



CONGREGATION TEMPLE EMANU-EL

of Staten Island – Founded in 1907
“Pride in Our Past, Faith in Our Future”

NEWSLETTER

May 2017

5 Iyyar – 6 Sivan 5777

Vol. 24:5

May Highlights

CHAI SOCIETY DINNER
@ Wagner College
Rabbi Sussman is
an honoree
MAY 11, 2017 at 6:00 PM

MOTHER'S DAY
SERVICE
MAY 12, 2017 at 8:00 PM

TEMPLE EMANU-EL
ANNUAL MEETING
MAY 16, 2017 at 8:00 PM
(see President's letter, Page 4)

OPEN DISCUSSION
FREEDOM OF SPEECH
MAY 19, 2017 at 8 PM

UJA ANNUAL
BREAKFAST
May 21, 2017 9:30 AM
Rebbetzin Sussman is
the Temple's honoree

MEMORIAL DAY
SERVICE
MAY 26, 2017 at 8 PM

SHAVUOT SERVICES
MAY 30-31, 2017
JUNE 01, 2017
see schedule, page 5

STATEN ISLAND
YANKEE BASEBALL
JUNE 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM
See page 10

Rabbi's Message

I recently read that there are plans to revive NASA with the possible goal of sending a man to Mars. This brought back memories of the NASA space launches that put the first man on the Moon. Many of us remember watching the launchings along with millions around the globe. How exciting and how nerve-wracking.

The most exciting and even nerve-wracking part of these launchings was the countdown. The head of the NASA launch team would announce in a serious and somewhat concerned tone of voice, “ten, nine, eight, seven...” - going down to the number one, at which time the rocket was launched.

The purpose of the countdown was to make sure all the systems necessary for a safe and successful launch were checked and found to be in working order. If not, the mission would be aborted to avoid the possibility of danger.

This time of year, we count each day between Pesach and Shavuot. On Shavuot, we celebrate the launching, so to speak, of our Jewish way of life, with the giving of the Torah. For us it is not merely an historical reminiscence, because on that day each of us asked to accept the Torah in a personal way by renewing our commitment to Judaism.

Just as the countdown served as an opportunity to check to see if all systems were working, so Shavuot and the counting of the Omer provides us with the opportunity to see if the systems that enable us to live Jewish life are in working condition. I think there are three systems that need to work for Judaism to continue. They are presence, knowledge and generosity.

The first question we should ask ourselves in our countdown is, “Am I present? Do I show up at Jewish activities such as synagogue services, lectures and programs?” Remember, Woody Allen said that “showing up is nine tenths of what life is about.” If you are not there, you lose the connection. You are missed; don't think that your absence is not felt or that your presence makes no difference.

The second is knowledge. For too many of us, participating in Jewish life is like someone who knows nothing about football watching a football game. The more we know about Jewish life, the more we are part of it.

The third is generosity. Our country could not have explored space without government support. Could the Jewish community thrive without our support?

As we are about to celebrate the giving of the Torah, I hope that all systems are go.

Happy Shavuot! I hope to see you in Shul.

Rabbi Gerald Sussman



NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

We are now distributing the monthly Temple Emanu-El Newsletter via email only, except to those congregants who do not have email. This will allow us to get the Bulletin to you in the quickest way possible each month. If we don't have your email address, please contact the Office. Thanks for your understanding.



Scheduling an Oneg Shabbat or Kiddush

Among the most enjoyable parts of our Shabbat Services at the Synagogue are the Oneg Shabbats following Friday night services and the Kiddushes following Saturday morning services. The Oneg Shabbat – literally meaning Sabbath delight – consists of coffee, cake and some snacks, while Kiddush includes the blessings over wine and challah and a light luncheon. Congregants get the chance to socialize with each other and talk to the Rabbi during these occasions.

Sponsoring an Oneg or Kiddush is a wonderful way to commemorate a birthday, a Yahrzeit or other special event with your fellow congregants, friends and family, or you can sponsor for no occasion at all.

Anyone wishing to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat or a Kiddush must inform the Temple office by E-Mailing temple@templemanuel.org. An E-Mail will be sent back stating if the Oneg or Kiddush has been added to the calendar or if there is already a sponsor for that date. If you do not have E-mail, please call the Temple office and speak to the Office Manager; a post card confirmation will be sent instead of an email. Verbal requests will not be put on the calendar.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

UNPLUG FOR SHABBAT AND YOM TOV!

Shabbat is the time for disconnecting from the business and distraction of the everyday. In our wired world, we are more distracted than ever. Even when we are sitting with friends and family we feel the urge to check our e-mail Facebook or Twitter. Shabbat tells us to be still and hear the music of the world around us and notice the hearts and souls of the people we encounter.

Let's be in the Shabbat spirit by disconnecting our electronics, especially when we are in Shul.

Please refrain from using your electronics in the Shul on the High Holydays and Shabbat!

It is customary to dress especially nicely. Although we do not have a formal dress code, it is our tradition that in the synagogue we dress in a manner that shows respect.

Just as men wear Yarmulkes or other head coverings, it is customary for married woman to wear head coverings in the Shul such as a hat, kerchief or the chapel caps provided in the lobby.

President's Message

Hi, there. I hope everyone had a nice Passover and is enjoying the warmer weather, looking forward to a spectacular summer.

Our annual meeting will take place on May 16, 2017, and I have written a detailed letter about this meeting. Please try to attend so we can have a quorum.

At the end of May, we will celebrate Shavuot. I hope to see some of you at our services, which will include the installation of officers on the first night and a luncheon hosted by our Sisterhood following services the first day.

Best wishes,
Jeff Novick
President

Men's Club Message

Happy May, Congregants!

With Passover done, spring is in full bloom and summer is right around the corner. We've had some pleasant weather to enjoy as we count down the Omer, leading into Shavuot at the end of the month.

As I announced previously, June brings the start of baseball season. I hope to see many of you for our annual Baseball outing, as the Staten Island Yankees – yes, they kept their old name, at least for one more year - open the season against their cross-bridge rivals, the Brooklyn Cyclones. Come sing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" and cheer our local Yankee team on!

Due to other events going on in the Temple in May, we decided to postpone the breakfast I mentioned last month until the Summer. Stay tuned for more information.

I'd like to close by again reminding you that I'd love to hear what kind of events you'd like to see at the Temple. The Men's Club is always open to hearing your ideas so we can try to plan programs around them.'

Wishing you the best for the holiday as we move into Summer...

Scott Novick
Men's Club President

Sisterhood Message

Fellow Congregants,

I hope everyone had a nice Passover holiday and is doing well. I would first like to thank the ladies of the sisterhood for all their hard work in putting together all of our events this year.

I think we had a great series of events, and though some of them did not have the best attendance, they were all quality events and we are working hard to plan summer events that we hope you will enjoy. Please stay tuned for more details about the cement in the upcoming months. Also, feel free to contact me if you have any ideas for events that you think our congregation will enjoy.

We are always looking for more new members, so please let me know if you would like to get involved in the sisterhood.

We are busy preparing for our annual Shavuot luncheon which will be held on Thursday, May 31. We hope you can join us.

Thanks,
Renee Novick
Sisterhood President

CONGREGATION TEMPLE EMANU-EL 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

Dear Congregants,

As the warmer weather has finally returned, it is time for our annual meeting for Temple Emanu-El. This year's annual meeting has been scheduled for 8 PM on Tuesday, May 16, 2017.

We are celebrating our 110th anniversary, and we are still preserving our traditions in our services and providing a high-quality Jewish experience to our members and guests.

Over the past year, we have had two failed attempts at scheduling a congregational meeting for an issue that required a vote according to the bylaws.

The main reason that we failed is that our bylaws were written over 30 years ago, when our membership but was more than 2 1/2 times what it is today. At the time, asking for 35 members to attend a meeting meant that we needed approximately 15 to 20% of our members to attend.

We also failed to address the possibility of members voting by mail or email, as it was not usually done that way over 30 years ago. These days, both of those are very common practices.

As your president, I'm asking you to attend this year's meeting to help me change this outdated part of our bylaws.

The focal point of this year's general meeting will be one proposition. I propose that we change our bylaws to allow a 17% membership requirement at general meetings and allow members to vote by mail or email if they can't attend our meeting.

Thanks in advance for your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jeff Novick
President of the Congregation



CONGREGATION TEMPLE EMANU-EL
2017 ANNUAL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 16TH 8:00 PM
984 POST AVENUE
SOCIAL HALL

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS
ALL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING ARE INVITED AND URGED TO ATTEND

Shavuot Schedule 2017/5777

Tuesday, May 30

Erev Shavuot

- **Mincha / Ma'ariv and Installation of Trustees and Officers of Temple, Men's Club, and Sisterhood 8:00 PM (followed by Dairy Kiddush)**
- **Tikkun Shavuot all night Torah study at Rabbi Sussman's home - 353 Heberton - beginning at 10pm and continuing till either the last person falls asleep or the sun rises.**

Wednesday, May 31

First Day of Shavuot

- **Shacharit Services 9:15 am, followed by Sisterhood Luncheon**
 - **Mincha / Ma'ariv 8pm**

Thursday, June 1

Second Day of Shavuot

- **Shacharit Services 9:15 am (with Yizkor)**
 - **Concluding Service 8:30pm**

Celebrate your birthday at Temple!



We would like to wish all our May birthday celebrants a very happy and healthy birthday:

Florida Almeda
Viktoria Beress
Jeanne Bleimann
Marc Bleimann
Angel Dier
Lester Dier
Melvin Feldstein
Ryan Garber
Harry Graf
Howard Josefson
Esther Kabalkin
Danielle Kalish

Kenneth Kane
Emily Kelsch
Matthew Kelsch
Jeffrey Lisnow
Allan Pollack
Adam Rosenfeld
Marsha Rubenstein
Bonita Sussman
Eliezer Sussman
Patrice Wakschal
Marie Weintraub

Our list of birthdays is very limited. If you would like to participate in our birthday greetings, please let us know your birthday or the birthday of a loved one. Once a month, Birthday blessings will be acknowledged on the Bimah. Come and join us!



BE A MINYANAIRE

In order to keep our minyanim going, we need everybody's help.

We'd like to ask all our members who are not regular synagogue attendees to volunteer to come at least once a month. If you are interested in making the commitment, please get in touch with Rabbi Sussman or the Temple Office; you can volunteer to attend on a regular interval - for example the third or first Shabbat of the month - or just leave your number and we will get in touch with you when you are needed.

Also, join us for "Bagels with the Rabbi," every Friday after Morning Minyan. Rabbi Sussman hosts classes and discussions on Torah, Mishnah, Talmud, Law, and Lore.

The Temple offers our sincere thanks to:
Larry & Linda Black
Roberta Corn-Conti
for their generous donations to our Kiddush Fund!

Temple Topics

Condolences to Arthur Huss on the loss of his sister Eleanor Willig.

Congratulations to Marsha Klein on the honor of being chosen a Staten Island Woman of Achievement.

Congratulations to parents Jeffrey & Anita Lisnow and grandparents Ken & Susan Kane on the Bat Mitzvah of Emma Lisnow.

Get well wishes to Steven Fein, Anita Fein, Miriam Fastag, Bruce Green, Danielle Kalish, Moritz Perelman, Elisabeth Reiter, Li Siegel, Gary Carsel and Valerey Furman.

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Torah Fund

Donation

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In Memory Of Julius Bzostek

Judith Berman

In Memory Of Our Dear Mothers, Vera Klein and Mildred Kane

Susan and Kenneth Kane

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Michael Berger

In Memory Of Sandra Satloff

Martin Satloff

In Memory Of Samuel Bokser and Jennie Goldstein

Larry and Isabel Cohen

In Memory Of My Family, Ida and Rubin Steinman, Charles Steinman, Milton Musicus, David and Roberta Musicus, Phil Steinman

Mildred Musicus

Choir Fund

In Memory Of Harry Friedman and Jean Migdal

Susan and Burt Migdal

In Memory Of Evelyn Friedman

Susan and Burt Migdal

Matzah Fund

Donation

Harris and Li Siegel

Donation

Roberta Corn-Conti

Donation

Linda and Larry Black

Donation

Martin and Rhonda Zwirn

Donation

Scott Novick

Tzedukah Fund

In Memory Of Myrna Fein

Susan Leffler

In Memory Of Irwin's Dear Mother, Bertha Wieder

Amelia and Irwin Wieder

Shiva Fund

In Memory Of Douglas Bleiman

Rosalyn Bleiman Schnee

Shavuot Customs and Rituals



In modern times, Jews can no longer bring the first fruits of their harvest to the Temple in Jerusalem, and thus there are no particular *mitzvot*, or commandments, associated with Shavuot. There are, however, several rituals that are traditional components of celebrating the holiday.

Tikun Shavuot

Many people stay up all night studying Torah. This custom evolved from the story that says that when the Israelites were at Sinai, they overslept and had to be awakened by Moses. As a result, many modern Jews stay up all night to study and celebrate receiving the Torah. These events, known as *Tikkun Leil Shavuot*, which literally means “Rectification for Shavuot Night,” are understood as the custom of studying with a community in order to re-experience standing at Mount Sinai, where the Jewish people received the Torah. The [Tikkun Leil Shavuot](#) was developed by 16th century mystics in Safed, who believed that by studying on Shavuot, they were symbolically preparing Israel to enter into a sacred relationship with God. Modern interpretations and versions of this practice include study on a wide range of topics.

For early Zionists, who deemphasized the religious elements of Judaism to focus on its cultural aspects, the obvious direction for Shavuot in Israel was the restoration of its biblical format. For years, First Fruits Festivals were held on *kibbutzim*, featuring elaborate pageants and parades, displays of fruits, tractors and babies, and joyous singing and dancing ..

Dairy ONShavuot

It also is customary to eat dairy foods on Shavuot because Jewish tradition compares the words of Torah to the sweetness of milk and honey. Blintzes and cheesecake are among the popular foods to make and enjoy for the holiday.

RUTH

Traditionally, the Book of Ruth, part of the section of the Bible known as Writings, is read during services on Shavuot. Ruth is a young Moabite woman who married an Israelite man. When her husband died, she followed her mother-in-law, Naomi, back to Israel and adopted the Jewish faith and people as her own. To feed herself and Naomi, she gleaned in the field of Boaz, a rich man. Boaz is taken with her, and eventually they marry. Among their descendants is the famed King David.

The theme of Ruth's conversion to Judaism is central to this story. In Ruth 1:16–17, she states: "Entreat me not to leave you or to return from following after you. For wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die, and there will I be buried. Thus and more may God do to me if anything but death parts me from you." Ruth is often considered to be the archetype of all who "choose" or convert to Judaism—accepting the Torah, just as Jews accepted the Torah at Mt. Sinai—and this passage traditionally has been understood as her conversion statement.

DECORATING YOUR HOME

It is customary to decorate ones home with greens and fresh flowers on Shavuot as a reminder of the spring harvest and the ancient ritual of bringing the first fruits to the Temple.

[*Galilee Diary*](#)

Tags:

[Shavuot](#)

SHAVUOT

Understanding Services

On May 17 and 24, Rabbi Sussman will be giving a class designed to help you follow and enjoy the service, and it will emphasize the structure of the service and key prayers.



The Men's Club of Temple Emanu-El
984 Post Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10302
718-442-5966

PROUDLY PRESENTS

The Annual Baseball Outing

To see our Staten Island Yankees
at the
Richmond County Savings Bank Ballpark in St. George

GAME DAY is OPENING DAY
Monday, June 19, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

The S. I. Yankees vs. Brooklyn Cyclones



We'll be on the Yankee side of the stadium
in our usual area. Remember, *we buy a limited
block of tickets, so it's first up, best fed!* Not a bad seat
in the house and always a fun time! (There is no outside
food allowed in the stadium. Kosher food will be available in the
ballpark.) *Be there or be square!*

Make your check payable to: Men's Club of Temple Emanu-El and mail the
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Sunday, June 11, 2017
4:30 p.m.
Symphony Space
2537 Broadway at 95th Street, NYC
TICKETS \$40/25 - students \$15 at box office with ID
www.symphonyspace.com

Call or email Shelly Wakefield for group rate tickets (\$30/20)
(646) 206-8319 rawakefield@earthlink.net

May 2017

5 Iyyar – 6 Sivan

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Yom HaZikaron	2 Yom HaAtzma'ut	3	4	5 8:00PM Services Followed by Oneg <u>AVAILABLE</u> Shabbat enters 7:39PM	6 ACHREI-MOT - KEDOSHIM 9:00AM Services Followed by Kiddush The Novick Family in honor of Jeff's belated birthday Shabbat leaves 8:48PM
7	8	9	10 Pesach Sheni	11	12 Class & Breakfast following Morning Minyan 8:00PM Services MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE Followed by Oneg Jeff & Stephanie Novick IHO Renee's 1st Mother's Day Shabbat enters 7:46PM	13 EMOR 9:00AM Services Followed by Kiddush Cynthia Mailman In Memory Of her sister, Pamela Mailman- Rosen Shabbat leaves 8:55PM
14 Lag BaOmer	15	16 TEMPLE ANNUAL MEETING 8:00 PM	17	18	19 Class & Breakfast following Morning Minyan 8:00PM Services OPEN DISCUSSION: FREE SPEECH Followed by Oneg Eleanor Dovdavyany IMO Michael Landwehr Shabbat enters 7:53PM	20 BEHAR – BECHUKOTAI 9:00AM Services Followed by Kiddush Raquel Fastag IMO her husband Pesach Shabbat leaves 9:01PM
21 LISNOW BAT MITZVAH 9:30 AM (followed by Kiddush)	22	23	24 Yom Yerushalayim	25	26 Class & Breakfast following Morning Minyan Rosh Chodesh Sivan MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE 8:00PM Followed by Oneg <u>AVAILABLE</u> Shabbat enters 7:59PM	27 BAMIDBAR 9:00AM Services Followed by Kiddush <u>AVAILABLE</u> Shabbat leaves 9:07PM
28	29	30 Erev Shavuot Installation of Officers 8:00PM Candle Lighting 8:02PM	31 Shavuot Day 1 Candle Lighting 9:11PM			

May 2017 Yahrtzeit Calendar

Please help fellow Temple members say Kaddish for their loved ones who are no longer with them.

May 1 - 5 Iyyar

Dr. Ezra Bernard Sirota
Mr. Michael Sirota

May 3 - 7 Iyyar

Jacob Black
Mrs. Ruth Koppel
Rivka Sidransky
Ms. Ruth Roaker
Mollie Berger

May 4 - 8 Iyyar

Jacob Wexler
Mrs. Rose Koch Cohen
Jacob Turetsky
Shirley Branner
Mrs. Gayle Gomez
Mr. Roy Branner
Douglas Bleiman
Mrs. Roslyn Schnee
Sarah Levy
Ms. Ruth Roaker

May 5 - 9 Iyyar

Israel Zerkowitz

May 6 - 10 Iyyar

Martha Neufeld
Ann Michaels
Vera Klein
Mrs. Kenneth Kane

May 7 - 11 Iyyar

Ethan Garrett Donlon
Mrs. Berna Donlon
Yetta Buller
Mrs. Edward Fischman

May 8 - 12 Iyyar

Ruth Fagen
Rabbi Gerald Sussman
Hermine Millner
Joseph Rahn
Molly Aginsky

May 9 - 13 Iyyar

Ida Wexler
Mrs. Rose Koch Cohen
Molly S. Waze
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Kass

May 10 - 14 Iyyar

Janet Urbach

May 11 - 15 Iyyar

Elias (Pesach) Fastag
Mrs. Raquel Fastag
David A. Cohen
Mr. Nathan Cohen
Mr. Isaac Cohen
Helen Chernov
Mrs. Tobie Kampel
Mr. Herbert Chernov
Jean Stedry

May 12 - 16 Iyyar

Evelyn Friedman
Mrs. Susan Migdal
Adella Millstein
Eva Forman
Mrs. Dorothy Green

May 13 - 17 Iyyar

Bobbie Stein
Harold Cohen
Ms. Susan Cohen

May 14 - 18 Iyyar

Abraham Goldstein
Mrs. Isabel Cohen

May 15 - 19 Iyyar

Maurice Wertling
Mrs. Carol Fried
Nathan Kushner
Sonia Stoller
Rosa Sobol
Benjamin H. Cohen
Mr. Laurence Cohen

May 16 - 20 Iyyar

Carol Scherz
Betty Steinberg

May 17 - 21 Iyyar

Lena Parish
Ira Monka
Mrs. Lillian Urbach

May 18 - 22 Iyyar

Abraham Goldin
Mrs. Stanley Goldin
Morris Levine

May 19 - 23 Iyyar

Emil Einziger
Solomon Weintraub

May 20 - 24 Iyyar

Michael Denes
Mrs. Mildred Josefson

May 21 - 25 Iyyar

Harriet Feldman
Mr. Herbert Feldman

May 22 - 26 Iyyar

Morris Amtzis
Beatrice Garber

May 23 - 27 Iyyar

Lee Canaan
Mr. Robert Canaan
Dr. William Fleischer

May 24 - 28 Iyyar

Betty Sussman
Rabbi Gerald Sussman
Mr. Alan Fagen

May 25 - 29 Iyyar

Robert Rassler

May 26 - 1 Sivan

Irving Maurer

May 27 - 2 Sivan

Ethel Diamond
Blanche Weintraub
Mr. Ira L. Goldenberg

May 28 - 3 Sivan

Mildred Kane
Mr. Kenneth Kane
Andrew Stedry
Charlotte Heyman
Desiree Hirsch
Max Pearlstein
Israel Perlmutter

May 29 - 4 Sivan

Hyman Doctor
Mrs. Barbara Grae
Dr. Stephanie Goldstein
Mrs. Joan Rosenthal
Esther Feldstein
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Feldstein
Dr. Frank Radin

May 30 - 5 Sivan

David Weiss
Mrs. Lillian Weiss
Mina Lew
Dr. Herman Lew

May 31 - 6 Sivan

Philip Vinocur
Alvin Dalheim
Abraham Silzman

GARBER

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Mon.-Fri.
7 AM - 5 PM

Saturday
8 AM - 3 PM

Please help keep our Temple alive! Despite changes in our membership and the age of our historic buildings, we continue to hold services throughout the week, on Shabbat, and on holidays. But we need additional funding to pay for repairs and upkeep. The Temple has authorized the creation of a GoFundMe campaign to accept donations to keep our synagogue here for you. To donate, go to: <https://www.gofundme.com/2ekxgac4>

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<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/13-5596855>

If anyone has Mishaberachs on our list that are no longer necessary to be said (hopefully the person is recovered), please let us know as soon as possible so their names can be removed.

Also, if anyone has names that they give to the Rabbi each week, those names can be included to our list that is on the Bimah.



Please do not park in front of the garages adjacent to the Temple. These garages are privately owned and are not owned by the Temple, so your car could be towed at the requests of the owners if you choose to park there, Thank you for your cooperation.

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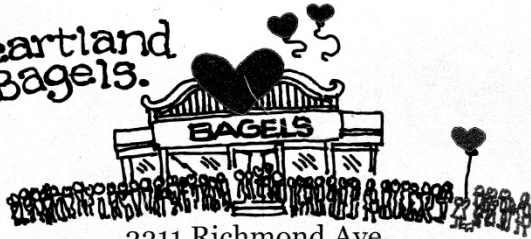


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