



*What
a Year!*



Thanks for Being a Part of it all!



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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. 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 | Select Saturdays
 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 Gabby at gabby@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

“To everything there is a season, and a time for every experience under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1

These past several years, starting with COVID and continuing through October 7th and the subsequent and prolonged wars in Israel, have been a period of upheaval and uncertainty for the world at large and Jews in particular. At Temple Beth Shalom, we have attempted to be a place of stability and security despite the whirlwinds around us. Making our synagogue a place of comfort and belonging is a core goal for us.

In January, when Cantor Porat announced his departure, we quickly launched into a cantorial search, led by Tamas Doffek and Myra Spindel – many thanks to them for working so thoroughly and quickly. Despite our great efforts, we did not find the cantor who met with our highest expectations. We will renew our efforts in a timelier way this Fall and feel confident that we will find a superlative candidate who is the right fit for our congregation.

In the meantime, many plans are underway to make sure that our congregation will continue to sing, learn, prepare for b'nei mitzvah celebrations and be elevated by music in the year ahead.

I am delighted to tell you that our highly regarded b'nei mitzvah tutor, Karen Pincus, who has been with us for three years and led many b'nei mitzvah and Shabbat services here at TBS, will be stepping in to sing at Shabbat and b'nei mitzvah services and administer and oversee our b'nei-mitzvah program.

For the High Holy Days, we will be bringing in an ordained cantor to lead us in song and prayer, with many of our familiar and cherished melodies. Karen Pincus will also play a role in leading our Rosh HaShanah Day two services, as well as preparing our Torah chanters.

Mason Duboff, our schools' beloved Music Specialist, will continue to rock out with and foster a love for singing in our children at our Innovative School, jLAB and tot shabbat.

Our multi-talented former temple president, Vanessa Ressler, will be continuing to sing at some of our Shabbat services, and coordinate our Purim shpiel. Vanessa will also continue to lead our beautiful Shalom Rockers in song, as well as coordinate our incredible congregational singers on the holidays.

Finally, our Music Director for over ten years, Alan Caves, will continue to be a talented and steady force in accompanying our holiday and Shabbat services. His experience will guide us in our preparations for the holidays, as well as weekly Shabbat experiences.

How lucky we are to have such a talented team, here all along, and now deployed to sustain us in song through the year ahead!

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our musical program in the coming year or our cantorial search. Thank you for your patience as we work to maintain the highest standards.

Wishing you all a summer of adventure, relaxation, and renewal!

Warmest regards,



President's Message

Michael Weinberg
President

Serving as President of Temple Beth Sholom has been one of the greatest honors of my life. As my term comes to a close this month, I find myself reflecting with immense gratitude on the opportunity to serve such an extraordinary community.

Temple Beth Sholom is not just a place—it is a living, breathing community built on relationships, shared values, and the collective commitment of people who care deeply about one another and about the future of Jewish life. Over the past two years, I have had the privilege of witnessing the strength of this community in so many ways: through moments of celebration and moments of challenge, through acts of generosity, through learning, prayer, and countless mitzvot that continue to define who we are.

I am deeply grateful to our clergy, professional staff, and dedicated volunteers who make everything we do possible. Our Board of Directors has given generously of their time, talent, and wisdom, always guided by what is best for our congregation. And of course, none of this would be possible without each of you—our members—whose engagement and support sustain this community every day.

Together we have continued to strengthen Temple Beth Sholom's culture of belonging, ensuring that every member feels seen, valued, and connected. We have expanded opportunities for engagement, supported meaningful learning and worship, and reinforced our commitment to caring for one another and serving the broader community.

Leadership transitions are an important moment in the life of any congregation, and I could not be more excited about the future. It is my great pleasure to welcome Suzanne Meltzer as the next President of Temple Beth Sholom.

Suzanne is a thoughtful, passionate, and deeply committed leader who has already contributed so much to our community. She brings a strong sense of purpose, warmth, and vision to this role, and I know she will lead our congregation with both heart and

wisdom. Suzanne understands what makes Temple Beth Sholom special and shares a deep commitment to ensuring that our community continues to grow and thrive for generations to come.

While my formal role may be ending, my commitment to Temple Beth Sholom certainly is not. I remain deeply devoted to this community that has given our family so much.

Thank you for the trust you placed in me. It has been a true privilege to serve.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M Weinberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Cantor's Message

Cantor Juval Porat

As I've spent these last few weeks packing up my office, I've been reminded of a universal truth: transitions are rarely easy. Packing up a life is not just the physical act of putting things into boxes; it is the emotional work of closing a chapter and stepping into the unknown. And yet, even in the unsettling moments of this "sacred chaos," I'm finding lessons waiting to be uncovered.

While sorting through shelves, I stumbled upon books I'd always meant to read - worlds of wisdom that sat quietly within arm's reach. At first, I wished I had opened them sooner. But as I placed them into boxes to take with me, I realized that carrying unread books into a new chapter is its own metaphor for our infinitely deep tradition - always offering more to discover no matter where our journey leads.

As I sorted through my sheet music, I paused at the pencil marks left by colleagues and mentors who passed these arrangements down to me. Breath marks, tempo changes, notes in the margins - gentle reminders that we do not own the music. As a cantor, I am simply its steward for a time.

Music only truly comes alive when we literally breathe life into the blueprints on a page and when a congregation raises its collective voice to join in.

For the past three years, it has been my deepest honor to be the steward of this community's music. I have added my own marginalia to the pages we have sung together, and soon, I will pass them on to whomever stands on this bimah next.

In *Pirkei Avot*, Rabbi Tarfon teaches: "It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you free to desist from it." My work here is drawing to a close as I prepare to move to Providence, Rhode Island, and join the clergy team at Temple Beth-El. But the music we built together remains.

Thank you for your voices, your breath, and your sacred time. May this community continue to sing, to discover, and to add its own beautiful marks to the margins of our tradition.

L'hitraot,



Innovative School

Stacy Penson



As I complete my first year as Head of School, I feel both incredibly proud and deeply grateful. The saying “the days are long, but the years are short” has never felt more true. From the very beginning of this school year, our North Star was clear: *One School, One Community of Belonging*.

Over the course of this year, we have worked intentionally to bring that vision to life, always placing our learners at the center of every decision. We broke down silos between departments and created collaborative teams aligned around a shared vision of excellence. In doing so, we reimagined ourselves not as separate parts, but as one connected school serving children and families from two months through fifth grade.

Our school is an integral part of a larger sacred community. As a school within our temple, we are part of something enduring and deeply rooted. Our children do not simply attend school here; they grow up within a living *Kehilla* that surrounds them with tradition, meaning, and shared purpose. They see Jewish life not as something separate, but as something woven into their daily experiences, through learning, celebration, relationships, and values.

From that strong foundation, we turned outward, deepening our partnerships with families and strengthening the connection between home and school. We wanted every family to feel and experience the joy, purpose, and meaning that define learning here each day.

At the same time, we are living in a moment of profound change in education. As technology and artificial intelligence continue to reshape the world, we are reminded that the true purpose of education goes far beyond content. What matters most are the uniquely human qualities we nurture in our children: creativity, empathy, connection, and the ability to think deeply and act with purpose.

Our *Kehilla* values guide us in who we are and shape the environment we create, one where every learner

feels seen, supported, and inspired to grow not only as a learner, but also as a compassionate human being. When we lead with intention and love, we are not just preparing our children for the future; we are empowering them to shape it.

This work is deeply meaningful to me. I never take for granted the privilege of leading a school so rooted in values, where joyful learning and academic excellence go hand in hand, and where children and families feel truly known and connected.

I am filled with gratitude for this community and inspired by all we have accomplished together. And more than anything, I am excited for what lies ahead.

Warmly,

Stacy

EARTH SUMMIT

Elementary Learners will unveil their projects tackling real-world problems with innovation and creativity

innovativeschool.org/earth

Earth Summit
May 7-8, 2026



EVERYONE IS GENUINE AND ACCEPTING. THE TEACHERS
ACKNOWLEDGE ME AND HOW I AM FEELING.
- 2ND GRADE

(GIVE) BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Thank you to everyone who joined us for **(Give) Back to School Night** at the Shelborne Hotel, and to our entire community for your continued support.



The evening was filled with energy, connection, and a shared sense of purpose, all in support of our Innovative Enhancements Fund, which will help bring our new media center and library to life. It marked an exciting beginning and a clear commitment to investing, together, in the future of Innovative School and in the generations of learners who will follow.



While the library and media center will be an important physical space, the vision behind it reflects our belief in curiosity, creativity, and the skills our learners will carry into a rapidly changing world. Building a culture of philanthropy starts with moments like this—when a community comes together with pride, generosity, and a shared sense of responsibility.





A Vision of Philanthropy

Madeleine Novack
Director of Philanthropy

Since I joined Temple Beth Sholom, I've heard again and again that we are "in a moment." A moment of excitement, transition, opportunity, and eagerness.

Our congregation and the Innovative School continue to grow with individuals and families who bring incredible presence to our community. At the same time, we are preparing to honor a remarkable chapter in our history as Rabbi Davis retires this May after 31 years of service defined by deep relationships and profound impact on us as individuals and as a congregation. We will also welcome a new Board President, Suzanne Meltzer, in June, who has already had a profound impact on our community, and we look forward to her leadership. And everywhere I turn, I hear thoughtful ideas for leveraging our unique strengths and vibrancy.

Moments like this invite possibility and responsibility. If we are truly going to seize this moment, it helps to share a common understanding of what it means for each of us to contribute to the future we are building together.

At Temple Beth Sholom and the Innovative School, we express that idea through our vision for a culture of philanthropy:

We cultivate a thriving culture of philanthropy across Temple Beth Sholom and the Innovative School, where generosity feels inevitable because relationships and shared purpose come first. Every member, family, and friend who passes through our doors shares in the responsibility to sustain this sacred place.

We honor and celebrate the many expressions of giving: financial gifts that provide stability and opportunity, volunteered time that breathes life into our programs, and shared wisdom that guides our decisions.

Together, these gifts and the culture from which they come create a living legacy that secures Jewish learning, worship, and community for generations to come.

This vision reflects something important: philanthropy is not only about financial support. It includes sharing your ideas and feedback to help us improve, connecting us with people who can help advance our goals, offering your talents and wisdom through volunteering, and serving on committees that guide our future.

My hope is that you can see yourself somewhere in this vision. And if you don't quite see yourself in it yet, my hope is that you will in the near future. I invite you to explore

your interests with our leadership and me at any time – we welcome those conversations with open arms.

In just a short time, I've already seen many beautiful expressions of this spirit across our community.

Our new Philanthropy Committee, led by Etan Mark and joined by Mike Weinberg, Suzanne Meltzer, Sarah Schor, Jarryd Wood, Matt Levenson, Scott Burk, and Tamas Doffek, has come together with wisdom, heart, and dedication to help ensure that Temple Beth Sholom and the Innovative School continue to thrive.

Mitzvah Day was truly incredible! A thirty-year tradition led this year by Ashley Gilboa and Shelby Kempler, is one that we should all be proud of, one in which we live out our passion, leadership, and commitment to creating a brighter world for all (inside and outside our walls).

Our PTO spent months preparing for Grandparents Day, and on the morning of March 13, the campus was filled with light, laughter, and love. It was a powerful reminder of the feeling we strive to cultivate here: a place where we feel safe, where we belong, and where we can be hopeful. When a community feels that way, people naturally want to protect and sustain it.

And in just two short months, a small group of Innovative School parents helped organize the school's inaugural parent fundraiser, while the broader school community rallied to create an extraordinary silent auction. Alex Shueler, Katie Schwartz, Shauna Goldberg, were our co-chairs, and committee members included Gili Gibli, Whitney Silverstein, and Amanda Greenfield.

There are many more examples like these. Each one reflects the same truth that when people care deeply about a community, they find ways to give of themselves to strengthen it.

I look forward to discovering even more ways for us to express our philanthropy, individually and collectively.

After all, the word philanthropy literally means "lover of humanity." We are meant to live in connection with one another. And this temple and school are among the most meaningful places where that connection, and our shared belonging, come to life.

Madeleine

305.538.7231 ext. 375



Barb Shimansky, RJE
Senior Director of Judaic Studies



Embracing Complexity: Reflections on Israel Education and Leadership

During two three-day seminars in February and March, I completed a Certificate in Israel Education Leadership through the Spertus Institute in partnership with CAJE Miami. The experience challenged and deepened my thinking about what it means to teach Israel in today's world, and I return to our education programs with both renewed purpose and a deep appreciation for the complexity of this work.

Our Innovative School team - Rabbi Loiben, Gili Gibli, and I - was tasked with developing an initiative to strengthen Israel education in our school. We are focusing on clearly defining and communicating our values, vision, and mission for our elementary learners. In conversation with colleagues across Miami-Dade, a shared realization emerged: while our schools differ, we are all grappling with similar questions. Israel education is not a fixed body of knowledge, but an evolving conversation.

A central framework we explored was "values in tension." We identified "red lines" – non-negotiable commitments – and "orange lines" – areas of discomfort that invite growth. This approach highlights an essential truth: this work is ongoing. We must continually reflect, refine, and revisit our assumptions.

We also engaged deeply with key content areas, including the diversity of Israeli society, the role of multiple narratives, and the realities of the Israel-Palestinian conflict. Israel is not a monolith, but a tapestry of identities and experiences.

Last Days of jLAB for the 2025-2026 School Year

Monday, May 4 |
Last day for
Grades 8 and 9

Saturday, May 9 |
Last jLAB Shabbat
for Grades K-5

Monday, May 11 |
Last jLAB Geshet
for Grades 6 and 7

Wednesday, May 13
Last jLAB Taglit
for Grades K-5

Effective education requires helping learners encounter this diversity and engage thoughtfully with differing perspectives.

Equally important is how we teach. For younger learners, Israel education should begin with culture, daily life, and human stories, building a foundation for more complex conversations over time. Our goal is to move beyond slogans toward meaningful, developmentally appropriate understanding, while equipping learners with the confidence and skills to navigate real-world conversations.

A powerful take away came from Peter Cole's poem "*The Perfect State*," which suggests that perfection is not a destination, but a process shaped by growth and change. This resonates deeply in education: there is no single "right" way to teach Israel. Rather than waiting for perfection, we are called to engage in ongoing learning and thoughtful experimentation.

Ultimately, this experience reinforced the importance of embracing complexity. Israel education asks us to hold multiple truths, navigate discomfort, and remain open to growth. As we continue this work in our education programs, I look forward to engaging our community in thoughtful and meaningful ways, grounded in shared values and a commitment to learning.

Barb

Teacher Appreciation Shabbat - Friday, May 8 | 6:00 pm

Celebrate the incredible educators who make our learning community so special at our upcoming Teacher Appreciation Shabbat. Together, we will honor their dedication, creativity, and commitment to our learners. Please join us for a meaningful service as we express our gratitude and recognize the impact of our wonderful teaching team.

End of Year Family Celebration | Saturday, May 9 | 11:30 am

Join us at the conclusion of our final Saturday session of jLAB as we wrap up a meaningful year of learning together. We invite all jLAB families to a closing Tefillah in the chapel at 11:30 am, followed by a special community lunch - an opportunity to celebrate our learners, connect with one another, and reflect on the year. We hope you'll be there to mark this special milestone together!

Confirmation | Friday, May 22 | 6:00 pm

Join us for our Confirmation ceremony as we celebrate our 10th grade teens and their continued commitment to Jewish learning and identity. Through thoughtful study and personal exploration, our confirmands have deepened their connection to Jewish life and community. We look forward to marking this important milestone together - mazal tov to our Confirmation class!

jLAB Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year opens on Monday, June 1!



Social Justice

Jeff Agron

Social Justice Director

This past year has been filled with many wonderful social justice programs which engaged hundreds of our Temple Beth Sholom members, as we worked to serve our local community. This year our focus has been on food insecurity, with our team led by Rachel Umlas and Amanda Greenfield. We have also worked with RAC-FL on issues related to immigration, with that work led by Doris Galindo and Samantha Stein. Thank you to these wonderful leaders.

Of course, the highlight of our work was our 30th Annual Mitzvah Day and the Soup Contest. We had 30+ projects and over 700 people participating to better our community. The Soup Contest had 15 chefs and raised \$7,800 for Food Rescue US – South Florida, to help those in Miami-Dade experiencing food insecurity. On Erev Shabbat before Mitzvah Day, Ellen Bowen from Food Rescue was our featured speaker. Special thanks to our Mitzvah Day co-chairs, Shelby Kempler and Ashley Gilboa. This year, for the first time, we had significant sponsorship for Mitzvah Day to help us pay for the coffee cart, commemorative hats, breakfasts, and the cost of many of our projects. Our next Mitzvah Day is Sunday, February 28, 2027. Our co-chairs will be Ashley Gilboa and Kelsey Levey.

Coming Up:

This June, Temple Beth Sholom will be hosting “Ruach of Pride,” a Pride celebration in partnership with JCRC and Keshet. June 4, 6:00 pm.

In the Fall, we will again be working with RAC-FL and RAC National on their Every Voice, Every Vote campaign to make sure that everyone who is eligible can register to vote, and cast their vote, and that every vote is counted. If you are interested in joining our Get out the Vote team at this crucial moment, please contact Rabbi Jacobs, rabbijacobs@tbsmb.org.

Please join us for a Voter Education event on October 7 at 7:00 pm.

Here are some important dates for 2026-27:

Social Justice Network meetings: September 1, December 8, March 9, and May 18.

Reverse *Tashlich* Beach Cleanup: Sunday, September 6
 Everything but the Turkey at TBS: Sunday, November 8
 Mitzvah Day and Soup Contest: Sunday, February 28, 2027.

A full list of dates will be sent in September.

We would like to thank Andrea Wagner, Rachel Unger, Rachel Samek, and Ellie Feldman for taking over our Bags of Happiness project, to provide healthy food to those experiencing food insecurity at local schools. Also, thanks to Adam Snitzer for joining Carolyn West on our Mazon project at Chapman Partnership, which continues over the summer on the Third Monday of each month.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy summer.



Happy Shavuot

Friday, May 22
 9:30 am Shavuot Torah Study
 10:30 am Shavuot Services/Yizkor
 6:00 pm Confirmation Service

Celebrate our 10th graders and their completion of a rigorous year of learning as they lead us in the 2026 Confirmation Service.
TBSMB.ORG/SHAVUOT

Special Guest

Judge Roy K. Altman



Judge Roy Altman will be speaking at TBS about his new book "Israel on Trial"

THURSDAY
May 14

7:00 - 9:00 PM
 Sanctuary/ Welcome Center

Ruach of Pride

Thursday, June 4, 6pm ET

A gathering for LGBTQ+ Jews, allies, and friends, in the spirit of Temple Israel of Greater Miami's historical Pride Seder.

In partnership



Membership

Craig Berko

Director of Membership

There is a quiet but powerful idea that has stayed with me over the years, one that I learned by watching, and listening... Show up.

Whether you join us each week, come occasionally, gather during the High Holy Days, or support this sacred place through your annual commitment, you are showing up in your own meaningful way. To show up takes many forms, and each one matters. You are part of what makes this community strong, caring, and enduring. It sounds simple, but it is not always easy. And yet, it is often everything.

As we move beyond the reflection and renewal of Passover and enter the summer months, I find myself thinking about that idea more deeply, what it means to show up for one another, and what it truly means to belong. Even as the season shifts, one constant remains: our community continues to gather each week for Shabbat, creating space for connection, reflection, and togetherness.

For more than 80 years, Temple Beth Sholom has been a place where people show up. A sacred space where Jewish life is not only observed, but lived, through celebration, learning, support, and presence. In moments of joy, in times of need, and in the everyday rhythms of life, this community is here.

And that is what community really is. It is not just a place. It is a commitment. A promise that we will be there for one another. That we will show up.

Our clergy embody this in so many ways. They teach, guide, celebrate, and comfort. They are present for life's most meaningful moments, offering wisdom and connection rooted in our shared traditions.

We also pause with deep gratitude as Rabbi Davis prepares to retire in May.

Rabbi Davis has meant a great deal to me and to my family. What he has given goes far beyond words or sermons, it is something felt. Through his presence, he taught me a simple but profound truth: showing up matters.

Showing up with intention.

Showing up with care.

Showing up for people, especially in the moments that matter most.

That lesson is with me, personally and professionally. And in many ways, it lives within the fabric of this community.

Supporting Temple Beth Sholom is more than sustaining an institution. It is affirming that Jewish life matters...today, tomorrow, and for the generations who will follow us. It is a way of saying: I am here. I care. I will show up. But belonging is not only about supporting the temple, it is also about being part of it.

If you have ever thought about becoming more involved, this is your invitation. There are many meaningful ways to connect:

Brotherhood and Sisterhood:

- Sisterhood Contact: Rabbi Joanne Loiben – rabbiloiben@tbsmb.org
- Brotherhood Contact: Mark Baranek – mark@tbsmb.org

Social Justice Network (SJN) & Israel Committee:

- Contact: Jeff Agron – jagron@tbsmb.org

Shabbat Services:

- Fridays at 6:00 pm and Saturdays at 10:30 am

Panim El Panim:

Small conversation circles designed to deepen relationships and build meaningful connections

- Contact: Jaleh Bast – jaleh@tbsmb.org

Meet with Our Clergy:

If you would like to connect personally with a member of our clergy team, please feel free to reach out to me, and I would be happy to facilitate an introduction.

As part of strengthening our connections, I also invite each head of household to share a current photo (a headshot or family photo where the head(s) of household are clearly visible), along with any updated occupation information. These small details help us better know one another and create a more personal and welcoming community.

Please email your photo and occupation updates directly to craig@tbsmb.org, and I will update your membership profile.

Our children are always watching. They learn what it means to belong, to give, and to care by seeing what we choose to prioritize. They learn what it means to show up by watching us do exactly that. We are the guardians of a beautiful and enduring Jewish legacy. The choices we make today shape the community and the future that they will inherit. Thank you for continuing to show up for Temple Beth Sholom and for one another.

And to Rabbi Davis, my Rabbi, dear friend and inspiring teacher, you made a difference in my life, my family, and in the lives of thousands over the many years. To me, that's a wonderful legacy, to have made a difference. That is a life well lived. I appreciate you.

Wishing all our community a meaningful and restful summer.

With appreciation and warm regards,

Craig



YOUTH Department Update

Rabbi Joanne Loiben

Shabbat Siyyum

Celebrating & Honoring our Teens!

Friday, May 15 • 6:00 pm

- Seniors • Kronish Award Recipients • BESHTY Leads
- Justice League and Israel Fellowships • Outgoing BESHTY Board

Thank you to our BESHTY Board this year, you were amazing...

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Charlotte Mark*
Vice President
Emme Basner*
LEADS President
Karli Breslow*

Dana Chopp*
Ellie Feldman
Emma Fernandez

Chloe Fuller
Harper Harris
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Gabrielle Tchira
Myles Weisenfeld
Lexi Weissman
Brielle Zaitz
Aden Zimmerman

**Seniors - Mazel Tov!*

Confirmation

Friday, May 22 • 6:00 pm

Jonah Bernstein
Maxwell Bickman
Ezra Buchman
Noah Cantor
Izzy Diamond
Eli Gross
Ethan Horowitz
Roan Hurwitz

Josephine Louis
Sabrina Lubow
Mash Manes
Micah Ressler
Emet Sheldon
Theodore Wagner
Myles Wiesenfeld



INCOMING BESHTY BOARD
Stay tuned - our incoming board
will be announced in the August HaKOL

HE'S SO



Retirement Celebration for

Rabbi Robert A. Davis

May 1, 2026 at 6:00 pm || Temple Beth Sholom



*Please Join Us On May 1
As We Gather To Celebrate
Rabbi Robert A. Davis
On The Eve Of His Retirement!*

Services begin at 6:00 PM
with a catered dinner to follow
Dinner: \$118 per adult
The service is free and open to all.
Reservations are required to attend
the dinner.

Please RSVP at: tbsmb.org/RAD

*Through the generosity of donors,
no one will be turned away due to cost.
Your presence is what matters most!*

Event Co-Chairs:

Ira Giller

Anita Grossman

Ethan Grossman





Retirement Celebration for

Rabbi Robert A. Davis

May 1, 2026 at 6:00 pm || Temple Beth Sholom

We are grateful for the generous support of our underwriters

**Net proceeds benefit the Rabbi Robert A. Davis Fund,
providing scholarships to our youth and teachers.**

*Thank You to Our Sponsors**

\$10,000 You're a RAD Macher

Irene, Charles and Lisa Barr Family • The Grossman, Giller, and Nelson Family
Tamara Friedman Nixon and Daniel D Nixon^{z"l}
Naomi Nixon and Greg Andris and Families

\$5,400 Righteously RAD

Rabbi Gary & Joanie Glickstein • The Unger/Feldman Families

\$3,600 You're Totally RAD

Marjorie Baron and Michael Spritzer
Citrin Financial and Insurance, Inc. and
Pearl Benefits Group, Inc.
Dribin Family

The Kasdin Family
J. Paul Lobkovich and Mike Mulvagh
*in loving memory of Mike Conway
and Chip Crosby - Zichronam livracha*

Mark Ferrer & Hayden PLLC
Citrin Financial and Insurance, Inc. and
Pearl Benefits Group, Inc.
The Shepard Broad Foundation

\$1,800 You're So RAD

Joanne and Danny Aronson and Family
Michael D. Berman
Dr. Arnold Blaustein
and Malka Mordujovich
Jaqui and Eric Broad
Caron and Neil Dubrow
Paul Feinsilver and Deborah Rosenberg
Groff Family
Mark H. and Jo Ann Hildebrandt

Debbie and Andy Hirschl
Kathy and Larry Hurwitz
Jeremy Lappin
Suzanne and Brad Meltzer
Jana and Roger Miller Family
Bobbi Ossip
Rabbi Gayle Pomerantz
and Adam Snitzer
Nancy and Kenny Ratzan

Andi and Peter Russin and Family
Russ Rywell and Cindy Lieber
Marte V. and Paul Steven Singerman
The Sloan Family
David and Wendy Smith
Temple Beth Sholom Brotherhood
Chris and Mike Weinberg and Family
Nikki and Randy Weisburd
Anonymous (1)

\$500 You're RAD

Nancy Ackerman and Alex Warshofsky
Kip and Barbara Amazon
Betty, Craig and Liam Berko
Ralph and Sonya Choeff
Dr. Raquel Bild-Libbin and Jerry Libbin
Jacob and Vanessa Cohen
Paul and Regine Freeman
Dr. Frederic and Linda Friedman
Fryd Family
Kim and Dan Haber
Gail Harris

Wendy Hart and Ronald Schragar
Arden and Jack Karson
Shari Klinger and Abraham Bichachi
Alice Miller and Fran Levey
First Horizon Bank
Jose Lutzky and Elizabeth Camargo
Jenni Person and Chaim LieberPerson
Jo-Ann Rauch and Lawrence Weinstein
Reiter Family
Temple Beth Sholom Staff
The Clergy of Temple Beth Am

Rachel and Josh Samek
Cantor Lisa Segal
R. Tishman
Alexis and Scott Wagner
Andrea Wagner and Seth Alhadeff
The Weithorn Family
Phyllis and Marty Winston ^{z"l}
Anonymous (3)



Retirement Celebration for
Rabbi Robert A. Davis

Donations to the Rabbi A. Davis Fund

Dr. Kevin and Judy Abrams
 Jeffrey and Liliana Agron
 Sandy and Jeana Altman
 Nikki and Richard Baron
 Abbey Chase-Palgon
 and Manny Palgon
 Judith Chestler
 Denise Courshon and Alan Weisberg
 Adriana and Glenn Dryfoos

Dale Gratz
 Sharon Jacobson and Steve Feiffer
 Malka Mordujovich
 Adelle Nicholson
 Vanessa and Gary Ressler
 Russ Mishkin Perlyn Family
 Jaleh Samway Bast and Jeffrey Bast
 Myra Spindel and Bart Chepenik
 Lorraine and Joseph Steen

Jodi Steinbauer
 Robin Straus Furlong
 Constance Thorpe and Mark Abend
 Cathy and John Tighe
 Lisa and Charles Treister
 Anonymous (2)

As of 4/8/26

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING!



BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 7:00 PM

The Board of Trustees invites you to join us for our Annual Congregational Meeting.
 This special gathering is your opportunity to engage in the business of our temple community.
 Join us as we:

- Share highlights and updates from the past year
- Vote on and install the new Board slate
- Open the floor for your questions and reflections

Your voice and presence matter—we hope you'll be there. Light refreshments will be served.
 We look forward to welcoming you!

RSVP: tbs@tbsmb.org



Rabbinical Association of Greater Miami

April 10, 2026 / 23 Nissan 5786

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Rabbinical Association, we would like to congratulate our dear colleague and friend, Rabbi Robert Davis on his retirement.

Rabbi Davis, a previous president of our organization, has been a powerful presence for over three decades. He is someone who has made his rabbinate synonymous with accompaniment, meeting people where they are in their lives, providing sacred presence and spiritual insight. This is reflective of Rabbi Davis's personality; he is a seeker himself- a human being who tries to live authentically and powerfully. We cannot think of a better model of rabbinic leadership. To be a rabbi is not simply a job, but rather a vocation. As he transitions, we know he will continue to contribute to this world, bringing light and healing to the community. His unique personality and insights will be sorely missed.

We believe Rabbi Davis embodies the adage of Shammai in the Ethics of the Fathers. "Make your study of the Torah a fixed practice; speak little but do much; and receive all men with a pleasant countenance" (1:5). Shammai makes spiritual leadership sound easy, but as rabbis we know it is not. We know Rabbi Davis does not seek honor, though he very much deserves it. We share with the entire congregation in honoring his service to Temple Beth Sholom and look forward to hearing about his next adventure.

The entire community of Rabbinic leadership shares in today's *simcha* celebration. Our dear Bob, may you go from strength to strength!

Mazal Tov!

Rabbi Frederick L. Klein
Executive Vice President

Rabbi Judith Siegal
President

Rabbinical Association of Greater Miami

Seussical, The Musical

By Vanessa Ressler, Director/Choreographer

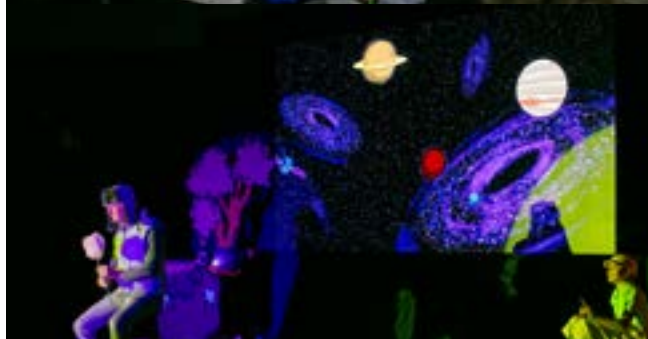
Our sanctuary flipped, then flopped into fun,
A jungle, a town, and bright skies full of sun.
On March 14 and 15 we sang, danced, and played—
Two full shows, and the whole happy crowd surely
stayed!

Twenty-three players—both spry and quite sage—
From youngster to elder—all took the stage.
We twirled through Nool, we zipped down
Who-streets,
In colorful costumes and tap-tappy beats.

Families cheered as the story unfurled; Huge thanks
to the cast and crew who brought joy to the world.

This show was more than a laugh or a tune—
It was about people, together in one room.
Like mitzvot that bind us, like stories passed on,
We built up our mishpacha from dusk until dawn.

Intergenerational voices, hands, heart, and song—
Prove community grows when we welcome all along.
Many doors, many ways to belong and to give:
That's Jewish life lived—how we gather, how we live.



Many thanks to our Cast and Crew:

Carly Alacqua
Norah Alacqua
Oleva Benrey
Dylan Bial
Jordan Bial
Matt Bial
Len Briggs
Zoey Burk
Alan Caves
Noemi Cortes
Sharon Ellis
Dani Eixarch
Alyssa Frankel
Andrew Horowitz
Ethan Horowitz
Greg Horowitz
Katie Kirby
Gabby Krain-Sasson
Helena Kristol

Teddy Lubin
Sean Olivera
Jacob Palmer
Lily Palmer
Stacy Penson
Gary Ressler
Nili Ressler
Vanessa Ressler
Dean Rotbart
Jonah Rubin
Ryan Shapiro
Barb Shimansky
Adam Trautenberg
Rachel Umlas
Bea Wood



Their **Memory** is a **Blessing**

Herbert "Herb" Block, uncle of Marti (Mark) Stone and Arlene Kanter (Steven Kepnes); great-uncle of Sarah and Nathan, Rachel, and Ari and Ashley; and great-granduncle of Evan, Lily, and Shayna.

Jack Barry Tobin, husband of Amy; father of Michael (Leslie) Tobin and Lisa (David) Jacobson; grandfather of Joshua, Drew and Eli Tobin, Adam and Rachel Jacobson; brother-in-law of Joan Ehrlich; and brother of Howard Tobin.

Denis A. Russ, brother of our longtime members Lori Mishkin (Andy Kern) and Richard (Gina) Russ; uncle of Eric Mishkin, David (Jill) Mishkin and Brooke (Chad) Peryn; great-uncle of Ethan and Merritt Peryn and Max and Sam Mishkin.

Zichronam Livracha.

"For everything there is a season."

Kohelet 3:1.

Be Nurtured. Be inspired.
Be Current!

Our Temple Beth Shalom Membership Department is requesting each adult in the household submit a close-up photo of themselves, along with any updated occupation information.

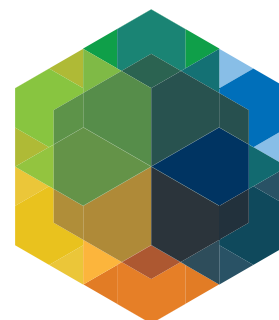
This helps us recognize our members and create a more welcoming member experience.

Please email photos and any occupation updates directly to Craig in the Membership Department at craig@tbsmb.org

All information will remain private and secure within your membership record. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. Thank you for helping us keep our member information current.

All information remains private in your account.

Questions?
Email craig@tbsmb.org



Panim El Panim

Panim el panim — “face to face” — captures the heart of what true connection feels like. May brings moments that invite us outdoors and into one another’s company. The spirit of Lag BaOmer — gathering around shared experiences, laughter, and light — reminds us how meaningful a simple connection can be. Panim groups are designed to hold that feeling, creating easy, welcoming spaces where relationships take root and community feels personal.

With Shavuot on the horizon, a time centered on learning and discovery, Panim is growing in new directions. Our new Activities group brings people together around shared passions, while our Innovative School Parents group offers a thoughtful way to connect with others on a similar path.

Each group adds another thread to the fabric of TBS — strengthening connection, curiosity, and belonging.



Find your small group!

Questions? Contact Jaleh Bast at jaleh@tbsmb.org

Temple Beth Sholom

Nomination of Officers and At-Large Board Members 26/27

President: Suzanne Meltzer (26-27)

Vice-Presidents:	Michael Berman* (24-25)	Etan Mark * (24-25)
	Glenn Dryfoos* (24-25)	Jonathan Sepsenwol* (23-24)
	Judith Greene* (25-26)	Michael Pardo* (23-24)
	Larry Hurwitz* (22-23)	Andrea Wagner* (23-24)
	Lauren Cantor* (26-27)	

Secretary: **Helena Kristol* (26-27)**

Treasurer: Tamas Doffek* (24-25)

Immediate Past President: Michael Weinberg

Past Presidents:	Ronald Albert, Jr.	Andy Hirschl
	Marjorie Baron	Jack Karson
	Charles Citrin	Stevan Pardo
	Michael Dribin	Nancy Ratzan
	Jeff Graff	Karen Rivo
	Shelley Niceley Groff	Vanessa Ressler
	Robert Hertzberg	Peter Russin

Term Expires 2027

Kim Haber* (26-27)
Shelby Kempler (24-25)
Josh Laurence* (26-27)
Richard Russ (24-25)
Marte Singerman (24-25)
Ashley Weissman (24-25)

Term Expires 2028

Jose Benrey (23-24)
Eric Broad (23-24)
Debbie Hirschl (22-23)
Kelsey Levey (25-26)
Rachel Samek (22-23)

Term Expires 2029

Michael Levinson* (24-25)
Brielle Mark* (26-27)
Bobbi Ossip* (26-27)
Sarah Schor* (23-24)
Steve Unger* (26-27)

Brotherhood Co-Presidents	– Josh Laurence and Joseph Pardo
Sisterhood Co-Presidents	– Kim Haber and Mihaela Gutman
BESHTY President	– Lexi Weissman

Nominating Committee: Chair - Vanessa Ressler, Adam Schimel, Marte Singerman, Debbie Hirschl, Josh Laurence, Matthew Bial, Shelby Kempler, Judith Greene, Michael Dribin

Key: (*) Requires a vote of the Board and election at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Bold – change in status
Italics – new board members
Year in () – represents the first year elected to that position



B-Mitzvah



Josh Laufer will be called to the Torah on May 2, 2026. Josh is a seventh-grade student at Miami Country Day School. He is the son of Jamie and Adam Laufer and the brother of Aiden and Brooke.

Josh enjoys golf, fishing, traveling, and spending time with his family and friends. He is also committed to giving back to his community and volunteers throughout the year with American Youth Football, supporting young athletes across the country.

Mandy Koonin will celebrate her bat mitzvah on May 9, 2026. She is the daughter of Allie and Dan Koonin and the sister of Hailey. Mandy is the beloved granddaughter of Charlene and Michael Koonin, and Bari and Herb Ehrlich.

Mandy is a student at The Cushman School and enjoys dance, music, theater, and traveling. She looks forward to celebrating this special milestone with her family and friends.

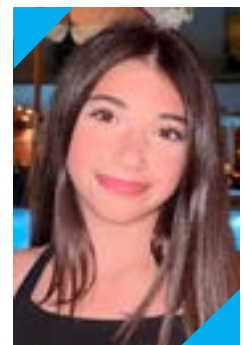


Benjamin Vargas will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at 10:30 am. He is the son of Jose and Branka Vargas and the older brother of Sara and David. Ben is the grandson of Drs. Naphtali and Tajana Rishe, and Dr. Amelia Luengo.

Ben enjoys playing sports, competing in chess, and collecting Pokémon cards and foreign currencies. He is an active member of the National Junior Honor Society and looks forward to continuing his journey of personal growth, learning, and new adventures in the years ahead.

Zoey Schwartz will celebrate her bat mitzvah on May 16, 2026 at 4:30 pm. She is the daughter of Carrie Levine and Adam Schwartz, and the proud sister of Chase. Zoey is the beloved granddaughter of Sandy Levine and Lila and Matthew Schwartz, all of whom are thrilled to share in this meaningful milestone.

Zoey is a seventh-grade student at Ransom Everglades and a competitive gymnast with the Miami Beach Gymnastics team. Outside the gym, she enjoys spending time with friends and traveling. Zoey looks forward to celebrating this special occasion surrounded by her family and friends.





B-Mitzvah



Sage Greenbaum will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on May 16, 2026. He is the child of Louise Jennifer Dogan and Michael Lev Greenbaum, and the grandson of Sandy and Roy Dogan, and Eva Keach and Joseph Greenbaum.

A seventh-grade student at Ruth K. Broad K-8 Center, Sage excels in science and math and aspires to become a veterinarian. He is an avid swimmer with a passion for acting and enjoys every opportunity to stay active and express his creativity. In his free time, Sage loves traveling and spending time with friends and family. Dedicated to giving back, he is involved in several community-based organizations and has proudly volunteered with Food Rescue US since the age of five.

Ruby Bruck celebrates her Bat Mitzvah on May 30, 2026, at 10:30 am, reading from Parashat Nasso. She is the daughter of Sofia and Darren Bruck and the proud sibling of Viola, Kora, and Marlon. Ruby attends Miami Arts Charter School and is excited to share this special milestone with her family and community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING FIFTH GRADE CLASS!

We are thrilled to present the Innovative School Graduating Class of 2026! As they take their next big step into middle school, we celebrate their accomplishments and the memories we've shared. It has been a joy to witness their growth, and we know they will continue to shine brightly in all they do. Way to go, graduates!



Learners: Liel Abissidan, Zachary Borak, Amaya Dahan, Adam Danton, David Gakenberg, Kyrie Herminio Carrilho, Benjamin Hirsch, Hannah Maurice, Olivia McDonnell, Rafael Parlato, River Philips, Alona Sfarad

Happy Birthday

May 1

Hillary Benson
Joel Dickstein
Justin Elegant
Andrew Horowitz
Chris Hunt
Kara Jacobs
Jeffrey Kane
Beatriz Lindemann
Maximilliam Rosenbaum
Stanley Wachtenheim

May 2

Nathan Beer
Lauren Kleidermacher
Judith Meyers
Zoe Onyewenjo
Saul Rabinovich
Sebastian Rosenberg
Charlie Sherman

May 3

Nicole Frankel
Dana Kasdin
Mila Recchia
Dennis Richard
Charlie Rubin

May 4

Rebecca Bass
David Burger
Michael Clark, Jr.
Wendy Dickerman
Chloe Fuller
Bryn Gostin
Brittany Kotler
Jamie Laufer
Rachel Morales-Gellis
Dennis Rice
Wendy Smith

May 5

Halley Bohm
Mackenzie Edell
Gaviella Friedler
Adam Haas
Gabrielle Heckler
Sloane Kadey
Sam McLaney

May 6

Diane Goldenberg
Celine Kahn
Adelle Nicholson
Steven Posner
Vicky Sloan
Amy Stokes

May 7

Mylie Chefetz
Daniel Mindich
Rachel Naylor

Barbara Schulhof
Elliot Stone

May 8

Jill Braufman
Henry Canfield
Max Gelber
Rowan Good
Austin Greenberg
Michelle Kane
Madison Kinder
Susan Leitner
Richard May
Richard Pollak
Kenneth Ratzan
Lola Rhodes
Susan Richard
Myra Spindel

May 9

Asa Brandon
Charlotte Fryd
Vivienne Hoffman
Andrew Kane
Dana Kulvin
Elena Newman
Michael Rosenbaum
Michael Smith

May 10

Jeffrey Bast
Deborah Burk
Aaron Davis
Dale Gratz
Jeffrey Greenberg
Carly Grief
Gabriel Hirsch
David Hurtado
Samuel Klinger
Gayle Mintz
Sunshine Philips
Betty Roffwarg
Jake Shimansky
Margo Squire
Laine Unger
Alexander Zel

May 11

Mila Campos
Nick Greenfield
Matthew Haber
Nicole Jarvis
Oren Maisner
Raquel Mass
Arie Moreinis

May 12

Anna Block
Melina Goldstein
Kevin Jarvis
Elizabeth Mateu
Stella Posner

Ivy Rosenberg
Vanessa Saul

May 13

Quinn Fisher
Myrna Kirkpatrick
Amanda Pardes
David Rosendorf
Mia Schwartz
Benjamin Silberstein
Susan Sternbaum
Elizabeth Stoner
Victor Weithorn
Leonard Wien

May 14

Suzette Abramson
Leo Attias
Kelsey Brown
Karen Chaplin
Gerald Kornreich
Elizabeth Slaine
Cheryl Zuckerman

May 15

Jeffrey Agron
Anastasia Ivanova
Emilyn Page
James Rosenberg
Baby Steinberg
Samantha Wolin Pritchett

May 16

Jonathan Amazon
Nikki Baron
Danielle Burstein
Celine Hirschhorn
Aaron Perry
Nancy Shevlin
Jaden Simkins
Beatrice Wood

May 17

Nell Amran
Benjamin Barker
Gina Berlin
Theodore Fryd
Salim Ismail
Lee Schor
Harold Stoller
Courtney Webster

May 18

Stephanie Bazbaz
Dorothy Boritz
Jacquelyn Goldberg
Scott Kauffman
Sasha Levi
Barry Preter
Sheree Savar
Dror Sfarad

May 19

Dawn Friedlander
Richard Haft
Linden Schweiger
Robert Turken

May 20

Sophia Africk
Felix Bendersky
Moises Egozi
Samara Gilbert
Leanne Reiter
Russell Rywell
Chloe Schwartz
Sofia Shore
Charles Treister

May 21

Laura Bennett
Ruby Bruck
Jonathan Choeff
Rachel Friedman
Selma Laurence
Zoe Laurence
Lisa Segal
Lillian Sender
Zoe Sepsenwol
Robin Straus Furlong
Andrea Wagner

May 22

Eric Broad
Jason Doughty
Gili Gibli
Ana Kasdin
Martin Kempner
Heather Pachter
Elisheva Rogoff
Melania Rosenbaum

May 23

Cynthia Albert
Alexander Dinter
Caron Dubrow
Paula Friedland
Dalia Glottmann
Ivonne Gordon
Zoe Jove
Stevie Leibowitz
Donna Lundy
Ari Neuhut
Chloe Ohana
Jeremy Taylor
Arthur Unger
Koltun Weissman
Andrew Zaiac

May 24

Robert Borak
Elizabeth Camargo
Andrew Simon

May 25

Eve Conviser
Caspian Damiani
Sadie Davidson
Danielle Gelbart
Carter McDowell
Marc Recchia
Cade Reiter
Joan Robins
Zoe Rosenberg
Sandy Rosenberg-Stoller
Matthew Wodnicki

May 26

Michael Berman
Marc Elkiner
Andrea Schein
Quinn Schimel
Lily Schwartz
Noa Vallverdu

May 27

Kaia Calbeck
Laetitia Menase
Eric Mintz
Isaac Nahman
Lilou Stein
Ruth Tishman

May 28

Cameron Gittler
Eden Goldman
Julie Kane
Burton Kesselman
Jacob Libhaber
Maya Oravitz
Zoey Schwartz
Kobi Shoushan
Mila Werner
Noah Zimberg

May 29

Jason Birnbach
Natalya Egozi
Aria Goldman
Daniel Green
Tammy Levine
Breezy Raiffe
David Smith
Charlie Stern

May 30

Alisa Bahl
Glenn Dryfoos
Shira Evans
Kyle Gittler
Shauna Goldberg
Jasper Jarvis
Nathan Mintz
Marilyn Rubin
Susana Shlain

Happy Birthday

May 31

Adam Diamond
Louise Dogan
Jose Lutzky
Alyson Rogg
Bryce Wainer
Wes Wainer

June 1

Eli Balan
Haley Brettschneider
Amanda Campos
Norman Goldenberg
Aubrey Levy
Ilene Penn
Shelly Rubin
J.D. Steinberg

June 2

Brandan Chavez
Michael Krouse
Miguel Marana
Grant Martorella
Brody Minick
Gavin Posner
Brent Saunders
Jonathon Tandy
Sean Tolkin
Stephen Unger
Daniel Yadegar

June 3

Gabrielle Bigio
Victoria De Oliveira
Ian Farkas
Ariela Maisner
Tamara Nixon
Jane Och
Rosanne Shore
Spencer Slaine
Colette Troy

June 4

Larry Bassuk
Eric Bodnick
Zena Dickstein
Max Jacobs
Carol Kempner
Richard Russ
Gynaika Santamaria
Jeremy Traster
Branka Vargas

June 5

Beatrice Altman
Alexandra Ansin
Jordan Barrocas
Carter Cohn
Aston Good
Ethan Good
Hallie Kassewitz
John Nelson

Steve Rhodes
Peter Russin
Rebecca Smith
Lia Tiroche

June 6

Lucas Altman
Stephen Bernstein
Violet Cassel
Mikhail Damiani
Sophie Gelber
Michael Grinfeld
Sonni Kesselman
Ron Mayer
Tyler Wuerfel

June 7

Diana Ciampitti
Jane Goodman
Noah Meltzer
Elle Pachter
Debbie Robins
Deborah Spiegelman

June 8

Aileen Calmet
Marcela Gaitan
Howard Grodin
Michelle Lewin
Sadie Newman
Marvin Weinstein

June 9

Randi Epstein
Michelle Rubell
Aidan Shimansky
Caleb Shimansky

June 10

Debbie Hirschl
Jadyn Malek
Robyn Malek
Josie Moskovitz
Joan Tamen
Tom Wyler

June 11

Sara Adler
Micheline Beaulieu
Adam Chopp
Lila Diamond
Julian Greene
Sophia Greene
Daniel Jackson
Noah Mandel
Sydney Schwarz
Ashley Sidman
Darcee Siegel

June 12

Drew Birenbaum
Hen Jarmoune

Jason Novack
Emily Safran
Raz Schenirer
Emet Sheldon
Alexa Teich

June 13

Rosalyn Friedman
Sydney Gellis
Hannah Hurwitz
Ruth Mayer
William Roedy
Allegra Steen

June 14

Andrew Africk
Jenna Fabian
Mischa Herzek
Sasha Khait
Vanessa Levy
Judd Rosen
Andrew Schultz

June 15

Cooper Barnett
Lennox Gordon
Judith Greene
Alan Philips
Charlotte Rosenberg

June 16

Esther Burton
Markus Frankel
Lenore Gaynor
Martin Gelb
Lina Grunwald
Michael Rosen
Joseph Wendling

June 17

Louie Boyask
Lee Cotton
Ronald Dickerman
Daniel Frankel
Ariel Kaynes
Jeff Newman
Jacob Shekels

June 18

Matthew Bial
Aliza Chopp
Lottie Fein
Ethan Schenirer
Jeffrey Stern
Annabel Tolkin

June 19

Bart Chepenik
Rebecca Schwartz
Ethan Simon
Laura Taylor
Isaac Zelcer

June 20

Martha Borsky
Lauren Cohen
Christian Gonzalez-
Martinez
Lauren Jove
Jackson Kassewitz
Michelle Paley
Marcus Shestack
Iris Smith
David Susser
Alan Weisberg

June 21

Rachel Africk
Morgan Brettschneider
Adriana Dryfoos
Steve Frankel
Jason Leibowitz
Hannah Maurice
Cleo Vo-Dai

June 22

Claudia Barker
Brian Bilzin
Sara Edelstein
Gerald Good
Dana Kaplan
Eve Schultz
Scott Wagner
Ashley Weissman

June 23

Patricia Cohen
Jordyn Dickstein
Mason Duboff
Susan Folstein
Dean Goldman
Mary Harris
Bayla Lifter
Rachel Narvaez
Alma Shaham
Jaden Zaitz

June 24

Judith Barredo
Elinor Ben David
Beth Bloom
Benjamin Gellis
Federico Gitron
Richard Goldberg
Ziggy Greenberg
Jon Groff
Daniel Marks
Mark Mayrsohn
Evan Schlecker
Gerald Schwartz

June 25

Daniel Dietch
Robert Maisner
Branden Shore

Mika Smulevich

June 26

Darren Bruck
Bella Neuhut
Emery Novack

June 27

Savannah Greenfield
Brett Holland
Brittany Holland
Arden Karson
Jett Kimel
Lois Kotzen
Cameron Levine
Maia Mandel
Henri Maurice

June 28

Vanessa Cohen
Ryan Danton
Richard French
Olga Harris
Christina Moreinis
Denis Russ
Jacqueline Simon
Victoria Traster

June 29

Morgan Blittner
Alexis Brown
Maxwell Friedlander
Claudia Josebachvili
Kelsey Levey
Caleb Sloan
Michael Zeuner

June 30

Adriel Deller
Paula Douer
Matthew Goodman
Rebecca Gordon
Elissa Plancher
Joshua Samek
Ally Schneer
Edith Straus
Georgia Weinstein

July 1

Milton Berlinski
Ariel Borer
Marvin Boritz
Joan Glickstein
Gala Gonsalves
Maya Khalil Berg
David Moret
Lisa Pasalodos Haber
Warren Ray
Susana Riener

July 2

Frank Adams

Happy Birthday

Alon Alexander
Sari Levine
Natalie Prager
Katherine Rosen
Michael Simkins
Josephine Taylor
Mira Taylor
Nan Wetherhorn

July 3

Halle Benett
Levi Egozi
Stephanie Good
Drew Kristol
Todd Narson
Yale Rattner
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May 28

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Erica and Andrew Zaron

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Yuladys and David Wrubel

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Torah Study

If you stand outside the boardroom on Shabbat morning from 9:30 to 10:20, you'll hear banter and laughter. Peek inside and you'll see noshing and grinning – a lot of grinning.

These are the sights and sounds of Torah study at TBS. It's the highlight of my week.

I'm not alone. There's a steady group of regular attendees and enough semi-regular visitors to fill every available seat. But we'll gladly make room for more participants. Why not join us?

When I pose this question to congregants who have never considered it, I encounter three main objections.

1. I already studied Torah as a kid.

Of course, the texts you studied years ago are the same we study today. But as Rabbi Davis often points out: while the Torah doesn't change, we do. How we interpret or react to troubling stories like the binding of Isaac or the assault of Dinah will reflect our life experiences. What we take away as a comfort or a challenge will be rooted in our evolving emotional and psychological needs.

Some of us have studied since becoming B'nei Mitzvah. Others – like me—never had the opportunity, the encouragement, or the time. Whatever your background, you will be welcomed and heard as we ponder the words that have guided our people's journey throughout history.

2. Torah study is boring.

I can't speak for the experience at other synagogues or Hebrew schools. But at TBS, we are blessed with rabbis who guide us with wisdom, humility, and boundless humor. Each session begins and ends with insights from the ancient world that help

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us navigate modern maelstroms. For example, if you think that nothing in the Torah is relevant to current debates about wealth inequality, revisit Leviticus 25. Concerned about unchecked technological hubris? See Genesis 11.

More broadly, Torah study forces us to abandon gauzy images of our ancestors as heroes or paragons. It is bracing to face up to what they were really like: flawed, contradictory, fretful people seeking inspiration and hope in a threatening world. Sound familiar? Their lives are a distant mirror of ours.

3. It's not for me because I don't believe in God.

You don't need a prescribed set of beliefs to value Torah study. I don't know what any of the other regulars think about theological issues like whether God or humans authored the Five Books.

But I do know that TBS Torah study participants create and sustain a mini-community by coming together each week. It's a community of learning, yes, but also a community of pleasure in each other's company. We cheer each other on. We mark life cycle events. We keep an eye on each other's health. Some of us bring cookies, bagels, birthday cakes, and other treats for all to share.

And who among us doesn't need community? If you don't believe in divine providence, fine. But we can all believe in each other. Our gatherings are the joy of Jewish peoplehood made manifest.

- Amy Handlin



Join us!

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Temple Beth Sholom has plots for sale in the Garden of Genesis section at Lakeside Memorial Cemetery.

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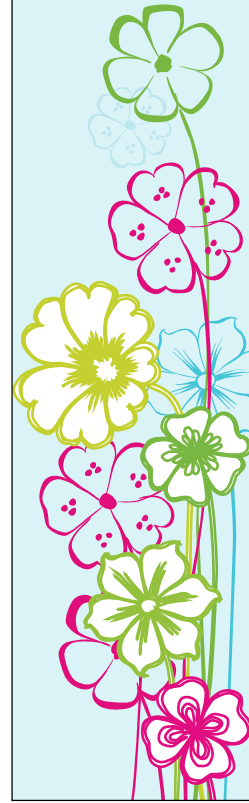
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