

the bimonthly

# bulletin

Temple Beth Am

June / July 2018 | Sivan - Av 5778

Vol. 65, No. 5



*KALLAH-ING ALL YOUTH: Beth Am Temple Youth (BATY) members attend the NFTY-NW Spring Kallah at URJ Camp Kalsman in April.*

## THE INSPIRATION AND LEADERSHIP OF YOUTH

This past January, I traveled to Washington D.C. with seven of our 11<sup>th</sup> graders – the inaugural cohort of L'Taken – the Religious Action Center's social justice seminar, which bring hundreds of Reform Jewish high school students together learn about Jewish values on modern issues, and teach them to lobby our elected officials. The most inspirational takeaway is the

power and passion of youth. This remarkable group of teenage leaders poured their souls into their speeches that were delivered to four Senate and Congressional offices. I am honored to share brief excerpts. The full speeches can be found on Temple Beth Am's website at <http://templebetham.org/tba-religious-school/curriculum/am-yisarel-high-ayh/11th-12th-grade>.

RABBI JASON LEVINE  
rabbijason@templebetham.org  
206-525-0915 x215



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Continued on page 17

# SHABBAT SERVICES - JUNE

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## Friday Services

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**Kinder Kabbalat Shabbat**  
*Friday, June 1 / 6:00 PM*

**Choir Kabbalat Shabbat**  
*Friday, June 1 / 8:00 PM*

**Board Installation and Volunteer  
 Appreciation Jazzy Kabbalat Shabbat**  
*Friday, June 8 / 8:00 PM*  
 Shabbat service honoring our volunteers and installing  
 the new Board of Directors members.

**Acoustic Kabbalat Shabbat**  
*Friday, June 15 / 6:15 PM*

**Pride Shabbat**  
*Friday, June 15 / 6:30 PM*  
*Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue*

**Klezmer Kabbalat Shabbat  
 and Healing Challahs**  
*Friday, June 22 / 6:15 PM*

**Kabbalat Shabbat**  
*Friday, June 29 / 6:15 PM*

## Saturday Services

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**Shabbat Morning Service**  
*Saturday, June 2 / 10:30 AM / Parsha: Beha'alotecha*  
 Bat Mitzvah of Abbey Wolff, daughter of Michelle  
 Wolff

**Shabbat Morning Service**  
*Saturday, June 9 / 10:30 AM / Parsha: Shelach*  
 Bar Mitzvah of Max Pergament, son of Heather and  
 Greg Pergament

**Shabbat Morning Service**  
*Saturday, June 16 / 10:30 AM / Parsha: Korach*  
 B'not Mitzvah of Elana Lawrence, daughter of  
 Beatrice Lawrence & Yoo Kim and David Lawrence;  
 and Samara Bluming, daughter of Francie and Jason  
 Bluming

**Tot Shabbat and Shabbat Morning Service**  
*Saturday, June 23 / 9:15 AM, 10:30 AM /*  
*Parsha: Chukat*  
 Bat Mitzvah of Marley Ritzer, daughter of Katherine  
 and Jeremy Ritzer

**Shabbat Morning Service**  
*Saturday, June 30 / 10:30 AM / Parsha: Balak*  
 Bat Mitzvah of Bailey Pollack, daughter of Jennifer and  
 Ari Pollack

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## IN THIS ISSUE

From the President: "Building Governance on Hesed" ..... 4  
 Executive Director: "Happy New Fiscal Year!" ..... 5  
 Religious School: "School Days Roundup" ..... 6  
 BATY: "A Banner Youth Year" ..... 7  
 Development: "Remembering Beth Weisberg" ..... 8  
 Engagement..... 9  
 Beth Am Community ..... 10-15  
 Jewish Seniors Programs ..... 16  
 Calendars..... 18-19



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# SHABBAT SERVICES - JULY

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## Friday Services

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\*Kinder Kabbalat Shabbat has been cancelled for July and please note that all Friday services in July are at 6:15 PM

**Summer Kabbalat Shabbat**  
*Friday, July 6 / 6:15 PM*

**Summer Kabbalat Shabbat**  
*Friday, July 13 / 6:15 PM*

**Summer Kabbalat Shabbat**  
*Friday, July 20 / 6:15 PM*

**Yiddish Kabbalat Shabbat and Healing Challahs**  
*Friday, July 27 / 6:15 PM*

Our annual celebration of all things Yiddish will feature Yiddish poetry, songs, and prayers. Instrumental accompaniment from Wendy Marcus and Shawn Weaver.



## Saturday Services

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**Shabbat Minyan Service**  
*Saturday, July 7 / 10:30 AM / Parsha: Pinchas*

**Shabbat Minyan Service**  
*Saturday, July 14 / 10:30 AM / Parsha: Matot-Masei*

**Shabbat Minyan Service**  
*Saturday, July 21 / 10:30 AM / Parsha: Devarim*

**Tot Shabbat**  
*Saturday, July 28 / 9:15 AM*

**Shabbat Minyan Service**  
*Saturday, July 28 / 10:30 AM / Parsha: Va'etchanan*

### Save-the-Date

**Temple Beth Am's Annual Shabbat BBQ is in August**  
Registration and more info will be on our website at [templebetham.org](http://templebetham.org) in early July.



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## Ensuring a Secure and Safe Community

*By Barbara Green, Executive Director*

In April, all of the i's were dotted and t's crossed on our contract with Homeland Security for the \$48,000 security grant we were awarded in the fall. Now, we can actually start to make the improvements that we've been planning. The purpose of the grant is to make it harder for bad guys and gals to enter the building. We will do all that we can to minimize disruption while the work is being done. Improvements will include installing new entry doors, creating a double door entry system, and improving the camera surveillance system, so we can more effectively see who is coming and going. In addition, we will be putting a special film over the windows to make the building more secure.

There are a couple of ways that you can help keep Temple Beth Am safe. When you are entering the building, if there is someone behind you that you do not recognize, please do not let them in. I know it may seem rude, but better safe than sorry. The other is if you see something, say something. In other words, if you see behavior that looks suspicious, please let the security guards or a staff person know. It is unfortunate that we have to think about these things, but we would be remiss if we did not. Your safety is our priority.



BETSY K. MAURER  
TEMPLE BETH AM PRESIDENT  
president@templebetham.org

As I write my first Bulletin column in anticipation of becoming president of Temple Beth Am, I am filled with gratitude. Gratitude for our clergy and teachers, lay leaders, staff, and all of you who have chosen to be a part of our temple community. Our clergy and teachers have taught us this year through the lens of “*Olam Hesed Yibaneh* – The world is built on loving-kindness.” Hesed is not an emotion; it’s an action. It is love expressed as deed. “Where tzedakah is a gift or loan of money, hesed is the gift of the person.”<sup>1</sup> So many people have given our temple governance this gift of hesed, this gift of themselves.

I hope you will join me in thanking the outgoing members of Beth Am’s Board of Directors for their service to our community. **Laura Paskin, Bryan Rutberg, and Rich Shikiar** – all past presidents – have shared their wisdom, talent, and love of Beth Am to the benefit of the Board and our community.

Our community has also been blessed by the leadership of **Gaby Charlton and Andrea Lieberman**, who have served as officers and are remaining as directors on the Board, and by the financial acumen of **Carole Aaron**, who is staying on as treasurer. Our community will also no doubt benefit from the gifts **Heather Camp, Ben Glatstein, and Gale Picker** will bring to their new roles as officers. I would also like to thank **Emma Kahle, Lou Kotler, T.J. Stutman, and Rachel Zerrell** – the incoming Board members – and our returning directors – **Steve Abramowicz, Michael Berman, Seth B. Cohen, Margy Crosby, Barbara Droker, Gary Goldbaum, and Ronnie Shure** – who are bringing their diverse and extensive personal gifts to the governance of our community. You may draw inspiration as I have from reading the bios of this incredible group at <http://templebetham.org/about/from-board-rabbis>.

<sup>1</sup> Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, *To Heal a Fractured World: The Ethics of Responsibility* (2007), p. 46.

## BUILDING GOVERNANCE ON HESED

Our community owes a special thanks to our immediate past president, **Shelly F. Cohen**, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of Temple Beth Am. Among the many projects she spearheaded was the recent adoption of Temple Beth Am’s first-ever Strategic Plan and the upcoming priorities for the first year of the plan. You may read more about the priorities here (<http://templebetham.org/images/ Temple-Beth-Ams-Strategic-Plan.pdf>) and in Executive Director Barbara Green’s column (pg. 5).

Here is where my “thanks in advance” comes to all of you who are (still) reading this article. If you have reflections on our progress toward these goals, please share them at [strategicplanning@templebetham.org](mailto:strategicplanning@templebetham.org). If you have ideas, suggestions, compliments, or any other feedback on any aspect of temple life, I invite you to contact me at [president@templebetham.org](mailto:president@templebetham.org). When done in the spirit of hesed, feedback is a gift of loving-kindness. The Board and I welcome feedback in the spirit of hesed, so we may better serve our Beth Am community and the mission that drives it: we deepen relationships to Judaism and our community by engaging the soul, heart, and mind.

### Congregational Survey

Temple Beth Am needs your feedback! We need meaningful and evidence-based evaluations to constantly improve how we deepen engagement for you Jewishly and with our Beth Am community. This year, we will ask how you feel about various aspects of Beth Am in general and after specific events and programs. Our first congregational survey for the year is up, and we need your feedback!

**Please respond by Friday, June 15** at this link – <https://rabbijanine.wufoo.com/forms/w1mirh4o0huijxx/> – which is also on our website.

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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BARBARA GREEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
barbara@templebetham.org  
206-525-0915 x208

## HAPPY NEW FISCAL YEAR!

For those of you who may not be aware, June marks the beginning of the fiscal year at Temple Beth Am. And this year, it also marks the beginning of the implementation of our Strategic Plan.

I am so excited to embark on this journey with you. As you may recall, the Beth Am Board of Directors passed this three-year plan (<http://templebetham.org/images/Temple-Beth-Ams-Strategic-Plan.pdf>) in November 2017. In January 2018, the Board determined the priorities for the first year of the plan (<http://templebetham.org/images/Engagement/Strategic-Plan-Year-One-Priorities.pdf>) and placed them into seven buckets: Audacious Hospitality, infrastructure, learning, reporting, small groups, sustainability, and worship. To ensure that this work gets done, each staff member has written an annual work plan that is aligned with the Strategic Plan. Supervisors will be reviewing their employees' progress on a regular basis and providing them with guidance and support along the way. Similarly, committees will also be asked to develop work plans that are aligned with the Strategic Plan, so that everyone will be heading in the same direction, and we can efficiently leverage our resources. In addition, the Board is in the process of developing metrics that we will use to measure how successful we are in meeting the outcomes of the plan.

One of the things I'd like to highlight is that we will be undertaking many small experiments to implement the plan. We will be asking for your feedback more frequently than in the past, so we can learn which experiments are working and which are not. If they are not working, we can either change how we are doing

something or just try something else.

In order for the Strategic Plan to be successful, we need your participation in a number of ways. We will be putting together work groups and task forces to develop new programs and activities. In fact, we have jump started this process with an Audacious Hospitality study group that began meeting in April. There are nine congregants in this group plus Rabbi Ruth A. Zlotnick, Director of Community Engagement Alexis Kort, and myself. After the group has finished studying the Audacious Hospitality Tool Kit written by the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), we will convene another group (that will include many of the same people) to develop and implement a plan to make Temple Beth Am a more welcoming congregation.

Some other exciting changes to look forward to include upgrading our database, starting to catch up on deferred maintenance, improved reporting to increase transparency (so that everyone knows what we are learning from our experiments and how we are allocating our resources), creating small groups, increasing our reserves, and learning from you what powerful Jewish experiences look like, so we can engage more people in worship and other meaningful Jewish activities.

The primary goal of the Strategic Plan to is increase engagement, so I look forward to joining together as we strive to create a more welcoming and participatory culture at Temple Beth Am and beyond. Please contact Alexis ([alexis@templebetham.org](mailto:alexis@templebetham.org)) if you are interested in helping us on this journey.



RABBI JANINE C. SCHLOSS  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION  
rabbijanine@templebetham.org  
206-525-0915 x216

## SCHOOL DAYS ROUNDUP

Mitzvah Day was a spectacular success! It was the perfect way to celebrate Shavuot: giving offerings to help others share the blessings in our world. Special thanks to Theresa Glatstein and Naomi Kaplan, this year's co-chairs; all of the grade-level project coordinators; and all of the parent volunteers who helped make the day possible.

Our final Religious School session on **Sunday, June 10**, features a Final Parent Meeting at 10:00 AM. Join us as we celebrate the year's successes (including a great slideshow) and share some of the exciting new plans for 2018-2019. The meeting will be followed by an All-Grades Parent Schmooze at 11:00 AM, and then the students and their families can join us for our Last Day Party at 12:15 PM.

We are so blessed to have a talented community who make every day of Religious School possible. Our 50 teachers and specialists put their heart and soul into their work, sharing their love of Judaism with their students and serving as powerful role models for the next generation. Then there are the 130 teens who work as Madrichim, enhancing every aspect of our program for our PreK – 6<sup>th</sup> graders. They help us provide individualized attention to our students, give support to our children with special needs, and fill our halls with music, art, and literature.

None of this would be possible without our school leadership: Assistant Director of Education Rabbi Allison B. Flash, Director of Youth Engagement David Lizzo, Administrative Assistant for Education and Membership Kaitlyn Angrove, Child Support Coordinator Jeannette Cohen, 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Coordinator Kate Gebler, and Madrichim-in-Training Coordinator Paula Bilstein. Add to this the tremendous vision of Rabbi Ruth A. Zlotnick, Rabbi Jason R. Levine, and Cantor Victor Geigner, and we are truly blessed.

I am also honored to be able to work with another group of generous lay leaders: the Religious School Board. This year we were again led by Dan Cory, who will be passing the gavel to Mark Miller at our June meeting. Many thanks to this year's School Board members: Daniel Bernstein, Margy Crosby, Will Friedman, Jackie Kleinstein, Ross Kling, Jenn Magalnick, Mark Miller, Michael Myers, Samantha Rosen, Josh Samson, Rachel Scherr, JoAnn Silkes, and Yana Zhaglina. We look forward to welcoming new members to our Board for the coming year as well.

Many thanks also to the entire BAPA Executive Committee and especially our co-chairs, Samantha Rosen and Rachel Scherr, for all of their work to help our families get to know each other and build community. BAPA's work helps our congregation meet our goals of engagement with every single one of their programs, and we are grateful to the BAPA leadership for their important work.

Religious School registration is now open through Chaverweb. If you are uncertain about how to register or don't know how to log onto Chaverweb, please contact Kaitlyn ([adminsupport@templebetham.org](mailto:adminsupport@templebetham.org)), and she will help you. Please remember to register by **Sunday, June 10**, or there is a \$100 late fee per child.

Last note: applications for new and returning Madrichim are due by **Sunday, June 3**. If you need any assistance with these applications or have questions, please contact David Lizzo ([david@templebetham.org](mailto:david@templebetham.org)) as soon as possible.

Have a warm and relaxing summer! We'll see you again in September!

# BETH AM TEMPLE YOUTH (BATY)

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DAVID LIZZO  
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT  
david@templebetham.org  
206-525-0915 x209

## A BANNER YOUTH YEAR

**W**ow! Another year has come to an end. And what a year it was for the Temple Beth Am youth programs. Over the past year, we brought new and innovative programming to a strong community of youth leaders, weathered a storm in the Madrichim program, and enjoyed our favorite events!

The Madrichim program faced quite a challenge midway through the year when we had to redesign parts of the program on the fly, as well as quickly make sure all of our Madrichim were compliant with the labor laws governing our area. As stressful as that was on the administrative side, our Madrichim handled the challenge with patience, flexibility, and professionalism. Overall, our program continues to advance. We are continuously improving communication and preparing our 8<sup>th</sup> grade Madrichim with the tools they need to succeed through the new Madrichim in Training (MiT) program. They learn practical skills, such as behavior management, teaching to different learning styles, as well as team building and professionalism.

The Youth Program had a solid year with attendance at NFTY NW regional events increasing as we reached out to more and more eligible teens in our community. In addition to having a record 34 participants attend Fall Kallah on Whidbey Island, we also brought seven 8<sup>th</sup> graders to Spring Kallah and continued to serve the community with our new BATY Social Action Pop Ups.

jBATY (our 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade group) saw a new opportunity for 8<sup>th</sup> graders to strengthen their community with three well-attended lounge nights. These lounge nights were held before Religious School on several Tuesdays throughout the year and were designed to be a time when our 8<sup>th</sup> graders just hang out and get to know each other and some of the BATY leadership that attended. I believe that these events led to a late year surge in 8<sup>th</sup> grade participants at both Spring Kallah and BATY's Sha-Boat Shalom event in April. Next year, we'll be initiating a jBATY Advisory Committee. This committee will be open to any 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grader who wants to have input on what we do in jBATY.

Lastly (but certainly not least), Club 45 broke ground (literally and figuratively) by holding its first social action-themed event in recent memory. Shortly after Tu B'Shevat, almost 20 hardworking and environmentally conscious Club 45ers headed over to a section of the Burke-Gilman trail near Temple Beth Am and spent several hours planting trees. In fact, we planted so many trees that our hosts ran out! It was incredibly inspiring to see all of the hard work our kids did, and I hope to continue this kind of work with all three of our youth groups! Kol hakavod everyone!

I am very excited for the coming year! We have such potential for growth and improvement, while recognizing the strong foundation we are building upon. Stay tuned for more exciting news from our amazing youth!

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### Introducing the 2018-2019 BATY Board

**President:** Rachel Selby

**Programming Vice President:** Ellie Bieler

**Social Action Vice President:** Talia Glick

**Religious and Cultural Vice President:**  
Paige Welikson

**Membership Vice President:** Ari Rose-Marquez

**Communication Vice President:** Alissa Berman

**Merchandising and Fundraising Vice President:**  
Meira Nacht

**Freshman Representatives:** Isabel Berman  
and Daniel Flash

## Remembering Beth Weisberg

By Rachel Schachter, Director of Development

This past March, Temple Beth Am lost a very special member of our community. Beth Weisberg was a past president of the temple Board of Directors and former head of our Religious School, a teacher, community leader, mother, grandmother, and beloved friend to many.

Beth grew up in New Jersey, the daughter of two teachers. A love of education was present in her home and throughout her life. Beth graduated from Brandeis and received her M.A. in Education from Harvard; once her three children were grown, she returned to school, earning a Ph.D in Education from Seattle University. Her passion



for learning led her to serve our community as an educator at many institutions – among them Antioch University, Seattle Hebrew Academy, and Seattle Jewish Community School. Of her work with SJCS, educator Beth Huppin shared, “Beth was a model for me of a teacher who truly loved and embraced all children. She also modeled a profound respect and appreciation for all types of Jews. Her generous and loving nature was an inspiration to a generation of teachers. She was a beloved guide as we founded and grew SJCS in those early years. I still think of her often with great love and tremendous gratitude.”

Beth Weisberg was also a leader in our temple community. She served as Board President from 1992-1994, one of the first women to hold that position. In 1999, she was asked to lead our Religious School. During her tenure, Beth established mentorship programs for Religious School teachers, offering them the opportunity to learn from more experienced educators and giving them the tools to more effectively manage their classrooms and serve special needs students. Thea Fefer, Beth’s dear friend and a fellow

educator, remembers Beth’s passion for professional development: “We might begin our conversations with talks about movies or books or our families, but, eventually, it always turned to education. Beth loved to talk about what we could be doing better as educators. Education, for her, was truly a lifelong commitment.”

Laura Paskin, who was Board President when Beth led our Religious School, remembers her as a woman who “never stopped caring, never stopped learning, and never stopped giving.” Indeed, Beth never stopped giving – throughout her life, she was generous with her time, resources, and love. Beth remembered Temple Beth Am with a bequest, which will be used to establish a fund in her memory: the **Beth Weisberg Educators Fund**. Through Beth’s generosity, and with the help of her children, Richard and Jonathan, the Beth Weisberg Educators Fund will further Beth’s legacy by providing resources for professional development for our teachers. Beth Am Director of Education Rabbi Janine C. Schloss expresses her gratitude: “Our Religious School’s mission is: ‘To encourage a lifelong, meaningful expression of Judaism through: an innovative curriculum that inspires and challenges spiritually, intellectually, and ethically; a staff that is nurtured and nurturing; and a supportive community that embraces diversity.’ The gift of a fund to support professional development for our Religious School staff will allow us to better achieve our mission and lift the quality of the school, impacting every single one of our students. We are grateful!”

Our community will always be deeply grateful to Beth for her many years of leadership and service. She will be missed by all who knew her. May her memory be for a blessing.

*You are invited to honor Beth Weisberg’s memory by making a contribution to the Beth Weisberg Educators Fund. To make a gift, call the temple office at 206-525-0915 or contact Director of Development Rachel Schachter at [rachel@templebetham.org](mailto:rachel@templebetham.org).*

## Responding to Senior Myths & Aging

*Thursday, June 7, 6:30 – 8:00 PM*

*Beth Am Sanctuary*

Steve Adler, 87, was married to Judy for 65 years when she died from Alzheimer's disease. Their daughter, Barbara West, is an elder-law attorney and was Judy's end-of-life caretaker. Looking back on Judy's illness and death, this father-daughter team recognized that several "senior myths" often prevent aging Americans from being pro-active and planning for their own care. Steve, Barbara, and Adam Halpern, Director of Older Adult Services at Jewish Family Service, will draw from their personal and professional experiences to share insights about these aging myths and related realities for caregivers. They will also provide strategies and hard-to-locate resources for aging adults and caregivers.

## Shabbat to Honor Our Volunteers and Board Installation Service

*Friday, June 8, 8:00 PM*

*Temple Beth Am*

In June, we will hold a special Shabbat service to honor the volunteers who help make our temple community so warm, welcoming, and inclusive through their work both at the synagogue and out in the broader community. We will invite our volunteers to the bima for a special aliya and have an extra festive oneg after services. We will also recognize and install our new Board of Directors members for 2018-2019.



## Puget Sound Spring Summit

*Sunday, June 10, 2:00 – 4:00 PM*

*First United Methodist Church,  
1934 108<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Bellevue*

The Faith Action Network's advocating faith communities across Washington State,

including Temple Beth Am, come together to talk about issues of common concern, discuss advocacy, and strategize for the upcoming 2019 Washington State Legislative Session. More information and registration at <http://fanwa.org/events-2/regional-spring-summits/>

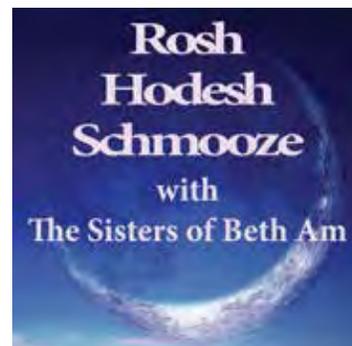
## Sisters of Beth Am Rosh Hodesh Schmooze

*Wednesday, June 13,*

*6:30 – 8:00 PM*

*Beth Am Social Hall*

We've decided to switch up our celebration of the sun to a celebration of the moon. Join us for an evening of learning more about Rosh Hodesh and celebrating female friendships. We will also celebrate the start of summer with a casual, happy hour potluck featuring a variety of wine, non-alcoholic drinks, hors d'oeuvres, sweets, and schmoozing.



## Pride Shabbat

*Friday, June 16,*

*6:30 – 8:30 PM*

*Bet Alef Meditative*

*Synagogue, 1111*

*Harvard Ave., Seattle, WA 98122*

Temple Beth Am is proud to be a community partner for Pride Shabbat! Pride Shabbat is open to the community and is a celebration of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Jews along with friends, families, and allies. Register at <https://www.jewishinseattle.org/pride-shabbat-2018>.



## Kabbalat Shabbat Celebrating Yiddish

*Friday, July 27, 6:15 PM*

*Beth Am Sanctuary*

Sholom Aleichem! Our annual celebration of all things Yiddish

will feature Yiddish poetry, songs, and prayers. All Yiddish material will be translated. The evening will include traditional Hebrew liturgy and English readings. Instrumental accompaniment from Wendy Marcus and Shawn Weaver. Financial support from the Alfred and Tillie Shemanski Trust Fund.

# BETH AM COMMUNITY

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## Temple Beth Am Finances: Progress and Process

By Carole Aaron, Board Treasurer



In the spirit of transparency, I am pleased to have this opportunity to share information with you about Temple Beth Am's finances. The temple and SEED Early Childhood School each have budgets of about \$3 million, so Temple Beth Am is responsible for overseeing a \$6 million organization.

With the adoption of our new Strategic Plan in late 2017, all aspects of temple life – including the finances – are developed and managed with the goals and values of the plan in mind. The Strategic Plan is reflected in the budget in two ways:

1. Budget allocations reflect the programs that support the strategic goals.
2. In order for us as a synagogue to meet our goal for sustainability, we must live within our means and spend wisely.

In this respect, we are making slow but sure progress. Over the past 10-12 years, a major remodel, unexpected repairs, and a high interest rate mortgage saddled the temple. After a number of years operating in a deficit mode, the 2017-2018 fiscal year turned the corner and all signs appear to indicate that we will end this fiscal year with a small surplus.

Two steps we have taken have especially helped our bottom line. One is the integration of SEED as a subsidiary. Not only does SEED complete the Beth Am lifespan programming from cradle to grave, it rents our classrooms, pays for some staff services, and shares some of its profits. All of this contributes significantly to Beth Am's operating income.

The second step is our success of the Nachshon Campaign that allowed us to pay down our mortgage debt by \$1.1 million when the mortgage was recently refinanced. The positive impact is that the new 10-year, \$2 million mortgage has a lower interest rate that thereby reduces mortgage payments by \$170,000 from the partial year in the 2017-2018 budget and

\$280,000 from fiscal year 2016-2017. Additionally, when the mortgage is refinanced in 10 years, payments to principal will pay down the mortgage an additional \$750,000.

The income from SEED and savings from the new mortgage, however, have not made our finances clear-sailing. Here are some of the expenses that absorb the savings and increased income:

- During the lean years, we significantly reduced our dues to the Union for Reform Judaism. An additional \$20,000 in these dues in 2018-2019 budget is the second of a three-year dues catch-up.
- Our list of deferred maintenance for building repairs is long. While \$60,000 would have been more optimal, the 2018-2019 budget allocates \$40,000 to the most pressing projects.
- As a religious organization, we are an employer that has an ethical obligation to pay our staff fairly. The 2018-2019 budget includes a 3% pay raise to staff and Religious School faculty. In addition, the cost of providing staff with health insurance benefits has increased 13%.
- There are other areas that absorb additional income: An additional \$15,000 for utilities, \$10,000 for liability insurance, \$20,000 in Religious School scholarships.
- Two happily futuristic expenses in the 2018-2019 budget are \$10,000 as an innovation incentive to encourage staff to initiate creative new programming that aligns with the Strategic Plan and \$15,000 addition to our reserve account.

So, despite the significant steps we have taken to increase our revenue and decrease our expenses, we still need a 3% increase in member financial commitment to continue to provide all of the programs and services that members have come to expect from Temple Beth Am and balance the budget.

There are a lot of hands playing a part in Temple Beth Am's

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Continued on page 11

# BETH AM COMMUNITY

Continued from page 10

financial management and oversight. Executive Director Barbara Green directs all of the temple's financial administration. Staff Accountant Shana Kaye keeps track of our income and expenses; she did the lion's share of number-crunching and projections in the development of the budget. Finance Assistant Megan Freeman pays all of our bills on time. Department directors are given spending allocations for their departments. They design and develop their program of work within their budget allocation and control and monitor their expenses throughout the fiscal year to live within their budget. The Board of Directors monitors the overall financial direction and strategy. Along with its mandate to come in with a balanced 2018-2019 budget, the Board provided specific guidance with regard to staff raises, the allotments to deferred maintenance, and the Reserve Fund.

Last but not least is the devoted Finance Committee that meets monthly to make recommendations regarding financial issues facing the temple. In the past year, the Finance Committee proposed the criteria for choosing a bank for the mortgage refinance; oversaw the budget development process; developed policies for the clergy discretionary funds, allocating SEED profits, and managing unexpected bequests and stock donations; and advised on the format for financial reports.

All in all, our financial footing is improving and will continue to improve. The Finance Committee is currently developing a Financial Policies and Procedures Manual to ensure that there are guidelines to provide financial management consistency and internal controls. We who are part of Beth Am's financial arm take to heart our mandate to steward your money well, so that the temple can do its important work of deepening relationships to Judaism and our community by engaging the soul, heart, and mind.

<b>Temple Beth Am 2018-2019 Budget</b>		
	<b>Proposed 18-19 Budget</b>	<b>17-18 Budget</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>		
Financial Commitment Income	1,820,000	1,760,000
Worship Income	49,000	49,000
Life Long Learning Income	91,200	81,200
Religious School Income	448,850	451,330
Engagement Income	60,200	26,200
SEED Income - Including Profit Share	533,628	408,225
Development Income	331,700	389,000
Facility Income	13,000	51,450
Gift Shop Income	3,000	3,000
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>3,350,578</b>	<b>3,219,405</b>
<b>Operating Expense</b>		
Compensation & Benefits	2,288,691	2,101,912
Contracts & Professional Fees	91,150	84,150
Program Expenses	379,350	323,610
Admin / Operations Expenses	192,050	159,200
Development Expenses	50,500	69,000
Facility Expenses	348,195	465,150
Contingency	10,000	10,000
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>3,359,936</b>	<b>3,213,022</b>
<b>Net Operating Profit</b>	<b>(9,359)</b>	<b>6,383</b>
<b>Net Fund Profit</b>	25,798	(3,300)
<b>TBA Consolidated Net Profit</b>	<b>16,440</b>	<b>3,083</b>
<b>Profit Set Aside for Reserves</b>	15,000	0
<b>Remaining Net Profit</b>	<b>1,440</b>	<b>3,083</b>

# BETH AM COMMUNITY



Over 300 people attended our Mimouna celebration to mark the end of Passover. We estimated that a third of attendees were from the Muslim community and, in addition to members of Temple Beth Am, there were a number of Jews from around Seattle.

The event was family friendly and great connections and conversations happened throughout the evening. A henna artist, henna temporary tattoos, and a Hamza art project were big hits with kids and adults. There was a delicious spread of food and hand-baked Moroccan cookies as well as fantastic live music and dancing. During three tours of our Sanctuary, dozens of people listened as Rabbi Jason R. Levine talked about the similarities between Judaism and Islam.

Our program included a short talk by Rabbi Ruth A. Zlotnick and Hisham Farajallah of the Idriss Mosque Board and The Islamic Center of Washington, and then we finished the evening with a beautiful community Havdallah led by Cantor Victor Geigner. Several members of Idriss Mosque suggested that we do this as an annual event and that they would like to host next year. There was also talk about having a Muslim / Jewish women's event together. We are sure that our Mimouna celebration will lead to even more community connections and support!

Thanks to the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle for partially funding Mimouna through an Ignition Grant for 2018-2019.

## Watchdogs for Immigrant Rights

By Beth Am member Susan Schulkin



Would you like to support your neighbors and friends in the event of an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raid or community emergency? Learn how to become a WAISN Rapid Responder in the neighborhood where you live or work on **Wednesday, June 20 from 7:00 – 9:00 PM at Temple Beth Am.**

The Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network (WAISN) coordinates a Rapid Response hotline for reporting active immigration raids and ICE activity across the state. When a hotline call is received by WAISN, text messages are sent to community volunteers in the vicinity who respond rapidly, going to the area and using their smart phone cameras to document the activity. With this training, you can join other volunteers from our U-District Sanctuary Hub to help when there are incidents in the U-District or on the UW campus – or in the neighborhood where you live or work.

Read or listen to this KUOW story (<http://kuow.org/post/he-came-face-face-ice-and-stopped-arrest>) to learn more about the WAISN Rapid Response Network in action.

The training will include:

- Rapid Response structure and roles
- Verifying and documenting ICE activity
- Rights and risks

Please register in advance by emailing [TBARapidResponse@gmail.com](mailto:TBARapidResponse@gmail.com).



Temple  
Beth Am

# Mimouna

A Muslim and Jewish  
Interfaith Celebration

April 7, 2018



# BETH AM COMMUNITY

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## Young Families at Beth Am: Making a Big Impact with our Smallest Members

By Beth Am member Theresa Glatstein

The Young Families at Beth Am (YFBA) group is a powerhouse of a committee that welcomes our youngest members into the Temple Beth Am community. Our group holds monthly events both at Beth Am and out in the community to foster connections between families and help families live a Jewish life. Our events range from cookie decorating and dreidel playing at Hanukkah to a Tu B'Shevat-inspired playdate at Om Culture to our annual ice cream social for Shavuot.



My favorite is our PJ Havdallah and movie night; parents and kids

get to relax over a mac and cheese dinner and movie to celebrate Havdallah with Cantor Victor Geigner and Rabbi Ruth A. Zlotnick. The Havdallah candles used in our house are ones our kids made at this event! YFBA has experimented with smaller gatherings and helped to match families for Purim baskets, Shabbat get-togethers, and Passover seders.

But what can't be measured is the joy our group creates in building this community of families with young children. YFBA has created a warm, welcoming home for my family – and so many others – within the larger Beth Am membership. Through this mighty



committee, bleary-eyed parents – who first bonded over diapers and whether Tot Shabbat is a higher priority than naptime – are now committed family friends, sharing holidays together and daydreaming about the embarrassing pictures we can put up at our children's Bar and Bat Mitzvahs. YFBA puts our values into practice; we offer a variety of ways for people to connect with each other, the Jewish community, and God. Participation in this group has a natural end point and families phase in and out, but those connections will hold families through the many years and decades of their Temple Beth Am experience.



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### New Babies

#### **Julian Isaac Stein Brown**

April 1, 2018

Parents: Rani Linarelli and Aaron Brown  
Big siblings: Laurel and Lucas

#### **Nadav Noah Simonson**

April 21, 2018

Parents: Nicolie and Gary Simonson  
Big siblings: Zivah and Sivan

## Community Profile: Paul Amato

By Rachel Román / TBA Communications Lead

Part of what makes the Temple Beth Am community special is its embracing of the Jewish tenets of *tikkun olam* and *tzedakah*. Many members donate their time and resources toward helping others. Even though he is not Jewish by birth, Beth Am member Paul Amato has given considerable time and resources toward assisting Holocaust survivors.



As the co-owner and partner at LeCuyer & Amato Dentistry on First Hill, Paul was contacted by the Alpha Omega International Dental Fraternity to be a part of the The Alpha Omega-Henry Schein Cares Holocaust Survivors Oral Health Program. Through it, Paul gives free dental care to Holocaust

survivors, which includes check-ups, cleanings, crowns, fillings, root canals, and oral surgery – for some of these, he partners with dental surgeons, who also donate their time.

Launched in 2015 by Alpha Omega and the Henry Schein Cares Foundation, the program connects dentists throughout North America to financially challenged survivors.

“These individuals have gone through way more than I have. I felt a need and a duty to do this,” Paul says.

As a result, Paul has met some incredible people, like Greg, whose family fled into the forests of Moldova when he was around eight or nine years old. While sitting in the dentist’s chair, Greg detailed their escape and the hunger and cold that was a part of it.

Through the program, Greg has had various procedures, including dental implants and root canals, which totaled around \$50,000 to \$60,000. Despite the

large amount of work, Paul has guaranteed that Greg will always be able to get dental procedures for free: “I want him to not have to worry about his teeth for the rest of his life.”

“When the opportunity to volunteer for Jewish Family Service and the program were presented, it was a no-brainer,” Paul says. “I may not have been born Jewish, but I feel deeply Jewish and want to assist and help Jews in any way that I can.”

Paul converted to Judaism starting in 2006 with Rabbi Harley Karz-Wagman (then later with Rabbi Oren Hayon), while he was dating lifelong Beth Am member Rebecca Piha. Paul says that he started attending Shabbat services at Temple Beth Am with Rebecca’s family – parents Cheryl and Joe Piha and grandparents Reva and Sheldon Biback – when they first started dating back in 2002. Everything about Judaism, he says, “just made sense.”

“I chose to convert because Judaism spoke to me,” he says. “I love how dynamic Judaism can be, especially Reform Judaism.”

After converting, Paul became a member of Beth Am in 2010. He, Rebecca, and their three boys – Avi, 5, Jake, 5, and Sebastian, 3 – are active at Beth Am. Avi and Jake attend Beth Am’s Religious School, and the entire family goes to Young Families at Beth Am (YFBA) and holiday events as well as Shabbat services. The social action branch of Beth Am also deeply resonates with Paul.

“I want my kids to be good citizens, good Jews. I read that you’re the average of the five people closest to you. If you walk into a room (at Temple Beth Am) and take the average of the five people there, then you’re in good company.”

*If you or someone you know is a Holocaust survivor in need of dental care – or any other type of care – please contact Jewish Family Service’s Intake Coordinator Alan Wittenberg at 206-861-3164 or [aging@jfsseattle.org](mailto:aging@jfsseattle.org).*

# JEWISH SENIORS PROGRAMS

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## **Birthday Brunch**

*Sunday, June 3, 12:00 PM*

*Stanford's Restaurant, Northgate Mall*

Reserve: Thursday, May 24;

Lovey Cohen: 206-523-3405

## **Bainbridge Island**

*Wednesday, June 6*

*Japanese Exclusion Memorial,*

*4195 Eagle Harbor Drive NE*

*Labyrinth Mosaic, 11113 Halls Hill Rd.*

Reserve: Friday, June 1; Bert Goldstein: 206-985-2844

## **Endless Opportunity**

*Rhododendron Garden Tour, Federal Way*

*Thursday, June 7, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM*

Rabbi Kate Speizer: 206-693-3046

## **Academy Chamber Orchestra**

*Saturday, June 9, 7:00 PM*

*Haller Lake United Methodist Church,*

*13055 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. NE*

## **Endless Opportunity**

*Temple De Hirsch Sinai, 1441 16<sup>th</sup> Ave.*

*Tuesday, June 12, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM*

Rabbi Kate Speizer: 206-693-3046

## **Lunch and Learn**

*Temple Beth Am, 2632 NE 80<sup>th</sup> St.*

*Wednesday, June 13, 12:00 – 1:00 PM*

Temple Beth Am: 206-525-0915

## **Port of Tacoma Tour**

*Tuesday, June 19, 10:00 AM*

*Reconciliation Park, 1741 N. Schuster Parkway*

Reserve: Friday, June 8; Linda Paros: 206-985-2844

## **Current Events and Planning Meeting**

*Temple Beth Am, 2632 NE 80<sup>th</sup> St.*

*Friday, June 22*

**10:00 AM:** Coffee and cookies

**10:30 AM – 12:00 PM:** Current Events with

Jacob Bolotin

**12:15 PM:** Bring ideas for August and September

Leah Vetter: 206-856-2875

## **Seattle Chocolate Factory**

*1180 Andover Park W., Tukwila*

*Tuesday, June 26, 11:00 AM*

*Admission: \$10.80 (includes sampling)*

Reserve: Friday, June 18; Ulla Rychter: 206-546-3053

## **Dessert Schmooze**

*Thursday, June 28, 1:00 – 3:00 PM*

Reserve: Friday, June 22; Ulla Rychter: 206-546-3053

## **Seattle Chamber Music**

*Nordstrom Recital Hall at Benaroya Hall*

*Wednesdays, July 11, 18, 25; 1:15 PM*

*Free open rehearsals*

## **Dessert Schmooze**

*Thursday, July 12, 1:00 – 3:00 PM*

Reserve: Friday, July 6; Leah Vetter: 206-856-2875

## **McMenamins-Anderson School**

*18607 Bothell Way NE, Bothell*

*Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 AM*

Reserve: Tuesday, July 10;

Jan Lewinsohn: 206-783-3683

## **Endless Opportunity**

*Temple De Hirsch Sinai, 1441 16<sup>th</sup> Ave.*

*Thursday, July 19, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM*

Rabbi Kate Speizer: 206-693-3046

## **Endless Opportunity**

*Temple Beth Am, 2632 NE 80<sup>th</sup> St.*

*Tuesday, July 24, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM*

Rabbi Kate Speizer: 206-693-3046

## **Lunch Schmooze**

*Ida Culver House, Ravenna, 2315 NE 65<sup>th</sup> St.*

*Thursday, July 26, 1:00 – 3:00 PM*

Reserve: Friday, July 20; Ulla Rychter: 206-546-3053

## **Current Events**

*Temple Beth Am, 2632 NE 80<sup>th</sup> St.*

*Friday, July 27*

**10:00 AM:** Coffee and cookies

**10:30 AM – 12:00 PM:** Current Events with

Jacob Bolotin

Continued from page 1

## Immigration

Mar Silkes and Justin Wolkenstein-Guiliano



“[DREAMers] are part of our community, working, growing, and living just as we are. It is entirely unjust to deny these people the only life they’ve ever known, and, as Jews, we know how important it is to create a welcoming society. Some of the critical tenets of Judaism are *hesed* (kindness)

and *hachnasat orchim* (hospitality); supporting the passing of a Clean Dream Act is perfectly in line with those commandments... These kids live with the fear of losing their homes and families when they’ve done nothing wrong, and we have the ability to protect their futures.”

## Gun Violence Prevention

Mana Jacoby, Lydia Rosenthal, and Emma Silber

“8...500...100,000,000,000...8 is the number of Americans under the age of 19 who are killed each day from gun violence; 500x is the increased likelihood that a victim of domestic abuse will be killed by their abuser if there is a gun accessible; \$100 billion is the approximate cost of medical and social finances for the country concerning gun usage and violence... An acquaintance known through some closer friends fell victim to gun violence in an event that continues to personally impact me to this day. Losing someone to gun violence was a sudden and jarring experience. ... We, as members of the Jewish faith, feel strongly that our religious values impel us to advocate on behalf of those whose voices have been silenced through mindless, preventable violence. As Jews and as Americans, we feel it is simply unacceptable that eight children die from gun violence every day. It is anathema to our religious and moral values.”

## Climate Justice

Jeremy Levy and Sydney Young

“The environment nourishes us as a society physically, but I would argue the importance of it mentally. I

don’t want to grow up in a society that refuses to acknowledge the importance of clean energy... We have not only a moral obligation, but also an obligation to our Jewish values to turn towards clean energy, so that future generations will still have a safe home to

live in. We have to set a platform for future generations to build on. We have this beautiful world – this gift – in our hands. It is fragile, and the decisions that our generation makes will either reinvigorate or destroy this lush land.”

I look forward to next year's L'Taken trip for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders from **February 21 – 25, 2019**. Keep your eyes open for more information.

As we have recently seen, youth drive the power of change locally and nationally. At Temple Beth Am, we are incredibly proud of our many leaders who are actively bending the moral arc of our universe toward justice. In addition to our L'Taken cohort, we celebrate our 5778 BATY Board, BATY Cabinet, and Beth Am members on the NFTY-NW Regional Board. We are incredibly proud of Lila Greene, the incoming NFTY North American President. We are excited for our next BATY Board and Cabinet (see the Youth Section on page 7 for more information).

I also want to highlight Bridget Fox and Shira Lyss-Loren, part of the Seattle March for Our Lives core planning teams, and Jaime Margolin, founder, and Talia Glick, social media lead, of the Zero Hour Youth March fighting climate change, which will be in Seattle, Washington D.C., and many other cities on Saturday, July 21. Consider joining the march!



Our actions and growth are not *for* our youth, but *by* them. I realize that our role as adults is not just to educate, but mentor and encourage our youth – and then hand over power, so that they might lead us. I am overwhelmed with pride at the inspiration and leadership of Temple Beth Am’s youth, and I am so excited for the future they create.



2632 NE 80<sup>th</sup> Street  
Seattle, WA 98115  
templebetham.org

# JUNE 2018

Sivan, Tammuz 5778

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>3</p> <p>9:45 AM: Religious School 10:00 AM-12:15 PM: Adult Learning 10:00 AM: Knitvah Knitters, Final Parent Meeting 12:15 PM: BATY Old Board/ New Board</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30 PM: Pizza Dinner 6:15 PM: Tuesday Night Service 6:45 PM: Religious School - Last Tuesday</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:00 PM: Intermediate Yiddish 1:00 PM: Self-Led Yiddish</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 PM: Responding to Senior Myths &amp; Aging 7:00 PM: Executive Committee Meeting, YFBA Planning Meeting</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00 AM: PJ Library 6:00 PM: Kinder Kabbalat Shabbat 8:00 PM: Choir Kabbalat Shabbat Service 8:41 PM </p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:15 AM: Torah Study 10:30 AM: Wolff Bat Mitzvah Shabbat Morning Service</p>
<p>10</p> <p><b>Last day for Religious School Early Registration</b> 8:30 AM: Angelina's Kitchen Lunch Prep 9:45 AM: Religious School 10:00 AM-12:15 PM: Adult Learning 11:00 AM: All-Grades Parent Schmooze 12:15 PM: BATY Board Meeting, End of Religious School Party</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:00 PM: Primetime Lunch &amp; Learn, Intermediate Yiddish 1:00 PM: Self-Led Yiddish Group 6:30 PM: Sisters of Beth Am Rosh Hodesh Schmooze 6:00 PM: Religious School Board Meeting and Potluck Dinner</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:15 PM: Religious Practices Committee</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 AM: PJ Library 6:15 PM: Acoustic Kabbalat Shabbat Service 8:51 PM </p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:15 AM: Torah Study 10:30 AM: Lawrence/Blumling Br'ot Mitzvah Shabbat Morning Service</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>12:00 PM: Downtown Lunch &amp; Learn, Intermediate Yiddish 1:00 PM: Self-Led Yiddish 7:00 PM: Parsha &amp; Poker, Rapid Responder Training</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:15 PM: Board of Directors Meeting</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Healing Challahs 10:00 AM: PJ Library 6:15 PM: Klezmer Kabbalat Shabbat Service 8:53 PM </p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:15 AM: Torah Study, Tot Shabbat 10:30 AM: Ritzer Bat Mitzvah Shabbat Morning Service</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12:00 PM: Intermediate Yiddish 1:00 PM: Self-Led Yiddish</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 AM: PJ Library, Seattle Jewish Seniors Current Events 6:15 PM: Kabbalat Shabbat Service 8:53 PM </p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:15 AM: Torah Study 10:30 AM: Pollack Bat Mitzvah Shabbat Morning Service</p>

\*Please check the Temple Beth Am website and calendar for the most up-to-date listings.



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templebetham.org

# JULY 2018

Tammuz, Av 5778

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Independence Day OFFICE CLOSED	5 7:00 PM: Executive Committee Meeting, Health Care for All Meeting, YFBA Planning Meeting	6 6:15 PM: Summer Kabbalat Shabbat Service  8:51 PM	7 9:15 AM: Torah Study 10:30 AM: Shabbat Minyan Service
8	9	10	11	12 7:15 PM: Religious Practices Committee Meeting	13 6:15 PM: Summer Kabbalat Shabbat Service  8:46 PM	14 9:15 AM: Torah Study 10:30 AM: Shabbat Minyan Service
15	16	17	18	19 7:00 PM: Board of Directors Meeting	20 6:15 PM: Summer Kabbalat Shabbat Service  8:40 PM	21 9:15 AM: Torah Study 10:30 AM: Shabbat Minyan Service
22 Tisha B'Av	23	24 10:30 AM: Endless Opportunities	25	26	27 Healing Challahs 10:00 AM: Seattle Jewish Seniors Current Events 6:15 PM: Yiddish Kabbalat Shabbat Service  8:32 PM	28 9:15 AM: Torah Study, Tot Shabbat 10:30 AM: Shabbat Minyan Service
29	30	31				

\*Please check the Temple Beth Am website and calendar for the most up-to-date listings.



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Register at:  
[www.jewishinseattle.org/pride-shabbat-2018](http://www.jewishinseattle.org/pride-shabbat-2018)