

# KESHER

Our  
Seventy-Eighth  
Year!

FROM RABBI SAM

## Reform Jewish Spirituality Part 19

In Deuteronomy 6:5, following the words of the *Shema*, the words known as the *V'ahavta* are recorded. This paragraph of the *Shema* and *V'ahavta* became, for the Rabbis, the central statement of faith in their development of Synagogue Judasim in the post-Temple world. They stated that it was to be recited twice a day - every morning and every evening - and made it the central element of a communal worship service. It is preceded by two blessings (the first is a recognition of God's presence in the works of creation and the second in God's loving revelation of the Torah) and followed by a blessing recognizing God's role in Israel's redemption from Egypt. In the evening, there is an additional blessing of God's role in watching over each person as s/he sleeps.

Thus, for the Rabbis, this paragraph became the essential statement of Judaism's spiritual foundation. Communal worship, while a *Mitzva* and, therefore, an activity of mandated practice, focuses on pathways to spiritual enhancement and awareness. The primary goal of prayer in Judaism is not to create a sense of doing and activity for the

individual and relationships to others; rather prayer is intended to strengthen the sense of meaning for each in relationship to the self and others.

In the *Shema* and *V'ahavta* this relationship is to be based in a love of God to be taught and reinforced at all times across the generations. The love of God, the paragraph states, involves each individual through the *Lev*, *Nefesh*, and *M'od*. The downward facing triangle of the Jewish Spirituality model (found on page 2 of the February and March Rabbi Study articles on the website) has these three words at each vertex. They are listed in the Hebrew terms as the English translation can be less representative of both the Biblical intention and the use in spiritual definition.

*Lev* is usually translated as heart but may be closer to the modern idea of mind or the seat of thought. It represents the rational aspect of the self. *Nefesh* or soul is better seen as the emotional self. *M'od* is the most slippery of the three to define as the basic word is not a noun but an adverb meaning "very". It is often seen to encompass all aspects of a person that is not included in the previous two.

The spiritual use will be in April.

# Temple Israel Board of Trustees—2016-2017

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## 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 consid-  
erations.

The deadline for submis-  
sion is the twentieth (20th)  
of the month for the fol-  
lowing 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 Mar 3 6:30 Shabbat Across America  
Pot-Luck Meat/Vegetarian Dinner (No Dairy)

Saturday Mar 4 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study  
11:30 Adult Ed - Myths & Monsters

Friday Mar 10 7:00 Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday Mar 11 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study  
11:30 Adult Ed - Myths & Monsters

Friday Mar 17 6:30 3rd Friday Adult Education  
7:30 Shabbat Music & Meditation

Saturday Mar 18 10:30 Full Shabbat Service

Friday Mar 24 7:00 Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday Mar 25 10:30 Full Shabbat Service  
Bat Mitzvah of Eleanor Bolker

Friday Mar 31 7:00 Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday Apr 1 10:30 Shabbat Torah Study  
11:30 Adult Ed - Myths & Monsters

## From the Board

This year, on the new moon in June, I will celebrate my fifteenth year as a Jew. I originally came to Temple Israel to be in congregation with others who honor the Divine. I come from a varied spiritual background: born into the Catholic faith, studied and practiced Zen Buddhism with my son, who was ordained as a priest in this tradition last spring. Outside of Judaism, my ground path, I am also an adherent in the practice of Sufism which I understand as my esoteric path. With the exception of Zen, you could say I have been following the streams of Abraham.

I lived in a predominately Jewish community in Great Neck, Long Island from fifth grade through eighth grade. Many of my friends came from the Jewish tradition. I was present as a witness for the important Bar Mitzvah celebrations of several boys in my class. I was so very impressed by the ceremony of the event and awed by the knowledge my friends displayed. I also felt, as a non Jew, it was as a great honor to be included. In my adult life, I often and regularly asked friends to take me to Temple being unaware that they did not attend themselves.

In the process of a Sufi course on administering end of life spiritual care, we were requested to be supervised by someone active as a clergy. I felt at a loss for choices. Suddenly, one year later....it was a long course....at a stop light in Dover, I thought of "that young Rabbi" who I intuited carried so much light. I made a call to Rabbi Lev Baesh. He said, "Sure c'mon over and we'll look at it together". We worked together for a bit and he invited me to services. When I attended, I immediately felt at home with the service and the congregation. It was the beginning of my immersion in Judaism.

I continued to feel inspired and comfortable at Temple Israel. Eventually, in the middle of another eight year deep study of Sufism, my teacher, an American Imam, that is a teacher and interpreter of the Qur'an, told me in no uncertain terms that I needed a ground path with rules if I was to advance spiritually. I laughed and said, " Well, I've been hanging out with Jews every Friday night for two years." Imam Bilal, whose name means -the slave of G-d- said, "Ah, that is perfect...perfect for you!" I related this conversation to Rabbi Lev. Now he laughed and said, "Remember we talked about not if but when you would convert." I am smiling at this writing as I remember the ceremony that very special day when we drove together to the Temple in Portland with a mikveh. I smile wider as I also remember that Cathi Cherry-Liston was the witness at my conversion.

Since that time, I continue to feel grounded and full with the richness of Judaism. Singing with other members at High Holiday Services is very special. With three other women, I celebrated a B'not Mitzvah. I have served the community on the board through several stressful transitions and with three Rabbi's. Currently, what feels very emotionally sad for me is the lack of community participation. I have experienced the exuberance of a much larger congregation here at Temple Israel and long for its return. Honoring the Divine in community is very important to me and I particularly invite YOU to come and join this richness here at Temple Israel!!

Thank you for listening to my story.

Julie

**THANK YOU TO OUR****March**

- 3 Shabbat Across America Dinner  
 10 Karen Mott  
 Bridget Jameson  
 17 Lois & Robert Costa  
 24 Bolker-Bixby Family iho Eleanor  
 31 Melissa Brahms & Mark Manganiello  
 Julie Serrano

**April**

- 7 Cathi Cherry-Liston / Carole Krassner  
 14 Jill & Bill Schoonmaker  
 21 Carol & Francis Birch  
 Lessa Brill & John Wallace  
 28 Pot-Luck - Spring Vacation Week

**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: the Temple office.**

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

**Mazal  
Tov**

to our members who are celebrating birthdays in March

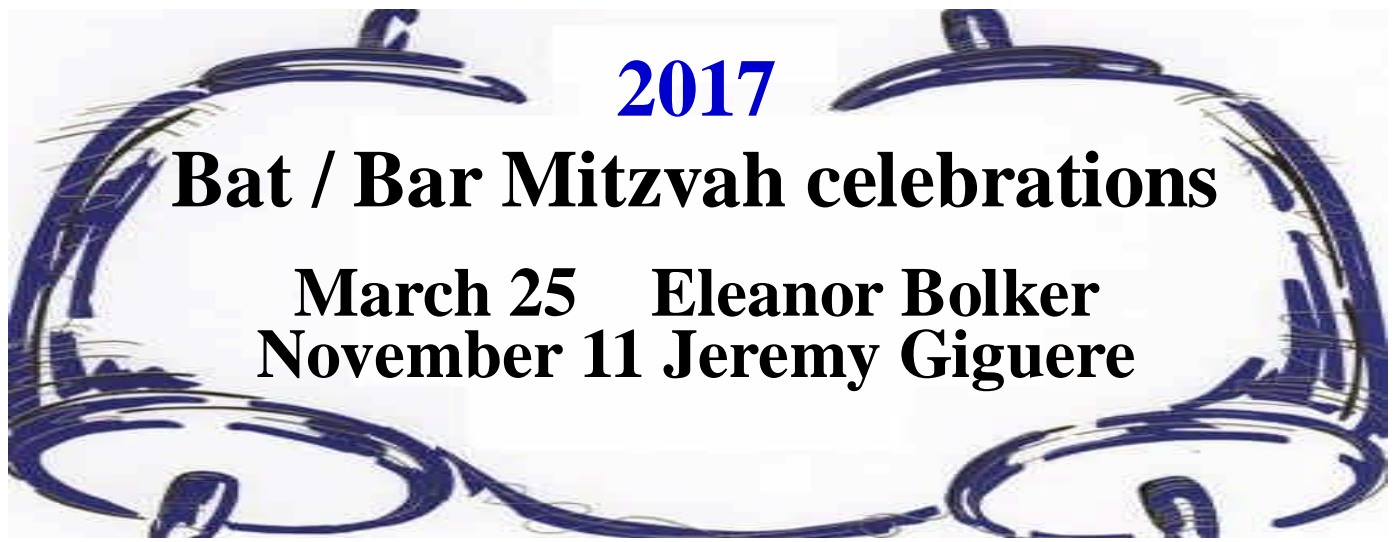
**Join us at  
 Shabbat Across America  
 March 3 at 6:30 PM  
 In honor of your special day.**

**Birthdays**

Eric Miller (1), Ken Grossman (8),  
 Lisa Wolff (9), Evan Saltman (14),  
 Elizabeth Lieberman (20),  
 Alan Nasberg (25),  
 Patricia Diengott (28),  
 John Wallace (29),  
 Jonathon Venne (30)

**Anniversaries**

Anne & Marc Saunders (2)  
 Naomi Kornhauser &  
 Michael Behrendt (8)  
 Lauren & Jonathan Harris (24)  
 Susan & David Richman (24)



## Religious School Sponsored Events

### Religious School Classes

All are **WELCOME** at all events

#### March

<b>05</b>		<b>No Religious School Classes - February Vacation</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>Religious School classes</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>11:00</b>	<b>Purim Shpiel and Party</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>Religious School classes</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>Religious School classes</b>

#### April

<b>02</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>Religious School classes</b>
<b>09</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>Religious School classes</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>5:30</b>	<b>Community Seder - 2nd night of Passover</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>Religious School classes</b>
<b>23</b>		<b>No Religious School Classes - Spring Vacation</b>
<b>30</b>		<b>No Religious School Classes - Spring Vacation</b>

***NEW ADULT EDUCATION SERIES***

**Saturdays 11:30-12:30AM**

**Adult Jewish Studies**

**March 4, 11, April 1, 8, 22, 29, and May 6**

**Myths & Monsters in Genesis**

**From the Torah and Midrash**

**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)**

**Join us for **Purim****

**Shpiel and Hamentaschen**

**Sunday March 12 11:00 AM**

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

**Costumes encouraged**

# MONTHLY MEDITATION



## For Purim

**No jesting here - or at least this is JEST here to say:  
Iquana celebrate Purim in merriment and joy!  
Achashveros had to Vashti Queen right out of his hair;  
Mordecai adopted Esther since he had no heir.  
Haman appeared as if out of thin air;  
His visions of grandeur caused the Jews to beware.  
Eat, drink, tell the story, and for others now we care!**

# 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*



## JANUARY DONATIONS

## FEBRUARY 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

Carole Krassner...

...in honor of

Steve Giguere's promotion

...In memory of

Ruth Talisman,

Matthew Krassner,

Bruce Krassner

## 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 if you desire.

rabbisam@dovertemple.org

**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 March 4:** Theodore Davis (26), Lillian Miller (27), Norman Torf (27), Moe Rosenblum, Sam Glosserman (27), Golda Zarrow (1), Nancy Medoff (1), Shirley Traven (1), Marjorie Ellen Ryder (2), Beatrice Newton (2), June Singer (2), Robert Fox (2), Phyllis Klave (3), Norman Brill (3), Louis H. Silverman (3), Sheila Kaplan (3), Debbie N. Most (3), Bruce Krassner (4), Micki Pastor (4), Joseph Nicole (4)

**Week of March 11:** Rachel Leah Tayyabkhan (5), Peter L. Hooz (5), Louis Horwitz (6), Jerry Slutzky (6), Morris Marcus (7), Estelle Cooperman (8), Helen Krassner (8), Max David Mendelovitz (8), Herbert Cohen (9), Ida Wenig (9), Corinne Wiseman (9), Stephen Stocklan (9), Edward Baer (10), Margaret Levor Gutman (10), Katie Robbins (10), Ari Legerstee (11)

**Week of March 18:** Bertram Marks (13), Michael Stocklan (13), Daniel Nerwman (14), Helen Ruth Levy (15), Louis Samuels (16), Pearl Rosenthal (17), Margie Blandig (17), Bess Marcus (17), Rabbi Norman Geller (17), Sophie Feldman (18), Sondra Rechy (18), Rose Baumstein (18)

**Week of March 25:** Esther Bravman (19), Sumner Levy (19), Bette Aschkenasy (19), Deeda Wharton (19), Max B. Sanders (20), Frank Anker (20), Rosamond Hiller (20), Celia Pindrus (21), Ida Isacoff (21), Lorraine Kotlus (22), Duy Davis (23), George Feinberg (23), Mary Low (24), Samuel Rosenberg (24), Joel Perlman (24), Patrick Jackson (25), Ida Barr (25), Eli Oil (25)

**Week of April 1:** Myer Siegel (26), Gertrude Isestein (26), Mary Paisner (26), Arline Lieber (26), Alan Cohen (27), Alan G. Rudolph (27), Ruth Pindrus (28), Haskell Kram (28), Ruth H. Toby (29), Anna Bezar (1), Dora Dorf (1)

## 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.*

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# March 2017

- 03** 6:30 Shabbat Across America  
Pot-Luck Meat/Veg Dinner (No Dairy)
- 04** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study  
11:30 Adult Education – Myths & Monsters  
5:30 South Church in Portsmouth  
Interfaith Candlelight Walk
- 05** **No Religious School – February Vacation**
- 10** 7:00 Shabbat Service
- 11** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Torah Study  
11:30 Adult Education – Myths & Monsters
- 12** 9:30 Religious School Classes  
**11:00 Purim Shpiel and Feast**  
**Daylight Savings Begins - “Spring Forward”**
- 17** 6:30 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Adult Education  
7:30 3<sup>rd</sup> Shabbat Music & Meditation
- 18** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Service
- 19** 9:30 Religious School Classes
- 24** 7:00 Shabbat Service
- 25** 10:30 Shabbat Morning Service  
Bat Mitzvah of Eleanor Bolker
- 26** 9:30 Religious School Classes
- 31** 7:00 Shabbat Service