



TIDINGS OF ZION



Cheshvan/Kislev 5777

MT. ZION CONGREGATION, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

November 2016



from Student Rabbi Joseph Rosen...

Every moment is a learning moment. Every moment is a teaching moment. Every moment is a holy moment. These are the three sentences that I say to myself every time before I get up on the bema, before teaching, and before every day of rabbinical school. As your Student Rabbi, I wanted to take the time to share with you the guiding principles that guide my connection to Judaism.

Every moment is a learning moment. No matter what you are doing or where you are doing it, it is always important to keep an open mind. Life is full of twists, turns and bumps that cannot always be predicted. As we hurdle these obstacles in our daily lives, it's important to take the time to pause and see the opportunity to take in as much as we can. When we do well, we remember what we did to get to that successful place. And when we fail, we have to see what went wrong so we can do our best to avoid that path. When it comes to learning it is not always about talent, but about practice.

I recall preparing for my Hebrew Union College interview when I was contemplating whether I was really prepared for this immense journey. I easily found my answer when I realized that my feeling unprepared, yet determined meant that I was in a good place to start. I felt ready to learn and I knew that when I would be facing the admissions committee, I did not need to present myself as ready to be a rabbi, but ready to be a student. And even when I am ordained as a Rabbi, I know that I will forever be a student. A teacher in college taught me that 'the wisest find wisdom even in the strangest places.' Even as we continue to lead in our lives, it is always important to be open to new lessons. This flexibility helps keep balance in our lives.

Every moment is a teaching moment. Just as we are learning all the time, we are also leading all the time. The world revolves around progress and constant improvement. There are many problems that threaten the perfect future we are wishing for, and in order to insure a prosperous future, it is important that we pass on what we have learned to each other and to newer generations so that they may learn our successes and our failures.

Our Jewish tradition instructs that we do the same in regards to our Judaism. That is why we are commanded to read Torah at services and to speak of its lessons to our children. Even after the Torah was written, the early Rabbis developed their own literature in which they instructed their students to memorize and pass down. This is how rabbinic literature became written

Student Rabbi column cont'd on page 3



from the Congregation President...



Free Books - 10 Million of Them

PJ Library has delivered 10 million books internationally since 2005. (article dated 2/27/14)

By Lauren Markoe | Washington Post

More than 10 years ago, Harold Grinspoon learned that Dolly Parton, who grew up in a poor home with no books, gives away thousands of books each month as part of her "Imagination Library" literacy project.

Grinspoon, who made a fortune in real estate, signed on to help her, sending books to kids in western Massachusetts, where he lives.

Then he thought of other children - not necessarily ones without books in their homes, but children lacking the joys that Grinspoon finds in his Jewish heritage. He decided to start his own free book project, the PJ Library, for Jewish kids who might not know that Purim is a Jewish holiday or how they can prepare for a Shabbat dinner without the free Jewish-themed book arriving in their mailbox each month.

"I love the Jewish people," said Grinspoon, 84, who worries about rising rates of intermarriage among Jews and other signs that young Jews are growing ever more disconnected from Jewish life.

"If I can bring something warm and fuzzy in the form of the PJ Library into Jewish homes, then that's a good place for me to be," he said. "I am the custodian of some Jewish money. I try to use it in effective ways."

Now 9 years old, the PJ Library - which stands for "pajamas," because many PJ books will be read at bedtime - recently gave out its 5 millionth book in North America. Grinspoon delivered "The Mystery Bear: A Purim Story," himself, with a bouquet of balloons, to a 4-year-old named Jake in Natick, Mass.

That book is one of 130,000 PJ library books delivers to families across North America each month, for which the Harold Grinspoon Foundation pays approximately \$4 million a year. Those funds are matched by local Jewish organizations in each community served by the PJ Library. These include cities with large numbers of Jews, such as New York, but also areas with tiny Jewish communities, such as Southern West Virginia.

A sister program operates in Israel, where free books are distributed in Hebrew to Jewish children through the Sifriyat Pijama program. Arabic-language books are also given to children through Maktabat al-Fanoos, or Lantern Library, in which the books are not Jewish-themed but culturally appropriate with plots that focus on "ethical issues and emotions children confront in their world," according to the Grinspoon Foundation.

A Spanish version of the PJ library just started in Mexico. And Grin-

Pres column cont'd on page 2

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.

President's Column from page 1

Grinspoon wants to bring the PJ Library to Russia - a country with one of the largest Jewish populations in Europe, but where Jews can struggle to find Jewish culture. Worldwide, the PJ Library and its sister libraries have distributed more than 10 million books.

You don't have to be Jewish to sign up for the PJ Library, though the vast majority of subscribers are. The sign-up form asks for little more than an address and the ages of the children in a household, so that the library can send them age-appropriate books.

Not all subscribers are exactly starving for Jewish culture and knowledge.

Robyn Freiden and her family belonged to a Conservative synagogue in Overland Park, Kan., well before they had ever heard of the PJ Library. But the mother of two says their collection of PJ Library books has enhanced Jewish learning and observance for her son, Dylan, 4, and daughter, Kara, 2.

"When Dylan sees the PJ Library package in the mail, he knows it's for him and we have to read it right away. Then we read it at least three more times that day," said Freiden, who added that the books often remind her of things she had learned as a child but has since forgotten.

The PJ Library tries to take advantage of the do-it-yourself movement in Judaism, in which Jews are learning to craft rituals for themselves, often without the help of clergy or synagogues. Grinspoon notes that you don't have to step into a Jewish institution to receive PJ Library books - there's an online sign up. But simultaneously, it is also trying to connect Jews to Jewish institutions.

Marcie Greenfield Simons, the PJ Library's director, said a new study commissioned by the Grinspoon Foundation of 20,000 American Jewish families shows that the free books are doing their job.

Nearly six in 10 (58 percent) said the program has moderately or greatly influenced their decisions "to build upon or add a Jewish tradition to their home life." And more than six in 10 (62 percent) said it "increased their families' positive feelings about being Jewish."

That's a result Grinspoon wants to spread to Jewish families the world over, said Simons.

"He won't rest," she said, "until every family who wants to have these books is able to have them." For more information, visit www.pjlibrary.org.

Egg Cartons needed!

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

"More than the Jewish people has kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jewish people."

— Ahad Ha-am (Asher Zvi Hirsch Ginsberg, 1856–1927)

And, celebrating Shabbat has kept the Jewish community together. Shabbat is a time we can connect with fellow Jews to pray, celebrate, comfort, heal, relax, and connect in our own individual way with G-d. Shabbat helps us identify as a community also. We connect with fellow Jews all over the world on Shabbat. "Observe the Sabbath," Deuteronomy 5:12. One of the ways to observe is to attend a Friday night service.

In order for services to happen when the Student Rabbi isn't with us, lay leaders are needed. Any Jew is considered a lay leader. One wonderful thing about the Siddur we use for services is that there are 10 services to choose from, along with reflections and added readings. Leading a service doesn't need to be the responsibility of a single person. If leading a "whole" service doesn't work for you, ask a friend to co-lead with you. A service can also be led by a family, each member taking a part that is meaningful to them.

If you need help putting a service together, all you have to do is ask. There are plenty of people who would be glad to help. BUT what we really need now is for people to sign up to lead the services on the Fridays when the Student Rabbi isn't here.

Service Leaders are needed for Fridays when the Student Rabbi is not in town. Please let me know either by email, phone or text if you'd like to lead a service. Again, if you would like to learn how to lead or need help putting service together, please don't hesitate to ask.

Shalom,

Jan Forstein, Ritual Chairperson (bityah01@aol.com)

Home: 605-332-3354; Cell: 605-929-7609

PLAN AHEAD

Chanukah Shabbat Dinner

Friday,

December 30th

No regular service at 7:30 pm



Mazel Tov!

Ashley & Ben Tallman are excited to announce the birth of Ari Matthew Tallman on October 24th 2016. He is a healthy boy at 7 lbs 12 oz.



DONATIONS

(September 10 - October 9, 2016)

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

Thank you to Anita & Larry Bierman and to Sandy Radin for their generosity and thoughtfulness in providing the flowers that adorned the bimah at the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services.

GENERAL FUND

To the Congregation in appreciation for Torah Study from Rosie & Mike Mace

To the Congregation in appreciation for the High Holy Day Services from Bea & Herschel Premack (Aberdeen, SD); A.A. Cordovi (Sioux City, IA)

SISTERHOOD

Thank you to Jan Forstein and Stephanie Wood for coordinating the Rosh Hashanah Oneg. Thank you to everyone who contributed food items and cash donations. It was a beautiful way to usher in the new year of 5777. Everyone who contributed to it is appreciated.

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

TIDINGS DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 10th

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

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

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. For more information about this experience, please contact Stephen Rosenthal, Jan Forstein, Royce Hansman, Judy Lampert, Tovia Forstein, Anita & Larry Bierman or Logan Hansman, all of whom have been there.

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.



SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP

*Remember to shop at the
Sisterhood Gift Shop!*

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

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.

Student Rabbi's Column from page 1

down, and eventually transformed Judaism into what it is today. Knowledge is useless unless it is taught unto others. As we pass on our knowledge, we ensure its continuity.

Every moment is a holy moment. How do we describe holiness? Is it God? When talking about religion, we understand that it is a construct in which we understand our connection to the divine, to what is bigger than us. So holiness does not have to be being connected than us, but to that idea that is above us. So when I say every moment is a holy moment, it's the idea that every moment we live, every thing that we do, fits into a bigger picture. Whether this is something divine or just part of nature, our lives are just part of the whole. Important as we are, we as individuals are not the center.

What this means is that together as a community and as a people are a bigger part of the world than the individual. Because of this, our actions affect more than we think. So when I say that every moment is a holy moment, I want to convey that my actions extend beyond me. I feel that this is the most important part of life, understanding the reach of my actions. Take the time to always be learning, to always be teaching and to understand that holiness in our lives means understanding that we are just a piece in the puzzle that is our fragile universe.



Connect with Israel

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2017

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

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

HADASSAH'S THIRD HUMANITARIAN MISSION TO CUBA

Led by Dianne Gottlieb
March 12 - 19, 2017

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

Led by Joyce and Jeff Rabin
May 7 - 18, 2017

HADASSAH ASSOCIATES MISSION: JERUSALEM & THE SPECTACULAR SOUTH

Led by Fred Safer & Sherryl Kaufman
October 15 - 29, 2017

HADASSAH FLORIDA MISSION: ISRAEL—SEEING IS BELIEVING

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

HADASSAH AUTUMN MISSION TO ISRAEL

Led by Aileen Bormel
October 31 - November 10, 2017

CONTACT CAROL ROSENTHAL AT CROSENTHAL@HADASSAH.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

Visit hadassah.org/missions or call 800.237.1517.

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NEW!
SUMMER MISSION TO ISRAEL
For teachers/educators/
lovers of learning
Early July 2017



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The Temple is on Facebook and has a website!



Check it out and "Like" us today!!



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 November 4th at 6:00 pm. Save December 2nd 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 376-5189.

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!!

STUDENT RABBI JOSEPH ROSEN'S SCHEDULE 2016

- November 4th - 6th
- November 18th - 20th
- December 2nd - 4th
- December 9th - 11th

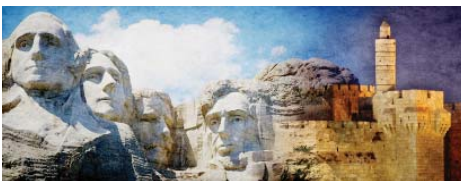
Oneg Shabbat Hosts Needed: Please Volunteer

I would like to ask for volunteers for Onegs for this fall. Please let me know especially if you are willing to help out in November or December. 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.



"Like" South Dakotans for Israel on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/SD4Israel



PLANT A TREE IN ISRAEL!

Reforest Israel by planting trees in Israel through Hadassah/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, November 4, 2016 at 6:00 pm

Friday, December 2, 2016 at 6:00 pm

Friday, January 6, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Friday, February 3, 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

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Jan Forstein

Raleigh Hansman

Judy Lampert

Stephen Rosenthal

DaNiel Wood

Past President:Bernice Schotten

Mt. Zion Congregation - November 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> A reminder that proper attire should be worn when participating in services at Mt. Zion Temple. Your cooperation with this matter is greatly appreciated. </div>		1 Nancy Feinstein Bday	2 Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan	3	4 (Cheshvan 4) 5:55 pm 6:00 Shabbat Potluck Dinner 7:30 pm Shabbat Service <i>Student Rabbi Rosen</i> Parashat Noach, Gen. 6:9-11:32 Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-55:5 Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm Lin Rostrom Bday	5 10 am Torah Study The Book of Judges Adult Ed 6:30 pm Havdalah 7:30 pm Lewis Ofstein Bday
6 FALL BACK - turn clocks back 1 hour! George Olson, Robb Hubley Bdays	7 Henry & Diane Pecheny Anniv, Murray Haar Bday	8	9	10 Ashley Tallman Bday	11 (Cheshvan 11) 4:47 pm 7:30 pm Shabbat Service Parashat Lech L'cha, Gen. 12:1-17:27 Haftarah: Isaiah 40:27-41:16 Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm Larry Bierman Bday	12 10 am Torah Study TIDINGS deadline
13 Temple Board Meeting 9 am David & Carin Rosinsky Anniv	14	15	16	17	18 (Cheshvan 18) 4:41 pm 7:30 pm Shabbat Service Parashat Va-yeira, Gen. 18:1-22:24 Haftarah: II Kings 4:1-37 <i>Student Rabbi Rosen</i> Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm (meet at 2:30 at Temple to carpool)	19 10 am Torah Study The Book of Judges Adult Ed 6:30 pm Havdalah 7:30 pm
20	21 Elana Hicks Bday	22	23	24 Happy Thanksgiving!!	25 (Cheshvan 25) 4:36 pm 7:30 pm Shabbat Service Parashat Cha-yei Sarah, Gen. 23:1-25:18 Haftarah: I Kings 1:1-31 Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm	26 10 am Torah Study
27	28	29	30	Dec 1 Rosh Chodesh Kislev Anita Bierman, Carin Rosinsky Bdays	2 (Kislev 3) 4:33 pm 6:00 Shabbat Potluck Dinner 7:30 pm Shabbat Service <i>Student Rabbi Rosen</i> Parashat Tol'dot, Gen. 25:19-28:9 Haftarah: Malachi 1:1-2:7 Food Giveaway: 3:30 - 5 pm Marty Gallanter, Tom Woodworth Bdays	3 10 am Torah Study The Book of Judges Adult Ed 6:30 pm Havdalah 7:30 pm Joel & Miriam Greene Anniv



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.

November 4th

Augusta Livingston
Aaron L Kaminsky
Bernard "Barney" Gutnik
Walter May
Jack Fortein
Maurice Kopel

November 25th

Israel Frank
Israel Hirshfield
Sinai Marsh
Toba Epstein
Jessica Haffer
Abe Silverberg

November 11th

Adolph Deutsch
Hymen Pitts
Herman Kopel
Zachery Pitts
Molly Cohen
Euice Zervas
Jacob Mosow

December 2nd

Mitizi Russick
Anne Eirinberg
Joel Oppenheimer
Estelle Steinberg
Esther Silverberg
Betty Margulies
Jacob Weinstein

November 18th

Hinde Minnie Light
Dr. Frederick Probe
Ben Hurvitz
Jack Radin
Israel Frank



2015 National Jewish Book Award Winners and Finalists

JEWISH BOOK OF THE YEAR: Anonymous Soldiers: The Struggle For Israel, 1917-1947 by Bruce Hoffman

American Jewish Studies Celebrate 350 Award: Beyond Sectarianism: The Realignment of American Orthodox Judaism by Adam S. Ferziger
Finalists: Roads Taken: The Great Jewish Migrations to the New World and the Peddlers Who Forged the Way by Hasia R. Diner; Young Lions: How Jewish Authors Reinvented the American War Novel by Leah Garrett; Lincoln and the Jews: A History by Jonathan D. Sarna and Benjamin Shapell

Anthologies and Collections: Dear Mendl, Dear Reyzl: Yiddish Letter Manuals from Russian and America by Alice Nakhimovsky and Roberta Newman
Finalists: The Literature of the Holocaust by Alan Rosen, ed.; The New Diaspora: The Changing Landscape of American Jewish Fiction by Victoria Aarons, Avinoam J. Patt, and Mark Shechner

Biography, Autobiography, and Memoir: After the Holocaust the Bells Still Ring by Joseph Polak
Finalists: A Brief Stop on the Road From Auschwitz by Goran Rosenberg; The Seven Good Years: A Memoir by Etgar Keret

Children's Literature: Oskar and the Eight Blessings by Tanya Simon and Richard Simon; Mark Siegel, illus.
Finalists: Farmer Kobi's Hanukkah Match by Karen Rostoker-Gruber and Rabbi Ron Isaacs; CB Decker, illus.; Adam and Thomas by Aharon Appelfeld; Philippe Dumas, illus.; The Safest Lie by Angela Cerrito

Contemporary Jewish Life and Practice: All Who Go Do Not Return: A Memoir by Shulem Deen
Finalists: Jews and Genes: The Genetic Future in Contemporary Jewish Thought by Rabbi Elliot N. Dorff and Dr. Laurie Zoloth, eds.; Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience and Spirit by Rachel Cowan and Linda Thal

Debut Fiction: The Boatmaker by John Benditt
Finalists: After Abel and Other Stories by Michal Lemberger; The Empire of the Senses: A Novel by Alexis Landau

Education and Jewish Identity: Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli by Ted Merwin

List continues next month