



TEMPLE
ISAIAH

Bulletin

JUNE 2026

Office: 516-487-5373 | Email: office@templeisiahgn.org | Hours: Tues. & Fridays 12-2:30pm

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A GALA CELEBRATION!

Please note: The Congregational Meeting has been postponed until Wednesday, June 10th at 7:00 PM. This is an important meeting, and we encourage everyone to attend.

We will discuss the slate of officers, the budget, the goals and accomplishments of the temple, and discuss future plans. *Mark your calendar* to attend this important meeting.

Co-Presidents:

Kathie Davis
Terry Joseph
Shelley Sherman

Rabbi: Jerry Blum



I can't believe it's June already (wait, wasn't I just wearing a sweater and jacket the other day? – Oh yeah, I was). In just a few weeks we celebrate the Summer Solstice, then school ends, vacations begin and so do our summer lay-led services. But we have a lot to do

before we set up our beach chairs.

I know we are still glowing from our annual Gala Dinner and Terry and Richard's most Fabulous Wedding (redeaux) so let's keep on celebrating.

June is Pride month and this year we will be celebrating Pride Shabbat at our temple on June 12th together with our friends at Temple Tikvah of New Hyde Park. Our speaker will be Dana Aliya Levinson who became a B'nei Miztvah at our temple many years ago (her short bio is in the box to the right).

We have begun preparations for the High Holy Days (yes, I did say that) and there will be a meeting of the Ritual Committee soon to work on aliyot and readings. Please remember to renew your membership soon so we can have an extra special Yamim Nora'im (Days of Awe) together.

This year we will be welcoming a new cantor and music director to our services, and we look forward to giving you more information about them as soon as we finalize all these arrangements.

This summer, in addition to having our lay-led services, we will again commemorate Tisha B'Av (the Ninth of Av) which memorializes the destruction of the Temple(s) and other tragedies that befell the Jewish People. We usually join together with Temple Beth El for this moving service and reading of the Book of Lamentations, and this year, we will hold this reading at our temple. This commemoration

will take place on Wednesday evening; July 22 and we will send out an announcement with more information as we get closer to the date.

As I said, June will be a busy time for us all, and we look forward to seeing everyone at each celebration. Keep an eye out for flyers and invitations to the exciting events throughout this and the summer months as well.

Rabbi Jerry

This Year's Pride Shabbat Speaker

Dana Aliya Levinson is a screenwriter, actor, and LGBTQ media consultant. She is a graduate of the New School where she studied Global Studies with a focus on the Middle East. Her writing work often explores the intersection of LGBTQ identity, Jewish identity, and Middle East diaspora. Dana is a former Dramatists Guild Fellow, who has received numerous awards and accolades including for her pilot script, "FRAUD," selected by the GLAAD List as one of the top eight unproduced LGBTQ pilots of 2022, and her feature script, "Serafina," selected as a quarter finalist for the prestigious Academy Nicholl fellowship. As an actor, highlights include television shows "American Gods," and "The Good Fight," as well as the feature film, "Adam," which had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival.



Everywhere we look we see tales and reports about the marked increase of antisemitism- from slurs and graffiti to actual attacks. Of course antisemitism is not new- in fact it is considered "the oldest hatred," but since the Hamas attack and the ensuing war in Gaza, there is little question that it has not only proliferated but become normalized.

I remember when I was growing up there was an almost "polite," albeit pervasive, antisemitism mostly associated with the well-to-do. Country clubs were restricted, colleges had quotas, and people hung out with their "own kind."

More recently, politically crasser versions were attributable to the far right which became increasingly emboldened in attacks on Jews and in resurrecting the ancient tropes. It was chilling to hear people

chanting "Jews will not replace us." But then the bottom fell out. Anti-Zionism became a rallying cry of the left, and made inroads among moderates. Now, combined with all the ongoing groups, it has become pretty close to a noncontroversial issue. Of course this is the conflation of anti-Zionism and antisemitism which many people deny, although the attacks on synagogues and individual Jews puts a lie to that argument in many instances.

How should we respond to this? Living in Great Neck we may feel sheltered from it, but in one way or another it will affect us and our families and community. Lets talk!

Shelley, Terry, and Kathie

A Current Event. . .

Helman and Judy Brook are retiring from leading our current events program after many years and we wish to thank them for originating and executing it with insight, depth and humor. They presented off the beaten track news as well as leading lively conversations about events in the headlines. Judy always had medical or scientific info to discuss as well. We are delighted to report that we will still be offering Current Events under the capable hands of Scott Schleifstein and Judy Snow.

This Fall we will begin our 18th year- our **Chai year**- in our current building. For many of our congregants it is the only Temple Isaiah home that they have known. While it may only be brick and mortar, it has been a Home of Our Own for these past years and we hope for many years to come. As we begin our new fiscal year we encourage you to immerse yourself in our full and varied programs and support the synagogue to the best of your ability.

We think you will find that you gain even more than you give.

Hello from The Caring Committee

Summer services are coming in July and August. We need volunteers to lead our Shabbat services on Fridays at 6:30 PM on the following dates:

July 3, July 10, July 17, July 24, July 31

August 7, August 14, August 21, and August 28

Please call or text Kathie, Ruth, or Paula to volunteer as Shabbat leader for these delightful summer services.

The Caring Committee members are always here for you when you need us. You are our Temple Isaiah family, and we care for you.

Warmly, Kathie Davis

Fundraising Committee

Our Journal & Gala at Leonard's Palazzo of Great Neck, Honoring Terry Joseph

It was a beautiful, meaningful evening. A celebration of commitment, happiness, and love as we watched the renewal of wedding vows between our exceptional friends and congregants Richard and Terry Joseph.

It was a time to acknowledge Terry's incredible legacy with Temple Isaiah even though her story at Temple Isaiah is not complete yet (stay tuned to more of her accomplishments). And it was a moment to support Temple Isaiah in our biggest fundraiser of the year, and this year, possibly, one of the biggest.

Thanks to Terry and Richard for letting us honor you.

Thanks to Rabbi Blum for a sweet, poignant ceremony. Thanks to Sina for his playlist of music. Thanks to Leonard's of Great Neck for helping make the evening memorable with wonderful food and staff.

Thanks to the Committee Chairs Carol Hersh and Denise Miller, and the committee who did an outstanding job organizing and pulling together the Journal and the evening.

And many, many thanks for the support of our congregants and guests who participated in the Journal were able to be together to celebrate, and made this evening a success.

Terry Birnbaum-Horton

Treasurer/Financial Secretary

Our fiscal year ended on May 31, 2026, meaning everyone's dues and any other outstanding balances were due by then. Some of you should have received emails from me with an explanation of your account and the mostly small amounts that were due, but it adds up. Due to a data entry snafu, auction amounts were mostly not included, so you may be hearing from me about that soon.

This year we will have a surplus for the first time in a while, due to not having to make payments on our mortgage. That will resume in January 2027, so we still need your generous dues pledges – you'll get the forms at the annual Congregational Meeting now rescheduled for Wednesday June 10 – as well as payments, and continued support of our fundraisers.

I won't repeat the details of how you can donate – see the April Bulletin which you can always find on the Temple web site at <https://templeisaiiahgn.org/bulletin/>, but will remind you that you can easily pay by Zelle, PayPal, and/or a recurring monthly dues payment that you can set up on your own checking account. And last, while you can make big payments from your IRA via a QCD, with the new tax law most of you can probably deduct your charitable donations in full if you are itemizing your deductions again (rather than using the standard deduction), which is a bit simpler than arranging the QCD.

Bill Hersh

P.S. from Amy Gorman: Be on the lookout for new **Membership Forms** in the mail or your inbox, with the option to submit forms online.



Social Action Committee

We must continue our efforts to make our elected representatives aware of our concerns, be they the war with Iran, violations of our constitutional rights, immigration, health care or corruption. Please write, call or email your representatives with your pleasure or displeasure with the state of our nation. Also, if there is a particular candidate whom you admire running in a primary or later for election in November, get involved in their campaigns.

Additionally, consider volunteering your time to the many organizations dealing with the issues that are important to you. Unfortunately, none of these issues have gone away, although some may have receded to the background, while new issues grab the spotlight. However difficult it may be to keep our focus, it is imperative that we do.

The contact information for our representatives is:

- Sen. Charles Schumer 631-753-0978 (Melville)
518-431-4076 (Albany)
202-224-6542 (Washington D.C.)
www.schumer.senate.gov
- Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand 202-224-4451 (Washington)
212-688-6262 (Manhattan)
www.gillibrand.senate.gov
- Rep. Thomas Suozzi 202-225-3335 (Washington)
718-631-0040 (Douglaston)
516-861-1070 (Glen Cove)
suozzi.house.gov

Remember, action alleviates anxiety.

Judy Brook and Denise Miller, Co-chairs

Proposed Slate – Temple Isaiah Board of Trustees 2026-2027

To be voted upon at the annual Congregational Meeting, June 10th 7pm

Executive Committee

Presidium:	Kathie Davis
	Terry Joseph
	Shelley Sherman
Vice President Fundraising:	Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Vice President Programming:	Lloyd Perell
Vice President Membership:	Amy Gorman
Vice President Social Action:	Denise Miller
Treasurer/Financial Secretary:	Bill Hersh
Recording Secretary:	Linda Burghardt

Trustees

Term Ending 6/27	Steve Fein
	Martin Secofsky
Term Ending 6/28	Rona Levy
	Rachel Greenwald
	Jean Lesser
	Paula Newman
Term Ending 6/29	Ruth Isaac
	Marcia Null
	Judy Snow
	Scott Schleifstein
	Jonathan Wagner



The Congregational Meeting
Wednesday, June 10th at 7:00 PM

We will discuss the slate of officers, the budget, the goals and accomplishments of the temple, and discuss future plans. All congregants are invited.



Pride Shabbat
Friday, June 12, 7pm

with our friends at Temple Tikvah of New Hyde Park. Guest speaker will be Dana Aliya Levinson.

B I N G O

14	29	38	52	74
4	18	33	46	62
7	16	★	60	71

Bingo!
Sunday, June 14
Details to be determined

June Celebrations & Rememberances



BIRTHDAYS

Richard Joseph.....June 1

Sheila DeFazio.....June 2

Stephen Fein.....June 29



ANNIVERSARIES

William & Carol Hersh.....June 17

Scott Schleifstein & Judith Snow.....
June 18

Amy & Howard Gorman.....June 25



YAHRZEITS

Charles Shapiro

Father of Barbara Feldman (6/1)

Ralph Brody

Father of Linda Tsuruoka (6/2)

Haim Causanschi

Father of Golda Shapiro (6/2)

Morris Gabay

Father of Sima Auerbach (6/2)

Jack P. Benjamin

Father of Alan Benjamin (6/3)

Betsy Guthrie

Friend of Willa Lewis (6/3)

Jeffrey Sherman

Brother of Shelley Sherman (6/3)

Irwin Israel

Father of Howard Israel (6/6)

Max Federlein

Father of Rachel Greenwald (6/8)

Charles McTiernan

Uncle of Gary McTiernan (6/8)

Minnie Sissman

Mother of Betty Litsky (6/8)

Allen Jacobs

Grandfather of Jonathan Wagner (6/9)

Isabelle Tropp-Gresser

Mother of Fonille Naidamast (6/11)

Philip Fried

Husband of Ruth Fried (6/12)

Elaine Kaner

Sister of Paula Newman (6/12)

Mercedes Moulin

Mother of Edward Moulin (6/12)

Ruth Mandelbaum

Friend of Kathie Davis (6/13)

Leo Garter

Father of Nina Pastor (6/14)

Jerome Weinberg

Father of Arlyn Brenner Blum (6/14)

Gilbert Birnbaum

Father of Rod Birnbaum (6/17)

Tom Raskin

Father of Micah Raskin (6/19)

Bernard Goldenberg

Husband of Evelyn Goldenberg (6/21)

Jacob Tuchinsky

Grandfather of Belle Gayer (6/24)

Ruth Wagner

Grandmother of Jonathan Wagner
(6/24)

Louise Helen Ferguson

Mother of David Ferguson (6/25)

Anna Eisenman

Mother of Bella Bekker-Silver (6/26)

Rena Levy

Mother-in-law of Rona Levy (6/26)

Alec Appleman

Great-uncle of David Aubrey (6/27)

Jim Hartman

Father of Megan Hartman-Brenner
(6/27)

Harry Lewis

Father of Willa Lewis (6/28)

Anna Marshak

Mother of Martin Marshak (6/28)



General Donations

360 Circle of Tzedakah

Helman & Judy Brook, Kathie Davis, Bill & Carol Hersh, Denise Miller & Steve Fein, Terry Birnbaum-Horton, Ruth Isaac, Shelley Sherman, Richard & Terry Joseph, Paula Newman

In honor of Meryl Menashe: Refuah shleima

In honor of Ruth Isaac: Congratulations

on her granddaughter graduating from dental school and another granddaughter's engagement.

June Feldman in memory of Billy Gowryluk

Rachel Greenwald for oneg

Ruth Isaac in honor of Terry & Richard Joseph on their 54th Wedding Anniversary

Meryl & Jack Menashe in memory of Nissim Menashe

Shelley Sherman in memory of Jeffrey Sherman

The 360 Circle of Tzedakah

By contributing to the 360 Circle you assure that your best wishes will be shared with all congregants who are celebrating a simcha, healing, or sadly suffering a loss. A Temple card sent to a fellow member will wish a Mazal Tov on an important occasion, express a get well, or a condolence, and it will always include your name. You won't have to write a separate check each time you wish to share your support; one check will cover you for the whole year!

Simply send a payment of \$360 to Temple Isaiah, earmarked for the 360 Circle, and your name will be included on all cards sent out to commemorate the life events of your fellow congregants.



June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 Shabbat Seivces in Temple and via Zoom - 7pm	6 Torah Study Zoom only 9:30am
7	8	9	10 Annual Con- gregational Meeting 7pm	11	12 Pride Shabbat in Temple and via Zoom - 7pm	13 Torah Study Zoom only 9:30am
14 Bingo Details TBD	15	16	17	18	19 Shabbat Services in Temple and via Zoom - 7pm	20 No Torah Study
21	22	23	24	25	26 Shabbat Services in Temple and via Zoom - 7pm	27 Hybrid Torah Study in Temple and via Zoom - 9:30am
28	29	30				



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Temple Isaiah of Great Neck

1 Chelsea Place, Great Neck, NY 11021

Office Hours:

Tuesdays & Fridays 12-2:30 PM

Call 516-487-5373 or email office@templeisaiahgn.org for confirmation.

Deadline for bulletin submissions: 20th of the month