

Temple Shabbat Shalom

Volume 6, Issue 2

Summer 5766/2006

The “Global Village” Congregation

The Art of Private Prayer

Fewer than one in ten people weekly attend worship services. Even fewer know about the prayers of Tisha B Av. Summer reading is often a thriller, a paperback ready for the sand of the beach, never Isaiah or Deuteronomy. These are read in public worship during the summer.

Public worship requires ten people and structures the commitment of individuals to the community.

Our great Rabbi Hillel teaches;
Being only for Me
What about the We?

Temple Shabbat Shalom is a network of congregants with less than one in ten living close enough to attend services. We return to the beginning of Hillel’s quote:

If I am not for Me
Who will be?

Hillel inspires us to think about the art of private prayer. Prayer is service of the heart and always begins with the individual. Private prayer takes place in the home, the primary sanctuary of our existence. Our network is held together by a commitment to order our private spiritual lives by homemade Seders. We support public prayer, but first honor the natural hierarchy in our relationship to our Creator: Heart, Home, and then the public practice of our religion.

The Passover Seder is universally observed and successful because parents are the leaders. The role of the Rabbi is to teach parents how to order the Seder. In many homes the model is even more directly democratic; The Haggaddah is read in a round at the table. This is how we conduct all of our various Seders at Temple Shabbat Shalom.

What follows is the least observed holyday in modern life. Remember homemade Seders Are not All or Nothing. Do the readings. Do a partial fast. The day is a F(e)ast, for one day Tisha B Av will become a day of rejoicing.

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 1 The "Global Village"
Page 2 Mazel Tovs
Pages 3-7 Tisha B Av Seder
Page 8 Membership Form

High Holydays

Tisha B Av fast begins eve of Aug 2- sundown Aug 3rd
Rosh Hashanah Services Saturday Sept 23rd- 10am RSVP
Yom Kipper Begins Sundown October 1st
Succoth Open House October 15th RSVP

Simcha's- Mazel Tov to all

Many Blessings to Jill and Dan –our New Orleans evacuees on their relocation to St Louis
Mazel tov to Laura, Roger and Jacob on their new Home

A Special Thank-you

Evelyn and Joel for your generous donation
Mazel Tov to Evelyn on completing her Radiology Boards

Harriet & Sam on your gracious donation in honor of your soon to be grandchild

Mike and Stacy for your generous donation in honor of Amy and Chris's marriage

Kevin and Tracy for your gracious donation in honor of their joyous wedding celebration

We are very grateful to Sacred Heart Church for their relationship with Temple Shabbat Shalom
It is a delight to be involved with their Passover celebration each year

Mazel Tov to our Newest Newlyweds

Howie and Lori- Corning NY
Kevin and Tracy- Ithaca, NY
Andrea and Robby-PA
David and Amy-NH

Phil and Linda- Connecticut
Jonathan & Paula- New Orleans
Lindsay and Michael- VT
Michael and Sarah-NYC

Amy and Chris- St Paul
Vadim and Lindsey-NC
Mark and Mary-Binghamton

Mazel Tov to our Newest Bundles of Joy

Stu and Colleen on the arrival of their son Duncan Simon on March 24th

Jamie and Matt and sister Eliora on the arrival of their daughter and sister Kelila Sadie on July 1st

Newest Congregants

Kevin and Tracy-NYC
Josh and Laura-Ballston Lake

Jessica and Jay- West Virginia
Sarah and Michael-NYC

Josh and Katherine-CA
David and Ashley NYC

Happy Anniversary

Ari & Liz NYC Aug 3
Kevin & Jen VT Aug 3
Marc & Kate MA Aug 9
Hal & Galia Quebec Aug 9
Glenn & Marisa Texas Aug 10
Matt & Sarah MA Aug 14
Mike & Kerrie Rochester Aug 17
Juliette & Dan NYC Aug 20
Priscilla & Fabrice Paris, France Aug 21
Mike & Sarah Kalamazoo Aug 21
Dave & Julie NYC Oct 9
Howard & Michelle NYC Oct 12
Heather & Scott CT Oct 18
Frances & Jake Salt Lake Oct 25

Dan & Kimberly NC Aug 24
Felicia & Joel Brooklyn Aug 26
Ronna & Bill DC Aug 29
Lori & John Catskills Aug 30
Ellen & Mike NYC Aug 31
Roger & Laura Sept
Andrew and Christina- Sept
Mike & Burke CT Sept 4
Holly & Eric CA- Sept 4
Deborah & Tobias Geneva Sept 4
Sally & Anton Albany Oct 12
Jill & Dan St Louis Oct 16
Matt & Leslie NYC Oct 18
Nate and Jennifer Oct 27

Reg & Gail Ottawa- Sept 5
Melissa & Dan VA Sept 6
Nate & Megan DC Sept 10
Kenny & Jenny NYC Sept 14
Josh & Lyra NYC Sept 17
Neil & Carrie CA Sept 20
Margot & Michael MA Sept 24
Isabelle & Matt NYC Sept 28
Erica & Kirk-WA- Oct 4
Julie & Shane MA Oct 6
Andrew & Carrie DC Oct 12
Todd & Angela Albany Oct 16
Harry & Liz Ohio Oct 23

The Book of How: A Tisha B Av Seder

How to prepare:

We begin to prepare for Tisha B Av (The 9th day of the Hebrew month of Av) at the Passover Seder. We open the door for Elijah the prophet and ask God to pour out his wrath on those who lay waste to the world, referencing the end of the third chapter of the book of Lamentations. This Tisha B Av moment at the Passover Seder is a cry for justice and a plea for reconciliation with our Creator.

Only Elijah is able to answer the question of the apparent triumph of tyranny in history and the “why” of suffering. We all know the how all too well. The Psalms of Praise (Hallel) that follow in the Passover Seder sing a message of hope despite the exiles, trials, and tribulations of our history.

We also prepare for the fast of The Ninth of Av with another fast three weeks earlier on the 17th day of the Hebrew month Tammuz. On that day Moses shattered the first set of the Ten Teachings in response to the incident at the golden calf. Tradition records the Ninth day of Av as the date in history when ten of the twelve scouts spoke evil of the Holy Land and the date the Exodus generation was condemned to die in the desert. The First Temple in Jerusalem was set aflame by Nebuzaradan on this date and the Romans destroyed the Second Temple on 9 Av. On Tisha B Av in 1492 the Jews of Spain were exiled from their homes. A new form of Kabballah based on the teachings of Rabbi Isaac Luria explained this exile in cosmic terms and understood that in the end , as an act of mercy, God will repair our broken world (Tikkun Olam). The origins of World War One and Two are also traced to Tisha B Av.

This year (2006) Tisha B Av begins the evening of the second of August and concludes after sunset on the third of August.

I suggest the following for your Summer reading:

- A.) The Book of Deuteronomy. Read it twice. If you attend synagogue simply follow the Torah reading. Since fewer than one in ten attend services this Seder becomes the alternative.
- B.) The Book of Isaiah. Note that we read Isaiah as we read The Book of Deuteronomy leading up to the high holydays. The Tikkun of Tisha B Av includes the rebuke and consolation and final vision of this great Hebrew prophet. We study Isaiah the entire summer, for seven full weeks, as a preparation for the ascent of the Hebrew month of Ellul and its culmination on The Day of Atonement and the Tikkun of The Second set of Tablets. Consider Isaiah summer reading for iconoclasts.
- C.) The Book of Zechariah
- D.) The Book of Lamentations
- E.) The Book of Job
- F.) www.aish.com. Tisha b Av
- G.) www.Chabad.org. Three weeks
- H.) www.My Jewish learning .com
- I.) www.jewfaq.org
- J.) www.interfaith family.com

TEMPLE SHABBAT SHALOM

Enclosed is our donation of \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____

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Kindly mail your checks to:

Temple Shabbat Shalom
340 Plank Road
PO Box 53
Porter Corners, New York 12859

Remember all donations to Temple Shabbat Shalom are tax-deductible

Thank you for your most generous support