



## Dear members of the community, friends and supporters,

We are on the threshold of the beautiful summer months, which for many of us is a special time of relaxation. But first, we look back on a very eventful month in May.

On May 2nd, we gathered for a memorial service in our synagogue, connecting us with all Jews worldwide, as we commemorated the countless victims of the Shoah. The moving memorial service was conducted by Faina Pelts and Vladimir Pesok. Six yellow candles representing the 6 million Jewish men, women

and children who were murdered by the Nazis flickered from the darkened Bimah. They had been lit in memory of those whose names we know and the millions we do not. Emotional texts and prayers read by Faina and Vladimir allowed those present to think of all that was lost. After the El Male Rachamin, the six flames were extinguished and a sole Jahrzeit candle lit. The small flame broke through the darkness as the congregation stood together and recited the Kaddish prayer.

On the 9th of May we celebrated “Victory Day.” Valerij Bogatchick and Faina Pelts invested a great deal of time, energy and love into the program. The celebration of this Memorial Day means a great deal in our community. For many of us who had their homeland in the former Soviet Union and also for us here, this is a day of gratitude, a day of liberation and also a day to honor those men and women of the Allied Forces. We honored those in our community who had actively fought to put an end to the Nazi dictatorship and who themselves suffered many losses in their own families. The heart-moving songs and texts accentuated these feelings. We hold the memory of those heroes close to our hearts. We expressed our gratitude toward all those who fought against fascism during the Second World War. We survivors and family members sat together like a big family remembering them. On May 22, the Vice Consul of the Russian Embassy in Hamburg came to honor and award Mrs. Rimma Kopirovskaya, Mrs. Maya Olvovskaya and Mrs. Elena Dmitrieva the Medal of Distinction from the President of the Russian Federation.

On May 10th, during Sabbath services, we celebrated the 71st anniversary of Israel's Independence Day. We remembered the Israelis who died in wars and military operations and those who were the victims of terrorist attacks. We stood and sang the Israeli national anthem “Hatikva” upon conclusion of the service. During the Kiddush we read texts and songs prepared by Rabbi Ulrike Offenberg that were dedicated to Israel. Wherever we live, we always feel that invisible connection between the Diaspora and the State of Israel. We wish our state, in which our countrymen live, peace and prosperity.

Once again we enjoyed a lovely picnic in the parish garden of our neighbors, the Reformed Lutheran Church on our festival of Lag B'Omer. The wonderful weather matched the happy mood of all in attendance. Members of our sister congregation from Bad Pyrmont joined us as well as a member of the Dresden Jewish Community. Rabbi Ulrike Offenberg welcomed everyone and recounted the history and traditions of the festival. Salads and other homemade dishes drew us all to the festive tables as the 160 kosher hot dogs sputtered over the fire. Special thanks goes out to our grill masters Petro, Viktor, and Sasha for cooking them just right. Many thanks to Boris Markseev for the master class on Israeli dances. It was sunny fun for all present. The younger generation enjoyed baking bread and sticky marshmallows over the fire. With good weather, great food and pleasant conversations, the time passed unnoticed. We thank our Christian neighbors for their hospitality in their lovely garden.

At 10:00 am on May 27, an inter-religious women's meeting took place in the “Haus der Kirche.” We always look forward to these meetings because they make us more familiar with other denominations and build a bridge of understanding.

## Jewish June

### Shabbat services

We look forward to services with Rabbi Dr. Ulrike Offenberg during the summer months. Sitting together, singing and praying at Friday night and Shacharit services and sharing a meal enriches us religiously and socially. We are grateful for our rabbinic care, enabling us to ask serious personal questions or issues of a spiritual nature. Many of our members are elderly and enjoy conversations in their native language with friends and neighbors as well as with our polyglot rabbi. We cordially invite you to attend and to bring a friend!











# ROMAN KUPERSCHMIDT'S KLEZMER MUSIK BAND

**12. Juni 2019 / 17:00 Uhr**  
**Aula, HLA Hameln, Mühlenstr.16**

**Jüdische Gemeinde Hameln e.V.**  
**Synagogenplatz 1, Bürenstr. 31785 Hameln**  
**Spende wird erwünscht**



## Shavuot

The summer month of Siwan, ushers in Shavuot. Falling seven weeks after Pesach, it is the partner holiday to Shavuot. Pesach is the Festival of Freedom and Shavuot is the Festival of receiving the law.

What good is freedom without laws and what good are laws without freedom? Under the guidance of Rabbi Dr. Offenbergl we will celebrate an evening service on Saturday the 8th of June and receive Torah anew, as if we had been at Sinai. In a night of study, Tikkun leyl Shavuot, we will delve into Torah

texts and discover what layered meaning it can have in our own lives. As is customary, our Kiddush will be strictly dairy, reminding that the Torah is as sweet as milk and honey.

It is said that if one does something more than twice, it is a tradition. In this sense, we once again are organizing our 3rd annual “Shavuot cheesecake competition” on Shavuot morning. On Sunday, June 9 at 11:00, everyone—women and men—are invited to present their own dairy creations. Use old family recipes, create new ones or find something on the Net but come with something delicious to share. It does not have to be cheesecake. All the sweet and spicy cakes, desserts and other delicacies “conjured up” of milk, quark, cheese or other dairy products in honor of Shavuot are welcome. A jury will award the winners and everyone will feast to their heart’s content so there will be no losers! All those who participated in the past year remember what fun we had.



## Rabbinic word

Shavuot, the feast of the revelation of the Torah on Mount Sinai, begins on June 8. This holiday is assigned the Book of Ruth. This biblical narrative is about the Moabite Ruth who, even after the death of her husband, does not part with her mother-in-law Naomi, but accompanies her as she returns to her old homeland. As a stranger, Ruth has a difficult position there. She is eyed suspiciously and has to care for herself and her mother-in-law. She gleanes the edges of the fields for food. Boaz, a distant relative of Naomi, recognizes her loyalty and selflessness - and helps her. Finally, there is a happy ending: Boaz marries Ruth and out of this foreigner Ruth who chose to belong to the people of Israel, emerges as the great-grandmother of King David.

It is a story full of tenderness and grace—and this against the background of a difficult fate, because two single women in a patriarchal society did not have an easy time coping with widowhood, foreignness and day labor. And yet there is no spectacular drama here. There is no thunder and lightning and we do not hear of God's revelations. No miracle of nature occurs and relieves the famine. There are no particularly evil evildoers against whom someone proves to be a hero. No, all are pretty ordinary people with our own issues, often putting their own needs and desires first and foremost. So why do we read this inconspicuous story about Shavuot? Rabbi Se'ira, from the 3rd century, answers: “To teach you how great the reward is for those who act beneficially.” With Ruth, Naomi and Boaz, we get to know people who go beyond what is commonly expected of them. They take responsibility and show each other Chesed, benevolence and attention. These benevolent actions leads them back to God, but it is they themselves who accomplish this—thus making visible to others God’s presence.

## Concert “Roman Kuperschmidt's Klezmer Music Band”

Roman Kuperschmidt needs no introduction. He and his fellow musicians have performed in many Jewish communities around the world. We invite members and friends to an incredible concert with “Roman Kuperschmidt’s Klezmer Music Band” on June 6th at 5:00 p.m. in the Handelslehranstalt School Hameln. The concert begins early as to afford students and working folks an opportunity to hear this heart tickling music. Admission is free, but we hope for friendly donations. We hope to see many members there with friends, family and neighbors and to enjoy a Klezmer concert to remember. We thank the Central Council of Jews and HLA School Principal Mr. Bernd Strahler for their kind support.

## Mazel Tov

We congratulate the members who survived the Leningrad Blockade, Rimma Kopirovskaya, Maya Olvovskaya and Elena Dmitrieva, for receiving the Medal of Honor of the President of the Russian Federation. We wish you good health and a long life.

## Get well

We wish all people in our community, who are currently experiencing hardship, a complete and speedy recovery. Our prayers, thoughts and hearts are with them.

## Donations — Zedakah

We sincerely thank the following members and friends who have made generous donations: Mrs. Stöber with the ecumenical women's group, Viktoria-Luise Gymnasium, 6th grade Philosophy class, Pastor Brendel, Seniors of St. Annen in Wangelist, Mrs. Kollorsz-Treede and the seminar of religion student teachers, Mrs. Bode with the 6th grade Gymnasium Bad Pyrmont, Pastor Reuning of Petri Church in Ohnsen, Mr. Thorsten Lucht with the 11th class Bad Pyrmont Gymnasium, Society Christian-Jewish Cooperation Hamburg, Mr. Dieter Vogelhuber, Mrs. Niedert and Mrs. Rachel Dohme. May all donors be blessed for their generosity.



## Tree of Life — Etz Chaim

The summer welcomes us with foliage in every hue of green and colorful blossoms. Our “Tree of Life,” which beautifies our synagogue, looks for new growth too. It is possible to commemorate the commission of a new leaf for special occasions, e.g. birth, Bar or Bat Mitzvah, wedding, thanks, Jahrzeit, memories or honors and so also donate to our community life. Forms are in the office. Many Thanks!

Newly ordered by Dieter Vogelhuber:  
For my granddaughter, Lea Vogelhuber

## June Jahrzeit

Dr. Ilja Latkov	June 6, 1998 / 11. Siwan 5758
Matvey Slavinskiy	June 23, 1998 / 29. Siwan 5758
Abrash Boruchov	June 6, 2011 / 04. Siwan 5771
Etya Scheinberg	June 1, 2011 / 28. Ijar 5771
Elena Gorbacheva	June 4, 2012 / 14. Siwan 5772
Valentina Barulina	June 23, 2012 / 03. Tammus 5772
Grigori Ziskand	June 25, 2013 / 17. Tammus 5773



We urgently need women for the Chewra Kaddisha. Please contact us. Family members are required and must ensure that the graves of their relatives are maintained and kept clean. May the memory of our dead be a blessing to us. Kaddish is spoken to family members during Shabbat services. Jahrzeit candles are available in the office.

Shalom,  
Your Synagogue Board

## [Newsletter Archives](#)

### 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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## Program for June 2019 • Iyar–Sivan 5779

Office hours: Monday–Friday: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Monday, June 3	10:00 a.m.	Monthly Board meeting
		<b>Rabbi Dr. Ulrike Offenberg</b>
Saturday, June 8	5:30 p.m.	<b>Erev Shavuot</b> services and Tikkun Leyl Shavuot
Sunday, June 9	11:00 a.m.	<b>Shavuot</b> morning service and Cheesecake Contest
Wednesday, June 12	5:00 p.m.	<b>Klezmer Concert:</b> “Roman Kupferschmidt Klezmer Band,” Handelslehranstalt School auditorium. Free for all, donations appreciated. Thanks to the support of the Central Council of Jews in Germany and Principal Strahler, Handelslehranstalt School, Mühlenstrasse 16.
		<b>Rabbi Dr. Ulrike Offenberg</b>
Friday, June 21	4:30 p.m.	Giyur class
	5:30 p.m.	Friday night services
	8:00 p.m.	Mishna study group
Saturday, June 22	10:00 a.m.	Saturday morning services and Kiddush lunch
	12:00 p.m.	Shiur: Bechukkota
	1:30 p.m.	Kinder Kehilla I
	2:30 p.m.	Kinder Kehilla II