



*Temple Shir Shalom*

JULY 2016

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## Mark Your Calendar!

*All services led by Cantor Kim Singer*

Friday • July 23rd

Shabbat Morning Service at  
New Smyrna Beach at 10am

Friday • July 29th

Shabbat Service at Temple Israel  
at 7:30 pm

Friday • August 5th

Shabbat Service at Temple Israel  
at 7:30 pm

Friday • August 12th

Shabbat Service at Temple Israel  
at 7:30 pm

## Welcome to our 2016 - 2017 Executive Board and Board of Trustees

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and Svetlana Shtrom

Vice President: Dale Mester

Secretary: Sherri Eisenstein

Treasurer: Laurie Levine

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Peri Goldberg (New)

Mary Moskowitz (New)

Aaron Sherman - Immediate Past President

## FROM THE BIMA

Cantor Kim Singer

It was truly wonderful to see so many of you at our first service at Temple Israel. There was a palpable “buzz” in the air, and wonderful energy. I hope you all felt it as well. Several of you commented to me about how good it felt to be in a place that really felt like Jewish sacred space. While I agree—and I'm also enjoying our new “digs,” I hope we never lose sight of the fact that it is not the space itself that gives holiness. Yes, more inspirational surroundings can make it easier to feel a connection with the divine. And throughout history, we have sought to create that sense of the sacred in our worship places. The idea goes all the way back to the mishkan, that very first portable sanctuary our ancestors carried with them as they wandered in the wilderness. God tells Moses, “tell the Israelites to build me a sanctuary so that I may dwell among them.” (Exodus 25:8). Dwell among them, not dwell in it. Having a special place set aside enabled God's spirit to reside in the community, not in the mishkan itself.

That seems a bit odd at first glance. If God is everywhere why does God need a special place to “hang out”? I don't think God needs the sanctuary—I think we do. Yes, we can approach God anywhere, but having a place set aside helps us to gear up for prayer, much as walking into the gym helps firm up our mindset to exercise. We put on our special prayer uniforms, we collect our equipment, we prepare for the work of prayer. The aesthetics of our praying space help us make that transition.

But there is an even more important factor...our community. In fact, the only thing we truly need for a Jewish prayer service is 10 Jews. There are other things that are nice to have, but not required. So, even as we appreciate the beautiful place we are now joining for services, I hope we will continue to embrace that sense of community: to treasure familiar faces, welcome new ones, and hopefully to embrace some who had drifted away and are now venturing back.

But remember—we aren't entirely done with wandering! On July 23rd we'll gather for our beach service. Hope to see you there as well.

*Best, Kim*

## LEADERSHIP TEAM MESSAGE

### Belonging, Transitions, and the Search for Kosher Cheese

I belong to Temple Shir Shalom. It is a simple statement, and yet it holds so much meaning. I claim Temple Shir Shalom as my own—the synagogue and the family. And it claims me as its own—first as member, then as trustee, and now as co-president. It is here I pray, I feel, I care, I sympathize, I celebrate, I love, I share, I nourish, and I belong.

For us, it all began with a small gesture. One Shabbat evening in August of 2012, I came to Temple Shir Shalom with my son, Nicholas, who was 12 at that time, just to see what it's about. Nicholas decided that he wanted to become a Bar Mitzvah, and we were looking for a temple to join. The service was amazing; I felt enriched by the experience. After the service, the double doors opened, and a wave of teenagers spilled out into the lobby. We moved to the side and stood against the wall as the young ones filled their plates and rushed to grab seats together. One young man, looked up at us, put his leg across the stool next to him and motioned for Nick to sit there. And just like that Nick was in. That young man was Noah Shever. This may have been a small gesture for him; maybe he was brought up to be welcoming and inclusive and didn't even pause to consider whether to do it or not; he just did it. But it was a big gesture for us. Nick was in; he belonged.

Nick then asked me to take him to Religious School that Sunday. We met the most wonderful people. Robyn, Logan, the teachers, and the other parents were all so warm and welcoming. But most amazing of all were the other students. The B'nei Mitzvah class instantly embraced Nick. They formed a close bond and were so incredibly supportive of each other. On Fridays, they would wait outside for the arrival of each friend and greet each other with cheers and hugs. The parents would have to retrieve the kids to get them into the sanctuary for the start of the services. They would sit together in the back row. They were a little chatty, but always made us smile as they did the wave and clapped to the beat (and sometimes off-beat). The most difficult part in all of this (for the parents) was having to pry our children away from the group when it was time to go home. In its simplest form, that is what belonging is—looking forward to arriving and not want-

ing to leave. It is our goal as the leadership team to enhance this feeling in TSS members who already feel it and to grow it inside those who are still looking to find that sense of belonging.

For Temple Shir Shalom the sense of belonging is something we carry in our hearts. We take it with us wherever we meet to pray, to eat, to love. And so we did on June 24 when we began a new chapter for our synagogue and brought our family to share space with Temple Israel. Transitions are not easy. And yet so many of you came, with smiles, warm wishes, open hearts and great enthusiasm. It was absolutely heartwarming to see so many members of our family at our inaugural services at Temple Israel. We heard so much positive feedback, gratitude, and excitement for what lies ahead. We are grateful to all of you for your support. We are also grateful to Temple Israel, its leadership, Rabbi Neely, and the entire congregation for being incredibly accommodating and for welcoming us with such warmth.

One transition that we have had to make, in sharing space at Temple Israel, is to follow Kashrut. A group of us met with Rabbi Neely and worked with Cantor Kim to develop simple and easy kosher guidelines, and these have been distributed at services and via email. The steps we have outlined are not particularly difficult to follow, they just take a little more care to ensure that only kosher food is brought into Temple Israel. As someone who has developed a reputation for cheese platters, and who takes her cheese duties very seriously, I have to admit I felt very anxious about the new rules. Especially because I know from past experience, I need to find sliced cheese, because there's so little time on Fridays after work to set up. Before panicking, I decided to simply go and see what's out there. I went to the nearest Publix and started to examine their cheese selection. I lifted each package and rotated it from side to side, hoping to find a kosher symbol somewhere... I would have cast vanity aside and put on reading glasses, if only I had a pair with me. After 45 minutes, I started to receive nervous glances from the cashiers. A manager walked past, giving me a sideways glance "Hmm... she doesn't look like a food inspector." And what did I find? Nothing!! Not one block or package of

*Continued on page 3*

## EDUCATION INFORMATION

Our Religious School is growing and moving!

We are excited to share the news with you! Temple Shir Shalom and Temple Israel have joined together to create a collaborative religious school for the children of both congregations. Temple Israel and Temple Shir Shalom will have a table promoting MAGAL, the Meitin Alliance for Growth and Learning Religious School. Magal is the Hebrew word for circle, and the symbol of oneness. The school will be jointly run by Rabbi Neely and Cantor Kim.

Although each congregation has its own unique character, we are one in our commitment to provide a strong Jewish education and identity to our children. We are excited that our children will have twice as many Jewish children with whom to connect.

All classes will be held at Temple Israel, 50 Moss Road in Winter Springs. Temple Shir Shalom students will continue to attend religious school on Sundays. The Temple Israel students will also attend on Wednesdays to cover material specific to a Conservative setting. However, any TSS student that wants to attend on a Wednesday in addition to Sunday is welcome to do so!

Registration packets were mailed out to all families with religious school age children. It is also available on our temple website. Please fill out the registration form and send it back in. We want to be sure we have an accurate count of how many students are attending at each grade level.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Dale Mester at [dalem9194@gmail.com](mailto:dalem9194@gmail.com)

## Leadership *(continued from page 2)*

kosher cheese. I did not start to panic, however. I had plan B: Amazon.

I went home and searched Amazon for kosher cheese. I found books on kosher cheese, but no actual cheese. A little panic started to creep in (I had already committed to bringing cheese for our first Oneg). It was desperation time. I simply googled kosher cheese. I found several websites that sold incredibly expensive and uninteresting kosher cheese. Well, at least we won't go cheese-less for our Oneg.

Fortunately, just in the nick of time, I was connected to Cathy Swerdlow, a wonderful lady at Temple Israel who offered to help coordinate our first service and to address any questions we may have. We discussed various logistics and then I had the opportunity to ask her the most burning question on my list: what types of cheese can I bring and where do I get them? She laughed when she heard my question and acknowledged that cheese has been a challenging issue for them as well (imagine my relief at hearing this!). So, Cathy proceeded to tell me what types of cheese are acceptable at TI. It turns out almost all of the usual cheese I buy at Costco is OK, even the sliced variety pack! And so, just like that, the little panic I was beginning to feel was quickly replaced with excitement and anticipation for the new chapter that lay ahead.

Many of our members felt a little uneasy about this transition, but we rallied and supported each other. We found answers and solutions to many of our questions. We did what every family does: we encouraged each other and offered assistance.

Each and every one of us is an integral member of Temple Shir Shalom. From our youngest members to our oldest--each of us is in the position to help, support, sooth, welcome, embrace, include and celebrate. That's what makes us a family; that's what makes us strong; that's what makes us belong to each other and to Temple Shir Shalom.

Thank you to all of you for making this transition and for bringing to our new home that sense of family and belonging.

*Respectfully, Svetlana (and Team)*



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## ADULT WINE SOCIAL AND SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Come out for an Adult's only evening. We will enjoy a beautiful night filled with wonderful conversation, good friends and great wine at the home of Jennifer and Gary Hall. Bring your favorite bottle of wine and a hearty appetizer or dessert to share. We also ask that you contribute to a Jewish Family Services school supply drive. We will be collecting school supplies to help those in need.

If you have any questions, contact Jennifer Hall at [happyjen68@gmail.com](mailto:happyjen68@gmail.com).



Date: 07/16/2016 (Sat.)  
Time: 7:30pm - 10:30pm EDT

324 Remington Drive, Oviedo

RSVP on Signup Genius at:  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4daeaf2ba31-adult2/>

## BEACH SERVICE



Our annual Shabbat service at New Smyrna Beach will be Saturday, July 23rd at 10am! Go to the Flagler (North) entrance of New Smyrna Beach. There, you can drive on with your car. Enter and drive to the

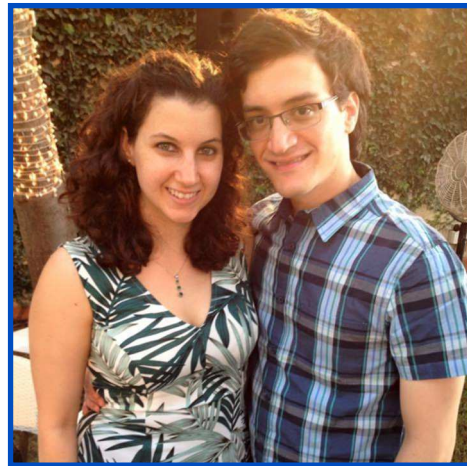
left and park as close to the entrance as spots will allow. That way, hopefully, we'll be able to cluster our cars and beach spots together. Try to get there early if possible! If you do not want to drive on the beach, there is a parking lot to the right at that entrance as well.

Join us for a Torah study and prayer experience. Afterward we can enjoy an afternoon of food, fun and friendship, spending Shabbat together. Make sure to bring canopies, beach umbrellas, chairs, towels, sunscreen, bottle water, lunch/snacks and anything else you and your family might need for a fun day at the beach!

Thank you to the Swerdlow family for sponsoring the August 5th oneg in honor of their daughter's wedding. While Jessica was a student at UCF she was a B'nai Mitzvah tutor and teacher at TSS.

Join us in wishing Jessica and Adam joy and happiness as they begin their life together  
**Friday, August 5th**  
Temple Israel, 50 S Moss Road Winter Springs

Meet and Greet at 7:00 pm  
Service begins at 7:30 pm  
Oneg to follow



RSVP to David and Cathy at [cswerd@gmail.com](mailto:cswerd@gmail.com). We will be in Israel for the wedding but will be checking email as often as possible!



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## Tea and Torah Tuesdays Conversations with Cantor Kim

Casual discussions on a variety of Jewish topics coming to a coffee shop near you!

Come and join in a casual discussion on Tisha B'Av. We will be meeting on July 26th from 7:30-8:30 pm at Panera near Oviedo on the Park, 205 E. Mitchell-Hammock Road.



## Thank you Oneg Sponsors!

July 29th

Thank you to the DeFilippo and Sherman Families for sponsoring the oneg in honor of the DeFilippo's baby naming.

August 5th

Thank you to the Swerdlow family for sponsoring the oneg in honor of their daughter's wedding.

*All onegs will be potluck, unless stated above.*

*To sponsor an oneg here's the link:*

[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0B44ACA82CA3F49-oneg](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0B44ACA82CA3F49-oneg)

We ask that all members sponsor or co-sponsor an Oneg each year for a Shabbat evening service in honor of any simcha, i.e. birthday, anniversary, graduation, or any happy occasion. Every family is encouraged to sponsor at least one oneg each year. For questions, please contact Svetlana Shtrom at [shtroms@yahoo.com](mailto:shtroms@yahoo.com).

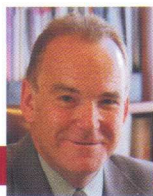


## Raise Your Voice!

Rehearsals will begin soon for our High Holyday choir.

New members 13 and older welcome, no experience needed!

Contact Cantor Kim for details.



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## Summer Sunday at the JCC!!

*Please join us on*

*August 7th from 11:00am-1:30pm at the Roth Jewish  
Community Center of Greater Orlando  
851 Maitland Ave, Maitland 32751*

*Temple Israel and Temple Shir Shalom will have a  
table promoting MAGAL, the Meitin Alliance for  
Growth and Learning Religious School.*

*Please join us for a fun day at the JCC. Swim in the pool,  
make new friends, admission and lunch are FREE with a  
reservation by August 4th.*

*RSVP to [dalem9194@gmail.com](mailto:dalem9194@gmail.com)*

## DONATIONS

Rheda Epstein to the Permanent Home Fund in honor of Annette Romaine's Milestone Birthday.

Flo Kramer in honor of Annette Romaine's milestone birthday.

Lara Zielinsky to the Adult Education Programming Fund

Arnold & Nira Stein to the Building Fund in Recognition of Aaron Sherman's presidency and in memory of his grandmother.

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

1 Sara Holcomb  
1 Shane Isaacson  
2 Hannah Procell  
6 Samantha Fedigan  
6 Conner Kansol  
7 Keith Goldberg  
7 Andrew Isaacson  
7 Annette Romaine  
10 Scott Demner  
10 Kevin Miller  
11 Eileen Glasco  
12 Sherri Eisenstein  
13 Gregory Raymond  
14 Nancy Raymond  
18 Renee Pearson  
19 Jacob Eisenstein  
21 Michael Ebert  
23 Stephen Pearson

24 Clifford Geismar  
25 Sarah Procell  
28 Jeffrey Corenblum  
29 Harvey Kansol

### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Lara Zielinsky  
3 Lynn Howard  
4 Joan Stolzar  
5 Janine Copeland  
7 Austin House  
9 Jennifer Reif  
14 Suzanne Miller  
16 Seth Sherman  
16 Sharon Stein  
17 Fern Burr  
20 Christie Greenberg  
22 William Lesnick  
24 Alex House

25 Cindi Barnert  
25 Scott Nager  
26 Justin Miller  
26 Patricia Torrence  
27 Jessica Corenblum  
30 Brett Stender

### JULY ANNIVERSARIES

11 Eric and Valorie Karter  
28 Aaron and Jennifer Sherman

### AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

6 Steven and Susan Kahn  
11 Gary and Jennifer Hall  
19 Steven and Laurie Levine  
22 Arnold and Nira Stein



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www.tiflorida.org/supporting-oneorlando/](https://www.tiflorida.org/supporting-oneorlando/)

