

# Temple Hatikvah



Sivan/Tamuz 5778

May/June 2018

## Message from the Rabbi

Dr. Jack L. Sparks

The phrase, often heard is, “Out of the ashes of the Holocaust, the State of Israel was born”. How powerful each year when, within short succession of days, we hold Holocaust Memorial Day, later, “Day of Remembrance for fallen soldiers and heroes” and then 24 hours later Israel’s Independence Day, this year marks 70 years since 1948 . The Hebrew date, 5th of Iyar marks the date annually, but the actual date in 1948 was May 14th.

In Israel, there are wonderful traditions and customs, and it is definitely worth a once-in-a-lifetime visit. Typically there are outdoor concerts, parties, barbecues, fireworks and family gatherings. Also annually, it is the country’s Torah championship for teens, the equiv-

alent to a National Spelling Bee, but not just spelling words, it is familiarity and memorization of the entire Torah. Each year it is the presentation of the Israel

Prize, the county’s highest honor to those who excel in chosen fields - think of it as the Nobel Prize within the country.

Continued on page 2

## We’ve got a lot going on!

### HEBREW YEAR 5778

#### MAY 2018

4th Friday 7:30 PM Shabbat Services

19th Saturday 6:00 PM Shavuoth Eve - Pot Luck  
(RSVP required) See ad on page 7

#### JUNE 2018

8th Friday 7:30 PM Shabbat Services

22nd Friday 7:30 PM Shabbat Services

#### JULY 2018

No scheduled services

**PLEASE NOTE - WE ADDED SATURDAY SERVICES**

# Message from the Rabbi

Dr. Jack L. Sparks

Continued from front page

Israel has been our home for 70 years in the modern era, and 2,000+ years historically. Sadly there are enemies who continue their efforts to destroy our homeland, and drive us, “into the sea”. Thank G-d, Israel is strong. Strong in many ways: militarily, with supportive allies, with brain power, with determination with pure Israeli tenacity. A tiny nation, the size of New Jersey (our 5th smallest state). Consider, the size of Israel in re-

lationship to the size of the United States

At this season, we are grateful for the survival of our people, our nation and those who safeguard her everyday, so that Never Again will we be a homeless people driven out of hostile lands with no where to go. It has happened too often in history, which we can never forget.

Am Yisrael Chai. The Nation of Israel Lives.

Thank G-d.

## ISRAEL and...

### The United States



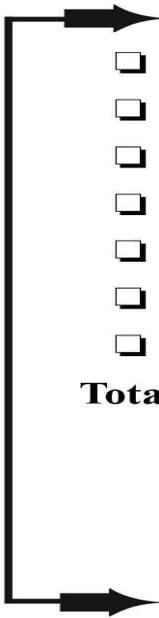
*Maps drawn to same scale.  
Israel shown in blue.*

# DONATIONS

“All Israel is responsible for one another”  
**Talmud Shavout 39a**

Temple Hatikvah, Homestead Jewish Center is an I.R.S. designated “501(c)(3)” Charitable Organization, chartered as a Florida Non-Profit Corporation. As such, your donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE. As with any good synagogue/temple, donations are the mainstay of the temple.

<b>Donation</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree of Life Rock - \$150 small; \$300 medium; \$500 large .....	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree of Life Leaf .....	\$ \$54.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Memorial.....	\$ \$300.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Yahrzeit Plaque	
<input type="checkbox"/> Seats in the Sanctuary.....	\$ \$54.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Chai (General Fund).....	\$ \$18.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Book Fund.....	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund.....	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Library Fund.....	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>General Fund</i> .....	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Adopt-A-Bill Fund</i> .....	\$ _____
<b>Total Donation</b> .....	<b>\$ _____</b>



***Inscribed:***

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cellular(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Nighttime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please complete the above and return this page with your check made payable to: Temple Hatikvah. All donations are acknowledged in the following month's Newsletter.*

# PURIM



# Shabbat Shavuoth

**Saturday, May 19th**

**6:00 PM**

**Pot Luck Dairy Dinner  
(Bring a dish to share)**

**Come and bring a friend for  
this celebration of law and order.**

**Please RSVP!**



Jewish Community Services of South Florida has a FREE program to assist the elderly (60+) or disabled in the South Dade community which is very similar to the previous program. We offer minor home repairs and home security installations and/or deterrents. A home visit will be made by a case manager to assess and evaluate the client and his/her situation to determine client needs as well as what types of repairs are needed. Case management services will also be provided and appropriate referrals will be made.

Services are available for low to moderate income individuals, couples, or families.

Jewish Community Services South Office  
7875 SW 104th Street, Suite 101, Miami, FL 33156  
305-670-1911 | 305-740-8998 | [www.jcsfl.org](http://www.jcsfl.org)

# We are still alive!

Eilat Schmalbach

The end of April and the beginning of May is a unique season for Jews- it is a time of semi mourning during the count of the Omer: 49 days between Passover and Shavuoth; but it also contains the modern celebrations of Israel's creation and Jerusalem's unification. You can read in this period the schizophrenic paradox of Jewish living: We suffer, we are in danger, and then we manage to survive, sometimes in miraculous ways. And with survival comes celebration. One might say that this is called life. Anyone alive will meet challenges, and most will survive them one way or another until their time is up. What may be extra- ordinary in our story is the length of our history, the depth of the lessons we gather from it- and the mission we feel we have to fulfill. We seem to be the carriers of a narrative of survival, a religion that prefers life over death and over self-sacrifice.

Whether we listen to our ancient stories such as Passover, Purim and Chanukah, or we celebrate the modern historical holidays of the nation of Israel- we find that our strength comes from conviction, search for truth, inner strength and faith.

As residents of this world, this message may ring universal and be applicable to any person or a nation who may be suffering. There is always hope- but you have to search for it, and fight for it- and act upon it with conviction and faith.

At this season, as at any other time- I wish all our friends and members to remember that any challenge we meet has a hopeful approach, a positive narrative and know that we are surrounded by people who seek to help.

May we continue to survive, personally and nationally, and enjoy peace and wholeness.

Amen!

