



TIDINGS OF ZION



Sh'vat/Adar 5777

MT. ZION CONGREGATION, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

February 2017



from Student Rabbi Joseph Rosen...

“To each his sufferings: all are men,
Condemn'd alike to groan—
The tender for another's pain,
Th' unfeeling for his own.

Yet, ah! why should they know their fate,
Since sorrow never comes too late,
And happiness too swiftly flies?
Thought would destroy their Paradise.
No more;—where ignorance is bliss,
‘Tis folly to be wise.”

This final stanza to Thomas Gray's poem 'Ode to a Distant Prospect of Eton College' is perhaps most widely known for the popular and controversial idiom "Ignorance is bliss." There is much contention over this idea whereas there are many people see the positive side of it, just as there are many people ignore its negative effects, what we often describe as being left in the dark.

This February, our Torah reading calendar brings us to rather difficult portions in the Torah where God punishes all of the Egyptians for their leadership's refusal to adhere to the divine will conveyed through Moses. God hardens Pharaoh's heart and the plagues are brought down upon the Egyptians. Looking at the plagues and their increasing severity, Rashi, the French medieval commentator, points out that many of them, express an idea that everything is being covered from view. The waters of the Nile are dirtied with blood, frogs, beasts and swarms of locusts cover the land and skies; boils cover the body all leading to the most severe form of covering, complete darkness for the Egyptians:

“People could not see on another, and for three days no one could get up from where he was; but all the children of Israel enjoyed light in their dwellings.” Exodus 10:23

Rashi points out more about the darkness, saying not only were the Egyptians unable to see physically, they were also unable to see psychologically, as there was a general feeling of unawareness.

Rashi follows the logic that this unawareness meant that during the darkness; the Egyptians were unable to see their impending doom, the Angel of Death. It can be said that with this inability to see what was ahead, there was a greater shock value to the final plague, leaving the Egyptians extremely vulnerable.

Later in the passage, the Israelites take advantage of this vulnerability to collect valuables from the Egyptians as commanded by God. It can be implied that the Israelites took from the Egyptians as payment for their years of hardship in the Egypt. Although they are taking from people who may just be innocent civilians, it could be concluded that this is a form of collective punishment thrust upon the Egyptians for Pharaoh's negligence.

The fact that the Egyptians were mentally blind at this point supports the idea that the horrors they experienced were due to the fact that Pharaoh did not see the power and glory of God. The buildup of the plagues to the darkness and then the darkness itself is a powerful metaphor for the idea that those who did not have faith or could not see what was around them would literally be left in the dark.

Student Rabbi column cont'd on page 2



from the Congregation President...

I thought you all would enjoy reading about the program that Logan is leaving on in Israel for 6 - 12 months...



University In Israel was founded in order to provide international students of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to study abroad in Israel and experience first-hand the benefits of studying in the Startup Nation. With our partnership with Israeli colleges and universities, we offer academic programs for undergraduate and graduate students interested in studying abroad in the Start-up Nation.

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Accommodation • \$200 monthly stipend • Three meals a day at hotel
Pres column cont'd on page 2

Life in Israel from a South Dakotan

Dr. Barry Feinstein, brother of Marc Feinstein, will speak at Mount Zion Temple on Saturday, February 11th at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall. Dr. Feinstein, born in Mitchell and raised in Aberdeen, has lived in Israel for nearly 50 years. He is currently Senior Lecturer in International Law, School of Law, on the Executive Steering Committee and Board of Governors of the S. Daniel Abraham Center for Strategic Dialogue at Netanya Academic College. He is presently a visiting professor of law at the University of South Dakota School of Law. Barry is bright, articulate and humorous. I am sure his talk will be a treat. Please join us.

Student Rabbi column cont'd from page 1

I recall a conversation I had with friends who were visiting me during my first year of rabbinical school in Jerusalem, where it came up that many of them have not followed world news, as they know that it is just depressing and predictable. They mentioned that there was no point in them being depressed so why should they watch the news. In doing this, they are avoiding some of the more awful realities of today's society. Looking back at the line "ignorance is bliss" and the troubles of the Egyptians, my friends' unawareness left them in the dark and although there might not be an angel of death coming after them in the near future, there is still the danger of losing a sense of place in the world by not following what is happening around them. As seen in the Torah, this unawareness was accompanied by terror and punishment.

We must be diligent in making sure to be aware of our surroundings. In the Exodus narrative, the Israelites were fortunate not to experience the horrors of the Angel of Death as they had marked their houses to be passed over, but they were well aware of the horrors happening to the Egyptians, thus increasing their faith in God to bring them forth from Egypt. This increased awareness is what will prepare us to face our challenges. As long as we are aware of our surroundings and prepared to face whatever is out there, there is a greater hope for leaving the darkness behind.

Do a Mitzvah!

Most Friday afternoons (3:30 pm - approx 5:30 pm), volunteers are needed to assist with Faith Temple Church's food distribution at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds. On the THIRD Friday of every month.... anyone interested in helping with the Food Giveaway is invited to meet in the Mt. Zion Temple parking lot at 2:30 pm to carpool over to the Fairgrounds. Please note that you are welcome to help with the Food Giveaway on any Friday that it is held and you are free to drive over on your own even on these third Fridays. But for those interested in driving over together, this option is being offered.

Mazel Tov!

Mazel tov to Avi and Reuven Hanna and big brother Natanel on the arrival of their newest family member Gabriel Chaim, born on the 9th of January. We send love and good wishes to the East-Hanna Family!!!

Pres column cont'd from page 1

Wi-fi at accommodation • City bus pass • Academic studies/Culinary Certification • Internship placement • Uniform to wear while interning
Tours in Israel & City Tours • 'Soft Landing' orientation of Israeli life
24/7 advisor and more!

The program covers six days of activities per week for culinary students who wish to train and gain certification in Israeli, Middle Eastern and Mediterranean Cuisine, which include Kosher Cooking and Middle-Eastern cuisine.

The program also includes workshops and seminars in the world of culinary and hospitality, as well as introductions to all facets of running a large 4-5-star hotel. You'll also spend some time learning about and touring Israel .

The Lirom academic study and internship program is intended for students in the field of Hospitality/Tourism/Culinary arts/Lodging. You must have completed at least 1 year of study to quality.

The classes are taught in English, and students will require an Israeli Student Visa.

*Come to services on Friday, February 3rd
as Logan leads services and wish her best wishes!!*

Egg Cartons needed!
The Food Give Away needs egg cartons. If you can bring them to the Temple, please leave them on the table in the library.

HADASSAH



Help support the extraordinary works of Hadassah with a card or certificate! Contact Cards & Certificates Chair Carol Rosenthal if you'd like to make a donation. There's a card or certificate in every price range and for every occasion!!

TWIN CITIES JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

TWIN CITIES JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

March 18 – 25, 2017

www.tcjfilmfest.org

Presented by the Sabes JCC and the St. Paul JCC.

WHERE IS ELLE KARI AND WHAT HAPPENED TO NORIKO-SAN?

Sunday, February 12 at 2 PM - Pre-Fest Event!



DONATIONS

(December 10, 2016 - January 9, 2017)

Please send all Temple contributions to:
PO Box 756, Sioux Falls, SD 57101

GENERAL FUND

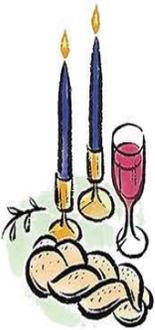
In memory of Linda Gutnik from Helen & Lewis Ofstein; Lillian & Harry Greenbaum

To the Congregation from Ilya & Nonna Gutman (Marshall, MN); Susan & Joel Rosenthal; and an Anonymous Neighbor

In memory of Abby Weiss from Jay Rosenberg

In appreciation for Torah Study from Rosie & Mike Mace

**Remember birthdays, anniversaries, yahrzeits, memorials. Please send your donations to:
Mt. Zion Temple
PO Box 756
Sioux Falls, SD 57101**



**SHABBAT
POTLUCK
DINNER THIS
FRIDAY!!**

**TIDINGS
DEADLINE:
FEBRUARY 10th**

Remember to submit articles appropriate for the March *Tidings*.

To submit articles, email them to:
carol@theprintersinc.com



SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP

*Remember to shop at the
Sisterhood Gift Shop!*

*Matilda Oppenheimer (332-8404)
and Judy Lampert (339-3170)*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do a mitzvah for the community - Be part of the solution

Please note that we are in need of leaders for Friday night Shabbat Services when there is no Student Rabbi in town. There are several community members who are happy to assist you with preparing and/or leading the services.

Prayers/readings/songs may be led in English or Hebrew at the service leader's prerogative. There are still openings in May and this summer (see schedule below). Please contact Jan Forstein, Ritual Committee to volunteer at bityah01@aol.com or leave her a message at 332-3354.

Visiting Groups to the Temple

Our congregation is served by a Student Rabbi who is available a limited number of weekends from September through May. We encourage your scheduling your Friday evening worship services visit only when the Student Rabbi is in residence. For Friday evening visits and/or in cases where other scheduling arrangements are needed, please call or email the President of the congregation who will assist you with scheduling.

Mt. Zion Cemetery Update

If anyone would like updates on the Mt. Zion Temple Cemetery and its Cemetery Association (which is currently being re-organized), please contact: Susan Hurwitz susanhurwitz1@gmail.com. Susan, Nancy and Chuck Hurwitz are the children of the late Duke and Dorothy Hurwitz. They are in the process of setting up a perpetual fund for maintenance and ongoing administration of the cemetery. They very much want to hear from anyone/everyone with an interest in the Cemetery.



University of Minnesota Center for Jewish Studies Presents

**Michael Berkowitz: Rascals, Fugitives, and
Gentlemen: The Hidden History of Jews and
Photojournalism**

Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 7:30 PM

ST. PAUL, MN Mount Zion Temple • 1300 Summit Ave.



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2017

Co-led by
Carol Rosenthal

HADASSAH GEOPOLITICAL MISSION OF ISRAEL: A TOUR WITH MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS

Led by Barbara "BK" Goldstein and Carol Rosenthal
March 6 - 17, 2017

HADASSAH'S THIRD HUMANITARIAN MISSION TO CUBA

Led by Dianne Gottlieb
March 12 - 18, 2017

ROOTS & WINGS... A HADASSAH MISSION TO BUDAPEST, PRAGUE & JERUSALEM

Led by Joyce and Jeff Rabin
May 7 - 16, 2017

HADASSAH ASSOCIATES MISSION: JERUSALEM & THE SPECTACULAR SOUTH

Led by Fred Seifer & Sherry Kaurman
October 15 - 28, 2017

HADASSAH FLORIDA MISSION: ISRAEL—SEEING IS BELIEVING

Led by Marion Aronheim, Linda Goldstein, Dorris Kahn & Susan Lafer
October 18 - 30, 2017
Eilat extension Oct 30 to Nov 2, 2017

HADASSAH AUTUMN MISSION TO ISRAEL

Led by Aileen Barmel
October 31 - November 10, 2017

CONTACT CAROL ROSENTHAL, 2017 NATIONAL MISSIONS CO-CHAIR,
AT CROSENTHAL@HADASSAH.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

Visit hadassah.org/missions or call 800.237.1517.

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NEW!
FALL MISSION
TO ISRAEL
September 2017

NEW!
SUMMER MISSION TO ISRAEL
For teachers/educators/
lovers of learning
July 2 - 13, 2017



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The Temple is on Facebook and has a website!



*Check it out and
"Like" us today!!*



STUDENT RABBI JOSEPH ROSEN'S SCHEDULE 2017

February 10 - 12

February 24 - 16

March 10-12

March 24 - 26

April 7-11: Passover Seder on
Monday, April 10th

April 21 - 23

May 12 - 14

Oneg Shabbat Hosts Needed: Please Volunteer

I would like to ask for
volunteers for Onegs for this
winter. Please let me know if
you are willing to help out.

I prefer email
(Cathy.Ezrailson@usd.edu)
but my cell is 281-773-5458.

*Thank you so much,
Cathy Ezrailson*

Hosts for Student Rabbi Joseph Rosen's Friday and Saturday meals are needed.

Please contact Marty
Davidsohn at
martydavidsohn@gmail.com
or 254-8434 and get your
favorite date.

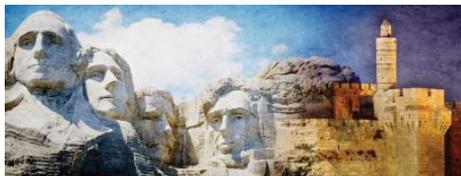
Join Us at the Table!



Our potluck dinners have been a HUGE success. Everyone who comes says they are great and it's really wonderful to get together and share a Shabbat meal. **The next Shabbat potluck dinner is February 3rd at 6:00 pm. Save March 3rd for the one after this month's.** We hope to see even more of our community there. Just bring a dish and join us.

This dinner is open to all families of the congregation. This dinner will occur every first Friday of the month whether the Student Rabbi is in town or not. The dinner will conclude before services. Attendees are not required to go to services following the dinner but are certainly welcome to do so. Please put this on your calendar and join us.

For more information, contact Stephen Rosenthal at rosenthal.stephen@gmail.com or call the Temple at 376-5189.



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Reforest Israel by planting trees
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JNF, the Jewish National Fund.
The price of one tree is \$18.

To purchase a tree, contact
SHELLY ROSENBERG at
513-226-8651 or email her at
shellyrosenberg1pa@gmail.com



Potluck Dinner

Friday, February 3, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Friday, March 3, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Friday, April 7, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Friday, May 5, 2017 at 6:00 pm



Mt. Zion Congregation

www.mtzionsf.com

14th & Duluth Streets

PO Box 756

Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0756

President: Royce Hansman

Vice President:Mark Oppenheimer

Treasurer:Matilda Oppenheimer

Secretary:.....Stuart Jacobs

Board of Directors:.....Marc Feinstein

Jan Forstein

Raleigh Hansman

Judy Lampert

Stephen Rosenthal

DaNiel Wood

Past President:Bernice Schotten

Mt. Zion Congregation - February 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">PASSOVER SEDER TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 10TH</p> </div>			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0; font-size: small;">A reminder that proper attire should be worn when participating in services at Mt. Zion Temple. Your cooperation with this matter is greatly appreciated.</p> </div>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 (Sh'vat 8) 5:23 pm</p> <p>6:00 Shabbat Potluck Dinner 7:30 pm Shabbat Service</p> <p>Bo, Exod. 10:1-13:16 Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28</p> <p>Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10 am Torah Study</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Religious School 10 am</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Jakob Dreiske Bday</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 (Sh'vat 15) 5:33 pm</p> <p>7:30 pm Shabbat Service <i>TU B'SHEVAT SEDER</i> <i>Student Rabbi Rosen</i> B'shalach, Exod. 13:17-17:16 Haftarah: Judges 4:4-5:31 Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm TIDINGS DEADLINE Steve Hansman Bday</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10 am Torah Study The Book of Judges</p> <p>Barry Feinstein, 7 pm "Living in Israel"</p>	
<p>12</p> <p>Religious School 10 am</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 (Tevet 23) 5:42 pm</p> <p>7:30 pm Shabbat Service</p> <p>Yitro, Exod. 18:1-20:23 Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-6</p> <p>Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm (meet at 2:30 at Temple to carpool)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10 am Torah Study</p>	
<p>19</p> <p>Temple Board Mtg 9 am</p> <p>Religious School 10 am</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Helen Ofstein, Samantha Rosinsky Bdays</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 (Shevat 1) 5:52 pm</p> <p>7:30 pm Shabbat Service <i>Student Rabbi Rosen</i></p> <p>Mishpatim, Exod. 21:1-24:18 Haftarah: II Kings 15:5-16 Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm Marc Feinstein Bday</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10 am Torah Study The Book of Judges</p> <p>Adult Ed 6:30 pm</p>	
<p>26</p> <p>Religious School 10 am</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>March 1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>JoLea Gutnik Bday</p>	<p>3 (Shevat 8) 6:01 pm</p> <p>6:00 Shabbat Potluck Dinner 7:30 pm Shabbat Service</p> <p>Trumah, Exod. 25:1-27:19 Haftarah: I Kings 5:26-6:13</p> <p>Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10 am Torah Study</p>	



Yahrzeits

All Yahrzeits that are observed Sunday through Saturday are read the Friday of that same week. If a Yahrzeit is not listed or you need information concerning Yahrzeits, please call Jan Forstein at 332-3354. A Yahrzeit card and envelope will be sent to you to notify you of upcoming Yahrzeits. (If you do not receive your notification, please contact Jan.) Also included with the notification card is a donor envelope if you wish to make a donation to the Temple in memory of your loved one.

February 3rd

Izadore Rimerman
Herman Davis

February 10th

Mollye Borden
Harry Cohen
Phillip Light
William Rothman
Bernard "Bud" Brandwein

February 17th

Pola Haar
Ben Borden
Gussie Shulkin
Albert Wolfman
Stanley Goodman
Sally Mosow
Hy Hurwitz

February 24th

Zishke Marsh
Louis Zabel
Sally Forstein
Solomon Korb
Myra Davis
Harold "Bud" Margulies
David Davis
Rosalie Lux
Dorothy Roganson

March 3rd

Ruben J. Light
Ben Light
Sam Eder
William Cohon
Harlene Lewin
Benjamin Katz
J. Emmett Zerfas
Adrienne Saalfeld
Erma Sternberg
Henry Levinson
Rose Friedman
Lawrence "Buddy" Horwitz



TU B'SHEVAT SEDER

Join us!

Temple Social Hall

Friday, February 10th

7:30 pm

Tu B'Shevat Seder in Temple Social Hall with Student Rabbi Joseph Rosen. This is a service that runs approx 60mins and allows us to give thanks for the bounty of fruits that the trees of Israel yield. Come join us! This service is accompanied by tastings of various fruits and nuts, but not a complete meal...consider it a dessert-seder.