

July Calendar of Events

Fri. July 6—Shabbat Service, 7:30pm—First Summer Service
 Tues. July 10—Watercolor Class #1, 7:30pm
 Thurs. July 12—Film Series (#1) with David Aubrey, 7:30pm
 Fri. July 13— Shabbat Service, 7:30pm
 Tues. July 17—Watercolor Class #2, 7:30pm
 Thurs. July 19—Film Series (#2), 7:30pm
 Fri. July 20— Shabbat Service, 7:30pm
 Mon. July 23—Film Series (#3), 7:30pm
 Tues. July 24—Watercolor Class #3, 7:30pm
 Fri. July 27— Shabbat Service, 7:30pm
 Tues. July 31—Watercolor Class #4, 7:30pm

*Watch Your E-Mail for
 Details on Our Film Series with David Aubrey*

Summer Services

Our Summer Service
 schedule begins
 on Friday, July 6th.

Please remember that
 Shabbat Services for
 July and August begin at
7:30 pm.



Our July Leaders will be:

July 6: Gail Gordon
 (David Aubrey, Cantor)

July 13: Cantor Al Barouch

July 20: Denise Miller &
 Steve Fein
 (Evelyn & Richard Solow, Cantors)

July 27: Evelyn & Richard Solow

***See Page 8
 For Exciting News about
 The All-New Temple Isaiah
 One-Day-a-Week
 Religious School Program***

**Misplaced your membership
 papers already?
 See page 6 for a duplicate form
 and please send it to the office
 soon!**

RABBI'S COLUMN

Happiness Is: Being in the Non-Thinking Moment



There's an old story attributed to the great first century sage Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkai who taught: "If you have a sapling in your hand, and someone says to you that the Messiah has come, stay and complete the planting, and then go to greet the Messiah" (Avot d'Rebbe Natan 31b). This story is usually interpreted as a cautionary tale about believing too soon that the Messiah has actually arrived, that it's better to plant the tree (reality) than to run off to greet the messiah (dream) who may turn out to be false. What strikes me as most significant about the parable is the emphasis on the *reality* of the present moment in contrast to the *dream* of a future promise. The Hasidic understanding of this concept is that whatever it is you are doing at this *very* moment is the most important activity of your life – whether it's slicing carrots for salad, or blessing your child, or saying go-bye to a loved one who has just died. One should devote total and complete attention on the moment at hand. By coincidence, there is a hot debate among physicists these days about the reality of time and whether the past and future actually exist at all. The stunning conclusion is that only the present exists and the past and future are merely manipulations of the present.

In contrast, there was an intriguing article in the Sunday Times a few weeks ago ("First Theater, Then Facebook, Robert Zaretsky & John Scott) that reported on a 2010 study conducted by two Harvard psychologists using an iPhone app to ask volunteers, at random moments, what they were doing and *how happy* they were. In a nutshell, they discovered that the happiest moments in our lives are when we when we are *not thinking* about what we are doing at that moment – whether it's shopping, eating, or in particular, working. This paradox would not have been lost on Jean-Jacques Rousseau whose 300th birthday occurred last month. He believed we were happy only in our original state of nature – before the advent of technology and society. Rousseau remarked that our soul, "agitated by nothing," gave itself up entirely to "the sentiment of its present existence without any idea of the future." In other words, Rousseau stood René Descartes' famous remark on its head: *I don't think, therefore I truly am!*

Those who are familiar with Buddhist practices know that one of the goals of Zen meditation is to annihilate the active mind (ego) in order to let the all-encompassing mind to envelop the soul. In essence, we are challenged to think of *nothing* in order to comprehend *everything!* This idea has also left its mark in ancient Judaism in the concept of "narrow mind" versus "expanded mind" – *mochin katanut vs mochin gadlut*. The Times article continues: "In a modern world, **when** can we come closest to our original, thought-free happiness? Well... after sex, the two activities during which we are most fully in the present are **conversation and exercise.**" This conclusion has two significant implications for me as a rabbi.

Conversation: In this day and age of text-messaging and e-mails, we have lost the opportunity to be in the moment when relating to another human being. Too often we rashly write things that we regret and can't take back immediately (the "SEND" button is unforgiving). We lose the nuance of demeanor, intonation and body language – clues to how our message has been received. It's time to renew the art of conversation. The old sawhorse: "having a heart to heart conversation" comes to mind. It's not the words that matter, it's the connection of one soul to another soul at the non-verbal level that matters most. At Temple, in our classes, study sessions and discussion groups, we have a chance to engage others in face to face conversation. The collation after worship services also provide an opportunity to engage another soul in heart to heart conversation. Real conversation begins by looking into each other's eyes

Exercise: Even as one who has just entered his second Medicare year, I realize that **spiritual exercise** is as important to being in the moment as physical exercise. Just as a person can achieve a thought-free state on the treadmill or exercise bike, I find prayer can be effective exercise for the soul. The daily and weekly repetition of familiar prayers in the siddur allows me to be in the present without conscious thought. In a way, the words transcend their literal meaning and I am swept away to that thought-free world of the moment of creation that Rousseau was referring to. The same can be true by lighting Shabbat candles or making a blessing over wine and challah. I invite you to expand your spiritual muscles and truly engage in prayer and meditation. We're here every Friday evening and Saturday morning. There's a seat reserved for you.

Linda and I wish you a wonderful, restful and joyful summer.

L'Shalom, Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka

CANTOR'S COLUMN

Highlights of a Cantors' Convention



Each year during the last week in June, over 200 cantors and synagogue musicians convene for the annual American Conference of Cantors/Guild of Temple Musicians Convention. This year we will meet in Portland, Oregon, and I thought it might be interesting to share some of what goes on when all those cantors get together for five days. Certainly, one of the most exciting aspects of a cantors' convention is the experience of davening -- praying -- with an entire congregation of singers. The energy and pure joy we draw from praying and singing together for those five days is enough to carry me through the year. Singing the *Birkat HaMazon*, the blessing after the meal, in six-part improvised harmony leaves us practically dancing out of the dining room.

You may have wondered how there are certain favorite pieces that have found their way into many Reform congregations. The URJ, Union of Reform Judaism, has a music publishing arm called Transcontinental Music. Transcontinental brings its most recently published works to the ACC/GTM convention and the cantors have music-reading sessions where we become the choir and sing through new musical settings, one after another. Sometimes many of us sing the solo part together. Often the composer is present to conduct or accompany on the piano, but usually it is one of the music editors from Transcontinental who leads the sessions. In this way we can instantly hear the new pieces and order music for our congregations. If I hear a piece I like and the composer has set the liturgy in a way that illustrates the meaning of the prayer and gives credence to the Hebrew text, if it works without accompaniment and if it is a piece that will have longevity, I'll bring it back to share with all of you.

One of the best-attended events is the composers' workshop, where composers' juried pieces have been selected for performance. These are pieces that aren't yet published and, for the most part, have never been performed except maybe in the composer's own congregation. I've been asked by one of the composers, Cantor Rachelle Schubert, from Montreal, to perform her new setting of Shalom Rav. The accompanist and I have been rehearsing for the last few weeks to choose the best key for my voice and how to nuance every phrase. Not only is performing for 200 cantors possibly the scariest thing I can imagine, but it's my job to breathe life into the words and notes on the page so that Cantor Schubert's piece will jump into the hearts of all those cantors. In other words, I have to "sell" her piece. Wish me luck!

At this convention we will have a chance to daven a service from the not-as-yet-finished new CCAR/ACC machzor, the High Holy Day prayerbook being developed by the Reform Movement. It is not yet in its final form, but we are all eager to have a peek at its latest version. The new machzor reflects many of the transitions happening within the movement and I am quite sure there is still a great deal of discussion yet to take place concerning these trends and how they will be translated into our High Holy Day services. I have already seen sections of the new book and it is clear that it will offer a very different worship experience from the *Gates of Repentance*.

There will be concerts at the Portland Reform synagogues, workshops on new approaches to teaching b'nei mitzvah students and ways to integrate the latest technology into our teaching, worshipping and composing. This convention will offer Yoga sessions every morning and alternative worship services on the hiking trail. It seems that the beauty of the natural environment as well as the progressive attitude of Portland will be incorporated into most of the convention activities.

Attending the cantors' convention is an experience that gives us the opportunity to study and learn with our colleagues, to find out what is happening in other congregations around North America and to bring home new music, fresh energy and a revitalized spirit to begin the new season. And I promise that all of Temple Isaiah will benefit from my trip to Portland!

Cantor Leslie Friedlander



Have you checked out Temple Isaiah's Facebook Page?

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

Don't Outsource Your Judaism

As any lawyer or salesperson can tell you, the words people chose have power. You have to be careful with words; they can set the agenda or create a cover for what is really going on.

One interesting term that has gained currency is: Outsourcing. It has a business-like, technological appeal. To outsource sounds efficient and thought-out; its subliminal message is: let's get rid of our problems by having someone else handle them. Then, as jobs were exported to distant lands in the name of outsourcing, our nation had second-thoughts: Was outsourcing just another word for giving away? To paraphrase Joanie Mitchell, by outsourcing, have we paved paradise and outsourced our way into a parking lot...not knowing what we had 'til it's gone?



What is outsourcing really? It is not doing things for ourselves, letting others do for us. Increasingly, we seem to live in a world where it is not just jobs being outsourced. No detail of life seems to be too small to outsource. We ask others and devices to do virtually everything for us. We have others paint our nails, pick our groceries, organize our lives, check our spelling, tell our jokes, do our research. All of that outsourcing so we have more time tohmmm....what was it again we planned on doing with all that saved time? More work? More outsourcing?

And so, we would like to propose a new word for us at Temple Isaiah: In-sourcing. That we all become more involved with what it is that this synagogue is about. That we not leave the religion to the Rabbi, the singing to the Cantor, the getting-it-done to Cathy Reibstein, and maintaining our home to Devon Shuriah. Some of you might say, wait a minute, are you are just giving us another fancy new word for volunteering or contributing; there's nothing new in that, we are constantly asked to give our time and money to help Temple Isaiah. And while we are sure that – over the next 2 years – there will be plenty of occasions to ask you to give, that's not exactly what we have in mind. On the contrary, we are proposing that there be a give-and-take.

One of the challenges we face as a synagogue, after the successful move from renting to owner status, is defining ourselves as a more mature synagogue, without losing what made us special in the past. We have grown-up responsibilities now, with a strong and knowledgeable professional team. But Isaiah always has had a unique place in our community. We are a small village in a big town, an intimate home surrounded by much bigger and busier ones. Let's not give away that special identity.

This is an important time for us to decide who we are as a synagogue, to make sure we do not leave that process to others or to happenstance.

We hope to engage you in that discussion and to enhance your role in our distinct community, whether that is by having you teach something to our religious school students or at an adult education class, or lending your skills to committees that keep the whole enterprise going or by offering a shoulder to another congregant who could use a supportive friend.

Don't outsource your questions about the meaning of a Torah passage to a Google search, but come to a Torah study class. Don't outsource your need for a social connection to a keyboard and a monitor and a mouse, but come to one our events or create one that appeals to your interests. Temple Isaiah, after all, has never been a good place for those who want to outsource their Judaism. Like the bar in "Cheers", it is a place where everybody knows your name. So pull up a stool and join the conversation.

Together, we can dig up the encroaching parking lot of an outsourced life, and continue to plant our own version of paradise. Your co-presidents come to their new job with a sense of excitement and gratitude. We look forward to working with you in achieving the most important possible goal: Making Temple Isaiah a place of greater meaning for all of its members. So let the in-sourcing begin!

Gail Gordon and Terry Joseph

July 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 First Summer Service, 7:30pm	7
8	9	10 Watercolor Class 7:30pm	11	12 Film Series #1	13 Shabbat Service, 7:30pm	14
15	16	17 Watercolor Class 7:30pm	18	19 Film Series #2	20 Shabbat Service, 7:30pm	21
22	23 Film Series #3	24 Watercolor Class 7:30pm	25	26	27 Shabbat Service, 7:30pm	28
29	30	31 Watercolor Class 7:30pm				

TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

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

Membership Dues Form: June 1, 2012–May 31, 2013

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 \$ 2,300
- Mitzvah Member \$ 3,000
- Rabbi's Circle \$ 4,000
- Torah Member \$ 5,000
- I am unable to pay my Sustaining Member dues this year.
I/we will pay \$ _____ plus \$50 for URJ dues for a total of \$ _____

Note: All membership categories are for each family unit.

_____ NAME _____ SIGNATURE _____

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

Check One	Plan	Method (Circle One)	Billing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full payment enclosed	Check or Credit card**	Make check payable to Temple Isaiah of Great Neck
<input type="checkbox"/>	Automatic Online Banking Payment	As scheduled	Monthly/quarterly/semi-annually scheduled with bank
<input type="checkbox"/>	1/2 Enclosed	Check or Credit card**	Second half due on December 1, 2012
<input type="checkbox"/>	1/3 Enclosed	Check or Credit card**	Subsequent thirds due on October 1, 2012 and February 1, 2013
<input type="checkbox"/>	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-on 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: _____

Please return Membership Pledge Form by June 30, 2012

Watercolor Classes At Isaiah

TUESDAY NIGHTS 7:30 - 9:30
DATES: JULY 10, 17, 24, AND 31



COST - \$130.00

WE'LL PROVIDE THE SUPPLIES FOR THE FIRST CLASS. OUR INSTRUCTOR KIM WILL SUGGEST WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO PURCHASE TO PRACTICE AT HOME.

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WANT TO TRY A COMPLIMENTARY FIRST LESSON?

CALL SUZANNE BRANCH FOR DETAILS AND TO SIGN UP—516-482-2554



The Temple Isaiah Summer Film Festival is Back!

Join our resident film expert David Aubrey for a series of anti-Nazi films produced in Hollywood in the 1940's featuring notable stars and directors such as Humphrey Bogart, Bette Davis, Peter Lorre, and John Wayne.

\$10 charge per person includes film, refreshments, and lively discussion. (\$50/series)

**Thursdays, July 12, July 19, August 2 (Double Feature)
Monday, July 23
Thursday, August 9**

Please call the office to reserve your seats—516-487-5373

Religious School News

1 + 2 = Exciting Changes for the Religious School

As Temple Isaiah's Co-President and Religious School Committee Chair, I am delighted to tell you about exciting plans in store for our Religious School, starting in September. Religious School Director Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka, my co-president Terry Joseph and I have been busy meeting, brainstorming, and seeking out the guidance of experts in the field of contemporary Jewish Education. We believe that the Religious School is an integral part of the life of Temple Isaiah, and it is our goal to enhance the religious school experience for our students, while promoting connections between their families and our members.

What is the "1" in the equation above? It is number of times that the religious school will meet on weekdays. Starting in September, the Religious School will meet on Tuesday afternoons, from 4-6:15 p.m. The focus of our Religious School curriculum will be Hebrew language skills, prayers, history, Bible and culture. The students will be required to reinforce that instruction at home, and Rabbi Tsuruoka plans on facilitating that process with the use of interactive computer software and regular e-mail communications. We will be inviting you to help teach at the school about areas of special knowledge you might have so the students will have an opportunity to benefit from the rich experience and wisdom of our diverse membership.

And what is the "2" of the equation? It is the number of times each month that the students and their families will participate in a variety of weekend and holiday programs to enhance and promote Jewish values and quality family time, including: workshops, holiday events, social-action projects, worship services, trips, and hands-on activities. We hope you will join us in participating and contributing to those events.

Gail Gordon

Attention Parents:
Please tell your friends about
Temple Isaiah's innovative
new Religious School
program.

[If you haven't already sent in your
School Registration papers, please
do so now so we can prepare for
our exciting upcoming school year.]

General Donations

In Loving Memory Of:

Benjamin Mass, Father of Thelma Benjamin
Thelma Benjamin
Peter Bokar, Husband of Mona Bokar
Mona Bokar
Sara Epstein, Wife of Leon Epstein
Leon Epstein
Louise Helen Ferguson, Mother of David Ferguson
Jacqueline & David Ferguson
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Clare & Michael Haber
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Steven Krane, Brother of Margery Kashman
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Yvonne & Sidney Yoskowitz

In Honor of :

The Bat Mitzvah of Helene Dorfman, Sheila DeFazio,
Franklin Greene & Diane Haber Bruce
Pamela Aronowitz
Susanne Aronowitz & Rob Schulhof
Meg & Steve Grass
Windsor Products
The Birth of Henry Burghardt Muehlbauer, Grandson
of Linda & David Burghardt
Kathie & Richard Davis
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
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Shelley Sherman
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver
The Speedy Recovery of Linda Tsuruoka
Jane Bendor & Brian Graham
Alvin Graham
Meg & Steve Grass
Lia & Mortimer Hans
Rona Levy
Willa Lewis & Edward Moulin
Rita Rubenstein
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver
The Officers & Board of Trustees for 2012/2013
The Speedy Recovery of Meg Grass
Alvin Graham
The Birth of Parker Feldman, Granddaughter of
June & Allan Feldman
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver
The Birthday of June Feldman
Kathie & Richard Davis
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Gail & Robert Gordon
Mindy & Howard Israel
Terry & Richard Joseph
Ruth Mandelbaum
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
The Speedy Recovery of Allen Leboff
Kathie & Richard Davis
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
Gail & Robert Gordon
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Terry & Richard Joseph
Ruth Mandelbaum
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
The Speedy Recovery of Sylvia Kelman
Kathie & Richard Davis
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
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Terry & Richard Joseph
Ruth Mandelbaum
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
Forrest Gayer's Achievement of the Rank of Eagle
Scout
Kathie & Richard Davis
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Denise Miller & Steve Fein
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Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
The Marriage of Marcy Levy & Will Hasenplaugh
Kathie & Richard Davis
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Mindy & Howard Israel
Terry & Richard Joseph
Ruth Mandelbaum
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Bernard Rosenberg
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Shelley Sherman
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver
The Graduation of Luba Silver
Kathie & Richard Davis
Sheila & Victor DeFazio
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Mindy & Howard Israel
Terry & Richard Joseph
Ruth Mandelbaum
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver
The Birthday of Ellen Lesser Sangiamo, Daughter
of Jean & John Lesser
Jean & John Lesser
Cathy Reibstein's Hard Work for Temple Isaiah
Bernard Rosenberg
In Honor of Steve Fein
Evelyn & Richard Solow

Tzedakah Fund:

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Leslie Reider
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Clare & Steven Warshavsky

Hi Everyone:

This is a love note to all of you from Linda Tsuruoka. I don't know how to thank you for the calls, the cards, the contributions, the gifts and well wishes you have all sent my way.

To say it has been a comfort does not describe it and I appreciate it so very much. The people of Temple Isaiah are indeed very special and I promise—come summer's end—I will be back to bother you.

Till then, many thanks and lots of love.

Linda



Prudential
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Bella Bekker-Silver
 Licensed Real Estate Salesperson



Prudential

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 Office 516 466-2100 Cell 917 578-5540
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Call me with any questions or to schedule an appointment.

Refer me to your friends and neighbors and I will donate 10% of my commission to the Temple Isaiah 21st Century Fund

Bella Bekker-Silver
 Licensed Realtor

TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place
 Great Neck, NY 11021

www.templeisiahgn.org

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Deadline for submissions—10th of the Month

BULLETIN

Co-Presidents: Gail Gordon & Terry Joseph
Rabbi: Theodore Tsuruoka
Cantor: Leslie Friedlander
Production: Cathy Reibstein
Photos: Sheila DeFazio