

# TEMPLE BETH AMI Chadashot

MARCH 2019 ADAR ALEF/ADAR BET

5779 VOLUME 46 NUMBER 8

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### Friday, March 1

6:30 pm Erev Shabbat of Song & Story/March Madness  
Dalet/Hey Student Participation

### Saturday, March 2

10:30 am Shabbat Service  
Bar Mitzvah: Jonah Goldberg

### Sunday, March 3

10:45 am Sunday Minyan

### Friday, March 8

6:30 pm Tot Shabbat  
7:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, March 9

10:30 am Shabbat Service  
Bar Mitzvah: Zac Hammerschmidt  
10:30 am Shabbat Chapel Service

### Sunday, March 10

10:45 am Sunday Minyan

### Friday, March 15

6:30 pm Spirit of Shabbat

### Saturday, March 16

10:30 am Shabbat Service  
Bar Mitzvah: Adin Bokman

### Sunday, March 17

10:45 am Sunday Minyan

### Wednesday, March 20

Erev Purim

6:00 pm Megillah Reading

### Friday, March 22

7:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service

### Saturday, March 23

10:30 am Shabbat Service  
B'nai Mitzvah: Hannah Bernstein  
Jessica Bernstein

5:30 pm Shabbat Service

Bar Mitzvah: Matthew Repie

### Sunday, March 24

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

## MESSAGE FROM *Rabbi Pokras*



### Survival and Renewal

As a kid in the sixties and seventies, I somehow internalized a common unspoken message of the time: “be proud of being a Jew, but don’t tell anyone.” At that time, ethnicity was still a strong driver of Jewish identity. We were not fully assimilated Americans, although we were chipping away at the remaining barriers. The memory of the Holocaust was fresh, with many survivors bearing witness in our midst. Anti-Semitism was a dark specter, lurking around the corner, and we needed to be careful to fit in.



Fast forward to my early years as a rabbi. We somehow hired a Grammy-winning singer for a synagogue fundraiser. What a coup! We knew that we needed a public venue and decided to rent space in the local high school and advertise to the general public. Much to my surprise, the board then engaged in a serious debate about whether to list our congregation as the sponsor and beneficiary of the concert. Why? Out of fear that we would become more visible and, therefore, exposed in the town. It was as if I was a child again hearing: “be proud of being a Jew, but don’t tell anyone.”

Both examples speak to what scholars identify as one of the two defining drives for contemporary American Jewish identity: survival. The “survival” drive is primarily motivated by fear. Its catchphrase is “hold the line or the Jewish people will cease to exist.” The 20th century Jewish philosopher Emil Fackenheim, highlighted the power and primacy of

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## Celebrate Purim



**Purim is Coming!**  
**Wednesday, March 20**  
**Details on page 4**

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### Chadashot

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## MESSAGE FROM *Buzz Karpay, President*



**The development of the various “action” or “implementation” teams gives us an opportunity to engage many more members of our congregation in the Vision 2020 project.**

Our Vision 2020 project is based on the understanding that we have the ability to position Temple Beth Ami as an institution that remains an attractive, sustainable center for Jewish worship, learning, culture, and community in a changing environment. We can best do that if we have the active participation of a large number of our congregants. We are about to transition from the research phase to the action phase and now is the best time for you to get involved.

### A Brief History of Vision 2020

We started this process in the fall of 2017 with a survey. That was followed by some preliminary work to organize an information-gathering effort. A large part of our information-gathering was the house meetings, which were held last March. The concerns that were expressed by the hundreds of congregants who attended those meetings helped to inform the strategic planning team about the areas in which we should focus our efforts. As a result, we formed research teams to look at the current status at Beth Ami and common/best practices outside of Beth Ami in the following areas:

- Member Affiliation and Engagement
- Spirituality and Spiritual Engagement
- Membership and Finance Models
- Financial Stewardship
- Operations, Communications, and Technology

In addition, we had a group working on

crafting an update to our Core Purpose, Mission, and Values, though this group was working toward a decidedly different type of report than the first five. Along the way, we also brought our Financial Development (a.k.a. Fundraising) Committee into the Vision 2020 project.

Starting in November 2018, the various research committees presented their findings at meetings to which the entire congregation was invited. While I realize that many of you were unable to arrange your schedule to attend these presentations, I will remind you that all the material is available on our website. You can go to [BethAmi.org](http://BethAmi.org), and under the “Members” tab, click on the “Vision 2020” link. From there you can find all the research reports and other documents related to Vision 2020.

The reason I am reviewing what we have done and where we are now is to emphasize that we are about to transition from the research phase to the action phase of this project. The Board will be discussing the results of the various research areas, not as separate, individual topics, but as the components of an integrated whole. These discussions will lead us to the development of a strategic plan, which will require us to take some action. The development of the various “action” or “implementation” teams gives us an opportunity to engage many more members of our congregation in the project.

I invite you to – no, I encourage you – to become engaged or re-engaged in this project. If you have interest in any of the areas I have mentioned, please let me know. You can reach me by email at [buzz@karpay.com](mailto:buzz@karpay.com).

**COMING**

*This Month*



**Friday, March 1**

**Network & Nosh: "Unconscious Bias at Work"**

**8 - 9:30 am**

Are you in business for yourself? A budding entrepreneur or a seasoned business owner? Join us for a light breakfast and the opportunity to make valuable personal and professional connections at the Temple at our monthly get-together on the 1st Friday morning of the month. Topic: Unconscious Bias at Work.

Facilitated by Dr. Myra Kaplan. RSVP to SLG@bethami.org. Questions? Contact Marcy Waxman (marcywaxmanrealty@gmail.com) or Ellen Davis (edavis@lifehealthhome.com). Supported by the Innovation Fund.



**Monday, March 11**

**Broadway Buzz with Steve Friedman**

**10:30 am – 12 pm**

Topic: Musical Revivals and their Impact. Don't miss this popular Monday morning lecture, featuring footage, facts and, always, some live performance. Free for Temple members; \$10 for guests.



**Tuesdays, March 12, 19, 26**

**Live & Learn with Rabbi Luxemburg**

**10:30 am – 12 pm**

Topic: Purim & Passover: Two Models of Deliverance. Join Rabbi Luxemburg for a study of the holidays of Purim & Passover, considering surrounding commentaries and tracing the impact of each model on the Jewish world of today. Live & Learn is free and open to all who wish to explore a variety of topics during the daytime. This program is supported by the Sally Kera Live & Learn Fund and the Torah Fund for Adult Education.



**Friday, March 15**

**Food Film Fest: "Life is Rich"**

**7:30 pm**

Welcome Shabbat at Beth Ami and make a night out of it, beginning with our Wine & Cheese welcome in the lobby (6-6:30 pm), "Spirit of Shabbat" services (6:30 pm) and Shabbat dinner (7:30 pm), followed by the screening of the documentary, "Life is Rich." This film is a documentary and real-life comedy about Bonnie Rich, a filmmaker and Jewish mom on a mission: to persuade her millennial daughters to raise her unborn grandchildren Jewish. We are thrilled that Bonnie Rich will be with us to present her film! Register online by 3/12.. \$30 (members); \$40 (guests). Please contact Shelly in advance if you need accommodation to ensure your fullest enjoyment and participation. All

are welcome. Supported by the Torah Endowment Fund.

**MAY CHADASHOT  
DEADLINE MARCH 25**

## COMING This Month



**Wednesday, March 20**  
**Beginning at 4:30 pm**

**Come Celebrate the Joyous Holiday of PURIM at Beth Ami**

We've got a whole new way of celebrating this year with some fan favorites (WTBA Café, Haman's Happy Hour, the popular Cake Walk, Megillah Reading and Shpiel), PLUS a family-friendly "Shushan Showcase\*" of talented performers! See website, display in lobby and Up to the Minute for a schedule of our Purim celebration and the lineup of entertainment, including JT – Mr. Funnyman, balloon twisters and a Purim Magic Show with Magician, Ben Corey! \*\$10 per child for Shushan Showcase; free under 2. Stop by the WTBA Café between 4:45 -6:45 pm for a delicious dinner and hamentashen (fee). Everyone's invited for the Purim Shpiel - "The Sound of Shushan" at 6:45 pm, followed by a hamentashen oneg.



**Saturday, March 23**

**Shabbat Hike**

**9:30 am**

We are excited to announce another opportunity to experience Shabbat as a community in the woods. Come step outside the normal confines of our homes or sanctuary and experience God in God's natural habitat. The hike will be about a 3-mile loop, we will hold a 20-minute service along the way, and we will enjoy a BYO picnic lunch. The hike will be on trails at Great Falls in the C&O Canal National Historical Park. (For those interested in more hiking, one or more post-lunch hikes will be led, with trails to be determined by conditions). See UTTM, lobby and website for details and registration information.



**Sunday, March 24**

**Brunch with David Weinstein**

**9 - 10:30 am**

WTBA and the Brotherhood invite you for a special program on "Eddie Cantor and American Jewish Culture," facilitated by David Weinstein (author of the book by the same name). Enjoy a delicious brunch, then sit back and enjoy learning about Cantor's influence on American Jewish social and political history through his celebrity activism. David's books will be available for purchase and signing. Register online by 3/22. \$10 for members of WTBA/Brotherhood; \$15 guests. Gold members: Free.



**Saturday, March 30**

**Babies, Blessings & Bagels**

**9 - 10 am**

We invite ALL Beth Ami babies – and their families - born since April 1, 2018, to join us in the Chapel for a special welcome and blessing, followed by a bagel schmooze. Please let us know if you can join us by 3/25 (SLG@bethami.org).

Check out our new mobile friendly website.  
[www.bethami.org](http://www.bethami.org)



## TIKKUN OLAM

### Community Service Projects



#### LEND A HAND

Temple Beth Ami Community Service Projects

Thank you in advance for your support!  
(For information on additional TBA

community service projects, visit [bethami.org/groups/TO](http://bethami.org/groups/TO).)

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- **Heads Up re Delivering Passover Goodies/Necessities Near the Temple, April 14** - TBA will again need volunteers to pick up and deliver Passover Baskets to those in need in the local Jewish community, on Sunday, April 14. Details to follow. For questions or to volunteer, contact Tina Levine at [je.tklevine@verizon.net](mailto:je.tklevine@verizon.net), or Monya Cohen at [mjcohen0636@gmail.com](mailto:mjcohen0636@gmail.com).
- **Help Area Refugee Families With Their English Skills** - Volunteers needed to tutor newly arrived immigrant families in English, either in person or via the internet. For more information or to volunteer, contact Emil Mendelavich at [emiliomendelavich@outlook.com](mailto:emiliomendelavich@outlook.com).
- **Help South Lake Elementary School Students at Afternoon Art Club** - TBA's Community of Action is looking for extra pairs of hands (no art experience necessary) to help assist the kids with after-school art classes on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from February 5 through April 11, 3:30 – 5:00 pm. Can commit to any number of days. If interested, contact Susan Stern at [sssterndragon@gmail.com](mailto:sssterndragon@gmail.com) or Sue Fox at [foxdsgc@aol.com](mailto:foxdsgc@aol.com).
- **Help Needed for English as a Second Language Program** - Community Ministries of Rockville's (CMR) Language Outreach Program needs teaching assistants, homework helpers for school children, and childcare volunteers for children under age 5 Tuesday/Thursday nights &/or Saturday mornings. SSL hours available. For more information on this & other volunteer opportunities, contact Andrea Kempner-Wink at [andreakwink@cmrocks.org](mailto:andreakwink@cmrocks.org).

#### COLLECTIONS

##### THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THESE DRIVES!

- **Heads Up re "Spring Cleaning" Collection in April** - During April, please bring the following items to benefit Rockville's Stepping Stones Shelter and Mansfield Kaseman

Health Clinic: toilet paper and paper towels, all-purpose cleaners, disinfectant spray, antibacterial hand soap, and laundry detergent pods. A box will be in the Temple lobby.

- **Ongoing Food Drive** - Please bring cans (preferably 12 oz. or larger) of tuna, chicken, or salmon (no Spam, please) and fruits in 100% juice (not in syrup, please) to the box in the Temple lobby. The collection benefits families served by the Manna Food Center and Nourish Now.
- **Box Tops for Education (BTE) Labels** - Help needy area schools turn these little pink labels into cash for needed items and supplies. Bring your labels to the collection boxes in the Temple lobby, Religious School office & Nursery School office. Questions? Contact Bernard Silverstein at [cynbern@verizon.net](mailto:cynbern@verizon.net).

#### IN THE COMMUNITY

- **Heads Up re CMR's Gala, Saturday, April 27, Lakewood Country Club** - Help support CMR's many programs for the vulnerable in Montgomery County. Contact Andrea Kempner-Wink at [andreakwink@cmrocks.org](mailto:andreakwink@cmrocks.org) for more information or to volunteer to help organize, sponsor, or volunteer at the event; and/or to donate items, gift cards/certificates, etc. for the auction.

#### COMING SOON IN APRIL/MAY

### Rebuilding Together



Sundays, April 14, 28 & May 5  
Grab a hammer, paintbrush, broom or rake and let's Rebuild Together. Volunteers (ages 14+) are needed to clean, paint, landscape and make necessary repairs to fix-up and brighten the home of a low income family in Montgomery County. Both skilled and unskilled volunteers are needed. This project is supported heavily by the TBA Brotherhood! Please contact Roger Rothman ([rothmania@aol.com](mailto:rothmania@aol.com)) or 240.485.7642.

## BROTHERHOOD

### News

#### Greetings TBA Brothers and TBA members –

As I am writing this on January 24th, the Brotherhood Brunch on February 3rd has come and gone. I'll remind everyone that these Brotherhood Brunches are GREAT – they are our primary means for us to periodically get together so please attend. The nominal \$10 fee is to pay for that delicious deli spread.

I am writing this Chadashot article on Martin Luther King Day which also happens to be Tu B'Shevat. It's 13 degrees outside but what warms my heart is participating with this wonderful congregation.

One of my goals is to improve member participation, and to help “get the word out” regarding events like our Brotherhood Brunches and other activities I have been working with Matt Rosenstock to improve communications. Matt created a Yahoo! “TBABrothers” Group and all should enroll <https://groups.yahoo.com>. I have been enhancing our Facebook presence <https://www.facebook.com/BethAmiBrotherhood>, and I created a

“Brotherhood Facebook Group”; you all should have already received emails encouraging you to enroll.

Group members will have the convenience to rapidly communicate with all enrolled, be able to easily see the latest activities and events, as well as post message and content for Brotherhood eyes. I'll still send periodic emails, but these social media vehicles provide a rich interface to keep you informed with the ability to interact under your terms and timing – all you need to do is join. Isn't technology wonderful?

I hope that everyone has been having a great start to 2019. It's been an honor working and representing the Brotherhood. And below are some future Brotherhood events:



March 24th **Brotherhood Brunch, David Weinstein - “The Eddie Cantor Story: A Jewish Life in Performance and Politics”** ... this is in

conjunction with The Woman of TBA.



Yet to be scheduled **Brotherhood Brunch, Josh Rosenblatt** – Discussion with the son of our Executive Director on his new book “Why We Fight, One Man's Search for Meaning Inside the Ring”.

Again, our Facebook page, Facebook Group, the Yahoo! TBABrothers Group, or the Bethami.org web page are the best way to keep up to date. Please reach out to me with any suggestions and recommendations.

*Steve*

Steve\_Roberts@yahoo.com  
(240) 462-5703

## WOMEN OF TEMPLE BETH AMI

### News

#### Canasta Lessons

WTBA will be organizing beginner Canasta classes starting Tuesday, March 5 at 1 pm at the Temple. For more information or to sign up, please contact Marilyn Lipowsky at [maddiemb52@gmail.com](mailto:maddiemb52@gmail.com) or Eve Lader at [evelader@gmail.com](mailto:evelader@gmail.com).

#### Purim Café

All are welcome to stop by the Purim Café on Wednesday, March 20 during the Shushan Showcase from 4:45-6:45 pm. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Volunteers are needed to help prepare food and to staff the café in shifts beginning at 3 pm and finishing at 7:30

pm. Please contact Linda Burka at [lnburka@gmail.com](mailto:lnburka@gmail.com) or Rhona Arbit at [arbitfamily@gmail.com](mailto:arbitfamily@gmail.com) to volunteer or for more information.

#### Brunch with Brotherhood

WTBA and Brotherhood will co-sponsor a delicious brunch on Sunday, March 24

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from 9 – 10:30 am at the Temple. The speaker will be David Weinstein, author of the book “The Eddie Cantor Story: A Jewish Life in Performance and Politics.” His discussion will highlight Cantor’s influence on American Jewish social and political history through his celebrity activism, including his courageous campaign against Nazism during the 1930’s. David’s multi-media presentation will feature many rare photos, songs and film clips. His book will be available for purchase and signing. Cost is \$10 for WTBA and Brotherhood members and \$15 for guests. Register at [www.chaverweb.net](http://www.chaverweb.net) or [www.bethami.org](http://www.bethami.org) by 3/22.

### Book Club

The WTBA Book Club will meet on Tuesday, April 2 from 7:30 – 9 pm at the Temple in classrooms 6 & 7. The book for discussion will be The Two-Family House by Lynda Cohn Loigman. Please contact Terry Steinberg at 301-926-0815 or [steinberg\\_4@comcast.net](mailto:steinberg_4@comcast.net) with any questions or to be added to the WTBA Book Club group e-mail list.

### Women's Seder

WTBA has held an annual Women's Seder for as long as anyone can remember. This year, we're trying something new and exciting! We'll be co-sponsoring our Women's Seder with the Women of Washington Hebrew Congregation. Together we will welcome singer/songwriter Michelle Citrin to lead with our own Rabbi Weiss and WHC Cantor Susan Bortnick. Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 14 from 4-7:30 pm at the Bindeman Center in Potomac and plan to join us for a Women's Seder that's sure to

be lively! See the April Chadashot for details.

### Glenstone Museum



Fifteen WTBA members, spouses, and friends attended our January outing to the Glenstone Museum. Everyone enjoyed viewing the many different types of contemporary art on exhibit there. Several attendees also stayed afterwards for lunch in the museum's cafe. Thank you to Jeanne Kahn for planning this fun trip!

### Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) Social Justice Conference

Registration is now open for the WRJ Social Justice Conference (SJC) to be held on May 18-19 in Washington D.C. This conference is a brief but powerful experience for Jewish women to become better-educated and trained on social justice issues, learn advocacy skills you can utilize at home and on a larger scale, and address timely topics in a welcoming and encouraging, all-female Jewish environment. SJC is intended for any woman (age 18+) interested in advocacy in the Reform Movement through a Jewish woman's lens. Check the website ([wrj.org/social-justice-conference-2019](http://wrj.org/social-justice-conference-2019)) or contact Rachel Maryn at

[rmaryn@verizon.net](mailto:rmaryn@verizon.net) for more information.

### Ongoing Projects



**Kippot** for B'nai Mitzvah, Brides and Grooms are available at discount prices through WTBA. View styles at [www.kippah.com](http://www.kippah.com), then contact Michelle Freedberg at [mefreedberg@gmail.com](mailto:mefreedberg@gmail.com) to place your order.

WTBA will present **TBA newlyweds** as a wedding gift the beautiful book *On the Doorposts of Your House: Prayers and Ceremonies for the Jewish Home*. Please email Barbara Ranhand at [Barbara.ranhand@verizon.net](mailto:Barbara.ranhand@verizon.net) if you have information about any Temple families who are planning a wedding.

**Drop-in Mah Jongg** sessions are held at the Temple every Monday afternoon from 1 – 3 pm when the Temple is open. Please contact Rachel Maryn at [rmaryn@verizon.net](mailto:rmaryn@verizon.net) for more information or to be added to the email list.

### WTBA E-mail Address

Please send an email with your questions or comments to [womenoftemplebethami@gmail.com](mailto:womenoftemplebethami@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you!

### Elizabeth Joseloff

WTBA Chadashot article editor  
[ejoseloff@gmail.com](mailto:ejoseloff@gmail.com)

## NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

*Paula Sayag,  
Director*



### **TBANS' 30th Anniversary Gala is Days Away! Celebrate & Support the Joel Blue Scholarship Fund**

There's no better time, with TBANS' 30th Anniversary Gala just days away on March 2nd, to highlight one of the Gala's beneficiaries: The Joel Blue Scholarship Fund. And there's no better person to tell us about it than Loretta Blue (long-time, beloved TBANS teacher).

JF: Can you share some background information on the fund and how it began?

LB: My husband passed away suddenly of a heart attack Thanksgiving weekend of 1998 (my first year as a teacher at TBANS). I don't know what I would have done without a safe place to go and totally concentrate on the laughter and love from my class. Shortly after, family and close friends formed the fund in Joel's memory since we had been members of TBA since 1991 and my youngest went through the nursery school. After a short time, I met with the clergy and Executive Director and thought about directing the fund

toward helping families that wanted their children to have a Jewish pre-school experience. So, it became the Joel Blue Scholarship Fund.

This fund is very important to my family because it honors Joel and also helps families send their children to TBANS. I believe strongly that our children benefit greatly from the Jewish experience. Joel was not a religious person, but he believed strongly in raising our children with a Jewish background and TBANS was very important to him as it is to me since I was lucky enough to have been working here when he passed away. I have seen parents lose jobs, go through sickness and divorce that have affected their ability to pay for pre-school.

JF: What is your hope for the Gala and the future for this fund?

LB: I am looking forward to celebrating the thirty-year anniversary of our school! This Gala is also important to me because a portion of money raised will go to the Joel Blue Scholarship Fund. My wish is that we continue to have families that understand the

importance of a Jewish education even in the early years. There have been times in the past that we have been tight on how much we have in the fund to help all the families that are requesting aid. There are years that we simply don't have enough, and we have to choose carefully, and it is very difficult. I am excited for the Gala, so we can replenish and hopefully help more families in the future. The need is there. Every year we get numerous applications. We hope that by advertising the fund more and explaining just how much it can affect our community, the fund will get more donations and we can grow and help more families.

To date, the Joel Blue Fund has awarded over 55 scholarships by giving more than \$60,000 to families in need. Applications for scholarship funds are distributed in June, and awards are announced in July. If you would like to donate to increase the impact of this fund, you can go on line to [www.bethami.org](http://www.bethami.org) or contact the Temple Office.

*Jodie Fishman,*  
TBANS Correspondent



## B'NAI MITZVAH

### Profiles

Please join with us at Shabbat Services during the month of March as we celebrate with...



#### **JONAH ALEXANDER GOLDBERG,**

son of Robert Goldberg and Melissa and Jon Isaacson, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 2. Jonah is a 7th grade student at Herbert Hoover Middle School. For his Bar Mitzvah Project, Jonah will be collecting winter coats for the non-

profit, Coats for Kids.



#### **ZACHARY JAMES HAMMERSCHMIDT,**

son of Jim and Jill, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 9. Zac is a 7th grade student at The McLean School of Potomac. He has two older sisters, Sophia and Emma. For his Bar Mitzvah Project, Zac will share his

passion for sports by volunteering for "Leveling the Playing Field", a non-profit whose purpose is to give underprivileged children the opportunity to enjoy the pleasure of athletic involvement. Zac will also be collecting sports equipment to donate to the organization.



**ADIN BOKMAN,** son of Maria Pasho and son/stepson of Robert and Colleen Bokman, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 16. Adin is a 7th grade student at Julius West Middle School. He has an older brother, Noah, and a younger step-sister, Eva.



**JESSICA BERNSTEIN,** daughter of Sharon and Michael, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 23. She is a 7th grade student at Ridgeview Middle School. For her Bat Mitzvah Project, Jessica is collecting gently used soccer cleats, shin guards and soccer balls for Montgomery Soccer, Inc.

(MSI) to support all levels off play. She shares her Bat Mitzvah with her twin, Hannah.



**HANNAH BERNSTEIN,** daughter of Sharon and Michael, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 23. She is a 7th grade student at Ridgeview Middle School. For her Bat Mitzvah Project, Hannah is collecting gently used soccer cleats, shin guards and balls for Montgomery Soccer, Inc. (MSI) so

that children of all income levels have the equipment needed to play. She shares her Bat Mitzvah with her twin, Jessica.



**MATTHEW REPIE,** son of Jeanette and Michael, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday afternoon, March 23. He is a 7th grade student at Robert Frost Middle School. Matthew has an older brother, Ian



#### **ZACHARY DANIEL GREEN,**

son of Rebecca and Joshua, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 30. He is a 7th grade student at Lakelands Park Middle School. He has two older step-sisters, Alex and Arin Mintz

## CELEBRATING? Remember MAZON

Our Congregation is a MAZON congregation which means that we contribute 3% of every event in which food is served to MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger (also \$3 of every Oneg contribution). We ask every member of the congregation to do the same.

**BAR/BAT MITZVAH...**contributing to Mazon brings food and help to the hungry, while it gives your child the opportunity to begin his/her Jewish adult life with a public act of Tzedakah.

**WEDDING...**traditionally it is the obligation of the bride and groom to feed the hungry and help the poor. By contributing 3% of the cost of your wedding celebration to MAZON, you can continue these Jewish traditions.

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

*Kim Roberts,  
Director*



### Calendar

#### **Friday, March 1**

Dalet/Hey SFE 6:30 pm

#### **Sunday, March 3**

Machane TBA In Session

Parent Workshop 9:15-10:45 am

How to talk to children about tragedy

Gr 3-6 Kehillah-Shrek 12:30-2 pm

TBAHigh Kehillah 2-4 pm

#### **Monday, March 4 Early Bird**

Registration for Kayitz ends

#### **Tuesday, March 5**

Mid-Week Gr 3-6 in session

TBAjrHigh in session

TBAHigh Core 1 Night

#### **Friday-Sunday, March 8-10**

NFTY-The VENT

#### **Sunday, March 10**

Machane TBA NOT In Session

#### **Tuesday, March 12**

Mid-Week Gr 3-6 in session

TBAjrHigh in session

TBAHigh – Chug 1 Night

(Confirmation, Cooking, HW

Hangout, Social Action, 3D Printing)

#### **Friday, March 15**

Gr 3-6 Erev Machane 4 pm

#### **Sunday, March 17**

Machane TBA in Session

PreK-2 Regular session

Gr 3-6 Early Dismissal 11:15 am

No Primary Enrichment

#### **Tuesday, March 19**

Mid-Week Gr 3-6 in session

TBAjrHigh in session

TBAHigh – Core 2 Night

#### **Wednesday, March 20**

Temple Purim Celebration

#### **Sunday, March 24**

Machane TBA In Session

Machane 2022 B'nai Mitzvah Parent

Meeting 9:30-10:30 am

#### **Tuesday, March 26**

### FOCUS ON TBAJRHIGH

TBAjrHigh, which serves TBA 7th Graders, meets on Tuesday evenings. Each Tuesday an optional pizza dinner is available for purchase before class begins at 6:30 pm. TBAjrHigh students spend this formative year studying a combination of Holocaust studies and topics relating to Jewish identity. These lessons are presented in a variety of ways. Some evenings are spent doing experiential activities as a large group, and some evenings are spent in classroom units. Each year TBAjrHigh visits the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. We are privileged to have TBA member and USHMM educator Mr. Warren Marcus come to speak to our students and parents about the museum and to introduce the exhibition prior to the trip. On another evening, our 7th graders had the opportunity to meet Mr. Bill Zimmerman, father of 7th Grade teacher Adam Zimmerman. Mr. Zimmerman belongs to the “Second Generation” of Holocaust survivors, and he spoke to the students about being raised by survivors. He told the students about his trip to

Europe that he took with his parents and his own children and the experience of his parents returning to sites that they had not seen since the Shoah.

7th graders have other special programming during the course of the year as well. This year they scheduled a tubing trip in January, and for Tu B'shevat, JNF educator Rafi Glazer came with a giant-sized map game about Israel and the students LOVED it! The month of March will bring even more programming to TBAjrHigh. JACADA will be coming to run a program about healthy friendships, and at the end of March



the entire grade will have a special art project. TBAjrHigh seeks to take the pivotal 7th grade year, when so many students are studying hard for b'nai mitzvah, and use it to provide an exploration of what it means to be a Jewish teen today. Students are provided with many opportunities to deepen friendships here at TBA and they are introduced to the type of programming that grades 8-12 have during TBAHigh. Take a look at these photos to see what an amazing year our 7th graders experience at TBAjrHigh!

Mid-Week Gr 3-6 in session  
TBAjrHigh in session  
TBAHigh – Chug 2 Night  
(Aliyah Bet, HW Hangout, Sports & Jewish games, Leadership, Student Council Committees, Yoga)

#### **Friday, March 29**

Alef SFE & Primary Service 6:30 pm

TBAHigh Shabbat Service 7:30 pm

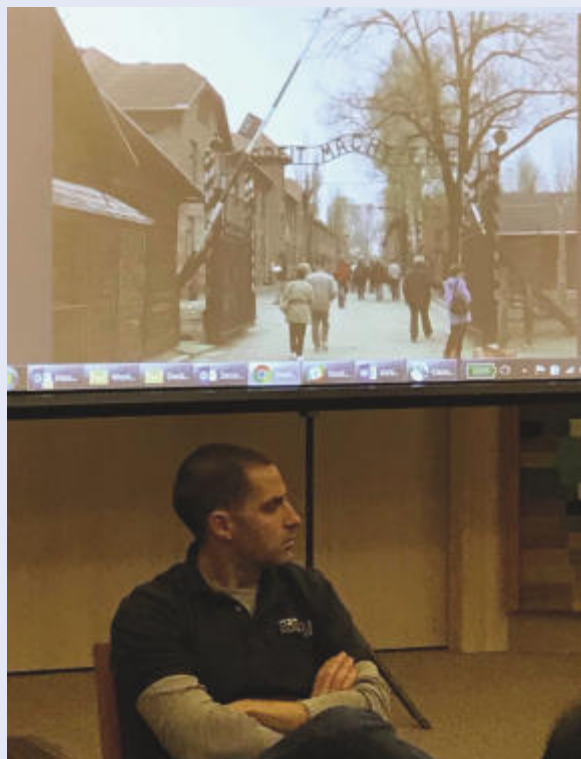
#### **Sunday, March 31**

Machane TBA In Session

## TBA jrHIGH Photos



Bill Zimmerman, father of 7th Grade teacher Adam Zimmerman. Mr. Zimmerman belongs to the “Second Generation” of Holocaust survivors, and he spoke to the students about being raised by survivors.



7th Grade  
Friendships  
form while  
Tubing



## SIMCHAS

### *Mazel Tov to...*

**Traci and Aaron Kraus** on the naming of their daughter,  
**Sloane Danielle Kraus**  
**Audrey and Michael Rollor** on the birth of their grandson,  
**Owen Samuel Elzweig**  
**Laurie and Glenn Galfond** on the birth of their grandson,  
**Spencer Keith Galfond**

### Special Thanks To:

**Helen Salzberg** for reading Torah at Chapel services in honor of her 83rd birthday

Our Coffee House bakers: **Lynn Karpay, Debbie Ezrin, Beth Rosenthal, Lois Fishman, Matt Rosenstock, Catherine Copp, Michelle Steinman, Livia Weinstein, Emilio Mendelavich, Pat Harvey, Janet Wallace, Aaron Chusid, Janet Liebowitz and Moira Geronimo-Carin;**

**Suzy Hirsch and Bob Roseman** for helping with Oneg  
**Our Shabbat Hospitality Committee**

**The Cookie Brigade** for our Oneg cookies

**The Culinary Crew** for our Shabbat challot

---

### “THERE’S ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE MORE AROUND THE PASSOVER TABLE”

Our children learn to sing the song and you can hear it on Cantor Eschler’s wonderful Passover CD (available in the Judaica Shop). The first seder is Friday, April 19. Can you set another place – or two- at your seder table? Do you need a place to go for seder? Please contact Shelly at 301-340-6818 or [slg@bethami.org](mailto:slg@bethami.org) and we will try to make a match. Also, plan to attend the Congregational Second Night Seder on April 20 (more information to follow)

### MEDICAL SUPPLY LOAN CLOSET

A wide range of medical equipment from hospital beds to canes to walkers to bedside commodes. The equipment is loaned free of charge. They also take donations. The program is operated by Saint Andrews Lutheran Church.

## PHOTOS

### *11 & 12 Grade Southern Civil Rights Trip*





## PHOTOS

### *Shelter Dinner, TBANS*



## COMMITTEE

### News

#### TIKKUN OLAM IN ACTION

TBA Helps Jones Lane ES Provide Food to Its Needy Families During School Breaks



Thanks to the congregation's support, TBA was able to assist the Jones Lane Elementary School (ES) PTA in its efforts to provide food to the school's needy students and their families during the school's Thanksgiving and winter breaks. Located near the Temple, about 30 percent of Jones Lane's students receive low- or reduced-cost meals. Many of these students are brought to the school by bus from their homes in Gaithersburg.

Thanks to all who helped in this effort! Your response enabled the Tikkun Olam Committee to -

- provide food donations from congregants who responded to our call for help via SignUpGenius
- pick up food from the Manna Food Center and Safeway and bring it to the school's food distribution site
- help organize and distribute food to the needy students/families at the distribution site
- deliver food to those families that needed home delivery
- provide the PTA with a donation to help defray the costs of the program

Please watch for future calls for help for Jones Lane ES, as well as the continuation of TBA's longstanding efforts to support South Lake ES. In addition, your ongoing support of the Box Tops for Education drive provides support to these and other area schools. For more information on these and other projects, visit the Temple's website or contact Tikkun Olam Committee co-chairs Mark Joffe at [marksjoffe@gmail.com](mailto:marksjoffe@gmail.com) or Joanne Brodsky at [brodsky.joanne@gmail.com](mailto:brodsky.joanne@gmail.com).

#### SERVICES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

10:45 am Sunday Minyan

##### **Friday, March 29**

6:30 pm Primary K - 2 Shabbat Service

7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service

7:30 pm TBA High Erev Shabbat Service

##### **Saturday, March 30**

9:00 am Babies, Bagels and Blessings

10:30 am Shabbat Service

Bar Mitzvah: Zachary Green

##### **Sunday, March 31**

10:45 am Sunday Minyan

##### **Friday, April 5**

6:30 pm Erev Shabbat of Song & Story

##### **Saturday, April 6**

10:30 am Shabbat Service

Bar Mitzvah: Lucas Sossa

5:30 pm Vav Shabbat Service

##### **Sunday, April 7**

10:45 am Sunday Minyan



## PHOTOS

### *Love & Marriage Cabaret, TBA High*



survivalist identity when he dared to pen a 614th Commandment (there are 613 in the Torah): “Do not give Hitler posthumous victory.” Fackenheim was worried that we would assimilate ourselves out of existence, finishing Hitler’s attempt to make the world *judenrein*. Jewish survival was at the heart of the outcry against intermarriage in the eighties and nineties. The 2013 Pew study fed the fears of survivalists who noted that affiliation rates were declining, and intermarriage rates were up to 70% outside of the orthodox community.

According to Rabbi Dr. Shaul Magid, the survivalist current in Jewish identity is a purely modern phenomenon. While Zionism contained a seed of survival identity, it was only after the Holocaust that it became a primary motivator for American Jewish identity. Before then, Jewish identity was about the survival of Torah. God would take care of the Jewish people, but only we could take responsibility for transmitting Torah from generation to generation. After the Shoah, we found little consolation in the thought that God will ensure some remnant of our people will always survive, and our personal security shifted more to the center. As an American Jew born in the 60s, I struggle to imagine what my identity would have been like had there been no Holocaust.

Although I have been deeply influenced by the survivalist view, I chafe against it. I do not want my Jewish identity to be an act of defiance against Hitler. I don’t want him, or anti-Semitism, anywhere near my Jewish soul. It is not enough for me to stay true to Judaism out of guilt, because so many have suffered and endured to continue the Jewish people that my failure to adhere would render their sacrifices meaningless. Their deaths were horrific, and we need to remember, mourn and honor them. However, we cannot define ourselves solely as post-Holocaust Jews – as a traumatized people. Indeed, my survivalist inclination leads me to think that if we make guilt or a sense of loss our primary motivation for Jewish identity, then our numbers will eventually diminish to next to nothing (and no, the irony does not escape me).

Instead, I seek a positive impetus, a Judaism which inspires and challenges and frames meaning in my life. As it turns out, this is the second driving force in contemporary American Jewish identity, which Shaul Magid calls “renewal.” If survival is about the Jewish

people, renewal is about Judaism. If survival is motivated by fear, renewal is motivated by faith. Rabbi David Hartman summed up the contrast best, writing: “One need not visit Yad Vashem in order to understand our love of Jerusalem. It is dangerous to our growth as a healthy people if the memory of Auschwitz becomes a substitute for Sinai.” Jewish thought leaders from the renewal perspective note that intermarriage has not destroyed our people; on the contrary, brought in many new people and, with them, new vibrancy into our congregational families (they observe that while affiliation rates in 2013 were in decline, interest in meaningful Jewish living actually grew). They posit that the decline in affiliation is a critique of the survival identity which permeates most of the organized Jewish world. Indeed, to my mind, the 2020 visioning process at Beth Ami is about survival vs. renewal identity. It may have started with concerns about our financial or demographic trends (survival questions), but has helped us to define who we want to truly be and how to live our mission (renewal questions).

“Never forget” is a warning which we must continue to carry with us, for the world remains a dangerous place. However, from a historical perspective, despite Pittsburgh and the alarming statistics emerging about anti-Semitism here and abroad, we have never been more secure as a people in America. American anti-Semites and their anti-Semitism never went away, they just burrowed below the surface. In the meanwhile, we have fully assimilated the American dream as a people and live far more openly now as American Jews than we ever have in the past. While anti-Semites have attempted to reenter the public arena and legitimize their racism in the mainstream, they have been met with strong resistance and pushback from virtually every corner of American society. Our country has not only accepted us, it has embraced us. This does not mean that we should not take our security seriously, we do. Nor does it mean we should not confront the newly emerging anti-Semitism, we must. However, we should be careful to stand for something more. It is not enough for us to be against anti-Semitism. We must be for something bigger.

“Never forget” is a poor substitute for “Love your neighbor” [Lev.19:18] and “You shall be Holy” [Lev. 19:2].



## WE GRATEFULLY *Acknowledge*

A contribution to a Temple fund is a meaningful way to support the Temple community while honoring a birthday, recuperation, wedding, graduation, birth or any special occasion. Donations may also be made in memory of a loved one. For a minimum \$10 donation, an acknowledgement will be sent to the person you wish to honor or the family of the deceased. If you have any questions about existing funds or wish to establish a fund, please call Janice Rosenblatt, Executive Director, at 301.340.6818.

### **ANTI-ADDICTION FUND IN MEMORY OF SCOTT STERNBERG**

Donation by Sandra Torry

### **CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In memory of:  
CAROL PLOTKIN by Edythe and Darryl Runett

### **HINENI FUND**

In memory of:  
MILLICENT WEINSTEIN, mother of Bobbie Willens, by Lynn and Buzz Karpay

### **INCLUSION FUND**

In memory of:  
PATRICIA KLEWANS, mother of Ruth McLenaghan, by Jonathan and Ellen Bortz

### **LIVE & LEARN FUND IN MEMORY OF SALLY B. KERA**

In memory of:  
MARSHALL BROCKMAN, brother of Sandy Marks, by Sandy and Ed Walper  
ARTHUR WILLCHER, father of Leslie Shapiro, by Carol Martin, Edythe and Darryl Runett

### **MACHANE TBA (RELIGIOUS EDUCATION) SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN MEMORY OF BUD LEVIN**

Donation by Craig and Virginia Colliver

In memory of:  
AMY ROBERTS by Jeff Feiertag

In honor of:  
HELEN SALZBERG on the honor of her reading from the Torah Shabbat by Neal, Cindy, Cameron, Cooper, and Cyle Ginsberg

### **MACHANE TBA (RELIGIOUS EDUCATION) FUND IMO JUDY TREBY**

In appreciation of:  
JANICE ROSENBLATT, SHELLY GORDON, RABBI GARY POKRAS, RABBI BAHT WEISS, RABBI JACK LUXEMBURG, CANTOR LARRY ESCHLER and JOSHANA ERENBURG on being kind and empathetic during this very difficult and challenging year for our family, by Richard, Susan, Emily and Abigail Fisch

In memory of:  
JUDY TREBY by Stuart Treby  
ALICE and STANLEY TREBY by Stuart Treby

### **MUSIC EQUIPMENT FUND**

In memory of:  
ERNIE POTECHIN, father of Sue Kamins, by Catherine Copp

### **ONEG FUND**

Sharon and Jeffrey Bloch in memory of Arthur Arnold  
Allan Sull in memory of Gertrude Sull  
Joyce and Larrie Greenberg in memory of Leonard Greenberg  
Madeline and Steven D'Alessio in memory of Harriet Krupenie  
Leslie Marks and Louis Solomon in memory of Edna Yaffe  
Jeanne and David Kahn in memory of Barbara Brady  
Dottie Shermet and Glaiston Chen in memory of Paul Burman  
Angela and Walter Harris in memory of Lily Appel  
Alexandra and Aaron Chusid in memory of Dr. Michael C. Weinberg  
Rebecca Jackson and Larry Tanenbaum in memory of Sol Goldfein  
Sue and Tom Schick in memory of Renee Schick  
David Sacks and family in memory of Ruth Resnick

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Suzanne and David Fialkoff in memory of Annette Fialkoff  
Rhona and Terry Arbit in memory of Sandra Arbit  
Leslie Shapiro in memory of Meyer Shapiro  
Janet Platt in memory of Joseph Lambert and Raymond Verner  
Helen Salzberg in memory of Mary Salzberg and Victor Salzberg  
Emily and Irv Kesser in memory of Hilda Lewin  
William (Bill) Jaffe in memory of Reuben Jaffe  
Gail Roe and family in memory of Daniel Bass  
Lori and Andrew Cooper in memory of Ronald Cooper  
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Shelley and Richard Miller in memory of Stuart Schwartz  
Suzy Hirsch and Bob Roseman in memory of Lillian Hirsch  
Wendy and Scott Miller in memory of Sylvia Guss  
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Madeline and Alan Weinstock in memory of Sol Odick and Phyllis Aron  
Lucy and Larry Cohen in memory of Dr. Maynard I. Cohen  
Elaine and Fred Gillespie in memory of Helen Gillespie  
Helen Salzberg in memory of Nathan Ginsberg  
Ellen Davis and Myra Kaplan in memory of Eric Davis  
Joan and Michael Stern in memory of Irene Paymer  
Suzy Slyn Davis and family in memory of Lois Mexic, Rhonda Haberman and Alan T. Slyn  
Laurie and Henry Friedman in memory of Janet Friedman  
Elaine and Fred Gillespie in memory of Lillian Goodstein  
Georgea Sacher in memory of Nat Cohen and Anna Sacher  
Phyllis, Joel and Ellen Polster in memory of Bertha (Birdie) Polster, Jack Polster and Ella Pertzon Fruit  
Glenna and Donald Frost in memory of Sima

Glenna and Donald Frost in memory of Sima Frost  
 Sherri and Jim Lieberman in memory of Ida Sheila Belfor  
 Lisa, Michael, Jillian, Zach and Adam Firestone in memory of Natalie Goldberg  
 Tina and Andy Bridge and family in memory of Natalie Goldberg  
 Sharon and Ed Samuels in memory of Carl Mayer  
 Deborah Katz in memory of Alfred J. Katz  
 Susan and Harry Stern in memory of Martha M. Shirk  
 Emily and Irv Kesser in memory of Hilda R. Lewin  
 Angela and Walter Harris in memory of Frederick Harris  
 Gail and Arnold Brodsky in memory of Meyer Soslovitz  
 Lisa and Stephen Paul in memory of Ellen Euzent  
 Janey and Joe Nadler in memory of Gertrude Wagner and Erwin Saul Berlin

### **RABBIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND – RABBI JACK LUXEMBURG**

In memory of:  
 MARSHALL BROCKMAN, brother of Sandy Marks, by Ed and Ellie Sondik

### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND – RABBI GARY POKRAS**

In honor of:  
 RABBI POKRAS with special thanks by Steven Friedman  
 RABBI POKRAS by Angela and Walter Harris  
 The naming of MADISON MOSKOWITZ by David and Heidi Moskowitz  
 BRAD HARVEY on his retirement by Seth and Terry Steinberg

In memory of:  
 HENRIETTA SHAW by Sandra and Jim Diamond

### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND – RABBI BAHT WEISS**

In honor of:  
 RABBI WEISS by Angela and Walter Harris, Myra and Milton Halem

### **SUSTAINING (GENERAL) ENDOWMENT FUND**

Donation by Daniel Volk

In honor of:  
 BRAD HARVEY on his retirement by David and Suzanne Fialkoff

In memory of:  
 MARSHALL BROCKMAN, brother of Sandy Marks, by Cathy Friedman  
 VALENTINE WOLLY by Barbara Camens  
 PATRICIA KLEWANS, mother of Ruth McLenaghan, by Dori, Jay Alyssa and Carly Green, Galit J. Roseman

### **TBA CARES FUND**

In honor of:  
 SHEILA and BARRY TAYLOR'S 60TH Anniversary by Cecile and Charles Plost  
 TBA CARES COMMITTEE for help during my recovery by Gail Roe

### **TBANS (EARLY CHILDHOOD) DIRECTOR'S FUND**

Donation by Stephen and Sandy Trattner

### **TBANS (EARLY CHILDHOOD) SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN MEMORY OF JOEL BLUE**

In honor of:  
 CHRISTINE MULLETT on her Special Birthday by The Temple Beth Ami Nursery School Staff  
 BETH JOLLES on her Special Birthday by The Temple Beth Ami Nursery School Staff  
 The birth of SPENCER KEITH GOLFOND, grandson of Laurie Galfond, by The Temple Beth Ami Nursery School Staff

In memory of:  
 CAROL PLOTKIN, mother of Mark Plotkin, by Paula Sayag

### **TIKKUN OLAM (COMMUNITY SERVICE) FUND**

Donation by Brian A. Ratner

In honor of:  
 The marriage of REBECCA DUGAL, granddaughter of Jerry and Roberta Feigen, and JARED LANDSMAN, by Donald and Livia Weinstein  
 SHEILA and BARRY TAYLOR on their 60th Wedding Anniversary by Fredric and Elaine Gillespie, Marge and Bob Winick

PAUL GOOZH'S Speedy Recovery by Barry

and Barbara Fayne

In memory of:  
 CAROL PLOTKIN, mother of Mark Plotkin, by Donald and Livia Weinstein  
 MARSHALL BROCKMAN, brother of Sandy Marks, by Gail Roe, Madeline and Alan Weinstock, Marge and Bob Winick, Scott and Loretta Feldman

### **TORAH FUND FOR ADULT EDUCATION**

In honor of:  
 SHEILA and BARRY TAYLOR on their 60th Wedding Anniversary by Howard and Nancy Harrell, Jon and Barbara Ranhand  
 BRAD HARVEY on his retirement by Mark and Janet Wallace

In memory of:  
 MARSHALL BROCKMAN, brother of Sandy Marks, by Gail and Mike Kaltman  
 ARTHUR WILLCHER, father of Leslie Shapiro, by Jim and Sherri Lieberman

### **WISH LIST FUND**

In honor of:  
 The birth of ETHAN HENRY GLASSMAN, grandson of Mitchell and Judy Glassman, by Robin and Tom Temin  
 SHEILA and BARRY TAYLOR on their 60th Wedding Anniversary by Leslie Marks and Louis Solomon  
 DIANE CASTIGLIONE and FAMILY by Susan Grant and Brian King

Speedy recovery for RABBI JACK LUXEMBURG and MICHAEL FIRESTONE by Robin and Tom Temin  
 Speedy recovery for PAUL GOOZH by Linda and Ian Kramer

In memory of:  
 CAROL PLOTKIN, mother of Mark Plotkin, by Joan and Gregg Levy  
 ROBERT COPP, father of Catherine Copp, by Robin and Tom Temin

### **YAHARZEIT FUND**

In memory of:  
 JULIUS FELDMAN by Marsha and Robert Diamond

**\*\* as of 01/25/2019**

*"May the memory of these  
Righteous  
be for a blessing"*

We mourn the recent death of:

Ronald Bloch  
husband of Mary Bloch,  
father of Linda Bloch  
grandfather of Sasha Bloch

Millicent Weinstein  
mother of Bobbie Willens

Patricia Klewans  
mother of Ruth McLenaghan

Moshe Gimlan  
great-uncle of Becky Corbett

Faye Friedman  
mother of Stacia Friedman-Hill

Irving Diamond  
father of Joanne Diamond

Cyril Sherer  
father of Michael Sherer

Harriet Fridkin  
mother of Cheryl Kitt

Marshall Brockman  
brother of Sandy Marks

## SHARE WITH US...

We want to know. Please let us know of any significant life cycle event in your family (or the family of a member friend or neighbor), such as a birth, engagement, wedding, illness or death so we can be in touch. Please contact Gail Brodsky, Clergy Assistant, at 301-340-6818 or [gsb@bethami.org](mailto:gsb@bethami.org)



*"In the blowing of the wind and in the  
chill of winter, we remember them."*

Excerpt – Roland B. Gittelsohn

**No one has to do it alone.**



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## WHEN YOU NEED HELP AFTER HOURS

The 24/7 emergency number is available for Temple emergencies. After regular business hours, please call 301-332-3566 or you can call the office (301-340-6818) and follow the prompts to the emergency number. The clergy and the executive director are always available to help you.

## Shabbat Morning Minyan

On Shabbat mornings when there is not a service scheduled in the sanctuary, a short (10 – 20 minute) minyan service, including the recitation of kaddish, will be conducted by the clergy in the Yarden social hall immediately following Torah study at approximately 10am. If Torah study is still going on when you arrive, please feel free to come and listen.

## ONGOING Information

### JSSA Liaison is Here for You

Through our special relationship with JSSA, TBA members are able to receive free and confidential consultation on family and mental health issues including parenting children of all ages and aging parents. Roberta Drucker is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and also earned a BA in Psychology, and Early Childhood, Elementary and Special Education. Her specialized training and experience include the treatment of anxiety, OCD, and other mood issues, ADHD, learning disabilities, families with special needs, parenting, couples and family therapy, aging and bereavement, and intergenerational family therapy. During her tenure as Director of JSSA's Resettlement Program, she provided services to families, and consultation to staff in a variety of settings, including Jewish Day Schools, public schools, pre-schools, and religious schools. Please contact Roberta at [rdrucker@jssa.org](mailto:rdrucker@jssa.org) or 301-610-8369 for free confidential consultation.

### Looking to Make a Connection?

The clergy and staff are here to help you find that special connection with your congregation. Whether it's a class, service, kehillah, social action project, film, dinner, leadership role – just check out the Chadashot, the UTTM Thursday e-blast, the website and come join us. If you want help connecting, contact Shelly Gordon at 301-340-6818 or [slg@bethami.org](mailto:slg@bethami.org). It's YOUR congregation; be connected.

Check out our new mobile friendly website.  
[www.bethami.org](http://www.bethami.org)

### GREAT NEWS!!! YOU CAN SHOP AT AMAZON AND SUPPORT TEMPLE BETH AMI AT THE SAME TIME!

Do you shop on the Amazon.com website? Do you know that if you enter the Amazon website from a link on the Temple Beth Ami website, TBA will earn at least 4% of your purchase price for every purchase you make? It is very easy and you will be helping TBA. You can access the Amazon site to earn money for TBA in one of two ways: Either go to the TBA website and click on the small Amazon.com link at the top of the home page, or use this URL which takes you directly to Amazon: <http://tinyurl.com/bethamishop>. BUT REMEMBER, TBA ONLY EARNS MONEY IF YOU GO TO AMAZON THROUGH THE TBA WEBSITE OR THIS URL!

Just imagine, you can "shop'til you drop" without leaving home and put some badly needed cash in TBA coffers. GO TO IT!

### ARE YOUR AWAY? HAVE YOU MOVED? HAVE YOU RESIGNED?

Please let the office know of any change of address, even if it is just for a month or two, or membership status. It is very costly for the Temple when the newsletters are returned, when we pay postage to mail letters that never arrive (only first class mail is forwarded), or when we send materials to people who no longer live in the area and/or are no longer members. Please help us save natural resources (trees) and the Temple's financial resources. Thank you

### OUR DIRECTORY IS ON-LINE

The Temple directory is on line through Chaver-web. Please remember that you can go into your profile and update it. If you've never looked at it, please take a minute to see what's there. The directory is available to Temple members only.





## Purim

On Purim we retell the story of the Jewish people's escape from destruction in ancient Persia, as chronicled in the biblical book of Esther. Interestingly, the word "God" is not mentioned in the entire Book of Esther, although certainly the undercurrent of deliverance and divine intervention appears throughout the text. Purim remains one of the few Jewish festivals not rooted in religious solemnity; it actually encourages light-hearted revelry. Set in about 450-350 BCE, the story describes the rise to power of the haughty anti-Semite Haman, and the sudden turn of events whereby Mordechai and Esther serve justice on the wicked Haman. Purim is derived from the word pur which means a lottery, the method used by Haman to select the date for the intended general massacre of the Jews. Although there is some controversy about the historic accuracy of the events and characters, Purim has come to symbolize our constant battle against petty demagogues and anti-Semitism, and the pride that comes from our deliverance. The message still has significance in modern times, with the haunting parallel between Haman's irrational hatred of the Jews and contemporary anti-Semitism.

Through the ages, Purim has remained a joyous holiday with many colorful traditions. There are traditionally four mitzvot (Commandments) on the holiday of Purim:

1. To hear the megillah chanted (see page 4 for times)
2. To send at least one Mishloach Manot, gift baskets of at least two different food or items (see back cover)
3. To have a seudah-a festive meal
4. To give Matanot La'evyonim - Gifts to the Poor. To properly fulfill the mitzvah of Matanot La'evyonim one must give to two poor individuals.

The Book of Esther (Megillat Esther) is read in synagogue. Each time Haman's name is mentioned, the congregation attempts to drown out Haman's name with noisemakers (groggers), the foot-stomping and boo's. Both adults and children are encouraged to dress in costume, and the festivities usually include a colorful parade of beautiful Queen Esthers, clever Mordechais, foolish Ahasureuses, wicked Hamans and other costumes! We celebrate with a special Purim shpiel (a humorous skit) and a children's carnival. The traditional Purim food is hamantaschen, three-cornered cookies filled with poppy seed or another sweet filling.



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**or** [www.nimh.nih.gov/TeenDepressionStudy](http://www.nimh.nih.gov/TeenDepressionStudy)



Study # 18-M-0037.

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