



The Jewish Community of Hamelin Newsletter

June–July–August 2015 • Sivan–Tammuz–Av–Elul 5775

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Dear members, friends and supporters,

We look back at the month of May, beginning with the impressive and moving Victory Day celebration. This year marks the 70th anniversary of Victory Day, which honors those who fought against Fascism. We thank all our members who invested heart and soul in the many hours of preparation for this memorial day.

Unfortunately, Rabbi Sascha Lyskovoy could not attend as planned because of the national train strikes, and we thank Peter Wendt for leading Shabbat services. Peter Wendt and our synagogue choir “Shalom” sweetened Friday night services. Saturday morning services and Torah study emphasized Shavuot. Over luscious slices of cheesecake, a double Minyan discussed, “What does the Torah say to me? It was exciting to see many families and children in shul.

Our traditional Lag B’Omer picnic took place as always in the lovely garden of the Lutheran church. Our Lutheran neighbors extend this invitation to us every year, and we were especially happy to welcome Pastor Sophie Sander to our celebration. Kosher hot dogs were enjoyed hot off the grill as well as a variety of vegetarian dishes and sweet deserts.

The inter-religious women’s group met for the second time this year on May 12th. We welcomed Jewish, Muslim and Christian women to an afternoon meeting in our synagogue. Dr. Ioulia Berhowski gave an excellent presentation about religious garments, the year’s topic. The final meeting will be held on June 16th in the Thiewall Mosque.





Jewish Summer

Beautiful, sunny summer days await us, inviting us to spend time with friends, family and nature. We are happy that although our congregational activities slow down in the summer months, we will offer Shabbat services and Torah study throughout. Rabbi Irit Shillor, Rabbi Sascha Lyskovoy and Dr. Ulrike Offenbergl will be with us and services will continue, in addition to lay-led services.

Our member Eva Schkolnikova will offer a lecture on Esperanto and explore the Jewish roots of this language on June 10th in our library. Ms. Schkolnikova is a longstanding member of the International Esperanto Organization. The organization just held their annual international conference in Hamelin.

In cooperation with the Society of Christians and Jews, Polina Pelts and Hans-Georg Spangenberg have organized a day trip on June 24th to Hildesheim, where they will explore the city's religious history. It's certain to be educational as well as entertaining.

Several concerts will help us enjoy the summer. On June 21st Faina Pelts and Larissa Belgardt will present a program of Jewish melodies. On June 28th students of the Viktoria Luise Gymnasium will offer a concert, and on August 2nd romantic melodies will be performed by Svetlana Bantschukova, Nadja and Wladimir Pesok and Valerij Fridmann. All concerts are free and open to all. We thank all our wonderful musicians.

We look forward to a fascinating evening lecture in the series, "Christians and Jews in Dialogue." Rabbi Irit Shillor will discuss with Deacon Hans-Georg Spangenberg the meaning of numbers from a Jewish and Christian perspective.



Patrizia in Israel

You have often read about one of our teens, Patrizia Berhowski. She is the daughter of FSU Jews who immigrated to Germany in the 1980s. Patrizia has gone through the camping program and is now herself a youth leader on a national level and in our congregation. Her bright and happy presence lights up every room she enters! This summer Patrizia will graduate from high school. She dreams of spending a year in Israel with the WUPJ Shnat Program. This program will be formative for Patrizia, exposing her to Israeli society in its religious plurality, Zionism, culture, military life, and contact with young Israelis and young Palestinians. She will offer lectures upon her return. Of course, a year in Israel is not without cost, and Patrizia must still raise \$10,000. Young people are our future and any help, large or small will be appreciated by Patrizia. If you can help, please contact Rachel Dohme, racheldohme@jghreform.org.



Our Jewish Cemetery

President Rachel Dohme has been working with the city for 13 years on a solution for eternal rest rights for our Jewish cemetery. Numerous meetings have taken place over the years, often with the help of our rabbi, Irit Shillor. On June 3rd, the city of Hamelin will be asked to approve a change in the cemetery bylaws, which will allow eternal rest rights for Jewish graves according to Jewish law. We wish to thank Mayor Mr. Claudio Griesse, City Planner Mr. Aden and State Board of Jewish Communities Chairwoman, Mrs. Katarina Seidler for their help, support and

understanding. In our September newsletter we hope to share the good news with you that the city council has approved this historic and vital change.

Our Internet Presence

Those of you reading this newsletter in English are reading the internet version. The newsletter is also available in print form in [German](#) and [Russian](#) for members and supporters here in Germany. Many hours and many hands and heads go into producing this monthly informational newsletter. Keeping us online is no small expense for our small community of 90 percent Russian Jewish immigrants. We recognize the importance of this media tool in connecting and informing others of our congregational efforts and developments. And this newsletter has been the most efficient and successful outreach tool in our attempts to network internationally. Many new relationships have been established and built as a result of this newsletter and we are grateful to all involved. If you would care to help us stay online, please contact Rachel Dohme at racheldohme@jghreform.org. We appreciate any and all support.

Refu'ah shlemah

We pray for the complete recovery of all who are ill and everyone who is going through difficult times. We will recite Misheberach for them during services. Please join us.



Donations — Tzedakah

We thank all those who donated to either the congregation or the synagogue foundation: Dr. Gesa Snell, Mrs. Anneliese Armbricht, Temple Brith Kodesch WRJ/Sisterhood, Rochester, New York, Mr. Hans Weltner, Mrs. Rachel Dohme and Mrs. Ute Gibas.

May you all be blessed for your generosity.

Etz Chayim — Tree of Life

It's summertime! It's time to remember that special person or event with a new leaf on our Tree of Life. The tree offers our members, friends and supporters the opportunity for two mitzvot (good deeds) at once. One can commemorate special occasions, such as births, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, weddings, Yahrzeits and special honors and also support the maintenance of our synagogue.

A new leaf was ordered by the WRJ Sisterhood, Temple Brith Kodesh, Rochester, New York:

"In honor of the life of Gertrud Lind"

Thank you — Todah Rabah

We thank everyone who help in making our holiday and cultural events very special. Our thanks go to everyone who plans and organizes activities in our community.

Yahrzeit in June-July-August

Dr. Iljja Latkov	June 5, 1998 / 11. Siwan 5758
Matvey Slavinskiy	June 23, 1998 / 29. Siwan 5758
Abrash Borucho	June 6, 2011 / 4. Siwan 5771
Elena Gorbacheva	June 4, 2012 / 14. Siwan 5772
Valentina Barulina	June 23, 2012 / 3. Tammuz 5772
Grigori Ziskand	June 15, 2013 / 17. Tammuz 5773
Nataliya Zaychenko	July 1, 2003 / Tammuz 1, 5763
Sergei Jevdokymov	July 21, 2008 / Tammuz 18, 5768
Inge Dickmann	July 16, 2008 / Tammuz 13, 5768
Wolodymr Zaslavsky	July 29, 2012 / Av 10, 5772
Ethel Lazer	August 16, 2009 / Av 26, 5769



May the memory of our loved ones be for a blessing. Please join family members during Sabbath services as we recite Kaddish. Yahrzeit candles are available in the office.

The Congregation Board wishes everyone a relaxing summer!

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Program for June–July–August 2015 • Sivan–Tammuz–Av–Elul 5775

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.; Tuesday & Thursday: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Monday, June 1	12 noon 5:30 p.m.	Judaism course with W. Pesok in Russian Monthly board meeting
Saturday, June 6	10:00 a.m.	Saturday morning services with S. Koudinov
Wednesday, June 10	11:00 a.m.	Lecture: “Esperanto-a Jewish idea” with E. Schkolnikova
Friday, June 12	3:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Open education class in German with Dr. Ulrike Offenber Friday night services with Dr. Ulrike Offenber
Saturday, June 13	10:00 a.m.	Saturday morning services and Torah study with Dr. Ulrike Offenber
Monday, June 15	11:00 a.m.	Guest speaker: “Assisted Living Residences in Hameln” with Mr. Jungnitz and Hans-Georg Spangenberg
Tuesday, June 16	5:00 p.m.	Inter-religious Women’s Group, Session III: “Religious garments” Thiewall Mosque
Sunday, June 21	3:00 p.m.	Summer Concert, Part I: “Jewish Melodies” with F. Pelts and L. Belgardt
Wednesday, June 24	9:00 a.m.– 5:00p.m.	In Cooperation with the Society of Christians and Jews Trip to Hildesheim, Info: P. Pelts, €10

Rabbi Sascha Lyskovoy’s monthly visit

Friday, June 26	3:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Open education class in Russian Friday night services with Rabbi Sascha
Saturday, June 27	10:00 a.m.	Saturday morning services and Torah study with Rabbi Sascha
Sunday, June 28	3:00 p.m.	Concert with students from Viktoria-Luise Gymnasium
Wednesday, July 1	10:00 a.m.	Monthly board meeting

Rabbi Irit Shillor’s monthly visit

Thursday, July 9	7:00 p.m.	In Cooperation with the Society of Christians and Jews: “Numerology in Judaism and Christianity” with Rabbi Irit Shillor and Deacon Hans-Georg Spangenberg
Friday, July 10	3:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Open education class with Rabbi Irit Friday night services with Rabbi Irit
Saturday, July 11	10:00 a.m.	Saturday morning services and Torah study with Rabbi Irit
Tuesday, July 19	3:00 p.m.	Summer Concert, Part II, “Ukrainian and Russian Melodies” with F. Pelts & L. Belgardt
Friday, July 24	5:30 p.m.	Friday night services with R. Dohme
Sunday, August 2	3:00 p.m.	Concert, “Romantic Melodies” with S. Bantschukova, W. & N. Pesok and V. Fridmann
Friday, August 7	5:30 p.m.	Friday night services with F. Pelts
Friday, August 21	5:30 p.m.	Friday night services with P. Wendt

Jewish Community of Hamelin

Member of the Union of Progressive Jews in Germany, the World Union of Progressive Judaism, and the Central Council of Jews of Germany

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