



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 2 China with a Jewish Flavor

Page 7 Mindfulness Class

Page 7 Winter Party

Page 12 Shabbat Dinner

Page 12 Order Your Mishloah Manot

Page 15 Meet Jackie Brickel

Just show up.



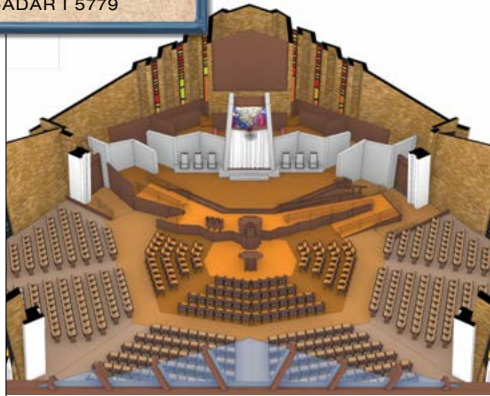
Nechamen/Chernick Breakfast to Honor Susie Rosenberg

Sunday, March 3, 9:15 am

The 11th annual Nechamen/Chernick Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 3. This event, sponsored by the Program Committee, will begin at 9:15 am, following minyan at 8:30 am. The Breakfast raises funds for the Nechamen/Chernick Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships for member children to attend Jewish summer camp and educational programs.

Rabbi Katz commented, "Susie has worked behind the scenes to make sure that social action is part of the TBE community. Because of Susie and her recruitment efforts, we are able to serve meals at both Shiloh

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

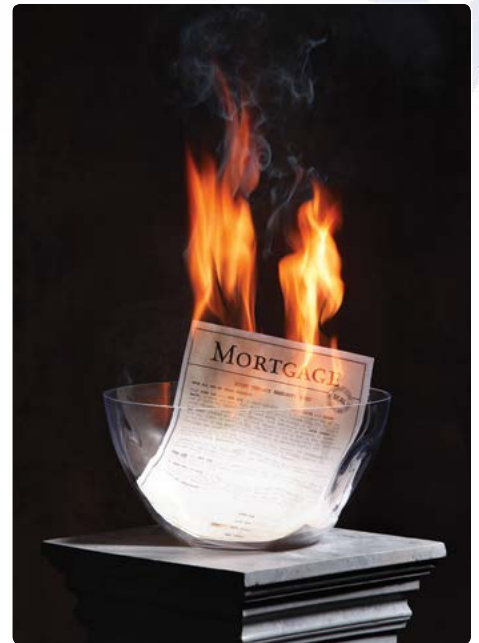


Update from the Sanctuary Committee

Susan Weiss Firestone

We are excited to be moving forward with the beginning phase of our construction project with various activities happening concurrently. The sanctuary is being cleared of all books, Torahs, ritual objects and furniture. All will be cataloged, inventoried and stored safely. Next, the pews will be removed and stored in the social hall. Once the sanctuary is clear, our contractors will begin doing the work to create the new floor with the flat area in front. The design of the ramp to the bimah has been refined for code compliance, cost effectiveness and aesthetics. Steve Jablonski, our local architect, has been working with Scott Cohen, design architect, to accomplish each step.

As the exciting phase of construction begins, we are working at the same time on materials selection, chair selection, lighting and sound. Please contact Susan Weiss Firestone or Howard Smithline if you have questions about the project.



Next Generation Celebration

Sunday, February 10, 4:00 pm

Temple Beth El is moving into the future! Join us on Sunday, February 10 from 4:00-5:00 pm as we celebrate reaching our twin goals - the retirement of our mortgage and the "groundbreaking" for the renovated Cantor Morton Shames Sanctuary. You did it! This accomplishment is a gift of security and strength for the next generation. So come put on your hard hats and join the Board of Trustees, our major donors and local officials, for a glass of champagne or a cup of cocoa. All members of all ages are invited to this casual festive reception. Please join us to celebrate as we prepare ourselves for the future. If you plan to attend, kindly R.S.V.P. to the temple office at 733-4149 or office@tbespringfield.org.



The deadline for the March/April issue is **Friday, January 19**. Please email all articles or photos to communications@thespringfield.org.

China with a Jewish Flavor

Michelle & Stuart Anfang

In October, we enjoyed a 15-day tour of China organized by Bev Nadler through the Springfield JCC. Kudos to Bev and the JCC for an outstanding trip! In addition to more than a dozen folks from the Springfield area, we were joined by new friends from Boston, Florida, New York, and the Midwest—33 people total. It was a fabulous, fascinating, and very well organized whirlwind tour which included highlights of Beijing (Forbidden City and Great Wall), Yangtze River cruise (gorgeous scenery and a zoo with 10 pandas!), Xian (Terra Cotta Warriors), Shanghai (very capitalist and Western, with magnificent new architecture) and finally, Hong Kong. We had a few especially nice Jewish experiences—including being with a group of Jewish Americans with their own unique plethora of lively opinions about food, hygiene, accommodations, market bargaining strategies, etc.

Our first Friday night all together found us in the middle of the Yangtze River on a cruise ship. With a little advanced planning, we had an abbreviated Kabbalat Shabbat for 20 people, complete with lively service, candle lighting, wine, and a challah substitute. Probably the only minyan that night for many hundreds of miles around...

We enjoyed a fascinating half-day tour of Jewish Shanghai, learning about the sites and history—beginning with the mid-19th century arrival of early Iraqi merchant families, followed by Eastern Europeans escaping pogroms, and ultimately the arrival of many German and Austrian families (and the entire Mir Yeshiva) escaping after Kristallnacht. Nearly the entire Jewish community left after the Communist takeover in 1949. Today, Shanghai has around 4,000 Jews, including 1,000 Israelis, drawn to the exciting business opportunities there.



Left to right: Howard & Chris Hausman, Allen Nadler, Stuart & Michelle Anfang on the Great Wall, outside Beijing.

Hong Kong has its own colorful history and British flavor, ever evolving since its return to China in 1997. We stopped by a local Orthodox Sephardi shul (tucked away in a storefront on the third floor of a shopping mall) for Friday night services. By the end of the trip, we had learned so much about China—a wonderful eye-opening experience, yet it also made us appreciate how truly fortunate we are—as Jews and as citizens—to live in the United States of America.

Worship Schedule זמני תפילות

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Weekday Mornings Monday through Friday 7:00 am Sunday 8:30 am | New Year's Day (office closed) Tuesday, January 1 Morning Service 8:30 am | Martin Luther King Day (office closed) Tu B'Shevat (New Year for Trees) Monday, January 21 Morning Service 8:30 am |
| Weekday Evenings Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 5:45 pm | Rosh Hodesh Shevat Monday, January 7 Morning Service 6:45 am | Rosh Hodesh Adar I Tuesday & Wednesday, February 5 & 6 Morning Service 6:45 am |
| Shabbat Worship Erev Shabbat 6:00 pm Shabbat morning 9:30 am Shabbat afternoon 5:00 pm | Shabbat Shirah (Song of the Sea) Shabbat, January 19 Morning Service 9:30 am | Presidents Day (office closed) Monday, February 18 Morning Service 8:30 am |

What is a person like? Like someone who goes into a perfume maker's shop. Even though they did not take anything or give anything; nevertheless they took out with them a wonderful scent. So, too, anyone who walks with others — takes with them some of their good ways and deeds.

—PIRKE DE RABBI ELIEZER 25

Off the Bimah מהבימה

Rabbi Amy Walk Katz

When I first came to this community I was teaching 4-5 times a week: Lunch and Learn, Cuppa Joe and Melton classes. Much has changed, and these days I seem to have many more pastoral responsibilities. I tend to spend more time visiting or calling congregants who are sick, isolated, or mourning the death of a loved one. Extending ongoing support for a congregation this size is a major undertaking, and I am delighted to tell you about a new program that will allow for better pastoral care for our congregation.

Neighbor to Neighbor, N2N.

For the last six months or so I have been working with Erin Koebler of the Longmeadow Council on Aging, Longmeadow Town Manager Stephen Crane, Anne Thomas from Glenmeadow, Rev. Ute Schmidt from Bay State Spiritual Care, and Rev. Pam McGrath of the First Church of Christ in Longmeadow. Together we have created a program designed to support isolated members of our community.

We plan to identify and train volunteers who will visit isolated seniors. Thanks to a grant from the Greater Springfield Senior Services Inc., we have hired a coordinator, Bev Sager, who will oversee the program.

Maybe you would like to volunteer to bring hope and friendship to someone living in isolation? Or maybe you know of someone who needs a friend and a neighbor?



Either way, I would love you to join us as we address this very serious communal issue.

If you are considering volunteering, I invite you to read what Jeff wrote (see below) about his experience participating in such a program. Jeff is an old friend of mine, who upon retirement was looking for some meaningful ways to spend his time. Jeff is an avid golfer, and loves to travel. But he was clear that he needed to do more than have fun upon retirement. Jeff wanted to make a difference in people's lives. I remember the day he told me, "I don't want to sit on committees, or go to meetings. I want a volunteer experience that will be based on cultivating relationships with people who might need me."

If you have any questions please contact Bev Sager at N2N@glenmeadow.org or Rabbi Katz at rabbikatz@thespringfield.org.



How a Volunteer Opportunity Became a Life-Changing Experience

Jeff Roitman

"You f—ing idiot." Those were the words that concluded my very first "spiritual care" visit with a Jewish resident at a geriatric facility where I volunteer. I'll call him Aaron (not his real name). That visit put me on a path that changed my life, that I'll never forget, and that was one of the hardest, yet most rewarding experiences I've ever had.

I volunteered for our community "Spiritual Care" system and went through the training almost 3 years ago. The program is meant to provide our Jewish community chaplain with a group of volunteers assigned to various geriatric care facilities in the area. We are tasked with visiting Jewish and non-Jewish residents of these facilities.

After training and embarking on my first day of visits, I knew that this was to be a very different kind of experience than I had envisioned. At my interview, I told the Rabbi and the Program Director that I didn't feel particularly qualified to provide "spiritual care," given the fact that my own spiritual life has always been a bit confused and wandering. His response was, "That's exactly why we need you." So, I accepted the invitation to join the program and embarked on a journey that continues to this day.

I have visited and talked with some wonderful people who have had a full life of fascinating experiences. I have carried on conversations with people who can barely express themselves. I have spent time with one of the first female news editors in this city. I have visited and spoken with a brilliant woman who was a pioneer in university women's studies programs, but whose memory issues prevent her from taking pride in her own accomplishments. The list is wide-ranging in human experience, deep in interesting characters, and sometimes full of sadness and loneliness.

Aaron was my first, my hardest, my most impactful, my worst and my best experience. He was a relatively young man

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



From the Director of Education

Hello Temple Beth El family!

Caryn Resnick



The Torah emphasizes character development and becoming better people, which is a value shared by our SKLC community. This value is called *tikkun* (correcting) *middot* (our character), always striving to correct our faults and improve our character.

The students at the Sandi Kupperman Learning Center Religious School have just completed three units of study centered around *middot* and values. At the High Holy Days, we concentrated on *teshuvah* (repentance). Then we moved on to *lashon hora* (gossip). Judaism teaches that words have great significance and they can be destructive and impact how someone understands him or himself. Words can hurt and words can heal. At Hanukkah time, we studied the value of *gevurah* and the *middah* of *ometz lev*. These terms in Hebrew are reflective of strength, courage and standing up for what is right.

At the end of our *lashon hora* unit, students and their families participated in a *siyyum*. A *siyyum* is a celebration after the completion of study. Parents learned alongside their children and viewed the classroom project exhibits. We ended with a fun-filled pizza dinner.

Our most recent *siyyum* celebrated the completion of the *gevurah* unit. We incorporated the student's learning into our Sandi Kupperman Memorial event and Hanukkah party. Hanukkah reminds us of heroes. After the students completed independent research, they presented, in costume, who their historical or modern day hero is. It was project learning at its best! It was another opportunity to share and learn with our families.

www.tbespringfield.org

youth and children

ילדים ומועד

Sandi Kupperman Learning Center

Teaching Jewish values is a way to help children and their families understand, explicitly and implicitly, that Jewish values are also universal values, because Judaism teaches how to be good people, but also offers much more than that. It is essential to include parents in this learning because parents are the best teachers of their children and by adding new tools to the culture of a family, Jewish education can make the biggest difference

Thank you to all of our parents who were able to attend the siyyums and show their children that what they do and learn while at Temple Beth El is important to them!



Family Shabbat Dinner

Families with children in grades 7 and younger are invited to join us for a special service and Shabbat dinner on Friday, January 25. We are delighted to be bringing back Marlene Rochelle to lead our musical and interactive Friday night service at 5:30 pm. A Shabbat Seder and dinner will follow the service.

The menu includes: challah and grape juice, green salad, meatballs in marinara sauce, ziti, green beans, garlic bread, dessert and beverages.

There is no charge for this dinner thanks to a generous grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation's Rekindle Shabbat program.

Please make your reservations by January 11 to sklc@tbespringfield.org. For more information, please contact Caryn Resnick at cresnick@tbespringfield.org.

2021 B'nei Mitzvah to be Scheduled

Attention all families with children who will be turning 13 in 2021. Cantor Elise Barber will be sending you a letter in January about selecting a date for your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah. The

children whose names we have are: Jenna Barr, Talya Greene, Nathan Katz, Michael Kogan, Lillian Lieber, Sebastian Oliveira, Chloe Raker, Emma Roffe, and Benjamin Starkman. If your child's name does not appear on this list, please call Cantor Barber at 733-4149 so that we can be sure to include him or her in our planning.

Tot Shabbat Services

Our fun Tot Shabbat services will be held on January 5 and February 2 at 11:00 am in the Katz Family Library. These lively services are designed for children ages 5 and under with a parent or grandparent. Enjoy special guest leader Marlene Rachelle on January 5. On February 2, join Cantor Barber and her ukulele, and celebrate Shabbat with songs, dance, instruments, stories, and more. Following the short service, everyone is welcome to stay for Kiddush lunch with the rest of the congregation. Non-members are always welcome!



USY Regional Dance and Overnight

On Saturday, January 5, TBE will be hosting a regional USY dance and overnight. The teens will arrive after Shabbat and will leave after morning minyan. Stay tuned for more details.

Camp Scholarships

Temple Beth El is proud to be able to provide scholarships to our member children to attend Jewish summer camps as well as summer programs in Israel. The deadline for applications is Thursday, January 31. Please call the temple office at 733-4149 or email us at office@tbespringfield.org to request an application form.



A fun time was had by all at our annual Shabbaton.



Another successful paint nite with our Kadima Youth Group!



USYers participated in a gingerbread house-making competition at the Springfield Science Museum! Each year, individuals and groups from the greater Springfield area create masterpieces using homemade gingerbread and all kinds of edible treats.



Adult Education

חינוך מבוגרים

Katz Family Library Book Discussion Group News

Liz Marinelli, Librarian

10:30 am in the library, all are welcome

The book group will meet on January 16 to discuss *Not Our Kind* a novel by Kitty Zeldis. Two years after the end of World War II, a minor traffic accident in New York brings together Eleanor Moskowitz and Patricia Bellamy. A friendship ensues, drawing Eleanor into the privileged world of the Upper East Side with unexpected results. The author will speak at the JCC on January 15 as part of Literatour.



On February 13 we will discuss another selection from Literatour, *Famous Father Girl: A Memoir of Growing Up Bernstein* by Jamie Bernstein. Leonard Bernstein's oldest daughter mines the emotional depths of her childhood and offers a rare look at her father on the



centennial of his birth in a moving and often hilarious memoir. The author will speak at the JCC on February 7. Both meetings will be at 10:30 in the library; everyone is welcome to join us.

Long winter evenings are perfect for games, whether a game night party or a quick card game with the family. The library has several games that you are welcome to borrow, here are a few:

Sequence- Jewish Edition. Players match a card in their hand to one of the matching symbols on the board and place a chip there. Five chips in a row wins the game. Ages 6 to adult, 2-6 players.

Spot It! Shalom. A fun, fast-paced matching game using 55 illustrated cards. Ages 7 to adult, 2 to 8 players.

Taboo- Jewish Edition. A version of the well-known party game where each player tries to get their team to say the secret word without using any of the prohibited words as clues. Ages 12 to adult, 4 or more players.

Schmear: Build-a Bagel Jewish Card Game. Use round cards to build a bagel sandwich in this memory/strategy game. Ages 5 to adult, 2- 5 players.



Sundays, January 6, 13, 27
and February 3, 10, 24 at 9:00 am

- Meet every person with graciousness.
- Let your friend's honor be more dear to you than your own.
- In a place where there are no worthy people, strive to be worthy.
- Make a fence for the Torah.
- Say little and do much.
- It is not incumbent upon you to complete the work, but neither are you at liberty to desist from it.
- The day is short, the labor is vast, the toilers idle, the reward great, and the Master of the house is insistent.

All of the above teachings are found in a collection of ethics known as Pirkei Avot. Compiled around 200 CE, Pirkei Avot is one of the best-known and most-cited of Jewish texts. The teachings range in topic from the ethics of everyday human interaction, to advice for scholars and aspiring scholars, to statements about the relationship of God and humanity. The worldview espoused by the rabbis quoted here emphasizes learning, service of God, discipleship, ethical behavior, humility, and fair judgment.

A teaching

"Shemayah and Avtalyon received the tradition from [their teachers]. Shemayah taught: Love work; hate positions of domination; do not make yourself known to the authorities. Avtalyon taught: Sages, be careful of what you say lest you be exiled by the authorities... Hillel and Shammai received the Torah from them. Hillel taught: Be a disciple of Aaron, loving peace and pursuing peace... Shammai taught: Make the study of Torah your primary occupation... (1:10-15)" From the teachings attributed to each rabbi,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6 CUPPA JOE

we gain some sense of the personality of that rabbi, as well as an occasional insight into the needs of the time. In the text quoted above, Shemaya and Avtalyon, who were the heads of the rabbinic court in Jerusalem in the first century BCE, demonstrate particular concern about upsetting the authorities. This worry reflects the precarious nature of the Jewish community in Jerusalem living under Roman control in the century that preceded the destruction of the Second Temple. Join us at Cuppa Joe on Sunday mornings. We will study Pirkei Avot by making sense of the historical context of the teaching and by applying the teaching to our lives today. You don't need to know Hebrew to participate in the class. **Just Show Up** and enjoy a good breakfast, the spirited conversation, and a strong sense of community.



Mindfulness Class

Rabbi Amy Wallk Katz

Stranger things have happened.

Who would imagine that a class about Judaism and mindfulness would be born in the cycling room of the JCC?

Mary Daboul and I have been spinning together for years. For a long time, our conversations were superficial. "Hi." "How are you?" "Hard class." "I like this music." "I'm going to be sore tomorrow." We decided to get to know one another a little better when Mary realized that Judaism might inform her mindfulness practice.

Mary has been practicing and studying mindfulness for many years. She teaches mindfulness to children in preschools, elementary schools, and afterschool programs. She is currently in the Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) teacher training program at UMass Medical School's Center for Mindfulness. An avid reader of mindfulness books, someone

suggested she read *Everyday Holiness*, by Alan Morinis. She began reading it and knew very quickly that this was a wonderful compliment to her years of mindfulness practice and teaching.

When I spoke with Mary, I realized that she had the necessary skills to help me better teach Mussar. Mussar is a Jewish spiritual practice that gives concrete instructions on how to live a meaningful and ethical life. Mussar is a virtue-based ethics—based on the idea that by cultivating inner virtues, we improve ourselves. I know how to teach Jewish texts and talk about mindfulness in Judaism. But Mary has expertise in the practice of mindfulness. Together we will explore the practice of mindfulness in Jewish sources and thought and develop concrete techniques for cultivating mindfulness in our lives. We will encourage participants to engage both practically and intellectually. The 10-class series will be held on Tuesdays, every other week.

Dates: Tuesday, January 15 & 29, February 12 & 26, March 12 & 26, April 9 & 23, May 7 & 21

Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Place: R.S.V.P. to the temple office (733-4149 or office@tbespringfield.org) for location

Greatest Hits from the Talmud

Begin your morning with a taste of Talmud! In this class, we will encounter some of the most fascinating discussions of the ancient sages as recorded on various pages of the Babylonian Talmud. Join us in exploring these different "gems" of the Talmud and attempting to wrestle with their meanings in their time and in our own. This class, which is open to the community, is for beginners and beyond, seekers and lovers of Jewish learning!

Dates: 13 Thursdays, February 21- May 23

Time: 9:30 - 10:30 am

Location: Michael's Café, JGS Lifecare, 770 Converse Street, Longmeadow

Instructor: Rabbi Devorah Jacobson

Registration: Contact Rabbi Jacobson to register at djacobson@JGSLifecare.org or at 413-567-3949 x2210.

Class Fee: \$150



Winter Party

Esta Farkas

Saturday, January 19 at 7:00 pm

Can you hide it in a drawer?

You will have to ponder this, while you warm up at our delicious comfort food buffet (including chili, mashed potato bar, savory bread pudding, extensive salad, desserts, and drinks (BYOB) that Saturday night.

Afterwards, as the story unfolds and football games are won, you may also wonder... what would these friendships be like if people knew... and was prep school really like this?

This is sounding like a fun Winter Party, presented by the program committee at bargain rates!

Please come, singles and doubles and more, and make our buffet even warmer with your presence. Catch up with old friends and those you are about to meet. Then let the story develop, as the classic movie *School Ties* carries us away, popcorn in hand, friends all around us.

Please reserve your place by Friday, January 11. The cost is \$16 per person. You may contact us at (413) 733-4149, office@tbespringfield.org, and tbespringfield.org.

Dinner menu includes vegetarian chili; mashed potato bar with many toppings; savory bread pudding; large salad bar; ice cream (both dairy and non-dairy) and all sorts of toppings; assorted fresh fruit.

Drinks: BYOB to go with our soft drinks and mixers (only wine requires a kosher symbol—all other alcoholic drinks are fine). See you there!



A wonderful time at the New York trip to the Neue Galerie and the Jewish Museum in NYC in November.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 NECHAMEN/CHERNICK BREAKFAST TO HONOR SUSIE ROSENBERG

Church and the Ronald McDonald House. I am so grateful that Susie makes time for volunteering at TBE.”

Here is a little about Susie, in her own words:

I am a Springfield native who was raised in a family who always found the time and resources to give to others in our community (and beyond) less fortunate. My parents, Al and Eileen Greenfeld, of blessed memory, owned small supermarkets and worked pretty much seven days per week--yet they found the time to be active members of the then Kodimoh synagogue and to give of themselves to charitable causes. It was that environment that greatly shaped my values to this day.

I have an undergraduate degree in economics and a graduate degree in health care administration, which we all need to navigate our current health care system! I have worked in major hospitals and multigroup practices in Ohio, developed network HMO's there, as well, and have managed a specialty group practice here in Springfield. Because of family demands (like many--I am part of the sandwich generation), I left my career to help care for my parents and family.

Having left my professional career, I sought out opportunities to utilize my years of education and experience. In these past years, I have served on the Boards of the Hebrew Free Loan Association, The Grammar School, The MacDuffie School and (remotely), a small Jewish day school in Portland, Maine. These experiences have allowed me to continue to contribute to improving the experiences and lives of children and others who may be in need.

TBE's social action activities involve a different level of engagement--in addition to coordinating the volunteers and what they do, there is direct "hands on" involvement. When you actually go to the site of a meal being served (at either Shiloh Seventh Day Adventist Church or the Ronald McDonald House), you see the faces of people who are the "connection" with our efforts -- whether that's the Sunday afternoon of cooking

or the trip to a store to buy enough bread or peanut butter and jelly to make 40 sandwiches. My role as coordinator has enabled me to meet wonderful TBE members who willingly give of their time (and resources) to make a difference in the lives of others less fortunate. When we carpool down to Shiloh church to serve our once per month meal, TBE friendships are formed that make this social action work even more of a mitzvah!

My daughter, Lauren, who is now 27, has fortunately shared in my interest in helping others. At an early age, she joined me in delivering meals to those who were homebound during the holidays, and she watched with great interest as I participated on school boards during times of difficult decision-making. Her heart is full of empathy and compassion--qualities that can seem short in our current socio-political climate.

—Susie Rosenberg

For more details on this event, please see the article below.

The David Nechamen & Sidney "Chet" Chernick Scholarship Breakfast Virtue Can Be So Appealing!

Esta Farkas, PROGRAM COMMITTEE

On March 3, at about 9:15, is your chance to feel quite virtuous while soaking in the tastes and aromas of casseroles and bagels! Please join us for the Program Committee's special breakfast (menu below). Connect with old and newly-made friends in the warmth of our social hall at Temple Beth El.

Simultaneously, we will be our honoring Susie Rosenberg, our Social Action Chair (please see separate article). In typical Nechamen-Chernick style, she quietly and patiently plans repeated efforts by our many volunteer Beth El members at Shiloh Church and at the Ronald McDonald House. Usually behind the scenes, she arranges and coordinates the cooking and serving

of dinner after dinner, generally with take-home sandwiches for the next day. When she appears on the scene, she helps everyone feel the warmth of the community they form. Considering Susie's sense of humor and clever way with words, no one should miss the chance to have breakfast with her!

It is more important than ever for our children to be able to study in religious school, as well as travel and attend Jewish summer camps and programs. They may need our help in order to connect with Jewish peers and to understand our Jewish heritage. When challenged, what will they say? Please help support their efforts generously with contributions to the Nechamen-Chernick Scholarship Fund in honor of Susie.

I wonder what we will be raffling this year?

Mark your calendars and reserve early (office@tbespringfield.org; 413-733-4149; tbespringfield.org)! The cost is \$10/person through Friday, February 22; \$15/person afterwards.

After the lox has settled, at about 10:30 am, you will be in just the right place for our Annual Meeting! See you there!

Menu: Bagels, lox, and cream cheese; sliced tomatoes, onions, and cucumbers; egg casserole; assorted sweet pastries; yogurt cups; assorted fruit; orange juice, coffee, and tea.

Help Feed the Hungry in Our Community

Rabbi Katz invites our members to join her to serve lunch at the Loaves and Fishes Community Kitchen, located at Christ Church Cathedral, 35 Chestnut Street in Springfield on **Wednesday, January 2** and **February 6** at 11:45 am. There's no need to prepare any food ahead of time--just show up with a gallon of whole milk, and help serve the hungry in our community.

We will also prepare and serve dinner to approximately 50 hungry adults on the fourth Sunday of the month at Shiloh Seventh Day Adventist Church, 797 State Street, Springfield on **Sunday, January 27** and **February 24** at 4:45 pm. Please contact our Social Action Chair, Susie Rosenberg, at pawssgr@comcast.net to sign up so she can coordinate who will bring different items. Food can be cooked at home or purchased.



Above & Lower Right: TBE members of all ages volunteered to serve dinner at the Ronald McDonald House on November 11



Our Experience Volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House

Ilana and Talia Rapaport

Editor's Note—Ilana and Talia Rapaport were among the TBE members of all ages who made dinner and served it to families staying at the Ronald McDonald House during our first volunteer opportunity on November 11.

TBE members had an amazing first visit to the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield in November. We arrived early and the volunteer coordinator gave us a tour of the entire house. They have 23 rooms and can house up to 60 parents and children who are being treated at Shriners Hospital or in the Baystate Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. We served dinner to 15 families and sat with some of the families and listened to their stories. We talked with a mother and one-year-old baby from St. Croix. This family has been at the RMH since mid-September and will not leave until the week after Christmas. The baby has a clubfoot and he needs multiple castings and surgery. His mother has six other children that she has to leave at home under her mother's care for months while she is here with her baby. She was very

appreciative of not only the free housing the RMH has provided, but also the new family she has gained.

We are very excited to visit the RMH again next month and meet more of the families from around the world. We are planning on serving a "Breakfast for Dinner" on December 9 at 5:30 pm and will organize an arts and crafts project before dinner for some of the children staying at the house.

We hope many TBE families and teens will join us next month!

Volunteers Needed to Serve Dinner at the Ronald McDonald House

TBE has a new partnership with the Ronald McDonald House, located at 34 Chapin Terrace in Springfield. This wonderful facility is a "home away from home" for families whose children are receiving medical care at Springfield area hospitals. Volunteers are needed to cook and serve dinner to these families on Sunday, January 13 and Sunday, February 10 at 5:30 pm. Susie Rosenberg coordinates the food and volunteers; contact her at pawssgr@comcast.net if you'd like to help with this effort.

Balaboosta Recipe Exchange

Ronda Jackowitz

This is a wonderfully easy recipe that makes one wonder what the ingredients could possibly be! The chicken is tender, savory, and delicious with the layer of hummus, and pretty to look at with the crushed chips or crumb topping! The added bonus is that it is so easy to make and a tested crowd pleaser. Note that I alter this recipe by not pounding the chicken breasts and putting the coating only on the top. I bake it at 350 for about 50 minutes. Using seasoned bread crumbs instead of the terra chips also works, but is not as pretty! B'tai avon (bon appetit)!

Terra Chip Chummos (Hummus) Chicken

Courtesy of Susie Fishbein

- 6 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
 - 3 cloves garlic, minced
 - 12 Tbsp. store bought chummos (hummus), plain or roasted red pepper
 - 6 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, pounded flat to an even thickness
 - 1 (7.5 oz.) bag Terra Chips, original flavor
- 1) Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
 - 2) Place the oil into a small pot. Add the minced garlic. Bring to a simmer over low heat and cook for 3 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat; the garlic will continue to cook.
 - 3) Spread 1 Tbsp. of the chummos on each side of each cutlet.
 - 4) In a large ziplock bag, crush the Terra Chips. Don't over-crush, you want some texture and to be able to see the different chips. Coat each side of the chicken with a handful of the crushed chips, pressing them to adhere. Place on a broiler pan. Drizzle 1 Tbsp. of the garlic oil over each breast. Bake for 20 minutes.

Yield: 6 servings



What You Might Be Missing

Cantor Elise Barber

We are very lucky to be Jews living in Western Massachusetts. In addition to great Jewish communities, we are unique in that we are eligible for so many opportunities through the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

The first program I would like to tell you about is Rekindle Shabbat. Through Rekindle, any of you can host a Shabbat dinner with eight guests or more and be reimbursed for food and catering costs up to \$300. It is the Grinspoon Foundation's hope that people who are more familiar with Shabbat rituals will invite some guests less familiar, and that people will come together in community. This Shabbat meal can be Friday night dinner, Shabbat lunch, or Seudat Sh'lishit (supper before Shabbat ends), or Havdallah.

Next I would like to share with you funds available for Israel travel and study. If you would like to travel to Israel, you can apply for Grinspoon grants to help you go. The trips must be organized by a Jewish organization or be a self-organized trip that includes educational tours, programs and experiences each day. Adults can apply every four years and kids or teens every two years. This program pays for 50% of the trip up to \$1,500. The foundation also has an Israel Study Grant which helps pay for touring, airfare and accommodations.

In addition, families can apply to help send their kids to Jewish overnight camp. Benefits include up to \$1,500 for the first summer at camp which must have a minimum stay of seven days. Return



The crowd of people who attended our first Song Share program on November 3 had a great time singing, snacking and socializing.

campers receive 50% of costs up to \$1,000. Furthermore, HGF can help you attend family camps – a great thing to do together – by supplying up to \$500 of the costs.

HGF also helps us with educating our children. The Right Start program helps pay the costs of attending a Jewish preschool. The Preschool Incentive Program is for kindergartners and first graders and helps pay \$1,000 of tuition at a Jewish day school. What's more, you can also apply for the Tuition Incentive Program to help pay for \$4,000 of tuition at Lander-Grinspoon Academy in Northampton or \$5,000 of tuition at the Hebrew High School of New England in West Hartford.

We are very excited to share information about these programs with you. For more information, please visit <https://hgf.org/grants-awards>. Also feel free to ask Rabbi Katz and me for more information about these opportunities. I look forward to hearing about some of the new Jewish adventures Grinspoon grants are helping you to have!

Joint Service with Sinai Temple

Friday, March 1 at 6:00 pm

On Friday, March 1 at 6:00 pm, Sinai Temple will be hosting a joint Kabbalat Shabbat service with the clergy from both synagogues leading the service. A Shabbat dinner for both congregations will follow. Watch for more details to come. Please mark your calendars!

Carol's Beit Café

Saturday, March 9 at 7:00 pm

Carol's Beit Café will be held on Saturday, March 9 at 7:00 pm at the home of Ellen and Dave Ratner. This popular annual event showcases the musical talents of our members and is named in memory of Carol Resnick, who loved performing at this program.

If you sing or play an instrument, we'd love to have you perform! Contact Cantor Elise Barber at cantorbarber@tbespringfield.org for more information.

There is no charge to attend, but reservations are requested so we can plan accordingly for space and refreshments. Contact the TBE office at 733-4149 or office@tbespringfield.org to make reservations or for more information.

Song Share

Saturday, February 9 at 7:00 pm

Please come join Temple Beth El's new Song Shares! Our first-ever Song Share was held in October at the home of Max and Rebecca Schnaper and was a lot of fun. We got to sing, nosh, and get to know each other. On Saturday, February 9 at 7:00 pm, we will gather at the home of Stuart and Michelle Anfang for Havdallah and then teach each other some songs. Cantor Barber will make sure there is enough music to go around. These evenings will be fun, informal, and easy—even if you feel like singing is not your thing. We are excited to bring this new kind of communal experience to our congregation.

Spotlight on Tzion: Kehillah Yisraeli Artzit

Rabbi Amy Wallk Katz

The first time I was privileged to study with Tamar Elad-Appelbaum, I knew I was in the presence of a remarkable rabbi and leader. Tamar's rabbinic voice is inspirational and her love of the state of Israel is palpable. Were I to make aliyah, I would have to be part of Tamar's Jerusalem community. The davening is good. But it is the vision for community that truly transformational.

Born in Israel, Tamar founded Tzion: Kehillah Yisraeli Artzit (Tzion: An Israeli Community) in 2013. The congregation brings together Jews from all backgrounds and affiliations to pray, study and repair the world together.

Tzion meets in the Jerusalem neighborhood known as Baka. But the congregation also does programs at the Tachanah Rishona, the old train station on Bethlehem Road in Jerusalem. The Tachanah has become a cultural gathering place as well as a food and shopping destination.

I guess one of the things I love about Tzion is that the motto of the congregation is very similar to ours. **Come As You Are.** Tamar is committed to welcoming people from all avenues of life and enabling them to participate in Jewish life. Tamar recognizes that there are so many different ways to live Jewishly. She encourages her community to **Come As You Are.** The Tzion community is a community of Israeli Jews of all backgrounds, beliefs, customs and practices, gathering together to re-dream Jerusalem as a meeting point for all.

Tzion provides the opportunity for many to pray and celebrate Judaism in a way that feels authentic and relevant to them, oftentimes for the first time in their lives, within a community deeply rooted in tradition and Jewish heritage. Men and women, Orthodox and secular, Reform and Conservative, Sepharadi and Ashkenazi are all welcome to participate and lead in an egalitarian Eretz-Yisraeli community. **Come As You Are.**

Several years ago, Tamar led Jerusalem's first interfaith menorah lighting at the train station, where she says hundreds of people had the opportunity to see "what Jerusalem could and should be." Within a few years Tzion became a unique inspirational



Rabbi Tamar Elad-Appelbaum

community for Jews and non-Jews in Israel and around the world, paving the way through prayer, social justice, and study to a Jerusalem of shared faith and hope.

Building a Pluralistic Judaism through Prayer, Community, and Education

Come As You Are invites growth in the realm of prayer, study, and social justice while being surrounded by others who are doing the same. Their tikun olam projects focus on lending support to the vulnerable in Israeli society. For example, Tzion supports the Lone Soldiers and African Asylum Seekers. When times are difficult, Tzion supports families who have members in the military reserves. All of these values are learned and developed in Tzion's comprehensive community education program rooted in their core values of building a pluralistic Jerusalem based on mutual respect.

Advancing Women and Girls in a Pluralistic Jerusalem

Tzion is advancing the roles of women and girls in the public sphere of their community. Rabbi Tamar Elad-Appelbaum is remarkably inspiring. She is eloquent, poised, well-read and inspiring. When Tamar teaches Torah, she draws on many different sources, ancient and modern to explain how Jewish texts can be relevant and meaningful. She sees the good in Israeli society and inspires those around here to make Israel a homeland we can all be proud of.

Bridging Faiths in Jerusalem's Public Sphere

Tzion meets people of all faiths through tikun olam, prayer, and study. Their programming is supported through strategic partnerships with local communities in Jerusalem. Children and parents learn Arabic through song and they hold a monthly study session with the Catholic community in the Old City. The congregations strives to foster strong relationships through study and volunteer programs. In addition, Tzion organizes a series of pluralistic multi-faith worship services in the public sphere of Jerusalem. These events have attracted thousands of Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Jerusalemites spanning generational and religious spectrums.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3 HOW A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY BECAME A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE

with one of the most debilitating and horrible neurological diseases that I've ever encountered (I worked in a hospital for over 30 years). He was totally unable to do anything for himself, though he could change the channel on his TV, but only if the remote was placed in exactly the right position on his chest. And he was, perhaps, rightfully angry.

Aaron told me the first day I saw him that he wanted to die and was going to stop eating the next day. The next week, he asked me to bring him Dove chocolates—I did. I grew to understand that his anger was with his extremely difficult situation, as well as the constant pain that he suffered, but it was not with me. I spent hours every day with him when he was hospitalized for an infection near the end of his life. I became the only person who could understand him due to his extreme difficulty with speech. He entrusted me with many of his end-of-life requests. The experience ended, with his expected, and I must add, welcome passing.

Needless to say, that's not the experience I thought I was signing up for. But all of my resident friends have taught me much about life, about living, and, yes, about dying. For the first time last week, I brought my 8-year-old granddaughter with me for some visits. She loved it. I loved it. It's a practice that I (and we) intend to continue.



Mishloah Manot

Celebrate Purim with a Wonderful Gift-Giving Tradition!

Mishloah manot literally means “sending of portions,” and is also called a Purim basket, are gifts of food and drink that are sent to family, friends and others on Purim. The mitzvah of mishloah manot comes from the Book of Esther. It is meant to ensure that everyone has enough food for the Purim feast, and to increase friendship.

TBE’s mishloah manot project is a very important fundraiser for our synagogue. In early January, all members will receive a mailing with a list of our synagogue members. Please take a moment to select all the families to whom you would like to send Purim greetings and mishloah manot. The gift boxes include hamentaschen, nuts, popcorn, and other goodies, as well as healthier items, along with a Purim greeting with a list of senders.

The cost is \$6 per recipient, or 12 for \$60, and each member selected will receive a gift box of goodies. Multiple members may send to the same person. In this case, the recipient will receive one gift box, accompanied by a Purim greeting that will acknowledge each of the families that sent it.

In addition, we will send greetings to out-of-town friends or relatives for whom you provide names and addresses, for a cost of \$3 per card.

This year, TBE’s mishloah manot project is ably chaired by Elina DeAngelis. Please call or email her with any questions at 567-2919 or elinaz@comcast.net.

If you would like to order Purim bags or cards, please follow the instructions on the back of the flyer you will receive in the mail and submit the form and list of names with

a check, payable to Temple Beth El – Attn: Mishloah Manot. **Order forms are due by Monday, February 25.**

Recipients will be contacted by phone and invited to pick up their mishloah manot during the week of March 18 between 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, or at the Megillah reading and party on Wednesday, March 20.



Shabbat Zimrah Service & Shabbat Dinner

Everyone is invited to enjoy our beautiful Shabbat Zimrah service and Shabbat dinner on Friday, February 8. The lively musical service, featuring Cantor Barber and guest musicians, begins at 6:00 pm, and the dinner will follow at 7:15 pm. The menu, provided by Catering by Meital, includes:

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Challah | Green beans |
| Green salad | Dessert |
| Chicken marsala | Beverages |
| Mediterranean rice | |

There is no charge for the dinner, thanks to a generous grant from the Harold Grinspoon Rekindle Shabbat program. The deadline to R.S.V.P. is Monday, January 28. We regret that we will be unable to accommodate walk-ins. To make your reservations, please call 733-4149 or visit our website at tbespringfield.org. There will be open seating; tables of 8 may be reserved (please provide names of all 8 people with your reservation). Guests are encouraged to bring a bottle of kosher wine to share with their table. Looking forward to seeing you!

Shabbat Zimrah Services

Our next Shabbat Zimrah service will be held on Friday, January 11 and February 8 at 6:00 pm. Please join us for this lively service featuring Cantor Barber and guest musicians. On February 8, leave the cooking to us and enjoy a delicious Shabbat dinner! See the article on page 1 for details.

PURIM PARTY
WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 20

Mark your calendars for our fun Megillah reading and the best Purim party in town on Wednesday, March 20! You won’t want to miss it!



Tu B'Shevat

Rabbi Amy Wallk Katz

When God created the first human beings, the Lord led them around the Garden of Eden and said, “Look at My works! See how beautiful they are—how excellent! I created them for your sake. See to it that you do not spoil and destroy My world—for if you do, there will be no one else to repair it.”
—Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:28

I like knowing that we are not the first generation to become environmentally conscious. The Sages were aware that we are the caretakers of the world around us. According to rabbinic tradition, though created for our sake, the world does not belong to us. It is God’s. We have it on loan. And it is our responsibility to leave it for the next generation, unspoiled and intact. We have the ability and the responsibility to take proper care of our garden. If there were one holiday which challenged us to be environmentally responsible, it is Tu B’Shevat.

The challenge of course is how do we care for the environment? What are you personally doing to help maintain our environment? Recycling? Composting? Using “safe” products? Supporting environmental causes? Last year, Heather Waslewski, chair of Shomrei Adamah, our environmental committee, offered several suggestions for ways you might be more environmentally engaged. These articles are on the TBE website. In addition, we have partnered with a wonderful initiative from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, called Ener-G-Save, to help TBE’s homeowners receive a free energy assessment of their home. You’ll receive free LED light bulbs, a free programmable thermostat, an efficient power strip, and free air sealing of leaks around your house. In addition, the assessor will go through your home and make suggestions for better efficiency and offer cost estimates. For more information, visit www.energ-g-save.com.

This year, Tu B’Shevat falls on Monday, January 21. Please join us on Shabbat, January 19, when we will have a holiday-themed Kiddush lunch, featuring the foods traditionally eaten on Tu B’Shevat.

Origins of Tu B'Shevat

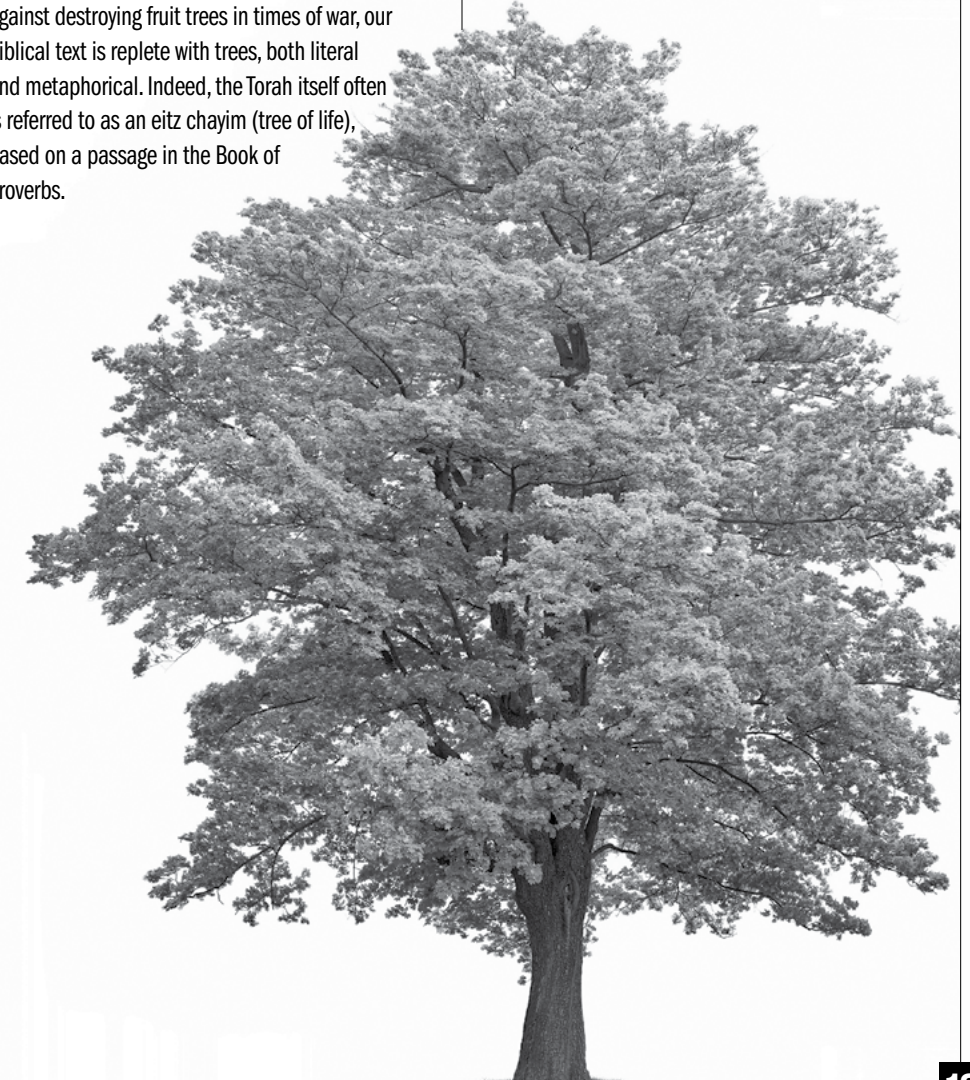
Tu B’Shevat is first mentioned in the Mishnah, the code of Jewish law that dates back to around 200 C.E. There, in Rosh Hashanah 1:1, the text speaks of four new years, all of which are connected to an ancient cycle of tithes. Each year, the Israelites were expected to bring one-tenth of their fruits to the Temple in Jerusalem, where they were offered to God and also helped sustain the priestly class and the poor. Since fruit from one year could not be used to tithe for another, the Rabbis had to determine when a crop year would begin and end. They chose the month of Shevat as the cut-off date, for this is when, in Israel, the sap begins to run and the trees start to awaken from their winter slumber, before beginning to bear fruit.

Like Hanukkah, Tu B’Shevat is a post-biblical festival, instituted by the Rabbis. However, the holiday has biblical roots. The tithing system upon which it is based dates back to the Torah and its deep concern with trees, harvests, and the natural world, all of which are at the heart of Tu B’Shevat. Beginning with the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil in the Garden of Eden all the way through to Deuteronomy’s injunction against destroying fruit trees in times of war, our biblical text is replete with trees, both literal and metaphorical. Indeed, the Torah itself often is referred to as an eitz chayim (tree of life), based on a passage in the Book of Proverbs.

Although the celebration of Tu B’Shevat has a long and varied history, the theme most commonly ascribed to the holiday today is the environment. It is considered a festival of nature, full of wonder, joy, and thankfulness for God’s creation in anticipation of the renewal of the natural world. On Tu B’Shevat we are challenged to recall our sacred obligation to care for God’s world.

Tu B’Shevat falls at the beginning of spring in Israel, when the winter rains subside and the pink and white blossoms of the almond trees begin to bud. It is for this reason that almonds and other fruits and nuts native to the Land of Israel - barley, dates, figs, grapes, pomegranates, olives and wheat - are commonly eaten during the Tu B’Shevat seder.

In modern times, Tu B’Shevat was nourished by the rise of the Zionist movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, which re-emphasized the Jewish people’s connections to the land and the natural world. It was the Zionist pioneers who - with strong financial support from Jews throughout the world who donated trees to mark special occasions - re-forested the land of Israel, largely under the auspices of the Jewish National Fund.





Charlotte Meyer's Remarks at Sisterhood Shabbat

Editor's Note: Below are remarks from Charlotte Meyer when she was honored on October 27, 2018.

Welcome. I want to thank Rabbi Katz and the congregation for this special honor. Also thank you, Cantor Barber, for your beautiful music and Reverend David Aminia for your Torah reading. Marianne Kornblum, Vickie Donovan, and Caryn Resnick, thank you for working together to orchestrate this beautiful event. Esta Lichtenstein (President of the North Atlantic Region of Women's League) and Debbie Bettan (Past President), thank you for coming on such a rainy day.

Being a member since 1953, Temple Beth El has been an important part of my life, my spiritual home. We celebrated all of our milestones and sadness within these walls. When my husband died suddenly in 1953, Rabbi Schwartz and Cantor Shames were by my side. My children attended United Hebrew School, we celebrated their Bar Mitzvahs in the auditorium.

When I am here, I sometimes think of the wonderful people who were here in earlier times, the people who, with their love and assets, built this beautiful temple. If they were here, what would they think, considering the changes which have occurred in the community, a smaller congregation. Having known them, they would be pleased, happy to see that the temple is still relevant, that we are solvent, that we have

a strong devoted leadership, that we have programming relevant to our time, that we are reaching out into the community with social action programs. Sisterhood is a work in progress. We would like to increase active membership. Please consider joining if you are not a member.

I want to thank my three sons for taking time out of their busy lives to be with me on this special Shabbat.



Shabbat Tov

Our new prayer experience—a regular Shabbat morning Musaf service with the addition of a drum or *tofin* in Hebrew—made its debut in the fall, and will continue on the 3rd Shabbat morning of each month. The name of the service, Shabbat Tov, is a play on words since it sounds like Shabbat Tov, *tov* meaning good. Drumming can add a huge amount of *ruach* or spirit to a service and give people a sense of freedom to sing and come together. In addition, some people who have issues with musical instruments on Shabbat usually do not have the same problems with drums as they do not need to be tuned. Upcoming dates include January 19 and February 16. Please join us to see (and hear) what it's all about!

Hesed Kitchen

This monthly program has provided many of our congregants with delicious and home-made food after an illness or following the loss of a loved one. Volunteers are invited to join Rabbi Katz in her kitchen on Thursday, January 24 & Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00 pm to help prepare comfort food such as soup, kugel, bread, etc. which will be frozen and delivered to our members when the need arises. If you would like to help with this effort, please call the TBE office at 733-4149 to sign up

Community Events

אירועים בקהילה

The Shuk – A Celebration of Jewish Community

The Springfield Alliance for Jewish Education presents **The Shuk – A Celebration of Jewish Community** on Saturday evening, January 12 at the JCC. Enjoy music, refreshments, and fun! The event begins at 6:30 pm with Havdalah, followed by a choice of class options at 7:00 pm and 8:00 pm. Classes include: Cycling with Israeli Music, Jews and Baseball, Binge Watching Israeli TV Shows, Jewish Humor and Kosher Jokes, Cooking, Yoga, and more! Our own Rabbi Katz will be leading a “Gin & Spin” class. R.S.V.P. to Rabbi James Greene at jgreene@springfieldjcc.org or 739-4715.

TBE Celebrates Birthdays

Temple Beth El recognizes members' birthdays on the second Shabbat of the month, with a few exceptions. During our Kabbalat Shabbat Friday night service and again at our Shabbat morning service the next day, we will serenade you, enjoy special birthday treats during the appetizer buffet and Kiddush lunch, and make a fuss over your reaching another birthday!

Our upcoming birthday celebrations will take place on Friday, January 11 & Shabbat, January 12 and Friday, February 8 & Shabbat, February 9 .

Watch your mail during the month prior to your birthday for a special letter inviting you to let TBE be part of your celebration. If you do not receive this letter, it's possible that we do not have your date of birth in our database.

Please call our office at 733-4149 to confirm your information.



Congregant Profile

הקהילה שלנו

Meet Jackie Brickel

Jackie Brickel

Hi, my name is Jacqueline (Jackie) Brickel and I moved to Springfield this past summer. I quickly joined Temple Beth El, as I have belonged to a Conservative synagogue for most of my life. I grew up in one, and was an active member of one for most of my adult life. I look forward to the same at Beth El.

I was raised in the Borough of Queens in NYC and went to Queens College. However, for most of my adult life I have lived in northern New Jersey.

I have two children. My daughter has lived in Israel for over 30 years and has four grown children. By the time you read this, I will have celebrated the wedding of the oldest grandchild, the first of my grandchildren to marry.

My son moved to Longmeadow with his wife and children over a year ago. They were my main reason for moving here. They have three elementary school aged children and a daughter who is grown and on her own in NYC.

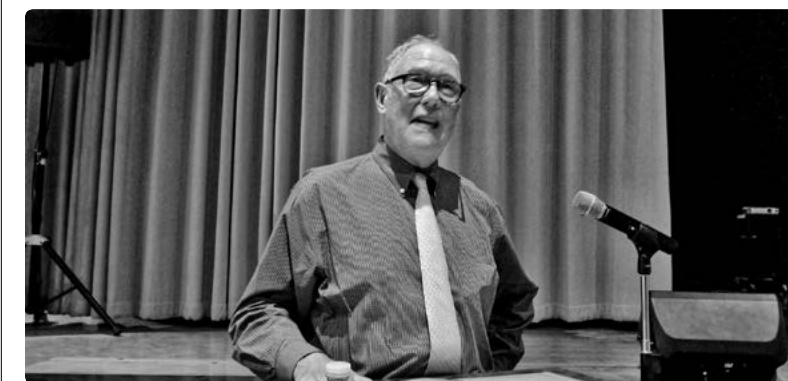
I am now retired but I worked for 30 years as a Sales Administrator. This involved contact with the salespeople of my company, customers as well as those involved in production.

I like sewing and crafting, reading as well as outdoor activities such as hiking. My biggest outdoor experience was three



summers ago when I took a road trip across country and camped in state and National Parks along the way. It was awesome. We truly have a beautiful and bountiful country. As soon as I get my new home in shape I look forward to keeping up these activities. In the past I have volunteered in a local hospital, participated in a reading program with young children and delivered Meals on Wheels. I found these to be worthwhile and rewarding experiences and I hope to be involved in similar activities here.

As a Girl Scout, we sang a song that went “Make new friends, but keep the old. One is silver and the other gold. You make friends like you make wine, age will mellow and refine.” I look forward to meeting new people and making new friends.



Dr. Simon Sibelman, an expert on art stolen by the Nazis, speaking at a fascinating presentation following the film *Woman in Gold* that was shown at TBE in October.

Additional High Holy Day Supporters

Responses to our High Holy Day Appeal have continued to come in. Since the last issue of *Tekiah* was printed, the following generous donors have added their names to our list of donors. We are grateful to them and to all who gave to the appeal to help our synagogue remain strong and vibrant. Todah rabbah!

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Martin & Marian Broder | Dorothy Shaker |
| Malcolm & Betsey Freedman | Mark Sherman |
| Yale Gressel | Harvey Shrage & Amy Cohen |
| Howard & Christine Hausman | Jody & Christine Smith |
| Bernard & Selma Milstein | Etta Temina |
| Caryn Resnick | Stuart Weissman & Jocelyn Tobin |

TBE Members Can Save on Airport Parking

Do you have travel plans this winter? Z Airport Parking in East Granby, CT offers our members discounted parking rates, and Temple Beth El benefits as well. It's a win-win! Visit www.zairportparking.com and use the Promo Code TBE. Make your parking reservation through this portal and receive a discounted rate of \$5.95 per day, with the 7th day free (plus the added 10.6% airport access fee and 6.35% state tax that all airport parking companies must charge). This rate is lower than the regular rate of \$7.95 plus fees and tax.

TBE receives a monthly check from Z Airport Parking as part of this promotion. Please take advantage of this special opportunity to save money, and help your synagogue at the same time!



First become a blessing to yourself, so that you may become a blessing to others.

—SAMSON RAPHAEL HIRSCH

מעגלי חיים
Cycle of Life
For everything there is a season.
Ecclesiastes 3:1



ברוך דין האמת
Barukh dayan ha-emet
Praised is the true judge.

We mourn the loss of the following members or loved ones of members from October 1 through November 30.

- Jerome Warshawsky**
Father of Erika Freedman
- Robert Stein**
Son of Ruth Stein
- Richard Sirkin**
Partner of Sue Heller
- Stanley Miller**
Brother of Adele Miller
- Marvin Rosenkrantz**
Brother of Jordan Rosenkrantz
- Jerome Radding**
- Annette Albert**

Just show up

today thank you
rabbah

IN OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

To our Torah Readers: Max Chorowski, Sam Blumberg, Esta Farkas

To our Haftarah Readers: Ellen Ratner, Adele Miller, Dr. Larry Metz, Dr. Dennis Gordan, Gillian Weissman, Rabbi James Greene, Dr. Max Chorowski, Stanley Light

BREAKFAST SPONSORS:

In memory of her sister-in-law and mother-in-law
Adele Miller

In memory of his mother, Ethyl Grant
Dave Grant

If you would like to sponsor a breakfast, please contact Reverend Aminia.

KIDDUSH SPONSORS:

In honor of their grandson, Ben Farkas, and his mother and father, Melanie and Doug
Paul & Esta Farkas

In honor of Sam's Bar Mitzvah
Mark & Jenny Blumberg

In Honor of Charlotte Meyer
Temple Beth El's Sisterhood & The Harold Grinspoon Foundation Rekindle Shabbat Program

In honor of their first anniversary
Max & Rebecca Schnaper

In honor of their granddaughter, Melissa
Sue & Stan Polansky

If you are interested in sponsoring a Kiddush lunch to commemorate a special event, please contact Ralph Ritchie at the temple office at 733-4149.

מזל טוב
mazel tov!

Ellen Gold on being chosen as the 2018 Unsung Hero of the Greater Springfield Chapter of Hadassah! The purpose of this award is to honor a member of each chapter for their hard work to support Hadassah on a regular basis with little recognition. Ellen will be honored at a brunch on March 3 at the Blue Hill Country Club.

Meyer & Abbie Weiss on the marriage of their son, Michael, to Jenna O'Neil on October 14. Rabbi Elaine Zucker of Temple Israel in Boston and Rabbi Herbert Schwartz co-officiated at the wedding. The couple resides in Boston.

Sharon & Ben Liptzin on the birth of a new grandson, Eli Fivel Houser. He was born on September 11 and weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz. His parents are Dr. Deborah Liptzin of Denver, CO.

Meryl & Hy Darling on the birth of their grandson, Spencer Drew. He was born on October 13 to Emily and Lawrence Lejfer of New York City.

Sue & Stan Polansky on the birth of their granddaughter, Melissa Jasmine. The proud parents are Marni and Adam Fried of New York City.

Vickie Donovan on the birth of her grandson, Jacob Hale Donovan. He was born on November 7 to Jason Donovan and Elizabeth Brainard of Wilbraham.



Students enjoyed performing for the crowd at the Sandi Kupperman Memorial Event & Hanukkah Celebration.



Our school families attended our Siyyum after the completion of our lashon hara unit.

Donations תרומות

This list includes all donations of at least \$10 received between September 15-November 16, 2018.

TEMPLE FUND

A special thank you to Susan & Bill Firestone

David & Debbie Peskin

In memory of Robin Gurlitz

Phyllis Levenson
Dorita & Mike Henderson
Sheila Blum
The D'Arrigo Family
Robert & Dorothy Fleischner
Grace Sperling
Evelyn Baron
Miriam Lief

In memory of Elin Bessner's father

Miriam Lief

In memory of Brenda Adesky's father

Miriam Lief

In honor of Leonard & Carole Cohen's granddaughter Sasha becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Claire Cohen-Stelzer

In memory of Thelma Goldberg

Janis & Michael Green

In memory of Lil Schreiberstein

Barbara & Bruce Winer and Family

Esta & Paul Farkas

Mazel tov to Ron & Susan Grodsky on the 100th anniversary of their business

Ellen & David Ratner

Mazel tov to Kim & Jonathan Starkman on their new son, David

Esta & Paul Farkas

In memory of Joan Hurwitz

Esta & Paul Farkas

Mazel tov to Steve & Donna Feldman on their new granddaughter

Esta & Paul Farkas

Mazel tov to Eric & Melinda Elman on their new grandchild, Ryland

Esta & Paul Farkas

Mazel tov to Helene & Claudio Orefice on their new grandson, Leo

Esta & Paul Farkas

In memory of Martin Starkman

Esta & Paul Farkas

In memory of Charlotte Pollack

Esta & Paul Farkas

In memory of Robert Stein

Esta & Paul Farkas

In memory of Charlotte Meyer

Ed & Sue Kline

In honor of Charlotte Meyer

Rae Davis

In memory of Richard Sirkin
June & Walter Gordonstein
Joan & Martin Lesser
James E. Vinick
Jane & Barry Schulman
Shirley & Alan Levitz

In honor of Reverend David Aminia on his 30th anniversary as Ritual Director
Dr. Lee Sheldon

In memory of Stanley Miller
Charlotte Meyer
Phyllis Levenson
Bill Caplin & Mary Jenewin-Caplin

In honor of the birth of Stan & Sue Polansky's granddaughter
Phyllis Levenson

In memory of Jerome Radding
Rae & Howie Davis

In memory of Richard Sirkin and Robin Gurlitz
Elliot & Anne Bloom

KIDDUSH FUND

In honor of the wedding of Josh & Kelsey Lieberman
Mark & Ronda Jackowitz

In memory of Robin Gurlitz
Mitzi & Larry Mackler
Deborah Lieberman

In memory of Charlotte Pollak
Mitzi & Larry Mackler
Miriam Hirschhaut
Miriam Lief

In memory of Lil Schreiberstein
Bonnie & Dan Engelman

Wishing Eric Citron a speedy recovery
Miriam Lief

In honor of Josh Lieberman's aufruf
Mitzi & Larry Mackler

In memory of Irma Goodman
Deborah Lieberman

In memory of Richard Sirkin
Rhoda & Judd Peskin

In memory of Richard Mackler
Mitzi & Larry Mackler

MINYAN FUND

In memory of Charlotte Pollak
Steve Lepow & family

In memory of Robin Gurlitz
Steven Lepow
Annette & Jack Levine
Morton Katz

Congratulations to Debbie Lieberman on the Aufruf of her son
Mitzi & Larry Mackler

In memory of Susan Williams
Deborah Lieberman

In honor of Rev. David Aminia and with gratitude
Harlene Ginsberg & Jerry Schreiberstein

Yahrzeit of David Cowen, beloved father
Janice Cantor

Yahrzeit of Eleanor Cowen, beloved mother
Janice Cantor

Yahrzeit of Mildred Cantor, beloved mother
Eugene Cantor
Donation made by Jacob & Estelle Shammash

In memory of Stanley Miller
Steve Lepow
Fred Brownstein & Elaine Geha
Deborah Lieberman

Wishing Harold Okun a speedy recovery
Steve Lepow

In appreciation of Rev. David Aminia
Jocelyn Tobin & Stu Weissman & Gillian

SANDI KUPPERMAN LEARNING CENTER FUND

In memory of Robin Gurlitz
Harvey Shrage & Amy Cohen
Aileen & Cliff Kramer

Mazel tov to Diann & Herb Cohen on Stella's Bat Mitzvah
Aileen & Cliff Kramer

YAHREIT FUND

Esther Silverman, beloved mother
Laurie Seigel

Ruth Hirsch, beloved mother
Sydney & Jerry Hirsch

Robert & Carol Resnick, beloved parents
Susan Proctor

Freda Brownstein, beloved mother
Frederic Brownstein

Mordechai Yosef Scher, beloved brother
Jan Kalicka

Samuel Gold, beloved father
Jerry Gold

Morris Lewis, beloved brother
Florence Barovsky

Jay Goldby, beloved brother
Sydney & Jerry Hirsch

Rhoda Rosenberg, beloved mother
Glenn Rosenberg

Joel Greenfield, beloved brother
Suzanne Rosenberg

Helen Elbaum, beloved mother
Susan F. Corn

Dora Goldberg, beloved mother
Sam Goldberg

Alexander Goldberg, beloved father
Sam Goldberg

Abraham Firestone, beloved father
Maxine Goldberg

Joseph G. Allen, beloved father
Carole & Harvey Gloth

Shirley Irving, beloved mother
Philip Irving

Jonas Beck Heit, beloved father
Betsy Gaberman

Irving Sher, beloved father
Arthur Sher

Jack Cohen, beloved father
Paul Cohen

Philip Weiner, beloved father
Nancy Sklar

Albert Bassell, beloved father
Robert Bassell

John L. Drury, beloved father
Diane L. Wolfset

Grace Fingeroth, beloved mother
Rick & Harriet Fingeroth

Nathan Zellon, beloved uncle
Anne Shapiro
Herbert M. Halpern, beloved father
Carol Halpern Wernick & Richard M. Halpern

Dorothy Shelasky, beloved mother
Stephen Shelasky

Judge Sidney W. Wernick, beloved father-in-law
Carol Halpern Wernick

Milton Schwartz, beloved father
Eric Schwartz

Min Diamond, beloved mother
Bette Gerstein

William L. Levine, beloved father
I. Murray Levine

William F. Katz, beloved father
Mildred Kitchener

Dr. Edward R. Levitz, beloved father
Alan Levitz

Goldie Haase, beloved mother-in-law
Carol Haase

Leala Okun, beloved wife
Harold Okun

Morris Rosenfeld, beloved father
Alan Rosenfeld

Elizabeth Danforth, beloved mother
Gary Danforth

Esther Posnik, beloved mother
Barbara Fishman

Rebecca Lavin, beloved mother-in-law
Florence Lavin

Judge Lawrence B. Wernick, beloved husband
Carol Halpern Wernick

Mordechai Yosef Scher, beloved brother
Earl Winer

Bessie Winer, beloved mother
Earl Winer

Phyllis Winer, beloved wife
Earl Winer

Tessie Goldberg, beloved mother
Jack Goldberg

Joseph Goldberg, beloved father
Jack Goldberg

Nathan Solomon, beloved father
Mickey Shrair

William Olitsky, beloved father
Jean Licht

Ann Feldman, beloved mother
Steven M. Feldman

Helen Robinson, beloved mother
Jan Draymore

Rose Metter, beloved mother
Freda Posnick

Dora Goldberg, beloved mother
Shirley Levitz

Sidney Goldberg, beloved brother
Shirley Levitz

Benjamin Burk, beloved father
Susan & Raymond Burk

Adolph Katten, beloved father
Myra Gold

Sylvia Pomerantz, beloved aunt
Heidi Goldsmith

Bernice Zerwitz, beloved mother
Barbara Corcoran

Cipie Miller, beloved mother
Marsha Rickless

Sheri Mandra, beloved sister
Alan Seigel

Michael Grodsky, beloved brother
Ronald & Susan Grodsky

Irving Merrill, beloved father
Edward Merrill

Reva Broder, beloved mother
Martin Broder
Eugene Broder, beloved brother
Martin Broder

Aron Shteyn, beloved father
Isaac Stein

Merrill Robbins, beloved father
Craig Robbins

Morris Keller, beloved father-in-law
Fred Brownstein

Celia Perlman, beloved mother
Sharon Rosenberg

Bebe Beyer, beloved grandmother
Bette Gerstein

William L. Levine, beloved father
I. Murray Levine

William F. Katz, beloved father
Mildred Kitchener

Dr. Edward R. Levitz, beloved father
Alan Levitz

Goldie Haase, beloved mother-in-law
Carol Haase

Leala Okun, beloved wife
Harold Okun

Morris Rosenfeld, beloved father
Alan Rosenfeld

Elizabeth Danforth, beloved mother
Gary Danforth

Esther Posnik, beloved mother
Barbara Fishman

Rebecca Lavin, beloved mother-in-law
Florence Lavin

Judge Lawrence B. Wernick, beloved husband
Carol Halpern Wernick

Mordechai Yosef Scher, beloved brother
Earl Winer

Bessie Winer, beloved mother
Earl Winer

Phyllis Winer, beloved wife
Earl Winer

Tessie Goldberg, beloved mother
Jack Goldberg

Joseph Goldberg, beloved father
Jack Goldberg

Nathan Solomon, beloved father
Mickey Shrair

William Olitsky, beloved father
Jean Licht

Ann Feldman, beloved mother
Steven M. Feldman

Helen Robinson, beloved mother
Jan Draymore

Rose Metter, beloved mother
Freda Posnick

Dora Goldberg, beloved mother
Shirley Levitz

Sidney Goldberg, beloved brother
Shirley Levitz

Benjamin Burk, beloved father
Susan & Raymond Burk

Adolph Katten, beloved father
Myra Gold

Sylvia Pomerantz, beloved aunt
Heidi Goldsmith

Bernice Zerwitz, beloved mother
Barbara Corcoran

Cipie Miller, beloved mother
Marsha Rickless

Sheri Mandra, beloved sister
Alan Seigel

Michael Grodsky, beloved brother
Ronald & Susan Grodsky

Irving Merrill, beloved father
Edward Merrill

Fannie Shapiro, beloved mother
Anne Shapiro

Gerna Dolnansky, beloved mother
Dorita Henderson

Helen Goldband, beloved mother
Jane Schulman

In memory of my loving family
Florence Gurwitz

In memory of all our beloved family
Jacob & Estelle Shammash

ALAN GOLDBERG YOUTH FUND
In memory of Adrienne Plotkin
The Torff Family

Congratulations on Josh Lieberman's marriage to Kelsey
Sora Torff & Jack Goldberg

Wishing Harold Okun a speedy recovery and well wishes
Sora Torff & Jack Goldberg

BERNARD & SARAH ALTMAN MEMORIAL ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Yahrzeit of Milton Schwartz, beloved father
Eric, Joel & Steven Schwartz

In memory of Robert Stein
Phyllis & Elliot Altman

LINDY P. FEINSTEIN MEMORIAL BOOK FUND
In memory of Richard Sirkin
Michelle Feinstein

In memory of Charlotte Pollak
Michelle Feinstein

In memory of Robin Gurlitz
Michelle Feinstein

In memory of Celia Feinstein & Michael Feinstein on their yahrzeits
Michelle Feinstein

NETTIE & MORRIS GOLDSTEIN FUND
Mazel tov to Debbie Lieberman on the upcoming wedding of her son Josh to Kelsey Boyd
Phyllis & Elliot Altman

Yahrzeit of beloved brother, Alan Goldstein
Phyllis & Elliot Altman

In memory of Charlotte Pollak
Phyllis & Elliot Altman

CINDY JO KLIGERMAN YOUTH FUND
Esther Wasserman on her yahrzeit
Tom Kligerman & family

In honor of the birth of Penelope Carson Green
Tom, Eli, Netania, Adina & Ilan Kligerman

In memory of Riva Huz
Tom, Eli, Netania, Adina & Ilan Kligerman

In memory of Mike Sassaman
Tom & Adina Kligerman

In memory of Morris Massry
Tom Kligerman & family

In memory of Lester Brown
Tom Kligerman & family

In memory of Sondra Rubtchinsky Cooper
Tom Kligerman & family

In memory of Harris Sanders
Tom Kligerman

In honor of the birth of Howard & Wendy Schaffer's grandson
Tom Kligerman & family

In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Jesse Graber
Tom, Eli, Netania, Adina & Ilan Kligerman

KATZ FAMILY LIBRARY FUND
Mazel tov to Hy & Meryl Darling on the birth of their new grandson
Howard & Carolyn Ledewitz

PHILIP & MIRIAM ZELLER CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL FUND
In appreciation of those members who provide extra support to Beth El to enable all members to retain their memberships without regard to their ability to pay standard dues.
Al & Barbara Zippin

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
In memory of Martin Starkman
Helene & Claudio Orefice

In appreciation of Rabbi Katz
Toby Steinberg
Donna Oberstein & Ace Allen
David Littwitz
Miriam Lieff

In honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of my grandchildren Reece & Sophia Robbins
Myrna Robbins

In honor of Charlotte Meyer being honored by the temple and Women's League
Miriam & Dennis Gordan

Best wishes to Rabbi Katz for the 10th anniversary of her rabbinate at Temple Beth El
Charlotte Meyer

TREE OF LIFE

Leaves for the Tree of Life may be purchased for \$250 and stones may be purchased for \$2,500 to honor a friend or family member. Please contact Ralph Ritchie at 733-4149 if you would like to order a leaf or stone.

Yahrzeit Plaques

In memory of Martha Cooper Nadelman
Richard and Dayna Nadelman

In memory of Abe Delson
Judy Rosen

In memory of Iris Krintzman
Marjorie Berg

In memory of Steven Goldstein
Marjorie Berg

In memory of Steven Michaelson
Saul Michaelson

In memory of Eleanor Carman
Tracy Carman

In memory of Susan Williams
Elizabeth Wexford

In memory of Sylvia Pomerantz
Susan, Jonathan, Heidi, and Maxine Goldsmith

In memory of Phyllis Winer
Earl Winer

In memory of Elizabeth Wexford
Elizabeth Wexford

Yahrzeit plaques are a fitting way to remember a loved one's yahrzeit in perpetuity. They are displayed in the temple lobby each year during the week of the yahrzeit. The cost is \$375. If you would like to purchase a plaque, please contact Reverend David Aminia at 733-4149.



Participants at our Painting with a Purpose event had a great time creating their masterpieces and raising money for our Sandi Kupperman Learning Center.

What's Happening @ TBE

Programs for Children

SKLC Classes - Mondays, January 7, 14, 28, February 4, 11, 25 and Wednesday, January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 27 at 3:00 pm


B'Yahad - Thursday, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 28 at 6:30 pm

Tot Shabbat - January 5 & February 2 at 11:00 am

Babysitting - January 5, 12 & February 2, 9 from 10:00 am to end of services

USY Regional Dance & Overnight - Saturday, January 5

Programs for All Ages

Family Shabbat Service & Dinner - Friday, January 25 at 5:30 pm 

Shabbat Zimrah & Shabbat Dinner - Friday, February 8 at 7:15 pm

Song Share - Saturday, February 9 at 7:00 pm

Next Generation Celebration - Sunday, February 10 at 4:00 pm

Adult Social Events

Winter Party - Saturday, January 19 at 7:00 pm

Meetings

Board of Trustees - Wednesday, January 16 & February 27 at 7:00 pm



Adult Education Programs

Cuppa Joe - Sundays, January 6, 13, 27, February 3, 10, 17, 24 at 9:00 am

Katz Family Library Book Club - Wednesday, January 16 & February 13 at 10:30 am

Foundations of Jewish Living Class - Saturday, January 19 & February 9 at 3:30 pm

Mindfulness Class - Tuesday, January 15 & 29, February 12 & 26 at 7:00 pm

Social Action Programs

Loaves & Fishes - Wednesday, January 2 & February 6 at 11:45 am

Shiloh Seventh Day Adventist Church - Sunday, January 27 & February 24 at 4:45 pm

Ronald McDonald House - Sunday, Jan. 13 & Feb. 10 at 5:30 pm



Hesed Kitchen - Thursday, January 24 & Tuesday, February 26 at 7:00 pm

Shabbat Information

January 4 - Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm
Candle Lighting 4:14 pm

January 5 - Shabbat Va-era
Havdalah 5:14 pm

January 11 - Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm
Candle Lighting 4:21 pm

January 12 - Shabbat Bo
Havdalah 5:21 pm

January 18 - Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm
Candle Lighting 4:29 pm

January 19 - Shabbat B'Shallah
Havdalah 5:29 pm

January 25 - Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm
Candle Lighting 4:38 pm

January 26 - Shabbat Yitro
Havdalah 5:38 pm

February 1 - Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm
Candle Lighting 4:47 pm

February 2 - Shabbat Mishpatim
Havdalah 5:47 pm

February 8 - Shabbat Zimrah 6:00 pm
Candle Lighting 4:56 pm

February 9 - Shabbat T'mumah
Havdalah 5:56 pm

February 15 - Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm
Candle Lighting 5:05 pm

February 16 - Shabbat T'tzavah
Havdalah 6:05 pm

February 22 - Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm
Candle Lighting 5:14 pm

February 23 - Shabbat Ki Tisa
Havdalah 6:14 pm

Office Closings

January 1 - New Year's Day

January 21 - Martin Luther King Day

February 18 - Presidents Day



Temple Beth El

(413) 733-4149 (413) 739-3415 Fax office@tbespringfield.org www.TBESpringfield.org

979 Dickinson Street, Springfield, Massachusetts 01108

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Friday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
SPRINGFIELD, MA
PERMIT NO. 327

Officers

David Ratner, President
Maxine Bernstein, Vice President
Susan Weiss Firestone, Vice President
Daniel Plotkin, Vice President
Elina DeAngelis, Vice President
Eric Ratner, Treasurer
Michelle Anfang, Financial Secretary
Rhonda Goldberg, Recording Secretary
Paul Farkas, Immediate Past President

Staff

Ralph Ritchie, Executive Director
rritchie@tbespringfield.org
Caryn Resnick, Education Director
cresnick@tbespringfield.org
Lisa Laudato, Administrative Assistant
llaudato@tbespringfield.org
Marie Sampson, Administrative Assistant
sklc@tbespringfield.org
Debbie Peskin, Communications Coordinator
communications@tbespringfield.org
Max & Rebecca Schnaper, Youth Leadership Team
tbeyouth@tbespringfield.org
Liz Marinelli, Librarian
katzlibrary@tbespringfield.org

Clergy

Amy Walk Katz, PhD, Rabbi
rabbikatz@tbespringfield.org
Elise Barber, Cantor
cantorbarber@tbespringfield.org
Reverend David Aminia, Ritual Director
daminia@tbespringfield.org
Herbert Schwartz, Rabbi Emeritus

AIPAC POLICY 2019 CONFERENCE

MARCH 24-26 • WASHINGTON, D.C.

\$100 OFF EARLY BIRD
DISCOUNT

\$200 OFF FOR AIPAC
CLUB MEMBERS

DISCOUNT ENDS SOON

Join **Rabbi Amy Katz** and fellow members of TBE in our nation's capital March 24-26, 2019, for the largest annual gathering of America's pro-Israel movement.

Learn More

For more information or to register for the conference, please contact Rabbi Amy Katz at (413) 733-4149 or rabbikatz@tbespringfield.org.

WHY ATTEND?

600 speakers
to learn from

535 Congressional appointments
to help shape U.S. policy

1 opportunity
to make your voice heard



www.AIPACPolicyConference.org • REGISTER TODAY!