

## **Beth Israel Bulletin**

## **ELUL 5785- TISHREI 5786**

**Upcoming Events: SEPTEMBER** 

#### **Special Events**

09/05-09/06 TBI Shabbaton: See flier below for full schedule

09/12: 7:00 pm: Board Installation
 09/28: 1:00 pm: Cemetery Visit

#### **Shabbat and Other Services**

• **09/05: 7:00 pm:** Shabbat T'filah/Oneg by Beth Brumfield

09/06: 10:00 am: Shabbat T'filah
09/12: 7:00 pm: Shabbat T'filah

• 09/19: 7:00 pm: Shabbat T'filah/Oneg by Sharon

Ratner (6:00 pm Pre-Shabbat Reception)

• 09/22: 7:00 pm: Erev Rosh Hashanah

• **09/23: 10:00 am:** Rosh Hashanah followed by Taschlich

• 09/26: 7:00 pm: Shabbat T'filah (6:00 pm Pre-Shabbat Reception)

• 09/28: 10:00 am: High Holiday Family Service

**SEPTEMBER SHAMUS**: Cheryl Kabeli

View Full Calendar

Join Via Zoom

#### FROM THE RABBI

Happy September Temple Israel,

As we begin the month of Tishrei, I am looking back on the summer as we reflect before the new year. After a beautiful but hot month of August spent in Israel, I recount some of the more memorable moments of my Birthright Israel trip. Shabbat at the Kotel (Western Wall) was by far the biggest shock; witnessing Jews from all walks of life converge on the open plaza adjacent to the last remaining wall to the Temple in Jerusalem is a master class in understanding Jewish peoplehood. Lubavitchers, Breslov, secular, and Mastori Jews all rubbing shoulders together. The vibe is super-charged on a hot Friday night in August as circles of Yeshiva boys and seminary girls break-out in Kabbalat Shabbat song and dance; separated of course by the mechitza/divider. As the sun goes down, the sky darkens, and the stars begin to shine, we slowly retreat back to our hotel for Shabbat dinner, and I feel as though my job is satisfyingly done for the day; Shabbat at the Kotel in Jerusalem always leaves a powerful encounter.

Trying to draw connections between American Jews and Israeli Jews is becoming harder because we have lost the connection to Jewish peoplehood; we much better understand Judaism through a philosophical and theology lens, but we have a poor understanding of Jewish history and the history of Jewry (Jewish people). I think if we better understand what makes us united, through a shared, collective history as a Jewish people, then we would better understand the beauty, struggle, and accomplishments of world-wide Jewry. While Israelis nodoubt disagree on much, they tend to agree on the most important aspects of life; safety, security, family, and an appreciation for life. I am always in awe of how unified Israelis seem, perhaps more so during war than in peace, but they always seem to rally around a critical moment or cause. It leaves much to be desired from the American Jewish community where internal division, politics, and a fundamental misunderstanding about the role and function of Israel often leaves us weaker and more vulnerable. How can the Jews of today fight antisemitism if they don't understand their own history?

Over the next month, corresponding directly to the late summer Shabbaton, and the High Holidays, I wish to focus some of our attention towards our own individual and communal identity. What is the identity of the Jewish community in Plattsburgh? How did we arrive in the North Country? Why and how did our current congregants arrive at Temple Beth Israel, and what would their Jewish ancestors say about the state of our community today? Maybe some of us arrived at the Jewish community later in life, as Jews by choice, or perhaps we only recently discovered our Jewish roots? Regardless, everybody has a story and those individual accounts make up the history of our Jewish people, and I am curious to learn more about us. I look forward to our continued Jewish learning and spiritual growth in the year to come. May we all be blessed with a healthy, safe, and fruitful year- Shanah tovah!

-Rabbi David Joslin

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am writing this at the height of the summer but by the time this gets to you, or you to it, we will be approaching the High Holy Days. For many of us, these Days of Awe and the holidays that follow have been a constant in our lives. This year we will celebrate them in ways both familiar and new as we join with Rabbi Joslin and Cantor Appel for their first High Holy Days together.

TBI has been busy all summer. We invited our community to a delicious BBQ here on August 8th . The Board focused on priorities for the next six months. The Board, exec, and committees have been planning all summer for a busy and meaningful year ahead. Now we need your voices so please let us know what you think and how you feel about the new face of TBI and what you would like to see at TBI this year. As the self-proclaimed queen of surveys, I will be sending out a survey asking about the one thing you would like to see us do. Be VERY specific. Do not say a cooking class, but a hallah baking or a fish class. You can reach us by phone, e-mail, or through the office.

The last thing I want to mention is volunteerism. New Year, new ask! We have a long and rich tradition at TBI of lay leadership and volunteers that tirelessly work to keep our community vibrant and successful. From the cemetery to adult ed, and religious school to the library, volunteers are the backbone of TBI. Currently, we find ourselves needing help to maintain several areas of TBI that are currently without a committee. I am appealing to all of you for help. The areas needing volunteers are: Membership, Ritual, Social Action, and Social Media. If any of these areas interest you, please call or e-mail me at <a href="tbipresident1@gmail.com">tbipresident1@gmail.com</a> and we will talk! I hope you enjoy the end of summer, the beginning of fall, and the anticipation of the High Holy Days.

With wishes for a sweet year,

Cheryl Kabeli, President tbipresident1@gmail.com

#### **Rabin Religious School Returns**

To all of our returning families, welcome back! To our new families, I am so glad you are joining us! We have an exciting year ahead with family holiday programs, services, and joyful, meaningful learning. Check our bulletin board by the Temple office for upcoming events, Bar/Bat Mizvah student profiles and teacher information.

As we begin our new school year, I think about the story of Jonah, a reluctant prophet. A quick synopsis: Jonah is told to warn the people of Nineveh that they will be destroyed because of their sins. Jonah says: No. They'll repent and you will end up forgiving them and will not destroy them. Jonah tries to run away, gets swallowed by a great fish, and ends up going to Nineveh. The king of Nineveh says, "Let everyone turn back from their evil ways and from the injustice of which they are guilty. Who knows but that God may turn and relent?" (Jonah 3:8,9) Long story short, God forgives the people. I have always wondered what happened to the people of Nineveh after the punishment and destruction were averted. Did they keep to the path of good choices, or did they go back to their old ways? Did they examine their actions and see where they had gone wrong, or just follow rules of behavior they didn't understand? Personally, I hope that I perform t'shuvah and try not to repeat my mistakes and get closer to the mark of good actions – to become my best self.

As your Religious School teacher, I have similar goals. Going forward, the faculty, the professional staff, and I will be looking at what worked, what did not, and how to hit the target of being the best Religious School for our children and this community. I must also thank the community members who will be helping in our classrooms. You will help our students realize the strength and caring of our Temple members. These young people are the future of the Jewish people; it is wonderful to have you with us on this journey. Here is to joyful learning to help us be our best selves.

#### **SOCIAL ACTION UPDATES**

\*Interfaith Food Pantry always welcomes food donations of non-perishable food items as well as monetary donations. (plattsburghfoodshelf@gmail.com)

\*Winter is coming! Once again, I will be collecting for those in need: clean, gently used winter garments, coats, hats, mittens, and scarves. If you find something, please consider bringing it to the synagogue (leave in Pearlie's Closet) or call/text Carol Staves at cjstaves@gmail.com or 352-584-2827 for pick up.



# Pre-Shabbat Receptions: A New Addition to Welcoming Shabbat

We're excited to introduce the Pre-Shabbat Reception—a community meal offered before Shabbat services. A variety of light meals will allow for a bit of schmoozing and socializing before services. There are 22 Friday Pre-Shabbat Receptions scheduled throughout the year. Each will begin at 6:00 PM followed by 7:00 PM Shabbat services. Specific dates will be announced in the TBI monthly bulletin and weekly emails. Come for dinner; stay for services.

Our traditional Friday Onegs (after services) and Saturday Kiddush Luncheons will continue as usual, sponsored by congregation volunteers.

The Board created an **Oneg and Reception Committee** to

- ☐ Plan and organize Pre-Shabbat Receptions, Onegs, and Kiddush Luncheons:
- ☐ Handle logistics: timelines, budgets, setup, and volunteer coordination;
- ☐ Manage publicity through the Temple website, calendar, and bulletin;
- ☐ Oversee the budget to fund the Pre-Shabbat Receptions, Erev Rosh Hashanah Oneg and Yom Kippur Break-fast.

The Oneg and Reception Committee Members: Stephen Cahill, Ronnie Marx, and Beth Brumfield. We are in search of two more committee members. How about joining us?





#### **SPONSOR AN ONEG**

For Friday Kiddush keep it simple: some fruit or pastries or cookies

For Saturday Kiddush Luncheon: keep it a Jewish favorite like bagels and cream cheese

Sponsor an Oneg in honor of an anniversary, engagement, birthday, birth of a child or grandchild or a yahrzeit. Ask a friend to co-sponsor with you: many hands make light work. Reserve your Oneg date - act now!

Contact Stephen Cahill and place "Oneg" in the subject line.

SEPTEMBER 5th: Friday 7:00 pm Oneg by ElizaBeth Brumfield

SEPTEMBER 12th: Friday 7:00 pm Oneg by TBI Board

**SEPTEMBER 19th**: Friday 6:00 pm (Pre-Shabbat Reception) with Oneg by Sharon Ratner **SEPTEMBER 26th**: Friday 6:00 pm (Pre-Shabbat Reception) - Oneg open to sponsor



★ Renew Your 2025-2026 Membership Now ★

Your membership isn't just a renewal - it's your ticket to being part of something truly special! Every single membership strengthens the heart and soul of our vibrant Jewish community.

-- CLICK HERE to renew your membership in just minutes!

### Questions? We're here to help!

Reach out to <a href="mailto:ceriseoberman@gmail.com">ceriseoberman@gmail.com</a>

Together, let's make 2025-2026 our most connected and meaningful year yet!

### We Gratefully Acknowledge Gifts to Our Temple Funds

#### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

 Elle Berger and Mike DiNunzio to wish Susan Patnode and Janet Davis a speedy recovery

#### YAHRZEIT FUND

- Marcy and Jeffrey Weisburgh in memory of Bertram Lieberman
- Miriam and Tom Worthington in memory of Miriam's brother Joseph Achouche
- Judith Weisman in memory of Dorothy W. Gross

#### MARTIN M. GOLDMAN AND FAMILY FUND

 Sue Meyerson, Alan and Mark Goldman and families in memory of Edith Goldman Shipley and Rhea Jacobs

#### 💢 ISRAEL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

 Cerise Oberman and Larry Soroka in memory of Joseph Achouche, brother of Miriam Worthington

#### 💢 GENERAL FUND

• Diane Find to thank Maria and Cerise for their hard work and dedication to bringing us our online Temple bulletin every month.

#### **21st CENTURY FUND**

 Roger and Marilyn Lorberbaum to thank Suzi Merrihew for her wonderful music and adding so much to the services. For a speedy recovery to Janet Davis.



## Take a Moment & Make a Difference

In Jewish tradition we make donations or tributes, to acknowledge lifecycle and milestone events including: Birthdays, Anniversaries, Births, Graduations, Weddings and of course Commemorations and Condolences. At TBI, you can direct these tributes towards causes that reflect your or your loved ones interests.

#### Make a Donation





#### Yahrzeits

It is customary to honor the anniversary of the death of a loved one by lighting a memorial candle, reciting Kaddish at a congregational service and making a donation. We hope you will do all. A donation can be made to the Temple Beth Israel Fund of your choice.

#### **SEPTEMBER 6, 2025**

Elizabeth S. Caplan George Aibel John K. Benson Jenny Kassel Nochem Myerson Laura T. Schiff Dr. Henry Freedman Hilda Lewis George Staves Norman H. Meyer

#### **SEPTEMBER 12, 2025**

Samuel Rashkin Tillie Rashkin **Dorothy Weiss** Hortense B. Sterns Rachel Woolman Stuart Harrison Zahava Harrison Jeanette Buiold Aaron Cohen Zelda Lowe Albert H. Rabin Esther Werner Freedman Eli Hurwitz Lillian Katzper Florence Scheier Sarah Gretz Yetta Schiff Christopher Rem Louis Marcus

#### **SEPTEMBER 19. 2025**

Fannie Isaccson Mary F. Silverman Morry Winternitz Rosé Winternitz Ethel Caplan Dora Evan Morris Zeaman Edward Hauschor Lillian Lippert Selma B. Dunn Rabbi Carla Freedman Joseph Silverman Irwin Lighterman Helena Bibliowicz Tsilla Trunk

#### **SEPTEMBER 26, 2025**

Sydney Smith Barnett Cohen Leah M. Feinberg Simon Meyer Jules Treistman Lester Levv Walter Bujold Julius Treistman Fanny S. Schiff Vladimir Munk Allan Pallik Helene Elise Cohen Margaret Pickman David Paul Reuter Henry T. Woehl Anna R. Hutner Martin Henry Garrell Susan Satriano Jacques Greenfield

## Templegrams: SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

#### SEPTEMBER

1 Jen Shutts
7 Joel Shutts
8 Debra Good and Doug Chaves
13 Marcy & Jeff Weisburgh
16 Sharon & John Schenkel
18 Rabbi D. Joslin
21 Susan Gottlieb
21 Carol Klepper
22 James Nominton
25 Cheryl & Sabi Kabeli
25 Alice & Ronnie Marx
27 Mike Lack

28 Sandra Ghelman & Cody Sanders

#### **OCTOBER**

1 Lea Brumfield
12 Keith Taylor
13 Ann and David Holland
15 Ellen and Leo Grafstein
19 Suzi Kier Merrihew
23 Bunny and Bob Adler
31 Talia Sanders

Please note. There is a change in how Templegrams work: no further donations will be accepted, however if you want to remember someone on their special day, notify Carol Staves at cjstaves@gmail.com and a TBI Templegram will be sent signed from "the congregation." If you want to add to the birthday list send the person's name and email to Carol Staves at cjstaves@gmail.com.

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#### KNOW YOUR TEMPLE BOARD OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

https://www.plattsburghtbi.org/board-of-directors

You can contact any of these individuals by calling the office at 518-563-3343



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