

Services

No Kabbalat Shabbat Evening Service

Friday, July 4th

Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, July 11th & 18th from 5:45 PM – 6:15 PM ***Zoom only***

Beach Shabbat at Goddard Park with potluck dinner to follow

Friday, July 25th at 5:30 PM ***In person only* *see attached flyer***

No Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, July 5th

Morning Shabbat

Saturday July 12th, 19th & 26th at 9:30 AM *** In Person & Zoom***

Tuesday Minyan

Tuesday, July 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th at 5:30 PM ***Zoom only***



Wishing you all a Safe & Happy 4th!!!!

Temple Office Hours week of 4th of July Holiday

Monday, June 30th Closed

Tuesday, July 1st 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Wednesday, July 2nd 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Thursday, July 3rd 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Friday, July 4th Closed



Praying That We Are Not Aimlessly Wandering in the Desert

When the Israelites wandered in the desert, I wonder if at any point they truly hoped they were finally heading in the right direction to reach the promised land? Perhaps they convinced themselves that their journey would have to end at some point because they could not wander forever, right? So, imagine their joy when they received some indication from the powers-that-be that they were getting closer to their destination; then imagine their disappointment, their sadness when they realized that the promised land was not at all in sight...

This is where my mind goes as I listen to the news from the Middle East. Ever since the atrocities of October 7, 2023 occurred, I wondered when Israel would reach their destination of security and peace among its Arab neighbors. No matter how many hostages are returned to their families and no matter how many missiles are dropped on the enemy, it seems that the promised land of an end to the war and bloodshed in the Middle East is nowhere in sight.

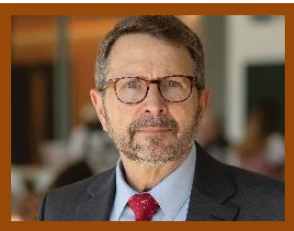
I pray that Israel's leaders are not leading our people aimlessly around the desert, and as I pray for their courage to not only make war but to achieve peace I lean on the incredible history and perseverance of our people to take the long-view.

We are the people of Tikva, of hope. As we sing during the Israeli national anthem "Hatikvah Bat Shnot Alpayim" (the hope has lasted for two-thousand years). From the Middle Ages to Modernity, from Nigeria to North America, whenever and wherever Jews have lived, we have never given up hope of reaching the promised land. At the same time, our hope is nourished by action. As Theodor Herzl famously said, "Im Tirtzu Ein Zo Aggadah" (if you will it, it is no dream). In every generation we march forward in pursuit of our dreams. And when it seems as if we have veered off course, we remind ourselves that there is a time for everything under the sun -- a time to adapt and a time to push forward; a time to listen and a time to speak up; a time to say no and a time to say yes.

Let us pray together that the direction of our Promised Nation, the nation of Israel, will soon and speedily reach the Promised Land of peace and security with their Arab neighbors. And let us pray, as vested stakeholders in the centuries' journey of the Jewish People, to find the courage to take action if our promised land remains out of sight for too long.

With blessings and prayers for more peaceful and secure days, weeks, and months ahead for all of Israel.

Rabbi Ari Y. Saks



President's Message

I am sincerely honored to be the board president for another year. Over the past three years, I've established meaningful relationships with many temple members. Attending an occasional Family Friday Night service, the year-end Religious School program, or a b'nai mitzvah service, I've witnessed the impact our religious school experience has on our young people. I've expanded my own Jewish learning, listening to the Rabbi's teachings during services and in adult education classes. These experiences have only deepened my sense of

belonging to this congregation and my desire to serve, so I thank you for giving me this fourth year.

As you hopefully all know by now, Rabbi Saks has agreed to serve as our rabbi for another year. Not only will he come to TTY from a number of Fridays through Sundays throughout the year, but he will also make himself available to members at certain hours during the week. More details will be available soon.

If you attended his class on Sunday, June 20th, you know he spent a lot of time preparing materials to help us understand the ancient connection between the people of Israel and modern-day Iran. It was helpful to understand an important aspect of the current conflict in that historical context. It was also a concrete reminder of the connection the Jewish people have to the land of Israel, going back over one thousand years before the birth of Islam. In response to a member's request, he began at 10:00am instead of 9:00am. Still, only seven people came to learn and to take advantage of the work he but put into the lesson. Everyone I speak with tells me how happy they are to have Rabbi Saks here. If you appreciate the effort he puts into being our Rabbi, please consider coming to his Sunday morning classes. I know he would be very pleased to have more people join in.

As I mentioned in last month's bulletin, Hillary Guttin and the teachers will be back next year. Those of you with children in the school will hopefully agree that our program has only gotten better this past year. I expect you will see even more improvements in the coming year. We are blessed with so many young families that have children in the school and to have such a strong program. One problem that has come up though is that we had many graduating

students. It is certainly not a terrible problem to see them grow up and move on, but it means our enrollment for the coming year may be down. The board is doing what it can to contain costs and limit any tuition increase but we could use your help here too. If you know of any unaffiliated families with children who are age appropriate for Sprouts up to the fourth grade, please ask them to consider joining our temple and enrolling their children in the school.

Over the next few weeks, you will see a more intensive push to secure as large a commitment as possible for the Capital Campaign. It will make life so much easier if we can lower the interest rate on our mortgage and our bank has expressed a willingness to do that if we can make a sizeable payment toward the loan's principal. When you are contacted, please agree to speak with the board member who is reaching out. If nothing else, they would like to speak with you about the things that would make the temple more meaningful for you.

I want to finish by once again thanking all of you for the opportunity to serve as board president for another year. Thanks again to those of you who have given me your invaluable support, advice and friendship. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming year.

L'Shalom,

Michael



Librarian's Corner

The Anatomy of Exile: A Novel by Zeeva Bukai

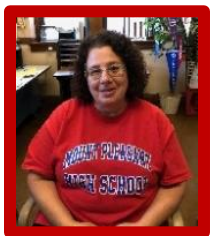
The Abadi Family saga begins when a modern-day Romeo and Juliet story between a Palestinian and a Jew ends in predictable tragedy. The family flees to America to mend, but encounters only more turmoil that threatens to tear the family apart.

In the wake of the 1967 Six Day War, Tamar Abadi's world collapses when her sister-in-law is killed in what appears to be a terror attack but what is really the result of a secret relationship with a Palestinian poet. Tamar's husband, Salim, is an Arab and a Jew. Torn between the two identities, and mourning his sister's death, he uproots the family and moves them to the US. As Tamar struggles to maintain the integrity of the family's Jewish Israeli identity against the backdrop of the American "melting pot" culture, a Palestinian family moves into the apartment upstairs and she is forced to reckon with her narrow thinking as her daughter falls in love with the Palestinian son. Fearing history will repeat itself, Tamar's determination to separate the two sets into motion a series of events that have the power to destroy her relationship with her daughter, her marriage, and the family she has worked so hard to protect.

This powerful debut novel explores Tamar's struggle to keep her family intact, to accept love that is taboo, and grapples with how exile forces us to reshape our identity in ways we could not imagine.

Enjoy your summer!

Laura Steele



Sisterhood

Sisterhood ended our calendar year with a wonderful potluck lunch on June 8th. We elected our board for next year, reviewed our events of the past year and began thinking of activities for the upcoming year. We also heard our treasurer's report and are happy to report that Sisterhood is in good financial shape. We are very happy to say that our whole board has agreed

to return. We will be meeting soon to plan our calendar for next year.

Our big event is the upcoming crafts fair scheduled for Nov. 2, 2025. We are in the early planning stages and are looking for crafters for that day. An application will be out soon. We also have a committee and can always use more help. You don't have to be a Sisterhood member to join. If interested in selling your craft or being on the committee, please email us at tysisterhood@gmail.com.

Please check out our Facebook page as we may be listing some informal get-togethers to keep us connected over the next few months. Wishing everyone a wonderful summer and try to stay cool.

Sincerely,

Leah-Coke Ross-Coke and Marion Woolf
Co-Presidents



Message from Ways and Means

Successful Mah Jong Tournament at Torat Yisrael

On June 1st, Torat Yisrael hosted a highly successful Mah Jong tournament, demonstrating the community's growing interest in this traditional game.

The event was a success, both in terms of enjoyment and fundraising. Participants enjoyed a day filled with strategic play, good food, and a shared passion for Mah Jong. The positive feedback from attendees highlights the event's success and has already sparked anticipation for the next tournament.

"We're thrilled with the enthusiasm everyone showed," and we're looking forward to hosting more tournaments in the future."

Warm regards, Elaine Shapiro and Jo-Ann Antin

Rabbi Saks will not be in Rhode Island the month of July

He will return in August the weekend of:

August 22nd – 24th

SAVE THE DATE:

**Rabbi Saks will be leading Beach Shabbat at Goddard Park
on Friday, August 22nd AT 5:30 PM**



Honoring Sheryl Ponder for 20 Years of Service at Temple Torat Yisrael!!

We are thrilled to celebrate Sheryl Ponder's remarkable 20-year tenure as our dedicated Office Manager. Throughout these two decades, Sheryl has been the cornerstone of our office, exemplifying exceptional leadership, unwavering commitment, and an inspiring work ethic.

Sheryl's ability to manage day-to-day operations with grace and efficiency has not only kept our office running smoothly but has also fostered a positive and collaborative environment for all. Her dedication, attention to detail, and warm demeanor have left an indelible mark on our team and Temple Torat Yisrael as a whole.

As we reflect on her outstanding contributions, we express our deepest gratitude and appreciation. Sheryl's impact extends beyond her professional achievements; she has touched the hearts of her colleagues and our congregants and set a standard of excellence that will be cherished for years to come.

Thank you, Sheryl, for your 20 years of invaluable service. Wishing you all the best in your future endeavors, filled with happiness, health, and continued success. We look forward to celebrating many more joyous milestones together.

In Our Torat Yisrael Family



Mazel Tov to everyone celebrating a Birthday in July!

Matilda Guyer-Osborne (9 years old), Wyatt Weiss (9 years old), Helen Davis, Stephan Goldman, Sabrina Weiss, Taylor Pezza (11 years old), Elaine Salinger, David Bojar, Fredy Norin (20 years old), Mynde Siperstein, Dr. Dale Steele, Dr. Sarah Levy, Hannah S. Cohen (11 years old), Jaime Cohen, Mallory Kaminski (10 years old), Jenn Schwab, Joseph Shapiro, Ethan Truman Antin (18 years old), Jonathan William Antin (18 years old), Joan Bookbinder, Barbara Karetny, Dana Sholes and Maya Pamina Revkin (11 years old).

Mazel Tov to everyone celebrating an Anniversary in July!

Mr. & Mrs. Alan Kaplan (52 years), Mr. & Mrs. Lary Norin (25 years), Drs. Naveh & Sarah Levy (24 years), Mr. & Mrs. Scott Libman (32 years), Dr. & Mrs. Adam Niedelman (21 years), Deborah Burka & Joseph Theroux (16 years).

Our Torat Yisrael Community Acknowledges with Thanks the following

Generous June 2025 Donations:

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Cecil Abbotsen
-Sue Abbotsen
In Memory of Joan Abbotsen
-Sue Abbotsen
In Memory of Faye Birenbaum
-Beverly Rotenberg
In Memory of Hyman Blasbalg
-Arnold & Ruth Blasbalg
In Memory of Gerald Carlin
-Paul J. Carlin
In Memory of Rose Eisenstadt
-Ray Immerman
In Memory of Gregory Goikhman
-Zinoviy Goikhman
In Memory of Lotte Hirsch
-Helen Davis
In Memory of Debra Mann
-Beverly Paris
In Memory of Stanley L. Musen
-Steven Musen
In Memory of Joslin "Jos" Ross
-Lynn Field
In Memory of Trudy Rotenberg
-Barry Rotenberg
In Memory of Miriam Schindler
-Laurie & Stephan Goldman
In Memory of Marc L. Sholes
-Steven & Dana Sholes
In Memory of Samuel W. Tapper
-Michael Tapper
In Memory of Rose Tishler
-Catherine L. Copp
In Memory of Sophia Tonkover
-Sofya Tonkover & family
In Memory of Sidney Volin
-Kenneth Gray

Get Well Wishes to David Wasser

-Ruth Ross

In Memory of Zachery Weintraub

-Melissa Pezza

In Memory of Louis Weisman

-Peter Silverberg

MYER GROSSMAN FUND

In Memory of Myer Grossman

-Paul Grossman