

TEMPLE ALIYAH

Program Guide

2009-2010 / 5770



Join us in our year of
Gemilut Hasadim

as we focus on acts of loving kindness

Temple Aliyah

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www.templealiyah.com

AN OPEN INVITATION

Temple Aliyah is a vibrant, exciting synagogue community! Our Temple Aliyah Synagogue Program Guide brings together information and highlights upcoming offerings for the year 5770 (2009-10) from groups within our congregation. This year we will be focusing on the theme of *Gemilut Hasadim* or acts of loving-kindness. Many of the programs, classes and experiences offered this year will provide opportunities for all of our members to explore and conduct acts of loving-kindness. The programs of Temple Aliyah are a reflection of our synagogue's mission.

OUR MISSION

Temple Aliyah is a dynamic, egalitarian congregation with a warm and inviting atmosphere. We are a diverse community that embraces people of all ages, backgrounds and lifestyles. We encourage our members to enrich their Jewish lives, to enhance their Jewish identities and to engage in lifelong learning. Our spiritual, educational and social action programs foster the values of Conservative Judaism and reflect our commitment to Torah and Mitzvot. We support the broader Jewish community, Israel and Jews worldwide.

Enjoy reading through this program guide. Choose the programs and activities that pique your interest and meet your needs. Get involved in something new here at Temple Aliyah for you and your family.

Our Family and Adult Education offerings, and our Religious School program, are designed for our learners of all ages. Youth activities for students, grades 4 through 12, provide a mix of social, cultural and religious programs. There are programs for families with young children, from infants through pre-school age. Contribute to *Tikkun Olam*, the repair and completion of the world and the support of Israel by getting involved in projects created by our Social Action and Israel Keshet committees throughout the year. Meet Temple members through our Sisterhood and Men's Clubs activities.

Please note that changes and updates will occur throughout the year for our many synagogue activities. Make it a habit to check our newly updated synagogue web site at www.templealiyah.com for up-to-date information. We welcome you to our rich and varied collection of activities and experiences.

Carl M. Perkins, Rabbi

Gaston Bogomolni, Cantor

Stephen Baum, President

Steven Spitz and Dan Winograd, Editors

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RITUAL AND JEWISH LIFE

At Temple Aliyah

JOIN Our Ritual Committee

We welcome new committee members. For additional information or to become involved with ritual activities, please contact Ritual Committee Chair, Jeff Fink at

Jeffrey.Fink@Verizon.net

Temple Aliyah is an active, participatory congregation and our worship services provide an opportunity for quiet chanting, lively communal singing and silent reflection. Our services are egalitarian and traditional where the women participate alongside men within the framework of the Conservative movement. Under the dynamic leadership of Rabbi Carl Perkins and Cantor Gastón Bogomolni, our congregation is continually seeking to deepen its understanding of, and appreciation for, traditional Jewish worship.

SHABBAT

Participatory and dynamic Shabbat morning services begin at 9:15 a.m. and are the cornerstone of our weekly worship. These services continue throughout the year.

Throughout the year, we are proud to offer special Shabbat morning services led entirely by lay volunteers. Our Meditation Shabbat service gives participants the opportunity to meditate in a Jewish manner to increase spirituality and *kavannah* (intention). This service is held about once a month during the school year, and concludes in time for participants to join the “main” service in the sanctuary before the Rabbi’s sermon.

On Friday evenings twice a month, we hold Minyan Shirah services. These lively, spiritual, energetic and engaging services include a variety of melodies, including those from Shlomo Carlebach and Latin America, as well as other tunes chosen by Rabbi Perkins and Cantor Bogomolni. Typically meeting in our chapel, this intimate spiritual experience attracts people of all ages and backgrounds. We also hold Kabbalat Shabbat services with dinners and programs geared to specific groups (tots, school classes, etc.) on various Friday evenings throughout the year beginning at 6:15 p.m.

YOUTH SERVICES

On most Shabbat mornings during the school year, we have a full program of age-appropriate services for pre-schoolers and school aged children. Shabbat Yeladim has one service for infants, tots and their parents and one service for pre-schoolers and their parents that meet on alternate Shabbat mornings (see TA monthly schedule for details). We have three youth services that meet weekly: a service for children in kindergarten and 1st grade, a service for grades 2 and 3, and a service for grades 4-6. Parents are welcome to join their children at any of these services, but they are structured for the children's independence. These youth services encourage participants to practice what they have learned in class and lead services at their individual comfort levels. Whether or not a youth service is scheduled, children are warmly invited to come to synagogue on Shabbat mornings with their parents and to participate in our regular worship service. To make it possible for parents of young children to attend services, babysitting is available from 10:00 to noon for children over 2.

WEEKDAY MINYAN

From September through June, we hold *minyan* Monday mornings at 6:45 am, Monday through Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm, and Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. During the months of July and August, our summer minyan meets Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Evening services are brief, lasting 15-20 minutes, while morning services last about 45 minutes. Our Monday morning *minyan* includes a brief Torah service, with lay volunteers preparing the weekly Torah portion. These services are largely lay-led, offering the opportunity for daily worship and mourners and those observing *Yahrzeit* to recite *kaddish*. In order to guarantee the presence of a *minyan*, members of the congregation are assigned to teams and asked to attend evening and Sunday *minyan* several times a year.

HOLIDAYS

Evening and morning services are held for the High Holidays (*Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*), the three festival holidays (Passover, *Sukkot*, *Shavuot*), *Shemini Atzeret* and *Simchat Torah*. For *Purim* we have a festive *megillah* reading in both the evening and the morning services. We also have the reading of *Eicha* (Lamentations) on the evening of *Tisha B'Av*, *Kohelet* (Ecclesiastes) on *Sukkot*, *Ruth* on *Shavuot*, and *Shir Ha-shirim* (Song of Songs) on Passover. We also offer children's services on selected holidays.

PARTICIPATION IN RITUAL LIFE

Temple Aliyah encourages members of the congregation to participate in services as much as possible through the chanting of Torah, Haftarah or *megillot* or leading portions of the service. If you would like to learn more about how you can participate, please contact either Vice-President of Jewish Life Keith Lewinstein or Ritual Committee chair Jeff Fink. If you wish to learn how to chant or lead any service, contact Cantor Gastón.

The Temple periodically offers Learner's Services, classes in Torah cantillation and other ritual matters. In the fall of 2009, we will begin offering *WebParasha*, an online resource for Torah and Haftarah readings. MP3 recordings are also available.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

At Temple Aliyah

JOIN our Religious School Committee.

We welcome new committee members. For additional information or to become involved with the Religious School, please contact the Religious School Committee Chair Janet Besser, at janet.gail.besser@us.ngrid.com

Temple Aliyah's Religious School is committed to providing a comprehensive Jewish education in a positive and creative atmosphere taught by a staff of trained, experienced and dedicated professionals. The curriculum is based on sound developmental research, keeping in mind individual needs and differences in learning styles. The school strives to create a generation of Jews eager to remain connected to their synagogue, their community, the land, and people of Israel and Jews worldwide.

Our Religious School program begins with a combined Kindergarten and Grade 1 class (Gesher) once a week on Sunday morning. Our Kindergarten and Grade 1 students learn about the Jewish world by experiencing and studying Jewish holidays and Shabbat, prayers and blessings, Jewish values, Torah stories, and simple Hebrew words. We add in music, social action projects and an introduction to Hebrew letters in this curriculum. Grade 2 (Bet) students attend Wednesday and Sundays where they begin to read Hebrew and delve deeper into Jewish values, the synagogue, Torah, and Jewish life.

The 3rd, 4th and 5th grades (Gimel, Daled and Heh) meet on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays, and the 6th and 7th grades (Vav, and Zayin) grades meet on Sundays and Wednesdays. The curriculum in these grades helps the students improve and maintain their Hebrew reading ability, learn to write Hebrew, learn Hebrew words and phrases, and become familiar with a traditional Shabbat morning service in preparation for their bar/bat mitzvah. The students study and discuss selections from the books of the Torah and gain a deeper learning for the Jewish holidays, Jewish life cycle celebrations and Jewish ethics and beliefs, including mitzvot. We also promote a strong bond with Israel. Various programs and classroom activities have been developed to foster friendships and sense of community among our students and their families.

A full curriculum and a handbook for parents have been sent to families of all registered students and are available in the school office. For more information, please contact Dr. Beverly Schwartz-Katsh, Director of Education, at 781/444-8522 (drbev@templealiyah.com).

GAN ALIYAH for Kindergartners

Temple Aliyah's Religious School has a special program for kindergarten students. Gan Aliyah is a Jewish enrichment program for kindergartners in the Needham Public Schools and other schools with half-day kindergarten programs.

The Gan Aliyah program meets on Friday 12-3pm, opposite the student's morning half-day kindergarten. The program teaches Jewish holidays, Shabbat and mitzvot and features special time with our Rabbi and Cantor. Lunch and snacks are provided.

For more information, please contact Gan Aliyah teacher/director Bonne Boodman at bonneb@aol.com, or call the Temple office.

Watch for information for the 2010-11 school year in December and January.

FAMILY EDUCATION

At Temple Aliyah

JOIN Our Family Education Committee

We welcome new committee members. For additional information or to become involved in Family Education, please contact the Family Education Committee Chair, Steven Spitz at drspitz@smileboston.com.

The Family Education Committee includes both congregants and professional staff members who work to develop, define and support the educational efforts and programs within the synagogue.

Our Family Education program at Temple Aliyah seeks to encourage spiritual and religious growth in our families and to help build connections within our community. One great event is our Havdallah and a movie night.

The Family Education Committee sponsors both community and school based initiatives. Below is a listing of this year's Family Education offerings. Mark your calendar and join us for these family oriented activities.

Community Based Programs

SUKKOT UNDER THE STARS Sunday, October 4th 6:45-9pm

Join Cantor G., Brian Wexler and the Temple Aliyah Klezmer band as we sing, dance and eat in the Temple sukkah. We will kick it off with a special Havdallah in the sukkah and then enjoy dessert and drinks with songs and music.

Mitzvah Fair Sunday, November 8, 2009 10 am - 1 pm

This program, sponsored by the Social Action Committee, will be the kick-off event to the congregational year of gemilut hasadim, acts of loving-kindness. Our activities and learning will be geared to all members of the community, school age children, teens and adults.

Temple Retreat 2010

May 28 – 30, 2010

Plan on attending our 13th annual synagogue wide retreat for all Temple Aliyah members at Camp Yavneh in Northwood, New Hampshire.

Join us to celebrate the joy and spirit of Shabbat with a large and varied group of members of the Temple Aliyah community. Relax with a book or go swimming and/or boating in the lake. Hang out with friends. Study with our retreat “scholar-in-residence.” We guarantee you’ll eat well and you won’t have to cook, clean or set up anything! Applications will be sent out in the Pulse in February or March, 2010 and should be returned as soon as possible to reserve a space. All accommodations, meals, snacks, recreational and educational activities, and childcare are included in the weekend package. This is a great way to really know your community and it is always a fantastic event. This is open to families with kids of all ages, families without kids, individuals or anyone that just wants a fun weekend.

FOR FAMILIES WITH SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

(Grades K-7)

Our Director of Education works with the Family Education Committee to offer Family Education programs at each grade level for elementary age children in our congregation, grades K-7 (Gan-Zayin). The content of our programs is curriculum-based and connected with what is being taught in our Religious School. However, they are open and appropriate for all families, including those with children in day schools.

Our programs allow parents the opportunity to be involved in their children’s Jewish education and become Jewish role models and teachers. It is important for at least one parent to attend these programs with their children. For families where one parent is not Jewish and would like to learn, the opportunity is there as well. Please speak to Rabbi Perkins or our Director of Education for additional information.

Shabbat Family Services

Our Shabbat Family services are designed to give the whole family a warm Shabbat experience. Organized by age groups, each program offers an age-appropriate Kabbalat Shabbat (Friday evening). Students lead parts of the service in grades 4 and above.

K, Grades 1, 2 and 3

Friday, January 22, 2010

Grades 4 -7

Friday, November 13, 2009

GESHER (Kindergarten and Grade 1)

Brahot - The Blessings in Our Lives

Sunday, February 7, 2010

9 am–10:30 am

We will explore the way we can mark the many blessings in our lives and each family will make something very special for their home.

GRADE 2 – BET (2 programs)

The Parent Connection Introduction: We Read Jewish Books!

Sunday, November 22, 2009

10:30 am-12:30 pm

Come and be introduced to the 'Parent Connection', home-based program for reading Jewish books. Choose your first book to take home and get started reading together!

Three Houses in One: The Synagogue

Sunday, February 7, 2010

10:30 am-12:30 pm

What house contains three houses? A synagogue is a *beit tefillah* (house of prayer), *beit midrash* (house of study), and *beit kneset* (house of meeting). Find out what these three 'houses' are and how they come together to make a special home for us all.

GRADE 3 – GIMEL

How We Hear God: The Shema

Sunday, January 10, 2010

9-10:30 am

This program will explore how to talk to your children about G-d, how we can talk to G-d, and how we can hear G-d.

GRADE 4 – DALED

Hebrew: The Language of the Jewish People

Sunday, December 6, 2009

9 am–10:30 am

In this interactive learning experience, parents and students will explore the place of Hebrew, the language of the Jewish people, in our lives today and for the past 3,000 years.

GRADE 5 – HEH

Torah and Me

Sunday, November 15, 2009

9-10:30 am

The 'Torah and Me' program provides an opportunity for parents and their children to study together, Torah, the written record of how we have understood the beginnings of our people and the relationship between G-d and the Jewish people.

Torah, Prayer and Me

Sunday, January 31, 2010

9-10:30 am

This program involves the study of Jewish prayer and the meaning of key prayers.

GRADE 6 – VAV

Pre Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family Seminar Series

3 Sunday mornings 10:30 am –12:30 pm

March 7, 14 & 21, 2010

This series, special for families of pre-bar/bat mitzvah, will include opportunities to learn about the Shabbat Shaḥarit (morning) service, tallit & tefillin, and issues related to reaching the age of bar/bat mitzvah and the b'nai mitzvah ceremonies.

GRADE 7 – ZAYIN

Brunch and Conversation

Sunday, October 25, 2009

10:30 am-12:30 pm

This program will be an opportunity for parents to meet with teachers and Dr. Bev to share ideas and strategies for making the Zayin year positive and meaningful for every student. Students will be included for part of the discussion and there will be a guest speaker who will discuss issues important to all students.

Confronting Anti-Semitism

January 10, 2010

10:30 am–12:30 pm

This program of the Anti-Defamation League of Boston is a participatory workshop designed to empower young people and adults to respond to anti-Semitic incidents. Conducted by trained facilitators, in a safe environment, students and parents talk about anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic incidents including when and how to respond, and the consequences of these responses.

TEMPLE TOTS: FOR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

[Infants through Preschool]

JOIN US. We welcome new committee members. For additional information or to become involved in Temple Tots, please contact either of the co-chairs, Karen Cohen (781-444-3273) or Bess Weiskopf (781-444-9224)

If you have been looking for exciting, fun, educational, and age appropriate Jewish programming for your family, look to Temple Aliyah and Temple Tots. Our activities are ideal for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers and are welcoming for the whole family. Our programming is coordinated by a Jewish early childhood specialist and run by a group of parents with young children just like yours. Temple Aliyah's vibrant clergy, Rabbi Carl Perkins and Cantor Gastón Bogomolni, often lead and participate as well.

Whether you are looking for religious services, social opportunities with other young Jewish families, educational experiences, or fun music classes with classic children's songs as well as Jewish favorites, Temple Aliyah has something for everyone.

Synagogue membership is not required to attend Young Family Programming; **however, registration is required** by e-mail in order to accommodate all who wish to attend.

High Holidays

Join in the fun for Young Family High Holiday Services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We will be celebrating with singing, marching, stories, and puppets in a family-friendly service format.

Rosh Hashanah Saturday, September 19 4:00 pm
Sunday, September 20 9:15 am

Yom Kippur Monday, September 28 4:00 pm

There is no fee for attending the Tot High Holiday services; however, **registration is required** by e-mail in order to accommodate all who wish to attend.

Friday Night Tot Sha-La-Lom Shabbat

At the end of a busy week, say “Shalom” to Shabbat and reconnect with your family and make new friends. Come sing, groove, shake and relax with our own Cantor Gastón. Our monthly program includes singing, musical props, stories and a short service to welcome Shabbat for children up to age 5. New for this year, we will have a service for older siblings, Ruach Shabbat, at the same time. Some of the services are followed by a family friendly kosher dinner. All services begin at 5:30 pm (NOTE the new time).

October 9 (followed by dinner)

November 6

December 4

January 15 (followed by dinner)

February 5

March 5 (followed by dinner)

April 2

May 14 (followed by dinner)

Registration is requested for the service; advance paid reservations are required for dinners.

Shabbat Yeladim

Saturday morning services are fun for our youngest members with singing, marching, activities, silliness and prayers led by Karen Cohen. Shabbat Yeladim services start at 11am and always finish in time to join the Congregational Kiddush. We meet on the second and fourth Saturdays of every month. Families are always welcome to stay for Kiddush lunch.

Music with Margie

Come sing, dance, march, and make music with your child. Music teacher extraordinaire, Margie Brodsky, leads parents and tots (0-3) energetically in classic children’s songs as well as some favorite Jewish melodies. A great way to meet other children and parents or caregivers; classes meet on Sundays and always end with a snack.

Fall Series (6 classes): 4:15-5:00pm

October 18 – December 6 (no classes November 22 or November 29)

Registration is required. Full Series Cost per Family: Members: \$45; Non-Members \$90.

“What is Jewish about...”

Have fun with your young children learning about what makes everyday things “Jewish”. There will be age appropriate crafts and special activities and stories with each theme.

FOOD November 22

Bring pasta and/or raisins to be donated to Family Table

TREES January 31

WATER April 11

Registration is required: Members \$10 each event per family; Non-Members \$15 each event per family.

Temple Tot Kick-off and Back to Shul Picnic

September 13

4:00 pm

Start the year right at a fun family event at DeFazio Tot Lot with activities, playtime, music and some surprises just for Tot families as part of the Temple-wide BBQ. Cost for the BBQ is \$7/person with a family max of \$25. New and prospective Temple members are welcome to enjoy the event as guests of Temple Aliyah. RSVP requested to the temple office.

Havdalah Pajama Party and Concert

February 6

5:00 pm

Say “goodbye” to Shabbat and “hello” to fun! Kids come in PJ’s to enjoy pizza dinner, Havdallah and a special family concert by Cantor Jeff Klepper of *Kol B’Seder*.

Registration is required. Member: \$20/family; Non-Members: \$30/family

Ikkarim (For Parents)

October 22 – March 25

Thursday evenings 7:30 – 9:00 pm

You take care of your child’s enrichment...what about yours? Join in an engaging and educational experience for parents raising Jewish children (newborn to age 8). Interact with other parents in the community. Learn from dynamic Jewish educators. Have “adult” discussions about how Jewish values enrich our roles as parents, spouses and friends. Cost: \$250 (subsidized by CJP) Register on-line at www.cjp.org/ikkarim. Select “Needham” location.

ADULT EDUCATION

At Temple Aliyah

JOIN Our Adult Education Committee

We welcome new committee members. If you have any questions or would like to become involved with Adult Education, please contact the Adult Education chair, Roxanne Kelber at rkelber@verizon.net.

Adult Education is pleased to present an overview of the programs for the 2009-2010 calendar year, most of which are connected to our theme of Gemilut Hasadim, acts of loving kindness. We have put together a variety of learning opportunities from multi-session classes to morning or evening events, and of course, our Shabbaton weekend. Continue to look for updates and registration information in “Coming Up@ TempleAliyah”, the Pulse and on the Temple Aliyah website for details.

Adult Education Course offerings

We are pleased to present some of the formal and informal learning opportunities for the 2009-2010 year. Our theme for this year is “Gimelut Hasadim”, or acts of loving kindness. Read the “Coming Up” and “The Pulse” for details, dates and registration information.

Tuesday evenings with Rabbi Perkins

These classes meet in the fall and spring at 7:45 pm following evening minyan. This year’s class will relate to the theme of Gimelut Hasadim.

Coffee and News in Israel

This is an informal get together for anyone who wishes to understand and discuss the events and news in Israel. Everyone is invited to join in and share what you have read in the paper or on-line. We meet once a month on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m., room to be announced. Our first meeting is Oct. 18th.

Pre-davening Jewish Meditation with Naomi Litrownik

The sessions generally meet the first Shabbat of every month at 9:15 am in the board room. Jewish meditation is the attempt to find that “soft murmuring”, that “still small voice” within ourselves. As in all meditations, Jewish Meditation includes such universal principles as having a focus and assuming a passive attitude while meditating. What is unique to Jewish meditation is the content – the words one may focus on, the images one may visualize and the methods to bring one’s self back to focus as we prepare to daven.

Havurot Havurot are communities within our community... a way to come together with a smaller group of people/families to enhance your personal Jewish experiences while getting to know new people/families. We have two new groups that are just beginning, and are currently open to new members:

- Young families... for people with pre-school to elementary school aged children.
- Empty nesters... the kids are gone and we wish to enhance our Jewish life with others.

If you are interested in joining a havurah or wish more information contact Roxanne Kelber at RKelber@verizon.net.

Shabbaton Weekend

December 12-13, 2009

Shabbaton

Our Shabbaton date this year is December 12-13th and is an anticipated time as we come together as a community to learn on Shabbat. Our programming is created for new members to feel comfortable in a ‘larger group’ setting so, please don’t hesitate to sign up. We are excited this year to have renowned speaker Rabbi Harold Kushner who will explore our theme of Gimelut Hasadim.

Stay tuned to “The Pulse” and “Coming Up” for further information.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

At Temple Aliyah

JOIN Our Youth Commission

We welcome new commission members. For more information or to become involved with Youth Programming, please contact either of the co-chairs of the Youth Commission, Amy Lassman (adar608@comcast.net) or Ellen Pulda (epulda1@comcast.net), or our Youth Director, Bryan Wexler (bryan@templealiyah.com)

Youth programming offers a variety of opportunities for fun, friendship, community service, leadership, and more. Our new Youth Director, Bryan Wexler and Kadima/Junior USY Advisor, Alana Tilman, are excited about working with Temple Aliyah's youth community. There is certainly something for everyone in Senior USY, Junior USY, KADIMA, and Club 4. Activities include conventions, concerts, dances, movies, sporting events, parties, cooking lessons, tzedakah, fundraisers, theatrical outings, skating, bowling, basketball teams, arts & crafts, travel, movie nights, leadership, and community service.

United Synagogue Youth (or USY for short) and KADIMA are the official youth organizations of the Conservative Movement and are sponsored by the United Synagogue of America. USY was formed in 1951 and includes thousands of high school aged members around the world. KADIMA is a separate entity geared to pre-USY aged youngsters. Temple Aliyah offers a middle group, called Jr. USY, and Club 4 is Temple Aliyah's introductory group for fourth-graders.

SENIOR USY

Senior USY is for teens in grades 9-12. Events include regional and national conventions, inter-chapter and regional dances, social action projects, leadership training, sports, coffee houses, and trips to name a few. Members of the board (all teenagers) are responsible for leading the way, with the support of Bryan Wexler, our Youth Director. Bryan has already been working with some of our high school students, and together, they have come up with a host of exciting ideas for the chapter. For more information contact Atlee Silk at agsilk91@gmail.com or Bryan Wexler at Bryan@templealiyah.com.

JUNIOR USY, KADIMA & Club 4

Junior USY is for students in seventh and eighth grades. Programs are similar to those of Sr. USY, but, are more suited to this age group and include dances, sleepovers, trips, social-action projects, and sports. The board, which is open to all who are interested, works closely with the advisor on planning and implementing programs.

Children in grades five and six are invited to join KADIMA. In addition to strengthening social bonds, KADIMA fosters a sense of Jewish community. KADIMA also shares in activities with other synagogues from around New England. We welcome your ideas and hope you will encourage your children to participate. Club 4 is a mini-youth group for fourth graders. With approximately four events per year, it is a perfect introduction to the fun that awaits them in the future. Information about the first Club 4 event will be announced shortly.

JEWISH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Many of our teenagers attend Prozdor, a well known supplementary Hebrew high school that is part of Hebrew College in Newton and offers superior quality academics, as well as creative Jewish studies. Teens choose their courses from more than 95 electives and meet kids from all over the Greater Boston Jewish community. There are close to 900 teens enrolled this year. In addition to classroom learning, the Prozdor experience features Shabbatons, area overnights, and inspiring international trips during school vacation periods to such destinations as London, Spain, Eastern Europe and Israel. Visit www.prozdor.edu for more details.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT!

Be on the lookout for more news about upcoming activities for kids of all ages -- from fourth graders to high school seniors. Please, **RETURN YOUR CHILDREN/S REGISTRATION FORMS AND SEND IN YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**, so that your kids can take part in all that the youth community has to offer here at Temple Aliyah!

SOCIAL ACTION

At Temple Aliyah

JOIN Our Social Action Committee

We welcome new committee members and volunteers for our various programs. For further information about the Social Action Committee or to volunteer to participate in any of these projects, contact the program coordinator identified below or the co-chairs of the Social Action Committee, Donald Lassman (781-449-1611, don@lassmanlaw.com) or Marla Simon (781-453-9916, evan.marla@rcn.com).

For information about social action in the Religious School, contact Dr. Beverly Schwartz-Katsh, Education Director (drbev@templealiyah.com).

“In a free society, although each person may not be guilty, all are responsible.”

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Temple Aliyah is committed to meaningful social action. Members of the synagogue participate in a variety of exciting projects, with opportunities for short-term and long-term commitments.

Greater Boston Jewish Coalition for Literacy

Temple Aliyah will begin its 13th year in the Coalition's program, sending trained reading English reading tutors to the Philbrick Elementary School in Roslindale. Temple members receive extensive training from professionals provided by the Greater Boston Jewish Coalition for Literacy. Our team members tutor children one-on-one in grades K-3 to bring the children up to grade level. Participation requires a commitment of one hour or two hours per week, plus training. Tutor training sessions are given at least twice during the school year. Look for information in the Pulse and through flyers, or call **Judy Varon** (781-444-3812, oomatron@rcn.com).

Family Table

Family Table is the response of the Greater Boston Jewish community to the needs of Jewish area families who cannot afford the basic necessities of life. Family Table collects food, paper goods, items of personal hygiene, as well as Shabbat candles, challah, and ritual items appropriate to various Jewish holidays. Temple Aliyah collects food throughout the year and delivers it to the Family Table food pantry located at 1430 Main Street in Waltham. **This year we are responsible for collecting 40 packages of raisins per month and 40 packages of pasta per month.** We CAN do it! Once a month or more, please remember Family Table when you do your shopping. When shopping please consider raisins and pasta for Family table and when coming to synagogue, please leave them in the boxes just outside the synagogue office in the Temple's Religious School lobby.

For further information contact Murray Davidson: medmhd@aol.com

Shabbat Shalom at Avery Manor

Shabbat with the Elderly

Welcome Shabbat on the first and second Friday of each month with residents of Needham's assisted living facilities. All you have to do is show up--candlesticks, kippot, booklets, challah and juice are located on site. It's a wonderful, fulfilling activity for adults of any age, families with children, and fun to do with friends. Contact Judy Lee (judymllee@msn.com).

Religious School Social Action Projects

As part of its curriculum, each grade of the religious school participates in at least one social action project. Each project has an educational component and a social action "hands on" activity component. Contact Marla Simon at Evan.marla@rcn.com.

Religious School Parents

As your children get older, teachers in public schools do not usually need as much help in the classroom. But we DO need your help in the Temple Religious School for various Social Action projects throughout the school year. Religious School parents will be receiving a list of the projects and the scheduled dates. Please think about volunteering during the year. It is a great opportunity for your child to kvel and to have you in THEIR classroom. No prior experience need, just a willingness to be a wonderful role model for your child/ren as they perform various mitzvot (good deeds) through classroom projects. Students in our Zayin class can earn Mitzvah points by helping with these projects. Contact Marla Simon at Evan.marla@rcn.com.

Teen Social Action Projects

There are many opportunities for teens to get involved in social action projects and do *tikkun olam*, help to repair the world. Look for upcoming notices of projects for teens. Many of these activities are through the Temple's USY groups. Please encourage your teens to join their classmates in these activities. Contact Brian Wexler at the Temple or Atlee Silk at agsilk91@gmail.com.

DATE SPECIFIC SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS

Erev Yom Kippur Paper Bag Food Collection September 28, 2009

On Erev Yom Kippur, Temple Aliyah collects bags of food to bring to Family Table. We will be collecting soup, tuna and other non-perishable foods. In past years, we collected approximately 100 bags of food. We would like to exceed that number this year.

Kick-off to the Year of Gemilut Hasadim November 8, 2009

Please save the date for a temple-wide event that will address hunger issues throughout our community and beyond. There will be hands-on activities for children and thought provoking presentations for adults. More details to come.

Hanukkah Gift Drive Late November – Mid-December, 2009

Before Hanukkah, Temple Aliyah collects Hanukkah gifts for children of Family Table recipients and holiday gifts for students at the Needham Walker School, as they are a local community in need. Contact person: **Sheryl Dubin** (childconf@aol.com)

Project Ezra December 25, 2009

Spend Christmas Day doing a mitzvah instead of going to the movies! Members of our temple work so others who celebrate the holiday can be home with their families. Many opportunities are available in senior centers, feeding programs, visits to the elderly, etc. Contact **Judy Steinberg** steinbej@comcast.net.

Needham Interfaith Habitat

Needham Interfaith Habitat (NIH) and Greater Boston Chapter of Habitat for Humanity broke ground this past July on a house in Needham. A family has been chosen and is working with us in the building of their future home which is located on the corner of Bancroft and Brookline Streets. The Needham Interfaith Habitat was formed six years ago by the Needham Clergy Association, representing all houses of worship in the Needham community. To complete the building of the home we need both volunteers and financial support. We will be building at the site as a congregation on the following dates: 12/8/09, 1/12/10, 2/21/10 and 3/21/10. If you are interested in helping out on our build days, please contact **Howard Hirsh** at hjhirsh@aol.com. If you are interested in giving a donation or helping out on other dates, please check out our website at: www.needhamhabitat.org. If you have any other questions, please contact **Lisa Heyison** at lisaheyison@comcast.net.

Purim Book Drive

February and early March, 2010

At Purim, Temple Aliyah collects books to donate to the Philbrick Elementary School in Roslindale. In lieu of books last year, Temple members were asked to write checks so the school principals could purchase multiple copies of specific titles. Watch the Pulse for details in early spring about this program.

Yad Chesed

March 2010

During Purim services each year, Temple members fulfill the mitzvah of giving tzedakah during the holiday. Temple Aliyah contributes this money to Yad Chesed, a greater Boston area project that buys coupons from the Butcherie in Brookline at a discount and distributes them to needy Jewish families. Collections are made at Purim services or you can send a check directly to the Temple. Contact **Neil Sacks** (nasacks@verizon.net).

Project Hametz

Prior to Passover, April 2010

Each year before Passover, Temple Aliyah collects hametz and contributes it to the Needham Community Council food pantry (which serves approximately 120 families) and to Family Table. Contact: **Murray Davidson** (medmhd@aol.com)

Walk for Hunger

May 3, 2010

Let's join together to make Team Temple Aliyah and walk for Project Bread. Stay tuned for more details about this year's event.

ISRAEL KESHER COMMITTEE

At Temple Aliyah

The Temple Aliyah Israel Keshet Committee was created to promote our congregation's connection (*keshet*) to Israel. Our varied programs have made a definite impact on the lives of Israeli families.

For further information about the Israel Keshet Committee, to get involved in any of our projects, or to add your name to our e-information list, send your email address to jordanaglasgow@gmail.com.

"No Matter Where We Stand, We All Stand with Israel."

Sister Congregation in Israel, Kiryat Bialik

We have developed a close relationship with a *Masorti* (Conservative) congregation outside of Haifa in Kiryat Bialik. Many members of Temple Aliyah, including Rabbi Perkins, have visited the congregation and been welcomed warmly. Rabbi Mauricio Balter from Kiryat Bialik has visited us in Needham as well. The Keshet Committee encourages members of our congregation to participate in projects throughout the year that aid Kiryat Bialik, such as a recent recipe book fundraiser. The Keshet Committee also raised money for Pesach seders and Shabbat dinners for members of Kiryat Bialik in need. Temple Aliyah members are welcome and encouraged to visit the congregation when in Israel.

Our Israeli Families

The Keshet Committee has 'adopted' four families in Israel who have been victimized by terrorist bombings. We maintain close contact with these families, keeping in touch with phone calls and visits, and sending flowers for Shabbat or holidays. We also offer monetary support to two of the families. Our commitment has deeply touched the lives of those in pain. These families have offered us their heartfelt thanks and appreciation for making a difference in their lives.

Israeli Organizations

Kesher supports various grassroots organizations in Israel that help Israelis in need. We have supported *Table to Table*, an organization that collects food from corporations, events, army bases, and farms and donates it to soup kitchens, schools, and families in need. We also have supported *Standing Together*, an organization that provides food, toiletries and special treats to Israeli soldiers in the field.

Education and Entertainment

The Kesher Committee will continue to sponsor educational and entertainment programs on Israel during the year. We host film nights featuring popular Israeli movies, collaborate with Adult Ed to offer Coffee and News from Israel on Sunday mornings, and keep our e-list members informed about relevant programming in the Greater Boston area.

We need you to make a difference. Please support our important projects and suggest new ones.

SISTERHOOD

At Temple Aliyah

JOIN US

For further information about our Sisterhood Committee and to get involved in any activities, contact Sisterhood President, **Jessica Hamermesh** at jhamermesh@mac.com

Temple Aliyah Sisterhood offers something for everyone. No matter what stage of life you are in or what level of involvement you are ready for, Sisterhood has a place for you. We welcome you and invite you to learn more about becoming part of our active community.

We are proud of the number of events we sponsor for our members and their families, as well as the fund raising projects and the hands-on support we offer as a vital arm of the synagogue.

We strive to offer new ways to reach out to our members. Whether through social events such as Donor Dinner, Paid-Up Supper, or social action programs such as our Shabbat celebrations at Avery Manor nursing home, or community education events such as our book group, Torah Fund brunch, or family events such as the annual Purim Carnival and Hanukkah party, or our thriving synagogue Judaica shop, Sisterhood has something for every age, stage, taste, and need.

Whether you're looking for camaraderie, spiritual connection, social action, education, or the opportunity to get involved in your synagogue, Sisterhood is here for you.

Sisterhood has so much to offer the women of our community. There are five categories of programming, each with a vice president to offer advice and support to the committee chairwomen. Under the leadership of **Laura Kaufman, VP Education; Lisa Kane, VP Community Outreach; Stephanie Kornbleuth, VP Membership; Tammy Sadok, VP Ways and Means; and Judy Lee, VP Social Action**, we offer a large array of programs and events to both Sisterhood and our Temple community at large.

The following are just some of the many programs and events Sisterhood will offer during the coming year:

Social

Paid-Up Supper is our first social event of the year. At this event, we welcome our new members and greet all of our returning members. It is a great casual, fun evening of dinner and entertainment.

Mah Jongg Tournaments are taken very seriously at TA. We join up with Needham Hadassah and Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood for an evening of competitive, yet friendly play and prizes.

Donor Dinner is our major fundraising and Sisterhood event of the year, held in May as the high point and commemoration of all of Sisterhood's activities. It includes boutiques, raffles, dinner, and entertainment or a noted speaker.

Spiritual

Rosh Hodesh Group welcomes women at all stages of life, from all levels of Jewish observance to share monthly in studying the significance of the upcoming Jewish month. Watch the Pulse for informational flyers.

Sisterhood Shabbat is our wonderful yearly Shabbat service led entirely by Sisterhood members, from *psukei d'zimrah* through kiddush. Supportive instruction enables women to take a hands-on role in all aspects of the service, even for the first time. This year's Sisterhood Shabbat will be held on January 30, 2010.

Children and Family

Children's Hanukkah Party is a wonderful and lighthearted afternoon of crafts, song, fun and food, geared toward the younger children of the congregation from birth to age 6.

Purim Carnival Our temple-wide Purim carnival is one of our signature moments and one of our most important fundraisers. The carnival is a big hit every year with children of all ages (and even the parents!) and includes games, crafts, food and prizes.

College Students' Liaison assembles and sends Hanukkah and Passover packages to college students of synagogue members.

Temple Community Support

High Holiday Childcare Sisterhood offers babysitting services, including age-appropriate activities and snacks for 2 year old - pre-K 5 year olds during the High Holidays so our synagogue members with young children may attend services.

Shabbat Babysitting is provided each Saturday morning during services for ages 2-5.

Judaica Shop has a full range of beautiful holiday, gift and special order items, fully run and staffed by Sisterhood volunteers. It is a great place to order kippot and gifts for bar/bat mitzvah kids while supporting the TA Sisterhood.

Passover Wine Sale is a Sisterhood fundraiser that enables synagogue members to purchase a wide variety of Passover wines and grape juices. Tastings are usually held during our Purim festivities.

Enrichment and Education

Book Club meets 3 times per year to discuss books with Jewish and/or women related themes.

Torah Fund Brunch is fabulous annual fundraiser for the Jewish Theological Seminary. Watch for more details about this in "Coming Up@TempleAliyah" and in The Pulse.

Social Action

Shabbat Shalom at Avery Manor and Wingate is offered on the first and second Friday of each month. Our Temple Aliyah Sisterhood coordinates two or three families to participate in a brief Shabbat celebration for nursing home residents at both Avery Manor and Wingate. It is a great experience for your kids and for you, and a great way to bring in Shabbat for your family.

MEN'S CLUB

At Temple Aliyah

JOIN US

For further information about the Men's Club and to get involved in these and other activities, contact **Men's Club President, Howard Hirsh 781-449-4749, hjhirsh@aol.com**.

The purpose of the Men's Club is to deepen the involvement of Jewish men in Jewish Life. We organize a range of programs including Sunday morning breakfasts with invited speakers, Men's Club Shabbat, an occasional dinner, social action programs, and a popular softball league in the spring and summer months.

Upcoming Important Dates and Events

- The Region's Keeper of the Flame dinner will be on October 25th.at Temple Emunah in Lexington. *Gil Brodsky is this year's honoree*. Gil will be honored for his longstanding dedication to Men's Club and to the Temple. Mazel Tov Gil!
- Men's Club Shabbat, our opportunity to organize and participate in a service, will be on February 27, 2010.

Other Events

We have other potential opportunities as well. Let **Howard Hirsh** know if you are interested in helping or participating in any of the following:

- An evening movie and discussion of the Israeli Baseball League (co-sponsored with Keshet). This is scheduled for March 7, 2010.
- A breakfast and discussion of environmental issues in Israel, co-sponsored with the Adult Ed committee and featuring, Rabbi Michael Cohen of the Aravah Institute.
- Our annual Yom Hashoah Candle Program.

Meetings

To support these and other activities, the Men's Club meets each month. We'd love to have you join us.

TA 45 & Counting At Temple Aliyah

TA 45 & Counting, or as we refer to it, "TA 45+", is a social committee comprised of members of Temple Aliyah who have been involved with the Temple but now find themselves as empty nesters. They still have a strong desire to contribute to the Temple and use their talents and time to enhance the entire synagogue community. The group offers an opportunity for social interaction, participation in all Temple activities, as well as social and cultural events in the community.

For further information or to join 45 & Counting, contact **Marilyn Tannenbaum** (mstannenbaum@gmail.com, 781-449-1636) or **Jimmy Krasnow** (zaydek@gmail.com, 781-449-42677)

Duplicate Bridge

Since August 2005 TA 45+ has sponsored a duplicate bridge program at the Temple under the auspices of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL). These games are held on Monday evenings at 7:15 PM.

In addition TA 45+ sponsors instructional bridge at various levels and on various days in conjunction with the Bridge Club of Temple Emanuel of Newton. After 2 or 3 instructional courses, most students have acquired sufficient proficiency to join either the two- or three-hour duplicate games on Monday evening.

Activities

We conduct educational brunches on Sunday mornings to help acquaint our members with key ongoing issues in the political or religious world and/or Friday night services to fulfill the religious needs of our members. All these activities are aimed at expanding the horizons and fulfilling the need for our members to stay informed and active in the Temple Community.

TA 45+ Meetings

Our meetings are held the Third Wednesday of each Month (September to June) following the evening Minyan. Our goal is to create a bonding and a relationship between our members and the Temple family. We do this by assisting and supporting the Temple evening Minyan in addition to all our other obligations, on dates when our meetings are held.

Other Events

We celebrate our Jewish Holidays. Try as they may, our group could not eat all of the latkes prepared for our Hanukah Party. All of our events are very warm and "heimish" and all of our members have been only too happy to meet other Temple members with like spirit and mindset.

As we program new events we post them and invite the entire congregation to join us. We organize theater parties for plays and other special entertainment at the JCC. We foster participation in the Annual Jewish film festival. Our goal is to enrich the lives of our group members and other within the Temple community and have them enjoy to the fullest the wonderful cultural and social activities that abound in our area.

HESED COMMITTEE

At Temple Aliyah

Join Our Hesed Committee

The Hesed Committee reaches out to those among us who are dealing with a serious illness or injury, bereaving the loss of a loved one, or coping with an unexpected setback. We also take great pleasure in sharing the *simchas* in our community.

We welcome new committee members. For more information or to become involved in Hesed activities, please contact either of the co-chairs of the Hesed Committee, Nancy Magier (781-449-9911, mouse11@comcast.net) or Diane Piper (508-785-9717, diane.piper@comcast.net)

At Temple Aliyah we worship together, we learn together, we celebrate together and we offer comfort and support to each other during life's more difficult times.

In the words of Cantor Jodi Sufrin of Temple Beth Elohim, "For our moments of joy and sorrow, loss, illness, and loneliness, our temple must be a place that offers a framework for celebration, comfort and healing. As a congregation, a community, we can do so much to offer hope, strength and comfort."

The Hesed Committee relies on our group of very dedicated and compassionate Hesed Volunteers. In addition, our Hesed knitters create caring shawls and lap blankets for members of the Temple Aliyah congregation who are battling serious illness or are in recovery. For those receiving these knitted creations, there is comfort in the warmth and *ruach*, or spirit, in the shawl or blanket. Our volunteers also knit baby blankets that are contributed to Children's Hospital. If you are interested in joining this wonderful group of knitters, please contact Becca Sher at rsher3636@yahoo.com.

Some of life's events are easy to share, others are more daunting to discuss. If you know of someone in our community who could use a little extra support, please let us know by contacting the Temple office or the Hesed Committee (hessed@templealiyah.com)

The Hesed Committee encourages you to join our growing number of volunteers who can bring a meal, provide a ride, visit the sick, make a phone call or provide comfort to another congregant. We are grateful for the many congregants who are already part of our caring volunteer network.

The Hesed Committee appreciates your donations to the temple's Community Caring Fund which supports our activities, including providing Shabbat meals for those sitting *shiva* and supplies for our Hesed Knitters.



PROFESSIONAL STAFF

At Temple Aliyah

Rabbi Carl Perkins	RabbiPerkins@
Cantor Gastón Bogomolni	CantorBogomolni@
Cantor Emeritus Harry Gelman	harrygelman@theworld.com
Dir of Education Dr. Beverly Schwartz-Katsh	drbev@
Youth Dir/Community Ed Bryan Wexler	bryan@
Synagogue Administrator Jan Zidle	Jan@
Rabbi's Asst/Office Staff Rachel Abramson	rachel@
Bookkeeper Rufina Kotlyar	Rufina@
Religious School Asst Caroline Nudelman	Caroline@

ALL ABOVE TEMPLE ALIYAH E-MAIL ADDRESSES END WITH
@templealiyah.com

Youth Coordinators

Byran Wexler bryan@templealiyah.com
Alana Tilman alana@templealiyah.com

Please note that all dates and times in this brochure are subject to change. The schedule as outlined will be adhered to as much as possible. Individual flyers for most programs will be sent out at appropriate times during the course of the year.

Your input and help with planning any of the programs listed is always welcome. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the appropriate person as noted in this program booklet.

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