



Temple Shalom
5 East Dillon Road
 P.O. Box 664
 Monticello, NY 12701
845-794-8731

**Call to confirm office is open:
 Please ring the bell for entry.**

Office Hours:

Mon 10:00 - 3:00

Tue & Thurs 12 noon - 6:00

Wed 11:00 - 6:00

Fri 10:00 - 2:00

Rabbi on premises Tue & Fri

templesholom1954@gmail.com

www.templesholomny.org

Rabbi

Michele Brand Medwin, D.Min.
rabbimedwin@me.com

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Temple Shalom's Harbinger

NOVEMBER 2019

CHESHVAN / KISLEV 5780

Jews and Thanksgiving: A Love Story

(excerpt from Ha'aretz article by Rabbi David Kalb - Nov 23, 2014)

The film, "Avalon," directed by Barry Levinson, tells the story of the Krichinsky family in Baltimore from the late 1940s to the early 1970s. While it is obvious that this is a Jewish family, the family never refers to itself as Jewish in the screenplay, nor do they celebrate any Jewish holidays, rituals or life cycle events, with the exception of a funeral. The holiday we do see is Thanksgiving, and it takes place throughout the life of this family. During Thanksgiving dinner, the relatives talk about how they came to America from Eastern Europe and how, after establishing themselves, they were able to bring the next relative over. The Thanksgiving meal is turned into a Thanksgiving Seder of sorts, recounting the story of their personal exodus from Eastern Europe to America.

They even remark about how they eat different foods on this holiday. In other words, "Why is this night different from all other nights?" That is the same question asked at the Passover Seder, which references the differences between the everyday meal and the singularity of the Seder.

There should be no surprise in the way Jews gravitated toward Thanksgiving. The pull began at their first encounter. Congregation Shearith Israel, the Spanish Portuguese Synagogue in New York – and the first synagogue established in America in 1654 – wanted to connect the experience of being Jewish and American. So when President George Washington called for an official day of thanksgiving in 1789, according to the synagogue's web site, the clergy decided to apply Jewish liturgy to Thanksgiving. They selected various sections from Hallel, a prayer recited on certain Jewish holidays.

Similarly, many other synagogues have developed Thanksgiving services over the years, several combining for joint celebrations, or even Ecumenical services, where Jews partner with other religions to create a service that respects all faiths, regardless of affiliation; these types of services have added a universal dimension to the holiday. How ironic considering that the Thanksgiving story that we tell and retell is that the pilgrims left England in search of religious freedom. However, despite that motivation, they themselves were guilty of the same offense – imposing a theocracy in America. Even those who have been oppressed forget these lessons too quickly.

This year, let's celebrate Thanksgiving with a mindfulness as to how this holiday can join us, and how – perhaps, not surprisingly – the common denominator, regardless of one's beliefs, is bountiful food and family around the table, to mark our gratitude and deep sense of blessing – for freedom, prosperity and community.

Happy Thanksgiving.





From: the Rabbi...

What is Jewish About Thanksgiving?

While Thanksgiving is an American holiday, the theme of Thanksgiving is a very Jewish theme. Psalm 92 tells us, “*Tov L’hodot L’Adonai – It is good to give thanks to Adonai.*” Thanksgiving actually has Torah origins. Rabbi Elias Lieberman, of the Falmouth Jewish Congregation in Massachusetts explains:

“While we cannot be certain about what motivated those Pilgrim settlers to initiate a feast of thanksgiving, it is likely that they consciously drew on a model well-known to them from the Bible they cherished. Seeing themselves as new Israelites in a new “promised land,” the Pilgrims surely found inspiration in the Bible, in the Books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy, in which God commands the ancient Israelites to observe the Feast of Booths—in Hebrew, Sukkot, “To rejoice before Adonai your God” at the time of the fall harvest.”

Saying “thank you” is a primary Jewish value. When we begin a meal we say the Motzi: “Blessed are you God, for bringing bread from the earth.” As Jews we can celebrate Thanksgiving with pride. From the historical connections of the Puritans to Sukkot and the Torah, to the primary importance in Judaism of saying thank you to God for all our blessings, Thanksgiving is a holiday steeped in Jewish values.

Here are some ideas to incorporate Judaism into your Thanksgiving meal.

1. Recite the blessings over wine and bread
2. Say the shehecheyanu
3. Retell your stories of how your family came to America

Here is a Thanksgiving prayer written by Rabbi Naomi Levi:

For the laughter of the children,
 For my own life breath,
 For the abundance of food on this table,
 For the ones who prepared this sumptuous feast,
 For the roof over our heads,
 The clothes on our backs,
 For our health,
 And our wealth of blessings,
 For this opportunity to celebrate with family and friends,
 For the freedom to pray these words
 Without fear,
 In any language,
 In any faith,
 In this great country,
 Whose landscape is as vast and beautiful as her inhabitants.
 Thank You, God, for giving us all these. Amen.

Rabbi Michele Brand Medwin, D.Min.

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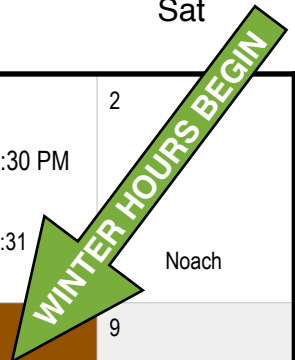
David & Susan Hershkowitz

Don & Judy Desatnick

Winter Shabbat Schedule
 BEGINS NOVEMBER 8
 Services 6:00 PM
 Preceded by
 Snack & Schmooze
 at 5:30

NOVEMBER 2019 - CHESHVAN / KISLEV 5780

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
NOVEMBER Schmooze & Snack: 01 Helene & Howard Perlman 08 Bob Kassman <i>in memory of his wife, Susan</i> 15 The Sticco Family <i>in memory of Harriet's parents, Abe & Rose Lubliner</i> 22 Jacky Rosen <i>in honor of her birthday & Thanksgiving</i>					1 Shabbat Services 7:30 PM Candle lighting 5:31	2 Noach
3 	4	5 Sholom U	6	7	8 Schmooze & Snack 5:30 Shabbat Services 6:00 PM Candle lighting 4:23	9 Lech Lecha
10	11 Veterans' Day <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i>	12 <i>No Sholom U classes</i> <i>No Religious School classes</i>	13	14	15 Schmooze & Snack 5:30 Shabbat Services 6:00 PM Candle lighting 4:17	16 Vayera
17	18	19 Sholom U Board of Trustees 6:30 PM	20	21	22 Schmooze & Snack 5:30 Shabbat Services 6:00 PM Candle lighting 4:12	23 Chayei Sarah
24	25	26 Sholom U	27	28 THANKSGIVING <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i>	29 NO SHABBAT SERVICES <i>OFFICE CLOSED</i> Candle lighting 4:09	30 Toldot



**NO Shabbat services
the Friday after Thanksgiving,
November 29.**

If you are observing a Yahrzeit that night, please let the office know if you would like your loved one's name read the Friday before or the Friday after.

FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY or ANNIVERSARY or SIMCHA:

Come to Shabbat services and receive a special blessing under our "**Blessing Chuppah**" in honor of your special occasion.

PARSHA OF THE WEEK:

02 November
09 November
16 November
23 November
30 November

04 Cheshvan Noach
11 Cheshvan Lech Lecha
18 Cheshvan Vayera
25 Cheshvan Chayei Sarah
02 Kislev Toldot

Genesis 6:9-11:32
Genesis 12:1-17:27
Genesis 18:1-22:24
Genesis 23:1-25:18
Genesis 25:19-28:9

CHANUKAH



**Friday, December 20 at 5:30 PM
at Temple Sholom**



There will be a full meal, latkes, good company

**Let's sit as a family and enjoy the lights of
Chanukah as we push away the darkness with light.**

BRING YOUR MENORAH

\$18 per adult; \$7 children 13 and under

Family of 4 or more = \$45

\$5 more per person after Dec 9

RSVP to Susan Kantor

845-798-0578

or call Stephanie at 845-794-8731

Services to follow dinner

Religious school students will assist
Rabbi Medwin during the service.

R.S.V.P by December 9



Send *Chanukah Greetings* to your temple family and friends through our newsletter,
The Harbinger.

Names will appear in the December Harbinger

Complete this form and mail with a check to the Temple so your holiday wishes will be seen by all
your Temple family and friends. Temple Sholom, P.O. Box 664, Monticello, NY 12701

The cost is \$18

Your name as you wish it to appear: X _____

Thank you ...

***Judy Cutler** for initiating and executing a very successful membership drive

***Les Kristt** for his part in our successful auction and membership drive

***Beth & Shelly Leidner**, for the donation in memory of Michael Barnofsky

***Mel & Joyce Kaplan** for the donation to Temple Sholom in appreciation of having a place to worship

***Barbara Sklar** for her donation to Temple Sholom

The Temple Sholom Board of Trustees thanks the following:

* the **Prime Timers** for their generous donation for the two high holy day soloists, Fred and Liz, for the keyboard player, Jessica, for the front door repair, and for their continued financial support

* **Gail Abramowitz** for singing on the second day of Rosh Hashanah

* **Jan Hirsch** for playing her harp on Yom Kippur and arranging for the cellist for Kol Nidre

* Our 3 shofar players **Rick Stein, David Ellman, and Macy Miros**

* The ritual committee, **Ellen Nesin, Lauren Miller, Marcia Salton, Sue and Don Horowitz, and Jane Jacobs**, for making the High Holy Day services run so smoothly

* **Sue Kantor** for organizing the Break-the-Fasts at both the temple and at Bernie's

* **Rosemary Heins** for the beautiful flowers for Rosh Hashanah and the beautiful flowers for Yom Kippur

CONGRATULATIONS TO
MICHAEL ZALKIN
AWARDED THIS YEAR'S
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
BY THE SULLIVAN COUNTY
PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT FOR HIS
OUTSTANDING SERVICE
AND DEDICATION TO THE
25 YEAR OLD ORGANIZATION.

5780 High Holy Day Greetings

(missed last issue)

Bob & Maureen Velten



There are many ways to support Temple Sholom



Sponsor an oneg at Friday night services



Tree of Life highlights a milestone event (\$54)



Plant a Tree in Israel in honor of a family celebration/commemoration (\$18)



Think of the temple once a month and become a member of the Chai Club (\$18 or less)



Send a Golden Book message (\$5)



Volunteer your time at temple events (\$0)

Golden Book

To **Mrs. Ivi Schroeder**, wishing you an easy, speedy and complete recovery.

Love: Sue & Don Horowitz

To **Jessica Nesin**, thank you for the beautiful accompaniment for the High Holy Days.

From: Gail Abramowitz

To **Rosemary Deitsch**, Happy 93rd Birthday!

From: Temple President – Neal Jacobs & Jane, Rabbi Medwin & Steve and the Board of Trustees

To **Lauren Miller**, Happy Birthday!

From: Paula & Phil Schroeder, Sue & Don Horowitz

To **Lauren & Marty Miller**, Thank you! The High Holy Days were more beautiful because of you.

From: Ellen, Jessica & Paul Nesin

To **Ken & Sue Kantor**, Thank you! The High Holy Days were more beautiful because of you.

From: Ellen, Jessica & Paul Nesin

To **Dr. Richard & Marilyn Stein**. Thank you for hosting Cantor Fred and including us in the pre-holy day dinner.

From: Ellen, Jessica & Paul Nesin

Mitzvah Cards

To **Michael Zalkin**, Mazel Tov on receiving the Distinguished Service Award from the Sullivan County Partnership for Economic Development.

From: Ellen Nesin, Phil & Paula Schroeder, Temple Board of Trustees, Sue & Don Horowitz

To **Bob Kassman**, wishing you an easy recovery. We miss you.

From: Ellen Nesin

To **Rosemary Deitsch**, Happy 93rd Birthday!

From: Paula & Phil Schroeder, Sue & Don Horowitz

2019 Mitzvah Members

As is happening with most religious and service organizations across the country, Temple Sholom is experiencing a growing gap between income and expenses. To help toward closing the budget gap, Temple Sholom members are being asked to contribute, according to their ability, an additional amount above regular membership dues. Can you step forward to support the continued existence of Reform Judaism in Sullivan County?

..The three levels of of Mitzvah Membership are:.

✦ Platinum Level - additional \$500 above dues

🎀 Gold Level - additional \$250 above dues

♥ Silver Level - additional \$125 above dues.

✦ Platinum (500)

Martin & Lauren Miller (3/19)
Maureen & Bob Velten (4/19)
Phil & Paula Schroeder (4/19)
Anonymous (4/19)
Jan Hirsch (8/19)
David & Sheila Epstein (9/19)
David & Mary Jane Harris (10/19)

🎀 Gold (250)

Bonnie & Jeffrey Kirsch (8/19)
Anne Palley (8/19)
Sue & Don Horowitz (9/19)
Judith Cutler (10/19)
Jerry & Lorraine Bogursky (10/19)

♥ Silver (125)

Neal & Jane Jacobs (12/18)
Sue & Ken Kantor (4/19)
Carole & Hal Abrams (9/19)
Anonymous (10/19)
Helene & Howard Perlman (10/19)
Gary Beckerman (10/19)

Mitzvah Membership listing in *The Harbinger* will appear the month following receipt of your donation and will continue to be listed for the following 12 months.

Consider making a tax deductible Mitzvah Membership donation any time during the year, as long as your membership dues are up to date.

If you are able, please **PAY YOUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION** and **BECOME A MITZVAH MEMBER**.

Specify: "Mitzvah Membership"

Mitzvah Membership donations are tax deductible.

Friends of Temple Sholom — Exceptional Gifts from Non-members

Diamond Donors

Debra Novitch & Dr. Wayne Schweitzer (6/19)
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Gold Donors

Barbara Sklar (9/19)
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PRIMETIMER LUNCHEON

Frankie and Johnny's, Hurleyville

Monday, October 7, 2019



Happy November Anniversary

27 Harold & Carole Abrams

28 Sheryl & Paul Manz

Happy November Birthday

3 Rita Kaplow
12 Ruby Shulman
16 Dr. Paul Jones
17 Harriet Sticco
20 Bonnie Kirsch
21 Bob "Gandalf" Rosengard
22 Jeffrey Kirsch
27 Jacky Rosen

THANK YOU for your GIFT of SERVICE

to Temple Sholom

- ★ Steve Plotkin for the kiddush and holiday wines
- ★ Sue Kantor for the oneg setup and cleanup
- ★ Mary Jane Harris for building and maintaining the website
- ★ Stephanie Phillips for maintaining the facebook page
- ★ Rick Stein, Ellen Nesin, Stephanie Phillips, Howard Perlman for maintaining our adopted exit
- ★ Sue Horowitz for sending out the Yahrzeit reminder letters
- ★ Anne Palley for sending out the birthday cards
- ★ Shain Fishman for creating the monthly Harbinger
- ★ Harbinger proofreaders: David Harris, Mary Jane Harris, Rabbi Medwin, Lauren Miller, Stephanie Phillips, Paula Schroeder
- ★ Anne Palley for monthly labeling and folding the Harbinger, and for helping in the office when needed.
- ★ President Neal Jacobs and Board Member Howard Perlman (*our handyman*) who are at the temple every Wednesday doing all the small (and not so small) jobs required to maintain our 60-year-old building.

Is your oneg sponsorship for a special commemoration or occasion?

Let Stephanie Phillips know and she will post your celebratory words on our

FACEBOOK PAGE.

Compose your dedication (*with or without an accompanying picture*) and email it the week before the oneg to: phillipssteph@gmail.com.

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Committees

Adopt-N-Exit: Lauren Miller, Rick Stein, Ellen Nesin, Stephanie Phillips, Howard Perlman
Beautification: Carolyn Richman, Nancy Isseks, Beth Leidner
Building: Neal Jacobs, Howard Perlman, Stephanie Millett
Fundraising: Paula Schroeder
Good & Welfare: Anne Palley
Harbinger: Shain Fishman
Kitchen: Susan Kantor
Membership: Sue Kantor, Marcia Salton, Judy Cutler
Office Volunteer: Anne Palley
Oneg Reservations: Sue Kantor
Publicity: Stephanie Phillips
Religious School: Lauren Miller
Ritual: Rabbi Medwin, Jane Jacobs, Sue Horowitz, Don Horowitz, Lauren Miller, Ellen Nesin, Marcia Salton
Special Consideration: Neal Jacobs
Webmaster: Mary Jane Harris
Yahrzeit: Susan Horowitz

COMMITTEE MEMBERS CAN BE REACHED BY
CALLING THE TEMPLE 845-794-8731

It has been 11 years since we got our first grant from Sullivan Renaissance, at which time we did a major renovation to the Temple Garden. Since then, we have continued to add, renovate, and maintain. Most of our volunteers have been with us since 2008. We are so grateful for their devotion to the garden and to the Temple. They are an amazing group.



A great big thank you to our planting, maintenance and watering crew: Sue and Don Horowitz, Nancy Isseks, Beth and Shelly Leidner, Bonnie Mitzner, Janet Morganstein, Larry Richman, Paula and Phil Schroeder. Due to your efforts the gardens looked vibrant all summer and throughout the holidays. Thanks also to Stephanie Millett who helps in the office, and to Shain Fishman who designs our plant sale flyer and creates the Harbinger.

Thanks to everyone who supported our efforts by buying plants at our "Hello Spring" Plant Sale and contributing to the beautification fund. Special thanks go to Jane Jacobs for helping us on the day of the sale and to Rosemary Deitsch for her donation of 10 hanging baskets. The funds we receive from the plant sale and donations, allow us to be self-sustaining.

Due to your efforts, the temple is a more inviting place to be. Your work has made it all possible.

With much appreciation,

Carolyn Richman & The Beautification Committee



BUILDING THE SUKKAH: Howard Perlman, Phil Schroeder, Neal Jacobs, Don Horowitz, Ira Simon (not shown)



Jacob, son of former Rabbi Irwin Tannenbaum, visited our temple while Macy Miros was practicing the shofar for the High Holy Days.



Tikiah — Rick Stein practicing the shofar with Rabbi Medwin for Rosh Hashanah.

IN MEMORY - YAHRZEIT WILL BE READ ON:

November 1: Edith Goldstein, *Matylda Sandova, Benjamin Linnetz, Ruth Diamond, Bessie Cohen Miletich, Sylvia Brafman, Shirley Elias, *Arnost Fantl, Neill Alenky

November 8: *Anna Fantlova, Lenroy S. Millett, Sr., Eric Stein, *Elsa Wozaskova, *Helena Wozaskova, Susan Kassman, Irving Tobin

November 15: Max Fried, *Egon Platovsky, Samuel Bernard Rosen, Sarah Jacobs, Joseph Sarowitz, Celia Galant, Harry Cohen, Israel Wyde, Lesroy A. Millett, Harry R. Green, Rhoda Barnofsky, Irving Steinberg, George Kellerman, Joan Rita Shaw

November 22: Judith M. Raiten, Daniel Mark Rosenfelt, Wallace Berkowitz, Betty Chodos, Dr. Bernard Lauterstein, Eleanor Kannert, Jack Elias, Harry Weinberg, Mollie Drew, Beatrice Isseks, Ernest Jacobs, Hal Wrobel, Kip Morganstein, Robert B. Green, Helen Fox

**Holocaust Victims from Pisek and perished in Terezin*



REMEMBER TEMPLE SHOLOM IN YOUR WILL

Bequests of all sizes are an important source of financial support for Temple Sholom, providing funds for temple programs, subsidizing membership, religious school scholarships, major maintenance of the building, and much more.

There are many ways you can make such a contribution to the temple in your will. You can specify a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, a special fund, or the general fund. Together, you and your advisors should decide what best suits your individual circumstances.

Thank you from our members, students, and the community who will benefit from your thoughtfulness in the future. We recommend you always consult your legal and/or financial advisor when providing for such a gift.

Donations to the YAHRZEIT FUND **In Loving Memory of the Following:**

Bertha Cominsky by Sue & Don Horowitz

Ethel J. Linnetz by Sue & Don Horowitz

Helen Donowitz by Sue & Don Horowitz


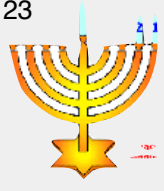



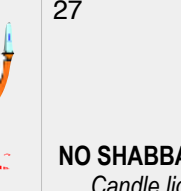
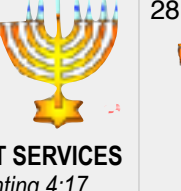

Sylvia Schroeder by Phil & Paula Schroeder

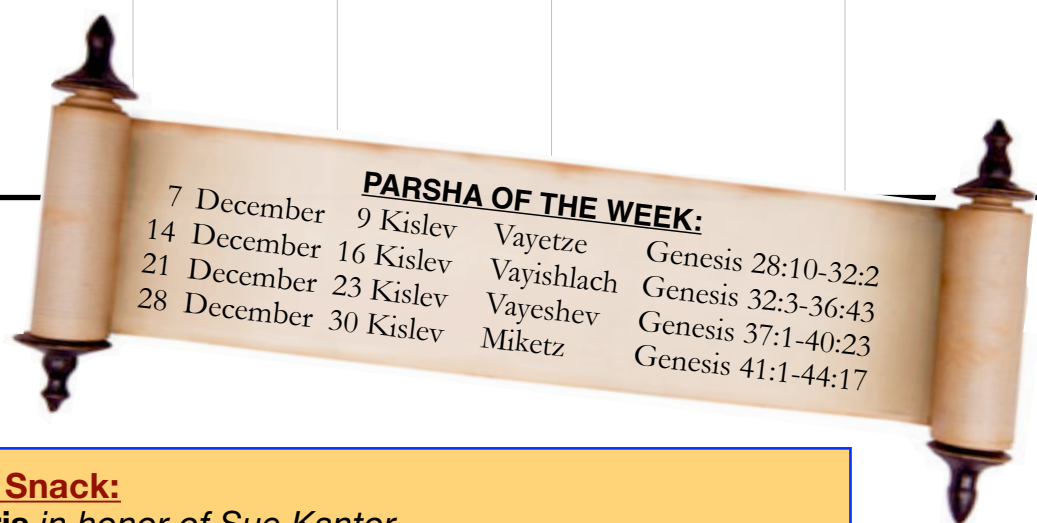
Ronald Woda by Celina Mintz

Benjamin Linnetz by Sue & Don Horowitz



DECEMBER 2019 - KISLEV / TEVET 5780

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Schmooze & Snack 5:30 Shabbat Services 6:00 PM Candle lighting 4:10	7 Vayetze
8	9	10	11	12	13 Schmooze & Snack 5:30 Shabbat Services 6:00 PM Candle lighting 4:11	14 Vayishlach
15	16	17 Board of Trustees 6:30 PM	18	19	20 Chanukah Dinner Shabbat Services after dinner Candle lighting 4:13	21 Vayeshev
22  First Night	23 	24 	25  OFFICE CLOSED	26 	27  NO SHABBAT SERVICES Candle lighting 4:17	28  Miketz
29 	30 8th day Chanukah	31				



DECEMBER Schmooze & Snack:

06 Mary Jane & David Harris in honor of Sue Kantor

13 Marcia Salton in honor of the Temple Family

20 David & Mary Jane Harris in honor of Lauren Miller -Chanukah dinner

27 NO SHABBAT SERVICES

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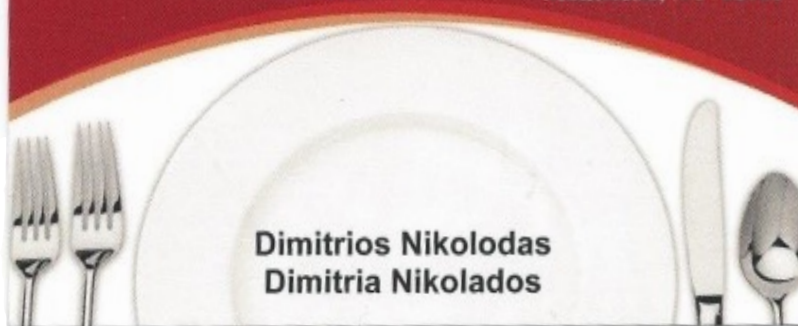
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Thursday mornings Temple Sholom

Weigh-in 7:30-8:00 AM
 Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM

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FROM SUE KANTOR – ONEG CHAIRPERSON

You are welcome to provide your own food at the oneg that you sponsor — or — you can purchase one of these menus and leave it to us.



STANDARD ONEG \$45: Cookies, cakes, fruit, crackers & cheese, tea, & coffee

STANDARD PLUS (+) \$55: Same as above plus one (1) more item, such as tuna salad, egg salad, or whitefish salad, or gefilte fish

STANDARD DOUBLE PLUS (++) \$75: Same as “Oneg Plus” with one or more hot dishes

RABBI MEDWIN'S SCHEDULE

TUESDAYS: Rabbi is generally at the temple teaching classes from **12:00 noon – 3:00 PM**, arriving at **11:30 am** and staying through **4:00 PM** in the summer and **6:00 PM** when there is religious school.

FRIDAYS: Rabbi usually arrives at temple **1½ hours before services**.

OTHER DAYS: Rabbi Medwin works from home at least one day a week and Friday mornings preparing for classes, services, and working on other temple business.

Please note: Contact the rabbi directly if you would like to talk or set a time to meet.

- Call on her cell phone any day: **607-765-2895**.
If you get voicemail, please leave a message and she will get back to you as soon as possible.
- Send e-mail: rabbimedwin@me.com

Rabbi Medwin is happy to arrange a specific time to meet with you earlier or later than the above mentioned hours.

CAN'T GET TO SHABBAT SERVICES?

Rabbi Medwin is happy to live stream Shabbat Services via Zoom. If you are interested, please contact Rabbi Medwin on the Friday of the services you would like to watch, at least 1 hour before the service begins, via e-mail (rabbimedwin@me.com), text, or phone (**607-765-2895**).



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Please send your photos of temple events to Stephanie Phillips at phillipssteph@gmail.com so everybody can enjoy them on our *Temple Sholom Monticello* Facebook page.

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