

IIAKOL

Temple
Beth Shalom
קהילת בית שלום

Volume 85 Issue 5
December 2024
Cheshvan - Kislev 5785
tbsmb.org

Shabanutrah



FRIDAY
DECEMBER
27th

See page 11 for details.

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 Juval Porat Cantor
 Gary A. Glickstein Rabbi Emeritus
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SHABBAT SCHEDULE

tbsmb.org/spiritual-life/shabbat

Shabbat is a taste of paradise. Talmud, Berachot 57a

Shabbat Evening Services

6:00 pm | Friday

Our Shabbat evening service will embrace you. Fresh and familiar music will enable you to give voice to your own spirit. Special occasions in the lives of our congregants, Jewish teachings, sermons from our rabbis, and special music will enhance "Shabbat—our sanctuary in time."

Torah Study on Shabbat Morning

9:30 am | Saturday

Start your Saturday with Torah study and a bagel with a shmear of cream cheese. Each Shabbat morning before our Shabbat Morning Minyan (10:30 am), you will study *Parashat HaShavua*, the weekly Torah portion. The rabbis will lead a discussion of ancient commentaries and teachings and reveal the Torah's modern and relevant lessons.

Tot Shabbat

10:00 am | Saturday

Join us Saturday morning at 10:00 am for a wonderful young family Shabbat experience. This interactive program is geared for families with children up to the age of five years old. Prayer, music, stories, movement, activities, snacks and much more will be featured. Following Tot Shabbat, families stay and enjoy time together in our beautiful playground. This is a great way for you to celebrate Shabbat with other families with young children. tbsmb.school/programs/family

Shabbat Morning Service

10:30 am | Saturday

Join us Saturday mornings at 10:30 am in our beautiful chapel or sanctuary. Our clergy and members of our congregation help to lead the prayers and read the Torah. Kiddush lunch follows.

jLAB Family Shabbat

Each Saturday morning, jLAB students in grades K-5 and their parents (and other significant grown-ups) gather together in the chapel from 9:30-10:00 am for a lively Shabbat morning *t'filah* experience. This is a great opportunity to learn the prayers of our liturgy and connect with the words of our prayer service. All those with children in this age group are welcome to join us! For more information or to RSVP contact Kimberly Hyde at kimberly@tbsmb.org.

B-Mitzvah Service

Our b-mitzvah services are at 10:30 am and 4:30 pm. These services occur only when a member of the Temple is celebrating the occasion of becoming bar/bat/b-mitzvah. See above (table of contents) or tbsmb.org/calendar for current schedule.

Live Streaming

Watch Friday night and Saturday morning Shabbat services on your computer at www.tbsmb.org/watch.

Visit TBSMB.ORG

for up-to-the-minute viewing platforms by service



Sacred Connections

Rabbi Gayle Pomerantz

The first night of Chanukah this year falls on Christmas, a rare occurrence – in fact, eight times in the last 117 years, or once every 15 years to be exact. Chanukah is always on the 25th of Kislev in the Hebrew, lunar-based calendar, and Christmas is always on the 25th of December in the Gregorian solar-based calendar.

Aside from both holidays coincidentally falling on the 25th of a month, they also both celebrate light at the darkest time of year. There's a rabbinic tale offering a universal explanation about these holidays, featuring the very first person, Adam, noticing the days becoming shorter and shorter at the beginning of the world's creation, and worrying that light will disappear altogether. But after the winter solstice passed, he was so grateful that the days grew longer again that he celebrated, thus explaining why both Jews and Christians celebrate a festival of light in the season of darkness.

As American Jews, we see even more similarities between Chanukah and Christmas, largely because of the pervasive influence of Christmas in American culture. Judaism has always been influenced by the culture in which we live. Chanukah started as a minor festival, but ask any Jewish kid in America and they will tell you it's no "minor" event.

The tradition of giving gelt or coins to children has morphed into gifts for each night of Chanukah – and chocolate gelt too! Admittedly, I often received practical Chanukah gifts from my parents like socks or pajamas, but sharing gifts with each other is great fun.

Even as these holidays share commonalities, their significance and stories are starkly different. Chanukah is the tale of a Jewish victory for religious freedom, when the Maccabees fought against Antiochus' army and were able to liberate the Temple in Jerusalem from the Greek Syrians who had despoiled it. We read about the story in the book of Maccabees, not the Torah itself. Christmas, on the other hand, is a major holiday celebrating the birth of Jesus who is considered by Christians to be the Messiah.

While it may be tempting for American Jews, particularly those who have interfaith families, to blend the two holidays, especially given their proximity this year, I encourage you to refrain from doing so. Each holiday has particular significance and symbols that are unique and meaningful.

Indeed, Chanukah has become a "major" festival for American Jews and as parents, grandparents, and a community, we want it to be treasured. So make those sizzling latkes, enjoy the beauty of lighting the Chanukiah each night with blessings and songs, find the fun in exchanging gifts with people you love, and make sure to give some gelt to tzedakah too, spreading the light of joy and goodness. Our family carries on my husband's family's tradition of a Chanukah dance, while singing "Chanukah, oh Chanukah, come light the menorah, let's have a party we'll all dance the hora." Even the dogs get in on the act. We hope you find ways to make the holiday sparkle.

Our annual Shabanukah celebration will be on Friday, December 27. Yes, it is winter break from school, but please come if you are in town. May your Chanukah be bright and bring you joy and hope at this dark season.



Belonging Together

Cantor Juval Porat

“Sing unto God a new song”

– Psalms 96 and 98

Reform Judaism has always aspired to pursue the balancing act between our Jewish past (also known as “memory” or “tradition”) and our world’s present (also known as “modernity” or “innovation”). As you can imagine, when applying that principle to Jewish worship music, the approaches, tastes, strategies and implementations are as varied as the Jewish people. Nonetheless, from ancient times to today, music has played a central role in Jewish worship.

Throughout our people’s history, music has been inextricably linked to the liturgy: Prayer has always been chanted or sung in some way or other. It wasn’t until the beginning of Reform Judaism in the mid-nineteenth century that large parts of our services were read by rabbis and musical renditions of some of the prayers were inserted as anthems or hymns. Today, music is an integral and essential part of our worship services. It is also one of the elements our people have very strong feelings about since it touches areas of our collective memory and identity.

In addition to the incredible musical contributions of so many members of our community (the Sholom Rockers, the adult lay choir, the professional choir, all of the instrumentalists and the lay lead trio, just to name a few), completing my second High Holy Days with Temple Beth Sholom has led me to a greater sense of appreciation for TBS’ *Minhag Ha’makom* - “the custom of the community.” I’ve come to understand the deep spiritual significance of the music that’s been the community’s custom for years for our seasoned worshippers, especially those who visit us exclusively during the High Holy Days. The familiar tunes of old evoke a sense of comfort and belonging. Accordingly, there can be disappointment when one’s favorite tune is missing or replaced by an unfamiliar melody.

On the other hand, as the psalmist of old encourages us, there’s value in cultivating the need for Jewish music to evolve to stay relevant. What’s considered “traditional” to some might be an unfamiliar tune to others. New melodies can bring a sense of excitement and energy to services, finding resonance with those who may not connect with the traditional sounds. Contemporary composers also explore new themes and styles, reflecting the diversity of

Jewish experiences. After all, every melody considered “traditional” was once a brand new tune that somehow made it into the hearts of worshippers.

Some congregants strongly prefer “traditional” melodies, finding comfort and connection in familiar tunes. Others crave constant innovation and variety, believing that repetition detracts from their spiritual experience. As a cantor, my challenge is navigating these diverse preferences, being in touch with our community’s traditions and history, and integrating them creatively. I strive to create a musical atmosphere that respects both viewpoints. While I may not always strike the perfect balance, I do hope to always strive for it.

Your feedback is invaluable in shaping our musical selections. Your insights can help ensure that we continue catering to diverse tastes while maintaining the sacred atmosphere of our services. By working together, we can create a musical experience that resonates with all congregation members, fostering a sense of unity and inspiration. Please reach out directly for any feedback.

I hope you welcome a new melody like you would welcome a new community member - with curiosity and openness. I hope you consider attending our upcoming Cantors’ Concert, co-sponsored by the German Consulate of Miami. We’ll honor the rich musical heritage of Jewish composers from Germany, both before and after World War II - who knows, you might find one of your favorite “traditional” tunes in the setlist! For more information and tickets, scan the QR code shown here.



A Cantors' Concert: Celebrating Jewish
German Composers - Event - Temple
Beth Sholom
tbs.shulout.com

May our continued harmonizing between the old and the new, honoring our traditions and embracing the possibilities of the present be fruitful. Thank you for being a part of this musical journey with me.

Juval Porat



Innovative School

Stacy Penson
Director of Elementary Level



I have been reflecting on how communities are experiencing high levels of polarization and anger. Sometimes fear and hostility in communities invades working with young children and their families. Schools can provide refuge: spaces where the human qualities that nourish us and are threatened by current conditions are preserved. We can create what Margaret Wheatley, educator and author calls “islands of sanity.”

In *Restoring Sanity: Practices Awaken Generosity, Creativity & Kindness in Ourselves and Our Organizations*, Wheatley writes, “An Island of Sanity is a gift of possibility and refuge. It needs to be an island because there is no other way to preserve and protect our best human qualities. We are not seeking sanctuary; we are seeking contribution. We are encouraged by the possibility of working together in harmonious relationships to accomplish meaningful work.” She further states, “we need to create a protective way of being that reduces the impact of negative



forces. We cannot do this alone. We need to gather with others. We develop an island mentality not to exclude but to increase our capacity to serve. An Island of Sanity develops strength and capacity as we work hard, struggle, stay together, figure things out, fail, succeed, learn, forgive, laugh, persevere.”

At the Innovative School we believe school should be a place for learning how to live and be a productive member of a community and is based on ideas of Social Constructivism and the Reggio Approach, which developed as World War II ended and responded to fascism, asserted women’s rights and called for greater social equality through collective civic action. Citizens set about constructing a school for their youngest children because their wartime experience had “taught them that people who conformed and obeyed were dangerous, and that in building a new society it was imperative to safeguard and communicate that lesson and maintain a vision of children who can think and act for themselves.”

For Reggio Emilia educators, the goal is to nurture habits, dispositions and values like deep listening, a capacity for dialogue, the ability to think critically and a desire to work collaboratively for the common good, which lay the foundation

for democratic living experienced through daily life in school.

Could schools become places where children are both supported in developing knowledge, skills, and understanding, and feel like they are contributing to something larger than themselves?

When we learn as a group, the individual is not lost; rather, the group helps individuals find their identity in a more “nuanced and multifaceted way.”

Mara Krechevsky, senior researcher at Project Zero at Harvard Graduate School of Education, asks, “What would it mean to see the relationship between individual and group as mutually constitutive, so that from the very beginning of formal education, individual learning occurs with the world or community in mind?”

We must invest in relationships with others because we are stronger together and because being a citizen is to live and cooperate with others! When we strengthen our relationships, we value our interdependence and practice living in community, which has wide ranging personal as well as societal benefits.

An Island of Sanity is a created space that doesn’t hide from indifference or from ourselves. It protects us in a space that can accept different perspectives and does not judge them. At the Innovative School our educators commit to creating a community where generosity, creativity, and kindness are the norm and what we expect from each other, we strive to offer in return.

To learn more about the Innovative School, please schedule a tour with our Admissions Team at admissions@innovativeschool.org

Stacy





Barb Shimansky, RJE
Senior Director of Judaic Studies



A Reflection on Chanukah's Deeper Meaning

As we approach the joyous festival of Chanukah, often referred to as the Festival of Lights, it's a perfect time to reflect on the rich layers of meaning this holiday brings to our lives and our community.

Chanukah commemorates the miracle of the oil that lasted for eight days in the rededicated Temple, symbolizing hope, resilience, and the triumph of light over darkness. The act of lighting the menorah serves as a reminder of the miracles that occur in our daily lives, encouraging us to seek out and appreciate the blessings we often take for granted. Each candle we light reflects not only on our history but also the enduring spirit of the Jewish people.

This year, as we light the candles, let's consider the teachings of our tradition that invite us to embrace not only the miraculous but also the everyday. The flames of the menorah represent the light and warmth of community and family. Each night, as we gather to recite blessings and sing songs, we strengthen our bonds and reaffirm our commitment to one another. In doing so, we create a tapestry of shared experiences that enriches our lives and nurtures our souls.

In the spirit of Chanukah, let us also reflect on how our traditions can illuminate our paths during these darker winter months. Just as the menorah's light spreads outward, we have the opportunity to share our light with those around us. Whether through acts of kindness, volunteering, or simply reaching out to a neighbor, we can create a ripple effect of positivity and hope. It is through these small gestures that we can cultivate a sense of belonging and connection within our community.

As we gather for our Chanukah celebrations this year, I encourage you to think about how you can contribute to the warmth and brightness of our community. Join us for Shabanukah on Friday, December 27, where we will celebrate with delicious foods, games, and shared moments of joy. Together, we can make this Chanukah a time of connection, inspiration, and a reaffirmation of our shared values.

Wishing you all a happy and meaningful Chanukah filled with light, love, and laughter.

L'shalom,

Barb



jLAB chefs in action!

8th and 9th grades meet this month on
December 2 and 16

Join Us for Olim Shabbat!

You are invited for our special Olim Shabbat celebration!

Friday, December 13 at 6:00 pm

Join us as our 4th and 5th grade learners lead us in an uplifting Shabbat service followed by a dinner and fun-filled activities for our 4th and 5th grade families

jLAB Winter Break:

There is no jLAB from Saturday, December 21 through Saturday, January 4.

jLAB will resume on Monday, January 6.



Social Justice

Jeff Agron
Social Justice Director



Thank you to everyone who participated in our work over the past 18 months in our efforts to secure reproductive rights in Florida. While ultimately Amendment 4 did not pass the 60% threshold to become law, it did gain support from a majority of Floridians (over 57%). Most people do not agree with the current law and want to see change. Thus, we will continue the fight, and we will make our voices known to our elected officials. This issue is too important not to fight on.

While we certainly feel disappointment in this outcome, we will continue our work to make Florida a more equitable and just state. We need to recognize and celebrate how we came together and worked so hard on this issue. It was truly remarkable. As a community, we fought hard to uphold our Jewish values to bring justice and dignity to the citizens of our state. We partnered with RAC-FL, NCJW, Men 4 Choice, and others in this work, and made new friends and built new alliances for our social justice work in the future. In the initial stages of the campaign, we collected over 1,100 petitions at Temple Beth Shalom, over 17,00 with RAC-FL congregations, and over one million petitions statewide as part of the Yes on 4 coalition. We were successful in placing Amendment 4 on the ballot, which is a significant accomplishment. In the second half of our campaign, we fought for passage of Amendment 4 by engaging with voters and educating the electorate. Together with RAC-FL, we hosted 40 postcard parties that reached 213,480 voters; we held 11 phone and text banks, connecting with 16,000 voters; and we knocked on doors and spoke with 1,107 voters. This was the largest campaign RAC-FL has engaged in and sets us up for great work in the future. We remain proud of our work.

Our initial petition work was led by Myra Spindel and Barbara Gelber. Our work once the amendment was on the ballot was led by Myra Spindel and Robin Straus. There were many more people involved, too numerous to name individually here, but we thank everyone, no matter how you were involved. This was truly a team effort.

Please join us on Friday, December 6 for a special Shabbat service and oneg honoring all our volunteers. We will come together in solidarity to recognize this amazing campaign.

In December, the Social Justice Network and BESHTY are running a holiday toy drive to benefit Phillis Wheatley elementary. You can drop off any new toys in the Welcome Center. More information will be in Temple Talk.

In mid-January, we will be opening registration for our 30th Annual Mitzvah Day, which is on Sunday, February 23, along with our Soup Contest. Look in your mail for the Mitzvah Day book in January. Save the date now.

The next Social Justice Network meeting is on Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00 pm.
RSVP at: tbsmb.org/social-justice



Membership

Craig Berko

Director of Membership

Your support has always been the heartbeat of our temple where we come together to find comfort, strength, and purpose. With Hanukkah on the horizon, we reach out with gratitude and a heartfelt invitation for your continued partnership in sustaining our vibrant and welcoming community. We thank and appreciate you for your continued support through your annual commitment. Unwavering support from our cherished members through your commitment to renewing your membership highlights the profound impact that Judaism and our Temple have on your lives. This dedication reinforces the importance of maintaining a Jewish presence both locally and globally and we thank you. Temple Beth Sholom is more than a place of worship; it's a home where each person, regardless of background or beliefs, is valued and welcomed. Whether this is your first synagogue, or you've been with us for years, you belong here. Your membership is what makes this warm, inclusive space possible for everyone who seeks connection and meaning. Our congregation stands as a testament to resilience and unity, with offerings that nourish every aspect of Jewish life: from Torah study and our meaningful worship services to our community celebrations. Each contribution through membership renewal enables us to continue this vital work—supporting the vulnerable,

fostering Jewish learning, and celebrating our traditions as a connected, caring community. Our clergy and staff are here to support you, and we want you to feel at home. There are countless ways to engage, such as joining our Sisterhood or Brotherhood, participating in Shabbat services or our Social Justice program. You may even wish to connect in small groups like Panim El Panim. We invite you to explore everything Temple Beth Sholom has to offer for meaningful engagement and connection. We also ask that you refer your family, friends, and co-workers to Temple Beth Sholom. Your support of not just renewed membership, but referral of new members symbolizes faith in the enduring resilience of our Jewish community and the values we hold dear. Thank you for your dedication and for standing with us in cultivating a community of compassion, understanding, and unity.

With appreciation, Craig

Craig Berko, Director of Membership
(305) 538-7231 ext. 230
craig@tbsmb.org

Temple Beth Sholom Hosted Magen David Adom for a Q&A Salon on November 1



The Magen David Adom is Israel's national emergency medical, disaster, ambulance, and blood bank service. The literal meaning of the name is "Red Shield of David," but the symbol is more frequently called the "Red Star of David" in many languages.

Although MDA's role is mandated by the Israeli government, it's not a government agency. As Israel's official representative to the International Red Cross, Magen David Adom's role precludes it from accepting governmental support for its general operations.

Because of this arrangement, MDA relies on support from donors, including those from the United States, to keep its dispatch systems, training, and equipment the best in the world.

Temple Beth Sholom is proud to do our part in supporting this important organization.



Co-Presidents
Kim Haber & Mihaela Gutman

Hello Sisters,

It's holiday time and Sisterhood will be assembling No Sew blankets again for the children at Holtz Children's Hospital. Join us on Saturday, December 7 at 12:00 pm for lunch and an afternoon for creating snugly, warm blankets for the kids. You can RSVP on the website at: tbsmb.org/sisters

Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 26 and join the Sisterhood and Brotherhood at Temple Beth Shalom for our Chanukah Barcade with craft cocktails, bar games and an evening of fun. RSVP at tbsmb.org

Mihaela and Kim



No Sew Blankets

Saturday, December 7 | 12:00 - 3:00 pm

Join TBS Sisterhood for a special in-person workshop for a no sewing experience needed project to make snuggle blankets for children at Holtz Children's Hospital. \$36 per person. RSVP: tbsmb.org/sisters



IMPORTANT UPDATE ON THE YOUTH CAMPAIGN PROJECT STATUS

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Youth Campaign. You made it happen! The seawall construction and playground renovation are happening now. While we were hopeful that the timeline would include summer months, this was not possible due to city permit delays. Please know that we have beautiful equipment ready for everyone to enjoy that will be set up in our front Palm Plaza and Temple Social Hall.

Here is some important information regarding this project:

- The back and side playgrounds are closed.
- The seawall contractors deliver materials by barge. We have planned for an inside viewing area for our learners to observe this process.
- The fully anchored temporary fence erected in the back playground and the playground is closed.
- Construction has already begun.
- The goal is to have the seawall and playground renovation completed by the end of December.

If you have any questions or would like to contribute to our Youth Campaign, please reach out.

With excitement,

Jeff Graff, Stacy Penson, and Margie Zeskind



HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL 5785 2024-2025

"Every person whose heart is so moved shall bring gifts." Exodus 25:2

I/We are honored to support our congregation with the following contribution:

- \$5,000 \$3,600 \$1,800 \$1,000 \$500
- \$360 \$250 \$180 \$118 \$54
- Other \$ _____

Enclosed is a check

Credit card number

Exp.

Security code

Name on card

- Please contact me to arrange a payment plan.
- I would like my gift to remain anonymous.
- I would like to include Temple Beth Sholom in my estate plans.

Gifts to the High Holy Day Appeal will enhance your Annual Commitment to Temple Beth Sholom.

Contributors who are full-time, full dues paying members* who donate an additional \$250 are recognized in Circle of Giving 2024-2025.

Learn more at

tbsmb.org/circle-of-giving

For more information, please contact Director of Advancement, Katy Boyask at 786.406.1375 or katy@tbsmb.org.

Please return this pledge card to the temple by mail or by hand. You may also make a donation online at

tbsmb.org/highholydayappeal

Thank you for including Temple Beth Sholom in your philanthropy.

**Or Innovative School families who pay full tuition.*



BESHTY Update

Rabbi Joanne Loiben



Upcoming BESHTY (9th-12th Grade)

December 10, 2024 - BESHTY Toy Drive Gift Wrapping Event (Temple Beth Shalom)

January 31- February 2 - Give Kids the World (Orlando) *tentative* (should be confirmed by early november)

February 8 - 2nd Annual Howard Broad Memorial Kickball Tournament- Polo Park

March 8 - K1 Speed

April 30 - Dinner at Benihana

May 16 - Shabbat Siyyum service honoring our teens

Shabanutkah



Friday, December 27, 2024



5:00 pm Pre-dinner activity for young families

6:00 pm Shabbat Service

7:00 pm Dinner, catered by Michael Meltzer

Join us for a family-friendly evening with fun, festivities and food! Soufganiyot and latkes, chanukiot and games...so many Chanukah "happenings."

tbsmb.org/shabanukah



TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM

Adult Education

December

In Real Life (IRL) Meditation

Tuesday evening, December 10, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Registration Online via Zoom;

Registration in Person

Join the TBS weekly mindfulness group for a special hybrid session. You can join us either in-person or online on December 10, 2024. This meeting is appropriate for all levels - from beginners to experienced mindfulness practitioners. We want to offer everyone the chance to be IRL (in real life) so you can join us in the Board Room or online. If you attend in-person, please plan to stay the whole hour

ONGOING

Let Me Give a Sermon

This is an open workshop for those who wish to create and write a *Devar Torah* (sermonette). The Rabbis and Sages have methods for teaching the wisdom that flows from our rich texts. A *Devar Torah* is often given at meetings, study sessions, and services. Participants will meet with Rabbi Davis and will create a *Devar Torah* for our regular Shabbat morning service.

Information: Rabbi Davis, rdavis@tbsmb.org

A Multi-Access Cup of Coffee with Rabbi Davis

Rabbi Davis will meet you in the Ulam HaShalom (The Welcome Center) or on Zoom to share a cup of coffee with you. This is an informal opportunity to meet and share life's journey together or for those wishing to seek pastoral guidance.

In-Person or Zoom: Rabbi Davis, rdavis@tbsmb.org

Can I see the Horns: Roots of Antisemitism

Zoom lecture presented by Public historian Marcia Jo Zerivitz, L.H.D., Founding Executive Director, Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

6:00-7:05 pm

Description: presented by Marcia Jo Zerivitz, LHD Founding Executive Director of the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU, and author of *Jews of Florida: Centuries of Stories* We can agree that Jewish life since 10.7.23 is no longer the same. Antisemitism has ginormously increased in the US and globally and has become normalized, especially on college campuses, and mostly based on conspiracy theories. Florida hosts the nation's second largest number of hate groups: 89. Much of the world thinks that everything Jews do is wrong and that all wrongs are done by Jews. Why have antisemitism and resulting hate crimes increased since the Covid pandemic and Israel-Hamas war? Antisemitism, a virus that mutates with every generation, has been the early warning signal of a society in danger over history. Why? Using degenerate artworks that demonstrate antisemitism's genesis and tropes, Marcia Jo Zerivitz demonstrates the current situation, the historical background of antisemitism and the insidious power of imagery in communicating the agenda of hatred, including Christian roots, the Middle Ages, modern world and contemporary racist images since the Civil War covering eugenics, the Klan, neo-nazis, restrictive covenants and white supremacy. This 65-minute PowerPoint presentation, created from 40 years of Zerivitz's research, includes the challenges of social media and the internet in the spread of antisemitism and actions to help combat more than 2,000 years of Jew-hatred.

BIO ETHICS

What Do I DO



Saturday, December 7

Join our former Rabbinic Intern, Rabbi Dr. Claudio J. Kogan, MD, MBE, MEd, now the Director of Bioethics Program at Baptist Health South Florida.

Rabbi Kogan will lead a study and discussion of Bioethics from a medical, religious, and ethical perspective. He will be focusing primarily on the Bioethics of Organ Donation and End of Life.

Saturday, December 7, following services (lunch will be available), ~12:15 pm

In-person only | Registration: Noemi, noemi@tbsmb.org

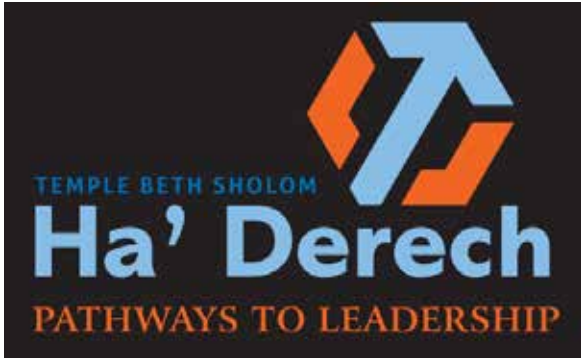
Temple Beth Sholom Hosted Hanassi Fellow Rabbi Yael Katz on November 1



The Golden Hanassi Fellowship program, initiated by Rabbi Naamah Kelman (former Dean of the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, HUC-JIR) with support from Suzanne and John Golden and the Golden Family Foundation, provides students from HUC-JIR's Israel Rabbinical Program with the opportunity to complete a residency in North American Reform congregations. During their residency, fellows are mentored by prominent Reform rabbis, enriching their training and fostering connections between Israeli and North American Reform communities. Temple Beth Sholom was honored to host Rabbi Yael Katz as part of this impressive program, during the month of November.

Rabbi Yael Katz Ben Yitzhak, born in Haifa to a secular Israeli family and raised in Kiriath Tivon, is Head of Congregational, Youth, Young Adult and Educational Activities at the Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism, and continues to support the Reform congregation in Megiddo, which she established. She embarked on her Jewish journey at the Ma'alot Tivon Reform Congregation and prior to her army service, she volunteered at Beit Daniel in Tel Aviv. She completed a BSW in community social work and a MA in community and nonprofit management, both at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and is a certified organizational consultant, mentor, and teacher.

During Rabbi Katz's visit we at TBS aimed to have her experience the full range of TBS's programming and connect with both the community and the staff. Rabbi Katz spoke during Friday night Shabbat service and met with staff members including Barb Shimanksy, Stacy Penson, and Mark Baranek. She even got to attend Pet Shabbark! It was a great way to showcase the vibrant and welcoming community at TBS in Miami! We enjoyed our time with Rabbi Katz and are proud to have been her host in Miami. She will return to us on March 13-22.



Thank you to everyone who attended our Pathways to Leadership event with guests Brian Bilzin and Dan Gelber and moderator Johanna Gomez. Look for more takaways from the Leadership Development event in next month's HaKOL. You can watch the event on the Temple's YouTube channel by scanning the QR code or at youtube.com/@tbsmbtube



A CANTORS' CONCERT

CELEBRATING JEWISH GERMAN COMPOSERS HONORING
THE RICH MUSICAL HERITAGE OF JEWISH COMPOSERS FROM GERMANY

FEATURING CANTORS JUVAL PORAT, LISA SEGAL, AND JOSEPH FLAXMAN

Sunday, December 15, 2024

3:00 pm Dessert Reception

4:00 pm Concert

Temple Beth Sholom

HOST COMMITTEE:

Matt Bial

Deborah and Charles Citrin

Vanessa Cohen

Glenn Dryfoos

Larry Hurwitz

Helena Kristol

Fran Levey & Alice Miller

Suzanne Meltzer

Bobbi Ossip

Vanessa Ressler

Karen and Marc Rivo

Marte and Paul Singerman

TICKET PRICES:

Premiere Seating: \$54 in advance / \$72 at the door

General Admission: \$36 in advance / \$54 at the door

Register online at tbsmb.org/concert or scan the QR code.



For sponsorship opportunities and other inquiries please contact

Ariane Davis at Ariane@tbsmb.org or 305.538.7231 ext. 242



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Miami





the tribe

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 18
2024

VODKA LATKE

Join Jewish Young Professionals for
Miami's premier, annual
CHANUKAH celebration at
NAUTILUS SONESTA
1825 Collins Avenue
8:00-11:00pm+

FEATURING:
Open Vodka Bar,
Unlimited Latke Bar,
Live DJ, Dreidel Pool, and more!

www.thetribe.org




Mindful Tuesdays

Weekly Mindfulness Group: Would you like to be part of a community dedicated to improving our lives by increasing our self-awareness, calmness, and joy? Led by Marte Singerman.

6:30 pm via Zoom
Registration: tbsmb.org/adult-study

Monthly Mindful Meditation



Join Cantor Porat
December 4
at 10:30 am
facebook.com/tbsmb

Kavanah RETREAT

JANUARY 24 & 25, 2025



Suggested
donation: \$96

Featuring
Joey Weisenberg



Musician, composer, and teacher **Joey Weisenberg** is the founder and director of Hadar's Rising Song Institute, which cultivates grassroots musical-spiritual creativity in Jewish community. Joey works to educate and train communities around the world to make music a vibrant, joy-filled force in Jewish life. He is the author of *The Torah of Music* (2017 National Jewish Book Award) and *Building Singing Communities*. His ninth album of original music, *Selah*, will be released on Rising Song Records in early 2025.

Friday, January 24, 2025

6:00 pm - Davening with Joey: Kabbalat Shabbat - Enter Shabbat with musically and spiritually uplifting Friday evening *davening*, using an adjusted room set-up that places the prayer leader in the palm of the people and featuring both old and original melodies that invite communal participation.

7:15 pm - Enhanced Potluck Dinner and Desserts - Reservations required

8:00 pm - Mindfulness in Music (#1): The Art of the Nigun - Focusing on beautiful old melodies nearly lost to history as well as Joey's original compositions, we will collectively bring this music to life. Drawing on Joey's extensive experience with *nigunim* (wordless melodies), *nusach* (prayer chant) and other musical styles, this workshop will guide the participants in an exploration of the soul of any melody.

Saturday, January 25, 2025

9:30 am - The Torah of Music - Drawing from his 2017 National Jewish Book Award winning book, Joey explores the spiritual teachings of music through a wide range of Jewish musical-spiritual texts and stories. "Where there is song there is prayer" (Talmud Bavli Brachot 6a).

10:30 am - Minyan Service with Joey Weisenberg: A Deep-Dive into Psalm 150 & Nishmat Kol Chai

12:00 pm - Israeli inspired Lunch

1:00 pm - Sound Healing - chairs provided or bring your own mat - Sponsored by Sisterhood

2:15 pm - Mindfulness in Music (#2): Architecture of Listening - An interactive exploration of the relationship between song and silence.

3:15 pm - Soul Snack

3:30 pm - Mindfulness in Music (#3): Building Singing Communities - Using concepts, actions and visions from his book *Building Singing Communities*, Joey discusses strategies for bringing people together to make music a lasting and joy-filled force in shul and Jewish life. We will sing, discuss, and have time for Q&A.

4:30 pm - Closing Ceremony

Host Committee/Kavanah Council:

Angelica Berezin
Raquel Bild-Libbin
Sandra Breiterman
Natalie Broidy
Patty Feito
Norys Figuera

Agnes Gray
Keith Gray
Gail Harris
Larry Hurwitz
Debra Leibowitz
Cantor Juval Porat

Scott Rogers
Jani Singer
Marte Singerman
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Miriam Steinberg

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We gratefully recognize our members who become Circle of Giving donors through increasing their Annual Commitment to Temple Beth Shalom.

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Our Israel Stories, Part 1

Temple Beth Shalom Volunteers Respond to the October 7th Massacre in Southern Israel

After the terrible events of October 7, 2023, when Hamas terrorists in Gaza invaded Southern Israel, Temple Beth Shalom responded immediately, educating our *Kehila* (community), sending supplies, donating money, traveling to Israel, and participating in rallies and events in solidarity with our beloved Israeli brothers and sisters. Over the next few months, we want to bring you the stories of some of our members who have traveled to Israel over the past year to volunteer their time and energy to help and bear witness. Their words are moving and inspiring.

We also share the resources Beth Shalom has established to make it easier to help those from our *Kehila* who feel a deep desire to travel to our Jewish homeland, to bear witness to the events of October 7th, and to help strengthen and heal our Jewish homeland.

This is part one of three which will be presented in HaKOL over the next three months.

This is the story of the Rivo Family. Marc, Karen, and Jessica Rivo volunteered from the Arts and Maxim Hotels, Tel Aviv, with Livnot u'Lehibanot in Sderot and Kibbutz Alumim along the Gaza Border.

On October 6, 2023, Marc was in Jerusalem celebrating Simchat Torah until midnight. Early the next morning, he awoke to continuous air raid sirens, and then gathered with fellow residents in a bomb shelter.

The family heard the sounds of the *Kipat Barzel* (Iron dome) intercepting a Hamas missile as they watched on TV as Hamas terrorists invaded Southern Israel, killing citizens and taking hostages to Gaza. Each of them knew at that horrific moment that their world had changed.

In January, Karen, Marc, and their daughter Jessica returned as Israel opened to volunteers from abroad. They met TBS member Malka Mordujovich at the Arts Hotel, and she showed them where and how to sign up to volunteer. They traveled to Sderot and Route 232 for the first time, picking cherry tomatoes with fellow volunteers at Moshav Mivtachim. Karen and Jess remember hearing the stories of the Moshav residents who bravely protected their community against the Hamas terrorists on October 7th. The family then went to Hostage Square in Tel Aviv for the first time to support the families of those brutally kidnapped and taken to Gaza.



In April, Marc returned to volunteer for two weeks with a truly fantastic organization called *Livnot U'Lehibanot* (to build and be rebuilt). *Livnot* established a large home for volunteers worldwide to learn about October 7th and rebuild the communities so the residents could return. In the mornings, we worked with *Livnot's* professional workers to rebuild

the army bases and communities along the Gaza border. As he was rebuilding an elementary school in the Ethiopian Absorption Center, Marc was overjoyed to be greeted by the joyous Ethiopian children who had made *Aliyah* in the last year, survived October 7th, and who now were speaking fluent Hebrew and English!

In July, Karen, Marc, and Jessica attended a week-long learning seminar in Jerusalem with the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies. Pardes arranged for participants to volunteer in food distribution centers and to travel to the South to learn about the events of October 7th firsthand. They visited the Sderot Police Station, Nova Festival location, and Shuva Junction and heard the stories of heroic IDF soldiers and ordinary citizens who defended our beloved country on that terrible day.



In October before Simchat Torah, Marc returned again to our beloved Jewish homeland for Simchat Torah and to volunteer in the South with *Livnot*, to witness how Israelis were coping and thinking about the year-long war, and to recapture some of the joy of the high holidays in Jerusalem.

Next month, we will share stories from Malka Mordujovich, Jose Fraga, Cathy Tighe, and more. If you have been to Israel and would like to share your story, please send to jagron@tbsmb.org.

If you are interested in being a part of our TBS "Lovers of Israel" WhatsApp Group that shares the latest on Israel, please email Karen Rivo at KarenRivo@gmail.com, or text to 305.283.3897.

Generations Shabbat

Generations recognizes and honors Temple Beth Sholom congregants with membership anniversaries of 25+ years.

Friday, January 31, 2025 | 2 Shevat 5785

Service for the congregation at 6:00 pm
followed by a dinner for our Generations attendees
catered by Michael's catering

*DINNER: \$54 per adult | \$26 per child (ages 6 to 12)

**Dinner is complimentary for TBS Generations Members
and for children five years old and under**

Pre-registration is required for dinner at tbsmb.org/generations-5785/

EVENT CHAIRS

**Gina and Richard Russ | Brooke and Chad Perlyn
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There will be no solicitation at this event.

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Robin Straus Furlong
Laura Stuzin and David Bernstein
Chris and Michael Weinberg
Claudia Whitechurch and Andrew
Kane
Joan and Stanley Worton
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Erica and Aaron Zaron

*in formation as of 10.23.24



Generations is an initiative of
The Rabbi Gary A. Glickstein Foundation of Temple Beth Sholom.

CONTACT:

Katy Boyask at katy@tbsmb.org or 786.406.1375



Happy Birthday

December 1
Gemma Goldfarb
Nico Levi
Matias Nudel
Jarrett Posner
Jordan Posner
Pearl Spiegel
Laura Stuzin

December 2
Roberta Bassuk
Robert Bhat
Jude Cassel
Jonathan Chopp
Andrew Draznin
Amanda Hertzberg
Joshua Mintzer
Jessica Schwartz
Lisa Walsh
Richard Weisman

December 3
Ashley Abess
Nina Cooper
David Haber
Misha Kaplan
Romain Maurice
Michael Rogoff
Sasha Schor
Daniel Silberman
Susan Weisfeld

December 4
Reagan Appel
Regis Dix
Jacob Edelstein
Paul Freeman
Aaron Gordon
Eric Silver
Christopher Sloan
Zoey Zalaznick

December 5
Amelia Benitez
Giovanna Bush
Alexis Kay
Chloe Kimel
Todd Lewin
Owen Nahmad
Simon Paley
Ruth Stein

December 6
Caryn Goodman
Fred Kane
Alexandra Levy
Dava Michelson
Ruby Penson

December 7
Marlon Bruck

Lee Chachkes
Jeff Lubow
Alexander Matz
Amalia Miller
Jeffrey Miller
Daniel Nobel

December 8
John Cooper
Jose Fraga
Claudia Gontovnik
Marjorie Harris
Monica Horn
Leora Kalikow
Nora Liebowitz
David Stein
Rachel Weissman
Dana Winters

December 9
Thais Brenner
Matthew Clark
Alaia Greenberg
Richard Hirsch
Duran Levin
Karen Malki
Daniela Saunders
Sara Vargas

December 10
Jason Dinter
Georgia Kasewitz
Jessica Lewis
Susie London
Tasha Manes
Adam Meshberg
Hal Rosenbaum
Daniel Schmerin
Beth Wald
Maxwell Wiesenfeld

December 11
Jules Alhadeff
Barry Baumel
Jules Fulton
Samson Schmerin
Parker Zaron

December 12
Alexis Baldor
Vanessa Elias
Noah Gordon
Bodhi Greer
Anita Hoffman
Vanessa Ressler
Jared Rogoff

December 13
Asher Cotton
Jared Hoffman
Nora Kweller
Maria Moss

Alma Schenirer
December 14
Jordan Cirocco
Elis Douer
Jose Garcia
Sharon Kandel-Rachlin
Gary Manheimer
Jaclyn Miller
Noel Nation
Joshua Reiter
Gavin Rosen
Adam Sender
Benjamin Shore

December 15
Dannielle Damiani
Keith Gray
Jack Nelson

December 16
Harlow Boland
Ami Glottmann
Etan Mark
Julie Marshall
Alex Smith

December 17
Lilian Araten
Sabrina Cohen
Jodi Grossman
Adrienne Halpern
Robert Loevin
Carolina Sredni
Stanley Worton

December 18
Nolan Altman
Lannah Brenner
Annette Cannon
Lori Dribin
Megan Egozi
Zach Fox
Ava Foxman
Andres Gallardo
Jeffrey Goldstein
Randi Lawrence
Pamela Luria
Tennille Maisner
Ace Okhah
Steven Silverstein
Luke Weissman

December 19
Deborah Bienstock
Kayla Rosen
Riley Sepin
Alex Tolston
Sahar Ziv

December 20
Paul Chaplin

Joshua Dubin
Ariel Friedler
Jessica Glick
Luca Green
Eliza Greenwald
Brian Holland
Mona Holtz
Efraim Mashiah
Brent Palmer
David Salmanson
Dani Salzverg
Mark Schwartz
Eitan Shikhman
Diana Stein
Stacey Wald

December 21
David Amar
Allison Friedler
Jackson Mizener
Jessica Shore
Pomeraniec
Asher Silverstein
Noah Smulevich
Hannah Zuckerman

December 22
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December 23
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Dylan Bial
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Paula Hofman
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Arnold Straus
Jonathan Teich

December 24
Irving Barr
Ann Bussel
Abbey Chase-Palgon
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Marisa Kay
Lynn Stern
James Tolkin
Jennifer Tolkin

December 25
Diane Breslow
Sharon Fine
Maxim Gundelfinger
Derek Halpern
Jordan Levin

Noah Malki
Shiloh Malki
Itay Malkin

December 26
Darwin Castillo
Wayne Chaplin
Jenna Foger
Adam Horev
Steven Leifman
Aiden Levine
Noa Roedy
Susan Yoss

December 27
Dana Chopp
Jake Dardashtian
Jeremy Green
Evan Hurwitz
Joan Hyman
Max Lorber
Naomi Nixon
Joe Schwartz

December 28
Ada Bacheikov
Andrew Barnett
Liam Berko
Lloyd Hascoe
Georgia Jove
Michael Pardo
Carli Shekels
Emily Sherman

December 29
Joshua Harris
Hailee Hertzberg
Robert Hertzberg
Elisabeth Meland
Robert Miller
Mark Mutchnik
Ronald Schragger
Dylan Wax

December 30
Judy Abrams
Seth Alhadeff
Sienna Barten
Marsha Bilzin
Alyssa Frankel
Maxen Jacoby
Samuel Jacoby
Ian Kaplan
Ksenia Rud
Debra Salmanson
Matthew Shore

December 31
Devin Kay
Linette Laso
Tereska Lynam
Alan Mendelson

Happy Anniversary

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE TIME YOU HAVE SHARED TOGETHER

December 1

Alyx and Scott Aigen

December 3

Jessica and Mark Wohl

December 4

Dawn and Jack Rattner

December 6

Kathleen and Daniel Nobel

December 9

Jorge Pante and Jose Fraga

December 10

Wendy and Ronald Dickerman
Jill and Robert Hertzberg

December 11

Carol and Drew Chanin
Moni and Jeffrey Cohen
Mindy and Stanley Wachtenheim

December 12

Helena and Drew Kristol
Debora and Frank Schwartz

December 14

Chinya and Gerald Kornreich

December 15

Amanda Perwin and Seth Cassel
Joan and Gary Glickstein

December 16

Jacquelyn and Brett Holland
Yahima and Jonathan Kury
Darcee Siegel and Ira Lelchuk

December 17

Joan and Stanley Worton

December 18

Patti and Alan Weinstein

December 19

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December 20

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December 22

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December 23

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R. Barbara and Leonard Wien

December 24

Honey and Itzchak Pachter

December 26

Leslie and Gerald Harris

December 27

Ava and Scott Foxman
Trudy and Arthur Weissmann
Hilda and Manuel Zaiac

December 28

Jessica and Joel Glick
Marianne and Noel Nation
Joan Silverstein and Daniel Gelber

December 29

Marjorie and Joshua Harris

December 30

Judy and Barry Kutun
Pamela and Peter Luria
Wendy and David Smith

December 31

Bruce Starr and David DeVos
Mia and Andrew Glassberg
Alexandra and William Roedy



Please visit our Israel Committee page for updates, videos, and resources.



Each month the TBS Freedom to Read taskforce will feature one of over 3,000 books banned in the state of Florida. Book bans are defined as any action taken against a book by a parent, community member, school administration or government official. Bans may result in permanent or temporary removal from school or library shelves. While South Florida counties have very few book bans, Florida leads the nation in books being challenged and banned in schools. Learn more about book bans here: <https://pen.org/book-bans-frequently-asked-questions/> To support the end of local book banning, check out the Books and Books Literary Foundation <https://www.booksandbooks.com/foundation/>

Book: *Gender Queer: A Memoir*

Reason Banned: LGBTQIA+ content/Sexual content

By Edgar Umlas

Gender Queer is an autobiographical graphic novel recounting the path of self-discovery and self-actualization taken by author Maia Kobabe, from childhood to the present; It is also the most challenged book of 2023 as stated by the American Library Association.

It is deeply earnest, refusing to shy away from all of the messy parts of being a young person trying to figure out who you are and who you want to be—periods, sexuality, and David Bowie included. Unabashedly gross, genuine, beautiful, and strange, *Gender Queer* is the joy of being young and human and transgender wrapped up in one gorgeously illustrated package.

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Contact Seth Cohen for more info: seth@tbsmb.org

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Their
Memory
 is a
Blessing

Zichronam Livracha.

"For everything there is a season."

Kohelet 3:1.

Chief Judge Emeritus A. Jay Cristol, father of David (Cecilia) and Stephen (Violeta) Cristol; and grandfather of Samantha, Rachel and Daniel Cristol.

Charlie Van de Walker, brother of Linda (Gary) Rosenberg; and uncle of Kate Rosenberg (Adam Kron), Andrew Rosenberg (Sarah Monteiro) and Daniel Rosenberg (Starr Leavitt).

Dr. Bruce Julien, father of Cheryl (Dana) Kaufman, Stephen Julien, and Susan (Steven) Cramer; and grandfather of Jamie Julien, Lindsay (Mike) Serviansky, Spencer (Rachel) Kaufman, Jordan Julien, and Matt Cramer.

An estimated \$84 trillion in
 wealth is expected to be transferred
 between the generations over the
 next two decades. This includes
 \$11.9 trillion to charities.*

Have you considered creating your Jewish legacy by including Temple Beth Sholom in your estate plans?

Many donations to the temple are exempt from gift and estate taxes and may even have capital gains and income tax benefits.

Examples include:

- A bequest to Temple Beth Sholom in your will or trust.
- Designating Temple Beth Sholom as the beneficiary of all or part of your qualified retirement plan, such as an IRA or 401k.

For more examples of ways to plan ahead, visit tbsmb.org/legacy

Contact: Katy Boyask, director of advancement at katy@tbsmb.org or 786.406.1375

*Cerulli Associates, 2022



L'DOR V'DOR
 לדור ודור
the endowment





B-Mitzvah

DECEMBER 2024

Norah Violet Alacqua will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on December 7, 2024. She is the daughter of Grace Rais and Carl Joshua Alacqua and sister to Peter Cosmo Alacqua and Carly Eleanor Alacqua. Her grandparents are Alba Gutierrez and Abraham Rais and Angela and Carl Alacqua. As part of her mitzvot, Norah is in the madrichol program at Temple Beth Shalom where she helps teachers during Saturday JLab with the smaller children. She is also a member of a teen mitzvah corps which meets periodically to brainstorm ways to incorporate different mitzvot in their lives, such as beach cleanups, fundraisers, etc.



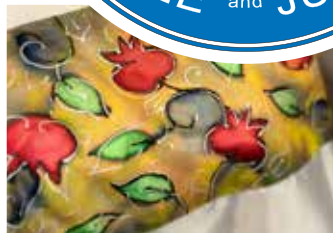
Ethan Orlowsky will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on December 14, 2024. He is the son of Shelly and James Orlowsky and brother of Noah Orlowsky. His grandparents are David and the late Esther Orlowsky and Ziva Nitzan. As part of his mitzvot, Ethan will be making a donation to local animal welfare organizations.

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Deadline: December 31



Who can take advantage of the IRA charitable rollover provision?

If you have an IRA and you are 70 1/2 or older, you and your spouse (each) can make a tax-free charitable distribution from your IRA.



What is the maximum gift?

A gift of up to \$105,000 can be made from your IRA.



Who can receive this gift?

The IRA must be gifted directly to a public charity, such as Temple Beth Shalom.



What is the deadline?

Now through December 31.

Top 3 Benefits

- 1 Help satisfy your required minimum distribution
- 2 Reduce your taxable income
- 3 Build our endowment at Temple Beth Shalom for future generations or designate to your chosen area at TBS

Consult



Please consult with your tax professional to learn how an IRA charitable rollover may benefit you.

Contact Director of Advancement Katy Boyask at katy@tbsmb.org or 786.406.1375.

Gift Wrapping Event

Reshity

We will be collecting toys for donations throughout the month and come together for dinner and wrapping all collected toys.

December 10 at 6:30 pm
in the Social Hall

Michael A. Dribin

*Fellow, American College of Trust and Estate Counsel
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YOUTH CAMPAIGN 2024

This Chanukah, please consider an end-of-year gift to the Youth Campaign at Temple Beth Shalom and The Innovative School will recognize donors who have made a minimum gift of \$1,800 or more on a donor recognition wall, which will be installed on our campus after the playground renovations.

For more information, please visit tbsmb.org/youthcampaign to download the brochure, view renderings and videos.

Every dollar counts and is deeply appreciated. Thank you to all of our generous donors.

Contact: Director of Advancement Katy Boyask at katy@tbsmb.org | 786.406.1375





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