

July 2025

5 Tamuz - 4 Av 5785

Temple Anshe HeseD



Temple Topics

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Temple Notes:

- No services on Friday, July 4 or Saturday, July 5. The office will be closed July 4.
- Don't forget to RSVP to upcoming events at TAHerie.org! Contact Bright in the office to RSVP by phone or email: office@TAHerie.org (814) 454-2426.
- Get ready to give! Put Tuesday, August 12 down in your calendar for Erie Gives Day!

TEMPLE ANSHE HESED'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

REUNION WEEKEND

RSVP REQUIRED BY JULY 11
BE PREPARED TO PRESENT ID

Friday, July 25th

Shabbat Evening Services - 6:15 PM

Led by Rabbi Morais, Cantorial Soloist Jessie Rhoades, and Artist in Residence Dan Nichols. Special oneg to follow.

Saturday, July 26th

Shabbat Morning Services & Torah Study - 10:00 AM

Family Reunion Picnic - 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Youth and Adult Activities including a bouncy house, yard games, delicious food and ice cream, family song session and concert by Dan Nichols. Evening concludes with Havdalah Service.

Sunday, July 27th

Kever Avot at Temple Anshe HeseD Cemetery - 10:00 AM

Kever Avot at Laurel Hill Cemetery - 11:00 AM

Events:

Abiding Hope Lutheran is joining us!

TempleHood Presents:

Movie Night

Monday, July 14, 2025 @ 6:45pm
Erie Movie House: 3424 Westlake Road



CINEMA

Cost: \$10 per person, includes refreshments
Movie starts promptly at 7:00pm
Discussion after the movie

NIGHT at the SEAWOLVES



Jessie Rhoades
Singing the National Anthem

Sue Comi
Throwing the First Pitch

**TUESDAY,
JULY 22ND
6:05PM**

More info on ordering tickets coming soon!

Questions? Contact the office: office@TAHerie.org | (814) 454-2426


Tuesday, August 12

It's that time again! Temple Anshe Hessed will participate in Erie Gives on Tuesday, August 12. And we have INCREDIBLE NEWS - this year, The Erie Community Foundation will be covering ALL online fees, while keeping the Bonus Bucks pro-rated match pool.

That's right - we will receive 100% of your generous donations (no matter how you choose to give) AND we'll still receive a share of the Bonus Bucks!

We have been so fortunate to receive gifts from our wonderful donors which allow us to continue to provide our programming.

**Mark the date on your calendar and
keep an eye on your email for more information!**

Donations

5401 Old Zuck Road / New Building Fund

Dennis & Amy Vidmar

Joseph & Debra Fries

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Susan Sussman

Jawn Gross

Rebecca Schenker

Richard Lipchik

Lisa & Dean Mallis

Mark & Ellie Tanenbaum

Brad Ford

Edie Joseph & Cindra Vallone

Caring Committee

In memory of Barbara Singer

Cathy and Phil Zacks

Cemetery Endowment

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Rosalie Feistel

Franklin and Myrtle Fox Program Fund

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Joel Fox

Harf Family Joys of Judaism Fund

On the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of my great grandson, Jonah Gadharf

Walter Harf

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Marie Bleefeld

Richard & Sharon Levick

Julius Send Square Parking Fund

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Robert & Ellen Sender

Lechtner Cantorial Soloist Fund

In honor of the Friday Night Live Group

Julie Cohen

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Howard Pollock

Kenneth Chinsky

Rabbi Mitzvah Fund

In memory of Jack Joseph Maher

Korlyn Morais & Rabbi Morais

In memory of Jim Price

Korlyn Morais & Rabbi Morais

With appreciation

Lybov Zelinskaya

Remembrance Fund / Perpetual Memorial Fund

In memory of Ida Wexler Landberg

David & Eta Howell

In memory of my father, Samuel J. Roberts

Bobbi Pollock

In memory of my grandmother, Bessie

Blumberg

Bobbi Pollock

Salata Family Fund

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Craig & Pam Reynolds

Eric & Susan Pallant

Diane & Frank DeFazio

Temple Endowment

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Beth & Dan Nicoson

From his swear jar

Dayvid Gross

Tikkun Olam

In honor of the 150th Anniversary

Rachel Bornstein

Lisa Nathanson & Jan Woods

Tzedakah

Jawn Gross

Tree of Life Dedicated by the Baker Family in Honor of Edward G. Baker

Leaf for the Tree of Life in honor of Ben Fuller's Bar Mitzvah

Edie Joseph & Cindra Vallone

Leaf for the Tree of Life in honor of Sofia Ford's Bat Mitzvah

Edie Joseph & Cindra Vallone

We have raised \$72,340 towards the Salata
Match Campaign so far!
Let's keep it going!

The Book of Ruth Club

In memory of one of its founding and most faithful members, Ruth Waidley.

**WE WILL BE MEETING IN PERSON AT THE TEMPLE
AND ON ZOOM. JOIN US EITHER WAY!!!!**

OUR MEETING IS:

Monday, July 28, 2025

7:30 PM

via Zoom Join URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88169606965>

The Matchmaker's Gift by Lynda Cohen Loigman

Even as a child in 1910, Sara Glikman knows her gift: she is a maker of matches and a seeker of soulmates. But among the pushcart-crowded streets of New York's Lower East Side, Sara's vocation is dominated by devout older men—men who see a talented female matchmaker as a dangerous threat to their traditions and livelihood. After making matches in secret for more than a decade, Sara must fight to take her rightful place among her peers, and to demand the recognition she deserves.

Two generations later, Sara's granddaughter, Abby, is a successful Manhattan divorce attorney. When her beloved Grandma Sara dies, Abby inherits her collection of handwritten journals recording the details of Sara's matches. But among the faded volumes, Abby finds more questions than answers. Why did Abby's grandmother leave this library to her and what did she hope Abby would discover within its pages? Why does the work Abby once found so compelling suddenly feel inconsequential and flawed? Is Abby willing to sacrifice the career she's worked so hard for in order to keep her grandmother's mysterious promise to a stranger? And is there really such a thing as love at first sight?



For those who plan ahead, our **August** selection is **How to Read a Book** by Monica Wood

Thanks to the many who have given us some great recommendations. We are always ready to hear others. Please forward them as well as **any questions** to Janice Wittmershaus at JKWittmershaus@gmail.com

Kearsarge Area Food Pantry May Report

We had two shopping days, May 8 and May 22. On the 8th, we served 39 adults, 75 children, and 70 seniors. On the 22nd, we served 128 adults, 114 children, and 61 seniors, for a combined total of 90 households and 303 individuals. We would like to thank everyone who contributed toward our cereal drive. We had a good selection for all.

We used our monetary donations to supplement our options with produce like green peppers, onions, carrots, potatoes, and much more.

Beginning in June, our hours are going to change to 10:00am to 11:30am to give our shoppers a little more time.

Also, we have a new sign near the entrance displaying our schedule, with days, times, services provided.

In July, we will have our Project Dignity bi-annual event to provide household and personal items to our households and individuals in need. A list of needed items will be sent out to our sponsor congregants.

-Rich Filson

Reflections from Rabbi Morais

From the Rabbi's Desk: A Summer of Hope and Healing

As summer begins, we often think of warmth, renewal, and a chance to catch our breath. Children head off to camp, families take vacations, and we slow down just a bit to enjoy the longer days and brighter skies. But even in these golden months, our hearts remain tethered to the pain and complexity of the world around us—especially to Israel, a place so central to our souls and identities.

We witnessed a ceasefire agreement between Israel and Iran. After years of tension, direct conflict, and terrifying escalation, the guns have fallen silent—at least for now. We pray this truce holds. We pray for the wisdom of leaders on all sides to choose diplomacy over destruction, and for the people—Israeli, Iranian, and all others impacted—to feel the beginnings of peace rather than the burdens of war.

At the same time, the war in Gaza continues. The devastation, grief, and uncertainty it brings weigh heavily on us. Each day we hope for progress toward the safe return of all hostages, the protection of innocent lives, and a just resolution that allows Israelis and Palestinians alike to live in security and dignity.

In only a few weeks we will gather together for our congregation's 150th Anniversary Reunion. We have an amazing weekend full of activities, music, worship and so much fun! I am looking forward to welcoming back so many people who were part of Anshe Hesed at some point in their lives. This will also be a wonderful opportunity for our current members to celebrate the vibrant Jewish life we continue to build at Anshe Hesed.

This summer, may we not only seek rest for our bodies, but also renewal for our spirits. May our prayers for peace strengthen our resolve to pursue justice, speak out for humanity, and stand with Israel while also holding space for empathy, reflection, and healing.

In the words of Psalm 34, we are compelled by God to: "Seek peace and pursue it."

May this summer be a time when peace feels possible, and our small acts of kindness and commitment help bring it closer.

Shalom,

Rabbi Rob Morais





Biblical Hebrew

Wednesday evenings from 8pm until 9pm

The first class will meet on November 5, 2025
and will run until February 18, 2026.

Biblical Hebrew Class Dates:

Join Rabbi Robert Morais in unlocking the mysteries of biblical grammar through studying the Binding of Isaac story found in Genesis.

11/05/2025

Participants should have a basic Hebrew reading ability. If you have questions or concerns about the Hebrew ability requirement, please contact Rabbi Morais (Rabbimorais@taherie.org) or by phone.

11/12/2025

11/19/2025

12/03/2025

This course will be hybrid—in person and via Zoom. In case of inclement weather, class will be taught via Zoom. Please check your email before class. If you are sick or feel unsafe in weather conditions, please attend class via Zoom.

12/10/2025

01/07/2026

The course is \$50 for Temple members or \$100 for non-members, which includes the class and materials. If you are in need of a scholarship, please contact Rabbi Morais.

01/14/2026

02/04/2026

If you are interested, please enroll in the course on the website (TAHerie.org). For help or any other questions, please contact the Temple office at (814) 454-2426 or office@taherie.org.

02/11/2026

02/18/2026



Talmud: Unlocking the Wisdom of our Sages

Wednesday evenings from 8pm until 9pm

The first class will meet on February 25, 2026 and will run until May 20, 2026.

Intro to Talmud Class Dates:

Join Rabbi Morais for this 10-session

Introduction to Talmud class. No previous background in

02/25/2026

Hebrew or traditional Jewish text study is required. Together, we will explore the rich conversations of the rabbis of 2,000 years ago, as recorded in the Talmud—wrestling with law, ethics, stories, and spiritual meaning.

03/04/2026

03/11/2026

All texts will be studied primarily in English, with guidance and explanation to make the content accessible and relevant. This class will be an opportunity to engage in open discussion. This course invites you to connect with centuries of Jewish thought and will bring the rabbinic tradition into dialogue with your own contemporary Jewish life.

03/25/2026

04/15/2026

04/22/2026

04/29/2026

This course will be hybrid—in person and via Zoom. In case of inclement weather, class will be taught via Zoom. Please check your email before class. If you are sick or feel unsafe in weather conditions, please attend class via Zoom.

05/06/2026

05/13/2026

The course is \$50 for Temple members or \$100 for non-members, which includes the class and materials. If you are in need of a scholarship, please contact Rabbi Morais.

05/20/2026

If you are interested, please enroll in the course on the website (TAHerie.org). For help or any other questions, please contact the Temple office at (814) 454-2426 or office@taherie.org.

Let's Talk with President Craig Reynolds

The Shema is described as the keystone of Jewish belief. It is a declaration and affirmation of G-d's unity and authority. A traditional observant Jew understands that Torah commands us to pray the Shema twice a day, "when you lie down and when you get up."

As one would expect, over time, there has been much discussion on the proper way to recite the Shema. Of course, because it is Jews doing the discussion, there are many views and opinions.

Over the centuries, the method and the custom of reciting the prayer have evolved and changed. In this regard, one interesting practice is to cover one's eyes with the right hand when reciting the first verse of the prayer. The practice of covering the eyes was not always common, and the mandate to use the right hand for this purpose emerged over a thousand years later.

The explanation for why we cover our eyes when reciting Shema has also evolved. The common understanding today is that it enables us to concentrate on what we are saying and maintain the proper focus and intent. But that was not necessarily its origin.

The Talmud tells us that the custom of covering one's eyes was initiated during the second century by Rabbi Yehuda HaNasi, the compiler of the Mishnah. When reciting the prayer, the custom of that time was to look in each of the six spatial directions while accepting Divine Sovereignty throughout the world, as stated in the Shema.

Later, commentators explained that Rabbi Yehuda intended to hide his eye movements from his students or to block out the distractions of his students. Following the rabbinic tradition, where the actions of rabbinic sages are viewed as precedents for subsequent practice, the Shulchan Aruch (Code of Jewish Law) later codified his actions as standard practice.

Various kabbalists have given instruction that we are to use the right hand to close our eyes during the first verse of the Shema. The most noteworthy of them, Rabbi Yitzchak Luria, the Arizal, provided a very profound explanation for this based on a perplexing riddle found in the kabbalistic work known as the Zohar.

For many centuries, commentators have offered additional explanations for why one should cover one's eyes with one's right hand during the recitation of the Shema. Interestingly, these explanations range from the Arizal's enigmatic and beautiful kabbalistic elucidation to the somewhat awkward explanation that in ancient times, the left hand was used to clean one's behind in toilet facilities. Therefore, it was deemed inappropriate to use it for critical religious purposes.

Did you find the evolution and changes in praying the Shema interesting? There is more to it than mentioned here. Let's talk.

talktempletah@gmail.com

Craig



INSIGHTS INTO JUDAISM: An Educational and Spiritual Journey

Wednesday evenings from 7pm until 9pm
The first class will meet on November 5, 2025
and will run until May 27, 2026.

Come join Rabbi Robert Morais this fall at Temple Anshe Hessed as we delve into Jewish faith, Jewish culture, and Jewish life.

Together we will explore Torah and Talmud, the history of the Jewish People, Jewish holy days, ritual and life-cycle events. We will sing together, celebrate simchas together, and explore Jewish heritage as it is expressed in film and literature.

Insights Into Judaism includes a weekly Hebrew language component which will give participants the basic Hebrew reading skills.

Insights Into Judaism is ideal for anyone, Jewish or non-Jewish, who is interested in learning more about Jewish life and Jewish heritage. It is also for those seeking conversion.

The course is \$90 for Temple members or \$180 for non-members, which includes all classes and materials. If you are in need of a scholarship, please contact Rabbi Morais via email (Rabbimorais@taherie.org).

If you are interested, please enroll in the course on the website (TAHerie.org). For help or any other questions, please contact the Temple office at (814) 454-2426 or office@taherie.org.

11/05/2025	What is Religion, What is a Jew	02/25/2026	Purim Celebration
11/12/2025	Jewish Sacred Literature	03/04/2026	Life Cycle Ceremonies I
11/19/2025	Jewish Sacred Literature	03/11/2026	Life Cycle Ceremonies II
12/03/2025	Shabbat	03/25/2026	Holocaust
12/10/2025	Shabbat	04/15/2026	Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance)
01/07/2026	Jewish Liturgy I	04/22/2026	Israel—Ha'Atzmaut
01/14/2026	Jewish Liturgy II	04/29/2026	Israel
02/04/2026	Jewish Liturgy III	05/06/2026	Jewish History
02/11/2026	The Holidays	05/13/2026	Modern Jewish History
02/18/2026	The Holidays	05/20/2026	History of Temple Anshe Hessed
		05/27/2026	Wrap up

J. Leonard Ostrow Award

Congratulations to Edie Joseph, the recipient of the Ostrow Award, for Spring 2025!

The J. Leonard Ostrow Award is a community fund established in 1980. The purpose of the fund is to perpetuate J. Leonard Ostrow's memory and to challenge another generation to emulate his contributions to the Jewish and Erie community.

Edie has been a member of Temple Anshe Hesed since 1994. She served as Temple President for three years from 2017-2020. She has served on many committees and continues to teach in our Gesher program.

Edie would like to use the Ostrow Award to enhance her Hebrew teaching. She has applied to the Rosen School of Hebrew, an Israeli on-line course. She plans to take a five-week conversational Hebrew course. Edie states, "I have been teaching Biblical Hebrew for at least 22 years. Although I have taught a multitude of children Hebrew for their Bar and Bat Mitzvah, I have limited knowledge of day-to-day Hebrew. Learning conversational Hebrew would not only teach me new words, but it would also enhance my ability to pass on the Hebrew language or at least some fundamentals to my students."

The Ostrow Committee congratulates Edie on this prestigious award and her name will be added to the J. Leonard Ostrow plaque in the Temple foyer.

The Ostrow Award is open to adults and high school students from both Temple Anshe Hesed and Brith Sholom. Check out the weekly email or the Temple website for more information (<https://www.taherie.org>).



We are looking for our next
Gesher 1 Teacher!
to teach our 4 to 6 year olds

Gesher is looking for a new Gesher 1 teacher, responsible for our youngest class of students. Position requires Jewish knowledge and a willingness to work with young children, pre-K to grade 1. Completion of PA state clearances is required upon employment, with reimbursement of cost available.

Please email the office for more information
office@TAHerie.org or to apply

We are looking for a **Youth Group coordinator** to coordinate, design, and implement four to six engaging programs for our Youth Group.

This individual must have Jewish knowledge and be able to plan programs for a varying number of participants. Willingness to travel for day or weekend trips is a plus.

Completion of PA state clearances is required upon employment, with reimbursement of cost available. Please email the office at office@taherie.org with questions or to apply.



Birthdays

July 2	Keri Bernstein, Zoe Levine
July 3	Jenna DeFazio
July 4	Bernice Fox, Daulton Drexel, David Howell
July 6	Samuel Warshaw
July 10	Robert Przybyszewski
July 12	Frank Singer, Ava Spry
July 17	Melanie Wood, Michele Bille
July 18	Samantha Shaiman
July 19	Tania Thalkar, Joanna Bush
July 21	Jaden Levine, Gregory Rubin
July 22	Odessa S.
July 26	Susan Pallant, Isaac Pallant,
July 28	Barbara Shapira, Naomi Teperow, Craig Reynolds
July 29	Brian Rubin
July 30	Amelia Vidmar, Sharon Levick, Yvonne Levy

Anniversaries

July 2	Lauren French Stout & Devon Stout
July 5	Melissa & Charles Romero
July 11	Greg & Lauren Gardner
July 12	Eric & Susan Pallant
July 15	Darlene & Robert Przybyszewski
July 16	Mary Connerty & Frank Singer
July 20	David & Kendra Zacks
July 22	Leon & Carole Bilewitz
July 31	Ina & Edward Fisher

The Campaign to Sustain Temple Anshe Hessed and Reform Judaism in Northwestern Pennsylvania

L'Dor V'Dor: From Generation to Generation



Give a Meaningful Gift Today!

The impact of your gift to a qualifying Fund today will be **doubled** by the generous 1:1 match campaign by the Salata Family.

Please contact the office with any questions: office@taherie.org | (814) 454-2426

Yahrzeits

July 4/5

Allen Emerman, Morris Levy, Isaac Silin, Moses Martin Auerhaim, Harvey Shapiro, Lillian Baker, Irvin Friedman, Rose Pinski, Reuben W. Cohen, John Coates, Pearl Dreyfus, Lena Kimmel, Leon Mandel, Richard Henry Zacks, Aron Volfson, Babbette Dryfoose, Amelia Schuster Falk, Norma Green Sherman, Ida Schlesinger

July 11/12

Kurt Haurwitz, Stephen Totleben, Minnie Kramer, Anna Krawitz, Judith Nadworny, Helene Roberts, Gloria Paul, Henry Schulhoff, Irma Schuster, Gilbert Shulman, Jr., Joseph William Weil, James Ogilvie, Marilyn Wyman, Gussie Siegel, Fanny Auerhaim, Katherine Todtman, Rose Jashenosky Furstman, Bertha Goldsmit, Harry Pollock

July 18/19

Edgar Frank, Benjamin Goldman, Phillip Nast, David Rudolph, Hanna Simon, Frances Eisenberg, Abram Saver, Hy Levin, Charles Goldsmit, Lazarus Schuster, Philip Elfenbeim, Emma Marks, M.S. Meyerhoff, Hans Nathan, Wendy Sherman, Celia Kleman, Kohlman Perell, Florence Charters, Sylvia Galinsky, Robert Lechtner, Julia Rosin, Constance Stanbro, Marcia Parker, Rosalie Small

July 25/26

Libby Wolff, Morris Urkov, Joseph Steinfeld, Yetta Steinberg Mellon, LeRoy Stanbro, Regina Feuchtwanger, Sam Tanenbaum, Louis Roman, Edward M. Levy, Suzanne Kholos, Belle Rittenberg, Fanny Waxelbaum, Edward Patton, Eugene Straus,

August 1/2

Philip Hanauer, Hannah Rosenthal, Charles Ruben, Jacob Wallach, Harry Cooperberg, William Eiseman, Johanna Hagedoorn, Ellis Westheimer, Marcel Guth, William Kimmel, Edward A. Solomon,

Service Dedications



Did you know that you can dedicate a Service in memory of, honor of or celebration of a loved one or event? The cost is \$18 per occasion/person. Please contact the Temple office for more information or to put in your dedication.



5401 Old Zuck Road
Erie, PA 16506

Phone: 814-454-2426
Fax: 814-454-2427
Email: office@taherie.org

TAHerie.org

People of Loving Kindness

Temple Anshe Hessed is a Reform Jewish congregation guided by Torah and dedicated to perpetuating Judaism and its traditions through education, worship, and social action in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

Services

Friday, July 4

Office Closed

No Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, July 5

No Shabbat Morning Services

Friday, July 11

6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Evening Services &
Celebrations Oneg

Saturday, July 12

9:30 a.m.

Torah Study—Zoom only

Friday, July 18

6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, July 19

9:30 a.m.

Torah Study—Zoom only

150th Anniversary Reunion Weekend

Friday, July 25

6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Evening Services—Led by
Rabbi Morais, Cantorial Soloist Jessie Rhoades,
and Artist in Residence Dan Nichols

Saturday, July 26

10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Morning Services and
Torah Study (in person and via YouTube)

3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Family Reunion Picnic—adult and kids
activities, ice cream, family song session
and concert with Artist in Residence,
Dan Nichols, concluding with Havdalah.

Sunday, July 27

10:00 a.m.

Kever Avot service at TAH Cemetery

11:00 a.m.

Kever Avot service at Laurel Hill Cemetery

Shabbat Evening Services on YouTube:

<http://bit.ly/TAHServices>

Shabbat Morning Services & Torah Study on Zoom:

To view the Temple's full calendar, print the monthly calendar or register for classes and events please visit our website Calendar at [Monthly Calendar - Temple Anshe Hessed \(taherie.org\)](http://MonthlyCalendar-TempleAnsheHessed.taherie.org)