



As I write this, fires are raging in our county. Friends, family and members of our congregation have been evacuated. Some have lost their homes. If we haven't felt the fragility of life in facing COVID 19, most people I hear from are feeling it now.

We are also more aware of systemic racism and how many Black, Indigenous People and People of Color live with uncertainty.

And, as all of this is occurring, we're moving into the High Holidays. This holiday season will be different from all others. We said that during Passover, but we had no idea we'd still be navigating mostly virtual gatherings for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

The High Holidays in Hebrew are called *Yomim Nora'im*. The usual translation is The Days of Awe. But in modern Hebrew the word *Norah* translates as terrible.

We find the word *Norah* in the Torah, when Joseph awakes from his dream of the ladder with the angels going up and down. Overcome with emotion, he says, "*Ma Nora HaMakom Hazeh, Ein Zeh Ki Im Beyt Elohim V'zeh Sha'ar Hashamayim!*" How awesome is the place! This is none other than a house of God and this the gates of the heavens"

Norah comes from the root *yud-resh-aleph*, meaning fear, or awe. I think that the modern translation, terrible, is closely related to fear, but awe is a little bit different. When fear takes over us, it becomes terror. It can paralyze us. And yet, it's often the case, like with the fires and the pandemic that while we are feeling afraid we are also forced to make decisions, to act. In the short term, we can tolerate this fear. We have to. So much is unknown. Fear as a first response is natural and we need to accept it.

Why do we have these *Yomim Noraim* every year and what's different this year? In the past, I've understood this as a reminder of our fragility. This year, we are more conscious of this even before the first sounding of the shofar.

I pray that as the ash begins to settle and we move towards finding a vaccine, we will have a chance to take a step back, realize the fearful, awesome nature of the fragility of life, and wonder how to move forward with this new understanding.



Robbi Paula

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PHYSICALLY APART—SPIRITUALLY CONNECTED



High Holidays

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We know that the source of the recent fires was the lightning and thunder storm. Pictures of the storm were incredible. I sat in awe while looking at photographs of the blue luminescent light in the ocean with the lightning bolts that flashed across the sky, having no idea that the next day would bring so much destruction and tragedy.

The pandemic and climate crisis are our new reality. How can we find the capacity to live with such uncertainty? As many have said, this is a marathon, not a sprint. Our congregation is here for you.

And as we move into the *Yomim Noraim*, I'd like to make a few suggestions for ways we might focus our *Yirah*.

Work towards accepting that our lives have changed.

Stay connected with your community. We have members offering support and help.

Recognize the amount of disappointment and grief many of us are feeling.

Be kind to yourself. Don't expect to be able to handle things you have previously been able to manage.

Find time to replenish your emotional and spiritual reserves.

Focus on maintaining and strengthening important relationships

The new month of Elul begins this week and we will be offering many opportunities to connect with each other and explore the richness of these days (see below). As we move into the *Yomim Noraim* may we find our way by recognizing the *yirah* in our lives. May we trust in each other for the support and caring that defines our community.

Creating a Sacred Space in Your Home (or wherever you are) with Rabbinic Intern Sarah-Tziporah:
Tuesday, September 1, 7:00pm

Cantor Alisa's **Class Love Songs of Elul and High Holy Day Melodies: September, 2 and 9, 7:00pm**

Shofar Blowing Workshop with Dror Sinai:
Thursday, September 3, 7:00pm

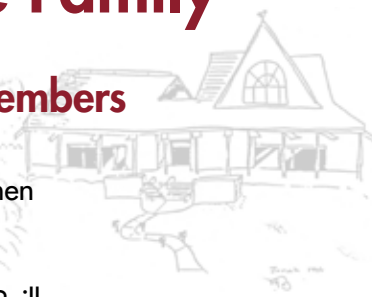
Rabbi Shifra's **Elul Conversations: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings at 8:30pm through September 14.**



In the Temple Family

Welcome to New Members

Miriam and Shlomo Vilozy
Elena Nini, Steve and Ritz Cohen
Rosemary Zumwalt
Randee Schwartz
Morgan, Melody and Curl O'Reilly
Lisa and Adam Blum
David and Megan Brody
Esme and Ada



May their memories be for a blessing

Deborah Barkow Korenstein, beloved wife of Allen Korenstein, mother of Talia and Nava Korenstein, and daughter of Shulamit Elson and Al Barkow

Teagan Speiser, beloved sister of Tara Speiser

Charlene Lash, beloved wife of Jason mother of Adam Lippman, mother in law of Katrina and grandmother of Samara and Eliana

Dr. Arnold Geller, beloved father of Karen Kohut, grandfather of Sydney and Oscar

Helen Flatauer, beloved mother of Benjamin Flatauer

Florence Lange Dobrin, beloved mother of Diane Grunes and Jill Menachem (deceased), mother-in-law of Howie Grunes, and Grandmother of Andy Grunes (Karen), Danny Grunes (Linsey), Yoav, Maya, and Yanai Menachem (Maya). Great Grandma of Molly and Mia Grunes, Leo Grunes, and Noa and Yalhe Menachem

Edgar Feldman, beloved father of Robert Feldman, grandfather of Rachel

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Note from the Temple President

First, big thanks, if you have already renewed your Temple membership. As predicted, a few members needed to reduce their dues this year in response to the pandemic economy. But others, who remain financially secure, truly listened to our entreaty to “uphold the community” by enhancing their membership donation to cover the shortfall. Thus, I can report with gratitude that we remain on track to sustain our Temple and our staff. That said, we are only at the half-way point in renewals, and we must trust that the pattern of generosity will continue.

Your Temple Board has also endeavored to listen, as we spent the summer attending affinity group zooms and neighborhood “gatherings.” And, if you forgive a modestly playful word to be applied to our worship and programs during this difficult and challenging period, it might be “paradoxical.” We might have guessed that with our sanctuary and building closed, the Temple’s significance in the lives of members would have diminished. Instead, we heard that the opposite is true for many of us.

I often find myself thinking of the film, *Silver Linings Playbook*, where the central metaphor relates to the dogged determination of the protagonist to create positive strategies in response to the “bad hand” dealt to him in life. Some of our silver linings include the deep bonding of the thirty-some participants who counted the Omer with Rabbi Shifra, or the ability to have family and former members join together from around the country to sit Shiva, say Kaddish, name babies, study Torah, do yoga, discuss books, connect with other seniors or with the Brotherhood/Sisterhood, etc.. Personally, I have found joy in joining in the light and fragrance of Havdalah and in the discussions of the film club, which I may not have done had it involved an evening schlep to Aptos from Bonny Doon. I hope you will experiment with the offerings on TBE’s daily menu of possibilities. [Insert here your own convincing, encouraging and inspiration appeal to yourself here to attend a worship service or program that may appeal.] A recurring theme of Temple conversations is the sharing of our own personal silver linings, as if to encourage each other to find the patience and fortitude that we all now need. We also find that seeing each other’s faces and embracing each other virtually may help our journeys through these months.

All this said, we have also heard from those who feel isolated from grandchildren and friends, from parents juggling work and the prospect of home schooling, from

children and teens who very much need to see each other in person to maintain their emotional well-being.

As we begin to test the waters of occasional opportunities to see each other in person (e.g., our B’nai Mitzvah retreat, Temple School once a month, Tashlich, and private prayers in front of the ark during Yom Kippur), much depends on all of us *truly* observing safety protocols and distancing. At home, as we think ahead to the High Holy Days, it might do us well to imagine how we will dress and create physical space to enhance our spiritual experience of the holidays.

Finally, with all that we do, the Temple still looks for ways to provide further value for our members. I am happy to receive your ideas: josh@tbeaptos.org

Josh Karter

P.S. I penned these words before the fires. Now, I add my voice of empathetic consolation to members and to our staff whose homes are lost or endangered. I am so grateful that our clergy and a number of our members have been so responsive in providing spiritual and material support to our community.

Temple Beth El Sisterhood Gift Shop

Call Shirley 831-685-2710 or Ruth 831-476-1154 to discuss your **Holiday gift shop** purchases. We deliver your selections at TBE curbside, at your convenience! New Year’s cards, candles, shofars, and all our usual fine gifts, tallits, Israeli imports, and jewelry are available. A few examples are shown on the TBE website, listed under Gift Shop, or click [here](#) to see photos.





PHYSICALLY APART • SPIRITUALLY CONNECTED

High Holidays

Dear Friends,

Many of us look forward to the High Holidays at Temple Beth El as an opportunity to share the warmth and welcome we extend to each other when we gather in our synagogue. For some the holidays are a reunion and for others, it's a time when we find our spirits settling into the sanctuary, the deep breath of beginning a new year.

While for the most part we won't be able to be physically together we will be finding ways to connect, share in spiritual creativity and delve deeply into the power of this important season of return and celebration. If you've been to any of our online offerings you know that the warmth, connection, spirituality and joy we experience in person is also available in the virtual world.

We invite you to participate in the offerings we are preparing for the month of Elul, including suggestions about how to create a sacred space; a Mikdash M'at: a small sanctuary, in your own home.

We are very excited that [Cantor Alisa](#) will be joining Rabbi Paula and Rabbi Shifra this year. We are also blessed to have Rabbinic Intern, [Sarah-Tziporah](#) helping lead parts of our High Holiday season offerings.

We want to acknowledge that this message is coming at a particularly difficult time. The fires have been burning through our region. Some of our beloved members have lost their homes and many are evacuated. We are grateful to those of you who've offered places to stay. We are indeed a caring community. If you need a place to stay, please contact [Diana Rose](#).

Please find a schedule of our High Holiday services and learning opportunities here. We are also including logistical information that will help you make the most of this year's *Yomim Nora'im*~Days of Awe.

LEARNING, SERVICES & PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Programs for the Month of Elul

- *Love Songs of Elul and High Holy Day Melodies* with Cantor Alisa: **Wednesdays through September 9, 7:00pm**
- *Elul Conversations* with Rabbi Shifra: **Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings August 24 through September 14th, 8:30pm**
- *Shofar Blowing Workshop* with Dror Sinai: **Thursday, September 3, 7:00pm**
- *Creating a Sacred Space in Your Home (or wherever you are)* with Rabbinic Intern Sarah-Tziporah: **Tuesday, September 1st 7:00pm**

We will be streaming most of our services on social media platforms including Zoom, Facebook Live and YouTube

ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 18, 7:30-8:30pm Erev Rosh Hashanah

Saturday, September 19, First Day Rosh Hashanah

- 10:00-11:15am Rosh Hashanah First Day Service
- 11:15-12:00pm: Torah/Haftarah and Sermon
- [Afternoon Temple School Family Service](#)

Sunday, September 20, Second Day Rosh Hashanah

- [Morning Temple School Family Service](#)
- 10:00am Please join [Temple Emanuel](#) in San Francisco for their Second Day Rosh Hashana Service
- 5:30pm Tashlich
 - San Lorenzo Valley with Cantor Alisa
 - Westside Natural Bridges with Rabbi Shifra and Peter
 - Aptos Rio Del Mar with Rabbi Paula
 - Zoom from home with Rabbinic Intern Sarah Tziporah

YOM KIPPUR

Sunday, September 27, 7:30-8:45pm Kol Nidre

Monday, September 28, 10:00-11:15am Yom Kippur

- 11:15-12:00pm Torah/Haftarah and Sermon
- 12:30-1:00pm Yizkor



- **1:30pm Zoom Meditation** with Karen Zelin to include a deep body scan, short reflection on t'shuvah and small group breakout discussion
- [Afternoon Temple School Family Service](#)
- **3:30-7:00pm Scheduled Ark Visitations.**
[Follow this link to reserve your time.](#)
One of the many highlights of the High Holidays at TBE occurs during Ne'ilah toward the close of Yom Kippur, when anyone who wants to gets a few private minutes with the Torah in front of the open ark in our sanctuary. We are happy to announce that this is still something you can do. TBE members who would like a few private minutes alone with the Torah may sign up for time on Yom Kippur in front of the ark in the sanctuary or our outdoor ark below the cement stairs on the Soquel side of TBE. When you arrive for your time slot, please have a mask on and go around to the side of the sanctuary, where there will be tape marking how to stand in line 6 feet apart. A greeter will be there to let you in. Please be sure to maintain physical distancing at all times.
- **7:00pm Ne'ilah on Zoom**

We will be offering opportunities for learning on the days between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur on Zoom

- **Sunday, September 20, 7:00pm**
Etiel Herring
The Journey Continues: Digging Deeper, Rising Higher
- **Monday, September 21, 7:00pm**
Rabbi Debbie Israel
Rosh Hashanah, the Beginning of Creation
In Jewish tradition and in the High Holiday machzor, Rosh Hashanah is described this way: "Hayom Harat Haolam - Today is the birthday of the world." For that reason, it is appropriate to study Creation, as described in the Torah and later in the Talmud and rabbinic thought. There is also a connection between the 10 Utterances of God in creating the world and the 10 Days of Repentance between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Zoom in with your thoughts about how the world began.
- **Tuesday, September 22, 7pm**
Rabbi Paula, Aryeh and Shanti invite you to bring your pets for a special blessing on Zoom
- **Wednesday, September 23, 7pm**
Murray Baumgarten
Poetry in Mishkan HaNefesh
Over the years Jews have expressed their feelings about the High Holidays in poetry that has been

included in the Mishkan HaNefesh Mahzor. Explore some of these poems that help us to think how we define ourselves during the High Holidays.

- **Thursday, September 24, 7:00pm**
Rabbi Debbie Israel
Psalm 27, the Psalm of the Days of Awe
This beautiful psalm is traditionally read daily from the first day of the Hebrew month of Elul (the month that precedes Rosh Hashanah) until Sukkot (some stop reading it at the end of Yom Kippur). What is its special relationship to this holy season and what is its meaning? Part of the study session will include a conversation about the Book of Psalms and how to read them.
- **Saturday, September 26, 8:30pm**
Rabbinic intern Sarah-Tziporah
A Special High Holiday Havdalah

MACHZORIM-HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYER BOOKS

We are very excited that this will be the second year with our creative and inspiring machzorim. We encourage you to purchase the two-volume set for your home. Please [follow this link](#) for details about buying Mishkan HaNefesh. If you would like to borrow machzorim, please [follow this link](#). We also have the option of utilizing an [online version](#).

As with past High Holiday services in the sanctuary, all are invited to join us online. No one will be turned away from attending our High Holy Days; however we need support to ensure the strength and health of our congregation. We know that many in our community have been financially impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic. We ask that all who are able contribute what you can from a spirit of generosity.

ROCK HASHANAH

The Rock Shabbat Band is playing around with latest technological magic to bring you a new song for Rock HaShanah along with a curated selection of previous RockHashanah services designed for your spiritual uplift.

SHOFAR RECORDING FOR ROCK HASHANAH

Are you an experienced shofar blower? Please record yourself blowing the Shofar in high def (if possible) and send it to a Dropbox. We will provide the link ASAP. We will also include these recordings in Rock HaShanah.

L'Shana Tova!



New SRFY and Jr. Youth Group advisor

Hello Temple Beth El! Shannon Kochanek here, I am the new SRFY and Jr. Youth Group advisor, 4th grade Judaism Outdoors teacher, and Kef art teacher for TBE. My husband Josh, our 3 year old son Koel, and I were presented an opportunity to open a restaurant in Capitola, and we made the decision in January to move from Rhode Island in mid-March. The first thing I did was check out the Jewish community, which is when I found your lovely Synagogue. I immediately reached out to say how passionate I am about youth programming and Judaism, and expressed my desire to get involved when we move there.



Shannon Kochanek, Josh & Koel

For over 20-plus years, I've worked at the Jewish Alliance of Greater RI in a variety of roles. Most recently I was the Director of After School and ECC Art Teacher, but when I started I was in high-school, working as a lifeguard and swim instructor. I also taught in the Religious school at Temple Beth El in Providence for 10 years. My two younger brothers and I grew up in their Religious School as well. After graduating from the University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth with a B.F.A. in Art Education, my goal was to become an art teacher. I moved out of state for a while, but would return to Rhode Island whenever I had the chance. I worked with kids at the JCC during holidays and school vacations, and when I moved back home in 2006, they created a full-time position for me: Art Specialist. I taught all of the Early Childhood Center's (ECC) art classes, and worked with older kids on art enrichment activities. I love being able to make Jewish values a part of my work. These translate to human values all can appreciate. They helped the Jewish Alliance's after-school participants become connected and active members of their communities. Israel education was another important part of our curriculum. On a Birthright trip to Israel in 2010, I became convinced that we needed an Israeli in our camp at the Jewish Alliance. I started our summer shaliach (Israeli emissary) program the following year, and there's been a shaliach at the Alliance ever since.

I met with Rabbi Shifra in February, and made plans to work part-time, for Temple school and as the youth group advisor, in the fall. I also landed a full-time camp director job with Steve and Kate's Camp, but then COVID happened, and our move was pushed back 3 times. We decided to make the move despite everything, and shortly after I was laid off due to no camp because of COVID. While our restaurant was getting ready to open, I volunteered my time learning about your community and opportunities available to Jewish teens and how to best serve them in these difficult times. My work officially started with Temple Beth El at the end of July, and I have recently been re-hired to run a Camp Counselor at Home program for Steve & Kate's Camp. Our restaurant "LittleKoe's Beach Bites" opened inside the Capitola Mercantile at the beginning of June. My husband Josh makes tacos using a thinly sliced root vegetable as the shell, and slider sandwiches. He gets fresh local ingredients daily, including Ahi Tuna and hand pulled chicken. Our son, Koel will be starting at Simcha Preschool this week. We are very happy here, and I can't wait to get to know you all!

Simcha Preschool

Dear TBE Community,

Oh the joyful smiles and laughter at Simcha Preschool! We reopened on August 18th to happy children and supportive families for the 2020/2021 school year! There were some early bumps in the road with the local fires although we're hoping for a fun, healthy and successful year. Our Simcha families were appreciative of the activity bags we prepared

for their children, as well as the online content including songs, stories, and circle time.

Preschool Teachers Grace & Selah, PreK Teachers Caitlin & Nathan, and TK/K Teacher Jan all worked hard during the first two weeks of August to restructure our entire program to a mostly outdoor preschool. Office Administrator



Michelle has been getting everyone's accounts and files in order while helping me brainstorm new systems and the calendar. I'm thankful for the amazing Simcha team of creative, insightful and collaborative professionals.

Our program is open to children on Tuesdays through Fridays for both full-days (8am-4pm) and half-days (9am-1pm). The staff work on Mondays to disinfect materials, create online content and activity bags in case of closures, and for ongoing anti-racism/racial literacy dialogues (to name only a few of our Monday tasks). We're adhering to the local and national guidelines for health and safety related to the health crisis.

Simcha Preschool is accepting your generous donations to the Edward Newman Tuition Scholarship Fund that he set up last year to help families who live on a low income and

can benefit from financial support to attend our wonderful, play-based program. Also, thank you to Rabbi Paula who has contributed a generous sum to support the scholarship fund for BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color) children attending our program.

Take good care,

Lisa Mendez, Director



All the Preschool children have personal sensory tubs and trays to enjoy working with play dough and other squishy sensory items.



The PreK children are busy at work in their outdoor office on the big yard.



Our TK/K children sculpted and are experimenting with a sand volcano in their outdoor classroom.

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Temple School and TBE Youth Programs during COVID

We are looking forward to a wonderful year at Temple School and are excited to announce our program for Fall 2020.

Our opening day **Beginning of the year Zoom call** will be on **Sunday, September 13 beginning at 10:00am**

Parent Orientation and Question and Answer Zoom session with Rabbi Shifra will be on **Wednesday, September 9, 7:00pm.**

High Holiday Temple School Family Service (Jr. Congregation) will be offered on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Families with at least one child registered for Temple School are welcome to attend in person, *pre-registration is required* (see TBE Youth Programs and Temple School Physical Distancing Guidelines below).

Fall Program Information-

We have been carefully following what is known about COVID19, and we have decided to conduct TBE youth activities, including Temple School as a **hybrid program**, combining online meetings with outdoor meetings, masks on, and 6 feet apart. The number one purpose of our children's and youth programs is to foster connection. Although TBE remains closed, we feel it is important and necessary to facilitate connection for the children of the congregation in ways that are understood to be safe to help kids avoid depression and alienation. Outdoor activities are permitted for places of worship. We have consulted with medical experts, and although we never can be sure there is no risk, there is strong evidence that being 6 feet apart with masks on outside is safe.

Although our program will be primarily **online Sunday mornings**, we will offer a **monthly in-person class** from 1:00 to 2:30pm for two grades each Sunday that we are in session, outdoors at TBE with our wonderful Temple School teachers. **2nd through 6th grade** will meet online every Sunday morning that we are in session, and **K/1st will meet half the time online and half in person.** **Hebrew High** electives (see below) will meet on Wednesday evenings, and **7th grade** will meet on Wednesday evenings with Rabbi Shifra, Cantor Alisa, and Rabbinic Intern Sarah-Tziporah Moser. 7th graders and their parents will also be offered one in-person outdoor session at TBE per month.

All **parents who are driving their children to TBE** will be offered the opportunity to participate in a **parent discussion group with Rabbi Shifra**, and we request that those who opt not to participate after drop off leave the TBE campus to **prevent unregulated congregating at TBE.** Again, the key to successfully running this program safely will be that everyone strictly maintain the 6 feet distance, and keep their masks on.

Let me tell you more about our **excellent online programming.** We have teamed with Shalom Learning, outstanding online teachers and cutting-edge online tools to bring wonderful and engaging Jewish studies for all grades. Our online teaching team features 4 outstanding teachers; Korrine Fitz (Grade 6) and Stacey Barros (Kindergarten/1st grade) from TBE, Cantor Nina Fine (Grades 3 & 5) who lives in Florida and Shani Sicherman (2nd grade and 4th grade) a Jewish Educator and online curriculum expert who lives in Israel. Our **4th through 6th grade Hebrew Program** will feature weekly **one on one instruction** from our wonderful, caring and dedicated Hebrew teachers along with an outstanding self-paced online **Hebrew Reading Program.** Please look out for your follow-up e-mail to sign your 4th through 6th grader up for their regular Hebrew tutoring time-slot.

On Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, our **4th-6th grade KEF** program will offer 3 electives, two online and one in person. Although the details are still being worked out, the most updated proposal is to offer the following 3 electives. 4th through 6th grade students can sign up for one or all 3 options, space permitting.

1. "Judaism Outdoors" which will meet in various parks and beaches around the county, on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5. The first meeting will be at TBE on October 6th.
2. "Jewish Arts and Crafts" with Shannon Kochanek will meet online Wednesdays from 3 to 4. Shannon will prepare art kits in advance for pick up at the Temple, and students will create beautiful Judaica with her.
3. "Jewish Cooking Show" which will meet online on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6. Families will be given a list of ingredients 2 weeks in advance and each week a teacher will guide students as they cook delicious Jewish foods for their families in their own kitchens (and clean up afterward).



Teen Involvement -As part of her Certificate of Jewish Education Sarah will be creating a Jewish Educational Interns (JEI) program for our teen youth for both online and in person classes. JEI students would assist in the Sunday classes as well as meet outside of class once a month together with our new SRFY Youth advisor and Sarah to discuss different topics on a monthly basis. There will be time for reflection on their experiences as well as time to meet with the other teen assistants. Students will help develop the curriculum as we move forward each month. In addition, our **SRFY** Youth Advisor Shannon Kochanek will offer frequent opportunities for teens to get together in person and online.

Hebrew High Electives, Wednesday evenings 7:00-8:30PM online

1. JCAT- Temple Beth El Hebrew High has been accepted in a pilot educational program called "JCAT: Jewish Court of All Times." Our students will participate with university student mentors in a simulation of a trial in which great minds from across the range of human history gather to consider a major dilemma from history. After researching the character they will play, and the historical dilemma or current events issue, students will participate in an evolving courtroom simulation.
2. "Jewish Cooking Show" will also meet online on Wednesdays for Hebrew High. Families will be given a list of ingredients 2 weeks in advance and each week a teacher will guide students as they cook delicious Jewish foods for their families in their own kitchens (and clean up afterward).
3. "Jewish Arts and Crafts" with Shannon Kochanek. Shannon will prepare art kits in advance for pick up at the Temple, and students will create beautiful Judaica with her.

For those who are experiencing financial difficulty, please note that this year the Temple School online registration form allows you to pay reduced tuition if needed.

Below, please find the most recent text of TBE Youth Programs and Temple School's Physical Distancing Guidelines. Although I am completely opposed to any efforts in our society to disregard scientific evidence in order to re-open the economy, I do think it is important to cautiously provide what social interactions we can safely offer to our children and youth. In fact, I believe that it is TBEs responsibility to lead the way on this, as

this pandemic is not going to disappear any time soon. I would be grateful if you would give me feedback and share your concerns, because I really want this to work for everyone.

Blessings,

Rabbi Shifra

TBE Youth Programs and Temple School Physical Distancing Guidelines

(Based on California Places of Worship Guidance [ca.gov](https://www.cdph.ca/guidance)) --

All in-person meetings will be outside, with masks on. Parents are asked to take their child's temperature and conduct a wellness check on their child and themselves before each and every meeting.

If you do not feel well, or have any symptoms that could be related to Covid such as sore throat, rash, fever, cough, stomach ache or digestive problems or if you have had contact with anyone with Covid, please attend on Zoom only. If you have had any of these symptoms in the past two weeks, or have had contact in the past two weeks with anyone who has had these symptoms, please attend on Zoom instead of in person.

- Physical distancing of at least six feet between households will be maintained at all times. Upon arrival, each Parent/Student household will proceed directly to their designated space. You may bring lawn chairs, umbrellas, shade structures, pillows, or anything that you would like to set up in your designated area to make you more comfortable. Please bring hand sanitizer, a water bottle with your name on it, sunscreen and layers of outdoor clothing appropriate to changes in the weather.
- Upon arrival please park at least one space away from any other cars that are unloading. Please do not approach other families except to say hello from a distance. Please help us to minimize crossflow of people by going straight to your designated spot and getting settled there.
- We are a hugging congregation. However, please do not hug or kiss or touch anyone. It has been our experience that even hugging someone who does live in your house can start other people hugging. We love expressing affection, but limiting touching will help make everyone feel comfortable.



From the Executive Director

Now, more than ever, we can see that we are not only a community, but truly neighbors. The incredible response for financial support for the fires has been overwhelming and heartening. It is truly amazing the things of which this community is capable.

As we continue to witness the power of pulling together in these trying times, I wanted to take a moment to mention 'small things.'

Some small things carry weight exponentially more than is apparent. Other small things add up to the grand. Small things that carry more than their weight are as simple as a kind word, a courteous gesture, or sincere gratitude. We don't have to imagine how these things impact, we have all felt it. And now, when it seems we are faced with a new challenge daily, is the time to remember to pepper these things on the people around us. They can change the world.

Other small things add up. One of these sorts of things are company match programs. Many larger – and smaller – employers have matching programs for employees in which employees can participate that double their contribution to charity. In this way, companies can become partners in our community as well as doubling a person's contribution potential. It is a small thing – but it adds up. Even \$25 a month from a paycheck matched by an employer means an additional \$300 to TBE. As few as ten people doing this can fully fund certain programs.

Whether peppering kindness or building a mountain of pebbles, do remember to also be kind to yourself. Remember to take a moment, reflect, resettle. Look at the offerings for Elul leading up to the High Holidays – many of the programs and practices there are helpful in renewing and keeping our center so we continue to be able to do the small things.

Be well, Be Safe, Respectfully,

Tanya Lorien, Executive Director



Tanya Lorien

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Temple Beth El - Jewish Community Center | September 2020

Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center ☆ ELUL 5780/TISHREI 5781

All events are subject to change. Please check the Temple website. www.tbaptos.org or call the office at 831-479-3444 to verify information

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Link to site for Calendar details		1 9:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00am Pilates Strength Training 7:00pm Creating a Sacred Space in Your Home (or wherever you are) with Rabbinic Intern Sarah-Tziporah 8:30p Elul Conversations	2 9:15am Women’s Writing Group 10:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 7:00pm Love Songs of Elul and High Holy Day Melodies: Lifelong Learning Program with Cantor Alisa	3 9:30a Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00a Pilates Strength Training 12:00p Lunch and Learn 7:00p Shofar Blowing Workshop with Dror 8:30p Elul Conversations	4 5:45pm Kaddish Call 7:30pm Live Erev Shabbat Service with Cantor Alisa on Zoom	5 10:00am Shabbasana 8:30pm Havdalah with Sarah-Tziporah
	6 10:00am Headstone cleaning at Home of Peace 5:30pm Schmooze with Rabbi Paula 7:00pm Film Club Discussion 8:30pm Elul Conversations	7 Labor Day-Temple Office closed 9:00am Yoga with Korrine 8:30pm Elul Conversations	8 9:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00am Pilates Strength Training 7:00pm Social Action Committee Meeting 8:30pm Elul Conversations	9 9:15am Women’s Writing Group 10:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 7:00pm Temple School Parent Orientation and Question and Answer Zoom Session with Rabbi Shifra 7:00pm Love Songs of Elul and High Holy Day Melodies: Lifelong Learning Program with Cantor Alisa	10 9:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00am Pilates Strength Training 8:30pm Elul Conversations	11 5:45pm Kaddish Call 6:00pm S’lichot Shabbat on Zoom
13 9:00am Judaism as a Spiritual Journey 10:00am Temple School Opening Day Zoom Call 5:30pm Schmooze with Rabbi Paula 7:00pm Film Club Discussion 7:30pm Westside 2 Zoom Neighborhood Gathering 8:30pm Elul Conversations	14 9:00am Yoga with Korrine 2:00pm Senior Connections 8:30pm Elul Conversations	15 9:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00am Pilates Strength Training	16 9:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00am Pilates Strength Training	17 9:15am Women’s Writing Group 10:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi	18 Erev Rosh HaShanah 7:30pm Erev Rosh Hashana Service Online	19 Rosh HaShanah 10:00am First Day Rosh Hashana Service Online 11:15am Torah/Haftarah and Sermon online Temple School Family Service
20 Rosh HaShanah Temple School Family Service 5:30pm Tashlich Service 7:00pm The Journey Continues: Digging Deeper, Rising Higher with Etiel Herring Online	21 9:00am Yoga with Korrine 2:00pm Senior Connections 7:00pm Rosh Hashana, the Beginning of Creation	22 9:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00am Pilates Strength Training 7:00pm Rabbi Paula, Aryeh and Shanti invite you to bring your pets for a special blessing on Zoom 7:00pm General Board Meeting	23 9:15am Women’s Writing Group 10:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 7:00pm Poetry in Mishkan HaNefesh with Murray Baumgarten Online	24 7:00pm alim 27, Psalm for the Days of Awe with Rabbi Debbie Israel Online	25 5:45pm Kaddish Call 7:30pm Erev Shabbat Service	26 Haazinu Tishrei 10:00am Shabbasana 8:30pm A Special High Holiday Havdalah with Rabbinic intern Sarah-Tziporah Online
27 Kol Nidre 7:30pm Kol Nidre Service Online	28 Yom Kippur Yizkor Temple School Family Service 10:00am Yom Kippur Service Online 11:15am Torah/Haftarah and Sermon Online 12:30pm Yizkor Online 1:30pm Meditation with Karen Zelin 3:30pm Scheduled Ark Visitations 7:00pm Ne’ilah Online	29 9:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00am Pilates Strength Training	30 9:30am Chair Yoga with Suzi 10:00am Pilates Strength Training			

Contributions | June 17 – August 14, 2020

CANTORIAL FUND

Edward Newman in honor of my marriage to Leslie

BROTHERHOOD

John and Merry Oppenheimer in memory of Edgar Feldman

BUILDING FUND

Vicki Hendin in honor of Sheila and Murray Baumgarten's 60th Wedding Anniversary
Vicki Hendin in memory of my beloved husband, Alan
Amy and David Harrington in honor of Murray and Sheila's 60th Wedding Anniversary
Stephen and Carmella Dautoff

CEMETERY

Jeff Robinson in loving memory of our father, Howard F. Robinson

GENERAL FUND

Murray and Sheila Baumgarten in honor of our amazing daughters and their partners:
Leora Baumgarten and Charles Smith, Hannah Baumgarten and Fabio Triputti
Roger and Elinor Wapner in memory of Stanley Wapner
Wilma and Gus Gold in loving memory of Lorraine Shannon, mother of Wilma Gold
Diana Rothman in memory of David Rose, a fine surgeon and a mensch
Lauren Leff in loving memory of Judy Leff
Matthew Dobbs
Beila Krow and Nicholas Rodin
Amy and David Harrington in memory of Virginia Mann
Geoffrey Ellis in honor of Rabbi Shifra Elana and Alexander Titus in loving memory of Ruth Levine Chandross, my continued inspiration.
Diana Rothman in memory of Tegan Speiser
Nita Lamendola in memory of Tegan Speiser

Carolyn and Curt Coleman in honor of Scott Roseman for his many years of Board Service!

Carolyn and Curt Coleman in honor of Amy Harrington, Board President extraordinaire!

Carolyn and Curt Coleman in memory of Virginia Mann, mother of our wonderful Pilates teacher Jennifer Balboni

Murray and Sheila Baumgarten in loving memory of my mother and father, Leon W. Korr and Florence Korr Lurie and the recent passing of my cousin, Ellen Belson

Randee Schwartz wishing a speedy recovery for Marie Russel

Nita Lamendola in memory of my beloved father, Syd Fisher

Rosemary Zumwalt

Doug and Gwen Kaplan in honor of Harold and Francine's 60th anniversary

Renee C. Winter in honor of the special birthday of Etzel Herring

Barbara Beerstein and George Badger in honor of Sheila and Murray Baumgarten's Anniversary

LIBRARY FUND

John and Merry Oppenheimer in loving memory of Rhoda Mayer
Julie Lorraine and Barry Marks in honor of Rabbi Shifra's Count the Omer zoom gatherings

ONEG FUND

Lee and Molly Jaffe
Scott Roseman and Jasmine Berke in memory of my grandmother, Sadie Mandel
Lori and Jim Kearney in memory of my dad, David Shifrel.
Gilda Zelin in memory of my beloved husband Joel Zelin and all the other members of my family
John and Merry Oppenheimer in loving memory of Rhoda Mayer
John and Merry Oppenheimer in loving memory of Donald Oppenheimer
Ellen Moir
Gilda Zelin in memory of my brother Martin Cymrot

Nina Koocher and Bernard Elbaum in loving memory of David Koocher
Alex Moraru in loving memory of Liliana Moraru

OUT IN OUR FAITH

Carol Skolnick in loving memory of Tegan Speiser, our sweet, delightful, dear friend

RABBI LITVAK DISCRETIONARY FUND

Murray and Sheila Baumgarten in honor of Rabbi Rick

RABBI MARCUS DISCRETIONARY FUND

Murray and Sheila Baumgarten in honor of Rabbi Paula
Helen Behar in loving memory of Diane Grune's mother, Florence Dobrin
Risa Lower in loving memory of my mother, Elaine Berger
Lee and Molly Jaffe in honor of Sheila and Murray Baumgarten's 60th anniversary
Tara Speiser in honor of Tegan Cloud Speiser
Suzy Engelman wishing Mazel Tov to Morgan O'Reilly and Melody Curl on the naming of their daughter Marli "Miriam" O'Reilly, by Rabbi Paula. Love Nana and Bumps, the proud great-grandparents
Edward Newman in honor of Leslie and Ed's Marriage
Rosemary Zumwalt in memory of my husband Isaac Jack Levy
Ruth Rabinowitz in loving memory of David Charles Rabinowitz
Karen Zelin and Bill Underwood in loving memory of Tegan Speiser
Diana Rothman in honor of Amy Harrington

RABBI WEISS-PENZIAS DISCRETIONARY FUND

Tara Speiser in honor of Tegan Cloud Speiser
Risa Lower in memory of Mitchell R. Berger, beloved brother
Rosemary Zumwalt in memory of my husband Isaac Jack Levy

Marilyn Rigler in honor of my father,
Joe Press

ROSE LEVINE CAMP FUND

Estelle Levine in loving memory
of Mark Levine
Estelle Levine in loving memory
of Blache Schoenfeld

ROWE SCHOOL ASST FUND

Amy and David Harrington in
honor of Rabbi Shifra, for her
extraordinary work with
Deborah's family

SENIOR CONNECTIONS FUND

Ceil Cirillo in honor of Senior
Connections
Marlene Pitkow and Mark Kalow in
honor of Murray and Sheila's 60th
Wedding Anniversary
Nancy and Charles Barr in honor of
and appreciation of Marlene Pitkow
Barbara Beerstein and George Badger
in memory of Diane Grune's mother,
Florence Lange Dobrin

H. Douglas and Anna Huskey
in memory of Jennifer Balboni's
mother
Phyllis Rosenberg and Janice Macias
in memory of my husband
George Rosenberg
Dennis and Cheryl Caspe in honor
of the committee
Shlomo Vilozy
Marianna Mejia thanking you for the
Flamenco lecture by Meira Goldberg
Diane Marvin-Koenig
Karen Zelin and Bill Underwood in
loving memory of Joel Zelin
Fay Levinson and Joe Vela in memory
of my husband Robert E. Levinson

SIMCHA DONATION

Wilma and Gus Gold in honor
of the Simcha Graduation

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Judi Sherman and Rachel Bicker in
loving memory of Edmund Sherman,
loving uncle of Judi and Rachel

Robert and Michele Kibrick in loving
memory of Edwin Kibrick
Ellen Ortiz in loving memory of
Florence Goldman
Nita Lamendola in memory of
my dear uncle, Jack Kaplan

TEMPLE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP DONATION

Ruth and Keith Britany in loving
memory of my father,
Lory Fuchsmann

WOMEN OF VALOR CANDY COONERTY FUND

Paul and Carol Berman in honor
of Gail Ow

YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP/CAMPERSHIP

Judi Sherman and Rachel Bickert in
loving memory of Sam Sherman,
father and grandfather of
Judi Sherman and Rachel Bickert

Temple Brotherhood Teaching Fellowship

Brotherhood proudly announces the creation of the **Temple Beth El Brotherhood Teaching Fellowship** to help support the new Temple position of Youth Advisor. In this difficult time of the Corona virus pandemic, we hope this fellowship will help alleviate the isolation many of our youth are facing, and will bring welcome teachings of Jewish history, values and social action. Brotherhood's funds will help underwrite the Temple's hiring of gifted teacher and Jewish scholar Shannon Boucher. Shannon is planning a number of engaging activities for our youth to enjoy both remotely and in person at parks, beaches and on Temple grounds with appropriate social distancing. This gift reaffirms Brotherhood's commitment to the Jewish values of community and giving. Activities will engage SRFY (teen group) and help resurrect BETY (younger kids). Youth committees currently being established will develop new events and Zoom functions. Shannon and the Temple will be publicizing these exciting new developments. It is a pleasure for Brotherhood to serve our youth by offering this much-needed fellowship.

The Hoods Give Gifts to B'nai Mitvot

*Brotherhood and
Sisterhood once again
generously purchased
Kiddish cups (Brotherhood)
and Sabbath candle
holders (Sisterhood) to be
presented to each b'nai
mitzvot over the next year
to honor and welcome
them into Jewish adulthood.*

TBE EVERY VOICE, EVERY VOTER 2020

Getting Ready to Vote

The November 3, 2020 general election is two months away. Here are some things you need to know and some actions to take:

- Check to make sure you are registered to vote at VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov.
- This year, all registered voters in California will be receiving vote-by-mail ballots. Your vote-by-mail ballot will be sent to the mailing address on your registration. If you have changed your mailing address but have not moved your residence, you can inform the county directly online at votescount.us
- If you are registering to vote for the first time or need to update your registration because you have moved your residence or changed your name, it is important to do so no later than October 19, but earlier is better. You can register or update your voter registration at RegisterToVote.ca.gov.



-You track your packages; now you can track your ballot. Sign up today for the new ballot tracking service at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov

-Vote-by-mail ballots will be sent out on October 5. If you have not received your ballot within a week, please contact the Santa Cruz County Clerk's Office at (831)454-2060 or at info@votescount.com

2020 Election – Ballot Proposition Alert!

Learn About the 2020 California Ballot Propositions

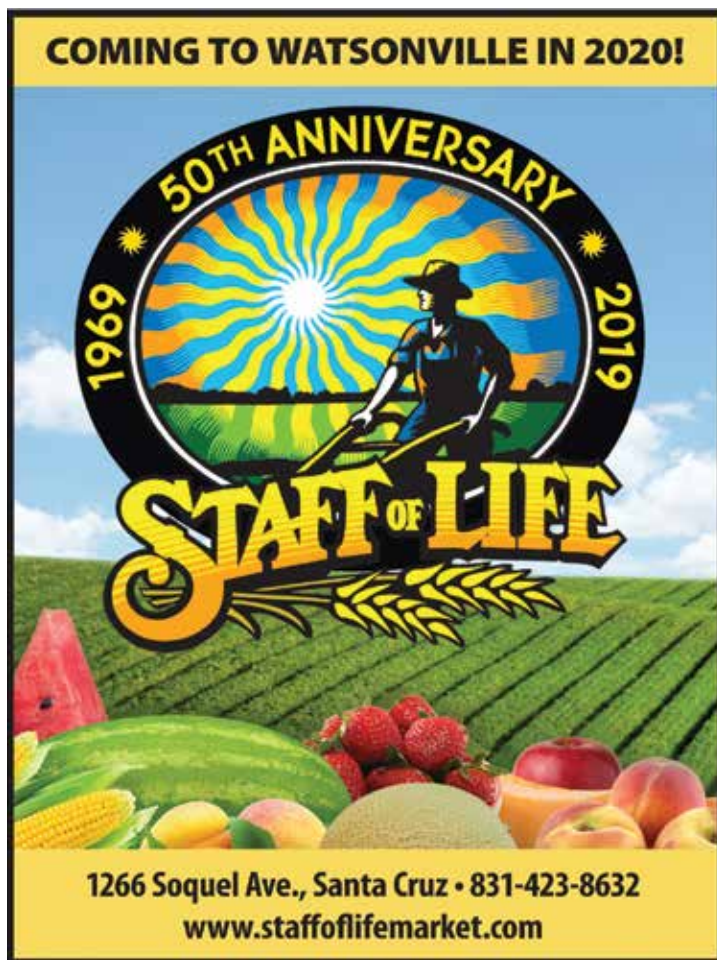
The Social Action Committee wants to draw your attention to several November ballot propositions that will affect racial and gender justice, criminal justice, and funding for local government and schools.

The California Religious Action Center (RAC-CA), in which Temple Beth El participates, is urging Reform Congregations to

- engage in dialogue about Proposition 15
- support Propositions 16 and 17, and
- oppose Proposition 20

The URJ Religious Action Center (RAC-CA) has positions on several California ballot propositions. Below are short summaries of each of these ballot measures and the RAC-CA's position on each. [To learn more, visit](#)

- **Proposition 15** — RAC-CA neutral but urges education. Proposition 15 would change property tax assessment of commercial and industrial properties worth more than \$3 million. Instead of a cap on property tax assessment which stems from Proposition 13, the properties would be reassessed each year based on their fair market value. The change is likely to raise the affected businesses' property tax and is estimated to raise an estimated \$6.5 to \$11.5 billion by 2025 for local governments and schools. RAC-CA is hosting a "Statewide Forum on Prop 15 Schools and Communities First" on October 6, from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m., and all are encouraged to attend. The issues to be addressed, as summarized by RAC-CA, is as follows: "the lack of funding for California's schools and essential local services is a profound problem in California."





Is Proposition 15 a good solution? What does the measure actually do? What Jewish perspectives might inform this vote?

RAC-CA will be hosting an informative Zoom meeting to discuss Prop.15. You can participate RAC-CA's Forum on Prop 15 Schools and Communities First **Tuesday, October 6 from 7:00-8:15 p.m.**

You can register here for the Forum: [Meeting Registration](#)

Also, learn about...

- **Proposition 16** — Endorsed by RAC-CA.

This proposition repeals Proposition 209 and restores the ability of state and local government and public educational institutions in California to enact affirmative action preference programs based on race, gender, and ethnicity in state contracting, employment, and university admissions as a means of addressing historic discrimination and promoting equal opportunity. Proposition 209, adopted in 1996, abolished affirmative action programs in California by amending the California Constitution to prohibit discrimination against or preferential treatment to persons based on their race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, public contracting, and public education in California. Proposition 16 would repeal that state constitutional provision.

- **Proposition 17** – Endorsed by RAC-CA
California allows convicted felons to vote but only after completion of their sentences and parole. Proposition 17 would extend voting rights to convicted felons who have completed their prison sentences but who are still on parole. Supporters of this proposition estimate that it would restore voting rights to 50,000 Californians.
- **Proposition 20** – Opposed by RAC-CA
Proposition 20 would reverse recent state criminal justice reforms that have prioritized rehabilitation over incarceration. Opponents of this proposition predict that it will once again increase the prison population by making parole more difficult to obtain, lowering the threshold for certain crimes, and returning parolees to prison for noncriminal violations.

EVERY VOICE, EVERY VOTE

The TBE Social Action Committee ...

wants you to know about three important Temple Zoom events in October to help you prepare for voting and filing mail-in ballots for the November 3 Election.

- **October 6 – URJ's Religious Action Center (RAC-CA)** will hold an online Forum to review RAC's positions, reflecting Jewish values on crucial 2020 ballot measures.
- **October 11 – TBE's Social Action Every Voice, Every Vote Campaign** invites you to a Zoom Ballot Party to learn about voting with mail-in ballots and a review of ballot measures.
- **October 19 – A Lifelong Learning Salon with Sandy Warren, League of Women Voters**, will provide a perspective on current local and state ballot measures.

Each of these events will provide a non-partisan focus on ballot measures and the voting process for the November 3, 2020 General Election. Here are the details:

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 – **RAC-CA hosts an informative Zoom Forum to discuss Prop.15** **7:00-8:15pm**

You can participate in RAC-CA's Forum on Prop 15: Schools and Communities First. [Read about Proposition 15 and other ballot measures here](#), and [You can register here for the Forum](#).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 – **TBE Zoom Ballot & Proposition Party!** **4:00pm**

Learn about Mail-In Voting and Ballot Measure for the November Election with members of the TBE Social Action Committee

The Temple Beth El Social Action Committee is hosting **a ballot proposition party on Zoom** to provide an opportunity for Temple members to learn about and discuss 2020 California ballot propositions and how to prepare and send your mail-in ballot. This will be a non-partisan discussion.



To join the **TBE Every Voice, Every Vote** Ballot Proposition Party: Time: Oct. 11, 2020 at 4:00pm Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting at: <https://fuhsd-org.zoom.us/j/99540596603?pwd=S2VWaeJUU0tZkJOVlKYnBWZHNMQT09>

Meeting ID: 995 4059 6603

Passcode: 677154

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19 –
Lifelong Learning: Nonpartisan Presentation
on the California Statewide Propositions
7pm, via Zoom (stay tuned for the link)

With Sandy Warren, representative of the League of Women Voters

Sandy Warren, a longtime member of the League of Women Voters, will present a nonpartisan overview of the statewide ballot propositions on the November 3 California ballot. She will explain each proposition and its financial impacts and the arguments for and against each measure.

B'NAI MITZVAH RETREAT

*The B'nai Mitzvah Class
gathered safely and
joyfully on August 8th.*

