PRAYING WITH OUR FEET
by Rabbi Jesse Gallop, Associate Rabbi

50 years ago Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel joined Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil rights leaders in Alabama’s Selma to Montgomery march. In 1965, the civil rights community was advocating for voter rights for all Americans, regardless of their skin color. The first march took place on March 7, 1965. State troopers and authorities attacked the unarmed marchers after they passed over the county line, and the event became known as “Bloody Sunday.” The second march took place March 9th. Troopers, police, and marchers confronted each other at the county end of the bridge, but when the troopers stepped aside, not willing to protect the marchers, Dr. King led the marchers back to the church in Selma. The protesters demanded protection for the Selma marchers and a new federal voting rights law to enable African Americans to register and vote without harassment. With Governor Wallace refusing to protect the marchers, President Johnson committed to doing so. The third march which started March 21, was protected by 2,000 U.S. Army soldiers. After reaching the state’s capital on March 25th, 25,000 people entered the capital city that day in support of voting rights.

Today, we continue in the spirit of Rabbi Heschel, who preached the lesson of the prophets: that God cares deeply about human beings and is pained by human acts of injustice and cruelty. Reform Judaism joins in partnership with the NAACP in their “America’s Journey for Justice”: a 40-day march from August 1st through September 16th, beginning in Selma and ending in our...
nation’s capital. The march is focused on racial and structural inequality under the banner, “Our Lives, Our Votes, Our Jobs, and Our Schools Matter.” We will march, in sacred succession, with Reform rabbis carrying the Torah the entire way: through Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia and Washington DC - a total of 860 miles. This journey deliberately travels through states that have implemented voter identification laws and shortened periods of early voting.

On the way to our nation’s capital, the march will travel through Richmond, and the congregations throughout the city will house and support these marchers from September 8-11. Rabbi Goodman and I will be carrying the Torah on Saturday, September 11. We invite congregants, friends, and supporters to join us in the march. The goal of the experience is to prompt a national conversation regarding a strong democracy built on a promise of equality for every citizen. By joining hands with our brothers and sisters of diverse races, religions, and heritages, we hope to bring alive Rabbi Heschel’s profound reflection regarding the Selma experience, “I felt my legs were praying.” May we too become partners in the heritage of action by praying with our feet!

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER
by Rob Davidson, Treasurer

Beth Ahabah is fortunate to have many families/congregants who are able to pay the full amount of their annual financial commitment. However, there are many families/congregants at Beth Ahabah who are unable to afford to pay the full amount for their annual dues. Beth Ahabah has a long standing policy that we do not turn away any congregant based on financial need. The challenge we and other congregations face is how to determine financial need. Beth Ahabah has historically relied on an informal process for requesting dues relief. This informal process served us well when we had relatively few members on dues relief. As the number of requests for dues relief has increased, in part due to recent economic downturns, the process has become more difficult to administer on an informal basis.

Last year, the Board of Managers authorized a Dues Abatement committee to develop a more transparent process for dues relief. The committee’s goal was to come up with a fair and equitable approach to evaluate requests which was minimally invasive to our congregants. Furthermore, we want to make sure that any financial and personal information submitted as part of a dues relief request remained anonymous. The resulting Dues Relief Approval Process was approved by the Board of Managers last fall.

The new process was initiated this June as congregants who have been on dues relief received an application for dues reduction form with their annual commitment statement. The dues reduction application consists of two pages. The first page has identification information (name, address, telephone number) which only our Executive Director sees. The second page of the form requests limited financial information and is used by the Dues Abatement committee to fairly evaluate the dues relief request on an anonymous basis. We will be asking those on dues relief to submit a new application form every year realizing that financial situations can change.

The bottom line is that we value all our Beth Ahabah members. Our policy continues to be that we do not turn anyone away based on financial need. However, we rely heavily on your financial commitments to pay for the expenses required to keep Beth Ahabah a vibrant congregation.
By Katie Roeper, President

Fall is always a busy time as families renew the school schedule and Jews everywhere turn the calendar page to welcome the New Year. But wait, there’s more! At Beth Ahabah, we have a number of additional opportunities that will keep us hopping. Here’s a quick preview.

The World Championship Bike Race - Yes it’s coming and will bring thousands of spectators and waves of traffic. Many congregants have asked what on earth we will do to “deal” with it over the High Holy Days. Thankfully, a team of lay leaders led by Cullen Seltzer has been working with Beth Ahabah clergy and staff to figure out the logistics and ensure we are able to support services in our beautiful sanctuary like we have for more than a century. Yes it will mean leaving the house earlier than usual to allow for increased traffic but all in all, it should be fine. (See article on page four for parking options and stay connected to the Beth Ahabah website for up to the minute information.) But here’s another idea...instead of just “dealing” with it, how about if we embrace it? After all, we have a front row seat to the biggest sporting event that Richmond has ever hosted! As the “City Synagogue” we decided to take advantage of this unique opportunity. We reached out to the JCC and our sister congregations to invite the entire Jewish Community to “our house” for a Bike Party on Sunday, September 20th, from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. Look for details in the weekly e-news, on our website, and evites. This will be an event to remember!

Two Like You - What is it? In short, it is a private social network tool designed specifically for Synagogues, offering a new fun, secure way for us to connect. It is an exciting new way to help strengthen communication to and between members, 18 and older. Do you want to meet some religious school parents for coffee at Starbucks? With just a click, the word is out. Are you trying to put together a carpool? One click will help you find the members living closest to you. How about going to James River Park for a hike? A click will tell you who shares your love of outdoor exercise. Two Like You is fun and easy and will help us to connect in ways that were not possible in the past. Thanks to Mark Novey, Judy Malloy and Carol Ann Callahan for leading the “roll-out team”, this easy-to-use technology will be available this fall to all congregants of Beth Ahabah. Look for more information on how to join the network after High Holy Days.

Rabbinic Search - Last spring, the Rabbinic Search Committee began the process of seeking a new Senior Rabbi for Beth Ahabah. Chaired by Robert Freed, the committee began by asking congregants, “What do you want?” Dan Hough, a member of Beth Ahabah and a survey/focus group professional with Alan Newman, volunteered to lead several focus groups and help develop a survey to give us a chance to express what we thought were the most important characteristics and skills for our future Senior Rabbi. Feedback from the focus groups and surveys was used to inform Beth Ahabah’s application, which was submitted in July to the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), the organization that facilitates the national Rabbinic Search process for Reform Temples. The application is extensive and designed to help candidates get to know our congregation, the same way their application helps us to get to know them. Promising candidates will be invited to participate in a video or teleconference interview, between now and December. A secondary screening process will help the committee determine the strongest candidate(s), who will be invited to visit Beth Ahabah, with opportunities to meet congregants in a variety of settings. The committee will keep us apprised of its progress, unanticipated challenges, and the status of the process.

In Thanks - I want to take a moment to thank the many individuals at Beth Ahabah, who choose to give your time and talents to lead our congregation forward. The opportunities that we are pursuing can only be achieved through a combined effort. Every single individual in our community makes a difference! Thank you!
The World Bike Championships, which will draw as many as several hundred thousand visitors to Richmond, are coming from Saturday September 19th to Sunday September 27th. And they’re riding by Beth Ahabah’s front door! It’s an exciting time for our City, for the Commonwealth, and for the world. It will however pose a few logistical challenges. Here’s how we’re handling them.

Two Rules to Live by for Bike Week: Allow lots of time to get to Beth Ahabah and around Richmond due to increased traffic.

When you can, car pool, bike, or walk where you need to go.

Most of our events at Beth Ahabah won’t be interrupted or disturbed and the following parking information should make it easier.

Parking Deck for most of the week: Come down Ryland or Harrison, pull into the alley, and enter the deck through the alley. **Bike race routes are being tinkered with as we speak** - check http://richmond2015.com/about/courses/, for the latest updates. Most of the time you will be able to get to Beth Ahabah from Broad Street through marked cut throughs crossing Broad. Allow plenty of time to get here.

**Parking Deck for Kol Nidre Services (9/22):** Should be a piece of cake. Come down Harrison or Ryland from Broad Street, and turn on Franklin Street. Police will let you go the wrong way on Franklin Street to get to the front entrance of the parking deck. Leave by way of the alley exit just like you usually do.

**Parking Deck for Afternoon (2:30 and 4:30) Yom Kippur Services (9/23):** Bike racing will be happening on Franklin Street so enter the parking deck through the alley entrance (behind the deck) from either Ryland or Harrison Streets. Exit the same way.

**Additional Parking on 9/22 and 9/23:** Since street parking won’t be available for Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur, Beth Ahabah has arranged for additional parking at:

- St. John’s Church (Lombardy & Grace - 60 spots plus 6 handicapped spots)
- First English Lutheran Church (Lombardy & Franklin - 30 spots)

We’ll work to make sure that between volunteers and police, parking availability and instructions are clearly marked. Remember, though, to allot plenty of time to get to Beth Ahabah since we should expect some delays.

If you have any questions or are having trouble figuring out how to get to Kol Nidre or Yom Kippur services, please call the Temple office at 804-358-6757 and we’ll walk you through it. Additionally, please check the UCI website or Beth Ahabah website for up-to-the minute information.
Congregation Beth Ahabah is proud to introduce our new High Holy Day Prayer Books

Many thanks to everyone who donated towards the purchase of our new High Holy Day Prayer Books for the congregation!
Generations Capital and Endowment Campaign - Update

In July and August, the Campaign Steering Committee hosted two Wine and Cheese socials. Friends gathered to enjoy a glass of wine and get a sneak preview of some very preliminary design ideas for the Beth Ahabah Campus. This was not a “Campaign Ask” but rather an opportunity to hear about how the ideas shared over the past year are moving forward. More importantly, it was another opportunity to share thoughts and dreams for our future. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive and supportive of the direction in which we are moving. If you were not able to attend, contact a member of the Steering Committee and we will set-up a time to share them with you.

As we gear up for the launch of Generations, let’s revisit our hopes and dreams for our congregation – not just for our buildings, services, programs and operations, but most importantly for us as a community and for the next generation.

All questions, thoughts and ideas are important. To share them, please contact a member of the Generations Steering Committee.

Generations Steering Committee
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eferguson@artcraftmanagement.com
lindaferguson99@gmail.com

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Save The Weekend:
Honor Rabbi Beifield &
Ina Ginsberg

June 3 & 4, 2016
Elegant Oneg &
Saturday Evening Reception

Please put this important weekend on your calendars now!
Where Your Financial Commitment Monies Go

by Russell Finer, FSA, Executive Director

Since you received your annual financial commitment statement in June, I figured now would be an opportune time to let you know how these fees and assessments are determined and how they are disbursed. A budget for the 2015/2016 fiscal year was developed by the Temple’s Finance Committee with input from the officers, committee chairs, professional staff and clergy. This budget, which recommended minimal (less than 2%) increases in dues levels, was approved by the Board of Managers in April.

As can be seen by the chart below, your financial commitments cover 60% of our operating budget. The rest of our income comes from a mixture including endowment support, grants, and Religious School tuition.

The Temple’s expenses are broken out in the lower chart. These include salaries for clergy and staff, maintaining our historic sanctuary and campus, programming, and the Religious School. Your volunteers, staff and clergy work hard to maintain an efficient operation which allows us to keep your fees reasonable.

### CONGREGATION BETH AHABAH INCOME AND EXPENSES FOR 2015

#### Income:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member Financial Obligations &amp; Giving Circle</td>
<td>$854,706</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Support</td>
<td>$262,161</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$51,000</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious School Tuition &amp; Tutoring</td>
<td>$119,625</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>$130,800</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,418,292</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</table>

#### Expenses:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$890,602</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities Expenses</td>
<td>$191,800</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Connection &amp; Religious School</td>
<td>$211,472</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activities and Programs</td>
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<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URI Dues</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,418,374</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CBA SENIOR BRIDGE
by Rachel Schmidt, Program Co-ordinator

Beth Ahabah’s Senior Bridge program is celebrating its first anniversary: Happy Birthday Senior Bridge! And I thank each and every one of the 28 Beth Ahabah volunteers who have successfully connected up with 28 Beth Ahabah seniors!

The focus and goal of Senior Bridge is to match up volunteers who will call or visit with congregational seniors on a regular on-going basis to re-establish and keep the Beth Ahabah connection alive.

The challenges of an aging community are the responsibility of us all. Beth Ahabah’s Senior Bridge is just one part of addressing those needs. Thanks to this partnership with JFS, we stand ready to continue on. EVERYONE’s life is enhanced in this delightful giving experience.

There are always challenges when a program like this starts up, and Senior Bridge was no different. Not all seniors wanted to be part of the program. This group was small and their decision was certainly respected; however almost 30 seniors are part of this program after one year! And we have more seniors than volunteers. Can you help?

Want a rewarding way to make a difference? Please contact me at: rachelcohenschmidt@gmail.com or 804-690-8439.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CARITAS:
by Chuck Greenberg

Beth Ahabah will again serve as an intake site for the CARITAS Program for the homeless. CARITAS stands for Congregations Around Richmond Involved To Assure Shelter. From Saturday, December 20, 2015 through Friday, February 12, 2016, persons seeking shelter for the night will come to our school building at approximately 5:45 p.m.

We need volunteers to help CARITAS personnel sign in the homeless, offer them refreshments and make our guests feel at home until the CARITAS bus takes them to their shelter for the night. The bus arrives at approximately 7:00 p.m. Volunteers need to be at Temple by 5:30 p.m. and should be finished by approximately 7:15 p.m.

Two volunteers are needed per night. There will be CARITAS personnel as well as a Beth Ahabah staff member present each evening. No advanced training is needed to perform this mitzvah. Please consider volunteering as an individual or a family. Most Beth Ahabah volunteers agree to work the same night each week for the duration of the program. Several members who have participated in the program with their teenage children have found this a rewarding family experience.

Items such as appropriate magazines, playing cards, books and toiletry items are always welcome as donations. To sign up or for more information, please contact Chuck Greenberg at 794-6800 or cgre41@yahoo.com.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT CONTACT INFORMATION?

If you’ve recently moved or changed your email address, please contact the Temple office at 804.358.6757 to make sure our records are up-to-date. Thank you.
Ben Neuwirth will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on September 12, 2015. Ben is the son of Dena and Dan Neuwirth and the older brother of Nate and Jonah.

Ben is an 8th grade honor roll student at Moody Middle School in the IB program. At Moody, he is a member of the Forensics (Public Speaking) team and Technology Student Association. He enjoys soccer, playing guitar, riding roller coasters and programming. One of his favorite Jewish experiences has been attending URJ 6 Points Sports Academy the past two summers.

For Ben’s Mitzvah Project, he is organizing and teaching a weeklong Scratch programming class to campers at the William Byrd Community House. Scratch is a programming language and online community designed by MIT specifically for children. Ben is excited to introduce this program to these campers and is hoping to encourage them to continue with coding after the camp.

We are very proud of Ben and are excited to share this special day with family, friends and the Beth Ahabah community.

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Sydney Wynne will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on September 19, 2015. Sydney is the daughter of Kimberly and Tracy Wynne. She is the granddaughter of Paula and Charles Swartz and Margot and David Wynne.

Sydney is a 7th grade student at Short Pump Middle School. She loves arts and crafts and sewing and enjoys cooking for her family. She is also eager to learn new technology and aspires to be a graphic designer.

For her Mitzvah Project, Sydney has been volunteering with the Henrico Humane Society at their weekly dog adoptions. She has been thrilled to help many dogs find new homes. After volunteering, Sydney loves to come home to play with her dog, Dumpling. We are very proud of Sydney and look forward to sharing this special occasion with our family and friends.

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Mazel Tov!

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CBA COMMUNITY
IN SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES
OF...
Virginia Tillson
   mother of Patsy (Don) Glaser
Leona Small
   sister of Melvin (Elsie) Katz
Helen Mutchnick Small
   sister of Sheldon (Phyllis) Mutchnick
Morris Grossman
   father of Steve (Cheryl Miller) Grossman
Sylvia Loebman
   mother of Harlan (Ramona Brand) Loebman
Aleck Mollen
   father-in-law of Bobby Thalhimer
grandfather of Jill (Louis) Campbell
grandfather of Adam (Rebecca) Thalhimer
Helen Raine
   mother of David (Harriet Schanzer) Raine, Jr.
Harold Rapp
   father of Sheri (Joel) Cox
Albert Katz
   father of Lee (Jennifer) Katz
Murray Schwartz
   husband of Anne Schwartz

CONGRATULATIONS TO....

Noel & Seth Mahler on the birth of their daughter, Sloan Natalie Mahler, born June 24, 2015. Also to grandparents, Linda & David Mahler.
by Ramona Brand, Religious School Director

Welcoming Guests

We dive right into the New Year festivities as the opening day of Religious School on September 13th coincides with Erev Rosh Hashanah. L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu!! One can feel the anticipation of the season mount as we get closer and closer to the month of September. After savoring the lazy days of August, and those last few weeks of languid freedom, we plunge headlong into the beginning of a new school year, new friends and the new Jewish Year 5776 with its renewed opportunity for Teshuvah. It is the time of year for all things NEW.

It is also the time for all things traditional, such as round challah packed with tasty raisins, Rosh Hashanah dinners, the ancient sounds of the shofar reverberating off the Sanctuary walls, and spending a crisp autumn evening in the Sukkah. One important Sukkot tradition is that of Hakhnasat Orekhim or Welcoming Guests. Just as Abraham ran from his tent to welcome strangers into his home, (Genesis 18:2), we are encouraged to welcome guests into our Sukkah (or home) and to make them feel like family.

This year we have a special opportunity to welcome guests into our midst during the High Holidays. The UCI Road World Cycling Championships will be bringing many guests to Richmond and Beth Ahabah, right past our doors! We will open those doors and welcome them in to see our Sanctuary, meet our Beth Ahabah family and make them feel at home in our community. We plan on inviting the Israeli delegation of cyclists to celebrate with us during their time in Richmond, as well as other American and international guests.

So whether we say Bienvenue, Willkommen, Accoglienza, Karibu, or Baruchim Habaim our actions can say Welcome Friends, we are glad to begin our New Year with you.

First Days:

Religious School
Sunday, September 13

Midweek Hebrew
Wednesday, October 7

Midrasha
Monday, October 19

Religious School Activities during the UCI Cycling Championships

Sunday, September 20
10 am - 12 pm
Family Apple Picking
at Carter’s Mountain in Charlottesville

Sunday, September 27
10 am - Sukkot in the Park
Noon - Brotherhood Picnic

See the Religious School or weekly Temple e-news, or the Temple website for details.
THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

Selichot
Saturday, September 5
Study & Service @ Temple Beth El  8:45 PM

Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 13
Evening Service  7:30 PM

Monday, September 14
Young Family Service (2nd grade & under)  9:00 AM
Morning Congregational Service  11:00 AM
Informal Youth & Teen Service (3rd grade & above)  2:30 PM
Taschlich “Throwing Away our Sins” at Pony Pasture  4:30 PM

Shabbat Shuvah
Friday, September 18
Evening Service  7:30 PM

Yom Kippur
Tuesday, September 22
Evening and Kol Nidrei Service  7:30 PM

Wednesday, September 23
Young Family Service (2nd grade & under)  8:30 AM
Morning Congregational Service  11:00 AM
Ask-the-Rabbi Discussion Session  1:00 PM
Informal Youth & Teen Service (3rd grade & above)  2:30 PM
Closing Service w/ Yizkor  4:30 PM

HIGH HOLY DAY CUSTOMS & RITUALS

Rosh Hashanah
Although the holiday includes elements of joy and celebration, Rosh Hashanah is a deeply religious occasion. The customs and symbols of Rosh Hashanah reflect the holiday’s dual emphasis on both happiness and humility. Customs observed on Rosh Hashanah include the sounding of the shofar and eating special foods including round challah, which symbolizes the circle of life, and sweet foods for a sweet New Year. It is also customary to extend wishes for a good year. In Hebrew, the simple form of the greeting is “L’shanah tovah!”

Preparation for the High Holidays begins a full month before Rosh Hashanah. The entire Hebrew month of Elul is dedicated to readying ourselves for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Some congregations follow the custom of sounding the shofar at the end of each weekday morning service during Elul as a reminder of the approaching season.

Many Reform Jews celebrate one day of Rosh Hashanah, while others, together with Conservative and Orthodox Jews observe two days. Historically, North American Reform congregations have followed the calendar set forth in the Torah (Lev. 23:24; Num. 29:1), in which Rosh Hashanah is observed for one day, on the first day of the Hebrew month of Tishrei. However, this holiday differs from all other Jewish festivals because it is observed for two days even in the land of Israel, where all stores, schools and businesses are closed for the holiday. A growing number of Reform congregations have adopted the practice of observing a second day of Rosh Hashanah.

One very meaningful practice associated with Rosh Hashanah is Tashlich, a ceremony in which Jews go to a body of water, such as a river, stream, or ocean, to cast away their sins by symbolically tossing bread into the water. This physical act inspires us to remember our actions, right our wrongs, and refocus ourselves for the New Year.

Selichot
Selichot, a Hebrew word meaning “forgiveness,” refers to the special penitential prayers recited by Jews throughout the High Holidays. Jews recite Selichot beginning late at night on the Saturday before Rosh Hashanah and again each morning on the days between the New Year and Yom Kippur. Reform congregations usually observe Selichot on...
the Saturday night just prior to Rosh Hashanah, a solemn and fitting preparation for 10 days of reflection and self-examination.

Ritual Objects
The shofar, made from the horn of a ram, is sounded throughout the High Holiday period, beginning during the preparatory days of Elul. It is also sounded during the Rosh Hashanah service and at the end of Yom Kippur. The shofar is always curved or bent, symbolizing our humility as we stand before God and confront our actions. The celebration that ultimately evolved into Rosh Hashanah was originally called Yom T’ruah (Day of Sounding the Shofar).

One of the world’s oldest wind instruments, the shofar played an important role in Jewish history long before it became associated with Rosh Hashanah. It is mentioned throughout the Bible as a central element in ritual observance. For example, the shofar was sounded at the new moon and at solemn feasts. The Book of Exodus (19:16; 20:15) describes how the shofar was blown at Mt. Sinai to prepare the people for the giving of the Torah. The Book of Joshua (6:1-20) details the blowing of the shofar as part of the conquest of Jericho.

There are four different shofar “calls,” each with a unique name, used during the High Holidays: t’kiaḥ (one long blast), sh’varim (three short blasts), t’ruah (nine quick blasts) and t’kia g’dolah (one very long blast). Today, these sounds suggest different approaches to our annual cheshbon haneftesh (accounting of our activities of the past year), which we review during this season. The shofar blasts echo different rhythms and patterns in our daily lives. Various explanations surround the custom of blowing the shofar on Rosh Hashanah. The link with Yom T’ruah (Day of Sounding the Shofar) was an early one, but there are many others. The great Jewish philosopher Maimonides viewed the sounding of the shofar as a call to repentance.

The most common explanation for blowing the shofar during the Rosh Hashanah service, however, derives from the story of the Akeidah (the binding of Isaac) in Genesis 22, which we read on the same day. The sacrifice of Isaac was averted when Abraham substituted a ram for the boy. Although the key message focuses on Abraham’s faith and against human sacrifice, the story also became a basis for use of a ram’s horn on Rosh Hashanah.

Round Challah
Challah, which literally means “dough,” refers to the special twisted loaf of bread eaten by Jews on Shabbat and other special occasions. The challah used on Shabbat is oblong; the challah eaten on Rosh Hashanah is round in shape. This custom has several explanations. One is that the round shape reflects the ongoing cycle of years and seasons. The most common interpretation is that the challah resembles a crown, symbolizing the kingship of God, a common theme throughout the High Holidays. As our thoughts turn to repentance and resolutions of self-improvement, the round challah reminds Jews that God is central to our people and to our faith.

Apples and Honey
Over the centuries, Jews have commonly eaten apples, as well as challah, grapes, and other fruits dipped in honey, symbolizing their hope for sweetness in the year ahead.

At Home
Because Jewish holidays begin in the evening, it is customary to begin Rosh Hashanah with a family dinner and to attend services that night and again the following day. Rosh Hashanah includes many important moments and motifs - being awakened from our complacence with our own bad tendencies by the sound of the shofar and prayers reminding us that amidst all the things we cannot control, we can control our own conduct.

On erev Rosh Hashanah, we recite the festival candle blessing and Kiddush (blessing over wine). We also recite HaMotzi (blessing over bread) as usual, but the challah is round, not oblong. Finally, just before beginning the Rosh Hashanah meal, we customarily eat challah or apples dipped in honey. Some families also enjoy a pomegranate as a treat before the meal. According to legend, the number of seeds in the pomegranate reflects the number of good deeds you will do in the coming year.

Tashlich
During the Yamim Noraim (Days of Awe), usually on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, it is a tradition to go to a nearby body of water and symbolically cast away one’s sins or wrongdoings from the past year in a ceremony called Tashlich. One usually tosses bread crumbs into the water. When done with members of a synagogue, this is usually done in the afternoon. The ritual is usually accompanied by the recitation of verses from Micah and Psalms. According to
Micah 7:19, “God will take us back in love; God will cover up our iniquities, You will hurl all our sins into the depths of the sea.”

This year, take some bread crumbs to a nearby lake or stream to perform this ceremonial casting away. You may choose to name your mistakes aloud quietly or just think them to yourself. Conclude by reading a meaningful verse about forgiveness or singing a song. Share any leftover bread with the birds and fish. Doing Tashlich with children is a wonderful teaching opportunity and a chance to enjoy some time outside together on this holy day.

Yom Kippur
Tradition teaches that on Rosh Hashanah the Book of Life is written and on Yom Kippur our decree for New Year is sealed. We are taught that by doing t’shuvah (repentance), t’filah (prayer), and tzedakah (charity), we can have an effect on the severity of the decree. As a result, much of the Yom Kippur liturgy and the prescribed acts for all of the Yamim Noraim are aimed at achieving this goal. Yom Kippur, like Shabbat, is a day when one refrains from work. Leviticus 23:32 describes Yom Kippur as a Shabbat Shabbaton - a sabbath of complete rest. One of the greetings for this day is “G’mar chatimah tovah,” “May you be sealed for a good year ahead.”

Fasting
Fasting was originally seen as fulfilling the biblical commandment to “practice self-denial.” The Yom Kippur fast enables us, for at least one day each year, to ignore our physical desires, focusing instead on our spiritual needs. Throughout the day, we concentrate on prayer, repentance, and self-improvement before returning to our usual daily routine after the holiday.

According to tradition, all females from age 12 and all males from age 13 must fast. The traditional fast encompasses a full 24-hour period, beginning after the Erev Yom Kippur meal and extending to the following evening. During this time, no eating or drinking is permitted.

Judaism has a deep reverence for life, and though the Yom Kippur fast is of great importance, it is never allowed to jeopardize health. Those too ill to fast (or to fast fully) are prohibited from doing so. Those who need to take medication are allowed, as are pregnant women or women who have just given birth.

At Home
Beginning at sundown prior to Kol Nidre, it is customary to render ourselves less comfortable through a variety of means, including fasting. Therefore, a family meal, known as se’udah mafseket (the concluding meal before the fast) traditionally is eaten before sundown, with the candle lighting happening at the end of the meal. This process is a way to mark the entree of Yom Kippur into the home and, with that blessing, the fast begins.

Tradition holds that acts of tzedakah are key components to our observance of Yom Kippur. In many synagogues, a fundraising appeal coincides with the High Holidays. Many Jews make tzedakah a part of their Shabbat ritual, depositing a few dollars in a tzedakah box prior to the beginning of Shabbat. This can also be done as part of the ritual prior to the meal eaten before Kol Nidre. To make this even more special, the Days of Awe can be a time to tally the funds set aside each week during the prior year and determine to which causes they will be donated.

By reciting prayers in a synagogue on Yom Kippur we atone for transgressions against God. For wrongs committed against other people, it has become customary to seek out friends and relatives whom we have wronged during the year and to ask their forgiveness before Yom Kippur begins. The holiday is a time when families should be at peace, and gives us a yearly opportunity to put aside past hurts and create a new beginning.

It also is customary on Yom Kippur to perpetuate the memory of loved ones. To do so, many Jews visit the cemetery the day before Yom Kippur and kindle 24-hour yahrzeit candles in memory of loved ones who have died (learn more about yahrzeit candles and other Jewish mourning rituals). Yahrzeit candles are lit prior to the lighting of the holiday candles. During the Middle Ages, this custom was seen as a means of atonement for the dead. Today, however, it is a beautiful expression of tribute and remembrance.
CELEBRATING THE HIGH HOLY DAYS WITH CHILDREN & SHALOME SESAME

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Rosh Hashanah
Together with your children, watch the “The Sticky Shofar,” three videos by Shalom Sesame to introduce the shofar, its meaning, and customs. Then, try some of the discussion ideas and activities below, created by Reform Jewish educators, to further extend the lessons learned in the videos.

Discuss: Sounding the Shofar
Blowing the shofar can be a way for people to wake up and pay attention. The shofar blasts offer an opportunity to think about sound and how it affects us.

Talk to children about what it means to reflect on something. Ask if there are mistakes they made during the last year that they’d like to correct. Discuss their responses.

Activities
Make up a song. Pick a simple tune together (“Row, Row, Row Your Boat” or “The Itsy Bitsy Spider”) and re-write the lyrics to fit the theme of the Jewish New Year. Ask your children to incorporate their wishes for the upcoming year, favorite traditions, or new Hebrew words you learn from Shalom Sesame! Can you include the word shofar in your tune or imitate the shofar’s sound?

Read with your children. Check out these great books about sounding the shofar:

Sophie and the Shofar by Fran Manushkin, Rosalind Charney Kaye (Illustrator): After describing some of the traditions of Rosh Hashanah to her cousin from Russia, Sophie learns about trust and forgiveness.

Sound the Shofar: A Story for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur by Leslie Kimmelman, John Himmelman (Illustrator): Uncle Jake gets to blow the shofar twice within 10 days, as the family first celebrates Rosh Hashanah and then Yom Kippur.

It’s Shofar Time by Latifa Berry Kropf, Tod Cohen (Photographer): It’s Rosh HaShanah, the Jewish New Year. It’s time to learn new things, wear new clothes, and taste new fruits. It’s time to toss crumbs into the water and say “I’m sorry.”

Practice the shofar blasts. Use kazoos to learn and make the different blasts of the shofar, or experiment with sound and movement by having children and other family members create shofar blast sounds with their voices or other objects:

Tekiah: one long blast
Shevarim: three medium blasts
Teruah: nine short blasts
Tekiah Gedolah: a very long, final blast, for as long as you can hold your breath

Sing together. Another great way to learn the sounds of the shofar is to sing the ever-popular and catchy song “Shofar Blast!” by Peter and Ellen Allard.

Share your ideas. Do you have a favorite activity for learning about the shofar with kids? Share it in the comments section below!

Yom Kippur
Together with your children, watch the videos by Shalom Sesame to learn about saying “sorry.” Then try some of the discussion ideas and activities below created by Reform Jewish educators to further extend the lessons learned in the videos. If you wish, share your experiences and ideas in the comments sections below!

Discuss: Saying Sorry
Yom Kippur, also known as the Day of Atonement, gives us an entire day to focus on our behavior toward other people, the world, our inner selves, and God. During this time, we ask God’s forgiveness. We also ask others to forgive us for any wrongs we have committed against them. We say “I’m sorry” and try to find ways to become better people in the New Year.

We pray, both as individuals and as a community, about the past year: Did we do our best? What can we try to do differently in the upcoming year? We promise to try harder to grow, strengthen and improve the quality of our lives and the progress of our world.

Because we are human, we are expected to make mistakes, so we need a structure within which to forgive, be forgiven and try again. This is a beautiful model for parents to recognize and use, for the good of all people.

Talk with your kids about what it means to own up when you make a mistake. Explain that even Jewish texts acknowledge that saying “sorry” (in Hebrew, “slicha”) is not easily done.

Celebrating with Children continues on page 20
**FAMILY CONNECTIONS**
*by Millie Becker*

New programming coming this fall: Hiking, yoga and art

We have some innovative new programs beginning this fall. The Family Connections Committee has developed some new programs for families, kids and adults. We are starting a family outdoor and hiking club to meet several times this fall after religious school. Reform Judaism emphasizes the importance of our environment and taking care of the earth. We will be planning some great family hikes along the James and downtown areas to explore. The group will be led by Jeff Reynolds, who has 2 boys in the religious school. He has a 34-year mountaineering career. He is the Director for the Division of Enforcement for the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. Jeff is dedicated to inspiring appreciation of the outdoor experience to new and skilled hikers. He is an experienced mountain climber and was the Leader for a 2012 Everest Expedition. These outings will be open to people of all hiking levels.

For adults, we are planning a fall Jewish yoga and meditation series on Sunday mornings lead by two members of Beth Ahabah who are yoga instructors, Shannon Griffin and Kim Leibowitz. Shannon Griffin, a member of the Family Connections Committee, has been teaching yoga for 10 years. She has three daughters in the religious school - Talia, Eliana and Naomi Pirron. Kim is a yoga instructor at Glenmore Yoga and Wellness. She has 2 sons, Matthew who is in college and Evan a senior in High School.

This winter, Rebecca Fields will lead an art series for 5th-7th graders to create a mural for the synagogue. Rebecca has 2 daughters in the religious school and is an art teacher at Freeman High School. She was the recent recipient for the R.E.B. Awards for Teaching Excellence and received a grant to tour the architecture in Spain and France this summer.

Our goal is to better engage our youth and their families on Sunday after religious school. If you are interested in developing and leading future activities please contact Rabbi Gallop. Specific information of times and dates will be in the weekly Religious School E-News. We hope to see you at one of these exciting new activities, and thank you to all the volunteers for helping us strengthen our programs at Beth Ahabah.

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**REMEMBER CONGREGATION BETH Ahabah IN YOUR ESTATE PLANNING**

If Congregation Beth Ahabah makes a difference in your life, we graciously ask that you think of Beth Ahabah when deciding your estate plans. A bequest or legacy in your will is a wonderful way to express your appreciation to the temple.

Thank you for thinking of Congregation Beth Ahabah. To discuss your plans, please contact Executive Director, Russell M. Finer, at 804.358.6757 ext. 302 or r.finer@bethahabah.org.

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**Oneg Erev Rosh Hashanah**
**Appletinis J-Town**

Sunday, September 13th in the Joel House

Join us for a special oneg following our Erev Rosh Hashanah service and celebrate the new year with a special J-Town twist to traditional apples and honey... appletinis and honey flavored desserts.
DONATIONS

TEMPLE FUND
Barbara Goldberg
Joanne & Harvey Gutkin

IN HONOR OF:
Deborah Greenberg’s Bat Mitzvah
Ann Bendheim
Steve Gross’s special birthday
Terry Schultz
Jeanne Decker’s special birthday
Ann Bendheim
Hilary Schultz’s wedding
Ken & Katie Roeper
Rosemary Seltzer’s conversion
Ken & Katie Roeper
The birth of Madeline Eve
Goodman
Ken & Katie Roeper
Mazel Tov to: Katherine Scher
& Alice Mendelson on their
B’nai Mitzvah
Ken & Katie Roeper
Katie Roemer’s special birthday
Rachel & Jim Schmidt

IN MEMORY OF:
Ruth Ecker
Steve Ecker
Helen Weiner, my mother-in-law
Russell M. Finer
Louis Kalen & Eleanor Aarts
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Mark Schein
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Dr. David J. Greenberg, my beloved
father
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Judy & Ed Malloy
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Allen Finer
Saul Viener
Jacqueline Viener
Jack Cansino, my dear father
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Harry S. Tucker
Cantor Frances T. Goldman
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Margaret & David Kamsky
Linda & Irvin Seeman
Joseph Glazer
Donald J. Glazer & Patsy Glazer
Walter Nelson, Jr.
Marjorie Gunst
Murray Paster
Lonnie & Diane Paster
Mildred Rooper, our mother
Ken & Katie Rooper
Sylvia Loebman
Ken & Katie Rooper
Aleck Mollen
Lesley & David Greenberg
Helen Mutchnick Small
Janice & Robert Freed
Frank Rieman
Ira & Maureen Goldstein
Belle Zimlin
Shelly & Sherman Lubman

THE RABBI’S
PHILANTHROPIC FUND
Joanne & Harvey Gutkin

IN HONOR OF:
Rabbi Beifeld for support of
B’nai Mitzvah
Laura Savage
Zack Kirsner’s Bar Mitzvah
Matt & Sharon Kirsner
The birth of our granddaughter,
Eleanor Virginia Daniel
Cathy & Marvin Daniel
Our niece & nephew, Shirley
Louise & Samuel Caylor Tate
Cathy & Marvin Daniel
The Tate babys naming
Emily & Jim Tate
Rabbi Beifield, Rabbi Gallop
& Team
Shannon Kelley & Mike Mendelson
Rosemary Seltzer’s Conversion
Cullen & Rosemary Seltzer
Leta Greenberg’s special birthday
her husband, Peter Greenberg

IN MEMORY OF:
Bruce Reiss, our friend
Cathy & Marvin Daniel

CANTOR GOLDMAN MUSIC FUND
IN HONOR OF:
Laura Savage’s Bat Mitzvah
Terry Schultz
Chuck & Mary Greenberg
The B’nai Mitzvah Class of 2015
The Savages
Cantor Fran Goldman
Shannon Kelley & Mike Mendelson

IN MEMORY OF:
Ivan Ivanoff
Natan & Valeria Berenshtein

BIMAH FLOWER FUND
IN HONOR OF:
Deborah Greenberg’s Bat Mitzvah
Jonathan D. Greenberg

An armed security guard is on duty at
Hebrew Cemetery on the first and third
Sundays of the month from
Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Donations continue on page 19
SISTERHOOD (WRJ)
by Beryl Holzbach, President

September is always a bittersweet time for me. It means saying goodbye to the long, lazy, light filled days of summer. I don’t even want to think about the days becoming shorter and the nights longer.

However, when I think of what else happens in September, my heart fills with joy. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are my favorite holidays. What a wonderful tradition we have where we can celebrate the Birthday of the World (by the way, my birthday is in September too), reflect on the past year, make amends with those we have hurt, and repent so that we can wipe the slate clean and start fresh? I love do overs!

Another reason to celebrate September is that Temple activities start to rev up. Sisterhood is no exception. We have many activities planned for the coming year. Our kickoff brunch will be held on Sunday, October 18th.

Please refer to the weekly e-news and forthcoming emails and evites for further details about that and the other fun, community service, and educational projects that are planned.

I wish you and your family a Happy, Healthy New Year that is filled with love!
L’Shana Tova

COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
by Deborah K. Greenberg, Chair

The Council for Social Justice (CSJ), through its members, attempts to perform acts of Tikkun Olam in the greater Richmond community. This includes feeding the hungry, clothing and sheltering the needy, and working to eliminate social injustice. Please join our committee and help us through our projects perform these critical acts in the tradition of Reform Judaism and of Beth Ahabah.

The CIS capped nine months of new leadership and new membership with a retreat on July 18, 2015. We had a substantive day and emerged with a revised Mission Statement and long-term plan.

We also reviewed the progress we have made since September 2014 in reinvigorating, expanding and adding volunteers to the Mount Moriah project, CARITAS and Henrico Hearth, including religious school students. Additionally, we have assumed direct responsibility for our next Mitzvah Day.

We have a dedicated core of passionate committee members and we welcome to our ranks all who believe in Tikkun Olam and social justice!

The Science Museum of Virginia to honor Rosann Bocciarelli and Jim Weinberg

The Science Museum of Virginia will honor CBA members Jim Weinberg and Rosann Bocciarelli for their many contributions to the Science Museum and the Richmond community at the Kugel Ball on Saturday, October 10.

The black tie evening celebration includes dinner, dancing and a silent auction to support the Museum and its mission to “inspire Virginians to enrich their lives through science.” For more information about the event visit smv.org.

Mazel Tov!

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An etrog box is the only ritual object designed for use during Sukkot in the synagogue. During Sukkot, the lulav (a bundle of willow branches, myrtle twigs, and a palm branch) and the etrog (an oval-shaped yellow citrus fruit with a strong sweet smell) are held aloft while psalms of thanksgiving are recited during the synagogue service. The etrog is said to represent the heart (because of its shape). One midrash suggests that the etrog, not the apple, was the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden. The practice of carrying the lulav and etrog can be traced back to their use in processions on the Temple grounds in Jerusalem. The making of a special box to house the fragile fruit is a much later development.

Examples of etrog boxes have been found dating back to the 18th Century. The most elaborate boxes are made of silver, but other examples have been constructed of wood or stone. The shape may be round, oval, rectangular, or even in the shape of the fruit itself. This etrog box is an 18th Century Austrian silver piece. It is decorated with leaves and fruit on the lid and its handles are made to look like stems. It is inscribed in Hebrew, “You shall take for yourself the fruit of the Hadar Tree.” This piece was a gift to the Museum and Archives from Mrs. Dorothy Blumenreich.

WANTED: CBA BLOG MASTER

Love blogging? Looking for a way to get more involved with the CBA community? We need your help.

Volunteer today as the CBA Blog Master!
Contact Executive Director, Russell M. Finer at 804.358.6757 or rfiner@bethahabah.org for details.

Gifts That Make A Difference...Simchah or Remembrance
Charitable Giving in honor of or in memory of a loved one is an important tradition for the Beth Ahabah congregation. Making a gift to the temple offers a positive way to affirm your values and priorities and protect our future Jewish way of life. Honoring a friend or loved one through charitable gifts is often an especially meaningful act of paying tribute to someone special, while assuring that worthwhile giving continues to influence our children, grandchildren and the world around us.

Beth Ahabah has a wide range of donation opportunities available. The list can be viewed on the Temple website or you can call the Temple office at 804.358.6757.

Thank you for your consideration.
Donations continue from page 16

HEBREW CEMETERY FUND
Joanne & Harvey Gutkin
IN MEMORY OF:
Rosalie Koslow
Terry Schultz
Max Mutchnick
Terry Schultz
Helen Spool
James Spool
Helene Weinfeld Shapiro, my mother
her daughter, Katherine Shapiro
Wootton; son-in-law, Bill &
granddaughters, Amy & Lisa
Helen Mutchnick Small
Terry Schultz
Harriet Grandis
Nancy Grandis White
Harriet Grandis
Betty Sue & Todd LePage

LEWIS I. HELD
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF:
Rose Marie Seltzer’s Conversion
Janice & Robert Freed
Hilary Schultz’s marriage
Janice & Robert Freed
Dan Hough’s incredible work on
the Focus Groups & the survey for
the new Rabbi
Janice & Robert Freed
IN MEMORY OF:
Harold Rapp
Janice & Robert Freed

PRAYERBOOK FUND
IN HONOR OF:
Adam Hoffrichter’s Bar Mitzvah
Carole Kaftan

GENERATIONS FUND
IN HONOR OF:
Millie & Herb Heltzer’s wedding
anniversary
Claire & Bob Rosenbaum

MT. MORIAH FUND
IN HONOR OF:
Deborah Greenberg’s Bat Mitzvah
Joshua Greenberg
The birth of Madeline Goodman,
daughter of Amanda & Campe
Goodman, granddaughter of
Deborah Greenberg & great-grand-
daughter of Mikki Evens
Joshua Greenberg

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TUITION
ASSISTANCE FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Sylvia Loebman
Ramona Brand & Harlan Loebman

MUSEUM & ARCHIVES
IN HONOR OF:
The Birth of Holden & Parker
Goodman-Gallop
Marianne & Ted Metzger
The Birthday of Morton Thalhimer, Jr.
Mary Ellen Jackoway
IN MEMORY OF:
Shirley Markhoff
Mary Ellen Jackoway
Bonita Zacharia
Leo & Belle Klompus
Walter Nelson
Edith Brenner
Mary Ellen Jackoway
Harold Rapp
Pauline M. Loving
IN APPRECIATION:
For Research Assistance
William Hooper

It’s never too early
to be prepared.

For more information please call
Russell Finer or
Bill Thalhimer, III at 358.6757.

B’Yachad
DEADLINES For EDITORIAL &
ADVERTISING

December/January 16: due
Friday, October 23

For more information about advertising in
the bulletin, contact Russ Finer in the Temple
office, 804.358.6757.

Please submit editorial and
camera ready ads to Susan Morgan,
smorganpr@comcast.net
Activities
Make a “Mirror of Reflection”: Purchase an inexpensive hand mirror at a craft store.

Give children various media (sponge pieces, sequins, beads, felt, etc.) with which to decorate the back and frame of the mirror.

Tell them to look in their mirror when they need to think about themselves and make decisions about how to act. Share with your children the steps to t’shuvah (repentance) that Maimonides, a 12th-century sage, taught hundreds of years ago:

Cheshbon HaNefesh (accounting of the soul): When we take an accounting of the soul, we ask ourselves: “What have I done right and what have I done wrong this year?” Share your thoughts with someone or write your reflections in a journal.

Say you are sorry to those you have hurt or wronged during the past year. Make a plan for how you will behave in similar circumstances in the future. Through prayer, ask God to forgive you. After watching the videos below, read with your children. Check out the book The Hardest Word: A Yom Kippur Story, by Jacqueline Jules, and illustrator Katherine Janus Kahn, which is part of the PJ Library collection.

Cooking for the Holidays:

Vegan Sweet Noodle Kugel
by Lisa Dawn Angerame
To celebrate a sweet Rosh Hashanah, here is a great option for a soy-free noodle kugel.

Ingredients:
- 8-ounce bag of egg free wide ribbon noodles
- 2 flax eggs (1 flax egg = 1 tablespoon ground flax + 3 tablespoons water)
- 2 tablespoons sunflower oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 cup vegan cane sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla powder
- 4 ounces crushed pineapple
- 1/2 cup golden raisins

Directions:
- Boil the noodles.
- Preheat the oven to 350°.
- Make the flax eggs and let them sit until they are nice and creamy.
- Mix all the rest of the ingredients in a big bowl.
- When the noodles are ready, drain and pour into the mixture. Mix well. Turn out into a baking dish and bake for an hour until the top is nice and crispy.

Recipes From Our Mothers’ Kitchens:
Reprinted from Sisterhood’s Plain & Fancy Cookbook, June 1959, Sisterhood of the Morristown, New Jersey Jewish Community Center.
Submitted by Susan Morgan

ROAST BRISKET OF BEEF Bernice Flinver
3 lbs. trimmed brisket of beef
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. ground ginger
1/4 tsp. black pepper
1/8 tsp. garlic powder
2 Tbsp. fat
3 large onions, sliced
Rub salt, ginger, pepper and garlic powder into the meat and let stand for 1 hour. Melt fat in roasting pan with tight fitting cover. Mix onions with fat in the roaster, place the meat on this and cover tightly. Roast at 350 deg. about 3 hours until meat is fork tender. Place meat on platter and garnish with onions, carve by slicing neatly across grain. Serve gravy separately. Serve hot or cold.
Serves 6.
BROTHERHOOD
By David Feibish, President

Mitzvah or Mitzvah,
a rose by any other name...

While it may be customary to note Brotherhood’s activities as well as participation and support of Temple activities, at this writing, it is still summer. Brotherhood held planning and budget meetings, our annual “dues envelope stuffing” extravaganza and supplied the oneg for Shabbat in the Park at Bryan Park (this is a can’t miss spiritual and fun Shabbat experience, especially if you are a parent of young ones).

Another vital, early Brotherhood agenda/planning item is Friday night Shabbat ushering. It starts in September and runs through end of June, when we go to our summer Shabbat schedule. Brotherhood has long been responsible for providing ushers for our Shabbat services, as well for other life event services, programs as well as Presenters for our Saturday B’nei Mitzvah gift. (Now, B’Nei Mitzvah families help usher some Friday Shabbat services).

But it has become apparent that Brotherhood alone can’t handle this vital “mitzvah”/“mitzvah”. In 2015-16, we have 43 Friday night Shabbat services and 24 Saturday B’nei Mitzvah gift presentations. We need at least 110 to properly meet this need with 30 “hands on” active volunteer Brotherhood members.

I am requesting that our temple leadership, with Brotherhood assistance/administration, consider having ushering become a membership-wide responsibility. My research shows many synagogues rely on a congregant approach. With approximately 600 family units–and even if we safely count on just 500 – we could very easily share by rotation, this mitzvah/mitzvah. In addition to the spiritual fulfillment of attending a Shabbat service, a family or single member would have the opportunity to meet others in our congregation.

Woody Allen once said, “80% of success is showing up.” This is so true of ushering at Shabbat services.

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2014 RAR Top Ten Richmond Agents in Sales • 2014 RAR Top Ten Agents in Volume
Awarded RAR Life Membership

Having a Moving Experience?

If you’re hanging your mezuzah on a new doorpost, please be sure to let us know right away. That will keep the Bulletin and other mailings coming to you promptly—and save us postal fees.

We want to keep you posted!
You’ll Never Guess Who Came to our Door . . .
by David Farris, Director

Hint: We have a photo of his great-great-great grandfather in one of our exhibits.

We have visitors whose stories and reasons for coming to see us are truly fascinating. I think that it would be interesting to tell you about them in my monthly column space from time to time.

One of the early families in Richmond and at Beth Ahabah was the Angle family. Myer Angle, in fact, was President of the Congregation when Maximilian Michelbacher arrived in 1845 to become Beth Ahabah’s first Rabbi. Myer is important for many reasons, one of which is that his daughter Miriam married Rabbi Michelbacher, and that they had a long and fruitful relationship in spite of an age difference of around 20 years.

The Angle family is large and widespread in the present day, though most of them have abandoned the Jewish religion. There are a number of them, however, who have become interested in tracing their family’s roots. Their investigations have led them back to Richmond and to Judaism, and for several years Bonnie, Grace Zell, and Amy Roberts have been assisting them in their searches. They have all provided our Archives with the results of their own investigations, and our knowledge of the family is growing rapidly.

In July of this year, we were visited by a great-great-grandson of Myer Angle. He and his wife came to the Archives to flesh out their own research. He is a retired CPA with a new found fascination for genealogy, and she is a poet and author who shares her husband’s interest in history.

He became interested in his family history fairly recently, and discovered the Richmond/Beth Ahabah connection in his early research. In his time in the Archives, he discovered the existence of the “greater Angle” family. It would have been interesting to introduce him to the current President and Rabbi, but the timing was bad and that was not possible. He is continuing his research, and will no doubt come up with information that has not been found before. With so many members of the Angle family working on this, our knowledge of them should continue to grow rapidly. That is how family histories grow – one discovery at a time. Every scrap of information is valuable, and a seemingly insignificant fact or name can open a door to a whole new line of research.

Please think about your own family histories. We will be happy to share our experience on the best ways to pursue and record the facts you will uncover.

Time to Advertise?

If you feel your business needs a little more attention, please give Russ Finer a call at 804.358.6757, ext 302.
## COMMUNITY CALENDAR
### SEPTEMBER

### Schedule of Shabbat and High Holy Day Worship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, September 4</td>
<td>Oneg Shabbat</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shabbat Service in Gumenick Chapel</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 1</td>
<td>Selichot @ Temple Beth-El</td>
<td>8:45 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, September 11</td>
<td>Shabbat Service</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 12</td>
<td>Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Neuwirth</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, September 13</td>
<td>Religious School</td>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First Steps to Judaism</td>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Erev Rosh Hashanah Service</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>JTown Appletini Oneg</td>
<td>9:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, September 14</td>
<td>Young Family Service</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Informal Youth &amp; Teen Service</td>
<td>2:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tashlich Service @ Pony Pasture</td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, September 18</td>
<td>Shabbat Service w/Birthday &amp; Anniversary Aliyah</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 19</td>
<td>Bat Mitzvah of Sydney Wynne</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, September 20</td>
<td>Religious School: Apple Picking at Carter’s Mountain</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>UCI Richmond World Championships Viewing Party</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 22</td>
<td>Evening and Kol Nidrei Service</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Note
- Please Plan to Join Us for Brotherhood Shabbat Dinner & Services on Friday, October 30, 2015 with Special Guest Speaker Rabbi Meir Azari

Rabbi Azari is the chair of the board of the Israeli Council of Progressive Rabbis

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