

KESHER

Our Seventy-Sixth
Year!

FROM RABBI SAM

Trees of Life

Leviticus 9:23-25 states, "When you enter the land and plant any kind of fruit tree, you shall regard its fruit as forbidden. For three years it is forbidden; it must not be eaten. In the fourth year all its fruit will be holy, an offering of praise to the Eternal. But in the fifth year you may eat its fruit. In this way your harvest will be increased. I am the Eternal your God."

In Rabbinic times this was expanded to include all food bearing trees in all places, not just in Israel at the time of the settlement of the land. There are writings that state that this is sound agricultural practice, especially for fruits most common to Biblical Israel (grapes, almonds, and dates).

Since the practice included an offering (read tree tax) as later interpreted, it became necessary to determine a communal way to measure the age of trees. The most accurate way was to read the rings but this was not the most beneficial to the life and health of the tree.

The Mishna, therefore, in the opening passage of Rosh Hashanna discusses and sets a date for the birthday of trees. This date is the 15th day (the time of the full moon) of the mid-winter month of Shevat (the peak of the rainy season in Israel). Trees planted the day before the 15th are one year old the next day. Trees planted the day of or the day after are not one year old for another 12-13

months (depending on whether it is a leap year or not).

While one might think it is a great idea to rush out and plant trees during the first week or so of Shevat and, thus, get the "tax benefit" of a full year out of a week or so; the Rabbis teach just the opposite. Planting of trees on or shortly after the 15th is considered to be the highest ideal. Trees become a symbol of delayed (and therefore heightened) gratification in life. Trees teach us to slow down, relax, and enjoy the times of life as they unfold.

One classic Tu BiShevat story brings this message from the Rabbis:

"The king was traveling one day when he spotted an old man planting a carob tree. [Carob trees take 30-40 years to produce edible fruit] 'Old man,' the king said, 'Do you expect to live long enough to reap and enjoy the bounty of your labor?' The old man put his shovel down and looked up at the king. 'Certainly not, you majesty! This tree will be enjoyed in fullness by my grandchildren. When I was young, I ate from that tree over there that my grandfather planted. And my children benefited from that tree there planted by my father. Now it is my turn to prepare the way for the generations that will come.'"

As we move our community forward let us remember what those before us did for us as they created trees of life in their generation. May we plant, always, for the generations that will follow after us.

Temple Israel Board of Trustees—2014-2015

Steve Brody, President
 Jeff Segil , Vice President
 Marc Weinstein, Treasurer
 Cathi Cherry-Liston, Corresponding Secretary
 Andy Diengott, Paul Pasternak, Peter Pastor, Stan Robbins
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TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 1:30 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 night service 7:00

Saturday mornings 10:30

- **Fri Feb 6** **7:00 First Friday Shabbat Service**
- **Sat Feb 7** **10:30 Shabbat Morning Service**
- **Fri Feb 13** **7:00 Shabbat Evening Service**
- **Sat Feb 14** **10:30 Shabbat Torah Study**
- 11:30 Tot Shabbat Program**
- **Fri Feb 20** **7:00 Third Friday Service**
- **Sat Feb 21** **10:30 Shabbat Torah Study**
- **Fri Feb 27** **7:00 Shabbat Evening Service**
- **Sat Feb 28** **10:30 Shabbat Torah Study**

**THANK YOU TO OUR
ONEG HOSTS**

February

- 6 Hebrew I & II families
- 13 Glicka & Michael Kaplan
Maschia & Stephen Kaplan
- 20 Mary & David Kaye
Carolyn Anderson and Phil Ginsburg
- 27 Pot-luck style: February vacation

March

- 6 Pot-luck style: Vacation week
- 13 Patty & Andy Diengott
Stacey & Jeff Segil
- 20 Sara Anderson
Julie Serrano
- 27 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:



Mazal Tov

to our members who are celebrating happy occasions in January!
**Join us at Friday Services
February 6, 7:00 PM
as we offer our wishes for
your special day.**

Birthdays

Haley Shine(2), 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), Stefanie Diamond (28)

**Please Welcome
Our New Member**

Mary Alice Prenaveau

We have not moved

***We are thriving and growing
Tell your friends***

**We now share the building with
Honey Tree Learning Center**

36 Olive Meadow Lane

**Our mailing address remains:
P.O. Box 254 Dover, NH 03821**

We celebrate the memory of Ann Isacoff

**From her tribute book — pick up your copy at the office
(donations in Ann's memory are welcome)**

Taken from Students' Papers (History of the World) - Part 1

1. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.
2. Jacob, son of Isaac, stole his brother's birthmark.
3. The mother of Achilles dipped him in the River Styx until he became intol-
erable.
4. In the Olympia games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits and
threw the java.



Religious School Classes

Religious School Supported Events
All ages are welcome at all events

February *(Shevat/Adar)*

1(12)	9:30	Religious School Classes
6(18)	7:00	Shabbat Service led by Hebrew 1&2
7(18)	12:00	Hebrew enrichment drop-in program
8(19)	10:00	Community Tu Bish'vat celebration
14(25)	12:00	Hebrew enrichment drop-in program
15(26)	9:30	Religious School Classes
21/22(2/3)	No Religious School—February Vacation	
28/01(9/10)	No Religious School—February Vacation	

Tu BiShevat Celebration

Sunday February 8 10:00 – 11:00

Celebration of Tree Foods

(Social Hall)



Please Note Service Times

Friday nights all services will begin at 7:00 PM

- First Friday will **either be** an earlier ending service 7:00 — 8:15 **or** a home-style dinner service with all blessings 6:30 — 8:00
- Third Friday will focus on music and meditations for Shabbat

Saturday mornings will begin at 10:30 AM

- First Saturdays and Bar/Bat Mitzvahs will be a full service
- All other Saturdays will be Torah Study
- 2nd Saturday tot-Shabbat program at 11:30 AM (Oct-May)

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.

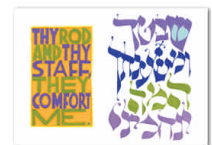
Please consider purchasing a card or certificate to mark a special occasion, offer get-well wishes, honor or congratulate someone, or offer expressions of sympathy. Small certificates and tree and water certificates can be inscribed with your wishes to the recipient; cards will be signed as you wish.

You may purchase the cards by calling Donna M. Goldfarb at (603) 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: Ilese Stevens at 4 Razorbill Circle, Durham, NH 03824.)

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



NOVEMBER DONATIONS

DECEMBER 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

Mr & Mrs Earl Prolman –
Donation gift from
Polly & John Flagg's Parents

Yahrzeit Donation

Cathi Cherry Liston –
In memory of
Lessa Brill's mother

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 loved one. To make a donation, please contact the Temple Office.

Week of February 7: Alfred Anderson (2), Isadore Stack (2), Harry Goodstein (3), Issac C. Kates (3), Gertrude Baer (4), Jane Wise (5), Jacob A. Rosenberg (5), Sue Ann Katz (6), Max Becker (6), Michelle K. Robbins (7), Daniel Berman (7), Marian Ruth Frankel (7), Gertrude Berenson (7),

Week of February 14: Thomas Weinbaum (8), Vivian Lafargue (8), Elizabeth Schoonmaker (9), Frances Davis (9), Jacob N. Paisner (12), Abraham Levine (14), Laura Ossoff (14), Lewis J. Fisher (14)

Week of February 21: Jack Cook (15), Ida Siegel (15), Libby Rothstein (15), Irving Thorner (16), Milton H. Cooper (16), Ellen Silverman (16), Betty Karnefsky (17), Ree Becker (18), Jacob Potter (18), Robert Davis Jr. (18), Theodore Davis (18)

Week of February 28: June Singer (22), Phyllis Klave (24), Louis H. Silverman (24), Norman Brill (24), Bruce Krassner (25), Micki Pastor (26), Peter L. Hooz (26), Joseph Nicole (26), Rachel Leah Tayyabkhan (26), Anne Gray (30)

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.*

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Steve Brody*

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Rabbi:

Sam Seicol

rabbisam@dovertemple.org

Administrative Assistant:

Tammy Fascetta

**TempleOffice@
dovertemple.org**

February 2015

@ Temple Israel of Dover

01 9:30 Religious School Classes

04 Tu BiShevat – Birthday of trees

06 7:00 First Friday Shabbat Led by Hebrew 1&2

07 10:30 Shabbat Morning Service

12:00 Hebrew Enrichment Program

08 10:00 Community Tu Bish'vat Celebration

13 7:00 Shabbat Service

14 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study

11:30 Tot Shabbat Program

12:00 Hebrew Enrichment Program

15 9:30 Religious School Classes

20 7:00 Third Friday Shabbat Service

21 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study

22 No Religious School – February Vacation

27 7:00 Shabbat Service

28 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study