



In this issue:

- * Education
- * Upcoming Events
- * Around our Property
- * From our President
- * From our Rabbi
- * TI Board

What's been happening at Temple?

Highlights from the High Holy Days and beyond....

This year we had a few weeks between the opening of our Religious School on September 9 and the beginning of the High Holy Days on September 29. Here are some highlights, told in a few words – and many pictures!

Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur

Once again, our High Holy Day services were greatly enhanced by the singing of the Temple Israel Choir. Thank you to our singers, and to David Rosner and Michael Simmons for their musical leadership.



We also congratulate Hannah and Lillian Shmukler and Rael Wienburg on their superior shofar blowing! And many thanks to Naomi Stambler and Kandice & Desi Brownstone for sponsoring the bouquets of flowers that beautified the JCC.



Sukkot & Simchat Torah

At Temple Israel, Sukkot is synonymous with pancakes and sukkah decorating. This year, we gathered for breakfast and crafts on October 20, eating delicious pancakes and creating a beautiful sukkah for everyone to enjoy.

That evening, we gathered again to celebrate Simchat Torah and to welcome our new students to the Temple Israel Religious School.

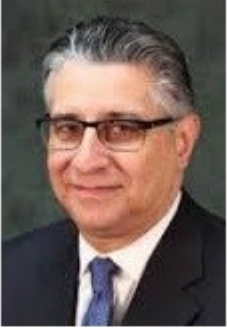


Social Action

Our Social Action committee is back at work, making the world a better place, one act of kindness at a time. On October 27 members participated in an Interfaith Tree Planting at Paul Haggis Park. A few days later, we met to prepare homemade soup for Rotholme Women & Children's Shelter. If you'd like more information about Social Action at TI, please visit our website.



From our President



Jason Mandlowitz

As we experience the beautiful Fall in London, I am struck by how fortunate we are to live in this community and in Canada.

Together we were able to share High Holy Days and several celebrations at the JCC and at Temple without incident. The same cannot be said for Jews in other parts of the globe. Our community experienced violent attacks and anti-Semitism in Europe and North America.

As we enjoy the final months of 2019 and usher in the Jewish New Year, we have a lot to look forward to at Temple Israel. We will continue to provide programs and services made possible by the financial generosity of our congregation. Thanks to our members for their financial contributions for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. If you have not as yet arranged for your Temple dues, it would be very helpful if you could do so as soon as possible. And don't forget to consider donations to one of our twelve (12) funds.

2020 is a seminal year for us. It marks the 10th anniversary during which Rabbi Dressler has led our congregation. We have been truly blessed.

Accordingly, Temple Israel is striking an organizing committee, under my leadership, to celebrate this important milestone. Your active participation either as a member of the organizing committee or by forwarding suggestions for events, programs or initiatives is welcomed.

I am looking forward to working with our Executive and Board in the months ahead as I complete the fourth (4th) year as your President.

From myself, Daryl and our family – best wishes to you all.

Around the Property

Here's what you may have noticed around our property:

- The pile of wood chips in the car park has been spread around our trees, leaving space for an industrial garbage bin which will make life easier for garbage disposal since Ira and Sergio's departure.
- Our external lighting has been reviewed by an electrician. We are waiting for quotes.
- The peeling paint under the eaves has been scraped and repainted.
- We've made minor repairs to the front fence.
- The weed bed behind the garage is finally dying off.



From our Rabbi



Rabbi Debra Stahlberg Dressler

On Facebook, my colleagues have been posting various images saying “Rabbis ❤️ Cheshvan.”

Some explanation: in the Jewish calendar, every lunar month has at least one holiday (Purim, Rosh HaShanah, etc.) - except the month between the High Holy Days (Tishrei) and Chanukah (Kislev), which is named Cheshvan. This month was sometimes referred to as “Mar Cheshvan,” because it is “Mar” (bitter) from its lack of celebrations.

So for Rabbis and other volunteers and Jewish professionals who open schools and celebrate the fall holy days, a month of just “normal” is anything but bitter or unwelcome. We ❤️ Cheshvan!

Of course, our weekly Shabbat observance is still a joyful event in contrast to week days. And by November, we get to start up our other programs, like Adult Ed or special Shabbatot, that wouldn’t be practical to attempt during September or October. There is more time to think, to connect with people one-on-one, and to catch up with matters both quotidian and sublime. In the Christian calendar, there is a specific season referred to as “Ordinary Time,” distinct from Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, or Pentecost. It has its own liturgical colour (green instead of white, purple, or red). It’s its own “thing.”

I always think of that idea of giving “normal” a name when November rolls around at Temple. The holidays and Holy Days are peak annual experiences. But the wonderful routine of “ordinary” time is an important time of renewal, connection, and living. We need both, each in their own times.

So, please join me in wishing us all a very, very happy Cheshvan.

Ritual Updates

NEW - Saturday “minyan”

Because we no longer have regular building and kitchen staff, we are making small modifications to our worship to accommodate our available staffing resources. Going forward, some Saturday services will be designated as a Shabbat “Minyan” with Torah Study. We will begin at 10:00 am with bagels, and then from 10:30 to 12:00 we will worship, incorporating a text study. Rabbi Dressler will offer bagels and coffee before the service, but there will be no kiddush or separate Torah Study after services. This service will be a little more informal, and will be particularly appropriate for JIC students and adult learners. Elements of the service will be described to help those unfamiliar with Shabbat worship learn what we do, and why we do it. We will worship a capella, offering a variety of alternative melodies for our liturgy. All are welcome.

NEW – Monthly Yahrzeit List

In order to accommodate the changing needs of our congregation, we will be switching to a monthly yahrzeit list. This means, that we will read a month’s worth of yahrzeits (and publish them in the bulletin that way) at ALL services during that month. You can attend the service prior to the date of the yahrzeit (our current custom), or you can attend another service that month, without making special arrangements for us to read the names on a different week. (You would only need to arrange that if it will be a different month than the date of the observance.) You will get a notice, including the services scheduled for the month. If you wish to participate in one of those services where your loved one’s name is read, you will be able to indicate your interest as well. Once this process is fine-tuned, we will have the ability to send email reminders for each month instead of a paper notice or phone call. Please contact Rabbi Dressler or the Temple Office if you would like more information.

Upcoming Events

Torah Study featuring Michael Fisman

Back by popular demand, Michael will again present the weekly Torah portion in Yiddish on November 16, 2019. As a Haftarah, he will read sections of Sutzkever's Vilna Ghetto. Sutzkever is regarded as the greatest Yiddish poet of the later (after WW1) 20th century. For Torah study, he will present the life of Avram Sutzkever as seen through his memoir-Vilna Ghetto- and through his amazing poetry.

Kindergarten Experience

November 10 @ 11 - Shabbat & Our Homes

December 15 @ 11 – Shabbat & Chanukah

Children in JK/SK and their families are invited to join us for a fun and interactive introduction to the Jewish Holidays! Open to Temple Israel members and non-members. Please RSVP to the office at office@templeisraelondon.ca / 519-858-4400.

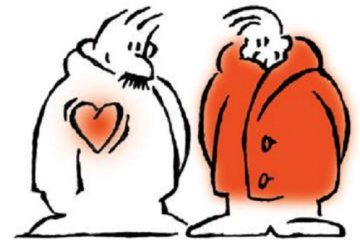


Chanukah Party & Share The Warmth

December 15 @ 12 pm

Join us for our annual Share the Warmth charity drive and Chanukah Celebration. We'll be tying up some cozy blankets to provide comfort to kids at Merrymount while our youngest members enjoy games and holiday crafts. We'll also be accepting donations of new socks, hats, and mitts for the youth at Y.O.U., and collecting gifts for families sponsored through LifeSpin - check with the religious school for details. And of course, there will be lunch and latkes!

\$10/adult, \$5/child (12 & under). Please pre-register with the Temple Office 519-858-4400.



UPCOMING EVENTS – COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Virtual Tour of Old Jewish London

November 19 @ 2 pm, JCC

Join Walter Zimmerman for this exploration of the history of the Jewish community in London. You may be surprised to learn which local landmarks have Jewish connections!

Jewbilation

November 23 & 24 @ JCC

A weekend celebration of all things Jewish! Make sure to visit the Temple Israel gift shop's table for all your Chanukah needs. Many events are open to the public. Some require pre-registration (\$18). Please check the schedule/Jewish London website or Facebook page for full details.



Jewish Education Manna (JEM)

Mondays @ 7:30, JCC No cost and open to the public

November 11: The End of Peak Jewish TV with Michael Fraiman

November 18: Digital Hate: The Internet, Anti-Semitism, and the Rise of the Alt-Right with John Hope

December 2: Harmony in a Divided Identity with Rivka Campbell

December 9: The Universality of Fiddler on the Roof with Judy Ball

December 16: Is Putin Good or Bad for the Jews? With Alexis Lerner

Upcoming Events Cont'd.

Temple Israel Book Club

The Temple Israel Book Club meets at 2 pm on Saturday afternoons at Temple Israel. Here are the books and dates for 2019 / 2020. You'll find two copies of each title in the Temple Israel library!

Dear Zealots, Letters from a Divided Land, by Amos Oz – November 30

The Chosen Wars, by Steven Weisman – January 25

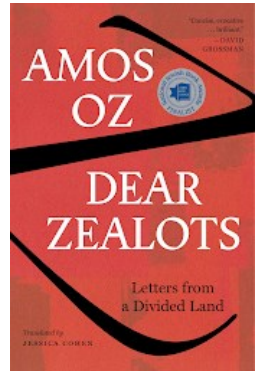
Memento Park, by Mark Sarvas – February 22

Jumping Over Shadows, by Annette Gendler – April 18

In The Garden of Beasts, by Erik Larson, May 9

Everyone is welcome to join the discussion!

bitly.com/tibookclub



Adult Hebrew Classes

It's never too late to learn Hebrew! Our adult Biblical Hebrew classes are underway Tuesday evenings. If you're interested in joining, contact Stephen State: stephen.state@schulich.uwo.ca

Jewish Information Class

Temple Israel's Jewish Information Class (JIC) is open to anyone who wants to broaden their Jewish knowledge. Come for one class, or join them all. Classes will run Sundays from 2 – 4 pm, November 10/17/24 and resume in January. Visit our website or call the office for more details.



Lunch and Learn

Bring your lunch and join Rabbi Dressler Tuesdays at noon, exploring current events as well as classic Jewish topics. Our learning runs November 5 to December 17, and will resume in the New Year.



Education

There's been lots of activity at the Temple Israel Religious School since September. Here are just a few highlights:

High Holy Day crafts were organized and facilitated by Coralia Tudor. Our children made beautiful beehives and frames, as well as croissant pomegranates. Many thanks to Sue Baker, Amanda Kantor, Megan Abbott and Coralia's daughter Luciana for their assistance! Afterwards, Rabbi Dressler led a family service followed by a potluck lunch.

On October 20, kids of all ages joined us for our annual Pancake Breakfast and Sukkah Decorating. Jeremy Frank and his crew – Nevia, Larissa, Joel, Gabriel and Emma - were in our kitchen bright and early preparing pancakes and scrambled eggs. A special thank you to Lynn Grushka for the gluten free coconut pancakes, hot strawberry sauce and whipped cream.

Sukkot crafts were led by Lillian and Hannah Shmukler and Maya Grushka. Our children made paper chains, paper plate spirals, and autumn leaves sewed onto hessian strips to decorate our sukkah. Gabriel Warford and Joel Frank hung the decorations and lights and our special sukkah wall hanging with Rael's help. Thanks to Jim for providing tools and a ladder!

The following evening, we celebrated Simchat Torah and consecration. This year we welcomed two new students to our Religious School. Harrison Lebo and Jonathan Grushka and their families were consecrated and blessed by Rabbi Dressler. Both families – including Harrison's brother Isaac – took part in the dressing of the Torahs. A touching moment was when Joshua Grushka held the yad proudly, following the words as Rabbi recited the last blessing.

Rabbi Dressler led the family-friendly service, which included the reading of *The Wisdom Bird: A Tale of Solomon and Sheba*.



Donations

DONATIONS GENERAL

in memory of Frieda Rosenblatt from Carla Taub
from Davida Sobel
in honour of Margie's birthday from Michael & Jill Simmons
in honour of Jessie Macpherson's bat mitzvah from George Davis
in memory of Lisa Faden from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
in honour of Jessie Macpherson's bat mitzvah from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
in honour of all of the dedicated work by the 2018-2019 Temple Israel Board from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
in honour of Luciana Tudor's bat mitzvah from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
in memory of Lisa Faden from Michael & Janice Faden
from Randy Kissack

IN-KIND - PROGRAMMING - OTHER

from Rabbi Debra Dressler

SPONSORSHIPS - KIDDUSH/ONEG

from Josh & Kay Dubitsky

SPONSORSHIPS - PROGRAMMING

from Bing Siang Gan & Pearl Langer
from Henry & Claire Bendheim

SPONSORSHIPS - RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

in honour of Nevia Frank from Charles & Jill Wright
from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
in honour of Margie Wienburg from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
from Jeff & Joyce Phillips
from Linda Fried

FUND - EDUCATION

from Allen & Carole Gumprich
in memory of Gerald Neff from Allen & Carole Gumprich
in honour of Margie Wienburg on her 70th birthday from Andy Barak & Sally Cozens
from Andy Barak & Sally Cozens
in honour of Margie Wienburg from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin
in memory of Joe Pfeiffer from Dave & Debbie Pfeiffer
from Debbie Rosenzweig
from Gary & Ruth Rohekar
from Jeremy & Dinah Frank
in honour of Ailene Wittstein from Louise Levy
in honour of Sandra Benjamin's 80th birthday and in memory of Lisa Faden from Michael Shmukler & Linda Dutsch

FUND - BUILDING

in memory of Joe Pfeiffer from Jeremy & Dinah Frank
from Leslie & Nurit Kochav

FUND - MUSIC AND CHOIR

in memory of Joyce Cutler from Michael & Jill Simmons

from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
in memory of Joyce Cutler from Nancy Wright

FUND - RON MARKS

from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin
from Michael & Jill Simmons
from Leslie & Nurit Kochav
from Sharon Marks

FUND - LIBRARY

in memory of Diane Nestor's mother from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin
in honour of Margie Wienburg from Louise Shanfeld

FUND - RDF

in memory of Marion Kalin from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin
in honour of the Rabbi, with thanks from Charles & Jill Wright
from Davida Sobel
from Elizabeth Teevan
in memory of Joseph Chertkow from Evelyn Chertkow
in honour of Jessie Macpherson's bat mitzvah from Ewan Macpherson & Nancy Davis
from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
in memory of Harold Taub from John & Susan Dean
in memory of Joyce Cutler from John & Susan Dean
in honour of Len and Maxine Silverstein from John & Susan Dean
in memory of Yolana Pal from Leslie & Nurit Kochav
in honour of Mary Jane Stone from Linda Freedman
from Linda Fried
in memory of Lynda Usprich from Syd Usprich

FUND - RITUAL

from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin

FUND - SOCIAL ACTION

from Louise Shanfeld
from Randy Kissack

ARZA

from Anargyros Skikos & Lisa Manax
from Arthur & Sandra Benjamin
from Bing Siang Gan & Pearl Langer
from David & Thelma Rosner
from Henry & Claire Bendheim
from Howard & Donna Plotkin
from Jason Mandlowitz & Daryl Fridenberg
from Jeff & Joyce Phillips
from Jeffrey & Ruth Seigel
from Josh & Kay Dubitsky
from Kim Moodie & Terry Sicular
from Linda Fried
from Ronald & Denise Wexler
from Susan Agranove

News

Kol Hakavod:

Mazel Tov to Brynah & Clive Schneider-Friedman on the recent marriage of their eldest daughter, Abiella, to Brian King.

Mazel Tov to Susan Dean on her nomination as Best Actress in a Leading Role in the play, *Corner Café Coffee House*, performed at the London One Act Festival (LOAF).

Welcome to new members:

Brian Kurtzman

Josh Wiener & Laura Ball

Condolences to:

David Pfeiffer on the loss of his father, Joe.

Denise Wexler on the loss of her sister, Joyce Cutler.

Debbie Pfeiffer on the loss of her sister & brother-in-law, Susan and John Van Aarsen.

TI Board

2020 Meeting Schedule

All members of Temple Israel are welcome – and encouraged – to attend our Board meetings. Here's our schedule for 2020:

January 5 – Executive @ 2:30 / Board @ 3 pm

January 19 – Annual Meeting @ 3:30 pm

March 29 – Executive @ 3 / Board @ 3:30 pm

May 13 – Executive @ 6:30 / Board @ 7 pm

June 24 – General Meeting @ 7 pm

Please note that Board members and TI members are not required to attend the Executive meeting. All meetings are held at Temple Israel.

Interested in joining our Board? We are looking for people to serve as VP Programming and VP Finance, Treasurer. If you'd like more information please contact Jason Mandlowitz at jason@templeisraelondon.ca

Please let the office know when you're celebrating something that you'd like us to put in the next bulletin.

Join the Temple Israel Facebook page

If you're on Facebook, please "Like" our page at facebook.com/Temple-Israel-of-London-Ontario. As we continue to work on our new website, we'll also be using Facebook to share the latest news about upcoming events at Temple Israel, as well as news from around the community and articles from URJ.

