



Services

Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, February 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd from 5:45 PM – 6:30 PM ***Zoom only***

Youth Shabbat led by Rabbi Saks

Friday, February 23rd at 5:30 PM ***In person only*** ***see attached flyer***

Morning Shabbat

Saturday, February 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th at 9:30 AM *** In Person & Zoom***

Free Kiddush Luncheon on February 24th

Tuesday Minyan

Tuesday, February 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th at 5:30 PM ***Zoom only***

Events

February Events

Temple Blood Drive in TTY Social Hall: Sunday, February 4th from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM ***see attached flyer***

Yad Chessed Winter Item Collection: Donate to the Temple thru February 4th

Rabbi Saks Schmooze with TTY by Zoom from Israel: Sunday, February 18th Time: TBD

Men's Club URI Basketball Game: URI Rams v. Loyola Chicago Ramblers

Sunday, February 18th at 12:00 PM ***see attached flyer***

Adult Education at TTY with Rabbi Saks: Sunday, February 25th from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Sprouts: Sunday, February 25th from 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM ***see attached flyer***

Cohen School Talent Show: Sunday, February 25th from 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM ***see attached flyer***

Sisterhood: RISD Museum & maybe Lunch @ Maven's: Sunday, February 25th Time TBD

Adult Education online course with Rabbi Saks: 8-session via Gratz College: Beginning February 26th

The Great RI Challah Bake at Temple Emanu-el: Thursday, February 29th at 6:00 PM

March Events

Laugh the Night Away 2 Comedy Night at TTY: Sat. March 2nd at 7:00 PM ***see attached flyers***

Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Katz: Saturday, March 9th at 10:00 AM

Men's Club Breakfast with Rabbi Saks as Guest Speaker: Sunday, March 10th at 9:00 AM

Friday Night Live (FNL): Friday, March 15th at 6:00 PM

Sisterhood Shabbat Service: Saturday, March 23rd at 9:30 AM

Purim Feast: Saturday, March 23rd at 6:00 PM

Adult Education with Rabbi Saks: Sunday, March 24th from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Sprouts: Sunday, March 24th from 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Purim Carnival: Sunday, March 24th at 12:00 PM



Taking my family to Israel

I'll never forget my first experience touching down on Israel's Ben Gurion Airport tarmac. In those days international flights allowed passengers to exit the plane on the tarmac just so we could kiss the ground upon arrival. My heart leaped as I kissed the ground and felt the thrill of arriving for the first time in our very own Jewish state, the State of Israel.

Nowadays you can't kiss the tarmac, as flights roll up to the gate like at most international airports. But the thrill of arriving in Israel is just the same. Likewise, though I've been to Israel multiple times in my life, each journey of pilgrimage to our homeland makes my heart leap anew.

In just a few days, Rachel and I will be going with our kids Jonah (10) and Lilah (8) on our first family trip to Israel, a trip we've been planning for around 9 months. If you asked me at this time last year if we would go as a family to Israel at this stage of our kids' lives, I would have said "No, let them wait to go on a teen or young adult program when they could really experience all that Israel has to offer." For a variety of personal reasons, Rachel and I decided to consider the idea of going to Israel as a family now, however, we were still not convinced until we both took a moment to imagine walking up to the Western Wall with our kids. In our mind's eye we watched them put notes in its holy cracks. Immediately we both started to cry, and we knew then we had to go and experience Israel anew as a family.

Fast forward to the terrible events of October 7th and, for reasons I think everyone could understand, Rachel and I started discussing if it was safe for us to make the trip. We decided to keep our plans after being assured by people in-the-know that we are not physically at risk from the war's dangers. However, we are going with eyes-wide-open to the emotional risks of exposing our children to how the war is being experienced by Israeli society at large. What will our children think the first time they see large signs and protests demanding the government bring home hostages? Will they notice soldiers moving to and from the front lines of Gaza (and the Syrian border)? Will they sense the anxiety and unease that comes from a society reeling from the most devastating destruction of Jewish life in a single day since the Holocaust and a war that does not seem to be ending any time soon? I do not have good answers to these questions, but the truth Rachel and I discovered in the tears that convinced us to bring our kids to Israel, a discovery that occurred when "October 7th" was just a regular date on the calendar, is that the emotional and spiritual benefit an Israel trip could provide the tender, budding Jewish souls of our children is the most invaluable gift we, as their Jewish parents, could give them. And that gift may be more valuable now than it was prior to October 7th, 2023.

I have been very lucky to receive the gift of an Israel trip many times over in my life, most recently leading a congregational trip in the Spring of 2022. Through these trips, I developed a deep appreciation for our *Eretz Hakodesh*, our Holy Land, and a connection with the people to the point I celebrate every Israeli breakthrough, I cry after every terrorist attack, and I pray every day for peace for all its citizens and residents. Visiting Israel infuses me with spiritual strength, and I know that this trip will be no different. But what *will* make this trip different is that once we touch down on Ben Gurion's tarmac in just a few short days, Rachel and I will witness the hearts of our *children* leap as nourish our Jewish souls anew, together as a family. And that is a gift I will truly cherish, especially today.

With many blessings,

Rabbi Ari Saks

February Events

Blood Drive at TTY Social Hall
[Sun. Feb 4th; 8:30am-12:30pm](#)

Yad Chesed Winter Item Collection
[Donate to TTY thru Feb 4th](#)

Rabbi Saks Schmooze w/TTY by Zoom from Israel

[Sun. Feb 18th; Time TBD](#)

Men's Club URI Basketball Game

[Sun. Feb 18th; 12:00 pm](#)

Adult Education at TTY with Rabbi Saks

[Sun. Feb 25th; 9:00 am](#)

Sprouts

[Sun. Feb 25th; 9:30 am](#)

Cohen School Talent Show

[Sun. Feb 25th; 12:30 pm](#)

Adult Education online course with Rabbi Saks: 8 Session via Gratz College
[Beginning February 26th](#)

Sisterhood RISD Museum & maybe lunch @ Maven's

[Sun. Feb 25th; Time TBD](#)

The Great RI Challah Bake at Temple Emanu-el
[Thurs. Feb 29th; 6:00 pm](#)

March Events

Laugh the Night Away 2
[Sat. Mar 2nd; 7:00 pm](#)

Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Katz
[Sat. Mar. 9th at 10:00 AM](#)

Men's Club Breakfast w/Guest Speaker, Rabbi Saks

[Sun. Mar. 10th at 9:00 AM](#)

Friday Night Live (FNL)
[Fri. Mar 15th; 6:00 pm](#)

Sisterhood Shabbat Service

[Sat. Mar 23rd; 9:30 am](#)

Purim Feast

[Sat. Mar 23rd; 6:00 pm](#)

Adult Education with Rabbi Saks

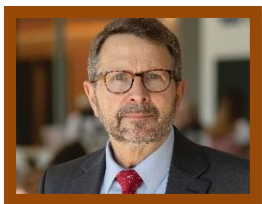
[Sun. Mar 24th; 9:00 am](#)

Sprouts

[Sun. Mar 24th; 9:30 am](#)

Purim Carnival

[Sun. Mar 24th; 12:00 pm](#)



Shalom fellow Congregants.

First things first. I am very excited to share with you that Rabbi Saks will be our rabbi for another year. The board voted unanimously to offer him another contract and for those of you who missed the last Friday Night Live service, Rabbi Saks said he is very happy to have had this year with us and is enthusiastically looking forward to a second year at TTY. He will be back Friday, February 23. Join others for Shabbat services that weekend or stop by Sunday

during religious school hours to let him know how you feel.

For those of you who do not know, Lary Norin owns several rock wall climbing studios (Rock Spot Climbing). He generously offered to host a TTY Family Night at his Wakefield studio and a number of members, including several young people, turned out. Even the rabbi was there, tackling a number of walls. Everyone had a great time and I'm hoping to get some pictures posted in the temple lobby. Thank you, Lary.

On a recent Sunday, Rabbi Saks met with a group of parents of children in our religious school to explore some ideas to deepen a sense of Judaism among our young people and to keep them engaged after their b'nai mitzvah. It was the first of several discussions that will take place over the next eighteen months. If you are the parent of a child in the religious school and wanted to attend but were unable to do so, please feel free to attend the next meeting. A date has not yet been confirmed but should be announced sometime before the second week in February. Be on the lookout.

You may be tired of seeing the advertisement in the updates that come from the office, but I want to remind you one more time about the blood drive on February 4 between 8:30am and 12:30pm. Heather Robenhymer from the Rhode Island Blood Center reminded me that the Blood Center needs an average of 250 donations every day. That may seem like an exaggerated number but many blood components just do not last very long so donations are needed daily. Our goal is to collect 15 donations, but I learned that many years ago, 32 TTY members donated blood. Please help us reach many more than 15 donations. Perhaps we can better this old record.

Ways & Means still needs more items for this year's auction. Elaine Shapiro specifically mentioned that donations of scratch lotto tickets and gift cards of various types would be particularly helpful and easy for you to do. Restaurants and other businesses that you frequent regularly are good prospects for donating gift cards. You could also ask them to be a sponsor, in which case we will prominently advertise their business at the event. Sponsorship levels are \$150, \$250 and \$500. For a \$250 donation, the donor can get one ticket to the event; for a \$500 donation, the donor can get 2 tickets. Family events such as the rock wall climbing night, Sisterhood book review gatherings, Men's Club game nights and dinners, adult Jewish education- these are just some of the ways to get more out of your TTY community membership. If there is an activity that would interest you that is not happening, please let me know either directly or through the office. It is likely that others would also be interested, and I'll see if we can make it happen.

Also, a few people have asked me about community service ideas, particularly for their children who need some number of community service hours. I have begun putting together a list of community service activities that can be done, both ongoing to one-off activities. Again, let me know and I'll help you find a way to meet your need and help the temple or other organizations at the same time.

Shalom,

Michael



Torat Yisrael's Cohen School

I urge you all to come to our Talent Show Fundraiser on Sunday, February 25th from 12:30 – 2:30 PM, right after Hebrew School. This fundraiser will help raise money for humanitarian aide in the Middle East, allowing us to continue to practice Tikkun Olam and shedding light in a dark world as good humans.

The K-I class has been working diligently on learning their Hebrew letters. They are approaching earning their first white strip in Aleph Champ! They are also learning about the mitzvah of tzedakah and creating a silly Tu B'Shvat forest!

In grades 2/3, we are learning numbers 1-10, as well as the seasons in Hebrew. We are working on the weekly parsha and how it relates to the Passover story.

In grades 4/5, we've continued with our Hebrew reading through prayer. We have started a t'fillah project in researching prayers that mean something to us and created works of art corresponding to that prayer.

In grades 6/7, we are continuing to work on our fundraiser and have begun to work on our Holocaust Unit.



Librarian's Corner

Israel/Palestine by Alan Dowty

What explains the peculiar intensity and evident intractability of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? Of all the ""hot spots"" in the world today, the apparently endless clash between Jews and Arabs in the Middle East seems unique in its longevity and resistance to resolution.

Alan Dowty, a retired international relations professor at the University of Notre Dame, demystifies the conflict by putting it in broad historical perspective, identifying its roots, and tracing its evolution. His account offers a clear analytic framework for understanding transformations over time, and in doing so, punctures the myths of an "age-old" conflict with an unbridgeable gap between the two sides.

Rather than simply reciting historical detail, this book presents a clear overview that serves as a road map through the thicket of conflicting claims. Includes information about the most recent Israeli elections and the debate over the two-state solution, this edition presents in full the opposed perspectives of the two sides, leaving readers to make their own evaluations of the issues.

The book thus expresses fairly and objectively the concerns, hopes, fears, and passions of both sides, making it clear why this conflict is waged with such vehemence. This book helped to give me more background information about the current war being waged.

Laura Steele



Sisterhood

The ladies of the Sisterhood met on Sunday, January 14th (after a weather delay) to shmooze and discuss the novel The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem by Sarit Yishai-Levi. Some had watched the series on Netflix, some had started the novel and others came to learn. Whatever stage of the saga we were in, it was an interesting and thought-provoking discussion of the generations of

unique women set against the backdrop of the Holy Land over a period of 70 years.

Our mug and re-usable water bottle collection was a success with a couple of hundred being delivered to Camp Jori to be used by staff and campers during the summer. The original organization, Mathewson Street Friendship Breakfast ended up with over 3,500 mugs so did not need our collection. Either way, they are an appreciated addition to the Camp.

We also donated a truckload of clothing to the Church of the Transfiguration thrift store that benefits their congregants and neighbors in Washington Park, Providence. Winter items, jackets, etc. were also donated to Mount Pleasant High School (where I work) and were given to students and families that are in need. The donations are continuing with a desperate need for winter items, especially socks (new and gently used), which are now being taken care of by the TTY Yad Chessed Committee.

Our next event is scheduled for Sunday, February 25th, which will be a trip to the RI School of Design Museum and lunch at Maven's, you can choose to do one or the other, or both activities. We will do a self-guided tour through the museum (car-pooling may be available) and then head over to Maven's, the new Delicatessen off of East Ave on the Providence/Pawtucket line. If you plan on coming, please email TTYsisterhood@gmail.com. Flyer coming soon!

Stay warm and safe as our New England Winter continues.

Leah Ross-Coke and Marion Woolf, Co-Presidents



Message from Yad Chessed

The Yad Chessed Committee would like to remind everyone that the members of the committee are able to provide rides to the temple for temple events such as Services, Sisterhood programs, Men's Club programs, the February 4th Blood Drive, and the March 2nd Comedy Night. If you would like a ride to any and/or

all temple events, please let the temple office know or send me an email at shsidel2@gmail.com with your contact information and we'll make the arrangements.

Also, please put the February 4th Blood Drive on your calendar. The Blood Drive will take place in the TTY Social Hall from 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM. The Blood Bank is hoping for a minimum of 15 pints. If you are a regular blood donor, and

your regular donation time is close to February 4th, please donate at the temple. A flyer with a QR code is attached and has also been sent out via email and within the weekly update already on how to sign up for this event.

Also, from now until February 4th, you have an opportunity to donate socks to the temple for the congregants of The Church of the Transfiguration. All sizes are needed. We'll be collecting for men, women, teens and children. They, too, would appreciate winter hats and gloves. All items can be dropped off at the temple office or brought with you on February 4th when you come to the temple for your blood donation.

Thanks for your participation in these events!

Susan H. Sidel, Chairman



SAVE THE DATE! On Sunday, February 18th, Rabbi Saks will be zooming in to say hi from Israel with an opportunity for some schmoozing and talk time with him. Time TBD with more info coming soon!!



Rabbi Saks will be holding an 8-session online course via Gratz College beginning Monday, February 26th. Topic is "How College Campuses should Teach Israel & Palestine". [Click here](#) to sign up for this 8-session online course.



The Temple office will be closed in February on:
Monday, February 12th & Monday, February 26th

Upcoming Events for March – June 2024

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| March | Comedy Night on Saturday, March 2 nd
Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Katz on Saturday, March 9 th
Men's Club Breakfast w/Guest Speaker, Rabbi Saks on Sunday, March 10 th
Friday Night Live on Friday, March 15 th
Sisterhood Shabbat on Saturday, March 23 rd
Purim Feast on Saturday, March 23 rd |
| April | Youth Shabbat on Friday, April 12 th
Bar Mitzvah of Darran Watts on Saturday, April 13 th
Passover Seder Dinner on Tuesday, April 23 rd
Passover Shabbat Service including a Yizkor on Saturday, April 27 th
Chocolate Seder on Sunday, April 28 th |
| May | Friday Night Live on Friday, May 3 rd
Mah Jong Tournament on Sunday, May 5 th
Youth Shabbat on Friday, May 17 th
Bar Mitzvah of Zane Pezza on Saturday, May 18 th
Last Day of School/Graduation on Sunday, May 19 th |
| June | Beach Shabbat on Friday, June 7 th
Shavuot Shabbat Service including a Yizkor on Saturday, June 15 th
Congregational Meeting on Tuesday, June 25 th |

In Our Torat Yisrael Family



Mazal Tov to everyone celebrating a Birthday in February!

Ezra Brickman (7 years old), Zack Kentor, Marc Ladin, Bertha Goldberg, Pearl Kaplan, Andrew G. Sholes, Sabine Ginestet (9 years old), Lina Goikhman, Wayne Wilfand, Daniel Morris Silverman, Mitchell Sproul (9 years old), Eli Levy (20 years old), Bruce Weisman, Marion Woolf, Darcie Lynn Colletti (8 years old), Gloria Viner (6 years old), Ryan Evans (16 years old), Lori Rush, Laurie Goldman, Emily Viner, Zinovy Goikhman, Ilana Revkin, Richard Sholes, Scott L. Hammer & Amanda Brickman.

Our Torat Yisrael Community Acknowledges with Thanks the following Generous

January 2024 Donations:

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Irving Abrams
-Beverly Paris
In Memory of Bertha Davis
-Helen Davis
In Memory of Eva Davis
-Helen Davis
-Morris & Clare Yaffe
In Memory of Rena Dressler
-Elaine & Steve Shapiro
In Memory of Ida Dubin Fields
-Hyman H. Goldman
In Memory of Fred Swartz Goldman
-Hyman H. Goldman
In Memory of Gladys Greenberg
-Robert & Robin Greenberg
In Honor of Evan Hammer on his early acceptance to University of Chicago Law School
-Bubbe & Zeydie
(Ruth & Arnold Blasbalg)
In Honor of Zachary & Evan Hammer on early graduation from Cornell University
-Bubbe & Zeydie
(Ruth & Arnold Blasbalg)
In Memory of Julius Heimann
-Sam & Lillian Mendelowitz
In Memory of Morris Jagolinzer
-Helen Davis
In Memory of Ilse Huterer Kalman
-Roslyn Glick
In Memory of Anna Kirzhner
-Sofya Tonkover & family
In Memory of Harry Klitzner
-Lynn Field
In Memory of Evelyn Vera Labush
-Bernard Labush
In Memory of Bella Mendelowitz
-Sam & Lillian Mendelowitz
In Memory of Benjamin Mendelowitz
-Sam & Lillian Mendelowitz
In Memory of Esther Nemtsov
-Wayne & Roberta Wilfand

In Memory of Harry Pass
-Harvey Rappoport
In Memory of Selma Rappoport
-Harvey Rappoport
In Memory of Joseph M. Rotenberg
-Barry Rotenberg
In Memory of Edna Rubin
-Ruth & Arnold Blasbalg
In Memory of Samuel Rubin
-Ruth & Arnold Blasbalg
In Memory of Ruth Russian
-Sheila Russian
In Honor of Beth Salk's Birthday!
-Mrs. Marion Cotton
In Memory of Andrea Saltzman
-Richard Saltzman
In Memory of Joseph Saltzman
-Richard Saltzman
In Memory of Leonard J. Sholes
-Steven & Dana Sholes
In Memory of Edith Shuman
-Bruce Shuman
In Memory of Ada R. Slobin
-Marcia Slobin
In Honor of Temple Torat Yisrael
-Dr. Adam Niedelman
In Honor of Temple Torat Yisrael
-Wayne Wilfand

HAROLD & ROSE BELLIN FUND

In Memory of Albert N. Bellin
-Trudy Katz
In Memory of Arthur S. Bellin
-Trudy Katz
In Memory of Rose Bellin
-Trudy Katz

MYER GROSSMAN FUND

In Memory of Abraham M. Mal
-Anita Olinsky

MICHELE PAM ROSS FUND

In Memory of Evelyn Vera Labush
-Ruth Ross

SECURITY FUND

In Memory of Lillian Finkle
-Jonathan, Judy & Ariel Finkle

LEONARD J. SHOLES ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of Leonard J. Sholes
-Andrew G. Sholes

STREAMING FUND

In Memory of Irma Bloom
-Elaine & Steve Shapiro