

Temple Sinai

Sinai Scroll

Issue Number 3

March 2016
Adar I/Adar II 5776

Leap Year

The secular calendar we use was actually originally a religious calendar. It is officially known as the Gregorian Calendar and is named for Pope Gregory XIII who introduced it in 1582 to solve a religious problem.

The problem was that the holiday of Easter, over the centuries, was getting out of sync with the vernal equinox, the first day of spring. By the 16th century, astronomers noted that because the average year was slightly too long, Easter was falling progressively later.

To fix the problem, the Gregorian Calendar eliminated three leap years out of every four centuries. That tiny correction stopped the slow drift of the calendar away from the cycles of the sun and the seasons.

The Gregorian Calendar is a solar calendar. The earth should be (more or less) in the same location relative to the sun each year on any given date. But not all calendars work like that.

The Islamic Calendar is a lunar calendar in which a year is made up of twelve lunar cycles with no regard for the position of the sun. As a result, Muslim holidays drift through the seasons -- from spring, to winter, to fall, to summer and back again over a thirty-three year cycle.

The Hebrew Calendar is a hybrid between solar and lunar calendars. Each month represents one lunar cycle, but we occasionally add a thirteenth month to the year to keep the calendar in sync with the sun and seasons. That correction was also a response to a religious problem. According to the Torah, the holiday of Passover must fall in Spring. Our lunar-solar hybrid calendar makes sure that Passover -- regardless of how it drifts from late March to late April -- always stays in the Spring.

This year of 5776 is a leap year and we are, right now, in the midst of the "extra month." This month is called Adar Aleph and it only occurs in seven of every nineteen years. (Next month, Adar Bet, is the "real" Adar). There won't be another Adar Aleph until 5779 (2019 in the Gregorian Calendar).

So, think of it this way. This year, you get an extra month. Because the Jewish month of Adar is associated with joy, you are getting an extra 30 days this year to make your life a little bit happier. Make the most of it!



Service Schedule

PLEASE JOIN US
Torah Study -
Minyan Breakfast
begins at 9:30 AM
every Saturday

Friday, March 4
5:30 PM Pre-Oneg
6 PM Shabbat Service
Grade 4

Saturday March 5
10:45 AM
Shabbat Morning Service

Friday, March 11
5 PM Shabbat Shaboom
6 PM Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 12
10:30 AM Shabbat Service
Chase Schulte Bar Mitzvah

Friday, March 18
7:30 PM
Joint Reform Service
Temple Habonim

Saturday, March 19
10:45 AM
Shabbat Morning Service

Wednesday, March 23
Purim - Megilah Reading

Friday, March 25
7:30 PM
Shabbat Service
Shireinu

Saturday, March 26
10:45 AM
Shabbat Morning Service



Information on the 2nd Night Seder on
Saturday, April 23, is on page 5.

The School Scene

By Toby Koritsky, R.J.E.

Purim and Women's Voices

Purim is a fun holiday. It is full of costumes and noise and games. What's not to like? It also, on closer examination, sends an important message to girls and women about women's rights, speaking up for yourself and others and power.

Let's take a look at our two women. First, there is Vashti who is often portrayed as wicked. The question is was she? The king tells her to come to the banquet full of men who have been eating and drinking so he can parade her in front of his friends (naked). Vashti responds with a word the king probably doesn't hear very often – NO. She stands up for herself

Then we have our gal Esther. Taking Vashti's place, she becomes queen (yes, after a beauty contest where she says nothing). Later, she is to realize that if she

speaks up she is in the position to save her people. To do this she must break the rules and put her own life in danger to approach the king. To get ready she dresses in her finest clothes to impress the king. Deborah Rosenbloom at Jewish Women International calls this "dressed for success" and relates it to modern day women and men putting on clothes that add to their confidence. Esther speaks movingly for herself and her people and they are saved. Esther has put aside her fears and spoken up with positive results. She has a positive self identity and uses it to help others. Esther is a symbol of strength.

Two women used their voices and power and were willing to stand up for what was right regardless of consequences. Now that's a lesson for all of our students and us as well. *Chag sameach Purim.*

Notes from the Biblical Garden

By Catherine Walters

And he brought up Hadassah, that is, Esther, his uncle's daughter; for she had neither father nor mother, and the maiden was of beautiful form and fair to look on; and when her father and mother were dead, Mordecai took her for his own daughter.
Esther 2:7

The Book of Esther, which we read on Purim, takes place in the fourth or fifth century BCE in the Persian Empire. It tells the story of Hadassah and her uncle Mordecai, who was leader of the Jews under the rule of King Achashverosh. Hadassah was sent to become the wife of the Persian king, but the king could not know that she was Jewish, so she took on the Persian name, Esther.

The Hebrew word *hadassah* means "myrtle". Native to the northern Galilee Mountains, the myrtle, (*Myrtus communis*), is an evergreen shrub with glossy foliage and

white flowers followed by purple-black oval berries. It is drought-resistant with leaves that release a sweet fragrance when bruised. The myrtle is now rare and endangered in the wild and it is protected in Israel. It is among the species being planted to transform the Negev for agricultural use through the Jewish National Fund.

It's too early for anything to be done in the Biblical Garden but the catkins are now in bloom on the willow, and narcissus and hyacinth bulbs have broken the surface of the soil. We impatiently wait for longer days and warmer sun, the call of doves, the reappearance of hungry rabbits, and the pungent smell of damp soil ready for turning. In this "mud season" of early spring, the garden reminds us that we, too, are soil, and water, and sunlight, connected to each other and to all living things, and indeed we harbor a glimmer of the Eternal as well.

Prayers for Healing

Ruth Snyder
Hannah Feibelman

Mazal Tov!

Stan and Debbie Roberts on the birth of their grandson, Henry Norman Roberts

If you would like to share the news of a happy event with your temple family, please e-mail Dottie in the temple office

Sisterhood News

By Harriet Wasser

Thank you to Svetlana Harris for picking up challahs for the month of February. Thank you to Harriet Wasser and Ellie Wasser for picking up pastries etc. for onegs. Thank you to Amy Terceiro and Ellen Rappoport for organizing the challah bake. It was wonderful to see over 25 women preparing their challahs.

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 14 at 7 pm. Doors will open at 6:30. We will be having our Sisterhood women representing their businesses and selling their products. You will have a chance to win FREE items. Ladies can sign up for Sisterhood Shabbat (May 20) at this March meeting. The proposed slate of officers for 2016-2017 will also be presented. There is still an opening for VP Ways and Means (fundraising). The acceptance of the Bylaws will be done during New Business.

We will have a brief meeting and book review on Sunday, April 10 at 10 am. Sisterhood Shabbat

Sinai Studies - Adult Education

By Rabbi Jeff

Come learn with Rabbi Jeff! Classes are open to everyone and no previous knowledge of Hebrew or Jewish tradition is assumed. There is no fee for classes, although a donation is suggested: \$10 for Temple members and \$20 for non-members.

JANUARY 5 TO MARCH 8: THE BOOK OF EXODUS
Tuesdays at 10 AM

Exodus has been made into blockbuster movies for good reasons. It has a great story about the birth of Moses, the Burning Bush, the confrontation with Pharaoh, the Ten Plagues, and the Ten Commandments. Still, the meaning of the book is often misunderstood. Rabbi Jeff will look at each weekly portion of the book to uncover Exodus' message about the relationship between God and human beings.

MARCH 2, 9, 16: CONVERSATION WITH THE EARTH: JEWS, CATHOLICS & SCIENTISTS
Wednesdays at 7 PM

In this 3-part course, Rabbi Goldwasser, Professor Arthur Urbano of Providence College, and Bill Patenaude of the RI Department of Environmental Management will explore Jewish and Catholic perspectives on the environment.

Social Action

By Bob Haiken

Sandwiches at Sinai 10 AM on Monday, March 28
Stop by to help make sandwiches for Harrington House.
Help is always appreciated.

Service parts will be distributed at this brief meeting before the review. Our book will be *The Nightingale* by Kristen Hannah. Sue Fleisig and Lois Cohen are planning the book review. Responses will be needed for the book review.

End of Year Dinner will be held at Chianti's in East Greenwich on Tuesday, June 7 at 6.30 pm. The cost is \$25 for a dinner buffet. Gluten free items will also be available. It will be a FUN evening. Payments will be accepted anytime before Friday, May 27. No money will be accepted after that date. Make checks payable to Temple Sinai Sisterhood and send to Harriet Wasser; 650 East Greenwich Avenue 2-305; West Warwick RI 02893 or leave it in the temple Sisterhood mailbox, in a sealed envelope and mark End Of Year Dinner on the front with your name on it also. Any questions, please contact me. Any questions about the book review contact Sue Fleisig or Lois Cohen.

We will also look at public policy on the environment and the religious responses to today's environmental challenges.

Come learn with Toby Koritsky, Director of Education!
AMERICAN JEWISH WOMEN'S SHORT STORIES:
Tuesdays, 11:00-12:00 March 8, April 5, May 3
Jewish life and culture is full of stories, handed down through the ages. The stories have defined who we are and dared us to face up to our history while causing us to reflect on the impact of the times in which we live. We will learn about the authors, read their stories, and trace our history. No doubt, we will tell a few stories of our own!

- The ghetto and beyond - 1900-1929
- Troubles in the new world – 1930-1959
- The past as present – 1980's
- New voices - 1990's

Copies of the stories will be passed out in advance of class and will be available in the temple office.

Warm clothing drive is still going on. Please leave new or gently used warm coats, hats, scarves, mittens etc. in the bins in the lower level of the Temple.

Temple Youth (CRAFTY)

By Adam Cohen, CRAFTY Advisor

Want a great way to meet new friends and hang out together? You can do just that at the next NFTY event, which is Spring Conclavette! It is being held in Sharon, MA from April 1 through April 3. Eighth graders are invited to this event. According to NFTY, this year's Spring Conclavette is going to be the largest yet. How large? 400 to 500 teens expected. So, come along! **First time CRAFTY registrants for Spring Conclavette will receive \$50 towards their registration.**

CRAFTY Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 13, 2016 at Temple Sinai 11 AM

Come one, Come all dressed in your best Purim costume and enjoy a day of family fun

Games, food, and fabulous prizes await you and your family

- *Calling all student leaders and volunteers:*

- *Volunteers needed for game operations and ticket taking. Contact Adam at CRAFTYRHODEISLAND@gmail.com if you can help.*

Can You Solve the Mystery at our: **Murder Mystery Dinner?**

Saturday, April 9, 2016 at Temple Sinai

Try and solve the crime as you and your table are immersed in an interactive experience put on by the Murder Mystery Company of Boston, Massachusetts

Bring your Jewish friends from NFTY, BBYO, Summer Camp, and life!

Dinner will be served along with an exciting 80s theme

Details TBA

Temple Sinai is looking for a new Youth Group Advisor

Our beloved Adam Cohen is graduating and we need someone to take over the reins. If you, or someone you know is interested, please contact Rick Cohen, youth group committee chair, via e-mail at sinaiyouthadvisor@gmail.com or phone at [401-946-3796](tel:401-946-3796). A full job description is available upon request.

Bar Mitzvah March 2016



Our son, Chase Edison Schulte will become Bar Mitzvah on March 12, 2016. Chase is a seventh grade student at Rocky Hill School in East Greenwich, where he was Sixth Grade Class Scholar last year. He plays on the school's soccer and basketball teams, a Boys and Girls Club basketball team and has played baseball in Warwick since first grade. Last summer, Chase earned the Apponaug Babe Ruth Cal Ripken Baseball League Sportsmanship Award. For his mitzvah project, Chase is raising money for Special Olympics Rhode Island through two bake sales (one at school and one at *Temple Sinai) and looks forward to working with SORI athletes at events this spring. Chase also enjoys traveling, watching movies, singing and has long been an Elvis Presley fan!

*Hi, my name is Chase Schulte and I'm in 7th grade. For my bar mitzvah project, I am working with Special Olympics RI. I will be volunteering and working with athletes at various sporting events. But to get things started, I'm running a bake sale at temple on Sunday, March 6, to raise money for the organization so they can buy supplies they need. The sale will include treats like brownies and muffins. I'll be selling before and after religious school. Thank you for any support you can give.

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

2nd Night Passover Seder

Date: SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016

Temple Sinai Social Hall at 5:30 pm

Seder to be conducted by *Rabbi Jeff* Caterer: Cozy Catering (Kosher Style)

Complete Passover Dinner from Soup to Dessert

ADULTS: \$30.00 CHILDREN (ages 6 to 12): \$15.00 TOTS (ages 5 and under): \$ 5.00

.....SEATING IS LIMITED!.....

Reservations and checks MUST be received by April 15, 2016 NO EXCEPTIONS!

PASSOVER REGISTRATION FORM

Name: (s) _____

_____ #Adults _____ #Children (ages 6 -12) _____ #Tots (5 and under)

Gluten Free _____ Vegetarian _____

Wish to be seated with _____

___ I wish to make a contribution to the seder. Those who donated will be acknowledged that evening.

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Reservation and payment due no later than April 15, 2016

Check payable to: Temple Sinai 30 Hagen Ave, Cranston, RI, 02920. For more information, please call the temple office at 942-8350 or dottie@templesinairi.org

DONATIONS

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jan & Al Budnick, In memory of Dr. Jacob Novick
Geraldine Foster, In honor of Ruth Albert being called to the Torah
Helen Abrams, In memory of dear husband, Harold H. Abrams
Frank Cerilli & Dennis Byrnes, In memory of Frank Cerilli
Stephen, Freda, Stacey & Andrew Lehrer, In memory of Saul Lehrer
Stephen, Freda, Stacey & Andrew Lehrer, In memory of Ruth Stone
Deborah & David Greenstein, In memory of Howard Greenstein
Margie & Sid Ordog, In memory of Ruth Ehrlick Lisbon

Capital Improvement Fund

Phyllis B. Solod, Speedy recovery & continued good health to Norma Collaccio
Phyllis B. Solod, Speedy recovery & continued good health to Dr. Charles Schor

Rabinowitz Family, In memory of Murray Goldberg
Rabinowitz Family, In memory of Trudy Baum
George Feldman, In memory of George Diamond
Peter & Beverly Rosedale, In memory of Otto J. Rosedale
Svetlana & Bradley Harris, In memory of Leonid Kulik
Sandra & Jay Strauss, Speedy Recovery Anita Kaufman

Horovitz/Wexler Minyan Breakfast Fund

Frances Fink, In memory of Roland Remillard
Ruth Snyder, In memory of Rita Jessop
Ruth Albert, In memory of Leon Albert, my late husband
Audrey & Stanley Horovitz, In memory of Morton Gilstein
Ruth Snyder, Speedy recovery to Ann Rosow Lucchesi
Ruth Snyder, Happy Birthday to Tom (Rhody) Lipson
Sherry Feldman, In memory of our dear friend Abne Eisenberg
Helen Abrams, In memory of Rachel Abrams, beloved mother

(Continued on page 6)

Yahrzeits

*Seymour Kriss	1	*S. Archie Kapstein		*Martin Bergel	22
*Isidor Shapiro		*Ronald Chase	11	Albert Davis	
*Martin Goldberg	2	*Sarah Manks		*Tessie Gesualdi	24
*Laura Buckler	4	*Beatrice Hohenemser	13	*Michael S. Roberts	
Donald Charles		*Sol Stein		*Bessie Aron	25
*Alfred Baum	5	Alvin Levy	14	Sidney Gittleman	
Sylvia Glantz		Blanche Greenless	15	Donald R. Grant	
Sonia Engelson	6	*Morris Kortick		*Gilbert Cohen	26
*Joseph Hanflik		*Frances Priest		*Edna Gertsacov	
*Harold Roberts		Harold Sadler		Pauline Strassman	
*Tillie Gertz	7	Mark Spilka		*Charles Kilberg	28
*Kevin Stacey		Carl Stoeckel		Siegfried Feibelman	29
*Bernard Harrison	8	Jacob Davis	16	*Louis Goodman	
*Sarah Miller		Teresa Goldstein		*Harry Siegel	
Leo Phillips		*Dorothy Waldman	17	Jane St. Angelo	
*Gloria F. Warren		*Harry Shuster	18	*Jeffrey Weiss	
*Joseph Brosofsky	9	*Ruth Bloom	20	*Sophie Horovitz	30
*Donald Cohen		Eileen Gilbert		Rebecca Pepper	
*Gerald Coken		*Meta Hirsch			
*Bernice Gerstein	10	Etta Jacobson	21		

Yahrzeit Services are held during Sabbath services on Friday evening and Saturday morning at 10:45 am.

* indicates Hebrew date

For both Hebrew and English dates, Yahrzeit begins the preceding evening with lighting of the candles at sundown.

If you are not receiving a notice for the Yahrzeit of a loved one, please call or email the office so your information can be updated. There are many ways to honor the memory of a loved one: saying Kaddish at services, making a donation to one of our many funds, or purchasing a plaque for our memorial board in the Sanctuary.

(Continued from page 5)

Audrey & Stanley Horovitz, Get well wishes & speedy recovery to Mort Gray

Joan Goralnik, Get well wishes to Mort Gray

Ellie & Marvin Wasser, Get well wishes to Mort Gray

Helen Abrams, Get well wishes to Mort Gray

Cantor Rennie J. Brown Fund

Ann Winograd, In memory of Marshall Winograd, husband
Arlene Kalin & Family, In memory of Tillie Kalin, mother-in-law & grandmother

President's Fund

Ellie & Marvin Wasser, In memory of Hank Abrams

Music Fund

Svetlana & Bradley Harris, In memory of Leonid Kulik
Susanna Roberts, In memory of John W. Roberts, husband

Religious School Fund

Molly Garber, In memory of Martin Garber, dear husband
Judith & Norman Goodman, In memory of Paul Gershman, Father

Donald R. Grant Library Fund

Marcia Dronzek, In honor of the 50th anniversary of Marilyn & Len Nalibow
Edith Grant, In honor of Dr. Marvin & Mrs. Ellie Wasser, with love

Norman Brill Ritual Fund

Arnold L. Pepper, In memory of Samuel Pepper, father
Arnold L. Pepper, In memory of Steven Pepper, son

George Miller Prayer Book Fund

Shirley Davis, In memory of Ruby Kotler

Shapiro/Goldstein Beautification Fund

Samuel, Suellen & Seth Shapiro, In memory of Emil Shapiro

General Fund

Brenda & Michael Lewis, In honor of Beverly Sugarman's 90th birthday celebration

Rabbi Jeffrey Goldwasser, In memory of Harold Abrams

Torah Fund

Cantor Rennie & Margie Brown, In memory of George Brown, grandfather of Rennie

Marsha, Brina & Robyn, In memory of our beloved mother, Beatrice Hohenemser. We miss you and love you dearly!

Howard J. Krasnow Handicapped Accessibility Fund

Phyllis B. Solod, In memory of Irene Thomashow, mother's yahrzeit

Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Schwartz, In memory of Theresa Passini Leinberry

Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Schwartz, In memory of Arlene Friedman

Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Schwartz, In memory of Bette Klein

Endowment Fund

Lloyd & Linda Malin, In memory of Michael Ehrlich

Helene & Joel Chase, In memory of Edith Weisman

Richard & Cindi Portno, In memory of Sol Rosenbaum, father of Cindi

Richard & Cindi Portno, In memory of Phillip H. Portno, Brother of Richard Portno

Diana & Lawrence Ehrlich, In memory of Rita Lewis

Helene & Joel Chase, In memory of Forrest Avila

Helene & Joel Chase In memory of Robert Resnick



TORAH STUDY EVERY
 SATURDAY MORNING
 FROM 9:30-10:30 AM

Adar I/Adar II 5776

March 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 10:00 AM Rabbi's Class	2 7 PM Conversations with the Earth Holy Apostles Church	3 7 PM Board Meeting	4 5:30 PM Pre-Oneg 6 PM Shabbat Grade 4 leading the service	5 10:45 AM Shabbat Service
6	7	8 10:00 AM Rabbi's Class 11:00 AM Toby Koritsky's Class	9 7 PM Conversations with the Earth Temple Sinai	10	11 5 PM Shabbat Shaboom 6 PM Shabbat	12 10:30 AM Shabbat Service Chase Schulte Bar Mitzvah
13 10:30 AM Purim Shpiel 11:00 AM Purim Carnival	14 7:00 PM Sisterhood Meeting	15	16 7 PM Conversations with the Earth Place TBA	17	18 7:30 PM Joint Reform Service Temple Habonim Barrington	19 10:45 AM Shabbat Service
20	21	22	23 7 PM Megilah Reading	24	25 7:30 PM Shabbat Service with Shireinu	26 10:45 AM Shabbat Service
27	28 10 AM Sandwiches at Sinai	29	30	31	April 1 6 PM Shabbat Service	April 2 10:30 AM Shabbat Service Marisa Pressman Bat Mitzvah
Dave's	Shaw's	BUY	GIFT	CARDS!	Stop and Shop	Ocean State Job Lot



30 Hagen Avenue
Cranston, RI 02920
(401) 942-8350

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 00861
Providence RI

DATED MATERIAL

Save the date

Plan to join us for

the first annual

Sinai Golf Classic

Date: Monday, July 25, 2016

Location: Valley Country Club

More information coming soon!

JOINT REFORM SERVICE

FRIDAY ~ MARCH 18, 2016 ~

9 Adar II, 5776 ~ 7:30 pm

Once each year the Reform congregations of Rhode Island, Temple Beth-El, Temple Habonim, Temple Sinai and Newport Havurah, come together to celebrate Shabbat.

Please join us for this special service with music that is energizing, joyous, and spiritually uplifting.

Hosted this year by Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington, RI



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday, April 10th, 12:30 PM - luncheon honoring Stan Horovitz and Don Wexler - invitations coming soon

Saturday, April 23rd - 2nd night Passover Seder - see information on page 5