

TEMPLE BETH EL OF SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY

JULY 2023

TEMPLE TALK

NEW BEGINNINGS

FIND OUT THE
EXCITING THINGS WE
HAVE HAPPENING
IN 2023 AND BEYOND

- » Monday Night
Teens
- » Confirmation Class
- » Innovative
Shabbat Services
- » Building Community

Get to know our
new Reform Rabbi
RABBI ROSNER

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STRENGTHENING THE PILLARS OF OUR COMMUNITY

BY RABBI K'VOD

PAGE 16

JOIN OUR
LEGACY
SOCIETY

PAGE 54



INFO@TBESOC.ORG



(949) 392-3999



WWW.TBESOC.ORG



OUR MISSION

Temple Beth El of South Orange County is a welcoming Jewish home where individuals and families come together to celebrate, explore, and engage in diverse Jewish practices through mitzvot: prayer, learning, and acts of loving kindness.

OUR VISION

As **The Samueli Center for Progressive Judaism**, we honor Judaism of the past by making it relevant today and for generations to come. We envision a future where we connect Jewish living with a life of meaning, fulfillment, and the opportunity to serve others. We are stewards of a Jewish future in South Orange County.



**CHECK OUT OUR
STRATEGIC PLAN**

<https://www.tbesoc.org/strategic-plan.html>

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Thank you to our legacy society for their remarkable commitment to TBESOC. Their generosity ensures the future success of TBESOC.

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✿ Robin Brandes-Gibbs & Tim Gibbs

✿ Robert & Pamela Fecher

✿ Julie & Adam Fingersh

✿ Karen Forrest

✿ Anita Gold

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Claire (z"l) & Arnie Stein

✿ Howard & Rosemary Stevens

✿ Jake & Leslie Tatel

✿ Ari & Hannah Vinocor

✿ Lois Weiss

✿ Ina & George Welland


✿ Rabbi K'vod Wieder & Ilana Rogel-Wieder

✿ Lois & Doug Wilson

✿ Charlene & Kenneth Zuckerman

Anonymous

Those who have formalized your gift (✿) to TBESOC, your legacy will forever be woven into the fabric of our organization, inspiring future generations to continue our vital work



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President**

Steve Blanc
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**Trustee at Large**

Julie Fingersh

**VP Governance**

Helen Rasner
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**Trustee at Large**

Heather Kartzinell

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Bev Kritzstein

**Treasurer**

Ben Rich

**Trustee at Large**

Jen Paletz

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**Secretary**

Sheri Saladow
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**Immediate Past President**

Amy Packer



Chat with the Board

Wednesdays
at 8:00 pm
(online only)

Meet via
Zoom with
board
members
to answer
questions
about
what's
happening
at TBESOC.



AUXILIARIES

BE Sisters President, Debbie Grinacoff
besisters@gmail.com

Men's Club President, Dr. Brad Shapero
drbradshapero@gmail.com

ECC PTO President, Laurelle Safani,
tbesocpto@gmail.com

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

STEVE BLANC

As I have become more engaged and involved in our Temple community and worked closely with members of our Board, I am honored and humbled with this opportunity to serve. Your Board is comprised of incredibly dedicated members putting forth their effort for our community and our sacred home. We have challenges and with them comes tremendous opportunities.

Our focus is to inspire and earn broader levels of engagement through action and philanthropy, along with membership growth to support our vision. That vision is to be seen as the center of broad and progressive Jewish values in South Orange County and a welcoming place where we come together to worship, learn and support each other in life cycle events, bringing us closer together and fostering greater understanding and compassion. As importantly, reaching out to the greater South Orange County community, making it a better place.

To do this we are making investments and working to earn your philanthropical support and engagement. Without you we cannot accomplish this. Over the coming months we are welcoming Rabbi Jason Rosner into our community as our new Reform Rabbi. Rabbi Rosner brings us a wealth of knowledge, experience, and a fresh perspective to help us reimagine our spiritual home. This is a momentous occasion, as we look forward to the future with renewed enthusiasm and commitment to our vision, and building a vibrant community that is welcoming to all.

We continue to face challenges recovering from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. While we have accomplished a lot, there is more to do. To support our vision and community we are also



investing and strengthening our staff and promoting volunteerism to expand upon our base of dedicated volunteers, refurbishing our Temple and spiritual home, increasing the quality and offerings in our educational programs for our children and adults, and bringing people together in person, in our Temple, or over streaming where applicable for social and community events and worship.

I invite you to join us from wherever you are in building a spiritual home and a place of community and connection. You will be welcomed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Blanc". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large, sweeping "S" and a prominent "B".



TEMPLE STAFF

2A LIBERTY, ALISO VIEJO, CA 92656 | (949) 362-3999

CLERGY

Rabbi K'vod Wieder

Rabbi K'vod, ext 106
kvod@tbesoc.org

Rabbi Jason Rosner

Rabbi Rosner, ext 105
Rabbi.Rosner@tbesoc.org

If you have an urgent matter (such as a death in your family) that requires a member of our clergy, please call 949-362-3999 x101.

OFFICE STAFF

Executive Director

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Get in Touch

<https://www.tbesoc.org/contact-us>

CALENDAR

2023-2024 JEWISH HOLIDAYS

Holidays begin at sundown on the first date specified and end at nightfall on the last date specified.

*Yizkor is recited the last day of this holiday; check the temple calendar for date and time.

Rosh Hashanah

September 15-17, 2023

Chanukah

December 7-15, 2023

Yom HaAtzma-ut

May 13, 2024

Yom Kippur*

September 24-25, 2023

Tu BiSh'vat

January 24-25, 2024

Lag BaOmer

May 26, 2024

Sukkot

September 29-October 6, 2023

Purim

March 23-24, 2024

Yom Y'rushalayim

June 5, 2024

Sh'mini Atzeret*

October 6-7, 2023

Passover*

April 22-30, 2024

Shavuot*

June 11-13, 2024

Simchat Torah

October 7-8, 2023

Yom HaShoah

May 6, 2024

Tishah B'Av

August 12-13, 2024

A NOTE FROM LISABETH LOBENTHAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year has seen many changes and the coming one, even more.

We said goodbye to a couple of staff members, but welcomed new team members that we're very excited about. For our new staff, we have our Associate Executive Director, Michelle Onufer, who handles operations and systems. Kristine Mayberry is our new Program Manager, the liaison for all the happenings at the Temple. Jesse Ramos, our new B. Mitzvah Coordinator, will help you navigate your simcha. Melissa Nguyen is our wonderful new ECC Director. Samantha Hoffman is all things teens and operations in the Religious School.

We look forward to welcoming Rabbi Jason Rosner to the team. And we sadly wish Cantor Natalie Young a bittersweet farewell.

We still have a lot to do to ensure that everything we do is focused on serving YOU. We are all here to help make your TBESOC experience as warm, and easy as possible.

Please know my door is quite literally almost always open to answer questions, hear concerns, and continue to meet your needs.

Please feel free to stop by, call, or email me at any time. LBLobenthal@tbesoc.org.

Here's to an amazing new year.

Shanah Tovah,
LB



Exciting Happenings



Summer 2023 and beyond

JULY 2023

MEET RABBI ROSNER

15TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

R23 SUMMER BONFIRE

10TH ANNUAL CHILDSPREE

AUGUST 2023

PAINTING & PROSECCO

DR. BILL HOY PRESENTATION

R23 BRUNCH & DRASH

HOT AUGUST NIGHTS



There is always something for everyone happening at TBESOC.

Take advantage of our committees and clubs, worship services, adult education classes, and online meditation sessions offered year-round!



www.tbesc.org/calendar

HIGH HOLY DAYS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
FOR WISHING OUR COMMUNITY A HAPPY AND SWEET NEW YEAR

Bart & Elizabeth Asner
Noam & Heidi Arzt
Steve & Phyllis Blanc
Allie and Zachary Cavin
Alan & Lisa Fenning
Michael & Ellen Fine
Kimberly & Adam Gubner
Cantor Emeritus Shula Kalir-Merton
Sherri, Gavriella, & Stephen Krause
Lisabeth Lobenthal
Barry & Lynnda Levine
Melissa Nguyen and Family
Johannah & Dan Noon
Michelle & Scott Onufer & Family
Andrew & Elissa Oransky

Joel & Amy Packer
Ellen & Duncan Prince
Bruce & Helen Rasner
Rabbi Jason Rosner & Family
Justin & Brittany Roswell
Sarah & Adam Shukovsky
Sheila & Moshe Stopnitzky
Elliot & Debra Sternberg
Karen Forrest & Richard Stevens
Henry & Susan Samuelli
Mark & Debra Whaley
Rabbi K'vod Wieder & Family
Heather Kartzinell & Evan Wohl
Mark & Debra Whaley

L'SHANAH TOVA U'METUKAH

HIGH HOLY DAY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Erev Rosh Hashanah | Friday, September 15
7:30 pm Conservative Service
7:30 pm Reform Service

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 | Saturday, September 16
9:00 am Tot Service
9:00 am Conservative Service
10:00 am Reform Service

Rosh Hashanah Day 2 | Sunday, September 17
9:00 am Conservative Service

Tashlich | Sunday, September 24
4:30 pm at Laguna Niguel

Erev Yom Kippur | Sunday, September 24
6:15 pm Conservative Kol Nidre Service
7:30 pm Reform Kol Nidre Service

Yom Kippur | Monday, September 25
9:00 am Tot Service
9:00 am Conservative Service
10:00 am Reform Service
1:00 pm Yizkor Service
2:00 pm Study Session
4:00 pm Meditative Avodah
4:30 pm Conservative Mincha
4:30 pm The Book of Jonah
5:30 pm Conservative Neillah
5:45 pm Reform Neillah
7:10 pm Shofar Blast

***Children's programming available Rosh Hashanah Day 1 & Yom Kippur Day. Registration Required.**

ANNUAL RETREATS



Meditation Retreat

January 5-7, 2024 (off-site)

Contact Ellen Prince, ellenprinc@aol.com

Explore Jewish tradition through the pathways of silence, contemplative study, sacred melody, and creative expression during this off-site Shabbaton weekend retreat. Beginners and experienced meditators are welcome.



BE Sisters Women's Retreat

April 12-14, 2024 (off-site)

Led by Cat Mirsky and Merritt Weiss
tbewomensretreat@gmail.com

Join the TBESOC women for a themed *Shabbaton* weekend retreat filled with friendship, spirituality, and self-discovery, led by clergy, committee chairs, and Jewish women from our community.

From acquaintances to friends, forge lifelong connections at our retreats.

MEMBERSHIP



**JOIN THE
TBESOC
FAMILY
TODAY!**

We are committed to providing a spiritual home to everyone who wishes to join. Membership is the primary means for supporting our operations, enabling us to create a Jewish home where individuals and families come together to celebrate, explore, and engage in diverse Jewish practices.



Learn more about membership online
or by contacting Lisabeth Lobenthal

**As a member, you are
a **partner** on our Jewish
Journey, ensuring a
Jewish future for
ourselves, our children,
our community, and the
Jewish People.**

Questions? Contact our VP Membership at tbesocmembership@gmail.com



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FLASHBACK



last year at a glance



STRENGTHENING THE SIX PILLARS OF OUR TBESOC COMMUNITY

BY RABBI K'VOD WIEDER

Some of you may remember the song “Three is a Magic Number,” made popular by Schoolhouse Rock. Our Jewish tradition also finds meaning in grouping fundamental principles to who we are into threes. For example, the early rabbi Shimon Hatzaddik teaches that upon three things the world stands: **Torah**, **Avodah**, and **Gemilut Hasadim** (Avot 1:2). **Torah**, or deep wisdom teaching about the nature of reality and the human experience is essential to help guide our lives towards being a meaningful participant in creation. **Avodah** - or spiritual practices like prayer, meditation, or anything that helps us be more present to our values of love, justice, and compassion on a regular basis, is necessary to have the strength and focus to overcome inner obstacles to living the lives we intend and being the people we want to be. And **Gemilut Hasadim** - or deeds of lovingkindness is how we ground our values and spiritual awareness into action - to make a difference in the world.

The 13th century mystical text of the Zohar also expresses a sacred trifecta through the teaching that *God, Torah, and Israel are one*. In this formulation, **Torah is the common denominator** with the rabbinic teaching above, suggesting that our deeper teachings about ourselves and the world are also intimately connected to the reality of God’s presence and our Jewish community.

These foundational principles form the basis of who we are as a synagogue community and how we prioritize what we do and how we do it. The six values that serve as the pillars of our strategic plan are *Kehilla, Kolel, Kesher, Limmud, Avodah, and Tikkun Olam*.

Kehilla, Kolel, and Kesher are the interpersonal foundations of who we are as a caring community. They all revolve around the teaching of the Zohar that meaningful Torah and spiritual experience can only be experienced in community, in *Kehilla*, in being together. And specifically, in order for the community experience to truly reflect God and Torah, we need the values of *Kolel* and *Kesher*.

Kolel, or inclusion, expresses the reality that each and everyone of us, in our uniqueness and diversity, is not simply tolerated, but celebrated. Our differences, whether racial, sexual orientation, political perspective, neurodiversity, or the infinite different ways we show up in the world, are gifts for each other to teach, enrich, inspire, or challenge.

And *Kesher*, which means connection, expresses our commitment to not just come together to avoid loneliness or have something to do, but to build deep and meaningful relationships. We want our synagogue community to be a place where our relationships support one another in growing into more conscious, compassionate, and joyous people, and the full range of our experience is welcome.

EACH ONE OF US BRINGS GIFTS

CREATING THE SACRED SPACE THAT IS TBESOC

In order to live these values, our Small Group Initiative, which begins right after the High Holy Days, gives us the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with each other through topics that allow us to explore the challenges and opportunities of being human and being Jewish. Programs like Can We Talk?: Building Relationships Through Disagreement give us opportunities to learn how to engage in conversations with those who think differently than we do on social or religious issues, leading to greater understanding and connection.

Limmud - our commitment to ongoing Jewish learning of all ages comes from our identity as “people of the book.” From our Early Childhood Center, to Center for Jewish Learning Religious School, to our BESTY Teen Programming, to numerous adult education opportunities, I encourage you to take advantage of the learning opportunities to deepen your Jewish wisdom.

Many of us don't realize that prayer services have the capacity to inspire, to bring us to tears, to help us connect to an essential part of ourselves that has been covered over by the *vicissitudes of life*. Our commitment to **Avodah**, to meaningful spiritual practice is supported by our Center for Meditation and Jewish Spirituality. Our Soul Spark Shabbat Friday Night and Jerusalem Shabbat Saturday Morning services are designed to use music, meditation, and mystical teachings to impact us in a deeper way. And our weekly online meditation group helps support us in learning to be more present with the small and big moments of our lives.

Finally, our commitment to *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world, connects to the value of **Gemilut Hasadim** - acts of loving kindness. Whether we are combating anti-semitism, helping resettle refugees, working to address climate change, addressing homelessness through the 8th Grade Tzedakah Board and Mitzvah Day, or caring for each other in illness and loss, our community finds meaning, purpose, and connection through putting our values into action.

My vision of our direction as a community is that we continue to grow more fully into these six pillars. Each one of us brings our gifts, our unique perspectives, our time, and our resources in order to create the *mishkan* - the sacred space that is TBESOC and we hope that you will be an integral part of strengthening these pillars of our holy community.



K. Wied

The world stands on three things:

Torah (learning), Avodah (service), and Gemilut Chassidim (acts of loving kindness)

- Pirkei Avot



WORSHIP

FRIDAY EVENINGS



Kibitz & Community

Weekly, 30 minutes before services (online only)

Join in a virtual schmooze before and after Friday night Shabbat services which offers an opportunity for those who are unable to attend in person to connect and worship as a community on Zoom.

First Friday Shabbat Festival with the Band of Milk & Honey

First Fridays at 6:00 pm

A high-energy, music-filled service taking place outdoors following a fun-filled festival for all ages. Bring your family and friends!

Mishkan Tefilah Service

Second Fridays at 6:30 pm

Bring in the light of Shabbat with this traditional Reform service, weaving both classical and contemporary music with reflective readings, and an introspective *d'var Torah*.

Bringing Shabbat Home

Gather with new and old TBESOC friends and observe Shabbat—"ceasing from rest"—outside of the synagogue. To help you create a meaningful Shabbat, downloadable audio files and a resource booklet are available online.

Soul Spark Shabbat

Third Fridays at 6:30 pm

Join us for a contemplative and accessible Shabbat service that includes meditation and guest musicians in an ambient environment

Flashback Fridays

Fourth Fridays at 6:30 pm

Relax into Shabbat with this special service, lifting our souls through the nostalgic melodies that have inspired the Jewish people through the decades.

WORSHIP

SATURDAY MORNINGS



Lev Shalem Service

Weekly at 9:15 am

Every Saturday morning all TBESOC members and visitors are welcome to experience an uplifting, fully participatory service using traditional liturgy from *Lev Shalem*, our Conservative prayer book.

Jerusalem Shabbat

Monthly at 9:30 am

A participatory service led by clergy with musical accompaniment; featuring moments of quiet meditative reflection and rousing lively rejoicing of Shabbat using transliterated and fully accessible Hebrew prayers.

Congregants are welcome to lead parts of the service!

Read Torah and celebrate milestone events with the TBESOC community.

For a part in the service, contact Rabbi K'vod: kvod@tbesoc.org, 949-362-3999 x106

Celebrate B. Mitzvah with us on select Saturday mornings.

Kol Isha Shabbat Service (KISS)

January 27, 2024 at 9:30 am

To sign up for a part or to bring a dish to the luncheon, contact Wendy Lupul, kol_isha_shabbat@cox.net, 949-425-9365



Join our annual, popular all women-led Shabbat morning worship service.

The fully transliterated *KISS Siddur* (prayer book) makes this service especially engaging and accessible for all men, women, teens, and children. *KISS* is followed by a sumptuous Kiddush Luncheon featuring the *KISS* Dancers and Musicians.

WORSHIP

OTHER OFFERINGS



Meditation and Spiritual Practice with Rabbi K'vod

Tuesdays at 9:00 am (online)

This 45-minute to one-hour session is an opportunity to meditate together with gentle guidance and explore different dimensions of meditative practice.



Torah Study Group

Saturdays at 9:00 am (online)

Learn and be transformed by Torah through weekly study of the *parashah* and related passages from Haftorah, Talmud, and other texts in a friendly, lay-led setting, where we welcome and encourage all perspectives. No Hebrew knowledge is required.

Marty Stein Refuat Hanefesh Healing Service

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Led by Rabbi Joe Mendelsohn &
Ilana Rogel Wieder

A weekly opportunity to join a loving Zoom community for a half hour in prayer, asking God to heal and/or remember a loved one.

FIRST FRIDAY SHABBAT FESTIVAL

The First Friday of Every Month

Celebrate Shabbat with Community

with themes celebrating the Jewish Year

4:00 PM FESTIVAL STARTS
6:00 PM SHABBAT SERVICE

Dinner & Entertainment Provided
thanks to our generous sponsors!



GET TO KNOW OUR NEW RABBI



RABBI

JASON ROSNER

On behalf of Temple Talk, Heather Kartzinel had the opportunity to spend some Zoom time with Rabbi Jason Rosner, our incoming clergy who will lead TBESOC's Reform-style worship services

"I chose to become a Reform Rabbi, Rabbi Rosner began because I believe Reform Judaism offers an honest and deep approach to balancing Judaism and modernity. We are able to make decisions about our practice. In a world where we are not hemmed in by ghetto walls and restrictive laws, Reform Judaism offers a unique way to participate fully in both Jewish and civic life. We believe in partnering with the Source of Creation to make the world around us a better place for everyone in it. Growing up in Orange County, I understood our mission is to leave the world better than we found it."

After leading Temple Beth Israel of Highland Park and Eagle Rock (TBILA) through the dual-affiliation process over the last four years, he is excited about joining our progressive synagogue: When discussing ways to connect members to Shabbat observance in community, Rabbi Rosner

has observed, "What matters is that your friends are there. One approach that I've seen be very effective is to ask a cross-section of the community to take part in leading parts of the service, and then to ask them to invite their friends to cheer them on. The more a group starts to get together and to look forward to seeing each other every week, the greater the gravitational pull of that group, and the growth happens naturally. I strive to keep my services and sermons balanced so that someone coming in for the first time will not feel lost, but someone who's there for the thousandth time will feel spiritually fulfilled. I believe that synagogues are run by a thousand conversations in the parking lot—that it's about being in constant regular touch with the community and checking in."

Envisioning ways to engage members in other ways, Rabbi Rosner said, "I think we can make our building like a mother tree that puts out shoots. I want to try to do things outside the building in the neighborhoods where people live." He articulated, "I want to teach. I want to be involved with the school. I want to be involved with confirmation. I want to be involved with adult education. I want to be involved with pastoral care and visiting people in Heritage Pointe." Regretting he can't be everywhere at once, he acknowledged, "The rabbinic world is constant triage." Being a rabbi requires simultaneous concentrated attention to individuals alongside the

well-being of the membership as a whole. "Part of the role of Rabbi is deep thought about particular topics—how to address a communal need or how to write a very good sermon or prep a class—and part of it is very emotionally focused, like pastoral care or meeting with B. Mitzvah families," he explained. Finding this balance is a difficult, continuous challenge for clergy.

Moving on to social action, Rabbi Rosner described his implementation of composting on-site at TBILA: "It makes people more conscious of the sort of cycles of nature. Since it's a Jewish organization, it also is an opportunity for discussion and argument over what can go in the composter, the right time to turn the compost. It's been really fun." However, his awareness concerning food and eating extends far beyond composting. Educating himself about the extensive negative environmental and humanitarian impact of meat and dairy production, Rabbi Rosner and his wife, Noémie Taylor-Rosner, gradually became vegans. "I believe that we have major Jewish values—considerations—that we should be thinking about. We should be concerned about *Tza'ar Ba'alei Chayim*, the inflicting of unnecessary pain on animals. We have this deep-rooted, Torah-driven heritage to respect the cycles of nature and not exploit the land we're living on—the livestock that we're raising—because if we do that, we knock the system out of alignment. We have come to believe that science has triumphed over nature—that humankind's technological advancements have triumphed over and subdued nature—and it's just not true," he said.

Equally important to him is the treatment of workers throughout the chain of modern kosher food production. He continued, "I think that everything we do has to be viewed through a Jewish lens, and I think once we start looking at the food production that we have in this country and throughout the world, we are left with at least a strong desire to opt out once we look really closely at it."

Rabbi Rosner intends to build personal relationships with religious, civic, and law enforcement leaders

here in Orange County as he has in the greater Los Angeles area. He spoke passionately about this topic, saying, "I think also by showing a public image of us as good citizens—as good participants in our community, in our democracy; as people that come from a variety of socio-economic and political backgrounds; as Americans like everybody else—I think doing that in public is very important." In discussing TBESOC's participation in ADL's Kulanu: Synagogues in Action Against Antisemitism, he continued, "I believe that that relationship-building is what helps when those antisemitic attacks come. And when they come, it's incumbent on the rabbis of the community and the lay leadership to strongly message that we take security seriously, that we decry antisemitism wherever it happens, that we are fighting against it, that we're actively working to make this world better. It's not just synagogues that it's happening to: it's mosques, it's churches, it's ashrams, it's everything across the continuum."

Other targets of Rabbi Rosner's public activism include housing affordability and homelessness: "The Talmud is clear: when giving *tzedakah*, we treat the poor of the Jews and the poor of the non-Jews the same in order to create peace in society. We have a responsibility to the general society to ensure a floor of a dignified way of life, healthcare access, and so on. We have to look out for the whole society around us."

Coming of age in the late '90s and early 2000s has shaped Rabbi Rosner's sense of humor and adaptability to—and at times active seeker of—variety and change. "I will randomly quote classic episodes of *The Simpsons* and *Arrested Development*," he joked, "and I love *PBS NewsHour*." How else does his generation differ from others? "I think one area that it's been very interesting to watch is how philanthropy works among Millennials. Millennials came of age during economic downturns and massive leaps in technology early in our adult lives. It impacts the way we view Judaism and everything else in our lives." He continued, "We are also further removed from the Shoah and foundation of the State of Israel than our parents' generation, and yet at the same time were able to participate in programs like Birthright."

Please join us in welcoming Rabbi Rosner back to SoCal by sending him an email, dropping by during his open office hours, attending onegs and services, or chatting with him at a social event or public service activity.

WORSHIP

CANTORIAL SOLOISTS

KIM GUBNER
CARL CEDAR
KATE FELD
MIKEY PAUKER

Special thanks to our High Holy Day Music Director:

DIANE KING VANN

NEW & RETURNING FACES BRINGING US

THE MUSIC WE KNOW AND LOVE

KIM GUBNER

We are fortunate to have Kim Gubner step in as our cantorial soloist for the upcoming year. Although not an ordained cantor, Kim has been training to be on the bimah for many years. She began her cantorial soloist career in Calabasas at Congregation Or Ami under the tutelage of Cantor Doug Cotler and Rabbi Paul Kipnes. They taught her how to officiate Shabbat, B. Mitvot, shivah minyanim, and other Jewish occasions that call for music.

When Kim and her family (husband Adam, son Jeremy, and daughter Madison) moved to Orange County, they fell in love with Temple Beth El of South OC. Kim immediately rolled up her sleeves and got involved behind the scenes in committees such as Jewish Life and Rituals, Hineinu Caring Committee, Women's Retreat, and 4 years as a Board Trustee. She also brought Childspree to our congregation. Childspree is an immersive Mitzvah event in which our congregants are paired with OC foster children and enjoy shopping for Back to School clothes.

When Cantor Natalie came to TBESOC, Kim began working with her to collaborate on music, services, philanthropy projects, and Jewish music concerts. They were essentially sidekicks, and enjoyed over 10 years of being both friends and colleagues. Kim will continue to bring the music and the lessons she learned from Natalie.

As our new cantorial soloist, Kim will work alongside Rabbi Rosner and Rabbi K'vod for all things musical: Shabbat, B. Mitvot, High Holidays, and the Jewish festivals.



CARL CEDAR

Carl brings his joy of music and Judaism to each and every service. He began his music career at age 12 when his band played every bat mitzvah party of his Long Island Hebrew school graduating class. Carl went on to study music at SUNY@Buffalo. He moved West to join the faculty of Musicians Institute in Hollywood, and was a Music Supervisor and Orchestrator at Universal Studios for the TV show "Knightrider". Shortly thereafter, he met his soulmate Nancy and they moved to the OC to raise their two beautiful boys, Andrew and David. For the past 30 years, Carl has worked as a Music Producer for Walt Disney Live Entertainment based at Disneyland.



KATE FELD



Kate Feld is a classically trained soprano, born and raised in Southern California. Kate has been a part of the Temple Beth El Community since she was 10 years old. At the age of 16 she began Cantorial Soloist work apprenticing under Cantor Shula Kalir-Merton. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Vocal Performance at USC and continued her studies at the Verdi Conservatory of Music in Milan, Italy. She apprenticed with Patrizia Zenardi from La Scala, and studied with world renowned teachers Janice Chapman from London School of Music and Joan Caplan from Manhattan School of Music. She has sung on the stages of the Dolby Theater in Los Angeles, Orange County Performing Arts Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and New York Lyric Opera. In addition to her music training, she is an entertainment professional, producing on various network TV shows such as Shark Tank, House Hunters, and Guys Grocery Games and also creates new content across many platforms.

MIKEY PAUKER

Mikey Pauker (pronounced pow-ker) is a Jewish Rock Artist & Cantorial Soloist from Orange County, California. Pauker has been described as one of "The 10 Stars Of The New Jewish Music" via TIME Magazine. He has released multiple albums and singles inspired by Jewish spiritual text, and spiritual experience. His "Sim Shalom," "Hinei Mah Tov (Eeooohh)", and "Shalom Alechem" were all featured in the Transcontinental Ruach compilations. For many years Mikey served as music faculty at the National Songleader Boot Camp Conference teaching classes on Jewish embodied practice, music business strategy, and artist development. He is a certified Torah Trek Guide and served as the Music Director for Wilderness Torah launching the WT High Holiday Retreats with Rabbi Zelig Golden. Mikey attended Temple Beth El as a child and teenager and actually was Bar Mitzvahed and confirmed within the TBOC community. Stay connected at www.mikeypauker.com



WHO IS WISE? ONE WHO LEARNS FROM EVERYONE (PIRKEI AVOT 4:1)

BY: CANTOR NATALIE YOUNG

I have been blessed and privileged to serve as your Cantor for a decade. It has been a time of tremendous growth for me, and I hope for you. Together we have celebrated numerous simchas including the B'nei Mitzvah of all three of my children. We have mourned the losses of loved ones, deepened connections through meaningful conversations and dedicated time together. We have dreamed and created new pathways of engagement that have elevated the joy and sanctity people experience when they come through the doors. These things are only possible when there is trust and a willingness to be vulnerable and real.

I am filled with gratitude as I look at the many reminders in my office and around the temple that hold sacred memories of all you have taught me over the years. All of these memories and more will continue to inspire me and push me to continue doing this holy work.

Through your actions, you have taught me to be kind and compassionate, and a gentle presence to best serve our community. I have watched you show up in meaningful ways to support one another, finding ways to share your unique gifts and skills to strengthen our community from within. I have been blessed on numerous occasions to be the recipient of such love and support, for which I will be forever grateful. You saw me through my journey with breast cancer and held me and my family through the loss of my father during a time when you needed me. God is surely present here. Thank you for opening your hearts and sharing the best of yourselves.

For your faith in me to allow me to share my gifts and creativity, I am grateful.

For your openness to expand your understanding of what a cantor can do and bring, including pastoral care, precious lifecycle events, and the sharing of Torah, I am grateful.

For the incredible opportunities to dream and collaborate with talented staff and congregants to build the community we want and deserve.

For infusing joy and laughter into the work we do to engage in community, making sure we don't take ourselves too seriously, I am grateful.

As we all prepare for this next chapter, I am filled with peace and confidence in the bright future of Beth El. With Rabbi Rosner and Rabbi Kvod at the helm, guiding the community forward, and our own Kim Gubner carrying on our rich musical traditions with other wonderful musical partners, Temple Beth El will continue to grow and be the spiritual heart of Orange County. Thank you for letting me be a part of it this past decade.

Be the light

Be the light inside the darkness

Be the hope burning bright into the night

Be the voice for those who cannot raise it

Be the one to lead the way

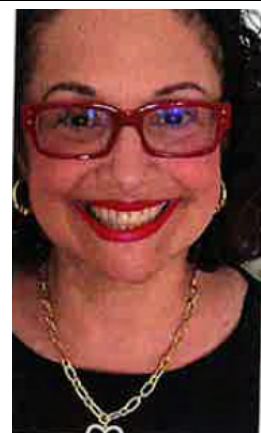
Through the world's darkest days

Be the light

Be the light

Be the light...

With love and light,
Cantor Young



MARY KAY

Elissa Kaplan Senter
Independent Beauty Consultant

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(516) 450-5171
ekapsent@aol.com
<https://www.MaryKay.com/elissa>


Contact me for a complimentary virtual makeover

In the blink of an eye, moments become memories, and memories become treasures.



Looking back at time spent with Cantor Young

CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING



Jewish learning is an exciting endeavor that continues throughout our lives. Our goal at TBESOC is to educate both children and adults in the beliefs and practices of Judaism so that they will feel passion and pride in being Jewish. As such, we promote an educational climate in which each individual can discover and cultivate his or her own strong and lasting Jewish identity.

GORDON & SKLAR EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

My Grown Up & Me

Stopnitzky Family Infant Toddler Program

Half-Day & Full-Day Preschool, Ages 2-5

ARON AND SALA SAMUELI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Grades K-7

YOUTH GROUPS

Jr. BESTY Grades 4-6

BESTY Grades 7-12

Something for
EVERYONE

SHERRI KRAUSE MADRICHIM LEADERSHIP PROGRAM AND MONDAY NIGHT TEENS

Grades 8-12

ADULT EDUCATION

Small Groups

Adult B. Mitzvah



LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING

JOHANNAH NOON

I am thrilled to be beginning my third year with all our wonderful families as we embark on the exciting journey of the 2023-2024 school year! We begin the year with some new names: my last name is officially now "Noon" and the entirety of our educational experiences is now "The Center for Jewish Learning" – for example, our Religious School and ECC are parts of our Center for Jewish Learning!

Just as these holy days signify new beginnings, we are thrilled to welcome back our students and their families to a fresh start at the TBESOC Center for Jewish Learning!

At TBESOC, we are passionate about providing our students with a rich and meaningful Jewish education. Our dedicated educators are committed to fostering an environment that celebrates our traditions, instills a deep love for Jewish values, and nurtures each child's individual potential. As we embark on this new school year, we are excited to continue the journey of growth and learning alongside our students and families, building upon the strong foundation we have established together.

This year promises to be filled with exciting opportunities for your children to deepen their knowledge, strengthen their connection to Judaism, and develop essential skills for their future. We have an array of engaging activities, immersive experiences, and dynamic programs planned to make their learning journey both enriching and enjoyable. We are committed to providing a nurturing and inclusive environment where every student feels valued, supported, and empowered to reach their fullest potential.

As we embrace the new beginnings of the school year, I want to express my gratitude for your trust in us as partners in your child's education. Together, let us create a vibrant community that cherishes our heritage, embraces lifelong learning, and celebrates the potential within each and every one of our students. I look forward to working alongside you to make this school year a truly memorable one, filled with growth, success, and endless possibilities.

Wishing you and your family a year of sweetness, blessings, and profound joy!

THIS YEAR PROMISES TO BE FILLED WITH EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR CHILDREN TO DEEPEN THEIR KNOWLEDGE, STRENGTHEN THEIR CONNECTION TO JUDAISM, AND DEVELOP ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR THEIR FUTURE.



CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING

GORDON & SKLAR EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER



At TBESOC's Early Childhood Center (ECC) we believe that children learn best when they are in a warm, nurturing, loving, and safe environment. We believe that learning is a process of **exploration, investigation,** and making personal meaning and connections through **hands-on experience.**



Learning with others in community allows us to live our Jewish values of Talmud and Torah.

We are committed to parents, teachers, administrators, and clergy working together as a team to best serve the needs of each child in the program.



Schedule a Tour TODAY!

Melissa Nguyen, ECC Director
mnguyen@tbesoc.org

Registration is welcomed throughout the year with flexible program options for families with children **2-5 years of age.**

Half-day and **full-day** programs are available **8am-4pm.** The preschool curriculum is built with a balance between academic and developmental philosophies of education, with an emphasis on the whole child. It is designed to create an environment that encourages a love for learning, with a focus on:

- Jewish values
- Social development
- Creativity
- Secular and religious school readiness

CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING

GORDON & SKLAR EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Welcome to **The Stopnitzky Family Infant and Toddler Program** (anticipated opening Fall 2023), where we believe that every child is a unique and precious individual who deserves the best possible start in life.

Our developmental and play-based curriculum is designed to foster creativity, curiosity, and a love of learning in infants and toddlers. Our experienced and nurturing teachers create a warm and safe environment where infants and toddlers can explore, discover, and develop their social, emotional, and cognitive skills.

We believe that every moment is a learning opportunity and we incorporate Jewish values and traditions into every aspect of our program. From singing Jewish songs and reading Jewish stories, to celebrating Jewish holidays such as Chanukah and Passover, our infants and toddlers begin to build a strong foundation in their Jewish identity.

We invite you to come see how our program can give your child the best possible start in their academic and spiritual journey.

For more information or to schedule a tour, contact Melissa Nguyen mnguyen@tbesoc.org





ENGAGEMENT MATERNITY NEWBORN AND FAMILY PHOTOS IN ORANGE COUNTY



WWW.PATYAKA.COM

*"Life has taught me to
appreciate things for what
they are and to be happy in
the here and now"*

Julia



CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING

ARON AND SALA SAMUELI RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



TBESOC believes that a powerful Jewish learning experience is one that builds connection, inspires a thirst for more information, and is relevant to the learner's life. As a team of educators, we strive to provide these experiences for our students each and every time we gather.



GRADES K-7
**Monday
afternoons**
4:30-6:30 PM

CJL Program Highlights

- Hands-on, fun, and interactive models of teaching and learning such as cooking, building with LEGO, visual arts, and gamification
- Level-based Hebrew learning online and in person
- Hebrew Through Movement for our kinder through 2nd grade students
- Detailed and expanded Judaic studies curriculum with clear and articulated expectations for learning outcomes
- Weekly t'filah time with our Rabbis!



CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING YOUTH GROUP & TEENS

BESTY (Beth El Senior Temple Youth) and **NEW! Jr. BESTY**

Monthly Lounge Nights for BESTY on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:30 pm
September 2023–May 2024
Monthly activities for Jr. BESTY TBA

BESTY and Jr. BESTY are awesome opportunities to discover Jewish community through developing bonds and strengthening friendships with other teens.

Sherri Krause Madrichim and Madrichim-in-Training Programs

Monthly on Mondays at 6:30 pm
September 2023–May 2024
Contact Johannah Noon
jnoon@tbesoc.org

The Madrichim Programs invite 8th-12th graders to enhance their Jewish knowledge, leadership skills and identity by assisting our religious school teachers and serving as Jewish role models for our students.

NEW

Monday Night Teens & Tzedakah Board

Monthly on Mondays at 6:30 pm
September 2023–May 2024

Led by Johannah Noon, jnoon@tbesoc.org
Rabbi Rosner, and Rabbi Wieder



Tzedakah Board (8th Grade)

Students will learn how the wisdom of Judaism can inform decisions about money, charitable giving, and positive social change. Tzedakah Boards is a philanthropic foundation for teens to develop connections with other temple teens while engaging in fundraising activities, and meaningful discussions about how to make the world a better place.

Monday Night Teens (9th-12th Grade)

TBESOC Monday Night Teens aims to create a community of Jewish teens who are passionate about learning, exploring their heritage, and connecting with like-minded peers. From exploring Torah, Talmud, and other classical texts to discussing contemporary issues through a Jewish lens, TBESOC Monday Night Teens will empower teenagers to become informed, engaged, and thoughtful members of the Jewish community.

CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING PARENT INVOLVEMENT



Parent Education Center

The Parent Education Center at Temple Beth El of South Orange County provides classes, programs, and support for parents, grandparents, and caregivers of children ages birth to adult, including prenatal support classes, My Grown Up and Me, Jewish Holiday workshops, Parent Schmooze, classes for teens and parents, information on the college application process, and so much more!

My Grown-Up and Me

Eight week session suitable for "crawlers" to 24 months old with an adult.
Contact Carolyn Kappes, tbesoceducation@gmail.com

This 90-minute class provides a fun and interactive stepping stone for preschool. Grown-ups and babies/toddlers participate in teacher-led circle time activities, Jewish themed exploration, community snack time, and welcoming Shabbat.

Early Childhood Center

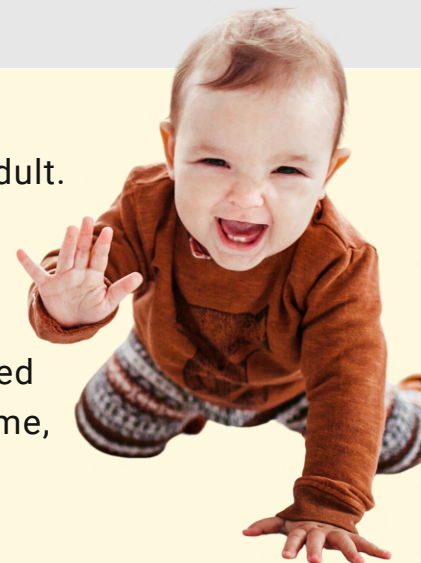
Parent Teacher Organization (ECC PTO)

The PTO's mission is to strengthen the relationship between parents and faculty for the enrichment of our children's educational environment through volunteer and financial resources, and to strengthen the social connections between our children and families.



Center for Jewish Learning (CJL) Parent Group

The goal of this group is to build community within the CJL by supporting the program's curriculum and creating an environment (and opportunities) for students and parents to build relationships in and out of the classroom and sanctuary.



CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING ADULT EDUCATION

Learning with others in community allows us to live our Jewish value of Talmud Torah. Whether you can pop in for one class or make it for an entire series, we invite you to stimulate your lifelong love for Judaism and learning.

There are many opportunities for Adult Education at TBESOC including our Scholar in Residence, Adult Education Lecture Series, Adult B. Mitzvah and so much more.



Check back for new opportunities being added through 2024!



<https://www.tbesoc.org/adult-education.html>



Small Groups

Scholar in Residence

Speakers & Lecture Series

and more!

CENTER FOR JEWISH LEARNING ADULT EDUCATION

WORLD OF JUDAISM CLASSES

World of Judaism classes invite learners to explore and discuss foundational topics in Jewish thought and practice.

Spiritual Preparation for the High Holy Days

August 29 & September 12, taught by: Cantor Shula

Sukkot & Simchat Torah - Accessing Wellsprings of Joy

September 26 taught by: Rabbi K'vod

Lifecycles

October 3 & 17, taught by: Cantor Shula

The Denominations - Reform, Conservative, Orthodox, & Reconstructionist

October 31 & November 7, taught by: Rabbi K'vod

The World of Jewish Sacred Text - An Exploration of How Scripture Creates Tradition

November 28, taught by: Rabbi K'vod

Two Faces of Chanukah - Jewish Identity and Spirituality

December 12 ...and more to come

May Temple Beth El go from
strength to strength in the
coming year and in the future

Bruce & Helen Rasner
Founding Family



You're Unique!

Your Medicare Plan Should Suit You!

No matter your unique needs, I can help find a plan that works for you!

Plan options include:

- Medicare Advantage Plans
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Licensed Insurance Agent

949-257-7927

garothman@gmail.com

CA License: 0F92486

"Putting the Care back in MediCare"

Not affiliated with or endorsed by the government or the federal Medicare program. Insurance-related solicitation.

Experience the life-changing impact of community.

TBESOC is here for you 365 days a year

YOUR community is HERE to
support you through the hard times & celebrate the simcha's

When you need a FRIEND
a LIFECYCLE to celebrate
a shoulder to CRY on
SPIRITUAL guidance
a child to EDUCATE

for all of life's JOURNEY'S... TBESOC is here

COME EXPERIENCE EVERYTHING WE HAVE TO OFFER



Generosity helps Membership Thrive!

You have the opportunity to build a community where finances will never be an obstacle to being part of the TBESOC family, and anyone seeking a Jewish experience is welcome. Our Life & Legacy program secures a Jewish future for all through the building of an endowment fund which will ensure financial sustainability for generations.

LIFE'S LAUGHTER: MILESTONES AND COMMUNITY

As I sit down to write this article, I find myself reflecting on the warm embrace of the TBESOC community that I have experienced since joining the community as your Director of Operations. The past year has been filled with remarkable milestones and lifecycle events, and I am honored to have been a part of them.

In June, I had the privilege of attending my daughter's graduation from The Gordon and Skylar Early Childhood Center at TBESOC. It was a moment of immense pride and joy, as Rabbi K'vod delivered a heartfelt speech, reminding us that graduation is just one step in our children's journey, with kindergarten marking the beginning of a new chapter. This sentiment resonated deeply with me. It made me ponder the many milestones and chapters that have led me to this wonderful community.

Each morning, as I wake up and prepare for the day ahead, I am motivated by the profound Jewish values that bind us together. I often find inspiration in the words of B'reishit (Genesis) 21:8, where Sarah exclaims, "God has brought me laughter; everyone who hears will laugh with me." This verse captures the essence of the joy and celebration that accompanies the arrival of a new life, emphasizing the importance of a community that shares in these precious moments.

As a proud Mexi-Jew, I grew up with the understanding that life is a collective experience, and that we need a supportive community to accompany us through the moments that shape our lives.

In both the best and worst of times, we need one another. We need a community to celebrate with us during times of joy and to support us through life's challenges.

My role as the Director of Operations is to nurture and support all the wonderful endeavors taking place within this vibrant community. Whether it's membership engagement, ensuring smooth operations, or simply being a resource for assistance, I am here for each and every one of you.

Please remember that my door is always open, and I am only a phone call or email away. Should you need anything, whether it's guidance, support, or simply a listening ear, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Together, we can continue to strengthen the bonds that unite us, celebrating the milestones that mark our journeys and supporting one another every step of the way.

As we move forward into the future, let us cherish the unique tapestry of our community, celebrating the joys and triumphs that lie ahead. It is an honor and a privilege to serve TBESOC, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of your lives.



Michelle Onufer

Director of Operations
monufer@tbesoc.org
(949) 362-7280



L'SHANA TOVAH

**TO ALL OF OUR
TEMPLE FAMILIES.
MAY THE COMING
YEAR BE ONE OF
GOOD HEALTH AND
HAPPINESS.**

Rob & Pam Fecher



GET INVOLVED

COMMITTEES, GROUPS, & CLUBS



Adult Education Committee

Our mission is to provide enriching Jewish programming—on site and online—that informs, educates, connects, and entertains adults of all ages and backgrounds through lectures and discussions on a diversity of topics, hosted by our clergy, approved lay leaders within TBESOC, and invited guest speakers.



BE Sisters

Be part of this strong group of women who build community and lasting friendships through various activities and events throughout the year.



Audacious Bakers

The Audacious Bakers are people who enjoy baking at home and sharing their lovingly made baked goods with the synagogue community at *Oneg Shabbat* and other programs.



Band of Milk & Honey

The Band of Milk and Honey is actively seeking singers and musicians. Join the band and help make Shabbat at temple a spiritual and musical experience. The band plays every First Friday of the month. Come rock out with us!

GET INVOLVED

COMMITTEES, GROUPS, & CLUBS

Chop N Chat

Join in the fun and laughter as we share the responsibilities of shopping for, cooking (on site), and setting up delicious weekly kosher-dairy luncheons following Saturday morning services. Sponsorship opportunities and special requests are available.



Conservative Ritual Committee (CRC)

The CRC works closely with the clergy to plan, facilitate, and coordinate Lev Shalem worship services, including Shabbat and High Holy Days, and the Tuesday evening Marty Stein Refuat Hanefesh Healing Service.

Facilities Committee

All are welcome to join in our mission to beautify our TBESOC facility.



Festivals Committee

The Festivals Committee had a very successful Beers & Cheers party celebrating the end of Passover. Over 100 people came out to enjoy a concert with Cantor Young and the original Band of Milk & Honey. We are looking for more committee members with great ideas who will roll up their sleeves to make Jewish holiday and festival observance in community more joyous.

Hiking Group

First and third Sunday at 8:00 am

Explore the beautiful outdoors and connect with the wider Jewish community on our beginner to low-intermediate level hikes around Orange County, suitable for ages 15+. No prior experience is necessary.



GET INVOLVED

COMMITTEES, GROUPS, & CLUBS

Hineinu Caring Committee

The Hineinu Caring Committee lovingly supports our congregants who are going through life challenges, such as observing shivah for a loved one or recovering from illness or surgery, and works in close coordination with our clergy to care for our temple families in times of need by making caring calls, visiting members, delivering meals, and assisting with shivah minyanim and meals of consolation.



Hineinu: Bereavement Resource Support Committee

In partnership with Vitas Healthcare and O'Connor Mortuary, we provide non-denominational, community-wide support groups for the bereaved and bereavement-related workshops for both professional and voluntary caregivers.



Hineinu: Cooking with Kavanah

Cooking with Kavanah is a group of Hineinu Caring Committee volunteers who gather together. Throughout the year at the temple to cook and stock the freezer with meals for our congregants who need a little taste of home cooking. The meals are then delivered by our amazing Hineinu team members to congregants in need following a surgery, illness, or challenging life event.

Hineinu: Schmooze Crew

The Schmooze Crew is a group of dedicated Hineinu volunteers who regularly chat or “schmooze” with TBESOC congregants recovering from a lengthy illness or injury, through friendly phone calls or in-person visits.

GET INVOLVED

COMMITTEES, GROUPS, & CLUBS



Jewish Values in Action (JVIA)

Our goal is to advance Jewish values and engage our community in acts of tikkun olam—repairing the world—through advocacy of moral and social justice.



Israel Matters

Our goal is to create and implement educational and advocacy programs that deepen the bond between *Medinat Yisrael*—the State of Israel—and Temple Beth El of South Orange County, increase the congregation's knowledge and experience of Israeli life and culture, and facilitate support of Israel.

NEW

Jews with Conservative Values (JCV)

JCV's mission is to represent a conservative perspective by offering diverse programs (such as Kulanu), tzedakah projects, and speakers while promoting friendships within our community



Kol Haneshamah Adult Choir

Our choir is made up of dedicated volunteers from our TBESOC family—post-b'nei mitzvah members and ECC parents alike—who share a love for singing and a desire to learn more about Jewish tradition and liturgy. No experience necessary to join.

GET INVOLVED

COMMITTEES, GROUPS, & CLUBS

Men's Club



The Men's Club is an auxiliary group for men seeking camaraderie and spiritual growth in a Jewish environment, wanting to help support programs and tzedakah projects at TBESOC and the wider Jewish community, and looking to develop and strengthen relationships through a variety of fun activities such as archery, building the temple sukkah, schmoozing at a local eatery, programs with the clergy, and much more.

Please join us:

- First Friday Shabbat Festivals (monthly) serving beer and wine
- Annual Golf Tournament (July)
- Hot August Nights (August)
- Sukkah Project (September)

Make sure you are getting our email updates!



Men's Club Breakfast

Second Thursdays at 9:30 am

RSVP to Mel Zimmerman inootherwords@msn.com

Whether you're new to TBESOC or a long-standing member, please join the Men's Club at a The Broken Yolk Cafe, 28621 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo.

Library Committee

The Library Committee maintains the synagogues's adult library and its collection of fiction, non-fiction, and reference books and media to serve the members of our temple. Please contact us to discuss your donations.



Reform Rituals Committee (RRC)

The mission of the RRC is to provide guidance and feedback on the structure and content of Friday night and High Holy Day Reform worship services in order to assure that services are meeting the needs of those who engage in Reform worship.

NEW

Roaring 20's & 30's (R23)

Join a community of people in their 20's and 30's who are looking to make meaningful connections with other Jewish young adults in Orange County. We host monthly events based around activities, meals, and learning.

See up-to-date events on [meetup.com/roaring23](https://www.meetup.com/roaring23).

GET INVOLVED

COMMITTEES, GROUPS, & CLUBS



TBESOC Center for Meditation and Jewish Spirituality Committee

Our unique contemporary programming connects our members through meditation, contemplative prayer, and wisdom teachings from the Jewish mystical tradition, deepening our relationship with God and one another.

TBESOC Membership Committee

Striving to build relationships among new and continuing members by supporting groups and programming that enrich the member experience.



Temple Gift Shop and Mahjong

Open Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1:00–4:00 pm and by appointment

Explore our temple gift shop, full of meaningful items that beautifully express and honor the richness of Jewish faith and tradition. Also, join our growing gift shop Mahjong community and experience the excitement and challenge of playing with other temple members at all levels, as well as making new friends!



TIKKUN OLAM

Interfaith Thanksgiving

November 19, 2023 Hosted by TBESOC

Contact Merritt Weiss, bruinfan3@gmail.com

TBESOC, along with the Orange County Islamic Foundation and Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church, support our local community by collecting food and making cards for families in need during Thanksgiving, as well as joining together for a special interfaith service on the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Mitzvah Day

January 21, 2024

Join us and fellow TBESOC members in supporting a variety of organizations in our community with hands-on activities that help the unhoused, animals, seniors, those fighting cancer, and many others in need of our help. All ages and abilities are welcome.



TBESOCares

TBESOCares helps congregants support the greater Orange County community through activities like food and holiday gift drives and charity walks, as well as our annual Interfaith Thanksgiving and Mitzvah Day.



Childspree

July 23, 2023 (off site)

Contact Kim Gubner, kgubner007@gmail.com

Celebrating our tenth year, Childspree serves 50+ foster children from South Orange County, pairing students with volunteer Shopping Buddies to shop for new Back-to-School clothes, backpacks, and other school essentials, generously funded by your donations.



Serve Your Community

AS A TBESOC

VOLUNTEER



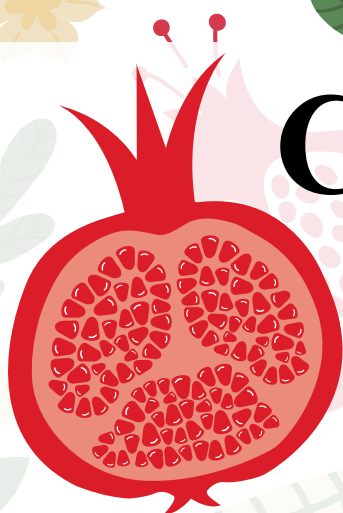
DID YOU KNOW?

It truly takes a village to keep the temple running. From serving on the Board, to prepping kiddush luncheons and everything in between, we rely on our many, many volunteers to ensure everything is in place to make our services and events a success. The temple would not be able to function without you, and for that we

THANK YOU!

WANT TO HELP? HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

- Join a committee or start a new club
- Volunteer at the front desk
- Greet at Shabbat services
- Set up for First Friday
- Team up with our security personnel
- Cook and/or deliver meals
- And much more!



Crane and Associates

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a Rimon Consulting Group, Inc. company

California License Number: 0L73823



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Licensed Insurance Agent 0L73422

(949) 755-0388

info@craneandassociates.net

Serving Orange County since 1985

- Term Life Insurance
- Cash Value Life Insurance
- Lifetime Income Annuities
- Long Term Care (ROP)
- College Funds
- And More!

CREATE AN INCOME YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT

- **Annuity Sales Continue Record-Breaking Pace Amid Economic Uncertainty in 2023** Source: LIMRA June 2023
- 1 65-year-old couple in 2023 may need \$315,000 to cover health care expenses in retirement. Source: Fidelity Investments 2023
- CD Rates- June 20, 2023 3 Month= 1.07%/6 Month= 1.26% 12 Month= 1.63% FDIC
- Americo MYGA Plus 5= 5.05% June 2023
- Athene MaxRate 5= 4.80% June 2023
- MassMutual Ascent Index Protector7 = 5.00% June 2023

Wishing your family and our Temple Beth El
Community a happy and healthy New Year.

Shiffy & Avi Crane



VISIT OUR WEBSITES!



CONTACT INFO

COMMITTEES, GROUPS, & CLUBS

Adult Education Committee

Myles Feinman
honestloanguy@gmail.com

Audacious Bakers

admin@tbesoc.org

Band of Milk & Honey

Kim Gubner
kgubner007@gmail.com

BE Sisters

Debbie Grinacoff
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Center for Jewish Learning (CJL)**Parent Group**

Julie Fingersh
julesif@yahoo.com (310) 780-5584

Chop and Chat

Sandy Rothberg
sandy@rothberg.org (949) 525-7827

Conservative Ritual Committee (CRC)

Dr. Brad Shapero
drshapero@premierhealthcaresc.com

Early Childhood Center Parent Teacher Organization (ECC PTO)

Laurelle Safani
lwidgerow@gmail.com

Facilities Committee

Susan Samuelli
susu50@aol.com

Festivals Committee

Kim Gubner
kgubner007@gmail.com

Hiking Group

Mansour Kohanteb
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Hineinu Caring Committee

Kathy Shapiro, shapsrus@gmail.com

Hineinu: Bereavement Resource Support Committee

Phyllis Blanc
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Hineinu: Cooking with Kavanah

Cindy Leish
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Patty Holzman Rosenbaum
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Hineinu: Schmooze Crew

Patty Holzman Rosenbaum
pattyhrosenbaum7@gmail.com

Israel Matters

Charlene Zuckerman
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Jewish Values in Action (JVIA)

Barby Schwid
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Robin Ijams
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Jews with Conservative Values (JCV)

Ellen Prince
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Mark Adler
mvguy2000@yahoo.com (949)-307-5900

Kol Haneshamah Adult Choir

Kim Gubner
kgubner007@gmail.com

Life & Legacy

Rob Fecher
tbesocfinance@gmail.com

Men's Club

Dr. Brad Shapero
drshapero@premierhealthcaresc.com (949) 373-5442

Parent Education Center

Johannah Sohn
jnoon@tbesocorg

Roaring 20's & 30's (R23)

Zachary Cavin
zacharycavin22@gmail.com

Reform Rituals Committee (RRC)

Joan Moss
jdmooss@cox.net

TBESOC Center for Meditation and Jewish Spirituality Committee

Ellen Prince
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TBESOC Membership Committee

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TBESOCares

Merritt Weiss
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Temple Gift Shop and Mahjong

Karen Forrest
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Torah Study Group

Rich Moldawsky
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Support our Sponsors!

Crane and Associates

Shiffy Crane

(949) 755-0388

Julia Patyaka

Photographer

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Mizrahi

Jeweler

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Avi and Shiffy Crane

Bruce & Helen Rasner

Rob & Pam Fecher

—”
**THANK
YOU**
—”—

for your support of Temple Talk 2023

Special Thanks to our Temple Talk Task Force

Steve Blanc

Lisabeth Lobenthal

Steve Mirsky

Ellie Nelson

Johannah Noon

Michelle Onufer

Rabbi K'vod Wieder

Anonymous

to advertise in future publications contact monufer@tbesoc.org

Support the Temple

What is an Endowment Fund?

It's a fund where the original gift...



is invested to grow over time...



where only the set distribution allowance is spent from the fund annually...



so the fund will exist to support the causes donors love, forever.

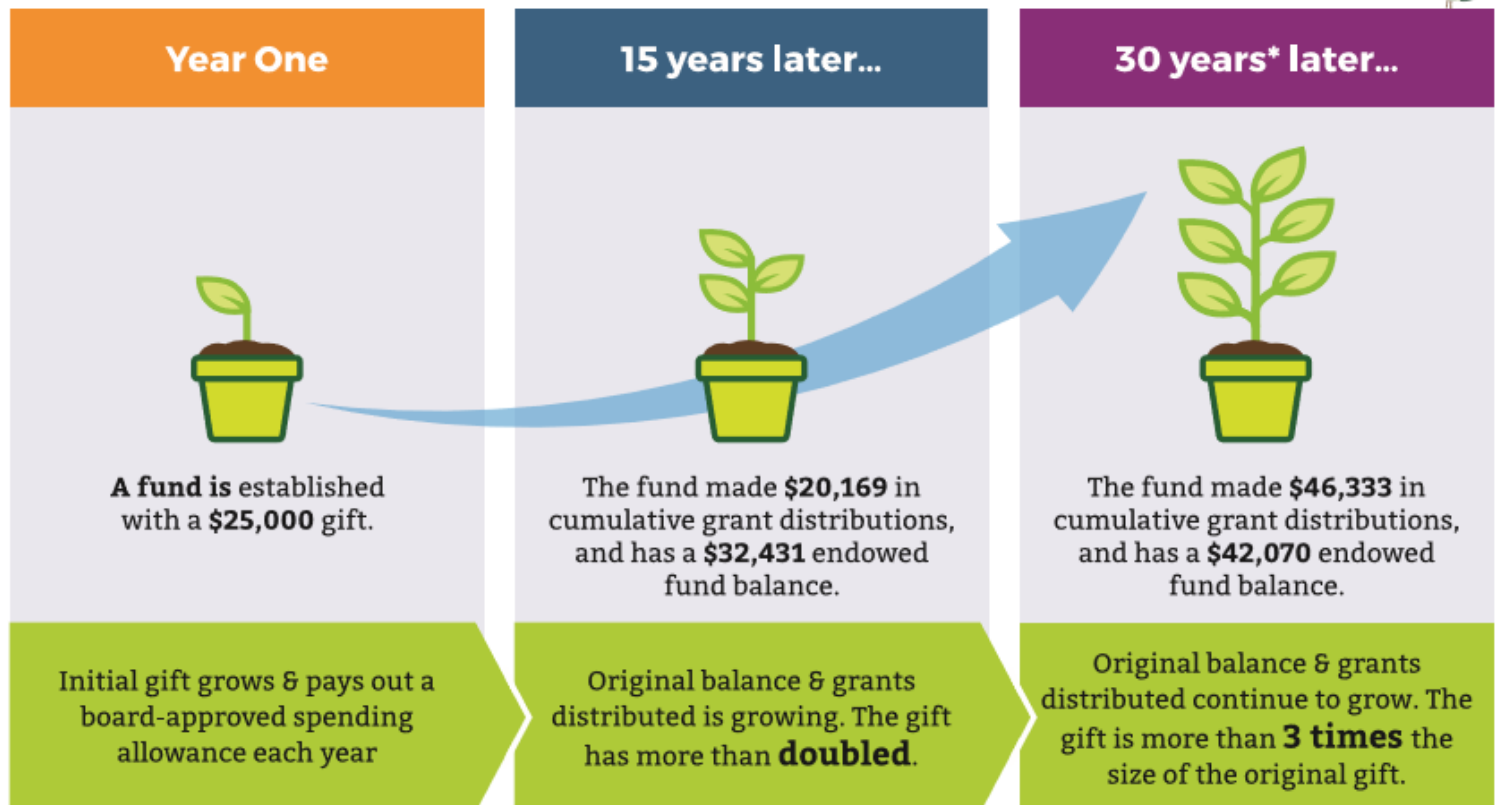


Join our **LEGACY SOCIETY**

An endowment fund provides a permanent source of income to Temple Beth El of South Orange County. The fund is designed to function in perpetuity, making it possible for you to ensure long-term financial support and sustainability for our community.

Once established, anyone can make additional contributions to the fund in any dollar amount. You can choose to start your own named fund or establish a fund to honor or memorialize friends, family, or other loved ones.

Please contact Rob Fecher, at 949-702-2530 or Lisabeth Lobenthal, Executive Director at 949-362-3999 ext 213 for a confidential discussion on how you can establish your legacy plan, or to help garner additional Legacy commitments.



*Based on estimated annual growth rate of 7.5% and 4.75% spending allowance for grants.



Create a Jewish Legacy LETTER OF INTENT



In the tradition of our Jewish faith, I wish to share my blessings by declaring my intent to provide for the needs of future generations.

It is with deep satisfaction that:

- ☐ I/We have made a provision
☐ I/We shall make a provision during the next months.

I/We wish to support the following Orange County institutions: (check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beth Jacob Congregation of Irvine | <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish Federation of Orange County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Scholar Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Merage Jewish Community Center |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congregation B'nai Israel | <input type="checkbox"/> Temple Bat Yahm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congregation Shir Ha-Ma'lot | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temple Beth El of South Orange County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrew Academy | <input type="checkbox"/> Temple Beth Sholom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Pointe | <input type="checkbox"/> Temple Beth Tikvah |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Irvine Hebrew Day School | <input type="checkbox"/> University Synagogue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish Collaborative of Orange County | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/> |

with an endowment established through a:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bequest in my will or trust | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Insurance Policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remainder of IRA and other retirement plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Remainder Trust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift of real estate, securities or other property | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor Advised Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Endowment already funded | <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="text"/> |

Privacy Statement: To encourage others to make commitments to the future we occasionally list names in printed materials and/or on our website.

- ☐ I/We permit my name to be listed in printed materials.
☐ I/We prefer to remain anonymous. *My/Our name should appear as:*

Donor name(s):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone: **Email:**

I/We understand that this Letter of Intent is not a legal obligation and may be changed at my/our discretion at any time.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Sign	Date	Sign	Date

Create a Jewish Legacy is sponsored and presented by the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County and is a collaborative effort of the local agencies, synagogues and day schools listed above.

The Jewish Community Foundation's professional staff is here to assist you in fulfilling your philanthropic goals. Please contact us for more information.

JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ORANGE COUNTY

1 Federation Way, Suite 230, Irvine, California 92603 | PH: 949.435.3490 | FAX: 949.435.3499 | www.jcfoc.org | info@jcfoc.org

Rev. 5/26/22

The Aron and Sala Samuelli BESTY Calendar

2023-2024 Calendar

+ Madrachim &
Youth Group Events

July 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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December 2023

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31						

January 2024

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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February 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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March 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
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April 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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May 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Jr. BESTY

B'nei Mitzvot

BESTY

Everyone

Madrachim

Mitzvah

Regional YG Activities

Event Details 2023-2024 Calendar

7/7/23	Tapas on the Terrace with new Reform Rabbi Rosner	1/26/24	United Synagogue Youth Winter Convention (all weekend)
7/13/23	Ice Cream at Handel's with BESTY 4:00-6:00	2/2/24	First Friday Shabbat Festival
7/16/23	Ice Cream at Handel's with Jr. BESTY 2:00-4:00	2/4/24	Jr. BESTY Lion King LIVE! 1:00
7/23/23	CHILDSPREE Mitzvah/Volunteer Opportunity	2/10/24	BESTY Board/Event
8/5/23	Niko Harbour Bar Mitzvah	3/1/24	First Friday Shabbat Festival
8/6/23	Beach Day for Everyone 11:00-2:00	3/4/24	ECC Read Across America Week
8/28/23	Madrachim Orientation	3/9/24	Leah Kruger Bat Mitzvah
9/2/23	Olivia Jaeger Bat Mitzvah	3/16/24	Avrah Berzansky Bat Mitzvah
	Sukkah Setup	3/23/24	Jacob Allen Bar Mitzvah
9/10/23	BESTY BOARD 2:00-3:00	3/24/24	BESTY Purim Party
	B.Mitzvah Retreat - 6/7th grade - 3:00-6:00	4/5/24	Jr. BESTY Purim Fashion Show
9/11/23	Opening Day of Religious School	4/13/24	BESTY BOARD
	Parents Invited! 4:30-6:30	4/14/24	First Friday Shabbat Festival
9/15/23	BESTY NYE Party	4/20/24	Quinn Jetzer Bar Mitzvah
9/17/23	Tashlich at Laguna Niguel Park	5/5/24	Jr. BESTY Pump It Up! Party or Group Event
9/29/23	All weekend - NFTY Fall Teen Leadership Event	5/10/24	BESTY Event/Board
10/1/23	Jr. BESTY Sukkah Party 1:30-3:00	5/11/24	BESTY Study Brunch + Board Meeting + Teen Shabbat Rehearsal
	BESTY Board 2:00-3:00	5/13/24	Teen Shabbat
10/2/23	BESTY Sukkah Party	5/18/24	Ella Youderian Bat Mitzvah
10/6/23	First Friday Shabbat Festival	5/19/24	Last Day of Religious School
10/14/23	BESTY Event	5/24/24	Talia Roye Bat Mitzvah
10/21/23	Sagiv Elkayam Bar Mitzvah	6/1/24	Jr. BESTY Shea Center Event/Volunteer Opportunity
10/28/23	Dylan Kontorovsky Bar Mitzvah	6/9/24	All Weekend - USY Regional Convention
11/3/23	First Friday Shabbat Festival	6/11/24	BESTY at Medieval Times
11/4/23	BESTY Event		Jr. BESTY Pool Party - Location TBD
11/5/23	Jr. BESTY at BOOMERS 12:00-3:00		31 Flavors of Teen Torah Ice Cream Sundae Bar
	BESTY Board 12:30-1:30, then BOOMERS 2:00-???		7:00-9:00 Learning (Shavuot)
11/12/23	BESTY Event		
11/18/23	Dylan Cohen Bar Mitzvah		
12/1/23	First Friday Shabbat Festival		
	All Weekend - NFTY Wellness Event		
12/2/23	Isaac Paz Bar Mitzvah		
12/9/23	Jackson Kaufman Bar Mitzvah		
12/10/23	All BESTY White Elephant Hanukah Party		
	BESTY Board meeting before party		
12/11/23	Religious School Hanukah Event		
	Families join to light candles		
12/16/23	Ellie Reifenberger Bat Mitzvah		
1/5/24	First Friday Shabbat Festival		
1/7/24	Jr. BESTY Ice Skating 2:00-4:00		
1/8/24	5th Grade Bear Mitzvah Dinner - All Invited		
1/13/24	Spencer Oransky Bar Mitzvah		
1/15/24	MLK Day		
	BESTY Disney Day		

Have any Ideas?
Did we miss something?

Contact JRamos@tbesoc.org
with questions, or if you think of
anything to make these events
special for our community!

See an event you would like to
donate to or sponsor for our Jr.
and Senior BESTYs?
Let us know!