

koleynu

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Visit www.temple-israel.com for the latest info/updates about events and programs.

Torah Study every Saturday at 9:30 –10:30 am.

Calendar Highlights

December 1 | 11:00 am *Holiday Boutique*

December 2 | 7:30 pm *President's Circle Shabbat*

December 9 | 6:00 pm New Member and Volunteer Appreciation Shabbat and Dinner

December 17 | 3:00 pm Day Spa for the Soul

Save the Date!

January 20 | 6:30 pm Courageous Conversations

If you have not received your Annual Journal, call the office at (561) 8322-8421.



Join the Temple Israel TaTa Society!

Register now for the 2017 Race for the Cure at komensouthflorida.org.





From the Rabbi

Rabbi Cookie Lea Olshein

Are You Bringing Light Into the Darkness?

In the midst of winter, we are blessed to celebrate our Festival of Lights, another reminder that each of us has experienced miracles. If we dig deeper a little though, seeing our candles grow in number throughout the holiday of *Chanukah* should also remind us that we are obligated to bring light into the darkness, not only that which we might experience in our own lives, but also into the greater world.

So, I ask a simple question this month...what are you doing to bring light into the world? Sometimes, the light we share can be as simple as a kind word, or maybe a sweet, unexpected smile to a stranger. Think back to the High Holy Days when I challenged all of us to go a single day without complaining...perhaps this year, when our social obligations ramp up during the holiday season, might we add a second challenge?

What would happen if, instead of focusing on shopping for the perfect gift, we challenged ourselves to doing acts of "g'milut chasadim," which literally means "the gifts of loving-kindness," in honor of those we love? Instead of another sweater, what if we gave tzedakah in our loved one's names this year? What if we helped those less fortunate and brought a little bit of light into their darkened worlds? As Louis Armstrong sang, "What a wonderful world it would be."

My prayer for you this month is that each of us finds ways to be intentional about sharing our light within with the world...and may these acts of light truly help us, and the Jewish people, to always be a light unto the nations.

My door is always open...I hope you have a meaningful *Chanukah* and see you soon at Temple Israel!

December 2016 Volume 2, Issue 3



1901 North Flagler Drive West Palm Beach, FL 33407

(561) 833-8421 www.temple-israel.com

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Rabbi Emeritus Howard Shapiro, DD

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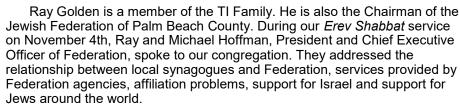
New Chesed Committee Can Provide a Helping Hand

Temple Israel has a newly formed *Chesed* (Caring) Committee and we are reaching out to all temple members. If you are sick, injured, need assistance (such as a ride to *Erev Shabbat* services), or if a loved one has passed away, we may be able to help you in your time of need. We are only a phone call away. Please contact the Temple Office at (561) 833-8421 for further details.

From the President

Michael Jonas

From the Heart



When Ray began speaking, he informed us that he had discarded the speech prepared by Federation staff so that he could "speak from the heart." Several times that evening, Ray stated that it was the first time that he had been on our *Bimah* in many years and that it felt good; it felt like he was home. Welcome home Ray (and Linda); it felt good to us, as well.

Although we may not speak as eloquently as Ray did, his comments reminded me that when we are in our spiritual home, we should speak to each other respectfully and civilly, but from the heart. So, speaking from my heart to yours, please know that life at Temple Israel can significantly improve by responding to an important request - we need your help.

We run our temple with a limited staff to keep our expenses low, but our synagogue needs additional support so that it runs smoothly. Consequently, we need a few volunteers to provide their administrative skills and assistance in the office (please speak to Temple Administrator, Jennifer Green Baer). We are a very welcoming community, but our synagogue needs a group of our members to properly assist our visitors and congregants as they make their way through our campus to various services, classes, programs and events. Accordingly, we need several more volunteers to become educated greeters/ ushers (please speak to Elaine Feldmesser or Amy Jonas).

These are not big fundraising issues, massive projects or leadership responsibilities. These are simple, but meaningful and purposeful ways to improve life at Temple Israel. By using only a little bit of your time, skills and abilities, we can meaningfully advance the enjoyment of our spiritual home. All of this and more can be accomplished by volunteering.

Volunteering not only helps us run our temple, but it also leads to meeting other congregants and making more friends. The more congregants who you know and who know you, the more you will enjoy our services, classes, programs and events.

Help make our temple run smoothly, help make our visitors, guests and congregants feel like they are welcomed members of our family and help increase the enjoyment of being in your spiritual home. Spend a little more time in it: volunteer - it will make you feel good.





JANUARY 20 MARCH 24 MAY 12

6:30 pm | Temple Israel

Miss Rhonda's 4th - 6th grade class is fundraising for



Please donate money today! Together, we will save a life tomorrow!

Be a



Help Us Fill Our Jug today!



Jewish Antiques Road Show - Part II

Dr. Rebecca Jefferson and Dr. Katalin Rac from the University of Florida Judaica Library would like to document your collection of Judaica from Florida and the Southern USA, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

Bring your family photos, objects and documents for duplication for future generations to enjoy!

Sunday, December 11th, 2016 2:00-5:00pm

Call or email for your personal appointment to show your items.

Join us in the Temple Israel Media Center

Refreshments will be served

Contact Aileen Josephs at josephsaileen@gmail.com or 640-4877



ANNUAL APPEAL as of November 11, 2016

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Mr. Jack Ackerman Ms. Lori Ackerman

Ms. Mina Anafi

Mr. Fred Apel Mr. William Baker & Pamela Wiener, Ph.D.

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Mrs. Lora Baum

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Berman

Ms. Susanna Berns & Ms. Linda Berns

Mr. Robert Blank Mr. Bill Bone

Mr. & Mrs. Victor Brizel

Mr. Michael Bubis

Mrs. Karen Davis

Ms. Brittany Demers

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Member Spotlight: Don Carter

1. Where did you grow up? And what is one of your fondest childhood memories?

I grew up in Great Neck, New York, and graduated high school with an 83 grade average—which was fairly average in a school of over-achievers. I was somewhat of a class clown, but I was also known as the kid in the far back row of class sitting by myself reading the *Wall Street Journal* every day while the teacher droned on about J.D. Salinger. I did not go to nursery school or kindergarten. My oldest brother Larry taught me to read well before first grade and when I was four years old my parents, David and Pauline Carter, would gather the relatives and neighbors on Sunday mornings to watch me read the *New York Times* aloud. My favorite early childhood memory was the once a week parental gift of a Golden Book relating to history. To this day, I remember many of the facts I learned when I was five, and my thirst for knowledge has never abated.

2. Why is philanthropy so important to you? What drew you to Temple Israel?

When I moved from New York to Palm Beach with my wife in 1997, it was important to establish religious roots in the community. We attended both the conservative and reform *shabbatot* before deciding on Temple Israel as our home. Our first philanthropy with Temple Israel was after my father-in-law's passing, with the establishment of a fund in his name and honor. I have always felt that philanthropy is learned...both from the Torah and from the examples of giving by others. My turning point with Temple Israel occurred when I barely knew anyone in the Temple, but was invited to a big dinner at the home of temple leaders Allen and Zelda Mason. I was so impressed with the inclusiveness and open hearts of the members that it wasn't long before my wife and I gave naming gifts.





A well-kept secret is that I grew up with a speech impediment and spoke like Elmer Fudd—I could not pronounce my R's. I attended special speech class for six years in elementary school and remember being teased by the other kids until one day in seventh grade when my brother Danny decked a bully who was making fun of me. No one bothered me after that and to this day, I am touched by the immense bravery of those with disabilities and by the great love of my brothers.



4. You have two daughters. What do you love most about being a father?

My daughters Lauren and Stephanie live and work in Manhattan. The things I love most about being a father have been closeness (I was the chief diaper changer and loved it!), educating them in everything from Mythology to Shakespeare (yes, I read them *King Lear* instead of *Goodnight Moon*), how to do arithmetic in their head, how to play cards, how to play ball, and the importance

of family. At this stage of my life and theirs, all I want them to be is happy and healthy and to be there for each other. Finally, when my kids laugh, my heart explodes with joy. So, I am always trying to make them laugh!

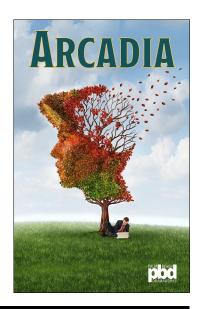
Theater Night and Dinner Returns April 1

Join Temple Israel Sisterhood and Brotherhood at another exciting Theater Night and Dinner on April 1, 2017 for the Dramaworks production of *Arcadia*, a 1933 play by Tom Stoppard about the relationship between past and present, order and disorder, certainty and uncertainty.

As in past years, those attending will meet for dinner before the 8 pm performance and then walk to the theater on Clematis Street. Co-chairs for the event are Sisterhood members Eunice Baros and Sherry Jacobs, a member of the Board of Directors at Dramaworks, and Jim Baros, representing Brotherhood.

Temple Israel season ticket holders at Dramaworks may transfer their date for this performance on April 1 at no charge. Dinner reservations will be separate. Temple members may attend the dinner and theater separately or participate in both. Tickets may be purchased for the reduced price of \$56 each. More information about dinner will be available in coming months.

For more information, contact Eunice Baros at eunicebaroslaw@gmail.com or the TI office at (561) 833-8421.



Contributions

(Received through November 11, 2016)

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support Temple Israel by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. Thank you!

Floral Fund

In memory of my brother, **Norman Frank**, remembering his devotion and love from *Joy FeBland*

In memory of **George Karr** from *Barbara Karr and Marcy Allen* In memory of **Morton Rosen** from *Laurie Halpern*

Miscellaneous

Proneg and Oneg sponsorship in honor of **Jennifer and David's** wedding, from *Eileen and Steven Wiesen*

General Operating Fund

In honor of **Cynnie List**, a wonderful community leader and very deserving person from *Linda and Ray Golden*

Harvey Goldberg Technology/Innovation Fund

In memory of Lionel Greenbaum from
Steven and Deborah Greenbaum
Sande and Harris Hollin
Elaine Bercu
Leonard Kichler
Cynnie List
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Wolf, Jr.
Patti and Lawrence Abramson
Mark and Elaine Feldmesser
Murry and Joanie Goodman
Sam Michaels

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

James Wolf

In memory of **Lionel Greenbaum** from Steven and Deborah Greenbaum

Richard Libertucci

In appreciation of the enjoyable holiday services, from Maureen Katz

In appreciation of the enjoyable children's service, from Roger Yaseen

Music Fund

In memory of my dear brother, **Gene Solomon**, who loved bluegrass

In memory of **Dan FeBland** who loved music and dancing from *Joy FeBland*

Sisterhood Fund

In honor of Isabele Leeds' special birthday

in honor of Edward Robbins from Ruth Abramson

Social Action Fund

In memory of Harry Morris from Irma Morris

Special Needs Fund

In honor of Morris Zabarkus's birthday from Joy FeBland

Annual Appeal (to date) donors are listed on page 3.



To help with the rising costs of finance charges on credit card payments, we are now requiring a 3% convenience fee on all credit card transactions.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we continue to carefully monitor the financial health of the Temple.



Keepers of the Koleynu

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Martin & Diane Trust
Ira & Jane Warshaw
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Morris Zabarkus & Rita Holz

List of Temple Israel's Special Funds

Call the Temple office at (561) 833-8421 for more information.

- □ Beautification Fund
- □ Continuing Jewish Education for Adults Fund
- □ Jewish Education for Youth Fund
- □ Judaica Fund
- □ Leadership Development Fund
- □ Library/Media Center Fund
- □ Mitzvah Fund
- □ Prayer Book/Torah Commentary Fund
- □ Programming Fund
- □ Rabbi Emeritus Continuing Education Fund
- □ Rabbi Howard Shapiro Youth Fund
- □ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- □ Social Action Fund
- □ Social Hall/Kitchen Fund
- □ Special Needs Fund
- ☐ Harvey Goldberg Technology/Innovation Fund
- □ Vineberg Floral Fund
- □ Warren Canfield Music Fund

Help our office help you!

Our members make generous donations to Temple Israel and often ask the Temple to allocate them to two or more purposes. Because not all of our accounts are held at the same bank, it would be a great help if donations going to different banks were written on different checks (this does not pertain to credit card donations).

Payments for the following can all be on one check and will be allocated according to your instructions:

General Donations Yarzheits Annual Commitments Brotherhood Dues Fundraising Events Koleynu Ads Annual Journal Ads Sisterhood Dues

High Holy Day Appeal Class Payments Religious School

Payments made to any "fund" (see list above), can be together on one check and will be allocated according to your instructions. Contact the Temple office if you have any questions.



The Mussar Moment

Rabbi Howard Shapiro

Here is the truth. I wrote this on Election Day but I didn't send it. Now it is the day after and the delete button is my friend. I, like so many of you, am (to put it mildly) surprised, shocked and a little anxious. My prayer for our country and all of us is that we can find a way to come together (even if imperfectly) and leave the bitterness behind. We can find a way for Republicans and Democrats to disagree and forge forward addressing some of the real challenges we have as a nation.

It is a Mussar moment for our country. Or more precisely, it is a "Bechirah" moment. That means it is a point in time when a choice needs to be made. The Mussar masters teach that we have those points of choosing multiple times a day. Every decision we make involves our values and our ethics and what emotions and what spiritual attributes will go with us.

The sages teach us to pause before we choose; to step out of our heads and into our heart before we react and respond to external influences. That means stuff like how you respond when someone or something annoys you, tries your patience, flatters you or even disappoints you. They use the image of a match being struck. In that moment before the match head ignites and the flame comes to life, there is a tiny pause. Stay in that pause; live in that micro-second and think: What will my reaction say about who I am and what happens next.

So some of us are happy today; some of us disappointed and even sad. The image of the match and the flame asks us to be true to our feelings but put our critical mind aside and hope. As state after state turned red last night, I could feel resentment and judgment pouring out of my pores. I was wallowing in righteous indignation. Who are these people? What is wrong with them? Don't they have a soul?

And that's the point. They do have a soul. It isn't "these people;" it is us. And we are in this together. And that's the Mussar Moment of the moment.

December Birthdays

- 1 Patti Abramson
- 2 Derek Arron Benjamin Horowitz Ellis Kern
- 3 Jack Feuer Wolfgang Greiter
- 5 Judy Goldblatt
- 8 Jean Rose
- 10 Jill Douglas Allen Mason
- 12 Kenneth Aaron Eunice Baros Gene Devore
- 13 Zachary Cohen Michael Hackman Samuel Leopold Alyssa Lunin
- 14 Allison Alexander
- 15 Taylor Smith
- 17 Jeffrey Devore



- 18 Leatrice Beinstein Angelica Sandoval
- 19 Jack Ackerman Suzy Cohen
- 20 Michael Alexander Joshua Simkowitz
- 22 Hope Baros
- 25 Eileen Shapiro
- 26 Mary Ann Ehrlich Mark Feldmesser
- 28 Daniel Wacks
- 29 Jim Eisenberg Sarah Lazow
- 30 Bob Marell
- 31 Elizabeth Green

Wedding Anniversaries



- 10 Keith & Traci Pincourt Braun
- 15 Burton & Barbara Stern
- 18 Stephen & Nancy Schwartz
- 19 Harris & Sandra Hollin
- 21 Scott & Georgia Newman
- 23 James & Carol Robbins Garrett
- 24 Michael & Diane Steiner
- 26 Victor & Barbara Brizel Nathaniel & Mara Frederiksen
- 31 Michael & Amy Jonas





Happy Chanukah and best wishes for the new year from all of us at Temple Israel!

(And don't forget to order your latkes — see insert!)

Sisterhood offers "Day Spa for the Soul" on December 17

You're invited to attend this relaxing and enlightening program on Saturday afternoon, December 17, from 3:00 pm to approximately 6:15 pm at the temple. The program includes light snacks, light movement activity (wear comfortable clothing), inspiration, and fun! Call (561) 833-8421 for more information and to RSVP.



President's Circle Update

Nancy and Barry Horowitz | Chairs



We are very excited for our annual President's Circle Shabbat on December 2. Thank you to Cynnie List, Irv Silver, and Lisa Rubin Caplan for being co-chairs of this event. There will be a wonderful catered "Proneg" and *Oneg*. In addition, current members will have the opportunity to participate in services with a reading and be blessed on the *bimah* by Rabbi Olshein. If you have not already contacted the Temple to participate, please do so.

We will be sending out renewal letters for 2017 membership later this month. We are moving to have the renewals occur at the beginning of the calendar year, so that the plaque outside of the social hall can be updated shortly thereafter. President's Circle dues account for over 40% of the total dues and 25% of the annual revenue of the Temple. This money assists the Temple in meeting its operating budget and provides services to those who cannot afford them. We are looking for 100% of present members to renew and have set a goal of a 10% increase in membership. Please contact us or Jennifer Baer in the temple office if you would like more information.

Coming up on Friday, February 3, 2017, is Rabbi Shapiro's "Next Person That I Want You to Meet." This is actually a group called "Unorthodox," which puts out podcasts on topical Jewish-related issues. There will be a special dinner prior to services in the Media Center where President's Circle members will have the opportunity to interact with the group. We look forward to seeing everyone there.



From the Educator

Iris Koller | Director of Youth, Family Engagement & Learning

Eight Great Things From Our Religious School That Will Brighten My Chanukah Lights

Late in this month of the most darkness, we welcome *Chanukah*, our Festival of Lights. As we begin December we are still in the Hebrew month of *Chesvan*, also known as *Mar* (bitter) *Cheshvan* for it is the month without any Jewish Holy Days or Festivals.

Yet, if we look carefully enough, we can see beauty in each ordinary day, even the darkest. It is in that spirit that I want to share with you...

8 Great "TI" Things That "Shed a Sweet Light"

- 1. Having heard about our *Yom Kippur* Food Drive, siblings in one family chose to take the money they had earned from chores to head to the grocery store (with mom) to buy food for those who were hungry.
- 2. Another child who had a single penny in his pocket during religious school was the very first to step up to put it into our new *tzedakah* collection as soon as our oldest students announced their initiative.
- 3. A group of our students took time AFTER school to plan and then went home to develop pieces for this issue of the *Kids' Koleynu* please be sure to check out their work!
- 4. Having a student and parent say that Hebrew class is a "must do" in their week.
- 5. Seeing students so eager about a class project that they just do not stop working at day's end.
- 6. Parents who patiently wait as students keep on working.
- 7. Watching students so excited about learning that they can't help but jump up and down as they suddenly want to share a connection they made!
- 8. Knowing that our teachers are also learning more as they dig deeper and engage our students in new ways each and every week!

May each of you have the joy of looking around each day and seeing sparks of light in your own life. Chag Orim Sameach – wishing you and your family a bright and light December!

Photo Album: Worship in Pink Shabbat

October 28

The sanctuary was bathed in pink light during the annual Worship in Pink Shabbat which celebrates breast cancer survivors and remembers those we have lost. The always moving and inspiring service

Florida Board of Directors, provided an update of the progress made by Komen-funded researchers



Love Thy Neighbor, Welcome The Stranger, and Heal The World

Pam Weiner | Refugee Project Co-Chair

Pursuing the fundamental Jewish values of loving thy neighbor, welcoming the stranger, and healing the world, a core group of congregants has been interacting with a Syrian Kurdish family that lives in Lake Worth. Temple Israel was matched to the family by Church World Service during the High Holy Days.

The family consists of Salah and Roushan, ages about 50 and 43, their son Oriel age five and their daughter Hinav, seven. Salah is a mechanical engineer whose last job, in Turkey, was international trade/ sales. Roushan is a graphic designer and a certified architect. They speak English, are western, and are very driven and eager to work.

Rabbi Shapiro and I are chairing the "adoption" of this family by Temple Israel. We believe the experience of assisting this refugee family will be transformative for our membership and inspire both our congregants and the greater community. Small investments of time and money from individuals, our Social Action Fund, and Rabbi Shapiro's and Rabbi Olshein's Discretionary Funds will make a tremendous difference in the lives of this family.

Roslyn Leopold, Rabbis Shapiro and Olshein, and I are asking temple members to help financially support this family for six to 12 months at a rate of \$375 monthly. Please donate in any amount to the Social Action Fund – Refugee Project. Your donation will give them the opportunity to seek appropriate work, or for one of them to take any job while the other pursues a more professional position. Roslyn, Rabbi Shapiro, and I will approach individuals to contribute to this effort.

The wardrobe of the family is somewhat limited. Rabbi Olshein has approached congregants to purchase clothing and shoes for the children. Bob Blank is working on getting Old Navy and Ross gift cards donated from his law firm for the family. Thank you to everyone who has donated time or items to make this family's life a little easier.

The families of many congregants came to this country fleeing pogroms, wars, and the Holocaust. Over the generations we have fled our homes in fear. Now as successful members of society, let's help a family that has also fled a war to safety.



Mitzvah Menorah Time

Ellen Goldenson | Sisterhood President

We are pleased to announce that this will be the third year that Temple Israel is partnering with Alpert Jewish Family & Children's Service to provide Chanukah gifts for the children of seven families in our community.

You will soon see a large, papier-mâché menorah near our gift shop. It will have tags attached listing the gifts that the children have requested. If you choose to participate, just take the tag (we will keep a copy) buy the gift and return the unwrapped gift to the Temple office by December 14.

We will also be selling gift cards that are on their wish lists. These can be purchased directly from our gift shop. Without our support, many of these children would not receive any holiday gift.

We, the committee - Lauren Warshaw, Traci Pincourt-Braun, Roslyn Leopold, and Ellen Goldenson - thank you in advance for making Chanukah a special time for these deserving families.



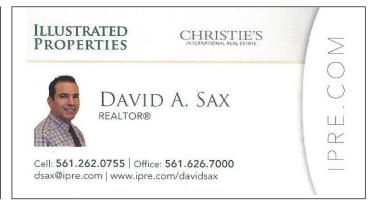
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of Christians & Jews

Join us for the "Sunday Conversations" and "Interfaith Dialogues" series!

The Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews is offering three informative programs presented by Harvey Oyer, Rene Silvin, and Arthur Berger in our new **Sunday Conversations** series, as well as the popular **Interfaith Dialogues** series facilitated by Rabbi Howard Shapiro, Tom O'Brien, and CB Hanif. Free to Fellowship members; \$10 guests (save \$10 w/Series Pass). Call (561) **833-6150** for more info!

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

December 2016

Visit www.Temple-Israel.com for more information about these events and programs and the latest calendar updates.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Sisterhood Holiday Boutique 11:00 am - 7:00 pm	First Friday President's Circle Shabbat 6:45 pm - Proneg 7:30 pm - Service	3 Every Saturday Torah Study 9:30-10:30 am
Mazal Tots 9:45 - 11:00 am Preschool Chanukah Program 10:00 - 11:30 am	5	6	7	Rabbi Jonah Pesner, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism 6:00 pm - refreshments 7:00 pm - session	9 New Member and Volunteer Appreciation Shabbat 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service Ice Cream Social	"Out of the Box" Shabbat Morning Service 11:00 am after Torah Study
Greeting Corps Meeting 10:00 am UF Jewish Heritage and Antique Road Show 2:00 pm	12	13	"Jewish Views on Substance Abuse and Healing in the Jewish Tradition" 7:00 pm	15	Erev Shabbat 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service	Sisterhood "Day Spa for the Soul" 3:00 - 6:15 pm
18	19	20 TI Board Meeting 7:00 pm	21	22	23 Erev Shabbat 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service	24 1st Night of Chanukah
25 2nd Night of Chanukah	26 3rd Night of Chanukah	27 4th Night of Chanukah	28 5th Night of Chanukah	29 6th Night of Chanukah	30 Night of 100 Menorahs and Chanukah Dinner	31 8th Night of Chanukah
	TI Office Closed				7th Night of Chanukah	New Year's Eve