



Beth Israel Bulletin

ADAR II - NISAN 5784/APRIL 2024

Upcoming Events: **APRIL**

Special Event

04/22, 5:30pm Pesach First Night/TBI Seder

04/30, 6:30pm Pesach Last Day/Yizkor Service

(followed by pizza)

Shabbat Services

- **04/05, 7pm:** Shabbat T'filah
 - Oneg by Linda and Steven Leighton in honor of their 55th wedding anniversary and Steven's birthday
- **04/12, 7pm:** Shabbat T'filah
 - Oneg by Cerise Oberman and Larry Soroka in honor of their parents Yahrzeits
- **04/20, 10am:** Shabbat T'filah
 - Oneg by Bette Brohel
- **04/26, 7am:** Shabbat T'filah
 - Oneg by Michelle and Lenny Zelkowitz

[View Full Calendar](#)

[Join Via Zoom](#)

From the Rabbi

Happy April and a Zissen Pesach!

With spring squarely on the horizon, let us finally take a moment to enjoy the warmer temperatures, melting snow, and longer days, which can only mean that Passover will soon be here! Now I know just how much American Jews have fallen in love with the heroics of Hanukkah over the last 50 years. Purim is no-doubt a lot of fun, but Pesach is one of the Torah's original harvest-pilgrimage festivals. Passover is in-fact the birth of the Jewish people; it's the most iconic Jewish holiday. For weeks leading up to the holiday, Jews from all over the world are fed a steady diet of cleaning, shopping, cleaning, selling of chametz, followed by more cleaning, shopping, and cooking. Depending on where one's family lived, traveling might also be added to the pre-Pesach list as well. More than fasting on Yom Kippur, the Passover seder is the most identifiable and memorable Jewish holiday; one where every Jew is required to partake in the opening meal, known as Laila Seder. Four cups of wine don't hurt either!

Last year we celebrated Laila Seder together with over fifty members from our community, and it was a truly magical night. The seder meal was absolutely delicious. Folks volunteered to read parts, sing-along, and share their own holiday traditions. It was a true joy and a real treat to see so many families singing through our now famous 30 Minute Haggadah. Most importantly, everyone seemed to have a fun time. On a personal note, it was the first time I had led seder in the presence of my mother, who was visiting, as we both acknowledged the special warmth of the moment. Passover is not just a family holiday, but it is the quintessential Jewish story of survival against oppressive forces; the classic story of good overcoming evil. Our story stands as an inspirational model for all of humanity to rise-up against tyranny in the quest for human rights. This year, the holiday seems to hold added significance in light of what the Jewish people have gone through since last Passover.

Once again, I would like to personally invite members, as well as the friends and family of members, to attend our communal Passover Seder on Monday, April 22nd . On that evening, we will gather to re-tell the story of the Jewish people's liberation from Egyptian slavery. If we recall, at the end of March when we finished reading the Book of Exodus, we learned that the construction of the Tabernacle only came about through a group effort and a total team outpouring of love; luckily, attending this year's seder at our synagogue will require substantially less effort, but it will still take a true tribal effort to match last year's energy. Remember, the spirit of the seder is largely dependent on turnout, as well as group effort and energy! Wherever you are lucky enough to celebrate Laila Seder, I wish you and your loved-ones the warmest and most beautiful of spring Passovers.

Chag Pesach Samaech/Happy Passover,
Rabbi David Joslin

Notes from the President

Rebuilding Faith in an Increasingly Skeptical World

Over the course of the past few decades, our nation and our world have suffered an erosion of faith in our institutions, our leaders and even in our democracy. We have lost faith in our system of justice, education, and healthcare. We have lost faith in the capacity of our elected officials to work together for the greater good of our communities. We have lost faith in the idea that our sources of media can communicate truthful, objective information. In almost every corner of our society, faith has been compromised, and it has had an impact on the way in which we see and interact with each other daily.

Indeed, faith is in a state of crisis, so how do we begin to get it back?

One path forward involves recognizing that faith is somewhat hardwired into our hearts and minds. The truth is that whether we like to admit it or not, we exercise faith all the time. Without faith, we would never fly on airplanes. Without faith, we would never take medicine; we would never improve our diets; we would never sacrifice ourselves for a greater good or put ourselves in uncomfortable situations for something we hope will be better down the road.

When employed with intention, faith can be an empowering and a liberating mechanism that moves us forward when we feel stuck and gives us courage after we stumble. Faith provides us with a sense of resolve and ambition regardless of any obstacles that may be in our path. In a world that often makes us feel small and insignificant, faith can help us channel our skills and resources to meet the challenges we face with hope, vision, and resilience. In this way, faith might be understood as a kind of mental and emotional bridge that gets us from the everyday struggles of life to a place of peace and resolution.

In each of these situations, faith is not something that comes out of nowhere. Our faith is not blind. It is rooted in our experiences, and it is anchored in trusted perceptions of realities we have faced in the past.

We can get on an airplane because past experiences support our belief that the plane will not fall from the sky. We can take random medications because we trust in our doctor's knowledge and anticipate that the prescription drug will do what it is supposed to do. There are countless daily activities that employ faith this way, for the truth is, there is never a guarantee that what we hope for is what will happen. In these cases, and in so much of what we do, faith is a part of how we operate.

In these times of skepticism and mistrust, we all need a boost in faith. Our Pesach Season is just around the corner providing us with an ideal opportunity to strengthen and restore faith in our lives, faith in our futures, and faith in God. Our rituals and prayers invite us to embrace faith as a driving force for renewal within ourselves, our relationships, and our place in the universe. During this sacred season, our traditions seek to help nurture faith in how we think and how we live by encouraging us to imbue every moment with purpose, meaning, intent, and direction.

As we prepare to welcome the Passover season, may the rituals and traditions of our holy season enable each of us to find ways to recognize, embrace, and unleash the power of faith in our daily lives and find ways to apply it in an increasingly skeptical world.

Cheryl Kabeli
tbipresident1@gmail.com



SPRING INTO SPONSORING AN ONEG IN MAY OR JUNE!

Sponsor an oneg in honor of a wedding, anniversary, engagement, birthday, birth of child or grandchild, or in memory of a loved one.

Ask a friend to co-sponsor with you, many hands make light work.

To reserve your oneg date, act now!

Contact Stephen Cahill at 518-570-0927 or email wscahill99@yahoo.com

Put "oneg" in the subject line.

3 May: 7:00 pm
 10 May: 7:00 pm
 17 May: 7:00 pm
 25 May: 10:00 am
 31 May: 7:00 pm

7 June: 7:00 pm
 21 June: 7:00 pm
 28 June: 7:00 pm

A little something from the Yenta...

Welcome home to our snowbirds. You missed an easy but weird winter. We're happy to have you back!

Easton Merrihew, grandson of **Suzi Kier-Merrihew**, made the Star Club at Saranac Elementary school. He earned 50 star points for demonstration of responsible, respectful and safe behavior. Wonderful!

Janet and Jerry Davis spent a week in Minneapolis and celebrated **Albert's** 4th birthday. They also had a visit later in March from daughter **Georgette**, daughter **Michelle** & family as well as **Aaron** & family for **Jerry's** 91st birthday. To celebrate, they made a trip to enjoy breakfast at a local maple syrup producer. Yummy!! They also celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary. They enjoyed a lovely dinner at Anthony's. As a surprise, **Paul Weiss and Bryan Freeling** provided them with dessert. How thoughtful.

Sara and Harvey Hurwitz enjoyed a vacation in Florida at daughter **Monica & Ian's** vacation home.

Marcy & Jeff Weisburgh spent time visiting the **CaoBas** in Arizona. The four of them traveled to Palm Springs and met up with **Ronnie and Alice Marx** for a nice vacation.

Cerise Oberman spent time with her sisters in Florida for their annual get together.

Talia Sanders can be seen at a number of locations selling her jewelry. She's become an entrepreneur!

Ilana Reiblein-Nelson is finishing her Masters Degree in Health Administration. Her family is beaming. MAZEL TOV!

The Interfaith Council of Plattsburgh presented an informative session on Human Trafficking. It was well attended by members of varied religious communities and very educational.

We had a wonderful security presentation by a NYS State Trooper who specializes in this field. It was eye opening and informative session. Thanks to **Harvey Hurwitz** for arranging it for us.

Condolences to **Marilyn Smith** and the family of **Bernie Cohen** on his recent death. At

95, he lived a full life. **Rabbi David, Andy Kaplan, Jeff Weisburgh and Janet & Jerry Davis** attended the burial in Laval, Quebec. It was a cold day but a heart warming funeral service.

Condolences to the family of **Norman Koslofsky** on his recent death.

Michelle Zelkowitz will be exhibiting photographs in the Light Exhibit celebrating the solar eclipse. Opening Reception is Friday April 5th from 5-8 pm at SUNY Plattsburgh Art gallery in the Feinberg Library.

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](#).

APRIL 5, 2024

Sara Cohen
Harry Liebowitz
Evelyne Miller Siegel
Aaron Merkel
Sara N. Egelson
Joseph Max Feinberg
Solomon J. Schiff
Hilda Gabor
Zvi Gretz
Steve T. Gretz
Jack Mark

APRIL 12, 2024

David Tannenbaum
Dorothy S Futterman
Meta London Merkel
Freda Goldman Livingston
Rose Barsky Roth
Harry Berkowitz
Harold Joseph Hutner
Jeannette Kier
Milton Soroka
Isabel Burger Landsberg
Charles Fine
Jesse V. Levy
Susan Furnberg
Selma Haushor

APRIL 20, 2024

Leah Bolker
Alice Cohen Krinovitz
Samuel Lipschutz
Frances Benson
Abe Goldman
James Sachs
Frank Hutner
Crandall Clark
Moses Selig
Eve Lack
Steven M. Schwalb
Abraham Markstone
Marion Pfafsky
Solomon Winkler
Alfred Achouche

APRIL 26, 2024

Max Morris
Beverlee Kaifetz Finkelstein
Sara Levy Gordon
Maynard Levy
Richard Rome
Gertrude Balkan
Arthur Schwoner
Anna Lavine
Linda Braunstein
Dora Cohen
Otto Menkle
Benjamin Smolar
Jerome H. Resnick
Herbert Cohen
Leland S. Berger

A Memorial Plaque was donated by Dr. Jeffrey M. Resnick in memory of his beloved
Father, Dr. Jerome H. Resnick

We Gratefully Acknowledge Gifts to Our Temple Funds

Yahrzeit Fund

- Jerry and Janet Davis in loving memory of my Mom, Marie D. Hiller
- Sharon Ratner in memory of Michael L. Ratner
- Susan Rech and Marc Sarnow in memory of Monique and Kenneth Sarnow
- Sharon Ratner in memory of Bernie Cohen
- Marcia Wolosz in memory of Isidore Bookman
- Miriam Worthington in memory of her Father, Alfred Achouche; in memory of Bernie Cohen; and in memory of Helene Lee Lieberman

General Fund

- Cerise Oberman and Larry Soroka in memory of Bernie Cohen; in memory of Norman Koslofsky; in celebration of the 45th anniversary of Janet and Jerry Davis
- Janet and Jerry Davis to thank everyone for the anniversary and birthday wishes and also for coming to help with our special oneg
- Christopher Barney
- Linda and Steven Leighton in honor of Janet and Jerry's 45th wedding anniversary and Jerry's 91st birthday; in honor of our 55th wedding anniversary; and in memory of Bernie Cohen

Woolman Rabbinical Trust Fund

- Stacey L. Mascia

Martin M. Goldman and Family Fund

- Sue Meyerson, Alan and Mark Goldman and Families in memory of Samuel S. Goldman and Carol Gross

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Marilyn and Roger Lorberbaum mazel tov to Janet and Jerry on their anniversary; and special birthday wishes to Jerry
-

 **Take a Moment & Make a Difference**

It is easy to honor or remember friends and family with a contribution to any Temple Fund.
No donation is too small.

[Make a Donation](#)

 **Templegrams: APRIL, MAY, JUNE**

APRIL

3 Charles Lack
4 Jeannot Cao-Ba
5 Henry Davis
5 Leo Grafstein
6 Carole Cao-Ba
8 Lynn Schlesinger
9 Sarah Hurwitz
13 Thomas Davis
14 Micki & Richard Smith
17 Jesse Marx
19 Bev Reuter
20 Sandra Ghelman
21 Noa Sanders
21 Zoey Sperling
25 Wendy Resnick Spargo
27 Rebecca Brown
27 Sonja Brown

MAY

2 Eric Worthington
3 Keith Taylor
4 Bunny Adler
9 Linda Leighton
10 Brianna Holland
11 Sharon Shenkel
13 Sue Meyerson
13 Lucy Burrell Taylor
15 Carol & George Staves
20 Lisa & Aaron Davis
21 Janet Davis
21 Set Goldenberg
25 Carol Staves
27 Susan & Steve Albert

JUNE

2 David Holland

4 Shelley Lack

4 Jenna Marx

6 George Staves

8 Yoram Cao-Ba

14 Kyle Sarnow

15 Mona & Henry Goldenberg

16 Samantha Worthington/ Anass Bouyadi

16 Natalie & Sean Mercaldi

19 Madeline Davis

21 Marilyn & Roger Lorberbaum

21 Caroline Nizel

You can send a greeting to anyone on this list for only \$.50 per name. Send your list of names and a check made out to Temple Beth Israel to Carol Staves, 26 Tom Miller Road, Plattsburgh, NY 12901. Please be sure to indicate how you would like the card signed.

TBI JUDACIA SHOP

The Judaica Shop at Temple Beth Israel has become one the hottest places in town to shop.

Get your Passover goods at 20% off for the month of April

We have wonderful gift items for everyone. There are life cycle gifts for births, B'nai Mitzvahs, weddings, as well as hostess gifts or "just because" gifts.

If you will be attending a Temple service, event or meeting, please take that opportunity to visit the Judaica shop. Just give a call (518-563-3343) and we will arrange a time to assist you with all things Judaica. We would love to assist you.

WE WANT YOU!!

We are looking for a FEW GREAT members; and a Chair for the RITUAL COMMITTEE;
and a VICE PRESIDENT

You will join a well-seasoned team of members to assist you on the transition of duties
Please notify Cheryl Kabeli, President at tbipresident1@gmail.com if you are interested!



Spring Rummage Sale

Rummage sale dates - this will be a multi-date affair:

Friday May 31st, 2024

Sunday June 2nd, 2024

Monday June 3rd, 2024

Attention all temple members - spread the word! There's going to be a big rummage sale with lots to sell so far and much more to come in with all proceeds going to the temple.

We've got a good start and are looking for more donations. We'll take most things in and around your home in good condition that isn't clothes, books or old technology. Those can be donated or consigned to a place of your choice.

There is a room set aside (Bet classroom) if you want to get the stuff out of your house that you can bring at your leisure. If you're still sorting, we will have dates set aside with me there to help you unload. Drop off dates TBD.

We're looking for the following that sells best and would appreciate:

- **Household items** – most items in and around the home in decent, clean condition:
 - **Housewares** – dishes, knickknacks, blankets, sheets, etc.
 - **Toys and games**
 - **Sporting goods, outdoor items**
 - **Artwork**
 - **Small furniture, flat screen TV, etc.**

We **cannot** accept the following items (because they don't sell):

- **Major appliances**
- **Old TV's, computers and other electronic equipment**
- **Clothing, mattresses, etc.**
- **Books**

Pick up will then be arranged for the leftovers to go to the Bridge St Auction.

In addition, we will be asking for help setting up and at the sale.

Happy sorting!

Chairperson - Marcy Weisburgh

Cell - (518)534-0118

Email - mjw152152@gmail.com



WANTED

TBI is looking for a per diem handyman. Are you that person or know of anyone who can fit the bill. Contact Andy Kaplan or leave a message the the office 518-563-3343.



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(518) 563-3343

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