FROM THE PRESIDENT

Friends,

As we approach the summer, I could reminisce about the wonderful TBH-BE programs and events from this past year, but I will leave that task to the photo montage, the stories shared for our annual meeting handout, and your own memories. I hope you agree that we have had a year full of spirituality, study, and community.

The loss of Rabbi Maltzman, z”l, this past year, gave us an opportunity to reflect on the beginning of TBH-BE and our growth as a synagogue and as a community. Along with our founders, Rabbi and Ruth Maltzman set the foundation for our fabulous community. The Maltzman Memorial Shabbat Dinner this past April, honoring Pam Feld-Randel and Harry Randel, and featuring our time capsule, was a special Shabbat that represented our commitment to delivering Jewish values from generation to generation.

While we recognize our accomplishments, let us focus on the future. Financially, we are in a strong position. We are on track to meet our approximately $4 million budget, or, dare I say, benefit from a modest surplus. Stuart Hosansky, our treasurer, and Ken Krivitzky, our executive director, deserve most of the credit for this feat, especially after several challenging years of deficits. Two years into our $3.25 million five-year Capital Campaign, we have an upgraded parking lot, more attractive landscaping, and greatly enhanced lighting improving our safety and providing our campus with a much needed face-lift. We are poised to pay off our near $1 million mortgage by 2017.

We are certainly mindful that our physical structure is in great need of upkeep and repair. Our newer buildings are not so new anymore, and our older buildings are literally historic structures. The Board of Directors has recently approved the hire of BWA, an architectural firm, to conduct a facilities and

Mazel Tov To:

Men’s Club Man of the Year:  
David Oriel

Alan Fink Silver Circle Award:  
Scott Feuer

Dor Chadash Award Winners:  
Sharon and Jonathan Levin

Maltzman Shabbat Dinner Honorees:  
Pamela Feld-Randel and Harry Randel

Sisterhood Torah Fund Honoree:  
Aliza Shaya
planning assessment study of all of our buildings this summer. This in depth study will enable us to evaluate our needs throughout our buildings and prioritize the work that is required. We are exploring funding options for the structural improvements that will likely be recommended.

Given the increase in enrollment in our Early Childhood Center and the Sylvia F. Lodish Religious School, the upkeep of our buildings is all the more critical. We are fortunate that our ECC is essentially full and both our ECC and our Religious School enrollment are approximately 40% higher than three years ago. Kol HaKavod to Judith Scarani and Rabbi Marc Israel for their hard work and commitment to Jewish education.

Our synagogue membership is strong and it is gratifying to see some of our newer members easily integrating, participating, and reaping the benefits of this great community. With an influx of many families in the ECC, it is incumbent upon all of us to welcome them into our larger shul community.

The following is our mission:

*Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El is a warm and engaging, egalitarian, Conservative synagogue devoted to enriching our members’ lives and the Jewish community. We enable each member to achieve his or her Jewish identity through innovative and traditional worship experiences, lifelong learning, fulfillment of mitzvot, and community involvement. As a vibrant, multigenerational congregation, our mission is to serve and support each member in a caring, respectful and collaborative manner.*

As we look back this year and look ahead to the future, we should all examine whether we are true to our mission. Let us all think about ways we can enhance our thriving community.

Thank you again for coming tonight and please know that you can always contact me or anyone else in leadership with regard to any matter relating to our Synagogue.  

-Josh A. Davison, President, TBH-BE

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**By the Numbers**

**ECC Enrollment:**
- 2013/14: 119
- 2014/15: 129
- 2015/16: 140
- Projected 2016/17: 156

**Religious School Enrollment:**
- 2013/14: 116
- 2014/15: 123
- 2015/16: 157
- Projected 2016/17: 157

**B’nai Mitzvah this year:** 32

**Total number of households as of March 2016:** 721

**Households sending Sisterhood Mishloach Manot greetings:** 286
New this year, @tbhbe.edU has transformed Adult Education at TBH-BE. With a robust array of classes and programs to educate, inform and captivate our congregants, this initiative featured more than 30 classes and engagement opportunities by clergy, congregants, and outside experts. Highlights of the year include our revised Shabbat classes, Emilie Passow’s class on the Book of Ruth, and our Artist/Scholar-in-Residence weekends.

**Yom HaShoah**

Religious School students marked Yom HaShoah with age-appropriate programs. Our 2nd-3rd graders (pictured below) listened to Rita Ross’ story of escape and survival. Ms. Ross is a Holocaust survivor and TBH-BE member. They heard the poem the *Last Butterfly* and painted ceramic butterflies, part of an international effort to display 1.5 million butterflies in memory of the children murdered in the Shoah. Our butterflies are displayed on the wall outside of the Holocaust Memorial Chapel.

**A Learning Community**

Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El maintains a high standard for learning initiatives, and this year we have truly excelled.

Beginning in October, Joey Weisenberg delighted us as our Artist (Musician)-in-Residence. Joey was followed by Yehuda Kurtzer, our Scholar-in-Residence during Rabbi and Lori Cooper’s 25th Anniversary weekend in December, and Matan Koch as our Scholar-in-Residence in February as a part of Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month. Our Havurah, Men’s Club and Sisterhood provided unique and thoughtful options for learning throughout the year.

The 2015/2016 calendar included our annual Torathon, Aging with Grace Weekend, and programs from @tbhbe.edU, our new Adult Education initiative.

Throughout the year, our congregants and clergy were outstanding in their roles as planners and educators bringing positive experiences to our community that add depth and demonstrate our values.

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**Adult B’nai Mitzvah Class of 2016**

*Left to Right (back row): Charlene Powery, Robin Oriel, Sarah Poncz, Ellen Driks, Roslyn Pollack, and MacKenzie Gross*

*Bottom Row Left to Right (front row): Rabbi Marc Israel, Kim Einhorn, Dawn Berue, Linda Ross, Etta Winigrad, and Hazzan Eugene Rosner*

*Not Pictured: Rabbi Neil Cooper and Cindy Kimchi*
Confirmation Class of 2016

Left to Right: Rabbi Marc Israel, Jacob Newmark, Rabbi Neil S. Cooper, Daniel Goldberg, Benjamin Feldman, and Hazzan Eugene Rosner

Not pictured: Eli Goldstein, Jadon Hoffman and Maya Levitan

Kindergarten Class of 2016

Left to Right: Eli Botel, Nathan Henkin, Ari Schwartz, (teacher) Simon Livingston, Remi Sonnes, Noah Arkader, Asher Harwitz, David Baumel, Shani Feinstein (teacher)

An Evening of Learning and Discovery

February 20, 2016

Adul Education Catalog
Fall 2015 - Spring 2016

Aging with Grace Weekend

A weekend exploring Jewish traditions regarding aging and caregiving

March 5 - 6, 2016 • Adar I 25 - 26, 5776

@thbe.edu

A program of Adult Jewish Learning created just for YOU!
A Caring Community

Inside and outside of TBH-BE, congregants work to make a difference. One shining example is our Chesed Network which continues to make a meaningful impact on our community by providing resources for families in good times and bad. Soup for the Soul connects our congregants with food and comfort during times of illness. The Cook for a Friend and Response to Hunger programs continue to provide food for the elderly and those in need of extra support. These are just some of the ways to volunteer within our building and make an impact on those around us.

Outside of our building, our ECC and Religious School continue to volunteer at JRA. Each ECC classroom collects tzedakah and students and teachers together determine where to share these funds. This year the kindergarten class organized an Alex’s

On the retirements of Sarinha

Excerpted from Judith Mont Scarani’s speech at the

“[Tonight] after 36 years, we celebrate, two long and wonderful careers that have touched two generations of children in our community.

Sarinha, I know I always repeat myself, Sarinha, but not everyone here knows the feeling of safety, gentleness and calmness that permeates your classroom. It comes directly from you in the way you listen to, speak to, and the way you respect the children in your classroom. Sarinha starts every day with her class as a sports team might by having the children gather together tightly in a circle with their hands clasped one on top of each other. They shout together, “kindness and teamwork!” And so begins their day. Sarinha, thank you for the kindness and teamwork you have brought to work with you every day for 36 years! Kol haKavod!

Gan Tikvah

This year brought a new program to our religious school for children who benefit from classrooms designed for their needs. Our first class included four graduates of our Bright Horizons program. We look forward to expanding Gan Tikvah as part of our Inclusion Committee’s efforts to meet the needs of all children.

Magic Moments

Amy Botel leads our revitalized Magic Moments program, providing opportunities for parents to connect while spending quality time with their children. Magic Moments at TBH-BE is true to the mission of our synagogue, providing a warm and engaging environment for all. Art projects are designed for parents and children to create together. Adult discussions about nutrition, sleep habits, and toilet training (among others) help parents weather the ever-changing needs of the young toddler. At Shabbat snack, eyes are covered to bless the candles, sippy cups are raised for the Kiddush and a delicious challah is enjoyed.
Lemonade Stand and the Religious School partnered with Project Home to provide Christmas dinners for their community. Also this year, Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El sponsored its first MLK Day of Service.

Our schools continue to teach students the importance of intergenerational connections. The ECC held their second annual Special Person’s day allowing students to share their day with their grandparents and other important people in their lives. Our Religious School continues to volunteer at the Abramson Center.

The Inclusion Committee persists in improving our facilities and programs for better accessibility for all congregants. A new assisted listening system has been installed in the Holocaust Memorial Chapel with a portable one available for other building locations. An inclusion specialist was hired and a new class was created in the Religious School, Gan Tikveh, to continue to provide a quality education for all of our students.

"Thank you for all that you do to ensure that this is a caring and welcoming community."

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**Pransky and Alice Dubin**

*2016 Oneg Shabbat honoring the ECC teaching staff*

[Throughout] Alice’s years with Annalee Cohen, they forged a great friendship and a dedication to teaching social skills and mindfulness by [being examples] for children to follow. [Alice] became Leslie Maizel’s right hand. Alice places a genuine ‘hello’ and ‘good-morning’ above all else. When a child asks her a question, Alice will tilt her head, tap her chin and spend a very thoughtful moment thinking about her every response. Alice’s intuitive understanding of how children think provides them with the opportunities to answer their own questions, and to create their own learning. Alice does this intuitively and makes it look easy. Mazel tov, Alice, on 36 wonderful years here at Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El; we wish you all the best on the occasion of your retirement.

I hope to see Alice and Sarinha on the substitute list, but they can feel free to say, ‘no’ when the call comes in!"

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**Special Persons Day**

This year Special Person’s Day coincided with Chanukkah. Aunts, uncles, grandparents, and other special adults in our children’s lives shared a breakfast of muffins, fruit, juice, and coffee before joining the entire school in the Sanctuary for a Havdalah Service and a candle-lighting for the first night of Chanukkah. Each class performed a song or an Israeli folk dance in celebration of the festival of lights. It was truly a magical morning and one of the highlights of our ECC program.

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**MLK Jr Day**

This year TBH-BE participated in its first MLK Jr Day of Service. Activities included assembling personal care bags, preparing meals for seniors in the area, preparing sandwiches for the Narberth Food Bank and watching a community showing of the film *Rosenwald.*
**New Assisted Listening Devices**

A new assistive listening system was installed this year in the Holocaust Memorial Chapel. The project was funded through several generous congregants and a grant from Pathways.org.

An additional portable system was purchased for use in other synagogue locations. We are proud to say that all of our communal spaces are now accessible to the hearing impaired.

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**New Shabbat Offerings**

This year, Shabbatot have been a bit busier and a tad different.

Weekly Torah study options, periodic classes and alternative services (including a Guided Meditation Shabbat) have been added to our mix.

In addition, a small, but significant change has been made to our services this year. Including the mothers has become the standard for our services. With this change, the names of our matriarchs are read aloud during the Amidah.

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**New Website**

As you are by now aware, we have a new website and with it, a new way for you to access information and connect with TBH-BE.

The address has not changed, it’s still www.tbhbe.org, but you will now find a front-page, easy-to-read calendar as well as access to your personal information making it easier for you to manage your account.

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**An Evolving Community**

The year began with a renewed entranceway, a new parking lot and new lighting system. We are ending the year with a new website and database. Throughout the year, our leadership and clergy have been making and planning for updates to our facilities, our Shabbat experience, and the language we use in prayer. In their sermons and their letters to the congregation, our clergy have demonstrated that they are welcoming to Jews of all backgrounds and experiences. Moving forward, we are working with architects and engineers to develop a plan for building upgrades and with congregants who are committed to the creation of Gan TBH-BE, a new communal garden on our grounds.

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**New Siddur**

Following wonderful feedback on our new High Holiday Mahzor, we will introduce a new siddur, Lev Shalem, this fall. This siddur provides new readings and translations and will help inspire our community.

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**New to the Community**

Thanks to our Keruv Committee and the Mikveh at TBH-BE our community continues to become more welcoming to interfaith families and in promoting Jewish living.
An Involved Community

ADULT EDUCATION: Programs and speakers for all interests, throughout the year.

BOOMERS: Focusing on the “empty-nesters” of our membership, this group meets throughout the year for dinners, speakers and day trips emphasizing and camaraderie.

CHESED NETWORK: Chesed Network extends itself to those in our community who need special, gentle support during times of transition, crisis and/or joy.

CHOIR: A volunteer ensemble singing throughout the year and performing at holidays, special shabbatot, festivals, concerts and the Delaware Valley Jewish Choral Festival.

COOK FOR A FRIEND: Providing a friendly visit, cooking meals or delivering. Our meals are prepared and delivered at the end of each month to those in need.

HAVURAH: Havurah gathers to worship, learn, teach and celebrate in an intimate setting, while remaining a part of the larger congregation. We welcome everyone!

ISRAEL AWARENESS COMMITTEE: Devoted to countering anti-Israel and anti-Semitic attacks and to keep congregants and our college students informed on Israel.

KERUV: TBH-BE is committed to a tradition of Keruv (outreach and welcoming), especially as it relates to single faith and interfaith families. Keruv consultants are always available to speak with you, as is Rabbi Cooper, about how interfaith couples are warmly welcomed “under our tent.”

L’CHAIM: Focusing on “over 65” members and meeting throughout the year for dinners, speakers and day trips with an emphasis on camaraderie and fun, L’Chaim activities are open to everyone.

MEN’S CLUB: Men’s Club plans events, both fun and useful, to assist the synagogue in its mission to serve its congregants in social and service areas.

MIKVEH: A unique facility open to all streams of Judaism, the Mikveh at TBH-BE serves as an vital, independent and self-supporting resource for the Jewish community of metropolitan Philadelphia.

RESPONSE TO HUNGER: This initiative was established to provide much needed meals for low-income, elderly, and challenged adults who live in the surrounding areas of the synagogue.

SISTERHOOD: A diverse, multi-generational group of women supporting the synagogue through a variety of programs benefitting our members and the larger Jewish community.

SOUP FOR THE SOUL: Each month we prepare 30 – 40 quarts of soup which delivered, as needed, to members recovering from illness, childbirth or completing a period of mourning.

YOUTH GROUPS: TBH-BE is a great place to be a kid! Programs include— Young Explorers (families with young children), Bonim (Grades 1-4), Kadima (Grades 5-7), USY (Grades 8-12) and more!
Community Circle Commitment Model

Our Community Circle Commitment Model continues to help secure the fiscal health of our congregation. This past year, 132 households made a patron-level commitment to our synagogue, up from 126 households last year. We extend our thanks and a very warm welcome to our new patrons; to our returning patrons, we say thanks once again! Your continued investment in our synagogue as a patron is valued and appreciated.

We hope that the number of congregants making a patron-level commitment to the synagogue will continue to increase in the upcoming fiscal year. Our staff and leadership are always available to discuss the patron model with our members. As always we thank our entire membership for making everything in this annual report possible.
**Funds**

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*All numbers are from 7/1/15 to 6/10/16. Only active funds with donations or expenses of at least $100 are listed.*

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**Summary of Current Fiscal Year Operating Performance**

As we move towards the close of our fiscal year, we are currently projecting a small surplus.

We are grateful to our community both for their general support of the capital campaign and for their timely payments. This growing campaign has enabled us to build our parking lot, revitalize our entranceway, and maintain a strong cash position to accomplish the campaign goals.

Our budget for the next fiscal year was reviewed by the Executive Committee and had two hearings at the Board of Directors meetings in March and April, where it was approved. The Board also reviewed our financial position and projections for the current fiscal year. The charts pictured (left) depict both the revenues and expenses for our current operating budget. The balanced budget is just under $4,000,000 and represents a 9% increase over last year’s budget. This increase is largely attributable to expanded enrollment in our Early Childhood Center. To provide greater clarity, Patron Commitments are separate from the fundraising and membership commitment lines. Membership Commitment, Patron Commitment and Fundraising/Grants are approximately $1,790,000, or 45% of the budget. Tuitions (RS, ECC, and Camp) total approximately $1,940,000, or 48% of the budget. Salaries for clergy, staff and teachers, taxes and benefits make up the largest portion of expenses at approximately $3,065,000, or 77% of our budget. Our mortgage is $100,000 each year and we have budgeted $175,000 for programs and events for 2016/17.

We are pleased to share these highlights with you. The full budget is available in the synagogue office for your review and Ken Krivitzky is happy to answer any specific questions about the budget.