

# KESHER

Our  
Seventy-Eighth  
Year!

FROM RABBI SAM

## Reform Jewish Spirituality Part 16

In order to now move into Jewish Spirituality as a subset of the general area of human spirituality, it is necessary to understand Judaism in its broadest view. If Judaism were simply a religion, then it would fall in the realm of the communal segment of the “Wheel” see the second page beginning July 2016 of the Rabbi Article for a discussion of the “Wheel of Human Spirituality”. As seen in parts 11-14 of the Rabbi Study on the website, religion is primarily seen as a communal process.

Religions are based in and derive from communal systems, with individual opportunities for belief or faith. As can be seen from the “Wheel” a God concept is not an intrinsic part of the system. Where God is in the process of human spirituality is both a personal and internal aspect and an external “other”. God from a “religious” viewpoint is found in the communal pathway and is defined in more or less strict ways by the “religion”.

While Judaism from Torah through Rabbinic interpretation and development and into modern times has God as a part of the system, it is fundamentally action

based and not faith based. The core operative word at the heart of Judaism is *halacha* meaning the way to walk or go. *Emunah* “belief of faith” is an extension of and underlying part of the Jewish theological system. Issues of theology, philosophy, and metaphysics are certainly in the mindset of the leaders of Judaism in all its ages and stages; but the emphasis and majority of rules, discussions, rituals, and rites focus on action and practices not on the validity or necessity in the belief of the participant.

Because of that essential quality, however, Judaism cannot be defined simply as a religion. From its earliest roots and expanded and developed into Rabbinic and modern Judaism, there were also elements of family, and society built into the Jewish order of daily, Shabbat, holiday, and social structures.

God was experienced initially and, in many ways, throughout the full course of Jewish growth as the one who created and transmitted all that was needed to be a part of the Jewish community. Elements of a personal “God” grew into Judaism but no true mandate ever fully developed.

Part 17 will explore this further.

## Temple Israel Board of Trustees—2016-2017

Steve Brody, President  
Marc Sklar, Treasurer

Ken Litvak, Vice President  
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Noah Albion & Nathan Pastor, COASTY Representatives

### 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*.

email to:

Rabbi Sam Seicol  
rabbisam@dovertemple.org

## Shabbat @ Temple Israel

Friday evening services 7:00

Dinners & Adult Ed 6:30

Saturday mornings 10:30

*Please note special programs*

Friday Dec 2 7:00 Shabbat Evening Service  
Led by the Religious School students

Saturday Dec 3 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study

Friday Dec 9 7:00 Friday Shabbat Service

Saturday Dec 10 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study

Friday Dec 16 6:30 3rd Friday Adult Education

7:30 Shabbat Music & Meditation

Saturday Dec 17 10:30 Full Shabbat Service

Friday Dec 23 7:00 Friday Shabbat Service

Saturday Dec 24 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study

11:30 Adult Hebrew Introduction

Friday Dec 30 7:00 Shabbat / Chanukah

Candle Lighting / Songs / Book Exchange

Saturday Dec 31 10:30 No Service or Torah Study

## From the Board

My husband scrunches his face. My dad tells me he's proud. I am humbled. My first experience being part of a *Chevra Kadisha*, Burial Society (literally, holy society) was many years ago at the request of Rabbi Sidney Rothstein. His wife, Shirley, had passed, and he wanted her body prepared in this burial tradition. Our newly formed *chevra* had no experience. Maybe one or two were nurses. Rabbi Lev guided us through the steps, with his back turned, and recited prayers at the appropriate times.

What I remember most about the *Taharah*, purification, of Shirley, is the silent, tenderness with which she was held in the arms of this holy group of women. With modesty and respect, warm water and soft cloths were used for cleansing. Our loving hands dressed Shirley in her linen shroud. *For God has clothed me in garments of deliverance and wrapped me in a cloak of justice... (Isaiah 61: 10-11)* After *Taharah*, we each whispered a personal prayer for forgiveness to Shirley for any mistakes or indiscretions we may have unintentionally committed.

In October and November this year, two Jewish families reached out to our Temple in search of a *Chevrah Kadisha*. Both times, Julie Serrano and I performed this burial ritual. We used our Jewish knowledge, our hearts and spirits, and an online guide of the *Taharah* procedures on these two occasions. Rabbi Sam assured us we could undertake this *mitzvah*.

The prayer Julie and I recited together upon completing *Taharah*: *Creator of the Universe, we have just completed our act of g'milut chesed for (here we added the deceased's name). We thank You for the strength and courage to perform this mitzvah. We appreciate this sacred fellowship and cherish the bond that has brought us together.*

Julie and I would like to expand this *Chevra Kadisha*. With Rabbi Sam's guidance, YouTube demonstrations, and practice, we would like to begin this training in early 2017. Please watch for more info via the Weekly Update, *Keshet*, and our website.

Cathy Cherry-Liston, Secretary

**THANK YOU TO OUR****December**

- 02 Religious School families 3rd- 7th
- 09 Mary Alice Prenaveau  
Jo McLean
- 16 Mary and David Kaye
- 23 Pot-Luck - Winter Vacation
- 30 Pot-Luck - Chanukah celebration

**January**

- 6 Patty and Andy Diengott  
Stacey and Jeff Segil
- 13 Pot Luck Style - MLK weekend
- 20 Carolyn Anderson & Phil Ginsburg
- 27 Holly and Ken Grossman

**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,**



**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: the Temple office.**

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

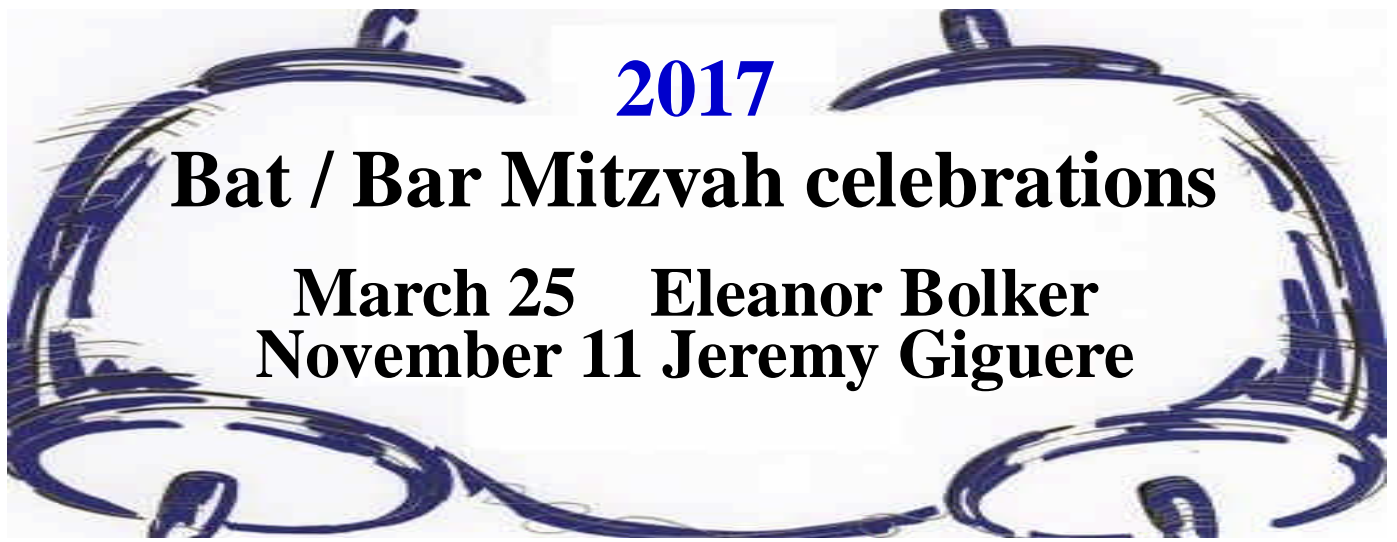
**Mazal  
Tov**

to our members who are celebrating  
birthdays in December!

**Join us at Friday Services  
December 2 at 7:00 PM  
In honor of your special day.**

**Birthdays**

Michele Samuels (1),  
Rita Robbins (2),  
DeeDee Goldstein (4),  
Burton Cohen (6),  
Mort Cherim (7),  
Jerrold Pollak (8),  
Brendon Kotlus (15),  
Arthur Saunders(21),  
Marc Weinstein (23),  
Louisa Samuels (26),  
David Goldstein (29),  
Michael Kaplan (30),  
Abigail Kaye (31)



**2017**

**Bat / Bar Mitzvah celebrations**

**March 25 Eleanor Bolker**  
**November 11 Jeremy Giguere**

**Religious School Sponsored Events**

**Religious School Classes**

All are **WELCOME** at all events

**December**

- |           |                |   |
|-----------|----------------|---|
| <b>02</b> | <b>7:00 PM</b> | <b>First Friday Shabbat Service led by grades 3-7</b> |
| <b>04</b> | <b>9:30</b>    | <b>Religious School Classes</b>                       |
| <b>11</b> | <b>9:30</b>    | <b>Religious School Classes</b>                       |
| <b>18</b> | <b>9:30</b>    | <b>Religious School Classes</b>                       |
|           | <b>11:30</b>   | <b>Latke/Sufganiyot Party</b>                         |
| <b>25</b> |                | <b>No Religious School Classes - Winter Vacation</b>  |

**January**

- |           |             |  |
|-----------|-------------|--|
| <b>01</b> |             | <b>No Religious School Classes - Winter Vacation</b> |
| <b>08</b> | <b>9:30</b> | <b>Religious School classes (DST ends)</b>           |
| <b>15</b> | <b>9:30</b> | <b>Religious School classes</b>                      |
| <b>22</b> | <b>9:30</b> | <b>Religious School classes</b>                      |
| <b>29</b> | <b>9:30</b> | <b>Religious School classes</b>                      |

**2 NEW ADULT EDUCATION SERIES**  
**Saturdays (except 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday) 11:30-**  
**12:30AM**

**Adult Hebrew and Jewish Studies**

**Dec 24 – Feb 25 Basic Hebrew reading skills**

**Mar 4 – May 6 Myths & Monsters in Judaism**

**Check the Temple Calendar at [www.dovertemple.org](http://www.dovertemple.org) for all services and events**

**All are **WELCOME** at no charge**  
**to all Adult Education Classes at Temple Israel Dover**  
**For more information email: [rabbisam@dovertemple.org](mailto:rabbisam@dovertemple.org)**

**Please Join Us**

**Annual Latke/Sufganiyot**

**Sunday December 18 11:30 AM**

**Pre-Chanukah Celebration**

**Following Religious School**

**All are **WELCOME** to attend**

# MONTHLY MEDITATION



The first full moon of winter - sinking behind the trees;  
Soon to wane and shrink - nights to grow longer, darker.  
Our festival of lights returns - Chanukah candles will glow.  
Songs and prayers fill the homes and hearts;  
Families reunite to tell the stories of old.  
Eat, play, rejoice - sing of the past; pray for the future.

# 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*



## NOVEMBER DONATIONS

## DECEMBER 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

Warren Goldblatt and Pamela Schultze-Goldblatt

Elizabeth Smally and Amare Cantare

Carole Krassner in honor of Elle Harris's Bat Mitvah and the Religious School Ad

## Music Fund

Cathi Cherry-Liston

Patty and Andy Diengott

Jim and Beth Lieberman

Ken and Bertha Litvack

Jeff and Stacey Segil

**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 December 3:** Barney Grossman (27), Seymour Osman (28), Martha Magerer (30), Katherine H. Edelstein (1), Sadie Cook (1), Gerald Fine (1), Abraham Fisher (3), Frances Anderson (3)

**Week of December 10:** Bessie W. Young (4), Eileen Platania (4), Gussie Flescher (5), Julius Weiner (5), Richard Rowe (7), Baurcard Nesin (7), Fannie Krasnow (7), Barnett H. Book (8), PieretteZinck (9), Faye Shear (10), Lawrence Felsenberg (10), Edward Seperson (10),

**Week of December 17:** Lillian Smith (11), Ruth E. Fain (12), Mildred Lane (13), Newton B. Cohn (14), Joseph P Giffen (16), Sarah Zirpolo (17)

**Week of December 24:** Morris Levy (18), Sidney Zeff (18), StatiaNesin(18), Arnold M. Baer(19), Morris Isacoff(20), Davida Gelfman(21), Selma J. Nasberg(21), Deborah Most(22), Gert Sternberg (24), Rita Peters (24)

**Week of December 31:** Rose Cohen (25), James Green (25), Arnold J. Ashline(26), Robert Goren(26), Rabbi Aaron Ilson(27), Jean Lafargue (28), Milton Brody (28), Catherine Most (28), Jacob H Cohen (28), Eva Gordon Baer (30), Minnie Cooper (30), Bernard Fine (30), Ralph Noveletsky (31)

## 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.

## 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**  
*Temple Office*  
**TempleOffice@dovertemple.org**

# December 2016

- 02** 7:00 First Friday Shabbat Service –  
Led by Religious School students
- 03** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study
- 04** 9:30 Religious School Classes
- 09** 7:00 Shabbat Service
- 10** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study
- 11** 9:30 Religious School Classes
- 16** 6:30 Adult Education – Jewish history and customs  
7:30 Third Friday Shabbat Music & Meditation
- 17** 10:30 Third Saturday Shabbat Service
- 18** 9:30 Religious School Classes  
11:30 Religious School sponsored pre-Chanukah party  
Annual Latke/Sufganiyot making and eating
- 23** 7:00 Shabbat Service
- 24** 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study  
11:30 Adult Hebrew I – Introduction and overview
- 25** No Religious School Classes – Winter Vacation
- 30** 7:00 Shabbat / pre New Years Eve / 7<sup>th</sup> night of Chanukah  
No Dinner or Services - Candle Lighting, Songs, Book Exchange
- 31** 10:30 No Shabbat Service or Torah Study