The Temple Israel Building remains closed for services, classes, and regular events. If you are at the building conducting business or picking up materials, MASKS are REQUIRED in accordance with city of Duluth and State of Minnesota ordinance and executive orders.

**Office hours are 8:30am - 12:00pm Tuesday thru Friday.**

**The Temple Office will be closed December 21, 2020 - January 4, 2021**

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**Weekly Schedule of Virtual Meetups**

Please join us for Torah study, Fridays at noon; and for Shabbat services on Fridays at 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

E-mail the Temple office to obtain Zoom links if you do not already have them.

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**MAZAL TOV** to Zachary Sonnino who will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Shabbat morning, Saturday, December 5th.

**MAZAL TOV** to Devante Lockett on the recent completion of his process of formal conversion to Judaism. Devante will be having his first Aliyah on Shabbat morning, Saturday, December 5th.

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**Notice of Annual Meeting**

The Temple Israel Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 6th, 2020 at 11:00am via Zoom.

A meeting notice with link was sent to all members on Friday, Nov 6th, if you need the link please email admin@jewishduluth.org

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**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

I cannot believe how fast the past two years has gone. When I took over as temple board president I was terrified. At this point I’m not sure why. We are a wonderful and giving community. Whatever happened to come up you always stepped up to help. Whether it was a couple of volunteers for a project, someone to run ideas past or just showing up when something fun was going on. I would like to thank all of you for that. I would like to thank our staff for everything you do. Marko, Mona, Andrea, Jeanne, Peter and Nicole. You are the heart of Temple Israel. To Rabbi David, yes I know it’s not the norm to tell jokes and tease the congregation during announcements. Thanks for indulging me and for being a great friend. Lastly thank you to Josh Widdes, Mark Weitz and Jack Seiler for all your support throughout my term. It has been my absolute pleasure serve Temple Israel.

Rob Shamblott
President
If ever we needed a holiday that emphasizes increasing the light and embracing hope, it’s this year! We’re living in an age of paradox. Many of us are poignantly aware these past months about how fortunate and blessed we are to be healthy, economically secure, and to have love and companionship in our lives. And, at the same time, many of us are struggling and stressed out as we suffer from illness (very much including but not solely limited to Covid-19), economic insecurity (largely but not totally due to the Covid-19 pandemic) and physical separation from family and friends.

But as the lights of the Chanukah menorah increase with each day of Chanukah, so is our sense of hope increasing with each day as vaccines against the coronavirus move closer to general distribution.

In the meantime, we keep on keeping on, and our friendship and support for one another in our congregation remains a blessing. Zoom is not the same as being together in person. However, I encourage you to consider joining with us for Zoom Shabbat services and Torah study and other programming or simply to reach out to me or to one another by phone or e-mail. And we are grateful to Youth Education Director Andrea Buck and the rest of our religious and Hebrew school teaching staff for providing such opportunities for connection and spiritual growth to our young families.

Our annual meeting takes place on Sunday morning, December 6th at 11:00 a.m. Our congregation (and me personally) are so fortunate to have wonderful, dedicated lay leadership like our outgoing President, Rob Shamblott, and our incoming President, Mark Weitz. One way we can all show our appreciation for them and for all our Board members, committee members, volunteers, and staff, would be to join us on the Zoom call for the Annual Meeting. God willing, next year we’ll be able to go back to doing it in person and schmoozing over brunch together when the official work of the meeting is concluded. But for this year, it’ll still be nice to see your faces on the “Gallery View!”

I’m writing these words a few days before Thanksgiving. This year, Thanksgiving will be different, Chanukah will be different, and (for those of you in multifaith families) Christmas will be different. What remains the same is that “where there is life there is hope.” (I learned that saying as a child from my grandfather Harry Gray, though a quick google search just now shows me that the phrase goes back to Ancient Rome. I guess we’re not the first generation to experience challenges – and we won’t be the last generation to overcome them.

And so, to those of you who have contracted Covid-19 (or who have family who have contracted Covid-19), may refuah sheleymah (complete healing) come soon.

To those of you who have experienced loss, may consolation be yours.

And to those of you who have experienced blessings (and, hard as this may be sometimes to fully internalize, this includes every single one of us, every single day...), may we have the faith and open-heartedness to recognize them and the ability also to “be a blessing” (c.f., Genesis 12:2) to those around us and to the world at large.

Chag Urim Sameach/ Happy Chanukah,

Rabbi David Steinberg
rabbidavid@jewishduluth.org
NEWS FROM THE HEBREW AND RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

Thankfulness. Showing gratitude. Blessings – saying and counting them.

These are the important underlying concepts our Bet Hebrew students have come to understand as they have learned to read the Modeh Ani prayer, six food blessings, and the six words that comprise the traditional Hebrew blessing formula.

In a recent assignment, I asked them to say 100 blessings in a week. (A lesser challenge than the rabbi-prescribed 100 blessings in a day.) While none of us, myself included, reached this goal, I was happy with their attempts and the things for which they chose to say blessings: Mom, Dad, pets, food, clothing, good weather (snow included), flowers, animals.

As I write this bulletin article, we are headed into Thanksgiving and a dark winter ahead, given the current local and national rates of COVID-19 transmission. I pause to say the Shehecheyanu blessing, to thank God for keeping us alive, sustaining us, and letting us reach this moment.

I am thankful that we chose to start this school year at home and online – despite how challenging it has been for our teachers and students to engage in Jewish learning and our families to engage in Jewish community.

For our students in online classes, I ask parents to help us make this a better experience:

- Provide a quiet space from which your child can attend class.
- Make sure they’re prepared to learn: Are out of bed and dressed; been fed breakfast or an after-school snack; have all their Religious or Hebrew school materials (workbooks, folders, composition books and supplies we provided) at hand.
- Have them log into classes on time.
- Encourage them to turn their microphones and videos on (unless asked by the teacher to turn them off) and commit to participating in class. Ask them to stop playing video games, watching movies or reading other books during their lessons.

I announced last week we have moved our upcoming children’s Hanukkah parties from outdoors to online. May the candles that we light together on those two nights, and all the other nights of Hanukkah, remind us that there is still plenty of light with us in this winter ahead. Let us say and count our blessings for that.

Andrea Novel Buck
Youth Education Director

SOME NOTEWORTHY DATES:

- Friday, Dec. 11, 6 p.m.: Family Hanukkah and Shabbat Celebration on Zoom, with group menorah lightings and Hanukkah songs. All ages are welcome, but “Learn to...” party activities will be geared toward our preschool, kindergarten and 1st grade students. (Use Temple Israel’s “All Services” link.)
- Wednesday, Dec. 16, 5 p.m.: Hanukkah Party for Almost Teens, Tweens and Teens on Zoom, with weird dreidel game, timed art contests, Hanukkah songs, group menorah lighting. Can you say, eat more sufganiyot? (Use the school’s “All Classes” link.)
- Tuesday, Dec. 22, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.: January Home Packet Pickups for PreK, K, 1st grade students. (Use 16th Ave. East door.)
- Wednesday Dec. 23-Saturday, Jan. 2 – School’s Winter Break. (Online classes resume Wednesday, Jan. 6)
- Tuesday, Jan. 26, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.: February Home Packet Pickups for PreK, K, 1st grade students. (Use 16th Ave. East door.)
Union Gospel Mission

The UGM’s Board has made the decision not to have the Christmas Day Dinner event this year, due to Covid-19’s strain on their staff. The UGM is in full lock down, and no volunteers are allowed in the building. Temple Israel members and friends have volunteered countless years to serve a special Christmas Dinner at the Mission. Executive Director Susan Jordahl-Bubacz said that she will miss our smiling faces this year. Toby and I want to thank each and every Temple volunteer who has assisted in past years. Happy Holidays and good health to all!

Hanukkah Cold Weather Clothing (and other supplies) Drive
As temperature plummets and snow flies, members of our Duluth community will again this year - perhaps especially this COVID year - be in need of items to protect them from winter’s ravages. Between now and the end of Hanukkah, The Tikkun Olam Committee will collect gently used items listed below, to be distributed to CHUM and Northland AIM. Because of COVID restrictions, drop off will NOT be at synagogue this year. Instead, we will arrange drop off or pick up with you - contact-free, as much as possible. So, please rummage though your closets and storage bins, and contact Sam Kay (216-394-1181), Mike Grossman (525-6243) or Temple Israel (724-8857) to arrange for drop off or pickup. On behalf of all our friends who are in need and who are working to fill that need, thank you.

   Needed this year:
   Warm socks
   Long Underwear
   Men’s Coats (especially XXL+)
   Men’s gloves
   Wool and synthetic sweatshirts and sweatpants
   Winter boots (all adult sizes)
   Sleeping bags and pads

Book Club
The next meeting of the Temple Israel Book Group will occur via zoom on Sunday, December 13th at 1:00pm.. We will discuss The Last Watchman of Old Cairo by Michael David Lukas, Random House paperback, 2020. You do not need to read the book to participate in the discussion. All are Welcome. Please contact Mark Weitz at msw1517@gmail.com for the zoom address.

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?
To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com on your web browser or activate AmazonSmile on your Amazon Shopping app on your iOS or Android phone (found under settings on your app). On your browser, you may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile. When you’re using the app, always check for the “AmazonSmile” logo to ensure you’re activated for AmazonSmile.

How do I activate AmazonSmile on my Amazon Shopping app?
AmazonSmile customers on Android devices with version 5.0+ or iOS devices with version 12+, who have upgraded to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app can find “AmazonSmile” listed in the Settings menu. From there, you can follow
onboarding instructions to activate AmazonSmile on your device.

*Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?*
Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

**Scholarship Opportunities**
The Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation is seeking applications for the numerous local scholarships it holds and administers.

Of particular interest to the area Jewish population will be the Bernard B. and Mary L. Brusin Scholarship Fund and the Amelia and Emanuel Nessell Family Scholarship. The eligibility criteria established by the creators of these two funds gives preference to students of the Jewish faith. In recent years, however, applicants who fulfill that criteria have been less than the committee would desire. Further details of the two awards can be read below.

**Bernard B. & Mary L. Brusin Scholarship**
- FAFSA required; AGI (family income) < $75K
- HS senior; 3.0 or higher GPA
- St. Louis County resident
- Any 4 year college/univ.
- $4,000
- Up to 4 yrs
- Jewish or Catholic

**Amelia & Emanuel Nessell Scholarship**
- FAFSA required
- HS senior; top 25% of class
- Duluth Public & Private H.S.
- Open
- $500
- Up to 2 yrs
- Jewish student preferred

In addition to these two awards, the DSACF provides more than 70 other scholarship opportunities for local high school and college students. A full list of all available scholarships and the online application can be found on the Community Foundation website (www.dsacommunityfoundation.com). The deadline for application is January 15, 2021.

Questions regarding scholarships should be directed to the David Hammer, Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation Scholarship Officer at 218-726-0232 or dhammer@dsacommunityfoundation.com.

If we are missing your Birthday or Anniversary, please contact the office at admin@jewishduluth.org

**December Birthdays**
1 - Ellie Hoffman
2 - Lynn Bergal
4 - Elyse Carter-Vosen  
  Zach Sonnino
5 - Tina Alcala Sales
7 – Don Ross
9 - Jeff Wallace  
  Heather Lassard
11 - Lydia Pellett
13 - Dan Kislinger
15 - Robert Leff
16- Lloyd Orensten  
  Reva Polacsek
17 - Hannah Cornwell  
  Noah Cornwell
19 - Nicola E Hale (Mailer)  
  Josh Widdes
20 - Gerald Cohen
21 – Lyle Bergal
22 - Mila Halvorson
27 - Olga Chernyshev
28- Dan Wallerstein
29 - Robin Washington  
  Courtney Stein
30 - Michelle Baddin  
  Stephanie Devine

**December Anniversaries**
19th - Fred & Alana Friedman
21st - Fran & Rob Leff
23rd - Brian & Francine Gunderson
31st - Jay & Cara Seiler
January Birthdays
3 - Peter Wodrich
4 - Steve Goldfine
  Fran Leff
6 - Toby Marcovich
  Nicole Widdes
7 - Dana Krivogorsky
  Christina Olson
8 - Alana Friedman
11 - John Fisher
  Anna Guttmann
  Paul King
12 - Mark Cohen
16 - Sophie Roazen
17 - David Vosen
19 - Jane Fisher
  Roberta Taran
21 - Max Frank
23 - Neil Glazman
  Marco Jukic
  Tracy Goman
  Barb Segal
  Steven Seiler
26 - Sam Gurovitsch
27 - Susie Rosenzweig
28 - David Siegler
29 - Angie Frank
30 - Kelly Krenzen
31 - Ilana Kaplan

January Anniversaries
11th - Scott & Frieda Hall
21st - Richard & Diane Gould
28th - Robin Washington & Julia Cheng

Remember those in care facilities
Carol Cohen, The Pines Three
Paul King, St Ann's
Rochelle Rubin, Benedictine Health Center
Barbara Segal, BeeHive Homes

November Donations
Donations listed were received
10/30/2020 - 11/28/2020

Benton/Goldfine Library Fund
Joan Bischoff In Memory of Jeannette Bischoff & Herbert John Bischoff

Endowment Fund
Jack Seiler In Memory of Jerome Seiler

General Fund
Cindy & Fred Hafferty In Memory of Philip & Elsie Chaleff

Kiddush Fund
Bruce Luyre In Memory of Eleanor Luyre

Marko Retirement Fund
Dick & Bea Levey In Memory of Marian Levey

Recording for the Blind
Ursela Cowan In Memory of Clara Oettinger

Religious School Fund
Lisa Squillace In Memory of Sam Cohan

Youth Fund
Carol Cohen In Memory of Melvin Cohen
Dear Temple members,

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, our congregation is working on ways to connect those of us who might be homebound and in need of assistance due to being in a high risk category with those of us who might be able to provide that assistance. To that end, we invite you to fill out the following survey and e-mail it back to the office at admin@jewishduluth.org or call the Temple office at 218-724-8857.

We advise everyone to consider you and your own family’s health and safety first and do not volunteer if you are not comfortable or if it would be inadvisable to do so.

***********************************************************

NAME: _______________________________    E-MAIL AND PHONE: ______________

“I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER”:

___ grocery or medicine pickup and delivery                         ___ meal preparation and delivery

___ check-in/support calls - daily or with some regularity      ___ pet sitting

___ other:

“I COULD USE SOME ASSISTANCE”:

___ groceries and/or pharmacy runs                                     ___ meals delivered

___ pet sitting                                                                      ___ support phone calls

___ other:

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Please also note that people who are in self-isolation (coronavirus infected) and quarantine (close contact with an infected individual) should contact St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services Department 218-625-3600. They can also provide supportive services for people who are self-isolating or in quarantine at this time.
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Events:
- Martin Luther King Day
- Tu B'Shvat
- Rosh Chodesh
- New Year's Day
- Temple Office Closed

Activities:
- Shabbat Services
- Hebrew School
- Eve & Morning Services
- Kid's Shabbat Services
- Family Services
- Torah Study
- Confirmation

Note: All events are subject to change based on further announcements.