

CHAI LIGHTS



April 2023, Volume 20, 4

Nisan- Iyar 5783

TEMPLE BETH DAVID

Upcoming Activities

Memorial Garden Clean Up on April 2, weather permitting p. 3

Passover Seder on April 6

Note: Rabbi Norry's classes will be temporarily paused in April due to Passover. Please read your TBD emails for exact date of when they will resume.

Backpack Buddies p. 3

Sisterhood Book Club on Sunday April 30 p. 4

Remember to check online calendar at <https://tbdga.org/calendar/> and TBD News emails for clarification and for additional activities.

AROUND TBD

President's Message

In an online D'var Torah for Parashat Vayak'heil-P'kudei, Rabbi Jonathan Crane (yes, the same Rabbi Crane who has led our High Holiday services in the past) shared this insight – “As I was reading this week’s parashah about the construction of the Tabernacle, I found that one repeated detail caught my attention: “And he [Bezalel] made fifty gold clasps and coupled the curtains to one another with the clasps, so that the tabernacle became one whole,” and then just a few verses later we are told again that, “He made fifty copper clasps to couple the tent together so that it might become one whole” (Exodus 36:13,18).

Before this moment, both the tabernacle and its tent cover were not unified wholes. What Bezalel had before him was a collection of beautiful, different, and distinct pieces. Only after he intentionally coupled those pieces together did the tabernacle and tent come into being as cohesive units. At first, I thought that perhaps this was a story about the whole being more than the sum of its parts. But I soon learned that these verses about physical structures and covers ironically covers up something more profound.

These verses echo earlier instructions when God told the Israelites to make a mishkan so that God could dwell among them. At the time, the order was to “make fifty gold clasps and couple the curtains one to another with the clasps, so that the tabernacle becomes one whole” (Exodus 26:6).” ([A Single Whole | Reform Judaism](#), Accessed 13MAR2023). While this is not the entire point of his D'var. I will let you read the rest for yourself.

What struck me in this passage is that there are many small parts that are needed to hold a structure together to create a unified whole. This analogy can be applied to our synagogue as well. Temple Beth David requires each one of its members to help unify and make the organization “become one whole.” The congregation and the building depend on each one of us to help maintain and guide the organization forward.

At this time of the year, the Nominating Committee is charged with developing a slate to fill openings on the Board of Trustees for the congregation’s vote of approval at the Annual Meeting in May. Please consider becoming one of the “clasps” to help form the structure of our synagogue. Reach out to any member of the Nominating Committee for more information.

Rabbi Tarfon used to say: It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you at liberty to neglect it. We are not expected to leave the world in a perfect state, we are not expected to become another leader of the caliber of Moses; we are expected to perform acts that leave the world in a better state than we found it. Take an active role in leaving Temple Beth David in a better state for the next generation of Jews in Gwinnett County.

Shalom,

Judi Kern

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Anne Finkelman

Layout & Design:

Fran Bruggeman

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AROUND TBD

Memorial Garden Message

The Memorial Garden needs some cleanup for the Spring. Anyone interested in helping out please call or text me. In order to contact me by email or phone, go to our TBD website. Log on to your account. If you click at the top of the page on the button that says "View Directory", you can get my information. I have selected **Sunday, April 2 at 11 am**, weather permitting. If this is not a good date for you, please let me know when you can help out.

I am also planning on having a Memorial Garden Dedication in the near future and if you want to place a Memorial Plaque in memory of a spouse or other temple member in the garden, please advise me so that a plaque can be ordered. I would need the name, year of birth and year of death. Currently the only plaque I am ordering is for John Harrison, late husband of Loretta Harrison.

Thank you in advance for your help as well as inviting others to help with the cleanup.

Sonia Freidus

Growing Membership Through TBD Social Media Accounts

Did you know Temple Beth David has social media accounts? Would you like to help us grow our membership? Every member can easily help us grow! Please consider following us, like and share future posts on Twitter and Instagram. This is an inexpensive and easy way to inform our community, friends and family that we exist. Our Twitter account is:

TempleBethDavidSnellvilleGA@temple_ga

Our Instagram account is:

templebethdavid_snellville

Please consider following us and helping us grow!

Backpack What?

Did you know that 1 in 6 Georgia children is HUNGRY! Children who qualify for free/reduced breakfasts and lunches at their schools need food to eat on the weekends too. That's where [Backpack Buddies of Metro Atlanta](#) comes in. This organization, located in Dunwoody, distributes food to organizations including Temple Beth David, who volunteer to put the food into the hands and mouths of students who need it. Schools contact Backpack Buddies and request the program. School counselors select the most needy students and we bring the bags of food to the schools to be sent home with the students on Fridays. To date, there are 1500+ children attending 39 schools in Metro Atlanta communities who receive food and there are other Backpack Buddies programs throughout Georgia.

Most Thursday mornings, when the public schools are in session, you will find 4-6 TBD members at the Temple, talking and laughing and bagging food for children. We are thrilled to bring this program into the Temple. We have shelving to hold the food which is delivered to us or occasionally we pick it up at the warehouse. We follow guidelines that tell us which foods each student should get, including proteins, fruits, vegetables, cereals, snacks, and drinks.

Our chairperson, Ronnie Pesserilo, keeps us on track. She coordinates with the people in Dunwoody, makes sure we have the necessary foods, emails those on the committee to be sure there will be enough people at 10am each Thursday, and is usually one of those bagging food. Once the food bags are complete, they are loaded into someone's car (usually David Ruchin's or Bill Kern's) and delivered to Britt Elementary School. The process takes about 45 minutes to make about 44 bags each week. Other members of the group include Karen Beach, Evie Cherkas, Wendy Fine, Jackie Fletcher, Barbara Fried, Sandra Lesser, Cindy Ruchin, and Martha Whitman.

We know there are many more children who could benefit from this program but we cannot volunteer to take on more students unless we have more people willing to help. If you are interested in helping and can spare an hour on a couple of Thursday mornings each month, let one of us know. Perhaps you're busy now but would like to join us next school year. Think about it. It's rewarding, it's fun to get together, and you'll feel good having done it!

AROUND TBD

Sisterhood

Sisterhood is planning a Book Club meeting on 4/30 at 1:00. Our April Book will be "The First Lady" by James Patterson. Enjoy this fictional thriller about a first lady who disappears. It is a New York Times Best Seller by the world's best selling author. Sisterhood Book Club welcomes all women who are current TBD members and prospective TBD/ Sisterhood members.

Our March activities included our Book Club meeting and opening the Gift Shop during the Purim Party. Sisterhood Gift Shop Committee members had a lot of fun during the party. It also gave people an opportunity to buy Passover items and other Judaic items.

Remember to check your emails for Sisterhood activities. If you have not yet paid your annual Sisterhood dues for the current fiscal year which began on July 1, mail it to our Treasurer, Anne Finkelman at the following address: Sisterhood, Temple Beth David, PO Box 865 Snellville, GA 30078. Annual dues are \$18. Make sure that the check is payable to Temple Beth David Sisterhood so that it does not go into the wrong account. This money goes towards Sisterhood activities and supporting projects at TBD. If you have questions about Sisterhood or Sisterhood activities, contact Fran at fbruggeman@templebethdavid.info.

Get involved, help us grow and thrive.

Family Needs

For those of you who don't know why **FAMILY NEEDS** was formed – here's why. We reach out to families who experience loss of a loved one or who are going through a serious or not so serious illness.

If you are taking care of an adult or a child with an illness and suddenly find yourself without food in your house because you haven't had time to go to the grocery store – call us. Give us a list and some money and we'll shop for you. If you have a conflict getting children/adult to a doctor or a sports event at the same time and don't have someone to drive – call us. I can't guarantee we can help – but we sure will try. We want to take some of the burden off your shoulders.

If a close relative has passed away – contact me (Wendy Fine) to make arrangements or fill out our online form at <https://www.tbdga.org/bereavement-intake-form.html>. If you must go out of town – let us know and we can send a platter of food to be delivered after the funeral or for a shiva service wherever you are. If it's local – we do the same thing. If you are having a shiva service for 1, 3 or 7 days we can make sure that you will have someone to lead prayers and also make sure that there is food (usually dessert items) for afterwards.

We work with the family and your friends to make sure that you get the comfort, care and help that you may need. We also send sympathy and gets well cards as needed.

We don't ask that you pay for any of this, but we can always use donations to help cover the cost. Your donations "in memory of" "in honor of" "congratulations" or "get well" are our only source of funds for this service. If you donate please send it to TBD treasurer at P O Box 865, Snellville GA 30078. Make sure your check says **FAMILY NEEDS** somewhere on the check, so it goes into the right account. TBD will make sure that the person or family you are helping will get a card stating your donation (but not the amount). These donations will be listed, again, in our monthly bulletin. Believe me – the families you are helping will very much appreciate everything you can do to help. This also ensures that we can continue to do our work.

Please remember one thing – I am NOT a mind reader. Don't tell your friends that you need help. They will sympathize with your and probably NOT tell me. I don't want anyone to feel that they are not important and that we don't care. We do!!!!

In order to contact me by email or phone, go to our TBD website. Log on to your account. If you click at the top of the page on the button that says "View Directory", you can get my information.

AROUND TBD

Milestones, Simchas and More

Have a special event you want to brag about? Graduation, job promotion, engagement, new baby... send us the information so we can all kvell together! Email your submissions to Anne Finkelman or Fran Bruggeman at fbruggeman@templebethdavid.info

Happy Anniversary

DuBois, Robbie & Rosa April 18

Happy Birthday

Patricia	Falbaum	April	2nd
Regina	Sissel	April	5th
Jonathan	Young	April	7th
Wendy	Fine	April	8th
Zoe	Walls	April	11th
David	Ruchin	April	13th
Joanne	Stein	April	13th
Roberta	Ginsberg	April	15th
Heather	Murry	April	15th
Mark	Epstein	April	21st
Eliza	Brown	April	26th
Serena	Sacks	April	30th

Donations

Rabbi Discretionary Fund

Robbie and Rosa DuBois

Yahrzeit Fund

Sandra Lesser in memory of Eli Lesser and Wesley "Bee" Inglett

Ronnie Pesserilo in memory of Eva Bernstein (Ronnie's grandmother)

Bobby and Jackie Horowitz in memory of Gary Horowitz

Mayya Dickens in memory of Larisa Scott

Scott and Denise Whitlock in memory of Mark Zaidel

Ronnie and Lillian Zell in memory of Lillian's mother and father, Henia and Benjamin Friedberger

When donating to the Yahrzeit Fund, General Fund, and Donald Freidus Memorial Garden Fund, please send donations to TBD Treasurer, Temple Beth David, P.O. Box 865, Snellville, GA 30078-0865. Checks should be made payable to Temple Beth David and please specify on the check or attached note which fund you are donating to and in memory/honor of whom. Otherwise, the donation will be applied to the General Fund.

Lifecycles

April Yahrzeits

Henia Zaidel	Grandmother	of	Denise Whitlock	4/1/2013
Moe Eagle	Father-in-Law	of	Mr. Frank Montelione	4/3/2003
Daniel Joseph Middleton	Friend	of	Barry Nickelsberg	4/4/2021
April Jacobs Johnson	Cousin	of	Judi Kern	4/5/2012
Irving Levitt	Father	of	Sonia Freidus	4/5/1982
Samuel Koran	Father	of	Barbara Yarbrough	4/6/1977
Morris Darnowsky	Father	of	Steve Darnowsky	4/8/2011
Murray Weill	Father	of	Evie Cherkas	4/8/1980
Fred Schiller	Uncle	of	Judi Kern	4/14/2004
Morris Davis	Step-father of Norman		Mrs Barbara Freid	4/15/1994
Helen Brudner	Mother	of	Lori Duff	4/19/2020
Sigmund Finkelman	Father	of	Anne Finkelman	4/19/1976
Isador Bernstein	Grandfather	of	Barry Abis	4/24/2000
Isador Bernstein	Grandfather	of	Mrs Ronnie Pesserilo	4/24/2000
Gary Peck	Cousin	of	Mr. Frank Montelione	4/26/2020
Doris Milller	Mother	of	Mr. Barry Miller	4/26/2015
Doris Milller	Mother-in-law	of	Mrs. Robin Miller	4/26/2015
Doris Milller	Wife	of	Mr. Albert Miller	4/26/2015

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Lori B. Duff
Attorney at Law

7730-B Hampton Place
Loganville, GA 30052

Telephone: (770) 466-6149
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We're on the Web!

<http://tbdga.org/>

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Due Date for Newsletter Articles is always the 15th of the month!
Email your items to Fran Bruggeman at fbruggeman@templebethdavid.info and Anne Finkelman.
Thank you.

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> 11:00 Service
<i>2</i> Memorial Garden Clean-Up	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> Erev Passover	<i>6</i> Passover Sedar with Rabbi Norry	<i>7</i> 7:30 Service with Rabbi Norry	<i>8</i> 11:00 Service with Rabbi Norry
<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> Board Meeting 7:00	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> 7:30 Service	<i>15</i> 11:00 Service
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 7:30 Service with Rabbi Norry	<i>22</i> 11:00 Service with Rabbi Norry
<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 7:30 Service	<i>29</i> 11:00 Service
<i>30</i> Sisterhood Book Club 1:00						