

Temple Israel of Riverhead Bulletin

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RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

Prayer and Mercy, Rabbi and God, Us

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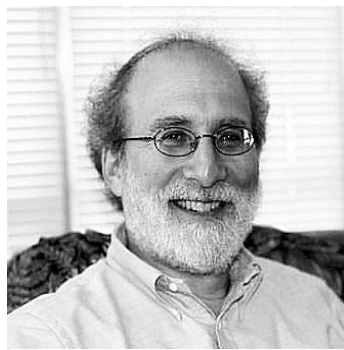
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Rabbi Michael Rascoe

The haphtarah for Hanukkah describes a menorah (lampstand). Zechariah asks what it means. God responds, (4:6): Not by power, nor by might, but by My spirit — said God of Hosts. Zechariah will succeed not by power but by ideas and words by means of God-conferred spiritual gifts.

In 1960, during Hanukkah, with the world poised between Eichmann having been smuggled out of Argentina into Israel and his upcoming trial awaiting justice, the American Jewish Committee presented a menorah to King Frederik IX and Queen Ingrid in honor of the Danish efforts to protect their Jews from the Nazis. King Christian X didn't really say in 1943, "The Jews are a part of the Danish nation. We have no 'Jewish problem' in our country because we never had an inferiority complex in relation to the Jews. If the Jews are forced to wear the yellow star, I

(Rabbi—continued on page 2)

and my whole family shall wear it as a badge of honor,”* but it reflects the fact that the Danes stood by their Jews. Brigadier General Prince Joachim Holger Waldemar Christian recently said the Nazis offered his great-grandfather a Danish prisoner for every Jew that the Danes turned over; the King refused. He also financially helped some 7,200 Jews and their 700 non-Jewish relatives flee to Sweden. About 95% of Danish Jews survived the War. Of the 500 or so Jews deported to Theresienstadt, almost 450 lived; the Danes pressured the Germans to let in visitors and sent them many packages. “It wasn’t just about saving Jews,” the prince said. “It was really about a sense of dignity and equality.”+

The story of the Danes during WWII brings to the fore one of Hanukkah’s spiritual messages — people will expose themselves to danger, and even self-sacrifice, when they believe in ideals strongly enough.

Happy Hanukkah.
(Based on a thought by Rabbi Bernard S. Raskas)

*The story started with a remark the king made in private to his prime minister in 1942 (and recorded in his personal diary), that both a British news report and a Swedish cartoon amplified, which was then popularized by Leon Uris in his novel, *Exodus*. The alternate version of the story is that if the Nazis forced the Jews to wear it, then all Danes would wear it.

+The cooperative agreement which let the Danish government remain in place under German rule lasted from April 9, 1940-August 29, 1943. Even during this time, many Danes, including in the government, opposed the German occupation. On August 29, 1943, Germany invaded Denmark because the government hadn’t done enough to stop the resistance and further German plans. The government resigned. Among other actions, it ordered their Navy to either flee to non-

(Rabbi—continued on page 8)

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Temple Israel of Riverhead

Shabbat / Hanukkah / Jaime Celebration Dinner



Our December 19th family dinner will be a grand celebration of Shabbat, Hanukkah, and our long-time president Jaime Siegel. We are working on a lovely commemorative journal in honor of Jaime.

Let's all show our appreciation
with a great turnout at the dinner!

A special and delicious meal is being planned,
and we need to know if you will be attending so we can be
sure to have enough food to go around.

RSVP!



Haven't taken an ad in the journal?
Please consider a donation of \$18
if you will be attending the dinner.

Shabbat Services at 5:30
followed by the celebration and dinner.
Please join us!

Celebrating Jaime on December 19th

Jaime's been our president for 12 long years
And for this he deserves our cheers
He's led us through COVID and a rabbi leaving
Without his leadership, we would be grieving
Jaime is a friend to all
When you need something he's the first you'd call
He kind, generous, nice and fun
And such a mensch, he's earned a day in the sun.
So we'll honor him at our Hanukkah dinner
To let him know he is a winner
Join us on December 19 to celebrate
We'll laugh and drink and have a plate
And to Jaime we'll raise a toast
For all he's done he deserves it the most
We're planning a journal with memories and praises
So think up kind words and poetic phrases
Don't be left out, don't be a slouch
Get off your tuchus, get off the couch
Let us know you will join; take out an ad
Your participation is needed and you'll be glad
Come one, come all
Sign up now, don't stall
Poem credit: Gary Siegel

Currently the journal is closed for ads.
It's not too late to RSVP for the celebration
on December 19th.

Temple Israel of Riverhead

*The Winter **Shabbat Family Dinners** are back!*



Our **family-friendly dinners** will be held once a month on Friday night, after **family Shabbat services**, which begin at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for services and dinner.

It is a wonderful evening and a great way to begin Shabbat.

UPCOMING DINNER DATES:

- Nov 14th – The Milligan family
- Dec 19th – Hanukkah Dinner – sponsored by Lisa & Richard Israel – in honor of Jaime Siegel
- Jan 9th – Leni & Harvey Goldsmith
- Feb 6th – Tu B'Shevat Seder – sponsored by the Kaplan-Walbrecht family
- Mar 6th – Dr. Caroline Fierro & Ned Kaplan in honor of their son Sam's birthday



Thank you to all our dinner sponsors!

If you would like to sponsor a Shabbat Kiddish contact the temple office.

Next year's holiday weekend BBQ's will be back before you know it - sponsors needed.

Whether you are a sponsor or not please join us.

RSVP

As always, reservations are required for attendance.

TODAH RABAH!

Donations to Temple Israel of Riverhead

Yahrzeit for Pauline Siegel—Mother of Jaime
Yahrzeit for Andrea Siegel—Sister of Jaime
Yahrzeit for Lena Mask—Grandmother of Jaime
Yahrzeit for Morris Pruzick—Grandfather of Kelly Keenan
Yahrzeit for Lana Zarbanelian—Sister of Gary Siegel
Yahrzeit for Douglas Ganz—Son of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ganz
Yahrzeit for Michelle Goldsmith—Daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Goldsmith
Yahrzeit for Alfred Hefter—Father of Robert Hefter
Yahrzeit for Frances Press—Mother of Louise Press
Yahrzeit for Raymond Goldstein—Josh Printz
Yahrzeit for Florence Collins—Mother of Howard Collins
Shabbos Kiddush 11/8/25—Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Kagan

Kol Nidre: 5786
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ganz
Mr. Gary Siegel
Dr. & Mrs. Van Dyne
Mr. Stanley Warshaw
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Marchbein
Mr. Howard Collins



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President



With
Rabbi Rascoe

Jewish Philosophy

Join **Rabbi Rascoe** and explore **Jewish Philosophy** via Zoom. Classes will be held at 6 PM on Tuesdays. We are currently discussing Eugene B. Borowitz's *Liberal Judaism*.

Talmud Classes: *Tractate Pesahim*

Rabbi Rascoe's Talmud classes are studying Tractate Pesahim via Zoom, at 6 PM. This class meets on Wednesdays. There is always review, and no advance reading is required. Attendees receive an introduction to Talmudic logic, thought, and law.

Bible Study: *Exodus*

Rabbi Rascoe will be holding these classes via Zoom, at 6:30 PM on Thursdays .

Interfaith Bible Class

The Interfaith Bible Class will meet via Zoom from 9:30-11:30 AM. Please contact the Rabbi for information and the link.

Please note: Congregants will receive emailed instructions for attending Rabbi Rascoe's classes via Zoom. Classes may be cancelled when the class decides to take a break, and you may come late or leave early. Contact Rabbi Rascoe for more information.

Our Judaica Shop

If you need Shabbat or holiday items for yourself, or for a gift, you will find them right in the Temple. Our Judaica Shop boasts a large inventory of beautiful items, many of them displayed in the Social Hall's glass cases. Kiddush cups, glass platters, Shabbat-to-go, kipot, Seder and matzoh plates, menorahs, children's books and toys, cookbooks, and candlesticks are all there. Contact Carole Jones at the TIR office, 631-727-3191, with any requests.

(Rabbi—continued from page 2)

Axis ports or scuttle their ships. Some escaped; they scuttles their big ships.

The Germans wanted to incorporate the Danish ships into their navy, and, among other plans, use them to bolster their Baltic Sea presence. Although the Germans did manage to raise some ships and repair them, it set back their plans.

Candle Light- ing Times

12/5	4:10 PM
12/12	4:10 PM
12/19	4:12 PM
12/26	4:16 PM
1/2	4:22 PM
1/9	4:28 PM
1/16	4:36 PM

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Ongoing Silent Fundraisers for Temple Israel

TD Bank: Stop in at the Westhampton Beach branch to find out about all the special offers for TIR members. TD bank will make contributions to TIR based on activity from our members. For details on their Affinity Membership Program, stop in at any branch if you are already a TD Bank customer.

Peninsula Wines and Liquors offers wine at discounted prices, delivered directly to the temple. A percentage of the cost is donated back to us each time you buy. Anyone needing wine or liquor can contact **Jaime Siegel**, or call Peninsula Wines directly at 516-374-0900. Ask for Jim Cari, and be sure to mention Temple Israel.

Donate an old car to Temple Israel for a tax deduction. It's easy—just call (866) 392-4483, or click on the link on our website. Be sure to designate Temple Israel of Riverhead as the recipient.

Plant a Tree in Israel



You can have a tree planted in Israel for a donation of \$18. Contact **Carole Jones** at the TIR office, 631-727-3191. All checks should be made out to Temple Israel of Riverhead, or you can use PayPal from our website.

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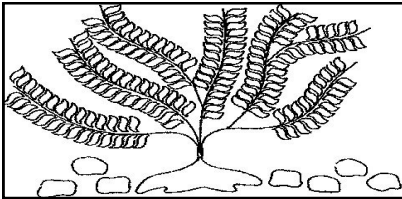
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Gift cards are now available for most major supermarkets:

- **ShopRite**
- **Stop & Shop**
- **King Kullen**



Please contact Lorraine Richter (631-553-7635) or the Temple office to arrange a purchase. The total profit from card sales is donated to the general fund each year. Please support this silent fundraiser.



Leaves on the Tree of Life

An engraved leaf on the lovely Tree of Life which graces our Social Hall is a joyous reminder of a Bat or Bar Mitzvah, an anniversary, a wedding, or a special birthday, and also a fitting tribute to the memory of a loved one. The cost of a leaf is \$180 for members. Please contact **Phyllis VanDyne** at 631-734-7511 for information.

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The Mill Road Cheese Shop, Westhampton Beach, (631) 998- 0483, now carries some kosher items.

Beach Bakery, in Westhampton Beach, is under kosher supervision.

BJ's and **Costco** also have pareve cookies in their bakeries.




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Y AHRZEITS

*We remember these lives on the approaching anniversary of their passing.
May their memories be a blessing.*

December

Kislev/Tevet 5786

1-Dec	Della Eisenman	Kislev 11
2-Dec	Charles Hyman	Kislev 12
2-Dec	Kirsten Orcutt	Kislev 12
3-Dec	David Davidson	Kislev 13
3-Dec	Rose Katz	Kislev 13
3-Dec	Joseph Starkman	Kislev 13
4-Dec	Dotty Karlin	Kislev 14
4-Dec	Dorothy Marchbein	Kislev 14
4-Dec	Irma Reitman	Kislev 14
5-Dec	Rose Goldstein	Kislev 15
5-Dec	Rose Lipetz	Kislev 15
6-Dec	Todd Cohen	Kislev 16
6-Dec	Vicki Cohen	Kislev 16
7-Dec	Maksha Maise	Kislev 17
8-Dec	Francis Brown	Kislev 18
8-Dec	Elizabeth Cross	Kislev 18
9-Dec	Henry Arbeeney	Kislev 19
9-Dec	Robert Benstock	Kislev 19
9-Dec	Leonard Cohen	Kislev 19
9-Dec	Tylda Trepel	Kislev 19
10-Dec	Sadie Oppenheimer	Kislev 20
11-Dec	Paul Vinacour	Kislev 21
12-Dec	Rosalind Coladner	Kislev 22
12-Dec	Manuel Mendell	Kislev 22
13-Dec	Zackery Froehlich	Kislev 23
13-Dec	Stuart Tobin	Kislev 23
13-Dec	Herbert Wimpfheimer	Kislev 23
14-Dec	Sylvia Honig	Kislev 24
15-Dec	Rose Galitzer	Kislev 25
15-Dec	Danny Kastner	Kislev 25
15-Dec	Rose Ritigstein	Kislev 25
17-Dec	Louis Crowitz	Kislev 27

18-Dec	Joyce Talsky	Kislev 28
21-Dec	Mildred Shapiro	Tevet 1
24-Dec	Frederick Lowy	Tevet 4
24-Dec	Flora Raffe	Tevet 4
24-Dec	Henry Scheinberg	Tevet 4
24-Dec	Mollie Senft	Tevet 4
24-Dec	Pauline Siegel	Tevet 4
25-Dec	Shirley Deutsch	Tevet 5
25-Dec	Lena Frankel	Tevet 5
25-Dec	William Schulman	Tevet 5
26-Dec	Roslyn Benstock	Tevet 6
26-Dec	Sylvia Levy	Tevet 6
26-Dec	Maurice Richter	Tevet 6
26-Dec	Joseph Zuck	Tevet 6
27-Dec	Maxwell Mathews	Tevet 7
27-Dec	Nathaniel Schackman	Tevet 7
27-Dec	Sidney Seidner	Tevet 7
28-Dec	Isaac Lotzky	Tevet 8
28-Dec	Adam Rosano	Tevet 8
30-Dec	Lorraine Gradus	Tevet 10
30-Dec	Louis Harding	Tevet 10
30-Dec	Flo Lambert	Tevet 10
31-Dec	Max Carchman	Tevet 11
31-Dec	Ida Jaeger	Tevet 11
31-Dec	Joseph Michaelson	Tevet 11
31-Dec	Joseph Weiner	Tevet 11
1-Jan	Sylvia Hagler	Tevet 12
1-Jan	Anna Saffer	Tevet 12
2-Jan	Rona Goldstein	Tevet 13
2-Jan	Laurence Kleidman	Tevet 13
2-Jan	Phil Muehlenthal	Tevet 13
3-Jan	Steven Hefter	Tevet 14

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	3 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	4 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	5 5:30 PM Services (Zoom only)	6 9:30 AM Services
7	8 7 PM Board Meeting	9 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	10 9:30 AM Interfaith Bible Class; 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	11 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	12 5:30 PM Services (Zoom only)	13 9:30 AM Services
14 First Night of Hannukah; 5 PM Community menorah lighting	15	16 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	17 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	18 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	19 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner honoring Jaime Siegel	20 9:30 AM Services
21 Last night of Hannukah	22	23	24	25	26 5:30 PM Services (Zoom only)	27 9:30 AM Services
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve			

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Day	2 5:30 PM Services (Zoom only)	3 9:30 AM Services
4	5	6 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	7 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	8 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	9 5:30 PM Services followed by dinner	10 9:30 AM Services
11	12	13 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	14 9:30 AM Inter-faith Bible Class; 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class	15 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	16 5:30 PM Services (Zoom only)	17 9:30 AM Services
18	19	20 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	21 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	22 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	23 5:30 PM Services (Zoom only)	24 9:30 AM Services
25	26	27 6 PM Class: Jewish Philosophy (Zoom)	28 4:15 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	29	30 5:30 PM Services (Zoom only)	31 9:30 AM Services

For Information:		
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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

December 7	Board Meeting
December 14	First Night of Hannukah
December 14	Community Menorah Lighting
December 19	Shabbat Dinner Honoring Jaime
December 31	New Year's Eve
Many adult classes are being offered with Rabbi Rascoe. See inside for details.	