



September/October 2016

Temple Talk

NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM THE TI-JCC COMMUNITY

Membership updates, preschool programs, more

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP RATE FOR PRESCHOOL FAMILIES

Temple TI-JCC now offers a new membership tier that grants a discount to families with children attending a Jewish preschool for at least two days a week. To ask about this discounted rate, call the office at (201) 444-9320 or contact Johanna Resnick Rosen at (201) 805-3989.

FULL-TIME PRESCHOOL FOR OUR MEMBERS, FREE DUES

Are you interested in full-time preschool for your youngster? We offer a weekday preschool program with **free synagogue dues** through our relationship with the Academies at Gerard Berman Day School, 45 Spruce St. in Oakland. **This program is for any TI-JCC family that uses the GBDS preschool five days per week** and for families with students enrolled in any grade at GBDS beyond that. Contact Whitney Blom at wblom@ssnj.org or (201) 337-1111 for information.

SUMMER CAMP AND SCHOLARSHIPS THROUGH JFNNJ

Diana Diner, the Federation's Jewish Camp Coordinator and Concierge, also manages the One Happy Camper Grant for eligible campers going to Jewish overnight camp for the first time. She will help guide you in

Let There be Music!

Our music committee has planned another wonderful season that brings us all together through song.

From live musical accompaniment at our services to lively open mic events, music at TI-JCC always strikes the right chord to connect us to others and to hear the melodies within us all.

Sun., Nov. 20:
Open mic, 3-5 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 21, 2017: Cabaret,
8-11 p.m.



May 7, 2017: Concert,
3 p.m. featuring Annette Lieb, flute, Mike Lemma, guitar, and a clarinet quartet (John Centenaro, Marcie Phelan, Naomi Freshwater, and Jean Roughgarden)

June 30, July 21, 2017: Shabbat Under the Summer Sky -- singalong
6:30, service 7:00, dinner 8:00 p.m.

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Two congregations, one dynamic synagogue community!

As always, Temple Israel & Jewish Community Center has something to offer everyone, young and old. From social events and educational programs to music and art, TI-JCC has it all! And, with two congregations under one roof, we are the only synagogue community in Bergen County to offer two worship alternatives: egalitarian Conservative and Reconstructionist.

A message from Rabbi Fine



With anticipation of friendship and blessing, I am thrilled to welcome in the new year at Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center. What makes this community special to me is how our volunteers work to make a home for everyone under our roof.

Whether it is early childhood programs, youth groups, religious school, Shabbat services, adult education, social action, or sisterhood or men's club, young families or seniors' social events, Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center is your home. Our philosophy of inclusion embraces not only

Conservative and Reconstructionist affiliation and cultures but also those who identify as Jewish "by religion" and those who identify "by culture." We embrace interfaith families and we embrace families of both traditional and non-traditional models. We strive to be an address for the Jewish community where we can come together, learn from each other, pray and play together, and at times, cry together.

I am particularly proud of our community as I look forward to sharing this year my forthcoming book, *Passionate Centrism: One Rabbi's Judaism*. My goal in this book was to put to paper my approaches to various questions in Jewish theology and practice. Much of what I discuss in the book is drawn from the serious and thoughtful discussions we have had, either at Friday night or Shabbat morning services, or at adult education venues. I am grateful for the embracing and nurturing environment that our congregation has offered me and my family.

Shanah tovah.



475 Grove Street
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

It seems that the summer flew by and all of a sudden we are approaching the Days of Awe – the ten days starting with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Yom Kippur. With the Holy Days approaching, I am awed by how much is already going on at our shul and the planning that has taken place to ensure a full calendar of community activities.

In the weeks and months ahead we have many events intended to bring our community together. Social activities include events sponsored by Sisterhood and Brandeis Men's Club – Sisters in the Sukkah, Scotch and Steak in the Sukkah, the progressive dinner, just to name a few.

We have activities to expand our mind and to take care of our bodies – the Rabbi's weekly Talmud class and lectures on Sundays, weekly yoga on Thursdays, the coming together of health care professionals and religious leaders to discuss the modern experience of mortality. Hazak, Byachad and our various youth groups are all in full swing and welcome new members at any time.

I encourage you to explore this abbreviated issue of Temple Talk and attend the events listed. Also, if you are so inclined, please consider joining members of our community who already contribute time and skills to TI-JCC to help plan our programming for the weeks and months ahead.

Looking forward to seeing you during the High Holidays,

B' shalom,
Bob Obeiter

Sisterhood News

After kicking off our year with a "make your own beaded bracelet" event on September 21, we're gearing up for another fabulous programming year. Here's a list of what's on our calendar through the end of December.

Please join us for fun, food and more, and be sure to shop our holiday boutique in December! **RSVP for events to Abbie Klein at abbieklein@icloud.com.**

Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m. — Golden Mah Jongg & more. Join us for a special mah jongg event using a 50-year-old mah jongg card. All are welcome, from beginners to experts. Door prizes!

Oct. 9, 10:30 a.m. — Kugelthon. Love to cook? Join us at Temple Israel to make kugel for our popular break fast.

Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. — Sisters in the Sukkah

Nov. 2 & Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m. — Mah Jongg & more



Nov. 5 — Progressive dinner. Join us for a fun evening out. Hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dessert at different homes in the area.

Dec. 4, 11, 18 — Chanukah Boutique, Sunday mornings at Temple Israel; shop for Chanukah gifts!



Dec. 20 — Latkes & Vodka Ladies Night Out paid up membership party. Bring a holiday gift for residents of the Center for Hope and Safety (formerly Shelter Our Sisters).

Speaking of shopping ... let us know if you want to peruse the elegant items in stock in our gift shop, which is located in the synagogue lobby.

Adult Education — Text Study, Lectures, Special Presentations

Rabbi Fine's Tuesday Evening Talmud Resumes September 27. Join this Lively Study Group!

Come study Tractate Brakhot, learning the laws of prayer along with a wealth of material on rabbinic theology, from the new user-friendly Steinsaltz edition, in an informal, interactive seminar-style class. All levels welcome; no Hebrew reading facility required! *Class begins Tuesday, September 27th, 7:45-9:15 pm*

**Beginning This November ...
New Sunday Morning Lecture Series with Rabbi Fine
"Passionate Centrism," Based on His New Book of the Same Title**

In *Passionate Centrism: One Rabbi's Judaism*, (United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, 2015) Rabbi Fine shares his theology, exploring issues of Jewish law that affect contemporary life, crafted from years of writing and editing responsa for the Law Committee of the Rabbinical Assembly and experience in the pulpit. Among these are keeping kosher, driving to synagogue on Shabbat, music on Shabbat, liturgical changes, egalitarianism and same-sex marriage. With his historian's perspective on context and how legal interpretation has evolved through the ages and his always-lively presentation, Rabbi Fine will help us reflect on the Conservative movement's meaning and relevance for our time. *Dates to be announced.*

**Special Event
Rabbi Selig Salkowitz Scholar-in-Residence Weekend
Co-Hosted by TI-JCC & Temple Avodat Shalom, River Edge
Friday & Saturday, November 11th-12th
Guest Scholar: Dr. Gary P. Zola**

Executive Director of The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives & Edward M. Ackerman Family Distinguished Prof. of the American Jewish Experience & Reform Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

- **Kabbalat Shabbat Talk and Oneg in River Edge:** "For I Am an American and I Am a Jew: The Historical Significance of the American Jewish Experience."
- **Shabbat Morning Presentation and Kiddush Lunch in Ridgewood:** "George Washington, American Jewry, and the Story of Religious Freedom in America."

Details of the weekend's events at both synagogues are still evolving. For up-to-date information, visit the www.synagogue.org and follow our weekly emailed announcements, *TI-JCC Tidbits*.

Rabbi Selig Salkowitz, a retired Reform rabbi and member of both TI-JCC and Avodat Shalom, has made possible this programming through a Scholar-in-Residence endowment he has created.

**Coming This Spring: Adele Rebell
Memorial Scholar-in-Residence**

Dr. Benjamin D. Sommer, Prof. of Bible & Ancient Semitic Languages at JTS

Dr. Benjamin D. Sommer, Professor of Bible and Ancient Semitic Languages, Jewish Theological Seminary, and author, "Revelation and Authority: Sinai in Jewish Scripture and Tradition" (Yale University Press, 2015). The scholar-in-residence is also the brother of long-time TI member, Bob Sommer.

Details to be announced.



Brandeis Men's Club: A Busy Year Ahead!

Thanks to all who joined us this summer to program a new year of BMC events. Particular thanks to Howard Schreiber for hosting our August meeting at the local swimming hole.

Before tackling all the High Holiday prep, your Men's Club was busy demolishing the Temple Israel storage shed (and field mice palace), replacing it with a yet unnamed storage facility in the rear parking area. It has a sun roof, two entrances and a lock that works. The shed boys to whom we owe our thanks are: David Millman, Joe Landau, Jose Serna, Les Birenbaum, Bob Rohrberger, Bruce Thaler, Bob Smolen, Denis Vogel (in charge of shade), Ken Levine, and Bob Dworkin.

Special preview: This year's Raffle 1st prize will be naming rights for the new shed! (2nd prize will be a measly \$750 Amex gift card.)

Please join us at our monthly Brandeis Men's Club meetings. We run many activities that require planning and execution, which you'll find listed on the TI-JCC website; your contribution to these events makes them a success and allows BMC to finance many youth and family programs. Manpower is needed for Steak & Scotch in the Sukkah setup, latke frying and more.

Joe Landau and David Millman, co-presidents



Joe Landau, Bob Rohrberger and David Millman show off the new shed.

Brandeis Men's Club 2016-17 Program of upcoming events

Date	Time	Event
Sun, Oct 16	4:30pm	Steak/Scotch/Ma'ariv in the Sukkah
Sun, Nov 6	2:00pm	Ramapo Reservation hike
Wed, Nov 16	6:00pm	NNJR Man of the Year Dinner
Sun, Dec 4	10:30am	Hearing Men's Voices
Sun, Dec 11	10:00am	Latkes at Hanukkah celebration
Sun, Jan 15	8:00am	BMC Ski Trip
Sun, Jan 29	4:30pm	BMC Fundraiser
Sun, Feb 5	9:00am	World Wide Wrap
Sun, Feb 12	10:30am	Guest Speaker – Health

Tikkun Olam — so many ways to make a difference for others!

Make a note to attend, participate, contribute!

Ongoing Programs

Kol Nidre Food and Clothing Drive — Oct. 11, 2016. Bring non-perishables and gently used or new clothing for men, women and children with you before Kol Nidre service.

• **Interfaith Blood Drives** - Nov. 6, 2016 and April 2, 2017, 8:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

• **Walk-in Dinner Program** — feeding the homeless (cook Sunday, serve Tuesday)
Oct. 30/Nov.1 and Dec. 18/20, 2016
Feb.12/14 and April 23/25, 2017

Special Tikkun Olam Events

• **Immigrant Panel** — Fri., Oct. 21, 2016, with Sukkot dinner. Hear how and why Kurt Rosenberg, Corina Aroneaunu and Alla Fine each left their country of origin due to political and/or religious repression.

• **JNF Disability Program** — March 5, about special JNF programs to promote inclusivity.

Federation Programs/ County Programs

- **Mitzvah Day** — Sun., Nov. 6, 2016 (see more below)
- **Chai Lifeline Toy Drive** — December
- **Good Deeds** — month of March, culminating on April 2, 2017 (program TBD)

National Programs/ Holidays

- **National Gun Violence Prevention Shabbat**— Dec.17
- **Mother's Day dinner** — Center for Hope and Safety, May 14, 2017

Mitzvah Day collections – Please support!

On Sunday, November 6th, Sarah Renee and Mollie Bakal will be hosting collections at TI-JCC from 9:30 am - 2 pm as part of Mitzvah Day. They will have collection boxes in the lobby starting November 1st.

Mollie is collecting **new and used children's books** for Bergen Reads and Ramapo Readers. This is her fourth year collecting books; so far over 2000 books have been donated. Sarah Renee is collecting **new and gently used socks** for men, women and children to be donated to a shelter through Knock, Knock Give a Sock. Last year, Sarah collected almost 1400 pairs of sock that were donated to The Bowery Mission.



What's Up? Youth Happenings this Fall

Temple Israel & JCC's youth programming provides many opportunities for our students in grades 4 through 12 to socialize with other Jewish tweens and teens from throughout Bergen County, enjoy some fun activities, and get involved in social action programs that benefit others in our communities.

El Al (4th and 5th grade)

El Al Kick-off -- September 25, 12:30-1:45 pm

Lunch and fun in the youth lounge – free of charge

We'll share information about our monthly social, recreational, and community service activities we're planning for this year, designed for this age group.

Kadima (6th - 8th grade)

We add regional events to supplement bi-monthly programming.

Welcome Back Pizza Party -- TI-JCC hosted a free pizza party and kick-off event for our middle-schoolers. Everyone heard about all the happenings we have planned for FLIPPER Kadima this year.

Sukkot Celebration -- October 16, 1:30-3 pm at Temple Beth Sholom in Fair Lawn

Join us as we get ready for Sukkot as we build our own edible ones.

Free for FLIPPER Kadima members, \$10 non-members

Lounge time -- October 23, 1:30-3 pm at Fair Lawn Jewish Center

It's time to hang out with your Kadima friends

Free for FLIPPER Kadima members, \$5 non-members

Adventure Day -- November 13, 9 am -- ???

Hebrew school is canceled because of the long weekend. Join us for the day as we to New Haven, Connecticut to It Adventure Indoor Ropes Course, the largest indoor ropes course in the world. Afterwards we'll be heading to the Pez Visitor Center to explore the world of Pez candy!

Cost: \$35 for FLIPPER Kadima members

Food Collection for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service -- **November 20, 1-4 pm**

We'll be collecting food for the Social Services Agency of Ridgewood.

No charge, location TBD

Dinner and a Movie -- December 4, 5 – 7 pm at Congregation B'nai Israel, Emerson

We'll be getting comfortable in the youth lounge for dinner and a movie that you choose

Free for FLIPPER Kadima members, \$10 non-members

Hanukkah Party -- December 18, 1:30 – 3 pm at JCC Paramus/Congregation Beth Tikvah

We'll be celebrating Hanukkah with games and treats!

Free for FLIPPER Kadima members, \$10 non-members

USY (9th – 12th grade)

This is peer-led, with its own board that plans a full schedule of activities, under the guidance of the USY director. USY programs are a mix of fun/social events, social action programs, fundraising and ritual (Youth Shabbat) as we develop our future Jewish leaders.

Welcome Back Pool Party – What a great time we had at a member's home in Fair Lawn in September.

Students learned about the happenings at FLIPPER USY this year, with lots of food, fun and friends.

Sukkot Celebration -- October 9, 2 -4 pm at Temple Israel & JCC

Join us as we get ready for Sukkot building our own edible ones!

Free for FLIPPER USY members, \$10 non-members

Read more about our youth groups at <http://www.synagogue.org/youth/youth-groups/>

Connecting and Celebrating Our Members At Every Age

NNJJA is Now in Session

For info about the Northern New Jersey Jewish Academy (NNJJA), our religious school, **contact Rabbi Estelle Mills: emills@synagogue.org**, or go to our website at www.synagogue.org/jewish-learning/religious-school/. You'll find details about Torah Tots, pre-K and kindergarten, classes for grades 1-7, and programs for teens.

B'YACHAD for younger adults and their families

B'yachad ("together") brings together the younger families, members, and prospective members of the Temple Israel community. We enjoy a mix of casual gatherings at each other's homes, family-friendly day trips, and adult nights out.

Upcoming events

Fri., Sept. 30 at 6:30 p.m. — Shabbat potluck dinner hosted by Evan Weitz & Jen Blanck. We'll recite blessings and enjoy a festive communal meal.

Sun., Oct. 23 at 1:30 p.m. — Apple picking at Maskers Orchard in Warwick, N.Y.



RSVP to Erin Lindenberg: erinlindenberg@hotmail.com.

Erin will add you to her email distribution list upon your request.

Hazak — Our club for adults 55+

Hazak meets the second Wednesday of every month at 12 noon for lunch, discussions and programs of interest. Let's talk! For information or to sign up (or recommend a speaker) call: Evelyn Auerbach (201) 444-6743 or Sonia Albescu (201) 447-5391.

BMC Man of the Year:

Bob /Dworkin

Bob has served the Brandeis Men's Club as a vice president, two years as co-president, and is now the club secretary. He supports and participates in all the Men's Club activities and programs. Since joining Temple Israel & JCC six years ago, Bob has been a regular at services and active on its Board of Directors for the past five years.



Bob has solicited thousands of dollars in donations from neighboring community businesses for the Ways & Means

Committee and served as its Ad Journal Chair. He is also an active member of the Music Committee and Choir.

BMC Youth of the Year:

Raquelle Rothschild

Raquelle has engaged in a combination of Hebrew School and Jewish youth groups her entire life, and she enjoys spending time with her Temple Israel community.

She joined USY as soon as she could, and was on the board this past year, and she will continue with a new position this coming year. Raquelle has also been involved with BBYO, taking a trip to Italy and Slovenia with them.

Synagogue and the traditions that Judaism brings with it have helped to shape Raquelle's values in regards to faith and family.



Other community-wide events of note

Conversations about Mortality

Co-sponsored by Temple Israel JCC, The Valley Hospital and West Side Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood

A comprehensive panel of palliative care experts, including religious leaders and healthcare professionals, will examine the modern experience of mortality through the lens of *NY Times* bestselling author Atul Gawande.



Thursday, November 17
7 - 9 p.m.

West Side Presbyterian Church
6 South Monroe Street, Ridgewood

A light meal will be provided at 7 p.m. and the program will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m. To register, please call **1-800-VALLEY 1** (1-800-825-5391) or www.ValleyHealth.com/Events.

There will be a series of discussions at West Side leading up to the panel on Sundays, at 11:30 a.m., Sept. 18, Oct. 16 and 23 and Nov. 6. All are welcome. To register, please contact Pat McGlade, pmcglade@westside.org or call 201-652-1966.



Rabbi Fine will join religious leaders from West Side Presbyterian Church and Valley Hospital healthcare professionals on this timely panel discussion, based on the much-talked about book, *Being Mortal*, by noted surgeon and author, Dr. Atul Gawande.

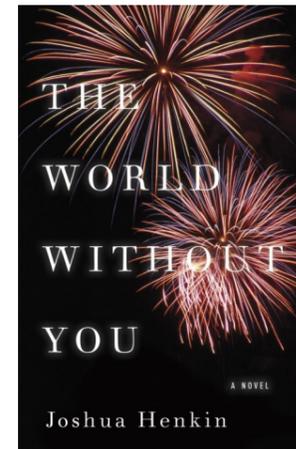
The evening is free and open to the community.

Registration is required to attend this free event. To register for the panel discussion, call 1-800-VALLEY-1 (1-800-825-5391) or visit www.ValleyHealth.com/Events/.

A series of lunch-and-learn events at West Side Presbyterian will precede the panel discussion. For complete information and to register, contact: Pat McGlade at pmcglade@westside.org or 201-652-1966, x104.

Open Minds, New Perspectives

Read any good books lately? Would you like to? Both Temple Israel and Reconstructionist Congregation Beth Israel have active book clubs, open to anyone who loves to read and discuss good books. Check our email announcements (Tidbits) or our online calendar for upcoming book club meetings.



Looking for something juicy to read?

"The World Without You," by Joshua Henkin, is a novel about sibling rivalries, marital feuds, volatile women and silent men, and the true meaning of family. The story is set against America's Independence Day and the Iraq War.

The author has been a speaker at TI-JCC and we have signed hardcover copies available in our gift shop for \$18.

Contact Stephanie Gottesman or the office to get your signed copy.

Reconstructionist Leadership Learning <http://jewishrecon.org/networks>

Explore the crucial questions of Jewish life that just can't be Googled, and that matter most to you and your community.

Join a Reconstructionist Learning Network to dream, explore, connect, learn and take action. Create the Jewish community you want to see!

More than 20 Reconstructionist Learning Networks are being launched this year to facilitate relationships, learning and action around questions related to community brand, models of Jewish education, social justice work that engages members, creating new rituals for changing times ... much more!

Check out the [Reconstructionist Learning Networks catalogue](#) to see the complete list of offerings, find more information about how Learning Networks work, and learn how to register! Facilitators work with you to set agendas, bring expertise and foster learning among colleagues.

Explore case studies, text studies, resource materials, and real-life challenges and solutions. Networks are open to members of Reconstructionist communities. They comprise between 6 and 12 people and meet three to six times a year online for one hour per session. Full details are at <http://jewishrecon.org/files/PDFs/LearningNetworkCatalog8-30-16.pdf>

