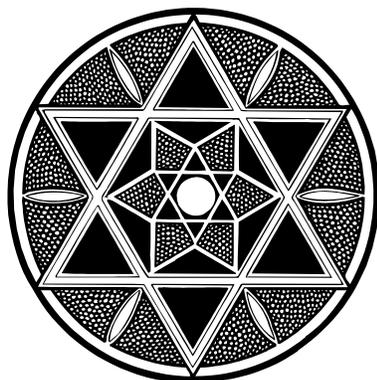


B'nai Mitzvah Handbook



Temple of Israel

Many families have questions about the significance, training, and commitment necessary for your child's upcoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Concerns about the logistics of the service and family involvement arise when you begin your planning. You may also have questions about the associated celebrations as well. We hope this handbook will address these topics and more. We hope that most of your questions will be answered and your questions will be answered and your planning can proceed with joy!

**400 Spring Forest Road
Greenville, SC 29615
(864) 292-1782**

www.TempleofIsrael.org

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RABBI'S MESSAGE

Whenever I am preparing a student to celebrate becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah, I always ask, "What does becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah mean?" Judaism is a religion of doing. God commands us to do things (there are 613 commandments/mitzvot in the Torah). Since it is good to do what God commands us and since many of the commandments teach us to help others, doing a mitzvah is often thought of as doing a good deed. The term Bar/Bat Mitzvah literally means "son/daughter of the commandments". The ancient Rabbis understood that at thirteen years old a child should be responsible for their own behavior. As a result, when a child reaches the age of thirteen, whether or not they are called to the Torah, they attain the status of Bar/Bat Mitzvah and are now responsible for the commandments. Leading our service and reading from the Torah is a celebration of a child reaching this milestone in their lives. It is an honor for us to welcome our Temple children to the bimah for this important rite of passage into adulthood.

This booklet was put together as a guide for families when embarking on the year of Bar/Bat Mitzvah at the Temple of Israel. Included here, are rules. Some are Temple policy, others traditional customs, some not rules at all. Most are just paths where you can make your own decisions about which way to go. One of the great things about the Temple of Israel is that no two B'nai Mitzvah are ever the same. An individual stamp is put on each by the candidate and his or her family. There is no competition, no right or wrong way to celebrate.

This is a special time in our children's lives. We watch our children become more and more independent. We are proud of them, but want to hold them close as well. Here we have the perfect opportunity to let them know how proud we are of them, how important they are to us, and how important they are to the Jewish people. Watching them study and grow during this year is a memory you can keep forever. No matter what happens with the celebration it is important to not let the small stuff overshadow the real purpose of the experience, to celebrate your child's coming of age.

So, have fun and enjoy the process. It will be over faster than you can imagine!

Rabbi Sam Rose

EDUCATIONAL EXPECTATIONS

Introduction

Preparing for an upcoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah is a very exciting and busy time for every family. The following pages provide you with an explanation of the programs that all Bar/Bat Mitzvah students are expected to attend to aid in their learning process.

We encourage families to begin attending services regularly together in the years prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, if it has not been your habit to do so. This reinforces that Judaism is a religion for adults and allows the family to gain familiarity and knowledge of the customs of the Temple of Israel.

Educational Timeline

Beginning of 6th Grade

- All families are required to attend the 4 session B'nai Mitzvah University to provide an introduction to the meaning of becoming B'nai Mitzvah.

12 MONTHS

- Parents and student's begin with a meeting with the Rabbi.
- After the initial meeting with the Rabbi, students will begin working with a tutor for a 6 month period.

6 MONTHS

- Students will begin working directly with the Rabbi 6 months before their Bar/Bat Mitzvah date.
- Students work with the Rabbi on Wednesday evenings. Wednesdays have been chosen because they are the best intersection of the Temple calendar, the Rabbi's calendar, the Religious School calendar, and the Jewish community calendar. Students and their families must prioritize Wednesday evenings for this year of preparation.

Educational Expectations

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- All candidates are required to attend Religious School.

SERVICE ATTENDANCE

- Bar/Bat Mitzvah students must attend an average of 2 Shabbat services per month. They must sign their card, located on the table in the foyer, each week they attend. If the candidate attends services at another Temple or at camp, these will be accepted as well, and a written confirmation must be given to the Education Director.

AFTER THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION

- The Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony is not an end, but a beginning. It is a beginning of lifelong learning about Judaism, our history, and its relevance in your life. This is a perfect time to make that commitment! Our students are encouraged to stay involved in the Temple of Israel through continued attendance at Religious School through confirmation (10th grade) and participation in the Temple Youth Group, GREFTY.

THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH CEREMONY

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Dates

CHOOSING A BAR/BAT MITZVAH DATE

- The default date will be the Shabbat immediately following a candidate's 13th birthday (or, if the birthday is on Shabbat, the ceremony will be scheduled on that Sabbath), except during the High Holidays.
- If two or more birthdays fall within the same Shabbat, then dates will be assigned to the preceding or following Sabbaths, based on the oldest birth date first.
- If the family wishes to change the default ceremony date, then an alternate date may be selected subject to the congregational calendar. The selection will not include any of the following:
 - Dates reserved for another candidate based on birth date as defined above
 - Dates that fall on a Jewish holiday or federal holiday
 - Dates on which the Rabbi has scheduled a vacation or Sabbatical
- Birth dates and their associated Bar/Bat Mitzvah dates that occur during, or in the three months following the Rabbi's sabbatical will be scheduled according to the alternate date selection above. This is to allow adequate coaching time between the candidate and Rabbi.

- Some children, for various reasons, including readiness, don't have ceremonies until *after* their fourteenth birthday.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, OR BOTH

- Families may choose to have a Friday and/or Saturday Torah service. If a Saturday service is chosen, the Torah reading will not be included on Friday evening.

The Bar/Bat Mitzvah Ceremony

Who is on the Bima?

- Two months before the ceremony, ask current Board Member(s) to sit on the Bima and make the Congregation presentation to your son or daughter during the ceremony for both Friday night and Saturday morning. A list of current board members is available from the office and in the Temple directory. The Temple Board will assign a representative if your family does not have a preference.

Service Honors

- Service honors may include blessings over the candles and wine, opening and closing of the ark, reciting the blessings over the Torah reading, dressing the Torah, Motzi (blessing over the bread), and other passages in the prayer book. Please note that when the Torah is passed through the hands of the generations, these are only lineal descendants (parents, grandparents, great-grandparents), not uncles/aunts, siblings, etc.

Aliyah

- This honor is usually reserved for the family. Anywhere from one to three people might be typically honored. If the family does not wish to designate someone, the Temple will see that the blessings are recited. It is also an honor for the candidate himself/herself to recite the blessings.
- Children younger than Bar/Bat Mitzvah age are allowed to do an Aliyah. The Temple of Israel is proud of all of our children, and if they are capable of reading the blessings, we will be happy to have them lead us.
- The Temple can provide a CD of the Torah blessings so that family members can practice at home. They can also attend Shabbat Services before the celebration and ask to do an Aliyah. If you need a CD of the Torah blessings for a friend or family to practice at home, please ask the Rabbi.

Kippot and Tallit

- Ritual clothing is optional, and equal, for boys and girls and adults.

Participation of Non-Jewish Family Members

- Our congregation extends full pulpit honors to non-Jewish Temple members and their families. Note that the passing of the Torah scroll symbolizes not only Jewish heritage, but also family heritage.

Music

- Families wishing to include special music and/or cantorial performances in their life cycle events may, at any time, negotiate with and compensate professional musicians of their choice. Professional musicians are individuals who have studied instrumental or vocal performance and are recognized by the general public as worthy performers. Customarily (but not always) these individuals hold advanced degrees in music or have performed for so long that their experiences in performing are recognized as warranting the fees that they may charge and the special value placed upon their skill or expertise.
- Members or non-members, who want to perform, need to be recognized performers or, in the case of a choral group, perform under the direction of a professional musical director. They will be expected to speak to the rabbi about this arrangement.
- For musical works not usually included in Temple services, the family will be required to submit a request in writing to the Religious Practices Committee.

Additional Information Related to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Ceremony

Ushers

- The family chooses the ushers. This can be an honor your family bestows. You may also ask a Board Representative to assist you in finding ushers. Usually 2 ushers will be enough to welcome visitors, direct them to their seats, and answer questions. The ushers should also be responsible for straightening the sanctuary after the service (putting away the books and programs) and setting up and returning any chairs that are used. The ushers can also direct guests to kippot and tallit. As congregation members, these friends can help your guests feel at home. *If you have teens attending, ask adult friends to intersperse themselves among the teens to model appropriate demeanor. It would be a shame if inappropriate peer behavior threw your child off his or her stride during the service.*

Programs

- A printed program is optional, but the family is responsible if they desire one. You may find a program template by clicking [here](#). There are many ways to customize the program, but the parts of the service and the description of the rituals have already been approved by the Rabbi and follow the customs of our congregation.

Photography and Videography

- The taking of photographs and the operation of video cameras at services invariably detracts from the event by distracting both celebrants and visitors from the ritual that needs to be our central focus. Only stationary video cameras may be used in the sanctuary during the service. The video camera must be installed on a tripod, turned on before the start of the service, and left completely alone during the service. It is not permitted for someone to operate it, adjust it, etc. during the service. No one is allowed to walk around with any type of camera. The camera must not be placed anywhere in the pulpit area itself (not on the Bimah). Good locations are any corner, front or back, of the sanctuary floor, or in the choir loft. Pre-posed or re-posed photographs may be taken before or after the ceremony. The foregoing policy applies to cameras operated by congregants or by outside professionals whom congregants have engaged.
- It is suggested that photographs of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah should be taken at some point in the days before the ceremony. If you choose to take pictures the day of the ceremony they must be completed not later than 30 minutes before the service.

Throwing Candy

- While some congregations have the tradition of throwing candy after the Bar/Bat Mitzvah concludes their Torah reading, we have NOT adopted that at the Temple of Israel.

Flowers

- If you wish to have flowers on the bimah, they are the responsibility of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah family. Flowers are not required. In lieu of flowers, some families choose to decorate the area in front of the lecterns with something related to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah project.

Siblings

- Family participation is encouraged so long as the candidate fulfills the mitzvah of leading the core of the worship service.

Oneg Shabbat

- It is impossible to predict how many congregants will attend Friday night services, and can vary from as few as 35 to as many as 80. Please prepare an Oneg that can accommodate all the congregants and your guests.

Gifts to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah

- The Board Member on the bima will present a gift to your son or daughter from the Temple.
- The Sisterhood also makes a gift presentation at the time of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Two months before the ceremony, ask a current Sisterhood Board Member to make the presentation to your son or daughter during the ceremony. The

Sisterhood Board will assign a representative if your family does not have a preference.

THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH CELEBRATION

INFORMATION FOR BAR/BAT MITZVAH STUDENTS

How much of the service will I be expected to lead?

- Students are expected to lead a substantial part of the English prayers and the following Hebrew prayers:
 - Chatzi Kaddish
 - Bar'chu
 - Sh'ma
 - V'ahavta
 - Mi Chamochah
 - V'shamru
 - Avot v'Imahot
 - G'vurot
 - K'dushah
 - Torah Blessings
 - Haftarah Blessings

Can my parents help me study?

- Your parents can help you study by helping you set aside quiet time and a quiet space in which to work. You may want to read aloud to your parents the parts you have learned.

How do I study my Torah and Haftarah portions at home?

- Listen to your CD or mp3, drill yourself in reading – and practice DAILY for approximately 20 minutes. Daily practice is crucial to success – practicing once or twice a week will not create the same skills, no matter how long you study at a time. You can listen to your CDs or your portable player in the car.
- Give yourself good messages, everyday; tell yourself that you can do this. Don't let negative thoughts worry you. Tell yourself what you are doing is meaningful.
- Remember that you don't have to do everything at once. All you need is to accomplish your job for the day. Take a calendar and write on each day what you are going to master. Check the tasks off as you master them. Have fun!

How long before the date will I begin studying the actual Torah and Haftarah portions?

- This depends on how quickly you progress – which will depend on how much you practice at home during the week. Everyone’s pace is different.

Do you recommend any books to read to help me understand why I am doing this?

- *Putting God on the Guest List for Children* by Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin

Do I have to perform a Mitzvah Project?

- Bar/Bat Mitzvah students are required to perform at least 5 hours of a mitzvah project. The goal is for the student to become actively involved in a tikkun olam project to make the world a better place. As part of the Mitzvah project, the student must fill in the Mitzvah project workbook. As part of the Mitzvah project workbook process, the Bar/Bat Mitzvah student must receive approval from the Rabbi for their Mitzvah project.

Is it important to attend other people’s B’nai Mitzvah ceremonies?

- The ceremony is public. You do not need an invitation to attend your classmates’ ceremonies to show support and encouragement and to share in the joy of becoming an “adult” member of our community. It is very helpful for you see other celebrations before your date. It will help you to understand the flow of the service and your part in it. Your attendance will also show you that no two ceremonies are the same. Everyone brings their own strengths and personalities to the service.

Do I have to write a speech?

- Every student writes a sermon about the Torah portion subject and how it relates to his/her life and to modern Judaism.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Congregational Invitations

- You can invite congregants via the Temple Bulletin. The deadline is the 10th of the month before publication. You can send in a copy of the invitation, highlighting the parts you want included in the bulletin to the Temple Office.
- The ceremony is public. No invitation is needed to attend classmates’ ceremonies to show support and encouragement and to share in the joy of becoming an

“adult” member of our community. Inviting Temple of Israel friends to the service and Oneg without including them in a private party is acceptable.

Do we have input into the construction of the Shabbat Service?

- We are happy to help “customize” services to meet the desires of candidates and their families, so long as they conform to Temple customs, policies, and practices. There is a list of prayers your child will be expected to lead (see above). You may choose to add items such as a Tallit presentation, a special inspirational prayer, or a song.

Recognizing your child’s tutor and the Rabbi

- The child’s tutor is a volunteer position like a Religious School teacher. We are indeed honored to have volunteers who enjoy working with the young person during this special time of their lives.
- Rabbi’s work with students is one of his responsibilities (and joys) as our religious leader.
- You may want to make a donation to any of the Temple of Israel Funds: Building Fund, General Fund, Sisterhood Library Fund, Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund, etc. to honor those who have been of assistance to your child and your family.

Do we pay Lloyd? (The Oneg Man)

- Lloyd Culbertson is available to help set up and clean up your Oneg on Friday night, just as he does each Friday night. Anything he does over and above his normal duties must be compensated. Saturday morning duties are not part of his regular work schedule. If you choose to use him, you must contact him in advance and contract with him individually as to what his responsibilities will be and what the compensation will be. You can leave a message for him at the Temple office or call him directly at (864) 991-9254.

Do we pay Margaret? (The Organist)

- Margaret Hawkins is available to play for your celebration on Friday or Saturday and the Temple incurs the cost. If you choose both days, the family is responsible for the 2nd time. If you choose special music for her to learn, you should expect to pay her something for her time.

Do we have to pay to use the Temple facilities?

- There is no fee for the sanctuary or social hall, but there is a fee for the Activity Center (gym) for a private party. Contact the Temple Administrative Assistant to view the fees and complete the Temple facility rental agreement. Also, if you choose to use the Activity Center for your child’s B’nai Mitzvah party, be sure to reserve the date through the Temple office.

In what ways can our friends help us?

- As you prepare for your service, friends and family will ask to help. Friends can: help with errands the week before, e.g. pick up programs at the printer, pick up

challah at the bakery, assist with decorating for celebrations, act as greeters for the service, host a meal or help provide transportation for your guests. Assisting with Oneg preparations can be a great help, relieving you of responsibilities.

- Friends can be especially helpful assisting with the Oneg on Friday night or Saturday morning. Ask one friend to phone other friends or family to bake or buy Oneg items. Instruct them to leave their items on the kitchen counter or in the refrigerator before 7:30pm on Friday. Items must be labeled for the occasion. Friends can: bring food items and paper goods for Friday night and/or Saturday, help with set-up on Friday night and/or Saturday, serve punch. Be creative; using your friend's energy and talents can relieve some of your stress and increase the community feel of the event.

Are there any books for the parents to read during this year?

- *Putting God on the Guest List* by Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin. There is a companion book for children as well.
- *Bar/Bat Mitzvah Basics* by Cantor Helen Leneman
- *The Bar/Bat Mitzvah Survival Guide* by Randi Reisfeld
- *Whose Bar/Bat Mitzvah is this Anyway* by Judith Davis
- B'nai Mitzvah Party Planning Software - Castle Computer Technologies – www.castlecomputer.com

How can I make a donation in honor of my child's coach, or other helpful individuals?

- Donations to Temple funds should be addressed to the Temple Treasurer. A list of some of the funds that are available are:
 - General Fund
 - Building Fund
 - Endowment Fund
 - Landscape Fund
 - Torah Fund
 - Library Fund
 - Religious School Fund
 - Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

How do I purchase a leaf on the Tree of Life in honor of my child?

- The Temple Administrative Assistant will order the leaf with your special inscription.

Minimum donation is \$180.00.

Where do I find a Bar/Bat Mitzvah book for guests to sign?

- Some families have some type of autograph item for guests to sign. Often it is a large photograph of the child on a mat board and guests sign the mat. You could also use a pillow (use it to sleep or for Passover), an autograph animal, etc.

How do I explain B'nai Mitzvah to my non-Jewish friends?

- Click [here](#) to see a sample of what you can use as a program and an explanation of the parts of the service and ritual objects in the sanctuary.

Are there any tzedakah projects our family can undertake during the celebration?

- Please review the “Make It a Jewish Event” handout to see details of how to include Jewish values in your celebration.
- There are many ways your family can practice Tikun Olam (repair of the world) during your celebration. Some suggestions are: having guests bring non-perishable foods with them to the ceremony; instead of using flowers or plants on the Bimah, make arrangements of non-perishable items; and using canned foods as centerpieces on your party tables. All of these can be donated to local food banks. Your family may want to donate trees to Israel, or take a portion of your gift money and donate it to your special charity.

What happens if my child is not compatible with his/her coach? Can we change coaches?

- If any problems arise, please do not hesitate to speak with the Rabbi.

Do we help our child with his/her speech?

- Experience strongly indicates that parents who have not helped the candidate with the sermon, and who hear it for the first time at the ceremony itself, benefit most from the experience – emotionally and religiously. Their confidence in the candidate’s ability to prepare the sermon on his/her own is symbolic of the young person’s movement toward adulthood – which is the object of the ceremony.
- The Rabbi will work with your child on their speech to make sure all the appropriate elements are included.

What do I say when people ask about appropriate gifts?

- This is purely up to the individual family and candidate, but some suggestions might be: money, like you might give for a graduation or shopping at the Judaica Shop.

1) Any suggestions about writing thank you notes?

Thank you notes are very important and a big responsibility for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. They should be finished in a timely fashion. Some parents make sure to look over their child’s notes before they are sent. In some households, the child is not allowed to use any of their gifts before the thank you notes are written.

2) What is the appropriate attire for the occasion?

Make sure everyone in the family has appropriate clothes for the occasion. Try everything on 2-3 weeks before the event so adjustments can be made before the big day. Students grow rapidly at this age. What fits in December may not fit in June. Boys may wear a suit, or slacks/shirt/tie or slacks/sweater are appropriate. Girls should dress modestly. Shoulders should be covered, skirts not too short. Midriffs should be completely covered. Students should sit as well as stand in their attire to ensure no surprises.

3) Where can I order kippot and tallitot?

You can order tallitot and kippot from the Temple Gift Shop. They will be happy to help you with special orders, if you like.

Service Questions:

- **May my child be called to the Torah without his/her father's Hebrew name?**

The Rabbi will help the family address all Hebrew name issues.

- **Do the parents have to make a speech?**

The parents have an opportunity to give a short blessing or to comment about their wishes for their child on this special occasion. This is a time to share with the congregation, your pride and love for your child and to express your desire for your child to become a responsible Jewish adult. You might emphasize some of the essential values you want to pass on to the next generation and to give an example of how your child has demonstrated an understanding of these values. Or, you might want to consider what positive message your child needs to hear at this time to support his/her continued growth and development, particularly in the context of the Jewish community. Please keep the speech short, with 2-3 minutes as a guide.

Suggested Outline:

- a) The significance to you of your child becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. This can be especially poignant from a non-Jewish parent.
- b) Characteristics of your child which enabled them to reach the day, possibly an example.
- c) Your hopes for the future, the values that you want to transmit.

- **Where does the immediate family sit during the service?**

Most families choose to sit on the front row to get the best view!

- **May we dedicate the service to someone, and how can that be accomplished?**

The candidate might include this aspect in the words of his/her sermon or in the program.

- **Is it appropriate to celebrate on the anniversary of a yahrzeit?**
There is no prohibition of this practice. If desired, the family might even say a few words about the departed as the weekend unfolds.
- **Are we responsible for getting the challah and juice for the bimah?**
The family is responsible for making sure there is a challah on the bimah for the Motzi. The Temple provides the juice. If you need assistance in finding out where to buy a challah, please ask the Rabbi or a friend.

Party Questions:

- **Do I have to invite all of my child's Religious School classmates to our celebration party? If I do, where can I get a class list?**
This is not just the student's day or a family event. The participants in the service are God, the congregation and the family. It is a day for all Jewish people to welcome this young adult into the community. Celebrate with your student's community at Temple of Israel. Honor those who have participated in creating the Jew your teen is becoming, by inviting them to the ceremony. Include teachers, coaches, Temple staff, classmates, and other Temple members who have been involved with your student's Jewish education. Especially include other students in your B'nai Mitzvah family group.
It is not necessary to invite everyone in your teen's class to the private celebration. However, when sending out invitations to classmates, remember how you felt at 13. Try to invite either one or two best friends OR the entire class. The three or four who are left out often feel very bad. Contact the Education Director for a list of names and addresses.
- **If invited, will the Rabbi come to our party?**
The Rabbi will attend all afternoon events to which he is invited. However, because the rabbi has small children, the rabbi will not attend any evening events.
- **What can I expect about attendance to our party?**
Be prepared for everyone who RSVP's to attend, but expect 10% not to attend.
- **May we host our reception at the Temple?**
Yes! The Temple is available for the Oneg and/or party. All on-property Onegs and receptions immediately following worship services must be open to the entire Temple family. Please check with the Temple Administrative Assistant about reserving the date if you plan to have a luncheon or party at the Temple. An [Application for Facility Use](#) will need to be filled out and sent to the Administrative Assistant with your deposit

(if applicable) for Board approval. The Board meets the first Monday of each month.

- **Any hints about the Oneg that might be helpful?**

After the service your family will be surrounded by well-wishers. You will most likely not be able to do anything yourself at the Oneg. Try to make sure that you have friends in place to serve punch and replenish trays. You and your family will not want to spend this special time worrying about the food.
- **Are there any restrictions as to what foods can be served at the Temple?**

Although the kitchens at the Temple are not Kosher, we do not allow pork or shellfish to be served at the Temple.
- **What happens to the leftover food?**

The family is responsible for making sure that all leftover food items are removed. You will need to make sure that there are storage containers available for you to remove leftovers from the kitchen.
- **What are the policies concerning the use of the Temple Activity Center?**

The Temple encourages members to use the Activity Center and Main Kitchen for celebration of life cycle events. There is no rental charge to members for a congregational reception after services (Friday night Oneg Shabbat or Saturday Kiddush luncheon). For a private party (dinner, dance, reception, etc.) the rental fee is \$200 for the Activity Center and Kitchen. The rental fee for non-members is \$500. The user is responsible for all additional costs including custodians, musicians, caterers, etc. Please see the Temple Administrative Assistant to reserve the space.
- **Can't we just have a party at home, or one for just my child's friends?**

Of course, there is no right or wrong way to celebrate! Remember, this is your family's celebration. Do what is right for you!
- **Are there any certain rules to follow in a candle lighting ceremony?**

There are no rules to the candle lighting ceremony. Some ceremonies have included 13 candles, where others have used as many as 15 to be able to include everyone. A suggestion for a very personalized ceremony is to have your child write a short paragraph explaining how the person you are calling up has affected their life. You could also ask the guests to write a special wish for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah and read it when they light a candle. Music can also be used to illustrate each guest who lights a candle. It is important to either include everyone or include a few enough people that it is very obvious that these are VERY special people being honored.

Make sure that you have candles, candle holders and a match. Don't forget you need something for lighting all of the candles, like the shamash at Hanukkah.

Remember, you don't have to have one. Think about how you will hold the attention of everyone during this time. Are you doing the lighting to honor people or as a photo op? There are other ways to accomplish both of these objectives.

Contact Information for Recent B'nai Mitzvah Families

- The families of recent B'nai Mitzvah students may have suggestions about vendors with which they have experience. While the Temple of Israel does not specifically endorse any vendors, families may be contacted for their recommendations about invitations/programs/name cards, caterers, catering facilities and restaurants, hotels, party planners and decorators, bands or DJs, photographers and videographers.
- Click [here](#) to see a contact list of recent Bar/Bat Mitzvah families