

KESHER

FROM RABBI SAM

Reform Jewish Spirituality Part 3

We left off last month with the way that Hebrew provides some direction for creating analogies and definitions of spirituality. In Hebrew the words for spirit derive from the words for wind and breath. There is no word for “soul” or “spirit” in the modern sense in classical or Biblical Hebrew. But the word “*ruach*” (wind or air) is often translated as “spirit” and “*n’shama*” (breath) is generally “soul”. A third word, “*nefesh*”, is also related to the idea of breath and might be translated as “animating life essence”.

Air, breath, wind, and - certainly - the animating essence of life are unseeable and intangible in the classical world view and were best understood by their effects on other more identifiable and measurable entities (the wind moving the clouds or trees, the breath moving a feather held under the nostrils). We can still not pin down or truly measure the animating essence that is the difference between life and non-life. Thus we can view the spirit (the unmeasurable essence of our meaning, value and purpose in life) in the way that it is expressed through all that we do (by way of thoughts, feelings, and actions).

I will explore these pathways to the spirit (and the ways the spirit can be expressed or experienced in a future part of this series. For this month, the idea of the spiritual being ultimately unmeasurable but fully expressed in the perceptual world will suffice.

Thus, human spirituality can be seen as a 3 dimensional system that parallels the 3 dimensional perceptual (physical) world we can experience and measure. A more full discussion of this analogy and the “spiritual illusion” it can lead to can be found in the November Rabbi article on the Temple website.

A second aspect of Hebrew that helps inform my model of spirituality is the concept of time as seen through the use of verb forms in classical Hebrew. In the Torah and classical Hebrew, there are only two basic verb tenses. The perfect tense is generally translated as the past in English. It refers to those actions that have been completed. The other - the imperfect - is usually translated as the future in English. The present tense as defined in English, in Hebrew refers to both the action (ongoing) and the actor. Thus the Hebrew “present” tense can be treated as a noun as well as a verb. Consider the bread blessing “*Hamotzi*” is both bringing forth and the one who brings forth <bread from the earth>.

Thus the present is viewed as a non-measurable point defined by the past and the future that surrounds it. In a spiritual context, this would seem to indicate that we are ultimately defined by where we have been and the meaning we have placed upon that in relationship to where we seem to be going and the purpose we find in that. How we balance that will be the topic of Part 4 in this series.

Temple Israel Board of Trustees—2015-2016

Steve Brody, President

Marc Sklar, Treasurer

Cathi Cherry-Liston, Secretary

Andy Diengott, Carole Krassner , Ken Litvak, Paul Pasternak,

Peter Pastor, Stan Robbins, Julie Serrano

Stacey Segil & Karen Mott, Sisterhood Representatives

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 evening services 7:00

Saturday mornings 10:30

Please note special programs

Friday Nov 6 7:00 1st Friday Shabbat Service

Saturday Nov 7 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study

Friday Nov 13 7:00 Friday Shabbat Service

Saturday Nov 14 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study

11:30 Thanksgiving Choir

1:00 Adult Hebrew I - 3rd class

Friday Nov 20 7:00 3rd Friday Shabbat Service

Saturday Nov 21 10:30 Full Shabbat Service

11:15 Tots' Torah Parade

11:30 Thanksgiving Choir

1:00 Adult Hebrew I - 4th class

Friday Nov 27 7:00 Friday Shabbat Service

Saturday Nov 28 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study

From the President's Yom Kippur Greeting

On Rosh Hashanah I paraphrased John F Kennedy and said ask not what Temple Israel of Dover can do for you, but rather what you can do for Temple Israel of Dover. Apparently it was not just Kennedy that I paraphrased but I was reminded later that day that Sharon said the same words about 8 years ago or so when she stood up here and addressed you as President.

In a recent conversation I had with several members – both long time and relatively new - I asked what brought them to Temple Israel of Dover. I was expecting to hear different reasons from each but I did not. Instead, although not using the same words, the reasons were very close - they felt like they were becoming part of a tribe, and as such they were with others that shared the same interests, concerns, desires, wants, needs, and most of all, religion.

And the tribe needs help. We need help on the Board of Trustees, the tribal council, if you will, and we need help with the tasks involved in running a tribe. So what can you do?

First, although it sounds scary, we need to add members to the Board of Trustees to fill the vacancies, and there are several. We currently need a Vice President and 5 Trustees. Of the Trustee positions two will fill unexpired terms ending in June 2016, two will fill unexpired terms ending in June 2017, and one will fill an unexpired term ending in June 2018. The VP position is until June 2017. This is a great chance to try it out and if it works for you and the Temple, then it is a win-win..

The commitment to be on the Board is to attend the monthly meetings and to assist in setting the goals and direction of the temple community. If you can't make a meeting or two, no problem – life happens. And there is no mandatory or expected financial commitment other than that your financial commitment is current. That's it!

It would be great if we have a VP or Trustee who is willing to step up to the Presidency, and we will have an opening in June 2017 when my current term expires, but that is not a requirement of being VP or a Trustee. The only requirement for any of these positions is the commitment to our tribe - Temple of Israel of Dover - and its future success.

We also need to staff committees. One of the important additions we have made very recently, and it has been long overdue, is a Caring and Community Committee. The importance of this committee is highlighted due to the part-time status of Rabbi Sam and it will fill a critical niche that we have been missing. The Committee will be co-chaired by Julie Serrano and Cathi Cherry-Liston. They, in conjunction with Rabbi Sam and Tammy Fascetta in the office, are working out the details of the committee, but basically if you or your family have a need due to illness or death, please call Tammy in the office, or Julie, or Cathi, or me, and we as a team will make sure your needs are met to be best of our ability. If you are interested in assisting on the committee, and no special skills are needed, please talk to Cathi or Julie, or me or Rabbi Sam.

We do not have a Membership Committee and that is another critical void we need to fill. You don't need to be in Marketing, Advertising, or Sales to be on the Committee – you need to have a desire to help us grow our community in all age brackets, whether it is the empty nesters or families with young children, or anywhere in between.

Fund Raising is another missing ingredient. If you have an idea for a fund raiser talk to me and even better would be if you tell me you are willing to work on it. The Board tackled the problem of finances and a home but we still need extra income to secure the future.

Now we need to complete the other side of the equation and grow the membership and expand the community, and we do that by getting our committee structure back to functioning status. I know we are all busy, have lots of other things to do, have children active in sports and other activities, all of which put demands on your personal tribe's time. **But now the larger community could use some of your time.** And if you are not a member, or know someone who is not, we would be glad to answer any questions. Member, or not, all are always welcome at Temple Israel here in Dover.

May this year be a good year, a sweet year, for you and yours. Shana Tova.

Steve Brody, President

president@dovertemple.org

**THANK YOU TO OUR
ONEG HOSTS**

November

- 6 Holly & Ken Grossman
Bev & Mike Kahn
- 13 Sandy Rodeffer & Paul Pasternack
Lisa and Marc Weinstein
- 20 DeeDee and David Goldstein
Peter Pastor
- 27 Pot Luck - Thanksgiving weekend

December

- 4 Religious School families 3rd-7th
- 11 Pot-Luck - Chanukah celebration
- 18 Eve Edelstein Williams & Colin Williams
Naomi Kournhauser & Michael Behrendt
- 25 Pot Luck - Winter Vacation

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 your family by purchasing a leaf, stone, or acorn on the Tree of Life.

Plaques in the Sanctuary honor the memory of a loved one.

For more information, contact: **Tammy Fascetta** in the Temple office.
templeoffice@dovertemple.org



Mazal Tov

to our members who are celebrating happy occasions in November!

**Join us at Friday Services
November 6 at 7:00 PM
as we offer our wishes for
your special day.**

Birthdays

Rachel Saltman 1, Dahlia Wechsler 5,
Helen Segil 7, Derrick Kotlus 13,
Jenny Kaplan 15, Lisa Weinstein 19,
Frederick Diengott 20, Jessica Costa 22

Anniversary

James & Elizabeth Lieberman 1,
Mark & Karen Hiller 5,
Michael & Glicka Kaplan 11,
Cathi & Mel Liston 26

JOIN US

**Annual Thanksgiving
Interfaith Service
7:00 PM**

**St Joseph's Catholic Church
150 Central Ave, Dover**



B'not Mitzvah 5776 / 2016

May 14

Rachel Saltman

May 28

Helen Lieberman

Religious School Sponsored Events

Religious School Classes

All are **WELCOME** at all events

November

- | | | |
|-----------|------|--|
| 1 | 9:30 | Religious School Classes (<i>DST ended last night</i>) |
| 8 | 9:30 | Religious School Classes |
| 15 | 9:30 | Religious School Classes |
| 22 | 9:30 | Religious School Classes |
| 29 | | No Religious School Classes - Thanksgiving weekend |

December

- | | | |
|-----------|---------|--|
| 4 | 7:00 PM | First Friday Shabbat Service led by grades 3-7 |
| 6 | 9:30 | Religious School Classes |
| 13 | 10:00 | Latke/Sufganiyot Party |
| 20 | 9:30 | Religious School Classes |
| 27 | | No Religious School Classes - Winter Vacation |



CALLING ALL MUSIC LOVERS

DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

**Join the Temple Israel
Thanksgiving Service Choir**

Sunday November 22 - Meet at 6:45
St. Joseph's Catholic Church
150 Central Ave, Dover

- Attend at least one rehearsal recommended
- Rehearsals Saturday November 14 and 21 11:30

RSVP to rabbisam@dovertemple.org
if you plan on singing in the choir



Please Join Us

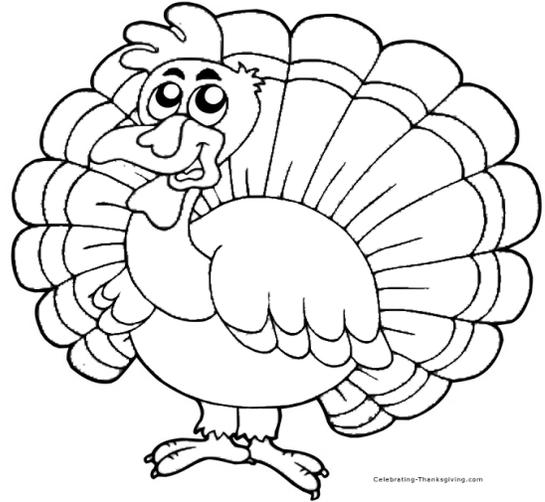
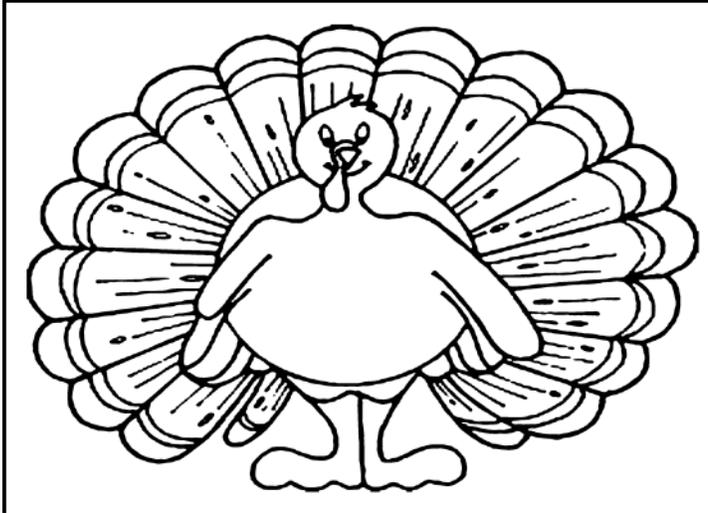
Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

7:00 PM

**St Joseph's Catholic Church
150 Central Ave, Dover**



ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN



Give your Turkeys a Hebrew name and color them in.



Use one color for Pri Haeitz (fruit of the tree)

Use another color for Pri Ha'adama (fruit of the ground)

Use a third color for Pri Hagafen (grapes - fruit of the vine)

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 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 or 534-4142

OCTOBER DONATIONS

NOVEMBER YAHRZEITS

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 appreciation to:

General Fund

Hollie Jaffe -

In appreciation for
the warm welcome and
Hospitality during the visit from out
of town

Cantorial Fund

**To all who supported
the High Holy Days and
the music of our
Cantorial presenters**

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 November 7: Hyman L. Pindrus (2), Burton Golub (2), Bessie Lichten (3), Herbert Cohen (3), Barbara Kates Comenitz (4), James Bockman (6), Alexander Willens (6), Herman Seperson (6), Morris Fine (6), Barney Grossman (7)

Week of November 14: Seymour Osman (9), Martha Magerer (11), Sadie Cook (13), Katherine H. Edelstein (13), Gerald Fine (13)

Week of November 21: Abraham Fisher (21), Frances Anderson (15), Bessie W. Young (16), Eileen Platania (16), Gussie Flescher (17), Julius Weiner (17), Richard Rowe (19), BaurcardNesin (19), Fannie Krasnow (19), Barnett H. Book (20), PieretteZinck (21)

Week of November 28: Faye Shear (22), Lawrence Felsenberg (22), Edward Seperson (22), Lillian Smith (23), Ruth E. Fain (24), Mildred Lane (25), Newton B. Cohn (26), Joseph P Giffen (28)

Week of December 5: Sarah Zirpolo (29), Morris Levy (30), Sidney Zeff (30), StatiaNesin (30), Arnold M. Baer (1), Morris Isacoff (2), DavidaGelfman (3), Selma J. Nasberg (3), Deborah Most (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
president@dovertemple.org
Rabbi:
Sam Seicol
rabbisam@dovertemple.org
Administrative Assistant:
Tammy Fascetta
TempleOffice@dovertemple.org

November 2015

- 01** 9:30 Religious School Classes
DST ends Sunday morning 2:00 AM – “FALL BACK”
- 03** 3:45 Dover Friendly Kitchen volunteer time
- 06** 7:00 First Friday Shabbat Service
- 07** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study
- 08** 9:30 Religious School Classes
- 13** 7:00 Shabbat Service
- 14** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study
11:30 Thanksgiving Service Choir Rehearsal
1:00 Adult Hebrew I - NJOP Hebrew Reading Course
- 15** 9:30 Religious School Classes
- 20** 7:00 Third Friday Shabbat Study, Music, & Meditation
- 21** 10:30 Third Saturday Shabbat Service
11:15 Tots and families join for Torah parade & reading
11:30 Thanksgiving Service Choir Rehearsal
1:00 Adult Hebrew I - NJOP Hebrew Reading Course
- 22** 9:30 Religious School Classes
7:00 Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
St. Joseph’s Catholic Church (150 Central Ave)
- 27** 7:00 Thanksgiving Shabbat Service
- 28** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah study
- 29** No Religious School Classes - Thanksgiving