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What’s been happening at Temple - Late Fall

HHD Services at JCC
From our President

Jason Mandlowitz

Our recent High Holy Day services and celebration finally allowed us to be together in-person. It was great to see so many of you. We had as many congregants joining us by Zoom as we did in-person. This meant that in 2022, we had as many joining us as in pre-COVID days.

Thank you for observing our health and safety protocols - especially being fully vaccinated and selecting an optional or mandatory masking area at the JCC.

During our Rosh Hashanah services, I had the opportunity to formally launch our Life and Legacy Program. We made available to you an article on LL, a Temple Israel information flyer and Letters of Intent.

Life and Legacy (LL) is a gift giving and legacy donation program sponsored and financially supported by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Temple Israel is participating in LL with Beth Tefilah, Or Shalom and Jewish London together with four Jewish organizations in Windsor. Our goal is to build a solid financial base for the future of our community. This can be done by individuals/families committing to make donations now or in their estate planning to Temple Israel.

Our new LL flyer and Letter of Intent is included in this Bulletin. Our LL goal is to have 18 Letters of Intent signed by June 2023 and a further 18 by June 2024. So far, we have 6 letters already signed. The Letter of Intent is not a legally binding document: it is a statement that you are considering supporting Temple Israel for the future. We know that many of you have already listed Temple Israel in your estate planning: wills, insurance policies, etc. You have 12 months from the date of your Letter to finalize your commitment. While the Letter of Intent asks for an estimate of your financial commitment, I want to emphasize this can be left blank and it can be addressed at a later date. The minimum commitment is set at $1,000 US or about $1,250 Canadian.

So, we are asking that you simply convert your commitment to a Letter of Intent now. This will help Temple Israel plan for the future.

If you wish to discuss LL, don’t hesitate to contact myself, Jeff Phillips (LL Co-Chair), or our office. You can also support our campaign by becoming a Temple Israel LL Committee Member. We are in this together!

Best wishes as we move towards the winter months.
Rabbi Debra Stahlberg Dressler

*For the times they are a-changin’...*

Many of us have started to venture out into life as we knew it pre-Covid. Sometimes we mask, sometimes not. We’re not immune from Covid-19, no matter how many shots, but we’re usually bouncing back pretty predictably if we experience an infection. Long-delayed trips and visits with family are possible again.

At Temple Israel, we are thrilled to be back with in-person services. In the building, we accommodate areas for those preferring to mask and for those who don’t. About half of our attendees to any service continue to come to us through Zoom. We have adapted prayer books and added technology to make our virtual audience feel part of the community in real time.

But we know traditional worship services are not everyone’s cup of tea - or are a once-in-a-while event - like the High Holy Days, or Chanukah and Passover. It has always been the case that there are a lot of ways of being Jewish and lots of ways to celebrate Shabbat. In a post-lockdown paradigm, the social part of Jewish community has become oh-so-precious.

We learned from a survey of our members that most people were still masking some or all of the time they leave home. However, most people shared that when they got together with friends and family, they often did not mask. And when asked about their preferences for coming to Temple, the strong preference was to be able to remove masks, to chat and get to know each other better.

I think there’s an important observation in that response. Our members don’t think of Temple like they do going shopping, going to work, or even going to the theatre. To most of us, being at Temple is being “home” - enjoying the company of the people to whom we feel close. That’s a wonderful thing to recognize.

To embrace the opportunities and challenges of our changing community, we are experimenting with a few new Shabbat and other opportunities. Please continue to share with us your ideas and your feedback, as we explore all the ways - new and old - of connecting with each other. Some of them are detailed below.

Don’t be a stranger! I can’t wait to see you.

**Tot and Family Shabbat (new):** We are thrilled to have a number of families with very young children, who want to come together for a child-friendly service on Saturday mornings. We are scheduling one of these each month, led by Rabbi Dressler with Ailene Wittstein and Hannah Byrne-Wolfson.

**Shabbat Supper Club (new):** When Rabbi Dressler was a student rabbi, her small community in Arkansas routinely went out on Friday nights to dine together. In that spirit, once per month, we are choosing a restaurant and coming together to eat as a group. We do blessings, and talk a (very) little Torah, but mostly we eat and chat. And nobody has to cook! The next Supper Club meets on Friday, November 18 at 6pm.

**Shabbat Morning Services:** 2 or 3 Saturdays a month, we hold morning services with the choir and Torah readings, including Zoom access for those who prefer to join virtually.
Shabbat Evening Services: Some months we have a Friday night service, such as those geared to families and Religious School students; our songleader, Hannah Byrne-Wolfson, assists Rabbi Dressler with music.

Torah Study: This remains on Zoom, and is held on Saturdays when there is no in-person service.

Also:

Lunch and Learn: We have started up again on Tuesdays at 1pm, and this remains on Zoom. By popular request we are going to explore rabbinic texts, specifically in how women are discussed. We are starting with Lillith - the perennial Jewish “bad girl”

Legos and Latkes: Please save the date of Sunday, December 18, for our annual Chanukah party and social action project. Keep an eye on your email for details and registration soon.

Did your family celebrate a bar or bat mitzvah at TI? Feel like reminiscing about these special family and community moments? If you are willing to share your photos and your memories, please email the Temple office.

Yasher Koach to:
Cindy and Jeff Monger on being selected for the cover of the October 2022 issue of “Neighbours of Sunningdale”
Art & Sandra Benjamin on celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary
Art & Sandra Benjamin on becoming great grandparents to Benjamin Fischel Abramson
Dinah Frank on receiving her Doctor of Education Degree at Western University
Brad Nussbaum & Shannon Beliak on their recent marriage

Condolences to:
Marion and Jeffrey Rogers on the loss of their granddaughter, Jacqueline (Jacqui) McDermott
Jeffrey Seigel on the loss of his mother, Shirley Seigel

Todah Rabah to:
High Holy Day participants and the choir who contributed to making our services a success
Naomi Stambler and Desi & Kandice Brownstone for their donation of flowers for our services

Welcome to New Member:
Audrey Bondy

Do you have some happy news to share with the TI family? Please send a message about your Simcha to the Temple Office.

Are you observing shloshim or a recent yahrzeit? Please feel free to share a photo of your loved one which we can include during our services.
Donations

GENERAL DONATIONS
in memory of Phyllis Simner's mother, Minnie Malkis from Marvin & Phyllis Simner
in honour of Susan Dean from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
from Eli Nathans
from Leslie Paddock
in honour of Jane Jacob from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
in honour of Jim Stevens from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg

IN-KIND DONATIONS - HHD
donation of flowers for Yom Kippur from Naomi Stambler
donation of flowers for Rosh Hashanah from Desi & Kandice Brownstone

SPONSORSHIPS - HHD
from Norma Zuckerman
from Doug Harefeld
from Thomas Casler
from Sharon Marks
from Eduardo Krupnik & Paola Caponetto

SPONSORSHIPS - EDUCATION & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
from Jeremy & Dinah Frank
in honour of Harrison Lebo on the occasion of his bar mitzvah
from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
from Sharon Marks

GAYLE A. HOOVER MEMORIAL FUND
in honour of the Rabbi and Torah classes from Stuart Selby
on the occasion of Rabbi Larry Hoffman's 80th birthday from David & Thelma Rosner
in honour of Arielle and Max's wedding from Lynne & Wayne McKinnon

BUILDING FUND - RAMP PROJECT
from Linda Freedman
from John & Susan Dean
from Michael & Penny Lander
from Jeremy & Dinah Frank
from Janie Rother & Grant Edwards
from Sharon Marks
from Thomas Casler
from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
from Jim & Daphne Stevens
from Melody Enzel
from Bonnie Teevan
in honour of Susan McGregor from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND (RDF)
in honour of the Rabbi's bat mitzvah year at TI from Michael Shmukler & Linda Dutsch
in honour of Casey's and Jake's marriage from Sharon Marks
in memory of Yolan Pal, mother of Leslie Kochav
from Leslie & Nurit Kochav

SOCIAL ACTION FUND - FOOD BANK
from Rob MacDougall
on the occasion of Yom Kippur from Joshua Wiener & Laura Ball
from Robert Solomon & Barbara Lent
from Walter & Linda Zimmerman
from Sharon Marks
from Debra Kapp
from Terry Sicul & Kim Moodie
from Brynah & Clive Schneider-Friedman
from Pam Block and Matthew Lebo
from Elizabeth Teevan
from Bonnie Teevan
in memory of Phyllis Marks from Sharon Marks
in memory of Saul Marks from Sharon Marks
in memory of Lianne Marks from Sharon Marks
in memory of George Hedde from Sharon Marks
in memory of Georgina Hedden from Sharon Marks

Note: Donations included to October 15, 2022. If we have inadvertently missed an acknowledgement on your behalf, please let the office know so that we include your kindness in our next publication.

The Temple office may be open for limited hours, but the office remains open virtually. If you would like to make a donation, please call the office and leave a message at 519-858-4400 or email: office@templeisraellondon.ca.
Milestone Birthdays & Anniversaries

**November Milestone Birthdays**
- November 11  Phyllis Simner
- November 19  Michael Keller

**November Milestone Anniversaries**
- November 15  Art & Sandra Benjamin

**December Milestone Birthdays**
- December 1  Jeff Phillips
- December 1  Steffani Silberstein

**December Milestone Anniversaries**
- December 26  Clive & Brynah Schneider-Friedman