

Vibrant Judaism — Welcome Home

April/May 2023 • Nisan/Iyar/Sivan 5783 • Volume 278



Artist in Residence Dan Nichols and Cantor Kahan leading the congregation for a very special Shabbat service.

Join Us!

Yom Hashoah

Holocaust Remembrance Day

Sunday, April 16

See page 4

Watercolor Class

with Marla Snyder

Tuesday, April 25

7:00–9:00 pm

See page 8

“Torah Belongs to Everyone”

Torah Completion Event

Sunday, May 7

9:30 am–4:00 pm

See back cover

Temple Mitzvah Day

Sunday, May 21

9:30–11:30 am

See page 6

Lox Box Day

Sunday, May 21

See page 4

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Join
Us!



= In-person attendance available



= Virtual attendance available
via Zoom or Livestream



= Registration required

Go to ► www.templebeth-el.org
or call (847) 205-9982 to register
for programs, receive links for virtual
attendance, or more information.

Services

April & May 2023

Temple Beth-El warmly welcomes our congregants to a wide variety of worship opportunities. From casual services to services with a more formal feeling, from family services to adults of all ages, Temple Beth-El has a worship experience that is right for everyone.

► TempleBeth-El.org/livestream

Early Oneg 5:30 pm followed by
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 pm
Fridays: April 14, 28

Early Oneg 5:30 pm followed by
Family Shabbat 6:00 pm
with Junior Choir &
Birthday Blessings
Fridays: April 21

Shabbat Yeladim
5:30 pm
Fridays: April 7, May 5

Shabbat Service
followed by Oneg 7:30 pm
with Adult Choir &
Anniversary Blessings
Fridays: April 7, May 5

Shabbat 7:30 pm & Confirmation
Friday: May 26

SPECIAL SERVICES

Passover Festival Service
followed by light lunch
Thursday, April 6, 10:00-11:30 am

Passover Morning Service/Yizkor
followed by light lunch
Wednesday, April 12
10:00-11:30 am

Torah Dedication Shabbat Service
followed by Special Oneg
Friday, May 12, 6:00-9:00 pm

Early Oneg 5:30 pm
followed by Family & Teacher
Appreciation Shabbat Service
with Jr. Choir & Birthday Blessings
Friday, May 19, 6:00 pm

Community Wide Tikkun Leil
Shavuot at Am-Shalom Glencoe
Thursday, May 25, 7:00-10:00 pm

Shavuot Festival Service,
Yizkor and Light Lunch
Fri May 26, 10:00-11:30 am

Join a host of Chicagoland synagogues
to celebrate the festival of Shavuot,
commemorating the giving of the
Torah. For this year's spiritual and
musical journey, we welcome the
Jerusalem based Nigunim Ensemble
featuring Rabbi-Cantor Shani Ben Or
and Boaz Dorot.

  All services are both
in-person and virtual.

CHAVUROT Friendship Groups

To kick off the new year, we are
starting a small family group program
called Chavurot (friendship groups), so
that TBE families can start to get to know each other
and connect in a more intimate setting. Once you
sign-up, you will be paired with a few other families
with kids around the same age.

The goal is for each group to meet about once a
month and do fun things together of their own
choosing (ie. Shabbat Dinners, volunteering, casual
playdates, cooking together etc.). This is a great
opportunity to meet new Temple families with similar
interests and build lasting friendships!

Register: www.templebeth-el.org/form/Chavurot-Program-2022-23

Questions? Contact Jolie Genender at
joliegenender@yahoo.com



Community
COMMITMENT

It has been incredible year of growth and realigning
as we reopened our building to our community. We
couldn't have done it without your continued support.

We have come so far welcoming 100+ new member
families in the past three years while growing our
religious school to almost 200 students. There is so
much more to come.

**This May, watch your mail for our annual Community
Commitment Campaign as we ask for another year of
support so that we can continue to be there for you
and your family. Stay tuned for details...**

Here's to our TBE family in this coming year.



From the Rabbi's Study

Passover Hopes and Memories

By Rabbi Sidney M. Helbraun

Thoughts of Pesach take me back to my childhood.

I have strong memories of my mother sitting in my bedroom and

handing me a floppy, square, blue record. She showed me how to play it and asked me to listen to it until I could sing a song on my own. I remember playing that record over and over, until I was able to sing it myself. As you might have guessed — the song was the Four Questions. And a few nights later, when we traveled to my Aunt Charlotte and Uncle Sam's, I was asked to sing it aloud.

I remember that first year and several that followed. Sitting at over-crowded tables which filled every space in their apartment and listening to Hebrew from a Maxwell House Haggadah. It was a time before I learned to appreciate the unique taste of gefilte fish; when those chocolate phosphates that kept coming out of the kitchen looked like they'd be a bit easier to swallow. Yet, all in all, being surrounded by generations of family left me with a sense of warmth and comfort. It's that feeling that I never lost and continue to associate with Passover.

In my imagination, our Israelite ancestors had a similar experience when they crowded together with their neighbors to partake of their first Seder meal while they were still slaves in Egypt. Protected by a streak of lamb's blood smeared on their door, they waited for that night to end, as the angel of death passed over their home and brought them liberation.

As dawn broke the next morning they gathered their belongings, received 'parting gifts' from their Egyptian neighbors, and began leaving the land they had dwelled in for the last 430 years. Their stay had begun in gratitude for the generosity of Pharaoh who welcomed Joseph's family during a time of famine. But as the years passed their experience was transformed into a life of slavery.

At our Seder tables we describe their exodus as a time of freedom. But freedom is the wrong word. Instead, their release should be called a liberation. For though they were no longer slaves, the Israelites were also not free to choose their own path. They would have to wait another 40 years to enter their own land, where rather than follow the path of the world around them, they were free to build their own society and culture.

It's interesting that over the course of Jewish history we've spent the majority of time living in other people's lands rather than our own. And even today, despite the freedom and blessings of America, we continue to squeeze our Jewish customs and traditions into the framework of American life.

I think this is the other reason that I love Passover, a home-based holiday that almost all American Jews continue to observe. It's a time when we gather with family, eat traditional foods, open a Haggadah, sing Hebrew songs, and feel a sense of connection that unites us with our ancient ancestors as well as our broader community. It's an inspirational day that belongs to us, a time when we live our values, which we continue to cherish and share with our children and grandchildren — God willing, for generations to come.

Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy Pesach!



The Parliament of the World's Religions recently welcomed new "Class of 2025" members to its Board of Trustees, including our own Rabbi Sidney M. Helbraun. Rabbi Helbraun joins 8 other faith, spiritual and civic leaders committed to the vision of the organization and future of the global interfaith movement.

The vision of the Parliament of the World's Religions is of a just, peaceful, and sustainable world in which:

- Religious and spiritual communities live in harmony and contribute to a better world from their riches of wisdom and compassion.
- Religious and cultural fears and hatreds are replaced with understanding and respect. People everywhere come to know and care for their neighbors.
- The richness of human and religious diversity is woven into the fabric of communal, civil, societal, and global life.
- The world's most powerful and influential institutions move beyond narrow self-interest to realize common good.
- The Earth and all life are cherished, protected, healed, and restored. All people commit to living out their highest values and aspirations.

Special Programs

May 7, 8 and 12



Torah
Belongs to
Everyone



See back cover for details.

LOX BOX DAY SUNDAY MAY 21

Order a lox box from
Max & Benny's and a
percentage of sales
will support TBE!



Pick up from Temple Beth-El from 10:00 am until
Noon. Delivery available upon request.

Order deadline 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 16.



For more information or to place your
order: [www.templebeth-el.org/event/
lox-box-may-2023](http://www.templebeth-el.org/event/lox-box-may-2023)

TBE Men's Club and Sisterhood Sponsor

YOM HASHOAH HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY



SUNDAY, APRIL 16

MEN'S CLUB BRUNCH AT TBE

9:30–10:30 am

Fee: \$5. For more information and to register:
www.tbemensclub.com

YOM HASHOAH PROGRAM AT TBE

10:30–11:30 am

High school student Isaac Stutzman speaks on
banned books AND the Maisch Family speaks
about their great-grandfather's Holocaust
experience, accompanied by brief videos followed
by candle lighting with Sisterhood members.

For more information:
[www.templebeth-el.org/event/
yom-hashoah-2023.html](http://www.templebeth-el.org/event/yom-hashoah-2023.html)

MEN'S CLUB TOUR OF HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

12:30–4:00 pm

With Docent/Holocaust Remembrance Program.
Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9603 Woods Dr. Skokie

For more information and to register:
www.tbemensclub.com

Cantor's Corner

Into The Clearing by Cantor Adam Kahan

Each significant moment in the Jewish Calendar is a chance for reflection. Where do I find myself? What is the same? What is different? As we come through the story of our exodus from Egypt, we get to see how the imagined enslavement compares to our moments now. I'm in awe of the amazing lives we have, compared to the portrayed existence of enslavement back then. Without a doubt, there are challenges today in our lives, and in our broader society, but even still, we are better off now. The seeds for gratitude are everywhere I choose to notice, so much so, it's almost overwhelming... as I type this on my laptop, in a sturdy house with electricity, a stocked fridge, in a stable society, and with the ability to control the temperature of my room. Imagine that! What a life!

In this moment, I also notice the great strides made within our Temple community. A few years back, we were in a place of great narrowness. The lockdown was a constriction while simultaneously causing us to stretch. Beautifully, our community actually gained traction within itself, amongst itself... but there clearly were missings in that environment, too.

As a (relatively) new clergy member to our temple, I hadn't the chance to really be with "my people", my congregation. I was seen, and able to contribute from afar, but I wasn't enmeshed....not how I would have desired. But times have changed. Thank God. Seriously, let's do that. *Baruch HaShem!*

From the Land of Egypt, the Israelites emerged. Their flattened matzot, their breads of affliction, showed the complete lack of elevation, of heights to their spirits.

As they came out of Egypt's darkness, they rose, they leavened. I am so grateful for the way our community has risen. In this past year, more and more often I have had congregants come to me for pastoral moments...chances to listen, to support, to seek clarity together as life twists and turns. Certainly, I cherish times filled with music, but I also so value these moments of composing life together in conversation. They leaven my experience. They lift my days to greater heights.

As we move into this Season of Freedom, I hope we each have a chance to connect with one another, to lift each other up from our narrow moments, to our openings of freedom through community and togetherness.

Kein Yeah Ratson. May this be God's will





Education Update

Holidays Are a Way to Make Each Day Count

By Rabbi Ari Moffic, Director of Congregational Learning & Engagement

Certain numbers are important in different religions. In Judaism, numbers, numerology and counting play a major role in our tradition.

Each Hebrew letter in the alphabet is assigned a number. The word *Chai*, life, is made up of the letters chet and yud which add up to eighteen. We have several special numbers that repeat over and over in Torah. We see things in threes like the three visitors that greeted Abraham in his tent and we need three stars to be visible in the sky for havdalah (the end of Shabbat) to begin. There are the *shalosh regalim* (the three pilgrimage holidays)—Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot. Ten is a big one as in the Ten Commandments. There are many, many uses of four in our narratives. It rained for forty days and nights in the Noah's Ark story, we were slaves in Egypt for four hundred years and Moses was on Mt. Sinai for forty days. We traveled in the wilderness for forty years. How many fours are there in our Passover seder! We drink four cups of wine, there are four children and we ask four questions!

In addition to learning about the holidays, third graders in our religious school spend each session focused on the Who Knows One song that we traditionally sing on Passover. Each number is a special part of our Jewish tradition.

On Sunday, May 21st we'll have our annual congregational Mitzvah Day. Most of the options involve doing good works in the Temple or the wider community. **However, we also offer one project centered on a Jewish ritual mitzvah. This year, we'll be making a flip chart calendar.** On each

flip page, you'll decorate it with information about the days of the week and write in Hebrew each day of the week. You can draw and write reminders for what happens on Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. (We'll have a lot of amazing art materials to use!)

Interestingly, in Hebrew the days of the week start with Sunday which is called Yom Rishon or Day 1. Monday is Yom Shaynee or Day 2. We count up to Shabbat. It's a spiritual practice each day as a reminder that Shabbat is our goal of the week and our respite in time to recalibrate after each work and school week. Shabbat is our taste of paradise, a chance to slow down, to enjoy all that has been created and to gather with friends and family for prayers, songs and meals.

As Psalm 90:12 tells us, "Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Let us make each day count!



MITZVAH DAY Sunday, May 21

Congregation Wide
Mitzvah Day for All Ages!



Please register for one of our Mitzvah Day programs:

MATTHEW SCHAFFER SCHWARTZ TIKKUN OLAM AWARD



Matthew Schaffer Schwartz
Tikkun Olam Award

In 2004 Cyndee Schaffer and Doug Schwartz, two long-standing members of Temple Beth-El, established a college scholarship fund called the Matthew Schaffer Schwartz Tikkun Olam Award, in memory of their beloved son. The scholarship is awarded annually to a graduating high school senior who, by word and deed, have made significant contributions to the Jewish ideal of "helping to repair the world."




In addition to receiving a check in the amount of \$500, the recipient of the award will have his or her name inscribed on a plaque displayed at Temple Beth-El and on a prayer book plate.

To apply for this award, please submit:

- A list of your Tikkun Olam activities.
- A list with your activities from your college applications.
- A short essay (250 words or less) explaining your involvement. You may describe one project of which you are particularly proud, or several smaller projects in which you have participated. Please also include the names of those you worked, and the location at which the work occurred.

All submissions must be received by Leslie Hanus no later than April 14, 2023. Please contact Leslie for further information, or questions regarding this scholarship opportunity, at 847-205-9982 ext. 202, or lhonus@templebeth-el.org.

Early Childhood, Youth & Teen Programs

 = In-person attendance available
 = Virtual attendance available
 = Registration required

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS


Learn more and register:

www.TempleBeth-El.org/preschool

Questions: AriMoffic@TempleBeth-El.org

SHABBAT YELADIM

Shabbat For Young Families

Geared for 2nd grade and under
First Friday of each month  ✓

5:30 pm: complimentary pizza dinner

6:00 pm: blessings, songs and story

6:30 pm: craft and dessert

Join us for a fun Shabbat experience for families with children 2nd grade & younger. Older siblings and grandparents are welcome to attend and participate. Complimentary dinner followed by age-appropriate prayers, singing, stories, crafts, and oneg. Free; RSVP.

GROWN-UP AND ME @ TBE

Adults and babies through 3 year olds
Resumes Fall, 2023

Each session features music, Jewish holiday crafts and stories and making new friends.

Resumes Fall, 2023

JBABY BROADWAY STORYTIME

Spend the morning with your 0-2 year old as our littlest Broadway fans are introduced to show tunes, characters and stories while Broadway musicals are brought to life by Stages Chicago.
www.stageschicago.org

Each class incorporates activities that are designed to support your little one's physical, cognitive, social-emotional and language development. An age-appropriate story will be included to give you a chance to socialize too.

Come meet other parents with children similar in age!

Spring Session:  ✓

April 19 – June 7, 2023 (8 classes)

9:30 -10:30 am: Movers & Shakers

10:30-11:30 am: Babies

Cost: \$120

To register: Please visit the TBE website, click on "Education" then "Pre-school"
www.templebeth-el.org/preschool




TBE youth enjoy Grown Up & Me & Shabbat Yeladim.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

KoBE—KIDS of BETH-EL

Open to 3rd through 7th graders

Monthly on Saturdays

4:00–5:30 pm  ✓

concludes April 22

KoBE allows for a fun, social environment with a Jewish twist, for our 3rd through 7th graders. KoBE allows our younger members the opportunity to stay involved in our Temple and serves as the stepping stone for future participation in our Senior Youth Groups.

YoBE—Youth of Beth-El

Sundays, includes lunch 

YoBE is our teen youth group for 8th through 12th graders. With a foundation in the values of Reform Judaism, YoBE works strenuously to produce programs for Jewish youth in high school. YoBE activities range from trips to local sites like Millennium Park and The Grove to social action events that help the local needy or provide aid to humanitarian crisis and everything in between, including: religious service, education on current issues and various Judaic topics, lounge nights in our wonderful youth lounge, and fun programs designed by the YoBE board right at Temple Beth-El.

Camp Scholarships

Scholarships are available for OSRUI and youth trips to Israel for children of Temple Beth-El members.

For an application, please contact Leslie Hanus: (847) 205-9982, ext. 202 or lhanus@templebeth-el.org.

TEEN OPPORTUNITIES @ TBE

Be a Madrich!

Madrichim (Hebrew for Guides) are Teacher's Aides' and Students' Role Models. They help the teachers by assisting students individually or in small groups, facilitating class projects and serving as that extremely needed extra set of hands!

8th through 12th graders can help in our Sunday (9:30–11:30 am) and/or Tuesday (4–5:30 pm) classes.

All Madrichim receive gift cards and recommendation letters!

Join Teen Limud!




Teen Limud (Hebrew for Learning) takes place after Sunday School from 11:30 am –12:30 pm. It begins with lunch followed by discussions about modern Jewish issues that are relevant and of interest to the group.

L'Taken — Get Involved! Make a Difference!



L'Taken is the Reform Movement's Religious Action Center annual December trip to Washington, D.C.. Teens spend the weekend with hundreds of Reform Jewish high school students from across the U.S., learning about current issues, writing speeches and lobbying in the capitol. Highlights of the weekend include: visiting the Holocaust Museum, Havdallah at the Jefferson Memorial, dinner in Georgetown, Teen Shabbat and learning to use one's voice for change!

Sisterhood

LEARN MORE & REGISTER ► TempleBeth-El.org/Sisterhood

 = In-person attendance available
 = Virtual attendance available
 = Registration required

BOOK CLUB

Wednesdays, 12:30–2:00 pm  
Register: TempleBeth-El.org/Sisterhood

April 2023: NO MEETING

May 3, 2023

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
— The story of Elizabeth Zott, a brilliant chemist who is forced to become a television chef when she finds herself a young, single mother. This book is about women's lives, careers, and struggle for empowerment in the late 50's and early 60's.

June 7, 2023

The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish —
The story of two remarkable women separated by three centuries, the ambition that connects them, and the power of the written word.

WATERCOLOR CLASS WITH MARLA SNYDER

Tuesday, April 25, 7:00-9:00 pm

Join art teacher and new congregant Marla Snyder for a fun evening learning basic composition, drawing and watercolor techniques. All supplies will be provided. You will leave with beautiful finished artwork.

YOM HASHOAH DAY

Sunday, April 16, 2023

TBE Sisterhood is seeking volunteers to read to the children in the Sunday School classrooms for Yom HaShoah. Please contact Leslie Schlesinger at Idschles@aol.com if you would like to volunteer.

GIFT SHOP

Gift Shop is in the temple lobby and offers a great selection of tallit for your child's bar/bat mitzvah. And this is the place to buy your menorah and your seder plate.



COLLEGE CONNECTIONS

The College Connection Team of Temple Beth-El Sisterhood wants our college students to stay connected with Jewish life and to their Temple Beth-El family while away from home. Four times a year (Rosh HaShanah, Chanukah, Purim and Passover), the College Connection Committee sends your students Jewish holiday gift packages loaded with delicious baked goods and fun treats.



SISTERHOOD EMBROIDERED TABLECOTH

Have your family's names embroidered on our beautiful Temple Beth-El Signature Tablecloth for only \$36. 2 formats to choose from:

Format A: David & Lori Roth Family
Format B: The David Roth Family

Please mail a check made out to Temple Beth-El Sisterhood along with a note indicating the format and text you wish to have embroidered to: Temple Beth-El Sisterhood, 3610 Dundee Rd, Northbrook, IL 60062.

Please contact Leslie Schlesinger at Idschles@aol.com for more information.



Men's Club

Ric Bachrach & Bryan Mittelman
Co-Presidents

The TBE Men's Club (tbemensclub.com) has great programming every month.



Everyone is invited to our TBE Men's Club events. Sunday brunches are only \$5 (suggested donation) for members and guests. Watch for our emails and RSVP in advance for all occasions.

SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday, April 16, 9:30 am, at TBE  

With Yom Hashoah speaker & service event

MITZVAH DAY BRUNCH & SERVICE PROJECTS

Sunday, May 21, 9:30 am, at TBE  

SAVE THE DATES

ANNUAL MEETING AND FREE BBQ

Tuesday, June 6

23RD ANNUAL GOLF OUTING AND THE BIG DINNER

Sunday, July 23

Tikkun Olam / Social Action

► TempleBeth-El.org/Social-Action

CARING COMMITTEE B'YACHAD

Now more than ever people need a hand during these challenging times. Please let us know if you would like to volunteer to help our members most in need including wellness check-in calls, shopping, delivering treats to those who are ill, or helping with other requests.

Email Holly at hhamburg@TempleBeth-El.org.

A JUST HARVEST

5th Wednesday and Thursday of the month

Volunteer to shop and/or deliver food to A Just Harvest, the largest community soup kitchen in the Chicago area. Volunteers from Temple Beth-El join together four times a year to help feed those in need.

For more information, to be on our email list, or to volunteer, contact Barbara Charal at becharal@att.net.

NIGHT MINISTRY SACK MEALS DROP OFF

Sunday April 23

Drop off your sack meal (in a ziploc or brown bag) with: PB & J, or only meat & cheese (no condiments), a piece of fruit, granola bar and a bottle of water. Please drop-off 9:30 am– 12:30pm.

We will need one family to deliver meals to the city at 2:45 pm.

PLEASE JOIN OUR NEW PROGRAM MENSCH MATCH!

Would you or your family like to bring more joy into the life of an elderly person? Teach your children about a different kind of mitzvah and enjoy a feel good experience?



TBE sisterhood is partnering with Gidwitz Place for Assisted Living in Deerfield to create a one-on-one matching program for residents and any TBE congregant/family. You or your family will be matched with a resident who could use an occasional visit to bring them some much needed happiness. You would commit to visit with your “mensch match” at least once a month. You can bring activities or games to play, books to read, or even a special treat to eat together. Even just stopping by briefly to say hello will make your resident feel special.

Please reach out to Jolie Genender at (847) 224-5052 if you're interested.



BLOOD DRIVE AT TBE

Thank you to all who supported our blood drive on February 5. TBE had a successful drive, obtaining 45 much needed pints of blood for emergency medical care. Much appreciated is also the assistance from Laurie Orenstein and Linda Goldman in helping to promote the blood drive!

Adam Greene	George Heyman	Rabbi Michael Sommer
Ali Greene	Harold Israel	Rabbi Sid Helbraun
Amy Cades	Hillary Yanai	Randy Barr
Amy Feinstein	Irit Jacobson	Rebecca Bergman
Amy Klein	Jane Heyman	Rosely Kaiser
Andrea Dorr	Joan Freud	Sandy Barr
Avner Yanai	Jon Hattenbach	Scott Baum
Bennett Rodick	Julie Hecktman	Scott Guttman
Bess Cades	Laurie Orenstein	Sheryl Goldman
Bruce Sandlow	Lee Bouchie	Shira Koffman
Bruce Werner	Lisa Burger	Steve Lane
Carol Miller	Lisa Wilson	Syndi Salat
Corwyn Berger	Margaret Gertner	Wayne Shapiro
Craig Hahn	Mark Trachtenberg	Wendy Kaufman
Daya Levin	Martin Marks	
Debbie Sandlow	Melanie Doppelt	Joan Freud
Don Feinstein	Michael Bavier	Blood Drive
Don Solomon	Norm Blase	Coordinator
Gene Moskowitz	Paul Festenstein	

Adult Education & Programs

► [TempleBeth-El.org/Adult-Education](https://www.templebeth-el.org/Adult-Education)

 = In-person attendance available

 = Virtual attendance available

Registration: www.templebeth-el.org

PARASHAT HASHAVUAH (Weekly Torah portion) with Rabbi Helbraun or Cantor Kahan



Ongoing Saturdays

11:00 am–Noon  

Join Rabbi Helbraun or Cantor Kahan for teachings from the weekly Torah portion. On mornings when there is a B'nei Mitzvah, Tom Burnstine will lead the class.

EVERYDAY MORAL DILEMMAS

WITH RABBI HELBRAUN

Zug Class Curriculum prepared by
Rabbi Avi Strausberg of the Hadar Institute
Mondays, 7:00–8:00 pm  , Free

“I love this class” — Barb Berman

“Put on your thinking caps, oops I meant kippahs! Good discussions, interesting perspectives.” — Les Strauss

In this four-session class, participants will meet with a partner to study the material before coming together as a class on Monday nights to review and discuss with Rabbi Helbraun. We will wrestle with everyday moral dilemmas, the type of situations we each encounter daily. But rather than relying solely on our own opinions, we will review the wisdom of our sages in our Jewish texts, which provide us with additional resources for these life situations.

TALMUDIC TREASURE WITH RABBI WEISSBERG

Tuesdays, through June 27, 2023

9:30–11:00 am 

\$125 Members, \$150 Non-Members for the year

You're invited to join Rabbi Weissberg's Talmudic Treasures Circle. Come and discover how a group of great sages and faithful exiles create and maintain a cohesive society. Knowledge of Hebrew or Aramaic is not a prerequisite. Save and savor Tuesdays 9:30–11:00 am on Zoom.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

4th Wednesday of the month, 7 pm

TBE has partnered with JCFS to provide members and the community with a professionally facilitated grief support group. If you are interested, please, contact Marsha Raynes at JCFS at (847) 745-5408 or MarshaRaynes@jcfs.org for more information and the Zoom link.



TBE Men's Club members enjoy brunch.



TBE Sisterhood members learning Canasta.



Bingo Night Volunteers.



Rabbi Sid winning during Bingo Night.

Behind The Scenes

By Amy Huck, President, Board of Directors

Almost two years ago, a task force was convened to review the Temple Beth-El Bylaws. These Bylaws set forth the rules under which the Board of Directors govern.

The Task Force was charged with reviewing the Bylaws to assure effectiveness, relevance and, most importantly, to ensure that the governance structure met the needs of our growing congregation. Some of you may recall that a special meeting of the congregation was held last March, and the new **Bylaws were approved and went into effect July 1. After 8 months of operating under the new bylaws, it now seems the appropriate time to inform you of the work, goals and plans of the TBE Board of Directors.**

The most significant change in the structure of the Board was to reduce the overall size. This change has given us the opportunity to engage in more fruitful and informed discussions. We have spent a great deal of time establishing clear priorities so that we can move forward in a thoughtful way. Our focus has been to identify ways in which the Board can create initiatives, programs and policies that continue the upward trajectory that Temple Beth-El is on.

We are a strong community that has benefited from the leadership of the Clergy, Senior staff, and lay leaders. Our membership continues to grow as does the enthusiasm of our

members. As lay leaders we know that it is our responsibility to guide this path. **Our primary goals are to ensure our long-term financial security, meet the spiritual and social needs of our members and to enhance our sense of community.**

Currently, the Board is discussing three major initiatives. First, we are planning a review of our current mission and vision statement to be sure that it reflects our values and overall direction. Second, we are developing a strategic planning initiative to provide us with an operating framework for the next several years. Third, the Board hopes to participate in a URJ effort to ensure a safe, equitable and respectful workplace through the creation of a TBE Code of Ethics. We are in the very preliminary stages of our discussions on all three of these efforts. As we move forward, we will keep you informed and periodically seek your feedback.

Please feel free to contact me, amyhuck34@gmail.com, with any questions or suggestions. Your involvement and thoughts are important in our effort to move forward.



Are you ready to get involved?

Our Temple family is full of experts in many areas, and we need you. Please consider joining one of our teams/committees.

Community Involvement
Caring Committee
Finance
Religious Activities
Membership
Communications and Marketing
Facilities
Education
Inclusion
Social Action
Shabbat Service Greeters

Email Laurie Orenstein, Executive Director at lorenstein@TempleBeth-El.org, to find the spot that fits you best. We can meet your needs with short-term tasks or long-term teams. Just reach out!



Volunteer Hebrew teacher Marla Brichta works with a TBE student

Reboot with Kindness

► TempleBeth-El.org/Community/Reboot With Kindness

Each month, our Temple community will honor a group of congregants based on a theme of the month. We will perform acts of kindness all month for the groups we are highlighting.



APRIL Honoring the Earth! !

We will perform acts of kindness as a community for our world!



MAY Honoring our oldest congregants

Let us honor our oldest congregants by hearing their stories and doing acts of kindness for them.



Our youth enjoy art classes with Mr. G (left), and celebrate Tu Bishvat with a planting activity (above).



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Many of our students choose Feed My Starving Children for their B'nei Mitzvah projects. FMSC believes hope starts with food and is dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. They work with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development. To get involved, visit www.fmssc.org/get-involved.



A JUST HARVEST

Many of our students choose to decorate the Bimah with food baskets representing our support of A Just Harvest. AJH's mission is to fight poverty and hunger in the Rogers Park and greater Chicago community by providing nutritious meals daily while cultivating community and economic development and organizing across racial, cultural and socioeconomic lines in order to create a more just society. For more information visit www.ajustharvest.org.

Contributions

Received November 4, 2022–February 28, 2023

TO MAKE A DONATION:

Online: TempleBeth-el.org/donate

Mail-in form: Is available on page 18

A JUST HARVEST

In appreciation of

Jack Kamm for all his hard work on the wonderful Bingo Night from Barb Berman

In loving memory of

Raymond Abramson from Gary Abramson

BLITZ FAMILY CHILDREN'S CULTURAL ARTS FUND

In honor of

The birth of Frankie Stieber Lewis from Janice and Howard Hadesman

In loving memory of

Moe Spector from Janice & Howard Hadesman

CANTOR KAHAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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Cantor Kahan from Gene & Marina Shakhman
Cantor Kahan from Howard & Pamela Korenthal

In loving memory of

Alice Gross from the Rifkin and Kaplan Families

FREE WILL

For the speedy recovery of

Jan Benish from Leslie Dubin
Tauqeer Azam from Stuart & Leslie Dubin

For the yahrzeit of

Manny Sperling from Fern and Craig Hahn

In loving memory of

Rosalind Hahn from Fern and Craig Hahn
Bennett Koffman from Fern and Craig Hahn
David Siegel from Jennifer (Kirsch) Stein
Marvin H. Lewis for his service in World War II and in honor of Fred Rosenberg for his efforts in remembering him from Jerry and Sandy Lewis

KAPLAN CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In loving memory of

Sheldon Brown from Harold & Holly Israel
Moe Spector from Harold and Holly Israel
Barbara Hanover from Harold and Holly Israel
Bennett Koffman from Harold and Holly Israel

MATTHEW SCHAFFER-SCHWARTZ TIKKUN OLAM AWARD FUND

For the yahrzeit of

Bella Beifus from Les & Arden Strauss

In honor of the birth of

Frankie Stieber Lewis from Sally and Steve Lane
Ean Mykel Cano from Sally and Steve Lane

MEMORIAL FUND

For the yahrzeit of

Joseph Kopech from Robin Berk

In honor of

Osvaldo Rubinstein from Alicia Rubinstein

In loving memory of

Morris "Moe" Spector from Amy and Frank Huck
Norman Levin from Craig, Robin, Jordana, Ari Berk-Taylor, and Angus Taylor
Bennett Koffman from Herbert & Lillian Cohen
Esther Ksendzovsky from Holly & Phil Hamburg
Bennett E. Koffman from Jay & Nancy Reil
Morris Spector from Jerry and Sandy Lewis
David Siegel from Leah Goldberger
Bennett Koffman from Leah Goldberger
Judy from Linda Dubin
Morris "Moe" Spector from Nancy & Jay Reil
Jane Hoffenberg from Steven & Julie Rifkin
Joyce Barrett from Stuart & Leslie Dubin

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

In loving memory of

Fred Abrahams from Linda & Philip Abrahams

MEN'S CLUB

For the yahrzeit of

Stewart Rusnak from The Bachrach Family

In honor of

The marriage of Scott Bachrach to Samantha Hollands from Barbara Berman and Fred Rosenberg

MILTON STEINBERG EDUCATION FUND

In loving memory of

Morris "Moe" Spector from Fred Rosenberg & Barbara Berman

PERPETUATION FUND

In honor of

Frances Lewis from Joan and Ed Freud and family

In honor of the birth of

Frankie Lewis from Joanne and Gordy Levine

In loving memory of

Cheryl Thayer from Leslie Dubin

PHYLLIS NATALIE PODOLSKY LIBRARY FUND

For the yahrzeit of

Lawrence Lerner from Jeffrey Lerner

RABBI HELBRAUN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

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In appreciation of

Rabbi Helbraun from Andrew & Pamela Schwartz
Rabbi Helbraun from Marcia & Ken Kotula

In honor of

The Bat Mitzvah of Bri Lane from Mikeal Lane & Erin Pollyea
Sandy and Jerry Lewis on the birth of their granddaughter Frankie from Renee and Jerry Cohen

In honor of the birth of

Frances Lewis from Faryn Rudnick

In loving memory of

Bennett Koffman from Barb and Tom Harris

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SOCIAL ACTION FUND**For the speedy recovery of**

Erwin Laskey from Norton & Barbara Josephson

In loving memory of

Bennett Koffman from Amyra and Ken Henry

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Cynthia Schaffer

Bennett Koffman from Joan and Ed Freud and Family

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TEMPLE BETH-EL ENDOWMENT FUND**In honor of the birth of**

Frankie Stieber Lewis from Amy and Rich Noren

Frankie Stieber Lewis from Cindy Schoenstadt

Frances Lewis from Nancy and George Vizer

In loving memory of

Caryn Rosenberg from Fred Rosenberg

TEMPLE BETH-EL GENERAL FUND**In appreciation of**

Temple Beth-El from David & Juli Dreifuss

In honor of

Temple Beth-El from Anonymous

In loving memory of

Morris "Moe" Spector from Douglas Schwartz &
Cynthia Schaffer

Bennett Koffman from Ilse Gordon

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YAHREZEIT FUND**For the yahrzeit of**

Alex Nester from Alan & Barbara Hartstein

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Cynthia Geiderman Schwartz from Douglas Schwartz
& Cynthia Schaffer

Earl Harter from Douglas Schwartz & Cynthia Schaffer

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Jesse Jay Sharpe from Roger & Ellen Sharpe

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Donald Kaplan from Suzanne Groner

Samuel Teichman from Suzanne Groner

Polly Stewart from Vicki Bahnasy

For the yahrzeits of

Abraham Friedland, Martin Greenberg, Hymen Greenberg,

Ida Greenberg, Gertrude Friedland Grodberg, Irving

David Grodberg, Betty Ruth Hollander, Milton

Hollander, Lena Hollander & Harry Hollander from

EvaLynn Greenberg

William Abrams & Stewart Abrams Engeman

from Karyn Abrams

Sophie Simon & Morris Krugman from Larry & Linda Simon

Morris Lenkoffsky, Ida Metz, Rueben Metz & Anna Nelson

from Rhoda Lenkoffsky

Eli Septon & Pearl Septon from Robert & Gloria Septon

Henry Stewart, Samuel Stewart, Ian Stewart

from Victoria Bahnasy

In honor of

Jack Salkin from Leslie Dubin

Sarah Charnis from Sanford Barr

In loving memory of

Francine (Fegela) Nisenholz from Bryan & Carrie Kirchen

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Good Things are Happening!



B'nei Mitzvah

Mazel Tov to Bri Lane on becoming a Bat Mitzvah and to her parents Erin Pollyea and Mikeal Lane - January 7, 2023

Mazel Tov to Dyllan Kotula on becoming a Bar Mitzvah and to his parents Michelle & Joshua Kotula - January 14, 2023

Mazel Tov to Sylvie & Miles Signer on becoming B'nei Mitzvah and to their parents Jennifer Garson & Joel Signer - Jan 28, 2023

Zachary Cotter on becoming a Bar Mitzvah and to his parents Michelle & Peter Cotter - Feb. 25, 2023

Engagements

Mazel Tov to Robin & Gary Kahen on the engagement of their son Jeremy Kahen to Kristen Kleeman - Feb 18, 2023

Weddings

Mazel Tov to Marci Cohen on her marriage to Michael Szopinski - Dec. 31, 2022

Mazel Tov to Diane & Ric Bachrach on the wedding of their son Scott to Samantha Hollands - Jan. 29, 2023

Births

Wendy Kauffman & Lee Boushie on the birth of their grandchild Ean Cano to parents Elana & Michael Cano, February 1, 2023

Sandy & Jerry Lewis on the birth of their grandchild Frances (Frankie) Stieber Lewis to parents Chelsea Stieber & Michael Lewis, February 1, 2023

Grandparents Marcia & David Kanarek, Aunt Dana & Uncle AJ Tamez and Cousins Hannah & Jocelyn Tamez on the birth of Mabel Lilly Kanarek to parents Jessica & Barry Kanarek - Feb. 27, 2023

Milestone Anniversaries

January 2023

Kari & Jordan Dekhayser - 15 years
Erica & Alan Surdyk - 10 years
Deborah Epstein & Eric Lawrence - 5 years
Jennifer Weinstein & Mark Donegan - 5 years

February 2023

Hannah & David Kaplan - 60 years
Stephanie & Joshua Brand - 15 years



Please contact Holly Hamburg to share your good news at (847) 205-9982, ext. 207 or hhamburg@templebeth-el-org.

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We appreciate all contributions and suggest a minimum donation of \$18 per acknowledgment.

Please make all checks payable to Temple Beth-El and mail to 3610 Dundee Rd. Northbrook, IL 60062

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Temple Beth-El is an inclusive Jewish community open to people of all ages, races and abilities, welcoming interfaith families, people who are single, partnered and LGBTQIA+.

The Temple Beth-El Bulletin is published bi-monthly. Letters, comments and news about the Temple are always welcome. Please send via email to office@templebeth-el.org. Bulletins may also be viewed on our website.

בית אלי Torah Belongs to Everyone



We have a NEW Torah that will be completed by our community. There are 250 letters to fill in.

Join us for this once-in-a-generation event. A *sofer*, Hebrew for Torah Scribe, will be present to undertake the work of writing each precious letter.

Save the dates!  

Sunday, May 7
Kick-Off 9:30 am

This special Torah day is a special session of Sunday School beginning with an all-Temple assembly to meet our scribe and participate in a communal blessing of writing a Torah.

Monday, May 8
Torah Completion Continues 9:00 am

The *sofer* continues the holy work of completing the Torah. Additional time slots will be available to accommodate all the letters we need to complete.

Friday, May 12
Torah Dedication Shabbat Service and Special Oneg 6:00 pm

Join your temple family for a festive shabbat as we dedicate our new Torah.

LEARN MORE ►

