



B'nai Israel Reform Temple Bulletin



Rabbi Rosenthal's Message

When I was a child, I was always fascinated with trees; the way they grow, their long roots that reach deep into the soil, and the creative ways in which they branch off. I loved to draw them. It was relaxing and comforting to feel the ways of the curves and straight lines work together to form a unique natural image. The texture added depth and the fresh smells were soothing. And they always seemed to adapt; changing along with the seasons, growing around obstacles and finding ways to survive even in the most hostile conditions.

As we approach Tu B'shevat, the New Year of the trees, I am reminded of their comfort, strength, beauty and constant adaptable cycle.

In a time when we feel that so much of our world is out of our control, I look to the trees and see a solid reminder that nature endures, that the seasons still change, that the beauty that lives within each unique tree still shines internally and externally. Sometimes we don't even see the change we yearn for, but it is there and slowly it is making a difference.

Rashi, a medieval commentator, explores this idea even deeper explaining that Tu B'shevat falls when it does because, around the 15th of *shevat*, "the bulk of the rainy season is already passed; now the sap begins to rise in the trees. The fruits will begin to blossom at this point."

I love this connection. It's when the internal change, the change that we can't even see, begins that marks the New Year for the trees.

We are like a tree in this moment. In winter in January and February, during the Hebrew month of *shevat*, we feel the cold and harsh winter. Many hunker down, snuggle with cozy blanket and bundle up under a sweater. We rest a little; some even take some time off. This is when our minds have a chance to rest and refresh, to recharge and renew, to start off a new secular year with fresh perspective and energy. We gear up for the year ahead.

This year in particular, many of us are truly rooting in place. Thankfully, the vaccine is being distributed, and while we can't see it yet, we are starting to make some progress in moving forward and placing the virus behind us. While it will take time to distribute and propel us out of the days of darkness, the sap, the sacred life force, the new cycle of healing is rising. The earth, and all of us are taking the first early steps toward renewed life, just like the tree.

So this year during Tu b'shevat in addition to a seder, or shabbat reading, let's dig a little deeper and find some inspiration among the trees. Take some time to explore outside and find a tree that inspires you, plant an indoor seed to nurture for warmer times, or sit inside and draw a picture of a tree you see outside of your window. For within the thick bark, is a force trickling its way throughout the tree waiting to get out and be present in the world.

Wishing you all a meaningful and joyous Tu B'shevat!

Ritual Committee

Sandy Weber

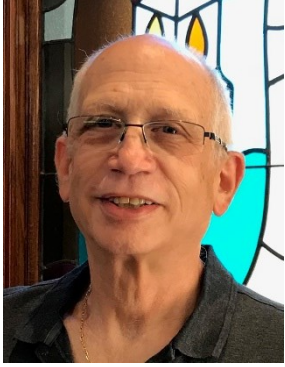
THANK YOU to everyone (and there are many) involved in making all of our Hanukkah celebrations so successful! From the community Menorah lightings, to the Family Shabbat/Hanukkah service, to the Religious School crafts and celebrations, and to the Nefesh Mountain concert generously sponsored by our Sisterhood.

TODA! TODA! TODA!

Join us on Friday, January 29, 2021 at 7:30 p.p. on Zoom for our Musical Shabbat and Tu B'shvat service.
Happy and Healthy New Year!

President's Message

Paul Weber



I am writing this article in mid-December. Tonight is the fifth night of Hanukkah. The smell of latkes frying still fills the house. When we light the Menorah each night for the eight nights of Hanukkah, we pray for a better world and for a brighter future for our country and our world.

Many of us are having a really tough time as this pandemic drags on. The New Year is just a couple of weeks away. I was thrilled to witness history in the making yesterday, as I watched on television, all of the trucks filled with Covid-19 vaccine vials pull out of Pfizer Inc.'s production plant in Kalamazoo, Michigan, under protection of U.S. Marshals. I literally was witnessing a stream of hope and healing on wheels. Vaccines will soon start to be administered in the U.S. We are rounding the corner.

With the New Year and the hope for a better year ahead, we are preparing to celebrate the holiday of Tu B'shvat. There are many ways in which to celebrate Tu B'shvat. This holiday depicts a spiritual need that we have to connect ourselves with the land of Israel. We associate this connection with a Seder, during which time we eat fruits and nuts grown in Israel.

Tu B'shvat is also an environmental holiday associated with the planting of trees and reminding us to take care of the Earth. It has also been associated with environmental and social justice.

As Jews, we are responsible for Tikkun Olam, to repair and heal our world. In the New Year, let us all try to do our part in fulfilling this duty to take care of each other and of our earth. Plant a tree, reduce, reuse, recycle, volunteer to clean up a park or a beach...Let us all help to repair and heal our world for ourselves and for future generations.

Sandy and I wish everyone a **happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year!**

Shalom,

Paul

Religious School News

The **Religious School Shabbat Service for Grades 4, 5 and 6** will be on **January 8th at 7:15 pm**. Please join us and worship with your entire family at this very special service! *Zoom link will be provided.*



Attention Saturday Religious School Parents: Each school day ends with a Zoom Service with Cantor Ilana. Please feel free to attend this service with your child. This is an important part of the Religious School Day and attendance is encouraged.



Please check your email and child's google classroom on a regular basis for announcements of upcoming events and zoom links. This is our primary method of communication.

If you have not been receiving correspondences, please email us at school@bnai-israel.org.



Robert Marder & Dawn Friedland-Perez
in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son
Ethan.

Adam & Dana Zuckerberg on the
Bat Mitzvah of their daughter **Lia**



Did you know we are selling Grocery Store Food Cards again?

Contact Rich Lindner (516) 641-8050 or the Temple Office to purchase.

Consider donating food cards to the
Temple's Outreach Committee to
help others in our community
who are in need of some assistance.

Thank you and Happy Shopping!



Streaming Services & Events

We are currently using Zoom to stream services, adult education, and events. Links are sent weekly on Thursday morning through our weekly email as well as posted on our website.

Schedule of Services

Please see Schedule of Events/Calendar in this bulletin. Zoom links for Services will be posted on our website and in our weekly emails.

Torah and Haftarah Readings

January 2: Genesis ch. 47 vs. 28

I Kings ch. 2 vss. 1 through 12

January 9: Exodus ch. 1 vss. 1 through 4

Isaiah ch. 27 vs. 6 through ch. 28 vs. 13; ch. 29 vss. 22 through 23

January 16: Exodus ch. 6 vs. 2

Ezekiel ch. 28 vs. 25 through ch. 29 vs. 21

January 23: Exodus ch. 10 vs. 1

Jeremiah ch. 46 vss. 13 through 28

January 30: Exodus ch. 13 vs. 17

Judges ch. 4 vs. 4 through ch. 5 vs. 31

Bulletin Information

All items to be considered for inclusion in the bulletin must be sent, preferably in an electronic format or delivered to the Temple Office by the deadline shown below. Accepted electronic formats are Microsoft Word, or a simple message in an email. If you are submitting a picture to be considered for inclusion, please make sure that it is a .jpg file. If you have any questions about these requirements, Please call (631)775-6147 or email webmaster@bnai-israel.org.

**Upcoming Issue
Deadline:**

January 11, 2021
for the
February 2021 Issue

URGENT - BLOOD DONORS NEEDED

Due the ongoing pandemic, over 75% of sponsored bloods drives have been cancelled, including those normally scheduled at B'nai Israel. The Long Island Blood Center asks that potential donors PLEASE consider donating at any of the local community centers to help fill that void. As part of the extensive effort to insure the health and safety of donors and staff, appointments are required at all locations, including the center located nearby on Vets Highway in Bohemia. For information and appointments call 800-933-2566 or [click here to visit the New York Blood Center website nybc.org](http://nybc.org).



Comedy Night at B'nai Israel

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MONICA PIPER

star of her Off Broadway hit, "Not That Jewish."



WHEN: Saturday, February 20th at 8 pm

WHERE: ZOOM

COST: \$40 per household

Your payment of \$40, by check, is due by February 12th, online purchase using your credit card is due by February 19th. Once payment is received you will be registered for the Zoom event. The Zoom link will be sent to you on the morning of February 20th.

CLICK HERE to purchase online

or fill out the form below to include with your check.

\$40 per household (must be paid in order to receive zoom link)

Name: _____

Phone # _____

Email to receive Zoom link _____

Address/City/Zip: _____

Make check payable to B'nai Israel Reform Temple and mail to B'nai Israel Reform Temple, ATTN Comedy Night, 67 Oakdale Bohemia Rd, Oakdale, NY 11769

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LOTTERY RAFFLE

APRIL 2021

If your raffle ticket number matches the evening New York State 3-digit drawing you win the prize shown on the calendar below on that date.

Donation: \$5.00 per ticket

To purchase tickets
please either contact the Temple Office
or **CLICK HERE to purchase online.**

| April 2021 | | | | | | |
|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | 1 \$100 | 2 \$25 | 3 \$50 |
| 4 \$75 | 5 \$25 | 6 \$50 | 7 \$25 | 8 \$50 | 9 \$25 | 10 \$50 |
| 11 \$100 | 12 \$25 | 13 \$50 | 14 \$25 | 15 \$100 | 16 \$75 | 17 \$50 |
| 18 \$25 | 19 \$50 | 20 \$50 | 21 \$25 | 22 \$25 | 23 \$50 | 24 \$25 |
| 25 \$50 | 26 \$25 | 27 \$50 | 28 \$25 | 29 \$25 | 30 \$500 | |

Adult Education Series

Torah Study & Adult Education

Torah Study Online 10am to 11am

Social Justice Adult Education 11:15am to 12:15 am

January 30

February 20

March 13

April 17

May 15

May 22

Intro to Judaism

Monday Nights 7pm to 8pm

January 11

February 1

February 22

March 8

March 29

April 12

April 26

Please contact
Rabbi Rosenthal
with any questions
about these classes.

rabbi@bnai-israel.org
(928) 925-3279

Online Course with Rabbi Emeritus Steve Moss

Judaism's Views of Life After Death Through the Ages

Wednesdays 1/13 & 2/10 at 7 pm

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP

Rabbi Emeritus Steve Moss will be offering a class on Judaism's Views of Life After Death Through the Ages. The remaining two sessions will be broken into the following topics: January: The Rabbinic and Medieval views of Life After Death and February: Life After Death as expressed through reincarnation as found in Kabbalah, and our own personal beliefs as moderns. **There is no fee for these classes and all are welcome.**

To reserve your place [CLICK HERE](#) and fill out the registration form. **This will be a Zoom class** and reminders will be sent with the links closer to the dates of the classes to those who have registered.

[illegible]

Zoom links for events and services will be on our website and in the weekly email.

January 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------|--|-----------|--|---|---|---|
| | | | | | 1 8p Shabbat Service | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 8p Fundraising Committee | 8 7:15p Family Service & RS Sabbath grades 4,5,6 | 9 10a Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah of Lia Zuckerberg |
| 10 | 11 Bulletin Deadline 7p Intro to Judaism Class | 12 | 13 7p Online Course: Judaism's Views of Life After Death Through the Ages | 14 | 15 7p Tot Shabbat 8p Shabbat Service | 16 |
| 17 | 18 7:30p Finance Committee | 19 | 20 | 21 7:30p Building & Grounds Meeting 8p Temple Board Meeting | 22 8p Shabbat Service | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 7:30p Tu Bishevat Shabbat & Musical Shabbat | 30 10a Torah Study Online 11:15a Social Justice Adult Education series online |
| 31 | | | | | | |

Donations & Contributions

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors for their contributions to B'nai Israel Reform Temple:

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Toby Bolson

In memory of my mother, Bess Leibowitz

Yizkor/Yahrzeit Fund

Asa & Nadine Singer

In memory of Joseph Singer

Asa & Nadine Singer

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Lori & Alan Saltus

In memory of Martin Saltus

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Mary & Paul Fink

In memory of Steve Sonkin

Ellen & Richard Motlin

In memory Abbe Sher

Barbara Abrams

In honor of the Rabbi, Cantor and all those who work to keep B'nai Israel Reform Temple special for all of us. Thank you.

Sisterhood

For what the Temple means to all of us now, through Covid times and every year!

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In memory Michael Fox

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Ethan William Snair Memorial Fund

Gammie & Pop Pop

In loving memory of our beloved grandson Ethan William

Grandma

In memory of my grandson Ethan William

Help-A-Family

Lori & Alan Saltus

Donation

Rochelle & Gerald Slochevsky

Donation

Religious School

Marcia Samuels

Donation

thank
you!



Condolences: The B'nai Israel Congregational family extends its deepest condolences to the Zacks family on the loss of Richard's wife, Sarah Zacks; to the Cernieux family on the loss of Paula's mother, Ida Sztulzaft; to the Fox family on the loss of Erwin's brother, Michael Fox; to the Joseph family on the loss of Lewis's sister, Florence Schoenberg; to the Weber family on the loss of Paul's mother, Judith Weber; and to the Factor family on the loss of Judith Factor. May they find comfort in the blessings of good memories that will always be theirs.

Yahrzeits

The following names of loved ones whose Yahrzeit are observed during the preceding week will be read before the Kaddish Prayer at the Friday Evening Service on:

January 1st

*Elizabeth Avergun
*Samuel Benofsky
*Max Berger
*Samuel Berger
*Sarah Berkman
*Jack Bermowitz
*Jean Blinderman
*Jack Bloshtinsky
*Dorene Blumenthal
*Edward Blumenthal
*David Blutreich
*Paul Bolkin
*Sarah Brody
*Barbara I. Capon
*Nik Ericson
*Gertrude Fishman
*Murray Gainsburg
*Robert Glick
*Mildred Gold
*Thea Gold
*Max F. Goldman
*Louis Goldstein
*Albert H. Holmes
*Pearl Jackson
*Henry Jaffe
*Sylvia Kabalkin
*David Katz
*Sara King
*Rose Krauss
*Florence Labiak
*Generose Leibowitz
*Nancy Licht
*Harris Morganlander
*Ira Moss
*Bruce P. Mowbray
*Albert Nemo
*Paul Oppenheimer
*Ella Rakieten
*Carl V. Richardson
*Dorothy Rosenberg
*Pearl Rothbart
*Ann White Rothenberg
*Emil Rothman
*Florence Rubin
*Martin Saltus
*Norman Teplitz
*Judith Traurig
*Maurice Leon Weintraub
*Ruth Williamson
*Sol Yourist
*Seymour Zimmerman
*Ruth Zuckerman

January 8th

*Joseph Abuelo
*Merrill Altman
*Naomi Aronson
*Elia Avnyim
*Robert Bard
*Regina Barb
*Abner Berenblatt
*Sara Bonsey
*Debra Cernieux
*Helen Cernieux
*Phyllis Cooper
*Irving Crone
*Murray Fine
*Howard Fisher
*Sarah Gaba
*Eileen Garber
*Milton Ginsburg
*Ethel Goldenberg
*Yetta Goldsmith
*Mary Gottlieb
*Anne Serra Haines
*Harry Harfe
*Herbert Haselkorn
*Harry Kaplan
*Eleanor Lesch Kelly
*Ed Kersch
*Abe Krasner
*Harry Lefkowitz
*Karen Levine
*Alec McKeefry
*Trudy Neckameyer
*Esther Platt
*Nathan Pollack
*Shirley Pollack
*Abraham Pomerantz
*Jacob Moshe Rivilis
*Renee Rosenberg
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*Jack Schneider
*Frank Schwartz
*Abraham Seltzer
*Sam Shayer
*Samuel Singer
*Rose Sobel

*Harold D. Travin
*Edna Ullman
*Lynette Wagner
*Rose Wasserman
*Esther Wiener

January 15th

*Ida Abramowitz
*Jennie Abramowitz
*Harry Adoff
*Gershon Altman
*Helmut Altman
*Martha Altman
*Joseph Aronson
*Samuel Ballin
*Harry Berman
*Linda Burg
*Anne Dachinger
*Pauline Ehrlich
*Louis Epstein
*Renee Fishman
*Marvin J. Freedman
*Glenn Steven Friedman
*Barry Glotzer
*David Gluck
*Bessie Goldstein
*Anna Greenberg
*Victoria Lynn Greenspan
*Lajos Gutman
*Stanley Hellin
*Seymour Israel
*Samuel Karmelin
*Henrietta Kaufman
*Louis Klinger
*Shirley Klinger
*Betty Lentin
*Pearl Levine
*Dorothy K. Levy
*Samuel Luria
*Joseph Marrapodi
*Audrey Doris Neidish
*Henry Joseph Neidish
*Hedy Oppenheimer
*Harold Perkal
*Leah Persoff
*Ben Pettick
*Al Roth
*Ida Skolnick
*Carl Siegal
*Ben Swidler
*Lizette Temple
*Joseph L. Terry
*Barbara Truocchio
*Benjamin Weiss
*Theodore Wenacur

January 22nd

*Marlene Auerbach
*Renee Byan
*Charles Cohen
*Muriel Cohen
*Max Gelband
*Celia Geller
*Sylvia Goldbaum
*Morton Goldberg
*Stanley Goldsmith
*Seymour Gross
*Martha Herzfeld
*Muriel Jacobson
*Joe Kaplan
*Sigo Lack
*Henry Lazen
*Murray Levine
*Ruth Levine
*Sidney Lowenberg
*Hyman Malkin
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*Shirley Tieman
*Libby Toback
*Ruth Ann Turoff
*Harry Weber
*Lena Weinstein
*Ruth S. Weiss
*Rosalie Wetzler
*Jacob Zimmerman

January 29th

*Albert Abrams
*Robert Atkins
*Herbert Balkin
*Gus Cohen
*Elsie E. Cole
*Hannah Deckinger
*Joseph Efrimoff
*Lawrence Ellner
*Michael Feuer
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*James F. Interlicchio
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*Jack Jacobs
*Herman Kalt
*Sarah Kass
*Judith Katz
*Freda Krasner
*Rita Leibowitz
*Zonia Lesser
*Seymour Levine
*Violet Lyons
*Charles Meyer
*Henrietta Gabay-Rauchwerger
*Samuel Ringle
*Sarah Robin
*Eli Rosen
*Louis Rosen
*Dora Rosenberg
*Jerome Rovinsky
*Joseph Rubin
*Sheila Schisler
*Bernard Schuster
*Faye Schwenk
*Arthur Howard Sumner
*Sanford Tannenbaum
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*Aestheta Wahnnon
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*Nathan Weisberg
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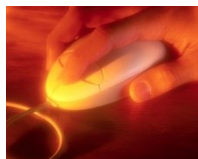
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office@bnai-israel.org

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| Yarmulke Orders (516) 790-9331 Ellyn Harris (for Bar/Bat Mitzvahs and Weddings) | |
| Outreach , Alice Lambert (631) 589-1375 | lambert1@optonline.net |
| Communications Jeannette Berman (631) 775-6147 | webmaster@bnai-israel.org |

Temple Office Staff

Karen Smollins &
Kim Rogers-Schade

Religious School

Chairperson, Alice Lambert
(631) 589-1375

Religious School Office
(631) 563-1663
school@bnai-israel.org

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Scheduling
Fran Baker
(631) 567-1537

Advertising

To place a Business Card sized advertisement please contact the office. Space is limited.

Temple Caterers

B'nai Israel is limited to these caterers for any celebration in the Temple Social Hall. Please see Kitchen Committee with any questions or requests.

Lessing's Caterers
(631) 277-7800
(631) 581-0022

Mitzvah Caterers of Plainview
(516) 938-1310
(516) 351-0661

Woodbury Kosher
(516) 681-7766

Zan's Kosher Caterers
(631) 979-8770

Miller Place Bagel & Deli
(631) 331-4576

Pastrami & Friends
(631) 499-9537