

TEMPLE ISAIAH BULLETIN

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Published Monthly

November, 2018

November 2018 Calendar of Events

Thursday, Nov. 1—Tag Sale Opens at 10:00am

Friday, Nov. 2—Tag Sale, 10 to 4 and Birthday/ Anniversary Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Saturday, Nov. 3—Torah Study & Service, 9:30am

Sunday, Nov. 4—Tag Sale, 10 to 4

Monday, Nov. 5—Final Day of Tag Sale—10 to 4; Spanish Class, 10:30am

Tuesday, Nov. 6—Board Meeting, 7:30pm

Wednesday, Nov. 7—Tai Chi, 11:00am

Friday, Nov. 9—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm (Kristallnacht Observance)

Saturday, Nov. 10—Torah Study & Service, 9:30am

Monday, Nov. 12—Spanish Class, 10:30am

Wednesday, Nov. 14—Tai Chi, 11:00am; Rabbi's Class #1, 7:30pm

Friday, Nov. 16—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Saturday, Nov. 17—Torah Study & Service, 9:30am

Monday, Nov. 19—Spanish Class, 10:30am

Tuesday, Nov. 20— "Current Events," 7:30pm

Wednesday, Nov. 21—Tai Chi, 11:00am

Friday, Nov. 23—Shabbat Service, 8:00pm

Monday, Nov. 26—Spanish Class, 10:30am

Tuesday, Nov. 27—Knit & Nosh, 7:00pm

Wednesday, Nov. 28— Tai Chi, 11:00am; Rabbi's Class #2, 7:30pm

Thursday, November 29—Lunch & Learn at Shiraz, 11:30am; Genealogy Program, 7:30pm

Friday, Nov. 30—Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15pm

See Inside for Details on These Upcoming Events at Temple Isaiah

Tag Sale
November 1st—5th

Rabbi's Class
Beginning November 14

Current Events November 20

Genealogy
Program
November 29th



Formation of Women's Rosh Chodesh Committee

Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class, Tai Chi, Knit & Nosh, & More!

RABBI'S COLUMN By Rabbi Jerry Blum

As I checked my schedule for November, I suddenly realized that we're in the last quarter of the secular year. So much has happened in our temple, our community, throughout our country and in our world. It seems as if we don't get a moments rest from the "Media Machine" that spits out stress and anxiety on a daily basis.



And yet, it is November, the month to practice our civic duty and vote (I had to throw that in), but also, at least on the Jewish calendar, this year we usher in the Hebrew month of Kislev, the month we celebrate Hanukkah. Don't panic, Hanukkah isn't until (early) December (ok, now you can panic), but I want to discuss the theme of Hanukkah, which is all about "Nissim" or miracles. (We're not getting into the military stuff right here)

Any Hebrew school kid knows that on the dreidel (outside of Israel), we have the Hebrew letters, *Nun* -Gimel – Hey – Shin, which is the acronym standing for Neis Gadol Hayah Sham – a great miracle happened there (in Israel). And, we all know the story of the small carafe of oil, that was only to last one night, but lasted for eight. It's a great story, and oh that miracle? But, why don't we see those miraculous spectacles now?

Each morning when they awaken, a traditional observant Jew recites the simple prayer, "Modeh/Modah ani lifanechah" a prayer of thanks to God for restoring our souls to us in compassion, acknowledging that God is faithful to us, as a parent is to their child. This is such a beautiful practice and yet, so often overlooked with the alarm buzzing and breakfast to be made, and then running off to where-ever. We hardly ever notice this small miracle, until alas, we are faced with the possibility of someone we care about, not waking up.

Each day as well, there are many brachot – blessings that are said, thanking the "Source of Life" for the many miracles in our lives. Our rabbis even tell us that we should be saying (at least) 100 blessings a day, and our siddur has them all, and then some. Many of our Sages had specific reason as to why 100 blessings, and most had to do with keeping us "Jews in the Pews" in line, but I see another reason, and it all has to do with Kislev, Hanukkah and November.

As I said above, the festival of Hanukkah is in Kislev and one of the best-known stories about Hanukkah is about miracles. But Hanukkah is just a reminder that miracles happen. What is even more potent a reminder is focusing on the everyday miracles around us, and often go unnoticed. We go about our day with so many chores and distractions, we don't notice these "Nissim B'Chol Yom" these everyday miracles. Perhaps our rabbis wanted us to not only stay on the straight and narrow (one of those ongoing rabbinic themes), but they also wanted us to become mindful. To stop and take notice. To actually look for some of those "Nissim B'Chol Yom" and notice how many small, but important miracles fill our lives.

Of course, November is also the month that brings us Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday for so many reasons, but by far, to me it is the ultimate reminder that I have so much in my life to be thankful for. But I don't think for a moment that gratitude is a one day a year thing. I believe the message of Thanksgiving, our daily blessings and even the Modeh Ani prayer is to stop, take a breath and focus on the good things. Spend a few moments acknowledging that even though we may have many hardships and stressors, there are still small miracles that abound. Perhaps try a small daily mindfulness practice. Spend three minutes each day quietly noticing the blessings and miracles in your life and write them down each day for a month, or more. Next Kislev revisit the list and feel the gratitude of all the gifts left for you. As the poet Everett Hoagland said, "Help us to see ourselves in all creation, and all creation in ourselves, ourselves in one another."



May we all be blessed with a multitude of miracles, and may we give ourselves the gift of time to notice each and every one of them.

Rabbi Jerry

CANTOR'S COLUMN THE JEWISH MOON

By Cantor Leslie Friedlander



It is no wonder that the moon, being the brightest, largest and most visually present body in the night sky, has always been an awesome and magnificent mystery in every culture. The fact that we can also see it during the day and that its image changes from day to day renders the moon an even bigger wonder. It makes perfect sense, then, that the curiosity and awe surrounding this glorious orb has led to mythologies and folklore, legends about gods and demons, rebirth, even the moon as a place for souls to wait after death before being reborn. In some cultures, the moon was a terrifying object that traveled through the night sky, hunting for victims to consume. Moonlight was thought

to have a powerful effect on human behavior and some people avoided sleeping in view of the moon's rays. The moon has been perceived as male, female, love goddess, man-eater, play-thing for the stars, gentle, disturbing – the range of human emotion.

Truly remarkable is that tens of thousands of years ago, without the aid of telescopes, technology or anything beyond the human eye and intelligence, people were able to track and measure the changes in the moon's images and figure out a reliable-enough calendar based on the cycles of the moon.

The moon plays a truly prominent role in Judaism and until the invention of an absolute mathematical calendar in 45 B.C.E., the moon directed when and what we celebrated and pretty much the religious and cultural rhythms of daily life. In fact, to understand the significance of the moon in Judaism, consider that the first commandment given to the Israelites in the Torah is "hachodesh hazeh lachem rosh chodashim," which means, "this month shall mark for you the beginning of months..." We are commanded to establish the lunar calendar (Exodus 12:2).

Join us on Sunday, December 2, at 10:30, when I will lead a class about *Rosh Chodesh*, the celebration of the new month and the new moon. We'll talk about why Judaism has been compared to the moon, why Rosh Chodesh is considered a women's holiday and some of the ways we might creatively celebrate Rosh Chodesh. We'll learn about some of the *midrashim* connected to the moon and understand why the celebration of Rosh Chodesh is a monthly reaffirmation of Jewish continuity and eternity. And what a wonderful way to usher in Chanukah, a celebration of dedication and Jewish continuity!

Cantor Leslie Friedlander



December 2nd, 10:30am

Rosh Chodesh Class with Cantor Friedlander
(See Page 4 for additional information on the formation of Temple Isaiah's Rosh Chodesh Women's Committee.)

Subject: MARCH 8th 2019:

Rosh Chodesh Women's Shabbat Service

From Observance to Tradition = Calling All Women

Dear Women of Temple Isaiah,

On March 8th, with the women of Temple Isaiah leading the Shabbat service, we will be celebrating Rosh Chodesh, the lunar date celebrating a new moon.

In one of Judaism's youngest traditions, Rosh Chodesh has come to be especially associated with women. Please join our Temple Isaiah women in preparing, leading and celebrating this special event.



To find out more about the relationship of women to Rosh Chodesh, attend Cantor Friedlander's class on Sunday December 2nd at 10:30 am.

If you would like to participate in the steering committee planning the service, please attend an initial meeting on November 15th at 7:30.

RSVP to Terry Birnbaum-Horton at tbahorton@aol.com or 516-978-7409.

Mark Your Calendars and Join Us at Temple Isaiah:

<u>November 15th</u> - 7:30pm : 1st meeting Rosh Chodesh Women's Steering Committee

<u>December 2nd</u> - 10:30am : Rosh Chodesh Class with Cantor Friedlander December 4th - 7:30pm : 2nd Rosh Chodesh Women's Committee Meeting

March 8th - 8pm : Rosh Chodesh Shabbat Women's Service



Long-Term Planning—Save The Date

Sunday, May 5th—Journal/Gala Dinner

November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Tag Sale Opens	2 Birthday/ Anniversary Shabbat, 8:00pm	Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
4 Tag Sale	5 Tag Sale Spanish Class, 10:30am Sarge at JCC	6 Board Meeting, 7:30pm (Election Day)	7 Tai Chi, 11:00am	8	9 Shabbat Service, 8:00pm Kristallnacht Observance	Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
11	Spanish Class, 10:30am	13	Tai Chi, 11:00am Rabbi Class #1	Rosh Chodesh Steering Committee, 7:30pm	Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
Tentative: Communal Service	Spanish Class, 10:30am	Current Events, 7:30pm	Tai Chi, 11:00am	22 Thanksgiving	Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	24
25	26 Spanish Class, 10:30am	27 Knit & Nosh, 7:00pm	Tai Chi, 11:00am Rabbi Class #2	29 Lunch & Learn at Shiraz Genealogy Program, 7:30pm	30 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15pm	December 1 Torah Study, 9:30am; Shacharit Service, 10:30am

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						Torah Study, 9:30am; Shacharit Service, 10:30am
2 Cantor's Class, 10:30am; First Night Of Chanukah	3 Spanish, 10:30am Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm	4 Board Meeting, 7:30pm	5 Tai Chi, 11:00am Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm	6 Knit & Nosh 12:00	7 Potluck Dinner; Birthday/ Anniversary and Chanukah Shabbat Ser- vice with Choir	8 Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
9 Last Night of Chanukah	10	11	12 Tai Chi, 11:00am Rabbi Class #3	13	14 Renewal Service, 7:30pm; Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	15 Torah Study & Service, 9:30am
16	17	Current Events with Helman Brook, 7:30pm	19 Tai Chi, 11:00am	Johanna Hurwitz Program	Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	22
23	24 Movie & Chinese Food	25	26 Tai Chi, 11:00am	27	Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15pm	29 Torah Study, 9:30am; Shacharit Service, 10:30am
30	31					

Temple Isaiah Fall Bazaar November 1—November 5



Books Clothing
Collectibles Designer Scarves
Jewelry Judaica
China & Glassware Artworks
Toys & Games
Swarovski Crystals
Huge Selection of Children's Items
New & Gently Used Gift Items

New This Year: Special Section of Luxury/Designer Merchandise



Thursday, November 1
10am to 4:00pm
Friday, November 2
10am to 4:00pm
Sunday, November 4
10am to 4:00pm
Monday, November 5
10am to 4:00pm

Volunteers Needed—Contact Terry Joseph (516-238-5981)

Temple Isaiah is co-sponsoring an Aftercare Community Transition (A.C.T.) Program for addiction recovery. The kick-off event features "Sarge" the comedian, performing a comedy routine and Q&A session covering his personal journey to recovery.



Monday, November 5th at Sid Jacobson JCC



Rabbi's class—Nov 14 and 28 and December 12 "Reform Judaism, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow A Pluralistic look at Who we Are as a Movement and a People"



"Current Events" with Helman Brook Tuesday, November 20th at 7:30pm

Thursday, November 29th
11:30am
Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Jerry
At Shiraz



Special Workshop on Genealogy Thursday, November 29th at 7:30pm



"Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island was founded in 1985 to encourage and assist the pursuit of Jewish family history. Our goal is to bring together people interested in tracing their Jewish family roots. We work to educate members and the public regarding the 'how to' of finding one's roots."

Debra Wang will share her journey in uncovering her family story and the process of how the Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island leads workshops to help you uncover your family history.

Adult B'nei Mitzvah Classes Are Coming!



Did you miss out on becoming a Bar or Bat Mitzvah when you were 13, or, did you ever want to re-live that moment again?

It's never too late to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah! (And it's always fun to re-live their celebration.)

The Rabbi will be forming a new Adult B'nei Mitzvah class beginning in February (or maybe March, depending on the weather) for those who never became or those who want to re-live that moment.

Please reach out to the Rabbi (rabbi.jerry.isaiahgn@gmail.com) or the office (isaiahgn@yahoo.com) if you are interested. Information will be sent out soon.



Kristallnacht The Night of the Broken Glass

Join Us to Observe Kristallnacht at Shabbat Services Friday, November 9th

Knit & Nosh: November 27 at 7:00pm and December 6 at 12:00noon



Tai Chi Classes Continue Wednesdays at 11:00am

Promote
Health, Vitality &
Inner Strength
Call the office for more information.



Chanukah Family Potluck Dinner

Friday, December 7th, 6:30PM
Followed by Shabbat service with
choir at 7:30PM





Celebrate the holiday with your
Temple Isaiah Family at our traditional
"meat" potluck supper
(Non-Dairy)





"The Curious Travels of Johanna Hurwitz"
Thursday, December 20th at 7:30pm

Johanna Hurwitz is a new member of Temple Isaiah and an old resident of Great Neck.

She worked at the Great Neck Library for many years and has written a number of children's books. It is in the latter capacity that she has been invited to travel around the USA and the world. She is going to share some of her unique experiences as a traveling Jew.



General Donations

In Loving Memory Of:

Joseph Boverman

Judy, Ariel & Allegra Boverman

Tommy Ortenburger, Father of Nick Ortenburger Sheila & Victor DeFazio

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Eugene Lustig, Father of Lia Hans

Magda Sebo, Aunt of Steven Friedlander

Lia & Mortimer Hans

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"First of all, this conversation never happened."

In Honor of:

Micki Victor

With Gratitude to Temple Isaiah for Their Service to the Atria

Judy, Ariel & Allegra Boverman Linda Marshak's Excellent Presentation The Menashes Going "Above & Beyond" Joel Bekker Passing the Bar Exam Steve Warshavsky's Tremendous Effort and Overwhelming Success at "Isaiah's Got Talent"

Clare Warshavsky's Wonderful Talent & Ability

The Delight the Entire Cast Gave All of Us June & Allan Feldman

Cantor Leslie & Steven Friedlander Lia & Mortimer Hans

Rabbi Jerry for the Wonderful High Holy Day

Bella Bekker-Silver & Jonathan Silver The Bat Mitzvah of Holly Weiss Robin Zlatin-Somers Mindy Katz & Roger Troop

Dear Temple Isaiah,

Belated thank you for your cards, calls, prayers and warm thoughts. My hospital stay and month spent in Rusk Rehab are mostly a blur. Learning to walk again, taking care of myself, driving and being back to work are big accomplishments and I am sure that your prayers have helped my recovery. I remember being touched by your thoughtfulness and just wanted to say Todah Rabah.

Lori Katz

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BULLETIN

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