

# KESHER

Our Seventy-Sixth  
Year!

FROM RABBI SAM

## When is Shavuot?

The question may sound strange. The other Holy Days, holidays, and festivals are clearly set by either the Torah, later Biblical and post-Biblical books, or the Rabbis. There is some early debate on the tree tax festival but it is quickly resolved in favor of the full moon of Shevat rather than the new moon.

Shavuot is the only fixed time that is not fixed in and of itself. Rather it is set in relationship to Passover. It is stated that there will be the counting of an Omer for a week of weeks, culminating in a Festival of weeks. The issue of dating Shavuot derives from the ambiguity of when to begin the counting of the Omer.

In Leviticus 23:11 (and again in vs 15) the count is said to begin on “the day after the Shabbat” and continue for 49 days. The next day, the fiftieth, is then the festival of Shavuot. In Deuteronomy 16:9 the count is to begin on the day the “sickle is first put to the standing grain”.

In the case of Deuteronomy a society that is not primarily agrarian most will have little to relate to with this statement. There is also an issue that the exact date of the “first sickle” might change from year to year and place to place.

Leviticus seems, at first glance, to be simpler to determine. The passage is written in the context of the Passover dates and ways of observance. Thus the counting would

seem to be connected to the timing of the Shabbat within the Passover (festival of the Matzot) 7 days. On this basis, Shavuot would always be on the Sunday seven weeks after the beginning of Passover.

There is some evidence that some segments of the post-Biblical Israelite world did, in fact, interpret the passage this way. The Pharasaic tradition that rose to be the Rabbinic tradition, however, did not accept this simple interpretation. They determined that the word “Shabbat” in this particular context meant the first day of the Passover observance and not the actual Shabbat during the week of the festival. Thus the date of Shavuot can fall on any week day but is fixed to the end of the first week of Sivan (two months after Nisan — the month in which Passover falls).

The early Reform movement moved the Shavuot observance to the Sunday seven weeks after Passover and connected the celebration of Confirmation to that date.

The answer to the question, then, that is the title of this month’s article leads to a discussion of the philosophy and the practice of holiday timing and observance here at the Temple.

For the most part, we schedule our celebration of the Torah holidays on the date defined by the Torah. For the minor festivals, we are more flexible about the day we choose to gather and observe. Shavuot, of the major holidays, offers the opportunity to schedule for convenience.



# **From the Board**

# **2015 Annual Meeting Agenda**

## **9:30 am - June 7, 2015**

**All are welcome to join us — Members in good standing may vote**

**D'Var Torah - Rabbi Sam**

**Welcome from the President**

**Election of Officers and Trustees**

**Comments from the Rabbi**

**Secretary's Report - Steve Brody**

**Treasurer's Report - Marc Weinstein**

**2015-2016 Budget - Marc Weinstein**

**Committee Reports**

**Ritual - Cathi Cherry-Liston**

**Cemetery – Cathi Cherry-Liston**

**Religious School – Rabbi Sam**

**Membership – Tammy Fascetta**

**House and Grounds – Peter Pastor**

**Sisterhood – Stacey Segil**

**Youth Group (COASTY)**

**Update and status on our tenants**

**Open for Congregation comments**

**Closing comments from the President**

**Date of 2016 Annual Meeting TBD**

**Adjournment**

**Steven Brody, President**

**[president@dovertemple.org](mailto:president@dovertemple.org)**

**THANK YOU TO OUR ONEG**

**May**

- 1 Pot-luck Oneg – Vacation week
- 8 Pre-K to 2nd grade families
- 15 Sponsors needed  
Please contact the office or Cathi (listed below)  
To volunteer to help out
- 22 Shavuot Dinner Service
- 29 Sharon & Steve Brody

**June – August**  
Pot-luck Oneg

**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 May

Join us at Friday evening service on **May 8, 7:00 PM**

as we offer our wishes for your special day.

**Birthdays**

- Naomi Kaplan (1), Noah Kahn (2), Harrison Flagg (3), Ari Hiller (3), Sage Hiller (3), Steve Giguere (3), Melissa Cooperman (3), Joe Guardino (5), Michael Parkin (6), Lessa Brill (6), Ethlyne Golub (7), Jeff Raven (7), Tatiana Davino (8), Carole Jaffe (8), Karen Mott (16), Robert Costa (19), Penina Wallace (20), JordanaKotlus (24), Naomi Kornhauser (25), Noah Raven (26), Lauren Saltman (28), Austin Kotlus (31), Lois Costa (31)

**Anniversaries**

- Jeffrey & Marjorie Raven (27), Andrew & Patty Diengott (29)

**Celebrate with our New Members**

**Save the date**

**Friday June 19 6:30 PM**  
**BBQ & Barechu**  
**Cookout dinner**

# Calling all tots

All are **WELCOME** to join us

**Third Saturday Shabbat Experience**

**10:30 - 11:15 Shabbat morning service**

Especially designed for students and families during the years before celebrating a Bat or Bar Mitzvah. All are welcome to attend all services at the Temple.

**11:15 - 11:45 Torah Parade and Songs**

This portion of the Shabbat morning experience has been designed for families with children under 5 to join in. Each child will carry her/his own plush Torah as we sing then read and study directly from the Torah. Each child will also receive a special take-home activity sheet.

## 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 3**

12. Miguel Cervantes wrote "Donkey Hote".
13. John Milton wrote "Paradise Lost." Then his wife died, and he wrote "Paradise Regained".
14. Christopher Columbus was a great navigator who discovered America while cursing about the Atlantic. His ships were the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Fe.

# Religious School Sponsored

*Religious School Supported Events*

*All ages are welcome at all events*

May *(Iyyar/Sivan)* [Omer]

17(28)[43]      10:00 Religious School - Last Day

22(5)[49]      6:30 Last Night of the Omer

Shabbat / Shavuot Dinner — Pot Luck

All are welcome to attend this Dairy Dinner

Blintzes provided by the Temple

**Vegetarian or Dairy dishes only**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SISTERHOOD SPONSORED AT**

**HACKMATAACK THEATER**

**"DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS"**



*Please Note Service Schedule*

**Friday nights all services  
will begin at 7:00 PM**

**1st Friday** (check the monthly schedule):

an earlier ending service 7:00 — 8:15

or

a home-style dinner service with dinner  
blessings and study 6:30 — 8:00

**3rd Friday** Prayer Study/Music/Meditation

**Saturday mornings  
will begin at 10:30 AM**

**3rd Saturday** full service with tots at 11:15

**All other Saturdays** Torah Study

# 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](mailto: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](http://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 time slot 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](mailto:abbwelch@yahoo.com) or 534-4142*



## APRIL DONATIONS

*All are encouraged to honor the memory of loved ones and/or to offer tributes to friends, relatives and members of the community through a donation Temple funds.*

*We express our appreciation to:*

## Rabbi's Fund

Bertha & Ken Litvak -  
*In honor of the marriage of  
Adam and Venita*

### 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.

## MAY YAHRZEITS

**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 May 2:** James Dieterich (26), Grace Turner (26), Lloyd Amann Gage (26), Ursula Muller Gage (26), Douglas Hamilton (27), Jackson Pastor (27), Herbert Turner (28), Sarah Fisher (28), Louis Weinstein (28), Lillian Hirsch (28), Bernard A. Black (30), Nathan Balansky (30), Michael S. Shine (30), Evelyn M. Miller (30), Ida Fox (1)

**Week of May 9:** Rose Levy (3), Sadie Goldstein Byer (4), Eva Weisner (4), Ruth Karol (4), Sumner Berensom (6), Morris Isenstein (7), Honey Shaines (7), Brenda Gibbs (9)

**Week of May 16:** Beryle Grant (11), Leonard Berenson (11), Irvin Lavine (11), Benjamin Babson (12), Donald Albion (13), Samuel Klave (13) Anna Kessler Krasnoff (14), Elbert LaFargue (15), Molly Cook (15), Richard Nye, Jr. (16), Irving Landes (16)

**Week of May 23:** Marshall Derby (17), Benjamin A. Weiner (18), Rose Goren (20), Bernard Kornhauser (23), Anne Stack (3), Laurel Silverman (23)

**Week of May 30:** George Sibulkin (24), Susan Fine (24), Stuart Boughton (25), Samuel Fishman (26), Beatrice Wehrwein (26), Phillip Willensky (27), Louis Smith (27), Edgar Pass (29), Sumner Cohen (29), Hyman E. Novak (30), Robert Davis (30)

**Week of June 6:** Bette Yaffee Kemp (1), Anne Golub (2), Dr. Samuel Cohen (2), Irwin Behrendt (2), Arthur Gershman (2), Sadie Wolfson (3), Rose Rosenberg (4), Laura Garr (4), Joseph Peters (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

36 Olive Meadow lane  
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  
president@dovertemple.org  
*Rabbi:*  
Sam Seicol  
rabbisam@dovertemple.org  
*Administrative Assistant:*  
Tammy Fascetta  
TempleOffice@  
dovertemple.org

# May 2015

## Happening at Temple Israel of Dover

- 01** 7:00 Lay Led service
- 02** No Shabbat Torah Study
- 03** No Religious School Classes – April Vacation
- 08** 7:00 Shabbat Service – preK – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- 09** 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study  
2:00 Adult Hebrew Study – Genesis Chapter 1
- 10** No Religious School Classes – Mother’s Day
- 15** 7:00 Third Friday Study, Music, & Meditation
- 16** 10:30 Third Saturday Shabbat Service  
11:15 Tots and families join for Torah parade  
2:00 Adult Hebrew Study – Genesis Chapter 1
- 17** 10:00 Religious School Classes – Last day
- 23 – 25 Shavuot**
- 22** 6:30 Shavuot / Shabbat Dinner — Dairy / Vegetarian
- 23** No Shabbat Torah Study
- 29** 7:00 Shabbat Service
- 30** 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study

# ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN



Color in Moses, the 2 tablets of stone, and the mountain.  
Make a list of your own 10 most important family rules.