

Temple
BETH AM

The Scribe



Volume MMXIX, No. 3

Cheshvan/Kislev/Tevet

Nov/Dec 2019

In Concert
Sunday, November 17 at 7pm

TURNS TILES

THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL

Sunday
December 22
Chanukah
Party!





The Marathon of Holidays

Dear Friends,

We have now concluded the long process of coming together and celebrating our Fall Holidays, starting with Rosh Hashana, continuing with Yom Kippur, and concluding with Sukkot, which ended with Simchat Torah. Each of these special days represented such vastly different moods. Rosh Hashana, being the start of a new year, has a combination of solemnity to it, but it also contains a measure of joy simply by bringing us all together as a community. The Day of Atonement is, of course, the most somber and serious of special days. Of the three, Sukkot is filled with joy and celebration as we enjoyed the sukkah and the beauty of lulav and etrog. It was wonderful to share these holidays with each of you and I hope that, collectively, they succeeded in bringing us together, inspiring us with their messages, motivating us to remain connected, and blessing us with joy and contentment to last us until the next New Year.

Now that “the marathon” is over, we get back to “normal”. Every Shabbat is a new opportunity for us to re-connect. The Daily Minyans (7:20 in the morning and 6:00 in the evenings) also provide wonderful opportunities to spend a few moments reflecting on the meaning of our lives, recognizing the blessings we are granted, and encountering whatever challenges may be facing us. We all know that you cannot possibly run a marathon unless you devote the time and energy to building up to it. You can’t run a mile before you run the 100 yard dash. That, my friends, is what daily worship and weekly Shabbatot can provide for us. They are the trial runs that help prepare us for the High Holidays.

By the time you are reading this issue of The Scribe, I will be travelling with your fellow congregants through Israel. It will be a privilege and a pleasure to show them the Israel that I know and love and which Melinda and I call home. When the program ends and everyone else returns to Florida I will have the opportunity to spend a bit more time there with our two daughters, their husbands, and the eight grandchildren who all live in Jerusalem. This is a difficult time for Israel. Hopefully, by then, they will have a government installed as they face the simultaneous pressures and challenges of Hamas, Hezbollah, Syria, and Iran. At the same time they continue to produce miracles in technology, industry, agriculture, and science, having just achieved a number of Nobel Prizes in various fields.

Too much pessimism blurs our view of the good and the wonderful. Too much optimism blinds us to the serious obstacles all around us. The so called “High” Holidays are past us, but let’s not forget that other holidays are coming — Thanksgiving, Chanuka, Tu B’Shvat, and Purim are not far behind. Enjoy each and every day and grab onto life with enthusiasm and confidence.

Rabbi Sam Kieffer

Temple Beth Am is an egalitarian conservative synagogue. We strive to be a spiritual home wherein a Jewish path can begin or continue in the company of a caring and loving community. The atmosphere is open, the journey engaging, the community supportive. We celebrate Torah and the traditions of Jewish living by providing a spiritual and religious experience, engaging our members in lifelong education, and taking an active role in community activities.

HELP WANTED!



Bingo needs your help! Take this opportunity to help our temple, make new friends and show off your skills!

If interested please contact
Freda Mammina: tonyfire22@aol.com
or

Gary Grossman:
gary@copansprinting.com

Boqer Tov

Join us for a Shabbat discussion of each week's parsha. We invite everyone to join us and participate in an insightful and interesting conversation. Our group meets every Saturday, after Shabbat lunch.

*Put us on your calendar
and join us!*

Call the office at
954-968-4545 to find out
about advertising in

The Scribe

Temple Beth Am Administrative Company

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Rabbi Samuel Kieffer.....Ext. 18
Rabbi Emeritus Paul Plotkin.....Ext. 10
Scott Demsky, *Shaliach Tzibur*.....Ext. 10
Sandi Witt, *Office Manager*.....Ext. 15

Temple Beth Am Office Staff

Alana Menitoff, *Assistant to the Rabbi*.....Ext. 16
Teddi Klein, *Administrative Assistant*.....Ext. 10

❖ *For all other concerns, dial ext. 10*

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Temple Beth Am

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Phone: (954) 968-4545, Fax: (954) 970-4281

Visit us at www.beth-am.org

From Our President...



As I write this article, Rosh Hashanah is about to begin; but you will not be reading it until after Simchat Torah. I hope that everyone's holidays were happy and fulfilling and that you were able to spend it not only with our shul, but with your family and loved ones. As we move forward in 5780, I want to return to one of the topics of my Kol Nidre speech, that of volunteering.

I talked about helping out in terms of supporting our programs, that these events are only as good as the time and effort that is put in by the team that puts on the program. Please remember that our paid office staff has decreased in size significantly over the past several years, and that while part of Alana's responsibilities is to support programming, this is not her only job and she cannot, nor is she expected to do it all. We all need your help and support. And, of course, we need everyone's participation to keep our daily Minyan going.

But there are other ways to volunteer. At the most recent Board meeting just a few days ago, an issue was raised in regards to use of plastic straws and dishes. Plastic does not degrade for many years (decades, centuries?) and contributes to our landfills and presents a danger to wildlife. On the other hand, let's face it that paper straws really are not very good. How does one strike a balance? At the meeting I suggested that this was a perfect segue for one of my goals of my presidency: re-starting a social action committee.

Over the years our social action activities have atrophied. We had a vibrant Mitzvah Day program which has dwindled to a few activities, and not much else. What is Social Action anyway? To me it is a part of *tikun olam* - "repairing the world". While there are many interpretations of what *tikun olam* is, in modern Judaism many regard it as our obligation to perfect the world through performance of mitzvot – at least that is my interpretation. None of us can fix the world individually all by ourselves, but we are still obligated to do our part, however small it may be. It is in the combined cumulative effort that progress is made. We can look with pride on the younger generation who are taking the lead in issues such as gun violence and climate change – efforts to make the world a better place.

If you are interested in participating in a Social Action Program, or especially if you would like to chair the committee, please get in touch with me. There is much to do, but at the sake of repeating myself – "if not now, when?"

Mark Reiner

Temple Beth Am President

Candle Lighting Times

November

Friday, November 1st at 6:21 pm
Friday, November 8th at 5:17 pm
Friday, November 15th at 5:14 pm
Friday, November 22nd at 5:11 pm
Friday, November 29th at 5:11 pm

December

Friday, December 6th at 5:11 pm
Friday, December 13th at 5:13 pm
Friday, December 20st at 5:16 pm
Friday, December 27th at 5:19 pm

Bikur Cholim



([Hebrew](#): ביקור חולים; "visiting the sick"; also transliterated *Bikur holim*) refers to the [mitzvah](#) ([Jewish](#) religious commandment) to visit and extend aid to the sick.

Bikur Cholim is one of the important deeds included in Gemilut Hasadim—the performance of loving kindness. It means “caring for the sick” but there is much more that we can do. It is also one of the many mitzvahs we are commanded to do.

We have formed a Bikur Cholim committee to reach out to members who are ill or recovering from surgery. Please let us know if you, your family member, or dear friend is in need and would like support from the Bikur Cholim.

If you are interested in joining this committee or get more information please call the Temple office at 954-968-4545 or contact Nina Finkel at bubbienf@aol.com.

REGULAR SERVICE TIMES

Service times are subject to change
Please confirm times at www.beth-am.org
or call the Temple Office at 954-968-4545

Daily Minyan

Monday - Friday Morning: 7:20 AM
Monday - Thursday Afternoon: 6:00 PM
Friday Afternoon : 6:10 PM
Sunday Morning: 8:30 AM
Sunday Afternoon: 5:00 PM

Shabbat

Happy Minyan - Friday Night Carlebach: 6:10 PM
Shabbat Morning Services: 9:00 AM
Shabbat Afternoon Service: 5:00 PM

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon
Sunday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon

TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN 2019-2020



Torah Fund is the campaign that is helping to ensure the future of Conservative Judaism by providing scholarship money for rabbis, cantors, educators, synagogue administrators, professional and lay leaders, and many more. Your Torah Fund contribution helps to strengthen and perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism throughout the world.

Chesed means “kindness” in Hebrew. The word can also be translated as “loving kindness,” to convey the deep love that animates Jewish acts of kindness, done without thought of reward.

The Bible has numerous examples of *chesed*, such as Abraham and Sarah welcoming three strangers to their tent in the heat of the day; Abraham’s servant’s prayer for a wife for Isaac, answered by Rebecca who offers water to him and to his camels; and Ruth, who shows loyalty and kindness to Naomi, adopting her religion and peoplehood, after Naomi has experienced great loss. The rabbinic tradition enacted many laws to formalize our commitment to kindness, making *chesed* one of the three central pillars of Jewish life, as Shimon HaTzaddik taught: “The world rests on three things, on Torah, on service of God, and on deeds of kindness” (Pirkei Avot 1:2).

The 5780 (2019-2020) Torah Fund pin depicts a heart surrounded by three circles, one larger than the next. This symbolizes the heart of kindness, which Jews enact in ever-widening realms of generosity: from family, to community, to the larger world; from North America, to Israel, to the world; or from sisterhood, to region, to the larger world of Women’s League for Conservative Judaism. And as it is said in Psalm 89, may we build a world of kindness.

We ask you for your support in the Torah Fund Campaign. If you would like to participate in this mitzvah, please contact Maxine Szmulewitz by email at maxinepaula@gmail.com or call 954-675-3551.

COLLEGE OUTREACH

Keep college students connected to Jewish life via letters, emails, packages, and special texts.

If interested, simply call the Temple office at 954-968-4545 and provide us with your child’s mailing address, cell number and email address or email the information to the temple office at switt@beth-am.org.

Don’t let your child be left out!

Information is not retained and must be updated each year.

Temple Beth Am Spotlight

Jane Crisis Reiner

Temple Beth Am's First Lady

By Linda Storfer

Although it was almost Erev Rosh Hashanna and she had just returned from being away for more than two months in the Berkshire Mountains (Massachusetts) Jane didn't seem at all edgy but was as calm and relaxed as could be when we met. I think that this is because she is a totally organized individual and an expert on time management.



Jane grew up on Long Island in Massapequa Park in a family of four where she was the younger of two and had an older brother. She met Mark (Mark who?) in the Farmingdale School System before she entered high school. Jane spent her "camping career" at one of the Habonim camps in Pennsylvania where a lot of her Jewishness developed. After high school she attended the University of Rhode Island in Kingston where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science and then went on to receive her Masters in Accounting at the same school. In 1977 she began working at Price Waterhouse where she worked for 6 years but later on was transferred to their DC office to which she commuted everyday by airplane shuttle.

When she was first married she lived in the Bronx because Mark was doing his residency at the Albert Einstein School of Medicine. In 1981 the Reiners moved to Coral Springs partially because they wanted to be closer to their parents. They liked Florida living and raised their two sons Jason and Jonathan in the Sunshine State. Currently Jason lives in Tamarac and Jonathan lives with his wife and their son Asher, who is almost two years old, in Westchester. In 1982 Jane established her own business, Procon Management Consulting, and worked with companies to implement "ERP" (enterprise resources planning) software that helps companies manage their operations.

This interview was particularly enjoyable because there were actually two interviewees-Jane and Madison, her rescue dog, both of whom are Certified in Pet Therapy. Both Jane and Madison, who is 12 years old, completed a year long course in Pet Therapy and currently visit nursing homes, rehabilitation centers and libraries to name a few places where they provide cheer and good will to residents and young people.

After spending some time with Jane it is evident that her heart is bigger than the shul's publication, the Scribe. Her love of people, adults and children, animals and many charities and social causes comes shining through. In her "spare time" she serves as Vice President of Finance on the TBA Executive Board and manages to go to a personal trainer 3x a week, boxes 2x a week and swims. She is interested in many social causes and when she retires hopes to get more involved in activities in Heron Bay where she resides. She finds TBA a very welcoming community and shared with me that when both she and Mark lost their fathers within a very short time of one another how everyone showed them much love and support.

If you don't know Jane then try to meet her because she is one classy lady and among the best that TBA has to offer.

Temple Beth Am Men's Club presents

TURNSTILES

THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF BILLY JOEL



TEMPLE BETH AM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2019 at 7:00 PM

\$30 in advance, \$35 at the door

Tickets available online, by phone, or in person

www.beth-am.org ■ 954-968-4545

7205 Royal Palm Blvd., Margate, FL 33063

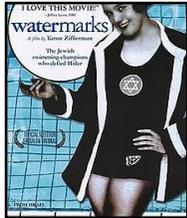
Advertising available - Contact Larry Schwartz at (954) 298-8923

If you're a Billy Joel fan, you're **ALREADY** a Turnstiles fan!



Watermarks

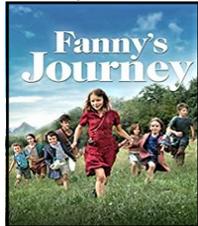
Saturday, November 9, 2019



A fascinating documentary about a group of young Austrian Jewish women who swam for Hakoah, a popular Jewish sports club in the 1930's. After the Nazi takeover of Austria, the girls along with their families fled to Palestine and other countries. Sixty five years later, the director, Yaron Zilberman, travels around the world to interview all the swim team members and organizes a reunion in Vienna where they have the opportunity to swim in the same pool where they had trained as teenagers. You will be moved by their inspiring stories!

Fanny's Journey

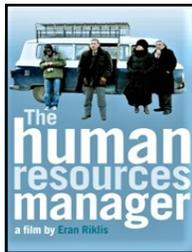
Saturday, December 9, 2019



A touching, true story about thirteen-year old Fanny Ben-Ami and her two younger sisters who were sent from their home in Vichy France to live in an Italian foster home for Jewish children in 1943. They were forced to leave when the Nazis arrived in Italy. The film details their incredible escape from Italy over the Swiss border to freedom. It is a beautiful film about family ties, courage, and the will to survive against all odds.

The Human Resources Manager

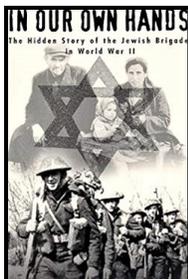
Saturday, January 11, 2020



An employee of Jerusalem's largest bakery, a foreign worker, is killed in a suicide bombing. The bakery is accused of indifference and it sends its Human Resources Manager to return the woman's body to Romania, to make amends and to honor the woman he didn't even know. The Manager fights to restore his company's reputation and possibly his own humanity.

In Our Own Hands

Saturday, February 15, 2020



A true story of the Jewish Brigade in World War II. You will swell with pride as Jews use their time in the British army to learn military strategies and secure equipment and weapons which helped form the basis of the Haganah and later the IDF. Hear first hand stories of their chutzpah and ingenuity.



Refreshments will be served
\$7 per person in advance / \$10 per person @ door



Adult Education



Lifelong Jewish learning has been a core value of Judaism. Batei midrash (houses of study) were established so adults could use their “leisure time” to fulfill the mitzvah of Talmud Torah. Join Temple Beth Am for a journey of

Spring Schedule

Crossroads in Jewish History

This class will review major moments in Jewish History when we had to face major divisions from within. Such divisions involved choices and conflicts that could have marked the end of Jewish History as we know it. Specific schisms that will be considered over five sessions will include:

1. The Battle of the H's--Hasmoneans vs Hellenists; Chanuka In A New Light
2. First Century Judaism; Torah or the Cross—Making the Talmud Our New Testament
3. Golden Age of Spanish Jewry/Inquisition—The Marranos at a Dead-end manage to find a new door
4. Yiddish vs Ladino; The world of Ashkenazim and Sephardim
5. Cracks in the Zionist Dream; How the dream almost collapsed before it began

Instructor: Rabbi Sam Kieffer

Fee: \$25 Member / \$36 Non-Member

Tuesday Evening 7:00pm—8:30pm

Dates: 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 5/5, 5/12

Heroes & Heroines of the Holocaust

This course will study the lives of Jewish and non-Jewish men, women and children who risked their lives in order to save Jewish lives during the Holocaust. Included will be famous as well as lesser known heroes and heroines as well as specific countries and governments that saved or attempted to save Jewish lives. In addition, the story will be shared how Kieffer relatives were rescued in a most unusual method through diplomatic and illegal means. We will also learn the process of how an individual is designated as a “Righteous Among The Nations” by Israel’s Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Center, Museum and Archives. This class will include use of articles, diaries, videos and other artifacts found during and after the Holocaust.

Instructor: Melinda Kieffer

Fee: \$25 Member / \$36 Non-Member

Wednesday Evening 7:00PM-8:30PM

Dates: 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1



Adult Education



Year Long Adult Education Offerings

Conversational Hebrew

Have you ever wanted to speak basic Hebrew but either don't have anyone to speak with or don't feel you have enough knowledge to converse? Join Heidi Carmel on Sunday mornings and learn the basics through conversations with others who possess similar interests. Basic Hebrew reading is required.

Instructor: Heidi Carmel
Sunday Morning: 9:30am-11:00am
Dates: TBD
Fee: \$50 Member / \$72 Non-Member

Torah Trope

The first 1-2 classes will focus on proper pronunciation of Hebrew words (consonants, vowels, syllabification), the importance of understanding what is being read, and a little bit of trope theory: the purpose of trope and its relationship to the words and ideas being read. The remaining classes will be devoted to learning first the most common trope notes, then the lesser-used trope notes; first by themselves and then as applied to actual Torah portions. People who have achieved the above skills will be assigned a specific reading, and spend the class time with me (and of course practicing on their own) working on that specific reading, and then doing it.

Instructor: Sapir Roth
Meet: Sunday Mornings
Time: 11:15 AM - 12 PM
Dates: 11/3, 11/20, 11/17, 11/24, 1/12, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15
Fee: \$50 Member / \$72 Non-Member



Boker Tov

(Parsha study group)
Saturdays After Lunch
Free



Sisterhood 2nd Sunday Game Day

Join us for a morning of Mah Jongg, Canasta or Rummy Q
Bring your Mah Jongg set, your Canasta cards, your friends...
...and your appetite!



Save these dates!

November 10
January 12
March 8



Members: \$10 pp

Non-Members: \$12 pp

Reservations Required

Sponsored by the Sisterhood of Temple Beth Am

Simcha Shabbat



Once a month Temple Beth Am
hosts a Simcha Shabbat lunch. For
a minimum donation of only \$36 we
will recognize your simcha with an
announcement & a cake celebrat-
ing the event!

Join the celebration!

Call the Temple office at 954-968-4545 for more information

Happy Birthday!



Happy Birthday to our TBA member Celebrants!



November

Ellen Arkush
Stanley Baumwald
Linzi Berman
Anne Berman
Stewart Berman
Brian Blank
Robin Blank
Harvey Brodzki
Gail Cranez
Nancy Denberg
Gwendolyn Dvorkin
Minnie Edelman

Estelle Elpern
Shavie Fagan
Nina Finkel
Courtney Fixelle
Joshua Friedman
Ronda Fryburg
Natalie Gluck
Arthur Goldman
Michael Greenberg
Marc Kaplan
Gloria Kaplan
Marc Katz
Melinda Kieffer

Orin Levy
Debbie Marton
Sydelle Mitchell
Rhoda Morris
Rachelle Nahmias
Scott Newman
Sherry Roth
Bruce Schames
Gail Schwartz
Anita Todras
Michelle Weiss
C. Ross Zimmerman

December

Alysa Abzug
Laurence Adelman
Daniel Agami
Stephen Ahron
Kelsey Beer
Marly Beer
Robert Blank
Lynn Corzia
Jordan Cranez
Lois Epstein
Mark Epstein

Bonnie Epstein
Jake Fagan
Bonnie Feldman
Lori Fixelle
Hannah Gilman
Amy Hymes
Irene Klaindorf
Joseph Kresch
Martin Kuperman
Alyse Levine
Shirley Levinson
Jack Pollock

Jason Reiner
Lisa Shmia
Wendy Solomon
Howard Solomon
Sarah Sternberg
Russell Szmulewitz
Laurie Vecker
Barry Vecker
Carolina Villafane
Arlene Weicher
Janice Weinsoff



Happy Birthday to All Our Temple Members!



Temple Beth Am Men's Club Presents

JEWISH HERITAGE NIGHT



**San Jose
Sharks**

VS



**Florida
Panthers**

DECEMBER 8 @ 5:00 PM

BB&T Center, Sunrise, Florida

LOWER BOWL: \$35 | UPPER BOWL: \$25

Parking and Commemorative Item Included in Price!

Tickets available at <https://groupmatics.events/event/Floridaregion>
Questions? Contact Moshe Shmia at mshmia@bellsouth.net

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Tree of Life

By inscribing a leaf, your special event becomes part of our Temple history.

For more information contact the Temple office at 954-968-4545.

Chanukah Party!



Festive Meal

**Sunday
December 22**

Candle Lighting



PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS
CHARITIES

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:

TEMPLE BETH AM

Get started

amazonsmile



Jo

Remembering the past and the present....

The final year of this decade, 2019, was the golden anniversary for many notable events. Of course, we all know about the Apollo 11 moon landing on July 20, 1969. In honor of this historic landing, then Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin was invited to attend the launch at the Cape Kennedy; commander Moshe Dayan paid a tribute to the astronauts on Israel's Air Force Day; and perhaps most interestingly, the landing forced a change in the blessing for the new moon (*kiddush levana*). Prior to the moon landing, the old blessing read "As I dance before you and cannot touch you, so my enemies will not be able to touch me." It now reads: "As I dance against you and do not touch you, so others, if they dance against me to harm me, they will not touch me."

Besides the moon landing, did you also know that 2019 was the 50th anniversary of the Beatles "Abbey Road", which featured songs including "Come Together", "Here Comes the Sun", and "Octopus's Garden"?

2019 also serves as the 50th anniversary for an old-time favorite TV show of the 70s, "The Brady Bunch"? "The Brady Bunch" was on TV for 5 years and filmed 117 episodes. I can still hear the theme song in my head, "Here's the story, of man named Brady...". The show was the epitome of family TV shows of the 1970s. Before Robert Reed was cast as the father figure Mike Brady, Gene Hackman was considered. At that time, Mr. Hackman, famous for the "French Connection", "Young Frankenstein", and "Poseidon Adventure", was an unknown and producer Sherwood Schwartz wanted a known actor. Some interesting facts about the Brady Bunch include Carol Brady was supposed to be a divorcee, however this topic was a no-no on TV at the time. Hence, they never mentioned what happened to her first husband. The Brady children's bathroom, which was shown so often, didn't have a toilet installed as the network wouldn't allow it to be seen on TV.



Men's Club of Temple Beth Am



Join us and share your ideas with us!

Mark your calendars! On Sunday, November 17, Men's Club will be hosting the Turnstiles, a South Florida-based Billy Joel tribute band, right in our own social hall. Turnstiles is a band of 6 men, led by Tony Monaco. They have played at locations including the City of Niagara Falls, the Boca Resort, the Mizner Park Amphitheater, and more. Come join us as they play your favorite Billy Joel songs including "Piano Man", "Honesty", "My Life" and more!



We are offering advertising opportunities for your business. Please contact Larry Schwartz at 954-298-8923 to place your ad.



On Sunday, December 8, we will be joining other regional Men's Club associated with the Florida Jewish Men's Club (FJMC) for **Jewish Heritage Night** as our Florida Panthers take on the San Jose Sharks. The game is at the BB&T Center in Sunrise and starts at 5:00pm. We are offering both upper and lower-bowl seating, with parking and a commemorative gift included in the price.

On January 25, the Men's Club is pleased to bring back Trivia Night! Stay tuned to the Scribe and to our website for more information.



Get your tickets to the Turnstiles and to Jewish Heritage Hockey night by going to our website at www.beth-am.org or calling the office at 954-968-4545.

Chag Chanukah Sameach to all! Happy Chanukah!

Moshe Shmia, President TBA Men's Club

Join us for dinner!

For updates visit our website at www.beth-am.org
or check out our weekly email "The Weekly What's Happening"



January 17, 2020
Winter Wonderland Shabbat Dinner

March 20, 2020
Spring Fling Shabbat Dinner



Installation of Officers

June 5, 2020
**Board Installation &
Member Appreciation**



A Special Thank You Note....

Thank you to the congregation
for all of your love & Support.

Love,
Barbara Himmelgreen
& Family



GREETINGS FROM SISTERHOOD

Our mission is to challenge all the Beth Am women to become more involved this year, maybe in Sisterhood, maybe in adult education, maybe in being a volunteer at an event. To that end, we are looking forward to all the exciting programs that sisterhood has planned for 2019-2020. We hope to provide a variety of experiences to appeal to the needs of our diverse congregation.

September and October were busy months. Our Rosh Hashanah cards were once again a huge success. Thanks to Amy Hymes for her hard work. We are sorry to those we had to turn down due to their late responses. We hope you stopped the Neilah Nosh after services, and we thank Heidi Carmel for overseeing the event. On October 13th we had Melinda Kieffer discuss Secrets of Sukkot and then we decorated the sukkah. On October 16th, we had our first program, our annual Sukkah Sizzle. It's always fun to reconnect with friends and make new relationships.

We are looking forward to our November programs. On November 2nd, we are having our first book discussion and it will be led by Linda Storfer. The book is *Rabbi, Rabbi* by Andrew Kane, and we hope you read it and will join us. November 10th will be our first game day (Maj Jong, Canasta).

In December we are planning to have an Indian Cooking Demo. Details to follow.

The new 2020 year brings additional new events. Jan 12th game day, February 9th Beth Am Book Club will meet to discuss *The Last Watchman of Old Cairo*. On February 17th, we will visit the Weiner Museum of Decorative Arts. More information at a later date. February 22nd will be Women's Shabbat, March 8th game day, March 29th the first annual Chocolate Seder,

As partners with Women's League, we encourage everyone to participate in Torah Fund. Any donation is welcome, but at a certain level you will receive the new pin which says "chesed" "kindness".

We hope to promote kindness within our TBA family and neighboring community. With the approach of the Thanksgiving and Chanukah season, we are thankful for our families, friends, and the many blessings we have received.

Susan Weiss

gmaweiss@att.net

Maxine Szmuelowitz

maxinepauls@gmail.com



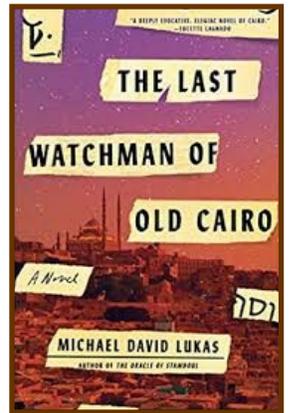
Sunday, February 9th
10:00 am

The Last Watchman of Old Cairo

By: Michael David Lucas

The Last Watchman of Old Cairo is a moving page-turner of a novel from acclaimed storyteller Michael David Lukas. This tightly woven multigenerational tale illuminates the tensions that have torn communities apart and the unlikely forces—potent magic, forbidden love—that boldly attempt to bridge that divide.

Joseph, a literature student at Berkeley, is the son of a Jewish mother and a Muslim father. One day, a mysterious package arrives on his doorstep, pulling him into a mesmerizing adventure to uncover the tangled history that binds the two sides of his family. For generations, the men of the al-Raqb family have served as watchmen of the storied Ibn Ezra Synagogue in Old Cairo, built at the site where the infant Moses was taken from the Nile. Joseph learns of his ancestor Ali, a Muslim orphan who nearly a thousand years earlier was entrusted as the first watchman of the synagogue and became enchanted by its legend—perhaps magical—Ezra Scroll. The story of Joseph’s family is entwined with that of the British twin sisters Agnes and Margaret, who in 1897 depart their hallowed Cambridge halls on a mission to rescue sacred texts that have begun to disappear from the synagogue.



The discussion will be led by Maxine Szmulewitz. The book was chosen by Women’s League for their on line book club because of it’s many accolades. It is the **WINNER OF: THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION’S SOPHIE BRODY AWARD • THE NATIONAL JEWISH BOOK AWARD IN FICTION • THE SAMI ROHR PRIZE FOR JEWISH LITERATURE • Named One of the Ten Best Books of the Year by the BBC • Longlisted for the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association Fiction Prize • A Penguin Random House International One World, One Book Selection.**

Programs, events & other stuff....



Saturday, February 1, 2020

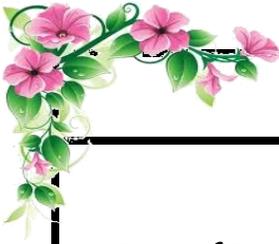
“What’s New in Medical Ethics”
Presenters include doctors, lawyers,
and Rabbi Kieffer

50’s Music Concert!

Saturday
February 29, 2020

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Raffles, Auctions, Prizes,
Food and Cash Bar!





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Albert Brunn's special birthday
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Jeff Dworkin—Refuah Shelemah
Jeff Dworkin—get well
Len Efron & Nina Finkel—good friends
Jane Adler's special birthday
Pennie & Les Ascowitz—congratulations
on the birth of your grandson
Andy Bern—wishing a speedy recovery
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Albert Brunn's 95th birthday*



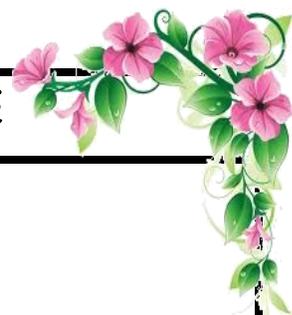
Bikur cholim

(Hebrew: ביקור חולים; "visiting the sick"; also transliterated Bikur holim) refers to the mitzvah (Jewish religious commandment) to visit and extend aid to the sick.

Bikur Cholim is one of the important deeds included in Gemilut Hassadim—the performance of loving kindness. It means “caring for the sick” but there is much more that we can do. It is also one of the many mitzvahs we are commanded to do. Please let us know if you, your family member, or dear friend is in need and would like support from the Bikur Cholim. Contact the office for more information.



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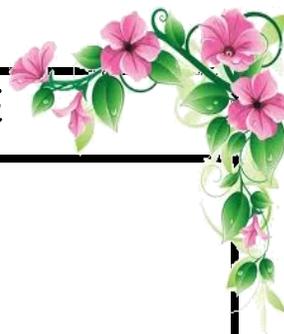
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