



June 2010

Temple B'Nai Israel

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Rabbi's Corner

On May 14th, the New Hebrew month of Sivan begins. Sivan is a very special month. Not only does it include the holiday of Shavuot. More importantly, Jill and I will celebrate our first anniversary (according to the Hebrew calendar) on the fifteenth day of the month.

It is hard to believe that we have been husband and wife for almost an entire year. We counted months at first. When we began declaring our 1st, 2nd, 3rd month, and so forth, anniversaries our parents thought it was strange. We were just happy our marriage had survived that long. We had some initial growing pains when we first got married. I had to promise Jill a "real" honeymoon someday, just so she wouldn't kill me when the volunteer mission to Thailand I convinced her to go on as a honeymoon ended up being far from a fairy tale. Apparently our growing pains have subsided, thank God, as we stopped counting around month 6. Once we internalized how lucky we were to have each other, it was not the time that was significant, but the moments we spent together.

While counting the Omer, which ends May 19th, it is customary to study the book of Perkei Avot, the wisdom of the sages. The book is a collection of teachings attributed to Jewish leaders living just before and after the start of the first millennium C.E. In it we find the memorable line, attributed to Simon the Just, which we recite at every Torah service: Al Shelosha Devarim—"The world stands on three things: on Torah, on worship, and on good deeds (literally, the rewarding of compassion)." If you have a chance, I highly encourage you to read this book. Good translations are available on the internet and the book is relatively short.

This week Jill and I wrote a commentary (*see page 4*) on the first mishna of the 4th chapter of Perkei Avot. It was one of my favorite experiences we have had as husband and wife so far, and I would like to share the results with you. Before I do, please allow me to say, how wonderful it has been to spend our first year of marriage with you. A time of deepening relationships with many of you, and a time of building new relationships with those of you we have yet to meet.

Kul tuy,
(Student) Rabbi Brent Gutmann

Temple Mitzvah Project

To fulfill the Jewish obligation/Mitzvah of feeding the hungry, Temple Sisterhood will provide the noon meal at the Presbyterian Church Soup Kitchen on Sunday, June 13, from 11:15-1:15 p.m. If you would like to contribute a side dish or dessert, or help serve, please contact Carol Ellstein or Pam Ovshinsky for further information: Carol: (231) 525-9250 or Pam (231) 622-8611.

This is part of our Temple-wide mitzvah project to address issues of poverty in our community over the coming year. "Let there be no needy." (Deut. 15:19)

Upcoming Events

Sun., May 30, 11:00 AM – **Sunday School Picnic**
 Sat., June 12, 2:00 PM – **Shabbat Cooking Class**
 Sat., June 12, 6:00 PM – **Shabbat Dinner Potluck**
 Sun., June 13, 11:15 – **Mitzvah Project**
 Mon., June 14, 7:00 PM – **Temple Board Mtg.**
 Fri., June 18, 5:30 PM – **Tot Shabbat**
 Fri., June 18, 8:00 PM – **Shabbat Services**
 Sun., June 20, 10:00 AM – **Ride with the Rabbi**
 Fri., June 25, 5:30 PM – **Tot Shabbat**
 Fri., June 25, 8:00 PM – **Shabbat Services**
 Sun., June 27, 10:00 AM – **Ride with the Rabbi**
 Mon., June 28 – **Israeli Day Camp Begins**
 Tues., June 29, 8:00 PM – **Mysticism Class**

Rosh Chodesh Events

Rosh Chodesh Sivan: Saturday, June 12

2:00 p.m. – "The Gift of Shabbat" w/Jean Gross. Take time out of your busy schedules and re-appreciate the Jewish oasis of Shabbat. Learn the secrets of making a delicious matzo ball soup, roast chicken (can you say "schmaltz" anyone?) and a vegetarian option with our own food guru, Jean Gross.

6:00 p.m. – Temple wide "Shabbat" potluck. All Temple members and Tot families included. Enjoy a traditional Shabbat style meal with family and friends.

Challah, matzo ball soup, and chicken provided; please bring a vegetarian side dish or dessert to pass. (Please make a little extra for the Sisterhood to bring to the Mitzvah project on Sunday, June 13. see article, pg 1 for further details.)

For more information and to RSVP: contact Pam at (231) 622-8611 or povsh@yahoo.com.

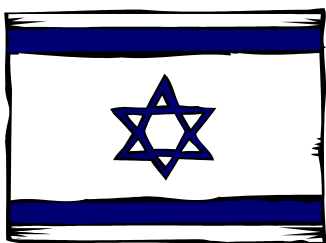
"One cannot and must not try to erase the past merely because it does not fit the present."

Golda Meir

We have added a Friday evening Shabbat celebration geared towards families! If you have young children (or are just young at heart!) and would like to participate in our weekly tot Shabbats, join Rabbi Brent at 5:30 pm on Friday evenings. This will be a short service geared towards young children. There will be a light oneg to follow around 6:00pm with a very basic craft. Hope you can join us for this fun service!



Israeli Summer Day Camp



The opportunity for the Israeli Summer Day Camp is fast approaching. We will be hosting Soul Train the week of June 28 – July 2. Soul Train began with the vision of bringing Jewish spirituality into small

communities throughout the world. This day camp opportunity is a great way to bring a little bit of Israel into your child's life. All children 5 – 12 are eligible to attend the camp. There will be a nominal fee per child for the week of camp to help cover the cost of supplies. Scholarships will be available. We are also in need of teen counselor assistants. For more information and to register, contact Val @ 231-487-1661 or email @ meyerson_954@charter.net.

Riding with the Rabbi

Rabbi Brent is organizing an informal weekly bicycling group on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. He hopes to ride the wheelway north and south throughout the summer. The first ride is scheduled for June 20th. Riders of all abilities are welcome. Meet at the Rabbi house ready to ride by 10 a.m. RSVP to Brent at brentgutmann@gmail.com.



"When you give food to a hungry person, give your best and sweetest food."

Mishnei Torah, Hilchot Issurei Mizbrayach 7:11)



Donations Received

Irene Gordon Memorial Fund

- Mildred Terr, in memory of Irene Gordon
- Gail Shulman, in Memory of Henriett Kaplan's Husband

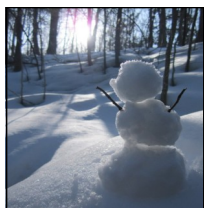
Berta Molasky, large print siddurs.



Did you know that there are many resources available to you through the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) website? There is information about holidays, Torah study, handling difficult issues, a bookstore, and more!

Check them out at www.urj.org!

Mazol Tov Meyerson Boys!



Max Meyerson tied for first place for the middle school in the Little Traverse Conservancy Winter Photo Contest.

Gabe Meyerson won second place for 3rd grade in the Detroit Free Press Yak's Corner Favorite Book Character Contest.. Can you guess who his favorite character is?



Funds/Named Donations Available

- ☐ Temple General Fund ☐ Newsletter Fund ☐
- ☐ Prayer Book Fund ☐ Building Fund ☐
- ☐ Irene Gordon Memorial Fund ☐
- ☐ Lee and Miles Jaffe Memorial Fund ☐
- ☐ Religious Education Fund ☐
- ☐ Stacy McCracken Memorial Youth Enrichment Fund ☐
- ☐ Alvin's "Helping Hand" Rosenhaus Memorial Fund ☐
- ☐ Tree of Life Fund (Leaves \$100 Each, Stones \$1000 each) ☐
- ☐ Aubrey & Gerald Meyerson Perpetual Kaddish Fund ☐
- ☐ Donor Wall Tile Fund (Tiles \$48 each plus freight) ☐
- ☐ Tribute Fund (packets of 5 tributes for \$90/pack) ☐

Temple B'Nai Israel Donation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

My contribution is in honor or memory of: _____

Circle which fund you are designating (above) and then mail your check and this completed form to:

Gus Paz, Treasurer
Temple B'Nai Israel
PO Box 2416
Petoskey MI 49770





Brent & Jill in Jerusalem

JILL AND BRENT'S COMMENTARY

Who is rich?

The ones who rejoice in their portion: Those whose lives are filled with loving friends and family, and those who can encourage each other to follow their dreams. It is the people in this world that we associate with who help us feel complete as individuals, influence us to improve ourselves, and give our lives meaning.

We mean complete in a very specific sense. There is a form of completeness that is in reality ordinary, but beyond the sense of completeness that one typically recognizes in going about common every day errands. This is a sense of completeness felt upon reflecting, when one recognizes they have enriched the lives of others in a

manner that is be-telling to them of its profundity. This truly speaks to what it means to be and feel complete.

If you take its Hebrew corollary: to be at peace (*Shalom* "Peace" and *Shalem* "Complete" have the same root), then you have discovered the purest conception of peace in the world. It is through recognizing other people have guided us on a path that has led us to a place where we feel we have been enriched in our lives in finding a profession that we love, and our work becomes a labor of love, and at that moment, having recognized all of this, we realize we are the wealthiest person in the world, because we are completely at peace.

PERKEI AVOT 4:1:

[Simeon] Ben Zoma says:
...**Who is rich?**

The one who rejoices in his portion, as it is said, "When you eat the labor of your hands, happy shall you be, and it shall be good to you."

"Happy shall you be" - in this world, and "It shall be good to you," in the world to come (Psalms 128:2).

Strive not to be a success, but to be of value.

- Albert Einstein

If Computers were Jewish...

- Your PC would shut down automatically at sundown on Friday evenings.
- Microsoft Word would be renamed to Microsoft Kibbitz.
- Microsoft Office would include "A little byte of this, and a little byte of that".
- When your PC is working too hard, you would occasionally hear a loud "Oye!!!".
- Computer viruses would be cured with chicken soup.
- Solitaire would be replaced with on-line "Mah-Jong".
- Internet Explorer would have a spinning "Star of David" in the upper right corner.
- You would hear the tune "Hava Nagila" during startup.

Moved? Let us Know!

Its a fact. Sometimes, people change their mailing address during the summer. If you've moved, and want to keep receiving the temple newsletter, please email the Temple at info@templebnaiisraelofpetoskey.org, or notify Tom Johnson at 231-487-1661. That way, we can keep our mailing lists current and up to date!



Challahs Available

Simply Challah, by Emma Hindle, is offering freshly baked challah to people living in the Charlevoix and Petoskey area. Challah's are baked fresh to order and are made of all natural wholesome ingredients. They have been taste tested by the Temple Board and are rated as absolutely delicious. Orders need to be placed by Wednesday of each week, to be delivered on Fridays. Petoskey orders can be picked up at the Temple after 4:00 pm and Charlevoix orders should contact Emma for delivery details.

Traditional Challah	\$5.00
w/Sesame Seeds	\$5.00
w/ Garlic Salt	\$5.00
w/ Everything	\$5.50

**To place your order call
231-622-1044.**



Brent, Kabbalah, & Mysticism, Oh My!

Come and explore Jewish mysticism and spirituality with Student Rabbi Brent Gutmann. Brent Gutmann will lead the first installment of a series of classes on Tuesday, June 29th. During this session we will explore the stranger secret side of scripture, and learn how mystical Jewish creation doctrines described the Big Bang at least five centuries before this scientific theory was theorized and corroborated by science. Come join us as we explore strange and surprising Jewish texts, Tuesday, June 29th, 8:00—9:00 PM.

Without music, life would be a mistake.

- Nietzsche

Rosalyn's Violin Sings Again

Over the years, the student violin that Rosalyn Goldstick played in the third grade had fallen into disrepair. So Rosalyn thought that the Dwan Gold family might have an interest in restoring it to playing condition. Thanks to the efforts of Boyne City luthier, Jon Hoaglund, Rosalyn's violin is now back in working order. Plans are underway to restore the original bow to functional use and to fit the violin with a new case, bringing joy once again to the player and listener!



The Had'rachah Seminar for Lay Leadership: August 4—8, NY

In 1989 the Union for Reform Judaism created the first program that offers uniform training to lay leaders, primarily those in small congregations, to help them support the spiritual life of their congregations. Over the years, the Reform Movement's efforts to train lay leaders in the practices & rituals of religious life have expanded to meet the changing needs of all our congregations.

The Had'rachah Seminar is designed to teach lay leaders a variety of skills to help them support communal worship, life-cycle events and educational opportunities. Participants in the Had'rachah Seminar may use these skills in various ways—by serving a congregation that has no clergy; by working in an assisted living facility or adult community; or by assisting their congregational clergy.

The two year program offers two distinct curricula in alternate summers. The curriculum for 2010 will include:

- Preparing for & facilitating High Holy Day worship
- Conducting baby naming ceremonies
- Writing and delivering *divrei* Torah
- Visiting the sick and homebound

Additional study topics covered in 2011 may include Torah and Commentaries; Midrash; Talmud; Israel; Tikkun Olam; Holiday Observances and Education. Seminar participants will increase their Jewish literacy through study with some of the Reform Movement's most distinguished scholars.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell at slelwell@urj.org or Cantor Alane Katzew at akatzew@urj.org.



Scholarships Available!

Calling all 3, 4, and 5th grade girls: Camp Seagull is offering a free two week camp experience, June 26—July 9 at NO COST! The family must be a temple member to qualify. Just contact Bill Schulman at 547-6556 or seagull@freeway.net.

This is a great opportunity to experience the beauty of Camp Seagull at no

charge—call soon though. There are 10 spots available on a first come-first served basis, so call now! For more information about Camp Seagull, located on beautiful Lake Charlevoix visit their website at: www.campseagull.com.



June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thur.	Friday	Saturday
May 30 11:00 Sunday School Picnic	31	June 1	2	3	4 9:04 p.m. 	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 9:09 p.m. 	12 2:00 Rosh Chodesh Shabbat Cooking 6:00 Potluck Dinner
13 11:15 Mitzvah Project	14 7:00 Temple Board Mtg	15	16	17	18 5:30 Tot Shabbat 8:00 Shabbat Services 9:12 p.m. 	19
20 10:00 Ride w/ the Rabbi	21	22	23	24	25 5:30 Tot Shabbat 8:00 Shabbat Services 9:14 p.m. 	26
27 10:00 Ride w/ the Rabbi	28 Israeli Day Camp Begins	29 8:00 Mysticism	30	July 1	2 Israeli Day Camp Ends 5:30 Tot Shabbat 8:00 Shabbat Services 9:11 p.m. 	3

Temple B'Nai Israel
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Located at the corner of Waukazoo &
 Michigan or on the web at:
www.templebnaiisraelofpetoskey.org