

The KIBBITZER

Temple Am Shalom
Mentor, Ohio

July 2017

Tammuz – Av 5777

A Word From Renee

Hello friends,

Hope this July issue of the Kibbitzer finds you all well and enjoying your summer activities. We have been busy here at Temple Am Shalom. We've been doing some heavy duty clean-up and organizing. Thanks to **Elise & Josie, Nora & Sarah Snyder, Amy & Bob Katz, Judy Ford, Jaye & Bruce Call, Janet Evangelista, Jane Rosenberg, Andy Kenen**, and my husband, **Steve**, we have made some major progress. Thanks also to **Don Friedland** for completing some electrical work and his friend, **Harry**, from **Thrifty Plumbing**, for donating and installing the new sump pump (hope Harry is healing nicely from hip surgery). Once our wonderful, **Bill Lange** (drywall and painter extraordinaire), recuperates from hand surgery, he will complete the subfloor in the youth lounge and complete the painting. Our healing prayers go out to him. Then **Jerry Blane** can install the carpeting, and the fire alarm system can be reinstalled and we will have 95% completion downstairs! August will be two years since the start of our project and we are almost there. We can see the light at the end of the

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Go

David Wolpe is the Max Webb Senior Rabbi of Sinai Temple in Los Angeles

From sinaitemple.org Off The Pulpit

L.P. Smith put it this way: "I might give up my life for my friend, but he had better not ask me to do up a parcel." Another Smith, Zadie, put it even better: "I will do anything for my family except visit them." Both were kidding of course. Sort of.

The small burdens of life are in fact sometimes more difficult than the major crises. We all show up for the funeral. But we forget the birthday, the weekly call, or the holiday visit. Life is always rushing at us, and while we can rouse ourselves for the big moments, in quieter times we are likely to remain on the couch.

Yet as a giant brick is not a dwelling, a heroic act is not a friendship. Each relationship is built on an accumulation of small acts, as a house is an accumulation of small stones. Emerson taught wisely, "Go often to the house of your friend. Weeds choke the unused path." Rare is the funeral where I do not hear the lament – "had I only spent more time when he was alive." Well, right now she's alive. Go.

Do People Change?

From sinaitemple.org Off The Pulpit Rabbi David Wolpe

Recently an experiment involving almost 20,000 people showed that we consistently acknowledge that we have changed in the past but underestimate how much we will change in the future. The music the subjects thought they would love forever changed, and sometimes their taste in food as well as ingrained habits and ideas. We believe we will be the same tomorrow as today, but actually we change a good deal.

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tunnel. Thank you everyone!

We had a wonderful Baseball-themed Shabbat dinner and service last month complete with nachos & cheese, popcorn, hamburgers, hotdogs, ice cream, and Cracker Jacks. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. It was so much fun that we decided to have another one this month on **Friday, July 21**. This time we will have a summer potluck meal, with Am Shalom providing beverages and paper products. Please call the temple to R.S.V.P. with the number of people coming and what you will bring for the dinner by July 19.

Thank you to all who attended our Dairy Queen Fundraiser on June 21. Those who attended had a great time and enjoyed the camaraderie and ice cream.

On **Sunday, July 16** we will have our **Annual Temple Meeting** at 10:00 a.m. It is very important that you attend in order to understand what is needed for us to remain a viable congregation in Lake County. We have had a very productive year and would like to hear from you as to what you expect from your temple. Your voices count. Hope to see you there.

Temple Am Shalom is also having a **garage sale** on **Thursday and Friday, July 13-14 from 9:00-6:00**. If you have things to donate or can help to set up, sell or take down, please let me know. It is too much for me to do all by myself. I will be at the temple all day on Wednesday, pricing and setting up. Call the temple and leave a message, if you are able to help. Thanks in advance.

Please keep these members of our congregation in your prayers. **Jaye and Bruce Call** experienced a devastating fire in their condo in the middle of June and lost everything. I appreciate all of the offers of help and donations offered to them from our Temple Am Shalom family. I will let you know when they are somewhat back on their feet and can sort out what they need. You are all awesome. I am so lucky to be surrounded by this much love.

Renee

Sisterhood

10:00 a.m., Saturday, July 8, Manhattan Deli, Mentor location. Contact **Rita Rose** at (440) 867-2268 or email: rrose@oh.rr.com

Men's Fellowship Group

8:00 a.m., Sunday, July 16, Mentor Family Restaurant. Contact **Lee Hawthorne** at (440) 725-6852 or email: hawkeye1@ameritech.net

Adult Sunday School

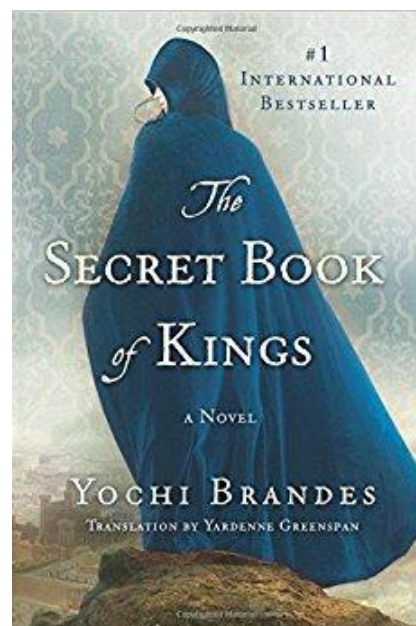
10:00 a.m., July 23 Beginner Hebrew and text study classes are currently being offered.

Literary Club

The Literary Club met on May 17, and discussed *A Long Way Gone – Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah.

Join us at Am Shalom for our next book discussion in July (no June meeting):

- **Tuesday, July 11, at 7:30 p.m.**, we talk over *The Secret Book of Kings: A Novel* by Yochi Brandes. Congregants are encouraged to participate even if you have not read the book
- Contact: **Sharon Whitney** at (440) 364-9263 for more information.



KITCHEN RENOVATION FUND UPDATE

Phase 1 - 5: Completed

Unexpected Updating

- Fire Alarm System
- Youth Group Room
 - Subfloor
 - Carpeting
 - Sump pump – donated

A Commitment to Serve

By Ron Rose-Acting Treasurer

Recently, the board under the leadership of Andy Kenen is revising and updating the by-laws and constitution of Am Shalom. The biggest misconception of the gravest threat to our temple is financial, because of the cost of constant needed improvements, on top of the obligation to pay all our monthly bills. Despite the financial obstacles, this temple has overcome the challenges. **Temple Am Shalom is overcoming the financial obstacles we are facing.** Therefore the number one threat is not financial obstacles. The number one threat to the existence of our temple is the lack of involvement of every member to do more than just paying your dues.

Every member should offer of themselves to help on our committees such as the Board, fundraising, spiritual etc.

With this in mind my suggestions are as follows:

- Paying dues is not the only requirement of being a member of Am Shalom.
- Select a committee to join with a minimum of a one year term and a maximum of two years.
- Participate in some services and activities instead of just being here on High Holy Days.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ron Rose

George Bernard Shaw once remarked that the only person who understood him was his tailor, since his tailor measured him anew each time they met. If we are wise, we will reserve judgment on others as well as ourselves.

Repentance, “teshuva” is a promise of the possibility of change. It is easy to have settled ideas about who we are and to be equally settled about the character of others. But there is wisdom in that marvelous movie, the Philadelphia story, when Katherine Hepburn declares passionately, “the time to make up your mind about people is never.”

Lodestar Love

From sinaitemple.org Off The Pulpit Rabbi David Wolpe

The Torah teaches us what to value, sometimes by faithfulness and sometimes by forsakenness.

Despite many trials and difficulties, Ruth remains faithful to Naomi and through that faith, reconstructs their lives and paves the way for the coming of the Messiah.

Samson should treasure his people and God, yet forsakes both for ego that struts for an hour on the stage before he is reminded of his destiny.

Moses remains faithful and fulfills his mission.

Saul is betrayed by his own insecurity and uncertainty, forsakes his calling and fails as King of Israel.

The Torah’s message is clear: do not let the distractions of the moment derail you from the deep certainties that should guide a life. Bitachon, trust in God and in the love that brings will be the lodestar of the divided heart.

Or in the words of the great poet:

*Endless the grief of one
who, for love of things that do not last,
casts off a love that never dies.*

(Dante, Paradiso XV)

CELEBRATING AND REMEMBERING

Birthdays

Renee Blau	July 1	Janet Evangelista	July 26
Shannon Carlin	July 7	Marda Rose	July 29
Sydney Donohue	July 7 (21)	Rebecca Rose D'Orazio	July 30 (20)
Frances Goldman	July 10	Rita Rose	July 30
Ian Hawthorne	July 13 (21)		
Sue Berkens	July 20		
Ariel Bezoski	July 22		
Sylvia Krebs	July 22		
Ashtyn Werling	July 22 (13)		
Judy Ford	July 24		

Anniversaries

Doug & Elise Aitken	July 9 (22)
James & Debbie Donohue	July 16 (23)
Sean & Shannon Carlin	July 21 (10)
John & Elinor Schuster	July 26 (36)

Yahrzeits

May their memory always be a blessing to your family and all Israel.

Light Yahrzeit candle the evening before the date. These names will be read during services in the month of July:

Name	Civil calendar date	Jewish date	Yizkor date observed
Anna Wexler	July 1	3 Tammuz 5755	June 27
Steven Berkowitz	July 2	1 Tammuz 5752	June 25
Phillip Lettovsky	July 3	26 Sivan 5746	June 20
Rachel Morris	July 5	4 Tammuz 5752	June 28
Roslyn Kline	July 7	7 Tammuz 5757	June 26
Charles Croce	July 8	28 Tammuz 5748	July 17
Aaron Antonovsky	July 11	13 Tammuz 5755	July 7
Morris Alscher	July 12	27 Tammuz 5710	July 21
Betty Kenen	July 16	25 Tammuz 5761	July 19
Robert O'Loughlin	July 17	28 Tammuz 5753	July 22
Louis Clar	July 20	26 Tammuz 5777	July 20
Anna Gugliotta	July 25	7 Av 5753	July 30
Bernard H. Morris	July 26	28 Tammuz 5755	July 22
Richard Clar	July 29	22 Av 5773	August 14
Irving Goldman	July 29	27 Tammuz 5741	July 21
Carolynn Carlson	July 31	10 Av 5769	August 2

WEEKLY TORAH AND HAFTARAH READING

July 1	Chukat	19:1-22:1	Judges 11:1-33
July 8	Balak	22:2-25:9	Micah 5:6-6:8
July 15	Pinchas	25:10-30:1	Jeremiah 1:1-2:3
July 22	Matot – Mas-ei	30:2-36:13	Jeremiah 2:4-28; 3:4
July 29	D'varim	1:1-3:22	Isaiah 1:1-27

From BimBam.com

How to Say the Jewish Blessing over Children

It's a sweet and special custom in Jewish communities to bless your children on Friday nights before Shabbat dinner. Here's how.

A blessing is a short moment out of time to express your appreciation for something or someone. Judaism encourages blessings for food, drink, study, washing your hands, using the bathroom – it goes on and on. But so many parents connect very deeply with the custom of blessing their children on Friday nights. It's ancient and beautiful and easy to learn how to do. Whether you bless your child the traditional way, or add your own twist, it will be a highlight of the week for both of you.

<https://www.bimbam.com/how-to-say-the-jewish-blessing-over-children/>

Healing Prayers

Jim Adams

Harold Blane

Michelle Hawthorne

Elyse Phillips Kohn

Arlene Everly

Betty Pelunis

Marc Steindler

When praying for an individual who is ill, it is customary to recite the following thirty-six chapters of Psalms: 20, 6, 9, 13, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 38, 39, 41, 49, 55, 56, 69, 86, 88, 89, 90, 91, 102, 103, 104, 107, 116, 118, 142, 143, and 148.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Save The Date Saturday, August 12, 10:30 a.m. Alissa Bittinger will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah. Alissa is the daughter of Rebecca and Matt Bittinger and granddaughter of Jane Rosenberg.						1 July
2	3	4 Independence Day	5 Board Meeting 7:30pm	6	7 Shabbat Service 7:30pm	8 Sisterhood Manhattan Deli 10am, Mentor
9	10	11 Literary Club Meeting 7:30pm Fast of Tammuz	12 Activities & Fundraising Meeting 7:00pm Garage Sale Set up	13 Garage Sale 9am – 6pm	14 Garage Sale 9am – 6pm	15
16 Men's Fellowship 8am Annual Temple Am Shalom Meeting 10am	17	18	19 R.S.V.P. due for Potluck Shabbat	20	21 Summer Potluck Shabbat Dinner 6pm & Service	22
23 Adult Hebrew School 10am	24 Rosh Chodesh Av	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Erev Tish'A B'av					

Candle Lighting 8:46

Candle Lighting 8:44

Candle Lighting 8:41

Candle Lighting 8:36

Candle Lighting 8:30

Temple Am Shalom
Proxy

For members to use if they cannot attend the July 16 meeting, but wish to vote.

I (Print Name) _____ assign my proxy vote for the 2017 Am Shalom
Annual General Membership Meeting to (Print Name) _____.

Signed _____ Date _____

Temple Am Shalom
Proxy

I (Print Name) _____ assign my proxy vote for the 2017 Am Shalom
Annual General Membership Meeting to (Print Name) _____.

Signed _____ Date _____

Proxies must be brought to the Temple Am Shalom Annual General Membership meeting by the member casting the vote.

Temple Am Shalom
P.O. Box 1507
Mentor, Ohio 44061-1507
Fair Share Dues Schedule 2017-2018

<u>Annual Net Family Income</u>	<u>"Fair Share Dues Commitment"</u>
Youth Temple Membership through High School	\$100
All High Holiday Services Memberships	\$250 Per Person
Up to \$30,000 or Single Membership	\$450
\$30,001 – \$40,000 {Yiskor books	\$550
\$40,001 - \$50,000 are included	\$650
\$50,001 - \$60,000 with all Memberships)	\$750
\$60,001 - \$70,000	\$850
\$80,001- \$90,000	\$950
\$90,001 – up	\$1050

Am Shalom must meet projected Temple Projected Expenditures of \$34,000, for the payment of its staff, taxes, utilities, insurance, building improvements, etc. Since we presently have less than 40 member families, each family would at a minimum be asked to pay at least **\$850 per family** consisting of **\$800** dues and **\$50** Building fund in order to meet our Budget. Naturally any additional donation to either the Fair Share Dues Commitment or our Building Fund, based on the above suggested income chart will be needed to support Am Shalom. **"Fair Share Dues Commitment" means every member is informed of the true cost of maintaining the temple and then is asked to pledge a voluntary amount of what their family could afford.**

Please return signed form to Am Shalom with dues deposit (and make a copy for your records) prior to High Holy days, as this renews your membership for the 2017-2018 year.

\$ _____ **Pledge** \$ _____ **Building Restoration Fund**

- Method of Payment:** (1) **Full Payment** by 9/18/17.
 (2) **Pay 1/3 due now (Sept 18), 1/3 by 1/18/18 and Final Payment due 5/12/18**
 (3) **Monthly Payments** or **(Paypal=Dues Payment + 3% surcharge)**

Name(s) _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____ Zip Code: _____
 Phone: _____ Cell: _____ E-Mail _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Renee Blau, Spiritual Director & Cantorial Soloist
Elise Aitken, Asst. Spiritual Director & Cantorial Soloist

Am Shalom Board

President	Steven Blau
Immediate Past President	Lee Hawthorne
Vice President	Andrew Kenen
Secretary	Pene Obenour
Acting Treasurer	Ronald Rose
Youth Group	Elise Aitken
Education Director	Renee Blau
Facilities Maintenance	

Members at Large:

Erik Nehamkin, Jonathan Sweet, Bob Sobol

Please kibbitz with us by contributing to our newsletter!

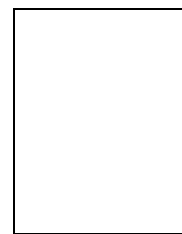
Address your news, articles, suggestions or corrections to Jonathan Sweet at jonsweet@outlook.com (be sure to include an identifying Subject line in your email); or send mail to him at Am Shalom (by the 17th of the month prior to the issue you want your information to appear):

P.O. Box 1507, Mentor, Ohio 44061-1507

If you are receiving the Kibbitzer via email or from Temple Am Shalom's website: amshalom.org, and you would not like a paper copy, contact the temple so we can save on materials and postage.

Thank you

Temple Am Shalom
P.O. Box 1507
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

