

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, December 6

6:30 pm Erev Shabbat of Song and Story- Gimel Haggidah

Saturday, December 7

10:30 am Shabbat Service

Bat Mitzvah: Isaac Ginsberg

5:30 pm Shabbat Service

Bar Mitzvah: Gabriel Dashoff

Sunday, December 8

10:45 am Minyan

Friday, December 13

6:30 pm Tot Shabbat

Honoring TBANS Gimel's

7:30 pm Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, December 14

10:30 am Shabbat Service

Bat Mitzvah: Sydney Chaikin

10:30 am Shabbat Chapel Service

Sunday, December 15

10:45 am Sunday Minyan

Friday, December 20

6:30 pm Spirit of Shabbat

Saturday, December 21

10:00 am Shabbat Minyan

Sunday, December 22

10:45 am Sunday Minyan

Hanukkah - First Candle

Friday, December 27

Shabbanukkah

6:00 pm Latke Bar

6:45 pm Picnic Dinner

7:00 pm Candlelighting

7:30 pm Service with ShabbaTones

Saturday, December 28

10:00 am Shabbat Minyan

Sunday, December 29

10:45 am Sunday Minyan

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

MESSAGE FROM

Rabbi Pokras



A Season of (Executive Director) Change

Dear Beth Ami Friends,

What are the qualities of a good leader? Our tradition teaches that leaders lead for the benefit and wellbeing of the communities they serve. To do this they need to be responsible, good listeners, and compassionate. Good leaders are creative problem solvers and flexible in their approach, while remaining true to the values of our tradition. They need to lead not only with mind but with heart, and they need to know the people they serve.



For more than twenty-eight years, Janice Rosenblatt has not just been a good leader, but a great leader. She has exemplified all of these traits (and more), and served as a model not only for us, but also as a president of the National Association of Temple Administrators. The executive director's job is neither simple nor easy, yet she handled it with grace, professionalism and focus.

During one of the first conversations Janice and I ever had, possibly even before my arrival here, she brought up her retirement. Her generous offer was this: "I am ready to retire," she said, "but will stay for as long as you need."

I needed.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

Hanukkah

First Night of Hanukkah - Sunday, December 22

Visit the **Judaica Shop** for great Hanukkah gifts, entertaining needs, candles and gelt.

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Chadashot

Published monthly by
TEMPLE BETH AMI
MEMBER

UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM
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HOURS:

MON-THURS 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
FRI 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
SAT CLOSED
SUN CLOSED

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FAX 301.610.6239
NURSERY SCHOOL 301.762.5594
FAX 301.610.5827
BROADCAST SYSTEM 301.309.3834
LIVE STREAMING WWW.BETHAMI.ORG

MESSAGE FROM *Buzz Karpay, President*



Nothing stays the same.

Sometimes things change suddenly and unexpectedly. Other times we know well in advance that change is on the way. Temple Beth Ami is very good at recognizing change in advance, planning for it, and managing that change through a period of transition. We have been able to thrive through numerous transitions in the leadership of our congregation over the years. Even so, each new transition brings its own set of challenges and opportunities.

As Janice Rosenblatt retires from her position as Executive Director, I can't help but think about some of the transitions she has helped guide us through. She is the longest-serving current member of our Senior Staff, and has helped us during the search process for every one of the Senior Staff currently with us. She has worked with 15 different congregational presidents, helping each one with the issues that arose. She has worked on the front lines when necessary, both as the face of the congregation, and behind the scenes, helping to make sure that everyone else has whatever they need in order to

succeed. In short, she has always done whatever was necessary to make sure that we not only kept the lights on and the doors open, but that we would continue to prosper and thrive. We are so grateful that Janice has been our Executive Director.

Our new Executive Director, Debbie Ezrin, comes to us with some of the same characteristics that Janice had when she started. Like Janice, Debbie is already a long-time member of our congregation, and has been in a leadership role within the congregation. She already knows our congregational culture, knows many of the congregants, and knows about many of the challenges she will be facing. We are excited to welcome Debbie as our new Executive Director, but we need to remember that there will be a period of transition. We all need to help Debbie be successful by welcoming her to her new role but also by giving her some time to evaluate and settle into this new position.

I have no doubt that as we go through this transition, we will become stronger and an even more extraordinary congregation

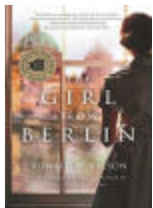
Rededicate yourself and your family to the true meaning of Hanukkah

and consider using one night of gift giving as a gift to the Temple: make a donation from your family to a Tikkun Olam project, volunteer in the community, clean out your closets and provide warm clothing to adults and children who don't have any, donate to Nourish Now and Manna to help people who are suffering from food insufficiency. There are so many ways to rededicate yourself and your families to the values lived at TBA

COMING

This Month**Live & Learn with Rachel Packer****December 3, 10, 16*****10:30 am – 12 pm**Topic: From Torah to Table

Today we look to magazines, talk shows, social media and papers for information on healthy living, but the actual blueprint for wellness can be found not only in the Torah but the Talmud and our liturgy as well. **From Torah to Table** will explore the three pillars of health and wellness (physical, emotional/social and spiritual) through a Jewish lens. If people have imbalances in their lives, it can negatively affect their best selves. Using Jewish sources as a jumping point, we will discuss nutrition, movement, friendship and our connection/value to it all. Each session will end with a short, easy and healthy recipe demo (with samples, of course!) that connects us to ourselves, the ones we love and the Jewish people. Facilitator: Rachel Packer, MSW. *Please note: first two classes are on Tuesdays; final class is on a Monday.

**Book & Author Event****Tuesday, December 3****7:30 pm**

WTBA and The Jewish Book Council invite you to a special Book & Author evening with Ron Balson, author of The Girl from Berlin. There will be a book sale/signing at 7:15 pm with light refreshments, followed by the book talk. No charge; all are welcome.

**Broadway Buzz with Steve Friedman****Monday, December 23****10:30 am – 12 pm**

Topic: More Broadway Babies. Don't miss this popular Monday morning program, featuring footage, facts and, always, some live performance. Free for Temple members; \$10 for guests (cash or check only).

**Shabbat Hanukkah****Friday, December 27****Begins 6 pm**

Everyone's invited to celebrate the 6th night of Hanukkah together at Beth Ami, starting off with a Latke Bar in the lobby, a bring-your-own picnic dinner, followed by a community candle lighting and services with The ShabbaTones. Following services in the Sanctuary, enjoy a Hanukkah oneg featuring a delicious donut bar. Supported by the Korth Hanukkah Fund. Bring your Hanukiyah and 7 candles to light!

**FEBRUARY CHADASHOT
DEADLINE DECEMBER 24**

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.)

COLLECTIONS

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THESE DRIVES!

- **Holiday Gift Drive** - Help make the holidays brighter for South Lake ES children by donating unwrapped gifts for children ages infant to 17. The gifts will be given to the children/families in South Lake's Linkages to Learning program, serving the school's neediest families. Collection boxes will be in the Temple lobby December 1 – 15.
- **Box Tops for Education** - Support needy students at South Lake ES (or other school of your choice) by downloading the new Box Tops mobile app & selecting a recipient school. Visit <https://www.boxtops4education.com/> for more information. As companies switch to the new system, we'll still collect the old-fashioned labels as long as they're not expired. Bring your labels to the collection boxes in the Temple lobby, Religious School Office, & Nursery School Office, and sign up for the new app version of the program. Questions? Contact Bernard Silverstein at cynbern@verizon.net

IN THE COMMUNITY

- **Help Needed for Community Reach's Holiday Party, December 21** - Volunteers needed December 21 to help run Community Reach's Holiday party for those who receive its services. Help with art projects, face painting, food service, clean up, and more. SSL hours available. Contact Andrea Kempner-Wink at andreakwink@cmrocks.org.
- **Help Needed to Make Snack Bags** - An individual/group needed to pack 25 snack bags each month and bring them to Community Reach for distribution to the children of the students in the Language Outreach Program. SSL hours available. Contact debrajacobs@comcast.net for more information or to volunteer.



Delivered over 120 teddy bears and stuffed animals to the Montgomery County Family Justice Center. Picture shows Arlynn Joffe with the Director, Thomas Manion.

Thank You to Our Rosh Hashanah Baskets Volunteers!

Thanks very much to the following volunteers for picking up and delivering 70 Rosh Hashanah baskets (containing High Holiday goodies and necessities) to needy Jewish families in our area on Sunday, September 29. Your efforts are very much appreciated! This project is sponsored by the Jewish Social Services Agency, along with TBA's Tikkun Olam Committee.

Thank you to: Elizabeth Joseloff & Adam Levy, Alissa Miller & Family, Marci Maged, Colin Alter, David & Sue Fialkoff, Cheryl Berkowitz & Family, Nicole & Brian Zimmerman & Family, Linda Berger & Evan, Sherri & Jim Lieberman, Jackie Kauff, Jill & Lou Lachter & Family, Suzy Hirsch, Fran & Harry Hertz, The Allentuck Family, Lynn & David Stander, Samantha Etzyon, Amy Wollins, and Barbara Strong & Michael Kielbiewicz. Also, a special thank you to Tina Levine and Monya Cohen for coordinating the project again this year! (We apologize for any name omissions or misspellings.)

Temple Beth Ami Brotherhood



Greetings TBA – The Brotherhood's been busy preparing bagels, donuts and coffee Sunday mornings, and I have to say that I am really proud how a handful of Brothers covered the Bagel Bar when practically ALL the regulars had a conflict on one October Sunday; the first stringers – Robert Oshinsky, Steve Truland, Mike Manis, Mike Maryn were all out! Even Gerry Levine was out with a bum knee. I couldn't even find Matt Rosenstock, but I caught him in the kitchen teaching in Machane (see picture).



When Matt Rosenstock isn't in the kitchen, he ordering colorful TBA Brotherhood T-Shirts on sale now for \$15!

**Brotherhood T-
Shirts
\$15.00**



Nevertheless, I was thrilled to field a fine team of Bagel servers – and what a good looking group! Thanks Evan Krichovsky,



Ron Weinstein, Mike Zbarsky, Matthew Klein, Rob Shapiro, and Ira Greenspan. It's also been great to see new faces regularly showing up Sunday mornings.

Brotherhood Brunches:



Rob Scheer presented his compelling, heart wrenching and touching story at the October 27th Brotherhood Brunch. His organization, Comfort Cases prepares personal duffle bags for foster children as well as advocates for their terrible plight. These "comfort cases" are incredibly



meaningful to help soften the anxiety these children go through. Rob's wonderful book tells about his life as a foster child and his inspiration as an adult.

There was also a Brotherhood Brunch November 10th featuring Josh Rosenblatt. I'll have more to say about Josh's Brunch in the next Chadashot, but I still cannot understand what a nice Jewish boy is doing in an MMA octagon!!

In other news, Mark Joffe's Tikkum Olam volunteers constructed a Sukkah for the Berlinsky/Young home again this year – so fulfilling and a lot of fun doing it!



Coming Events:

Mark your calendar December 8th! Brotherhood movie night showing the 1st Star War's movie - no charge for active Brotherhood members and a nominal fee for non-Brotherhood member admission.

Everyone have a great month and keep warm with a Brotherhood Shirt!

Steve Roberts

TBA Brotherhood Prez

WOMEN OF TEMPLE BETH AMI

News



Book Club Special Author Event

Our December Book Club meeting is a book and author event where we will welcome author

Ronald Balson who will speak about his novel, The Girl from Berlin. This meeting will be held in the chapel at Temple Beth Ami on Tuesday, December 3rd from 7:30 – 9:00 pm. This event is open to the public and all are welcome to attend! Please contact Terry Steinberg at steinberg_4@comcast.net for more information.

Manna Food Center

The next Manna food sorting will be on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7:00 pm. Please contact Rhonda at rhonda.gaynor@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering for this family friendly Tikkun Olam activity.

Pre-school Hanukkah Party

Our annual Pre-school Hanukkah party will be held at Beth Ami on Sunday, December 15th from 9:15 - 10:15 am. Judy Fox-Tepner will again be leading the party with games, crafts, and songs. More information will be arriving by postcard to Temple families with nursery school-aged children. Please email your response to Amy Scher at schers@verizon.net by December 10th.

New Year, New You and Mitzvah Too!

WTBA and Next Dor, together with our corporate sponsors Saks Fifth Avenue at Chevy Chase and CHANEL Cosmetics, invite you to join us at our New Year, New

You and Mitzvah, Too! event on Sunday, January 12th from 1:00 – 6:00 pm. Saks' elegant cosmetics department and a DJ's music will provide the backdrop for an afternoon of pampering. You may choose to have CHANEL's experts either transform your look and teach you how to recreate it at home with a makeover, or take you on a fragrance journey through the 16 fragrance LES EXCLUSIFS DE CHANEL line to help you find your ideal scent. Or, you may choose to simply schmooze with old and new friends, sip champagne and mimosas, and nibble on light bites.

The \$25 cover charge will benefit Days for Girls, an international charity that promotes educational access for girls through hygiene solutions and health education.

Registration opens on the SignUpGenius link beginning December 16th and space is limited. Look for the link in UTTM and in the WTBA and Next Dor eblasts. Because this event promises to sell out quickly, please mark your calendar to be sure you are part of the fun! Please contact Holly Lobel at cookmom8884@aol.com for more information.

Mah Jongg Cards

Purchase your 2020 Mah Jongg cards through WTBA and support all the good work the Sisterhood does for the Temple and the Jewish community. Cards will be sent to you from the National Mah Jongg League at the end of March. Please pick up an order form in the Temple lobby or contact Rachel at rmaryn@verison.net to have a form emailed to you.

Days for Girls Meeting

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us at the next meeting on Sunday, January 26 from 2:00 – 5:00 pm at the Temple. There will not be a chapter meeting in December.

Please contact the Chapter Leaders, Janet Schiller and Rhona Arbit, at rockvillemd@daysfor girls.org for more information or to RSVP for the January meeting.

Camp Scholarships

WTBA is very pleased to partner with the TBA Brotherhood to offer a limited number of scholarships for children to attend summer camp at either Temple Beth Ami or at one of the Union of Reform Judaism affiliated camps for the upcoming summer in 2020. The scholarships are intended for families for whom camp expenses are a financial hardship, and the applications will be evaluated based on need. Please contact Jeanne Kahn at jeannekahn@aol.com for an application and/or more information.

Ongoing Projects

Drop-in Mah Jongg games are held at the Temple every Monday afternoon from 1:00 – 3:00 pm when the Temple is open. Please contact Rachel Maryn at rmaryn@verison.net for more information or to be added to the email list.



Kippot for B'nai Mitzvah, and Brides and Grooms are available at discount prices through WTBA. go to

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B'NAI MITZVAH

Profiles

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



ISAAC ANDREW GINSBERG, son of Joanne and Jacob Ginsberg, will become a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 7. He is a 7th grade student at Kingsview Middle School. Isaac has an older sister, Lena. For his Bar Mitzvah project, Isaac is working with the Warrior Canine Connection. He is

responsible for socializing and training young puppies before they move to volunteer's homes for training to become support animals for veterans. Warrior Canine Connection uses a mission-based trauma recovery model to help recovering soldiers reconnect with life, their families and their communities.



GABRIEL (GABE) PARKER DASHOFF, son of Jamie and Brad Dashoff, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday afternoon, December 7. He is a 7th grade student at Lakelands Park Middle School. Gabe has a younger sister, Noa. For his Bar Mitzvah Project, Gabe is collecting

socks, in memory of his Bubbie and her love of socks, and donating them to area homeless shelters.



SYDNEY CHAIKIN, daughter of Lauretta Bickersteth and Steve Chaikin, will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, December 14. She is a 7th grade student at Robert Frost Middle School. Sydney has a younger brother, Sam.

Rededicate yourself and your family to the true meaning of Hanukkah and consider using one night of gift giving as a gift to the Temple: make a donation from your family to a Tikkun Olam project, volunteer in the community, clean out your closets and provide warm clothing to adults and children who don't have any, donate to Nourish Now and Manna to help people who are suffering from food insufficiency. There are so many ways to rededicate yourself and your families to the values lived at TBA

Annual High Holy Days Appeal – We are Getting Close!

We have wonderful news to share about the Annual High Holy Days Appeal! As of the end of October go to press deadline, we have raised \$98,000 from 173 members. We hope that by the time you read this, these numbers will be higher and closer to our goals of 100% participation and \$100,000; we have received a generous match from several of our families that provides an additional \$50,000 once we reach \$100,000 or more.

While you are considering your end of the year giving, please remember Temple Beth Ami. We would like to reach 100% congregational participation at any amount comfortable for your family.

For all of the congregants who have already given, we sincerely thank you for your generous support. For those of you who have not yet made your donation, we encourage you to, please, support the Temple as part of your end-of-year giving. Thank you.

WTBA JUDAICA SHOP

Chanukah is late this year! DECEMBER 22--Don't wait until the last minute. Come in now for all your holiday needs. We have lots of menorahs, dreidels, gelt and gifts for all ages. The shop is open Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, Wednesdays from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm and religious school Sundays from 8:45 am to 12:45 pm. If these times don't work for you call Jackie, (301)294-1795, to make an appointment.

For your shopping convenience, we will set up shop in the lobby on Sunday, December 8 and December 15.



TBANS NEWS

*Paula Sayag,
Director*



We are so proud of our teachers' expertise, their knowledge of child development, their commitment to each child's success, and their dedication to constant innovation. To begin the 2019 - 20 school year, TBANS teachers considered their hopes for this year's children. Even our most veteran teachers identified new experiences to add energy into their daily routines to accomplish our goals.

TBANS children are the fortunate beneficiaries of our teachers' constant pursuit of excellence. Below is a list by class of teachers' identified goal and accompanying proposed strategy.

Bet Classes (Children ages 2-3)

Klavim: To support the increased number of students with anxiety and emotional regulation challenges.

We will incorporate scaffolded mindfulness techniques on a regular basis, including Shabbat yoga, teacher and child-directed breaths, visualization stories, quiet songs, and relaxation practice.

Rainbow Fish: To counteract some of the impact of screen time, and to encourage children to pay attention to their surroundings and engage in face-to-face conversations.

At least once per day, we will take time to look out the classroom window and talk about what we see.

Starfish: To help children increase their



sense of control and their self-esteem.

Following the advice of Alfie Kohn, we will not say "Good Job" to children, but we will use other ways of responding to children's work in order to encourage their determination and confidence.

Teddy Bears: To take better advantage of our Temple grounds and to encourage children's enjoyment of nature.



We will spend more time exploring the outdoors – especially the back of our building.

Gimel Classes (Children ages 3-4)

Megallim: To facilitate social development skills as delineated in TBANS Framework and to foster strong peer relationships.

Each month, we will introduce one new activity geared toward building social competence, and we will extend the activity throughout the month and revisit it throughout the year.

Parparim: To help children become more aware and mindful of how they can be in control and regulate their bodies.

We will establish a meditation and breathing time daily.

Dalet Classes (Children ages 4-5)

Busy Bees: To lower the volume in the classroom and in turn promote listening skills.



Every day during circle time, we will practice "loud" and "soft" using a voice modulation chart with pictures, music, instruments, clapping, etc.

SIMCHAS

Mazel Tov to...

Jungle Friends: To reinforce the Dalet Mindfulness Program and encourage mindfulness throughout the year.

We will incorporate at least one mindfulness activity in the classroom each day.

Keshatot: To encourage children to be kind – to think about other people and the world around them.

We will use the “Kindness Jar” at least once per day to publicly recognize a child’s kindness and promote frequent acts of kindness.

All payments must be received by December 30 in order to be posted in this calendar year and, therefore, to appear on your 2019 tax report from the Temple.

Samantha Kotok on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Benjamin Becker, Matthew Stern, Jacob Lachter and Brandon Luxenberg each on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Nancy Heller and Evan Krichevsky on the engagement of their daughter, **Aliza Krichevsky, and Michal Morris**

Helene and Jeffrey Casper on the Auf Ruf of their son, **Andrew, and Ellie Sterns**

Debbie and Terry Korth on the marriage of their son, **Jason, and Kayla Zmary**

Jeri and Jeff Berman on the marriage of their son, **Lee, and Laura Reff**

Debbie Koss and Richard Goldstein on the marriage of their daughter, **Laura, and Eric Christensen**

Barbara Turner and Richard Cohn on their marriage

Deena and Ben Klopman on the birth of their granddaughters, **Emma Doris**

Klopman and Macie Dean Klopman, born on the same day, one in MD and one in NY

Lisa and Stephen Paul on the birth of their granddaughter, **Liv Miriam Paul**

Ellen Davis and Myra Kaplan on their son, **Noah**, being accepted into the UNC, Chapel Hill, Kenan-Flagler Business School as a sophomore

Special Thanks To:

Our Shabbat Hospitality Committee, Challah Club

TBANS Bets’ ParentsBowling Night



Challah Club



MACHANE TBA NEWS

*Kim Roberts,
Director*



Calendar

Sunday, December 1

Machane TBA NOT in session
Confirmation Trip to NYC

Tuesday, December 3

TBAjrHigh & TBAHigh in session
CORE 1 Night

Friday, December 6

6:30 Gimel Shabbat Family
Experience

Friday-Sunday, December 6 - 8

NFTY MAJYK Gr 6-8-hosted by TBA

Sunday, December 8

Machane TBA in session
12:30 - 2 pm Gr 3 - 6 Kehillah-Rock
the Sport

Tuesday, December 10

TBAjrHigh & TBAHigh in session
CORE 2 Night & Confirmation
5:15 pm Miron Dinner w/12th Grade
6:30 pm Miron Parent meeting w/9th
Grade

7:30 pm Confirmation Steering
Committee

Wednesday - Sunday, December 11 - 15

URJ Biennial Meeting - Chicago

Sunday, December 15

Machane TBA in session

Tuesday, December 17

TBAjrHigh & TBAHigh in session
CORE 3 Night & Confirmation

December 22 - January 4

WINTER BREAK

Machane TBA NOT in session

Friday, December 27

6:30 Shabbunakkah Service



KIDS CORNER

Chanukah begins at sundown on December 22!

Congratulations to Ben Rogers (2nd grade) who won the October Kids Corner challenge! Ben knew that there are 52 Torah portions. He won a \$10 gift card to FiveBelow!

JOKE : Why was the dreidel crying?



Joke Answer: He hurt his wrist

"CHANUKAH CHALLENGE"!

One winner will receive a gift card! As a treat for December, all students who participate in this challenge can pick up a Chanukah favor when they drop their entry in the basket in the Machane office!

What is a Hannukiah?

Draw a picture of one:

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Drop this form in the "Kids Corner Challenge" basket in the Machane office by **Dec. 18**. If you need more than 1 form, you can make a copy. There are also extra copies in the office. One correct winner will receive a gift card! Gift cards will vary. Have fun and thanks for participating!

PHOTO REVIEW

TBANS Community Shabbat, Celebration Cookies for Janice



COMMITTEE*News***College Connection**

85 of our students received High Holiday packages sent by the College Connection Committee. The packages contained honey and apples and other holiday themed snacks and a greeting from Rabbi Weiss. We would very much like to thank our wonderful volunteers, Cathy Borton, Moira Carin, Ellen Davis, Gayle Friedman, Sarah Freedman, Joyce Greenberg, Larrie Greenberg, Michelle Katon, Ellen Kirsh, Lauren Russ and Amy Schwartz.



Our Finals/Chanukah package will go out the December 11th. If you have not already signed your child up for College Connection you still can, please follow the instructions below.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jackie Manis, jrmhyp@yahoo.com

College Connection Registration Instructions

1. Go to the Temple website (www.bethami.org), click the "Member" tab and log into your Chaverweb account.
2. Click on the "Manage Profile" tab.
3. Click the "Select Individual" drop down arrow, choose the college student(s) in your family.
4. Click the "Education" tab.
5. Click on "School" drop down arrow and select "College Connection 2019/2020" (it is the first choice). This is critical to ensure that we have your child in our data base.
6. Next to "School Address" enter your student's mailing

address (you can use both lines). We do not need the phone/fax information, but please enter the student's email address.

7. Click "Save". This is very IMPORTANT, you must SAVE the entry

Help Critical Issues Forum Support Gun Violence Prevention Legislation

The Critical Issues Forum (CIF) is a coalition of three synagogues, including Temple Beth Ami, that engages in targeted advocacy on social action issues of interest to its members. CIF is starting a project to support gun violence prevention legislation. We will be working with Marylanders to Prevent Gun Violence (MPGV) to support two bills that will be before the General Assembly in the 2020 session. One bill will enhance the state's Child Access Protection law, which requires safe storage of guns in homes where children are present. The second will ban assault pistols, a category of assault weapon not covered by current law.

In the past, CIF has supported legislation by working with the members of the Montgomery County delegation, lobbying legislators from other jurisdictions, presenting testimony, and seeking support from other groups. We are looking for Temple Beth Ami members who would like to participate in this effort. If doing this kind of hands-on advocacy appeals to you, please get in touch with Arlynn Joff at arlynnjoffe2gmail.com. We will be having an organizational meeting in early December to prepare for the January start of the legislative session.

Budget Committee Wants YOU

The TBA Budget Committee is forming. If you have interest or experience in TBA's annual budgeting process please contact Madeline D'Alessio. We will meet Wednesday evenings from late January through March.

COMMITTEE

News

Fall Community of Action Projects

Tell Many Stories

Civic Engagement/National Voter Registration Day and Beyond

Working with the Literacy Council of Montgomery County, members Debbie Jacobs and Susan Stern created and presented a PowerPoint presentation to 74 ESOL students on September 24, as part of National Voter Registration Day. The presentation covered basic facts of national, state and local government; voter registration; and the importance of participating in the upcoming Census in 2020. Presentations were held at both the Gaithersburg and Germantown libraries. Together the 74 students attending represented a total of 31 countries, all of whom are seeking to learn English and most to eventually to become U.S. citizens. (See the list of countries represented at the end of this article.)



During the same time period, September 24 - 26, a cadre of members from Temple Beth Ami and Kol Shalom manned tables at

Montgomery College and Wootton High School. Leading this effort was Sue Wohl. Volunteers included Sue Fox, Lisa Fuller, Lynn Karpay, Naomi Licker, Peter Cohen, Rebecca Coleman, Larrie Greenberg, Jenny Cohen, Hilda Pursner, Ellen Hercowitz, Joyce Greenberg, and Steve and Barbara Mandel (Kol Shalom).

Continuing the connection with the Literacy Council, Community of Action sponsored two events in November. The first of these featured Gabriel Martinez Gabrera, Council Executive Director, who provided an information session for persons interested in volunteering to become a mentor/tutor for adults. The second of these was a training session.

The Community of Action looks forward to its sponsorship of a Roundtable on Achieving Equity through Adult Education, February 13, 2020, at 7:00 pm. Representative from the business

community, education and local government will share their ideas on how adult education can be a game changer for previously under-served Montgomery County residents.

The South Lake Story

Working with AIM (Action in Montgomery) and the South Lake community, TBA members provided testimony before the Board of Education in October urging the Board to prioritize South Lake for new school construction in FY20. This testimony followed an ongoing advocacy effort begun in 2018 which culminated in an announcement in October that South Lake would be priority #1 for renovation with a timeline of completion, following permitting and construction, of 2024.

The Temple through its Tikkun Olam committee continues to support South Lake in terms of collecting gently worn children's coats and socks, and also holiday gifts for Linkages for Learning families at the school. In addition, currently 9 volunteers provide the manpower needed to sponsor an afterschool art club for students in grades 3-5 which meets on Tuesday and Thursday. These volunteers are Susan Stern, Sue Fox, Linda Blumenreich, Gail Kaplain-Wassell, Susan Spicer, Arlynn Joffe, Lynn Karpay, Marie-Claire Braun, and Pat Kaufman.

Supporting Kirwan Commission

Working alongside Strong Schools Maryland and county groups including MoCo Women and AIM, Community of Action members are seeking ways to advocate for the full funding of the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission on Education. The umbrella organization of Coalition for Blueprint for Maryland's Future sponsored throughout the fall a series of forums to present the case for NOW is the time to support Maryland education.

Countries represented in Civic Engagement Outreach classes: The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Islamic Republic of Iran, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, China, Columbia, Congo, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Kazakstan, Mexico, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Thailand, Togo, and Venezuela

WHAT WE'VE DONE THIS PAST YEAR TO HELP REPAIR THE WORLD

TBA's
Community
Service
Committee

Temple Beth Ami's TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE



- Provided support for a Rise Against Hunger project that enabled 120 volunteers from TBA and the community to make 15,120 nutritious, shelf-stable meals that were distributed to hungry men, women, and children in Zambia.
- Supported refugee families of all faiths and nationalities as they settled in the DC metro area via the TBA Refugee Resettlement Program and an interfaith coalition. In particular, our committee provides a variety of assistance to four refugee families.
- Delivered 115 bags of food to Russian immigrants and others in need for Rosh Hashanah and Passover.
- Continued volunteering once a month at Nourish Now, helping to glean produce and package surplus food to redistribute directly to local families in need.
- On Good Deeds Day, worked with more than 50 volunteers to prepare and deliver 115 lasagnas to be frozen and distributed as needed by Nourish Now.
- Provided bi-monthly dinners to the Jefferson House (for men) and Rockland House (for women), two shelters run by Community Reach of Montgomery County (formerly CMR).
- Provided all meals (breakfasts, lunches & dinners) for an entire week, and additional meals throughout the year, for the Interfaith Works Women's Center, a homeless shelter for women in Rockville.
- Provided/prepared and served Thanksgiving dinner for the Children's Inn at NIH (serving 60 guests).
- Prepared and served Christmas dinner at the Interfaith Works Women's Center shelter (serving 70 people), and Community Reach of Montgomery's Rockland House and Jefferson House shelters, all in Rockville.
- Delivered hundreds of kosher meals to homebound residents of Montgomery County through Meals on Wheels.
- Collected more than 4,000 pounds of food at Yom Kippur and throughout the year for the Manna Food Center. Also collected hundreds of pounds of food for Nourish Now's Thanksgiving drive.
- Collected and donated more than 1,500 Box Tops for Education to South Lake Elementary School, which turned the labels in for cash used to help needy students.
- More than 60 volunteers worked for three weekends with Rebuilding Together Montgomery County/Sukkot in Spring to renovate a home and improve the lives of its low-income homeowners.
- Coordinated with WTBA and TBA's Religious School to provide Montgomery County Child Welfare Services with more than 170 bags of essentials for children of all ages who were placed into foster care on an emergency basis.
- Collected thousands of items throughout the year for Interfaith Works, A Wider Circle, CMR, Kaseman Clinic, Manna Food Center, Montgomery County Child Welfare Services, Nourish Now, I Support the Girls, and South Lake ES.
- For the December holidays, collected hundreds of toys and games for South Lake ES. Also filled the "wish lists" of more than 80 foster children through Montgomery County Child Welfare Services' Adopt-a-Family program.
- Led Shabbat services at Bedford Court (independent & assisted living) twice a month throughout the year.
- Planned and conducted several fun craft/social activities with residents of the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes and hosted them at our Spirit of Shabbat services.

VOLUNTEER WITH/JOIN THE TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE

We meet the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Temple. All are welcome!

Want more information? Contact Joanne Brodsky: brodsky.joanne@gmail.com, or Mark Joffe: marksjoffe@gmail.com

10/19

COMING In January



Live & Learn with Gideon Amir

Tuesdays January 7, 14, 21

10:30 am – 12 pm

Topic: Wisdom in the Bible. Wisdom is clearly a revered attribute in the bible. In this course, we will study biblical and Near Eastern views and understanding of wisdom, and get an overview of the three Biblical books called “wisdom literature:” the books of Job, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. Open to all; no charge.



New Year, New You and Mitzvah, Too!

Sunday, January 12

1 – 6 pm

WTBA and Next Dor, together with Saks Fifth Avenue at Chevy Chase and CHANEL Cosmetics, invite you for a very special afternoon. Once you register through the special link, you will have your choice of a makeover or a custom fragrance consultation – OR you may simply schmooze with old and new friends, sip champagne and mimosas and nibble on light bites. All attendees will receive a complimentary quilted black tote bag. \$25 cover benefits Days for Girls, an international charity promoting educational access for girls through hygiene solutions and health education. Don’t miss out; this event will fill quickly! Sign up link will open on 12/16.



Food & Film

Friday, January 17

7:30 pm

Welcome Shabbat with Wine & Cheese and “Spirit of Shabbat” services, followed by a delicious catered Shabbat dinner and film! “The Boys: The Sherman Brothers’ Story” is an intimate documentary journey through the partnership of brothers Richard and Robert Sherman, Disney’s prolific songwriting team. The film will be moderated by Steve Friedman of our own “Broadway Buzz” fame! Register online by 1/13. Questions? Contact Shelly slg@bethami.org or 301.340.6818



Day Trip to DCJCC

Wednesday, January 22

12 pm matinee

Join us for a trip downtown to see the play, Sheltered, at the DCJCC. It is 1939 and Hitler’s assault on Europe has begun. Though much of the world has turned its back on the Jews of Europe, Evelyn and Leonard Kirsch suspect that the menace is real. This ordinary American couple makes a bold decision that could save the lives of many Jewish children and change the course of history. But first, they must convince their estranged friends to help. A suspenseful story that will bring you to the edge of your seat. Register online. Cost: \$45 (members); \$55 (non-members) – includes round trip transportation from the Temple and light snacks on the bus. There are a limited number of tickets; first come-first served. Bus departs from Beth Ami at 11 am; returns at approximately 2:45 pm.

The Temple offices will be closed on
Wednesday, December 25 and
Wednesday, January 1

All payments must be received by December 30 in order to be posted in this calendar year and, therefore, to appear on your 2019 tax report from the Temple.

RABBI CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Originally, we thought she would stay on for about a year. Janice quickly became not just a colleague, but a trusted friend and advisor. Before long, I asked her to continue for a second, and then a third year. Now, into the fourth year of my rabbinate at Beth Ami, it seems unfair not to honor Janice with retirement, but I will miss her as a colleague even as we continue to grow in friendship.

Of course, it would be impossible for Janice to retire, if just the right person had not come forward to become her successor. Over the past six months, a team of dedicated lay leaders conducted an extensive national search. And, just like in the stories from the rabbis (where 'Shlomi' travels the world to find a buried treasure in his backyard), we discovered that the right person had been here all along.

Debbie Ezrin is the right person, at the right time, to build on Janice's tremendous leadership and help guide us to an even stronger future. As an active Beth Ami member and lay leader, she is committed to our mission and understands the culture of our congregational community. As a C-Suite professional in mission driven non-profits with depth in development, project management, marketing and technology, she is ready for this executive leadership role at Beth Ami. I am confident in her abilities, excited to be her partner, and very much looking forward to what we can accomplish together as she joins our professional team.

When we complete one book of Torah and prepare to begin another, we say chazak chazak v'nitchazek (from strength to strength, we grow in strength). May both Janice and Debbie continue to grow from strength to strength, each in their own ways. And, as they are each sources of strength for Beth Ami, perhaps we might change the traditional phrase just this once: "from Janice to Debbie, Beth Ami grows in strength."

On behalf of our entire senior team, and with a heart filled with gratitude,

Rabbi Gary Pokras

WOMEN OF TBA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

www.kippah.com to see styles then contact Eve Lader at 301-938-0200 or evelader@gmail.com to place an order.

WTBA presents a wedding gift of the beautiful book On the Doorposts of Your House: Prayers and Ceremonies for the Jewish Home to TBA newlyweds. Please email Barbara Ranhand at barbara.ranhand@verizon.net with information about any Temple families who are planning a wedding.

If you have any new ideas for activities or would like to help plan an event, we'd love to hear from you! We can be reached at .

Elizabeth Joseloff

WTBA Chadashot article editor

SERVICES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**Friday, January 3**

6:30 pm Erev Shabbat of Song and Story

Saturday, January 4

10:30 am Shabbat Service

B'nai Mitzvah: Riley Berkowitz

Piper Coco

Sunday, January 5

10:45 am Minyan

Before the end of the year

Please consider Temple Beth Ami in your end of the year giving. You may donate by check, credit card, or appreciated stock. Also consider a legacy gift to Temple Beth Ami as part of your estate planning. Please contact Debbie Ezrin, Executive Director, for information.

First Night of Hanukkah – Sunday, December 22

Visit the Judaica Shop for great Hanukkah gifts, entertaining needs, candles and gelt.

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 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 Debbie Ezrin, Executive Director, at 301.340.6818.

ANNUAL APPEAL (HIGH HOLY DAYS) FUND

Donation by Denise Gold

In honor of:

DIANE CASTIGLIONE by her mother, Liese Fischer

BRANDON LUXENBERG, son of Richard and Heather Luxenberg, by Grammy and Poppy Wechsler

In memory of:

ALMA PERRY, sister of Linda Jacobson, by Robert and Marjorie Bajefsky

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of:

CANTOR LARRY ESCHLER by Lois and Seymour Fishman

CANTOR LARRY ESCHLER's excellence in mentoring youth by Debra and Robert Cowen
CANTOR LARRY ESCHLER with gratitude and thanks for his help and patience in preparing my Haftorah portion for Yom Kippur by Betty Loggia

CLERY AND CONGREGATION'S SUPPORT
AND CANTOR LARRY ESCHLER for conducting Shiva for our mother, JUDY BORTEN, by Cathy and Matt Borten

In memory of:

The universe-denting life of PATRICA S. KLEWANS by Ruth and Paul McLenaghan

JUDY TREBY by Debra and Robert Cowen

HINENI FUND

In memory of:

MARILYN GOODMAN by the Gorenstein Family

MICHAEL GREENE by the Gorenstein Family
ELEANOR, dear friend of Art and Marsha Sandler, by Andrea Sillen and Joe

ISREAL TRAVEL FUND IN MEMORY OF DAVID CARIN

In honor of:

RABBI BAHT WEISS for her love and support after the passing of my parents by Josh Carin
JANICE ROSENBLATT for her love and support after the passing of my parents by Josh Carin

In memory of:

BOBBIE CARIN, mother of Josh Carin, by Scott and Jacqueline Kauff, Floyd and Judy Eschler, Temple Beth Ami Brotherhood, Patrick Howard, Mary Ann Greenburg, Cindy and Herb Berkowitz, Terrie and Jeff Manchester, Karen and Jerry Greenberg, Jonathan and Ellen Bortz, Charles and Cecile Plost, Mark and Janet Wallace, Suzanne Hirsch and Robert Roseman, Michael Wolly, Lonnie Lovick, Buzz and Lynn Karpay, Robert and Jodi Shapiro, Brad and Pat Harvey, Robin and Tom Temin, Hanna Lee Pomerantz

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of:

CAROL HOPKINS, wife of Ed Hopkins, by Stan and Jean Hankin

LIVE & LEARN FUND IN

MEMORY OF SALLY B. KERA

Donation by Jim Schwartz

In honor of:

MARILYN LIPOWSKY on her Special Birthday by Jerrold and Karen Greenberg

In memory of:

HARRIET SHAPERO, mother of Seth Shapero, by Robin and Tom Temin

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

In honor of:

JAKE LACHTER, son of Lou and Jill Lachter, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah, by Jamie and David Miller and Family

In memory of:

MARVIN MERMELSTEIN, father of Jill Lachter, by Jamie and David Miller and Family

MACHANE (RELIGIOUS EDUCATION) YOUTH FUND

Donation by Robert and Debra Cowen

MUSIC EQUIPMENT FUND

In memory of

HARRIET SHAPERO, mother of Seth Shapero by Sue Potechin and Mark Kamins

ONEG FUND

Barbara Turner and Richard Cohn in honor of their marriage

Debbie Koss and Richard Goldstein in honor of their daughter Laura Goldstein and Eric Christensen on their forth coming marriage
Jill and Louis Lachter in honor of their son, Jacob becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Luanne and Mark Stanley in memory of Belle

Helen Stanley
 Rosetta and James Weiss in memory of Lillian Weiss
 Rachel Cohen and Jonathan Dinman in memory of Stefanie Dinman and Bertram Dinman
 Robert Levin and family in memory of Abby Levin
 Gail and Arnold Brodsky in memory of Roz Fishkin
 Glenna and Don Frost in memory of Gene E. Feldman
 Stuart Treby and family in memory of Judy Treby
 Gail Roe in memory of Helen Bass and Martin Bass
 Charlotte and Harry Zuckman in memory of Henry Snyder
 Susan Stiles and Robert Drummer in memory of Donald Stiles
 Janice Rosenblatt and Ed Williams in memory of Morton Stolbov
 Marcie and Simon Nadler in memory of Stuart Grossman
 Sherri and Jim Lieberman in memory of Abbott Lieberman
 Terry and Seth Steinberg in memory of Ruth C. Steinberg
 Helen Salzberg in memory of Charles Ginsberg and Fred Ginsberg
 Deborah Cohen and Keith Goodman in memory of Barbara Solow and Debbie Solow
 Holly and Ron Lobel in memory of Powell Lobel
 Amy and Mark Scher in memory of Hyman J. Cohen
 Suzanne and David Fialkoff in memory of Hilde Marion
 Rhona and Terry Arbit in memory of Jack Arbit
 Rachel and Michael Maryn in memory of David Maryn
 Sue Potechin and Mark Kamins in memory of

Minnie Goodman
 Holly and Brad Mendelson in memory of Barry Benton
 Olivia and Mark Sheinkopf in memory of Sylvia Sheinkopf
 Nancy and Howard Harrell in memory of Crysille Weinberg
 Lee Plave in memory of Ilene Plave
 Monya and David Cohen in memory of Leah Cohen
 Lynn and Buzz Karpay in memory of Gerard Wertheimer and Eva Wertheimer
 Roslyn and Les Grinspoon in memory of Dorothy Grinspoon
 Janet and Mark Wallace in memory of Milton Jacob Wallace
 Rabbi Gary and Shauna Pokras in memory of Dorothy Weinbaum
 Sharon Arnold and Jeffrey Bloch in memory of Lila Arnold
 Larry Rosenblum in memory of Leon S. Rosenblum
 Barbara and Ronald Abrams in memory of Lillian Stein and Morris Stein
 Connie Heller and family in memory of Mark J. Heller
 Charlotte and Harvey Zuckman in memory of Henry Snyder
 Michael Wolly in memory of Valentine Nazarian Wolly
 Gail and Arnold Brodsky in memory of Ida Deitchman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND – RABBI GARY POKRAS

In honor of:
 RABBI POKRAS for his kindness at the time of Al Levine's passing by
 Jeffrey and Linda Levine
 RABBI POKRAS with thanks for the lovely service and for all of your time and considera-

tion talking to us in the weeks leading up to the service by Mark Willcher and Leslie Shapiro
 RABBI POKRAS by Dorothy Welan

In memory of:
 Shirley Kaufman, by Ian and Linda Kramer

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND – RABBI BAHT WEISS

In memory of:
 The universe-denting life of PATRICIA S. KLEWANS by Paul and Ruth McLenaghan
 MANNY WYRON, father of Rick Wyron, by
 Debbie Koss and Richard Goldstein

In honor of:
 RABBI WEISS' support for our family by Brad and Pat Harvey

SHOFAR FUND BY THE ALTER FAMILY

In appreciation of:
 COLIN ALTER on performing High Holy Day Services for the residents of Bedford Court by Jean Pastor, Arline Cole, Harriet Levi, Diane Castiglione, Pauline Fleishman, Miriam Sobel, Bert Rothenberg, Marilyn Shnitzer, Philip Gallas

SUSTAINING (GENERAL) ENDOWMENT FUND

In honor of:
 RABBI GARY POKRAS, RABBI BAHT WEISS, CANTOR LARRY ESCHLER, JOSHANA ERENBERG and BEN PAGLIARO for leading the Congregation in deeply meaningful and inspirational High Holy Day Services by Cathy Friedman and Michael Wolly

In memory of:
 JUDY BORTEN, mother of Matt Borten, by

Michael Wolly
HARRIET SHAPERO, mother of Seth Shapero,
by Mitchell and Judith Glassman
ALMA PERRY, sister of Linda Jacobson, by
Carol Martin

TBA CARES FUND

In honor of
ADELE WINTERS by Anne DeNovo
BENITA MARCUS AND DAVID ISAACS ON
THEIR MARRIAGE by Joan and Brian Ochs

In memory of ALICE BAUM for the New Year
5780 by Howard Baum
MANUEL WYRON, father of Rick Wyron, by
Joan and Brian Ochs

TBANS (EARLY CHILDHOOD) FUND

In memory of:
FRAN EDELSON, mother of Ellen Bortz, by
Karin and Marc Swissman, Stephanie Fleischer

TBANS (EARLY CHILDHOOD) DIRECTOR'S FUND

In memory of:
FRAN EDELSON, mother of Ellen Bortz, by
Scott and Jacqueline Kauff, Gayle and Yale
Kaplan Scott and Jacqueline Kauff, Gayle and
Yale Kaplan

TBANS (EARLY CHILDHOOD) FUND

In memory of:
FRAN EDELSON, mother of Ellen Bortz, by
Karin and Marc Swissman, Stephanie Fleischer

TBANS (EARLY CHILDHOOD) DIRECTOR'S FUND

In memory of:
FRAN EDELSON, mother of Ellen Bortz, by
Scott and Jacqueline Kauff, Gayle and Yale
Kaplan

TBANS (EARLY CHILDHOOD) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND IN

HONOR OF KAREN GREENBERG & TBANS GARDEN FUND

In memory of:
FRAN EDELSON, mother of Ellen Bortz, by
Lawrence and Leslie Block

TBANS (EARLY CHILDHOOD) SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN MEMORY OF JOEL

In honor of:
ARDEN and OLIVIA GUICE, grandchildren of
Susan Chirumbolo, by Jerrold and Karen
Greenberg
The birth of MARCIE DIAN KLOPMAN and
EMMA DORIS KLOPMAN, granddaughters of
Deena and Ben Klopman, by Temple Beth Ami
Nursery School Staff

In memory of:
FRAN EDELSON, mother of Ellen Bortz, by the
Temple Beth Ami Nursery School Staff,
Mitchell and Rhonda Gaynor, Paula Sayag,
Jerrold and Karen Greenberg, Samuel and
Kristin Erdheim & Family, Stephen and Karen
Kominsky, Buzz and Lynn Karpay, Robin and
Tom Temin, Raymond Martz
MARVIN MERMELSTEIN, father of Jill Lachter,
by Jonathan and Ellen Bortz

TIKKUN OLAM (COMMUNITY SERVICE) FUND

In memory of:

ALMA PERRY, sister of Linda Jacobson, by
Edward and Elinor Sondik
BOBBIE CARIN, mother of Josh Carin, by
Angela and Walter Harris
HARRIET SHAPERO, mother of Seth Shapero,
by Sherri and Jim Lieberman
ANNA WEINSTEIN, mother of Don Weinstein,
by Donald and Livia Weinstein
GRETE NADEL, aunt of Livia Weinstein, by
Donald and Livia Weinstein
IRA WILEN, brother of Sandy Diamond, by

Marge and Bob Winick

TORAH ACQUISITION FUND

In memory of:
HARRIET SHAPERO, mother of Seth Shapero,
by Buzz and Lynn Karpay

TORAH FUND FOR ADULT EDUCATION

In honor of:
JANICE ROSENBLATT on her retirement by
Sandi and Marshall Levy
In memory of:
LOIS SACKS, wife of David Sacks, by Shirley
Levin, Marjorie Winick, Jeannette Sturman,
Gail Kaltman, Pauline Walstein, Evelyn Danto
Michel, Leslie Nelson, Leslie Milk, Roberta
Feigen
HARRIET SHAPERO, mother of Seth Shapero,
by Charles and Cecile Plost

WISH LIST FUND

In honor of:
JANICE ROSENBLATT on her retirement by
Edward Alpert, Lois and Seymour Fishman,
Dorothy Welan, Lawrence and Lucy Cohen,
Frank Lipson and Audrey Rothstein, Donald
and Marilyn Goldman, Robert and Jodi
Shapiro, Jordan and Amy Klinger, Terry and
Linda Vann, Carol Martin, Brian and Joan Ochs
DEBBIE EZRIN on becoming the new Executive
Director by Cathy Friedman and Michael Wolly

In memory of:
GERTRUDE MILLER by Holly and Ron Lobel

YAHREITZ FUND

In memory of:
GERTRUDE MILLER by Holly and Ron Lobel
ALMA PERRY, sister of Linda Jacobson, by
Ellen Agle

** AS OF OCTOBER 25, 2019

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

We mourn the recent death of:

Mark Schaffer
father of Rick Schaffer

Ira Wilen
brother of Sandy Diamond

Bessie Kamins
mother of Mark Kamins

Alma Perry
sister of Linda Jacobson,
aunt of Laura Rose

Manuel Wyron
father of Rick Wyron

Sidney Opotowsky
uncle of Becky Corbett,
great-uncle of Liz Corbett

Marvin Mermelstein
father of Jill Lachter

Bobbie Carin
mother of Josh Carin

Mark Wilen
brother of Sandy Diamond

Harriet Shapero
mother of Seth Shapero

Fran Edelson
mother of Ellen Bortz

Celia Feit
grandmother of Karen Mahoney

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

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.



*"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.

Someone who cares will always be here to help you with your funeral needs, in a supportive, caring way.



Garden of Remembrance

GAN ZIKARON MEMORIAL PARK

17 YEARS OF CARING SERVICE AND DEDICATED SUPPORT TO
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Call the Temple @ 301.340.6818
or visit www.gardenofremembrance.org

Partner Agency of
The Jewish Federation
OF GREATER WASHINGTON



ONGOING *Information*

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!

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.

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 or 301-610-8369 for free confidential consultation.

MAY THE REASONS YOU BELONG BE THE REASONS YOU GIVE

Please Remember the Temple in your end of year giving plans. Please make a tax-deductible donation to the High Holy Days Appeal, religious school and nursery school scholarship funds*, the general fund, clergy discretionary funds, caring community funds or any fund that is important to you and your family. You can donate cash, pay on line by credit card, or use appreciated stock.

Create a Jewish Legacy. Jewish tradition teaches us that it is our responsibility to make this world a better place for future generations. Please consider a legacy gift to Temple Beth Ami as part of your estate planning. Please go to fundforgenerations@gmail.com

Please join your fellow congregants who remember the Temple every year; every gift is sincerely appreciated. All payments must be received by December 30 in order to be posted in this calendar year and, therefore, to appear on your 2019 tax report from the Temple.

Beth Ami's Hospitality Initiative Wants YOU!

If you've been to Erev Shabbat services, you've been welcomed by fellow congregants and donned a name tag so others can greet you by name. You've also noticed a Welcome Table, the hub of our Hospitality Initiative. These efforts are a way to make all who enter our doors feel the warmth and caring of our congregational community, whether they are members or visitors who are worshipping with us for the first time.

Our "Welcome Ambassadors" also have benefitted from volunteering for this effort. They have gotten to know more and more Temple members, as well as visitors and families of B'nai Mitzvah who have come to celebrate. In helping others feel more connected to TBA they, too, have come to feel like an important part of Temple life.

While we have a cadre of dedicated volunteers who make Erev Shabbat services THE place to be on Friday evenings, we are looking for additional Temple members who would like to serve as "Welcome Ambassadors".

Please RSVP to Cathy Friedman at 301-330-8377 or cathyjfriedman@gmail.com if you are interested in becoming a "Welcome Ambassador". You will be joining a great group of Temple members who are making a difference.

**Is Your Email Address Current?
Are You on Chaverweb? Are You Connected?**

If you are not yet connected to the Chaverweb system, it may be because we do not have an up-to-date email address. Please let the Temple office know if you did not get the emailed invitation and we will help you connect. Chaverweb will enable you to update your personal profile, view the on line membership directory, review your account (and, soon, pay your account), register for school, and classes, etc.

If you are already in Chaverweb, but FORGOT YOUR PASSWORD, please DO NOT SIGN IN AS A GUEST; simply click on "forgot your password" and you will receive a new one by email.

You'll want to STAY CONNECTED.

Snow Birds

If you are now – or will soon be – at your winter address, please let the office know so we can find you and keep you informed about your Temple.
idf@bethami.org And, please, remember to let us know when you return home.

BOOKING A HOTEL?

If you are Booking the Hilton Garden Inn or Homewood Suites on Shady Grove Road for your guests, tell them you are members of TBA and the Temple will receive a rebate.

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 It's YOUR congregation; be connected.

Washington Jewish Week will not print your Bar/Bat Mitzvah announcement and photo for free. The following is the link to submit your announcement and photos:
<https://washingtonjewishweek.com/submit-your-celebration/>



Hanukkah, meaning "dedication" in Hebrew, refers to the joyous eight-day celebration during which Jews commemorate the victory of the Maccabees over the armies of Syria in 165 B.C.E. and the subsequent liberation and "rededication" of the Temple in Jerusalem. The modern home celebration of Hanukkah centers around the lighting of the hanukkiyah, a special menorah for Hanukkah; foods prepared in oil including latkes (potato pancakes) and sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts); and special songs and games.

History:

Unlike many Jewish holidays, Hanukkah (also known as the Festival of Lights) is not mentioned in the Bible. The historical events upon which the celebration is based are recorded in Maccabees I and II, two books contained within a later collection of writings known as the Apocrypha. Although Hanukkah is considered a “minor” Jewish festival, today it ranks — along with Passover and Purim — as one of the most beloved Jewish family holidays.

Although historians debate the causes and outcomes of the war in which Judah Maccabee and his followers defeated the Syrian armies of Antiochus, there is no doubt that Hanukkah evokes stirring images of Jewish valor against overwhelming odds. Other themes rooted in the observance of the holiday include the refusal to submit to the religious demands of an empire practicing idolatry, the struggle against total assimilation into Hellenistic culture and loss of Jewish identity, and the fight for Jewish political autonomy and self-determination.

Hanukkah, which means “dedication,” is the festival that commemorates the purification and rededication of the Temple following the defilement caused by the Greeks during their occupation of that holy place. Today, the holiday reminds Jews to rededicate themselves to stand against forces that would destroy Judaism and to keep alive the flame of Jewish religion, culture, and peoplehood so that it may be passed on to the next generation.

Originally, the eight-day holiday was intended to parallel the eight-day festival of Sukkot. The Books of the Maccabees made no mention of the legend concerning a small jar of oil that unexpectedly lasted for eight days. Only centuries after the Maccabees’ defeat of the Syrians did the story of the jar of oil — which has come to be a part of Hanukkah — appear in the Talmud.

According to the legend, when the Maccabees entered the Temple and began to reclaim it from the Greeks, they immediately relit the ner tamid (eternal light), which burned constantly in the Temple and has a parallel in our synagogues to this day. In the Temple, they found a single jar of oil, which was sufficient for only one day. The messenger who was sent to secure additional oil took eight days to complete his mission, and miraculously, the single jar of oil continued to burn until his return. The rabbis of the Talmud attributed the eight days of Hanukkah to the miracle of this single jar of oil.

Although the practice of lighting the menorah was common throughout much of the 19th century, North American Jews tended to neglect most of the other traditions and practices associated with the holiday. By the 1920s, however, Jews increasingly added gift-giving to their Hanukkah celebrations, prompting Christians to refer to Hanukkah as the "Jewish Christmas."

Like many aspects of Jewish religious practice, the transformation of Hanukkah was linked to the growth of North American Jewry within its unique environment. The elevation of Hanukkah to a major holiday was the result of Jews acculturating themselves to a North America that was overwhelmingly Christian in population and symbols.

Although Hanukkah had become an important holiday among North American Jews by the 1920s, it would be incorrect to regard it as an imitation of Christmas with an emphasis on the exchange of presents. Rather, North American Jews use this holiday as a celebration of family, reinforcing Jewish identity in a place whose population may be overwhelmingly Christian but in which Jews feel at home. Hanukkah, therefore, is a means for North American Jews to feel a kinship with their neighbors, while simultaneously asserting their Jewish distinctiveness.

The first night of Hanukkah is Sunday, December 22. Celebrate Shabbanukkah with us on Friday, December 27 (see listing under December programs and on the website)

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