

Temple Hatikvah



Sivan/Tamuz 5777

May/June 2017

Message from the Rabbi

Dr. Jack L. Sparks

Come, Let us PARTY together...

My friends in the Chassidic community don't participate in certain American leisure activities as they perceive them to be negative influences. They don't watch movies on TV or at theatres as the content is often inappropriate. They don't go to bars, restaurants or clubs. They don't go dancing or share holiday celebrations of other faiths. They don't typically attend concerts or go to a public beach or pool where others might be dressed immodestly. But what they do in grand style is JEWISH HOLIDAYS. Who needs all the secular activities (listed above) when we have a Pesach Sedar two nights in a row? Who needs movies when we have synagogue events, Purim plays or when we celebrated in the Sukkah (at The Silver Ranch), or have catered Gala dinners at the synagogue? And the list goes on and on of the wonderful things that do happen in the synagogue; or closer to home, in OUR synagogue.

We had a glimpse into the joy of coming together recently when we shared both the Synagogue Gala, and the 2nd Passover Sedar together both within a week of each other. As Hannah Feinberg eloquently exclaimed at the Sedar: "I don't know who to thank, but everything at both the Gala and tonight's Sedar was just lovely. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make

both a success."

This is precisely the joy that our friends in the traditional Jewish community share each time they come together for their joyous celebrations and happy occasions. Who needs movies when we have the camaraderie of our synagogue friends (and family)? Our Temple Board along with Eilat work very hard to schedule happy events and programs as often as we schedule Sabbath Services, and it seems to be working nicely. There is always such a good feeling after these special programs and their efforts have suc-

ceeded. Just as importantly, the turnout has been wonderful.

The well known sentence from the classic Union Prayerbook reminds us that "each of us come to the synagogue with different needs; some with hearts of joy, and others laden with sadness". May we always continue to come together during the good times so that we are here for each other during the sad times as well.

May this be G-d's will.

Amen

Dr. Jack L. Sparks, Rabbi

We've got a lot going on!

HEBREW YEAR 5777

MAY 2017

5th	Friday	7:30 PM	Shabbat Service (Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration)
19th	Friday	7:30 PM	Shabbat Service (50 years of the reunification of Jerusalem)

JUNE 2017

3rd	Saturday	6:30 PM	Shavuot Service and Dinner - Pot Luck Dairy
23rd	Friday	7:30 PM	Shabbat Service

BOARD MEETINGS:

Every first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM, except in July.

NO SERVICES DURING JULY

Message from our President

Carol Silver

TEMPLE HATIKVAH KNOWS HOW TO PARTY!

The Orchid Gala / Membership Appreciation Dinner was a resounding success! From the decorations and beautiful table settings to the orchid centerpieces, the music, fantastic food, and especially the surprise gifts – all made for a memorable evening. But the best part was the fact that we had almost 100% participation! Thank you to everyone who came. I hope you had a wonderful evening. I know I did. I definitely want to thank all those board members who worked so hard to make this evening a success and in particular the committee chairman, Judy Creque. I hope she knows how much we appreciate her.

The success of this dinner has inspired us to plan more social evenings in the future in addition to our services. We would like to bring back movie night in particular. Let me know if you have any suggestions for movies to show. Preferably current ones. There ARE some

good ones out there. Let me know if you have any other ideas for social evenings or events. We welcome suggestions! Contact me or any board member if you'd like to share some ideas and particularly if you'd like to help with the planning. We have shown that we can have a good time together, so let's do it more often!

Once again, Rabbi Sparks and Eilat Schmalbach put on a fantastic Passover Seder! Eilat made some of the best Matzo Ball soup I've ever had (and I consider myself an expert on Matzo Ball soup, just saying). Thanks to everyone who came and participated and especially those who also contributed food items. Just goes to show what we can do when everyone pitches in! I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. Next year in Jerusalem? One can only wish.

See you in Temple!

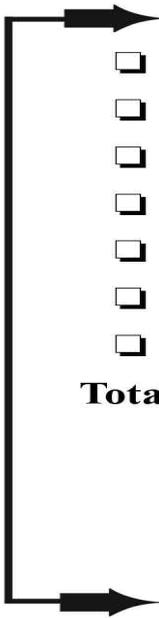
Carol Silver

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.

Donation	Amount
<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>	\$ _____
Total Donation	\$ _____



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Donor's Name _____

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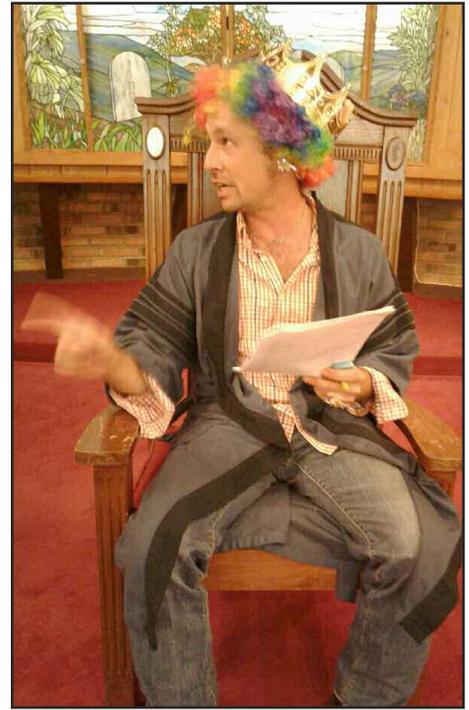
Please complete the above and return this page with your check made payable to: Temple Hatikvah. All donations are acknowledged in the following month's Newsletter.

THE ORCHID GALA / MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION DINNER



PASSOVER

PURIM



Shabbat Shavuoth

Saturday, June 3rd

6:30 PM

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

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

Please RSVP!

1967-2017

Eilat Schmalbach

This year we are celebrating 50 years since the Six Days War, the unification of Jerusalem, and a great revolution in the attitude of American Jewry to Jerusalem and Israel.

Fifty years ago, I was a teenager in Israel. Following Israel's Independence Day in May, we were threatened by Egypt and felt a war was coming. I remember participating after school in the digging and clearing of ditches for protection under siege. We were busy covering our windows for blackout effects, and practicing going in and out of our underground shelters. And then, as a surprise, early on the morning of June 5th we heard the news that Israeli Air Force eliminated the air forces of Egypt, Jordan and Syria. The war began.

The 1967 war was a miracle in disguise. Within six days Israel overtook the Sinai Peninsula and re-opened the Tiran Passages from the Indian Ocean to the Red Sea and Eilat. Israel conquered the Golan Heights to eliminate the daily bombings of the Kibbutzim and towns right underneath the Golan. And Israel conquered

the West Bank, the territories west of the Jordan including East and Old Jerusalem, to end the shootings over the fence and to allow Jews to return to our holy sites.

This glorious event has caused Reform Judaism and other Jews worldwide to reconnect with the concept of Israel as the Jewish homeland. Suddenly it was clear that Israel is more important to diaspora Jews than previously assumed.

Now, fifty years later and many more wars and fallen heroes on the way, we still see the strong bondage between Israel and the diaspora. The safety of Israel is now bound with the safety of the Western

world. We share enemies and a few friends. We know that Israel can contribute to the quality of life worldwide, and that we represent love of life, against a culture of death and oppression.

I invite you all to celebrate the 50th anniversary of reunited Jerusalem by learning more about Israel - past, present and future. Also by attending our services, where we will add prayers and songs related to Israel. On May 5th, we will add musical accompaniment to celebrate Israel's 69th birthday and the reunification of Jerusalem. Please, come and participate in our Shabbat and other celebrations!

