chanukah will be here before you know it, and winter weather is already here. As we celebrate our season of light, and the warmth it brings to our families, let's share that warmth with our neighbors in need. **December is the time we ask you to please support our annual Chanukah Hat & Glove Drive for CHUM.**

Donations of NEW or gently used items are needed, especially: warm hats, waterproof gloves, and winter socks, and especially in large sizes. Hand warmers also are an important item for outdoor survival in this season.

Donation boxes will be available at Temple, inside both the 2nd Street and 16th Avenue entrances. Convenient times to bring donations will be the Annual Meeting on December 4, the Chanukah dinner on December 18th, and Shabbat services, but anytime in December will be welcome. We can make other arrangements as well; contact Holly Church (218-349-2457) or Mike Grossman (218-349-5998) to make arrangements.

Donations will be accepted throughout December. Many people living in poverty and/or without a home, who will spend much time outdoors this winter, truly depend on these donations to help keep them warm.

Thank you to for contributing to this annual congregational mitzvah!

## BOOK CLUB

Temple Book Group will meet via zoom in January 2023

Each attendee is encouraged to read a Jewish book of their choice which has good HUMOR. Books will be discussed as possible future reads for the group.



### Reckoning Together: A Reconstructionist Journey Towards Racial Justice

Thurs, Mar. 16 - Sun, Mar. 19

This spring, join Reconstructionists from all across the movement on a pilgrimage trip to the American South. Together we will visit the National Memorial for Peace and Justice and Legacy Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, and iconic sites of the Civil Rights Movement. The memorial and museum are powerful and sacred spaces for truth-telling and reflection about racial violence in America and its ongoing legacy today. We will meet with leaders of the historic Civil Rights Movement to gain insight and inspiration for the ongoing fight for racial justice in our day.

This trip will be uniquely Reconstructionist, both in the opportunities to learn, pray, eat, and converse with values-aligned folks from across the movement, as well as in the trip's design. The pilgrimage is oriented towards adults and mature teens.

#### Trip Information:

**Dates:** Thursday, March 16 – Sunday, March 19, 2023

**Cost:** \$1,475 for double occupancy in hotel rooms. Single supplement (private room) \$325.

The cost of the trip includes hotel, bus trips, entrance fees, most meals, and gratuities. The price does not include your transportation to and from Atlanta. You will need to make those reservations on your own.

**Reconstructing Judaism is committed to creating equitable access to all our programs.** If cost is a barrier to your participation, we offer scholarships and discounts. Please contact **Nina Korican**, Assistant Director for Thriving Communities, for more information. The trip price ensures that we will be able to run the trip regardless of the number of registrants and that we have adequate subsidy funds for all who request them.

For time-sensitive questions, please contact **Nina Korican**, Assistant Director for Thriving Communities.

*Registration closes on Saturday, Dec. 31, 2022. We cannot issue any refunds after Sunday, Jan. 15, 2023.*

### Remember those in care facilities

Carol Cohen, The Pines Three  
Paul King, St Ann's  
Rochelle Rubin, Benedictine Health Center  
Barb Russ, BeeHive Homes  
Aaron Glazman, Edgewood Vista  
Harriet Pearlman, Bayshore Health Center

### Yale Jewish Lives Book Series

We are tentatively planning an adult education series for 2023 based on the Yale Jewish Lives Book Series graciously donated to our library by Alexis Pogoreskin. Please vote of your top 5 choices of books to focus on by January 1st.

Vote [HERE](#)

<https://forms.gle/vtX486oi3DZff3P67>

### Can you help us?

**Temple Israel is looking to add to our staff, and the best reference is yours!** We are looking to add 1-2 people that are occasional, on-call to help out for events. In the past we have looked to a staffing agency to fill these openings, but we are looking to develop a longer relationship with a few people to help out at events now that Temple Israel is getting busier. Maybe you know of a friend or neighbor that this would be a perfect fit – send them our way! Please have them contact: [office@jewishduluth.org](mailto:office@jewishduluth.org)



## Welcome our Newest Members!



### **Laila Seidakhmetova and Marat Bakpayev**

I recently had the opportunity to spend time with Laila and Marat. I told them it would be no more than an hour, so I could write up an introduction to the Temple community. The conversation was so interesting and easy that we talked for 1 hour and 45 minutes and would have chatted longer if not for the late hour!

Our conversation took me on a journey from Kazakhstan with stops along the way where they each earned advanced degrees in their chosen professions, started careers and finally arrived in Duluth, Minnesota in 2016. They were both born in the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic within the Soviet Union which declared independence from the Soviet Union (1988-1991) now known as Kazakhstan. Marat was born in the Northern region and Laila in the Southern region. Their paths eventually crossed at KIMEP University (Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research.) Marat was an adjunct professor and Laila was taking classes at the school. Although she was going to sign up for a class he taught, it never worked out with her schedule. They did eventually meet, fall in love and married in 2010.

Marat's educational background includes studies in law, economics and social economic development. He has two Master's degrees and went to France for a Ph.D in Consumer Research and Consumer Behavior. Marat teaches courses in brand management and marketing and conducts research at UMD. He was recently in Denver to attend The Association for Consumer Research Conference.

Laila was a professional pianist. Her education included attending a specialized conservatory for music. One of her interesting jobs was providing music for couples getting married at the The Marriage Palace in Kazakhstan, a one stop shop for weddings. Laila is currently employed at Minnesota Power-Allete in HR and Benefits Administration. Before joining Allete she was a consultant for Ernst and Young.

Laila and Marat are engaging, interesting and easy conversationalists. Fun Facts: Marat and Laila are both from Kazakhstan although from different locations. They both speak Russian and Kazakh. Laila is also fluent in English and of course, music! Marat also speaks French, English, Turkish, Portuguese, and is learning Hebrew. Marat and Laila are both avid readers. When not reading material related to his profession, Marat enjoys science fiction. Laila is currently reading *Opposite Marriage* and *Personal Letters of Mozart*. She also enjoys reading about how the brain works. Laila is drawn to anything artistic, music, and her newfound interest in Kazakh quilting. Marat is interested in a variety of sports, martial arts, and travel.

I can't forget to mention Solo, their chocolate lab who is energetic and enjoys running along the lake as well as being a willing participant in their dips in Lake Superior as they practice deliberate cold water exposure!

Say hello to Marat and Laila and enjoy a delightful conversation!

Disclaimer: I apologize for any errors in retelling parts of their story. --Theresa Neo



### **Sabrina Ullman**

Sabrina was born in Florida, raised by a single father. Her dad was Jewish and she was raised Jewish, but

they didn't have a strong connection to a synagogue. They moved to the Nashville, Tennessee area when she was 10, but, as in Florida, logistics made it difficult to be involved with a Jewish community. Growing up, Hanukkah was the consistent Jewish observance in her home.

For college she moved from her small Tennessee town, where there was "always some discomfort about not going to church on Sunday" to the University of Miami, where 20% of the students were Jewish. There, she found a welcoming atmosphere and with the assistance of the wonderful campus Rabbi, she got over the feeling of not knowing enough and attended services regularly. In 2018, she went on a Birthright trip to Israel, a great experience. Having wanted to be meteorologist from a very young age, her degree from U of Miami is in broadcast journalism and atmospheric science.

Sabrina moved to Duluth after college to take a job with WDIO as reporter/weekend weatherperson. She likes Duluth - even the snow. (Much more pleasant snow, she says, than the snow they get in Tennessee.) She enjoys the outdoors, and the Northland is a very interesting place for a meteorologist. Unfortunately, her broadcast schedule conflicts with services most of the time, so we don't see her as often as she and we would like. She's hoping to join in Mah Jongg, and is on the Tikkun Olam mailing list.

You can catch Sabrina on WDIO at 10:00 Weekend nights. If anyone has any local news tips, she invites you to reach out to her at [sullman@wdio.com](mailto:sullman@wdio.com).



### **Diana Shapiro and Michael Slavkin**

New members Diana Shapiro and Michael Slavkin live in Hermantown, MN. They have three children, Maya and Sasha, twins, age 11, and Aaron age 7. Diana is a professor of piano at UMD. Michael is a Software Architect at GE Healthcare. Prior to moving to Duluth they lived in the Milwaukee area. Michael is originally

from Minsk, Belarus and Diana is from Moscow, Russia. They both emigrated to Israel in the 1990's and spent many years living there. In 2005 the family moved to Boston, MA where Diana continued her musical studies.

Maya, Sasha, and Aaron are enrolled in the Temple religious school.

We're glad they've landed in Duluth!



### **Danny and Patti Slosburg**

Danny and Patti are thoroughly warm and friendly individuals, without any of the intimidation you might fear from former rugby players. Both are lifelong Midwesterners; other than that, you can't pin them down geographically. Danny was born and raised in Omaha, Patti in St. Louis. Admittedly, Danny went to college in Denver and Patti in New Hampshire, but other than that, it's been the Midwest all the way. They met in St. Louis and after a whirlwind courtship, married there in 1981. Now both in their 60's, they've lived in Austin (Texas), Kansas City while raising their family, and most recently in Lake Nebagamon, where they are today.

Both have a background in business. Patti for many years ran one of the oldest and most distinguished toy stores in Kansas City, while also working in a woman's clothing store "dressing women" as she put it (her consultation on her customer's choices being as big a part of the job as the actual resulting sales). Danny started out in his family's real estate business in Omaha, continued on his own in Austin and Kansas City, also evolving into financial planning services. Now



that they're both semi-retired, they have a CBD business that keeps them occupied and helps people feel better.

The Slosburgs have three grown children in their 30's - Tucker, Grace, and Sam, scattered around the country, and 3 young granddaughters. It was through Danny's original connection with Camp Nebagamon as a kid, which continued with all of their children's attendance and 30 years of family camp, that they came to have a connection with this area. As Patti tells it, their vacations to Lake Nebagameon in the past several years got longer and longer, until they accidentally found a home for sale...and that was that.

Danny's always had a strong connection to his Judaism; his family was involved in Temple Israel of Omaha all his life. Danny himself was involved in his Temple's youth group, and in adulthood has been on the boards of Federation and his Kansas City synagogue, and for many years taught in the education program and tutored B'nei Mitzvah. Patti's connection has been more tenuous. Both, however, are looking forward to their connection with Temple Israel. Patti has been impressed with the openness and welcome she's experienced so far, and Danny is glad to help out as needed. Let's continue to make sure they have a happy experience with us!



**Freya & Timothy Thurmer**

Freya and Tim Thurmer moved into the Riverside neighborhood of Duluth from Colorado in late September with their three lively daughters, Raizel, Zelda, and Shaiya. The Duluth Jewish community was an important reason for their choice to resettle here, along with Duluth's wonderful access to the outdoors.

Both Freya and Tim have agricultural connections. Tim still works on the family farm, and Freya's career is teaching agricultural science.

Freya grew up in a very small Jewish community in Idaho. After a couple of years of college she wanted "something else", and ended up in Israel as an au pair. When that ended, wanting to stay on, she spent 6 months at Kibbutz Lotan with a permaculture/gardening internship. A foundational experience, she retains many connections to Israel to this day. Coming back to the States, among Freya's subsequent jobs was managing the University of Idaho's organic farm. Here she earned a degree in education, having discovered that teaching agriculture was a wonderful way to combine her love of farming with her love of working with people.

Tim, meanwhile, grew up on the family farm in southern Minnesota. After Tim and Freya married, they lived on the farm for 7 years until, eventually, Tim felt the need for a change. They moved to Colorado, but after a while Tim found that farming is in his blood. Wanting Tim to be nearer to the farm, but not wanting the family to live in that area, they see Duluth as a great environment to raise their family. They are excited by the thought of having an engaged and active Jewish community around them, for themselves and in which to raise their daughters Jewishly. And, Tim is excited to have a much shorter drive to the farm at planting and harvest season.

The two older girls, Raizel and Zelda, attend Stowe Elementary. Raizel, almost 8, and Zelda, almost 6, both spend a lot of their free time engaged in arts and crafts. Raizel plays mandolin and is starting piano, is very social and enjoys snowboarding. Zelda plays the violin, loves being in the outdoors and hiking, and has a thing for legos and puzzles. Shaiya, almost 3, goes to preschool at the zoo, where she is outdoors and gets to interact with animals a lot. You might not be surprised to know that she likes to color. Cats are her favorite animal and, like cats, she's quite independent, proud these days of dressing herself.

Currently, Freya is at home with the girls. When he's not on the farm, Tim works with a non-gmo seed business that he and friends have started. They've enjoyed their time Duluth so far, taken up a lot with settling in, jumping into house projects. Both are looking forward to meeting people and getting involved with our community.

And we are looking forward to getting to know them and to their involvement in our community! Welcome, Freya, Tim, Raizel, Zelda and Shaiya.

We also extend a welcome to our newest Affiliates:

Barry & Linda Tusin

Amy Goldfine

*To qualify for Affiliate Membership, candidates must live more than 100 miles from Duluth. Affiliate members have no voting privileges at Temple Israel but have access to Temple Israel communications including the directory of members.*



**Registration for the URJ's Had'rachah Program is now open! 50% Discount for Small Congregations (150 households or less)**

Had'rachah (which means "leadership") is intended for small congregations with no more than one full-time clergy member. Had'rachah teaches lay leaders a variety of skills to help them support and lead communal worship, like Shabbat and festivals, and lifecycle events like funerals and baby namings. This 6-session interactive online learning experience is between January and May. You can read more about the Had'rachah program and register for the next cohort [HERE](#).

*Note: In addition to the 50% discount offered by URJ, further scholarship assistance is available to Temple members through the Temple Israel Rabbi Discretionary Fund.*

### **A History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict from a Progressive Zionist Perspective**

In this 4-part series, Rabbi Maurice Harris presents a comprehensive overview of how Jews came into being as a nation in the ancient Land of Israel, how their many centuries of exile affected their relationship to that land, and how modern Zionism developed into a successful state-building movement culminating in the establishment of the modern State of Israel in 1948. The series also unpacks the major components of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, taking care to honor both Palestinian narratives and Israeli narratives of what happened and continues to happen. Side by side, the course attempts to describe and humanize the narrative of dispossession, resistance, and creative resilience of the Palestinians alongside the narrative of survival, return, and cultural renewal of Jewish Israelis.

Rabbi Harris approaches the subject matter from a progressive Zionist perspective, seeking to develop insight into how large blocs within both peoples tend to narrate and mythologize the conflict; and always striving to honor the depth, humanity, and complexity of all the people involved in the conflict. Rabbi Harris also urges people who take this class to hear other points of view and to raise challenging questions to his presentation. The views and analysis presented are entirely the presenter's, and do not speak for Reconstructing Judaism as an organization.

All 4 sessions will take place from 7 pm – 8:45 pm Central time. The dates and times of the series are as follows:

- Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023
- Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023
- Thursday, Feb. 9, 2023
- Thursday, Feb 23, 2023

[Click HERE to access the Zoom link](#) for the class.

All sessions will be recorded and archived so that people who can't make all the sessions can still stay current with the class.

## **WANTED KITCHEN HELP**



WE NEED MORE PEOPLE WILLING TO HELP COOK MEALS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL. WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO TAKE THE LEAD AND TO ASSIST WITH MEAL PREPARATIONS FOR FAMILY DINNERS, LUNCHES, AND SPECIAL EVENTS.

**TRAINING SESSION COMING SOON**

★ **CONTACT SHERYL GRANA** ★  
**218.340.8177**



## Office Help

Nicole will be on vacation Jan 5th - 12th. If you are interested in helping in the office while she is gone please email [office@jewishduluth.org](mailto:office@jewishduluth.org)



The December 14th Learners' Luncheon has been postponed to a later date.

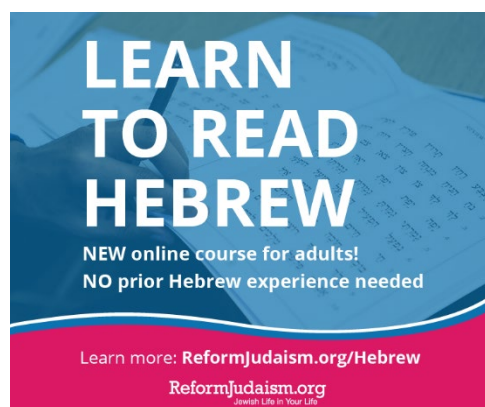
January 18th - **Admiral Hyman G.**

**Rickover: From Polish Stetle to Public**

**Figure with Personal Reminiscences** by Roger Pellet.

11:30am Gather

12:00pm Lunch and Program



*Get started with the aleph-bet!*

Familiarity with Hebrew can be a key to feeling at home in the Jewish community. Learn the shapes and sounds of the Hebrew alphabet, with a warm and supportive educator to guide you and a group of classmates for practicing together. Recognize and understand common Hebrew words and phrases that are often heard in Reform congregations and in Jewish prayer. Perfect for Introduction to Judaism alumni and other adults, this course assumes no prior Hebrew experience.

This course has been developed specifically for online learning, and is taught by experienced educators. Live sessions meet weekly over video conferencing. Participants are given access to online course materials and a link to purchase workbook.

Tuition: \$225

Scholarship assistance is available for Temple Israel members

## New in the Library

- *How do you spell God? : answers to the big questions from around the world* by Marc Gellman
- *Judaikitsch : tchotchkes, schmattes, and nosherei* by Jennifer Traig
- *Biscuit's Hanukkah* by Alyssa Satin Capucilli
- *D is for dreidel : a Hanukkah alphabet* by Greg Paprocki
- *Thank you for me!* by Rick Recht
- *Noah's bed* by Jim Coplestone
- *Lights out Shabbat* by Sarene Shulimson
- *Even higher! : a Rosh Hashanah story* by Eric A. Kimmel
- *Talia and the very YUM Kippur* by Linda Elovitz Marshall
- *The story of Passover* by David A. Adler
- *Hanukkah in Alaska* by Barbara Brown
- *The three latkes* by Eric A. Kimmel
- *Yitzi and the giant menorah* by Richard Ungar
- *Nuri and the whale* by Ronit Chacham
- *King Solomon and his magic ring* by Élie Wiesel
- *Boker tov! : good morning!* by Joe Black
- *Nicanor's gate* by Eric A. Kimmel
- *Judah Touro didn't want to be famous* by Audrey Ades
- *In the Jerusalem forest* by Devora Busheri
- *A rainy day story* by Ruth Calderon
- *We are Jewish faces* by Debra B. Darvick
- *Butchers and bakers, rabbis and kings* by Jacqueline Dembar Greene
- *One-minute Jewish stories* by Shari Lewis
- *The Peace Bell* by Margi Preus
- *Good night, laila tov* by Laurel Snyder
- *A guest for the night* by Shmuel Yosef Agnon
- *Nine folds make a paper swan* by Ruth Gilligan
- *The lost shtetl : a novel* by Max Gross

## **TEMPLE ISRAEL COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

(revised March 10, 2022)

- **Anyone AGE 5 OR OVER must be fully vaccinated.**
- **Anyone AGE 12 OR OVER must have a booster when eligible to be considered fully vaccinated.**
- Mask wearing is OPTIONAL.
- Six feet of social distancing is recommended, except for households and "pods" of fully vaccinated persons.
- Services are simulcast on Zoom, there will be no screen sharing of the prayer book. However, members may borrow or purchase prayer books and links for free downloads on your own

personal devices can be found in our weekly "TTW" ("Temple This Week") email updates or by contacting the Temple office.

- Please be sure to check the health screening questionnaire posted at the building entrance. All attendees are required to review the questions and, if the answer to any question is "yes," should leave the building. We rely on attendees to individually review the questions and to be honest in their answers.
- We are maximizing efforts to maintain good air quality and recommend everyone get vaccinated.

### Siddur at home

Unless otherwise indicated, all our worship services are held in person and simulcast on Zoom. However, the siddurim (prayerbooks) are not screen-shared. Temple members may borrow copies of the siddurim that we use at Temple for your home use. Please contact the Temple office if you wish to do so. The Temple Israel office can be reached at 218-724-8857 or [office@jewishduluth.org](mailto:office@jewishduluth.org)

If you wish to view online versions of the various siddurim on a separate device while "Zooming" into Shabbat services, here are the links that will enable you to do so:

- For Saturday morning services: [HERE](#)
- For Friday evening services (other than family shabbat services): [HERE](#) and then click on the cover of the first book listed on that page (i.e., the Shabbat only version)
- For the monthly "Family Service" (first Friday of each month): Click [HERE](#)

If you would like to purchase your own copies of the various siddurim, here are the links that will enable you to do so:

For Saturday morning services: Click [HERE](#)

For Friday evening services (other than family shabbat services): Click [HERE](#)

The siddur for the monthly "Family Service" (first Friday of each month) is out of print but some used copies for sale might be available at these links:

- Version with transliteration: [HERE](#)
- Version without transliteration: [HERE](#)

## Schedule of Shabbat Services and Torah Portions

<b>December 2 &amp; 3</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Vayetzei (Genesis 28:10-32:3)		<b>December 9 &amp; 10</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Vayishlach (Genesis 32:4 - 36:43)	
<b>December 16 &amp; 17</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Vayeshev (Genesis 37:1 - 40:23)	<b>December 23 &amp; 24</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Miketz (Genesis 14:1 - 44:17)	<b>December 30 &amp; 31</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Vayigash (Genesis 44:18 - 47:27)	
<b>January 6 &amp; 7</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Vayechi (Genesis 47:28 - 50:26)	<b>January 13 &amp; 14</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Shemot (Exodus 1:1 - 6:1)	<b>January 20 &amp; 21</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Va'era (Exodus 6:2 - 9:35)	<b>January 27 &amp; 28</b> - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Bo (Exodus 10:1 - 13:16)

### *Mazel Tov*

- To Sam Buck who will receive his Eagle Scout Award at a ceremony in December

Please send your submissions to the Mazel Tov or Todah Rabbah sections to [admin@jewishduluth.org](mailto:admin@jewishduluth.org)

### *Todah Rabbah*

- To those that helped make the 130 Years Anniversary event a great success!
- To those that worked to bring Sarah Hurwitz here to present
- To those that have supplied baked goods to the kitchen for events
- To Maureen for the donation of a new wireless "clicker" for use with the big screen.





1 Ellie Hoffman	16 Lloyd Orensten	22 Mila Halvorson
4 Elyse Carter-Vosen	16 Reva Polacsek	27 Olga Chernyshev
4 Zachary Sonnino	16 Judy Schibel	28 Daniel Wallerstein
5 Tina Alcala Sales	17 Hannah Cornwell	29 Alice Chartier
7 Donald Ross	17 Noah Cornwell	29 Lisa Roazen
9 Heather Lassard	17 Joshua Widdes	29 Courtney Stein
9 Jeffrey Wallace	18 Maya Slavkin	29 Robin Washington
11 Lydia Pellett	18 Sasha Slavkin	30 Michelle Baddin
13 Dan Kislinger	20 Gerald Cohen	30 Stephanie Devine
15 Robert Leff	21 Lyle Bergal	

**Anniversaries**  
19 Fred & Alana Friedman  
15 Andy & Molly Goldfine  
23 Brian & Francine Gunderson  
21 Robert & Fran Leff



2 Raizel Thurmer	14 Shaiya Thurmer
3 Peter Wodrich	16 Sophia Roazen
4 Steve Goldfine	17 David Vosen
4 Fran Leff	19 Meredith Chartier
6 Toby Marcovich	19 Jane Fisher
6 Nicole Widdes	19 Roberta Taran
7 Terri Johnson	23 Neil Glazman
7 Barry Tusin	23 Tracy Goman
8 Alana Friedman	27 Susie Rosenzweig
11 John Fisher	28 David Siegler
11 Anna Guttman	30 Kelly Krenzen
12 Mark Cohen	31 Ilana Kaplan
12 Lee Russell	31 Chaya Maria Ropers

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
9 MICHAEL & ELLEN ALTMAN  
21 RICHARD & DIANE GOULD  
11 SCOTT & FRIEDA HALL



**Donations**  
**10/29/21 – 11/30/21**

**Beautification Fund**

David & Debora Carroll In honor of Cindy Seiler  
Amy Goldfine  
Michael Altman In honor of Cindy Seiler

**Cemetery Fund**

Chris King In memory of Francine Gurovitsch  
Dick & Bea Levey In memory of Marion Levey

**Chris Crockett Music Fund**

Allyz Kramer Polacsek & Bart Polacsek In honor of Erin Aldridge  
Allyz Kramer Polacsek & Bart Polacsek In honor of Sam Black  
Allyz Kramer Polacsek & Bart Polacsek In honor of Laila Seidakhmetova

Lynette Smith In memory of David William Goldberg  
Chris King In memory of Jason Baldwin  
Chris King In memory of Phyllis Schwartz

**CHUM/Food Shelf**

Gary & Janice Latz In memory of Boyd Truman Wiseman

**Endowment Fund**

James Paciotti In memory of Stuart Seiler  
Chris King In memory of Lisa Abrahams

**Beverly and Erwin Goldfine Fund**

Wendy Schwartz In memory of Robert Schwartz

**General Fund**

Allyz Kramer Polacsek & Bart Polacsek In memory of Ben Syszka  
Allyz Kramer Polacsek & Bart Polacsek In memory of Clarence Mettler  
Joan & Lee Sacks In memory of Irvin Lewenstein  
Ruth Fromm In honor of Cindy Seiler  
Robin Seiler In honor of Cindy Seiler  
Jack & Cindy Seiler In memory of Ben Bachinski  
Jack & Cindy Seiler In memory of Jason Baldwin  
Sharon Kaner In memory of Ben Bachinski  
Dave & Gail Blustin In honor of Cindy Seiler  
Dave & Gail Blustin In honor of Allan Apter  
Uwe Stuecher In memory of his grandmother  
Carol & Mark Weitz In memory of Jason Baldwin  
Malcolm Davy & Cindy Spillers In memory of Rabbi Gabriel Davy & Bessie Davy  
Kate & David Siegler In memory of Fannie Block  
Linda Glaser & John Herold In memory of Jason Baldwin  
Sandi Morris & family In memory of Ben Bachinski  
Claudia Kanter  
Thomas Raynor In memory of George Siegal  
Cindy & Fred Hafferty In memory of Elsie Jacobs

Holly Church & Mike Grossman In memory of Donna Scharckss  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In memory of Richard Herbst  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In memory of Phyllis Jean Schwartz  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In memory of Ben Bachinski  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In honor of Sheryl Grana  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In honor of Mark Weitz  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In honor of Deb Carroll  
Linda Passon-McNally In memory of Francine Gurovitsch  
Robin Washington

**Harry Glazman Kiddush Fund**

Tracy Goman In memory of Sarah & Louis Green  
First United Methodist Church  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In memory of Jason Baldwin

**Hebrew School**

Allyz Kramer Polacsek & Bart Polacsek In memory of Beatrice Kaspin

**Marko Retirement**

Wendy Schwartz In memory of Robert Schwartz

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Mike & Michelle Baddin In memory of Ben Bachinski  
Mike & Michelle Baddin In memory of Jason Baldwin  
Pam & Tom Griggs In memory of Jason Baldwin  
Leslie Rosenberg In honor of Rabbi David Steinberg

**Religious School**

Allyz Kramer Polacsek & Bart Polacsek In memory of Lillian Konikoff

**Religious School Endowment**

Chris King In memory of Benjamin Bachinski

**Silver Lecture Series**

Joan Bischoff In memory of Jeannette Bischoff & Herbert Bischoff  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In honor of Alexis Pogorelskin  
Holly Church & Mike Grossman In honor of Elyse Carter-Vosen

**Youth Fund**

Carol Cohen In memory of Fred Daneiko  
Carol Cohen In memory of Melvin Cohen  
Kathleen Wiemann In memory of Francine Gurovitsch  
Sharon Kaner In memory of Francine Gurovitsch  
Rose & Steve Kenigsberg In memory of Ben Bachinski



5783  
2022

# December

kislev  
tevet

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>NOVEMBER</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	<p><b>JANUARY</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>					
<p><b>4</b> 10 Kislev 11am Annual Meeting Lunch to follow by Chris King</p>	<p><b>5</b> 11 Kislev</p>	<p><b>6</b> 12 Kislev</p>	<p><b>7</b> 13 Kislev 4:30pm Hebrew School 5pm Confirmation Class</p>	<p><b>8</b> 14 Kislev</p>	<p><b>9</b> 15 Kislev 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service</p>	<p><b>10</b> 16 Kislev 8:30am Hebrew School 10am Shabbat Morning service 10am Religious School <i>Vayetzai</i></p>
<p><b>11</b> 17 Kislev</p>	<p><b>12</b> 18 Kislev</p>	<p><b>13</b> 19 Kislev</p>	<p><b>14</b> 20 Kislev 4:30pm Hebrew School 5pm Confirmation Class</p>	<p><b>15</b> 21 Kislev</p>	<p><b>16</b> 22 Kislev 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service</p>	<p><b>17</b> 23 Kislev 8:30am Hebrew School 10am Shabbat Morning service 10am Religious School <i>Vayishlach</i></p>
<p><b>18</b> 24 Kislev 6pm Congregation Hanukkah Dinner **note day change**</p>	<p><b>19</b> 25 Kislev</p>	<p><b>20</b> 26 Kislev</p>	<p><b>21</b> 27 Kislev 4:30pm Children's Hanukkah Party</p>	<p><b>22</b> 28 Kislev</p>	<p><b>23</b> 29 Kislev 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service</p>	<p><b>24</b> 30 Kislev No HS / RS 10:00am Shabbat Morning service <i>Miketz</i> ROSH CHODESH HANUKKAH</p>
<p><b>25</b> 1 Tevet EREV HANUKKAH</p>	<p><b>26</b> 2 Tevet HANUKKAH</p>	<p><b>27</b> 3 Tevet HANUKKAH</p>	<p><b>28</b> 4 Tevet HANUKKAH</p>	<p><b>29</b> 5 Tevet HANUKKAH</p>	<p><b>30</b> 6 Tevet 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service</p>	<p><b>31</b> 7 Tevet No HS / RS 10:00am Shabbat Morning service <i>Vayigash</i></p>
<p>CHRISTMAS DAY ROSH CHODESH HANUKKAH</p>	<p>HANUKKAH</p>	<p>Office Closed</p>	<p>Office Closed</p>	<p>Office Closed</p>	<p>Office Closed</p>	<p>Vayigash</p>

5783  
2023

# January

tevet  
shevat

**KAR-BEN**  
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 8 tevet</p>	<p>2 9 tevet</p>	<p>3 10 tevet</p>	<p>4 11 tevet 4:30pm Hebrew School 5pm Confirmation Class</p>	<p>5 12 tevet</p>	<p>6 13 tevet 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Family Shabbat evening service</p>	<p>7 14 tevet 8:30am Hebrew School 10am Shabbat Morning service 10am Religious School</p>
<p>NEW YEARS DAY</p>		<p>FAST OF 10TH OF TEVET</p>				<p>Vajechi</p>
<p>8 15 tevet</p>	<p>9 16 tevet</p>	<p>10 17 tevet</p>	<p>11 18 tevet 4:30pm Hebrew School 5pm Confirmation Class</p>	<p>12 19 tevet 10:00am Staff Meeting 7pm Board Mtg</p>	<p>13 20 tevet 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service</p>	<p>14 21 tevet 8:30am Hebrew School 10am Shabbat Morning service 10am Religious School</p>
						<p>Shemot</p>
<p>15 22 tevet</p>	<p>16 23 tevet</p>	<p>17 24 tevet</p>	<p>18 25 tevet 12:00pm Learners' Lunch - Admiral Hyman G. Rickover by Roger Pellett 4:30pm Hebrew School 5pm Confirmation Class</p>	<p>19 26 tevet</p>	<p>20 27 tevet 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service</p>	<p>21 28 tevet 8:30am Hebrew School 10am Shabbat Morning service 10am Religious School</p>
	<p>MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY</p>					<p>Va'era</p>
<p>22 29 tevet</p>	<p>23 1 shevat</p>	<p>24 2 shevat</p>	<p>25 3 shevat 4:30pm Hebrew School 5pm Confirmation Class</p>	<p>26 4 shevat</p>	<p>27 5 shevat 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service</p>	<p>28 6 shevat 8:30am Hebrew School 10am Shabbat Morning service 10am Religious School</p>
	<p>ROSH CHODESH</p>					<p>Bo</p>
<p>29 7 shevat</p>	<p>30 8 shevat</p>	<p>31 9 shevat</p>			<p>DECEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p>