

Temple Israel of Riverhead Bulletin

June 2022
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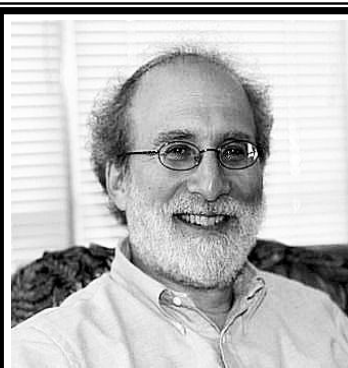
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RABBI'S REFLECTIONS: Two Tablets; Two Holidays; Relationships

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Rabbi Michael Rascoe

Why two tablets for the Ten Utterances (Aseret ha-dibrot, commonly the Ten Commandments)? Why two Torah holidays, Shavu'ot and Simhat Torah?

There have been many answers over the millennia for the first question, and over the last millennium for the second question (Simhat Torah is a later holiday). Regarding two tablets, the Biblical model is a covenant. History agrees. Archaeology notes that the tablets were rectangular, with the same text on each tablet. Indeed, the sages in the Mekhilta (Ba-hodesh/Yitro 8) some 1800 years ago held that all ten sayings appeared on each one, as opposed to the named opinion that five were on one and five on the other (think about how lopsided that would be, with 146 words in the first five and 26 words in the second five). (It's even debatable whether the Ten Utterances were on the tablets.) Yet tradition does not stress the idea of covenant, but the metaphor of marriage.

(Rabbi—continued on page 2)

There is still time to buy tickets for our July Raffle/Fundraiser. Details inside.

We party as we end and start the Torah cycle on Simhat Torah, though on Shavu'ot we receive Torah (according to the Rabbis). Why not party when we receive it? On one hand, they arose differently. Shavu'ot is Biblical. Simhat Torah happened once the lectionary was set according to the Babylonian one-year reading cycle, as opposed to the Palestinian 3+ year cycle. As noted above, the Bible does not set the date for the Israelites receiving Torah, but the Rabbis and other Jews in their time debated when it was. Nonetheless, we party on Simhat Torah, but not on Shavu'ot. The marriage metaphor explains this too, because marriage involves relationships.

The Maggid of Dubnow (18th century Poland) gives a parable for the latter. A king and queen had trouble conceiving. A wise man gave them a blessing, but warned them that if the child was a girl, no man must see her before her marriage. Every suitor but one bowed out when hearing the condition. This last one figured that the family was good and chanced it, albeit with apprehension. He was quite surprised when she turned out to be beautiful, but then feared there was some other flaw. Yet after a number of months, he grew only more impressed. He then went to the king, explained his earlier apprehension, and then said it was worth it to truly celebrate the marriage. They held a party. So it is

with Torah, the Israelites received it without knowing what it was, later realized they loved it even more, and so decided to celebrate.

Shavu'ot, with its marriage metaphor, is about relationships. The number two is more prominent than in other holidays: two tablets; two loaves waved before the altar, the piyyut, poem; Aqdamut is a double acrostic; and God and Israel. Torah indicates the special relationship between God and Israel. Note that other nations also have a relationship with God; yet, just as in a marriage one can have friends, there is a more intimate relationship between spouses. Love can't really form the basis of a relationship before marriage. It grows over time (think of the Fiddler on the Roof song when Tevye asks Golde does she love him). While one can't agree to marry someone without meeting the person, it takes time for a relationship truly to develop. To really understand Torah, just as to really understand a spouse, the relationship takes time to form, since it takes time to learn about and to be sensitive to another person. So, too, with God. It takes time for us to learn about God, especially since all we have is God's word. To form a relationship with God means studying Torah and living it. Hence Shavuot is about the importance of two, the relationship. The party comes later.

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

Temple Israel of Riverhead Annual Meeting will be held online via Zoom



Installation of Officers & Trustees.
Come meet our Board and committee chairs,
and learn about everything that is going on in our temple.
Voice your opinion. Be involved.

Thursday, June 16, 2022, 7:00 PM

Instructions to enter the Zoom meeting
will be included in the mail with your proxy.

Shavuot Services

Led by Rabbi Michael Rascoe
In person (following the Shabbat rules of
attendance), and via Zoom



Saturday, June 4, Evening Learning Session, 9:00PM
Sunday, June 5, 9:30 AM
Monday, June 6, 9:30 AM, including Yizkor

Followed by a light brunch featuring refreshments of the season.



*When you buy a car at Apple Honda, mention Temple Israel
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4th of July Weekend BBQ and Raffle Fundraiser



Friday, July 1, 2022, 5:30 PM



GET LUCKY!



\$5,000 Cash Raffle

Drawing on July 1st
at 7:00 PM

\$100 per ticket.



If less than 100 tickets are sold
the prize will be 50/50.

To purchase tickets, contact Jaime Siegel at 631-653-3985,
or Richard Israel at 631-902-5200.



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Update on Yom HaShoah Program

On Sunday, May 1st, 2022, Temple Israel held its annual Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom HaShoah, after three years of so-

cial distancing due to the pandemic.

Driving up to our synagogue and seeing the full parking lot evidenced the significance of returning to our communal programs. There were over 40 attendees, in-person and on Zoom. Donations for Ukraine were collected as well.

Harley Abrams was MC and host of the program. After President Jaime Siegel welcomed everyone, the ceremony started with a beautiful and supportive speech from Town of Riverhead Supervisor Honorable Yvette Aguiar, and Lt. Jonathan Devereaux.

Next, Fr. Bohdan Hedz, from St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Riverhead, shared the history of Ukraine and its political relationship with Russia for centuries. He showed how ignorance enables history to repeat itself, emphasizing never to forget the Holocaust and the importance of “Never Again”. He was then invited to light the **first of the six candles** in honor and memory of the six million Jews murdered in WWII.



The second candle was lit by Supervisor Honorable Yvette Aguiar and Lt. Devereaux.

The third candle was lit by our

congregants Rebecca and Mitchell Hagler. The experiences of Rebecca’s grandmother’s family are depicted in the book *The Boy who Followed his Father into Auschwitz*.

The fourth candle was lit by Meital and Jonathon Estreich, whose grandparents, Lea and Issac Estreich, are Holocaust survivors.

The fifth candle was lit by our congregants Ruth Prizer and her daughter Linda Prizer. Linda’s father Isidore was in OSS and fought in Czechoslovakia, which was occupied by Germans during WWII.

The sixth candle went to our guest speaker, Felice Katz. Felice’s mother, Ethel Bauer Katz, told her story of survival after witnessing her family gunned down by the Nazis. She shared her experiences as a 17-year-old Jewish girl during WWII in her “Our Tomorrows Never Came”, brought to life by this book. She began by introducing six family members: six names, six personalities, six talents and skills, six life journeys, and six lives; some too short. She showed six different

(Yom HoShoah—continued on page 6)

smiles, eyes, clothing, taking us on a journey of hope, fear, and struggle, but never giving in or giving up. Felice has a superb talent to tell and carry on her mother's story, making sure that the six million murdered Jews are not just a number; now we know six of them! Ethel always told everyone: "Please remember what happened, and tell your children."

All proceeds of the sale of "Our Tomorrows Never Came" will go to the Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center in Glen Cove, New York.

This event concluded with the chanting of El Malei Rachamim by Rabbi Rascoe, as Jonathan Estreich carried the Sefer Torah high up through the aisle of our sanctuary. What an amazing ending to this event! Am Israel Chai! Refreshments were served in our social hall.

The TIR *Yom HaShoah 2022* was organized by:

- ✧ Rabbi Rascoe
- ✧ Jaime Siegel
- ✧ Barbara Smith
- ✧ Linda Prizer
- ✧ Harley Abrams
- ✧ Nan Rachel Peel
- ✧ Ladan Shalom-Murray

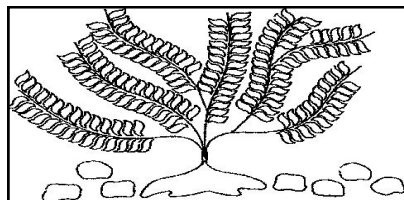
We hope everyone found this program educational, communal, friendly, emotional, and beautiful. We appreciate any feedback.

Excerpted from notes by Ladan Shalom-Murray

To view photos from this event, visit us online at:

<http://www.templeisraelriverhead.org>

Select the **More** tab and choose Yom Hashoah from the menu.



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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Segal

From Siegel



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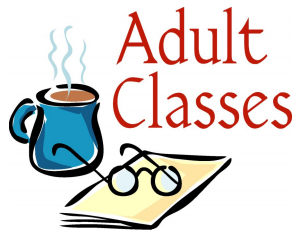
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With
Rabbi Rascoe

Jewish Mysticism

Join **Rabbi Rascoe** to explore the topic of Jewish mysticism, especially the Kabbalah and its variations. Classes are held from 6:00-7:00 PM on Mondays in June and July, except June 6 & 20 and July 4, via Zoom.

Book Discussion: *Between God and Man*

Rabbi Rascoe will continue discussing *Between God and Man: An Interpretation of Judaism* by Abraham Heschel, with a new introduction by David Hartman (1997). The group meets at 6 PM on Tuesdays in June and July, except June 21, via Zoom.

Talmud Classes: *Tractate Megillah*

Rabbi Rascoe's Talmud classes continue at 6 PM on Wednesdays in June and July, except June 22. There is always review. No advance reading is required, and the materials studied may be found in the Shabbat Prayerbook. Attendees receive an introduction to Talmudic logic, thought, and law, via Zoom.

Bible Study: *Starting with Genesis*

Rabbi Rascoe will be holding this class at 6:30 PM on Thursdays in June and July, except June 16 & 23, via Zoom.

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

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.

Interfaith Bible Class

The Interfaith Bible Class will meet on Wednesdays, June 8 and July 13, from 9:30-11:30 AM. Please contact the Rabbi for information and the Zoom link.

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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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Yahrzeit for Carra Hahn—daughter of Nella & James Hahn.

Yahrzeit for Gertrude Sandberg—mother of George Sandberg.

Yahrzeit for Lena Alpert—grandmother of Cynthia Alpert.

Yahrzeit for Walter Brown—father of Robert Brown.

Yahrzeit for Herman Zipser—father of Myra Korman.

Yahrzeit for Herman Zipser—father of Marcia Hefter.

Yahrzeit for Gregory Maruna—son of Janet Maruna.

Yahrzeit for Irving Siegel—father of Jaime Siegel.

Yahrzeit for Arthur Warner—father of Scott Warner.

Yahrzeit for Murray Sanders—brother of Arthur Sanders.

Yahrzeit for Barbara Beil—Ruth Beil.

Yahrzeit for Reuben Joseph—father-in-law of Lois Joseph.

Yahrzeit for Irwin Thompson—father of Lori Thompson.

Yahrzeit for Malvine Knopfler—grandmother of Charles Raffe.

Yahrzeit for Sheldon Gusky—father of Allison Gusky.

Yahrzeit for Lawrence Levy—brother of Victoria Drescher.

Donations to Temple Israel of Riverhead

Oneg Kiddush in honor of Sasha Victory—Ladan Shalom-Murray.

Oneg Kiddush in honor of Bruce Kagan’s birthday, May 14—Bruce Kagan.

Trees for Israel, in honor of Mother Earth—Bruce Kagan.

Trees for Israel, in memory of Malka Gerlitz—Mr. & Mrs. Allen Silver.

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



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

May their memories be a blessing.

June

Sivan/ Tammuz 5782

6/1	Cohen, Joseph	Sivan 2
6/1	Eisenman, Bernard	Sivan 2
6/2	Cohen, Samuel	Sivan 3
6/2	Goldman, Sam	Sivan 3
6/3	Diamond, Herbert	Sivan 4
6/3	Faine, David	Sivan 4
6/3	Polaniecki, Abraham	Sivan 4
6/4	Frank, Louis	Sivan 5
6/5	Goldstein, Esther	Sivan 6
6/5	Korman, Jack	Sivan 6
6/5	Lockman, Samuel	Sivan 6
6/5	Segal, Corkey	Sivan 6
6/5	Thompson, Sondra	Sivan 6
6/6	Lubetsky, Harry	Sivan 7
6/7	Gerlitz, Chaim	Sivan 8
6/8	Abrams, Florence	Sivan 9
6/8	Anker, Lewis	Sivan 9
6/8	Chizever, Henry	Sivan 9
6/8	Remler, Norman	Sivan 9
6/9	Goldstein, Esther	Sivan 10
6/9	Goldstein, Sophia	Sivan 10
6/11	Davis, Rae	Sivan 12
6/12	Nisenbaum, Benjamin	Sivan 13
6/13	Kohansimeh, Aziz	Sivan 14
6/15	Krasnow, Deborah	Sivan 16
6/16	Elphand, Louis	Sivan 17
6/16	Gaster, Conrad	Sivan 17
6/16	Klein, Sidney	Sivan 17
6/16	Lefkowitz, Harry	Sivan 17
6/17	Kagan, Bella	Sivan 18
6/19	Crowitz, Ida	Sivan 20
6/19	Orland, Sylvia	Sivan 20
6/20	Siegel, Jeffrey	Sivan 21

6/21	Anker, Edward	Sivan 22
6/21	Korus, Max	Sivan 22
6/21	Sonkin, Etta	Sivan 22
6/22	Itkin, Morris	Sivan 23
6/22	Kaplan, Bella	Sivan 23
6/22	Weiner, Max	Sivan 23
6/23	Hochheiser, Helen	Sivan 24
6/24	Marienthal, Owen	Sivan 25
6/24	Weiner, Minnie	Sivan 25
6/25	Harding, Sam	Sivan 26
6/25	Hefter, Sanford	Sivan 26
6/25	Squires, Irving	Sivan 26
6/26	Goldstein, Lillian	Sivan 27
6/26	Sacks, Julius	Sivan 27
6/27	Role, Philip	Sivan 28
6/28	Bloom, William	Sivan 29
6/28	Hefter, Lillian	Sivan 29
6/28	Karlin, Charles	Sivan 29
6/30	Acard, Irving	Tammuz 1
6/30	Schneider, Benjamin	Tammuz 1
7/1	Goldstein, Abraham	Tammuz 2
7/3	Goldberg, Samuel William	Tammuz 4
7/3	Polaniecki, Helen	Tammuz 4
7/4	Cohen, Harry	Tammuz 5
7/4	Friedenberg, Matilda	Tammuz 5
7/4	Heller, Herbert	Tammuz 5
7/5	Caplan, Isabelle M.	Tammuz 6
7/5	Israel, Marcel	Tammuz 6
7/6	Beil, Frances	Tammuz 7
7/6	Belanger, Jean	Tammuz 7
7/8	Dresher, Lena	Tammuz 9
7/9	Berg, Lena	Tammuz 10
7/9	Grossman, Sophie	Tammuz 10

Candle Lighting Times					
6/3	7:59	PM	6/24	8:08	PM
6/10	8:03	PM	7/1	8:08	PM
6/17	8:06	PM			

June 2022

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 9:30 AM Shavuot Services	6 9:30 AM Shavuot Services & Yizkor	7 6 PM Class: Between God and Man (Zoom); 7 PM Board meeting (Zoom)	8 9:30 AM Interfaith Bible Class; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	9 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	10 7:00 PM Services	11 9:30 AM Services
12	13 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	14 6 PM Class: Between God and Man (Zoom)	15 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom); Bulletin submissions deadline	16 7:00 PM Annual Meeting	17 7:00 PM Services	18 9:30 AM Services
19	20	21	22	23	24 7:00 PM Services	25 9:30 AM Services
26	27 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	28 6 PM Class: Between God and Man (Zoom)	29 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	30 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)		

July 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 July 4th Week-end BBG/Raffle Fundraiser followed by Services	2 9:30 AM Services
3	4	5 6 PM Class: Between God and Man (Zoom)	6 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	7 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	8 7:00 PM Services	9 9:30 AM Services
10	11 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	12 6 PM Class: Between God and Man (Zoom)	13 9:30 AM Inter-faith Bible Class; 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	14 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	15 7:00 PM Services	16 9:30 AM Services
17 Bulletin sub-missions deadline	18 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	19 6 PM Class: Between God and Man (Zoom)	20 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	21 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	22 7:00 PM Services	23 9:30 AM Services
24	25 6 PM Class: Jewish Mysticism (Zoom)	26 6 PM Class: Between God and Man (Zoom)	27 6 PM Talmud Class (Zoom)	28 6:30 PM Bible Study Class (Zoom)	29 7:00 PM Services	30 9:30 AM Services
31						

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

<i>June 4, 5, & 6</i>	Shavuot Services
<i>June 16</i>	Annual Meeting
<i>July 1</i>	July 4th Weekend BBQ & Raffle Fundraiser
<i>Mondays in June and July, except June 6 & 20 and July 4.</i>	Adult Ed—<i>Jewish Mysticism</i>
<i>Tuesdays in June and July, except June 21.</i>	Adult Ed—<i>Between God and Man</i>
<i>Wednesdays in June and July, except June 22</i>	Adult Ed—<i>Talmud Classes: Tractate Megillah</i>
<i>Thursdays in June and July, except June 16 & 23</i>	Adult Ed—<i>Bible Study Class</i>