



Beth Israel Bulletin

Sh'vat - Nisan 5783/ February/March 2023

Issue 5783 - 6

TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL
FEBRUARY / MARCH
EVENTS

TU B'SHVAT SEDER

WINE TASTING

SOUPER SHABBAT

PURIM CELEBRATION



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From the Rabbi

Happy February and March Temple Beth Israel,

As we enter the darkest doldrums of the winter season, the Jewish calendar always seems to offer us a renewal of both nature and energy. While the snow and ice have formed a deep-frozen tundra around the trees in the Adirondacks, in Israel, the first flowers are blossoming! February and the Hebrew month of Shevat usually usher in the holiday of Tu B'Shevat, also known as Israeli Arbor Day-the birthday of trees. Typically, folks plant flowers and trees, as well as raise awareness around ecological and environmental issues. Often children, and the young at heart, will engage in a grape juice and fruit seder, designed to further their understanding of agriculture and strengthen their connection to the land. At Temple Beth Israel, we will have two unique opportunities to participate in Tu B'Shevat. On Friday, Feb. 3rd, we will host a community wide seder at 5:30pm where we will be introduced to some exotic fruits and veggies, followed by a brief Kabbalat Shabbat service. For the vino aficionados among us, TBI will also offer a Tu B'Shevat wine tasting on Sunday, Feb. 5th from 3-5pm. Come learn and enjoy delicious wines from all over the Jewish world.

Lastly, while it seems so far away, Purim always sneaks up on us in March, during the Hebrew month of Adar. In the good effort to honor the heroes and chastise the villains in this 2,500-year-old tale of Jewish survival against Persian aggression, Purim breaks all the rules. Often coined the Jewish Halloween, Purim allows us to escape into the playful mischief of costumes, partying, and revel-making. The main character is an orphaned young woman. The King is the rare clueless ruler, fixed on the finer things in life. The villain is a power-hungry incompetent counselor to the King, and the Jews are always at the center of the drama! Stay tuned for further details on our Purim celebration held on Sunday, March 5th.

Tu B'Shevat Hi-gia and Chag Purim Samaech!

Rabbi David Joslin-rabbi@plattsburghtbi.org

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Schedule of Shabbat Services

Feb. 3, Friday, 5:30 pm Tu Bishvat Seder
Beshalach (Ex. 13:17 - 17:16)

Feb. 10, Friday, 5:30 pm Souper Shabbat
Yitro (Ex. 18:1 - 20:23)

Feb. 18, Saturday, 10:00 am Shabbat T'filah
Mishpatim (Ex. 21:1 - 24:18)

Feb. 24, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat T'filah
Terumah (Ex. 25:1 - 27:19)



YAHREZITS

February 3, 2023

Meyer S. Lichtig
Minnie Harrison
Henry Scheier
Benjamin Feinberg
Carla H. Hyatt
Benjamin Berger
Ruth Levy
Albert Greenfield

February 10, 2023

Bernard Cohen
Joshua Egelson
Sylvia Simonowitz
Ethel R. Goldman
Irving Kessler
Maxine L. Elbaum
Marylln Rose Fine
Bertha Gordon Mendelsohn
Aladar Haas
Tillie Reuter
Myron M. Caplan
Kenneth Schweber
Mark J. Davis
Samuel Gottlob
Mabel A. Markstone
Sydney Oberman
Albert Sarnow
Julius Garrell
Susan M. Furnberg

February 18, 2023

Gladys Kalofsky
Sydney B. Resnick
Issac Bibliowicz
Al J. Kaiser
Albert Greenfield
Reuben Caplan
Sidney Pickman
Theodore Ruzow
Benjamin Harrison
Miriam Rubin-Sousa

February 24, 2023

Rabbi Morris Cherkas
Stanley Briefer
Bernice L. Good
Louis Lawrence Garrell
Harry J. Furman
Caleb Caplan
Rose Cohen
Beatrice Waldman
Jonathan Nizel
Myron Mike Matzkin



Schedule of Shabbat Services

Mar. 3, Friday, 5:30 pm Shabbat Services
Tetzaveh (Ex. 27:20 - 30:10)

Mar. 10, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat T'filah
Ki Tisa (Ex. 30:11 - 34:35)

Mar. 18, Saturday, 10:00 am Shabbat T'filah
Vayeshev-Pekudei (Ex. 35:1 - 40:38, 12:1 - 20)

Mar. 24, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat T'filah
Vayikra (Lev. 1:1 - 5:26)

Mar. 31, Friday, 7:00 pm Shabbat T'filah
Tzav (Lev. 6:1 - 8:36)



YAHREZITS

March 3, 2023

Betsy London
Edna Horner
Henry "Honey" Lewin
Laura Julietta Hirschfels
Samuel Baker
Charlotte Selig
Monique Sarnow
Fanny Levites
Leo F. Schiff
Louis Cohen
Pearl Lichtig Kaplan
Robert Gitlin

March 10, 2023

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
Irvin D. Bernstein
Samuel Luria
Leonard H. Schlesinger

March 18, 2023

Pearl Liebowitz
Lillian Zohn
Hannah Sorscher
Donald H. Burrell
Edna Salzberg
Isaias Scheier
Carol Gross
Joseph Merkel
Harry Cohen
Jack Davis
Abraham Merkel

March 24, 2023

Tillie Kleinberg
Herbert L. Lewis
Sidney Balkan
Peter Kriff
Dorothy Weisburgh
Shirley Pepper White
Lottie Hartoch
Shaye Trunk
Jack (Jacob) Lipshultz
Dr. Philip Livingston
Pessa Segalowitz
Samuel S. Goldman
Kenneth Sarnow
Charles Schwalb
Beatrice Schwalb



WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GIFTS TO THE VARIOUS TEMPLE TRUST FUNDS

December 16, 2022 - January 15, 2023

21st CENTURY FUND

Miriam Worthington:
- In memory of Bob Segall.

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Cheryl and Sabieli Kabeli:
- in honor of the re-starting of our program at the Temple.

GENERAL FUND

Amy Knapp

Daniel Rosenberg, Tova Tenenbaum and Amalya

Alan Goldman/Gail Samdperil

Diego Grinberg-Funes:
- in honor of our recent re-visit to Temple.

Barbara and Andrew Katz:
- wishing the congregation a Happy and Healthy 2023.



Yahrzeit Fund:

Irene and Jeffrey Gretz:
-in memory of my Grandmother Mary Adler.

Cheryl and Sabieli Kabeli:
-in memory of Maurice Kabeli.

Gayle Ratner:
-in memory of my dear Mother, Rhoda Greenfield.

Cerise Oberman and Laurence Soroka:
-in loving memory of Sydney Oberman.

Phyllis H. Freedman:
-in memory of Avrum Shainmark.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Ellen and Leo Grafstein:
-to welcome Rabbi Joslin to our community.

WOOLMAN RABBINICAL TRUST FUND

Stacey Macia

NOTES FROM THE PREZ

Greetings, Gentle Readers, I truly wish I had tidings of joy and hope with which to greet you this month, but alas I do not. It is my unpleasant duty to warn you of another pestilence is being unleashed upon the world. Like other plagues, this one has been around for millennia. Periodically it resurfaces and brings death and destruction in its wake. I am speaking of antisemitism, Gentle Readers, and at its zenith it reduced the world's Jewish population by 60%.

There are countless books and theses on why antisemitism took such a strong foothold on Germany

and the world prior to WWII. Economists, psychologists and social study experts provide numerous explanations as to how 1.7% of European Jewry could be openly massacred while the entire world collaborated with relative silence.

Whatever the reason, antisemitism and every other irrational hate of another human is on the rise again. Be it antisemitism, racism, ageism, sexism and xenophobia, etc. violent incidents against "types" are increasing.

The historical response to these campaigns of hatred almost always start with those being bullied going underground, turn the other cheek, ignore it and hope it will go away. History has clearly shown acquiescence

really doesn't work. I have read unbelievable reports of people going into concentration camps and gas chambers still clinging to the delusion that their government would never do such a thing to loyal citizens as themselves. We learned too late in WWII to stand up for ourselves. We learned that to fight bullies and hatred, we must take a stand immediately and fight actively from the very beginning.

Not to diverge, but I ask your indulgence to share a social media reel (short video) that affected me deeply. A young man who does funny and ironic videos on social media aired this recent video. Unlike his usual humorous videos, this one was serious.

He sat very quiet and sober as he began to speak. And this is his story. He was in the checkout line at a local grocery. A woman in front of him with three young children was checking out and her total bill was over about ten dollars. The woman started pulling things out of her bag to put back. The young man stepped forward and paid her overage. The woman embarrassed by his generosity, thanked him profusely and left the store. Then the saddest thing happened. Another woman who was behind the young man leaned over and whispered into his ear. "I never knew you were such a "N" lover."

The young man in the video reported being astonished and speechless by the woman's remark. All he could think of to say was, was "Have a good day" and he fled the store.

What should or could he have done differently? The Reverend Martin Luther King once said, "He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetuate it. He who accepts evil without protesting it is really cooperating with it."

If you notice, bullies have a pattern when they are pushing their agenda of hate and lies. It starts slowly with undocumented lies and stories based on our own fears and insecurities. The lies and behavior become bolder and more bizarre. They push the limits just a little at a time, and as the populace gets used to the hate filled lies, the bullies push a little more. No reaction, push further. And before you know it, lies are truth and truth are lies. Acceptance.

So, the time to stop the antisemitism, the racism, the sexism and the hate is now! No more quivering or hiding. We know that doesn't work! Try Googling responses to

antisemitism and or racism. There are pages and pages of actions and behaviors each of us can use. It may be a little awkward at first but practice what you would say or how you might act in a situation.

In the young man's situation, a little public embarrassment might be in order. How would you react if someone said that to you? How would you react if the young man had done this to the woman who whispered the racist remark in his ear. (Saying in a loud clear voice). "Pardon me Ma'am, did you just say, "You didn't know I was such a "N" lover?"

There are other responses. Any response is a good response. Silence is compliance. Let the perpetrator know hate is unacceptable and has no place in your town.

The first step is to identify the joke, remark or action for what it really is: harmful, disrespectful, hateful and divisive. Sometimes we even repeat these things ourselves without giving it much thought. So ingrained is this evil within our society. Saying something does not have to be confrontational or angry. Leave the shouting to the bullies. But do call people out and begin to identify ways to wipe out the virus.

I am happy to see some organizations both Jewish and non-Jewish are running television ads confronting antisemitism. Acts and people who spout this nonsense are being identified and consequences are happening. Bear in mind that hatred in any form is taught at a very early age. Children are fed lies and hate right along with their peas and carrots. We are not born with it. But what can be taught can also be untaught. Seems we are all being called upon to be brave as well as busy as we repair the world.

Baruch Ha'Shem

ElizaBeth





Come to TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL

Friday, February 3 at 5:30

**To take part in our
Community**

TU BISHVAT SEDER

Tu B'shevat, the 15th of the month of Shevat in the Hebrew calendar, is the day that marks the beginning of a new year for trees. This is the season when the earliest blooming trees in Israel emerge from their winter sleep and begin a new fruit bearing cycle.

We mark the day of Tu Bishvat by eating fruit, particularly from the "seven kinds" that are singled out in the Torah.

A New and Easy Way to Donate to TBI!!!

Take It For a Spin...

Remembering the Yahrzeit of a loved one? Celebrating a special occasion? Saying thank you to a friend? Feeling good about something and simply wanting to "pass it forward?"

The new online donation page at Temple Beth Israel's web site makes it all easy! And its easy to access. Simply visit the Temple's homepage www.plattsburghtbi.org and click on the blue DONATE button or go directly to the donation page at www.plattsburghtbi.org/donate.

You can select from seventeen different Temple Funds, each explained on the donation page. You can personalize a message that will appear in TBI's Monthly Newsletter. Payment can be made via your PayPal account or with a debit or credit card. An instant email receipt will be generated.

Try out Temple Beth Israel's online donation system: it's easy, it's painless and, best of all, it makes you feel good and supports the Temple!

Questions? Contact Cerise at ceriseoberman@gmail.com for assistance.

SOUPER SHABBAT IS BACK!

Join your TBI Mishpacha and help raise funds for the North Country Food Shelf.

Bring a monetary contribution or non-perishable food items to help those who are in need.

Friday, February 10

Temple Beth Israel

5:30 PM

This is a non-dairy meal



All MEAT and VEGETARIAN soups will be prepared by Ritual Committee members.

Please, consider bringing a dessert for the oneg following services.

For TBI members and invited guests

Temple Beth Israel has a new COVID policy. It uses CDC Community standards for decision-making for all Temple activities. We are also working on various means by which we will notify congregants of the current standards, including weekly mailings and a dedicated web page. In the meantime, the following chart summarizes the policy:

CDC Community Level	Services	Masks	Food
High	Zoom services only	Masks required of anyone in Temple buildings	No food allowed
Medium	Zoom & in-person services	Masks strongly encouraged for services and meetings	Food allowed
Low	Zoom & in-person services	Masks optional	Food allowed

Here is how to read the chart. First identify the CDC Community Level and then read across the chart to determine what kind of services will be held, the mask requirements, and whether or not food will be served. For instance, if the CDC Community Level is High, we will offer only ZOOM services but if the level is medium or low, we will offer Zoom and in-person services.

We hope to have more details and elaborations available shortly. In the meantime, if you want to check the CDC Community Level, you can go to the following url and enter New York State and Clinton County:

<https://www.cdc.gov/TemplatePackage/contrib/widgets/covidcountycheck/>

Yenta

First, I need to correct a name from last month's Yenta. I mistakenly referred to Dan Goldstein as Dan Goldman. I apologize.

The Kabeli's enjoyed some time in the FL sunshine over winter break .

Does anyone remember the song-"I can see clearly now"? Cerise Oberman is singing that now that she has had her cataracts removed. She was amazed how different everything looks!

Sarah & Rodney Brown are cruising their FL neighborhood in their cute golf cart. I guess that's a way of life in FL!

Rabbi David has hooked us up with some interesting ZOOM programs from the Touro Synagogue in Newport, RI. Check our website- plattsburghtbi.org- frequently for updates. There are also programs through congregations in VT that



might pique your interest.

Speaking of our website, check out the Rabbi's new blog there...

Our Hanukkah latke tasting was a successful activity.

On the first Friday evening service of January, pizza was enjoyed by all attending thanks to the Ritual Committee.

Please remember that ALL committees are happy to have new faces join them. Bring your ideas and energy. The heads of the different committee's are listed in our bulletin.

Please send your Yenta news to: office@plattsburghtbi.org attn: secretary, with YENTA in the subject line!

Rabin Religious School News

A commentary on parshat Yitro (Exodus 18:1-20:23) teaches: All beginnings are difficult. There is much discussion by the Rabbis throughout the centuries as to why beginnings are difficult and how we can make them easier. As we enter into this new secular year, we hope you and your families are not finding this beginning difficult. Still, we want to encourage all of us to think about ways we can share love and spread justice. This new format for our school is a work in progress, and all the "kinks" may not have been worked out, but please bear with us.

Each month we hope to highlight what we are doing and how the students are learning about Jewish life. As always, we value input from our community on programming ideas, activities you may have done or you may want to be a substitute...either way, the RRR is for all of us. Your RRS team!

Hillel Happenings

This will be a new column monthly on what is going on at the college and our club. As the academic advisor, my goal is to have a seamless bridge from the college to the Temple and vise a versa. We are becoming active within the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion department to bring the issues of antisemitism on college campuses to the forefront of discussions, programming and funding for our Jewish students and the community at large. We have a robust Facebook page

"SUNY Plattsburgh Hillel" which I encourage all of you to join to find out about social events, information and meeting that are welcome to all. If you have any questions, please contact me, Cheryl Kabeli for more information.

TEMPLEGRAMS

APRIL

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



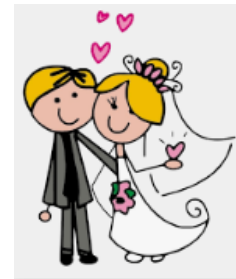
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 3/Keith Taylor
 4/Bunny Adler
 9/Linda Leighton
 10/Briana Holland
 11/Ilana Reiblein
 11/Sharon Schenkel
 12/Nathaniel Sarnow
 13/Sue Goldman Meyerson
 15/Carol & George Staves
 13/Lucy Burrell Taylor
 21/Janet Davis
 21/Seth Goldenberg
 24/Lisa & Aaron Davis
 25/Carol Staves
 27/Susan & Steve Albert
 27/Abbi Olivieri



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 Bouayadi
 16/Natalie & Sean Mercaldi
 19/Madeline Davis
 21/Marilyn & Roger Lorberbaum
 21/Caroline Nizel
 24/Cheryl Kabeli
 24/Lillian & Jerry Resnick
 26/Cecily Feldman



If you would like to send a greeting to anyone on the list, please circle those names and send your list with \$0.50 per name by March 25, 2023. Please make out the checks to Temple Beth Israel and mail your list to Carol Staves, 26 Tom Miller Road, Plattsburgh, NY 12901.

Be sure to indicate how you would like the card signed:

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Rabbi David Joslin

rabbi@plattsburghtbi.org

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Maria Foster, 518-563-3343,

office@plattsburghtbi.org

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Temple Beth Israel, Att: Treasurer, 1 Bowman Street, Plattsburgh, New York 12901.

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In memory of _____

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Signed _____

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