

Shofar



Cheshvan-Tevet 5776 • November/December 2015



Rabbi's Message

From Strength to Strength: Reform Makes Great Strides at the World Zionist Congress

I had intended to write reports from the World Zionist Congress (WZC), but as you may have noticed, that didn't happen. The Congress was such a sensory overload that it was hard to concentrate, let alone chronicle what was going on there. Now that I have returned to the States, I can look back on what was an extraordinary experience for our large Reform delegation and an historic event for our movement.

What made the WZC a challenge is also what made it great. It was a cacophony of Jewish voices from all over the world, representing a broad range of opinions on Judaism and Zionism. What made this Congress extraordinary is that every voice was heard — though sometimes louder than was appropriate! I choose to regard the high pitch as an expression

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Cabaret-style Entertainment with Open Mic

Saturday, November 14, 7:00 p.m.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 24, at 7:00 p.m.

Annual Shabbat Chanukah

Friday, December 11, 7:00 p.m.
(Chanukah, December 6 to 14)

2nd Annual Chanukiah Making Event

Sunday, December 13, 9:00 a.m.



Comedy Night and Chocolate Tasting

Saturday, December 19
Chocolate at 6:30 p.m.
Comedy at 8:00 p.m.

Worship Schedule

NOVEMBER

Friday, November 6

8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday, November 7

Parashat Chayei Sarah, Genesis 23:1-25:18

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study

Friday, November 13

7:00 p.m. Family Shabbat Service

Saturday, November 14

Parashat Tol'dot, Genesis 25:19-28:9

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study with
Bat Mitzvah of Peyton Diamond

Friday, November 20

6:00 p.m. Shabbat for Tots

8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service with Choir;
Shabbat of Appreciation

Saturday, November 21

Parashat Vayeitzei, Genesis 28:10-32:3

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study with
B'nei Mitzvah Ethan Wolkofsky and Jake Silver

Tuesday, November 24

7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Service

Friday, November 27

8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service — Shabbat B'Shir

Saturday, November 28

Parashat Vayishlach, Genesis 32:4-36:43

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study

DECEMBER

Friday, December 4

8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday, December 5

Parashat Vayeishev, Genesis 37:1-40:23

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study

Sunday, December 6

Chanukah Begins: First Candle

Monday, December 7

Chanukah, Second Candle

Tuesday, December 8

Chanukah, Third Candle

Wednesday, December 9

Chanukah, Fourth Candle

Thursday, December 10

Chanukah, Fifth Candle

Friday, December 11

Chanukah, Sixth Candle

7:00 p.m. Family Chanukah Service with Consecration

Saturday, December 12

Parashat Mikeitz, Genesis 41:1-44:17

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study with
Bar Mitzvah of Evan Gladstone

Chanukah, Seventh Candle

Sunday, December 13

Chanukah, Eighth Candle

Friday, December 18

8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service with Choir

Saturday, December 19

Parashat Vayigash, Genesis 44:18-47:27

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study

Friday, December 25

6:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service (Special time)

Saturday, December 26

Parashat Va-y'chi, Genesis 47:28-50:26

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study



Annual Shabbat Chanukah Service

December 11, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Bring your Chanukah menorah and candles from home
to light at the beginning of the service.

Join us earlier that evening for a pot-luck Shabbat dinner.

Enjoy celebrating with your friends,
meet some new and prospective members.

Let us know you'll be joining us at tinyurl.com/TBEChanukahDinner

Temple Calendar Webpage

<http://www.ourbethel.org/luach-beth-el>

Shofar Submissions and Deadline

The next issue of the Shofar will be
January 2016. PLEASE NOTE: The deadline for
submissions is December 15.

Submit articles via email to:

ShofarEditor@templebethelnj.org.

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

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

of the great passion the delegates felt for their Zionist convictions, which is a positive take on behavior that was, at times, not entirely civil.

Despite the contentiousness of the debate, this 37th WZC was an historic event for the Reform Movement because, more than ever before, we claimed a place at the forefront of the Zionist movement. Ours was the largest delegation from the Diaspora, and our members were among the leaders of the Congress, including its chair, Philip Meltzer.

It is important to note that our strength came from you. Your vote for ARZA (the Association of Reform Zionists of America) in the American Zionist Elections last year helped us win 56 seats at the WZC — 40% of all the votes cast in the United States! Together with Reform delegates from Israel and around the world, the combined delegation of ARZENU, the International Reform Zionist Movement, was 78 strong. When these votes were added to those of our progressive Zionist coalition partners, Meretz and Labor, we formed a powerful bloc of 180 delegates.

The strength of our numbers truly mattered. It enabled us to gain leadership positions in the World Zionist Organization (WZO) and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI), and secure significant budgets for our movement's work in Israel and the former Soviet Union. Since the Israeli government provides very limited support for non-Orthodox Judaism, this money helps to correct an imbalance that is also an injustice, and enables us to grow as a serious Jewish alternative in the Jewish State.

Also significant is the fact that the strength of our numbers enabled us to wield influence over the direction of the Zionist Movement. This we accomplished through the resolutions process, which is the heart of the work of the WZC. Almost all of the resolutions we introduced were passed, and we were able to block the passage of most of the resolutions we opposed.

The central foci of ARZENU's resolutions were on promoting the values of democracy, pluralism, freedom of religious expression, equality for Israel's minorities, diversity and sensitivity on the basis of gender and sexual orientation, combating expressions of racism and incitement on the basis of race, religion, national origin and sexual orientation, environmental concerns, and reforms to make the Zionist institutions more efficient, just and transparent.

Each delegate to the Congress served on one of eight different committees. The task of each committee was to review all the resolutions introduced by the different factions and vote on which ones would be considered by the Congress as a whole. I served as one of the two whips for our delegation on the committee "A Free People in Our Land," where many of our delegation's key resolutions were considered.

During our committee meeting it became clear that our bloc had the votes to move our agenda. This engendered strong reactions from most of our opponents, some of whom sought to disrupt the proceedings in order to minimize the number of resolutions we could pass. At the same time that voices were rising and the chair, British Reform Rabbi Lea Mühlstein, was busy trying to restore order, it became clear that the more moderate Orthodox party, Mizrahi, was willing to work with us rather than oppose us, if we would be willing to find language that they could support. The result was extremely positive

and reflected well on our pluralistic values. We could have passed our resolutions as they were drafted without Mizrahi's support. Instead, we chose a path of moderation and inclusion that modeled the way we hope to see our Jewish world manage its differences.

Who would have imagined that Mizrahi would support a resolution calling for an egalitarian prayer space at the Western Wall? By including language that affirmed the status quo in the existing sections of the Kotel, Mizrahi voted with us for the creation of a new, "third section of the Western Wall site that will be equal in size, funding, and visibility, and offering a dignified space of worship for the Conservative and Reform streams and to Women of the Wall."

In similar fashion, Mizrahi joined with us to pass a resolution condemning hate crimes and denying funding from the World Zionist Organization to "any group or movement that promotes in their platform any principles or activities that directly or indirectly promote hate on the basis of national origin, racism and discrimination..."

Mizrahi also joined with us in passing a resolution supporting the LGBT community in Israel that calls on the Israeli Minister of Education to "ensure that all educational institutions in Israel will create curricula and programming that promote respect for, and the civil rights of, all diverse communities, including the LGBT community." Meeting Mizrahi's openness to our initiatives with sensitivity to their needs made such achievements possible. More than that, it earned us admiration and respect, and demonstrated that we are worthy of leading the shared institutions of the Jewish people.

There is much work to be done. Racism, discrimination, and acts of hate are on the rise in Israel. The current Israeli government includes parties that are adamantly opposed to Jewish pluralism, civil rights for all the citizens of Israel, and efforts to achieve a two state solution with the Palestinians. And the Jewish state has a long way to go toward fulfilling the Jewish values of justice and compassion for the weak and the vulnerable, the poor, the stranger, and the minorities in Israeli society.

Nonetheless, this is a moment to take pride in what we have accomplished, and to be inspired by the vision of what we may yet achieve if we continue to build upon our successes. Our challenge is to maintain our focus and continue to grow our engagement with Israel and Zionism in all of our congregations. Let us continue to dream of Zion and redouble our efforts to make her a fulfillment of the prophetic vision, an oasis of justice, righteousness, and peace.

Our efforts in mustering the power of our movement enabled us to win important victories at the 37th World Zionist Congress, giving concrete expression to the words of the psalmist: "May they go from strength to strength, that everyone may experience God's Presence in Zion." (Psalm 84:8) May we indeed go from strength to strength until we see the day that "a new light will shine upon Zion, and all of us will be blessed to see its splendor."

It was an honor to represent our movement at the WZC. Thank you for helping to make it possible by your support for ARZA.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Arnold S. Gluck

A Note From Our Cantor

Jewish Renewal in Israeli Pop

by Emily Wigod Pincus



While doing research for my course, “Jewish Renewal in Israeli Pop,” I encountered some truly spectacular gems that I would like to share with you. In recent times, Jewish expression has burst onto the Israeli pop scene in a variety of ways, which I place in three categories: **Jewish identity** (specifically an acceptance and celebration of Judaism as a multi-cultural entity), **Jewish ethical values** and, quite simply, **faith**.

In terms of a more broadly based **Jewish ethnic identity**, Ofra Haza was at the vanguard of a sea change when she recorded a pop version of *Im Nin’alu*, a 17th Century “*piyut*” by Shalom Shabazi. A “*piyut*” is a religious poem that becomes part of the liturgy. Some examples of *piyutim* that form the core of our Reform Jewish liturgy are *Adon Olam*, *Ein Keiloheinu*, and *L’cha Dodi*. The first line of *Im Nin’alu* is translated as “If the doors of the wealthy are locked, the doors of Heaven will never be locked”. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkriV9RZpi8>

Haza went on to record other Yemenite songs that were also extremely popular. However, other expressions of Jewish identity and certainly, expressions of faith, were not yet common or widely accepted in pop music at that time. This has now changed completely. In terms of the sound, there has been an explosion of different Jewish ethnic musics from mizrachi (Middle Eastern) and Sephardic (very wide ranging term that could include Spain, Italy, Morocco, Turkey, Baltic countries, etc.) communities, not to mention a re-evaluation and acceptance of Yiddish song. In terms of the text, almost all popular artists today have recorded or written music based on canonic Jewish texts, whether from liturgical, biblical, or rabbinic sources. There has also been a great resurgence of interest in the exploration, preservation, and performance of *piyutim*.

The connection to **Jewish ethical values** had always been present in the rich history of Israeli protest song. These songs did have an implicit connection to Jewish values, but it was not necessarily explicitly stated. We see signs of change with Chava Alberstein’s *Chad Gadya*, recorded after the first intifada in 1989. This rendition, painful and terrifying, turns this *piyut* for the Pesach seder on its head. It is an impassioned outcry against the constantly embroiling “*matzav*” (situation) between Palestinians and Israelis. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHdVYy5B6JM>. The song underscores **Jewish identity** as it questions **Israeli identity**; it actually pits the two against each other. Alberstein says in the last stanza, “I used to be a kid and a peaceful sheep/Today I am a tiger and a ravenous wolf/I used to be a dove and I used to be a deer/ Today I don’t know who I am anymore.”

We find a convergence of all of these trends (**Jewish identity**, **ethical values** and **faith**) in the recent work of Kobi Oz, who originally rose to fame with his band

Teapacks and through various television appearances. The band combined ironic social commentary with an indie style and diverse ethnic backgrounds: Tunisian, Moroccan, Syrian, Romanian, Russian, Polish, and Yemenite. In 2010, Oz did a solo CD, *Mizmorei Nevuchim*, “Psalms for the Perplexed”, which is a spoonerism on *Moreh Nevuchim*, *A Guide for the Perplexed*, one of the three major works of Maimonides. This recording (and a subsequent one) was the fruit of six years of learning and growth for Oz at Alma, the secular Tel Aviv yeshiva founded by Knesset member Ruth Calderon. In the following song, *Elohai*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZUFWuEcykSg> he takes the track of a *piyut* that his grandfather, a rabbi and an observant Jew, had recorded *a capella*, and in a warm and gentle way, gradually brings a modern rock band in to accompany him. Eventually, Koby himself enters the song to create a moving, posthumous duet, in which he combines and contrasts his grandfather’s steadfast faith with his own tentative, awkward and sincere dialogue with God, “I have so, so, so, so many thank yous standing in line at your door, but my thank yous always come out *kitsch* (corny). I have so, so, so, so many requests to ask of you, though I’m basically fine.” At the end of the song, he lets his grandfather have the last word, as the *paytan* chants, “Atah El” (You are God).

I leave you with *Katonti*, recorded by Yonatan Razel in 2012. Razel is an observant, modern orthodox Jew, whose parents made aliyah from the States when he was quite young. Razel and his brother, Aharon, have written some truly beautiful songs and arrangements for *piyutim* and the liturgy. Taken from Torah, *Katonti* relates the scene where Jacob is about to meet with Esau after years of estrangement, and he doesn’t know whether he will be attacked or embraced. He prays to God, saying, “I am not worthy of all the mercies and all the truth which you have shown your servant. For with my staff, I have passed over this Jordan, and am now become two camps. Save me now, I pray!” In this one moment, Jacob acknowledges all the blessings and deliverance he has received from God, and at the same time, asks for one more boon: to be saved from Esau. This song, which is a powerful, deeply felt expression of faith, was the Israeli Music Industry’s 2013 Song of the Year. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZYivKwVmJc>

Enjoy!

Cantor Emily Pincus

From Our President

by Robin Osman

TBE Needs Great People Like YOU!

Are you new to the community and wondering how to meet people and get involved? Or maybe you've been a member for a while and have kids who have recently gone to school or left home. Maybe you're retired and finding yourself with more free time on your hands. Do you have skills that you'd like to put to use for a good cause? If any of these apply to you, or if you'd like to meet a great group of people and learn more about volunteer opportunities at temple, then read on...

Since our founding over 60 years ago, Temple Beth-El has been blessed with an extraordinary cadre of lay leaders—congregants who have given their talents, their time, and their hearts to nurture and grow our community. Ask any of our temple leaders and they will tell you that that volunteering at TBE is tremendously rewarding. They will speak of life-long friendships they have made and will talk about how they have received way more than they have given. This is a precious heritage, and we need new leaders to help carry our great heritage forward.

Whether you are new to the community or already an active leader, our Leadership Development Program will deepen your understanding of how all the aspects of temple life fit together, connect you with others who care about our community, and help you grow personally. There is no obligation to assume a leadership position at Temple Beth-El upon conclusion of the program, but we do hope that you will be inspired to use your talents and the tools you will acquire to serve the community in a way that feels comfortable for you.

Liz Cohen and Amy Rubin will lead the program, and they are instructors extraordinaire! The group will meet for seven sessions that will take place on Sundays. This is a great time for parents of children in Religious School to participate, as most of the sessions will take place Sunday mornings. The program, which begins November 15, covers a wide array of topics about temple life and aspects of leadership. The sessions will include discussions, presentations, and interactive projects. And the group will enjoy a closing dinner with spouses/partners at the home of Liz and Dave Cohen.

I hope you will be inspired to learn more about the Leadership Development program and that you will consider joining us. Please contact me with any questions you may have about the program or about volunteer opportunities. If you're not interested in the Leadership Development Program, but would like to know how to get involved, I would love to chat with you about that too. My contact info is below. You can also reach out to Liz Cohen at 609-683-5766 or liz@decarchitect.com, or Amy Rubin at 908-722-0674 or amyrubin@templebethelnj.org.

I wish you all a happy and healthy Thanksgiving, Chanukah and New Year, and I hope to see you around temple soon!

Robin Osman

908-295-5713

robinoz@optonline.net



MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

**For A Weekend Of
Celebrating
Rabbi Gluck's
25th Anniversary
As Our Spiritual
Leader!**

Friday, May 13, 2016:

- ❖ Family Shabbat service honoring Rabbi Gluck's 25 years of service.

Saturday, May 14, 2016:

- ❖ Evening program for our youth with the Artist-In-Residence, Alan Goodis.

- ❖ Dinner dance and celebration at the Bridgewater Manor.

Sunday, May 15, 2016: Afternoon concert starring Alan Goodis.

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD

Rabbi Gluck's

Silver Jubilee

25th Anniversary

With Temple Beth-El

Celebration Weekend

May 13 - 15, 2016

From the Education Directors

Sarah Gluck and Lisa Friedman

Update on the BMR (B'nai Mitzvah Revolution)

(Delivered at the June 2015 congregational meeting and revised here to update the entire congregation.)

Gradually, Then Suddenly

A guiding principle in education is to envision where you hope to end up, so you can figure out where to start. This is called “backward design” or “backwards planning.” It’s about thinking purposefully about long-term desired outcomes, then working backward to achieve them. This is intentional yet flexible work.

It is also something that we naturally and intuitively practice at Temple Beth-El, in our educational work and just about everything we do. We like to ask, what do we want our students — indeed, all members of our community — to know, understand, feel, and then do?

This approach has been a key element in our work with the B'nai Mitzvah Revolution over the last three years, and while this past June marked the conclusion of our official term as a BMR pilot congregation, our work is far from over. It is still evolving, growing, deepening, and shifting.

So much has happened in the last three years — changes to Shabbat and holiday observances; small but significant changes in the b'nei mitzvah ritual; a revitalized Torah study on Shabbat mornings; newly designed b'nei mitzvah family meetings, and more — more than we have space for here.

Here we'll focus on a single, remarkable program we held this past May 3 — a program that gave new life to what previously was a somewhat dry, some might say uninspiring, grade 5 b'nei mitzvah family orientation, reincarnating it as the first-ever, brand-new “Bar Mitzvah and Beyond Family Meeting.”

This meeting presented the b'nei mitzvah experience as one that begins in early childhood, carries through the Religious School years before and after bar/bat mitzvah, and culminates (at least the Temple Beth-El part) when the student graduates from high school, equipped to take independent Jewish steps as a young adult.

The meeting began with a brief discussion of b'nei mitzvah logistics, followed by Rabbi Gluck facilitating a conversation with the parents on how they wished to present Torah to their children and how they hoped their children would receive it. A lively and very personal discussion ensued, inspired by reading classical texts, in which Torah is described as being presented amidst fear and trembling. By way of contrast, Rabbi Gluck then offered a poem by the great Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai, in which a father whispers the Ten Commandments to his son in a warm and loving embrace, expressing the idea that Torah is best transmitted (and received) not in harsh tones, but with soft, tender, gentle words.

While this conversation was happening, the students were in another room with Sarah Gluck, Cantor Pincus, Marci Taylor, and Michele Holler (at that time, our outgoing and incoming b'nei mitzvah coordinators), engaged in a discussion in which the journey toward



bar/bat mitzvah was presented as a series of 13 *aliyot* (ascensions) that each child would be making throughout the Religious School years, including chanting Torah at least once, if not multiple times, post-bar and bat mitzvah.

This Jewish journey of making *aliyot* was likened to the stages of taking a big, special trip: first you decide where you're going, then you plan and prepare, then you have the experience of the trip itself, then the trip is remembered as a part of your overall life experience, and then, ultimately, it becomes an integral part of who you are.

An initial review of the meeting revealed that parents came in with low expectations, anticipating another dry, frontal presentation of the nuts-and-bolts — sort of like the fear and trembling said to have happened at Sinai in one of the texts they studied. However, the session transformed their perspectives on the experience that already had begun to unfold, helping them see it as a journey filled with opportunities for sacred moments, meaning, and inspiration, fostered by their own warm, loving embrace of their children and their gentle, lovingly transmitted words of Torah.

The children, too, experienced a shift in perspective, as they came to understand that becoming bar/bat mitzvah would be for them just one Jewish trip, albeit a significant one, among the many they would experience over the course of their lifetimes. They were also excited to learn about the many *aliyot* they would be making at Temple Beth-El in the years to come, and were happy to record their feelings about this *aliyah* on a page in a B'nei Mitzvah and Beyond *darkon* (passport) that each one received (and then returned for safekeeping until their next *aliyah* — the Grade 6 *Kabbalat Torah* ceremony that took place at the beginning of last month).

Even though those of us involved in the BMR since its beginning, in November 2012, have always had certain hopes for the outcome of our work, getting there over these last three years has sometimes felt like a long, hard journey to an unknown destination. At times, it seemed like we weren't moving at all, because it was so gradual and incremental. But at the B'nei Mitzvah and Beyond family meeting on May 3, after all the other experiments conducted and changes implemented, we felt we had arrived at the place we had hoped to be — and that it came gradually, then suddenly.

There's still much to do, but, through our evolutionary approach, we have, actually, achieved a revolution. The BMR has helped us redefine terms, change expectations,

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Education Directors, *continued from page 6*

alter assumptions, and broaden horizons — and has brought us closer to our goal of transforming bar/bat mitzvah from one great, single aliyah into a significant moment among many that have already happened, and many more that are yet to come.

Huge thanks to the stalwart BMR Core Team (Rabbi Gluck, Cantor Pincus, Lisa Friedman, Marcy Rosenfeld, and Marci Taylor); the Ritual Committee, chaired at the

time by Ed Tolman and currently by Ed Malberg and Mike Bloomstein; Michele Holler, our current B'nei Mitzvah Coordinator; and everyone in the congregation who has contributed to our BMR work over the last three years. We are most grateful.

Sarah Gluck

TBE BMR Core Team Documenter

Making Multiple Aliyot: 13 Steps on My Journey Toward Bar/Bat Mitzvah & Beyond	
Aliyah #1, Gr. 4	Planning My Trip — Receiving My Bar/Bat Mitzvah Date
Aliyah #2, Gr. 5	Getting Ready for the Journey — My First B'nei Mitzvah Family Meeting
Aliyah #3, Gr. 6	Mapping My Route — Receiving My Torah Portion/Kabbalat Torah Ceremony
Aliyah #4, Gr. 6	Packing the Essentials — Grade 6 Family Ed/Tallit Workshop
Aliyah #5, Gr. 7	Updating the Itinerary — My Second B'nei Mitzvah Family Meeting
Aliyah #6, Gr. 7	Taking My Place in My Community — Bar/Bat Mitzvah and First Torah Chanting
Aliyah #7, Gr. 7 and Beyond	Solidifying My Place in the Community — Chanting Again
Aliyah #8, Grade 8	Expanding My Sense of Community — Moving Up to Confirmation Academy
Aliyah #9, Gr. 8 & 9	Redefining Community — Going on the 8/9 Retreat
Aliyah #10, Gr. 10	Finding My Own Voice — Going to the Religious Action Center
Aliyah #11, Gr. 10	Reaffirming My Commitment — Confirmation
Aliyah #12, Gr. 11	Transitioning to Jewish Adulthood — Moving Up to Post-Con
Aliyah #13, Gr. 12	Stepping Into My Jewish Future — Taking a Look at What's Next

Second Annual All-School/ Community-Wide Chanukiah-Making Contest Sunday, December 13 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Open to the entire congregation.

[Click here to register.](#)

Donations of construction materials happily accepted (mosaic tiles, finished wood, hardware, etc. — feel free to get creative)

Not sure about what you have?

Email Lisa at LisaFriedman@templebethelnj.org.



Consecration of new Religious School students
Friday, December 11
during the Shabbat Chanukah Family Service
Services begin at 7:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars and look for
more information to follow.

Temple Beth El Presents Comedy Night

December 19th, 2015

8:00pm

but start the
night with

Brotherhood Chocolate Tasting
6:30pm



with
Mark New



Tickets:

In advance:

Comedy & Chocolate - \$50

Comedy only - \$40

Reserved Seating

6 Seats - \$250

10 Seats - \$400

At Door:

Comedy & Chocolate - \$60

Comedy only - \$50

RSVP: Stephen Caffery

stephen_caffery@comcast.net

New Publication Schedule for the *Shofar*

The *Shofar* is one of our most important tools for communicating with the Temple Beth-El congregation. Yet, as our readership changes and online communications become increasingly important, we have been contemplating whether the current format and structure of the *Shofar* are meeting the needs of our community. After careful consideration, we, the *Shofar* editors, have decided to experiment with publishing the *Shofar* bi-monthly for the remainder of the year.

There were several reasons for our decision. The first, and perhaps most important, is that we want to reduce the heavy emphasis on events. The *Shofar* is often a recitation of upcoming events or those that have just concluded. Many have already been promoted in the weekly e-mail, so the *Shofar* is often repeating information that people have already seen.

Instead, we would like to migrate to feature articles that would be more personal in approach, leaving the time-sensitive event announcements to the weekly e-mail. We feel this would help the *Shofar* become a more vibrant, interactive reflection of our lively community. This approach also supports a broader initiative at Temple Beth-El to promote stronger personal connections and interactions among our congregants. As part of our new direction, we plan to write profiles of people in our congregation, allowing us all to discover new things about

one another at Temple Beth-El, and to share our talents and lives with one another.

Since we strive to be a community of learners, we also hope to include more educational pieces, whether on matters of ritual or prayer, broader cultural topics, or articles that would further people's knowledge of and appreciation for Hebrew and Judaism. We think that more time between issues will allow us to better develop this richer, more in-depth content, and will give us some added editorial flexibility in how we envision the *Shofar*.

We're going to be experimenting with different ways of distributing the *Shofar*, too. With a less frequent distribution, we hope to be able to afford to mail it out again. The electronic distribution has some benefits, but so many people tell us that they used to read it more thoroughly when it was in paper form.

We are excited about our new direction and hope you will be, too. As we continue to move forward, we welcome your ideas on how to revitalize and reinvigorate the content and mission of this important communications tool.

L'Shalom,

Rhona Ferling
Amy Rubin

Shofar Editors

ShofarEditor@templebethelnj.org

MENSCH OF THE MONTH

Brian Horowitz is our November Mensch of the Month.



Brian has been a member of Temple Beth-El for as long as he can remember. His parents are Sid and Shuey Horowitz, long time active members. Brian grew up at temple (extra points if you can find his confirmation photo in the hall near the library) and followed in his parents' footsteps by being active in the community programs, particularly social action. Brian has been a loyal IHN volunteer since its

inception at TBE. He routinely does an overnight shift and recently saved the day by taking a second overnight shift when many volunteers were on vacation. He's also a regular loading food for the High Holy Day Food Drive and many other social action projects.

Brian also enjoys the outdoors. He started an Active Socials group at Temple Beth-El and leads hikes all over the region. His photo shows him on the Appalachian Trail, enjoying the great outdoors.

And now for our December Mensch of the Month: Steve Weitz

Steve has been on the temple board since 1991 and served as president from 1997-1999. An achievement of which he is particularly proud is the Mitzvat Torah initiative, where we wrote our own Torah scroll and donated a sefer Torah to Congregation Emunah in Vitebsk, Belarus. He often describes his trip to Belarus to deliver that scroll to be a highlight of his volunteer work for Temple Beth-El. Other accomplishments include co-chairing the Atid capital campaign, which raised \$5 million to expand our sanctuary and religious school, and, more recently, co-chairing the Brit K'Hilah Task Force, which seeks to strengthen our congregation by deepening member connection and engagement.

After his term as president of Temple Beth-El, Steve began working for the reform movement at regional and national levels. He served on the Regional Council of the Union for Reform Judaism and joined the URJ Board of Trustees in 2010 and the URJ Oversight Committee in 2011. He will be installed as a vice-chair of the URJ at the November Biennial in Orlando.

Steve actually has a day job as well: In 1981, he co-founded the group psychology practice where he works alongside his wife Elayne. When he can carve out the time, he enjoys being outdoors, especially with fly rod in hand (and even more, with a trout on the line!)



Youth Engagement

by Dan Merer, Director of Youth Engagement

Hagigah at TBE

We are excited to announce that Temple Beth-El will be hosting the **NFTY-GER Hagigah Kallah on February 27-28, 2016**. NFTY, the North American Federation of Temple Youth, is the youth arm of the Reform Movement, and we are a part of the Garden Empire Region (GER). For decades NFTY has been a vital organization that engages our teens in dynamic Jewish programming that develops young Jewish leaders and cultivates friendships that will last a lifetime.

NFTY-GER hosts multiple *kallot* (overnight retreats) each year. One of the most popular is *Hagigah*, an event hosted by a local congregation with programming based around the arts. We are thrilled that our senior youth group, SMOOCHY, alongside the regional board of NFTY-GER, will have the opportunity to plan this two-day, one-night event. We expect the event to draw approximately 200 Reform Jewish high school students from around New Jersey and New York.

We need your help to make this a successful event. We need many congregant families (whether or not you have high-school-aged children) to host teens in your homes.

Hosting teenagers in your home includes:

- Picking up teenagers on Saturday (Feb. 27) in the late afternoon and bringing them to your home.
- Feeding them dinner on Saturday night.
- Bringing them to an offsite event on Saturday night (time and location TBD) and picking them up at the end of that offsite event. (Host families, with children of any age, are encouraged to participate in havdallah on Saturday night at the offsite event.)

- Having the group of teens sleep in your home on Saturday night.
- Driving them back to the temple on Sunday (Feb. 28) morning (timed to coincide with the start of religious school).



Hosting is a wonderful way to help these teens build relationships with one another and with our community. This is also a fantastic first event for a teen in grades nine through twelve who has yet to discover the joy of NFTY. Finally, serving as a host family gives younger children the opportunity to learn what they have to look forward to in the years ahead.

To sign up to host a group of teenagers please click on this link and fill out the online form: <https://urjyouth.wufoo.com/forms/ger-host-family-application/>. If you have any questions about hosting a group of teenagers, about other event details or about NFTY involvement in general, please feel free to reach out to me.

L'shalom,

Dan Merer

Director of Youth Engagement
danmerer@templebethelnj.org

IHN Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

Let's gather together with members of North Branch Reformed Church and St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church to celebrate, sing and pray in thanks for IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) and the wonderful work it does in an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 23, at 7:00 p.m. at North Branch Reformed Church in Bridgewater.

A choir composed of members from the three congregations will perform songs full of joy and thanks accompanied by members of our own Tefilah Band. Rev. Todd Buurstra, Msgr. Joseph Celano and Rabbi Gluck will each conduct part of the service. Donations will be accepted for the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County, an organization providing emergency shelter and case management services to families in need. Nonperishable food items will also be collected for the Somerset County Food Bank.

Don't miss this very special evening and opportunity to pray and sing with a few of our partner IHN congregations.





Photo courtesy of Art Roswell



Chai, TBE family! My name is Goldie Taub; my Hebrew name is Golda.

I grew up in Trenton, the capital of New Jersey, wanting to be a teacher or a social worker. I got my Bachelor of Science degree from The College of New Jersey and I started on a career as a teacher. I taught kindergarten in Bridgewater Township and I loved every day in the classroom.

My husband Ray and I were married for almost 51 years. My family grew over the years to three children, six grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Today it includes my partner of 15 years, Rabbi Murray Levine.

Ray and I were one of the founding families of Temple Beth-El. Here is where I taught Sunday school and served as president of the Sisterhood. For years, I read to the children in the nursery school every week. Many of them

are grown now, but they still call me Grandma Goldie. At the age of 80, I had my first Bat Mitzvah here at the temple. Temple Beth-El has been part of my life for so long that I recently added the temple as a beneficiary of my estate.

You'll often find me curled up with a good book, sitting at the piano playing my favorite melodies, at a Scrabble board or having a lively discussion of the daily doings in politics. But, my favorite thing is meeting new friends and chatting with the friends I have at Temple Beth-El. I love a good laugh. I find, though, that modern technology (computers and electronics) make me long for the good ol' days of writing letters and talking on a phone that's not the size of a Pop Tart!

These days, I'm retired and enjoying life. I love to travel and have been to London, Spain, Israel, and Puerto Rico, among others. I've cruised many islands and participated in Rhode Scholar programs as well as travels across the U.S.

I'd like to be remembered as a warm, friendly person. I still look forward to seeing new faces and making new friends. The faces of children make me happy; teaching kindergarten was a big part of my life. That and my family are my greatest joys.

WITH YOUR LEGACY,
THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT



HOW WILL YOU ASSURE
JEWISH TOMORROWS?



To discuss creating your legacy gift to Temple Beth-El, contact:
Rande Aaronson or Rick Miller
LegacyCircle@TempleBethElNJ.org



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We honor our Legacy Circle:

Anonymous (2)
Rande and Janet Aaronson
Mike Bloomstein
Liz and Dave Cohen
Rabbi Arnold and Sarah Gluck
Leigh Miller
Rick Miller
Robin and Larry Osman
Art and Betty Roswell
Amy Rubin
Lillian Swickle
Goldie Taub
Steve and Elayne Weitz

Please remember Temple Beth-El in your will, estate plans, or beneficiary designations. A legacy gift ensures that the community will continue to serve future generations. Contact Rande Aaronson or Rick Miller, our Legacy Circle chairs, at LegacyCircle@TempleBethElNJ.org.



Jewish LIFE

Lifelong Learning at Temple Beth-El

2015-2016 / 5776

CLASSES

BEGINNING HEBREW READING

Sundays, 9:00-9:50 a.m. (12 sessions)

Sarah Gluck

This class will teach the alef-bet and vowels and get you on your way to reading Hebrew quickly and comfortably. Fun learning how to read is 100% guaranteed!

Textbook: *Shalom Hebrew!* (Behrman House)

November 1, 15; December 6; January 10, 24; February 7, 21, 28; March 13; April 3, 10

ALEF ISN'T ENOUGH

Sundays, 10:00-11:00 a.m. (12 sessions)

Sarah Gluck

Have you ever sat in services and said to yourself, I wish I could understand what I'm saying? (Who hasn't?) If you know how to decode the alef-bet (read phonetically), this class will boost your reading skills as you learn the structure and meaning of select passages from the Shabbat and holiday liturgy and ritual. Key vocabulary, word roots, and rudimentary grammar will guide you toward understanding. Expect many "aha!" moments.

Textbook: *Alef Isn't Enough* (Behrman House/URJ Press)

November 1, 15; December 6; January 10, 24; February 7, 21, 28; March 13; April 3, 10

INTERMEDIATE BIBLICAL HEBREW

Sundays, 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (16 sessions)

Sarah Gluck

Continuing in *The First Hebrew Reader*, we will read and translate biblical passages as we build grammar, vocabulary, and an understanding of classical syntax and style. By the time we complete the book, you will be able to read and understand excerpts from the Tanach (Hebrew Bible) in the original language. This year, we will add a Modern Hebrew component. Get ready for even more fun!

Textbook: *The First Hebrew Reader* (EKS Publishing) and supplemental materials provided by the instructor

November 1, 15, 22; December 6, 20; January 10, 24, 31;

February 7, 21, 28; March 13; April 10, May 1

RABBI'S BREAKFASTS

Eilu d'varim she-ein lahem shi'ur —

Values Beyond Measure

Sundays, 9:00-10:45 a.m. (4 sessions)

Rabbi Arnie Gluck

This year's breakfast series will continue the lively conversations we had last year about the passage in the Talmud that appears in the morning service, highlighting the deeds and values so essential to Jewish life that their performance has no limit. In other words, we can never do too much to honor our parents, perform acts of kindness, study Torah, welcome guests, visit the sick, rejoice at weddings, console the bereaved, reflect on our prayers, and pursue peace. This year, Rabbi Gluck will guide us

through texts on Study, Making Peace, Rejoicing with Bride and Groom, and Praying with Sincerity, bringing a fresh understanding of what it means to fulfill these *mitzvot* (commandments) in our own lives. BYOB (bring your own breakfast) and come share your thoughts!

November 22; December 20; January 31

iEngage 2 Starts this Month!

ENGAGING ISRAEL: THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL: A

SHARED HOMELAND FOR A DIVIDED PEOPLE

A video lecture and discussion series from the Shalom Hartman Institute, Jerusalem

Sundays, 4:00-6:00 p.m. (8 sessions)

Rabbi Arnie Gluck

Book and materials fee: \$50

How does a people divided along religious, geographic, and ideological lines build a shared society? The Tribes of Israel begins a conversation to restructure the relationship between the collective and the individual tribes that comprise Israel.

November 15, December 13; January 24; February 7; March 13; April 10; May 22; June 5

*Note: You do not need to have taken iEngage 1 to join iEngage2.

Also starting in November!

THE LAST SPEECH OF MOSES: THE BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY

Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (4 sessions)

Rabbi Arnie Gluck

The fifth book of the Torah, Deuteronomy, is distinctly and uniquely different from the other four books. Like the others, it is accepted to be part of the revelation that Moses received at Mount Sinai. Unlike the others, it is presented as the final speech of a human being, Moses. That is only the beginning of the strange and fascinating content of this extraordinary book. Based on the profound scholarship of Dr. Micha Goodman, a brilliant Israeli teacher of Torah, this class will explore the message of the book of Deuteronomy and its tremendous relevance for us in our own day.

November 10, 17; December 1, 15

BEIT MIDRASH WITH RABBI GLUCK

Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (6 sessions)

The classic setting for Jewish learning is the Beit Midrash. In English it means "house of learning," but it is much more than that. "Midrash" means to interpret, to seek, to draw forth meaning from our sacred texts. It is the inner sanctum where the Jewish tradition has lived for the last 2,000 years, and it is recreated wherever Jews join in serious study of Torah. So join us in our own Beit Midrash as we engage in a deep and dynamic dialogue with some of the great passages and issues and debates of our Rabbis. Many of the texts and topics will be those that Rabbi Gluck

has studied in the Beit Midrash of the Hartman Institute in Jerusalem.

January 5, 26; February 2, 9; March 1, 8

GREAT JEWISH WRITERS AND GREAT JEWISH WRITING

Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (3 sessions)

Ed Malberg and Bob Krovetz

We will discuss great Jewish writing from medieval times to the present. The first session will talk about Nachmanides' defense of Judaism against attacks from Christianity (the Disputation), poetry by Judah HaLevi and Moses Ibn Ezra, and the writing of Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav. The second class will discuss contemporary writers such as Bernard Malamud, Saul Bellow, and Philip Roth. The third session continues the discussion of contemporary writers, and will also talk about Jewish writing in science fiction (do you have to be human to convert?). We will use short stories and excerpts from larger works. The aim is to look at the writing from a historical perspective and talk about how the background of the writers and the times influenced the writing.

March 29, April 5, April 12

JEWISH FILM SERIES

December 12; March 5; April 9; May 21; June 18

All films begin at 7:00 p.m.

ISRAELI DANCING

Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

November 5, 12, 19; December 3, 10, 17; January 7, 14, 21, 28; February 4, 11, 18, 25; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; April 7, 14; May 12, 19, 26; June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

YOGA

Gentle Yoga Flow

Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. • Shari Czar

Temple Beth-El, Hillsborough

Whether you've never been in a downward dog or you've been practicing your half-moon for years, this class is for you. Gentle Yoga Flow classes consist of stretches to warm-up the body, postures to build strength, balance, and flexibility, deep breathing to promote stress reduction, and, finally, deep relaxation to bring calmness and balance. This class is appropriate for any fitness level and is great for beginners and abilities of all levels.

Fee: 6-week sessions \$72/Drop-in: \$15

Session 2 continued: November 5, 12, 19, & 24 (Tues.)

Session 3: December 10, 17, 22 (Tues.), 29 (Tues.); January 7, 14

Session 4: January 21, 28; February 4, 11, 18, 25

Session 5: March 3, 10, 24, 31, (no class 3/17); April 7, 14

Session 6: April 19 (Tues.), 26 (Tues.); May 3 (Tues.), 12, 19, 26

Continued on page 11



Jewish LIFE

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LIFE, Continued from page 10

Deep Relaxation (Yoga Nidra) Thursdays, 7:45-8:15 p.m. • Shari Czar Temple Beth-El, Hillsborough

We all have stress in our lives and could use an opportunity to relax. Yoga Nidra, or "Yogic Sleep," is an experience of deep relaxation while remaining alert. It is an effortless practice that will guide you into complete physical, mental, and emotional relaxation. You will leave the experience feeling refreshed, relaxed and rejuvenated. All you need to do is lie back and enjoy the experience. Yoga Nidra has been found to have many benefits, including stress reduction, decreased anxiety, calming of the nervous system, and improved sleep.

Fee: \$15/\$5 for those attending Gentle Yoga Flow the same evening

November 12; December 17; January 14; February 11; March 10; April 14; May 12

For more information and to register for Gentle Yoga Flow and Yoga Nidra, contact Shari Czar at Shari@InfiniteHeartSpace.com or 908-963-6365.

In Celebration of Tu B'Shvat... A Meditation with Gifts from the Earth Shari Czar

Saturday, January 30, following the Tu B'Shvat Seder at Temple Beth-El, Hillsborough

Have you ever taken the time to really notice details of the wonderful gifts from the earth: the design in the center of a flower, the pattern on a rock, or the feeling of dirt between your fingers? Come discover what we may not previously have noticed as we celebrate the New Year for Trees.

SPECIAL EVENTS AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Elissa Altman will discuss *Poor Man's Feast — A Love Story of Comfort, Desire and the Art of Simple Cooking* Sunday, November 15, 10:30 a.m. at Or Chadash, Flemington.

AIPAC's Alicia Silverman will present "America & Israel: Worry, Relax or Both?"

Tuesday, November 17, 8:00 p.m. at Temple Beth El, Somerset

Bobby Wonderful: An Imperfect Son Buries His Parents, with Robert Morris

Thursday, December 3, 12:00 p.m. at the JCC in Bridgewater

Chanukah "Dish" with "Chopped" Champion Chef Rachel Reuben

Thursday, December 3, 6:00 p.m. at the JCC

The Friends of the Israel Defense Forces (FIDF) Musical Ensemble in concert for Chanukah

Tuesday, December 8, at the JCC

There will be two performances: one for young families at 5:30 and the other for adults at 7:30. Both groups will enjoy dinner and candle lighting together at 6:30.

Please consider becoming a Benefactor of this event.

Falafel and Films — The Irma Horowitz Film Series

Presenting Israeli short films from the Ma'aleh School of Television and the Arts in Jerusalem

Thursday, December 17, 6:30 p.m. at the JCC

The Jewish Film Series at Temple Beth-El presents

DeliMan: A Freshly Made Documentary

Saturday, December 12, 7:00 p.m.

Discussion and Q & A with filmmaker Eric Greenberg Anjou will follow the screening.

Jewish LIFE rounds out 2015 with a return engagement with the incomparable **Judith Viorst**, who will discuss her latest book, *Wait for Me and Other Poems About the Irritations and Consolations of a Long Marriage*

Wednesday, December 16, 12:00 p.m. at the JCC (program includes luncheon)

The Jewish LIFE 2015-2016 brochure is posted online at ssbjcc.org.

Jewish LIFE is made possible in part by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon & Warren Counties.

Jewish LIFE needs your support! Patron and Benefactor opportunities are available. Please contact Laura Friedman, JCC Executive Director, at 908-725-6994 x213 or LFriedman@ssbjcc.org.

For questions about Jewish LIFE and to register for special events, contact the Birnbaum JCC at 908-725-6994 x201. To register for synagogue-hosted classes and special events, contact the host synagogue directly.

KNOW YOUR GENES



We all have BRCA GENES.
They help protect us from cancer.



A mutation or mistake in BRCA increases cancer risk in both MEN & WOMEN.



1 IN 40 Ashkenazi Jews carries a BRCA mutation.

**FIND OUT MORE:
VISIT BRCAcommunity.com FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES.**

Adapted from an infographic developed by the OU and the Program for Jewish Genetic Health in conjunction with Sharsheret and the Basser Research Center for BRCA

Pinat Halvrit, Hebrew Corner

Pinat Halvrit—Hebrew Corner

It Is Good to Give Thanks

The root י־דָּהּ (*yod-dalet-bay*) has the basic meaning of admit, confess; acknowledge; thank, glorify, and praise. In the morning prayer Elohai N'shamah, we acknowledge God as the source of our being and give thanks individually for the gift of our soul by saying מוֹדֶה אֲנִי (modeh ani), “(I) thank you” (fem.: מוֹדֶה, *modah*). Later in the service, in the Amidah, we offer our collective appreciation of God and express gratitude for events in our lives with the words מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ (*modim anachnu lach*), “We gratefully acknowledge/we thank You.”

The recitation of Hallel, psalms of praise, includes הוֹדוּ לַי' כִּי טוֹב (hodu LAdonai ki tov), “Praise God, for God is good,” because it is טוֹב לְהוֹדוֹת (tov l'hodot), “good to give thanks.”

This appreciation of the Source of what we are and what we have finds its way into everyday speech with תוֹדָה לָאֵל (todah la-Eil), “Thank God!” Being polite requires saying תוֹדָה (todah), “thank you”; תוֹדָה רַבָּה (todah rabbah), “thank you very much”; רַב תוֹדוֹת (rav todot), “many thanks”; אֶלֶף תוֹדוֹת (elef todot), “a thousand thanks,” or הַמֶּון תוֹדָה (hamon todah), “huge thanks.”

When making a request in writing, it is appropriate to close with בְּתוֹדָה (b'todah), “with thanks,” or בְּתוֹדָה מֵרָשָׁשׁ (b'todah meirosh) “thank you in advance,” thereby increasing the odds — we hope — that our request will be received positively and granted.

There are at least three special opportunities this month for which we can say תוֹדָה (todah) in its various forms: 1) each time we bring in a food item for the Annual Sisterhood-Religious School Thanksgiving Food Drive, we can be thankful to be part of a community that helps fill baskets for those in need and grateful that we ourselves are able to make such donations; 2) when we gather at the North Branch Reformed Church for our annual Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service (Tuesday, November 22, at 7:00 p.m.), we can thank our neighbors for hosting us in their home and express our gratitude by donating to IHN; and 3) when we gather around our own tables with family and friends on חַג הַהוֹדָיָה (chag ha-hodayah), Thanksgiving Day. Before we eat turkey (הוֹדוּ, *hodu* — no relation to the root), we can offer הוֹדָאָה (hoda'ah), “thanks,” as we acknowledge the Source of our bounty and say תוֹדָה (todah) for life and all its blessings.

מוֹדִים אֲנַחְנוּ לָךְ (*modim anachnu lach*), “We thank You.”

Wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving and joyous Chanukah! (Look for the next Pinat Halvrit in the temple Chanukah Holiday Guide at the beginning of December.)

L'shalom,
Sarah Gluck



Special Needs Symposium

Dr. Temple Grandin will be the keynote speaker at the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum JCC's Symposium for Special Needs: A Day of Learning for Parents, Caregivers and Professionals, on Friday, December 11.

Dr. Grandin is an American professor of animal science at Colorado State University, best-selling author, autism activist and consultant to the livestock industry on animal behavior.

Grandin was named in the *Time* 100 list of the one hundred most influential people in the world in the "Heroes" category in 2010. In a TED talk given around the same time, Grandin stated, "The world needs all types of minds."

In this unique presentation, Dr. Grandin will candidly describe the challenges she has faced and will offer no-nonsense ideas on how others dealing with autism can meet these obstacles and improve the quality of their lives.

In addition to Dr. Grandin's presentation, the Special Needs Symposium will feature sessions with professionals and educators in the field of autism. It will be held at Raritan Valley Community College in Branchburg, NJ. For additional information and to register, contact the JCC at 908-725-6994 x201 or view the event brochure at sbbjcc.org.



The Jewish Federation
OF SOMERSET, HUNTERDON & WARREN COUNTIES

SUPER SUNDAY, 2015

December 13, 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

*The Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center
775 Talamini Road, Bridgewater, NJ 0887*

Dear Friend,

Shalom! As you are aware, our annual Super Sunday phone-a-thon event is the most important day of the year to reach out to the Jewish community. It is a day to make friends and renew acquaintances, have some fun, enjoy great food, and connect with our community. This year's Super Sunday event will be held on December 13th, from 9:30am to 1:30pm. We are taking this early opportunity to contact you and ask for your help:

1. To talk to you now about donating to The Jewish Federation, and
2. To ask you to donate a few hours to work Super Sunday with us.

With your support, together, we can continue to build and strengthen our Jewish community locally, in Israel and in more than 70 countries around the world. Your help means so much to so many, and that should make you proud. We sincerely appreciate all you do!

Sincerely,

Michael Saul
Campaign Chair

Robin Wishnie
Executive Director

Join the Movement... Volunteer!

Call 908.725.6994 ext. 261



Bring Your Cell Phone!

The Artist in our Midst

Did you know that our own Marc Malberg is an accomplished artist as well as a skilled surgeon? A few of his pieces were chosen for an exhibit at the Westminster College of the Arts at Rider University.

Entitled "Biblical Inspiration in a Secular Time," the exhibit features five contemporary artists who are inspired by biblical themes, but who are far from conventional in their approaches. In addition to Marc, the show features works by Helène Aylon, Siona Benjamin, Hanan Harchol, and Archie Rand.

Marc's large paintings focus on some of the most physical and exciting stories in the Hebrew bible – the binding of Isaac and the burning bush, to name just two. Marc is inventing an iconography for the Hebrew bible that will parallel the iconography that artists over the centuries have developed for the Christian bible.

The exhibit runs from November 5 through December 6, with artists' talks on November 12 at 7:00 p.m., at the Rider University Art Gallery, Bart Luedeke Center, 3rd Floor, 2083 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, New Jersey.

This exhibition is funded in part by a grant from the Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission, New Jersey State Council on the Arts, Department of State.

For more information on the exhibit, visit <http://www.rider.edu/events/rider-university-art-gallery-biblical-inspiration-secular-time>



Abshalom, 1991



Moses and Aaron, 2003

Beautification



Beautifying Our Sanctuary

Thanks to Donna Tischfield, Lisa Bendavid and Karen Kaplan for their work designing and sewing new covers for the rabbi's lectern, kiddush table and end table for use on both Shabbat and High Holy Days. They scoured fabric stores and retailers looking for just the right fabric and trim to enhance our worship setting. Here they are proudly standing by the Shabbat lectern cover. Thanks, ladies, for your careful work on this project.

Brotherhood

Chocolate Tasting

December 19

6:30-7:30 p.m.

(followed by Comedy Night!)

*Supporting the
Youth Scholarship Fund*

*Sponsored by
Brotherhood and Sisterhood*

Cost: \$10 (plus donation)



Are you a chocolate lover? Do you consider chocolate to be its own food group? Or are you on the other end of the spectrum, wondering what the hype is about chocolate? Whatever your interest level in chocolate, you're bound to enjoy this chocolate tasting event.

Chocolate tasting will be offered in three flights:

- Milk chocolate, illustrating Swiss, Belgian, and French styles;
- Dark chocolate from one region of the world showing the difference in flavor in chocolates made with varying amounts of cocoa butter; and
- Single-farm chocolate samples from Machu Picchu and Madagascar.

We will learn about the history of chocolate and discuss some of the latest trends. The book *On the Chocolate Trail* will be awarded as a door prize.

Come expand your appreciation for chocolate and support the Youth Scholarship Fund.

Responses are essential so we have enough chocolate for everyone.

RSVP to Susan Walters in the temple office (SusanWalters@TempleBethEINJ.org or 908-722-0674, ext 112).

Renaissance Happenings

by Diane Morrison, Renaissance Group

The Renaissance Group is a 50+ social group that welcomes temple members/non-members, singles/couples. We get together for informational and fun activities. Should you wish additional information about the group, please call Harriet Thaler at 908-788-0269 or thaler@embargmail.

Many thanks to Carol Ahlert and Julius Smolinka for arranging the grand day we had at Duke Farms. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the October Old York Wine Cellars event and the Luncheon in November at Carpaccio's. We will reschedule.

Welcome to New Renaissance Members:

Dori and Len Knauer
Donna and Jay Tischfield
Jill and Ken Weeden
David Grobstein
Shari Farmer
Carol Gardner

Hope to see all of you at future events.

Here are our plans for December

Please respond directly to the host of the event when you RSVP.

Film Screening of *DeliMan*

Renaissance joins the Cultural Arts Committee in presenting Erik Greenberg Anjou's movie, *DeliMan*, with deli-icious appetizers

At the temple

Saturday, December 12, 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Simona Rivkin at bakerec@comcast.net

Chanukah Pot-luck Lunch

At the Tabers

Sunday, December 13, 1:00 p.m.

More information to follow.

727 Brushwood Court, Somerset

732-469-1393 or robert.taber628@gmail.com

Cultural Arts

by Simona Rivkin, Chairperson

Cultural Arts Happenings for November and December

Back by popular demand, **we present on November 14, at 7:00 p.m., our third biennial cabaret style entertainment with open mic.**

This event includes a selection of wines, elegant desserts, jazz by Flagtown, led by David Sandler, and Girl Jam, led by Beth Borrus, special guest appearances, stand-up comedians and open mic. We create a relaxed, European-style cabaret entertainment, held in the temple social hall, which is specially decorated for the occasion. We invite you to come for serenity, entertainment, and some intellectual stimulation.

So whether you love jazz, wine and sweets, comedy or the thrill of performing at the open mic, we've got a great evening in store for you. Come, relax, laugh and be amazed, yet again, at the talents within our own congregation. And best of all, it's free to the public. Bring your friends and share the evening. A response to Simona at bakerec@comcast.net is greatly appreciated.

And on Saturday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m., don't miss our special showing of Erik Greenberg Anjou's *DeliMan*, presented jointly by the Cultural Arts Committee and the Renaissance Group. This is the third film, after *A Cantor's Tale* and *The Klezmatics: On Holy Ground*, in Anjou's trilogy about Jewish culture. (See the flyer in this issue of the *Shofar* for more information on the film.) The discussion of the film will feature a Q&A by Erik Greenberg Anjou.

In keeping with the film's spirit, the Renaissance Group invites you to come and savor deli-icious appetizers of corned beef, pastrami, a knish and a pickle, too. With a Dr. Brown's beverage to top it off. Because of the generosity of movie lovers who sponsored this film, the TBE Cultural Arts Committee name appears in the credits, so don't miss it.

This is what Erik wrote to his supporters:

DeliMan

1. Has been released in more than 40 movie theaters across the U.S. by Cohen Media Group...

2. Has received rave reviews in the *L.A. Times*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Hollywood Reporter*, *Washington Post*, *Philadelphia Daily News*, *Eater*...
3. Has been released in Canada. In its second week of release in Toronto, its per-screen average (tickets sold per theater) was the fourth highest in Canada...
4. Has played in film festivals across the U.S. and internationally – from New York City to the Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, MA to San Francisco, CA to Auckland, New Zealand to Berlin, Germany...
7. Has submitted to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for 2015 Oscar consideration...

I am equally humbled by and proud of our ascent. Not bad for a small independent documentary film, and for the impassioned deli men and mavens who keep a cherished tradition alive.

All of this couldn't have happened without you. Thank you for your support. I'm wishing you and your families a healthy, sweet New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Erik

To donate to Erik's new documentary film, please visit www.hartleyfoundation.org and see *The Cantor's Project*.

Israeli folk dancing with Ruach started on September 10 and continues every Thursday evening from 7:30 p.m. til 9:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room in the school wing, except holidays (check weekly E-letter or TBE's calendar). It's good for your heart, it's the best way to work mind, body and soul, and you'll meet lots of nice people, too.

Cost: \$10 at the door. **First dancing session free for newcomers.**

You will lose yourself in the rhythms of the dance and the tuneful music and spirituality of dancing with others. It'll make you feel great, so come see why we are addicted to dancing!

Any Qs? Email Simona, bakerec@comcast.net

Shalom,

Simona Rivkin



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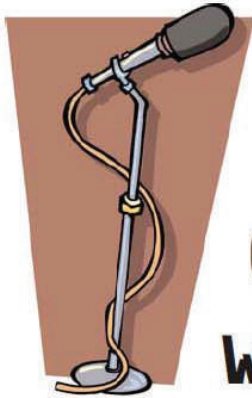
Temple Beth-El Cultural Arts Committee

PRESENTS

CABARET STYLE ENTERTAINMENT With OPEN MIC

November 14 • 7:00 PM

Temple Beth-El, Hillsborough, NJ



Live Music

Stand Up Comedy

Open Mic (sign up required)

Wine and Sweets

Everyone's Invited!

Free to the Public

RSVP STRONGLY SUGGESTED, in respect for the artists and workers who make it possible.

RSVP to bakerec@comcast.net by November 10





December 12, Saturday, 7:00 p.m.
Temple Beth El, 67 US Hwy 206, Hillsborough, NJ

Cultural Arts Committee and Renaissance present:
A freshly-made documentary by Erik Greenberg Anjou

Come SEE Anjou's third work in his trilogy about Jewish culture: *A Cantor's Tale*, *The Klezmatics: On Holy Ground*, and now *Deli Man*.

The Renaissance Groups invites you to come and SAVOR deli - icious appetizers: corned beef, pastrami, a knish, a pickle, and a Dr. Brown beverage to top it off.

Because of the generosity of movie lovers who sponsored this film, TBE's Cultural Arts Committee appears in the Credits.

The discussion of the film will feature a Q and A by Erik Greenberg Anjou.

The principal guide of *Deli Man* is the effusive and charming Ziggy Gruber, a third-generation delicatessen man, owner and maven (as well as a Yiddish-speaking, French-trained chef) who currently operates one of the country's top delis, Kenny and Ziggy's in Houston.

"Texas?" you ask. Shalom, y'all. The story of the American deli is the story of Jews – their immigration, migration, upward mobility, and western assimilation.

It's the history, anecdotes and humor that once made one's local delicatessen the virtual epicenter not only of food, but of family, laughter and community. *Deli Man* has visited meccas like the Carnegie, Katz's, 2nd Avenue Deli, Nate 'n Al and Langer's, as well as interviewed some of the great mavens, comedians and connoisseurs of deli, including Jerry Stiller, Alan Dershowitz, Freddie Klein, Dennis Howard, Jay Parker (Ben's Best), Fyvush Finkel, and Larry King.

You are what you eat. So join us for some raucous laughter, an existential discussion about what makes pastrami pastrami, a bissele of shpilkus, and a reminder to renew your fitness club membership.

Sisterhood

by Marcy Rosenfeld and Cindy Scott, Co-Presidents

Recognizing the Strength of Sisterhood: The Forces Behind the Programs

On October 28, Sisterhood held a Torah study session at the home of Fern Schiffman. The well-attended session was facilitated by Irene Lieberman. These Torah study sessions have been the occasions of many stimulating and fun exchanges, while providing a great opportunity for Sisterhood members of diverse backgrounds to come together and connect in a meaningful way. Three more Torah study sessions are scheduled for this programming year: January 6, March 30 and June 1. They will be held at the homes of various Sisterhood members, and discussions likewise will be facilitated by different individuals. Those of us who have become “regulars” look forward to these evenings, and we have the commitment and devotion of Marsha Malberg and Gayle Skolky to thank for ensuring that these events take place. Gayle Skolky is also membership co-vice president of Sisterhood, along with Carol Levison, and both Gayle and Carol will be happy to talk to anyone wishing to join Sisterhood and participate in the Torah study programs or other Sisterhood activities.

Irene Lieberman is also serving this year as Sisterhood corresponding vice president. In addition to taking excellent minutes, Irene is the author of our TidBits emails, keeping everyone informed of upcoming events, programs or projects that Sisterhood is either organizing or supporting. Sisterhood feels very fortunate to have succeeded in adding Irene to its board this year, following her very long and successful run as the chief editor of the Temple Beth-El *Shofar*.

As we approach the Thanksgiving season, you will certainly see communications and solicitations about donating food for the joint Sisterhood and Religious School collection, to benefit both the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Somerset County and HomeSharing. This year the goal is to ensure that 16 IHN clients and 50 participants in the HomeSharing program enjoy a full Thanksgiving meal. As in prior years, Barbara Johnston, our Sisterhood treasurer, and fellow Sisterhood board member Janice Klein are coordinating this significant effort.

Sisterhood will be undertaking two additional major projects before the end of 2015. The first will be the Chanukah Gift Shop, beginning Monday, November 30 and ending on Sunday, December 6. Although it is always possible to shop the Temple Beth-El Gift Shop, an ongoing Sisterhood project, the format of the Chanukah Gift Shop permits shoppers to appreciate the array of merchandise in the expansive setting of the social hall. The Sisterhood Gift Shop buyers are very excited about the new merchandise they have ordered from this summer's gift show in New York City and are certain everyone will find things to their liking – and not just for Chanukah. Of course, the management and staffing of the gift shop are huge ongoing projects, and the set-up and break-down of the Chanukah Gift Shop in particular are very labor intensive. None of

this could be accomplished without the commitment and efforts of Simma Friedman, our merchandise guru, Donna Tischfield, our communications vice president, and Carol Ahlert, our past president.

Finally, on December 17, Sisterhood will have the great pleasure of honoring our 2015-2016 Woman of Valor, Cindy Andrews, former Temple Beth-El president, with a potluck dinner, tributes, and a collection for the Resource Center of Somerset County. The ad, including the details for your participation, for this special evening is in this edition of the *Shofar*. Donna Tischfield and Carol Ahlert have also agreed to coordinate this event, and we recognize their commitment to the strength and vitality of the Sisterhood.

We are very excited about our programming through December and look forward to sharing Sisterhood news for the rest of the year. None of this could happen without the commitment and enthusiasm of our board members, or without the benefit of your participation. So please do check us out, and reach out to us for fellowship, for joining us in helping our temple and local community, or just for fun.



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Alert from the Temple Beth-El Sisterhood:

The Gift Shop Is Coming for

CHANUKAH

Expanded Gift Shop Hours:

Monday, November 30: 4:15 to 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 1 & 2: 4:15 to 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 6: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



Come check out our BEAUTIFUL new merchandise from the 2015 New York Gift Show AND support the Sisterhood!!

SHOP TILL YOU DROP...



We're collecting to provide complete Thanksgiving meals to 16 IHN and 50 Homesharing families. **You can help.** Please donate:

Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix
Canned Corn
Canned Cranberry Sauce
Canned Green Beans

Gravy (canned or jar)
Mashed Potatoes (Boxed)
Stuffing (Boxed)
Sweet Potatoes (Small Cans)

Please consider bringing an item every time you come to the temple. Whole turkeys are also needed. Contact Janice Klein at jbklein202@comcast.net or Barbara Johnston at bjohnston1836@gmail.com to coordinate.

Place donations in the **baskets in the Religious School** rotunda until November 22. We also need volunteers to assemble the baskets on November 22, and deliver them on November 23.

Please contact Janice or Barbara to help.

Sponsored by Sisterhood and Religious School

You Are Invited to Attend:

*2015 Annual Sisterhood
Woman of Valor Award Dinner for*



Cindy Andrews



When: Thursday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Temple Beth-El Kitchen Social Hall

Please help us honor this year's very deserving Woman of Valor, Cindy Andrews, who has worked so hard for so many years, in many capacities, most notably as a past Temple Beth-El President. Join us for a thoroughly enjoyable evening including a delicious vegetarian/dairy pot luck dinner with friends and memorable dedications to a multi-talented, awesome, ridiculously bright, and just plain great lady.

In the spirit of supporting the community at large, Sisterhood will also be collecting contributions at the dinner for the Resource Center of Somerset County, a Hillsborough-based organization that provides assistance to victims of domestic abuse. Your contribution to this worthy charity in honor of our Woman of Valor will be matched by Sisterhood, and will be an opportunity to honor Cindy personally.

This event is open to all paid-up members of Sisterhood. If you haven't yet paid, it's not too late: membership registrations will also be accepted at the Woman of Valor Dinner. Please RSVP to one of the Woman of Valor Dinner Co-Chairs by December Sunday, December 13th:

*Donna Tischfield
njbird@optonline.net
(732) 271-4632*

*Carol Ahlert
Carolahlert@yahoo.com
(908) 359-9357*

Interfaith Hospitality Network

Leigh Freeman, Coordinator — IHN / Temple Beth-El

Our next hosting date is November 15-21, 2015

IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) is a temporary homeless shelter and support program that assists homeless families find and sustain housing and employment with skills to forge a happy and successful family life. Temple Beth-El assists by providing accommodations and meals for one to four families (up to 14 people) for one week, six times a year on a rotating schedule.

Getting involved requires only a few hours from one to six times a year...you choose your level of involvement. Our volunteers range from young children who accompany their parents to the hosting and play with the children; to teenagers who raise funds for birthday presents or holiday gifts, or who plan an activity to benefit the families; to adults who prepare meals, host a shift, straighten up the lounge area and supply necessities like diapers. **Every volunteer is an important mentor to our IHN families.** If you have never volunteered for IHN, or haven't volunteered recently, please consider volunteering for a shift or a task.

How We Stay in Touch

Email is our primary method of communication — Please make sure Leigh Freeman and the coordinators have your email address. Emails announce scheduling for an upcoming hosting week with contact information, provide the guest roster and room assignments, and provide the volunteer shift schedule. If you don't have email, please let the coordinator know so we can remind you in some other way.

Volunteers are needed for the following shifts and tasks. Sign up using SignUp Genius (link will be sent out via email before each hosting week) or by contacting the coordinator (contact info in the box below) and also provided in the email announcements prior to each hosting.

2015-2016 IHN Hosting Schedule

November 15-21	January 17-23	June 12-18
December 20-26	April 3-9	

Meals: Delivered hot to the temple 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m.. Provide a complete nutritious dinner with dessert, suggestions can be provided by the coordinator.

Dinner Shift: 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Two adults welcome the families, set up and clean up the evening meal. Volunteers share dinner with guests.

Evening Shift: 7:30 – 10:00 p.m.
Two adults talk with guests, play with children, or just relax.

Overnight Shift: 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. (weekdays) / 8:00 a.m. (weekend). Two adults lock up, sleep, awaken guests at 5:00 AM and see the families off on the bus or their car.

Food/Supplies: Shop for and deliver snacks, foods, beverages and paper goods that are needed for the week; help restock during the week as needed.

Set Up/Breakdown: Dave Cohen sets the schedule and can always use some help on each Sunday (1 week apart).

It is critical that a volunteer keep their commitment to assist during a shift or make a meal. Someone **MUST** be present to support and assist the clients. Emergencies do happen, and when they do, it is imperative that a **phone call** is made to the coordinator in charge of the shift as soon as possible, preferably within 24 hours notice. The coordinator will make the necessary effort to fill the slot; we do not currently have an "on call/emergency" volunteer list.

Please note that an email can also be sent to the coordinator, but immediate response to an email should not be expected.

We thank our many IHN volunteers and hope to see more of you volunteering for IHN in the future. It is a rewarding experience.

To sign up for a hosting shift, visit our new online sign-up platform, SignUpGenius (<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044eada62fa6f49-ihnhosting>). If you prefer, you can contact the coordinators listed below. (Note: Nicole Goldstein will continue to schedule the meals. If you are one of our faithful cooks, please contact Nicole directly.)

IHN Coordinators Contact List

Function	Name	Main Phone	Other Phone	Email Address
Coordinator	Leigh Freeman	908-359-2724	908-391-1397 (c)	dancer.leighfreeman@att.net
Dinner Shift Volunteers	Pam Cohen		732-629-1798 (c)	pammcohen@yahoo.com
Evening Shift Volunteers	Julie Hirsch	732-580-8246		jbghirsch@gmail.com
Overnight Shift Volunteers	Sharon Sietz	908-231-0979		sharon.sietz@gmail.com
Meals	Nicole Goldstein	908-874-0899		npgoldstein@comcast.net
Food/Supplies	Mara White	908-231-1518	301-704-6066 (c)	mara@alumni.brown.edu
Linen Pick-Up	Cindy Andrews		908-635-6858 (c)	cjrandrews@gmail.com
Set-Up/Breakdown	Dave Cohen	609-683-5766		david@decarchitect.com
IHN/SC/Day Center	Karen Donohue	908-704-1920	908-217-0217 (c)	karen@ihnsc.org

Lifecycle

Temple Beth-El Family News for November/December

November B'nei Mitzvah

Peyton Diamond
Ethan Wolkofsky
Jake Silver

December B'nei Mitzvah

Evan Gladstone

Our Condolences to...

Cynthia Herman, on the passing of her father, Marvin Schaffel
Dave Cohen, on the passing of his father, Jules Cohen
Greg Hirsch, on the passing of his father, Jerry Hirsch

Mazel Tov to...

Mike and Judy Goldberg, on the birth of their grandson, Jason David Smith
Mike and Judy Goldberg, on the birth of their granddaughter, Zoe Juliet Goldberg
Debbie and Richard Fleischer, on the birth of their grandson, Liam Paul Rodker

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 from a personal computer or mobile device (apps are available for [apple](#), [android](#) and [roku](#) devices) for a list of upcoming and recent livestream events from Temple Beth-El.

Shiva Minyans: For a leader or participants, call Amy Rubin or Cantor Pincus.

Mitzvah Committee: To offer or request help, please contact Carol Ahlert, carolahlert@yahoo.com, or 908-359-9357.

In the event of a loss during the evening or on the weekend, call Rabbi Gluck at 908-722-0674, ext. 111, or 908-229-1618.

To share your family's news in the *Shofar*, call Susan Walters in the temple office. Please contact Susan 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.



Jason David Smith

September 2, 2015
Son of Ashley and Stephen Smith
Grandson of Mike and Judy Goldberg

Zoe Juliet Goldberg

August 28, 2015
Daughter of Ilana and Zachary Goldberg
Granddaughter of Mike and Judy Goldberg

Liam Paul Rodker

October 9, 2015
Son of Jennifer Fleischer and Jason Rodker
Grandson of Debbie and Richard Fleischer



Caren Bateman

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Yahrzeits November

[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 November 6

Max Miller, Grandfather of Brett Miller
Stanley Gluck, Father of Rabbi Arnold Gluck
Erwin Naroden, Father of Alan Naroden
Joseph Skolky, Father of Barry Skolky
Rachelle Friedberg, Wife of Morton Friedberg
Fanny Horowitz, Mother of Sidney Horowitz
Marilyn Kohn, Mother of Hal Kohn
Julius Greenhut, Grandfather of Robert Adler
Tseelah Grinberg, Mother of Michelle Gerner
Benjamin Schlosser, Father of Lynn Levine
Susan Small, Mother of Brian Small
Morris Simon, Father of Janet Halpern
Meghan Bradley, Daughter of Ileen and Robert Bradley
Annette Rothman, Mother of Shelley Gomolka
Hilda Slackman, Mother of Rhonda Brown
Shirley Steinman, Mother of Judith Steinman

To be read November 13

Penina Decter, Friend of Sheenagh Hirsch
Pauline Klinghoffer, Mother of Doris Moshinsky
Sidney Shubitz, Father of Gerald Shubitz
Alfred Sweetwood, Husband of Gail Meyers
Sofie Tesman, Aunt of Marc Friedman
Molly Waldorf, Mother of William Waldorf
Shirlee Hersh, Mother of David Hersh
Lila Stein Kroser, Mother of Marla Lerner
Isabelle Mendelson, Wife of Stanley Mendelson
Roslyn Eber, Mother of Beth Moran
Solomon Evens, Father of Carl Evens
Faye Fayman, Aunt of David Crystal
Sidney Herman, Father of David Herman
Albert Jackson, Father of Debbie Fleischer
Fae Shubitz, Mother of Gerald Shubitz
Warren Thaler, husband of Harriet Thaler
Sarah Gale, Grandmother of Lisa Ahern
Thea Manley, Mother of Gail Faber
Herman Mintz, Brother of Goldie Taub
Melva Shulman, Mother of Evette Adler
Raymond Boschen, Father of Karen Kaplan
Stacie Michelle Goldstein, Sister of Seth Goldstein

To be read November 20

Jacob Blaustein, Father of Betty Roswell
Herman Bloomstein, Father of Michael Bloomstein
Marc Jurgrau, Brother of Fern Schiffman
Marc Rosberger, Father of Molly Rosberger
Murray Berger, Father of Alan Berger
Saul Naidorff, Father of Judy Schachter
Nat Schnitzer, Grandfather of David Schnitzer
Laura Shapiro, Sister of Irene Lieberman
Zena Fish, Mother of Andrea Bradley
Philip Schwartzman, Father of Tina Kanterman
Joseph Nerenberg, Father of Henry Nerenberg
Nathan Lane, Father of Steven Lane
Ruth Uhlfelder, Aunt of Robert Adler
Anna Zelnick, Mother of Zelda Reinhart
Elayne Cohen, Mother of Randy Cohen
David Schnee, Stepfather of Jay Tischfield
William Ballock, Brother of Karen Andell
Karl Friedman, Grandfather of Doris Moshinsky

To be read November 27

Gerald Galler, Brother of Justin Galler
Myra Novy, Sister of Jackie Spinner
Herman Adler, Grandfather of Robert Adler
Arthur Brooks, Father of Cindy Mangel
Alan Hatoff, Father of Harlee Hatoff
Harry Berkowitz, Uncle of Marcy Rosenfeld
Leonard Eber, Father of Beth Moran
Jeanne Farber, Mother of Edith Hurwitz
Beverly Sandler, Mother of David Sandler
Marvin Skowronek, Brother of Joshua Skowronek
Murray Stern, Father of Lisa Dickholtz
Harold Freed, Father of Diane Morrison
Charlotte Cohen, Aunt of Shelley Drozd
Esther Cohen, Mother of Rita Fink
Samuel Friedman, Father of Neil Friedman
Florence Levenson, Mother of Edith Rugg
Dr. Irving Miller, Uncle of Gayle Skolky
Mary Rucci, Mother of Victoria Freiman
Jack Adler, Grandfather of Michael Cohen
Glenn Rankin, Husband of Stacy Rankin
Lester Raynes, Brother of Harriet Thaler
Becky Shapiro, Mother of Ruth Stein
Harry Spinner, Brother of Max Spinner

Yahrzeits December

[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 December 4

Eva Gitterman, Mother of Matthew Gitterman
Stanley Charles Goldstein, Father of Seth Goldstein
Jeffrey Peck, Father of Jacki Skole
Rochelle Glaser Freedman, Mother of Cindy Weiss
Ira Tiplitz, Father of Andrea Wolkofsky
Mildred Hillman, Mother of Lillian Swickle
Julian Arthur Kahn, Father of Hillary Angeline
Estelle Malin, Mother of Marilyn Muzikar
Alvan Milgram, Father of Marc Milgram
Gustave Miller, Father of Shuey Horowitz
Sondra Katz, Mother of Pauline Schneider
Roberta Meyers, Wife of Edmond Meyers

To be read December 11

Beatrice Cohen, Grandmother of Michael Cohen
Herb Cohen, Father of Michael Cohen
Alexander Howard, Brother of Sidney Horowitz
Ida Kaye, Grandmother of Susan Plan
Olivia Roth, Mother of Alice Fox
David Diamondstein, Father of Leslie Kass
Shirley Berger, Mother of Alan Berger
Howard Gross, Brother of Carol Ahlert
Eugene Friedman, Brother of Marc Friedman
David Schoor, Father of Marla Schoor
Nathan Seinfeld, Grandfather of David Sandler
Sadie Bailin, Mother of Gary Bailin
Estelle Bauer, Mother of Elaine Goldsmith
Greta Bollag, Grandmother of Laura Miller
Benjamin Drazin, Father of Jackie Spinner
Barbara Kass, Sister of Henry Nerenberg

To be read December 18

Sylvia Applebaum, Grandmother of Seth Goldstein
Samuel Attner, Father of Paul Attner
Donald Gorka, Stepfather of Wendy Horowitz
Joel Keiles, Brother of Ann Weinstein
Gretta Schwartz, Mother of Eric Schwartz
Marvin Siegel, Father of Craig Siegel
Jack Vogel, Father of Dana Colon
Joseph Ballock, Father of Karen Andell
Marvin Raynes, Brother of Harriet Thaler
Harry Schrier, Father of Sally Rosen
Mildred Trachtenberg, Mother of Alta Malberg
Irving Levine, Father of Alvin Levine
David Locker, Father of Stephen Locker
Evelyne Weinberger, Mother of Daniel Weinberger
Dave Locker, Father of Brenda Osofsky

Edythe Schrier, Sister of Sally Rosen
Morton Blaustein, Brother of Betty Roswell
William Levine, Grandfather of Jeremy Bloch
Howard Richman, Great Uncle of Lynn Small
Bernice Skowronek, Wife of Joshua Skowronek
Walter Greenbaum, Father of Robert Greenbaum
Esther Kaminetsky, Mother-in-law of Fern Kamine
Evelyn Southland, Mother of Stuart Southland
Jack Spinrad, Father of Marcy Rosenfeld
Morton Swickle, Brother-in-Law of Lillian Swickle

To be read December 25

Charles Toborowsky, Father of Robert Taber
Irving Cooperman, Father of Frances Taber
Gladys Goldberg, Mother of David Goldberg
Eric Strand, Brother of Thomas Strand
Bertha Bloomstein, Mother of Michael Bloomstein
Ralph Blake, Father of Jules Blake
Miriam Cartine, Mother of Julie Caliman
Jill Kaplan-Goret, Sister of Mitchell Kaplan
Maurice Greenberg, Father of Elaine Krantz
Richard Katz, Father of Pauline Schneider
Abraham I. Tucker, Brother of Barbara Cohen
Jeanette Herman, Mother of Ira Herman
Milton Levenberg, Father of Richard Levenberg
Eleanor Attner, Mother of Paul Attner

To be read January 1

Helen Ballock, Mother of Karen Andell
Helen Bernstein, Great Aunt of Keith Holler
Muriel Levitt, Mother of Laura Miller
Nathan Spinner, Brother of Max Spinner
Michael Zerring, Brother of Judith Goldberg
Elsie Keiles, Mother of Ann Weinstein
Ida Okun, Mother of Charles Okun
Barney Walitsky, Father of Paul Walitsky
Wesley Goldman, Father of Shari Albin
Gustave Kaitz, Father of Revalee Brody
Dora Kirsch, Mother-in-law of Stanley Mendelson
William Margulis, Husband of Arleen Margulis
Edward Reynolds, Father of Mark Reynolds
Irving Glatt, Father of Evelyn Silverstein
Margaret Levine, Grandmother of Jeremy Bloch
Rose Gilbert, Mother of Marlane Wolf
Benjamin Goldsmith, Father of Richard Goldsmith
Michael Millstein, Brother of Randi Millstein
Brian Ruderman, Husband of Eileen Ruderman
Amy Heinel Garthly, Mother of Amy Rubin

Contributions to Temple Funds

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of Rabbi Gluck
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 In appreciation of High Holy Day Services
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 In memory of Marilyn Kohn
Hal and Susan Kohn
 In memory of Evelyn Spinrad
Margy Rosenfeld

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In appreciation of the music of the high holy days
Cindy Scott
 In memory of Evelyn Spinrad
Margy Rosenfeld
 In honor of the music of the High Holy Days
Fran and Bob Taber
 In honor of Isabella Almeida becoming bat mitzvah
Myrna and Lou Binder
 In honor of Justine Smith becoming bat mitzvah
Brian and Jodi Smith

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Irene M. Gluck
Martin Gluck
 In honor of Steve Weitz's leadership in the URJ
 In memory of Jules Cohen
Amy and Ken Rubin
 In appreciation of High Holy Day Services
Audrey Lewis

GARDEN FUND

In memory of Jules Cohen
Harriet Thaler

BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Anonymous

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND

In appreciation of Temple Beth-El
Rich and Zahava Schaefer

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of Samuel J. Rosenblum
 In memory of Leon Rosenblum
Fern Kamine
 In memory of Joe Lieberman
Madelyn and Charles Okun

KESHER NETWORK

In appreciation of High Holy Day Services
Fern Kamine

Temple Beth-El has many funds available to which members can contribute. Donations to these committed funds help support Temple programs and enable us to continue to maintain a high level of programming for our community.

- Adult Education
- Beautification
- B'nei Mitzvah Fund
- Brotherhood Youth Scholarship
- Cantor Pincus' Discretionary Fund
- Cemetery
- Cultural Arts
- Endowment Fund
- Garden
- General Fund
- Holocaust Education
- Israel Matters
- Jules Swickle Chesed Fund
- Keshet Network
- Library
- Mazon Hunger Fund
- Memorial
- Prayer Book
- Rabbi Gluck's Discretionary Fund
- Religious School Enrichment
- Religious School Scholarship Fund
- Social Action (including IHN)
- Special Needs
- Yad Chazakah Fund
- Youth Activities

Please send donations to committed funds to Susan Walters in the temple office.

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Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 1

Mitzvah Day
 7:00 a.m. Mitzvah Day: Blood Drive
 8:00 a.m. Mitzvah Day: Sisterhood Rummage Collection
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 9:00 a.m. Mitzvah Day: Used Bike Drive
 9:00 a.m. Mitzvah Day: Habitat for Humanity
 9:00 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Beginning Hebrew Reading
 9:00 a.m. IHN Training
 10:00 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Aleph Isn't Enough
 11:15 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Intermediate Biblical Hebrew

Monday, November 2

4:30 p.m. No Hebrew School
 7:30 p.m. Ritual Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 4

URJ Biennial
 4:30 p.m. No Hebrew School or Confirmation Academy

Thursday, November 5

URJ Biennial
 6:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Gentle Yoga Flow
 7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Israeli Folk Dancing

Friday, November 6

URJ Biennial
 8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday, November 7

URJ Biennial
 10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study

Sunday, November 8

URJ Biennial
 9:00 a.m. No Sunday School — NJEA Weekend

Monday, November 9

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
 6:30 p.m. Youth Culture Committee
 7:45 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, November 10

6:30 p.m. Youth Leadership Training Seminar
 7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: The Last Speech of Moses with Rabbi Gluck

Wednesday, November 11

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
 6:00 p.m. Sisterhood Board Meeting
 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Academy

Thursday, November 12

Rosh Chodesh Kislev
 6:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Gentle Yoga Flow
 7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Israeli Folk Dancing
 7:45 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Yoga Nidra

Friday, November 13

Rosh Chodesh Kislev
 7:00 p.m. Family Shabbat Service

Saturday, November 14

SMOOCHY Offsite Trip
 10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
 5:30 p.m. Grade 7 Family Ed
 7:00 p.m. Cultural Arts Open Mic Night

Sunday, November 15

IHN Hosting Week Begins
 8:00 a.m. Brotherhood at the Food Bank
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School with Grade 1 Family Ed
 9:00 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Beginning Hebrew Reading
 10:00 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Aleph Isn't Enough
 11:00 a.m. Leadership Development
 11:15 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Intermediate Biblical Hebrew
 4:00 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Engaging Israel 2

Monday, November 16

IHN Hosting Week
 4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
 6:30 p.m. Post-Confirmation
 7:30 p.m. Brit K'hillah Meeting

Tuesday, November 17

IHN Hosting Week
 6:30 p.m. Youth Advisory Board Meeting
 7:00 p.m. Membership Committee Meeting
 7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: The Last Speech of Moses with Rabbi Gluck

Wednesday, November 18

IHN Hosting Week
 4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Academy

Thursday, November 19

IHN Hosting Week
 6:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Gentle Yoga Flow
 7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Israeli Folk Dancing

Friday, November 20

IHN Hosting Week
 Grade 8 and 9 Retreat
 6:00 p.m. Shabbat for Tots
 8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service with Choir, Shabbat of Appreciation

Saturday, November 21

IHN Hosting Week
 Grade 8 and 9 Retreat
 10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
 7:00 p.m. Adult Game Night

Sunday, November 22

IHN Hosting Week
 Grade 8 and 9 Retreat
 8:00 a.m. Chanukah Gift Shop
 8:30 a.m. Grade 5 Trip to Lower East Side
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 9:00 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Rabbi's Breakfast
 11:00 a.m. Sisterhood Thanksgiving Basket Assembly
 11:15 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Intermediate Biblical Hebrew
 6:30 p.m. Brotherhood at Petrocks

Monday, November 23

4:30 p.m. No Hebrew School
 7:30 p.m. Religious School Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 24

6:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Gentle Yoga Flow
 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 25

4:30 p.m. No Hebrew School

Friday, November 27

8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service — Shabbat B'Shir

Saturday, November 28

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study

Sunday, November 29

9:00 a.m. No Sunday School — Thanksgiving Weekend

Monday, November 30

4:15 p.m. Chanukah Gift Shop
 4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
 6:30 p.m. Post-Confirmation
 7:30 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting

December

Calendar of Events

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Tuesday, December 1

5:00 p.m. Shlich T'filah
6:30 p.m. Youth Leadership Training Seminar
7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: The Last Speech of Moses with Rabbi Gluck

Wednesday, December 2

4:15 p.m. Chanukah Gift Shop
4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
6:00 p.m. Sisterhood Board Meeting
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Academy

Thursday, December 3

7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Israeli Folk Dancing

Friday, December 4

Grade 10 RAC Trip
8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday, December 5

Grade 10 RAC Trip
10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study

Sunday, December 6

Grade 10 RAC Trip
8:45 a.m. Chanukah Gift Shop
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Beginning Hebrew Reading
9:00 a.m. Leadership Development
10:00 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Aleph Isn't Enough
11:15 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Intermediate Biblical Hebrew

Monday, December 7

Grade 10 RAC Trip
4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
7:30 p.m. Ritual Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 8

7:00 p.m. Jewish LIFE: IDF Ensemble in Concert

Wednesday, December 9

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Academy
7:00 p.m. Membership Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 10

6:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Gentle Yoga Flow
7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Israeli Folk Dancing

Friday, December 11

5:45 p.m. Shabbat Dinner, hosted by Membership
7:00 p.m. Family Chanukah Service with Consecration
(a.k.a. the Annual Shabbat Chanukah service)
8:30 p.m. Youth: LTS Shul-in

Saturday, December 12

Rosh Chodesh Tevet
10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study
7:00 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Film Series: *DeliMan*

Sunday, December 13

Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Federation: Super Sunday
9:00 a.m. Sunday School — All-School/Community-Wide Chaikiah-Making Contest
1:00 p.m. Renaissance Chanukah Party
4:00 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Engaging Israel 2

Monday, December 14

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
6:30 p.m. Post-Confirmation
7:45 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, December 15

7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: The Last Speech of Moses with Rabbi Gluck

Wednesday, December 16

4:30 p.m. Hebrew School
6:30 p.m. Confirmation Academy

Thursday, December 17

6:30 p.m. Sisterhood Woman of Valor Dinner
6:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Gentle Yoga Flow
7:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Israeli Folk Dancing
7:45 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Yoga Nidra

Friday, December 18

Grade 6 Retreat
8:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service with Choir

Saturday, December 19

Grade 6 Retreat
10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study
6:30 p.m. Chocolate Tasting
8:00 p.m. Comedy Night

Sunday, December 20

IHN Hosting Week
Youth Event Grades 4 and 5 (Time TBD)
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Rabbi's Breakfast
11:15 a.m. Jewish LIFE: Intermediate Biblical Hebrew

Monday, December 21

IHN Hosting Week
4:30 p.m. No Hebrew School — Winter Break
7:30 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 22

IHN Hosting Week
6:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Gentle Yoga Flow
7:30 p.m. Brit K'hillah Meeting

Wednesday, December 23

IHN Hosting Week
4:30 p.m. No Hebrew School — Winter Break

Thursday, December 24

IHN Hosting Week

Friday, December 25

IHN Hosting Week
Temple Offices Closed
6:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

Saturday, December 26

IHN Hosting Week
10:00 a.m. Shabbat Minyan Service and Torah Study
7:00 p.m. Adult Game Night

Sunday, December 27

IHN Hosting Week
NFTY GER Winter Kallah
9:00 a.m. No Sunday School — Winter Break

Monday, December 28

NFTY GER Winter Kallah
4:30 p.m. No Hebrew School — Winter Break

Tuesday, December 29

NFTY GER Winter Kallah
6:30 p.m. Jewish LIFE: Gentle Yoga Flow

Wednesday, December 30

NFTY GER Winter Kallah
4:30 p.m. No Hebrew School — Winter Break

Contacting Temple Beth-El

Temple Office:.....908-722-0674
 Religious School Office:908-704-1212

To Contact the Temple Beth-El Staff by email:

Rabbi Arnold S. Gluck

Cantor Emily Wigod Pincus

Amy Rubin, Director of Administration

Sarah Gluck, Education Director

Lisa Friedman, Education Director

Dan Merer, Director of Youth Engagement

Betty Parenti, Financial Manager

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