

KESHER

Our Seventy-Fifth
Year!

FROM RABBI SAM What is the Punch Line?

This month we find the Torah readings moving from Genesis into Exodus. With this transition our story moves from the early history of the world and, more specifically, the family of Abraham into the development of Israel as a people who would ultimately become a nation.

Before we begin the journey of a covenanted nation, it may be helpful to take one more reflection on the teachings of the book of Genesis. Genesis appears primarily to be a collection of morality stories or teaching lessons on how we came to be where we are and why life and the world is the way it is. All was done according to a plan by God that would lead to the covenant at Sinai and, ultimately, the settlement in the Promised Land.

As with the morality literature and story telling process of the Biblical world and time, the lessons of Genesis generally answer a specific question about life and the world as it was known. The information, “science”, historical references, and other legendary material within the story were used to bring the listener to the final answer, which was found at the end (punch line or moral statement) of the story.

Later readers and commentators on the Torah sought to use these internal issues, statements, or plot elements of the stories to teach new lessons or derive novel views of the world. This is the power of the Torah

that it can speak so masterfully to every generation that reads it. But this is not the intrinsic or original purpose of the story.

Thus, the opening story of creation (Genesis 1:1-2:3) never intended to teach about how creation really happened and is not an alternative to cosmology, biology, or any science as we define it today. Rather, the story teaches about the way God has created order out of chaos with Shabbat as the pinnacle of creation.

The second story of creation, which also delves into the meaning of life as we know it and God’s plan for us is a human/social view of order out of chaos rather than the universal view in the first story. For the teller of the second story the point can be found in Genesis 2:24.

In a similar fashion, the subsequent stories of Genesis further explore the roles and meanings of procreation, family life, social structure, and other aspects of why and how this world is the way we know it.

The following “punch lines” offer some insights into the Biblical stories and the roles that the authors(s)/editor may originally have been intended for them. This does not detract from the new meanings that have developed but can help put each into a different perspective. These are a few that may be interesting.

Genesis 3:15-19 life as we know it
Genesis 8:20-9:11 sacrifice and food
Genesis 11:8-9 language differences
Genesis 32:33 first kosher rule
and finally Genesis 50:19-20

Temple Israel Board of Trustees—2012-2013

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 Paul Pasternak, Peter Pastor, Stan Robbins
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TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 am – 1:30 pm
Thursday 1:30 am – 6:00 pm

KESHER

Kesher, Connection,
 is the newsletter
 of Temple Israel
 Dover, NH.

Ideas for submissions and/or letters to the editor may be submitted by members of the Temple Israel family and all others who would like to share news or information with the Temple community.

All communication with the Editor should be by e-mail. Publication of any flyer or any other article or submission is limited by editorial and space considerations.

The deadline for submission is the twentieth (20th) of the month for the following month's issue of *Kesher*.

mail to:

Tammy Fascetta
 TempleOffice
 @dovertemple.org
 or
 Rabbi Sam Seicol
 rabbisam@dovertemple.org

Shabbat@ Temple Israel

Friday nights 7:00

Saturday mornings 10:30

- **Friday December 6** **First Friday Shabbat**
 ● 6:00 Tots-on-the-Bima
 ● 6:20 Pot-luck dinner
 ● 7:00 Service led by Hebrew 3
- **Saturday December 7** **10:30 Full service with Torah**
- **Friday December 13** 7:00 Shabbat Service
- **Saturday December 14** **10:30 Torah Study**
- **Friday December 20** **Third Friday Shabbat**
 ● 7:00 Music & Meditation
- **Saturday December 21** **10:30 Torah Study**
- **Friday December 27** **Last Friday Shabbat**
 ● 6:00 Adult B'not/B'nei Mitzvah study & dinner
 ● 7:00 Last Service of 2013
- **Saturday December 28** **10:30 Torah Study**

**WATCH FOR THE NEW
 FRIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE
 BEGINNING JANUARY 7, 2014**

From the President

Please help support the Temple by joining in the Capital Campaign Pledge Process

The goal of this campaign is to fully pay off the mortgage within the next 5 years so we can remain in our current building. The Board feels that this period of time will be long enough for each Temple member and supporter to make a meaningful and significant commitment within the family budget process. The Board further feels that if it we cannot do this in 5 years, additional time will not be useful.

The Board is requesting a total of \$548,000 (the balance left from the original \$1,800,000 mortgage). For each of our current 90 families this comes to \$6000 over 5 years (that is just \$1200/year or \$100 per month). The commitment can be paid in one lump sum, or divided annually, quarterly, or monthly on a payment schedule that fits the family financial system; and can be by cash, check, or even an automatic monthly credit card billing.

We do know that some may be able to afford more, and some less, but we ask you to make your decision and your pledge mindful of what is at stake. Everyone can afford something.

Please contact the Temple office by **December 3** with your commitment to pledge. The Board will be reviewing the total pledges – numbers of commitments and amounts, not names – at the December 5 Board meeting to help guide us in making our decisions. With your help we can maintain our current location in the current Temple building.

**In all cases, we will continue to grow and thrive
as a Congregational Community**

On behalf of the Board Thank You in advance for your pledge.

As always please feel free to contact me with any
thoughts, concerns, or feedback.

L'Shalom

Steve Brody President President@DoverTemple.org 603 868 7810

**THANK YOU TO OUR
ONEG HOSTS**

December

- 6 6th & 7th grade families
- 13 Janice & Eric Miller
Cathi Cherry-Liston
- 20 Pot-Luck — vacation week
- 27 Pot-Luck — vacation week

January

- 3 Jodie Fisher-Aviles
- 10 Ruth & Larry Gray
Sandy Rodeffer & Paul Pasternack
- 17 Lisa Connolly
Melissa Cooperman
- 24 Bev & Michael Kahn
- 31 Cathi Cherry-Liston
Carole Krassner

ONEG SHABBAT HOSTS

If you are unable to host the Oneg Shabbat on the night assigned to you, please find a substitute by trading with another family from the membership directory. If you need to change your assigned date, please notify Cathi Cherry-Liston 603-312-0152, 603-269-4888, ccherryliston@yahoo.com



Please consider marking special occasions and milestones along the path of life for you or members of your family by purchasing a leaf on the Tree of Life. The rocks in the Sanctuary can also celebrate joyous occasions or honor the memory of a loved one. For more information, contact: Tammy Fascetta in the Temple office.



Mazal Tov

to our members who are celebrating birthdays in December!
Join us at Friday evening service on December 6, 7:00 PM as we offer our wishes for your special day.

- Michele Samuels (1), Rita Robbins (2),
DeeDee Goldstein (4),
Burton Cohen (6), Mort Cherim (7),
Janice Miller (8), Jerrold Pollak (8),
Michael Davidson (12),
Brendon Kotlus (15),
Joshua Jacobs (18), Roger Elkus (18),
Arthur Saunders (21),
Michael Caracoglia (22),
Marc Weinstein (23),
Andrew McDonald (24),
Louisa Samuels (26),
David Goldstein (29),
Michael Kaplan (30),
Abigail Kaye (31)

**Please welcome
our new member
Mary Ritzo
and welcome back
the Burt family**

We have not moved

Look for our sign on Sixth Street at what was formerly 515

Our drive is at the end of the cul-de-sac

36 Olive Meadow Lane

Our mailing address remains:

P.O. Box 254 Dover, NH 03821

Bubeh Meiseh

(From the files of Ann Isacoff at Langdon Place)

**At this time of year it is good to remember that
IT IS ALL RELATIVE**

- **When it is 65 degrees outside:** People in Florida turn on the heat, people in Phoenix light a fire in the fireplace, people in New Hampshire plant their gardens.
- **When it is 60 degrees outside:** People in California stay inside and shiver, people in New Hampshire go out and sunbathe
- **When it is 50 degrees outside:** The drivers from the South put the heat on in their cars, the drivers from New Hampshire leave their car windows open.
- **When it is 40 degrees outside:** People from the Carolinas wear heavy coats, thermal underwear, gloves, and hats; people from New Hampshire throw on a flannel shirt.
- **When it is 30 degrees outside:** New York landlords agree to turn on the heat, New Hampshire home owners hold the final cookout before it gets too cold.
- **When it is 20 degrees outside:** People in Washington DC close the city down, people in New Hampshire close their windows.
- **When it is 0 degrees outside:** People in Connecticut head South for vacation, people in New Hampshire finally get out their winter coats.
- **When it is 20 degrees below zero outside:** People in Massachusetts close the schools, people in New Hampshire start saying, "Cold enough for ya?".
- **When it is 40 degrees below zero outside:** Hell freezes over, New Hampshire delays school opening for 2 hours.



B'not / B'nei Mitzvah
2014 **5774**

May 31
June 28

Adult Class
Abigail Kaye

Religious School News

The Religious School is now in full swing. Our preK-2nd graders hear stories from the tradition, study and enjoy crafts about Shabbat and the holidays, and explore the wonders of the Hebrew Aleph-bet. Third graders and up also study the torah and holidays, Jewish history, and Rabbinic and modern ideas on Jewish practice and values. Hebrew levels provide an opportunity for each student to learn to read and understand the concepts of the prayers at her or his best pace (We recommend a minimum of 10 minutes of practice each day at home). All students and families are encouraged to attend services Friday evenings (especially the first Friday of the month) and the first Saturday of each month (required for the year prior to the celebration of a Bar or Bat Mitzvah).

The schedule for December:

- 05** **4:00-6:00** **End of Chanukah party**
- 12** **4:00-6:00** **Religious School classes**
- 19** **4:00-6:00** **Religious School classes**
- 28** **No Religious School Classes: December Vacation**

From the Sisterhood

Sisterhood has been a very important part of our Temple for many years. This year we will be working in a different format than in the past, under the guidance of Co- Presidents Stacey Segil and Karen Mott, Secretary Karen Hiller and Treasurer Lisa Weinstein. Our goal for this year is to renew and strengthen Sisterhood by encouraging more women to participate.

Please mark your calendars for the Sisterhood outing **on Sunday, January 19th 4-6pm** to **Art with a Splash — Portsmouth.**

It is sure to be a great time of art, wine, fellowship and fun!

If you need a ride contact Stacey or Karen.

Sisterhood's major responsibilities:

Funding all the supplies for meals (i.e. paper plates, cups, napkins, etc.), providing the flowers and arrangements on the bimah, operating the Judaica Gift Shop, maintaining the library, and providing the Temple's women with opportunities to socialize.

To join or for more information, please contact:

Stacey Segil Co-President: at sbsegil@gmail.com or 603 343-5789 OR

Karen Mott Co-President at kgmaus54@yahoo.com or 603 767-6785.

Co-President's Stacey and Karen would like to host a Havdalah evening in February or March. We were hoping to plan some movie nights like last year. If anyone has an interest to see a movie at the Temple on a Saturday night, please let Stacey or Karen know by the end of December so we can make plans.



Got Latkes?

We Still Will

Chanukah may be over
but we can still enjoy
latke making
and eating together



SUNDAY 11:00 AM
December 8, 2013

Temple Israel in the Community

The Dover Food Pantry

Items can be donated to the Food Pantry any time.

Drop off may done at the Temple.

The Food Pantry is open
Tuesdays 3-5PM and Thursdays 9-11AM

**In addition to donations of
food and/or personal items
volunteers are always welcome
to help work at the Dover Food Pantry.
Please contact Karen Robichaud
at (603) 749-4235 or blrklr2@aol.com**

The Dover SHARE Fund

directly assists local residents with needs that are
not met through other helping agencies,
providing them with shelter
and support for utilities and medical care.

Your support is appreciated!

www.dovershare.org

Dover Friendly Kitchen

**MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!
PLEASE JOIN THE COMMUNITY!!!**

Temple Members help serve dinner at the
Dover Friendly Kitchen on the first Tuesday
of each month at St. Thomas Church Parish
Hall on Locust Street. Temple Israel's ef-
fort needs people to help cook, serve and
clean. We are there from 3:45 until around
6:15. Volunteers do not need to come for
the whole time. For more information or to
let me know if you plan to attend, please
contact me.

We welcome everyone's help!

Thank you!

Andra Welch, Coordinator

abbwelch@yahoo.com or 534-4142

Dover Chapter of Hadassah

Donations to Hadassah may be recognized with a variety of cards and certificates.

Honor or Memory certificates are available for \$10 each.

Tree Certificates are available for \$18.00

Water Certificates are available for \$25 (water for the land of Israel).

Large Gift Acknowledgement Cards acknowledge a minimum donation of \$20
(filled in with the name of the recipient or in honor or memory of someone else)

For more information or to order a card or certificate

please contact Donna M. Goldfarb 603-674-9168 donnadee82@gmail.com

A phone call is best to assure the correct spellings.

In most cases, cards will be sent out the day they are ordered.

Temple Israel of Dover is active in cyberspace!

In addition to checking the website regularly, please join us at one of both of:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/42322897909/>

<http://www.interfaithfamily.com/elgg/pg/groups/2598/temple-israel/>

SEPTEMBER DONATIONS

OCTOBER YAHRZEITS

All are encouraged to honor the memory of loved ones and/or to offer tributes to friends, relatives and community members through a donation to one or more of the funds. We express our appreciation to:

General

Carole Krassner –
In memory of Edward Wheeler
Alvin & Marilyn Mars

Captial Campaign

Cathi Cherry-Liston

A Special Thank You

To all who have stepped up to pledge to the 5 year campaign to eliminate the mortgage debt

Hospital Visits:

Please keep us informed!

If you or someone you know will be or is in the hospital please call the Temple office. You can also ask a nurse to see the hospital chaplain, who can call the Temple to let us know that you are there. Rabbi Sam and the Temple Israel community would like to be able to offer support and comfort to you and your family as you may desire.

NOTE: *Yahrzeits are recorded according to the Hebrew date, so the English date will vary from year to year. Kaddish in the Synagogue may be recited on the Shabbat following the date of remembrance.*

It is traditional to make a donation in memory of the Yahrzeit of a love one. To make a donation, please contact the Temple Office.

Week of December 7: Eva Gordon Baer (4), Minnie Cooper (4), Bernard Fine (5), Ralph Noveletsky (5), Floretta Osman (7)

Week of December 14: Gloria Adler (8), Julius Nasberg (9), Sayde Harris (9), Charlotte Brody (11), Samuel N. Cook (11), Abraham Issokson (12), Louis J. Magerer (12), Beatrice Book (12), Benjamin Eadner (13), Bernard Luloff (13)

Week of December 21: Herman Cherim (15), Roman A. Rubinstein (16), Daniel Fisher (16), Isadore Osman (16), Warren H. Overstreet Sr. (19), Gloria Adelman (20), Antoine Walker (20), Eugene Kleinhandl (20), Robert Liston Sr. (21)

Week of December 28: Suzan Irene Horn (23), Arnold S. Katz (23), Matthew Krassner (24), Hyman Katz (25), Allen Sibley (25), Sheila M. Kaplan (25), Harold Dinaburg (25), Arthur Housman (26), Philip Singer (26), Pauline Cohen (27), Louis Stocklan (27), Leon Brill (27), Libby Ginsberg (27), Beatrice Saltman Dulberg (28)Garrett Aviles (28), Ruth Talisman (28)

Week of January 4: Rose Silverman Cohen (29), Rabbi Sidney Rothstein (29), Harold J. Potter (1), Nathan Allen (3), Morris Kram (3), Mary C. Feltes (4)

Memorial Wall

Members may add the name of a loved one or reserve a space on the Memorial Wall with a minimum contribution of \$300.

Please contact the Temple Office for more information.



**Temple Israel
of Dover**

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P. O. Box 254
Dover, N. H. 03821
(603) 742-3976
templeoffice@
dovertemple.org
www.dovertemple.org



Temple Israel is a vibrant Reform Jewish congregation. We welcome all who wish to participate in Jewish study, worship, and fellowship. Our mission is to be a center for Jewish tradition, Shabbat and holiday services and programs, sharing of life-cycle events, opportunities for Jewish education for all ages, connection to Israel, and involvement in the wider Jewish world and support for all who are in need.

Temple Israel is a proud member of the URJ (Union for Reform Judaism) We join with more than 800 congregations in the Reform synagogue movement.

President:
Steve Brody
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Rabbi:
Sam Seicol
rabbisam@dovertemple.org
Administrative Assistant:
Tammy Fascetta
TempleOffice@
dovertemple.org

December 2013

Happening at Temple Israel of Dover

December 4 Last Night of Chanukah

- 05** 4:00 Chanukah-end Religious School party
- 06** 6:00 First Friday Shabbat
6:00 Tots on the Bima Shabbat Program
6:20 Pot-luck Family style Shabbat Dinner
7:00 Shabbat Service led by Hebrew level 3
- 07** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Service
- 08** 11:00(Post-Chanukah) annual latke party
- 12** 4:00 Religious School classes
- 13** 7:00 Shabbat Service
- 14** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah study
- 19** 4:00 Religious School classes
- 20** 3:00 Visit to Langdon Place
7:00 Music & Meditation Shabbat Service
- 21** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah study
- 26** No Religious School – December Vacation
- 29** 6:00 Adult Hebrew class and pot-luck dinner
7:00 Shabbat Service
- 28** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah study