

# 7emple Sholom 5 East Dillon Road

P.O. Box 664 Monticello, NY 12701 **845-794-8731** 

templesholom1954@gmail.com www.templesholomny.org

# OFFICE HOURS Monday & Thursday 10:00 - 4:00

#### Rabbi Emeritus

Michele Medwin, D.Min; D.Div

#### **Service Leaders**

Cantorial Duo, Ira & Julia Levin Ira Simon

#### **Board Officers**

President, Stacey Sharoff Vice Pres, Dr. Stephanie Phillips 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres, Gail Abramowitz Treasurer, Ellen Nesin Secretary, Lois Weinstein Past Pres, Dr. Stephanie Phillips

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## Office Administrator Pat Halprin





2025 JANUARY\* 2026

Kislev / Tevet / Sh'vat 5786

#### CHANUKAH CELEBRATION TEMPLE SHOLOM

SUNDAY, DEC. 14, 2025 // 1-3pm BRING YOUR OWN MENORAH!



1pm Chanukah Story & Candle Lighting 1:15-1:45pm Chanukah Songs 1:45-3:00pm Latkes, Donuts, Dreidels

Cost: \$5.00 per Adult with prepayment or phone reservation. \$8.00 for walk-ins. Children under 13 attend for free. RSVP by Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025 by sending in your check payment to Temple Sholom, PO Box 664, Monticello, NY 12701 or calling Lois Weinstein at 845-428-8106. There are no refunds.

TEMPLE SHOLOM

5 DILLON RD. MONTICELLO, NY 845-794-8731

SNOW DATE 12/21

### **TEMPLE SHOLOM BOOK CLUB**

The Temple Sholom Book Club will be reading

ONLY IN AMERICA: Al Jolson and the Jazz Singer

by Richard Bernstein

Available at Amazon in hardcover, paperback, and Kindle versions.

ZOOM: Thursday, DECEMBER 18, 2025, at 7:00 PM

NEW TO BOOK CLUB? RSVP to receive the Zoom link Only NEW MEMBERS need RSVP to join.

Questions can be directed to Valerie Taitel <a href="mailto:vmtaitel@gmail.com">vmtaitel@gmail.com</a> or (508) 314-0511

New participants are always welcome.



#### FROM OUR PRESIDENT....



One of my earliest memories of Chanukah is lighting the family menorah in the dining room window, singing the prayers with my mother and brother, and letting the light shine out the window along with the other menorahs in my neighbors' windows. It's always so satisfying to use that same menorah with my own children, continuing family traditions to this day.

There is a beautiful tradition to have something specific in mind while lighting each night's candle. The first night, one can notice how one small light can light up the entire room. The second night, that with each candle added, we should emulate the act of bettering ourselves with small, achievable steps. The third night we should remember to hold on to our values and not give in to external pressure. The fourth night we remember that our actions have untold power that we don't know about until we try. The fifth night we renew our

identities as Jews and promise to keep the fire of the Jewish nation going. On the sixth night we remember to center our lives around something greater than ourselves. On the seventh night we reaffirm that the Jewish people will always persevere. And on the eighth night, we remember to be proud of who we are and to be a light unto others, inspiring people to live their best lives.

I also want to stress how important it is to have an up-to-date fire extinguisher or a fire blanket near your menorah, no matter how safe you think it is. Too many families have had emergencies because of leaping flames, so please be smart and be prepared. We want to make sure everyone stays safe during the holiday.

Chag Chanukah Sameach, a Freilichen Chanukah, and happy Chanukah, everyone.

Stacey Sharoff

A message from your Treasurer

Please remember to send in your check for dues if you haven't done so already. The new fiscal year began on July 1, 2025. If you have any questions concerning the amount of dues that is owed, please send an email to Ellen Nesin at <a href="mailto:nesineh49@gmail.com">nesineh49@gmail.com</a>. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Ellen Nesin

Treasurer, Temple Sholom Congregation

Dear Temple Sholom Members,

This year, we the Jewish people, began our 5,786th year. We lasted this long despite over 400 years as slaves in Egypt and 40 years wandering in the desert. We survived the Romans, the efforts of the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, Hitler's Third Reich, Stalin's Gulags, Arab attempts of annihilation, and more. We are able to survive by concentrating our efforts on education, love of family, and a passionate dedication to Temple life.

CENTURY CLUB

The New Year has come and gone but our temple still needs your financial support. I urge you to renew your Century Club membership, or if not a member, to please join us at the annual rate of \$100 or more. Your name will be acknowledged in the Harbinger and during services.

Very truly yours,

Joel Lerner, Chairperson

By Ellen Nesin

Your Name

Please print how you would like to have your name acknowledged.



As we write this, we are preparing to visit family in Iowa to celebrate Julia's mother's 90th birthday. It's the start of the holidays of the winter season. A season of various festive plans with families and friends, and friends that have become family.

It's quite a blessing, in itself, that we begin this season by focusing on gratitude and giving thanks. Julia and I have so much to be thankful for, especially having the opportunity to serve the communities and congregations that we do. We do miss our in-person gatherings, but the harsh winds blowing outside, remind us how fortunate we are to come together online, as well. We do look forward to gathering for Hanukkah on Sunday, December 14th, as an oasis that will help us through the longer nights.

Our festival of lights represents, not only the rededication of the temple but another miraculous victory over tyranny. As we face the uncertainty of these times, we can draw from the courage of the Maccabees' faith.

There are days we may feel outnumbered and overwhelmed but we can use these eight nights to fuel our capacity to make it past our fears. And each Shabbat, we can navigate together to a place of strength, hope and courageous determination that is at the heart of our chag and at the center of our congregation.

Find moments for a bit of rejuvenation, as well. Catch your breath and restore the internal covenant of love to share with each other as we enter, together, into 2026.

Love and Shalom, Ira and Julia



Thank you Judy Cutler for repairing our precious torah cover for the Lauderstein Torah.

Your skills are invaluable.

# HELP WANTED

Seeking volunteer to chair the Publicity committee. We need to promote our services and events by sharing info with local media outlets. Please call the temple office if you can help.

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## DECEMBER 2025 - KISLEV / TEVET 5786

#### Services are **ZOOM ONLY**at 7:00 PM - (Schmooze at 6:30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 Shabbat Services The Levins on ZOOM from Agudas Achim Candle 4:10	6 16 Kislev <b>Vayishlach</b> Genesis 32:4-36:43
7 Pearl Harbor Day	8	9	10	11	12 Shabbat Services The Levins Candle 4:10	23 Kislev Vayeshev Genesis 37:1-40:23
14 Chanukah Party	15	16	17	18 Place Canadis	Shabbat Services The Levins Candle 4:12	30 Kislev Miketz Genesis 41:1-44:17
21	22	23	24	25	26 Shabbat Services The Levins Candle 4:16	7 Tevet Vayigash Genesis 44:18-47:27
28	29	30	31 <b>A</b>	ippy .	New Ye	ar

The Levins look forward to having Temple Sholom join the Agudas Achim services online for Shabbat on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>!

Topic: Congregation Agudas Achim Virtual Services

Time: 7:30pm / Shmooze begins at 7pm

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89543496977?pwd=bFVRRTFiL1JuRkM1aHB2QlkrWnd6dz09

Meeting ID: 895 4349 6977 Passcode: Shalom5781

#### **VIRTUAL ONEG SHABBAT SPONSORS:**

DECEMBER 05: Sponsor needed DECEMBER 12: Sponsor needed DECEMBER 19: Sponsor needed DECEMBER 26: Sponsor needed DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL DATE TO COMMEMORATE?

#### **SPONSOR A VIRTUAL ONEG!!!**

Contact Sue Kantor (845-798-0578) See page 11 for details.

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## JANUARY 2026 - TEVET / SH'VAT 5786

### **ZOOM ONLY services at 7:00 PM** (Schmooze at 6:30)

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	VE A SPECIAL DA SPONSOR AN ontact Sue Kantor See page 11 fo	ONEG!!! (845-798-0578)	1 Pew Ears	2 Shabbat Services The Levins on ZOOM from Agudas Achim  Candle 4:22	3 14 Tevet <b>Vayechi</b> Genesis 47:28-50:26	
4	5	6	7	8	9 Shabbat Services The Levins Candle 4:28	21 Tevet Shemot Exodus 1:1-6:1
11	12	13	14	15	16 Shabbat Services The Levins Candle 4:36	28 Tevet Vaera Exodus 6:2-9:35
18	19 MLK  * DAY * OF SERVICE	20	Board of Trustees meeting 7:00 PM	22	23 Shabbat Services The Levins Candle 4:44	24 06 Sh'vat <b>Bo</b> Exodus 10:1-13:16
25	26	27	28	29	30  Shabbat Services  The Levins  Candle 4:53	31 13 Sh'vat Beshalach Exodus 13:17-17:16

The Levins look forward to having Temple Sholom join the Agudas Achim services online for Shabbat on Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>!

Topic: Congregation Agudas Achim Virtual Services

Time: 7:30pm / Shmooze begins at 7pm

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89543496977?pwd=bFVRRTFiL1JuRkM1aHB2QlkrWnd6dz09 Meeting ID: 895 4349 6977 Passcode: Shalom5781

#### **VIRTUAL ONEG SHABBAT SPONSORS:**

JANUARY 09: Sponsor needed JANUARY 16: Sponsor needed JANUARY 23: Sponsor needed JANUARY 30: Sponsor needed

# **LAST CALL !!!**

#### PLEASE JOIN US! GROUP CRUISE!

All commissions to be donated to Temple Sholom.

## **CELEBRITY BEYOND**

BEST HOTEL AT SEA BY FORBES MAGAZINE

January 11-18, 2026



Miami-Nassau (and Royal's brand new Private Beach Club by optional excursion)
Tortola-Antigua-Miami with three glorious days at sea

Infinite Veranda - \$3125

Single - \$2155

Concierge - \$3329

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\$100 On-Board Credit (obc) with each cabin

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Contact:

#### **Barry Gleen**

Associate of Julie Irovando & Tawnee Sons barry.gleen@cruiseplanners.com (516) 281-5905

www.world2sea.com

## **High Holy Day Donations**

Wishing all a happy and healthy New Year

Gail Abramowitz
Allan Barrish
Michael Cerullo
Lynn & Howard Cohen
Judy Cutler
Judy Desatnick
Janice Fagan
Michael Feinstein



Linda Kleinman
Sandra Kotin
Burton Ledina
Dolly Levner
Judy McGee
Stephanie Meyers
Marty & Lauren Miller
Ellen Nesin

Sue & Don Horowitz

Ken & Sue Kantor

Martin & Barbara Kimmelblatt

Jeffrey & Bonnie Kirsch

Helene & Alan Reiffe
Paula & Phil Schroeder
Ruby Shulman
Lois Weinstein

# TRIBUTE CARDS

Your \$12 check payable to Temple Sholom sends a personalized card to whomever you want for whatever occasion you describe.

To **Lily Barrish**, wishing you a speedy recovery.

From: Marty & Lauren Miller, Ken & Sue Kantor

To **Lauren Miller**, Happy Birthday.

From: Phil & Paula Schroeder

To Lois Weinstein, Happy Birthday and for all you do for our congregation.

From: Judy Cutler, Phil & Paula Schroeder

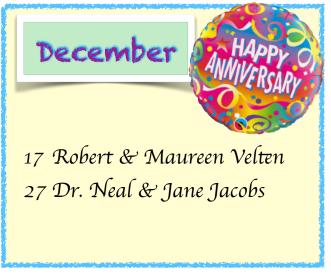
To **Scott Taitel**, wishing you a complete and speedy recovery.

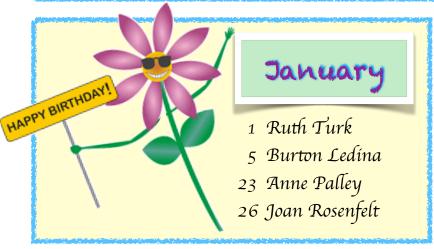
From: Judy Cutler

## Thank You —

Dr. Rick Stein for the donation in memory of Marli.Mrs. Idie Spiro for the donation to Temple Sholom.Ellen Nesin for the sanctuary flowers at High Holiday services.





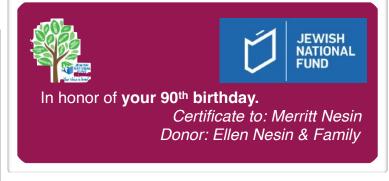












## 2025 Mitzvah Members

# THE WORD "MITZVAH" IS A COMMANDMENT TO DO A GOOD DEED. IT'S KINDLING TO THE SOUL.

#### Type to enter text

Thanks to the generosity of members and non-members, Temple Sholom has been able to continue our service to the Jewish community of Sullivan County. So that we can ensure our future, 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 Mitzvah Membership are:

→ Platinum Level - additional \$500 above dues

🕺 Gold Level - additional \$250 above dues

♥ Silver Level - additional \$125 above dues.

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

**Specify: "Mitzvah Membership"** Mitzvah Membership donations are tax deductible.

## → Platínum (500)

Anonymous (1/25)

Lauren & Marty Míller (7/25)

Maureen & Bob Velten (7/25)

Paula & Phíl Schroeder (8/25)

## **8** Gold (250)

Michael Zalkin (12/24)

Gail Abramowitz (12/24)

Sue & Don Horowitz (12/24)

Judy Cutler (3/25)

Sue & Ken Kantor (4/25)

Valerie & Scott Taitel (5/25)

Olívía & Barry Gleen (7/25)

## ♥ Silver (125)

#### Haven't been a member before? Now is a good time to start!

**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.

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

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The human soul is a light from God. May it be your will that the soul enjoys eternal life, along with the souls of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, and the rest of the righteous that are in Gan Eden. Amen.

#### **IN MEMORY - YAHRZEIT WILL BE READ ON:**

<u>December 05:</u> Samuel Schneider, Sandford Horowitz, Rebecca Mckay, Aaron Zeigler, Morris Turetsky, Archie Morganstein, Esther Prince, \*Bedrich Neumann, \*Ema Neumannova, \*Irene Kafkova, \*Jana Frohlichova, \*Jiri Kafka, \*Karel Neumann, \*Karolina Fuchsova, \*Karolina Sirkova, \*Marie Neumannova, \*Max Kafka, \*Vlasta Kafkova, \*Zofie Weisskopfova, Irving Isseks, Louis Drew, Morris Simon, \*Arnold Kohn, \*Helena Weilova, \*Ida Kohnova, \*Otilie Krausova, \*Vera Kohnova, Elaine Alenky

- <u>December 12:</u> Harry Tieger, Allen Bloom, Rose Rappaport, Ellen Alice Stuzin, Andrea Brafman Weiler, Sara Gordon, \*Tereza Fantlova, Herman L. Gordon, Ruth Schwartz, Phyllis M. Block, Mae Roth
- <u>December 19:</u> Bella Berger, Mary Jacobson, Werner J. Kuhn, Marion Lang Gordon, Edith Hershkovitz, William Kassman, Harry Silna, David Kotin, Henry Harmin
- <u>December 26:</u> Eva Ecker, Lorraine Bogursky, Alfred Schroeder, Ricky Brian Sax, Rita Weinstein, \*Moric Traub, Roslyn Sharoff, Jack C. Weber, Fannie Mitzner, Dr. Harold Kittenplan
- <u>January 2:</u> Ella Marie Salzman, Esther Etkin, Julius Guttman, Pauline G. Schinman, Melvyn Mednick, Fred Pasternack, Lonny Perlman, Frances Kristt, Jerome Brand, Martin Deitsch, Isabelle Bloom, Boni Barnofsky, Sylvia Schwartz, Iris Mitzner, Janice Schweitzer, Phyllis Kaplowitz
- <u>January 9:</u> Reuben Supon, \*Thera Klingman, Charles Griffin Simon, Gertrude Goldstein Horowitz, Sidney Schwartz, Lottie Elfenbaum, Seymour Feldberg, Pauline Furchak, Irenne Wagner, Lorraine Bogursky, Sam Hayden, David Forman, Eva Jones, Max Taitel
- <u>January 16</u>: Selma Green, Marie Palumbo, Mollie Saltz Brafman, \*Joseph Bejkovska, \*Marie Eisnerova, Gloria Kirsch
- <u>January 23:</u> Marilyn Feinstein, Theresa Braunstein, Bennett Bernstein, Bernard Rowner,
  Bruce Sam Opfer, Celia Striefer, Nestor Derkacz, Charles Harris Golovato, Stanley Schwartz,
  Gertrude Sher, Nathan Kristt
- January 30: David Farber, Paul Berger, Hilde Bernstein, \*Ana Glaserova, \*Anna Vodickova, \*Arnost Weil, \*Bedrich Hahn, \*Bedrich Hubsch, \*Berta Steinerova, \*Ema Ballova, \*Emil Glaser, \*Jaroslav Glaser, \*Josef Bornstein, \*Josefa Taussigova, \*Julius Steiner, \*Karel Mautner, \*Leopold Ball, \*Ludmila Blochova, \*Marie Singerova, \*Marta Velleminska, \*Olga Adlerova, \*Osvald Gans, \*Osvald Katz, \*Ota Vodicka, \*Otakar Stern, \*Rudolf Adler, \*Ruzena Kohnova, \*Viktor Taussig, \*Vlasta Vodickova, \*Zdenka Glaserova, \*Zofie Velleminska, Herman Lerner, Meyer Levy, Everette Millett, Eugene David Nesin, Marilyn Gottlieb, \*Matylda Friedova, Isaac Horowitz, Ida Sherman, Louis Berkowitz, Emil Peto, Sarah Feldberg, Lew Wohl

\*Holocaust victims from Pisek who perished in Terezin

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

Shirley & Jack Elias by Julie Rowner
Seena Nelson by Michael & Martha Zalkin
Sandford Horowitz by Don & Sue Horowitz
Helen Fox by Honora & Sam Wohl

Observing a yahrzeit is a sacred opportunity to honor the memory of a loved one. One meaningful way to do so is by making a donation to the temple in their name. Such a gift serves not only as a tribute to their life and legacy but also as an act of tzedakah - righteous giving - that strengthens our community.

Your donation helps ensure that the temple continues as a place of worship, learning, and connection for years to come. It supports meaningful programs, services, and care for our congregation, while also creating a lasting legacy. In this way, your loved one's memory is woven into the ongoing life of the temple, bringing blessing both to you and to the entire community.



## Oneg Shabbat means, "The Joy of Shabbat."

### **HYBRID** and **ZOOM** during the summer.

You can sponsor a VIRTUAL ONEG SHABBAT. Pick a Friday night that you would like to sponsor. Contact **SUE KANTOR (845-798-0578 or** 

skantor914@yahoo.com). Tell her which Shabbat you will sponsor and if you have a specific reason: birthday, anniversary, in memory of, in honor of, to celebrate Shabbat, to support the temple, etc.

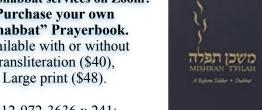
> For virtual oneg — Send a donation check to: Temple Sholom PO Box 664, Monticello, NY 12701 Write "Virtual Oneg Shabbat" in the memo line.

You will be recognized as the sponsor/host in the email sent to temple members the week of your oneg, and you will be acknowledged during the service and on facebook.

Is your friend sponsoring an oneg? You can make a donation to the temple in their honor.

The temple supplies paper goods, utensils and coffee. However, due to increased cost of paper goods, coffee, and wine, we are now asking sponsors to donate a minimum of \$25 to cover the costs. You have the option to bring your own tablecloth, paper goods, and coffee instead of paying \$25. In addition, your donation to Temple Sholom is always encouraged and welcomed.

Doing Shabbat services on Zoom? Purchase your own "Shabbat" Prayerbook. Available with or without transliteration (\$40),



Phone: 212-972-3636 x 241; Email: infor@ccarpress.org Website: Ccarpress.org PRAYER/MISKAN T'FILAH

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To donate your expertise and enthusiasm, join a committee!

Contact Stephanie Phillips - phillipssteph@gmail.com

#### **Committees**

Adult Education: Anne Palley, Ira Simon

Advertising: Gail Abramowitz

Beautification: Lauren Miller, Ellen Nesin, Sue Kantor Building: Scott Taitel, Howard Perlman, Judy Cutler,

Rick Stein, Phil Schroeder

Fundraising: Paula Schroeder, Judy Cutler, Debbie Glatt,

Lauren Miller, Stacy Sharoff, Gail Abramowitz

Good & Welfare: Gail Abramowitz, Gloria Wagenknecht,

Ira & Julia Levin, Ellen Nesin

Harbinger: Shain Fishman, Stephanie Phillips, Gail Abramowitz, Mimi Werner, Lauren Miller,

Paula Schroeder, Persephanie Millett

Membership: Anne Palley, Stacey Sharoff

Onegs, Kitchen, Special Events: Sue Kantor, Gail Abramowitz, Judy Cutler, Lauren Miller, Howard Perlman, Helene Perlman

Publicity: Stephanie Phillips, Gail Abramowitz,

Olivia Gleen

Ritual: Ira Simon, Lauren Miller, Gail Abramowitz,

Ruth Turk, Lois Weinstein

**Special Consideration:** Ellen Nesin

Technology: Michael Zalkin, David Ellman

Yahrzeit: Pat Halprin

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

### **GIFTS of SERVICE** to Temple Sholom

Stephanie Phillips maintains the facebook page & Instagram.



### Yiddish Circle Learning Conversational Yiddish

Led by Richie Chiger

At the Monticello Library Wednesday 10:30-12:00. No charge, everyone is welcome to join.

Call Richie at 845-794-7966 if you have any questions.

Check the Crawford Library website for confirmation.



ADVERTISE IN The Harbinger					
Our members and friends in the Sullivan County area want to know about the goods or services you offer. When one considers the cost of advertising today, it's a bargain for a full year of 11 issues. And it's tax deductible.					
Enclose a check payable to Temple Sholom:  \$64 for a business card size ad (Enclose business card)  \$100 for an ad 1/3 larger than business card (Attach business card or copy you want us to use)  \$250 for a double business card size ad (Attach business card or copy you would like us to use)					
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Attach your ad and mail to Temple Sholom, P.O. Box 664, Monticello, NY 12701 or scan a picture of your ad directly to: shaindelrifka@icloud.com					







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## \* Adult Education \* \* Shabbat Services \* via ZOOM

Make sure you are on the temple's email list to receive notification of the links for Zoom services, classes, and meetings.

You can participate in Shabbat Services remotely. If you would like to participate via ZOOM and you are not on our temple e-mail list, please e-mail the temple office (templesholom1954@gmail.com) for information about joining classes and services.

If you have never used ZOOM before, you will need to download the software and follow the instructions. Go to https://zoom.us/download and from the **Download** Center, click on the **Download** button under "**Zoom** Client For Meetings". This application will automatically **download** when you start your first **Zoom** Meeting.

ZOOM is usually up and running 15 minutes before the start time.

### Many ways to support Temple Sholom

- Sponsor an oneg at Friday night services (\$25)
- Tree of Life highlights a milestone event (\$54)
- ❖ Plant a Tree in Israel in honor of a family celebration/commemoration (\$18)
- 🌣 Send a Golden Book message (\$5)
- 🌣 Send a Tribute Card (\$12)
- **☼** Volunteer your time at temple events (\$0)



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 and Instagram.

## Judaica Gift Shop



Yarmulkas valued to \$25 — ONLY \$5

Mezuzahs -- \$5 and up

Challah covers -- \$5

Rada cutlery, paring knives, knife sharpeners, steak knives, cookbooks
All \$7-\$10
MANY assorted gift items for Shabbat and holidays



### TEMPLE SHOLOM OF MONTICELLO, NEW YORK

The First Congregation of Reform Judaism in Sullivan County Established 1954 "SERVING THE REFORM JEWISH COMMUNITY FOR SEVENTY-ONE (71) YEARS"

A REFORM CONGREGATION AFFILIATED WITH THE UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM