



Temple Israel Dayton

THE TEMPLE TABLET



Jewish Cultural Festival:
Powered by Community

MARCH 26
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Temple Israel
130 Riverside Drive
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www.tidayton.org

JEWISH CULTURAL FESTIVAL

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Community

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Temple Israel
Community in Focus

Pictured:
Denny Bennett, Cathy
Lieberman and Carol
Bennett

JEWISH CULTURAL FESTIVAL

POWERED BY COMMUNITY

By: Carol Finley, Jewish Cultural Festival Chair



*2025 Festival Volunteers
Sara Faust, John Gaglione
and Carol Finley*

Temple Israel's Jewish Cultural Festival is one of the most visible and joyful expressions of who we are. For one day, our synagogue opens wide — welcoming neighbors, friends, and first-time visitors to experience Jewish music, learning, food, art, and community right here on our grounds.

But this festival doesn't run on logistics alone. It is powered by community.

It reflects our values, our hospitality, and our commitment to sharing Jewish life proudly and openly. From meaningful conversations about Judaism to the laughter of children at hands-on activities, from the aroma of favorite foods to the energy of live music — it is our synagogue at its best.

It is also Temple Israel's only annual fundraiser. The funds raised during this one day directly support our year-round programming, educational offerings, congregational life, and outreach efforts that extend beyond our walls. What happens on this day sustains what happens all year long.

And none of it happens without **YOU**.

Volunteers step forward in the weeks leading up to the festival and on the day itself — setting up, welcoming guests, assisting vendors, supporting activities, and making sure every visitor feels at home. If you would like to help power this year's festival, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Alexandria King at garyuzzking@hotmail.com or scan the QR code to sign up.

Individual sponsors strengthen the festival's reach and ensure its continued success. Your sponsorship fuels not only this joyful day, but the programs and outreach that define Temple Israel throughout the year. To become an individual sponsor, simply scan the QR code to make your commitment.

When we show up — with our time, our generosity, and our presence — we send a clear message: This community matters. Our synagogue matters.

Together, we make it happen - I hope to see you on May 31!



VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Alexandria King by scanning the QR code to sign up to help before or on the day of the festival.



**BECOME AN
INDIVIDUAL SPONSOR**

Support Temple Israel's programming and outreach by scanning the QR code to make your individual sponsorship commitment.



AMID HOPELESSNESS & HOPE

WHAT POLAND TAUGHT ME

By: Sammy Caruso



Benny and Sammy Caruso at St. Mary's Basilica in Kraków

At the end of December I had the privilege of joining a group of Jewish college students from around the country to travel to Poland. It was a journey filled with reflection and learning as we stood at many of the sites from the Holocaust. I had long wanted to partake in an experience like this, but never felt like

it was the right time. I asked myself: when is the "right" time to visit such dark history? I came to realize that there is never a "right" time, but in this case I had the opportunity to travel with my younger brother, and that by itself made it special. We traveled to experience firsthand the sites where so many Jews were deceived, tortured, and industrially exterminated. This is an experience that I have been pondering every day since we came back from the trip.

As we visited cemeteries, ghettos, and concentration camps, two words stuck with me throughout my journey: hopelessness and hope. These feelings surfaced again and again as we encountered sites that revealed both the worst of humanity and the unimaginable bravery of survivors. I found myself moving between these feelings of hopelessness and hope, from moment to moment, and trying to fathom how the world allowed such evil to take

place and how we are still standing here, against all odds. Despite the Nazi regime's intentions, we are able to walk out of these sites freely, with each other, focusing our energy on understanding, honoring, and making sure such a failure in human consciousness never happens again.

Sitting together at night, decompressing after long and cold days, and finding comfort in something as simple as warm soup reminded me how important connection is, especially in spaces filled with grief. Seeing these sites was a reminder of how many moving parts of a "machine" were required for this level of dehumanization to function, and how awareness and vigilance truly matter. This journey made me grateful for the little things in life that often go ignored: our jackets, our food, our transportation, and ultimately our freedom. Being in Poland made the shared reality of Jewish identity impossible to ignore. Jews were persecuted simply for being Jews—regardless of belief, level of observance, background, sect, culture, or country. Following this trip, I believe it is essential that we continue building an inclusive Jewish community that stands strong, united, and ready to confront and challenge the manifestations of hate.



Members of the Olami Poland Group stand at the entrance to Auschwitz I in Oświęcim, Poland

Not long ago. Not far away.



An Exhibition Humanity Needs You to See

Sunday, March 29

Cincinnati Museum Center (1301 Western Ave., Cincinnati 45203)

Meet at the Museum by 12:45 p.m.

Timed tour begins at 1:00 p.m.

Discounted timed ticket rate is \$27.50 each

Join us by purchasing your timed, discounted ticket through the QR code. Please note that an additional \$ 6.00 parking fee is added to your ticket purchase, so if you plan to carpool, coordinate your ticket purchases accordingly.



A LEGACY THAT CONTINUES

HONORING SUZANNE SHAW BY SUPPORTING THE CARING COMMITTEE'S OUTREACH FOR YEARS TO COME

By Fran Rickenbach, Immediate Past President

As shared in the February Tablet, our Executive Director, Suzanne Shaw, will be retiring after 21+ remarkable years of dedication to Temple Israel. Suzanne has been a steady, compassionate presence in our community, and her thoughtful leadership will be deeply missed.



One of the many areas where Suzanne's heart has truly shined is in her work with Sara Faust and the Caring Committee, reaching out to congregants who may be feeling isolated or disconnected. These efforts have reminded so many that they are valued, seen, and an essential part of the

Temple Israel family. The response to this outreach has been profoundly positive.

Because this work reflects Suzanne's core values and genuine care for others, we would like to create a charitable fund to continue this outreach as a beautiful and lasting way to honor her legacy.

If you would like to contribute in Suzanne's honor—and help ensure that her spirit of connection and compassion continues for years to come—please call the Temple Israel office at 937-496-0050 and speak with Jessica, Annette, or Ellen.



ADULT PAIRED LEARNING - MORAL DILEMMAS
MARCH 1, 8, 15 AND 22 AT NOON COST \$36

Join us as we learn from the Everyday Moral Dilemmas curriculum by Project Zug. Scan the QR code to register. Visit tidayton.org to learn more.



WORSHIP AT TEMPLE

CELEBRATING AND SHARING TOGETHER



Share Shabbat – Chili Cook-off
Friday, March 6 at 6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free, RSVP by Tuesday, March 3

Share Shabbat services led by Rabbi Bodney-Halas and Rabbi Sobo with music by Leslie Gubitz. Join us after services for our annual chili cook-off – bring a pot to compete!

We will also welcome our newest members.

Based on your last name please bring:

A-L: salad, M-Z: dessert



Shabbat Morning Services and
Passover Tasting Kiddush Lunch
Saturday, March 21
Services begin at 10:30 a.m.
Kiddush Lunch begins at Noon

Shabbat Morning worship led by Rabbi Bodney-Halas and Rabbi Sobo. The morning service will also include birthday and anniversary blessings.

Following services, enjoy a Kiddush lunch by featuring a favorite Passover recipe of yours, or using the lunch as a “test kitchen” for a new one.



Prayer and Play
Saturday, March 21 at 10:00 a.m.
Kiddush Lunch begins at Noon

Prayer and Play is a fun chance to gather our youngest community members, infant through second grade and their families, for a Jewish worship experience, snack, themed activity and free play. Come as you are!

RSVP to Rabbi Sobo at educator@tidayton.org preferred.

RYTERBAND LECTURE SERIES

ENLIGHTENING & ENGAGING SPEAKERS

Join us for the Dorothee and Lewis Ryterband Lecture Series, where engaging speakers explore a wide range of topics related to Judaism and Jewish life. Everyone is welcome—members, non-members, and the simply curious alike. No prior knowledge is required! Enjoy a delicious brunch while listening to thought-provoking presentations, followed by an in-depth Q&A.

Brunch Time: 9:45 a.m. **Lecture:** 10:15 a.m. **Cost:** \$10/session



Sunday, March 8 at 9:45 a.m.

Richard Kreitner, author of the book *Fear No Pharaoh: American Jews, the Civil War, and the Fight to End Slavery*.

The Cultural Arts & Book Series (CABS) is sponsored by the Jewish Community Center (JCC) of Greater Dayton. This CABS presentation will take place at Temple Israel as part of our Ryterband Lecture Series and in partnership with the Miami Valley Jewish Genealogy & History Organization. **Marshall Weiss** will serve as moderator for an in-depth discussion with the author.



March 15, 2026

Michelle Shapiro Abraham, Executive Director, JBI Library

Topic: *Creating Belonging: Building a Community Where Everyone Feels at Home*

How do you reconnect with a teen who drifts away after their B'nai Mitzvah, welcome an interfaith family unsure about joining, or reach out to a congregant who never returned after their first visit? Every congregation experiences moments of disconnect—but the answer isn't separate strategies for each group. It's creating a culture of meaning, personal connection, and belonging. In this interactive session, participants will reflect on what makes community meaningful and explore practical ways to build authentic relationships guided by insights from Michelle Shapiro Abraham.



March 22, 2026

Sandra Doninger, Independent Patient Advocate and Founder, Your Voice Health Advocacy, LLC

Topic: *Advanced Directives: How to Make Them Uniquely You*

Many families are left trying to figure out their loved one's wishes when making medical decisions on their behalf. Getting a medical passport together that contains a POLST, DNR and medical POA ensures your wishes are carried through. This presentation will outline the difference between each document, how and when they are used, protecting your wishes, and maintaining your peace of mind.

SAVE THE DATE



April 12, 2026

Rabbi Tina Sobo, Rabbi and Educator, Temple Israel

Topic: *From Parchment to Pixels: Midrash in a Visual and Digital Age*



April 26, 2026

Rabbi Karen Bodney-Halasz, Senior Rabbi Temple Israel

Topic: *From My Side of the Bimah*

MAZEL TOV!

CELEBRATING TEMPLE ISRAEL'S CONGREGANTS

Anniversaries

Temple recognizes member wedding anniversaries every 5 years and every year after 60.

April

There are no April Anniversaries

Birthdays

Temple recognizes member birthdays beginning at age 5 every 5 years and then annually starting at age 85.

April

- 2 Andrea Grimes
- 3 Dayvid Prah

- 14 Joan Marcus
- 17 Beverly Horwitz
- 28 Judy Lubow
- 30 Megan Bullard

Please call Temple if you do not wish to be listed or if you were omitted from the list.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

TEMPLE ISRAEL COMMUNITY IN FOCUS

Top Row (L to R): Scenes from Chanukkah Connections: Tessa Morris and Annabelle Baumhauer, Michelle Prah and Scott Halasz, Michelle Prah, Jenn Holman and Rabbi Sobo. Bottom Row (L to R): Shabbat Shirah: Dayton Jewish Chorale, Augustine Greene, and Talia and Heather Davis.



WE REMEMBER

These names are inscribed on the Memorial Tablets in our Sanctuary and, together with others whose Yahrzeit occurs during these weeks, will be read during Shabbat services before Kaddish.

March 6 and 7

Bertha S. Cohen, Stascha Dressel, Isaac Eisenberger, Sarah R. Epstein, Carole Lynn Field, Arthur D. Friedman, Harry A. Green Sr., Jennie G. Greenberg, Lois Harris, Albert Ingberg, Benjamin Israel, Bruce Zola Katchman, Samuel J. Klein, Bernard Kwass, Harry Lehman, Ethel Lippard, Albert Littwitz, Jenny Liebermann Michlin, Mary Pollock, Herbert Mark Reiser, Elmer S. Samuels, Leon S. Siff, Sarah Venick

March 13 and 14

Imre Adler, Rose J. Bader, Mose Bilenkin, Sadie Dreyer Bloom, Dr. Sam S. Chudde, Samuel G. Cohen, Philip E. Cohen, Dina Engel, Jack Gershow, Jack Goldberg, A. B. Goldberg, Sam Hurwitz, Bernard Joseph Katchman, Max Klarin, Morton L. Kohn, Morris H. Levine, Dora I. Lewin, Tony B. Patterson, Max Pollock, Charles S. Rosenthal, Hannah Sylvia Rosenthal, Julius Ruttenberg, Ruth F. Sajovitz, Lawrence Lurie Schear, Oscar R. Schrager, Sally Shaman, Ghita Summer, Dr. Arthur Tiber

March 20 and 21

Leo L. Asher, Evelyn O. Ball, Helaine Char, Elizabeth Cohen, Harris J. Fleece, Nathan Goldzwig, Ruth J. Hochman, Meyer L. Jacobs, Josef J. Jacobs, Jay Klein, Herman Lehman, Betty Levenson, Ida S. Marcus, Dr. Edward N. Meadow, Louis Meyer, Hyman Office, Jean R. Rockoff, David Rubin, Yetta Ryterband, Keith Saeks, Lee Carl Scherberg, Jack R. Shaman, Norman Slavin, Robert Strauss, Edith Weprin

March 27 and 28

Ella Rauh Cohen, Harry E. Cohn, Rosa Fleece, Bertram M. Frank, Joseph H. Goldberg, Samuel Gordon, James Harris, Augusta Israel, Rene' Javery, Clarence Lapedes, Claire Schafer, Selma Schwartz, Anna D. Silverman, Mollie Weiner, David J. Weinreich, May Wolpa, Robert Zappin

TEMPLE ISRAEL MOURNS WITH:

THE FAMILY OF JOYCE KARDON WHO PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 1

PHYLLIS LEVINE AND FAMILY ON THE LOSS OF DR. MORTON LEVINE
WHO PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 19



TRIBUTE DONATIONS

Temple gratefully acknowledges the following gifts received January 1 – 31. We list donations in the *Tablet* of \$10 or more and mail a notification for donations of \$18 or more. Donations of \$100 or more are described as generous. A complete list and descriptions of funds is available at tidayton.org.

Generous Contributions

In Appreciation of

Rabbi Tina Sobo

Stephen Harlan

In Yahrzeit Memory of

Henry M. Field

Zerla Stayman

Bruce Lang

Kenneth and Lisa Blum

Jerry Lynn Strassburger

Lonnie and Sarah Carpenter

Selma Schwartz

Paula Schwartz Weiss

Selma Ohlmann

Lori Ohlmann

Contributions

In Honor of the Special Anniversary of

Joe and Susan Gruenberg

Larry Glickler and Charles Quinn

Ralph and Sylvia Heyman

Richard Lapedes & Maureen Lynch

Ralph and Sylvia Heyman

In Honor of the Special Birthday of

Ellen Faust

Wendy and Guillermo Gray

Eleanor Kent

Robin Kent

Ralph and Sylvia Heyman

Burt Saidel

Ralph and Sylvia Heyman

Robert and Nora Newsock

Julie Halpern

Ralph and Sylvia Heyman

Robert and Nora Newsock

Melissa Sweeny

Ralph and Sylvia Heyman

Robert and Nora Newsock

Alan Halpern

Richard Broock

Judith Ruchman

Dee Fried

Nora Newsock

Bob Newsock

Ralph and Sylvia Heyman

In Memory of

Morton Levine

Michele Sudow, Helaine Razovsky
and Jay Ross

Eleanor Kent

In Support of

Temple Israel

Augustine Greene

In Yahrzeit Memory of

David J. Klass

Harriet Klass and Michael Klass

Anna M. Tuck

Audrey Tuck

George Zinner

Ellen Faust

Walter Klarin

Ruth Silverman

Dorothy Kaufman

Ruth Goldenberg

Lori Ohlmann

Janice (Jan) Ziskin

Patsy Lee Ziskin

Elaine Dickstein

Rose Baru

Herman Dickstein

Gary and Shelley Dickstein

Sam Gordon

Mandy and Ezra Riber

Marjorie Ritchey

Lauren Cohen

Nancy and Rich Cohen

Janet Minor

Victoria Minor

Lewis Katz

Larry Katz

Bea Burke

Anne Burke

Aaron Burke

Theodore Berman

Mel and Jan Berman

Toni Caruso

Gerald Caruso

Patty and Michael Caruso and
Family

Howard D. Mason

Eric Zied and Dena Mason-Zied

Bob and Gert Kahn

Karen Weiss

CONTRIBUTIONS WERE MADE TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDS:



Buy-A-Book Fund
Carole Field Fund
General Operating Fund
Jon Schwartzman Children's Fund
Joseph and Janet Patterson
Campership Fund
Pookie & Chuck Weprin Legacy Fund

Rabbi Bodney-Halasz Discretionary Fund
Rabbi Sobo Discretionary Fund
Rabbi Witt Memorial Library Fund
Robert L. Cline College Student Outreach Fund
Walter and Selma Ohlmann Fund

*Fund descriptions and information may be found at
tidayton.org/funds-endowments.*

MAR 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 8:45 AM Religious School Noon Adult Paired Learning: Moral Dilemmas 8:45 AM Religious School 9:45 AM Ryterband Lecture Series Noon Adult Paired Learning: Moral Dilemmas 1:00 PM 180th Planning Meeting	2 6:00 PM Purim Megilah Reading & Carnival	10:30 AM JCF Baking Session 11:00 AM Sacred Stitching Group Noon Hybrid Talmud Study 6:00 PM JCF Meeting	4 10:00 AM Hybrid Torah Study Women's Torah Commentary	5	6 6:00 PM Shabbat Services 7:00 PM Share Shabbat Chili Cookoff	7 9:15 AM Virtual Torah Study Ki Tisa <i>Exodus 30:11-34:35</i>
8:45 AM Religious School 9:45 AM Ryterband Lecture Series Noon Adult Paired Learning: Moral Dilemmas 1:00 PM 180th Planning Meeting	9 3:00 PM Adult Education Committee Meeting 6:00 PM Hybrid Adult B'nai Mitzvah	10 Noon Hybrid Talmud Study	11 10:00 AM Hybrid Torah Study Women's Torah Commentary 5:30 PM Exec. Committee Meeting	12	13 11:00 AM Living With Loss 6:10 PM Schmooze & Nosh 6:30 PM Shabbat Services	14 9:15 AM Virtual Torah Study Vayak'heil - P'kudei <i>Exodus 35:1-40:38</i>
8:45 AM Religious School 9:45 AM Ryterband Lecture Series Noon Adult Paired Learning: Moral Dilemmas	16 No Hybrid Adult B'nai Mitzvah	17 11:00 AM Sacred Stitching Group No Hybrid Talmud Study	18 10:00 AM Hybrid Torah Study Women's Torah Commentary 5:30 PM So, A Rabbi Walks Into A Bar	19 3:30 PM Living With Ambiguous Loss	20 No Shabbat Services	21 9:15 AM Multi Access Torah Study 10:00 AM Prayer and Play 10:30 AM Shabbat Services Noon Kiddush Lunch Vayikra <i>Leviticus 1:1-5:26</i>
8:45 AM Religious School 9:45 AM Ryterband Lecture Series Noon Adult Paired Learning: Moral Dilemmas	23 3:00 PM Worship and Music Committee Meeting 6:00 PM Hybrid Adult B'nai Mitzvah	24 Noon Hybrid Talmud Study	25 10:00 AM Hybrid Torah Study Women's Torah Commentary 6:00 PM In-Person Board Meeting	26	27 6:10 PM Schmooze & Nosh 6:30 PM Shabbat Services	28 9:15 AM Virtual Torah Study Tzav <i>Leviticus 6:1-8:36</i>
29 No Religious School 12:45 PM Auschwitz Exhibit, Cincinnati Museum	30 6:00 PM Hybrid Adult B'nai Mitzvah	31 11:00 AM Sacred Stitching Group No Hybrid Talmud Study				

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

April 19: Community Yom Hashoah Program @ Temple Israel

April 26: Service and Liturgy Class with Rabbi Bodnet-Halas





Temple Israel's Second Seder

April 2 at 6:00 p.m.
Cost: \$45/Adult, \$25/Child
RSVP By March 23



TEMPLE
ISRAEL
DAYTON

TEMPLE ISRAEL TABLET

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