



# Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple B'nai Abraham  
President – Robin Affrime

**The Temple Shofar**  
Rabbi Julie Pfau

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood  
President - Faith Hupfl

TISHRE-CHESHVAN 5771

October 2010

## Rabbi's High Holy Day Message

Psalm 23 is perhaps the quintessential Psalm associated with mourning and times of great distress. It seems that virtually everyone is familiar with the first line of the English translation: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." But that actually isn't the first line of the Psalm; there is one sentence that precedes these famous words. In most places, this sentence is not translated, perhaps because it is seen as somewhat irrelevant. Roughly translated, it can mean: "A Psalm of David." However, in his commentary on the first line of Psalm 23, Rashi, the prominent 11th century French commentator, demonstrates that this first sentence is far from irrelevant.

Rashi describes two kinds of psalms of David. One kind begins *l'David mizmor* – According to Rashi, when a psalm begins this way, it means that the *shechinah*, God's presence, first rests on David, and then David sings. In other words, psalms that begin with the phrase *l'David mizmor* are inspired by God and grow out of a very tangible experience of God's presence. It is as if it is God that makes it possible for David to sing. The other kind of psalm reflects a vastly different experience. According to Rashi, when the order of these two words is reversed – *mizmor l'David* instead of *l'David mizmor* – it means that David sings first, and only then does the *shechinah* come to rest upon him. In other words, David begins the psalm without a direct sense of God's presence, but it comes to him at some point after he begins to sing. It is remarkable how such a subtle difference in the Hebrew could reflect such a dramatically different reality.

Psalm 23 begins *mizmor l'David* – In other words, it is an example of a psalm that is sung when God's presence is *not* felt. But through the process of singing it, the *shechinah*, God's comforting presence, settles in. It seems surprising to suggest that such a well-known and beloved Psalm was not a product of divine inspiration from its inception. Given that this psalm was not initially a product of divine inspiration, some commentators try to imagine what difficult circumstances might have inspired David to write it. What could have been obstructing his ability to experience God?

Rashi imagines that David wrote Psalm 23 when he was hiding out from King Saul in the Forest of H̄aret. The very name of the forest in which David was hiding hints at his bleak situation –

*h̄aret* means soot or a kind of black ink – so we might call it the Black Forest, or the Forest of Soot. The image of an inky black forest is reminiscent to me of Psalm 23's imagery of the valley of the shadow of death. In this case, the shadow of death that David was dwelling under was the looming danger of murder by King Saul, and David was longing for greener pastures... But Rashi goes in a different direction in his understanding of the meaning of the forest's name. For him, *h̄aret* means soot, and the forest is named thus because it is reminiscent of soot – a dry parched place. Yet even in the midst of his exile in a parched land, David imagines God giving him rest in a green pasture beside a tranquil stream. According to Rashi, God could moisten this scorched place, could make it seem green and succulent, from the goodness of the world to come. So too could God restore a spirit that seems to be evaporating under the searing pain of worldly troubles.

How apt is Rashi's understanding of loss and suffering reflected in his metaphor of barrenness. It is an understanding borne of experience – Rashi, like David, was intimately familiar with loss; and he too knew the looming danger of murderous people. In the latter years of his life, Rashi witnessed the first crusade's devastation of German Jewish communities in which he had once lived and studied. The crusaders gathered in Rashi's native France before marching through the Rhineland – cutting a swath of destruction and massacring Jews all along the way, most likely including many of his friends and perhaps even some relatives.

Out of this era in history was born *Eleh Ezkerah*, a core prayer in the martyrology that we say on Yom Kippur: *eleh ezkerah v'nafshi alay eshp'chah* – these I remember and pour out my soul. When Rashi imagines David writing Psalm 23 during the difficult and fearful time he spent in the Forest of H̄aret, I can't help but wonder if he was really talking about Germany's Black Forest – about the barrenness and fear brought by the crusaders to the Jews who lived in and around it, and about the gritty soot that remained in place of homes and synagogues. Considering the horrific events happening in the world around him and probably to Jews that he had known, it is rather shocking that Rashi could imagine the blessed holy one bringing succulence to lands and souls scorched by fear and shriveling with pain.

(Continued on page 3)



Temple B'nai Abraham is affiliated with  
the Jewish Reconstruction Federation.

[www.jrf.org](http://www.jrf.org)

## Temple B'nai Abraham Officers

### **Officers:**

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| President                | Robin Affrime   |
| Executive Vice President | Charlie Weiss   |
| Religious Vice President | Sid Morginstin  |
| Financial Vice President | Mike Rosen      |
| Recording Secretary      | Susan Giachetti |
| Past President           | Betsy Ramos     |

### **Trustees:**

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Religious School Chair | Linda Osman |
| Membership Chair       | Kim Aubry   |
| Building Chair         | Eileen Gale |

## Yahrzeit List

### **October 1**

Mervin Groveman, husband of Seena Groveman

### **October 8**

Elsie Sternfeld, mother of Mildred Josephson

Howard Sheldon Sacks, father of Faith Hupfl

Paul Goldfarb, step-father of Charyl Morginstin

### **October 15**

Myrna Morris, wife of Ronald Morris

### **October 22**

Walter Harrison, husband of Renee Harrison

Gertrude Herzog, mother of Madge Rosen

### **October 29**

Selman Densky, mother of Sharon Coleman

Abraham Zackler, father of Marsha Dowshen

Helen Roseman, mother of renee Harrison

Lilian Brewis, great-grandmother of Brian Epstein

If there is a name that you would like added to the synagogue's yahrzeit list, please contact Sid Morginstin at 609-298-2891. You will receive a card annually reminding you of your yahrzeit, and the name will be announced at services at which time you will be able to recite Kaddish.

### **Torah Prayer Books (Chumashim)**

A new Torah prayer book can be purchased in honor of or in memory of someone for \$75 or an existing Siddur may be sponsored for \$35.00. Please call (298-0437) or email Betsy Ramos: [bramos@capehart.com](mailto:bramos@capehart.com).

# WELCOME

## New Members

Marissa Erickson

17 Pine Ave

Bordentown, NJ 08505

609-298-4075

[mrissy79@aol.com](mailto:mrissy79@aol.com)

Sherri Stupak & Elan Josielwski

1 Sullivan Ct

Roebing, NJ 08554

609-334-1313

[sherri@tidychaos.com](mailto:sherri@tidychaos.com)

Liz & Bryan Mitchell

57 Klem Drive

Yardville, NJ 08620

609-424-3044

[brandongavin2@yahoo.com](mailto:brandongavin2@yahoo.com)

Sandra Cohen

304 Walnut Lane

Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

New address

Stacey Dietch

7 Eastbridge Drive

Robbinsville, NJ 08691

## Tot Shabbat News

This year we are continuing our great Tot Shabbat's! Services start at 6:00 p.m. and include, candle lighting, pot luck dinner, story time, a theme related craft, and songs. If you need any additional information, would like to get on the Tot Shabbat mailing list or would like to volunteer to help clean up or set up, please contact Marla Hoffman - [rhynestonegrl@gmail.com](mailto:rhynestonegrl@gmail.com)

Friday, October 22 -- Tzedakah

Friday, November 19 -- Shabbat

Friday, December 3 -- Chanukah

Friday, January 7 -- Tu B'Shvat

Friday, February 18 -- Torah

Friday, March 18 -- Purim

Friday, April 8 -- Pesach

Friday, May 6 -- Israel

Friday, June 10 -- Family



## Rabbi's Message cont.

Etty Hillesum's holocaust era journals are collected into a book called *An Interrupted Life*. In one of her journal entries, she writes: "There was a time when I thought I had to come up with a host of brilliant ideas each day, and now I sometimes feel like a barren stretch of land on which nothing grows, but which is nevertheless spanned by a high, wide sky. And this way is by far the better. Something has crystallized. I have looked our destruction... straight in the eye and accepted it into my life, and my love of life has not been diminished. I am not bitter or rebellious, or in any way discouraged. I continue to grow from day to day, even with the likelihood of destruction staring me in the face..." (131)

Etty Hillesum felt that her confrontation with death had transformed her – instead of brilliance she experienced barrenness. Even so, she retained a love of life and experience inner growth. It is quite akin to Rashi's description of an otherworldly source of goodness bringing life to a burnt-out forest. It is hard to imagine such a potent will to live existing outside connection to the blessed holy one. But how did Rashi, David, or Etty Hillesum find this connection to life when death and suffering were all around them?

Psalm 23 is the prayer said by those who experience loss and horror, who feel God's absence, and whose eyes are too parched to cry anymore tears. It is the quintessential psalm that is sung during times of anxiety and grief. How appropriate is Rashi's acknowledgement that those stricken with loss usually do not feel inspiration. Rashi, like David, was a man of prolific words – he wrote commentaries on nearly every book of the Bible, as well as producing his famous commentary on the Talmud. He knew that the shadow of death, in its constantly shifting shape, can shroud our inspiration and conceal God's presence. But he also knew that, in such moments, it is possible to turn to words to remind us of the reality that we can no longer see. Psalm 23 reminds us that it is possible to choose life even in the face of death, that God is with us, all evidence to the contrary, and that comfort may be found even in the midst of our sufferings.

In Rashi's interpretation, not only might comfort be found *in the midst of* suffering, but comfort might be found from the sufferings themselves. Psalm 23 states "Your rod and Your staff comfort me" – medieval commentators understand the word "rod" to be a reference to a kind of suffering that God inflicts on faithful and worthy followers. According to this medieval theology, God might do so in order to strengthen someone, to purify a person, to ultimately bring a follower closer. Rashi and some of his contemporaries probably needed this kind of belief about suffering. In a world that was spinning out of control with hatred and persecution, they needed an affirmation that God was ultimately in control, and that the suffering, and even martyrdom, they endured were not indications that God had abandoned them. Quite the contrary, the more they suffered, the more evidence they had that God loved them and was with them.

I do not agree with Rashi's theology that God causes us to suffer for our good – this belief might have felt comforting to him during the crusades of the 11th century, but it is a belief that has potential to alienate people from God and faith. I think we can look past the part of Rashi's interpretation that feels alienating or hurtful to our contemporary ears – the belief that God causes suffering – to find a kernel of truth within his comment. Actually, two kernels of truth. First – suffering is never, under any circumstances, an indication of God's absence or displeasure. It is *not* a punishment.

Second, even though it might seem counterintuitive, there can be something comforting about honestly confronting the reality of death and suffering instead of running from it. This was something Etty Hillesum reflected on in her journal. She writes: "I have come to terms with life... By 'coming to terms with life' I mean: the reality of death has become a definite part of my life; my life has, so to speak, been extended by death, by my looking death in the eye and accepting it, by accepting destruction as part of life and no longer wasting my energies on fear of death or the refusal to acknowledge its inevitability. It sounds paradoxical: by excluding death from our life we cannot live a full life, and by admitting death into our life we enlarge and enrich it... And so I can go to sleep peacefully... I feel a new period is beginning in our lives, more serious and more intense, one in which we shall concentrate on the essentials. Every day we shed more trivia..." (131-2)

This quote shows that when we try to run from the truth of our own and others' mortality, we inevitably end up distancing ourselves from the ones we love and from our own spirits. We cut ourselves off from the potential to experience growth and succulence, and we end up nourishing ourselves only on the bitter soot of our losses. Honestly facing death can bring us to an awareness of the people and things that are most precious in life. We enlarge our lives by opening ourselves to the lives of others and we shed what is trivial so we can focus our energies where it matters.

When we say the words of Psalm 23, we confront the reality of death. We acknowledge that we are all walking through the valley of the shadow of death. It is painful. It leaves us feeling scorched and barren. We feel lost, disoriented, abandoned by God. But we realize that we are not alone in the valley. We are saying these words in community, and doing so is an act of hope in a reality that we cannot yet feel. Our hope can be further inspired by the experience of those who have come before us – by Rashi who could imagine God transforming his parched spirit into a green pasture, and by Etty Hillesum who experienced growth in the midst of barrenness. *eleh ezkerah v'nafshi alay eshp'chah* – these I remember and pour out my soul. We sing and pour out our souls even when we feel uninspired and alone, because we know, with Rashi and with Etty, that somewhere in the process we will experience the comfort of God's presence amidst the comfort of our community.

# Religious School News

Hello Hebrew School and Sunday School Families:

It is our tradition to have the families of our students supply drinks and snacks for Hebrew School and Sunday School. The list below indicates the month that you have been assigned:

October- Carlis/Goldberg  
November- Aubry/Weiss  
December- Osman/Salstein  
January- Deitch/Kunkler  
February- Lowry/Schwartz  
March- Mitchell/Nissim  
April- Erickson/Stupak  
May- TBD

Please provide juice boxes (best for portion control) or water bottles, and healthy snacks that are prepackaged (i.e. pretzels, sunchips, granola bars).

**WE HAVE STUDENTS WITH FOOD ALLERGIES SO SNACKS CAN NOT CONTAIN PEANUTS, COCONUT OR COCONUT OIL.**

You are buying for approximately 20 children. Divide this with your "partner" any way you both agree! If you can't do the assigned month, please contact another family to see if they can switch with you. Please deliver the food on or before the Thursday or Sunday prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.

Any questions, please contact me at (609)291-0355 or email [Attyosman@verizon.net](mailto:Attyosman@verizon.net).

Thanks! I'm sure the kids will appreciate your efforts!

Linda Osman  
Religious School Co-Chair

The Temple is missing some of the burgundy tablecloths used for various functions. If you have any of the temple tablecloths, please bring them to the temple.

Congratulations to Robin and Steven Affrime on the marriage of their son Daniel to Kristen A. Sleister.

Congratulations to Raymond and Cindy Cantor on the engagement of their daughter Jennifer.

We graciously thank Rhoni and Andrew Smulian for their donation of the beautiful flowers adorning the bima during the High Holiday services. The flowers are in memory of their parents Nathan and Leah Smulian. Dr. Nathan Smulian's art works adorn the lecterns and the walls of our Sanctuary.

## Healing List

It is a new year, so we will start again with a new list. Please contact Sid at 609-456-9508 or e-mail [sidmorgy@verizon.net](mailto:sidmorgy@verizon.net) with the names of those you desire to put on the list. Also, please tell him when the name can be removed. Sid makes an effort to contact you about 2 months after adding a name, however, sometimes he is very busy, so, please contact him if there are any changes. The list can get long very fast.

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## Sarah Seidel Sisterhood First Meeting

Due to the early days of the High Holy Days, Sisterhood will start on October 11 at 7:30 pm.

Please bring your favorite dessert and enjoy meeting with your old friends.

\*\* All new members of the Temple are invited to attend and meet the ladies of the Temple.\*\*

## Supermarket Gift Card Program

The gift card fund raiser is extremely important as a source of income for the Temple. We need more participation!



Everyone please take one minute to write a check and send it to Dowshen 502 Farnsworth Ave Bordentown, NJ 08505 or call 298-5306. Your cards will be sent to you the same day.

# Social Action



Thanks to all who have been contributing to the granola bar collection. Please keep them coming, along with any contributions for the food pantry.

I would like to share with you some feedback from Anne Kettner, our collaborator at the Baptist Church, who delivers the monthly grocery bags to the motels. Here is what she wrote about the late August delivery:

"Last Monday we delivered about 65 meals, 39 grocery bags and a lot of hygiene stuff (thanks to Trinity Methodist!) to the Riverfront, the Pines and Laurel Notch motels. As always, the folks are so grateful. Sometimes when we are putting the bags together, I feel bad they aren't bigger, particularly during the summer when they are a little lighter. But when we go to deliver them it is like the folks don't see what we didn't have, they are so grateful for what we had. There are a lot of new folks, especially at the Riverfront. I had never seen so many families at the Riverfront before, lots of kids there. The people who have been there for months, some for years, are always grateful, but they anticipate our delivery, they know it's coming. My job now is to describe to you the look on the face of someone who is in a motel, somebody who never expected to be there, when we offer a bag of groceries, a meal, hygiene products they didn't know were coming. They are grateful, surprised and almost amazed that somebody comes to their door with something for them. There was one man obviously new to the Pines who just couldn't believe the bag was free. As always, I try to explain that there are many congregations behind that bag, and that he has not been forgotten."

Any questions, or if you would like to help with any of these endeavors, please feel free to contact me.

Marcy Schwartz

## General Donations

For anyone interested in making a general donation to the synagogue that does not fit into any of the above categories, of course, the synagogue will be happy to accept the donation. You may send a check to Temple B'nai Abraham, P.O. Box 245, Bordentown, and indicate whether it is for a special occasion and whether you would like the synagogue to send an acknowledgment. If it is a non-temple member, please provide their name and address.

## Temple Donations

### In Memory Of

Marty Nissim from Dr. and Mrs. S. Lavine  
Lilian Brewis from Brian & Maribeth Epstein  
Abraham & Pauline Zackler from Marsha & Joel Dowshen  
Selma Bloom from Randy Bloom  
Elaine Zeitz from Randy Bloom  
Charles Stein from Randy Bloom  
Walter Harrison from Irene Harrison  
Helene Roseman from Irene Harrison  
Molly Schaffer from Rhoda & Henry Kessler  
Gertrude Herzog from Madge & Jerry Rosen  
Eleanor Roth from Elaine & Jay Trackman  
Celia Schwartz from Marcy & Rick Schwartz-Shain  
Marty Nissim from Marlene Lavine  
Nissim Nissim from Rita Nissim

### In Honor Of

Ronnie and Stan Zeichner from Irv and Joan Palitz  
  
Aitz Chaim prayer book from Edna and Leon Crespy

## Donations to the Sisterhood

### Rejoicing With You

Ted & Joanne Lutz on arrival of Reid William from Phyllis Chudoff, Eileen Gale. Robin & Steve Affrime, Charyl & Sid Morginstin, and Jay & Elaine Trackman  
Henry & Rhoda Kessler on arrival of Chelsea Summer from the Trackmans, Kamers and Nissims.  
Eileen Gale on birth of Ruby Gale from Jay and Elaine Trackman  
Robin and Steve Affrime on marriage of Dan to Kristen from Elaine and Jay, Marcy and Rick, Anita, Kim and Curtis, Faith and Greg, Shira and Joe, Debby and Charlie.  
Elaine Trackman, on your special birthday from Eileen Gale, and Ellen Wiener

### In Memory Of

Evelyn Scharf from all the Nissims, Barbara & Jeff Streisfeld, and Robin & Tony Zak  
Zvi Shimony from Sid and Charyl Morginstin  
Bunnie Shemesh from Robin and Tony Zak, Phyllis and Is Kamer, Neil and Karen Nissim, and Sheila Lamonsoff  
Peggie Tascone from Bruce and Sandy Bird

Donation made to sisterhood from Mary Lou Delehanty

Many thanks to Karen Nissim and her committee for a very lovely and delicious Break The Fast.

## President's Message

Judaism has always meant tradition to me. There were the rituals and customs I learned as a child at my synagogue in Philadelphia. There are the family traditions Steve and I have shared with our children as they've grown. So, I thought that I would talk to you about how important our Jewish traditions are to me and very likely to you as well. At least that's where I thought I was headed with my speech until I realized that every time I think of Temple B'nai Abraham what really comes to the forefront of my mind are the people. And I guess in a way, without the people the traditions would be meaningless. So, today I would like to talk about the people who are the heart and soul of our community.

I must begin with our rabbi, Julie Pfau. It is such a great pleasure to work with Rabbi Julie; it is not just because she is so compassionate, and caring or that she works so well with our children or that she writes award winning, thought provoking sermons. Oh wait a minute, maybe it is all of those reasons.

Those of us who have been long time members of Temple B'nai Abraham are used to raising our rabbis from their fledgling days as students through graduation. Sometimes, we are fortunate enough to be part of helping a gem of a rabbi grows into her own. Rabbi Julie is the latest jewel in our crown. Thank you Rabbi Pfau for all that you give to our members and to me.

I occasionally receive phone calls from Rita Nissim, Elaine Trackman or other caring members reminding me of something important or to let me know that someone could use a call, a dinner or G-d forbid, a shiva. These valued members have shown in a thousand ways through many years how much Temple B'nai Abraham means to them. Some of them were the movers and shakers running the Temple and volunteering their time when Steve and I joined circa 1987. And still they are part of the soul of this house of worship. To them I say thank you and keep those calls coming.

Over many years of my association with this building and these people, there have been many who volunteered their time to work with our Hebrew School students; to teach them Hebrew, Torah, the shofar... To name just a few and I am sure there are many I have missed: Jay Trackman, Len Klepner, Sam and Abby Shain, my son Dan, and even myself when my children were younger. Volunteerism is at the heart of our community. It is what we do to insure that Temple B'nai Abraham and our heritage will be passed on to the next generation.

The members of our board of directors are a group of amazing people, who give of their time month after month after month; who meet to discuss what needs to be done and then give even more of their time as they make things happen.

I would like to thank Sid Morginstin and the religious committee for working with Rabbi Pfau and Rabbi Lori to provide for us a holiday filled with spiritual prayers, songs and readings; and to Sid for being the rock of our religious committee. Sid takes care of so many religious aspects of our community and taking the time to do these things so willingly and humbly.

Mike Rosen, our Financial Vice President takes care of our money. No easy feat. He does all of the banking, recording, billing and paying of bills. And, if that isn't enough, and believe me it should be, he takes out the trash and recycling, and will literally do anything that needs to be done. People like Mike are hard to come by and we are fortunate that he chooses to spend his time keeping us on the right track.

Betsy Ramos, our past president can always be counted on to guide our dealings with experience and confidence. She grasps each situation and knows how to move forward in the best possible way. I appreciate that after 4 years of being president she is still willing to sit on the board and help with all of our projects.

My friend Eileen Gale is a treasure. She has been putting her time in for years, and could certainly sit back and say it's someone else's turn now. And in truth she has uttered those words, but the reality for Eileen is that this community is so much a part of her life, even her being, that she does it all. As the person responsible for the physical building, there is nothing that Eileen has not done for me and for you.

Susan Giachetti and Linda Osman are the liaison between the Hebrew School and the board of directors. Susan is also our secretary. They could certainly fulfill their jobs and walk away with time to spare, but both of these women show up for whatever needs to be done. We need to clean the Temple; they are here. The sanctuary and all purpose room need to be prepared for the High Holidays; they are here. Calls need to be made, meals need to be delivered, the Hebrew School needs something donated or needs extra hands; whatever, they are here for our youngest members and for us.

Charlie Weiss, First Vice President, has taken the lead on many projects including finding fresh tenants for our newly renovated rental property and searching for a new teacher when we thought Marla would be taking a job elsewhere. He is also one of the dads' who shows up to help set up, take down and do whatever, whenever he is able to be here. We certainly could not ask for more.

Kim Aubry, aside from being Membership chair, took the lead on the remodel of the house last year. This was no small job which she added to her already busy professional and personal responsibilities. She dedicated countless hours to making sure that the remodel was done properly throughout the entire process.

I think of Brian Epstein as our tech guru. He is definitely our go-to guy when we have a technological question or problem. He is actually the Adult Ed chair, but we do keep him busy. Brian is a young man, about to become a father. He could easily shrug off these extra hours of work, but this community is important to him. So, he makes the time.

There are many non-board members that I didn't mention; people who take on the big and little jobs of making Temple B'nai Abraham a little treasure. Thank you to all of you who take your devotion and commitment seriously.

Last, but definitely not least, I would like to thank the board and members of the Sarah Seidel Sisterhood. They too, tirelessly work for the greater good of our congregation. If the board is the heart and soul of TBA, the sisterhood is the mother who looks after us. She even annually provides the Temple with a much needed financial boost, much like the allowance your mom gave you when you were growing up.

So, why do we do this? Why after a full day of work and many other responsibilities do we take what little free time we have to take out the trash, clean the kitchen cabinets, or plan a Tot Shabbat? Because Temple B'nai Abraham is important to us. We like this building, these people, and we are determined to thrive. Temple B'nai Abraham can be around for another hundred years. Want to help?

I know you are busy, I know there is so much to do. The kids, the job, the house, but really, you too could be so useful. If you feel a bit timid, begin in a small way. There are many ways in which you could help: Hebrew School can use some extra teachers and assistants, Sisterhood and the Temple board are always looking for people to work on committees, you could volunteer to host a Friday night oneg. And if you are ready to dive in head first, well, I know of a president's position that could be available in the near future. Honestly, we would be honored if you made yourself available to help. Just let any one of us know in which capacity you feel you would best be suited.

We really are such a small community, our mere size means that much of the work and financial responsibilities fall to just a few people. That's where we need you to come in. Volunteer. Make a difference.

These are difficult financial times. Many of us are feeling the crunch of lost employment, retirement funds that we wish would stretch further, or the reduction of income. We will never turn away a family who wants to be members of Temple B'nai Abraham but are experiencing financial stresses, but it is our responsibility, yours and mine, to give as much as we are able; to be accountable. You can always depend on Temple B'nai Abraham to be here if you help to make it happen.

You will be receiving a pledge card because in spite of our thorny financial times we optimistically believe that you will make a High Holiday pledge. Thoughtfully consider your next move, and please give generously of your time and your money. Friends, we are moving into a new year and I look forward to hearing from you. Tell me how you can help. It really is up to you.

### HIGH HOLIDAY PLEDGES

Phyllis & Isadore Kamer, Shiela Lamonsoff,  
Renee Harrison, Phyllis Chudoff, Bryan & Bethann  
Goldberg, Randy Bloom & Michael Scolaro, Marcia  
& Michael Rosen, Marsha & Joel Dowshen,  
Linda Bowker, Ronnie & Stan Zeichner

In case a loved one dies, the following information will be helpful in thinking through what steps to take:

- 1) As soon as possible, please contact the Rabbi, the Temple President, and the Sisterhood President.
- 2) If you would like the Rabbi to officiate at the funeral, please ask the Funeral Director to contact the Rabbi when exploring possible dates and times.
- 3) There are many traditional Jewish practices that may offer guidance about the handling of the body, the funeral, and the burial. Please ask the Funeral Director to explore these options.
- 4) Resources about mourning, death, and dying are available from the Rabbi. There is also a synagogue document containing information about Jewish funeral procedures.

We hope this information will be needed as infrequently as possible!

## Outstanding Volunteer Opportunity at TBA

Do you like our services? Would you like to have a voice in what happens in services or holidays? The Religious Committee is where it all happens and we need your help!

The Religious Committee:

- Helps out in planning and directing the High Holy Day Services.
  - *Sid has this down to a science. There is not much work, other than helping make the honor cards.*
- Keeps the sign board up-to-date.
  - *If you live nearby you could change the sign board.*
- Helps build and take down the Sukkah.
- Backs up Sid in leading Shiva services.
- Has very few meetings each year!
- Attends services and helps out when needed.

Religious Committee Members **DO NOT**:

- Have to lead services unless you want to.
- Need to be well versed in Jewish Law, though some knowledge would be helpful.

Join us and find a new dimension to synagogue life!  
Contact Sid at [sidmorgy@verizon.net](mailto:sidmorgy@verizon.net) or (609) 456-9508

**OCTOBER 2010      TISHRE – CHESHVAN 5771**

| Sunday                        | Monday                              | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday                  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------------------------|--|---|
|                               |                                     |         |           |                           | 1<br>Shabbat Evening Service 7:30pm<br>Candlelighting 6:24 pm                              | 2   |
| 3<br><br>9-10 SS<br>10-12 HS  | 4                                   | 5       | 6         | 7<br><br>4:30-6:30<br>HS  | 8<br>Shabbat Evening Service 7:30pm<br>Candlelighting 6:13 pm                              | 9   |
| 10<br><br>9-10 SS<br>10-12 HS | 11<br>Sisterhood Meeting<br>7:30 pm | 12      | 13        | 14<br><br>4:30-6:30<br>HS | 15<br>Candlelighting 6:02 pm   | 16<br><br><b>Shabbat Morning Service 9:30am</b> |
| 17<br><br>9-10 SS<br>10-12 HS | 18                                  | 19      | 20        | 21<br><br>4:30-6:30<br>HS | 22<br><br>Tot Shabbat 6:00 pm<br>Shabbat Evening Service 7:30 pm<br>Candlelighting 5:52 pm | 23  |
| 24<br><br>9-10 SS<br>10-12 HS | 25                                  | 26      | 27        | 28<br><br>4:30-6:30<br>HS | 29<br>Shabbat Evening Service 7:30pm<br>Candlelighting 5:43 pm                             | 30  |
| 31<br><br>9-10 SS<br>10-12 HS |                                     |         |           |                           |  |   |

# It's that time again...*cookie time!*

Registration is open for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual My Cookies Are Better Than Your Cookies** contest. We are hoping to make this year's contest a great success, and need your help to do so.

- 1. SPONSORSHIP** – We are looking for businesses and philanthropic individuals to sponsor this year's contest. If you would like to sponsor this year's contest, please send your tax deductible donation, payable to Sarah Seidel Sisterhood, to SARAH SEIDEL SISTERHOOD, PO BOX 245, BORDENTOWN NJ 08505, and also email Shira or Kim to let us know it is coming. If you know of a business or person who might like to participate, please invite them to do so.
- 2. ENTER TODAY** – Please visit our website <http://www.mycookiesarebetterthanyourcookies.org> to find all of the details and register for this year's contest. You can also call Shira or Kim, and we will sign you up, ***and you don't even have to go on the internet!***
- 3. WORKER BEES** – We need help publicizing and executing this event. If you would like to help – even if you don't know HOW you can help, please call or email Shira or Kim today. Simply put, we need all the help we can get!
- 4. TELL EVERYBODY YOU KNOW!**

**WHAT:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual My Cookies Are Better Than Your Cookies Contest Benefits TASK, The Trenton Area Soup Kitchen & The Sarah Seidel Sisterhood. Each entry is still only \$20 until October 6<sup>th</sup> (\$10 for children under 16)

**WHEN:** Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

**WHERE:** Rutgers EcoComplex, 1200 Florence-Columbus Road  
(Just off exit 52 of Rt295 in Bordentown.)

**WHO:** Call or email questions and pledges of support to

Kim Aubry 609-841-8965 [kimaubry@gmail.com](mailto:kimaubry@gmail.com)

Shira Lowry 609-288-0389 [mycookiesarebetter@comcast.net](mailto:mycookiesarebetter@comcast.net)

## Sisterhood Oneg Schedule

|                 |        |         |                                    |  |
|-----------------|--------|---------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>OCTOBER</b>  |        |         |                                    |  |
| Fri             | 8-Oct  | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | Robin Affrime & Eileen Gale            |
| Mon             | 11-Oct | 7:30 PM | Sisterhood Program                 | Bring your favorite dessert or snack   |
| Sat             | 16-Oct | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Phyllis Chudoff & Mindy Fink           |
| <b>NOVEMBER</b> |        |         |                                    |  |
| Fri             | 5-Nov  | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | Sharon Coleman & Marsha Dowshen        |
| Mon             | 8-Nov  | 7:30 PM | Sisterhood Program                 | Ellen Werhman                          |
| Sat             | 13-Nov | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Randi Fechter & Rachel Schwartz        |
| <b>DECEMBER</b> |        |         |                                    |  |
| Fri             | 3-Dec  | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | Chanukah Party - HS                    |
| Mon             | 6-Dec  | 7:30 PM | Sisterhood Program                 | Debby Weiss                            |
| Sat             | 18-Dec | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Susan Giachetti & Kim Aubry            |
| <b>JANUARY</b>  |        |         |                                    |  |
| Mon             | 10-Jan | 7:30 PM | Sisterhood Program                 | Ellen Wehrman & Patricia Light-Tolemeo |
| Sat             | 15-Jan | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Linda Osman & Shira Lowry              |
| Fri             | 21-Jan | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | Randy Bloom & Marcy Schwartz           |
| <b>FEBRUARY</b> |        |         |                                    |  |
| Fri             | 6-Feb  | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | Charyl Morganstin & Sandy Swartzbird   |
| Sat             | 8-Feb  | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Marcia Rosen & Madge Rosen             |
| Mon             | 12-Feb | 7:30 PM | Sisterhood Program                 | Faith Huplf                            |
| <b>MARCH</b>    |        |         |                                    |  |
| Fri             | 4-Mar  | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | Marsha Dowshen & Rita Nissim           |
| Sat             | 12-Mar | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Jen Carton & Stacy Deitch              |
| Mon             | 14-Mar | 7:30 PM | Sisterhood Program                 | Eileen Gale & Betsy Ramos              |
| <b>APRIL</b>    |        |         |                                    |  |
| Fri             | 1-Apr  | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | Karen Nissim & Sheila Lamonsoff        |
| Mon             | 11-Apr | 7:30 PM | Sisterhood Program                 | Phyllis Chudoff                        |
| Sat             | 16-Apr | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Elaine Trackman & Renee Harrison       |
| Tue             | 19-Apr | 6:00 PM | 2nd night community Seder Passover | Kim Aubry & others                     |
| <b>MAY</b>      |        |         |                                    |  |
| Mon             | 9-May  | 7:30 PM | Sisterhood Program- Book Review    | Rita Nissim & Mimi Gellar              |
| Sat             | 14-May | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Anita Berson & Sonia Fenick            |
| Fri             | 27-May | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | Rhea Goldman & Bonnie Goldman          |
| <b>JUNE</b>     |        |         |                                    |  |
| Fri             | 3-Jun  | 7:30 PM | Erev Shabbat                       | <b>Bar Mitzvah</b>                     |
| Sat             | 4-Jun  | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning                    | Noah Goldberg                          |
| Mon             | 13-Jun | 6:15 PM | Sisterhood Pot Luck                | Marsha Dowshen & Randy Bloom           |
| Fri             | 24-Jun | 7:30 PM | Member of the Year                 | Debby Weiss & Marcy Schwartz           |