

TEMPLE ISAIAH BULLETIN

Office - 487-5373, School - 487-8709

Published Monthly

August, 2017

August 2017 Calendar of Events

- Tuesday, Aug. 1—Board Meeting, 7:30pm
- Tuesday, Aug. 2—Tai Chi, 11:00am
- Thursday, Aug. 3—Intermediate Bridge, 9:45am
- Friday, Aug. 4—Shabbat Service, 7:30pm
- Monday, Aug. 7—Spanish, 10:30am
- Wednesday, Aug. 9—Tai Chi, 11:00am
- Thursday, Aug. 10—Intermediate Bridge, 9:45am
- Friday, Aug. 11—Shabbat Service, 7:30pm
- Monday, Aug. 14—Spanish Class, 10:30am
- Wednesday, Aug. 16—Tai Chi, 11:00am
- Thursday, Aug. 17— Intermediate Bridge, 9:45am
- Friday, Aug. 18— Shabbat Service, 7:30pm
- Monday, Aug. 21—Spanish Class, 10:30am
- Wednesday, Aug. 23—Tai Chi, 11:00am
- Thursday, Aug. 24—Intermediate Bridge, 9:45am
- Friday, Aug. 25—Shabbat Service, 7:30pm (Special Service—"To Bigotry No Sanction")
- Monday, Aug. 28—Spanish Class, 10:30am
- Wednesday, Aug. 30—Tai Chi, 11:00am
 - **REMINDER:** Our fiscal year began on June 1st
 - Please send in your membership pledge for 2017-2018 (additional form on page 5) and consider signing up for one of our committees.
 - Remember, Temple Isaiah depends on our members to maintain our very special congregation.

- August Summer Service Schedule
 - All Summer Shabbat Services begin at <u>7:30 pm.</u>
 - Our August Leaders will be:
 - August 4: Rabbi Jerry Blum
 - August 11–Marsha Hochstadt and Jonathan Wagner
 - August 18–Claude Springer and David Aubrey
 - August 25–Belle & Elliott Gayer
 - <u>High Holiday</u> <u>Service Schedule on</u> <u>Page 7</u>



<u>July 30th</u> 3:00pm to 5:00pm Open House at the home of Judy & Helman Brook 21 Shadow Lane

Come welcome our new Rabbi Jerry Blum and share a nosh.

CANTOR'S COLUMN *Our Seasonal Challenge*



We are now in the middle of what we sometimes call "the dog days of summer" – the hottest, muggiest, airless August days. Our schedules are usually somewhat looser; even our clothes are looser. And even if we don't go away on vacation, daily life seems a lot more carefree. And yet without dropping a beat, we go immediately into the crispness of September, with schedules and responsibilities that were nicely in the rearview mirror just the day before.

Judaism's teachings have always reflected an awareness of the significance of time and change. L'chol z'man v'eit l'chol cheifetz, tachat hashamayim: as Ecclesiastes teaches us, To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the heaven. The first word of the Torah indicates the awareness of the significance of time and change: In the beginning...

While it seems that the mood of the dog days of summer and the contrasting fullness and seriousness of the beginning of fall are opposites, the fact is that they have something very much in common. Jewish liturgy and Jewish philosophy rely on self-reflection as an inherent part of being responsible for one's spiritual life. So regardless of our relative state of relaxation, that reflection begins even unconsciously during the period that leads up to the beginning of our new year, when reflection begins to take center stage with the observances of Selichot, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The lesson for us is that what feels like opposites is actually a continuum that is in harmony with our annual spiritual journey. Both Judaism and our secular world teach us that it is always a time of transition, whether we realize it or not.

Cantor Leslie Friedlander



RABBI'S COLUMN

Dear Friends,

Welcome to August, and such an exciting time for us as a community, and me personally as a community leader, spiritual individual and as a Jew.

We are at the starting gate to what I hope will be a wonderful journey. This is a journey to define Temple Isaiah's future as a holy, engaged and committed *Kehillah – Community*. There is so much potential for us, and I look forward to working with all our committees and our wonderful Co-Presidents, Kathie and Bill, to chart a clear vision and business plan to build our temple's membership, grow our educational programming, engage in



spiritual endeavors, and of course, continue in our ongoing quest for social justice that has been the moral standard for Temple Isaiah.

As for me, I am so humbled to become your rabbi. I am honored and grateful to work with such a caring and committed membership. It has become clear to me why so many people love Temple Isaiah. I have listened to many Temple Isaiah stories, and I see how our little synagogue is more than just a temple. It is a home, and the people who fill it are family. I feel so welcome each time I am at the temple, and of course I love praying with you all on Shabbat. I can't wait to begin our study of Torah and our other holy texts.

I am also grateful to be working with such a wonderful, talented and professional Hazzan, Cantor Friedlander. She brings a level of *Kedushah* – holiness, to our liturgy and she is a trusted partner both on and off of the pulpit. I look forward to working with Cantor Friedlander to enhance our services, making them inclusive, engaging and relevant. I will also look to her as we create new learning opportunities and experiences for our community.

Finally, this is an important time for all of us as Jews. As many of you read this, we will have just finished commemorating the Holy Day of Tisha B'Av (the 9th of the Hebrew month of Av). Tisha B'Av is the time when traditionally, the Jewish community mourns for the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There have been many other events that were associated with this date as well, and based on what we know from the Talmud, this is a public day of profound mourning, fasting and yearning for the rebuilding of Jerusalem, and in a very (very) traditional view, the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem.

I see Tisha B'Av a bit differently. Yes, it is a day of mourning and sadness, in fact, the saddest day of the Jewish calendar, but it is also the beginning of the period of time just before the *Yamim Noraim* – the Days of Awe, better known as the High Holy Days. Tisha B'Av can be seen as the portal to a time of mindfulness and personal growth. A time to re-boot. A time to find one's spiritual center.

I feel that I have found my spiritual center at Temple Isaiah. The temple is a synagogue that wants to grow as a community of learners, and this brings great joy to my heart. I have always been someone who searches for higher meaning, and I feel that Temple Isaiah is that sacred space for me. As a Jew, I find that a community that permits spiritual growth allows me to grow in my beliefs, as they change with my understanding of our holy texts and how we interpret them.

May our new journey together be fruitful and enlightening, and may these days leading us into the High Holy Days be a time of spiritual and emotional awakening for us all.

Rabbi Jerry

<u>"VOICES OF ISAIAH"</u> What Brought Us to the Door of Our Synagogue? By Jean Lesser

In Otober 2016, the Isaiah family gathered together in prayer and fellowship for our 50th High Holiday Season and the start of our Jubilee Year. It is a time to reflect on our past and look forward to the future.

Irma Leboff, dear friend and former president, could often be heard saying, "If you belong to Temple Isaiah, you must really want to belong to Temple Isaiah."



John and I chose Temple Isaiah over forty years ago, and, as I reflect, our choice has served as the core of much of the Lessers' lives.

As a young family, we were looking for a congregation which had certain qualities: a welcoming spirit, unpretentiousness, a service which we felt comfortable in, and a school that was small and inviting for our children. We also believed in the concept of fair share. (At the time we joined, other local congregations refused anyone who was unable to pay into a building fund and/or those who could not afford the full cost of membership.)

We were not disappointed in the school. The teachers conducted themselves in an attractive way and there were many activities in which the whole family participated such as a Purim carnival, baking latkes on Hanukkah, visits to the bimah by specific classes, and, of course, Shabbat dinners.

Nor were we disappointed in the congregational activities. We began to meet with many other families and participated in social events, discussion groups, and classes. We joined others in the redecoration of the Community Church which was our original home. We helped to paint the religious school classrooms, redecorated the Shalom Room, staffed fundraisers, and provided refreshments for holidays and onegs. We welcomed the congregation to our home during the summer for Friday night services.

Much has changed, as it must. We have had different spiritual leaders, both rabbis and cantors. We have a new home that is our own. We are a part of a changing community.

But the best part has stayed the same—the qualities of the people that are attracted to Temple Isaiah. Its members can be relied upon to go out of their way to make others feel welcome and to assist, both spiritually and physically, in times of need, sometimes in a totally unexpected way.

It is truly an extended family and special congregation.

We welcome and solicit your personal story and experience in our "Voices of Isaiah" column. Tell us your story ... the unique path to the door of our synagogue. The *Shehecheyanu* blessings that connect your family to our Temple Isaiah family. Raise your voice, sing out in joy and share your Isaiah experience. Please contact either Kathie Davis or Bill Rosenberg to share your story.

August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July 30th: Open House at the home of Judy & Helman Brook, 3:00pm		1 Board Meeting, 7:30pm	2 Tai Chi, 11:00am	3 Bridge, 9:45am	4 Shabbat Service, 7:30pm	5
6	7 Spanish, 10:30am	8	9 Tai Chi, 11:00am	10 Bridge, 9:45am	11 Shabbat Service, 7:30pm	12
13	14 Spanish, 10:30am	15	16 Tai Chi, 11:00am	17 Bridge, 9:45am	18 Shabbat Service, 7:30pm	19
20	21 Spanish, 10:30am	22	23 Tai Chi, 11:00am	24 Bridge, 9:45am	25 Shabbat Service, 7:30pm	26
27	28 Spanish, 10:30am	29	30 Tai Chi, 11:00am	31		ANSWA THE T

TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place, Great Neck, N.Y. 11021

Membership Dues Form: June 1, 2017–May 31, 2018

Our Membership Dues policy is deeply rooted in the founding principles of our congregation, which reflects an individual's financial responsibility to support the temple. *It is considered the moral obligation of members to pay dues to the temple to the fullest extent of their ability*. Each member unit is routinely expected to pay as a minimum the full Sustaining Member amount. If, however, financial circumstances prevent this, your good-faith personal assessment will determine your dues obligation.

Please select from one of our membership categories below

 35 years old and under Sustaining Member	\$	995	
 Sustaining Member	\$	2,500	
 Mitzvah Member	\$	3,600	
 Isaiah's Circle	\$	4,500	
 Torah Member	\$	5,400	
 I am unable to pay my Sustaining Member dues this year. I/we will pay \$ plus \$50 for URJ dues for a total of \$			6

Note: All membership categories are for each family unit.

Voluntary ARZA dues: I would like to support ARZA and have enclosed \$50

NAME

SIGNATURE

Payment Options: (Please note new option – Online Banking)

Check One	Plan	Method (Circle One)	Billing
	Full payment en- closed	Check or Credit card**	Make check payable to Temple Isaiah of Great Neck
	Automatic Online Banking Payment	As scheduled	Monthly/quarterly/semi-annually scheduled with bank
	1/2 Enclosed	Check or Credit card**	Second half due on December 1, 2017
	1/3 Enclosed	Check or Credit card**	Subsequent thirds due on October 1, 2017 and February 1, 2018
	Monthly	Credit card payments or Online Banking only**	10 Automatic payments billed on the first of each month, June through March (Your first payment must include any prior months from June through the date of payment)

**Credit card information must be provided below if you are not paying in full. All follow-up payments will be automatically charged to your credit card on the payment due date. All Credit Card payments will include a 3% surcharge

Credit Card Billing – Card Number	Credit Card Type: Visa/MasterCard/American Express		
	Expiration Date:		

Name:

Date: _____

I authorize Temple Isaiah to charge my credit card for the above dues amount.

Signature: _____

High Holy Day Schedule 2017-5778

Selichot Saturday, September 16 Program: 8:00 PM, Service: 9:15-10:30 PM

Erev Rosh Hashanah Wednesday, September 20: 8:00 – 9:30 PM

Rosh Hashanah: 1st Day Thursday, September 21 Morning Service: 10:00 – 12:30 PM

Rosh Hashanah: 2nd Day Friday, September 22 Program: 10:30 – 12:00 PM Tree Dedication/Tashlich: 12:30 – 1:00 PM (Steppingstone Park)

Yom Kippur: Kol Nidre Friday, September 29: 8:00 – 9:30 PM

Yom Kippur: Day Saturday, September 30 Morning Service: 10:00 – 12:45 PM Discussion 1:00 – 2:30 PM Moment at Ark: 2:45 – 3:15 PM Afternoon Service: 3:30 – 5:15 PM Yizkor: 5:15 PM Neilah: 5:45 PM Break-the-Fast: 6:45 PM

Erev Sukkot: Wednesday, October 4 Potluck Dinner: 6:30 PM Evening Service: 7:30 PM Sukkot: Morning Thursday, October 5: 10:30 – 12:00 PM

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM ARZA

In response to recent events in Israel, the following (edited) message was sent from Rabbi John Rosove, Chair, Peter Savita, Vice Chair, Membership and Rabbi Josh Weinberg, President of ARZA.

"On June 25, the Israeli cabinet capitulated to extremist pressure and froze its agreed-upon plan to develop an egalitarian worship space at the Western Wall (*Ha-Kotel Ha-Ma'aravi*). On the same day, it advanced a bill that would grant the ultra-Orthodox Chief Rabbinate exclusive control over conversions in Israel.

Health Minister Yaakov Litzman of the Haredi United Torah Judaism Party welcomed the Cabinet decision as a victory over liberal Jews. According to him, "This decision sends a clear message to the entire world that **Reform Judaism has no access to or recognition at the Western Wall**."

ARZA – THE ASSOCIATION OF REFORM ZIONISTS OF AMERICA - is part of an international network of like-minded, progressive Jewish voices, working in unison to build a better, more democratic, pluralistic Israel. ARZA strongly condemned both of those outrageous actions by the Israeli government and is committed to speaking up for Reform Jews in Israel.

ARZA has been on the forefront for forty years, supporting programming for congregational lay leaders involved with Israeli issues, NFTY, and Birthright-Israel. We also provide major support to developing Reform/Progressive synagogues and affiliated Jewish Day schools in Israel.

Non-Orthodox Jews in Israel need our ongoing help, now more than ever. Religious freedom and the very soul of the Jewish state are at risk.

Now is the time to join ARZA. Membership is only \$50 per household and the funds go a long way to provide direct support for the Reform Movement in Israel. Funds also enable programming assistance for educators and representation at the World Zionist Congress, which gives us the voice and the financial leverage needed to positively impact Reform institutions in Israel. *Please send a check for \$50 to Temple Isaiah and we will forward your membership information. Your support is vital in advancing a progressive Zionist vision for Israel.*

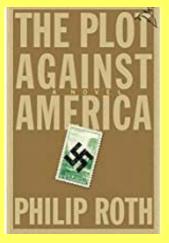
As Reform Rabbis and Zionists, we can't remain silent as our religious practices are delegitimized and disrespected in the Jewish State. Likewise, we can't let our guard down in the United States."





Temple Isaiah Book Club The Plot Against America By Philip Roth

I hope that you have all been reading this book in preparation for our next book group, which is going to be on Sunday September 24th or Tuesday September 26th at the Synagogue. Any suggestions for future books will be greatly appreciated.



Looking forward to seeing you.

Shelley Sherman

Create Your Own Notecards: Painting Class with Richard Weiner \$25 admission fee August date to be determined.



Set your creativity loose by painting personalized notecards—greeting cards, thank you notes, special occasion cards—whatever you like.

Richard will be here to offer guidance & help if needed.

<u>Please call the office if you are interested so we can</u> <u>settle on a date and prepare!</u>



Intermediate Bridge—4 Thursdays Starting August 3rd at 9:45am

Claude Springer has graciously agreed to begin a new session of his very successful bridge lessons. The dates will be August 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th 9:45am—11:45am. The contribution to the temple will be \$60 for the four sessions.

Bridge is an exciting fun game for all - it offers an opportunity to have a challenging experience and to meet other interesting people. (For this session, players should have some experience.)

Two more openings are available, so contact Claude right away (466-9733 or doclaude@optonline.net) for more information.

Special Shabbat Service Friday August 25th 7:30pm

Please join us to mark a recreation, in full dress regalia, of the 227th anniversary of President George Washington's letter to the Hebrew Congregations.

All are welcome.

FOUNDING PHILOSOPHY

"The Government of the United States . . . gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance"



 George Washington in a letter to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, RI

General Donations

In Loving Memory Of:

Jonathan Aubrey, Brother of David & Elana Aubrey Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis Sheila & Victor DeFazio Denise Miller & Steve Fein June & Allan Feldman Gail & Robert Gordon Meg & Steve Grass Carol & Bill Hersh Terry Birnbaum-Horton & Brian Horton Mindy & Howard Israel Terry & Richard Joseph Willa Lewis & Ed Moulin Ruth Mandelbaum Bill Rosenberg Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shelley Sherman Arlene Soifer Micki Victor Herman, Marvin & Solomon Barouch, Brothers of Albert Barouch Rachel & Benjamin Barouch, Mother & Father of Albert Barouch Cantor Albert Barouch Joanne Branch, Mother of Suzanne Branch Suzanne Branch & Gary McTiernan David Brook, Brother of Helman Brook Judy & Helman Brook Jacqueline Ferguson, Wife of David Ferguson Kathryn Mayer, Mother of Jacqueline Ferguson Susie & David Ferguson Sandra Verson, Sister of Harriet Gellert Harriet Gellert Frances & Jerry Broder, Mother & Father of Rhonnie Jaus Rhonnie & Massimo Jaus Marilyn Kirshenbaum, Mother of Richard Kirshenbaum Dana & Richard Kirshenbaum Erica Kutcher, Daughter of Blossom Kutcher David Kutcher, Husband of Blossom Kutcher Blossom Kutcher Harry Lewis, Father of Willa Lewis Willa Lewis & Edward Moulin Celia Stone Goldbas, Mother of Jacqueline Neumann Jacqueline Neumann Anna Eisenman, Mother of Bella Bekker-Silver Suzanne Branch & Gary McTiernan Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis Sheila & Victor DeFazio Denise Miller & Steve Fein June & Allan Feldman Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh Terry Birnbaum-Horton & Brian Horton Mindy & Howard Israel Terry & Richard Joseph Jean Lesser Rona Levv Ruth Mandelbaum Bill Rosenberg Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shelley Sherman Arlene Soifer Esther Solow, Mother of Richard Solow Evelyn & Richard Solow Ruth Koenig, Mother of Alice Weiner Alice & Richard Weiner

Haruno Tsuruoka, Mother of Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka ARZA: Helene Dorfman Margery & David Kashman Jean Lesser Rona Levy Ruth Mandelbaum Diana & Peter Weinberg Alan Glass, Father of Gil Glass and Dear Friend of Arlene Soifer Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis Sheila & Victor DeFazio Denise Miller & Steve Fein June & Allan Feldman Gail & Robert Gordon Meg & Steve Grass Carol & Bill Hersh Terry Birnbaum-Horton & Brian Horton Mindy & Howard Israel Terry & Richard Joseph Willa Lewis & Ed Moulin Ruth Mandelbaum Bill Rosenberg Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shelley Sherman Arlene Soifer

In Honor of :

The Hospitality of Ruth Mandelbaum Judy & Helman Brook The Engagement of Amy Brook & Evan Schwartz Kathie Davis Sheila & Victor DeFazio Denise Miller & Steve Fein June & Allan Feldman Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh Terry Birnbaum-Horton & Brian Horton Mindy & Howard Israel Terry & Richard Joseph Rona Levy Ruth Mandelbaum Bill Rosenberg Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shelley Sherman The 50th Anniversary of June & Allan Feldman Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis Sheila & Victor DeFazio Denise Miller & Steve Fein Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh Terry Birnbaum-Horton & Brian Horton Mindy & Howard Israel Terry & Richard Joseph Jean Lesser Rona Levy Ruth Mandelbaum Bill Rosenberg Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shelley Sherman The Birthday of Terry Joseph Judy & Helman Brook Kathie Davis Sheila & Victor DeFazio Denise Miller & Steve Fein June & Allan Feldman Gail & Robert Gordon Carol & Bill Hersh Terry Birnbaum-Horton & Brian Horton Mindy & Howard Israel Ruth Mandelbaum Bill Rosenberg Alisa & Martin Secofsky Shelley Sherman The Speedy Recovery of Connie Maller The Speedy Recovery of Rita Rubenstein Jean Lesser

Helene Dorfman Nina Koss

Tree Certificates in Israel:

- In Memory of Anna Eisenman, Mother of Bella Bekker-Silver
- In Memory of Jonathan Aubrey, Brother of David and Elana Aubrey
- In Memory of Alan Glass, Dear Friend of Arlene Soifer

PARTNERS IN CARING (PIC)

Sid Jacobson JCC's Partners in Caring offers an array of specialized services including support groups, counseling, information and community referrals, workshops, autism and Alzheimer's programs, as well as other social services. Together with UJA-Federation of New York and your synagogue, we are your partner in caring for you and your family.

PIC helps create a caring, responsive Jewish community by providing support for:

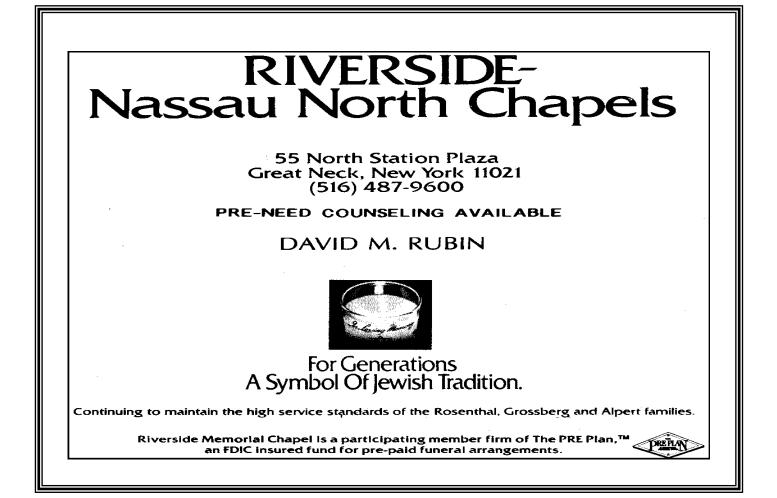
> Bereavement Parenting Life Cycle Issues Marital/Family Concerns **Divorce/Separation** Caregiving issues **Respite programs and** services

For assistance, contact us at 516-484-1545 ext. 196.

A licensed social worker will respond promptly to provide you with information and support.

Partners in Caring is funded by a arant from UJA-Federation of New York and partnering synagogues





TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place Great Neck, NY 11021

www.templeisaiahgn.org Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism Issue No. 170 Published Monthly

Deadline for submissions 10th of the Month

BULLETIN

Co-Presidents: Kathie Davis, Bill Rosenberg Cantor: Leslie Friedlander Rabbi: Jerry Blum Production: Cathy Reibstein



Need Help? Facing a Challenge?

On behalf of the Partners in Caring staff we wish you an enjoyable and safe summer season.

Please remember that our licensed social workers remain available throughout the summer to help support you and your family in addressing your various life stage needs.

PARTNERS IN CARING STAFF

Barbara Goldstein, LCSW Leslie Grama-Shapiro, LMSW Michelle Laser, LCSW, Director of Social Services

Call 516-484-1545, ext. 196 Phone calls are confidential

