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Just
show up



Sonia Wilk

A Message from Sonia Wilk

Happy (almost) Passover Temple Beth El Family!

While the flowers are only just starting to peek up, I can feel the rush of spring beginning to set in. For those of you I haven't met, my name is Sonia Wilk and I have the privilege of serving as the Engagement and Communications Administrator for TBE.

My life's passion is to build stronger and deeper relationships in community and to support others along their life's journey. With Passover being around the corner, I find myself reflecting on everything that has happened this past year. As many of you know, Passover has a direct relationship to the spring season. Having grown up in Florida (where there are only two seasons), I deeply appreciate Passover as a way to mark the passage of time. Snow melts and change begins to take form. Starting with little crocus flowers peeking out under those last bits of snow and ending with an orchestra of color as flowers burst open.

For all of us, this has been a year unlike any other. But as I look at the tiny blossoms starting to pop out of the frozen soil, I can't help but see them as a symbol of our community. Steady, reliable, resilient, persistent and beautiful. In my short time with Temple Beth El, I have come to learn that these are all strong traits of our congregation and community members.

Please know that my door is always open for you and your loved ones. YOU are part of the Temple Beth El family. I am honored to have joined this family and look forward to growing, learning and getting to know all of you.

Wishing you all a meaningful Passover.

L'Shalom, *Sonia*

Thanks to Maxine Bernstein

A heartfelt thank you to Maxine Bernstein for her leadership as the President of the Board of Trustees for the past two years. These two years have been filled with uncertainties and transitions: the continuation of the sanctuary renovation, the abrupt transition to virtual meetings and services, two years of nontraditional High Holy Day services, and so much more! Maxine met them all with determination, nimbleness and creativity, and partnered with Rabbi Katz and lay leaders to keep the shul running. Mazel tov on a job well done!



Michelle Anfang

Introducing Our New President, Michelle Anfang

In anticipation of our Annual Meeting, we take this opportunity to formally introduce Michelle Anfang who is scheduled to be installed as the 36th president of Temple Beth El on Sunday, April 18:

Our family came to Temple Beth El in 2005, attracted to the vibrant SKLC Hebrew school that was a great fit for our young children. We quickly made many friends and got deeply involved. I began my volunteer involvement with education, starting an Adult Bat Mitzvah group, and joining the Board of Education. For my 2008 Bat Mitzvah, I started the Shaloch Manot project that has been running successfully for 13 years! I became hooked on leading projects, enjoying the friendships and teamwork that rise out of working

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2021-2022 Slate of Officers and Trustees

OFFICERS:

President

Michelle Anfang

Vice Presidents

Brad Albert

Elina DeAngelis

Susan Weiss Firestone

Treasurer

Eric (Rick) Ratner

Financial Secretary

Jeff Mandell

Recording Secretary

Rhonda Goldberg

Immediate Past President

Maxine Bernstein

NEW TRUSTEES TO BE VOTED ON:

Max Schnaper

Heather Wasilewski

TRUSTEES NOMINATED

FOR SECOND TERMS:

Term ending 2024

Alex Kogan

Bill Radner

Steve Ross

TRUSTEES WITH CONTINUING TERMS:

No vote required - Ending 2023:

Adina Elfant

Ed Kline

Stella Ladina

No vote required - Ending 2022:

Esta Farkas

Marianne Kornblum

Arvi Roffe

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Dave Ratner, Chair

Jeffrey Mandell

Suzanne Rosenberg

Fred Brownstein

Jonathan Goldsmith

Rhoda Peskin

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together to a shared goal. For TBE's Centennial in 2013, I enjoyed learning the proud history of our shul through editing the Centennial Journal. I joined the Board of Trustees in 2016 and soon became Financial Secretary. For the past six years I have served on the Ritual Committee and the Finance Committee. When the Board decided to pursue the sanctuary renovation, along with a financial restructuring, I found my next project! I jumped in to chair our capital campaign, learning the ins and outs of major fundraising and donor development. Once again, the teamwork and shared vision were among the highlights of my experience. Now that the sanctuary is complete and the funds have been collected, it's time for another project.

I look forward to serving as your president during this time of transition. We will be slowly (and carefully) coming out of quarantine, and joining each other in person. At the same time, we will continue to use many of the powerful and meaningful ways we connect with each other online. The experience of Covid has reinforced for many people the essential functions of our synagogue community: to pray together, comfort and support each other, celebrate together, and to learn together. I invite you to share with me how Temple Beth El fits in your life, and how we can continue to go from strength to strength.

Michelle Anfang

A Message from the Covid-19 Task Force

The Covid-19 Task Force (CTF) has been meeting regularly during the pandemic; continually assessing community infection rates, and balancing our desire to be together with CDC and state guidelines, and increasing vaccination rates. Striking the right balance has proved daunting, but the safety of our sacred community remains paramount.

As of press time, the CTF will be recommending to the TBE Board a cautious re-opening plan, that, if accepted, will afford the congregation the opportunity to gather (in limited numbers and with strict safety policies enforced) at Shabbat morning services, beginning tentatively on April 24. We must continue to remind ourselves that this is NOT a "return to normal," but it is a move toward returning to the building. We must also be mindful that any change in guidance from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the CDC will necessitate a re-thinking of our plans.

There are many things to consider, and preregistration for attendance will continue to be a must. We are very thankful to our staff and clergy for their diligence during this trying time. We pledge to keep you informed via email. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we try to guard the safety of congregation, staff, and clergy.

Members of the Covid-19 Task Force include Craig Kazin (Chair), Rhonda Goldberg (Secretary), Ellen Ratner, Susan Firestone, Jon Goldsmith, Elina DeAngelis, Maxine Bernstein (President), Sonia Wilk, and Rabbi Amy Katz.

Selling Your Hametz

The deadline to sell your hametz is **Friday, March 26 at 10:00 am**. Please see the link in the TBE Connection email, or call the office at 733-4149.

Passover Service Schedule

1st Day - Sunday, March 28 10:00 am
2nd Day - Monday, March 29 10:00 am
7th Day - Saturday, April 3 10:00 am
8th Day - Sunday, April 4 10:00 am (Yizkor)

Shavout Service Schedule

Sunday, May 16 10:00 am
 Erev Shavout with Sinai Temple, featuring Dr. Alan Morinis
Monday, May 17 10:00 am
Tuesday, May 18 10:00 am (Yizkor)

Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah

April 10 Bar Mitzvah of Michael Kogan
April 17 Bat Mitzvah of Lillian Lieber 7:00 pm
May 8 Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Zippin
May 22 Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Barr

HOPE — This Year's Theme for Passover

Passover has always been one of my favorite holidays. Now, I know what you are thinking – but you have to eat all of that matza, the seder takes forever. While that may be true, my mother always went to extreme lengths to make sure our seder was engaging and something we looked forward to. She made great food and she always invited so many interesting people to join us for seder. I know that my children feel the same way. Passover is their favorite holiday. And while it is hard to imagine what a second year of Zoom seders will look like, I am certain that seder is more important than ever. I want to sing all of the Passover songs, I want to make delicious Passover treats and I want to relive the special memories that have nourished my soul so deeply over the years. I want, no NEED, a seder.

For this year, the question I am asking myself is: how is Passover relevant in light of COVID-19? What new meaning can I draw from an ancient ritual and observances?

In the past, if you had asked me the main theme of Passover, I would have stated it is a holiday in which we are supposed to imagine ourselves being slaves and then being redeemed. We were slaves and now we are free. The purpose of the seder was to remind ourselves of our duties to the downtrodden in society. But that theme doesn't seem to fit this year. In many ways, our world is currently enslaved to a virus and many people are not experiencing freedom. Individuals feel more alone than ever before – we are experiencing both a physical and physiological plague. I need a new theme to focus on. I need something that would motivate me to clean my house, put aside *chametz* for the week and prepare for the seder.

HOPE

I never quite realized that the entire seder is one extensive story of hope.

First, during the seder, traditionally, we each take a bit of our glass of wine and pour it into Elijah's cup. We then open our front door in the hopes that Elijah will visit our home and bring peace. Although, the joke this year is that if Elijah visits my neighbors, he better stay six feet away and wear a mask ... many of us will still invite Elijah into our home. Why do we do this year after year?

Do we truly believe that Elijah will visit us? I remember as a child, peering into the cup and somehow convincing myself that some of the wine was missing. Why? Even as a child, I wanted to believe so badly that a time of *shalem*, wholeness, was coming. Elijah represented hope that the world was going to be better; that everything was going to be okay. The first thing Elijah is said to do when he arrives at our homes is to answer all of our questions and declare the messianic age. In a time of unknowns, we open the door for Elijah to be filled with the hope that one day soon, we will have answers to this pandemic and situation of isolation. Elijah represents the hope deep within our *kishkas* that this pandemic will end, and we will gather together again.

Second, at the end of our seder, we say: *Lshanah ha'baa*

b'yerushalayim – Next year may we be in Jerusalem. Do

we really believe this? Are you planning on spending Passover in Jerusalem? I'm not necessarily, but wouldn't it be great if we did. So why do we say it? Just like in the case of Elijah, it is a statement of hope. This phrase is supposed to evoke a desire to rebuild what has been torn down. Whether it is referring to a desire for the Temple to be rebuilt in Jerusalem or a desire for our lives to be rebuilt, it evokes a sense of hope. It is a prayer for ultimate redemption, for peace and perfection for the entire world. Wherever we are now – however we have celebrated our Passover this year, may it be better next year.

May we be where and with who we want next year at our seder.

Lastly, have you ever wondered why the Torah doesn't end with us entering into the Land of Israel? We spend so much time wandering in the desert – one would have expected the end of the Torah to be: and they entered the Land of Israel and they all lived happily ever after. But that isn't what happened. Instead, the Israelites are on the brink of that next step. Moses sees the Promised Land and then walks with God and the Israelites are ready to enter The Land but the Torah ends before they set foot in the Promised Land. Why? Perhaps it is more meaningful to have the Torah end with the Israelites looking forward. It ends looking to the whole future of Israel. We must use our imagination to recreate what the next step of the Israelites' journey will be. It is a script that has not yet been completed.

How similar does that sound to our lives at the moment. Our future is a script uncompleted. We hope that the world will heal and yet we grasp on to any familiarities and sense of normalcy that we can find. To me, that is why I need to have a Passover seder with my family. I needed some semblance of normalcy to encourage me to hope that the future will be better. I need to fill Elijah's cup and open the door to remind me that God has promised that there will be a time when the world is healed

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



upcoming programs

Please note: all of our following programs will be held via Zoom.

All of the links will be sent in our bi-weekly email, the TBE Connection.

Second Seder

Sunday, March 28 at 7:00 pm

Join your Temple Beth El family for the second seder, led by Rabbi Katz and Cantor Levson — online, of course.

Our seder will not be a typical one. We will explore the themes of the seder through the story of the Ethiopian Jewish community. Some of you may have joined us earlier this winter when Brhan visited with our community.



Brhan Vorko

Brhan Vorko was born in Addis Ababa and moved to Israel as a young girl. At a time when questions about race are shaking the foundations of American life, Brhan provides a fresh perspective on what it means to be Black, an immigrant and Jewish.

We are videoing conversations with Brhan about her journey to freedom and her experiences in Israel. Using a special haggadah, we will enjoy spirited discussion and great singing.

If you would like to join us, R.S.V.P. to Lisa at 733-4149 by Monday March 22.

Renewing Hope: Emerging from Darkness to Light

Tuesday, March 30,
April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11;
Tikkun on May 16 at 7:00 pm

Spring is the season of hope, as the world is reborn after the dark days of winter. This year, the change is not only in the weather, but we have reason to hope that the pandemic will ease, and we pray that political divisions will begin to heal. The archetype for this transition from darkness to light is the 49-day journey from Passover to Shavuot when we count the Omer, elevating ourselves step by step from the darkness of Egypt to receiving the light of the Torah on Mt. Sinai. In this series, we will delve into several key subjects drawn from Pirkei Avot that are traditionally taught during the Omer period that are designed to infuse our hearts with wisdom, light and hope.

We will use *With Heart in Mind* as a text for our class. We encourage you to read the chapters in advance.

Here is the class outline:

1. Understanding of the Heart
2. Joy
3. Closeness to Friends
4. Settledness
5. Love of Uprightness
6. Bearing the Burden with the Other
7. Leading Others to Peace
8. Learning in Order to Do



Dr. Alan Morinis

Dr Morinis will speak for about 40 minutes each week and then will answer questions.

He is a leading figure in the contemporary revival of the Mussar movement, a 1,100-year-old authentic Jewish personal and communal spiritual tradition that was nearly lost following the Holocaust.

Dr. Morinis' teaching is funded by the Jewish Endowment Foundation of Western Massachusetts, the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, and Susan and Bill Firestone.

Community Yom HaShoah Program: Notions of Commemoration

Wednesday, April 7 at 7:00 pm

Join the entire community as we observe Yom HaShoah. Our guest speaker, Rachel Korazim, will guide us through a tour of Yad Vashem, the museum in Jerusalem that commemorates the Holocaust.

Rachel will discuss reading the site of Yad Vashem as an open textbook written in stones, trees and artwork. How do we remember- the one and the millions, the evil and the righteous, the heroes and the victims? The memory of the Shoah is intertwined with the creation of the State of Israel. Yad Vashem is a reflection of the struggle to shape Israel's way of remembering.



Rachel is a freelance Jewish education consultant in curriculum development for Israel and Holocaust education. She engages audiences worldwide through innovative presentations built around the stories, poems and songs of Israel's best writers. Her thought-provoking talks open a window into Israeli society, inviting listeners to engage with the country and its history in new ways. Rachel teaches at Israel's well-known learning centers such as Pardes and the Shalom Hartman Institutes, as well as in numerous Jewish communities worldwide.



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Rabbi Josh Warshawsky to Lead Kabbalat Shabbat Services

Friday, April 9 at 6:00 pm
Friday, May 14 at 6:00 pm

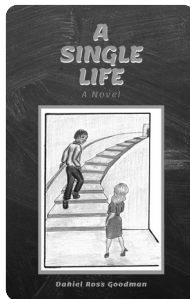


Talented musician Rabbi Josh Warshawsky will lead services.

Discussion with Rabbi Daniel Goodman, Author of "A Single Life"

Thursday, April 15 at 7:00 pm

Join us for an online discussion between Rabbi Daniel Ross Goodman, author of the recently-published book *A Single Life*, and Bruce Herzberg. The novel blends a literary style and a Talmudic sensibility with the romance tradition, while addressing universal issues — racism and racial identity, religious conflict, and the persistent human quest for love — through the prism of the particular experience of a single Jewish man.



Daniel Goodman is a rabbi, writer, and scholar from Longmeadow, Massachusetts, and had his Bar Mitzvah at Temple Beth El. A writer for the *Washington Examiner* and a Ph.D. candidate at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, he is the author of the novel *A Single Life* and the book *Somewhere Over the Rainbow: Wonder and Religion in American Cinema*. His next book, *Soloveitchik's Children: Irving Greenberg, David Hartman, Jonathan Sacks, and the Future of Jewish Theology in America*, will be published next year by the University of Alabama Press.

Dr. Bruce Herzberg is a professor emeritus of English at Bentley University and is a TBE member.



Lunch & Learn with TBE Authors

Thursday, April 8 at 12:00 pm

Amy Cohen is a longtime member of TBE. She retired from teaching at Western New England University School of Law in 2014 and has been pursuing her passion for family history since then. She writes about her research on her blog at [and](#) is the author of two novels, *Pacific Street* and *Santa Fe Love Song*. Her second novel, *Santa Fe Love Song*, was inspired by the lives of her great-great-grandparents, Bernard Seligman and Frances Nusbaum. Bernard was a young man who immigrated from a small town in Germany and ended up as a pioneer on the Santa Fe Trail. He settled in Santa Fe, where he was a successful merchant. But then he wanted to meet a Jewish woman and traveled back east where he met and fell in love with Frances. How he reconciles his love for the American Southwest with his love for Frances is the heart of the book. It is a work of fiction that is based on the author's family history research, but otherwise grew from the author's imagination. She is married to Harvey Shrage and has two grown daughters, two grandsons, and three cats.



Amy Cohen

Robert Chipkin has been a journalist, commentator and educator for 40 years. His previous book, written with Marian Broder, was an oral history of the contributions made to Zionism by local residents. His new book, *Paws to Remember*, is a compilation of six years of columns written for the Springfield Republican and Masslive.



Women and the Holocaust: A Consideration through Words and Pictures

Sunday, April 11 at 10:30 am

This program explores the ways in which gender affected experiences during the Holocaust and, in particular, explores the legacy of a selection of artists and writers. Through a curated selection of key artistic and intellectual figures linked to Holocaust history, we will explore (especially) the female voice in connection to the Holocaust as well as its aftermath.

Jennie Hirsh (PhD, Bryn Mawr College) is Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Maryland Institute College of Art. She has held postdoctoral fellowships at Princeton and Columbia Universities, and teaches courses on modern and contemporary art and architecture as well as postwar cinema and museum studies, including seminars on visual culture and the Holocaust. This class is generously funded by Suze and Marc Goldman.

Yom Ha'aztmaut Across America

Sunday, April 11 at 2:00 pm

Jewish communities across North America will join together for the largest live virtual concert to celebrate Israel's Independence Day. The event, which features musicians Sheldon Low, Hadar, and others, supports Feeding America and IsraAID and their Covid-19 relief efforts.

Yom Ha'aztmaut Celebration

Wednesday, April 14 at 8:00 pm

Join Conservative synagogues across the country as we celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut 2021 together. This year, more than ever, we resonate with Israel's 71 years of resilience and innovation in the face of challenges. Our virtual evening will feature singer/songwriter Craig Taubman, unique video footage and interviews by Stories of Israel, as well as music and dancing live from Israel.

Stories of Israel & TBE Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 18 at 10:00 am & 11:00 am



Chana Jenny Weisberg

Join us for Stories of Israel, another program in the series of virtual trips to Israel that we offered during the winter. This program features Chana Jenny Weisberg. Raised

in a liberal Jewish family in Baltimore, Chana Jenny spent time in her early twenties researching the Indonesian student movement. Sparked by her encounter with devout Muslim women, Jenny went on a search for her own religious identity. Join Jenny, the creator of popular blog, as she speaks openly about the challenges of being an Orthodox mother of 8, and a popular author and blogger.

The Temple Beth El Annual Meeting will follow at 11:00 am.

The Israel Defense Forces and its Impact on Society

Sunday, April 25 at 10:30 am

The Israeli army, with its predecessors from 1906, has been remarkably successful in defending the country. In our session, Paul Liptz will attempt to explain this phenomenon as well as delving into sociological and psychological effects of a national army which does not include all its citizens.

Paul Liptz, a social historian, was on the Tel Aviv University faculty for 40 years, teaching graduate and undergraduate students in the Department of Middle East and African History and the International School, where he dealt with a wide range of topics. His main interests are History of the Yishuv (Pre-State), the Modern State of Israel,

and Arab Women and Nationalism in the Middle East. He taught graduate students at the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem for 25 years as well as at the Conservative movement seminary, dealing with modern Jewish history, Israeli society and the contemporary Middle East. In the Israeli army reserves, he lectured officers and non-commissioned officers on nonmilitary realms. He is still active in Israel and is involved in various academic and



Paul Liptz

educational fields. In the last few decades, he has travelled the world extensively, lecturing and conducting workshops in 20 countries. He has also been a visiting scholar with many American groups in Central and Eastern Europe. Paul was born in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) and came as a volunteer to Israel one day before the Six Day War on June 4, 1967. He decided to stay in

Israel, married Brenda, and they have four children and 11 grandchildren.

Selling Your Hametz

Jewish tradition tells us that we are to avoid owning or deriving benefit from wheat, barley, oats, spelt, or rye. While the law calls for the physical removal of all personally-owned leaven from the home, the rabbis realized that this practice would impose a financial hardship upon those families who had substantial amounts of hametz in their households. Therefore, the custom evolved of simply placing all leaven in a secluded part of the home. Traditionally, upon selling hametz before Pesah, Jews donate to *Maot Hittin* (money for wheat). These funds are used to help Jews in need of money for celebrating the holiday. If you pay by check, please note “Hametz Passover Fund” in the memo section.

The deadline to sell your hametz is Friday, March 26 at 10:00 am.

Please see the link in the TBE Connection email, or call the office at 733-4149.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

If not, you aren't receiving **The TBE Connection**, our bi-weekly email that's packed with the latest information on what's going on at TBE and Zoom links to virtual events, as well as other important emails sent as needed.

Send your email address to: communications@tbespringfield.org

Donations תרומות

Temple Beth El gratefully acknowledges the following donations of at least \$10 received between November 5, 2020 – February 28, 2021. Thanks so much to the following generous donors for their support during this difficult year.

TEMPLE FUND

In memory of Irwin "Yitzchak" Lapidus

Joy & Michael Leavitt

In memory of Irving "Sonny" Mackler

Larry & Mitzi Mackler
Carol Wernick
Phyllis Levenson
Roberta & Ellis Goldberg

In memory of Maurice Fieldstein

Barbara Albert
Roberta Goldberg
Carol Wernick

**Donation made by Charles Reiter
Thank you to TBE for the lovely Hanukkah gift bag**

Ellen Grey

In memory of Ruth Calish Weiss

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Lesly & Charles Reiter
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Mike & Dorita Henderson
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Phyllis Levenson
Paul Cohen

A special thanks to the Anfang Family

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In memory of Sidney Robinson

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Dorita & Mike Henderson

Donation made by Hannah Blau

In memory of Seymour Frankel

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Paul Cohen
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In memory of Margie Smith

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Larry & Mitzi Mackler

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Charles Reiter

Donation made by Karen Cayo

In memory of Phyllis Swartz

Phyllis Levenson
Craig & Norah Kazin

Mazel tov to Ruth Burstein on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Scott

Phyllis Levenson

In memory of Howard Albert

Muriel Dane
Ellen & David Ratner
Susan & Jonathan Goldsmith

In memory of Walter Gordenstein

Amy, Rob & Matthew Scully
Robert Friedlander & Orville Dale
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Ellen & David Ratner
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David & Michelle Shrair
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Anita & Ed Finkel
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Susan & Jonathan Goldsmith

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Congratulations to Ellen & Dave Ratner on the marriage of their son, Douglas

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In honor of Sonia Wilk

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Dena Solomon

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Selma & Bernie Milstein

Karen Winer & family

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Phyllis Levenson

Sora Torff & Jack Goldberg

In memory of Irving "Sonny" Mackler

Steven Lepow

In memory of Maurice Fieldstein

Selma & Bernie Milstein

Myra & Jerry Gold

In memory of Ruth Calish Weiss

Maxine Goldsmith

Joan K. Rubin

In honor of Rev. David Aminia for Scott's Bar Mitzvah

Jeffrey & Elysa Burstein

In memory of Sheryl Okun

Steve Lepow

Charlotte Meyer

In memory of Seymour Frankel

Joan K. Rubin

Mark Fieldstein

Steve Lepow

Charlotte Meyer

In memory of Cynthia Littwitz

Joan K. Rubin

In memory of Phyllis Swartz

Charlotte Meyer

In memory of Margie Smith

Charlotte Meyer

In honor of Selma & Bernie Milstein's 70th Anniversary

Ellen Fieldstein

Irving & Goldie Skerker

In memory of Joline Odentz

Myra & Jerry Gold

Yahrzeit of Leonard Silverstein, beloved father

Diann Colie

In memory of Keith Sherman

Ruth Burstein

In memory of Maurice Fieldstein

Jill Fieldstein

In honor of Ellen Fieldstein

Jill Fieldstein

In memory of Benjamin Horowitz

Steven & Stephanie Kasok

In memory of Joline Odentz

Karen Winer

In memory of Seymour Frankel

Karen Winer

Yahrzeit of Robert Sanford Meyer, beloved brother-in-law

Charlotte L. Meyer

In memory of Harvey Gloth

Charlotte Meyer

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Caryn Resnick

In memory of Seymour Frankel

Caryn Resnick

In honor of Scott Burstein's Bar Mitzvah

Caryn Resnick

In memory of Elliot Schwartz

Caryn Resnick

In memory of Ruth Calish Weiss

Caryn Resnick

In memory of Elliot Schwartz

Helene Shapiro

In memory of Keith Sherman

Caryn Resnick

In memory of Irene Kossman

Caryn Resnick

In memory of Lora Blackwell

Caryn Resnick

In memory of Peter Gordenstein

Caryn Resnick

In memory of Max Goldberg

Caryn Resnick

Yahrzeit FUND

Merrill Robbins, beloved husband

Myrna Robbins

Louis Goldberg, beloved grandfather

Jack Goldberg

Roza Chernobrov, beloved mother

Marina Pen

Eleanor Cowen, beloved mother

Janice Cantor

David Cowen, beloved father

Janice Cantor

Mildred Cantor, beloved mother

Eugene Cantor

Jay A. Posnik, beloved husband & father

Laura, Mollie, Zach &

Ben Posnik

Rebecca Milstein Goldstein, beloved mother

Selma & Bernard Milstein

Rosalyn Plotkin, beloved sister

Selma & Bernard Milstein

Solomon Bean, beloved father

Selma & Bernard Milstein

Mollie Bean, beloved mother

Selma & Bernard Milstein

Sheila Goodless, beloved mother

Jeffrey Goodless

Karla Greenhut, beloved sister

Arnold Greenhut

Anne Greenhut, beloved mother

Arnold Greenhut

Stan Miller, beloved brother

Adele Miller

Richard Freed, beloved brother

Sheila Blum

Cipie Miller, beloved mother

Marsha Rickless

Sheri Mandra, beloved sister

Alan Seigel

Celia Perlman, beloved mother

Sharon Rosenberg

Dora Goldberg, beloved mother

Shirley Levitz

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Mazel tov to Ellen & David Ratner on the birth of their grandson, Izzy Ratner
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Mazel tov to Max & Rebecca Schnaper on the birth of their son, Samuel
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**Wishing Rabbi Katz and her
family a lovely Hanukkah and
a happy, Healthy 2021**

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**Yahrzeit of Doris Friedman,
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DONATIONS**

Many thanks to the following
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

and experiencing *Shalom*, peace, wholeness. I need to say *Lshana Habaah b'yersushalayim* to evoke my desire to rebuild what has fallen apart. When I remind myself of the plight of the Israelites, I remember that redemption is possible.

This year I am thinking about how I will make seder special, given the Zoom fatigue we are all experiencing. This year I know how to use breakout rooms and I will prepare questions for attendees to discuss. Even via Zoom, being with my family gives me hope for our future. I yearn for a time when Elijah visits, bringing a time when we can all be together physically and returns a sense of wholeness to our world. *Lshanaa Habaa B'yerushalayim*.

Next year in Jerusalem.

Rabbi Amy Walk Katz, PhD

"The deepest difference between linear and covenantal time is that whereas the first gives rise to optimism, the latter leads to hope. These two concepts, often confused, are in fact utterly different. Optimism is the belief that things will get better. Hope is the belief that, together, we can make things better. Optimism is a passive virtue, hope an active one. It takes no courage – only a certain naivety – to be an optimist. It takes courage to sustain hope. No Jew – knowing what we do of the past, of hatred, bloodshed, persecution in the name of God, suppression of human rights in the name of freedom – can be an optimist. But Jews have never given up hope."

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks



Congregant Profiles

הקהילה שלנו

We are pleased to introduce TBE's newest congregants. Here are some questions we asked them to get to know them a little better.

Meet Tovy Kamine & Rebecca Barron

Joined Temple Beth El in September 2020.



Rebecca, Arvi, Tovy and Jesse at home

Are you new to our area? If yes, where did you move from? Where are you from originally?

Yes, moved from Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Rebecca is originally from Newton; Tovy from LA.

Who is in your household?

Rebecca, Tovy and the kids Jesse (three years old), Arvi (18 months).

Why did you decide to join TBE?

We wanted to join a shul in the area and thought that Temple Beth El would be a good fit in terms of our backgrounds and what we were hoping to get out of joining a temple.

How did you find out about us?

Google.

Fun Facts about the family or things to share?

Tovy likes to see how many states he can get our children to visit. Jesse has already visited 10 states and Ari has been to seven states.

What was the most powerful spiritual experience in your life?

Life cycle events- Bat Mitzvah, getting married, going to the Mikvah in Newton (before marriage), our son's bris' and traditions around death like sitting shiva for Rebecca's father. Having spiritual guidance for life cycle events.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?

We are happy to be in this new community and look forward to meeting more people, hopefully soon!



Nancy Posnick

Meet Nancy Posnick

Joined Temple Beth El in March 2021.

Are you new to our area? If yes, where did you move from? Where are you from originally?

I've been here almost all my life. I was born in Springfield and grew up here. I spent some time in Boston and then moved back to the area shortly after getting married.

Who is in your household?

I'm married to Avi. I have a daughter and a grandson who live in Connecticut.

How did you find out about us?

I've known about TBE all of my life. My parents were members when I was young. But the real reason I am joining is that during this past year of COVID, I participated in many TBE programs and felt like part of a community. It was a wonderful feeling and something I hadn't felt before that made a real difference in my life. I am so grateful to Rabbi Katz, and I decided it was time to become a member to be supportive of the congregation. Rabbi Katz has had a huge influence on me. Her devotion, commitment and demeanor has deeply moved me, and is the primary reason why I decided to join Temple Beth El.

Fun Facts about the family or things to share?

I have a very close family, including three siblings who are my inspiration. Every several weeks of the pandemic, we've been Zooming together, cooking a meal together and then eating together. We take turns picking the recipes and spend the evening together. Each of us is five years apart, making a 15-year spread between the oldest and youngest.

What was the most powerful spiritual experience in your life?

The birth of my daughter and grandson, my marriage to Avi and the death of my parents. The death of my parents was a very spiritual time. I also had an adult Bat Mitzvah and spent 1½ years in Israel. These were all important times that were wrapped in spirituality. While in Israel, I lived next door to a Holocaust survivor and truly learned what the Shoah meant. From that experience, I devoted the rest of my life to advocating for and supporting Holocaust survivors, programs and education. I've been to Israel many times and feel like Israel is my other home.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?

I worked at the JCC for 33 years. It was my life! It's the greatest place to work in the world! Also, I will be 75 years old this year.

Temple Beth El

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