



# Temple Anshe Amunim

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Rabbi Liz P.G. Hirsch

From the Rabbi

## May, the Month of Memory

*Without memory, there is no culture. Without memory, there would be no civilization, no society, no future. - Elie Wiesel*

This month, several of our communal observances focus on memory and remembrance. On **Friday, May 3rd**, we'll gather for Shabbat Evening Services at 5:30pm and observe **Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day**. We will recount this dark period of our history and honor the lives lost. Even as we are more and more removed from that time period, we continue to deepen our understanding of the Holocaust and its impact on the Jewish community and the world. I hope you will join us for this important evening.

One week later, we enter a 48-hour period of memory and celebration - the two subsequent holidays of **Yom HaZikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut - Israel Remembrance Day and Israel Independence Day**. We'll observe these holidays together on **Friday, May 10th** at Shabbat Services, beginning with a Young Families Kabbalat Shabbat gathering at 5pm, with a festive Shabbat service and Israeli dinner to follow. I have had the opportunity to be in Israel for these two holidays on several occasions. The moment of transition between Remembrance Day and Independence Day is striking, as the whole country moves from somber ceremonies and song to joyful dancing and parties in the streets. As the Israeli-Palestinian conflict endures, these are days for us to reflect on our connection to Israel as Jews, and to remember the struggles and lives lost in the continuing quest for peace in this region.

Toward the end of May, we observe **Memorial Day**, a chance for us to honor those who have served our country and to connect with the broader community. While not an expressly Jewish holiday, as American Jews, we are connected to this important day. In that spirit, and in the spirit of all of the memorial days that fall in May, I share this prayer, written by Rabbi Larry Milder:

*Continued on page 2*



## Schedule of Services

### Friday, May 3



5:30 p.m. - Erev Shabbat Service to include Yom Ha'Shoah observance

### Saturday, May 4

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Torah Plus and Shabbat Morning Service

### Friday, May 10

5:00 p.m. - Young Families Kabbalat Shabbat

5:30 p.m. - Erev Shabbat Service—Yom Ha'Atzmaut observance and Israeli themed dinner

### Saturday, May 11

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Torah Plus and Shabbat Morning Service

### Friday, May 17

5:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services

### Saturday, May 18

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Torah Plus and Shabbat Morning Service

### Friday, May 24

5:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services

### Saturday, May 25

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Torah Plus and Shabbat Morning Service

### Friday, May 31

5:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services

## Rabbi's Message Continued from front page

*Our God, God of our ancestors, we thank you for the numerous blessings you have bestowed upon our nation. Out of the many nations of the world, our country has been blessed with a singular opportunity - to demonstrate how peoples of many faiths and heritages can live side by side, and enrich one another's lives through friendship and the sharing of our unique traditions.*

*We are united this day in a solemn act of gratitude: to those who have served in our nation's defense, to those who have risked their personal safety to save the lives of others, and above all to those who have died serving this country. Their sacrifices are forever remembered by us and by our children for generations to come. We do not forget.*

*Our hearts go out to those serving today in our armed forces, and to their families. Those of us who are veterans of previous wars, know best of all what they must be feeling, what their spouses and children are feeling, what they pray for. In all our many faiths, we are united in this: our prayers are with those who serve our country today. We ask God that they may return speedily and in good health and safety to their loved ones.*

*And may God grant each of us the wisdom to uphold this nation's virtues, that it may continue to serve as a beacon of liberty and harmony between peoples, for all the world to see.*

I wish you a thoughtful, reflective, and joyous May, and hope that I will see you throughout the month for these observances and celebrations!





Rabbi Liz invites you to check it out.

Were you unable to attend a service or Torah study? Don't worry!

You can find her weekly Torah writings posted at this link:

<https://ansheamunim.org/rabbi-lizs-blog>



# The Importance of Federation in Our Jewish Community

To My Temple Family,

As I write this message in the middle of April, we are beginning to prepare for the Passover holiday, and many of our Temple members are returning from parts south and west. It has been wonderful to see so many familiar faces at services once again – it truly makes me feel great to be a part of this special community!

Speaking of our community, I wanted to share some thoughts about the **Jewish Federation of the Berkshires**, a vital local resource just around the corner from our synagogue that provides valuable services and assistance to Jews in the Berkshires and beyond.

In late March, **Rabbi Liz** and I had a very productive and thoughtful discussion with **Dara Kaufman**, the Federation's Executive Director since 2013. At our meeting, we discussed some ways in which Anshe Amunim can foster a stronger partnership with the Federation. Listed below are some easy ways for which our members can learn more about what Federation does and how you can help the organization continue to thrive:

- The Federation's **Kosher Hot Lunch Program** is held weekly, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at noon, at Knesset Israel and provides meals, socialization opportunities, and programming of Jewish interest. The cost of the meal is low, and the food is good (I'm told)!
- The **Berkshire Jewish Voice** is published 10 times annually and is distributed to households which have contributed to the Federation's annual campaign. The BJV features stories and photos of members of our community, calendars of upcoming events, press releases from all of our congregations, and news about topics of Jewish interest from the United States and Israel.
- The Jewish Federation is dedicated to the youth of our community and makes targeted contributions for assistance to our **Religious School**, the **CHAI program**, and provides scholarships for students to attend Jewish camps during the summer. In addition, the Federation participates in the **PJ Library**

**program** which provides free Jewish-themed books for young children.

- The Federation brings us together following tragedies affecting our nation and our world. A week after the deadly shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, the Federation and all local Jewish clergy worked together to organize a community remembrance at Knesset Israel, which was attended by over 600 people.
  - This year's **Super Sunday is May 19<sup>th</sup>**. Anshe volunteers are needed to make phone calls to community members to solicit contributions to the Federation's annual campaign. PFTY members have always been present on site to make phone calls and provide assistance, and more bodies are needed to accomplish the work planned. A Federation representative will be present at Erev Shabbat Services on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> to discuss Super Sunday and ways in which your participation and contributions can make a difference in our community. **Your participation in the Federation's annual campaign at any dollar amount is vital to their ability to continue to provide many of the valuable services listed above, and many more as well.**
  - The **Federation's Annual Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM** at the Seven Hills Inn, located at 40 Plunkett Street in Lenox. All Anshe members are welcome to this free event, which typically features a short business meeting and a presentation on a topic of Jewish values and interest. Having attended this meeting last year for the first time, I found it a wonderful way to network with leadership from other congregations and to honor those who have provided exemplary service to the organization.
- Whether it is through your participation, resources, or leadership, I strongly encourage all of our members to learn more about the impact that our Jewish Federation has on our Berkshire Jewish community and beyond.

L'Shalom,

Josh Cutler  
Temple President

# YOUNG FAMILIES YOM HA'ATZMAUT KABBALAT SHABBAT



MAY 10, 2019 | 5:00 PM  
HAPPY 71ST BIRTHDAY ISRAEL

Join other young families for a Kabbalat Shabaat to celebrate Israel's 71st birthday. Afterwards, families are invited to stay for the 5:30 p.m. service.



## YOM HA'ATZMAUT MAY 10TH AT 5:30 P.M.

Join in a celebration of Israel's 71st birthday with a special Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) Shabbat service followed by a festive dinner. The dinner will feature traditional Israeli foods and music.

**\$10 per person for members (\$30 maximum for family)**  
**\$15 per person for not-yet-members (\$45 maximum per family)**



# Rosh Chodesh

## WHIMSICAL WEAVINGS

**Multigenerational Program (Ages 8+)**

Ignite your creativity as you Reduce-Reuse-Recycle  
in this Green Art Workshop program.



**Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-6:00pm**

**Temple Anshe Amunim**

**26 Broad St, Pittsfield, MA**

*Hosted by the Temple Anshe Amunim Rosh Chodesh Women's Group. All Are Welcome.*

Discover how to make colorful, playful weavings utilizing discarded, reusable, recyclable, and natural materials. First, learn how textiles have developed and reflected societies throughout the world. Then, create a personal textile artwork that re-purposes garments, fibers, and more!

You are encouraged to bring favorite old natural fiber garments/textiles, twigs from special places, etc. that you would like to incorporate into your project.

**For more info & to register:**

**(413) 442-5910 or [templeoffice@ansheamunim.org](mailto:templeoffice@ansheamunim.org)**



*This program is supported in part by a grant from the Pittsfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council.*



**[greenartworkshop.org](http://greenartworkshop.org)**



Mazel Tov to:

Lanny Zuckerman on the birth of his granddaughter, Victoria Rose Williamson Zuckerman.

Berta Cole on her 95th Mother's Day Birthday.

# Save These DATES

Watch for our 2019 Brochure of TAA Summer Programs. Until it arrives, please SAVE THESE DATES!

## Open Meditation

On Thursdays at 1:15 p.m., beginning on June 6, Rabbi Liz will lead guided meditation and light yoga for all ages and abilities—no prior experience or athletic clothing is necessary!

## Spiritual Physical Fitness

*A new way to experience Shabbat this summer.*

**SPF:Hike** - Saturdays, June 8, July 6, August 3 and 24 at 10:30 a.m. Rabbi Liz will lead a Shabbat hike as we enjoy the beautiful Berkshires!

**SPF:Mindfulness** - Saturdays, June 22, July 13, and August 10 at 10:30 a.m. Each time we meet, Rabbi Liz and other guest teachers will lead a Shabbat morning experience to include light yoga and meditation.

**SPF:Learn** - Saturdays, June 29, July 27, and August 17 at 10:30 a.m. Building on our popular Torah Plus study group, Rabbi Liz will lead a Shabbat morning experience focused on deepening our understanding of Shabbat, prayers, and more.



## Shavuot: 70 Faces of Torah

On Sunday, June 9 at 3:00 pm, join us at TAA to celebrate this holiday of community and Torah. Join Rabbis David Weiner, Liz Hirsch, and Neil Hirsch to learn together about a variety of topics. Of course, there will be plenty of time for eating and spending time together. This is a joint event, sponsored by Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, K'nesset Israel, and Temple Anshe Amunim.

## TAA Picnic at the Pittsfield Suns Baseball Game

On Sunday, June 30 at 5:00 pm, bring the whole family and join Temple Anshe Amunim for baseball, a picnic, and a lot of fun as we cheer our hometown team, the Pittsfield Suns, at Wahconah Park! Cost for the picnic and baseball game is \$20 per person and \$10 for children 10 and under. RSVP by June 20 to the Temple office (413) 442-5910 or email [templeoffice@ansheamunim.org](mailto:templeoffice@ansheamunim.org).



## SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Are you 55 years of age or older and want to explore the volunteer opportunities in Berkshire County? Berkshire County RSVP is a great place to start your search. RSVP networks with more than sixty non-profit and civic organizations in Berkshire County. Each year RSVP coordinates placements for volunteers who provide more than 30,000 hours of enthusiastic and caring community service in the Berkshires. Contact RSVP about your interests and availability and they will inform you of what volunteer opportunities exist. These opportunities may be long-term, short-term, or special one-time assignments. Volunteers may work in teams or independently. Contact Berkshire County RSVP by calling 413-499-9345, emailing [RSVP@cityofpittsfield.org](mailto:RSVP@cityofpittsfield.org), or going to their office at 16 Bartlett Avenue (Berkshire Athenaeum Building), Pittsfield, Mass.

# PFTY Youth Service and Italian Dinner



**Contribute to Temple Anshe Amunim Funds and make a difference**

**Mitzvah Fund:** Donations to the Mitzvah fund provide support for:

- *Commemoration of happy events both large and small; Onegs and Pre-Negs.*
- *Expenses related to Temple music and the choir.*
- *Remembrances at services (yahrzeits) and in the Bulletin for loved ones who have passed away.*
- *Basic religious school expenses.*
- *Purchasing new books for the library.*
- *The purchase, repair, and maintenance of Temple art.*
- *Capital maintenance and repair of the Temple building and memorial boards.*

**Dedicated Prayer book, Tanakh (Bible)** minimum donation is \$36, **or Women's Torah Commentary Fund** minimum donation is \$50: Purchases new books with a dedication plate.

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:** (Please designate to Rabbi Liz P.G. Hirsch): to be applied for the benefit of the Temple.

**Tree-of-Life in honor of, or in memory of:** Inscribed leaf to honor the life or memory of a specified person or people on the Temple's Tree of Life. (\$125)

**Yahrzeit Plaques:** To honor the memory of an ancestor or other family member to be displayed on the memorial board in the lobby. (\$350) *Please complete form from the office for leaf or plaque and submit with your contribution.*

***All donations will be acknowledged in the Bulletin.  
Acknowledgements will also be sent to the honoree or family.***

**Endowment & Restricted Funds Descriptions:**

**The Roslyn G. (Roz) Citrin Cantorial Endowment Fund:** Donations to this fund will provide annually, for the beauty of Cantorial music and song to enhance our High Holy Days and special worship.

**Rabbi Harold & Audrey Salzman Religious School Endowment:** To support Religious School programming, retreats and trips.

**Lynn Denmark/Faith Newmark Endowment:** To support the Religious School, as determined by Women of Reform Judaism.

**Shaun Beckwith-Chasen Campership Fund:** Scholarships for attendance at Eisner/Crane Lake Camp.

**Elise & Moe England Religious School Scholarship Fund:** Scholarships for religious school attendance.

**Jeff Stolzberg Campership Fund:** Scholarships for attendance at Eisner/Crane Lake Camp.

**Henry & Dorothy Halperin Fund:** For children's Simchat Torah celebration.

**Dan and Edna Miller Building Fund:** For maintenance, renovations and improvements to the Temple.

**Individual Endowments:** Set up by individuals, these funds are part of the main Temple endowment and support ongoing operations and programs as determined by the Board of Trustees. **Minimum donation is \$10,000.**

**TEMPLE ANSHE AMUNIM CONTRIBUTION FORM**

**Donor Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Today's Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount: \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **Method of Payment:** cash \_\_\_\_\_ check \_\_\_\_\_ credit card \_\_\_\_\_

1. In honor of/ in memory of : \_\_\_\_\_  
(circle one) Name Yahrzeit Date

Relationship to Donor To Fund (from above)

2. In honor of/ in memory of : \_\_\_\_\_  
(circle one) Name Yahrzeit Date

Relationship to Donor To Fund (from above)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 26 Nisan 5779	<b>2</b> 27 Nisan 5779	<b>3</b> 28 Nisan 5779 NFTY NE Leadership Kallah  5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service to include Yom Ha'Shoah observance	<b>4</b> 29 Nisan 5779 NFTY NE Leadership Kallah  9:30 am Torah Plus  10:30 am Shabbat Services and Religious School
<b>5</b> 30 Nisan 5779 NFTY NE Leadership Kallah	<b>6</b> 1 Iyar 5779	<b>7</b> 2 Iyar 5779	<b>8</b> 3 Iyar 5779	<b>9</b> 4 Iyar 5779  *7:00 pm Board Meeting	<b>10</b> 5 Iyar 5779  5:00 pm Young Families Kabbalat  5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service - Yom Haatzmaut observance and Israeli themed dinner	<b>11</b> 6 Iyar 5779  9:30 am Torah Plus  10:30 am Shabbat Services and Religious School  3:30 pm Rosh Chodesh Whimsical Weavings
<b>12</b> 7 Iyar 5779 12:00 pm PFTY Cemetery Cleanup Flag Placement	<b>13</b> 8 Iyar 5779	<b>14</b> 9 Iyar 5779	<b>15</b> 10 Iyar 5779	<b>16</b> 11 Iyar 5779	<b>17</b> 12 Iyar 5779  5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>18</b> 13 Iyar 5779  9:30 am Torah Plus  10:30 am Shabbat Services and Religious School
<b>19</b> 14 Iyar 5779 Consultation on Conscience	<b>20</b> 15 Iyar 5779 Consultation on Conscience	<b>21</b> 16 Iyar 5779 Consultation on Conscience	<b>22</b> 17 Iyar 5779	<b>23</b> 18 Iyar 5779	<b>24</b> 19 Iyar 5779  5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service	<b>25</b> 20 Iyar 5779  9:30 am Torah Plus  10:30 am Shabbat Services
<b>26</b> 21 Iyar 5779	<b>27</b> 22 Iyar 5779 Memorial Day (Office Closed)	<b>28</b> 23 Iyar 5779	<b>29</b> 24 Iyar 5779	<b>30</b> 25 Iyar 5779	<b>31</b> 26 Iyar 5779  5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service	

\* Note the Board Meeting has been moved to May 9th at 7:00 p.m.