



# Beth Israel Bulletin

**ADAR I - ADAR II 5784/MARCH 2024**

 **Upcoming Events: MARCH**

### Special Event

**03/03, 1PM Interfaith Council: Human**

**Trafficking Program**

**03/10, 1PM Israeli Consul General**

**03/17, 1PM Movie Screening of "AVALON"**

**03/24, 12:30PM Purim Megillah and Play**

### Shabbat Services

- **03/01, 7PM:** Shabbat T'filah  
Oneg by Paul Weiss and Bryan Freehling in honor of Bryan Freehling's grandmother's Yahrzeit
- **03/08, 7PM:** Shabbat T'filah
- **03/16, 10AM:** Shabbat T'filah  
Oneg by Janet and Jerry Davis in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary
- **03/22, 7PM:** Shabbat T'filah  
Oneg by Lynn Schlesinger in honor of Caroline Nizel and Troy Hassinger's engagement
- **03/29, 7PM:** Shabbat T'filah

## From the Rabbi

As we turn the calendar to March, we usher in the Hebrew months of Adar, followed by Adar II; a time according to our rabbis, when we increase our joy each day. As the days pass, we focus our hearts and our souls in preparation for the celebration known as Purim. The Jewish New Year and the Hebrew calendar, Rosh Hashanah, don't offer the same rowdy, ruckus and light-hearted affair that the Gregorian calendar allows for on Dec.31st /Jan.1st. Rosh Hashanah generally occurs in late Sept or early Oct and while it's an upbeat holiday, teshuvah/repentance is serious business.

On the contrary, Purim offers joyful, celebratory and mischievous revelry. Some compare Purim to Halloween, but All Hallow's Eve is child's play compared to the Mardi Gras atmosphere associated with partying one's tuchus off after surviving annihilation. In reality, Purim serves many functions in the Jewish word. For those who don't know the story, Purim is a Jewish holiday, dating back to the 5th century BCE, which celebrates the Jewish people's survival against a high-ranking ancient Persian official, named Haman, as outlined in the Book of Esther. Haman was the royal vizier to the Persian king Ahasuerus.

For various reasons, Haman grew to hate Mordecai and his Jewish tribesmen, and Haman coerces King Ahasuerus to issue a death sentence against the Jews in the kingdom. However, Haman's scheme is hindered by Mordecai and his niece Esther, who positions herself as Queen of Persia after her marriage to Ahasuerus. When Haman finally meets his demise, the day becomes a festive occasion, as the Jews rejoice in their survival. According to the Scroll of Esther, "they should make them days of feasting and gladness, and of sending portions one to another, and gifts to the poor."

The holiday is synonymous with dressing up, wearing masks, and eating baked cookies called hamantashen- Haman's pockets or ears! Some of the major mitzvah customs associated with Purim are: eating a special meal called a se'udat Purim, obviously reading the story from the Megillah, and two special mitzvot that I would like our community to focus on this year; the exchanging of goody snack bags among friends known as mishloach manot and the donating of tzedakah, known as matanot l'evyonim, to a worthy organization.

This year we will be collecting donations for the Plattsburgh Interfaith Food Shelf.

Purim is the most amazing delightful holiday as it embodies so many wonderful tropes, themes, and allowances, shrouded in the resilience of a people who once again celebrate a story where the Jews defeat their violent oppressors. It's viewed and understood as a festive day, almost designed to release bottled-up emotions and energy after a long winter. The holiday can be appreciated as an opportunity to let one's hair down, cross-

dress, wear costume, experiment with makeup, and most importantly, have fun and be funny! Purim skits or spiels and parades are often performed and folks generally have free reign and creative license to mock or satirize their fellow Jewish community. Roast, toast, boast, even float if you want, but please be careful not to over indulge with one too many l'chaims or hamataschen.

On Sunday, March 24th , we will gather in person to celebrate Purim. Together as a community, we will read through the whole megillah in a mix of Hebrew and English. Please, feel free to volunteer and read a chapter in whatever style you'd prefer. Funny voices are encouraged, and costumes are practically mandatory. After the reading, we will conduct our Purim play, sponsored by the Rabin Religious School, followed by other spiels, skits, and light refreshments. We invite you to act out, or display your prepared Purim shpiel, talent show act, or musical parody. Let's dare to be creative, funny, and artistic! Lastly, don't forget to prepare your mishloach manot bags and have some tzedakah change for matanot l'evoyanim, focusing on the Plattsburgh Interfaith Food Shelf. I'm really excited for this holiday!!

Chodesh tov everyone,  
Rabbi David Joslin- [rabbi@plattsburghtbi.org](mailto:rabbi@plattsburghtbi.org)

[View Full Calendar](#)[Join Via Zoom](#)



## Take Action Against Human Trafficking

*It is in our backyard!*

Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

1pm-3pm

Temple Beth Israel

1 Bowman Street

Sponsored by Interfaith Council of  
Plattsburgh & Clinton County



- **View** Homeland Security's short film, *Chosen*, on human trafficking today.
- **Hear** Jonathan Phillips – actor in *Finding Faith*, a powerful story inspired by actual events, who is also the pastor of North Argyle Community Church, speaking about predators, how they groom, the red flags we should all be aware of and how we can help.
- **Browse** information tables on human trafficking/slavery and actions YOU can take.



## Notes from the President

Some of us pray best when we are in our community – a Friday night service that is structured... or not...where there are words of prayer that we can recite with others. Singing prayers can be a comfort. And maybe God listens to a bunch of voices all crying out in unison all at once. Who knows. It worked for our ancestors roaming the desert! I guess that what I'm getting at here is that for me, prayer is essential. And that, no matter how long it seemed to take to realize an answer, and whether we did this alone or with others, God was aware.

When this message comes out, we will be preparing to celebrate Purim, and in April, Pesach. Just as Esther and Mordechai worked to save their people, we continue on that same path today. We have learned from history the dangers of allowing ourselves to be a house divided by intolerance or indifference. This Purim, we hope you'll join us as we delight in our homemade (world's best) Hamantaschen and then enthusiastically blot out the names of those who wanted to eliminate us. In doing so, we remind ourselves and teach our children that so long as we find our pathways to stay connected and love one another, we will always be stronger than those who seek to destroy us. Love will always triumph.

My family and I are hoping that you enjoy the Holidays and Festivals, and that you find some time to pray in whatever way is essential to you. And of course, we wish you the best that Spring can bring!

Cheryl Kabeli  
tbipresident1@gmail.com

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**MARCH MADNESS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

March 3, 2024 at 1:00 pm at TBI

**Take Action Against Human Trafficking**

Sponsored by Interfaith Council of Plattsburgh and Clinton County  
Open to the Public

Afternoon with Israeli Ambassador to Canada, **Paul Hirschson**, Consul General

March 10, 2024 at 1:00 pm

Join us for a Zoom viewing party at the Temple or Zoom in from home  
Refreshments will follow

Join us for a **movie afternoon** at TBI

Sunday March 17th at 1pm in the social hall

We will be screening and discussing **Avalon**, a 1990  
American drama film written and directed by Barry Levinson.  
Popcorn provided

**Purim Party** March 24, 2024 at 12:30 pm

Put on a costume and join us for the Megillah Reading followed by the Rabin Religious  
School Play  
Fruit, Bagels, Dessert and Coffee to follow

**Souper Shabbat was Really Super**

**\$506.00 super!**

Wow! So very pleased to present the donations to Rev. Henry Ward this morning.  
A special thanks to all that made Souper Shabbat possible. Also a shout out to our four  
regular Interfaith Food Shelf volunteers: Janet Davis, Deb Moldavan, Ellen Grafstein and  
Carol Staves. The Interfaith Food Shelf January statistics include 1,307 persons served:  
405 Children, 696 adults, 206 seniors (60+). An increase of 51 new households.



### SPONSOR A SHABBAT ONEG

It's easy: the "nosh" is up to you. It could be cookies, cheese, nuts, fruit, or even bagels and lox. Sponsoring an oneg is a perfect way to honor a Yahrzeit, celebrate a special occasion, or simply because...

Contact Stephen Cahill via text 518-570-0927 or email [wscahill99@yahoo.com](mailto:wscahill99@yahoo.com) (put Oneg in subject line) to reserve your date.  
Still available: March 8 and March 29th and all of May.

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### [THE SECRET JEWISH HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY](#)

***If you are Jewish and you feel drawn to celebrating St. Patrick's Day, there are more than a dozen good reasons why. Read all about it by clicking the link above***



### **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](#).

**MARCH 1, 2024**

Caleb Capan  
 Rose Cohen  
 Beatrice Waldman  
 Jonathan Nizel  
 Betsy London  
 Edna Horner  
 Henry "Honey" Lewin  
 Laura Julietta Hirschfels  
 Samuel Baker  
 Charlotte Selig  
 Monique Sarnow  
 Fanny Levites  
 Leo F. Schiff

**MARCH 8, 2024**

Louis Cohen  
 Pearl Lichtig Kaplan  
 Lillian Goldstein  
 Robert Gitlin  
 Rachel Harrison  
 Samuel Kobel  
 Samuel Mendelsohn  
 Samuel B. Michaelson  
 Jakob Lifshitz  
 Christopher Haley  
 Phyllis Kabat  
 David Schreiber  
 Rose Goldstein  
 Mark Steven Lichtig  
 Caroline Scheier  
 David Merkel, Sr  
 Lillian Reinstein  
 Emanuel Goldenberg  
 Irving Abrams  
 William Charney  
 Joseph Lipschutz

**MARCH 16, 2024**

Irving D. Bernstein  
 Samuel Luria  
 H. Leonard Schlesinger  
 Pearl Liebowitz  
 Lillian Zohn  
 Hannah Sorscher  
 Donald H. Burrell  
 Edna Salzberg  
 Isaias Scheier  
 Carol Gross

**MARCH 22, 2024**

Joseph Merkel  
 Harry Cohen  
 Jack Davis  
 Abraham Merkel  
 Tillie Kleinberg  
 Herbert L. Lewis  
 Sidney Balkan  
 Peter Kriff  
 Dorothy Weisburgh  
 Shirley Pepper White  
 Lottie Hartoch  
 Shae Trunck  
 Jack (Jacob) Lipshultz  
 Charles Schwalb  
 Beatrice Schwalb

**MARCH 29, 2024**

Dr. Philip Livingston  
 Pessa Segalowitz  
 Samuel S. Goldman  
 Kenneth Sarnow  
 Shirley Gordon  
 Jacob London  
 Ann Kennedy  
 Bert Copeland  
 Frances Oberman  
 George Allen Duskes

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## We Gratefully Acknowledge Gifts to Our Temple Funds

### 🌟 YAHRZEIT FUND

- Betty Carol Singer in memory of her Father, Sidney Gordon
- Bryan Freehling in memory of Glen Drane Freehling and Brooke Ann Freehling
- Gayle Ratner in memory of her Grandparents, Albert Greenfield and Gladys Kalofsky



## 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](#)



As spring approaches, we look forward to seeing the growth of new life. We can enjoy all the subtle yet beautiful changes around us, especially if we know we have our future and our family's future needs taken care of. Surely this is a good time for us each to examine our legacy, to ensure that our estate is distributed to our loved ones and to the institutions that are most important to us in a way that reflects our values and our priorities. To inquire about how you can participate or to let us know, anonymously if you choose, about a gift to our temple that is already part of your plan, you can contact us at [tbipresident1@gmail.org](mailto:tbipresident1@gmail.org).

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 **Templegrams: MARCH**

**MARCH**

- 3 Janet & Jerry Davis
- 5 Camden Sperling
- 6 Elle Berger
- 7 Tom Dufore
- 12 Sabi Kabeli
- 13 Miriam & Tom Worthington
- 14 Rachel Stander
- 16 Henry Goldenberg
- 16 Cody Sanders
- 19 Jerry Davis
- 29 Steve Leighton
- 30 Linda & Steve Leighton

**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.



**Spring Rummage Sale  
Date TBD for May 2024**

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**

**If you have any questions please contact:**

**Marcy Weisburgh, Chairperson**

**Email: [mjw152152@gmail.com](mailto:mjw152152@gmail.com)**

**Text (518) 534-0118**



**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.



 **Thank you to all our sponsors**

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Inc.](#)

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**Footworks**

Beth Nolland--Foot Hygienist  
Home foot care (your location)  
518-572-7273

**Forrence Orchards**

2731 Route 22  
Peru, NY. 12972  
518-643-9527

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Temple Beth Israel Plattsburgh, NY  
(518) 563-3343

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