

# Temple Israel of Riverhead Bulletin

December 2022  
Volume #28

Kislev/Tevet 5783  
Issue #10

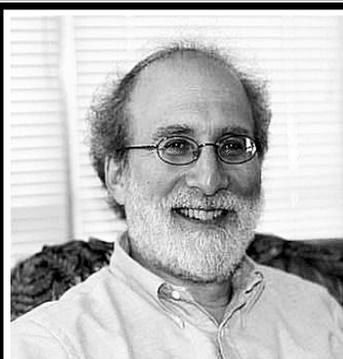
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## RABBI'S REFLECTIONS:

### On Clothes, Candles, and Miracles

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Rabbi Michael Rascoe

The Talmud's story of Hanukkah is well-known: a small oil flask contained enough oil for lighting the Temple menorah for one day, but lasted for the eight days it took to make up a new batch.

The codes rule that lighting Hanukkah candles is so fundamental (Maimonides, Mishneh Torah, Laws of Megillah and Hanukkah 4:12, Shulhan Arukh Orah Hayyim 671:1), that if you don't have the money to buy Hanukkah candles, you must beg for it, or sell the shirt off your back in order to get money to buy them. There is no Talmudic source for this.

Selling the shirt off your back is not taken lightly. In Exodus 22:25-26, the Torah does not allow a creditor to take the clothing a borrower wears as a security or pledge. One cannot sell the shirt off one's back for an etrog, for a mezuzah, or any other positive command, even though they are from Torah. Moreover, lighting Hanukkah candles is Rabbinic. Why the fuss?

*(Rabbi—continued on page 2)*

There is another mitzvah for which one sells the shirt off one's back: the four cups of Pesah wine. What makes these two mitzvot special is that they: (1) are the only examples of publicizing God's miracles; (2) recognize the good that God does; and (3) engender praise and thanks to God.

Maimonides, who wrote the eight levels of tzedakah (charity), gives a clue. The tzedakah list relies on the Talmud's idea of human dignity. Even when things look grim, we still have God-given dignity. Accordingly, we look to combine God and human action to remind us that no matter how bad things seem, there is light at the tunnel's end; redemption after misfortune. These two mitzvot tell us to hope because of our dignity.

We also perform them in the midst of community, and in the presence of others. We invite the needy to seder. We publicize the Hanukkah miracle in public while people, even non-Jews, walk the streets. We always hope. My friend Rabbi Joseph Radinsky (z"l) said that Hanukkah "candles stand for the Jewish soul, for our potential. We must never let the lights go out. We must always feel we have the potential and that we can cope with our problems." This is why we sell the shirt off our back for Hanukkah candles.

We emulate the Maccabees, who lit the Temple menorah despite only having enough oil for one day, knowing that it wouldn't last. We hope, for there always is the potential to overcome and solve our problems. We always have the potential to go forward, even when we know that there will be many problems. Hanukkah teaches that miracles may occur, but only happen when we hope and act anyway, in order to forge a path forward.

## Rules for attending Saturday services in-person

Reservations are still required, as are proof of vaccination and masking. For the complete list, visit our website at:

[http://www.templeisraelriverhead.org/rules\\_covid.htm](http://www.templeisraelriverhead.org/rules_covid.htm)



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## Winter Shabbat Dinners!

Our family-friendly dinners will be held once a month. Friday night Shabbat services begin at 5:30 PM, followed by a community dinner. Please join us. It is a wonderful evening and a great way to begin Shabbat.



### Upcoming Dinners

- December 2—Sponsored by **Harvey and Leni Goldsmith**.
- January 6—Sponsored by **Nan Rachel Peel**, in appreciation of my husband, John, for his support of my faith and his love, and in celebration of my friend, Jeff Pribut, on his joining the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Center of Moriches.
- February 3, **Tu B'Shevat Seder/Dinner**, in celebration of the new year for trees—Sponsored by **Amy & Jim Csorny**, in memory of Amy's mother, Phyllis Besserman.
- March 3—Available



### One more dinner sponsor is needed!

Consider fully or partially sponsoring a Shabbat dinner for \$540.00. For information, contact the temple office. Whether you are a sponsor, or not, please join us. As always, reservations and proof of vaccination on file in the temple office are required.

# Hanukkah Community Menorah Lighting

Sunday, December 18, 2022  
5:00 PM at Riverfront Park

Including jelly donuts

## Candle Lighting Times

12/2	4:04	PM
12/9	4:04	PM
12/16	4:05	PM
12/23	4:08	PM
12/30	4:13	PM
1/6	4:19	PM

## Hebrew School



Our Hebrew School is child-friendly and completely student-focused. Our caring, trained staff members work with small classes to foster positive experiences with Jewish culture, holidays, and customs, as well as Hebrew language and prayer education.

### Registering children age 3 - 8:

- We focus on beginner aleph bet, holidays, customs, and traditional prayers.
- We meet every Wednesday, 4:00 - 5:00 PM.
- Covid-19 protocol: students and staff will be masked when indoors.
- For Temple Israel of Riverhead's complete Covid-19 policies, visit <https://www.templeisraelriverhead.org/r%20rules%20covid.htm>.

### Remaining class dates for the 2022-23 school year:

December 7,14, 21; January 4,11,18, 25; February 1, 8,15; March 1, 8,15, 22, 29; April19, 26; and May 3,10,17, 24, 31.

*Dates subject to change.*

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# Book Club

Meets January 23, at 7:15 PM, online via Zoom.

Selection to be determined.

Please join us!

Contact the Temple office with any questions.

## Kol Nidre Appeal 5783



As we continue into 5783, we need our membership and friends to preserve the health and well-being of our beloved temple. It is a tradition in congregations to establish a Kol Nidre Appeal Fund; at Temple Israel this fund is vital to help supplement the dues and thus cover our operating expenses. Therefore, we ask each one of you, if you have not already donated, to be as generous as possible, in order that our temple may continue to meet the growing needs of the Jewish community.

Please forward your check, payable to Temple Israel Kol Nidre Fund, to: Temple Israel of Riverhead, P.O. Box 1531, Riverhead, NY 11901. You can also pay from our website, using PayPal. Thank you.



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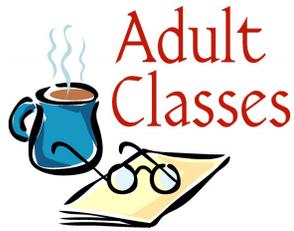
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With  
Rabbi Rascoe

### ***Jewish Mysticism***

Join **Rabbi Rascoe** to explore the topic of Jewish mysticism, especially the Kabbalah and its variations. Classes are held via Zoom, from 6:00-7:00 PM, on Mondays in December and January.

### **NEW CLASS—*Prayer***

Join **Rabbi Rascoe** for a new class on *Prayer*, via Zoom. We will look at the structure of the service, the meaning of the individual prayers, and ritual actions when they are involved. Classes will be held on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM, starting January 3rd.

### **Talmud Classes: *Tractate Megillah***

**Rabbi Roscoe's** Talmud classes continue, via Zoom, at 6 PM on Wednesdays in December and January. There is always review. No advance reading is required. The text can be found at: <https://www.sefaria.org/Megillah.8a?lang=bi>. Attendees receive an introduction to Talmudic logic, thought, and law.

### **Bible Study: *Starting with Genesis***

**Rabbi Rascoe** will be holding these classes, via Zoom, at 6:30 PM on Thursdays in December, and January.

***Please note: Congregants will receive emailed instructions for attending Rabbi Roscoe'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.

## Interfaith Bible Class

The Interfaith Bible Class will meet via Zoom, on Wednesdays, December 14 and January 11, from 9:30-11:30 AM. Please contact the Rabbi for information and the link.

## 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.

**Phyllis Van Dyne** operates the Temple's Shop, acquiring new items several times a year. She will also fill special orders; if you see something you'd like, she can get it for you. Or, if you need ideas for a gift, she will be happy to suggest something in your price range, perfect for your occasion and recipient. For more information and personal service, just call Phyllis at 631-734-7511.

## Kosher Food For Our Events

Beach Bakery, in Westhampton Beach, is under kosher supervision. BJ's and Costco also have pareve cookies in their bakeries.



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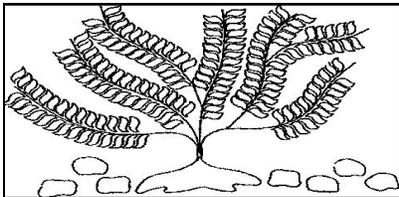
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Please contact Lorraine Richter (631-553-7635) or the Temple office to arrange a purchase. The total profit from card sales is donated to the general fund each year. Please support this silent fundraiser.

## 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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David M. Rubin  
Funeral Director,  
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# TODAH RABAH!

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Healing prayer for their nephew Chris Peel—Mr. & Mrs. John Peel.

Donation in honor of Hannah Milligan graduating from SUNY New Paltz cum laude—  
Mr & Mrs. Douglas Milligan.

Yahrzeit for Mercedes & Herbert Diamond—parents of Lisa Israel.

Yahrzeit for Alfred Hefter—father of Robert Hefter.

Yahrzeit for Gilbert Shapiro—brother of Stanley Hagler.

Yahrzeit for Lena Mask & Frances Siegel—Jaime Siegel.

Yahrzeit for Frances Press—mother of Louise Press.

Yahrzeit for David Glickstein—Ruth Prizer, Cynthia Glickstein, & cousin of Linda Prizer.

Yahrzeit for Isaac Lotsky—father of Eran Lotsky.

Yahrzeit for David Wasserman—father of Lois Joseph.

Yahrzeit for Florence Collins—mother of Howard Collins.

Yahrzeit for Raymond Goldstein—Josh Printz.

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Leonard Wasserman & Abigail Moore

Myra Korman

# Y A H R Z E I T S

*We remember these lives on the approaching anniversary of their passing.*

*May their memories be a blessing.*

December

Kislev/Tevet 5783

12/1	Carasso, Solomon	Kislev 7	12/19	Ritigstein, Rose	Kislev 25
12/1	Harding, Maurice	Kislev 7	12/21	Crowitz, Louis	Kislev 27
12/1	Siegel, Frances	Kislev 7	12/22	Talsky, Joyce	Kislev 28
12/1	Wimpfheimer, Edda	Kislev 7	12/25	Shapiro, Mildred Louis	Tevet 1
12/2	Harris, Edna	Kislev 8	12/28	Lazarus, Samuel	Tevet 4
12/2	Kagan, Leonard	Kislev 8	12/28	Lowy, Frederick	Tevet 4
12/3	Horowitz, Abraham	Kislev 9	12/28	Raffe, Flora	Tevet 4
12/4	Lehrer, Joseph	Kislev 10	12/28	Scheinberg, Henry	Tevet 4
12/5	Eisenman, Della	Kislev 11	12/28	Senft, Mollie	Tevet 4
12/6	Hyman, Charles	Kislev 12	12/28	Siegel, Pauline	Tevet 4
12/7	Davidson, David	Kislev 13	12/29	Deutsch, Shirley	Tevet 5
12/7	Katz, Rose	Kislev 13	12/29	Frankel, Lena	Tevet 5
12/7	Starkman, Joseph	Kislev 13	12/29	Schulman, William	Tevet 5
12/8	Karlin, Dotty	Kislev 14	12/30	Benstock, Roslyn	Tevet 6
12/8	Reitman, Irma	Kislev 14	12/30	Lambert, Flo	Tevet 6
12/9	Goldstein, Rose	Kislev 15	12/30	Levy, Sylvia	Tevet 6
12/9	Lipetz, Rose	Kislev 15	12/30	Richter, Maurice	Tevet 6
12/10	Cohen, Todd	Kislev 16	12/30	Zuck, Joseph	Tevet 6
12/10	Cohen, Vicki	Kislev 16	12/31	Mathews, Maxwell J.	Tevet 7
12/11	Maise, Maksha	Kislev 17	12/31	Schackman, Nathaniel	Tevet 7
12/12	Brown, Francis	Kislev 18	12/31	Seidner, Sidney	Tevet 7
12/12	Cross, Elizabeth	Kislev 18	1/1	Lotzky, Isaac	Tevet 8
12/13	Arbeeny, Henry	Kislev 19	1/1	Rosano, Adam	Tevet 8
12/13	Benstock, Robert	Kislev 19	1/3	Gradus, Lorraine	Tevet 10
12/13	Cohen, Leonard	Kislev 19	1/3	Harding, Louis	Tevet 10
12/13	Trepel, Tylda	Kislev 19	1/4	Carchman, Max	Tevet 11
12/14	Oppenheimer, Sadie	Kislev 20	1/4	Jaeger, Ida	Tevet 11
12/15	Vinacour, Paul	Kislev 21	1/4	Michaelson, Joseph	Tevet 11
12/16	Coladner, Rosalind	Kislev 22	1/4	Weiner, Joseph	Tevet 11
12/16	Mendell, Manuel	Kislev 22	1/5	Hagler, Sylvia	Tevet 12
12/17	Froehlich, Zackery	Kislev 23	1/5	Saffer, Anna	Tevet 12
12/17	Wimpfheimer, Herbert	Kislev 23	1/6	Goldstein, Rona	Tevet 13
12/18	Honig, Sylvia	Kislev 24	1/6	Muehlenthal, Phil	Tevet 13
12/19	Galitzer, Rose	Kislev 25	1/7	Hefter, Steven	Tevet 14
12/19	Kastner, Danny	Kislev 25			

# December 2022

*Please check your email and our website for information about using Zoom to attend these events.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	2 5:30 PM Services followed by Shabbat dinner	3 9:30 AM Services;
4	5 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom); 7 PM Board meeting	6	7 4 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	8 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	9 5:30 PM Services (Zoom)	10 9:30 AM Services
11	12 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	13	14 9:30 AM Inter-faith Bible Class; 4 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	15 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom); Bulletin submissions deadline	16 5:30 PM Services (Zoom)	17 9:30 AM Services
18 1st Night Hanukkah- 5 PM Community Menorah Lighting	19 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	20	21 4 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	22 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	23 5:30 PM Services (Zoom)	24 9:30 AM Services
25 8th Night of Hanukkah	26 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	27	28 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	29 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	30 5:30 PM Services (Zoom)	31 9:30 AM Services

# January 2023

*Please check your email and our website for information about using Zoom to attend these events.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	3 7:30 PM Class: Prayer (Zoom)	4 4 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	5 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	6 5:30 PM Services followed by Shabbat din- ner	7 9:30 AM Services
8	9 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	10 7:30 PM Class: Prayer (Zoom)	11 9:30 AM Inter- faith Bible Class; 4 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	12 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	13 5:30 PM Services (Zoom)	14 9:30 AM Services
15	16 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	17 7:30 PM Class: Prayer (Zoom)	18 4 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	19 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	20 5:30 PM Services (Zoom)	21 9:30 AM Services
22	23 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom); 7:15 PM Book Club Meeting (Zoom)	24 7:30 PM Class: Prayer (Zoom)	25 4 PM Hebrew School; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	26 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	27 5:30 PM Services (Zoom)	28 9:30 AM Services
29	30 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	31 7:30 PM Class: Prayer (Zoom)				

<b>For Information:</b>		
<b>Advertising and Public Relations</b>	Barbara Smith	631-664-6584
<b>Book Club</b>	Barbara Smith	631-664-6584
<b>Bulletin</b>	Allen Silver asilver9@gmail.com	631-744-7551
<b>Capital Campaign</b>	Richard Israel	727-5500 x11
<b>Cemetery</b>	Lisa Israel	727-5500 x10
<b>Custodian Contact</b>	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
<b>Education</b>	Jaime Siegel	631-653-3985
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## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

<b>Friday, Dec. 2 &amp; Jan. 6</b>	<b>Shabbat Dinners</b>
<b>Sunday, Dec. 18</b>	<b>Community Menorah Lighting</b>
<b>Mondays in Dec. &amp; Jan.</b>	<b>Adult Ed—<i>Jewish Mysticism</i></b>
<b>Tuesdays in Jan.</b>	<b>NEW Adult Ed Class—<i>Prayer</i></b>
<b>Wednesdays in Dec. &amp; Jan.</b>	<b>Adult Ed—<i>Talmud Classes: Tractate Megillah</i></b>
<b>Thursdays in Dec. &amp; Jan.</b>	<b>Adult Ed—<i>Bible Study Class</i></b>
<b>Monday, Jan. 23</b>	<b>Book Club</b>