

KESHER

Our Seventy-Fifth
Year!

FROM RABBI SAM

Judaism is Now Cool Part 3

The first two parts of this series part 1 in the January/February Jewish Reporter and part 2 in the January Keshet and Rabbi's Study on the Temple website) reflected on a bit of the history of Judaism in the US over the course of the twentieth century.

It can be said that twentieth century America saw the last stages of Jewish stability in response to crises. That is to say, throughout most of Jewish history Judaism was maintained and could be seen as generally internally stable as a response to the crises it faced in the world around it.

In the first part of the century the crises were generally pogroms and persecution for Jews who lived in Eastern Europe) and a strong undercurrent of social anti-Semitism for the Jews of the "Enlightened" Western Europe and the United States.

In the middle of the century the crises were centered around the Holocaust and the issues around the newly established, but far from secure, new state of Israel. The crisis of the Holocaust created a way of viewing Judaism as a force to deny Hitler "a post-humous victory" among other responses.

By the end of the century, however, Judaism found itself facing a major switch from "stability in response to crisis" to a crisis in response to stability.

As we travel into the twenty-first century in the US, all of Judaism enjoys an unprecedented level of acceptance. There are no socially accepted pogroms, persecution, or oppression. Anti-Semitism (indeed any form of prejudice, bigotry, or blind hatred) is no longer PC.

The response to this has split the Jewish world into the traditional (most often represented by the Orthodox) and the "liberal" (with Reform and unaffiliated being the largest groups). Assimilation, intermarriage, and a growing Jewish identity based

largely on culture or ancestry have become the most common responses in the "liberal" world. A variety of systems have emerged in attempts to maintain Jewish identity and continuity.

Some have decried the current situation and see an end to non-traditional Judaism as a viable response to this world. Others have sought to bring upbeat music, meditation practices, and other alternative approaches to the traditional vehicles (Synagogues, JCCs, etc). In 1997 a dating site for Jews was even established (Jdate). It is interesting to note that this site is now managed by Sparknetworks who in the last few years have added ChristianMingle, LDSMingle, a Catholic dating site and much more.

Judaism is not the only religion or self-identified group to be facing the issue of how to respond to a stable, accepting, and assimilative society. Many see the breaking of barriers and separations as a crisis. Others see this as a boon and hope for a more prejudiceless society.

Judaism for many, then, is thought to be in a time of serious crisis. "Will there be a non-Orthodox Judaism by the middle to end of the twenty-first century?" they ask. "What can be done to keep the next generation Jewish?"

Rather than see this as a time of crisis, however, we can choose to see that Judaism is now (as it has been at various times in the past) in a time of flux. The challenges are great but the reward can be equally uplifting.

What are the most pressing challenges?

What does Judaism offer for the spiritual support and uplift of the young, the family, the elderly, the community, and the individual? What is the role of Temple for the community? How do services meet the needs? What are some new directions and what are the old approaches that can be continued or redefined?

Ours is the challenge — Rabbi, members, community, all together in forming a Judaism that is truly "cool" for the twenty-first century.

Temple Israel Board of Trustees—2013-2014

Steve Brody, President
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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

****New Service Times****

****Friday nights 7:30**

Saturday mornings 10:30

Saturday February 1 10:30 Full service with Torah

Friday February 7 **First Friday Shabbat
6:30 Pot-luck dinner
7:15 Service led by students

Saturday February 8 10:30 Torah Study
****11:30 Shabbat Youth Service**

Friday February 14 **7:30 Shabbat Service

Saturday February 15 10:30 Torah Study

Friday February 21 **Third Friday Shabbat
3:00 At Langdon Place
****7:30 Music & Meditation**

Saturday February 22 10:30 Torah Study

Friday February 28 **Last Friday Shabbat
6:00 Adult B'not/B'nei Mitzvah study & dinner
****7:30 Service with Sue Horowitz**

From the President

This is not an easy message to write but it was what I need to tell you and it is what you need to hear. I apologize for being a little late in doing this. Please forgive me. I tried to put it off as long as I possible. Here it is:

On the matter of the 75th Anniversary Capital Campaign pledge drive, the bottom line is, the drive fell significantly short of what was needed. For those concerned with the actual number:

- We had responses from only 39% of the congregation
- The total amount pledged was just under \$235,000 – the goal was approximately \$540,000

After serious consideration, it seemed to the Board that the majority of our congregation is not invested in keeping the building. The painful but necessary way forward is to do what we hoped to avoid doing. By the time you read this, Agreements have been signed placing the land and building are on the market for sale or lease.

In reality, however, this may be the right decision even if the pledge drive worked. The building is too large for us, too expensive to operate and maintain, and even if there was no mortgage we might not be able to afford to stay here without a lease or rental arrangement to bolster our monthly expenses.

With all this said, remember: we are not going away. The search for a potential new home will begin shortly.

Before we do that we need to know what our members want Temple Israel to be and what you find most important as a member of the Temple. To facilitate this, the Board has been working with UNH Survey Center. The Center will begin a survey of our members in the next week or so. I urge you to respond to the survey openly and honestly and in a timely manner. If you also would like to talk to me or any other Board member, just let the survey people know, or send us an email or pick up the phone and call. We will be glad to speak with you.

As long as we are still in this facility we will continue to pursue rentals and in fact we are on the verge of entering into a long-term rental agreement with a church in Dover that is looking for a new home. Long-term is defined as a tenant-at-will given that a sale may occur at any time.

What else can we do to get our bottom line in the black and maintain it? The obvious answer is increase dues – which has not been done in far too long – increase fees – also never done in my memory – and increase fund raising. I don't know what the decisions on dues and fees will be so we prefer to look at fundraising. That is where your help is needed, as I have been known to say on several occasions.

We need **YOU** to participate in fundraising activities. This can be as part of a committee to help with the planning and the myriad of tasks necessary to make an event successful, sell tickets to your friends outside of the Temple, or even be an idea person. There is a core group of people who I know can be counted on to assist with a fundraiser in one way or another and their help, time, and efforts are greatly appreciated, but we can't keep going back to the same people time and time again without knowing that at some point they will no longer be willing to do this. And without you to take their place we will not raise the money we need to sustain us.

For example there is a committee currently working on our 75th Anniversary scheduled for April 12. The event, **Corned Beef and Klezmers**, will be a celebration of Temple Israel of Dover, and now will also celebrate Ann Isacoff's life and legacy for our Temple Israel family. There will be more on this in the coming weeks and we are looking for a large turnout. And that is also how you can assist with our fundraisers – buy tickets, of course, but also attend, invite friends and relatives and come and share good times, and help make it a very enjoyable evening.

And you can always write a check and make a donation to Temple Israel at any time.

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

February

- 7 Hebrew students and families
- 14 Patty & Andy Diengott
Stacey & Jeff Segil
- 21 Carol Birch
Mary Ritzo
- 28 Pot-luck Oneg

March

- 7 Magdalene & Joe Guardino
Melissa Cooperman
- 14 Glicka & Michael Kaplan
Maschia & Stephen Kaplan
- 21 Leesa Brill & John Wallace
Carol & Francis Birch
- 28 Beth & James Krzanowski
Julie Low & Jim Weiner

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 February!

Birthdays

- Haley Shine (2), Deborah Mueller (5), Heidi Kotlus (5), Jonathan Harris (11), Ruth Saunders (15), Sonia Ginsburg (21), Rabbi Sam Seicol (23), Rachel Farber-Caracoglia (24), Jonathan Flagg (25), Bruce Samuels (26), Carol Birch (28)

Anniversaries

- Lessa Brill & John Wallace (7), Marc & Lisa Weinstein (16), Colin & Eve Edelstein Williams (21), Evelyn & Charles Rogers (21)

Join us at Friday evening service
February 7, 7:15 PM
 as we offer our wishes for
January and February celebrants.

**Please Welcome
 our new members**

**Summer Roy & Josh Berger
 and family**

Thank you for all who donated In Memory of Ann Isacoff:

General Fund

Florence Pastor	Ellen Cohn	Bob & Marge Goldberg
David & Susan Waldman	Jayne Yaffe Kemp	Gary & Susan Kemp
Dr Robert & Fredda Zaiger	Renee Silverman	Martin & Carole Jaffe
Robert & Evelyn Lowell	Ethlyne Golub	Nancy Winograd
Carole Krassner	Rita Novak	

Capital Campaign:

David Cohen & Family

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

Cathi Cherry-Liston & Mel Liston

We celebrate the memory of Ann Isacoff with selections from her past Bubeh Meisehs and stories

Reflections and Memories

Today when a women buys a dress or a sweater, she says, "I got this at a boutique."

In our day it was simply called a "Women's Clothing Store"...What's with this 'boutique business?'

A friend of mine came over to me in shul the other day and said, "I just got a beautiful plaid woolen shirt in that men's boutique on the corner."

I started to laugh . You know what we called a "men's boutique"?...An Army Navy Store.

We didn't have Supermarkets in our day. If you wanted milk or cheese you went to the grocery store. If you wanted a light bulb you went to the hardware store....if you wanted a pickle you went to the appetizer store. Life was so simple in those years....We got exercise just by shopping....we didn't have to get up at 5:00 in the morning to run like a nut wearing a pair of shorts.

A ride on the trolley car cost five cents...the subway was five cents...a bus was five cents.

It was a simple life...



B'not / B'nei Mitzvah

2014

5774/5775

May 31

June 28

October 25

Adult Class

Abigail Kaye

Belle Giguere

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 February:

- 06 4:00-6:00 Religious School classes**
- 13 4:00-6:00 Religious School classes**
- 20 4:00-6:00 Religious School classes**
- 27 No Religious School — February Vacation**

From the Sisterhood

Sisterhood Meeting: Planning for the Future!

Wednesday Evening February 12, 2014 7:00pm

Join us at

Julie Serrano's Home (207) 384-4828
70 Main Street South Berwick, ME
(you can park on the street)

For a planning session for future events including:

- Temple Israel's 75th Anniversary
- Sisterhood Havdalah Service
- Art with a Splash

Please RSVP by February 10th to Julie or Stacey Segil

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. 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 one of the co-Presidents:

Stacey Segil sbsegil@gmail.com or 603 343-5789

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

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/>

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 effort 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

The Dover Chapter of Hadassah is offering greeting cards and certificates for purchase to help Hadassah fund the various charities and educational opportunities that they provide in Israel and elsewhere. Both cards and certificates come in a variety of styles.

A sample is pictured here.

We have many to others choose from. Cards are \$2.50/each; small certificates sell for \$5.00/each; and the trees are \$15/each. There are also Water Certificates (helping to keep the Israeli desert irrigated) cost \$18/each.

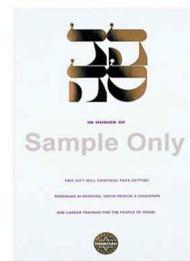
Please consider purchasing a card or certificate to mark a special occasion, offer get-well wishes, honor or congratulate someone, or offer expressions of sympathy. Small certificates and tree and water certificates can be inscribed with your wishes to the recipient; cards will be signed as you wish.

You may purchase the cards by calling Donna M. Goldfarb at (603) 749-3293 or (603) 674-9168.

Please have the name and address of recipient, as well as any message you would like to have on the card/certificate readily available when you call.

Checks for the purchase should be made out to The Dover Chapter of Hadassah and sent to: Ilse Stevens at 4 Razorbill Circle, Durham, NH 03824.)

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



JANUARY DONATIONS
FEBRUARY 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 Fund

Glicka Kaplan – Tu B'Shevat

Yahrzeit Donations

Cathi Cherry-Liston –

In memory of Bill Chernin

Carole Krassner –

In memory of Bruce Krassner, Ruth Talisman, Matthew Krassner

Florence Pastor –

In memory of Gertrude Berenson

Capital Campaign

Lessa Brill

Rabbi's Fund

Karen Mott

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. Adar and Adar I are remembered in Adar I.*

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 February 1: Abraham Levine (26), Laura Ossoff (26), Lewis J. Fisher (26), Libby Rothstein (27), Ida Siegel (27), Jack Cok (27), Irving Thorner (28), Milton H. Cooper (28), Ellen Silverman (28), Betty Karnefsky (29), Robert Davis Jr. (30), Jacob Potter (30), Anne Gray (30), Ree Becker (30), Theodore Davis (31), Lillian Miller (1), Sam Glosserman (1)

Week of February 8: Golda Zarrow (3), Shirley Traven (3), Marjorie Ellen Ryder (4), June Singer (4), Beatrice Newton (4), Robert Fox (4), Phyllis Klave (5), Louis H. Silverman (5), Norman Brill (5), Bruce Krassner (6), Micki Pastor (6), Joseph Nicole (6), Rachel Leah Tayyabkhan (7), Louis Horwitz (8)

Week February 15: Morris Marcus (9), Estelle Cooperman (10), Stephen Stocklan (11), Margaret Levor Gutman (12), Edward Baer (12), Ari Legerstee (13), Michael Stocklan (15), Bertram Marks (15)

Week of February 22: Daniel Newman (16), Helen Ruth Levy (18), Pearl Rosenthal (19), Bess Marcus (19), Rabbi Norman Gellar (19), Sophie Feldman (20), Sondra Rechy (20), Bette Aschkenasy (21), Sumner Levy (21), Esther Bravman (21), Max B. Sanders (22), Frank Anker (22)

Week of March 1: Ida Isacoff (23), Celia Pindrus (23), Lorraine Kotlus (24), George J. Feinberg (25), Duy Davis (25), Mary Low (26), Samuel Rosenberg (26), Joel Perlman (26), Eli Oil (27), Ida Barr (27), Patrick Jackson (27), Myer Siegel (28), Gertrude Isenstein (28), Mary Paisner (28), Arline (Lieber), Alan G. Rudolph (29)

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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(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

February 2014

Happening at Temple Israel of Dover

- 01** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Service
- 06** 4:00 Religious School Classes
- 07** First Friday Dinner and Early Shabbat
- 6:30 Pot-luck Family style Shabbat Dinner
- 08** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study
- 11:30 Shabbat Youth Service and Program
- Shabbat story and activity
- Second Saturday - especially for young children
- 13** 4:00 Religious School Classes
- 14** 7:30 Shabbat Service
- 15** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study
- 20** 4:00 Religious School Classes
- 21** 3:00 Visit to Langdon Place
- 7:30 Music & Meditation Shabbat Service
- 22** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study
- 27** **No Religious School Classes — February Vacation**
- 28** 6:00 Adult Hebrew class & dinner
- 7:30 Shabbat Service with Sue Horowitz