

# Shofar



Elul 5780 - Cheshvan 5781 • September/October 2020



## Rabbi's Message

### Rosh Hashanah Came Last Wednesday

Rosh Hashanah came for a visit a few days ago. Don't worry, you didn't miss the actual Yom Tov. That will come on time, according to the proper rhythm of the Hebrew calendar, and we will celebrate it with joy, as is fitting.

So how did Cantor Wallach, Amy Rubin, and I experience Rosh Hashanah early? Here's how. Since we, as a congregation, cannot safely gather in our sanctuary at this time, we, the clergy and staff of TBE, are bringing the sanctuary to you. To do this – to provide the ambiance of our sacred space, and to do it in a safe way – a few of us gathered, with proper social distance and other appropriate precautions, to record much of the service in the sanctuary. Our cantor was accompanied by our talented and beloved

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**Rosh Hashanah**, September 18–20

See High Holy Day information on page 6

**Yom Kippur**, September 27–28

**Sukkot**, October 2–9

**Sukkot Dinner and Kabbalat Shabbat Services**,  
October 2, 6:00 p.m.

**Help build the sukkah**, September 27  
Reserve the sukkah for your family gathering (see page 10)

**Simchat Torah**  
October 9



## Worship Schedule

All worship services are being conducted online during the COVID crisis.  
Please join us. For more information about Zoom and how to use it, visit <https://www.ourbethel.org/connect-with-zoom/>

### Standard Zoom Links for all Friday Evening Services

<b>Friday Night Services</b> Via Zoom: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/TBEErevShabbat">https://tinyurl.com/TBEErevShabbat</a> Passcode: Sh@bbat Or by phone: 929-436-2866; Meeting ID: 983 6550 9442; Passcode 0119497	<b>Saturday Morning Services</b> Via Zoom: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/TBEShabbatMorning">https://tinyurl.com/TBEShabbatMorning</a> Passcode: Shalom Or by phone: 929-436-2866; Meeting ID: 693 812 954; Passcode: 049452
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### SEPTEMBER

#### Friday, September 4, 2020

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service (See link above)

#### Saturday, September 5

*Parashat Ki Tavo Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study with Bar Mitzvah of Brian Ascher (See link above)

#### Friday, September 11

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services  
(See link above)

#### Saturday, September 12

*Parashat Nitzavim-Vayeilech Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services and Torah Study with Bar Mitzvah of Anthony Torres  
(See link above)

7:00 p.m. Selichot Services with Temple Shalom and Temple Har Shalom

For information on the High Holy Days, see page 6

#### Friday, September 18 Rosh Hashanah

7:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Services  
(Link to be emailed out)

#### Saturday, September 19 Rosh Hashanah

9:30 a.m. Morning Blessings  
10:00 a.m. Shacharit and Torah Service  
12:30 p.m. Children's Service (up to grade 5)  
3:00 p.m. Tashlich (at Duke Island Park, weather permitting. Sign-up required)

#### Sunday, September 20 Rosh Hashanah

9:30 a.m. Morning Blessing  
10:00 a.m. Shacharit and Torah Service  
3:00 p.m. Tashlich (at Duke Island Park, weather permitting. Sign-up required)

#### Friday, September 25

7:00 p.m. Shabbat Shuvah Evening Service  
(See link above)

#### Saturday, September 26

*Parashat Haazinu, Deuteronomy 32:1-32:52*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Shuvah Minyan Service  
(See link above)

#### Sunday, September 27, Yom Kippur

9:30 a.m. High Holiday Experience for Young Families  
(up to grade 2)  
7:00 p.m. Kol Nidrei Service

#### Monday, September 28, Yom Kippur

9:30 a.m. Morning Blessing  
10:00 a.m. Shacharit and Torah Service  
11:30 a.m. Reflection Service  
12:30 p.m. Study Session  
12:30 p.m. Children's Service (up to grade 5)  
1:30 p.m. Meditation and Contemplation  
2:30 p.m. Healing Service  
3:30 p.m. Afternoon Service  
5:30 p.m. Yizkor  
6:00 p.m. Neilah, Concluding Service (time approximate)

### OCTOBER

#### Friday, October 2, Sukkot

6:00 p.m. Sukkot dinner and Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
(See link above)

#### Saturday, October 3, Sukkot

*Parashat Yom Rishon shel Sukkot, Leviticus 22:26-23*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Sukkot Services  
(See link above)

#### Friday, October 9, Simchat Torah

7:00 p.m. Shabbat and Simchat Torah Services  
(See link above)

#### Saturday, October 10, Sh'mini Atzeret

*Parashat Sh'mini Atzeret - Simchat Torah Deuteronomy 14:22-16:17*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat, Shemini Atzeret, and Yizkor Services  
(See link above)

#### Friday, October 16

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services (See link above)

#### Saturday, October 17

*Parashat B'reishit, Genesis 1:1-6:8*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services and Torah Study with Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Worman  
(See link above)

#### Friday, October 23

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services (See link above)

#### Saturday, October 24

*Parashat Noach, Genesis 6:9-11:32*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service (See link above)

#### Friday, October 30

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services (See link above)

#### Saturday, October 31

*Parashat Lech L'cha, Genesis 12:1-17:27*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study with Bat Mitzvah of Ashley Ringel  
(See link above)

### Shofar Submissions and Deadline

The next issue of the Shofar will be November-December 2020. PLEASE NOTE: The deadline for submissions is October 15. Submit articles via email to: [ShofarEditor@templebethelnj.org](mailto:ShofarEditor@templebethelnj.org).

In the subject line, please use the following naming convention: Shofar Month/Shofar/Committee Name or Professional Staff Name.

### Temple Calendar Webpage

<https://www.ourbethel.org/about/calendar/>

### Torah Portions

You can read a Weekly Torah Commentary by visiting the Union of Reform Judaism's web page: [www.reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study](http://www.reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study)

## Rabbi's Message, continued from page 1

accompanist Kathy Shanklin, we took out the *sifrei Torah* from the Ark, with several of our congregants coming at different times to read from it, and we captured the power of the *shofar* blasts. The *machzor* has been transformed into PowerPoint slides (akin to what we have done for Shabbat services since March), so that all can follow and participate in the service. All this is being coordinated and edited so that it can be interspersed with other elements, like my sermons and messages, which will be presented in real time via Zoom. Putting all of this together has required no small effort and a great deal of creativity and vision, all of which promise worship experiences that will be beautiful and meaningful for all.

Something unexpected also happened the day of recording. In a time of many firsts, this early experience of Rosh Hashanah was a most extraordinary one. I don't know exactly what made it so special, but I can tell you that I found myself moved to tears by the experience. The melodies pierced my heart and soul and the liturgy was luminous. Personally, I think I need the High Holy Days now more than ever, and I strongly suspect that you will feel the same way, if you don't already, when you experience them.

We need an anchor in these tumultuous times. We need a rock on which we can stand when so much is uncertain and frighteningly tenuous. Recalling that God lovingly created us; hearing the call to renew our faith in life and its goodness; remembering that our existence has meaning; looking to the future with hope and confidence for redemption that is yet to come; knowing that God urges us to return to the best that is in us and forgives us our failings – all of these life-affirming themes and messages of the Holy Days are a balm for troubled spirits. This is what I felt the day we did the recording – and it was just a rehearsal!

So, I encourage you to take heart and look forward with anticipation and excitement as the Days of Awe draw near. This surely will be a Yom Tov season like none we have ever experienced. But I suspect that they will be more important and powerful than any we have celebrated before.

I look forward to celebrating the holy days with you.

*L'shanah Tovah,*

*Rabbi Arnold S. Gluck*

Visit the High Holy Days page on our website: <https://www.ourbethel.org/pray/high-holy-days/>



We're all in this *together*

## Getting to Know All About You: A Profile of Cantor Risa Wallach

*[Editor's note: We asked Cantor Wallach to answer some questions for us via email, so that our TBE family can get to know her better. This profile is largely based on her responses and reflections.]*

I grew up in western Massachusetts in the small town of Great Barrington. My family was mostly secular, celebrating Chanukah and Pesach at home. My father is a composer and professor of music, so I heard a lot of music growing up, classical and folk, as well as a lot of live performances. He started me on piano lessons at the age of five. My parents gave me albums by the Beatles, Joan Baez, Joni Mitchell, Pete Seeger, Ella Fitzgerald, and I also loved Holly Near and George Winston's piano music. Ella and Joni are some of my biggest inspirations.

As an undergraduate, I studied studio art and art history at Oberlin College, and received a master's in social work from Smith College School for Social Work. I worked for the Visiting Nurses of San Francisco for eight years as a medical social worker. In that time, I visited people from many different cultures, classes, religions and ethnic backgrounds. I saw every neighborhood of the city, and learned a lot about its history from the people who had lived there for generations. I led services informally and taught religious school for several years while living in the Bay Area, and eventually applied to cantorial school at Hebrew College.

I became a cantor because I can feel the way that Jewish liturgical music is a bridge from past generations through a link of the spirit and the heart, a felt identity that resonates through ancient melodic patterns called nusach, and the new music that allows us to see ancient texts from new perspectives. Music has the potential to heal, and to go beyond words to a place of knowing and understanding that many people are seeking, even if they don't realize it. It's a place of feeling God in and around us that has the ability to take away our sense of separation and aloneness. I also knew that congregational work would allow me to use my social work skills to serve people through pastoral care, and that this would be a good match for my personality; I could impact the lives of many people by officiating lifecycles, and bring blessing to them and myself. Ultimately it is the calling that best matches who I am at my core and in my neshama (soul).

I've been guided by many wonderful mentors, and I've seen that music has an important role to play in ritual, celebration, personal milestones, Jewish education, and bringing the community together. To me, the role of the cantor is to carry forward the profound, multi-faceted teachings that I received from my instructors in cantorial school, to make sure these very old musical customs and practices never die and are conveyed to the larger community, and to bring the innovation and creativity needed for communities to evolve. We must ensure that future generations are given the depth and breadth of that knowledge, a love of Torah, and a love of the traditions of justice and wisdom that we possess. The riches of Jewish learning are really vast and endless, and they need to be



shared. And in the pursuit of social justice, I see a lot of potential for the use of music to keep people motivated, engaged and spiritually nourished.

I hope to bring a sense of inspiration to the Temple Beth-El congregation, an inspiration that helps people reach the place of freedom in themselves, where they give themselves permission to sing, dance, pray, laugh, cry or meditate or something else! Especially on Shabbat, we're meant to be joyful, at peace, and not "serious," per se. Fun is a part of that, and so is feeling whatever you're feeling. I think a good

ritual allows emotion to move to where it needs to go. Sometimes, making people cry through ritual leaves me feeling that I did it right!

I also think it's very important to find a sense of holiness through the chanting of our sacred texts. I'm passionate about the ancient chant traditions of trope for all of our different kinds of texts, from Esther trope to High Holy Day trope, and I want to bring a sense of appreciation and understanding to the beauty and meaning of that process, of hiddur mitzvah, the beautification of a mitzvah, which comes from our tradition. Hiddur mitzvah enhances the meaning of mitzvot, and deepens our experience of fulfilling them.

With that in mind, I look forward to getting to know all of the religious school children, and to enjoy learning together. Singing together especially will be a joy, even more so when we can gather in person. In working with the b'nai mitzvah students, I love learning about them as individuals, seeing them evolve and finding out what lights them up. Sometimes laughing together with a student will make my day. I've been amazed by the strength of character of the b'nai mitzvah who've been on the bimah in the last two weeks for their ceremonies at Temple Beth-El. Under the circumstances, each one of them really rose to the occasion!

If time allows, I would also love to get involved in the interfaith work that the congregation has been engaged in, and I'm interested in dialogues around challenging racism and white supremacy, whether it be book clubs, dialogue groups or other frameworks. These issues are bound up in fighting antisemitism, which we really have to address these days. How do we as a Jewish community stay safe, and keep our doors wide open at the same time? I am open to exploring any musical offerings that support these efforts as well.

On a more personal note, I would like to introduce my spouse Rhetta, who is from Massachusetts originally, like myself. Rhetta is an engineer in Internet security. She adores cats, and we're hoping to have a cat come live with

*Continued on page 5*

## Cantor Risa, continued from page 4

us in the next year or so, depending on the safety of going out to find one! She has a great sense of humor and has also been learning Hebrew calligraphy, which she began studying with the rabbi emeritus of our congregation in California, Gordon Freeman. He taught her to do micro-calligraphy.

For my part, I love hiking, and spending time in nature generally. We've done a fair amount of traveling, and took trips to Australia and Hawaii last year. Australia was

wonderful! The food is amazing, and it's a much more diverse country than I had realized. The people in Canberra and Sydney are really friendly as well. We're considering a trip to Iceland in the future. I enjoy podcasts, especially On Being with Krista Tippett, and This American Life. I also love world music, liturgical and spiritual chant especially, and klezmer music. Someday, I hope, I will learn Yiddish. I'm also very passionate and concerned about the planet and its future.

## *We honor our Legacy Circle:*

Anonymous (4)  
 Rande and Janet Aaronson  
 Lou and Myrna Binder  
 Gari and Charles Bloom  
 Mike Bloomstein  
 Jody and Gary Cohen  
 Liz and Dave Cohen  
 Rabbi Arnold and Sarah Gluck  
 Julie and Greg Hirsch  
 Chrys Jochem  
 Barbara and Russ Johnston  
 Andy and Leslie Kass  
 Bob Krovetz  
 Jay Lavroff  
 Leigh Miller  
 Rick Miller  
 Robin and Larry Osman  
 Art and Betty Roswell  
 Amy Rubin  
 Lillian Swickle  
 Goldie Taub  
 Irwin Vogel  
 Steve and Elayne Weitze  
 Ann Weinstein  
 Bruce and Marlane Wolf

THE EXCITEMENT OF THE FIRST SHOFAR BLAST  
 THE SWEET TASTE OF AN APPLE DIPPED IN HONEY  
 THE BLESSINGS OF A NEW YEAR . . .



HOW WILL YOU ASSURE  
 JEWISH TOMORROWS?



To create your Jewish legacy contact:  
 Lil Swickle, [LegacyCircle@TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:LegacyCircle@TempleBethElNJ.org)



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Please remember Temple Beth-El with a gift in your will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy.

A legacy gift ensures that the community will continue to serve future generations.

Contact Lil Swickle at [LegacyCircle@TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:LegacyCircle@TempleBethElNJ.org).

# High Holy Days 2020 / 5781

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Your Temple Beth-El clergy and staff are working hard to create a meaningful High Holy Day experience for you. Starting with the month Elul, continuing through the Days of Awe, and concluding with Sukkot and Simchat Torah, we will be #virtuallytogether this fall.

This year, we ask that you make your own home a sanctuary. Wear something that feels special. Decorate your living room with flowers. Make a beautiful meal to usher in each holiday. Then, join TBE's clergy online for live-streamed worship services that are designed just for this moment.

Most High Holy Day worship services will be live-streamed using the same link. Some interactive programs, such as our annual Yom Kippur study session, the meditation service, and others, will take place on Zoom with separate links.

This year, we are delighted to offer complimentary guest access for all TBE holy day worship services. You are welcome to invite your friends and family from far and wide.

### HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Our clergy and staff are diligently working on finalizing the High Holy Day programs. A full schedule of services can be found on page 7. Most of our services will be live-streamed or via Zoom with a combination of pre-recorded and live elements. We will gather in person for Tashlich on both days of Rosh Hashanah, weather permitting. Space for Tashlich is limited. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/TBETashlich2020>.

### LINKS for SERVICES

Most High Holy Day worship services will be live-streamed with a combination of pre-recorded and live elements. Some interactive programs, such as our annual Yom Kippur study session, the meditation service, and others, will take place on Zoom. All members will automatically receive links for services. Watch your email for more info. See the full schedule of services on page 7.

### DRIVE-THROUGH CHALLAH CHIBBUK (HUG)

We are delighted to invite you to drop by temple for a drive-through Challah Chibbuk (khee-buk means "hug"). You will be greeted in your car by the clergy and staff. Tell us how you're doing and leave with a holiday challah and treats. Thursday, September 17, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

### HIGH HOLY DAYS SLIDES IN PRINT

Our holiday liturgy will be presented on-screen. If you prefer to hold a physical prayer book, a downloadable version will be made available for you to print at home. If you cannot print at home, contact the temple office ([dinafisher@templebethelnj.org](mailto:dinafisher@templebethelnj.org) or 908-722-0674, ext. 312) to request a print version be sent to you.

### SANCTUARY VISITS

Many people have asked for an opportunity to sit quietly in the sanctuary to reflect before the Days of Awe. We're pleased to make such an opportunity possible by appointment. You will want to bring your own tallit and kippah to wear or wrap your family in as you stand before the Ark. Sign up to visit the sanctuary at <https://tinyurl.com/TBEVisittheSanctuary2020>.

### ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

Our annual High Holy Day Food Drive benefiting The Food Bank of Somerset County is a cherished aspect of our community's observance of the holy days. This year, you will have four opportunities to bring your food donations: during the Challah Chibbuk, during each Tashlich service, or during a visit to the sanctuary. See more on page 8.

### GUEST REGISTRATIONS

This year, we are delighted to offer complimentary guest access for all TBE holy day worship services. You are welcome to invite your friends and family from far and wide. Please ask your guests to complete this form (<https://templebethelnj.shulcloud.com/form/hhd-guest-registration-5781.html>) by Monday, September 14 so that we can share live-streaming links directly by email with your guests.



**Saturday, September 12**

7:30 p.m. Selichot Service

**Friday, September 18 — Rosh Hashanah**

7:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

**Saturday, September 19 — Rosh Hashanah**

9:30 a.m. Morning Blessings

10:00 a.m. Shacharit and Torah Service

12:30 p.m. Children's Service (up to grade 5)

3:00 p.m. Tashlich (at Duke Island Park, weather permitting)

(Sign-up required: <https://tinyurl.com/TBETashlich2020>)

**Sunday, September 20 — Rosh Hashanah**

9:30 a.m. Morning Blessings

10:00 a.m. Shacharit and Torah Service

3:00 p.m. Tashlich (at Duke Island Park, weather permitting)

(Sign-up required: <https://tinyurl.com/TBETashlich2020>)

**Wednesday, September 23**

5:30 p.m. Teen Tashlich (Sign-up required, coming soon)

**Friday, September 25**

7:00 p.m. Shabbat Shuvah Evening Service

**Saturday, September 26**

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Shuvah Minyan Service

**Sunday, September 27 — Yom Kippur**

9:30 a.m. High Holy Day Experience for Young Families

(up to grade 2) (<https://tinyurl.com/YoungFamilyHHD>)

7:00 p.m. Kol Nidrei Service

**Monday, September 28 — Yom Kippur**

9:30 a.m. Morning Blessings

10:00 a.m. Shacharit and Torah Service

11:30 a.m. Reflection Service (<https://tinyurl.com/TBEYKReflection2020>)

12:30 p.m. Study Session (<https://tinyurl.com/TBEYKStudySession2020>)

12:30 p.m. Children's Service (up to grade 5)

1:30 p.m. Meditation and Contemplation (<https://tinyurl.com/TBEYKMeditation2020>)

2:30 p.m. Healing Service

3:30 p.m. Afternoon Service

5:30 p.m. Yizkor

6:00 p.m. Neilah, Concluding Service (time approximate)

# ANNUAL *High Holy Days* FOOD DRIVE

The annual High Holy Days food drive is a cherished aspect of our community's observation of the Days of Awe. For many years, Temple Beth-El's total donation has been the single largest donation received by The Food Bank Network of Somerset County. We can't let COVID-19 derail our commitment to partner with The Food Bank Network in serving the those in need in our community. Your generosity will make this possible.

This year there will be four opportunities to bring your donation of food:

- during the Challah Chibbuk (Challah Hug) on September 17 (See page 6)
- during one of the two in-person Tashlich services at Duke Island Park on September 19 and 20 (Sign-up for Tashlich at <https://tinyurl.com/TBETashlich2020>)
- during a visit to the sanctuary during the Days of Awe.



**The Food Bank  
Network of  
Somerset County**

If you are unable to get out to purchase food for The Food Bank, you can make a monetary donation through Temple Beth-El (<http://www.ourbethel.org/Give-Now>). We will consolidate all of the donations and forward a lump sum to The Food Bank. Or, you may make your monetary donation directly to The Food Bank Network by sending a check payable to The Food Bank Network to P.O. Box 149, Bound Brook, NJ 08805 or via the donation page on their website ([www.somersetfoodbank.org/donate/](http://www.somersetfoodbank.org/donate/)).

Remember, our donations make an immeasurable impact by helping families in need. Your generosity has always been overwhelming and we thank you for your consideration this year as well. Contact

David Kornberg, TBE Food Drive Coordinator, at [fooddrive@templebethelnj.org](mailto:fooddrive@templebethelnj.org) for questions about this year's drive.

## Home Sanctuary

As a new Jewish year approaches, the ways in which we will celebrate it will undoubtedly look a little unfamiliar.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many of us will be unable to gather in the ways we do every year, to both welcome the arrival of the new year on Rosh Hashanah, and to break the Yom Kippur fast with our fellow congregants at Temple Beth-El.

None of this, however, means that we can't take steps to make the arrival of 5781 extra special and meaningful, whether you are celebrating as a single person or as a large family.

In fact, there are a number of ways you can make your home as special and welcoming as your synagogue, according to the article "How to Celebrate the High Holidays At Home" on [MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com).

### Set the mood

Choose an area of your home to designate for prayer. Make it inviting and conducive to spirituality. Consider placing pictures of family and Jewish books in the space, or covering items that could be distracting during worship.

Dress up, just as you would to attend synagogue for High Holy Days services. This reinforces the importance of the season and lends itself to making an area of your home extra special. You may be surprised by how wonderful you feel looking your best to welcome the new year.

### Prepare the nosh

As with all Jewish holidays, food is essential to the celebration.

If you're separated from family because of the pandemic, you can still cook together – online. Do a video cooking session with loved ones preparing the same dish as you, or try out a new recipe. This is also a great opportunity to reminisce with others on the video call about past holiday cooking sessions, or to share your hopes for the coming year.

### Close the miles

Don't fret about the distance from loved ones and your fellow congregants. Use the time before services to call or text someone you love or miss. Take a few moments to write a short note or card to someone and send it in the mail – it's a lovely surprise and an opportunity to personalize your sentiments. Or, do a video call to send good wishes for a sweet year. Join any or all of TBE's scheduled Zoom services. TBE's clergy and administrative teams have worked hard to prepare a slate of services that consider our new normal, while also being spiritual and inviting.

Having a new perspective on old traditions can go a long way toward making this holiday season meaningful, while keeping us all safe. For additional ideas on how to celebrate the holidays during the pandemic, visit [MyJewishLearning.com](http://MyJewishLearning.com).



## Join us for a special Shabbat Sukkot service

Friday, October 2, 6:00 p.m.

via Zoom (<https://tinyurl.com/TBESukkot2020>)

Prepare a festive meal. Decorate your table.

And then join us on Zoom for a celebration of Shabbat and Sukkot  
and a discussion of the Ushpizin, symbolic guests you would invite into your sukkah.

### Reserve the Sukkah

Since we can't gather under our Sukkah as a community to celebrate the Festival of Sukkot, we are making the sukkah available to TBE families to fulfill the mitzvah of "dwelling" in the sukkah. You and your family could reserve the sukkah for an outdoor dinner, a craft session, a change-of-scenery for homework, or simply a place to sit and contemplate the holiday.

Table and chairs will be available. Two tables will be set, appropriately distanced from one another. Each table can accommodate up to 10 people. Please bring all of your own food and supplies for your meals.

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/TBEReserve-the-Sukkah-2020>

Feel free to bring along some decorations to add to our lovely sukkah.

Want to get your own lulav and etrog? Contact Judaica Gallery in Highland Park to order yours (732-828-7722). Pick up after Yom Kippur.

Want to build your own sukkah? Watch for a video with instructions coming to your inbox.

Chag Sameach Sukkot!

### Help Build the Sukkah

The holiday of Sukkot begins on October 2. We're gathering to build our sukkah on Sunday, September 27 (weather permitting; rain date Friday, October 2). Even though we can't gather in the sukkah as a community, we're building the sukkah and making it available to families to reserve.

Adults and children alike are welcome to help build the sukkah. No experience necessary — you don't even have to know how to work power tools which makes this great for kids! This will take you back to your childhood days of Lincoln Logs (except on a bigger scale!). This has always been a fun activity, with many groups within the temple participating. Please bring gloves if you have them, and definitely bring a mask, as we will be limiting the number of volunteers and practicing social distancing.

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/TBE-Sukkah-Building-2020>

And we'll need schach for the sukkah, too. Leafy branches, long bamboo cuttings, evergreens, corn stalks, etc. Items should be at least a few feet long to help make a leafy roof. Leave schach on the side of the patio by the large social hall.

# Lifecycle

## Our Condolences to

Jay Lavroff on the passing of his beloved father, Richard Lavroff  
 Rhonda Brown on the passing of her beloved father, Peter Slackman  
 Shelley Drozd on the passing of her beloved mother, Paula Glaser Holcombe  
 Janice Klein on the passing of her beloved brother, Brian David Breslow  
 Beverly Cohen on the passing of her beloved sister, Rita Meizel  
 Matt Wolkofsky on the passing of his beloved mother, Susan Wolkofsky  
 Ellen Stept on the passing of her beloved mother, Jean Samet  
 Samuel Naroden on the passing of his beloved brother, Alan Naroden  
 Ivy Anglin on the passing of her beloved husband, Trevor Anglin  
 Cantor Emily Wigod Pincus on the passing of her beloved mother, Dorothy (Suzy) Wigod

## Mazel Tov to

Rosalyn and Robert Goldman on their son Matthew becoming bar mitzvah on August 29  
 Erica Erb and Wendy Wagner on their daughter Delia becoming bat mitzvah on August 29  
 Becky and Dave Ascher on their son Brian becoming bar mitzvah on September 5  
 Mara and Christopher Torres on their son Anthony becoming bar mitzvah on September 12  
 Kelly and Michael Worman on their son Jacob becoming bar mitzvah on October 17  
 Melissa and Jeff Ringel on their daughter Ashley becoming bat mitzvah on October 31  
 Jodi Siegal and Oscar Gonzalez on the arrival of their granddaughter, Astra Joyce Gonzalez  
 Donna and Jay Tischfield on the arrival of their grandson, Alexander Lucus Violin Tischfield

## Welcome TO THE WORLD



### Alexander Lucus Violin Tischfield

Born June 9 to parents Sam Tischfield and Liz Violin and grandparents Jay and Donna Tischfield

Parents and grandparents are over the moon for baby Alexander (as is his cousin Silvi)



### Astra Joyce Gonzalez

Born August 20 to Josh Gonzalez and Katey Basye and grandparents Jodi Siegal and Oscar Gonzalez

She is already the apple of her grandparents' eyes.

## Our Caring Community

**Kesher Network:** For those who are unable to attend our worship and simcha events and some adult education classes, our video streaming service is the next best thing to being there. Navigate to [new.livestream.com/OurBethEl](http://new.livestream.com/OurBethEl) from a personal computer or mobile device (apps are available for apple, android, roku device, or Fire sticks) for a list of upcoming and recent livestream events from Temple Beth-El.

**Shiva Minyans:** For a leader or participants, contact Amy Rubin.

**Mitzvah Committee:** To offer or request help, please contact Amy Rubin.

**Ladles of Love:** To offer to help deliver care packages or to suggest someone who might need a little extra love, contact Andrea Bradley, [ladlesoflove@templebethelnj.org](mailto:ladlesoflove@templebethelnj.org).

**In the event of a loss during the evening or on the weekend, call Rabbi Gluck at 908-722-0674, ext. 311, or 908-229-1618, or Cantor Wallach at 908-722-0674, ext. 315 or 415-290-0743.**

To share your family's news in the Shofar, call Dina Fisher in the temple office (908-722-0674 or [dinafisher@templebethel.org](mailto:dinafisher@templebethel.org)). Please contact Dina with information about significant occasions, hospitalizations, or the loss of a loved one.

**Prayer for Healing Cards:** Cards are available in the temple lobby to let those in need of healing know that their names were included in our Mishebeirach prayer. The cards can be mailed as postcards by writing the address over the Temple Beth-El watermark or directly inserted into get well cards.

## Acts of Tzedakah

### General Donation

**Contributions to this account are used where they are needed most, and often make special programs possible.**

In appreciation of Temple Beth-El

*Bruce and Ellen Davidson*

*Susan and Edwin Steinfeld*

*Kathy Shanklin*

*Goldie Taub and Murray Levine*

*Larry and Kay Taub*

*Terry and Ann Wallin*

*Marci and Jay Taylor*

*Arthur and Betty Roswell*

*Alan Fayerman*

*Bryan and Lynn Small*

In memory of Robert Roth

*Bobbie D'Angelo*

In honor of Shari and Leigh Miller

*Rabbi Maurice Salth*

In memory of Richard Lavroff

*Maddie and Charles Okun*

In memory of Joseph Fisch, Ruth Ferling, Florence

Feuer, Carol diMackiewicz, Alan Wilson Cardoso and

Paul Stark

*Pam and Jay Lavroff*

In honor of Leigh Miller's presidency

*Pam and Jay Lavroff*

In memory of Richard Lavroff

*Gail Meyers*

In honor of their 60th wedding anniversary

*Bob and Fran Taber*

In memory of William H. Engler

*Francine and Marcy Engler*

### Rabbi Gluck's Discretionary Fund

**Contributions to this fund enable Rabbi Gluck to assist congregants in need and support important causes.**

In memory of Peter Slackman

*Robert and Rhonda Brown*

In memory of Natalie Roth

*Bobbie D'Angelo*

In memory of Paula Glaser Holcombe

*Joseph and Shelley Drozd*

In memory of Stefan Epstein

*Bruce Epstein and Michele Sweeney-Epstein*

In memory of Lawrence Fischer

*David and Melissa Fischer*

*Kerri and Steven Fischer*

In honor of Yuval Shalev's brit milah

*Keren Gorban*

In memory of Dora Kanterman

*Stanley and Tina Kanterman*

In appreciation of Temple Beth-El

*Sandy Schwartz*

*Elaine Krantz*

In appreciation of Rabbi Gluck

*Sandie Rabinowitz*

In honor of Jerry Schnitzer's second Bar Mitzvah

*Cantor Jerry and Myrna Schnitzer*

In appreciation of Rabbi Gluck

*Jim and Bonnie Shrager*

In honor of Jerry Schnitzer

*Jim and Bonnie Shrager*

### Cantor's Discretionary Fund

**Donations to this fund assist congregants who are in need and support our community's music programs.**

In memory of Richard Lavroff

*Harriet Thaler*

### Memorial Fund

**Contributions to this fund support the ritual life of the congregation.**

In memory of Bonnie Lifchus

*David and Rebecca Ascher*

In memory of Paul Stark

*Jeff and Andrea Stuart*

In memory of Tyler Landesman

*Carol and Glen Landesman*

In memory of Nathan Milstein

*Gail Meyers*

In memory of Helene Lieberman

*Madelyn and Charles Okun*

In memory of Ruth Ferling

*Caryn Shinske*

In memory of Richard Lavroff

*Barbara and Russ Johnston*

*Nicole Kobis*

*Jay and Marci Taylor*

*Jeanette and Edward Tuckman*

In memory of Morris Mendelson and Isidore Kirsch

*Stanley Mendelson*

In memory of Rose D. Siroty and Sylvia Waldman

*Arens*

*Robert and Margo Siroty*

In memory of Albert Taub

*Goldie Taub*

In memory of Florre Fine

*Helene Fine*

In memory of Irene Joyce Boulton

*Stuart and Edith Rugg*

In memory of Molly Fass

*Alan and Elaine Fass*

In memory of Paula Glaser Holcombe

*Shelley and Joseph Drozd*

In memory of Alter Cudzynowski

*Joseph and Barbara Cudzynowski*

In appreciation of Challah Chibbuk

*Dave and Liz Cohen*

*Brett Cooper and Lisa Schatz*

*Phyllis and Dave Feinblum*

*Michael and Judith Goldberg*

*David and Paula Kornberg*

*Donna Lewin and Kenneth Herskovitz*

*Ariel Meltzer*

*Robin and Larry Osman*

*Marcy and Alan Rosenfeld*

*Ken Snyder and Vicki Schwartz*

*Sharon Sietz*

*Susan Willett and Brian Wood*

*Richard and Leslie Marcus*

*Margo and Robert Siroty*

*Zorina and Paul Walitsky*

*Rabbi Hirshel and Rochelle Jaffe*

### Jules Swickle Chesed Fund

**Gifts to this fund, created in honor of one of our founding members, will enable acts of loving kindness for those in need.**

In appreciation of Temple Beth-El

*Rich and Zahava Schaefer*

In memory of Bernard Bienes

*Martin and Zina Wolin*

In honor of Myrna Binder's birthday

*Jay and Marci Taylor*

### Security Fund

**Gifts to this fund support a wide range of security measures to keep our community safe.**

In appreciation of Temple Beth-El

*Melissa and Stuart Pyle*

### Youth Activities Fund

**Donations to this fund support a wide range of programming for our Youth Group.**

In honor of Alex Fromberg receiving the Skylands

Conference Scholar Athlete Award

*Jay and Pam Lavroff*

### Garden Fund

**Donations to this fund help maintain our beautiful courtyard garden, which has been lovingly tended by congregants and provides a place of study and socialization.**

In memory of Isidor Taub

*Goldie Taub*

### Prayer Book Fund

**Donations to this fund support the purchase of new, and the repair of well-used worship materials.**

In memory of Richard Lavroff

*Sharon Fink*

## RAC-NJ Celebrates Its Launch

A record 400+ attendees tuned in to the official virtual launch of RAC-NJ, the state advocacy arm of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC) on Aug. 6. This marks the formal transition of Reform Jewish Voice of NJ to a professionally staffed RAC state project. This means that our voices will be even stronger and more impactful as our TBE congregational team joins in continued Advocacy Days and other actions for social justice.

In the launch, leaders reviewed our shared story of our experiences as Reform Jews: of the pandemic, economic turmoil, and calls for racial justice. The Rev. Dr. Charles Boyer of Salvation and Social Justice gave a stirring review of racial disparities in New Jersey and the work that needs to be done to address them. New Jersey Secretary of State Tahesha Way shared lessons learned from the July primary election about conducting safe voting during the pandemic. And Rabbi Jonah Pesner, director of the RAC, called us to action. You can view the launch at <https://www.facebook.com/TheRAC/videos/731503734371094>

For us at TBE, that call to action includes:

**Join TBE's Civic Engagement Team** as part of the RAC Every Voice Every Vote Civic Engagement Campaign (see accompanying article below).

**Join our congregational team at TBE**, to get updates, calls to action, and participate in the work of RAC NJ together.

**Join the RAC NJ Research/Issue Identification Team** that will be working in the coming months to understand the top issues/needs for pursuing racial and economic justice in New Jersey, identifying who is working on these issues, and deciding how RAC-NJ should shape our campaign to have the most positive impact.

The launch also introduced Lead Organizer Sarah Blaine. Sarah brings great legal and advocacy skills, knowledge of NJ issues and power structures, and a lifetime of Reform Jewish engagement. Her passion for Jewish social justice work began with her summer at Mitzvah Corps, where her roommate was Rabbi Elisa Koppel (formerly our assistant rabbi and youth director at TBE)!

For questions about RAC NJ or how to get involved, please email Liz Cohen at [liz@decarchitect.com](mailto:liz@decarchitect.com).

In this time of challenge and uncertainty, it is comforting to come together to act on our Jewish values, bringing more justice, compassion, and wholeness to our state.

*L'shalom,*

*Liz Cohen*

RAC-NJ Leadership Team

## Civic Engagement at Temple Beth-El

TBE's Civic Engagement Team has been hard at work organizing to reach out to our temple family and beyond to assure that we all have the information we need to vote safely and on time in the Nov. 3 election. Our work is part of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC)'s Every Voice, Every Vote Civic Engagement Campaign; we are among hundreds of congregations across the country doing this work.

We have three subcommittees following the three areas of the RAC's campaign:

### TBE VOTES

Our goal is to make Temple Beth-El a 100 percent voting congregation. We'll help you confirm that you're registered and answer any questions. If you're a first-time voter, have moved since you last voted, changed your name, or haven't voted in several years, you may need to register and we'll help as needed.

This year all registered New Jersey voters will receive mail-in ballots. RAC-NJ has created a video detailing the how-tos. We will also be reaching out to support you through this process and to urge you to get your ballot in early. We will have opportunities to gather virtually to build community, answer questions, and cheer the congregation on to seeing all eligible voters casting their vote safely. This is a nonpartisan effort, and is all about exercising our right to vote. Email Beth Lavranchuk at [CivicEngagement@TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:CivicEngagement@TempleBethElNJ.org) if you would like to help.

### FIGHTING VOTER SUPPRESSION

Many states have created barriers to voting, especially for communities of color, and the RAC has partnered with Center for Common Ground's Reclaim Our Vote Campaign to remove these stumbling blocks. Through this nonpartisan program, our TBE committee members have been writing postcards to give voters in states with a high percentage of low propensity voters the information needed to assure they know where and when to vote. We have optional Zoom letter-writing parties (see eblast for details). We plan to do Zoom Textbanking as well. To help, email Liz Cohen at [CivicEngagement@TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:CivicEngagement@TempleBethElNJ.org)

### YOUTH VOTE

In 2018, only 25 percent of eligible voters ages 18-25 voted in the fall election. Our youth-led TBE group is reaching out to our young adult members to help us get to 100 percent. Outreach to extended family and community is also encouraged. Contact Jacki Skole at [CivicEngagement@TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:CivicEngagement@TempleBethElNJ.org) if you are interested in joining the effort.

We invite you to participate in any of these efforts. They are a great way to connect with our community from home.

Please reach out to our chairs or to the temple office to volunteer.

*L'shalom,*

*Liz and Dave Cohen*

**IN TENSE TIMES, EXPLORE HOW  
JEWISH VALUES CAN HELP  
INFORM AND GUIDE US**



# **Slichot**

**Music, Study, Community**

**Emet V'Shalom — Truth and Peace**

**Balancing Values That Sometimes  
Conflict**

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2020  
8 P M**

**VIA ZOOM-**

**[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/COMMUNITY-SELICHOT-2020](https://tinyurl.com/community-selichot-2020)**

**WITH:**

**KEHILAT SHALOM, BELLE MEAD  
TEMPLE HAR SHALOM, WARREN  
KNESSETH ISRAEL, BOUND BROOK  
TEMPLE BETH-EL, HILLSBOROUGH  
TEMPLE SHOLOM, BRIDGEWATER**

## A Big Challah Hug

Temple Beth-El held our first Challah Chibbuk (khee-buk; it means “hug”) on July 24 as a way to bring people together and say hello in person during the prolonged COVID exile. Eighty cars full of friendly faces drove by the temple to greet TBE clergy, senior staff, and lay leaders. It was great to see actual faces in person rather than on screen. Cantor Wallach handed out the challahs, ensuring that she had a chance to greet everyone. She even met some kids and pets who were along for the fun.

Thank you to everyone who came out and a special thank you to those who made a contribution to the Memorial Fund, which funded the event.

Our next Challah Chibbuk is September 17. We hope to see you then. Registration is required. See more on page 6.



Challah Chibbuk day two at Amy Rubin's house. Yum!



## Support Your Local Shomrim

As many of you know, the Temple Beth-El shomrim effort began as a group of volunteers watching over the temple when services took place, school was in session, and special events were happening. During the pandemic, we shifted gears to provide drive-through surveillance of the temple on a random basis. We are continuing with that effort for the foreseeable future, so we still need diligent volunteers.

With the approach of the fall season, a few b'nei mitzvah services will take place in the sanctuary, with only immediate family members in attendance, while the service is simultaneously conducted on Zoom for the congregation and invited guests. The technology setup for the blended online/in-person service is quite complex, and the clergy and staff are fully engaged in the service. As a result,

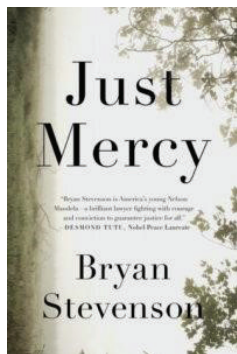
we especially need a shomer to monitor the lobby and entryways while everyone else is busy and to just keep an eye on things. Please consider volunteering for a Shabbat. Your contact with the attendees will be extremely minimal.

Once Temple Beth-El begins returning to in-person activities, we expect that the role of the shomrim will gradually expand again. To be ready, we need to begin growing our team of shomrim even more. Please strongly consider saying "hineni" to this need by emailing ([Shomrim@TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:Shomrim@TempleBethElNJ.org)) or calling me at 908-672-6477.

*L'shanah Tovah!*

**Harold Levin**  
Shomrim Coordinator

## TBE Reads Selections for September and October



In September, TBE Reads will tackle *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*, by Bryan Stevenson. A winner of multiple book awards and now a major motion picture, *Just Mercy* is an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice. Library readers should reserve this read right away! The

book is available in audiobook, paperback and hardcover. Recommended by Robin Osman. The discussion will be led by Debbie Herman.

**September 15, 7:15 p.m.**

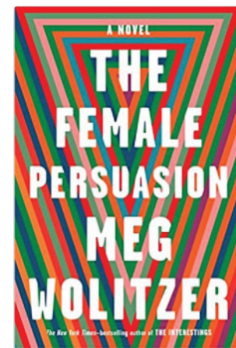
Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84420554073>

OR connect by phone:

929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 844 2055 4073

The October book choice is *The Female Persuasion*, a novel by Meg Wolitzer. To be admired by someone we admire—we all yearn for this: the private, electrifying pleasure of being singled out by someone of esteem. But sometimes it can also mean entry to a new kind of life, a bigger world.

Charming and wise, knowing and witty, the author delivers a novel about power and influence, ego and loyalty, womanhood and ambition. At its heart, *The Female Persuasion* is about the flame we all believe is flickering inside of us, waiting to be seen and fanned by the right person at the right time. It's a story about the people who guide and the people who follow (and how those roles evolve over time), and the desire within all of us to be pulled into the light. The discussion will be led by Elayne Weitz.



**October 26, 7:15 p.m.**

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82325837404>

OR connect by phone:

929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 823 2583 7404

To get on the TBE Reads distribution list, contact Debbie Herman at [TBEReads@templebethelnj.org](mailto:TBEReads@templebethelnj.org).

## Blood Drive

Sunday, November 29, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Register online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

Search for our drive (Temple Beth-El) by date or ZIP code (08844), and scroll down until you find it. If you need help registering, contact Jodi Siegal at [BloodDrive@TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:BloodDrive@TempleBethElNJ.org) with your full name, preferred time to donate, telephone number/email, and blood type (if known.)

The Red Cross will be using enhanced safety precautions:

1. **All donors must be registered in advance. No walk-in donors.**
2. Temperature will be taken at the door.
3. Masks are required. Please provide your own.
4. Food offerings in the canteen limited to prepackaged snacks and drinks.

Contact Jodi ([BloodDrive@TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:BloodDrive@TempleBethElNJ.org)) with questions or offers to volunteer in the canteen.



## Cultural Arts

### Cultural Arts Happenings for September and October

Hello, and Happy New Year from the Cultural Arts Committee! Let this year be as sweet as honey, zissen, as one says in Yiddish.

Bob Krovetz has generously agreed to take over the Jewish Film Program, which I had run since 2004. Bob and I decided that he will run the program separately from the Cultural Arts Committee. Bob has a passion for movies as well as new and interesting ideas about how to change or improve the program, and I wish him well.

The Cultural Arts Committee will continue planning Israeli Folk Dancing sessions as soon as we are permitted to dance in the temple. For now, some of our members exercise their love for Israeli dancing on Zoom.

We also hope to plan for an open mic/cabaret event once the pandemic crisis passes and we can return to indoor activities at the temple, in consultation with temple leadership. Or, we may consider how to do it over Zoom.

If you would like to help plan Cultural Arts Committee fun, call Simona at (908) 369-7884.

*L'shalom,*

*Simona Rivkin*

Cultural Arts Chair



## Cooking for the “Other” High Holy Days

When it comes to recipes and food features for the High Holy Days, Rosh Hashanah gets all the love – recipes for honey cake, apple strudel and so on. But all of our holidays have special foods that are traditionally associated with them. For example, during Sukkot, which has its roots in agricultural festivals, Jews in many parts of the world will prepare fruit and vegetable dishes for the meals eaten in the sukkah. Many are embellished with pomegranate seeds, which symbolize abundance and good fortune. My cousin once prepared for me a beautiful spinach salad with orange sections, walnuts and pomegranate seeds. In Ashkenazi countries, Jews often eat chicken soup with kreplach on the last day of Sukkot, as it's thought that kindness will cover, as the kreplach dough does the filling, any strict judgment of misdeeds.

Even Yom Kippur, a holiday you might not think is too food-oriented, features special dishes for the meals before and after the fast. In both the Ashkenazi and Sephardim

worlds, chicken is a common pre-fast food. This is rooted in the custom of kapparot, an ancient “scapegoat” ritual involving a chicken. Thus, the pre-fast meal typically starts with chicken soup, with kreplach or matzo balls for Ashkenazim, and perhaps chicken and lemon soup in Sephardic cultures. This is often followed by a chicken dish and rice. The meal to break the fast is, of course, more festive. A traditional Ashkenazi meal is chopped herring, chicken soup with mandlen, carrot tzimmes, roast chicken with stuffing, sponge cake, teiglach (a honey pastry) and fresh fruit. Sephardim break the fast with a cold drink, such as lemonade or apricot juice, followed by small savory and sweet pastries and anise-flavored breads, served with tea. In many communities worldwide, the break-fast meal is a dairy one.

Hungry now? Here are a few recipes to whet your appetite for the many festive meals ahead.

### Chicken and Okra Stew

This is a simple and tasty stew made with okra, chicken, carrots and North African spices. It's a delicious one-pot meal that is perfect for the Yom Kippur pre-fast meal.

2 T. extra virgin olive oil  
4 large chicken thighs, bone in, skin on (about 1½ lbs.)  
1 medium onion, sliced  
2 medium carrots, peeled and sliced  
2 tsp. garlic minced  
1 lb. fresh okra, cut into ¼ -inch pieces, tops discarded  
2 c. low sodium chicken broth, or more if needed  
1¾ c. diced tomatoes, or 1 can  
3 T. tomato paste  
¾ tsp. paprika  
¾ tsp. cinnamon  
½ tsp. cumin  
¼ tsp. turmeric  
Pinch cayenne  
1/3 c. chopped cilantro, divided  
(or substitute flat leaf parsley)

Source: *Toriavey.com*



Sprinkle chicken thighs lightly with salt and pepper. Heat olive oil in a large sauté pan with high walls over medium heat until hot. Place the chicken thighs into the hot oil, skin side down, and turn heat to medium high. Brown the thighs for about 10 minutes, flipping once halfway through, until thighs are browned on both sides and skin is golden and crisp. Remove the thighs from the pan. Do not drain the fat or juices from the pan.

Add the sliced onion to the pan and sauté for 3-4 minutes until softened. Add the carrots and sauté them for 2-3 more minutes until the onion starts to turn golden. Add the garlic and cook for 1 minute more until fragrant.

Add ½ cup chicken broth to the pan, stirring and scraping up the brown bits from the bottom of the pan as the mixture cooks. Add 1½ cups more broth to the pan along with the diced tomatoes, tomato paste, paprika, cinnamon, cumin, turmeric, cayenne, and 3 tablespoons of the chopped cilantro or parsley. Be careful when adding the cayenne, as it's extremely spicy. One-quarter teaspoon is enough to give the stew a slight kick. Stir the mixture and bring to a boil. Add ¼ teaspoon salt and ¼ teaspoon black pepper to the pot. Stir all the ingredients, then reduce heat to a simmer.

Put chicken thighs back in the sauté pan and ladle sauce and carrots over them. Cover the pot, vented on one side, and let the stew simmer for 45 minutes, occasionally basting the thighs with sauce, until the chicken is tender. Uncover the pot and remove chicken thighs and skin. Stir the sliced okra into the sauce, bring to a simmer, reduce heat to low and cover again, letting the okra cook for 15-20 more minutes until tender. Meanwhile, cut the chicken meat from the bones in thick shreds, discarding bones, skin and excess fat. (If you prefer, you can keep the chicken pieces whole instead of shredding them; be sure to discard the skin before serving.)

Stir the sliced chicken back into the pot with the okra as it cooks. If the stew seems too dry, add a little chicken broth to rehydrate. Let the mixture simmer until the okra is softened and the sauce has thickened. Remove from heat and sprinkle with remaining 2 tablespoons chopped cilantro. Serve stew over cooked quinoa or brown rice.

## Fig Soufflé

This elegant, lovely but simple dessert is perfect for your Sukkot table. The figs, honey and lemon juice are festive and delicious!

10 medium fresh figs, peeled and pureed to produce one cup  
(or 10 dried figs, soaked in water and pureed)

2 egg yolks

10 T. sugar

4 egg whites

1 T. honey

2 T. lemon juice, preferably fresh

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Butter six  $\frac{3}{4}$ -cup soufflé dishes or a 4-cup soufflé mold.

Whisk the egg yolks and 5 tablespoons of the sugar until the mixture lightens in color. In another bowl, beat the egg whites

and 2 tablespoons of the sugar to soft peaks. Then add 3 tablespoons of sugar and beat to firm peaks.

Mix 4 tablespoons of the fig purée into the yolk mixture, and then, in thirds, fold in the whites.

Fill the soufflé cups or mold three-quarters full and bake for 10-12 minutes. **DO NOT** open the oven door during this time. While the soufflé is baking, add the honey and lemon juice to the rest of the fig purée. Serve the soufflé in its dish, pouring the sauce over the top.

Source: *The Jewish Holiday Kitchen*, by Joan Nathan

## Renaissance Happenings

**To: Renaissance Members**

From: Harriet Thaler

Re: Important Information on Voting / Voting by Mail

**The Renaissance Group of Temple Beth-El  
is sponsoring a workshop –  
SAFEGUARDING OUR VOTES IN 2020**



Upcoming elections are critical to the future of our country, and everyone should exercise their right to vote. The workshop will share information about the unique aspects of the upcoming election, given the COVID-19 situation we are all living through.

The workshop will be conducted using Zoom

Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Time: 3:00 PM

**IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO,  
PLEASE REGISTER NOW**

Registration Link:

[https://urj.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUudOyrpj4iE9Possy1DT\\_C3HqWr5DGNq3N](https://urj.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUudOyrpj4iE9Possy1DT_C3HqWr5DGNq3N)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

This workshop is part of a series of activities coordinated by the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism (“RAC”). The workshop will be presented by our state organization, RAC-NJ. This effort is part of Temple Beth-El’s 100% voter commitment.

If you have any questions, please contact Harriet Thaler at 908-812-6458 or [harriethaler7324@gmail.com](mailto:harriethaler7324@gmail.com)

The Renaissance Group is a 50+ social group that gets together to share interests, experiences, and activities. New membership is welcomed! Should you wish additional information about the group, or want to contribute to the Renaissance Happenings column, we welcome your submissions on a learned experience or human interest story. Please contact Harriet Thaler at 908-788-0269 or [thalerz@embargamail.com](mailto:thalerz@embargamail.com).

## Social Action

Repairing the World...One Mitzvah at a Time!

### Interfaith Hospitality Network

Leigh Freeman, Coordinator — IHN / Temple Beth-El

Our next hosting date is Oct. 18-24

#### Upcoming IHN Dates:

October 18-24

December 20-27

The Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County (IHNSC) is a not-for-profit organization that provides many layers of services for homeless families with children. IHNSC provides a valuable service, as most other programs for homeless families do not provide the range of services to families with children.

Temple Beth-El hosts clients of IHN six times a year, approximately February, March or April, June, August, October or November and December. The families call Temple Beth-El "home" for a week and our volunteers give their time to assure that the families have a warm and welcoming stay with good food, compassion, play, and lots of good conversation.

Getting involved requires only a few hours from one to six times a year...you choose your level of involvement. Every volunteer is an important mentor to our IHN families.

Please visit [www.tinyurl.com/TBEIHNOct2020](http://www.tinyurl.com/TBEIHNOct2020) or call the appropriate coordinator listed below to schedule a volunteer shift. Always check the IHN Coordinators Contact List in each issue of the Shofar, as it's possible that there have been changes. **Each volunteer is expected to honor their commitment to the IHN hosting week. If a volunteer is unable to fulfill their commitment, they should contact another volunteer and swap dates.**

With the building remaining closed due to the COVID crisis, TBE is unable to host IHN clients this October. IHN clients will stay at a local hotel. Meals are still needed. Please sign up to help feed the IHN guests.

#### IHNSC Raffle Benefits Homeless Families

Tickets are on sale now for the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County's annual fundraiser. The Holiday Calendar Raffle draws seven winners each week in November, December and January 2021. All tickets are re-entered for each weekly drawing, giving ticket holders 13 chances to win! Each day of the three-month period has a designated value of \$30 to \$100. Winners will receive a check in the mail after each drawing.

Tickets are \$10 and are available by calling Karen Donohue at 908-704-1920 or emailing [Karen@ihnsc.org](mailto:Karen@ihnsc.org). You may also stop by IHN's Flynn Day Center, 98 West End Avenue, Somerville, during regular business hours.

IHN provides emergency shelter, transitional housing and support services to families throughout Somerset County, supported by a network of volunteers from 30 religious congregations in the county.

*Thank you for your support.*

### IHN Coordinators Contact List

Function	Name	Main Phone	Other Phone	Email Address
Coordinator	Leigh Freeman	908-359-2724	908-391-1397 (c)	<a href="mailto:dancer.leighfreeman@att.net">dancer.leighfreeman@att.net</a>
Dinner Shift Volunteers	YOUR NAME HERE			
Evening Shift Volunteers	Julie Hirsch	732-580-8246		<a href="mailto:jbghirsch@gmail.com">jbghirsch@gmail.com</a>
Overnight Shift Volunteers	Sharon Sietz		908-256-6483	<a href="mailto:sharon.sietz@gmail.com">sharon.sietz@gmail.com</a>
Meals	YOUR NAME HERE			
Food/Supplies	Mara White	908-231-1518	301-704-6066 (c)	<a href="mailto:mara@alumni.brown.edu">mara@alumni.brown.edu</a>
Linen Pick-Up	Cindy Andrews		908-635-6858 (c)	<a href="mailto:cjrandrews@gmail.com">cjrandrews@gmail.com</a>
Set-Up/Breakdown	David Cohen	609-683-5766		<a href="mailto:david@decarchitect.com">david@decarchitect.com</a>
IHNSC/Day Center	Karen Donohue	908-704-1920	908-217-0217 (c)	<a href="mailto:karen@ihnsc.org">karen@ihnsc.org</a>

# *Yahrzeits* S e p t e m b e r

[Click here to return to Page 1](#)

We extend our deepest sympathy to those of you who will be marking a loved one's Yahrzeit in the coming month. Below are the dates for the Yahrzeits we will be reciting during Shabbat services.

## **To be read September 4 and 5**

Solomon Maizel, grandfather of Ryan Maizel  
Aaron Ritzer, father of Gayle Skolky  
Marvin Finkelstein, father of Beth Lavranchuk  
Leonard Alan Shubitz, brother of Gerald Shubitz  
Morris Bauer, father of Elaine Goldsmith  
Dorothy Lowenthal, grandmother of Lynn Small  
Joan Finke, grandmother of Jeff Stuart  
John Gale, father of Janet Aaronson  
Sol Greenberg, father-in-law of Phyllis Greenberg  
Joshua Irvin Albin, son of Shari and Robert Albin  
Jay Oshinsky, cousin of Ann Wallin

## **To be read September 11 and 12**

Harvey Weiss, father of Dorothy Radowitz  
Anita Maizel, grandmother of Ryan Maizel  
Herbert Sloan, father of Steve Sloan  
Gregory Sussman, father of Yelena Kalikina  
Jane Ellen Franzblau, sister-in-law of Barbara Franzblau  
Susan Berger, mother of Michael Berger  
Alvin Resnick, father of Jeff Resnick  
Frances Tolman, mother of Edward Tolman  
Martin Richard, father of Scott Richard  
Ida Cudzynowski, mother of Joseph Cudzynowski  
William Flacks, father of Jill Wedeen  
Rose Tauber, mother of Shelley Berger  
Marian Weigl, grandmother of Lynn Small  
Marsha Wohl, mother of Robyn Becker  
Gloria Rothschild, mother of David Rothschild  
Edith Katchen, mother of Beverly Cohen  
Fay Stern, great-aunt of Jeff Stuart  
Debra Lee Schreiber, sister of Shari Farmer  
Janice Wasserman, mother-in-law of Tracy Wasserman  
Lillian Roberts, mother of Sharon Hambro  
Daniel Tucker, brother of Barbara Cohen  
Elaine Cohen, mother of Gary Cohen  
Michael Freiberg, father of Wendy Amodeo

## **To be read September 18 and 19**

Ava Faltz-Miller, sister-in-law of Rick and Bev Miller  
Norman Willett, father of Susan Willett  
Blanche Levendel, mother of Sheila Koen  
Andrew Freiberg, brother of Wendy Amodeo  
Walter Geller, father of Ira Geller

Claire Katzenstein, grandmother of Howard Mangel  
Leonard Levitt, father of Laura Miller  
Sol Braun, father of Daniel Braun  
Richard Goldsmith, husband of Elaine Goldsmith  
John Jordan, father of Pat Galler  
Thomas Angeline, husband of Hillary Angeline,  
father of Anthony, Joseph and Lauren Angeline  
William Weinstein, father of Jeffrey Weinstein  
Allan Miller, father of Leigh Miller  
Dorothy Shapiro, mother of Irene Lieberman  
Jim Rothschild, brother of David Rothschild  
Charles Zolin, father of Jodi Harwood  
Ida Shrensel, grandmother of Nancy Feusse  
Irving Sirotky, father of Robert Sirotky  
Frances P. Shapiro, mother-in-law of Joshua Skowronek  
Beatrice Simon, mother of Janet Halpern  
Natalie Gorka, mother of Wendy Horowitz

## **To be read September 25 and 26**

Hank Kampf, father of Alexander Kampf  
Seth Martin Rawicz, son of Scott Rawicz  
Liz Rawicz, wife of Scott Rawicz  
Leonard William Hambro, father of Larry Hambro  
Benjamin Roth, grandfather of Bobbie D'Angelo  
David Roswell, father of Arthur Roswell  
Alan Wohl, husband of Gail Wohl  
Judith Edelman, mother of Marsha Malberg  
Bessie Friedman, grandmother of Helene Fine  
Therese Kobrin, sister-in-law of Max Spinner  
Max Tischfield, father of Jay Tischfield  
Sigmund Miller, husband of Laura Miller  
Doris Herman, mother of David Herman  
Joseph Paulanski, father-in-law of Linda Paulanski  
Mollie Goldstein, grandmother of Heather Lissa  
Gussie Glatt, mother of Evelyn Silverstein  
Irwin Brody, brother of Bruce Brody  
Anne Siegel, sister of Ted Baker  
Irene Drozd, mother of Joseph Drozd  
Julius Tompa, father of Gary Tompa  
Irv Cohen, husband of Beverly Cohen  
Mahdy Flacks, mother of Jill Wedeen  
Joseph Brienese, father of Zina Wolin

# Yahrzeits October

[Click here to return to Page 1](#)

We extend our deepest sympathy to those of you who will be marking a loved one's Yahrzeit in the coming month. Below are the dates for the Yahrzeits we will be reciting during Shabbat services.

## To be read October 2 and 3

Allen Febesh, father of Ilene Rothschild  
Martin Friedman, father of Jack Friedman  
Sheryl Carraher, wife of John Carraher  
Louis Goldstein, grandfather of Seth Goldstein  
Arnold Cooper, father of Brett Cooper  
Stanley Breslow, father of Janice Klein  
Louise Arens, mother of Margo Sirotky  
Karl Rebarber, father of Roxanne Levinston  
Seymour Fogel, godfather of Donna Tischfield  
Lawrence Siegel, father of Deborah Levenberg  
Jerome M. Cohen, brother-in-law of Barbara Cohen,  
uncle of Deborah Cohen  
Perry Bucholtz, father of Ronnie Weyl  
Edith Tesser, mother of Laurie Novak  
Lena Lieberman, grandmother of Steven Lieberman  
Mathew Morelli, son of Marci Becker-Morelli  
Russel Johnston, Sr., father of Russ Johnston  
Ira Zelnick, brother of Zelda Reinhart  
Mathew Morelli, son of Ralph Morelli  
Mario Lorenzoni, father of Paula Kornberg  
Charles Howard, brother of Sidney Horowitz  
Frederick Klein, father of David Klein  
Jeff Mitchell, brother of Donna Tischfield  
Jay Jefferson Cooke, friend of Caryn Shinske

## To be read October 9 and 10

David Ellenberg, father of Naomi McGlashan  
Mary Wisniewski, mother of Carol Nerenberg  
Lydie Altes, mother of Ghislaine Silverman  
David Golub, father of Jill Geller  
Carl Smith, father of Joseph Smith  
Daniel Franzblau, father-in-law of Barbara Franzblau  
Carl Edward Feusse, father of Andy Feusse  
Elizabeth Ann Feusse, mother of Andy Feusse  
Leon S. Rosenblum, brother of Fern Kamine  
Morris Kaminetsky, father-in-law of Fern Kamine  
Sidney Grossman, father of Linda Strand  
Judith Moroz, mother of Tracy Wasserman  
Irwin Fidelman, father of Wayne Fidelman  
Joseph Marciniak, father of Judi DiMaio  
Celia Stept, grandmother of Sheldon Stept  
Gerald Moshinsky, brother of Leonard Moshinsky  
Samuel Stept, grandfather of Sheldon Stept  
Berdie Drazin, mother-in-law of Max Spinner  
Lynette Byers, sister of Jonathon Andell  
Rachel Lorraine Andell, daughter of Jonathon Andell  
Irv Steinberg, grandfather of Wendy Horowitz

## To be read October 16 and 17

Malcolm F. Becker, father of Marci Becker-Morelli  
Alice Greenhut, grandmother of Robert Adler  
Betty Plan, mother of Michael Plan  
Anne Rubin, mother-in-law of Sylvia Rubin  
Howard Vogel, brother of Irwin Vogel  
Alvin Silverstein, father of Fern Smith

Jules Cohen, father of David Cohen  
Saundra Schiff, aunt of Rick Miller  
Frances Fishman, mother of Andrew Fishman  
Joseph Halpern, father of Morris Halpern  
Mildred Schrier, mother of Sheryl Miller  
Leslie Rosner, brother-in-law of Robert and Margo Sirotky  
Donald Picker, father of Sharon Rizzi  
John Laskey, brother of James Laskey  
Dora Friedman, mother of Helene Fine  
Abe Raynes, father of Harriet Thaler  
Rubin Cohen, father of Gary Cohen  
Judith Cohen, sister of Jeanette Tuckman  
Donald Meyers, stepfather of Stacy Rankin  
Miriam Schumsky, grandmother of Nanette Mantell  
Abraham Etkins, father of Donna Etkins  
Jacob Kaplan, grandfather of Gail Wohl  
Ruth Brenner, mother of Leslie Klein

## To be read October 23 and 24

Craig DeJager, brother-in-law of David Hersh  
Bertram Edelman, father of Marsha Malberg  
Harry Wolin, father of Martin Wolin  
Jennie Frenkel, grandmother of Gary Friedman  
Wendy DeLapi, sister of Evette Adler  
Marion Kaplan, mother of Mitchell Kaplan  
Mary Klimczak, mother of Joan Weiss  
Sondra Rosner, sister of Robert and Margo Sirotky  
Ruth B. Rosenblum, mother of Fern Kamine  
David Small, uncle of Brian Small  
Hilda Blaustein, mother of Betty Roswell  
Esther Skowronek, mother of Joshua Skowronek  
Daniel Eisenberg, father of Dorothy Vogel  
Abraham Fineman, father of Melissa Ringel  
Simon Birnbaum, uncle of Linda Paulanski

## To be read October 30 and 31

Alexander Markowicz, stepfather of Amy McBride  
Ruth Levenberg, mother of Richard Levenberg  
Benjamin Shapiro, father of Irene Lieberman  
Jerry Hirsch, father of Greg Hirsch  
Aaron Plan, father of Michael Plan  
Evelyn Spinrad, mother of Marcy Rosenfeld  
Albert Katzenstein, grandfather of Howard Mangel  
Martine Kamenetzky, sister-in-law of Simona Rivkin  
Mona Feirson, cousin of Marilyn Muzikar  
Stephen Holler, father of Keith Holler  
Joseph Lieberman, father of Madelyn Okun  
Paul Young, father of Anita Tolman  
Maurice Zedeck, brother-in-law of Rita Fink  
Rebecca Landsman, mother of Alison Hoffner  
Lois Naroden, mother of Alan Naroden  
Morton Hersh, father of David Hersh  
John McBride, father of Mark McBride  
Arlene Golub, mother of Jill Geller  
Seymour Roth, father of Lori Roth  
Louise Fidelman, mother of Wayne Fidelman

# September

## Calendar of Events

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### Tuesday, September 1

7:00 p.m. Preparing Your Heart for the Holy Days  
with Rabbi Gluck

### Wednesday, September 2

7:00 p.m. Melodies of the Machzor with Cantor Wallach

### Thursday, September 3

7:00 p.m. A Brisket Fit for the Holy Days with  
Larry Osman

### Friday, September 4

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, September 5

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah  
of Brian Ascher

### Monday, September 7

Labor Day  
Temple Offices Closed

### Tuesday, September 8

7:15 p.m. Jewish Spirituality Group  
7:30 p.m. Oversight Committee Meeting

### Wednesday, September 9

7:00 p.m. Melodies of the Machzor with Cantor Wallach

### Friday, September 11

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, September 12

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah of  
Anthony Torres  
7:30 p.m. Selichot

### Sunday, September 13

11:00 a.m. RS: Faculty Professional Development  
Meeting

### Monday, September 14

7:00 p.m. RS Committee meeting

### Tuesday, September 15

7:15 p.m. TBE Reads "Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and  
Redemption" by Bryan Stevenson

### Thursday, September 17

4:00 p.m. High Holy Days Challah Chibbuk  
(Challah Hug)

### Friday, September 18

*Erev Rosh Hashanah*  
Temple Office Closed  
7:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

### Saturday, September 19

*Rosh Hashanah*  
9:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Morning Blessings  
10:00 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Shacharit and Torah Service  
12:30 p.m. Rosh Hashanah Children's Service  
(up to grade 5)  
3:00 p.m. Tashlich Service

### Sunday, September 20

*Rosh Hashanah*  
9:30 a.m. Rosh Hashanah Morning Service  
3:00 p.m. Tashlich Service

### Monday, September 21

7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees

### Friday, September 25

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, September 26

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service

### Sunday, September 27

*Erev Yom Kippur - Kol Nidrei*  
9:00 a.m. Sukkah Building  
9:30 a.m. High Holy Day Experience for Young Families  
7:00 p.m. Kol Nidrei Service

### Monday, September 28

*Yom Kippur*  
Temple Office Closed  
9:30 a.m. Morning Blessings  
11:30 a.m. Reflection Service  
12:30 p.m. Study Session  
1:30 p.m. Yom Kippur Children's Service  
1:30 p.m. Meditation & Contemplation  
2:30 p.m. Healing Service  
3:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship Service  
5:30 p.m. Yizkor  
6:00 p.m. Neilah

Visit our online calendar at [www.ourbethel.org/about/calendar/](http://www.ourbethel.org/about/calendar/) for more information, room locations and updated information.

# October

## Calendar of Events

[Click here to return to Page 1](#)

### Friday, October 2

*Erev Sukkot*

6:00 p.m. Shabbat Sukkot Service

### Saturday, October 3

*Sukkot*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Sukkot Service

### Sunday, October 4

*Sukkot*

9:00 a.m. Opening Day of Religious School

11:00 a.m. Religious School - Alternative Hebrew Class

### Monday, October 5

*Sukkot*

6:30 p.m. Post-Confirmation

### Tuesday, October 6

*Sukkot*

### Wednesday, October 7

*Sukkot*

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Academy

### Thursday, October 8

*Sukkot*

### Friday, October 9

*Sukkot*

*Erev Simchat Torah*

6:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat and Simchat Torah Services

### Saturday, October 10

*Simchat Torah/Shemini Atzeret*

10:00 a.m. Shabbat, Shemini Atzeret and Yizkor Services

### Sunday, October 11

9:00 a.m. Religious School

11:00 a.m. Religious School - Alternative Hebrew Class

### Monday, October 12

7:30 p.m. Oversight Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, October 13

7:00 p.m. RS Committee meeting

### Wednesday, October 14

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Academy

### Friday, October 16

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, October 17

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Worman

7:00 p.m. Jewish LIFE Film Series: "Faith and Fortune: The Reichman Story"

### Sunday, October 18

IHN Week — Meals only

9:00 a.m. Religious School

11:00 a.m. Religious School - Alternative Hebrew Class

### Monday, October 19

IHN Week — Meals only

6:30 p.m. Post-Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees

### Tuesday, October 20

IHN Week — Meals only

### Wednesday, October 21

IHN Week — Meals only

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Academy

7:15 p.m. Women's Torah Talk

### Thursday, October 22

IHN Week — Meals only

### Friday, October 23

IHN Week — Meals only

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, October 24

IHN Week — Meals only

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service

### Sunday, October 25

IHN Week — Meals only

9:00 a.m. Religious School

11:00 a.m. Religious School - Alternative Hebrew Class

### Monday, October 26

7:15 p.m. TBE Reads: TBA

### Wednesday, October 28

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Academy

### Friday, October 30

7:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, October 31

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah of Ashley Ringel

## Contacting Temple Beth-El

Temple Office: 908-722-0674    Info @ [TempleBethElNJ.org](mailto:TempleBethElNJ.org)

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To Contact the Temple Beth-El Staff by email:

Rabbi Arnold S. Gluck

Cantor Risa Wallach

Amy Rubin, Executive Director

Sarah Gluck, Education Director

Lisa Friedman, Education Director

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