

# 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**

**November 4** | 7:30 pm Federation Shabbat with Chair Ray Golden and CEO Michael Hoffman

November 5 | 11:00 am Blessing of the Animals

November 11 | 6:30 pm Erev Shabbat with first Courageous Conversation

#### Save the Date!

**December 1** | 11:00 am Holiday Boutique

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

## Happy Thanksgiving!



Join the Temple Israel TaTa Society! Register now for the 2017 Race for the Cure at komensouthflorida.org.



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See page 8 for sponsorship information.

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November 2016 Volume 2, Issue 2



1901 North Flagler Drive West Palm Beach, FL 33407

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#### Rabbi

Cookie Lea Olshein

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Rabbi Emeritus Howard Shapiro, DD

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Director of Youth, Family Engagement & Learning Iris Koller

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## From the President

Michael Jonas

#### Services, Journeys, and Destinations

Led by Rabbi Olshein, enhanced by Cantor Kruk, and elevated by our choir, we enjoyed beautiful High Holy Days' services. With single services on each holiday, our temple felt like the home to one big, loving family.

During the High Holy Days, we were (as we are each year) required to reflect on the past year, restore broken relationships and renew ourselves spiritually. Through a poem in our liturgy on *Yom Kippur*, we were reminded that life is a journey and that death is a destination. It is, however, not the only destination. *Shabbat* readings provide additional insight.

The last prayer in the evening *Shabbat* service in the *Mishkan T'filiah* is *Magein Avot v''Imahot* (page 65). Described as a summary of the *Amidah*, it is more like a mission statement for our congregation.

LET US PRAISE Adonai, Source of knowledge and light, from whom we draw wisdom and insight.

Let us savor the fullness of each and every day and fill our souls with the treasures of Shabbat. And let us appreciate these distinctions: sacred from profane, charity from greed, purpose from drift.

Let us affirm our covenant as God's people. Let us honor those who study Torah. Let us uphold the truth of ongoing revelation.

Let us celebrate the glory of our tradition and draw refreshment from the wellsprings of prayer. Let us respect tradition and encourage faith. And let us dress ourselves in the garments of God — compassion for the needy, embrace of the stranger — and then spread the canopy of peace over all the world.

The commentary found at the bottom of page 65 discusses the meaning of this prayer. God appears in this prayer uniquely as *m'on hab'rachot*, an "abode" or place of blessing. We are to sense God as a place where we can enter and be at home, a spiritual destination where we go to find the blessings we seek. These thoughts are expressed every Friday night at our synagogue. By coming to *Shabbat* services, we can continue our journey (or perhaps our mission) to this destination each week.

So, we do not have to wait until the High Holy Days each year to reflect on our actions, restore broken relationships and renew ourselves spiritually. We do not have to wait to begin our journey. We can find moments of introspection, connection and spiritual renewal weekly at *Shabbat* services. We welcome you to join us on Friday nights to continue the journey with your Temple Israel family.





NOVEMBER 11 JANUARY 20 MARCH 24 MAY 12

6:30 pm | Temple Israel



## From the Rabbi

Rabbi Cookie Lea Olshein

Prayers of Thanksgiving...for the Opportunity to Build True Community...

Imagine needing a special holiday to give thanks? This thought makes me laugh just a little bit every Thanksgiving...I laugh that our country felt the need to set aside one day out of the year to give thanks.

We Jews are fortunate that giving thanks is part of our everyday culture – we don't need a special day. We are taught that we should say a blessing thanking God both before and after we eat. We are taught that our "Nissim b'Chol Yom," our miracles of everyday living, are also opportunities to thank God: for opening our eyes each morning, for being able to sit up in bed, for the ability to move our bodies and put our feet firmly on the ground, for the ability to stand and move, for the ability to dress ourselves, and so many more. So many of these are things we take for granted, until we find ourselves or our loved ones sick, when we are reminded how fragile, and yet miraculous, our human bodies are.

The Sages teach that we are supposed to say 100 blessings (or "thank you's") a day. Imagine how our attitudes change when we are consciously trying to practice "an attitude of gratitude" each day? Remember my "complaint-free challenge" from *Yom Kippur*? (My suggestion that each of us try to go a single day without complaining?) The purpose of this exercise is not only to encourage us to not complain, but also to encourage us to stop for a moment before we speak to better understand our situation in this world. How often do we complain about things that would be a blessing to so many other people? What if each time we started to complain we could retrain ourselves to instead say a prayer of thanksgiving? Wouldn't this help us reach our goal of 100 blessings a day? And wouldn't the world feel like a much happier place?

On another note, please join us for our first evening of "Courageous Conversations" on Friday, Nov. 11. As I discussed during *Kol Nidre*, our topic that night will be "Opiate, Prescription Drug, and Substance Abuse." RSVPs for the complimentary dinner are due no later than Tuesday, Nov. 8, so please call/drop us a note right now so you can be on the "yes" list! Finally, please invite your friends to join us for this important interfaith evening...so many families in our community, and the greater community, are impacted by this issue.

My prayer for each of us this month is that we be more mindful about turning our complaints into words of thanks, and that this practice help us reach whatever goal we set for ourselves...whether it be 100 blessings a day...or more!

My door is always open...and I look forward to seeing you soon at Temple Israel!

## Get Excited! You and Your Furry, Scaly, Hairy, Slimy, Drool-y, and Squishy (Leashed/Crated) Friends Are Invited to ...



#### Saturday, November 5 11:00 am

Open to the Entire Community

Meet in TI's parking lot and we will walk across the street to the Intracoastal Waterway together!

Donations for Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League accepted at this event. Bring dog/cat food, treats, and toys; cat litter (and pans/scoops); and gently used towels/blankets, crates, nylon leashes, and grooming tools. We will deliver them for you so you can help our furry friends in need!

# **Member Spotlight**

#### A Special High Holy Days Appreciation



On behalf of Temple Israel, a special thanks to congregants Lori Ackerman, Elaine Feldmesser, Ron Levinson, William Petroff, and David Sommer.

Lori Ackerman has gone over and beyond, year after year - organizing, planning and staffing our children's program during the High Holy Days' services.

Elaine Feldmesser – a self taught design guru - graciously volunteered to create many of our flyers and High Holy Days' special events booklet.

Ron Levinson, an electrical engineer and longtime TI congregant, volunteers to improve our lighting and technology. His efforts on behalf of our synagogue, especially during the High Holy Days, have largely gone unnoticed and that is a good thing because he constantly eliminates glitches so lighting and technology issues do not distract from our services and programs.

William Petroff, Iris Koller's son, spent numerous days inputting data and cleaning up our electronic files to help keep the office running during our staff

transition and in preparation for the High Holy Days. He also helped secure the Temple Office in anticipation of Hurricane Matthew and then got us back up and running once the storm passed.

David Sommer, by profession, is a choir director in the Palm Beach County Public School System and is also our volunteer Choir Director. As evidenced by the beautiful music during our High Holy Days, David's teaching and leadership are transforming our Choir to a new level of excellence.

Please take a moment to thank Lori, Elaine, Ron, William and David when you see them!

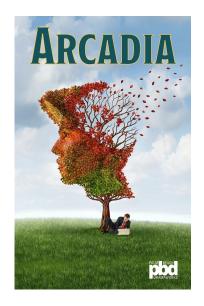
# Theater Night and Dinner Returns April 1

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.



#### Honor a Loved One with a Leaf on TI's "Tree of Life"

Leaves are available for only \$180. Call the Temple office at (561) 833-8421 to learn more about this wonderful way to mark a special occasion in your family's life. Leave a lasting memorial for future generations!



#### Make Your Cemetery Arrangements Through Temple Israel

Temple Israel owns cemetery plots in our section of the Star of David Cemetery in Palm Beach Gardens. To purchase, call a Family Counselor at Star of David at (561) 627-2277 to discuss locations and other details.

We offer our plots at a special rate of only \$3,000 per plot (this is an \$800 discount per plot when you purchase through the Temple).

After speaking with the professional and choosing your plot location within the Temple Israel section, please contact our Temple Administrator, Jennifer Green Baer, to make payment arrangements. Jennifer is available to assist you in any way she can. Please call her at the Temple office at (561) 833-8421 so she can help you take care of one the best gifts you can gift your family, the gift of pre-planning.

# **Contributions**

(Received through October 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 Morton Rosen from Laurie Halpern In memory of Ella Speir from Barbara Levine

#### **General Operating Fund**

from Marcia Fligman from Lionel P. Greenbaum (of blessed memory)

#### Social Hall/Kitchen Fund

In celebration of Bette Gilbert's 94th birthday from the "Gilbert Girls" - Marsha Gilbert, Laurie Gilbert Max, Sherri Gilbert, and Karen Gilbert List

#### **Miscellaneous**

In honor of Michael Jonas and Earnton Mosely from Susanne Jonas Levy
In honor of her Torah Honor from Joy FeBland

#### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In appreciation from Irene Kreisworthy

#### **Social Action Fund**

In memory of Florence Kaplan from Ann and Julius Lasnick

#### **Technology/Innovation Fund**

In appreciation of the live streaming of High Holy Day services and Marty List's amazing shofar blowing from Sherri Gilbert

#### Annual Appeal (as of October 10, 2016)

Jack Ackerman Conrad & Iris Koller Mina Anafi Julius & Ann Lasnick Lora Baum Barbara Levine Susanne Jonas Levy Karen Davis Peter Eckstein & Carol Safran Sheila Lutin Mark & Elaine Feldmesser Allen & Zelda Mason Fredric & Sondra Fine Jeffrey & Sara Mullens Marlene Ganz Bogard Hugo Ottolenghi & Deborah Hirsch J. John & Judy Goodman Esther Perman Lewis & Barbara Green Edward & Deanna Roos Richard Greene & Ellen Morris Jean Rose Stephen & Nancy Schwartz Barbara Hatzfeld Rabbi Howard & Eileen Shapiro Barry & Nancy Horowitz Stephen & Sherry Jacobs Roberta Stern Michelle Jacobson **Bud Tamarkin** Alvin & Bryna Jagoda Barbara Thrasher Michael & Amy Jonas Ira & Jane Warshaw Bernard & Jacqueline Kandel Morris Zabarkus & Rita Holz

# President's Circle Update

Nancy and Barry Horowitz | Chairs

Plans are underway for our annual President's Circle Shabbat on Friday, December 2. There will be a special "proneg" and oneg. In addition, all President's Circle members will have the opportunity to participate in services and will be called up to the bimah for a special blessing. More details will be forthcoming.

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

Stan & Marcie Gorman Althof Howard C. Berman Don Carter Nancy Carter Gene & Judy Devore Charlie & Valerie Eaton Joy FeBland Mark & Elaine Feldmesser Ellen Flaum Judy Goldblatt Murray & Joanie Goodman Beryle Goverman Robert & Rachel Green Barry & Nancy Horowitz Stephen & Sherry Jacobs
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Cynnie S. List
Marty & Karen List
Allen & Zelda Mason
Neal & MJ Rothschild
Stephen & Nancy Schwartz
Alan, Judy, & Jenny Shuster
Mark & Tracy Simkowitz
Martin & Diane Trust
Ira & Jane Warshaw
Fred & Adrianne Weissman
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
- □ 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.

## November Birthdays

- 1 Karen Barth Simone Goldblum
- 2 Joanie Goodman
- 3 Jillian Ballay
- 5 Bette Gilbert Elliot Klorfein
- 6 Joanne Kagan
- 8 Diane Buhler Esther Perman
- 9 Carol Robbins-Garrett
- 10 Wendy Arron Murray Goodman Linda Hirsch Peter Sherman Martin Shiffman
- 12 Marvin Maltz
- 13 Dylan Baer Richard Golden Sarajane Marell
- 14 Taylor Krauser Martin Trust



- 15 Marlene Ganz Bogard
- 16 Kristen Golov Susan Hut Morris Zabarkus
- 18 Johanna Hartley
- 19 Peter Eckstein
- 20 Michael Bubis Charles Eaton Leonard Feuer Carol Levitan
- 21 Mina Anafi
- 23 Sheila Fine
- 24 Zachary Berke Stephen Jacobs
- 25 Alissa Ballot
- 30 Ellen Wacks Jennifer Wiesen

## Wedding Anniversaries



- 1 Charles & Alexa Hartley
- 2 Adam & Jennifer Green Baer
- 5 Barry & Nancy Horowitz
- 7 Kenneth & Barbara Horowitz Allen & Zelda Mason
- 10 Richard & Rhoda Kleid
- 14 Anatole & Lisa Small Conde
- 17 John & Stephanie Quinto
- 20 David Rothman & Jennifer Wiesen
- 23 Mark & Elaine Feldmesser
- 24 Jim & Eunice Baros
- 25 Rabbi Martin & Jane Zion

## Holiday Boutique on December 1

Sisterhood is holding a fabulous Holiday Boutique and Vendor Show on December 1 from 11:00 am - 7:00 pm. Please contact Judy Preefer, Karen List, or Lisa Rubin Caplan if you want to be a vendor, help secure vendors, and/or volunteer the day/evening of the sale.

Judy - jpreefer@aol.com Karen - Karelito@aol.com Lisa - Irubinc@aol.com



# The Mussar Moment

**Barry Horowitz** 

Last month, Rabbi Shapiro taught us that we don't simply have a soul, but that we are a soul. What is the implication of this? The Mussar teachers take it as axiomatic that we are here in life on earth in order to develop ourselves. They see that our lives are challenging and they deduce that these challenges are a means to help us learn lessons and grow. What is the goal for this learning, development and growth? That we will grow in the direction of wholeness.

Wholeness is our potential and the goal of life. With or without Mussar, or Jewish thought, or any religion or spiritual practice, life *is* a journey of the soul in search of wholeness. In fact, it has been said that the entirety of creation is designed to help us achieve our personal wholeness.

So if life is inherently and unavoidably a journey of the soul in search of wholeness, and if the whole world is set up to facilitate that journey, then the implication is that we are not whole at this moment. In what way are we not whole? The answer is that we are not whole in some of our soul-traits or *middot*. These are aspects of the *nefesh*-soul or that dimension of the soul that interact directly with the world in which we live, the word *middot* also being translated as measures.

The levels of our personal *middot* or soul-traits are set at birth, which is to say that a baby comes into the world with a character already in place. Then, as we go through life, every deed and every thought — whether from experience or, more deliberately, from spiritual practice — comes to be "inscribed" in the *nefesh*-soul, and, in consequence, the levels of our *middot* are raised or lowered. At certain times, certain *middot* will exhibit complete and harmonious wholeness, while others will be partial and incomplete.

All of us are weak in certain *middot* because that defines the starting point from which we are charged to grow toward wholeness. The Mussar teachers call on us to become more aware of which of our *middot* are not whole. In practice, that means becoming aware of the current settings of the *middot* in which we have the potential to grow, because altering the measure of those traits is how we move closer to becoming whole. No matter the life circumstances, there are tests and within those trials, each of us can discern the traits that populate our personal spiritual curriculum. As I sit here writing this as Hurricane Matthew approaches, I can think of several that are testing me: Patience; Gratitude; Faith; Trust (in God).

So, in every moment of your life, and particularly in interactions, your personal spiritual curriculum is announcing itself. Your task is to read and understand what it is announcing. The Mussar movement was developed to provide us with teachings and practices in order to accomplish this - more on these and on individual *middot* in the coming months.



# Social Action Report

Roslyn Leopold | Chair

THANK YOU TO THOSE OF YOU WHO DONATED TO OUR HIGH HOLY DAYS' FOOD DRIVE!!! Once again, Temple Israel answered the call to help feed those who are not as fortunate as we are. Your generosity is appreciated by AJF&CS for the Publix Gift cards which will help so many families in need, and the West Palm Beach CROS Ministries Food Pantry is well-stocked, thanks to your kindness.

This month we are kicking off our series of "Courageous Conversations." This will be a forum to learn about current social action issues followed by facilitated conversations to get people thinking about the issues from all angles. Please join us for *Erev Shabbat* Services on November 11 at 6:30 pm where we will discuss the challenges facing our community with opioid and prescription drug abuse. Be on the lookout for more information soon.

We are in the planning stages of identifying families that may need some assistance this year to make their Hanukkah season a little brighter with our Mitzvah Menorah Program. Thank you to Ellen Goldenson and Lauren Warshaw for volunteering to spearhead this special project again this year.

Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!!





## From the Educator

Iris Koller | Director of Youth, Family Engagement & Learning

#### The New Year Brings New Opportunities for Families and Students!

5777 is bringing many new and growing opportunities for our congregation's children and parents. Here's just a taste of what happened as we transitioned from one year to the next!

- Our school and congregation welcomed a number of new families, adding nine new students to our roster.
- As we welcomed families back to school, our group was too big to meet in the Media Center, a WONDERFUL problem to have! So, we held our welcome breakfast in the David and Pauline Carter Ballroom.
- We held our first of a series of NEW Family Pre-K programs a chance for families with three, four, and five-year-olds to come together to learn, celebrate and build relationships.
- Our High Holy Days' morning family services filled the sanctuary with multi-generational families and joyous voices raised in prayer and song.
- Our annual "Pizza in the Hut" sukkah decorating program which every year is open to our entire congregation and engages every age, gender and interest was a fun-filled and creative event.

In our various classrooms student learning included:

- Understanding what a mitzvah is
- How we can grow a community in our classrooms
- What it means to be B'Tzelem Eloheim created in God's image
- Exploring Maimonides' Ladder of Tzedakah
- Debating whether we truly are our brothers' (and sisters') keepers
- The power of words to reshape our thoughts and actions

#### Coming this month:

- Our NEW *MazalTots* playgroup for babies, toddlers, moms and dads was "hurricaned" out of its first session but is due to begin on Sunday, November 6.
- Family Learning takes hold with sessions for our second and third grade families and our fourth, fifth, and sixth grade families.
- Our first *Shabbat* dinner for Religious School families will continue to deepen relationships as we celebrate and learn together.

Let's celebrate 5777 - an exciting year is ahead!

# Photo Album: High Holy Days







Readers Theatre

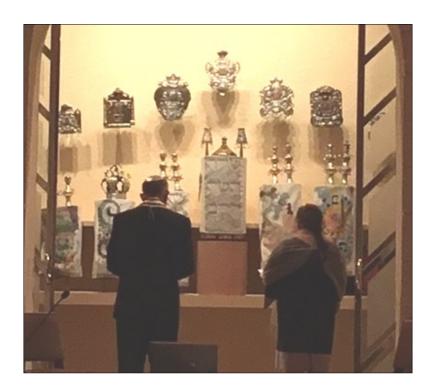
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	Venetian Sponsorship: \$5,000 includes your name on sponsor board, 6 tickets to Casino Night, naming of the craps table
	Caesar's Palace Sponsorship: \$2,500 includes your name on sponsor board, 4 tickets to Casino Night, naming of a poker table
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	includes your name on sponsor board, 2 tickets to C	asino Night	
Lis	st my Sponsorship name as:		
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	Card Number:	/ Exp. Date:/	CSV:
	Name on Card:	Daytime Phone: (	)
	Billing Address:		
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(left) The Torah covers changed to High Holy Days dress.

(below) Families sang and marched from the Kraft Sanctuary to the Media Center during the High Holy Days family service.







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## Instead of "Black Friday," make it a Fellowship Friday this Thanksgiving!

Join the Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews for this annual morning of community service the day after Thanksgiving. After a light breakfast hosted by St. Edward Church, our volunteers will head out to their choice of five sites around Palm Beach County. Call (561) 833-6150 for more information and to register! Student community service hours available.

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

# November 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
		1	2	3	4 First Friday Erev Shabbat 7:00 pm - Proneg 7:30 pm - Service Federation Shabbat with Michael Hoffman and Ray Golden	5 Blessing of the Animals 11:00 am
6 "Mazal Tots" 9:45 am  Daylight Savings Time ends - Don't forget to set your clock back one hour!	7	8 Election Day VOTE	9	10	Erev Shabbat 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service and "Courageous Conversation" Veterans Day	12
13	14	15	16	17	Erev Shabbat 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service Religious School Family Shabbat Dinner	Casino Night 6:30 pm
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25 Erev Shabbat 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service	26
27	28	29	30			Every Saturday Torah Study 9:30-10:30 am