



*Temple Shir Shalom*

MAY 2016

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*mishpacha*

P.O. Box 623182, Oviedo, FL 32762 / 407-366-3556 [www.templeshirshalom.org](http://www.templeshirshalom.org) / [prayhappy@templeshirshalom.org](mailto:prayhappy@templeshirshalom.org)

## Mark Your Calendar!

*All services led by Cantor Kim Singer*

### Friday • May 6th

Shabbat Service at UCUMC at 7:30 pm

### Friday • May 13th

Shabbat Service at UCUMC at 7:30 pm

### Sunday • May 15th

Religious School at Double R-9:00 am  
LAST DAY

### Friday • May 20th

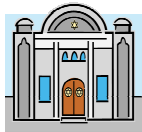
Shabbat Service at UCUMC at 7:30 pm

### Friday • June 3rd

Shabbat Service at 7:30 pm at UCUMC

### Friday • June 10th

Shabbat Service at 7:30 pm at UCUMC -  
Family Friendly/Camp Shabbat,  
Torah Reading



## Service Location

University Carillon United  
Methodist Church (UCUMC)  
EPICenter

1395 Campus View Court, Oviedo 32765  
(corner of Lockwood & McCulloch)



## FROM THE BIMA

Cantor Kim Singer

### Counting Down...or Counting Up

Counting down to important events may be a universal human tendency. **Three weeks** until my birthday.... **Six days** until vacation... **Two hours** before the school/work day is over... In contrast, this month Judaism offers Sefirat HaOmer, a chance to count *up* as we approach the holiday of Shavuot. On the second day of Pesach we begin to count: seven weeks plus a day—fifty days. This commemorates the start of the barley harvest in biblical times, and serves to connect the liberation from Egypt of Passover with the giving of the Torah on Shavuot. There are many customs associated with this time period. The idea of preparation and purification for receiving Torah are central.

For those with a more mystical bent, each of the seven weeks are associated with one of seven qualities and each of the seven days of the week are also associated with one of the qualities, leading to 49 permutations of qualities to consider. This is a huge oversimplification of the concept, I recommend [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counting\\_of\\_the\\_Omer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counting_of_the_Omer) as a good place to start if this idea intrigues you.

But still, why count up and not down? It may seem like a trivial difference, but I don't think it is. The discussion occurs in conjunction with the Hanukkah candles as well. Rabbi Shammai says that we start with eight lights and count down. Rabbi Hillel maintains that we start with one light and count up. Hillel won that debate (actually, he wins most of them) with the explanation that in matters of holiness we should increase and not decrease. And so, as we move toward Shavuot our awareness and our dedication should increase. Furthermore, we need to maintain that awareness throughout the counting—each day matters!

It's a profound lesson, especially when facing big challenges. Each day is one step towards the goal. Each step counts. And there are some things that you just can't rush. No matter how eager we are to receive Torah, we can't jump ahead to Sinai. We have to travel through the entire 49 days first. May we all take heart from the words of the Psalmist: teach us to count our days rightly that we may obtain a wise heart. (Psalms 90:12)

*Best, Kim*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aaron Sherman

It's hard to believe that this is my final message to you all as President of Temple Shir Shalom! As I often have over the last two years, I feel like there is still so much left to do. How can I possibly walk away knowing that the job isn't complete? It's always at this point that I recall Rabbi Tarfon's words from Pirkei Avot. "You are not required to complete the task, yet you are not free to withdraw from it." I used this as a mantra over the last two years when I felt overwhelmed by the job. There is no end to the task of leading a synagogue. After serving on the Board for 7 years, there are still things that I continue to work on, but haven't finished. I've seen many changes at Temple Shir Shalom; always with the intent of making our community stronger.

We're going to continue to see changes next year, and not just in the people in positions of leadership. Temple Shir Shalom must continue to look for what works for us and not be afraid to leap into the new. I let you know in March that the Board was in discussions with Temple Israel about a common religious school between our synagogues. Those conversations have gone very well over the last two months. Cantor Kim and Rabbi Neely of Temple Israel have built a curriculum that supports the needs of both Temple Shir Shalom and Temple Israel students. Dale Mester has led the business side of discussions for us and worked with the leaders of Temple Israel to lay out a financial plan for a self-sustaining joint religious school. She and Cantor Kim also made sure there was a place for any of our teachers who wanted to remain a teacher. Our children will study and learn in an environment that immerses them in Jewish life. It's terrifying and exciting, yet I have complete confidence that it will be a fantastic success. We're going to make sure they know that we're doing this, that it works, and that our kids love it!

As a congregation, we must continue to seek out the terrifying changes. It's easy to come up with reasons why we should keep doing what we've been doing, but it's only through willingness to look at something different that we can keep our synagogue vibrant and relevant to today's life. The Religious School is just one example of how thinking differently about our situation can lead to a positive outcome. Many of us who serve

on the Board have held a shared vision for Temple Shir Shalom. A joint religious school wasn't a part of anyone's vision, but here we are. We must keep looking for the solutions that fits best with Temple Shir Shalom and world around us. The world changes and we need to change with it. I've had many conversations with members of the Board this year that deal with thinking outside the box. I know that the Board will continue to look for more outside the box solutions to help Temple Shir Shalom.

Some of you have heard that my family is planning a move in the very near future (we're only moving a few miles). As I was cleaning and boxing some things, I came across some paperwork from an old Board retreat. It was the title page from a section on leading a congregation and it said: "For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone." Having completed my term (almost), I can emphatically agree (as will likely every Past President of a congregation. Some will say I tried to do too much on my own, and they are probably right, but there is far more that I had help with than not, and I am grateful to all the members of the TSS Board the last two years, the non-Board volunteers who help at TSS, whether through organization, labor or both, Beth Schafer, Cantor Kim Singer and to all of you, even those who simply said "thanks." Most importantly, I could not have done this without Jennifer, Seth and Michelle. There are not enough words to express my gratitude for your support these past two years.

I have one last action as President of the Congregation, and that is to preside over the Annual Meeting. Please plan on attending at 4:00 pm on May 15<sup>th</sup>. We have important congregational business planned. We have a new leadership team ready to continue the work of strengthening and growing our congregation. I am ready to support them and help them with their vision for Temple Shir Shalom through the next year. I look forward to seeing you all on the 15<sup>th</sup>!

*Shalom,*

*Aaron*

## Tea and Torah Tuesdays

### Conversations with Cantor Kim

Casual discussions on a variety of Jewish topics coming to a coffee shop near you! The first 2 sessions will meet at Panera near Oviedo on the Park, 205 E Mitchell-Hammock Rd, from 7:30-8:30ish.

- May 10: Jewish Prayer 201: what, where, how and why?
- May 24: Jews, Bonfires, Bows and Arrows...What's Lag B'omer anyway?
- June 7: location/topic TBA
- June 21: location/topic TBA



## May 15th TSS Annual Meeting at 4 pm



Each May, we hold Temple Shir Shalom's annual meeting for the purposes of communicating the business side of Temple operations, adopting a budget and electing the next year's leadership. This year's meeting will be on May 15th at 4:00 pm at UCUMC. To see the meeting agenda for the

Temple Shir Shalom annual meeting, click [HERE](#). To see the slate of Board Leadership for 2016-2017 that was put together by our Nominating Committee, click [HERE](#). We will provide additional reminders about the meeting and information about our budget and dues structures for next year in the coming days so that you can come prepared with any questions.

It is important that we have representation of 25% of the membership units at the annual meeting to conduct business, so if you are unable to attend, please consider voting by proxy. To vote by proxy, please email the Secretary of the Congregation no later than 11:59 p.m. on May 14th, your intent to allow another member unit that will be at the meeting to vote on your behalf. Please include the name of the member voting on your behalf. You have the option of specifying how you would like the proxy holder to vote, e.g.: Please vote as recommended by the Board of Trustees. No member unit may hold more than two (2) proxy votes (in addition to its own vote). EMAILS can be sent to either [sharonz@cfl.rr.com](mailto:sharonz@cfl.rr.com) or [templeshirshalom@gmail.com](mailto:templeshirshalom@gmail.com), please state PROXY in the subject line.



Immediately following the Annual Meeting, please join us for dinner and socializing at Azteca Mexican Restaurant, 11633 University Blvd Orlando, FL. Please RSVP to [sharonz@cfl.rr.com](mailto:sharonz@cfl.rr.com). Subject: TSS Dinner, so we can reserve some tables.

## Thank you Oneg Sponsors!

**May 6th**  
Pot-luck

**May 13th**  
Sponsored by the Religious School families  
in honor of the Religious School Teachers

**May 20th**  
Special Oneg in honor of the 2016 Graduates

*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).



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**BBYO:**

WHAT: Ilan Ramon Lives  
 WHERE: Julie and Matt Gottfried's house  
 WHEN: Sunday, May 15, 3-5PM  
 WHO: 8th - 12th graders

Come out and listen to Seniors talk about their history within BBYO.

WHAT: Orlando States, Lives, Elections Sleepover at JCC  
 WHEN: Saturday May 21st 2016, 7:30 PM - Sunday, May 22nd 2016, 11:00 AM  
 WHERE: JCC, Maitland FL  
 WHOM: BBYO Members Only in grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12  
 COST: \$20.00 due on registration.  
 RSVP: Register online at: <http://b-linked.bbyo.org/event/86458>

Join all the Orlando BBYO chapters as each chapter president gives the State of the Chapter, listen to the seniors give their chapter lives, and elect new chapter boards in the morning. Cost: \$20 includes dinner and breakfast. Bring snacks to share throughout the night, sleeping bag and pillow, and change of clothes.

**SHFTY YEAR END EVENT****9th-12 GRADE STUDENTS**

**SAVE THE DATE**...Let's make this a big one! An overnight stay at the Walt Disney World Resort. On Saturday, May 14, 2016, we will spend the night at a Disney property hotel and the next day go to either a Disney theme park or a Disney water park. We will have Havdallah Disney style (fireworks), hang out, have some fun and say farewell to our seniors.

Details to be announced shortly.



Matthew Goldblatt graduated from Florida State University on April 30 with a Bachelor of Science in Finance and Economics.

***Mitzvah of Giving Funds:***

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## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 Molly Kaplan  
 2 Penney Fox  
 3 Jennifer Hall  
 3 Tamara Zishuk  
 5 Shelley Sundheim  
 6 Barbara Nemery  
 10 Victoria Geismar  
 10 Matthew Goldberg  
 10 Susan Nager  
 13 Zvia Shever  
 15 Austin Kansol  
 16 Jonathan Poweski  
 17 Claire Reif  
 17 Rebecca Reif  
 19 Michael Raymond  
 26 Rheda Epstein  
 27 Andrea Holcomb  
 27 Ryan Hutcheson  
 27 Sabrina Hutcheson  
 29 Rachel Levine  
 30 Sean Holcomb  
 30 Amber Isaacson

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

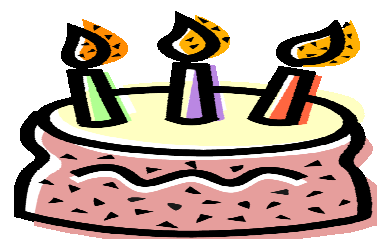
1 Tina Buck  
 1 Jeffrey Kaplan  
 2 Jerry Hutcheson  
 2 Beth Hutcheson  
 3 Emily Foote  
 3 Gary Schulman  
 9 Kevin Collin  
 9 Robyn Solomon  
 9 Michelle Sherman  
 10 Leslie Collin  
 14 Steven Kahn  
 15 Daun Cooper  
 15 Hannah Karter  
 16 Joshua Goldblatt  
 17 Stephen Baronoff  
 17 Mary Moskowitz  
 22 Erica Hall  
 22 Nicholas Ebert  
 28 David Reif  
 29 Kimberly Hall  
 30 Lia Miller

### MAY ANNIVERSARIES

3 Jon Miller & Suzanne Paulus  
 15 Stephen & Bonnie Baronoff  
 19 Rob & Shari Dworkin-Smith  
 24 Steven & Zvia Shever  
 24 Lee & Sari Stender  
 25 John & Lara Zielinsky  
 26 Jeffrey & Julie Kaplan  
 30 Stephen & Renee Pearson

### JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

9 David & Sharon Zishuk  
 10 Jonathan  
     & Shelley Sundheim  
 21 Avi & Robyn Solomon



## Temple Shir Shalom Teams

TSS is looking for volunteers to help with our core planning teams. If you are interested in helping, please contact the appropriate lead.

### Education

The Education and Youth Team helps to support our religious school and SHFTY youth groups by working closely with our RS director and youth advisor on planning special events, reviewing and advising on curriculum or recommending policy for the religious school and youth groups. Contact Dale Mester ([dfmester@aol.com](mailto:dfmester@aol.com)) to help with the Education Team.

### Membership

The Membership Team is responsible for membership outreach activities. They work to develop programs and advertising to draw new members to our congregation. They also manage our membership records and work to pair up members with TSS teams based on interests as described on the membership forms. Contact Jennifer Hall ([happyjen68@gmail.com](mailto:happyjen68@gmail.com)) to help with the Membership Team.

### Ritual

The Ritual Team is responsible for ritual aspects of synagogue life. They work with the Spiritual Leader of the congregation to set the Shabbat and holiday service sched-

ule, plan special Shabbat observances, organize volunteer lay leader participation on Shabbat and holidays, plan communal holiday observances (Sukkot, Simchat Torah, Chanukkah, etc.) and care for the ritual equipment. Contact Aaron Sherman ([ajsherman@cfl.rr.com](mailto:ajsherman@cfl.rr.com)) to help with the Ritual Team.

### Social

The Social Team is responsible for planning and organizing social membership inreach activities for families and adults such as the annual picnic, game nights, progressive dinners and other social activities that aren't tied to specific religious observances. Contact Sharon Zishuk ([sharonz@cfl.rr.com](mailto:sharonz@cfl.rr.com)) to help with the Social Team.

### Social Action

The Social Action Team is the Tikun Olam arm of Temple Shir Shalom. They are responsible for organizing and advertising Temple-wide involvement in social action activities such as the Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure, High Holiday and Thanksgiving food drives and Walk for Autism. Contact Cy Barnert ([cybarlight@msn.com](mailto:cybarlight@msn.com)) to help with the Social Action Team.