



# Temple Isaiah Sisterhood Newsletter

DECEMBER 2016-FEBRUARY 2017

KISLEV 5777—ADAR 5777

## What IS Sisterhood? (A View From Atop a Pile of Rummage) An Editorial Commentary

In lieu of our usual President's column, this issue we are exploring what Sisterhood brings to our community, through the lens of our recently held pinnacle event, the Rummage Sale.

Study the mission of Sisterhood: To bring together the women of Temple Isaiah to serve our Temple, support our community, and enrich our lives through personal growth and friendship. We strive to foster and further the highest ideals of Judaism. We accomplish this mission through social and educational programs, worship, fundraising, community service, and involvement with the Women of Reform Judaism. Our activities, enhanced by the richness of our diversity, further our commitment to Jewish ideals, education, spirituality, social action, and leadership development.

Back to the Rummage Sale—the most often asked question post-rummage is “How did we do?” which means “How much money was raised?” Irene Rosenzweig might answer this question like this: We clothed a dozen refugees and their families for free. We sent hundreds of pounds of clothing to Haiti through a customer who returns year after year because he knows that we will contribute. We sent nearly a ton of clothing to Second Chances, a Somerville charity that provides free clothing to homeless and lower-income people. (We strive to foster and further the highest ideals of Judaism). We engaged over 150 volunteers, a combination of Sisterhood members, Temple members, LEFTY, Boy Scouts, and former customers who love our sale so much they now volunteer. (We accomplish our mission through community service). About 40 of those volunteers shared a sit-down meal together on Sunday evening, exhausted, exhilarated, and full of anticipation, prepared by the loving hands of other Sisters. We cried at the stories our customers shared with us about the difference this sale makes to their lives. We laughed and cheered as women modeled their finds. (Enrich our lives through personal growth and friendship). And, oh, yes, we did make a little money, to give away in the spring—over \$28,000. (Support our community.)

As you can see, the money is not really the thing. Sisterhood does do fundraising, yes. However, Sisterhood provides a

means for members (and others) to engage, to learn, to share our Jewish values, to enrich our own lives and lives of others.



We recognize and thank Irene Rosenzweig as the leader of this pinnacle event. She ensures that we fulfill all the values of our mission. Thank you to all who helped, setting up, sorting clothing, hosting lawn signs, working long hours: Mimi Aarens, Ellie Agranat, Karen Arbetter, Marilyn Baker, Ilene Benghiat, Sarah Blackman, Marjorie Bladd, Nancy Bloom, Lisa Bloom-Charette, Holly Boker, Sandy Bornstein, Sherry Brodner, Judi Brosnan, Liz Burnett, Marsha Byrnes, Ellen Campbell, Barb Chandler, Elliot Chikofsky, Alejandro Cimidoro, Bonnie Cohen, Eileen Cohen, Liz Cohen, Carl Damitz, Olive Damitz, Will Damitz, Lily Dayan Cimadoro, Casey Denenberg, Fran Detweiler, Mimi Dohan, Lisa Doob, Elaine Dratch, Heidi Epstein, Ruth Fleischmann, Susan Foote, Leslie Forg, Linda Foster, Susan Foster, Sylvia Frazer, Karen Freidberg, Elisabeth Freier, Marcia Friedman, Shari Friedman, Karen Funkenstein, Lynn Geltman, Mary Dana Gershanoff, Rachel Goldberg, Terri Goldberg, Harryot Goldstein, Amy Goober, Audrey Gould, Lisa Green, Ruth Greenberg, Dana Hagenbuch, Susan Harris, Cindy Hechler, Samantha Hechler, Linda Helmig Bram, Amy Hertz, Michele Hilley, Bob Huebscher, Sally Huebscher, Shirley Hurwitz, Sarah Israel, Kathy Jacob, Ali Karasic, Dianne Karasic, Joanne Kaye, Stephen Kaye, Bonnie Kelly, Selma Kent, Max Khazam, Mickey Khazam, Barbara Koren, Sherri Lagana, Casey Lan Denenberg, Raquel Leder, Joan Lester, Shayna Loeffler, Ruth Lynn, Buzz Marley, Karen Maslow, Linda Mintz, Eve Nichols, Donnah Nickerson-Reti, Karin Ornstein, Judy Palmer, Barbara Parmet, Jane Paulson, Kathy Pike, Cynthia Piltch, Gayle Pinshaw, Kathryn Prager, Jen Prior, Connie Rieffen, Judith Rissman, Judy Roeder, John Romano, Sandi Rosenfeld, Helene Rosenthal, Irene Rosenzweig, Shelley Rossman, Sally Rubin, Wendy Rudner, Andrea Russo,

(Continued on page 2)

**IMPORTANT!** The deadline for submissions for the Spring edition of the newsletter is February 10. Please send all submissions to our communications team at [SisterhoodCommunications@gmail.com](mailto:SisterhoodCommunications@gmail.com) with “Newsletter” in the subject line. Formats can be text, .pub, .doc, .docx, or jpg. Please, **NO PDF files**. We reserve the right to edit articles as needed for content and length.

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## Thursday Classes with the Clergy

Our Study Classes continue! It is not necessary to attend all the sessions, so feel free to join in at any time. Here are all the details.

### FALL SESSION

Modern Jewish Thinkers – Our clergy continue to lead us in study on some of the great modern Jewish thinkers, with each class focusing on a specific thinker or set of thinkers. Those thinkers include: Mordecai Kaplan, Martin Buber, Franz Rosenzweig, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Joseph Soloveitchik, Judith Plaskow, Rachel Adler, Eugene Borowitz, Abraham Binder and Debbie Friedman.

Remaining Dates: December 1, 8, 15

### SPRING SESSION

Jewish Moral Virtues, or, How To Be a Mensch! – This spring, our clergy will explore with us the wisdom of Jewish ethics and how we can apply it to our everyday lives!

Dates - February 9, 16, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13

Classes are held from 9:30 am until 11:00 am.

Come for the learning, the snacks, and the community! Participation is without cost, though we request that participants support Sisterhood by registering as members. (Men may join as associate members.)

For questions contact Rebecca Shahmoon, 781-641-0728.

[rivkashah@verizon.net](mailto:rivkashah@verizon.net)

## What IS Sisterhood?

*(Continued from page 1)*

Marilyn Ryngiewicz, Carol Sacerdote, Fredda Sage, Sarah Schwartz, Susan Sekuler, Edward Shamash, Michaela Shamash, Ros Shamash, Judith Sharenow, Laurie Wolk Shea, Nancy Shepard, Ruth Sherman, Gini Shevrin, Harriet Silverman, Shelley Slater, Nancy Slater-Millner, Paula Slotkin, Abbe Smerling, Rebecca Smerling, Ruby Smerling, Sophie Smerling, April Smith, Barbara Smith, Barbara Snyder, Janie Solis, Marilyn Sommers, Lisa Spitz, Judy Stein, Francine Stieglitz, Sue Tafler, Nina Tate, Bonna Terban, Betsy Tinkham, Masha Traber, Ellen Ullman, Kate Weinstein, Jack Woodbury, Lois Woodbury, DiAnne Wyner, Judith Yarow, Caren Zakon, Karen Zieff, Steven Zieff. Many thanks to the kids in LEFTY and LABBB for their help in setup and breakdown. Also, gratitude to our community volunteers who come each year because they love the values that this sale represents: Boy Scouts Sam Greenberg, Arjith Jegan, Sharath Jegan, and Spencer Labbe as well as community members Amy Legee, Carlos Cardenas, Anne Baritz, Jan Carrigan and Curtis Reti.

Additionally, we thank Trader Joe's for the donation of paper bags, Star Market (Waltham) and Stop and Shop (Bedford and Lexington) for donations of snacks for our customers; and Matt Paine at Home Team Moving Company.

And of course, our office and custodial staff, especially Betsy Herman, Jenny Keegan, Andrea Russo, Claudia Knight, Deb Marty, Anne Marie Cuozzo, Nina Tate, Roz Verone, Mike Bussell, Jose Calderon, Antonio Guevara, Yanira Guevara and Steve Jaworski.

If you helped out, but your name is not listed, please excuse our error, and know that every volunteer is appreciated. We depend on sign-in sheets to keep track of everything, and we inevitably miss someone. Thanks to all.

## Sisterhood Weekend Away

January 20-22, 2017

### Reawakening the Awe Within Us

(Register using this form, or online at <http://tinyurl.com/WWA2017>)

Join Sisterhood this January 20-22 for a winter weekend full of fun, fellowship and spirituality!

Rabbi Amy Hertz will lead us in this year's Women's Weekend Away. She is creating a program that will help us rediscover our sense of awe and wonder in our everyday lives. She will be incorporating both Jewish and contemporary sources as we explore this topic together.

*"Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement. Get up every morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted. Everything is phenomenal; everything is incredible; never treat life casually. To be spiritual is to be amazed."*

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Our Women's Weekend Away will be at the beautiful 4-star Hyatt Regency Boston - right in the heart of downtown Boston (on the edge of the Theater District, one block from the Boston Common, and steps away from shopping and the Downtown Crossing T-stop). Amenities include a beautiful indoor pool, sauna and fitness center.

Don't miss out. Study and worship with your sisters. Do a little swimming. Go for a long walk. Shop! Count yourself in!

We will board a bus at St. Brigid's Parking lot on Worthen Road at 1:30 pm Friday. We arrive at the hotel together, settle in and relax for a bit. Then the fun begins with some social activities and dinner in the hotel.

Should you choose not to take the bus, parking is available at the hotel for a fee of \$55 per night. (Take the bus!!) Another non-bus option would be to park at Alewife and take Red Line to Downtown Crossing and then walk through Macy's directly to the Hyatt lobby.

Cost for the weekend is \$360, double occupancy, or \$500, single occupancy. The fee, in both cases, is all-inclusive: all meals, workshops, bus, etc. (It has been eight years since our Weekend Away has had a price increase. This past spring the Sisterhood Board voted to increase the price to keep pace with rising hotel and food costs. It is sincerely hoped we will hold this price for a number of years, as we have done in the past. Even with the increased price, this event is significantly subsidized by Sisterhood.)

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Full refund (minus a \$50 processing fee) is available through Tuesday, January 16. Cancellations AFTER January 16 will be refunded at 50%.

Please **RSVP by Sunday, December 18** to guarantee a room.

#### Our weekend schedule\* includes:

- lots of fun socializing opportunities!
- wonderful learning sessions!
- Shabbat services with music!
- an inspiring Lilith Salon!
- free time to relax, walk around Boston, shop, exercise, take in a matinee, whatever you'd like!
- 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, Sat. lunch!

\*As the date gets closer we will send you a more detailed schedule. The bus will return to Lexington by approximately 1 pm Sunday.

Please let us know if you have food allergies or restrictions that need to be accommodated at meals.

Late registrants will be accepted on an availability basis.

Questions: contact Judy Fine-Edelstein, 781-860-9009 or [judyfine.edelstein@gmail.com](mailto:judyfine.edelstein@gmail.com), with questions, dietary restrictions, etc.

**YES! Count me IN!**

**RSVP by December 18.**  
Register online at  
<http://tinyurl.com/WWA2017>  
or use this form.

Confidential financial assistance is available. Please contact

Lois Woodbury  
[lois.woodbury@gmail.com](mailto:lois.woodbury@gmail.com) or  
781-862-7147).

Name:

Phone:

Email:

#### Choose your room option:

<input type="checkbox"/> Double occupancy	\$360
<input type="checkbox"/> Single occupancy	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Find me a roommate, please	
<input type="checkbox"/> Share my room with the person named below:	

Travel— Will you take the bus?

Yes!  
 Not sure.  
 No thanks.

<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to help out with Weekend Away Scholarships!	\$50.00
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Total fee submitted:

Please submit form and payment by  
December 18, 2016  
Mail to Gini Shevrin, 5  
Graham Rd, Lexington,  
MA 02420.

## Shop at Holiday Marketplace

### December 11, 10 am—3 pm

On Sunday, December 11, Sisterhood will host the annual Holiday Marketplace. This year's shopping event is chaired by Linda Stimson. Linda has spent countless hours finding vendors who will provide an enticing array of products, including jewelry, children's items, artwork, handmade mah jongg items, scarves, etc, etc, etc.



Enjoy a stunning display of contemporary and traditional Judaica from our expanded Sisterhood Judaica Shop. Purchase all your Chanukah needs including gelt, dreidels, menorahs, candles, gift wrapping paper, books, jewelry, toys, and so much more. Take a break with a homemade lunch or snack.

Questions about this event should be directed to Linda, [lindastimson@usa.net](mailto:lindastimson@usa.net).

## Monday Evening Book Group

This book group meets monthly, usually on a Monday (except where holidays conflict as noted). Feel free to come every month or only once in a while. This group is open to all Sisterhood members and welcomes your opinions and participation. We meet in the LEFTY Lounge on the second floor of Temple Isaiah. Kindly RSVP to each monthly hostess, so that we may plan refreshments, and also so you can be reached in case of cancellation.



**The time for each meeting is 7:30 pm for coffee, 8:00—9:30 pm for book discussion, unless otherwise noted.** For further information or to be put on the email list please contact the coordinator, Carol Sacerdote, at

[carolsac@rcn.com](mailto:carolsac@rcn.com) or 781-861-7298.

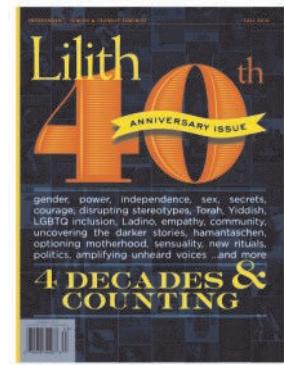
We will be meeting on Monday, December 19, to discuss our annual classic: *Return of the Native* by English author Thomas Hardy. Rose and Emily Rubin will be the discussion leaders for this romantic novel of love and the ever present role of fate. Please respond to Rebecca Shahmoon at [rivkashah@verizon.net](mailto:rivkashah@verizon.net) or 781-641-0748. It's very helpful to the hostess, and you'll be contacted in case there are any changes.

Our January meeting will be on Monday, January 23 (January 30 snow date) to discuss *Red Notice: A True Story of High Finance, Murder and One Man's Fight for Justice* by William Browder. Anna Lanskoy Shrayer will be discussion leader for this non-fiction book about corruption in Putin's Russia. RSVP to Emmy Suhl: [EmmySuhl@gmail.com](mailto:EmmySuhl@gmail.com) or 781-706-0224; or Lily Dayan Cimadoro: [LDayanCimadoro@verizon.net](mailto:LDayanCimadoro@verizon.net) or 781-330-2147.

## Lilith Salons Planned

Happy 40th birthday, *Lilith*!!

Please join us on Sunday, December 18, in Room 24-25, as we celebrate *Lilith*'s 40th year of providing an "Independent, Jewish, & Frankly Feminist" forum. *Lilith* is celebrating its 40th in the Fall 2016 issue, reprinting articles ranging from "I Hate the Label 'Jew By Choice'" to "Policing Girls"



Bodies," from Jewish women as therapists and as patients to Jews and tattoos. Please don't miss our celebration of *Lilith*. Come tell us what article you found most engaging, come share in the discussion, come to find out what all the buzz is about.

Don't you deserve to share a relaxed evening of friendship while enjoying wine and cheese?! If you have any questions or comments, please contact Gail Maurer at 617-448-6264 (calls are okay, but texts are awesome!) To RSVP, please go to:

<https://goo.gl/forms/H0nQ0GIaW3vzplRV2>



*Being Mortal: Illness, Medicine and What Matters in the End* by Atul Gawande is our selection for February 27, with Barbara McIntosh as discussion leader. This work of non-fiction by a Boston surgeon explores what medicine can and cannot do for us at the end of life. Please respond to Laura Lees: [laura.lees@verizon.net](mailto:laura.lees@verizon.net) or 781-861-6753.

On March 27 we'll discuss *Our Souls at Night* by Kent Haruf. This contemporary novel is about love between an older widow and widower in small-town Colorado. Judy Palmer will be the discussion leader. Please respond to Anna Lanskoy Shrayer: [annalanskoy@rcn.com](mailto:annalanskoy@rcn.com) or 781-862-7498.

## The Yud Winter Plans

Thanks to all who attended the Yud's Kick-Off Meeting. It was great to see familiar and new faces to talk about the coming year of Yud programming. Stay tuned for dates of upcoming events, including celebrations, social action, career networking, self care, and more!

Coming up this winter:

*Saturday, Dec 3: Yud Cocktails & Crafts: A Women's Rosh Chodesh Celebration.*

*Saturday, Dec 17: Yud Annual "Drinks & Dreidels" Party.*

*Yud programming is geared towards the interests of a younger generation of Sisterhood and provides members a connection to their greater Temple Isaiah community and Judaism. If you think you have a lot in common with this group, see article above for contact info.*

## Rosh Chodesh (Head of the Month)

Rosh Chodesh (Head of the Month) is the celebration of the new moon. This observance, dating from Biblical times, is recognized as a women's holiday, a day associated with women's renewal and celebration.

Each month Sisterhood women gather at each others' homes on Monday or Wednesday evenings (we alternate days to afford people the opportunity to come), and take turns hosting and facilitating these meetings. We explore a breadth of subjects on themes related to Judaism or womanhood, sharing and exploring ideas, looking inward, and enjoying the warmth of a thoughtful evening with other Sisterhood women.

**Rosh Chodesh Tevet** will meet Wednesday, January 4 at 7:30 pm at the home of Sandi Rosenfeld, 3404 Main Campus Drive, Lexington. Just back from the Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, Candice Kiss will lead a discussion on the topic of Judaism and Technology. Please join us for this very interesting discussion. Please RSVP to Sandi at [rxsandi@hotmail.com](mailto:rxsandi@hotmail.com) or call her at 781-862-7480.

**Rosh Chodesh Shevat** will meet Monday, January 30 at 7 pm (note earlier start time), at the home of Ruth Wasser, 140 Worthen Road, Lexington. Please join us for a pot luck vegetarian dinner. The food will be great,

To get all the latest Yud news, join our listserv at <http://bit.ly/JoinYud> or find us on Facebook at <http://bit.ly/LikeYud>.



"The Y Team" is the group of women who keep the Yud chugging along. Care to join us? We are currently seeking others to join our planning committee to ensure the Yud remains part of the Isaiah community for years to come! Email "The Y Team" at [yudtempleisaiah@gmail.com](mailto:yudtempleisaiah@gmail.com) for more info.

as will the conversation. Let Sandi Rosenfeld know what you plan to bring, along with the recipe, so she can make a cook-book for all who are attending. RSVP to Ruth at [ruthwasser@gmail.com](mailto:ruthwasser@gmail.com) or call her at 781-861-3875.

**Rosh Chodesh Adar** will meet Wednesday, March 1 at 7:30 pm, at the home of Karen Schorfheide-Ray, 26 Beacon Street, Apt 5E (Beacon Village Apartments), Burlington, MA. Sue Tafler will lead a discussion on Purim. We will focus on Vashti, who was the queen at the beginning of the Book of Esther. Is she a spokeswoman for modesty or a rebellious wife? Is she a model for modern feminists? Can we imagine a conversation between Vashti and Esther? Please RSVP to Karen at [karenray44@yahoo.com](mailto:karenray44@yahoo.com) or call her at 781-405-7948.

**Rosh Chodesh Nissan** will meet on Wednesday, March 29 at 7:30 pm at the home of Ruth Budd, 24 Percy Road, Lexington. Sandi Rosenfeld will lead a discussion on the Proverb: A Woman of Valor. Proverbs says that man puts a woman on a pedestal as long as she serves man. Is she a woman who triumphs over the difficulties in life? What do you think defines a modern day woman of valor? Please RSVP to Ruth at 781-861-0363 or email her at [ruthbudd@post.harvard.edu](mailto:ruthbudd@post.harvard.edu).

Month/Date	Hostess/Location	Facilitator(s)	Topic
Tevet / January 4	Sandi Rosenfeld	Candice Kiss	Judaism & Technology
Shevat / January 30	Ruth Wasser	Sandi Rosenfeld	Vegetarian Dinner (7 pm)
Adar / March 1	Karen Schorfheide-Ray	Sue Tafler	Purim!
Nissan / March 29	Ruth Budd	Sandi Rosenfeld	A Woman of Valor
Iyar / April 24	Linda Stimson	Abbe Smerling	These are a Few of My Favorite Things
Sivan / May 22	Abbe Smerling	Pam Awrach & Sandi Rosenfeld	Gratitude Books

# Sisterhood Circles

Sisterhood "Circles" are groups of women who connect with other Sisterhood members to participate in activities that they enjoy. If you have an idea for a circle that isn't listed here, please contact Renee Gelin at [jesmom@gmail.com](mailto:jesmom@gmail.com) or 781-258-0916. She will help you start a new group.

## KNIT, PURL, LEARN (NEW CIRCLE)

Are you a knitter who is a natural teacher? Are you someone who has tried to knit before but just can't get the hang of it? Or have you never really thought about knitting before, but you're looking for a new hobby? If so, then we want you! This new circle will meet on alternating Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings. For more information contact Renee Gelin, [jesmom@gmail.com](mailto:jesmom@gmail.com).



## SECOND FAMILY (NEW CIRCLE)

Every year the holidays roll around with the usual hype and anticipation. However, for those of us far from family it is challenging to find ways to feel part of these times. Often, too, friends celebrate these special times with a long-established group which doesn't think to include new people. Let's create and enjoy our own holiday traditions: For example, we could have a bountiful Thanksgiving in one of our homes, a break-fast after Yom Kippur, a Fourth of July pot-luck picnic and a walk to the fireworks, or matzoh ball soup and gefilte fish together on Pesach!

Don't worry if you are busy for any given holiday. As few as three women could still celebrate together.

To join or for more information contact Marilyn Jacobs 781-216-8625 or by email [eej3@aol.com](mailto:eej3@aol.com).

## GRANDMOTHERS & GRANDKIDS (NEW CIRCLE)

When you are spending time with your grandkids, do you ever wish you could have a play date with other grandmas

and their grandkids? Would you be interested in a circle whose participants get together once or twice a month to explore different playgrounds or indoor play spaces? For more information, contact Renee Gelin at [jesmom@gmail.com](mailto:jesmom@gmail.com).

## MONDAY EVENING BOOK GROUP

**Mondays monthly; coffee 7:30 pm, discussion 8-9:30 pm.**

Open to all Sisterhood members. Please see separate article for the schedule and RSVP info. Contact Carol Sacerdote, [carolsac@rcn.com](mailto:carolsac@rcn.com) or 781-861-7298.

## THURSDAY EVENING BOOK GROUP

This book group meets every other month, on the second Thursday of the month. Join the waiting list for this group by contacting Abbe Smerling, [aksmerling@aol.com](mailto:aksmerling@aol.com) or 781-888-4565. Members take turns picking the book and facilitating the discussion. The discussions are at a member's home or in the Temple. The facilitator is responsible for supplying the snacks. For more information, contact Abbe at the email or phone number listed above.

## DAYTIME BOOK GROUP Mondays monthly; 10:00 am to noon.

All are welcome. We choose our books and meeting times as we go along. To RSVP and ask questions, please contact coordinator: Carole Goldberg, 781-891-3626 (preferred contact) or [c.goldberg7@verizon.net](mailto:c.goldberg7@verizon.net).

## GAMES

**Every other Friday at 12:30 pm.**

Please join Sisterhood members in the Temple library for about an hour and a half of games. We play Taboo, Scattergories, Trivial Pursuit, Apples to Apples, Encore, Celebrity, Set, Speed Scrabble, and Boggle, to name a few. New members are encouraged and we will teach newcomers. It is lots of laughs and is good to stretch the mind as well!



Contact Abbe Smerling, 781-862-0455

or  
[aksmerling@aol.com](mailto:aksmerling@aol.com) to join the email list.



## MOVIES

We are a group of fun, friendly, and interesting women who get together once a month to discuss a movie we've seen. The group meets at Panera Bread in Lexington for lunch on the first Wednesday of the month. This group is looking for a contact person. Please contact Renee Gelin to find out more or to volunteer at 781-258-0916 or [jesmom@gmail.com](mailto:jesmom@gmail.com).

## BEGINNERS AND ADVANCED BEGINNERS MAH JONGG



Interested in learning to play Mah Jongg? Know the basics but would like to learn more and play regularly? We have options for this circle, depending on the interest level. We can do a new beginners' class, meeting for three consecutive weeks to learn the basics and then continue to practice together for as long as desired. We can also do a review class and then organize a regular game of those interested. To participate, or if you have other Mah Jongg related ideas or questions, contact Randi Levine at 781-863-5906 or [rkleinlevine@alumni.tufts.edu](mailto:rkleinlevine@alumni.tufts.edu).

## DROP-IN MAH JONGG FOR EXPERIENCED PLAYERS

Thursdays at 12:30 pm at Temple Isaiah. Please let Nina know if you plan to drop in. This is a friendly game with no betting. All Sisterhood players are welcome. Contact Nina Rayfield-Tate at 781-275-8780 or [t8brood@gmail.com](mailto:t8brood@gmail.com).

## DOG WALKING

We are looking for a contact person for a dog walking circle—exercising and socializing for both your dog and you. We'd like to meet for one hour each week, starting across the street from the Temple. Participants will select exact times. Contact Renee Gelin at [jesmom@gmail.com](mailto:jesmom@gmail.com) or 781-258-0916.

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# Sisterhood to Repeat Birthing Kits Project

On Sunday afternoon, December 4, the Sisterhood Social Action Committee will again sponsor an event to make Sterile Birthing Kits for the women of Haiti. Last March 40 women (and one young man!) participated in the making of 400 such kits, which were sent to Midwives for Haiti. This wonderful organization carried the kits to the island and used them to assist the women of Haiti to have sterile, safe births, reducing infant mortality.

It is so simple. Imagine...a Chux pad, several pieces of string, a clean razor blade, some alcohol wipes, a bar of soap, and 2 pairs of latex gloves can make the difference between life and death for these babies. Each kit costs just one dollar. What a privilege to participate in this mitzvah! This year we plan to make 600 kits. That means we need between \$900 and \$1000 to cover the materials and the postage to ship them to Midwives for Haiti. We hope you will consider a donation to offset the cost.

On Sunday, December 4 we will need up to 60 helpers of any gender. If you can offer us a few hours that afternoon for this wonderful mitzvah, please send your name, email and phone number to Barbara Mende at [Barbara@moosehill.com](mailto:Barbara@moosehill.com). by December 2. The Social Action Committee will have assembly lines set up with all of the materials, and complete instructions for you. Volunteers must be at least 13 years old...this is a great Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) opportunity for teenagers and young

adults.

And if you can write a check, please make it out to Sisterhood Social Action Committee, with "Birthing Kits" on the attribution line, and send it to the Temple, "Attention Karen Freidberg." If you have questions, please call Karen at 617-489-0565.

*Thank you for caring,  
Sandy Bornstein, Co-Chair  
Social Action Committee*

## URGENT!

### Seeking Owner of Pearls Donated to Rummage Sale

Sisterhood received a Rummage donation of some jewelry that included a valuable string of pearls. We believe these were donated in error, and we would like to find the donor to return them. Please contact Irene Rosenzweig if you donated jewelry on Sunday, Nov 13, and you believe that donation may have included a string of pearls. Contact her at [irenenan@aol.com](mailto:irenenan@aol.com).

## To Our Sisters, with Love

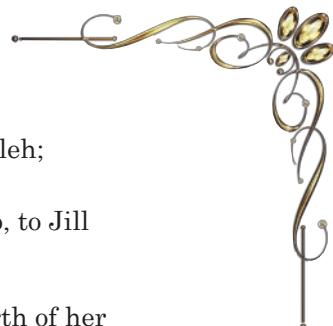
### *Mazel Tov to:*

**Sylvia Frazer** on the marriage of her son Justin Frazer to Jessica Almeleh;  
**Mira Whiting** on the birth of her son, Ezra Brendan Whiting;

**Marilyn Friedman** on the marriage of her daughter, Rachel Criscitiello, to Jill McCullough;

**Carol Rogers** on the marriage of her daughter, Beth, to Mark DiPietro;

**Robyn Snyder** on the birth of her son, and **Barbara Snyder** on the birth of her grandson, Evan Snyder;



### *May Their Memory be an Abiding Blessing...*

**Carol Schneider**, mother of Sally Huebscher;

**Agatha Schein**, mother of June Kern;

**Helen Rosenzweig**, mother of Irene Rosenzweig.



Please send your *Mazel Tov* and *Condolence*  
information to  
[Sisterhoodcommunications@gmail.com](mailto:Sisterhoodcommunications@gmail.com)

## Judaica Shop

# Visit the Judaica Shop for All Your Holiday Needs

The Judaica Shop is bulging at the seams as we get ready for Chanukah.

The First Candle is Saturday evening, December 24. You can shop with us December 11 at our expanded Judaica Shop at Holiday Marketplace, or on any Sunday 9 am to 1 pm and Wednesday 3:30 to 5 pm if the school is in session. We have all your Chanukah needs: gelt, dreidels, Chanukah menorahs, Chanukah candles, wrapping paper, holiday crafts, Happy Chanukah banners, games and so much more. We have candlesticks, Safed candles, Kiddush cups, challah knives and boards, and challah covers to make your Shabbat table beautiful. There are also cookbooks to help make your Sabbath and Holiday meals delicious. While you shop be sure to check out our tzedakah boxes, mezzuzot, and lots more. Don't forget the Judaica Shop when you need to find the perfect Bar/Bat Mitzvah or wedding gift. Planning ahead to Passover: we will carry a selection of haggadot for purchase. Watch for our Haggadah display the 3rd week in March in the Temple lobby, with order forms and ordering instructions. These dates will allow us to be sure your

Haggadah order arrives before Passover starts. The First Seder is Monday April 10. We will have everything to make your Seder table beautiful or help you find the perfect hostess gift, whether you are looking for a lovely Seder plate, matzah plate, Elijah's cup, Miriam's cup, or candlesticks.



In addition to our regular hours, if you are making a special trip to the Temple to shop at any of these times, please call the office to confirm that the Shop is open. We are glad to open also by appointment; call Marjorie (781-862-6355) or Wendy (781-862-9952).

Profits from the Shop are distributed with Sisterhood tzedakah to Temple Isaiah, our local communities, national organizations, and Israeli organizations.

We are always looking for volunteers to staff the Shop (Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons when Religious School is in session); it is fun and we will train you. (Please call Marjorie Bladd at 781-862-6355 to volunteer.) Thank you!

## Sisterhood Circles

(Continued from page 6)

### POTLUCK PARTIERS

If the Gourmet Circle seemed too "fancy" for you, sign up for the Potluck Partiers Circle. Maya Katz and Sally Huebscher are chairing this circle with ideas for a Sunday Brunch, Italian Jewish Feast, a Kugel Cook-off, and more. We need your input and you. Joining this circle puts you on the email list for information and invitations. Contact Sally at [sally.huebscher@me.com](mailto:sally.huebscher@me.com) or 781-863-8159.



### WALKING GROUP

**Usually on Tuesday morning and by arrangement**  
We enjoy exercise and each other's conversation, plus scenery and gardens on residential streets, conservation land and the bike path. This group meets at Peet's in Lexington center and walks for about an hour, weather permitting, year round. Walk with us whenever you're available, and please check the group email for occasional changes in schedule. Please contact Carol Sacerdote at 781-861-7298 or [carolsac@rcn.com](mailto:carolsac@rcn.com) to be on the email list, or to be matched with walkers interested in other dates/times.

### YIDDISH ANYONE?

**Meets monthly at various members' homes.**

Our Yiddish group meets once a month on various afternoons at 1 pm at members' houses. We share Yiddish stories and try to speak in Yiddish as much as possible. We do not meet during January/February/March. Exact meeting times will be arranged according to participants' schedules. Anyone interested should contact Elly Edelstein, 781-275-3243 or [elly12@verizon.net](mailto:elly12@verizon.net).

### THE YUD

Yud programming is geared towards the interests of a younger generation of Sisterhood and provides members a connection to their greater Temple Isaiah community and Judaism. Over the past year, we gathered for Havdalah in the Sukkah, a "Vodka and Latkes" Chanukah party, and a Jerusalem potluck dinner, with a few hikes and happy hours sprinkled in between.



Join our listserv at <http://bit.ly/JoinYud> or find us on Facebook at <http://bit.ly/LikeYud>. The Yud is co-coordinated by Dana Hagenbuch and Jessica Markowitz, who can also be reached at [yudtempleisaiah@gmail.com](mailto:yudtempleisaiah@gmail.com).

It's never too late to join Sisterhood! You'll find a link to the online registration on the Temple Isaiah Web site, [www.templeisaiah.net](http://www.templeisaiah.net). On that page, hover on the word "Engage", and then click on "Sisterhood" in the dropdown list. On the Sisterhood page, you'll see a link that allows you join our email list (this does not register you as a member, but you will receive our emails), and a link just below that to register for membership, if you haven't already. Count Yourself In!

## Tu B'Shevat Seder

**Sunday, February 12, 4 pm**

**Open to women, men, children and families**

Come join us in the Temple Isaiah meeting room, as we celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the birthday of the trees. It will be a fun and informative time together at our Seder table as we partake of fruits and of the seven species called out in the Torah as abundant in Israel, talk about the connections between Tu B'Shevat and ecology, self, and Israel, and experience our Tu B'Shevat as one family.



Tu B'Shevat, first observed by Kabbalists in the sixteenth century in Sephardic communities, has spread in recent times and is now celebrated in many Jewish communities around the world.

There is something in this participatory Tu B'Shevat Seder for everyone, whether it is ecology, self-knowledge, spirit, song, history, or Israel. Come by yourself, with your family, or with your friends. Just be sure not to miss this wonderful Tu B'Shevat Seder!

Although no formal “meal” will be served, we will partake of fruits and nuts as we eat them raw, cooked in our soup, as part of a salad, and in our dessert. All food served will be vegetarian.

Reservations are requested by Thursday, February 9 by filling in the form at <https://goo.gl/forms/Rae9HAIxDhp5HPqDP2>. If electronic forms are not your thing, you can call Gail at 617-448-6264. Please include your name, phone number, number of adults and/or children attending, and your email address. Please also note any food allergies that may be an issue.

This event is free to Sisterhood members, \$15 for other adults, \$10 for children under Bar/Bat Mitzvah age, with a family maximum cost of \$36, which can be paid at the seder. Please also contact Gail with any questions, comments, or to volunteer to help! Many hands make light work.

\*Although we are hoping for clear and sunny skies, there have been times when Mother Nature has had other plans. If the seder is canceled due to inclement weather, you will be notified.

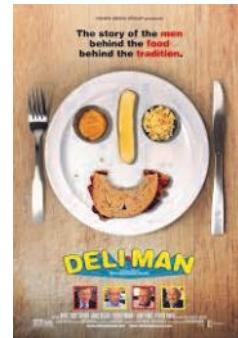


## Movie Night—Deli Man

**Thursday, January 26, 7 pm**

Please join your Sisters on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 7:00 pm as we watch the movie *Deli Man*. This film, with special appearances by Alan Dershowitz, Fyvush Finkel, Larry King, Jerry Stiller, and many others, looks at the history of the delicatessen in the United States. It's sure to be a wonderful evening as we share wine, popcorn, other munchies, and of course, each others' company.

For questions or comments, please contact Gail Maurer at 617-448-6264 (calls are fine, but texts are awesome!) To RSVP, please go to: <https://goo.gl/forms/e1x339TEp2vaYzXk1>



*Thanks!*

The Sisterhood Newsletter is produced by a small team of volunteers. Many thanks go to the women who proofread this issue to find any errors: Marsha Byrnes, Sue Tafler and Barbara Mende. Thank you as well to the many contributors. Lastly, thank you to David Gardner of Boyd's Direct, for his assistance with layout and aesthetics.

*Gini Shevrin, Editor*

### Find us on Social Networks!

Sisterhood has a members-only private Facebook group—go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/isaiahssisterhood> and ask to join, we'll count you in right away.

Follow us on Twitter—@TI\_Sisterhood

YUD'ies are invited to join the YUD Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/theyud/>



## Tzedakah nominations deadline is December 31

Each year Sisterhood solicits nominations for beneficiaries of our hard-earned tzedakah monies. Our Rummage Sale, Holiday Marketplace, Mah Jongg Tournament, Judaica Shop, and other fundraisers bring in tens of thousands of dollars which we mostly donate to Temple Isaiah and to the greater community that we impact. Please refer to the Fall 2016 issue of this newsletters for further details. We print the nomination form again here for your convenience—the deadline is December 31.

Charities must be 501 (c) (3) organizations with at least a 3 star rating on Charity Navigator

We much prefer that you use the online survey found at <http://tinyurl.com/tzedakah2017>, but if you are uncomfortable with computers, you may mail this paper form to Sisterhood Donations Committee, Temple Isaiah, 55 Lincoln Street, Lexington, MA 02421.

### Mah Jongg Cards for 2017

HEAR YE, Mah Jongg Mavens: it's time to order your 2017 cards. Standard cards are \$8. Large cards are \$9. Please send a check for the proper amount, made out to "Temple Isaiah Sisterhood," to:

Fredda Sage  
92 Whits End  
Concord, MA 01742

All orders must be received by *January 15, 2017*. No exceptions. Cards will be mailed directly to your home.

If you have any questions, Fredda can be reached at 978-369-6896 or [freddasage@gmail.com](mailto:freddasage@gmail.com).

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Standard Cards (\_\_\_\_ for \$8 each) \$\_\_\_\_\_

Large Cards (\_\_\_\_ for \$9 each) \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_**

### Date Change—June 25 Mah Jongg Madness Tournament

Put it on your calendar, and study up! We are holding our 2nd Annual Mah Jongg Madness tournament on June 25.

Please fill in the form and mail it to Sisterhood Donations Committee, 55 Lincoln St, Lexington, MA 02421. Anonymous submissions will not be considered. Only Sisterhood members may nominate charities.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone / Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Which general areas do you think Sisterhood should support?

<input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Jewish Culture	<input type="checkbox"/> Shelter
<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Aid	<input type="checkbox"/> Hunger
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Needs
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/> International (outside Israel)
<input type="checkbox"/> Health & Human Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Israel
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify below)	

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the FULL NAME of specific organizations you would like Sisterhood to support. It is helpful if you also list their website, if known. Organizations MUST be 501(c)(3) charities in order for Sisterhood to offer support. Be aware that many charities have similar names, so please be very specific.

Charity Name (Exact) \_\_\_\_\_

Website or Physical Address \_\_\_\_\_

How does this charity fit in the Sisterhood mission?

Charity Name (Exact) \_\_\_\_\_

Website or Physical Address \_\_\_\_\_

How does this charity fit in the Sisterhood mission?

Please use separate paper if you have more suggestions or information.

Last Question—are you willing to participate on the donations committee? We need women who are comfortable using the internet to research the charities. Contact Irene Rosenzweig if you are interested, at [irenenan@aol.com](mailto:irenenan@aol.com).

# Sisterhood Calendar 2016-17

## December

1	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
1	6:30 pm	Board Meeting & Bylaws Vote
4	2 pm	Birthing Kit Assembly Day @ TI
8	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
10	evening	Holiday Marketplace Set-up
11	10 am to 3 pm	Holiday Marketplace
15	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
18	4 pm	Lilith Salon @ TI Rm 24/25
19	7:30 pm	Book Group: <i>Return of the Native</i> @ TI
21	7 pm	Social Action Committee mtg @ TI Library

## January 2017

4	7:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh Tevet
5	7:15 pm	Board Meeting
18	7 pm	Social Action Committee mtg @ TI Library
20 to 22		Women's Weekend Away, Boston, MA
23	7:30 pm	Book Group: <i>Red Notice</i> @ TI
26	7 pm	Movie Night
30	7:00 pm	Rosh Chodesh Shevat @ Ruth Wasser's
30	7:30	Book Group Snow Date

## February

2	7:15 pm	Board Meeting
9	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
12	2 pm 4 pm	Tu B'Shevat Seder Setup Seder
15	7 pm	Social Action Committee mtg @ TI Library
16	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
27	7:30 pm	Book Group: <i>Being Mortal</i> @ TI

## March

1	7:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh Adar @ Karen
2	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
2	7:15 pm	Board Meeting
6	7 pm	Movie Night
9	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class

## March (continued)

15	7 pm	Social Action Committee mtg @ TI Library
16	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
23	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
23	7 pm	Wellness Series #1
27	7 pm	Lilith Salon @ TI Meeting Room
27	7:30 pm	<i>Our Souls At Night</i> @ TI
29	7:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh Nissan @ Ruth Budd's
30	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class

## April

2	2 pm 4 pm	Sisterhood Passover Seder (all welcome) Setup Seder
6	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
6	7:15 pm	Board Meeting
13	9:30-11 am	Clergy's Class
13	7 pm	Lilith Salon @ TI Meeting Room
19	7 pm	Social Action Committee mtg @ TI Library
24	7:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh Iyar @ Linda Stimson's
24	7:30 pm	Book Group: <i>On the Move</i> @ TI

## May

4	7:15 pm	Board Meeting
11	7pm	Wellness Series #2
17	7 pm	Social Action Committee mtg @ TI Library
22	7:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh Sivan @ Abbe Smerling's
22	7:30 pm	Book Group: <i>The Door</i> @ TI

## June

1	7:15 pm	Board Meeting
4	Afternoon	Social Action Committee Spring Event (TBD)
11	tbd	Spring Brunch (YES or Legacy Fund)
21	7 pm	Social Action Committee mtg @ TI Library
25	Noon-5 pm	Mah Jongg Madness Tournament CHANGE OF DATE



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Temple Isaiah Sisterhood

# HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE

December 11

10 am—3 pm

SISTERHOOD'S  
**WOMEN'S WEEKEND  
AWAY**

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FRIDAY, JAN 20 - SUNDAY, JAN 22, 2017  
HYATT REGENCY BOSTON  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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See Page 3 for Details. RSVP by December 18