



B'nai Israel Reform Temple Bulletin



Rabbi Rosenthal's Message

Nachman of Breslov wrote: "A person should go out to the fields to pray. All the grasses will join you. They will enter your prayers and give you strength to sing praises to God."

Over the last year, we have joined other congregations in exploring what these 'fields' might look like for our *makom kodesh*: a holy, healthy and sacred space for prayer. In October, May and June we conducted *b'nai mitzvah*, confirmation services and several shabbat services outside. As someone who participated in outward bound and worked in a Jewish summer camp as a young adult, I have always found a special holiness in praying outside. And as an adult rabbi, each year that I have officiated at shabbat at the beach or a *taschlich* ceremony by the water, I have always said, "we need to do this more often."

While the current reasons are for health and safety, I hope we will continue to explore the outdoors as an option for services. Many of us who have participated in these services have experienced Judaism in way that is unique and reaches a part of our soul, or *neshama* that no other space can. We have found a connection to the trees, the sound of the birds chirping in the background, and the serene and peaceful nature of celebrating Judaism outside.

The outdoors connects us to the awe of the sun set, the moon and its appearance during various festivals, and an awareness of the beauty of God's creations.

We often associate Judaism as a religion devoted to studying the torah and its varied and ongoing commentaries. Yet so many of our blessings of gratitude remind us to connect with the roses, mountains, thunder, rainbows, and even the rain.

And on a personal level, there is a wonder that being outside can awaken in us, a spark that ignites a spiritual awareness and sense of the beyond.

If you haven't had a chance to join us, there are more outdoor services planned in the upcoming months. During July, we have one outdoor service planned, and for August we are looking to see if it might be possible to do Shabbat at the Beach (permits permitting).

A special thank you to all of those from the reopening committee and the lay leadership that have helped to make outside worship a possibility! You are amazing, and the Temple owes you a great deal of thanks.

I for one, look forward to continuing to explore what our outdoor worship looks like beyond the pandemic.

And may your July be full of fresh air, plenty of blessings, and amazing outdoor moments of beauty and inspiration.

Would you like to receive the Temple Bulletin mailed to your home?

A little over a year ago we started emailing the bulletin instead of printing it as a cost saving measure during the pandemic. We understand that some of you prefer to receive it in printed form and mailed to your homes. **We'd like you to tell us who you are. You can let us know by doing one of the following:**

Call the Temple Office at (631) 563-1660 or Email the Temple Office at office@bnai-israel.org

Our plan is to continue our cost saving efforts as best we can. We will produce a printed bulletin Quarterly, so the next printed issue to be mailed will be the September issue, just in time for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

The September issue will only be mailed to those who opt-in to receiving it in printed form. We will continue our weekly Thursday emails, publishing the monthly bulletin on our website, and sharing news and information on our website and social media channels.

Jeannette Berman, Communications Committee Chairperson

President's Message

Paul Fink



I would like to begin my first column as President by thanking the congregation for putting your faith in me to serve in this capacity. I hope you will reach out and assist me in understanding and responding to the needs of the Temple.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing president, Paul Weber, for successfully navigating us through the challenging waters of the COVID-19 pandemic, to Rabbi Rosenthal and Cantor Plutzer for creating interesting and meaningful services on Zoom, to our teachers and school administrators for reinventing Hebrew school on Google Classroom, to Karen Smollins for keeping our office running effectively, and to the many volunteers on the Board of Trustees, Sisterhood, Brotherhood, and committees for their extraordinary efforts over the past year.

In my installation address last week, I spoke of the coming year as "Back to the Future."



This is because while we are now returning to in-person services and in-school learning, there are many ways in which we will not and should not go back. For instance, streaming of services has allowed families which are physically separated to be connected, especially those whose medical conditions will not permit them to be in person, even when, G-d willing, we are post pandemic. Streaming is also very efficient for meetings, allows participation in inclement weather, and helps people who prefer not to drive at night.

Over this next year, we will strive to create a new normal, in which we will reestablish many former practices and also try to build upon the best aspects of last year's innovations. One of these was the Circles concept which was introduced by the Rabbi in partnership with URJ and run as a pilot program this spring. Circles are somewhat like the Haverot which were an important bonding aspect of the past at B'nai Israel, but with specific Jewish related themes.

That's all for now, and I look "Back to the Future" for an exciting and meaningful year at B'nai Israel!

Long Island Ducks Update

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



Mother Nature has played an almost unprecedented role in our Ducks season to date! After a delayed opening and shortened season due to the pandemic, the Ducks and B'nai Israel volunteers were scheduled to "play ball" for the first time in almost two years over the Memorial Day weekend. Then the rains came for four days and the fans did not, so our opening night became June 19th, (weather permitting!) There have been changes in concession management, facilities and procedures and our plan was to begin with a small, experienced crew to "test the waters" and put our best foot forward. While this bulletin will go to press before we know the outcome, we expect all to be well and to work at least three Saturday evening home games during July.

Volunteers are needed for games on the 3rd, 17th and 31st and new comers will be more than welcome! Our gig runs from 4:30 PM until the end of the game, although early departures for some of us are usually possible. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and able to work on their feet except for a break mid-way through the evening. Cashiers are always needed, but we try to provide a runner/helper for each cashier as well. Training will be on-the-job and by the time the gates open to the general public everyone is up-to-speed and ready to go.

While our fund raising expectations for the shortened season are more modest than the last several years, with cooperation from the weather and an adequate number of volunteers, we can expect the Ducks to once again be B'nai Israel's most lucrative fund raising opportunity. For more information or to volunteer for one or more of the July dates, please email ducks@bnai-israel.org.

Religious School News

In Person Religious School for 2021-2022!

You should have already received your registration packets for next year. If you did not, please call the Temple office or [click here to download the forms from the Temple website](#). Please return them as soon as possible! **Please remember that after August 10th there will be a \$25 late fee to re-register.**



Again, this year we are offering the chance to register your children for Pre-K/Kindergarten for no fee. We hope you will take advantage of this special opportunity.

Summer Religious School Hebrew Classes

This year we will be again holding four summer evening Hebrew classes. **These classes will be free of charge** and it is not necessary to attend all four sessions. The dates will be on Tuesdays from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM on July 6, July 20, August 10 and August 24.

We encourage students to take advantage of these classes because they will ensure your child's continued success in Religious School. **To register** [you can click here and sign up online](#) or fill out and send in the form below to the Temple office or email it to office@bnai-israel.org. Further information will be emailed out to registrants.

_____ will participate in summer Hebrew lessons.
Student Name(s)

He/she was in grade(s) _____ and this year's Hebrew teacher was/were: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Lauren Tannenbaum
is this year's recipient of the Ira
Rosenfeld Memorial
Scholarship.

The Rosenfeld family presented
the \$500 check to Lauren at the
outdoor Service on June 11th.

Congratulations Lauren
and her family.



We are busy working out the details for the High Holy Days. More information on all of the above will follow.



Welcome new members Michael & Mary Levine!

July 3rd. Numbers ch. 25 vs. 10 through ch. 30 vs. 1 Jeremiah ch. 1 vs. 1 through ch. 2 vs. 3
 July 10th. Isaiah ch. 66 vss. 1 through 13, vs. 23 Numbers ch. 30 vs. 2 through ch. 36 vs. 13
 July 17th. Isaiah ch. 1 vss. 1 through 27 Deuteronomy ch. 1 vs. 1 through ch. 3 vs. 22
 July 24th. Isaiah ch. 40 vss. 1 through 26 Deuteronomy ch. 3 vs. 23 through ch. 7 vs. 11



More information coming soon!

Monday, September 27, 2021 at 11:00 am, Willow Creek Country Club, Mt. Sinai, NY

A new Fundraiser from the Fundraising Committee!

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. **Cards can be delivered to you!**





WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM
stronger together

Sisterhood Newsletter



Sisterhood is a vibrant group of women which has become one of the backbones of our B'nai Israel family. We are a diverse group of individuals who like to be together. This year has been a tough one or all of us. Zoom made it possible to gather virtually, but personally, I am zoomed out and can't wait to meet in person again. I am quite sure that many of my Sisters feel the same way.

Our Temple is gradually starting to reopen. Although the rules are changing all the time, we are beginning to plan for in person, face-to-face activities. Traditionally, Sisterhood suspends its activities in the summertime, but this year we are planning some opportunities to get together while we have the beautiful weather. Don't be shy about attending. We are a welcoming group of women. Look for details in the Temple's weekly emails and on the Temple's Facebook page.

We are looking forward to an exciting and meaningful year filled with a variety of activities and events. We are anxious to say hello to past members as well as meeting new members. You can find the membership form in the bulletin. Dues can be paid online or by sending a check to the office.

Join us as we work together to find our new normal, re-enter the Temple community, and re-establish our social connections.

Stephanie Plewka
Sisterhood President



We are the women of B'nai Israel Reform Temple Sisterhood



**"Strong women... May we know them...
May we be them... May we raise them!"**



Sisterhood Membership - only \$20 per person per year

Tear off the bottom and return to the office with your check made out
to

"Sisterhood B'nai Israel" ASAP!

B'nai Israel Reform Temple - 67 Oakdale-Bohemia Rd, Oakdale, NY 11769

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone# : _____ Cell phone #: _____

E-mail address: _____

Are you a member of B'nai Israel Reform Temple? (circle one): YES NO

Are you a past president of sisterhood? YES NO

For updates visit bnai-israel.org and see the weekly emails.

July 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--------------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| | | | | 1 7:30pm Fundraising Committee | 2 8pm Shabbat Service (Indoor & Zoom) | 3 4:30pm LI Ducks Concession Stand |
| 4 4:30pm LI Ducks Concession Stand | 5 | 6 7pm Summer Hebrew | 7 | 8 | 9 7:15pm Family Service (Outdoor & Zoom) | 10 |
| 11 | 12 7:30pm Finance Committee | 13 | 14 | 15 Bulletin Deadline 7pm Choir Rehearsal 8pm Temple Board Meeting | 16 8pm Shabbat Service (Indoor & Zoom) | 17 4:30pm LI Ducks Concession Stand |
| 18 | 19 | 20 7pm Summer Hebrew | 21 | 22 7pm Choir Rehearsal | 23 8pm Shabbat Service (Indoor & Zoom) | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 7pm Choir Rehearsal | 30 7:30pm Musical Shabbat (Zoom) | 31 4:30pm LI Ducks Concession Stand |

Join us for

SELICHOT

*dinner under the
big top!*

Meals
\$24
each



See form on next page for details and
meal options from Ben's Kosher Deli!

August 28, 2021 at 6:30 pm

Service to follow (indoors)

RSVP with payment by
Friday, August 20th

JOIN US FOR SELICHOT DINNER UNDER THE BIG TOP! (OUTDOORS) SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021 6:30 PM

SERVICE TO FOLLOW (INDOORS) You do not have to attend the dinner in order to join the service.

Individually boxed meals from Ben's Kosher Deli at \$24 ea. Includes soft drink and dessert. Please RSVP and pay in full by Friday, August 20th. Pay by credit card OR check to office or by credit card online.

NAME: _____ PHONE# _____ EMAIL _____ CIRCLE YOUR SELECTION(S) _____

Salad Orientale With Chicken

A teriyaki chicken breast and crunchy noodles on a bed of crisp Romaine lettuce with carrots, peppers, mushrooms, scallions, water chestnuts, snow peas and orange sesame dressing.

Overstuffed Deli Sandwich

Your favorite deli meat piled high on rye or whole wheat. Russian dressing or mustard or mayonnaise on the side with pickles (half sour and sour) and a choice of two salads.

CHOICE OF MEAT _____ (SEE BELOW) CHOICE OF 2 SIDES (SEE BELOW) _____, RYE OR WHEAT BREAD _____ RUSSIAN, MAYO, OR MUSTARD _____.

Chicken Caesar Salad

Crispy Romaine, crunchy croutons and creamy Caesar dressing topped by a generously sliced grilled chicken breast. With a dinner roll too!

Chef's Salad

Your choice of deli meat atop a handsome salad of crisp Romaine, peppers, radishes, and black olives. Hard boiled egg garnish. Dinner roll. Your choice of dressing.

CHOICE OF DELI MEAT _____ (SEE BELOW), CHOICE OF DRESSING _____

Finger Lickin' Chicken Picnic*

2 Quarters (half chicken)

Freshly made and ready to eat Bar-B-Q, Southern Fried or Roasted chicken with a dinner roll, pickles and your choice of two side salads. CHOICE OF CHICKEN _____, 2 SIDES _____ (SEE BELOW)

Salad Lover's Meal Box

Your favorite salad. Choose tuna, chicken or egg salad, or for traditionalists, chopped liver. Either a sandwich or "just the salad" with pickles and a choice of two side salads. SALAD CHOICE _____

SANDWICH OR SALAD _____ IF SANDWICH RYE OR WHEAT BREAD _____, 2 SIDES _____ (SEE BELOW)

CHOICE OF PREMIUM KOSHER MEATS

Pastrami, Turkey, Hebrew National Bologna, Roast Beef, Hebrew National Salami, Corned Beef, Brisket, Smoked Turkey **CHOICE OF FRESHLY PREPARED SALADS (SIDES)**

Cole Slaw, Potato, Macaroni, Israeli, Pasta, Health, Cucumber

_____ # of meals at \$24 ea. = \$ _____ PLEASE ADD MY DONATION OF \$ _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Please add my donation of: \$ _____

Donations & Contributions

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

Ethan William Snair Memorial Fund

Gammie
Grandma

In loving memory of my grandson Ethan William
In loving memory of my beloved Ethan

General Fund

Ellen & Richard Motlin
Mary & Michael Levine
Ellen & Richard Motlin
Myra Mandel
Myra Mandel

In memory of Irv Darchowsky
Donation
In memory of Michael Katz
In memory of my beloved husband Melvin Mandel
In memory of my dear sister Sylvia Fineberg

thank
you!

Ira Rosenfeld Memorial Scholarship Fund

Lloyd & Stephanie Levine
Alice & Mike Lambert
Arlene, Jackie, Barbara, Laurette,
Susan, Gilda, Shelly, Ellen, Marsha,
Maddie
Alice & Mike Lambert

In memory of Dr. Herbert S. Levine
In memory of Joseph Wolff

In honor of Joyce Amato's 75th birthday
In memory of Gail Stone

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Patricia & Richard Lindner
Thomas Gurinkas

In memory of Joseph Wolff
In honor of Rabbi Jessica Rosenthal on the occasion of my conversion to
Judaism
In memory of Michael Porwick

Rita Porwick

Outreach

Joi & Ira Garvin

In honor of Paul & Sandy Weber, for their time, effort,
and dedication to making B'nai Israel so special

Yahrzeit

Patricia & Richard Lindner

In memory of Shirley Lindner

Help-A-Family

Toby Bolson
Rochelle & Gerald Slochevsky

In loving memory of my husband Alan Bolson
Donation

Music Fund

Arthur Plutzer

On the occasion of my 80th birthday and appreciation for
the past 15 months of Zoom services
In honor of Cantor Ilana Plutzer on the occasion of my
conversion

Thomas Gurinkas



To make a donation online
please visit
bnai-israel.org/donations

Condolences: The B'nai Israel Congregational family extends its deepest condolences to the Wolff family on the loss of Marc's father, Joseph Wolff; and to the Silver family on the loss of their daughter, Stacy Silver. 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:

| <u>July 2nd</u> | <u>July 9th</u> | <u>July 16th</u> | <u>July 23rd</u> | <u>July 30th</u> |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Rosaline Abrams | Isabel Alexander | *Sylvia Adelson | *Roslyn Bromberg | Robert Abrams |
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| *Harry Ribner | Margaret Maxian | *Barbara Sharman | Edward Richard Rubin | *Ida Sattler |
| *Israel Rothbart | *Rita Miller | *Dr. Arnold Schillinger | *Richard Rubin | Israel Schaefer |
| *David Rothenberg | *Edith Okun | Lisa Strawn | *Samuel Saltz | *Pauline Scheer |
| *Yosef Sabah | Yetta Rosenthal | *Rose Strum | *Joan Sands | Theda Silverman |
| Eva Evelyn Schaefer | *Albert Segal | *Bernard Swiss | Irving Schreiber | *Abraham Somerspitz |
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so that the Temple can
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 Before making any funeral
 arrangements, please call.

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 for phone numbers.

Temple Directory

67 Oakdale, Bohemia Road, Oakdale, NY 11769
Phone (631) 563-1660 **Fax** (631) 563-9816

Website
Email

www.bnai-israel.org
office@bnai-israel.org

Clergy

Rabbi Jessica Rosenthal (928) 925-3279 rabbi@bnai-israel.org
Cantor Ilana Plutzer cantor@bnai-israel.org
Rabbi Emeritus Dr. Steven Moss rabbiemeritus@bnai-israel.org

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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.

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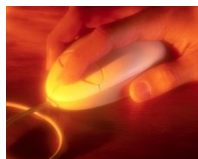
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opdv.ny.gov



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Coping with COVID



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**Office of
Mental Health**



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